

# The Cheshire Regiment Association

# Newsletter



Volume 2 Issue No 32

## EDITORIAL

This year and this month in particular sees an unprecedented amount of interest in the Great War, the Armistice and the act of remembrance. We have recently seen in the media and social media that some consider the poppy and Remembrance Sunday to be nothing more than a glorification of war.

It is unfortunate that some politicians, film directors and others do have a vested interest in the glorification of war, but nobody who has served or suffered from conflict would ever see remembrance other than a wish to remember their forbears and to ensure that their sacrifice is never forgotten. Let us hope that after the 100th anniversary of the armistice, the country continues to remember those sacrifices made.

I was horrified to read that obesity is now rife in the armed forces with almost 18,000 identified as clinically obese. Apparently 11% of the Army are overweight. What happened to all the fitness assessments that had to be passed every year, or perhaps these activities no longer take place in the new modern, all inclusive, liberal and non-judgemental Army?

What is even more horrifying is the number of veterans who are taking their own lives. Clearly this needs to be addressed. What we can all do is to support charities such as PTSD Resolution and Combat Stress, who deal with the symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and other mental health issues. You can read more about PTSD Resolution on Page 10.

If you have anything to contribute to the next issue of the newsletter, then please send it to me by Friday 1st March 2019. You can e-mail me (preferable) at: [george.szwejkowski@gmail.com](mailto:george.szwejkowski@gmail.com), or send by post to 11 Avenue Court, Avenue Road, London, SE20 7RX.

My telephone number is: 07721 660471.  
I hope to have the newsletter onto the website of the Cheshire Military Museum by mid March. The website is: [www.cheshiremilitarymuseum.co.uk](http://www.cheshiremilitarymuseum.co.uk)

You can also follow the CRA on Facebook - "The Cheshire Regiment Association" for updates on events."

**George Szwejkowski**

The views and opinions expressed in the articles in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policy and views, official or otherwise of the CRA.

## CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

The major event of this summer was the Mons service at Chester Cathedral where, along with his family, we dedicated a memorial stone in the Regimental Chapel in memory of Brigadier Mike Dauncey DSO DL.

The service, which saw the biggest turnout for Mons for several years, was simple but very good, following which I received a letter of thanks from John Dauncey on behalf of the family.

Just last night we held the 70th East Cheshire Reunion which this year saw Mike Huntriss as Presiding Officer for the night. The service of remembrance at the start of the evening hits just the right tone and leads into the Hot Pot supper which was followed by a cheeseboard.

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It was great to see Tommy Doyle, and by association, The 22nd, selected to present Her Majesty with her Poppy Posy for this year's Remembrance activities. Congratulations Tommy from all members of the CRA on being selected for this prestigious honour.

Very soon the nation will be taking part in act of remembrance around the country, and further afield, so wherever you choose to parade or attend spare a thought for all fallen members of The 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment and of course The Mercian Regiment. I will be flying at 40,000 feet on my way to Australia for work but will hold my own minuets silence aboard the flight.

The next event in our calendar is The Ballykelly Memorial, on 9th December, where members of the CRA, and the local community, will remember the fallen from The Droppin Well Bomb in a church service. I will see those attending on the weekend where we will remember many good friends.

On a final note I hope all members of the CRA and their families have a very good festive season with plenty of Turkey and Tinsel and maybe just a drop of something to lubricate the tonsils. **Peter Gresty**  
**CRA Chairman**

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

In accordance with the Rules of The Cheshire Regiment Association, paragraph 20, notice is given that the 2019 AGM will be held in Regimental Headquarters, Chester on Saturday 23 February 2019 at 1200 hrs.

All full members of the Regimental Association and Associate Members holding office of Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer of Branches are welcome to attend.

Any proposals should be submitted in writing to the Secretary, CRA, Regimental Headquarters, The Castle, CHESTER, CH1 2DN by 18 January 2019.

## SNIPPETS

In this issue - a few quotations:

Last week, I stated this woman was the ugliest woman I had ever seen. I have since been visited by her sister, and now wish to withdraw that statement..

**Mark Twain**

The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible

**George Burns**

Santa Claus has the right idea. Visit people only once a year.

**Victor Borge**

Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint.

**Mark Twain**



It has been a busy summer, with events to commemorate the end of the Great War playing a large part in our activities. The Regimental Association were represented in Ypres at a ceremony to commemorate the 100th anniversary of what was known as The Hundred Days Offensive (8 August to 11 November 1918). This was an Allied offensive which ended the First World War. Beginning with the Battle of Amiens (8-12 August) on the Western Front. The Association Standard was paraded by members of Stockport Branch who also laid a wreath.

Later in August, on Mons Day, Lt Col Rob Prentice who is CO of the Joint Support Unit at SHAPE near Mons, sponsored a Regimental Dinner in his Mess for members of the CRA, followed by a battlefield tour the next day and on the Sunday everyone assembled at the village of Audregnies with several of the villagers to remember the gallantry of the 1st Battalion in 1914.

Our final Mons Day commemoration took place on Sunday 9th September when about 80 people gathered at the Regimental Chapel in Chester Cathedral to remember the men who served in the 38 battalions of the 22nd during the Great War. A memorial stone to the late Brigadier Mike Dauncey was also dedicated during the short service.

It was good to see so many members of the motorbiking fraternity taking part in the annual "Ride to the Wall" at the National Memorial Arboretum. On the same day, a small group of members travelled just over the border to Broughton to attend a memorial tree planting ceremony on Parc Jasmine to honour Pte Walter Long who was killed in the Great War and came from the village. Pte Long also has a road named after him.

Some members have been raising questions about the disposal of CRA funds when the Regiment was amalgamated in 2007. Prior to amalgamation, the Colonel of the Regiment wrote to all members of the CRA giving a number of options for this money and inviting them to vote by post on it. The overwhelming majority of voters agreed that the funds, minus £100,000 should be passed to the Mercian Regiment Benevolence Charity so that members of the CRA in need can continue to be supported. The funds which were retained have almost run out now and audited accounts have been presented at the CRA AGM every year.

Facebook users can keep abreast of events on the page entitled "The Cheshire Regiment Association", if you wish anything to be included, send a message via that page or to [cheshire.reg.t.association@hotmail.com](mailto:cheshire.reg.t.association@hotmail.com).

