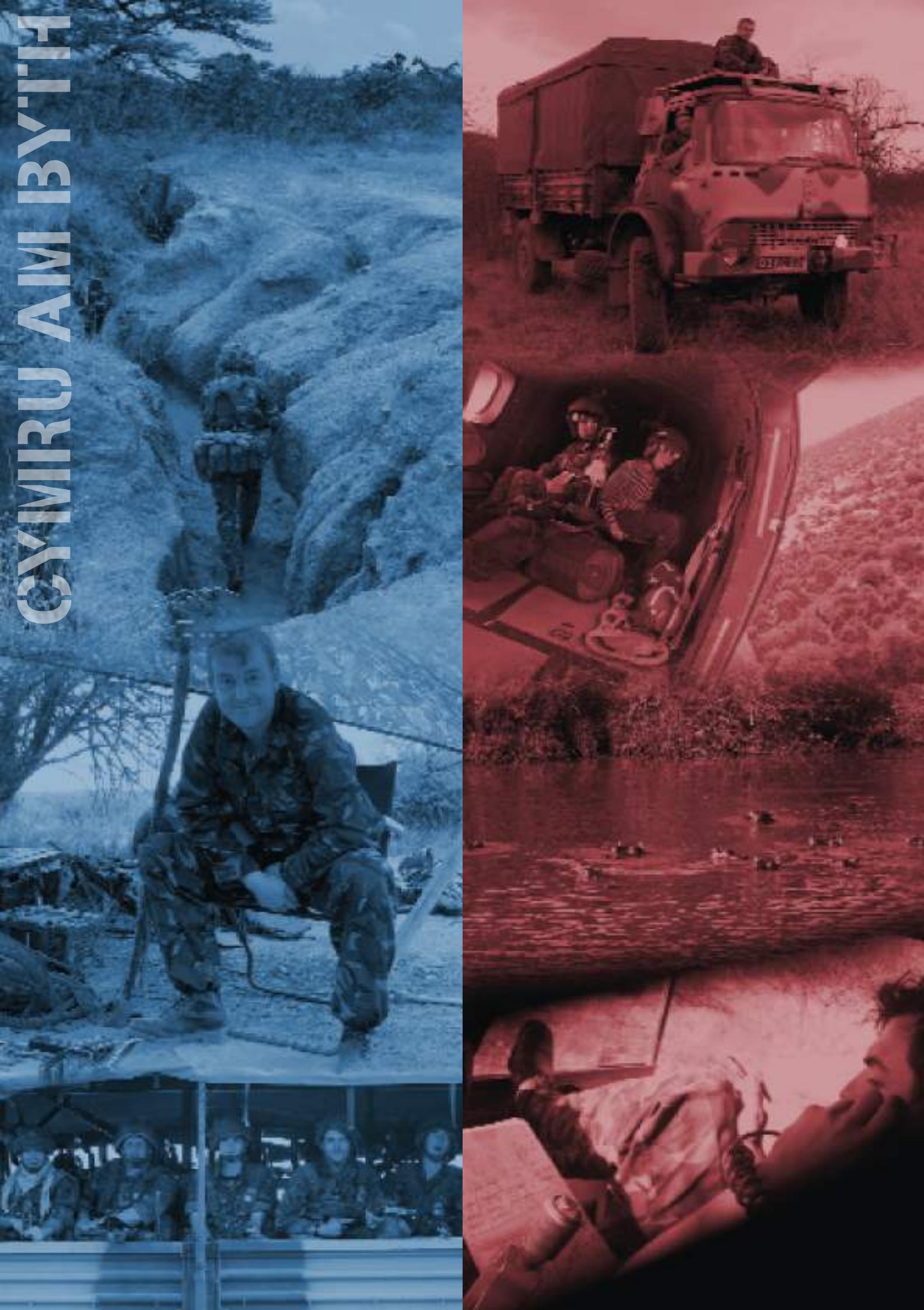




# WELSH GUARDS

REGIMENTAL MAGAZINE 2010





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# WELSH GUARDS REGIMENTAL MAGAZINE

## 2010

### COLONEL-IN-CHIEF

Her Majesty The Queen

### COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT

His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales  
KG KT GCB OM AK QSO PC ADC

### REGIMENTAL LIEUTENANT COLONEL

Brigadier R H Talbot Rice

### REGIMENTAL ADJUTANT

Colonel (Retd) T CS Bonas BA

### ASSISTANT REGIMENTAL ADJUTANT

Major (Retd) K F Oultram



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### AFFILIATIONS

5th/7th Battalion The Royal Australian Regiment  
HMS Campbeltown

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**Brigadier RH Talbot Rice, Regimental Lieutenant Colonel**

# FOREWORD

**I**t is an enormous privilege for me to take over as Regimental Lieutenant Colonel: both my father and my grandfather served in the Regiment, so the Welsh Guards has been a part of my life since childhood.

I am hugely grateful to my predecessor, Colonel Sandy Malcolm, for everything that he did to sustain the Regiment during a particularly busy period. As I already knew before I took over, I inherited a strong, vibrant and close Regiment which continues to make its mark in the Army and elsewhere. The outcome of the Strategic Defence and Security Review leaves the Regiment and the Battalion unscathed, but sets many challenges on the Army as a whole which will work their way out over the coming months.

The Army is a busy place these days and the Battalion has had, in many ways, as a busy year in 2010 as it had in 2009. The challenges have of course been very different; but the boys have emerged with high morale and equally high standing.

The many articles from the Battalion bear testimony to their busy and varied programme. I am sure you will enjoy reading what they have been up to: company deployments to the Falkland Islands and Moscow and a Battalion deployment to Kenya, as well as a public duties stint in the summer. It is a good reflection of the flexibility of Welsh Guardsmen and the Army in general, and an indication of why young men and women both join the Army and remain in it.

The Regiment as a whole is blessed with first class officers, Warrant Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers, and their quality is evident in the highly regarded appointments they hold across the breadth of defence organisations. The Ministry of

Defence, the Field Army, the Recruiting and Training organisation, Sandhurst and elsewhere – all draw on and benefit from the talent we have. Several Welsh Guardsmen have deployed on operations as individuals over the past year, and I continually hear words of praise for what they have done. This strength in depth, combined with strong manning, bodes well for the future. In this regard I would like to thank in particular our recruiters and our training staff at ITC Catterick who deliver the lifeline of any Regiment, namely manpower. They do an excellent job producing really good guardsmen for the Battalion, and without their application, hard work and enthusiasm our future would be much less certain.

The Association continues to flourish and I do not underestimate the amount of time and effort that goes into ensuring that it does so. Our branch secretaries do a great deal to keep our Regimental family alive and well and I would very much like to thank them and the Branch Committees for all they do. We have one of the strongest Associations in the country and this is down not only to our Association officials who do so much to organise social and other events, but also to the members themselves who wish to keep the concept of our Regimental family alive. I do, however, encourage younger members of the Regiment to support their branches for this is important if we are to sustain the health and wellbeing of the Association.

I highlight in particular the Association Bi-

Annual dinner which will be held in Wrexham on Saturday 9 April.

Our Band remains a great success story and their programme is as busy as ever. They have given the Regiment a great deal of support this year, whether playing on the homecoming parades in April in Wales, or at fund raising concerts throughout the year. They are a credit to the Regiment and a tremendous ambassador for it.

There is a separate article on the Afghanistan Appeal in this issue by Brigadier Peter Williams, the Appeal Chairman. It is thanks to his energy – and that of many other loyal Welsh Guardsmen, friends and families – that the Appeal has been such a tremendous success; and I send my sincere thanks to all those who have contributed in their diverse ways. As we go to press, the total raised stands at over £800,000 – a really impressive sum. Our Colonel, HRH The Prince of Wales, has been magnificent in his support of our Appeal, and he has given generously of both his time and resources. We remain closely engaged with our injured and the families who have been bereaved, and we will continue providing whatever support they need.

2011 will undoubtedly see another busy and varied year for the Battalion. The move from Aldershot to Hounslow, the Royal Wedding on the 29th of April, the Birthday Parade and preparation for another Afghanistan tour in 2012 will provide more than enough challenges. I know that the Battalion will rise to them all, and will equally ensure that there is time for fun in between.

Lieutenant Colonel C K Antelme DSO, Commanding Officer

# FOREWORD

A year has passed since the Battalion returned from operations in Afghanistan and life has been as varied and as busy as ever. Any Battalion recently through the turnstiles of Brize Norton finds itself much in demand as every morsel of experience is devoured by the wider Army. Demonstrations, lectures and interviews from all ranks peppered the start of the year.

We were also lucky to be chosen for the Army's presentation to the new Government's Defence team. Ministers of mixed experience were exposed to both the realities of the campaign as well as the importance of the Regimental system. A corner of Helmand was recreated on Salisbury Plain and Guardsmen told their story through word and deed.

Welsh Guardsmen have been welcomed home and cheered at events all over Wales and received a memorable standing ovation at Cardiff City Football Club before a crowd of 25,000 fans – a You-Tube hit. We were on duty once again at the Ryder Cup in Cardiff, representing the Regiment in front of the third largest TV audience of any sporting event in the world. Number Two Company joined 17,000 Russian troops on behalf of the British Army in a colossal parade across Red Square celebrating the end of the Second World War; a diplomatic and public relations coup providing some happy headlines for the Battalion, including the perhaps

inevitable 'Welsh Guardski'. Away from the Public eye the Battalion has been exposed to the scrutiny of the Divisional and Brigade Inspection Teams. Every two years these in-depth examinations are used to measure the Battalion's administrative health: with a monumental effort across the Battalion in the aftermath of a tour that 'frayed our edges' we achieved very good results – we are officially alive and well! Against this diverse backdrop of serial number checks and television glory, the Battalion has steadily built itself back into fighting shape. Number Three Company had an outstanding exercise in the Falkland Islands where amongst the icy winds and long patrols they found a warm welcome from the islanders who had formed bonds with the Battalion in 1982. The Quartermaster, Nicky Mott, returned to the South Atlantic to lay a wreath at Bluff Cove, having last seen it as a Guardsman. All five companies have been marching, shooting and living in the field. The

evidence of their endeavours includes beating eight other major units to win the 12th Mechanised Brigade Skill at Arms Meet and picking up a Gold, a Silver and two Bronze medals on the Cambrian Patrol Competition. The Battalion Headquarters has just completed the CAST exercise in Catterick. We eagerly anticipate our Battle Group Exercise in Kenya which affords us a fantastic opportunity for both military and adventure training endeavour.

Our links with our bereaved families and wounded have remained strong, with exceptional efforts by all those injured to make speedy recoveries. Sgt Young is joining a team of injured soldiers walking to the North Pole. Our more conventional sporting achievements saw us in our second Army Rugby Cup final and two Welsh Guardsmen were selected to play for the Barbarians. Our football team goes from strength to strength recently beating the Coldstream Guards 7-0. Guardsmen have walked, skied, parachuted and sailed around the country and beyond.

We return from Kenya to move to Hounslow and from there we will continue our preparations to return to Afghanistan in March 2012. In the meantime we have a State Visit and our part in the Troop to keep us busy.

# THE PRINCE OF WALES'S COMPANY

Y Ddraig Goch Ddyry Cychwyn - The Red Dragon Gives a Lead

Maj Mellish  
 Capt Charles-Jones  
 Lt Maltby  
 2Lt Wright  
 WO2 Ryan  
 CSgt Jones  
 Sgt Davies  
 Sgt Owen  
 Sgt Parry  
 LSgt Bjegovc  
 LSgt Canavan  
 LSgt Hughes  
 LSgt Hayman  
 LSgt Miller  
 LSgt Skitt  
 LSgt Thomas  
 LSgt Owen  
 LSgt Qaimuri  
 Cpl Farrar  
 LCpl Edwards  
 LCpl Greenman  
 LCpl Jones  
 LCpl Lawrence  
 LCpl Lodwick  
 LCpl Love  
 LCpl Meek  
 LCpl Small  
 LCpl Safee  
 Gdsm Abberley  
 Gdsm Anderson  
 Gdsm Arthur  
 Gdsm Bamber  
 Gdsm Baw  
 Gdsm Bilton  
 Gdsm Britland  
 Gdsm Brown  
 Gdsm Brenchly  
 Gdsm Cann  
 Gdsm Caffery  
 Gdsm Chance  
 Gdsm Charles  
 Gdsm Collins

Gdsm Cray  
 Gdsm Dalton  
 Gdsm Davies  
 Gdsm Davies  
 Gdsm Delaney  
 Gdsm Dowey  
 Gdsm Edwards  
 Gdsm Faulkner  
 Gdsm Greenan  
 Gdsm Griffiths  
 Gdsm Griffiths  
 Gdsm Howells  
 Gdsm Hyland  
 Gdsm Jackson  
 Gdsm Johnson  
 Gdsm Jones  
 Gdsm Jones  
 Gdsm Jones  
 Gdsm Jones  
 Gdsm McCarthy  
 Gdsm Mason  
 Gdsm Mottram  
 Gdsm Parry  
 Gdsm Patterson  
 Gdsm Phillips  
 Gdsm Pound  
 Gdsm Powell  
 Gdsm Powell  
 Gdsm Reynolds  
 Gdsm Richards  
 Gdsm Roberts  
 Gdsm Roberts  
 Gdsm Rutledge  
 Gdsm Saunders  
 Gdsm Simmonds  
 Gdsm Smith  
 Gdsm Tavaga  
 Gdsm Thorne  
 Gdsm Townsend  
 Gdsm Tyers



*Marching through Caernarfon*

The Prince of Wales's Company has been very busy since returning from Afghanistan. In the immediate post tour period one of the many highlights has been the Marches through Caernarfon, Wrexham and Rhyl. The support from Wales was a source of great strength for every Guardsmen throughout the tour and the marches were a great opportunity for us to show our appreciation.

In Caernarfon, Sgt Parry 19 (awarded a mention in dispatches for his conduct in Afghanistan) delivered a presentation to the Lord Mayor and distinguished guests. He gave a Platoon Sergeant's perspective on our six month tour of Helmand province which was very well received. Wrexham put on a reception for the Company in the town hall while a presentation was again delivered to the Mayor and his guests. This was actually a classic diversion tactic and gave the CSM a chance to eat his weight in free food. The next day the Battalion moved to Rhyl and enjoyed a generous buffet after the parade that ensured tunics fitted well once again

after the Afghan weight loss plan. Throughout our marches in North Wales the public gave the Prince of Wales's Company an extremely warm welcome and our Guardsmen enjoyed the opportunity to march through their home towns in front of their friends and family.

As if being in the Prince of Wales's Company wasn't enough we had the opportunity to push Guardsmen closer to their limit with a basic parachuting course. The first day was spent on the ground learning the basics and a quick look around during the day revealed a mixture of worried looks and extreme concentration. The



*Marching through Caernarfon*



*The Colour party consisted of Sgt Owen, Sgt Davies and Lt Thompson.*

next day included the first jump and everyone landed safely (some harder than others!). This was followed by the chance to learn how to pack a chute correctly; it really paid off to be a Guardsman as the attention to detail involved was impressive. A mere 5 hours later and everyone had packed and ready to jump once again. It was widely agreed that the second jump was the most nerve-racking jump of the course mostly down to the fact that each person had packed their own parachute and was not convinced of their own ability. Nevertheless, after the second successful jump each individual was growing in confidence and was increasingly less nervous when it came to exiting the plane and the aim of pushing each man outside his comfort zone was well and truly achieved!

The Battalion Ski trip (Ex WELSH PISTE) provided another opportunity to let hair down post Helmand. 33 Jam Boys attended and were awarded their basic ski proficiency. Some have went from "Bambi on ice" to hardcore off piste mad men. With Captain Charles-Jones

running the trip in 2011 the Jam Boys can look forward to more of the same next year!

The 12 Brigade Skill at Arms Meet was held at Bulford ranges between the 14th and 18th July. Twenty two teams of ten men were put forward from Battalions across the Brigade, including a very well prepared team from the Prince of Wales's Company under Lt Thompson.

Before the competition started the Prince of Wales's Company team was selected from the best shots in the Company. The selection process graded potential shooting team members on their ability to shoot at varying distances with the rifle and pistol and also tested their physical fitness. After selection there was just a week and a half of training before the competition began.

The March and shoot started with a tough two miler across open ground and small tracks. The steep terrain (and the fact that they were against the clock) meant that teams were unsteady and fatigued when they started the shoot. Having to sprint between each firing point maintained the levels of

fatigue and therefore made shooting accurately more difficult. The tough training for the Prince of Wales's Company really paid off as they were the fastest team to complete the two miler course and then received the best score on the following shoot.

The Association Cup and the Army 100 Cup were both complex and demanding shoots that involved moving between firing points on the range and firing from a mixture of positions. The Association Cup also tested the accuracy of each firer over long distance as two of the practices involved shooting at a range of 500m. By this stage in the competition the Prince of Wales's Company and number Two Company were at the top of the leader board with very little points between them.

On the final day of the competition all twenty two teams took part in the falling plate shoot. The battle for the overall winners was strongly contested between both Welsh Guards teams and the team from the Rifles. The scores were so close in the overall competition that this final shoot would decide who the overall winners of the week would be. The shoot itself involved each of the teams negotiating an obstacle course between the 400m and 300m firing point before knocking down all of their targets.

At the final prize giving the Brigade Commander revealed that the Prince of Wales's Company team had narrowly beaten the remaining teams to the post to be crowned the overall champions of the competition.



*The POW Company shooting team negotiates the final obstacle before beginning the shoot.*



*The POW Company Shooting team with their prizes. Lt Thompson, LSgt Williams, LSgt Qumari, LCpl Greenman, LCpl Small, Gdsm Roberts, Gdsm Howels, Gdsm Charles, Gdsm Thorne, Gdsm Jones*



*The Brigade Commander addresses the teams and unveils the final scores*



*The Brigade Commander awards Lt Thompson of the Prince of Wales's Company the Cup for his team winning the 12 Brigade shooting competition*

With the Prince of Wales's Company already having achieved so much this year it seems impossible that we would be able to fit any more in... You would be wrong.

Our SNCOs not only competed in the Battalion pace sticking competition but won it after a hard fought fight with Number Two Company. CSM Ryan did an excellent job of leading from the rear / backseat driving. In his team were Sgt Parry 700, Sgt Owen 75 and LSgt Hughes 39. CSM Ryan later went on to lead the Battalion team in the world pace sticking competition at RMAS where they finished a respectable 3rd.

Lt Maltby decided that he had to get away and so organised a weeks sailing on Glad Eye. To justify the trip he took some NCOs and Guardsmen along with him. EXERCISE WELSH WIND saw members of the Company board Gladeye in Gosport, and take her along the south coast, via a series of pit stops, to Salcombe and back. The weather was marvellous

with a good wind which saw the men transform from complete novices to competent members of crew in quick order. Highlights of the trip included a 14 hour sail from Poole to Torquay with a beautiful sunset and night passage, and the opportunity for the crew to go up the mast in the boson's chair- an experience which, even in calm waters, feels pretty hairy. The trip provided a great opportunity for the men to learn a new skill and have an entertaining and challenging time doing so, and was a great way for the more experienced members of the trip to up their sea miles for any further sailing qualifications.

August saw a quick fire burst of Public Duties, including Jam Boys dismounting the Queen's Guard to Jam Boys (the New Guard commanded by the Commanding Officer), with a healthy dose of Support Company thrown in. September and October were focussed on preparations for Kenya and, with a Company low level skills exercise and getting the individual course training under our belt for driving other mandatory annual training tests. The Company Cambrian patrol team also put in a memorable performance, coming away with a Silver award after limited time for preparation.

Kenya will be a fantastic training opportunity for both tactical training up to Battlegroup level and some of the best adventure training the Army can put on. After a year in the lead the Jam Boys will continue the trend.

# NUMBER TWO COMPANY

Gwyr Ynys Y Cedrynn - The Men of the Island of the Mighty

Maj DWN Bevan  
 Lt AJH Dunlop  
 Lt MCD Simpson  
 2Lt B Figgures-Wilson  
 WO2 PJ Dunn  
 CSgt GP Roberts  
 Sgt RW Parry  
 LSgt D Evans  
 LSgt GI Green  
 LSgt RJ Heath  
 LSgt N Hemmings  
 LSgt S Marsh  
 LSgt P Owen  
 LSgt B Williams  
 LSgt CP Pheasey  
 LCpl L Challenger  
 LCpl L Collins  
 LCpl JAB Cooper  
 LCpl AN Gwillym  
 LCpl AJ Hobbs  
 LCpl SL Jones  
 LCpl G Lucas  
 Gdsm LJ Adams  
 Gdsm PA Arnold  
 Gdsm WD Austin  
 Gdsm KS Bevan  
 Gdsm ST Bromley  
 Gdsm TAJR Campbell  
 Gdsm SC Campbell  
 Gdsm AM Collins  
 Gdsm B Craze  
 Gdsm CP Davis  
 Gdsm LD Davies  
 Gdsm CRHI Davies  
 Gdsm TM Davies  
 Gdsm LD Davies  
 Gdsm GP Davies  
 Gdsm IJ Davies  
 Gdsm R Dupplaw  
 Gdsm MA Edwards  
 Gdsm RD Edwards  
 Gdsm SR Edwards

Gdsm LDE Evans  
 Gdsm S Gizzie  
 Gdsm JH Harding  
 Gdsm SG Harris  
 Gdsm CM Heath  
 Gdsm JP Hill  
 Gdsm J Horrocks  
 Gdsm MC Hughes  
 Gdsm DJ Hughes  
 Gdsm TA Hurrel  
 Gdsm TP James  
 Gdsm JD Jennings  
 Gdsm LR Jones  
 Gdsm TC Jones  
 Gdsm J Jones  
 Gdsm LC Leachman  
 Gdsm RJ Lewis  
 Gdsm JD Lloyd  
 Gdsm LP Meaney  
 Gdsm NB Moyo  
 Gdsm IM Mundy  
 Gdsm SA Nadin  
 Gdsm J Niebling  
 Gdsm CD O'Sullivan  
 Gdsm JP Prewett  
 Gdsm LA Pike  
 Gdsm MSJR Rees  
 Gdsm M Retallick  
 Gdsm SR Rhisiarts  
 Gdsm CR Robinson  
 Gdsm AW Rogers  
 Gdsm DLJ Rogers  
 Gdsm CA Roderick  
 Gdsm ML Rowlands  
 Gdsm JW Rowlands  
 Gdsm SA Simmons  
 Gdsm ML Stevens  
 Gdsm SL Taylor  
 Gdsm BR Tucker  
 Gdsm CD Webb  
 Gdsm D Wale  
 Gdsm G Woosnam  
 Gdsm JA Woosnam



Gdsm Davies 65 overlooks as Gdsm Harding puts fire down to clear a position on EX DRAGOONS BITE

**2**010 was certainly not without significant event for the 'Men of the Island of the Mighty'. The year saw Number Two Company participate in numerous CT level one training exercises, adventurous training, a Company KAPE (Keeping the Army in the Public Eye) tour, public duties and most noteworthy of all, representation of the entire British Army in Moscow for the 65th Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day. This is but a few of the many events and exercises that the Company have been involved with.

The opening of the New Year paid witness to both a new Company Commander and Company Sergeant Major. Major Henry Bettinson being replaced by Major Dai Bevan and Company Sergeant Major Topps replaced by Company Sergeant Major Dunn. With an overhauled Company Headquarters the Company went back to the very basics of soldiering, instructing and examining on MATTS 1-6. The emphasis here lay on skills such as first aid, map reading, fitness and weapon handling, without forgetting, most importantly of all, values and standards. A number of range days, nav exes and PFTs later

saw the Company standing in remarkably good stead. With the foundations laid it was time for the Company to deploy on their first conventional training exercise for some time. EXERCISE MIGHTY STRETCH was a progressive, shake out exercise, over 4 days in late February, set on Aldershot training area and designed to get back to basics. The exercise started with an insertion tab onto the area before occupying and establishing a platoon harbour area. The second and third days saw section commanders take the lead at an instructional level in teaching the fundamentals of individual,



*LCpl Challenger delivers a set of orders for a recce patrol to his section*

pairs and fire team fire and manoeuvre. Lessons were also given on obstacle crossings, judging distance and giving target indications. All of these skills were put to the test as all sections in the company rotated through up to 5 section attacks. The attacks passed off well with the majority of the Gdsm rising to the physical and tactical challenge of clearing enemy positions and assisting their section commanders with reliable target indications.

Conducting CT1 training in these initial months of 2010

was very useful and certainly highlighted the dichotomy between a non conventional, counter insurgency environment in Afghanistan and a conventional training environment. Despite this the Company responded well to the transition and continues to develop as we prepare for Kenya later in the year.

The 1st March is clearly always of note for the entire Regiment. This year's St David's Day was no different and in fact carried extra significance for the men of Number Two Company. No account of the company's



*Number Two Company on the slopes in Les Arcs*

actions should neglect to mention Gdsm Penlington as he returned from Hedley Court to parade with his 2 Company peers. It was an important day for many in the Company as Gdsm Penlington took up his place on the parade square.

The next few weeks were spent with the company being divided between a number of adventurous training activities. Central amongst these was Number Two Company's participation on the Battalion ski trip. This heavily subsidised trip to Les Arc was taken advantage of by many in the Company and turned out to be a truly fantastic week. For those in the Company who had never skied before it was a totally unique experience which proved a steep, but highly rewarding learning curve. Gdsm Wale clearly embodied the novelty that skiing had to many when he remarked to his horror that it was snowing in the ski resort! Other more experienced 2 Company men took full advantage of the piste, many showing little to no regard for their own personal well being. By the end of the week Gdsm Rhisiarts had earned himself a reputation as a fearless dare devil, suicide nut case,

frequently throwing himself down the slopes at a speed which would have made many, more mature skiers' eyes water. In addition LSgt Owen 39 (Pistol Pete) earned himself a similar reputation as someone who thought little of throwing himself off jumps and into a heap on the deck. The result of such kamikaze activity was to have a certain slope that had caused him much heart ache, renamed 'Pistol's Piste'!

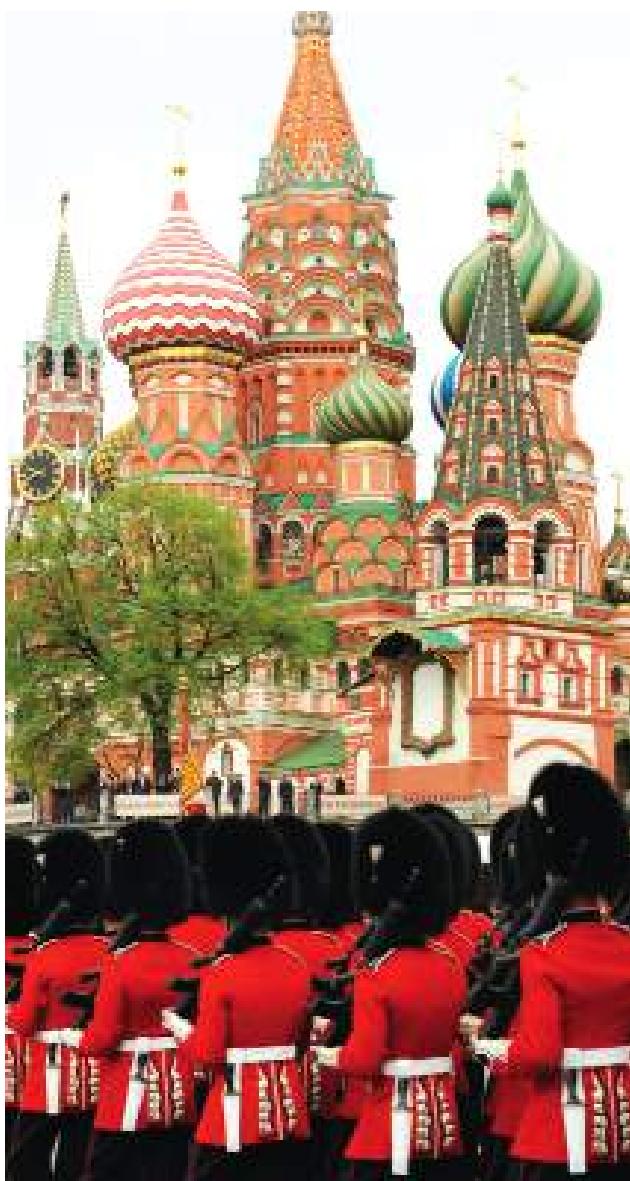
No ski trip would be complete without the obligatory Après ski and this one was absolutely no different. One night above all others stands out however. On the third night half of the group elected to stay on the mountain and experience some genuine French Alpine culture. Those that participated were treated to fondue in a restaurant half way up the mountain before taking part in an ancient, traditional French table dance in the bar. The night concluded with a lantern lit ski back down and into the resort. In essence this was a truly exceptional adventurous training package in which all had fun and all qualified for their Basic Army Skiing proficiency.



*Gdsm Penlington takes up his place on parade alongside his Two Company comrades*



CQMS McCabe overlooks as the Company march onto Red Square



On the heel in Red Square

Elsewhere in the company others took the opportunity to go, either to Capel Curig in North Wales, or ski diving. The Capel Curig training revolved around a variety of outdoor pursuits from hill walking to kayaking. Twenty six men from the company attended, with some taking the opportunity to go mountain walking and obtaining their MLT qualification, enabling them to take groups hill walking in the future. The remainder focused on kayaking and canoeing in and amongst the Lakes that surround the North Wales training centre.

Those that did not opt to either go skiing or to Capel Curig took up the chance to go parachuting. The course ran for 5 days from Monday to Friday in mid March at the Joint Services Parachuting centre at Weston-On-The-Green, near Bicester in Oxfordshire. The first day was spent learning the basics and safety drills and procedures associated with parachuting. Next a progression was made onto static line jumping, before going onto basic free fall and the important skill of being able to pack a parachute correctly. All in all the company had a fantastic adventurous training programme which, regardless of where people ended up proved fun and educational.

March also bore witness to the Company deploy on their KAPE tour of South West Wales. Being based out of Penally Camp near Tenby in Pembrokeshire the activities revolved around a number of surges into the locality. In addition the Company also conducted a march through Bridgend. The purpose of all of these company actions was to raise the profile of the Regiment,

assist the recruiting teams and raise money for the Welsh Guards Afghanistan Appeal.

The first day saw surges into Pembroke and Haverfordwest, the evening also saw a number of Gdsm and LSgts go down to Llanelli ACF in order to raise the profile of the Regiment there. For those that did not participate this was a fantastic opportunity to get some down time either playing rugby, doing PT on the beach or, in the evenings, relaxing in the bar. There was a strict gated policy in force, however to ensure everyone remained on reasonable form for the second day when Number 2 Company paraded through Bridgend. The parade was a huge success and the crowds turned up in force to cheer on the Men of the Island of the Mighty. The reception was just as welcoming as the weather and frequent calls of "well done boys" and "welcome home" were heard above audible general applause and cheers. After conducting the march the company were very kindly hosted by the Mayor of Bridgend at a reception party. The remainder of the KAPE tour focused on further surges. The third and fourth day bore witness to surges into Carmarthen Cardigan and Aberystwyth and Lampeter respectively. All in all the KAPE tour passed off well and managed to generate over £5,000 for the Welsh Guards Afghanistan Appeal.

The next few months were certainly eventful ones for the company. Of greatest note was our participation in the 65th Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day. The celebrations of this monumental event were held in Moscow's Red Square. Number Two Company of the First Battalion Welsh Guards



*Major Bevan leads Number Two Company off the Buckingham Palace forecourt in July*

were given the immense honour and privilege to represent the entire British Army during the parade which took place on Sunday 9th May.

For the 10 days that we were deployed the Company were operating out of the Moscow Military University, a training centre for Russian officers in the centre of Moscow. The programme of events for our stay was varied and exciting and involved being hosted by the British Ambassador at her personal residence, being taken around Moscow visiting sights such as the Kremlin, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and Marshal Zhukov's memorial.

Without question, however, the highlight of the Company's stay had to be the parade itself. Over 20 heads of state were in attendance including Angela Merkel and Wen Jiabao, the Chinese Premier. There were over 10,000 other troops also on parade including many from former Eastern Bloc countries as well as French and Americans. The feeling of exhilaration and pride for the 'Men of the Island'

of the Mighty' was overwhelming as no experience had ever come close to comparing with it before. The day was phenomenal and included an extensive fly over as well as the display of countless armoured vehicles and even nuclear war heads! Needless to say there was much interest in our uniform as many of the men jumped on any possibility to have photos shoots with as many Russian young women as possible. The day finished with a spectacular fireworks display. All in all May 2010 will always be remembered by the Company as a truly unique and remarkable month.

In the weeks that followed the Company deployed on another CT level One Exercise this time in Sennybridge. Ex DRAGOONS CLAW, had an initial 3 day blank fire component followed by the remaining time being spent building up through several phases of live fire. The exercise was a valuable opportunity for the Company to re-familiarise itself with live fire having been detached from it since Afghanistan last year. In

addition there was also an opportunity to enjoy a slightly more relaxed pace as the Company held a smoker as well as a quiet steady bimble up Pen Y Fan.

The 12 Brigade Skill at Arms Meet took place later in the month of June and saw units from across the Brigade pitch teams against one another in a competition hosted and run by the Battalion at Bulford. The event was a huge success for the Battalion. Unfortunately for Number Two Company having lead for the entire duration of the competition were pipped to the post by the Jam Boys, merely by one point.

Nevertheless the event was a resounding success for the wider Battalion with first and second place going to the Jam Boys and Number Two Company respectively.

The remainder of the summer months were spent split between public duties and leave. Number Two Company joined forces with elements of Support Company to provide guards for Windsor Castle, the

Tower of London and Queens Guard. Upon completion of our 3 week public duties slot we embarked on 3 weeks well earned summer leave. On our return to camp in early September it was time to bid farewell to a very familiar and popular face as Company Quarter Master Sergeant Dean McCabe moved on to a new WO2 posting at Gibraltar Barracks. The Company Quarter Master Sergeant had been fiercely loyal to the Company for over two years and was widely respected and admired. He was replaced by Colour Sergeant Roberts 02 having recently returned from Sandhurst as an instructor.

The past two months have been spent with one eye firmly fixed on our 6 week deployment to Kenya in November. As such the Company have been tying up loose ends; conducting range packages as well conducting a recent deployment onto Aldershot training area to hone our low level skills and drills in preparation for exercise in November.

All in all therefore it is plain to see that 2010 has been a fairly fast paced but exciting and varied year for Number Two Company, not just in terms of training but also in terms of changing personalities. Sergeant Dean Morgan 10 took up a place at Sandhurst as an instructor and Sergeant Davies 03 moved to HDPRCC. Although there has been much change one constant has remained in that the Company has continued to work exceptionally hard in order to set the conditions for exercise Askari Warrior in Kenya in November. This alongside our battalion move to Hounslow is the direction in which we are all looking for the closing months of 2010 and the beginning of 2011.



# NUMBER THREE COMPANY

Fy Nuw, Fy Ngwlad, Fy Mrenin - My God, My Land, My King

Maj J Hobrough  
Capt Harvie/Richards  
2Lt A Major  
WO2 CA Taylor  
CSgt R Gwilliam  
Sgt S Peters  
Sgt J Geen  
Sgt D Cope  
LSgt DLRCrombie  
LSgt G Cunningham  
LSgt TA Hiscock  
LSgt LR Peek  
LSgt D Simons  
LSgt W Soko  
LSgt PR Stirling  
LCpl JBladen  
LCpl JJ Chard  
LCpl A Edwards  
LCpl SAE Evans  
LCpl DL Grindley  
LCpl D Hedges  
LCpl P Liddy  
LCpl SR Moce  
LCpl BJ Roberts  
LCpl GW Rowlands  
LCpl M Walters  
Gdsm N Ankrah  
Gdsm S Bailey  
Gdsm Bazzard  
Gdsm M Bawa  
Gdsm TTC Berry  
Gdsm M Brooks  
Gdsm J Bruford  
Gdsm C Button  
Gdsm J Caswell  
Gdsm J Cavender  
Gdsm DR Clarke  
Gdsm A Davies  
Gdsm G Davies  
Gdsm L Davies  
Gdsm O Divavesi  
Gdsm KM Evans  
Gdsm RD Florence  
Gdsm S Goss

Gdsm L Hammond  
Gdsm SL Hayward  
Gdsm D Holland  
Gdsm J Hibbern  
Gdsm RW Hill  
Gdsm DRNH Hughes  
Gdsm R Jayne  
Gdsm D John  
Gdsm K Jones  
Gdsm G Jones  
Gdsm S Jones  
Gdsm R Kelly  
Gdsm E Kemp  
Gdsm JK Korosaya  
Gdsm L Langley  
Gdsm MK Malley  
Gdsm SM May  
Gdsm C Millins  
Gdsm J Morris  
Gdsm GJ Mundy  
Gdsm EB Nabukebuke  
Gdsm CS O'Sullivan  
Gdsm T Pugh  
Gdsm A Richards  
Gdsm PJ Riley  
Gdsm L Roberts  
Gdsm S Roberts  
Gdsm AJ Roberts  
Gdsm L Roberts  
Gdsm J Rogers  
Gdsm GR Smith  
Gdsm RLT Soko  
Gdsm A Tame  
Gdsm L Taylor  
Gdsm 21 Taylor  
Gdsm G Thomas  
Gdsm S Thomas  
Gdsm S Tyrell  
Gdsm J Tyrell  
Gdsm RM Waqanisaravi  
Gdsm SMA Webb



'CSM Taylor leads way on Llanelli half-marathon!'

**T**he last ten months have been very busy for Number Three Company. After some well deserved leave over Christmas, the company returned and immediately conducted a short and sharp five day exercise on Aldershot training area, to dust off, basic skills and drills.

At the beginning of February the company took part in the Llanelli half marathon. True to the spirit of Number Three Company, we ran it as a squad, in boots and every man completed it in one hour forty-five minutes, which was a fantastic effort.

This was followed by the KAPE tour, which saw the company march through the centres of Swansea, Merthyr Tydfil, Cardiff and Newport where we were given a warm reception from the families and friends of the Regiment. We would like to take the opportunity to thank Capt Robinson of the RIT South for all his help in organising the tour.

Over the Easter period Number Three Company went skiing for a week in Les Arcs, in France.

This was a great success, and gave much of the company the opportunity to go skiing for the first time and gain their basic skiing proficiency certificate. This has left many guardsmen with the skiing 'bug' and keen to return and develop their ability on the slopes, which hopefully they will be able to do on the battalion's next skiing trip in early 2011.

The summer was dominated by the company's deployment to the Falkland Islands as the roulement infantry company in Mount Pleasant. As the first official deployment from the Battalion since the end of the conflict twenty eight years before in 1982, it was a very important and emotive two month deployment. While out there the company took part in



'The 'Little Iron Men' on the windiest day in living memory'

the several memorial services and were very warmly received by all of the locals who were thrilled to see the battalion return.

But the deployment was not just a battle field tour. While the rest of the battalion enjoyed a scorching summer, Number Three Company battled with some truly awful southern hemisphere winter weather, and conducted some fantastic live fire tactical training (LFTT). This included an arduous tab back from the ranges that both the Commanding Officer and Regimental Sergeant Major, thoroughly enjoyed! The training culminated in a company level exercise in conjunction with HMS Clyde and HMS Portland and gave us the opportunity to test ourselves fully as a company, in preparation for Exercise

Askari Thunder. Aside from the LFTT, section commanders were given considerable freedom to patrol as sections and conduct patrols that ranged from beach clearances to digging ditches for grateful islanders (often in exchange for some much needed hospitality and shelter from the snow!).

At the end of the tour we managed to send six guardsmen to South Georgia aboard HMS Portland as well as several trips to see the local penguin population, which were widely considered to look like 'bearskins on legs'. We were able to conduct a number of battlefield tours of Mount Longdon and Mount Tumbledown and the experiences of the battalion in 1982 were brought to life by our very own Falklands veteran

in the form of the QM Major Mott, who we were honoured to have with us.

On return from the Falklands, Number Three Company caught up on some much earned summer leave, before starting in earnest for the Battalion's forthcoming tour of Kenya. To this end all of the company completed the bowman radio upgrade course and a short five day exercise to test its new radio capability. This was then followed by a furious selection and training process to find and prepare a capable Cambrian Patrol team. After two weeks of training call-sign Bravo-Two-Zero-Bravo, deployed to the Brecon Beacons and conducted a close target recce of an enemy objective before continuing, to complete all of the military tests and challenges. The team

was a relatively young team and did exceptionally well to complete the arduous patrol on time and complete, and was rewarded with a Bronze medal, which was an extraordinary achievement.

At the end of September, Number Three Company said goodbye to Second Lieutenant Emlyn- Williams, who has seconded over to the Irish Guards, for their tour of Afghanistan on Op Herrick 13. We wish him the best of luck and look forward to hearing all his war stories when he returns.

While Number Three Company has not had the opportunity to conduct many ceremonial duties this year, we were lucky enough to provide the guard of honour for the state visit of the President of Kenya in February.

The company football team has had another strong season under Sgt Peters and narrowly missed out on winning the Ellicott cup in a very close final with Support Company. The company has a number of young players coming into their element with Gdsm Holland and Gdsm Rodgers both displaying real potential after some excellent performances and this leaves the company well placed to fight Support Company for the trophy next year.

The company has continued to support individuals achieving their own goals and is pleased to report that Gdsm Davies 200 has completed a charity sail in support of 'BLESMA' with ex Welsh guardsmen Clive Jones. Number Three Company would also like to thank the Welsh Guards association for their continued support and in particular for taking Gdsm Thomas500 and Cpl Bladen on a battlefield tour which was highly informative.

Number Three Company is now putting the final details to its deployment to Kenya in early November which is sure to be a very testing and fulfilling exercise, complimented by some fantastic adventurous training opportunities.

Number Three Company says goodbye to Maj Gallimore, and looks forward to the next instalment of his book with much anticipation! We wish both Capt Harvie and Sgt Cope the best of luck as they begin selection in January 2011, and Sgt Griffiths 96, LSgt McEvoy and LSgt Harry as they move into the respective training jobs. We have also lost Lt Dunlop to Number Two Company and CSM Baldwin as he takes up the role of RQMS (T). But we have gained and



'Sgt Simons, and his patrol enjoy South Georgia!'



would like to welcome, Maj Hobrough, Capt Richards, Lt Major, CSM Taylor, LSgt Cunningham and LSgt Crombie. Number Three Company would also like to congratulate CSgt Gwilliam and wife Barbara on the birth of Erin, Sgt Cope and his wife on the birth of his son Jack, as well as LCpl Liddy and Gdsm Bailey.

*Memorial to the Sir Galahad and all Welsh Guardsmen who never returned*



# SUPPORT COMPANY

Nac Ofna Ond Gwarth - Fear Nothing but Disgrace

Maj JJ Bethell  
 Capt JP Olszowski  
 Capt CSN Fenton  
 WO2 J Jenkinson  
 CSgt SJ Boika  
 CSgt AM Davies  
 CSgt M Davis  
 CSgt GJ Williams  
 Sgt GL Evans  
 Sgt P Hughes  
 Sgt Jefferies  
 Sgt G Jones  
 Sgt GM Jones  
 Sgt AJ Marsh  
 Sgt S Young  
 LSgt ML Barry  
 LSgt D Bick  
 LSgt GW Cunningham  
 LSgt L Davies  
 LSgt WP Davies  
 LSgt P Deren  
 LSgt M Evans  
 LSgt RJ Johnson  
 LSgt SD Jones  
 LSgt GR Lewis  
 LSgt JR Martin  
 LSgt GJ Lias  
 LSgt SD Pearce  
 LSgt A Ralph  
 LSgt MS Shapland  
 LSgt JR Thomas  
 LSgt LJ Williams  
 LSgt RG Waddell  
 LCpl MG Biggs  
 LCpl ML Bunce  
 LCpl RM Cook  
 LCpl T Cummins  
 LCpl A Davies

LCpl SP Dryland  
 LCpl GP Evans  
 LCpl J Evans  
 LCpl T Evans  
 LCpl C Green  
 LCpl S Griffiths  
 LCpl D Haines  
 LCpl R Hill  
 LCpl ST Howells  
 LCpl GD Jenkins  
 LCpl KW John  
 LCpl R Jones  
 LCpl A Kastein  
 LCpl J Liversey  
 LCpl J Martin  
 LCpl Nuku  
 LCpl S Potts  
 LCpl S Powell  
 LCpl IWL Roberts  
 LCpl A Selby  
 LCpl I Stevens  
 LCpl TViaialeu  
 LCpl GL Williams  
 Gdsm DM Ashworth  
 Gdsm AR Beattie  
 Gdsm S BolaBola  
 Gdsm DL Butterfield  
 Gdsm C Brownnett  
 Gdsm S Carter  
 Gdsm N Chambers  
 Gdsm BM Clark  
 Gdsm L Collins  
 Dmr CPL Cooke  
 Dmr LA David  
 Gdsm C David  
 Gdsm CD Davies  
 Gdsm BL Davies  
 Gdsm J Edwards

Gdsm MC Evans  
 Gdsm CM Evans  
 Gdsm Evans  
 Gdsm K Evans  
 Gdsm GR Evans  
 Gdsm B Flynn  
 Gdsm B Forde  
 Gdsm J Francis  
 Gdsm K Fullman  
 Dmr DJ Griffiths  
 Gdsm MK Griffiths  
 Gdsm M Harries  
 Gdsm I Hay  
 Gdsm ACS Hayer  
 Gdsm AS Hayes  
 Gdsm AE Herzog  
 Gdsm S Holmes  
 Gdsm M Hopkinson  
 Gdsm M Jones  
 Dmr RA Jones  
 Gdsm DT Jones  
 Gdsm CH Jones  
 Gdsm D Jones  
 Gdsm O Johnson  
 Gdsm Judd  
 Gdsm GM Kemp  
 Gdsm TK Kennedy  
 Gdsm DC Kirwan  
 Gdsm D Kingdon  
 Gdsm RJ Lawrie  
 Gdsm SG Lewis  
 Gdsm P Lepcha  
 Gdsm E Macedru  
 Gdsm KM Matthews  
 Gdsm ST McMail  
 Gdsm M Monaghan  
 Gdsm J Morgan  
 Gdsm A Mortimer-Rees

Dmr A Niuyagoyago  
 Gdsm JA Parfitt  
 Gdsm L Parr  
 Gdsm C Rees  
 Gdsm CM Richards  
 Dmr DJ Rogers  
 Gdsm G Rowlands  
 Gdsm GA Rowlands  
 Gdsm J Ryan  
 Gdsm J Salisbury  
 Gdsm OK Sanchez Tomas  
 Gdsm GD Scaife  
 Gdsm J Screen  
 Gdsm SD Sheppard  
 Gdsm JSheppard Smith  
 Gdsm JL Siviter  
 Gdsm L Skates  
 Gdsm DM Smoldon  
 Gdsm KJ Tancock  
 Gdsm S Taylor  
 Gdsm B Thomas  
 Gdsm KR Thomas  
 Gdsm A Thomas  
 Gdsm JT Vaganalau  
 Gdsm S Walters  
 Gdsm KA Watts  
 Gdsm RIK Woodmen  
 Gdsm J Worthington  
 Gdsm DBJ Williams  
 Dmr CJ Williams  
 Gdsm DP Williams  
 Gdsm J Williams  
 Gdsm MEL Williams  
 Dmr NS Wyer



LSgt Pearce leading the Recce Pl onto Pen-y-Fan.

