

# The Lion & the Dragon

The Friends of Cumbria's Museum of Military Life

Autumn 2020

The Newsletter supports  
Cumbria's Museum of  
Military Life.

CUMBRIA'S  
MUSEUM OF  
MILITARY LIFE



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## SITREP

Thank you everyone who  
commented on the 'The Lion  
& the Dragon' in our  
questionnaire. There's more  
about the results of the  
Survey in the News  
section on page 7.

It showed that we need  
to provide content that  
interests history enthusiasts  
as well as former members of  
the Regiment, or indeed of  
any regiment.

An occasional series on the  
Regimental Family is in  
preparation, which will cover  
men and women, soldiers  
and non-coms, who form  
part of the Regimental family  
that stretch back to 1702.  
If you have a candidate,  
ancient or modern, you'd like  
included please get in touch.

We also want to encourage  
more people to follow-up  
their interest in military  
history by writing. David  
Allardice and, in this edition  
Ted Carter, have taken up  
that challenge. We'd like  
more.

Peter Green  
Editor

peter.castra@gmail.com



## Rebels in the Fells

Autumn 1715. The white Stuart cockades are much in evidence in Scotland and the Borders. Supporters of the Old Pretender – James III of England and VIII Scotland have risen against the new Hanoverian King, George. The Borders are threatened by Jacobites, led by a former Northumberland MP, 'General' Sir Thomas Forster.

### CALLING OUT THE MILITIA

On the 16 September 1715, the Government had instructed the Lord Lieutenant of Cumberland and Westmorland, Lord Carlisle, who was at Castle Howard in Yorkshire,

"... to cause the whole Militia within your

*Lieutenancy, both horse and foot, to be put in such a posture as to be in readiness to meet upon the first orders; and also to give the necessary directions to the proper officers of the Militia forthwith to seize, with the assistance of a constable, the persons and arms of all Papists, Non-Jurors, or other persons that you have reason to suspect to be disaffected to his Majesty and his Government, and may probably be aiding to such Insurrection or Invasion."*

The Government instructions, continued,

*"...repair to the Counties whereof you are Lord Lieutenant, and accordingly it is his Majesty's pleasure that your Lordship should go thither without loss of time to take care of regulating the Militia."*





Jacobites

James II of England and VII of Scotland was deposed by in 1688 and replaced by his Protestant daughter Mary and her husband William of Orange.

The 'Old Pretender' also known as 'The Chevalier' was the son of James and Mary Modena. He was alleged, by some, to have been a founding smuggled into her bedchamber in a warming pan.

The 'Young Pretender', better known as 'Bonnie Prince Charlie' or 'The Young Chevalier' was his son.

Both had to overcome opposition to their Roman Catholic faith at a time when Catholicism was seen as the thin edge of autocratic rule by King and Pope, and the persecution of Protestants.

For some the Jacobites represented the security of the traditional Royal family as opposed to the new Hanoverians, whilst in Scotland they were a rallying point for those opposed to the Union with England.

The Earl of Carlisle did not venture out of Yorkshire It was normal for the Deputy Lieutenants to implement militia activity, in this case Lord Lonsdale, was the militia Commanding Officer. The job of copying out the government instructions and circulating them fell on the Lieutenancy’s Clerk, Hugh Simpson at Penrith. At the end of September he reported that he and his agents travelled:

“...three times round both the counties of Cumberland and Westmorland at times when [the roads in both counties] were very bad to travel in”.

THE MILITIA AND REGULARS

There were no regulars in Cumberland and Westmorland just the Militia. These were part-time soldiers, only paid when called out – the formal term was 'Embodied'. In Cumberland and Westmorland there were seven infantry companies, between 50 and a 100 men strong and a troop of cavalry. Although from the two counties, they were managed as one battalion. Lord Lonsdale reported that they were,

"... almost throughout ill armed, but I don't know how that can be remedied at present, for they can't be provided with better in this country, and it will be a long time before new ones can be had from London. We have ordered them to throw away their pikes and get firelocks in their place."

At Newcastle, there were 750 regular troops, under General Carpenter. And a force of 2,500 dragoons and infantry was being assembled at Manchester. Two companies of 'Invalids', that is soldiers no longer fit for active service, had been despatched northwards to garrison Carlisle Castle.

CUMBRIA THREATENED

On the 14 October the Governor of Carlisle Castle, Brigadier Thomas Stanwix, received notice from Newcastle that the rebels intended to seize the Castle. Two companies of militia were moved to the Castle and the remaining companies were dispersed across the Counties, to prevent signs of rebellion.

