

The Lion & the Dragon

Celebrating the past whilst championing the future

Spring 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



Counter-insurgency Ireland and America

IT is perhaps no surprise to find troubles brewing in Ireland in the 1770's. But what is surprising are the connections between this period of the 34th's history and their time in North America during the Revolutionary War. The most prolific violent disturbances in the 1770's occurred in the North of Ireland (mostly County Antrim) by Protestant groups known as 'The Steelboys'. The Steelboys were an outgrowth of anger over the changing agricultural landscape as noble landowners pushed renters off their land to improve methods of farming and increase profits in the growing methods and ideas of the Agricultural Revolution.

THIS same 'Revolution' was responsible for the large influx



of angry and anti-crown Scotch Irish to the American Backcountry just prior to the American Revolution that proved so disastrous to Crown policy on the American Frontier.

AFTER the disturbances in the North, further problems appeared across Ireland and with differing intensity by county involving remnants of the Steelboys¹ and an older group known as the Whiteboys (they wore white smocks while doing their thing. At this point you may be asking, "What does this all have to do with the 34th Regiment of Foot?" Well, it appears quite a lot.

THE 34th Regiment of Foot was deployed to Ireland from 1770 to 1776 as part of the

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'Lest we forget'

SITREP

THE 34th and the 55th spent time in Ireland. What is perhaps surprising is that in the 1760's and 70's they faced civil unrest in the North, where landowners were evicting tenants so as to be able to adopt new farming methods.

IN this edition Matt Zembo, researcher and reenactor from New York State, shares his investigations into the 34th just before they went to North America in 1776.

YOU can meet Matt at our first Military Festival in Carlisle this June.

Peter Green
Editor

Cumbria's Military Festival
3 & 4 June 2022 Tickets from the Museum
and Bookcases, Castle Street supported by
STORY

The Agricultural Revolution: Good or Bad?

What was hailed as a great advance in England during the Eighteenth Century was less welcome elsewhere in the British Isles.

New breeds of cattle and sheep, more scientific crop rotation and the application of new technology, like seed drills, required landlords to directly control their land. It also meant that these new techniques had to be applied to larger areas than an individual tenant's small holding.

The eviction of tenants was a consequence for many, including Protestant subsistence farmers in the north of Ireland, as landlords concentrated their holdings.

Fifty years later improving the incomes of Scottish landowners would lead to the Highland Clearances.



Irish Establishment during a period of considerable troubles. The Regiments on the Irish Establishment were ordered into action in late 1772 to put down the rebellions and disturbances and then garrison Northern Ireland.

THERE is no specific mention of what Regiments were called to put down the disturbances but the 34th Regiment of Foot's review of 1774 may have an important clue. In the regimental review for 1774, the 9th Baron of Monaghan, Lieutenant General Lord Cadwallader Blaney states specifically:

"This regiment made a pretty good appearance, tho they have laboured under many disadvantages, having been last year, cantoned in several small villages in the North of Ireland, from where they were marched to the cantonments of Kerry in this province, had been but 10 days together when I reviewed, there are several old men in the Regiment."

AS for appearance and performance, Blaney writes that

"...all is good and according to regulation."

BUT notice the review mentions they are cantoned in County Kerry as this will prove to be of consequence.

COUNTER INSURGENCY

IT is apparent that the 34th Regiment was one of the units called upon to bring law and order to the North of Ireland (The records that would give us specifics were destroyed in the Irish Civil War, when the Four Courts caught fire). This is important because it means that the 34th Regiment of Foot had operational experience in a counter insurgency situation prior to 1776. While this was of a much lower intensity as that which they would experience in North America, it was experience in a hostile situation, nonetheless.

MISSISSIPPI MAPPING

THE regimental officers and men gained experience functioning in small and scattered detachments, which they would continually do over the course of their deployment in Canada. To add to that operational experience, many of the officers and men had served in the French and Indian War or the regiments subsequent deployment to the Western Outposts in the 1760's.

MOST notable of those officers being Captain John Ross, who ascended the Mississippi River to map and explore the region for the British Crown on his way to garrison Illinois. In

a letter from 1765 to General Gage, non-other than the famous Marksman Commander, Alexander Fraser (himself eventually an officer in the 34th), mentions that Ross had passed through a Native village a full seven weeks before he himself arrived in the Illinois Country.

