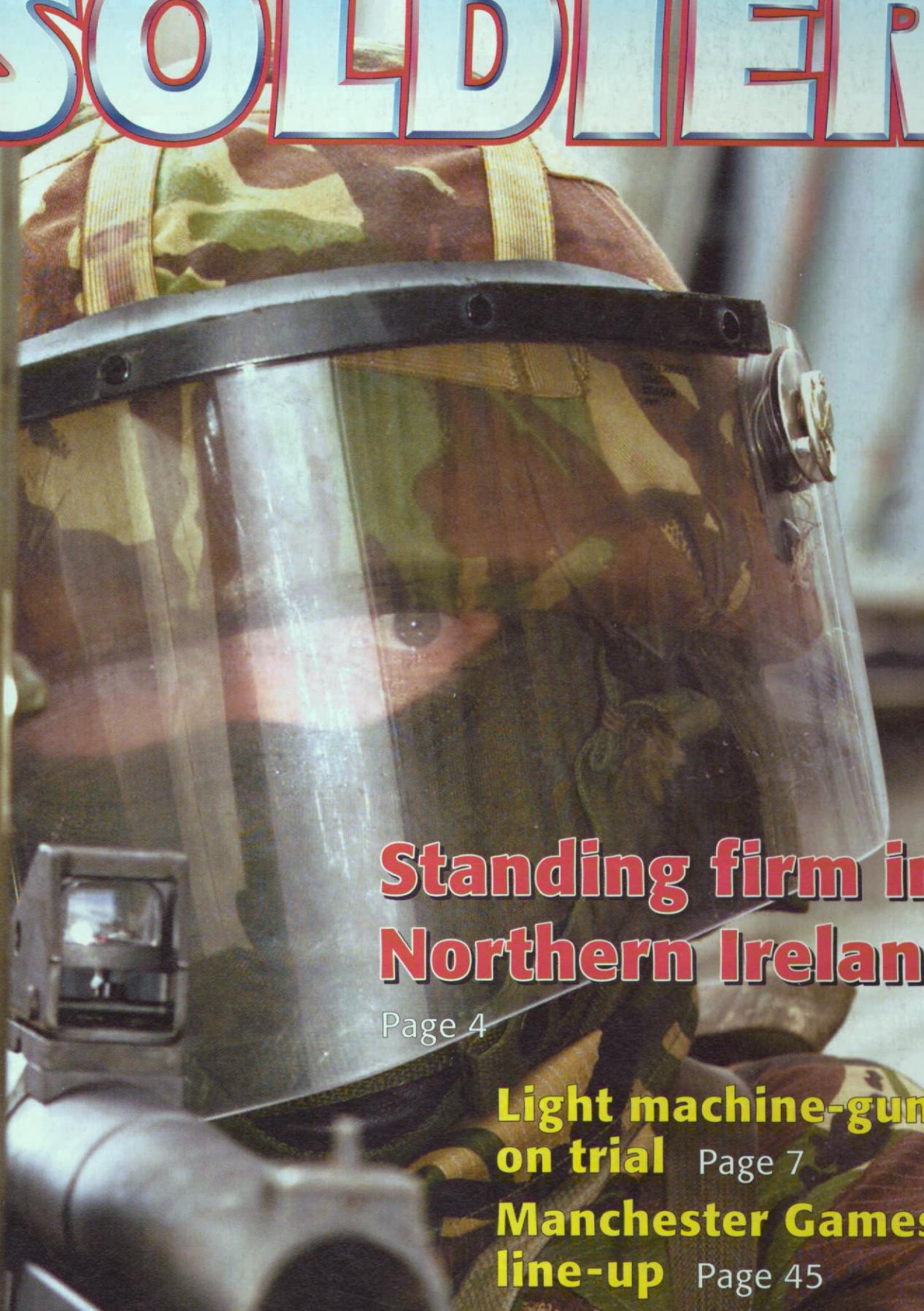


# SOLDIER



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Northern Ireland**

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on trial** Page 7

**Manchester Games  
line-up** Page 45

**Woman wins  
coveted beret** Page 24

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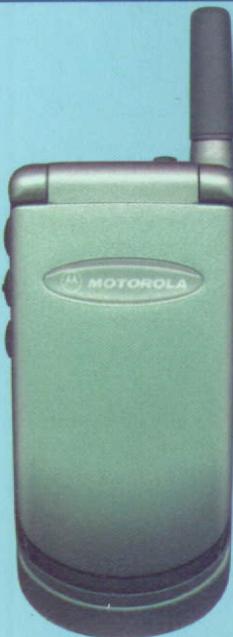
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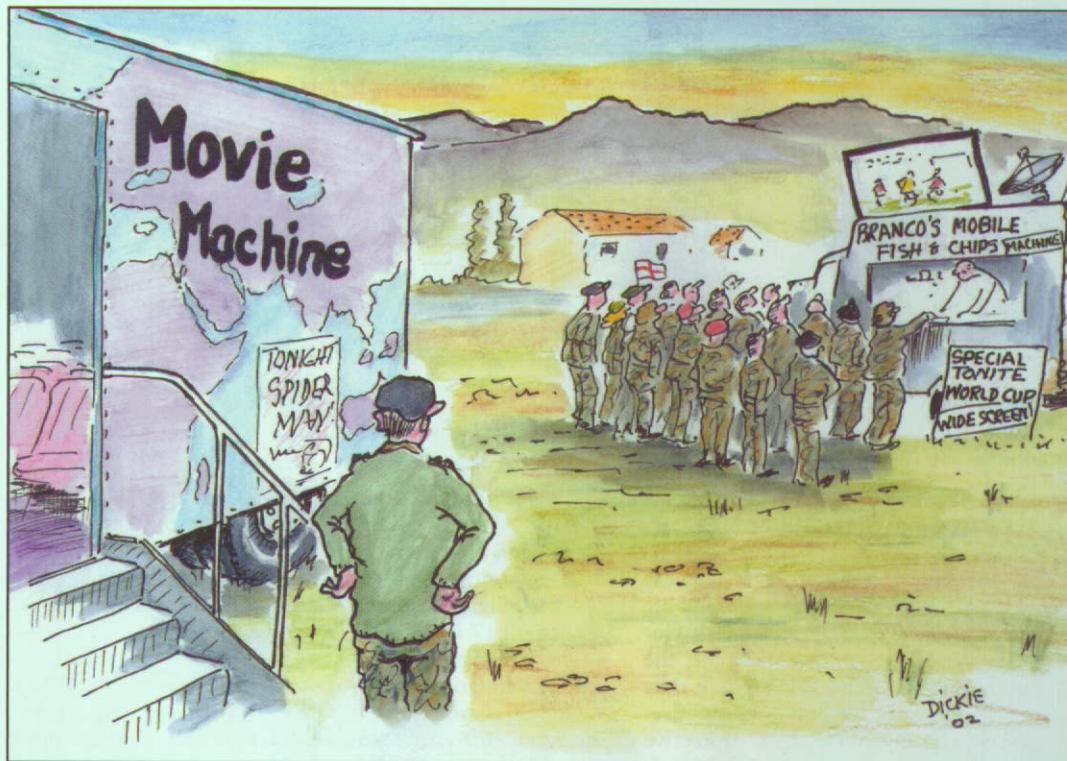


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Contact list: Page 78



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... of your award-winning magazine

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Cpl Stuart Conroy, B Company, 1 RGJ, carries out the role of baton gunner during public order training

– Pages 4-5

Picture:  
Steve Dock



Pte Kelly Morgan, left, has broken the British javelin record... and she's made sure of her place in the GB team for the Commonwealth Games in Manchester

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So you've got a problem? Just call in the Army's Management Consultancy Services

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"Think of it this way... life may be hectic now... but when you've grown up no one will steal your eggs." – Page 39

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# Standing firm

Northern Ireland troops take robust approach to public duties

Report: Anthony Stone  
Pictures: Steve Dock

BEING properly dressed in Belfast these days can mean the difference between life and death. The upsurge in sectarian violence has brought soldiers back on the streets to support the police. There they face a nightly barrage of missiles, firebombs and gunfire and their protective clothing and training is all that stands between them and serious injury.

Rfn Chris Bannon, of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets, goes through the same ritual every time he leaves barracks for public order duty. First, he puts on a flame-proof under-garment. Next comes the shin and elbow pads, combat 95 uniform, body armour, flame-resistant balaclava, helmet and visor. The end result is a little uncomfortable and very warm, but at the moment, absolutely necessary for soldiering on the sectarian interfaces.

Last year, during the marching season, soldiers held firm on base lines, protected behind 6ft shields. They stood their ground as mobs used their arsenal of weaponry, which included petrol, acid and blast bombs, fireworks, paint, stones, bricks, breeze-blocks and golf balls.

This year tactics have evolved and troops are using shorter 4ft shields and

batons. This gives commanders a greater degree of speed and manoeuvrability in deploying their men.

The tactics are fine tuned and validated at Magilligan Training Camp, through which all 17 infantry companies within 8 Infantry Brigade must pass. The purpose of the validation exercise is to make sure companies are fit for the public order role and to identify any weaknesses which can be addressed.

The riot area is a realistic re-creation of city streets, where neighbourhoods are

## 'The orders are if you catch fire, stand still'

split along sectarian lines and public disorder is commonplace. A powerful speaker system pumps out megawatts of deafening sound effects and every movement is recorded on CCTV for later classroom analysis.

During the wide-ranging scenarios, platoon commanders, most about 20 years old, face complex challenges including how to deal with taking a junction, a blast-bomb attack and achieving a stand-off. The company exercise culminates in a full-scale riot.

Lt Col Greville Bibby, commanding officer of the 1st Battalion, Coldstream

Guards, whose men were the first through the validation training, said firebombs were one of the sternest tests facing troops.

"The orders are if you catch fire, stand still," said Lt Col Bibby. "Can you imagine. These soldiers are amazing. They will stand still and burn knowing someone within seconds will come and put them out. If they start running around, they cannot be caught. But if they do stand still and we get to the flames in 30 seconds, they will be all right. It takes quite a bit of courage to do that."

If troops believe petrol-bombers pose a real threat to life they may fire baton rounds. "But we see so many thrown – 300 or 400 a night in a riotous situation – that we could not fire 400 baton rounds," said Lt Col Bibby.

"People would think total war had broken out."

The tactical use of the shorter shields and batons is something that has been developed by The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and the Grenadier Guards during their recent deployments.

"People don't like being charged," said Lt Col Bibby. "If we need to use the baton round we will. It's a question of mobility, imposing your will on the crowds, but also putting yourself in the position where you can defend yourself."

At Girdwood Barracks, Maj Foster-Brown, OC B Coy, 1 RGJ, was preparing for a routine patrol. "This is a particularly young company," he said. "At least half have not been to Northern Ireland before."

Five minutes after leaving the barracks, as if to underscore the resurgence of street violence, Maj Foster-Brown's Land Rover was attacked when he stopped at traffic lights. A teenager, probably not much more than 15, produced a baseball bat from his jacket, and, cool as you like, started taking swings at the vehicle. It was



Robust response: Soldiers from B Company, 1 RGJ practise drills at Girdwood Barracks



Heat of the night: The soldier on the left is alight but his colleague is on hand with a fire extinguisher to douse flames during training at Magilligan



Barrier method: The Army's new mini crowd-control obstacle is put into position, left

This way up: It is light, strong and easy to deploy, below



broad daylight in the late afternoon. The lights changed, the Land Rover moved off, the youth ran away.

Later, as the gloom gathered under dark skies threatening rain, menacing figures appeared on the Belfast interfaces, emerging from the shadows for another night of violence. This summer the major's young company is going to grow up fast.

- Helicopter force – Pages 18-19
- EOD teams ready – Page 23

## Reclaiming the streets

SAPPERS have been trialling a mini crowd-control obstacle at Magilligan during public order training. The barricade can be easily and rapidly deployed, affording protection to troops.

Engineers from 20 Field Squadron are normally based at Maidstone but are currently deployed in Northern Ireland as the Roulement Engineer Squadron under command of 25 Engr Regt, which is permanently based at Antrim.

To fulfill its high readiness requirements, 25 Engr Regt has battle-group engineers, and light and heavy plant teams on reduced notice to move.

The light teams comprise a section commander and five combat engineers along with an armoured

Land Rover, a self-loading dump truck and a light-wheeled tractor. These assets are employed out of contact and require an escort and protection. The teams have the capability to close 30m of road and they carry power tools.

For bigger jobs, the heavy teams comprise a section commander and four combat engineers equipped with a medium-wheeled tractor, a self-loading dump truck and a low loader. The tractor can be used during disorder and is equipped with rock screens, a life support mechanism and fire suppression equipment. It can push 40 tonnes, pull 20 and winch ten.

The self-loading dump truck can carry two cars unstrapped or four cars if strapped down.



A seriously injured recruit didn't just need medical help.

Whilst still undergoing training, a young Scottish recruit was seriously injured in a car crash, which left him paraplegic. A property became vacant, but needed extensive adaptation to make it suitable for his needs. We were able to contribute to the renovation costs and give a grant towards essential items and furnishings.

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# Light machine-gun contenders on trial

SOLDIERS from the 2nd Battalion, The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment are in the USA to test the main contenders in an initiative to provide the Infantry with a light machine-gun (LMG).

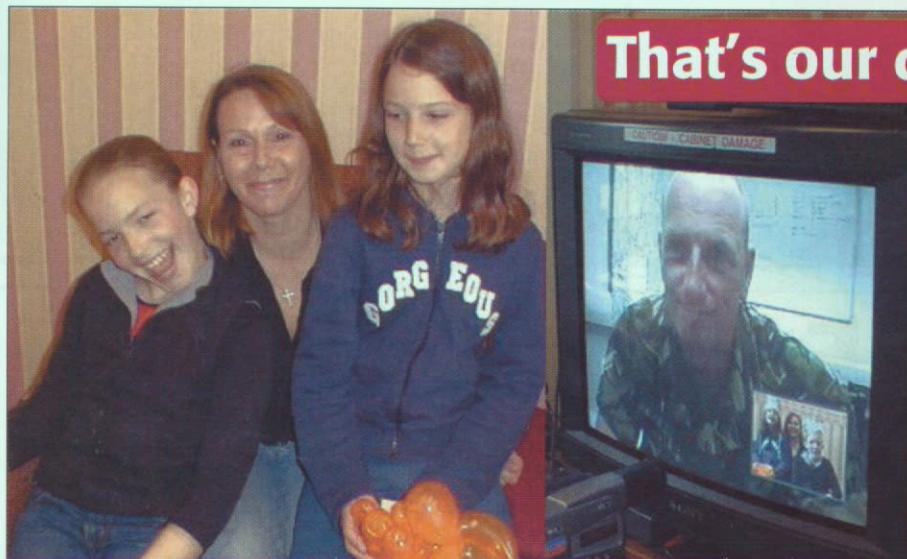
Infantry Trials and Development Unit staff from Warminster are overseeing trials on a proving ground at Yuma, Arizona, regarded as one of the most demanding environments for this type of weapon system.

A requirement for enhanced firepower

at section level was identified as part of the lessons learned in Kosovo three years ago and has been reinforced by experiences on more recent operations in Sierra Leone and Afghanistan. The Directorate of Equipment Capability, Direct Battlefield Engagement, with HQ Infantry, is looking at reliability, weight and accuracy as key measures against which competitors will be judged. If all goes well, the LMG will be in service early next year. Its introduc-

tion will significantly enhance the suppressive firepower available to infantry section and fire team commanders at ranges between 300 and 400m.

Those involved in the programme believe one of the weapon's greatest strength will be its ability to allow the improved light support weapon – based on the SA80 system – to engage targets at the extended ranges and reduced rates of fire to which it is best suited.



That's our dad in Kosovo ...

## Sappers dial Tidworth to see families

ABIGAIL and Aideen Hindson, accompanied by mum Karen, were delighted to see pictures of their dad, Sgt Adrian Hindson, beamed from Kosovo specially for a families' day in Tidworth organised to mark the Queen's Golden Jubilee.

The girls were able to chat with their father, who is deployed with 22 Engineer Regiment, via satellite phone technology. Also involved were soldiers with 5 Field Squadron RE based at Mrkonjic Grad in Bosnia.

The live video link over an ISDN line was the brainchild of WO1 (RSM) Will Macdonald, also serving with 22 Engr Regt in Pristina. With equipment provided by London company 7E Communications, the link-up was run from Pristina by WO2 (QMSI) Marty Willson, Cpl Paddy Manning in Tidworth and Cpl Wayne Whalley in Bosnia.

Families waiting in the WOs' and Sergeants' Mess at Tidworth were able to see their soldiers on 26in TV monitors, while pictures received in Kosovo and Bosnia were viewed on 6in Satcom screens. Despite delays and some problems with sound and vision quality, the experiment was enthusiastically received.

Sgt Chris Coggins RE, the first to go "live", said: "It was an excellent idea for the families to see and speak to us. There should be a facility for this more often on tour."

Cpl Ginge Mackie RE was also impressed. "It's just a shame my wife cried for the full five minutes," he said.

To further mark the jubilee, the sappers ran a multi-national six-a-side football competition in Pristina, lit a number of beacons and held a cocktail party.

● Golden Jubilee images – Pages 28-29

# Kabul command handed to Turks

BRITISH forces in Kabul are to withdraw this month following the United Kingdom's hand-over to Turkey of command of the International Security Assistance Force (Isaf).

Troops committed to Isaf operations, including those of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, are expected to return within the next few weeks, leaving a UK contingent of about 400 to support Isaf forces in the Afghanistan capital.

A squadron of Royal Engineers will remain behind, as will British staff officers in HQ Isaf and HQ Kabul Multi-National Brigade (KMNB) who will help provide a smooth transition. Stores and some equipment will be left in place in Afghanistan to make it easier for the UK to respond rapidly if the US asks for forces to be deployed in the future.

Britain's part in restoring some normality to the war-weary population of Kabul, a city battered by years of conflict, began with the deployment of per-

sonnel from 3 (UK) Division and 16 Air Assault Brigade – spearheaded by the 2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment – at the beginning of the year.

Maj Gen John McColl transferred his command of the international force to a Turkish general on June 20 at a ceremony in Kabul attended by Gen Sir Michael Walker, Chief of the General Staff. The hand-over followed months of detailed negotiation.

Meanwhile, the 1,300-strong Royal Marines Task Force Jacana battle-group, which has been engaged in a series of difficult search-and-clear operations in the mountains, was preparing to return home in a planned withdrawal starting on July 4. It has completed its mission to limit the ability of Taliban and al-Qaida forces to move, re-group and train.

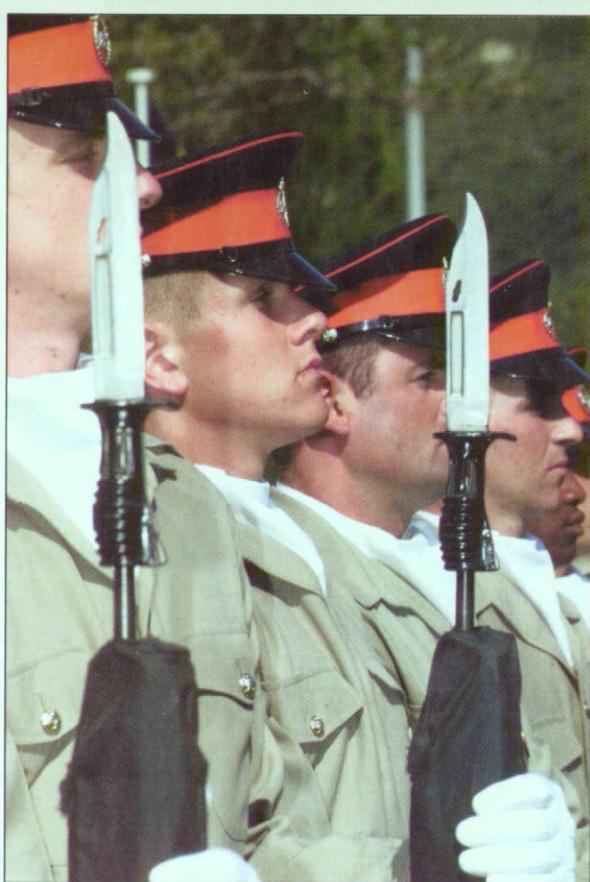
The move was in line with the UK's initial commitment to Operation Jacana, which had been limited to 90 days.

● Kabul chefs – Page 15



Excellent idea: Sgt Chris Coggins RE

## Tercenturians



On parade: Hundreds of old comrades and dignitaries from the recruiting area in Cumbria and North Lancashire travelled to Cyprus to watch as the new Colours of The King's Own Royal Border Regiment were presented to its 1st Battalion by Princess Alexandra, its Colonel-in-Chief.