The Castle already held suspected Jacobite sympathisers. Taken into custody as a result of an order in Council of 20 July. This canny move deprived the rebels of the leaders of any potential Cumbrian rebels. The prisoners were well looked after. The Bishop of Carlisle, Nicholson, records dining with them and Lord Lonsdale:

"... I read ye 2dService in the Cathedral; and din'd (with Ld L & ye popish prisoners) at the Governours. (sic)..."

FORSTER AND THE SCOTS

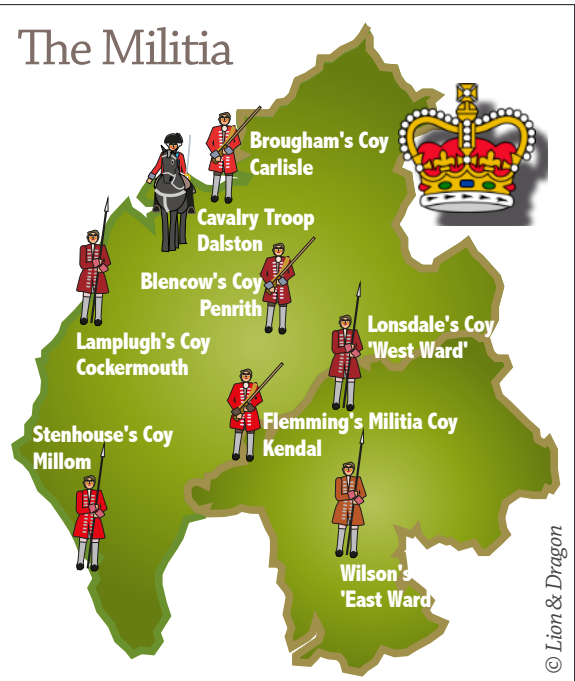
Sir Thomas Forster had declared for the Jacobite cause on 6 October at Hexham. He was joined by around 60 men. His first destination was Wirkworth, perhaps intending to go on and seize Newcastle. But the Mayor of Newcastle barricaded the gaps in the Town's Walls and raised a volunteer regiment. On 15 October the first regular troops arrived in the town. Thwarted, Forster wandered backwards.

At the same time, a detachment of the Earl of Mar's Scots Jacobites under Mackintosh of Borlum had marched south, joined Lord Kenmuir's lowland Jacobites and attempted to seize Dumfries. But learning that the town was strongly defended, he turned east. The Scots and English Jacobites, around 2,000 strong, met at Kelso on 24 October.

THE REBELS REBEL

Neither group were happy.

The Highlanders didn't want to leave Scotland: Forster did. He claimed that Lancashire would rise and that 20,000 men would join them. The Highlanders mutinied: muskets were loaded. It was agreed that they would make another attempt on Dumfries. They failed. Forster got agreement to advance into England. Most of the Highlanders deserted.



FORSTER'S TRIUMPH IN THE FELS

On 31 October Forster's army, now about 1,500 strong, marched south, avoiding Carlisle. On 2 November they were near Penrith. Lord Lonsdale had called out all able-bodied men, the *posse comitatus*, to support the militia company in blocking the rebels' route. The posse was armed with scythes, clubs and ancient muskets. On first sight of the rebels, the posse abandoned their positions. Forster’s Chaplin Reverend Robert Patten described them:

"...broke up with their camp in the utmost confusion, shifting everyone for themselves as well as they could, as he is generally the case of an armed but undisciplined multitude."

Ferguson in his History of Cumberland is equally blunt:

"... soon as the Highlanders appeared, the posse comitatus went away; in plain words, they skedaddled, leaving the two commanders and a few of their servants...It is said the prelate lost his wig, while shouting from the carriage window to his coachman to stop. "

In his diary Bishop Nicholson recorded only that:

"Nov. 2. I was eye-witness of our Posse's flight, and ye Rebels marching into Penrith."

THE LAST BATTLE ON ENGLISH SOIL?

