



THE QUEENS ROYAL SURREY REGIMENT

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Regimental Headquarters

The Queen's Regiment

Howe Barracks

Canterbury

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Number 26
November 1979

Regimental Association News Letter

Editorial

In the newspaper world an editor has two main functions — to report facts in an interesting way and to offer comment and opinions in an effort to create and guide public reaction to controversial matters. I intend to restrict my activity to the former function while saying a few words which I think are applicable to the subject referred to by our President in his notes.

It has been put to me that there can be no common ground between men of the present-day battalions of The Queen's Regiment and members of our existing associations, and therefore there can be no foundation upon which to build a bridge linking the "old and bold" with the new. Old regimental loyalties have been mentioned to me as being another bar to closer relations. Both these views may appear to be valid, and perhaps they reflect the normal fear of the unknown. Following a visit to 2 Queens in Gibraltar in June, however, I do not accept them.

I had such a warm, friendly reception from everybody whom I met that my holiday became a truly memorable occasion. I formed two impressions of significance and interest. Mutual respect between the old and the new for each other's achievements provides a foundation solid enough for any bridge. Maintenance of tradition in a modern environment is not incompatible with efficiency, and I found no justification for the view that past regimental loyalties would act as a bar between old and new.

In 1980 with three regular battalions in this country it should be possible to overcome any fear of the unknown by organising open days or visits. The efforts involved would be more than justified by the strengthening of regimental bonds which would result. I am sure that the Colonel of the Regiment and all commanding officers would agree with me.

Copy for the May issue should be sent to me at 50 Ashdene Road, Ashurst, Hants., SO4 2BW by 31st March 1980.

President's Notes

In the last issue of the Newsletter I talked about the way ahead and the relationship between our Association and the Regiment to-day, so I thought you would like to know the form about this now. I had a wide variety of comment from members of our Association, but the great majority felt that the time had come when something positive should be done to strengthen our links with The Queen's Regiment.

Sadly, I think, the Associations of the other old

Regiments were not so forthcoming, but our forward looking attitude has been welcomed by the Regular and TA Battalions of the Regiments. There is a lot more talking to be done yet and it is too early to forecast what the next step might be. What I do know is that I have strong backing from you to support the Colonel of the Regiment in his efforts to bring the past and present closer together. On the other hand I think you would like to know that I would not agree to any change in the status or title of Battalion or Town Associations without their approval.

My sincere thanks for your interest and support in this important matter and I look forward to seeing you at the Reunion on 2nd November when I hope we shall have a good turnout.

Geoffrey Curtis

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

1. Subscription for next year's Newsletter should now be paid. The subscription for 1980 has been retained at £1.
2. No action is required by
 - a. those who have already paid in advance
 - b. members of the Officers Club whose Club subscription covers the Newsletter
 - c. those who pay by Bankers Order, except to check that their Order covers the present cost.

Regimental Museum Appeal

The Trustees of The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment Museum thank the under-mentioned gentlemen and Association for their generous donations which have been received since May 1979:—

Mr C. Burchett	Colonel H.G. Duncombe
Mr C.H. Alderton	Mr H.J. Ford
Lt Col W.C.E. Nash	W.R. Turpin Esq
Mr C.H. Edwards	Mr J.A. Luxford
Major D.W. Adkins	5th Queens OMA

The total sum received up to 28 September 1979 is £667.75.

We are pleased to say that the new showcases are to be installed at Clandon House during the next few weeks, and that Messrs Bentalls Ltd of Kingston have agreed to move the exhibits from Kingston to Clandon at an extremely low cost, thanks to the President of the Board of Bentalls, Mr Rowan Bentall DL, who has taken a personal interest in the move of our Museum.

Forecast of Events 1980 — Regimental Association and Officers' Club

Date	Place	Event	Detail
2 May	Richmond	Queen's Surreys Golf Society	Spring Meeting
8 June	Guildford	Regimental Association Annual	Guildford Cathedral at
		Church Service	11.15 am
27 June	Effingham, Surrey	Queen's Surreys Golf Society	Match v Royal Marines
3 October	London	Officers' Club Dinner	To be notified
16-17 October	Richmond	Queen's Surrey Golf Society	2 day Autumn Meeting and AGM
7 November	London	Regimental Association Annual Reunion	Union Jack Club (to be notified)
9 November	Guildford and Kingston	Remembrance Day Parades	

Annual Church Service — Guildford 10/6/79

The service was well attended on the whole, but quite a few regulars were absent — probably because of the petrol situation at the time. Our President was prevented by illness from attending. The lesson was therefore read by the Colonel of the Queen's Regiment, Major General R.S.N. Mans CBE. The opportunity was taken to pass on the greetings of 1 Queens whom he had recently visited at Werl in Germany.

The Dean pointed out that he had preached at ten of our services, and suggested that if he were given due notice of the date he would try to organise a change for next year.

The Refectory was well patronised for light refreshments after the service, and was considered a worthwhile innovation.

The prize for longest journey to attend must surely go to Mr Arthur Moulder who served with 2/7th Queens — home on holiday from Australia.

News of the Associations

5th Queen's Old Members Association

The 5th Battalion The Queen's Royal Regiment Old Members Association held its Annual Reunion Dinner on the 12th May, at the TA Centre, Sandfield Terrace, Guildford, by kind permission of the O.C. Major E.R. Holmes, TD. The Reunion marked the 40th anniversary of mobilisation of the Battalion. A large majority of the members present had done their training in the Hall and around in 1939. The Hall is now the Headquarters of A Coy 5th Battalion The Queen's Regiment (TA).

The Association's Chairman, Lieut Colonel H.M.W. Harris, JP welcomed the 150 members present who had travelled long distances to be with their old comrades again. He said that it was heartening to the organisers to see such chaps as Reg Dickenson from Leeds, Nobby Clark of Cambridge, and Taffy Jones from Wales. We were also very honoured in having two Generals with us this evening who were both Queen's Royal Regiment men in their own right: Major-General R.S.N. Mans, CBE, Colonel of The Queen's Regiment and Major-General F.A.H. Ling, CBE DSO; also Brigadier G.B. Curtis, OBE MC, who is President of The Queen's Royal Surrey Regimental Association, and Lieut-Colonel J.B.H. Kealy, DSO DL.

Colonel Harris gave a special mention to the four 1914/18 members that were with us who had served with the battalion over many years. They were Brigadier F.E. Stafford, Colonel C.R. Wigan, Tom White and Jim Ellis from Woking who was aged 90.

It was announced that a donation of £10 had been sent by the Association to the Sherborne Abbey Appeal Fund for redecoration. In 1939 the battalion was stationed

there before going to France and held its church parades in the Abbey.

General Mans then gave a short resume of The Queen's Regiment's activities and recruiting, and where the battalions were stationed, etc. He also went on to say that the Regimental Museum would now be housed at Clandon Park; preparations had started and were well under way but it was going to cost a lot of money to move all the equipment and to set it up, so he was appealing for generous donations towards this. A collection after dinner raised the sum of £58 plus donations sent by post of £29, making £87. The Association made the sum up to £100 total.

The General wished the Association good luck in future and said he hoped it would be many years before numbers attending dropped below 150.

The Chairman said that a lot of organisation had been required to put on this evening and he would like to thank those responsible; Major Oldfield, Cadet Force Executive; Jack Hornersham; Geof Regester and Jimmy Patterson; also our Secretary, Doug Mitchell and Treasurer Ron May who strive to make this a successful get together.

We now open our Reunion to members of all the Battalions of the Queen's Royal Regiment, Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment, and The Queen's Regiment. We feel that some of these members in our area may like to arrange to meet some of their old buddies. If anyone would like further information regarding our Association, please write to the Hon Sec, Doug Mitchell, 3 Littlefield Way, Fairlands, Guildford, Surrey.

1 Queen's Progress

Since the last Newsletter the Services have received a large pay rise. Our readers will, I am sure, wonder what is happening to their Income Tax and whether or not we earn our keep!

