

The Lion & the Dragon

Celebrating the past whilst championing the future

Autumn 2022

The Magazine of
Cumbria's Museum of
Military Life, published by
the Friends of the
Museum.



CUMBRIA'S
MUSEUM OF
MILITARY LIFE



£1 Free to Members



Birth of a battalion

IN August 1914 The Border Regiment had five battalions. By September it had nine. The new battalions were raised under Lord Kitchener's plan to create an army that could handle the unprecedented demands of modern Continental warfare.

THE autumn of 1914 saw the Ninth Battalion billeted in Sussex, part of 66th Infantry Brigade, 22nd Division; a member of the third of Kitchener's New armies.

THE Battalion's War Diary only starts in August 1915 and so we are dependent on one personal diary, that of Captain Stott, newspapers and other personal records for descriptions of the period before this.

CARLISLE AND MINERS

THE battalion was raised at Carlisle in September 1914. It contained a mix of men from Cumberland and Westmorland, and County Durham, where there were too many volunteers that the Durham Light Infantry could handle. In 1914 the loss

of coal exports to Germany led to many pits in Durham being shut and men laid-off. Patriotism was certainly a factor for miners to enlist, but it was combined with a need for employment.

ONE miner, Private Walton enlisted at Deaf Hill in County Durham. He was accepted for the Durham Light Infantry on Friday 4 September. The next day Walton was sent with others to Sunderland and then put on another train, before arriving in Carlisle that night.

"Hundreds of us were put on the train and arrived at Carlisle late on Saturday night. On Sunday we had a surprise when they told us we were in the Border Regiment."

SHORTAGES

CONDITIONS for all of the new battalions were poor. The influx of recruits often with insufficient accommodation for



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'ENDEX'
'Lest we forget'

SITREP

IN May the Mayor of Eastbourne formerly unveiled the refurbished gravestone of Harlequin, the mascot of 9BORDER. Thank you again to the many people who contributed to the cost of the work. And thank you to our new friends at the World's oldest croquet club - The Compton Club, Eastbourne - where Harlequin is buried.

A few weeks later and the Jubilee Bank Holiday saw the Museum surrounded by French Napoleonic Grenadiers, 1BORDER in its airborne guise, vehicles and British 18C troops, whilst inside historians talked about their research. It was wonderful to have former KORBR Officer, Brigadier Mallinson, back home at our first Military Festival.

AND thank you Jules Wooding and the team for going the extra mile to ensure the Festival's success. Next year's Festival will be 3 & 4 June. Get it in your diary!

Peter Green

The tragic case of a former officer in the Battalion - Captain Gorges

In July 1915 Captain Gorges, was arrested at Hampstead on suspicion of murdering Detective Constable Young of the Metropolitan Police.

Young had been trying to serve a warrant alleging that Gorges had indulged “in illegal sexual practices.” Gorges was gay and had been discharged from Thorneycroft’s Mounted Infantry for sodomy in 1900.

At his trial the Court was told that Gorges had served in the Boer War, but had given up his commission in the 9th Battalion The Border Regiment in January 1915, blaming headaches and a drinking problem. He told the court that he had been depressed “as he could not go out to France.” He had played in the Border’s wining football team at Eastbourne.

Gorges was convicted of manslaughter, the jury accepting that he had not meant to shoot Detective Young; it had been tragic accident.

Gorges was released from Parkhurst in 1925. He died in London in 1944 under a Tube train and was buried in a public grave at St Pancras Cemetery. The cemetery records show him as 69 and of no fixed abode.

them was combined with an acute shortage of officers and NCOs. Once men were in barracks there continued to be problems. Thomas Sloan, 9BORDER, sat down for breakfast the first time at Carlisle, to find one bowl was provided for 12 men to drink from.

“there was an old tramp at our table who got it first. We simply could not drink after him, but I must say it wasn’t long before we made sure that tramp was last.”

THE shortage of officers and NCOs led to retired men being called back to the Colours. 9BORDER left Carlisle on 14th September for Lewes in the south of England with no officers. The men were under the command of Sergeant Major Cuthbertson. It was three days before Major George Browne, from Border Regiment Officers’ Reserve took command. But not all the officers were from the North, on 3 October 1914 the Eastbourne Chronicle reported that Alfred Hillman of 47 Enys Road Eastbourne had been:

“appointed to a 2nd lieutenancy in the 9th Battalion, the Border Regiment”.