**2009 was a busy year for Sp Coy on operations, and the following year has been no less hectic – albeit spent largely in the UK. This year has, however, offered a chance to spend more time working together as a company, reinforcing our own distinctive identity.**

After the high-tempo of Op HERRICK 10 and the euphoric return from Afghanistan, Support Coy returned from Christmas leave in January to a programme of low-level training, intended to get the platoons back into the swing of things and to practice them in ‘basics done well’ soldiering. Navigation, first aid and basic field craft were tested around the local area and the CQMS set-to on the long-battle to return stores and armouries to normal Household Division standards ahead of inspection team visits later in the year. Training was reinforced by a number of RAAT tasks, which saw the platoons working alongside units as diverse as Eton College Cadet Force and 22SAS. This period also saw a marked, if sometimes painful, improvement in the standard of fitness across the Coy – which has been maintained throughout the year by much dedication from the platoon staff. There are still some ‘fuller

figures’ in the Coy, but almost all had made it around a Personal Fitness Test route by the middle of the year. In May, the Coy tackled the infamous ‘Fan Dance’ over Pen-y-Fan and finished in good order.

Throughout April and May, the Coy conducted specialist weapons cadres, based at Knock Camp and predominantly exercising on Salisbury Plain, although the Mortar Platoon was able to make use of dry training facilities at Nescliffe.

Traditionally, annual specialist weapons cadres have been at the centre of Sp Coy training, but the tempo of life in the battalion recently had prevented full cadres being run for some time: so a ‘by the book’ revision of key skills was extremely valuable. Hard work by CSgt Furlong, CSgt Davies 90 and CSgt Boika – as well as the platoon commanders and the Coy’s G4 staff contributed to some extremely good training. And by holding the cadres at

the start of the training year, it was possible to conduct continuation training throughout the summer, even with elements of the Coy detached for periods of time. A large number of volunteers from the Rifle Cos joined the Coy for four weeks, with the best being selected to reinforce the platoons. The Reconnaissance Platoon, in particular, is now fully manned and has taken on a new lease of life, under the keen interest of the commanding officer. The Anti-Tankers of the Javelin Platoon made good use of the training facilities at the Support Weapons School in nearby Warminster and were able to spend time practicing OP work and even revising their AFV recognition – after the previous summer’s ‘bunker busting’ over compound walls in the Green Zone of central Helmand. Absent on parade for the cadres was the Corps of Drums – detached to London District and reinforcing the Grenadiers at the Queen’s Birthday parade in June. LSgt Martin 62, as acting Drum Major, insisted that the Corps was the best thing on the parade – although he is suspected of being slightly biased...

Summer saw the majority of Sp Coy engaged in Public Duties, although with Battalion leave

staggered, the Coy was split to support duties teams from the Prince of Wales’s and Number Two Cos and did not form any complete royal guards. Most members of the Coy enjoyed the brief experience of a return to ceremonial soldiering – albeit with characteristic banter and grumbling – and the duties period passed quickly. Throughout this time, however, the Mortar Platoon and a Permanent Range Team (PRT) drawn from across the Coy was supporting Number Three Coy’s deployment to the Falkland Islands. Despite the biting winds of the South Atlantic winter, the Mortar Pl were able to achieve some high quality training and practiced their integration with ground manoeuvre and other Joint Fires assets from the Islands’ garrison. It was noted that Argentine sabre-rattling over the Islands’ sovereignty died-down around the time that the Mortarmen arrived. On returning to UK, the Mortar Pl put their well-practiced skills to the test at the 12 Brigade Mortar Concentration back on Salisbury Plain. This was an excellent opportunity to integrate with the Brigade and the Pl was certainly among the most proficient on the exercise: it was also noted that the Welsh Guardsmen were the only Mortar Pl to conduct daily PT!



Mortarmen in the Falkland Islands



Recce Platoon Training for Cambrian Patrol

With the end of summer leave, the Coy was once again reunited and began to prepare for deployment to Kenya on Exercise ASKARI THUNDER. As part of this, the Coy has undertaken a fundamental re-organization which will shape how we operate in the future. During Op HERRICK 10, members of the Machine Gun and Anti-Tank platoons were grouped into Fire Support Groups (FSGs) which could operate independently or in direct support of rifle coys. This was a temporary expedient for the tour, but one which has become increasingly popular across the Army in recent years. This has now been adopted as a permanent arrangement for Light Role infantry battalions and the training courses at Warminster have been overhauled to reflect it. Henceforth, the Coy will comprise three FSGs of approx platoon size, as well as the Recce and Mortar platoons. The FSGs will initially be equipped with Javelin and GPMG (SF), but the Bn has recently taken delivery of its first .50" Heavy machine Gun (HMG) and 40mm Grenade

Machine Gun (GMG) which will be used to keep individuals current between now and the battalion's next operational tour. The FSG men will also be a priority for driver training – as it is intended that they should be able to operate as a mounted grouping, using the Jackal high-mobility 4x4 vehicles familiar from Afghanistan. Each FSG will be permanently assigned to support one of the rifle companies in the field, but will continue to train centrally within Sp Coy. The FSG concept is new and continues to develop but is already familiar from Afghanistan and offers significant advantages. Nonetheless, we are certainly fortunate that CSgt Davis 76 has recently returned from a posting on the instructional staff at the Support Weapons School, where he assisted in designing the new FSG structures – his 'inside knowledge' has already proved valuable.

At the time of writing, the Coy had successfully converted to the new version of the BOWMAN radio system –

known as BCIP 5.4.2 – and put it through its paces on the local area in Aldershot. The Recce Platoon also used this period to good effect in training for the annual Cambrian Patrol competition. Cambrian Patrol is a gruelling 48 hour exercise held annually in October, across arduous terrain in the Black Mountains and Sennybridge. The Recce Platoon team of (LSgt), commanded by Capt Harvie, on loan from Number Three Coy, performed to a very high standard and received a highly-coveted gold medal – the only one awarded during this phase of the competition. This was an outstanding result and testament to the determination of the team and the hardwork which went into preparing them for the patrol.

Despite a very full training programme, members of the Coy have still found time for 'extracurricular activities.' The Coy is well-represented in the Bn Rugby team and, under the guidance of WO2 (CSM) Jenkinson and Sgt Evans 53, the Coy football team triumphed again in the Ellicott Cup, winning a thrilling final

with Number Three Coy 3-X, with goals from Gdsm Monaghan and Parr, to retain the title. Meanwhile Sgt Young, wounded in action during Op HERRICK 10, has shown grit and determination to participate in an expedition to Africa with the BattleBack programme and is currently preparing for a trip to the North Pole to raise funds for service charities. Other members of the Coy are continuing to receive medical treatment from last year, including LCpl Evans 15, LCpl Hillard and Dmr Leach, but all are now definitely on the mend and have either returned to their previous duty or the graduated return to work scheme or are being employed elsewhere in the Bn.

A number of key appointments have also changed over during this year. Three officers in succession stepped in to fill the shoes of Maj Austen Salusbury as Company Commander - Maj Alex Corbet Burcher, Maj Scott Broughton and latterly Maj John Bethell – who will remain in post for the next year. With a number of officers moving on, several of the Coy's seniors have stood-in as Platoon Commanders for lengthy periods of time: at the end of the year, CSgt Davis 76, Sgt Hughes 87 and newly promoted Sgt Evans 53 were each commanding one of the newly-established FSGs. CSgt Williams 27 will handover as CQMS to CSgt Boika of FSG after ASKARI THUNDER. With a new team in place across the Coy by early 2011, we will be set for Mission Specific Training for Op HERRICK 16. For now, the immediate focus is Kenya and the Coy looks forward to demanding high quality training on Exercise ASKARI THUNDER..

# HEADQUARTER COMPANY

Ofna Dduw, Anrhydedda'r Brenin - Fear God, honour the King

Lt Col CK Antelme	LSgt GJD Davies	Gdsm PMC Divers	Sgt SA Shaw
Maj BPNR Ramsay	LSgt J Davies	Gdsm AP Doyle	Sgt M Veasey
Maj NPG Mott	LSgt CA Evans	Gdsm PSC Evans	LSgt A Dewan
Maj DJ Ryan	LSgt JA Fuller	Gdsm G Evans	LSgt L Gibbons
Maj M Evans	LSgt D Harris	Gdsm MF Fatchu	LSgt GR Harvey
Maj TJ Harman	LSgt JP Hayton	Gdsm P Gardner-Allen	LSgt G Limbu
Capt AF Bowen	LSgt E Marquardt	Gdsm MLO Green	LSgt CL Thomas
Capt P Durham	LSgt SM McFall	Gdsm MP Griffiths	LSgt K Turley
Capt WGH Freeman	LSgt R Owens	Gdsm CA Johnson	LSgt J Tutton
Capt D Hannan	LSgt DL Parry	Gdsm TRT Knill	Cpl W Francis
Capt LJ McNaughton	LSgt G Paddock	Gdsm RDT Luke	Cpl PP Pimlott
Capt N Moukarzel	LSgt J Phillips	Gdsm SM Mathews	Cpl B Rai
Capt DW Pridmore	LSgt MA Prosser	Gdsm BD Millins	Cpl C Treloar
Capt P Robinson	LSgt M Smith	Gdsm L Mills	LCpl V Banda
Capt T Spencer Smith	LSgt PS Taylor	Gdsm G Morgan	LCpl A Bee
Capt O James	LSgt K Williams	Gdsm B Patterson	LCpl JM Felix
WO1 AL Roberts	LCpl C Abraham	Gdsm CR Payne	LCpl OO Forrester
WO2 M Pollard	LCpl GJD Clowes	Gdsm M Pike	LCpl L Hutchinson
WO2 B Baldwin	LCpl A Cunningham	Gdsm ST Rowe	LCpl D Harry
WO2 LT Scholes	LCpl I Davies	Gdsm AS Sarr	LCpl S Mandipe
WO2 DP Brown	LCpl GE Davies	Gdsm JSJ Shaw	LCpl AJ Pryde
CSgt SG Bowen	LCpl JL Glanville	Gdsm RA Smith	LCpl M Thompson
CSgt C Donaghue	LCpl M Horrell	Gdsm S Williams	LCpl B Thouless
CSgt I Edwards- Jones	LCpl MG Jones		LCpl K Williams
CSgt P Furlong	LCpl LG Jones		Cfn M Everleigh
CSgt JP Myers	LCpl GJ Lee		Cfn A Kirby
CSgt L Wilson	LCpl MY Lewis		Cfn J Goad
CSgt MW Smith	LCpl LR Morris		Cfn E Moore
Sgt JA Davies	LCpl LJ Pienaar		Cfn S Vahdat
Sgt G Evans	LCpl SM Robinson		Cfn I Wharmby
Sgt M Farr	LCpl JM Sanigar		Pte Y Abukari
Sgt P Griffiths	Gdsm E Adjei		Pte P Adjei
Sgt J Jones	Gdsm G Allen		Pte N Campbell
Sgt SW Jones	Gdsm PT Allen		Pte PL Currie
Sgt SA O'Brien	Gdsm K Barnes		Pte L Hayford
Sgt S Parry	Gdsm M Bailey		Pte D Gurung
Sgt D Savage	Gdsm KW Bebb		Pte WK Kemehe
Sgt M Stephens	Gdsm GP Berry		Cfn AR Oluwabusola
Sgt J Turner	Gdsm G Bisp		Pte GT Woods
Sgt DJ Webb	Gdsm D Booker		Pte J Samuel
Sgt A Williams	Gdsm SM Boulton		
LSgt DC Buller	Gdsm SA Che		
LSgt J Darcy	Gdsm CDM Deekes		



*Hours of hard work from the QM Dept laid the foundations for an extremely successful 12XSAAM*

**W**ith 162 soldiers, Headquarter Company is the biggest Coy in the Battalion. Each and every man and woman contributes to the functionality of the battalion within their own specific field. Certainly without the expertise and dedication of the members of HQ Coy the battalion would very quickly grind to a halt.

As well as having to achieve all that is required from their 'day job', the training, PT and tests that all soldiers have to complete must be achieved. This is not always easy, but with the help of the rifle companies everyone gets an opportunity to tick the boxes. There has been some turmoil in the management of the company over the year with the departure of two Company Commanders in quite a short time. Thankfully CSM Brown has been in the chair to make sense of it all and keep everyone on track.

#### QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT

Since returning from Op HERRICK 10 the Quartermaster's Department

has quickly settled into its role within Lille Barracks supporting the Battalion on many activities.

The department was soon supporting many events in the New Year starting with the St David's day, which was a great success for the Regiment. Companies were soon eager to get back into training, resulting in a battalion field-firing exercise in Sennybridge supported by a G4 hub headed up by RQMS (M) Pollard, whilst the remainder of the team were busy back in Lille Barracks preparing Home Service Clothing for 2 Coy's trip to Moscow.

The main event of the summer was the support to the Brigade SAAM being held at Bulford

Ranges. The Dept, particularly the Pioneer Sergeant (Sgt Parry 64 "Fred") and the Catering Platoon worked wonders ensuring the standards set were the same as a Guardsman would have expected 20 years ago when competing at Bisley.

Then came the Combined Inspection Week (CIW). The week was split into two parts, encompassing the Logistical Support Inspection (LSI) and Equipment Care Inspection (ECI). The Dept put in many hours behind the scenes over a period of weeks to ensure the Battalion would come through the Inspection with flying colours. The ECI element was graded Yellow and the LSI was graded Green, both extremely good reports considering where the Battalion had been for the previous 12 months. Credit to all the team involved, particularly both RQMS's who as always were delving into the detail to ensure that no stone

was left unturned.

On completion of the CIW, it was deemed to be an ideal opportunity to concentrate the efforts on the Infrastructure and welfare facilities on offer within Lille Bks. A plan was put together to overhaul the NAAFI complex.

The Corporals' Mess moved into a more spacious location on the top floor of the NAAFI thereby freeing up three rooms on the ground floor. It was decided that the three rooms were to be transformed into a "Sports Bar" "Internet room" and a "Cinema Room".

With the plan in place, numerous white board "blue prints" and a simple "Gant Chart" the project was set. It was time to get "into the weeds of it all".

The first to be tackled was the Sports Bar. The Pioneer Sergeant, put his Pioneering skills into action and fitted no less than 58 pictures including the donated rugby tops from past and present Welsh Guardsman and football memorabilia from over the years. The Sports Bar is regularly open every Wednesday afternoon, post football, rugby and other sporting home fixtures allowing all ranks to host the away teams without disruption to the Cpl's Mess. The bar is often run by the most supportive of sport members, "water boy", LSgt Parry 34 (Paz).

The second project was the TV/Cinema room. The equipment was all priced and purchased. RQMS Pollard and Fred secured a good deal to liberate some sofas from the British Heart Foundation, a 60 inch Plasma TV was purchased and a surround sound system installed by LSgt 'fixit' Owens



Capt Freeman (l) and Capt Spencer-Smith (Ops Offr) hard at work during Mini-CAST.

43. By far the biggest within the Battalion, the junior ranks are justly proud of their oversized screen! The memorabilia on the walls is of junior ranks that have played sport for the Battalion; all donations from the Old and Bold will be gratefully received.

The final piece in the jigsaw puzzle was to install an Internet facility. After some good work by CSgt Wilson (Master Tailor), Sgt Farr, LSgt Davies 44 and LSgt Phillips the Internet suite is now fully operational offering free access to all members of the Battalion.

The Department now is fully focused on the imminent deployment to Kenya on Exercise ASKARI THUNDER, where the G4 chain will no doubt be pushed to its limits in support of the Battalion. Upon our return the Battalion will proceed onto a well-deserved Christmas break but will soon be engaged in next year's Arms Plot move and Public Duties commitments. After Kenya the Department will also be saying farewell to the Quartermaster who will be leaving us to attend ICSC(L).

During 2010 we said farewell to Capt Evans (Civilian Street),

WO2 Roberts 99 (Sarn't Major), WO2 Thomas 53 (Sarn't Major Old College, RMAS) and CSgt Harries (Civilian Street). LSgt Hemmings and LCpl Jenkins 16 are now both employed within the Battalion's company stores. LSgt Wilkes has moved to the Household Division Tailors Shop and LCpl Sullivan has been posted to the ITC Catterick as the Ammunition Store man. The Department welcomed Capt Bowen (QM Tech), WO2 Pollard and Baldwin, who became RQMS (M) and (Tech) respectively. CSgt Wilson has returned to the Battalion as the Master Tailor, whilst LSgt Phillips has recently returned from the recruiting world and is now Unit MSA accountant. LSgt Davies 44 has returned from ITC Catterick to be the Ammunition JNCO and LCpl Cunningham has joined the Dept as the Home Service Clothing Accountant. Finally, Gdsm Boulton (Stan) has moved to become the Ration Store man under the watchful eyes of the RCWO.

#### MT PLATOON

After settling back into the normal daily running of the MT Platoon and returning from a well-deserved POTL, the Platoon has been busy playing

catch-up. Lille Barracks MT is a totally different environment from the high tempo operations in Afghanistan. During the beginning of the year we dived head first into the ever familiar busy period where everyone ended running around in circles trying to find their feet.

There were the inevitable personnel changes, not least in the change-over of MTOs, from Capt "hello buttery" Dawson to Capt "wheyeyeman" Hannan. Over the next four months life in the MT Platoon was fast and furious supporting activities such as KAPE tours, adventure training exercises in France and the Isle of White, and the SAAM for 12 Mech Bde. The Platoon Sergeants also changed in January, with Sgt "Stench" Stephens handing over to Mr Happy himself, Sgt Jones 21.

After a short stint warming the MTO's seat the mad Coldstreamer, Capt Hannan, handed over to Capt Robinson just in time for the Combined Inspection Week. After much hard work the Platoon achieved a well-earned green on the LSI and performed well on the other inspections too.

In June LCpl Horrell, who even sounds and looks like his father Honk (!), deployed on Op FIRIC to the Falklands with Number 3 Company for six weeks where he was the MT representative and through much hard work earned himself a CBF Commendation - well done LCpl Horrell!. The remainder of the platoon pushed on with the public duties phase and were heavily involved with the driving for the kits and capes wagons, and on some occasions even getting to stag on - lucky us!

The platoon has hammered

driver training over the past two months, with LSgt Hayton and his team holding two hundred and fifty theory tests, and using up all of our steady state driving entitlement from Cat B to C+E. At the same time we have run GS courses and converted the majority of the Battalion's drivers to left hand drive 110 Land Rover and Bedford ready for our deployment to Kenya in November.

The platoon has recently had an influx of new blood from the other companies. Gdsm Green has come across from shiny 2, Bebb from the Jam Boys, Williams 07 from Ironmen and, best of all, the well-loved cartoon character Rowe 30, alias "Shaggy - don know sir", also from the PoW's Coy. Others include LSgt "Trigger" Evans 88 from the RP Staff, LSgt Hayton from Colchester and Gdsm Morgan 44 from HDPRCC.

With Kenya now firmly on the horizon the boys are really looking forward to experiencing the Savannah and the adventure training, before returning in late December for a well-earned Christmas leave. Hopefully everyone will have achieved a tan, shed at least a stone in weight and saved some money ready for the holiday season!

#### CIS PLATOON

As with the remainder of the Battalion the past 12 months have seen variety, excitement and a great deal of hard work on the part of the CIS Platoon.

It has been a period that has offered the opportunity to return to the basics of life as an infantry signaller. The platoon returned from Christmas leave to run a Signals cadre for the more junior members of the platoon, as well as guardsmen



*Members of the AGC Det on Adventurous Training in the Lake District.*

from the rifle companies. Welsh Guards signallers, both from the CIS Platoon and the rifle companies, put their new found skills to good use during various exercises throughout the year, and will look to continue to do so during the upcoming deployment to Kenya on Ex ASKARI THUNDER.

Undoubtedly the primary focus for the CIS Platoon during 2010 was the Uplift to BCIP 5.4. No small undertaking, it saw the Battalion host BOWTAG(S) and members of 228 Signal Squadron for a three week period, as nearly every member of Battalion went through some form of signal training to uplift them to the latest version of the BOWMAN system. With the training courses over the rifle companies deployed to the Aldershot Training Area.

As one of the key enablers, the CIS Platoon has been providing support to various other Battalion activities throughout 2010, from the 12 Brigade SAAM to CAST. The platoon also dusted off their bearskins and bulled their drill boots to join in with 1WG's Public Duties commitment during the summer.

The Platoon is now looking forward to deploying to Kenya,

and the inevitable comms challenges that such an environment will present!

#### AGC DETACHMENT

Life within the 1 WG AGC (SPS) Detachment has been very much the reversal of life within the wider Battalion. Whilst the Battalion returned from Op HERRICK after a successful 6 month operational deployment the Detachment work was very much at the beginning of a very long administrative road with the successful completion of our Assurance and Operational Readiness Inspection (AORI) being the ultimate goal.

In terms of our personnel as it is with many AGC (SPS) Detachment the end of the operational deployment spells the end of era with a large number of personnel departing onto posts within other operational units, in particular we said goodbye to Lt Brownridge, WO2 Harrison, SSgt Bishwaneth, Sgt Knight, LSgt Edwards, LSgt Stafferton, and Cpl Ngando. On the flip side we have seen an influx of new and highly competent individuals in the form of; Capt Giles, WO2 Godfree, SSgt Rees, Sgt Page, Sgt Santos-Carey, Cpl Morrey, Cpl Farrar, Cpl Howat and LCpl Jones. We have also

seen a significant number of individuals recognised by the Corps for their dedication, and ability to produce results in the demanding Guards environment, with a significant number being selected for substantive promotion; LSgt Chandler-Johnson, Pte Appiah, Pte Gurung and Pte Thompson. LCpl Jones and LCpl Appiah have also been recognised for their ongoing professional development with both being awarded with National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs).

During this period of significant personnel change we have been required to start up a number of new mission critical initiatives, such as the implementation of the realities of the Data Protection Act legislation, and the beginnings of Information Management. Both of which are crucial to contributing towards the wider Army efforts of the digitisation of the battle space. Whilst in the background efforts are continuing to ensure that Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) is also an area in which the Battalion becomes more familiar with as an operating system and the tools it has to offer.

Although we have been driving forward with a number of crucial aspects of Battalion business I am glad to say that the AGC (SPS) Detachment did have time to undertake a short hill walking Adventurous Training Expedition to the Lake District, organised by Capt Giles, during which the majority of the detachment developed their level of practical map reading skills and also had a lesson in how crucial maintaining morale is to the success of the team, with the extremely bad weather putting a dampener on people's

enthusiasm.

Overall it has been an extremely busy period at the end of which we hope for a fairly positive AORI result, however, the road which we all seem to be working so hard to travel down will soon be extended to far flung deepest darkest Africa, with the majority of the AGC (SPS) Detachment deploying to Kenya on Exercise ASKARI THUNDER.

#### CATERING DEPARTMENT

Looking at the forecast of events in October 2009 it seemed that 2010 was going to be a quiet year for the catering department. However the last 12 months have turned out to be an extremely challenging period.

As well as the day to day catering support this department provides to the Battalion, there have been numerous large catering events such as St David's Day, the respective Mess' Christmas and Summer Balls, 12 Mech Bde SAAM and other various VIP functions. These events all come with their own set of logistical challenges but the feedback has been nothing but positive. It has been a steep learning curve for the more junior members but the experience that they gain from these events is invaluable.

Sgt Luff led a small catering team in support of the No 3 Coy deployment to the Falkland Islands. There have also been various other smaller deployments such as catering support to CAST North and to No 2 Coy when they navigated the costal paths of the Isle of Wight. A recent 24hr swimming pool marathon by the chefs managed to raise £680 for this years BBC children in need.



Members of the Catering Department take part in the Exercise TIGER CAT Catering Competition.

LSgt Dewan, LCpl Thouless, Pte's Adjei and Hayford came second out of 29 teams in the OFCS phase of the Ex Tiger Cat catering competition. Off the back of this success, LCpl Thouless and Pte Adjei were put under even more pressure when they were entered into the Cook and Serve event at this years Combined Services Catering Competition. They produced a fantastic 3 course meal from scratch in under 90 minutes while being scrutinized by some of this country's top civilian Chef's. They were awarded a bronze medal for their efforts, which was one of the top awards handed out for this category and proved that these two young talented chefs can more than hold their own against other top tri service chefs.

The department got a clean bill of health during the Logistic Support, Equipment Care and Environmental Health Inspections. We are also undergoing structural change as a result of Project Kitchener with loss of the Master Chef, a LCpl and a Pte post, so it will be a leaner department that faces next year's challenges.

## LAD

After returning from Christmas leave the LAD had to catch up on the backlog work that had stacked up during Op HERRICK 10. During this busy time we managed to get some much deserved Adventure Training in and some other competitive events along the way.

After returning from Afghanistan the Battalion concentrated on getting all of the Guardsmen and Attached Arms onto some Adventure Training. For the LAD, we got the chance to go skiing in Les Arcs for the week with No 3 Company. The entire LAD had a great week skiing and those who had never skied before picked it up quickly. This was also a great opportunity to get everyone out of their comfort zone, some of the first time skiers even throwing themselves down some black slopes by the end of the week.

The DW race is a 125-mile race that starts on the Kennet and Avon canal in Devizes and joins the River Thames in Reading continuing all the way to Westminster. Two teams from the Battalion entered the race. LCpl Harry and Cfn Goad of the

LAD were one of these teams. They completed the race in 22 hrs 30 mins, and came 40th out of 127 who started. Not put off, they have both expressed a desire to beat this time next year! They also became the Army Champions in the discipline of K2 B class 13 miler.

On 30th April No 3 Company deployed to the Falkland Islands on Op FIRIC, supported by Cfn Wharmby and Cfn Moore. Over the next 9 weeks they supported the Company at MPA and on Onion Range, repairing Land rovers, BV 206 and small arms. Cfn Moore had the tough job of completely re-stamping every GPMG barrel in the Armoury and inspecting all the weapons prior to overhead firing. As well as gauging the mortars. Cfn Wharmby was kept more than busy keeping an ageing and crippled fleet on the road with assistance from the MT JNCO, LCpl Horrell, and Gdsm Evans 28.

1WG's Equipment Care Inspection (ECI) took place in June 2010, with the LAD needing to put in a lot of work to prepare all the equipment and check the management systems prior to the arrival of

the inspection team.

Unfortunately the Battalion did not quite achieve the Green that we were hoping for, but our eyes are now firmly fixed on achieving a green in next year's inspection.

In June the Welsh Guards had the honour of hosting the 12 Mech Bde SAAM at Bulford Ranges, with the LAD providing Small Arms Equipment support throughout. With perfect firing conditions and a slight cross-breeze, the week went smoothly with only cosmetic repairs to the weapon systems being required.

After learning that Number 2 Company had a cache of surfboards and wetsuits in their company stores, the LAD deployed to Saunton Sands for some impromptu Adventure Training. Everyone got stuck straight in trying to catch the monster waves. After few good wipeouts most of the LAD managed to get up on a wave. It was a good day and everyone put in maximum effort in order to enjoy the day. The LAD football team also continue to do well in the Craftsman's Cup. On returning from Kenya, they are looking forward to the next fixture, against 17 Port and Maritime LAD.

## CONCLUSION

From what you've read you'll see that HQ Company is in good order. The unsung heroes of the battalion continue to work behind the scenes ensuring that everything that must be done is completed without too much fuss and bother. The company continues to be home to some of the most loyal and inspirational Welsh Guardsmen who keep the Battalion the same happy place it has always been.

# BAND OF THE WELSH GUARDS

LCpl Caroline Smith



*The Band of the Welsh Guards during the CD Recording, Heroes' Return at the Guards Chapel.'*

This year, The Band of the Welsh Guards has undertaken many diverse jobs from recording a CD, roulement band at Kneller Hall, Classical Spectacular at the Royal Albert Hall to, most importantly and proudly, supporting the Welsh Guards for their Homecoming Parades and a fundraising concert tour in Wales. We even managed to fit in a week's adventure training skiing in Andorra, as well as public duties.

In December of last year the Band spent two days in the Guards Chapel recording our new CD "Heroes' Return". The CD is a mix of modern and original works with old favourite selections like 'A Tribute to Gershwin' given a new lease of life from one of Japan's leading arrangers Naohiro Iwai.

As well as excellent performances from the Band as a whole, included on the CD are solos from Musn Kim Easter playing 1st Movement "Carousel" from Martin

Ellerby's Clarinet Concerto, and Musn Dave Jones on Vibraphone performing "A Tribute to Lionel". We were lucky to still have in the Band at the time oboist/BSM Julian Kirk and bassoonist Musn Oliver Galletta to whom, on the final day of the recording, we bid farewell. They have now left to pursue other careers, in which we wish them all the best.

Another solo feature was from Sgt. Andy Libby on Alto Sax performing a Japanese arrangement of John Lennon's "Imagine. In March the Band

said, 'Bon Voyage' to Sgt. Libby, as he went on Exercise Program Longlook working with the Australian Army Band. The trip by all accounts was gruelling, the stopover in Hawaii sounded punishing as did the barbecues, sea and sun!! In exchange, we welcomed from the Australian Army Band the delightful percussionist Sgt. Richard "Ozzie Dick" Cutler.

Unfortunately we were unable to offer him the weather he is accustomed to, but after his visit with the Band to Rhyl I'm sure he would agree it's been a fair swap.

"On February 6th the Band played in concert at St. John Evangelist Church, Sidcup in aid of the Royal British Legion. The successful concert included solo performances from Musn Dave Jones on Vibraphone

playing "A Tribute to Lionel", LCpl Rebecca Watts on Violin performed "Schindler's List" and LCpl Stu Laing on Cornet dedicated "My Love Is Like A Red, Red Rose" to his wife who was in the audience.

On the 3rd of March the Band was at Buckingham Palace to play for the arrival of the state carriage procession, as part of the three day state visit by South Africa's President Jacob Zuma.

Throughout March, the Band was proud to support the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards who undertook Homecoming Parades throughout Wales. The Homecoming Parades started in Cardiff, also helping launch Armed Forces Day, and were also held in Swansea, Merthyr Tydfil, Newport, Bridgend, Caernarfon, Wrexham and Rhyl. Each parade involved up to 250 returning soldiers who were given a heroes' welcome. The Parades allowed the supporting public an opportunity to show their appreciation and pride for the bravery and dedication of the Welsh Guards, this was palpable in every town and city we visited. In every town proceedings ended with a reception and presentation, the hospitality was fantastic and greatly deserved. Our visits to Wales did not end there, as we returned at the end of April to Swansea, St. Davids and Cardiff for our three cities fundraising concert tour "Heroes' Return".

The beginning of May saw the Band undertake two, week-

# BAND OF THE WELSH GUARDS

WELSH GUARDS REGIMENTAL MAGAZINE



*The Band performing in the Massed Bands during the Voorthuizen Military Tattoo in Holland*

long Tattoos back to back. Firstly, The Voorthuizen Military Tattoo in Holland, part of the Dutch National Celebrations for the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Netherlands. This featured military bands from all over the world including Poland and Trinidad and Tobago, to name but a few.

Immediately on our return from Holland, we began rehearsals for the 3rd Windsor Castle Royal Tattoo. Its aim is to provide support to servicemen and women through entertainment. The Tri-Service event is a programme of modern, traditional, UK and overseas acts.

Following the general election on the 6th of May the Band was situated on Whitehall to play for the procession route from Buckingham Palace to the Palace of Westminster for the State Opening of Parliament which took place on the 25th of May.

After such a fast paced and busy start to the year, the Band eased its way into the usual rigours of summer season

including the Queen's Birthday Parade and Beating Retreat. However, it wasn't long before we were back in Wales for Armed Forces' Day. This year Cardiff proudly was the host city for the national celebrations of Britain's servicemen and women, to recognise their bravery and sacrifice. Thousands of people lined the streets in support of the troops, veterans, and

cadets that marched from Cardiff Castle to the Bay in the blazing sunshine through the red, white, blue, and green confetti. The parade was led by the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall. They were joined at the Roald Dahl Plas, Cardiff Bay, by the then Head of Armed Forces, Air Chief Marshal Sir Jock Stirrup and Defence Secretary Dr. Liam Fox, for the open air Drumhead

ceremony. It is estimated that 50,000 people attended the celebrations.

A week later, on the 3rd of July, it was back on the bus to travel to Kirklington Polo Ground in Oxfordshire. The polo match was organised by Jessica Tomblin in memory of her brother, Lt. Col. Rupert Thorneloe, and the event was in aid of the Welsh Guards Afghanistan Appeal. Two teams competed for the Rupert Thorneloe Memorial Cup. It was a beautiful day with lots of activities and fundraising events as well as the match, with the band providing musical entertainment.

Just over a week later on the 14th July, the Band returned to Wales for another worthwhile cause. This time to Pembroke Castle to play a part in this year's International Holiday Camp for the disabled organised by members of the Order of Malta. The camp brings together over 450 disabled guests and helpers from over 20 different countries across Europe. The ethos of the week long holiday camp is to provide "... them



*Sgt Richard Cutler with the Band in front of Cardiff Castle before marching through the city on Armed Forces Day*



"The Band performing at Pembroke Castle for the Maltacamp 2010"

with the opportunity to share a holiday and to experience the culture, spirituality and hospitality of a different nation, with like-minded people". After the marching display our enthusiastic and appreciative audience had a chance to interact with the Band, by conducting and playing percussion. To round off the Band played the International Camps theme of the year, 'All You Need Is Love' (by the Beatles). Every year the camp has a different song that represents its theme: "love is everything and is completely free from poverty and exclusion."

A week after our return from summer leave the Band packed up and left to begin a 2-month roulement tour of Germany. We were based at JHQ Rheindahlen for the duration of our stay. The Brass Quintet played at many Mess evenings throughout the region, and the Band as a whole played at Beating Retreats in Fallingbostel, Paderborn, Gutersloh, Krefeld and Bad Oeynhausen. These were all in support of Anglo-German

relations. The Beating Retreat in Paderborn was also part of the bi-annual celebrations for 'Britfest' and culminated in a joint British, German and Polish Tattoo.

As we were in the neighbourhood, we met up with the Welsh Guards Association on the 12th of September to join in the parade to honour and remember the liberation of

Hechtel. Unfortunately the weather wasn't on our side, and we were in for a good soaking, but no one's spirits were dampened by the weather. The day included a lovely lunch, wine, speeches, poetry and of course singing!

We're now back in Wellington Barracks and have preformed at The Festival of Remembrance with guitar playing legend Brian May

(from Queen) and Kerry Ellis. The Cenotaph and the Welsh Guards Regimental March to the Guards' Memorial (Black Sunday) was very moving, as many ex-Welsh Guardsmen made the journey to London to see the unveiling of a new plaque in the Guards Chapel for Welsh Guardsmen killed in Afghanistan during the summer of 2009.

It has been a busy and varied year for The Band of the Welsh Guards, and we now wait in anticipation for what the next year will bring.

Finally congratulations to LSgt Scott Murray upon his completion of the course and in becoming a fully qualified PTI, he has since been whipping the band into shape! Congratulations also to LCpl Richard Burton on his success in being accepted onto the Bandmasters Course, and to Sgt Andy Libby and Musn Mark Skinner who both got married to their respective partners during the summer.



The Band of the Welsh Guards Beat Retreat in front of the impressive Schloss Neuhaus

### ARMED FORCES PARLIAMENTARY SCHEME

Major Stephen Barnwell



Welsh Guards Brass Quintet 1 of 2!

**A**FPS – the Armed Forces Pension Scheme isn't it? Apparently not. This engagement was for the Armed Forces Parliamentary Scheme. A new one on me! I'm sure there are rules about this sort of thing, aren't there? Once we'd got that one cleared up I was eager to find out what this event was actually all about and what it entailed.

I discovered that the AFPS was an opportunity for politicians, past and present, to get up close and personal with members of the Armed Forces – Private to Major General – to get a better understanding of what life is like in the military. Looking at the tasking sheet I noticed that it was a London District task and as well as the Welsh Guards Band it also involved the First Battalion Grenadier Guards hotfoot from their return from Afghanistan and subsequent performances on Horse Guards Trooping the Colour at the annual Queen's

Birthday Parade. The venue was the Royal Hospital, Chelsea and apparently it was an annual MOD event.

At that first (and only) recce visit to Chelsea it became clear that this was a Tri-Service event, but one where each Service takes it in turns to act as hosts. That being the case it quickly became apparent also that in successive years each Service had been trying to outdo the others and it had resulted in an event that had been scaling up quicker than the interest on the national debt.

I remember the look of incredulity on the face of the Quartermaster 1 Gren Gds when the chairman of the AFPS suggested that he might like to organise the setting up of display stands to demonstrate some of the weapons and techniques employed by the Battalion on their recent tour in Afghanistan in order to impress the guests as they arrived. The calm explanation that all such equipment is immediately back loaded upon the completion of OPS was met with something of a "shrug of the shoulders" moment. The idea of turning out a Guard of Honour was also mooted, but expertly "flat batted" by the same Quartermaster after he'd ascertained there was no principal guest and only a general arrival time that was spread over a period of 30 minutes - scope for a "Grand Old Duke of York" moment or two.

For our part in this the requirement was to provide background music during the 2 hour reception and a bugle call to end it – the latter being a signal for guests to make their way outside to watch a concluding ceremony of Beating Retreat.

The net result of all this on the night was a superb welcoming array of display stands manned by Guardsmen from 1 Gren Gds exactly as requested - the Quartermaster has



Major Barnwell

obviously "pulled more than just a few strings"; 2 brass quintets located at opposite ends of the Great Dining Hall playing successively in an almost continuous manner throughout the cocktail party - in a similar manner to that of the 2 bands located at opposite ends of the lawn at a Buckingham Palace Garden Party; followed by a grand fanfare from the balcony above.

The concluding 20 minute ceremony of Beating Retreat began promptly at 2130 Hours and by the half-way point night had fallen. Fortunately this was July and the band was by now entirely familiar with the display and more importantly the music. They continued on to the finish completely unhindered to receive rapturous applause from the assembled guests as well as from some of the in-pensioners at the windows of their dormitories.

So, over to you then next the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force – enjoy!



A Grand Fanfare sounded from the balcony of the Great Dining Hall replaced the customary Bugle Call



2138 Hours and night is drawing nigh

# REGIMENTAL BAND EVENTS



*Welsh Guardsmen in Afghanistan*

## HEROES' RETURN – THREE CITIES TOUR Welsh Guardsmen in Afghanistan

Sgt Charlie Hancock

The Welsh Guards Band undertook a tour of three of Wales's southern cities over the course of one weekend in April. Entitled "Heroes' Return", the tour was entirely charitable, raising both money and awareness for the Welsh Guard's Afghanistan Appeal Fund.

This appeal was set up following the Welsh Guards tour of Afghanistan. Unfortunately there were those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for Queen and Country. In addition to these sad losses, many of the Welsh Guardsmen returned with injuries, some of which will stay with them for the rest of their lives. The

Appeal's aim is to provide life long support not just for the soldiers themselves, but for the families of those affected.

On tour with the Band were special guests The Morriston Orpheus Male Voice Choir and Iona Jones (soprano). The tour commenced on St. George's Day in the Brangwyn Hall Swansea, home of the

Morriston Orpheus Choir and coincided with their 75th anniversary. Saturday evening was a sell-out performance at St David's Cathedral, St. David's, and the tour wrapped up with a late afternoon concert in St. David's Hall Cardiff on Sunday 25th April. Of the three concerts, the St. David's Cathedral performance was the most enjoyable. The size, beauty and stunning location of the venue added an intimacy and atmospheric sense of welcome not achievable in the large spaces of the Brangwyn and St David's Halls.

Audiences were treated to a varied programme of music, with each artist altering their

musical contributions at the different locations. Solos from members of the Band featured throughout. At St David's Cathedral, LCpl Rebecca Watts effectively demonstrated the musical virtuosity of band members by putting down her flute and picking up her violin to play the solo theme to the film Schindler's List.

"To fallen soldiers let us sing ..." The opening line to the evocative, and perfectly chosen, Mansions of the Lord, with which the Morriston Orpheus Choir opened their performance each evening. Even after trimming back from their 85 voices in order to fit the space of St David's Cathedral, the choir sung with a tenderness that portrayed the real heartache of the song, emphasising the emotional hardship at the core of the Appeal Fund.

Iona Jones treated the audiences not only to her clear, unfussy soprano singing, but also delicately gathered everyone for community singing with a medley of wartime favourites. Once again, this worked best in the close proximity of St. David's Cathedral, adding a strong sense of "family" to this concert. Finally to signal the close of each concert The Band and choir performed "Now the day is over" sotto voce to a lone trumpeter playing The Last Post. For many, this was a very moving reminder of the concert tour's purpose.



## ADVENTUROUS TRAINING - EX COCKNEY LARK 4.

Musn David Jones

**O**n the 10th of January 2010, 15 members of the band arrived for the bus very early in the morning to head towards Gatwick Airport, and escape the cold and thick snow of England for a week skiing in the cold and thicker snow of El Tarter on the Andorran Pyrenees.

After arriving at the chalet in the early evening, we were introduced to the chalet staff that were to be cooking and looking after us for the week when we weren't on the slopes (or in the bars enjoying a quick après ski beer).

On Monday morning we all headed up to the slopes together to be separated into three groups with the beginners going straight to Cpl A Jenkins class (AKA the Rabbits), whilst the rest took to the nursery slopes to find

they're skiing legs and get separated into the intermediate and advanced groups, ready to spend the week training for their Basic Ski Proficiency and Ski Tour Proficiency. Wednesday saw the intermediate group, 'The Badgers', undertake a bit of uphill skiing as well as downhill for their Ski Tour Proficiency, then in the evening, everyone ventured up the hill from El Tarter to Soldeu for a nice posh meal and a few drinks. The week culminated in the tests that we had spent the week preparing for, so everyone headed to the top of

the mountain after lunch. On our arrival at the top of the slope which we were using for the tests, the faces of the beginners all of a sudden became very tentative looking as they spotted the sign denoting that this run was actually a black run, but everybody (even the beginners) got down to the bottom unscathed. With everyone having passed with flying colours, Saturday was spent enjoying many slopes all over the resort in one big group, then packing up ready to make our way back to a much less snowy England.

### A LOOK AT THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY BAND CORPS

SGT Andy Libby



Sgt Libby performing at the MCG stadium with the Australian Army Band-Melbourne

The Australian Army Band Corps (AABC) is made up of 5 full time bands and a larger number of reserve bands that are located right across Australia. My host officer for Exercise Long Look, Major Peter O'Connor, had compiled a programme comprising visits to several bands that would give me the opportunity to see the vast and diverse nature of the AABC.

I was required to spend my first couple of weeks performing both as a vocalist and Saxophonist with the Sydney band (AAB-S) and straight away I had an opportunity to get an insight into one of the premier bands in the AABC. The high quality facilities that an Australian Army band has, as compared to ours in the UK, was very noticeable. The comprehensive studio for rehearsing the concert band was equipped with a state of the art recording studio as well as several practise studios for each section of the band. The availability of computers to access DRN (their equivalent to our JPA) was most apparent too, with enough spare capacity for many of the band's composers and arrangers to access Sibelius. A high emphasis is put on encouraging the band's musicians do their own

compositions and arrangements, which are subsequently performed on band engagements. Changing facilities and storage space for equipment and uniforms were also there in abundance - something I noted at all the bands I visited - and very unlike the UK bands all have access to a number of dedicated band vehicles.

My first engagement with the AAB-S was a performance with the Concert Band and Big Band at an RSL Club in Pittwater. This gave me the opportunity to witness how the band carried out engagements - logically as well as musically. There was a heavy focus on Health and Safety in the work place, particularly when loading and unloading band equipment. All the Army bands are provided with a tail gate truck and a Sergeant is given the responsibility of monitoring the whole load process - no

small task given that the bands all use a vast amount of heavy sound equipment and have their own mobile staging. All lifts and movement are carried out methodically under strict supervision to avoid accidents. In comparison to our Foot Guards Bands, the Sydney band carries out much fewer engagements and so musical preparation is more thorough with lots of time for rehearsals. My impression of the overall musicianship of the Australian Service musicians is that it is much more diverse than ours and equal importance is placed on all the different stylistic approaches to music making.

