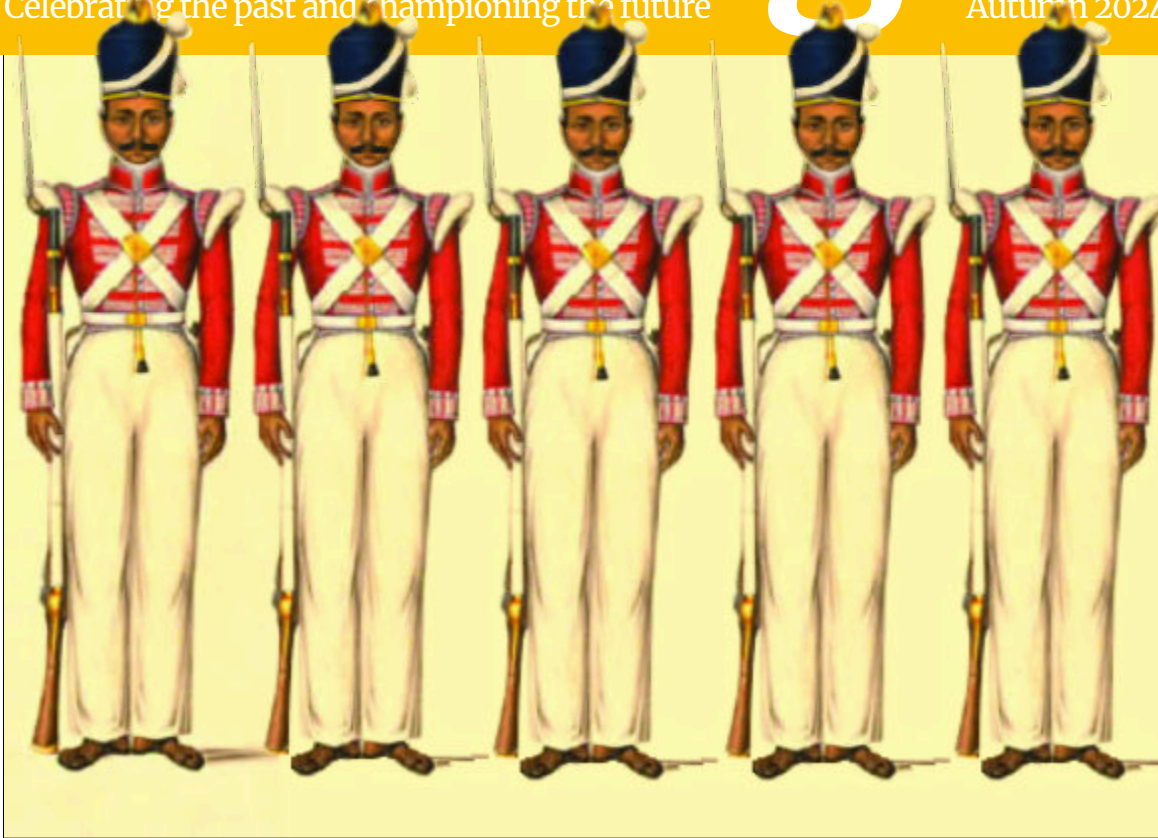


# The Lion & the Dragon

Celebrating the past and championing the future

Autumn 2024

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



## Our Colonel and the 1806 Mutiny

THE church of St. Mary the Virgin in the village of Woodford, Northamptonshire, is a Grade 1 Listed Twelfth Century building separated from the River Nene by a field often occupied by grazing cattle. In 1770, the father of St. John Fancourt, future Colonel of the 34th, was vicar of Woodford, and the church, despite some elements being remodelled by the Victorians, still looks much as it would have done when St. John knew it.

THE same applies to the sixteenth-century granite-built fort at Vellore, which is a city of half a million people lying one hundred kilometres west of Chennai in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu. A water-filled moat surrounds the fort now, but otherwise it looks much as it did in 1806, when St. John Fancourt, Lieutenant-Colonel of the 34th Regiment, took command, taking with him his wife of five years, Amelia (née Farrer) and their two young children.

FANCOURT'S new post took him away from his regiment. Instead, under his command at Vellore, were three battalions of

the Madras Native Infantry (MNI) and four companies of the 69th Regiment. A number of men from other regiments were also present, under treatment in the hospital. As well as the troops,



and all the ancillary staff, the fort housed, in a central palace complex, the sons and daughters of Tipu Sultan, the ruler of Mysore killed at the Battle of Seringapatam (now Shiringapattana) in 1799. Moved two hundred miles east from Mysore, to prevent them becoming a focus of unrest there, the royal princes and princesses lived a life of idle luxury, tended by a court which totalled nearly three thousand people.

HOWEVER, many of the Vellore sepoys were recruited from Tipu Sultan's army; the distance from Mysore did not mean the princes could not be used as totems for insurrection, and a spark for that was lit in late 1805.