OFFICERS CRITICISED

LOOKING a year later at the 34th Regiment's review of 1775 outside Dublin (the largest troop concentrations in Ireland), fully 92 men were in the regiment long enough to have experience garrisoning the American Backcountry and even more dealing with disturbances in Ireland (some of those old men Blaney mentions).

IT is evident that some of the spit and polish may have worn off by the 1775 review as it resulted in General John Irwin commenting:

"This regiment would be fit for service if the officers took as much pains as the men."

ONE sees the men performed the manual of arms "good" and their appearance and uniforms was "clean" and "good," their muskets were essentially clean but "unserviceable" and in need of repair or replacement. Importantly, the most critical observation, large scale evolutions and manoeuvres were "performed indifferently" and the officers are criticised for being "unsteady and inattentive." The same long serving and experienced officers from the year before. So, what changed?

LOOK at the last review of 1774 and where it was performed, Cork, but they were cantoned in County Kerry, scene of continued domestic disturbances. It appears that the fall off in performance may have much to do with being deployed in small detachments throughout Ireland on counterinsurgency duties for almost three years.



TRAINING

AS John Houlding describes in 'Fit for Service'², the British Army always excelled at the Manual of Arms as it was one of the few things small detachments of men

could continuously practice due to the way that regiments tended to be scattered across the countryside and not in large barrack concentrations, beyond a few major cities. Time and space for the 34th Regiment of Foot (and other regiments) to practice large scale manoeuvres while deployed in a counter insurgency/policing role probably did not occur.

REGIMENTS would be brought to the large garrison towns only once a year to perform their reviews. Most of the time conventional tactics were probably just not a priority when policing the countryside of Ireland. So of course, officers and men would not perform well. When could they practice?

THE GENERAL HAS A BAD DAY?

IT must be noted that the 1775 review was done by General Sir John Irwin who was the third Commander in Chief of Ireland in three years (a job no one sought or desired). With such a quick turnover of command, he may have had an axe to grind with some officers or lacked the knowledge of what units had been doing before his assumption of command. A much simpler excuse could also be that the 34th Officers just had a bad day, but this seems unlikely for the reasons I suggested above.

THE important take away is that the 34th Regiment of Foot did not deploy to Canada as a green and untried



regiment. Its officers and men had some experience of low intensity conflict from their time in Ireland.

THEY "had seen the Elephant"³ to some degree. Many of the officers and men had more experience of operating in North America and the Backcountry than the average American they would face on the battlefield. This was true of many regiments sent to fight in the American War of Independence that had garrisoned North America as they had already been there, and done that to an extent, and knew what to conditions to expect.

IN the relief force sent to Canada from the Irish Establishment in the Spring of 1776, the 9th, 20th, 21st, 29th, 31st and 34th regiments all had prior experience in North America.

PROFESSIONALS

LAST, but not least, the soldiers of the 34th and other regiments were professionals. It was their full-time occupation. They were well trained and disciplined in the 'Manual of Arms', the basis of everything Eighteenth Century tactics built upon. It must also be noted how often the 34th Regiment was called upon to work with those other regiments that would make up The Army in Canada,

specifically see the 9th and 20th Regiments of Foot in the reviews.

MANY of the officer's knew each other and had worked together prior to the war and would continue those relationships throughout the war. In many instances being promoted and transferred between regiments. And, luckily, the regiment would be issued new muskets and carbines just prior to their departure for Canada at Cork.

THE 34th Regiment of Foot would serve in North America from 1776-1784. During the war they deployed as detachments of Burgoyne's and St. Leger's Armies and would participate in numerous small- and large-scale raids on the frontier with much success. Success based on the previous experience of the officers and men.

ALL of this begs more research, it is a good start and is by no means the final say on the subject.



Captions

Cover: A montage with modern pictures by Caroline Goddard and an imaginative illustration of the Steel Boys storming Belfast Goal. ©Caroline Goddard for Newport Historical Society, USA.

