

NOVEMBER 2011

# THE QUEEN'S ROYAL SURREY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION



NUMBER 90

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## NEWSLETTER FINAL EDITION





## Diary Dates 2012

10th February	SOBRAON DAY (1846).
18th April	The East Surrey Regiment Officers' Reunion Lunch.
23rd April	YPRES DAY (1915).
10th May	Golf Society Spring Meeting – Sudbrook Park.
16th May	ALBUHERA DAY (1811).
(date tbc)	5 Queen's OMA Annual Dinner – Farnham. Details from: I Chatfield, 13 Wood Road, Farncombe, Surrey GU7 3NN.
1st June	THE GLORIOUS FIRST OF JUNE (1794).
24th June	Surrey Joint Services' Charities Church Service to Launch British Armed Forces Week 2012 – Guildford Cathedral 1130 a.m. (see insert).
1st August	MINDEN DAY.
8th September	6th(Bermondsey), 2/6th and 2/7th Queen's Royal Regiment OCAs Combined Reunion.
9th September	SALERNO DAY
6th October	East Surrey Regiment OCA Reunion - Location TBC.
2nd November	The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment All Ranks Annual Reunion - Union Jack Club. (see insert)
20th December	BRITISH BATTALION DAY (1941).

### Covers:

*The Regimental Association's official commemorative event to mark the 350th Anniversary of the raising of the Regiment took place at Guildford Cathedral on Sunday 5th June. The covers are images (courtesy of Surrey and Berkshire Media Ltd) of the day. We were delighted to be joined by the Lord Lieutenant and many other dignitaries from across Surrey for the occasion which was held in conjunction with Surrey Joint Services' Charities. The Reverend Canon Christopher Tuckwell, who was formerly a regimental officer, was able to be amongst the clergy and to participate in the service. The service also marked Surrey Royal British Legion's 90th anniversary and the organisation very generously provided a grant towards the cost of the occasion.*

*After the service the Lord Lieutenant, accompanied by our Association President Colonel Tony Ward and by Colonel Crowley representing the Colonel of the Regiment, took the salute from the cathedral steps for the Regimental Association veterans' march past. While perhaps not as many were present as had assembled on Putney Heath on 14th October 1661, it was nevertheless a moving parade and warmly applauded by the spectators assembled in front of the Cathedral.*

*Fortunately the rain which had threatened for much of the morning held off until more than 400 veterans, families and guests had adjourned to a marquee on the Cathedral Green for liquid refreshments, lunch and speeches. Those present were also entertained by the PWRR Kohima Band during the course of the afternoon and several hours passed very swiftly until it was time to disperse.*

*We are extremely grateful to the Band, which also led the march past, and to the PWRR Regimental Support Team for all their assistance on the day. The event was also enriched by the presence of members of several re-enactment societies who paraded in uniform to portray the Regiment over the centuries.*



### President's Notes

On 14th October fifty two years ago, The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment was formed by the amalgamation of The Queen's Royal Regiment and The East Surrey Regiment. The 1st Battalion had new colours presented in Bury St Edmunds by HRH Prince Philip before moving to Colchester and then by troopship to Aden for a year in sand, mountains and sun. This was followed by two years in the bright lights of Hong Kong before being posted to Münster in West Germany where in 1966 the Regiment was re-named (amalgamation by stealth) The Queen's Regiment (Queen's Surreys). They were happy times, the new regiment was still a tight knit family - both regular and TA. It was during this period that we saw the end of National Service.

I remind readers of this background to demonstrate that the Queen's Surreys ceased to exist in the Order of Battle some 44 years ago; but ever since the Association has provided a conduit for keeping in touch, for the provision of benevolence and in more recent years for support to our Museum at Clandon Park. We have been a wealthy Association (thanks to some large legacies from our forbear Regiments); both SSAFA and The Royal British Legion acknowledge that our grants have been very generous compared to other regiments. Over the years we have paid out nearly one million pounds in benevolence grants.

Fifty years ago on 14th October as part of the Regiment's tri-centenary celebrations of our forbear Regiment - The Queen's Royal Regiment - a monument was placed on Putney Heath near the spot where The Earl of Peterborough had first mustered The Tangier Regiment in 1661. Twenty five years ago the badge of The Queen's Regiment was added and this year to mark 350 years the Association (rather our secretary Major Tony Russell) has had added the badge of the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment. We can be very proud of our successor regiment who have maintained our traditions and standards. They have had outstanding operational successes making them the most decorated regiment in the Army.

You may well ask why the Association Trustees have decided to hand over their responsibilities at the end of this year and why this is the last Newsletter? None of us are getting any younger and it is always best to finish whilst the going is good. Nearly 10 years ago the Trustees determined that the Association should close in 2010. The youngest Queensman or East Surrey will be over 70. The Association has received in recent years no support from the Ministry of Defence and now our administrative costs are greater than the amount given in benevolence. The Trustees further felt that it was sensible to wind down in an orderly manner.

Responsibility for our museum at Clandon was handed to the Trustees of The PWRR and Queen's Regiment Museum at the end of June together with an endowment

of £300,000. As was reported in the last Newsletter, the Association had previously made a grant of £50,000 for a refurbishment of the Museum, which together with £5,000 from the Territorial Trustees and £48,000 from the Heritage Lottery fund allowed for a fantastic upgrade and updating. If you have not already visited the Museum do try to go. We are so fortunate to have such an outstanding and dedicated curator in Ian Chatfield. Also in the last Newsletter you were encouraged to join FOSIM (Friends of Surrey Infantry Museum). I am delighted to report that over 210 have so far joined. FOSIM will produce a short Newsletter annually which will in some very small way replace this Newsletter. If you have not already joined FOSIM an application form is enclosed.

The most important task of the Regimental Trustees has been to ensure that our veterans and dependants are cared for. The Trustees will therefore pass £1,000,000 to the Trustees of the PWRR, with tight conditions, to ensure that benevolence will continue to be provided for those who served (and their dependants) in The Queen's Royal Regiment, The East Surrey Regiment and The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment for as long as there is a demand. Do let your dependants know how you can seek assistance (details contained elsewhere).

£50,000 will be passed to each of Guildford Cathedral, Holy Trinity (Guildford), and All Saints (Kingston upon Thames) for the maintenance of our Regimental Chapels. The remainder of our money, other than administrative costs of closing down, will be passed to the TA Trustees who will continue to support our branches and maintain our website. 5 Queen's OMA re-unions in the Drill Hall at Farnham will continue as will the East Surrey re-union at the Drill Hall in Ewell. Our thanks to both Ian Chatfield and to John Broome and his family for all they do in making such excellent gatherings.

It is intended that the Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment All Ranks Reunion will also continue to be held for as long as there is sufficient demand; the evening of Friday 2nd November 2012 at the Union Jack Club is already booked for it so mark your diaries accordingly! Although we have booked the Union Jack Club for 2012, as at time of writing we do not have anyone to run the re-union; if you think you can help please let me know.

Who knows the future? There are certain to be many changes as a result of the Defence Review but we are led to believe none will effect us until 2015. Thus while at the end of 2011 a chapter in the life of our Regiment will draw to a close after 350 years, the core activities and the regimental esprit de corps will continue. The museum at Clandon will provide a focus for much of that as well as an enduring memorial to 350 years of service by the Infantry Regiments of Surrey, and to the traditions and heritage which are being so ably taken

forward and enhanced by our modern successors. The story of these centuries of service will also be available to a wider public through our Regimental website (the best of any county Regiment) at [www.queensroyalsurreys.org.uk](http://www.queensroyalsurreys.org.uk)

Before closing, I must pay tribute to the Association Secretaries over the years - in more recent times: Lieutenant Colonel Les Wilson MBE, Major John Rogerson and Major Tony Russell MBE (the task of closing down is in some ways the most demanding). You would also want me to thank our Territorial, Museum and Association Trustees over the years. Particular mention must be made of Colonel Toby Sewell who has contributed so much to both the Association and Museum over the years.

It is always invidious to single out an individual, nevertheless very special recognition and appreciation are due to Lieutenant Colonel Les Wilson MBE. He has served as Association Secretary and as a Trustee of the Museum, Association and Territorial Charities. Indeed, no one has contributed more to ensure that the name, traditions and standards of our Regiment have been kept alive. Fiercely loyal, full of energy and totally committed, I doubt if we would have lasted all these years without Les's encouragement and example; this Newsletter includes a "Regimental Timeline" which he has produced with the assistance of Colonel Patrick Crowley.

And so to the end; I hope you enjoy this Newsletter with images reminding you of the past. We all wish 1 PWRR currently serving in Afghanistan all good fortune and God's protection. 2 PWRR are on public duties and showing the Household Division our standard; next year they will be the Olympic security Battalion. 3 PWRR go from strength to strength; over the last 10 years some 600 individual reinforcements have supported operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Gill and I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a good 2012. Thank you all for your support over the years.

Tony Ward  
Colonel (Retd) AC Ward OBE DL  
President.

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**The Regimental Association is extremely grateful to Major J L A Fowler TD who has for many years very generously provided the paper for the Newsletter.**

## Surrey Infantry Museum

The Museum is now managed by the Trustees of the Queen's and PWRR Museum Trust which also looks after the Queen's and PWRR Museum in Dover Castle, Kent. The Clandon Management Group consists of Col David Dickins (also a Trustee at Dover), Ian Chatfield (Curator), Dee Hutchison (Secretary), Col Tony Ward (Chairman of the Friends), and importantly, Jim Reynolds (RHQ's Finance Director) who holds and accounts for the money side. The Group is supported by a team of on call 'advisors', mostly previously Queen's Surreys Museum Trustees, representing the National Trust, the Lightbox in Woking, local council interests, the former regiments, RHQ PWRR and the TA.



*The new Museum Entrance Lobby*

A key part of the future is the Friends of Surrey Infantry Museum (FOSIM). The primary purpose of FOSIM is to support our Museum. Whilst in the immediate future (next couple of years) our museum is secure, there is a need to conserve funds and find extra money to enhance our Museum. We are fortunate in having a very sizable endowment from The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment Association Trustees of £300,000 together with a 25 year lease from The National Trust on favourable terms. However, you will be aware of the constraints on the Defence Budget and there is no certainty that MOD support will continue in the medium and long term. We therefore need to build up our finances - this is the purpose of FOSIM.

It is important to stress what FOSIM isn't! It is not a replacement for The Queen's Royal Surrey Regimental Association and its Newsletter. As stated previously the number of members of FOSIM is growing; this is good news and this gives the museum its future. Enclosed with this letter are the application form to join FOSIM and also a Standing Order for the membership subscription of £10 per annum.

Current FOSIM membership benefits include:-  
Newsletter  
Membership Card  
Discount in the museum shop

## Notification of Regimental Events

### Invite to Luncheon Club

The benefits will gradually be increased and the more members the more we can arrange for you, so please pass the message around. For those who have not already joined FOSIM enclosed is a black and white copy of the first FOSIM Newsletter.

A new venture for FOSIM is to introduce a Luncheon Club. This will consist of a talk by selected speakers and a Lunch. The Lunch will be supplied by the National Trust catering staff for us and the talk will be in the Onslow Room which is part of the Museum. The cost will be £15.00 per head. Family and Friends are welcome to come along too:-

Dates already arranged for 2012 are:-

6th March 2012 - Eric Page, Retired police officer - War Time Prime Ministers

16th May 2012 - Battle of Albuera (speaker TBC)

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## 1661-2011

by Major Paul Gray

The Regimental Association decided that the official commemoration of the 350th Anniversary of the foundation of the First Tangier Regiment of Foot, later to become The Queen's Royal Regiment, and still later the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, was to be the Church Service in Guildford Cathedral, march past and lunch on 5th June 2011.

