



The Dukies' Association

DUKIE NEWS

The newsletter for all members of The Dukies' Association



Dukies Inspiring Dukies

TDA CAREERS FAIR

Former Pupils Return to the School to Share Their Experiences

Also in this Edition: **Saunton Sands Reunion**
Old friendships were rekindled and new ones begun at reunion lunch.

British Torch of Remembrance
School takes guardianship.

Your Stories
A selection of stories from Dukies about life after School.

From Simon Daghish, Chair of The Dukies' Association 'DUKIES' RUGBY A SELL-OUT

By the time you receive this hopefully summer will be with us and you will be looking forward to a good holiday.

Much has happened in the spring at TDA. We organised our first TDA gathering at the Army and Navy match on 30th April, which was fantastically supported by Dukies from all age groups and backgrounds. In fact the event was a sell out minutes after Jenny announced we had some tickets, so next year we will be making a much bigger event of it – stay posted for news on that front.

The Clocktower Society is also taking off with great gusto. The society, which is entirely



supported by Dukies' generous donations, is now helping its second pupil and hopefully will continue to grow. Thank you to all of those Dukies who have supported this initiative and

a massive thank you to Chris Crowcroft who is the inspiration behind this very positive initiative.

TDA panel continues to meet on a quarterly basis, we welcome all input and ideas so please do contact me or Jenny if you have any suggestions about events or things you would like to see change. But until then have a fantastic summer and hopefully see you all at the Reunion Dinner on Remembrance weekend – which as has become tradition will be held in the Dining Hall.
Best wishes.

Simon Daghish



THE CLOCKTOWER SOCIETY

At the end of February, donors to the School through 'The Clocktower Society' enjoyed a special 'thank you' dinner at School House with Executive Principal Chris Russell and other members of the School Executive Team. The Clocktower Society, with funds channelled through The Dukies Foundation (TDF), raises money for the Dukies of today and has already made two student bursary awards, invested significantly in the RSM's leadership/outdoor activities and funded visiting star coaching in sports & arts

activities. We now have over 30 Clocktower members and are about to offer a third bursary to a student facing financial hardship but with demonstrable talent and potential.

At the dinner, Clocktower donors were served with delicious food cooked and prepared by Holroyd Howe, the School Caterers, and enjoyed a lively evening catching up and sharing ideas.

Our thanks go to all old Dukies, staff members and friends who have so far contributed to the Clocktower Society to help the

Dukies of today, including:

Andy Barlow, Don Birch, Karl Biscoe, John Bowler, Caroline Cant, Graham Chipperfield, Art Cockerill, Chris Crowcroft, Simon Daghish, Pete Delduca, James Dover, Tim Foster, Peter Goble, Paul Harrington, Alan Jones, Ian Kennett, Allan Mayo, Stuart Milligan, Geoff Ralph, David Richmond, Bill Rogers, Peter Somerville, Mike Vince, Peter Vincent, Stephen Walke, Neil Welton, Chris Winter, Steven Winter, Nigel Wylde.

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 245080.

The School was saddened to learn of the passing of Nigel Wylde (1956 – 1966) Haig and Clive, pictured here at the Clocktower Dinner with his Clive House contemporaries. Nigel's obituary was written in The Times, The Telegraph and The Guardian and a copy is at the back of this issue of Dukie News.



The Dukies' Association

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)

Jenny Grant
Alumni and Development Manager, DOYRMS

Karl Biscoe
(57 – 62, Clive)

Ian Kennett
(79-86 Haig & Marlborough)

Adam Kent
Director of Finance, DOYRMS

Allan Mayo
(59 – 67 Haig and Clive)

Stu Milligan
(00-07, Roberts and Haig)

Chris Russell
Executive Principal, DOYRMS

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

Andy Wilkes
(83 – 89, Wolseley)

Chris Winter
(86 – 93, Haig and Wolfe)

All panel meeting minutes are available to read online.

EVENTS

Grand Day
Friday 1st July

British Torch of Remembrance
7th - 12th November

Reunion Dinner
Saturday 12th November

Remembrance Sunday
Sunday 13th November

FRONT COVER PHOTO:
Kirk Hiron (1991 to 1998, Kitchener and Marlborough) with a student at the Dukies' Careers Fair.

TDA NEWS

Old friendships rekindled

SAUNTON SANDS REUNION

During the Second World War, the Duke of York's Royal Military School left its Dover premises to make them available to troops then being evacuated from Dunkirk. Some boys went to the Queen Victoria's School in Dunblane, while the majority were sent (via a short stint in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire) to the Saunton Sands Hotel in Devon. The imposing art deco hotel, perched on the



to a reunion lunch back at the hotel.

The five-star hotel overlooks a fantastic sandy beach, which the Saunton Dukies remembered being studded with stout posts to prevent its use by airborne invasion troops in wartime. They described how the current restaurant was packed full with benches to create a dining hall, the guest rooms accommodated

bunk beds with many boys housed in each room, and Nissan huts and out-buildings were used for school work, trades training and the school band.

The lunch was a happy affair filled with reminiscences of School life, whilst new friendships were made and old friendships rekindled.



cliff top overlooking Barnstable and Bideford Bay, was where the boys then stayed for the remainder of the war.

On Sunday 20th March this year, to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the return of the School to Dover at the end of World War 2, Executive Principal Chris Russell invited Dukies who spent all or part of their DOYRMS schooling in Devon



In Brief

GALLANTRY AWARDS

The appeal made in the last edition of the Dukie News for more information about former pupils who received decorations and honours did the trick. Several of you responded and, as a consequence, I have been able to improve the details and expand the list of names already held.

After discussion with Chris Russell, Executive Principal, it is felt that the time is right to move on to the next stage. The list of names has now been forwarded to Chris who will then decide how these names will be displayed in the School so that our former pupils get the public praise that their awards warrant.

By seeing these names displayed in the School, it is hoped that we will all remember what they have achieved and act as an inspiration for current and future pupils.

So, many thanks to all Dukies who responded to the request. The list would not have been possible without your input.

*G J Ralph
K/C 1958 - 65*

DUKIES DOWNUNDER REUNION

The next Downunder reunion will be held in Melbourne, Victoria on Remembrance Weekend November 11th to 13th 2016. The reunion is being organized by Lloyd Nunn who can be contacted at lloyd@crebrokers.com. Lloyd already has Dukies planning to attend from Hong Kong, New Zealand and all the Australian States, and if any UK Dukies are in Australia at that time they are also more than welcome to attend.



The Dukies' Association

Remembrance Weekend Reunion Dinner 2016

Saturday 12th November

In the Dining Hall
The Duke of York's Royal Military School
Tickets available from 5th September 2016

Please let us know if you are having an anniversary reunion or bringing a large group this year so we can ensure you are seated together.

Contact for all events is jennifer.grant@doyrms.com

DUKIES INSPIRING DUKIES

21 former Dukies, from a wide range of professions, returned to the school on March 4th to share their experiences of the working world in our third annual TDA Careers Fair. The event was held in the Nye Hall Performing Arts Centre for students in years 11-13, and exhibitors included a pilot, a paramedic, engineers, doctors, soldiers, designers and even a fitness entrepreneur.

Many occupations were demonstrated using hands-on and interactive exhibits, such as specialised paramedic equipment used in mass casualty incidents; flying equipment including an ejector seat and a parachute; resuscitation dolls with airway equipment and breathing bags; medical kits for making plaster casts; and hi-tech interactive engineering software.



For many former Dukies it was their first time back at the School as adults, and as well as passing their knowledge and experience on to current Dukies, they enjoyed a tour of the new School buildings to see all the recent upgrades. Breakfast in the dining hall, a buffet lunch in the AG's room and a catchup the night before in the Duke of

York's pub was all part of the package!

The careers fair is part of TDA's wider 'Dukies Inspiring Dukies' careers initiative, in which current Dukies have the chance to talk to former Dukies about career and higher education choices.