The next phase of my visit was with the band in Melbourne, which is where the Defence School of Music (DFSM) is also located. It was no surprise then to discover that the facilities here are outstanding. Unlike in the UK, the DFSM (as the title suggests) also incorporates the Navy. Newly trained recruits just out of phase-one training, as well as musicians up for promotion, all attend music courses here. They also run comprehensive courses in Sound Recording and in Production and Lighting. At the time of my visit a team from AABC were just getting ready to deploy to Afghanistan to provide a staging and lighting capability for use when entertaining NATO Forces on operations. The main focus for me during this part of my stay was the Anzac Day parade through the streets of Melbourne, which was immediately followed by a performance at the notorious MCG stadium.

After 9 days in Melbourne I moved on to Darwin to visit the AAB-D. Here a reserve band that normally only meets on a

Tuesday evening was taking part in their annual 2-week training camp. Unlike the full time bands, this band was housed in temporary accommodation in an old Warehouse, but nevertheless it was well equipped with first-class equipment. Again I was actively immersed in the activity of playing in the band and this time became a featured instrumentalist during a performance at the Mindil markets. I was also able to offer some instruction in the training programme by teaching jazz improvisation, which was greatly received by the inquisitive part time musicians. The OC too was grateful for the training I had given, adding that it would be extremely valuable for future engagements up here in the Northern Territory.

Although originally attached to 1RAR, the Band in Townsville (my next port of call) is now part of the AABC. Unlike other full time bands, which are made up of approximately 35 musicians, this band is only a 20-piece group of musicians. Their role is mainly to provide entertainment for the units based in Townsville and like all bands, the AAB-T also provide a high percentage of support to the local community. I took part in several gigs with the Rock Band and the Big Band, which included a march through the streets, a Ball in Port Douglas, and providing musical support to a School Careers Fair in Cairns.

The Canberra Band was described to me as the busiest Band in the corps. Upon arrival the change in the weather from the lovely warm sun of Northern Queensland changed drastically to a cold rainy day... had I returned to England? I was met by Captain Thompson

# BAND OF THE WELSH GUARDS

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The proud owner of the Bearskin Cap (Right), the Vice Defence Chief, was a former Officer in the Micks!

who briefed me on the nature of what I could expect over the coming weeks and he suggested a more informal setting might be a nice way to get acquainted with some of the members of the Band. This turned out to be at a popular watering hole in the city and it is fair to say a fun night was had by all.

So the task at hand, after introductions with the OC, 2IC and BSM, was to play Baritone Sax in the Concert Band and the Big Band. The engagements I was to be involved in were a Guard of Honour, The Queen's Birthday Parade, The Graduation Parade of the Staff Cadets, and the Merimbula Jazz Festival. It felt quite an honour to have the opportunity to be a part of such high profile events.

My first job with the Band was a Guard of Honour for the President of the Maldives. Having played at several similar events in London this was a great opportunity to see how the Australians greet their international dignitaries. What a Spectacle - a prestigious Band, the Federation Guard and the presence of the Governor General of Australia. I certainly knew I had arrived at Canberra at the sharp end of things.

That first Saturday evening I was invited to a Dining-In

dinner at the RMC Sergeants Mess. Another opportunity to see the Australian way of doing things and also the opportunity for my fiancé (now my wife – see related photo in the Weddings section) to buy a new dress! I was introduced to the Colonel of Duntroon who was very interested to see if I would be taking part in the Queen's Birthday Parade wearing the traditional head dress of the Foot Guards - "The Bearskin Cap". I informed him that due to Luggage restrictions this was almost impossible, or was it? On the Monday morning the BSM and Captain Dave Thompson decided that maybe there was someone in Australia who might just own such a hat. Jackpot! The Vice Defence Chief had served with the Irish Guards as a young Captain and was the proud owner of a bearskin cap, which he was happy to loan. So after a little cleaning and adjustment of the chin strap I was now ready to participate in the Queen's Birthday parade in full Ceremonial Uniform.

Having taken part in the "Trooping of the Colour" in London on many occasions, I hoped the Queen's Birthday Parade in Canberra would be something I could do with relatively ease. Although similar in many ways, carrying out

Australian Drill was a challenge in itself, but thanks to the many Band members teaching me the relevant movements I was able to take part relatively comfortably. I also wondered if the Parade would be as high in pomp and ceremony as I have come to expect back home and it did not disappoint. The Australian way of precision and expertise was no different and the parade ground was full of all the traditions and pageantry one would expect from such a high profile event. Photo opportunities had been the norm everywhere I had been so far and here was no exception. Major Steve H, who I had met in the UK when the RMC Band had come to London to participate in Public Duties, took me to see the General who was quite interested in finding out who the person was who had be wearing his Bearskin!

There was no respite for the RMC Band after the Parade and it was onto the Merimbula Jazz Festival. Having rehearsed all the previous week with the RMC Big Band the first gig was a Sunday afternoon concert at the Bowls Club. The venue was absolutely jam packed with an Audience just dying to see this professional organisation in action. The band did not disappoint and under the leadership of Captain Dave Thompson the band played a rip roaring Jazz Set with some incredible solos from the likes of Bubba, SGT Matthews, and Digger Apps.

One of the questions I asked myself during the visit was, "apart from being great musicians and people, how do they manage to stay so happy when the Schedule is so busy, and what keeps motivating them to keep their standards so high"? The first part of my question was answered by the

BSM, "don't ever tell the band we are busy, just relay to the Band that we are working at this gig and that one"; simple, but brilliant I think, and the OC added that he tries to make sure that whenever the musicians come to work they always feel they have a purpose.

All the Army Bands I visited had several points in common - an excellent management team, not only in their approach to the Job, but also their management of people. Army musicians certainly feel valued and most are very highly motivated. All Bands have excellent facilities and the Senior NCO's are well qualified in their respective areas of expertise whether it be Health and Safety or Group Leaders responsible for report writing - unlike in the UK the NCO's in the AABC have a bigger role to play in this area by actively writing reports on subordinates. My overall experience was one of witnessing high standards, not only musically, but also in deportment and in the high levels of quality in people management, administration, and welfare. The opportunity to work and make music with musicians from another country has been a highly rewarding and beneficial experience and it has helped me in my own development as a musician.



Sgt Libby

### MY VERY FIRST BAND TOUR

MUSN Kate Challinor



The Band of the Welsh Guards Beat Retreat in front of the impressive Schloss Neuhaus

**W**hen I was called into the Deputy Chief Instructors office at Kneller Hall to receive my first assignment after completing phase-2 training, I was ecstatic to discover it was my first preference - the Band of the Welsh Guards.

I received a message a few days later with a date and time to be measured for my new uniform. I excitedly arrived at Wellington Barracks and was greeted by the Bandmaster, who took me around the various stores and offices to get my kit. It was during this time that I discovered the Band were about to undertake a 2-month Roulement Tour of Germany and would be based at JHQ Rheindahlen throughout. It was then I realised that as soon as I was posted to my band, I would be travelling there with them! It was certainly a shock. The thought of spending 2 months away from home with a group of people I'd never met was daunting, but upon reflection I realised it would be a brilliant opportunity to get to know the band and get stuck into the job.

So on August 31, with a mixture of excitement and

apprehension, I loaded all my newly issued kit onto the container lorry and prepared for the long bus journey ahead to Germany. Once we'd arrived and settled in at the Band Block, we began our first performances of the tour. These included several Beating Retreats at Army Camps - the first being Fallingbostel - and various other venues around the area such as the stunning castle at Paderborn – Schloss Neuhaus.

As I had not yet learnt the marching display, I became an accomplished security guard on these gigs! Though after watching the Band performing the display, I was eager to learn it and get started! My first opportunity to play came at the Stadtfest in Mönchengladbach, a town not far from the JHQ. Having not yet mastered the art of removing several pieces of music from my card case, the

public of Mönchengladbach witnessed all of my music flying across the square. This was much to the amusement of the band. I managed to have a little more practice at mastering this skill however, at a British country fair in Krefeld!

One of the most significant gigs of the tour was a Liberation Ceremony in Hechtel-Eskel, Belgium. This event was celebrating its 66th year and is a Ceremony that is attended annually by veterans of the Welsh Guards. This year the Veterans were able to bring their "Regimental Band" to participate in the Ceremony, which involved the Band marching as part of the parade through Hechtel-Eskel. Afterwards followed a fantastic spread for lunch and some rousing singing from the veterans!

The next gig with the Band presented yet another challenge for me. The gig was an evening Marching display at the picturesque Bad Oeynhausen. By the time the Band had begun the marching display it was pitch black and I soon had to start remembering all the pieces we were playing from memory! It was certainly interesting.

Whilst at JHQ I had the opportunity to play in some brass quintets at the Sergeant's Mess. This was a beneficial experience for me and also very enjoyable. As well as this I participated in Full Band rehearsals, which gave me a chance to hear the band in the context of a concert performance and was something I also enjoyed. The Band also did group PT together regularly and all of these gave me the opportunity to get to know people.

Annually, the Band travels to

Paris to play at the Prix De L'Arc De Triomphe, and this year was no different. Throughout my first few weeks in the band I'd heard lots of positive stuff about the trip and was really looking forward to it. As part of our performances, we played music to the crowds at the races and even marched on the racing track itself. We were blessed with stunning weather and were well fed with delicious French pastries, something I particularly enjoyed!

When we weren't performing around the area or rehearsing Full Band, there was time to see the nearby areas and socialise on camp. One weekend was spent in Düsseldorf exploring the Old Town. Other members of the Band went to Cologne and into Mönchengladbach. The bowling alley at JHQ hosted our Band Social and the cinema on camp was also explored! The Band were very friendly throughout the tour and really helped me settle in, whether it was chatting over a pint or making me sing songs on the long coach journeys. 999 green bottles on the wall proved to be a hit!

As October began, the Band had fewer performances to do and so it was decided that we travel back to the UK and



Musn Challinor

# BAND OF THE WELSH GUARDS

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return to Germany for the last gig of the tour some 2 and half weeks later. Before this however, there was a Mess Band in Brunssum, Holland. The Mess dinner was to celebrate Trafalgar Day and we were to provide a band to entertain the members of the Navy. The dinner also received military personnel of varying nationalities from French to Canadian. The evening was enjoyable as the band were very warmly welcomed by the diners. After the dinner had finished, we travelled overnight to the UK and arrived just as the inhabitants of Wellington Barracks were rising!

The last performance of the tour was a Tattoo in Minden. In its second year, the tattoo included bands from the Czech Republic, Poland, Germany as well as us, billed as the "Welsh Guards from England". The finale, involving all the bands as well as Pipes and Drums, included Time to Say Goodbye, Thank you for the Music and Amazing Grace, which received a standing ovation from the audience.

The tour was a great opportunity to meet the Band and I really feel they made this as easy as they could for me. My earlier apprehensions about going are long gone, as I feel it was the best thing I could have done as new member of the band. Now all that remains is to get settled in London!

*The Band of the Welsh Guards entertaining the public at the British Country Fair in Krefeld.*

*The Band of the Welsh Guards takes part in the 66th Anniversary Liberation Parade in Hechtel-Eskel, Belgium – an annual pilgrimage for the Welsh Guards Association*

*The Band of the Welsh Guards at the 2nd Minden Tattoo*



# DISTRIBUTION OF OFFICERS

DISTRIBUTION OF OFFICERS AS AT 1 JANUARY 2011

## REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

*Colonel-in-Chief  
Colonel of the Regiment*

*Regimental Lieutenant Colonel  
Regimental Adjutant  
Temporary Equerry  
Assistant Regimental Adjutant  
Director of Music*

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN  
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF  
WALES KG KT GCB OM AK QSO PC ADC  
Brigadier R H Talbot Rice  
Colonel (Retd) T CS Bonas  
Captain H TS Finnegan  
Major (Retd) F K Oultram  
Major S Barnwell

## 1st BATTALION

Lieutenant Colonel C K Antelme DSO  
Major B P N Ramsay  
Major E J T Mellish  
Major D W N Bevan  
Major J M Hobrough  
Major D Ryan  
Major J J Bethell  
Major A Bowen  
Captain N R K Moukarzel  
Captain T C Spencer-Smith  
Captain P J Durham  
Captain C H L Beare  
Captain C J P Davies  
Captain P Robinson  
Captain D Pridmore  
Captain J R E Harvie  
Captain O G James  
Captain T R Richards  
Captain D Hannan CG  
Captain L McNaughton IG  
Lieutenant A J H Dunlop  
Lieutenant T R Thompson  
Lieutenant G C Charles-Jones  
Lieutenant C E Maltby  
Lieutenant M C D Simpson  
Lieutenant F J Wright  
Lieutenant A L Major  
Lieutenant B N H Bardsley  
Second Lieutenant J A Bromfield  
Second Lieutenant M Wright

*Commanding Officer  
Second in Command  
Officer Commanding The Prince of Wales's Company  
Officer Commanding Number Two Company  
Officer Commanding Number Three Company  
Officer Commanding Headquarter Company  
Officer Commanding Support Company  
Quartermaster  
Adjutant  
Operations Officer  
Intelligence Officer  
Intelligence Officer Designate  
Officer Commanding Anti-Tank Platoon  
Defence Transport Manager  
Regimental Careers Management Officer  
Second in Command Number 3 Company  
Regimental Signals Officer  
Second in Command Number 3 Company  
Unit Welfare Officer  
Training Officer  
Second in Command Number 2 Company  
Platoon Commander Prince of Wales's Company  
Officer Commanding Reconnaissance Platoon  
Platoon Commander Prince of Wales's Company  
Officer Commanding Mortar Platoon  
Platoon Commander Prince of Wales's Company  
Platoon Commander Number Three Company  
Platoon Commander Number Two Company  
Platoon Commander Number Three Company  
Platoon Commander Prince of Wales's Company*

# DISTRIBUTION OF OFFICERS

WELSH GUARDS REGIMENTAL MAGAZINE

## EXTRA REGIMENTALLY EMPLOYED

Brigadier B J Bathurst OBE	<i>Comd Initial Training Group</i>
Brigadier R H Talbot Rice	<i>Director Equipment, HQ LF</i>
Colonel A J E Malcolm OBE	<i>COS, NATO Training Mission Baghdad</i>
Colonel R H W St G Bodington LVO MBE	<i>ACOS J7, HQ ARRC</i>
Colonel R J AE Stanford MBE	<i>Higher Command and Staff Course</i>
Lieutenant Colonel G A J Macintosh	<i>SO1 Instr Kuwaiti Staff College</i>
Lieutenant Colonel G Bartle-Jones	<i>Commanding Officer 2nd Battalion ATR Pirbright</i>
Lieutenant Colonel D L W Bossi	<i>SO1 OCE Op HERRICK</i>
Major T F Charles	<i>COS HQ 145 (South) Bde, Aldershot</i>
Major R G B Pim	<i>SO2 J3 FP, PJHQ, Northwood</i>
Major G C G R Stone	<i>SO2 Offrs Ft Gds APC Glasgow</i>
Major G R Harris DSO MBE	<i>SO2 CT &amp; GC Land Ops Dir, MOD</i>
Major H G C Bettinson	<i>SO2 Plans Fd Trg Gp (UK)</i>
Major R W Gallimore	<i>SO2 Experimentation LWDG</i>
Major CT Sargent	<i>OC 2 Coy 1 GREN GDS</i>
Major D HBasson	<i>Resettlement</i>
Major M LLewis	<i>SO2 G3 Ops/CTS HQ 101 Log Bde</i>
Major J D Salusbury	<i>SO2 Concept &amp; Doctrine C2DC Warminster</i>
Major T A Smith	<i>SO2 Rec Ops (Contracts) HQ Recruiting Group</i>
Major M Cooling	<i>SO2 CSS Plans, HQ 3 Div</i>
Major N Mott	<i>ICSC (L)</i>
Major T A H Eastman	<i>SO2 Plans/Resources HQ 16 Air Asslt Bde</i>
Major E N Launder	<i>SO2 Future Plans HQ Land</i>
Major H S Llewelyn-Usher	<i>MOD</i>
Major A J Salusbury	<i>SO2 Fort Halstead</i>
Captain C N Ulvert	<i>SO3 J3 (Ops-In) JACIG</i>
Captain A R M Spry	<i>Staff Captain HQ London District</i>
Captain C G Jones	<i>Adjt Offr Cdt Sch, Kabul</i>
Captain J W Aldridge	<i>AMA to ACCS</i>
Captain T F Anderson	<i>Resettlement</i>
Captain J D Livesey	<i>MOD</i>
Captain S C Broughton	<i>MOD</i>
Captain A J Plewa	<i>Gunnery School Armoured Centre</i>
Captain K Dawson	<i>Instructor 2 Royal Military Academy Sandhurst</i>
Captain J P Olszowski	<i>Resettlement</i>
Captain CS Fenton	<i>Brde Rec Force 12 Mech Brde</i>
Lieutenant B J Figgures-Wilson	<i>Platoon Commander AFC Harrogate</i>
Lieutenant J Young	<i>Platoon Commander 1IG OP HERRICK 13</i>
Second Lieutenant E R Emlyn Williams	<i>Platoon Commander 1IG OP HERRICK 13</i>

## INFANTRY TRAINING CENTRE CATTERICK

Major T J Badham
Captain C J R Fraser-Sampson

<i>Officer Commanding, Guards Training Company</i>
<i>Platoon Commander</i>

# DISTRIBUTION OF WARRANT OFFICERS

DISTRIBUTION OF WARRANT OFFICERS AND BATTALION STAFF AS AT 1 JANUARY 2011

## REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

	Number	Rank	Int	Name
<i>Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant</i>	24797497	WO2	A	Campbell

## REGIMENTAL BAND

<i>Band Master</i>	25083859	WO1	E	Frost
<i>Band Sergeant Major</i>	24862977	WO2	S A	Charles

## 1st BATTALION

<i>Regimental Sergeant Major</i>	24788299	WO1	A L	Roberts
<i>Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant (Main)</i>	24830440	WO2	M	Pollard
<i>Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant (Tech)</i>	24823463	WO2	B J	Baldwin
<i>Drill Sergeant</i>	24738054	WO2	L T	Scholes
<i>CSM The Prince of Wales's Company</i>	25026698	WO2	L M	Ryan
<i>CSM Number Two Company</i>	24710250	WO2	P	Dunn
<i>CSM Number Three Company</i>	25050230	WO2	C A	Taylor
<i>CSM Headquarter Company</i>	24815189	WO2	D P	Brown
<i>CSM Support Company</i>	24906414	WO2	J G	Jenkinson
<i>Master Tailor</i>	24866734	CSgt	L	Wilson

## EXTRA REGIMENTALLY EMPLOYED

<i>Garrison Sergeant Major London District</i>	24520588	WO1	W D G	Mott OBE
<i>Garrison Sergeant Major 160 Brigade Wales</i>	24772832	WO1	A J	Hughes
<i>RSM Old College, RMAS</i>	24772353	WO1	D L	Thomas
<i>RST, South Wales</i>	24797524	WO1	M	Monaghan
<i>RST, South Wales</i>	24788725	WO2	W J	Williams
<i>30 Cadet Training Team Wrexham</i>	24805880	WO2	A	Brown
<i>Counter Terrorist Training Team</i>	24738040	WO2	G W	Jones
<i>Training Wing Blanford</i>	24836375	WO2	R F	Williams
<i>Master Tailor, London District</i>	24823101	WO2	S D	Shield
<i>Training Staff, RMAS</i>	24842827	WO2	J J	Jones
<i>Training Staff, RMAS</i>	25014288	WO2	M	Topps

## LONG SERVICE LIST

<i>ACIO Wrexham</i>	24623898	WO2	R J	Brace
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# HONOURS AND AWARDS

## HONOURS AND AWARDS 2010

### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER

540534 Major G R Harris MBE

### MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

24797524 Warrant Officer Class 1 M Monaghan  
24797497 Warrant Officer Class 2 A Campbell

### MENTION IN DESPATCHES

30010995 Lieutenant CS N Fenton (Now Captain)  
25067519 Lance Sergeant M E Parry (Now Sergeant)  
25202212 Lance Corporal R W Lodwick  
25224394 Guardsman L Skates

### QUEEN'S COMMENDATION FOR BRAVERY

30014919 Lieutenant C J R Fraser-Sampson (Now Captain)

### QUEEN'S COMMENDATION FOR VALUABLE SERVICE

535472 Lieutenant Colonel R S M Thorneloe MBE  
560189 Captain A Corbet Burcher (Now Major Retd)  
545956 Major R W Gallimore  
543986 Major G C G R Stone

# BATTALION EVENTS

## WELSH GUARDS RUGBY AND LONDON WELSH RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Capt A F Bowen, Unit Rugby Officer



**T**he Welsh Guards and London Welsh Rugby Football Club (LWRFC) have enjoyed a mutually beneficial relationship for many years. This can be attributed to our similarities with Welsh Guardsmen and LWRFC players alike hailing from Wales but working in the South East of England.

The modern professional rugby era has, of course, seen an influx of overseas rugby players but this has not dampened the desire of LWRFC to continue to serve Welsh people as a safe Welsh island in the busy London storm. Formed in 1885, the ethos of the club does not differ to that of any club back home but they have to work significantly harder than their principality based counterparts to maintain their "Welshness". Some serving and many retired members of the Regiment have had the privilege over the years of pulling on the red jersey at Old Deer Park, myself included. Sadly nowadays, the advent of

professionalism and the requirement for top flight rugby players to train full time does not fit in with the military lifestyle. This has not, however, dampened our desire to contribute to LWRFC in any way we can.

Many famous players have worn the LWRFC jersey, not least the likes of JPR Williams, John Dawes, John Taylor, Gerald Davies, Mervyn Davies, Mike Roberts and Geoff Evans, all who toured with the British Lions on the 1971 trip to New Zealand and Australia.

I attended a thoroughly enjoyable lunch hosted by Brigadier Ricketts at the Union Jack Club in the autumn of

2008. Also in attendance were the Commanding Officer and the Chief Executive of London Welsh. The aim of the lunch was to see how we could develop our long standing relationship to each other's benefit. After a couple of hours, plenty of wine and a full tummy I rode the train home scribbling notes on how we could develop the current situation further. The first stage of the plan was to get a Guard of Honour to Old Deer Park for the last home match prior to Op HERRICK 10. This was a great success with WO2 "Monster" Davies 33 leading a party of 40 Welsh Guardsmen up the M3 for a very full day. They were hosted fantastically throughout and it took quite a while to corral the boys back onto the transport to get them home.

On return from Afghanistan we arranged another GOH on 6 March 2010 where we were given an incredibly warm welcome. The men that marched onto the pitch at half-time had all served in Afghanistan and were led by LCpl Jones 09 with Sgt Hayes and his recruiting team on hand. I said a few words lasting no more than a couple of minutes but we were all struck by the complete and utter silence that descended. As we turned to march off spontaneous and thunderous applause made for very large lumps in throats. We collected well over £1000 for the WGAA at half time alone with tearful members of the crowd shoving handfuls of cash into our buckets.

The next project was to run a Military Tattoo at Old Deer Park. The key was to secure the services of the band and Major Stephen Barnwell, the Director of Music, stepped up without any hesitation at all ably assisted by CSgt Darryl Lowden. Their foresight and experience was invaluable in us running a hugely successful Military Tattoo in late August 2010. A significant amount of work from LWRFC went into preparing the event led by none other than John Taylor, a rugby legend. Joe Jones at LWRFC and WO2 (DSgt) "Scully" Scholes from the battalion did a vast amount of the donkey work and following many meetings and rehearsals the day arrived with a buzz of excitement hanging over Old Deer Park. The local police were planning for up to 3000 people turning out and at £5 a head and with plenty of buckets to shake all was looking good for the Afghanistan Appeal. Participants included the Regimental Band, the LWRFC choir, dozens of youngsters for the mini rugby, LSgt Dwyer with the Recruiting Team and an enormous inflatable assault course, LSgt Johnson with the Corps of Drums, teams from The Prince of Wales's Company and Support Company for the Gun Run, a large contingent of Chelsea Pensioners, all the LWRFC playing and coaching staff and much more. What could possibly go wrong? Rain! A huge rain cloud appeared over Old Deer Park just prior to the event and remained throughout. We knew we were



taking a risk by running the event with so much rain on the forecast but made the call to crack on nonetheless. Skin is, after all, perfectly rain proof, or so I am told! Did the rain dampen our spirits, no. Was the event a success, yes.

I am utterly convinced that we made many friends by cracking on in atrocious weather conditions. The local community turned out and with the Mayor of Hounslow thoroughly enjoying the event we have started the all important process of securing a worthwhile partnership with the local community ahead of

our move to Hounslow in the Spring of 2011.

### THE 300 CUP

The current holders of the 300 Cup, Number 3 Company, look forward to locking horns with their opposition in the next rugby conflict which will be held in Aldershot on 19 January 2011.

John Williams 300, the founder of the 300 Cup, will be with us to present his trophy. We are incredibly grateful to 300 for his long standing support to Welsh Guards rugby and look forward to him presenting his trophy to the victorious team for many years to come.

### 1ST BATTALION WELSH GUARDS FOOTBALL TEAM 2010

**T**he new season was definitely setting off with best foot forward: with a keen interest from the younger Gdsm in particular and an average of between 20-30 players attending evening training regularly basis.

It's evidently clear to see that 1WG has enough talent to compete in football and against any other major unit; this has been reflected in the results this Season as currently the team is unbeaten.

The Battalion Football team formed up again in early August with the new manager

at the helm (Sgt Evans 53), eager to set his own stamp onto the team. (The Chairman, Major Mott) was persuaded to spend a substantial sum on new training equipment and two new football strips. This profligacy may have run against the Quartermaster's natural inclinations but the silver-tongued Sgt Evans was

persuasive. Resplendent in their new kit the team's season was off to a good start.

The opening fixture of the season was a friendly match against neighbours 10 QOGLR. Determined to start as they meant to go on, the team put in a fine performance to run out 10-2 winners. Among the scorers were Gdsm Flynn with a fine hat trick, Pte Samuel (2), Gdsm Cann (1), LSgt Cunningham (1), Gdsm Holland (1), and even the Player Manager (Sgt Evans 53) coming off the bench to lead by example with a late goal. By the end of the match, 10 QOGLR had been comprehensively outplayed and an own goal by the Ghurkhas finished the match.

The first competitive game saw a fixture with the 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards in the 4 Div League. A fiercely contested opening quarter in which neither side could secure a goal was broken by the Coldstreamers after a defensive mishap. The team was resilient though and determined to rise to the occasion. Sgt Peters, wearing the Captain's armband gave a convincing pep-talk before the restart and the team raised the tempo of the game accordingly. By half time, Gdsm Cann and Flynn had both struck to reverse the score to 2 - 1. After the interval, the Coldstream Guards worked hard to regain the advantage but team stuck to their task and further goals from Sgt Peters (2), and a second from Gdsm Cann put the match beyond doubt. Once again, Sgt Evans picked his moment to take a turn himself and again showed the youngsters how it is done, bagging a double.

The following week saw the Battalion team take a break from external fixtures. Inter-

company football took centre stage in the Ellicott Cup. An enjoyable competition in Aldershot led to a thrilling final with some very good football and eventual winners Support Company, triumphing over No 3 Coy 2 - 0 in a match which pitched regular battalion team captain and manager against each other.

Normal service resumed immediately after the Ellicott Cup, however, and the fixtures continued to come thick and fast, with the Bn entertaining the well-rated RAC Armour Centre in the first round of the Army Cup. After a slow start in which both sides struggled to sustain an advantage, the home team showed determination and killer instinct to overcoming the opposition 5 - 0. Gdsm Cann moved up to become the team's leading goal-scorer at this point in the season, netting four goals in the match, while friendly rival Gdsm Flynn who scored the remaining one.

After a fine display in the Army Cup it was onto the Div Cup, with the Battalion drawn against an experienced side from 27 Regt RLC, who had progressed well in the competition last season. After an indifferent display in the first twenty minutes, with the Battalion were under continual pressure, the team was steadied by a close-range goal from stand-in centre midfielder Gdsm Edwards 27. The second half saw the team finding their rhythm to score a further two goals, from substitute Sgt Marsh and latterly Gdsm Holland, securing his first goal for the Battalion. Although reduced to ten men after a controversial red card decision, the team maintained the focus to secure a deserved 3-0 victory.



The toughest encounter of the season to date was yet to come though, as the team played a further 4 Div League match against local rivals the 'doctors and nurses' of DMSTG from Keogh Barracks. The Medics had been comprehensive winners in the same fixture last season and seemed confident of repeating their success. But the team raised their game, determined to restore honour, or at least exact revenge. Gdsm Flynn repeatedly scythed through the DMSTG defence, creating chances for Gdsm Cann who finished precisely adding another hat trick to his tally for the season. Not to be outdone, though, Gdsm Flynn struck twice himself, even while injured. The team had the Medics on the run and with the battalion team streaming forward, the two full backs came fully into play. Gdsm Rodgers muscled in on the scoring act with a fine

strike from just inside the DMSTG box. WO2 (CSM) Jenkinson, his opposite number in the number 3 shirt, ventured forward at every opportunity, attempting to do the same, but in the unfamiliar territory of the opposition box was frustrated in his efforts, despite a fine delivery from Gdsm Cann. The Battalion though ran out 6 – 2 winners.

Upcoming fixtures see the Battalion entertain 1 RSME in the second round of the Army Cup and face the Coldstream Guards again in the Infantry Cup. Both are expected to be hard-fought contests but with continued support from the battalion and the companies, the team is upbeat about their prospects and even the possibility of silverware this season: a genuine return on the Quartermaster's investment...

## THE BATTALION HOMECOMING PARADES AND KAPE TOUR



CSM Jones 27 talking to members of the PoW Coy

In June 2009 a meeting took place at Regimental Headquarters, chaired by Colonel Bonas with the aim of discussing the Battalion's return from Op Herrick 10, and in particular how we were going to plan the Homecoming Parades in Wales.

After a series of letters of requests were sent to the local Mayors, full planning started to take shape. After a follow on meeting in October in Lille Barracks with members of the

Battalion, it was decided that based on the dates and locations of the marches, we would incorporate them with a Keeping the Army in the Public Eye (KAPE) tour.

# BATTALION EVENTS

WELSH GUARDS REGIMENTAL MAGAZINE



*The parade stepping off at the Millennium Plaza*



*The parade*

The master plan was to stage the first event in the capital of the Principality "Cardiff" and was designed to involve the whole battalion and to launch the month's long event. After the Cardiff parade took place, Number Three Company took up residence in Maindy Barracks for a week and they covered the south east region of Wales. This involved marching through Swansea, Merthyr Tydfil (both freedom locations) and Newport. The following week saw Number Two Company moving into Penally Camp in Tenby, with the aim of covering the south west region of Wales. Which, initially included marching through Bridgend. Lastly, we saw the Prince of Wales's Company moving into Parsons Barracks in Donington, and

they covered the north of Wales. They marched through Caernarfon, Wrexham and Rhyl. Around the fringes of these parades a number of recruiting surges took place along with collections for the Afghanistan Appeal, where a considerable amount of money was collected from the Welsh public.

On 4 March 2010 at early o'clock, the Battalion prepared for the drive from Aldershot to Cardiff, to conduct the first of 8 parades in Wales. Prior to this event happening the Recruiting Officer, Captain Peter Robinson had his work cut out, leading on numerous meetings and recce's that took place before hand with the local Police, Mayors Protocol Office, local Council, the Cardiff

Castle management team etc. This was to ensure that exactly what was required was booked, in place and most of all that angles were covered.

The Parade itself comprised of the Regimental Band, 3 marching parties of 60 persons from each of the rifle companies, with a colour party with an ensign. Additionally, the Regimental Support Team under Sgt Hayes accompanied by a recruiter LSgt Adams set up a recruiting area in Churchill Way, along with weapons displays from Support Company for interest to members of the public. Headquarter Company was the last moving part; they provided the bucket collectors for the Afghanistan Appeal, a staggering amount of money

was collected from donations and selling of the infamous wrist bands to members of the public on the day.

The freedom of Cardiff was given to the Battalion on 27 April 1957, with this in mind it gave us the right to exercise our freedom rights through the capital, something that we had not done in over 12 years. At precisely 1130 hrs on 04 March the parade stepped off from the Millennium Plaza at the bottom of the Millennium Stadium, with the band leading, closely followed behind by the Commanding Officer at the head of the parade. The immediate area was surrounded by members of the public, and families, who came to offer their support to those marching; additionally



*Public recognition*



*CSM Taylor on the field in Cardiff FC with elements of the Battalion*



*Photo opportunity outside of Cardiff FC*

this was captured by the local media. The parade progressed through the pedestrianised shopping area of Cardiff. Here the sounds of the band's music reverberate and the crowds gathered more. As the parade left wheeled into Duke Street, and on into Cardiff Castle, it came apparent as to how much support from the public had been generated. As a large crowd has amassed in support of the Welsh Guards, the Guardsmen, noticing this, swaggered with pride into the castle lined with Standard Bearers from the Veterans and the Cardiff branch of the Welsh Guards Associations.

A short inspection from the Lord Mayor of Cardiff, the Right Honourable Councillor Brian Griffiths, accompanied by the Commanding Officer, and the Lord Lieutenant of Cardiff Dr

Peter Beck accompanied by the Regimental Lieutenant Colonel, Colonel Malcolm, took place in the Castle grounds. Shortly after this the Lord Mayor addressed that Battalion personally recognising them for their outstanding achievements and commitments in Afghanistan. As the Colour was being marched off parade and the parade was dismissed, a number of persons were nominated to attended a small civic reception held in the Castle Undercroft attended by a few dignitaries which included Armed Forces Minister, Bill Rammell, First Minister of Wales Carwen Jones, Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Lord Lieutenant of Cardiff to name a few.

In terms of the media coverage this was fantastic, the event

was captured by many parts of the media machine, it was televised on national and most of local channels, this include the BBC, ITV and on S4C. Additionally, media websites such as Wales on Line and the BBC to name but a few gave the Battalion excellent coverage. All day long the Welsh Guards were talked about hourly, advertising the parade and after completion they became part of the news line up on most radio channels including Real Radio, Red Dragon FM and BBC Wales Cymru. The following day there were write ups in most of the national, and local papers in Wales picturing the parade and recognising the achievement and sacrifice that the Battalion had made.

In tandem with the parade, National Armed Forces Day (26 June 2010) was launched on by Bdr Russ Wardle; Brigade

Commander of 160 (Wales) Brigade and the Armed Forces Minister, Bill Rammell. WO2 (CSM) Taylor was largely involved in the launch, this included photos for the poster advertising the day UK wide, and interviews with the press.

It would not be right if I failed to mention the hospitality that was given to the battalion by the Cardiff City Football Club as my final point, as they also had a large part to play in the homecoming in Cardiff. Firstly, on the Battalions return in October from Op Herrick Cardiff City FC hosted over 300 members from across the board. These included members of their families who were looked after in their own corporate suite with food and drink provided. Prior to the match against Crystal Palace taking place, 80 members the battalion including some of the wounded had the honour of marching on to the centre of the field, where a nearly full capacity crowd, and players gave them a standing ovation for over 5 minutes. Secondly, on 6 March 2010 the Battalion were invited back to the stadium in support of "Help for Heroes", the Afghanistan Appeal and for our homecoming tour, where 30 members of Number Three Company led by the CSM marched onto the field again to "Men of Harlech" to receive exactly that same applause, and reception as previous. The Battalion were presented with a large canvas picture of the parade stood in the centre of the field with the crowd in the back ground, which will stand out well on one of the walls in the battalion conference room.

# BATTALION TRAINING/OPERATIONS



*The Recce Team: LSgt Shapland and Pierce, Gdsm Jones 78, Chambers, Lawrie, Harries and Davies 47*

## WELSH GUARDS RECCE: CAMBRIAN GOLD

Captain James Harvie

**T**he Cambrian Patrol is described as the British Army's premier patrolling competition. Competing in the event are teams from across the Army, as well as many international teams.

The 48 hour patrol tests a range of military skills, and is renowned for being gruelling and tough.

For the first time in several years the Welsh Guards were in a position to enter the competition, putting forward four teams: three from the Rifle Companies and one from Recce Platoon, which I had the pleasure of leading.

Due to the busy pace of

battalion life the teams conducted very little training prior to the event. This was in great contrast to many of the other teams, who had set aside months in advance to prepare. Recce's team training consisted of a single day spent rehearsing river crossings. Most of the preparation effort was focused on the administrative side, and the team managers did a superb

job of ensuring that each of the teams arrived at the start line with the right equipment at the right time.

The patrol began in the morning with orders and a kit check. The initial phase was the close target recce of an enemy position. With a long insertion onto the target and extraction off, the first day was over by the time we reached our lie up. After a brief rest period during which the patrol report was produced, we stepped off again arriving at the next rendezvous just before first light. From this stage on, our movements were directed by agents playing roles of allied soldiers; extravagant Russian accents had to be tolerated to get any information from

them. Our second day took us through some wonderfully imaginative stands, ranging from a minefield CASEVAC to an ANP-style checkpoint, all the while tabbing across some of Wales' most spectacular (and vertical) features. At last light came we conducted a 60m river crossing followed by a further march through the night. It was with great relief that we were finally told that we could cache our bergans. We were promptly ambushed, and after fighting through we then ran against the clock to resupply Cellini Village with ammunition. As the first light of our third day began to show we had a final scramble through the tunnels under the village before being debriefed and regurgitating all the



*The Author on a short stop above the ANP-style checkpoint*

information we had collected on the patrol.

The Cambrian Patrol is no mean feat, and many teams lost men or dropped out entirely, despite far more intensive preparation than our own. Every Welsh Guardsman who entered the event completed it successfully, which was a remarkable achievement. 2 and 3 Coy won bronze medals and the POW's Coy won silver. The Recce team won a gold medal, the only one of that phase.

There were three things which contributed more than anything else towards the Recce team's gold. Firstly, the often challenging navigation went with barely a hitch.

Pacing and bearing was crucial, particularly in the dark, and every man kept his own count. Navigation checks were kept to a minimum, and those leading legs did so with confidence and speed.

Secondly, patrol administration was properly adhered to and enforced by two very strong Lance Sergeants. Water and food stops were enforced, and rations were ploughed through to fuel the long marches. While this is certainly basic stuff, many patrols evidently sacrificed administration in an attempt to make up time, to their long term detriment. Finally and most importantly was the incredibly positive attitude of

the Recce Platoon guardsmen. Several members of the team finished the competition with very little skin left on the soles of their feet. The river crossing was the greatest single factor in terms of degradation. At last light it was extremely cold, and despite immaculate waterproofing drills much of our equipment (and ourselves) was soaked. The guardsmen were never the least bit daunted by any of the challenges, and their singular determination to complete the patrol in good order was the key to our success. At each new challenge, regardless of physical fatigue and lack of sleep, they reacted to pressure with complete effort and enthusiasm. Not only that, but

they remained switched on and receptive to information throughout, meaning that when we finally reached the debrief stage it was the guardsmen supplying all of the answers, to the impressed amazement of those debriefing us.

Cambrian Patrol was one of the toughest military challenges any of the Welsh Guards teams have faced outside of operations. The remarkable achievement of all of the teams is testament to the fact that it isn't necessary to prepare for months for the event; good basic patrol skills and a bloody minded determination to finish the event is all that is required to succeed.

# THE BATTALION IN KENYA



LCpl Grindley gives a fire control order to his section

## 1st Battalion Welsh Guards – Exercise ASKARI THUNDER

**I**t had been nearly twenty years since the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards last exercised in Kenya, and whilst the majority of those who deployed in 2010 were not present in 1991, there was still sufficient collective memory to ensure that the Battalion arrived with tales of scorching weather, beautiful sunsets and close encounters with wild beasts still ringing in their ears.

We arrived at the British Army Training Unit Kenya (BATUK) to take part in Exercise ASKARI THUNDER, just the fourth such exercise since Exercise GRAND PRIX was phased out. The exercise saw us pitched into the fictional country of JELA, a nation blighted by ethnic violence and unwanted incursions from neighbouring SORTU. The rising tensions in JELA were to form the backdrop of our training over a

five week period, culminating in a six-day final exercise. Already a significant amount of work had been done by the Second-in-Command, Ops Officer and the Quartermaster and his G4 team, but the hard work was still very much to come.

The exercise was divided into four main phases, named ASKARI WARRIOR, CENTURION, MARAUDER and SPARTAN respectively.

Exercise ASKARI WARRIOR saw the companies enjoy great autonomy as they deployed to their respective training camps in the MPALA FARM and OL DOINYO LEMBORO training areas where they undertook basic company-level training, conducted a progressive live-firing package tailored by the

company hierarchy and honed their fieldcraft skills. Meanwhile the Mortar Platoon and 127 (Dragon) Battery had moved north to the ARCHER'S POST training area to conduct their own bespoke firing packages. We also welcomed several guests during this phase. Andy, a former RSM of 22 SAS, joined us to pass on his experience, demonstrating how to catch, kill and prepare an animal in the wilds of Africa! At the same time 5 journalists flew over from the UK to report back on our training to an array of newspapers, television and radio stations.

Exercise ASKARI CENTURION took place in the ARCHER'S POST training area, more commonly referred to as ARCHER'S ROAST for the temperatures were a good 10 degrees higher than they were further south! The pace of training also picked up as the three rifle companies moved into a six-day round-robin



A Guardsman clears a trench position.

comprising CALFEX, FOB security and CLP serials. This part of the exercise was run by BATUK staff and represented us conducting a show of force near the SORTU-JELAN border in the hope of deterring any further aggression on the part of the Sortu People's Army.

Following those six gruelling days everyone was able to catch their breath somewhat during Exercise ASKARI MARAUDER, as the Battalion moved into MOB SIMBA for a well-earned shower and some hot food. Over a two day period Battle Group Headquarters conducted a series of TEWTs, including a Battle Group-level obstacle crossing, line of departures and helicopter drills.

For Exercise ASKARI SPARTAN the Battalion moved south and onto the LOLDAIGA training area where we were tasked to clear the area of the Sortu soldiers and insurgents, and to begin the process of stabilising the region. The efforts of the following six days were challenging and varied, from the Prince of Wales's Company securing of the UNHCR Camp and Number Two Company advancing to contact across the brutally steep Lolldaiga Hills, to Number Three Company dealing with unrest in Balla Balla and the Recce Platoon leading the Battalion into the FUP for the final attack onto Objective ZINC. But it wasn't just the enemy forces and indigenous populations that Welsh Guardsmen had to deal with; Number 5 Platoon found themselves compromised...by a pride of Lions!

With the enemy defeated and peace restored to JELA, the

Battalion recovered to Turaco Farm for a smoker before heading off for some well-earned Adventurous Training. Guardsmen taking part in activities as diverse as windsurfing and rock climbing, whilst a few determined parties made it to the top of Mount Kenya, which at 5,199m is the country's highest peak. During this final phase we also welcomed the Regimental Adjutant, Mrs Bonas and some members of the Worshipful Company of Drapers, long-time supporters of the Regiment. They were treated to a varied package of basic fieldcraft, live firing, safari and adventurous training, as well as getting the opportunity to have a few beers with some guardsmen!

All in all it was an immensely successful exercise for the Battalion, be it the hard graft and determination of the guardsmen, which was regularly commented on by BATUK and Brigade alike, or the remarkable resourcefulness of the MT Platoon and REME Detachment in ensuring that the vehicle fleet was always up and running. The CIS Platoon became the first in the British Army to get secure voice and data working in the field, whilst the Engineer Troop continued to surpass themselves in the construction of the many camps across the training areas. Our collective work ensured we recovered to the snowy UK with a pat on the back and some warm words of approval from the Brigade Commander. Perhaps most importantly a new generation returned home with a new swathe of tales of adventure and near misses!



*The Coy Second-in-Commands (L to R, Lt Dunlop, Capt Richards, Capt Charles-Jones) enjoy a light-hearted moment prior to the launch of Exercise ASKARI SPARTAN*



*LSgt Hughes 39 and the Battalion's newest recruit!*



*One of many glimpses of the locals!*

## A Company Commander's Perspective on the CALFEX – Ex ASKARI THUNDER 4 2010



The CALFEX is hard work" was a phrase bandied around rather readily by 'those in the know' in the initial stages of Exercise ASKARI THUNDER 4. When I dug into exactly why this was the case, opinions tended to diverge. "It's hot"..., "It's long"..., "The ground is a nightmare"..., "coordination of the all-arms battle is difficult"...The CALFEX accounted for only forty eight hours in an exercise that lasted five weeks in total; yet it was quite clear from the surrounding mystique that this would be a challenging couple of days at the very least.

### INITIAL IMPRESSIONS

The reality matched the legend in most respects, but in objective terms the CALFEX was simply a fantastic training opportunity. It was live firing at its very best, integration of all arms in a pressured environment and dismounted close combat in some of the most difficult environmental

conditions that the British Army can offer. In addition to all this - it was just plain hard graft, and will be a training event against which young soldiers and commanders will set their personal and collective thresholds in the future.

The CALFEX (Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise) takes place

on the Archers Post training area as part of Exercise ASKARI CENTURION, the second of four phases on ASKARI THUNDER. ASKARI CENTURION tests the all-arms company group with

a three-way rotation of 48 hour company battle-runs, one of which is the CALFEX. It falls naturally into two parts, a 5KM company advance to contact and a company deliberate attack, both with live ammunition fired from direct and indirect fire weapon systems.