Among the 250 soldiers inspected by the Princess were Pte Neil Darby, Pte Bernard Walker, Cpl Warren Topley and LCpl Clive Morton, pictured above, left to right. The Colours parade coincided with the 300th anniversary of the raising of one of the regiment's main founding elements, the 34th of Foot. Picture: Cpl Chris Redford

## Locked in ...



Historic: The Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Gibraltar, the Hon David Durie, inspects the Outpost Platoon, furnished by G Company of The Royal Gibraltar Regiment, during a re-enactment of the Ceremony of the Keys in Grand Casements Square. The colourful event marks the ceremonial locking of the fortress gates, which began during the Great Siege of 1779 and continued for the next 140 years. Picture: Cpl Martin Sadler, RAF



## Colourful parade for Scots Guards

In the spotlight: 2nd Lt Tom Parsons, left, carries the Colour during the Queen's Birthday Parade on Horse Guards last month.

It was the second time in a royal jubilee year that the 1st Battalion, Scots Guards, right, had paraded its Colour. Nos 1, 2 and 3 Guards were found by 1 SG, Nos 4 and 5 by the Grenadier Guards and No 6 by the Coldstream. Also represented were the Blues and Royal, The Life Guards and The King's Troop RHA.

The Scots Guards were involved in the Silver Jubilee parade of 1977, and 1986, the last occasion the Queen rode on the parade. Pictures: Mike Weston



## Families move to Tidworth 'village'

ARMY families in Tidworth are moving into new homes built as part of a major investment in the garrison town. The houses, constructed of local materials, replace outdated and poor-quality accommodation originally on the site.

In a ground-breaking move from previous practice, Service families were asked by the Defence Housing Executive for their input on the design of the houses and the layout of the estate.

A major concern was to avoid the usual "military estate" plan found in most garrisons and to create a village-

style community. The first-phase married quarters have now been occupied and the whole project is due to be completed in 2004.

### Yeomen over there

TERRITORIAL Army soldiers from The Royal Yeomanry exercised on Stanford training area, Norfolk, with US National Guard troops of 104 Battalion last month during a ten-day exchange programme. Squadrons from Leicester and Nottingham travelled to the USA.

## Great support for Army's own charity

SUPPORT Battalion, HQ ARRC has received an award for raising more than £12,000 (£7,700) for the Army Benevolent Fund. The man behind many of the unit's events was RSM Tony O'Rourke. Runners up in the Mess Challenge initiative across British Forces Germany was 28 Engineer Regiment.

• SSgt Ken Jones, a quartermaster serving at Bulford Garrison, went the distance when he gave up smoking. He took up running, entered the London Marathon and raised £2,000 for Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

### IN BRIEF

- For the second year running the Army led public sector performers in a major report on race and diversity in corporate Britain. The Armed Forces and emergency services all scored highly in the research, published by Race for Opportunity.

- Soldiers from Bramcote-based 30

Signal Regiment marched with fixed bayonets through nearby Nuneaton to celebrate the award of the Freedom of the borough. Lt Col Nick Pope, the commanding officer, accepted the Freedom scroll from Mayor Bill Hancox. Master of Signals Maj Gen Ian Sprackling was among the VIPs who took the salute.

## TA in frame to lead UK reaction forces

TERRITORIAL Army infantry battalions are likely to provide the nucleus of reaction forces geared to meeting terrorist threats within the United Kingdom. But the post-September 11 measures would not reduce the TA's commitment to overseas operations.

Proposals published by Defence Secretary Geoff Hoon on homeland defence and security identify the TA as the source, at short notice, of 500-strong reaction forces based on the regions.

They could be called up before, during or after a terrorist incident, and would be equipped to operate in areas contaminated by chemical, biological, nuclear and radiological hazards.

A lead unit in each brigade would be responsible for providing the command and logistic infrastructure for troops seconded from units within the region.

At present, the Army – Regular or TA, depending on the mission and who is available – assists the civil authorities

through its regional chain of command, with communications provided by 2 Signal Brigade.

Under Mr Hoon's plans, that chain of command would be reinforced by TA personnel to carry out contingency planning. Each regional brigade would also be reinforced with a TA team to allow the headquarters to deploy and operate for protracted periods.

The role of 2 Signal Brigade would be formalised to enable the brigades to support civil authorities, and its soldiers would be equipped with radios compatible with those used by the police and emergency services.

Individuals who volunteer for reaction force duties – all Type A personnel are eligible – will be given five extra training days. As everyone in the TA could, in emergencies, be called up, all members are expected to be given two days of familiarisation training so that they could be called on to provide further back-up to the authorities.



Queen's Birthday Parade on Horse Guards last month. He joined the Army in 1962.

• Middlesex and North-West London won the Army Cadet Force's Wilkinson Sword for public relations excellence.

## Loggies on patrol to victory in Lombardia

THE Italian Army's prestigious Lombardia international military patrol competition has been won for the first time by a British team.

Support Battalion HQ ARRC held off 66 four-man patrols from 12 nations to win the tough long-range reconnaissance event in the mountainous lakes area north of Milan last month.

Capt Iain Bayliss RLC led the winning team to the UK's first success in the 16 years of the Lombardia event. A second Support Battalion team was led by Cpl Keith Deans.

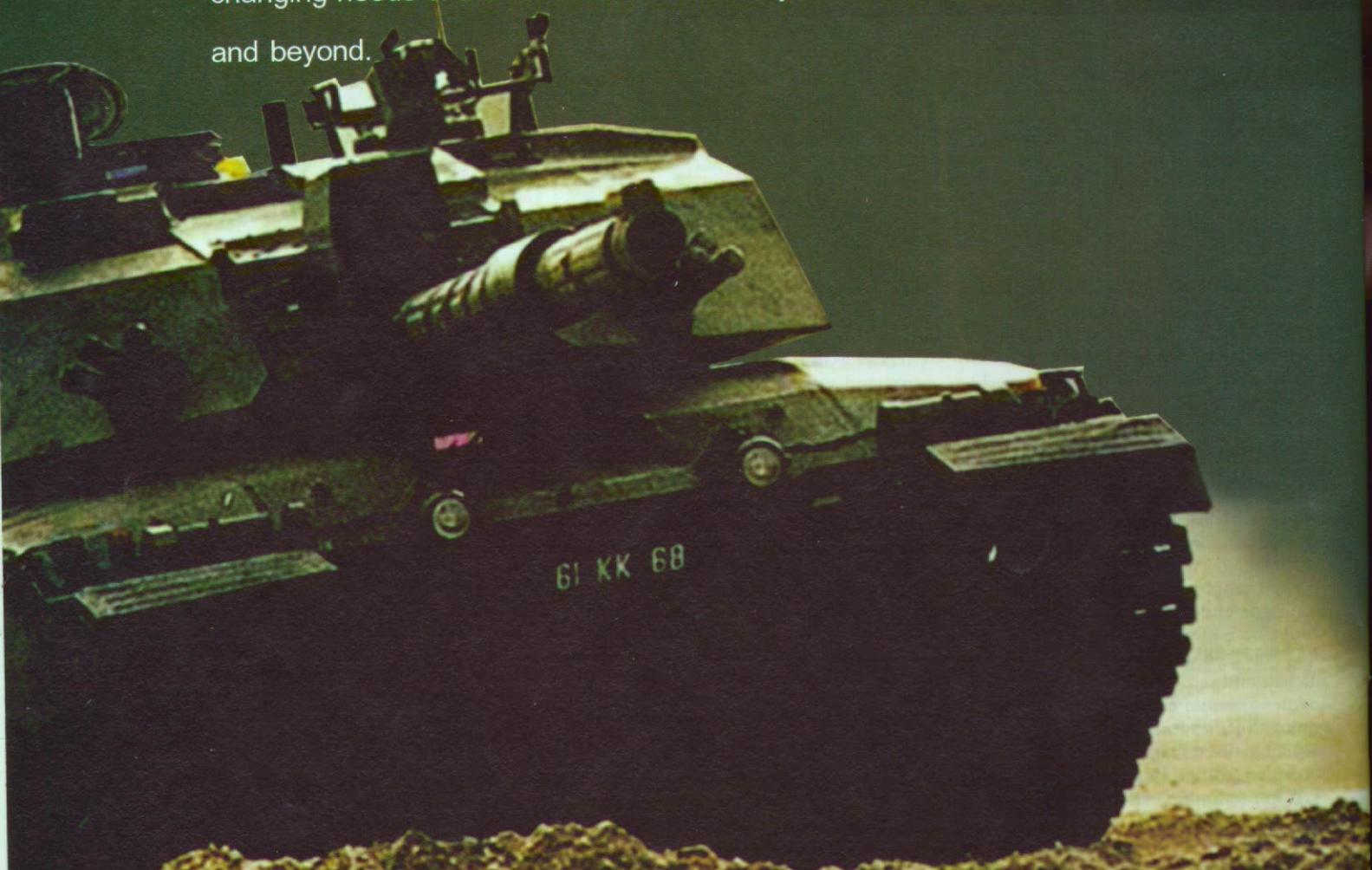
Heavy rain and low cloud made a timed navigation march across mountainous terrain even more difficult. Following a crossing of Lake Maggiore, teams had to complete tasks at stands on first aid, firing the Italian SPAS 15 shotgun, an abseil down a dam wall, close reconnaissance, speed march, weapon-stripping, target acquisition and fire mission with 120mm mortar and Milan anti-tank missile system, and PoW handling.

After the event Lt Col Bertie Polley LD, CO Support Battalion, joined the teams at Solbiate Olona, headquarters of the new Italian Rapid Reaction Corps, where links between the Rheindahlen and Milan-based support battalions were cemented at a reception and dinner.

They are to enter joint teams in the 2003 Lombardia patrol competition.

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**Movie monster:** SSVC's £500,000 mobile cinema at Chalfont St Giles, above. First-nighters Capt Rachel Jones, Flt Lt Sean Flynn RAF and Wren Writer Liz Lawrence RN, right, tuck into their popcorn before the Movie Machine's premiere performance in Kosovo

Pictures: Graeme Main, UK; PO(Phot) Rob Harding RN, Kosovo

● Inside the Movie Machine – Page 31

## Queen's birthday honours

### Order of the Bath

**KCB:** Lt Gen A S H Irwin, late BW.  
**CB:** Lt Gen R C Menzies, late RAMC; Maj Gen R V Searby, late 9/12th L.

### Order of St Michael and St George

**CMG:** Col J M Kane, late RLC.

### Order of the British Empire

**CBE:** Brig R J Croucher, late REME; Brig C G Holtom, late Int Corps; Col C J Murray, late RLC; Brig M D Wood, late RLC.

**OBE:** Lt Col P R Butler, Para; Lt Col P T Cross, RRF; Lt Col W P Crowley, R Signals; Lt Col P D T Hollins, Para; Lt Col A D Mathewson, SG; Lt Col C A Newell, PWRR; Col N J N Salisbury, late A and SH; Lt Col R R Smith, LI; Actg Col S D Smyth, ACF; Lt Col K B Tarr, RE; Actg Col D H Telfer, Humberside and S Yorks ACF.

**MBE:** WO2 M S Allen, RE; Maj G G Andrews, RE; Capt S B Boyd, IG; Capt C Broadfoot, RA; WO2 J A Buchanan, AGC; Maj F G Budd, AAC; Maj N D W Carrick, RGR; Actg Lt Col P A Caton, Stewart's Melville CCF; CSgt B Catterall, QLR; Maj D C Cleeton, RLC; Maj F S Compton, RE; WO1 W W Couper, AAC, TA; SSgt D Y Cowans, REME; Capt S Davey, Para; Maj M J Doig, RE; Capt P J Drummond, RE; WO2 M L East, RLC; Maj B L Forsythe, AGC; Maj I S W Frazer, AGC; WO2 M Garcia, RE; Maj C J M Graham, RLC; Maj J P Hamill, Int Corps, TA.

SSgt D S Holtom, Int Corps; WO2 G D Hume, R Signals; SSgt G A Kristensen, REME; WO1 G A Lewis, RLC; Maj (QGO) Chitraj Limbu, QO Gurkha Log Regt; CSgt J D McGrady, Kings; WO2 A McGrath, RE; Maj W V Miles, R Signals, TA; Maj K A Miller, RLC; Staff Cpl P J Mitchell, Blues & Royals; SSgt A P Owen, R Signals; Maj J F Panton, GH; CSgt M H Pasby, RGJ; WO2 P J Richards, LG.

Maj S R Skeates, RA; Cpl L Snelling, RRF; Lt Col D W Somerville, R Signals; WO2 R Langley-Stevens, R Anglian; Maj C R Sutherland, R Signals, TA; Maj W H C Swinton, SG; SSgt J R Thompson, RE; Gnr M Westhead, RA; Cpl S D Whitworth, RLC; Maj B F Williams, R Signals, TA; WO2 V J Williams, Rifles (V) TA; Capt A T Wilson, R Irish; Maj M L Woollard, AGC (SPS); Capt D S Wright, R Mons RE, TA; Maj D N Young, RDG.

### QVRM:

Col J Astbury, late RLC, TA; Col R M Jackson, late RRF, TA; WO2 D G Lamont, Glasgow and Strathclyde UOTC, TA; Col C J Laurence, late R Signals, TA; WO2 B M Parker, AGC, TA.

# Military honours for Arras fallen

**TWO** Scottish soldiers killed in action on the first day of the First World War Battle of Arras have been re-interred with full military honours.

The remains of Cpl William Gunn and Pte Archibald McMillan of the 15th Battalion, The Royal Scots were buried at the Point du Jour Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery at Athies, east of

Arras in northern France. Three other soldiers from the same battalion were commemorated during the service. Their remains could not be identified.

Researchers traced Pte McMillan's son, who was at the ceremony.

The remains were unearthed last autumn by archeologists working on a site near Athies.

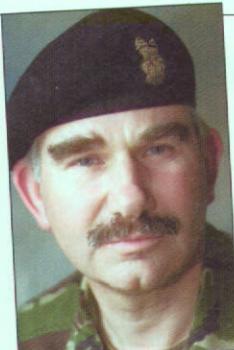
**Youngsters of Kent pay tribute to Canada's Great War sacrifice**

THREE hundred Kent schoolchildren are due to lay posies on the graves of Canadian soldiers in Shorncliffe Military Cemetery in a remembrance ceremony dating back to 1919. In many cases, children from the same families have carried out the tradition from generation to generation.

Boys and girls from schools on the Channel coast will travel to the cemetery near Folkstone for the service on July 1 to mark Canada Day and commemorate Canadian troops from the First World War who were buried in Kent. Brig David Santa-Olalla, commander of the Dover-Shorncliffe Garrison, is due to attend, along with the head of the Canadian Defence Staff in London, Brig Gen William Richard, and old comrades' associations.

### RAC's bright sparks

MORE than 1,200 Royal Armoured Corps soldiers will have a chance to gain civilian modern apprenticeship qualifications in horse care and engineering maintenance. Wiltshire College and Somerset College have put 24 civilian instructors in the field to work with the RAC.

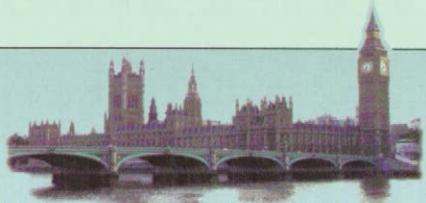


### ICE work for estates chief

**BRIG** Tom Foulkes, left, late Royal Engineers, head of the Army Estates Organisation, is to become director general of the Institution of Civil Engineers when he leaves the Army in September. As director of Army estates, he has been responsible for driving through a multi-million pound rebuilding and refurbishment programme.

### College outing

CADETS in 12 Platoon, Cambrai Company at the Army Foundation College raised £3,771 for the Falkland Families Association to mark the 20th anniversary of the war. The cadets used rowing, running and cycling machines in the college gym to cover the distance between the Falklands and Ascension.



## Under Big Ben

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

## 'Great care' over Suez review - PM

THE case for a retrospective medal for service in the Suez Canal Zone, 1951-54, is being "very carefully" considered, Prime Minister Tony Blair told the House of Commons.

Asked when he expected Sir Richard Wilson's medal review to report, Mr Blair said in a written answer: "The Committee of Honours and Medals is aware of the past history of the case and the representations currently being made for a medal.

"It is considering these representations very carefully."

Meanwhile, the extent of the campaign for a Suez medal was revealed in a written answer by veterans' minister Dr Lewis Moonie. He said that since June 2001 the MoD had received at least one parliamentary question for oral response, five parliamentary questions for written response, 122 letters from MPs on behalf of constituents, two early-day motions, two adjournment debates and four letters to a Defence minister from other than an MP.

The MoD had also received 88 letters from the public, variously addressed to the Prime Minister, a Defence minister or the Queen. All had been answered by an official on behalf of the department. A small number of veterans had written on many occasions.

**Harassment:** In the past three years the MoD has settled 11 claims for bullying and paid out £65,533. During the same period there were ten claims for sexual harassment costing £114,165 and 19 for racial harassment costing £189,873.

Meanwhile, six investigations, where bullying and harassment have been alleged, are in progress with the Royal Military Police Special Investigation Branch worldwide. Units involved are the School of Electrical and Aeronautical Engineering, 23 Pioneer Regiment, The Queen's Royal Lancers, 28 Engineer Regiment and 26 Engineer Regiment.

**AWOL:** A total of 7,461 soldiers went absent without leave over the past three years.

**Gulf War:** As at June 13, 2002, 114 war pension awards have been made to Gulf veterans for chronic fatigue syndrome and three for post-viral fatigue syndrome.

### And I quote ...

“I think we should view the Armed Forces in a holistic way, in terms of what they are asked to do and the way in which they deliver. We ask a lot of them and they deliver to a very high extent, irrespective of their ethnic background.”

— Defence Minister Adam Ingram replying to a question about equal opportunities in the Armed Forces

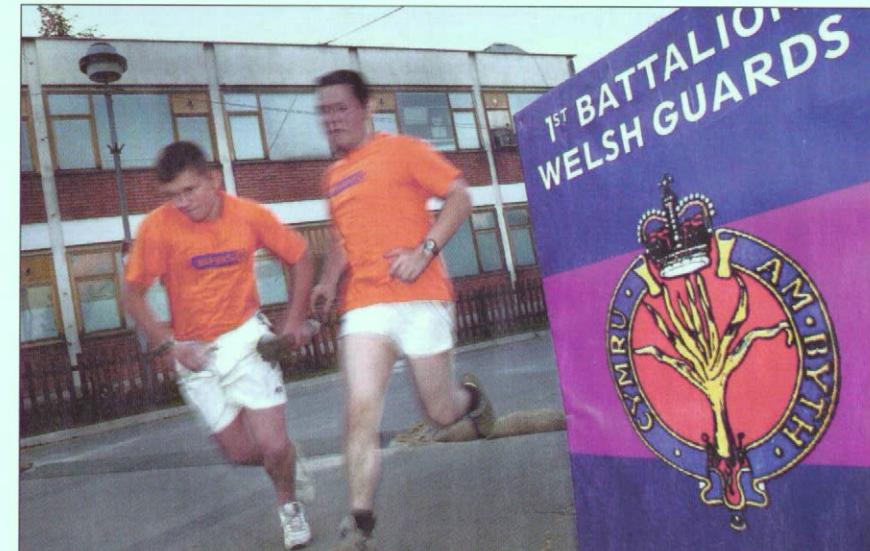
## Whale of a display

MORE than 10,000 men and women from the Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force were mustering at Whale Island, Portsmouth on June 27 to join the Queen in a spectacular Services' Golden Jubilee tribute.

Centrepiece of the day was a series of film-set tableaux in which the Armed Forces were due to demonstrate their military and peacekeeping skills honed in the Balkans and Sierra Leone.

Taking part were the KRH, 19 Regt RA, 29 Cdo Regt RA, 32 Regt RA; 26 and 39 Engr Regts RE and 59 Cdo Ind Sqn RE; 21 Signal Regt; Coldm Gds, R

- Chuckle with Chip – Page 21
- Golden Jubilee images – Pages 28-29



Over to you: Gdsm Ken Barnes, right, hands over the leek baton during the "Tour of Wales" relay undertaken by soldiers of Banja Luka-based 2 Company, 1st Battalion, Welsh Guards. The 80-strong team covered 600km around their Metal Factory base in Bosnia to raise nearly €3,000 (£1,930) for Children in Need and a Bosnian boy who needs urgent brain surgery. The distance completed by the guardsmen was the equivalent of running along the coastline from Wrexham to Cardiff. Picture: Cpl Mark Ballantyne

## Troops hold man wanted for war crime

BRITISH troops serving in Bosnia have been congratulated by Defence Secretary Geoff Hoon following the arrest of a suspected war criminal.