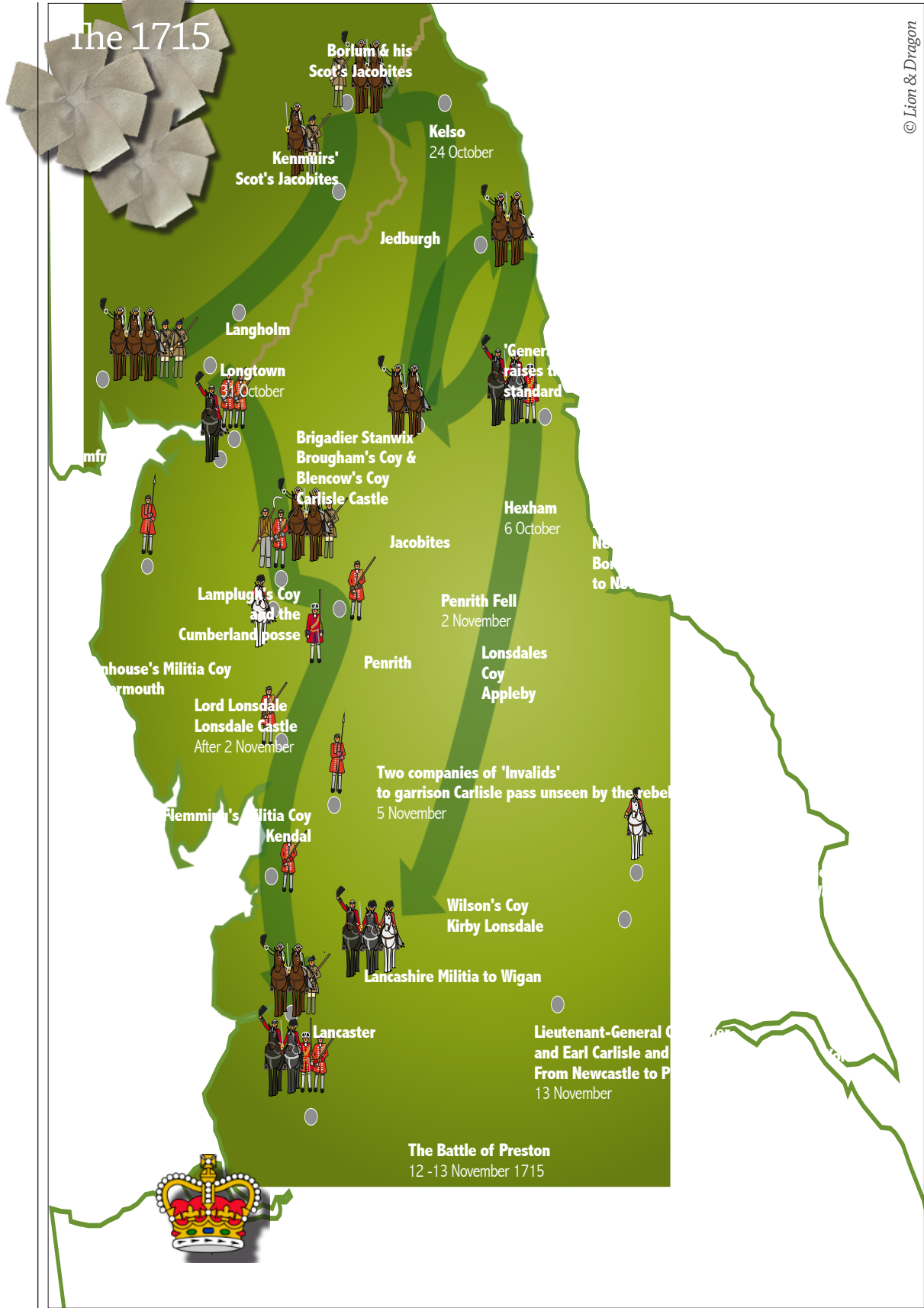
The Jacobites entered Penrith unopposed. The Militia had gone, but at least that denied the rebels their arms. The Jacobites continued south. They reached Preston on 11 November. The road to Manchester appeared open. But the next day General Wills' regulars, supported by the Lancashire Militia, arrived from Wigan.

The Jacobites barricaded themselves in the town. The battle had no elegant manoeuvring. Wills made a frontal attack through the streets of Preston. A day of street fighting followed, with Wills' troops suffering heavy casualties. Night fell, with the town lit up by the fires of burning buildings.

The day ended with Forster still holding Preston.

The next day , the 13th, General Carpenter arrived from Newcastle. Carpenter and Wills fell out over Wills frontal attack the previous day. Carpenter called it , "a rash attack, highly blameable, by loosing so many men to no purpose." But Forster was now surrounded. His line of retreat was blocked. He opted for surrender. Wills had lost 145 killed, with 131 wounded.