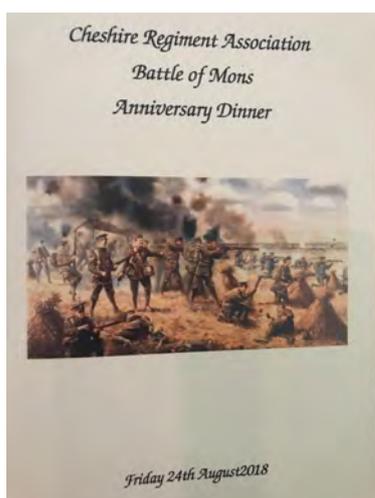
**TEP**

## MONS REMEMBERED

The Mons Pilgrimage of 2014 will be forever remembered by those who attended what was a momentous and poignant event. The feat of arms by our forbears at Audregnies on 24th August 1914 was eloquently described by Alan Jennings in the September 2014 issue of this newsletter. His article also described in great detail the CRA's pilgrimage to pay homage to the men of the 22nd.

What may not be quite so well known is that every year the villagers of Audregnies commemorate the sacrifices of the British (and French) soldiers at the Battle of Mons and in particular the action fought at Audregnies on 24th August 1914. On many previous occasions it has been left to Major Eddie Pickering MBE and his wife Martine to represent the 22nd at the commemoration. This year, being the 100th anniversary of the end of the Great War, it was good to see more representatives of the Cheshire Regiment Association joining the villagers for this year's commemoration.

We were very fortunate to have Lt Colonel Rob Prentice and WO2 Ady Elliott both serving at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE), just outside Mons. They very kindly went to great lengths to host a dinner at SHAPE in order to celebrate and commemorate the 22nd's feat of arms at the Battle of Mons. On Friday 24th August together with our ladies (coincidentally we numbered 22) we sat down to an excellent meal, in the form of a regimental dinner. Between courses we listened to short vignettes describing different aspects of the events around Mons in 1914. Our guest of honour was Air Commodore Anthony Beasant and our hosts ensured that the 100th anniversary of the Royal Air Force was also celebrated. Perhaps the highlight was being piped into dinner and to be entertained by the pipes during our meal. Our grateful thanks to everyone behind the scenes who made the evening so special.



On Saturday 25th August we assembled once more, this time just outside the town of Mons where we began a battlefield tour hosted by WO2 Pete Thomson RAMC. We began our tour on the spot where the first British action of the Great War took place. The 4th Battalion Royal Irish Dragoon Guards on spotting a German advanced mounted guard, gave chase and Corporal Thomas fired the first shot in the pursuit. Opposite this spot is a memorial plaque marking the place where the 116th Canadian Battalion stopped on Armistice Day 1918. For the British Empire, as it was then, the Great War had ended at the precise spot where it had started four years earlier.

We then moved on and visited the area of Obourg where the Middlesex Regiment attempted to hold off the Germans by the side of the canal. It was moving to learn of the unknown soldier who held off the German advance whilst his comrades beat an orderly retreat, losing his own life in the process. We also learnt about a heroic German soldier Oskar Niemeyer, who swam the canal (a lot wider than British canals) in order to turn a swing bridge to enable the Germans to cross. He also lost his life and we visited his grave at St. Symphorien Military Cemetery.

Our next stop was the aforementioned cemetery. This was a cemetery first opened by the Germans and fairly unusually contains both the British and German dead, buried in proximity to each other. What is perhaps the most tragic aspect is that Private Parr of the Middlesex Regiment and Private Ellison of the 5th Lancers are buried opposite each other, perhaps 10 yards apart. The sad part is that Private Parr was the first British soldier killed in the Great War, and Private Ellison was the last, killed on Armistice Day 1918 - both killed in the outskirts of Mons.

Another coincidence is that buried here is Lieutenant Maurice James Dease from the 4th Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers, the first soldier to be awarded the Victoria Cross, buried just a few feet from Musketeer Oskar Niemeyer, the first German recipient of the Iron Cross, for his actions mentioned previously.

Our battlefield tour continued with a visit to the sector of the canal where the 4th Bn Royal Fusiliers held off the German advance on 23rd August. It was here at the Nimy railway bridge where Lt Maurice Dease won the first VC of the war and later came to lie in St. Symphorien Military Cemetery. With Lt Dease mortally wounded Private Sidney Godley, although seriously wounded, single-handedly held off the German advance until his machine-gun stopped working. He dismantled the machine-gun, hurling it into the canal as a final act of defiance. He was taken prisoner, but when a POW received the news that he too had been awarded the VC...//4

### SNIPPETS...

I was married by a judge. I should have asked for a jury!  
**Groucho Marks**

Money can't buy you happiness, but it does bring you a more pleasant form of misery  
**Spike Milligan**

We also visited the area where the The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment heroically held off the German advance on 23rd August. Close by was a small military cemetery where we paid our respects to a single Cheshire soldier, William Nicholson, who fell on 24th August 1914.

Lastly our tour found us on the battlefield outside Audregnies and we stood on the spot of the memorial to the Cheshire Regiment, dedicated on the 100th anniversary of the battle in August 2014. It was there that our guide became slightly lost for words. Not because he did not know the details of the actions, but because he knew that he was in the presence of those who already had those actions ingrained in their souls. Having stood on the same spot in 2014 my feelings had not diminished and once again the hairs on the back of my neck stood to attention as we listened to how the 22nd, not forgetting a company of Norfolks, gallantly held off the German 1st Army as the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) conducted an orderly withdrawal.

The morning of 26th August saw us at Audregnies Cemetery, where the mayor and other village dignitaries held their annual memorial service to commemorate the British actions in defence of Belgium in August 1914. It was heartwarming to hear the villagers affirm their love and respect for the British and Lt Colonel Rob Prentice laid a wreath to lie with those of the local citizenry.

We then moved up to the site of the battlefield and once again we listened to the villagers commemorate the actions of the British Army. Further wreaths were laid and it was nice to see a wreath laid on behalf of the Mons Descendants, of whom I wrote about in the last issue of this newsletter. Lt Colonel Rob Prentice laid a wreath on behalf of the Cheshire Regiment and then spoke to the assembly about the close relationship between the 22nd and the village. He spoke about the villagers who helped the soldiers after the battle and in particular he recounted the story of the brave villagers who helped to conceal the miniature colour to prevent its capture by the Germans.

Finally the Cheshire contingent were invited to join the villagers in a reception. Unfortunately many of us had long journeys in order to return to Blighty, so were unable to fully enjoy the fruits of the local breweries, renowned for their strong but exceptionally tasty beer. With the events of the previous two evening, perhaps our livers were grateful for the respite.