Darko Mrda was picked up by troops in Prijedor and detained on an indictment from the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia.

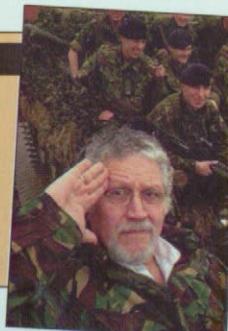
Charged with crimes against humanity, he is alleged to have been a member

of a police unit which forced about 200 non-Serb prisoners to kneel at the edge of a cliff before shooting them or pushing them over the edge. It is claimed that Mrda commanded the unit, ordered the massacre and shot at least one prisoner himself.

British units have been involved in 15 of the 28 detention operations conducted by Sfor.

### IN BRIEF

- **Dave Lee Travis**, right, one of the UK's best-known radio personalities, has signed up to present a Sunday morning show on Garrison Radio. "Finding out what the British Army like to talk about will help shape the show, but



- mainly it's got to be about having fun," he said.
- **Army Training Regiment Winchester** took on Army Medical Services recruits for the first time last month. The medics replace recruits for the

July 2002 SOLDIER



Picture: Cpl Lee Purvis, RAF

On target: Dmr Alun Reed from the 1st Battalion, Welsh Guards fires an M84 machine-gun belonging to a local army unit during live firing at Manjaca Range in Bosnia. He was a member of one of the 13 12-man teams taking part in a two-day march-and-shoot military skills competition hosted by the battalion. Teams included Canadian and Dutch troops serving with Multi-National Division (South West). The Canadians, who narrowly beat the Welsh Guards, were presented with tankards by Maj Gen Tonie van Diepenbrugge, Commander MND(SW).

## Sappers open up bridge to Sarajevo

SAPPERS based with the UK Close Support Engineer Squadron at Mrkonjic Grad re-opened the quickest route between Banja Luka and Sarajevo by repairing Ross bridge, six miles south of Knjegovo.

The engineers, serving with 5 Field Squadron's 1 Troop, were called in after Sfor closed the triple single 15-bay heavy girder bridge because much of its wooden decking had been ripped up and stolen.

Working high above a wide and rapidly flowing river, the sappers spent six



Hanging out: Work on the Ross bridge gets under way

weeks refurbishing the structure, laying a new decking system and modifying the ramp approaches to the bridge.

## Glamoc action



Ready to fire: Soldiers from 1 WG mortar platoon prepare an 81mm weapon for action during Balkan Gunner, a multi-national Offensive Support Group exercise held at Glamoc. The seven-day event involved troops from Britain, Canada, the US and the Netherlands. Picture: Cpl Grant Rivalin

Light Division, who will in future go to the Infantry Training Centre in Catterick following the decision to centralise infantry training. The last passing-out parade of the Light Division Platoon at Winchester took place on May 31.

- One hundred Territorial Army soldiers and 20 Sabre armoured reconnaissance vehicles of The Queen's Own Yeomanry exercised last month across North and East Yorkshire.

- A £35 million bid has been submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund as part of the National Army Museum's plans to redevelop its Chelsea premises.
- Army families at Wattisham have moved into the first of 250 new homes being built on Aldham military estate at Hadleigh, near Ipswich.

- After more than five years augmenting the once under-strength 2 Para, C (Gurkha) Company has rejoined 2 RGR at Dover.

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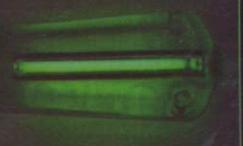


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Have bucket, will travel: Sgt Matt Parkinson, of 26 Engineer Regiment, in the wash-up area behind his kitchen on the Old Jalalabad Road in Kabul, Afghanistan

Picture: Capt Kerry Clarke

## Good eating guide to downtown Kabul

IT might have been dusty, dangerous and uncomfortable, but the food laid on for troops deployed on Operation Fingal in Afghanistan has been excellent, according to the officer tasked with running the show.

Capt Kerry Clarke RLC, the food services officer for Kabul, told *Soldier* that since fresh rations went on line in early March military chefs had worked hard to produce "a superb standard of food" for troops throughout the theatre.

The UK handed over responsibility as lead nation for food at the end of June and in future will deal only with British personnel.

Conditions at both the forward mounting base in Karachi and in Kabul have tested the temperament and skills of chefs, who have had to contend with mosquitoes, very high temperatures and casual meals for large numbers of troops from other nations.

In Karachi, a hygienic catering facility was created in a run-down and infested hotel on the edge of the city. The nine locations at which chefs have been working in Kabul have been equally challenging. All operate out of field kitchens and make the most of available cover against the sun and rain. Improvisation, hard work and professionalism have generated minor miracles.

SSgt Daz Scott, in charge of the 3 Close Support Regiment RLC catering team

serving the International Stabilisation Force (Isaf), has been complimented many times by the soldiers of other nations who regularly eat in British cookhouses.

"As a chef, our day-to-day job remains pretty much the same, no matter where we find ourselves serving," he said. "But here it seems more rewarding, and sustaining our troops with three excellent meals a day provides them with a morale boost in a harsh and unforgiving environment."

A Royal Air Force mobile unit provides meals at Kabul's airport, the air point of embarkation (APOD) for Isaf operations. Although rationed for 300 souls a day, its eight chefs frequently have to cater for 100 extras as well as provide a 24-hour mess service.

WO2 Andy Clement, regimental catering warrant officer for the 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, paid tribute to his chefs. "They were always coming up with new ideas, from improvised equipment to theme nights and barbecues. They also took an active part in the battalion tasking, including food and vehicle patrols, visiting orphanages and raising money for local schools.

"When a rocket aimed at the APOD flew overhead, mess personnel looked at each other and carried on. It was like something out of *Carry on up the Khyber*," he said.



Capt Clarke

## Paper talk

### What the Press has been saying

● A former soldier has forced the Government finally to admit that Gulf War Syndrome exists after a tribunal ruled the veteran suffers from the condition. After a nine-year fight with the MoD to get a war pension, Shaun Rusling, a former medic, was told he does suffer from the debilitating illness which has left him needing 47 medicines. — *Daily Express*

● Britain and America are ready to send troops to Kashmir to monitor the Line of Control dividing Indian and Pakistani-held territory. — *Times*

● Foday Sankoh, the once-feared founder of the rebel movement responsible for ten years of brutal civil war in Sierra Leone, is a broken figure apparently on the verge of madness. — *Daily Telegraph*

● The bravest Argentine fan watched his side lose to England in the World Cup surrounded by Royal Marines in Afghanistan. Maj Hector Prechi watched England's victory as a VIP guest in the commandos' quarters at Bagram airfield. — *Daily Mirror*

● British and Argentinian soldiers serving in the UN peacekeeping force in Cyprus watched the World Cup game together. "It was good high spirits," said one bombardier. "The Argentinians were really good lads." — *Times*

● Nato is to increase the security surrounding film taken by its spyplanes after it emerged that anyone with a satellite dish could tune into it. — *Daily Mail*

● The final resting-place of Rudyard Kipling's son, who was killed at the Battle of Loos in the First World War, has been officially confirmed by the MoD, resolving a long dispute. Lt John Kipling, 18, serving with the Irish Guards, was reported missing in action on September 27, 1915. — *Times*

● Senior defence officials have drawn up plans to cut the British Army to its lowest level for more than 160 years. The proposals mean Britain will have a standing army of fewer than 100,000 soldiers. — *Sunday Telegraph*

● Three SAS explosives experts took part in an unprecedented raid on a bank in Bosnia, under orders from a British general, to help to destroy a mafia plot, according to a new history of The Green Howards. — *Times*

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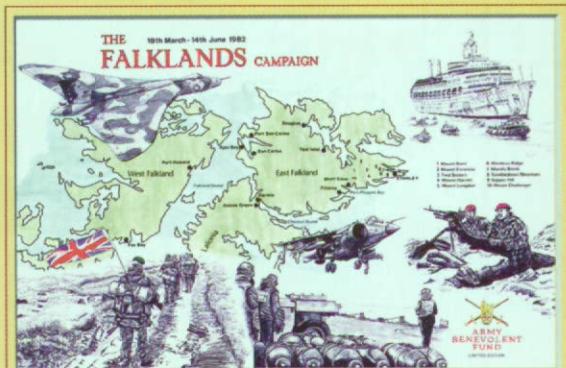
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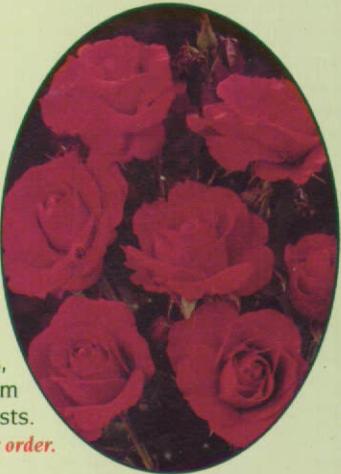


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# Shiny K sparkles

## Unusual mission for gunners during historic Cyprus talks

WITHIN days of arriving on the island of Cyprus for a six-month Operation Tosca deployment, gunners serving with K (Hondegem) Battery, 5th Regiment, Royal Artillery, found themselves involved in an historic sequence of events.

As part of the 32 Regiment Royal Artillery Group, they made up half a multi-national company that includes Argentinian, Slovak and Hungarian soldiers and mans Liri Troop in the divided island's Sector 2 East.

The unit's role as Mobile Force Reserve was extended to include patrols and special projects and the tour was dominated by ground-breaking summit meetings between the leaders of the Turkish north and the Greek Cypriot south.

K Battery, which earned its nickname of "shiny" during a posting to St John's Wood in the 1930s, arrived on the island two days before the first face-to-face meeting between President Clerides and Mr Denktash.

When it was announced more meetings would be held to search for a solution to the Cyprus problem, K Battery found itself providing high levels of security around a conference centre built on the site of a disused building in the buffer zone. The work was finished under the watchful eye of battery sergeant major WO2 Tony Hastie in the early hours of the morning of the first meeting.

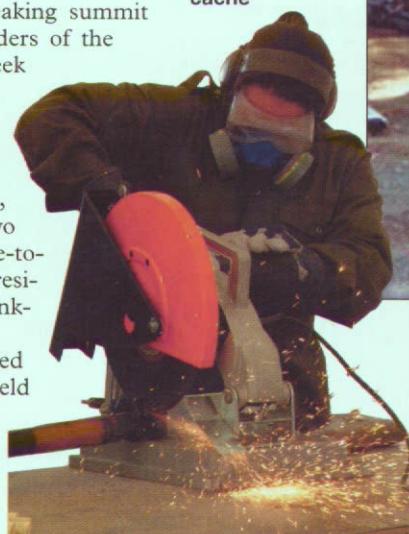
As the talks continued, K battery ran more than 50 security operations.

In May, Kofi Annan, Secretary General of the United Nations, visited Cyprus to conduct meetings with both leaders and host a dinner for them. The high-profile function was held in the UN Protected Area surrounding Nicosia's deserted international airport.

Two soldiers from K Battery, LBdr Colin Walker and Gnr Robert Toon, were selected to act as waiters and spent an interesting evening with the leaders while their colleagues secured the venue, facilitated the press and monitored demonstrators. On the previous night the battery

**VIP: UN Secretary General Kofi Annan arrives. Saluting is Maj Richard Hayhurst**

**Cutting edge: Gnr Kelly Smith, below, destroys the first weapon from the Makarios arms cache**

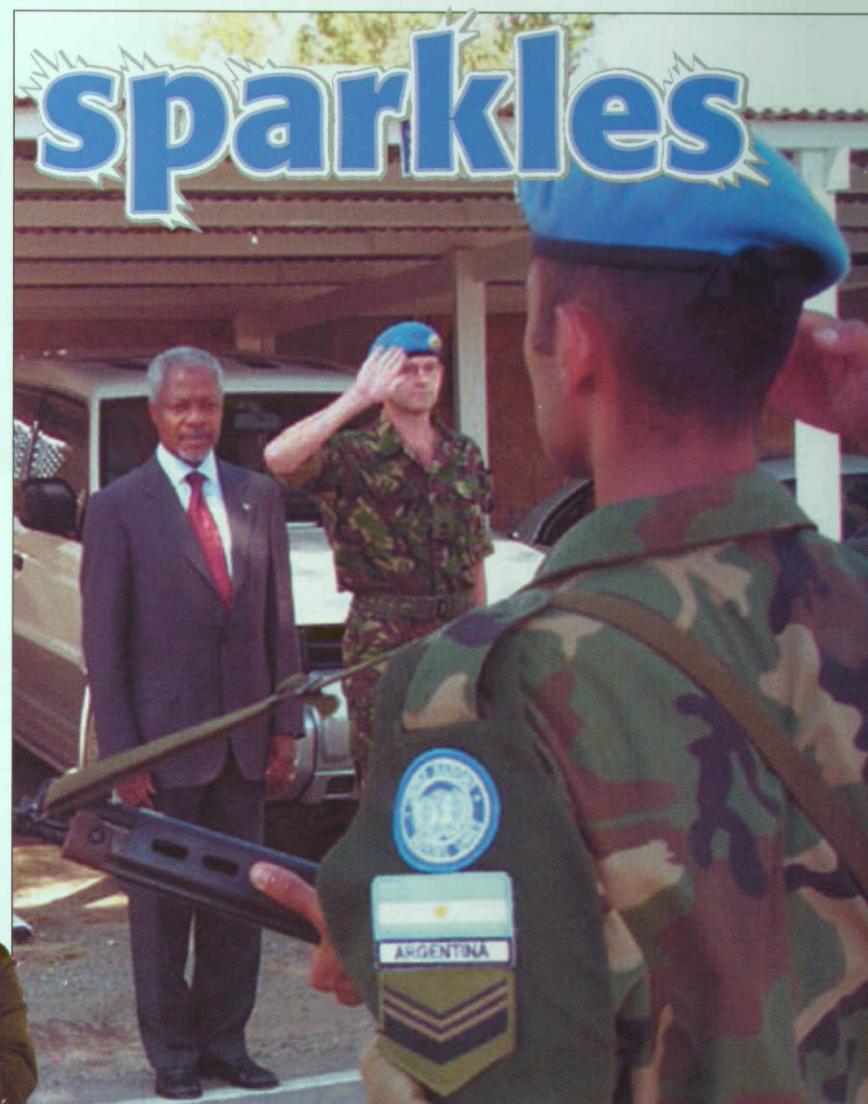


ticular, was involved in a similar operation at Selby.

Kofi Annan met the troops the following day, which was appreciated by the soldiers who had spent the previous two days saving the conference centre from flooding or manning cordon positions.

At the same time K Battery completed another significant task – the decommissioning of the Archbishop Makarios arms cache, guarded by the UN for the Cyprus Government since 1972. As tension gripped the island of Cyprus the UN, in an attempt to calm the situation, offered to look after weapons for the Cyprus Government. Guarding the cache usually falls to the Mobile Force Reserve.

Destroying nearly 5,000 weapons was



was called out on flood duties, of which it has some experience. Eighteen months ago K Battery, and battery commander Maj Richard Hayhurst in particular, was involved in a similar operation at Selby.

Kofi Annan met the troops the following day, which was appreciated by the soldiers who had spent the previous two days saving the conference centre from flooding or manning cordon positions.

**‘K Battery found itself providing high levels of security’**

the easy bit, with project manager Capt Shaun Nield, assisted by WO2 Wayne Picken, having to smooth over many difficulties to get the job done. Gnr Kelly Smith, youngest member of the battery, cut up the first rifle, and the last was decommissioned by Gnr Michael Hillary and Gnr Bret Murcutt in the presence of the Cyprus Minister of Justice, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Chief of Police.

Other achievements during the tour included the unit winning a military skills competition and Bdr Glen Fulcher masterminding the construction of a bar to cater for the needs of 300 soldiers and civilians from 12 nations.

The battery arranged for Argentinian cavalry officer Capt Pablo Petrochelli, the Mobile Force Reserve 2iC, to travel to Woolwich with Sgt Mel Wood to help train 16 Regiment RA, which deployed on Op Tosca last month.

K Battery became the Joint Rapid Reaction Force STA high-readiness battery on its return to the UK last month and will be heavily involved in trials of new counter-battery and mortar-locating radars.

# Only way is up

Jointery works seamlessly when it comes to moving troops around in Northern Ireland

**Pictures: Steve Dock**

SOLDIERS who have been out all night in the wet and cold generally don't take kindly to news that, due to the weather, they won't be picked up by helicopter. Instead they will be walking in.

There's nothing quite like a long hike back to base to sharpen the appetite for breakfast. And an opportunity to praise the professionalism of the pilots.

Fortunately, it's a scenario that happens infrequently, even with Northern Ireland's inclement weather.

What the guys on the ground might easily forget is that the airborne taxi service is operated by some of the best pilots in the Services, whose skills are honed by hour after hour of operational flying.

For security reasons, troops in the province mostly travel by air and rely on the recently-formed Joint Helicopter Force (Northern Ireland).

From its base at Aldergrove, JHF(NI)



runs all tasking for flying units in the province.

The RAF components of JHF(NI) include 230 Squadron and, until last April, 72 Squadron with its Wessex and Puma helicopters.

The Pumas have since been absorbed into a beefed-up 230 Squadron, where they are mainly used in a support role, moving troops around.

On the green side, two squadrons from 5 Regiment Army Air Corps fly Gazelle and Lynx, with one flight flying Islander.

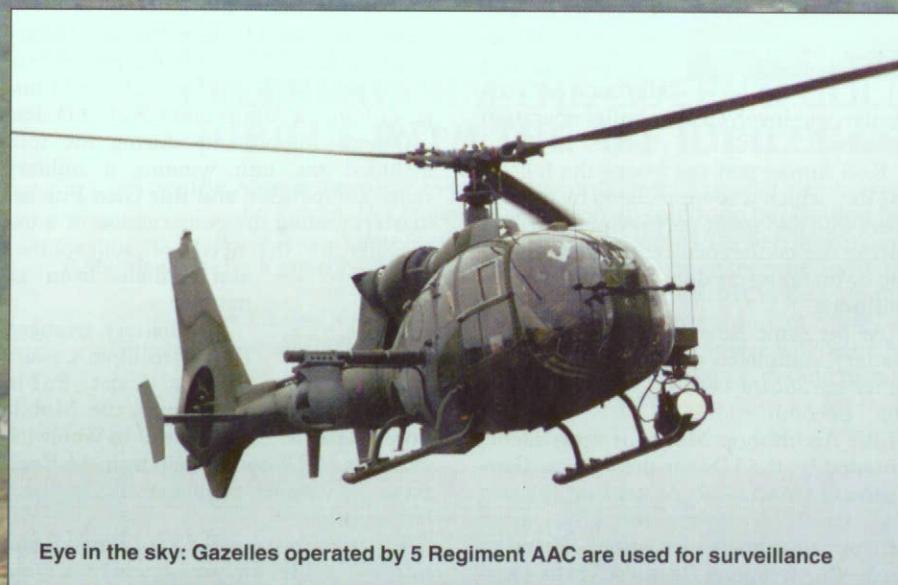
The Gazelles are mainly employed on surveillance and reconnaissance tasks. The Lynx is used to move men about, but in smaller numbers than in Pumas.

A detachment of Royal Navy Sea Kings is also in the province, adding a lifting capability to its transport role.

All of which probably won't mean much to the guys waiting on the ground for their next helicopter taxi back to base. Just as long as it comes.