AFTERWARDS



In England Lord Kenmuir was executed, as were Government deserters, but most ordinary rebels were spared, although 600 were transported. In Scotland one man was executed and none transported. General Forster was taken to Newgate, but escaped. Forster ended his life as Steward of the Old Pretender's Household in France. A few days after the battle, Bishop Nicholson recorded,

"Nov. 19. At Carlile [sic], making Return to ye letter from ye Council but (chiefly) disbanding our militia..."

There was no glory on the battlefield for Cumbria's militia, given the number of men they could field and their poor

equipment that was no disgrace. Pikes? Most armies had abandoned them by the end of the previous century.

But the militia had scored some successes.

Carlisle Castle and its potential Jacobite leaders in the counties were secured for the Government. And Cumberland and Westmorland did not rise for the rebels.

The Editor

Cover picture

James III of England and James VIII Scotland, the 'Old Pretender', painted by Alexis-Simon Belle © The National Portrait Gallery London

Map

The roundabout journey of the Jacobites from Northumberland through The Borders to the Battle of Preston.

More information

Reid, Stuart 'Sheriffmuir 1715', Pen and Sword, 2014

Oates, Jonathan 'Battles of the Jacobite Rebellions', Pen and Sword, 2019

And the last battle on English soil?

Preston or Clifton Moor, Westmorland? Clifton Moor, fought on 18 December 1745 between the rearguard of the Young Pretender's army and Government cavalry is described by some sources as only a 'skirmish'.

Preston was certainly no skirmish. And the Penrith Fells? Not an engagement of any kind.



Captions

- 1. Lunch for Burma Company on St George's Day, Londonderry 1994
- 2. The formal handover of the first Saxons to KORBR, © Maurice Head
- 3. 'Operation Lionheart', 1984; 'Claughton', a Saxon from Chindit Company negotiates a German village.
- 4. Loading a Saxon into a Hercules © David Israel

If not credited the pictures are from 'Lions and Dragons', by Eastwood, published by Silver Link Publishing Ltd. The book is available from the Museum shop.



Name the names

As always we'd like to know names or stories behind the pictures we carry in 'The Lion & the Dragon', a quick email to <peter.castra@gmail.com> is all it takes to spill the beans. Discretion guaranteed.



Regimental vehicles - Saxon

David Allardice reflects on the GKN Sankey Saxon – FV AT-105E (Section Vehicle) and FV AT-105C (Command Vehicle)

Saxon was manufactured by GKN Sankey, formerly Alvis plc. Designed as a cheap, but efficient 'battle-taxi', it was based on the Bedford M Series 4x4 truck chassis, and powered by a Bedford 500 6-cylinder diesel engine that developed 164 bhp giving the vehicle a maximum speed of 96 kph (60 mph) and an operating range of some 510 km (320 miles).

The Section Variant carried 8/10 passengers and 2 crew. The vehicle weighed 10.6 tonnes, was 5.17 m (17 ft) long, 2.49 m (8 ft 2 in) wide and 2.63 m (8 ft 8 in) high. Saxon was operated by some 15 countries, including Iraq



and the Ukraine.

The 1st Battalion had three tours in Saxon. It was one of the first Infantry Battalions to be issued with Saxon in 1984.

Secondly, we joined 19th Mechanised Brigade in Colchester on completion of a two-year Residential Tour in Palace Barracks, Belfast in 1987.

Finally, the 1st Bn used the Northern Ireland Internal



Bn, notably HQ 19 (Mech) Bde. Many saw it as a wheeled equivalent of a tracked cross-country vehicle. It was not! I was ordered, at one stage, to move the Company into extended-line behind a squadron of Challenger main battle tanks to move across a deeply pitted area of Salisbury Plain Training Area.

NIGHTMARE

It was an absolute nightmare! Several vehicles from across the 1st Bn tipped over that day, fortunately without serious injury to the soldiers on-board.



If you considered Saxon as an armoured 4t Troop Carrying Vehicle, you would be closer to the mark. Saxon offered speedy tactical mobility across theatres of operation, delivering Infantry soldiers in good order to operate dismounted.

ARMoured TAXI

Saxon was designed to deliver formed units from the UK to the British Army of the Rhine by road. With that in mind, I believe it met its remit.

It had good ballistic and anti-blast protection. The former, better than Warrior before it was necessarily up-armoured. In the latter case, the 'V' shaped hull could deflect blast and therefore reduce damage to the crew from mines.

The CV was a well thought out vehicle. Radios were accessible. Sloping map boards were easy to use, and it had a great deal of stowage space for the crew. The automatic gearbox allowed the vehicle to move quickly and very quietly on roads, particularly motorways.

But then, I never drove one!

Security (IS) variant whilst based in Londonderry in 1994.