This term, students have also

enjoyed Friday afternoon presentations from former Dukies Robin Bashford (1985 – 1992 Kitchener and Marlborough) and Don Birch (1961—1969 Kitchener and Wellington). Robin talked about his position at Balfour Beatty and the different roles available in Engineering, and Don, a well-regarded business mentor, gave a workshop on key skills for a successful career, including the importance of mentoring.

Some current students have also gone on to take up work experience opportunities as a result of these inspiring events, and we are very grateful to our former Dukies for giving up their valuable time to guide and inspire those currently at the School.





The British Torch of Remembrance PILGRIMAGE TO BELGIUM

In the last issue of Dukie News a short paragraph appeared in the Remembrance Day Services article referring to School representatives attending Remembrance ceremonies in Belgium. The School is proud to say that it has now taken on the guardianship of the British Torch of Remembrance, and is keen to develop the membership as well as provide the opportunity to new members to attend this year's and future pilgrimages.



A brief history of the British Torch of Remembrance, together with details about membership and this year's pilgrimage (7th –

12th November) can be found by visiting www.doyrms.com/BTOR. At the last AGM, Chris Russell and Steven Saunderson were elected as President and Chairman respectively. The new Hon. Secretary is Andrew Nunn. The itinerary for this year is shown below – please note that the return to Dover on the 12th allows plenty of time for those planning to attend the reunion dinner in the School dining hall that evening.

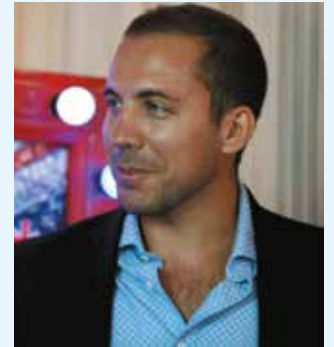
BRITISH TORCH OF REMEMBRANCE PILGRIMAGE TO BELGIUM MONDAY 7TH – SATURDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2016

DATE	VENUE	EVENT	TIME OF DAY
7th	Westminster Abbey	Torch Lighting	Evening
8th	Dover Cruise terminal	Service of Remembrance Ferry to Calais	Morning
	Oostende Station	Reception of BTOR on Belgian soil	Evening
9th	Roeselare	BTOR Belgian Branch Torch Lighting Parade, Service of Remembrance & Reception	Morning
	CWGC cemetery (tbc)	Private visit	Afternoon
	Ieper	Last Post ceremony at Menin Gate	Evening
10th	Bredene	Wreath laying in Bredene Churchyard	Morning
	Brussels (Gare Central)	Dedication service, parade & reception	Evening
11th	Brussels	King's Day Parade	Morning
		Visit 13 Colonels :WW2 memorial (tbc)	Afternoon
		Relais Sacre Parade & wreath laying	Evening
12th	Calais	Return ferry to UK	Morning



**The Hon. Secretary can be contacted for additional information at
BTOR@doyrms.com**

SCHOOL TRIALS NEW MOBILE APP guidebook



Wayne Morris (1988 – 1995, Clive) is Vice President, International at Guidebook, an innovative mobile app platform, and has given the School a chance to trial the platform this year by creating a bespoke app for one of our biggest events of the year – Grand Day.

The Guidebook app-building platform is at the forefront of mobile technology and will allow attendees to access all the necessary information they need in one easy-to-navigate app from parking instructions and orientation through to the schedule of events, cutting down on email communication and paper used.

Wayne Morris says "We are delighted to be helping the Duke of York's Royal Military School to lead the way in using an app for a major event and expect many other UK schools to follow suit."

Our thanks go to Wayne in giving the School this wonderful opportunity.

SHOUT OUT Looking for Roger Foley

Robert Edwards is looking for one of his School best friends, Roger Foley, who was at the School with him from 1946 (starting in Saunton Sands)

If anyone is still in touch with Roger please get in touch with Jenny on jennifer.grant@doyrms.com.

A Humble Petition for A SOLDIER'S SON

In March 1923 Emily Jones submitted a "Humble Petition in behalf of Edwin Arthur Jones" for her youngest son (known as Ted & aged 8½). He was just 6 months old when his father, a Sergeant in the Royal Garrison Artillery was killed in a gun position at Ypres on the 8th May 1915 (his name is recorded on the Menin Gate). He was actually Acting/BSM - but for just one day, such was the rate of casualties). Ted's petition was no doubt one of hundreds submitted to the Duke of York's, at the time, with a similar tale to be told; probably most of Ted's contemporaries will have had fathers who fell in the Great War.

The conditions & evidence required for a successful petition application were searching. Boys were required to 'be free from mental and bodily Infirmity or Defect' and none was to be admitted who had not achieved a standard of education 'proper for his age' - although the standard was markedly different to that expected today! At the age of 9 they had "To read words of two syllables ... and to write from dictation 10 easy words". Emily had to certify Ted's 'contenance' and that he had no 'dirty' habits; also declare her income (the princely weekly pension for her and four children was £3 7s 6d [£180 today]).

Ted was in effect "sponsored" by the Royal Garrison Artillery



Ted Jones

who had to certify his eligibility on the basis of his father's service (over 20 years) and the circumstances of his death. It is interesting to note that general requirements stated that "boys must be the lawful sons of soldiers or ex-soldiers who

married while serving with the Colours, or were accepted for enlistment as married men" and that the father "if a discharged private, must have served 10 years in the Regular Army, except for total Orphans, sons of men killed in action, or other exceptional cases".

When Ted, now 9 years, travelled on his first day from Portsmouth (travelling up in the care of the train guard) to be met at London and conducted to the Duke of York's at Dover, Emily was required to cover the escort's expenses and send ahead a Postal Order for 14s [£36 today].

Ted joined Wolseley House and was a keen sportsman, a middle distance runner and played the euphonium in the Band. All boys had a Conduct Sheet (similar in layout to a full time soldier's), which reflected, in



Ted's case, the predictable roller-coaster of schoolboy behaviour - award of a Good Conduct Badge, closely followed by minor transgressions (including "carelessly tearing his great coat", "breaking out - and into - the School between the hours of 8 & 9 p.m." and "smoking") followed shortly with the award of the next level of G.C. Badge! When he left the School his overall conduct was declared to be "Exemplary" and he passed the 1st Class Certificate of Education, required for commissions from the ranks.

Ted enlisted in the Royal Engineers in 1930. After Chepstow Apprentice College, he gained broad experience in field, searchlight, railway & fortress Sapper units. He served in Palestine at a particularly nasty period in 1938. In 1940 he helped keep military railways running in France, before evacuation from St. Malo (pausing only to help demolish the docks!). He then joined a Sapper company and despatched via Palestine & Iraq to North Africa, taking part in the 8th Army's desert battles. Overrun by German Panzers at the Battle of Gazala, he was briefly captured before escaping in the 'fog of war'. Commissioned after the War he served in Germany, before moving to Malacca, Malaya, carving out the secondary jungle to help build Terendak Cantonment. He was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal following 30 years' service (for undetected crime, as he put it...).

Ted always looked back at his time as a Dukie with quiet pride.

Alan Jones

Alan Jones, Ted's son, is a School Governor & Chairman of The Dukie's Foundation

Your Petitioner therefore humbly Prays that the said **Edwin Arthur Jones**, may be admitted into the **DUKE OF YORK'S ROYAL MILITARY SCHOOL**; and if this Prayer be granted, your Petitioner hereby agrees that the said Boy shall remain in the School as long as the Commissioners thereof shall think fit, and to arrangements being made upon his arriving at a proper age, for his being placed in such employment, either as apprentice, servant, or otherwise as may be best suited to his capabilities, or—but that only with his own free consent—in the Army, in such branch as may be decided.