### Contents

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- And almost finally - cartoon
- 'ENDEX'
- 'Lest we forget'

### SITREP

THE East India Company administrators showed an arrogant ignorance of local beliefs that is mind blowing. In 1806 mutiny, massacre and executions were a direct result of failing to listen to the people on the ground, let alone the native Indian community, as guest author and historian Jon Dewhurst explains.

ONE of the casualties was the Colonel of the 34th Foot, who lost his life whilst dealing with the mess created by Sir John Craddock, Commander-in-Chief of the East India Company's Madras Army.

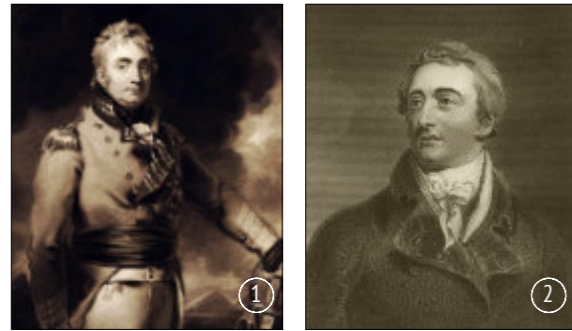
SUMMARY executions of several hundred mutineers, without trial followed, Appalling, but the past is a very different place. Sadly the lesson from Vellore to respect local beliefs was not learnt and India would erupt again

*Peter Green*



## CHANGES TO UNIFORMS

IN November of that year all Madras Native regiments received a letter from Adjutant-General Patrick Agnew which informed them that Sir John Cradock, Commander-in-Chief of the Madras Army, had decreed changes to dress regulations. With a stroke of brilliance Cradock managed to upset both Hindu and Muslim troops of all ranks by banning the display of all caste marks and ornaments (such as ear-rings and bangles), insisting that all beards and moustaches be shaved off, and revealing that traditional sepoy turbans were to be replaced by round hats, hats which the sepoys associated with European, and therefore, Christian, troops. In that one letter Cradock and Agnew had managed to disrespect the sepoys' cultural traditions, insult their religions, and instil apprehension of creeping Christian conversion. Brilliant.



### Our author Jonathan Dewhirst

Jonathan Dewhirst is a retired teacher, and a keen family and local historian. Born in Mirfield, West Yorkshire, and now living near Bedale in North Yorkshire.

He has been writing a Small Wars series for ten years, inspired by church memorials and the realisation that the media place all discussions of war in the context of either the Somme or Nazism.

The issues of war and the lives of those involved is so much more complex than that.

Jonathan's blog is at <https://shorturl.at/Tm14u>

PROTESTS everywhere. Under pressure from commanding officers like Fancourt, who feared trouble, Cradock attempted to rescind the changes. Now entered into the ranks of the arrogantly foolish the Governor of Madras, Lord William Bentinck; he refused to sanction the reversal of the orders, and insisted that protesters be dealt with severely.

WHEN twenty-nine sepoys of the 4th Regiment of the MNI protested at Wallajahbad in May, 1806 they were arrested, sentenced to be lashed, and then either removed from the army or forced to apologise. The harsh response created festering resentment, and in June Mustapha Beg, a sepoy of the 1st Regiment MNI in Vellore, warned his commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Nathaniel Forbes, of a plot to rebel against the British in Vellore. His warning was disregarded, and life in the fort carried on as normal; the 69th sweating in their barracks, the married officers fretting about the effect the heat was having on their families, Tipu Sultan's children preparing a wedding for one of the daughters, and the Vellore sepoys growing increasingly restless.

## MUTINY

THE tension burst at two in the morning on July 10th. The native troops initially targeted their officers, killing fourteen, before moving on to the hospital and the European barracks. Both places suffered heavy casualties, with survivors either barricading themselves behind makeshift defences or scattering for safety. Lieutenant-Colonel Mackarras, of the 23rd MNI, and St. John Fancourt, still dressed in his nightshirt, were shot as they attempted to rally opposition. Mackarras was killed, while Fancourt, wounded, but not dead, collapsed on the sand and grit of the parade ground.

THERE was no proof that the Mysore princes were involved in the revolt, although suspicion lingered over two of the younger sons, Abdul Khaliq and Muiz Ud-din. Whatever, the mutineers hauled down the Union Flag and raised in its place the tiger-striped banner of Mysore, hailing as their new king the eldest prince, Fateh Hyder.

THE chaotic nature of the mutiny did not work to the mutineers' advantage, as not all the British remained holed up inside houses and storerooms. Fancourt's wife, Amelia, escaped with her son and daughter, exiting with an ayah through a postern gate, and hidden in a shed by friendly mutineers until



the relief force arrived, for arrive they did, and quickly. One officer, Major Cootes, escaped on horseback to ride the twelve miles to Arcot, where Major-General Rollo Gillespie, a renowned fighting soldier, was in charge. Ordering the rest of his regiment to follow as soon as possible, he set off immediately with a force of twenty men of the 19th Light Dragoons.