Mind your heads: A Lynx helicopter from 655 Squadron AAC drops off troops at Bessbrook army base in South Armagh



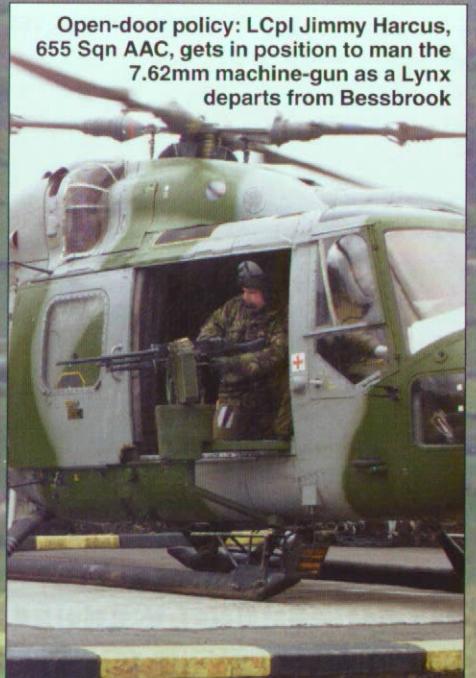
Eye in the sky: Gazelles operated by 5 Regiment AAC are used for surveillance



High standards: A Royal Navy Sea King lands at Bessbrook



Attention to detail: Cpl Paul Curtis, right, meticulously runs through the flight plan with Sgt Simon Foddering during a briefing at 655 Squadron, Army Air Corps



Open-door policy: LCpl Jimmy Harcus, 655 Sqn AAC, gets in position to man the 7.62mm machine-gun as a Lynx departs from Bessbrook

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# Chuckle with Chip



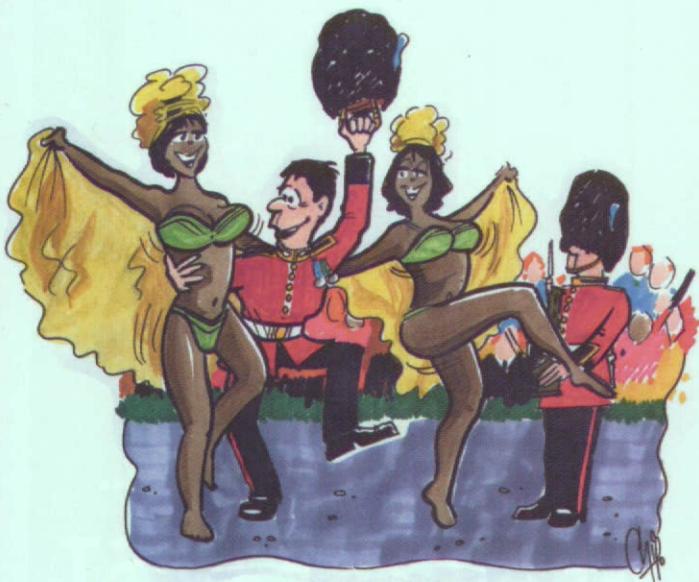
"I thought you were counting 'em."



"Normally we welcome all bikers, man . . . but this is the Hell's Angels section."

## Good time had by all

Golden (jubilee) memories



"Guardsman Delaney had never enjoyed route-lining before J-Day."



"If I can't have a big one like him, I'm going home . . ."



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# 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.

## We're all off on our plastic holidays . . .

I READ that we'll spend £14 billion abroad on holiday this year on plastic cards. Apparently we're not using as much local currency, bought at bureaux de change, as we once did.

The advantages are said to be that we find cards the easiest way to spend and obtain local currency. Plastic is widely accepted and cash machines are accessible in all major holiday destinations. Another factor is that taking sterling to exchange is risky (loss and theft) and travellers' cheques can be awkward to use.

So plastic is easy . . . but remember:

**Buy now, pay later:** This is the risk associated with plastic. We don't usually keep a track of what we're spending, do we? Often, when we get home after a great holiday, we get a nasty shock when the credit card statement falls through the letterbox.

**Use plastic, spend more:** It's been estimated that those of us who use plastic spend 25 to 30 per cent more than if we use cash. Somehow spending on plastic doesn't seem like spending money. So, we'll spend less if we use cash.

### Cost of using plastic

Major credit and debit card providers charge for using plastic abroad. They include an overseas commission or foreign exchange fee, typically around 2.75 per cent on top of the transaction. Some card providers don't charge – the Nationwide is one and Saga (for the over 50s) another. What does your card provider charge? Check it out.

### Budget your holiday

We shop around for our holiday, don't we? It's great to get a good deal. So what about doing a budget? Sit down and make it part of the planning. Destination, travel, accommodation, food, shopping, gifts. What will it cost? Will we be paying for it for months ahead? If we need to borrow, can we borrow more cheaply than using credit cards?

Start with a simple question. What is the figure we have in mind for our holiday? Make some decisions before you go. Plan your spending in advance. Use cash when you can. If you're going abroad, get a card that will cost you nought per cent on foreign use.

Have a nice time.

### If you want to talk

If you want someone independent to talk to, call the HelpLine below. A counsellor will spend time with you and talk through your decisions or worries.

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Ready to go: Capt Victoria Henson, far right, with her team, from the left Pte Rudi Strydon, 1 A and SH, LCpl Eric Hay and Cpl Chris Barron, RLC, and Cpl Jay Owens, R Sigs, front

# Call waiting

Explosive Ordnance Disposal teams in Northern Ireland are permanently ready

Report: Anthony Stone

Pictures: Steve Dock

IT'S the waiting that's the hardest part. The call can come at any moment, day or night, and within minutes the teams are on their way to the latest explosive ordnance disposal incident.

It's been a particularly busy time for the province's EOD units, with both sides of the sectarian divide using homemade grenades and pipe bombs.

Capt Victoria Henson, currently the only female Ammunition Technical Officer (ATO) serving in Northern Ireland, typifies the switched-on ethic.

"I never go anywhere without my pager," she said. "For me, almost the only time I relax is when the call comes through to go to an incident." At least then the uncertainty of waiting is over.

For the entire tour the team stay together, only leaving the base as a unit. Days are filled with drills, admin and fitness. The mantra "train hard, fight easy" is never far from her soldiers' lips.

Cpl Jason Owens, who looks after electronic countermeasures for the team, said: "After all the training, it is almost a relief to get out here and do the

real job." The team comprises the ammunition technical officer, the wheelbarrow operator, the electronic countermeasures operator and an infantry escort.

Maj Jim Convery, OC of 321 EOD Sqn RLC, said: "This posting is a watershed. Once you've done bomb disposal in Northern Ireland, you are able to do a range of jobs."

If soldiers can get through the rigorous training, gender is irrelevant. When Capt Henson attends an incident she sometimes gets the odd comedy moment when the police will address the corporal or one of her team, assuming they are in charge.

"For some it's a shock, but nine times out of ten they are just looking for an ATO to arrive and for them to pass their problem to you," Capt Henson said.

The sharp end of EOD work doesn't get any more acute than this. For the team the posting is the fulfilment of personal ambition and professional pride.

Capt Henson said: "I am lucky to serve here, proud and thrilled to be here. I can look everyone in the face who has done this and say, 'yes, I did that too'."

# Scaling new heights

Army captain becomes first woman to complete All Arms Commando Course

IT was third time lucky for Capt Pip Tattersall when she made history by becoming the first woman to complete the All Arms Commando Course and earn the right to wear the famous green beret.

By successfully overcoming the tests, which included scaling a 6ft wall in full kit with a rifle and yomping 30 miles in under eight hours, Capt Tattersall becomes eligible to work in either combat support or combat service support areas of 3 Commando Brigade. She will continue to wear her parent unit cap badge of the Adjutant General's Corps.

Capt Tattersall completed the gruelling course on her third and final attempt. She first attended the Commando Training Centre Royal Marines at Lympstone, Devon, in March 2001 but was withdrawn in week seven of the eight-week course.

Her second attempt in July 2001 was frustrated when a back injury meant she was unable to continue her training. She returned for a final attempt, re-joining the course at week five.

"I wasn't joking when I said the hardest part was deciding to re-apply," Capt Tattersall said. "It is like when you phone up the dentist with a bad tooth. You know you don't really want to do it but you feel compelled to."

"There were several re-joiners at the same time as myself and you just crack on with the course. It is very fast-moving and there is a lot to take on. You are on exer-



Capt Pip Tattersall

cise almost immediately. The last two weeks of the course are meant to wear you down.

"You go straight from final exercise, which involved covering a lot of distance over Dartmoor, and then into Commando test week. So it was straight off exercise on Friday and into the endurance course on Saturday, with one respite on Sunday and then a nine-mile speed march on Monday. You don't get a break, but by that point you keep yourself going anyway."

Capt Tattersall, currently based at the Army Foundation College, in Harrogate, North Yorkshire, is waiting to

see what opportunities may come. "For the moment I am just continuing to enjoy the work and see what challenges arise in the future," she said.

Any tips to pass on to soldiers thinking of having a crack?

"It is not a decision they should take lightly as it is hard work, physically and mentally challenging. But I certainly would not discourage anyone from having a go at it."

Despite the intense media interest



Over and out: Capt Tattersall conquers the wall on her way to the beret



Bravo: Brig Nick Pounds, RM, centre commandant, presents the beret



Pip pip, hooray! Capt Tattersall tackles the tough commando tests on the Tarzan course at Lympstone in Devon

devoted to her attempt, Capt Tattersall said she was oblivious to the attention – "I did not really notice it on the course, it was only stepping outside the gate that I was aware of it."

The All Arms Commando Course is different from that of the Royal Marines. To become a Royal Marines Commando candidates have to join the Corps of Royal Marines as a recruit and complete the six-month course, or the one-year course for officers.

# Grandmothers' Army signs off

Volunteer squadron's Bosnia tour hailed as 'unqualified success'

TWO grandmothers were among the members of 97 (Britfor) Signal Squadron (Volunteers), the Territorial Army unit mobilised for service in Bosnia and recently returned to the UK, writes John Elliott.

WO2 (YoS) Helen Jephcote and Sgt Julie Moulson were part of the first wholly TA squadron to be formed and deployed abroad in modern times. Their mobilisation to an operational theatre is believed to be the first of its kind since the Suez Crisis 46 years ago.

Eight members of the squadron, which was based at locations including Banja Luka and Sarajevo, have opted to extend their tours and 15 others are hoping to join up for a whole year.

In their final official act on June 29 before disbanding, members paraded in front of the Princess Royal at the headquarters of the Royal Corps of Signals at Blandford Forum, Dorset, to receive their Nato medals.

The squadron's mobilisation for more than six months, during which it replaced a Regular unit, was rated an unqualified success. Squadron commander Maj Andrew Smith, R Signals, said: "The major lesson learned was how quickly TA soldiers were able to integrate with others they had never met before. While many TA soldiers have served in the Balkans as individual reinforcements, 97 Squadron's deployment showed that the TA are more than capable of deploying as formed units under their own TA command structure."

The unit supplied communications and IT facilities to HQ British Forces. "HQ Britfor was more than happy with the standard of service the squadron provide," he said.

WO2 Jephcote, who joined the TA in 1979, is a yeoman of signals in Glasgow-based 52 Signal Squadron (V). She has two children and three grandchildren, and



Experience: Sgt Julie Moulson

works for the Scottish Executive and runs a chiropody home-visits business in the evenings. She said she had enjoyed the deployment and would have no doubts about signing up for a second tour.

Sgt Moulson, a care assistant who lives in Leicester, described her time in the Balkans as "a tremendous experience". It was the longest she had been away from her four children and two grandchildren.

Involving signallers from units across the UK, the deployment was sustained during a bitter Bosnian winter and against a background of change in the country. Brig Nigel Jackson, Commander of 2 (National Communications) Signal Brigade, described it as "a stunning example of what the TA can do, especially as everyone was a volunteer for this exacting task". He said the Royal Signals were very proud of them.

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# Horace is King of the Jungle

Caribbean 'Crocodile Dundee' teaches troops how to survive

**Report: Capt Guy Gatenby**

**Picture: Cpl Jim Elmer**

WHEN most of us think of Jamaica we imagine sunny beaches, blue seas and the laid-back attitude of the local people.

But for soldiers of C Company, 1st Battalion, The Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment, every day was a fight for survival in the Blue Mountain jungles of Jamaica's Highlands. And teaching them to survive was Horace, the man known simply as "The Examiner".

Widely acknowledged as having no equal when it comes to living off the land, Horace has been passing on his know-how to Jamaican Defence Force and British troops for 16 years. He teaches them how to trap and track, and which plants can kill and which can save life.

This Jamaican version of "Crocodile Dundee" had the lads eating bugs and grubs but also treated them to a feast of fruits not seen in your local supermarket.

The Examiner uses the jungle to make his traps, his shelters and his fishing kit. It is said he never removes his camouflage hat in front of officers because he wants to conceal his 2ft-long dreadlocks.

C Company was in the Caribbean for Red Stripe, a month-long jungle exercise. Every year one lucky unit has the four-week roller-coaster mix of jungle training, community aid projects and rest and recreation. Troops are based in the Jamaican Defence Force base of Titchfield Camp, a burnt-out hotel overlooking an island once owned by Errol Flynn (before, according to local rumour, he lost it in a game of cards).

From there, soldiers deploy into the mountains to learn how to cope with the harshest conditions, sweltering humidity, river crossings and all-night ambushes. Spiders, crocodiles and scorpions add their own special touches.

It really is back to basics. Navigation, for example, has to be re-learnt because hand-held GPS systems don't always

work under the thick tree-top canopy. Pacing distances becomes vital, and students learn not to move at night. Once the light starts to fade troops are advised to stay put until stand-to next day.

As 2nd Lt Greg Langham said: "Getting up in dry kit to put on yesterday's wet kit is one of those special moments in a soldier's career he will never forget."

By using its Territorial Army assault pioneers, the soldiers

helped a local school, sorting out the water supply and hanging new doors in the intervals between being dragged off to play cricket with the pupils.

There was time to relax in Montego Bay, one of the world's top tourist resorts, and a chance to swim with dolphins.

Now the battalion is due to swap green jungle for the concrete variety – taking over public duties in London.



**What's for supper? Horace "The Examiner" demonstrates how to make and set traps**

# Golden tribute



Picture: London District

Centre of attention: The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh at St Paul's Cathedral for a service of thanksgiving. Standing behind them is Prince Harry

Military units from Catterick to Canada, Brunei to Birmingham, Sierra Leone to Sennelager marked the Queen's Golden Jubilee by lighting beacons, organising street events and hosting cocktail parties. Here is a flavour of what went on. Organisers estimate more than 2,000 celebratory beacons were lit worldwide, many of them by Army units stationed abroad.



Above: A beacon burns near the site of Captain Cook's Monument near Great Ayton in Cleveland. It was built by 30 cadets from Nunthorpe School Green Howards detachment of C Company, Cleveland ACF under the command of Maj Richard Murray, pictured.



## and...

\* Seven soldiers from 7 Battalion, REME based at Wattisham Airfield, took part in a naval field gun competition to mark the Golden Jubilee.

\* C (Glamorgan Yeomanry) Troop, 211 (South Wales) Battery RA (V) fired a jubilee salute in Cardiff's Queen Alexandra Gardens.

\* Part-time medics with 225 (Highland) Field Ambulance RAMC (V) held a street party at their Dalkeith Road barracks in Dundee.

\* Epsom College's Combined Cadet Force, of which the Queen is Captain General, formed a static display to spell out "50" and "Epsom" on the college field.



Above: An international group of soldiers, from the 1st Battalion, The Black Watch battle-group on exercise in Canada, toast the health of the Queen. From left are Pte Matt McEwen, from Canada; Pipe Major Alistair Duthie, New Zealand; Pte Rackie Racule, Fiji; Sgt Kiwi McGilp, New Zealand; and Pte Lav Lawaci, Fiji.

The BW battle-group is training in Alberta on Exercise Medicine Man 2, designed to prepare the group to take over as the Army's lead armoured task force early next year.

Picture: Capt Rob Walker BW

Left: Gnr Kristy Rowsell of The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, inspects the specially-bred ABF Jubilee Rose held by Chelsea In-Pensioner Alwyn Holmes. The large red floribunda reflects the colours of the Army Benevolent Fund. Priced at £6.50 each, they are available from the ABF on 01608 647451.



Above: The Blues and Royal catch the eye at the All the Queen's Horses pageant during the Royal Windsor Horse Show. Set against the walls of the floodlit castle, the event celebrated the Golden Jubilee and the Queen's lifelong involvement with the equestrian world. It involved more than 1,000 horses and 3,000 performers, including The Life Guards, a spectacular display by The King's Troop RHA, and the Shetland pony mascot of The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Picture: Mike Weston

Right: Ten Army skydivers joined 17 of the UK's top parachutists, to build a Golden Jubilee "50" in the skies over the Joint Service Parachute Centre at Netheravon. The group jumped from two aircraft at 15,000ft.

Picture: Simon Ward

Below: Nowhere was the Queen's big day celebrated more loyally than in Camp Butmir, Sarajevo, where British, Canadian, Australian and New Zealand troops, International Police Task Force members and others enjoyed a Golden Jubilee party. Col Huw Lawford, late RA, proposed a loyal toast and Lynx helicopters from 4 Regiment AAC performed a fly-past.



Met and ops staff personnel take part in an obstacle race, above, during Golden Jubilee celebrations at the Air Point of Departure (APOD) at Kabul international airport, Afghanistan. The 250-strong detachment, which is responsible for safe and efficient air operations for all military and civilian aircraft in Kabul, organised a six-nation "It's a Knockout", barbecue, street party and beacon-lighting to mark the royal milestone.

Sappers from 34 Field Squadron (Air Support) Royal Engineers, who maintain the airfield, provided decorations and settings for the event.



Cpls Gary Davies and Chris Dennis, from Nijmegen Company, Grenadier Guards, flank the Rev Richard Hall, chaplain to the 1st Battalion, Scots Guards, as he carries the Millennium Flame from St Paul's Cathedral to the Guards Chapel, where it was kept burning until it could be carried down the Mall to mark the Golden Jubilee.

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July 2002 **SOLDIER**

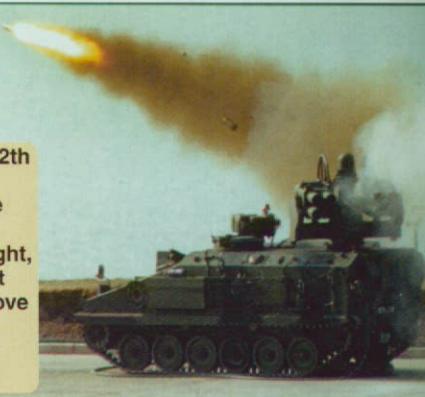
## Tank-buster chosen

SWEDISH company Saab Bofors Dynamics has been selected by the Defence Procurement Agency to provide the British Army with its tank-busting **Next-Generation Light Anti-Armour Weapon** (NLAW). The weapon, which will replace the Infantry's LAW80 system, will enter service in 2006-07.

## Quads on the way

TEN four-wheel-drive quad bikes adapted to work at high altitude have been flown to Bagram airfield for the Royal Marines commando group searching for al-Qaeda units in the mountains of Afghanistan. In all, 24 new **all-terrain vehicles** (ATVs) were purchased for the mission.

Missile away: Soldiers from 12th Regiment RA, based at Sennelager in Germany, fire a live High Velocity Missile from a Stormer armoured vehicle, right, at Manobier, Tenby in Wales. It was the first time since its move to Germany in 1985 that the regiment had exercised in its warfighting role in the UK.



Are you sitting comfortably? Inside the Movie Machine, main picture. Rick Tootle, inset, will drive, clean and maintain the vehicle as well as show the films on the Victoria 5 35mm projector built into a self-contained compartment. He and a colleague will alternate on month-long shifts. Rick spent 23 years serving in the Royal Engineers, leaving in 1998 as QMSI (Plant) with 32 Armoured Engineer Regiment at Hohne.

# Pass the popcorn

## Coming to a Balkans base near you soon

Report: John Elliott  
Pictures: Graeme Main

IT'S big, it's beautiful (if barn-size trucks turn you on) and it is very definitely going to be the happening place when it arrives on your patch in the Balkans.

Days after it was unveiled at SSVC's Chalfont Grove headquarters last month, the corporation's unmissable £1½-million Movie Machine was rumbling its high-profile way 1,500 miles across Europe to Pristina.

It will tour Kosovo and Bosnia continuously, working six days a week, 48 weeks a

year to provide what is seen as a jewel in the welfare package available to troops on operations in the region. The plan is for it to spend three days at a military camp (during which time it may screen several films) before moving on. As a result of an outstanding deal with the industry, films will be projected in the Movie Machine within four weeks of their UK release.

That means British soldiers deployed in the Balkans this summer can see the *Ali G Indahouse*, *Blade*, *Panic Room*, *Roadkill*, Hugh Grant's *About a Boy*, Tom Cruise in *Minority Report*, Richard Gere's *Unfaithful*, *Spider-Man*, *Star Wars: Attack of the Clones*, Pierce Brosnan as 007 in *Die Another Day*, *Scooby-Doo* and many others.

In a manoeuvre worthy of a Hollywood

special-effects department, the eye-catchingly painted trailer (towed and powered by a Mercedes tractor unit) transforms itself into a remarkably luxurious 80-seat cinema, complete with Dolby digital surround-sound, state-of-the-art projector, air conditioning (or heating for those chilly Bosnian winters) and plush interior designed by Warner Cinemas.

Based on the enthusiastically-received Screen Machine, a mobile cinema borrowed from the Scottish Highlands for a month-long trial in Bosnia two years ago, the Movie Machine was built by French company Toutenkarmion. As part of the Army's operational welfare package, the running costs will be paid for by the MoD for the next five years.

