

MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY

February 2002 £2

SOLDIER



**TROUBLED
TIMES ON
BELFAST'S
STREETS**

**Paras deploy to Afghanistan
Cold snaps from Antarctica
Pay 2000 criticisms answered**



www.soldiermagazine.co.uk



Soldier Magazine
Parsons House,
Ordnance Road,
Aldershot,
Hampshire, GU11 2DU.

Tel 01252 347353

Contact list: Page 78



"Great Scott, I do believe they're catching on."

• Cold cuts ... with the British Army Antarctic Expedition – Pages 40-41

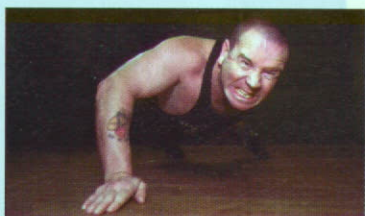
In this issue

... of your award-winning magazine

18-19

Cover

Troubled times:
Gdsm Hazy Hayes,
Gren Gds, on duty
on Limestone Road
in Belfast's Ardoyne
area. Soldiers and
police have been
attacked with acid
and petrol bombs.
Picture: Graeme Main



Enduring fame: Paddy Doyle, ex-Para and punch-up artist, holds 114 regional, national, European and world records. Read his amazing story. – Pages 44-45

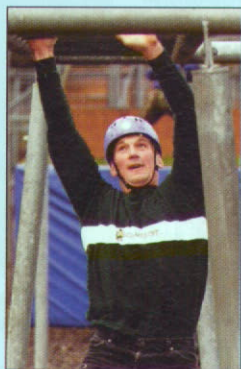
Win a Swedish Firesteel – Page 43

Feeling the pinch

Matthew Pinsent may be one of Britain's greatest sportsmen, but an Army PTI told him he was carrying a bit of weight

– Page 39

Final winning entry
in Soldier's
competition for
amateur
photographers
– Page 33



PLUS

- 21 Chip cartoons
- 28 Kitstop
- 31 What we wear
- 35 CGS briefing
- 42 Money column
- 44 Sport

- 62 Info section
- 64 Diary
- 66 Wish list
- 68 Books
- 72 Mail
- 78 Vox pop

4 Tracking the war criminals

SFOR troops assist Lancashire policeman in grim task

17 Pay 2000 structure 'sound'

General answers your criticisms of new scheme

18 Trouble on Belfast streets

Soldiers caught in the middle of more sectarian violence

23 Expert on killing grounds

Ex-REME mechanic leads humanitarian de-mining drive

24 Deployed to Afghanistan

Stories and photographs of British troops in Kabul

27 Gun-ho in the snow

Artillery units sharpen their skills on Balkan ranges

34 My Army: Lord Younger

Former Defence Secretary recalls his Korean War service

37 Museum hits the mark

An explosive day out at Royal Artillery 'experience'

40 Postcard from the edge

Latest pictures from the British Army Antarctic Expedition

42 Professor of healing

Former Army surgeon teaches war victims to cope

On the trail of the war criminals

Helped by SFOR troops, a British detective continues to investigate war crimes in Bosnia. His painstaking work is a reminder of why SFOR still has a vital role in the Balkans

Report: Ray Routledge
Pictures: Mike Weston

A GRISLY, blindfolded corpse, decayed by years in the ground, hands tied behind the back, showing signs of broken limbs and a bullet in the skull is not a pretty sight. It looks and smells ghastly.

And it is something a British police officer has witnessed all too often.

Detective Inspector Ken Corlett, a 27-year police veteran from the Lancashire Constabulary, is no ordinary copper.

Having swapped the Red Rose county for the killing fields of Bosnia, he goes about his work with grim determination, gathering evidence which he hopes may bring to justice perpetrators of some of the worst crimes to have taken place in Europe during the past 20 years.

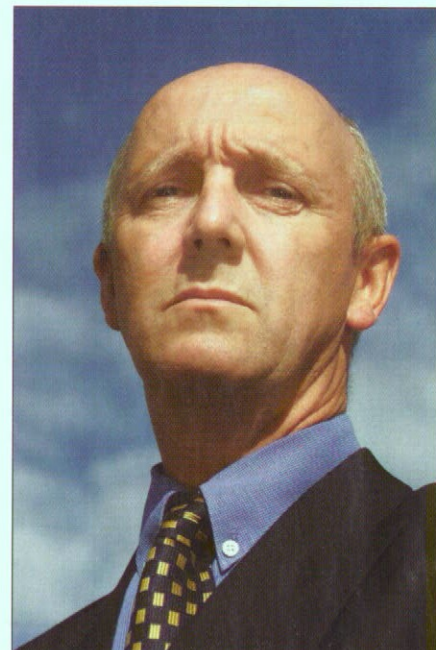
A familiar face at the British Army's Banja Luka Metal Factory base, Ken is stationed at the local United Nations field office for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY). He is grateful for the security SFOR soldiers provide for him as he goes about his often gruesome work.

"SFOR gives me an incredible amount of support and provides a secure environment for me and my staff to work in," he told *Soldier* at his HQ.

"The level of professionalism I see here from SFOR staff is of the highest calibre. They work extremely hard whenever I ask them for help and I get good, commonsense, practical advice and a military perspective on things. I am really grateful."

ICTY was set up by a UN Security Council Resolution in 1993 with powers to prosecute war crimes committed since 1991 in what used to be Yugoslavia.

"War crimes are serious violations of international humanitarian law," said Ken. "They include grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions such as torture, inhumane treatment of military prisoners-of-war, setting up prison camps for civilians and taking civilians as hostages."



Seeking justice: Det Insp Ken Corlett continues the hunt for war criminals in Bosnia

Ken investigates crimes against humanity. He said evidence had been heard at the Hague of sexual offences, rape camps and other crimes committed systematically against women.

"The most serious we look at is genocide – the killing and persecution of a group of people because of their national, racial, ethnic or religious origin, with the intention of destroying them."

SFOR troops frequently help Ken with leads for his enquiries and make arrests for him.

"Patrols talk to people. They find out about their ethnic backgrounds and experiences and, from time to time, reveal information about secret mass graves."

Not long after arriving in the Balkans he saw at first-hand a mass grave containing bodies bearing the hallmarks of atrocities committed during the war.

"One of my jobs is to seek evidence of



War crime: A ruined mosque damaged in the war at Vrbanja near Banja Luka constitutes a war crime and the perpetrators face hunting down and prosecution by the ICTY based in the Hague

war crimes, and I have been concerned with locating mass graves and extermination sites and seeking witnesses to these terrible crimes.

"When I first came to Bosnia in June 1998, I went to see an exhumation site in the east of Republika Srpska where there were 262 bodies. The victims were clearly identified by their belongings as Muslims from Srebrenica.

"They were civilians who had been shot in the back of the head, who had blindfolds, and their hands tied behind their backs with chicken wire."

Many had broken bones, the result of brutal beatings with rifle butts to ensure that pain as well as terror was inflicted on the victims before they died.

The grim discovery drew international respected pathologists and anthropolo-

Yugoslavia's most wanted

WITH Slobodan Milosevic awaiting trial for crimes against humanity in the former Yugoslavia, the big two accused still on the run are Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic.

The charge against them in Bosnia is for genocide, breaches of the 1949 Geneva Convention, and violations of the customs of war and crimes against humanity.

Three charges against them relate to events at Srebrenica.

Sixty accused have so far appeared in proceedings at the Hague and 23 have been tried.

Those dealt with include: Radislav Krstic, sentenced to 46 years' imprisonment; Tihomir Blaskic, 45; Goran Jelasic, 40; Dragoljub Kunarac, 28; Dario Kordic, 25; Radomer Kovac, 20; Mario Cerkez, 15; and Zoran Vukovic, 12.

Sentences are served at prisons throughout Europe; Dusko Tadic, for example, is serving 20 years in Germany while Drazen Erdemovic is serving a five-year sentence in Norway.

OSOBE KOJE SU JAVNO OPTUŽENE ZA RATNE ZLOČINE

Nalazi za njihova hapšenja nalaze se u glavnim gradovima njihovih država. Ukoliko susretnete bilo koga od ovih optuženih ratnih zločinaca tokom obavljavanja vaših redovnih dužnosti i ukoliko to situacija dozvoljava, pritvorite ih i obavestite vaš komandni lanac!

Ažurirano: 23/08/2000



gists as well as scene-of-crime officers from Britain and Holland. Bodies, which despite being in the ground for three years, were in relatively good condition, were taken to a mortuary near Sarajevo to be X-rayed for ballistic material and the occasional booby-trap grenade left inside a body cavity.

Laboratory work established the age and sex of each victim while advances in DNA technology enabled most of them to be identified. With these and corpses from other parts of the country, the investigators conducted ballistic tests on a massive scale.

One of the perpetrators of the executions was Radislav Krstic, who was subsequently sentenced by a war crimes tribunal at the Hague to 46 years' imprisonment.

According to Ken, this bringing to justice of key offenders has given communities in Bosnia the confidence to come forward with more evidence.

"While it is not the SFOR mandate to

investigate war crimes or recover bodies, the force's interaction with local communities here means that its soldiers discover information which can be vital to our investigations," said Ken.

SFOR personnel help in other ways.

"This is an international police operation and SFOR sometimes – quietly, efficiently and without fuss – makes arrests. The British-led Multi-National Division (South West) has been at the forefront of making arrests. Many have been made by British, French, Dutch and German soldiers."

He added that while the secure environment provided by SFOR was preventing violence erupting in Bosnia again, the ICTY was also part of the stabilisation process.

"Like SFOR, we are making our own contribution to peacekeeping in bringing reconciliation and justice to the former Yugoslavia. I am proud to be here as a serving policeman doing my bit alongside British soldiers."



join us



a special offer for the Army

If you already have a mobile phone, it's simple to join Orange and keep your existing number. You'll enjoy better value and service with the minimum of fuss.

Plus, if you are currently on a popular digital tariff with another network, Orange can provide the equivalent right down to the way that it's billed.**



When you join Orange you can choose from a **free*** pay monthly Nokia 3330e (r.r.p.£19.99), Sony J70e (r.r.p.£39.99) or up to 40% discount on selected Orange pay monthly phones

including

- connection
- 8% discount on monthly subscription for 12 months†
- Boxit™ (r.r.p.£29.99) protects your phone and is water resistant and shockproof
- additional accessory††

This offer is only available by calling **Orange Direct** on

0800 168 168

quoting 'army 1'

Offer available only by calling Orange Direct on the number above. *Subject to status and a minimum 12 months term on a monthly billed Orange Service Plan. Minimum monthly subscription £12.99 on Orange Everytime when paying by direct debit. Offer applies to new contracts only and excludes upgrades, Everyday 50 and an OVP Service Plan similar to the Virgin tariff. **OVP subject to full terms and conditions and excludes pre-pay, pay-up-front, shared and promotional tariffs. †Discount on monthly subscription is credited back as one month's subscription on your second monthly bill. ††Complimentary accessory is a choice of in-car charger, personal handsfree kit or leather case only. RRP correct at the time of printing and are subject to change. All offers are subject to availability. Offer valid until 10 March 2002. Terms and conditions apply.

orange™

Soldiers hurt as rioting returns to Belfast streets

SOLDIERS were called on to the streets of Belfast to help restore order after some of the worst rioting in Northern Ireland since last summer.

Sparked by the ongoing crisis around the Holy Cross Catholic primary school, mobs took to the streets and vented their anger at troops and police.

Men from the 1st Battalion, Grenadier Guards, supported by a company of

Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, were involved in a series of joint Army and police deployments.

Guardsmen were involved in manning baselines and dispersing angry crowds of

● Full story and pictures in Pages 18-19

up to 350. Fireworks, petrol bombs and improvised grenades were thrown. Three guardsmen suffered minor injuries.

Troops from the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Irish Regiment and the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers were also involved. Other Army elements assisting the Police Service of Northern Ireland included ammunition technical officers from 321 EOD Squadron RLC, who dealt with improvised explosive devices, and 25 Engineer Regiment, which cleared cars, barricades and debris.



Life's a beach: Pte John Rome and Pte Neil Hully, Burma Coy, 1 KORBR, shovel up oil

Slick work by Cyprus troops

TROOPS and airmen based in Cyprus worked from dawn to dusk to clear oil washed on to beaches at RAF Akrotiri.

Their swift response to the environmental crisis helped prevent the slick from causing serious damage to a coastal area used as a breeding ground by turtles.

More than 70 Servicemen and women took part in the operation, including units from RAF Akrotiri, the Cyprus Service Support Unit and a contingent from the 1st Battalion, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment based at Episkopi.

Dressed in protective suits, gloves and boots, they used booms to gather large quantities of thick oil floating on the surface of the sea close to shore. Sticky blocks of oil and sand were shov-

elled into plastic bags for disposal when the authorities decided how best to get rid of the mess.

One turtle was found dead near the small harbour at Akrotiri, but the slick – first spotted a week earlier – was prevented from encroaching on the animals' breeding beaches. The worst of the pollution was contained within a 200m area between Arabs and Buttons beaches.

The oil originated from outside the Sovereign Base Areas and an investigation is under way to find out exactly how and from where it leaked.

An aerial inspection revealed a 2km-long swathe of unbroken oil just off the coastline and it was estimated that the clean-up operation would continue for several days.

More mine sappers for Afghanistan

ONE hundred more mine-clearance soldiers from 9 (Parachute) Squadron RE are to fly to Afghanistan after intense pre-deployment training at their Aldershot base.

They will join 26 soldiers from the unit who left for Kabul on New Year's Eve.

As Royal Engineers, the troops are already familiar with the dangers of negotiating minefields, and all those being sent to Afghanistan have been given additional training to prepare them.

Mine clearance may be only one of the tasks facing them. Their roles can range from preparing fortifications to providing power or a clean water supply to fellow British troops.

The Aldershot sappers will arrive in Kabul to reinforce personnel from 3 (UK) Division and 16 Air Assault Brigade preparing the way for a British-led, 18-nation International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) under the command of Maj Gen John McColl, commander of Bulford-based 3 (UK) Div.

The UK element of the operation has been dubbed Fingal.

ISAF, commanded by a 3 Division-led headquarters, and with a multi-national

● Afghanistan roundup – Pages 23-25

brigade headquarters built around HQ 16 Air Assault Brigade from Colchester, will boast two infantry battle-groups. One will be provided by the 2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, the other by a German-led battalion augmented by Dutch, Austrian and Danish troops.

Britain is also contributing Royal Engineers, medical, logistics and military police personnel, and air transport support. In all, about 1,800 UK personnel will deploy.



Spr Paul Greenwood of 9 Sqn RE, Aldershot

Jamie's journey



Desert marathon: **Jamie Cuthbertson**, right, who was blinded by a demolition explosion 14 years ago while serving with the Royal Engineers, is pictured with guide **Maj Roraigh Ainsley**, RE, during the Trans 333... a 333km (208-mile) Sahara race in Mauritania.

The 40-year-old, who was sponsored by St Dunstan's, the charity for blind ex-Servicemen and women, was thwarted by a knee injury after 23 hours of non-stop running. He managed to reach the 111km point and is determined to enter the race again.

Jamie was the first blind person to attempt one of the most gruelling competitions in the world. St Dunstan's spokesman Ray Hazan, himself visually impaired, said: "Jamie had the guts to attempt a race most sighted people would find terrifying, and he managed a third of it, which is in itself a great achievement." Picture: Magali Del Porte

Awards for TOM



Picture: Steve Dock

First in class: **CSgt Nick Higginbottom**, Para, left, and **Sgt Mark Watkins**, SASC, both Milan missile instructors at the Infantry Training Centre Warminster, swot up on the job. The two are among the first to achieve a vocational award for Infantry senior NCO skills.

The award, known as the TOM (Training and Operational Management) Advanced Diploma is now available to SNCOs qualifying for promotion in the anti-tank and mortar divisions. More than 75 soldiers have so far completed the scheme, which was pioneered by the Directorate of Educational Services (Army) and PDM Consultancy.



In the picture: Members of 3 (V) MI Bn carry out imagery analysis at their London base

TA battalion answers call

SPECIALISTS from Hackney-based 3 (Volunteer) Military Intelligence Battalion are to be compulsorily called up to help fight the war on terror.

Up to 140 soldiers are expected to serve for six months. Of those, as many as 100 will be posted to MoD headquarters organisations and a further 40 will deploy to Afghanistan.

The mobilisation is required because of the increased workload following the September 11 attacks, which has seen defence intelligence staff working round the clock.

Individual reservists from all three Services have already been called out on a voluntary basis.

Although there is no current intention to broaden the mobilisation to the wider Territorial Army and Reserve Forces, this will be kept under review.

The mobilisation, the first since the Suez crisis 45 years ago, will take into account individual circumstances of

reservists. It is intended that wherever possible only those who have no acute personal, domestic or employment difficulties will be called up.

Those who are will receive certain benefits. These include employment protection and financial assistance to take into account differences between military and civilian earnings.

Employers will be able to claim financial help to cover some of the costs associated with releasing reservists for military service.

Lt Col Paul Fox, CO 3 (V) MI Bn, said: "The battalion exists to contribute to the defence intelligence mission wherever it is required. My officers and soldiers are trained to deliver the necessary specialist skills.

"They are determined to demonstrate the TA is an integrated, relevant and usable component of the Army's order of battle."



Lt Col Paul Fox

IN BRIEF

- Britain has signed a contract with the Airbus Military Company for the development and manufacture of 25 A400M military transport aircraft to replace the ageing Hercules C130 fleet. Eight European nations – the UK, Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Portugal, Spain and Turkey – are to buy 196 A400Ms in a single launch order.

- Following recent reductions in mortgage rates, the taxable cash benefit of outstanding **Long Service Advances of Pay (LSAP)** over £5,000 should be calculated on five per cent instead of 6.25 per cent. The change was effective from January 6. The new interest rate on letting and Crown debts will also be five per cent.

Wartime bomb disturbs Rheindahlen neighbours

A 1,000lb British Second World War bomb discovered by workmen upgrading accommodation at Churchill Officers' Mess in Rheindahlen Military Complex was defused last month.

A 400-metre cordon – later extended to a kilometre – was thrown around the site and military families and single personnel living nearby were evacuated.

About 60 families' quarters were affected, so a reception room was set up at the Rheindahlen Rooms, where hot food and drinks were supplied by Naafi and the YMCA.

With the operation extending into the night, accommodation was found for all those who needed it at Cassell's House families' hostel, hotels in Mönchengladbach and Düsseldorf and in transit camps around Rheindahlen.

In all, about 800 residents, including 60 military families and single person-



Off with you: The 1,000lb British bomb is removed

nel living in the immediate area, were evacuated while German experts examined the bomb. It was buried nose up and had to be lifted with special equipment to expose the fuse.

The bomb was finally made safe in what was described as a textbook operation.

Echoes of home heard in Pristina

A FULL restaurant and take-away service, plus leisure activities including satellite TV, board games, darts and English newspapers and magazines, feature in the YMCA opened at Jubilee Barracks, Pristina, last month.

The wooden-built facility, created in partnership with Echoes (European Christian Homes Organisation for the

Services), is designed to provide a home-from-home for military personnel deployed with KFOR.

Brig David Rutherford-Jones, Commander British Forces in Kosovo, formally opened the home.

In line with other Echoes facilities in the Balkans, the Pristina home will also provide a venue for church services.

BFBS 2 beams football to the Balkans

TROOPS in the Balkans are watching a second BFBS TV channel focusing on films, comedy, music, documentaries and sport... including live Premiership football, Scottish Premiership matches and Nationwide League games. BFBS 2, launched just before Christmas, is broadcasting for six hours a day from 1800 to midnight, seven days a week.

While the original BFBS channel – to be known as BFBS 1 – will provide mainstream programmes, BFBS 2 has been introduced as part of a package of measures to enhance the welfare of Service personnel on operations, in particular single or unaccompanied men and women. Initially it will be beamed to the Balkans only.

● Two members of the **Support Battalion HQ ARRC**-based **Spearhead Motor Cycle Club** completed a 1,000-mile, 24-hour map-reading marathon for charity. **Capt Paddy McCreanor** and **Cpl Lee Whiteley** took part in the first long-distance motor-cycle rally to be staged in continental Europe and raised nearly £700 for SSAFA-

Forces Help in Rheindahlen and a local charity.

● Soldiers from **15 Attack Squadron**, part of 13 Air Assault Support Regiment RLC raised £230 for the Constable Wing special care baby unit at Colchester General Hospital.

Deadly harvest



Box of bullets: RLC ammunition technical officer **WO1 David Laird**, serving with the Close Ammunition Support Troop in Sipovo, opens a crate to reveal some of the rounds found during early morning raids carried out by British units north of the Republika Srpska in Bosnia. Six hundred soldiers and 120 vehicles from the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Gurkha Rifles battle-group carried out simultaneous searches of 12 sites, seizing several tonnes of illegal weapons and ammunition.

Among the haul were more than 205,000 rounds of 7.62 and 9mm, 16 rocket-launched grenades and 14 hand grenades.

The battle-group consists of units from the Gurkhas, the Household Cavalry Regiment and 77 Armoured Engineer Squadron.

● More Bosnia stories in Page 27

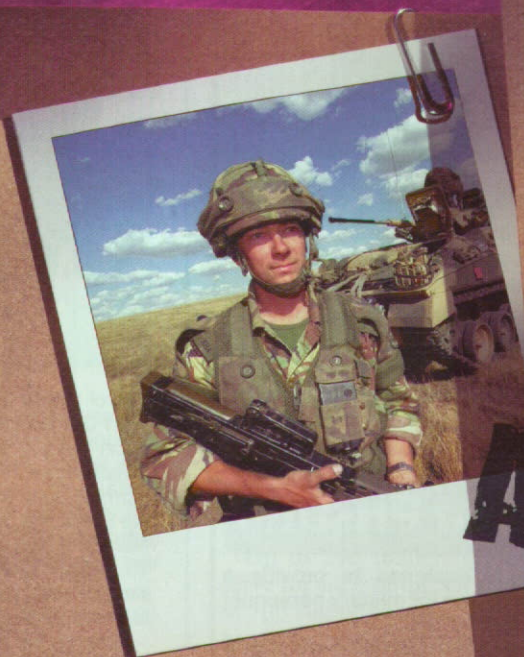
Ad-vance warning



Call to arms: **Pipe Maj Gordon Campbell** of 71 Engineer Regiment (V) pipes out the "advance" in Dundee to launch a National Employers' Liaison Committee campaign to highlight the benefits of having members of the Reserve Forces on the payroll.

Picture: Mark Owens

ATTENTION! All



SAFEGUARD
ACT NOW
YOUR FUTURE

Listen Up! To help provide you and your family with a better future in retirement, the Armed Forces have teamed up with Scottish Widows, one of the most respected names in financial services, to offer you a preferential Stakeholder Pension – the Armed Forces Stakeholder Pension.

It's simple to set up. Contributions start from as little as £20. And just about everybody is eligible.

It's your future.

Call the Armed Forces Helpline on **0845 608 0376** or **+44 131 655 6600** quoting reference 2594780102.
Or email armedforces@scottishwidows.co.uk

SCOTTISH WIDOWS
Stakeholder Pension





Note of sadness: Dmr Alan Kentgens of the 1st Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment marks the departure of the battalion from Cyprus after a two-year posting to the island. The 2nd Battalion, The Light Infantry is to take over the reins at Dhekelia. Led by Lt Col Philip Astle, 1 Cheshire will become a 1 Mechanized Brigade asset based at Bulford.

Picture: WO2 Pete Bristol

Light infantry battalions to come under new brigades

TWO regional brigades are to be re-rolled by Land Command to provide better command and control arrangements for Regular light-role battalions in the UK.

The creation of the two light infantry headquarters, each controlling up to four light-role battalions, is designed to provide a new focus for training, apply consistent assessment standards, allow the creation of internal readiness cycles for deployments to Northern Ireland and reduce turbulence for personnel.

Under the changes HQ 2 (South East) Brigade and HQ 52 (Lowland) Brigade will be renamed 2 (Infantry) Brigade and 52 (Infantry) Brigade.

Folkestone-based HQ 2 (Inf) Bde is to take command of the light-role battalions

based at Chepstow, North Luffenham and Tern Hill. It will retain its regional infrastructure and representational role, as well as command of the light-role battalion at Shorncliffe.

In Edinburgh, 52 (Inf) Bde will retain command of the light-role battalions at Redford Barracks and Dreghorn Barracks and take on those at Preston and Chester. While continuing to be responsible for public duties in Scotland, the headquarters is to transfer its regional responsibilities to a

new single Scottish regional brigade, to be known as 51 (Scottish) Brigade and based at Forthside in Stirling.

It will assume the infrastructure responsibilities of Scotland's two existing brigades – 51 and 52.



2 (South East) Bde



52 (Lowland) Bde

Home celebration

THE Royal Star and Garter Home at Richmond for disabled sailors and soldiers marked its 86th Founders' Day anniversary last month. The day coincided with the 102nd birthday of First World War veteran Doug Roberts, the home's oldest resident.

Healthy for Tidworth

A £12 million primary healthcare centre is to be built in Tidworth Garrison to look after soldiers and their families. Due for completion by June next year, the project will dramatically improve medical and dental care in the area, bringing together facilities at present scattered at three locations in some very old buildings.

Jubilee miniatures

CONTACT details for those wishing to order miniatures of the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal from the Royal Mint have been updated. Contact Phil Clatworthy on 01443 623379 or fax 01443 623399. The e-mail address remains as jubmin@royalmint.gov.uk

Missile idea wins Terry a packet

A REME armourer has won an immediate award of nearly £1,000 for an idea that is expected to save the MoD more than £100,000. And he could get a lot more once his brainchild has been reviewed.

Armourer Sgt Terry Longstaff, now based in Colchester, came up with a cash-saving plan for mounting anti-tank missiles on Army Land Rovers. He and Edinburgh-based Sgt Ed Eddy developed the idea and submitted it to the Gems staff suggestion scheme.

The Milan Universal Vehicle Attachment involves a new system for firing Milan missiles without the need for the crew to dismount.

Terry, who received a cheque for £900 from Maj Gen Arthur Denaro, GOC 5 Division, said: "Since I joined the Army in 1987 I've acquired huge experience of weapons and machinery. I got off to an excellent start with training at the Army Apprentices' College, Arborfield."

"I'm still waiting to hear about two other technical innovations I've submitted under the Gems scheme and I'm working on a fourth."

Terry said he squeezed his research into lunch-hours and other spare time.

Sgt Eddy was awarded £100 for his part in the project.



Good idea: Sgt Terry Longstaff

MoD Police sign up for Land strategy

SERVICE policing stepped into a new era with the signing of a Land Command directive which will lead to better coverage of the UK mainland, incorporating garrison areas.

The document, signed by Maj Gen Peter Chambers and David Lloyd Clark, Chief Constable of the MoD Police (MDP), is the first stage in the development of a Land strategy. Although soldiers and their families will not see immediate changes on the ground in the way the MDP and RMP go about their day-to-day duties, the directive will refine and improve co-operation by pooling existing and future resources.



Under Big Ben

A digest of what's being said on
Army matters in Parliament

Families Taskforce gets things done

ADVANCES made on behalf of Service families on questions of adoption, tax, child support, education, health, social benefits and pensions were outlined last month.

Armed Forces Minister Adam Ingram said in a Commons written reply that the Service Families Taskforce, set up in 1999 to deal with matters outside Defence Ministry control, had made progress on a wide range of issues.

He listed the main achievements of the ministerial group as:

- Consultation between Defence and Health departments in drafting new adoption legislation to ensure Service families will not be disadvantaged.

- Resolution of problems faced by some families – as a result of having been paid local overseas allowance – in claiming working families' tax credit on returning to the UK from overseas.

And I quote . . .

On the evidence that I have seen, some 85 training exercises were cancelled last year. We simply will not be able to point to the priceless asset that is our Armed Forces, cherished by all parties in this House, unless we ensure that those Forces are properly trained, given adequate rest and recreation and allowed time to spend with their families. They will then be able to make the commitment that is an essential part of the role that we look to them to play. ♣

– **Former Defence Secretary Lord King, speaking in a debate on the Army in the Lords last month.**

Recruiting: Between April 1 and November 1, 2001 the Army recruited 8,737 young people out of a tri-Service total of about 14,000. Methods to help meet the overall target of 24,800 by the end of the current financial year include the introduction by the Army of an on-line recruiting office, which the other Services plan to replicate.

Deployments: In a written answer on January 14 it was stated that 27 per cent of the Army was committed to operations.

Married to the job: Service personnel married to other Service personnel on January 16 totalled 6,270.



Star signing: **Stuart Wells**, right, who played Billy's best friend in the hit film *Billy Elliot*, is enlisted into the British Army by senior recruiter **Maj Brian Young**, left, at the Newcastle Armed Forces Careers Office. Stuart, who took the part of Michael in the film and who had been filming in Spain, has turned his back on the acting world to join The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. He had a long-held ambition to join the Army and will be teaming up with his brother, **John**, who is already serving with 1 RRF in Germany. "I am really looking forward to all the training, travel and sporting opportunities that my brother has already enjoyed," he said.

Army using more reliable test for 'E'

Positive results reflect only tiny increase in use of drugs

SINCE the three Services were subjected to routine, compulsory random drug testing in 1988 the percentage of people proving positive has risen by only a tiny fraction.

In a written answer to Parliament, Armed Forces Minister Adam Ingram said the number of positive results had risen from 0.45 per cent of those tested to 0.54 per cent.

He said recent improvements in drug-

testing methods had given the MoD a more reliable detection capability for the Class A drug Ecstasy.

While this, and an increase in the number of Service personnel being tested year on year, was reflected in the overall number of positive findings, the Armed Forces' enhanced drug-testing capability was viewed as a positive measure against Servicemen and women misusing drugs.

Apache pilots on simulated warpath soon

APACHE's introduction to the front line came a step nearer with the opening of a full-mission simulator at Middle Wallop, Hampshire.

The £2.5 million facility, which costs £1,600 an hour to run, is a key element in the training of the Army's attack helicopter pilots. Housed in two 17ft diam-

eter domes, it has crew stations for a pilot and co-pilot/gunner and provides state-of-the-art, high-quality virtual environments in which the airmen can fly.

It was originally thought it would not be ready until May but problems have been overcome and the first course could now start as early as next month.

IN BRIEF

- The Army Presentation Group has been awarded a coveted charter mark for the second time. Based at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, the 24-strong group is made up of the Army Presentation Teams, the Chief of the General Staff's Briefing Team and a marketing department. The mobile teams speak to 70,000 people a year.

- Children in Sierra Leone have been given a new school in a project organised and partly paid for by **Maj Charlie Oliver**, a UN military observer in the West African state. Maj Oliver, who normally works for the Defence Logistics Organisation in Andover, paid £1,600 to get the project started. Anyone interested in sponsoring



Picture: Steve Dock

Diving in: Pte Dave Davies of 1 PWRR gets involved in a virtual attack at Warminster

Troops take leap into virtual world

SOLDIERS from A Company, 1st Battalion, The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment have been fighting urban wars . . . in virtual reality.

During trials at Warminster the Tidworth-based troops fired weapons, threw grenades and conducted room clearance drills using computers.

As part of a research programme to investigate capability gaps in urban operations, scientists from the newly-formed QinetiQ research organisation have been working to develop a viable Dismounted Infantry Virtual Environment (DIVE), using a commercial PC-based game – Half-life – as the engine for a simulation of the Copehill Down urban training facility. Through the programme, a section of infantry can "fight" a virtual enemy.

DIVE, which is not intended as a substitute for live training, allows soldiers to throw "real" grenades, utilise improvised charges, and experience the effect of support weaponry which can fire through doors, walls and floors. It is

hoped the "quick and dirty" approach to simulation will play a role in future equipment programmes for the Infantry, as well as enabling soldiers to explore new concepts and team tactics.

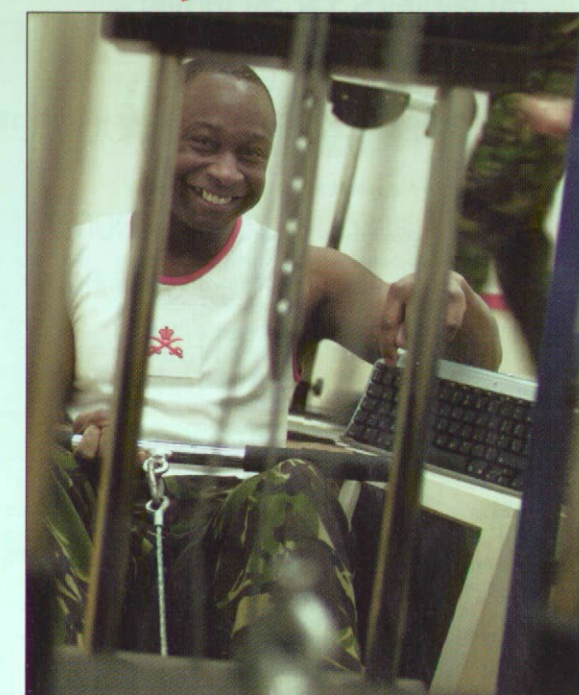
Although the players remained seated at workstations throughout each exercise at Warminster, tension rose in the room as the smoke lifted and assaulting troops attempted to gain entry to buildings under a hail of enemy fire.

In one run, the section commander shouted his orders above the din and was forced to re-think his plan as his point-men took hits from well-positioned opposing forces (OPFOR).

Although the experiments last less than 30 minutes, debriefs revealed that the PWRR soldiers became immersed in their virtual war. LCpl Paul Laird said: "It's a useful way of practising skills and drills before going to do it live. I was surprised how easy it was to get carried away by the excitement of the battle."

● **US Marines adapt war game** – Page 65

Getting fitTA . . .



Man with a mission: **Cpl Walter McIntosh** – Tosh to his friends – a physical trainer with Dundee's 2 Signal Squadron, 51 Highland Brigade, is helping civilians involved in the Territorial Army's Time to Get FitTA campaign. The initiative includes a 12-week programme geared to the TA's fitness test.

Cargo of cash



Money box: Army and Royal Air Force personnel at Hanover airport in Germany load 8.5 tonnes of Euros on to an RAF Hercules aircraft bound for the Balkans. The new European currency will be used to pay troops serving in Bosnia and Kosovo. A large proportion of it is expected to find its way into the local economies, helping the governments of Bosnia and Kosovo in their efforts to replace the Deutschmark with the Euro.

Picture: Roger Lortie

the school in the long term should contact Charlie via DLO's Press Office on 01225 467058.

- **Col Sgt Robert Harrison**, right, receives the Millennium Bugle on behalf of the winning team from **Brig Hughie Monro**, Commander



52 (Lowland) Brigade. The buglers were among soldiers of the 1st Battalion, The Light Infantry taking part in a gruelling four-day military skills competition at Garelochhead. The training was 1 LI's last on Scottish soil before moving to Germany after three years based in Edinburgh. It is handing over to the 1st Battalion, The Royal Scots.

Picture: Mark Owens

Readers of Soldier

At this **loan** rate you can afford to **splash out**

- any amount from £1,000 to £15,000
- funds transferred directly to your bank account - with the option of same day transfer*
- no arrangement fees or security required
- Repayment Protection Insurance is available

Fixed APR	Loan value		7 years		5 years		3 years		1 year	
			with Protection	without Protection	with Protection	without Protection	with Protection	without Protection	with Protection	without Protection
8.4% APR	£12,500	Monthly	258.15	195.62	314.70	254.24	457.15	392.51	1,188.19	1,088.50
		Total	21,683.96	16,432.28	18,881.57	15,254.50	16,457.38	14,130.31	14,258.17	13,061.91
9.4% APR	£10,000	Monthly	212.51	161.04	257.12	207.73	370.55	318.15	954.90	874.78
		Total	17,850.11	13,526.81	15,427.28	12,463.65	13,339.49	11,453.31	11,458.73	10,497.34
9.7% APR	£5,000	Monthly	107.22	81.25	129.44	104.58	186.09	159.77	478.32	438.19
		Total	9,006.40	6,825.09	7,766.23	6,274.24	6,698.89	5,751.70	5,739.78	5,258.21
12.8% APR	£3,000	Monthly	70.13	53.15	82.84	66.92	116.29	99.84	291.32	266.88
		Total	5,891.18	4,464.09	4,969.81	4,015.25	4,186.10	3,594.23	3,495.83	3,202.53

Apply now for an instant decision. Just phone free on:

0800 591 682
and quote reference number **791/628**

Typical examples: If you wish to borrow £5,000 over 3 years, the monthly repayment, with Repayment Protection, will be £186.09, at an APR of 9.7%. Total repayment over the loan term; £6,698.89. If you wish to borrow £5,000 over 3 years, the monthly repayment, without Repayment Protection, will be £159.77, at an APR of 9.7%. Total repayment over the loan term; £5,751.70. Amounts shown may vary by a few pence.

This advertisement replaces any previous advertisement for Direct Personal Loans from The Co-operative Bank p.l.c. Written quotations are available on request. Credit facilities are subject to status and not available to non UK residents, anyone under 21 or over 70 years of age. The Co-operative Bank p.l.c. reserves the right to decline any loan application but may, in certain circumstances and at its discretion, offer a loan at an alternative rate to those advertised. Rates correct as at 10/09/2001. Typical APR is the APR at which the majority of loans by number, arising from this advertisement, are expected to be made. The Bank may record telephone calls between you and the Bank for security and/or training purposes. *Once we've received your signed agreement form, same day transfer is via CHAPS, before 3pm, at a cost of £20.