The Prince of Wales's Company Group had come together on the previous phase of the exercise (ASKARI WARRIOR) and had enjoyed eight days of training together. Co-ordinating and integrating the live effect of all these different assets was a significant challenge. It numbered almost 130 men as we crossed the line of departure, including:

Company Headquarters  
Company Intelligence Support Team  
1x Fire Support Team (Forward Artillery Observers and Joint Tactical Air Controllers)  
1 Platoon WG  
2 Platoon WG  
1x Kenyan Army Rifle Platoon  
1x Fire Support Group (GPMG and Javelin Anti-Tank Missiles)  
1x Engineer Section  
1x Royal Military Police Section  
Company Sergeant Major's Group



An example of the closeness of the country



Prince of Wales's Company Group Orders

### THE GROUND AND THE GOING

For both phases, consideration of the ground was the key factor for the company commander. The advance to contact takes place in the OI Kanjao valley, in the lee of this considerable hill feature. The valley floor (where the enemy had sighted themselves) was overlooked by high ground to the left and right, providing (in retrospect!) excellent opportunities for observation and fire support. The deliberate attack took place further to the north and was also flanked by high ground to the left and right. The dilemma that the company commander faced was how best to utilise this high ground by getting his fire support assets up there to cover the clearance of the valley floor, while at the same time not affecting the momentum of the attack.

### PREPARATIONS AND BATTLE PROCEDURE

Preparation was key. Orders for the second day's deliberate attack would not be given until

the advance to contact was complete and the Company Group was in a hasty harbour. Initial battle procedure therefore concentrated on the first day. Full sets of formal orders were given down to section level and rehearsals were completed in detail. The process that we would adopt for hasty battle procedure once in contact was confirmed and rehearsed, prior to moving into a tactical company harbour just south of the line of departure. The enemy we faced were a conventional enemy of approximately company minus in strength, bolstered by a significant indirect fire capability (simulated through the DTES vests we were wearing). They were laid down in an initial screen at the bottom of the valley, a platoon covering a significant wire obstacle across the entirety of the valley floor in the centre and a further platoon manning extensive trench systems around two compounds. In reality the, enemy were masses of figure 11 and 12 targets, interspersed

with grenade throwing pits and bunkers, live firing trench systems and compounds in which grenades and small arms could also be used. This was a range the like of which the majority of soldiers in the Battlegroup had never seen before, and the level of work and co-ordination required on the part of both the BATUK Staff and the Range Team was not lost on the exercising troops.

### THE ADVANCE TO CONTACT

Once the Company Group had crossed the line of departure it was confirmed in my own mind that effective use of the

ground would be the key to success on the advance to contact. As the advance progressed, so the thickness of the bush increased. This reduced the range and effect of belt fed weapon systems and therefore the company commanders ability to support the platoon commanders actions. Low level initiative among Platoon and Section commanders was the key ingredient if momentum was to be maintained. While the mantra of assault, suppress, reserve worked well in the more open areas, the reality was that when the bush closed in on us the advance turned into a series of section and occasionally platoon level small arms engagements at close range. Manoeuvring the Fire Support Group into position was often clumsy and could lead to a loss in momentum, the lifeblood of the advance. Very often it was the Kenyan platoon that was most adept at operating in these conditions, though they did lack in automatic firepower.

Add to this the climatic conditions. The temperature at the height of the day was in the mid to late thirties and the Company Group was going through range helmets and body armour, combined with a fighting order which in some cases weighed as much as thirty



OI Kanjao hill feature from the bottom CALFEX Valley



*Trench systems in the latter stages of the Advance to Contact*

kilos. In all the Company suffered nine heat casualties during this first day, all of which required evacuation by either vehicle or helicopter from the point of wounding. This had an inevitable effect on the progress and momentum of the advance, it also taught us some valuable lessons both in terms of taking measures to prevent this taking place (drinking and eating religiously even when in contact and recognising symptoms in others) but also the best procedures for evacuation.

It was a tried Company Group that completed the clearance of the final compound approximately five hours after it had crossed the line of departure. But there was no let up at this point. It was straight into a hasty harbour and equally hasty battle procedure for a deliberate attack at dawn the following morning. A search of the final compound had yielded some crucial intelligence as to how the enemy was laid down, again a company minus again dug-in in a series of trench systems and built up compounds.

### DELIBERATE ATTACK

Having inserted by foot into the FUP by dawn the company

moved up to the line of departure with the sound of 105 shells thudding into the enemy depth positions. The lessons of the previous day had been firmly grasped. Speed and aggression, leading to momentum, aided by speedy and casualty evacuation and efficient re-supply, timely deployment of the reserve The Fire Support Group occupied the high ground to the right of the enemy position and acted as a fire base and an anchor observation post. On H hour Number 1 and 2 Platoons destroyed the enemy sentry trenches simultaneously, before the Kenyans cleared three live fire compounds. 'Live' livestock was tethered along side figure 11 targets in some of the rooms to add an element of judgemental complexity for soldiers engaging the enemy at very close quarters. The attack culminated in the clearance of a Russian-style trench system, including the use of grenades and small arms, again up close and personal. All in all, tough, demanding, exhausting and quite simply some of the best and most realistic foundation training that the majority of us will ever do in the Army.



*Lsgt Hughes calls the rest of his section forward after the grenadier has cleared a bunker forward*

### CONCLUSIONS

The CALFEX typified everything that made training in Kenya so demanding. Heat, difficult terrain and the integration of a multitude of capabilities and agencies to achieve all-arms effect. All of these elements introduce friction and complexity to what are, in relative terms, fairly basic training scenarios. It was high quality, tough and realistic training delivered to a very high standard that allows the fine tuning of tactics and procedures. But from a Company Commanders perspective (and with a healthy dose of hindsight), what the CALFEX really did for the Prince of Wales's Company Group was to imbue a measure of grit and determination to succeed in the most challenging and

testing of training conditions in a way that other training does not always manage. To my mind, this is the real value of Hybrid Foundation Training and is the prime reason why it must continue. Such a qualities must be part of our DNA and our makeup – our 'foundation'. Attempting to imbue that same attitude and ethos on Mission Specific Training would wholly unfair, given that our attentions are fully drawn to orientating ourselves to a new set of operational and tactical circumstances. Training opportunities such as the CALFEX raise all our personal thresholds, both the trainers and the trained, and deliver us to the point where we are primed to train for, and then deliver on, operations.



*An example of the inside of a live fire compound. The 'compound' is sunk into the ground so that rounds are captured by the dirt walls.*

## EXERCISE ASKARI THUNDER IV A Platoon Commander's Perspective



LSgt Hughes 39 with some willing recruits

**E**xercise ASKARI THUNDER was a test for every member of the Battle Group due to its arduous and complex nature. The exercise was challenging but also enjoyable as the pace of it varied allowing all personnel to rest before the each phase. As a Platoon Commander there was plenty to learn along the way.

Ex ASKARI THUNDER was essentially split into four phases. Phase 1, ASKARI WARRIOR was an opportunity for the Company to train with live ammunition up to and including platoon attack level. We also used the time to acclimatize and go through a host of dry training serials including patrols, ambushes and night navigation. Phase 2, ASKARI CENTURION was essentially a test exercise for the Company, focussed on three 48-hour company battle runs, one of which was the Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise or CALFEX. Phase 3

was ASKARI MARAUDER, an opportunity to go through a series of Battalion level tactical exercises without troops, focussed on obstacle crossing, a real education for Platoon and Section Commanders. The culminating phase of the exercise was ASKARI SPARTAN, a gruelling six-day final test exercise for the Battle Group, a fitting end to almost six weeks of genuinely taxing training.

### Ex ASKARI WARRIOR

Having moved into the Company training base on Ol Donyo Lemboro, a game rich African savannah land, it

became clear that there would be common themes that would endure throughout the exercise. The first and most obvious was the way in which the ground would shape the way we worked. And so we

changed and adapted our tactics techniques and procedures to suit the conditions. For example, conventional tactics such as a 'right flanking' was not suitable for the close country in a large number of circumstances. The result of the having such dense undergrowth had a number of knock on effects; speed of movement, use of fire support and devolved command. The closeness of the country coupled with the use of live ammunition, focussed the minds of the Guardsmen and those of the safety staff. It was not uncommon to be engaging targets at ranges as close a five metres given the limited visibility in places. The ranges themselves were over a 4 mile march from the Company training base and the number of smiling faces marching back under the setting sun was testament to the realism and excitement that this unique countryside produced. There was the odd hairy moment with the wildlife. I was rather nonplussed to find a heard of forty elephants were using the area of my section attack range for recreational purposes, while the Company Commander and LSgt Evans 07



The daily march to the ranges. The Kenyan Platoon keeping up with the Company snake

# THE BATTALION IN KENYA

WELSH GUARDS REGIMENTAL MAGAZINE



*Lt Maltby hanging out at the local baths.*

were seen to move pretty quickly after coming across a female elephant and her calves on a track in the twilight.

## Ex ASKARI CENTURION

The temperature increased significantly as we moved to Archers Post for the second phase. That said, the undergrowth was just as thick, giving you poor visibility and also making it difficult in many cases to follow a compass bearing due to the especially thorny trees. A GPS became an essential piece of kit for a Commander to inform higher command of their position on the ground but also to give the Commander the reassurance that they were moving in the right direction as the undergrowth was so dense that in many cases it became very disorientating.

Speed of movement was not only slower as a result of the undergrowth, but the standard of mapping made it very difficult to complete a detailed map study prior to deployment onto the ground. Contours on

the maps were at 20 metre intervals making it difficult to differentiate between high and low features, unless it was a significant hill! Dried up river beds provided substantial obstacles as they were sometimes not mapped and in

tactical situations at night they slowed progress substantially. The three 48-hour exercises were very different but all held very definite challenges for all ranks. The CALFEX was perhaps some of the physically toughest training that any of Number One Platoon had gone through. The number of heat casualties was significant and lead Sgt Davies 96 to put propose a Number 1 Platoon T-shirt with 'I survived the CALFEX' written on the back!

From a tactical point of view the undergrowth and the ground in general did affect the way in which we could employ our fire support. In close country it was often not possible for one section to provide fire support for another because they would have to be unfeasibly close to the enemy to do so. As a result they were employed using the high features to get above the undergrowth to provide a form of overwatch. The Fire Support Group took some convincing that this wasn't a personal

vendetta as they were asked to lug their general purpose machine guns and javelin anti tank missiles up yet another large hill feature.

The exercise also tested the way we work with other nations forces and how we can interact with local populations in complex situations. We worked along side the Kenyan Army throughout the first two phases of the exercise which presented both opportunities for our learning in dealing with a different ethos and challenges in employing their capability effectively. We learnt at a very early stage that we also needed to understand their culture to gain the best from the Kenyans. For example the Kenyan Soldiers took great offence to being called "Boys" a turn of phrase, which we would not consider insulting, but friendly. They saw themselves not as "Boys" but "Men". The exercise also trained the way in which we interact and worked with local populations whilst one



*Company confirmatory orders prior to the final attack*



*Surviving Jam Boys at the top. From l to r: Enemy, Gdsm Roberts 72, LSgt Millar, LCpl Lawrence, Sgt Owen 75, LCpl Jones 89, Company Commander, Gdsm Reynolds, Enemy*

moment fighting a kinetic battle trying to extract civilians out of contact and then very quickly developing working relationships in though engagement with key local leaders. This helped to train us all to be more comfortable with the complex backdrop that all modern warfare takes place in.

#### **Ex ASKARI SPARTAN**

After ASKARI MARAUDER had given us some time to recover from the rigours of Archer's Post, it was very quickly onto ASKARI SPARTAN, the final test exercise, which took place on Lolldaiga training area – which had the most hills yet! The exercise was varied to say the least. It went from an advance to contact, to a stabilization phase and then onto two deliberate attacks onto significant hill features. Again, the FSG were heard to mutter something about the Welsh Guards being re-rolled as a

specialist mountain battalion. The common theme throughout this six testing days was a distinct lack of sleep, though the men of Number 1 Platoon stepped up to the mark in all respects. The final attack onto Obj Lead was one that will remain in the memory banks for some time, not least for the breathtaking view at the top. Only a handful of the Company were in a position to enjoy it, though they had to extract themselves from the top of the objective rather quickly after it caught fire!

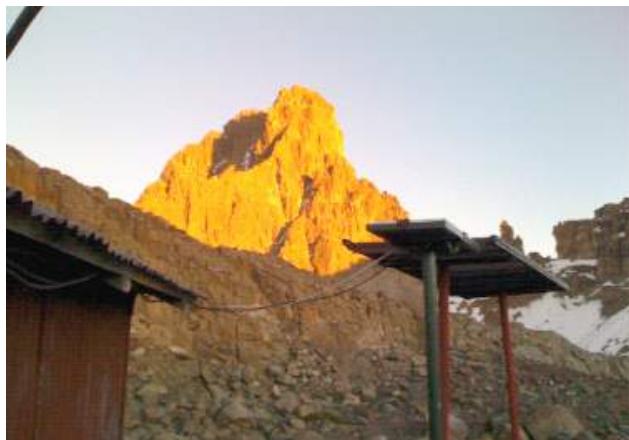
It was a very tired but proud Number 1 Platoon that returned to Nanyuki to get some rest and then deploy on adventure training. This included a trip up Mount Kenya for the more intrepid members of the Company. Others settled for the more sedate option of outdoor activities such as rafting and mountain biking.

The lessons learnt from such a

demanding hybrid foundation exercise will be very useful for the mission specific training that the Battalion will be taking part in the next year. The essential training helped to develop bonds both in the Battalion, but possibly more importantly, developed links and the understanding of what other supporting arms can provide. The exercise as a whole was really beneficial in understanding how far troops can be pushed and when required people will step up to the mark where necessary to ensure that a job is completed. It was also fantastic to deploy abroad as a Company and a Platoon and to mould ourselves into a tight knit unit and to have some fun!



*The final objective now clear of enemy, if a little singed*



*The summit of Mount Kenya*



## EX ASKARI SPARTAN

By Sgt Peters

**E**xercise Askari Spartan was the coming together of all of our training in Kenya, so we all knew that it was going to be a tough and demanding exercise. As a platoon sergeant with eight platoon Number Three Company, I got a great opportunity to test myself and the section second in commands on the army's newest and best resourced hybrid foundation exercise.

Throughout all our time in Kenya one of the biggest problems that I as a platoon sergeant faced was making sure the platoon was able to continue operating in the extreme heat of the Kenyan environment. Often we were encountering temperatures that were approaching forty degrees, and this brings with it lots of different challenges for the boys. For Number Three Company in particular, who had only recently returned from the artic conditions of the Falklands Islands' winter, the

challenge was even greater. It was extremely important that the boys understood how important it was to continue drinking throughout the day and night if they were to remain fit to fight at a moments notice. But making sure that every man had enough water to hydrate himself throughout the entire day was not easy either, in a country where water is extremely scarce. Water had to be driven in on trucks from the A1 echelon which could often take up to four hours, so

making sure that timely re-supply demands were put in was important. We were lucky in Number Three Company in that we had no heat casualties compared to the other companies who struggled quite badly with them. Though they might well say there was a lack of effort on our part actually I think the real reason that we were so successful in overcoming this problem was that we drilled into the guardsmen the importance of the "buddy-buddy" system. This meant that the guys were constantly looking out for each

other and then at the first sign of any heat illness the platoon commander and myself were able to take the appropriate action to avoid a minor problem becoming a serious incident.

The ability to prevent people who were starting to suffer in the heat from becoming full-blown heat casualties was important because of the difficulty in treating casualties in Kenya. Almost all casualties that we sustained had to be lifted by helicopter due to the vast distances that separated us from professional medical facilities. When communication problems were factored in, organising a helicopter casevac was often quite difficult so making sure that we did not suffer loads of casualties due to not drinking enough water became really important. However when we did have to casevac people it was good practice to test the Platoon and Company casevac plan and also very good for the boys to see how well backed up they are when things did go wrong.

Throughout the final exercise we were wearing TESEX kit, which allowed us to simulate firing our weapons and also being shot at, both directly and indirectly. At first the benefits of the kit were not immediately apparent, as the most noticeable thing about the kit was the extra weight that it put





on top of the body armour that we were wearing already. However as the exercise went on and we were able to appreciate the feedback that we were given from the directing staff, I changed my mind. Having the ability to see exactly where all of the platoon were at any one time throughout a particular engagement as well as what fire position they were in was extremely useful in sorting out and correcting the basics of soldiering. Both the platoon commander and I were able to come together and talk exactly what was good and what needed to be worked on so that we were constantly improving throughout and up until the end of the final exercise. The benefits, that we as a platoon gained from this were incalculable.

The exercise began with Number Three Company initially in reserve, however this was not to be the case for very long. As Number Two Company's advance began to meet fierce resistance in their area of operations, we were called forward for an assault to the west of an insurgent

stronghold in the village of Bala-bala. However to approach Bala-bala with surprise on our side we needed to TAB up one of the steepest hills in the area behind The Jam Boys who were desperately fighting their way through the thick bush that was doing its best to prevent us from reaching our line of departure on time. Throughout this tab we suffered three casualties and this was one of the most challenging casevac that we conducted of the entire exercise. With nowhere for a helicopter to land and pick them up, we had to ferry them to the top of the hill or leave them on axis to be picked up later, depending on how serious their injuries were. Eventually we did arrive at our line of departure and the assault began on Bala-bala itself. Before long I had to step up to the mark when the platoon commander had to replace the company commander, and I found myself commanding the platoon. This was a challenging phase of the exercise and the whole idea (as we later found

out from the directing staff) was to see what happened when the key people were taken out of the fight and replaced by their subordinates. After the assault onto Bala-bala we then moved into the stabilisation phase of the exercise where we had to start thinking about how we would support the local population and keep them onside so that we could defeat the insurgency. Changing from a kinetic role to a more interactive one with the local population was a challenge for the boys, but one that they overcame very well. Realising that they could be responsible

for gaining the vital intelligence that we needed for a subsequent mission often by doing something as simple as passing the time of day with a friendly local was a big step forward in their training and understanding of what it takes to fight in a hybrid war environment.

The final stage of the exercise was just as challenging as the previous parts had been. After a massive TAB we found ourselves poised to launch onto another insurgent stronghold and after initially attacking what turned out to be the nearby directing staff's tent, we quickly secured Number Three Company's objective with minimal casualties. However the mission was not over and it would be another six hours, (two of which were fought on a cliff face) before the mission was complete.

Kenya was a fantastic exercise, which challenged everyone from the guardsmen to the platoon commander. It has given us the base to go on confidently into PDT later on this year in the knowledge that we have a strong understanding in the differences between conventional and non-conventional fighting.



# WELSH GUARDS AFGHANISTAN APPEAL

## THE WELSH GUARDS AFGHANISTAN APPEAL

Brigadier P R G Williams DL

**A**s Chairman of the Afghanistan Appeal, I am very pleased to report that the Regiment and its wide circle of supporters have risen magnificently to the challenge of providing a fund of £1 million to help those bereaved and injured on the Battalion's last tour.

As I write, a total of £800,000 has been raised, and I know that more will be raised next year, because many of you have been in touch with your plans.

I am delighted that so many wish to "continue the movement", not least because the Battalion is due to return to Afghanistan in early 2012, and the fund must aim off for that, but may I also remind you that the Appeal Office will close in early December. All contributions should be sent, after that date, to RHQ, who will place the money raised in the appeal account. It does mean that there can only be very limited help in running any projects, so the short answer is to run it yourself in the name of the Appeal, and send any money you raise to RHQ in the form of a cheque made out to the Welsh Guards Afghanistan Appeal. Here ends the Commercial.

The whole exercise has been most encouraging, and a heart warming indication of how excellently those on operational tours in a particularly difficult theatre are supported. I have been

astonished at the generosity of those we have approached, and the sheer variety of schemes dreamed up to raise funds has been marvellous.

We have had money raised by skydiving, running against a horse, desert marathons, climbing every conceivable peak in Wales as well as the Three Peaks Challenge, and even someone tattooed in the cause. And we have also had a very generous response from Welsh Guardsmen on an individual basis.

The launch began with the Three Peaks Challenge, which got considerable publicity, and this was followed by the invitation from Chepstow Racecourse to raise money at the Welsh National. In spite of a sharp frost, which at one point threatened to spoil the meeting, over £5,000 was collected, and Northern racing donated £10,000.

Just one week before the election, with the most generous support of the Drapers Company, we staged our major fund raising dinner in their splendid hall, and this raised £160,000. Not only was this an outstanding success for



Capt. Richards tackles a monstrous hill with ease



Planning the next stage



Lt Col & Mrs Bartle-Jones, Col Bonas and Capt's Richards and Thompson wearing their medals with pride



Best Playing Pony



Brigadier Williams, Major Thorneloe and the Reverend Pryor

the appeal, but it also showed off the Welsh Guards to many friends who, up until then, had not known them well, and they were most impressed.

The Kirtlington Polo Club and the Thorneloe family laid on a magnificent polo day in early July, which made over £60,000, and the two events at the Glanusk Estate later in the month brought in over

£15,000. We have also had wonderful support from Cardiff City, London Welsh and L/Sgt Williams 31 and the students of the Military Preparation College, who raised over £10,000. It just shows what tabbing over those hills can do; nobody ever gave me money like that for marching all over Sennybridge.

None of this could have

happened without the goodwill of all those who have put their shoulders to the fundraising wheel, and on behalf of the Regiment I thank you all. I must give special thanks to the Committee, and the Project staff; they have been superb. We must also thank our Colonel, who has been a great source of support and encouragement, and is to host a reception to thank our

major donors, in Clarence House.

Without, I hope, sounding complacent, we can say that we have risen to the challenge as good Welsh Guardsmen should, and as the present generation has on operations in one of the most difficult areas the Regiment has ever had to fight in. We wish them well on their next tour.



The players and the Thorneloe family after presentation of The 2010 Rupert Thorneloe Memorial Cup



*Corps of Drums performing under UV light*



*Mrs and RSM Roberts at The Drapers Dinner*



*Lt. Col. Antelme giving his speech at the Drapers Dinner*



*Mrs and Brigadier Williams and Caroline Curtis Dolby at the Drapers Dinner*

## GLANUSK POLO



**S**aturday the 17th July saw several thousand people convene at the Glanusk Estate for the Wales versus Great Britain international Polo match. The match was very kindly organised and hosted by Harry Legge-Bourke former Welsh Guardsman, at his family home near Crickhowell in South Wales, in order to raise funds for the Welsh Guards Appeal.

Elements from Number Two Company and Support Company made the journey down from Aldershot to provide assistance as the iconic red tunic and bearskins of the Welsh Guards lined the route onto the estate. In addition Gdsm dressed in desert combats were to be tasked in

collecting money for programmes and donations for the Appeal.

The grounds to the estate and thankfully the weather both conspired to set the most stunning backdrop to what was set to be an absolutely outstanding day. Although



From left to right LSgt Evans 88, Gdsm Edwards 27, LCpl Nuku, Gdsm Meaney, Gdsm Rees, Gdsm Hill, Gdsm Rogers, Gdsm O'Sullivan Collecting money for the Appeal.



Gdsm O'Sullivan celebrates as Wales snatch a goal in the second chukka.

clearly the main event was the polo there was no end of additional entertainment on offer. Of particular note in this respect was the Parachute Regiment's display team the Red Devils who ushered on the start of the match with a remarkable display, carrying the flags of both teams, as they flew graciously and spectacularly through the sky. The Red Devil's were not the only ones fortunate enough to be able to survey the beautiful countryside from the air, helicopter rides were available for those who wished to share such a breathtaking view. In addition Harry Legge-Bourke had arranged for a silent auction to be put on with some fantastic prizes including signed film and sports memorabilia.

As the teams lined up for the start of the match and the National Anthems it was clear that the game was set to be a close run affair as both sides appeared, on paper, at least fairly equally balanced consisting of a mixture of amateur and professional players. The Welsh national team was headed by Ricky Cooper with a full time

professional contract for an American team in New York. In addition Andrew and Richard Blake Thomas and Tarquin Southwell swelled the Welsh professional ranks. By contrast team Great Britain were able to draw on a comparable level of talent in the form of Max Hutchinson, Freddy Dear and Harold Hodges, all with a one goal handicap.

The Great Britain team opened the scoring and at first sight appeared to have the best of the play as they earned a 3 goal lead in the first chukka. The Welsh national side were clearly un-phased however as they valiantly fought back, managing to hold the Great Britain team 4 goals to 2 in the second chukka. No doubt the tremendously vocal crowd support had a large part to play in facilitating their team's resurgence. Indeed as team captain Ricky Cooper remarked:

It really was the first game that I have ever played when I could hear thousands of voices cheering us on...One thing that really stood in my mind was all of the Welsh Guards behind the goal really getting behind us at

every break, coming over and speaking to us to gee us on. They really wanted us to do well.

Unfortunately the match was finally taken by the Great Britain team who won by half a goal. This came despite the fact that the referee had ignored some rather unscrupulous British play against the Welsh in the dying moments of the final chukka, which could have set the scene for an emphatic Welsh victory.

With the match concluded and the unique Welsh Guards endorsed plaques handed out to the players the vast majority

of crowd took the opportunity to get involved in the post match hospitality. A marquee with live music as well as a heavily discounted bar provided the focal point for the Welsh fans to drown and dance their sorrows away and brought to an end a very unique and special day which raised over £25,000 for the Appeal. The Regiment would like to take this opportunity to offer our unreserved gratitude to Harry Legge-Bourke and his family for their incredibly warm and generous support to the Appeal.

*All photographs are reproduced with the generous permission of M Photography Wales*



Lady Guthrie hands out runners up plaques to the Welsh team overlooked by Gdsm Wale.

## THE WELSH GUARDS AFGHANISTAN APPEAL DINNER

Chris Beynon

### Combined with Welsh Guards Biennial Rugby Dinner

**L**ike any good idea it must be coaxed, cajoled, prodded and prompted and then for good measure, agitated, enthused and finally sold! When the Rugby Committee of Welsh Guards Reunion first learned of our Afghanistan Appeal, the concept was warmly embraced cwtched even and a plan of action put into place.

We would canvass opinion from those Guardsmen who were on our re-union dinner's data-base and ask, should we, in the interest of raising funds, invite civilians for the first time. They would after all generate increased revenue just on ticket sales. Sponsorship would also bring benefits. The result of the poll was an underwhelming 'Yes'. 26 said 'aye' while 25 said 'nay'. The 'ayes' had it.

#### Galvanize, actionize, all systems go!

The 'eureka' moment came while walking my dog around Swiss Valley, Felinfoel. How do we get the public interested? The 'Sun' newspaper, to its eternal credit has been unequivocal in its support of 'Help for Heroes' and the 'Millies' are their brainchild. Every morning with our breakfasts, 4 million or so of us read of causalities in Afghanistan. The omnipresent fear for our loved ones serving there are the IEDs. Nails, bearings and dog mess! Boys/Men – oh yes, Men are maimed and killed. Arms and legs are being lost so why not ask someone for an 'arm and a leg', cockney speak for a leg of money, - a euphemism. So I did! The trial run began. First, letters to friends and then the rugby database. I ran it by Chalkie (Major Glyn White MBE) and together we raised it in our

first meeting. It was improved unanimously.

We designed a badge in Brigade colours with an arm and leg in the centre and a small Leek atop, calling it 'The Arm and a Leg 100 Club'. Available to all who will donate £100.00 or more! To date we have 40 members with 35 pledged to pay before our dinner in November 2011.

That is £7,500.00. Oh bother! I had promised P.R.G. (Brigadier Peter Williams DL, our chairman) that I would get £10,000.00 for the appeal! I was £2,500.00 short – and the 'A&L' was at a standstill.

Remembering the words of Sir John Goldsmith – "Once you see the bandwagon coming over the horizon, it will be too late to jump on it", I set about forming Plan B.

My lifelong friend, Bryn Pencock, inadvertently paid me a compliment in one of our committee meetings. He had said "The trouble with you 'Barrymore' is, you sometimes take things too far". He was right of course and as I explained to Bryn, "If you sometimes push things to the limits and cross the line, you will inevitably achieve your goal" W Clement Stone.

In selling there are 'sheep' and 'foxes'. Those that are driven

and herded and those who live by guile. Michael Korda has written that "it is ok being Machiavellian, just don't admit it!" My hands are up. I have sometimes walked with one foot in the shadows. Without asking Colonel Bonas' permission or seeking his approval, for I did not think it necessary, I designed a miniature medal with a leek to the front with the words embossed, 'Honour our Soldiers'. The reverse side read:

'Welsh Guards Afghanistan Appeal.' The clasp ribbon carried the colours of Gowerton Grammar School or Barcelona FC. Navy blue, maroon, navy blue! Identical to the Brigade of Guards! Drafting a carefully worded letter, I sent missives out to Welsh people of high profile, world wide. I asked for their support and in return I would see that they received a medal which could be worn on the right breast of tuxedo or cocktail frock. Ideal for red-carpet occasions, stage appearances, St David's or Remembrance days, et al, by return of post I received a cheque for £1,000.00 from Dame Shirley Bassey. The postal service of the

Principality of Monaco is quite superb, for I had addressed it to: Dame Shirley Bassey, Monaco, France. Wrong country! It is an independent state adjacent to France. I knew that! Then came a £1,000.00 from Llanelli Town Council and another £1,000.00 from the Chair of Carmarthen County Council, Councillor Tegwen Devichand, (her father had been a Colour-Sergeant in the 1st Battalion during WW2. John Waygood from River Terrace, Porth, Rhondda). And then £1,400.00 collected by Abigail Davies, 113 year old who was the granddaughter of Councillor Devichand. The

'snowball' effect. Tony Pulis came next. A Newport boy who, at the time of writing, is manager of Stoke City Football Club.

I had sold the sizzle, not the sausage. No one had yet seen the medal. The die at Mappin and Webb was yet to be cast. Who in their right mind would buy a medal from someone they had never heard of, never met and had, yet, sent them a cheque for £1,000.00. Welcome to the world of sales. There's nowt as queer as folk!

Freud or Jung said that man's basic need was to feel wanted, respected, revered and rewarded. When Charity Agencies ask for money, they seek to raise their profile by bombarding one's senses through news and media advertisement. The written word is always best. It is personal. More discreet and less invasive. There has never been a more persuasive tool than the quill. With the agency, they give back very little as a reward. A coloured photograph of Ew-aw perhaps or a Parkinson's Parker pen. I have always been taught to reward customers handsomely.

Lady Ga-ga recently spent £25,000.00 on assorted 'bling' for her stage shows. The late Michael Jackson would do the same. He loved medals. So too do schoolboys and tomboys regardless of their ages, 8 or 80. Remember the song, "my brother, Sylvester", he wrote 40 medals on his chest". People will pay thousands for them – just reward them with something special and they will feel special. Link it with a charity as deserving as ours and we have a winner.

Never stop thinking, never stop working, strive to improve

remembering the adage, "if you aim for the moon and miss, you are still guaranteed a handful of stardust". So from the 'Arm and a Leg Club', which is only £100.00, we have progressed to our Sterling Silver Medal of Honour which is only £1,000.00!

There is a Welshman or Welshwoman out there somewhere who will support our Welsh Guards Afghanistan Appeal by donating £5,000.00. they will be rewarded an 18ct Yellow Gold Medal. Should any reader recoil in horror and think, the poor old duffer is suffering from dementia, re-read to debenture! It was Mr William Bortrick, Executive and Royal Editor of Burke's Peerage and Gentry, who advised that I should be asking £5,000.00 - £10,000.00, "bearing in mind the cause and the net worth of the individuals at that level I should be approaching". So you see, I am 'giving them away'! roll up, roll up!

As a committee man for Welsh Guards Rugby I am privileged to work with old and trusted friends who keep a rein on me but in this instance have given me my head to market and sell, as I see fit. To win the 'pumpkin growing for the biggest entry', forget putting the seedling in a bottle to acquire perfect symmetry, let it grow wild and feed it plenty of manure. It may be ugly, blighted, distorted etc, but it will beat all the 'pretty boys' grown in bottles – for the prize is for the biggest not the prettiest!

And finally, my last story to Colonel Tom (Bonas) and P.R.G., whose permission for the medal I now have but did not seek originally.

During the depression years and just after the Wall Street crash, a young man, a

newspaper vendor, would stand on his pitch selling to his regular customers. One customer took a shine to the boy and on a Friday would tip him for the week. The boy remembered the man. His pocket money would go to his widowed mother but the depression began to bite and so he dropped out of High School and took a full time job, selling insurance to people who rented dime a day offices in the sky scrapers of Chicago.

On his first day he took the elevator to the top floor and decided to work his way down. That first week he sold nothing. On the Monday of the second week, at 8 a.m. sharp he knocked on his first office of the day and began by saying "Excuse me Sir. May I have a moment of your time?"

"No kid, not today, I'm busy. Beat it!" the same stock reply he had received all the previous week. He turned to walk out and as he was closing the door behind him, the man called "So you've given up the newspapers, huh?" he was wearing a sun visor, spectacles and was without his usual hat. Then the boy recognised him as the 'good tipper'.

"Come on kid. Sit down and listen to what I gotta say. First off, you ain't sold no insurance, right?"

"Right"

"You wanna know why?"

"Sure"

"Well kid, in life you never ask people for their time, you take it!" If you ask for it, they'll give you all sort of excuses not to give it. You're giving them a way out. A reason to say, no"

That was the soundest bit of advice the young W. Clement Stone ever had. He went on to form his own insurance company, The Combined

Insurance Company of America. After 40 years Clem sold it for 1 billion dollars. He retired from insurance and wrote self help books and made another fortune. I was one of his devotees. So when, Colonel Tom, I did not ask for your approval to strike a medal at the outset and went ahead, it was never regardless of you and any dissent or reservations you might have raised. I knew that all of us, the Rugby Committee, yourself, and P.R.G. had at the forefront of our minds, the greater good – Our Afghanistan Appeal. If any blame is to be apportioned, then it must be levelled at W. Clement Stone!

To date the rugby committee has raised £11,000.00 for the Appeal Fund. By the evening of the Rugby dinner, Friday 18th November 2011, we hope to represent P.R.G with a cheque to the value of: £..... WATCH THIS SPACE.

It will be open doors and the warmest of welcomes to any Welsh Guardsmen and their male only, civilian friends.

Tickets are on sale at £45.00 each. For this, The Stradley Park Hotel, Llanelli is hosting a 4 course dinner with fine wines after which will follow our guest speaker for the night, Mr Rick O'Shea, rugby pundit from BBC's Scrum V.

The traditional auction has some extraordinary prizes and we will be having some surprise guests who will add flavour to the occasion.

The code of dress is, as always, lounge suit or Blazer, not notwithstanding this, sponsors may choose to wear formal black tie and we will not dissuade them as it is after all, a very special event for a most worthy cause.

Since its first Rugby dinner in 2003, Welsh Guards Rugby Reunions have gone from strength to strength. It is hoped that as many Welsh Guardsmen as possible will attend and with them their friends too.

The Stradley Park Hotel, Llanelli sits down to dine 400. Do please try to attend what promises to be an unforgettable night.

Single rooms are £62.50 while a shared Double room is £75.00, the hotel is offering a 3 night stay for the price of 2. That is £150.00 for a shared room, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Bed and Breakfast.

To reserve a table of 4, that is shared 4 + 4, the cost is £280.00. To reserve a table for 8 the cost is £460.00. Both tables carry a surcharge of £100.00 which gives

membership of 1 'Arm and a

Leg Club' plus a full page

advertisement or 'message'

in our prestigious

Menu/Programme.

Single tickets are £45.00

#### **Tickets are available from:**

**Chris Beynon, Mayfield Lodge, Clochyrie, Llanelli, Carmarthen SA14 8EZ.**

**Tel: 01554 752801 or email: beynonmaga@aol.com**

**Please make your cheque out to: Welsh Guards Rugby/Afghanistan Appeal.**

Should you require any information don't hesitate to contact me.

My warmest regards  
Chris Beynon  
(Hon. Sec.)



## The 4 Star Stradey Park Hotel Spiritual home of Welsh Guards Rugby

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Machynys Peninsula Golf + Health Club with Spa (Spa rooms and Monks treatments available at the hotel when booked in advance)	- 2 miles
The Millennium Coastal Walk	- 2 miles
The Swiss Valley Reservoir Walk (For Hikers and Cyclists)	- 1/2 mile
National Wetlands Centre	- 3 miles
Ffos Las Race Course	- 4 miles
Kidwelly Castle	- 6 miles
National Botanical Gardens of Wales (Discounted tickets available from hotel when booked in advance)	- 10 miles

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# RECRUITING/TRAINING

## RECRUITING PERSONNEL

**WO1 M Monaghan –**  
Regimental Recruiting Warrant Officer

### Regimental Support Team (South)

**WO2 W J Williams 25**  
Sgt S Hawkins  
L/Sgt M Dwyer  
L/Cpl B Burnett  
GDSM F Whitefoot  
GDSM T Sloman

### Regimental Support Team (North)

L/Sgt P Duffy  
GDSM R Jones 48  
GDSM S Williams 63

### Army Recruiting Team 32

L/Sgt Scarf  
L/Cpl Buckley  
GDSM Henneberry  
GDSM Lovell

### Army Recruiting Team 33

L/Cpl Jones 61  
L/Cpl Williams-Day  
GDSM Dade

### Army Preparation College (Bangor)

L/Sgt R Jones 60

## RECRUITING OFFICES

### Cardiff Group

L/Sgt Adams – AFCO Cardiff  
L/Sgt Cake – ACIO Newport  
L/Sgt Lloyd 88 – ACIO Pontypridd

### Swansea Group

C/Sgt Ryan-Young – AFCO Swansea  
L/Sgt Jury – ACIO Bridgend  
L/Sgt George – ACIO Haverfordwest  
L/Cpl Lee – ACIO Haverfordwest

### North Wales Group

C/Sgt Sanger – ACIO Rhyl  
L/Sgt Jones 95 – AFCO Wrexham  
L/Sgt Williams 31 – ACIO Bangor

### 143 Brigade

L/Sgt O'Brien – AFCO Shrewsbury

### London District

C/Sgt Lewis 37 – ACIO Victoria

## REGIMENTAL RECRUITING

**WO1(RRSM) Mike Monaghan**



GDSM Sloman and Whitefoot with the captains of Blues RFC and Scarlets RFC at the Cardiff City Stadium

Last April I took over as the Regimental Recruiting Sergeant Major, probably an appointment that most reading will be unfamiliar with. The reason for the appointment is owing to me choosing to step off and subsequently requiring some form of appointment to fill before leaving the Army.

The first thing I would like to say is a big thank you to Capt Peter Robinson, his efforts as the Recruiting Officer were what can only be described as outstanding, because of his efforts the job that I took over was made considerably easier and his work has set us up for this recruiting year. My main effort has been to continue on with the way Capt Robinson left off, although he has been a tough act to follow the ship has remained fairly steady.

At the same time that I started in Cardiff I was joined by WO2 Warren Williams who took up post as the Regimental Recruiting Warrant Officer from

WO2 Andy Price 80 and Sgt Jack Hawkins who replaced Sgt Will Hayes. This was followed very shortly by the return of LCpl Morris 78 and Gdsm Luke back to 1WG from RST South and LCpl Cunningham and Gdsm Harris from RST North. Since their return we have been brought back up to strength with LCpl Burnett, Gdsm Whitefoot and Gdsm Slowman in RST South and LSgt Duffy, Gdsm Williams 63 and Gdsm Jones 48 in RST North. There as also been movement within the recruiting world in North Wales with LSgt "Blair" Jones 60 moving from the RST North to the Bangor Military



Left to right: Gdsm Sloman, L/Sgt Dwyer, RQMS Williams and L/Cpl Burnett of the Regimental Support Team

Preparation College replacing Fly, LSgt Williams 31, who now moves in to ACIO Bangor. All of the outgoing RST had an extremely difficult and busy period over the last recruiting year; this was especially so with the demand for their services over the period of the Afghanistan tour and then the Home Coming Parades on the battalions return to the UK, for this they are all commended for their hard work.

With regards to the present Regimental Support Team, WO2 Williams 25 has brought rejuvenation in areas that required attention. His and the teams efforts are highlighted with a report that he has put together and follows this article. His and the teams support has been invaluable, not only to me and the Insight Courses that we have run for potential applicants, but also to the overall recruiting support to the recruiters.

In terms of our recruiting effort our recruiters are having another good year. This has been on top of a period between April and the beginning of September when there were no intakes for Welsh Guards. Starting the recruiting year we already had 40 applicants waiting for enlistment dates, the recruiters had to work extremely hard to keep them interested as some, by the time they ended up going in to training, were waiting a year. Our target was initially 80, this has since risen to 110. We are well on way to ensuring that the targets are met for this recruiting year and I am confident that we will eventually fill our quota. In terms of productivity by recruiters we are continuing to see a steady stream of recruits from all over Wales and with regards to the recruiter who has recruited the most Welsh Guardsmen, all is still to be played for. If it is not CSgt

Sanger or LSgt Cake it will not be through lack of trying. As this recruiting year draws to an end though, our recruiting efforts will quickly shift to ensuring that there is a sufficient quantity of applicants who are ready to gain a place in recruiting year 11/12.

In terms of movement within the recruiters things have remained fairly stable. The only movement that has occurred has been the replacement of LSgt Harrison with LSgt George, LSgt Barry who has returned after the closure of ACIO Merthyr, LSgt Jones 51 who will return after LSgt Williams 31 has passed his recruiting course and LSgt O'Brien who has replaced LSgt Luckraft in Shrewsbury after stepping off.

Recruit retention remains a difficult challenge; there is probably a greater loss of recruits from Wales than in any other area in the country, why?

one can only guess the real reason although some have said it is because of the desire to be back home with the family. The training staff at ITC Catterick and AFC Harrogate are key in the responsibility of retention and have done a great job up to date in providing 1WG with a good percentage of new draft based against recruits that started training. This will remain a challenge and one which I have no doubt our training staff will continue to do well.

The last thing to report is that changes may come in the near future. A recent review has highlighted a need for change and this change could see the Regimental Support Team's returning back to 1WG. Anybody that has been involved in recruiting will automatically be surprised by this and will think that the possibility of this could see a downward turn in Welsh Guards recruiting. I think one of the possibilities is to compensate this by an increased effort on behalf of Welsh Guards recruiting by the Army Recruiting Teams that are presently in Wales, with an uplift provided by 1WG. The details are still to be finalised but I can assure all those with concern that I have no doubt as long as we still send competent Non Commissioned Officers to the recruiting offices to facilitate recruiting, we will continue to have the quality of men joining that is required.

Finally I would like to wish all those reading the magazine all the best for the future and farewell.

## REGIMENTAL SUPPORT TEAM 2010/11

WO2 (RQMS) W J Williams



Insight Course visiting London

**T**his year has still been busy although the objective of it was to fill our recruiting allocation as well as nurture applicants who had to wait a period of between 6-9 months for their intake date in to training at either Infantry Training Centre, Catterick and to the Army Foundation College, Harrogate.

To that end we conducted two Insight Courses in Aldershot per month for the North and South applicants from the varied career offices. The courses that were conducted were very similar to the ADSC (Army Development Selection Centre) where we looked at the applicants on their fitness, command tasks, weapon retention skills, Ice breaker about themselves and a trip to London to watch the Changing of the Guard and visit to the Guards Museum.

During the year we attended an ACE (Army Careers Exhibition) for a week on "OP Dragons March" at Margam

Park, Port Talbot with all the arms and services available for all the local schools to visit and have a fun day out and a look at what career was available. The biggest job that was carried out was Armed Forces Day in Cardiff Bay for the nation and where the Welsh Guards had the Regimental Band and Number Two Company were on parade with the Regimental Support Team with a gazebo with uniforms next to a Mastiff vehicle for Afghanistan. It was a beautiful hot day and the crowds came in the thousands and cheered on all the three services which was well appreciated by all the soldiers on duty that day.



The Regimental Support Team with members of the Battalion at Glanusk



(L/Cpl Morris 13 and pupils of the Swansea group schools during the Army Careers Exhibition at Margam Park)

Next was the Royal Welsh Show at Builth Wells where 20,000 people attended over four days and the weather varied between two days of being very hot and two days of very wet rain. Although the show is the biggest agricultural show in the UK, it does attract our target audience as well as families on day trips.

We also assisted with various charities throughout the year, such as the Afghanistan Appeal, Help for Heroes and Latch (cancer) where lots of money was raised. Captain Legge-Bourke, Adrian Hinder and Brian Elliott organised a two day charity event up in Crickhowell for the Afghanistan Appeal and during the event the Regimental Support Team and Army Recruiting Team set up the caravan and the Climbing Tower. There was music, auctions, polo match between Wales and GB and the Association attended with some camped out on the estate.

The team also set up down in Oxford for a polo match set up by the sister of late Lieutenant Colonel RS M Thorneloe MBE between the Welsh Guards and the local team where a vast amount of money was raised for charity.

The Battalion was invited by Cardiff Blues RFC management to march a Company on parade for the Magners League game between Cardiff Blues and Llanelli Scarlets. Two guardsmen marched the referee, Linesman and teams on to the Cardiff City Stadium and then 300 tickets were given to the soldiers and their families as well as a few free drinks and the RST's carried out bucket collections for the Afghanistan Appeal. It has been a fairly busy year especially during the summer and obviously it has been extremely helpful running Insight Courses for potential applicants with the Battalion being able to assist and show what we have available within the Companies.



Captain Moukarzel commanding a marching party during the live S4C Magners League Rugby game at the Cardiff City Stadium

# BATTLEFIELD TOURS

## REGIMENTAL BATTLEFIELD TOUR SEPTEMBER 2010

Roy Lewis



*The Brigadier at Oosterbeek*

**C**aptain Graham Taylor who has organised and managed our tours since 2003 was sadly unable to take part in the 26th as he was recovering from a knee operation. We missed him and Pat but his planning ensured another success. Brian Keane took on Graham's role admirably and a great time was had by all.