Driving along the A21 towards Calais, I reflected upon a memorable weekend. The dinner at SHAPE contained equal measures of celebration and commemoration and our thanks go to Lt Colonel Rob Prentice and WO2 Ady Elliott for organising it.

The battlefield tour reminded us that many other units and regiments made the supreme sacrifice at Mons, although we are rightly proud of the 22nd's contribution. I had listened intently to the words of the villagers in Audregnies and with Brexit looming ever closer, it is reassuring to know that our European neighbours still have a love and respect for us and are eternally grateful for the sacrifices of our forbears. No matter what divides us, we know that there's some corner of a Belgian field that is Ever Glorious.

**George Szwejkowski**



**The short service in Audregnies Cemetery**



**Members of the CRA with the Mayor of Audregnies at the memorial site**

## **DEDICATION OF A MEMORIAL TABLET IN THE REGIMENTAL CHAPEL TO BRIGADIER MDK DAUNCEY DSO TRIBUTE BY BRIGADIER JAMES PERCIVAL OBE**

It has been our regimental custom for some years now to commemorate here in our regimental chapel, not only those who have given their lives in the service of the 22nd in times of war and other actions, but also those whose contribution to the regiment during their lives has been deemed by the Regimental Council, or more recently by the board of the Cheshire Regiment Association, to have been of particular significance. Thus it is that we are gathered here today for the dedication of a commemorative tablet to the late Brigadier Mike Dauncey.

Brigadier Mike was born in 1920 and joined the Cheshire Regiment in 1941 during the war serving first in the 5th (Earl of Chester's) Bn. His early service notably included a tour on secondment to the Glider Pilot Regiment during which he took part in the battle of Arnhem where he was both wounded and captured, later to escape, and for which he was recommended for the award of the Victoria Cross for his quite outstanding bravery and leadership. Sadly this was downgraded to the award of the Distinguished Service Order but still a mark of outstanding service.

After the war he filled several regimental appointments and was also an instructor at Sandhurst and Brigade Major 126 Infantry Brigade. In 1963 he assumed command of our 1st Battalion in BAOR, a tour which also included 6 months with the UN Force in Cyprus. It was not long before his particular brand of tough but considerate leadership, sometimes masked by the politest of natures, became evident to all, coupled with his unique ability to overcome most obstacles by sheer determination and perseverance. He also showed a much appreciated interest in the welfare of all ranks of the battalion, all of whom respected him greatly. He led a notably successful and happy 1st battalion.

Afterwards Mike served on the staff of the Joint Services Staff College, was Commandant of both the Jungle Warfare School in Malaya and the Support Weapons Wing of the School of Infantry, and just before retirement from active service he was the Military Assistant to our Ambassador in Madrid.

In 1978 he was appointed Honorary Colonel of the Regiment and it soon became apparent that 'retirement from active service' was not in the Dauncey vocabulary for he launched himself into strong support for many regimental activities, often fighting against the odds to achieve what he believed to be right for the 22nd, and usually winning. He visited frequently throughout his 7 year tenure, attending meetings, reunions and other regimental events where he was always most welcome.

After he handed over as Colonel in 1985 he still had many years of his life remaining and continued to take an active interest in the regiment and its affairs, particularly those of the Regimental Association.

Mike Dauncey served the 22nd resolutely and faithfully for 76 years from the time he joined in 1941 till his death at the age of 97 in 2017. Throughout he was determined, fearless and courageous. He was a staunch supporter of the regimental system and a friend and wise counsellor to many in the Regiment. He was indeed 'strong like the oak'. An inspirational 22nd soldier whom we commemorate now with admiration and much affection.



Four of the Dauncey grandchildren at the Dedication Service

# MEMORIES - A PERSONAL RECOLLECTION OF THE EAST CHESHIRE REUNION 27TH OCTOBER 2018

By John Ferns

Over the years this event has become much more than a commemoration for the 22nd CRA and a chance to remember the daring deeds of the past. And now that the Mons Reunion has reached its centenary and will no longer be continued, the East Cheshire Reunion will become a major focal point for the whole Regimental Association family. And falling shortly before Remembrance Sunday, its significance is even more special as all generations of the Regiment, be they the 22nd, or the Mercian men of Cheshire, can come together and remember the sacrifices of their forebears.

This year's commemoration marked the 70th anniversary of the original concept of the Commanding Officer (CO) of the 7th Battalion (Bn) in Macclesfield. The CO, one 'Pug' Durnell, had been a company commander during the Dunkirk evacuation. It followed a discussion in the Mess in 1947 about the battalion's most harrowing time during the 2WW, which included service in the operational theatres of France/Belgium/Egypt/Italy (including the Anzio Beachhead) ending up in Germany in 1945. The CO decided that this function should be an annual celebration of all their achievements, focussed on the period from mobilisation through to the evacuation at Dunkirk.

So in 1948 under the auspices of 'The 7th Bn Reunion Club 1939-45', the 'HotPot supper' was born in Macclesfield where for the next 40 years it became an annual event until 1988, when the Macclesfield Drill Hall was sold off by the MOD.

Let me now transport you back to the declaration of war on 1st of September 1939 and share with you a little of the proud history of the 7th Bn in the early months of the last war.

The 7th Bn of the 22nd was a Territorial Army (TA) unit and at the time my father was its Intelligence officer. The Bn had just finished its annual camp in Aldershot at the end of July 1939.



Singing for their supper - The 70th Annual Reunion

Two months later, on the 29th of October the Bn embarked for France. My father proudly told me that the 7th Bn was the first TA unit to set foot on French soil, though a TA Unit of the Gordon Highlanders will say 'We wuz robbed' as they travelled on the same troopship and when it docked at Cherbourg, the Royal Navy disembarked units in strict alphabetical order!

During the period of the 'Phoney War' the Bn was sent to reinforce the French Maginot Line where they spent their time honing their Vickers machine gun skills. In March my father assumed the appointment of Adjutant.

In the first days of May 1940 the Bn was redeployed into Belgium in a valiant attempt to delay the German army Blitzkrieg. During the withdrawal from Belgium the four Machine Gun (MG) companies of the Bn were deployed within the 3 brigades of 5 Div, which was to act as the rearguard for the remainder of the BEF. They were painful times; The Bn was constantly in action. Sleep and rations were short, rapidly becoming non existent as the pressure increased during the 3 weeks of the fighting withdrawal to the Dunkirk beachhead.