Registered Office: The Co-operative Bank p.l.c., 1 Balloon Street, Manchester M60 4EP, England.
Registered Number 990937. Website: www.co-operativebank.co.uk

Our lowest loan rate ever

8.4% APR

Our most popular loan rate

9.7% APR

Coming to a radio near you . . .



Picture: Graeme Main

We'll drink to that: Garrison Radio director **Mark Page**, left, station manager **Richard Wyeth**, centre, and garrison commander **Brig Richard Morris** toast the health of Aldershot's new radio station at its official launch last month.

Aldershot joins Catterick, Colchester and Tidworth-Bulford in providing UK-based soldiers and their families with local programmes and news. The new station can be heard on 107FM but will be switching to AM before long.

● Meanwhile, **LCpl Clem Clements**, right, has been burning up the airwaves on the Tidworth-Bulford station. He was one of four volunteers from 6 Battalion REME at Tidworth to present live shows. Clem teamed up with fellow REME telecommunications technician **Cpl Lee Zand** for an early evening hour-long music and chat programme. They are hoping to be asked back. Meanwhile, **LCpls Chris Jordan** REME and **Dave Marfleet** RLC are the latest Tidworth



soldiers to get the taste for broadcasting on the station.

Capt Mike Pierce REME, 6 Battalion's welfare officer, said he planned to use Garrison Radio to keep families informed when the unit deploys to the Balkans later this year.

● Colchester Garrison Radio went live on December 5 and there is also a Gurkha station broadcasting nightly news in Nepali. It is hosted by Gurkha soldiers and their wives.

Fancy yourself as a DJ? If so, ring Aldershot Garrison Radio's station manager on 94222 2424

More soldiers on a fast-track to health

ABOUT 250 Army personnel were being referred to BUPA and Nuffield Hospitals last month under a rapid treatment initiative pioneered last year by the Army Medical Directorate and the Surgeon General.

The move, which will cost £1.2 million, follows the success of last year's waiting list initiative scheme.

Patients selected for referral under the scheme have to have a reasonable prospect of returning to deployable fitness within six

months. Chronic conditions such as long-standing knee or back pain are not eligible.

Under the scheme, units which feel personnel under their command have been on military hospital unit waiting lists for excessive periods for conditions which are restricting their duties or quality of life can put them forward for the high-profile rapid treatment initiative.

Under the contract, the referrals had to be made between January 7 and February 1.

NEW FLEET: The Armed Forces are to get a new fleet of about 8,500 trucks in the biggest single vehicle purchase made by the MoD for more than 20 years. Five companies have been asked to bid for a contract to supply the new trucks and support them during their 20-year service life. The first vehicles are expected to be delivered for trials in 2005.

Paper talk

What the Press has been saying

● Plans to build a motorway across the unmarked graves of thousands of First World War British soldiers killed on the battlefields of Ypres have been scrapped on the orders of the Belgian Government. The area will be listed as a historical site, preventing development. – *Daily Express*

● Dutch scientists have trained a species of wasp with an acute sense of smell to detect buried mines. They are also trying to programme the insects to serve as an early warning system for biological weapons. – *Sunday Telegraph*

● Women who join the Army were paying for equal opportunities with a higher risk of injury, an Army doctor found. Eight times as many women as men were discharged with injuries during basic training. The rate had doubled since the introduction in 1998 of identical training programmes for both sexes, said Lt Col Ian Gemmell writing in the *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine*. – *Times*

● UFOs do not exist according to 50-year-old MoD findings released by the Public Records Office. The report was the work of the Flying Saucer Working Party. – *Mirror*

● A pension awarded to the widow of Gulf war reservist Maj Ian Hill, who died last March, has been cut because the cause of death was listed as a blood clot. His widow will not receive the full widow's benefits unless a coroner's court rules that her husband's death was directly related to the war. – *Daily Telegraph*

● Fifteen British paratroopers on night patrol in Kabul were forced to return to barracks by local police because they had not been given the password which gave exemption from the city's curfew. – *Mirror*

● Two of the world's oldest adversaries are sitting down for the first face-to-face talks for more than four years on resolving the 38 years of conflict on the divided island of Cyprus. Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash, 77, and Greek Cypriot leader Glafcos Clerides, 82, are meeting in the neutral buffer zone. – *Guardian*

FOR ARMY PERSONNEL ONLY

4 GREAT PHONES ALL WITH **3 MONTHS FREE LINE RENTAL***

2 NETWORK CHOICES - 8 TARIFF CHOICES

WITH LOYALTY REWARDS ON CELLNET & FREE TEXT MESSAGES ON VODAFONE

YOU CHOOSE WE DELIVER

**FREE NOKIA 3330
& ACCESSORIES**



BT cellnet

FREE CALLS PER MONTH 300 MINS WEEKEND
PEAK CALLS OFF PEAK 35p per min.
 5p per min.
LINE RENTAL £12.99 per month

**FREE ERICSSON T29
& ACCESSORIES**



FREE CALLS PER MONTH 600 MINS OFF PEAK
PEAK CALLS OFF PEAK 35p per min.
 5p per min.
LINE RENTAL £14.99 per month

**FREE MOTOROLA V50
& ACCESSORIES**



FREE CALLS 75 MINS ANYTIME
PEAK CALLS OFF PEAK 15p per min.
 5p per min.
LINE RENTAL £17.99 per month

**FREE NOKIA 8210
& ACCESSORIES**



FREE CALLS 600 MINS PLUS 100 TEXT + 100MINS WAP OP
PEAK CALLS OFF PEAK 35p per min.
 5p per min.
LINE RENTAL £19.99 per month ▲

vodafone

FREE CALLS PER MONTH 20 MINS ANYTIME
PEAK CALLS OFF PEAK 15p per min.
 5p per min.
LINE RENTAL £12.99 per month

FREE CALLS PER MONTH 200 MINS OFF PEAK
PEAK CALLS OFF PEAK 15p per min.
 2p per min.
LINE RENTAL £14.99 per month

FREE CALLS PER MONTH 60 MINS ANYTIME
PEAK CALLS OFF PEAK 15p per min.
 5p per min.
LINE RENTAL £17.50 per month

FREE CALLS PER MONTH 200 MINS ANYTIME
PEAK CALLS OFF PEAK 10p per min.
 5p per min.
LINE RENTAL £25.00 per month

Open 7 days a week, 24 hours a day - All phones come Sim Locked for contract use only



FREEPHONE
0800 018 8200

PLEASE HAVE
 YOUR
 BANK DETAILS
 HANDY WHEN
 ORDERING

*AVAILABLE BY WRITTEN REDEMPTION AT 6 MONTHS. ▲ ON LINE BILLING - ADD £2 FOR STANDARD BILLING. OFFER SUBJECT TO STATUS & 12 MONTH CONTRACT INC. 30 DAY NOTICE PERIOD. ALL OFFERS APPLY TO DATE OF PHONE CONNECTION & ARE CORRECT AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.

How you saw it: Cuttings from *Soldier's* Mail pages, below

System favours X over Z

HERE'S an example I've put together to prove Pay 2000 has been introduced unfairly. I passed a version of this letter up my chain of command and they confirmed I'm correct but there's not a lot they can do to change it.

LCpl X has been in the rank for one year; LCpl Z for four years. LCpl X's anniversary of rank is April 2, so on that date he will move up a pay band from £48.58 to £50.94.

LCpl Z's anniversary is 11 months that he will earn £2.63 more than LCpl X.

Experience by-pass

Lowest paid WO in unit - after 26 years

I'm disgusted that my

PAY 2000 is a vast improvement on the old system, with the award of annual increments being a much fairer way. Why should a newly-promoted individual automatically receive the same pay as someone experienced in rank?

My observation is aimed at those who, although no worse off because of the new system (as was promised), are still

system seems to be newly-joined or perhaps they thought they been in for any time regardless of the change.

The AGC(SPS), if a corporal clerk, has the lower pay band in the rank structure.

MOST people assumed they were going to get a pay rise... not a different mechanism for getting paid.

No one lost out because no one took a cut. For those with more years in a rank who are getting paid the same as their peers - did they expect?

I was sure my pay slip was wrong

Why the gloom? No one

is in the wrong pay range, no further than those in your arm/corps who had responsibility for Job Evaluation (JE).

Or look in the mirror and appreciate what you actually do (or don't) do.

Army and RAF sergeant clerks working with a naval 'off'...

No incentive

I've served six years in the Royal Engineers, mostly in EOD. I am a qualified combat engineer and bomb disposal engineer as well as a qualified plant fitter.

So how is it I'm paid the same as a chef? Time, their job can be demanding, but how can the Army begin to compare their role to that of a bomb disposal engineer or tradesman, both of which fall into the lower scale? Being a combat engineer, I have been included in the higher scale, yet, even though I have six years' experience in this field I am paid the same as someone qualified for only three years.

Others in the corps will feel there is no longer an incentive to be a professional. - Spr D Read, 33 Engineer Regiment (EOD) Wimbush

range. - Cpl S Moss, AGC (SPS), Northwood

To give more many of these letter...

Pay 2000 - sound despite problems

- No remedy for 'overtaking'
- 'April 1' divide unavoidable
- Job evaluation is the key
- 2% promotion rise too low

NOTHING can be done about the problem of "overtaking" - by which some people with greater seniority have found themselves temporarily earning less under Pay 2000 than others who are in the same rank and trade but junior to them.

In a frank response to criticism of the new system, Maj Gen Peter Currie, the Deputy Adjutant General, told *Soldier*: "I can see why this is regarded as unfair, but I am afraid it is something that we shall have to live with for the time being."

The situation occurs when the more junior person reaches his or her incremental date earlier in the financial year than his or her senior colleague.

"The simple truth is that there is nothing that can be done about this, short of throwing a lot more money at the problem, and that is not possible - Pay 2000 was not designed to be a pay increase, although the reality is that many people actually got one."

Maj Gen Currie said the only way the problem could have been solved without spending more would have been by placing everyone on their new pay range - on April 1 - at a point which reflected their individual seniority. This would have meant moving more junior individuals in each rank across to one of the lower incremental points on these ranges.

That would have involved a cut in their actual pay, which was not an option.

"To those who are affected and feel

badly done by, I can only say sorry. It is something we have to live with and it will disappear in time as people get promoted or reach the top of a range."

He urged people to focus on the fact that no one had lost money as a result of the transition and that Pay 2000 as a whole was a much better system than the one it replaced.

Despite some specific problems, the overwhelming message from all ranks was that Pay 2000 was a big improvement on the old pay regime.

A second transitional issue - dubbed the April 1 divide - had also attracted criticism. Some individuals who, having been selected for promotion by the same board, and having appeared on the same list, ended up earning different amounts for the only reason that some were promoted before April 1 while others, because of the date the vacancy arose, were not.

"Again, there is nothing that could have been - or can be - done about this without just throwing money at it," said the Deputy Adjutant General. "Again, it is a fact that nobody lost income - it is just that some gained more than others."

Criticism of the job evaluation process, in which trades are analysed to determine in which pay range they belong, was also addressed by the general. He said: "When we went across to Pay 2000 there were inevitably some trades that had not been evaluated for quite a time. Some of those that were placed in the lower range looked

suspect to us. These have since been re-evaluated and a number of changes have already been made."

He said others could well follow as the job evaluation programme rolled on.

Maj Gen Currie revealed that more than 2,000 people would be moving from the lower into the higher range as a result of recent job evaluation, with only about 200 moving in the opposite direction. In the latter case, no one will experience a reduction in pay.

On a positive note, he said several problems with the new structure could be resolved. "There are some cases where we believe the rates at particular ranks are too low. There are others

where we think the increments are too small, with the result that some people could be financially better off, in the short term, by not being promoted," he said.

It was also clear that the two per cent minimum pay rise on promotion was widely regarded as too small.

"All these matters are being pursued," said Maj Gen Currie, "and I hope we get them resolved over the course of the next two years."

A more fundamental review of Pay 2000 is to take place in 2004, but work will not stand still in the meantime.

"My parting word is to say again that I am sure the benefits of Pay 2000 will increasingly be seen to outweigh what are understandably seen as disadvantages. The latter are mostly transitional problems, while the structure itself is sound."



Maj Gen Peter Currie

Rioting returns to streets of Belfast

Troops and police subjected to acid and petrol bomb attacks as protests escalate at Holy Cross Catholic primary school

Report: Army Information Service

RIOTING in the Ardoyne area of north Belfast erupted once again with members of the security forces facing some of the worst street violence seen in the area since last summer. The ugly confrontations

resulted in injury to three soldiers and 82 police officers.

The seeds of the latest violence were planted last June when loyalists reportedly protested against parents walking their daughters to the Holy Cross Catholic primary school – a route that runs through

the loyalist Glenbryn area.

Although school pickets were called off last year, tensions between both communities have continued to boil under the surface. It was claimed that an argument between two women on the street sparked vandalism and civil disorder and led to full-scale rioting.

The task of assisting the police to restore order fell primarily on the shoulders of the 1st Battalion, Grenadier Guards. The Ardoyne area is well known to the guardsmen, who have patrolled it for the past three months.

In all, 180 Grenadiers, supported by a company of the 1st Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, were involved in a series of joint Army and police deployments.

The police were supported at other locations in Belfast, Newtownabbey and Carrickfergus by A Company from the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Irish Regiment, and one from the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. Troops helped the police separate the rioters and restore order.

Guardsmen were involved in either manning baselines or dispersing angry crowds of up to 350. Fireworks, petrol bombs, and improvised grenades were thrown at soldiers and police.

Four people were treated for gunshot injuries during the rioting. Both elements of the security forces were subjected to acid bomb attacks. Numerous cars were hijacked and set on fire or used as makeshift barricades.

There were three minor casualties among the Grenadiers. Gdsm Andrew



Darkness falls: Gdsm Hazy Hayes, foreground above, and Gdsm Mike Hickey man a static location on Limestone Road. Below left, LCpl Steve Harrell at a vehicle checkpoint.

Pictures: Graeme Main

Below, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders keep a watchful eye on streets near the Holy Cross school



Picture: Steven George HONI

O'Connell had acid thrown in his face, but quick action prevented any physical damage and the soldier returned to his baseline within minutes.

Gdsm Robert Dawson suffered cuts to his right hand as a result of glass being

thrown at him; following medical attention he was back on duty within the hour. The third Grenadier received facial injuries after being attacked by youths throwing bricks.

Other Army elements assisting the

Police Service of Northern Ireland included ammunition technical officers from 321 EOD Squadron RLC, who dealt with improvised explosive devices and 25 Engineer Regiment, which deployed to clear cars, barricades and debris.



Blood on the pavement: Gdsm Robert Dawson is treated at the scene for a lacerated hand

Picture: Alan Lewis, Photopress

ONE OF THE UK's LEADING CO-ED BOARDING & DAY SCHOOLS 11 - 19 YEARS

Why choose Queen Ethelburga's for a boarding education?

- ▶ Our boarding facilities are considered to be the best in Europe
- ▶ A Sunday Times' Top UK School for GCSE & A-Levels results
- ▶ Our Key Stage 3 Test Results are well above the National Average
- ▶ We have invested over £17,000,000 in new facilities and resources
- ▶ Equestrian minded students can bring their horse to school with FREE Livery
- ▶ We offer over 100 different Scholarships, Bursaries and Riding Options

20%
REMISSION
FOR ARMED
FORCES



Teaching Resources

Over £17m has been invested in high quality new classrooms, libraries, computer networks and floodlit sports facilities. We accept a broad range of pupils from many backgrounds. They leave us confident and successful. 95% of A-Level 6th Form go to University.

100 Scholarships, Bursaries & Options

From 100% of full boarding fees, to free livery for a horse at school, to scholarships for Art, Choral/Music and Sport. Having just gone co-educational there are a number of interesting awards for boarding boys. There are remissions of up to 20% for Forces and other categories of parental career. Over £500,000 is awarded each year. Please ask for full details.

Boarding Facilities - every bedroom has...

Direct dial telephone & voice mail, TV/Video (on timer), music centre, safe, hot drinks facility, fridge, iron, hair dryer, heated towel rail, fitted carpet, wash hand basin, powered ventilation, fire sensor, study area and more. Many rooms have their own ensuite bathroom.



Equestrian Facilities

Boarding pupils can bring their horse to school with free livery. The Royal Court Equestrian Centre is part of our campus and has 185 stables, 10 acres all weather floodlit surfaces, Olympic sized indoor arena, 3 cross country courses and more. Sixth Form can study BHSAL and Equestrian Management. Instructors include Karen Dixon - Olympic Eventer.

THE ONLY INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS OFFERING A 20% REMISSION OFF BOARDING FEES FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

Co-educational Day, Weekly & Full Boarding 3 to 19 years (Boarding from 6 years)

We think there are four important points that make our schools your ideal choice for a boarding education for your child. Firstly we understand the needs of service families. We have staff who are married to serving members of the forces. We have decades of experience in ensuring your child will settle well, be confident and successful. Secondly our boarding facilities are the best of any independent school in Europe. Thirdly QE is one of the Sunday Times Top UK Schools for GCSE and A-Level results. Our Key Stage 2 & 3 exam results are well above the national average. Fourthly we are the only leading Independent Schools offering a 20% Remission for members of the Armed Forces.

Chapter House Preparatory School

ONE OF THE UK's LEADING CO-EDUCATIONAL BOARDING & DAY SCHOOLS 3 - 11 YEARS



We are a Sunday Times' UK Top 100 Preparatory School for Academic Results. Pupils are happy, confident and successful

- Girls & Boys boarding from 6 years of age. Caring, friendly staff
- Superb new boarding facilities - probably the best in Europe.
- Every bedroom has: in/out telephone, voice mail, Music Centre, TV/Video (on timer), Fridge and more. Many bedrooms have ensuite bathrooms. Our new boarding house is very comfortable. Please visit us to see how good our first class boarding is.
- One of the UK's Top Schools for Key Stage 2 Exam Results.
- Amazing Equestrian Centre - possible FREE livery for boarders
- Seamless move to Queen Ethelburga's College at 11 years
- Huge investment in new teaching facilities and resources
- Small classes with dedicated and friendly professional teachers
- A happy school where every child is treated as an individual



Easy to get to by
road, rail & air.
10 minutes
from A1M

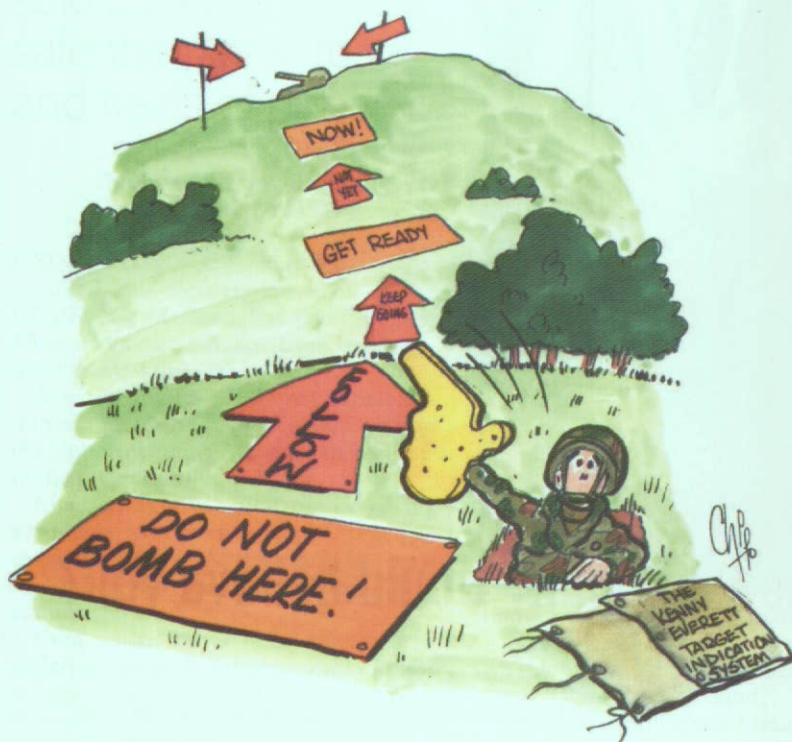
Queen Ethelburga's College Charitable Foundation (Reg No: 1012924) for the purposes of Education

QUEEN ETHELBURGA'S COLLEGE & CHAPTER HOUSE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Thorpe Underwood Hall, York. YO26 9SZ. Telephone for prospectus & video: 08707 42 33 30
You may care to visit our website: www.queenethelburga.edu. E-mail: remember@compuserve.com



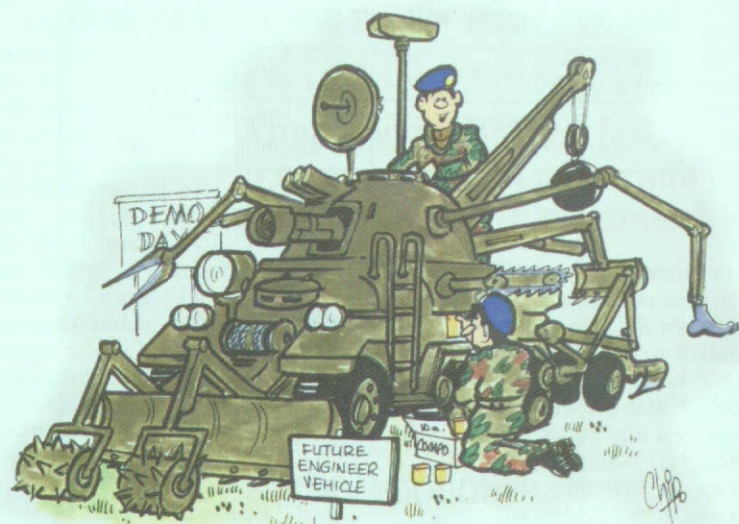
"Dear me . . . did I forget to mention the backblast hazard?"



"And kindly stop muttering: 'Ah well, back to the drawing board!'"

Banged to rights

Homing in on the range



"A tin-opener, mate? I'm afraid not."



MY CAR WAS CRUSHED BY A RUNAWAY TANK

What other motor insurance company would believe you?

Most 'high street' insurers don't really understand what you do for a living. So in the event of a claim there may be instances where you might not be covered.

NAAFI Financial knows exactly what you do for a living, and our motor insurance is designed especially for people like you. You'll find our cover automatically includes benefits most insurers would charge you extra for or fail to cover, making our motor insurance a lot cheaper than you think. So if the unthinkable happened to your car, you can be assured your claim will be sorted out quickly and efficiently.

Call us now for a free no-obligation quote. We are now open 7 days a week. Or pop into your local NAAFI Financial branch.

Save more money with our multi-policy discounts

Kit + car insurance	2 or more cars
10% discount on your car insurance	10% discount on your main car insurance

For your quote call us now, quoting reference: S12

00800 76 76 77 77 (free from the UK & Germany)

+44 1603 205 209 (from rest of the world)

www.naafi-financial.com



NOBODY KNOWS YOU BETTER

Killing grounds

Rae McGrath, Nobel prizewinner, mine expert and former soldier, helps make safe the paths, roads and fields of peace

Report: Anthony Stone
Picture: Graeme Main

USING skills and knowledge first acquired as a recovery mechanic in the REME, Rae McGrath has spent the past 15 years saving civilians from disfigurement and death.

A world expert on humanitarian demining, his work has taken him around the globe, including Afghanistan and currently the Sudan.

McGrath's contribution, both in raising awareness of mines, and the practical steps needed to make them safe, has been recognised by the Nobel Peace Prize committee.

Even when war is over, mine-related suffering can go on for generations unless aid agencies, the United Nations or Non Governmental Organisations move in to dispose of the unexploded ordnance.

McGrath is horribly familiar with what happens when anti-personnel mines go off.

"They can take out soft targets over wide areas and produce a killing field at low cost. They have an anti-morale effect in that they will cause horrible injuries to those further away, tying up combat and medical personnel. There is a knock-on effect of long surgery times for deep penetrating wounds which start at eye-level and go down to the knee. They produce lots of small fractures, both of major and small bones, internal bleeding, damage to reproductive organs, with penises cut off, and blindness.

"They will be there forever, because they are not biodegradable."

Rae McGrath spent 18 years in the British Army. "I loved my time in the Service," he said when *Soldier* visited him at his home in Cumbria.

"I served very little time in the United



Home advantage: Rae McGrath pictured in his study in a converted farmhouse in Cumbria

Kingdom – most of it was spent in Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland."

Part of his job involved training people to deal with mines and booby traps. He ended up as a staff sergeant happy to pass up the chance of promotion because he did not want to drive a desk. He left with just four years to do to get his full pension.

"It was time to go and I left," he said. "It's the way I have lived my life. Good

memories and a nice time, but I was not going to join any regimental associations. When it's

time to move on, that's the thing to do."

His life took an unexpected turn when he accepted a job with Save the Children Fund. He went to Sudan and was then approached by Band Aid to run recovery operations for desert convoys. He ended up in charge of a transport and distribution operation covering an area the size of France – but with no roads.

His experience of extracting Chieftain tanks from peat bogs in northern Germany – several hundred metres from the nearest firm ground – came in handy.

One thing led to another. He became a member of the Register of Engineers for

Disaster Relief and worked in Africa monitoring food aid distributions.

Together with his wife Debbie he went to Afghanistan in the late 1980s to look at ways of rebuilding the infrastructure devastated by years of war with the Soviet Union. Their method was to help locals with agriculture, repairing irrigation systems and rebuilding houses and roads.

"But all the time there were mines, no matter what we did."

The problem hit home after McGrath helped Afghan locals build a three-span bridge across a river. It was a great success but nobody used it because of mines on the other side.

On top of the mines menace, Afghanistan is now littered with cluster bombs. "Cluster bombs become a problem because they don't work as they should whereas mines are a threat because they do," he said.

"You can be a great fan of something you drop from the air so long as you don't have to walk over the same ground."

McGrath has been following the political developments in Afghanistan but is not optimistic about the outcome.

"Broad-based democratic government has as much relevance in Afghanistan as the burkha does in Cumbria," he said.

When cluster bombs fail, in some ways they become a bigger threat than mines

UK leads the way

Paras form one of two infantry battle-groups tasked with keeping Kabul secure and stable

BRITISH soldiers are leading the way in shoring up security and stability in Kabul. Key enabling personnel from 3 (UK) Division and 16 Air Assault Brigade have deployed to the Afghan capital to prepare for the arrival of the main body of the International Security Assistance Force.

The UK contribution is named Operation Fingal.

Maj Gen John McColl leads the 18 countries providing troops to the ISAF. Their task is to help the new Afghan Interim Authority with security and stability in Kabul.

Defence Secretary Geoff Hoon told the House of Commons at the end of last year that the UK had formally offered to lead the force.

Royal Marines from 40 Commando based at Bagram have supported Maj Gen McColl and the Afghan Interim Authority since it took office. They have now been withdrawn.

Maj Gen McColl, late R Anglian, signed the Military Technical Agreement – the framework document for the

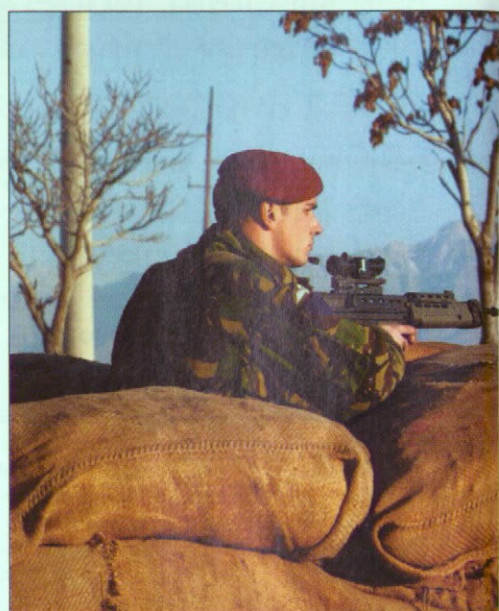
deployment of the ISAF – with the Afghan Interior Minister. Earlier, Brig Peter Wall, commander Joint Force Headquarters at Northwood, deployed to Afghanistan to negotiate with the Afghan Interim Administration to approve the agreement.

Among the challenges facing his staff were plans for the integration of the force with Kabul city police. They also identified key social and humanitarian tasks.

The Operational Liaison and Recce Team, deployed from Northwood, also helped speed up repairs to the bomb-damaged airport by paying for diesel fuel to drive the plant.

Brig Wall said: "The result of our work in Kabul was that Maj Gen John McColl and his staff arrived able to begin operations immediately because the staff work and framework of relationships and working practices had been largely agreed by us on behalf of ISAF with the Interim Administration."

Prime Minister Tony Blair last month flew into Bagram airfield on a brief visit,

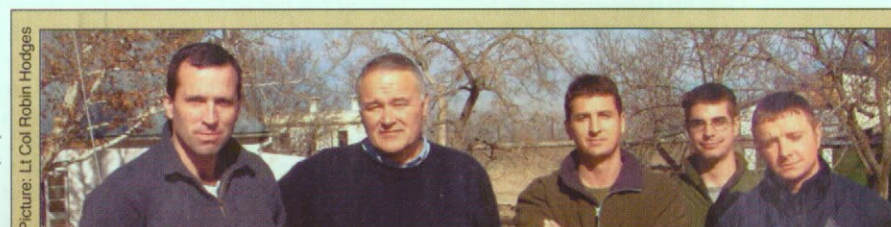


Watchful: A soldier of D Company, 2 Para, on guard at the Kabul Multi-National Brigade HQ, left. The Paras are forming one of two battle-groups in the city to stabilise the situation



where he met members of the advance party.

Measures have been taken to protect UK personnel deploying to Afghanistan from tick bite. They include the wearing of appropriate clothing and the use of repellents.



Picture: Lt Col Robin Hodges

At ease: The JFHQ Operational Liaison and Recce Team pictured is at the British Embassy in Kabul. From left to right are Lt Col Richard Spencer RM, Brig Peter Wall, Maj Rod Manson RLC, Sig Paul Howells and Cpl Simmo Simmons, R Signals

Northwood team on short notice

PLANNING for the deployment of the British-led International Security Assistance Force to Kabul was a natural task for an Operational Liaison and Recce Team from Joint Force Headquarters based at Northwood, writes Lt Col Robin Hodges.

The 55 personnel are on short notice to move anywhere in the world. Divided into a number of teams, one of which is always on 24 hours' notice, staff can set up a small headquarters within days of receiving the order to deploy.

Brig Peter Wall, commander JFHQ, whose last appointment was commander 16 Air Assault Brigade, said: "We are totally

reliant on communications and our excellent proactive signallers from 258 Signal Squadron provide our life support.

"We also deploy with soldiers from 23 Pioneer Regiment RLC and 6 Military Intelligence Company, and occasionally with specialist staff from the headquarters expected to command the operation.

"On this deployment Maj Rod Manson is with us on loan from 16 Air Assault Brigade as a logistical planner. We also work closely with the Civil Affairs Group from Minley Manor." Already this year the Tri-Service unit has deployed to Pakistan, Guyana and US Central Command at Tampa in Florida.

Who's doing what in the ISAF

The International Security Assistance Force will be made up of about 5,000 personnel:

Force HQ	Multi-national, centred around HQ 3(UK) Division
Brigade HQ	Multi-national, centred around HQ 16 Air Assault Brigade (UK)
Two infantry battle-groups	2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment (UK)
	German-led battalion, including Dutch, Austrian and Danish troops
Other infantry units	France, Italy, Turkey
Reconnaissance squadron	France
Engineer group	UK, Greece, Italy, Spain
EOD	Denmark, France, Germany, Norway, Spain
Medical	UK, Germany, Portugal
Logistics	UK, Bulgaria, France, New Zealand, Norway, Spain
Helicopter support	Germany, Spain
Military Police	UK, Germany, Romania
Other specialist troops	Finland, Italy, Sweden
Air transport support	UK, Belgium, Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Romania, Spain, Portugal



Picture: REUTERS/Oleg Popov, POPPERFOTO

Comrades in arms: Pte Ray Smith of D Company, 2 Para, above, patrols the streets of Kabul with a heavily-armed local policeman

In the ranks: The Northern Alliance soldier, right, nicknamed Tiger after a badge on his left sleeve, was spotted guarding the Afghanistan Defence Ministry in Kabul. Why he is sporting a PWRR badge, together with sergeant's stripes, an infantry qualification badge from Brecon and regimental "slip-on" PWRR titles, is not known.

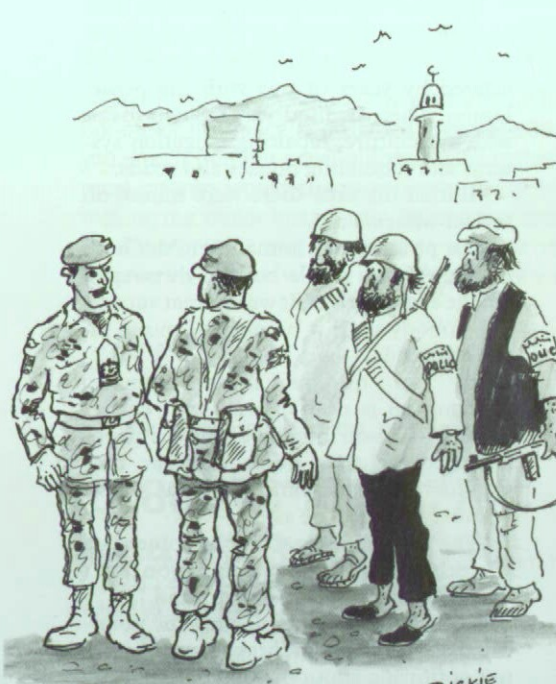


Picture: Lt Col Robin Hodges

Up to 1,800 UK personnel will serve with ISAF. In addition, some 300 RAF and Army personnel are being deployed for the initial phase to help repair and operate Kabul's international airport. Army units involved include elements from:

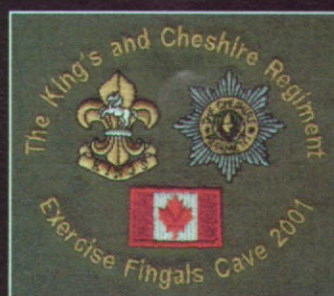
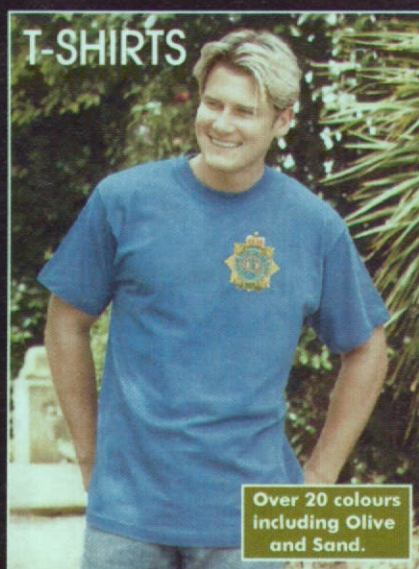
3(UK) Division Headquarters and Signal Regiment, Bulford
16 Air Assault Brigade Headquarters and Signal Squadron, Colchester
2nd Bn, The Parachute Regiment, including a Gurkha company, Colchester
33 (EOD) Engineer Regiment, Wimbish
36 Engineer Regiment, Maidstone
13 Air Assault Support Regiment, Colchester
16 Close Support Medical Regiment, Colchester
30 Signal Regiment, Nuneaton
9 Parachute Squadron Royal Engineers, Aldershot
8 Fuel Support Company, Wattisham
156 Provost Company, Colchester
23 Pioneer Regiment, RLC, Bicester

Who's going or gone



"By all means grip their turnout... but... for heaven's sake don't tell them to get a haircut!"

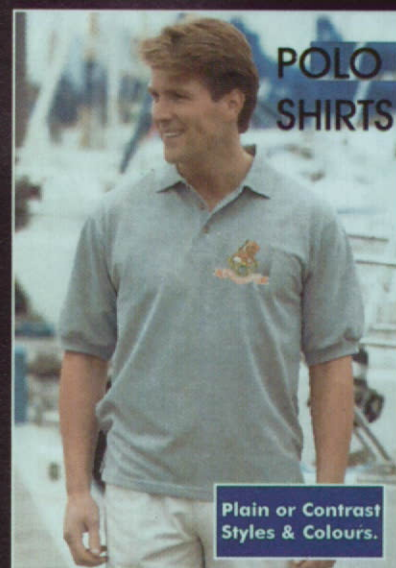
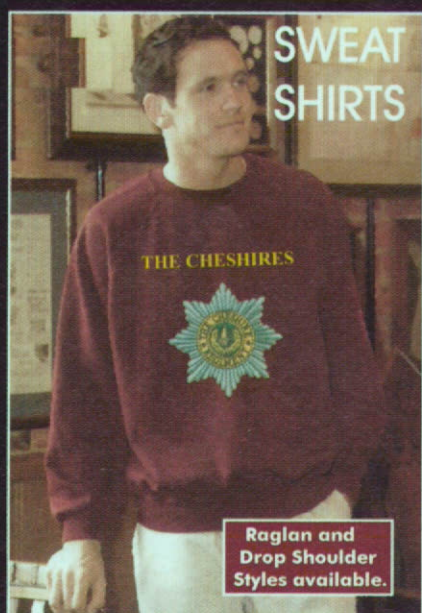
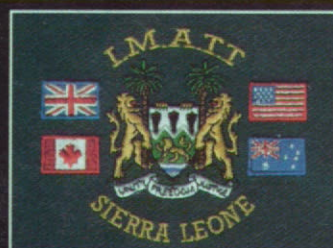
PRINTED OR EMBROIDERED LEISUREWEAR TO YOUR **OWN** DESIGN



Free Sample Shirt.