We were again fortunate to have our regular coach driver Peter Gillis who took us safely through remote areas, narrow lanes and busy city streets with consummate ease.

The emphasis was on Operation Market Garden, the Allied attempt in September 1944 to drive through southern Holland and into Germany's industrial heartland, the Ruhr, and so shorten the war. "Market" was the code name for the air plan, the landing of British, United States and Polish airborne forces by parachute and glider, and "Garden" the ground plan, the advance by 30 Corps led by

the Guards Armoured Division which included 1st and 2nd Battalions Welsh Guards.

Previous tours had covered the battle but never in depth. Recreating one of the most confusing battles of the Second World War is difficult but in the first two days of the tour Brigadier Rickett talked us through the operation, and took us to key locations, in such a way that it brought it all to life. His commentary will long be remembered, a great deal of research had gone into it and the result was a fresh approach covering both sides of the battle, and the role of the Dutch

Resistance. The Brigadier also provided detailed maps, which Arthur Bland and Ray Cumbley who fought in the battle, said were much better than the few supplied in 1944!

They served in the 2nd (Armoured) Battalion from Normandy to Germany and are regular tourists. As we stood on the bridge at Graves they told of the action there on the 21st September 1944 when under shelling. The blast of one explosion flattened Arthur to the ground near his scout car, and Ray was temporarily paralysed from the waist down. He was lifted back into his tank but recovered an hour or two later. Standing with them at the very spot was one of several emotional experiences of the tour.

We stood in fields where the airborne troops landed, we saw buildings where they fought and even went into what was once the hospital where German and British doctors treated casualties side by side. We were taken to the banks of wide rivers and canals that had to be crossed, to woods, narrow lanes and of course the two main bridges at Nijmegen and Arnhem.

On Day One we began our journey to Nijmegen at Joe's Bridge named after Colonel J.O.E. Vandeleur, Commanding Officer of the Irish Guards Group who captured it a week before Market Garden actually began. Our hotel was in Eindhoven so we were conveniently placed to cover the whole area.

We dodged a heavy rain shower at Nijmegen Bridge but the weather improved on Day Two when we got to Oosterbeek and Arnhem. The British airborne landings were in and around Oosterbeek and at the crossroads in the centre of the town the Hotel Schoonard, where we took our lunch, had been full of casualties. Oosterbeek suffered greatly and when we were there the streets were emblazoned with the flags of the Airborne Forces in honour of the 66th anniversary ceremonies a week after our visit.

Parking a coach in a busy city like Arnhem is difficult but luckily the recce had discovered a space outside a residential building which had been the hospital referred to earlier. From one of its many windows Brigadier (later General) Hackett, commander of 4th Parachute Brigade, jumped to evade capture after he had been treated secretly by a local doctor. It was just one of many on the spot experiences which added to the already clear picture of the action described by the Brigadier.

We were helped in many ways by the Dutch people we met, especially when caught in traffic facing the wrong end of a one way street. Along came a police car which escorted us through it and out the other end. It was a new, and we hope an enjoyable, experience for the serving Guardsmen with us and they were wonderful

companions and very helpful. We admired their resilience and fortitude after nights out that ended in the early hours and hope they enjoyed the social as well as the serious moments.

Spirits were high when the party left Pirbright for Dover and were still high when the coach arrived at the Eindhoven hotel two hours late after a long journey caused by very heavy traffic heading to Antwerp. As usual there were many special moments to recall and a great deal of laughter when we relaxed after busy but enjoyable days. The group dinner in the hotel on the first night was a great opportunity to meet friends from previous tours and get to know those making their first trip which hopefully will not be their last.

Market Garden was, and still is, highly controversial and as we walked around the cemetery at Oosterbeek we were deeply moved at the sight of so many graves. It was there that the Brigadier read the words of the padre of 2 Para at the opening of the cemetery soon after the war. It was a fitting end to our visit to the battlefields of Operation Market Garden.

"Please just stand for a while and breathe in the atmosphere of this place. As you look at the graves remember what you have read and see during your tour of the battlefield and then follow their lines up to the end of the cemetery where you will see a symbol of a very majestic stone cross."

"You will note that the ages on the headstones are nearly all of very young men and you will be thinking, 'what a mess, what a complete waste of life.' But a Dutchman, who was a well known member of the



*The Tour group at Arnhem Bridge*

Resistance here, has said, 'Don't ever, ever think it was a wasted effort because you gave us hope. You showed that somebody cared and that we were not forgotten.'

The weather had been fine in Holland but on the Sunday the clouds gathered and there were worried faces as the party headed for Hechtel. Surely it would not rain on our parade – but it did. For the first time the Regimental Band were at the annual liberation ceremony which was to have

included an outdoor concert but unfortunately it had to be cancelled.

We attended the church service and laid wreaths at the town memorial as well as the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery at Bourg Leopold and the Resistance memorial. On the way back to Eindhoven we recovered from a damp day at a very handy café, and next morning headed into France. Before checking into our hotel near Calais we spent time at the seaside resort of De Panne.

Much of the evacuation of the BEF in May 1940 was from the beaches of the town.

The last night of a very enjoyable tour was spent in the hotel and the group dinner lived up to expectations and tradition, the many talents among the tour party blossomed forth and it was the perfect end. When we arrived in Pirbright promises of "See you next year" were made and plans were already being hatched for the 27th tour.



*Playing in the rain, the Band at Hechte*

# WELSH GUARDS ASSOCIATION EVENTS



Guests at Imber Court Remembrance Day

## IMBER COURT 26TH JUNE 2010 2739299 Islwyn Evans

The 2010 Imber Court Remembrance Day was well attended by over 80 guests, with many from as far away as South Wales, the Midlands and the South West.... Upon arrival they were made welcome by R.Q.M.S. Andy Campbell and the manager of the Imber court Mr. Nick Hartfree and his staff, who supplied tea coffee and biscuits.

R.Q.M.S. Andy Campbell had organised a display of Welsh Guards regimental accessories with the assistance of Guardsman Stuart Cousins. This gave members assembled the chance to purchase gifts and mementos which previously they may only have seen in a brochure, so hopefully this will be made available in future years.

Whilst a day of remembrance it was nice to have R.Q.M.S. Andy Campbell and L/Cpl S.Lang (bugler) in full dress tunics which added that little extra to the service and the guests found it very colourful.

In the garden of remembrance this year as in 2009 the service was conducted by the Reverend William Pryor. His address on Saturday 26th June

marked the 66th anniversary of the original tragic incident of a V1 bomb landing there. I feel that it is most appropriate to share some of his words here with you :-

"As one who acts as a chaplain on Welsh Guards Battlefield tours, I am much aware, that services of commemoration remind us of our link with those who died in the Battles of the two World Wars, and with Christ who laid down his life for us and the Sin that leads mankind into such conflicts.

This year when thinking of this address, a short but memorable part of a poem by Sir Lawrence Binyon has kept repeating itself to me. It came to me first during a shoot at Compton, up on the Downs near Newbury, when we were

all in the back of the game cart; and the Shoot Captain, a local police officer, called for silence as it was 11 O'clock, on the 11th day of the 11th month, and he then asked, "Could you say a prayer, Padre?". And it was then that the words rolled down, word perfect into my memory. Sir Lawrence Binyon had lived close by at Aldworth, so his "spirit" must have prompted me in the Subtleties and difficulties of this part of the poem he had written.  
"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old,  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,  
We will remember them!" to which the refrain is, "We will remember them!"



RQMS A Campbell, Mr Islwyn Evans and guests

The Subtleties are the inversion of "Grow not," as the poetic form of "Not Grow Old?" and the inversion Shall and Will, where you would expect Will and Shall to emphasise our Willingness to remember them, especially in the refrain. It is all much more familiar to me now as a prayer at Memorials on Battlefield tours, in which we all can join in the refrain. "We will remember them!"

Also in the service, reading from the Epistle of the Romans

Chapter 8 versus 31-39 was Captain D Harris, Welsh Guards, who represented Col Tom Bonas, who unfortunately could not attend.

At the service in 2009, I met a fellow Guardsman, whom I had not seen since June 30th 1944 at Imber Court. Guardsman Ronald James No.2739272 was with me, (Islwyn Evans No 2739299) in Sgt Peregrine's Platoon. I wonder if there are any more of this Platoon still with us- it

would be great to hear from you.

During the service I was grateful for the helping hand of the Rev Pryor who assisted me to stand, since I have recently had total knee replacements in both legs, and I am now free to walk without crutches and a lot less pain.

Before going for refreshments RQMS Andy Campbell organised the guests to have a group photograph taken, and I

have sent out a copy taken by my son Richard to some of those present on the day and more have written or telephoned me asking for a copy.

Whilst having refreshments provided by the Imber Court team, those assembled were able to view a display of pictures and posters explaining the events of 1944 at the sports field at Imber Court, written long after the event, since at the time a report of the disaster was not published, in case it should fuel the ambitions of the enemy.

As writing this report I have sadly been informed of the death of Miss Doris Lee on 17th September. Doris was present at Imber Court at the time of the bombing serving with the ATS at Sandown Park. She had attended this remembrance service each year since it started, and she was a good friend to us Welsh Guardsmen. I look forward to meeting old comrades and new friends again at next year's service.



Mr Islwyn Evans and Reverend William Pryor



Mr Islwyn Evans, RQMS A Campbell and Reverend William Pryor



*Members of the Welsh Guards Golf Association about to do battle at Chirk Golf Club*

## WELSH GUARDS ASSOCIATION GOLF SOCIETY

Martin Griffiths

We started the 2010 season as we did last year in Cottrell Park Cardiff playing for the John Powell Trophy. This time however the weather was glorious which reflected in the standard of golf played. It was great to see so many members of the Battalion present. However it was not so great when it came to the prize giving as the Battalion members nearly had a clean sweep, where have all these stars been hiding?

For our second meeting on Thursday the 29th July 2010 we travelled down to West Wales where we played the Ashburnham Championship course and the Eifion Jones Trophy was up for grabs. This turned out to be a very difficult course and was not to some of the members liking, however there were some very good scores posted (some scores better than imagined) and the

winner deservedly won the trophy. For our third meeting of the year on Thursday the 26th August we travelled East to Bryn Meadows, it was disappointing that the Battalion boys couldn't make this meeting due to commitments. However we are looking forward to seeing them again in the mix, this however didn't discourage the

### Results 1st Meeting

1st **G Cunningham**  
37 Points

2nd **G Evans**  
36 Points

3rd **L James**  
35 Points

Longest Drive  
**G Cunningham**

Nearest the Pin  
**P John**

### Results 2nd Meeting

1st **K Davies**  
37 Points

Winner of the Eifion Jones Trophy

2nd **P John**  
35 Points

3rd **M Griffiths**  
28 Points

Longest Drive  
**P John**

Nearest the Pin  
No Winners

### Results 3rd Meeting

1st **Paul John**  
34 Points

2nd **S Gelly**  
31 Points

3rd **M Griffiths**  
30 Points

Longest Drive  
**R O'Rourke**

Nearest the Pin  
No Winners

### Results 4th Meeting

1st **M Griffiths**  
33 Points

Winner of the Stanier Trophy

2nd **S Gelly**  
33 Points

(Lost on countback)

3rd **Capt (retd) Davies**  
32 Points

Longest Drive  
**S Gelly**

Nearest the Pin  
**J Haycock**



*Ken Davies, Bryn Pennock, Bill Elcock and Major Glyn white MBE, all admiring the shot (where did it go?)*

**The Welsh Guards Golf Association Player of the year for 2010 and winner of the Malcolm Trophy is Paul John with a grand score of 130 Points over the season. Very well done John.**

members and again the weather was kind to us, I am now starting to believe I may have the Dai Davies touch where the weather is concerned, however this wasn't the case where the meal was concerned and I think John Harford would still be there now carving away if they hadn't changed the potatoes (or rocks).

It was now looking like there was a clear winner for this year's champion.

Our fourth and final meeting was again at Chirk Golf Club in Wrexham on Thursday the

23rd September where we would find out if our front runner was able to handle the pressure and win the converted Malcolm Trophy, also we would be competing for the Stanier Trophy, again this year we placed all the contenders out in the last group, it has to be said we were very lucky with the weather as just prior to teeing off the outlook was not good however we managed to have the gods shine down on us and it turned out lovely, it was great to have some of the North Wales Golfer's turn out which added to the mix

however it didn't make a difference on the results as our front runner came through even though he was put under some severe pressure from myself though I couldn't bridge the huge margin,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Major (retd) Keith Oultram and his staff for all the support they have given the Golf Association this year also I would like to thank Major Glyn White MBE for presenting the prizes and not forgetting John Williams for taking the wonderful photos also to all the members that

have supported the meetings this year thank you.

I have now booked the following courses for next year.

**Fairwood Park  
Thursday 2nd June,**

**Glyn Abbey  
Thursday 28th July,**

**Newport Gwent  
Wednesday August 24th**

**Finally Mile End  
Thursday 22nd September**

The dates are out early so keep your dairies clear, and if you feel you want to join us next year get in touch.



*Martyn Griffiths being presented with the Stanier Trophy by Major G White MBE*



*Paul John being presented with the Malcolm Trophy by Major G White MBE*

# INDIVIDUAL ARTICLES

## 2737811 Guardsman Wright

Jeff Heenan Hon. Secretary London Branch



**G**uardsman 2737811 Wright, Sydney Charles of the 3rd Battalion, was KIA on the 11th February 1944. He was the son of Harry Samuel and Mary Ellen Harris Wright of Buxton, Derbyshire.

**He is commemorated on the Cassino Memorial, which means his body was not recovered for burial.**

I have attached the relevant information regarding the action that covers his death from the Welsh Guards at War by Major Ellis and a picture of the Memorial. 20 Welsh Guards died in action on this day.

Two other members from the squad picture also died in World War II, Guardsman 2737274 C Bunsell, 3rd Bn, died 1st May 1943 and Guardsman 2736125 J Williams, 1st Bn, died 29th June 1944.

Here are the details regarding the Memorial.

The Cassino Memorial is situated within Cassino War Cemetery, which lies in the

Commune of Cassino, Province Frosinone, 139 kilometres south-east of Rome. Take the autostrada A1 from Rome to Naples and leave it at the Cassino exit. At the junction of this exit and the road into Cassino, is the first of 6 clearly visible signposts to the cemetery and memorial. The cemetery is located approximately 1 kilometre from the railway station in Via Sant Angelo and visitors arriving by train are advised to take a taxi from the station.

On 3rd September 1943 The Allies invaded the Italian mainland, the invasion coinciding with an armistice

made the Italians who then re-entered the war on the Allied side. Progress through Southern Italy was rapid despite stiff resistance, but by the end of October, the Allies were facing the Germans winter defensive position known as the Gustav Line, which stretched from the river Garigliano in the west to the Sangro in the east. Initial attempts to breach the western end of the line were unsuccessful. Operations in January 1944 landed troops behind the German lines at Anzio, but defences were well organised, and a breakthrough was not actually achieved until 18th May, when Cassino was finally taken.

The site for CASSINO WAR CEMETERY was originally selected in January 1944, but the development of the battle during the first five months of that year made it impossible to use it until after the Germans had withdrawn from Cassino. During these early months of 1944, Cassino saw some of the fiercest fighting of the Italian

campaign, the town itself and the dominating Monastery Hill proving the most stubborn obstacles encountered in the advance towards Rome. The majority of those buried in the war cemetery died in the battles during these months. There are now 4,266 Commonwealth Servicemen of the Second World War buried or commemorated at Cassino War Cemetery. 284 of the burials are unidentified. Within the cemetery stands the CASSINO MEMORIAL which commemorates over 4,000 Commonwealth Servicemen who took part in the Italian campaign and whose graves are not known.

Here are some details regarding the Scroll Picture.

The wording was by poet laureate John Edward Masefield.

It was the suggestion of the Merchant Marine that a scroll should be introduced for those who died in WWII. The Merchant Marine first made the proposal in September 1939.



Cassino Memorial

MONTHLY CHARTS

"To the south-east of Cullam British forces had won a foothold across the Garighans and had suffered a series of mountain battles, forming a salient over the river which was later to prove of great value" (Part I, page 42.)

ON February the 9th, 1944, the 3rd Battalion lay on a shoulder of Mount Furtili, a thousand feet above the Garghano. Since landing at Naples four days before they had had little time to accustom themselves to surroundings vastly different from those they had left in Algeria. They had been on the move most of the time and they had had a long climb at the end of their journeys. (See map overleaf). They had crossed the river by "doggone" bridge. At the nearby "Skippoo" dump, where the accumulation of vehicles, ammunition and stores brought up in jeeps was distributed for mules and mules to carry up the mountains, they had left the road. From there onwards they had climbed in single file, a long snake of men winding slowly up and down the narrow tracks. The country was strange to them and the Indian ponies and mules were strange, but everything was accepted with the philosophy and confidence which are born of Regimental tradition, refined in training and matured in battle—the things that make a good Battalion so much more than the mere sum of its individual members.

Their transports and heavy equipment were coming from India by separate ships which had not yet arrived, and the Quartermaster (Lieutenant K. W. Grant) and his staff had had a long time in finding sources of supply and drawing what was necessary. It was characteristic of their tireless efforts for the Battalion's well-being that Lance-Sergeant L. J. Barnes purchased this in "Shipton" dump with a N.A.A.F.I. supply of extra cigarettes, chocolate, and matches and issued it to the men as they passed off. By the time they reached their first destination behind Furlong they were glad to rest. Because of an insufficient number of porters and mules they had carried not only full



Guardsman SC Wright's Scroll



Mosie Cramola 121  
equipment with blankets and blankets but also considerable  
loads of clothes and ammunition. Yet they were in great form  
as they dug their site and improvised bivouacs from ground  
shells and blankets, and though it was cold they were all hands  
at making themselves comfortable and they were tired enough  
to go quickly to sleep. And then it started to rain as though the  
very flood-gates of heaven were opened and so Mosie had to  
wash guard down the massive side and drove into the  
bivouac. There was no more sleep that night, for these were no  
shelters from that hard driving rain until everyone was wet to the  
skin almost before they were properly awake. When morning  
came they tried with ill success to dry their sodden clothes and  
blankets in a wind which from time still between showers that  
included them again into a soggy mess.

They had been brought there for an operation which was now cancelled. Instead they were ordered to relieve the 2nd/4th Hampshire, who had been having a bad time on Monte Cassino, the apex of our mountain system. The Coldstream Guards relieved them on the night of 22-23rd January.

The relief had taken place in darkness and there was little time for preliminary reconnaissance, so the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Sir William Mackay, ordered the Adjutant to companies up later and himself took the Company Commanders forward to find out all they could while it was still light. Leading a guide from the Hampshire Battalion, they went by a pre-arranged path which would reveal Monte Faito, dropped into "Cavalcane d'ump," climbed again round Monte Fuga and passed below the crest of the saddle on to the back of Monte Orsotto. They had started to round Orsotto's nose down when paradeshamma broke out above, and as they went northwards the ridge that separates Orsotto from Cerasola the noise of the shelling, machine-guns and rifle fire increased. It looked as if Orsotto and possibly Orsotto and Monte Orsotto were being attacked. At first they were protected by the angle of the mountain side from either shell or shot that came over them on the slopes below them. Then two things happened to disconcert them. Mortar shells, aimed at a steeper angle, began to fall around them and it began to rain. While the morning continued they were pinned down where they were, but when it eased up they went forward.

In October 1939, a War Office committee approved the idea – subject to approval by the King.

A plaque was considered, but "due to production difficulties, as found in the Great War" this idea was later dropped.

The scrolls were not issued until 1946 – and, again, because of the likely delays, it was decided to print the name of the deceased – rather than employ scribes to write the name (ETA of two years to complete by hand).

American printing machines  
were used to print the names.

The scrolls were issued automatically if a pension for service duty was awarded – so some civilians were eligible.

## Commemorative Service St Mary's ChurchSwansea

Steve Fisher



*Also part of the service was the blessing of the new SAMA82 Wales Branch*



*Blessing of the SAMA82 Wales Branch Standard.*

**C**ommemorative Service held at The Collegiate and Parish Church of St Mary's on the 8th June 2010 for the South Atlantic Medal Association (SAMA82) Wales Branch.

The above service, the 4th one, was held to remember the souls that never returned with us all those years ago. Many veterans and their families travelled far and wide to be there even staying overnight in a local hotel. The Revd Andrew Vessey conducted what would be his last service as he was to retire in the August. Once again it was a wonderful service to remember all our friends that never had the chance to grow old with their loved ones. They then played the song 'Brother in Arms' which was very emotional and gave everyone time for their own thoughts and memories of our fallen comrades.

Knocker Knowles read out the names from the plaque on the 'Falklands Windows'. And to finish what was once again a wonderful remembrance service Karl Trenchard read out the eulogy.

The standard bearer for the Branch is Peter Mundy who in 82 was a Cpl in the RAOC. He later served in the TA with 249 Squadron, Welsh Transport Regiment, in Maindy Barracks, Cardiff. Peter now works in Maindy Barracks as a civilian in the clothing stores. Thank you once again to Chris Duggan for organising this special event.

Every one after the service retired to the Cross Keys where we were able to raise a glass or two to fallen comrades in glorious sunshine. We enjoyed lunch there & this carried on well into the evening. They will always be remembered and may they rest in peace.

## Lieutenant JS Lewes - Welsh Guards

Jeff Heenan Hon. Secretary London Branch

**I** have always found history, especially about the Welsh Guards, interesting and informative. I came across the following information on the late Lieutenant John Steel Lewes,(known as Jock Lewes) whose nephew John Lewes is the author of this excellent book.

► "Jock Lewes could far more genuinely claim to be the founder of the SAS than I!" - Sir David Stirling.

► "[This biography] is described with skill and authority" - Lord Jellicoe in the Foreword. This is going to be a bit of a shock for a lot of people," Andy McNab, author & former SAS sergeant.

► A highly important addition to ever popular SAS literature.

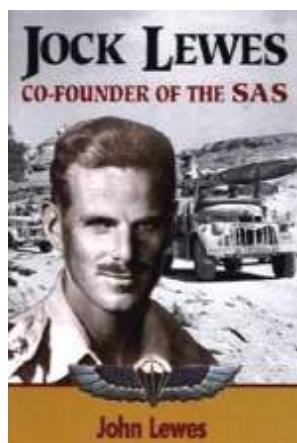
► Jock Lewes is revealed to be the brain behind the formation of the SAS.

► The author has had the fullest possible access to the private papers of his subject.

### Jock Lewes: the brain behind the formation of the SAS

Credit for the formation in 1941 of the Special Air Service, today the World's most respected special force unit, has traditionally been given to David Stirling. This, as those 'in the know' acknowledge, is only part of the truth. Jock Lewes, a young Welsh Guards officer, was at least equally responsible and yet, until now, his character and contribution have never been closely studied.

"The quite outstanding role that Jock Lewes played in those early days in the history of the SAS is too little known and too little appreciated," Lord Jellicoe.



Drawing on hitherto unpublished personal journals, this account of Jock Lewes's life, tragically cut short on 31 December 1941 during an SAS deep penetration patrol, makes for compelling reading. Jock Lewes was killed in action in December 1941. He was returning from a raid on German airfields when the Long Range Desert Group truck he was travelling in was attacked by a lone Messerschmitt 110 fighter. Lewes was fatally wounded in the thigh by a 20mm round from the fighter and bled to death in about four minutes. He was buried on the site where the attack happened but the whereabouts of his grave are now unknown. He is commemorated on the Alamein Memorial (3).

### Jock Lewes: a brilliant and passionate life

Brought up in the Australian outback where he learnt self-

discipline and self-reliance, he went on to have a brilliant career at Oxford University; as President of the Boat Club he was instrumental in the dramatic 1937 victory against Cambridge ending a run of 13 successive wins for Cambridge.

Thereafter Lewes spent time in pre-war Berlin where he was at first seduced both by Hitler's socialist policies and by a young Nazi supporter, one of the two loves of his life. However, the events of Kristallnacht in November 1938 finally forced him to see the Nazis' true aims and he bitterly broke off all contact with his fiancee, writing to his parents, "I shall willingly take up arms against Germany."

### Jock Lewes: leader of men and tactical thinker

Despite his lack of military experience, Jock quickly proved himself a radical tactical thinker and brilliant leader and trainer of men, a rare combination. He also developed, and gave his name to, the lethally effective Lewes Bomb that enabled the SAS to destroy whole airfields behind enemy lines. After these raids, 'Lewes Marches' assisted the elite force to disappear into the desert and cover long distances, sometimes without vehicle, radio or medical support.

Jock's exceptional talents found expression in the development of the SAS concept and ethos. Without his and David Stirling's partnership there would have been no Special Air Service; as Stirling later chivalrously admitted, 'Jock Lewes could far more genuinely claim to be the founder of the SAS than I'.

### Jock Lewes: "described with skill and authority"

As well as being the long overdue biography of this highly gifted and complex individual, "Jock Lewes, Co-Founder of the SAS", is a major contribution to the bibliography of British Special Forces and is fully endorsed by Lord Jellicoe in his Foreword: "It is described with skill and authority".

John Lewes, Jock's nephew and author of this stunning biography, has had the fullest possible access to Jock's private papers and this provides the reader with fascinating and important new information about the formation of the SAS. For more information about "Jock Lewes - Co-Founder of the SAS" contact Pen & Sword on: phone: 01226 734555 . My thanks to Lisa of Pen & Sword for allowing me to use the above information, and John Lewes author.



The Memorial to Jock Lewes, unveiled on 7th November 2008 by His Royal Highness, Prince William of Wales

### THE WELSH GUARDS 3000

Captain James Westropp



(Capt Westropp, WO1 (CRSM) Thomas 53, CSgt Williams 205, CSgt Roberts 02, CSM Topps, Capt Dawson, in front CSgt Ridgeway-Buckley and CSM Jones 27)

**O**ver the weekend 02 – 04 Jul Welsh Guardsmen serving at RMAS participated in the Welsh 3000 located in the Snowdonia National Park. Our intent was twofold; firstly to come together as a team and secondly raise funds for the WG Afghan Appeal.

Walking is a hugely popular pursuit in Great Britain. Each year more than 4.2 million enthusiasts flock along almost 50,000 miles of mapped footpaths through areas of outstanding natural beauty all over the country. It is one of the very few free activities available on an unlimited basis.

On sunny summer days, however, bottlenecked styles, over littered footpaths, crying sunburned children and the impossibility of finding a car parking space can make it a hassle. To avoid this, Capt Dawson and CSgt Roberts 02 decided it would be sensible to embark on a 62km ramble at 8.30pm on a Friday night. It was cold, but the parking options were nothing short of sensational.

The 14 Peak Snowdonia Challenge requires a team to walk from a hill top above 3000ft to 13 others within 24

hours. There are variations to the rules. Some groups pitch camp overnight during the event, and just time their walking hours. Some employ discreet vehicle moves in a bid to keep the time down. Some chose to complete it in sections; a couple of peaks per weekend over a period of months. The Welsh Guards Sandhurst team was keen to do it as quickly as possible; drive from RMA Sandhurst to Snowdonia, climb Snowdon, then walk directly to 13 other peaks before hopping on the bus and going home. 'Simple!'

The support team, ably commanded by LSgt Williams 11, comprised LCpl Pimlott (RMC) who primed to provide medical cover if required and Gdsm Gardener- Alun at the wheel of the mini bus, dropped us off at the base of Snowdon in the Pen-y-Pass car park. We headed straight to the top and

with darkness quickly falling, were surprised to see a railway station, but continued to Crib Goch, Llyn Glas Cwm Glas Mawr, Crib-y-Ddysgl and Clogwyn Person. At this stage it was dark, windy and had started to rain. We saw a 17 year old school boy on a Duke of Edinburgh expedition take off his shoes and clamber into an already wet orange bin bag to get a good night's sleep. He looked in such a bad way that our spirits immediately perked up.

We descended into the Pass of Llanberis headed west along the road and after grabbing a quick bite to eat from the minibus just outside Gwastadnant, headed straight up a hugely steep hill towards Elidir Fawr. From a navigation perspective crossing all four streams was ideal as you could pin point your exact location, the downside obviously being soaking feet, and considering CSgt Williams 205 had lived within 15 miles of the location for most of his life, the rest of the team began to doubt his boundless faith in his knowledge of the area. There was absolute euphoria at the summit.

We descended from the summit to Y Garn, through Llyn-y-Cwm, Glyder Fawr and finally down to our breakfast stop at Tryfan, where we were united with the support crew who had warmed our boil-in-the-bags. The sun was shining, the birds were singing and there was a smile in the heart as we looked back at the route that we had covered. Unsurprisingly car-parking space competition was hotting-up, so we decided to move on.

As the sun was getting higher in the sky and the threat of rain reduced, WO1 (CRSM) Thomas 53 opted for the UK Gear training shoe instead of the tried and trusted Boot Combat High. He scampered up the crags like a young mountain goat, leading the rest of the team behind him. It was worth it as the views from the top of Pen-yr-Ole Wen along towards Carnedd Dafydd and Yr Elen were exceptional, with clear line of sight out onto Anglesea and the sea beyond.

Company Sergeant Major Jones 27, who had to sacrifice a major scooter meeting to make himself available for the event, took strength from CSgt



(CSgt Roberts 02, LSgt Williams 11, Capt Dawson, CSgt Ridgeway-Buckley, CSgt Williams 205, Capt Westropp, CSM Jones 27, CSM Topps. In front WO1 (CRSM) Thomas 53)



(CSM Jones 27 getting some vital fluids in at the finish)

Williams 205 and Roberts 02 when they informed him that from Carnedd Llewelyn to Foel Fras via Foel Grach and Garned Uchaf it was, 'basically flat.' The reality was considerably different, and after crossing parts of the map so dense in contour lines that they appeared to be little more than a rusty smudge, we finally reached the finish. However a lot of us were unaware that the minibus was another 7kms past the finishing line!

Unbelievable, especially considering CSgt Ridgeway-Buckley had run out of cigarettes.

It was a great event that was concluded in 16 hours 43 minutes which is a respectable time. Company Sergeant Major Topps complained that it wasn't hard enough and tabbed back to his house nearby. Overall, it was a great event that was enjoyed by all, and has raised £3,284.74.



The Team with a cheque for £3,284.74

## BILLY MOTT - THE MAN FOR ALL OCCASIONS

John Stone



GSM Billy Mott following his investiture with the OBE by HM The Queen

**T**he very thought of organising the highly complex drill, involving hundreds of troops on such high profile occasions as the Trooping of the Colour, the annual Remembrance Sunday service and parade at the Cenotaph and other State ceremonial events, would be a daunting prospect for most of us.

But Garrison Sergeant Major Billy Mott, Welsh Guards, the most Senior Warrant Officer in the British Army, calmly but with the utmost efficiency, takes it all in his giant stride.

To obtain the optimum results on the parade ground and other ceremonies Billy, who has held the post for the past eight years, believes in a subtle mixture of authority, firmness and a renowned dry sense of humour. "You cannot get the best out of people by frightening them. They have to be made to feel that theirs is a vital contribution towards achieving the highest standards by all those taking

part," he said during our interview – the first he has ever given – at his office overlooking Horse Guards Parade.

He is, in effect, Her Majesty the Queen's approved ceremonial Warrant Officer in charge of military events, not only in London District but also in neighbouring counties – Her Majesty is Colonel-in-Chief of the Welsh Guards and all other Household Division Regiments.

Billy Mott is the first Welsh Guardsman to be appointed to this highly prestigious position. His much-praised efficiency is seen not only by those attending ceremonies and

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*Directing operations on Horse Guards Parade*

solemn acts of Remembrance but also by millions on worldwide television.

The pride in which his contribution to the reputation of the Welsh Guards is held has been marked by a specially commissioned oil painting of him which hangs prominently in the Sergeants' Mess of the 1st Battalion.

The Garrison Sergeant Major

organises and supervises the smooth-running of prominent annual State events. They include: Trooping the Colour on Horse Guards Parade, The Garter ceremonies at Windsor Castle, Beating Retreat on Horse Guards Parade, the State Opening of Parliament at Westminster, the Royal British Legion's Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall and Remembrance

Sunday Service at Whitehall as well as special occasions such as State Funerals, visits by Heads of State on a State Visit from other countries and, of course, Coronations.

As such, Billy Mott is widely recognized as *the* expert on the drill of all Arms. In this capacity he has direct contact with members of the Royal Family, the most senior officers in all three Services, the Prime Minister and Cabinet Ministers.

His parade ground expertise is also acknowledged internationally and since assuming his present appointment he has travelled to such countries as Jordan, Malaysia, Jamaica, Sri Lanka and even to the Pentagon in Washington DC where he has advised on office procedures.

Billy Mott is one of three brothers who have served with distinction in the Welsh Guards. John finished as RSM at the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall and Nick still serves as a Major in the role of Quartermaster of the 1st Battalion.

He enlisted into the 1st Battalion in 1979 and has served in Belize, Canada, Cyprus, France, Germany, Kenya and USA. He has completed operational tours of Northern Ireland and served in

the Falklands during the 1982 conflict.

He has held the post of instructor at both the Guards Depot as a Lance Sergeant and also three tours at the RMA Sandhurst as a Colour Sergeant, CSM and as CCRM.

Before taking up his present appointment – he can serve another five years – he was GSM at headquarters Northern Ireland.

HM the Queen Mother's funeral and the Golden Jubilee State procession saw him being closely involved in the ceremonial arrangements. He has also been a key figure in repatriations of those killed in action during operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. In fact working on behalf of General Sir Mike Jackson, he set up the repatriation procedures at RAF Brize Norton in 2003.

He has been appointed an OBE and is the only serving Warrant Officer and Other Rank to be so honoured. The very high regard in which HM The Queen and HRH The Prince Philip hold him was typified during a recent period of back trouble which he experienced. "Prince Philip was kind enough to come over and ask me personally about my back, subsequently delaying the start of his Beating Retreat



*In discussion with HRH The Princess Royal*



*Enjoying a joke with HRH The Prince Philip*



*With His Majesty King Abdullah of Jordan*

display and I was made aware that Her Majesty had also enquired about my health" he disclosed.

Remarkably, he carries out all his responsibilities with just one member of staff – his Orderly, Guardsman (Steve) Davies 28, who has done the job for the past eight years.

It was on the Queen's Birthday Parade in 1998 when Drill Sergeant with the 1st Battalion that he observed with great interest the Garrison Sergeant Major (Perry Mason, Coldstream Guards) getting into shape the hundreds of troops on parade. "I decided then that I would love to do the job. But it wasn't until a few years later that I was appointed. I was aware that it would be a difficult challenge. It is not, perhaps, widely known that the Household Cavalry, for instance have different words of command and procedures from the Foot Guards Regiments."

The high profile use of horses on parades can create problems, particularly involving Foot Guards officers who do not regularly carry out mounted duties.

The incredible ability of men of the Household Division who only recently returned from

frontline duties in fighting terrorists in Afghanistan to adapt to Public Duties fills Billy Mott with admiration. "It is humbling to see just how these soldiers tailor and modify themselves to the demands of the parade ground so soon after returning from active service. Their excellence in drill procedures is equal, if not superior, to those in the past who had plenty of time to prepare for the big occasions, including Spring Drills," he maintains.

The Garter Service occasions at Windsor can produce their own particular pitfalls with which he has to cope. "All ranks want to know what to do – it is a first time for most of them, who have not previously carried out this particular duty."

He asserts, with justification, that the pamphlets, Ceremonial for the Army and British Army Drill Manual are templates for the military all over the world. "Our drill is designed to produce the highest standards of self discipline. My maxim is: keep it simple, keep it sweet and never deviate from Queen's Regulations."

Firmness coupled with understanding are his watch words when playing a pivotal



*Calling for the Loyal Three Cheers at the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance*

part in the Royal British Legion's annual Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall. With a huge television audience viewing this moving occasion, Billy Mott is responsible for the marching down the steps and into the hall of representatives of the military, Legion, wives of some of those killed in action and others. "It may look to be a smooth- running procedure but backstage it requires complex organisation to ensure that the entry into the hall is perfectly orchestrated and with a large proportion of participants who are not Guards-like in their Drilling capabilities. Often I have to give encouragement to tearful widows who can be extremely apprehensive at the last minute about taking part," he says.

Commenting on the painful but important subject of repatriations he remembers only too well the first one which occurred after he had set up the procedure in 2003. "I shall never forget the column of 14 hearses carrying coffins, of Servicemen killed in Iraq, or the repatriation of the first Servicewoman killed."

He supervised all repatriations between 2003 and 2007 when he handed over responsibility to a roster of Warrant Officers

from the three Services.

However, Billy Mott has since officiated at a large number of repatriations from Afghanistan including those of two Welsh Guards Officers whom he held in the highest esteem and affection. They were Lieutenant-Colonel Rupert Thorneloe MBE, Commanding Officer and Major Sean Birchall, Company Commander of IX Company, 1st Battalion Welsh Guards.

"I was asked to be the IC Bearer Party for the repatriation of Lt-Col Thorneloe and while all repatriations are deeply moving experiences, I found his especially so."

Serving in the Falklands, Billy Mott was on the Sir Galahad when it was bombed by the Argentine Air Force resulting in extensive loss of life and horrendous injuries among



*Wives of Servicemen killed on duty, pictured outside the Royal Albert Hall*



Proud Family: Billy Mott with his brothers, sister and mother following his investiture with the OBE

members of the Battalion who were on board. "I was only too aware of the suffering that was going on around me but I had to focus on finding my brother Nick and I did so. We were both very fortunate to be among those who survived" he recalls.

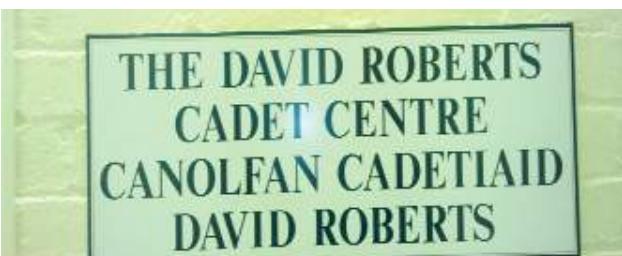
On a lighter note, he relates how he took his mother and sister to a reception at Buckingham Palace in honour of those who had given distinguished service to the nation that particular year. "After we were introduced by a senior officer to the Her Majesty – who made it clear that she already knew me very well! – my mother said that I made a point of looking after herself and the family.



Her Majesty the Queen, Colonel-in-Chief of the Welsh Guards, invests Billy Mott with his OBE

## Holywell Cadet Centre, Dedicated to fallen Guardsman David Roberts

Dave Webb (Spider)



A refurbished cadet centre has been formally reopened in Flintshire, reaffirming its tribute to the memory of a Holywell Guardsman.

Holywell Cadet Centre, a Grade II listed building, reopened its doors on Monday 22 March 2010 following 12 months of refurbishment work.

A tribute plaque was unveiled in memory of Guardsman David Roberts of the 1st Battalion, the Welsh Guards, who was killed in Northern Ireland on November 24, 1973. He was killed by a roadside bomb one week after he arrived in Northern Ireland to begin his tour of duty in south Armagh. His death was the 200th fatality in the struggle for Northern Ireland by British Servicemen.

Among those attending the reopening of the centre were members of David's family, including his father Tom. Captain P. Robinson, Garrison

Sergeant Major (Brecon) A. Hughes of Old Colwyn Gdsm Harris, Gdsm Morris, Myself with the Branch Standard and Paul Oldfield.

Chief executive Colonel Nick Beard said: "It gives the Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for Wales enormous pleasure to be able to refurbish this building for the benefit of the cadets in and around Holywell.

"The cadet organisations are buoyant and inspired youth movements that provide challenging, adventurous and community activities, which motivate young people to succeed in life with a spirit of service to their country and their local community.

"It is right and fitting the building be rededicated to the



memory of Guardsman David Roberts, who as a local man was a member of the Army Cadet Force before joining the Welsh Guards."

Shops, hotels and pubs in Holywell closed for the afternoon on the day of his funeral, with 500 people attending the service.

The refurbished building will allow cadets from the Clwyd and Gwynedd Army Cadet Force and 2 Welsh Wing, Air Training Corps, to continue to meet.



#### AN HONOURABLE BADGE OF SERVICE

Roy Lewis

**F**rom 1877 to 1960 the Guards Depot was at Caterham-on-the-Hill in Surrey. A Grenadier described it as the "only place in the world which looks like a prison, where you are treated as a criminal, and yet you spend the rest of your life telling everyone how much you enjoyed it."

It was a hard place to go to and there was nothing to enjoy, but it was a great place to come from because after sixteen weeks of confinement you were no longer a Recruit but a Guardsman.

The first day behind walls was confusing to say the least. God, the Trained Soldier, towered and glowered, battle dress was issued and civvy clothes were sent back home, but the tiniest item of kit made a profound impression, a brass cap badge. From that day you became a wearer of The Leek, the oldest

military emblem to survive and worn by Welsh Longbowmen at the Battle of Crecy in 1346. In 1569 Shakespeare wrote of it in "Henry V", Fluellen describing it as "an honourable badge of service".

In 1922 seven years after the formation of the Welsh Guards the Depot was the birthplace of a unique football club. In 1921 a Brigade of Guards team had toured the West Country and in 1922 it was at Caterham that an invitation was received by Captain Geoffrey Crawshay, Company Commander of 8 Company, to take a side to play Devonport Services. It was the beginning of Crawshay's Welsh, Wale's answer to the Barbarians and a club that is still very active. He game at Devonport was drawn but a tradition began, perhaps encouraged by Major (Bt. Lieutenant Colonel) R.E.K



Crawshay's Badge

Leatham, the first Welsh Guardsman to be Commandant of the Depot.

The Leek was adopted as a badge by two Welsh Regiments formed in the Great War of 1914-1918, the Welsh Horse Yeomanry (Lancers) formed in August 1914 and disbanded in 1917, and the Fifth Regiment of Foot Guards in 1915. Despite being formed at the height of a dreadful world war, peacetime matters were considered and David Lloyd-George, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, suggested that the Regimental plume should be of Tudor Colours of green and white which some believe was taken from the colour of the leek. Steel helmets worn by Welsh Guardsmen of the 273 and 274 era had the "plume" painted on their steel helmets.

Captain Crawshay saw action with the Royal Welch Fusiliers from September 1914 to April 1915 and then transferred to the Welsh Guards. He was wounded near Loos in September 1915 and left the Regiment in 1923. He inherited "a fine country house," Llanfair Court in Monmouthshire and in 1920 became the first President of the Monmouthshire Branch until his death in 1954 aged 62.

A close friend of the Lloyd George family, Captain



1/1st Welsh Horse Yeomanry

Crawshay introduced Guards standards to the Royal National Eisteddfod. As a Bard he "converted a scruffy rabble of poets and preachers into a dignified colourful parade of the bards, behaving and looking worthy of the adulation they always won from Eisteddfod-goers".

Guards Depot XV's were strengthened by numerous Welsh Guardsmen through the years, and in March 1916 they hosted a New Zealand Army team. The two British soldiers on the accompanying photograph are Welsh Guardsmen.

The Crawshay's tour party included WD C Greenacre, of whom it was said, "Keen on all



Guards Depot RFC v New Zealand RFC, March 25th 1916



*The first Crawshay's touring team, 1922*

forms of games and sport. He is himself no mean athlete and the success of the Regiment in Rugby football in recent years has been in large measure due to this officer's keenness and coaching". Brigadier Greenacre died in August 1978 aged 79.

He is pictured far right in the backrow in the photograph of the 1922 touring team with Guardsman W C 'Wick' Powell, in uniform in the centre. The greatest Welsh Guards rugby player of all time, Powell was capped 27 times after he left the Regiment. Said to have a pass as strong as a Drill Sergeant's voice, Powell is bracketed with Hadyn Tanner and Gareth Edwards in the Welsh scrum-half Hall of Fame.

Tanner also had Welsh Guards connections and played for the Training Battalion when attached to them during the Second World War. E and his cousin W T H Davies were sixth formers at Gowerton Grammar School in 1935 when they were selected by Swansea to play the All-Blacks. Swansea won

which caused an All-Black to say, "Don't tell them back home we were beaten because of their schoolboys!" Tanner's quick rise to fame won him a place on the 1939 Crawshay's tour and in a career interrupted by the war he played 25 times for Wales and toured with the 1938 Lions.

Crawshay's Welsh celebrate their 90th anniversary and the connection with the Welsh Guards will be retold. The clubs 75th Anniversary booklet said of Captain Geoffrey Crawshay, "He founded the Welsh Guards Choir and its rugby team and the prizes and cups both won were, for him, the most prized of all his war trophies. He was devoted to the Welsh Guards and they to him. For them all, the 'Captain' was a genuine 'buttie'. He was held in immense respect and affection".

On battlefield and rugby fields the Leek is still worn with pride, an honourable badge of service.



*Capt Crawshay and Hadyn Tanner on the 1939 Tour*

## BREAKING AND ENTERING

Dai Tilley (formerly 2735242, 2nd Battalion)

**W**hat had two Welsh Guardsmen to do with the security of the famous Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough in 1943? It took several years for Guardsmen John Evans (2733787) and I to realise we had played a very small part in improving it. Far-fetched? Well, maybe, but read on.

After action at the Hook of Holland and Boulogne in 1940 I was stationed with the Training Battalion at Sandown Park Racecourse, Esher and one day was told to report to the Orderly Room with Evans, a reservist who had been a detective in the Devon and Cornwall Police. We were marched in by Regimental Sergeant Major Harry Webb who then left the room leaving us alone with the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel The Lord Glanusk and Major Smart.