Like so many WW2 veterans, my father talked little about his war; but as a boy, I remember seeing his big operational map case and the chinagraph markings of routes and report lines marking the progress of the Bn's withdrawal to the coast. My father was a man of few words; he rarely spoke about his Dunkirk experience, though two things he did say, left an indelible impression on my mind ... first was that he, together with the Commanding Officer and the Padre, were the last members of the Bn off the beach on 29th May, exactly 7 months after they had landed in France. And second, every MG section within the Bn returned home carrying the breech locks for their MGs. No other MG Bn had achieved that feat.

So tonight we gathered in Stockport, for the last 30 years the new home of the 'The 7th Bn Reunion Club 1939-45'. With the enforced move from Macclesfield in 1988 the function was retitled 'The East Cheshire Reunion' and was taken under the banner of the CRA and opened up to include all members of the CRA including members of all 'Cheshire based' units in the changing evolution of the TA; 7th, 4/7th, Mercian Volunteer, 3 Cheshire and latterly 3 Mercian. Thus a 70 year thread can be demonstrated and we can rightfully claim the title of being the most enduring WW2 reunion in the British Army. I was present for the 60th reunion in 2008 when we mustered a magical 232 diners. Tonight the figure was 125.

This function is a sterling example of comradeship across the generations. The veterans of Dunkirk are but spirits now and perhaps would be amazed that this function has continued this long. Here tonight were their heirs and successors; Veterans from National Service days in Malaya and Suez, through to the Cold war, of BAOR & Berlin, Op Banner and Bosnia UN, Iraq and Afghanistan to today's army, represented by the lads and lasses of the Mortar Platoon of 3 Mercian, the modern day equivalent of the 7th Bn. What a marvellous demonstration of service over the 70 years!

Huge debts of gratitude are owed to so many in the mounting of this very special reunion and may I be forgiven if I miss anyone. The first were Bill Harris and Norman Allen, the latter a veteran of Dunkirk aged 21. Together they stewarded the first 40 years and set the lasting tone which is the hallmark of this reunion today. The design and content of today's 'Dinner ticket' (facsimile below) is unchanged from the 1950 ticket I found in my father's papers!

Norman (who died in 2016 aged 96) was to continue as secretary for a further 10 years when the event moved to Stockport, joined by Alan Jennings with John Holden as 'MC', until John's untimely death just a month before our 2013 reunion. John had an enormous presence as 'MC' and was the driving influence for maintaining the format and style of the reunion over the period from 1988, unchanged from 1948. And from 2014 to today we have to thank Lawrence Dunning as secretary, from his Dorsetshire home, and as 'MC', first David Oak and then Peter Gresty, in their capacities as successive CRA Chairman..

And whilst we are speaking of Secretaries and organisation, we should not forget our current Honorary Regimental secretary, Eddie Pickering, who though he retired 5 years ago, is still in harness today, right at the helm of the wider Cheshire Regimental Association. Thank you Eddie, for all that you continue for do for us and all the branches of the 22nd Regimental Association. Thanks are also due to the individual secretaries of the branches of the CRA throughout Cheshire who 'beat the drum', ensuring our wonderful attendance is sustained.

To Alan Kennedy and the members of the Stockport branch who behind the scenes set up this event and are here to dismantle it the next day. We thank Alan and his team. I'm sure they have all been glad that the event has fallen, on all but one occasion, on the night before the clocks get 'put back' and they have all benefited from the extra hour's sleep!



Mike Huntriss, the Presiding Officer gives the State of the Nation Address

And let's not forget our caterers and the serving teams from Greenbake Caterers for their unique culinary delight – the 'Cheshire HotPot'. Regular attendees will attest that no two years do the ingredients and texture seem to match up but the pickled red cabbage is the one constant, together with the cheese and biscuits and the can of 'John Smith' for each diner.

And last, but by no means least, to the Bandmaster and the members of the 'Bollington Brass' who have so ably answered the call to duty for as long as I can remember. In my opinion their performance rivals, nay excels, a military band, From the bugle team for their faultless playing of the 'Last Post' through to the whole band for keeping us entertained throughout the evening with Regimental music that we all recognise and love from our service days. Wha wadna' fect for Charlie! Impeccable!

So what has the future in store for this event? One thing is certain; the reunion will continue; but no longer the 'baby' of the Stockport branch of the 22nd Regimental Association as we have now all reached the age when we are drawing our pensions and are now dodging the 'grim reaper'. Stepping into the breach we have to thank Colonel Tony Angel and the Mercian Volunteers Regimental Association who are the latter day successors of the old 7th Bn. The wheel has turned full circle.

And to finish, I return to where I started this personal recollection. The East Cheshire Reunion will remain a significant reunion as it falls just before Remembrance Sunday, and will continue to provide a valuable opportunity when all generations of the Regiment, be they Cheshire, or Mercian men of Cheshire, can come together and remember the sacrifices of their forebears.

If I'm not here for the 100th anniversary, I hope that our heirs and successors will keep this reunion going for the next 30 years as we have done for the last 70 years, starting next year, when we are all invited to meet again in Stockport under the auspices of the Mercian Volunteers Regimental Association. We are promised a different style from that of today but I know it will keep in mind its proud heritage, for at least as long as the current generation of 22nd 'Old Sweats' remains alive.

**Wha wadna' fect for Charlie!  
God bless the Prince of Wales**

JALF



Thanks to Lawrence Dunning for organising the event for the last time

# WORD FROM THE BRANCHES

## BIRKENHEAD BRANCH

The Branch is solvent, holding its own generally and determined to keep going. At our July meeting Harry Goodenough was unanimously elected as Branch President. We welcome his experience in committee work and chairing meetings and value his links with ACF and the Port Sunlight Trust.

We were able to parade our Standard on Sunday 15th July at the Commemoration at Ellesmere Port Boat Museum and Whitby Copse. It was good to see that this year the event was better supported by members of local Branches. It is to be hoped that this will ensure continuation in future years.

At our August meeting we were glad to welcome a new member (sadly a rare occurrence). He is Fred King, who served in the 1st Battalion in Malaya & Berlin. We were delighted to be able to congratulate Ken and Betty Guntrip on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary and to celebrate with them in August. After Ken's service in the 1st Battalion and TA service in the RASC/RCT, he devoted his considerable energies over many years to work for the Associations of both cap badges. As he has attended a number of our meetings and given us the benefit of his historical knowledge in his talks, we elected Denis Rose as an Honorary Member of the Branch. On 9th September a few of our members attended what may well be the last Mons Day Commemoration. The occasion was well supported and it is fitting that the Regimental Memorial should be augmented by the memorial to Brigadier Mike Dauncey, DSO, DL, whose service spanned much of the Regiment's 20th century history.