However it seemed a shame not to commemorate the actual date of the first parade of The Regiment, on Putney Heath on 14 October 1661, under the Colonelcy of The Earl of Peterborough, so several members of the Regimental Association gathered at the Memorial on Putney Heath on 14th October 2011 to remember the foundation of the Regiment and our forebears. We were joined by two members of the re-enactment society, in period uniform c1815, a mounted Park Warden ex-King's Troop RHA, and to our great delight and honour, the CO, the RSM and a bugler from 2 PWRR.

The gathering, which was to be informal and unofficial, started at 1200 with a short address by Colonel Toby Sewell, who spoke about the Memorial, its inauguration on 14th October 1961, and subsequent rededications. Colonel Toby spoke movingly of Lieutenant Colonel Les Wilson, sadly not able to be present with us that day, who seemed to personify the Regiment, our history and traditions, and how much the Association and Museum at Clandon Park owed to him.



*The Regimental Monument on Putney Heath which has this year been cleaned, renovated and had the founding of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment added to the inscriptions.*

The Bugler then sounded Last Post; Colonel John Davidson laid a Wreath; Canon Christopher Tuckwell, a former officer of the Regiment, led us in Prayers, including the Collects for The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment and The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment; we kept silence for a short time, and then the Bugler sounded Reveille. The formal (informal!) part over, we gathered around the memorial for photos.



CO 2 PWRR had most kindly and generously invited members of the Regimental Association to return with him to Woolwich for lunch. As we were an all ranks party the CO had invited some of his WOs to join us for lunch in the magnificent Officers' Mess (the old RA Mess). Before lunch the Battalion Drummers beat Drummers Taps. We had an excellent lunch, and there was plenty of conversation about the Army today- and maybe a bit of what it was like in our day!

We are most grateful to the CO and his soldiers of 2 PWRR for their support on this unofficial but nonetheless important occasion.

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## Regimental Ramble in Somerset – A Personal Miscellany

By Major Roddy Mellotte



Downside School

Many years ago whilst sitting in the Head Master's House at Downside School in Stratton-on-the-Fosse, a small village near Bath where I also live, listening to an appeal pitch, my eyes fell upon a portrait of a grand looking lady hanging directly behind the speaker. Musing about who she might be, I suddenly began to realise that her face was familiar, very familiar. Could it be, yes it could, it was Catherine of Braganza! What on earth was a portrait of her doing there? This was briefly explained to me later and is amplified fully below. Fascinated though I was, I made my donation and life carried on.

This year, some 25 years later and the 350th anniversary of the raising of the Regiment on Putney Heath and when it seemed that the anniversary might not be marked there, I casually remarked that if nothing else I could always walk across the road and toast her legacy at Downside, which is also a Benedictine monastery. Since I wanted anyway to see the portrait again, I sought permission of the Head Master, himself a monk, to go and look and photograph it and asked for a fuller explanation of Downside's connection with her. He referred me to the Abbot's History Assistant, Dr Simon Johnson, who was clearly a little startled to be asked the question. It just so happened that she had been an integral part of his degree course on Anglo-Portuguese history at University and for which he gained his PhD and he assumed that was why I was asking him. It wasn't, of course, it was just an extraordinary coincidence. I was in the company of a subject expert! He provided the following information and comment:

"The dowry was concluded in secret negotiations between the Earl of Clarendon and the Portuguese Ambassador the Conde de Ponte. In 1662, the Infante of Bragança, Catherine, aged 23, married, by proxy, Charles Stuart, King of England. Her chaplains then included two members of the English College at Lisbon. One was keeper of the Queen's Privy Purse and kept an account ledger detailing the payments made by the Queen as Dowager (and later) Regent 1692 – 1705 (Catherine returned to Lisbon in 1692). In this ledger, mention is made of a subsidy to 'gentlemen at the garrison of Tangiers' paid annually and a military ordinance bill, signed by Richard Russell, for halberds, gunpowder and shot destined for an English regiment at Tangiers.

Some details of the announcement of the marriage to the Lords and Commons and the development of the Tangiers Regiment follow – note the uniform was billed to their own account! The dowry was never fully paid but Bombay and Tangiers were annexed by Britain as arranged. Charles clearly had designs on a regiment to defend Tangiers before the Portuguese Alliance as it was crucial to defending British Mediterranean trade against Spain and piracy:

- **May 10, 1661: (State Papers Domestic)** marriage contract announced by Charles to the 'Princess of Portugal' – 'A fleet of 18 or 20 fine vessels will soon set sail, under the Earl of Sandwich, to secure the commerce of the Mediterranean, and bring those of Algiers and Tripoli to reason.' *Reference to the Arab occupation of colonies (previously Spanish possessions).*
- **October 11, 1661: (Admiralty Papers)** c. 48, 49; 'Account of ships of the navy and merchant ships appointed to transport men & c., to Tangiers.'
- **October 28, 1661: (Admiralty Papers)** c. 199; 'Account of provisions ordered by the Council for Tangiers, September 27, 1661, with list of those ordered over and above the said order, and note of proposals made by the Earl of Peterborough to the Council, October 28, concerning further provisions required'.
- **November 4, 1661: (State Papers Domestic)**, c. 6, 'Deposition of Thomas Williams, Lieutenant, in the Earl of Peterborough's regiment for Tangiers, quartered at Hammersmith.'
- **November 20, 1661: (Admiralty Papers)** c. 75; 'Richard Percy, master of the *James* bound for Tangiers, to the Navy Commissioners. Has been detained by extreme weather; neither of the ships that came with him has arrived.'

- **November 25, 1661: (Admiralty Papers)** c. 102; 'Captain Francis Allen to the Navy Commissioners. Sails and cables wanted: is to sail for Dunkirk in a few days to take in soldiers, and then for Tangiers.'
- **December 14, 1661: (Admiralty Papers, Ordnance Office)** c. 55, 'Edward Sherburne and Francis Nichols, officers of ordnance, to the Navy Commissioners. The ordnance stores ordered for the merchant ships for Tangiers were put on board between November 22 and December 10.'
- **December 30, 1661: (State Papers Domestic)** 'Privy seal for 2,000L to Sir Robert Harlow, for clothes furnished to his regiment, now employed to Tangiers, to be deducted from their pay.'
- **December 31, 1661: (State Papers Domestic)** Warrant to the Navy Commissioners to order an estimate of the charge of victualing and transporting 3,500 landsmen to Tangiers.'
- **September ?, 1662: (State Papers Domestic)** 'Account of nine Irish officers dismissed from Tangiers.'



The provenance of the portrait of Queen Catherine at Downside is vague but some details are certain. It is of the school of Sir Peter Lely (1618 – 80), an Anglo Dutch artist, himself of the school of van Dyck. The original, now in the National Portrait Gallery, London, shows a young Catherine pointing to her recently assumed crown, framed by Royal Stuart blue hangings besides a contemporaneous neo-classical scene. How it ended up at Downside remains a mystery.

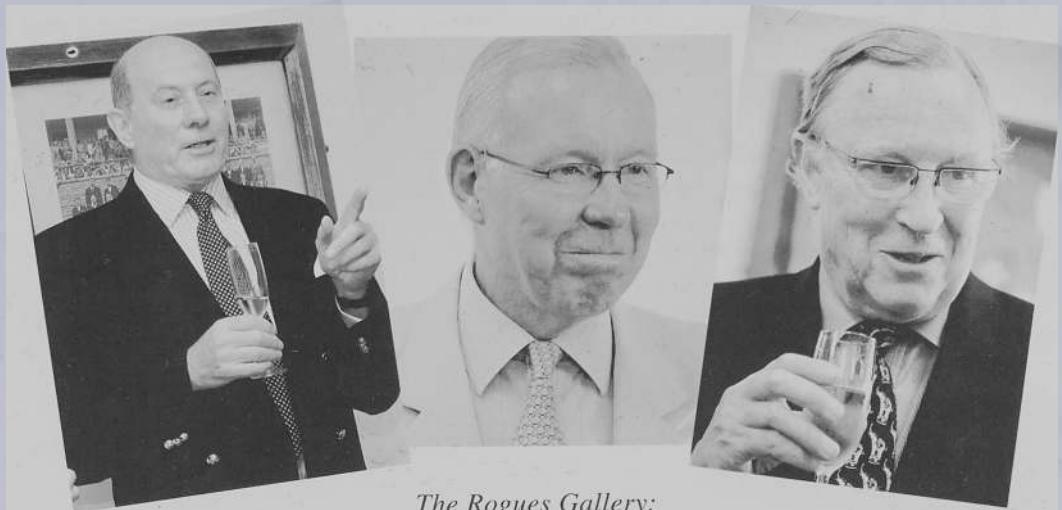
Catherine's Privy Purse, administered throughout her time in England by trustworthy English Catholic gentlemen and protected by her royal exemption, funded many English priests on the English Mission including Benedictines and Jesuits with stipends. Amongst them were several monks from the Benedictine Priory of St Gregory the Great at Douai in France, Downside's forbear house until the 18th Century when it was expelled during the French Revolution moving initially to Acton Burnell in Shropshire as guests of Sir Edward Smythe, a former pupil of theirs. Dom Roger Huddleston, who administered the deathbed conversion of Charles II to Catholicism in 1685, was a Benedictine and 'Old Gregorian'. Douai was a thriving University town with a large English Catholic community but it also served as a nerve centre for the whole English Catholic community in exile. It is probable, therefore, that the Dowager Queen would have retained an attachment to St Gregory's including appointment of chaplains. The portrait is in any case a fitting link between the patronage of the Bragança and the proud place English Catholic gentlemen inhabited within court, service and state."

No mention of Somerset in Regimental terms could be made without reference to Sedgemoor. I therefore do so but only in two oblique respects. Firstly, to commend to anyone interested in this part of regimental history the truly excellent battlefield tour run by General Barry Lane each year in aid of the ABF. It is a highly polished presentation starting in St Mary's, Bridgewater, the tower of which served as a Rebel OP and finishing on the site of the battle including a visit to the church at Westonzoyland which was used as a prison afterwards.

Secondly, when I joined the Regiment, not long amalgamated with the East Surreys, I vividly recall being advised not to wear the regimental tie in pubs or public in the Sedgemoor area or in Taunton such was the lasting legacy of enmity since "Kirke's Lambs" did their brutal business in the former and the consequent "Bloody Assizes" in the latter. Of course, such advice was long since folklore even then, not least because the amalgamation had produced a new tie, but it was enough for a friend, (Brigadier) Allan Mallinson, to quote in his recent book "The Making of The British Army". Since part of Taunton bears the name "Tangier" to this day, one is bound to wonder how valid that advice ever was.

Downside has long been what recruiters used to euphemistically call an Army-feeder school because of the number pupils who went into the Army (as, incidentally, is the case with all the big Catholic schools which could prompt a discussion as to why this should be). Without listing reams of names, it is worth recording a rare coincidence of three Old Gregorian commanding officers in succession, namely the last two of 1 R HAMPS and the first of 1 PWRR (Glass, Davies and Reeve-Tucker). Another minor regimental link is that the eminent artist, Lady Butler, who painted so many famous pictures of military scenes including "Steady the Drums and Fifes" depicting the 57th

at Albuhera, happens to have been the sister of a monk at Downside which from time to time puts on displays of her pictures, including that one.