Free Colour Brochure on request.

Credit Terms for H.M. Forces.



For a **FREE** Colour Brochure and H.M. Forces discounted price list including details of our **FREE** sample garment offer contact :
TEES TOTAL, 153 High Street, Wootton Bassett, Swindon, Wilts SN4 7AB
 Tel : +44 (0)1793 849888 Fax : +44 (0)1793 849890



Email : sales@teestotal.co.uk
 Serving H.M. Forces for 21 Years.



TEES TOTAL



Picture: Cpl Brad Chappell, RAF

Ready for action: An AS90 self-propelled 155mm howitzer of 127 (Dragon) Battery, 26 Regiment RA prepares to open fire during an exercise on the snow-covered Glamoc ranges in Bosnia

Gun-ho in the snow

British, Dutch and Canadian gunners sharpen their skills on Glamoc ranges

NATO's British-led multi-national division based in south-west Bosnia tested its collective firepower on the ranges at Glamoc – and chose a period of sub-zero temperatures for the exercise.

A knife-sharp wind whipped across the snow-covered plain as British AS90 self-propelled 155mm howitzers, Canadian 105mm light guns, Dutch Leopard 2 tanks and a Gurkha mortar platoon blasted away at an unseen enemy.

Exercise Balkan Gunner tested the ability of the different elements to work together to give indirect fire support under one command. It was also the first chance for the newly-formed Offensive Support Group HQ, commanded by Lt Col André Harvey, CO 5 Regiment d'Artillerie Légère du Canada, to work with its sub-units in Bosnia.

The OSG is an independent manoeuvre unit that combines all indirect fire assets under one commanding officer. The guns themselves are a deterrent, but combining them maximises the deterrent effect.

Snow slowed things down, limiting the ability of forward observation officers to call for rounds to be fired down the range.

Although they work within their respective battle-groups during the normal course of events, the OSG elements can be brought together in a particularly tense situation, with attack helicopters and jets – “fast air” to the gunners – also coming under its command if necessary.

The British units in the group are 127 (Dragon) Battery, 26 Regiment RA and the mortar platoon of the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Gurkha Rifles.

Enter the good guys

ORPHANS in Banja Luka, Bosnia, were able to open seasonal presents, thanks to the participants in a 10km fun run organised by staff – most of them British – at the Multi-national Division (South West).

The efforts of more than 180 soldiers from Australia, New Zealand, the UK, Canada, the Netherlands and the Czech Republic based at Banja Luka and Bugojno collected nearly £3,500, which was spent on the 127 youngsters living in the orphanage. Among the gifts were two TV sets, a video recorder and two CD stereos for all the children to enjoy.

Staff from Military Police Operations at MND(SW) planned the event.



CHILDREN at a school in the Bosnian village of Mravica, near Prnjavor, have a safe roof over their heads, thanks to a project coordinated by UK Battle Group project officer Sgt Mike Ryan.

With the help of grants from the Canadian International Development Agency, the Nikola Tesla School was given a new roof and gutters, the floor was tiled, windows and walls repaired and the toilets renovated. Local authorities joined in by putting in a septic tank system to improve sanitation while the village provided a new kitchen for the school.

The Canadian agency also paid for a new roof for the Prnjavor health clinic. The work was organised by MND(SW) staff.



HOME, sweet home, can be a pretty cheerless place for people living in areas recovering from conflict.

When soldiers of 10 Platoon, C Company, the 2nd Battalion, The

Royal Gurkha Rifles discovered an elderly couple living in an unheated, one-room shack, pictured, in Prijedor, Bosnia, they did something about it. Before snow set in the

Gurkhas collected supplies and “winterised” the structure by insulating it against the cold. The Gurkhas paid for the materials they used and hope to raise more money towards the cost of a proper house for the couple nearby.



Pictures: Mike Weston



On screen: A digital map display of the battlefield is analysed by Cpl Matt Griffiths, left, the system administrator, and SSgt (YofS) Mark Holden, the system manager of the ISIS troop

ISIS set to take fog out of war

THE frustrations of commanders waiting hours – even days – in their headquarters to get an accurate picture of a battle

could become a thing of the past thanks to a new battle-management computer command-and-control system on trial.

The Integrated Staff Information System (ISIS) was used by 249 Signal Squadron during Exercise Adventure Exchange in Turkey and is set for further tests in Norway. Designed for the Dutch Army, it provides commanders with real-time information across the battlefield.

ISIS offers a range of facilities, including a Geographical Information System (GIS) and an Operational Order of Battle (Op Orbat), which together enable commanders to build a complete picture of the battlefield using digital maps.

It removes lengthy delays, allowing them to identify instantly the positions of friendly and enemy forces, minefields and other hazards.

A Tactile Messaging System (TMS) lets the user e-mail operational orders to the battlefield.

ISIS uses tried and tested off-the-shelf hardware and software, including Panasonic Pentium III laptops and Compaq Servers running Windows NT4.

The Royal Dutch Army School of Signals in Holland is running a five-week training package for Royal Signals soldiers, whose job would be to install and maintain the equipment in the field.



In trial mode: Sig Matt Lucas, left, of the Royal Signals, and Dutch soldier Sgt Martin Laan test ISIS's graphical interface system. The server vehicle is behind them



Contender: The Lockheed Martin Kestrel light anti-armour system, above

Picture: Matra BAe Dynamics



Contender: The Saab light anti-armour system, above, can be used in confined spaces, left, without jeopardising the health of the firer. Kestrel offers the same facility

Picture: Saab

THE contest to produce the British Army's next generation of light anti-armour weapon – LAW – is hotting up, writes Ray Routledge.

Two consortia, led by MBDA Missile Systems and Saab, are left in the race to produce its successor, known as NLAW – short for Next-generation Light Anti-armour Weapon.

Both MBDA and Saab are putting their faith in "fire-and-forget" disposable missile systems.

Saab's has been developed in conjunction with Thales Air Defence. With a range of 20m to 600m and weighing 11.6kg, it offers "overfly top attack" (OTA) and "direct attack" (DA) options.

In either role, the missile flies on a predicted flight path to the target. Its guidance system calculates the route during a tracking sequence before launch. The gunner initiates this by tracking his

In the name of the LAW

Light anti-armour weapon provider to be chosen soon

target for a few seconds during which the missile's guidance system absorbs the relevant details, then calculates and predicts a trajectory. The gunner does not have to consider the range, angle or speed of the

target. In OTA mode, the warhead flies about a metre above the line-of-sight before igniting over the target and striking down through the turret roof.

In DA mode the missile flies along the line-of-sight to make a direct hit.

MBDA's contender – known as Kestrel – has been

developed in conjunction with Lockheed Martin and InSys, formerly Hunting's.

It has the same range as its Saab rival, but is lighter at just 9.7kg. Based on the Predator weapon developed for the US

Marine Corps, Kestrel includes an OTA option and an explosively-formed penetrator warhead for a top attack on the weakest part of the target. It can be switched to DA mode.

Like Saab's NLAW, Kestrel is easy to use. It boasts an inertial guidance system to do all the difficult calculations and it can be fired in a matter of seconds.

Kestrel comes with a suite of training equipment, including simulation systems to reduce the need for expensive training rounds. Saab also provides for indoor and outdoor trainers as well as tactical force-on-force training.

Both the Saab missile and Kestrel are effective day or night and can be fired in confined spaces such as built-up areas.

The winner should be announced in May or June, and the chosen weapon will be in service with the Infantry by 2005.

Tank transporter contract Fasttrax-ed

A £290 million contract to supply the Army with 92 tank transporters has been awarded to UK-based consortium Fasttrax, led by Brown and Root.

As reported in *Soldier* (March 2001), the contract requires the consortium to provide a third of the drivers and mechanics, about 80 in all, as "sponsored reserves". The service is expected to start by autumn 2003.

Reckoned to be the biggest and

best transporter in the world, the eight-wheel drive Oshkosh Truck Corporation HET M1070 tractor unit and King trailer will be capable of rushing Challenger 2 tanks to the front line at speeds of up to 50mph.

Unlike the trials vehicle, pictured right, the actual trailer to be supplied to the Army will have seven axles. It is the first such trailer that is also self-levelling and steerable to be designed and produced in Britain.





VOLVO
for life

THE NEW S60 D5 (TURBO DIESEL) AND S60 2.0T S

£14,995 ON THE ROAD*

INCLUDING METALLIC PAINT, UK DELIVERY

AND LEFT HAND DRIVE LIGHTS



LOOK WHO'S BEEN WORKING OUT...THE VOLVO S60, MORE MUSCLE FROM £282 PER MONTH*

IMAGINE A CAR THAT OFFERS BOTH PRECISE HANDLING AND A RANGE OF 5-CYLINDER, TURBO-CHARGED ENGINES FOR REFINED PERFORMANCE. THE S60, WITH ITS SLEEK DESIGN AND DESIRABLE LOOKS, TURNS IMAGINATION INTO REALITY. ALSO AVAILABLE IS THE NEW S60 D5 S, A STATE-OF-THE-ART TURBO DIESEL WITH FUEL ECONOMY AND PERFORMANCE TO LEAVE OUR RIVALS RATTLED. **TAKE A TEST DRIVE AT BRITISH MILITARY SALES.**

THE VOLVO
S60

HEAD OFFICE

Volvo Car Ltd (British Military Sales) PO Box 200, Hatfield, AL9 7AR

Tel: +44 1707 262388 Email: bms@volvocars.com

**APR
9.8%**

*Typical example based on S60 D5 with above options at Purchase Price of £14,995.00, Deposit £1,499.50, followed by 60 Monthly payments of £281.16 (£85.00 Documentation fee payable with the first Monthly payment). Amount financed £13,495.50. Total charge for credit £3,459.10. Total amount payable £18,454.10. Written quotations on request - finance subject to status. Finance from Volvo Car Finance Limited, Globe Park, Marlow, Buckinghamshire SL7 1YQ. All prices are tax free and product information correct at time of going to press. Offer applies to orders placed between 1st January to 31st March 2002

For more information please call on 01707 262388 or email: bms@volvocars.com or complete and return the coupon below by fax or post.

Title Name

Address

..... BFPO Number (Postcode)

Telephone (daytime)

Email

Current car

Volvo Model of Interest

Please return to

VOLVO CAR UK BRITISH MILITARY SALES

Freepost 30

Hatfield

Hertfordshire

AL9 7BR

or fax return to +44 01707 261712

or email: bms@volvocars.com

ASO

Diver, RE

The second in our series on what soldiers wear to do specialist jobs

Divator face mask fitted with Diver Through Water Comms (DTWC), which allows diver to communicate to the surface or with another diver



Nose clip. Equalises pressure in the diver's ears as he descends

Slab weight. These come in 1 and 2kg sizes. Various combinations are used in the pouches to suit the buoyancy of the diver.



Pressure gauge. Measures 0-400 bars and shows how much air is left in the SABA cylinders

Lifeline. Used for communication purposes with a series of "pulls and bells" should other comms fail

Swimmers' Air Breathing Apparatus (SABA). Duration provided by the two 7-litre cylinders varies according to the diver's activity

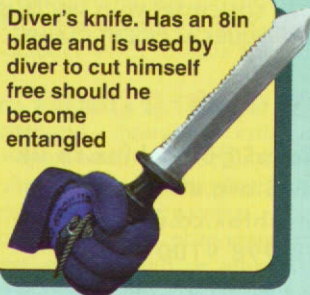


Suit inflation unit. Used to put air into the suit to relieve squeeze on diver which occurs at depth

Underwater Swim Suit (UWSS)

Standard fins, to assist movement in the water

Diver's knife. Has an 8in blade and is used by diver to cut himself free should he become entangled

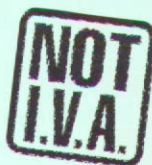


Our model is Cpl Vince May, a member of 9 Squadron RE based at Rhine Barracks in Aldershot. His unit, which provides close engineer support to 16 Air Assault Brigade, is capable of deploying worldwide independently or as part of 36 Engineer Regiment.

WORRIED ABOUT DEBT?

- Are you constantly worrying about DEBT?
- Is DEBT affecting your performance at work?
- Is your family under pressure through DEBT while you are away?
- Worried about Commanding Officer involvement?

If you can answer YES to any of the above, then please read on



IF YOU'RE IN DEBT

Are you paying more than **£500** per month on your credit cards, store cards, unsecured loans etc.

We will reduce this to less than **£200** per month.

**PLUS YOU WILL BE DEBT FREE
WITHIN 5 YEARS GUARANTEED
WITHOUT TAKING MORE LOANS**

Strict confidentiality assured · No employer contact · We employ ex-Armed Forces personnel as counsellors, who understand through personal experience the stress of the job with DEBT!



0845 120 1040

www.apex-debt-help.co.uk

DEBT COUNSELLORS AND MANAGEMENT

Your friendly, affordable London Club



- FREE MEMBERSHIP to serving personnel
- Close by Marble Arch & Oxford Street
- Affordable room rates • Choice of restaurants & bars
- Concessionary NCP Car Park rates • Function rooms for dinners, receptions, reunions & private parties

For information & reservations contact us at:
THE VICTORY SERVICES CLUB
63/79 Seymour Street, London W2 2HF

Tel 020 7723 4474

Fax 020 7402 9496

For Enquiries email: info@vsc.co.uk



*The friendliest
welcome in the armed
forces world*



MoD APPROVED
(DCI GEN 273/00)

Injured at work by a third party?

You need ToPaS

**A no expense
legal service**

ToPaS provides a 'no expense' accident compensation recovery legal service to MoD Service and civilian personnel nationwide.

For decades our caring professional team has recovered millions of pounds annually for victims of every type of accident. We handle minor to catastrophic injuries.

★ This scheme is available for all accidents except claims against the MoD

CONTACT THE SOLICITORS WHO SPECIALISE
IN PERSONAL INJURY ACCIDENT CLAIMS



**BETESH
FOX & CO**
SOLICITORS

0870 998 9000

E-mail ToPaS@beteshfox.co.uk

www.ToPaS.org.uk

www.beteshfox.co.uk

Fax 0870 998 9100

Members of the Law Society Personal Injury Panel and the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers



Moment in time: Pte Bell Kilgour, Pte Mark Stevens and Col Sgt Neil Barnett of 1 KORBR find themselves in a prize-winning photograph

Flash of inspiration

PRECISE timing by Peter Donnelly earned him top spot in *Soldier's* February contest to promote the Army Photographic Competition.

Peter, assistant curator at The King's Own Royal Border Regiment Museum in Lancaster, was visiting the mortar platoon of 1 KORBR during an exercise in Jordan in October when he took the picture above.

His efforts win him a £25 photographic gift voucher and a guaranteed entry in the *Soldier*-sponsored category of the worldwide Army competition, which carries a prize of £250 for the winner.

According to our chief photographer, Mike Weston, what turned an otherwise unremarkable image into a prize-winner was Peter's immaculate timing. "He has

SOLDIER

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

captured a moment in time," said Mike. "Without the flash from the mortar tube in the instant of launching its bomb, this would be very much an ordinary photograph. Instead it is an extraordinary image."

There were several excellent entries for our February competition, so it was a pity we could choose only one winner. In particular, our judges liked pictures submitted by Maj Mark Knight, John Heaney and Celia Mannings (our winner last

month). For them, and others who missed out, it is not too late to enter the Army Photographic Competition . . . although you will have to be quick. Entries close on February 8.

For more details, visit the Army website on www.army.mod.uk/apc2001.htm, ask your unit admin officer or nearest media ops staff for an entry form or ring the DCC(A) competition desk on 020 7218 1508 (ATN 9621 81508).

Remember, the event is open to dependants as well as serving and retired Regular Army, TA, cadets and Army-employed civilians.

Soldier's competition has been so successful in giving talented readers a chance to have their pictures published that we hope to bring it back later in the year.

You are running out of time to take part in the Army Photographic Competition. Entries close on February 8

In and out of the cold

Fifty years ago this former Defence Secretary, who played a key part in the ending of the Cold War, was shivering on a Korean hill

Interview: Ray Routledge
Picture: Mike Weston

WHEN it comes to a career, there are few people who can match the wealth of experience of George Younger, 4th Viscount Younger of Leckie, Baron Younger of Prestwick.

Today he is chairman of the Royal Bank of Scotland, the sixth biggest in the world. In the 1980s he spent almost four years as Margaret Thatcher's Secretary of State for Defence and several as Secretary of State for Scotland.

But roll back the clock to the 1950s and you find him a young soldier who came face-to-face with the legendary Soviet commander Marshal Zhukov and the Nazi Rudolf Hess. It was also a time he looked death in the eye during a harsh Korean winter.

"I did my normal training as a National Serviceman at Fort George and was commissioned into The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in August 1950," he recalled over coffee in his London office.

"The Korean War had broken out and the Argylls were there. But you had to be 19 years old to go into theatre and I was only 18."

Which is why he found himself on a four-month attachment to The Black Watch in Berlin at a time of continual disputes with the Soviets over boundaries in the divided city.

"We were consistently called out to disagreements on the line and on one occasion Marshal Zhukov himself came to the checkpoint we were manning to try to de-

escalate a dispute. He roared with laughter, said it was nonsense and picked on me, just a second lieutenant at the time, and invited me to dinner in Potsdam. Of course, my CO didn't let me go."

During a guard duty in Spandau Prison, the young officer came face-to-face with Hitler's deputy, Rudolf Hess, although he didn't speak to the prisoner.

After a brief Christmas leave he was flown to the Far East and, after a short period of acclimatisation, found himself on a freezing Korean hillside north of Seoul with the 1st Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

"The A and SH had withdrawn from

When the Berlin Wall came down we found out that a large proportion of their tanks didn't work... a 40-year bluff?

the Chinese border and it was a war of attrition in the mountains," he said. "The biggest problem was surviving the cold."

Boots were a major concern.

"We were issued with 'Boots FP' (frost proof)," he grinned. "They had been specially-made for the Norwegian campaign in 1940 and had been in store for years. By the time they got to us nine out of ten of them broke up within a day or two. We couldn't replace them because they were considered new, so many soldiers had to tie the uppers to the sole to hold them together. We scrounged food and kit from the Americans. I got hold of an American

carbine and some ammunition. I should have had a pistol but they were not much use to anyone."

Viscount Younger recalled a particularly fond memory. "One of the marvellous things about the Army, and it was always the case, was the extraordinary way that you could be coming down a mountain in the middle of the night and, miraculously, out of the darkness appeared your company truck with a hot meal provided by the CQMS. That was a terrific morale-booster."

On a more serious note, he added: "The Korean War taught me something useful in later life – that there is absolutely nothing attractive about fighting a war."

"As everyone always tells you quite correctly, war is 95 per cent boredom and the rest is horrifying."

At the end of his National Service and despite a temptation to stay on full-time, he went to university and into the family business. He did, however, join the Territorial Army.

"I stayed for many years with 7 A and SH, first as signals officer then as commander of HQ Company," he said. "But when I became an MP I felt I could not combine the TA and politics."

He stood unsuccessfully for election in 1959 in North Lanarkshire and again at a controversial by-election at Kinross and West Perthshire in 1963 when he stepped aside to allow the seat-less Prime Minister, Sir Alec Douglas-Home, to be sent to Westminster.

He was finally elected in the following year as Conservative MP for Ayr, where he served until 1992. He counts among his achievements the presentation of a petition to the Commons to save the Argylls from being abolished.

"It was at that time the biggest petition there had ever been, with more than a million signatures," he said. "It was produced in a long line of whisky boxes and it did save the Argylls."

His senior postings included that of Scottish Secretary from 1979 to 1986, followed by Defence Secretary for almost four years.

"It was extremely interesting because it was the end of the Cold War," he recalled.

"It was very strange. We had sat there for years looking at 55,000 Soviet tanks



Wealth of experience: Soldier, politician, diplomat, financier – Baron Younger of Prestwick

lined up to sweep us across the north German plain. We had only about 15,000 in the whole of Nato. Then when the Berlin Wall came down we found out that a large proportion of their tanks didn't work or didn't have crews. A 40-year bluff.

"What I am most proud of having

helped to achieve was the end of the Cold War. It was a question of lots of people being tough and immovable with the Soviet Union until they ran out of money and the guts to go on with it.

"The whole thing was a huge leap of faith. And as a result we now have a much more open and happier situation."

FEED back

If you have any questions for CGS's Briefing Team and your unit is not on its tour forecast, e-mail the team on apt.mod@btinternet.com

The next tour runs from February 4 to March 22 and there are still some free dates. Further details are available from WO2 Mick Owen by e-mail or on 94261 5309. You asked about:

Taxed allowances

Q Why is LSSA (Longer Separated Service Allowance) taxed?

A All but a very few allowances are subject to tax by the Government and this must be paid either by the MoD or by the individual. Since we are subject to a limited pot of gold, this enables more funds to be used for other purposes, for example improvements to the operational welfare package (OWP).

What you pay for services

Q Why do we pay CILOCT in Germany?

A Contribution in lieu of council tax (CILOCT) is paid in Germany to fund services and amenities such as street lighting and rubbish collection, which are provided, as in the UK, by the local government. The costs of these services are then borne by the MoD and the money is recovered through CILOCT at a flat rate regardless of location.

Late starters

Q Why do Late Entry (LE) officers lose that part of their pension between the ages of 18 and 21?

A You will understand that as you received your Late Entry commission, you moved to a different career structure. The officers' career structure was set up to reflect a career of up to 35 years that would end at the age of 55, hence the start of the pension-earning period at the age of 21.

Transferring your pension

Q If I were to leave the Army and join the police, could I take my pension with me?

A Yes. If you leave the Army with preserved pension rights you can apply, in writing to Glasgow, for the cash value to be transferred to your new pension scheme, no matter what your new employment. This works in reverse, although the application must be done within 12 months of joining the Army.

A blazing row, then drinks, with Mrs T

AS a member of Margaret Thatcher's senior team for more than ten years, Viscount Younger saw at close quarters how the Conservative PM worked.

"Mrs Thatcher was a strong leader in the sense that she knew what she wanted, and her job as she saw it was to get her team to back her to get what she wanted.

"I think that while leaders can carry that too far, you do need somebody to do that. In a way Tony Blair is doing the same thing at the moment with his international policy and I think he is doing it very well.

"It was difficult to get a word in sometimes but if you were determined, Mrs Thatcher would listen and was changeable if you put forward a good argument.

"She was also one of those people with whom you could have a blazing argument with a lot of hard words spoken and ten minutes later you would be having a drink with her.

"I like people who don't harbour a grudge if you stand up to them. That was how I found Mrs Thatcher. She was excellent in that way. I thought she was a strong leader."

Choose Mercedes-Benz Piccadilly because...

- ✓ The customer comes first
- ✓ We offer excellent availability on all models
- ✓ All cars supplied with pink log book
- ✓ We'll be pleased to help you with your part-exchange valuation
- ✓ All cars are built to UK specification
- ✓ Full 3 year UK warranty included

For a list of cars available from stock, please visit:

www.mercedes-military.com



Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz Piccadilly

Diplomatic & Tourist Sales 78 Piccadilly London W1J 8AQ Tel: + 44 (0)20 7491 5500
Fax: + 44 (0)20 7409 1708 www.mercedes-benz.co.uk/export e-mail: sales@export.daimlerchrysler.co.uk



Hitting the mark

Report: Anthony Stone
Pictures: Graeme Main

MUSEUMS in general, and military ones in particular, have something of an image problem. In the jargon of the advertising industry, they're simply not sexy; more Janice Battersby than Jennifer Lopez.

There's such competition out there for people's purse-strings and leisure time, that to succeed museums have to offer more than fraying uniforms on tailor's dummies, shiny medals in glass cabinets and rather knackered-looking pieces of artillery captured during the Boer War.

While there are many excellent regimental museums around, the majority scoring highly for interest and presentation despite limited resources, convincing the paying-public to step through the doors remains the toughest test.

But things are changing. The Royal Artillery is blowing away the dusty museum image with the force of an AS90. The future has arrived with a bang.

Even the vocabulary used to describe the museum has changed. Firepower, set in the historic buildings of the Royal Arsenal on the River Thames at Woolwich, is billed as the Royal Artillery Experience. The beautifully restored buildings include Europe's oldest military academy, where Wellington drew up his battle plans.

Centrepiece of the "experience" is the

It's exciting, loud and educational. Surely it can't be a museum?

ground-shaking Field of Fire presentation, an audio and visual programme that gives an idea of what it's like to be a gunner in action. Multi-screens showcase archive film and videos, while the ground thunders with a massive bass speaker, shells whizz overhead and smoke fills the room.

The audience is surrounded by guns and equipment which, because of the dramatic lighting effects, seem to recoil angrily. The Honest John nuclear rocket system used by the British Army of the Rhine during the Cold War is brought to life once more.

With ears still ringing from this explosive start, visitors make their way through the upper gallery, and follow the evolution of the artillery from its earliest beginnings to the First World War.

The "real weapon" gallery gives visitors the chance to experiment with basic ballistics and the principles of hitting a target. This is really what makes Firepower so involving. Everyone gets the chance to be a gunner.

Graham Jones, marketing manager of Firepower, said: "Few attractions with a military theme attract large visitor num-

bers, and regimental museums in particular have a poor record. The development of the exhibition has been a delicate balancing act between the commercial pressure of economic survival and the need to do justice to the history of The Royal Regiment of Artillery."

The two parts of the regiment's motto *Ubique* (Everywhere) and *Quo fas et gloria decunt* (Whither right and glory lead), reflect a history of service at home, on the high seas, in the air and around the world.

The regiment has more Victoria Crosses than any other – more than 60 – with the key stories showcased in the medals room. The largest pieces of artillery, including an AS90, are housed in the Monster Bits Gallery, a refurbished bullet factory which supplied munitions during the Boer War.

Firepower was the brainchild of a former Master Gunner, Gen Sir Martin Farndale. Partly financed by the Heritage Lottery Fund, the lion's share of funding has come from donations made by serving members of the regiment and former gunners.

Sadly, Gen Farndale died before the museum opened last year. He could not have a finer memorial.

Firepower is open daily (except Christmas Day) from 1000 to 1700. Admission charges are: adults £6.50, children £4.50, concessions £5.50. Visit the museum's website at www.firepower.org.uk

100% WATERPROOF BREATHABLE SOCKS SealSkinz® AND GLOVES

- 100% waterproof, breathable technology to keep your hands and feet warm & dry
- Waterproof gloves - offer excellent grip and dexterity in wet conditions for £19.99/pr.*
- Waterproof socks - offer unique protection against wet conditions. Enjoy dry feet for £24.99/pr.*
- Worn by special forces across the world
- Buy on line at www.sealskinz.com or call us on 01553 622030 to place your order

* Plus Postage & Packing at £2.50/pr.

Porvair International Limited, Estuary Road, Riverside Industrial Estate,
King's Lynn, Norfolk PE30 2HS. E-mail: info@sealskinz.com



FREE NOKIA 3310

AUTOMATIC ACCEPTANCE HM FORCES PERSONNEL

CALLS FROM 2p PER MIN.
LINE RENTAL FROM £15 PER MONTH

**FREE 600 MINS
OFF-PEAK CALLS**

**FREE CONNECTION
WORTH £35**

**FREE text messages
on selected tariffs**

**FREE HANDS-FREE KIT
LEATHER CASE IN-CAR CHARGER**

FREE DELIVERY

*SMALL AND LIGHT * VOICE DIALLING
* VIBRATING ALERT

* CHAT MESSAGES * 4 GREAT GAMES

TOTAL COMMUNICATIONS

CALL FREE 0800 731 7811

SUBJECT TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS

PSM
Sportswear

Manufacturers of

Embroidered, Screen Printed and Heatsealed:

- Leisurewear • Sportswear • Workwear
- Corporate and Promotional Clothing

We currently supply a range of garments to a number of Army Corps and Regiments including the Queen's Dragoon Guards, Welsh Guards, Royal Welch Fusiliers, Royal Regiment of Wales, Army Medical Services, Adjutant Generals Corps and Units of The Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers

For more information or a copy of our 60 page brochure contact psm sales



PSM Professional Sportswear Marketing Limited

Units 5 & 6, Hill Street Industrial Estate, Cwmbran, Gwent NP44 7PG

Tel: (01633) 874466 Fax: (01633) 874499 E-mail: sales@psm-sportswear.co.uk

Website: www.psm-sportswear.co.uk

Pinsent feels pinch

Army's School of Physical Training puts Olympic rower's fitness to the test

Report: Andy Simms
Pictures: Graeme Main

THREE Olympic gold medals and seven World Championship golds make Matthew Pinsent one of Britain's most successful athletes in any sport.

But the 31-year-old's sporting prowess did not save him from the critical tongue of physical training instructor Capt Glyn Sheppard (Army School of Physical Training at Aldershot).

"I told Matthew that he was carrying a lot of fat and that the Army could help improve his general fitness," explained the chief APTC instructor.

Capt Sheppard's damning verdict of the Olympic rower came at the close of filming *Fighting Fit*, a television experiment challenging the conventions of sports science, for the Discovery Channel.

The series, presented by Pinsent, pitted the hi-tech methods of sports science against the time-honoured traditions of Army training, and followed two teams over a five-week period as they were put through very different fitness regimes.

"The perception a lot of people have is that we get soldiers out of bed at four in the morning, bawl and shout at them, and feed them on beans," said Capt Sheppard. "And that is what the Discovery Channel actually thought we were going to do with our team. The problem with that whole notion is that I haven't actually got any instructors willing to get up at four in the morning."

Fighting Fit climaxed with the teams going head-to-head over two challenges. Team Science, run by two sports science experts, who used state-of-the-art physiology laboratories, specialist diets, custom-built footwear and the latest in bio-mechanics to whip their team into shape, won the first event – a triathlon.

But the scientists were left scratching

their heads when their team were well-beaten in the endurance event, a two-hour open canoe followed by a five-hour mountain walk and a 100m abseil down.

Capt Sheppard said: "What people fail to understand is that the Army actually uses applied science and psychology to deliver its physical training.

"Although we only had these guys for five weeks we wanted to apply the exact same methods we do with our soldiers.

"We developed their minds, body and spirit – something that science alone can-not do. Science does not develop the person, it just develops their skill as an athlete," he said. "Our team, who weren't as physically fit as the others, proved that if your heart is in it you can do anything and Matthew was really intrigued by this.

"Although mentally Matthew is the strongest athlete I have ever come across in my life, he is not as physically fit as he could be and I told him so."

Reeling from the "fat" jibe and impressed with his insight into Army training, Pinsent requested a day's workout at the ASPT in Aldershot for himself and members of the Leander Rowing Club.

Capt Sheppard duly obliged and the group of 20 rowers, many of them international athletes, were sent on a five-mile run before being pushed to their limits on the school's assault course.

"The benefit of doing something like this is that it is so different from what we do on a day-to-day basis," said Pinsent. "We do the majority of our fitness work on the river, but are always looking at ways of cross-training and you can't teach the Army anything about fitness.

"The average squaddie will be able to run quicker than us, and certainly when it comes to carrying weight and the standard infantry tab then there is no contest, but put us on a rowing machine and it would be a different story."



'The problem is that I haven't actually got any instructors willing to get up at four in the morning'

Chill drills

Ice-cool soldiers sail to the ends of the earth for adventure, science and research

Pictures: Tim Hall and Sam Greenhill

THESE postcards from the edge of the world give a snapshot of the icy wilderness that has been home to the British Army Antarctic Expedition for the past two months.

The 16 team members, including one woman, 2nd Lt Sarah-Jane Piesse, RE, were selected for this vital phase of the journey to explore the Danco Coast – one of the most remote places on earth.

Their aim was to record historical, wildlife and geographical information from this still largely unexplored region. The expedition will return home via the Falkland Islands by May.

By the time the 18-berth, 72ft yacht *John Laing* finishes, it will have sailed 20,000 miles across some of the world's roughest oceans.

A total of about 100 volunteers, the majority men and women drawn from the Regular and Territorial Army, will take part in the expedition, whose patron is the Prince of Wales.

The adventure has not been without its dramas. Expedition joint leader Maj James Harris, R Anglian, was

climbing a glacier when the snow-covered ground suddenly gave way beneath his skis to reveal a chasm so deep it was impossible to see the bottom.

The officer and his 20kg backpack plummeted about 10ft before being halted by a rope attached to fellow skiers who threw themselves to the ground and dug in.

Maj Harris spent two hours dangling above the V-shaped crevasse while his colleagues worked to pull him to safety.

He said: "It was scary, yes. I was hanging by a rope and in the back of your mind you wonder what would happen if it broke, though you know it won't.

"I couldn't see the bottom of the crevasse, so it must have been at least 200ft down. It was just a deep blue hole. I had a quick look down and didn't do it again."

The expedition has had to contend with shifting pack-ice, which at one point surrounded the *John Laing*, just as it had trapped Sir Ernest Shackleton's *Endurance*, 85 years before.

Log on to www.baae.org.uk to find the expedition latest.



So solid crew: With faces already burnished by sun and wind, the team prepare to follow in the wake of Sir Ernest Shackleton



Ice work: Capt Dom Biddick, R Anglian, left, puts his back into pulling an inflatable boat ashore on Enterprise Island off the Danco Coast. The British Army Antarctic Expedition's yacht, the *John Laing*, can be seen moored in the background alongside a rusting whaling ship



Splendid isolation: The *John Laing*, above, moored at Deception Island in the tranquillity of the natural harbour

Nice to beak you: A penguin breaks the ice, greeting the crew, left, as the ice advances towards *John Laing*'s hull



Frozen assets: Soldiers take a 60-second dip to qualify for the Antarctic Swimming Club. Front to back: Lt Col Andy Bristow, R Signals, Capt Will Mace, SG, Simon Holman of the Ocean Youth Trust



Table for one: Capt Harry Scrope, 1 Coldm Gds, left, savours a freeze-dried ration meal for his Christmas dinner



Manage Your money

David Mapes is Assistant Director of Credit Action and will be pleased to answer specific questions addressed to the Editor. These will be treated in confidence.

Some thoughts about credit

IT seems credit makes the world go round.

Latest figures indicate that in November credit card borrowing amounted to £39 billion – enough to run several small countries.

The current spread of APR (Annual Percentage Rate) is eight to 24 per cent on standard credit cards (although introductory rates can be as low as zero). Store card users pay between 19 and 30 per cent.

It's not wrong to borrow money, but often we do so unwittingly. Credit and store card balances creep up and we often take out other credit and become multiple cardholders. They can become hard to juggle.

What is APR?

APR is a formula to enable borrowers to compare different types of credit. The lower the APR, the better the deal we're likely to get, so shop around and compare them.

Some people do so on a regular basis, switching balances to low APR sources. But beware; if you're in debt or not confident about managing money, it can make things worse, ending up with debt delayed to the point where collection processes are taken by creditors.

Different types of credit

Where can you borrow money? What are the factors and implications? Let's have a quick look at three: overdraft, credit and store cards and personal loans.

If we have a bank account, we may well have an overdraft facility. Some banks give a small buffer zone (say £100) in which interest is not charged. When we use the overdraft, we normally pay interest linked to base rate – currently four per cent. One major bank charges seven per cent over base rate, which is 11 per cent. But we only pay interest for what we're using so this can be a useful, flexible way of short-term borrowing.

Credit and store cards are popular. Many of us have more than one and often we are family cardholders. They save us going to a bank or ATM and paying with cash.

There are two things to note: 60 per cent of us don't pay off the outstanding balance each month, which means we pay interest, and those of us who regularly shop with credit and store cards spend about 30 per cent more than if we'd used cash. Cash, it seems, helps us discern wants from needs.

Personal loans

Many of us have personal loans. Next month we'll look more closely at different types. Sadly, many who seek help when in debt haven't done the simple calculation when they took out the loan. Sometimes, the multiple consolidation loans just delayed the inevitable need to review finances and write a budget. More about that next month.

If you want someone to talk to about your decisions and worries, call our HelpLine number below.

0800 591084

Professor of healing

A medical team led by a former Army surgeon is showing victims of war how to help themselves

Report: Ray Routledge
Pictures: Mike Weston and
Centre of Conflict Recovery

FOR enthusiasm, dedication and the occasional bout of sheer bloody-mindedness, few can match former Army doctor Professor Jim Ryan.

He leads the Leonard Cheshire Centre of Conflict Recovery, a London-based organisation that teaches trauma care techniques to aid agencies and the military and undertakes academic research into the subject. In dire circumstances its staff roll up their sleeves to provide hands-on medical help.

It's a job that requires huge dollops of enthusiasm and dedication and, when faced with bureaucratic red tape, a generous helping of bloody-mindedness.

Jim Ryan signed on as a medical cadet in 1967. In return for five years of service when he qualified, the Army paid his university fees and a small salary.

He was commissioned into the RAMC in 1972 and was briefly attached to The Royal Hampshire Regiment as medical officer. "But I was heading for Airborne Forces from the day I enlisted," he recalled at his office at University College, London. On being awarded his wings he went to the 1st Battalion, The Parachute Regiment.