We were told we would be going on a special assignment to the Royal Aircraft Establishment in Farnborough where boffins were secretly planning the defeat of the enemy. Our task was to test the Depot security, get inside and bring evidence that we had done so without detection using any method of penetration.

We were given 15 cwt truck, advance of pay for emergency leave and, as we used to say, the unexploded portion of a day's rations. We carried rifles, fifty rounds in a bandolier, and wore full battle equipment. We were told not to mention it to anyone and were given railway warrants to Wales which were never used.

Like Guardsmen through the ages we always obeyed the last order, but as weft the briefing Major Smart said as an afterthought, "Oh, by the way,

the RAF security guards use live ammunition!" Very encouraging.

As further proof of the secret nature of the job our advance of pay was issued by the Regimental Quartermaster not the Company Quartermaster. No written or verbal orders were issued regarding a time limit or any sleeping arrangements and we had no blankets because, if stopped by Military Police it would have been difficult explaining why we were sleeping in an army truck. We would be arrested as deserters and n-one would have come to our aid. It was a two man mission.

There were no road signs in the war but after a while we found the base which had a main gate guarded by RAF and Civilian Police. There was only one entrance but like true Welsh Guardsmen we spotted a pub directly opposite the gate. We parked the truck behind it, removed the rotor arm of the distributor and left it with the bonnet raised to make it look as if we had engine trouble and had gone for assistance.

From the bay window of the pub, while sipping some beer, we nonchalantly kept an eye on the main gate of the base which we realised was the only way in, there being a high perimeter fence all around. If we wandered around looking for a way in it would be asking

for a bullet or two, so we had to find some other way.

Considerable traffic went in and out and the guards did not always check documents and waved military vehicles through. We decided the best way in was hitch a lift in one of them and if we were stopped we would say we had an envelope to deliver to the Commanding Officer. We bought an impressive large manilla envelope because we thought when dealing with civilian security guards that, or a clip board plus bags of cheek, would get us in anywhere.

The subterfuge was not needed however. In battle order, ammo slung around us and with Welsh Guards shoulder titles clearly shown we walked about half a mile up the road to thumb a lift. Sure enough an RAE truck came along and we told the driver our vehicle had broken down and was parked behind the pub. Could they help us fix it? They had no time but said we could get help in the motor pool, so we jumped in, the truck got waved through and we were inside.

So far so good, but now we had to find proof we had broken in and get out without being detected. We walked around looking like a security patrol and then found sports buildings full of equipment, mowers etc., which gave Guardsman Evans an idea. His extensive knowledge of robbery, burglary and thieving of all kinds came in handy and he said the easiest way to fulfil our mission was to steal something which we could carry out without raising suspicion.

On a desk was an RAE rubber stamp and an ink pad. We stamped receipts etc., and took

them and the stamp with us. It was 5pm and workers were flowing through the main gate to get home so we joined them and made our way back to the pub where we "repaired" our truck and headed for Sandown Park, stopping for a couple of pints and a snack en route.

Next morning we met Major Smart behind closed doors and he accepted the stamp and receipts as irrefutable proof that we had indeed been in and out of the Depot. With further reminders to say nothing to anyone we returned to our Company. Job done! What happened then we never knew, but hopefully our adventure was not in vain and someone in security at the RAE at least lost his name and the place was better protected in future thus ensuring its secrets were never revealed.

Evans and I had played a very small part, the breach of security had been exposed, but by professional ex-burglars, but by two Guardsmen with no experience at all. Both Evans and I were later commissioned. He became a Major in the Staffordshire Regiment and was awarded the Distinguished Service Order during the Normandy Campaign.

**Editor's Note.** Dai Tilley of Cardiff was commissioned into the Royal Welch Fusiliers, and after the war moved to the United States where he joined the US Air Force. A member of the American Red Cross Disaster Organisation he has seen "action" all over the States, including the attack on the Twin Towers in New York in 2001. He is President of the North American Branch of the Welsh Guards Association and lives in Oregon.

## I'VE ALSO BEEN TO THE TOP OF KILIMANJARO!

23523201 Mike Jones



Nelon Patrol

**W**ith all the publicity lately about DJs, Celebrities and Ex Wales Rugby International Captains climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro, I thought I might put in my claim to have been there, done that and got the T Shirt.

So how did I get there? Well I wasn't on my own as ex Warrant Officer Billy Malcolm was there as well, together with 3 other Serving NCOs from the RAFC, RCT and RE. All of us were serving in Aden in June 1966 and were selected to attend the East African Outward Bound Course at a place called Loitokitok on the Kenya slopes of Kilimanjaro. The remaining students were from Kenya (Army Officer Cadets), Uganda (mostly Scout Leaders) and Tanzania (Civil Servants).

The Battalion was deployed in the Radfan Mountains, myself a LSgt in Battalion Headquarters, Habilayn and Billy Malcolm a LCpl in Support Company. Early one morning the Adjutant received a phone call from 2 Company in Dhala to say that one of their men nominated for Kenya had fallen down a mountainside and

broken his collar bone and was unable to travel and perhaps POW Company also at Habilayn might like to nominate a replacement. The Adjutant then asked me to get POW Company on the phone to pass on the glad tidings. I said something like "bloody typical Sir" and the Adjutant asked what I meant. I said "Well Sir, the Duty Companies seem to get all the goodies and personnel from HQ Company, unless a cook was needed never come into the equation, name a clerk who had been given a chance like this". The Adjutant pondered for a moment or so and agreed with me. "I take it you would want to go 01", to which I replied in the affirmative. "Very well you fly out to Falaise, on the Auster (Mail plane) this afternoon, get your kit packed". Wow! Now to give the good news to my boss, 95 ORCS Lewis Evans back at base in Little Aden, to say he

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Rv AT Nairobi Railway Station



Cave for 1st night stop - ascent

was not best pleased would be an understatement but I was going.

The flight in the Auster, which was a flimsy, single engined plane from WWII that afternoon was quite eventful. There was one other passenger in the plane, an Arab from the village carrying a very sick young child who was being taken to the hospital in Khormaksar to be treated. The Arab had obviously not flown

before and he was sweating profusely, scared out of his wits and clinging tightly to an arm rest with one hand and his child with the other, nodding to myself and the pilot and whispering Tmam, Tmam? Due to the afternoon heat the thermals were quite strong and the aircraft was thrown about a bit but he still kept murmuring Tmam etc. I must admit the air smelt quite a bit sweeter when I got out and

helped unload the mail at Brigade HQ in Falaise.

The following morning, a Tuesday, after frantically packing my gear the night before we set off for RAF Khormaksar and our flight to KAF Nairobi which would take our Argosy aircraft about 3 hours or so. Two flights a week went on the return trip to Nairobi, one on Tuesday and one on Thursday. On arrival we found that we did not have to report to the Outward Bound School until Sunday so we had four days to explore Nairobi and as the Airbase had been handed over to the Kenya Air Force we were to be accommodated, courtesy of the RAF Detachment still operating there, at a large hotel called "The Spread Eagle" about 5 kilometres down the road. The hotel was very comfortable with horse riding, tennis courts, which had seen better days I will admit and a swimming pool which was perfectly serviceable.

We also shared with El-Al, the Israeli Airline so there were some good looking people staying there as well!

Sunday morning saw us all meeting up with some of the East African Students at Nairobi

Railway Station for our trip to Loitokitok. The Kenya Students were all Army Officer Cadets and climbing Mt Kilimanjaro was the final part of their Officer Training, climb it and you get Commissioned! The kit was stowed on the roof rack, piled high on an old coach which had seen better days and we were bundled inside amongst the kit which would not fit on the roof rack. Michael Palin must have travelled like this somewhere on his trip around the world.

Like a lot of African countries the tarmac roads go out of the cities and then run into the bush and revert to tracks with loads of boulders, ruts, dried river beds and large water puddles to rumble along. To compensate for this there was loads of wildlife to watch on the day long trip to the Outward Bound School and we suffered no breakdowns, punctures or wheels falling off. On arrival we were separated into 9/10 man patrols, mine was called "Nelion", and allocated a round house with thatched roof for accommodation. We met the Staff and were surprised to find two Ladies from the Derbyshire Police Force and an American Peace Corps Volunteer amongst them, and



Head Cook - Amboseli Game Reserve



*Metal shed for 2nd night stop - ascent*

a retired British Army Colonel as the Warden.

We found out that the Course was divided into three parts, firstly rock climbing and abseiling, assault course and other outdoor activities around Base Camp, secondly a four day orienteering expedition in the Amboseli Game Reserve and finally the ascent of Mt.Kilimanjaro over a three day period, camping on the mountain for two nights on the way up, coming down would be done in one day.

Reveille was early every morning and coincided with the cold mist rising up the mountain. Before breakfast we

had to run a mile or so around the camp and then had to plunge into the freezing water of the swimming pool which was fed directly from the glaciers up the mountain. Swimmers mostly us! had to stay in the pool until all the non swimmers, and most of the Africans were non swimmers, had safely got out of the water, I was blue with the cold most mornings by the time I got out.

The rock climbing and abseiling went well with nobody falling off the rocks and then for the second phase we went into the Game Reserve. We stayed at designated camp sites each night but had no facilities as

such other than being next to a stream for water. Cooking was basic and done on a wood fire. Each night we constructed a "Booma", a circular compound from Thorn bushes for protection from wild animals and also kept the fire going through the night. Waking up to the sound of a lion roaring in the vicinity was quite sobering when you know what they could do to you given the opportunity. We were rewarded with some wonderful sitings of elephants, giraffes, antelopes, zebras and other animals on the plains and an encounter with a buffalo which was too close for comfort.

Following our Game Reserve experience we returned to Base to plan and execute our trip to the top of the mountain. We were given lectures on Altitude sickness, measures to be taken on the mountain and the plan of attack. Firstly we would ascend up the slopes, carrying our own kit (celebrities please note, NO Porters!!) through the Rain Forest and camp overnight in a huge cave. The next morning we would climb again up to the Volcanic Scree where we would stay for a few hours in a permanent zinc corrugated hut and then make the final climb at 3 o'clock in the morning so as to reach the snow line before the sun had started to melt it.

The first ascent through the Rain Forest proved just that, it poured down and we were soaked through. Progress was painfully slow due to the thickness of the foliage and the slippery surface beneath us. The cave complex we stayed overnight in was a vast fissure in a rock face and everyone got inside with no trouble and dried out. We cooked our food

and turned in early for the second phase in the morning.

Day 2, another early start and we were on our way up to the Volcanic Scree which was uncomfortable to walk on to say the least. By now the air was getting a bit thin and some of the Students were beginning to struggle, especially those from the Mombassa area on the coast and it was soon clear that not all of us would make the final ascent to the summit. Again on arrival at the hut we cooked our food and got everyone fed. Before turning in we had a wonderful sunset and majestic views of Mt. Kibo which sits alongside Mt Kilimanjaro.

At about 2 o'clock in the morning on the third day we were woken up to prepare for our final ascent to the summit. One or two unfortunately were suffering from altitude sickness and were unable to start. The remainder started off an hour later in pitch darkness with the only source of light being provided by the Instructors who had lamps attached to their headbands. Further up the slopes firstly on scree and then into ash the going got significantly harder as we not only had the altitude to deal with but for every two or three steps you took forward in the ash, you slid back one. We had to get to an escarpment called Gilmans Point to have claimed to have completed the ascent. For the Kenya Army Officer Cadets this was as far as they had to go, unless they wished to go on. The actual summit was another hours walk around the rim of the Volcano on the snow line.

On reaching Gilmans Point dawn had broken and besides a wonderful sunrise, there was great elation from those who had made it, but not a great



*Traversing glacier near summit of mountain*



*At the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro*

deal of enthusiasm to go on to the summit from most due to exhaustion and altitude, never the less they had made it. The Instructors then decided who they would allow to go on to the summit and luckily I was one of them. We then formed up in to little parties of 4 – 6 and went onto the snow line and started traversing the glaciers. Looking down into the crater you had the definite feeling you didn't want to go down there, firstly it was huge and secondly the sides were almost vertical snow.

At the Summit there was a brick plinth containing a small cupboard type alcove in which was the Visitors Book and on the top was a brass inscribed tablet with the message engraved in it from the President of Tanzania. We duly signed the Visitors Book and had the necessary photo taken to prove it before having to make our way back to Gilmans Point to make our descent

down the mountain. Making our way back was more dangerous as the sun had now fully risen and the ice was melting under foot but we all got there.

The descent down the ash was a lot more easier, all you had to do was lean forward and run down the volcanic ash or sit on your snow jackets and slide down, brilliant! At the Hut we met up with those who had stayed behind and re-formed into our patrols to return to Base.

We followed our path down through the Scree and RV'd at the big Cave we had used on the way up. Here we cooked our meals and patched up those individuals who had been bruised or cut by falling over on the way down or had blisters, the usual thing! We trudged down through the Rain Forest for a few hours and soon began to see familiar sights before reaching Base late in the day. Just

unforgettable.

After a good nights sleep we spent the next day putting stores and equipment away, a bit of swimming and then being the final evening we had a Cultural Night,a kind of East African Jamboree when the people from the various areas and regions including us performed around a huge campfire. It was quite emotional and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

We embarked on our battered

old bus the next morning for our long journey back to the Nairobi Railway Station for pick up in a RAF minibus.

We returned to KAF Nairobi and were again accommodated in the "Spread Eagle" Hotel, courtesy of the RAF. The El-Al Aircrues were still there by the way! The following day we were due to return to Aden but unfortunately one of the RAF Fork Truck Drivers inadvertently drove the forks of his vehicle through the fuselage of the Argosy whilst loading, grounding it and we were forced to stay an extra couple days in Nairobi. This could have been slightly embarrassing were it not for the RAF Movements Officer who managed to get us a "Casual Payment" to cover it for us. The delay obviously did not endear me to my ORCS and the frostiness of his greeting when I got back to Aden was obvious.

Best of luck to those might try it in the future, don't forget to do altitude training, I feel that us guys going from the Radfan did have an advantage in that we were living and working at about 9,000 feet which is at least half way up Mt Kilimanjaro. I look forward to meeting up with Bill Malcolm some time as I'm sure he won't agree with everything I have written!!



*Plinth at summit containing visitors book*

## COLOURS AND BATTLE HONOURS

RQMS W J Williams



*The Queen's Colour above was presented by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the 4th May 2006 at Windsor Castle.*

## The Battalion Colours

1. His Majesty King George V approved designs for the Colours of the 1st Battalion on the 2nd March 1915. His Majesty King George VI approved the design for the 2nd Battalion Colours in 1940. These designs are described below.

2. The Queen's Colour, 1st Battalion. Gules (crimson). In the centre a dragon passant Or, underneath a scroll with motto 'Cymru Am Byth'. The whole ensigned with the Imperial Crown.

3. The Queen's Colour, 2nd Battalion. Gules (crimson). In the centre a leek or within the Garter, ensigned with the Imperial Crown: in the dexter canton the Union.

3. The Regimental Colours. The Union. In the centre a Company Badge ensigned with the Imperial Crown. The fifteen Company Badges are borne in rotation. The number below the Badge is the number of the Company to which the Badge belongs. The number in the

dexter canton is the number of the Battalion.

4. The dimensions of the Queen's and Regimental Colours, are 3 feet 9 inches flying and 3 feet deep on the pike excluding the fringe, which is about 2 inches wide. The pikes are 8 feet 7.5 inches long including the Royal Crest on top. The pikes are surmounted by the Imperial Crown surmounted by a lion crowned.

5. The occasions on which the colours are to be carried and lowered are detailed in Queen's Regulations, Her Majesty's Regulations for the Household Division and Standing Orders of the Household Division.

6. When the Colours are not on parade they are to be hung in the Officers' Mess with the Queen's Colour on the left (as observed from the front) with its pike under that of the Regimental Colour.

7. When a Battalion parades to change quarters, the Colours are always carried cased and colour belts worn.

8. The Colours are normally replaced every 15-20 years. Historical Record of the Colours

9. 1st Battalion Colours. These were presented and laid up as shown below:

a. The first pair were presented by His Majesty King George V at Buckingham Palace on 3rd August 1915, and were laid up at Llandaff Cathedral on 19th November 1925. During the 1939-45 war the Cathedral was bombed and the Colours were kept at Regimental Headquarters for safe keeping. They were returned to Llandaff Cathedral on 3rd May 1959.

b. The second pair were presented by His Majesty King George V at Windsor Castle on 23rd June 1925 and were laid up at St David's Cathedral on 10th June 1950.

c. The third pair were presented by His Majesty King George VI at Buckingham Palace on 25th May 1949 and were laid up in the Guards Chapel on 7th July 1965.

d. The fourth pair was presented by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace on 5th May 1965 and was laid up in St Mary's Church, Swansea on the

16th September 1982.

e. The fifth pair was presented by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at Windsor Castle on 14th May 1981 and was laid up in All Saints Church, Pirbright on 25th October 1990.

f. The sixth pair was presented by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace on 30th May 1990 and was laid up in Bangor Cathedral, Bangor on 26th June 2007.

10. 2nd Battalion Colours. The first pair were presented by His Majesty King George VI at the Tower of London on 14th February 1940. They were returned to his Majesty on 16th June 1947, for safe keeping in Windsor Castle when the Battalion went into suspended animation. The Kings Colour was transferred to the Guards Chapel on 28th May 1956. The Regimental Colour was transferred to the Guards Depot Church on 23rd March 1959 and then to the Guards Chapel on 4th June 1965.

11. Coloured drawings of the Colours are kept in the Colour Book at Regimental Headquarters.



*The Regimental Colour above was presented by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the 4th May 2006 at Windsor Castle.*

# INDIVIDUAL ARTICLES

WELSH GUARDS REGIMENTAL MAGAZINE

## BATTLE HONOURS

12. The Battle Honours, granted by Royal Authority in commemoration of war service, are shown below. Those printed in capital letters are borne on the colours:

### THE GREAT WAR 1915-1919

'LOOS'	'BAPAUME, 1918'
'Somme, 1916-18'	'Arras, 1918'
'GINCHY'	'Albert, 1918'
'FLERS-COURCELETTE'	'Drocourt-Queant'
'MORVAL'	'Hindenburg Line'
'Ypres, 1917'	'Havrincourt'
'PILCKEM'	'CANAL DU NORD'
'POELCAPPelle'	'Celle'
'Passchendaele'	'SAMBRE'
'CAMBRAI, 1917, 18'	'France and Flanders, 1915, 18'

### THE SECOND WORLD WAR

"DEFENCE OF ARRAS"	"Djebel el Rhorab"
"BOULOGNE, 1940"	"Tunis"
"St Omar-La-Bassee"	"HAMMAM LIF"
"Bourguebus Ridge"	"North Africa, 1943"
"Cagney"	"MONTE ORNITO"
"MONT PINCON"	"Liri Valley"
"BRUSSELS"	"MONTE PICCOLO"
"HECHTEL"	"Capture of Perugia"
"Nederrijn"	"Arezzo"
"Lingen"	"Advance to Florence"
"Rhineland"	"Gothic Line"
"North West Europe 1940, 44-45"	"BATTAGLIA"
"FONDουK"	"Italy 1944-45"

### POST 1945

FALKLAND ISLANDS 1982

## WREATHING OF THE COLOURS

13. When on parade and uncased, the Colours are wreathed with laurel on the following anniversaries:

### FEBRUARY

17 MONTE ORNITO 1944

### MARCH

24 1st BAPAUME 1918

### APRIL

9 FOUNDOUK 1943

### MAY

8 HAMMAM LIF 1943

22 BOULOGNE 1940

24 DEFENCE OF ARRAS 1940

29 MONTE PICCOLO 1944

### JUNE

14 FALKLAND ISLANDS 1982

### JULY

31 PILCKEM 1917

### AUGUST

1 MONT PINCON 1944

### SEPTEMBER

2 2nd BAPAUME 1918

3 BRUSSELS 1944

9 GINCHY 1916

10 GINCHY 1916

12 HECHTEL 1944

15 FLERS COURCELLETTE 1916

16 FLERS COURCELLETTE 1916

25 MORVAL 1916

26 MORVAL 1916

28 LOOS 1915

29 LOOS 1915

30 CANAL DU NORD 1918

### OCTOBER

1 CANAL DU NORD 1918

8 CAMBRAI 1918

9 CAMBRAI 1918

10 POELCAPPelle 1917

11 BATTAGLIA 1944

### NOVEMBER

4 SAMBRE 1918

28 CAMBRAI 1917

### DECEMBER

1 CAMBRAI 1917

**COMPANY COLOURS**

RQMS W J Williams

**The Prince of Wales's Company**

**Y DDRAIG GOCH DDYRI CYCHWYN**  
*The red dragon gives a lead*

Gules three lions passant argent. These are attributed to Gruffudd ap Cynan, King of Gwynedd (North-West Wales) and founder of the first Royal Tribe. There is no certainty that he bore these arms, but they became to be regarded as his at a later date, and also as specially emblematic of North Wales.

In the days of Gruffydd ap Cynan, heraldry had not yet become the exact science into which it later developed, and these arms were not hereditary. After a long and adventurous reign, Gruffudd ap Cynan died in 1137 aged eighty-two, and was buried at Bangor. The result of his policy was a great revival in Welsh power which lasted till the final conquest of the principality by Edward I.

**Number 2 Company**

**GWR YNYS Y CEDYRN**  
*The Men of the Island of the Mighty*

Vert three eagles displayed in fess or. These arms are attributed to Owain Gwynedd, eldest son of Gruffudd ap Cynan, who succeeded his father as King of Gwynedd. Owain Gwynedd fought a successful campaign against Henry II who invaded North Wales in 1157. His arms are famous in Wales as also is his fine motto "Eryr eryron Eryr" which means "The eagle of the eagles of Snowdonia". Snowdonia is a

horrible word, but no other exists which conveys to the English mind that particular tract of land called in Welsh "Eryri" which probably means "the place of the eagles".

Owain Gwynedd reigned 1137-1169, and died greatly praised by the Welsh bards and chroniclers of his day.

**Number 3 Company**

**FY NUW, FY NGWLAD, FY MRENIN**  
*My God, My Land, My King*

Quarterly or and gules four lions passant guardant counterchanged. These arms are said to have been borne by Llewelyn ab Iorweth (1173-1240), commonly known as Llewelyn the Great, who restored the supremacy of Gwynedd and asserted his authority over the princes of South Wales.

He married Joan, daughter of King John of England against whom he waged war. Llewelyn ab Iorweth was buried at Conway. These arms were also borne by another romantic figure in Welsh history. Llewelyn ap Gruffudd, sometimes known by the depressing name of Llewelyn the Last. He fought against Henry III, who allowed him the title of "Prince of Wales". He rose to great power in his native land, and became a vassal of the English crown. He refused, however, to pay homage to Edward I, who waged war against him, during the course of which Llewelyn was killed in a chance skirmish near Builth on the Wye in 1282. Llewelyn married Eleanor, daughter of Eleanor, daughter of Earl Simon de Montford, who fell in battle in the cause of justice and liberty at the end of the Baron's War.

These arms were assumed by Owain Glynn Dwr who proclaimed himself king of all Wales in 1402. From thenceforth they have been regarded as the official arms of Wales, and as such were borne in pretence by HRH The Duke of Windsor when Prince of Wales.

**Number 4 Company**

**GOREU ARF, CALON DDEWR**  
*The Best Weapon is a Brave Heart*

Gules a lion rampant and a border indented or. These arms are attributed to Rhys ap Tewdwr, King of Deheubarth (South Wales) and founder of the Second Royal Tribe. He was the leading chieftain of the south for about fourteen years, and the last man who can really be regarded as king of the ancient kingdom of Deheubarth. He died fighting against the Normans in 1091, in the ninetieth year of his age, after which territory was over-run by Norman adventurers and the power of South Wales decayed. These arms are considered to be specially emblematic of South Wales.

**Number 5 (HQ) Coy**

**OFNA DDUW, ANRHYDEDDA'R BRENNIN**  
*Fear God, Honour the King*

Or a lion rampant gules. These arms are attributed to Bleddyn ap Cynfyn, King of Powys (North East and Central Wales) and founder of the Third Royal Tribe. He and his brother Rhiwallon, were made joint rulers of Powys by King Harold. Bleddyn ap Cynfyn ruled 1063-1073. On rhiwallon's death, bleddyn reigned alone over Powys, and probably over the greater part of Gwynedd also.

During his reign, he fought against William the Conqueror, but was killed in an obscure skirmish by his fellow countrymen in 1073. The chronicler speaks of him as "the gentlest and most merciful of kings" and "a defence to everyone". These arms came to be recognised as the heraldic emblem of Powys.

## Number 6 Company (Support Coy)



NAC OFNA OND GWARTH  
*Fear nothing but disgrace*

Paly of eight pieces argent and gules a lion rampant sable. These were the arms of the princes of Powys Fadog, the northern part of the ancient kingdom of Powys.

Owain Glyn Dwr bore these arms by right of descent from the princes of Powys Fadog, of which, the lordship of Glyndwfrdwy formed a part. Heir by birth to Powys and Deheubarth, he revived the claims of the ancient princess of the country, and through a temporarily successful revolution against Henry IV he was able to rise to such great power and influence that he was crowned Prince of Wales. Both North and South Wales were united in common loyalty and enthusiasm under his leadership, and in ten long years of revolt and campaign Wales won recognition from Scotland, France, and Spain as if it were an independent country. Though Owain was a great guerrilla leader, he was never able to consolidate his gains. His great plans to naught, but though his allies failed him the Welsh people never betrayed him. He fought and failed and faded from the scene into an unknown grave about the year 1410. The memory of this last and greatest warrior chief is still bright in his native land.

## Number 7 Company (Regimental Headquarters and the Band)



Y GWIR YN ERBYN Y BYD  
*The Truth against the World*

Quarterly 1st and 4th argent three boars' heads sable tusked or and langued gules 2nd and 3rd party per bend sinister ermine and erminois a lion rampant or.

These arms are attributed to Elystan Glodrudd, King of Gloucester and Hereford, and, by right of conquest, Prince of Fferlis, which is the territory between Severn and Wye. The conquest of this area gave him the name of Glodrudd, which means "of ruddy fame". He was the godson of the saxon Ling Athelstan, whose Christian name he bore in its Welsh variant form. Elystan Glodrudd was founder of the Fourth Royal Tribe. He was born about 933, and was slain in battle sometime after 1010.

## Number 8 Company, Army Training Regiment



OFNER NA OFNO ANGAU  
*Feared be he who fears not Death*

Gules three chevrons argent. These arms are attributed to Iestyn ap Gwrgan, known as the last prince of Glamorgan and founder of the Fifth Royal Tribe. He was the ruler of Morgannwg, now embraced in the County of Glamorgan, and also possibly of part of Gwent, the Welsh Name for that area which is now the County of Monmouth. He lived in the time of William the Conqueror, and played a two-sided game in the Norman conquest of South East Wales, as a result of which he lost his possessions about the year 1093. His reputation in Welsh history is somewhat unenviable, and he is said to have fallen "a sacrifice to his own treachery and ingratitude".

## IX Company (Number 1 Company, 2nd Battalion)



A FYNNO BARCH BID GADARN  
*Let him be strong who would be Respected*

Gules a chevron between three lioncels rampant or. These arms are attributed to Hwfa ap Cynddelw, Lord of Llys Llifon in Anglesey and founder of the First Noble Tribe. Some say that he was steward to Owain Gwynedd, and that his hereditary office was to bear the prince's coronet and place it on his head at his coronation. Hwfa ap Cynddelw is said to have lived at Presaddfed in Anglesey about the year 1150. When these arms were chosen, this house was the home of Major-General W A FL Fox-Pitt, DSO MVO MC who was at that time commanding the Regiment. The arms were selected as being representative of the island of Anglesey, Mona, the mother of Wales.

## X Company, (Number 2 Company, 2nd Battalion)



HEBDDIAL NI DDYCHWELAF  
*I will not return unavenged*

Sable a chevron between three fleurs de lis argent. These arms are attributed to Collwyn ap Tango, Lord of Ewyas and Arddudwy and founder of the Fifth Noble Tribe. Ewyas and Arddudwy were two commots in Arfon and now form parts of the Counties of Caernarfon and Merioneth. Collwyn, who lived at Harlech, was ancestor to a famous Welsh warrior named

Syr Hywel Y Fwyall who fought with the Black Prince at Poictiers and was knighted by him. The Vaughans of Trawscoed, now Earls of Lisburne, are also descended from Collwyn, whose arms were selected as being representative of North-West Wales.

### XI Company (Number 3 Company, 2nd Battalion)



HWY CLOD NA HOEDL  
*Fame lasts longer than life*

Vert a chevron ermine between three wolves' heads erased argent. These arms are attributed to Rhirid Flaidd (Rhirid the Wolf) Lord of Penllyn, which is an area now in the country of Merioneth, and sundry other places extending between the Shropshire border and Caernarvonshire. Rhirid Flaidd lived in the middle of the twelfth century, and was ancestor of many Welsh families of note, including the Myddletons of Chirk Castle. His arms were selected as being representative of central North Wales and the border area.

### XII Company (Number 4 Company, 2nd Battalion)



HEB NEFOL NERTH SICR SAETH  
*Without Heavenly Help  
the Arrow flieth uncertain*

Argent a chevron between three ravens sable. These are the arms of Sir ap Thomas, KG, 1449-1525. He was head of the family of Dynevor, and the most powerful man in South Wales during the reigns of Henry VII and VIII. Rhys ap Thomas and his army

joined Henry Tudor at Shrewsbury on his victorious march which culminated at the battle of Bosworth, where tradition relates that Rhys ap Thomas killed Richard III with his own hand. He was certainly knighted on the field of battle. He held many high offices and great estates in South Wales, which gave rise to the saying "The King owns the island except what belongs to Sir Rhys". He was buried in Carmarthen where his tomb may be seen to this day. His descendants, who spell their names both Rhys and Rice, have served in the Regiment. These arms were chosen as being representative of South and South-West Wales.

### XIII Company (Headquarter Company, 2nd Battalion)



CAIS DDUW YN GAR AC OFNA FAR  
*Seek God as Friend and fear not ill*

Sable a lion rampant argent. These arms are attributed to Gwaerthfoed, Prince of Cardigan and Lord of Cibwr, which is probably the area between Caerphilly and Cardiff. Gwaerthfoed lived in the eleventh century. Little is known about him other than the names of his children. He was known as one of the three "band wearing princes", that is to say, princes who wore bands of gold about their necks as mark of their status. Gwaerthfoed was descended from Gwyddno Garan Hir, Prince of Cantref Y Gwaelod, a Welsh "Atlantis" now lying beneath the waters of Cardigan Bay, from the depths of which on stormy nights the ghostly "Bells of Aberdovey" are said chime. These arms were chosen as being representative of West Wales and the Cardiff area.

### XIV Support or Training Company, 2nd Battalion



CAS GWR NA CHARO'R WLAD A'IMACO  
*Hateful is the Man who loves not  
the land that nurtured him*

Argent three boars' heads couped sable langued gules. These arms are attributed to Cowry dap Cadfan, Lord of the Vale of Clwyd and founder of the tribe called Gwehelyth Ceinmerch. Ceinmerch is a commot in the Vale of Clwyd which is formed by that area of Denbighshire and Flintshire, through which the river Clwyd flows. This Welsh chieftan claimed descent from King Vortigern, known in the Triads as one of the three arch-drunkards of the Isle of Britain, and by other unpleasant names. Cowry dap Cadfan lived in the area of Ruthin, Denbighshire, about the time of King John, at which period he represented the old line of Powys. His line is still represented in the Regiment, and his arms were chosen as being representative of North-East Wales.

### XV Company (Infantry Training Company)



RHYDDID HEDD A LLWYDDIANT  
*Freedom, Peace and Prosperity*

Argent between four Cornish Choughs proper armed gules a cross fleury engrailed sable. These arms are attributed to Edwin of Tegeingl founder of the twelfth Noble Tribe of Wales. He ruled in Flintshire and was mentioned in Domesday as having held land in this area before conquest and continued to do so until 1086 when Domesday was compiled.

## 1ST BN WELSH GUARDS LIGHT AID DETACHMENT REME CORPS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION 1ST OCT 2010

Cfn Moore



*1 WG LAD Personnel at the IWM London.  
L to R: LSgt Harvey, Sgt James, LCpl Harry, Cfn Oluwabusola, AQMS Gilder,  
Cfn Goad, LSgt Tutton, Cfns Kirby, Moore and Wharmby*

The Light Aid Detachment received an uplift in personnel over the last few months due to Op Entirety. With the arrival of the new personnel it seemed like a good idea to celebrate the 68th anniversary of the birth of REME. It was agreed to do this by organising a cultural visit to the REME Corps War Memorial, in Arborfield, and the Imperial War Museum in London.

On the 1st of October 1942, the Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers were formed to maintain and repair the growing variety of ever more complex equipment used by the army. The founder members of the corps were

drawn from the Royal Engineers, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, Royal Army Service Corps and unit tradesmen from every regiment and battalion in the British Army.

Our day started with a visit to the Corps War memorial. The statue of a REME soldier, located outside the 'St Eligius' Garrison Church in Arborfield, serves as the Corps war memorial. The St Eligius memorial chapel contains the Corps Book of Remembrance, listing Corps members who have died on active service. It was good to meet up with other REME units at the statue all celebrating the formation of REME. The weather wasn't with us though, with near torrential rain and wind we set off for London.

At the Imperial War Museum we set about looking into the conflicts that shaped the 20th century and led to the formation of REME. Upon arrival we had a group photo in front of a set of 15inch guns from World War 1. The guns serve as a rather impressive gate guard to the museum. The guns are surprisingly not from the same ship and both

saw active service 30 years apart! Once inside the museum Cfn Kirby took over and shared his knowledge and thoughts with us on all the major conflicts of the last 100 years. He particularly focused on how REME had supported the British Army for the last 68 years. His knowledge on small arms of the past was particularly impressive. It made his head swell a bit though when other members of the public thought he was a private tour guide!

After the tour the LAD retired to a local public house for a lunch and a couple of drinks paid for by our seniors. The day was an excellent way for us to help foster our Esprit de Corps and a welcome break from the pace of work in recent weeks. A big thank you must go out to the chain of command within the Battalion for supporting us on this event and hopefully we can do the same next year!



*Cfn Kirby explaining the inner workings of an early WW1 tank to the rest of the LAD.*

## A UNIQUE HOUSEHOLD DIVISION ASSOCIATION WELCOMES GENERAL THE LORD GUTHRIE

by Major (Retd) E P Woods formerly Welsh Guards



Peter Woods, Mervyn Evans, General The Lord Guthrie, George Frater, George Morgan.

**O**n Monday 26th July 2010 members of the Guards Division Association, Suffolk raised their glasses to welcome General the Lord Guthrie and thanked him for his visit. The General responded by thanking the members for their invitation; he praised them for sustaining in such good health an Association open to all seven Regiments of the Household Division particularly at a time when most serving Guardsmen were committed to operations in Afghanistan.

He then stayed for 45 minutes and talked to most members who were present; he was presented by George Morgan (WG) with a number of coins painted in Regimental and Division Colours to commemorate the visit. Photographs were taken of the Group and of the 5 Welsh Guardsmen. On leaving, the General invited members to visit the House of Lords in October.

The occasion was special for Major Peter Woods (WG, 40/66) who was fortunate enough to have Lt Charles Guthrie as one of his Platoon Commanders in 1957, and had watched with admiration his progress to become Chief of the General Staff. In 1993 Peter Woods was approached by Douglas Linton (Coldstream Guards) and asked to join a group of 4 Guardsmen at their proposed regular Monday morning meetings for "coffee and a chat". He did, so the current Association was formed; from

those 5 men the membership has grown to 55.

Meetings are held at 10 o'clock every Monday (except bank Holidays) throughout the year for coffee at the Regency Hotel in Bury St Edmunds. Members all live within 30 miles, but many are less able or too far for such travel, so about 20 attend regularly. All meetings are very informal, any notices are discussed or given out then and a General Meeting is held annually. Funds are sustained by a draw held at meetings and other occasional Raffles.

Visits to Military and Civil Establishments are arranged annually, and "in house" lunch is held over Christmas and on St George's Day, with a buffet in the summer. The Group used the term "Association" initially to facilitate communication with visit organisers, and have kept the term for use in any "formal" business.

## COMMEMORATION OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL RUPERT THORNELOE MBE AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY SANDHURST

Major Henry Bettinson



**O**n Sunday 8th August Lieutenant Colonel Rupert Thorneloe's name was officially dedicated at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. Within the Academy Chapel an oak honours board commemorates those Commanding Officers who have fallen whilst in Command since the end of the Second World War.

Lieutenant Colonel Thorneloe MBE follows other distinguished soldiers such as Lieutenant Colonel David Blair Queen's Own Highlanders who was killed at Warrenpoint in 1979 and Lieutenant Colonel H Jones VC OBE Parachute Regiment who died at Goose Green in 1982.

The entire Academy of Officer Cadets and Permanent Staff attended the traditional end of term Colours to Chapel service, which was also attended by Lieutenant Colonel Thorneloe's close family and members of the Battalion who fought with

him in Afghanistan last summer. Despite all that happened on 1st July last year, it was still a shock to see his name carefully engraved on the board. Never have I heard hymns sung so clearly or at such volume. It was as if every member of the Academy was willing him to hear them.

With such passion inside and cornflower blue skies, green lawns and warm sunshine outside, it was a supremely fitting way to mark his passing. He lives on in all of us who were lucky enough to work with him.



Mrs Sally Thorneloe with the girls



## WELSH GUARDS RUN ARABIA

Lt Col G Bartle-Jones

**D**uring a dinner party in Abu Dhabi Rhodri Richards and myself hatched a hairbrain scheme to run every major long-distance running event in the UAE taking place over the 'winter' months of November 2009 through to February 2010. Without knowing it, Jamie Thomson as the only other Welsh Guardsman in UAE at the time was volunteered.

The plan was to run a total of around 200kms in competition races including 3 half-marathons, a marathon and an ultra-marathon (72kms). As either serving or recently retired Welsh Guards officers posted to or living in the UAE, we had followed the Welsh Guards' tour in Helmand with keen interest. All of us had known and served with those killed or injured and felt strongly the need to support the launch of the Welsh Guards Afghanistan Appeal. With all fundraising events it is difficult to know what to set the target at and in the end we felt that 15 000 was

reasonable. In simple terms that was £5000 each which did not seem too unrealistic. So Rhodri set about establishing the Just Giving Website and we informed Regimental Headquarters of our scheme. The idea was to raise as much money through family and friends, a charity event and sponsorship. In fact we were fortunate early on in our efforts to be sponsored by the Sovereign Group (who specialise in the set up of onshore and offshore companies and trusts worldwide) who offered us £5000 to complete the events. Off to such a good start it was

now into serious training and acclimatizing to running in temperatures of 30 degrees plus. The intended events soon were upon us:

In order to keep interest up Rhodri updated the Just Giving website with pictures and summaries of the events. Here are some extracts:

### 9 Nov 09 Dubai Sports Run (8km)

- So Guy takes a 1-0 lead over his younger colleagues in the first race, with Rod complaining that his poor performance was due to an all-nighter with some other ex-military friends in the Middle East until 2 hours before the race, and Jamie unable to get his admin sorted in time to register for the first race.

### 13 Nov 09 Abu Dhabi 1/2 Marathon (21 km)

- Heat played a bigger factor today, slowing Guy down so much that even Rod caught him on the line. A sprightly 14kph pace slowed about half-way round the course as the temperature

pushed through 30 degrees celcius with the sun beating down and bouncing off the Abu Dhabi streets. So a touch of heat stroke and a belter of a blister to show for today's efforts, but that's 2 down with 5 to go...

### 20 Nov 09 Mirdif 10 Miler

- It was Guy's turn to be absent this morning with a touch of man/bird/swine flu or something. The Mirdif 10-miler 'Donut' course promised something new... "hills"! It has to be said that for the Brecon-initiated, these 20m inclines were not really a factor but are apparently big news in Dubai.

### 12 Dec 09 Dubai 1/2 Marathon

- saw all three team members starting this race! A considerable improvement in the half marathon times by all matched an improvement in the course, which ran along both sides of the Dubai Creek. This is where the fishing village of Dubai originated from, when it was called 'Deira' - so there is some history here after all.

### 22 Jan 10 Dubai Marathon

**2010** - Sharing the stage with the WG Run Arabia team was Haile Gebrselassie. Haile, who said he was disappointed to have not broken the world record today, but thanked the Welsh Guards team for pacing his record attempt up to the 34km marker!

### 12 February 10 Wadi Bih, Oman

- Delighted to be joined by Emma Bartle-Jones and Tom Bonas to make up our team of 5 for this 72km relay through the Hajar mountains in Oman. With some very striking scenery for a backdrop, each member carries the baton for a number of legs of the race while the remainder of the team drives by 4x4 to the next checkpoint.

There is over 900m of ascent on the course with some of the toughest climbing taking place during the heat of the day. There was some very determined running from all members of the team, who finished in a combined time of 6 hours and 13 minutes on Dibba Beach.

#### **19 Feb 10 - RAK Half Marathon.**

**Marathon.** - And so, the final run in our campaign. The half marathon in Ras Al Khaimah is one of the more popular half marathons and saw over 800 runners taking part. There was some cheeky nudging of the pace from Guy for the first 10k, before declaring that he was going to save himself for the 'camel polo' later on and that Rod should "keep going"! The nudge was good as both Rod and Guy knocked over a minute off their 'season best' for this distance!

Jamie through a random Facebook contact managed to arrange for us to be interviewed by the National newspaper and had us filmed on the Corniche beach in Abu Dhabi on a spurious training day! The Welsh Guards Run Arabia team then featured on their website but to add insult to injury Jamie's interview was chopped from the website!

The final fundraising event was

a drinks party and auction at the British Embassy in Dubai where we joined forces with the 'Help For Heroes' Committee with 25% of the profits going to the Welsh Guards Afghan Appeal. The event was very popular, not least that most were guests of Rhodri and Annie's who had worked tirelessly to organize it. The Welsh Guards wrist bands were a best seller and in the end £7500 was made for the Appeal.

I managed to slip in one final race on 19 Mar, the inaugural Abu Dhabi Triathlon for a final bit of fundraising. Having completed the short course (1.5km swim, 100km bike, 10km run) with near heat exhaustion it is definitely time to retire, not least as triathlons require far too much admin and the tri-suits are not that flattering.

In all we managed to raise £20 817 for the Appeal fund and many thanks to all those who donated and supported us, in particular Mrs Anne Fasfous, Annie Richards, Bronny Stopford (nee Macdonald-Milner), Ed Cresswell and Sophie Waggett for the Dubai Embassy H4Hs party, and Howard Bilton from Sovereign Group, and our team mates for Wadi Bih, Emma Bartle-Jones and Colonel Tom Bonas.



### ADDRESS GIVEN BY BRIGADIER P R G WILLIAMS DL REGIMENTAL REMEMBRANCE SERVICE SUNDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2010

**A**bout a year ago, I attended a meeting with the Archbishop of York on getting people into church. He was quite clear about one thing; they do not go for the sermon. So do not expect too much.

But here I am in a pulpit, have to give an address, and so had better have a text. It comes from Groucho Marx: "WHY SHOULD I JOIN A CLUB THAT WOULD HAVE PEOPLE LIKE ME?"

After all, you can choose a club in a way that you cannot choose your family. And some families can be mighty difficult, and there are those who do not go much on their own families at all.

So when you enlist, you have to select the organisation you wish to join, rather like applying for membership of a club, a regiment you reckon you will feel at home in, one where there will be others like you. You enlist, train together and then serve together. You become a member of a team, in due course a fully paid up member of that team and in our case a life member of the club that is the Welsh Guards.

You become a Welsh Guardsman, and a proud member of a long and distinguished military heritage.

And we are here today to remember, once more, those Welsh Guardsmen who have upheld that tradition, and died in the service of King or Queen and Country.

The 85 listed on the Thiepval Memorial who gave their lives

on the Somme whose bodies were never recovered.

The 856 killed in the First War. Did you know that of the original battalion of about a thousand, just 13 survived unscathed to see the Armistice signed.

The 633 who lie in North Africa, Italy, France and North West Europe from the Second War.

Those killed in Northern Ireland, the Falklands, Iraq and, most recently as we shall be reminded when the memorial is dedicated after this address, Afghanistan.

"Let us now," says Ecclesiastes, "praise famous men and our fathers that begat us". And we do that because they, in their turn, did their duty and in doing so gave their lives and upheld the honour and traditions of our regiment.

Any really honest soldier, going into battle and especially for the first time, will admit to being at the very least worried about he will react and whether he will let himself and his mates down; call it fear if you wish.

And that is where the training and tradition come in; Welsh Guardsmen do not let one another down, and get on with it with Welsh Guards pride and spirit. As Our Lord might have

said in Afghanistan; 'You cannot do better than stick your life on the line for your mates'. Not quite the King James sentence we heard at the beginning of the service, but the same meaning. Guardsmen above all look after their mates.

Older generations, looking nostalgically over their shoulders, often speculate whether the younger generation could ever be as good as they were. Any such querulous speculation was comprehensively answered by the Battalion's splendid record in Afghanistan. One look at those assembled in the Garrison Church in Aldershot for that most moving memorial service could see at once that the Welsh Guardsman of today is certainly as good as and dare I say it better than many of us were, and we are rightly proud of them.

But there were inevitably tragic losses and injuries on the tour in Helmand, and that is why the Appeal was established, so that as a Regiment, with our links and knowledge of those who have encountered great difficulties, we can help both quickly and in ways that others might not be able to.