*The Rogues Gallery:  
Left to right: Jarratt, Beattie, Acworth*

Some recent Regimental visitors to a party of ours held at Downside included Mike Jarratt, honorary Regimental solicitor who, with me, was one of the last officers to be commissioned into the Queen's Surreys, Anthony Beattie and John Acworth, both of whom, although commissioned into the Queen's Regiment, probably qualify as honorary Queen's Surreys by family connection. They are in any event the inheritors of the Regiment.

Our ever shy President, Tony Ward, managed to avoid the camera but happily Gilly didn't!

Finally, I can report that the regimental flag still flies proudly here in Stratton-on-the-Fosse on appropriate occasions, possibly the last place in the World for it to do so! Bryan Ray saluted it on 3rd October en route to Clandon and on Friday 14th October it flew with celebratory ribbons. *Pristinae Virtutis Memor.*



#### **Future of the Officers' Club**

By Paul Gray, Chairman of the Officers' Club

The last Officers' Club lunch to be organised by the Committee (which really means by Tony Russell) was held at Clandon Park on 3 October. During his address, our President, Colonel Tony Ward, asked members to let the Committee have their ideas for the future of the Club, and how the remaining balance of about £6,000 should be spent.

Previously I had written to the (160) members of the Club, and with, their invitation to the lunch, to our widows (20), asking for their views about the future of the Club; and I suggested that if officers would like to continue to meet, say, once a year, then a lunch in London might be a suitable way of doing so. As I live just outside the West End of London, I do have a certain interest in a lunch in London! However that was not the reasoning behind my suggestion. Using a day-return ticket, combined with a rail card/ bus/freedom pass, is an inexpensive way of getting to London, and I thought that members would appreciate that there would be no need to drive.

I have received 73 replies; about half wanted to continue to meet; and about half felt that because of old age, loss of friends and problems over travel they would prefer not to be further involved, although they wished us well in whatever we decided to do. Two people have suggested that the lunch should continue in Surrey, and better still, at Clandon. This would maintain our connection with the Museum, and would be cheaper than a lunch in London. After I had written



*Paul Gray with Colonel and Mrs John Davidson in the museum after the 2011 lunch*

to everyone, a further suggestion has been made: that the Club should "latch on" to FOSIM (Friends of the Surrey Infantry Museum). We have a volunteer part-time secretary, a computer database, and all the facilities of an office at the Museum. This would cut down the work that I would be expected to do.

The Club Committee meets on 2 November. We will go through the replies to my letters

and decide on the future of the Club. I am most grateful to everyone who replied, and for their ideas for a lunch, and where it should be held.

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#### **Could the East Surreys' History have Informed the Present?**

By Bryn Evans

In November 1926 the East Surreys' 1st Battalion began an eleven year deployment in India. Although they were garrisoned at the main British Army base in Rawalpindi, in the heat of summer the Surreys often moved up into the mountains for exercises. In May 1927 the Surreys marched 27 miles over three nights up to Kuldana, 7,000 feet high in the Murree Hills.

From their hill-top camp they could see in the distance the snow-capped Himalayas. In October of the same year at the end of summer, while most of the Battalion began the descent back to Rawalpindi, two companies set out on a forty mile trek across the mountains to Abbottabad. There they spent three weeks of inspiring exercises with the Gurkha Brigade.

The town is named after Major James Abbott KCB of the Bengal Artillery, who became the first Deputy Commissioner of the Punjab. In 1853 he moved the seat of Government to Abbottabad. Major Abbott died in 1896 at the age of 89, and is buried in Guildford Cemetery.

The Surreys' training exercises during the 1920s and 1930s in the mountainous north-west of India, now the Waziristan region of Pakistan close to Kashmir, would prove to be invaluable experience in the Second World War. Beginning with the invasion of North Africa, Operation Torch in November 1942, the Surreys' 1st and 1/6th Battalions fought through Tunisia, Sicily

and mainland Italy, and became some of the Allies' finest troops in mountain warfare.

The 1st Surreys' Battle Patrol in Italy excelled in going behind German lines, often for many days, to gain information on enemy deployments, sometimes carrying out sabotage, or grabbing a prisoner to take back for interrogation. In these campaigns the Battle Patrol was led by a young Lieutenant John Woodhouse. (1)

Post-war in the 1950s and 1960s Woodhouse served with the SAS. Drawing on his experience with that Battle Patrol, he revolutionised SAS training and tactics, and helped overcome the Communist insurgency in Malaya and Borneo, and the confrontation with Indonesia. He subsequently became Lieutenant Colonel and CO of 22 SAS, and recognised in military circles as a co-founder, with his close friend Lieutenant Colonel Sir David Stirling, of the modern SAS. Following the increasing success of SAS tactics in special operations, such as in Oman and Yemen, Woodhouse and Stirling subsequently provided advice and guidance to the US military, on the development of training and tactics for their own special forces.

When on 2 May 2011 US Navy SEAL Commandos raided the house of Osama Bin Laden in Abbottabad, one can only assume that the Al-Qaeda leader would have been quite ignorant of any of the above history. Otherwise he would surely have realised that to remain in the same location for so many years, would mean that special forces would inevitably find him.

Could US intelligence even have had access to maps from the Surreys' time in the Murree Hills and Abbottabad?

Note (1) "Fighting for Every River, Every Mountain – With the Surreys in Tunisia, Sicily and Italy 1943-43", is planned for publication by Pen & Sword Books early in 2012.

Other sources:

Daniell, David Scott, 'The History of the East Surrey Regiment, Volume IV', Ernest Benn Ltd, London 1957, pages 27-29.

Lieutenant Colonel John Woodhouse, MC, 'Memoirs' (unpublished).

Wikipedia, 'Abbottabad'.

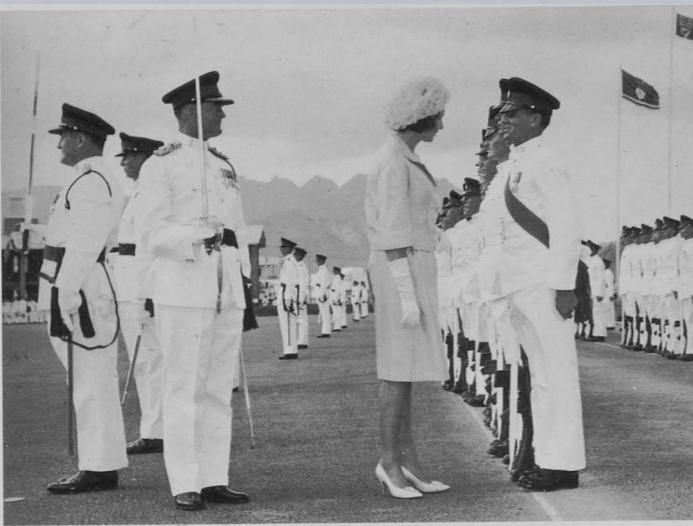
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#### **Congratulations**

Congratulations to Sid Lea on the occasion of his marriage on 30th April 2011.

## Other Anniversary Commemorations

The Regimental Association event at Guildford Cathedral, and the informal gathering on 14th October 2011 described elsewhere by Paul Gray, were not, of course, the first commemorations of the original muster on Putney Heath. Fifty years ago on 14th October 1961 members of the Regimental Association together with serving members of the Regiment (including the Band of the 1st Battalion brought home from Aden for the occasion) paraded on Putney Heath on the 300th anniversary for the unveiling of the Regimental Monument by the Lord Lieutenant of Surrey and its dedication by the Bishop of Guildford. The Monument was at that stage inscribed to The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment, which was then the successor of the original Tangier Regiment. The 1st Battalion marked the Tercentenary Celebrations in Aden, Trooping the Colour on 7th December 1961; H.R.H Princess Alexandra took the Salute.



HRH Princess Alexandra inspecting the Battalion in Aden

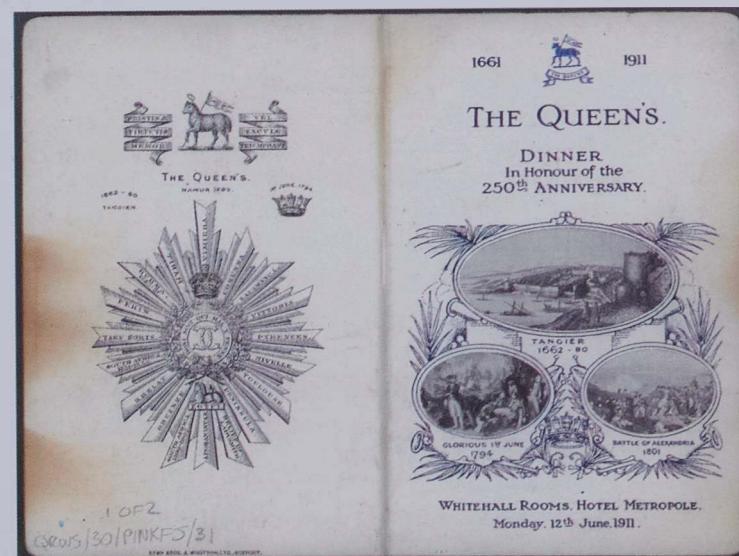
A number of readers will have been present at one or both of these events in 1961 and possibly also were amongst the 200 Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment Association members who paraded on Putney Heath 25 years later on 14 October 1986. Then additional inscriptions on the Tercentenary Monument to record that The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment had been formed in 1959 by the amalgamation of The Queen's Royal Regiment and The East Surrey Regiment were unveiled by the Chief of the Defence Staff, Admiral of the Fleet Sir John Fieldhouse GCB GBE.



The raising of the Regiment had, of course, been commemorated on previous anniversaries. The Officers of The Queen's had held a dinner in honour of the 250th Anniversary at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole, on Monday 12th June 1911. Some records of the evening are contained in the Regimental Archives at the Surrey History Centre. Judging by the photograph of the occasion and the menu, it was a somewhat more formal event than the 2011 marquee reception.

Those invited in 1911 included The Earl Howe, The Lord Lieutenant of Surrey, General Sir Bindon Blood, Captain FC Tudor RN (HMS Excellent) and the Rector of Holy Trinity, Guildford (the Revd J Kirwan); however the

instructions explicitly stated that "No members of The Royal Family will be present.". Perhaps appropriately for those wishing to attend it was requested that "notices to reach Hony. Secy. By June 1st."