We have been busy during this period, however, morale remains high. The news that we are moving to Canterbury in April 1980 has been well received, even if we do lose the delights of cheaper wine, beer, fags and LOA!! All ranks were fully expecting a further tour in N.Ireland immediately on arrival at Canterbury, instead, we are to move to Belize for a six month unaccompanied tour commencing in October 1980.

On the sporting side, Pte Lewis became the Combined Services Heavyweight Champion and Pte Golding the Bantamweight Champion. 1 Queens took on RAF Germany during May at boxing and emerged the victors by one bout. As a result of the evening's boxing, over a £1000 was raised for the 1980 Olympic Appeal Fund.

In March we had a visit from our Divisional Brigadier, Brigadier Charles Millman, who succeeded in

finding dust above the Quartermaster's door on his "walk about" of the Battalion!

We have had an attempt by certain TAVR officers to effect a coup! At one stage we had five officers attached to us. Four Queensmen and a dentist! Capt Piers Storie-Pugh and Lt Allan Chissel have been with us for nearly a year and they have not only gained a great deal — they have also contributed much to Mess life and soldiering, particularly by their unusual interpretation of the military pamphlets and their propensity to mixed dress! The other three were 2/Lt Miles Clement, Capt Stephen Menchip and the dentist Capt John Francis. Miles Clement, recruited from 6/7 Queens, is with us for 9 months on a Short Service Limited Commission, before going to University. Stephen Menchip, who is a Coy 21C in 5 Queens came to us for two weeks in lieu of his annual camp and was instantly hustled off to the East/West border for four days which was no doubt a change from Ludgate Circus. Allan Chissel, taking his ever increasing sabbatical from being an Immigration Officer (not customs as he is quick to remind us) joined us on a year's SSVC after Northern Ireland (having been there himself in the early days) with a beautiful wife and daughter in tow. He is 21C (D) Quebec Coy and is going to Canada for six weeks in September. He will certainly take back a great deal of experience when he returns to England in October.

Piers Storie-Pugh, an erstwhile stockbroker and platoon commander in 6/7 Queens, joined us after three months at Warminster on an 18 month SSVC, just in time for Northern Ireland when he commanded the Mortar Platoon for four months. When he leaves in January 1980, after two years he will have been to Northern Ireland, exercised in Germany, Canada and Denmark, visited America, taken two patrols to the border, done some Adventure Training in the Harz, been attached to the German Parachute School and skied for a month in Bavaria, and in addition lost all battles with the Quartermaster over kit!

John Francis, who lives in Shrewsbury and has a dental practice, came to us as a stand-in dentist for two weeks from the Hospital Unit in Birmingham and did a wonderful job — even the Colonel entrusted his daughter to the Dentist's chair. In the Battalion we feel that having TAVR officers on strength has become a part of life here in Werl and we shall certainly miss them when they are gone. We take our hats off to them for their professionalism and thank them for bringing with them a breath of fresh air.

In May the Battalion underwent a fortnights field firing at Sennelager. Woven into the already full programme was an extremely impressive display laid on for Staff College students from Camberley and Bracknell. (A) Tangier Coy provided a static display of combat team plus a full quota of attachments and equipments. (B) Holland (Kirke's) Coy was responsible for a combat team attack while (C) Sobraon Coy produced a fire power demonstration. BG HQ, A Ech remained static in a fully tactical location providing a text book lay out in the field. Combined with live FGA from Harriers, Jaguars, Buccaneers and AIO's it was of great value not only to the Staff College students but also to those who took part.

Whilst at Sennelager the Battalion celebrated Albuhera Day. Although training continued, the traditional ceremony of the Officers, Warrant Officers and Sergeants of drinking The Silent Toast was celebrated, afterwards the Warrant Officers joined the Officers for The Albuhera Dinner. Brigadier Mike Reynolds honoured us with his presence and was present for the Dinner.

Northern Ireland awards for our latest tour in the province were announced in May. Lieutenant Alex Cooper

was awarded a Mention in Despatches and CSgt Jimmy Pyper a GOC's Commendation. Both are congratulated for their excellent work.

On Sunday 27 May during a short ceremony in Werl market place the Burgermeister, Frau Doktor Rohrer presented Lieutenant Colonel John Holman Commanding the First Battalion with the Stadtfahne. (Town Standard). The presentation of the Stadtfahne equates to the Freedom of a town and in the case of the First Battalion commemorates four years close and happy association with the town of Werl.

The parade went extremely well and in spite of appalling weather a large crowd gathered to watch the proceedings. On parade were two Guards: (B) Holland Coy Guard commanded by Major Paddy Panton and (C) Sobraon Coy Guard commanded by Major Charles Joint. The Commanding Officer led the Parade with the Band and Corps of Drums. Only the Regimental Colour was carried on parade, the Colour Party comprised Lieutenant Howard Beeston as Ensign for the Colour, Colour Sergeants PG Dobson and MD Smith, and WO1 (RSM) D. Jamieson were escorts. The Battalion Second in Command Major Peter Hubert MBE and the Adjutant Major David Pollard were also on parade. The ceremony was short, but to the point. Frau Doktor Rohrer (the longest serving mayoress in the Federal Republic — fourteen years) presented the Commanding Officer with the Stadtfahne and a plaque — in return the stadt was presented with a ceremonial side drum.

After an extremely successful parade in Werl on the preceding Sunday the Battalion was well primed and motivated for the Trooping of the Colour on the Glorious First of June.

The Colour party remained unchanged and in addition to (C) Sobraon and (B) Holland Company Guards also on parade were (A) Tangier and (D) Quebec Company Guards commanded by Major Roger Gancz and Major James Jonklass. The Corps of Drums and Band performed admirably under the direction of WO2 Drum Major Smith and WO1 (Bandmaster) Hills respectively.

The Salute was taken by the British Ambassador to West Germany Sir Oliver Wright GCVO KCMG DSC, also in attendance was the Colonel of the Regiment Major General RSN MANS CBE.

A large contingent from HMS Excellent managed to cross the Channel to join us for the weekend under the leadership of Captain Richard Bethel RN. The ritual cricket match took place the following day. The officer elements from both teams looked somewhat jaded after an extremely enjoyable ball at the Belgian Officers Club in Soest the night before, likewise the WOs and Sgts after a party in their mess!

After a shaky start of 6 for 1 the Battalion started putting a score together. They finished at 151 for 6 off their allotted 35 overs — some notable performances, with Lieutenant Rob Walker 38, Lieutenant Lance Mans 30 not out and 23 for Corporal Gerry Clark. HMS Excellent started off very well and looked as if they were going to romp away with an easy victory. However the tide turned when they lost 9 wickets for 29 runs having gained a score of 112 for no wickets. This was due to some excellent bowling by Corporal Brian Allen 5 for 5 and Lieutenant Mark Cowan-Aston 3 for 25. Tension mounted until finally the Battalion had to concede the Rose Bowl after losing the match by one wicket on the second to last ball of the game. A superb match thoroughly enjoyed by the players and spectators alike.

Saturday evening saw the WOs and Sgts Mess Summer Ball which took place in Wickede Civic Hall. In the region of 350 members and their guests attended and without

exception praised the magnificent efforts of the Catering Corps personnel who produced a splendid buffet under the eagle eye of SQMS M. Boswell. A combination of a live group and discotheque kept people gyrating until the small hours. A splendid occasion!

On Sunday afternoon the Band Beat the Retreat on the square, followed by the presentation of long service and good conduct medals by the Colonel of the Regiment to twelve members of the battalion.

After the Glorious First celebrations, the Battalion once again donned combat kit and despatched Lieutenant Mark Cowan-Aston (4 P1 (B) Holland Coy) with his platoon to Trier to take part in a French Commando Course. (C) Sobraon Company went to Denmark and spent two weeks attacking, defending and withdrawing from the Danish Life Guards, other platoons have been adventure training in the Harz mountains not to mention Andy Bickerdike's platoon (3 P1 (A) Tangier Coy) attacking 1 (BR) Corps HQ during Ex Summer Sales (on purpose!)