## FIRING RUPEES

MEANWHILE fighting was continuing in the fort. Groups of survivors merged, escaped from the vulnerable barracks to the more defensible ramparts and advanced to a position over the main gateway. They were running out of ammunition, but found a use for the rupees spilled from the paymaster's money chests that had been looted by the mutineers - the coins made effective bullet-substitutes.

FROM their new position a counter-attack was launched, and the British took the bastion on which the flagstaff stood. The significance of the flag became apparent when, despite being exposed to open fire, a number of soldiers attempted to lower the Mysore banner. Two were killed, but two others, Sergeant Angus McManus and Private Philip Bottom, succeeded. The situation, however, was still desperate, with most officers dead or wounded, and ammunition, despite the rupees, running short.

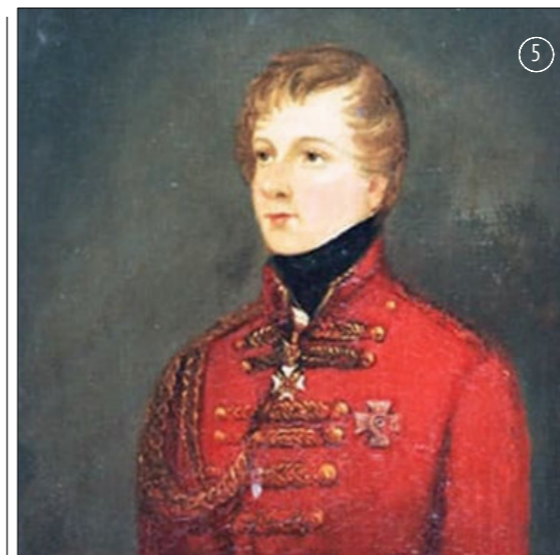
THEN, quite literally, the cavalry, Gillespie and his Light Dragoons, arrived. Gillespie and a Captain Wilson were hauled up onto the ramparts by rope, and Gillespie led a counter-charge of three groups along the ramparts (one led by Gillespie, one by Sergeant Brady, and one by Assistant-Surgeon Dean, indicating how few of the fort's officers were left). The charge distracted the mutineers' attention away from the further reinforcements of Madras Cavalry and dragoons that had arrived from Arcot and were gathering before the fort, waiting for Lieutenant John Blakiston, of the Madras Engineers, to blow up the gates. Once he did, in they stormed. By two in the afternoon, twelve hours after it had started, the mutiny was over, and the search for the survivors, the wounded and the dead began. The rebel sepoys were rounded up for retribution.

## DEATH TOLL

AS the body count increased (Captain David Wilson, 23rd Regiment Madras Native Infantry, from Edinburgh was found dead before his quarters; the wife and children of Lieutenant John Elley, 69th Regiment, killed; Lieutenant John Tichborne, 1st Regiment Madras Native Infantry, from the eponymous Tichborne in Hampshire; and on it went).

OVER two hundred British troops and civilians had been killed, and Gillespie wanted to take revenge, sending a message to all potential mutineers. He ordered the random selection of one hundred sepoys, lined them up against a wall, and executed them.

IN his memoirs Lieutenant Blakiston was to describe the act as brutal and cruel - but he admitted that at the time, and in the



place, he fully approved. In all the sepoys suffered greater losses than the British, with between six hundred and eight hundred killed or executed. Of the British one of the last to die was St. John Fancourt. Still alive when found on the parade ground he died at four in the afternoon, but his family, thanks to an Indian nurse and some mutineers, survived. We do not know whether the men who helped Amelia were among the one hundred selected to die against the fort's wall.

IN some ways the mutiny could be called a success. The new dress regulations were abandoned, and flogging was forbidden in the Madras Army, and subsequently in all Indian Army regiments. The two men primarily responsible for the regulations, Bentinck and Cradock, were recalled to England. Mustapha Beg, the sepoy who had warned of the revolt, was given a cash reward, although it did not turn out too well for some of his fellows.

IN addition to the one hundred executed without trial by Gillespie, a court martial of the ringleaders resulted in six being blown from the mouths of cannons, five shot by firing squad, eight hung, and five transported. Tipu Sultan's family were removed to Calcutta, although Abdul Khaliq died on board ship

before even reaching it. Muiz Ud-din was jailed until 1813, eventually dying of cholera in 1818.

## FANCOURT FAMILY

AMELIA Fancourt survived her husband by over forty years, dying at 21, Lansdowne Parade, Cheltenham, in January, 1852, aged 75. Her elder son, Charles St. John Fancourt, was briefly M.P. for Barnstaple before becoming Superintendent of the British Honduras from 1843 to 1851.