Army v Navy Rugby TDA VISIT TWICKENHAM



The Dukies' Association and the RSM took the School Landrover up to Twickenham on 29th April for the Army/Navy Babcock Trophy match at Twickenham Stadium. The Landrover, with School Flag flying proudly on top, parked up in the North Carpark and served drinks and nibbles to Dukies who had bought tickets to the match through TDA, as well as others who were there with tickets of their own.

The match itself was an 80,000 sell-out and

transformed into a thriller in the last quarter. The Army was cruising 26-7 when the Navy staged a comeback with 3 tries and the game finished with a 29-29 draw.

It was a really great day and a fantastic chance for former Dukies to catch up with their old friends over a few drinks, some snacks and a nailbiting game of rugby.

We now plan to make this a regular Dukie event, and will aim for even bigger and better next year!



ANZAC DAY 2016



Jim Dove (Haig and Wellington, 41-45) attended the ANZAC day parade at Kempsey again this year, and arranged with the sub branch secretary (ex Royal Signals) to present a Lemon Squeezer (a replica of the WW1 hat) to the Kempsey RSL. The president was over the moon, as the sub branch has an ANZAC museum, in which there were no NZ exhibits - well there are now!

Jim said that the march past and the cenotaph service were very well presented, with another very large turnout. Each year the veterans (mostly ex Vietnam vets) decrease in numbers, and the attendance increases.

A RUGBY SEASON TO BE PROUD OF

With a 75% win ratio and progression into the 6th Round of the National Natwest Vase Competition, the 2015/2016 season was the best Dukies have had at 1st XV level in at least 10 years.



SNIPPETS FROM THE PAST

Coveted Long Trousers

Direct reference to the 5 ft 2 inch rule for getting long trousers, which is actually taken from an Issue of "Soldier" magazine ostensibly the August 1961 issue.

After two years the juniors start concentrating on their subjects for the General Certificate of Education examination—the school's aim is a minimum Ordinary Level pass in English, mathematics, a science and a foreign language. This age of 13½ is a turning point for every boy. He moves from a junior to a senior house—there are four of each, all named after famous generals—and abandons (technically when he gets into the Fourth Form or reaches a height of 5ft 2ins) his rather odd-looking battledress shorts for the coveted long trousers.

From then on, school life becomes busier and busier. From Reveille at 6.45 a.m. to lights out (for the seniors at 10 p.m.) the

A School that pays its pupils to attend

DOYRMS must have been the only boarding school in the world where pupils were paid to attend and charged no fees whatsoever. This source is a school letter to parents of

the new intake just prior to their going to the school for the first time.

In the case of a boy whose father's death was caused by war service, pocket money at the rate of 3s. 0d. a week is paid for each week of the term by the Ministry of Pensions direct to the school and is administered by the boy's Housemaster.

To assist parents of boys who are selected to remain at the school beyond the compulsory school age i.e. the end of the school year in which they reach the age of 15 years, pocket money is provided at the rate of 2s. 6d. a week for Fifth Form boys and at the rate of 4s. 0d. a week for Sixth Form boys throughout the year. The pocket money is credited to a boy's account with his Housemaster.

Pensionable boys in Fifth and Sixth Forms receive the 3s. 0d. a week in addition to this grant.

Pete Delduca
(Haig and Clive 1963 – 1970)

Right Reverend James Jones

FREEDOM OF LIVERPOOL

Former Bishop of Liverpool, the Right Reverend James Jones, attended DOYRMS from 1959 to 1967. Bishop Jones played a prominent role in the Hillsborough investigations and the city of Liverpool proposes to honour him with the freedom of the city.

Why the Hillsborough champions are getting Freedom of Liverpool honour

13th May this year, *The Liverpool Echo* reported why (excerpt):

Why the Hillsborough champions are getting Freedom of Liverpool honour

Bishop Jones spent 15 years in Liverpool, and was deeply involved in many aspects of city life. But for many, his work as chair of the Hillsborough Independent Panel is what defined his time here, and

continues to define him.

After being told he would need triple heart bypass surgery he asked his consultant whether he would still be able to continue his Hillsborough work: "I was diagnosed at the end of June 2011 and the Panel was at a critical stage... in the end, I was able to chair all 40 panel

meetings, bar two."

After the panel reported in 2012, he became chairman of a forum that brought the families face to face with the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC), the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and police investigative team (Operation Resolve).

He was then appointed by Home Secretary Theresa May as her advisor on Hillsborough, so he could advise the government on how best they could support the families.

His role as the home secretary's advisor came to an end with the end of the inquests, though she is now reviewing whether she and the government may still need one.

And while the previous forum format has also come to an end, the CPS has already held discussions with the families about setting up a new forum as it works towards a decision of whether or not to prosecute.

The CPS asked Bishop Jones if he would chair the new forum (which the IPCC and Operation Resolve would again be involved in) and he said he would if the families wanted him to – and, of course, they did.

To be given the Freedom of Liverpool is the city's highest honour – and we congratulate Bishop Jones on this fitting accolade.



Harry Cowley FIRST ORGAN SCHOLAR



Following hard work and determination, old Dukie Harry Cowley has been announced as the first Organ Scholar of the soon to be created Hull Minster. Holy Trinity Church Hull, the largest Parish church in the UK, becomes a Minster in January 2017 and Harry now

has the opportunity to continue to learn and develop as an organist while he studies Music at Hull University.

Harry also continues to play the Clarinet which he learnt while at The Duke of Yorks Royal Military School.

Our congratulations go to Harry on this wonderful achievement!

A (Fictional) Dukie Hero... THE NIGHT MANAGER

The recent dramatisation of a novel by John le Carré, *The Night Manager*, was of special interest to us all here at DOYRMS as the hero of the novel is a Dukie, as revealed in the text below:

Returning to the son, Burr pored over reports of Jonathan's progress through army foster homes, civilian orphanages and the Duke of York's Military School in Dover. Their inconsistency quickly incensed him. *Timid* ran one; *plucky* another; *a solitary, a grand mixer, an inward boy, an outgoing one, a natural leader, lacks charisma*, back and forth like a pendulum. And once, *very involved with foreign languages*, as if this were a morbid symptom of something better left alone. But it was the word *unreconciled* that got Burr's goat: 'Who the hell ever decreed,' he demanded indignantly, 'that a sixteen-year-old boy of no fixed abode, who's never had a chance to know parental love, should be reconciled?'

The Telegraph review after the first episode, can be found at <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/tv/2016/02/19/the-night-manager-episode-1-event-drama-of-the-highest-calibre/> and remarks "Togged up in pastel linens, here was the kind of dauntless English hero that they don't make the way they used to."

Dukies as dauntless English heroes... we'll take that...!

Congratulations DUKIE WEDDING



Dukie Sorcha Chipperfield (2000 – 2007, Alanbrooke and Wolfe) married Daithi Mac Laimhim on St Patrick's Day 17th March 2016 in Belfast. Dukies present at the event included Sorcha's Uncle Clifford, her Dad's Best man Charles Harrison, Dr Jenny Fisher from Sorcha's year along with Chelsea Harrison and of course Sorchas' sister Alanagh and Father Graham.

At the reception Graham (1964 – 1970 Kitchener, Wolfe and Wolseley) was asked to



say Grace, and of course there was only one Grace he could use - the one he had heard at every meal he attended from Sep 1964 to Jul 1970: "Lord, relieve the wants of others and give us grateful hearts through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

DUKIE ENGAGEMENT



Congratulations to Dukies Abi Trench and Euan Stoddart who got engaged in February at Beeston Castle in Cheshire after 12 years together - they

met here at the School, got together at the start of the Upper Sixth and have been together ever since!

We wonder how many Dukies have married fellow Dukies as we've heard about a fair few now – get in touch if this applies to you (Jennifer.grant@doyrms.com) and we'll put together a feature here in Dukie News...