The Battalion shooting team under the leadership of Major Gancz won the 3 Armoured Division Roupell (SLR) Shoot and performed creditably at Bisley this year. WO2 (CSM) Ryan came second in the sniper aggregate, WO2 (CSM) Hill came third, Private Toulouse came within the top 75 out of 720 entrants in the SMG match. Private Dunncliffe who won the 3 Armoured Division best Infantry Private Soldier combined shot at Sennelager in May eventually came 243 out of 720 entries.

Looking to the future - the Battalion goes to Soltau shortly for Pre Canada (Suffield) training. Immediately after the exercise comes a period of block leave followed by Canada during September and much of October. The end of October heralds the start of the 3 Armoured Division FTX - a busy time seems imminent for all concerned.

Regimental Band Record

Tribute to Werl

The Band of the 1st Battalion The Queen's Regiment
Conducted by Bandmaster P.E. Hills, F.L.C.M.

Side A

1. March: NIBELUNGEN
2. March: HEIDI
3. March: STANDARD OF ST. GEORGE
4. THE HUNTSMAN (Post Horn Solo by SSgt F.J. McManus)
5. Film Music: STARS WARS
6. March: RED SQUARE REVIEW

Side B

1. THE GLORIOUS FIRST (Queen Charlotte)
2. Theme from "SHAFT"
3. March: UNDER THE DOUBLE EAGLE
4. Theme: ALSO SPRACH ZARATHUSTRA
5. Potpourri: AUF LUSTIGER FAHRT
6. Regimental Marches:
BRAGANZA, LASS O'GOWRIE, SOLDIERS OF THE QUEEN

Editor's Note

I have a copy and thoroughly recommend it! Price is £2.75 including postage and packing. Copies are available from PRI 1 Queens.

The reviewer in "Soldier" magazine recommends it also, and says the record may be obtained from RHQ, The Queen's Regiment, Canterbury.

The Queen's Surreys Golf Society

Results of Spring Meeting 3rd May 1979

Heals Trophy—Stableford	Major H.G. Greatwood (34 pts)
Dodgson Cup — Medal	Capt J.A. Clark (net 68)
Challenge Cup — Scratch	Lt Col J.G.W. Davidson (77)
Veterans Halo	Capt J.A. Clark (39 points)
Greensomes	Lt Col J.G. W. Davidson and F.T.A. Hole (41 points)

Sweep winners:

1st	R. Randolph
2nd	Major H.G. Greatwood
3rd	Lt Col P.G. Roupell

Match played at Sudbrook Park, Richmond on 15th June 1979

a.m. Singles

Queen's Surreys	Royal Marines
Lt Col J.G.W. Davidson	½
R.R. Davies Esq	0
Major W.J.F. Sutton	0
Major Gen G.A. White	0
Major H.G. Greatwood	½
Col J.W. Sewell	0
F.T.A. Hole Esq	1
Major B.A. Crutchfield	1
	—
	3
	—
	—
	5

p.m. Foursomes

Lt Col J.G.W. Davidson)	Capt M. Manning)
Major W.G.F. Sutton) 2	Major D. Hunt) 0
Major Gen G.A. White) 0	Capt R. King)
R.R. Davies Esq) 0	Lt Col Stewart) 2
Col J.W. Sewell) 1	Maj Gen Alexander) 1
Major H.G. Greatwood) 1	Lt Col Carter) 1
Major B.A. Crutchfield) 2	Maj Gen McGill)
F.T.A. Hole Esq) 2	Lt Col Tweed) 0
	—
	5
	—
	3

Match Halved

Future Events

1980	—	—	2nd May (Friday)
Spring Meeting	—	—	16 and 17 October (Thursday and Friday)
Autumn Meeting	—	—	Date and venue to be arranged
Marines Match	—	—	

Gibraltar — 52 years later

Major G.C. Forman writes:—

Following on Charles Cowie's revisit to Jersey, I have recently returned from the 2nd Battalion's next posting in 1927. Disembarking from the troopship 'City of Marseille' the battalion had arrived in Gibraltar on a 2 year posting.

It was 52 years later that I arrived at North Front airport. The camp as occupied by 'A' company has made

way for the airport buildings and quarters for the R.A.F.. Casemates Barracks and married quarters are still the same, although now occupied by a Moroccan labour force brought in by the Government to replace the Spanish labour now locked out of the Rock.

South Barracks has not altered at all, the same white imposing building. The regimental sign today reads "2nd Bn. The Queen's Regiment" instead of "East Surrey Regiment". The married quarters are also there, in fact that area has hardly altered at all, although most of the open area toward Europa has been developed; new barracks, married quarters, sports fields, etc..

There are so many places that brought back memories of 1927 - 29! King's Chapel, Camp Bay, Rosea Bay, Alameda Gardens, Montigue Bastion School (now a Youth Centre), the Garrison Library, Governor's House, Guard Room and Main Street. Much still remains, but so little open space is left, because in recent years large scale building programmes have been necessary to accommodate a vastly increased population. The Battalion embarked in 1929 for their return to U.K. for a 3 year posting to that jewel of the North, Catterick Camp.

G. Forman

The First and Last Time

Displayed in the Officers' Mess of 1 Queens, together with the Queen's Colour and the Regimental Colour, can be seen an olive green standard bearing the Double 'C' back-to-back Cipher of King Charles the Second and his Consort, Catherine of Braganza. It is usually referred to as The Third Colour. It is never seen, uncased, on parade or anywhere other than in the Officers' Mess. "What", visitors often ask, "is it's origin and purpose?"

Long years ago the then Colonel of The Regiment presented the Colour to the Regiment. It was designated The Colonel's Colour. Permission was sought from the appropriate Authority to accept and retain the Colour.

After considerable discussion it was finally decided that the Colour could be retained with the strict injunction that it must never appear, uncased, in the ranks of The Regiment. Meticulous care was exercised throughout the years to ensure that the order was adhered to strictly. There was, however, one notable infringement.

In 1927 the First Battalion was serving in Hong Kong as part of the reinforcements for Shanghai Defence Force, and would be taking part in the big Parade to be held, in honour of the King's Birthday, on the Race Course at Happy Valley on 3rd June.

A few days before the Parade was due to take place the Commanding Officer, Lieut Colonel R.G. Clarke, CMG, DSO, announced that he was considering the idea of including the Third Colour in the Colour Party for the occasion.

His announcement gave rise to much speculation in the Officers' Mess.

The senior Officers showed grave concern and even expressed the fear that permission to retain the Colour might be withdrawn. The Captains were divided in their views. The Subalterns kept their mouths shut.

The Commanding Officer made his decision. The Third Colour would be carried on the Parade.

Sec Lieut H.G. Duncombe was summoned to the Orderly Room. The Adjutant, Captain G.A. Pilleau, MC, said: "You are detailed to carry the Third Colour on the Parade".

Duncombe became the target of much good-natured chaff in the Mess. Someone even suggested: "You will probably lose your Commission".

The great Day came. It was extremely hot; in fact, a typical Hong Kong mid-summer day.

The Colour Party was made up as follows:

King's Colour	-	Sec Lt E.J. Foord.
Regimental Colour	-	Sec Lt J.B.H. Kealy.
Third Colour	-	Sec Lt H.G. Duncombe.
Escort	-	C/Sgt Handscombe.
	-	Sgt Torkington.
	-	Sgt Harris.

The units taking part in the Parade were:

Royal Navy,
Royal Artillery,
Royal Engineers,
Scots Guards,
Queen's Royal Regiment,
Northamptonshire Regiment,
King's Own Scottish Borderers,
Welch Regiment,
Hong Kong Volunteer Corps.

As the troops marched on to the parade ground and formed up in Review Order the inevitable question "Why do The Queen's have three Colours?" arose in all of the spectators' stands. What answer, if any, was given is not known.

And so it was, that a Regulation that had been adhered to rigidly for many years was for once broken.

Nobody seemed to mind, and there was no Official repercussion.

Editor's Note:-

Newsletter No. 8 of November 1970 gives full details of the Third Colour and its past use.

The Berlin Airlift

It may well be of interest, particularly to those serving at the time, to learn that the activities of the Regiment during the Berlin Airlift have not been forgotten: in addition to daily guards and fatigue parties the battalion as a whole was liable to be called out in case of any sudden incursion by the Russians. Colonel East received the two invitations shown below. He was commanding 2/Queens at the beginning of the airlift and in fact accompanied the first part of the battalion up the autobahn to Berlin: this was the last convoy before the road was closed at Helmstedt.

