

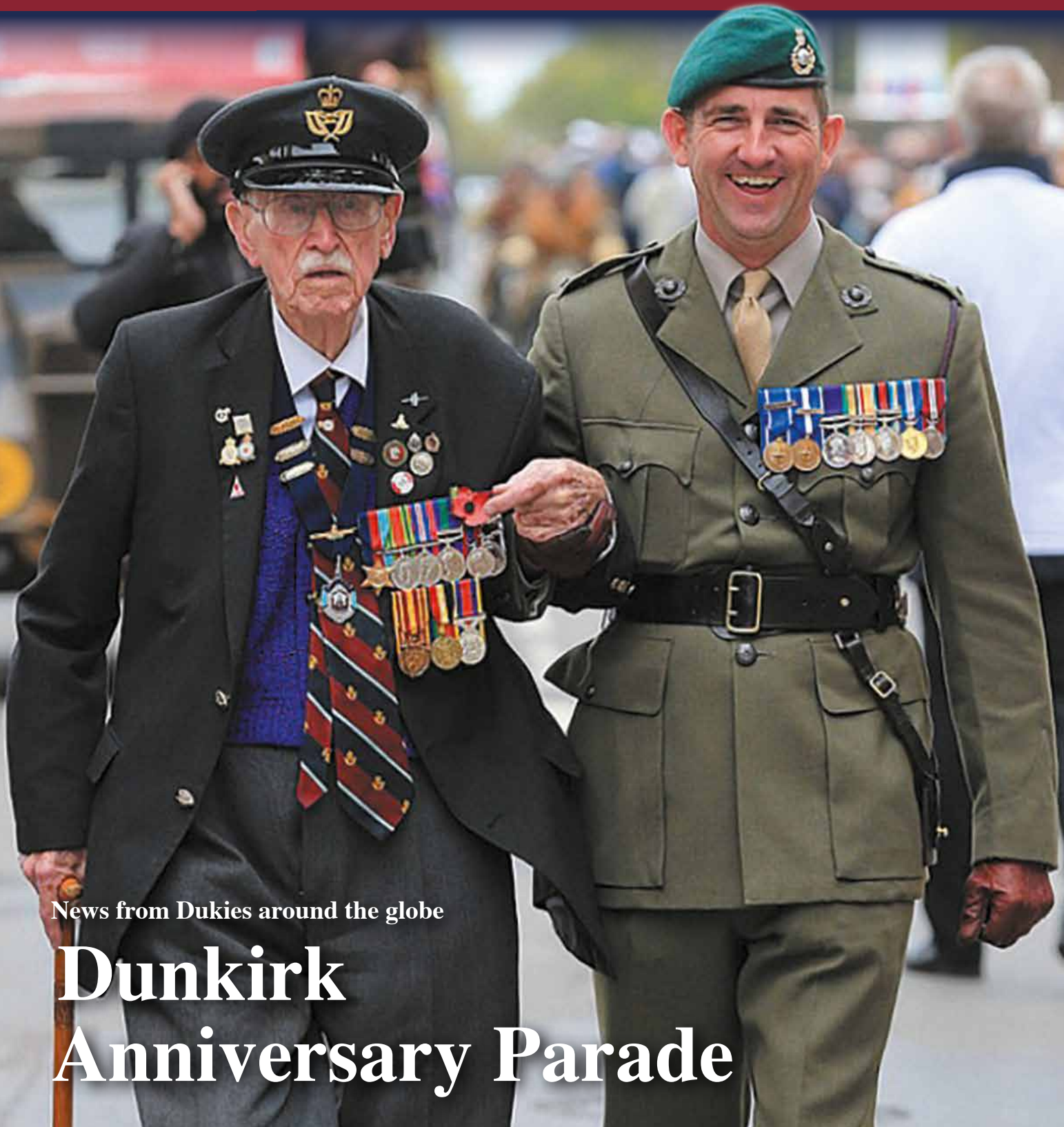


The Dukies' Association

Issue 5 • December 2015

DUKIE NEWS

The newsletter for all members of The Dukies' Association



News from Dukies around the globe

Dunkirk Anniversary Parade

Also in this Edition: **Royal Visit**

HRH Prince Harry surprises the students with a visit to the School

Waterloo 200

The School marks the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo

Your Stories

We have your stories of life after school and memories of your time at the School

From Simon Daghish, Chair of The Dukies' Association MEMBERSHIP PASSES 1,000

Dukie News only gets better and better, thanks to Jenny Grant and our colleagues in School, and the growing number of contributions from Dukies of all ages - look out for the piece from John Bowler, (page 13), one of the top professional musicians of his day.

Remembrance was a tremendous weekend - the best ever, some said. The dinner on the Saturday night had record numbers, over 160 in the renovated Dining Hall, boosted by reunions of the classes of '65, '75, '95 and '05. Note the wide spread of ages, a positive feature in recent times. The company of old Dukies on parade was massive, the Chapel was packed and the singing



hasn't lost any of its power! So I hope those with a 6 in their date of entry or departure will be thinking positively about their own reunions next year.

The Dukies' Association has passed the 1,000 number which is great news and a validation of the vision for it of Executive Principal Chris Russell. I also want to put in a plug for the Clocktower Society which recognises Dukies who choose to give something back by helping the Dukies of today - see below. The sum raised so far is encouraging - £134,000.

We are all Dukies together, united in our commitment to our School and to our mates; and, I particularly hope, to our successors, the Dukies of today. Enjoy the read!

Simon Daghish



THE CLOCKTOWER SOCIETY

THE CLOCKTOWER SOCIETY was originally the idea of Dukie Paul Harrington who, with Peter Vincent, chose to become a major donor to the School in 2010. It has been adopted by TDA as the main vehicle for its fundraising strategy.

Clocktower is a badge of recognition for all donors to the Dukie cause. It is not an 'exclusive club' and includes members from both the OBA and TDA, as well as staff members and friends. We have 26 members at present but would like to reach the magic 100. There is no fixed contribution to achieve Clocktower membership, and we adopt the philosophy of "from a little to a lot." All and any

donations are welcome, no matter how large or small.

Membership is marked by a special badge and invitations to special events, hosted by the Executive Principal, and we hope to eventually recognise all Clocktower donors on a special Honours Board at the School.

Funds raised are paid to the School's tied charity, The Dukies' Foundation (see opposite page) with two Dukie trustees on its board, to ensure proper charitable distribution, accountability and report back.

The overarching Clocktower idea is to help the Dukies of today. From monies raised, Clocktower members have already:-

- Made two student bursary awards, to keep students in school whose family circumstances might otherwise require them to leave.
- Invested significantly in the RSM's leadership/outdoor activities by the purchase of equipment (Land rover and outdoor kit) and making student grants to ensure equal access. See page 8 for Borneo and CCF camp write-ups.
- Funded visiting star coaching in sports/arts activities to improve standards and encourage participation. See page 14 for Salsa Workshop.

We would like to recognise the following donors who, amongst others, have contributed to the Dukie Cause, and to whom we are extremely grateful:

Andy Barlow	Tim Foster	Peter Somerville
Don Birch	Peter Goble	Dominic Vermeulen-Smith
Karl Biscoe	Paul Harrington	Peter Vincent
Caroline Cant	Ian Kennett	Neil Welton
Graham Chipperfield	David Lewis	Chris Winter
Chris Crowcroft	Allan Mayo	Steven Winter
Simon Daghish	Geoff Ralph	Nigel Wylde
Pete Delduca	David Richmond	
James Dove	Bill Rogers	

If you are interested in finding out more about the Clocktower Society please get in touch with Jenny at jennifer.grant@doyrms.com or 01304 245078.



PANEL MEMBERS

There is a TDA page on the School website www.doyrms.com/The-Dukies-Association-Home. The panel meets four times a year, and welcomes input from all Dukies.

Simon Daghish
Chairman (79 – 84, Wolfe)

Chris Crowcroft
Vice Chairman (63 – 70, Haig and Clive)

Karl Biscoe
(57 – 62, Clive)

Charlie Davies
(01 – 05, Marlborough)

Ian Kennett
(79-86 Haig & Marlborough)

Allan Mayo
(59 – 67 Haig and Clive)

Stu Milligan
(00-07, Roberts and Haig)

Chris Russell
Executive Principal, DOYRMS

Nick Scott-Kilvert
Director of Finance and Operations, DOYRMS

Abigail Trench
(97 – 04, Alanbrooke, Marlborough and Clive)

Andy Wilkes
(83 – 89, Wolseley)

Chris Winter
(86 – 93, Haig and Wolfe)

Jenny Grant
Alumni Officer, DOYRMS

All panel meeting minutes are available to read online.

EVENTS

Clocktower Society Dinner – Friday 26 February 2016

Careers Fair – Friday 4 March 2016

Saunton Sands Reunion – Sunday 20 March 2016

OBA Lunch – Saturday 9 April 2016

FRONT COVER PHOTO:

Lieutenant Colonel Stuart Taylor escorts his grandfather at the 75th Anniversary of Dunkirk. (page 6)

TDF NEWS

From Alan Jones, Chair of The Dukies' Foundation STRENGTHENING LINKS



I read the previous Dukie News with great interest, especially the introductory item

describing the imaginative creation of The Clocktower Society, and thought it would be timely to say a little about The Dukies' Foundation (TDF) - and to introduce myself.

I was particularly pleased to be asked to become involved as my father was a Dukie (Wolseley, 1925) and he often talked with quiet pride of his time at the School. I followed him into the Army, serving in the Royal Corps of Signals before joining the Army Air Corps. After leaving the Army I was a school Bursar and then managed a charity sponsoring primary education. I have been Chairman of TDF for just a year now and recently joined the Board of Governors.

Many readers will be aware that the TDF was formed, in its current guise, when it subsumed a number of long-established charities which had helped Dukies for many years. Our charitable document, detailing its specific Objects, will shortly be available



Sports Equipment



Senior Prefect Piers Askew on his gap year, working at Knox Grammar in Sydney

to view on the School website. In essence, these Objects enable the Trustees of TDF to use its funds quite flexibly to assist students and their education by providing grants for diverse purposes, including provision of equipment, facilities and financial assistance.

Trustees meet quarterly, together with the School, to review grant applications and also to stay in touch with the School's plans so that we can consider major initiatives for either direct funding, or on occasion, underwrite projects seeking grant-matching.

Looking back (over just the last four years) it was marvellous to see that TDF has been in a position to provide some £550K to support an eclectic range of activities and endeavours. These include (and by no means exhaustively) major contributions towards bursaries/individual pupil assistance, leadership activities such as adventurous training, the Nye Theatre seating, floodlighting, sports and music equipment, music scholarships, travel to the Himalayas, Australasia & the USA – etc...!

Our aim is not to 'squirrel-

away' the funds available, but to distribute regularly for the purposes originally given. Whilst we do receive some investment income, we of course need to keep the funds 'topped-up' - and so we continue to promote and welcome fundraising initiatives.

Trustees meet quarterly, together with the School, to review grant applications and also to stay in touch with the School's plans so that we can consider major initiatives for either direct funding, or on occasion, underwrite projects seeking grant-matching.

Using TDF to receive and distribute donations enables us to add 25% in Gift Aid tax receipts to those contributions already made by TDA Members. Trustees of The Dukies' Foundation are all extremely grateful for the part so many members of the TDA, and



TRUST MEMBERS

Alan Jones, *Chairman*
Ros McCarthy
Andy Barlow
Chris Crowcroft
Andrew Nunn
David Ralls
Chris Russell
Leyland Ridings
Geoff Soar

With kind support from:
Nick Scott-Kilvert
Trudy Elkins
Jenny Grant

Visit the School website to learn more about the work of the TDF at:
www.doyrms.com/The-Dukies-Foundation

other friends, are playing. I look forward to meeting more of you at the various events around the School!

These links will allow us to work together to strengthen and extend our assistance for students. Our purpose is about broadening access for many and helping current and future Dukies to make the most of their education for life, by enhancing the wonderful opportunities at our School.