1. Sir John Irwin, KB, reviewing Troops in Dublin by Francis Wheatley, 1781. National Portrait Gallery, London. Creative Commons

2. The 34th were scattered in small groups around Ireland.

3. "PLAN of MANOEVRES performed in the / Phoenix Park in June 1775 by the Garrison of / DUBLIN consisting of the 9th, 15th, 33rd, 34th, 37th, & 46th Regiments of Foot, and of the 1st Regiment of Horse. By order of THE RIGHT HON:BLE/GENERAL IRWINE/COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF IRELAND"

The 34th formed part of Lord Ligoniere's Corps shown at the top of the picture. Royal Collection Trust © Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2022

Notes

¹ 'The Hearts of Steel', or 'Steelboys', was an exclusively Protestant movement in County Antrim. The unrest spread into neighbouring counties of Armagh, Down, and Londonderry, before being put down by the army.

² Houlding, "Fit for Service", OUP, 1981

³ "seeing the elephant" is an American expression meaning to gain experience of the world, but at a significant personal cost.

Sad reminders

Regimental Families were not only made up of soldiers. 'The Lion & the Dragon' is pleased to publish three reminders of that fact in this edition.

Two sad memorials of children are joined here by a description of an brooch bought by a Border Regiment officer for his wife.

The Regiment as a family is the theme of the booklet 'Our Family' that is on sale in the Museum shop.



‘DAVID, he was one of yours, wasn’t he?’
‘WHAT are you talking about, Bob?’
‘THE 55th was one of yours, wasn’t it?’
‘YES, but what of it?’
BOB is a former RAF officer. We served together in Hong Kong and remain close friends. On leaving the Service he bought a house in Graveley, Cambridgeshire. He saw a headstone in the village church.

God Bless this Daughter of the Regiment

David Allardice adds to a fascinating, and sad, discovery in a country churchyard in Cambridgeshire.

THE headstone commemorates the death of Major Charles Warren's second daughter, Mary.
INDIA
THIS poor mite was born in the India on the 18th of May 1835. In late 1837 she travelled with her parents to

Bombay, then onto Suez. Crossed the ‘Desert’ on a camel. They passed through Egypt, Malta and France before finally arriving back in England. She died, aged 3 years 3 months after a short illness and was buried in Graveley. Just doesn’t seem fair. Why Graveley? Charles Warren’s brother was the Rector.
CHINA
AS for Major Warren, following the battles of

Chusan and Ningpo in China, the 55th was in need of replacements. By the end of 1841, they arrived under the command of Major Warren. The following year, Major Warren led a charge to help take Nanking, killing two enemy soldiers himself.
THE siege effectively

brought this war to an end. Warren was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on the 23rd December 1842.
THE taking of Nanking effectively brought this war to an end. Warren was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on the 23rd December 1842. Mrs Mary Anne Warren was reported by the Atlas newspaper to have been in Paris in 1846 – they had been married there in 1830. We move on to 1854, the 55th were, now commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Warren.
CRIMEA
ON the 31st March 1855 Colonel Warren was severely wounded at Sevastopol.

HE was subsequently promoted to local Brigadier-General on 1st August that year, and then to temporary Major General on the 9th August 1856. He died in Monkstown, Dublin in October 1866.

THE headstone belonging to a child of a soldier who died at Fort Ontario at the end of the Revolutionary War has been donated to the collection of Fort Ontario Historic Site.



A child of the 34th Foot

An exciting find at Fort Ontario Historic Site New York

OSWEGO
IT was found during renovations of property on East Mohawk Street in Oswego, New York and is stylistically identical to the headstone of Private George Fykes who died at the fort in 1782. Both stones were obviously carved by the same person.

JOHN Ross died at age one year 8 months and 22 days on July 22nd, 1783 and was the son of Andrew and Mary Ross. Andrew was a private in the 34th Regiment of Foot which garrisoned the fort in 1782-84. He retired and settled near Edinburgh, Scotland in 1785. John was likely buried in the original Post Cemetery but whenever the fort was abandoned locals mined it for building materials.

CHILD'S GRAVE
THE remains of a child found in an unmarked grave when the old cemetery was moved to its present location in 1905-06 may be those of Andrew Ross.
THE headstone will be displayed this summer. It is one of the most exciting and significant artefacts ever donated to Fort Ontario.

Paul Lear
Fort Ontario Historic Site,
New York

ON display in the museum , is a silver lady’s brooch. Such an item may seem out of place in the context of a military museum, the brooch itself holds great relevance in relation to the social history of the regiment and its womenfolk, as a symbol of female expression within regimental life.

The dragon brooch of an Army wife

Megan McManus, Cumbria’s Museum of Military Life, considers the wider implications of a ladies’ brooch in the Museum’s collection.