"From the Trustees of the R.A.F. Museum to the opening of an Exhibition at Hendon by the Governing Mayor of Berlin and from The Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to a Reception at Belgrave Square: both on Friday the 25th May 1979 to mark the 30th Anniversary of the Airlift".

A report appeared in the Daily Telegraph on Saturday 26th May and doubtless in other papers as well.

From Here and There

Rex Williams - writing from Canada, wonders if anybody has got the complete words to Braganza which begin "I absolutely do refuse". Any offers to me please.

H. Drayton - ex-member of Queen's Royal Regiment band writes about the enjoyable visit he made to 1 Queen's while on holiday in Germany this year.

G.H. Smith - of 1913 vintage talks of early days of service in 1st, 2nd and 3rd Queen's. He points out that the Lambeth Town Crier bears the Pascal Lamb as a badge on his hat and other parts of the uniform.

R.S. Shears - talks of personalities met at Stoughton Barracks in the '30s and reminds us that the film "O.H.M.S." was made there at that time.

Sgt E. Copps—

At the outbreak of the 1939-45 War, a young soldier called Copps (6139832), who had just completed his 'Seven' in the 2nd Bn The East Surrey Regiment, was selected by the then Lt Col A.A.B. Dowler as his batman driver. The two served together at home and abroad throughout the War and until the General was appointed GOC East Africa Command, when Sgt Copps took his discharge.

He then became Caterer at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, later the RMAS. Here he served for 8½ years until ill health forced his retirement. Mr Copps is now a resident at the Chaseley Home for Disabled Ex-Servicemen in Eastbourne.

Regimental Ladies

Mrs. Daphne Hill — wife of our very well known Major Peter Hill — is responsible for the excellent idea of getting some of the ladies of the regiment to write their stories for the Newsletter. This first one — Mrs. Monica Magee — affords us an illuminating glimpse of another and perhaps little appreciated glimpse of regimental life. I hope it will be followed by others.

"I was enjoying a swim in Shanghai's Country Club's spacious pool one afternoon in early August, 1940, when the news came over the radio that all members of the British forces and their families were to be evacuated within the next ten days — the former to an "undisclosed destination". You can imagine the rush this meant — not only the packing up of all our belongings, and getting rid of our houses, cars, etc: but the finding of jobs for our Chinese servants who were being left behind destitute.

The P. & O. "S.S. Tanda" was to take all the families to Australia. The 2nd East Surrey officers' wives were Mab Chidson, Betty Orme, Vera Andrews and me (Monica Magee) with my baby Shirley — having a 9 month old baby had its' advantages when it came to the cabin allotment in a boat bursting at the seams.

Within an hour after leaving the docks "S.S. Wingsan", carrying our husbands, overtook us and we could hear the Surrey Band striking up "Auld Lang Syne" — and see hands waving farewell on the decks, which did nothing towards raising our morale!

The "S.S. Tanda" ploughed its way down to Sydney through the great Barrier Reef and some wives disembarked there while others went on to Melbourne. Betty Orme was the only Surrey Wife to go to the latter place, whilst the rest of us went to a small hotel in Sydney to make future plans. I had made friends on the boat with Mrs. Hennessy, wife of Major Hennessy, R.A.M.C., and as her small son, Tinker, was the only other child in the party, we decided to join forces for the sake of the children. We rented a bungalow in Vaucluse, a sea-side suburb of Sydney, and settled down there as happily as it was possible under the circumstances. After a couple of years we were joined by Mrs. Ashmore, wife of the Shanghai Brigade Major, and her little son Michael, who were not happy in Melbourne and settled down with us. We were very lucky as we had constant visits from the various wives spread about Sydney, who used to come out and spend a day with us. Meanwhile our husbands were desperately trying to arrange for us to join them in Singapore, and in December 1941, a message came from the War Office that we could join them — so we hastened on the first available boat, and arrived there on the morning of December 7th, not knowing of the attack

on Pearl Harbour by the Japanese. As we docked, the first bombs were falling and the syrens were blaring, and we were met by our husbands, who shepherded us to our various accommodations. We had a small flat in the middle of the town, and after a few days Betty Orme arrived from Melbourne. We gave her refuge as Babe Orme was up-country with the Regiment, and she had nowhere to go. The order came out that wives could only stay in transit unless they had a job, and I pretended that I could type (though only with one finger!) so that I was given a secretarial job in Fort Canning with S & T. We were by now being very heavily bombed night and day, and General Wavell prepared to move to Java with his staff — I being one of them by this time. You can well imagine the tragic scenes as we embarked on a small boat and said farewell to the husbands being left behind while the bombs were steadily falling. There was not much room on board so I slept on deck with my small daughter. We could not go through the Sunda Straits as the Japs had already taken them over, so we went on through the Bali Straits, and arrived safely in Bandoeng, where we were met by Maurice Russell and Frank Crafter who escorted us to an hotel and settled us in — but who tragically were both taken prisoner and joined the rest of the Regiment in Changi. After a couple of days there the Governor of Java issued orders that all women with children must leave the island at once as the Japs were already bombing the island, so clutching a baby under one arm and a suit case under the other I embarked for Perth in Western Australia, sharing a cabin with Mrs. Chamier, wife of Lt Colonel A. Chamier of the Intelligence Corps, and her small daughter Ann. By this time I was the only Surrey wife left — the others having gone off to India.

On arrival in Perth we were met by a very helpful Committee of Voluntary Workers who sorted us out. We were put up in small hotels, and soon Mrs. Chamier and I found a small bungalow near the sea at Cottesloe, which we shared together with our 2 little girls. After a year we had postcards from our husbands in Changi, who seemed to be in as good shape as possible under the circumstances. We remained in Cottesloe until we realized that the beginning of the end of the War in Europe was in sight, and were determined to get back to England so as to be there to greet them on their return — so on December 4th we set forth on a nightmare train journey from Perth right across the desert — in which the heat was almost unbearable. It took us 4 days in that train across the Continent to Brisbane, where we managed to get passages to England via New Zealand, and through the Panama Canal. When we reached New York, where we were not allowed ashore, the headlines in the newspapers were:— "German U boats massed off the Irish coast ready for the kill" — so we naturally had to live in our life jackets for the trip across the Atlantic. When we neared England there were constant sightings of U Boats and our ship discharged many depth-charges — but we fortunately survived, and arrived safe and sound in Liverpool. From there we dispersed to our various relatives to await the arrival of the husbands from Changi. We were notified that their boat would be going to Liverpool, where they would be sorted out, and we were all to go to Kings Cross Station to await their train. I shall never forget the electricity in the air as I waited with crowds of other wives, not knowing what to expect. When it did eventually draw in, the men got out — some with only one leg, some nearly blind, some obviously half-starved, and mercifully a lot who looked thin but otherwise normal. It took some time for the train to disgorge them all, and I was overjoyed to see my own husband walking towards me — very thin but otherwise normal."

Rabies and Other Things

In No. 25 of the Regimental Association Newsletter several items stirred a moribund memory.

I think I am right in saying that the Corporal Dole, who wrote an interesting letter about rabies, was in the same draft as I was which went to Hong Kong in the trooship "Derbyshire" in Oct-Nov 1924 to join the 1st Bn the East Surreys. My principal memory of the voyage was of nearly being disembowelled by (the then) Captain J.O. Carpenter for allowing an Education Class to remove their shirts on an afternoon in the Red Sea when the temperature in the Troop Decks was about 150 degrees. Again, I believe Private Dole (as he was then) joined No. 6 Platoon of "B" Company which I commanded for several years (the Platoon, not the Company). He is a year or two out in saying that the 1st Bn was in Kuldana (Murree Hills) in 1929. The battalion was there in 1927, and again in 1930, but in 1929 the battalion (less one company at a time which went for a breath of fresh air to one of the smaller hill stations in the Murree Hills) sweated out the hot weather in Rawal Pindi, quite close to where Mr. Bhutto was hanged recently. Kuldana Barracks, incidentally, were built by my father (a Sapper) either in the late 1800s or early this century. They were an Orderly Officer's nightmare as I expect they were to many others.