SCHOOL NEWS

DRILL COMPETITION

The annual Drill Competition took place on April 22nd this year, and old Dukie (and TDA Panel member) Captain Stu Milligan (00-07, Roberts and Haig) was welcomed back to the School as Inspecting Officer. Stu was accompanied by two Senior NCOs from his Regiment, the Queen's own Gurkha Logistic Regiment, for the inspection phase. Drill Comp presentations were made by Brig Gen Sheikh Pasha Habib Uddin, SGP, afwc, psc Defence Adviser Bangladesh High Commission, London.

As usual, all students in years 9 to 13 took part, and Wolfe House came away as this year's victors, earning the right to be

escort to the Colours at this year's Grand Day.

Junior Under Officer Scully received the Baroness Thatcher

Sword of Honour for being judged best Junior Under Officer of the year.

The full order was as follows:

Wolfe
Roberts
Kitchener
Marlborough
Clive
Wellington
Wolseley



SCHOOL MILITARY BAND PLAYS AT LORDS

The 90-strong military band took to the pitch at Lord's in May to entertain the crowd between matches at the annual Inter Services Twenty20 Cricket Tournament. Conducted by Major David Cresswell (rtd), the band played three pieces of music during the interval.

The United Kingdom Armed Forces Inter Services T20 is a triangular Twenty20 tournament involving all three armed forces who play for the Inter Services T20 Trophy and the title this year went once again to The Army.



JUNIOR HOCKEY DEVELOPMENT TRAINING PROGRAMME



Supported by:
The Clocktower Society

Clocktower Member Paul Harrington (57 – 67, Haig, Roberts and Clive), in conjunction with his firm Irwin Mitchell, has very kindly made a generous donation towards hockey training and development at the School. The aim is to enhance and motivate a group of students, both boys and girls, who the School can develop over the next two to three years, with the aim of improving the future performance and achievements of the School within hockey.

A 'Junior Hockey Developmental Training Programme' is proposed, culminating in a training camp and tour to Holland later in 2016.

Shane Cloete, Director of Sports, Clubs and Activities,

said "I believe that this is a very exciting prospect and through the generous donations pledged, this development training programme and camp will hugely benefit the School's hockey for both the girls and the boys. I see the competitive nature of our teams, both at age group level and ultimately in the long run at 1st XI level improving, and if sustainable, this programme of training and touring will help enhance and secure hockey at the School."

Our thanks go to both Paul and Irwin Mitchell for their generosity in giving the School this wonderful opportunity.

Irwin Mitchell is one of the largest law firms in the UK, and has helped over 1 million clients with their legal needs since 1912.



Executive Principal Chris Russell with Paul Harrington from Irwin Mitchell Solicitors – proud supporters of Junior Hockey Developmental Training at The Duke of York's Royal Military School

Waterloo 200th Anniversary DRUM-HEAD SERVICES

Given the Dukies link with Waterloo it was good to see that a service was held by the School to remember and mark the 200th anniversary.

The explanation of the Service was most informative and it was good to see the School preserving its military heritage.

It was reported that "This was the first occasion in living memory that the School has held a Drum-Head Service....."

Sorry School, I think you may be wrong here.

In 1965 new Colours were presented to the School and then dedicated on the parade ground.

I was sure that this dedication was performed through a Drum-Head Service. So looking through some old School magazines (The Yorkist) I came across this collection of photos in the 1965 edition.

They show the action on Grand Day with the new

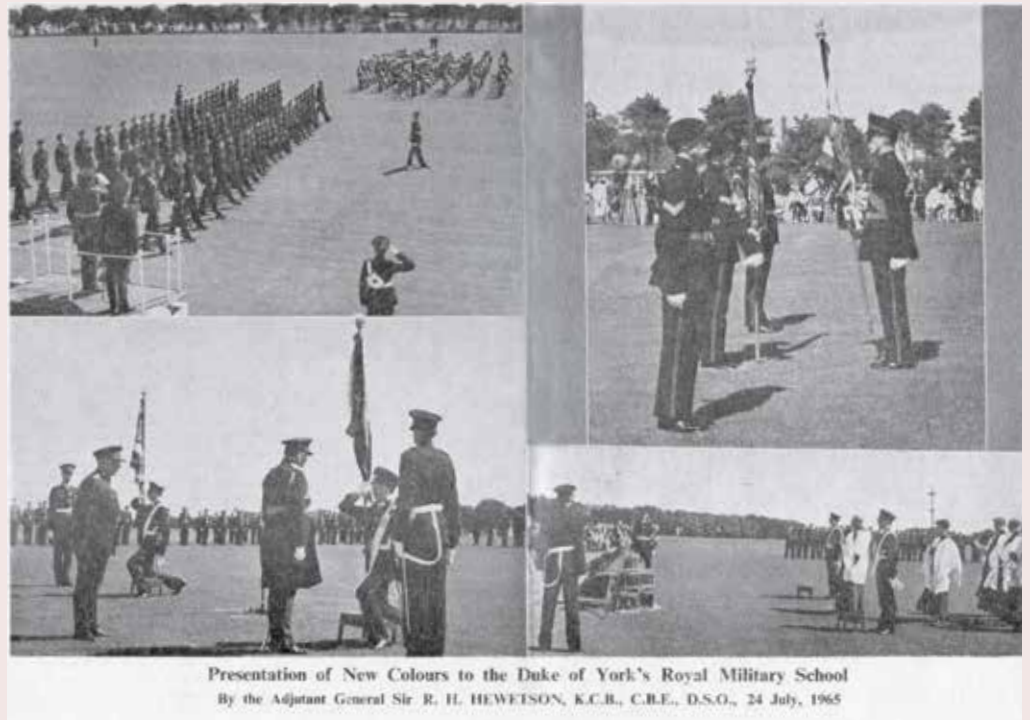
colours being presented and in the bottom right hand photo a Drum-Head Service is in progress. Here too, the

weather and setting were perfect.

1965 was my last Grand Day

and Clive and Roberts formed the Colour Guard.

*G J Ralph
K/C 1958*



THE SUN MILITARY AWARDS

Our Military Band were invited to The Sun Military Awards at the Guildhall in London on Friday 22nd January, to perform to the guests as they walked up the red carpet. The Sun Military Awards is an annual ceremony in which brave members of

Britain's military personnel are honoured for the work they do in keeping the country safe, at home and abroad.

In fact, rain on arrival meant that it was too wet for the band to play outside before the ceremony, so instead they were

invited to form a guard to line the corridors inside the grand building as the attendees, including celebrities, politicians and military personnel, walked through.

After dinner had finished, and the rain had cleared, the

band were able to get into position alongside the red carpet and performed pieces including Jubilee, The World in Union, Swing March, Time to Say Goodbye, Sons of the Brave and Georgia as guests departed.



NATIONAL THEATRE CONNECTIONS



This year, for the first time, the Dukies' Drama Society applied to participate in the National Theatre Connections Festival and we were delighted to be accepted as a performance group for this prestigious nationwide event. We were allocated the play 'It Snows' an ensemble piece with a strong element of physical theatre, ideal for our Dukies' Drama Club to get to grips with some really challenging performance concepts. We also decided to link up with Astor college, to bring our two casts together and give each other much needed moral support.

October to March saw us involved in casting the show followed by a series of workshops to explore the characters, setting and underlying themes of the play. Then the hard graft of rehearsals began, to prepare for our opening night at The White Cliffs Theatre in March. The ensemble were all involved

in the decision making process for the design of the piece with plenty of discussion about ways of staging scenes and the choices of sound and lighting for the show. We were particularly excited to think that

we would be able to use our snow machine for a dynamic visual effect.

The dress and technical rehearsal took place at Astor on 1st March. Meeting our counterparts from the Astor Youth Theatre Company, who were preparing to perform 'I'm Spilling my Heart out Here' at the White Cliffs Theatre, was a real highlight for the Drama Society and many friendships were formed. Two days later we had our first performance at the White Cliffs Theatre. Despite our

hitherto flawless snow machine refusing to function this was a fantastic opening night, made much less nerve wracking by the support and friendship of the Astor performers who gave us much needed encouragement.

"...our ensemble really filled the vastness of the hall and connected well to the audience."