Adventurous Training



Nye Hall Seating

Royal Visit Surprises Students

HRH PRINCE HARRY

HRH Prince Harry surprised students on Monday 28 September arriving by helicopter and accompanied by the Lord Lieutenant of Kent, The Viscount De L'Isle MBE. The students and most of the staff had not been told of his visit and all were ready in a static parade when Prince Harry emerged onto the school's central parade ground.

Prince Harry reviewed the ceremonial parade, inspected the guard, and presented school medals to selected pupils. The awards and winners were:

- Silver medal awarded to the Chief School Prefect and Band Junior Under Officer Matthew Riglar
- Bronze medals awarded to Senior Prefect and Junior Under Officer Jasmine Ashford; Senior Prefect and Junior Under Officer

Steven Olayinka-Israeli; School Prefect and the Senior Under Officer Pasangnema Sherpa

- Student RSM Pace Stick awarded to Jed Adkins

The students were overwhelmed and once HRH had left the square many students stayed to hug each other cheering. After the parade, he toured the school and attended an informal reception to meet staff and students before departing at noon. Executive Principal and Commandant, Chris Russell, said: "Prince Harry's visit meant a great deal to students as his military career is an inspiration. Many of our students have parents serving overseas, and in conflicts previously experienced by Prince Harry himself. This occasion will be something students will treasure all of their lives."

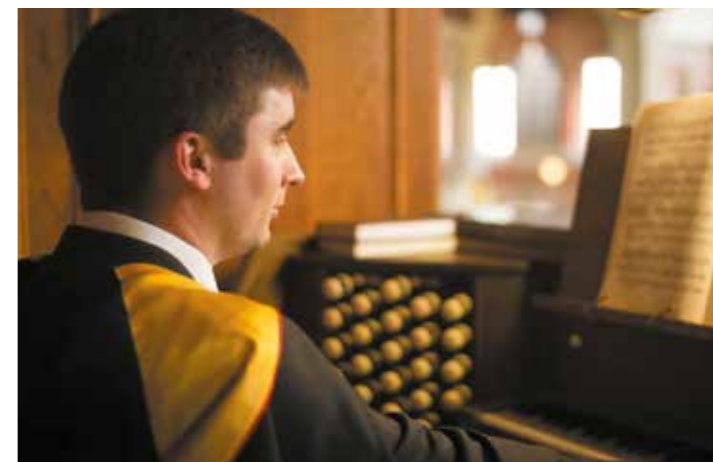


Sing Up Dukies

NEW CHAPEL ORGAN

When Mr Meakin was offered the position of Chapel Organist and Head of Keyboard Studies at the School in the spring of 2013, he knew that there would be one big problem – the state of the Chapel's organ.

"It was 25 years old and exhibiting severe signs of its age," he commented. Whilst it was plainly not the original organ, it had certainly seen better days. Both the amplification system and console action were unreliable and unreparable having also been damaged by the chapel's resident mice. The search for a new organ began, and it became clear that a full pipe organ was an unrealistic expectation. "At three quarters of a million pounds, and needing three to five years to fund-raise, design and install, the idea of a pipe organ was soon discarded as impracticable – a 'pipe-dream', in fact". However, through a fund-raising campaign that included alumni, the School was soon able to commission a brand new bespoke Cantata 3 digital synthesis organ, manufactured by Eminent Organs



of Holland, and supplied and installed by Cathedral Organs of Welwyn Garden City at a total cost of a little under £37,000. "We had some quite specific requirements" said Mr Meakin. "The organ needed a quality, long-lasting oak console, with three manuals (keyboards) and a full pedal board." Cathedral Organs supplied a temporary organ and speakers in September 2013, and installation of the Cantata commenced in January 2014. "We soon encountered

a problem during early trials" commented Mr Meakin. "The amplification was fine whilst the Chapel was empty, but it became clear that the sound of nearly 500 Dukies singing in unison was not sufficiently accompanied by this set up". Larger, more powerful speakers were installed, and during a dedication service, the School enjoyed a number of musical interludes chosen to highlight the new organ, including Hereford, Jesu, Joy of man's desiring, sung by the School

choir and as a finale, the Toccata from Charles-Marie Widor's Symphony No. 5 in F minor; a particular favourite of our Chapel community.

Meanwhile, the Staff/Student Chamber and Chapel Choir go from strength to strength. During the spring of 2015, the choir visited Canterbury Cathedral to hear a sung Evensong in preparation for the first calendared School Evensong for at least 30 years. As part of the School service the choir performed canticles by George Dyson, a psalm, sung responses and two hymns. When the whole School sings heartily, particularly for favourites such as the School Song (Sons of the Brave), Tell out my soul, Guide me O thou great redeemer, and Jerusalem, the Chapel becomes an inspirational place of worship, and a real tribute to those Dukies whose names appear on the honours boards.

*Stephen King
Chapel Warden*

Deal Festival

PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL

Deal Festival is expanding and developing their contemporary dance education programme over the next two years and beyond, and has invited the Duke of York's Royal Military School to become a Partnership School.

The plan is to work towards a student-led contemporary dance performance at the Deal Festival in 2017 in partnership

with Trinity Laban. In an effort to begin to work towards this major goal in 2017, Deal Festival is providing ongoing contemporary dance education sessions and enrichment workshops to three schools in East Kent between now and 2017 (and hopefully beyond, pending funds) and DOYRMS has been selected as one of these three schools.

Deal Festival is kick-starting this partnership by coming to the school for one day in December 2015, to deliver a part-practical dance session with students, and a part-consultation session with staff and students about how Deal Festival (and partners) can assist the School to enrich its dance provision, and how they can work together to boost skills, confidence, creativity

and aspiration in the area of contemporary dance for the School's young dancers.

This offer has been kindly subsidised by Arts Council England and other funders, and facilitated by Tony Thatcher, who is the MA Programme Leader at Trinity Laban and is also a Dukie (62 – 70, Wolseley & Marlborough).

Bangladesh Cadet College

MILITARY COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP

During the final week of the summer term, the school welcomed 20 cadets and four staff from our military college partnership in Bangladesh. The party was led by Major Parvez, a regular officer and ex-cadet, who serves as Adjutant at Faujdarhat Cadet College. This built upon the success of an earlier group of cadets and staff who had joined us on Dartmoor for Adventurous Training at Easter.

The Bangladesh Cadet Colleges system comprises of 12 secondary schools which were set up with the objective of educating outstanding students and providing military training with a view to producing the

future leaders of the defence force, civil service, industry and public life.

The two main focusses of the week was a leadership training package (organised by Major Nunn and Second Lieutenant Phillimore) and participation in the Grand Day Trooping the Colour. The visitors attended a formal welcome dinner at School House hosted by Mr Russell, visited Canterbury, played Bangladesh Cadets v Dukies football matches (the Dukie boys reversed the defeat suffered at Adventurous Training while the girls achieved a 0-0 draw), shooting on the outdoor range, a session on the climbing wall,



attendance at the Grand Day Production, participation in the Leavers' Service and a farewell event at Gloucester House. The cadets also enjoyed a full day of sightseeing in London as guests of the Bangladesh Ex-Cadets who reside in the UK.

In order to prepare for Grand Day, the cadets had a brief drill session with the RSM who

confirmed that Cadets' drill is based on British drill and was of a high standard already. They were then integrated into senior guards for the final Trooping rehearsal and everyone was impressed with how well they fitted in. Major Parvez was also invited to join Mr Russell in reviewing the parade. Grand Day itself was outstanding in its own right and the 20 Bangladesh Cadets represented their respective 12 colleges with great distinction.

*Lt. Col S. Saunderson
Vice-Principal, OC CCF and
Ceremonial*

The Sir Gary Coward Teaching Block



Governor and old Dukie of the School, Sir Gary Coward KBE CB, opened the Sir Gary Coward Teaching Block at the School in June. Supported by fellow Governors and Staff, Sir Gary expressed that he thought the only thing bearing his name at the

School would have been a desk etching made a fair few years ago! He acknowledged the fully rounded education the School had given him, enabling him to then attend RMA Sandhurst and to go on and achieve a full and successful military career.

Dukies Inspiring Dukies

The first of our 'Dukies Inspiring Dukies' careers workshops took place in the Nye Hall on 25th September. Simon Daghish from ITV, Steve Parker from Starcom and Nigel Clarkson from Weve presented to the Sixth Form and Year 11s on 'LIFE IN THE MEDIA'. The afternoon was a great success, the presentations were fun and engaging, and many students



were left seriously considering a media career. It was great to see former Dukies passing their knowledge and experience onto current students and we look forward to running more of these workshops during the current academic year.



IN BRIEF

Wedding News

Dukie and TDA Vice-Chair Chris Crowcroft (63 – 70, Haig and Clive) married old flame Margaret Guizzetti on Saturday June 13th in Penrith, Cumbria. Chris wore his Dukie cufflinks (made from old chinstrap fastening buttons) and Margaret looked absolutely radiant, flanked by her two sons and grandson, as she came up the aisle to meet him. Margaret and Chris were together when they were very young, went their separate ways for many years, then ten years ago reconnected and their two worlds became one.

Many congratulations to Chris and Margaret and best wishes for a very happy future together.

Katherine has gone to pastures new

Marketing Assistant Katherine Seton has left her post at DOYRMS and started a new job as Marketing Executive at SAS International in Reading. Katherine learnt a fantastic amount during her two years in Dover and has asked us to let you all know how much she will miss all of the Dukies (old and new) that she has had the pleasure to work alongside.

We wish Katherine every success in her future endeavours.

Princess Anne Flies In

Arriving by helicopter, Princess Anne was welcomed by a Guard of Honour on the school rugby pitches before departing to attend a formal function in Walmer. Accompanied by Lord Lieutenant of Kent, The Viscount De L'Isle MBE, the students were pleased to greet both dignitaries before they embarked on the rest of the journey by car.

Dunkirk 75 Years On ANNIVERSARY PARADE

In the early part of 1940 Arthur Taylor was 19 years old and serving as an RAF radio operator attached to 61 Medium Regiment Royal Artillery in Arras, Pas de Calais in France. His role was to assist with correcting artillery fire by providing a Morse link between the RAF Lysander aircraft of 13 Squadron and the Royal Artillery guns. As the Germans swept through Belgium and Northern France in May 1940 the British Expeditionary Force was pushed back towards the French coast in a retreat. Arthur's unit, along with thousands and thousands of Allied troops, found themselves in a desperate race towards Dunkirk where Winston Churchill had ordered an evacuation of the BEF under the codename Operation DYNAMO. Boats and vessels of all shapes and sizes were commandeered by the Royal Navy in an attempt to rescue as many troops from France as possible. Having waited for 29 hours in a queue on the beach at Dunkirk, Arthur was eventually evacuated on 30th May from the East Mole aboard the trawler Lord Gray, one of around 700 "Little Ships" which assisted in rescuing over 338,000 allied troops between 27th May and 4th June 1940. Upon return to Britain, Arthur soon found himself based at RAF Hawkinge near Dover where he took part in the Battle of Britain.

Arthur Taylor is my 95 year old grandfather and in May this year I had the privilege to accompany him to Dunkirk to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the withdrawal from the beaches. With us were two of my uncles, both former soldiers, and my cousin who is a serving soldier. The trip began with a ferry crossing from Dover where mid-channel the ferry came to a stop and a short ceremony was conducted from the upper deck



Arthur Taylor remembers the dead by laying a wreath at the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery in Dunkirk flanked by his grandsons Stuart and Ian

to remember those that didn't make it home in 1940. Shortly after we arrived in Dunkirk, the Little Ships that had departed Ramsgate at 0630 that morning started to arrive at the harbour to a hail of cheers and rapturous applause. More than fifty of the boats had successfully made the trip across the channel and the reception they received from the thousands of onlookers stood on the harbour was fantastic. Throughout the weekend that we were in Dunkirk I was amazed to see how well received not only the crews of the Little Ships were but also the seven Dunkirk Veterans who had made the pilgrimage. The gratitude shown by the people of Dunkirk was immense and made me feel incredibly proud to be part of the whole proceedings. Ceremonies to remember the fallen were held at the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery and at the Operation DYNAMO memorial wall with Arthur laying wreaths

at both, assisted by me and my cousin. The highlight of the weekend commemorations though, was seeing Arthur lead the parade of vintage military vehicles, bands and veterans through the streets of Dunkirk amidst the crowds of well-wishers and grateful people of Dunkirk and France. The trip was rounded off with Arthur laying a wreath and reading the exhortation at the Menin Gate in Ypres in an act of remembrance of the World War One dead and injured.