It was sad to see Major Birdsall's and Sergeant-Major Chaffer's obituaries. Sergeant-Major Chaffer was C.Q.M.S. of "B" Company, 1st Bn the East Surreys, at the time about which Corporal Dole writes. I have a photograph of the Colour Party of the 1st Bn in which Sergeant Birdsall was one of the Escort to the Colours. The others in the Escort were (I think) Sergeants Woodfall and Ridger. The King's Colour was carried by Lieut Desmond Searle and I carried the Regimental Colour. The photograph was taken in 1925 in Hong Kong where the sun shone every day, the wine flowed and all the women were beautiful.

D.J. ff.C.

Nordic Saga

Late on 9th July, 136 men and 25 armoured vehicles boarded a train at Werl for a slow journey to Aalborg in Jutland on the start of Ex Odin Buff. (C) Sobraon Company 1 Queen's was off on an exchange visit to 2nd Company 1st Dronningens Livregiment (Queens Life Regiment) of the Royal Danish Army.

The aim of the visit was to find out what life was like in a part conscript army, as well as carrying out some company training. The first and most striking thing about Aalborg and the Danes, which we were to find more and more, was how friendly everyone was. Nearly everyone spoke English, so there was little trouble in training, or in socializing down the town.

The Companies activities with 1 DLR ranged far and wide, interspersed at every opportunity with "schnapps" and beer! The first week was basically spent "getting to know you and your equipment". On Tuesday after introductory lectures to each others Armies, both Regiments competed in a mini-olympics including such activities as volley ball, relay races and hand grenade throwing! All in all 106 men from each Company took part, and though the Danes won the day, friendships were already made. Whilst the fever of sport was on, the OC had the honour of an Audience with HM Queen Margrethe II, where he conveyed the greetings and good wishes to our Allied Colonel-in-chief on behalf of all ranks of the Queen's Regiment.

On Thursday, on a beautiful hot day, the Companies went to some field firing ranges on the marvellous beaches

at Tranum. After a morning's firing, the afternoon was spent swimming, Stalwart 'rides' at sea, helicopter familiarization and Anti-Aircraft shoot out to sea. The day ended with a company 'smoker'. By the end of the evening uniforms had been exchanged and the company fund better off by a £1,000 turn-over in the bar!!! The sight in the morning was unbelievable — people asleep where they fell and a mountain of empty beer cans!

Over the weekend the Company dispersed to such places as Copenhagen, Skagen or the local beaches and pools to admire the truly marvellous talent. The most fortunate were the three sergeants, who with courtesy of the Gazelle helicopter that accompanied the company, were dropped on the small island of Lassoe — the first British troops ever to visit the Island. They were treated like visiting royalty, and were sorry that the wind was not blowing another five knots harder on Sunday to prevent their pick-up!

On Sunday evening, the company was back — just. After frantic preparations we were away at 1730 hours on Monday for the 80 mile run to Findrup training area to start a three day exercise with and against the Danes. It was blazing hot throughout, but even so in three days nearly every operation of war was covered except the river crossing and then only because we could not find a suitable river! The exercise was a great success, and reminded the Company how rusty we are at some aspects of our profession.

Wednesday night was early to bed, ready for a final free day on Thursday to shop for souvenirs or say farewell to newly acquired friends; then it was back on board the train for another 24 hours journey to Werl.

Memories? — far too much schnapps and beer, too many beautiful women, awful food, and a tremendous friendship amongst the Royal Danish Army.

(The leader and chronicler of this Nordic Saga was Major Charles Joint of 1 Queen's whom we thank. Ed.)

The Glasgow Lowland Regiment

The May issue of the Newsletter related the history of the subsidiary title of The Glasgow Lowland Regiment which was borne by the 70th Regiment from 1812 to 1825, and suggested that Colonel Andrew Ross, the commanding officer, was instrumental in getting this Scottish title adopted. It is curious that the History of The East Surrey Regiment makes no mention of The Glasgow Lowland Regiment, although the salient facts are recorded in Cannon's Historical Record of the 70th Regiment.

In studying this hitherto unrecorded item of Regimental history, the writer has had considerable assistance from Mr W.A. Thorburn, Keeper of the Scottish United Services Museum and an authority on Scottish military history. He confirms that the 70th were never officially designated a Scottish regiment, and thinks that the attempt to acquire a Scottish title was attributable to certain Scottish officers in the 70th. Mr Thorburn writes, 'This was a matter of personalities, and had little to do with any genuine lineage, except a tenuous reference to their earlier stay in Glasgow at the time of their formation. The return to the Surrey title also seems to be a natural reversal of what I think must have been an "arrangement" between the Prince Regent and Ross.'

In 1811, Colonel Ross was succeeded by the second lieutenant colonel, Lewis Grant, who commanded the 70th until he retired in 1823. The next commanding officer was Lieutenant Colonel Charles McGigor or

MacGregor. Thus it will be seen that the Scottish connection with the 70th was maintained. However, it is apparent that the Regiment was not happy with the Scottish title which had been imposed on them after 30 years as the 70th Surrey Regiment.

To quote Mr Thorburn again, 'I have no precise details of specific objections to the 1812 title but....it was clearly not a popular idea, and corrected in 1825, either by regimental wish, or by the Army authorities.The wording even in Cannon might be significant. The Glasgow Lowland title was "authorised", but the return to the Surrey title was "permitted", indicating that the Regiment asked for this?'

The 70th Surrey Regiment title was borne until the Regiment's amalgamation with the 31st Regiment in 1881.

P.G.E.H.

The Crossing of The River Sambre

On October 27th Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel H.W. Green DSO of The Buffs assumed command of the 1st Battalion The Queen's.

On about October 31st, the 1st Queen's left billets at Troisvilles and marched up towards the line, by-passing Le Cateau and further on Landrecies, and entering the southern part of the Forest of Mormal. We marched through the forest in a north-easterly direction and eventually came out into open country somewhere in the vicinity of Berliamont. The enemy had fallen back to the high ground on the farther side of the Sambre, destroying all the large bridges and most of the smaller ones. The river was unfordable and the Germans kept up a heavy fire upon the river banks and especially upon the ruined bridge-heads. The passage of the river was, however, forced by the other two Brigades of our Division, the 98th at Berliamont and the 100th a mile farther to the right; and by the morning of the 6th November the villages of Aulnoye, Petit Mauberge and Laval, all on the east bank, had been captured and ground for manoeuvre made available.

The 19th Brigade was now called forward to take up the pursuit and the 1st Queen's were ordered to advance across the Sambre and deploy east of the river. At 11 am on the 6th The Battalion marched off and deployed as directed. "A" and "B" Companies in the front line on left and right respectively, and "C" and "D" Companies in support, following the 5th Scottish Rifles, who captured that portion of the village of Aulnoye surrounding the railway station, when the Queen's in turn passed through them and took the objective designated. There was very little artillery fire by the enemy, but his machine guns were very active, and "A" and "B" Companies suffered a few casualties. We in "C" Company had been able to cross the river by a small hump-backed brick bridge which the Germans had either forgotten or had not had time to destroy. The Battalion had advanced two or three miles before night fell and darkness prevented us from going any further.

We halted and temporarily consolidated our line for the night. There was no enemy activity, and between turns of sentry duty we were able to snatch a few hours of sleep. During the night a runner arrived with a message from BHQ, with information, and orders to the effect that on the morrow, the Scottish Rifles would be going through our Battalion and the line of the villages of Ecuelin and Pot de Vin and that the Queen's were to follow 1,000 yards in rear and, on the Scottish Rifles taking their objectives, we were to advance north of, and

through the northern edge of the Bois du Temple, and then push forward on to the high ground east of the Mauberge-Avesnes road.

The morning of the 7th was very misty, the Scottish Rifles lost direction, and only one company reached the line of the Queen's, so that we went forward in touch with the 21st Division on our left. About a 1,000 yards west of Ecuelin the 21st Division was held up and we lost touch with it. The Queen's continued to advance, "A" and "B" Companies entering Ecuelin without encountering any opposition, but as soon as the enemy realized that the village was in British occupation, fire was opened upon it by machine-guns in the wood to the east, and from sunken roads and quarries to the west.

