

# 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 F. J. Reed



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

## News Letter No. 20

November, 1976

### Editorial

Since the last News Letter was published in May, there has been an interim change of Editor. Due to the economies on defence expenditure imposed by the Government, the staff of the Surrey Office has been reduced, so that when Major Peter Hill retired in early August, his appointment was deleted and no replacement permitted. His extra duties as Regimental Association Secretary and News Letter Editor, in addition to his administrative duties in connection with the Regimental Benevolent and other funds, have been absorbed by the Regimental Secretary. As a result, however, of the President's address at the Officers Club Dinner and the Regimental Association Reunion in October, Captain K. W. Brooks has kindly volunteered to become Editor of the Regimental Association News Letter, an offer which has readily been accepted. Copy for future issues should be sent to him at his home to reach him not later than 1st April for the May editions, and 1st October for the November editions—though he would welcome contributions at any time. His address is: "Gables", Oaklands Way, Bassett, Southampton, Hants SO2 3FJ.

Also, as a result of the President's appeal, offers of assistance at regimental functions have already been received, and Mr. Bill Warren gave up a complete morning to help clear up the Drill Hall here after the October Reunion. Thank you, Mr. Warren!

Further probable changes are announced by the President elsewhere in this edition—and endeavours are currently being made to find a new home for the Queen's Surreys Museum, hopefully in Surrey.

Most of the changes are long-term and the attitude taken here at the Surrey Office is "Business as usual during alterations".

**"COPY" FOR THE MAY 1977 AND OCTOBER 1977 NEWS LETTERS SHOULD BE SENT TO CAPTAIN BROOKS AS SOON AS READY. PLEASE DO NOT WAIT FOR THE DEADLINE DATE!**

### President's Notes

It was great to see so many friends at Stoughton on the 13th June. I hope we shall have an even bigger turnout at Kingston on 12th June next year when we are holding the annual Regimental Association Service at All Saints Parish Church, Kingston upon Thames.

On this occasion the "Beer Tent" will be in the Drill Hall at Portsmouth Road. Full details of the arrangements appear elsewhere in this News Letter. Incidentally, I would like to thank all those who made the Guildford week-end possible, with a special mention for Brigadier Geoffrey Curtis and his staff at Stoughton Barracks, Lieut-Colonel John Francis and the 3rd Battalion, and of course John Reed who as always co-ordinated everything with his own special brand of efficiency.

One of the most pleasant duties as President is attending the functions of our many Branches. On this occasion I would like to give a mention to the Bermondsey Boys at Jamaica Road. It is great to see how the long standing link with the Royal Marines has been cemented there. The new TAVR Centre at Jamaica Road is the London Headquarters the Royal Marines Reserve and they have very kindly allowed our Branch to continue to have all their functions and meetings there. By the way, at the annual dinner you get the best steak and kidney pudding in London!

Those of you who were at this year's Officers Club dinner and the Regimental Association Reunion will have heard me tell how it is likely that the outstation County Offices of the Queen's Regiment will close by about the end of 1978. This results from both the need to concentrate more on work for the Queen's Regiment and equally from the recent manpower cuts. I do not want anyone to think that this is going to mean a complete cutting of our links with the past; on the contrary, the Colonel of the Queen's Regiment, Major General Ling, is determined that all the important links will continue, for the Queen's Regiment depends entirely on these for its traditions and standing in the Army. Inevitably distance will prevent Regimental Headquarters at Canterbury continuing to give administrative support to all those activities with which the County Offices help now and it is for this reason that I am asking for volunteers to run functions like dinners, reunions, etc. There is of course nothing new in this as it is the way our Branches carry on now. There are some people who tell me that in these materialistic days you cannot get people to come forward to help any more. Well, I cannot speak for other Regiments but I do know that that is NOT the case in the Queen's Surreys. We shall be letting you all know in due course what kind of help we shall need, but in the meantime, don't hesitate to deluge me with offers!

R.S.N.M.

1977

## Forecast of Events 1976—Surrey Office and Regimental Association

Date	Place	Function
Sat. 12 Feb.	Kingston	Warrant Officers and Sergeants Association
Sat. 23 April	Kingston	Warrant Officers and Sergeants Association
Thurs. 5 May	Richmond	Queen's Surreys Golf Society
Fri. 13 May	Richmond	Queen's Surreys Golf Society
Sat. 14 May	Kingston	Warrant Officers and Sergeants Association
Fri. 10 June	London	Queen's Surreys Golf Society <i>of the Club</i>
Sun. 12 June	Kingston	Regimental Association
Sat. 1 Oct.	Kingston	Regimental Association
Thurs. 6 Oct.	Richmond	Queen's Surreys Golf Society
Fri. 7 Oct.	Richmond	Queen's Surreys Golf Society
Sat. 8 Oct.	Kingston	Warrant Officers and Sergeants Association
Sun. 13 Nov.	Kingston and Guildford	Remembrance Day Parades

*Annual Autumn Meeting Reunion*

*Autumn Meeting Reunion*

*Ladies Night—Dinner Dance (Date Provisional)*

**Major P. G. E. Hill**

Peter Hill, who was Secretary of The Queen's Royal Surrey Regimental Association from 1961 when he relieved the late Major "Buzz" Waspe, and Assistant Regimental Secretary of the Surrey Office of The Queen's Regiment, retired from these appointments on 4th August 1976. He was also a sub-editor of the Journal of The Queen's Regiment from its inception in 1967, and also Editor of the Journal of The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment from 1965, and the Queen's Surreys Regimental Association when it took the place of the Journal in 1967. Under his guidance this News Letter gained in size and scope, and became a useful adjunct to the Journal of The Queen's Regiment, the purpose for which it was intended.

As administrator of the very many Benevolent Funds of an amalgamated Regiment he showed compassion in his dealings with needy old comrades and their dependants of three former regiments. He demonstrated no partisanship, and gained as many friends amongst the former Queen's Royal Regiment officers and soldiers as he had in his own East Surrey Regiment. Thankfully he has decided to remain a Trustee of these same Benevolent Funds thereby continuing to serve his many old friends.

Forward looking, Peter readily accepted the need for the large Queen's Regiment and the advantages thus gained by the serving soldier for whom he holds the highest esteem. He has readily assisted in all endeavours to weld The Queen's Regiment into one body from the former regiments from which it sprang.

We miss Peter at the Surrey Office, particularly when we have a heavy benevolent "case" load, but we know that he will be at all and every Regimental occasion that he can possibly manage. Long life, good health, and all happiness to him in his retirement in Sussex.

F.J.R.

**Exodus**

Major Bill Snowden, who was Bandmaster of The East Surrey Regiment and The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment from 1954 until 1963 when he was commissioned as Quartermaster in The Queen's Royal Regiment, retired from the Army on 1st October 1976 and left with his wife Pam on 21st October to settle in Australia. His last appointment was that of Quartermaster of the 2nd Bn. The Ulster Defence Regiment. Unfortunately he has not let us have his address in Australia.

**News from "Down Under"**

An important Regimental anniversary was not forgotten by Mr. E. W. Josling of 4 First Street, Bicton 6157, Western Australia, who sent us the following telegram:

"Best wishes and good luck to all ranks. Glorious First of June. 6087294 Josling." Ted Josling, who served in the 2nd Bn. The Queen's from 1938 to 1946, emigrated to Australia in 1951 and is in the Prison Service at Fremantle.

**Ladha, North West Frontier of India**

Mr. Joe Dennis has sent us this reminiscence of the late Cpl. W. J. Pitter whose death was reported in the last News Letter.

Calling members of C (Champion) Coy, 2nd Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment in Ladha in 1921. Remember whilst in camp at Ladha that evening when the usual sniping took place and how our own Corporal Bill Pitter became a casualty? He was shot through the

knee and leg, which resulted in the amputation of the leg. Bill and I had been together for a few years at that time having served in France in 1918 with the 2/4th Battalion, sailing in the H.T. *Stephen* with the advance party to Bareilly and then to Ranikhet, Haidari Kach and Ladha.

I heard no more of Bill until I read of his whereabouts in the News Letter. On 18th March this year I visited Bill at his home in Horley and found him in fine fettle, excepting a little chest complaint which was going to be treated at the Milford Chest Hospital a few days later. We both enjoyed reminiscing for several hours and going back those 55 years brought us back as if it was yesterday.

I heard from his son, Ron, that Bill went into hospital as arranged, and had a minor operation which proved successful, but a few days later he passed away as a result of a heart attack. I should very much like to hear from any C Company members at "Braganza", 124. Kynaston Avenue, Thornton Heath, Surrey. Telephone: 01-684 5309.

**A Grave in New Zealand**

Mr. G. W. Hinde of East Tamaki, South Auckland, New Zealand, has written to say that at OTAHUHU, which had been a base of the British Army prior to and during the Maori War of 1863-65, there is an old military cemetery and here he recently discovered a headstone inscribed: "Sacred to the Memory of Eliza Galloway, the beloved wife of Colonel T. J. Galloway, 70th Regt, who died at OTAHUHU on the 1st August 1861, aged 51 years."

Colonel Galloway arrived in Auckland with the 70th Regiment in June 1861, and assumed command of the camp at OTAHUHU which then held the 12th, 14th, 40th and 70th Regiments, the command of the 70th devolving on Major Mulock. Eliza Galloway therefore died within only a few weeks of her arrival in New Zealand. On 27th March 1863 Colonel Galloway was promoted to the rank of Major General, and later as a General, he was Colonel of the 70th Regiment from 1874 until his death in 1881.