Given an opportunity to specialise, the young military doctor trained as a surgeon at the military hospitals at Aldershot and Woolwich.

During the Falklands War, Maj Ryan's surgical skills were put to the test at the

casualty station on Ajax Bay. He stayed on after the war to get Stanley's civilian hospital back on its feet.

Tours to Hong Kong and Nepal were followed by a period of research at Porton Down, a master's degree, and a move into academia when he was appointed Professor of Military Surgery.

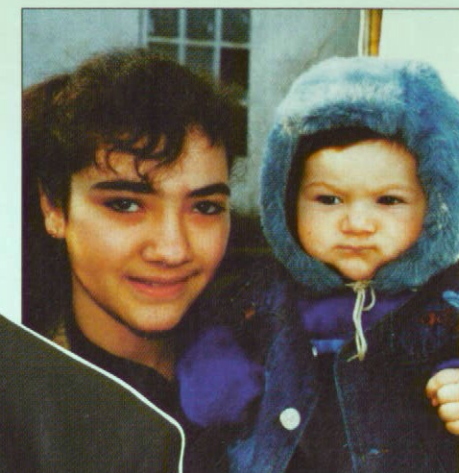
"In 1994 the military hospitals closed, so I left the Army," said Prof Ryan, who resigned as a colonel. He moved to University College Hospital to improve trauma services and training, but he was approached by the Leonard Cheshire organisation, which wanted to set up an academic body to look at conflict medicine.

Although the centre helps out in post-conflict areas, it is not an aid agency. Staff deploy to regions recovering from conflict to identify and instil good practice.

"Good military medical procedure in war could have a civil role, including surgical techniques. This isn't just about medicine; it includes logistics, transport and communications."

Prof Ryan said conflict medicine was found mainly where there was little money or equipment. "You can't lift medical practice from the UK and dump it in place, or have sophisticated scanners, in a country which has no power supply. It is all about the art of the possible, the reasonable and prioritising."

**'We have done
programmes in
Azerbaijan,
Bosnia and
Kosovo and
hope to set up
in Afghanistan
as soon as it
calms down'**



Grateful: A mother and child, above, in Azerbaijan who benefited from aid given by the Leonard Cheshire Centre of Conflict Recovery

Making a difference: The Centre's leader, Professor Jim Ryan



Cutting edge: Surgeons operate on a refugee during a support programme in Azerbaijan

"We train people in life-support and surgical skills appropriate to the environment. Often these are short, sharp procedures just to keep patients alive."

"We've done programmes in Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Kosovo, among others, and hope to set up in Afghanistan as soon as it calms down."

Although the centre may take over for a time, the idea is to encourage those who were doctors and nurses before the conflict to take responsibility and begin again to look after their own people.

In Kosovo, British Army medics alerted

Jim's team to problems in the hospital at Pristina. "We worked with military medical personnel at first, then the Department for International Development formed a team to rescue the 2,400-bed University Teaching Hospital."

"There is now an A & E department, new theatres, training programmes, a pharmacy, obstetrics, orthopaedics, intensive care. The hospital is self-sustained."

The centre's greatest success has been in Azerbaijan. "When we went in following the war with Armenia and invasion by Russia, there were a million refugees in a population of seven million."

"We found a university hospital away from the war zone with brilliant doctors and nurses but no equipment." Patients had to provide their own food, drugs, needles and bandages.

In the refugee camps, Prof Ryan and his colleagues discovered "the hidden cost of war" – children with injuries, broken limbs, burns and untreated birth defects.

On finding a youngster dying from burns, Leonard Cheshire nurses demanded treatment at the hospital, offering to pay for antibiotics, drips, anaesthetics, scalpels, dressings and fluids.

The child recovered, providing the inspiration for a mission – paid for with money raised in the UK – to rescue children. "Initially we ran it ourselves for children only, later widening it to six hospitals and specialities."

"It now runs itself and has become a model for any collapsed country," said a proud Prof Ryan.



Scorcher: A Swedish Firesteel in action

Here's your
chance to be a
bright spark

WANT to find out how a match-less Scandinavian lights a fire in a blizzard? Read on...

A handy little gadget called a Swedish Firesteel, designed by Arctic survival expert Lars Fjalt, is standard military issue in Sweden, Norway and the Netherlands.

Little bigger than a thin door-key, the Firesteel is made of an alloy containing seven metals, with magnesium providing the active element. Struck sharply with the back of a knife (or the conveniently attached "blade") it produces sparks at 3,000°C – hot enough to burn most materials.

Just build a little pile of inflammable grass, paper or bark and strike away until a flame catches. Our efforts to set the *Soldier* offices alight were initially thwarted by the protective coating on the Firesteel... and a lack of conviction. But as soon as the outer coat had been scraped off and we gave the thing a proper thwack, eureka... we had fire (controlled, of course – don't try it at home).

It is said to be effective for up to 12,000 ignitions and is guaranteed not to break in cold weather.

Tradewinds, who sell the Firesteel at £9.95 each, have provided ten prizes. For the chance of winning one, tell us on a postcard the name of a silvery metallic element which, when burned, produces a blinding white light. Is it:

- a) Magnox b) Magenta
c) Magnesium d) Magnetite?

First ten correct entries drawn from the hat will win. Entries to "Firesteel competition" should reach us by February 28. Usual rules apply.

Mail order to www.survivalschool.co.uk (01392 460312); www.bushgear.co.uk (01795 599600); [Silvermans](http://www.silvermans.co.uk) (0207 7900 900). PRI and trade enquiries welcome to 01795 599600.

Paddy's record collection

MOST people would be content with just a single mention in the Guinness Book of Records... but not Paddy Doyle.

In the space of 14 years the former paratrooper has set 114 endurance records, averaging more than eight new entries in the coveted book each year.

His world records include:

BACK PACK RUNNING: 50 miles (with 40lb weight) – 11hrs 56min 22sec. **Marathon (with 50lb weight)** – 5hrs 4min. **Half-marathon (with 43lb weight)** – 1hr 59min. **Ten miles (with 40lb weight)** – 1hr 24min. **One mile (with 40lb weight)** – 5min 35sec. **Five kilometres (with 58lb weight)** – 32min 15sec.

BOXING: Yearly sparring (3min rounds) – 4,006 rounds. **Weekly sparring** – 183 rounds.

BURPEES: In one week – 21,409. In five hours – 4,921. In one hour – 1,850. In 30 minutes – 930. In 15 minutes – 490.

COAL-BAG CARRYING: In one hour (110lb) – 149 x 25m shuttle run.

KARATE: Monthly sparring – 467 full contact rounds (in 23 days). **Ten days full contact** – 251 competitive rounds.

LOG CARRYING: Open duration (56lb log) – 100 x 25ft shuttle run in 21min 40sec.

MARTIAL ARTS: Monthly full contact combat (boxing and karate) – 560 rounds. **Martial arts boxing punching/kicking (in one hour)** – 4,104 punches and 1,560 kicks.

PRESS-UPS: In a year – 1,500,230. In 24 hours – 37,350. In one hour – 1,705. **One-arm press-ups in five hours** – 7,643. **One-arm press-ups in one hour** – 2,521. **One-arm press-ups in 30 minutes** – 1,328. **One-arm press-ups in ten minutes** – 400. **Back of hand press-ups in 30 minutes** – 700.

SIT-UPS: In five hours (with a 50lb plate) – 5,000. In one hour (with a 50lb plate) – 1,193. In 30 minutes (with a 50lb plate) – 580. In five minutes (with a 50lb plate) – 152.

SQUAT THRUSTS: In one week – 21,347. In two hours – 3,597. In one hour – 2,010. In 30 minutes – 1,871. In 30 minutes (alternate) – 1,580. In 15 minutes (alternate) – 790. In ten minutes (alternate) – 574. In five minutes (alternate) – 290.

A full list of Paddy's records can be found at www.stamina4life.co.uk

◆ A qualified World Union Martial Arts Association and International Bodyguard Union instructor, Paddy has released a fitness video revealing some of the secrets of his success.

Fitness Endurance Level One can be ordered by sending a cheque for £14 (plus £2.50 p&p) to PO Box 374, Parcellforce, Bronford Lane, Erdington, Birmingham B8 2SE.

From punch-ups to press-ups

World endurance champion credits Army with keeping him out of prison

Interview: Andy Simms
Pictures: Graeme Main

AS the holder of 114 regional, national, European and world endurance records, Paddy Doyle is proficient in the art of breaking things.

But the world endurance champion is the first to concede that it was a three-year stint in the Army that ensured he made a career out of breaking records and not the law.

During his late teens and early 20s Paddy's rebellious and competitive nature, combined with an aptitude for judo and boxing, left him teetering on the brink of serious trouble.

Born and raised on the streets of Erdington in Birmingham, he was always the first to get involved in brawls and street fights, and was consequently banned from countless pubs and clubs.

"I was well known for fighting with doormen," he said. "I was so fit and used to have a few pints and then just let go."

"If you get a bit of a reputation then people start to offer you money to do things like debt collecting and protection work for them."

"I could see my life going down that

avenue and if I am honest with myself it did for a while – I was touching on the outskirts of the criminal fraternity."

A spell in the Army proved an ideal escape route from Birmingham's underworld.

"I'd always wanted to be a soldier and had been in the Army cadets in Erdington," he explained. "My interest in the Army came from my family – my grandfather had been a soldier and my brother was in the Royal Artillery. I aspired to continue that tradition."

"Originally I was going to join the Royal Irish Fusiliers but during a selection weekend at Sutton Coldfield all the recruits were asked whether they wanted to join The Parachute Regiment."

"I took the fitness test and was the only one out of 40 or 50 who passed it."

And so in 1984, at the age of 21, Paddy left Birmingham for Aldershot and the 2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment.

Surprisingly the tearaway fighter settled immediately into the disciplined lifestyle of soldiering and graduated from his training platoon as champion recruit.

"I just switched on and adapted my behaviour from day one," he said. "I wanted that red beret so much that I would have done anything. I felt that the Paras was an élite regiment and I wanted to be one of the best."

However, old habits die hard and Pte Doyle was occasionally escorted back from his nights-out in Aldershot by the Royal Military Police.

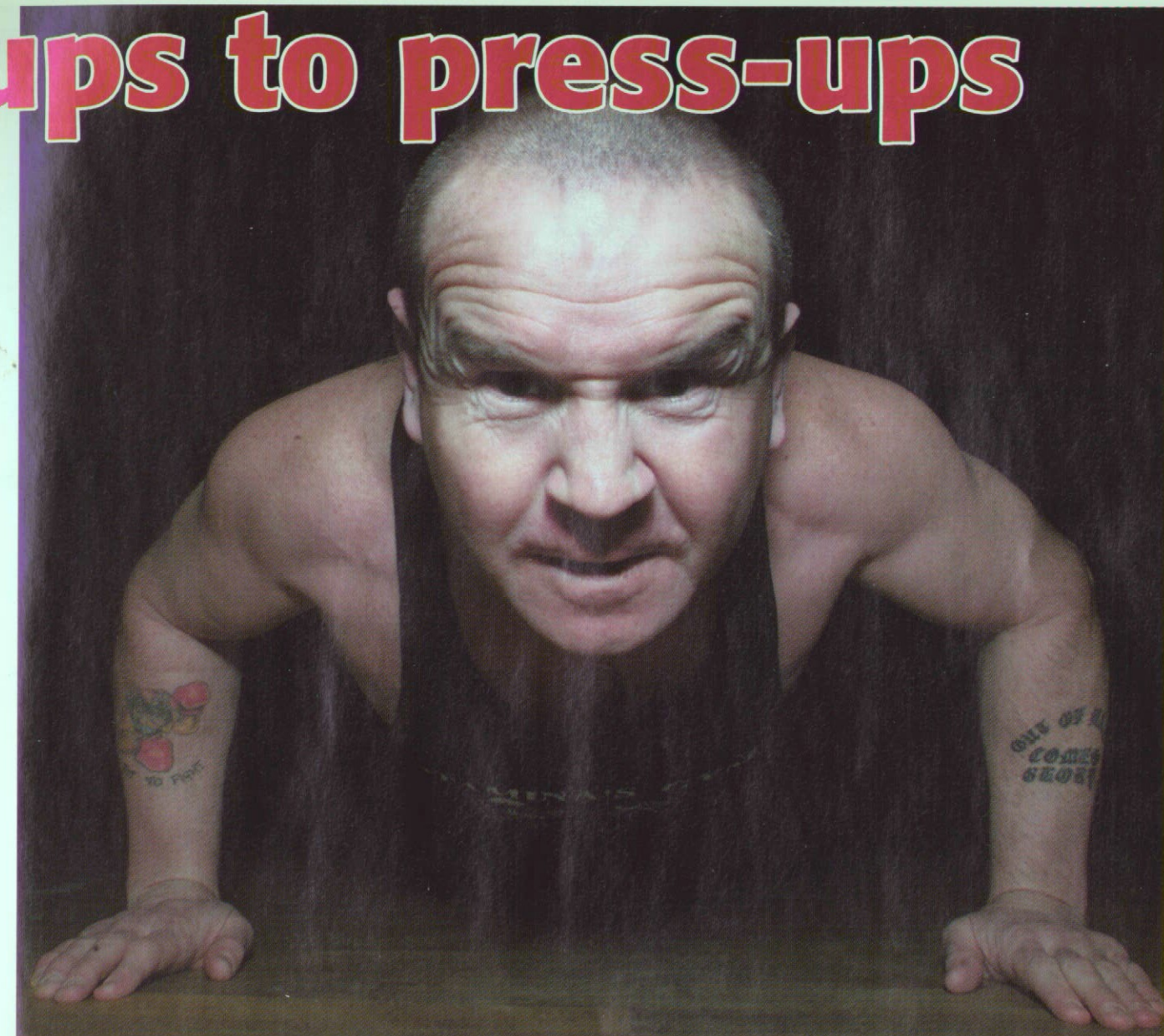
"My only real regrets from my time in the Army are for fighting in the town centre at weekends – I received a few slaps around the head on the way back to the barracks for that."

The unsuspecting locals of Aldershot were not the only ones to gain first-hand experience of Paddy's boxing skills.

During a Joint Services training camp at RAF Brize Norton a Royal Marines commando made the mistake of criticising his parachute landings.

"He kept taking the mickey out of me over the smallest of mistakes," he said. "So I offered him the chance of settling our differences in the boxing gym at Brize. He put the gloves on and we went two rounds."

"He left the ring with a broken nose and cheekbone. Afterwards he came over to me, shook my hand and wished me all



Up for it: "The Army sorted me out, made me more mature and gave me the kick up the backside I needed – I have a lot to thank the Army for"

the best with my parachute training – nothing more was said after that."

But despite a few minor scrapes Paddy left the Army in 1987 a changed man.

"The Army sorted me out, made me more mature and gave me the kick up the backside I needed,"

he said. "I was heading for prison before I joined up and have a lot to thank the Army for."

"It made me realise that I had the potential to make some money out of sport."

Fighting fit after three years of military training, he began to do exactly that, albeit in a somewhat unconventional manner. Having turned down a professional boxing contract in favour of pursu-

ing honours in freestyle martial arts, Paddy stumbled across his true vocation by chance.

"I was in a market in Warwickshire and picked up an old copy of the *Guinness Book of Records*, looked at the various press-ups records and thought 'I can do better than that'."

Three months later he set his first world record. At a city centre venue in Birmingham, Paddy set out to achieve as many press-ups as possible in four-and-a-half-hours – with a 50lb steel plate on his back. At the end of this marathon session he had achieved a mammoth total of 4,100 – a rate of approximately 15 press-ups a minute.

"Things just escalated from there," he said. "Companies began offering me sponsorship and it became something of a full-time job."

Fourteen years and 114 of the world's toughest strength, speed and stamina records later, Paddy – now 37 – has decided to take early retirement.

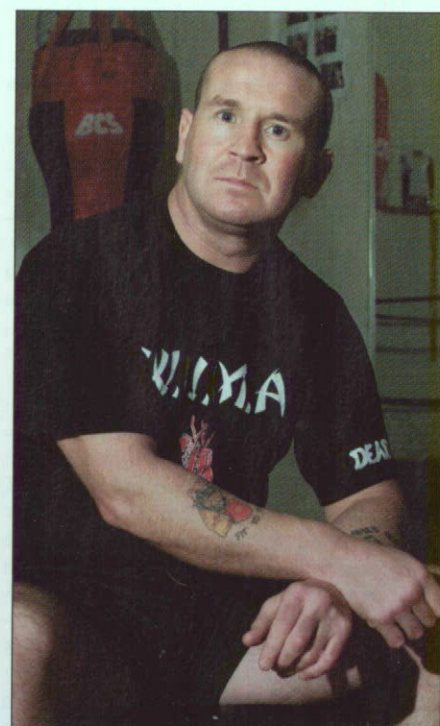
"I've had a good run and I want to retire at the top while I've got no mental, dental or physical problems."

"A lot of people think that I have pushed my body to the limit but I don't – I think I am just blessed with a unique talent."

"What I have achieved has never been about money or fame – I just love the challenge and thrill of beating people."

"I don't mind if anyone reading this now goes out and takes one of my records, but I will say this to them: 'Just because you beat one of them does not mean you have beaten Paddy Doyle – you've got to break 114 records before you can claim that.'"

What I have achieved has never been about money or fame – I just love the challenge and thrill of beating people



Record-breaker: Former para Paddy Doyle

SHORTS

Football writer dies

LT Col (Retd) Derrick Bly (REME), the Army Football Association's press officer, was killed in a road accident last month. An unrivalled authority on Army football, Col Bly had been a loyal contributor to *Soldier's* sports pages since 1994.

Loggies' prize fighters

OLYMPIC boxing gold medallist (Mexico 1968) Chris Finnegan was on hand to provide encouragement to competitors at a charity boxing gala held at ATR Winchester. A 250-strong crowd watched the RLC triumph over a Southern Counties team at the event, which raised more than £5,000 for the Army Benevolent Fund.

Final whistle nears

TIME is running out for those wishing to support the Protect Your Neck Campaign.

Funds for the initiative, which aims to establish a database accessible to surgeons dealing with rugby injuries, are being raised through the sale of serial-numbered pink whistles. A prize draw will take place at the rugby sevens tournament in May and the owner of the winning whistle will receive £1,000.

Four runners-up will win an autographed New Zealand, British Lions, England or Wales rugby shirt. For more information, or to buy a whistle, contact Maj Pat Nulty on Mil 94461 2672.

FOOTBALL TABLES

MASSEY TROPHY

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
RLC	7	4	2	1	14	14
RE	5	4	1	0	13	13
APTC	6	3	1	2	1	10
RA	3	3	0	0	12	9
REME	4	2	2	0	11	8
Infantry	7	2	2	3	-5	8
R Signals	3	2	1	0	6	7
AGC	5	2	1	2	-3	7
AAC	6	1	2	3	0	5
Int Corps	4	1	1	2	-5	3
AMS	4	0	0	4	-15	0
RAC	6	0	0	6	-29	0

* Results up to and including January 18

WOMEN'S INTER-CORPS CUP

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
R Signals	3	3	0	0	9	9
AGC	3	2	0	1	13	6
RLC	1	1	0	0	3	3
RA	1	0	1	0	0	1
Int Corps	2	0	1	1	-3	1
AMS	2	0	0	2	-11	0
REME	2	0	0	2	-11	0

* Results up to and including January 18



Bright prospect: Player of the season Pte Damu Damu leads the charge against the RAF

Future's in safe hands

Army's young stars triumph over rivals

THE Army's under-21 rugby team capped a prosperous season by beating both the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force to retain the Inter-Services championship, writes Roger Thompson.

Having beaten both Oxford and Cambridge under-21 XVs and only narrowly losing warm-up matches to London Welsh (15-22) and current Welsh champions Llanelli (16-22), Army confidence was high for the opening game against the Royal Navy at Portsmouth.

Under the burden of expectation and the watchful eye of team coach Maj Dai Jenkins (AGC), the Reds started nervously but settled by half-time and, without taking all the scoring chances presented, won comfortably by 27-6.

The game against the Royal Air

Force at Aldershot was a more fluid affair. With a fine exhibition of running rugby the Army quickly deflated the large Air Force pack, which had been very effective at close quarters, to win 37-14.

Playing some memorable 15-man rugby with a self-belief well beyond their experience, the Army side ran in a total of six tries, three of which were scored by player of the season Pte Damu Damu (Hldrs).

The chairman of Army youth rugby, Lt Col Chris Finch, said: "This is the best junior team that the Army has fielded in the past six years. There are some very exciting and talented young players around."

♦ Just the ticket: The Army Rugby Union is on the hunt for a ticket co-ordinator for this year's Army-Navy match at Twickenham on May 4.

The post, which offers flexible working hours and a good rate of pay, will run from February 7 to June 7.

For more details contact Sarah Bedwell on 01252 348573.

Gr-eight performance

Loggies keep a firm grip on title

WINNING is a habit the Royal Logistic Corps' squash team seem determined to keep up.

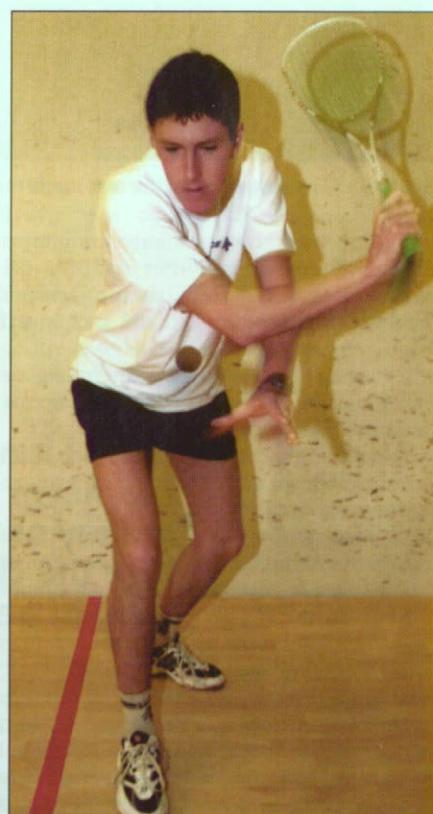
For the eighth consecutive year the loggies A side were crowned Inter-Corps champions at Aldershot's garrison sports centre - winning division one by an 18-point margin.

The team lost just two of their 25 matches, both to second-placed RE, and sported a wealth of individual talent. Among the RLC's star performers was Pte Mick Grehan, pictured right, who won each of his matches in straight games.

♦ Final league standings. Div one - 1, RLC A 97pts (champions); 2, RE A 79pts; 3, REME A 57pts; 4, AAC 45pts; 5, APTC A 33pts; 6, Infantry A 25pts (relegated).

Div two - 1, AGC A 118pts (promoted); 2, R Signals 101pts; 3, RLC B 66pts; 4, REME B 52pts; 5, APTC B 46pts; 6, RAC 46pts (relegated); 7, RA 42pts (relegated).

Div three - 1, RE B 97pts (promoted); 2, AGC B 77pts (promoted); 3, Infantry B 63pts; 4, Int Corps 45pts; 5, AMS 27pts; 6, AWS 21pts.



Steep learning curve: Novice skier Lt Tim Dalby-Walsh (LD) tackles the giant slalom in Verbier

Cold days for white knights

MORE than 120 soldiers from 18 regiments took part in Exercise White Knight, the annual six-week Royal Armoured Corps/Army Air Corps downhill ski training event.

Held in Verbier, Switzerland the exercise is used to introduce soldiers to winter sports racing, testing their courage and

determination to the limit. Secretary of the RAC/AAC ski club Maj Henry Sugden said: "Verbier is chosen because we can rely upon the high quality of training from professional instructors, the infrastructure to provide racing facilities and the local support and goodwill towards the Army."

FIXTURES

Your sporting guide to February...

ARCHERY: 24 - Inter-Services indoor championships (Harrogate).

ATHLETICS: 13 - Army cross-country finals (Deepcut); Combined Services indoor meeting (Birmingham); 23 - TA cross-country finals (Deepcut).

BASKETBALL: 20 - Training (Aldershot).

BOBSLEIGH: 20-27 - Army championships (Lillehammer, Norway); 27-March 3 - Inter-Services championships (Lillehammer, Norway).

BOXING: Senior ABA Welsh championships, preliminary round (TBC).

CANOEING: 4-10 - Inter-Services wild-water racing championships (River Nith, Sanguhar, Scotland).

CLIMBING: 23 - 4 Div/London Div sport climbing championships (ATFC Arborfield).

EQUITATION: 9 - United Services point-to-point (Larkhill); 14 - RA Gold Cup (Sandown Park); 24 - RMAS hunter trial (TBC).

FOOTBALL: 1 - AGC v RE (Worthy Down); Infantry v AMS (Pirbright); 2 - Army v Cornwall (Aldershot); Gwent youth v Army youth (TBC); 6 - Combined Services v Isthmian (Aldershot); 8 - APTC v AGC (Hermitage); RLC v REME (Deepcut); Int Corps v AMS (Chicksands); 9 - AMS v Army Crusaders (Mytchett); 10 - REME v TA (SEME, Bordon); 13 - Army women v Sussex women (Aldershot); 15 - Infantry v AAC (Pirbright); RAC v Int Corps (Tidworth); REME v RLC (Arborfield); 17 - Royal Navy youth v Army youth (Portsmouth); 19 - Army v Gloucestershire (Aldershot); 22 - RE v RAC (Minley); RA v RLC (Woolwich); AMS v APTC (Mytchett); 24 - Combined Services youth v South West counties youth (TBC).

HOCKEY: 6 - Army v London University (Aldershot); 13 - Oxford University v Army (Oxford); 20 - Cambridge University v Army (Milton Keynes); 27 - Army v British Police (Portsmouth); 28 - Army v Civil Service (Portsmouth); RMAS v Army (Sandhurst).

JUDO: 9 - Army senior open championships (Aldershot).

LAWN TENNIS: 1-3 - Army indoor championships (Aldershot); 16 - Army women v Aldershot Tennis Centre (Aldershot).

LUGE: 13-20 - Novice championships (Igls, Austria); 28-March 7 - Army championships (Igls, Austria).

MODERN PENTATHLON: 16 - Army v Southern Counties (RMAS).

REAL TENNIS: 3 - Canford v Army (Dorset); 13-17 - Combined Services championships (London).

RUGBY UNION: 6 - Cambridge v Army (Away); 19 - Army v Wasps (Aldershot).

SHOOTING: 9-10 - Inter-Services short range championships (Bordon).

SNOWBOARDING: 2-9 - Inter-Services championships (Megeve, France).

SQUASH: 1 - Army individual championships (Aldershot); 6-8 - Inter-Services festival (HMS Terneraire).

WINTER SPORTS: 1 - Army alpine championships (Serre Chevalier, France); 2-9 - Inter-Services alpine championships (Megeve, France).



Snugpak

Sleeping Bags | Rucksacks | Clothing

Softie Sleeping bag

Softie Sleeping bag

Sleeka Jacket

Sleeka Jacket

Sleeka Force 35

Sleeka Force 35

Sleeka 2000 Jacket

Sleeka 2000 Jacket

BE THE BEST – WEAR THE BEST

At Snugpak we have spent 20 years designing and developing our range to meet the toughest conditions, giving you added protection where and when you need it.

BROCHURE HOTLINE 01535 654 479

Snugpak, Waterloo Mills, Howden Road, Silsden, West Yorkshire
www.snugpak.com

FULLTIME RESERVESERVICE

FLEXIBLE SERVICE WITH THE REGULAR ARMY

Are you a TA officer
or soldier looking for
additional service with
the Regular Army?
Are you a Regular
Reservist wanting to
return to the Army to
do further service?
From 6 months to
42 months in length?

For a Response Pack:

FREEPHONE 0800 028 5533

For further information:

www.army.mod.uk/ftrs

Or Speak to your Unit
Administration Officer

**SIGN UP FOR A
CHALLENGE**

Cruising the Caribbean

FEW people would turn down the chance of relaxing on the golden sands of Barbados – but not many of us would be prepared to row 3,000 miles for the privilege.

Lts Rory Shannon and Alex Wilson were. The two Royal Scots Dragoon Guards rowers reached the shores of the Caribbean island after spending 57 days at sea contesting the Ward Evans Atlantic Rowing Challenge – a gruelling race from Tenerife to Barbados.

The pair, who finished in tenth place, beat the previous Joint Forces record by four days and were the first non-professional crew to cross the finish line despite encountering a host of problems en route.

Shortly after setting out from Tenerife aboard the *Atlantic Warrior*, a 7x2m ocean rowing boat, Alex suffered from a bout of seasickness bought on by a week of stormy weather.

“The first four days happened to be the worst weather we experienced during the entire trip,” explained Rory. “But fortunately Alex was happy to still take his turn at the oars. He actually felt better being outside rowing than he did trying to get some sleep in the cabin – so we didn’t lose any ground on the others.”

Although Rory escaped seasickness his passage across the ocean was not without incident. “At no point did either of us ever think about giving up or stopping rowing,” he continued. “But there were some low points. The most demoralising time was when I physically couldn’t row because of sores and cramp.”

During their two months at sea the soldiers, who took it in turns to row two-hour shifts, did not see any of the other 35 teams competing and only had their thoughts and each other for



Picture: Shaun Lewis

Land ahoy: Lt Alex Wilson, front, and Lt Rory Shannon reach Barbados after 57 days at sea

company. “Surprisingly we got on very well,” said Rory. “We only had two real arguments and looking back now they were both over something quite silly.”

The rowers were greeted in Barbados by the Shannon family and Scots Guards piper LCpl Ross McCrindle.

“When we heard the pipes carry over

on the wind it gave us strength that we did not realise we had,” explained Alex.

But despite the elation of completing the task, Alex dismissed the possibility of completing the challenge again in the future. “There’s no chance that we would do it again – we’ve done it now and once was enough.”

RESULTS SERVICE... RESULTS SERVICE... RESULTS SERVICE... RESULTS SERVICE...

BADMINTON: Army 11 HM Prison Service 11. **Full results, men’s doubles** – Army won 6-3 (WO1 Chris Sturdy/Pte Dave Williams (3), Lt Prem Bahadur Ale/Cpl Bhes Thapa (2), WO2 Dave Ormerod/Sgt Paul Merchant (1)). **Women’s doubles** – Drew 2-2 (Cheryl Richard/Hana Paxton (2)). **Men’s singles** – Army lost 2-3 (Williams (1), Merchant (1)). **Mixed doubles** – Army lost 1-3 (Williams/Paxton (1)).

BOXING: Repton ABC beat Army 5-4; Army beat Western Counties 6-3.

FENCING: Combined Services Fencing Union (CSFU) results from the Canadian Royal Military College invitational team tournament. **Men’s team épée** – 10, Lt Cdr Dickie Barton (RN), Capt Chris Roberts (RLC) and LCpl Woody Woods (LG). **Men’s team foil** – 14, Cpl Dave Long (RAF), Cpl Phil McNulty (RAF) and LAEM Mark Needham (RN). **Women’s team épée** – 6, Sqn Ldr

Ann Gibson (RAF), S/Lt Sacha Brooks (RN) and Sgt Sonia Greakin (RLC). **Men’s team sabre** – 11, Barton, McNulty and Needham. **Women’s team foil** – 14, Greakin. **Women’s team sabre** – 2, Gibson, Brooks and Lt Cdr Hilary Budden (RN).

FOOTBALL: Army women 13 Cranfield College 0 (Army scorers – LCpl Chrissie Wright (5), LCpl Alex Cottier (2), LCpl Jules Brown, Pte Jemma Gent, Pte Jo Foy, Cpl Debbie Wooliscroft, Pte Deon Luxon and LCpl Claire Ham).

Army 6 Army Crusaders 0 (Army scorers – Cpl Gary Atkins (4), Pte David Goode, LCpl Gaz Blacklock).

Massey Trophy – RAC 0 AGC 3; Infantry 1 R Signals 1.

ICE HOCKEY: REME Stallions 14 Basingstoke Hyenas 2 (REME scorers – Cpl Ben Wedgwood (4), Lt Martin Tremblay (2), Cfn Rob Taylor (2), Cpl Kenny Robertson (2), Maj Bob Eddy, Sgt Del Davies, Cfn Lee MacNeil

and Cfn Steve Kimber. Man-of-the-match – Cpl Robertson).

REME Stallions 4 Bracknell B52s 8 (REME scorers – Lt Tremblay, Cpl Robertson, Cpl Steve Murray and Cpl Wedgwood. Man-of-the-match – Lt Tremblay).

RUGBY UNION: MND (SW) tens tournament, women’s – Sipovo Garrison lost to Banja Luka metal factory. **Men’s** – 77 Armd Eng Sqn beat 2 RGR.

TUG OF WAR: Army indoor championships, 600 kilos – 1, 4 R Irish; 2, 1 RSME. 680 kilos – 1, 4 R Irish; 2, 1 RSME; 560 kilos – 1, 3 RSME; 2, 7 Para RHA. 560 kilos (women’s) – 1, 25 Trg Spt Regiment RLC; 2, DMSTC. 640 kilos – 1, 4 R Irish; 2, DMSTC.

Inter-Services indoor championships, 600 kilos – 1, Army A (4 R Irish); 2, Army B (1 RSME). **680 kilos** – 1, Army A; 2, Army B. **Women’s invitation competition** – 1, DMSTC; 2, Royal Navy/Army.

Zephyr The Visual Communicators



Zephyr-TVC is the largest in-house manufacturer of flags, flagstaffs and banners in the UK. As major MOD approved contractors, Zephyr have been providing the finest quality products for nearly twenty years. It is this commitment to quality and service that assures complete customer satisfaction.

BESPOKE PRODUCTS:-

- REGIMENTAL FLAGS
- UNIT / CORPS FLAGS
- NATIONAL FLAGS
- TABLE / DESK FLAGS

For a quotation or further information on Zephyr-TVC's products and services contact Susan Peacock on:
Tel (01832) 734484
Fax (01832) 733064
email speacock@zephyr-tvc.com

Zephyr-TVC, Midland Road, Thrapston, Kettering, Northants, NN14 4LX

Logo[®]

leisurewear

**HEAVYWEIGHT KHAKI
T-SHIRT**
EMBROIDERED FROM £4.70
NO SET-UP
OTHER COLOURS AVAILABLE

The very best
in embroidered or printed
sports and leisurewear

111 HUBERT ROAD
SELLY OAK
BIRMINGHAM
B29 6ET
TEL: +44 (0) 121 472 5300
FAX: +44 (0) 121 472 8017
E-MAIL: peter@rsfarmah.freemove.co.uk

Suppliers and
manufacturers of
specialist
SPORTS STRIPS.

- RUGBY ● HOCKEY
- SOCCER ● NETBALL
- CRICKET
- TUG-OF-WAR

- SWEATERS ● SWEATSHIRTS
- T-SHIRTS ● POLO SHIRTS
- SKI HATS ● BASEBALL CAPS
- TIES ● BLAZER BADGES
- SPORTS BAGS ● POLAR FLEECE
- TRAINING TOPS/TROUSERS

Gunning for gold

Army athletes head for Salt Lake City

AFTER passing through 46 states and travelling more than 13,500 miles across the United States, the Olympic flame will finally arrive in Salt Lake City early this month – marking the beginning of the 2002 Winter Olympic Games.

And among the hundreds of athletes watching the opening ceremony from inside the purpose-built stadium in Utah will be up to ten British soldiers.

Their involvement in the Games continues a proud tradition for the Army, which, with the exception of Oslo in 1952, has been represented in all the post-war winter Games. Indeed, the Army's association can be traced back to 1924 and the first Winter Olympics, held at Chamonix in France. Great Britain's four-man bobsleigh in those inaugural Games was piloted by two majors, a colonel and a captain, and won silver.

In St Moritz in 1928 the Army made up one fifth of the only five-man bobsleigh ever to feature in the Games, and in Innsbruck in 1964 Capt Robin Dixon (Gren Gds) won gold in the two-man bobsleigh with Tony Nash (RAF).

Dixon's success was almost emulated by Cpl Dean Ward (2 Para) and Sgt Sean Olsson (1 Para) in the four-man bobsleigh at Nagano, Japan four years ago.

Olsson's achievement in driving the sleigh to the bronze won Britain's first non-skating winter Olympic medal in 34 years.

Those hoping to add another chapter to the Army's Olympic dossier in 2002 are:

BOBSLEIGH

Sgt Sean Olsson (1 Para) – Named as a non-travelling reserve, GB's hero in Nagano will go to Salt Lake City only if another member of the squad is injured before the Games.

Cpl Dean Ward (2 Para) – A bronze medalist at Nagano, Ward returns to Olympic competition as GB brakeman in the four-man bobsleigh.

LCpl Neil Scarisbrick (RTR) – Making his Olympic debut, Scarisbrick is expected to pilot the GB 1 four-man and GB 2 two-man bobsleighs.

Cpl Jacqueline Davies (R Signals) – Another Olympic debutante, Davies will compete in the inaugural women's bobsleigh event as brakewoman for the GB 1 two-woman bobsleigh. Her inclusion in the squad comes after just two years of competition.

Cpl Eric Sekwalor (1 Para) – Although having done enough to

convince the selectors and to qualify for a place in the GB squad, the experienced brakeman may miss the Games through a cruciate ligament injury.