Without the efforts of the Royal Navy and the countless civilian volunteers who crewed the collection of private yachts, barges, pleasure cruisers and all manner of vessels, the cream of the British Army would have been destroyed and the war lost. Instead, the Allies were able to regroup with many of the rescued men being sent to North Africa and Burma with a new army formed to liberate France on D-Day in 1944. The people of Britain and Europe owe their freedom to the bravery and fortitude of the Allied Forces of the Second World War. Without the bravery and commitment of the men and women who fought for our freedom, the world today would be a very different place. I for one, am very proud to have a Dunkirk veteran in my family.

Lieutenant Colonel Stuart Taylor
Royal Marines (KIM 85/92)



Dunkirk Veterans at the beach where they were evacuated 75 years earlier

Drum-Head Parade and Service WATERLOO 200

To mark the 200th Anniversary of the defeat of Napoleon's army at Waterloo and the safeguarding of European peace, the School commemorated with a Drum-Head Service in the Small Square. The photographs demonstrate just what an ideal place this was and how the service was arranged.

The origins of the Drum-Head Service are unclear. What is clear is that the tradition and similar innovations live on with British Chaplains on operations and exercise.

The need for an altar or lectern requires an ad-hoc arrangement on the battlefield to find a surface



that is stable, clean and at the right height. The usual height for an altar is 39 inches. This is impossible to achieve with a trestle table or similar, but drums arranged 3-high are perfect.

The drums, decorated with the School crest, add to the

conception that a throne or place of dignity has been erected. The draping of the (consecrated) Colours adds colour but, importantly, the Queen's Colour contains the crosses of St George and St Andrew, whilst the Regimental Colour's battle honours recall the memorial and

Revd N Cook, Chaplain

Rugby Stars retrace the Duke of Wellington RIDE OF THE LIONS

Dukies played a key role in celebrations to mark the 200th anniversary of Waterloo, hosting The Ride of the Lions rugby charity cyclists as they retraced the Duke of Wellington's Route of Dispatch from the battlefield in Belgium to London on Friday 19 June.

The Ride of the Lions Waterloo 200 recreated the famous journey alongside a number of wounded veterans who are beneficiaries of the Walking with the Wounded service charity, one of whom completed the journey in a three-wheeled cycle propelled by his arms.

The fund-raisers cycled 120 miles from Waterloo to Dunkirk, and took a ferry to Dover, where they were greeted by a trumpet fanfare

from the students. The school then hosted a barbecue with more than 100 guests and riders spent the night in the former Alanbrooke boarding house before cycling the 80 miles into London.

Students had the chance to meet rugby internationals Peter Winterbottom, Roger Uttley, Roger Baird, Steve Bainbridge and other guests including TV presenter Jodie Kidd, who also took part in the ride. The group also included Dukie Ian Kennett.

Chris Russell, Executive Principal and Commandant, said: "It was particularly poignant to welcome some of the international rugby stars who played alongside Maurice Colclough, a celebrated

alumni of the school who died of a brain tumour in 2006 and whose name is commemorated in our new school sports hall, opened by Bill Beaumont last December."



BBC Radio 4 - Today Programme

Radio 4 journalist Nick Higham visited the school in June to create a piece for the Radio 4 Today programme that covered the contributions made by Dukies to

the battle of Waterloo. In a special commemorative programme Nick's report covers the school memorial service, details about the 21 Dukies who fought in

the battle and interviews with current and former students of the school. To listen to the full recording please visit the school YouTube page 'DOYRMS - Dover'

and click on the 'Waterloo 200 and the DOYRMS' video.

JUNGLE ADVENTURES

After the success of the Himalayas expedition in 2013, 16 students and three staff embarked on another expedition of a lifetime and headed off on a 7000 mile journey to Borneo for 18 days this summer.

This time we set several goals and each student and staff member knew they were in for an arduous expedition with the added bonus of some of the most beautiful scenery and amazing wildlife to be explored. A days travelling saw the explorers arrive in Kota KinaBalu, the capital of Borneo and a bustling city of new buildings, markets and traditional homes and all surrounded by thick mountainous jungle, which we could see as we flew in.

The temperature was a steady 35+ with the typical tropical 100% humidity all day, and a steady 25+ degrees and 100% humidity at night! Our respite would be the occasional raindrop that might fall on us every now and then.

The expedition was to take us out of the city and into the surrounding jungles for jungle training and then a five day trek through the jungle following the heritage trail. Parts of this trail were once beaten by the captured prisoners of WWII, who were held on the island by the Japanese who had previously invaded it for its rich oil reserves and access routes to the surrounding oceans. The explorers would walk in the footsteps of the prisoners and visit shrines in memory of the commonwealth soldiers who lost their lives on the Bataan Death March. Of the 470 who started this march, only six survived.

Setting out to our jungle training camp meant a two hour trek from



our remote village to where we would find Miki's Jungle training camp. This entailed crossing rivers with handmade bamboo bridges and scaling steep jungle valley sides to eventually reach the small clearing of bamboo huts and lean-tos with tarps providing a

wasn't going to be much sleep that night.

Our time in the jungle was spent learning to trap, search and find various day and nocturnal wildlife, building shelters and the sharing of a few other old war stories of jungle training from yours truly!

"...there were tears and tantrums as 16 young people grew up very quickly."

roof! This was home for the next three days - here we would eat, sleep and exist with the jungle and everything it had to offer. For those of you who have never had the pleasure of a jungle experience, you could not possibly appreciate the noise that a jungle makes at night. The critters and wildlife come alive and a quiet night's sleep is not going to happen in the trees. Mosquito nets up, bed roll down and welcome to the jungle. Students and staff quietly acquainted themselves with the minimalistic toilet facilities and homely décor of logs and open fires. Tropical rain forests and jungles have one thing in common - torrential rain storms! And we weren't to be disappointed the first night with a torrential downpour to keep everybody awake. With fierce lightning and heavy rain along with the sound of the nearby river swelling and rushing, there

Leaving the trees was a welcome escape, and we went back to the city for a few days before it was on to phase 2. Repacking for our trek for five days, knowing we had to carry everything, was easy. Two pairs of pants, two pairs of socks, dry kit and wet kit. Done! Travelling light was the order of the day, we knew it would be hot and humid and the terrain was going to be relentlessly severe at times.

A five day trek on the heritage trail visiting villages and sleeping rough or in local village halls was our mission. 90% of the trek was to be through the jungle and the Borneo terrain was going to test every single student and staff member at one time or another. 100% humidity and temperatures peaking at 45 degrees on one day meant this was certainly no holiday. Seeing the villagers as we passed through and spending

the night with them was a real eye opener for the students and staff. The realisation of how little the people of Borneo have and yet manage to survive and thrive. No internet out of the main city and certainly no Sky TV! By now we were used to the leeches, spiders and other jungle critters that accompanied us along the trails. Eventually reaching our final pick up, we were all somewhat lighter and immensely pleased with our mammoth achievement. The distances we trekked, the temperatures, terrain and jungle environment had tested us all but we came out smiling and very smelly.

Back to the city again and a treat to McDonalds and Pizza Hut and a few days rest before heading off on Phase 3 which was to take us North to our riverside base where we would conduct our river patrols to source the real wildlife of Borneo, the orangutan.

Our aim was to spend first light and last light on the river in small boats exploring the banks, searching for monkeys, snakes, pygmy elephants and crocodiles. We weren't disappointed and on our first trip we were welcomed by an array of species of monkeys and birds. The second day took us further up river (2hrs up) in search of the pygmy elephants. Easy to spot where they had been but impossible to actually pin them down and we were unfortunately let down with a "no show". Unfortunately the orangutan, too, remained well and truly hidden and was probably the only ape we didn't see. But we did get the chance to float gently and very quietly underneath the canopy of jungle trees to see a 10 ft racer snake sleeping above our heads in the trees. The best came on

the last trip up river, a 15ft fresh water crocodile sleeping on the banks just feet from one of the boats as it drifted in. Nobody could quite comprehend what they were looking at, the croc quietly enjoying its nap and then to be woken with a bump as our boatmen decided to ram the boat into the bank, just feet from the croc. Thankfully the croc was in no mood for any confrontation and just slid quietly into the water and under our boat. No one spoke, we just clicked away the cameras and rolled the video cameras to capture as much footage as possible of this huge beast just feet away from us. As it slid away we all just looked at each other and then started laughing, nerves maybe?

Phase 3 was the R 'n' R phase and this would be carried out on the desert island surrounding Borneo. Here we camped, snorkelled, and swam with the colourful coral fish and ate and slept well for two days before heading back to the city to prepare for our return flight home.

There were tears and tantrums throughout the 18 days and there were 16 young people who grew up very quickly. An expedition is not a holiday and by its very nature is going to be a test. Every single student experienced things that will stay with them for the rest of their lives. They all overcame challenges, individually and as a team. New leaders were born, new life skills secured and new friends for life were made. All that took part came home better, stronger and wiser to the world and what is out there. Some may continue the journey, some may not, but all have experienced this journey.

We as a school continue to provide these opportunities to



the young Dukies and we make it as easy as possible for them to do so. All of the equipment was provided for all the students and staff and this equipment was provided from Dukie donations and grants for the Himalayas expedition two years ago. That kit will continue to make it easy for students to attend these expeditions, both abroad and in the UK with adventure training and D of E. We can provide equipment to accommodate up to 130 students on UK based adventure training and camping and up to 25 on the more arduous foreign expeditions. We provide life skills to young people in today's ever-competitive world, preparing them for the challenges of life and sewing that seed of adventure that so many of you have reaped and continued with.

The continued support of the TDA and donors will ensure that we are able to do this for many years to come. Thank you.

RSM Steff Dowle
Supported by:
The Clocktower Society

Combined Cadet Force Camp 2015 CROWBOROUGH



For a week after Grand Day, the School CCF Contingent attended the annual 11 Brigade Annual Camp at Crowborough. The Brigade Training Team's programme of events allows us to revise the military skills that have been developed at School during the year through the Cadet syllabus, and culminates in a 24 hour field exercise.

Cadet RSM Neil Scully recounts the week's activities - As soon as we arrived at the camp we hit the ground running. The first

was off to the training area for our overnight exercise where we practiced patrolling, setting up our harbour area and cooking 24 hour Ration Packs. The next morning we prepared for battle and NCOs attended a briefing. Individual patrols were then sent out to meet a friendly agent, fight through an ambush and finally destroy the enemy in his base. Over all the camp was very enjoyable.

Cadet L/Cpl Jack Edwards offers some thoughts on his experiences - During the camp I was a section commander. This involved many different challenges and newly learnt skills that had to be applied in order to achieve a successful camp. I would strongly advise anyone to push for a position of responsibility in order to develop leadership qualities that can be explored whilst away on camp.

At camp, I had the chance to experience a multitude of different activities and challenges. My advice to all the Year 10 students planning on going on camp in 2016 is enjoy it and get stuck in! For Y12 students, my advice is get involved, have fun and develop yourself and use it to prove yourself for potentially higher positions in Y13.

All of this could not have happened without the support of the officers, senior non-commissioned officers and volunteer staff who gave of their time in providing such a memorable week for our Y10 and 12 cadets.