0 0 0

1661

## Time Line

2011



Important Dates and Events  
of  
The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment  
and its  
Successors



## The Surrey Infantry Regiment Tree

### The Queen's Royal Regiment



1661 Raised as The Tangier Regiment of Foot  
1684 The Regiment Styled The Queen's Regiment  
1685 The Queen's Dowager's Regiment



1703 The Regiment Received the title of "Royal"  
1714 Her Royal Highness The Princess Wales's Own Regiment of Foot  
1727 2nd or Queen's Royal Regiment (The Queen's Own Regiment)  
1751 The Queen's (Second) Royal Regiment of Foot

1702-1714 Regimental Marines  
1702 Villiers' Marine Regiment  
1703 Luttrell's Marines  
1706 Churchill's Marines  
1711 Goring's Marines  
1714 Converted from Marines to a Regiment of the Line  
1714 Thirty First Regiment of Foot



1756 Formation of a Second Battalion  
1758 2nd Bn constituted a Regiment

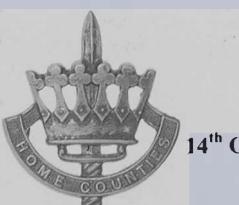
1782 31st Huntingdonshire Regiment  
1805 Formation of 2nd Battalion  
1814 Disbandment of 2nd Battalion

1857 Formation of 2nd Battalion  
1881 The Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment  
1921 The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey) 1921 – 1959  
1948 2nd Battalion disbanded in Berlin

1948 1st and 2nd Battalion amalgamated

1959 Amalgamation with The East Surrey Regiment

**The Queen's Royal Regiment and The East Surrey Regiment**  
Amalgamate to form:



14th October 1959

**The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment**



31st December 1966

Formed by the amalgamation of The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment: The Queen's Own Buffs: The Royal Sussex Regiment: The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own)

**The Queen's Regiment**



9th September 1992

**The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment**  
The Queen's Regiment amalgamated with The Royal Hampshire Regiment assuming the title of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (Queen's and Royal Hampshire)

### The East Surrey Regiment



1684 to 1689  
1685  
1686



Cypher of Queen Catherine within the Garter

1689 to 1692  
1692 to 1695  
1693  
1694  
1696 to 1703  
1701 to 1763  
1702  
1703



1703\Early 1704  
1702  
1704 to 1707



1706  
1708 to 1711  
1711  
1711



1711 to 1714  
1711 to 1730  
1714  
1714

1730 to 1749  
1743



1744  
1749 to 1765  
1751

1756  
1758



1765 to 1768  
1765 to 1774  
1768 to 1793  
1776 to 1783  
1782  
1789 to 1802

### Dates

### Events

Tangier Regiment raised and mustered on Putney Heath  
Tangier Regiment in Tangier  
Tangier Regiment now known as 'The Queen's Regiment'



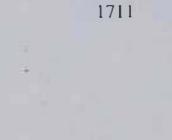
3 companies of The Queen's in Ireland  
The Queen's at Sedgemoor  
The Queen's now known as 'The Queen's Dowager's Regiment'



The Queen's at the relief of Londonderry – Ireland  
The Queen's in the Low Countries – Flanders  
The Queen's at Battle of Landen  
The Queen's at the Siege of Namur  
The Queen's in England  
One Company of the Queen's in Bermuda  
Queen Anne authorises the raising of 'Villiers' Marines  
The Queen's Dowager's Regiment made 'Royal'.  
Served in Flanders, Defence of Tongres.



Villier's Marines now known as 'Luttrell's Marines'  
Luttrell's Marines at capture and siege of Gibraltar.  
The Queen's Royal in Spain and Portugal. At Almanza and Badajos.



Luttrell's Marines now known as 'Churchill's Marines'  
The Queen's Royal in England.  
The Queen's Royal on Canadian expedition.  
Churchill's Marines now known as 'Goring's Regiment' and takes on new role as Foot Soldiers.  
Queen's Royal Detachment at Annapolis  
Queen's Royal in England & Scotland, then America.



Goring's Regiment now known as 'The 31st Regiment of Foot'.  
The Queen's Dowager's Royal Regiment now Known as 'HRH The Princess of Wales's Own Regiment of Foot'



Queen's Own Royal in Gibraltar.  
31st of Foot at Battle of Dettingen. George II nicknames them 'The Young Buffs'.

31st of Foot at Battle of Fontenoy  
Queen's Own Royal in Ireland  
The Queen's Own Royal Regiment of Foot now known as 'The Queen's (Second) Royal Regiment of Foot'

2nd/31st of Foot is raised  
2nd/31st of Foot now known as the 70th of Foot and nicknamed 'The Glasgow Greys'

Queen's in the Isle of Man  
31st and 70th of Foot in the West Indies. Heavy death toll as result of Yellow Fever

Queen's alternate between England and Gibraltar.  
31st and 70th of Foot in the American War of Independence  
31st of Foot known as '31st Huntingdonshire Regiment'  
The Huntingdonshire Regiment in Holland,

1793 to 1794



The Surrey Regiment in Martinique and Guadalupe  
The Queen's serve as marines, with the Channel Fleet  
(Battle of The Glorious First of June)

1794 to 1797

1795

1795 to 1796  
1796



1796 to 1797

1798 to 1799

1799

1800 to 1801

1801 to 1802

1802 to 1814

1802 to 1805

1805

1805 to 1807

1807 to 1808

1808 to 1809

1809

1809 to 1811

1809 to 1814

1811 to 1813

1813

1813 to 1814

1814

1814 to 1816

1816 to 1821

1821 to 1825

1825 to 1845

1825 to 1846

1846 to 1851

1851 to 1860

1855 to 1856

1857

14<sup>th</sup> August 1857

1857 to 1862

1860

1860 to 1863



Egyptian Campaign  
1881



The Salt

Figurehead of HMS QUEEN CHARLOTTE  
1768 – 1800 100 GUNS 1810 – 1892 104 GUNS  
LINE OF BATTLESHIPS NAMED AFTER  
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN CONSOFT OF GEORGE III  
FLAGSHIP OF 'EARL HOWE' AT THE GLORIOUS FIRST OF  
JUNE 1794

Queen's in the West Indies

2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion The Queen's (Second) Royal Regiment of Foot is raised.

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn The Queen's Royal in England and Guernsey

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn's Queen's Royal amalgamate and known as 1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's Royal Regiment

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in West Indies, devastated by disease

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in Ireland – Irish Rebellion

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in Holland – Helder Campaign

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in Minorca, Malta and Rhodes

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in Egypt, Aboukir Bay and Alexandria

The Huntingdonshire Regiment in the Mediterranean

The Surrey Regiment in West Indies and at the

Recapture of Guadeloupe

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in Gibraltar

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn the 31<sup>st</sup> (Huntingdonshire) Regiment raised

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in England

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in Guernsey

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in Portugal and Spain. Fought at

Vimiera and Corunna. Detachment in Spain; Talavera.

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in Holland; Walcheren Expedition.

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in England

2<sup>nd</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> (Huntingdonshire) Regiment in the Peninsular Wars; Awarded 8 Battle Honours, notably at Talavera and Albuhera.

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in Portugal and Spain; fought at Fuentes D'Onoro and Salamanca.

HQ and remains of 6 companies. 1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's return to England due to heavy losses of men and sickness.

Remaining 4 companies, Queen's, posted to 2<sup>nd</sup> Provisional Battalion and fought with credit at Vittoria and Nivelle.

2<sup>nd</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> (Huntingdonshire) Regiment is disbanded.

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in England.

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in the West Indies.

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in England and Ireland.

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in Afghanistan campaign.

31<sup>st</sup> (Huntingdonshire) Regiment in first Sikh War and fought in the battles of Aliwal, Moodkee, Ferozashah and Sobraon.

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in England and Ireland.

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in South Africa; British Kaffraria.

31<sup>st</sup> (Huntingdonshire) Regiment in the Crimea.

70<sup>th</sup> (Surrey) Regiment in the Indian Mutiny. Disarm Native Infantry in the Peshawar District.

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Queen's (Second) Royal Regiment of Foot is raised in Colchester by Colonel Bruce.

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Queen's in England, Malta and the Ionian Islands.

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in China at Taku Forts and Peking.

31<sup>st</sup> (Huntingdonshire) Regiment in China at Taku Forts.



Grenadier, Queen's  
1768



Private, Queen's  
1794



31<sup>st</sup> Foot at Albuhera  
16th May 1811



Officer, 1839



Officer, 31st Regt  
1860

1861 to 1866

1862 to 1865

1866 to 1879

1865 to 1877



1873

1874

1875

1876

1877

1878

1879

1880

1881

1882



Kingston Barracks



Kingston Upon Thames

1874



Guildford



Stoughton Barracks  
now  
Cardwells Keep, Guildford

1878

1877 to 1878

1879 to 1891

1878 to 1886

1881

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in England and Ireland.

70<sup>th</sup> (Surrey) Regiment in Maori Wars, New Zealand.

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Queen's Regiment in Gibraltar and West Indies.

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in Aden and India.

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Queen's in England and Ireland.

**Cardwell's Army Reforms.** Huntingdonshire and Surrey Regiments linked for alternate tours of home and Foreign Service.

In April 1873 a tentative re-organisation of the army took place, single battalion infantry regiments being linked together in pairs and formed into sub-district brigades.

This organisation was generally looked upon in the army as a step towards the universal adoption of a double battalion system, and, although unpopular in the army and entailing many disadvantages, was generally loyally accepted by the officers and men. The 31<sup>st</sup> (Huntingdonshire) Regiment was linked with the 70<sup>th</sup> (Surrey) Regiment, which had been originally raised in 1756 as its 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. The establishment approved for the new organisation was as follows:

31<sup>st</sup> Regiment ..... 33 officers ... 658 other ranks

70<sup>th</sup> " " ..... 32 officers... 886 other ranks

Depot ..... 9 officers... 216 other ranks

**Total** 74 officers..1760 other ranks

**The Brigade Depot**, a title changed subsequently to **Regimental District**, was localised at Kingston-on-Thames. While stationed at Dover the existence of the 31<sup>st</sup> Regiment came to an end, for on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1881, the long contemplated re-organisation of the infantry took effect and from that date the regiment lost its separate existence and became the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn of The East Surrey Regiment, the 70<sup>th</sup> Regiment becoming the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn, thus rejoining its parent corps after a separation of 123 years.

The 31<sup>st</sup> at the same time lost its old territorial designation of 'The Huntingdonshire Regiment', and its buff facings, which had been worn from a date prior to the Battle of Dettingen. It cannot be denied that the wholesale destruction of old regimental distinctions, which marked the introduction of the Territorial system, made the change highly unpopular. For many years regiments resented the abolition of their time-honoured numbers and distinctive marks, and it is in comparatively recent times that certain advantages of the double battalion system have been recognised, and that the Territorial associations of regiments have proved their value. The Queen's already had a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. Their **Regimental District** was located at Stoughton Barracks, Guildford where a new barracks was built.

The 31<sup>st</sup> (Huntingdonshire) and 70<sup>th</sup> (Surrey) Regiments shared a depot which was built in Kingston-upon-Thames.

70<sup>th</sup> (Surrey) Regiment in Second Afghan War.

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Queen's in Malta.

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in England and Wales.

2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Queen's in India.

The Queen's (Second) Royal Regiment of Foot now known



Private, 70th Regt  
1863



Captain, 70th Regt  
1880



Cpl. Queen's 1860



Sgt. Queen's 1870



Private, Queen's  
1878



## Distinctions and Badges of the Regiment



VEL  
EXUVIÆ  
TRIUMPHANT

MEMOR  
VIRTUTIS  
PRISTINÆ



1882

as 'The Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment. The 31<sup>st</sup> (Huntingdonshire) and 70<sup>th</sup> (Surrey) Regiments now known as '1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalions The East Surrey Regiment' respectively following the **Cardwell Reforms**. 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn East Surrey in action at Suakin.



1884 to 1885  
1886 to 1888  
1888 to 1894  
1892 to 1895  
1894 to 1899  
1895 to 1908  
1899 to 1902

1899 to 1904

1900

1903

1904 to 1914



1908

1904 to 1910  
1910 to 1914  
1914 to 1919



#### First World War:

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's in France.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Queen's in France and Italy.  
Total of 35 Queen's Battalions were raised.  
The East Surrey Regiment raised 18 Battalions.  
The Regiment served in France, Macedonia, Salonika, Bulgaria and Mesopotamia.