Chances of a medal: Despite the success of four years ago, and the subsequent injection of cash into the British Bobsleigh Association, hopes of a British medal are slim.

The feeling among those in the know is that the GB squad is not as strong as it was before the Nagano Games.

BIATHLON

Sgt Mike Dixon (35 Engr Regt) – Salt Lake City will be Dixon's sixth consecutive Olympic Games. The biathlete, dubbed the Steve Redgrave of winter sport, plans to retire from Nordic sport after the Games and will be hoping to do so with the first Olympic medal of his career.

Cpl Mark Gee (2 RTR) – Competing in his third Games, Gee, alongside Dixon, will represent GB in the 20km individual, 10km sprint and 4x7.5km relay.

Cpl Jason Sklenar (35 Engr Regt) – Having featured at Albertville, France in 1992, Sklenar returns to Olympic action after an absence of ten years. He was selected for Britain's four-man relay team after an

eleventh-hour qualification race in Bavaria.

LCpl Hugh Pritchard (HAC) – Another late qualifier,

Pritchard completes an all-Army four-man relay team. The former chartered accountant makes his Olympic debut after just two seasons in the GB squad.

Chances of a medal: Realistically, none. GB are ranked 19th out of 35 and pre-tournament favourites Germany, Norway and Russia are expected to share the medals.

However, hopes are high for a top-of-the-field finish – an accomplishment last achieved by Dixon back in 1992.

SKELETON

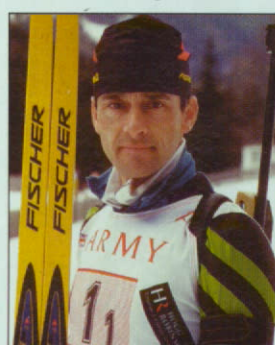
SSgt Steve Anson (35 Engr Regt) – As *Soldier* went to press Anson was the highest-ranking skeleton in the world not going to the Games.

However, Holland's decision to pull their athlete from the event could supply Anson with an Olympic passport.

Chances of a medal: The British Olympic Association believes that GB number one Christian Bromley can achieve a top eight finish.



● Sgt Sean Olsson



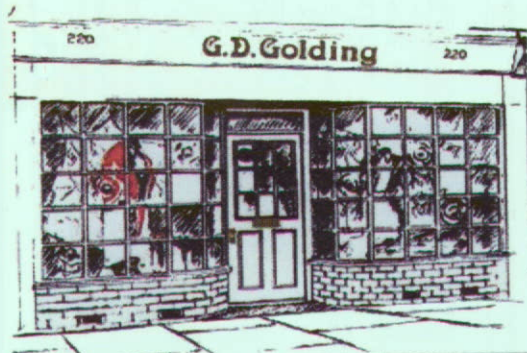
● Sgt Mike Dixon



G.D. Golding

(Tailors) Ltd

The Military Tailors



Civil Livery and Military Tailors

Mess kits . No 1 Dress . Service Dress . Accoutrements .
Suits . Sports Jackets . Blazers . Trousers . Evening Tails .
Morning Suits . Dinner suits . Breeches . Hunt Coats . etc.

Service

Visiting service . (UK & Germany) . Account facilities .
Customer satisfaction guarantee

220 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 4LW
and 183 London Road, Camberley, Surrey GU15 3JS

Telephone: 01727 841321 Facsimile: 01727 831462

website: www.tailors.co.uk

email: tailors@goldings.co.uk

Military Marketing International

Suppliers of Plaques, Clocks and other presentation pieces
Also T-shirts, sweatshirts, baseball caps, etc.

In good company with most
Regiments and Corps of the British
Army, we made your Shields for the
Falklands,
the Gulf and now Bosnia and Croatia
and most other UN locations.
Let us design you Regiments and
Operational Shields.



Write for a full colour brochure:

**74-77 STEWARD STREET,
SPRING HILL,
LADYWOOD, BIRMINGHAM
B18 7AF
Telephone/fax : 0121 454 5393**

Email: mmisales@militarymarketing.co.uk

Website: militarymarketing.co.uk

Minimum order 25 shields – £11.95.

No VAT outside the UK. Shieldclocks – £19.00

BATTLEFIELD TOURS

TAILOR-MADE FOR YOUR ORGANISATION

Tours with Experts specialise in organising group
and special interest tours for:

- The Armed Forces
- Territorial Army and other Forces Reserves
- Veterans Associations
- Friends of Museums Associations
- Re-Enactors
- Special Interest Groups, Associations & Clubs
- Colleges & Universities

OUR EXPERTS

Tours With Experts work with a great number of experts in all fields of Military History who can design the right tour to meet your needs. Many of our experts will be names familiar to you. Some are television presenters, many are authors, others are lecturers, but they all have one thing in common beside their love of Military History - they are experienced battlefield guides.

OUR TOURS

Our team boasts many years experience in the travel industry and through our relationship with industry partners we can provide high quality tours at competitive prices.

OUR SERVICE

We can provide individual components for your tour ranging from:

Tour Experts • Tour Managers • Tour Itinerary • Transportation
Accommodation • Museum & Attractions • Information Folders

We pride ourselves on our ability to meet your needs in providing a fully tailor-made tour from concept to operation.

DESTINATION & TIME PERIOD

We can arrange tours to almost any destination at most times.

We have recently arranged tours to:

**GALLIPOLI • GERMANY • ITALY • THE WESTERN
FRONT • NORMANDY BEACHES • CRIMEA
WATERLOO • THE BULGE**

- as well as many more UK, European and Worldwide locations.

For more information on how we can arrange a battlefield tour designed especially for you and your party, then contact:

Stuart Miller

TOURS WITH EXPERTS LTD

Red Lion Building • 9 Liverpool Road North • Maghull •
L31 2HB • United Kingdom.

Tel: 0151 526 0075 • Fax: 0151 531 0052

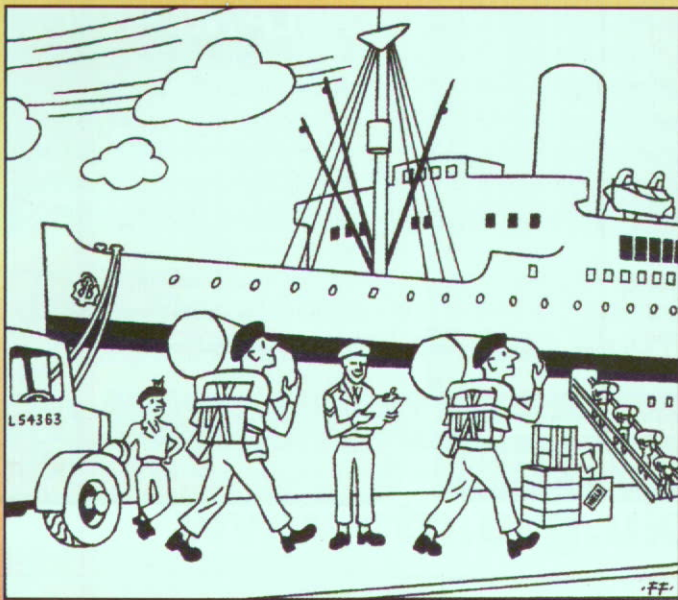
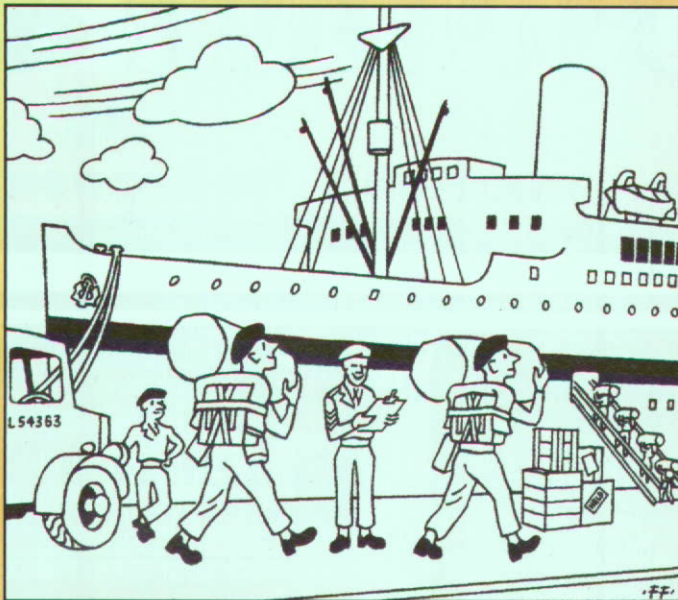
E-mail: info@twel.fsnet.co.uk

Visit our Website @ www.tours-with-experts.com

MILITARY HISTORY
Tours with
Experts



No 723



How observant are you?

WIN £100!

Frank Finch has made ten changes in detail to one of his drawings taken from our archive. Circle the differences in the lower image, cut out the whole panel, add your name and address and send to HOAY 723, *Soldier*, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, GU11 2DU by February 28.

A photocopy is acceptable, but only one entry per person may be submitted.

Do not include anything else in your envelope.

First correct entry drawn

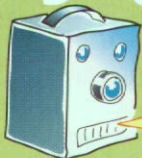
after the closing date will win £100; the second and third will receive £10 gift vouchers. No correspondence of any kind can be entered into.

The names of the winner and runners-up will be announced in the April issue.

Name : (Give initials and rank or title)

Address :

December competition (No 721): First correct entry drawn was from Mr N Harris, of Loughborough, Leics, who wins £100. Runners-up Miss V Bly, Medical Branch, HQ 4 Div, Aldershot, and Mrs B Turner, HQ LWTC, Warminster, receive a £10 gift voucher each. The ten differences were: Castle battlements; lorry mudguard; soldier's collar; boy's hat and scarf; helicopter rotor and lettering; rocket; salesman's fingers; ship's pennant.



Freeze frame

The cuts in Staff transport were getting ridiculous, as Field Marshal Blenkinsop discovered.

Write your own funny caption for the photograph, right, first published in *Soldier* in January 1954. The best, in the Editor's opinion, will win a prize from our silver logo collection. Usual rules apply and entries should reach us by February 28.



THE prize for our December competition (left) goes to Simon Harrison of Ludgershall, Wilts, for his suggested caption: "Despite reports of outdated equipment and tough conditions, the morale of soldiers on exercise in Oman remained high". To what can he have been referring?

Reg Briggs of the Royal Signals Association



(Peterborough branch) obviously thought the lads in the photo were Australians. His caption was: "Bloody good tucker, mate". And from Sgt R Hall, ACIO Luton, came: "Toe jam . . . the soldiers'

choice". Capt K O'Rourke of 721 Sqn, 11 EOD Regt RLC thought he recognised the troops: "Sir Alex Ferguson says: 'Giggs, Veron, Beckham . . . lose again and I'll stop the bread as well'".

SOLDIER WEB WATCH



SERVICES



MEDALS



BOOKS



CLOTHING



MOTURING



OPPORTUNITIES



BUSINESS



MUSEUMS



HELPING HAND

Address: @ <http://www.soldiermagazine.co.uk>

>> go

SERVICES

www.armedforces.co.uk

The website for UK Defence information - For everything you need to know about the UK's Navy, Army & Air Force

www.forceslaw.com

Forces Legal Network - confidential advice

www.forcesdiscount.com

Travel, motoring, holidays, insurance, leisure, solicitors, financial services

www.wellbeingservices.co.uk

Confidential debt advice

www.rac.co.uk

For your motoring needs

www.uknationallottery.com

No matter what country you are posted to in the world you can still play the UK

Lottery through this members' site

www.fog.uk.com

The affinity group for officers, senior NCOs and sergeants. Providing service and savings for those who lead. Rank does have its privileges

www.the-love-tree.com

Where people meet on the net. Welcome to 21st century dating for friendship or love

www.forcesfinder.co.uk

Website to help members of the armed forces, past & present to locate old friends & colleagues

www.forcesreunited.org.uk

The forces site that reunites. Find your old friends fast & FREE

THE ESSENTIAL JOB SEARCH & BUSINESS DIRECTORY

THE LIST™

www.thelistuk.com

HELPING HANDS

www.wrvs.org.uk

Supporting thousands of young single soldiers in the British Army. Offering a listening ear & practical help 24 hrs a day

www.blesma.org

National charity for limbless and ex-Service men and women, their dependants and widows

www.ngvfa.com

The National Gulf Veterans and Families Association website

CLOTHING & KIT

www.militarykit.com

Military clothing, footwear and equipment for the professionals

www.sass-kit.fsbusiness.co.uk

Not just another kit list!

www.goldings.co.uk

Military tailoring

www.stringtownsupplies.co.uk

Military, survival and replica weaponry catalogues

www.ensignmotifs.co.uk

Embroidered and printed goods

www.bananamoon.co.uk

Embroidered leisurewear

www.armexlimited.co.uk

Armex Direct Surplus Limited

www.army-surplus.co.uk

BFPO mail order and on-line web store

www.armyandoutdoor.co.uk

Premier kit shop in the north west for Cadets/TA/Service men extras

Order Online @ WWW.

MILITARY.CO.UK

SILVER MANS

BOOKS

www.firstbookshop.com

First for book tokens online. New, post free global service

www.helion.co.uk

14,500 military books and more!

www.militarybooks.co.uk/dhmb

Probably the best military books site in the world

www.milpkbk.co.uk

Get "A Soldier's Pocket Book" - On-line security ordering

www.endex-spain.com

RETIRING? RETIRED?

Find a new and better life in the sun with specialist home finders Kev & Sue Butler
kev@endex-spain.com

CTP - The official 3rd line of resettlement ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS WITH



CAREER TRANSITION PARTNERSHIP

The Ministry of Defence working with Coutts Consulting Group



www.ctp.org.uk

REGIMENTAL SITES

www.remeband.com

The website of The Band of the Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers

www.dukes.org.uk

The official site for the 1st Battalion the Duke of Wellington's Regiment

www.geocities.com/rochfusiliers

The online home for the Fusiliers Association (Rochdale Branch)

www.acemobileforcesland.homestead.com

Website for Ace Mobile Forces (Land)

Royal Engineers

www.exercisehelpinghand.com

Information on the forthcoming exercise

- Zambia 2002

EUR www.eurolenscontactlenses.com

LENS
CONTACT LENSES

disposable contact lenses - on-line

Acuvue®, Focus®, Soflens®, Freshlook®, and more

FREE SHIPPING TO BFPO ADDRESSES

OPPORTUNITIES & BUSINESS

www.armycadets.com

ACF leaders wanted

www.readymoneyround.com

British multi-level marketing company offering full and part-time business opportunities

www.worldchallenge.co.uk

Qualified and experienced expedition leaders required

MUSEUMS

www.keepmilitarymuseum.org

Military Museum of Devon & Dorset

www.rrw.org.uk

South Wales Borderers Museum

www.eastbournemuseums.co.uk

The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars Museum

JOHN BULL

Email: John.bull@btclick.com

www.johnbullclothing.com

DISCOUNTS ON BULK ORDERS

TEL: 01748 833614 FAX: 01748 836909

11 Hildyard Row, Catterick Garrison, N. Yorks DL9 4DH



OUR FORCES.COM

NEW!

Subscribe to:
The Red Devils
Launch Apr 02
Monthly x 24
Price £4.95
Discount £1 / issue

Para Peril - most original game on the web

Buddies Database - meet your old mates

[open to all serving and past members of the armed forces]

The Red Devils - the Paras magazine

[The Story of the Airborne Forces]

WORLDWIDE SUPPLIERS OF
GUARANTEED USED
MOTORCYCLE SPARES



A 121 SERVICE TO
MEET ALL YOUR
REQUIREMENTS

www.121motorcyclespares.com

MARKET PLACE

www.expatesentials.co.uk

The British supermarket on the web. Free delivery to BFPO addresses for orders over £75.00

www.ukartistsdirectory.co.uk

Artists, art holidays, art materials, exhibitions and events

www.traser-uk.com

Traser Watches - the best for night vision

www.1stclassballoons.co.uk

Greetings for all occasions with a 'Valentine's balloon in a Box'

www.flowerssay.co.uk

Flowers say... thinking of you

www.winemessenger.co.uk

Your message in a bottle

www.eurolenscontactlenses.com

Contact lenses by mail, worldwide delivery

www.militarymarketing.co.uk

Plaques, clocks, presentation pieces etc

www.charitycards.co.uk

Choose a card - nominate a charity

www.regimentalbrooches.co.uk

J M Bickerton Manufacturing Jewellers.

High class regimental brooches

www.celebrations-4u.com

Greetings cards to UK from £1.25

www.moderncards.com

Greetings cards to UK from £1.25

www.militarylogos.co.uk

For military ringtones & logos check out the website

RANGERS



MILITARY SALES



For your free information pack on how to purchase a new Peugeot at special concession tax free and tax paid prices.

Call Colin Clubleby:

Sales Hotline: 01980 653434

Fax: 01980 654256

www.peugeotmilitarysales.co.uk

Don't send flowers...

send **r*fur**

...and your message will last forever

love you, miss you, happy birthday, happy anniversary, congratulations... let **r*fur** deliver your personal message, tucked safely inside his rucksack, with massive style and impact, whatever the occasion...

TO SEND R*FUR
www.sendrfur.com

OR CALL
0870 755 7387
(lines open 24 hours)

*Includes Royal Mail First Class Post.
Special Delivery & overseas destinations available at extra cost.
Strongly recommend Special Delivery for Valentines orders.
approx 20cm tall *** © Be Bear Designs 2001 - all rights reserved.

ONLY
£35



**Had an Accident?
Need Compensation and Legal Advice?
Contact:**



0845 6011260

www.forceslaw.com

For free 30 minute initial diagnostic interview with lawyers experienced in the Armed Forces who speak **your** language

VISIT OUR WEBSITE For all the latest news & sport on the British Army
www.soldiermagazine.co.uk

BODYGUARDS

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

For an information pack
send a large SAE to:

Professional Bodyguard Association

The White House, 24 Cumberland Tce,
Willington, Co Durham, DL15 0PB

No telephone enquiries

**Such is the reputation of the
PBA that in 1997 we acted
as Close Protection advisers
to the Chiefs of Staff at the
Pentagon.**

'British expertise at work through the PBA'

Subscribe and save!

- Save cash when you subscribe today
- **FREE** postage ● **FREE** binder



UK:	(12 issues)	£23.00
	(24 issues)	£40.00
Overseas:	(12 issues)	£32.20
	(24 issues)	£60.00
BFPO:	(12 issues)	£13.80

I would like to subscribe to **SOLDIER** for: ☐ One year ☐ Two years
Please start my subscription with the issue.

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

I enclose a cheque/PO payable to **SOLDIER** for:
Return to Soldier, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU

Credit card hotline: 01252 347353
Now order on **www.soldiermagazine.co.uk**



The Eastern Service Medal



This superb die-struck commemorative medal is available in full size and miniature to all who served in Near, Middle and Far East.

Send s.a.e. for your application form today.

DPS Awards, P. O. Box 6961, Bromsgrove B61 8LA

Commemorative medals are not official but may be obtained as a souvenir/keepsake. They should not be worn by serving personnel with/alongside British official decorations/ medals/honours.

Joy's Roses & Flowers

Flowers for all occasions. Births/Birthdays/Anniversaries/

To say I love you/ Get well soon/ Happy New Year

BOUQUET - ROSES RED or YELLOW or MIXED (12 Blooms)	£14.00
BOUQUET - ROSES RED or YELLOW or MIXED (24 Blooms)	£19.00
MIXED BOUQUETS FROM	£12.00 - £20.00
BOUQUET - FREESIA & FERNS (40 Blooms)	£15.00

VALENTINES DAY

INCLUSIVE DATES 6th FEBRUARY to 16th FEBRUARY

BOUQUET - ROSES RED/ YELLOW/ MIXED (12 Blooms)	£20.00
BOUQUET - ROSES RED/ YELLOW/ MIXED (24 Blooms)	£30.00
BOUQUET - FREESIA & FERNS + 1 RED ROSE (40 Blooms)	£17.95
MIXED BOUQUETS/ NO ROSES	£12.00 - £20.00

ORDER EARLY - **MOTHERS DAY SPECIALS** - MARCH 10th

BOUQUET - ALL PINK or PINK & WHITE & GYPS & FERN (50 Blooms)	£20.00
BOUQUET - ALL YELLOW or YELLOW & BURNT ORANGE & GYPS & FERN (50 Blooms)	£20.00
BOUQUET - ALL WHITE or YELLOW & WHITE & GYPS & FERNS (50 Blooms)	£20.00
AS ABOVE COLOUR RANGE	£17.50
AS ABOVE COLOUR RANGE NO ROSES	£12.00 - £17.50
BOUQUET - FREESIA & FERNS	£15.00

HOTLINE: 01481 246708

ALL C/Cs ACCEPTED/POSTAL ORDERS/CHEQUES/EUROCHEQUES
MADE PAYABLE TO:

**Joy's Roses & Flowers, Flamingo,
St Sampsons, Guernsey, C.I. GY2 4WB**
Telephone: (01481) 246708 Fax: (01481) 243406

UNIFORMAL MESS KITS



RA, RE, R Sig, RAMC, REME, Paras,
Kings, AAC, Cheshire, KORB
(inc VAT, rank, shirt & tie) +p&p **£345**

D&D, Staffords, RLC
(inc VAT, rank) +p&p **£325**

RTR, RRF
(inc VAT, rank, shirt & tie) +p&p **£365**

George boots £75, most medals from £12 +p&p

INTEREST FREE CREDIT

VAN DUNGIE HOUSE

MEYNELL AVENUE, ROTHWELL, LEEDS LS26 0NU

TEL: 0113 282 6102 FAX: 0113 282 1457

'The Highest Quality and Value
for Money in Military Tailoring
for Over 30 Years'

VISTA TIES

are Tie Manufacturers and can supply
your existing tie or design you a new one.
Please send us a picture of your badge
or cypher and we will post a free coloured
visual with a quotation.....OVER 300
DIFFERENT REGIMENTAL TIES IN STOCK



VISTA TIES
28 HIGH STREET
MERSTHAM
SURREY RH1 3EA

Tel: 01737 645113 Fax: 01737 645892

MICHAEL JAY

UNIFORMS

MADE TO MEASURE

OR's and Officers Mess Dress

OR's and Officers No. 2 Dress

OR's and Officers No.1 Dress

British Warm Overcoats

S.B. Blazers

Regimental D.B. Blazers

Sports Jackets and Trousers

Dinner Suits

Lounge Suits

48Hr. or 2Week Make up

Michael Jay Tailoring

5 TOMO BUSINESS PARK, STOWMARKET

SUFFOLK IP14 5AY

TEL: 01449 614602 FAX: 01449 614604

COSTELLO

Civil & Military Bespoke Tailors



LADIES & GENTS MESS KIT SPECIALISTS

INTEREST FREE CREDIT

For All Your Uniform, Suit, Blazer and
Accessories Contact:

UK: 020 8478 2780 GERMANY: 05252 4631

UK: 284-294 Ley Street, Ilford Essex IG1 4BS

www.messdress.com - Secure online shopping



*RLC/AGC, D&D, Staffordshire - **£320** (inc VAT, rank)

*RE, R Sig, RAMC, REME, RA,, Paras, Kings, Queens,
AAC - **£340** (inc VAT, rank, shirt & tie)

*RTR, RRF - **£360** (inc VAT & rank)

*Female AGC - **£455** (inc VAT & rank)

George Boots - **£59.99** Incl p&p RMP Collar Badges - **£5.95** Incl p&p

Patent Boots - **£85** + p&p AGC Collar Badgse - **£7.50** Incl p&p

Most Medals - **£6** loose Courtmounting - **£4** per medal

Weekly visits to **RMA Sandhurst, Aldershot, Bulford,
Tidworth, Borden, Worthy Down, Abington, Middle
Wallop.** Visit us in Bournemouth 7 days a week by
appointment. Contact us for officers price list.

MADE-TO-MEASURE TAILORING

85 STEWART ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH BH8 8NZ

Tel: 01202 302846 Fax: 01202 383874

Email: sales@messdress.com

INJURED ON DUTY IN THE LAST 3 YEARS?

YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO **COMPENSATION**

**Did you know MOD Personnel have almost
exactly the same rights as civilian employees**

*Subject to taking full instructions

**CALL BASSRA
SOLICITORS**

0044 1274 727 190

email: claire@bassra.co.uk

Complete legal advice for service personnel

We're always here for insurance

Call us 7 days a week:

MOTOR • KIT & CONTENTS • TRAVEL • PERSONAL ACCIDENT

00800 76 76 77 77

Free from UK & Germany

+44 1603 205 209

Rest of the world

www.naafi-financial.com



EPAULETTE SLIDES

For officers or other ranks.
With or without unit designation.
also

DRAB NAME TAPES

(in sets of six)

Any quantity supplied

S.A.E. for price list

**Lancashire
Embroidery
& Insignia Ltd**

Knowsley Industrial

Park North, Kirkby,

Liverpool L33 7SA.

Phone: 0151-546 5161

Fax: 0151-549 1128

THE GOLD WIRE BADGE COMPANY

GOLD WIRE BLAZER BADGE	£11.00
FAIRBAIRN-SYKES COMMANDO KNIVES (Black)	
WITH LEG/BELT SHEATH	£23.50
BERETS: RED, GREEN, NAVY, BLACK, SAS, LIGHT	
INFANTRY DRAWCORD LEATHER HEADBAND	£7.50
GOLD DRESS CORDS FOR STD	£20.00
REGIMENTAL TIES & BOWS	£10.50
WHITE LEATHER GAUNTLETS	£24.00
WHITE COTTON GLOVES	£4.00
WHITE COTTON MASONIC GLOVES	£5.50
LEATHER STANDARD CARRIERS	£30.00
LEATHER STANDARD CARRIERS (made to measure)	£35.00
STANDARD CARRYING CASE	£32.00
PARACHUTE REGT STANDARD CARRIERS WITH ALL ELEVEN BATTLE HONOURS	£40.00
PARA REGT BLAZER BUTTONS ENGRAVED CAP BADGE	SMALL £1.50 LARGE £1.60
PACE STICKS	£60.00
SWAGGER STICKS, CHROME & BLACK	£13.00
LAPEL BADGES: AIRBORNE ARTILLERY	£2.00
RA GREEN BERET	£2.00
PARA RED BERET	£2.00
PARA CAP BADGE	£1.30
PEGASUS 1942 - 1999 COMMEMORATIVE LAPEL BADGE	£2.00
BRASS CAR GRILLE BADGES	£10.00
SSTEEL & PLASTIC GRILLE BADGES	£10.00

One off BLAZER BADGES a speciality at no extra charge. SEND FOR FREE LISTS

11 Dalehead Drive, Shaw, Oldham, Lancs OL2 8JT.

Telephone/Fax: 01706 846648

E-Mail: sales@thegoldwirebadge.co.uk

www.thegoldwirebadge.co.uk



OLD ALBION
PO BOX 24189
LONDON SW18 4WY
TEL: 07957 151706

OLD ALBION, 71 Knowles House, 7 Neville Gill Close, Wandsworth, SW18 4BP

Old Albion proudly presents 5 new bath towel designs. 100% cotton, 28 x 50 inches (bath towel size) and are

woven not printed

Simply phone for more information or send a cheque or postal order to our address, making it payable to:

OLD ALBION

£10

+£2 p&p (UK) each

Email: saintgeorge@cwcom.net

Website: stgeorge.cwc.net

EMBROIDERED LEISUREWEAR

Wide range of quality garments. Low minimum order.

Full colour brochure. Caps & Printed garments supplied

Free embroidery proof. No origination charge.

Embroidered Polos from £6.00ea, Sweats £8.00ea, T-shirts £4.50ea.

Banana Moon Workshop

48, Old Lane, Birkenshaw, Bradford BD11 2JX Tel: 01274 688103 Fax: 01274 652524

www.bananamoon.co.uk

WORCESTERSHIRE MEDAL SERVICE LTD

56 Broad Street, Sidemoor, Bromsgrove B61 8LL

Tel: (01527) 835375 or Fax (01527) 576798

Specialists in Medals and Medal Mounting

Full size and Miniature Medals and Ribbon

Medals professionally mounted to the highest standards



**Queens Golden Jubilee
Miniature Medal offer**

Have your full size and miniature medals mounted by us and we will supply the miniature Jubilee Medal

FREE OF CHARGE.

Quantity discounts available to units

Send SAE, phone or email us for a copy of our comprehensive sales catalogue

See our website for full details of all our services.

"Secure on-line ordering on our website"

www.worcedmedals.com

Email: wms@worcedmedals.com



Credit card orders accepted



DEBT PROBLEMS?

Are your outgoings more than your income?



Are your creditors threatening you with:

Court summons, Solicitors, Bankruptcy, Bailiffs,

Debt collectors, Disconnection, Attachment of earnings?

If you can answer yes to any of the above, then contact us now. We provide realistic solutions for all debt problems without the need to borrow more money.

Telephone (0044) 01329 515532

for a **FREE** and **CONFIDENTIAL** consultation.

Or visit our website: www.wellbeingservices.co.uk

WELLBEING SERVICES

PROVIDING DEBT SOLUTIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

VISTA SPORTS

Suppliers of Sweatshirts, Polo Shirts, T/Shirts Hooded Sweatshirts, Rugby Jerseys, Baseball Caps and many other items. All can be printed or embroidered. Send for a free colour catalogue and price list.



VISTA SPORTS LTD
28 HIGH STREET
MERTHAM
SURREY RH1 3EA
Tel: 01737 645113
Fax: 01737 645892

Ties

from O. H. Hewett Ltd

Established records of tie designs for over 100 years and 30,000 patterns.

Ties made to order in silk or polyester. For information regarding prices and minimum quantities please contact:

O. H. Hewett Ltd at
21 Farncombe Street
Godalming, Surrey GU7 3AY

Telephone: 01483 426917

Fax: 01483 424810

Email: enquiries@ohhewett.co.uk

MICHAEL JAY
Exclusive HAND CUT
TAILORING

**Our unbeatable
MESS DRESS
offer**

INCLUDES

- ✓ 14 day Make or
- ✓ 48 hr EXPRESS
- ✓ Lowest prices
- ✓ Best fit
- ✓ Highest quality
- ✓ Best payment terms

Local agent to measure in most areas

Tel: 01449 614602 Fax: 01449 614604

As our customers say
The service is simply unbeatable

5 TOMO BUSINESS PARK, STOWMARKET SUFFOLK IP14 5AY

UNIFORMAL
MESS KITS

FEMALE MESS KIT
3 Piece Ready to Wear
sizes 10, 12, 14, 16
in stock

AGC
£395.00

ROYAL SIGNALS,
RLC
£445.38

VAN DUNGIE HOUSE
MEYNELL AVENUE,
ROTHWELL, LEEDS LS26 0NU

TEL: 0113 282 6102
FAX: 0113 282 1457

LOST MEDALS
Replaced in record time

FULL SIZE & MINIATURE
3 DAY MOUNTING SERVICE

Write or phone for quotation
RAYMOND D HOLDICH
Trafalgar Square Collectors Centre, 7 Whitcomb Street London
WC2H 7HA

Tel: 020 7930 1979 Fax: 020 7930 1152
www.rdhmedals.com E-mail: rdhmedals@aol.com

REGIMENTAL BROOCHES
DIRECT FROM THE MANUFACTURER

Many regiments' gold brooches in stock
Commissions for that special item undertaken
SUPERB DIAMOND SET BROOCHES MADE TO ORDER

J.M. BICKERTON
Manufacturing Jewellers
23 Vyse Street, Birmingham B18 6LE
For List & Quote Tel/Fax: 0121 551 7366
Callers at our showroom welcome
HIGH QUALITY ASSURED

E-mail: jmb@regimentalbrooches.co.uk
Visit our website www.regimentalbrooches.co.uk

Royal Engineers
9ct gold £140

BEST NEW-CAR DISCOUNTS
Advanced Car Exports
Established 1979

www.ACESales.co.uk
12 Whitehall, Liddington, Beds. MK43 0RS

For the very best deals
Call: (UK) 01525 406 206
Fax: 01525 403 999

**WINDSOR MEDAL
MOUNTING SERVICES**

Miniature medals supplied
and mounted from **£10.00** + p&p

Full size medals mounted
from **£3.50** each + p&p
ALL MEDALS MOUNTED
PROFESSIONALLY NOT GLUED

TEL: 07786073060
7 NICHOLLS WALK, WINDSOR SL4 4YA

VISA MasterCard

Gorkha Treks UK
NEPAL - TIBET - BUTAN

**Planning a Unit
expedition to NEPAL!**
Gorkha Treks UK can offer you
a full trekking package
MOD-approved company

We provide an excellent service
with discount prices to the Forces.
TREKKING, CLIMBING, RAFTING,
MOUNTAIN BIKING, JUNGLE SAFARI

For details and full brochure Tel: 01782 257914 or
email: Gorkhatreks@unitiedkingdom.fs.business.co.uk
Visit our website: www.nepalgorkhatreksuk.com

TIES, BADGES & PLAQUES
by Mail Order

**REGIMENTS,
SHIPS, SQUADRONS**

Clubs & Reunion Associations.
Blazer buttons, medals, ribbons, etc.
SAE appreciated

The Heraldic Co (GB), Dept S
Overbriar, Beechwell Lane, Edge
End, Coleford, Glos GL16 7HA
Tel/Fax: 01594 832200 (8am/10pm)
www.theheraldiccompany.co.uk

CLICK ON - CLICK ON
www.forcesdiscount.com

Available 24/7
Direct web links & e-mail links
DISCOUNTS ON SERVICES & PRODUCTS
For HM Forces + Attached Civilians
www.forcesdiscount.com

MOFFATS SCHOOL
for BOYS & GIRLS 4 to 13
A happy family school in beautiful countryside
on the SHROPSHIRE/WORCESTERSHIRE border
proud of our long association with Service families

- Most of our pupils are full boarders
- Small classes; high all-round achievement without stress
- Expert help and support for dyslexia and other special needs
- Classwork balanced by many activities incl. music, art & drama
- All games and riding taught in our 100-acre grounds
- Our own escorts to and from major stations and all UK airports
- Hospitality and fun for children in half-terms and exats
- Affordable fees for Service personnel

Kinlet Hall
Nr Bewdley
Worcs DY12 3AY

Tel: (01299) 841230

DIAMOND
SUN RESORTS

Buy your own ideal holiday
or retirement home
in the sun

on the Costa Blanca, Costa
del Sol, the Algarve & Cyprus

Choice of new and resale freehold
apartments, villas & bungalows.
Individual visits arranged

Buy NOW while the £ is strong!

Call 01625 613 681
Marlborough Court, Pickford St,
Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 6JD
e-mail: properties@diamondsunresorts.com
agents for ATOL Holders

**LOST OR NEW
MEDALS**

Full size & miniature supplied
Professionally mounted
Hand-sewn ... not glued

K&D Medals
33 The Crescent, West Wickham, Kent BR4 0HB
Tel: 020 8777 2428
kanddmedals@aol.com

VISA MasterCard

STAND BY! STAND BY!
FREE CATALOGUE

WHEN YOUR JOB DEMANDS MORE!
WILL YOUR KIT MEET THE
CHALLENGE?

The SASS Catalogue
No 15, is **NOT** just
another kit list.

It offers you exclusive innovative items and selected issue equipment.
Optional extras, after sales, repair service ...

For your FREE colour catalogue, write, telephone or fax to the
following address, or send the coupon below to:

SPECIAL AIR-SEA SERVICES
St. George's Works, St. George's Quay,
Lancaster, Lancashire, LA1 5QJ
Tel: 01524 64204 - Fax: 01524 844239
Email: info@sass-kit.fs.business.co.uk
Website: www.sass-kit.fs.business.co.uk

Please send me your latest catalogue:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ S

Special cards for someone special

Modern

We belong to the Which? Webtrader Code of Practice

You can now buy and send your greetings cards, flowers and gifts for all occasions on-line.