The response has been terrific, and the overall support for all the battalion has had to endure is implicit in the way everyone has thrown themselves in to fundraising. It has spoken volumes about the high esteem in which they are held and is very highly valued by the Battalion and the wider regiment.

And I hope I am allowed to mention on behalf of the Regiment, our gratitude and appreciation for the very personal involvement and

warm and unstinting support the Colonel has given to his own Regiment of Footguards in so many ways. It has been magnificent, and taken to heart by all of us.

And now we come to a curious thing: you think you have joined a club, and you end up being a member of a family, the very best kind of family that looks after its own. Certainly the response to the Appeal feels like that of a good family looking after its own. And of course you become a part of an extended family, the family that is the Household Division, with the Sovereign as its head.

So we, past and present members of that family, remember those who have gone before us with pride. But we must also recognise that further challenges await the present generation. They have inherited the torch; they are the current standard bearers and upholders of tradition. Like their fathers, grandfathers and great grandfathers they will not let the family down.

So while we recall the past with pride and gratitude, we must pray also for the future.

May God support our Welsh Guardsmen in all their endeavours, and help us to support them and their families in whatever the future may hold.

#### CYMRU AM BYTH



**"WHY SHOULD I JOIN A CLUB THAT WOULD HAVE PEOPLE LIKE ME?"**

**WWW . EXMODLTD . ORG**



## FOUNDED BY SERVICEMEN FOR SERVICEMEN®

EXMoD LTD 'Forget-Me-Not' was founded in 2005 by Anthony Finlay (a former member of HM Forces) and Maprovision for homeless ex-servicemen and women in the United Kingdom, especially those suffering from mental illness or addiction. Although it has taken approximately eighteen months to register as a company limited by guarantee and be granted charity status, we believe by summer 2011 'Forget-Me-Not' will be providing a unique, but essential service for ex-servicemen and women by:

1. The provision of accommodation to those who are homeless for a period of up to two years.
2. The provision of treatment care and rehabilitation of those suffering from, or at risk of, mental illness, including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or addiction. This will include therapy and remedial treatments, work and vocational training, counselling and developing skills and medical assistance.
3. The provision of work based training and education to those who are unemployed.
4. The provision of advice and guidance to assist those who are unemployed to find suitable employment. This may include on and off site placements, the opportunity to attend local educational centres and training with local craftsmen.
5. Offering respite facilities to serving members of HM Forces and their dependants.

## SERVICE OF THE ROYAL VICTORIAN ORDER

The Queen has Commanded that a Service of the Royal Victorian Order is to be held in St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, at 11.00 am on Wednesday 13th April 2011, followed by a Reception in the State Apartments of Windsor Castle for all members and Medallists of the Order attending the Service.

Due to the limited seating capacity of St George's Chapel, tickets for the Service and Reception will be restricted to members of the Royal Victorian Order and holders of the Royal Victorian Medal **only**. Please do not apply for tickets for spouses or other guests who are not members or Medallists of the Order. Honorary members and Medallists are not eligible to attend.

Members of the Order and Medallists who wish to attend should apply for a ticket as soon as possible, and not later than Friday, 4th March 2011, clearly stating their name, address, telephone number and Grade within the Order. They should also state if they require a parking permit and if they have any special requirements for access to, and seating in, St George's Chapel. Applications should be made by accessing the website [www.rvoservice.org.uk](http://www.rvoservice.org.uk) or in writing to the Registrar of the Royal Victorian Order, Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood, St James's Palace, London SW1A 1BH





*The Welsh Guards display at Cardiff Castle*

## THE WELSH GUARDS COLLECTION

Stan Evans

### The Welsh Guards Collection

Established 1995

*President:*  
**Brigadier J F Rickett CBE**

*Chairman*  
**Colonel T C S Bonas**

*Treasurer*  
**Mr J O Williams 83**

*Secretary*  
**RQMS A Campbell MSM**

*Curator*  
**Mr S Evans**

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**U**nfortunately circumstances have meant my report this year will be a little mixed up date wise. Unless you have been given a posting to the other side of the moon you will be aware of the sad passing of Colonel Brian Morgan, MBE. After a very long illness which Brian fought courageously and without complaint, Brian passed away at 0345hrs Saturday the 8th January.

Throughout his treatment Brian would always ring up to see if everything was alright at Park Hall. Each time he was asked how he was feeling his only hint of complaint was "It could be better" or "I've had better days". The determination he showed in facing his misfortune was unbelievable an example to us all.

The Museum now faces an entirely new future, one where we will have to stand up and count for ourselves, face our problems squarely and not be able to call on the only person I have ever known who had a solution for every problem put before him and would solve it as easily as could be. It's going

to be hard but to the memory of Brian we at the Museum will continue to make it work for him. Our thoughts are with his devoted wife Audrey.

To say we have been busy here at the Museum in the last twelve months is quite an understatement. Besides our normal duties of manning the Collection and assisting our visitors as they tour around the Museum, we have had major restoration to parts of the building itself to contend with. These included the much needed refurbishment of the floor and screening the entrance windows with sun blocking film. Thanks to an MLA support grant we were

able to engage the services of a professional floor laying company from Wrexham to completely insulate and cover the whole floor with wooden laminate and the difference it has made is quite stunning. Not only to the eye but because it is so easy for the staff to keep clean, the sun screening project has reduced the harmful sunlight by three quarters. Thanks to our Building services Manager Graham Binnie who has replaced almost every floodlight with state of the art energy saving bulbs to reduced running costs and the harmful lux rays upon the artifacts plus additional humidity monitors, fire and intruder alarms, safety lights and other high Tec gizmos which will protect the collection and indeed the staff should any emergency arise.

In March our Regimental Lieutenant Colonel, Colonel Sandy Malcolm had been invited to install a temporary Welsh Guards display in the brand new Museum of the Royal Welsh and Queens Dragoon Guards in Cardiff Castle in time for Forces day on the 26th June. This new Museum was to be called "Firing line". "The museum of the Welsh Soldier." After a recce by John Williams 83 and myself it became very obvious that nothing but the best would do as we had to show the visiting public what quality of artifacts could be found at the Welsh Guards Collection in Oswestry. Having met the Museum Director Mr Christopher Dale and agreed a four month tenure we then found out that their new Museum would be opened officially by none other than His Royal Highness Prince Charles, Prince of Wales and of course our own Colonel of the Regiment.



*HRH The Prince of Wales being led around by the Chairman of The Firing Line board Mr Peter Wisher and Curator Rachel Silverson*

With the help of so many ex and serving Welsh Guardsmen the task began. The purchase of brand new mannequins to display uniforms worn by the Welsh Guards from 1915 to the present day. I can't find words worthy enough to thank so many people for their input into what was going to be a mammoth task with very little time to do it. However, firstly the team here at Oswestry worked flat out giving additional extra time as well as their normal duties at the Museum. If we take into consideration the fact that our driver responsible for moving the display from Oswestry to Cardiff and back again, Brian John had surgery on his hip during the time the display was at Cardiff yet still volunteered to drive the van both ways.

Thanks to Quartermaster Major Nicky Mott from the Battalion for supplying on loan several uniforms. WO11 Warren

Williams and his men from the recruiting team at Cardiff who did most of the fetching and carrying for us at Cardiff Castle. Colonel Tom Bonas, RQMS Andy Campbell and Sergeant Shane Brandon from Regimental headquarters for the support they gave, giving every request priority in the short time we had. With that kind of backup we were bound to succeed. Even the permanent staff from Cardiff Castle were full of praise saying "they wished they had that type of display there permanently". Our thanks goes to all the Cardiff Museum staff for their input as well.

The enclosed photographs show part of the display and HRH being led around by Chairman of the Firing Line board Mr Peter Wisher and Curator Rachel Silverson. Afterwards His Royal Highness congratulated the Welsh Guards Collection for

magnificent Welsh Guards display. We all hope that one day His Royal Highness could visit the Museum site at Oswestry in the not too distant future.

Artifacts are coming into the Collection at an amazing rate from across the whole spectrum of Welsh Guards, from bits of paper scribbled on during a battle or from the trenches to more modern items where the families feel satisfied that at last their treasures are back amongst others in a secure and safe environment and will be cared for by people who are passionate about our Regiment and its glorious history.

Our eldest statesman Norman Edwards 86 years young (ex 3rd Battalion) and life long Standard bearer of the Montgomery and Shropshire Branch unfortunately is still in Gabowen hospital undergoing

further physiotherapy and treatment. I'm sure he's doing his very best to get back to the familiar fit and lovable ways we have become to know.

By the time this editorial is released we will be celebrating ten years at Oswestry, An amazing fete that could have only become possible with the generosity and support from our hosts Park Hall the Countryside Experience in particular the Managing Director Martyn Hughes and his co Director Richard Powell, their events coordinator Rachel, Oh and of course last but not least Pauline and Clair our caterers who keep us supplied with "wads" and "banjo's" of every description! To you all our heart felt thanks. We look forward to the next decade.

Stan Evans.67  
At your service.

### WELSH GUARDS ASSOCIATION

Brian Keane, General Secretary

**President:** Colonel T C C Bonas  
**Vice President:** Brigadier J F C Rickett CBE  
**Vice President:** R Lewis Esq.  
**Treasurer:** Major K Oultram  
**Secretary General:** B Keane Esq.

**Maindy Barracks, Whitchurch Road, Cardiff CF4 3YE**

**Telephone:** 029 2078 1342

**E-mail:** welshguardsassociation@live.co.uk

We now have 17 Branches within the Association, making the Welsh Guards the strongest Association in the Regiment of Foot Guards. Welsh Guards Reunited, a web site which encapsulates the entire world and allows easy access to all those who wish to keep in touch with the Welsh Guards, has opened a new dimension to the Association in the way we all communicate and keep in touch. I sincerely hope some of our 'new members' will not only communicate via the web, but also participate in events run by local Branches, the Association and the Regiment, as they did for the 2010 Darts and Shooting Competition held at Maindy Barracks. In order to keep our great family alive, continual contact and participation is essential.

The annual Association Battlefield Tour, ably organised by Captain Graham Taylor, is a prime example of communicating with the younger generation. Every year 3-4 Guardsmen from the Regiment are invited to join the tour, and it is an honour to speak to these young men,

who have bravely fought and laid down their lives for this country, just as our veterans in the past. The continuation of the Association depends on these men, and I sincerely hope the message gets back that we are worth keeping in touch with.

We look forward to our 24th Association Dinner in April 2011 to be held at Wrexham, North Wales. It is a first rate venue with ample nearby overnight accommodation. It would be good to see an excellent turnout from all our Branches, since it is a great way of keeping in touch with old and new friends. Further details are available in the Winter Newsletter, as well as from your Branch Secretaries.

Once again, I must mention all Branch Secretaries who work extremely hard for the Association, particularly over this last year in collecting for the Welsh Guards Afghanistan Appeal by selling wrist bands, holding dances, sponsored walks, fetes etc. There has been a tremendous response from members of the public as well as our own members in supporting the Regiment, and is greatly appreciated.

Please help to keep the Association alive within your areas, and support Lunches, Dinners, Dances and various other events. If you feel the Association could do more, then please do not hesitate in contacting your local Branch or the office at Maindy Barracks, since

the Association belongs to YOU !

Finally I wish to thank you all for your help and cooperation shown me throughout the year, and wish you and your families good luck and the best of health in 2011.

### ABERDARE BRANCH

(Formed 1951)

**President:** Simon Rhodes Esq.  
**Chairman:** John Coleman (22217873)  
**Treasurer/Secretary:** Michael Williams (2335233)  
33 Tre Gwilym, Cwmbach  
Aberdare  
Mid Glam Cf44 0AA  
**Telephone:** 01685 877786

It's that time of year again when Branches have to submit a report for the Regimental Magazine. I guess that ninety nine percent of the Branches do not find this task difficult because of various activities during the past twelve months. For the one percent such as the Aberdare Branch, this simple task becomes a problem for us since we do not get involved in Association events and activities – hence, if there is no involvement then there is nothing to write about.

The Branch was represented at the AGM held at Wellington Barracks in June, which was, as usual, a very informative meeting, but unfortunately did not attend the Darts and Shooting Competition at Cardiff this year since we had insufficient numbers to make up a team. Hopefully we can get some members together to

attend the Association Biennial Dinner at Wrexham in April 2011.

We have appealed many times over the years for new members, but with no response. There have been times over this last year when, on our meeting nights we have been unable to hold a meeting because of lack of numbers. It is a sad reflection when one considers our former glory!

I can but hope that one day, someone will read my report and decide to take over the mantle. We desperately need new blood and new ideas if we are to keep alive.

For those who have lost a loved one over the last year we send our sincere condolences, and for those who are sick, a speedy recovery.

On behalf of the committee, may I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

## CARDIFF BRANCH

(Founded 1919)

**President:** **Colonel CJ Dawnay**  
**Chairman:** **David W Parry (22831847)**  
**Treasurer:** **Martyn Williams (246853160)**  
**Secretary:** **Bill Morris (22217619)**  
**39 Gareth Close**  
**Thornhill**  
**Cardiff CF14 9AF**  
**029 20611241**  
**e-mail:** **billmo02@talktalk.net**



Three happy revellers at the Cardiff Dinner



Cardiff Branch Members

The past year has been quite a busy one for the Branch, the highlight of the year being the Branch Dinner held to celebrate our 90th Anniversary; it was well attended and enjoyed by all present. The year ended with the Ladies Night/Christmas Draw, which again was a highly successful evening.

During the year we visited: The House of Commons. St David's Day at Aldershot. Windsor, on the occasion of the Garter Ceremony.

And all these events were well supported by Branch Members. In addition, the Branch was represented at the National Arboretum for the Service of Dedication to the Household Division on the 3rd December 2009. In attendance

was Mr Terry Evans, 24040637, our Branch Standard Bearer. His commitment as Branch Standard Bearer is quite exceptional and has attended many of the funerals of members of the Regiment who were killed in Afghanistan. We are also fortunate in as much that on the odd occasion when Terry is not available we have a capable deputy in Mr Terry O'Shea, 24047142, our Vice Chairman.

As a Branch we also give our thanks to Mr David Bishop, 22831919, and Mr Roy Tucker, 19029281, for looking after the welfare side of things and reporting back to the Committee on a regular basis.

During the year we saw a change in Branch Officers. Martyn Williams, 24685316,

has taken over as Branch Treasurer from Alex Webb, 22370877, who after many years as Treasurer, has now been appointed Vice President of the Branch.

At the time of going to press I have been given to understand that the Branch was

unsuccessful in this year's Darts and Shoot competition, we shall do better next year.

Finally, on behalf of the Branch, I would like to thank Major Oultram, Brian Keane and Kirstie McBurnie at Maindy Barracks for their help during the year.

## EAST GLAMORGAN BRANCH

(Formed 1920)

**President:** **Lt. Col. D C Macdonald-Milner**  
**Chairman:** **Howard Main (23577106)**  
**Treasurer:** **W John Hooper**  
**Secretary:** **Ken Haines (23523287)**  
**Trevone, Duffryn Road**  
**Rhydfelin**  
**Pontypridd CF39 5RU**  
**Telephone:** **01443 662248**  
**E-mail:** **marianne.haines@ntlworld.com**

The first event for the East Glamorgan Branch this year was to celebrate St David's Day with the Battalion at Aldershot. The response from everyone was extremely pleasing, and in my opinion, the best since Merthyr Tydfil a few years back. The weather for March was superb, and the food first class, with no complaints from anyone – and that must be a first!

In June we took a coach full of members and friends to attend the service at Imber Court. Later in the afternoon we continued our journey to the Tower of London, thanks to Idwal Bellis, who arranged it all for us. Unfortunately, due to the excessive traffic in the city, our visit was curtailed to an hour, before we had to return to Wales in order to arrive in time for a pre-planned meal at



Members at a Branch Meeting

the Institute Club on Gelliwasted Road. My thanks go to everyone concerned who helped to make the day such a success.

September saw the Branch attend the annual Darts and Shooting Competition at Maindy Barracks, Cardiff, which again, everyone enjoyed immensely especially since we came back with a couple of trophies! We were Runners-Up to Welsh Guards Reunited (which were a far better side) in the Darts, although our 'star man' (I hate to say) was Dai Gaule, and I am sure we are not going to hear the end of it for the next twelve months!!!

John Hooper, the Branch Treasurer won the 'Best Shot' trophy, which I am informed, is the very first time for the Branch to win. Peter Mann and Big Al (Thomas) also did brilliantly at the Shooting, with Big Al having to go into a 'shoot-off' for the trophy against John Hooper. Well done and congratulations John – we will expect an encore next

year (even though Gary Jones insists that the rifle was tampered with!) Our Chairman Howard Main was unable to attend through illness, but I am pleased to report that he is now fit and well again.

Our Standard Bearer, Mr 'reliable' Ron Hambley, had yet another busy year with numerous parades, not only representing the Branch and Association but also with the Royal British Legion, and travelling to 'far off places' such as London, Weymouth and Ystrad Mynach! Thank you Ron, you are an inspiration to us all.

On a sadder note, we lost one of our members this year, namely J H Lee (22831502), who passed away in August, age 73 years. Our thoughts and sincere condolences go to his family.

Finally the Branch still meets on the second Wednesday of every month at the Institute Club, Gelliwasted Road, Pontypridd (7.30 for 8pm). Everyone welcome.

## LLANELLI BRANCH

(Formed 1974)

<b>President:</b>	<b>Mr John Harding</b>
<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Major E Pridham MBE</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Vernon Jones (22217890)</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Alan Cunningham (24125105) 197 Cockett Road Cockett Swansea SA2 0FH</b>
<b>Telephone:</b>	<b>01792 554151 (Home) (Work: 07976971336)</b>
<b>E-mail:</b>	<b>alan.Cunningham1@ntlworld.com</b>

I would like to first personally thank all those who worked so hard to arrange the Glan Usk event this year, in aid of the Welsh Guards Afghanistan Appeal. It was a great day out, and would be nice to think that this could become an annual event.

The Branch has just welcomed our new President Mr John Harding, as well as a new Chairman Major E Pridham. On behalf of our members, I would like to warmly welcome them to the Branch and hope their stay with us will be long and happy. We are also very lucky to have a new member, the very familiar face of Keith Horrell – it is always good to have 'new blood'. Sadly, as in every report we have had a few members who have passed away over this last year. We send our sincere

condolences to their loved ones. They are not forgotten, and are honoured at every meeting.

Good wishes from the Branch have been sent to Edward Mansel Lewis, grandson of our late President, Sir David Mansell Lewis and Lady Mary Mansel Lewis, on being accepted at Sandhurst. We are sure he will have a long and wonderful career. A big thank you is sent to everyone who has generously donated to the Afghanistan appeal and also to the Branch members, it is greatly appreciated, and we send our eternal thanks. We also appreciate the stalwart work carried out by the Battalion in their gruelling tour of Afghanistan. WELL DONE LADS! Our new President has offered



Runners Up - Darts & Shoot Maindy Barracks, Cardiff



Members of the Battalion visiting the branch on return from Afghanistan



Members of the branch at Ludlow

to make available his home in Ilston, The Gower, for our Branch Luncheon / Dinner on Saturday 4th June 2011. This is a truly lovely setting, and most generous of the President. If you would like to attend then please let me know ASAP.

We send our apologies to the Association for being unable to attend the Darts and Shooting Competition this year, due to events which were beyond our

control. I appreciate that a lot of time and effort goes into these events, and it is rather sad when Branches do not turn up.

Our Branch meetings are held on the last Tuesday of every month at the Naval Club, Swansea Road, Llanelli, (no Dress code, casual if you like) and we welcome old and new faces.

## LONDON BRANCH

(Formed 1926)

President: **Lieutenant Colonel C F B Stephens**  
 Chairman: **A H Doughty BEM (2741552)**  
 Treasurer: **Douglas Wilcox (2739697)**  
 Secretary: **Jeff Heenan (23523251)**  
**27 Mount Gardens**  
**Harrogate**  
**N Yorkshire HG2 8BS**  
 Telephone: **01423 879326**  
 E-mail: **jeffheenan-wgalb@hotmail.co.uk**

Welcome to the New Year, our best wishes go to our serving, as well as our retired comrades and families; we hope you all have a prosperous, healthy and wealthy New Year.

Our meetings continue to be

held at London District WO's & Sgt's Mess Wellington Barracks, by kind permission of the Garrison Sergeant Major W D G Mott, OBE. Welsh Guard

Once again with give thanks to all our Committee Members, and of course our Chairman

## Our meetings in 2011

(In 2011 London Branch will celebrate 85 years since its formation)

<b>Friday 4th February</b>	Meet at 4pm then 7pm Annual General Meeting London Branch
<b>Tuesday 1st March</b>	St. David's Day Details from RHQ
<b>Saturday 14th May</b>	Ladies Lunchtime Party
<b>Friday 10th June</b>	AGM Association/Troop meeting (London Branch First Friday Meeting 4pm onwards)
<b>Saturday 11th June</b>	Trooping of The Colour. Details RHQ WG Newsletter
<b>Friday 2nd September</b>	First Friday meeting
<b>Friday 7th October</b>	First Friday Meeting
<b>Sunday 13th November</b>	Remembrance Sunday Details from RHQ
<b>Saturday 3rd December</b>	Lunchtime Christmas Party

\*Please note that our meetings now start at 4pm and lunches at 12 pm. If you are planning to attend our meetings at Wellington Barracks then please inform the Secretary at least 7 days in advance, and ensure you have your membership card available for entry since the Garrison WO's and Sergeant's Mess is now staffed by Sodexo

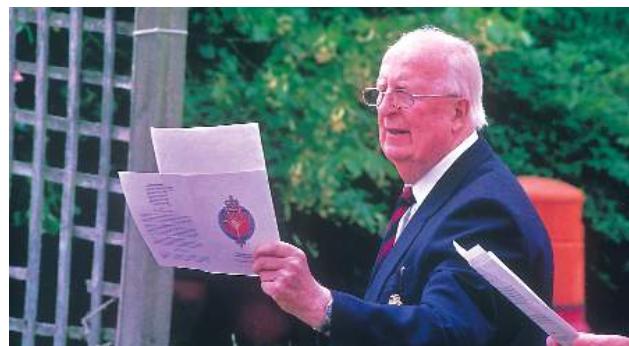
and Treasurer Richard Doughty and Doug Wilcox, for all their hard work.

Our Chairman Richard Doughty BEM, organised our June 2010 Money Draw which raised over £1600.00 and was donated to the Welsh Guards Afghanistan Appeal. Well Done Richard, and many thanks to all who took part, and a special thanks to Tim Plowden who sold the most tickets again!

Letters of thanks for our Chairman's hard work have

been received from Colonel Bonas Regimental Adjutant, and Brigadier P R G Williams, Chairman of the Welsh Guards Afghanistan Appeal.

A Commemoration service was again held at Imber Court Metropolitan Sports Club in June 2010. Our thanks to RQMS Andy Campbell who organised the event, and members of East Glamorgan Branch who also attended. It was a beautiful sunny day, with a grand attendance of just under 80.



Islwyn Evans who was present on that eventful day at Imber Court. Reading out the names of those who fell. (Photo by Mike Roberts 06)



*Association Standard Bearers Neville Hamer - Merthyr Tydfil Branch and Jeff Heenan - London Branch*

The photographs at the Imber Court Commemoration were taken by Mike Roberts (23736306). He joined the Regiment in 1959 and found his photography skills very useful. He chronicled a career which took him all over the world and was frequently asked to take pictures at events. He became chief photographer for all the Guards Divisions in London in 1958. He was approached by Major Ferguson (Duchess of York's father) to photograph officers playing polo. One polo player was so impressed with his work that he has sponsored a limited edition book, to be published soon celebrating 40 years of polo pictures. Its foreword has been written by Prince Charles, and the Queen is to receive the first copy. For details of the book please contact Mike on 0208 578 9047. Naturally he has also been appointed 'official' photographer to the London Branch!

Sadly during 2010 some members have passed away, our thoughts and condolences go to their loved ones. Their names are entered in the Memoriam section of the Magazine.

Following the Remembrance Sunday Parade, we again

paraded at HM Tower of London, thanks to Yeoman Warder (Ex RQMS) Idwal Bellis, and watched with great interest the Ceremony of the Keys, several of us having done it before. (Some with a 303 rifle and one or two with a crossbow!)

Sunday 26th September saw the Dedication of a Memorial to Major General Peter Raymond Leuchars CBE. (Former President of London Branch) in the Royal Military Chapel (The Guards' Chapel) Wellington Barracks. Present was Mrs Gill Leuchars, her son and family, Colonel TCS Bonas B.A. Regimental Adjutant, Lt. Colonel C K Antelme DSO. CO 1 WG. and Mr and Mrs Douglas Wilcox London Branch.

The Branch has been able to sponsor various functions during 2010. I wish to thank you on behalf of the committee for your support and kindness. Donations and subscriptions always welcome!

We continue to encourage more retired Welsh Guards to support the Association, whether at our meetings in London or the various events that take place around the country. We do need younger members in London Branch, but appreciate the difficulties and the costs of attending the

meetings. The Association in general is looking at ways to encourage people to attend meetings throughout the country.

Sadly the Sub Branch meetings at Bristol are no more due to various factors. Our thanks to Alan Ridgewell who organised the meetings for several years. The remaining members now meet at the Royal British Legion in Staple Hill, with other Guards Regimental Associations.

Thanks must also go to Ron Perrin (2741152) who still holds the fort at Eastbourne where he is Secretary of The Guardsmen's Club. Ron can be contacted on 01323 840754 for details of meetings of the club in Eastbourne.

We had another very beautiful Race Day at Ludlow in 2010, and recommend it to all members. Our thanks go to Captain David Davies for all the hard work in organising what

is now an established excellent event.

Our 2010 Christmas Lunch was again well attended, allowing our members to enjoy themselves during the afternoon, dining, dancing and cavorting which enabled them to be home before lights out - unfortunately we have to restrict the numbers to 80 so we recommend early booking for these events.

We are considering having an Internet Web Page for London Branch Events/Notices etc. If you have access to a computer and are interested, can you let the Hon. Sec know so we can see if it is feasible?

Our yearly thanks to Brian Keane and Major Keith Oultram at Maindy Barracks and RQMS Andy Campbell, L/Sgt Shane Brandon and Yvonne Mitchell at RHQ for all the help and assistance during the year

## MERTHYR TYDFIL BRANCH

(Formed 1953)

<b>President:</b>	<b>Captain Harry Legge-Bourke</b>
<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Grant Harper (2734772)</b>
<b>Treasurer/</b>	
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Errol Jones (24581438)</b>
	<b>18 Marshall Crescent</b>
	<b>Penydarren</b>
	<b>Merthyr Tydfil CF47 9JA</b>
<b>Telephone:</b>	<b>07903417048</b>
<b>Email:</b>	<b>errol438@yahoo.co.uk</b>

Another year has passed for the Merthyr Tydfil Branch (F Troop). It has been a busy and exciting one for us all.

We started the year with the knowledge that Number Two Company of the Welsh Guards was honouring us by marching through the town. The turn-out

in the town centre and surrounding streets was unbelievable, with thousands supporting our Troops. The salute was taken outside the Town Hall by the Mayor, with the whole of the Council in support. A fantastic buffet with liquid refreshments was



*John Johnson with the Gerry Greenstock Cup 2010*

later laid on for the lads at the nearby Merthyr Tydfil Rugby Club, which was sponsored by the Council - this was obviously received with great enthusiasm!

At the AGM, our Secretary, one of Merthyr's stalwarts, Jimmy Manning, decided it was time for him to 'stand down' as Secretary/Treasurer. The office was taken over by Errol Jones, who knows it is going to be a hard if not impossible act to follow. Jim will be called upon for his knowledge and knowhow for some time to come. We cannot thank him enough for his unselfish contribution towards the Branch.

Then came Veterans Day, which was very well attended by Branch members as well as members of the public. A Service was held at St David's Church in the town centre, with refreshments later at the Mayor's Parlour.

The Afghanistan Appeal really took off in the town, and Mr

Jimmy Manning handed over a cheque for £5100 to Colonel Bonas at the Association AGM at Wellington Barracks. The Wristbands are in great demand throughout Merthyr Tydfil, and are still selling well.

Members of the Branch had a great day at the Darts and Shooting Competition at Maindy Barracks, with John Johnson winning the Jerry Greenstock (over 70's shooting)

We are still holding our Social evenings on the third Saturday of each month at the Merthyr Railway Club. This has been a struggle of late, but we hope to get it back on course sooner rather than later. All are welcome.

Our meetings continue to be held on the first Monday of every month at the Ex-Servicemen's Club, Merthyr, commencing 20 00hrs. This year we are fortunate in having a few new members, and the Branch is looking healthy. Members old and new are more than welcome.

## MIDLANDS BRANCH

(Formed 1953)

**President:** **Colonel S C C Gausen**  
**Chairman:** **R C Jaynes (2739272)**

**Treasurer/Secretary:** **Keith Bartlett (23523202)**  
**6 Athelstan Road**  
**Battenhall**  
**Worcester WR5 2BW**  
**Tel: 01905 355233**

It has been a quiet year for the Midland Branch, which makes writing the annual report more difficult.

Unfortunately most of our faithful members are now in their seventies and eighties. Of course, with advancing age come health problems – although I must emphasise, that this does not apply to everyone.

Sadly we lost a very popular member of the Branch this year. Tom Kennedy (2738611) died on 13th June aged 85. Tom was a regular member at our Dinners and will be sorely missed by us all. He served in the Prince of Wales's Company, and received the Military Cross for gallantry during action in Normandy in 1944.

We had a reasonable turn-out for St David's Day at Aldershot this year. It was a most enjoyable day meeting up with old friends, and of course spending time with the Battalion.

The Branch Christmas Lunch was held at the Whitehouse

Hotel, Worcester. We had quite a good attendance, and needless to say, a great time was had by all.

Our official Branch Lunch was held on Sunday 18th April 2010, again at the Whitehouse Hotel. We continue to have reasonable turn-outs, but rely on other Branches and guests to swell our ranks. We were well looked after by the Hotel staff, which helped to ensure a highly successful day.

Our next Branch Lunch will be held at the Whitehouse Hotel, Worcester (now becoming our regular venue!) on Sunday 17th April 2011, so please remember to put it in your diaries. We will also be organising our Christmas Lunch, at a time to be announced.

The President, Chairman and Secretary would like to thank all members for their support throughout the year. Our thanks also go to Brian Keane and all the team at Cardiff for all the work they do to help the Branch.

### MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH

(Formed 1920)

**President:** Captain D M Davies  
**Chairman:** Alan Mountjoy (239297747)  
**Secretary/Treasurer:** Steve Liversage BEM (24141822)  
7 Shaw Close, Ebbw Vale , NP23 6QQ  
**Tel:** 01495 302567  
**E mail:** Vicar54@live.co.uk



Pre-dinner drinks at the reunion.

Left to right: Bryn Pennock, Alan Mountjoy, Roy Lewis & Captain David Davies

The Branch celebrated its 90th anniversary in 2010 which added to the enjoyment of its usual functions. There were major changes in the administration and we welcomed a new President – only the sixth in 90 years – in Captain David Davies of Chepstow who had been Vice President following his retirement as Assistant Regimental Adjutant after 46 years of service to the Regiment. He took over from Captain William Prichard whose business base is in Russia and the Ukraine, as a result of which he reluctantly stepped down as President. Coming from a famous Welsh Guards family he gave us great support and we acknowledge all he did for the Branch.

Steve Liversage was appointed Branch Secretary at the AGM in February 2010 which, as usual, was held in Abergavenny Town Hall where the Mayor gave the Branch a Civic Reception. Steve, born in Cheshire, lives in Ebbw Vale and had attained the rank of Company Sergeant Major when he retired in 1993 after 27 years service.

The work of Branch officers over nine decades cannot be praised enough and they have been, and still are, supported by an enthusiastic membership. Branches form the Association, they maintain the traditions of the Regiment in their areas and without them there would be no Association. They have never been more important than

they are now, they deal with real people and deserve practical support. Attendances at the monthly meetings varies but undoubtedly there is a decline which must be arrested. There is good communication between a Branch and its members via the six monthly newsletters but nothing matches attending meetings which are mini-Reunions.

We meet every month on the second Thursday at The Angel Hotel, Abergavenny except in May and October when the meeting is held at the Capel Hotel, Bargoed and February when the AGM takes place a few yards from The Angel in the Town Hall.

St. David's Day 2010 was spent with the Battalion and those who went to Aldershot enjoyed it very much. Meeting serving Guardsmen at the various marches in Welsh cities and towns to mark the coming home of the Battalion from Afghanistan were very moving and an opportunity to bring together both halves of the Regiment. As one older member said, "They are the same as we were."

Members attended the summer event in Glanusk Park the proceeds of which went to the Welsh Guards Afghanistan Appeal Fund, and also Armed Forces Day in Cardiff which turned out to be a late night for the fitter and more adventurous.

Our President organises the Association Race Day at Ludlow which is another mini-Reunion attracting Welsh Guardsmen from far and wide. A knowledge of horses is not necessary as the bookmakers generally win anyway, but it is a really good day out in a wonderful setting.

Our two main lunches are family occasions and always well supported. The Spring lunch in the Maes Manor Hotel, Blackwood was excellent as it always is and once again our friends from the Midlands Branch were there. We attend their lunches, their attend ours in the Spring and December. Our pre-Christmas lunch in Ebbw Vale Rugby Club was again a success and at this point the generosity of members in providing raffle prizes and buying tickets at monthly meetings and all the social functions must be mentioned. It is our main source of income and is quite remarkable, showing the loyalty and practical support of the membership.

The 2010 Association Day at Maindy Barracks, Cardiff was well supported and we entered teams for the darts and the shooting competitions but without success although Paul John came second in the individual shooting. Taking part was the main thing and it was a great Reunion in itself.

One tradition we keep faithfully is the men's Reunion Dinner which since 1980 has been held at our HQ in The Angel Hotel, Abergavenny. As it was our anniversary year the 2010 Dinner was rather special with Colonel Bonas as chief guest. He was there in three roles, President of the Association, Regimental Adjutant and Branch member. There were more serving Guardsmen there than ever and they included Captain Spencer Smith, Garrison Sergeant Major Mott, RSM Monaghan, RQMS Warren Williams and RQMS Andrew Campbell.

Major Adrian Davies, who now runs the CCF at Harrow School, paid a first visit and we hope to

see him again, Ian McPherson came from Camberley, Ray Cumbley from Cornwall and Len Brooks and Mervyn Delve from across the Severn. The President gave a special welcome to the Mayor of Abergavenny, Councillor Norma Watkins and to show how close we are to the local Borough Council, two former Mayors also came.

The Branch Chairman, Alan Mountjoy, presented the Monmouthshire Branch Trophy to Welsh Guards Sportsman of the year 25163525 Lance Corporal John Sanigar, a Rhondda man who excels in both rugby codes. It was a

busy night for Steve Liversage and assistant treasurer Ron Oliver of Abergavenny. The atmosphere was just right and several generations of Guardsmen were reunited in the true meaning of the word.

With so much going on nationally and at Branch level there is a variety of events to suit everyone, but the main object of a Branch remains the same, to get together with fellow Guardsmen. In the last fifty years especially the Branch has been to the forefront of all that is best in Regimental friendship. Now we look forward to our Centenary.



*Past President, Capt. Sir Beville Stanier BT welcomes the New President, Mr Roger Plowden.*

President. He served with the Battalion in the mid 70's with No 3 Company.

In December 2009, members of the Branch attended a Service of Dedication to the Household Division at the National Arboretum at Alrewas, Staffordshire. The following members attended: Lt. Col Brian Morgan MBE., Norman Edwards (Branch Standard Bearer), John Williams 83 and Brian Jones. They were joined by many others from all Regiments of the Household Division for the Service, which dedicated a Garden of Remembrance to all members of the Division who have lost their lives in Operations or Training since the end of the Second World War.

In February, we had a lunch to celebrate St David's Day at our regular venue just outside Welshpool. This was well attended but sadly could be the last one held there since the venue may be closing. Our Annual Lunch was held in July, at the Wroxeter Hotel, just outside Shrewsbury. We were delighted to have as our guest, Major Guy Stone, who was the Battalion's Second in Command, and also the Officer commanding No 3 Company during the Battalion's recent tour of duty on OP HERRICK. After lunch, it was extremely interesting listening to his

presentation of the exploits of No 3 Company during this Tour of Duty.

September was the time to participate in the Association Darts and Shooting Competition in Cardiff. We could only get together four members to attend, namely Dave Myatt, Norman Shuker, John Bates and myself. We made the effort to represent the Branch in the Shooting, but failing this year to bring back any silver! However, it is about taking part, and the event was very well supported. It was good to see so many Associate members present, making it a most enjoyable day.

This year the Christmas function will be held at the Wynnstay Hotel Oswestry, on Sunday 5th December. We are also planning a lunch for St David's Day on Sunday 20th February 2011 (venue to be decided). The Branch Lunch, which is our main event, will be held at the Wroxeter Hotel, Nr Atcham, on Sunday 26th June 2011 – a little earlier than usual.

That brings to conclusion the notes for this year. All that is left is to wish all Welsh Guardsmen past and present a very happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year. We look forward to seeing you all at the Biennial Dinner at Wrexham in April, and also at many other events planned for 2011.

## MONTGOMERY/SHROPSHIRE BRANCH

(Formed 1950)

**President:** **Mr R G P Plowden**  
**Chairman:** **J O Williams (23860183)**  
**Treasurer:** **Lt Col B D Morgan MBE**  
**Secretary:** **Captain R J D Parry**  
**10 Grangefields**  
**Shrewsbury**  
**Shropshire SY3 9DE**

As another year rapidly passes by, we look back over a successful year for the Branch. It has also been the first year in post for our new President, who has settled in very well.

A fond farewell and gift was presented to the outgoing President, Captain Sir Beville Stanier Bt, at our Christmas Lunch. Sir Beville took over as President from his father thirty three years ago, and has supported the Branch to the maximum during his tenure. He spent many hours travelling from his home in Buckinghamshire, keeping in touch with the Branch, and

attending functions, meetings and presentations. He kindly donated the 'Stanier Trophy', a silver trophy which is played for annually at the Association Golf match held in our area, and whenever possible, would make himself available to present it to the winner. All members of the Branch will look forward to the continued friendship, and meeting him at future functions, as he has been made a Life Member of the Branch. We are all most grateful for the support and dedication he has shown to the Branch over the years, and we wish him well in his retirement. We welcome Mr Roger Plowden to the appointment of

### NORTH AMERICA BRANCH

(Formed 1986)

President/  
Caretaker

**Percival 'Dai' Tilley**  
**33841 N E Haugen Road**  
**Newberg, Oregon 97132**  
**USA**

Things ain't wot they used to be. We have not circled the wagons during the past year. My lines of communication to our members living on the prairies, the mountains and the Florida swamps have been severely interrupted. The very hot summer created forest fires that made it difficult for the smoke signals to get through. Drum Sergeant Stan Crocker wanted to set up a line of empty oil barrels across the country from Toronto to the Pacific Ocean so that he could rattle out messages in accordance with the Brigade of Guards manual "emergency message procedure when the smoke signals are knackered".

We have a bit of a problem in the Gulf of Mexico when someone tried to refuel their boat in the dark without paying, and left the cap off. It happened once before in a Pontypridd National Benzole petrol station, when the hose lever broke, but no-one made such a fuss about it. On top of that, it polluted the River Taff at Ynysangharad park to the extent that the skinny dipping after the pubs shut was banned.

Ron Bartram, Lance bloke, 2nd Btn (Little Iron Men) London, Ontario, is the unofficial Branch Canuck Information Officer. He not only has up to date information on all Welsh Guards living in Canada, US

and the Bahamas, he also 'keeps tabs' on Coldstream and Grenadier Branch members. He is a one man 'Brigade of Guards Reunited'. I think he misses those halcyon days of 1940, sleeping on the floor of an empty stockbrokers' house in West Byfleet and listening to the ack-ack guns doing their nightly routine firing at the Luftwaffe who were on their way to London. He still has fond memories of taking his girlfriend to army ration picnics on the banks of the Basingstoke Canal and watching the bovine manure barges glide by, taking their cargo to Pirbright. His girlfriend had a War Office contract breaking in army boots for Grenadiers with tender feet. She also tested different shades of blanco as camouflage make-up for the ATS, our wonderful ladies army.

Sadly, very sadly, the Grenadier and Coldstream North America Branches will have to follow our footsteps into 'suspended animation' or some other retirement, due to lack of membership. American and Canadian immigration laws seem to be the problem. Greg Norman, Coldstream Chairman, told me that they have cancelled the combined Coldstream and Grenadier functions in Toronto, including the Christmas Dinner, due to lack of members attending.

Life goes on in these 'ere Yewntited States' regardless. Bottled store water is more expensive than beer and petrol, very few people here in the Pacific North West wear a tie, dogs are considered family members, not pets, 120 channels on TV and more coming, dentists corner the market in the medical profession , and you don't have to say "I thank you Sir for leave to speak", but you have to be over 21 and show some ID to buy a beer.

Every morning a flock of wild turkeys sit on the road near our house, and they can be very reluctant to move. If you get out of the car to move them then you leave yourself open to a violent attack from the Tom turkey. He actually tried to get into my car one day (You don't

often get this when you leave your house in Port Talbot). Very shortly the deer will be heading down the mountain for their winter stay in the valley. Their trails crossing the main road are clearly marked, but you still have to be wary that one does not pop out of the trees. This morning I had to slow down for three ravens having breakfast on some road kill.

I recently had a chat on the phone with RSM Stuart 'Charlie' Payton. He is recovering from a serious staircase accident. On parade he could 'put you in the book' with his back towards you!

That's about it from the Colonies. CYMRU AM BYTH  
(Dai Tilley, 2735242, No 4 Coy  
2nd Battalion)

### NORTH WALES BRANCH

(Formed 1936)

President: **J Harrop Esq. MBE**  
Chairman: **G. Binnie (24060777)**

Treasurer: **M Mears (2740728)**

Secretary: **Dave Webb (23523061)**

**2 Arran Drive**

**Rhyl**

**North Wales LL18 2NS**

**Tel: 01745 334340**

**E-mail: spyderweb61@aol.com**

December kicked off our functions, starting with the Christmas Lunch and Draw, and our President thanked all for making it another success: Llandrillo College Students are a credit to young people and turned out an excellent 5 course lunch with silver service. B. Williams 1600 won the Top Prize, a Television and Gwyn Evans was presented with the John Harrop Cup for

the Best Branch Shot at the Darts and Shooting Competition 2009.

Twenty six members made the trek to join the Battalion in Aldershot for the celebrations of St David's Day. We stayed at the Holiday Inn, and used the Sergeants' Mess in the Barracks, courtesy of the outgoing Regimental Sergeant Major M. Monaghan. We were also fortunate to witness the

handover at 23.59 1st March to the incoming R.S.M. A. Roberts from North Wales

Y Ddraig Goch was flying proudly as the massed ranks of the Welsh Guards turned out for what was a spectacular homecoming parade in North Wales. The Maes in Caernarfon was the centre of the action on Wednesday, March 24, as Prince of Wales's Company marked the completion of their tour of duty in Afghanistan last year. It was the only place in North Wales on the tour which we had the Freedom of the Town. The Regimental Colours were carried by Lt. T. Thompson whose parents drove up from Mid Wales to see their son carry the Colours.

More than 150 troops took part in the parade which started at the Town's barracks and wound its way down Stryd Llyn to form up in front of the new Fountain and Cenotaph for the address and inspection. The other side of the Maes was full of stands and displays to give people a glimpse of the work of the Welsh Guards, which contained examples of various weapons currently in use by the Army. There was also a climbing wall, where people were able to try out their climbing skills under the strict supervision of expert instructors, and also a laser range.

The Mayor of Caernarfon, Hywel Roberts, thanked the people and business owners of Caernarfon for their support for the Regiment, by waving their Welsh flags. He said that this was a really spectacular day for Caernarfon, and by the size of the crowds who turned out in large numbers to show their appreciation, he was overwhelmed and proud that the people of Caernarfon supported his call. Town

Council Clerk Katherine Owen said: "Many parents of serving soldiers were present to show that the people of Caernarfon and the surrounding areas fully support the Welsh Guards". Residents at Plas Maesindla Home were among those showing their appreciation on the day (many of them wheelchair users). The residents really wanted to show their appreciation for the work and bravery of the troops, so a space at the top of the steps next to the official party was reserved for them in order they could watch the parade and the inspection properly.

On completion of the inspection, the parade proceeded through the Maes, down to Slate Quay and around the Castle. The salute was taken as they passed the Castle steps. (The North Wales Branch Standard was there together with the Caernarfon Royal British Legion Standard.) The parade then passed through the Maes on their way to the Celtic Royal for a civic reception, and on entering the hall, each one of the Battalion on parade was presented with a Lapel Badge by the Council. The final tribute paid by the Council was when the Mayor said in Welsh, "the Military will eat first from the Buffet".

On 25th March, hundreds of people gathered in Wrexham to welcome homecoming soldiers on parade. The Prince of Wales's Company assembled at Hightown Barracks for inspection at 11.00 am to begin their march at 11.30 am. They marched from the Barracks along Kingsmill Road, Salop Road, Mount Street, Yorke Street and High Street, where the Mayor, Cllr Arwel Gwynn Jones, took the salute outside the Halifax Building Society.