1919 to 1939



#### Between the World Wars

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's Royal Regiment in Ireland, England, Hong Kong, Malta, China and India.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Queen's in India, England and Palestine.  
1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Bns: The East Surrey Regiment copes with rebellions, unrest and guerrilla warfare in Ireland, Egypt, North West Frontier, Gibraltar and Shanghai.  
The Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment now known as **The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey)**.



1921

#### The Second World War

##### The Queen's Royal Regiment

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queen's Royal in India, N. W Frontier and Burma.  
1/5<sup>th</sup>, 1/6<sup>th</sup>, 1/7<sup>th</sup>, 2/5<sup>th</sup>, 2/6<sup>th</sup>, 2/7<sup>th</sup> in BEF, North Africa and Italy.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Queen's in Middle East and Far East (Became part of Chindit Force).  
1945 saw both regular battalions of the Queen's in the Far East, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion in Burma, they then moved to Siam then on to Malaya.  
By 1945 they were in India and returned to the UK from there.  
Their foreign tour of duty abroad had been twenty-one years.  
The battalion was reduced to a cadre and returned to the UK in January 1947. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion had moved to Poona, India and from Burma and returned to the UK, staging at Crowborough before moving to the BAOR, Dortmund. In June 1948 they moved



1945 to 1953



to Berlin and were present in that city throughout the Berlin Airlift. On the outbreak of the Second World War the Queen's had mobilised six Territorial battalions which saw much fighting from Dunkirk, North Africa, Italy and the Normandy landings. The 1/5<sup>th</sup> raised its regimental flag on Hamburg Town Hall and later moved to Berlin where it took part in the Victory Parade.

During the Berlin Blockade on September 9<sup>th</sup> (Salerno Day) the cadre of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion were merged to become 1<sup>st</sup> Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment. After leaving Berlin it moved to Iserlohn, from where it sent reinforcements to other units of the Home Counties Brigade, serving in Malaya, the Middle East and Korea. The largest draft of one warrant officer, four Sergeants and one hundred other ranks became 'C' Company 1<sup>st</sup> Bn The Middlesex Regiment in Korea. In 1958 a company reinforced 1 Surreys in Cyprus during an emergency tour from Iserlohn. The company returned to Germany before Christmas. A final Trooping of the Colour Parade was held in Iserlohn prior to the battalion moving to Bury St Edmunds for amalgamation.

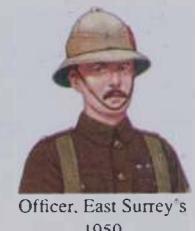


#### **The East Surrey Regiment**

1<sup>st</sup> Bn Surreys in BEF, North Africa, Italy and Austria.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Surreys move from Shanghai to Malaya.  
Because of the casualties suffered by 2 Surreys and 1 Leicesters, they were merged into one unit, The **British Battalion** in December 1941; they fought down the length of Malaya to Singapore. Sadly on 15<sup>th</sup> February the British Forces surrendered and the **British Battalion** became Prisoners of War of the Japanese for three and a half years. Two battalions of the Surreys (1<sup>st</sup> and 1/6<sup>th</sup>) were in Italy at the end of the war in Europe.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion moved up into Austria then moved to Greece (Salonika). The 1/6<sup>th</sup> also moved to Greece and there went into suspended animation.

The newly formed 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was in the UK training for active service in the Far East. New Colours were presented and orders changed to move to Palestine. Later, they moved to Egypt. Whilst in Greece they amalgamated with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion. 1 Surreys then moved to Somalia (Mogadisho) in April 1949 and moved later to UK on the *Empire Pride*, its new station being Barnard Castle. 1951 saw them airlifted to the Middle East and in 1952 celebrated their 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the raising of the Regiment in Tripoli. Celebrations also took place at the Depot in Kingston. On return to the UK they went to Brunswick in BAOR returning to Bury St Edmunds in 1958 to prepare for the amalgamation with The Queen's Royal Regiment. The Battalion had a final Trooping of the Colour Parade before the move to the UK. In 1958 they were moved to Cyprus for an emergency tour, returning to Blenheim Camp to prepare for the amalgamation in 1959.



Officer, East Surrey's 1950

## The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment 1959 - 1966



Monument Putney Heath  
c 1961



HMT Oxfordshire



The Colours of the 1st Battalion

The 4th Battalion displayed the badge of The Royal Tank Regiment. This was in commemoration of its service as 42nd RTR, and they inherited this Honorary Distinction from the 23rd London Regiment. The badge carried four scrolls, the first bore the dates "1941 - 1945" and the other three the Battle Honours "NORTH WEST EUROPE" "NORTH AFRICA" "ITALY". This rare distinction was displayed at bottom centre of the Regimental Colour immediately below the Battle Honours Scrolls.



Medenine Gun



Private, Queen's Surrey's  
1962



Presentation of Colours  
By  
Her Majesty Queen Margrethe  
II of Denmark  
4th May 1974



The Queen's Regiment Memorial

The Regiment had been determined to erect a Memorial to the men of the Regiment who lost their lives in action whilst serving with the Regiment. A number of sites were examined, finally the MOD authorities agreed for a Memorial to be erected inside the front gates of Howe Barracks, Canterbury Kent. The Memorial is on the right, opposite the Medenine Gun.

## THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT 1966 – 1992

Further reductions and amalgamations brought about the formation of a new Large Regiment, The Queen's Regiment, which represented the counties of Surrey, Kent, Sussex and Middlesex formed on 31st December 1966. The Regiments amalgamated were:

The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment

The Queen's Own Buffs (The Royal Kent Regiment)

The Royal Sussex Regiment

The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own)



Drummer, Queen's 1990s

Initially, each of the new four-battalions of the Regiment kept its direct county affiliations; for example, the 1st Battalion became 1st Battalion The Queen's Regiment (Queen's Surreys). The suffixes were dropped, however, in 1968, once it became known that the 4th Battalion was to be disbanded. Close ties were retained, though; the majority of the chattels (mainly pictures and Regimental Silver) within the 1st Battalion were Queen's Surreys related. For most of its short history The Queen's Regiment consisted of three regular battalions (1st, 2nd and 3rd) and two Territorial Army battalions (5th and 6/7th).

Operations were dominated by Northern Ireland and counter insurgency. The "troubles" and Operation BANNER, as it was called, officially lasted from August 1969 to July 2007, 38 years later. Between 1969 and 1992; 1st Queen's served 68 months (comprising one 2-year residential tour, 8 planned short tours and one emergency deployment); 2nd Queen's served 65.5 months (comprising two resident 2 year tours, six planned short tours and one emergency deployment); 3rd Queen's served 68 months (comprising two resident 2 year tours, three planned short tours and one emergency deployment). The only years when no Queen's Regiment battalions were in Northern Ireland were 1981, 1986 and 1991. The first British soldier was killed in 1971 and the Regiment's first fatality was Private Carter of 2nd QUEEN'S who was killed by an Irish Republican Army (IRA) gunman on 11th September. The Province dominated Regiment Duty life.

During the 1970s and 1980s the majority of deployments were for four to six month periods. The 1st Battalion (Queen's Surreys) was one of the first battalions to deploy on the streets of Londonderry in 1969 and, at first, the troops were especially welcomed by the local Roman Catholic population. Most of the initial work was spent placating and separating the rival religious communities. Gradually, the IRA gained more support for its aim to achieve a united Ireland by violent means and a bloody campaign of terrorism began in earnest in the early 1970s; the Regiment was to be fully committed in the attempts to obtain peace for the next twenty years.

The other dominating activity during the Queen's Regiment's existence was the Cold War. All of the Regiment's regular battalions served for tours in West Germany, as part of the NATO forces and The British Army of the Rhine facing The Warsaw Pact; the 1st Battalion was the last to serve there, in Minden, at the end of the Cold War, prior to further amalgamation. It was a busy period of various long exercises and short notice emergency call-outs, a pattern of life regularly broken by tours to Northern Ireland. Part of the training packages included realistic live-firing exercises in Canada and the Regiment became mechanised infantry experts equipped with various armoured vehicles such as Saracens, Ferret Scout Cars and the Armoured Fighting Vehicle 430 series. Although blood was not shed for the Cold War, the Regiment played a full part in winning this "war", which finally ended dramatically, with the pulling down of the Berlin Wall in 1989.

The Territorial Army (TA) was also geared for the Cold War and changed shape a number of times during the Queen's Regiment's life - both expanding and contracting. For the majority of this period, there were three associated TA battalions; The 5th (Volunteer) Battalion's role (based at Canterbury) was to reinforce the British effort in West Germany in time of war and it trained there regularly. The 6th/7th (Volunteer) Battalion (based at Horsham) was responsible for Home Defence.



Other Regimental tours took place to Cyprus to aid the United Nations efforts to keep the peace between Greek and Turk, to Belize to thwart potential Guatemalan aggression and to garrison duties in Gibraltar. In 1972, during a lesser-known conflict in Oman, Captain Mike Kealy distinguished himself, leading a Special Air Service detachment at the Battle of Mirbat - a 250 rebel force attacked the Port and his nine-man team, manning a 25-Pounder gun, were instrumental in helping repel this assault. He was awarded a DSO for his outstanding bravery. No Queen's Regiment battalion was deployed to either the Falklands War or the Gulf Wars, though during the latter conflict The 3rd Battalion The Queen's Regiment maintained the logistic and communications link in Cyprus and The 1st Battalion prepared to send reinforcements to Kuwait from Germany. A number of Queen's Regiment individuals, serving on the staff or attached to other units, did participate in both conflicts.

The 1st Battalion was particularly proud of its boxing achievements and the whole Regiment made best use of its sport and adventure training opportunities, particularly when serving in West Germany. Of particular mention is the success of the 1 QUEEN'S boxing team, which held the Army Championship from 1977-79.

Howe Barracks, Canterbury, was the site of the Regimental Headquarters and often served as a home for one of the regular battalions during this period. The TA Battalions still maintained Territorial Drill Halls in Surrey, at Guildford, Farnham and Camberley.

## UNCONQUERED I SERVE

### THE PRINCESS OF WALES'S ROYAL REGIMENT (QUEEN'S AND ROYAL HAMPSHIRE) THE TIGERS



The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (PWRR) is today's infantry regiment of Surrey. It is also the local regiment of Kent, Sussex, Middlesex, Hampshire, the Isle of Wight and the Channel Islands. It has two regular battalions (1st and 2nd), one Territorial Army battalion (the 3rd) and one additional TA company at Edgware (within the London Regiment), known as B (The Queen's) Regiment Company.

The latest amalgamation took place as a result of the end of the Cold War amidst general large reductions within the British Army's strength. Thus in 1992, the new Regiment was formed from the amalgamation of The Queen's Regiment and The Royal Hampshire Regiment. The 9th September was the founding date chosen, as it was the anniversary of the landings at Salerno, when both the Queen's and Hampshire's were heavily committed. On amalgamation, the 5th and 6/7th TA battalions re-badged to the new Regiment, but in 1999, as the TA infantry was reduced from thirty-three battalions to fifteen, they merged to form the new 3rd (Volunteer) Battalion Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment. Further re-alignment for the 3rd Battalion took place in 2006, it took responsibility of the PWRR-badged Portsmouth company.



Warrior Fighting Vehicle



Saxon Fighting Vehicle



L/Cpl Johnson Beharry VC



Victoria Cross



Operational experience has gathered pace since 1992 making the PWRR the most decorated regiment in the British Army. Both regular battalions served a number of times in Northern Ireland as it moved closer to relative peace and the end of Army operations; Operation BANNER finished in July 2007. During its 38 years, the Operation had dominated the lives of most soldiers in both of the forebear regiments and the PWRR. The 2nd Battalion had some of the last troops deployed on the streets.