CHINESE IMPERIAL DRAGON
THE brooch measures perhaps an inch and a half across and is in the shape of a Chinese Imperial Dragon. It is inset with precious stones with the appearance of diamonds, that cover it completely. Upon viewing the cabinet that the brooch is placed in, the eye is immediately drawn to it. It stands out not only because of its glittering quality, but also because of its delicacy within a space surrounded by weaponry and warfare. It was a gift, from Major J. G. Campbell MBE MC, 2nd Battalion, to his wife, presented to her one day in 1927.



THE resemblance of the brooch’s dragon to the famous Lonsdale Battalion’s griffin crest will not have been lost on Major J. G. Campbell, or his wife. The Lonsdale family and their Lowther Griffin Crest make up an important and interesting part of the history of the Border Regiment. In September 1914, the 11th Battalion (Lonsdale) Border Regiment, or the ‘Lonsdale Battalion’ as

they were popularly known, came into being. The 5th Earl of Lonsdale, was the man responsible for originally raising the Battalion at this time. All members of this Battalion wore a distinctive cap badge that incorporated the Lowther griffin. The design remained in use even after the Battalion became part of the Border Regiment,

and continues as an iconic symbol associated with the Border Regiment to this day.

WOMEN’S ROLE
THE significance of such a regimental symbol and its associated gravitas being made accessible to women in its incorporation into lady’s jewellery cannot be understated. For centuries, fashion and dress had remained one of the few ways in which women had some level of freedom of self-expression in personal and political views. Over 100 years before Major J. G. Campbell presented this brooch to his wife, women like Georgiana Cavendish were advocating support for particular political parties in the clothes they wore in the public appearances they made.

AS the wife of an Army Major, Mrs Campbell will have taken the role of an endorser and supporter of her husband’s regiment, alongside supporting him in his personal military career. The first wave of feminism had achieved much in the previous decades, with the Suffragist movement securing votes for women over 30, who met property qualifications, in 1918. It was not until 1928 however, that The Equal Franchise Act was passed, giving women voting rights with men. Although advances in women’s suffrage were being made, Mrs

Campbell was very much part of a male-dominated society. In the wearing of her Imperial Dragon Brooch, however, Mrs Campbell could take part in an expression that was acceptable within a regimental context, but also sent out a clear message about her own personal view and support of the Regiment.

TODAY
FEMALE endorsement and representation of the regiment is an important aspect of regimental life that has continued into the modern day. Working on the front desk at the museum, I have had the opportunity to observe several times the wives and girlfriends of veterans purchasing the Regimental lapel badges associated with their partner’s regiments. Alongside this as perhaps a more modern addition, is the inclusion of children in such representation. Parents who have served with the Border Regiment, or relatives of veterans, purchasing lapel badges for their children to wear; in view of this, it seems that regimental representation in the wearing of such items is thriving, spreading throughout the family unit.

HISTORICALLY, the representation of women within the Border Regiment has been aided greatly by items such as the Imperial Dragon Silver Lady’s Brooch. In times past, when female voices often went unheard, self expression and feelings of pride and loyalty could be displayed clearly and overtly in the wearing of such items. Fortunately, in more recent years, women have been able to play a more active role within the Regiment, enlisting as soldiers alongside their male counterparts. Still, however, the role of self adornment in jewellery and clothing remains an important aspect of Regiment life.

Megan McManus

Cumbria's first Military Festival 2022

3-4 June 2022 days to celebrate our military heritage at the Museum.

HEADLINE SPEAKER
BRIGADIER Allan Mallinson, historian, novelist and former KORBR officer, will talk at the closing reception at the Museum at 1900hrs.
DAY-time Programme
1000 Welcome
1010 Rob Griffith, author of 'At the point of the bayonet', accounts of the battles of Arroyo and Almaraz. Rob will be available to sign copies of his book.
1130 Keith Matthews, The other side of the Hill, the French at Arroyo

1345 Alan Whitworth, author of 'Thunder of the Guns: An Artillery Officer on the Western Front 1914 - 1919'
1500 Ian Wilson , author of 'My Dads Army - The White Gurkhas', personal memories of 9 Border veterans in Burma.

1900 Closing reception, Allan Mallinson. Free glass of wine.

DISPLAYS
THERE will be displays inside and outside.

