

The Lion & the Dragon

Celebrating the past whilst championing the future

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



Autumn 2023



The Regiment's first Peninsular War 1705

SPAIN has played a large part in the life of the Regiment. It's a relationship that started well before Arroyo and Wellington's Peninsular War. A hundred years earlier, the newly raised Regiment spent two years in Spain during the War of the Spanish Succession. It was their first of several expeditions to Spain. In 1705 they were part of an army led by Lord Peterborough and carried on ships of an Anglo-Dutch fleet, in an attempt to place a Habsburg on the Spanish throne.

NO PEACE WITHOUT SPAIN

CHARLES II of Spain had died childless. He bequeathed his throne to his great nephew Philip of Anjou, who was also the grandson of Louis XIV of France. The combination of the

wealth of the Spanish Empire with France's territorial ambitions in Europe frightened the other European powers.

BUT there was another candidate for the Spanish throne: the Hapsburg Archduke Charles. Charles' claim was supported by Britain, The Netherlands, Savoy, Austria and Prussia.

A Habsburg in Madrid would help maintain the European balance of power, since Austria, although a great power, was not seen as being as territorial acquisitive as France. The Hapsburgs had, in any case, agreed that Spanish and Austrian territories would not be combined. Also in his favour was that Charles had also served as the Governor of Catalonia under the last Spanish king.

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'Lest we forget'

SITREP

SPAIN has played a big part in the Regiment's history. Beginning in 1705 when Hans Hamilton's Regiment - the 34th Foot - took part in the Anglo-Dutch expedition to place an Austrian Habsburg on the Spanish throne.

THE Vigo Expedition in 1719 followed, when Spain defied France, Austria and Britain.

A short spell at Gibraltar in 1723 was followed by a visit in 1756 after the disaster at Port Mahon.

FIFTY years later and the Peninsular War against Napoleonic France that led to the French drums being on display in the Museum. This edition includes a little of both stories.

OUR lead story concentrates on the first, but in the features we also describe how the KORBR went about preparing to troop the Arroyo drums.

Peter Green

A WORLD AT WAR

THE War began in May 1702. Britain, The Dutch, Hapsburg Austria, France and Spain fought in Flanders, Italy, the Caribbean, North America and the Mediterranean. In



Flanders Marlborough's allied army was fighting to prevent France extending its frontier to the Rhine. In the Caribbean naval activity concentrated on Spain's colonies and the annual 'Flotta' that brought silver and trade from the New World.

ALTHOUGH the war in the Mediterranean was intended to replace Philip with Archduke Charles, he was not as keen as he might have been over becoming King of Spain. And as the War progressed it became clear that he was more interested capturing Spain's possessions in Italy, than claiming the throne in Madrid. There was little popular support for him outside of Catalonia. Instead of being seen as a liberator, Charles was not welcomed by the Spanish. It was not the best political basis on which to fight a war. And to make matter worse Charles was also perpetually short of money.

HAMILTON'S REGIMENT

LORD Lucas raised his Regiment in East Anglia in 1702. It spent the first years of its existence garrisoning forts at Harwich, Sheerness and Tilbury. Even for a short time providing the garrison for the Tower of London and Dover.

In December 1702 Lucas' provided 300 men for

Columbine's Regiment of Foot, later 6th Foot, who were being despatched to the Caribbean. To make up their own numbers the regiment returned to East Anglia, before being sent north to recruit. Arriving at Carlisle in 1704, where they were billeted for a while in the castle. This was a period when the infantry were moving from pike men and musketeers to musketeers with bayonets, and from matchlocks (ie using smouldering slow matches) to flintlocks.

LORD Lucas died on 31 January 1705. The new colonel was Colonel Hans Hamilton, who would become Quartermaster-General for the Earl of Peterborough's Anglo-Dutch expedition to Spain.

COMBINED OPS

THE Earl of Peterborough was appointed General and joint Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in the Fleet in May 1705. His co-commander was Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Cloudesley Shovell.

THE Spanish expedition had several alternative of objectives: to help the Kingdom of Savoy's campaign in Italy; or to attack Spain's possessions in Naples or Sicily; to land in Spain or attack the French naval base at Toulon. To modern eyes these may seem contradictory and confusing. However with the communications of the time, alternative objectives allowed for any unforeseen changes that might make the first choice impossible.