**Mrs. Tringham**

Old friends of the late Lt.-Colonel A. M. Tringham, DSO, OBE, who commanded the 8th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment from October 1915 to February 1918, will be interested to know that Mrs. Tringham is now living at Unstead Park Nursing Home, near Godalming.

**Correspondence**

30th June, 1976.

Major General R. S. N. Mans, C.B.E.,  
Kirke House,  
Sway Road,  
Brockenhurst,  
Hampshire.  
Dear General,

On the eve of my retirement I write to thank you most sincerely for the most generous present to me of a Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment drum coffee table. Daphne and I are delighted with it, and it will be a

constant reminder of the 15 happy years I have spent as Secretary of the Regimental Association, The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment.

I was fortunate in taking over from that much loved Regimental personality, Buzz Waspe, and through his introduction I have made many friends throughout our Association. Some have been pen friends living in distant parts, but the majority I have had the pleasure of knowing personally. I look forward to attending Regimental functions and to meeting again the many good chaps whose comradeship is the essence of our Regimental Association.

Yours sincerely,  
Peter Hill.

From: Major P. E. G. Hill, 16 Kingswood Close, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 6DZ. 30th July 1976.

To: Editor, Regimental Association News Letter. Dear John,

May I, through the medium of your columns, express my sincere thanks to the many members of the Regimental Association who have sent their good wishes on my retirement. It was good of them to write and I appreciate their kind thoughts.

For my part, I shall miss the regular contact with our old comrades, but I shall look forward to receiving the Regimental Association News Letter and to renewing old friendships at the Regimental functions.

Yours ever,  
Peter.

From: Mr. William Carrigan, 61 Sydney Road, Eastbourne, Sussex BN22 8BQ. 23rd June 1976.

The Secretary, Regimental Association, The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment. Dear Sir,

I am compiling material for a book I hope to write on the "History" of the Military Medal for Bravery, and of the men and women recipients since its inception in 1916 up to the present time.

Official sources in most instances give only very limited information of Number, Rank, Name, Unit etc., very seldom is a Citation given.

What I am searching for is first hand accounts of individual actions leading to the Award, Citations where available, photos, press cuttings etc. Plus, of course, as much personal information as possible re the recipients.

Could I, therefore, appeal to your readers for help in this connection. May I stress, in order to eliminate risk of loss of cherished records, that COPIES ONLY of photos and above mentioned documents be sent? Any help you may be able to give will be most gratefully acknowledged.

Yours sincerely,  
William Carrigan.

From: Mrs. F. J. Snowdon, 22nd May 1976.  
Dear General,

I have been reading your account of the History of the Paschal Lamb in the News Letter.

I was told on good authority when taking a party round Parham Park in Sussex, that the Lamb of the Queen's Royal Regiment was used as an emblem of gratitude to Catherine of Braganza for the sheep that she brought from Portugal on her marriage to King Charles II, as this was a time when the sheep population of this country was particularly low (this could probably be verified) and would account for the Lamb not being Paschal originally.

At Parham you can see the types of Spanish Moorish chests of drawers she brought from Portugal, and at Penshurst the chairs from Bombay, so I think sheep might be quite feasible also!

Yours sincerely,  
Jean Snowdon  
(Wife of Major F. J. Snowdon).

## Annual Regimental Church Service 1977

In 1977 the Church Service of the Regimental Association will NOT be held in Guildford Cathedral. The date of Sunday, 12th June 1977 had been booked but unfortunately the same date was required by the Surrey County Council for a Service in connection with the Silver Jubilee of the accession to the throne of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. No other Sundays in June are available.

Therefore the Service will be held on 12th June 1977 commencing at 11.15 am in All Saints Parish Church, Market Place, Kingston upon Thames, and will be conducted by the Vicar, the Reverend John T. Martin, MA, who will also preach the Sermon. All Saints has a very fine choir and organist. It is an old and very large Church which houses the Regimental Chapel of The East Surrey Regiment; the main body of the Church also contains many relics of the Regiment, including the Colours of the 31st and 70th Regiments. The entrance from the Market Place is through the wrought iron gates bearing the badge of The East Surrey Regiment and dedicated as the Memorial to the fallen of that Regiment in the 1914-18 and 1939-45 Wars.

There is ample free car-parking on a Sunday at the following places, all of which are less than five minutes walk from the Church:

- (a) Thames Street Euro Carpark—1 minute.
- (b) Wood Street Corporation Car Park (opposite Bentalls Store)—2 minutes.
- (c) Kingston Hall Road (off High Street) Corporation Car Park and Euro Carpark—3-5 minutes.
- (d) All meter sites are free of charge on a Sunday.

After the Service a cash bar will be run in the Hall of the TAVR Centre, Portsmouth Road, Kingston upon Thames (seven minutes walk from the Church) from 12 noon to 2 pm. It is advisable to leave vehicles in car parks at Kingston as parking at the TAVR Centre is limited.

**Restaurants.** There are several small restaurants open in the vicinity of the Market Place and High Street; a large and very good BERNI Restaurant in the Market

Place (12 noon to 2.30 pm) and The London Steak House in High Street (12.30 pm to 3 pm). High Street runs from the Market Place to Portsmouth Road. There are also several inns around the Market Place and also on the Middlesex side of Kingston Bridge.

For those who wish to bring a picnic lunch, Richmond Park and Bushy Park are within ten minutes drive of the centre of Kingston. Both these Royal Parks contain beautiful plantations of azalea, and also large herds of deer. There is also Hampton Court Palace and its Home Park, again within ten minutes drive or bus ride. Motor launches on the Thames operate from a stage near the TAVR Centre and run trips to Hampton Court.

## The Queen's Regiment

### The Regimental Week—6th-13th June 1976

The centenary of the Regiment's association with Guildford and Stoughton Barracks was marked by military and civic ceremonies during the week.

The Regiment was represented by our 3rd Battalion which had come from Catterick, for recruiting purposes in Stoughton, by "A" company of the 5th (Volunteer) Battalion and by a detachment of "A" company the 6/7th (Volunteer) Battalion. The Band and Drums of the 3rd Battalion Beat Retreat on two successive evenings in the town.

On Saturday, 12th June, the Regiment exercised its Freedom of Entry to Guildford by a march through the town with drums beating, bayonets fixed and Colours flying. The Salute was taken at Guildhall by the Mayor of Guildford. A great welcome was given to the Regiment by the people of Guildford who crowded the pavements and applauded every item in the long column marching through their town. On Sunday, 13th June, the annual service of the Regimental Association was held in Guildford Cathedral, and for the second year running the great nave was packed. The sermon was preached by the Venerable Archdeacon Peter Mallett, QHC, AKC, the Chaplain General, and himself a former chaplain of the 1st Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment.

After the service, most of the congregation repaired to Stoughton Barracks where a Regimental Tent and Bar had been arranged, and where the Band of the 3rd Bn. The Queen's Regiment played, by kind permission of Lt.-Col. J. W. Francis, the Commanding Officer.

All these Regimental events were blessed with the most perfect summer weather, and it was good to see so many of our old soldiers and their families supporting the various events during this memorable week.

### From: 1st Bn. The Queen's Regiment, stationed at Werl, Germany, 23rd April 1976

#### The Silver Drums of the East Surrey Regiment

Ypres Day, 23rd April 1926, was the day on which the Silver Drums were presented to the Officers of the 1st Battalion The East Surreys, a legacy from the late Mrs. Walker, in memory of her son, 2nd Lt. Walker, and for this presentation a special parade was held in Murray Barracks, Hong Kong, in the presence of many distinguished guests including the Governor of that

time, Sir Cecil Clementi, KCMG, and Lady Cleminti, the GOC China Command, Major General C. C. Luard, CB, CMG, and Mrs. Luard.

The Battalion was formed up to form three sides of a square, with the Band and Drums inside as for the "Troop". In the centre of the Battalion square, near the saluting base, the silver drums were piled, so as to form an Altar pile on a raised platform which was covered with the Regimental Colours of maroon, black and buff.

The Dedication service of the silver drums was performed by the Rev. Granville Stopford, CF, amidst a silence which could almost be felt.

The Commanding Officer then addressed the Battalion, and asked Mrs. Luard if she would kindly present the Silver Drums to the Officers of the Battalion, on behalf of the late Mrs. A. A. L. Walker and her late son, 2nd Lt. C. M. Walker.

The presentation was carried out by the Side, Tenor and Bass Drummers in turn, advancing to the Commanding Officer and Mrs. Luard and receiving a Drum from the Altar Pile, upon which the following inscription is engraved: "Presented to the Officers, 1st Battalion the East Surrey Regiment, by the late Mrs. A. A. L. Walker, in memory of her late son, 2nd Lt. C. M. Walker, who died whilst serving with the 1st Battalion in India on the 6th May 1894". The set of Drums consist of a Bass Drum, two Tenor Drums, eight Side Drums, and silver mounted drum sticks, with silver mounted drum carriages to complete the set.

Fifty years later on Ypres Day 1976, the Silver Drums were again the focal point of a simple ceremony to mark both the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Consecration and Presentation of Silver Drums to the 1st Battalion the East Surreys and Ypres Day. During those fifty years, many changes have taken place. As we know, the East Surrey Regiment no longer exists—in 1959, the Queen's Royal Regiment and the East Surrey Regiment amalgamated to become the Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment. Eight years later, The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment became the 1st Battalion The Queen's Regiment.

Ex members of the East Surrey Regiment will like to know that the Silver Drums are still a cherished possession of the 1st Battalion The Queen's Regiment.