The following week was the dress and technical performance here in the Nye Hall. The Astor students had the tricky task of working out how to perform their piece without the revolving stage that is one of the technical wonders of their own theatre. For the Dukies this was the time to polish our piece, working on creating a really exciting lighting plot, and make sure that everything was ready for our first home performance. The snow machine was, naturally, working perfectly throughout the rehearsals. 9th March saw us performing in front of the Juniors. There were some nerves but it was a good opening night for our home performances. The snow machine, however, decided to experience stage fright once again, with the cast by now getting used to creating the sense of a snow storm without the use of technology. On the 10th March we put on our performance for the 6th Form students. A real high this night, the audience really lifted the performance and we were confident, relaxed and enjoying the play. Astonishingly the snow machine finally decided to function and created a



spectacular visual effect which added to the general sense of having really nailed this show. On the final night we performed to the entire senior school and to our visiting director from the National Theatre, Kirsty Patrick Ward. Nerves were evident again, this was the big one! The audience were fantastically supportive and the show went very smoothly. We had some fantastic feedback from Kirsty which made us feel so proud to be part of this project. She said that "the direction was clear and the staging was strong," mentioning that our ensemble "really filled the vastness of the hall and connected well to the audience" and that "with this contemporary text and strong direction they all shone." She also gave us some excellent advice on ways that we can develop the piece even more before we take it in front of the public at The Marlowe Theatre in May. A selection of schools from the Connections Festival are invited each year to perform their piece at The National Theatre itself in July, so we have all our fingers crossed because you never know.

*By Bryony Lavery, Steven Hoggett and Scott Graham
Dukies' Drama Society*



YOUR STORIES

Art Cockerill

IN PRAISE OF THE AEC

To paraphrase the rollicking
Newfoundland ballad,
The Badger Drive,

*There is one class of man in the army
That never is mentioned in song,
But now that their age is advancing,
They'll come out on top before long*

The reference here is to the warrant officers and sergeant schoolmasters of the Army Educational Corps, created in 1845 as the Corps of Army Schoolmasters until 1920 when it was renamed the AEC. Until 1946 the AEC, and schoolmistresses taught their classes not to the standards of national education, but to those of the Army's own set requirements.

The Army's curriculum of education, created in the mid-19th century, was introduced well before the National Education Act of 1870 came into existence. There were three Army certificates of education: the third, second and first class, in ascending order, which soldiers had to have to be considered for promotion. Later, the Army Special Certificate was added. Army certificates were essential for anyone making a career in the Army. They were not, however, recognized in civil society.

The achievements of the long-serving schoolmasters of the Duke of York's were prodigious, for they taught boys, and girls



under the monitorial system, not only the three Rs, but how to teach themselves.

The record speaks for itself: Ann Vapine, the cotton apprentice who opened a school for mill workers in Cheshire; those professors of music at Kneller Hall, Henry Lazarus (clarinet), Alfred Phasey (euphonium), and Thomas Sullivan (father of Sir Arthur Sullivan of the Savoy operettas), Professor Buller of the Royal College of Surgeons, Lieutenant General Sir Archibald Nye, Vice Chief of the Imperial General Staff during WWII, Debroy Somers the blues and jazz musician who formed the Savoy Hotel Orpheans, and numerous others.

Dukies of the late 1940s and earlier who finished their formal education at age 14 and taught themselves in the fields and disciplines they later followed were true autodidacts, meaning self-taught. They include scientists, mathematicians, journalists, musicians, engineers, doctors of medicine, and financial experts.

In 1946, the AEC got its Royal designation and became the RAEC. Its personnel were of commissioned rank. Former WO and sergeant schoolmasters were either commissioned or retired from the Army. By 1962, the gradual changeover was complete. Other changes occurred too.

Those old soldiers, the CSMs who were long-serving Mr. Chips and had charge of the houses, were retired. Their places were taken by officers of the RAEC who became 'housemasters'. With them came a change in the School culture. Its ethos, for better or for worse, became that of any English public school.

Equally important was the gradual change in the time boys – and girls too, from 1994 on, when they were re-admitted – spent as pupils. Soon after the education reforms introduced by Nye in the late 1940s, pupils were encouraged to stay to age 16. Gradually the time the general School population remained was lengthened to permit students to transit to university.

These changes in School life and the quality of education taught were good. Yet the accomplishments of the schoolmasters of the AEC and Queen's Army Schoolmistresses should not be forgotten. They were the Trojans of Army education to whom generations of Dukies, both men and women, are deeply indebted.

Art Cockerill



THE ART OF THE DUKIE

Today the Nye Hall is now the school's Performing Arts Centre as befits the venue for ambitious musical shows like 'West Side Story' and 'Cabaret,' as well as serving many other meeting needs. It is equipped with state-of-the-art raked seating funded by The Dukies' Foundation.

The School has a notable arts heritage, as we read in Dukie News with John Bowler's recollections of playing for a who's who in opera and ballet at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. In dance, Tony Thatcher, of TrinityLaban, is a leading choreographer and educator who has helped bring more dance into School, while actor Ramon Tikaram, who leapt to fame in the young lawyers TV drama 'This Life,' continues to add to his credits - his sister Tanita is the recording artist. Allan Mayo's son Oliver, of the Royal College of Music, has introduced current Dukies to Latin American music.

When we discovered who the Dukies were at Waterloo in 1815, we did not know that one, John Vokes Bliz(z)ard, returned to the school as bandmaster for two spells. He started the pre-eminent clarinettist of the Victorian age, Henry Lazarus, on the 'gobstick.' Lazarus was an instrumental star of the London concert platform and opera pit, singled out for praise by George Bernard Shaw in his music critic days. Appointed professor of clarinet at the Royal Academy of Music in the 1850s, Lazarus knew its young Mendelssohn scholar Arthur Sullivan of later Gilbert & Sullivan fame. Sullivan was himself son of a Dukie, Thomas, military bandmaster and professor at the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall. School always produced a high proportion of military musicians - it was one of the trades it offered with a company/house dedicated to it, an arrangement which survived into the 1950s. In the 1920s, a magazine article calculated that of 1500 Dukies in the British

Army, 1 in 6 were in military bands.

Some Dukies made their entire careers in military music. Lt.-Col. Rodney Bashford rose to direct the band of the Grenadier Guards in the 1960s and afterwards at Kneller Hall where he acted finally as its archivist. Frederick Gibson MBE, MC, MM was a much decorated bandmaster too. Military music



was a progression route into the wider music profession. Trained at the School in the 1840s, Alfred Phasey became the first player of his day on the new euphonium. He went into the band of the Coldstream Guards. In his career on both sides of the Atlantic he maintained a foot in both camps, military and civilian. He was bandmaster of the Earle of Chester's Yeomanry Cavalry, a fashionable militia unit while running his own civilian wind band which appeared at the leading London concert venue of the age, the Crystal Palace. He was a member of Queen Victoria's private band. He also composed for his instrument which gained him the admiration of the composer Giuseppe Verdi.

Talking of star instrumentalists, Alison Balsom, a brilliant trumpeter of our day, is cousin to our Balsom

clan, Dukie band-members all. The name George Ridgwell is nowadays associated with the pioneers of silent film - he directed early Sherlock Holmes movies. He too went the bandsman route, in school and onto the Coldstream Guards before conversion into a stage performer at the Savoy Theatre in the 1890s and on tour with the D'Oyly Carte Opera

Company. He would have met Sir Arthur Sullivan (as he was by then), since Cartes specialised in G&S with companies taking it around the UK, into Europe and across the English-speaking world including Empire and the USA.

James Thomson, author of the cult poem 'The City of Dreadful Night' appears to have spent time at the School as a student/ maybe teacher in the 1840s. Albert Beardow was a turn-of-the-century music hall star, here and in America. Able to play 21 instruments, he performed as 'Vasco the Mad Musician.' His son maintained the tradition, running the last music hall in London, the Metropolitan which survived into the 1950s where it showcased some of the first British skiffle and rock n' roll acts.