THERE were disagreements between commanders on which expedition's priorities. For the Hapsburgs capturing the Duchy of Milan more important than the throne of Spain. With no support from Vienna Archduke Charles was short of money and hence troops.



A family affair

James FitzJames, the 1st Duke of Berwick and commander of the French troops in Spain, was the illegitimate son of King James II of England and Arabella Churchill, sister of the 1st Duke of Marlborough. Making him Marlborough's nephew. Berwick was born in 1670 before



James became King. After 1688 Berwick became one of Louis XIV's leading Generals. Prior to 1688, the Duke of Marlborough had been one of James' most trusted Generals.

Berwick's victory at Alamanza spelt disaster for the Allies in Spain.

Berwick and Marlborough campaigned in Flanders but never fought each other.



THE Earl of Peterborough had problems. He had secret instructions to attack Toulon, but these were contradicted by letters he received when he was in the Mediterranean. He disliked what he called 'the German crew' - Archduke Charles and entourage. Some have suggest that he was given the Spanish command to get him away from Britain. The relatively small number of troops committed by the British and the Dutch show that Spain was not a priority. Archduke Charles needed to take the lead if he wanted to become King of Spain. And he increasingly seemed less keen on the title.

1705

THE expedition arrived at Lisbon in June 1705. They were met by Archduke Charles - 'King Charles III' of Spain, who had sailed from England earlier. An attempt to capture Cadiz was vetoed by the Portuguese. Barcelona was then selected as the objective. Archduke Charles had served as Viceroy of Catalonia under the previous Spanish king and there was reason to hope he would be welcomed by the Catalans.

PETERBOROUGH had six English and four Dutch infantry regiments; two regiments of dragoons; and a regiment of Miquelets, Catalan militia. In all 6,500 men. Marlborough had almost ten times this number at Blenheim. The English regiments were, like Hamiltons, made up of recruits and were not seasoned troops. At Gibraltar Peterborough exchanged two of his English foot regiments for three regiments of more experienced Foot Guards and some companies of marines.

THE army landed north of Barcelona at the mouth of the little river Bäsos on 13 August 1705. The city was garrisoned by Bourbon troops but the inhabitants did not rise for Archduke Charles. Instead Peterborough began a desultory siege. For a month little of note happened, then on 17 September, three hundred grenadiers from the infantry regiments, including Hamilton's, stormed the fort at Montjuïc that overlooked the Barcelona from the south. Even then it was not until 5 October that the Bourbon garrison of Barcelona surrendered. Now Barcelona and the rest of Catalonia with the coast south to Valencia declared for the Archduke Charles.

IMMEDIATELY after the siege, Hamilton's were sent north to Girona nearer the French border, but as winter approached they were moved 150 miles south to garrison Tortosa on the river Ebro.

1706

IN January Hamilton went to Nice to collect money for the Allied army from the British Ambassador to the Court of Savoy. The Ambassador ruefully admitting he'd struggle to find funds for the Dutch troops, since nobody in Savoy would accept promises of guilders for future repayment. Money was always a problem for the Allies in Spain.

THE start of the 1706 campaigning season saw Peterborough in Valencia and the Bourbons intent on recapturing Barcelona. King Philip's army had been strengthened with French troops. Archduke Charles and the Barcelona garrison were outnumbered and the town's

defences had not been properly repaired after the previous year's siege.

HAMILTON's were hastily recalled from Tortosa and using mules managed to reach the city before it was besieged. Peterborough and the rest of the small army took longer. Instead of moving into the town, he kept his men outside, where he could manoeuvre and threaten the rear of Philip's army. The Bourbon's were now supported by a French fleet that bombarded the city and provided provisions to the besiegers. But the siege was conducted no faster than Peterborough had the previous summer.

THEY key to Barcelona's survival was naval. Could the Allied fleet arrive and drive away the French fleet before Barcelona fell? The Allied fleet had gone south, but was now making its way slowly back against the wind. It looked as if the navy would not arrive in time to drive away the French and relieve the city. The Bourbons dithered. They eventually retook Montjuïc after a long and glorious defence by its British and Dutch garrison. Then, bafflingly, there was no assault on any of the breaches in the city's walls. Finally on the 6 May the French fleet stopped its bombardment and left. The Allied fleet had arrived. Barcelona was saved. Ten days later Marlborough won the battle of Ramilles in Flanders.