The Padre of the Battalion, Rev. M. Walters, CF, in his address reminded all those on parade of the devotion and sacrifice of those members of the Regiment who had given their lives in the service of their Regiment and in particular those members of the former Regiments who had died at Ypres.

The Drums were marched onto parade under the direction of Drum Major Smith, piled in front of the saluting dais and a short service followed.

The Drums were unpiled and marched off parade to the tune of the Huntingdonshire Slow March.

Life and service goes on. Two hours after being on parade, the Commanding Officer and his Recce Party were on their way to RAF Guttersloh to emplane for Northern Ireland, where the Battalion was due to relieve 1st Cheshire in Londonderry for a further tour of duty in Northern Ireland.

## Presentation of Colour Televisions to the 1st Battalion the Queen's Regiment

Six colour televisions have been presented to the 1st Battalion as a result of appeals initiated by Councillor Frank Gaisford, the former Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames, and Councillor Andrew Pares, the Mayor of Barnet, following their visit to the Battalion at Werl in May 1976 for the Glorious First of June Celebrations.

During their visits the Mayors heard from the Commanding Officer that most of the sets purchased for the Army in 1970 from the Daily Telegraph and Sun Newspaper Appeal Funds were now unserviceable, and that the Battalion was faced with spending a great deal of money hiring sets. On their return home they made these facts known to their local Rotary Clubs and Chambers of Commerce. The end result was that six new sets arrived in Londonderry in mid-August for use by the Battalion on operational service in Ulster.

It would be impossible to list all the individual subscribers, but the main Clubs, firms and organisations responsible were Bentalls Ltd. of Kingston upon Thames and Sony (UK) Ltd., each of whom presented one set; the Rotary Clubs of Barnet, Finchley, Friern Barnet, Whetstone and Cockfosters, Kingston upon Thames, Surbiton and New Malden; Hawker Siddeley Aviation of Kingston; Air Products Ltd.; Phillips Electrical Ltd.; Sanyo (UK); Surbiton Constitutional Club; Kingston upon Thames Chamber of Commerce and Barnet Rugby Football Club. The Commanding Officer has written to all of the above and to a number of individuals whom he knew had contributed.

(Ed.—This is a magnificent effort by the civic representatives of two of our "Freedom" Boroughs—one in Surrey and the other in Middlesex.)

## News of the Associations

### 4th Queen's OCA Croydon

A series of unfortunate set-backs conspired to prevent news from our Association getting into the last two News Letters published by the Regimental Association, but I am happy to say I am now back in harness, reins held taut at the ready and I am raring to get off the starting mark. So here's to!

Our Annual Reunion Dinner, Saturday, 10th April, was a great success. Sixty-three occupied seats and representatives present from 2/4th Queen's, 6th Queen's (Bermondsey), The City of London Rifles, the Canadian Veterans and Royal Naval Associations. Our President, Colonel J. H. F. Johnson, OBE, TD, JP, was warmly greeted, especially as he had been unwell for some time. Lt.-Colonel Brian Gill, TD, JP, officiated and the Rev. George Arnold, St. James' Church, Croydon, called for the Silent Tribute to Absent Friends. If roast beef and Yorkshire pud be the backbone of English yeoman then the delight of Mr. Everyman is the succulent steak and kidney pie—and that was on our menu by popular request from diners of the previous year. Once again we had a party of Founder Members present—Messrs. Alec Davidson, Harry Merchant and Reg Stringer; their companion Founder-Member, Mr. Rodney Scrine, was unable to be present due to illness (but at this time of writing, now much

better and active again). Lt.-Colonel Phillip Connery gave a stirring speech, emphasising on the continuing strengthening bonds within our Association, now in its 56th year of activity! Due praise is paid to Major Roger Nebel, TD, for organising such a successful event: to Mr. Jopson for providing the excellent meal, and our grateful thanks to the young Cadets who waited so expertly at table.

This year's AGM, held on Monday, 10th May, was exceptionally outstanding because of the change in officers of the Committee. For health reasons, Colonel Johnson retired as President and became Honorary Life President. Colonel Brian Gill was elected President; Major Roger Nebel now becomes Chairman; Mr. Joe Dennis was elected Vice-Chairman and myself accepted full responsibility as Secretary. I feel sure this combination will be harmonious and productive of good results.

A full coach of OCA members and their ladies travelled to Guildford in June for the Annual Church Service and a second coach accompanied us packed with ACF lads in uniform and all under the eagle eye of Captain Leslie Bishop. All arrangements were organised by Joe Dennis, exercising his usual expertise in such matters. As most of you know by now, the Cathedral was filled to overflowing and, if one may use a mundane expression in this sense, it was "standing room only". The visit to Stoughton Barracks—a long-looked-for pilgrimage for many an old warrior—was a bit of a let down. Despite a glorious sunny Sunday and green, green grass, there was nothing else of note. True, the Regimental Band played a few selections but by the time the last parties arrived from the Cathedral the musicians, sweltering in their full dress uniforms, were packing up their instruments. The beer, spirit and soft drink marquee did a roaring trade but alas and alack, where oh where, was the tent in which ladies hoped to find a cheering cuppa??? And, more important still, where WAS the ladies?! Perhaps the day's date had something to do with it! However, these missing amenities did not lessen the joy in the meeting of old friends. We of the 4th Battalion were especially pleased to meet again with Horace Hudson, one-time PSI at Mitcham Road Barracks, Croydon; also "Pedlar" Palmer, another old-time friend—and, of course, others as well, particularly including Colonel Willis and his charming wife.

If the Annual Cathedral Service next year should be followed by another trip to Stoughton Barracks, let us hope a little extra, and welcoming, "show" be laid on for one and all!

I would like to mention how happy we are to now be in regular touch with other Old Comrades Associations as mentioned in my remarks about our Reunion Dinner. This gives us great joy to exchange News Letters and Journals and especially personal letters. This contact results in meeting up with "the other guys" at annual dinners and, we hope it will be, other social functions. We ourselves are talking of visiting some of them on their home ground, so look-out chaps, we hope this will soon come to pass.

It was agreed at a recent Committee Meeting we would be pleased to accept as Members of our Asso-

ciation any local still serving Queen's soldier of whatever rank, or any ex-Queen's man living in the Croydon area. We do hope these few remarks will bear fruit.

Lastly, in wishing the new retired Major Hill the very best of good luck in his newly acquired leisured life; we wish Major John Reed every success in his now doubled-up jobs and that the two caps fit easy upon a head bowed diligently at work!

Paul Shonfeld,  
Secretary, 4th Queen's OCA.

#### 5th Queen's Old Members Association

On Saturday, 8th May, the 5th Battalion Old Members Association held their Annual Reunion at the TA Centre, Sandfield Terrace, Guildford, and 160 sat down to a meal of chicken and ham salad. In the chair was Major H. B. Watson doing his last stint in this office before handing over to Lt.-Colonel H. M. W. Harris. This was the 50th year that he had been associated with the 5th Battalion, and he had decided that it was time to hand over to someone else. Major Watson welcomed everyone to our annual function, and hoped that it would continue to gain strength. This year's was the largest attendance we had ever had, and he hoped to attend them for many more years to come. Major Watson gave a special welcome to our 1914-18 members, including Colonel C. R. Wigan, Sgt. George Smith who was 89 and Ernie Balchin, all of whom had been in Mespot together, so had plenty to chat about. He also welcomed one of our own era members who had returned from New Zealand on holiday and who had joined us for the evening. I think he could claim the furthest distance travelled.

Colonel J. B. H. Kealy spoke of Major Watson's service to the Battalion and to the Association during the fifty years, and then, on behalf of the Association, presented him with a pewter figure of a Queen's soldier with the Paschal Lamb at the base. In his reply, Major Watson thanked everyone for their kindness, and went on to speak of his early days in the 5th Queen's as a junior officer at Guildford and his career as a Territorial. Before concluding, he felt he must thank a few people who had done so much to make this evening such a success. Major Watson mentioned Major G. Wright and Colonel R. Pound and the assistance they had given, and thanked Doug Mitchell (Secretary), Ron May (Treasurer), Jack Homersham, Jimmy Patterson and Geoff Regester who had worked so hard to organise this Reunion. Further information of this Reunion can be obtained from the Secretary, Mr. D. J. Mitchell, 9 Peterborough Road, Guildford.

#### Footnotes

##### Major Henry Cecil Leon

It was recorded in June that Judge Henry Cecil Leon had died suddenly at Brighton. He was an officer in the Battalion for most of the War years, including the Desert Campaign. He was the author of the comic law books, such as "Brothers in Law" and others under the pen name of Henry Cecil. He will be remembered by many of the lads who had dealings with him or Orders as the man you couldn't fool.

#### Dunkirk Veterans Association

The Woking Branch of the Association is still open for membership. They meet on the third Thursday of each month at the Northway Royal British Legion, Aldershot Road, Guildford. Further information can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Doug Mitchell, 9 Peterborough Road, Guildford.

#### The Queen's (Bermondsey) Regimental Association

Nothing succeeds like success—and nothing attracts more than a good old steak-and-kidney pudding! Or so it would seem, judging by our last Annual Dinner held on Saturday, 10th April, at the RMVR Centre, Bermondsey.

We were indebted to Colonel C. M. G. Campion, CD, RM, for allowing us to use the Centre as our venue, but we much regret he was unable to attend to receive our personal appreciation in the form of a large glass or two.