All items posted guaranteed 1st class recorded delivery to your specified date anywhere in the U.K

Send your special greeting from anywhere in the world, just visit our new website.

www.moderncards.com

PEN PALS

Wendy (25), 5'5" with long brown hair. Enjoys clubs, socialising and dancing. Looking for pen pals with GSOH and enjoys nights out. P015

Debbie (26), 5'5" with long red hair and green eyes. Enjoys pubs, clubs, cinema, quiet nights in with a video and going to the gym. Would like to correspond with soldiers but will reply to all letters. P016

Bhavini (29), 5ft large build with short black hair and brown eyes. Enjoys writing letters, music, cinema, concerts, theatre, eating out, shopping, aromatherapy, daytrips and holidays. Seeking pen pals, 25-40. P017

Sharon (37), 5'4" with fair hair and green eyes. Enjoys eating out, cinema, keeping fit, amateur dramatics and involvement with local community, Church etc. Divorced with one young child. Seeking pen pals 35+. P018

Julie (40), blonde hair and blue eyes. Sincere, caring and attractive. Enjoys travel, writing letters, reading, cinema, walking and enjoying life to the full. Would like to correspond with pen pals in the forces who are caring and sincere. P019

Katherine (27), 5'6" brunette with green eyes. Enjoys socialising, clubs, kickboxing, home life, meeting new people and attending courses to further her education. Seeking genuine pen pals with GSOH, 22-35. P020

Kristie (28), 5'4" with brown hair and green eyes. Quiet shy, a good listener with GSOH. Enjoys reading, music, computer and DVD games, history and science fiction. Would like to hear from genuine pen pals, 28-34. P021

Trish (36), 5'3" with blonde hair and blue eyes. Enjoys snow skiing, tennis, racquet ball, singing and good food. Seeking pen pals, 36-42. P022

Julie (24), 5'3" with brown hair and green eyes. Enjoys watching TV, shopping and music. Interests include the Army. Seeking honest, outgoing and friendly pen pals, 25-30. P023

Gillian (47), 5'4" slim with red hair. Enjoys travel, cinema, eating out, cooking, reading, having fun and staying young. An interior designer for a large company and manages a large showroom. Seeking pen pals, 40+. P024

Gaynor (35), 5'2" with very dark hair. Enjoys horse-riding, holidays, days out and keeping in touch with friends. Looking for genuine soldiers to correspond with who will brighten up her life, 35-40. P025

Dawn (31), 5'7" with blonde hair and blue eyes. Attractive, single and fun loving. Enjoys going to the gym, socialising, cinema, travel, sport, pubs and clubs. Seeking single soldier pen pals of any age group. P026

Fran (36), 5'10" medium build with fair hair and blue eyes. Enjoys pubs, clubs and eating out or in. Seeking male pen pals around the same age group to cheer her up. P027

Carey (25), 5'3" slim with brown hair and green eyes. Enjoys pubs, clubs, cinema and having fun. A trainee sports therapist who likes to keep fit. Seeking male pen pals, 21-35. P028

Miranda (35), 5'8", medium build with blonde hair and blue eyes. Enjoys wild nights in or out, cooking, stimulating conversation, cinema, skiing, travel and her job. Seeking 6ft pen pals in the Service with a great sense of humour. P029

Richard (48), 5'6". Enjoys gardening, politics, D.I.Y., history, conversation and the environment. A vegetarian and a non-smoker. Seeking female pen pals, 20-40. P030

Outgoing career girl into fitness and the outdoors, comes complete with a cracking sense of humour. Would like to hear from like-minded males, 28-40. P031

Tracey-Anne (37), 5'5" slim with blonde hair and blue eyes. Trendy and loves shoes. Enjoys antiques, travelling, music, clubs, pubs, psychology (boring), reading, computers, shopping and writing. Busy studying for a degree in psychology and has two daughters aged 9 and 15. Seeking pen pals of any age group. P032

Rosie (32), 5'8" Nurse with brown hair and blue eyes. Interests include music, cinema, rugby and football. Seeking pen pals, 25-35 and will reply to all letters. P033

Charlene (30), 5'6" medium build with blonde hair and blue eyes. Enjoys pubs, cinema, music, dining out and shopping. Seeking attractive male pen pals to correspond with home or abroad with GSOH. P034

BOOKS

Keep in step, with **A SOLDIER'S POCKET BOOK**. Great value for money. A 'must have' for your kit. Price £7.50. See www.milpkbk.co.uk or email: sales@milpkbk.co.uk. Tel/fax 01964 542878. Military Pocket Books, PO Box 28, Beverley HU17 5LA 12/02

"Head-dress Badges of the British Army"

by Kipling & King.

3000 Illustrations

The Collector's Bible.

"These are all you need"

Volume One: (1800-1920) £65.

Volume Two: (1920-1998) £45.

Post free

H. L. & P. King, 3 Saxon Croft, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7QB. Tel: 01252 716303

BUSINESS OPPS

The List - The Tri-Service (including Reserve Forces) all rank, international job search and business directory. www.thelistuk.com for FREE registration, hot jobs, vacancies and the Job Generator. Tel: 01483-200863. 05/02

P/T or full time become a private investigator, bailiff and Civil Enforcement Agent via our home study course. Telephone: 08700 410 756 for a free information pack 02/02

EARN AN EXTRA INCOME - without risking your present job. Home / Abroad. Visit www.hbitl.net/5795 04/02

PREPARE NOW FOR CIVVY STREET!!! Become a professional hypnotherapist at your leisure. Call us now for an information pack on our affordable home study diploma course. The Registrar, The College of Human Potential, Tel/Fax: 02380 909094 Mobile: 07816315978 02/02

ENTREPRENEURS - would £5,000 + a month change your life style? Call 020 7644 3453 04/02

AT LAST SOMETHING NEW!!! I earn £300 to £5000 every week having the time of my life. No selling involved and I am looking for one person from each town. SAE; Nasph Marketing (so), Clifford House, 7 Clifford Street, York YO1 9RA 02/02

FOR SALE

British and overseas military badges, collars, titles, formation signs. Regular comprehensive stock lists £2.00. Castle Armoury Dept. 10, PO Box 312, Dover CT16 3QP. 12/02

BRITISH ARMY CAP BADGES. 3 x 1st stamps for list. Many scarce. Anthony Webb, 84, Merritt Road, Greatstone, New Romney, Kent TN288SZ 12/02

Free 2002 catalogue for those in the Forces. **Dragon supplies** offers essential military kit at superb prices! Telephone: 01473 822495. 12/02

Modern Post Office with three-bedroom flat for sale on busy military shopping precinct in Wiltshire. Long lease, peppercorn rent, good income with potential to increase. £150,000 o.n.o. For more details phone 01980 652 668 (24 hrs). 03/02

RUSSIAN ARMY WATCHES

Tough mechanical and automatic military watches.

Catalogue from S. TOMANEK
93 Mansfield Road,
Nottingham NG1 3FN

www.russianwatches.co.uk

WANTED

LEFT HAND DRIVE VEHICLES
MINI BUSES/VANS

ANY CONDITION CASH BUYER

Tel: 020 8 534 4016

(10am to 10.30pm seven days)

Military Fine Arts. Britain's leading British military art dealer. Access to all British publishers, artists and dealers. Send £4 for Edition 8, 2,500-item catalogue (incl 35+ SAS). Cheques payable to G Jennings-Bramly, 5 Feversham Road, Salisbury SP1 3PP. Phone: 01722 328523. Visit www.militaryfinearts.com 12/02

Army Cap Badges and military cigarette cards. Send SAE plus 80p for lists. Clans and Regiments, 14 Elm Grove, Aldbrough, East Yorkshire HU11 4RQ. 12/02

Peter Hicks Associates, comprehensive range of military figurines available in resin bronze and silver. Commissions always considered. Ring for information/brochure. Tel/fax: 01380 828382. Website www.peterhicks.com and email: sales@peterhicks.com 12/02

Regimental Shields, Plaques and Shieldclocks. In good company with most regiments and corps of the British Army we made your shields for the Falklands, the Gulf and now Bosnia and Croatia and most other UN locations. Let us design your regimental and operational shields. Write for a full colour brochure to: Military Marketing International, 74-77 Steward Street, Ladywood, Birmingham BA18 7AF. Tel/fax: 0121-4545393. Minimum order 25 Shields. £11.95, no VAT outside the UK. Shieldclocks £19.00. Website address: www.militarymarketing.co.uk Email: mmisales@military 12/02

To advertise in Soldier's Web Watch guide contact: advertising@soldiermagazine.co.uk or telephone **01252 347352**

TO ADVERTISE FOR A PEN PAL

Please send for details enclosing a stamped, SAE to:
Soldier Magazine,
Ordnance Road, Aldershot,
Hants GU11 2DU

Or visit **Soldier Magazine** online at:
www.soldiermagazine.co.uk

Email: hshekyts@soldiermagazine.co.uk
All pen pal adverts must be prepaid

PEN PAL REPLIES:

To reply to a pen pal, write a letter and send it to address below:
Soldier Magazine, Ordnance Road,
Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU

* The box number must be clearly written in the top left corner of all your replies.

* Replies should consist only of letter and photograph if requested.

* Replies received more than three months after the cover date, large, heavy or poorly addressed envelopes will not be forwarded.

Website: www.soldiermagazine.co.uk
Email: hshekyts@soldiermagazine.co.uk

BADGES, BUTTONS, HACKLES, HATS...

Army, Navy, Air Force, Police, Fire, Ambulance

No-quibble money-back guarantee
Original collectable insignia
bought & sold world-wide
Send £3 (or US \$5) for 64-
page illustrated mail-order
Master Catalogue with around
4000 items including Irish insignia

<http://www.KellyBadge.com/>

Ian Kelly (Militaria)
P.O. Box 289, HOYLAND,
BARNSELY S74 9YT

Good quality jumpers in regimental colours and other military gifts. For further information please call 020 7520 9212 or email: inf@smartturnout.co.uk or www.smartturnout.co.uk

Black and brown brogues, loafers, cavalry boots and chukka boots in leather and suede. For further information please call 020 7520 9212 or email: inf@smartturnout.co.uk or www.smartturnout.co.uk

Quality makers of pipe band & uniform accessories hand-embroidered badges Irish & Scottish family crest pipe banners, sashes, regimental banners & standards in bullion wire at rock bottom prices. ISO 9002 certified. Topflyz Industries 21/414 Majid Pura, Sialkot 51310/Pakistan. Tel: +92 432 580913 Fax: +92 432 588547 email: topflyz@skt.comsats.net.pk

Cap badges, regimental ties, blazer Badges, medals, insignia. Send £2.00 For list to: Cairncross (Dept S), 31 Belle Vue Street, Filey, North Yorkshire. Website address www.cairncross.freemove.co.uk

Royal Highland Fusilier, Service and Mess kit plus any other items wanted for soon to be commissioned O/Cdt. Size: 38 chest, 5'7" tall. Call 01484-681293 day or 685663 pm

Service dress suitable height 5'10", chest 40, waist/IL 31/32. Excellent condition requires buttons. £100. RE officer's hat, size 71/8, badged, needs side buttons, VGC £40. Allen: 02894429375.

SERVICES

Post Box Pals pen pal service. For more information send a SAE to Post Box Pals PO Box 8469 Birmingham B33 9BW UK.

PEN PALS

Linkline is a British Registered Charity committed to bringing people together as pen-friends.

Get to know a companion or partner, like yourself, as penfriends. Just exchange letters until you feel comfortable with your new friend.

DETAILS: SAE, LINKLINE(S), BOX 7358, LONDON N1-5QF

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.soldiermagazine.co.uk



HOLIDAYS

FLORIDA, Kissimmee, Orlando, three-bedroom, two bathroom, villa with own private heated pool. Sleeps up to eight, 15 mins Disney. From £325 per week. Call 01440 707176

CYPRUS: Limassol Bungalow - Larnaca Flat. Sleeps four, near beach/town, from £125.00 per week. Tel: 020 8505 6855 e-mail: dmc28peel@tiscali.co.uk

Florida, Westridge, Davenport. Five-bedroom, three-bathroom villa with pool. Private gated community, tennis, golf, and volleyball. Sleeps up to 12. 15 minutes from Disney. From £500 pw. Visit www.villasarina.co.uk Email: enquiries@villasarina.com or call 020 8519 6854.

FLORIDA. Luxurious private villa on exclusive estate. Generous three-bedroom accommodation, air-conditioned, private heated pool. Only five minutes from Disney. Many recommendations. Tel. 01743 343725 web site: www.beechesdesign.co.uk

FLORIDA PINES - ten minutes Disney/shops & restaurants. A luxury private villa four bedrooms, two bathrooms, large living area, sleeps 8/10 comfortably. Own heated pool. From £450 p.w. Contact Sue 020 8863 3660.

CYPRUS: Paphos/Polis/Pissouri. Beautiful villas/cottages. 1-5 bedrooms, own pools and sea views. Owners low rates. Tel. 020 8440 6219.

SPORTS



FREEFALL ADVENTURES, FLORIDA are happy to offer skydiving courses for beginner to advanced students in beautiful Lake Wales, Florida. Our skydiving school is British owned and operated. Located on the east coast of Florida, this tropical paradise is a great place for your skydiving vacation. Come join us for some extreme fun in the sun. CONTACT US FOR FURTHER DETAILS: FREEFALL ADVENTURES, FLORIDA 400 W. AIRPORT DRIVE, SEBASTIAN, FLORIDA 32958, USA TEL: (561) 388 0550 - FAX: (561) 581 4468 Email: skydivemik@aol.com www.ffadventures.com

NOTICE TO READERS

The publishers of Soldier Magazine cannot accept responsibility for the accuracy of any advertisement or for any losses suffered as a result. Readers are strongly recommended to make their own enquiries and seek appropriate commercial, legal and financial advice before sending any money or entering into any legally binding agreement.

ARMY SPORTS LOTTERY RESULTS

December 08 2001

1st Place (26 Goals, £5200.00)
LBdr AB Johnson, 22 Regt RA, Kilton in Lindsey
9-way tie for 2nd Place (25 Goals £1055.56 each)
LCpl CA Clark, 6 Sup Regt RLC, Gutersloh; Sgt AG Davidson, 4 Regt AAC, Wattisham; Capt AI Evans, 9 Regt AAC, Dishforth; Cpl MA McKendry, 1 (UK) ADSR, Herford; Maj ER Morgan, MOD DCDS (EC) NBC, London; Sgt FJ Stapley, DM Kington, Learnington Spa; Cpl MI Sykes, 1 CS Med Regt, Munster; WO2 DR Vickers, 28 Engr Regt, Hameln; Sgt RJ Wilson, AGPDO, Aldershot

December 15 2001

1st Place (24 Goals, £3288.89)
Maj SJ Brown, APC - MCM Div (AGC), Glasgow; Cpl JE Butt, 16 Signal Regt, Rheindahlen; SSgt G Pew, 28 Engr Regt, Hameln
6-way tie for 2nd Place (23 Goals £805.55 each)
Cpl DCD Best, 111 Pro Coy RMP, Hohne; WO2 FG Caldwell, RAC Centre, Bovington; WO1 CA Coggin, 14 Regt RA, Larkhill; Sgt CO Diaper, HQ York Garrison; SSgt A Houghton, Cyprus Log Unit, RAF Akrotiri; Cpl AM Stiles, 3 Bn REME, Paderborn
Note: Only 9 prizes this week. Rule 9 applies

December 22 2001

1st Place (27 Goals, £3922.22 each)
SSgt C Hood, 11 Signal Regt, Blandford; LCpl JD Nelson, ATR Winchester
7-way tie for 3rd Place (26 Goals £979.36 each)
Sgt SD Bradstreet, 4 Bn REME, Bordon; Sgt DM Crooke, HQ ARRC, Rheindahlen; SSgt A McGeary, 24 Cadet Trg Team, Edinburgh; LCpl JDP Nelson,

Royal Def Med College Gosport; Cpl JS Reeves, AMF (L) CSS Bn, Bulford; LCpl MJ Saunders, 2 RTR, Fallingbommel; WO1 CR Stanley, DM Kington
Note: Only 9 prizes this week. Rule 9 applies

December 29 2001

2-way tie for 1st Place (28 Goals, £4150.00 each)
Capt WD Hawkins, 1 PWRR, Tidworth; SSgt MDR Keane, 1 KINGS, Catterick
4-way tie for 3rd Place (27 Goals, £1600.00 each)
Sgt SA Dunt, NI Trg Wing, Lydd; Cpl DM Laurence, HQ 101 Log Bde, Aldershot; WO1 AM McTaggart, Tid & Bulford GSU, Bulford; WO2 JS Till, 35 Engr Regt, Paderborn
Note: Only 6 prizes this week. Rule 9 applies

January 05 2002

2-way tie for 1st Place (23 Goals, £3950.00 each)
Sgt DM Husein, 3 Bn REME, Paderborn; Sgt S Reilly, 3 PARA, Colchester
14-way tie for 3rd Place (22 Goals, £514.29 each)
Cpl JT Beaumont, 15 Signal Regt, Lisburn; Maj RW Bunten, JSSU Oakley; Sgt MC Docwra, 25 Trg Sp Regt RLC, Deepcut; Gdsm DA Evans, Army Foundation Coll, Harrogate; WO2 D Graham, HQ AMS TA, York; Cpl N Green, 1 RRW, Paderborn; SSgt EJ Green, AMF (L) CSS Bn, Bulford; LCpl NA Green, 7 Signal Regt, Krefeld; WO2 CD Lloyd, Sheffield UOTC; Lt MSW MacDonald, 21 Signal Regt (AS), Chippenham; Cpl AJ McKay, 9/12 L, Hohne; Cpl AS O'Hara, 3 (UK) Div Sig Regt, Bulford; Pte VRM Thomas, 17 Port and Mar Regt; WO2 SM Vaughan-Atkins, HQ Land Sp Unit, Wilton

ARMY SPORTS LOTTERY RESULTS

NOTICES

Rowallan Company is to be disbanded on 14 April 2002. If you have made a presentation to the Company and you wish to reclaim it you are requested to do so in writing to the CQMS, Rowallan Company, Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 4PQ. Any presentations not claimed by Wed. 27 March 2002 will be auctioned for Charity at the Disbandment Dinner on Saturday 30 March 2002.

CHY-1161D

Charity Commission
Reference: SJH/26221/CD(T)
York and Lancaster Regimental Museum

The Charity Commission has made a Scheme to amend the trusts of this charity. A copy can be seen for the next month at: The Information Services Desk, Upper Ground Floor, Central Library, Walker Place, Rotherham, S65 1JH.

or can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to The Charity Commission, Woodfield House, Tangier, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 4BL, quoting the above reference or visiting our website at <http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk>

CHY-1161D

Charity Commission
Reference: FMB/216021/AF
Chelmsford Drill Hall
Trust Fund - 244069

The Charity Commission has made a Scheme to amend the trusts of this charity. A copy can be seen for the next month at: Chelmsford TAC, Springfield Lyons Chelmsford CM2 5TA or can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to The Charity Commission, Woodfield House, Tangier, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 4BL quoting the above reference.

SHOP AT SOLMART

BRITISH ARMY
COLLECTION 2002

CLOTHING

KIDS' CORNER

SOLMART SPECIALS

www.soldiermagazine.co.uk

REUNIONS

26 Regiment RA: Reunion planned for Mar 1-3 at Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool. Phone Brian Henderson on 01933 381955 or e-mail him at brianhenderson22assn@tinyworld.co.uk

C Company, 3/51 Highland and C Coy, 7/8 A&SH TA: Reunion Mar 22 at the Royal British Legion in Grangemouth. More information at argyllsta@yahoo.co.uk

Glosters, R Berks, Wilts, DERR, RGBW Regimental Association: Reunion Mar 23 at the Council House, Bristol. Details from Regimental HQ on 01452 522682.

Rowallan Company: Disbandment dinner at RMAS, Mar 30. Cadets, ex-cadets, DS and ex-DS may attend. Places limited so send SAE by Mar 1 to Capt P J Moore, 2iC, Rowallan Coy, RMAS, Camberley GU15 4PQ.

Radio Troop 76 Sqn RCT: Reunion on Apr 6, at Maindy Barracks, Cardiff. Accommodation can be arranged. Past and present members welcome. Register with SSgt Mohammed, RSI, 16 CSMR, Goojerat Bks, Colchester. 01206 782763 or at airborne5ab@aol.com

254 (City of Cambridge) Field Amb (V): Reunion on Apr 6 at Cambridge. All former RAMC personnel, especially those living in East Anglia are most welcome. Details from WO1(RSM) M Paver RAMC on 01223 215299.

68 Artillery Clerks: Reunion and association dinner, RA Sgts' Mess, Woolwich, Apr 6. Full details from WO1(SSM) A M Tibble AGC (SPS) on 01276 412250 (mil 94261 2250).

Royal Anglian Regimental Association, Colchester Branch: Inaugural meeting on Apr 10 at TA Centre, Circular Road. Details from Maj Bob Potter on 01206 782165.

260 Signal Squadron (SAM): Reunion and dinner dance, at the Ramada Jarvis Loughborough Hotel, Leicestershire, Apr 12-14, on 25th anniversary of disbandment of 260 Sqn, formed in 1968 from 654 and 655 Signal Troops (SAM). Ex-members should visit www.260sigsqnsam.abelgratis.co.uk, phone Roy Andrews on 01227 264551 or e-mail roypat.andrews@ic24.net

1 RTR, 4 RTR and 7 RTR: Reunion at The Renaissance Swallow Hotel, Solihull, Birmingham, May 3-5. Ring Geoff Bourne on 01752 880527 or Roger Rathmell on 01985 846521.

210 RCZ Workshop (V) 31 Joint Mess: Reunion on May 17-18 in the Coventry area. Former officers/SNCOs of 201 and families welcome. Details R F Smith, 6 St John's Place, Waterloo, Liverpool L22 5NP or 0151 9284493.

14 (Cole's Kop) Battery RA: Reunion May 18-19 at Woolwich. Ex-serving and attached 4 (Cole's Kop) Fd Bty RA, 4/14 Fd Bty RA 14 (Cole's Kop) Locating Bty RA, 14 Svy and Met Bty RA or 14 (Cole's Kop) Bty RA may attend. Contact SSgt R Bull, 14 (Cole's Kop) Bty RA, 16 Regiment RA, Woolwich SE18 4BB.

Army Apprentices Schools Taunton and Harrogate (Group 1948 B) and 117 Party, No 1 Training Regiment, Malvern 1951: Reunion to be held in the autumn. Contact Phil Taverner 01903 506493, Dave Chidgey on 01634 233070 or Jim McGuigan on 01698 264193.



High road: An eight-man team from the permanent staff at the Army Foundation College Harrogate won the seven-mile Spean Bridge commando speed march. The event, in the shadow of Ben Nevis near Fort William, commemorates the "greeting" given to would-be commandos arriving at Spean Bridge railway station during the Second World War. Their bags would be sent by truck to Achnacarry



Castle, the commando training centre, but the candidates would be challenged to march the seven miles to the castle in under an hour, carrying a rifle and a 36lb pack.

Pictures show the team at the commando memorial, above, and Cpl Simon Clark (3 Para), left, with a fellow competitor on the road.

Death rail track at Alrewas

Track of death: A 100ft original section of the Thai-Burma "Railway of Death", which cost the lives of about 18,000 Allied prisoners during the Second World War, has been transported to the **National Memorial Arboretum** in Alrewas, Staffs.

Every British Army regiment and corps is represented by a tree in the arboretum and many units have their own memorial plots. Every Serviceman and woman killed in Northern Ireland is commemorated by an ash tree.

Museum's friend: Viscount Montgomery has agreed to become patron of the **Friends of the Fusiliers' Museum** (Royal Warwickshire). The museum in St John's House, Warwick has attracted 10,000 visitors in the ten months since it was refurbished and redesigned.

Heritage cemetery: The only permanent American Second World War military cemetery in England is to be registered by English Heritage as a Grade II listed site of special historic interest. The **Cambridge American Cemetery** and memorial, at Madingley, three miles from the centre of Cambridge, has 3,811 graves. A wall of remembrance lists 5,126 names of those missing in action, including band leader Glen Miller and Joseph P Kennedy,

oldest brother of the late American President.

Spion Kop: A new recruit to the walls of the officers' mess of **The Lancastrian and Cumbrian Volunteers** in Kimberley Barracks, Preston has been unveiled. The oil painting of the Battle of Spion Kop, by Jason Askew, depicts a scene from the campaign for the relief of Mafeking during the Boer War.

Lt Col David Sanderson, CO of the LCV, commissioned the painting because he wanted to commemorate the history of the three regiments which comprise the Volunteers – the TA contingents of the QLR, KORBR and the Lancashire Fusiliers. Antecedents of all three units fought at Spion Kop.

Permanent staff admin officer Capt Bill Haworth, whose father fought at Spion Kop, watched the Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire, Lord Shuttleworth, unveil the oil.

Good neighbours: For the past 27 years the local German Reservisten in Osnabrück have visited at least two British barracks in the town on Christmas Day to distribute gifts to those on duty. Oberstleutnant Bernd Oschmann started the tradition to let soldiers in a foreign land know they were not forgotten.

ASSISTANCE TO AUTHORS

History of the SA80: Researcher close to completing the history of the SA80, which covers everything from the pre-1985 trial models up to the A2. Still wanted is the human side of the story. Any anecdotes, photos of SA80 in action around the world, documents concerning the weapon from 1970s to present would be welcomed. All letters will receive a response and confidentiality will be respected. Steve Raw, Rosslyn Park Road, Peverell, Plymouth, Devon PL3 4LL or steveraw@canonfodder.fs.net.co.uk

Falkland Islands conflict 20 years on: Rev David Devenney (ex-42 Cdo RM) would like to hear reflections of Falklands veterans, soldiers, airmen, seamen, press and islanders. He is particularly interested in what having taken part in those events now means to the participants and the emotional, physical and spiritual effects, and how they deal with those experiences today. Write to Rev D Devenney, The Manse, 49 Charlton Crescent, Aboyn, Aberdeenshire AB34 5GN, tel 01898 86447 or e-mail davidjdevvenney@hotmail.com

1st Inniskilling's long-gone Brian Boru pipes sing again

FOR many years the Inniskillings were the only Army musicians to play the Brian Boru pipes, different from the more traditional instrument in that they have a keyed chanter along with bass, baritone and tenor drones (Scottish pipes have a bass and two tenor drones).

Now, before the sound is lost forever, a CD originally made in 1963 for regimental circulation only has been reworked and issued by the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers Regimental Museum at Enniskillen.

The Inniskillings switched to the Brian Boru in 1926, and the instrument was lost to the Army on amalgamation 42 years later when the Royal Irish Rangers adopted the Highland bagpipe, which became standard throughout the Army.

A vinyl record made from taped recordings done by Bandmaster WO1 Ron Horn in the Milton Barracks gym at Gravesend in 1963

has been digitally enhanced and committed to CD. The project was only possible because WO1 Horn found in his loft the professional recordings based on his original tapes. With the demise of the regiment it is a performance that can never be repeated.

Copies of the 14-track CD featuring the Regimental Band, Drums and Brian Boru Pipes of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers are available from the museum (The Castle, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh BT74 7HL, tel 028 6632 4257) at £12, incl p&p.

Also available from the museum is **The Inniskilling Diaries 1899-1903**, carefully edited by Martin Cassidy. The book, illustrated with official and regimental photographs, is based on the diaries of two officers and a private of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers who fought in the Boer War in South Africa. It is available at £19.95 (add £3 p&p) from the same address.

SEARCHLINE

Sgt Roland (Lofty) Allison, ex-R Signals, TA stationed in Mhow, India in 1946 and Haifa, Palestine in 1947. Daughter Elaine seeks old comrades, especially Bert and Jack, and any information about her father and his unit from that time. Replies to her at 177 Clifton Terrace, Sumner, Christchurch, New Zealand or allison.e@xtra.co.nz

News sought of **Sgt Harry Nevill**, 6202120, who won the Military Medal on July 22, 1943 while serving with the Middlesex Regiment in Egypt and Libya. It is believed he was commissioned in the field at Anzio while serving with the Yorks and Lancs and after the war joined the Colonial Service in Southern Rhodesia. Replies to the Editor, Soldier Magazine, 01252 347356 or jelliott@soldier-magazine.co.uk

Home Service Force (3 Queens) Platoon, 1980s: Anyone who served in this unit in Tonbridge, Kent, please contact Michael Peter Rich at richbriggsmarkby@aol.com

Support Group, (aka Pivot Gp Signals, 7 Support Gp, 7 Motor Bde), part of the Desert Div, Egypt Mobile, 7 Armd Div etc. Surviving members of any of these units are asked to contact Ernie Huntley, who was an original member of Pivot Gp and stayed with the unit

until repatriation to UK in 1943. Contact him at 58 Langton Road, London, Ontario, Canada or ernie82@sympatico.ca

National Service, 41 Field Regiment RA (Egypt 1952-54). A reunion is being planned by ex-Gnr Michael Regan and ex-Bdr Sidney Sugden, who would like to hear from former members. Write or phone M J Regan, Mount Pleasant Haven, Stoford, Salisbury, Wilts SP2 0PP (01722 790660) or S Sugden on 0208674 2875.

14 Indep Topo Sqn RE 1989-91: Calling Big George, Mark Lewis, Vinny McNann etc. A reunion is being planned, numbers permitting. Contact Paul Costen on 01634 819170 or at mightymin@costen22.fsnet.co.uk

207 Signal Squadron: A summer reunion is being planned for those who served with this unit during the 1980s. Please contact Paddy Somerville at paddy16x24@yahoo.com

Winifred Rosamund Williams, 75090, ex-ATS originally from Brighton and **Janice Dianne Smith (née Yorath) and Peter Alexander Smith**, who were married in 1965 and based in Aldershot, are all sought by Joan Allan, 16 The Spinney, Bardley Stoke, Bristol, BS32 8ES or joanallan@ntlworld.com

NEW YEAR HONOURS

CB

Maj Gen P A Chambers, MBE, late RAOC; Maj Gen J C B Sutherell, CBE, late R Anglian.

CBE

Brig A F Birtwistle, OBE, late QLR; Col S C Howe, late RAMC; Brig J J Keeling, late RA; Col B C McEvilly, ARRC QHNS, late QARANC; Maj Gen B P Plummer, late RWF; Brig A R E De C Stewart, OBE, late LD; Brig P A Wall, OBE, late RE.

OBE

Col N A C Baverstock, MBE, late R Irish; Lt Col D W Brown, RGJ; Lt Col J F Burke, PWRR; Col A Clouston, ARRC, late QARANC; Lt Col S R Cooper, RLC; Col P R Farrar, late Para; Lt Col P J Hingston, Coldm Gds; Lt Col D M Leigh, Para; Lt Col M A Lloyd, RWF.

MBE

WO2 A M Anderson, AGC (SPS); Maj G K Ashcroft, Para; Maj N S Bagley, RE; WO1 C Barnes, Para; WO2 K W Bell; Int Corps; WO2 R G Christie, Hldrs; Bdr M D Corfield, RA; WO1 S M Curry, AAC; Maj C M M Davies, 52 Lowland Regt TA; Sgt I Davis, R Signals; WO2 R C P Duggan, Gren Gds; WO1 J C Dutton, RTR; WO1 M E Eastough, RE; Maj E O Ellis Jones, RA; WO1 J J Fairbairn, R Signals.

WO1 T Farr, RE; Maj M J Finch, RE; Maj (Queen's Gurkha Officer) Damar Ghale, Queen's Gurkha Engrs; Maj R J R Gillanders, R Irish; Lt Col C E Gilmour, Hldrs; Maj R G Hinchcliffe, RE TA; Maj W J Hunter, BEM, RLC TA; WO1 P Jennings, APTC; Capt M W Jones, RRW; Maj W I M Jones, RLC; Maj P M Kelly, R Signals; WO1 S P Kirwan, AGC (SPS).

Maj M J Levett-Scrivener, RE; WO2 J Lynes, Int Corps; Acting Capt H R Mackintosh, TD, 2 (NI) Bn ACF; SSgt N H McCallum, APTC; WO2 K Merrie, R Signals; Maj P C T Monk, R Anglian TA; WO1 K J Morton, REME; Maj B W Park, QLR; Maj M Poland, R Signals; Capt G H Pollard, AGC (RMP); Capt C Preira, RLC; Cpl T B Pugh, QRH; SSgt N D Pusey, AGC (SPS); Maj P S Rafferty, Kings.

WO1 E E Rees, REME TA; WO2 G Rees, RE; Maj A M H R Reynolds, RA; Maj T W Russell, RDG; WO2 M A Saunders, RA; Maj R M Scott-Hopkins, AAC; Capt B R Short, RLC; Maj N I Taylor, REME; WO1 M Thomas, RLC; Maj P H Tilley, RA; Rev N J Wall, RACHD TA; Lt Col M C Whiteside, AAC; WO1 J Wisener, RDG.

QVRM

Col C L Argent, TD DL, late PWR TA; Maj J J C Boreham, TD, RAMC TA; Maj P B Corfield, R Signals TA; CSgt A F Russell, 52 Lowland Regt TA.

Useful numbers

Army Benevolent Fund 020 7591 2000
Army Families Advice Bureau 01722 436569

Army Welfare Service 01722 436565
Army Families Federation 01980 615525
British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association 020 8590 1124

Confidential support lines:

UK 0800 731 4880
Germany 0800 1827 395
Cyprus 080 91065
Bosnia 0800 731 4880
Others UK 1980 630854

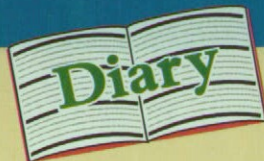
Operations worldwide Paradigm Homelink
Access Number *2999@thePINprompt

Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society (Combat Stress) 01372 841617
Family Escort Service 020 7463 9249
Gulf Families Association 0121 711 3028
Gulf Veterans Association 0191 230 1065
Joint Service Housing Advice Office 01722 436575

National Gulf Veterans and Families Association Office (0900-1700) 01482 808730; 24-hour helpline on 01482 833812
Regular Forces Employment Association 0207 321 2011

RBL's Legionline 0845 7725 725
RBL Industries 01622 717202/795942
St Dunstan's Home for blind ex-Servicemen

and women 020 7723 5021
Samaritans 08457 90 90 90
Service Children's Education 01980 618244
Services Cotswold Centre 01225 810358
SSAFA Forces Help 020 7403 8783
SSAFA Forces Help Housing Advisory Service 01722 436400
Veterans' Advice Unit 08456 020302
Victim Support Western Europe (SSAFA Forces Help) in Germany 02161 47 2272; from outside Germany 0049 2161 47 2272
War Pensions Agency 0800 169 2277 (from UK); 0044 1253 866043 (from overseas)
WRVS 01235 442940



DATES

FEBRUARY

6: Royal gun salutes to mark anniversary of Queen's Accession. Hyde Park, noon (41-gun); Tower of London, 1300 (62-gun).

APRIL

22: Queen's Birthday gun salutes. Hyde Park, noon (41-gun); Tower of London, 1300 (62-gun).

JUNE

1: Trooping the Colour, Major General's Review, Horse Guards. Tickets: 020 7414 2479.
8: Trooping the Colour, Colonel's Review, Horse Guards. Tickets: 020 7414 2479.
15: Queen's Birthday Parade, Horse Guards. Ticket ballot information on 09068 663344.

AUGUST

2-24: Edinburgh Military Tattoo, www.edintattoo.co.uk

Tony is off
(in quick time)

WO2 (Bugle Major) Tony Wells, pictured, until recently the senior bugle major in the Light Division, of The Light Infantry and of The Royal Green Jackets, left in some style. So highly thought-of by a grateful Light Division was he, that he was subjected to several farewell bashes and presentations.

To mark his final days at the helm of the Bugle Platoon of the Winchester-based Band and Bugles of the Light Division, Tony was fêted by Gen Sir Jack Deverell, Colonel Commandant of the Light Division, Maj Gen Robin Brims, Colonel Commandant LI and Maj Gen Anthony Palmer, Colonel Commandant RGJ.

Tony has retired from the Army to take up more sedentary employment (most jobs being considerably more sedentary than that of a Light Division musician) with the Military Provost Guard Service.



Helping with rhino

A JOINT Service team of REME and RAF personnel could be joined by former sports stars Gary Lineker and David Gower on a conservation project in Zambia in July.

Soldiers and airmen on Exercise Helping Hand III are assisting the Zambian Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) and the David Shepherd Conservation Foundation (DSCF) to fight poachers. It follows similar expeditions to Zimbabwe in 1998 and Zambia in 2000.

Negotiations are going on with Lineker and Gower to join part of the exercise to be filmed for TV.

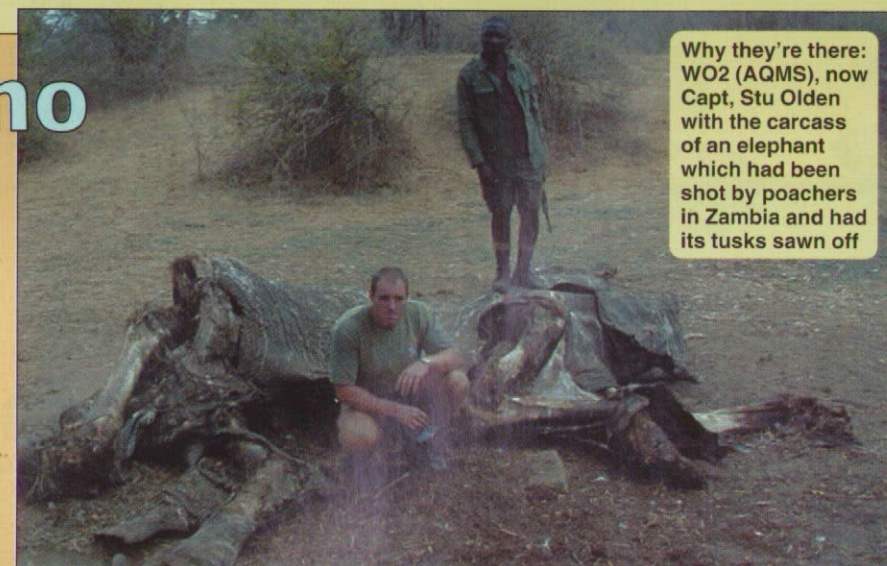
The Service team is maintaining and repairing vehicles used by ZAWA to patrol game reserves in which elephant and black rhino are being poached to the point of extinction. The

Zambian wildlife authorities do not have the funds to keep their all-important Land Rovers on the road.

After Helping Hand II, David Shepherd said he was overwhelmed by the success of the exercise. "Most of the Land Rovers had suffered years of punishing conditions, abuse and virtually no maintenance. In just two weeks the tradesman repaired 38 vehicles, 20 radios, two boats, 36 weapons, and two bore holes.