CHURCHILLS ON BOTH SIDES

BUT now the Duke of Berwick - the illegitimate son of James II, by Arabella Churchill, sister of the Duke of Marlborough, hence the Duke's nephew - was given command of the Bourbon forces in Spain. He proved more skilled, than previous Bourbon commanders.

THERE was still a high point to come for the Allies. They took Madrid, but their hold on the city was tenuous. Allegedly the crowds shouted, "Long live King Charles the Third as long as he still gives us money." But Charles was bankrupt and the hoped-for large Portuguese reinforcements failed to arrive. Hamilton's, now very much reduced in strength, were in reserve in Valencia. By the end of the year the French had shepherded the Allies out of Madrid and back to the coast at Valencia.

1707

DURING the winter the regiment was told to transfer active men to other regiments and then send its officers home to recruit. It was a poor end to their campaign. It is unclear if the remnant of the regiment was at the defeat at Alamanza that saw the end of Allied hopes in Spain.

BACK IN ENGLAND

By the Autumn of 1707 officers and NCOs from the Hamilton's were back in England, recruiting. For a short time during 1708 they raided the Breton coast under the command of Admiral George Byng. By 1712 they were Chudleigh's Regiment and part of Brigadier Hans Hamilton's Brigade in Flanders. But now Britain was weary of the War and, as the source of all Allied funds, she was in a strong position to bring it to an end

THE Treaty of Utrecht in 1713 confirmed Philip as the Spanish king, but he renounced his right to the French throne. The 34th were disbanded - part of the 'peace dividend' - but were reformed in 1715 and would be back in Spain in 1719, this time with the French as Allies, but that is a story for another time.

Captions

Cover: Members of 'Miquelets de Catalunya', the Catalan reenactment society, portraying the local militia that fought alongside Hamilton's Regiment. Photograph by kind permission of Salvador Fernandez, Cobra Rebels, Catalonia, Spain. His copyright.

1. Arabella Churchill
2. James FitzJames, the 1st Duke of Berwick
3. Archduke Charles and Charles III of Spain, the Habsburg contender for the Spanish throne. Painted by Martin van Meytens.
4. Locations of the Regiment in the early 18C.
5. Earl of Peterborough commander of the Army and joint naval commander of the Spanish expedition. © Picture National Portrait Gallery, London
6. Admiral Sir Cloudesley Shovell, joint naval commander. © Picture National Army Museum, London

The Editor



Cromwell Ward's monument in Carlisle Cathedral

The Editor learns more from James Armstrong, Head Verger, at the Cathedral about a rarely seen funeral monument of a little-known soldier.

CROMWELL Ward was a career soldier from County Down in Ulster. He ended his life in Carlisle as Governor of the Castle. We don't know his birth date. His Christian name confirms his religious and political loyalties. Not surprising then that he was given command of one of the gateways to England.

ONLY three years before, the Castle had been in the hands of Rebels; Jacobites supporting the claim to the Throne of a Roman Catholic. In the 18C Roman Catholics were treated with as much suspicion as Communists in 1950's America. A staunch Protestant in control of the Castle that defended the western gateway to England. made eminent sense.

COMMISSIONED

WARD had been commissioned as an Ensign on 28 August 1708. By 1740 he was a Captain in 'Colonel

Richard St. George's Regiment of Foot' on the Irish Establishment. Ward married Mary Holland in 1730 at St Mary's Cathedral Limerick. By July 1745, 'Colonel St. George's Regiment of Foot' had become 'Major General St. George's Dragoons', who were in England in response to the Jacobite Rebellion. When Regiments ceased to be known by their Colonel's names they became the 8th Dragoons.

AFTER THE REBELLION

In 1746 with Carlisle back under Government control Ward was Town Major. Brigadier General James Fleming gave him the job of Barrack Master at the Castle and the responsibility for holding a party of Jacobite prisoners being transferred from Lancaster. Perhaps not surprising then when the

Government reorganised commands in Carlisle in 1749, Ward was appointed Lieutenant Governor.

HIS monument doesn't record the date of his death. But in the Register for the Limerick Diocese it is recorded as 1756. He left a widow and seven children. And it was his children, as the Monument records, that had the monument erected.

MONUMENT

THE monument was first placed on the wall behind the Cathedral's High Altar, however when some re-arrangements were made c1930 to the East end some of the monuments, including Ward's, were repositioned in the Triforium for safe keeping. This is an area not open to the public.