The Regiment also saw service in Rwanda, Bosnia and Kosovo; the 1st Battalion completed two tours in Kosovo. In these countries, the 'Tigers', as the Regiment is nicknamed, again helped to placate antagonistic populations and deployed, mainly, in either the Warrior or Saxon vehicle. Individuals served in many 'hot spots' around the world, including Sierra Leone. Territorial soldiers, many of them from Surrey, also had an increasing opportunity to deploy on operations, as individuals, in support to their regular cousins.

Operations in Iraq and Afghanistan have dominated the life of the Army and the Regiment in this decade. The invasion of Iraq in 2003 marked the beginning of Operation TELIC and British combat operations were officially completed there in 2009. All three battalions and the Queen's Regiment Company of The London Regiment made significant contributions to this operation. The 1st Battalion conducted three tours, the 2nd Battalion deployed once and the TA attached many individuals to both of their regular counterparts and other units.

Significantly, the Regiment now has its first Victoria Cross holder, Lance-Corporal Johnson Beharry. This was won on the 1st Battalion's 2004 tour in Iraq. As a private soldier, driving a Warrior armoured vehicle, he carried out two individual acts of great heroism by which he saved the lives of his comrades. Both were in direct face of the enemy, under intense fire, at great personal risk to himself. His valour was worthy of the highest recognition. The last Surrey regiments' soldiers to have won this award were Lieutenant AG Horwood of The Queen's Royal Regiment and Captain ECT Wilson of The East Surrey Regiment, both during the Second World War.

During the 2004 Iraq tour, the 1st Battalion of the PWRR earned one Victoria Cross, two Conspicuous Gallantry Crosses, two Distinguished Service Orders, seven Military Crosses, one Member of the British Empire, sixteen Mentioned in Despatches and one Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service. The Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel (now Brigadier) Matt Maer stated "It has been said that the 1 PWRR Battle Group faced the most constant period of conflict of any British Army unit since the Korean War. The Battle Group in Maysan Province faced over 100 contacts in one day alone and close to 900 over the tour. Every single man who deployed on Operation TELIC had been in some form of contact. That in itself made a tour like no other". Awards continued to be earned by the Regiment on successive tours, including the award of the American Legion of Merit to Major General Paul Newton, the Colonel of the Regiment.

The conflict in Afghanistan continues and the British involvement is now called Operation HERRICK. Allied personnel began their operations in Afghanistan in 2001 and the 3rd Battalion provided a platoon in Kabul on what was called Operation FINGAL in 2003. Greater numbers of British personnel have deployed since then and the PWRR has made its contribution from both regular and TA personnel. For over a year, from 2008 to 2009, the 2nd Battalion took the Theatre Reserve Battalion role based in Cyprus. This involved continual deployment to Afghanistan of at least one company, often two, along with Battalion Headquarters. Within the same period, the 1st Battalion provided one company to Operation HERRICK and has deployed as a



HM Queen Margrethe II



HRH The Princess of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, at the Review of the Regiment on 9th June 1993. Colonel of the Regiment, Major General A A Denison MBE (right) and Parade Commander, Colonel M J Ball (left)



Royal Review 9th Sept 1993



The Presentation of New Colours to the 2nd Battalion by Her Royal Highness The Princess of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, Canterbury, Saturday 20th May 1995



whole battalion to Afghanistan again in 2011/12 with Regimental TA soldiers integrated within their structure. Both regular battalions and many regular and Territorial soldiers are due to continue to contribute to this operation. To illustrate their commitment, three more Military Crosses were awarded to members of the Regiment in September 2009 - one from the 1st Battalion and two from the 2nd.

The first Colonel-in-Chief of The Regiment was Her Royal Highness The Princess of Wales, who had been the Colonel-in-chief of The Royal Hampshire Regiment. However, the new title was not unknown; it had also been used by The Queen's in the early eighteenth century, when the Regiment was known as Her Royal Highness The Princess of Wales's Own Regiment of Foot. She was succeeded by Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II of Denmark, who had previously been the Allied Colonel-in-chief of the new Regiment and had been the last Colonel-in-chief of The Queen's Regiment (the historical connection coming from The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment).

The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment has inherited many traditions from Surrey as well as from its other forebears, though its nickname of the 'Tigers' comes from the Royal Hampshire Regiment. The 67th Foot (South Hampshire) Regiment spent 21 years of active service in India during the 19th century and this was recognised by King George IV who authorised the figure of the Royal Tiger with the word 'India' super-scribed to be borne on its Regimental Colour and other appointments.

However, the modern Regiment still has many Surrey connections - the key one is that the county is still the Infantry Regiment of 'First Choice' for those considering an Army career. In addition, the TA still has Centres at Farnham and Camberley and hundreds of cadets in the Surrey Army Cadet Force and schools' Combined Cadet Forces in Surrey wear the PWRR cap badge. Some Surrey Regiment traditions live on as well. For example, all battalions continue to celebrate Sobraon Day each year when a Sobraon Sergeant is appointed by each battalion on 10th February. These respected sergeants help commemorate the actions of Sergeant Bernard McCabe at the Battle of Sobraon, in North-West India in 1846. They have the honour of carrying the Regimental Colour (normally only carried by an officer) from the Officers' Mess to the Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess, where the Colours are displayed for the day. This tradition was originally performed by the East Surrey Regiment.

Sport and adventure training continue to play an important part in Regimental life despite a very busy operational programme. In the Regiment's first 6 years, the 1st Battalion excelled in cricket and won the Infantry Cup in 5 successive years, whilst winning the Army Cup in 1997. In the same year, the 2nd Battalion won the Army Judo Championship and the Infantry Novice Nordic Skiing Championship. In 2002, the 2nd Battalion won the Middlesex Charities Rugby Sevens. Following a Queen's Regiment tradition, boxing regularly features as a key sport. The Regiment still provides an outstanding Parachute Display Team - The Flying Tigers.

The new Regiment has continued to maintain the traditions of the past, whilst establishing a reputation, second to none, in its newer guise. It is particularly proud to uphold the traditions and standards set by its forebears from Surrey.

## The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment Website

The Regiment has a website on the Internet, which we need not hesitate to say is at least the equal of that of any other British regiment. This short article traces the history of our website.

It started in the early 1990's, when the Trustees of the Regimental Museum decided that the Museum needed a comprehensive website, both to attract potential visitors to come to the Museum, and to provide a "virtual" tour of the Museum for those who could not get to it. Quotations from commercial providers were obtained for this, but proved to be well-beyond the Museum's resources, so the project had to be shelved for a while. However, all was not lost as, before long, Lt. Col. Les Wilson "discovered" David Swan, an independent website builder, whose terms were affordable and who was willing to work on a "one-step-at-a-time" basis, as funding permitted.

A good start was soon made, but it was not long before the Museum Trustees realised that, for the virtual tour of the Museum to make sense to the general public – particularly for future generations – much more in-depth information needed to be provided about what was being shown. Soon it became obvious that this could become a virtual history of the Regiment, readily accessible to all for years to come. To produce this was beyond the remit and resources of the Museum, so the project was taken over by the Regimental Association.

From there, the website has gone forward from strength to strength. At the time of writing it is not quite complete, but it will be by the end of this year. A glance at the **HOME Page** shows the great range of Regimental topics which is covered, and a look at any one of them reveals the great detail and depth of the information provided, and the attractive way in which it is presented.

To achieve this has required a great deal of hard work and research; of course. Lt. Col. Les Wilson has been the mastermind of all this, with David Swan as the professional expert. But, to quote one of Les Wilson's famous sayings, "It's all done by kindness", with the result that large numbers of members and friends of the Regiment – too many to name here – responded and have given a good deal of their time and effort to help Les and improve the Regiment's story on the website. Much original research and photography has been done, and all this is being deposited with the Regimental Archive at The Surrey History Centre in Woking, to be available to future generations of researchers. There have been many difficulties to be overcome along the way, and some triumphs, one of which is that much of the Regiment's music can be listened to on the website.

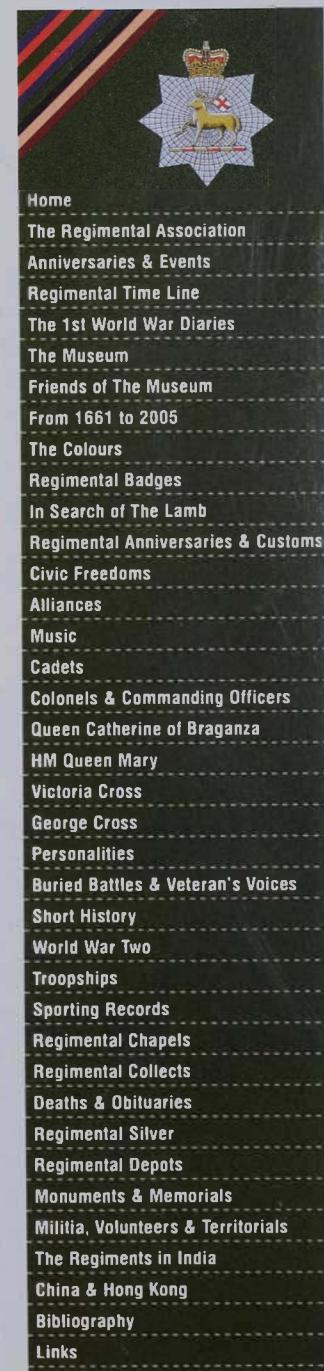
All this has cost money as well as effort, the major share of which has been provided by the Regimental Charity,

with significant contributions from the Museum and the Territorial Trustees. Interestingly, the final cost of our large and very comprehensive website – at about £19,000 - will be only about double the original quotation for the quite small site first proposed for the Museum alone.

For the future, after the Regimental Association has closed down at the end of this year, arrangements have been made for the continuing operation and maintenance of the website, under the watchful eyes of the Territorial Trustees. And a DVD version will be produced to make it accessible to those who prefer that medium.

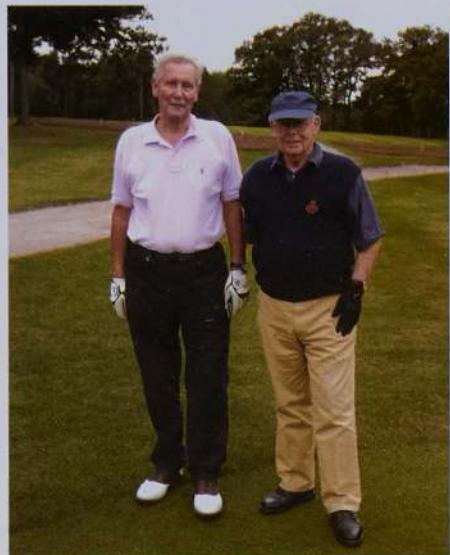
Our website is well-worth looking at: the menu is below. Don't try to view it all at one session, there is a lot of it, and it is ideal for dipping into; but, be warned, you may become hooked!

[www.queensroyalsurreys.org.uk](http://www.queensroyalsurreys.org.uk)



## Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment Golf Society

We were under strength for the Autumn meeting at Woking Golf Club on 5th October. Only eleven members, including one guest, played in the afternoon but we did manage fourteen for lunch including Peter Mason and George Wakely. The weather was kind to us and the course was in superlative condition.