IRONICALLY by Christmas 1914 the battalion would be billeted a few hundred yards from Enys Road .

BILETTED IN LEWES

LEWES was full of new soldiers. At one stage that Autumn the town held almost 10,000 new recruits. The men were billeted in the Town Hall, old Workhouse, school halls, drill halls as well as under canvas. Lewes was always intended to be a staging post for the battalions that would make up the new 22nd Division. Their permanent home was to be a new camp at Seaford, 10 miles away. The Eastbourne Chronicle :*“The training of the 22nd division of Lord Kitchener ‘s Army now encamped at Seaford is progressing in a smooth and businesslike manner that reflects great credit upon all concerned. Every part of the complex military machine is running easily and reliably and the final outcome of which work cannot fail to be satisfactory.*

“The greater part of the camp is situated in the large open spaces on each side of Sutton Avenue. Here about 10 battalions are located.

Five other battalions are quartered in the fields opposite the cemetery. Assuming that each battalion is at war strength namely about 1,000 number the total number of men is over 17,000. During the winter the men will be housed in huts. Several hundreds of the structures measuring 80' x 20' are being erected on Mr Gorringe’s land at Chyngton.”

THE paper reported that many of the men were still in civilian clothes, whilst others were wearing blue serge suits, a little like Postmen, but with Glengarry caps. Khaki was still relatively rare.

FIRST CASUALTY

IT was whilst at Seaford that the battalion suffered its first casualty. Private Jacob Higgins drowned whilst swimming in the sea at Seaford. Higgins was 39, he had enlisted on September 6 and arrived at Seaford on September 29. He had been a miner, employed Trimdon colliery, Durham, and left a wife and a child.

THE coroner:

“...on behalf of the jury and himself, expressed sympathy with the widow, and regretted the loss which the regiment as sustained by the death of one of its members, whose record was good and who is far as they knew at the making of a good soldier.”

JACOB Higgins was buried with military honours in Seaford Cemetery.

THE Battalion were not to spend long at Seaford. Heavy rain made the tents uninhabitable. At the end of October the



battalion marched across the wind and rain swept South Downs to Eastbourne to continue their basic training. The regimental headquarters was at Saffrons sports ground, with men billeted around the Meads area of the town. They joined Welsh and Lancashire units of Kitchener’s Army in Eastbourne, turning the rather up-market seaside resort into a garrison town.

THE Chronicle reported that the men to be seen in Eastbourne were:

“Fine hardy man who certainly look none the worse for the unpleasant experiences on the canvas; in fact, appearances would seem to indicate that they have actually physically benefited in spite of the rain sodden ground which had been churned into a quagmire by the constant traffic.”

STOTT’s description of their early days in Eastbourne is less rosy:

“Discipline soon began to show signs of wear and tear. Billets were in many cases far apart, which rendered it difficult to keep track of people off parade.”

THE answer was to send the defaulters back to Seaford to help complete the camp.

THE identity and make-up of the Battalion caused the Eastbourne Chronicle difficulties.

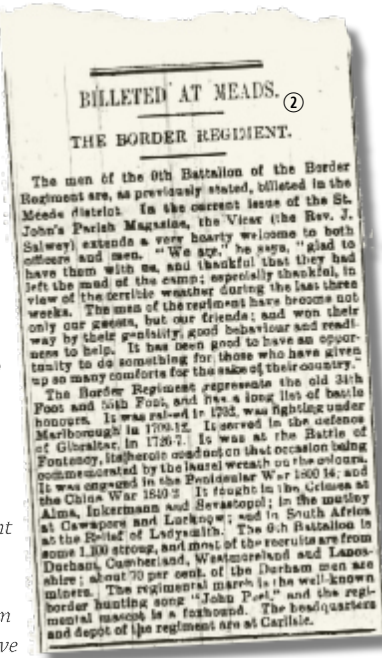
“The regiment located at Meads is not as has been stated, the South Wales Borderers, but is the 34th The Borderer (sic) Regiment which consists of Northumbrians and Scotsmen.”

BUGLE AND FOXHOUND

THE Eastbourne Gazette had no such problems. Under the headline “Interesting Presentations at the Saffrons” the Gazette for 16 December described the battalion being drawn up in front of the cricket pavilion. The square was of course roped off. The Gazette reported that the recruits came from:

“...Durham Cumberland Lancashire and West Midlands. About 70% of the Durham men are miners.”