Anyone for popcorn?



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# Army web - for your eyes only

Join the club for the latest on welfare, pay, allowances and housing issues

A NEW on-line service exclusive to soldiers is to be launched by the Director of Information (Army) to keep them bang up to date with the latest news and information on matters which affect them and their families.

Already the Army's 14,000-page internet site attracts 4,000 hits a day while more than 40 per cent of recruiting enquiries start with a web contact on the virtual careers office.

While new pages are being produced for general public consumption, the Adjutant General's Department has produced more than 300 new pages of welfare information designed specifically for soldiers and their families.

Reached through the Army's regular website, Club Army, as it is to be known, will be accessible only to soldiers using a password.

The soldier-oriented site will supply up-to-date information on topics such as pay and allowances, welfare issues, housing and other social themes.

Another initiative will see the introduction of Army Portal, accessible by Army staff working in major headquarters on highly sensitive and restricted systems. Its primary function is to speed up navigation to authoritative business information.

Maj Peter Boxell said that Club Army would be of practical help to soldiers throughout the Army.

"It will be a closed area of the internet but accessible to soldiers," he said.

"There is a lot of information we want our soldiers to have, for example joining instructions or background reading for education courses."

A pilot scheme for Club Army started last month for soldiers serving with the Royal Signals.

## What's new?

Now on the external web are pages on:

- Pay and allowances
- Conditions of service
- Terms of service
- Welfare
- What's on?
- Posting
- Family support
- Soldier support
- Support agencies
- Post-service welfare

## Club Army includes:

- Joining instructions
- Chat rooms
- e-mail
- Welfare

## Army Portal

- Business information

## General pages

- General staff directories to have an internal web presence through the restricted Lan interconnect (available next winter through the Army Portal)

## Freedom of information

THE move of control of the internet to DINFO(A) brings together both internet and intranet services.

DINFO(A) is to co-ordinate the British Army's effort in addressing the changes that the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will introduce in about four years' time.

The Act makes provision for the disclosure of information held by public authorities, including the Army.

As they say... watch this space.

## Soldier Welfare and Family

# Plumber, soldier, gentleman, legend

One of the greatest footballers of all time once regularly played in front of crowds of 45,000 – and that was just for the Eighth Army's team

Interview: Ray Routledge

IT was legendary football manager Bill Shankly who once said: "Tom Finney would have been great in any team, in any match and in any age... even if he had been wearing an overcoat."

OK, so Shankly was some times prone to exaggeration, but you know what he was getting at.

Yet even the staff at Preston North End must have looked twice when a 4ft 9in, five-stone 14-year-old arrived in 1936.

But although young Tom may have been the original five-stone weakling, he had magic feet and he was to light up the football world for the next 24 years with a mix of skill, flair, fair play, and loyalty.

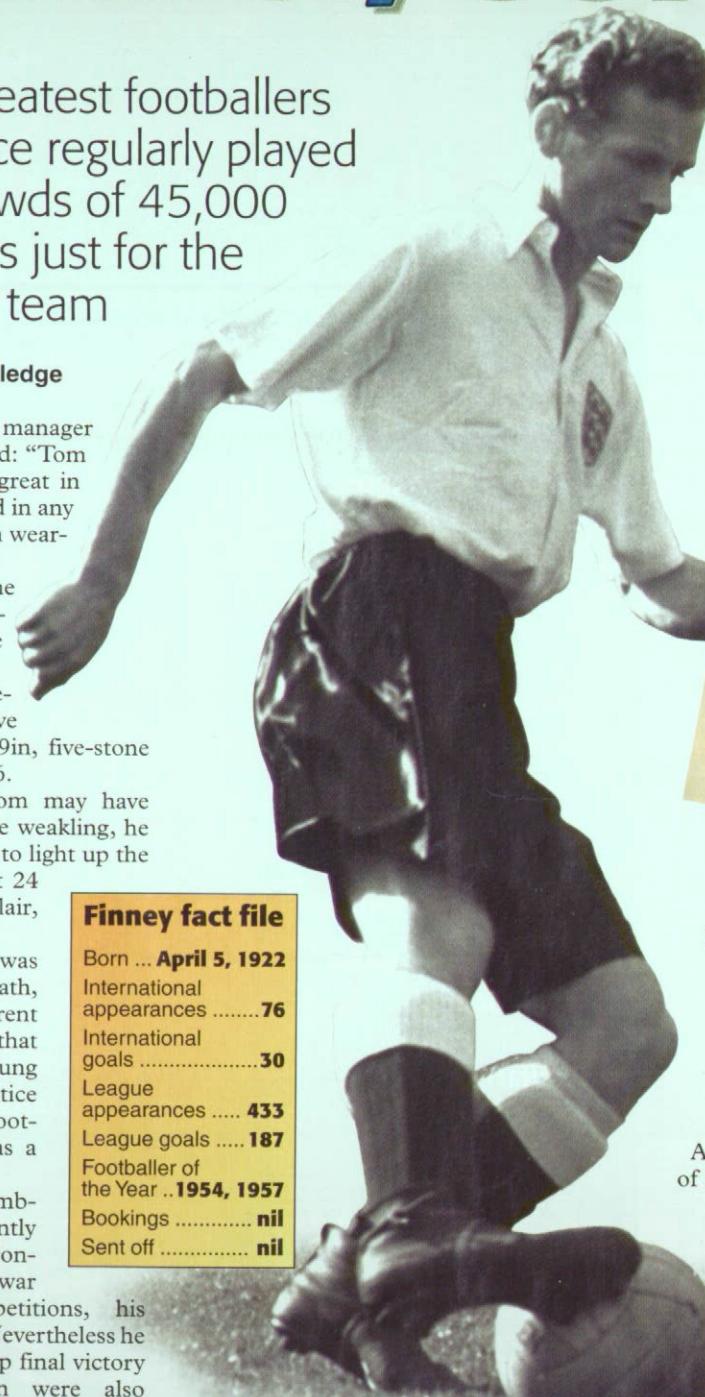
Football, then as now, was an unpredictable career path, so Tom's dad, a single parent with six children, insisted that his son learn a trade. So young Finney became an apprentice plumber. And when his football career was over it was a trade he would return to.

In 1939 the Preston Plumber, as he was subsequently nicknamed, turned professional footballer. But with the war cancelling regular competitions, his ambitions were thwarted. Nevertheless he played in a 2-1 wartime cup final victory over Arsenal as Preston were also crowned Northern Section Champions.

Then the war took a more personal interest in Tom Finney.

"I was called up just after my 20th birthday and went to Tidworth for training," he said at his Preston home. "I requested to join my brother in the REME... so they sent me to the Armoured Corps."

After more training at Catterick the new tank driver mechanic set off for Alexandria on the *Queen Mary*. Despite his new trade, the Army soon discovered



England's finest:  
Tom in his playing days  
Picture: Allsport

Tom's ability as a footballer. "They sent me to the Wanderers, a team made up mostly of professional players, including Andy McLaren of Preston and Willy Redpath from Motherwell, and after a trial I was selected to go on a trip to Palestine and Syria to play various Army sides." After 18 months in Egypt, Tom was shipped out to Italy with the 9th Queen's

Finney fact file	
Born ...	<b>April 5, 1922</b>
International appearances	76
International goals	30
League appearances	433
League goals	187
Footballer of the Year	1954, 1957
Bookings	nil
Sent off	nil



On the wing:  
Finney's name in an Army line-up

Royal Lancers and in his Sherman tank saw action against the Germans near Rimini.

The football continued and Tom played in an Eighth Army team alongside such stars as Willie Thornton of Rangers and Scotland, George Hamilton of Aberdeen, Andy Beattie of Preston (later manager of Scotland), and Stan Cullis of Wolves and England. Matches like one against the Polish Army XI in Naples drew crowds of 45,000.

Tom wasn't tempted to stay in the Army. "I couldn't get out quick enough," he smiled. He was released early because he was a plumber and tradesmen were in short supply back home.

Then it was back to Deepdale with his beloved Preston North End. As a truly world-class two-footed forward (what would he be worth today?) he made his league debut against Leeds United in 1946, scoring in a 3-2 win.

The first of his international caps soon followed with the 7-2 victory over Northern Ireland in Belfast. But frustration wasn't far away. Tom spent much of the following year injured and Preston were relegated. Despite that setback his inter-

national career flourished and included two goals in a 4-0 win over Italy in Turin in 1948.

Tom so impressed the Italians that four years later Palermo offered him a £10,000 signing-on fee and £130 a month, a huge amount of money compared with his £14 per week wages. But Preston wouldn't let him go.

In 1950, Tom was with England when they crashed out of the World Cup in Brazil, losing 0-1 to the USA.

"It was the first time England had competed in the World Cup and the USA were only there to make up the numbers," he said. "It was just one of those games. We could and should have beaten them comfortably, but we lost. It was a poor result and there were no excuses."

The following year, Preston won promotion back to the top flight and finished runners-up to Arsenal in 1953.

In November that year England, without Finney, who was injured, were given a football lesson that was to change the national game for ever as they crashed to a 6-3 home defeat to Hungary.

Tom was back for the return match a few months later, but the result was even worse – a 7-1 drubbing in Budapest.

"Internationally they were the best side I ever played against, with four or five world-class players like Ferenc Puskas and Sandor Kocsis. We had never seen the deep-lying centre-forward style before. Nandor Hidegkuti, who was an outstanding player, just kept dropping off well back into his own half and we just didn't know what to do."

## Finney on today's game

**Money** "Big money today is crazy but if you were offered it you'd take it."

**David Moyes** (former Preston manager) "He was a breath of fresh air. It was inevitable that a successful manager outside the Premier League would be made an offer. When he joined Everton it looked like they were going down. He turned them around. I think he will do well there."

**The play-offs** "On the face of it they seem to be unfair but all the clubs know the situation before the season starts."



If the cap fits: Tom pictured at home with one of the many mementoes of his international career

Picture: Graeme Main

Russia, injury forced him to miss the rest of the tournament. In 1959 he played his last game for England, also against Russia, and in 1960 retired from the game, making his farewell in the home fixture against Luton Town.

Within a year of his retirement Preston were relegated and have never made it back to the top since.

He returned to his plumbing business, became a magistrate, chairman of the local health authority and president of Preston North End. The ultimate accolade was a knighthood in 1998.

Sir Tom Finney is now 80, still president of Preston North End, and a living legend.

To mark the great man's birthday, BBC football pundit Alan Hansen introduced a television programme called *The Perfect Player*.

A fitting tribute to a perfect gentleman.





# Lure of the islands

Most soldiers just get on with a tour of the Falklands. Some make it their home

Report: Ray Routledge  
Pictures: Mike Weston

ONE posting to the Falkland Islands is more than enough for most soldiers, but for WO2 Alan Webb, of the 1st Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, the chance to spend two or more years in the South Atlantic was just too good to pass up.

Last year he and wife Natalie were married in Stanley, and their first baby Connor was born in the town.

WO2 Webb took a shine to the islands when he visited them as a private in 1986. When the chance came to work full-time with the Falkland Islands Defence Force (FIDF) two years ago, he seized it.

Although he hails from Greenock and his wife from Edinburgh, they love the slower pace of life, despite Natalie missing her family and the shops.

But the shortage of retail therapy is not a problem for former soldier Barbara Bates, who was born in the Falklands.

She spent nearly five years with 10 Regiment RLC and took in two tours in



Togetherness: Former soldier Barbara and husband Cpl James Bates, above

Island infant: WO2 Alan Webb with wife Natalie and baby Connor, left

Bosnia during her time in the Army. She met her husband, James, while serving at the regiment's base in Colchester. He is currently a REME corporal working at Mare Harbour on East Falkland.

When Barbara left the Army to return to the South Atlantic, James decided he too would settle there and they married last October.

"I leave the Army in March 2003 and will be coming to live in the Falklands permanently," he said. "I hope to get a job at Mount Pleasant Airfield doing what I am doing now, but as a civilian."

Cpl Bates is on his seventh tour of the islands since 1997. For the past three years he has been posted to 17 Port and Maritime Regiment RLC at Marchwood

near Southampton, spending half his time in Hampshire and half in Stanley.

Barbara is a school secretary in the Falklands capital and works part-time for Customs and Immigration.

Cpl Bates said he had a mental picture when he first arrived of a culture of farmers. "But it is a more modern and forward-looking society than I imagined," he said.

WO2 Webb, meanwhile, coordinates the training, security and general running of the 73-strong Defence Force (of which 16 are in a reserve platoon). He is impressed by their hardware, which includes the Austrian Steyr Universal Army Rifle as a personal weapon and the advanced Panther radio.

He works closely with British units based at Mount Pleasant Airfield, especially during the week-long Purple Strike exercises held three times a year.

The force normally deploys 12 soldiers to each exercise, where they work closely with the roulement infantry company. Although the islands' own soldiers don't at present patrol the settlements, an invitation to do so may be on its way.

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# Land that time forgot

New book stirs up excitement over ancient remains on Salisbury Plain

**Report: Ray Routledge**  
**Pictures: Steve Dock**

FOR more than 100 years, countless thousands of British soldiers have endured cold, wet and discomfort on the training grounds of Salisbury Plain.

They may not have appreciated it at the time but their very presence has helped to preserve an environmental legacy.

Most would have paid little attention to the bumps and mounds scattered seemingly at random across the landscape. Yet to the eye of an archaeologist, this panorama gets the pulse racing.

That excitement is revealed in a new book, *The Field Archaeology of the Salisbury Plain Training Area*. Don't be put off by the title because it is a surprisingly good

read, according to Maj Gen Brian Plummer, the Army's Director General Training Support, who launched the book at the Infantry Officers' Mess at Warminster.

Gen Plummer, who knows the Plain intimately from his days as a young officer, said he had read the book twice.

"Salisbury Plain is one of the finest pieces of landscape in Europe and the book is a remarkable achievement," he said. "It is well put together, superbly illustrated and readable to a layman."

The training area has been in military ownership since 1897 and it remains one

of the largest tracts of undeveloped chalk downland in north-west Europe. The Army's presence has saved ancient earthworks that would otherwise have been destroyed by modern ploughing and farming techniques.

Rich in Celtic barrow cemeteries, the landscape has field systems more than 2,000 years old and the earthworks of 11 Romano-British villages.

Combining easy-to-read graphics and aerial photographs, co-authors David McOmish, David Field and Graham Brown highlight many sites familiar to soldiers from their days on the Plain.

Thanking the Army for its co-operation in the preparation of the book, David McOmish said: "The military were great and organised their work so that the sites we wanted to see were accessible. It is good the MoD is taking it so seriously."

Carenza Lewis, the archaeologist best known for her work on Channel 4's *Time Team* series and the BBC production *House Detectives*, is married to David. She said: "I worked on some of the field systems; it was a fantastic experience."

The part-time Cambridge University lecturer recalled that *Time Team* presented



Thanks: David McOmish

a programme from Beach's Barn, a 4th century Romano-British site in the middle of the Plain.

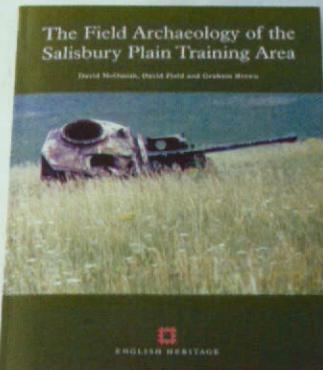
Although rich in ancient archaeology, the Plain offers little from the Saxon or medieval periods. The book tells how the area declined with the Roman Empire.

"The pressure on land decreased at the end of the Roman period, when there wasn't the demand for taxation to support the empire," said Carenza. "A lot of tax from Britain was paid in corn and a lot of that corn came from areas like Salisbury Plain. We know that because we can see the field boundaries today."

With the reduction in taxes there was a retreat from the hard-to-work Plain, and the population shifted to the river valleys during the Saxon period.

"You go on the Plain and you feel as if you are leaving the 20th century behind," she said. "You can see sheep grazing in bronze-age fields and roaming in Roman villages. It is like the land that time forgot."

● **The Field Archaeology of the Salisbury Plain Training Area** by David McOmish, David Field and Graham Brown (English Heritage, £25) can be ordered by telephone (01761 452966), fax (01761 453408) or e-mail [ehsales@gillards.com](mailto:ehsales@gillards.com) (a special price of £20 for *Soldier* readers is available until October 1. Quote SOLMAG02).

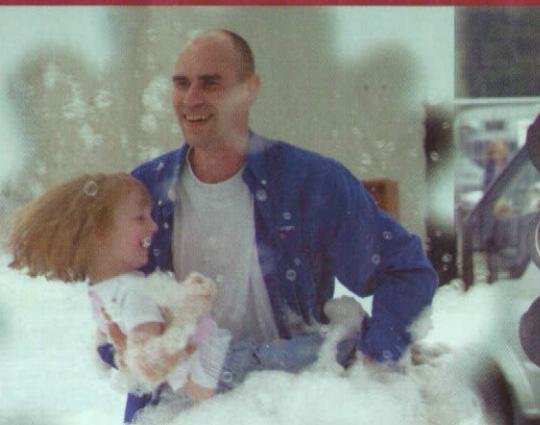


Plain enthusiast:  
Maj Gen Brian  
Plummer



Archaeologist:  
Carenza Lewis





Good clean fun: A foam machine outside a beer tent proved to be a hit with all ages

On the pull: 26 Regiment, Royal Artillery women's tug-of-war team dig in, left

Having a blast: Gnr Richard Wellock (12 Regt RA) demonstrates the hardware

# Curtain falls on Rass

Rhine Army Summer Show bows out after more than half a century of razzmatazz

WARM weather and a programme of first-class entertainment attracted more than 80,000 revellers through the turnstiles of the Bad Lippspringe showground in Germany for the 53rd, and last, Rhine Army Summer Show.

During the three-day Golden Jubilee showpiece crowds of British soldiers and German families were treated to performances from the Army parachute display team, the Royal Signals White Helmets motor-cycle squad, the Portsmouth field gun team and military bands from Britain and the Ukraine.

And in keeping with tradition there was also a list of big-name music acts in attendance.

Nineties boy-band 911, who reformed especially to perform at the show, chart-topper Haddaway, pop divas the Honeyz and dance act Phats and Small were on the

bill at an event which began as a horse show in 1947.

But despite the all-star cast there is to be no encore performance next year.

The Army has announced that it is to call time on its hit show, citing an unreasonable burden on manpower and an unacceptable financial risk as the main reasons behind its decision.

Brig David Rutherford-Jones, Commander 20 Armoured Brigade and Paderborn Garrison said: "The British Army has found it increasingly tough during the past ten years to resource the show in the way it deserves."

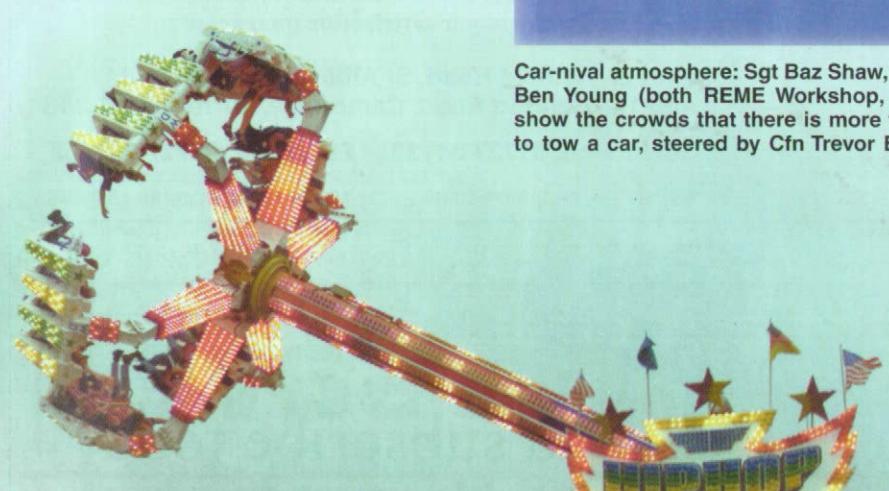
Hitting the right note: The massed military bands of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, right, helps to entertain the thousands of visitors



Driving school: Pte Ally Walker (2 Tpt Sqn 1 GS) of the BFG road safety team, above, offers some words of advice to a novice driver



Long legs of the law: 'Ello, 'ello, 'ello, what's going on 'ere then?



Wheely good show: A member of the Royal Signals White Helmets display team



Gun-runners: Members of Portsmouth's field gun team, above, race for the finish line

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# That's the way to do it

Got a problem? The Army's Management Consultancy Services will help you to find an efficient solution

Report: Anthony Stone

Picture: Steve Dock

WANT to get ahead? Then make sure you clock up some Big Boy Face Time – that's BBFT to you. It's one of the refreshingly plain-speaking phrases bandied about by the Army Management Consultancy Services, based at the former Army Staff College at Camberley.