The Armistice and Remembrance Sunday falling on the same day, will be marked in the usual way. The majority will parade at Port Sunlight with Harry G as Parade Marshal and we will have representatives to lay wreaths at Birkenhead Cenotaph and Wallasey War Memorial. As a change from the traditional turkey meal we shall mark the Christmas season with a Family Buffet Social on 1st December.

**Peter Jackson**

## CHESTER BRANCH

The past three months has been the quietest time I can recall in the nearly thirty years I have had the honour to be a member of Chester Branch. In that time I have seen many changes and witnessed the drastic fall in attendance at Branch and CRA functions. Just ten years ago on a Friday night function, the average attendance was 45 with 35 being ex Cheshires. Last Friday, 19th October, we had 20. Of these 5 were ex Cheshires.

The point I am trying to make is that today the Regimental Club is being kept in existence by our loyal honorary members. Should they withdraw that support the CRA will have nowhere to hold reunions, race days, and other functions.

We are living on borrowed time and unless attitudes change even the very memory of The Cheshire Regiment will cease to exist. We will be homeless. It is time for those who profess an undying love of the Regiment to show just how much they care.

Having had that little rant I feel that we at Chester will be holding a Christmas Sunday Lunch on 9th Dec and the Christmas Draw on 14th December. Full details and tickets are available. In February 2019, if we are still in being, we are going to hold a Branch Meeanee Dinner. In the meantime we wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Prosperous and Peaceful New Year.

**John Fairbanks**

## KIRKHAM BRANCH

It has been a quiet period for the Kirkham Branch, as most members have been away on holiday over the summer season. I have been in hospital over June and July and am now waiting to go in for an operation in October or November. As a result I have not been able to keep in touch, but our branch treasurer Bill Birkett has been very good with a phone call every so often.

We are all looking forward to our Belgium trip in November, I just hope that I will not be in hospital on the same dates. On a very sad note, Paul Hadfield passed away recently. He served in Malaya and Singapore and he supported the Malaya Reunion by travelling to Walsall every year. He had a bad fall at home and never got over it. Our sincere condolences to his wife, Dorothy and family.

I will end by wishing all in the CRA a very happy Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

**John Gibson**

## SOUTHERN REGION

The last few months have been the calm before the storm. Nothing of particular note has taken place, although individual members have attended the Mons Weekend in Belgium, the Mons Reunion in Chester, and the Edith Cavell Memorial Service in London. You can read about these events elsewhere in this newsletter.

Like London buses, nothing for ages, then three come in quick succession. On Thursday 8th November we gather in the grounds of Westminster Abbey in order to participate in the Field of Remembrance. The following Saturday we pay our annual visit to HM Tower of London and then lastly we parade on Horse Guards for the Service of Remembrance at the Cenotaph.

As we move into 2019 we will reach our 20th anniversary as a branch. How time has flown and what memories we have. Needless to say, we wish to celebrate this milestone in style, so on Saturday 9th March 2019 we will be holding a Meeanee Gala Dinner at the Union Jack Club in London. All Southern Region members can apply for places now, with any remaining places being available to the wider CRA from 1st December 2018.

Our best wishes to all members of the CRA for a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

**George Szwejkowski**

# JOHN FAIRBANKS WRITES

## FOLLOW YOUR STAR



In the Fairbanks household, things are back to normal. The memsahib, who has been rather severely off colour for the past three months, has recovered her fitness and with it her powers of command. So when one afternoon she expressed a desire to watch a romantic film I managed to find, on afternoon TV, a production starring John Wayne and Sophia Loren which seemed to fit the bill.

The story largely involved the intrepid pair marching endlessly through the scorching desert sands looking for a legendary hoard of be-jewelled gold artefacts. And as, for a few moments, I watched the stars giving performances that showed their acute need for acting lessons, I was moved by shots of the desert landscape. So much so that in my mind I was carried back some sixty five years to the Arabian Desert where I too was lost for a while in the shifting burning sands.

We were on a junior NCOs cadre, and in my case not for the first time. The Battalion was guarding the gigantic Abu Sultan Ordnance depot at the time. So the powers that be decreed that as part of their training, the Cadre would be taken out into the desert, at night, issued with prismatic compasses and ordered to make their way back to camp.

So we were loaded into a three-tonner, driven around in ever decreasing circles for a while, then dumped in a truly desolate spot. The moon was conspicuous by its absence but the brilliant starlight made our surrounding clearly visible. So, setting our compasses with the bearing we had been given which, to our delight, we found lined us up with a fairly bright star, we started the march.

We had been told we should reach our destination in approximately one hour. Two hours later we began to be concerned. It was pointless to set our back bearing because a search party would not look for us there.

We were found a while later just as our guiding star was becoming very faint. The leader of our rescuers, who was already unhappy about being roused from his bed in order to find us, took great satisfaction and pleasure in telling us that the star we had followed so slavishly was in fact the masthead light of a ship passing through the Suez canal!

## SNIPPETS...

I had a rose named after me and I was very flattered. But I was not pleased to read the description in the catalogue: - 'No good in a bed, but fine against a wall.'

**Eleanor Roosevelt**

By the time a man is wise enough to watch his step, he's too old to go anywhere.

**Billy Crystal**

# THE 22nd DVD SLIDESHOW - A PICTORIAL INSIGHT INTO THE HISTORY & TRAVELS OF THE 22nd CHESHIRE REGIMENT



The aim of The 22nd DVD Slide-show is to reflect in images and words, the story of Our Fine Regiment. Although many books have been written about the regiment this takes a more wider look at what, when and where we did things and most importantly, through images and script.

The DVD covers everything from tradition, ceremony and conflict, through our prowess in many sports, to humour and the remembrance of all of our members from the inception of The 22nd to the amalgamation in 2007. It also takes a look at what happened after the amalgamation in regard to 'Cheshire' - badged members who are still serving to this day.

Containing over 700 photographs, prints and other images, set to music by The Regimental Band, the DVD will hopefully have something that every single person who ever served with The 22nd will find entertaining, educational, and in many cases humorous, whilst still holding firmly onto the values that we learnt - and to this day still hold very dear, of respect, honour and remembrance.

I would like to thank everyone who has contributed their photos, knowledge and input - there are too many to name here, but to everyone who has helped me collate this - my sincere thanks to you all.