The chair was taken by our President, Colonel J. G. Bevington, TD, and our Guest of Honour was Lieutenant-Colonel W. Griffiths, DSO, MC, President of the Queen's (Southwark) OCA, with whom we have a very close relationship.

Other guests included Major Reed, from RHQ, Kingston, who can always be tempted by a succulent piece of "steak pud", and Major J. Pretsell, MC, our war-time RMO, who blithely prescribed something a little stronger than his former panacea—hot sweet tea.

Major General R. S. N. Mans, CBE, Deputy Colonel (Surrey) The Queen's Regiment, graced the proceedings with his wit and effervescent personality and presented to Sgt. Moffat, RM (unfortunately in absentia), with a Queen's shield in recognition of the many services he has given us.

One could say that the company was representative of Queen's through the ages, going as far back as the 1914-18 war as represented by Messrs. Dinney, Sullivan, and Mason, the former making the journey from Egham, while the physical appearance of the latter so far belied his age that he was asked to sign up again!

Those stalwarts of the pre and post war years, Majors James, Godfrey, Homer, Zehntner and Clement were present, as always, and it was good to welcome Capt. Wally Rodger and Major Tamplin of the 7th Queen's OCA, a military historian of note. The longest journey was undoubtedly made by C/Sgt. Archie Clowes (was he ever anything else or was he born thus?), looking more cherub-like than ever—probably due to the balmy airs and graces of Weston super Mare, where he now lives.

After the Dinner, everybody withdrew to the Sergeants' Mess to continue the renewal of old friendships and reminiscences which annually grow more colourful yet are never tiring in the telling.

Having formed, and now followed, a tradition of the old English dish of steak and kidney pudding for our Annual Dinner, it seemed obvious that everyone thoroughly enjoyed the meal for which grateful thanks go to our caterers, and in every way, the whole evening was another great success. Compliments and congratulations to the organisers.

C.H.N.

#### 2nd/6th Battalion The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surreys)

The Annual Reunion was held on 24th September 1976 at the new Union Jack Club, Waterloo. Although we were sorry to have left the intimate atmosphere of HMS President, the UJ is a fine place for a gathering and there is much more room to move about and talk to friends. We can still muster some seventy souls, even if this number includes not only CSM Bert Troster's sons but his grandson!

Our ranks get depleted slowly and we were sorry to lose Sgts. Nevill and Pawson and to learn of the death of Brigadier Sykes-Wright who commanded us very briefly in Italy at the end of the war. We were happy to see again three of our old COs, Colonels John Kealy, Teddy Bolton and Peter Taylor, and after a year's absence, Doc Hogan who travelled from Dublin to be with us. Inevitably and with pleasure a new old face appears. The writer was particularly pleased to see Colour Sergeant Jones who was CQMS of D Company and last seen on 22nd May 1940 when he was put in the bag near Abbeville. After five years of what he describes as perpetual hunger, he still looks very well. Another we welcomed was Sgt. Syd Glassgo who travelled from Llanelli and met old friends he had not seen since the end of hostilities in 1945. We also invited two Chelsea Pensioners.

A collection was made by Togo Hearnden for the old soldiers no longer able to look after themselves in the Star and Garter Home and over £57 was realised. Part of this was given to the wife of Arthur Lawrence who has been totally incapacitated there for a number of years.

Once again we are indebted to our unpaid secretary, treasurer and organiser, Frank Peart, who so generously gives of his time and energy and has now arranged sixteen of these happy events.

The next Reunion will be on 17th September 1977.

#### Regimental History— The Queen's Royal Regiment

##### The Lamb—Plain or Paschal?

Major General Mans' interesting letter in the May issue of the News Letter has revived interest in the old badge of The Queen's Royal Regiment. This article seeks to examine the history of the Lamb and the Paschal Lamb as the badge of the Regiment.

##### The Lamb in Heraldry

The Lamb is not uncommon in armorial bearings and is always represented with a natural tail. The Paschal Lamb has certain well defined characteristics, the principal features being

- the nimbus, or halo, behind its head.
- its stance of "passant", that is, with the near foreleg raised.
- the staff from which flies a white pennon charged with a red cross.

##### "The Ancient Badge"

Probably the earliest representation of the Queen's badge is in the cap of the Picture Board Dummies, now in the National Army Museum. These figures

date from 1715. The badge is an ordinary lamb, all four feet on the ground, and without halo or flag. The Chancellor of Carlisle, describing the cap, records, "On the frontlet is a figure of a lamb, not a paschal lamb, but a plain lamb, with a tail like a fox's brush".

Regimental History, Volume III, page 11.

The 1747 Colours, illustrated on page 82 of Volume III, show the Lamb as described above, in the three corners of the Regimental Colour. He appears thus in the 1795 Colours in the Regimental Museum.

S. M. Milne's "Standards and Colours of the British Army, 1661-1881", the standard authority on Regimental Colours, refers to the Lamb on the 1747 Regimental Colour as follows:

"The Lamb, being the ancient badge of the Regiment, represented as an ordinary Lamb without nimbus or flag, indeed the latter was not added until the beginning of this (nineteenth) century. This badge of the Lamb has given rise to much comment . . . Sir Sibbald Scott asserts that 'the Regiment used the Lamb as a badge without any obvious meaning, and that quite lately it assumed the paschal attributes'."

#### Connection with Queen Catherine of Braganza

Milne continues, "All are agreed on one point—that the Lamb never was at any time a badge of Queen Catherine or of the Royal House of Portugal. Never was a lamb in any manner connected with Her Majesty, except in the wellknown picture by Sir Peter Lely; whether in that case the lamb was introduced by the Queen's desire, or whether she really had a pet lamb may never be known."

These excerpts from Milne's "Standards and Colours of the British Army, 1661-1881" were published in the November 1935 issue of the Journal of The Queen's Royal Regiment.

#### The Emergence of the Paschal Lamb

An article entitled "The Regimental Badge" in the Regimental Journal of May 1939, records, "The granting of the Paschal Lamb as the badge of the Regiment, that is, the Lamb with halo and flag, was only made in a warrant of 1751 . . . In this warrant there is again the statement that the Lamb is the 'ancient badge' of the Regiment, but it is then declared that the Regiment is therefore authorized to wear 'in the three corners of the second Colour the Paschal Lamb'." It is odd that such an important decision does not appear to be recorded in the Regimental History.

The Lamb was slow in making his appearance in full Paschal regalia on the Colours. In the 1800 Regimental Colour he is shown as his old self with all four feet on the ground. In 1806 there is a distinct change. The Lamb is shown as "passant" and carrying his staff, from which flies a square flag with a St. George's cross, i.e. red on a white field. However, no nimbus as yet. It was not until 1820 that the Lamb on the Colours acquired his halo, and may, for the first time, be regarded as a fully equipped Paschal Lamb.

Pictures of the 1800 and 1806 Colours on page 68 of Volume IV of the Regimental History, while the 1820 Colours are shown at page 51 of Volume V.

It is curious so many years elapsed before the Paschal Lamb was emblazoned on the Colours, but he does

appear engraved on the silver gorget worn by officers about 1795. There is a picture of one on page 6 of Volume IV of the Regimental History. This Lamb fulfils not only the basic conditions mentioned earlier, but certain others connected with the cross at the end of the staff, and the pennon.

#### Conclusions

The plain Lamb was "the ancient badge" of the Regiment. Its origin is unknown.

There is no connection between Queen Catherine of Braganza and the Lamb of the Queen's.

The Paschal Lamb superseded the ordinary Lamb as the badge of the Regiment during the second half of the 18th Century.

P.G.E.H.

## The East Surrey Regiment Regimental History—

#### The Thirty First's Female Recruit

Mr. Herbert Heather, who has dug out of old newspapers a number of snippets of Regimental interest, now contributes this excerpt from the Leeds Intelligencer of 13th January 1756.

#### "Birmingham, January 5th 1756

On Wednesday last come to a public house in Bull Street, in this town, in man's apparel, one Margaret Ellis, where meeting with a Serjeant of the Young Buffs, she enlisted, and though several soldiers were present without the least suspicion of the cheat. She that evening amongst the other recruits, spent the enlisting money, which was two and twenty shillings and a crown, and the morning was sworn in the name of Thomas Smith, in which name she enlisted: but not appearing afterwards. On the Serjeant making very strict enquiry, her sex, as well as the place of her abode was discovered by a female friend of hers, who was in the secret. When she was taken before the Serjeant's officer, he asked her some questions concerning her enlisting, and whether she would return the money, and on her answering in the negative, told her she must make the Serjeant some retaliation, and then dismissed her."

Mr. Heather comments, "In the circumstances the woman seems to have got off quite lightly. If the officer had sworn a complaint before the magistrate that she had defrauded him, she probably would have received a whipping and a month in quod, and ordered to make restitution as well."

Perhaps the officer considered it was the sergeant's fault in not detecting the impostor, in which case the unfortunate NCO would have to make up the difference out of his own pocket. Anyway, he told her she should make the sergeant some 'retaliation', rather a queer term to use as it would in present day language mean return like for like, repayment in kind, whereas he could have said 'reparation' which is restitution or amends. Perhaps he did not want to put any ideas in the sergeant's head regarding the form the amends

should take, although probably she would not have appealed to him in that way if she was of a masculine type."

#### Editor's Note:

It is of interest that the title "Young Buffs", bestowed on the Thirty First by King George II at Dettingen, was in general use.

#### The Battle of the Somme

July 1st this year marked the 60th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme. On that day alone, the British suffered 60,000 casualties—20,000 killed and the remainder wounded or taken prisoner. Here is 2/Lt. Hetherington's recollections of the start of the battle.