Instrumental flexibility was associated too with bandleader

Debroy Somers, founder of the Savoy Orpheans dance band and star of radio and recordings 1920s-50s. The legendary Australian singer Peter Dawson remarked on it when Somers gave him an impromptu BBC in-studio demonstration of all the instruments laid out for their session together. Son of a band sergeant, Somers started in the military band, at school and with the Royal Irish Rifles with which he served throughout WW1. Known to Dukie pals as Bill, he was a loyal supporter of Old Boy reunions.

In the modern era, we arrive at John Bowler and his 40 year career fluting for the likes of Domingo, Pavarotti and Dame Margot Fonteyn. From the mid 1970s Peter Birch has been a noted theatre and TV actor (Chichester Festival, 'Auf Wiedersehen Pet,' 'House of Elliott' and 'Casualty'). Richard Sandells has made his mark in alternative and community theatre. And the art of the Dukie is broad - WCA 'Bill' Cowell wrote an account of pigeon fancying, 'Bilco's Pigeon Gas' which ran into several editions. Back on more conventional ground, RW Mutton and Alan Vickers have been successful architects. Pupils of Chas Connell, a successful author who taught for 30 years at school, have published fiction including Martin Bodenham ('The Geneva Connection' and 'Once a Killer') and the author of this article ('Shakespeare in Trouble' for this year's 400th). Andy Sawyer is the national science fiction authority with several sci-fi publications and short stories to his credit as well as a Wikipedia entry. Nigel Wylde QGM wrote 'The Story of Brixmis,' the British Army mission which covered

My Story

CHARLES HARVEY

air space incursions, spy exchanges and transit routes West-East Germany but whose real purpose was to gather intelligence on Soviet Army capabilities there 1946-90. Roger Boyes's career reporting foreign and diplomatic affairs for The Times spans five decades, mainly from Warsaw and Berlin. Art Cockerill has managed, in addition to a formidable engineering career, reporting in North America for leading London broadsheets and a community musical; he has 25 major works of history, biography, science technology and fiction to his credit including the bicentenary history of the school, 'The Charity of Mars,' available from Jenny Grant at school. Art's father did an Edwardian spell 'on the halls' as a blacked-up Christy minstrel, mine played trumpet in the Variety theatre for the likes of George Formby and Gracie Fields in the 1930s. The son of the late Bob Butteriss, Simon, is a star of opera and musicals, and so the list expands; we haven't even touched those who work on the business side in media and the arts, for example TDA Chairman Simon Daghish who is a top executive for ITV, broadcaster of 'Downton Abbey' and much more.

When BBC's Nick Higham visited school for the R4 Today programme in connection with Waterloo 200, the background beat for his piece was provided by three School drummers. They told him they might choose a musical career with the Royal Marines. So the story goes on.

Thanks to Andy Sawyer, Art Cockerill, Chris Merry, Derek Jones, Geoff Balsom, John Bowler, the late Nigel Wylde, Peter Somerville and Richard Harold for some of the information for this article.

*Chris Crowcroft
Haig and Clive, (1963-1970)*

During Easter 1938, my Father and I visited his brother whose son was at The Duke of York's Royal Military School and was home on leave and dressed in a full khaki uniform. The threat of war was in the air at the time and I was impressed and implored my father to enrol me in the same school as my cousin. My father subsequently

took me to the Old War Office building in Whitehall where I

took and passed both the medical and entrance exam for DYRMS. In the autumn of 1938 I was advised that I had been accepted and was instructed to travel on the 4 January 1939 to Dover, where the school was then situated.

After I was enrolled I was given the school number of 15989 which presumably was indicative of the number of boys that had preceded me. I was initially quartered in Haig House which besides being a school house in its own right had an annexe - a detached wooden hut in which new entrants slept until they were considered fit to join the main school.

POOL CLOSURES

1939 was the one and only full year that I spent at Dover and, as it was a seaside town, no boy was allowed into the town until he passed the first swimming examination. I just managed to complete this in late 1939. The timing was important as in 1940 all swimming pools were closed and kept filled with fresh water as emergency water tanks against the threat of fire arising from the anticipated bombing. The year closed with what was possibly one of the worst winters of the last century. The snow around the school buildings was three foot deep and it was a struggle to get to the dining room and classrooms.

In the summer of 1939, Clive won both the annual Drill and Marching Competition and Sports day, so once again became 'Champion house', receiving another York Rosette over our central dining table as well as the distinction of being the Colour Company during the Trooping the Colour ceremony on Grand Day. I also

“...it was never suggested that we wore kilts... we wore the Dunblane undress clothes”

remember some of the words possible unprintable which were sung “sotto voce” during the Sunday March Past in Dress Uniform behind the Band.

HASTY DEPARTURE

In late May 1940 everything changed, as the school was required to house troops being evacuated from Dunkirk. We were woken very early one morning, told to pack our kitbags and take everything, as we would not be coming back. Orphans and boys with homes in “Baedeker” towns, were transferred 'en bloc' to the Queen Victoria School in Dunblane, Scotland. The remainder of us were given a letter to our parents, a ration card, a Postal Order to cover immediate subsistence and a railway ticket to our home. We were then loaded into buses and driven to Dover Priory Station where a special train was provided to convey us initially to Victoria for dispersion. As it was a military school the only clothes we had were our working uniforms consisting of a side cap, single breasted brass-buttoned khaki jacket, khaki shorts, long khaki stockings and heavy army boots and a kitbag on our shoulders. We arrived at Victoria Station around nine in the morning and I have often speculated as to the thoughts of the commuters as they read their newspapers cataloguing the Dunkirk evacuation (which

was then at its height) and simultaneously witnessed the arrival of a train from Dover disembarking four hundred khaki clad boys between the ages of ten and fifteen who poured across the station concourse. Very few civilians knew of the existence of the school or its location and the majority must have felt that

if what they were witnessing was a sample of the troops that were being evacuated then the situation

was even more desperate than their worst fears.

My father had been embodied in 1939 and my mother had had no prior notification so she thought that I had deserted until I produced the letter from the school which only advised her that she would be contacted again at a future date. The actual date these events occurred escapes me although I was at home when France capitulated as I remember the apprehension on my mothers face when she told me the news.

LATE CANCELLATION

I had been home about a month when my mother received a letter and a railway ticket asking her to send me to No1 Radio Training School, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, but before the operative date she received another letter enclosing subsistence allowance and ration cards and cancelling the instructions contained in the previous letter. With the benefit of hindsight I suspect that the accommodation and schoolrooms originally reserved for us were commandeered by the R.A.F to train their Navigators and Radio operators in the use of GEE (Acronym or Code word?) the Radio target locating system that was being introduced at that time.

I stayed at home until my mother received yet another

(continued over)

letter containing more money, ration cards, a railway ticket and a request to send me to a new camp being built on the outskirts of Cheltenham.

This time there was no cancellation and in the autumn of 1940, although I was only eleven years old, with the country in turmoil from the constant threat of invasion, and unaccompanied I somehow managed to find my way. The camp is now the Government Communications H.Q (G.C.H.Q.). At the time however there were only a few barrack blocks that now line the main road. The school finally reassembled and I recall for all the wrong reasons that the camp was situated in the midst of plum orchards and as they were ripe during my short sojourn, where we acquired a surfeit of illicit fruit.