Lieutenant Colonel
S S Saunderson
Officer Commanding CCF



day we had a range day which included airsoft/paintball, laser quest, an obstacle course and an indoor 22 shoot. Next day, we had platoon attacks, ambushes, sniper stalks and an interest stand throughout the day. The NCOs and cadets worked hard throughout, earning glowing reports from the directing staff. Wednesday was particularly enjoyable, with activities such as first aid, survival, command tasks and watermanship. The watermanship package brought out some real Dukie spirit and the raft race brought out our competitive side.

Competitions Day saw teams being entered in military skills tests and pleasingly we won medals in the March & Shoot and Drill. After the medal parade, it

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We Will Remember Them REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES

Joined by staff, families, governors and friends, Dukies past and present were inspected by Executive Principal and Commandant, Chris Russell, together with TDA chairman, Simon Daghish at the school's Remembrance Day service on Sunday 8th November.

This year, students created 212 clay poppies, similar to the flowers displayed last year at the Tower of London, which were placed around the War Memorial, providing a focal point for the traditional parade and chapel service. The number was chosen to represent the school's 212-year history and the poppies will eventually form part of the school's planned memorial garden.

Students also paid tribute to military personnel who have lost their lives in conflict at Remembrance events in London, Dover and across the Channel in Belgium.

In London, three students were chosen to read parts of the World Prayer as part of the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall, broadcast by the BBC last Saturday.

Also in the capital, students and staff took part in the Torch



Lighting Ceremony of the British Torch of Remembrance at the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior in Westminster Abbey. In a service led by the Dean of the Abbey, the Very Rev John Hall, students formed a guard of honour to stand over the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior during the service, as well as a colour party and buglers. The guests of honour, Secretary of State for Defence Michael Fallon and Belgian Ambassador Guy Trouveroy, spared the time to chat to the Dukies after the event.

Back in Kent, cadets from the school provided a Guard of Honour, buglers and drummers for a Service of Remembrance at Dover Marine Railway Station (now the cruise terminal) in

support of the British Torch of Remembrance and railway company Southeastern, as the torch continued its journey to Ostend and Flanders.

Over in Belgium, representatives of the school supported the Belgian Branch of the Torch of Remembrance, visiting the Menin Gate, Flanders Fields and the Kings Day Parade in Brussels.

Chris Russell, Executive Principal, said: "Many of our pupils have parents serving in the Armed Forces so Remembrance Day has particular meaning and significance to them. We are honoured that our students have been chosen to take part in memorial events at Westminster Abbey, the Royal Albert Hall and in Flanders.

More Ammunition Technical Officers



Since the article in the last Dukies News on Ammunition Technical Officers, three more former Dukies who have undertaken this work have been found. On the right of the photograph is Mike Moughton. He is probably the most experienced of all the ATOs who have attended the School. Two tours each in both Bosnia and Afghanistan as well as time in Northern Ireland, where he was awarded The Queen's Commendation for Bravery, have led to his current appointment of training new ATOs.

Peter Timothy and Chris Wraight are the other two missed from the first article. Peter completed his tour in Northern Ireland and then in 1982 went to be an instructor at the Defence Explosive Ordnance Disposal School. A few years later saw him in the same role at the Army School of Ammunition training ATOs who were about to undergo a tour of duty dealing with terrorist bomb incidents. Shortly after this posting he retired from the Regular Army but continued for a number of years in the Territorial Army as part of 531 EOD Company.

Sadly Chris passed away recently but his legacy as an ATO was considerable. He served in Northern Ireland in the 1970s and then became OC 221 (EOD) Company in 1982. Here he was responsible for a number of units around the country disposing of stray ammunition (mostly from WW2) as well as the more demanding role of Bomb Disposal assistance to police forces throughout Great Britain.

The total number of terrorist incidents all former Dukie ATOs have attended is now believed to be in excess of 1000. An extraordinary achievement for a small group of Old Boys.

Nigel Wylde (56-66 Haig & Clive)

In Pictures TDA REUNION DINNER

The third TDA Reunion Dinner took place on Saturday 7 November and was the best one yet.

The School welcomed 162 guests including reunion groups from 1965, 1975, 1995 and 2005 and a good mix of other Dukies representing each decade.

With the tables laid and instruments set up from excellent Dukie band, 'The Hong Kong Streakers Club', the evening was all set. Now we just had to wait for the Dukies to arrive!



And arrive they did, many by school minibus, in their droves. Warmly greeted by Jenny and Amanda, they soon worked out where they were sitting and

caught up with friends at the bar. The three course meal was tasty, the toasts and speeches were well received and the bar and entertainment went down well with our Dukies and their guests. The evening is best told in pictures.

We look forward to welcoming you all next year - we have capacity for 200 ... let's see if we can reach it!



90th Birthday Return Visit SIDNEY NOYCE



On Friday 9th October, the day before his 90th birthday, Sidney Noyce was treated by his wife and children with a surprise visit back to DOYRMS, the School where he was enrolled in 1936 after his mother died.

Wearing his TDA tie, Sid spent some time having coffee with Executive Principal Chris Russell, received a tour of the School including a visit to Roberts, his old boarding house, and had lunch in the dining hall. It was an emotional day for Sid and his family, as they watched him reminisce about his childhood, and will be an occasion he and they will be able to talk about for years to come.



GALLANTRY AWARDS

Many of our former pupils have won awards for gallantry over the years. When I was at School their names were displayed on a series of boards that hung in the old assembly hall - now they hang in the Administration block. Alas, the lists stopped when the second world war broke out. The School now feels it is time to bring the records up to date.

Through the OBA and TDA networks the School tried to

discover how many Dukies have received a decoration - either civilian or military - for gallantry since WW2.

Over the last year or so we have been collecting names, we have had a good response but there is a suspicion that not all the recipients have been identified. We need more information.

The old School Chronicle provided many of the names, but there are

still some gaps. We don't know the dates when many of the awards were made or, in one case, what award was made. These have been marked * in the list below.

In some cases names appear more than once as they have been awarded multiple honours.

We would like to add to it. Names are in alphabetical order and do not show ranks, regiments etc.

If you would like to see the full list send a request to the email address below.

If you know of any additional names that can be added, or can help fill in the missing dates, then please email us at dyrmsmedals@gmail.com with the information.

If any of the information in the list is incorrect we would like to know that as well.

SURNAME	FORENAME	AWARD
Andrews	Gareth Jeffrey	Mentioned in Despatches
Bateman *	K H	Distinguished Conduct Medal
Bleach *	H A	Military Cross
Bleach *	H A	O B E
Brindie *	L	???
Catt *	F A	Mentioned in Despatches
Charter *	G E	Mentioned in Despatches
Charter *	G E	Mentioned in Despatches
Charter *	G E	Military Cross
Conroy	H G	D S O
Conroy	H G	Military Cross
Copeland *	P	Distinguished Flying Cross
Denbow *	E J	Mentioned in Despatches
Dixon *	R L C	Military Cross
Donaldson *	C	Mentioned in Despatches
Donaldson *	C	Military Medal
Forbes Milloy	Matthew	Mentioned in Despatches
Forrister *	V	Military Medal
Gardiner *	G C	D S O
Gardiner *	G C	Distinguished Flying Cross
Gibson *	F	Military Cross
Gibson *	F	Military Medal
Gilbert *	R	M B E
Gilbert *	R	Mentioned in Despatches
Giles *	E H	Military Cross

This exercise in collecting names has been handled by Geoff Ralph (K/C 58-65) and Paul Harrington (H/C 56-66). Whilst we have been doing it a number of Dukies have come forward and said that they knew of Dukies who had been given decorations/honours but not

ones for gallantry. After discussing this with Chris Russell, our Executive Principal, the School would now like to construct another list of awards that were made for reasons other than gallantry. So if you have an honour such as an MBE,

SURNAME	FORENAME	AWARD
Godfrey	John	Mentioned in Despatches
Grantham *	R	Military Cross
Herberts	P J D	Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct
Hoadley *	G	Military Medal
Hurley *	R	Military Cross
Jones	D C	Distinguished Flying Cross
Lines *	L L	Military Medal
Mason	John Claude	Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct
Matthews	Kenneth	Royal Humane Soc. Testimonial
Monaghan *	T J	Military Cross
Morgan	Earnest	Royal Humane Society Parchment
Moughton	Michael John	Queen's Commendation for Bravery
Pedrick	H W	Mentioned in Despatches
Phillips	Alex	Military Cross
Ross *	W C	Distinguished Conduct Medal
Rowe	R C	Military Medal
Tanner	Eric St. John	Royal National Lifeboat Bronze Medal
Tanner	Eric St. John	Queen's Gallantry Medal
Wadley *	C N	Military Medal
Waller *	W A	Military Cross
White *	J F	Military Cross
Wilson	Rodney Lee	Mentioned in Despatches
Wright	Kevin Marc	Queen's Gallantry Medal
Wylde	Nigel Norman	Queen's Gallantry Medal

Companion of Honour, BEM etc. then let us know. Regrettably campaign medals are not eligible for the list as we would be overwhelmed.

The email address to use is the same as above.

Many thanks to all who have helped us so far. We will carry on running this process for a few more months, then Chris and his team will decide on how we go forward with it.

G J Ralph

Paying Respects to a fellow Dukie MENIN GATE

I thought you might be interested in these pictures taken at the Menin Gate in Ypres. As you can see I found the name of H H Adshead who is the Dukie who died in WW1 and who I chose to have on the back of my '100 years since the start of the War Memorial shirt' which Ben Hanson organised in November 2014. I was proud to pay my

own respects to a fellow Dukie. I went to Ypres with my son and my father and the main purpose was to visit the grave of my Great Grandfather who is buried just outside Ypres and whose location we only found a few years ago thanks to internet research.

Sean Veasey
Haig/Wolseley 79-86



John Bowler's Ramblings - Part 2

THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

Dear Reader,

My last ramblings found me leaving the magnificent band of the Royal Regiment of Artillery in 1953, to embark on a musical career in the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

I was auditioned for the job by the Musical Director of the Royal Ballet (also resident at the Royal Opera House). I was not to know that he was inordinately proud of his piano playing and especially negotiated the charming Flute Concertino by Cecile Charminade, beginning and ending together (which is always reassuring) and some of the social skills I'd learnt at the Dukies came to my aid for I said just the right thing: "You must have played that before?" He looked fit to burst with pride as he said "Never seen it before in my life" and needless to say I got the job and remained in the ROH Orchestra for the next 41 years!

During that time I was lucky to play for wonderful singers like Maria Callas, John Sutherland, Luciana Pavarotti, Placido Domingo, Tito Gobbi, Jussi Bjorling, Boris Christoff, Hans Hotter and other international singers too numerous to mention. With the Royal Ballet I played for stars such as Margot Fonteyn, Rudolf Nureyev, Sir Frederick Ashton and Robert Helpmann. When Dame Margot Fonteyn married the Panamanian



Old Music Colleagues – James Galway's 60th, I think. He was wearing a traditional Japanese Master's costume given him by Murumatsu (whose flutes he played)

Don Davidson - William Morton - James Galway - Anne Furneaux - John Bowler 5. Dec 1999

Ambassador Roberto Arias in 1955 she threw a wonderful party on the stage at Covent Garden. She was dancing that night in Tchaikovsky's 'Sleeping Beauty' and when we had ended and got rid of the audience they threw a bridge across the orchestra pit and had a band playing at the back of the bare stage with champagne and refreshments in the wings! All the opera staff, stage hands and wardrobe, the whole ballet company and the orchestra were invited. I managed to get a dance with Margot Fonteyn and I count it as one of my greatest successes at Covent Garden not to have crippled the Prima Ballerina Assoluta of the Royal Ballet (for my ballroom dancing is, frankly, rubbish).

I was lucky enough to play in glittering golds for the Royal Family, Presidents of France, the Shah of Persia, Prime Ministers of the USSR and numerous other Heads of State, when we had to forsake our normal tuxedo and black tie for white tie and tails.