"It was estimated to have saved the wildlife authorities around £100,000 in repair bills alone. It was the best project I have been involved with since I started work in wildlife conservation nearly 40 years ago."

Helping Hand III will be run in two main phases, with personnel from RAF Akrotiri in Cyprus,



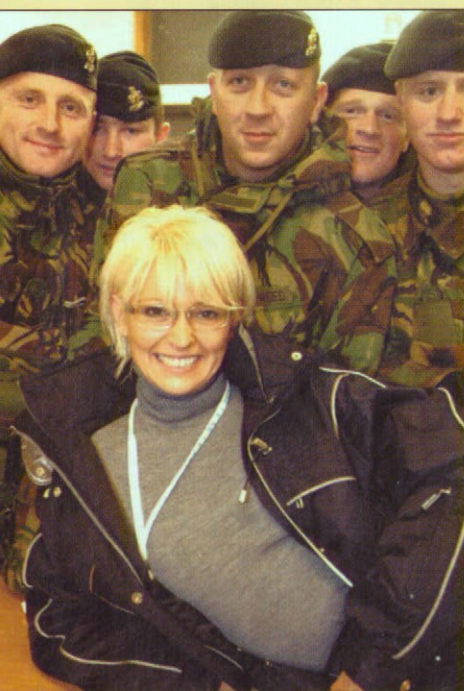
Why they're there: WO2 (AQMS), now Capt, Stu Olden with the carcass of an elephant which had been shot by poachers in Zambia and had its tusks sawn off

led by Flt Lt Simon Hill, raising money to buy at least four ex-military Land Rovers and transport them to Zambia.

Meanwhile, a command team headed by Maj Nick Weller, and a team of REME tradesman from Newcastle-based 101 (Northumbria) Regiment RA (V) Work-

shop, will spend two weeks in Zambia repairing equipment owned by the DSCF and ZAWA.

Donations, equipment or help would be gratefully received by Capt Stu Olden on 0191 2715926 or fax 0191 2862301 or e-mail at stuartolden@bigfoot.com.



Picture this: Former Page 3 model and Channel 5 presenter Jo Guest poses with lads from The Queen's Royal Hussars in Kosovo. She and TV prankster Jeremy Beadle were flown to the Balkans by CSE - Combined Services Entertainment - to entertain troops. The three-day visit took in boundary patrol stations and hilltop communications sites.

They called on the QRH and 26 Regiment RA at Podujevo, the United Kingdom Medical Squadron in Harden Lines, Pristina, the UK Service Support Battalion in Murphy Lines, 35 Engineer Regiment sappers working a Caravica quarry and Gurkha loggies.



Flashback: Burt Shipton, left in main picture supports injured comrade Dai Davis at St Nazaire; Burt, above, today

YOU wouldn't think to look at them, but the octogenarians sipping chardonnay and nibbling cheesy snacks were some of the dirtiest fighters ever to wear a British uniform.

Two dozen or so former commandos had been brought together again at the Imperial War Museum for a preview of a Channel 4 programme celebrating their exploits during the Second World War.

Following the disasters of 1940, Churchill wanted to hit back hard with an élite unit of volunteers ready to take the fight to the enemy. He put out the call to men of the "hunter class" who could make lightning raids down the enemy coasts, "leaving a trail of blood behind them".

Burt Shipton was one of the 5,000 men who stepped forward. Bert's parent unit was the Royal Engineers and he had attended the very first Army bomb disposal course. His skills with blowing things up or making them safe were to be put to good use by 9 Commando.

The 21-year-old took part in the St Nazaire Raid, one of the most famous operations of the war, when commandos sailed up the Loire estuary, blew up the dry dock and then tried to fight their way home. The odds were heavily stacked against them, but it was a success, and the raid helped to cement the commando legend.

Starring role for
old commandos

"Nothing is impossible," Bert said. "If you want something in life you have to go for it." In the aftermath of the raid, as the commandos dispersed and Bert tried to escape capture by the Germans, he came across an injured mate, Dai Davis. Bert applied a field dressing to Dai's badly wounded ankle and the pair hid near the docks until the Germans discovered them.

"They wanted to shoot us there and then," remembered Bert, who managed to blag his way out of trouble. Both of them ended up getting shot - but only with a camera. The Germans wanted a propaganda record of the day they captured two of Churchill's feared commandos.

By an incredible coincidence, the photograph above came into Bert's possession 40 years later after a chance meeting at the Special Forces Club. But that's another story.

● The St Nazaire episode was broadcast on Channel 4 last month. "Commando" ends on Feb 5.

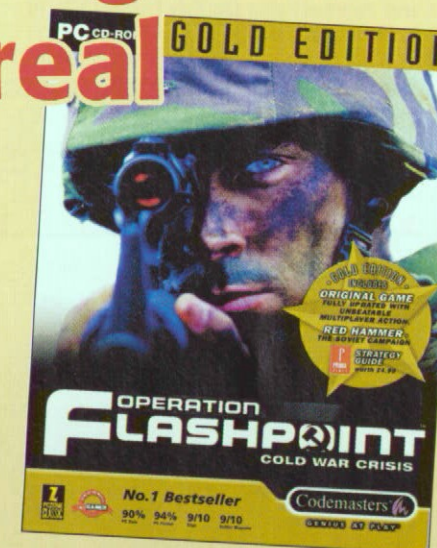
These war-gamers
do it for real

COMPUTER game giants Codemasters have revealed that the United States Marine Corps (USMC) is to use a combat training application based on its chart-topping title Operation Flashpoint.

This special version of the game, which was reviewed in Soldier (Wish list, Jan), has been renamed VBS1 (Virtual Battlefield Systems) and features specific enhancements; including current USMC uniforms, weapons and vehicles.

Codemasters claim that the USMC became interested in Operation Flashpoint because of its realistic battlefield simulations and the control it gives users to operate land, sea and air vehicles across vast outdoor terrains.

They were also said to be intrigued by the in-depth level editor, which enables operators to create virtually any imaginable combat



scenario and then play it out from multiple viewpoints. Life imitating art?

Flags lowered for Carver

FLAGS at all Service locations were flown at half mast on December 17, the day of Field Marshal Lord Carver's funeral.

Obituary-writers were unanimous in their assessment of the former Chief of the Defence Staff, who died on December 9, aged 86, as one of the cleverest, most clear-thinking British officers since the Second World War.

The Times said that had there been a third world war in the 1970s he might well have emerged from the struggle as a Montgomery or a Wellington, as he had the military ability and characteristics of both men.

Top cadet Tony leads way

FIFTEEN-year-old Tony Nugent, right, who lives in a Carlisle children's residential care home, is the best cadet in Britain.

He was chosen for the award after being assessed for his leadership skills, fitness and knowledge of military training and procedure during a six-week leadership instructor adventure course in Canada.

Tony plans to join the Army after completing his education.



Picture: Cumbrian Newspapers

Legends of
the regiments
and corps

31 Royal Artillery Museum



Loose cannon: Muzzle end of a cast-iron from the City of London explosion

Big bang
started it

THREE hundred years ago anyone with the time, inclination and a foundry could make themselves a large-bore gun. Standards varied greatly... and so did the results.

Following an horrific accident at a private gun-foundry at the City of London in 1715, the government of the day decided this was no longer a good idea and outlawed the practice.

Instead the Board of Ordnance set up its own foundry in Woolwich to have better control over the casting of brass guns.

One of the spoiled castings from the City foundry explosion is among the first sights to greet visitors to Firepower, the Royal Artillery Museum's interactive "experience" at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich.

OVER A BARREL

A favoured method of strengthening the castings involved placing bands of metal rings around the cylindrical tube. The tradesmen employed for this task were coopers, skilled in making the rings for wooden barrels.

The process was eventually superseded by improved technology but the term barrel has remained.

Set in the historic buildings of the Royal Arsenal beside the Thames, the museum tells the artillery story from a regimental, social, political, scientific and technological point of view.

Firepower: The New Royal Artillery Experience, Woolwich is open daily (except Christmas Day) from 1000 to 1700. Admission: adults £6.50, children £4.50. Special rates are available for parties. Call 020 8855 7755 for details. Firepower is located in Royal Arsenal Woolwich, just off the A2 and South Circular. Direct trains run from Waterloo East, Charing Cross, London Bridge and Cannon Street to Woolwich Arsenal station.

Retail reconnaissance

Dream on . . .

RACING AHEAD

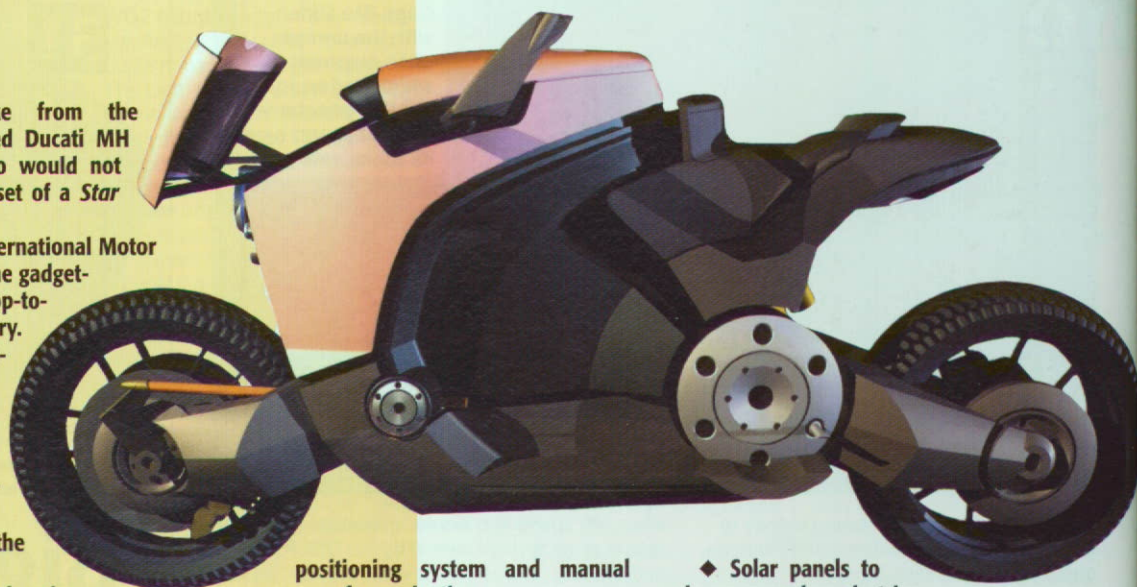
THIS concept motorbike from the designers of the acclaimed Ducati MH 900e and Benelli Tornado would not look out of place on the set of a *Star Wars* movie.

Unveiled at the 2001 International Motor Cycle and Scooter Show, the gadget-racer is fitted from top-to-bottom with hi-tech wizardry.

The new design, co-sponsored by gadgetshop, represents every biker's dream machine, and would be capable of transporting its rider over almost any terrain.

Other features of the gadget-racer include:

- ◆ 1,200cc V2 fuel-injected engine.
- ◆ A fully programmable transmission with four auto settings – heavy off-road, light off-road, road sports and high-speed touring – as well as a five-speed manual option.
- ◆ Adaptable handlebar and seat positions.
- ◆ Self-adjusting mudguards.
- ◆ Built-in navigation satellite, global



positioning system and manual compass for navigation.

- ◆ A webcam link that allows progress to be monitored over the web.
- ◆ Xenon and LED lighting.
- ◆ Suspension that adjusts to the condition of the road, selecting ground clearance, travel and damping characteristics (hardness and rebound rate).
- ◆ A rear view camera.

◆ Solar panels to charge secondary electrics.

◆ An aluminium frame with titanium reinforcements.

◆ On-board computer hardware – interactive display, engine management and telemetry.

◆ Enhanced vision through camera and helmet system/head up display.

① Watch this space.

Switched on . . .

WET WET WET

THE CD Shower Companion lets you play CDs and listen to the radio in the shower.

The battery-powered player is encased in a watertight container, which is resistant to both water and soap bubbles.

① £159.95, from www.firebox.com (0870 2414289).



FAIR-WEATHER PHONE

THIS solar charger for mobile phones plugs straight into the charge socket of any Nokia phone.

Ideal for times when you are on the move or in an emergency. The charger takes approximately three hours to restore a phone's battery to full power.

① £40, from www.gadgetshop.com (0800 7838343).

CALCULATED CUSTOMER

CONCEALED within the Spy Calculator is a transmitter which can pick up noise and conversations usually out of earshot. The fully-functional calculator can transmit sound back to its receiver over a range of 100 meters.

① £20, from www.gadgetshop.com (0800 7838343).



Game on . . .

SALT LAKE 2002, PS2 & PC

OUT NOW

DESIGNED by Attention To Detail (ATD), the developers of the BAFTA-winning *Sydney 2000* game, *Salt Lake 2002* combines authentic Olympic environments, competitive multi-player modes and stunning graphics.

The only officially-licensed title of the Salt Lake City 2002 Winter Olympic Games, it features six Olympic disciplines: men's downhill skiing, women's slalom skiing, two-man bobsleigh, freestyle aerials, K120 ski jumping and snowboarding's parallel giant slalom.

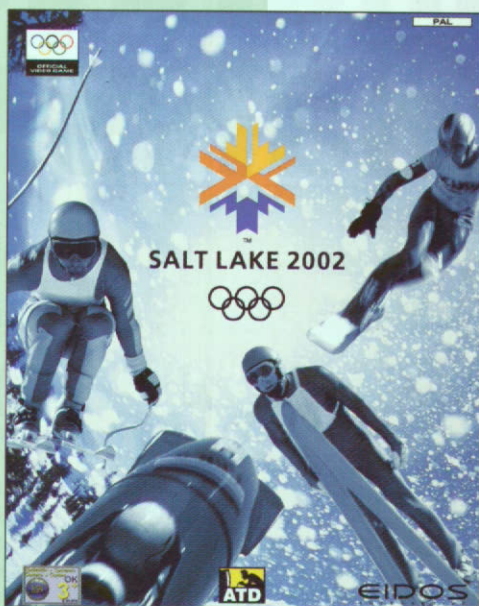
As well as being great fun to play, if not a little tricky to master, *Salt Lake 2002*'s main appeal lies in its presentation.

When playing the Olympic-mode, gamers are treated to all the pomp-and-ceremony and regalia that you would associate with the actual Games.

And this television-style frontage is complemented by *Salt Lake 2002*'s commentary - provided by the BBC's Stuart Storey and Graham Bell.

Using satellite imaging technology, ATD have gone to extreme lengths to recreate the Games' actual venues and boast that *Salt Lake 2002*'s environments are exact, down to one metre.

In addition, each of the game's characters



have been motion-captured using actual athletes, with real-time physics applied to them, so that they move and react like real Olympians.

VERDICT: Proof that not only Electronic Arts can produce good-looking sports titles. One of the coolest games this winter. **8/10**

QUESTION OF SPORT

SOLDIER has joined forces with Eidos Interactive to offer you the opportunity to experience the thrills of the Winter Olympics from the safety of your own home.

For your chance to win one of three copies of *Salt Lake 2002* for the PlayStation 2, simply name the Army sportsman, pictured below, who won a bronze medal in the four-man bobs at the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan.



Send your answers on a postcard to Salt Lake 2002 competition, Soldier, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU. The winners will be drawn at random from the correct answers received by March 1. Usual rules apply.

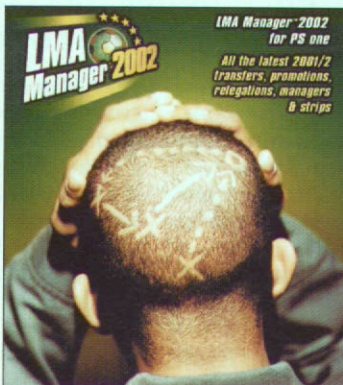
LMA MANAGER 2002, PSX

OUT NOW

THIS fully updated edition of the hit football management game *LMA Manager* delivers fans the 2001/2002 English and Scottish football season.

Complete with revised statistics for every player from the 340 featured European clubs, *LMA Manager 2002* boasts new team strips and all the transfers from the close season.

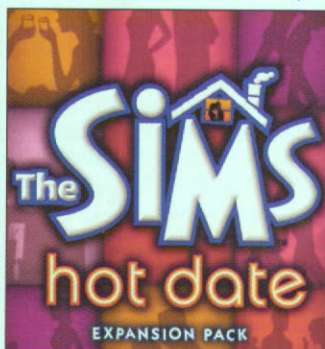
Improved loading times make the gameplay flow quicker than before and an overhauled AI engine ensures that the 3D matches look more realistic.



VERDICT: As close to the manager's dugout as football fans will get. **8/10**

THE SIMS HOT DATE, PC

OUT NOW



THIS expansion pack to Electronic Arts' hit series allows gamers to play matchmaker to *The Sims*.

Players have complete control of their *Sims* romantic destiny and can choose to send them to the swankiest restaurant in town for a candlelit dinner for two, or opt for a risqué rendezvous in the park after dark.

As well as a number of new characters, the pack also features new social interactions; including playing footsie and whispering sweet nothings.

VERDICT: Won't be the love of your life, but worth a quick fling. **6/10**

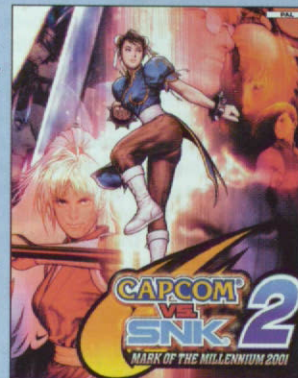
CAPCOM VS SNK 2, PS2

OUT NOW

IN *Capcom Vs SNK 2* players join 44 brawlers from Capcom's legendary *Street Fighter* series and SNK's *King of Fighters* series in a martial arts showdown.

As ever, the basic rules of this beat-em-up remain the same, with gamers using a variety of punches, kicks, throws and special attacks to whittle away their opponent's power bar within a three-on-three tag-team competition.

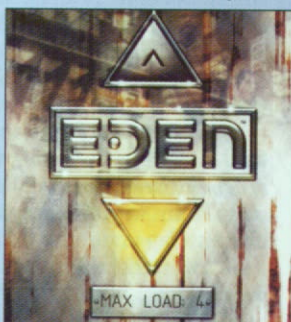
However, it is also possible to reverse, block and counter-attack, making *Capcom Vs SNK 2* the most advanced fighting game to date.



VERDICT: Undisputed champion of the 2D beat-em-up genre. **8/10**

PROJECT EDEN, PS2

OUT NOW



VERDICT: Challenging and complex gameplay. Requires your full attention. **7/10**

DUE to severe overpopulation, planet earth's diameter is increasing with the growth of towering mega-cities, each inhabited by millions of humans.

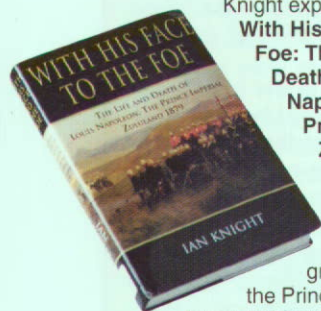
It is within one such city that Eidos Interactive's squad-based adventure game *Project Eden* is set.

Players take control of a team of four Urban Protection Agents - part of an elite force that deals with serious disturbances within the city.

Gameplay can be single or multi-player and viewed from either first- or third-person perspective.

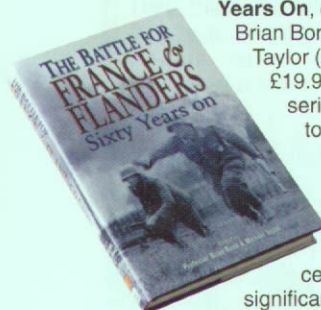
How last of the Bonapartes died

IN a muddy gully in Zululand, the ambitions of France's Bonaparte dynasty came to a violent end. Ian Knight explains how in **With His Face to the Foe: The Life and Death of Louis Napoleon, The Prince Imperial, Zululand 1879** (Spellmount, £20). Raised in the shadow of the great Napoleon, the Prince Imperial hungered for military glory and by special dispensation was allowed to train as a British officer. When the Anglo-Zulu War broke out in 1879 he went to Africa as an observer, was killed in a skirmish, and created a political scandal.



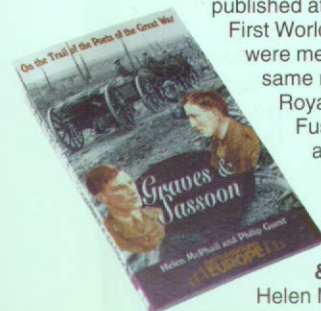
Historians reassess May and June 1940

AUTHORITATIVE and sometimes provocative, each of the essays in **The Battle for France & Flanders Sixty Years On**, edited by Prof Brian Bond and Michael Taylor (Pen & Sword, £19.95), makes a serious contribution to the understanding of one of the most critical moments of the 20th century. The significance of the 1940 campaign in German and French history will surprise many and help explain much, viewed through their particular preoccupations. The French perspective is a corrective to the long-prevailing myth of plucky England let down by allies.



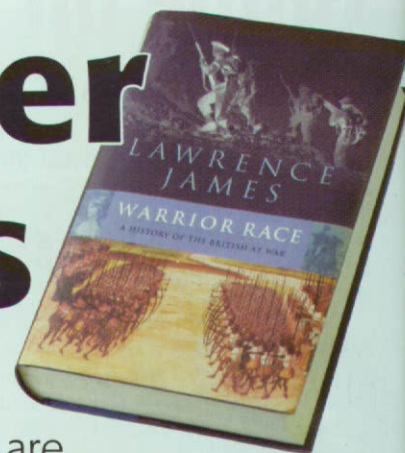
Trench memories are made of this

THE war memoirs of Robert Graves and Siegfried Sassoon have never been out of print since they were published at the end of the First World War. Both were members of the same regiment, the Royal Welch Fusiliers, and their accounts greatly influenced future attitudes to war. **Graves & Sassoon** by Helen McPhail and Philip Guest (Pen & Sword, £9.95), part of *On the Trail of the Poets of the Great War* series, traces the military service of the men in the context of what can be seen today on the battlefields.



Character analysis

One man's epic view of how war made the British what they are



Warrior Race: A History of the British at War by Lawrence James (Little, Brown, £25).

Review: Chris Horrocks

IDENTIFYING what we mean by "British" is harder for us these days than it was for those who lived a century or two ago.

But in historical and even genetic terms Lawrence James is in no doubt that he has cracked at least part of the code.

What has shaped Britain and the British character more than anything else, he believes, is war – and he sets out to prove it by leading us on an exhilarating quick-march through two millennia of strife, leaving few stones of conflict unturned.

His compelling 750-page narrative sweeps us on through the centuries, pausing only to explain a strategy here and a tactic there, with intriguing insights into weaponry, equipment and personnel.

James is at his best telling the story through the experiences of people who took part, even if at times his interpretations of events and their effects sometimes appear oversimplified or to state the obvious.

He points particularly to the two world wars of the 20th century, which, he says, did much to define national character "in that the people revealed an astonishing tenacity and intensity of purpose".

Not a world-shattering observation, even to our youngest readers; they might, however, be grateful to learn that our success at fighting wars is one of the things that sets Britain apart from certain nations on the mainland. If we aim to be good Europeans it might be as well not to noise that notion too loudly abroad.

What is worth shouting from the rooftops – and James makes the point well – is that if any qualities in our national character have been shaped by warfare, they exist in their purest form today in our armed services.

Our South Atlantic operation in 1982 was, he declares, "a sign that Britain was no longer a country to which things happened, but that could make them happen".

He explains: "The armed forces that recovered the Falklands, helped defeat Iraq and

presently keep civil order in parts of the Balkans and Sierra Leone [and latterly, one might add, Afghanistan] are entirely professional and admired for their discipline, integrity, devotion and ability to do a job well."

He adds: "The armed services enhance Britain's status in the world and remain a focus of national unity at a time when regional separatism is gaining political ground."

But James comes close to undermining the main platform of his book – the evolution of the British character through centuries of war – by over-indulging his penchant for national psychoanalysis.

"Success in war generates self-admiration, understandably, and is a vindication of a nation's collective will and institutions," he says. "It also encourages hubris, which may

be why the British find it hard to come to terms with their present position in the world or fail to respond to crises in a cool, competent and determined manner."

James completed this epic history before the events of September 11. Britain's prominent role in the international war against terrorism will surely figure in any updated edition of *Warrior Race* – and perhaps even persuade the author to reassess some of his less positive assumptions about our collective character.

Lawrence James has cracked at least part of the code

IN BRIEF

How Did This Happen? Terrorism and the New War, edited by James F. Hoge Jr and Gideon Rose. Experts search for answers. (PublicAffairs Ltd, paperback, £8.99.)

The Lion and the Eagle. Inspiring and moving stories of the Second World War Polish escapees who founded today's Polish-Scottish community. Edited by Dr Diana M Henderson. (Cualann Press, paperback, £9.99.)

Soldier ordering service All books mentioned on these pages are available from Helion & Company, who can also supply 14,500 in-print military books and operate a free book-search; p&p is extra. All major credit/switch cards taken. Please allow up to 28 days for delivery. Helion & Company, 26 Willow Road, Solihull, West Midlands B91 1UE, England (tel 0121 705 3393; fax 0121 711 4075). E-mail: books@helion.co.uk Website: <http://www.helion.co.uk>

Quiet courage of the sacrificial life

Ulster Defence Regiment history earns its place in a library of the Troubles

A Testimony to Courage: The Regimental History of The Ulster Defence Regiment by John Potter (Pen & Sword, £25).

Review: Roger Goodwin

THE average inhabitant of the British mainland, if he thought at all of the Ulster Defence Regiment, probably did so fleetingly during some brief news report of yet another soldier shot down in his community, probably in his own home, too often in front of his family.

The quiet, determined courage of the men and women who, by joining the UDR, knowingly submitted not just themselves, but also their families, to unrelenting, life-long mortal danger has always had some recognition on this side of the Irish Sea.

Only those with direct experience of that benighted province, however, could appreciate the true extent of the sacrifices which membership of the regiment always entailed.

John Potter's worthy homage to the regiment he served for all but 12 months of its 22-year existence could do much to bring the story to a wider audience. Sadly, it may not.

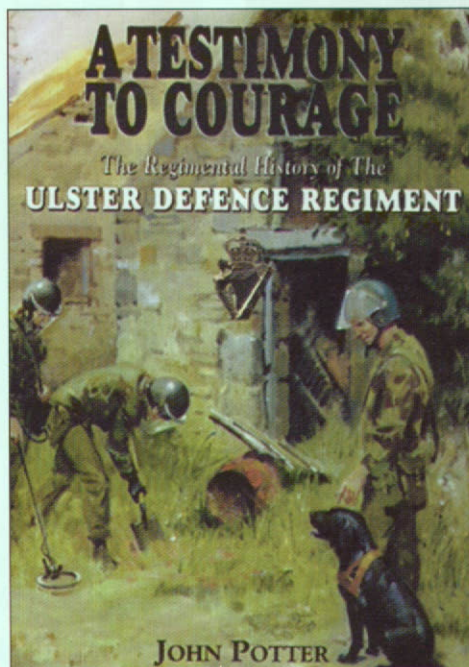
This impressively researched chronicle is unashamedly by the regiment, for the regiment. Not the least of the many burdens carried by the UDR throughout its existence was the implacable, unrelenting and ultimately, it must be admitted, successful, campaign waged against it by Northern Ireland's Republican and Nationalist factions.

For reasons with which the author makes little attempt to pretend any sympathy, in the arena of public debate at least the UDR was seldom allowed to fight back.

It has become an article of regimental faith that the UDR's light was deliberately kept hidden under the bushel of political expediency.

Neither, in this respect, did the regiment always help itself when opportunities did arise – for instance, when entrenched suspicions led to refusal to co-operate in the only other published work on the regiment, by Northern Ireland commentator Chris Ryder.

One suspects that it was a desire to refute the unrelenting calumnies and bare-faced untruths of the republican propaganda cam-



paign, perhaps coupled with the perceived bias of Ryder's book, which had much to do with John Potter first settling to his word processor. By and large, he succeeds, for those willing to make the effort.

This history of a unique and special force should be required reading for Northern Ireland and defence policy-makers alike. The always-tender relationship with the prickly

'The story of this unique force should be required reading'

Royal Ulster Constabulary is usefully illuminated. So is the often-shameful treatment of brave men and women by mean-spirited bean-counters in Belfast and Whitehall – some of whom were within the MoD.

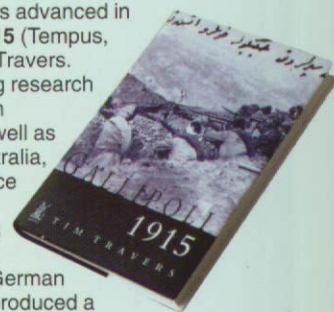
For both military and social historians also, there is much here of value, particularly in relation to the motivation of ordinary men and women determined to do their bit in extraordinary times, no matter what the cost.

But this history will probably remain a work for specialists. Certain irritating habits notwithstanding, Potter's style is clear and concise as befits the military man he has always been. But his subject matter is often arcane, and some of the military detail will only ever have meaning for other soldiers. And even those familiar with the province would have found some maps to be helpful.

This is an important work, which earns its place in the library of the Troubles. But I doubt that it will trouble the best-seller lists.

New source sheds light on Gallipoli

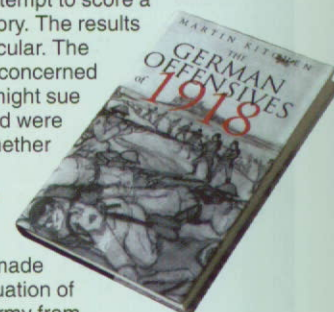
FRESH evidence to explain why the Ottoman Turks won the 1915 Gallipoli campaign, and why the Allies lost it, is advanced in **Gallipoli 1915** (Tempus, £25) by Tim Travers. Wide-ranging research in the Turkish archives as well as those in Australia, Britain, France and New Zealand plus a newly-discovered German source has produced a different interpretation of the conflict. Prof Travers's great-uncle was killed in action at Gallipoli and the author has dedicated the last five years to finding out what really went wrong for the Allies.



Germany's big push almost won the war

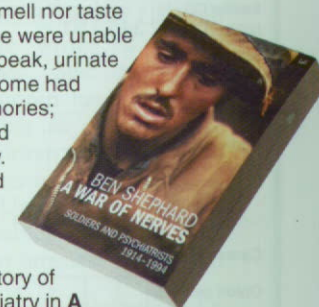
ON March 21, 1918 the German Army launched a massive offensive on the Western Front in a last desperate attempt to score a decisive victory. The results were spectacular. The British were concerned the French might sue for peace and were uncertain whether they could continue the struggle.

Although plans were made for the evacuation of the British Army from France, gradually the offensive lost momentum. In **The German Offensives of 1918** (Tempus, £25), Martin Kitchen provides an account of the campaign during which the Germans seemed so close to victory.



When nerves stretch to breaking point

WITHIN a few months of the start of the First World War strange cases started arriving at casualty clearing stations in France. These soldiers were not wounded, yet they could neither see, smell nor taste properly. Some were unable to stand up, speak, urinate or defecate; some had lost their memories; others vomited uncontrollably. Many suffered from the shakes. Ben Shephard charts the history of military psychiatry in **A War of Nerves: Soldiers and Psychiatrists 1914-1994** and in doing so attempts to answer recurring questions about why some men crack and others don't.



Buy the Best direct from Soldier

Military personnel can now buy traser watches at unbelievable discounts direct from Soldier!

Chosen by many of the world's elite military units, traser watches have proven themselves on active duty throughout the globe. Features include a precision Swiss movement, rugged case construction and an array of traser lights that enable you to see the time quickly and accurately under any conditions, anytime - day or night!

Every watch in the range is guaranteed for two years (light source for ten). All have a one-direction rotating bezel and feature a double O-ring seal, with a screw-down crown making them water-resistant to 200 metres.



S3101V
Stainless steel case. Carbon bezel. Velcro strap. traser lights on all three hands. 40-month battery.
Civilian price: £179.95
Soldier price: £139.95



S3601V
Titanium case. Velcro strap. Screw-down crown. Hardened sapphire glass. 40-month battery.
Civilian price: £199.99
Soldier price: £159.95



S3401B
PVD-coated stainless steel case & strap. Screw-down crown. Hardened sapphire glass. eight-year lithium battery.
Civilian price: £249.99
Soldier price: £199.95



S3001P
All polymer case and strap (ultra-light). traser lights on all three hands. Push-in crown. 40-month battery.
Civilian price: £129
Soldier price: £99.95

traser

Whatever you do - do it longer!

Remember - For the best prices buy direct from Soldier!

To order: Complete and post this coupon today, together with a cheque made payable to **Soldier** OR - For a 'rapid-reaction' have your credit card details to hand and phone us on our hotline: **01252 34 73 53**

Name..... **S3001P** Qty..... Total: £.....
ID Number..... **S3601V** Qty..... Total: £.....
Address..... **S3101V** Qty..... Total: £.....
..... **S3401B** Qty..... Total: £.....
..... Postcode..... Expiry Date.....
Contact Tel No..... Issue No (switch only).....
Credit card No

Please add £4.95 for P&P (Watches will be despatched within 24 hours of receipt of order)
I enclose a cheque/PO made payable to **Soldier** for: £.....

Return to: Soldier, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU

Other traser products also available online at: www.traser-uk.com

Thanks to the ABF a soldier's 3 year survival course came to an end.



Even if you've left the Army you can still count on the ABF for help. An ex-soldier had been living rough for 3 years in Bristol. When he was eventually allocated a small flat he had no belongings or furnishings. Our grant helped to buy the essentials and get him back on his feet.

If you would like to join us by raising funds to support 'Our Family', please contact us quoting 'Soldier'.

020 7591 2000

www.armybenevolentfund.com

e-mail: enquiries@armybenevolentfund.com

Army Benevolent Fund, 41 Queen's Gate, London SW7 5HR



**ARMY
BENEVOLENT
FUND**
SUPPORTING THE BEST

The ABF is the Army's national charity and is committed to the welfare of Army and ex-Army personnel and their families.

(Registered Charity No. 211645)

SOLDIER to soldier

Fiction as fact

TELEVISION is the new reality, so the probability is that Paul Greengrass's film *Bloody Sunday*, screened last month on ITV, will become the "accepted" version of what happened in Londonderry on January 30, 1972.

It is already sparking bitter anti-British feelings in America.

Superb as it was as a piece of entertainment – good enough, in fact, to win the best world cinema award at the Sundance Film Festival in America – its one-sided portrayal of the British Army (and The Parachute Regiment in particular) was obnoxious. Yet those fictional images, disguised as a documentary to heighten the sense of "reality", are already being taken at face value.



While we have no wish to prejudice the findings of the current inquiry, we feel we must protest about sequences which made no attempt to do anything other than label the paras as cold-blooded murderers and which had an immediate impact across the Atlantic. Filmgoers emerging from *Bloody Sunday* at the Sundance Festival in Utah told British reporters that it had shaken their belief in Britain.

"It is what you would have expected in Afghanistan, not a European country. Your government was no better than the Taliban," said one woman.



A man said: "It's no wonder that the IRA has been bombing Britain for the last 30 years. When faced with an enemy like that they have no choice but to do so. I feel that it was a justifiable response when confronted with complete brutality."

A third likened it to *Gandhi*: "It was the same story... the English firing on peaceful protesters. British history is not one to be proud of."

It is an immense tragedy that 13 civilians were shot during a civil rights march. It is also a tragedy that Britain – and its Army – has been besmirched by a work of fiction.

Home truths

Sue Bonney

Ruling means I can't see kids

No one benefits from this interpretation

WE have had a couple of letters to the Army Families Federation *Families Journal* recently highlighting a situation that has been going on since 1998. It's one of those things that, if you are directly affected, seems incredibly unfair, and it is obvious that something has to be done to change it.

Yet the powers-that-be say they can do nothing. Consequently, AFF and the Army get regular bursts of protest from affected personnel but can do little to help except raise the issue again.

The situation rumbles on and on, with individual families either sorting it out for themselves if they can afford to, living with it if they can't, or giving up and leaving.

Service parents overseas who are separated or divorced and do not have custody of their children may have visitation rights or joint custody, but they are not entitled to school children's visit (SCV) flights. So if they want to see their children, they must either pay for a trip home, or pay for the children to fly out.

This can prove to be just too expensive for many – which means they don't see their children.

Indulgence flights are a cheaper alternative but not exactly reliably available. And as far as Cyprus is concerned, new rules on SCV flights which have helped the majority of parents mean that no unaccompanied minors can use troopers. So separated or divorced parents in Cyprus no longer have the cheaper option available to them and must face the prospect of paying civilian fares.

There's an interesting history to this, in that before March 1998, divorced personnel with access to children from a former marriage were allowed additional travel warrants each year to visit their children. But if they remarried, the warrants were withdrawn.

Why, I don't know and the logic of this completely escapes me – they were still



Sue Bonney is
Editor of the AFF
Families Journal

their children's parents, remarried or not. No doubt someone will explain.

However, this also seemed unfair to an affected parent, who challenged the ruling under the Sexual Discrimination Act, which forbids discrimination against an individual on the grounds of marital status. Although his point in law was correct, he did not quite achieve the success he might have expected.

MoD decided that the simplest way to comply with the law was not to give warrants or school children's visits to all divorced or separated parents, as might have been hoped, but to withdraw them completely. So, since then, no one gets any assistance to see their separated children, even if they are posted overseas.