*Waiting to Tee off*

The results of the Autumn Meeting were:

Autumn Bowl	Net Score
Col JGW Davidson	72
Glasgow Greys Cup Junior Division	
JRL Wells Esq	79
Petri Plate Aggregate of Spring & Autumn	
Col JGW Davidson	77+72:149
Heales Memorial Trophy Stableford	
CG Stanton Esq	29 pts
Veteran's Halo	
Col JGW Davidson	43 pts
Sweep Winner	Maj SJ Petzing
2nd	JRL Wells
3rd	CG Stanton

## Regimental Golf Society vs Royal Hampshire Regiment GS

19th September 2011

Eight members of the golf society and our secretary travelled to High Post Golf Club near Amesbury for the annual challenge match against the Royal Hampshire. This was the fifth anniversary of the annual meeting between the two regiments' golf societies. This year we were the hosts. A good course, convivial lunch and decent weather made for a thoroughly enjoyable day. The regiment managed to retain the silver salver winning a hard fought encounter by three matches to one and taking a 3 to 2 lead in the series. The results for the day were as follows:



## QCSR GS

Michael Power & Christopher Surtees	vs	James Dewar & Gene Shave	W 2 and 1
Peter Swanson & Bob Acworth	vs	David Hannah & Robin Tillard	L 4 and 3
Mike Rooney & David Dickins	vs	Jo West & Martin Oldacre	W 2 and 1
Colin Howard & Christopher Allanson	vs	Peter Hughes & William Bickett	W 4 and 3

## R.HAMPS GS

Michael Power & Christopher Surtees	vs	James Dewar & Gene Shave	W 2 and 1
Peter Swanson & Bob Acworth	vs	David Hannah & Robin Tillard	L 4 and 3
Mike Rooney & David Dickins	vs	Jo West & Martin Oldacre	W 2 and 1
Colin Howard & Christopher Allanson	vs	Peter Hughes & William Bickett	W 4 and 3

## History of the Regimental Golf Society

The East Surrey Regimental Golfing Society was formed in March 1930. The objects of the Society were:-

To encourage esprit-de-corps by bringing together serving and retired members of the regiment.

To help maintain the close associations with the Royal Marines.

To encourage golf and raise the standard of play in the Regiment with a view to achieving better results in the Army Golfing Society Meetings.

The first meeting held at Fulwell Golf Course on Thursday and Friday 30 and 31 October.

At the first AGM, held at Fulwell Park on 30 October the following elections were made:

The Colonel of the Regiment, General Sir John Langley as President of the Society for three years

General Dodgson as Captain for two years,

Major Heales as Secretary

The first match with the Royal Marines was held at Deal on 28 and 29 October 1931.

In 1933 29 members attended the Spring meeting at Risborough Barracks on 10 April.

The Autumn Meeting that year was held at Sudbrook Park, Richmond on 2 and 3 November, the start of the long association with that Golf Club which still continues today. Members playing in the Spring and Autumn meetings were offered accommodation in the Officers Mess in Kingston. The second day of the Autumn Meeting coincided with the Old Comrades Association Dinner in London, and members changed into evening dress at the conclusion of play to attend the dinner. Between 1933 and 1935 Spring Meetings were hosted by 2nd Bn at the Hythe Golf Club.

Golf meetings were suspended from November 1938 to 1947 when Brigadier Roupell was elected President and Capt HC Mason was elected Captain. With the amalgamation of the Queen's Royal Regiment and East Surrey Regiment in 1959 to form the Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment, it was resolved to call the amalgamated golf society The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment Golf Society with effect from the Spring Meeting on 3 and 4 May 1960. The Spring and Autumn meetings continued as two day meetings until 1982.

Annual matches continued to be played with the Royal Marines at North Hants GC, Fleet until 2005. In 2007 an annual match with the Royal Hampshire Regt GS was arranged on an annual basis.

The Society celebrated the 80th Anniversary of its formation in 2010.

Cups and Trophies	When Played	Presented By
Challenge Cup	Spring Meeting	2nd Bn East Surrey Regt
Dodgson Cup	Spring Meeting	General Dodgson
Petri Plate	Aggregate of Spring & Autumn	Lt Col Petri
Heales Memorial	Each meeting (Stableford)	Maj Heales
Harry Adcock	Spring Meeting (Putting)	Maj Adcock
Autumn Bowl	Autumn Meeting	Depot East Surrey Regt
Glasgow Greys Cup	Autumn Meeting	2nd Bn East Surrey Regt
Veteran's Halo	Each meeting (over 65's)	

## East Surrey Regimental Reunion

This year's reunion was held at the Ewell TA Centre, Mercator House on 1st October. This was a new venue for us and was very popular with a higher attendance than last year – around 125. Gill and Trevor Jones provided a lovely buffet which, together with the two cakes decorated with the East Surrey crest, was greatly enjoyed. The cake was cut by Patrick Codd, the Mayor of Kingston upon Thames. The East Surrey Regiment has close ties with the Royal Borough and several people who had attended the 2 PWRR parade in Kingston earlier in 2011 also attended the Reunion.

Our President Col John Francis gave us an update on the Regimental Association and the Regiment, and Col Tony Ward explained what was happening with the Friends of the Museum. Meeting the costs of the Reunion is helped by donations from the Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment Association and individual members as well as by the raffle run at the event.

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## Annual Regimental Association Reunion November 2011



*Enjoying the evening*

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## The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment

The overall picture for the three Services does not look good with the financial cut backs and redundancies. We as a Regiment are in a strong position being 100% recruited and fully operational. However, this does not mean that we will not be targeted. We are confident that we can ride the storm. The Regiment is in fine form.

### The 1st Battalion

The Battalion is based in Paderborn (Germany) and are currently an Armoured Warrior Battalion. On return from Afghanistan 2012 they will revert to a Light Role Battalion. They are part of 20 Armoured Brigade which is based in and around Paderborn. The Brigade has just deployed to Afghanistan. The 1st Battalion will be part of the Police Mentoring and Advisory Group. This is training and bringing up to an acceptable level members of the Afghan Police Force and the Afghan Army. The three rifle companies have been designated as ground holding companies and will deploy into Nadi Ali (South), Nar e Saraj (South) and the Lashkar Gah Battle Group. In most instances they will come under command of other units. It has been a challenging few months with training in Canada, Germany and the UK. All soldiers received specialist training in dealing with all situations. The deployment has been over a three month period and the returns will also be a rolling return finishing in or around May / June 2012. The Battalion is ready for what ever is thrown at them.

### The 2nd Battalion

The Battalion is based in Woolwich and is currently carrying out Public Duties and have 120 men deployed to the Falkland Islands. They have had a hectic year with all the Public Duties but in addition providing 210 All Ranks for the route lining for the Royal Wedding, completing Seven Freedom Parades and rotating through the Falkland Islands over a 5 month period. The latter produced a good variety of activities as well as providing good field training. In September the Battalion was visited by The Colonel in Chief Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II of Denmark and demonstrated to Her Majesty the variety of life that the Battalion had led. The coming year holds no rest as they will be providing the bulk of the military security for the Olympic Games which will involve most of the Battalion.

### The 3rd Battalion

The Battalion has continued with the Annual hectic programme and have assisted the 1st Battalion with manpower for Afghanistan. Up to 50 members volunteered to go with the 1st Battalion to Afghanistan and are now an integral part of the battle group.

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## Regimental Deaths

**Beecher** – On 7th October 2010, Bob Beecher who served with The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment.

**Browning** – On 7th July 2011 William J Browning who served in The East Surrey Regiment 1941-43 and The Queen's Royal Regiment 1943-44.

**Bruckmann** – On 10th June 2010 Captain Peter Anthony Charles Kurt Bruckmann. Having initially been a member of the HAC from 1936, in 1939 Peter Bruckmann was granted an emergency commission in The East Surrey Regiment and was posted to the 2nd Battalion in January 1940. He was Mentioned in Despatches in January 1942 and was subsequently held PoW by the Japanese from February 1942 until August 1945. He retired from the Army in January 1946.

**Cardy** – On 22nd July 2011 aged 91 years, Robert W Cardy who served with 2/7th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment.

**Clayton** – On 19th July 2011 Major P H Clayton MBE. Peter Clayton was commissioned in 1948 into The Queen's Royal Regiment and served with them until 1953 when he was selected to attend the Middle East Centre for Arabic Studies. In 1954 he joined the Trucial Oman Levies. In July 1957 he was awarded the MBE. From 1960 to 1962 he attended the Technical Staff Course at the Royal Military College of Science and thereafter held a number of staff appointments until he retired from the Army in 1971. He was then involved in the military pyrotechnics industry for some years and was also an independent training consultant.

**Crabtree** – On 27th September 2011 Major Horace Crabtree who served with The East Surrey Regiment.

**Coom** – On 13th November 2011 aged 89 years, Captain William Alfred Coom. Bill Coom was granted an emergency commission into The Queen's Royal Regiment in 1943, and was subsequently granted a regular commission. He had previously served in the ranks with R.E. (Survey) and been seconded first to No. 2 SBS Commando and then to the Combined Operations Experimental Engineers. Having been commissioned he joined 2nd Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment with which he served until 1947, apart from a period from late 1945 when he was seconded to the staff in Bombay. He retired from the Army in April 1947 and subsequently joined 14 Bn The Parachute Regiment (TA) in 1948. In 1960 he joined 280 Field Regiment (City of Glasgow) RA (TA).

**Dowling** – On 17th August 2011 Frederick Dowling. Having originally enlisted into the General Service Corps in November 1944 he was transferred to the 1st Bn The East Surrey Regiment with which he served until discharged in August 1951.

**Dudley** – On 22nd November 2010 at the age of 91 years, Edward Perry Dudley who served in the 2/7th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment.

**Dunkley** – On 11th November 2011 aged 97 years RSM John Wakefield Dunkley MM. John Dunkley enlisted into 2/5th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment in June 1939. His service included France with the BEF, Iraq, North Africa and Italy. He was CSM D Company 2/5th Queen's when it attacked Farneto and Farneto Ridge as part of 169 (Queen's) Bde attack on the Gemmano Ridge in September 1944. The Regimental History describing the ensuing battle records that D Company "..... was out of action. The wadi in which they had been waiting had been drenched with mortar bombs and was a shambles. C.S.M. Dunkley worked tirelessly to bring in the wounded, to give morphia, and to collect the urgently needed arms and ammunition, all in a position beyond our farthest remaining posts". In Autumn 1945 with the demobilisation of long-service men and their replacement by post-war National Service men, RSM Dunkley MM was one of only 14 personnel who had served during the war remaining in 2/5th Queen's; he was discharged in October 1945.

**Dunkley** – In late February 2011 Corporal Peter Vincent Dunkley. He enlisted into 1st Bn The East Surrey Regiment in April 1947 and went on to serve with the Middlesex Regiment in Korea.

**Elverson** - On 15th June 2011 at the age of 90 years, Major Charles Ronald Croker Elverson. He attended the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst in 1939. After a short time with 13th Holding Battalion, he was posted to 1/6th Bn The East Surrey Regiment in 1940. Following a lengthy period in hospital in 1941, he was transferred to the 2/6th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment serving in Iraq, Tunisia and Italy until being taken prisoner of war in 1944. After his release in April 1945, he rejoined 2/6th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment until June 1946. His subsequent service until retiring in May 1959 included service with 163 OCTU as an Instructor, 2nd Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment, 3rd Bn Kings African Rifles, HQ 158 Infantry Brigade, 1st Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment and HQ London District.

**Holdsworth** – In August 2011 aged 72 years, Corporal David John Holdsworth. He enlisted in February 1959 and was initially badged to The Buffs for training. He was transferred to The East Surrey Regiment, going on to serve with The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment prior to his discharge in February 1961.