"C" and "D" Companies closed up to Ecuelin. It was then that our platoon came under sudden and severe machine-gun fire from our left flank, and our platoon officer Lieutenant Pelling was badly wounded in the stomach. "A" and "B" Companies then advanced east and north of the village and in the afternoon two attempts were made to capture the north-west corner of the Bois du Temple. The first attempt failed, but at the second the enemy was found to have fallen back. In the evening the Queen's were relieved and went back for the night to Le Toque.

The 1st Queen's casualties in this action of the past few days were:

1 officer and 5 men killed	
4 officers and 43 men wounded	
6 men missing	a total of 59

The officer casualties were:

Killed: Second Lieutenant O. Jackman

Wounded: Lt-Col H.W. Green DSO

Captain R.H. Nevins MC

Lieutenant F.W. Pelling

Second Lieutenant F.H.E. Whittaker

On the morning of the 8th November we marched back to the town of Berliamont. We were told that we were due to go up the line again on the 11th of November.

On the morning of the 11th we were paraded just before 11 o'clock and were told by our Company Officer, Lieutenant C.S. Clark, that an Armistice had been signed at 5 o'clock that morning, and would come into force at exactly 11 am. We were also told that the War was not necessarily over, and that we were to hold ourselves in readiness, and be prepared for hostilities to be recommenced at any time in the future.

There was no means of celebrating the first part of the news, as there was nothing except tea to celebrate with. That part of France had been occupied by the Germans for over four years and upon their departure they had left little behind them except the bare necessities for the people and scarcely that.

V.E.F.

Prince Edward's Gate in Gibraltar

An inscription dated 1790 was found in the sentry box built into the wall inside this gate. Its message still applies:

"God and the soldier all men adore
In time of trouble and no more,
For when war is over and all things righted
God is neglected and the old soldier slighted."

The wording used follows quite closely the similar verse of identical meaning written by Francis Quarles (1592 - 1644). Times have not changed much! Ed.

The 70th Regiment in New Zealand

The 70th (Surrey) Regiment of Foot which has done such good service in New Zealand in upholding the honour, and adding to the lustre of the brave deeds done by the British army in all parts of the world, takes its leave of us during the course of this week. The present is therefore a very fitting time to say a few words of the doings of the regiment whilst resident amongst us, and fighting our battles against a horde of half-Christianised, half-savage warriors, carried away by a horrid fanatical superstition. Unlike the 65th Regiment, which left our shores for England about two months ago, after a service of 19 years in the field of New Zealand, few men, we believe, of the 70th Regiment will be left behind to become settlers in the colony, their term of service in New Zealand not permitting such a course being adopted, but we cannot refrain from thinking that it will be found in many cases from the associations formed during their residence here, that in future years many of our new and energetic settlers will be taken from the ranks of this regiment after the men have completed their full term of service, and who will at once direct their steps to New Zealand, for the purpose of forming a home here for the rest of their lives. It is an admitted fact on all sides that the petty warfare which has unfortunately existed in New Zealand for some years past has proved an unmitigated evil and annoyance to all who were unhappy enough to be engaged in it. From its desultory character, and the very nature of the tactics pursued by the wily Maori, who almost always has taken good care to leave a loop-hole by means of which to effect his escape, it has become generally acknowledged that whilst on larger fields and more extended operations the heroic deeds performed would be justly honoured, on the New Zealand battle-field they have sunk into inglorious skirmishes and inoperative displays of military movements. Superadded to the one pre-eminent difficulty of keeping the rebel forces in check, and coping with them in their natural fastnesses as well as protecting the many scattered settlements in the Northern Island from attacks on every side, roads have had to be formed, redoubts erected, forests penetrated, and the enemy dislodged from almost impregnable fortifications, as well as flying columns established to keep up communication with out-stations, all this having to be done in every sort of weather under the broiling mid-summer sun, as well as in the depths of a pluvial New Zealand winter, which only requires once to be experienced whilst under canvas, ever to be remembered. Our readers, however, well enough know the difficulties under which war-fare has been pursued in New Zealand to require any prompting from our pen to induce them to accord every respect and honour to one of the regiments now about to leave us at such an early date, and which had done so much to protect the lives and properties of her Majesty's subjects in this and neighbouring provinces. The practical experience gained by most of the male residents of this province, whilst doing duty in the militia and volunteers renders a description of the hardships undergone by the military unnecessary in this notice, and we may, therefore, we are sure with the hearty consent of our fellow-settlers, wish in every sense of the term, 'God speed' to the 70th Regiment to their old British home.

The 70th Regiment has seen 61 years' service since its formation, and during that period it has made the name of "Surrey" conspicuous on many hard-fought battle-field. The regiment embarked for India on the 29th January, 1849, and whilst there served in Bengal during the mutinies of 1857-9.

Editor: This extract has been taken by Mr G.W. Hinde from a New Zealand newspaper of the period — presumably the month of January 1866 as this is when the battalion left there to return home.

Dress of the 70th Regiment

There is a mention in the Army Inspection Return of 1777 that the 70th had 'An handsome Band of Music genteelly dressed'. We are indebted to Mr W.F.G. Boag of the Scottish United Services Museum for the following notes:

'On 21 November 1780 there is a return in the Miscellany Book — Clothing "His Majesty has been pleased to approve of the drummers' coats of the 70th Regiment of Foot being changed from black to white cloth." Still later in January 1786, we find another entry that sergeants, drummers and music are to wear ruffles one inch broad. At this time a suit for a musician or a drummer cost 5/6d and the tailors had to find their own thread. About 10 years later in January 1796 there is a letter from the office of the C-in-C written by the Adjutant-General to Thomas Fauquier to the effect that the coats of the drummers and fifers of a number of regiments, including the 70th, "Are in all future clothings of the said regiments, to be made of white cloth instead of black, and to have black cuffs, collars and facings. The waistcoats and breeches are to be white".

Trafalgar Cemetery — Gibraltar

While visiting this cemetery I found the following graves, all of officers of the "2nd or Queen's Regiment". They had died of malignant fever, which was the outbreak of plague which ravaged Gibraltar in 1804.

Ensign Henry Coldstream	Died 29/10/04	Aged 28 years
Ensign Patrick Eallen	Died 30/10/04	Aged 20 years
(The name given in the Regimental History is Tallen)		
Lieut Charles Culloden	Died 20/10/04	Aged 24 years
Lieut Hugh P. Clough	Died 24/10/04	Aged 20 years

The Regimental History quotes the loss of The Queen's as seven officers and 91 NCOs and men. The total loss of the garrison was 34 officers and 862 men. Losses among the civilian population exceeded 4,000.

Footnotes in the history show that Ensign Coldstream was promoted to Lieutenant on 17/11/1804 and Ensign Tallen to Lieutenant on 30/10/1804. The apparent discrepancies between the dates give rise to interesting speculation to which I do not know the answer. Possibly the promotions had been put through to the Horse Guards to replace earlier casualties and the effective dates coincidentally followed their deaths. At that time promotion was still by purchase, except in special cases where purchase was waived. e.g. in some cases casualty replacement. The age of Ensign Coldstream would suggest that he had been unable to purchase advancement earlier.

Book Note

"Memoirs of General Sir George Greaves, GCB, KCMG". Born 1831 — 1922: Colonel of the East Surrey Regiment. Published by John Murray, London in 1924. Available through public libraries. Written by himself the book covers his service with the 70th Foot in India, New Zealand and Africa. Refreshingly written link back to Queen Victoria's coronation.

Deaths

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

Duncan—On 14 July 1979, Captain Peter Colin Duncan MC QC, aged 83. Served with 2/4th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment during the First World War and also served during the Second World War. For many years right up to the time of his death, he was President of the 2/4th Queen's OCA. Educated at Rugby School and Trinity College, Cambridge, he was called to the bar in 1928 and became one of the Country's leading defamation lawyers. He had been Recorder of Bury St Edmunds and of Norwich.