This causes a great deal of distress and heartache, especially when separated parents just don't have the money for flights. Most parents who write to us feel that the Army should offer them more support, given that they are overseas because that's where they have been posted.

The Army is well aware of their sense of grievance but is unable to change tri-Service regulations, despite being the most affected Service with far more personnel living overseas.

As one father wrote in the last *AFF*: "Am I less entitled to see my children because I'm divorced?" He thinks there is

a gross ambiguity in the system, as does a mother who wrote to us last week. She thinks her children have the same rights as other Service children to see both their parents.

Unfortunately, she is unable to see her children because the air fares are beyond her financial reach.

Irony, isn't it, that a situation which could be said to discriminate against separated parents and their children has arisen as a direct result of the MoD's way of complying with discrimination law.

'The Army is well aware of their sense of grievance but is unable to change tri-Service regulations, despite being the most affected, with far more personnel living overseas'



Internet child lock won't let us chat with Radio 1

WE have just deployed to Cyprus and have received a welfare package that includes free internet – or should we say “two-year-olds’ internet” – access.

We have tried logging on to sites such as FHM and Radio 1 Chat, and lingerie sites such as **agentprovocateur.com**, but get denied by the lock-out system.

Is it too much for adult soldiers who are

allowed to bear arms to want to be able to buy pressies for their better halves while posted overseas at that most family-oriented time, Christmas? Is it too much to ask for adult soldiers to be able to freely access a reputable magazine but not have to pay over the odds for a local purchase? This last point is even more relevant given the fact

Prize letter

that we no longer receive LOA (local overseas allowance) to cover for such eventualities.

The internet child lock will not let us access these sites and many others. Although we understand why the lock is in place, at least let us, serving adult soldiers, be treated like adults. – **Name and unit supplied.**

▲ PS4(A) responds:

Ideally internet access for overseas operations would be free and unrestricted. Public-funded internet was justified, quite reasonably, for personnel to manage their affairs like a civilian counterpart, circumstances permitting. Internet primarily provides for e-mail, personal finances, education, shopping and news. Recreational use is not discouraged but for equability sensible controls are in place. Access to restricted sites is possible where there is good reason.

Because internet access is publicly financed, MoD is obliged to ensure that it is used properly. With easy access to inappropriate sites, policy balances freedom of use

with regard for local sensibilities, not just in Cyprus but worldwide. It is well known that downloading illegal material is also feasible. As the potential unwitting provider of the means, MoD must take reasonable steps to ensure it is not complicit in anything unlawful. Doing nothing to prevent illegal use or abuse of public money is not an option; access must be actively managed.

Reasonable measures include the use of access control software. The technology is not foolproof and there are many examples of proprietary software denying access to perfectly innocuous sites. But good local level communications with systems administrators and personnel staff will usually overcome

this. The MoD is acting responsibly on behalf of the public and in the interest of its operational community, which now benefits from an enhanced welfare package, including a financial allowance to recognise separated service.

It is not intended to act as a censor for the majority of very responsible Service personnel but prudent measures are in place preventing a small minority from jeopardising legitimate internet use for everyone else.

Your correspondent makes a sound case and at the end concludes the argument by understanding the need for restrictions. Perhaps the respective viewpoints are actually not so far apart.

If unions are a no-no for the Army ... how about drip sessions?

IT didn't surprise me to read that soldiers were in favour of an Army trade union while officers and some NCOs were not (Vox pop, Dec). I would like to point out that officers and NCOs have something not dissimilar to a union: their respective messes.

I believe a union is a good idea, especially for private soldiers. It would give them an opportunity to address many issues such as pay, accommodation, food and working conditions within the Army. It would allow soldiers who have little or no confidence in their immediate chain of command to approach someone with a grievance.

The Royal Navy has what I believe is a good system that could be easily introduced to the Army. It has what is called “a drip session”, during which the ship's company has a chance to air problems and grievances and do something about them. – **Pte M Le Lacheur, 2 PWRR, Aldershot.**

Does the Army need a trade union? In light of the sheer administrative headaches it would bring, probably not.

However, some method needs to be available to regimental officers to rectify quickly gross failures in the system, without recourse to either tortuous “lottery funding”-type requests for finances, or engaging in discourses with command organisations which reveal the existence of Blackadder-esque, Second World War-style “them and us” mentalities. – **John D Ellis, Okehampton, Devon.**

Unwed parents' commitment is 'far greater than marriage'

IN response to the letter “He's in for a shock” (Dec) from Mrs Blyth, I also feel compelled to respond to LCpl Lewin's letter (“Unmarried ... but we'll need a quarter for the baby”, Oct). Mrs Blyth neglected the issue.

I am a single female soldier and I am six months pregnant and about to occupy Service Families Accommodation (SFA) alone. I was well aware that I would be entitled to SFA. However, I am insulted by the suggestion that I would consider jeopardising my career by having a baby just to get out of the block.

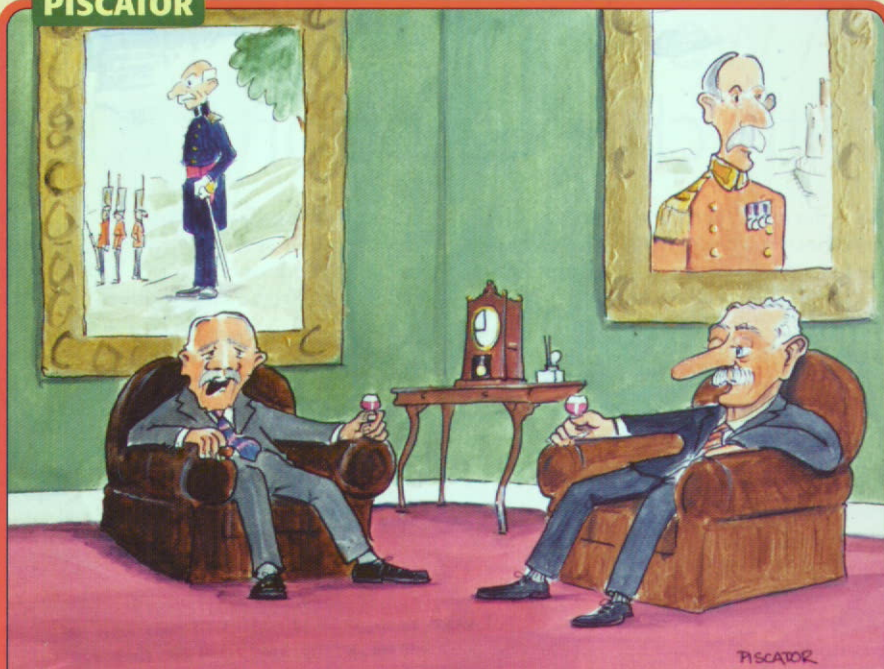
LCpl Lewin's letter was merely pointing out that the fact that the rules regarding occupancy of a married quarter are dated and currently under review by the MoD is not good enough. To split up a family before it has even started simply because the Army does not acknowledge anyone falling between the single/married categories is ludicrous. LCpl Lewin has made the decision to commit himself to his responsibilities, which I personally believe to be a far greater commitment than marriage. – **LCpl R L Adams, QRL, Osnabrück.**

Your views on the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal – Page 77

You and retail discrimination

FOLLOWING a number of letters from Service personnel on the subject of retail discrimination, we asked for more examples of how the system was working against soldiers and their families. Mobile phones, car purchase and higher vehicle insurance, difficulties with BFPO addresses, and integrity of credit-worthiness were some of the issues you told us about. A selection will appear in the next issue. – **Editor**

PISCATOR



'Y'know what's wrong with the youth of today, Carstairs? They won't get off their backsides.'

This will be an extremely busy year for the Army Benevolent Fund, with events and fundraising activities taking place all over the country. For further information on how you can assist the Army Benevolent Fund or for help and advice, please call 020 7591 2000.



ARMY
BENEVOLENT
FUND
SUPPORTING THE BEST

Call 020 7591 2000 or visit www.armybenevolentfund.com



Wives deserve more help with jobs on new postings

SINCE we've been married, my wife has given up three very well-paid jobs to accompany me on postings.

The loss of wage and career progression can be quite a blow and, coupled with the stress of seeking employment in a new location, is overlooked by the MoD.

She gives me much support and it is wrong that wives – and husbands – of serving soldiers are expected to give up everything to be with their loved ones, with little support, either morally or financially.

Why not introduce a database via which dependants can volunteer details of

their employment history? It could be held centrally and, on posting, be used by an employment agency within a new theatre to search for a similar job before the dependants even arrive at their new location?

Failing that, there should be a financial package to lessen the burden of the loss of earnings.

The Armed Forces' attitude towards all aspects of life in the military should reflect the new millennium. I believe we should give our spouses the respect and support they deserve when relocating. – Sgt R E Keightley, 6 RMP, BFPO 825.

OFFICER or other rank; serving or civvy... Soldier welcomes your letters. Please keep them brief and to the point. If not e-mailed, we'd prefer them to be typed but if they are handwritten, put names, addresses and in block capitals (not necessarily for publication). A prize from the our gift collection will be awarded each month if we judge that a letter merits it. Acceptance or rejection of letters is the decision of the Editor, who reserves the right to amend for length, clarity or style. Anonymous letters will not be considered.

Mail
us!

PS...

Working hours

REGARDING the letter from a soldier in 2 R Anglian (Jan). May I take this opportunity to say that I would love to work a 40-hour week (on average 5.7 hours a day including Saturdays and Sundays).

As an NCO employed on policing duties on my six working shifts (three days and three nights), we work a total of 72 hours (3 x 11 hour days and 3 x 11 hour nights), which works out at an average of eight hours a day, including three rest days. While I accept (rightly or wrongly) the hours that I work, perhaps your Mr or Mrs R Anglian should consider themselves lucky. – Cpl S M Thurgood, AGC (RMP) Edinburgh.

Sandhurst twins

MY brother and I were interested in the photo and caption in the January issue of Junior Under Officers Anthony and Christopher Hellier on the occasion of their passing out at the Sovereign's Parade. The claim that they were the first twins to do so from Sandhurst for 151 years interested us in particular.

I and my identical twin brother, Ian A D Gordon, went to RMA (Intake 1A) in May 1947. We passed out at the second Sovereign's Parade on October 21, 1948, at which time Ian was a JUO and I a cadet sergeant. We both commissioned into The Royal Scots Fusiliers (our father's regiment), which was to become The Royal Highland Fusiliers on amalgamation in 1959, and both retired as majors, Ian in November 1971 and me in 1970.

Incidentally, our grandfather was Gen Sir J J H Gordon, one of the Indian Army Gordon twin generals. His brother was Gen Sir T E Gordon.

It would be interesting to know the origin of the information about the Hellier twins being the only ones. I would be surprised if there were not other cases of twins from other officer producing units (Eaton Hall, for example). What about triplets? Perhaps it's time for a thesis on this? – Anthony Gordon (Maj, Retd), Cape Town, South Africa.

CDT 'too draconian'

THE aim of the Army's zero tolerance on drugs is to ensure that making examples of everyone caught will deter others. The fact that people are still being caught by the compulsory drug testing regime suggests the policy has failed.

Sgt Graham ("Let's rehabilitate those drug users", Dec) has identified a weakness in the policy – the punishment may be too draconian in the case of young soldiers. We know that occasional use of recreational drugs is commonplace, so temptation will remain whether the Army likes it or not. I suggest that if a young soldier fails a drugs test, he (or she) should be given the choice to go or stay. If the soldier elects to remain, the onus is on him to prove his reliability. – H D Flaxman, Caistor-on-Sea, Norfolk.



Should medal be known as SNCOMSM?

I WAS rather alarmed when I got to the section covering those awarded Meritorious Service Medals (Update extra, Dec).

While I congratulate those listed as receiving one, I would like to ask whether one of the conditions is that recipients must be a senior NCO.

Nearly half those named were WO1s. No rank lower than sergeant was included. The award should be referred to as Senior NCO Meritorious Service Medal. – **LBdr Haggerty, 12 Regiment RA, Sennelager.**

▲ The award, historically, is aimed squarely at senior NCOs and WOs. As reported in the May 2001 issue of *Soldier*, the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) was instituted by royal warrant on December 19, 1845 to recognise the service of sergeants. Royal warrants in 1916 and 1917 extended the MSM to WOs, NCOs and soldiers recommended for acts of gallantry, saving life, valuable service and devotion to duty.

Length of service, which was reduced to 20 years from 27 years in 2001, is just one of the criteria. The medal has to be earned for good work or deeds.

Citations have to be supported through the chain of command to at least two-star level and must demonstrate evidence of meritorious service. The decision to reduce the qualifying time should give WOs and SNCOs the chance to earn and wear the MSM while serving in units, which will make it more visible and restore its standing. – **Editor**

These obsolete uniforms are cramping my style

AS a soldier with 15 years' service and experience of various operational and exercise areas (not desert, yet) I am the proud keeper of a multitude of uniforms.

Unfortunately, with the addition of Combat Soldier 95 to my military wardrobe, parachute smock, second CS95 combat jacket, umpteen pairs of arctic socks and UN apparel, there isn't room in my house/garage/shed for all of it. The extent of this clothing was brought home recently when my wife de-kitted after nine years' service.

Can someone please tell me why there isn't a programme for returns of obsolete uniforms such as the old-pattern combat uniform, lightweights, barracks dress in its entirety (pretty please), woolly-pullies and so on? – **SSgt Neil Johnson, 7 Air Assault Bn REME, Wattisham.**

TA weekends play havoc with child support order

AS a former Territorial Army soldier, I have been looking into rejoining the TA. As I am 39, I've been told I can rejoin on a special contract approved by my potential squadron leader and the colonel of my former regiment.

What is preventing me is the Child Support Agency (CSA). I am in full-time employment and pay £60 a week maintenance for one child. If I rejoined and the CSA found out, they would increase my payments, not just for the weekends I attend, but for every week regardless of whether I have been on duty or not.

Colleagues have had to leave for this reason and they would all agree that the TA is losing personnel because of it.

We joined to serve Queen and country, not for the money (though it comes in handy). I would sooner donate my TA pay to the Army Benevolent Fund than get hammered by the CSA.

The New Year is supposed to herald fairer CSA laws. Would it be possible for the MoD to request the CSA not to take extra payments from TA members (and other reservists) who have already paid

maintenance based on their full-time earnings? Or at least charge extra maintenance based only on the actual hours worked? – **Name and address supplied.**

▲ *Soldier* has been told that all CSA maintenance assessments are based on the same criteria for everyone, whether they be military or civilian, and members of the TA are no different from anyone else with a fluctuating income.

Assessments are made from the presentation of pay statements, and should there be a change in attendance, it is up to the individual to ensure he informs the CSA about this change of circumstances. Equally, if he knows at the time the assessment is made that future attendance figures will be less, he should say so, and perhaps propose that his TA pay is averaged out over a three-year period. The Memorandum of Understanding signed by the MoD with the CSA addresses the provision of unit locations, and compulsory deductions where appropriate. It does not apply to the TA unless they are Full-Time Reserve Service, in which case they are treated as if they were Regulars, and it is not appropriate to represent a case to the CSA which would provide the Army with advantages not available to civilians. – **Editor**

Medal protest over wait for treatment

I HAVE been a reader of *Soldier* since the end of the 1940s. I served in the Army for 39 years and ten months and am trying to devise the most effective way of obtaining publicity for handing in my Meritorious Service Medal and Long Service and Good Conduct Medal with bar.

This is because I am disgusted at the medical treatment we veterans are offered when it is needed. I damaged my knee and it

has taken a year to get on the list for an operation. I have seen the surgeon twice (once at my own expense) and I have been told the wait will be 18 months. That means December 2002... if it is not delayed.

Incidentally, I am disgusted at all the complaining that is going on with regard to the award of the Golden Jubilee Medal. – **D Fleming, Trowbridge, Wilts.**

● **More jubilee medal views – Page 77**

'Regs' also work to protect the soldier

AFTER reading "Regs got in the way" (Jan), I refer to "There's no ban on joining trade unions" on the opposite page.

There is certainly no ban on serving personnel becoming members of civilian trade unions (QR J5.588). There is, however, a clear ban on Regular personnel participating in industrial action or in any form of political activity, even if they are not members of civilian trade unions.

Military uniform is not to be worn at meetings of civilian trade unions and no action is to be taken that brings the Ser-

vice into disrepute. This is very clear – it comes straight from Queen's Regulations.

It shows that "regs" are not always against the soldier, though watch out for the "get-out" clauses. In the modern Army we should continue to adhere to regulations, as they are the backbone of the Army's perceived standards in society.

If rules and regulations seem antiquated it is for the Army to address the issue centrally to stop confusion. They are the rules every soldier signs on joining. – **Lt J A Gray, UK CSS Bn HQ, Kosovo.**

Twice-a-week remedial PT just isn't enough

I READ Pte Finlay's comments about the accommodation and curfew at Kinnegar, Northern Ireland (Jan), with interest and I have some sympathy. I make the following observation, though. Remedial physical training at 1930? If you're unfit enough to merit remedial PT, 1930 is far too early and twice a week is not enough. – **WO2 (BSM) Smiles, 32 Regiment RA, Larkhill.**

THEN AND THEN



25 YEARS AGO

From *Soldier*, February 1977: Recruiting offices have been told not to accept any more applications from 17-year-olds. The Army's requirement for new recruits has dropped away, says the MoD. Enlistment of young soldiers ceased effectively in January. The recruiting requirement has dropped because more soldiers are choosing to stay in the Army longer.

50 YEARS AGO

From *Soldier*, February 1952: Men of the 1st Battalion, The South Wales Borderers are to pull out of Eritrea as the former Italian colony prepares to federate in September with Abyssinia under the eye of the UN. The Borderers, pictured on their range at Airfield Camp in Asmara, are ready to harry any reformed *shifita* (bandits) tempted to return to their old life.

Issue of junior partners in mess won't go away

The SNCO's viewpoint:

I AM writing on the subject of junior NCOs married to senior NCOs and not being allowed in warrant officers' and sergeants' messes (Mail, Oct). Whether I agree or not with the decision that this particular presiding member made, I support his inalienable right to make it.

No one considered the feelings of the mess member who was being penalised by not being able to enjoy the company of his spouse at a mess function. To imply that because she is a JNCO, she cannot be trusted to enjoy the company of superior beings in the mess is a slight on the many responsible JNCOs in the Services.

The awkward question of JNCO spouses attending sergeants' messes will have to be resolved. While the Army recruits more females and inter- and same-Service marriages increase (I am in one myself; fortunately my wife is a full mess member in her own right) this is a problem that is not going to go away. — WO1 Andy Pollack, DSDA(G), Dulmen.

The JNCO's viewpoint:

I AM a female JNCO serving in a Royal Artillery regiment.

My partner was promoted to sergeant six months ago and is a keen member of the mess. Although he has to go to functions without me, neither of us have a problem with this.

I completely understand why I cannot accompany him, as I have not earned the right to be in the mess.

It is one of the biggest achievements in a person's military career to make it into the sergeants' mess. I personally would feel as though I was disrespecting all those who have worked hard to earn that right, and this would make me feel uncomfortable.

I believe the JNCO of the relationship should take a step back and think about what they are asking of the RSM. Then they should concentrate more on getting themselves promoted into the mess... or think about a different career. — LBdr S Cubitt, 16 Regiment RA, Woolwich.

PS...

RGBW in Gorazde

I AM a section commander serving at the Infantry Training Centre Catterick while my unit, the 1st Battalion, The Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment, is on operations in Northern Ireland.

I was dismayed to read "Gorazde on the record" (Update extra, Dec) about a new CD telling the story of how British UN peacekeepers kept warring factions apart in the "safe haven" of Gorazde during the 1992-95 Bosnian war. Of the three infantry units that saw service in that area the only one not mentioned — 1 RGBW — was the one that endured the only winter tour and lost four soldiers in two vehicle accidents in the besieged town of Gorazde.

All I ask is for recognition where it's due as all the battalions worked hard and suffered at the hands of the Serbs and the UN. — Cpl P Hyde, ITC Catterick

Letter from America

I'VE been looking for a way to say thank you to the British soldiers who helped us Americans come to terms with the events of September 11. Soldiers playing our national anthem outside Buckingham Palace might not seem to be that great a thing, but from that moment I knew everything would be all right.

My uncle was missing at the time, but I knew he would make it, and he did. I have never been more proud of a foreign country, so if you were one of those soldiers playing the Star Spangled Banner, thank you so much. — Alison Albert, USA.

Right on cue

I READ with interest about WO1 Highet's control of a multi-national United Nations parade in Bosnia ("Drilled to perfection", Nov). A similar event at the UN military cemetery in Pusan in 1960 involved 100 US soldiers and 100 from the Republic of Korea formed into six platoons.

Between them was a composite platoon made up of troops from Turkey, Thailand, France, Australia, Greece, Ethiopia and the New Zealand Air Force.

Just before our first and only trip to the cemetery we were issued with Garand .30 US Army rifles. When the order came to "present arms" from the position of attention, 220-odd Servicemen obliged and the bandmaster of the Korean military band in attendance raised his baton for the down-beat to bring in the UN anthem.

We Servicemen of Australia, Britain, Ethiopia, Greece and New Zealand went through the whole Lee Enfield drill of three movements up to the slope and another three to the "present", all rigidly, but silently, governed by the regulation pause of "one-two-three, one-two three-one", so beloved of previous generations. Mr Highet would have been proud of us. — Iain Leggatt, Carnoustie, Scotland.

**Online
Ordering**

SILVERMAN'S

www.military.co.uk

**Secure
Website**

**British Army Navigators
+ Date Avail with
Blk, Grn or Sand dial
NEW £110.00**
Stock Code 88035



**R.M. Special Boat
Service 300mtr
NEW £299.00**
Stock Code 88099



**Royal Naval Divers
Issue Silver No Date
NEW £250.00**
Stock Code 88038



**Automatic GS
1970's Issue
Limited stocks
NEW £185.00**
Stock Code 15412



**Quartz 2001
General Service with
No Battery hatch.
Luminous not Tritium
NEW £110.00** Stock Code 33073



**Arctic
Wired
hood**



**SAS Windproof Smock
£90.00** Stock Code 22001

SAS Arctic Smock £95.00

**Dpm Para smocks
£69.99** Stock Code 22005



**DPM Lightweight
Tropical trousers
- sold '95 kit
NEW £32.99
40+ NEW £39.99**
Stock Code 88012



**OFFICERS Sand Shirt
Cotton soft &
comfortable to wear,
Superior quality
NEW £35.00**
Stock Code 02100
**General Service Shirt
Olive Green cotton
NEW £25.00** Stock Code 02001



**PLCE Set
Webbing
6 part,
Green or DPM
£120.00**



**Soldier '95 PLCE DPM
Tactical Assault vest.
£125.00.** Stock Code 55018
**Genuine Norge shirt
shown under tac vest.
£25.00** Stock Code 82002



**Soldier '95 Ki
PLCE Cmmde
Chest Rig
DPM or O.G.
NEW £55.00**
Stock Code 49001



**NEW Go Fast Boots
Combrelle lined,
Lightweight. 6 - 12
£60.00** Stock Code 04053



**British Army Pro Boot
from £120.00**
Stock Code 04125
See full view @ military.co.uk



**USA ALPHA N2B
Sage or Black NEW from
£120.00** Stock Code 15003
**N3B Parka
NEW from £130.00**



**Buffalo
Special 6 shirt
Olive or Black
£89.99**
Stock Code 01155



**SNUGPAK SLEEKA PADDED
JACKET Military Green
(Black also avail). NEW £69.99**
Blk/Grn Rvrsble £85.00
Stock Code 01131



**Snugpak Softie
Merlin3 5Deg
£59.99**
Stock Code 28046
**Hawk -5deg
£84.99**
Stock Code 28047



**All Beret Regiments
& Sizes Available
Phone or See Website
for details.**



**USA & British Jungle Hats
Avail: Green, Cammo, Tiger,
Sand, Desert, Rhodesian, Black
£15.99, size 59+ £17.99**
Stock Code 13060



Shemagh £6.99
Stock Code 18101



**PLCE BERGEN 125Lr
Green, DPM or Black
£180.00** Stock Code 37001



**N.I. Combat Gloves
Black leather, £25.00**
Stock Code 23001

**Old pattern gloves
+ padded fingers
£29.99** Stock Code 70399

Soldier '95 G-Tex Gloves NEW £45.00



**SUREFIRE 6P LITHIUM
FLASHLIGHT Battle proven
performance
NEW £69.99**
Stock Code 11440



**M5 Suunto NATO
Compass £29.99**
Stock Code 45004
**SILVA NATO COMPASS
£39.99** Stock Code 45004SILVA



**MINI RUBBER BINOS NATO
GRATICULE & StadiaMetric
rangefinder.
wt.330grms size 8x21
£135.00** Stock Code 14280



**ISRAELI MILITARY
FINGER LIGHT
Exclusive to
Silverman's Ltd
Night vision/White light
£39.99** Stock Code 7052

SUPPLIERS TO THE MILITARY

Thorlo

**2 Harford Street Mile End London E1 4PS
Tel:0207 7 900 900 Fax:0207 7 910 008
Opening Hours: Mon-Fri 09:00 - 17:30
Sat CLOSED, Sun 10:00 - 13:00
E - mail: soldier@silvermans.co.uk**

Prices subject to current cat. Standard UK p&p £3.99

Send a S.A.E for FREE Catalogue quoting Soldier

**Full
Range
www.
military
co.uk**

What you think about the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal

Not too late to change rules

THE discontent over the qualifying criteria for the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal, finally articulated in a draft DCI in December, would seem to be growing if letters to *Soldier* and the national Press in the past few months are anything to go by.

A principal focus of discontent within the Armed Forces appears to be the requirement for five years' service. This requirement will disqualify many young men and women who have served since February 1997, including deployments to Kuwait, Kosovo, East Timor, Sierra Leone, Macedonia and Afghanistan.

This should not, of course, be a surprise to anyone who takes an interest in the selective criteria for the issue of some medals to British forces. There are many precedents, including the refusal to consider a campaign medal for the Suez Canal Zone emergency and the very limited criteria for the Silver Jubilee Medal, both of which are still cause for discontent 50 and 25 years later respectively.

Gulf veterans cannot wear the medals

presented by the governments of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, to the polite surprise of some of the citizens of these countries.



British Loan Service (LS) personnel in Brunei and Oman are authorised to wear medals issued by those countries but LS personnel in Kuwait are not eligible for the British General Service Medal issued to those on operations in Kuwait, despite serving in the same operational theatre.

There are, doubtless, other examples of what has been described as "a mean-spirited attitude" and I have yet to see a convincing official explanation.

We are told that about 100,000 Jubilee Medals will go to the Regular Army, TA, R Irish (HS and PT), Full-Time Reserve Service, Non-Regular Permanent Service, Military Provost Guard Service and cadets. This is good news compared with the paltry award of 4,800 medals to the Army in 1977.

However, at the risk of sounding mean-spirited myself, I believe it is not enough. The decision to exclude those with less than five years' service is likely to be just

as unpopular as the decision to exclude most of those serving in February 1977.

It may also be divisive, when invidious comparisons are made between categories within the Army. In these contexts, the decision seems inexplicable. A commemorative medal is just that – it should not require more than the absolute minimum in terms of qualifying criteria.

It is all rather disappointing. Despite nearly 24 years in which to plan for this, the MoD publishes draft qualifying criteria two months before the ribbon can officially be worn and then misses a golden opportunity to redress some of the discontent that followed the issue of the Silver Jubilee Medal.

It would be good if someone provided an official response to views expressed in *Soldier* and elsewhere. It would be better if the criteria were amended, even at this late stage, so that all serving Her Majesty in the Armed Forces on the 50th anniversary of her accession may be recognised in future years by the Golden Jubilee Medal on their chests. – **Lt Col Richard Dixon-Warren, RLC, Grantham, Lincs.**

Five years for TA



I AGREE with WO1 Dove (Oct) that all serving soldiers be awarded the Jubilee Medal. Can you imagine receiving yours in front of soldiers you have served with in Kosovo or Macedonia, while they get nothing?

As a permanent instructor in a TA regiment, I find it surprising to learn that a Territorial soldier will get a medal after five years of part-time service, but a Regular soldier will not after four years of full-time service. The minimum requirement for a year's service in the TA is around 30 days.

I've worked with the TA for two years and appreciate their support of the Regulars in all theatres. I don't feel that a medal is not justified, just that a distinction be made. I'd suggest the five-year rule apply only to the TA and ACF, with a clasp to indicate the latter. – **Sgt M Walton, 35 Sig Regt, Coventry.**

Sell it for charity



WHY not sell the Jubilee Medal for charity? Being employed in a retired officer grade, I was pleased to hear of a proposal that all MoD ROs should be issued the medal. This is now not to happen. Your article (Nov) states that the medal costs £21 to make and then on Page 64 you report on an unofficial medal for sale at £30, with profits going to SSAFA. To stop this controversy and reduce the number of unofficial medals why not allow personnel who are not issued with an official Jubilee

Medal to buy one from the Royal Mint at £30, with profits going to SSAFA or ABF? – **Capt (Retd) P H Starling, Aldershot.**

Still annoyed



I WAS serving in Belfast in 1977 when the Silver Jubilee Medal was issued. In my unit, 2 Regt RMP, the CO, RSM and a corporal were the only recipients. A suggestion that we be allowed to buy our own fell on deaf ears. It annoys me to this day and I hope the Armed Forces get a better deal this time. – **M Howe, Portland, USA.**

Something wrong



I SERVED for a number of years, including in the Falklands. Now I am an instructor in the ACF. We work as hard as the officers, but the way I see it we work as a team. Yet when a person with no military experience joins the cadets as an under officer or officer he is eligible for the jubilee medal. Something is wrong there. – **Sgt Atherton, Manchester.**

They deserve it



AS a warrant officer in the finest cavalry regiment in the British Army, one of my favourite times of the year is Cavalry Memorial Weekend in May. My enjoyment stems mainly from meeting old soldiers who have done in their careers more than most of us could aspire to. So I am disgusted that the Jubilee Medal is

being given only to serving soldiers of five years' seniority and not to former soldiers.

The only explanation for this has to be financial. I would gladly sponsor an old comrade if that's what it takes and I am pretty sure that if anyone asked Her Majesty's opinion the medal criteria would be rectified. – **WO2 B L Morris, Light Dragoons.**

Qualifying period



I AM confused about the qualifying period. Having joined the Army at 16, and served five years, I'm now 21. I do not understand if this qualifying period of five years has to be served as colour service or as five years generally. If it is five years' colour service, it is unfair. As with others my age who joined up at 16, we've done the same jobs and tours as our peers, which should entitle us to the same medal. – **Tpr D Gray, HCR, Op Palatine.**

Feeling snubbed



MOST adult cadet instructors have no military experience so information is gained from manuals and some training. Where does this leave those who should be entitled after 15 years in Regular and TA service – as I have – but can no longer serve or sign on because of the age barrier? If cost is the problem, why can't ex-soldiers apply with name, rank, number and unit details and buy the medal? I am sure they would be proud to follow this course of action. Many of us feel snubbed. – **Ex-Sgt G Smith, Watford, Herts.**

Vox pop

The regular feature in which we ask soldiers for their views on an issue

Recruiting and the Afghan factor

Rfn Anthony Brown, 2RGJ, attached to EMRT

I go to job and careers fairs and if someone is genuinely interested in the Army they won't ask questions about Afghanistan. The only people who have are ones trying to make political statements and argue that we should not be there. Events have not affected recruitment.



Even parents are not asking about Afghanistan. They see Afghanistan as another Kosovo and accept it as such.



Sgt Tony Hill, KRH, attached to ACIO Southampton

I think people see it as an American action and no questions have been asked. No one has said they wanted to join because of what has happened.

Sgt Lee Downham, REME, attached to ACIO Southampton

I have not had any questions specifically about September 11 or the aftermath. It really isn't an issue. Interest in Army careers has picked up since Christmas, but that is normal and more to do with the Army's advertising campaign than other publicity.



Has the conflict in Afghanistan had an effect on Army recruitment? Are parents and youngsters asking about it and has it affected their perception of the Army? We asked soldiers in Army Careers Information Offices (ACIO) and the Ethnic Minorities Recruiting Team (EMRT) for their views

WO2 George Heaney, RLC, attached to ACIO Southampton

We do a lot of work with the local Asian community and the action has made no difference to recruitment from that sector of the population or their cordial relationship with us. The work in Bosnia and Kosovo and its media coverage is more positive and has prompted interest among potential recruits who feel they want to help.



Sgt Mike Jones, 1 Para, attached to ACIO Aldershot

I have only had one question from a parent relating to Afghanistan. But we have been busier than we were this time last year. I think that is down to a general progression whereby people are actually becoming more interested in the British Army because we are in the news a lot more often.



Sgt Steve Obbard, 2 PWRR, attached to ACIO, Aldershot

I think to a certain extent events have affected recruitment in that they have put off the waverers. As a result, I think we are actually getting a better standard of applicant. They are more determined to

come into the Army and they realise it's not all about fun and games.

LCpl Lee Pearson, 4GS Regt, RLC, attached to EMRT

On a recent recruitment day at a job fair no one seemed to be worried by it. The biggest aids are the recruitment advertising campaigns. It gets them thinking about what they can do in a given situation. The ads certainly have more influence than the Afghanistan factor.



LCpl Carl Taylor, 174 Pro Coy, RMP, attached to EMRT

Most questions from youngsters are about pay, travel, adventurous training and about discipline. Afghanistan has not been an issue and I don't think it is a factor. Good TV drama has a bigger influence on our recruitment.



Interviews: Ray Routledge Pictures: Graeme Main and Steve Dock



Founded 1945
Incorporating the
Territorial Army Magazine



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU
Distribution and enquiries: 01252 347353 (or Aldershot mil (94222) 2353)

Fax 347358 (2358)

E-mail:
mail@soldiermagazine.co.uk

Visit our website on
www.soldiermagazine.co.uk

Visit the Army website on
www.army.mod.uk

Managing Editor Chris Horrocks 01252 347355
(Aldershot military ((9)4222) 2355)
Editor John Elliott 347356 (Aldershot mil 2356)
Assistant Editors Anthony Stone 340462 (5462),
Ray Routledge 340753 (5753),
Andy Simms (Sport) 347362 (2362)
Art Editor Les Gwyer 347169 (2169)
Chief Photographer Mike Weston 347357 (2357)
Photographer Graeme Main 347357 (2357)
Librarian Stuart Robinson 347351 (2351)
Marketing Manager Andy Clarkson 347352 (2352)

SOLDIER is published by the Ministry of Defence and printed by St Ives (Andover) Ltd. Crown Copyright 2002.

Views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Army or the Ministry of Defence.



NO DETOURS. NO BLIND ALLEYS. NO U-TURNS.

JUST GO DIRECT.

Dealing Direct with Land Rover Military Sales gets you the best deals faster.

Land Rover Military Sales is dedicated to providing a totally professional approach for Services personnel, whether in the UK or posted overseas.

- Special Tax Paid and Tax Free Prices for Navy, Army and RAF personnel
- All makes part exchange facility
- Tailored finance packages to suit all budgets
- Special insurance rates for UK and BFG
- All prices include our full delivery pack: UK and Continental headlights, rubber floor mats, warning triangle, first aid kit and full tank of fuel
- Highly trained Sales Executives

The latest Discovery and Freelander models are available now. So don't beat around the bush, come direct to the Military Sales specialists.

**For Northern England, Scotland
and Northern Ireland contact:**
Wallace Martin

HEAD OFFICE
Land Rover Military Sales
FREEPOST ANG30232
Peterborough, PE1 5BR
Tel 0870 366 6538 Fax 01733 342300
EMAIL: tdms@landrover.com

**For Central, Southern England
& Wales contact:**
Paul Bawden

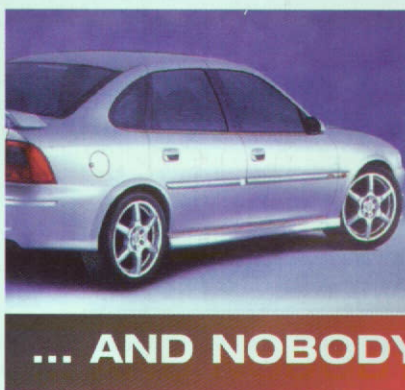
MILITARY SALES



THE LAND ROVER EXPERIENCE

E.M.C TAX FREE

NOBODY BEATS OUR PRICES...



**Officially
Europe's
Largest Tax Free
Specialists**

Alfa Romeo
Audi
BMW
Citroen
Chrysler
Ford
Fiat
Hyundai
Jeep
MG Rover
Mercedes Benz
Mini
Peugeot
Renault
Seat
Skoda
Vauxhall
Volkswagen

... AND NOBODY BEATS OUR SERVICE

IF YOU'RE NOT BUYING YOUR NEXT NEW CAR FROM EMC YOU'LL PROBABLY BE PAYING TOO MUCH!

www.emctaxfree.com

For more details and to order call
Wayne, Sam, Scott and Steve

UK FREEPOST (BR 1394)
CAVENDISH BRIDGE,
EASTBOURNE BN21 5TD

UK PHONE
01323 739675
UK FAX
01323 734560

E.M.C
TAX FREE

GERMAN FREEPHONE 08001 860183 • 08001 827633