I have it in mind that it was originally an Alvis private venture to produce an IS vehicle to replace the Humber 1 Ton 4x4 'Pig' for service in Northern Ireland.

MY EXPERIENCE

I commanded a Saxon Company and was lucky enough to have the benefit of a Saxon Command Vehicle. If memory serves, I had 12 Section Variants, my CV and the services of the Company REME Recovery Saxon ARV from the LAD when required, but good old Cpl Thompson always kept my fleet on the road.

The main problem I had with Saxon was the lack of understanding about its tactical handling by more senior officers outside the



THEIR OWN HORSES

Ted Carter, a former member of the King's Own Royal Border Regiment casts his eye over Cumbria's cavalry.

A Government bill of March 1794 authorised the raising of troops of volunteer cavalry, to deal with the increasing civil unrest that was sweeping the country and fears of a French-style revolution.

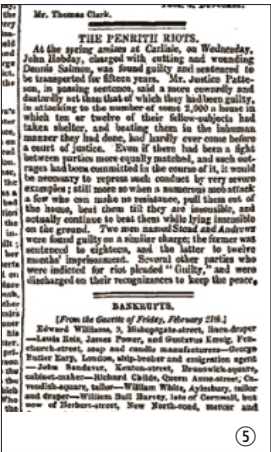
PENRITH

Westmorland responded. In 1819 The Carlisle Journal reported in October that it was intended to raise a corps of yeomanry in Penrith. Despite having troops in both Westmorland and Cumberland originally, they were known as the Westmorland Yeomanry.

Their first Commanding Officer was the Honourable Henry Cecil Lowther, second son of the first Earl of Lonsdale. The troops were

Each unit was responsible for supplying their own horses and uniforms, Scarlet Jacket, Skiddaw grey trews and bell topped shako headdress which later changed to a short busby as worn by today's Royal Horse Artillery, some purchased by the Officers and sometimes by donations and money raised from within the district.

UPPER CRUST



Captions

- 1. A Sergeant, Westmorland and Cumberland Yeomanry, 1847 © The Yeomanry Museum, Dalemain, Penrith
- 2. Yeomanry Officers, Major, the Hon Henry Lowther, later the Third Lord Lonsdale who commanded the regiment 1870-76 is front row third from the left.
- 3. & 4. Front and rear view of a Full Dress jacket.
- 5. 'The Northern Star and Leeds General Advertiser', 1846, report on the court case that followed the railway navy riots at Penrith. Unlike 'Peterloo' in 1819, the Westmorland & Cumberland Yeomanry helped bring the 1846 riots to a peaceful conclusion.

Yeomanry Book

There's more about the Westmorland and Cumberland Yeomanry in 'Better by far a Cumberland Hussar', by Colin Bardgett, Hayloft Publishing, Paperback £16.95 and hardback £26.95 . They are available mail order from 'Bookends', Castle Street, Carlisle or phone 01228 529067 or email bookscumbria@aol.com

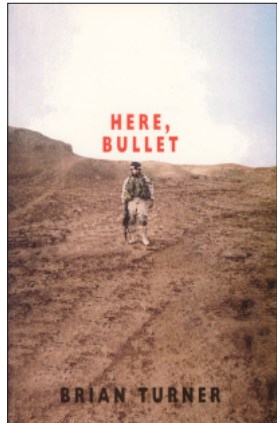


[To be continued]



## Book shelf

New books or ones that you may have missed. They can be ordered from 'Bookcases', Castle Street, Carlisle. 01228 529067



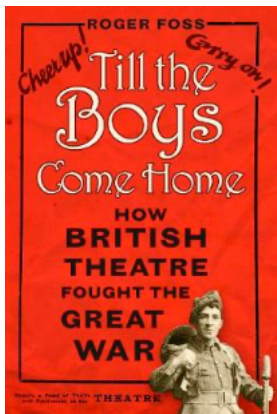
**Here, Bullet**  
**Brian Turner**  
**Bloodaxe Books**  
**£9.95**

War Poetry didn't stop with the First World War. 'Here, Bullet' is a first-hand account of the Iraq Wars by Brian Turner who served in Bosnia and Iraq. His poetry is powerful and times extremely depressing.

If you have never thought of reading poetry give this book a try. Like the Museum's 'Blood, sweat and tears' exhibition this is helps understand what The Duke of Lancaster's went through in Afghanistan

It describes the devastating and surreal reality of everyday life and death for soldiers and civilians through the eyes of a man who served.