A review of all the Cathedral monuments is being undertaken as part of the Church Buildings Council

and the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England document called "Contested Heritage in Cathedral and Churches" which was published in 2021.

It notes that while churches and cathedrals are, above all, places dedicated to the worship of God, for a range of reasons, members of communities may not always feel welcome in these buildings. One such reason could be the presence of objects commemorating people responsible for the oppression and marginalisation of others.

THE guidance specifically addresses the issue of heritage associated with racism and the slave trade – including plaques, statues, inscriptions and other monuments, but hopes that by doing so it will establish a methodology which can be used for other forms of contested heritage.

VOLUNTARY TASK

THE Dean and Chapter of Carlisle Cathedral commissioned Charles Proctor who has worked for the Diocese and has been an advisor to the Cathedral for many years until his retirement, to do this task for them. He is doing this in a voluntary roll assisted by the Cathedral Vergers.

VISITORS

"THIS has given us an opportunity to learn about the Men and Women commemorated in the Cathedral, about their lives, working careers, good deeds, death and ultimately the legacy they left to the world," said James Armstrong.

HE continued, "So far we have been working on this for a year and a half and hope to get a basic copy into the hands of the Cathedral authorities by Easter which will satisfy their brief to us. It is hoped by the authors that the cathedral will use the information gathered to enrich the experience of visitors to the Cathedral."

THREE weeks of training and continuous assessment went into getting the six drummers, and the all-important French drum major up to scratch before the Arroyo drums were trooped.



Trooping the Drums

How did the Regiment go about trooping the French drums? Andy Taylor, former Sergeant Drums Platoon, and other ex-'French' drummers talk to the Editor

ANDY, Taylor, latterly, Sergeant drums platoon, and responsible for the storage uniforms, along with the platoon's other stores, "the rifle companies were asked for two volunteers each, and they, with the smallest members of the drums, platoon, trained after lunch till 1600, twice a week." He added, "to clean the belts, we used old-style Blanco.

CANADA

ANDY Taylor, from Whitehaven, joined KORBR in 1986 and left in 2011. He took part in trooping the drums at the Royal Tournament and the Calgary Stampede, amongst other places.

THE 'French drummer' uniforms are replicas of British 18C drummer uniforms, with reversed Regimental facings, that is yellow coat and red linings.

The uniforms were kept in the drums platoon stores: the drums in the offices mess. The bear skins had newspaper stuffed inside to maintain their shape.

THE three weeks training was to bring the rifle



company men up to speed on marching to the commands of the mace. "Mace drill", Andy Taylor told me, "is the great difference between ordinary marching with shouted, commands, and band marching, where the marchers are controlled by the movement and position of the Drum Majors mace."

A significant problem was that the drummers had to fit the uniforms. These have been made originally for teenagers, so small men were preferred, however, there



were exceptions. Mal Taylor, "I wore the uniform one year. At 6'2" tall, it was a tight fit. Uncomfortable, but that was mainly due to the style of the uniform."

FRENCH DRUMMERS

AND he recalled that the French drummers were selected by the second week, and for the rest of the preparation time, the rifle company volunteers became members of the drums platoon. "The parade was quite daunting, I was the junior member, having joined the battalion in 1969, although I had come from two years in Oswestry, and my drill was not too shabby, not that Gordon Perry agreed with my estimation," remembered Dave Hall.

ANDY Taylor couldn't remember any funny stories about the drums and comments from others perhaps explains why. Dave Hall again, "I did it at Weeton, good memories and proud to put on the yellow uniform."

STATE WALK

DANIEL Parsonage's biggest memory, was Ted Peacock, trying to teach him how to do the state walk with a mace, "After an hour, he threw his hand in, gave me a rifting, and told me to "Just flipping carry it" or words to that effect. Happy days."

IN THE MESS

ONCE the parade was finished, the drummers were guests of honour at the Regimental messes. They were not allowed to buy drinks.

BUT Dave Hall split his trousers, "I remember not going over to the officers' mess for a free drink because of it. Just as well as I probably have ended up washing glasses."

THERE are no plans for the drums to be trooped in the immediate future, but the originals are of course on display at the Museum.

More on 4BORDER in 1940

Valuable extra information for our Summer 2021 article

IN 2021 the article included this, "Despite local successes the attacks, at Savuese and Picquigny, failed to reach their objectives."

ANDREW Ackroyd has been in touch with information about his Great Uncle, Sergeant John McLean, 4BORDER who won the DCM at Saveuse in Normandy in 1940.