THE Gazette then went on to describe Sergeant Drummer Seed, the Colonel’s bugler, being presented with a silver bugle by the wife of the Colonel. The bugle is on display at the Museum. A foxhound¹ was then led forward by one of



the men. Colonel Browne introduced the dog:

“...a foxhound which has been given as a mascot by Mr J E Rogerson master of the North Durham Foxhounds. There is a collar on the dog – a very handsome collar which has been presented by Miss Watson, a lady who is well known to men of Durham. This hound at present is looking rather sorry for himself, but I hope he will be happier when he gets to know us well. He will be led by the Bugler at the head of the Regiment and will, I hope, bring us luck.”

“The Border Regiment marched past to the quick step (sic) of John Peel, which was most appropriate.”

SADLY two months later Harlequin was run over by a motor car and killed. His grave is close to Compton Place Road on the edge of Compton Croquet Club.

TRAINING

THROUGHOUT January and February local papers mention 9 Border in sporting contexts. The battalion won Brigade Cross Country races, football matches and took part in boxing tournaments. The Eastbourne Chronicle again:

“These Borders are distinguishing themselves in the way of sport. They are Champion Cross Country runners, the Champion Soccer footballers and I am told they are champions of a good many things besides.”

IN March the Chronicle reported on a training course run for part of the Battalion in February:

“The value of observation in war In it’s issue of the 13th inst, The Field published extracts from a lecture given by request by Mr Frederick G Cook, Assoc. Mech. Inst. C.E., to two platoons of the Border Regiment on the 16th ult. ...”

CAPTAIN Stott’s diary

“...we drilled and marched and attacked anything and everything. The lighthouse on the cliffs was our chief enemy. It was assaulted in mass, in blob formation, not infrequently in no formation at all, from each and every side but the cliffs.”

THEN in March the Battalion left Eastbourne for Maidstone, in Kent.

PIONEERS

THE Battalion had become the Divisional Pioneer battalion in February. Pioneers Battalions were elite units. Their men paid tuppence a day more than line infantry and expected to dig, demolish and build roads, as well as fight. The Battalion’s large number of former Durham Miners made them ideal for their new role The Regimental history describes them as being given the role because of the skill they showed at trenching whilst at Eastbourne.

AT Maidstone the battalion practiced the creation of complex defences. From Wrotham north along the North Downs over-looking the River Medway, a system of strong

points and permanent trenches was constructed both for training by new battalions and as a defence for London.

“In order to save the dashing smartness of the khaki we now had, we were served out with white canvas working suits . Such an opportunity was too good to be lost by the battalion wits. When the first company so to be dressed appeared on battalion parade, there were loud, resonant cries of “Milk oh!”

SEAFORD AGAIN

WHEN their time in Kent was up the Battalion marched back from Maidstone. They took two days to cover the 45 miles. And when the battalion returned to Seaford they were pleased to find that the tents had been replaced by huts, though these were not necessarily of the highest quality.

“Forty men was the alleged capacity of each hut. But by the time folks had dodged the leaks in one and the draughts in another, the numbers daily showed fluctuations that departed very largely from that criterion.”

ALDERSHOT



BY June the Battalion had moved to Aldershot and were in tents on Watts Common. Now it was Divisional training. The Battalion marched, built bridges and on one occasion provided an honour guard for a visiting Royal party. Stott remembers them singing as they marched.

“We are a sample of the Border Boys. We are the boys to make a row. We know our manners, Our threepenny-bits and tanners . We are respected wherever we may go. And when we march along the high-way road, Doors and windows open wide. We know how to use our feet! We are the Border Boys!

INDIAN ARMY COLONEL

‘PIONEER Infantry’ battalions had been an Indian Army development. And the Battalion would go to France with a former Indian Army Pioneer officer as its Colonel. Lieutenant-Colonel H F Cooke, was a former officer in 32nd Bengal Infantry (Pioneers). He had served on the North West Frontier, including being present at the Relief of Chitral in 1898. He had also completed the Indian Army Staff Course. Later in the year, when the Division was in Salonika, he was promoted to command of the 67th Infantry Brigade.

ACTIVE SERVICE

THE Battalion were preparing to go to France, but the War was becoming more complicated with fighting spreading to Gallipoli and the Near East. The Battalion left for France in September, but spent less than two months there before being sent to Salonica in October. They would stay in Salonica until the end of the War.