I also played for world-class conductors like Rafael Kubelik, Otto Klemperer, Claudio Abbado, Carlos Kleiber and Sir George Solti and in the presence of Dimitri Shostakovich, Francis Poulenc, Sir William Walton and Benjamin Britten (not forgetting Karl-Heinz Stockhausen, though I'd rather, as I share Sir Thomas Beecham's view of the latter). When asked on the BBC whether he had ever conducted any Stockhausen, he said, after a thoughtful pause, "No madam, but I may have trodden on it in the street!"

Now, I am not boasting in recalling all this, just marvelling at my amazing good luck. Oh! Well then, perhaps a little boasting. For example I also played for Prince Charles's wedding in St Paul's

Cathedral and toured with the Opera to Lisbon, Berlin, Munich, La Scala Milan, was in Los Angeles for the 1984 Olympic Arts Festival and had two trips to the Far East, visiting Japan and South Korea for 6 weeks each time.

During all this, I managed to find time to marry a most glamorously beautiful girl called Gloria and we raised three children which led to eight grandchildren, and now I am a proud great-grandfather to George William Frederick – a most handsome little lad of two years, and no need to ask who he takes after (... now I am boasting!)

How lucky am I, and it all started at Dover all those 76 years ago. I was pleased at the way the DOYRMS is transforming itself for the challenges of the next 76 years – and thrilled to hear of the recent visit of Prince Harry to present the prizes, for events like this bode well for the future of the School.

Play up Dukies!

John Bowler
(Wolseley, Kitchener and Marlborough 1937 – 1947)



Royal Artillery Military Band – 1951 (I am somewhere in the middle)



September 1939 – Outside Haig House with my Grandmother when she brought me to the School from Kenya (we arrived two weeks before war was declared – bad timing?) Wasn't she a tiny lady – I was only ten at the time and she wasn't much taller than me!



Putting on the Ritz! Stepping out with my dear wife Gloria in the early 70s.



All dressed up to go on stage for the Scott Joplin Ragtime Band in the ballet 'Elite Syncopations'

SCHOOL SHORTS

SALSA WORKSHOP



On Wednesday 24 June, a salsa workshop was held in the Nye Hall for 51 Year 7 students by Ollie Mayo, the son of Dukie Allan Mayo (59 – 76 Haig and Clive) and his colleague and dance teacher Sam Turner. Ollie is studying for his Masters at the Royal College of Music and salsa is a genre he is hugely passionate about. Ollie and Sam's enthusiasm for the music showed as they introduced the young Dukies to the music style, culminating in the Dukies putting together their own dances in groups at the end of the day.

The session was accompanied by a band made up of staff from the Music Department including Stephen Socci, a Latin specialist with many years professional experience in both the West End and on national tours.

The day was a great success, and it was good to see all of the students fully involved in the morning's activities and to engage in, what for them, was a totally new form of dance and music.



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THE FLAG IS FLYING AGAIN

Taken down for repair work, the Union Flag was put back up in time for Grand Day and now flies proudly at the centre of our School once more.



Newsletter August 2015 DUKIES DOWNUNDER

School Visit

During my recent trip to Europe I managed to visit the school on two occasions, the first was for a conducted tour kindly arranged by my namesake Jenny Grant which was most enlightening. The £25 million major building project by Bam Construction is all but completed with only the new junior houses to be finished. One of these is already occupied. I was absolutely amazed at the difference that these projects have made to the school. I would recommend that anyone that is able to visit the school to see for themselves. For those that can't I would recommend watching the Bam Construction video on the School 'youtube' link. I was also most impressed by the new tiered seating arrangement in the Nye Hall which when not required can be telescopically folded back to the rear wall leaving the flat floor for other uses. After a tour of my old house, Roberts, we adjourned to the dining hall for lunch where I was privileged to sit at the High Table. After lunch, whilst in the admin office saying goodbye to Jenny, Amanda and Katherine, I heard the dulcet tones of The Downunder Male Voice Choir's issuing from Katherine's computer singing the school song which was recorded at our last reunion in Victor Harbor in 2014. Members will be pleased to know that this recording is now on The Dukies Association Facebook page. We are still open for Auditions!!! Thanks Jenny for a very pleasant day.

Grand Day



"Mr & Mrs Grant" (Jenny & Ted)

Grand Day dawned to a beautiful azure sky with the prospect of



a warm sunny day in the low to mid-twenties. There was again ample tiered seating for all and the Friends of The Dukies and Association Marquee was well attended. Among those that I caught up with were Steve Sheppard (minus Guinness), Derek Jones and a new acquaintance, Mike Kelly. Mike joined the Duke of York's in 1938, the youngest of five brothers the others being Colin, Ron, Paddy and Bernard. I am led to believe that they all went to the Dukies. If this were the case then I believe that it would be a record for the number of siblings attending the school. Some of you older guys may remember the Kellys. Sadly Mike is the soul survivor of the Kelly brothers.

The reviewing officer for the parade was Admiral of the Fleet the Lord Boyce, KG GCB OBE DL. Lord Boyce was also appointed as Lord Warden and Admiral of The Cinque Ports and Constable of Dover Castle in 2004. The colour trooped was the School Colour which, along with The Queens Colour, were presented to the school on Grand Day 2003 by our Patron Field Marshal HRH The Duke of Kent KG GCMG GCVO ADC. The original Colours, along with those of The Royal Hibernian Military School, Dublin, are laid up in the school chapel.

Watching the young boys and girls on parade brought out in me the fourth of the seven deadly sins, Pride, proud of being an old Dukie. I had my older brother with me who is an ex Irish Guardsman and he admitted that the boys and girls could show the guards a thing or two about smartness and their drill. He could not believe that the oldest person on parade (apart from the Director of Music) was 18 years of age. It was nice to see several Bangladesh Cadet

Students on parade looking very smart in their own uniforms. During the parade there was a display by the Tigers Free Fall Parachute Display Team. Around the perimeter of the parade ground were several pieces of military equipment including a Hawker Hurricane, a Supermarine Spitfire and an old enemy of that pair, a Messerschmitt 109. Well I remember them doing battle in the skies over Lydd during the Battle of Britain. There was also a vehicle from my era, an Alvis FV 432 armoured personnel carrier (APC).

Western Australia

In May we celebrated our second oldest member's 90th birthday, Tom Woolfrees, with a luncheon at the Perth RSL. There were seven of us in attendance, four members and three ladies. Tom joined the school in 1925. He was presented with a framed aerial photo of the school. Mary and I recently had lunch with our oldest member, my old CSP, John Miller and his lovely wife Helen. John will be 91 on the 9th of August.

2016 Reunion

Our next reunion will be held somewhere in Victoria on the Remembrance weekend in 2016. It may seem a long way off but planning has to start early for the organiser to ensure of obtaining a suitable venue, etc. Lloyd Nunn has volunteered to organise the reunion so you will be hearing from him in the not too distant future. Those of you who were at last year's reunion in Victor Harbor will remember Lloyd's lovely lady friend Emily. Lloyd informs me that she is now Mrs Nunn having recently got married.

Things have been fairly quiet on the Downunder front of late so I have nothing else to report. I will leave you with a blessing from the country of my birth. As you slide down the Bannister of life may the splinters always point in the right direction.

Slan
Ted Grant
Dukies Downunder
(41-45 Roberts)

LOST - Charity Fundraising for Soldiers Off the Street DESTINATION PORTSMOUTH

On Saturday 14th November, I led a team of three University of Portsmouth students on a charity fund raising event called "LOST". Previously, we were briefed that the event would involve being dropped off at an unknown location and that we would have to return to university for free within 24 hours. On the day we arrived at the student union, handed in our forms and were on a moving coach by 7am. As time passed, the weather worsened and we eventually arrived in Southwick Country Park. Here, we were handed a task sheet with 15 challenges to complete during our trip. The challenges were all based on gaining selfies, for example: with a free cup of tea; with a super car; with the spas in Bath. Eagerly spotting a nearby cafe, our team began swiftly and earned the free cup of tea along with 3 other tasks and a hitch hike to the nearest station, where the conductor kindly agreed to let us take the journey to Bath for

free. On arrival we were able to complete 4 more tasks, however, we found ourselves unable to gain any transport! This was where Dukie networking stepped in! Kindly Katie (pictured right) was able to meet us after her hockey match and walk with my team away from the city centre, where we were able to move South at last.

Although the weather was poor, our team was able to complete the challenge and arrived in Portsmouth around 7pm which unfortunately meant we were not the fastest team to finish.

However, our team were, by a vast margin, the highest fund raisers of the event, with the current total being £345 (almost £400 with gift aid). This money will be going to Soldiers Off The Street, an amazing charity that supports ex service personnel that find themselves homeless, and helps get them back to a life they deserve.

I would like to thank all who



donated and left kind words, particularly the Dukies from all years, including those I haven't met, as well as to my friends who supported me throughout. The fundraising page will remain open to donations until 15/12/15, so please feel free to take a look at the event photos and to leave a donation at: <http://www.virginmoneygiving.com/team/Asparagus>.

Kirsty and Katie
(both 2006-13 Dukies)

DOYRMS v OBA

ARMISTICE RUGBY MATCH

Players gathered early in what had been pre-agreed with the referee a rolling substitutes game, allowing older legs bursts then rest, or was it the bottles of port on the touchline that provided the greater lure. I hadn't realised the effect and re-hydration properties of fortified wine – but it kept the engines going.



The day was true to form; wet, windy and overcast (traditional), but an immaculate minutes silence was observed pre kick off led by a bugler from the RBL. The fixture was played in good spirit, the competitive edge

never disappearing in what was a scoreless first half. It was only in the second half that fatigue allowed the scoring to start as gaps appeared. Final score of which I had reported several I

think was settled at Dover 12 the OBA 5.

It would be remiss not to mention the swollen touchline, with "Old Dukies" supporting the spectacle on masse – reminiscing, and partaking of the victuals and beverages on offer at Dover RFC.

Many old school chums and much laughter and camaraderie was befitting the pre-remembrance parade and service on Sunday.

Richard Catt
Chairman Dover RFC
DYRMS OBA.



Pictures supplied by: Matt Hayward

SCHOOL SHORTS

TV QUIZ SHOW

Robbie Russell (who left from Year 13 in 2012, his brother Sam is currently still at DOYRMS in Year 8) appeared on the BBC1 quiz show *Pointless* this Summer. Robbie is currently in his second year reading Philosophy at the University of Leeds, he also hosts a radio show for the university, and is Head of Music there. In addition to this he has a regular column in a magazine called *VRS Magazine* (an online magazine). Last year he spent the summer teaching English at a remote school in Thailand working with the British Council, and is hoping to do something similar this summer but based in Europe. Finally he has a part time job as a club DJ in Leeds.



Robbie is on the left

DRILL COMPETITION



Competition was high for the annual Drill Competition in May. Marlborough House won overall while Sixth Former Chloe was presented with the Thatcher Sword of Honour from Colonel Andy Barr OBE MA Deputy Commander 11th Infantry Brigade and Headquarters South East.

Also judged by Capt Calvin Smith, former Roberts 99-06 and former SUO 2006, WO2 Payne and C/Sgt Scott of 2 Para based in Colchester, the final finishing order was Marlborough, Clive, Roberts, Wolfe, Wolseley, Kitchener and Wellington. Well done to all of the Houses.

200 Years of Service to the Crown FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON



Fifteen of us attended a fund-raising luncheon in June to celebrate 200 years of service to the crown (1815-2016) by the Gurkhas of Nepal. One of our number was invited to attend a grand function in London held for the same purpose that day, attended by HM Queen Elizabeth. Because of the expense, he declined and arranged instead this local affair. We did not toast the Queen because a couple of republicans were present who supported the Gurkhas, but not the monarchy. Your correspondent never having ventured east of Aden, you may well wonder at the oddity of my attending the function. However, the luncheon was organised by a retired soldier who formerly served with the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles), and had worked with the Gurkhas in Malaya in the early fifties. My

invitation to the affair stemmed from being a one-time member of the Royal Canadian Military Institute, Toronto, where I was a member of the Gurkha Welfare Trust.