OF the other major characters those more responsible for the mutiny appear to have prospered more. William Bentinck, despite being recalled, went on to become influential in the government of Sicily (from where he was again recalled, for planning to establish a liberal constitution in Italy, once he'd driven out the French) and was then Governor of Bengal between 1828 and 1835, where he was a leading opponent of the more barbaric caste rituals such as sutis. He died in Paris in 1839, aged sixty-five.

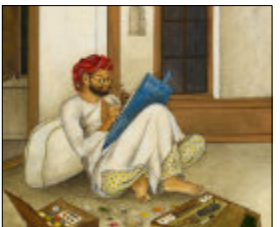
SIR John Cradock commanded the British Army in Portugal before Wellington, became Governor of Gibraltar and The Cape Colony, and was made Baron Howden in 1819. He died at Grimston, East Yorkshire in 1839, a month after Bentinck, aged seventy-nine. Patrick Agnew was also recalled, but was exonerated and so returned to India, serving as Adjutant-General with the expedition to Java, and dying in 1813, aged forty-nine.

THE man who led the cavalry, Rollo Gillespie, was to die at the other end of India, fighting the Nepalese, in 1814. Whilst the man who blew the gates, John Blakiston, fought in Java and the Peninsular War, and died at The New Hall, Mobberley, Cheshire, in 1867, aged eighty-two. Assistant-Surgeon John Dean, who led one of Gillespie's counter-charges along the ramparts, survived to return home and raise a family. In 1851 he was living in White Hall, Chingford, aged 69, with his wife, twenty years younger than himself, and three children. Some folk have happy endings.

Jonathan Dewhirst

## Captions

Cover. Madras Infantry in the East India Company's army in the early 19C. Taken from a



painting by Yellapah (above) in a self-portrait, part of a painting community based in Vellore.

Inset cover: Srirangapatna 26 February 1792. Abdul Khaliq (aged ten) and Mohin-ud-din (aged eight) two of Tipu's sons are taken as hostages to ensure that the Treaty of Srirangapatna 1792 was fulfilled. Painted by Robert Home the original is in the National Army Museum.

1. Sir John Cradock, Commander-in-Chief of the East India Company's Madras Army. © British Museum Creative Commons

2. Sir William Bentinck, Governor of Madras. He and Cradock were recalled to Britain The new orders were cancelled. Based on painting by Sir T. Lawrence.

3. Vellore Fort today. There was no water in 1806. Then the fort was surrounded by a dry ditch.

4. The areas where the 1st battalion 34th Foot served in the first decade of the 19C.

5. Robert Rollo Gillespie. The original is in The Museum of The Queen's Royal Hussars - Churchill's Own at Warwick.



A few years ago, I discovered the music of Felix Burns and began a large collection of lively dance tunes, military marches, complex piano solos and a whole lot more.

# Bandmaster, Choirmaster and master of dance

Kim Tame writes about her research into a fascinating 4BORDER composer, bandmaster and choirmaster from the start of the Twentieth Century.

RESEARCHING a biography of Burns became my Covid lockdown project, and in 'Bandmaster of Carlisle; the Life and Music of Felix Burns 1863-1920' I can now share what I learnt about this talented and interesting man.

## A SCOT IN CARLISLE

FELIX Burns was born in Perth, Scotland, but spent most of his adult life in Carlisle. He and his wife, Kate, were to have 13 children, so he never had the option of not working. He was a composer and teacher as well as a versatile performer in at least three bands. In 1887, he published his first composition – of about 400 – *Wide Awake Polka*, inspired by the experience of young children not going to sleep. He enlisted in the Territorial Army and from 1893, led the band of the 4th Battalion, the Border Regiment, with the rank of Sergeant Drummer. This added regular meetings at the Drill Hall in Strand Road, training camps, civic parades and brass band competitions to his busy schedule. He also became organist and choir director at Our Lady and St Joseph's Church in Warwick Road.

## RECRUITER

FELIX was not physically fit for active military service and spent the Boer War organising fundraising concerts to support wounded soldiers and their dependants. His stirring marches of this time include *Sons of Britannia*, *Sons of Empire* and *Trooping the Colours*.

DURING the Great War, Felix was recruiting sergeant at Carlisle Castle and by the end of November 1914 had guided almost 600 men through the enlistment

process. At the same time, the extra wartime population of Carlisle needed entertainment;

PLUS, hundreds of workers from HM Gretna were catching the train into Carlisle for a night out at the weekends. By this time, Felix was producing his dance albums; collections of tunes for a complete evening of dancing, arranged

IT is the proud boast of the Royal Engineers that they have been involved in every major conflict that the United Kingdom has been involved in.