The Editor

Captions

Cover: Recruits from an unidentified unit billeted at the Work House, Lewes in October 1914. Typical of new units in Lewes in 1914, including 9BORDER, the men don’t have uniforms, though some have caps. © Edward Reeves Photography, Lewes.

Cover inset: The original Kitchener recruiting poster © IWM Art.IWM

1. Central Eastbourne, with Saffrons sports ground, part of the Meads area.

2. The Eastbourne Gazette records the arrival of 9BORDER in the town.

3. Trench system on North Downs. It combined defending London with a training exercise. Royal Engineers Collection.

4. The Battalion’s camp at Watts Common, Aldershot. Stott Collection © Cumbria’s Museum of Military Life

5. A bridge built by the Battalion over the Basingstoke Canal. Most of the men are wearing their white working suits. Stott Collection © Cumbria’s Museum of Military Life

Notes

¹ The unveiling of Harlequin’s refurbished grave is covered in the News section on page7

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

"We honour and care for the men and women of the Commonwealth who died in the First and Second World Wars, ensuring they will never be forgotten. Funded by six Member Governments, our work began more than a century ago building cemeteries at 23,000 locations all over the world.

Since our establishment, we have constructed 2,500 war cemeteries and plots, and we have erected headstones over more than a million burials at military and civil sites across the world. For individuals who have no known grave, we have built memorials to the missing as places of commemoration. Despite this enormous global effort, largely completed in the aftermath of the two world wars, this work continues today as we alter or construct new sites where we find our job is not yet complete.

The founders of the IWGC were determined that all the men and women of the British Empire who fell on the former battlefields of the First World War, on land and at sea, should be commemorated equally. The CWGC takes great pride in the principles that drove this work, which said that the organisation would not differentiate between the dead on the grounds of social or military rank, or by religion."



Poppies from Kendal

A local connection to remembering those who have fallen for their country. The editor talked to James Cropper Plc.

EVERY year over 45 million red paper flowers are produced as a symbolic gesture of remembrance for fallen soldiers. The paper comes from Kendal.

THE common poppy, Papaver rhoeas, thrives in rich soils such as the grimly scorched earth of the World War One battlefields. Remembrance poppies have been worn since 1921, the year the Royal British Legion was founded.

A HUNDRED YEARS OF COLLABORATION ORIGINALLY made from silk, today's memorial poppy is made of paper, using both traditional and modern-day techniques.

TODAY, the poppy starts its life at a 176-year-old paper mill owned by James Cropper Plc, in Burneside, near Kendal. James Cropper has been producing 'poppy paper' for over 40 years, though the mill began papermaking much earlier, in 1845.

"We recognise the value of the relationship and the quality which we both achieve in our businesses. We have taken our fibre management expertise, belief in innovation and focus on sustainability, to create new business alongside craftsman-led papermaking," notes Phil Wild, CEO of Cropper PLC.

JAMES Cropper's new businesses include Technical

MY family and I have been posted to Izmir, Turkey since October 2021. My husband, Paul, and our eldest son, Maxwell are both interested in military history so it will come as no surprise that a trip to Gallipoli, or Çanakkale as the Turks call it, was high on our list of places to visit, especially as 1 Border (Paul was KORBR before the amalgamations) landed at Cape Helles in April 1915.

off ANZAC beach (the intense heat of the summer and the different perspective on the area occupied by the ANZACs brought home the difficulties they faced), and the sheer number of war graves from all nationalities involved (I felt sorry for Lt Col Doughty-Wylie (Royal Welsh Fusilier) as his is the only British grave that stands alone, buried where he fell).

PAUL and I returned a

A poignant family holiday at Gallipoli

Karen Blakesley describes a family holiday with sad links to the Regiment's past.



GALLIPOLI is a five and a half hour drive from Izmir; discussions between Paul and Maxwell about the events that led up to the fighting, the strategic, operational and tactical decisions made, and the lessons learned helped pass the time and deepen my knowledge of the campaign.

WE spent almost 3 full days exploring Gallipoli; I would advise anyone to do it in Spring or Autumn as August was unbearably hot (but it did give an idea of what the soldiers endured). Visiting the amazing Gallipoli Epic Simulation Center and Museum, and the original forts either side of the 'The Narrows' (Kilid Bahr and Chanak), along with the main landing beaches and the Allied Memorial at Cape Helles point is essential.