"I can even remember the weather on that long-ago day. It was a brilliant midsummer morning of cloudless sunshine. I can still recall the thrill of going over the top for the first—and last—time in daylight, and looking up the hill to our right, with the famous toppled Madonna on the church at Albert on the skyline, and the steady waves of men advancing towards the German trenches. That one moment of battle is embedded in my memory like some indelible snapshot.

I went over the top armed only with my customary ash plant, my revolver having been damaged by shrapnel the previous evening. I cannot be certain whether I was wearing my Sam Browne or my webbing equipment, but I was certainly wearing my officer's tunic, with a single pip of my rank on the cuff.

After being wounded, I remember lying out in a shell hole in No Man's Land for some time, and then stumbling back to our front line trench. Our Battalion MO was in the trench attending to the wounded and he dressed my wound."

Mr. E. C. Hetherington, who was wounded in the 8th Surreys' attack on Montauban, describes the Somme Battle as "a pretty grisly business, with, indeed, lots of heroics but little display of military talent. Perhaps the Battle had an evolutionary value and there had to be a Battle of the Somme to ensure there would never be another. There has never again been a day of such complete carnage as that First Day."

Probably many of our readers listened to the BBC radio programme "A Summer Day on the Somme" at the end of June, and watched the television programme "The Battle of the Somme" a few days later. Here are Mr. Hetherington's reflections on these two programmes.

"I have to confess that I got little out of either programme beyond a general sense of the futility of war. The next day I went to re-reading Southey's famous poem about the Battle of Blenheim, the one we all learnt at school, beginning,

'It was a summer evening, Old Kaspar's work was done . . .'

In the end, when little Peterkin asked what good came out of it all, Old Kaspar could not tell.

Of the two programmes, I got more out of the broadcast than the film. In the broadcast one could allow the imagination full play; while in the film the picture was often in direct contrast to the memory. One kept wanting to say, 'But it wasn't like that!', and

although the chap who told the story was a splendid actor, there was something faintly ludicrous about seeing him striding across empty fields pretending to be a wave of infantry. Above all, I missed the barely suggested noise of the guns, that unending roar which is among my most predominant memories.

I have long held the view that wars and revolutions have little permanent effect on the march of history. A process of peaceful evolution over the last two centuries would have brought us to much the same point that we have now reached. Is our own country the less free and democratic for its unique record of internal peace over the centuries? Assuredly not. Is France a less happy country and less highly developed than if there had been no French Revolution and no Napoleonic wars? I doubt it. Would not Russia be happier and freer today without the Bolshevik Revolution? And what about a united liberalised Germany under Kaiser Wilhelm V? As for the idea of the American Colonies rather than India becoming the brightest jewel in the British Imperial diadem, we can only boggle."

#### Lucky Old Sergeant

On the 26th June 1915, Pte C. H. Mason embarked with the 8th Bn. The East Surrey Regiment for France, and it was not long before he found himself in action. The following are extracts from his account of his period of active service.

"Things were quiet, and we just did occasional patrols. This Section was a mining area, and the Sappers would come at night and dig shafts and then galleries towards the German front line. Our trenches were fairly close to each other, and both Jerry and ourselves had listening posts out in No Man's Land. The German LP was very close to ours, and ours was covered with wire mesh in case Jerry lobbed a bomb in. I was a bit scared to find myself in such a place. I did a few nights of this and then was relieved. Our front line duty was ten days in and ten days out."

We had been in and out of the line for some months and later found ourselves near the French Army. This place was all wooded, and this was where I got to know Captain Nevill fairly well. He and I would go out on patrol with a French guide named Charlie. This guide's family lived in a village on the other side of the wood which was in German hands. He was a nice chap. I was sorry to read he had been killed. As for Captain Nevill, we would chat away about all sorts of things. All this was a very tense time, but we made our patrols safely.

My mind is a bit vague as to what followed what, but one thing we did know was that we were due to take the offensive somewhere: but when? Bit by bit we gradually found ourselves back in the Carnoy sector some time towards the end of June. Things were getting hot and the rain had made dugouts useless. We could not use our front line and were set to work digging a few yards to the rear on what turned out to be our assault trenches. I don't know how we slept but I kind of remember sleeping under some 4.5 inch guns going full blast. This was, I think, nearly the end of June. However, orders came for over the

top next morning. All hell had been let loose by now and we were ready.

I remember Captain Nevill saying to me, "Mason, get me a pair of socks from my haversack" and when he had put them on he said, "Ah, that's better. I think that has saved my life." He kicked one football over and I believe there were four, one for each platoon. What happened to the others I don't know, but it was his idea, I followed him over and then we got separated. I feel sure I found Capt. Nevill dead in the German front line trench. I may be wrong but where else could I find him? However, we pushed on and eventually after a lot of difficulty took our ridge and what a job it was to hold—but we did it so our attack from Carnoy to Montauban was our lot for the first day of the assault. I, unfortunately, got a bit too close to a German shell and got blown up but not wounded, but my head and face came up like a balloon.

I had to go back and later was sent to hospital in Rouen. I wasn't there very long but long enough to miss the attack on Trones Wood which was on 13th July, I think. By this time I was a platoon Sergeant. Because of the large number of Officer casualties, orders were issued that no second in command should go into an attack. This went on throughout our battalion. By this time we moved a bit north I think and were due to go to a place called Thiepval. By virtue of casualties I happened to be the senior platoon Sergeant and so I became Platoon commander. Now back to Thiepval. The trenches were approached by a sunken road and what I saw frightened me. During previous attacks the Germans must have caught reinforcements coming up. I saw some arms and legs and at the same time heads blown off and the former could have been made up into bundles of ten.

Like other attacks, ours was a dismal failure. As I remember the Germans were entrenched on slightly rising ground and what a defensive position they actually held, but we were pulled back and again moved further north. I believe the idea behind all this moving about was to make the Germans lose the brigade. What a hope! Gerry found us after a few nights when he sent a big raiding party over and took prisoners and so once again we moved on. This I think was nearing the end of October 1916 and we marched by night to a place on the Somme which was to be the end of the war for me. I have previously spoken about the changes in command and it was my job to see that all was in order. What a joke! Anyway, I made something of things. After about 10 days we were expecting to be relieved. Our trenches were all smashed up and I could only visit the men by belly crawling. We had a few casualties and our number was down to about twenty. One day a runner came to me from our reserve line and said I was to follow him. When we got to where he was to take me I got the shock of my life. I saw more senior officers there than I had seen before. Of course there were other sergeants and S.M.s and we were told we were to attack at zero hour 6.30 the following day, 18th November. My heart sank but those were our orders and had to be obeyed. We were issued with small maps of the area and I saw the Germans were entrenched and

defending the River Ancre. This was possibly some four hundred yards away. The weather was bitterly cold with ice in shell holes. We attacked along Kents Ravine. The German machine gunners sent down a withering fire with shrapnel from their lighter guns. I got a very bad head wound and then another that busted my left elbow. In this ravine the Germans had dugouts which would defy any shelling and as I staggered back I saw one with a red cross flag outside and our battalion doctor, Jameson, down there. I had previously had a field dressing put over my right eye and after attention by the doctor I was left to wait for stretcher bearers to take me away. These turned out to be German prisoners and a Tommy with a rifle and bayonet. It was not a nice ride, with shrapnel in the sky all round. We, however, made the C.C.S. and I was given injections and put inside a marquee to await removal to hospital—the Canadian General at Rouen. The Sister of our ward wrote to my mother and told her I had been badly wounded with a very slight brain exposure. This, I was later told, was my most serious wound and it nearly put me out for keeps but again my luck was with me. I was only 20 years old at that time, and now I am 78, so lucky old sergeant. Such were the days of 1914-18.

## Regimental Facings and Lace by Major Peter Hill

### Regimental Facings and Lace

In the 18th and 19th Centuries, an important distinguishing feature of regiments was the different colour of the collar, cuffs and later lapels with which a soldier's jacket was adorned. These were known as "facings".

"Lace", that is to say the braid for trimming jackets, was also of regimental pattern with various designs and coloured stripes, or "worms", running through it. Officers' lace was usually gold or silver.

### The Queen's Royal Regiment

In his book, "British Military Uniforms from Contemporary Pictures", W. Y. Carman records that, "The Regimental Colours of the Old Tangier Regiment (later the Queen's) have a green ground, which colour was used later for a Regimental facing". The earliest Colours illustrated in the Regimental History are those of 1689 which confirm green as the colour on which the Regimental devices are charged.

The "Representation of Clothing of His Majesty's Household", circa 1742, records the colours of the facings as sea green. The Regimental lace was "white with black, blue or yellow spots, varied, no doubt, according to the taste of the Colonel of the Regiment . . . This distinctive pattern of the lace for a long time . . . constituted a very great distinction between regiments, and was often changed when the Colonel changed his regiments.

This partly coloured lace for the rank and file was discontinued in 1836, and plain white lace substituted". (Regimental History, Volume III Chapter IV.)

The Royal Warrant of 1751 confirms the facing of the Regiment as green. Lt.-Col. J. A. R. Freeland in the Regimental Journal of May 1950 writes, "The

facings were changed from sea green to blue by order of His Majesty, dated 17th November 1768." The Royal Warrant of 19th December 1768 confirms the facings as blue. The general lace is white with blue stripe, while that of the officers is silver. Colonel Freeland continues, "The first issue to the Regiment of tunics with blue facings was made in June 1769 (Public Record Office Reference WO 3/24)."