I really hope that you enjoy The Slide-show - probably best to have the telly to yourself for a while, a case of beer, a couple of bottles of wine and a curry would help! It will take you

back down many roads...some good, some not so...but there will always be a smile waiting when the next image appears. A smile that comes with knowing you were part of something very, very special - no matter how long for, and a smile that comes with having served in The Finest Regiment that ever was. Long Live The 22nd - Ever Glorious.

Professionally produced with full cover artwork and the disc itself printed, The 22nd Slide-show DVD will be available to purchase from the end of November / beginning of December directly from Mike Morgan. You can pre-order The DVD by going to the Facebook Group Page "The 22nd Slide-show DVD" and if not already a member of that group simply ask to join and all the details will be available there. Or you can contact Mike by e-mail :- mikemorgan\_54@msn.com or Tel. 07763 - 747142 and obtain your copy directly from him.

The cost of The DVD is expected to be between £35 - £45 - the exact cost will be known towards the end of November when it has been fixed by the publishers. From each copy sold a significant contribution will be made to The Regimental Statue / Memorial Fund once it has been established where and when that is to be sited.

**Mike Morgan**

## PTSD RESOLUTION

If you know of any ex-service men or women struggling with nightmares, flashbacks, anxiety, depression, anger issues, or any of their families being affected by their behaviour, please help them contact the charity PTSD Resolution (charity number 1133188) on telephone number 0300 302 0551.

They will be put in touch with a local counsellor trained to deal with the symptoms of post-traumatic stress and other general mental conditions. Treatment is free, local, confidential, brief, immediate, non-intrusive and delivered through a network of 200 therapists UK-wide.

You can see more at: [www.ptsdresolution.org](http://www.ptsdresolution.org)

Any donation you make to PTSD Resolution could be doubled if you make it on-line between 27th November and 4th December. This is part of The Big Give Christmas Challenge 2018.

## SHELL-SHOCK WALK

On Saturday 15th September supporters of PTSD Resolution set off on their walk across the bridges of London in order to raise money for the charity. The walk started at Walworth Bridge and finished at Tower Bridge, or to be strictly accurate started at a pub near Walworth Bridge and finished at a pub near Tower Bridge.

The weather was kind and a good time was had by all those who participated, including several members of the CRA.



Setting off for the Shell-shock Walk

## SNIPPETS.....

Until I was thirteen, I thought my name was SHUT UP .  
**Joe Namath**

I don't feel old. I don't feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap.

**Bob Hope**

## THE ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA



The Royal Hospital Chelsea are always keen to receive new applicants to become Chelsea Pensioners.

To be eligible to apply to become a Chelsea Pensioner, a candidate must be:

- Over 65 yrs old and in receipt of a state pension
- Either a former soldier or non-commissioned officer of the British Army (Former officers of the British Army are eligible to apply if they have served in the ranks for at least 12 years before obtaining a commission; or have been awarded a disablement pension while serving in the ranks)
- Free of any financial obligation to support a spouse or family (We do not accept applications from individuals who are currently married or have children under the age of 18 yrs old)

If you know of anyone who may be interested, please pass this on,

How to apply

To request an application pack, or for any queries, please contact the Chelsea Pensioner Admissions Officer:

Telephone: 0207 881 5204

E-mail: [admissions@chelsea-pensioners.org.uk](mailto:admissions@chelsea-pensioners.org.uk)

## WAITING FOR BIRKBY

*The following narrative, written by the late Jim Stanley in 2006, was found recently by Grant Stanley and Hod Birkby whilst visiting Val Stanley, Jim's widow. Jim never finished the article, but Hod Birkby thought that Jim, in his inimitable style had neatly summed up many of our thoughts at that time about the forthcoming amalgamation. (Ed)*

I am waiting the arrival of Birkby from Bulgaria. That's H.G.R Birkby Captain (retired) the 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment. I await his arrival in Southern Spain. I am Pte, L/Cpl. (bust), Pte, L/Cpl, Cpl (bust), Pte, L/Cpl, Corporal, Sgt, C/Sgt (bust), Sgt (retired) - in sunny Spain.

Birkby's great grandfather was the Regimental Bandmaster during the last days of the Raj. Although according to H, he was a formidable cricketer (the same cannot be said of his great grandson!) But the same is evidenced by our regimental journal "The Oak Tree" of being truth. Also, his great grandfather became after a chequered career, eventually R.S.M of the regiment. H's grandfather was killed at Ypres in October 1918, he was a CSM. To follow, H's father, would you believe, also attained that most august rank in an English infantry battalion; RSM.

I can claim nothing of the same, except to say that my grandfather the black smithy striker, Willie Stanley fought as a Private in the Boer war in our regiment. Later he fought all-comers in the Birkenhead's "Blood Tub" pub for which he should have been awarded with a medal of sorts, I think. But he wasn't! We joke, H.G.R Birkby (Captain retired) and I, he thought his grandfather probably jailed mine, I say they were probably good mates and my grandfather probably took the rap for yours over some long forgotten misdemeanour which was unspoken between them but exists unto eternity. It is what I say to Birkby's disbelieving guffles; and so it goes. It is why we are friends.

Birkby arrives from Bulgaria with his good-looking lady Sandra and parks his ridiculous 'house on wheels' super-duper shower/toilet/television half American mega recreational vehicle on our orange tree encircled forecourt. The #### is me, the grandson of the south African veteran and my Spanish wife Violeta. We are all four long-time friends of a regimental understanding. H says I won't stay there; Bulgaria! It looked beautiful in the winter when we bought it, Christmas card village. When winter passed the absence of snow revealed dirt tracks, menacing gypsies and free ranging and veracious goats. The whole third world Balkan deal.

I say, after stifling my guffaws, What's new, since when were you ever known for the military virtues of reconnaissance, preparation and planning and strategy implementation? There is a tirade of abuse, expected. The evening goes well. Excellent rioja is commented favourably upon, Bulgarian beer is politely declined.

The girls repair to the dining room to talk of things Spanish and things Bulgarian. #####, and the unavailability of such, propane gas prices, the cost of cosmetics vis a vis Spanish/Bulgarian. English (always the common denominator) things English. While we consider, Birkby and I, by now 'well oiled'. What is to become of us?

For, you will have guessed, our regiment the ever glorious 22nd (well said Brigadier Rigby) must shortly go to the wall. We are to be emasculated with a rusty razor blade, as has been expressed by others of our ilk. The Sherwood Foresters, The Royal Welsh Fusiliers, the Argyle & Sutherland Highlanders, the Durham Light Infantry, the Somerset and Cornwall Infantry, the Royal Inniskillen Fusiliers, the Fen tigers ... and all those other glorious regiments of awful and ancient respectability.