TICKETS
TICKETS are available from the Museum, 'Bookcases', Castle Street and online. The whole day is £37.50. Morning or afternoon sessions £15.00. Evening Reception with wine £17.50. Discounts are available for members of the Friends, but are only from the Museum shop. Details online.



Military Festival
June 2022

Captions

1. The gravestone of Mary Warren, daughter of Major Warren 55th Foot, who died in 1838 at Graveley, near St Neots in Cambridgeshire.
2. A new acquisition by Fort Ontario Historic Site: the Eighteenth Century gravestone of John Ross. The inscription, with the Editors suggested original spelling and missing letters in square brackets, reads: Here Lies Intired The Body of John Rofs Son of Andrew And mary Rofs Belonging to the 34th Regt of Foot Who departed this Life July The 22d 1783 Aged on[e] year and 8 Months an[d] 22 days
3. Platinum lady’s brooch in shape of Chinese Imperial Dragon, inset with precious stones, presented to his wife by Major J G Campbell MBE MC in 1927.

Book shelf

New books and ones that you may have missed. 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 1990.

To the Editor

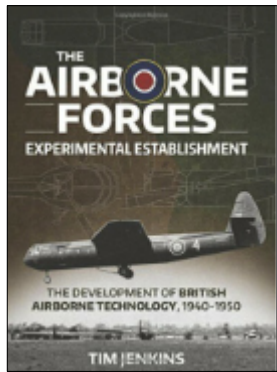
The Editor is always pleased to have comments, and corrections via email, Facebook or post.

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.



The Airborne Forces Experimental Establishment: The Development of British Airborne Technology
Tim Jenkins
Helion
£35.00

THE evolution of British airborne warfare cannot be fully appreciated without reference to the technological development required to convert the detail contained in the doctrine and concept into operational reality. Airborne Forces Experimental Establishment is a detailed investigation of the British technological investment in an airborne capability and analyses whether the new technology was justifiable, or indeed, entirely achievable.

ANALYSIS of the technology has revealed that the development of airborne warfare was as much for the purpose of psychological warfare and British morale as it was for offensive operations.



PAN AM FLIGHT 103
JUST prior to the Northern Ireland training package the battalion was tasked to assist in the cleanup operation after the Pan Am flight was blown out of the sky over Lockerbie.
WHILST not in itself a military task it gave the JNCOs an opportunity, albeit a rather solemn one, to practice the art of controlling sections of men in a meticulous ground search, for the remains of the plane and its occupants. A task made extremely difficult as the debris covered a huge area in southern Scotland and the north of England

ARNHEM COMPANY
THE [Northern Ireland] tour proved to be successful, eventful, exciting, occasionally very dangerous, character developing and tiring. Many incidents occurred – some large, some small. Minor finds were made by Pte Fletcher, Cpl Stevenson, Sgt Greenwood and Sgt Stevenson. Cpl Halton and his team consisting of Ptes Riley, Morrison and Long, closed with three terrorists during a multiple weapon attack on Fort George Security Force Base. ...



... The terrorists escaped by the skin of the teeth, but two Soviet assault rifles and antitank weapons were recovered by Cpl Halton and his men.

THE CURATOR OF FORT ONTARIO
THANK you for a copy of your magazine. The fort just closed and I'm looking forward to a three week vacation spending mornings and evenings in the woods with a crossbow and middays and nights in my basement with a computer. (Except when drafted by wife to make peanut brittle in her candy store). French and Indian War Historian George A. Bray III has been helping me collect sources [for the article about the 34th and 55th].

PAUL Lear
Fort Ontario Historic Site,
New York
REIVER ADVENTURE NOVEL
I popped into the museum on Saturday 20th November to see about the possibility of selling my book 'The Reiver'.

THE book is set in Carlisle and the surrounding area during World War 1. It is unique in being an adventure story of the time linked to the area's reiver heritage.

THE castle and barracks play a central role in the story as does the area immediately surrounding it (West Walls, Finkle Street, Caldewgate) and my aim in writing it was to celebrate the many colourful characters of our city back in 1915.

MIKE Routledge
[no space in the Museum shop, but no doubt available via Bookcases - Ed]



CONGRATULATIONS KINGSMAN
Stremmelaar, B Company, 4 LANCS was awarded Best Kingsman of 2021. Kingsman Stremmelaar has demonstrated he is self motivated, working hard to develop himself in his own time outside of training nights and weekends. In addition he has been a mentor to recruits and a junior leader to fellow Kingsmen.