Elsden—On 9th February 1979, Ernest Harry Elsden MM (1634) aged 89. Served in the 8th Bn The East Surrey Regiment from 1914 to 1919 and was present at MONTAUBAN on the first day of the Battle of the Somme, 1 July 1916, when the famous "football attack" took place.

Fahrner—On 20 March 1979, Samuel John Fahrner MM (6149793). Served in the 10th Bn The East Surrey Regiment from 1940 — 1942.

Griffin—On 15 August 1979, Major (QM) James Edward Griffin, aged 68. Served in The Queen's Royal Regiment in the 1st and 2/5th Bns and at the Regimental Depot from 1931 — 1959 and then in The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment until 1965 (see Obituary).

Hetherington—On 6th July 1979, Ernest C. Hetherington MVO, aged 90. Served as a subaltern in the 8th Bn The East Surrey Regiment from 1915 — 1918 and was wounded at MONTAUBAN on 1 July 1916 during the famous Football attack of that battalion (see Obituary).

Manning—On 4 May 1979, Sgt Herbert Charles Manning (6145181), aged 68. Served in The East Surrey Regiment from 1940 — 1945 and was Intelligence Sergeant in the 1st Battalion in Italy from the Sicily landings to the end of the Campaign. A professional journalist, he was responsible for several articles on the war time activities of 1 Surreys that appeared in the Surrey Comet. Mr Manning's war time articles and a subsequent eye-witness account of the Operations of 1 Surreys in Italy, have proved invaluable to regimental historians.

Milligan—On 17 December 1978, Lt Col P.W. Milligan DL, aged 68. Served with 5th and 2/5th Bns The Queen's Royal Regiment, as Military Assistant to General Dowler and AQMG (plans) HQ British Troops, Egypt. (see Obituary).

Paine—On 24 May 1979, Lt Col John Lawrence Piers Paine, aged 78. Served in the 1st and 2nd Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1921 to 1946.

Pearce—In March 1979, Edward Thomas William Pearce (11497), aged 84. Served in the 11th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1915 — 1919. Until his death, as one of the few surviving members of the 11th Battalion, he was a staunch supporter of the Regimental Association.

Roberts—On 1 July 1979, Major Arthur Neil Stewart Roberts OBE, aged 95. Served in The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1908 — 1931 and again from 1939 — 1945. He was originally commissioned in The West India Regiment in 1903 (see Obituary).

Obituaries

Henry Thomas Chaffer. 1896 — 1979

With the passing of Harry Chaffer, one of the last of a wonderful Team of Serjeant Instructors at the Regimental Depot of The East Surrey Regiment, has passed

to the valhalla of all good soldiers.

To digress a little and to bring back a few nostalgic memories to those of that era, the early post war 'twenties' in the Home of The East Surrey Regiment in Kingston-on-Thames, it will suffice to recall the names of a few of the stalwarts of that time. Who can forget 'Monty' Bates, the depot Commanding Officer, a man who had the 'knack' of picking first class material. Bates had as his Officer Staff men such as 'Chips' Carpenter his Adjutant, 'Duke' Schomberg as 2 I/c, Frank Dowling as Training Officer assisted by Harry Yalden; the never to be forgotten Quartermaster, Harry Percy DCM MM; 'Daddy' Crawford the Medical Officer assisted by the ubiquitous 'Winkle' Trout in the M.I. Room. But the 'backbone' of them all was the Serjeants Mess headed by Alec Twoohey, the Regimental Serjeant Major assisted by Bill Parks, the Depot Company Serjeant Major. The Regimental Quartermaster Serjeant....? who went on to become a full Colonel in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps. But the S.I.s were "the cream of the crop" headed by Bill Dorsett, Charlie Prosser, 'Wag' Harris, Charlie Cowie, Bob Press and Harry Chaffer. All of these men had seen Active Service, thus the 'Rookie' knew that these men knew of what they spoke and imparted.

Harry Chaffer had an outstanding and adventurous military career of which he rarely....if ever spoke. Born in Chelsea in 1896, joining the old Militia at an early age was absorbed in the 1st Battalion of the Surrey's, taking part in the principal battles of that 'holocaust'; 1919 saw the Battalion in Ireland and 1920 in Russia with the ill-fated Deniken expedition. Then, when the war to 'end all wars' terminated he was appointed to the Depot Staff by his then Colonel, Bates. Here his outstanding personality and drive earned him the undying gratitude of the hundreds of youngsters he trained in the martial arts....and who still remember him (those who are left) with pride and affection.

His active career ended in India 1935/6, but on the outbreak of W.W. II he was recalled to the Colours and served with distinction in several administrative posts for the duration.

A tall physically powerful man with a keen sense of humour, he kept himself very fit until a few months before his demise when the gallant heart began its inevitable 'slow down', terminating on the 15th March 79. A great and good man and a shining example to all who knew him. To his family, especially to his gallant and decorated son, Regimental Serjeant Major Jack Chaffer. M.M. we say the world was a better place for his presence....we won't see his like again.

T.F.C.

(Notice of death was given in Newsletter 25 — May 1979)
Major (QM) J.E. Griffin

James Griffin enlisted in The Queen's Royal Regiment in 1931 seeing service in China and India with the 1st Battalion until posted during the 1939 — 45 War to the United Kingdom. In 1945 he was posted to the 2/5th Battalion in TRIESTE and later POLA. For a short time he served with the Northumberland Fusiliers as a Regimental Sergeant Major. Commissioned as Quartermaster in 1951 in The Queen's Royal Regiment, he served initially at the Depot then with the 1st Bn in Malaya, returning to the Depot at Stoughton where he assisted in the closure of that establishment in 1959 on the amalgamation with The East Surrey Regiment. As a Major (QM) of The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment he was then posted in 1960 to ERE at Corsham, Wiltshire until his retirement on 1 May 1966. He is survived by his widow to whom we offer our sympathy.

W.A.R.

E.C. Hetherington MVO

Ernest Cooper Hetherington, who had died at the age of 90, served in the 8th Bn The East Surrey Regiment in the 1914 – 18 War. He is mentioned in the Regimental History as behaving with great courage and coolness under fire. On one occasion he brought in a wounded man from No Man's Land only 20 yards from the German wire. He then went out again to recover the soldier's rifle. He was later mentioned in despatches. His active service came to an end when he was wounded during the 8th Surreys' attack on Montauban on 1 Jul 16.

After the War Ernest resumed his profession as a banker, and was posted to India where he served for many years. In the Second World War he worked as a Press Censor for the Ministry of Information in England and North Africa. In his retirement Ernest worked in an honorary capacity for 30 years in the Royal Library at Windsor Castle, and his services were rewarded earlier this year by the award of the MVO which he received from the hands of Her Majesty the Queen.

Ernest lived a long, full and happy life. He was a man of exceptional kindness and generosity who was a true friend to a great circle of all ages. He retained his lively mind and sense of humour to his last day.

P.G.E.H.

Lieutenant Colonel P.W. Milligan, D.L.

Patrick Ward Milligan died at his home in Eashing on December 17th 1978 at the age of 68.

Pat was the second son of the late Dr. and Mrs. James Milligan. He was educated at Edgeborough Preparatory School and Winchester College. He would never have claimed to being a great scholar but he very soon established a reputation for being an outstanding games player and showing all the qualities of leadership. He was in the 1st XI of both Cricket and Football at these schools for two years. Later he became a fine golfer with a handicap of 2. He was in the Winchester Halford Hewitt Golf team for a number of years and later becoming President of the Old Wykehamists Golfing Society.

Pat and I were born within a few days of each other and despite being sent to different schools we established a close friendship that lasted for over sixty years. As I had no brothers, he became the best possible substitute.

On leaving school in 1928, Pat went to work at Lloyds for an underwriter. In 1930 he was commissioned into the Territorial Army as a Second Lieutenant in the Queens R.R. and posted to "C" Company of the 5th Bn. Such was his enthusiasm that I joined him shortly afterwards in the same Company, a step neither of us ever regretted. He went on the reserve in 1936 joining 2nd/5th Bn. on mobilisation.