HEAT AND HELLES POIGNANT moments for me were paddle-boarding just



few months later to dive the WW1 wrecks of HMT Lundy and Louis, the poor visibility that day, due to a storm, only added to the experience.

Karen Blakesley



Pigeons of the Airborne

The Editor talks to Stephen Glencross of the 'Animals in War Group'

THE Editor was intrigued by the post-mortem by Lieutenant Colonel R J Moberly, Officer Commanding the Division's Signals during Operation Husky in the War Diary of the 1st Airborne Division. Moberly's report included a section on the Army Pigeon Service (APS). Sadly the use of pigeons in Sicily was not a success.

PRINCESS ELIZABETH HELPED STEPHEN Glencross of the Animals in War group in Cumbria and a pigeon fancier himself, was the obvious person to turn to learn more about the Army Pigeon Service. "The people who made up the army pigeon service were pigeon fanciers themselves or learned from pigeon fanciers within the forces," he explained.

"PIGEON people donated there best birds for war service, including some really top fanciers from all over the country. Princess Elizabeth had a pigeon called 'Royal Blue' which won the Dickin

medal for gallantry." The Dickin Medal is the Animals VC.

THE birds should have come from two mobile lofts that the APS established at Souse. But there were problems with these birds. There was not enough time to establish the lofts. The birds were not used to crossing open water – they had not been 'sea tossed'.

Stephen explained this meant that "the pigeons had not trained off ships being liberated at short distances then a bit longer away so forth." Stephen knew of one pigeon called 'Princess' that flew near 500 miles from a ship in distress."

MALTA BIRDS OWING to problems with the APS birds in North Africa, the 18 birds were used by the Division for Operation Husky came from Malta. The Air Landing Brigade had six birds to use on the operation. Unfortunately all the birds were drowned when the

gliders carrying them landed in the sea. The remaining 12 were to be used by 2nd Parachute Brigade, but their operation was cancelled, these birds were then taken by 1 Parachute Brigade for Operation Marston, the assault on Primosole Bridge.

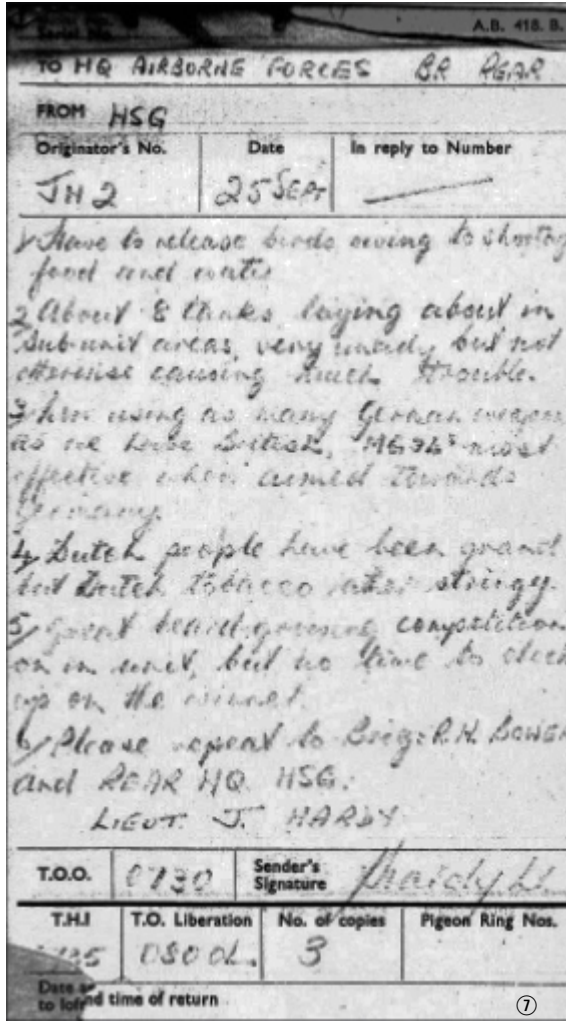
SIGNALS REPORT THE Report in the War Diary continued

"The pigeons were dropped in two 6 bird multi-containers, with separate parachutes, a method which makes the finding of the containers very difficult owing to drift and the absence of container lights. The more usual method of dropping single bird containers on the main was not adopted because the Brigade Signal Officer did not consider there was time to train for that method, One multi-container was never found, and the birds from the other were liberated, for some reason without messages. Whether or not any reached Malta is not known."