CHRISTMAS GIFTS
MEMBERS of A Coy, 4 LANCS stayed busy over Christmas helping in their community. St Andrew's Community Network operates across North Liverpool and are the coordinators of the North Liverpool Foodbank. This food bank donation including £90 was raised by A Coy soldiers and civilian staff to support those in need, within the local community.

NEW FACE
WE welcome a new member of staff, Jessica Latham, who will be with us part-time for three years (funded by the Heritage Fund). Jessica will be working with the team to develop her knowledge and skills and ensure the Regimental history is shared with schools and families.

MUSEUM EVENTS AND COVID

ALTHOUGH the days are getting longer and we can all hope for sunny days to visit the Museum, Covid continues to cause uncertainty. In January we had to cancel our evening talk scheduled for Tuesday 11th and the Veterans' Lunch scheduled for Monday 17th .

AS a small team we must keep staff safe to ensure that we have the capacity to open the Museum doors at weekends.

BUSY BEHIND THE SCENES

WINTER has seen us busy behind the scenes looking after the collections and the building. Closed during the week until mid-February has given valuable time for staff and volunteers time to paint, clean, sort collections and undertake training ready for the new season.

TEMPORARY EXHIBITS

AS 2022 progresses, we look forward to expanding our programme and reinstating temporary exhibitions at the Museum.



ARNHEM LAST POST
WILFRED Oldham, MBE, a member of 'B' Company, 1 Border during Operation Market Garden, died on 26 November 2021, aged 101. Wilf, from Radcliffe, Greater Manchester, was the last-known survivor of the Battalion who fought at Oosterbeek, in September 1944. He had also taken part in the Sicily landings in 1943. Thanks to the generosity of the The Times, Wilf's obituary is provided as a supplement to this edition of The Lion & the Dragon.

REMEMBERED
ON 7 November former members of the KORBR visited cemeteries around Carlisle to remember comrades no longer with us.



AMONGST the places visited were Rickerby Park Cenotaph and St Leonard's Church, Warwick Bridge.



THE CENOTAPH WHITEHALL

THE Regiment was also well represented on Remembrance Sunday at The Cenotaph in London on 14 November 2021. The party is seen here on Horse Guards Parade after the ceremony.

HARLEQUIN'S GRAVESTONE REPORT
TOBY Robson, the mason, writes, "In general, the repairs made by the groundsmen John have held up well and remain robust. Whilst the Gorilla glue he has used might not be entirely ideal from a conservation perspective, it has served its purpose and has ensured that the fragments of the stone have been kept together in one place. If the repairs hadn't been effected back then, its entirely probable that at least the smaller sections would have been lost, overgrown by vegetation, and further broken.

IN an ideal repair scenario, I'd separate and clean all of the individual pieces of stone. However, given the glue is still firmly adhering to the stone, to do so and try and break the gravestone apart along the existing cracks would very likely result in further damage, so I am not proposing to disassemble it, but to do an in-situ repair."

COVID affected the site visit: fingers crossed for good weather and health in the coming weeks to carry out the repair.



SADLY the grave has lost its metal lettering, shown in this early photograph, but the generous contributions to our appeal will ensure that Harlequin and The Border Regiment are remembered. Once the work has been completed we hope to hold a simple memorial event in Eastbourne.

Diary

Please check the Museum web site, for any last minute changes to times, dates or venues. Covid may prevent our running a normal series of events.

19 February 1700-2100
Friends of the Museum Indian Food and History evening at the Museum. Talk at 1800, followed by an Indian-themed meal.

21 February 1230-1430
Veterans lunch

6-8 May Weekend
Regimental Weekend
More information from David Israel and on the Regimental Facebook Group



11 May, Monday
Fontenoy Day, Regimental anniversary, 34th Foot
3-4 June Friday and Saturday
Military Vehicle Trust display at the Museum.

4 June, Saturday
Cumbria's First Military Festival - speakers and displays in the Museum.
Our headline speaker is Brigadier Allan Mallinson, historian, novelist and former KORBR officer. Allan's theme is "Why dwell on the past?"

Talks are ticket only, but will include access to the Museum. They are available online or at Bookcases or the Museum. Discount for Friends only at the Museum. More on Page 5 of this edition or on the Museum web site.