My host's service in Malaya in the early 1950s piqued my interest. 'Does the name Peter Cartwright mean anything to you?' I asked.

'Hm! Can't say it does,' says he. 'Should I know him?'

'Lieutenant Cartwright, Royal Scots Fusiliers before he joined the S.A.S. Drowned in Malaya on a training exercise helping his men in difficulties crossing a stretch of water...'

'Oh yes. We would all remember the case well,' came the reply.

Small world. So our fellow Dukie who perished ages ago in the jungles of Malaya is remembered by a fellow soldier and not only by fellow Dukies who were at School with him.

*Art Cockerill
(39-43 Kitchener)*

Is This a Record? KELLY BROTHERS

Mike Kelly joined the Duke of York's in 1938, the youngest of five brothers who all came to the School between the mid 1920s and the early 1940s, the others being Colin, Ron, Paddy and Bernard. Could this

be a record for the number of siblings attending the School? It was lovely to see Mike back at the School for Grand Day this year with his son Mike (Jnr).



Mike Kelly (Sr), Paddy, Ron and Bernard returning for a reunion at Saunton Sands.

Milestone Passed

ALAN PERCIVAL JOHNSON

On May 18th, Alec Johnson (Wolfe and Wellington) celebrated his 90th birthday at Gordleton Mill, near Lymington in the New Forest, with a surprise lunch. Among the seventeen guests were two other Old Dukies, William (Bill) Saunders and John Harrison,

each reaching the same age just a few weeks later. Alec, Bill and John were at the school together from 1935 - 42, all becoming prefects (with Alex also becoming Drum Major in 1939) and have all kept in touch over the years. They all went into the Royal Engineers (Survey), served in various parts of the world, and continued that occupation in civil life.

Alec's family rigged up a computer after lunch showing images from Saunton Sands (sent to them on a memory stick by Jenny at the School) - old faces were recognised and many a good tale about old times at DOYRMS shared.

Alec's 'Play Up Dukies' cake.



The Three Dukies: Alec with wife Sybil, John Harrison and Bill Saunders.

Duke of Westminster Award A ONCE IN A LIFETIME EXPERIENCE

The Duke of Westminster Award was a once in a life time opportunity that I will not soon forget. This incredible experience all started back in November of 2014, when I was nominated for the event by Miss Ryder who put me forward for the award scheme after I enquired about leadership courses available for cadets.

At the time I was aware that I would be competing against thousands of cadets all over the country, in a very rigorous selection event that would test the personal attributes of all that were nominated. Soon after being nominated I was sent a pack in the post that contained various questions for me to answer and then send back to the CVQO. After the 24 candidates were selected, we were asked to attend an event in Somerset where we were split into three groups and put to the test! This included command tasks, team building exercises, individual interviews and group debates. As part of the training, we also all completed an ILM Level 3 qualification in Leadership and Management.

The candidates were whittled down to nine National Finalists, who then embarked on a two week Expedition to South Africa, paid for by CVQO. On the trip we visited the apartheid museum which was



an incredibly moving experience. We also entered the South African province of KwaZulu-

up one morning I was greeted by a zebra who was only 15ft from my tent. As part of the

"...the course showed just how stunning and important the natural world is"

Natal where we stayed for four days at Elandsheim lodge, learning about the Anglo-Zulu war and taking part in battlefield tours.

We then travelled north to Albiza Camp where we were given talks about the different types of snakes and scorpions that could be found in the area. My favourite by far was the South African boomslang, a very quick and agile snake armed with a highly potent hemotoxic venom and set of two large fangs. A truly remarkable predator that does not mess about!

Our camp truly was in the wild, so much so that when I woke

course we were also taken to a game reserve where we went on safari and saw lions, rhinos, zebra, giraffes, hyena, springbok, water buffalo and wildebeest. The course was very interesting and helped to show just how stunning the natural world is, and how important it is that we do our best to preserve and protect it.

Following the environmental awareness course, we moved further north to Cosi-Bay where we started a community project. This project saw us building various new features for the local school and helping to teach the children English and Maths. After the project was

*Archie Edmunds
Haig 2008-10,
Wolseley 2010-13,
Centenary 2013-15*



complete we went on home visits with Zulu families which was a very humbling experience and showed just how much we sometimes take for granted. After the community project, we spent two days on the beach at Cosi-Bay which I still maintain as being the most beautiful place I have ever seen. The warm water was crystal clear and the sand was bleached white by the sun. We spent all day playing touch rugby on the beach and swimming in the estuary while monkeys climbed through the trees behind us.

A big thanks goes to Adam and Devin our expedition leaders, who have an overwhelming passion for what they do in Africa along with a huge expanse of knowledge about the local wildlife. If anyone is thinking about applying for the award, please do. The scheme and expedition have helped me realise my true potential and allowed me to develop and enhance my understanding about what life is really all about and just how incredible the world is - if you only open your eyes and look.



YOUR STORIES

Living at DOYRMS before becoming a pupil.
Spring 1960 - Summer 1963

DAVE LETT

In the spring of 1960 my Father, CSMI Phillip Lett APTC, was posted from being the PTI at the Queens Own Buffs Regiment (stationed at Canterbury) to be the PTI at DOYRMS. My family moved into No. 33, situated near to the Guston Gate. My sister Jennifer and I attended St Marys Junior School down in Dover town, and I joined the 4th Congregational Cubs and St Marys Church choir.

In the summer that year a family moved in next door. This was CSM Jack Forrest, his wife Nora, daughter Dawn, sons Murray and Andrew and their Alsatian dog Jet. I was to spend a lot of time

at their house and we all became good friends. Mrs Forrest was a fantastic cook, and we loved her cakes. Jet was the most adorable dog I have ever met, well trained and very loving. RSM Doug Haig lived opposite with his wife Margaret, daughters Janet and Christine and a son whose name eludes me. Christine taught me to play chess when I was about 8 years old. Another good friend at that time was Captain Johnson's son Ian.

A lot of my memories revolve around holidays when the school was empty of boys. Hours and hours were spent in the swimming pool and the gym. One Christmas I was given a pair of Jacob's skates. The parade ground was perfect for skating. On my 9th birthday I got my first bike, a red Raleigh. Life seemed quite idyllic. All those playing fields to run around on and roaming all day over to the cliffs. There were lots of concrete bunkers to explore, and we discovered a hidden railway line not far from the school that was covered over by trees so it could not be seen from the air. We found out later it was used in the war to take munitions to gun emplacements cut out of the cliff face. Speaking of which, my sister Jennifer and the Forrest boys found some hand grenades

in the ploughed field at the farm at the bottom end of the school. They took them home where they were promptly relieved of them!

During these years I got to know some of the men working in the school for The Ministry of Works. One in particular I remember very well. He lost his left hand during the war. He had a wooden stump on which he could put various attachments. He would sit on a low stool outside a wooden shed near the running track with a metal bucket full of cooked winkles in their shells. He would attach a double hook to hold a winkle shell whilst he used a pin in his right hand to pull out the black winkle to eat. Can't say I wanted to try one.

I was 10 years old in the winter of 62/63. The snow just fell and fell. The road to Guston had about 4 feet of snow, and around the parade ground there were drifts 10 feet high up against the buildings. We had a fabulous time. We would sit on tin trays and slide down the back roads into Dover. What a ride! Not the walk back up though. I seem to remember a master from school skiing down Dover hill into town on the main road past the Castle.

My father set up a gymnastics



display team which would go and perform at Crabble Athletic Ground, and at local summer fetes and hospitals etc. There was also a trampoline team that performed at competitions throughout the South. Both were fantastic at what they did and we would go along to watch and cheer them on.

In the summer of 1963, my father was posted back to the APTC Headquarters in Aldershot. The family would follow when a quarter was ready.

I had taken the school test and had been accepted. In September 1963 my mother walked me and my suitcase along to Wolseley House to begin my school career. She was to continue living in the school for a couple of months with my sister, though I did not get much chance to see them.

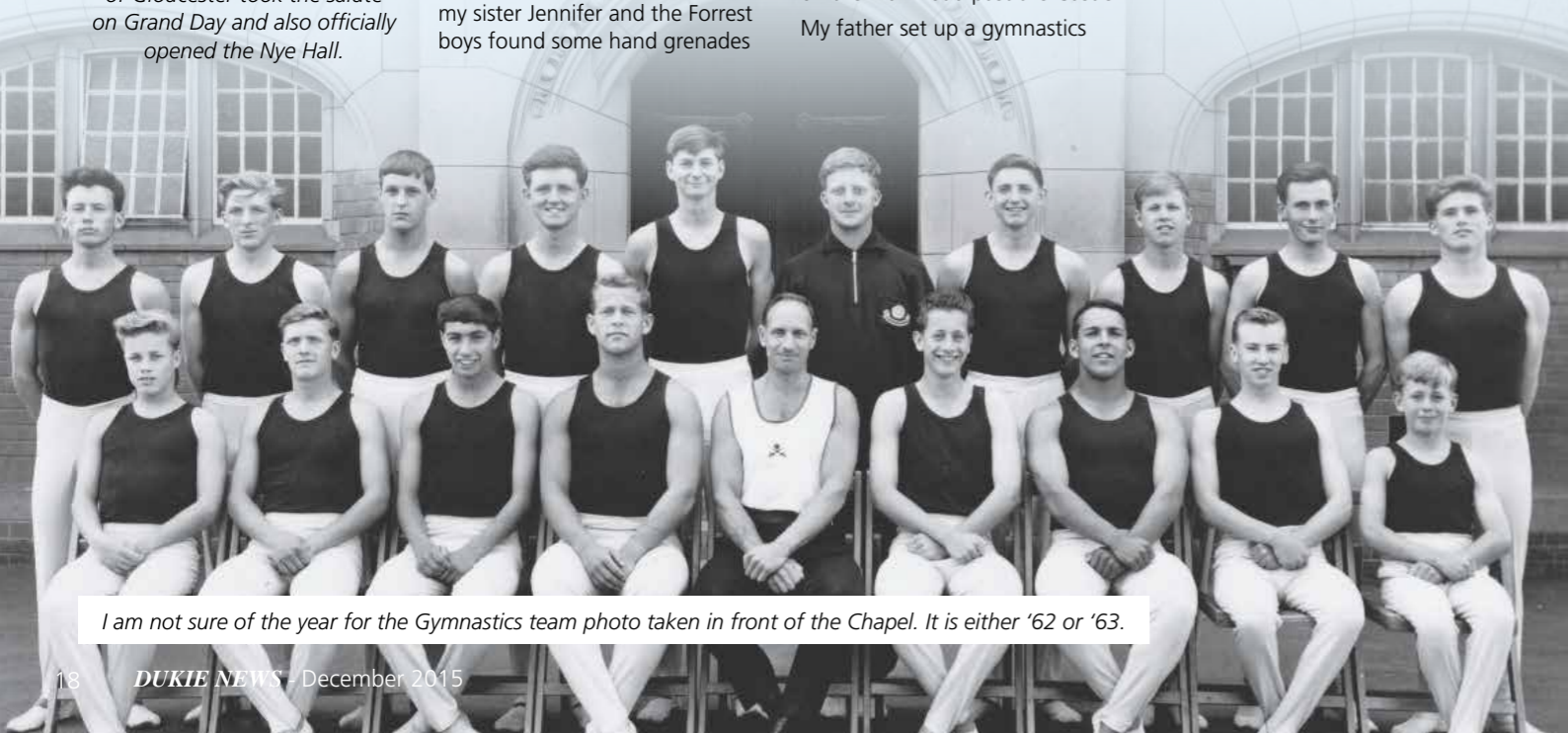
Mrs Forrest continued to bake fruit cakes for me during my time at the school and also for many years to come as they remained family friends.

I left the school in July 1968.