This slang expression denotes the belief among junior ranks that getting clocked by the big boys (senior officers) as often as possible enhances career prospects. It's a neat slogan, and highly prized, because in the world of management consultants, the one-syllable word is rarely king.

Like any complex piece of machinery, the Army's structures and procedures need regular attention and tweaking to keep them performing efficiently. That's where the Army Management Consultancy Services fit in.

The range of challenges they face are daunting, spanning everything from producing guidelines for running shared sports facilities between military and civilians to grading facilities at Colchester Garrison as part of a 4 Division infrastructure study.

The AMCS team of 27 includes 23 consultants, ten of whom are in the army. They have recently begun work on their 1,000th project – looking at centres through which the Army Court Service administers the Courts Martial System.

There are five centres in the United Kingdom, including one in Northern Ireland, and four in Germany. AMCS experts have been asked to see if that footprint will best serve the future Army need.

## ‘The Army's structures and procedures need regular attention and tweaking to keep them performing efficiently’



Big Boy Face Time for the AMCS team: Stewart Murray and his staff take time out to reflect

The days when consultants turned up at a workplace with a clipboard and a stopwatch have been consigned to the shredder of management history. Today's bottom-line is not about cutting jobs, but about efficiency.

Stewart Murray, head of AMCS, said: "These days we are far more involved in strategic studies and projects. We are not in the business of cutting posts unless our sponsor specifically requests it."

But why go to the AMCS in the first place? The consultants bring specialist knowledge and experience from a range of areas within the MoD and they are security-cleared and able to study sensitive issues without unnecessary delay.

"Sponsors contact us because they don't have the resources or time or skills and it is convenient to call in somebody from outside who is independent," Stewart said. "We enable our customers to

make efficiency improvements through changes in process and practices that they probably would not be able to undertake themselves."

This independence is particularly useful after a project is completed and the sponsor wants to know how successful it has been, a process known as post-project evaluation.

"Of course you come to the conclusion the project you initiated is wonderful," said Stewart. "You would, wouldn't you?"

"But when you get in someone from outside you get objective findings."

The problems AMCS are asked to solve are often multi-layered and complex. The diversity is reflected in the range of specialisms of the consultants who include an occupational psychologist.

The consultancy services are free at the point of delivery and demand is correspondingly high. Initial contact can be made through [amcs@lineone.net](mailto:amcs@lineone.net) or by telephoning 94261 2600.

Who knows, it might result in some serious BBFT.



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Jewel in the Commonwealth crown: The City of Manchester Stadium will take centre stage during the Games Picture: Courtesy of Manchester 2002 Ltd

# Under starter's orders



*Soldier's five-page guide to the 2002 Commonwealth Games starts here . . .*

Preview: Andy Simms



THE World Cup will have been decided and the chalk dust on centre court at Wimbledon already starting to settle, but 2002's wonderful summer of sporting spectaculars is far from over.

Later this month Manchester will play host to the most significant multi-sport event to be held in Britain since the 1948 Olympics – the 2002 Commonwealth Games.

An estimated worldwide television audience of 500 million is expected to tune in to the ten-day tournament, billed as the largest in the 62-year history of the Games.

A record number of competitors from 72 nations will compete for gold in 14

individual sports and, for only the second time, in three team events.

Women will compete across all sports with the exception of rugby sevens, boxing and wrestling, and for the first time élite athletes with a disability will be included in the main sports programme and medal table.

The opening ceremony on July 25 in the purpose-built, 38,000-seater City of Manchester Stadium will be attended by the Queen.

And among the thousands of athletes who will parade around the track of the stadium, which was supported by £77 million from Sport England and is set to become the home of Manchester City FC

in time for the 2003-04 season, will be a large contingent from the British Army.

With qualification races and selection meetings still taking place this month, the Army is confident that it will have up to 14 soldiers competing in Manchester.

Their presence at the Games will continue a proud tradition for the Army who, in Cpl Chris Bessey (RLC), have a Commonwealth boxing champion among their ranks. Fighting at light-middleweight, Bessey won gold for England in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, four years ago.

And although the Army will not be represented in the boxing ring this time round, there are high hopes that Bessey's success will be emulated elsewhere . . .

100m: LCpl Josephus Thomas and LCpl Joselyn Thomas (both 3 CS Regt, RLC)

# Sprinters at the double

WHAT began as a childhood alibi for sneaking off to the cinema will lead twin brothers LCpl Josephus Thomas and LCpl Joselyn Thomas to their third consecutive Commonwealth Games this month.

Veterans of Victoria in 1994, Kuala Lumpur in 1998 and two Olympic Games, the Sierra Leonean 100m sprinters credit a white lie they told as schoolboys with their track success.

"When we were at school we never really took part in any sports," explained Joselyn. "But that did not stop us telling our parents that we had to go out and practise for school sports day when really we were just going to the pictures."

"It was not until our dad told us that he was going to come and watch us race that we realised we had to do something," he said. "If he'd turned up and seen we weren't even competing then we would have been in big trouble."

"We spoke to our PE teacher who said that he would put us in a relay race and it was while practising for that that we discovered we could beat everyone in the school."

"We went from being liars to being the

DECATHLON: Pte Lee Okoroafo (3 CS Regt, RLC)

## Nigerian all-rounder

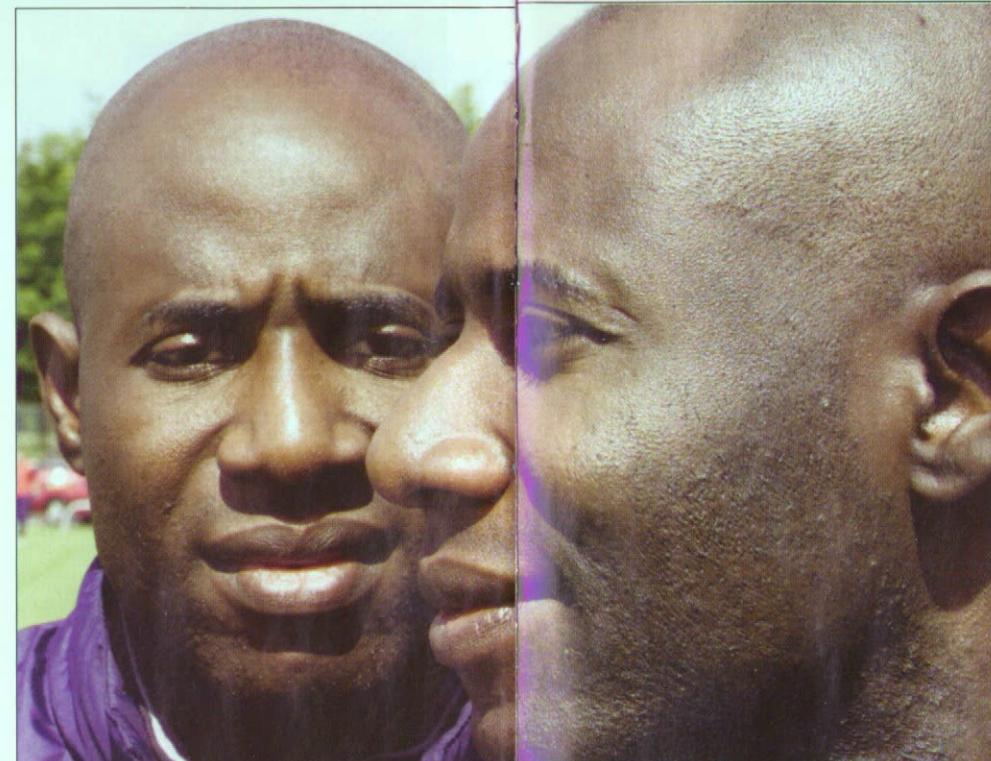


MANAGING the demands of military duties and training for the Commonwealth Games has not been a problem for Pte Lee Okoroafo – as a decathlete the 27-year-old Nigerian is accustomed to multi-tasking.

Indeed, Okoroafo, left, believes that soldiering has enhanced his chances of competing at Manchester in athletics' most demanding multi-discipline event.

"Most of the training I have done since I joined the Army has helped me to develop as an athlete," he said. "The long runs and obstacle courses are very similar to some of the track and field events I have to do as a decathlete."

"I truly believe that with the encouragement I am being given by the Army I will make it to the Commonwealth Games and the next Olympics."



Speed kings: Twin brothers LCpl Josephus Thomas, left, and LCpl Joselyn Thomas Picture: Graeme Main

JAVELIN: Pte Kelly Morgan (3 CS Regt, RLC)

## Dual international

THANKS to a British record-breaking performance at the GB trials on June 15, Pte Kelly Morgan will represent the nation at the Games. Her 63.03m throw, the fourth-longest in the world this year, also won her a Rover car.

The Army and Inter-Services netballer, who played goal attack for Team Bath in the Super League last season, became a dual international last year – throwing the javelin for Great Britain and playing netball for England.

"I won my first international vest for javelin at the age of 15 and always knew that I was going to do well in athletics," said the 21-year-old. "But I never imagined that I would get a cap for netball – 2001 was a very satisfying year for me."

Morgan, right, is now hoping that her decision to put netball on the backburner and concentrate on athletics will be rewarded with a medal later this month.

1,500m: LCpl Kevin Sheppard (3 CS Regt, RLC)

# Road to recovery

IF LCpl Kevin Sheppard does make it to the starting-line at the City of Manchester Stadium for the first heat of the Commonwealth Games 1,500m championships on July 29, he will already have won the toughest race of his athletic career.

Having sustained a serious muscle injury to his right leg in January, the 23-year-old's chances of appearing in Manchester looked remote.

And although six months of intense physiotherapy and training have given him renewed hope of a place at the Games, Sheppard will not discover whether he has triumphed in his race to return to full fitness until the eleventh hour.

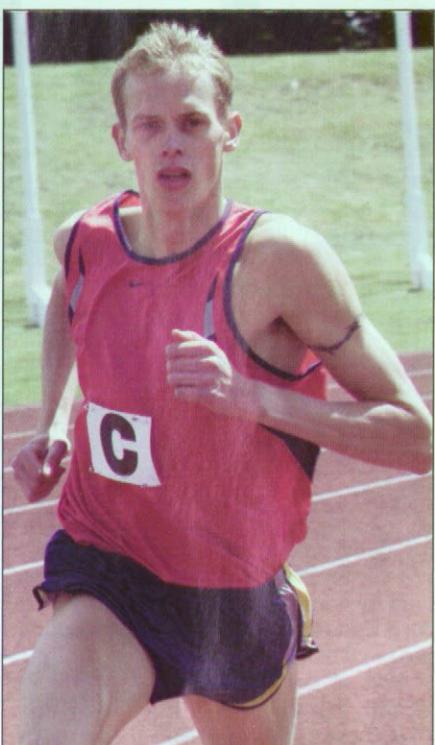
"There are Commonwealth trials up to July 17, so I've still got a bit of time yet," he said. "That said, I am not going to get my hopes up – it is going to be hard work."

"My injury has meant that I have had six months of interrupted training, which is disappointing because of all the miles I put in during the winter."

"I was regularly running 80 miles a week and had planned to leave the summer period free so that I could work on my speed," he said. "To get injured when I did was a huge blow – it felt as though the Games had been pulled from my grasp and I have had to work up from nothing all over again."

As well as being just reward for his efforts, Sheppard's inclusion in England's Commonwealth squad would mark a remarkable milestone for someone who turned his attentions to the 1,500m only a year ago.

"I used to run a lot when I was at school but think I found athletics a bit too early and soon got bored with all the training," he added. "I started running again when I joined the Army and found that there were not many other guys around who could compete with me over middle-dis-



tance races. I've got all-round ability but decided to focus on one event."

"I used to run the steeplechase and when you go from running seven laps of the track to only three-and-three-quarters in the 1,500m it's like a walk in the park."

"If I do end up missing the Games my goal this year is just to run as fast as I can so that I begin to make a name for myself."

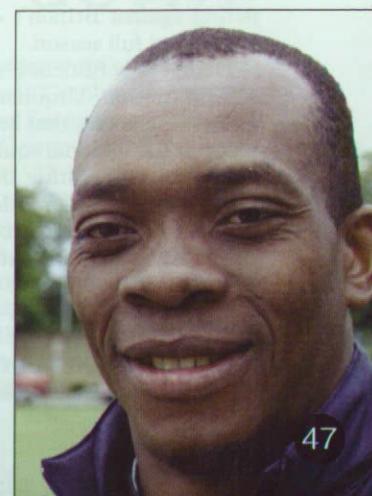
"Once you're regularly mixing it with the big boys you get noticed and it becomes far easier to pick up an international vest," he said. "Representing my country would be brilliant – it is everything I have worked towards and I am confident that day will come."

HAMMER THROW: Pte John Osazuwa (3 CS Regt, RLC)

## Stone's throw away

HAVING already represented his country at the All African Games, the prospect of performing in front of a 38,000 crowd in Manchester holds no fears for Nigerian international hammer thrower Pte John Osazuwa.

"The African Games is a massive tournament, so competing in front of thousands of people will not come as a shock to me," said the 21-year-old athlete, pictured right. "Going to the Games means so much to me because I am looking forward to wearing my country's colours as well as representing the British Army at the same time."



CYCLING: Cpl Duncan Urquhart (1 RTR)

# Flying Scotsman

## Cyclist takes the fast track to Manchester

JUST like Scottish cycling champion Cpl Duncan Urquhart (1 RTR), good news travels fast around the Isle of Tiree, writes Andy Simms.

Newsletters and an internet site have kept the 800 inhabitants of the Inner Hebrides island up to speed on the exploits of Urquhart, the region's most successful sporting son, chronicling his expeditious rise from complete novice to national road-race champion.

Last year's Army sportsman of the year is understandably proud of his status as a hometown hero, but the 27-year-old is hoping to win wider acclaim for his talents by winning gold for Scotland in the road time-trial and road race at the Commonwealth Games later this month.

And do not bet against the Commonwealth debutant returning home from Manchester with a winner's medal draped over his handlebars – winning races at the first attempt has been a recurring theme of the Scotsman's cycling career.

He has certainly been blessed with his fair share of beginner's luck since first picking up a racing bicycle four years ago. Urquhart's fast-track road to the Games began while he was training recruits at Bovington in Dorset.

A keen footballer and an extremely fit soldier, he was constantly being asked to represent his unit in a variety of sports and one request led him to enter the Army ten-mile TT racing championships, which he duly won.

Alerted to his own potential on the bike, and having stunned the Army Cycling Union with that dramatic first ride, Urquhart quickly climbed through the cycling ranks and found himself competing against Britain's élite during only his second full season.

High on confidence and with a little self-promotion, Urquhart convinced the Scottish selectors that he was worthy of a place in the national squad.

"I was representing the Army Cycling Union in a premier calendar event and finished in the same group as one of the Scottish national team," explained Urquhart. "I asked him what I needed to do to get involved with the team and he told me that if I always cycled the way I had in that race then I should already be in the squad." Assured of his own ability,



Hot favourite: Scottish road race champion Cpl Duncan Urquhart (1 RTR) Picture: Graeme Main

Urquhart approached Scotland's then manager Bob Addy – a meeting which prompted a switch to full-time training.

To assist in his bid to reach the Games, 1 RTR posted Urquhart to Longtown, near Carlisle and the Scottish team's headquarters in Edinburgh, and released him from military duties. It was a gesture that paid dividends.

In June 2001 he won the Scottish road race championship, finishing the 90-mile race eight seconds clear of the rest of the field, and also collected the title of Best All Rounder – a double completed only once before.

It is results like this, and his victory in Northern Ireland's Tour of the North earlier this year, that made Urquhart's qualification for the Games something of a formality.

"Competing in the Games will be a dream come true," he said. "Ever since I was a wee boy I have always wanted to be a national champion – I just never imagined it would be in cycling. I had always dreamed of representing Scotland at football, but being in Manchester is obviously going to be a fantastic alternative."

"I am already at the Commonwealth Games in my head and, if I am honest, I have been there for the last two years – ever since I have known there was a possibility of making it. I am already focused mentally and I have just got to get myself there physically."

Urquhart is leaving nothing to chance. In preparation for the Games he has been spending more than 25 hours a week on two wheels and countless more pumping iron in the gym.

"Cycling is definitely the most physically demanding sport I have ever done," he said.

"You constantly have to think about training, diet and how much you are sleeping. One per cent of a performance is a lot over a 90-mile race and so you have to make sure that you can give 100 per cent every time you cross the start-line."

"There have been times when I have been out cycling in the rain and wondered whether it was all worth it, but with the Games coming up I know that my hard work is now paying off, and that has kept me going."

**RUGBY SEVENS:** Pte Apolesi Satala (1 RS), Pte Bul Bulumakau (1 RS), Pte Emosi Naisaramaki (1 RS), Capt Howard Graham (AGC) and Gnr Andy Dawling (7 Para RHA).

# Five in Sevens heaven

Report: Roger Thompson

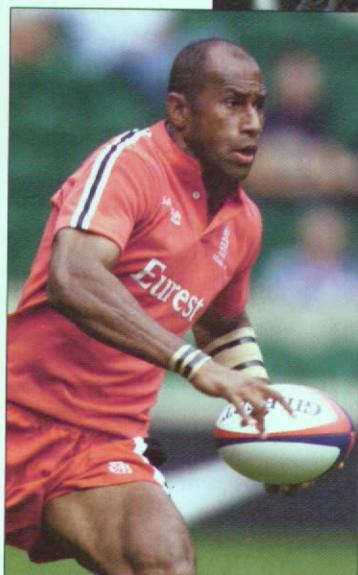
THE Rugby Sevens tournament in Manchester, one of only three team sports to feature in this year's Commonwealth Games, could see as many as five Army players taking a tilt at the favourites - the New Zealand All Blacks.

Army champions Pte Apolesi Satala, Pte Bul Bulumakau and Pte Emosi Naisaramaki - all members of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Scots - are in contention for a place in Fiji's team (see Page 50).

Each has represented his country on the world circuit during a gruelling build-up, which has taken in Hong Kong, New Zealand, South Africa and Argentina.

Apolesi joined the Army as an experienced international while Bulumakau and Naisaramaki have risen in stature on the world stage, representing the Army at the Dubai, Middlesex, Singapore and Nairobi Sevens.

Also part of the same Army team are England duo Gnr Andy Dawling (7 Para RHA) and Capt Howard Graham (AGC). England coach Joe Lydon has kept his cards close to his chest, but having



Manchester calling: Left to right, Fijian internationals Pte Bul Bulumakau, Pte Apolesi Satala and Pte Emosi Naisaramaki

captained a successful national team in Malaysia, playmaker Howard is a good bet for selection.

In rugby terms Dawling is a dog -

the opposite of flash. His main attributes are that he is a very strong and rather quick dog, who will hoover up any loose ball, tackle till he drops, secure turnover and then run and pass with the best of them.

Good dog players are rare and there is a place in a rather smug England team which should be filled by Dawling.

**HOCKEY:** Capt Guy Fordham (4 GS Med Regt) and Lt Jon Evennett (LI)

## Guy gets thumbs down

OLYMPIAN Capt Guy Fordham has been ruled out of a place in England's Commonwealth squad after breaking a thumb just weeks before the Games.

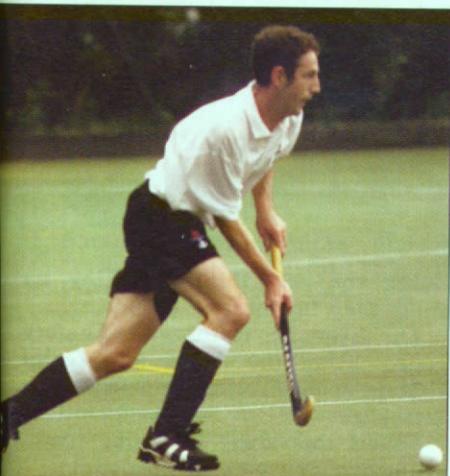
A bronze medallist in Kuala Lumpur four years ago, Fordham, left, sustained the injury during one of the national squad's final training camps before the Games.

"I was hoping to be involved in Manchester but there is no chance that I will now be fit in time to play," he said. "I'm obviously very disappointed."

However, as *Soldier* went to press Fordham's Army and Combined Services team-mate Lt Jon Evennett remained in contention for a Commonwealth call-up.

With more than 25 international caps already to his name, the 26-year-old defender was among the favourites to slot into England's back four.

"We won't know the final squad until just before the Games," he said. "I missed out on the World Championships in February but you never know what the selectors are going to do."