MACLEAN'S DCM

THE citation reads: "Sjt Maclean's Coy, carried in lorries, suddenly came under flanking fire at short range from houses in the village of Saveuse. The men immediately dismounted and took cover, but as subunits had been split up to make the most of the transport accommodation, some tactical disorganisation ensued.

Sjt McLean quickly appreciating that heavy casualties could only be avoided by immediate offensive action, collected a handful of men, charged the nearest enemy with the bayonet at point-blank range, and put them to flight with a loss to them of some prisoners.

Sjt Macleans, unhesitating, offensive, his coolness and his courage formed a fine inspiration to his men and were in great measure responsible for averting a very dangerous situation."

MACLEAN went on to serve in the Middle East, Syria, North Africa, India and Burma. Andrew posted this information on The Border Regiment Facebook Group. <<https://www.facebook.com/groups/BorderRegiment>>

Captions

1. Cromwell Ward's memorial monument in the Cathedral. The fascinating story behind the monument emerged as a result of a survey of all the Cathedral's monuments.

2. Rehearsing in Cyprus. Drum Major is Spencer Wiggins, then from the left, Gary English, Darren Stewart, Dave Jeffery, Andrew Collinge, John Timperly, Kevin Briggs © Dave Hall.

3. 1LANCS rehearsing trooping the drums at Fulwood Barracks 2014. The Regimental drum major showing how to walk the walk.

4. From left to right Drummer Gary Deverson, French drummer Private Lord, at the Corporals Ball at Montgomery barracks Kladow, Berlin in the early 1980s ©Peter Mitchell

Irish or British Army Establishment?

Cromwell Ward joined a regiment that was on the Irish Establishment.

What did that mean?

Parliament and, to be fair, all of Britain in the 18C was suspicious of the Army. Whilst the Navy went about its business unseen, and was feted for its achievements, there was always worries that a large army might be a tool of oppression. The Navy could not be used against rioters or support a dictatorial government.

Keeping the Government short of money was one way that Parliament could control the Army's size. Keeping some regiments in Ireland was an accounting technique that allowed the Government a larger Army.

Regiments on the Irish establishment were essential cadres that could be converted quickly into full strength units. They were not permitted to recruit Roman Catholics, but often did.

Book shelf

New books and ones that you may have missed. All can be ordered from 'Bookcases', Castle Street, Carlisle. This book is by the Editor!



The Opium War
Julia Lovell
Picador
ISBN: 9780330457484
£12.99

CHINA is one of the historic building blocks of the Museum. In this book, Julia Lovell gives the wider context to our Dragon story.

In October 1839, Britain entered the first Opium War with China.

Its brutality notwithstanding, the conflict was also threaded with tragicomedy: with Victorian hypocrisy, bureaucratic fumbings, military missteps, political opportunism and collaboration. Yet over the past hundred and seventy years, this strange tale of misunderstanding, incompetence and compromise has become the founding episode of modern Chinese nationalism.

STARTING from this first conflict, The Opium War explores how China's national myths mould its interactions with the outside world, how public memory is spun to serve the present,

and how delusion and prejudice have bedevilled its relationship with the modern West.

History's waiting room

Thoughts triggered by the original 'The Lion and the Dragon', in this case from 1983 from David Allardice.

THE BERLIN MILITARY TRAIN

THE Lion and the Dragon of Spring 1983 carried a piece about the military train. It got David Allardice remembering.



"Of all the many duties in Berlin, the most popular was Officer Commanding the Military Train. The 'Berliner' ran daily from Berlin to Brunswick. Daily, in order to prove to the Russians that we could, and did!

THE guard entailed an officer and 4 soldiers. It left Charlottenburg Station at 8.42am. Breakfast was served in the Restaurant Car – OC Train had his own table served by venerable West German waiters.

ALL viewed the Russian barracks en route.

AT Marienborn Station, we alighted and presented details of those on the train to the Russian officials in a station Waiting Room before reboarding the train for lunch, arriving in Brunswick at 12.28pm.

THE return journey was just as onerous!"

David Allardice

Picture is a screenshot of the OC the Military Train from a 1981 BBC documentary

The Family

Letters to the editor and pictures relating to the Regimental Family that deserve wider circulation.



INDIA AND BORDON

LIAM Crowley posted this wonderful image on The Border Regiment Facebook Group. His uncle served with the 1st Bn, prior to his posting to the 2nd Bn in India.