By David Lett



The photo of my family taken on the day of Duke of Gloucester's visit was in July 1962. The Duke of Gloucester took the salute on Grand Day and also officially opened the Nye Hall.



I am not sure of the year for the Gymnastics team photo taken in front of the Chapel. It is either '62 or '63.

Anzac Day Parade 2015

JAMES DOVE

I was in the school from 1941 to 1945 at Saunton Sands, Devon. Those of us who only went to the School in Saunton Sands are called the Limbo Dukies. It seems there were about twenty five of us. I was Haig for about a month or so learning all the drills then moved to Wellington.

I served in the Royal Signals for just over five years then joined the Royal New Zealand Signals in 1954 where I served seventeen years. I moved to Australia in 1990 (retired, my last employer was Air NZ) and am now a NZ/UK Veteran having done three years' active service in Malaya.

I live in Port Macquarie which is 400kms north of Sydney and am the only registered NZ Vet in this area, the nearest other vets are approx two hours drive north and over 100kms south. So I am called upon to represent NZ at various functions where a veteran is required. The attached photos are of me representing NZ Vets on the 25th April 2015 which was the 100th Anniversary of the Gallipoli landings - this is where the ANZACs proved themselves. ANZAC Day in New Zealand and Australia is the equivalent of Armistice Day in the UK and it was a great honour for me to be asked to represent New Zealand Anzacs on such a big occasion.

The Anzac Day parade was held in the Town of Kempsey 40 kms north of Port Macquarie and it had the biggest turnout ever recorded. The organizer gave me a copy of the local paper 'The Macleay Kempsey Argus' and there on the front page is me complete with Dukie tie, blazer pocket, and Dukie buttons. The tie was very apt for the occasion, as it has Kangaroo emblems on it and was presented to me by the DOYRMS Cricket team during

their downunder tour 1995-96. I am all but eighty five years of age, keep fit doing aerobics three times a week, walk to pick up my newspaper a couple of times a week (three kms) and mow my lawns. Play up Dukies!

Jim Dove
(Haig and Wellington,
1941 - 1945)



Valley Shines on Anzac Day



Well done: Kempsey-Macleay RSL Sub-branch president Terry Hunt with three guest speakers from the 11am Anzac Day service at Kempsay - Mick Eller, Jim Dove and Tas Tadmor. See more Anzac Day photos at www.macleayargus.com.au

For young and old: two of the many people who enjoyed watching the match in Kempsey. KEMPSEY locals young and old showed their respect for Australia's Diggers on Saturday, creating some of the largest crowds to attend Anzac Day services in Kempsey's history. From the Anzac Day dawn service at the cenotaph, where lookalikes welcomed everyone with their truly Australian call, to the march along Macleay Valley Way where the streets were lined with people honouring our soldiers, the day will not be forgotten by many for a long time to come. Returned Services League (RSL) president and ex-servicemen Paul McGregor told The Macleay Argus he knew the day was going to be a special one where at... Continued: Page 3
Special day at Rocks: Page 2
Crescent, Frederickton photos: Pages 9, 10
Two up for trainer Tony: See Sport



60 years ago I boarded a train to become a Dukie

IAN MACLEOD

Ian MacLeod shared his school memories with us. Unfortunately we don't have the space to publish the full article, but here are some extracts that I'm sure many of you will relate to.

I joined in 1955 and left in 1964 having been in Haig, Kitchener and Wolfe houses. I can remember Colonel Kiggell as my first Commandant and Brigadier Laing as my last. I don't even know if you still have Commandants today but we were a lot more "army" in those days. September 1955 and at Victoria Station I had no idea that the 21st Century would ever be a reality for me. Now in 2015 it is sixty years since I boarded the train to Dover to become a Dukie. I was nine years old and there were about sixty of us on our way, two days before the start of term, as "newchees" to begin a new experience.

I was joining Haig house which then was the junior house which had all the boys under 11. All the other houses were a mix of boys between 11 and 18. Brother Duncan was in Kitchener and even then my ambition was to join Kitchener.

From the beginning we were immersed in the school. Excepting only our school classes where we had two female teachers all the staff were men. We were shown how to look after our kit, all that spit and polish started on

day one. We started drilling and under instruction from RSM Jones, ex Guards, began to behave like very small junior soldiers. We were reviewed as possible bandsmen or corps of drums and introduced to organised sport. Soccer was played then and I so remember standing on a pitch cold and wet and really with no idea what to do. Now I can look back and realise that my lack of ball skills, which have followed me throughout my life must have made this pretty miserable.

When I moved to Kitchener it

the house master inspected the house, beds made properly, all fatigues done and everything tidy. We could not go back into the dormitories again until late afternoon so if you had left anything in your locker – tough.

After collecting schoolbooks, off to chapel every weekday morning for about 15 minutes and then disperse to classrooms. Three 40 minute lessons later back to house for milk break. Time to collect new books, no entry to dormitories or day rooms and then back for another two classes.



for that term. By the time I was in a senior house it was rugby, soccer later hockey, and then the summer sports which were great; so many options, cricket, athletics etc and so many chances to "slip between the cracks".

Two more lessons after tea and then back to the house. Some free time at last. A chance to sit in the dayroom and listen to whatever popular music the senior boys chose to play. Why would you ask a first or second former what they liked? No radios or tape players then so choice was non-existent. After homework cleaning kit and getting ready for bed but of course kit had to be

After that back to house with just enough time to wash and then form up in threes to march to dinner. We alternated the band and corps of drums to march to lunch and they formed up in front of the dining hall.

After dinner off to class again, although only one lesson. After that one lesson it was sport. Again, we were in age groups and we played whatever was the sport

"...we had a record club run by the senior boys... we ended up with a pretty good selection of music to play..."

seemed I had arrived. The big shock, of course, was being with older boys. We had prefects in every dormitory, we were expected to keep up the traditions of the house, to belong. We got up in the morning, did our fatigues and went to breakfast. Of course we marched to breakfast as a house and had our three mess tables matching our three dormitories. While at breakfast

inspected before bed. That would be shoes/boots for the following day, football boots from sports and lockers. There was time to play but not a lot.

Wednesdays were different. No school classes in the afternoon and sport was interhouse. Much more fun and really serious. After all there were about 60 boys in each house and fielding three rugby teams after allowing for anyone being unfit left very few not taking part. Interhouse sport was always pretty bloody – truly competitive with no excuses.

What about food? I think it was probably pretty good although we always complained. It was all prepared by Army Catering Corps cooks. Some food was sourced from army stores but there was a small cash allowance available for local fresh purchasing. I distinctly recall many days of excellent pork chops – I suspect that there was a good deal available! Breakfast was easy. Cereal/porridge to start followed by a hot course with a choice of maybe kippers or bacon and egg. Bread and butter and jam on the mess. Great tea pots of tea – one for 15 boys but never enough sugar! Dinner was always three courses with at least two choices for each course. Tea was bread and butter and jam and a piece of cake. Again, great pots of tea. Supper was a main course plus a sweet.

We could supplement the meals with anything we bought from the tuck shop. This would usually be something like peanut butter but there was never much. Our allowed pocket money never went far after buying shoe and metal polish, toothpaste etc. I used to get one and sixpence a week (say 7.5 pence today!). I know that the allowance for feeding us was seven and sixpence a day (37.5 pence today).

The weekend and no let up. Saturday morning was drill on the main square, I recall in the winter marching around the outside of the square in individual files of three having to salute to left and right at intervals. After your three had done this satisfactorily a number of times dismissed to free time. I cannot remember this ever taking less than about an hour! It was so cold that I remember looking at brother Duncans hands behind his back standing at ease and seeing them go blue. He was a prefect then so in front of the house. Of course in the summer term all changed and we rehearsed every Saturday morning

the Grand Day Trooping. I can still go through every command for a trooping ceremony even now.

For our kit/uniform 50-60 years ago, we were issued with two sets of battle dress, one for best and our blue number ones, plus of course all the rest, shirts ties shoes etc. Battle dress shorts for shorter boys or until 3rd form when into long trousers. Khaki greatcoats were also supplied with gloves plus later in my time mackintoshes. As we got older there were other items too like boots. We wore uniform all the time except on Saturday and Sunday afternoons when we could wear our civvies. Most of us had no casual clothes just smart blazers and flannels.

With permission we might go down to Dover. No public transport of course – if you wanted to go you walked and maybe cycled. Cycling there was fine but back was always an issue! Connaught Hill is really hard going and I never made it all the way without getting off. Walking up the "back way" to the Guston Gate could be pretty scary in the dark. I really never liked that graveyard!

In Kitchener we had a record club run by the senior boys. This involved voluntary contributions from everyone to allow the purchasing of some records. Voluntary in the military sense of course, who was brave enough to say no? We ended up with maybe three or four singles every week selected by the senior boys so ended up with a pretty good selection of music to play in the day room.

In the back of your mind was always getting your kit ready for Sunday church parade. Much time was spent cleaning and polishing shoes/boots and brass buttons and buckles and getting your turn with the iron to press trousers, battle dress blouses etc. All were heavy wool and keeping a crease in was difficult and involved all sorts of arcane tricks, like putting damp soap down the inside of the crease and then ironing with a very hot iron on the outside. All sorts of clever and not so clever ideas passed down and the odd disaster and a great big burn. As you got older and more "connected" it might be possible to "acquire" extra kit to make your best, best kit easier to maintain. Periodically, and when we grew we could exchange kit at the stores and perhaps inveigle the school tailor to make some



Wolfe 1964

changes for you. Growing quickly was a bonus as you get new kit more regularly.

Sundays were straightforward Church Parades. All houses paraded on the main square and were inspected and marched past the saluting officer and marched off to church. Usually, the saluting officer was the Commandant or Headmaster in the winter terms. We did not get many visiting dignities then. At church we frequently had visiting clergy from Canterbury. In my earlier days our Chaplain was Captain Pat Burman who was really a great man. He was my ideal of a military chaplain who would give his time to anyone and I never saw him express anger or irritation with any boy. He found many foreign priests visiting Canterbury to come and deliver sermons, although in all fairness most were descriptions of where they came from and tales with the loosest possible biblical context. His belief was in making us better, more informed people. In the summer terms No 1s were the order of the day and visiting officers more common.

After lunch on Sundays we were free until supper. We could leave the school but were not allowed to go into Dover, Deal or other towns. I do recall when I first joined being taken out by brother Duncan to see the four great pylons outside the school, not all there now, and there were still some wooden pylons scattered around which were erected as decoys for the German bombers. We went towards St Margarets Bay and saw one of the cross channel gun emplacements which had not yet been demolished. After all it was only just about ten years since the end of the war. After drills and as we grew older on Saturday mornings we

did other cadet type activities. Shooting, fieldcraft etc. In my early years we had indoor small bore shooting as a class room lesson. How cool was that!

Half term was good. Only a handful of people ever went home and only if they lived very close. We usually had about four days over a weekend. Lots of organised activities were available some of which involved going off and camping. No formal duties and only set meal times and lights out to worry about. I was lucky in that I saw my father and maybe my mother in November for the Remembrance Day parade as my father was an ex Dukie and Secretary of the OBA and he always came down.

What were high points for me? Winning inter-house drill competitions and rugby, being promoted to prefect and CSM. Being in the Colour Guard on Grand Day was a buzz.

Really, it is the small things which are most memorable. All the heating then was via water pipes using hot water from the central boilers pumped around the school and we used those big pipes behind our beds as aerials for our crystal radio sets to hear Radio Luxemboug after lights out. We also used them to heat up our batteries to give them longer life.

I am inordinately proud of having attended the school. To my mind the history of the school, and a small history of the army is there in the chapel on the plaques which remember the Dukies who served their country and died all over the world.