THE report concluded "For Airborne Operations well established pigeons from fixed lofts within reasonable range of the operations are essential. There limited use, to supplement wireless, could be of great value."

STEPHEN is clear in his mind that pigeons played a significant role in WW2. "There was a local bird, 'Tommy', that flew from Holland back to its owner Mr Brockelbank in Dalton in Furness and won the Dickin Medal. There is a commemorative plaque in Dalton to remember this pigeon."

PIGEONS played a significant part in WW2. They were used to send reports on the Heavy Water Plant in Norway, the V1 and V2s in Peenemünde, by the French Resistance and by 1 Border at Arnhem. And the Museum has this message from Signals Platoon on 25 September 1944 sent by pigeon.



- Captions
- 1 & 2. Cape Helles memorial, Turkey
 3. The grave of Lance Serjeant W Wilkinsons, 1BORDER at Pink Farm Cemetery Helles
 4. The grave of Private P Conville, 1BORDER at Pink Farm Cemetery Helles
 5. The Army Pigeon Service, Italy, 1944. A message is removed from pigeon at a mobile pigeon loft in the Rimini area @IWM
 6. The Dickin Medal for animal gallantry.
 7. A message sent by Lieutenant Hardy, Signals Platoon, 1BORDER, by pigeon from Oosterbeek.

Notes

There's more about the activities of the Animals in War Group here <<https://bit.ly/3sELF0d>>



Book shelf

New books and ones that you may have missed for all ages. All can be ordered from 'Bookcases', Castle Street, Carlisle.

History's waiting room

Extracts from original copies of 'The Lion and the Dragon', in this case from 1992.

To the Editor

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

Still serving

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

Museum, Friends and Supporters

News from those who proudly support our heritage in Cumbria and beyond.



British Army Uniforms from 1751 - 1783: including the Seven Years War and the American War of Independence (paperback)
Carl Franklin
Pen & Sword Military £25.00

BASED on contemporary records and paintings, this book identifies each cavalry and infantry regiment and illustrates changes in uniforms, their facing colours and the nature and shape of lace worn by officers, NCOs and private soldiers from 1751 to 1783.

REGIMENTS that served in the American War of Independence are noted and the book includes more than 200 full-colour plates of uniforms and distinctions.

THE book is divided into four sections, and describes cavalry and infantry uniforms of the period and also the tartans of the Highland regiments, some of which were short-lived, and the distinction of the Guards' regiments.



COLIN DOUGLAS: BORDER

WHEN I took over command after Sicily, Tony Stafford had been wounded, as Adjutant, and I appointed Colin Douglas as Adjutant. He served the battalion and me very well indeed. Being an actor he learnt to take me off in actions and on paper. So much so I did not always know whether he or I had drafted a particular letter! He carried on as Adjutant when Charles Breeze took over, and I know he had the highest regard for Colin.

I went to Collin's cremation service in Putney Vale crematorium. It was crowded with his actor friends – the only person I knew there was General Sir Charles Harrington!

Tommy Haddon

THAT PURPLE

REGARDING the the purple on the Border Regiment tie, I was told more years ago than I now care to remember that the purple came from the 55th and as a reminder of the regiments Scottish origins, as in the colour of heather, I got this from two sources, Major Mann who was at that time (1966) was regimental secretary, being a former RSM and QM of the regiment, and my grandfather, who served with some grizzled old timers in the 2nd Bn in WW1, he also told me some of the guys still argued about the 1881 amalgamation.

Mike Rosling

FROM THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE

HOW good that Harlequin's gravestone should have been so beautifully refurbished. Regarding the yellow facings and a racing colours – you may be correct although I think our colours change to straw from blue a bit after Lord James' time. I'm not certain however and I like the idea.

'Stoker' Devonshire
[Harlequin is buried on ground belonging to the Cavendish Estate - Ed]

BATTLEFIELD PHOTO

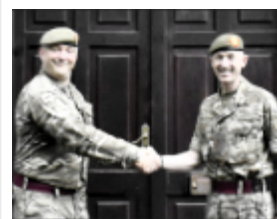
You are more than welcome to use our picture of the Maya Pass, where the 34th Foot faced a French Corps in 1813. Any publicity is most welcome as a result!

Alan Rooney
 The Cultural Experience
<https://bit.ly/3wzoh6C>
[Very happy to oblige. Your tours of the Peninsular battlefields look fascinating. The article will come next year- Ed]



JUBILEE PARADE

LIEUTENANT Sabrina Lucas leads the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment detachment during the Queen's Jubilee Parade.