And almost finally

Memories of Regimental life by Alex Paterson, formerly KORBR.



ENDEX

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



NEW FRANCE
"Canada is useful only to provide me with furs."
Madame de Pompadour, 'Senior' Mistress of Louis XV.
SHARPSHOOTERS
"They couldn't hit an elephant at this dist...."

The last words of General Sedgwick, US Union Army, said at the battle of Battle of Spotsylvania Court House 1864.

FOUND IN A HOBSON-JOBSON DICTIONARY
Guinea-Worm: a parasitic worm inhabiting the subcutaneous cellular tissue, frequently in the leg, varying from 6 inches to 12 feet in length. Matunga, the headquarters of the Bombay artillery was abandoned, in great measure, on account of this pest.

PROJECTILE
"The British army should be a projectile to be fired by the British navy."

Quoted by Lord Fisher, in his Memories, as "the splendid words of Sir Edward Grey".

MORE MORECAMBE AND WISE
Ernie: *"Where did you spend your war years?"*

Eric: *"Everywhere. I fought with Mountbatten in Burma, with Alexander in Tunis, with Monty at Alamein. I couldn't get on with anyone."*

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 number, not by their Colonel. In 1782 it 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 joined 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'.



Cigarette silk of the 34th Foot early 20C



The Royal Cumberland Militia Helmet badge late 19C



4th Battalion (Territorial) The Border Regiment, shoulder badge

Lest we forget

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

27 February 1814, Battle of Orthez, France, 2/34th Foot

The penultimate battle of the Peninsular War, Wellington's army attacked the French army led by Marshal Nicolas Soult.



March 1727, Siege of Gibraltar, Haye's Regiment of Foot

After an arduous sea journey to Gibraltar, the precursor to 34th Foot, formed part of the garrison during the war against Spain of 1727-29.



March - July 1944, Imphal, Border Regiment, India

Japanese armies attempted to destroy the Allied forces at Imphal and invade India, but were driven back into Burma with heavy losses. Three battalions of the Border Regiment were involved in the fighting.

10 - 13 March 1915, Battle of Neuve Chapelle, Border Regiment, France

The British broke through German defences in a salient at the village Neuve-Chapelle but the initial success could not be exploited. Unexpected delays and communications failures prevented the momentum being maintained. The Germans had time to send in reinforcements and create a new defensive line.



29 March 1855 Private William Coffey VC, DCM, 34th Foot, Crimea

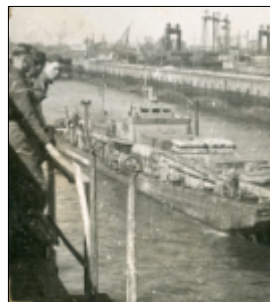
For having thrown a lighted shell that fell into the trench over the parapet and thus saved many lives.

Private Coffey's VC can be seen in the Museum at Carlisle.



25 April 1915, Landing at Helles, Gallipoli, Border Regiment

1 Border part of 29th Division landed at 'X' Beach, although the beach head was secured, fighting became heavier as the day progressed. The Regiment suffered heavy losses including their Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Hume.



April 1946, Germany, Border Regiment

1 Border, were based at Northumbrian Barracks, Wilhelmshaven, Germany.

Information

Cumbria's Museum of Military Life

Alma Block
Carlisle Castle
Cumbria
CA3 8UR
01228 532774
enquiries@cmoml.org

Opening hours
1 April-30 September
Every day 10 am to 5 pm

October - 14 November
Every day 10 am to 5 pm

15 November - 11 February
2022, Saturday and
Sundays only

14-26 December and 1
January closed

12 February to 20 February
- half term 10 am to 4 pm

21 February to 31 March
Saturday - Thursday 10 am
to 4 pm

Friends of Cumbria's Museum of Military Life

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Preston
PR2 8AA

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HQ
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Cumbria
CA3 8UR

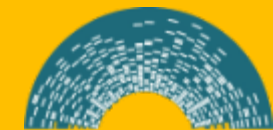
'The Lion & the Dragon'

Published by the Friends of Cumbria's Military Museum

Editor: Peter Green
peter.castra@gmail.com
Contributors: David
Allardice, Ted Carter, Megan
McManus and Alex Paterson



CUMBRIA'S
MUSEUM OF
MILITARY LIFE



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Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



Printed by
Stramongate Press
Kendal 01539 72044