The poems in 'Here, Bullet' are full of pity for the occupants of Iraq, while at the same time remaining on full alert to the likely moment "when a twelve-year-old rolls a grenade into the room."



**Roger Foss**  
**The History Press**  
**£14.99**

Ever since the signing of the Armistice in 1918, theatre has played an important part in reflecting the experience of the 'war to end all wars'. But on the Home Front, what role did those involved with British theatre play during those tumultuous four years and three months?

Till the Boys Come Home salutes British theatre in wartime, when theatres became powerful generators for escapism, for stirring patriotism, for sharing experiences of loss and joy – and for raising vast amounts of charity money. It brings to life a Britain where theatre-going peaked in popularity, yet became full of the curious contradictions bred by war.

Richly illustrated with original programmes, posters and ephemera, author and critic Roger Foss reveals a theatrical powerhouse, where all sections of the profession – from grand Shakespearian knights to lowly concert party artistes – were doing their bit, both at home and on the front line.



## History's waiting room

Extracts from original copies of 'The Lion and the Dragon', in this case from March 1966.

### THE TERRITORIAL ARMY REORGANISATION

The focus at present is on at territorial battalions. The decisions as to their future or in the Parliamentary melting pot and much speculation and official information have been digested.

All that can be said for certain is that a major overhaul of the territorial Army-its roles, its organisation and its administration-is under way. By the autumn the fundamental decisions should be firm and the new shape of these integral components of the Regiment should have emerged.

### 4TH BATTALION THE BORDER REGIMENT (TA)

In July, Battalion Headquarters and "HQ" company marched into Carlisle Castle to take possession of the newly renovated Ypres block. General Birkbeck formally accepted the block from the chairman of the Territorial Association, Colonel J D Hopkinson DSO, TD. This ended many years of arguing for which we thank our protagonists

### THE BORDER REGIMENT MUSEUM

In September RHQ (I) received a visit from a Mr R J Carruthers whose grandfather, Pte. J Carruthers, took the Russian Double-headed eagle trophy now in the museum, on the evacuation of Sevastopol in 1855.

The Long Service and Good Conduct Medal and the Frontier Medal and Clasp for Bhootan of the late Pte. John Kelly were presented in December last... He enlisted on February 7 1859 in spite of the fact that he was only 10 years old.

## Letters to the Editor

We are always pleased to have comments, corrections, brickbats or even praise.

### MORE ON BEDFORDS

David's piece on Bedfords was very informative, but he did not include the work horse for UK Roled (Home Defence or Internal Security) Battalions both regular and TA, the Bedford TK.

This had a similar body configuration to the RL but no off-road (4 X 4) capability. It made any off highway driving very difficult and caused much pushing and shoving to keep them going since many training areas were accessed via fields or at best cart tracks. They only had civilian lights so cab light went on when the driver opened the door, brake lights went on when foot brake applied & no convoy lights available when we were expected to move at night off road. A large quantity of bulbs were therefore used. They are partially responsible for the new stonework in the Carlisle Castle archway !

They were exceedingly uncomfortable and cold to travel in the back. To maintain numbers for winter training we used to hire coaches when we could because several hours travel after a full day or shift at work would give even the toughest soldier second thoughts. Remember we didn't have the luxury of foul weather gear. Or even waterproofs until much later.

Hopelessly under powered, even with a diesel engine, carrying a platoon, they belched out black foul smelling fumes which were drawn into the back of the Bedford adding to the unpleasantness of the journey.

I wonder if the MAN is any better?

Major Nigel Lewis (Rtd)  
4th Bn Kings Own Royal Border Regiment

## Index

A miscellany of military history from all periods and from all countries.

### NATO COMPETITION

Nick Gower, former KORBR, dug out his old copies of 'The Glider' newsletter. 'Glider' was produced by the battalion during its 1989 Omagh tour.

Included were such gems as the winner of the competition for the 'Ugliest man in NATO' and the strange event of a cow that dropped dead on sighting a KORBR patrol.

### CHEAP BEER



Museum's collection.

### HEROINES GET HAPPY

*"... At present, indeed, they were well supplied both with news and happiness by the recent arrival of a militia regiment in the neighbourhood..."*

Jane Austin, 'Pride and Prejudice'

### UNLIKELIEST QUOTATIONS

*"One of the most beautiful things about Britain, apart from the NHS and the free education, is the British Army."*

John Lydon *aka* 'Johnny Rotten', 'The Sex Pistols', BBC Question Time, 6 July 2012.