NEW CO FOR 4LANCS

THE 4th Battalion have a new CO. Lieutenant Colonel Nick Kennon has handed over to Lieutenant Colonel Ed Fraser.



FREE TO MARCH

THE 1st Battalion have been exercising their rights to march through towns and districts in the North West during the summer. This was Clitheroe. Other locations included Wigan, Ormskirk, Poulton-le-Fylde and Sefton.



REGIMENTAL WEEKEND

WORDS can not do justice to the marvellous Regimental Weekend, so here are a few photographs that convey the pride, camaraderie, and joy of the weekend. Apologies if you are not included, we could have filled all 8 pages! Pictures by former members of the Regiment.



NEW REGIMENTAL MEMORIAL AT THE MUSEUM

DAVID Israel explains, "The plaque is dedicated to all those who served including the 1st and 4th battalions, the Army Cadet Force and other parts of the Army attached to the Regiment – the REME, Army Pay Corps, Army Catering Corps and Adjutant General's Corps. It also includes the civilian support staff and the families who were a vital part of the regimental family."

THE memorial was made by Sam Tait of Complete Engineering Services of Crosby-on-Eden.

THE memorial was unveiled by Colonel Andrew Kennedy during the Regimental Weekend.



BORDER MEMORIAL EASTBOURNE

THE Mayor of Eastbourne, Councillor Pat Rodohan, unveiled Harlequin's refurbished gravestone, with colleagues from the British Legion and in the presence of representatives of Eastbourne Local History Society, Chatsworth Trustees, the Saffrons Sports Ground and of course the Compton Croquet Club

THE grave is now restored as a memorial to the men of 9BORDER from Cumbria and County Durham and their time in Eastbourne at the start of WW1.



OUR FIRST MILITARY FESTIVAL

THE first Cumbria Military Festival brought a mix of uniforms, kit and loyalties to the Museum. Happily the French could only look at the drums.

"A great event," said Jules Wooding, "and we have learnt a lot for future Festivals." "The enthusiasm was tremendous," added Lucy Matthews, Co-organiser from 'Bookends'.

Diary

Events at the Museum and elsewhere that affect the Regimental Family.

STOP PRESS

2nd Military Festival 3-4 June, 2023, Carlisle
Wednesday 3 August 1100-1500

Summer holiday workshop for all the family

Wednesday 17 August 1100-1500

Summer holiday workshop for all the family

Wednesday 31 August 1100-1500

Summer holiday workshop for all the family

Wednesday 10 August 1100-1500

Meet a Roman Soldier – family activity celebrating 1900 years of Hadrian's Wall

Monday 15 August 1230
 Veterans Lunch Club, The Museum

Wednesday 24 August 1100-1500
 Meet a Roman Soldier – family activity celebrating 1900 years of Hadrian's Wall

Saturday 10 September
 'Heritage Open Day' Guided tour of military cells within the Castle

Monday 12 September
 Kickstart of celebrations - 90 days run up to our 90th BirthdayMuseum

Tuesday 13 September 1830

'A Great Inheritance and Regimental Tradition' – 90 Years of Military Heritage at Carlisle Castle – Jules Wooding

Monday 19 September 1230
 Veterans Lunch Club, The Museum

Tuesday 11 October 1830
 Title to be confirmed

Monday 17 October, 1230
 Veterans Lunch Club, The Museum

Tuesday 8 November 1830
 Speaker to be confirmed.

And almost finally

Memories of Regimental life by Alex Paterson, formerly KORBR and now designer at the House of Commons.

ACTIVE EDGE!

by Stephen Felton

1980s Germany. At any time the call: 'ACTIVE EDGE' could go out. Usually at night.



This was the the periodical readiness exercise. We would rush back to camp and start packing kit and loading weapons.



Soon we would be roding out of barracks towards the freezing German plain.



At secret harbour areas we dug our trenches; often all wearing bio warfare kit.



These exercises often involved the whole of NATO forces.



But regardless of secrecy, the German bratwurst vans always arrived before us.



ENDEX

A miscellany of military history, some serious, others less so, from all periods and from all countries

BEEF AND BEER

"NO soldier can fight unless he is properly fed on beef and beer."

THE Duke of Marlborough



AMAZON RATION PACK

£189.99 a case of 10, includes breakfast, lunch and dinner mains, snacks, sides, sundries (coffee/tea/etc), and accessories, perhaps some beef but no beer.