The Dress Regulations of 1827 still show the facings as blue and the lace as silver. The 1881 Amalgamations of Infantry Regiments did not affect the Queen's, and consequently their blue facings of a Royal regiment were worn right up to the time of their Amalgamation with The East Surrey Regiment in 1959.

### The Thirty First Regiment

The buff facings dated from the very formation of the Regiment for, according to the London Gazette of November 1702, Villiers Regiment had yellow facings and linings to their scarlet frock coats. In his "British Military Uniforms from Contemporary Pictures", W. Y. Carman writes, "In 1726 we learn that Lord John Kerr's Regiment (the Thirty First Foot) had scarlet cloth, and buff cloth with linings of scarlet and buff shalloon with silver lace and trimmings". The "Representation of Clothing" of 1742 shows the Thirty First's facings as buff and the Regimental lace as a yellow zigzag.

As is well known, King George II mistook the facings of the Thirty First for those of the Buffs at the Battle of Dettingen in 1743. "Bravo, Young Buffs!" said His Majesty; and the record of this Royal commendation has been handed down to the present day. The Royal Warrant of 19th December 1768 shows the Thirty First's facings as buff, their lace as "White with blue and yellow worm, small red stripe", while the officers' lace was silver.

It was a sad day for the Thirty First when, on their Amalgamation with the Seventieth in 1881, they lost the buff facings they had worn for 179 years.

### The Seventieth Regiment

When the Seventieth Regiment was formed at Glasgow in May 1758, its original facings were light grey, from which they acquired the nickname of the "Glasgow Greys". The grey facings were worn for ten years when they were changed by the Royal Warrant to black. The Officers' facings were of black velvet, while those of the soldiers were of black cloth. The soldiers' lace was white with narrow black worm stripe, and that of the officers was gold.

On amalgamation with the Thirty First in 1881, the Seventieth lost their black facings, which, being rare, they valued highly.

### The East Surrey Regiment

On the Amalgamation of the Thirty First and the Seventieth Regiments in 1881, it was decreed that the facings of the new Regiment, like those of most other Amalgamated English and Welsh Regiments, should be white. Neither of the former Regiments was satisfied, but the undistinguished white facings were worn by The East Surrey Regiment throughout its 78 years of existence.

## The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment

In 1959 The Queen's Royal Regiment amalgamated with The East Surrey Regiment to form The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment, and this being a Royal Regiment, the facings were the traditional blue. The separate entity of this new Regiment, for which such painstaking preparations had been made, lasted a mere seven years.

## The Queen's Regiment

The facings of The Queen's Regiment, formed on 31st December 1966 from the former Regiments of the Home Counties Brigade, are again blue.

## Golf Society

### Spring Meeting—6th May 1976

#### Winners

Heales Memorial Trophy: H. P. Mason, 29½.

Veterans Halo: Maj. W. J. F. Sutton, 32½.

Junior Division: Maj. B. A. Crutchfield, 27½.

Dodgson Cup: Lt.-Col. B. A. Hannaford, 72.

Challenge Cup: Maj. W. J. F. Sutton, 81.

Last 9 holes: Maj. P. J. Collman.

Special Prize: Maj. Gen. R. S. N. Mans.

Stableford Greensomes: Maj. W. J. F. Sutton and Brig. M. J. A. Clarke.

#### Sweep

1st—Maj. P. J. Collman, 2nd—Maj. P. A. Gray,

3rd—Maj. B. A. Crutchfield.

#### Match v. Royal Marines Golfing Society

The annual match took place at Sudbrook Park on 21st May 1976 and the Queen's Surreys won by 8 matches to 4.

#### Results

##### Singles

Maj. W. J. F. Sutton (QS) beat Maj. M. Manning (RM) 6 and 5.

P. Mason (QS) beat Maj. Gen. D. Alexander (RM) 4 and 3.

Capt. J. A. Clark (QS) beat Maj. F. R. Blackah (RM) 6 and 5.

Maj. T. L. Trotman (QS) beat Maj. P. J. Saunders (RM) 4 and 3.

Col. J. W. Sewell (QS) lost to Capt. D. G. R. Hunt (RM) 5 and 4.

Lt.-Col. J. B. C. Palmer (QS) lost to Maj. R. R. G. Hoare (RM) 5 and 4.

F. T. A. Hole (QS) lost to Lt.-Col. P. H. Scarf (RM) 5 and 3.

Lt.-Col. B. A. Hannaford (QS) lost to Lt.-Col. D. Stewart (RM) 1 up.

##### Foursomes

Sutton and Trotman (QS) beat Manning and Hunt (RM) 9 and 8.

Mason and Hannaford (QS) beat McRae and Scarf (RM) 3 and 2.

Sewell and Palmer (QS) beat Blackah and Hoare (RM) 3 and 1.

Clarke and Hole (QS) beat Stewart and Saunders (RM) 1 up.

## Notices

### News Letter Subscriptions

1. Subscriptions for next year's News Letter should now be paid. The subscription for 1977 has had to be increased to 75p.
2. No action required by
  - (a) those who have already paid in advance
  - (b) members of the Officers Club whose Club subscription covers the News Letter
  - (c) those who pay by Bankers Order, except to check up that their order covers the increased cost of 75p.

### Christmas Cards

The Regimental Association Christmas Card, unchanged from previous years, may be obtained from RHQ The Queen's Regiment, Surrey Office. The price is also unchanged, i.e. 80p a dozen.

### Regular Forces Employment Association

Looking for a job in civilian life? If so, contact your local office of the RFEA. Branch addresses and telephone numbers can be obtained from Resettlement Officers, Regimental Associations, Post Offices or Employment Offices.

### Royal Hospital Chelsea

1. The Royal Hospital is not at full capacity at the moment and they are able to take a few more In-Pensioners.
2. It is thought that there is a surprising ignorance about the Royal Hospital throughout the country. Old men, long retired from the Army, forget about it, or imagine it is a place for supermen, and think that they would not be eligible. Pensioners are often reported to have commented that if only they had known about the Hospital, they would have become In-Pensioners earlier.
3. Another possible misapprehension is that eligibility is confined to old long service regular soldiers. This is not the case. To be eligible a man must be in receipt of a pension awarded for service in the British Army. This may be a long service pension, but it can equally be a disability pension, awarded by reason of service in the Army. Consequently a man who was a Territorial, or a conscript, who served in World War I or II and was wounded could be eligible if he is still drawing a disability pension and fulfills the other conditions.
4. Today's In-Pensioners are very well looked after and it is therefore a pity that quite a lot of old soldiers who could be living happily at the Royal Hospital have not applied because of ignorance or misunderstanding.

5. To be eligible for admission as an In-Pensioner, an applicant must:
  - (a) be in receipt of a service or disability pension awarded in respect of military service.
  - (b) be at least 65 years of age,\* or unable to earn his own living (though generally capable of looking after himself).
  - (c) if unable to earn his own living, be not less than 55 years of age unless in receipt of a disability pension for an Army disability.
  - (d) be free from liability of supporting a wife or children (he may not marry whilst an In-Pensioner).

\* In exceptional circumstances the Commissioners may admit a younger man.

6. Anybody requiring fuller information regarding terms of admission etc. should apply direct to:

The Secretary,  
Royal Hospital,  
Chelsea, London SW3 4SL

Full regimental particulars should invariably be given.

### Deaths

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

**Howard**—On 6th April, 1976, CSM Charles Howard (6137484), aged 67. Served in both Regular battalions of The East Surrey Regiment from 1927 to 1942, and in the Royal Pioneer Corps for a further six years.

**Nevill**—On 28th April, 1976, CSM Sidney Nevill (5622562). He joined the 1/6th Queen's from the Devons in September 1939. On return from France in 1940, he transferred to the 2/6th Queen's and served with that battalion until wounded at Rimini in September 1944.

**Irwin**—On 30th April, 1976, Lt-Col. Alfred Percy Bulteen Irwin, DSO, aged 88. Served in The East Surrey Regiment from 1900 to 1928. See obituary.

**Humberstone**—On 9th May, 1976, C/Sgt. Francis James Humberstone (6133015), aged 73. Served in The East Surrey Regiment between the Wars, and will be remembered as an all-round sportsman. During the 1939-45 War, "Humbo" served in the 4th Nigerian Regiment in West Africa and in Burma. He also served as a lieutenant in the Surrey Army Cadet Force from 1946 to 1954.

**Smith**—On 16th May, 1976, one month after the death of his wife, Sgt. James William Smith (6084687), aged 63. Served in The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1931 to 1938.

**Leon**—On 21st May, 1976, Major Henry Cecil Leon, MC, aged 73. See obituary.

**Geary**—On 28th May, 1976, in his 85th year, Major Benjamin Handley Geary, VC. See obituary.

**Llewellyn**—On 20th June, 1976, Col. John William Peters Llewellyn, OBE, aged 60. After 20 years service in The South Lancashire Regiment, he joined the 5th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment (TA) and served until 1963. See obituary.

**Heathfield**—On 4th July, 1976, Sgt. Herbert Arthur Heathfield (6136979), aged 70. Served in The East Surrey Regiment from 1925 to 1932 and from 1939 to 1943.

**Gill**—On 11th July, 1976, Captain John Harold. Served in The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1936 to 1945.

**Bennell**—On 27th July, 1976, Pte. A. W. Bennell (200806), aged 81. Enlisted in the 4th Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment (TA) on 2nd September, 1914, he trained at Canterbury and went to India in the same year serving at Secunderabad, Lucknow, Darjeeling, and on the North West Frontier. He took part in the Marshud, the Mhow and the Waziristan campaigns, returning to England in 1919 for discharge.