*"...my two years of National Service has done me far more good than my three as an undergraduate, my eight at school and 20 on my knees in church."*

Brian Sewel, art critic and 2nd Lieutenant RASC

## Still serving

News from the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment, our successor regiment, and the local Cadet Force

### DUKE OF LANCASTER'S COVID-19 FACE MASKS



The Regiment is now selling Regimental face masks for £3.75 each plus p&p. They are reusable and machine washable at 30°C.

Order online by email to <rhqlancsshop@gmail.com>. Please allow 7 days for delivery, you will be sent an invoice with details of how to pay.

### 4 LANCS AWARDS

WO2 Edmondson 4



LANCS, was awarded the Lord-Lieutenant of Cumbria's, 'Commendation for Reserves' 2019/20.

LCpl Turner of A Coy 4 LANCS, was awarded the Deputy Commander Field Army's coin by Maj Gen Celia Harvey. The award, was for LCpl Turner's outstanding performance over the past 4 years

### NEW CADET RSM



Lucy Charlton is the new Cadet RSM of Cumbria ACF. Lucy is at Nelson Tomlinson School, Wigton is currently doing her A levels . She hopes to join her brothers in the army after she finishes her Nursing training.

## Museum, Friends and Reenactors

News from those who proudly support our heritage.

### CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

The Museum is open. We are working in partnership with English Heritage to ensure the whole Castle and Museum is Covid secure.



### NEW NORMAL

Pre-booked visits by ticket only - we are offering a joint ticket to visit the Castle and our Museum - available through the English Heritage web site.

Friends need to book, though of course access is free.

We are opening 7 days a week, 10:00am - 5:00pm (Last Admission 3:00pm)

John Watts' cafe will open between 12:00am and 4:00pm to provide teas and coffees, with limited indoor seating, but takeaway options.

The main gallery will be open with social distancing in operation

If you have any special requirements or something specific to the museum please phone 01228 532774, email enquiries@cmoml.org or contact us on social media. Our friendly team are ready to help!

### SCAN THIS TO ACCESS THE BOOKING SITE

Scan this with a QR scanner on your mobile phone to go directly to the English Heritage web site at Carlisle Castle for tickets.



### 'THE LION & THE DRAGON' QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

The results are in. Our readers are roughly half history enthusiasts (51%) and half veterans (45%).

A third had visited the Museum more than twice in the last 12 months.

Overall you are very happy with the content and with the frequency of publication.

93% wanted the newsletter to be published as it is now, quarterly.

You are happy with our content. Only 'Bookshelf' had a significant number of people wanting to see less of it (10%) , but that was balanced by 12% wanting more! And 78% who thought that we had it about right. Overall every section scored 90% or above for wanting the same or more amount of content

We had one request for more articles about family life, which is one of the Editors' ambitions too, the problem is sources. If you have an idea for any article please get in touch.

Two readers commented on the paper we print on. This is high quality, which allows us to use the Newsletter to promote the Friends, since back numbers stay in great condition. But in any case our print run is so small that to make any substantial savings we would have to go for light-weight paper that would not reproduce images.

Finally, thank you for the very supportive messages that were included in the replies.

### JOIN THE FRIENDS

There are a range of options to becoming a supporter of Cumbria's Museum of Military Life. You can join at the Museum or online at the Museum site.



### COUSINS IN HERITAGE

There are several groups of reenactors who research our regiments. We hope to build closer links with them – our cousins in heritage.

### 34TH REGIMENT OF FOOT, USA - 1770's



The 34th provided advice for women wanting to represent female followers of the British Army, as part of an online session for loyalists.

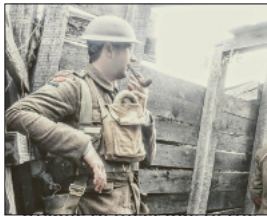
### 55TH REGIMENT OF FOOT, USA - 1757-1783

The 55th have been helping the Editor in his research into the 55th as one of the earliest British regiments to adopt light infantry tactics.

### SPANISH REENACTORS

The pandemic has prevented Spanish reenactors meeting. There are two groups with links to the 34th Foot. **Miquelets de Catalunya** who re-enact the militia that fought alongside the 34th Foot in Catalonia in the 1700's and the **34th The Border Regiment Arroyomolinos** who reenact the 2nd Battalion 34th Foot at the time of what we call the battle of Arroyo dos Molinos.

### TWENTIETH CENTURY REENACTORS



virus, both **Border Regiment Great War Living group** (2 Border 1914-18) in the USA and **History Border Regiment Living History** (1 Border 1944) in The Netherlands, have been sharing pictures of past events, see above.