## Cumbria's Ubique 'Everywhere' Soldiers

Ted Carter's second part of a brief history of the Royal Engineers

HOWEVER, what is lesser well know is that they were the basis several other units into the army. Military Survey and ordnance, & Air Defence. Indeed, they were also as the 'Air Battalion' Royal Engineers, first formed in 1862, the forerunners of the Royal Flying Corps, Royal Signals, even the RCT, with the Royal Engineer's Transportation & Movements Service.

## ANYTHING TECHNICAL

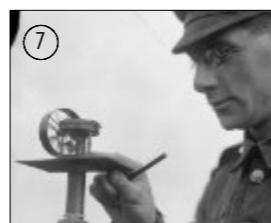
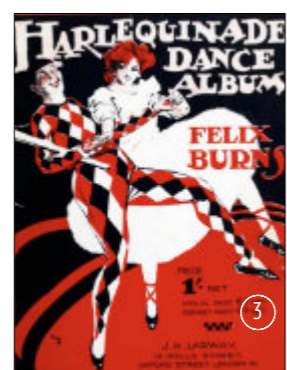
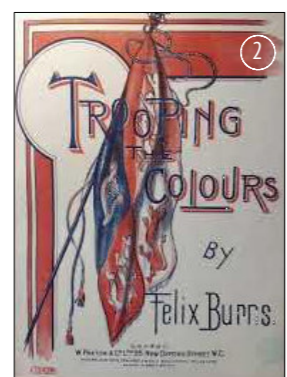
FURTHER, it is no idle statement, to say that were it not for the Royal Engineers, The British Army would have been unable to play their part in WWI. No supplies. The RE's maintained the railways, roads, water supply, bridges, and transport. RE's also operated the railways and inland waterways. No Communications. because the RE's maintained the telephones, wireless and other signalling equipment. Further, without them there would also have been very little defence for our forward troops. It was the Engineers that built the front-line positions & fortifications for the artillery and Infantry. Oh yes! It also fell to the technically skilled RE's to develop responses to chemical and underground

for the intermediate musician. Wartime life is reflected in titles such as; *Off to the Allotment*, *The Munitions Lassie* and *Somewhere in France*. Other tunes paid tribute to wartime leaders and regiments, including *Kitchener's Boys*, *Beattie's Boys*, *Scottish Rifles* and *The London Scottish*.

## ILL HEALTH

FELIX'S health continued to decline, and he was discharged from the Border Regiment during 1916. He died in January 1920 at the age of 56, and among the floral tributes at his funeral was a wreath from the NCOs, officers and men of the Border Regiment.

Kim Tame



warfare. And finally, without the RE's the infantry and artillery would have soon been powerless, as they maintained the guns and other weapons.

## VOLUNTEER ENGINEERS

ROYAL Engineers were recruited from across the United Kingdom, including the Counties of both Cumbria, and Lancashire. In fact, Cumbria had a volunteer engineer corps as early as 1861. Formed at Cockermouth, in September the 1st Cumberland engineer Volunteer Corp it served with the administrative brigade from 1862, until becoming an artillery unit in 1864.

WHEN they became part of the Royal Garrison Artillery, and when the Territorial Force was created in 1908, they formed a Royal Field Artillery howitzer brigade for the East Lancashire Division. In WWI the brigade served at Gallipoli and in Egypt. Additionally, Carlisle was home to an RE Survey Unit during WWI.

PART 3 of Cumbria's Ubique 'Everywhere' Soldiers. Looks at the North West's contribution.

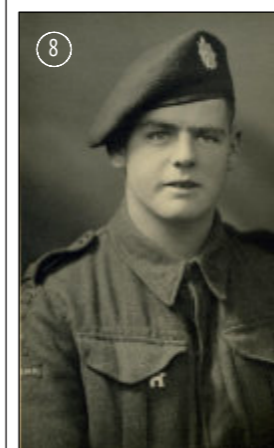
Ted Carter

A native of Apeldoorn, the author has had a life-long interest in the battle of Arnhem and met Sandy Masterton in 1994 during the 50th anniversary pilgrimage of veterans to the town. A firm friendship developed such that when Sandy passed away in June 2016 at the age of 93 his widow and daughter decided to gift his vast collection of wartime memorabilia to Martijn and this has provided the basis of this book. But it's much more than that!

SANDY joined the 8th (Territorial) Bn of The Argyll

## A soldier's tale

Clive Elderton reviews Martijn Cornelissen's fascinating and comprehensive account of the life of Sandy Masterton, 1BORDER.



and Sutherland Highlanders in March 1938 and in early 1942 as a fit young soldier, lured by the attraction of excitement and an extra shilling a day, he volunteered for the newly formed Airborne Forces. Thereafter, Sandy joined the 1st (Airborne) Battalion The Border Regiment and became an anti-tank gunner. As such he served with the Battalion in Tunisia and, to his frustration, was left out of the battle for the airborne assault on Sicily, due to a shortage of gliders. He then moved with the Battalion to Italy via Taranto. The Battalion returned to the UK in November 1943 and in 1944 began a period of intensive training in airlanding operations which culminated in Operation Market Garden at Arnhem in September. Attached to C Company, Sandy fought with his 6 pounder anti-tank gun crew throughout the

battle until evacuated across the Rhine on the night 25th/26th September. Finally, in August 1946, whilst serving in Germany with 1 Border, Sandy was released from the Army and returned to civilian life as a plumber.