**Sillem**—On 1st August, 1976, Lieutenant James Herbert, aged 78. Served in The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1916 to 1923. See obituary.

**Witcomb**—On 16th August, 1976, Sergeant John Witcomb (7615 and 6077052), aged 92 years. Enlisted in The Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment at Guildford on 25th November, 1902. He was for many years a member of the Bands of the 2nd and 3rd (Militia) Bns, and, as a Sergeant worked in the Quartermaster's Stores at the Depot in Stoughton Barracks where he took his discharge in 1925. He immediately took up the civilian appointment of Mess Caterer of the Sergeants Mess, Stoughton Barracks, from which he finally retired on 31st May, 1957, having thus served the Regiment continuously for almost 55 years.

**Bruce**—On 1st September, 1976, Major Robert Graham Dalzel, aged 65. Served in The East Surrey Regiment from 1931 to 1955. See obituary.

**Sykes-Wright**—On 29th August, 1976, Brigadier James (Jimmy), aged 67, served in The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1929 to 1960. Chairman, The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment Officers Club from April 1940 to October 1964. See obituary.

**Butcher**—On 16th September, 1976, Percy, who served in The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1939 to 1946 and again from 1952 to 1957 when he transferred to the Royal Army Pay Corps from which Corps he retired as a Warrant Officer Class II in 1974.

**Howlett**—On 18th September, 1976, Alfred James, aged 65, who served in The East Surrey Regiment from 1929 to 1933 and again from 1940 to 1946.

**Bartholomew**—On 20th September, 1976, RQMS William George (7990), aged 90. Served in The East Surrey Regiment from 1903 to 1920. He was also a member of the Jersey branch of The East Surrey Regiment Old Comrades Association.

### Deaths

#### Regimental Families

We also regret to announce the death of the undermentioned ladies.

**Ponsford**—On 4th May, 1976, Mrs. Judy Ponsford, widow of Lt. Colonel J. F. K. Ponsford who served in The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1918 to 1945.

**Goodfellow**—On 6th May, 1976, Mrs. Noni Goodfellow, wife of Captain D. R. Goodfellow (6139903), The East Surrey Regiment.

**Loch**—On 2nd August, 1976, in Cyprus, Mrs. Peggy Loch, widow of Brigadier Douglas Gordon Loch, OBE, who served in The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1931 to 1963.

**Hughes**—On 20th August, 1976, at Mount Alvernia Nursing Home, Guildford, aged 71, Lady Eileen Dora Hughes, widow of the late Major General Ivor T. P. Hughes, KCVO, CB, CBE, DSO, MC, formerly of The Queen's Royal Regiment, Commander of 44th (Home Counties) Division, Honorary Colonel of the 6th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment (TA) and Sergeant of Arms of the House of Commons. Lady Hughes was a kindly, Christian woman, who endeared herself to all who met or knew her. Throughout her life she took a keen interest in the activities of the Regiment and in those who served in it. She regularly attended the Regimental Association Church Services right up until June 1976 when she also attended the Centenary Celebrations in Stoughton Barracks. She leaves a son and three daughters.

### Obituaries

#### P. E. T. Sterling

Phil Sterling, who has died at the early age of 56, saw a lot of action during his seven years of service. Enlisting in 1938, he served in the 2nd Queen's in Palestine, Egypt, Syria and North Africa. He was then transferred to the 2/6th Queen's, and slogged across the Desert again—this time as far as Tunis. In 1943 Phil was sent to the 5th Bn. The Wiltshire Regiment, and landed at Normandy on 18th June, 1944. He fought with that battalion up to the outskirts of Arnhem where he sustained multiple gunshot wounds which resulted in his discharge the following year.

After the War, Phil returned to Thornton Heath, where he was born, and joined the Hospital Service. He had

been Head Porter at Mayday Hospital for some years. He will be remembered as a quiet unassuming man, a good comrade and a loyal supporter of the Regiment.

### Lt-Col. A. P. B. Irwin

Alfred Percy Bulteen Irwin, who has died at the age of 88, was the only officer in The East Surrey Regiment ever to be awarded three DSOs. Commissioned in 1909, Irwin was posted to the 2nd Battalion, and on the outbreak of war to the 8th Battalion with which his name will always be associated. The Regimental History records, "Appointed to the unit in the early days of the War as Adjutant, he preserved an almost unbroken connection with it throughout the campaign. By his unfailing enthusiasm and remarkable abilities, he soon gained a great reputation throughout the 18th Division. In June 1916 Major Irwin was appointed to the command of the Battalion, and, save for a short break while wounded and several spells as Brigade Commander, he commanded the 8th Surreys until its disbandment commenced. He had gained the DSO and two bars, and had been four times mentioned in despatches. Few will forget the zeal, tact, ability and personal charm of this gallant officer to whom the Battalion owed so much."

In battle, Irwin was never content with reports of the situation on his front. He had to find out for himself: Time and again the Regimental History records that "Major Irwin went forward . . ." A single-minded man of great determination and courage, his example of leadership was an inspiration to the men of the 8th Surreys. Like so many of his soldiers, Colonel Irwin did not come through unscathed: twice he was badly wounded in France and sent home for hospital treatment, and once in North Russia in 1919. In his Battalion, Colonel Irwin saw to it that bravery was recognised and rewarded. In the four years of the Great War, the 8th Battalion gained 8 DSOs, 54 MCs, 35 DCMs and 181 MM. Quiet and unassuming, Colonel Irwin radiated a vitality and strength of character. He will be remembered as one of the most outstanding wartime leaders of The East Surrey Regiment.

#### A great leader

#### Captain C. M. Estall, MC, writes,

"I was indeed sorry to hear of the passing of Colonel Irwin. As you know, I served under him for most of the 1914-18 War. He was indeed a brave soldier and a great gentleman, admired and respected by us all. He led from the front, always with the forward companies in the many battles we were engaged in. He was indeed one of our Regiment's 'greats'."

Major A. L. Sutton, MC, used to tell the story of Major Alfred Irwin, then a company commander in the 1st Bn. The East Surrey Regiment, giving out his orders on the Nurmis River in North Russia. The group suddenly came under fire and Irwin was hit in the arm. Glancing down at it, he merely said, "Damn!", and continued with his orders.

#### Harry Leon

My most persistent memory of Harry was his "guts" and determination to achieve whatever he set out to do.

This is not an official obituary of Henry Cecil, the distinguished playwright and author, nor of him as a successful Barrister and later Judge. It is a personal reminiscence of him as a man. He was my Adjutant during the 1939-45 War so that I got to know him well and had seen him up to a month before his death with his wife at my home.

Harry did not go in much for games. At school he had a crack at Rugger because he thought he ought, but didn't much like it, and in his own words, was not mobile enough for it. He was not a soldier and he did not profess to be one; he stated, in writing, that he learnt nothing from the Army except the form of "military appreciation". He regarded regular soldiers—me in particular—as rather stupid. His only exception was "Monty" for whom he had the highest regard and admiration, but then of course, they were both at St. Paul's! He thought it unnecessary to be really tidy in his dress and appearance—and as for his desk!!; it was always littered with books, papers and odds and ends. He will probably be best remembered by all

ranks of 5th Queen's for his nightly discourse on a variety of topics—witty and far from dull—on board ship en route for the Western Desert. He was apt to regard any order as unnecessary, but would carry it out punctiliously after pointing out its errors and arguing in accordance with his own professional training. He was awarded the Military Cross for his sheer refusal to be intimidated by every kind of enemy projectile when taking the support weapons of the battalion through the gap in the "January" minefield at the beginning of the Battle of Alamein.

Though outwardly rather grim, Harry was a genuine and sincere person with a great sense of humour; a family man who inspired real affection. He will be missed. Our sympathy goes to his wife Barbara.

L.C.E.

#### Major B. H. Geary, VC

With the death of Handley Geary, the Regiment loses the last of the three Hill 60 VCs. This key point near Ypres, held by the 1st Bn. The East Surrey Regiment, was subjected to repeated German attacks. As his VC citation says, "Each attack was however repulsed, mainly owing to the splendid personal gallantry and example of 2/Lt. Geary." It was here that he was severely wounded, losing his left eye. It was not until January 1918 that Geary was able to return to the 1st Battalion. There appeared no possibility of his being passed fit for active service but by certain devious means, Geary, now a captain, succeeded in rejoining his old battalion. It was not long before he was in the thick of it again. Commanding a company at the Battle of Albert in August 1918, he was severely wounded at Achiet le Petit. There is a photograph of him being carried off the battlefield by German prisoner stretcher bearers, his earlier face wound being clearly visible. This time he was not expected to live, but as one brother officer has said, Handley appeared indestructible.

During the 1939-45 War, Geary served in the Canadian Army, retiring in 1946 with the rank of major. He then became a Civil Servant and served for many years as Sergeant at Arms of the Ontario Legislative Assembly. Handley Geary regularly attended the VC and GC Association Reception, and this year there was a charming picture of the Queen talking to Handley in his wheel chair at Windsor Castle. He was by then desperately ill and had come straight from a hospital bed where he had been for five weeks. He had been warned of the possible consequences of the journey, but, as so often in his long life, was undismayed. He died shortly after his return to Canada. In a letter written a few days before his death, Handley said, "I'm still hobbling from chair to chair but always hoping for better things." This is typical of the gallant and high hearted happiness with which this exceptional man faced life.