PAGAN, WICCAN AND DRUIDS

IN answer to a freedom of information request on the religions given by serving soldiers, MoD gave these numbers for the Army: Pagan-230; Wicca-10; and Druids-10.



CASTLE PAINTING

BAGGAGE Wagons and soldiers approaching Carlisle by Carlisle painter Samuel Bough. Painted in 1849. A print of this picture is available from the Wayfair.co.uk site or drop into Tullie House to see the original.



ACTIVE EDGE II

A Bratwurst Van during an exercise.

Our Heritage

Cumbria's military heritage includes the Militia, the Yeomanry, Territorials, as well as the regular battalions and specialist units.

THE regiment that became the 34th Foot and then the 1st Battalion of the Border Regiment was raised in Essex in 1702, as Robert, Lord Lucas's Regiment.

FROM the mid 18th Century regiments became known by their precedence number, not by their Colonel. In 1782 the 34th was given the regional title 'Cumberland'.

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'. At the same time the Cumberland and Westmorland Militia were re-organised as the Special Reserve and in 1908 the Rifle Volunteer battalions became the Territorial Force.

IN 1923 the 51st Field Regiment, Royal Artillery was created that included the Westmorland and Cumberland Yeomanry. In time the Gunners were combined with the Territorial Army battalion of the King's Own Royal Border Regiment.

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'.

Lest we forget

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

August 1762, Havana, 34th Foot

One of Britain's 'Oceanic' victories during the Seven Years War. Despite suffering from Yellow Fever troops captured the capital of Spain's Caribbean Empire.

August, 1915 'Landing at Suvla', Gallipoli, Border Regiment

The amphibious landing made at Suvla as part of the final attempt to break the deadlock of the Battle of Gallipoli. Initially successful the landing at Suvla was mismanaged and conditions quickly reached stalemate.

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.



15 September 1900 South Africa, Private John Thornborrow, 1st Volunteer Service Company, The Border Regiment. Rest in peace

Died of enteric fever (Typhoid), Pretoria, South Africa. Memorial at St Mary's Church, Kirkby Lonsdale, Kirby Lonsdale Picture © David Green formerly KORBR.

17 September 1706, Capture of Montjuic Fort, Barcelona, Hamilton's Regiment of Foot.

The grenadier company of the 34th Foot, along with other grenadier companies seize the fort overlooking Barcelona, leading to the town's surrender on 5 October 1706



22 September 1944, Rest in Peace, Private George Everington, Border Regiment. Rest in peace

PRIVATE Everington died at Oosterbeek, during Operation Market Garden, 12 Platoon, 'B' Company. He was the son of George and Freida Everington, and husband of Louisa Everington, of Kippax, Yorkshire.

Photograph Rob Vogels, 'Find a Grave'

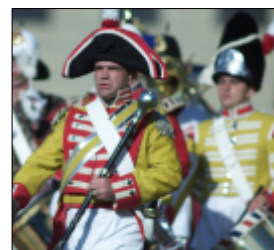


2 October 1799, Battle of Alkmaar, The Netherlands, 55th Foot.

An Anglo-Russian army attempted to drive the French and their Dutch revolutionary Allies out of the Low Countries.

The portrait is of General Ralph Abercromby, victor at the battle of Alkmaar.

National Portrait Gallery. Collection



28 October 1811, Battle of Arroyo, 34th Regiment of Foot

During the battle the 2nd Battalion of the 34th Foot captured most of the French 34e régiment d'infanterie, including their drums and Drum Major's Staff.

Picture Cumbria's Museum of Military Life

Information

Cumbria's Museum of Military Life

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Cumbria
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01228 532774
enquiries@cmoml.org

Opening hours
1 April-30 September
Every day 10 am-6 pm
October
Every day 10 am-5 pm
1 November to 31 March
Saturday to Thursday
10 am-4 pm closed on
Fridays

Friends of Cumbria's Museum of Military Life

c/o Alma Block
Carlisle Castle

Duke of Lancaster's Regiment

Fulwood Barracks
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Cumbria Army Cadet Force

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CUMBRIA'S
MUSEUM OF
MILITARY LIFE



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1st Westmorland Rifle
Volunteers, cap badge
Late 19C



Hand made cover for a
YMCA Prisoner of War log
WW2



55th Foot button
Mid 19C