Wolfe 1963

DANNY WEBB

My father, who was in the Wiltshire Regiment, was killed in action on August 13th 1944 during the battle of Normandy. My mother was left with myself and my younger brother, and awaiting the arrival of my sister - so I guess like thousands of others, times were hard. I was offered a place at the school, and in 1945 I arrived at DOYRMS - which at that time was at the Saunton Sands Hotel in North Devon. I can remember joining the school train at Exeter and being handed over to a member of staff, a P.T. Instructor whose name I think was Leverton. My mother didn't have enough money to take me all the way to Saunton Sands and I have to admit I arrived a very homesick boy who wanted his mother. A very kind lady, who had brought her son David Cake from the Isle of Wight, took me under her wing and endeavoured to console me.

On arrival at the school I was put in Wellington House and given the number 2. Our C.S.M. was called Finn, and was a fairly ferocious Irishman. I will always remember the beautiful views across Barnstable Bay and Hartland Point Lighthouse when it flashed at night. I continued to be homesick and the tune the 'Londonderry Aire' (Danny Boy) always set me off - boys being what they are took the Mickey, began to call me 'Danny Boy' and the Name has stuck with me since! Even all through my years in the Army, only my close family called me Bernard.

I think I spent one or two terms at Saunton, then the school returned to Dover. I have to admit I did not take full advantage of the educational facilities on offer but I liked all the military aspects and the sport - I learnt to swim, and played cricket for the School's 2nd Eleven. In those days they encouraged you to take up a trade - I took up tailoring and I have to say it wasn't a great success. I can remember a female teacher named Miss Cuthill (we used to call her 'Machine Gun Dorothy') and

her standard punishment was to rap your knuckles with the sharp edge of the ruler. I couldn't see that happening today. I spent most of my time at the school in Wellington house. After CSM Finn we had a civilian housemaster called Davies - a Welshman I think. He was strict and still used the cane in those days - fortunately I managed to avoid that pleasure, though I don't know how!

My rise to fame came when I was chosen to be the Commandant's Orderly along with another boy from Wellington House called Cairns - a Scotsman. One of the photos shows us on Grand Day in 1948 with the old Duke of Gloucester - the Commandant was Colonel Barnwell and the CSP was a boy called Cartwright or Myatt, with another prefect, a boy called Somerville. In the other photo Cairns and I are awaiting the arrival of the Commandant for the next day's Church Parade.

I can remember a couple of boys in Wellington. Tom Wakenshaw slept in the next bed to me. We lived in dormitories in those days and his father won the Victoria Cross in the Western Desert. I also remember a boy called Cox who I think was killed in Cyprus during the EOKA problems. Another boy



who springs to mind was called Goosey - he came from Deal and I think he took up the cloth. I was eventually promoted to sergeant and sent to Haig.

I finally left the school on the 8th of August 1949 and enlisted, with another boy called Roy Swann, into the Boys Battery Royal Artillery. We were sent to Rhyl in North Wales after enlisting at the Dover recruiting office. I served for 26 years mostly with the 3rd Regiment Royal Horse Artillery and made it to WO1 RSM. I served in Germany, Egypt, Libya, Northern Ireland and the Far East.

I left the army in 1975 and worked for a South African Diamond Mining Company, retiring in 1993 and, as they say, the rest is History. My brother also attended the school, and my Uncle Douglas Haig was school RSM. He is buried in the Dukies plot in Guston church and my aunt Margaret (now 94 and still living in Dover) was a matron in Haig, way after my time.

The school made a man of me of which I am very proud.



“We’ll be Friends Forever, won’t we, Pooh?” asked Piglet. Even longer,’ Pooh answered.” A.A. Milne, Winnie-the-Pooh

Ever since I entered the School in 1958 I was proud to be called a Dukie. I'm now 68 and still proud. But what does being a Dukie have to do with Winnie the Pooh and Piglet?

Pooh and Piglet were great friends. So are many Dukies. Time and Distance is no barrier to friendship - at least not when Dukies are involved.

My wife and I recently made a trip to New Zealand. The Dukie network then kicked in. A friend of mine immediately contacted another Dukie who lives in Auckland, and he in turn rang me up on my arrival.

That's how after 40 years I was able to meet up with Geoff Witton and his wife Elizabeth in our Auckland Hotel.

When Geoff (ex Roberts 1961 - 1968) left the School he joined the police in London before going over to New Zealand. Here he worked in the retail business starting off sweeping floors before becoming the Managing Director about 15 years later.

However, he craved a new challenge. Geoff and Elizabeth spotted a gap in the magazine market for a New Zealand based golf magazine and they are now the proud owners and publishers of New Zealand Golf Magazine. The magazine can be viewed at <http://www.nzgolfmagazine.co.nz>.

It was really good to see him after all those years. The bond between Dukies never ceases to amaze. My wife is continually surprised how often a Dukie turns up in our life and was not surprised to hear from Elizabeth that many a Dukie visiting New Zealand has called Geoff up for a chat or to meet up for a drink and natter.

When we tell people that we are “Dukies” what does it mean? Are we Dukies just for the short period we are at the School or does it go further?

The School encourages us to embrace opportunities. We leave School knowing that we are able to become good citizens with a sense of fair play and tolerance

and a “can do” attitude. Geoff has certainly done that. Great friendships are made at our School and The Dukies Association and the Old Boys Association help to keep them alive.

Having a Dukie as a friend lasts for ever - or even longer. Just like Pooh and Piglet.



Geoff Witton

Geoff Ralph K & C 1958/65

OBITUARIES

Sir John Carter

Sir John Carter Kt, KStJ (Roberts, 1933 – 1936) passed away peacefully on 7th July. Steven Saunderson, David Cresswell and Nick Scott-Kilvert represented the School at his funeral, where David Cresswell sounded The Last Post. Through Sir John's connection with Baroness Thatcher, the Thatcher Sword of Honour was made, which is presented each year to the most outstanding Junior Under Officer. Sir John and Lady Carter have given the School a great deal of support throughout the years for which we are extremely grateful. Sir John will be sorely missed.



Bob Butteriss

Robert/Bob/Bobby Butteriss passed away on May 3rd at the age of 83 after a long illness.

Bobby was a Dukie of the immediate postwar era, who went on to Sandhurst and served a few years in the Army (in Suez, Germany and Cyprus) before making a major career with IBM in HR, working in London, Paris (which he particularly enjoyed) and Corsham. He was instrumental in the early days of encouraging Business to invest in the Arts and in his retirement he did voluntary work for various charities, including Leonard Cheshire.

He leaves a loving lady-wife Sheila and three children Kate, Kim, and Simon.

From Bobby's good friend Peter Sommerville:

Bob Butteriss, he of the blond hair, blue eyes and ready smile, took a full part in school activities - from being a leading player in the band as a Clarinetist to running and as a School Prefect. He won the quarter-mile: in yards in those days, ran in the cross-country and for the School in Kent Schools' competitions. Always cheerful, as School Prefect he led the junior house in Kitchener, and took part in other activities like Drama and singing in both Choir and such musicals as we were able to mount.

He'll be remembered by many for all these, and other events.

REST IN PEACE”.

James Joseph Kelly

From Andrew Kelly, James Joseph Kelly's son.

James Joseph Kelly attended The Duke of York's Royal Military School aged 11 in 1948 after the death of his father who had served with the British Army in the Leinster Regiment. He was a talented boxer even from that age and went on to spar with Henry Cooper. He earned the nickname 'Spider' after the famous Irish boxer but was always known as 'Jim' by colleagues, friends and family. During his time at The Duke of York's he was Bantam Weight champion in 1953 and a keen sportsman, excelling in shooting and hockey. At age 16 he joined the Regular army, serving with The Royal Army Ordnance Corps. He went on to see action in Aden, Libya and many parts of the Middle East. He also did several tours in Northern Ireland during the height of the troubles, often working undercover on attachment with other regiments involved in bomb disposal and counter terrorism. He was promoted to Warrant Officer (Class 2) in the mid -1970's serving in Germany and attached to the Army Air Corps at Hobart Barracks, Detmold, ensuring the supply of helicopter support to front-line regiments during the cold war. He left the Army in the late 70s reluctantly and worked for British Gas as a senior stores manager. Jim died suddenly on July 31, 2015 from heart failure and leaves his wife, June and three sons, Anthony, Andrew and John. He was cremated at Wilford Hill Crematorium in Nottingham with a bugler from the Royal Signals playing the Last Stand.



Michael John Ridlington

I would like to inform you that my husband, Colonel Michael John Ridlington, (Haig, 1951 – 1961) passed away on August 8th 2014 aged 72. He suffered a debilitating stroke in 2004 and at the beginning of 2014 was

diagnosed with an aggressive cancer. He died at our home here in Spain where we have lived for 20 years.

He always remembered his life at DYRMS with great fondness and kept up with all your news via the internet.

I miss him terribly.
Best wishes,
Pamela Ridlington



Ernest John Briggs

Whilst his first name was Ernest, he was always known as John and I first met him in the early 1980's when I discovered that there was another 'Dukie' living in my home Town of Trowbridge.

John joined the Duke of Yorks at the age of 9 having been orphaned at the age of 4. He led the school band at the Royal Tournament in Olympia in 1938 which I believe was in charge of the Guard of Honour for Princess's Elizabeth and Margaret. He participated in all Sports and won the Kent School Boys High Jump in 1938 and as reaching the finals of the ABA Boxing Championships in the same year.

From the School he went to the Army Apprentice School in Chepstow and then on to Aborfield. In January 1942 he joined the Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers (REME). He was posted to India in 1943 joining the Indian Army. Following time in India as well as Burma he was to stay in the region after the hostilities ended until 1947 where he was posted to Egypt to be in charge of German prisoners of war sent down from Palestine.

John eventually returned to the UK in 1949 where he was posted to Cleave Camp based in Bude, Cornwall. It was around this time that he was to meet his wife, Irene and they were married on 31st March 1951 and were to have two children, David and Linda. John and Irene were to be blessed with 5 grandchildren and at the time of John's passing, 1 great grandchild.

John's career in the Army continued throughout the 1950's where he gained promotion to Warrant Officer Class 2 in 1956 and once more went on his travels, this time to Singapore where he was based in the Infantry workshops. He finished his Army Career in 1961 following a return posting to the UK to be based at Warminster. He was then to join Confederation Life Insurance Company where he rose to Senior Life Underwriter staying with the Company until his eventual retirement in 1986.

Not content with sitting on his laurels, John then purchased a motor yacht and ran a Corporate Entertainment Business for the next 10 years self styling himself as Admiral of the Blue!

Whilst John did not manage to get down to Dover that often, he was an ever present at the OBA West Country Dinners and was always willing to say a few words and tell a few stories. He was without doubt the consummate raconteur!

His funeral was held on the 26th June 2015 and was attended by myself and my father (Ray Barlow) representing both the Old Boys as well as the School.

Ernest 'John' Briggs, gone but certainly never forgotten.

Andy Barlow
(73-78 Wellington)



John Travers

Tony Prouse wrote: It is with some sadness that I am contacting you. John Travers (approx 1941- 1947) died on Thursday 16th July, aged 83. I have known John for over 30 years, meeting him originally at the local sports centre that he managed, when I moved to Lichfield. I believe he was the Drum Major when at the school and I [am] aware that he had a brother, who I believe also attended the school.

A Particularly Special Occasion

GRAND DAY 2015

Grand Day is always a spectacular event in the Dukie calendar but this year was a particularly special occasion.

Attended by more than 1,000 parents and guests, this year's Grand Day included a prize-giving event, Friends of the School barbecue lunch, an art and technology exhibition and a small display of tanks and static planes. The Dukies

were also accompanied by visiting Bangladeshi Cadets (see page 4) and, after three years of cancellations due to the weather, the Tigers Free-Fall Parachute Display Team landed to spectacular applause.

The Reviewing Officer and Guest of Honour this year was Admiral of the Fleet the Lord Boyce KG GCB OBE DL. He said "The Duke of York's Royal Military School

provides a haven of stability and security for children of forces families. Today, forces are working hard all round the world, on land, in the air, on water or under the water, and it's of enormous worth to serving parents to know that their family is safe and being well educated."