Lt. Colonel J. A. Lasbrey, MBE, who was wounded on the same day as Handley Geary at the Battle of Albert, writes,

"The mention above of Geary's 'indestructibility' reminds me of the morning of 21st August 1918 when I had just arrived at the CCS at Doulens, and was awaiting my turn on the table. A sister came to my bedside and told me that 'a very distinguished officer' of my Regiment had just been brought in. He had been hit three times—once in the stomach—and there was, unfortunately, no chance of his surviving.

Some weeks later, allowed out of my hospital in London, I ran into Bart Kennedy and mentioned how sad it was poor old Geary had been killed. Bart forcefully suggested I should go round to Lady Carnavon's Hospital in Bryanston Square and see for myself. I did so, and there was Geary, full of life, draped in bandages, watching the world go by through one pole of a pair of binoculars. A few days later, I saw him again, arranging a party to go to the Coliseum!

Incidentally, I believe that his rejoining the 1st Battalion on the Fronte del Piave was entirely illegal. The story I heard, was that having been forbidden to do any more active service, Geary presented himself to the RTO and said he had lost his return papers while on leave. The

RTO, impressed by the VC ribbon and Geary's performance—he was by no means a poor actor—said he would be only too pleased to supply duplicate papers. And, that is what happened!"

Mr. F. P. J. Glover, MC, who was Intelligence Officer of the 1st Bn. The East Surrey Regiment from 1916 to 1918 has contributed the following reminiscences of Handley Geary.

"I first met Handley Geary when he rejoined the 1st Bn. The East Surreys in Italy in January 1918, and from then onwards never ceased to marvel at his refusal to regard, as in any way restrictive, the daunting disability he suffered as the result of his exploits in the Battalion's epic defence of Hill 60 in April 1915. It was an enlightening experience to share a billet with him in a village behind the line along the River Piave. When Austrian gunners occasionally decided to search back areas with a few rounds from their long range artillery, it became the established custom for the 'resting' soldiery to take to the fields while the built-up area received attention. Well versed in this sensible procedure, I used to leave an unmoved Handley, sitting book in hand, on the edge of his bed and to find him, still there reading, when I later returned, despite the disappearance of neighbouring windows and brick work in the interim. Yet there was a great sense of fun in his make-up too, and his active membership of the Battalion Concert Party—'The Thirsty Firsts'—probably introduced the troops to the first, and last, one-eyed Pierrot in a succession of morale raising shows they gave us at intervals, when out of the line, between March and June 1918. Returning from, what proved to be for both of us, a final home leave in July 1918 we met in Boulogne. He then suggested that a Movement Order to rejoin the Battalion which required our departure by train at 5 am the following morning was unreasonable. Who was I to argue? Accordingly, after a late and hearty breakfast, he made contact with one of the local RAF units where the officer in charge, after gazing spell bound at the healed hole in the side of Handley's head and the ribbon on his tunic, regretted his inability to speed us on our way in a manner he would have liked. He explained that the weather had grounded two seater aircraft, due for delivery empty to Squadrons in our own area, in which we might have been flown. Nevertheless he organised road transport as an alternative and, thereafter, expeditiously, and in style, we were passed through many vehicles and depots to our appointed destination and the final phases of the war.

The years have rolled on, but, to those of us who knew Handley, memories of this remarkable man will always remain to brighten the eye and gladden the heart in a world left poorer by his death."

Lt. Col. G. W. Kennedy, DSO, OBE, MC, writes,

"I really have little to add except that I was actually with Geary on Hill 60 and so have, at first hand, knowledge of his great courage, coolness and complete disregard for danger in what was a tough fight against heavy shelling and frequent ground attacks by the Germans.

I was wounded and carted back before Geary was hit. I have no doubt, however, that he did much to prevent the capture of the Hill, and that the award of the VC was fully merited."

#### John William Peters Llewellyn

John Llewellyn joined the 5th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment in 1959 and took over Command in 1960. He originally joined the South Lancashire Regiment TA just before the war and stayed on after as a Regular till retiring in 1958. He then went and worked in Shell Mex.

The 5th Battalion was very fortunate in having such a first class and understanding CO especially as the amalgamation of Regiments and Battalions took place in 1961. He had to form and forge 3rd Queen's Surreys into a happy and efficient battalion at annual camp at Plasterdown. This difficult task he did with tact, firmness and real understanding of all the problems, and the battalion became undoubtedly one of the best TA units in the Country. He was awarded the CBE in 1963 and then became the Training Colonel of 47th Infantry Brigade (TA).

Although not a Queensman till late in his career, he certainly quickly became one, and was extremely popular with All Ranks, as was shown by the number of inquiries once it was known he was so ill, and by the visits he received in hospital from old members of the battalion.

He leaves a son and a daughter.

J.B.H.K.

#### Major R. G. D. Bruce

Perhaps Bob Bruce's most marked characteristic was his gaiety. There seemed to be a perpetual burble of chuckling when Bob was about, interspersed with great gusts of laughter. He was a simple happy nature, and he had an immense capacity for enjoyment and a great love of life. He also had a keen sense of the ludicrous, and there must be many readers who remember him convulsed with laughter over some ridiculous happening.

Although a large man and not of athletic build, Bob enjoyed most outdoor games and he was a determined player. He was not a natural horseman, but he became very enthusiastic about all forms of riding, and he founded the most successful Tel el Kebir Saddle Club. For Bob was tremendously thorough in everything that he undertook, and he would take great pains to master any subject that came his way.

While in France 1940, Bob was appointed Adjutant of the 1st Bn. The East Surrey Regiment. At the Battle of the Escout on 22nd May, the order was given for the Brigade to withdraw. The Commanding Officer sent the Adjutant to the forward companies to ensure they did get the orders to withdraw. On the way, Captain Bruce's carrier was knocked out by shell fire, and he continued his journey on foot. Shortly afterwards he himself was wounded, and he was taken prisoner when the enemy overran the position.

During his five years of captivity, Bob Bruce never gave up trying to escape. He was involved in numerous plans for the escape of others, but finally succeeded in getting away himself in April 1945. After the War, Bob served in the Middle East and Malaya, retiring in 1955. He was later employed for several years as a Civil Servant in REME.

Unassuming and unselfish himself, Bob was distrustful of those who sought to impress or to better themselves at the expense of others. Loyalty he rated high among the personal virtues, and he was saddened and disillusioned by those who let others down. For all his easy going good nature, Bob could be very determined, and he would never compromise on a matter of principle. This kind, generous, outward looking man brought much happiness to others. One could not ask for a better friend.

P.G.E.H.

#### Jimmy Sillem

It was a real blow to the Regiment and a real loss to the Army when Jimmy retired in 1923 to join his father and his brother Bobbie—late of the Regiment—in a civilian career in Estonia. He was a senior subaltern when I joined and was regarded with sincere respect and regard. He had been specially chosen by Lieut-Colonel Dolly Crofts to accompany the 2nd Battalion to India; again he was specially selected to command the "A" Company Guard

for the visit of the Prince of Wales to Delhi in 1922, for which the Battalion was the only British Army Unit on duty. Jimmy would have risen to high rank in the Army. His sister tells me that it was with great pride and pleasure that he donned the Regimental badge for service in the Second World War. This needs no comment especially as during our contacts over the past few years he was always most interested in Regimental affairs and personalities.

L.C.E.

#### Brigadier J. Sykes-Wright, DSO, OBE

Jimmy Sykes-Wright was born on the 4th December 1908 and went to Uppingham and Sandhurst and was commissioned in The Queen's Royal Regiment on 29th January 1929. He was one of three young officers termed "The Crecce", who joined the 1st Battalion in Malta and who, with the old gang of young officers from Hong-Kong days, formed a strong cadre of junior officers many of whom went on to high command.

In 1939 he was an instructor at Sandhurst, and during and after the war, held several regimental and staff appointments ending as Army Adviser to the United Kingdom High Commissioner in Canada from 1958 to 1960 when he retired. He became Secretary of the Hertfordshire TA & AF Association in 1960 until the Territorial Army was reorganised in 1968, when he joined the Foreign and Commonwealth Office as a temporary civil servant dealing with war claims, working there until he died suddenly and peacefully on 29th August 1976.

He won a DSO in Italy and was awarded the OBE in 1953. It might not be generally known that he was taken prisoner in Italy but after some hours managed to escape.

He had suffered with heart trouble for some years which inevitably restricted his great joy of living. He was extremely interested in all forms of wild life, and particularly enjoyed the study of insects and birds about which he was very knowledgeable. He would have liked to have lived in the country, but with his disability this was not possible, so encouraged by his wife, he took up painting as a hobby which he greatly enjoyed, and he occasionally submitted work for local exhibitions.

Jimmy was very modest. He was a dedicated, efficient soldier and a fine commander, extremely popular with all ranks, and many people have written in this vein. He was absolutely honest; would say what he thought, and his integrity was cast iron. He had a great sense of humour and was full of jokes and could always see the funny side of things. The Regiment has lost one more fine and popular soldier, and our very sincere sympathy goes to his wife Betty.

J.B.H.K.

#### Eileen Hughes

It was sad to hear of Eileen's death. I had the pleasure of sitting next to her at a Special Christmas Ladies Dinner in the Mess at Allahabad in 1924 when she joined the 2nd Battalion as a bride. She has been a friend of my whole family ever since. I always admired her imperturbability and the background she provided to Ivor's distinguished career: she was never obtrusive but always seemed to be there when wanted.

L.C.E.