And so to us. Bats flit amongst us as H and I drink our respective brews. And there is a silence. What to do? The colonel says we may not fight an unwinnable fight we must accept the inevitable and hope we retain a semblance of regimental identity.

That statement. We think upon it and realise neither of us or indeed our forbearers ever thought that we would ever embark upon an unwinnable fight. And there is a huge silence! Jimmy, we raised 38 battalions in the first world war. Ay. H, we won the AAA three time three times. Can't be repeated. Aye.

The bats are still flying. The girls say we'll leave you to it, it's late. I wonder if they realise the significance of our corporate reply as they to bed, it's late. What to do? Is anything to be done at this penultimate hour? We don't make ball bearings I say. What? Or fridges, cans of ... anything plastic. We don't produce, that's why the British army has always been the poor sister to political ambition. H considers conflicted thought, after all he is only a Captain, and I am a much greatly experienced, if greatly bruised NCO.

Again a silence - we remark upon Spanish bats and also Bulgarian bats. It's too late for fucking placards, says one of us (I can't remember who) we are facing the wall says one of us (I can't remember who). Again a silence, no Bulgarian ale or rioja is being consumed. The 22nd were the absolute last English county regiment which remains at this moment untouched un-amalgamated in the order of battle. They've all gone. Except us; the last English regiment.

.....//12

As the oak tree is our emblem isn't that emblematic of all things English, Agincourt, Crecy, et al. Oh lord! says one of us. Silence. And the bats have disappeared. Or have they? Say, why haven't the Guards been tampered with? Don't know. Why not also the Paras -excellent troops; my brother lost four toes in their service- Brecon Beacons-he's not H's kin but the kin of the black smithy striker... Why so? It becomes complicated here. We are the 22nd regiment of foot formed in 1689 and have been doing Cheshire 'good' for all of those years.

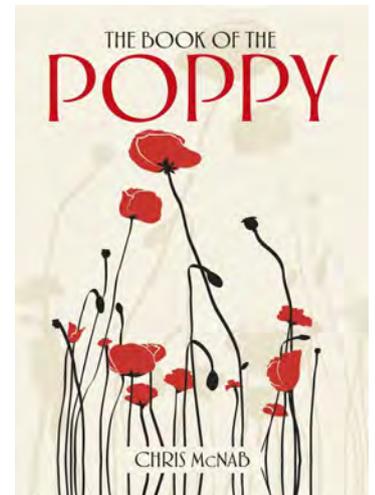
Wherefore then must we die? Tell you what, why are the S.A.S named so (22nd?) why? Because we were the first 22nd and they took the ideas from us... stands to reason doesn't it. Ay, of course. We are both kidding. But corporately think Crecy/Agincourt no formed S.A.S there. But we were there?

We sport the oak as our symbol as English as is possible. Won't you dead Welsh, Scots and lovely Irish heroes shout silently for us to remain the last remaining shout from the graves; your values... our soldiers. Him and I this evening are well into our cups and I will sort this hopefully non-eulogy later. But small thought. We are the 22nd the last untouched English county regiment.

And I/we ask you perhaps at 10 o'clock 2200 hours if you don't know, do something, make a noise, flash your car lights, spill a glass, jump up and down or.... Something to register your English displeasure (Scots, Irish and Welsh also for reasons stated- make a noise) and for all our sakes don't let this death sentence be pronounced. We are the 22nd, the last English regiment. Birkby is struck speechless. I also.

**Jim Stanley**

## BOOK REVIEW



As the centenary of the Armistice approaches, I was looking for a book to read that would sum up the events of the Great War. Unfortunately there are so many to choose from that I my eyes glazed over as I cast my eye over their titles. It would seem that all the great military writers have taken the opportunity to re-hash the war to end all wars in one way or another. It was as my eyes gazed wearily along the almost endless shelves of the book store, that they fell upon a small white book entitled The Book of the Poppy, by Chris McNab. Was this what I was looking for?

As I often do, I flicked through the pages in order to get an overall feeling for the book. My first thoughts were that this was a rather strange and random offering, with some very odd lists and statistics. I then settled down to read the book from cover to cover.

The book deals with the history of remembrance and how the poppy came to be its symbol. The poem by John McCrae, a Canadian was the catalyst. "In Flanders Fields" is probably one of the best and most popular WW1 poems, although it was rejected by The Spectator magazine, before finally finding an audience through Punch. It was this poem that caught the attention of an American, Moina Michael. She had the vision to take the poppy and use it as a symbol of remembrance for the American Legion. It was adopted as a national symbol at the American Legion Convention in 1920. Present at this convention was a member of the French YWCA, Madame Anna Guerin. She saw the possibilities and brought the idea back to France. She also traveled widely and it was not long before she met with Field Marshal Douglas Haig, the president of the British Legion. As far as the British Legion poppy is concerned, the rest is history.

As I mentioned earlier, the book is rather random, but every item is of interest and connected in some way. It is not confined to the Great War but also looks at the history of the armed forces and all the victims of wars, before and since. The graphs, maps and extracts break up the narrative in a good way and some of these made me think. WW2 life expectancies is a case in point; If you served in RAF Bomber Command it was 42 days. For an infantryman at Normandy it was 21 days. If you think they were bad, then consider that a Soviet infantryman at Stalingrad was lucky to survive 24 hours. Unless you were an officer of course, then you had the luxury of averaging an extra 48 hours of life.

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Last Post, and the first military cemeteries are all subjects covered, but the main theme remains the poppy, or the Papaver rhoeas, to give it its proper name. The book is a good read with lots of interesting facts and figures. As I said in the editorial to this newsletter, remembrance does not glorify war and this applies to the poppy too. To quote Chris McNab; "At least once a year, it obliges us to face and think about the consequences of war, past, present and future"

**George Szejkowski**

## THE INDISPENSABLE MAN

Some time, when you're feeling important,  
Some time, when your ego's in bloom,  
Some time when you take it for granted  
You're the best informed man in the room,

Take a bucket, fill it with water,  
Put your hand in it up to your wrist,  
Pull it out and the hole that remains there  
Is just how you will be missed.

You may splash all you please as you enter,  
You may stir up the water galore  
But stop, and you will see in a moment  
That it looks just the same as it did before.

The moral of this story  
Is just do the best as you can.  
Because you will find that in spite of vain glory  
There is NO indispensable man.

RSG

## LETTERS

I thoroughly enjoy the CRA Newsletter and appreciate all the work you do. Many thanks.