In 1934 he married Betty, daughter of Mr and Mrs Frank Rogerson, another well known Surrey family.

With the natural gifts which had become apparent in his school days, together with his attractive but strong personality and his gift of organisation, he had a good start when he began his career in the City. He became an underwriting member of Lloyds in 1934. In 1939 he joined Sedgwick Collins & Co. as a non-marine underwriter. He served on the Committee of Lloyds from 1954 – 7, and was re-elected again 1958 – 61. He was Deputy Chairman in 1957 and again in 1960, becoming Chairman of Lloyds in 1962. He was Chairman of the Lloyds Golf Club in 1953 and President in 1958.

Pat was appointed a Director of Sedgwick Collins & Co., following his resignation as their underwriter in 1960, becoming Deputy Chairman in 1962 and Chairman of the Company in 1967. He played a leading part in the amalgamation of his Company with Price Forbes and

became the first Chairman of Sedgwick Forbes (Holdings) Ltd in 1972. This had become one of the largest firms of Lloyds Insurance Brokers. He had reached the very top of the tree in a remarkable career.

He retired as Chairman and a Director of the Company in 1974, but continued to lead an active life. He was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of Surrey, Chairman of the Transport Users Consultative Committee (S.E. Area) and a General Commissioner of Taxes for the Guildford Division of Surrey, later becoming Chairman. He played golf regularly and once a week with a number of retired friends at New Zealand Golf Club. He enjoyed racing with his wife.

I saw Pat a few weeks before he died when we spent an hour and a half reminiscing. Once again I was reminded that despite his great successes in life, he remained as he always had been a modest man with a sense of humour that never left him. He will always be remembered by the many who were privileged to be his friends.

I am sure all who know and served with him in the Queens will wish to express their deepest sympathy to his Widow, their son Richard, daughter Jennifer as well as his Grandchildren.

H.H.M.

Major General Fergus Ling writes:—

I would like to add a footnote concerning Pat Milligan's wartime service to Country and Army while in the Queen's Royal Regiment.

I first met Pat in Kent in August 1940, when during that hot, tense late summer, I had been sent to take over briefly from him when he was in command of D Company, 2nd/5th Queen's.

His company was established in style, at Olantigh Towers, Near Wye, and his C.S.M. and senior NCO's were all splendidly competent pre-war Territorials. Everything ran on well oiled wheels. There was fun as well as hard training in that threatening atmosphere. Who could forget those rather "French style" Partridge Shoots on the Olantigh estate with Ian and Peter Fleming, who ran an early type of small SAS/Commando party hidden in the woods nearby? Their role it was to deal with enemy commanders and HQ's, using not only explosives but blow pipes and poisoned arrows collected on Peter's trips to the South American jungles.

Pat had created a spirit of calm confidence in 'D' Company. He would be the last to want any degree of professionalism attributed to him as a soldier, but as has already been said he was a born leader, whose warmth, charm and intelligence made him a joy to work with. He seemed never to be ruffled or put out of his stride. He lived and led at a very even pace.

Two years later the scene had changed to Iraq, via the Cape and India, and the end of the beginning; then from Kirkuk to Tunisia (the longest approach march in history – some 3,000 miles) where, in April 1943, 56 (London) Division debussed and went straight into the line at Enfidaville.

But now, after four years at Regimental duty, the time had come for Pat to be selected for higher responsibilities on the Staff. With his sure touch and great abilities, it was not long before he was promoted to 1st Grade as M.A. to General "Pop" Dowler, Colonel of the East Surrey Regiment, at that time Major General I/C Administration to the C-in-C Middle East, General Sir Bernard Paget. Latterly he became AQMG (plans) HQ British Troops, Egypt (until demobilisation) and here he was equally successful.

In July 1945 I arrived myself at GHQ Cairo and re-joined Pat, this time in the Cairo equivalent of his

Olanigh Towers, a splendid Gezira Villa. The atmosphere was just as when I had first met him five years earlier, one of relaxed, smooth running competence. Pat, as anyone who knew him would have expected, had become a highly successful senior staff officer. As in peacetime, so it was in war.

Victory had been won to which, by his service to Country and Regiment, Pat had made his own distinctive and powerful contribution.

Major A.N.S. Roberts OBE

At the time of his death on 1 July, Major "Attie" Roberts was, as far as we know, our oldest surviving Regular Officer.

I wrote of my first meeting with "Attie" in the May 1978 Newsletter. I visited him again last Christmas and was once more fascinated by his remarkable memory; on this occasion, he told me of a memorable journey to New York he had made in the early 1900s and, as he spoke, I realised from the TV series then taking place, that we were going back to the time that Lily Langtry was acting in New York. This was the fascination of talking with "Attie"; he could make modern history come alive as he reminisced of Regimental life and travel of 70 years ago.

"Attie" Roberts was a "parfait knight" — generous in his praise of others and never revealing a semblance of any resentment that some of his contemporaries had gained higher rank in the Army; although those who served in his Company have told me that he would have been an outstanding Commanding Officer.

Just before his death, "Attie" made a characteristic gesture and donated his sword to the Queen's Regiment. May the spirit, strength and humility of a true officer and gentleman be passed on to those who have the honour to carry this sword in the future.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to "Atties" widow Grace, who at the age of 97, is a truly remarkable and active lady.

R.S.N.M.

May I pay a personal tribute to "Attie" Roberts. He was acting Commanding Officer to 2/Queens when I joined at LADHA in 1921. He was again acting Commanding Officer of that battalion when I became Adjutant at DOVER in 1931. He was exceedingly kind and helpful on those, to me, awe inspiring occasions. By nature he was a charming and friendly character: he was invariably forgiving, perhaps too much so, to young subalterns over their stupidities and frivolities. We always looked upon him as one to whom one could appeal whenever necessary. May I offer my sympathy and friendly remembrance to his widow and daughter, neither of whom have I met for many years.

L.C.E.

A Plea for a Cloak of Invisibility

I've often wished for the ability
to see without being seen:
and I do not mean
to peer into ladies' dressing rooms.

No. I'd like to stroll once more,
unseen, across a parade ground;
hear the loved remembered sound
of buglecalls, Cookhouse, Jankers, Guard turnout.

I'd love to wander through a barrack room.
Hear the jokes, the grumbles, and the roar
of laughter when some wag relates the score
of those the CO has shot down at orders.

I'd love to see them all and know again
I did not serve the Lamb and Flag in vain.
I'd love to march behind Braganza too
but I'm too old and lame for that to do.

Now thoughts and prayers
must take the place of deeds,
and these I daily give
for all their needs.

—J. Paine

Prices of Commissions

(Extracted from the Army List 1862)

Rank	Full Price of Commissions		Difference in value between the several Commissions in succession	
	£	s	£	s
Life Guards				
Lieutenant-Colonel	7250	0	1900	0
Major	5350	0	1850	0
Captain	3500	0	1715	0
Lieutenant	1785	0	525	0
Cornet	1260	0		
Royal Regiment of Horse Guards				
Lieutenant-Colonel	7250	0	1900	0
Major	5350	0	1850	0
Captain	3500	0	1900	0
Lieutenant	1600	0	400	0
Cornet	1200	0		
Foot Guards				
Captain, with Rank of Lieut-Col	4800	0	2750	0
Lieutenant, - - Captain	2050	0	850	0
Ensign, - - Lieutenant	1200	0		
Cavalry and Infantry of the Line				
Lieutenant-Colonel	4500	0	1300	0
Major	3200	0	1400	0
Captain	1800	0	1100	0
Lieutenant	700	0	250	0
Cornet or Ensign	450	0		
Fusilier and Rifle Regiments, prior to 6 June, 1854				
1st Lieutenant	700	0	200	0
2nd Lieutenant	500	0		
Foot Guards, prior to 1856				
Lieutenant-Colonel	9000	0	700	0
Major, with Rank of Colonel	8300	0	3500	0
Dragoon Guards and Dragoons, prior to 31 January, 1860				
Lieutenant-Colonel	6175	0	1600	0
Major	4575	0	1350	0
Captain	3225	0	2035	0
Lieutenant	1190	0	350	0
Cornet	840	0		