LIAM also posted this picture of the Guadeloupe Barracks, the Regiment's home in Hampshire between the Wars.



WHICH prompted Davis Ruane, former KORBR to write, "I was stationed in Bordon (Prince Phillip Barracks) how ironic after knowing my ancestor was in Bordon."

RESEARCH QUERY

I'M researching my great-grandfather, Major John F Hopkinson, and I came across your summer 2021 issue of "The Lion and the Dragon", which has some very useful information. The newsletter quotes a diary of his (which I wasn't aware was in existence) and I was wondering where your researchers accessed this source.

Hazel Hopkinson [Hazel's query has gone to the Museum. The Museum is always happy to help - Editor]

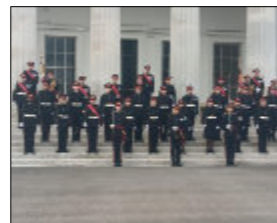
Still serving

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



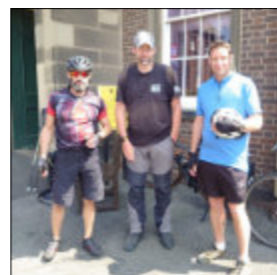
NEW CAP BADGE

THE Duke of Lancaster's new cap badge design. The crown on the cap badge has changed from the St Edward's crown to the Tudor crown adopted by King Charles. The badge is otherwise the same.



CORONATION

THE Regiment's marching detachment for the Coronation parade at Sandhurst.



MARK HARDING'S AMAZING EXPLOITS

LOCAL veteran Mark Harding called at the Museum on his mammoth John O'Groats to Lands End walk. Mark is walking with the aid of crutches and raising money for the charity 'Scotty's Little Soldiers'.

A former Duke of Lancaster's soldier, Mark was shot whilst serving in Afghanistan and was told he would never walk again.

Museum, Veterans, Friends and Supporters

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

MUSEUM NEWS

WE welcome Rachel Brodie to the staff team. Rachel will be looking after school visits, work placements, family activities and assisting with events over the next two years. Planning has begun for our summer holiday workshops.

MUSEUM CLOSED

PLEASE note that the Museum will be closed from Wednesday 6 to Sunday 10 September due to an event at the Castle.



COMMANDING IMAGES TEMPORARY EXHIBITION

'Commanding Images: Treasures from the Museum's is a chance to see artworks from the collections that are not normally on display, including the Protails painting of members of the 34th Foot playing skittles with French soldiers during the Crimean War.



CHAIRMAN RETIRES

NIGEL Lewis has retired as Chairman of the Friends after eight years. Nigel has overseen the closer integration of the Friends with the Museum. It's a valuable legacy. A job well done.



EXHIBITION PRIVATE VIEW

AT the private viewing our Patron, The Honourable Caroline Haughy QC, emphasised the importance of the Museum's work and the necessity of keeping all military museums open.

SHE complimented The Friends for their focussed fund-raising for the picture's restoration, having collected enough from their events to pay for the refurbishment in total.

CAROLINE presented a cheque for £850 to match the money raised by the raffle at the Museum's birthday event.



MILITARY FESTIVAL

THE Museum held its second Festival of military life over the weekend of

3 June. We were pleased to welcome the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment and the Cadet Corps, alongside reenactors including some from the Middle Ages, the 18C and WW2

THE Festival included formal demonstrations and short talks. It is a not to be missed event that demonstrates the range and significance of Cumbria's military past



FONTENOY DAY - REGIMENTAL WEEKEND

THE Museum enjoys a close and rewarding relationship with veterans, especially on the Regimental Weekend. It hosts monthly Veteran Lunches and receives significant support from former members of the KORBR and the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment. Thank you.



ACROSS THE POND

A reenactor from our friends at the 34th Foot in New England, recreates the family of one of our regiments who served in North America in the 18C.

MAGAZINE CHANGES

WE are now printing the "The Lion & the Dragon" on slightly lighter paper. Costs, ever costs, but we hope that the quality is still acceptable.