**Hughes** – On 11th June 2011, Anthony Vincent Percy Hughes. Tony Hughes enlisted into the ranks with The East Surrey Regiment in September 1948, and was for a while attached to 2nd Bn The Grenadier Guards. He was granted an emergency commission in The East Surrey Regiment in January 1950. He relinquished his commission in 1959. In civilian life he worked

in sales and sales management, including with Proctor and Gamble and with Cavenham Foods, finally retiring in 1992.

*Johnson* – On 2nd August 2011 Peter Johnson who served with The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment and then The Queen's Regiment.

*Langford* – On 5th July 2011 aged 91 years, Bryn Langford who served with 2/7th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment.

*Peters* – On 20th September 2011 F A J Peters who initially joined The Queen's Royal Regiment in 1948 and later transferred to 1st Bn The East Surrey Regiment.

*Reinhold* – On 14th October 2011 aged 94 years, Brigadier Gordon George Reinhold MC. Brigadier Reinhold was commissioned into The Queen's Royal Regiment in 1937 and in 1939 was awarded the MC while serving with the 2nd Battalion in Palestine where he was also wounded. During WWII he served at the Regimental Depot, with a several other Regiments and on the staff, and was Mentioned in Despatches in July 1944. He was MA to the High Commissioner and CinC Palestine 1945-47. He went on to serve with the Parachute Regiment during the 1950s, including in the Canal Zone in 1952. He commanded 158 Infantry Brigade 1963-65. He retired from the Army in 1968.

*Roberts* – On 11th June 2011 D J (John) Roberts. John's National Service was deferred to allow him to complete his apprenticeship. He was called up in February 1953 aged 21 and completed 18 weeks basic training as a member of Alamein Platoon at Stoughton Barracks, Guildford before being posted to D Company 1st Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment stationed in Iserlohn, Germany. In 1954 the Battalion was deployed for operational duties to Malaya. On 12th February John arrived in Singapore for jungle training then deployed into Johore where he initially served with D Company and then with Battalion Headquarters as Sports Equipment Storeman. He was discharged in February 1955 and went on to become a Master Bricklayer and to own his own building company.

*Sedgley* – On 27th May 2011 at the age of 93 years, Captain Edward Alfred Sedgley CBE who served in The East Surrey Regiment during World War II.

*Skinner* – On 27th October 2011, Ron Skinner who served as a National Serviceman. Ron joined in October 1952 and was initially badged to the Buffs during training. On completion of training he joined A Company 1st Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment. He was discharged in October 1954.

*Smith* – On 11th June 2011 at the age of 88 years Stanley Walter (Stan) Smith. Posted to the 2/6th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment in January 1942, he

remained with the Battalion throughout World War II, serving in B Company and Support Company (3" Mortars). He was discharged in November 1946.

*Springett* – On 7 November 2011 aged 93 years, Albert Lawrence Springett MM. He enlisted into 75 Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment in July 1939 and subsequently transferred to 2/6th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment. His service prior to discharge in January 1946 included Egypt, Bahrain and Italy. The award of the Military Medal was gazetted in March 1946.

*Tucker* – On 2nd June 2011 at the age of 76 years Kenneth James Alfred (Tuck) Tucker. He enlisted in The Queen's Royal Regiment at Stoughton Barracks in September 1953 and was discharged September 1955, after service in Malaya with C Company of the 1st Battalion, both as a Rifleman and a Driver. He was awarded the General Service Medal with the Malaya Clasp. After the completion of his full time Service, he served with the 6th Bn The East Surrey Regiment (TA).

*Turrell* – On 21st July 2011 in Australia aged 91 years, Francis Peter Turrell who served with The East Surrey Regiment and was held PoW by the Japanese.

*Uttley* – On 7th August 2010 Brian Uttley who served with the Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment and was a TA Bandsman.

*Williams* – On 10th March 2011 at the age of 92 years Captain William Arthur Williams MBE. He enlisted in the 1st Bn The Monmouthshire Regiment in 1939. The Battalion was converted to a Searchlight Unit of the Royal Artillery in the same year. In 1941 he was promoted Troop Sergeant, before attending RA OCTU the following year. Commissioned in the 2nd Searchlight Regiment in 1943, later he attended an Infantry Conversion Course in 1944, before posting to the 2/6th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment in January 1945. He was Mentioned in Despatches in April 1945, during the action to cross the River Po. Following the cessation of hostilities, he was responsible for setting up the Battalion School to prepare soldiers for the return to civilian life. He was discharged in April 1946, and at sometime during the following years he was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire (Civil).

## Regimental Family

*Chaffer* – On 16th August 2011 at Northampton General Hospital after a short illness Dorothy (Doll) Chaffer beloved wife of RSM H T (Jack) Chaffer MM.

*Hill* – On 23rd October 2011, Mrs Brenda Hill, widow of the late Lieutenant Colonel H R D Hill MBE.

*Sewell* – On 5th November 2011 Muriel Sewell, beloved wife of Colonel J W (Toby) Sewell.

*Tomkins* – On 13th August 2011 Mrs Dorothy Tomkins, widow of Norman Tomkins who served with The Queen's Royal Regiment 1939-45.

*White* – On 27th October 2011 aged 94 years Mrs Margaret Maud (Peggy) White, the widow of the late Captain A C L White TD of The East Surrey Regiment.

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## Branches and Officers' Club

As noted elsewhere affiliated branches will continue to exist and to hold their own functions for as long as their members wish to do so. Current contact details for the respective secretaries are given below.

The Officers' Club Committee has decided that the Club will hold a 2012 lunch in London, probably in October: details will be sent out under separate cover.

5th Bn OMA-QRR:	I Chatfield Esq, 13 Wood Road, Farncombe, Godalming, Surrey GU7 3NN	Tel: 01483 429425
6th Bn OCA-QRR:	Major M R Nason TD, 64 Westfield Road, Barnehurst, Kent DA7 6LR	Tel: 0132 2527017
7th Bn OCA-QRR:	Major J M A Tamplin MBE TD, 10 Hugh Street, London SW1	Tel: 0207 8340120
2/6th Bn OCA-QRR:	Major M R Nason TD, 64 Westfield Road, Barnehurst, Kent DA7 6LR	Tel: 0132 2527017
2/7th Bn OCA-QRR:	Colonel D E Blum OBE, 85 Thameside, Staines, Middlesex TW18 2HF	Tel: 01784 450483
East Surrey Reunion:	J Broom Esq, 11 Sayerland Road, Polegate, East Sussex BN26 6NU	Tel: 01323 489262
2/6th East Surrey St Valery Assoc:	Maj A J Redfern MC TD, Courtlands, 12 Kent House, Sheen Rd, Richmond, Surrey TW10 5AV	Tel: 0208 9402191
Queen's Surreys (Kent) Branch:	R F Harper Esq, 90 Osbourne Road, Willesborough, Ashford, Kent TN24 0EQ	Tel: 01233 641330
Queen's Surreys (Suffolk) Branch:	D J Gardner Esq, 106 Oakes Road, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP32 6QS	Tel: 01284 753160
1st Surrey Rifles:	T W Young Esq BEM, 38 Stanstead Manor, St James Road, Sutton, Surrey	Tel: 0208 643 6189
Queen's Surreys (South West) Branch:	H Stewart Esq, 3 Wentworth Road, Springbank, Cheltenham, Glos GL51 0NS	Tel: 01242 239121

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## Postscript

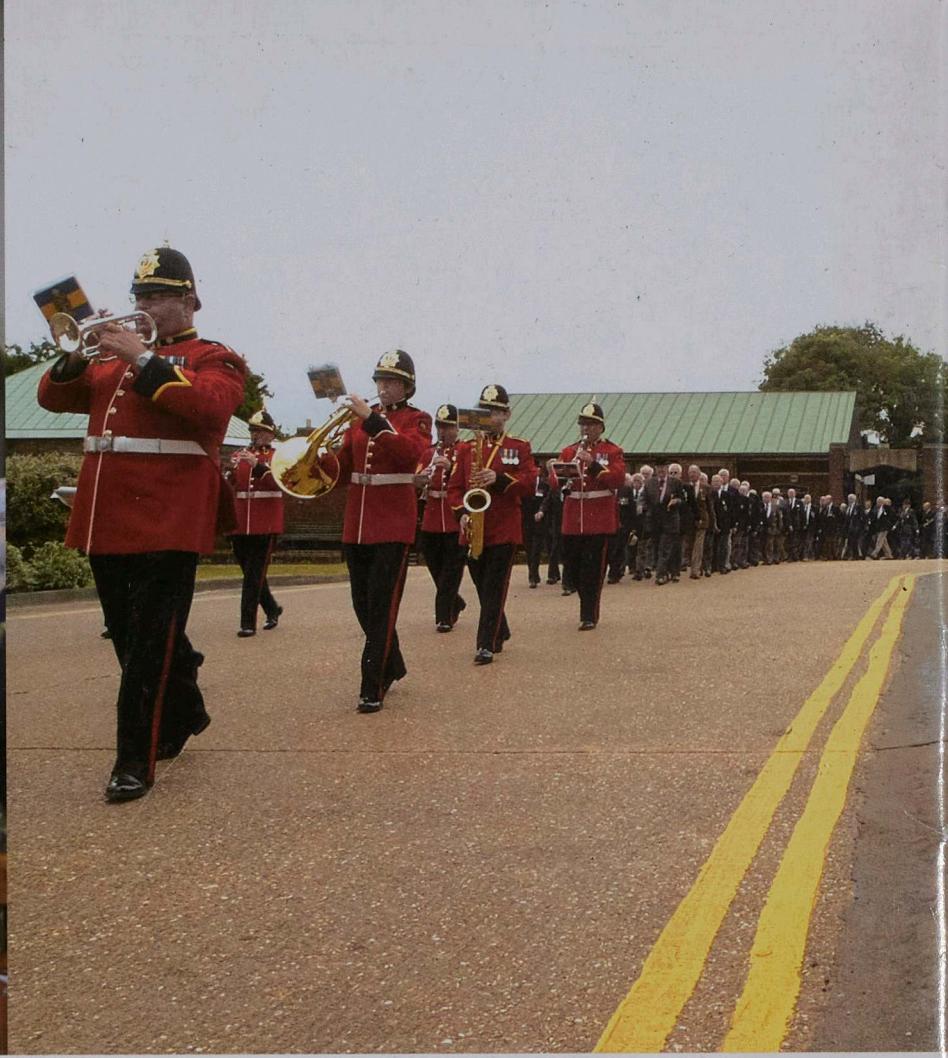
A benefit of being editor of the Newsletter is the opportunity to have the last word. I must start by thanking all those who have contributed material for the Newsletter over the years and by offering my apologies to those who never saw their work in print. My thanks are also due to those who have assisted with the production of the Newsletter, and in particular to all at The Press on the Lake without whose expertise and advice publication would simply not have been possible.

As the Regimental Association prepares to close down, I must record my thanks for all the support and help which I have received during my tenure as Secretary. In particular I would like to pay tribute to the two Presidents, Brigadier Bob Acworth and more recently Colonel Tony Ward, and to thank them for their direction and forbearance.

Finally may I say how honoured I have been to have served as your Association Secretary and record my thanks to the most important people, the Regimental veterans, who extended such a warm welcome to me when I took over in 2002 and have continued to support the Association and its activities over the years.

My very best wishes to you all.

Tony Russell





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