HEADING TO SAUNTON

We were only there for a couple of months before the camp was required. I remained at home well into the New Year until my mother received all the usual documents plus a Railway Ticket to Saunton, Nr Barnstaple, Devon with instructions that I was to make my way to Saunton Sands Hotel. This was early February 1941 and I stayed in Saunton for two months until some thirty of us in the same age group (twelve to twelve and a half) and all general duty boys were instructed to pack our belongings. All the Band trainees were retained at Saunton. We had no prior notification and neither had our parents but we were given tickets to Dunblane Scotland and told to make our way as a party to The Queen Victoria School. I did not at the time know the reason but obviously if no new intakes were admitted, the school would, after 150 years, close because there were no boys left. This was at a time when the need for a military orphanage could not have been greater! I know that a new intake arrived at Saunton in July 1941 to fill the places that we had vacated as my brother Leslie was one of the new entrants. I have since learnt that a contingent of Band trainees



Charles Harvey and his son Richard at Saunton Sands

that had been evacuated directly from Dover to Dunblane were at the same time brought down from Dunblane to Saunton to reform the DYRMS Band.

In contrast to the status of the DYRMS the Queen Victoria School was founded as a charitable institution at the turn of the century. It was not built as separate houses but was one large building with the offices, assembly hall, kitchen and dining room, classrooms and trade training rooms on the ground floor and the dormitories on the first and second floors. The hospital was in a separate building on the other side of the square. As was the practice at Dover the dormitories were named after famous Generals albeit Scottish. As a consequence I slept in Abercrombie and from what little I can recall from the plaque in the dormitory he was killed in Egypt during the Napoleonic Wars. As every bed had been endowed there was a brass plate over my bed immortalising the donor, I cannot recall the benefactor although I should do as I polished the plate often enough.

It was never suggested that we wore kilts but instead of our khaki undress uniforms

we were allowed to wear the Dunblane undress clothes, These consisted of a dark blue jersey, shorts, long blue socks and shoes, not boots. These were all of a superior quality to our own uniforms and as the shorts were lined were far more comfortable.

WORKING ON THE FARM

Schooling was further disrupted during the autumn and spring of 1941, 1942 and 1943. There was no adult labour to plant or gather the harvest so pupils of disciplined boarding schools were used as unskilled labour on the farms. I worked mainly on BARBUSH farm, owned by a Mr Fleming who had the well-earned reputation of being a martinet. In mitigation it was the only farm I worked on that supplied a substantial midday meal with a mug of hot sweet tea. Work on the other farms was easier but you were lucky to get bread and margarine and water for lunch. As Dunblane was a potato growing area I was mostly engaged on planting at 6 pence (2 1/2P), or harvesting at 10pence (4P) an hour. I did however have unwelcome stints of manure spreading.

I stayed at Dunblane until 3 October 1943 when I left for

Arborfield having previously undergone a medical examination, subsequently taken the oath before a Magistrate and been sworn into the Regular Army. I had also received the Kings Shilling (I now wish I had kept it) a sum, which I believe, had not been changed since Napoleonic times (I spent it on IRON BRU). I had been attested into an engagement of eight years with the colours (actual service) and four years on the reserve (in civilian life but liable to immediate recall should any emergency arise); but none of the service to which I was committed counted until I attained the age of eighteen.

I served in the Regular Army for 26 years and in 1969 having completed my engagement, and despite inducements to re-enlist, I left the Army. I was immediately offered and accepted employment as Works Manager with a company of an Engineering Group which itself was a subsidiary of a major newspaper. It was a wise decision as I finally retired on my sixtieth birthday as Managing Director of the Group.

*Charles Harvey
(Clive 1939-1943)*

Surviving the Battlefield

TONY WILLIAMS

On the 4th June 2010, I was on a company operation in Babaji, Helmand, Afghanistan. I had already in the last 24hrs treated 4 gunshot wound casualties. Our commander, a Lieutenant, tasked us to do an area dominance patrol. It was still morning and just 5 mins out of the gate, I'm third to last man. Suddenly from the West we were engaged in heavy small arms fire. Already aware the Taliban had RPG capabilities, we knew they were up for it. My role as a Battlefield Advanced Trauma Nurse, was to be a casualty holding commodity, I was non-combat, but was allowed to protect myself and colleagues according to the Rules of Engagement.

I saw one of the commanders, Corporal Webster had a gunshot wound and was motionless. I called for my friend, the last man a LCPL Cochrane, who had a radio to come to my aid. As I turned Cpl Webster over I saw he was still alive but very critical. I was now the Taliban's main target and we came under heavy fire. All of a sudden, from the east I saw LCPL Cochrane shot in the neck: a muzzle flash then the horrifying clap. I immediately dived for him. Left arm stretched out I then was shot from the same gunman. The bullet passed through the rear of my body armour through the shoulder strap, then embedded itself deep in my left shoulder.



Having already called "MAN DOWN," team medics were on their way. I begged them to get to Cochrane and Webster but Cochrane's last words were "Get Will out of here". He then slumped forward and died.

Now I was in the ditch, and soldiers barely 21 years of age were tending to my injury. I started to come round and helped to direct my own care. After establishing no further injury I was taken down the line to a holding area, ready

for evacuation. However I looked across and saw the two casualties, the nearest to me had very junior soldiers, and being the only medical trained person on the battlefield, also being a Dukie, I could not leave a man behind.

As I got to the casualty, I started throwing my medical kit, airways, cannula, and field dressings. I was slumped on my left arm unable to move, as low as possible on the ground. The rest of the call sign was deeply engaged with the enemy threat. A new patrol came to our aid. 3 commanders down. I now moved into their position, giving the soldiers treating the casualty a set of instructions. Heavy fire was now all around us: a 360 degree ambush. I briefed the Multiple Commander, a Captain and his medic on casualty states. Told the medic how to treat the casualty he was going to and as I turned round to go to the casualty I was just with, was shot twice in the helmet. Head on the floor, I looked up, and saw the lads taking cover. Heavy accurate 360 ambush. However the casualty had no airway secured, 8 mins had elapsed, and I knew if I couldn't postural drain him or secure an airway, this casualty surely

would die. So without hesitation, without thinking, I scrambled out, with adrenaline rushing, and pushed him over. We were 4 metres from an irrigation ditch. I was too weak to drag him, so pushed him onto his side and as I was getting up, I felt what can only be described as a hammer hitting my back and left side plate. I was then

hit twice more. Then from nowhere, a bee sting, I knew I had been shot and my body impacted. All I could think of was Forrest Gump and shouted in his voice, quite poorly, "shot in my buttocks". The lads were 2 metres away and screaming at me to get down. My body wasn't mine to control anymore, I had not intentionally meant to stand up at that given moment. Then reality hit with the worst pain ever, indescribable pain. These words won't do it justice. My legs felt on fire, my torso clamped tighter and tighter, the pain was unimaginable. Rather have been hit by one of the Clive boys on an inter house rugby match than this! I fell flat on my face. Unable to move my legs. PARALYSED, but my right arm was functional. My body was a dead weight and I couldn't scramble anywhere. Dirt hitting my face I turned my head away from the gun fire, so at least my helmet may stop the dirt. Then after screaming, demanding someone to drag me into the ditch, I was rescued. In the ditch, my mind started to become lighter. Legs still on fire, I could see one of the lads who only minutes ago treated my shoulder come in. He couldn't believe it was



me again and laughed and got straight to work. Luckily I had given this soldier, a good friend of mine, some lessons on advanced trauma care techniques. He immediately placed an unwrapped field dressing on my abdomen, keeping a much tighter pressure, then wrapped another round to anchor it in and increase the pressure in to slow the bleed down. This lad also ran me to the Mert through open fire. Even when I was dropped on route to the Mert he remained and, with another, grabbed a leg each and dragged me to it.

I have a lot more to say, as I never lost consciousness, but am going to shorten the story somewhat now. In the emergency department at Bastian Hospital I was woken up after initial damage limitation surgery. All I was concerned with was how the other two casualties were. The lads who were due to go on R&R were surrounding me but couldn't tell me. I was then told by my nurse in ITU that they didn't make it, before going back to sleep.