I joined the Regiment as a very young subaltern in Ballykinler in 1961 and we then transferred to Munster. One Battalion Exercise in 1962 was planned for Larzac in the Massif Central of southern France. This involved a four day drive in our APC's with overnight camps in Chalons, Lyons and Nimes – the latter at the French Foreign Legion HQ, before continuing on to Larzac which was our base for the exercises.

I well remember Lyon because I was duty officer and it was my job to go into town with the MP's and find our soldiers who were ensconced in assorted brothels in the Red Light District!

I was very unpopular with everyone – the soldiers who had not finished what they were paying for and the girls who, in many cases were not paid because the soldiers has not completed the transaction! The scuffles were legendary and the language unprintable! This scene repeated itself in a number of establishments and for me, as a teenager, it was a quick growing up lesson!!

Following the Exercise in the Massif Central (a vast rocky wilderness operating out of sangars) we then drove in convoy to Sete, a small town on the French Riviera for some R&R. We set up our bivouacs in the dunes and enjoyed some sun and swimming. It quickly became apparent that our allocated area on the beach lay between two nudist camps and the QM made a hasty effort to withdraw all the binoculars! More disgruntled soldiers!

Another four day drive followed for our return to Munster but I think that we avoided Lyons! Some 55 years later it remains with me as a memorable visit!

Best wishes,

**Michael Trevor-Barnston**  
(At the time I was Michael Trevor)

## BENEVOLENCE

The attention of all members is directed towards the new veterans gateway that was launched on 20th June 2017.

This is the single point of reference for any veteran who requires assistance.

<https://www.veteransgateway.org.uk>

## RESETTLEMENT



Anybody who served in the Armed Forces and is in need of free help and support in finding a job, training opportunities or further resettlement assistance may wish to contact the Military Resettlement Headquarters (MRHQ).

Despite its title, the organisation is not run by the military, although its staff are from a military background.

The website can be found at: [www.mrhq.co.uk](http://www.mrhq.co.uk)  
Telephone: 0330 0432505

## CLUB NEWS

The Club can be used for Branch Events and Private Parties by arrangement. A concessionary hire rate for CRA members' private use applies. Branches do not pay to use the Club.

Normal opening times are:

Wednesday 1200-1400

Friday 1900-2330

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday by prior arrangement

**For all Club enquiries, contact Mike Smith on 07906 753699**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

7th to 12th Nov - CRA Ypres Pilgrimage 2018

8th Nov - Field of Remembrance Westminster Abbey

1 Nov - Remembrance Sunday

9 Dec - Droppin Well Memorial, Ballykelly

23 Feb - CRA AGM, Chester

23 Feb - CRA Spring Reunion, Chester

9 Mar - Southern Region Meeanee Gala Dinner

4 May - Army v Royal Navy Rugby - Twickenham

10 May - Chester Races

## SNIPPETS....

By all means, marry. If you get a good wife, you'll become happy; if you get a bad one, you'll become a philosopher.

**Socrates**

## REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

During my years as a social worker in Kent I met some wonderful people and one of the best was a veteran Cheshire. This would have been in the middle to late 80s on Romney Marsh, near Folkestone. At the time he would have been in his 80s, or older. He had been brought up in the famous Foundlings Hospital in London and, like all boys there, had been taught an instrument and played in their band.

I believe that he joined the Cheshires via the Regimental Band. He had many photos of his time on the North West Frontier, with tribesmen holding their long fire-arms. He told me that as the oldest veteran from the Cheshire Regiment, a car was sent from Chester to take him to take part in the Regimental Reunions.

Very sadly I have forgotten his name. I now wish to write a short story and dedicate it to this gentleman. If anybody has any idea who this gentleman might have been, then I would be very grateful for any information.

My e-mail address is:

[gillianandcolin@ntlworld.com](mailto:gillianandcolin@ntlworld.com)

My telephone number is: 01303 276405  
My address is: 4 Ilex Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 4QA  
Yours faithfully

**Colin Patience**

## EDITH CAVELL

On Friday 12th October the CRA were once more represented at the annual remembrance service in honour of Edith Cavell, held in London. Nurse Edith Cavell was executed by the Germans on this date in 1915 after being found guilty of assisting allied soldiers to escape from German hands. These included many soldiers from the Cheshire Regiment following the Battle of Mons.

Brigadier Tony Twiss laid a wreath on behalf of the Cheshire Regiment Association, in remembrance of the assistance given to members of the Cheshire Regiment.



**Tony Twiss lays a wreath on behalf of the CRA**

## SOUTHERN REGION

### 20th ANNIVERSARY

### GALA DINNER

**SATURDAY 9th MARCH 2019**



In order to celebrate the Southern Region's 20th anniversary, we have booked an excellent room at the Union Jack Club (UJC) for our annual Meeanee Ladies Dinner. We think it is ideal as the Club is in an excellent Central London location, just opposite Waterloo Station. It has underground car parking and good rooms which can be booked for those attending events at the Club.

We have been extremely fortunate to have been given very generous sponsorship by Axis International for this important event. UJC offer a very attractive and competitively priced package for Regiments. A glass of Cava on arrival, a 3 course dinner with half a bottle of wine and a glass of Port for the toasts. The sponsorship has allowed us to reduce the ticket price to £30. This is an amazing price and furthermore, our sponsor is giving us Champagne and canapes instead of Cava on arrival.

There will be entertainment through the evening by a group of talented singers called The Nylon Hearts, a close harmony trio, who will sing a range of songs from nostalgic to the present day. We will also be holding a raffle with high quality prizes in order to support the Not Forgotten Association. Two senior members of their Headquarters will be our guests for the evening.

If you are interested in attending then contact Trevor Taylor, our Events Secretary, on 07899874194. His e-mail address is: [trev22taylor@aol.com](mailto:trev22taylor@aol.com). **Bookings will be taken from 1st December onwards on a first come, first served basis.**

## LAST POST



Mr William **Jones** died 27th September 2018, aged 76  
Served 4th Bn Drums 1960-1964

Maj Nick **Moulton-Thomas**  
died 29 October 2018

Mr D E **Thompson**  
Died: 6 July 2018  
Sgt serv no: 23675734

Mr George **Statham**  
Died: 31 July 2018 aged 84 Served 1951 – 1953, Suez, Egypt  
Serv no: 22649073

Mr Paul **Hadfield**  
Died: 14 September 2018 aged 80 Ex 1Bn 1957 – 1960  
Barnard Castle, Malaya, Singapore