## SHORTS

## Ace shooter dies

ONE of England's leading rifle shots has died from cancer at the age of 72.

A member of the National Rifle Association, Lt Col Larry Orpen-Smellie captained the British Army and England VIII teams for several years and led both in many international competitions.

## Up for the challenge?

HEADQUARTERS 4 Division is hosting a Superteams championship at Aldershot's Military Stadium on July 31.

The competition will feature eight demanding events, which have been designed to test all the main aspects of military physical training.

Open to all Service personnel within the divisional boundaries, there will be separate competitions for men and women.

For more information on how to enter a team contact WO2 Sanderson on Mil 94222 3968.

## Ready to take the field

PHYSICAL training instructors at Colchester Garrison helped prepare members of the Essex Country Cricket squad for the new season.

The team's head coach, former England and Essex captain Graham Gooch, said: "We obviously train continuously throughout the year and we need to make our activities as varied and as interesting as possible. Sports and physical fitness play an important part in Army life and I wanted to see what we as professional sportsmen could learn from them."

## Scottish regiments dominate rugby sevens competition

Report: Roger Thompson

Picture: Graeme Main

THE Sodexho-sponsored Army Sevens championships at Aldershot culminated in a superb all-Scottish final between The Royal Scots and 1st Battalion, The Highlanders.

And with the Royal Scots boasting four internationals, a three-year pedigree at the very highest level and a depth of talent which some teams would bayonet their grandmothers for, the reigning champions were understandably installed as pre-match favourites.

But from the kick-off the Highlanders, who had clearly not read the suggested script and had beaten the much-fancied Dukes on the way to the final, attacked audaciously through Pte Aisea Rokovono and Pte Iosa Damudamu.

Both players showed flamboyance and exceptional skills without actually cracking their opponent's defence, which grew in confidence as the underdog's playmakers ran out of options.

In comparison the Royal Scots

absorbed and traded ground for position before scoring through Fijian international Pte Apolesi Satala, who had a fantastic game in defence.

He steadied the Royal Scots ship and repeatedly stole the ball in the tackle to release Pte Emosi Naisaramaki, Pte Epeli Qolikibua and Pte Ken Kainoco.

And whenever the Royal Scots' principal playmakers and quick men were contained by the tireless Highlanders defence, the likes of Pte Kite Bavadra and Pte Matthew Raikosa were on hand to recreate the impact.

What had started as a mind game soon turned to a trial of stamina, strength and speed, and one which was dominated by LCpl Bul Bulumakau – the ultimate strike weapon.

The Fijian international scored three first-class tries and played an integral role in his side's eventual 32-13 victory.

The Royal Scots deservedly retained their title with a display of power and pace, but the Highlanders had convinced the appreciative 1,000-strong crowd that there is more than one team with the daring, talent and firepower necessary to shape the rugby headlines.

The future looks bright – the future looks tartan.

Other results: Plate final – 7 RHA beat 25 Trg Sp, RLC 22-7.

Women's final – RLC 24, AMS 23.

## Army's Highland game



Ball-in-hand: Pte Apolesi Satala (R Scots), who was fantastic in defence, evades a tackle

## Thanks for dropping in



doing the real thing, clocking up more than 100 jumps.

The divers are training hard before representing the Army and Great Britain at the World Cup in Spain in October.

Follow the Army skydiving team, Quiksilver, at [www.quiksilver.com](http://www.quiksilver.com)

## CONTACT US

SOLDIER'S sports desk welcomes your stories, results and opinions.

Write to: Andy Simms, Sports Editor, Soldier, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU or e-mail him at [asimms@soldiermagazine.co.uk](mailto:asimms@soldiermagazine.co.uk)

Acceptance or rejection of copy is the decision of the Sports Editor, who reserves the right to amend for length, clarity or style.

ARMY skydivers dropped into North Carolina and Florida to take part in a joint training camp with the Golden Knights, the world champion United States team.

As part of the camp the British boys, pictured right – Maj Dave Tyler, Capt Alastair Macartney (both RLC), Sgt Jim-Bob O'Kane (RE), Sgt Ian Cashman (PWRR) and Cpl Dane Richardson (PARA) – spent six days flying in a vertical freefall simulator wind tunnel.

Capt Macartney said: "One hour spent in the wind tunnel is the equivalent of more than 80 skydives and so a huge amount of training value can be gained."

The team also got in plenty of time

## RESULTS SERVICE ... RESULTS SERVICE ...

ATHLETICS: Four-way competition, men's – 1, Army 170pts; 2, Brunel 166pts; 3, Loughborough 155pts; 4, Police 68pts.

Women's – 1, Loughborough 186pts; 2, Army 129pts; 3, Brunel 111pts; 4, Police 85pts.

CRICKET: Army Development XI (222-7) beat Cambridge Crusaders (171 all out) by 51 runs; Hampshire 2nd XI (251-6) beat Army (205 all out) by 46 runs; Stock Exchange (145 all out (37.3 overs)) beat Army (143-6 (40 overs)) by two runs; Wiltshire (186-8) beat Army Development XI (185 all out) by two wickets; Army (162-6) beat Isle of Wight CC (160-8) by four wickets.

FOOTBALL: Massey Trophy – RA 3 Int Corps 2; RA 3 REME 2; RA 1 R Signals 5; RA 1 RE 4; R Signals 4 AAC 1; R Signals 1 RE 1; RE 2 REME 0; REME 1 R Signals 1.

HOCKEY: Army championships, Minor Units final – Upavon Support Unit beat HQ 4 Div 7-3. Women's final – 3 UK Div Sig

## FIXTURES

Your sporting guide to July ...

ATHLETICS: 4-5 – Army individual decathlon, heptathlon and 10,000 metre championships (Aldershot); 7 – Army triathlon championships (Bournemouth); 10 – Inter-unit team finals (Aldershot); 24 – Inter-Services triathlon championships (Tallington Lakes).

CANOEING: 12-14 – Inter-Services freestyle championships (River Trweryn, Wales); 13-14 – Army sprint and marathon championships (Monmouth).

CRICKET: 2 – Army U25s v REME (Aldershot); 4 – U25s Inter-Services festival, RN v RAF (Aldershot); 5 – Army v Loser day 1 (Aldershot); 6 – Army v Winners day 1 (Aldershot); 8 – Army v MCC Young Cricketers (Aldershot); 10 – Combined Services U25s v SW Australia U19s (Blandford); 11 – ECB U19s v Combined Services (Slough); 16 – Combined Services club cricket conference (Aldershot); 18 – Army v Dorset select (Blandford); 19 – Army v Middlesex 2nd XI (Aldershot); 24 – Civil Service CC v Army (Bath); 25 – Bath CC v Army (Bath); 30 – Yorkshire Academy v Army (Leeds); 31 – Derbyshire 2nd XI v Army (Derby).

DIVING: 9 – Army championships (Aldershot).

EQUITATION: 7 – RMAS summer show (RMAS); 8-12 – Improving showjumping (Warminster Saddle Club); 15-August 23 – Mounted officers course (Melton Mowbray).

MARTIAL ARTS: 26-27 – Army championships (Aldershot).

RUGBY LEAGUE: 22 – Army v Police (TBC).

SURFING: 7-14 – Summer competition (TBC).

TENNIS: 19-24 – Army championships (Aldershot).

TUG OF WAR: 6 – Golden Jubilee championships (Rushmoor Arena, Aldershot).

WINDSURFING: 8-12 – Army championships (Weymouth and Portland Sailing Academy).

## FOOTBALL TABLES

## MASSEY TROPHY

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
RE	11	9	2	0	28	29
RA	11	8	0	3	13	24
RLC	10	6	3	1	16	21
REME	11	5	3	3	22	19
Infantry	11	5	3	3	2	18
APTC	11	5	2	4	-2	17
Int Corps	10	4	1	5	-4	13
R Signals	7	3	2	2	5	11
AGC	11	3	2	6	-9	11
AAC	11	2	2	7	-12	8
AMS	11	1	0	10	-31	3
RAC	11	1	0	10	-35	3

\*Final league standings

\*\*Match between RLC and Int Corps cancelled



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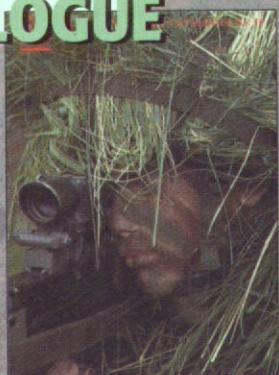
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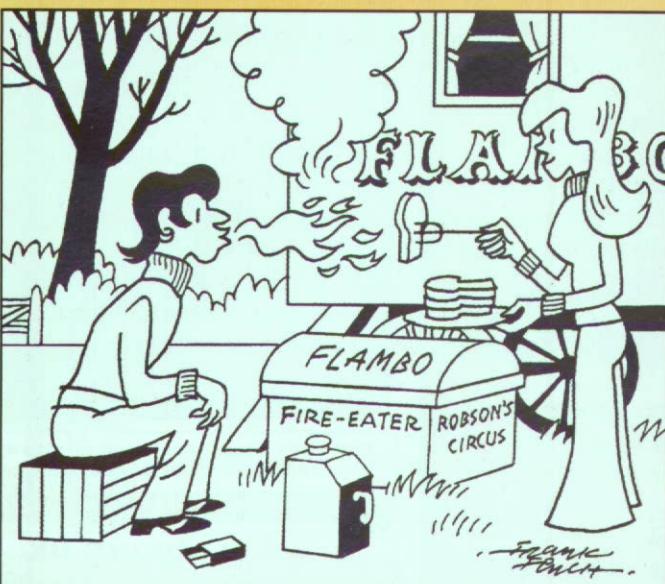
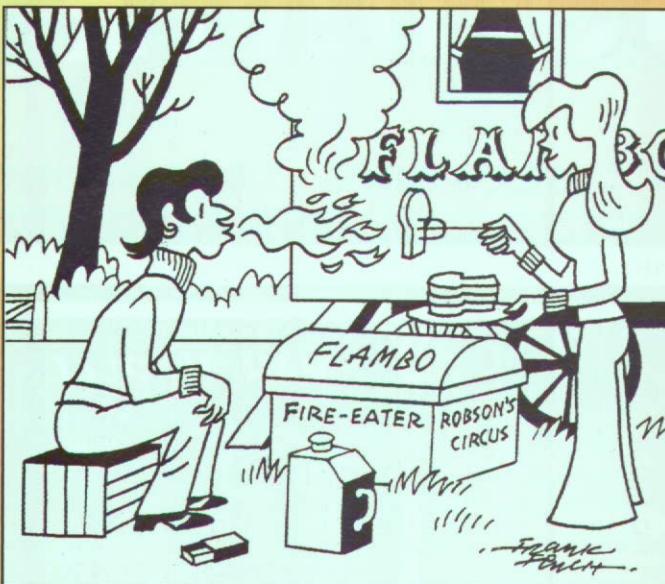
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No 728



## 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 728, Soldier, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, GU11 2DU by July 31.

*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 September issue.

Name : (Give initials and rank or title)

Address :

May issue (No 726): First correct entry drawn at random was from WO1 John Mill, 1 AMAT, HQ MAS(A), FASC, Camberley, who wins £100. Runners-up Maj Reid, Op Silkman, BFPO 622, and Sgt K Driver, BDILS(NA), BFPO 2, each win a £10 gift voucher. The ten differences were: Weather vane; sun's rays; tower window; battlements behind soldier; crossed window; tree; reeds; ripples; fish; initials bottom right.



### Freeze frame

**The Army football team practises the rigid defensive tactics which made them unwatchable**

Write your own funny caption for the photograph, right, first published in *Soldier* in April 1952. The best, in the Editor's opinion, will win a prize from our silver logo collection. Usual rules apply. Entries – on a postcard or the back of a sealed envelope – should reach us by July 31.



BY a narrow shave our prize for the May competition, left, goes to G F Fraser, Support Workshops, Royal School of Signals, Blandford, for his topical caption: "We only cut hair Mohican-style".

There were many variations on the same theme, including "For some reason, flat tops went out of fashion when the new camp



**barber arrived**" from Capt O'Rourke, 721 Sqn EOD; and "Short, back and sides . . . or the whole scalp, Sir" from W A Wright of Darlington. Different slants included "Loan service with the local Indian tribe

"wasn't as good an idea as originally thought" from Spr M Owens of 21 Engr Regt, and the bizarre "It's a long way to come from Tidworth to get a boil lanced" from D Dean of Exeter in Devon.



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**Victoria**, very attractive, tall, employed single mum. Bubbly but not extrovert, with own house and car. Would like to correspond with kind and caring pen pals, 34-45 any area (home or abroad). Photo appreciated. P114

**Karen (38)**, 5'4" slim blonde with blue grey eyes. Enjoys music, walking her dogs, eating out, making new friends, sports, travel, cooking, reading, pubs, clubs and photography. Great sense of humour, bubbly personality warm and friendly, works as a nursing aide. Looking for pen pals to fill her lonely letterbox. P115

**Gwyneth (28)**, 5'3" blonde. Enjoys driving and socialising. Widowed mother, trainee nurse. Seeking pen pals, 25-38. P117

**Teresa (40)**, 5'3" slim with short hair and blue eyes. Enjoys keeping fit and music. Divorced with two teenage sons. Seeking bored lonely male pen pals that want to write, 40-50. P118

**Lynn (27)**, slim attractive Scots girl with long dark curly hair and brown eyes. Enjoys keeping fit, socialising, meeting new people, reading, laughing, writing letters (and reading them), cinema, pubs and clubs. Seeking pen pals with GSOH and similar interests, any age group. P119

**Jennifer (40)**, 5'7" teacher. Enjoys reading, walking, cinema, theatre, gardening and music. Genuine, friendly and honest. Seeking pen pals, 38+. P120

**Jenny (28)**, 5'4" with dark hair and blue eyes. Enjoys clubs, pubs, travel and sport. Seeking genuine pen pals, any age group. P121

**Asa (41)**, 5'6" attractive, intelligent, witty blonde. Slim but with lumps and bumps in the right places. Own business means no time for hobbies but loves travelling. Seeks tall genuine officers with wicked sense of humour. P122

**Lee (23)**, blonde with quiet personality. Enjoys gym, rugby, scuba diving and cinema. Seeking pen pals serving overseas and compatible interests, 20-45. P123

**Eve (37)**, 5'2" slim medium build with shoulder-length hair. Enjoys walking in the Lakes, cinema, going to the gym and obviously writing. Single, no children, professional nursery nurse. Seeking pen pals, 30-45. P124

**Lesley**, 5'2" with short blonde hair and blue eyes. Enjoys music, cinema, cooking, swimming and cycling. Loves travelling to the Greek Islands and busy learning the language. Seeking pen pals, 30-40. P125

**Julie-Anne (34)**, 5'6" with short dark hair and big dark brown eyes. Lively with an outgoing personality. Enjoys dressmaking, DIY, pubs, clubs, bars, driving and gardening. Single, employed with own home and car, a non-smoker. Seeking pen pals, any age group. P127

**Sian**, fed up and separated with three children. Needs someone to write. Enjoys books, computer, having fun and children. Seeking pen pals of any age group. P128

**Linda (35)**, 5'6" with short light brown hair and green eyes. Enjoys pubs, clubs, parties, travelling, eating out and keeping fit. Seeking pen pals with GSOH who are sincere and genuine, male soldiers, 28-40. P129

**Linda (44)**, attractive blonde with many interests. Career lady, no ties. Seeking sincere male pen pals with GSOH, photo appreciated, 38-45. P130

**Sarah (30)**, 5'8" with brown hair and brown eyes. Enjoys swimming, sewing, bringing up children and studying at university. Divorced and looking for male pen pals and adult conversation, 29-40. P131

**Julie and Donna**, both redheads, med/slim builds. Enjoy socialising, going to the gym, good nights in and out. Two great friends, divorced and seeking genuine male soldiers, photo appreciated and all letters will be answered, 28-45. P132

**Sharon (44)**, 5'6" brunette. Enjoys reading, listening to music, dancing and country walks. Seeking pen pals, 40+. P133

**Melissa (18)**, 5'1" with a slim build, chestnut brown hair and blue eyes. Enjoys reading and going out with friends. Seeking pen pals, 18-28. P134

**Michelle (30)**, 5'9" blonde with green eyes, Wild child, vivacious, bubbly and loads of fun. In a rock group, part-time model/dancer, loves sci fi, keeping fit, eating out, cinema and clubs. Seeking male pen pals that enjoy keeping fit, 18-30. P135

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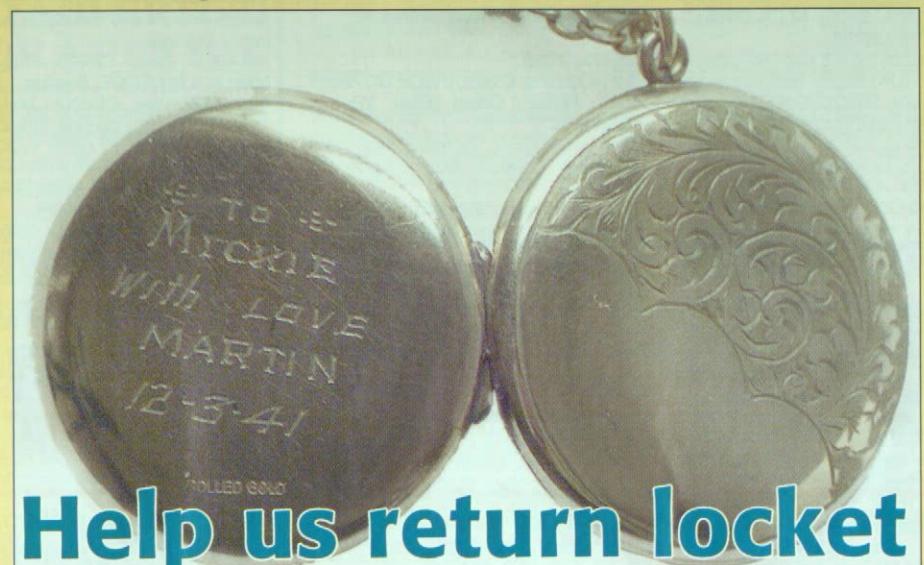
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## Help us return locket to Mickie or Martin

"To Mickie with love Martin 12-3-41" is the inscription on this rolled-gold locket found by an NCO during a recent visit to Hitchin, Herts.

CSgt Fred Cowan, a permanent staff member with E (RGJ) Company, The Royal Rifle Volunteers (Volunteers) based at Milton Keynes, was browsing in a second-hand shop when he came across the locket containing two photographs, one of a Second World War soldier, the other of a fair child.

Fred wants to enlist the help of *Soldier* readers to reunite the locket with its original owner or at least a surviving relative.



Where are they? And are they Mickie and Martin?

If you think you recognise either of the individuals pictured, contact Marion Simonini at *Soldier* (address on Page 78) or e-mail her at [msimonini@soldiermagazine.co.uk](mailto:msimonini@soldiermagazine.co.uk)

## REUNIONS

**Joint Helicopter Support Unit:** 20th anniversary reunion July 25, plus evening entertainment (£10 a head). Details from Flt Sgt Dave Spencer on 01256 702314 (ext 7050).

**21 Fd Sqn (EOD):** Reunion July 27-28 at York. SAE for details to Jimmy Heald, 16 Wayne Tabard Close, Ripon, N Yorks, HG4 2EG or 01765 602744 (mil 94711 4404).

**Ex-RAOC RD and MTI Association:** Dinner on Aug 30 at ATR Pirbright. Contact Ray Lee on 07990 982013 or [rlee@synstar.com](mailto:rlee@synstar.com)

**Glosters 28/61st:** Reunion and social hosted by Royal Forest of Dean branch, Sept 6, Berry Hill Rugby Club, Coleford. Tickets (£6) available from Richard on 01594 834510 or [www.glosters.org](http://www.glosters.org)

**Queen's Own Buffs, Canterbury branch:** Remembrance service and reunion on Aug 4. Details from H G Delo, tel 01227 765867 or e-mail [henry.lynn@freeserve.co.uk](mailto:henry.lynn@freeserve.co.uk)

**Glasgow and Strathclyde UOTC:** Reunion dinner Aug 17 in unit drill hall for past O/Cdts, TA or Regular officers, permanent staff and PSl. Event marks retirement of adjutant, Capt Pat Gill. Tickets from Capt B Simpson on 0141-339-6611 or [gsuotc@talk21.com](mailto:gsuotc@talk21.com)

## SEARCHLINE

**Havel School Berlin:** Website for ex-pupils and staff is [www.geocities.com/havelschool](http://www.geocities.com/havelschool)

**Windsor Schools, Hamm 1953-83:** This thriving society plans a reunion next year. For details contact Gill Walker, 32 Felmer Drive, King's Worthy, Hants SO23 7PY, tel 01962 880377 or [gill@kingsworthy.net](mailto:gill@kingsworthy.net)

Information on comrades of **LCpl Peter William Banks**, ex-Royal Signals (Oct 1941-Aug 1946), served with 4 Anti-Aircraft Div and later in North Africa, Italy and Middle East, sought by Jeremy Banks. Tel 0208 8583370 or [jeremy@banx.demon.co.uk](mailto:jeremy@banx.demon.co.uk)

**Far East Jungle Warfare School, Kota Yinggi, Jahore, Malaya:** photographs from 1950s sought by Jim Jacobs, 01329 235155.