The parade then wound its way down Hope Street, Queens Street, Queens Square and to the Guildhall for a civic reception. In his address, Major Giles Harris, who was awarded the Distinguished Service Order (DSO), said the support being shown was all important. He continued, "It's wonderful to be here and witness the public support. It means a hell of a lot. The soldiers were amazing in Afghanistan, they showed huge courage. In the last 90 days we were attacked 140 times at close range around our perimeter - the boys were holding the line". Regimental Sergeant Major Roberts made the journey up to Wrexham to be with us on the day (a North Walian - diolch Grouch Fawr) The final parade on 26th March brought Rhyl to a halt with nearly a 1000 people here to welcome the lads home, and local Schools lining the Promenade towards High Street. The inspection was taken by the Lord Lieutenant of Clwyd, Trevor Jones and Town Mayor Glyn Pickering. This was the shortest parade to the relief of P.O.W. Company and the Band! We just managed to get by with the rain holding off for the March Past, but spirits were not dampened to the run up. 'Sunny Rhyl' - what happened! There were 17 Standards on Parade, and a special thanks to all the various local Forces Branches who turned up, and to George Townley for carrying our Standard in my hometown. The reception was held in the Town Hall, and the Mayor, in his address, said it was a day that gave Rhyl a lift after the negatives written in National Newspapers about the resort. Major Gallimore, in his response, said that the two parades that stood out were Merthyr Tydfil and Rhyl. 'Seeing so many Veterans from WW2 to

the present day on parade with their Standards really gave the lads a Lift'.

3 members attended the Garden Party at Buckingham Palace this year Terry Mooney, John Vaughan and Bill Rowlands the feedback from their visit was nothing short of "it was a Fantastic Day"

September was the turn of the annual Battlefield Tour to Hechtel, and once again I took the Branch Standard.

Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant A.Cambell and I led the Association and Hechtel dignitaries' behind the Regimental Band to the Welsh Guards Square. After Lunch we visited Leopoldsburg Cemetery for a wreath laying ceremony in honour of the Welsh Guards who fell in Hechtel. A short service was held by Willy Prior and the commendation was said in Welsh by me.

The Darts and Shoot this year was held in Cardiff, and this time we travelled down by train. It was a good day even though we did not get any silverware - we were knocked out by the eventual winners, 'the new kids on the block', Welsh Guards Reunited. Never mind always next year!

Since the last Magazine I have to report the loss of 12 members: 22831219 W. Owen; 2733828 C.O. Everett; 2741447 D. Agaphonoff; 22831624 D. Whiting; 2739439 S. Griffiths; 22217761 T.A. Jones; 2736999 J.D. Williams; 22831619 F. Hudson; 22218511 D. Hughes; T. Roberts; 22217305 R. Holland, and a former Vice President of the Branch, Owain Lloyd George 3rd Earl of Dwyfor. Our condolences go to all their families and friends. May they all Rest in Peace.

The Branch would like to thank all the staff in RHQ and Cardiff

for their support over the last year. I would also like to mention the outgoing Secretary of Merthyr, Jimmy Manning, for being a good supporter of this unique Association. We would also like to welcome Welsh Guards Reunited as the 17th Branch of the Association.

Our Newsletters are always on site

[www.welshguardsreunited.co.uk](http://www.welshguardsreunited.co.uk) (North Wales Branch) - call in for updates. Monthly Meetings are still going on: Rhyl 1st Thursday of the month at the Ffordd Derwen pub, every 4th Wednesday at Prestatyn TA Centre (Bar with mess prices) and the Bangor Section on the last Thursday month at the Bulkeley Arms, Menai Bridge.

the year the weather was bitterly cold as well as windy but I am pleased to report that our survival rate was 100%.

We ended the year by having a meal in the Caefatri Public House at the end of the December. This has now become an annual occurrence and we have the Manager and Staff to thank for it. As a token of our thanks we have presented the Manager with a Regimental Wall Plaque which sits proudly on the wall in the pub entrance.

Our AGM was held on Monday 11th January 2010. Our President Lt-Col "Roddy" Traherne honoured us with his presence, and as is customary, sat in the chair until the election of the Committee was carried out for the coming year, which was again re-elected en-bloc. Sadly our Vice President (21010015) Mr John Anderson.MBE. was unable to attend. John is not in the best of health nowadays and is unable to get to our meetings.

The Secretary attended the Secretaries Meeting on Tues 9th February in Maindy Barracks. He found it an informative Meeting and a good opportunity to meet up with the Secretaries from the other Branches. On Weds 17th February a number of our members went over the border to RMAS Shrivenham to support the Battalion Rugby Team in the Army Cup Semi Finals against 3 YORKS (Duke of Wellington's Regt) which they duly won. We were warmly welcomed by our players and this was much appreciated. Unfortunately no-one could make it to the Final but well done to the players.

March 1st saw a coach load of members at Aldershot for the St. David's Day Celebrations

with the Battalion, and a great day was had by all, (despite us not being able to find our way to the Garrison Church in time for the Service!) The food was great and the beer wasn't bad either, loads of chat, reminiscing, hand shaking and back slapping as old mates met up for the first time in a long time, and that sums it up!

On 3rd March the Secretary/Treasurer took off for New Zealand via Hong Kong for the rest of the month with his wife for a holiday with his son and family in Christchurch, New Zealand. The Branch Accounts have been audited since my return and I can confirm all is in order!

A Detachment from 3 Company marched through the town of Bridgend on 16th March to a rousing welcome. Reports suggested afterwards that there were more people on the streets than in either Cardiff or Swansea so we are justly proud of that. We have since heard that the Battalion will receive the Freedom of the Borough when Battalion commitments allow, and that will really be the icing on the cake.

On 17th April we held our Annual Dinner Dance, again in the Masonic Hall, and once again there was a healthy attendance of around 80 sitting down to Dinner, then enjoying and dancing to the music of our resident musician of many years, Mr Dave Escott. Our Guest of Honour was the Bridgend Mayor and Consort.

Friday 23rd April saw the Branch well represented at the Brangwyn Hall, Swansea for the Combined Regimental Band and Morriston Orpheus Choir Concert, a great evening and well worth the travelling.

## OGMORE BRANCH

(Formed 1982)

**President:** Major T. M. Wakefield  
**Hon Chairman:** Mr Ray Gorringe (23585533)  
**Hon Secretary/Treasurer:** Mr Mike Jones (23523201)  
**40 Garfield Avenue**  
**Litchard**  
**Bridgend CF31 QA**  
**Telephone:** 01656 650367  
**E-mail:** mike\_jones928@msn.com



Final 'At home' with the President and family

Due to the pressure of meeting the Printers deadline for the magazine, it inevitably meant we had some events in 2009 not being included in the final print. One of our final acts of 2009 was to visit the National Memorial Arboretum at Litchfield on

Thursday 3rd December 2009 for the Service of Dedication for the Household Division Memorial in the presence of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, KG.KT. His Royal Highness was in good form and spoke to most of our members. As one would expect at that time of



*Mike Jones, Hon. Secretary, presenting President with his farewell gifts*

We received a shock in early June when our President Lieutenant Colonel Traherne informed us that he intended to stand down in September 2010 as our President. He has been in post for over 10 years, but unfortunately his business commitments have forced him to hand over the reins. Luckily we have got a ready replacement in Major Tim Wakefield, a long time friend of the Branch and we are fortunate in having him.

Members attended the Armed Forces Day on June 26th in Cardiff. It was a good day and well attended by the other Association Branches, going by the number of people I met. In charge inevitably was Garrison Sergeant Major Billy Mott, MVO. It was great to meet the Battalion members even though they were 'cooking' in their Home Service Clothing due to the intense heat.

On Sunday 11th July a party from the Branch went over to the Royal British Legion in Whitchurch, Cardiff, to support a Fund Raising Evening for the WG Afghanistan Appeal. It was nice to meet up with some of the Cardiff Branch. Regrettably this event clashed with the Football World Cup Final, and

despite it being a wonderful evening with great artists, attendance inevitably suffered, which was a big disappointment for the organisers.

Weston-Super-Mare was our destination on a bright and breezy Saturday, the 31st July with 40 plus of us enjoying the seaside in the West Country. Being just over the border it was so convenient to have a civilised starting time in the morning and back home early enough to still go out for Saturday evening.

Friday 13th August found some of our Committee representing the Branch at a "Not Forgotten" lunch at the Marriott Hotel in Cardiff. Along with members of other Branches we sat down to a first class lunch and were then entertained by some 'old time' music hall entertainers for about an hour and a half. It was a very enjoyable day out and many thanks to Brian Keane for the invitation.

On Sunday 5th September we were invited to the President's home near Cardiff, and as usual we descended in numbers. This particular function was tinged with some sadness as it was to be our last

with the President and his family as he has now handed over the reins to Major Tim Wakefield. We marked the event with the presentation to Lt-Col Traherne of a Welsh crystal paperweight engraved with the WG Regimental Badge and a Welsh crystal letter opener, both of which he assured us would take pride of place on his desk.

On a wet and windy morning in Aberkenfig on Fri 10th September, members attended an unveiling ceremony of a new 'Memorial for the Fallen'. Despite the inclement weather there was a large turnout of school children, civic dignitaries and veterans and after the religious service, the "Last Post" and "Reveille" was sounded by a bugler from the South Wales Police Band. Paul Mockett, MBE (22217125) was in charge of the Military phase and the Branch Standard was carried by Ray Gorringe (23585544) whilst the Secretary Mike Jones (23523201) carried the Parachute Regimental Standard (ex Guards Para).

The Darts and Shooting Competition took place on Sat 25th September at Maindy Barracks, Cardiff. We had enough members attending this time (despite the Secretary being on sick leave) for us to provide two Shooting teams of four and a full Darts team. We didn't win anything again this year, but continue to hope - maybe next year!

Our Branch Annual Remembrance Service will again take place in St. Nolton's Church, Bridgend on Sun 24th October when we will once more pay homage to the fallen Welsh Guardsmen from the Borough. The Service will be conducted by our Branch Padre, The Rev Mike Komor.

Remembrance Sunday will see the Branch well represented in Bridgend and Maesteg. Poppy wreaths from the Regiment and the Branch will be laid on the War Memorials as usual.

A party of us will be going to the Birmingham Military Tattoo on the w/end 26th/27th November. Accommodation and transport has been booked and confirmed for what was described last year as "outstanding" - can't wait!

We will finish off our year by having an evening meal in the Caefatri Public House after the December Meeting which will start and finish EARLY. (Honest!).

Sadly we have lost the following members during the year: (23191785) Bob Knight, (23523115) Mike Davies and (22176047) Dick Hancock. As you would expect, the Branch provided a good turn out for all three at their funerals. Our sincere condolences go out to all the families. Inevitably we have members and their spouses who are not in good health and we wish them all the best.

We still hold our Meetings in the Caefatri Public House, Bridgend on the 2nd Monday of the month and once again may I say you are guaranteed a warm welcome.

Our AGM will be on Mon 14th February 2011, so if you are able please do come along.

The Chairman, Secretary and Committee would like to thank all the members for their support throughout the year and especially the Ladies Section at all our meetings and functions.

We wish everyone a Happy New Year and send our thanks and best wishes to all at the Cardiff HQ.

## PEMBROKESHIRE BRANCH

(Formed 1957)

**President:** Major I B Ramsden MBE  
**Chairman:** Arthur Ealres (2741413)  
**Treasurer/Secretary:** Trevor Warr (2740352)  
**11 Shakespeare Close**  
**Haverfordwest**  
**Pembs SA61 1TL**  
**Telephone:** 01437 766400



*Members of the Pembroke Committee invited to the Mayor's Parlour*

Time marches on – another year and another report for the Regimental Magazine. As usual, there is not a lot to report from Pembrokeshire, and probably will continue to be the case since we do not have any young members in the Branch.

It was heart warming to see the Regimental Band perform on a few occasions in the county this year, either as a full compliment, or the Corps of Drums. I am sure they help to instil pride in the Regiment and in Wales.

The Christmas Draw last year was thankfully very successful since it is our only source of revenue. Appreciation goes to all who sold tickets and for the few stalwarts on parade. I

hope December 2010 will be just as successful.

One of our older members, Sid Elsbury (2734113) commented on the 'rolled back capes' depicted on this year's Christmas card. He remembers doing Public duties in 1936/7 with the Greatcoat folded on the back, and the cape rolled on the belt, and in 1937, the old Prince of Wales agreed for the coat to be replaced by the cape, which was obviously much lighter. Sid wonders whether this applied to other Regiments – ANY COMMENTS GENTLEMEN!

Our 53rd Annual Luncheon/Dinner was held at the end of September, at The Plas Hyfred Hotel, Narberth. It was an excellent afternoon,

and almost 40 members and guests sat down to lunch. Colonel T Bonas made his usual informative speech, bringing us all up to date with the Regiment, and was thanked by the Branch President, Major I B Ramsden. During lunch a raffle was held in aid of the Afghanistan Appeal.

Unfortunately we were unable to muster a team for the Darts and Shooting Competition held at Maindy Barracks this year – which is a sign of the times (the spirit is willing but the body weak). Sorry Brian, since I know you work so hard in organising these events.

In past issues of the magazine, we have mentioned a few of our members. If anyone wishes to contact them then please get in touch with me.

Jessie James (23172489) – Alan

Sandy (23710801) – Ron Williams ('Swansea Ron') – Derek Greathead (22831238), served from 1955 to 1977 - Ted Rees (22217798), now living in Waterlooville, Hants. – Brenen Fairburn (2741525) – Major John Evans, DSO, now living in Saltash.

Sadly the Branch has lost three members this year, namely, Norman Evans (22831201) died February, John Morgan from New Hedges, Pembrokeshire, died July and lastly, Earl Lloyd George of Dwyfor, aged 86. He served with the 3rd Battalion in Italy. Our sincere condolences go out to their loved ones.

Finally, on behalf of the President, Committee and Members of the Pembrokeshire Branch, I wish everyone Good Health and happiness in 2011.

## SWANSEA & WEST GLAMORGAN BRANCH

(Formed 1927)

**President:** Major Charles Carty MBE TD  
**Chairman:** Bryn Pennock (23877288)  
**Treasurer:** Steve Fisher (24242691)  
**Secretary:** Peter Williams (23877300)  
**12 St Peters St**  
**Cockett**  
**Swansea SA5 5BX**  
**Telephone:** 01792 416010  
**Email:** peterwilliams300@googlemail.com

The year started for me when I was elected Branch Secretary, having been a member for many years. My thanks go to the members for their faith in me.

With great regret we have to announce the retirement of our President Major Glyn White MBE (Retired). He has been a great influence to the Branch and has brought it to where it

stands today, which is a flourishing, successful and forward looking Branch. The Major has been a great servant to the Branch and the 23 years he has been at the helm has made many friends, and greatly respected by all who have had the pleasure of knowing him.

The Major, I know, will not be leaving us altogether as he will

now become an active member of the Branch. All the members of the Branch and the Welsh Guards Association I know will want us to extend our thanks and appreciation to the Major for his services to the Association. 'You will be greatly missed Sir'.

Another auspicious occasion was achieved in the Branch this year when Mr Derek Williams celebrated 25 years of being our dedicated Standard Bearer. He was presented with a 'certificate of merit' by our President Major Glyn White MBE (Retired) for such a wonderful achievement, I also had the pleasure of presenting Derek with tokens of our appreciation from all his friends and colleagues from the Branch.

I spoke to Derek at length about his time as Standard Bearer and he told me of his proud and wonderful moments, but the highlight of his career was at Ypres when he carried the Standard to the ceremony at the Menin Gate when the Branch visited on their Battlefield Tour last year. To be there and be able to pay his respects to all the men who had fallen in the Great War meant so much to him and also to the rest of the members who were able to attend this wonderful Tour.

Derek has been a great servant to the Branch and we wish him all the best for the future and look forward to him continuing doing such a splendid job.

The Darts and Shooting Competition was once again a successful day for the Branch where our Shooting team won

the day. Well done boys. Also congratulations to Karl Trenchard for winning 'Best shot' - it was a pleasure to come home with some silverware! (Unfortunately I was not able to attend myself otherwise we would have had the Darts Trophy as well !!!!!). So we now all look forward to next year's competition, Well Done Swansea Branch.

This year the Branch moved location of our meeting place - from the RWF Club to: John Chard VC House, 108 Field Squadron Royal Engineers TA Centre, Richardson Street, Swansea.

We have been given permission to use the OR Mess, which the members are delighted with. I would like to thank Captain Steve Gadd MBE (Retired) for letting us use this facility.

The Branch takes great pleasure in welcoming our New President Major Charles Carty MBED (Retired) and we all look forward to the future with him at the helm. We were very lucky to have had Major Carty already as a Branch Member, so the transition for him and us will benefit the Branch immensely. Thank you Sir and congratulations on your appointment.

On a personal note, as my first year as Branch Secretary I would like to thank all the members who have offered their help, especially Major White MBE, our Chairman Mr Bryn Pennock and the Secretary General Mr Brian Keane, which has been greatly appreciated.

## WELSH GUARDS REUNITED BRANCH

(Formed 2010)

*Webmaster:*

**Mike Cummins (24472964) - Wales**

*President:*

**Captain (Retd) John Powell - Australia**

*Chairman:*

**Major (Retd) Martin Browne BEM - Spain**

*Treasurer/*

**Mike Wakely (24076183) - Wales**

*Secretary:*

**1a Hawthorne Hill**

**Trefechan**

**Merthyr Tydfil CF48 2ES**

*Telephone:*

**01685 371 024**



*Christmas 1956 - Chelsea Barracks. Back row L-R: CSgt??, Mrs Ayres, 75 Jones under Swill Phillips' arm, ??, Maj N Webb Bowen, Marge Darlington, Dagwood Darlington, ?? Front Row L-R: Lt CJ Dawnay, Mrs ??, Ann Tagart QA, Val Evans. Would appreciate it if anyone could identify those marked with a ? and let us know.*

Welsh Guards Reunited has continued to go from strength to strength over the preceding 12 months. Now with 2,499 registered members (as at 27 Sep 10), 10,940 photographs in our galleries and on average 100+ visitors a day, communication within the wider Welsh Guards (national and international) community could not be better (or quicker or easier).

Aside from all the membership traffic on-line, the finding of lost friends and relatives and the camaraderie once again being enjoyed by many, the highlight of the WGR year must be the official acceptance of WGR into the Welsh Guards family as the 17th Branch of the

Welsh Guards Association (WGA). This honour was bestowed on us on 16 Aug 2010 following some months of consultation and dialogue with the Regimental Adjutant (Col Tom Bonas) and the Association Secretary General (Brian Keane).

This is a wonderful achievement and recognises the real impact WGR can (and does) have within the Welsh Guards community. It also means that the WGR Standard, which was commissioned and funded by WGR members some months ago can now be used in public (it's first sad outing was at the repatriation of Lance Corporal Joseph Pool 1 RRS on 9 Sep 10). The



*Ray (Yar) Skinner (22329571) Standard Bearer*

traditional Blessing Ceremony for the new Standard took place on 31 Aug in St Bartholomew's Church, Wootton Bassett, with the Rev Jan Delaney officiating and a handful of WGR members and the Association Secretary General present.

WGR is very fortunate to have an excellent standard Bearer in the shape of Ray "Yar" Skinner (22329571) Ray has taken it on himself to represent WGR (and therefore the Regiment) at over 105 repatriations through Wootton Bassett and pays due respect to every serviceman (or woman) returning home via this saddest of routes.

As WGR membership continues to swell, so does demand for tickets to attend, what is becoming the "not to be missed" WGR Annual Reunion. Arranged magnificently by Stu Owens 09, Paul Morgan 71, and Roy Morgan 70, and Mike and Mandy Wakely. The event, held in the Seabank Hotel, Porthcawl over the weekend 22/23 Jan 2010, was a sell out. Friends who had been apart for many years were certainly reunited, as such notable Welsh Guardsmen as Bill "Sledge" Evans 33, Duncan

Stewart and Big Len Davies (to name but a few) were amongst the 250 (plus) to attend.

Planning is well underway for next years' reunion in the same venue, being held over the weekend 4/5 Feb 2011 and even though there is 5 months still to go, there are already 187 names on the list to attend – it looks like a good weekend is assured.

WGR has had the sad duty to contain the details of many Welsh Guardsmen who have passed away in this last year

and we simply could not mention all by name here. It would be remiss of us however if we did not mention a dear friend who had become known as the Granny of WGR and who passed away on 6 Aug 2010. Val Evans, wife of former RSM Dan Evans (1944-1967), was an amazing lady (Val is bottom right in the photo taken in 1956). She showed the utmost dedication to Dan, visiting him as often as she could in his Nursing Home and despite her hectic life and her own ill, always enjoyed the banter and company offered to her on the internet by WGR. Her many posts and kindly words of encouragement are missed considerably and she have left a gap in our membership which can never be filled.

The Welsh Guards Ball held in the Glanusk Park Estate, Crickhowell over the weekend 17/18 Jul was another huge Welsh Guards event supported by WGR. Organised by our very own Adrian "Swill" Hinder, Brian "Fonz" Elliott and with the kind permission of Harry Legge-Bourke, a fantastic event was held within the estate,

bringing Welsh Guards together in a massive fund raising effort for the Welsh Guards Afghanistan Appeal (WGAA). Indeed the WGAA has been the focus for much fund raising within WGR, not least, the gargantuan effort by David "Spider" Webb (also N Wales Branch WGA) who managed, somehow, to pull together a superb collection of songs to produce a magnificent charity CD on behalf of the WGAA released under the WGR label - such a massive undertaking so impressively executed.

Another superb fund raising event, using the power of the internet (WGR) to pull the event together, but this time in aid of the Ty Hafan and Ty Gobaith children's Hospices, was the 210 mile sponsored bike ride from North to South Wales. The brainchild of Phil Williams 41, he and his team from WGR managed to raise a staggering £3441 for the hospices.

There are many "unsung contributors" on WGR (too many to mention individually) who give their time and effort freely in the best interests of the Welsh Guards, none more



*WGR Team at Porthcawl 2010*



Cycle Fundraising Event

so than George Griffiths (23908772) and Mike Maloney (24173394), who have managed to obtain and donate a quantity of wheelchairs on behalf of WGR to various organisations for their use. A tremendous effort and one which epitomises everything that is good about the selfless attitude of our members.

WGR's first foray into the competitive arena of the Association Darts and Shoot competition in Maindy Barracks on Saturday 25 Sep

2010 resulted in WGR pulling together a team of such ability, talent and physical stamina that they did us all proud and came away as the 2010 Association Darts Champions and holders of the Association Cup. Further success in the Shooting Competition resulted in WGR becoming Runners Up, and for Stuart Owens 09 as runner up of the best individual shot. There was also an individual trophy for Tony "Rio" Price 69 for the highest



Darts &amp; Shooting Team 2010

## MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH TROPHY 2010



Chairman Alan Mountjoy presenting the Monmouthshire Branch Trophy to L/Cpl John Sanigar from Penarth

The Trophy has been presented to the Welsh Guards Sportsman of the Year since 1967. The first winner was David Bowen, arguably the greatest post-war Welsh Guards forward.

The 2010 winner is also a rugby player but with a slight difference, he plays both codes of the game.

25163525 Lance Corporal John Sanigar comes from Penygraig and is a backrow forward in Union and loose forward in League. He has played for the Battalion, Army 'A' and the Wales Amateur Rugby League side.

He was presented with the trophy at the Monmouthshire Branch Annual Reunion Dinner in October 2010.

## WELSH GUARDS ASSOCIATION DARTS & SHOOTING COMPETITIONS 2010

Brian Keane

The 2010 competitions took place at Maindy Barracks Cardiff on Saturday September 25th. It began on a 'knife edge' when:-

1. I was informed the Instructors could not access the DCCT computer, so heart in mouth, began tracking down the computer experts in camp to help. Finally, after a two hour delay, we were 'back on track'.
2. The dart board had been moved to another location - but without an overhead light!
3. Nobody could operate the electronic counter attached to the dart board.

FINALLY – the light was sorted, and, after locating some 'expertise' among our members, we could use the counter. (but, by this time, I had torn out the little hair I had left on my head!) THINGS DEFINITELY COME IN THREES.

I am pleased to report that the rest of the day went without a hitch, and it was heart warming to see so many Association members present, (over eighty) making both darts and shooting extremely competitive. During the day a raffle was held, with the prizes donated by the Merthyr Tydfil Branch. £165 was raised which has been forwarded to the Afghanistan Appeal.



Winners of The Association Cup, Welsh Guards Reunited



Abertawe Shield Runners-up, East Glamorgan Branch



Highest Score (Darts), Tony Price, Welsh Guards Reunited

## RESULTS

### DARTS

#### Welsh Guards Association Cup Welsh Guards Reunited

Abertawe Shield  
East Glamorgan

Highest Individual Score  
Tony Price, Welsh Guards Reunited

### SHOOTING

Leatham Trophy  
Swansea 'A'

Runners'- Up  
Welsh Guards Reunited 'A'

Aberdare Cup (Best Shot)  
John Hooper, East Glamorgan

Gerry Greenstock Cup  
(Best Shot over 70 years of age)  
John Johnson, Merthyr Tydfil

William Burman Cup (Swansea Only)  
Karl Trenchard

John Harrop Cup (N. Wales only)  
Gwyn William



Winners of The Leatham Trophy, Swansea A



Winners of The Gerry Greenstock Cup, John Johnson, Merthyr Tydfil Branch



Leatham Trophy Runners-up, Welsh Guards Reunited



Winner of The William Burman Cup, Karl Trenchard, Swansea Branch



Winner of The Aberdare Cup (Best Shot), John Hooper, East Glamorgan Branch



Winner of The John Harrop Cup for highest score, Gwyn Williams

### Minutes of the 82nd Annual General Meeting Of the Welsh Guards Association

Wellington Barracks London  
1230 hrs Friday 11th June 2010

**President:** Colonel T S Bonas  
**Vice President:** Brigadier J F Rickett CBE  
**Vice President:** R E Lewis Esq  
**Treasurer:** Major K Oultram  
**Secretary General:** B Keane Esq

Present: Mr J Harding,  
President Llanelli Branch; Mr M Williams, Secretary Aberdare Branch; Mr W Morris, Secretary Cardiff Branch; Mr D Gaul, representing East Glamorgan Branch; Mr A Cunningham, Secretary Llanelli Branch; Mr J Heenan, Secretary London Branch; Mr J Manning, Secretary Merthyr Tydfil Branch; Mr S Liversage, Secretary Monmouthshire Branch; Mr J Williams, representing Montgomery/Shropshire Branch; Mr D Webb, Secretary North Wales Branch; Mr M Jones, Secretary Ogmore Branch; Mr M Davies, representing Pembrokeshire Branch; Mr P Williams, Secretary Swansea & West Glamorgan Branch  
There were also 12 other members present.

In Attendance: WO2 A Cambell, Headquarters Welsh Guards:  
Apologies for Absence:  
Brigadier J F Rickett CBE, Vice President; S Rhodes Esq.  
President Aberdare Branch; Lt Col. CFB Stephens, President London Branch; Colonel S C C Gaußen, President Midlands Branch; P(Dai) Tilley Esq., President North America Branch; Lieutenant Colonel R L Traherne, President Ogmore Branch; Major G White MBE, President Swansea & West

Glamorgan Branch; Captain G Taylor, Battlefield Tour Organiser.  
Mr N Owen, Secretary Cardiganshire Branch; Mr K Bartlett, Secretary Midlands Branch; Capt. RJD Parry, Secretary Montgomery & Shropshire Branch; Mr W Elliott, Secretary North of England Branch; Mr T Warr, Secretary Pembrokeshire Branch.

#### Item 1 - President's Address

The President began the meeting by thanking everyone for attending, many travelling long distances. He was especially pleased to welcome the new President of the Llanelli Branch, Mr J Harding. The Association had seen a number of changes over the last year with three new Branch Presidents, namely Mr J Harding, for Llanelli, Captain D Davies, Monmouthshire and Major T Wakefield for Ogmore, who takes over in September. There were also two new Secretaries: Mr S Liversage for Monmouthshire and Mr P Williams for Swansea & West Glamorgan.

#### Battalion and Afghanistan Appeal

Enormous thanks were given to Secretaries and their members for the massive support given to the Battalion and the Afghanistan Appeal.

The last eighteen months had brought everyone closer together, which was noticed and appreciated especially by the Battalion, with massive turnouts by the Association for the Freedom Marches, Band concerts and of course, Wootton Bassett.

To date, the fund stands at around £606,000, with approximately £50,000 already being paid out to bereaved families, and those who have been injured.

HRH The Prince of Wales held a reception at Highgrove for the next of kin, and presented medals to the families, and, a week ago there was an unveiling ceremony at the Arboretum in Staffordshire for those who died in 2009. At this juncture, J Manning, Secretary of the Merthyr Tydfil Branch, presented to the President cheques on behalf of his members totalling £5,100 for the Afghanistan Appeal- this was greatly appreciated.

The Battalion has now settled down, with 3 Company deployed to the Falklands for three months. The Battalion heads for Kenya in November for a couple of months before moving from Aldershot to Hounslow in the spring. In 2012 they are expected to return to Afghanistan. The President concluded that they are in 'good nick' and fully manned.

#### Item 2 - Minutes of previous meeting

Confirmation of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 12th June 2009 was proposed by Mr Mike Jones, (Secretary Ogmore Branch) and seconded by Mr Alan Cunningham, (Secretary Llanelli Branch). This was carried and the minutes signed. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

#### Item 3 – Association Events 2010

a) Imber Court/Veterans Day Both these events take place on the same day, i.e. June 26th. The Secretary General asked Mr J Heenan (London) whether Imber Court could be changed to a different date in future years. He was informed the decision was up to the committee at Imber Court and also RHQ- it will therefore be discussed at a later date. The Secretary of the London Branch also requested that total information regarding timings etc be placed in the Winter Newsletter, and this was agreed.

#### b) Darts & Shooting Competition

This will take place (provisionally) at Maindy Barracks, Cardiff on Saturday 25th September, subject to the 2nd in Command allowing 7 people from the Battalion to act as safety officers. (If this is not possible, the alternative venue will be Nesscliffe)  
There will be overnight accommodation available at a nominal cost of £11 per night.

#### c) Battlefield Tour

Takes place from 9-14th September, visiting Nijmegen, Arnhem and Hechtel. It is believed that the tour is fully booked, but anyone interested should contact Captain Graham Taylor directly since there may be cancellations. The guide will be Brigadier Rickett, and there will be four members from the Battalion present. It was hoped to get the services of the Band at Hechtel, but unfortunately they are unable to attend.

#### d) Remembrance Sunday

Date, November 14th 2010, and details available from RHQ. HRH The Price of Wales will be

attending, but unfortunately the Battalion will not be available. The Secretary General enquired whether the Branches would be interested in running a coach from Maindy Barracks for the day, and asked if the Secretaries could discuss this with their members.

#### **Item 4 – Association Events 2011**

##### **a) Biennial Dinner**

This takes place in Wrexham on Saturday April 9th 2011. The Secretary General thanked Mr D Webb (North Wales) for carrying out the preparatory work, stating the venue appears to be excellent, with ample parking spaces as well as plenty of nearby overnight accommodation within walking distance. The cost at present appears to be in the region of £26, but there is a possibility this can be subsidised.

It is hoped that the turnout will be in the region of 250, with the Branches of Mid and North Wales supporting in force.

##### **b) Battlefield Tour:**

To be decided.

##### **c) Darts & Shooting**

**Competition:** -To be decided.

##### **d) Golf**

Now run by Martin Griffiths. He is doing an excellent job, and if anyone wishes to play or even just turn up to support, his contact number is in the Association Newsletters.

##### **e) Race Day**

Continues to be run by Captain D Davies, and further information will be available in the Winter Newsletter.

#### **Item 5 – Afghanistan Appeal**

This has already been discussed by the President, but Mr J Manning (Merthyr) suggested that every Branch

donate £25, and a raffle again be run at the next Darts and Shooting Competition. Mr A Cunningham (Llanelli) pointed out he had to speak to his members, and Mr J Heenan (London) informed the meeting that the London Branch Summer draw this year was in aid of the appeal. The President reminded everyone of the weekend in Glan Usk in July, run by the President of the Merthyr Tydfil Branch, and so far only 150 tickets have been purchased. Mr W Morris (Cardiff) pointed out that people are always loathe to commit and book too far in advance.

#### **Item 6 – Troop Tickets**

The ongoing system of distribution in place is still going well, with everyone being satisfied with their allocation.

Next year, the preferred Branches are: Midlands, Aberdare, Pembrokeshire, Ogmore.

#### **Item 7 – Christmas Cards**

A coloured copy of the Christmas card will be sent out with the Summer Newsletter. There is always a big demand from all Branches of the Association. The President suggested reducing the size by half, which will make it a better quality, but the consensus of opinion was that the card remains the same, and the quality did not appear to be an issue. A Cunningham (Llanelli) proposed that the card should be made available at future AGM's, and the ARA pointed out that this would not be a problem. A coloured print of the 2011 Christmas card will be sent out with the Winter Newsletter, so that members will have time to digest it. Mr W

Morris (Cardiff) asked whether the cards will still be available to be picked up at Maindy Barracks, and was assured that this would remain so, since it saves on postage. Mr P Williams (Swansea) asked whether a print of the Laying up of Colours could be used in future years with a write-up on the inside of the card explaining its significance.

#### **Item 8 – Magazine**

The Secretary General congratulated Colonel Bonas and Major Keith Oultram on the excellent Regimental magazine produced this year and this was supported by all present. The President replied that they are continually striving for more articles, especially individual ones from Association members, together with lots of photographs. The Secretary General reiterated that Branch reports should also be accompanied with a photograph, bearing names and Regimental numbers where appropriate.

Mr A Cunningham (Llanelli) requested that names of Associate members of other Regiments be included in the 'In Memoriam', but it was pointed out that these were probably printed in their own Regiments' magazines. Deadline for the magazine remains the same, i.e. 30th September. It was unfortunate that due to difficult circumstances, printing was late this year. The President suggested that St David's Day would be a good time for publication in future.

Before the meeting closed, a few points were mentioned;

1. St David's Day will probably be celebrated at Aldershot next year.

2. A display of Regimentalia from the Welsh Guards Collection at Oswestry will be displayed at Cardiff Castle from 20th June for four months. The President wished to thank the band of volunteers from the Collection for their exceptional good work in advertising the Regiment in this way.

3. The ARA stated that included in the Summer Newsletter will be a proforma asking members if they still want to continue as a Branch member.

4. Mr A Cunningham (Llanelli) requested that people 'stepping off' be given details of their local Branch. The Secretary General said that this has been spoken about previously, and is being dealt with.

5. Mr R Doughty (London) complained that people are requesting to be buried as Welsh Guardsmen when they have never been active members of a Branch. It was pointed out that this was human nature, and usually the next of kin wanting them to be remembered as such

6. Mr J Williams (Mont/Shrop) informed the President that they were unable to contact WO1's and WO2's affiliated to the Branch, to invite them to their lunches. The RQMS replied that the Battalion were so busy these days that they were unable to find time to attend functions, but they should reply to the invitation.

The President closed the meeting and once again thanked everyone for attending.

#### **Item 9 - Date of next Annual General Meeting**

The date of the next Annual General Meeting is Friday June 10th 2011

## FORECAST OF EVENTS 2011

### JANUARY

### FEBRUARY

- 4 London Branch AGM, Wellington Barracks, London  
4/5 Welsh Guards Reunited Reunion, Seabank Hotel, Porthcawl  
14 Ogmore Branch AGM, Caerfati Public House Bridgend  
20 Montgomery/Shropshire St David's Day Lunch (venue to be decided)

### MARCH

- 1 **ASSOCIATION ST DAVID'S DAY ALDERSHOT**

### APRIL

- 9 **25th ASSOCIATION BIENNIAL DINNER WREXHAM**  
10 **ASSOCIATION RACE DAY LUDLOW**  
17 Midlands Annual Reunion Lunch, The White House Hotel, Worcester

### MAY

- 14 London Branch Ladies Lunchtime Party  
28 Trooping The Colour – Major General's Review

### JUNE

- 4 Trooping The Colour – Colonel's Review  
4 Llanelli Branch Luncheon/Dinner (to be decided)  
10 **ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
11 **THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PARADE**  
26 Montgomery/Shropshire Luncheon, Wroxeter Hotel, Nr Atcham

### JULY

- 28 **ASSOCIATION GOLF MEETING, GLYN ABBY, TRIMSAREN**

### AUGUST

- 24 **ASSOCIATION GOLF MEETING, NEWPORT GOLF CLUB NEWPORT**

### SEPTEMBER

- 22 **ASSOCIATION DARTS AND SHOOTING COMPETITION (TBA)**  
22 **ASSOCIATION GOLF MEETING, MILE END GOLF CLUB OSWESTRY**  
30 Cardiff Branch 92nd Annual Dinner St Peter's Hall Cardiff

### OCTOBER

- 29 Monmouthshire Branch Reunion Dinner, The Angel Hotel, Abergavenny

### NOVEMBER

- 13 Remembrance Day

### DECEMBER

- 3 London Branch Lunchtime Christmas Party  
9 Cardiff Branch Annual Ladies Night, St Peter's Hall, Cardiff (TBA)

# In Remembrance



2010 brought the 100th Anniversary of the Pretoria Pit Disaster, Westhoughton, Bolton, Lancashire in which 344 men and boys lost their lives. It was the 3rd worst explosion in Britain exceeded by the Universal Colliery explosion at Senghenydd, Mynydd Eglwysilan, South Wales in 1913 which killed 439 and the Oaks Colliery, Barnsley, South Yorkshire in 1866 which killed 334 in the explosion then a further 27 the following day involved with rescue and resuscitation work causing a total death toll of 361.

The Pretoria Pit was named after the republic's capital city in South Africa captured by the British in June, 1900 during the Boer War.

# IN MEMORIAM - ÈR CÔF

We regret to announce that notification has been received of the deaths of the following

## **2741477. Gdsm D Agaphonoff**

Died: 22nd December 2009 Aged: 81  
Served: 1946 – 1948

## **2734246 Gdsm D Anthony**

Died: 31st May 2010 Aged: 91  
Served: 1946-1949

## **2739411 Sgt H Beard**

Died: 20th November 2010 Aged: 84  
Served: Jan 1944 -

## **23523474 WO2 D T Bowen**

Died: 18th January 2010  
Served: 1960-1978

## **2741064 Gdsm D S Cantello**

Died: 3rd March 2009 Aged: 82  
Served: 1945-1948

## **Major J H Carson**

Died: 28th September 2010  
Served: May 1942 – January 1947

## **22459612 K Davies**

Died: June 2010  
Served: 16th April 1951 – 15th March 1954

## **23523155 Gdsm M J Davies**

Died: 7th August 2010 Aged: 72  
Served: 15th October 1958 – 14th October 1964

## **22217425 Sgt G Dowie**

Died: 12th May 2010 Aged: 77  
Served: 1951 – 1966

## **2740943 Gdsm L C Elliott**

Died: September 2010 Aged: 83  
Served: 3rd April 1945 – 24th December 1952

## **23523024 R Fitzgerald**

Died: 25th August 2010 Aged: 71

## **Capt D Fletcher**

Died: 2nd November 2010 Aged:  
Served: 1943 - 1974

## **0630088 CSgt J Fuller**

Died: 20th May 2008 Aged: 76  
Served: 8th December 1971 – 7th December 1982

## **22497790 Gdsm R Greenslade**

Died: 16th September 2008 Aged: 75  
Served: 1951 – 1953

## **22176047 Gdsm R R Hancock**

Aged: 72 Died: 26th September 2010  
Aged: 79  
Served: 1953 – 1955

## **23908644 LSgt B Hillman**

Died: 15th April 2009 Aged: 62  
Served: 6th August 1964 – 9th February 1973

## **22601106 W R Howley**

Died: 19th January 2010 Aged: 76  
Served: 1951-1953

## **24263877 A W Hunt**

Died: 15th November 2010 Aged: 51  
Served: 1974 – 1976

## **D J Jeremiah**

Died: 25th July 2010 Aged: 83

## **2739305 W H John**

Died: 12th May 2010 Aged: 84

## **23523540 M H Jones**

Died: 23rd March 2010 Aged: 67  
Served: 1960 – 1969

## **2734320 W L Jones**

Died: 20th January 2010 Aged: 90  
Served: 1937 – 1946

## **23191785 LCpl R Knight**

Died: 12th May 2010 Aged: 82  
Served: 27th October 1955 – 9th January 1959

## **22900825 T Moon**

Died: 12th January 2010 Aged: 74

## **500603 Col BD Morgan MBE**

Died: 8th January 2011 Aged: 72  
Served: 1955-1993

## **2741454 Gdsm J Morgan**

Died: 25th July 2010 Aged: 82  
Served: 10th January 1946 – 26th May 1948

## **2741781 DA Morris**

Died: 5th January 2010 Aged: 80

## **3975541 L/Sgt W F Parton**

Died: 15th July 2010 Aged: 87  
Served: 1941 – 1946

## **3975541 L/Sgt W F Parton**

Died: 15th July 2010 Aged: 87  
Served: 1941 – 1946

## **2738804 Sgt M W Phillips**

Died: 19th August 2010 Aged: 87  
Served: 17th June 1942 – 6th September 1943

## **22217574 K Satchell**

Died: 10th July 2010

## **382423 Lord Raglan Born FJ Somerset**

Died: 24th January 2010 Aged: 82  
Served: 23rd September 1946 – 27th April 1951

## **222117098 M M Sherwood**

Died: 14th April 2010 Aged:

## **447292 Lt I H Stewart-Brown**

Died: 2007/2008 Aged: 71/72  
Served: 2nd September 1955 – 1st September 1957

## **320961 Lt R B Stuart**

Died: 27th July 2010 Aged: 85  
Served: 10th September 1943 – 1st January 1949

## **LSgt R Stone**

Died: 19th February 2010

## **22831289 Gdsm W G TTucker**

Died: 29th November 2010 Aged: 77  
Served: 1953 - 1957

## **176791 Col V Wallace**

Died: 20th December 2009 Aged: 88  
Served: 8th March 1941 – 30th January 1973

## **2739426 Gdsm C N Wedge**

Died: 22nd March 2010 Aged:

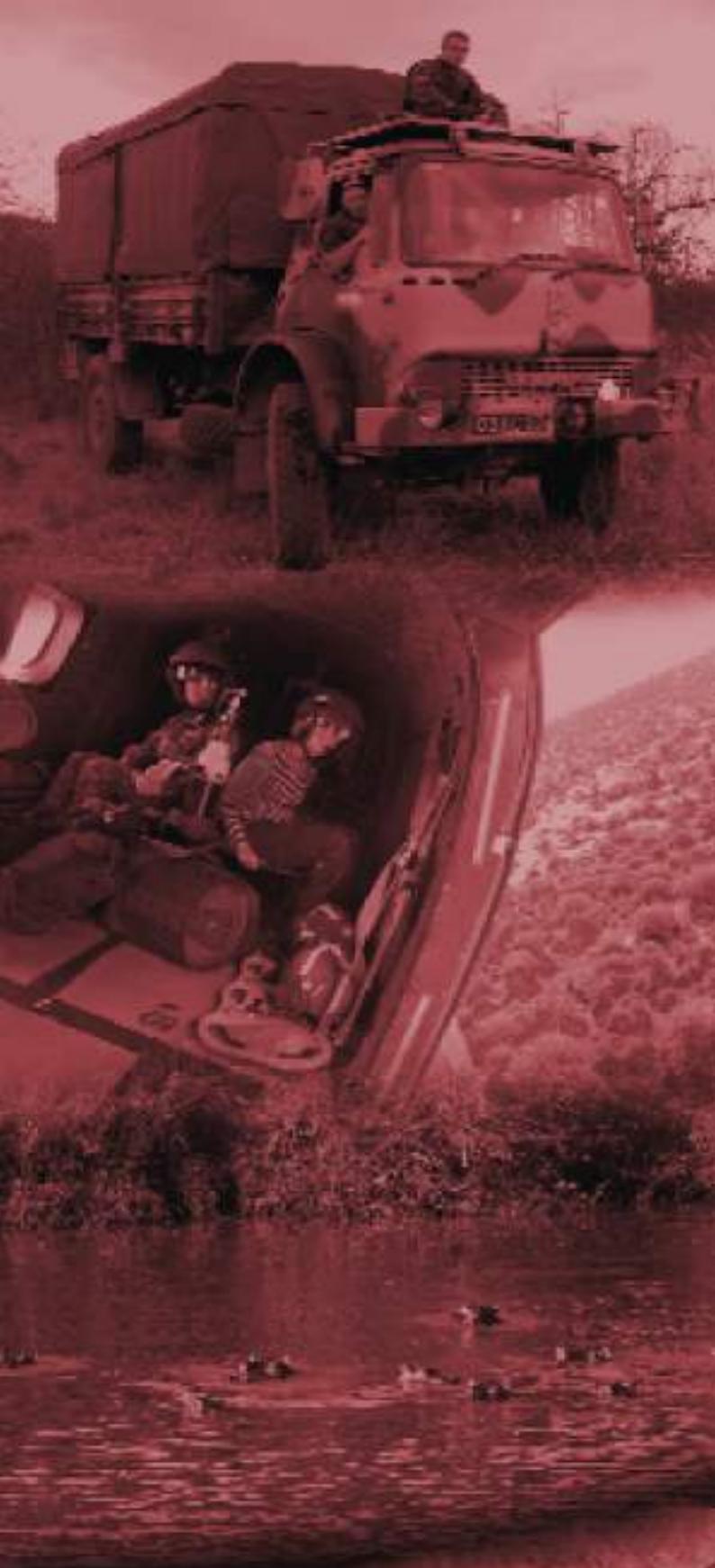
## **95572 Capt F N H Widdrington**

Died: December 2009 Aged: 89  
Served: 3rd July 1939 – 5th September 1949

## **22217902 Sgt C Woodward**

Died: 16th May 2009 Aged: 73  
Served: 1956 - 1959

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# WELSH GUARDS

REGIMENTAL MAGAZINE 2010