THIS is much, much more than simply yet another book about Arnhem. It is the story of the highs, lows, excitement and fears of wartime infantry soldiers, told through the eyes of Sandy and many of those who shared his experiences. It seems Sandy threw nothing from his Army days away and

this book includes photographs of the minutia of soldiering; leave passes, personal service records, his paybook, theatre tickets, newspaper clippings, official signal messages and literally dozens of named and annotated b&w photographs of those he served with, many of which appear in print for the first time. This is a superbly produced book of the highest quality with text which is a model of clarity which is enhanced by the most remarkable selection of, mostly annotated, photographs drawn from a vast range of private and public sources.

HAVING served myself



with Arnhem Company 1 King's Own Border in the 1970's I can testify to the almost legendary status accorded to the airborne veterans of the Regiment and the enormous sense of pride all members of the Battalion had in wearing the glider badge on the right upper arm in recognition of the wartime exploits of 1 Border with the 1st Airborne Division. As the former Colonel of the Regiment, and my good friend, Brigadier Mike Griffiths says in his Foreward,

"I was very privileged during my service to meet many of these airborne warriors...These were courageous men doing their best in the most difficult of circumstances."

I feel similarly fortunate to have known several of the remarkable personalities mentioned in Martijn Cornelissen's book. He has done them all, the Regiment and military historians, and Sandy Masterton proud by publishing the fruits of his meticulous research. Even at £38, including p&p, by modern standards this book is excellent value and most highly recommended, but be quick, because I sense, like other airborne related books of this quality, it will soon become an unobtainable collector's item!

Clive Elderton

**'A Border Soldier at Arnhem – The Army Days of Private Alexander 'Sandy' Masterton 1st Battalion The Border Regiment 1938-1946' by Martijn Cornelissen. Published by Sigmund Publishing, Netherlands, at £38 incl p&p.**

Available in the UK from Cumbria's Museum of Military Life enquiries@cmoml.org

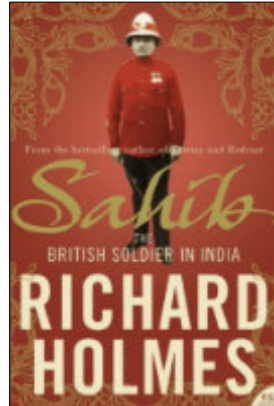
## Captions

1. Felix Burns, Bandmaster 4BORDER ©Kim Tame
2. A march composed in 1909. The music is on You Tube
3. Composed by Burns' in 1913. Again the music is on You Tube
4. Royal Engineers building a railway on the Western Front ©Imperial War Museum
5. Royal Engineers on barges ©Imperial War Museum
6. King George V visits the Air Battalion of the Royal Engineers at Farnborough ©Imperial War Museum
7. Royal Engineers' Meteorology Section. A Royal Engineer operating an instrument for gauging wind currents at ground level. ©Imperial War Museum
8. Private Sandy Masterton, 1BORDER 1938-1946
9. & 10. Spreads from the book, 'A Border Soldier at Arnhem'.



## Book shelf

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



**Sahib: the British Soldier in India** Richard Holmes  
Harper Collins  
Paperback  
£14.99

'SAHIB' is the history of the British soldier in India from Clive to the end of empire, using personal accounts of soldiers who served in the vast and varied nation that made up the jewel in Britain's imperial crown.

ITS focus on the experience of ordinary soldiers, "Sahib" explains why soldiers of the Raj had joined the army, how they got to India and what they made of it when they arrived. The book examines Indian soldiering in peace and war, from Kipling's 'snoring barrack room' to khaki columns inching their way between louring hills.

THE book makes use of often neglected archive material in the India Office Library and National Army Museum.

## History's waiting room

Events from recent history and not so recent history of the Regiment recalled by Keith Raven, Drums Platoon, KORBR



### DRUMS IN THE SUN

THE Corps of Drums Platoon of the 1st Battalion The King's Own Royal Border Regiment in the Southern Cameroons, West Africa 1961. "Whilst the Battalion was in the Southern Cameroons I was chatting with a Nigerian Police Sergeant and he said that there was a Passing Out Parade coming up but they didn't have a band or anything, so I asked him to leave it with me and I would have a word with my Drum Major who said to me do you think we were up to it, as our band was not available so I jumped at the chance

SO we played for them. You can see the police marching behind us.