Diary

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

'Until 15 October 2023

Commanding Images' Temporary exhibition runs until 15 October 2023

Monday 17 July, 1230

Veterans' Lunch, the Museum. Tickets £3 per person

Monday 21 August, 1230

Veterans' Lunch, the Museum. Tickets £3 per person



Tuesday, 12 September 1730

Tuesday Talks Series 'James IV and the Battle of Flodden'. Tom Snaith, the Museum

Monday 18 September, 1230

Veterans' Lunch, the Museum. Tickets £3 per person

Tuesday, 10 October, 1730

Tuesday Talks Series – 'Preparing for War: the British Army and the American War of Independence' Paul Knight

Monday 16 October, 1230

Veterans' Lunch, the Museum. Tickets £3 per person

Tuesday, 14 November 1730

Hawthorn Crater, Fiona Graham and Paul Ottey, the Museum

Monday 20 November 1230

Veterans' Lunch, the Museum. Tickets £3 per person

And almost finally

A comment on Regimental life by Alex Paterson, former KORBR and now designer at the House of Commons.

ARROYO The Legacy

Ever since that battle, the regiment has celebrated its victory.



The Border Regiment always kept a number of drummers' uniforms from the old 34th.



The uniforms were always made in small sizes so the shortest, youngest soldiers were volunteered to wear them on Arroyo Day.



The annual parade saw the drums trooped in front of the regiment as the band played 'La Marseillaise' and 'Le Reve Pässe'. One time we invited a French regiment to come and watch!



Dont worry. It was all very friendly, even when the most junior officer had to recite the story of the battle.



Illustrated by Alex Paterson

ENDEX

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

THE HARP SONG OF THE DANE WOMEN

What is a woman that you forsake her,
And the hearth-fire and the home-acre,
To go with the old grey Widow-maker?

Rudyard Kipling



LEAD PIGEON

AN unusual toy soldier: a WW1 pigeon handler.

MOD SPARES

A recent MoD document listed surplus spares for sale. It included these items. Sales are subject to various regulations but "will be sold on a first come first served basis", so get in quick.

- 6 Interface units, communication equipment
- 1 Countermeasures set
- 24 Washers, flat
- 1 Nut, self-locking, hexagon
- 1 Screw, machine

A MILITARY TELEVISION FIRST?

TELEVISION was first demonstrated to the public at the Army & Navy stores, Victoria, London, in 1926.

HALF EMPTY?

"One day I sat thinking, almost in despair; a hand fell on my shoulder and a voice said reassuringly, "Cheer up, things could be worse." So I cheered up, and sure enough, things got worse."

James Hagerty

Our Heritage

Cumbria's military heritage includes the Militia, the Yeomanry, Territorials 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 1751 regiments became known by their 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.

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

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

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



Cumbria Civil Defence cloth badge late 20C



Officer's belt buckle 34th Foot



Officer's shako plate 55th Foot circa 1844

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 4 1855, Brevet Major Frederick Cockayne Elton VC, 55th Foot, Sevastopol, Crimea

"For distinguished conduct during night when in command of a working party in the advanced trenches in front of the Quarries in encouraging and inciting his men, by his example, to work under a dreadful fire..."



9 August 1915, Gallipoli, Rest in peace

2nd Lt Nowell Oxland, 6 Border and poet. Killed in action.

Picture by courtesy of The Provost and Fellows of Worcester College, Oxford.

12 September, 1943 Taranto, Italy 'Operation Slapstick'

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

17 - 25 September 1944. Arnhem, The Netherlands, Border Regiment

The 1st battalion's dogged defence of the western perimeter of 1st Airborne's position at Oosterbeek during 'Operation Market Garden'.

17 September 1705. Barcelona, Colonel Hamilton's Regiment of Foot

Grenadiers from Hamilton's Regiment of Foot along with the other grenadiers of Lord Peterborough's Anglo-Dutch army, storm the bastion at Montjuïc on the south side of Barcelona, during the War of Spanish Succession.



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.

October 1799, Egmont-op-Zee, The Netherlands, 55th Foot.

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



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

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

Information

Cumbria's Museum of Military Life

Alma Block
Carlisle Castle
Carlisle
Cumbria
CA3 8UR
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

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Carlisle Castle

Duke of Lancaster's Regiment

Fulwood Barracks
Watling Street Road
Preston
PR2 8AA

Cumbria Army Cadet Force

HQ
Carlisle Castle
Cumbria
CA3 8UR

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Editor: Peter Green

peter.castra@gmail.com;

Writing team: David

Allardice, Ted Carter, Mike

Rosling, Stuart Eastwood,

Harry Fecitt, Alex Paterson

and Toby Brayley.



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