## Diary

Sadly at present, events are subject to cancellation or postponement due to the Covid-19 situation. Please check the Museum web site for updates.

### 21 September, Monday 1230 hrs

Veterans Lunch Club, the Museum



### 13 October, Tuesday 1830 hrs

Talk at the Museum, "The 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain: remembering the Polish contribution, Max Loth-Hill

### 19 October Monday 1230 hrs

Veterans Lunch Club, the Museum

### 24 October, Saturday Arroyo Weekend

Regimental celebration and veterans reunion. Details to follow.

### 10 November, Tuesday 1830 hrs

Talk at the Museum, the 'Hawthorne Crater uncovered', Fiona Graham and Paul Ottey

### 16 November, Monday 1230 hrs

Veterans Lunch Club, the Museum

### 14 December, Monday 1230 hrs

Veterans Lunch Club, the Museum



### Carlisle Military Festival 2021

**5 June, Saturday, The Museum and 'Bookends', Castle Street**

The first 'Carlisle Military Festival'. Talks by authors, displays and evening reception. Details to follow.



## Our Heritage

Cumbria's military heritage includes 'Trained Bands', Militia, the Yeomanry, Volunteers and Territorials, as well as the regular battalions.

Our modern regiments are linked to the past through Carlisle Castle. In 1782 it became the home of the 34th Foot or 'Cumberland Regiment' and retained its regimental connections until 2019.

The regiment that became the 34th Foot was raised in Essex in 1702, as Robert, Lord Lucas's Regiment. It served in Spain and Flanders during the War of Spanish Succession

From the mid 18C regiments ceased being known by their colonel's name, and became known by their number.

The 55th Foot were raised in 1755 by Charles Perry Esquire. They were originally the 57th Foot, but when two lower numbered regiments were disbanded in the summer of 1756, they became the 55th Foot.

In 1782, the 55th Foot were given the territorial title 'Westmorland Regiment'.

The 34th were combined with the 55th in 1881 to form 'The Border Regiment'. The Cumberland and Westmorland Militia and the Volunteers were re-organised as the Special Reserve and Territorial Force battalions of the Border Regiment in 1908.

The King's Own Royal Regiment (Lancaster) joined the Border Regiment to become the King's Own Royal Border Regiment in 1959.

In 2006 the King's Own Royal Border Regiment were merged with other regiments to create 'The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment'.



34th Foot button, late 18C



King's Own Royal Border Regiment, Officer's cap badge, Number 2 Uniform, 1959-2006

## Lest we forget

Events, distinctions and memorials of our local regiments and their men.

### 12 September, 1943 Taranto, Italy 'Operation Slapstick'

1 Border land at Taranto, with the rest of 1 Airborne Division. Their task is to secure ports on the Adriatic coast of Italy. The battalion are later attached to 4th Armoured Brigade and seize the airfield sites at Foggia.



the War. It was the first time the British Army had used gas. The initial attack secured their objectives, but supply and communications problems prevented the breakthrough from being exploited.



### 29 October 1914, Rest in Peace

Private Christopher John Rivers 2nd Battalion Border Regiment, 486430, aged 23, from Southend-on-Sea. Mentioned in despatches. Buried in Harlebeke New British Cemetery, Belgium.

Picture © 2020 Find a Grave

### 5 November 1854, Private Thomas Beach, 55th Foot, Inkerman, Crimea

"For conspicuous gallantry in the battle of Inkerman when on picket, in attacking

several Russians who were plundering Lieutenant Colonel Carpenter of the 41st Regt who was lying wounded on the ground. He killed two of the Russians and protected Lieutenant Colonel Carpenter until the arrival of some of the 41st Regt."

**10 November 1813, Nivelle, France, 34th Foot**  
Wellington defeated Soult who was trying to protect the French border with Spain. After the battle Wellington established his army in France.



### 20 November 2, 1917, Sergeant Charles Edward Spackman, 1st Border, Marcoing, France

"For most conspicuous bravery when in action. The leading company was checked by heavy fire of a machine gun mounted in a position which covered the approaches. The ground was absolutely devoid of cover of any description.

Sergeant Spackman realizing the situation, and seeing it was impossible for troops to advance, went through the fire to attack the gun. Working forward gradually, he succeeded in killing all but one of the gun crew. He then rushed the gun and captured it single handed, thereby enabling the company to advance. He set a fine example of courage and devotion to his men."

## Contacts

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Check web site for opening times due to the virus.



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