THIS was a good public relations event which went very well and a first for the Nigerian Police Force with a British Corps of Drums leading the parade."

## The Family

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

### GLIDER CORRECTION

"...you will be aware that the shoulder title you have illustrated in maroon and yellow/orange, with BORDER above the glider came in pairs with glider worn facing forward. They were introduced in May 1951 for Border Regt and similar for South Staffs, They were not war time I am afraid." Clive Elderton, former KORBR

*[Apologies for the error on page 12 of the last edition, - Editor]*



### BURMA MEMORIAL

TRACY Huxley's Dad, Private 3607568, painted this many years ago, "He always wanted to go back to Burma but unfortunately never made it. This was always pride of place in his home." Tracy's father was 8BORDER attached to the Gordon Highlanders, 14th Army



### ARROYOMOLINOS

"MAGNIFICENT weekend with Keith Matthews and Chris, historical researchers of the Arroyomolinos Surprise, traveling the paths, where he spoke and sharing documents, maps and knowledge." Sara Fragoso, 34th The Border Regiment, Arroyomolinos, Spain

*[See more Arroyo News on the opposite page - Editor]*

## Still serving

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



### NEW RSM

REGIMENTAL Sergeant Major, WO1 M Harrison (left) has handed over to WO1 Parry-Jones (right). WO1 Harrison has been promoted to Captain following his successful Late-Entry Commission and will remain with the Battalion as Unit Welfare Officer.

### INTERIM REGIMENTAL SECRETARY

THE Regimental Trustees have agreed that Colonel Andrew Dennis will assume the role of Interim Regimental Secretary, on a part-time basis. A past CO of 3LANCS, Andrew is a current Regimental Board member.



### MUSICAL CADETS

CADETS from Cumbria attended the National Music Camp at Otterburn. Lance Corporal King of Castle Detachment was awarded Best Cadet for Intermediate Band.

### NEW BOMB DISPOSAL ROBOTS

MOD are buying fifty T4 bomb disposal robots. Smaller and more nimble than current robots, they will be used in the rapid response system. The T4 can be carried in a standard 4x4 vehicle.

## Museum, Friends and Supporters

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



### ARNHEM 80 EXHIBITION

'ARNHEM the legacy and aftermath', the new temporary exhibition at the Museum. opened at the end of May and runs until November. Present at the opening was a 1BORDER reenactor.

### ARNHEM LECTURE DAY 5 OCTOBER 2024

ARNHEM Lecture Day – Saturday 5th October 10.15–16.00hrs. An opportunity to increase your knowledge, or to learn something new. The Museum's first themed lecture day, incorporating four talks with an Arnhem theme. Free entrance to the Museum and Arnhem80: The Aftermath and The Legacy exhibition. Lunch and refreshments included. Tickets £25 from the Museum or online

### GOODBYE AND VERY MANY THANKS

CARL Stitt, Friends Treasurer has stood down. His calm and assured attention to our finances will be missed. Of course this means there's a vacancy on the Committee, if you'd like to join us, email mikemilbourn58@gmail.com

MATT Lund, Museum Assistant, who first worked at the Museum as a volunteer, is leaving us at the end of May to train as a Chartered Accountant. Matt will remain as one of the resident experts on the Border Regiment Facebook Group.

MUSEUM Assistant Angela Irwin retired in May. Angela joined the Museum 6 years ago after working in the Regimental Headquarters.

PAUL Lear, the Manager of Fort Ontario in New York State and writer for 'The Lion & Dragon' retired from the NY State Service on 20 June. He hopes to continue writing for us.



### CHEQUE PRESENTATION

IN April the Museum hosted The West Cumberland branch of the Regimental Association for their annual cheque presentation, plus representatives from Military charities, Bolton PRA and KOSB Association. The Museum is grateful for the West Cumberland branch's donation towards Museum funds.

### ARROYO NEWS

WE are planning to launch 'Singular Honour' a book on the battle of Arroyomolinos and its Regimental heritage on 28 October 2025. It will include an article from our friends in Arroyomolinos. The Spanish Embassy have kindly agreed to join us for the event.



### FONTENOY WEEKEND MAY 2024

WONDERFUL weather for the reunion of a wonderful body of men. Everyone was particularly pleased to see the Band on parade.



### MARK HARDING YOMP AMBASSADOR

MY next challenge is to walk 160 miles from my home in Carlisle to the Yomp Basecamp in Blairgowrie. I will be arriving on Friday 7 June! <https://shorturl.at/pwCEQ>



### AIRBORNE TULIPS

"THE 'living memorial' started due to my Grandad William Lewis, Border Regiment," Darren Kaye. "It's a simple idea: plant maroon tulips in and around our Remembrance period in the U.K for the tulips to flower for Liberation Day in The Netherlands." If you'd like to help go to <https://shorturl.at/x20g8>

## Diary

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

### 29 May–November Temporary Exhibition

The Museum, 'Arnhem 80: the aftermath and the legacy 1944–2024'

### Monday, 19 August, 1230 Veterans Lunch

The Museum. Light Lunch provided for a small charge. Pre-booking essential.