On 12th June I was woken up from medicated coma. A couple of days later I was given the prognosis of a very, very slim chance of ever walking again. There was uncertainty over whether it was a complete or incomplete fracture of the spine and with it hanging on by a thread they chose not to operate in case the spine was

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severed. I was told I would not have bladder or bowel function, a Catheter and Colostomy bag was put in place and I just didn't hear anything else the doctor said after that. Later my parents also informed me that I had almost no chance of ever becoming a dad. I had to have 52 units of blood transfused, caught ECOLI in my epidural, and had to have 8 surgical procedures, the longest taking 8-10 hours.

6 years on, I have 2 daughters: a 2 year old whose second name Alaina is after LCPL Cochrane's first name Alan. Holly Alaina Faith, and 1 year old Ellena April Grace. I have been skiing standing up, albeit

with ski crutches. Infact Ash Clar, who is also affiliated with the school helped teach me to ski again. I can walk, although need leg splints. I have full bladder and bowel control. I race Prokarts now with team Kartforce and my next venture is a 13,000ft sky dive for BLESMA. I managed to get re employed by the military and did return to work, but decided to take a medical discharge for personal reasons. I have been privileged enough to have walked the gardens of Highgrove and attended Buckingham Palace, as a guest. I play wheelchair basketball for my home team, and trialled for the Invictus games, although

missed out narrowly. I have conquered a climbing wall, and cycled Richmond Park. With a very weak core, and paralysed left leg below knee with loss of a lot of muscle function, that is an achievement I am truly proud of.

Yes there was a time in my rehab where it was so dark I could not ever see a way through it. However, I refused to submit to the gloomy prognosis given and chose to take back my life and truly survive the battlefield. When I look at my daughters, I always smile and think the pain I put myself through in rehab was all worth it.

Tony's Sky Dive for BLESMA has a Just Giving page set up. Search tonywilliams_1984@hotmail.com on Just Giving, or 'AnthonyWilliamsMedic'.

The jump itself is on July 2nd and is to commemorate the Battle of the Somme. Tony is jumping to thank BLESMA for helping him during rehabilitation - a daunting 13,000ft prospect with a paralysed leg. So far he has raised £1,105.00 and would appreciate any help in getting the total over £1,500.00.

*Tony Williams
(1995-2000, Haig and Roberts)*

OBITUARIES

Ronald Mark Field

Mr Keith Field advised with great sadness of the death of his Dukie father, Ronald Mark Field, who passed away peacefully on Friday 18th March. Ron attended Queen Victoria School during the war years, when the Dover site was evacuated, and always spoke fondly of his time at the school.



Jim Bartlett

Ted Bartlett (Jim's brother) wrote the following:

Jim joined the school in Saunton in 1945 and left around 4 or 5 years later so he was 2 years behind me and of course returned to Dover when we all moved back there. He went to the Army Apprentice School at Arborfield and then joined REME when he completed his Apprenticeship. He retired as a WO1 (ASM) Armourer and then went to work for the National Health Service in Southampton where he lived for many years with his wife Joan and 2 boys Colin and Neil. He then moved to Bangkok to join his eldest son Colin who had previously moved there to set up a business involving the tourist trade. Jim died on 25 March at the age of 82 of natural causes and leaves his wife and 2 sons, he was very proud to have been a Dukie and to have been a Sergeant whilst he was at the school.



Mary Barlow

Mary was Ray Barlow's wife and mother to Dukies, Chris and Andy. Sadly she developed Motor Neurone Disease and passed away peacefully at home on 5th April 2016 surrounded by her family. She was known to a good few Dukies over the years.

Timothy Morris

Stephen Morris wrote: I have the sad news to report that my brother Timothy Morris passed away on 9th March.

He was at The Duke of Yorks from 1971 and really enjoyed his time at the school. He reached JUO in his upper sixth and excelled at his A levels. Whilst at London University he joined the OTC, and following that gained a commission in the TA serving with The Queen's Regiment.

20 years ago his career as a

Eurobond dealer at The Bank of Tokyo was tragically cut short by a maniac driving on the wrong side of the road which resulted in Tim being knocked off his motorbike. He was then a paraplegic but his determination was incredible. The medical staff estimated his lifespan to be 10 years at most. He managed to double that. His hobbies included driving exceptionally fast cars, building and flying model helicopters, more recently drones, and building computer systems from the component parts. All of which he excelled at.

We built a house next to ours so that he could live independently but have help at hand if necessary. He used his education at the school to give extra tuition to my children, along with a number of their friends, in Maths and Science to ensure that they passed the Common Entrance exams. I must admit that when I was at The Duke of Yorks (1967-74) I didn't pay as much attention in lessons as he did!

Nigel Wylde, QGM

Dukie Paul Shaw wrote and secured an obituary in The Guardian for fellow Dukie (Lt.-Col.) Nigel Wylde (QGM) who passed away on 21st March just after his 69th birthday:

My friend Nigel Wylde, who has died of cancer aged 69, was a distinguished career army officer, whose experiences eventually brought him into conflict with his employers.

Nigel was born in Rawalpindi a few months before the partition of India, to Norman Wylde, a military officer, and his wife, Mary (nee Higson). He had a peripatetic childhood and was educated at the Duke of York's Royal Military school from the age of nine, followed by the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. Commissioned into the Royal Army Ordnance Corps as an ammunition technical officer, he commanded the Belfast 321EOD unit in 1974 and was responsible for defusing more than 90 devices in three months, including a 350lb car bomb, for which he was awarded the Queen's Gallantry Medal. However, he raised concerns about possible army involvement in a murder in County Armagh and resigned his post.



He subsequently moved to military intelligence in a series of European postings, including two years with the Soviet forces in Potsdam, East Germany, an experience that informed a forthcoming documentary on allied military missions in the cold war by the German TV Channel ZDF, to which Nigel was an adviser. He retired from the army in 1991 and took up a career in IT. The publication in 1998 of *The Irish War*, written by Tony Geraghty with assistance from Nigel, raised issues about the wholesale surveillance of the Ulster population. The book aroused the ire of the Ministry of Defence, and both Nigel and Tony were charged under the Official Secrets Act for trafficking in classified information, even though the data was freely available in the public domain. For Nigel, the threat of prosecution dragged on for almost two years

before the case collapsed. He later relocated, with his wife, Monika, whom he had married in 1970, to her native Germany.

He completed a postgraduate diploma in law and continued to provide expert opinion, some of which conflicted with official views, contradicting the findings of the Barron Report on the Dublin and Monaghan bombings before an Irish government subcommittee in 2004 and disputing the effectiveness of liquid explosives in the 2006 airline "terror plot". He also worked in Citizens Advice, helping others to improve their lives.

Nigel was a quiet, self-effacing individual who was reluctant to speak about his experiences. He was also very knowledgeable and excellent company, with a prime motivation of looking after others, from the men under his command to those affected by political unrest.

He is survived by Monika, their daughter, Imina, and two grandchildren.

A longer tribute to Nigel can also be found at this link:

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/obituaries/obituary-nigel-wylde-qgm-army-officer-it-expert-1-4120347>

Okehampton, Devon

ADVENTURE TRAINING

This year's Adventure Training took place during the first week of the Easter Holidays in Okehampton, Devon where 12 Bangladesh Cadet College students joined our 92 students for the week of challenging activities.

The annual week-long trip involved swinging from ropes, clambering up walls, splashing through water and other adrenaline-filled outdoor activities.

Students enjoyed indoor climbing, mountain biking along the Granite Way, abseiling off the 175ft high Bickliegh viaduct and hiking through the rugged Dartmoor terrain. They also



enjoyed plenty of wet fun on Roadford Reservoir including kayaking, windsurfing, sailing, raft building and paddle boarding. Highlights of the week included Bog Running across Bodmin Moor, as well as

fun on the high ropes course and zipwire – not for the fainthearted!

12 students completed their 4 day Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award expeditions whilst in

Devon, and all students came away from the trip having improved their teamwork, confidence and courage – a true week to remember!

The School is able to provide these opportunities in part due to donations from former Dukies allowing purchase of equipment, and the School is ever grateful for this support.

See the video on the schools Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/DOYRMS/>



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