### 8 September, 1130 Family day

The Museum, with an afternoon screening of 'Theirs is the Glory'. Tickets £2.00

### 10 September, 1730 Tuesday Talk,

The Museum, "Arnhem 80 Years on" Stuart Eastwood

### Saturday 14 September Page turning

The Cathedral, and The Arnhem Tree, St Cuthbert's Churchyard

### Saturday 14 September Beating Retreat

The Castle, free access but by ticket from Museum

### Saturday 14 September, Arnhem Dinner

Burma Block, the Castle, Tickets bought in advance from the Museum only

### Monday, 16 September, 1230 Veterans Lunch

The Museum. Light Lunch provided for a small charge. Pre-booking essential.

### Saturday 5 October, Arnhem 80 Conference

The Museum, tickets £25

### 8 October 2024, 1730 Tuesday Talk

The Museum, 'The Forgotten Cumbrians, The Border Regiment at Imphal 1944', Mathew Wood

### Monday, 21 October, 1230 Veterans Lunch

The Museum. Light Lunch provided for a small charge. Pre-booking essential.

### 12 November, 1730 Tuesday Talk,

The Museum, 'A game for Christmas: football on the Western Front December 1914', Iain Adams

## And almost finally

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

## NODDY SUITS



We called it the gas chamber and it was one of the funniest bits of training.



I would put on my Noddy suit at home and scare the kids.



And then see my wife suffer from the effects of residual CS gas!



For battle effect, we would have to play rugby before going in the gas chamber.



Weirdly, occasionally there would be someone who had no reaction to CS gas!



Illustrated by Alex Paterson

## ENDEX

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



### MEDIA STARS

"Our pictures here, show men of the 1st Battalion the Kings Own Royal Border Regiment with their new Saxon."

'Operation Lionheart' newspaper 18 September 1984.

### PASTA HISTORY

"Remember what's said about cold spaghetti. Those who forget the pasta are doomed to reheat it."

Ted Carter



### VEGAN EGG BANJO

DON'T try this at home children. Tofu for the egg-white, and turmeric coloured 'white' sauce for the yolk. This one also has tomato sauce. Oh dear.

### WELLINGTON

"My rule always was to do the business of the day in the day."

Duke of Wellington

### CHOTA-HAZRY

AN Indian term for a 'Little breakfast' or any refreshment taken in the early morning, before or after exercise.

Yule & Burnell, 'The Concise Hobson-Jobson Dictionary'



## Our Heritage

Cumbria's military heritage includes the Militia, the Yeomanry, Territorials and specialist units.



Border Regiment Cottages



Carlisle 1905  
7th (Solway Marksmen)  
Cumberland Sharpshooters  
Mid 19C



55th Foot Button  
19C

THE regiment that became known as 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. In 1782 the 34th was given the regional title 'Cumberland'.

THE 55th Foot were raised in 1755 by Charles Perry. They were originally the 57th Foot, but when two lower numbered regiments were disbanded 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 in the North West 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. Sir Joshua Reynolds painting shows the British Commander General Keppel. *The original is in the Museu Nacional de Arte Antigua, Lisbon, Portugal*



### 23 August 1917, Rest in Peace, Private Frederick Miller, 6BORDER.

The son of William and Ruth Miller, of Rockcliffe Cottage, Bacup, Lancashire. Frederick is buried in Tyne Cot Memorial Cemetery, Belgium

*Picture©Imperial War Museum*



### 12 September 1943, Taranto, Italy, 'Operation Slapstick' 1BORDER

The battalion 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 advance to Foggia. *Picture©Imperial War Museum*

### 25 September – 13 October 1915, Loos, France, Border Regiment

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



### 27 September 1915, Rest in Peace, 2nd Lieutenant WE Ogilvie, 9BORDER (Pioneer)

Lt Ogilvie was 21 years old when he was killed in the trenches. He is buried in Hangard Communal Cemetery *Picture©Imperial War Museum*

### 27 September 1900, South Africa, 1BORDER

The battalion sailed from Malta on 27th September 1899, landed at Cape Town on 21st October 1899.

### 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 and despite some successes the expedition as a whole was a failure.



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

During the battle the 2nd Battalion of the 34th Foot captured most of the French 34<sup>ème</sup> régiment d'infanterie, including six of their drums and the drum major's mace. *Picture ©CMOML*

## 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

### Friends of Cumbria's Museum of Military Life

c/o Alma Block  
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

### 'The Lion & the Dragon'

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CUMBRIA'S  
MUSEUM OF  
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