**WO2 Mick Jordan**, ex-Queen's Regiment and SASC Mortar Division, is asked to contact Paul Livsey on 01404 850919.

Any news of **Charlie Last**, ex-RAPC, wanted by **Phil James, ex-17/21 Lancers** (both from Southend-on-Sea, enlisted 1967). E-mail to [philjames@omagh14.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:philjames@omagh14.fsnet.co.uk) or telephone 07901957943.

**Derry Grice, Barton Stacey 1978-80:** is asked to contact V Gray on 07815162849.

**Ex-15 Transport Squadron RCT/RLC (1991-97):** Reunion in planning stages for the autumn. To join in, contact Jase Boothby at [belloc@fsmail.net](mailto:belloc@fsmail.net) or Spencer Green at [pompeysspen@hotmail.com](mailto:pompeysspen@hotmail.com)

**George Riley, RASC, DUKW driver, Walcheren 1944-45:** sought by **Flipse** family from Westkapelle, [c.flipse@wanadoo.nl](mailto:c.flipse@wanadoo.nl)

**43 RTR, Newcastle-upon-Tyne memorabilia**

Manor Top TAC, Hurlfield Road, Sheffield S12 2AN or [paradinnerclub@aol.com](mailto:paradinnerclub@aol.com)

**Cambridgeshire Staff Band (RTR):** Reunion Oct 25-26 in Ipswich. Contact [burnies@ntlworld.com](mailto:burnies@ntlworld.com)

**SNCO Recovery Mechanics:** Reunion and dinner in the WOs' and Sgts' Mess at SEME, Bordon, Oct 26. Contact WO1(AS) Forbes, Recovery Section, SEME or 01420 485526.

**RAMC:** Reunion for ex-members and their partners, Nov 9, at Lincoln. Details from [michael.mccran@ntlworld.com](mailto:michael.mccran@ntlworld.com)

**47 Regt RA Officers' Mess:** Reunion Nov 9, RA Mess Woolwich. Contact Maj T C Edwards RA, BC 25/170 Bty RA, Baker Barracks, Thorney Island, Hants PO10 8DH, 01243 388364.

**63 Airborne/Air Assault Brigade Support Squadron:** Annual officers' dinner, HQ RLC Mess at Deepcut, late November. Details from Capt Ash Loudon, 63 Sqn, McMunn Barracks, Colchester or [ashloudon@hotmail.com](mailto:ashloudon@hotmail.com)

**68 Artillery Clerks:** Reunion and dinner on Oct 19 (rescheduled from Apr 6), RA Sgts' Mess Woolwich. Contact WO1 (SSM) AM Tibble on 01276 412250 (mil 94261 2250).

**12 (Minden) Battery:** Inaugural reunion planned for Feb 22, 2003 in London. For details send e-mail to Rick Williams, 4 Verne Way, Rodwell, Weymouth, Dorset DT4 0RY or e-mail [rickwilliams@eurobell.co.uk](mailto:rickwilliams@eurobell.co.uk)

wanted, particularly photos of 43 RTR and its tanks. Contact T L Hewitson on 01670 818043.

**Former Welsh Guards** colleagues of 23929717 WO2 Philip Morgan (1966-91) are sought by his son, Craig. Please e-mail [craig\\_philipmorgan@hotmail.com](mailto:craig_philipmorgan@hotmail.com)

**Capt J R E Ward, OC Pk Tp, 11 Ind Fd Sqn RE, Malaya 1959-60,** or any other troop members are sought by ex-sapper Roy A Long. Contact via [robdrake@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:robdrake@tiscali.co.uk)

**Calling 579, 583, and 222 Field Squadrons (EOD) (V) RE:** Reunion in planning stages, to be held at the Fort Clarence TA Centre. For details contact Graham Plumridge on 01273 582907 or [plumridgefamily@care4free.net](mailto:plumridgefamily@care4free.net)

**Any ex-8 Squadron, 27 Regt RCT (Cyprus 1989 to Gulf 1991)** interested in a reunion should contact J Whalley, 33 Colhirst Drive, Clitheroe, Lancs BB7 2EJ or e-mail [jason.whalley@castlecement.com](mailto:jason.whalley@castlecement.com)

Picture: Steve Dock

## APPOINTMENTS

**Brigadiers:** I D O Rees to be Defence and Military Adviser, New Delhi, May 27; R Rook to be Dir Royal Logistics Corps (date missing).

**Colonels:** A W E Brister to be Comd AGCTG, Apr 29; A H Goldsack to be DACOS Log Plans, Apr 30; B J Le Grys to be DCOS HQ 3(UK) Div, Apr 29; A W B Loudon to be Col Plans Recruiting Group HQ RG, May 6.

**Lt Cols:** D H Allardice KORBR to HQ SOInC(A), Apr 15; M K Allen RE to HQ Land, Jul 1; S R Armstrong RLC to RMCS, Jul 22; S W Burns, Lowland (V) to HQ SFOR, Mar 27; S J P Clifton AGC(ETS) to SHAPE, Jun 3; J H Clough RLC to ATE SE, Sep 2; J Dryborough, R Signals to RSS, Jul 1.

D J Elsam WFR to HQ Chilwell Stn, Jul 15; J R Everard QRL to JSCSC Aug 27; N H W Fenn RE to NEPG, Sep 16; J P Inman RLC to DGES(L), Apr 9; M D Keightley, Int Corps to UNOMIG, Oct 22; P A Lamb AGC(SPS) to HQ ATRA Jan 28; A W Ledger QRH to UNAMISL, Apr 26. A C Marshall REME to HQ AMD, Apr 3; S C D Mills LI to HQ SFOR, Jun 5; C Morris RLC to DGES(L), Sep 2; M J R Nash, Int Corps to DGD&D, Apr 22.

C G Nobbs AGC(SPS) to HQ ARRC, Jul 22; H C Northam AAC to HQ MIND(SW), Jul 17; J R Patterson RTR to HQ ARRC, Jul 13; M J C Payne LI to SHAPE, Sep 9; N G T Polley KRH to DPA, Jul 22; D R Quinn Hall RLC to DMERT, Sep 30; T B Radford LI to RMAS, Apr 30; P A Robson RWF to DPA, May 13; T H P Taylor RA to DG Info, May 1; M Tugby REME to HQ ARRC, Aug 19; T G W Woodman RLC to IMATT SL, Jul 13.



## CAN YOU HELP?

YOUR wartime memories sought for National Trust's **Ashridge Estate** Second World War re-enactment on Oct 5-6. Mementoes, photos from anyone stationed in Hertfordshire are needed to establish an exhibition reflecting life during the period.

Contact National Trust on 01442 851227; write to Ashridge Estate Visitor Centre, Monybury Hill, Ringshall, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 1LX or [ashridge@smtp.ntrust.org.uk](mailto:ashridge@smtp.ntrust.org.uk)

**Battle of the Bogside, August 1969:** memories, personal experiences from both sides of the barricades sought by researcher for film aiming to document this turning point in the history of modern Ireland. Contributions from former RUC and PWO personnel are of particular interest. Contact Vinny Cunningham, Producer, Northland Broadcast, 30 Chamberlain Street, Belfast BT48 6LR or e-mail him at [enquiries@northlandbroadcast.com](mailto:enquiries@northlandbroadcast.com)

**Metal Gear Solid 2 (May)** Winners: J Ross de Hoop, Brighton; J Parkins, Bath; Capt K Hibbert, BFPO 559; Cpl I Evans, 11 Signal Regiment; S Gannon, QDG, Catterick. Answer: Sons of Liberty.

**Imperial War Museum, Modern Warfare (May)** Winner: C Ashbrook, Burton, Cumbria. Answer: He was commander of 3 Commando Brigade.

## SOLDIER COMPETITIONS

**F1 2002 (May)** Winners: R N Wileman, Derbyshire; L R Newport, Oxford; K Hulme, CSS Sqn, BFPO 538; WO2 Morgan, BFG (HS), BFPO 40; R Crotch, Norwich. Answer: Jenson Button, Allan McNish or Mika Salo.

**Metal Gear Solid 2 (May)** Winners: J Ross de Hoop, Brighton; J Parkins, Bath; Capt K Hibbert, BFPO 559; Cpl I Evans, 11 Signal Regiment; S Gannon, QDG, Catterick. Answer: Sons of Liberty.

**Imperial War Museum, Modern Warfare (May)** Winner: C Ashbrook, Burton, Cumbria. Answer: He was commander of 3 Commando Brigade.

## Useful numbers

Army Benevolent Fund 020 7591 2000; [www.armybenevolentfund.com](http://www.armybenevolentfund.com)

Army Families Advice Bureau 01722 436569

Army Welfare Service 01722 433456

Army Families Federation 01980 615525; [www.aff.org.uk](http://www.aff.org.uk)

British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association 020 8590 1124; [www.blesma.org.uk](http://www.blesma.org.uk)

Confidential support lines:

UK 0800 731 4880

Germany 0800 1827 395

Cyprus 080 91065

Bosnia 0800 731 4880

Others UK 1980 630854

Regular Forces Employment Association 0207 321 2011; [www.rfea.org.uk](http://www.rfea.org.uk)

Royal British Legion's Legionline 0845 7725 725; [www.royallegion.org.uk](http://www.royallegion.org.uk)

RBL Industries Vocational Assessment Centre 01622 717202/718484; [www.rbl.co.uk](http://www.rbl.co.uk)

St Dunstan's Home for blind ex-Servicemen and women 020 7723 5021; [www.st-dunstans.org.uk](http://www.st-dunstans.org.uk)

Operations worldwide Paradigm Homelink Access Number \*2999@thePINprompt

Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society (Combat Stress) 01372 841600;

www.combatstress.com

Family Escort Service 020 7463 9249

Gulf Veterans Association 0191 230 1065

Joint Service Housing Advice Office 01722 436575

Mutual Support (Forces Multiple Sclerosis support group) 01666 824709

National Gulf Veterans and Families Association Office (0900-1700) 01482 808730; 24-hour helpline on 01482 833812; [www.ngva.com](http://www.ngva.com)

Regular Forces Employment Association 0207 321 2011; [www.rfea.org.uk](http://www.rfea.org.uk)

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## DATES

**JULY**  
1-4: Overlord Military Vehicle Show, Horndean, nr Portsmouth ([www.solentmv.co.uk](http://www.solentmv.co.uk))

6-7: Army 2002, Larkhill. Firepower and ceremonial (ticket hotline 0871 220 9703).

6-7: Napoleonic battle and regency fayre, Farnham Park, Farnham, Surrey. Programme on [www.88thfoot.co.uk](http://www.88thfoot.co.uk)

7: RMA Sandhurst open day, 1000-1600.

10: Kneller Hall concert, 2000 (IG, Lucknow and Clive Bands of Prince of Wales's Division). Tickets £5 from 020 8744 8633 or available on the night.

17-21: War and Peace Show. World's largest military vehicle gathering at Hop Farm Country Park, Beltring, Kent.

24: Kneller Hall concert, 2000 (Para, AAC and D and D Bands). See July 10 for ticket details.

26: Outdoor jubilee concert featuring AAC, Parachute Regiment and RAF Central bands and RA display team, Ham House, Richmond, 1830 for 2000. In aid of Royal Star and Garter Home. Tickets, £20, from 08701 555585.

## AUGUST

2-24: Edinburgh Military Tattoo. More details on [www.edintattoo.co.uk](http://www.edintattoo.co.uk)

7: Kneller Hall concert, 2000 (RA, R Irish, Gurkha Bands). See July 10.

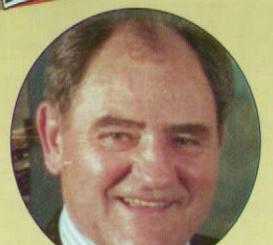
## SEPTEMBER

7: Brompton Barracks open day, Royal School of Military Engineering, Chatham.

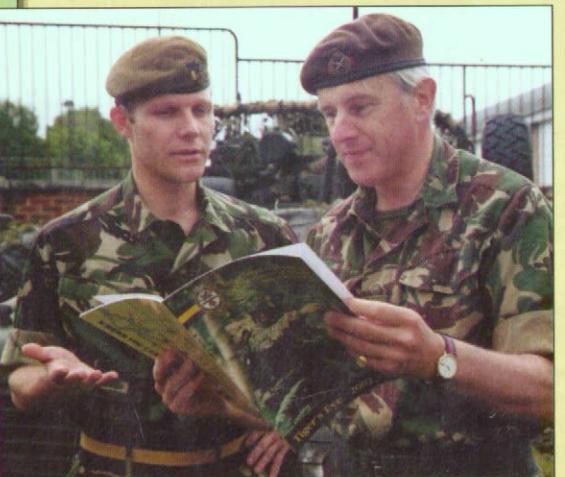
\* A 10ft obelisk of Scottish granite was dedicated last month to British troops who fought at the **Battle of Quatre Bras** on June 16, 1815 just before Waterloo. The only memorials on either battlefield until now were Dutch, French, Belgium and German.

\* Wells Cathedral School's Combined Cadet Force put on a series of displays for their biennial inspection by Col Oliver Chamberlain of 43 (Wessex) Brigade.

\* London Marathon runners don't usually make the news in July, but specialist accident-and-emergency nurse SSgt Angie Jones QARANC, left, was in Kosovo when she got her film back, so has an excuse for being late. Based at the Centre for Defence Medicine in Birmingham, she completed her first marathon in 5hr 11min and raised £1,910 for Trauma Care.



## Territories open their doors



LT Gen John Kiszely, right, Commander Regional Forces, swats up on A (Queen's Royal Surreys) Company, 3rd Battalion, The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment during a visit to its Farnham headquarters on TA Day. With him is the officer commanding A Company, Maj Julian Ladd. Territorial Army centres all over the UK threw their doors open to the public on the same day.



## Jolly good Fellows

FOUR sappers have been granted fellowships of the Institute of Civil Engineers, the body's most prestigious award.

Anti-clockwise, from top, are Brig Alasdair Wilson, Lt Col Ian Ogden, Col Jon Mullin and Lt Col David Taylor, who received their distinctions from the president of the institute, Mark Whitby. Fellowships are granted to those who demonstrate exceptional leadership skills, technical ability or academic excellence. All four were delighted that their service in the Royal Engineers had been recognised at a national level.

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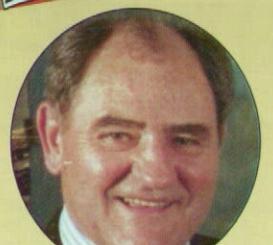
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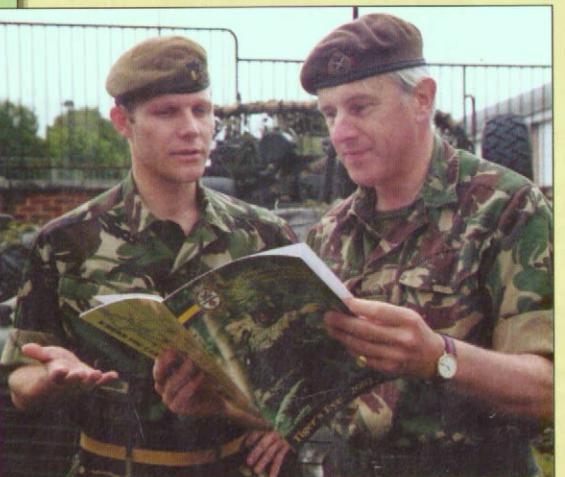
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## Royal Engineers hold the keys to Portsmouth

WO1 Tom Bridges, left, from the Defence Diving School at Horsea Island, carries the keys to the "fortress of Portsmouth" at the city's recent mayor-making ceremony. The

traditional event recalls Portsmouth's history as a fortress garrison. When a new lord mayor takes office, the original keys are returned to him or her for safe keeping. When the Queen visits the city, the keys must be made available for the senior area Army commander to present to the Monarch. This honour currently lies with Maj Stuart Robertson RE, senior Army officer at the Defence Diving School. He was accompanied by WO1 Bridges, Sgt Mick Griffiths and Cpl Sid Scales.

July 2002 SOLDIER

## Northern highlight

Celebrating their arrival at the geographic North Pole are wheelchair-bound Mike McGrath, a muscular dystrophy sufferer, and helper and friend Maj "KW" Kerry-Williams RA, a battery commander in Osnabrück-based 4th Regiment RA.

The two men flew in on a Russian helicopter so that Mike could join polar walker Chris Cope on the final part of his trek to the pole, an event which raised more than £100,000 for the Muscular Dystrophy Campaign.

Because Mike has few working muscles and cannot generate heat, keeping him warm was a major preoccupation for his helpers. The final 150m, completed in temperatures of minus 30, took 20 minutes to complete.



## Abe gets his medals back

SECOND World War RASC driver Abe Mann has had his medals replaced, thanks to a chance meeting in a Glasgow park with Maj Jim Chappell RLC. On hearing the story of the long-lost decorations, Jim, who is serving at the Army Personnel Centre in Glasgow, teamed up with Capt Andy McArthur, 2iC of 221 Transport Squadron RLC (V) and secretary of the Glasgow branch of the RASC/RCT Association to confirm that Abe had been awarded five medals for war service: the 1939-1945 Star, Africa Star with 1st Army clasp, Italy Star, War Medal and Defence Medal.

The replacements were sponsored by 25 Training Support Regiment RLC.

## Ypres lesson on war realities

PLATOON sergeant Sgt Mick Green RHF, left, led a party of permanent staff and trainees from F Company and Williams Rehabilitation Company, Infantry Training Centre Catterick, on a four-day battlefield tour to Ypres. The trainees were shocked, said Sgt Green, "after visiting the Tyne Cot cemetery and seeing 11,500 white headstones of British troops killed at Passchendaele and the names of 35,000 soldiers

missing in action. We also visited one of the German cemeteries at Langemark and the graves of 44,100 Germans. The trainees started to realise the realities of war."

## Royal Engineers hold the keys to Portsmouth

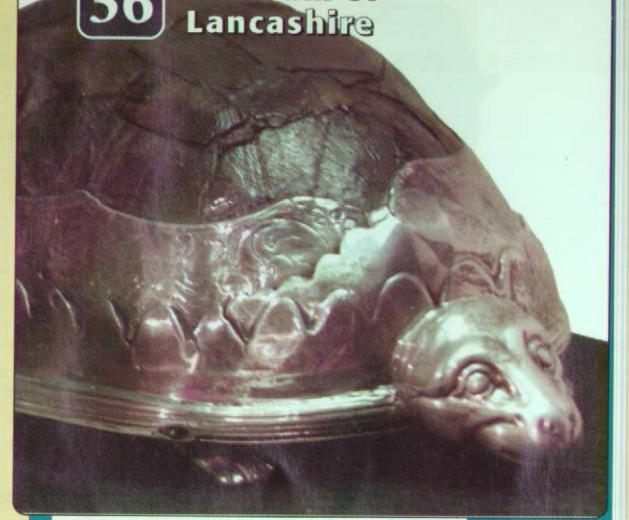
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July 2002 SOLDIER

## Legends of the regiments and corps

## 36 Museum of Lancashire



A tasty morsel: The shell of the Maida Tortoise ended up mounted in silver

Picture: Graeme Main

## A word in your shell-like

IT is common practice to celebrate victory with a good meal and lots to drink. But a tortoise on the menu?

It happened after the Battle of Maida in southern Italy on July 4, 1806 when Lt Col (later Gen Sir) James Kent of the 81st Regiment of Foot picked up the creature after defeating the French.

While the tortoise ended up as the main course, the adventures of its shell were just beginning.

## HIGHLY-PRIZED

To mark the victory, Lt Col Kent had it mounted in silver and made into a snuffbox. It became a highly-prized item of regimental silver and travelled with the 81st – later the 2nd Battalion, The Loyal North Lancashires – around the world.

In 1942 it was captured by the Japanese at Singapore with the rest of the officers' mess property before being retrieved in 1945. Today the Maida Tortoise is in the Museum of Lancashire in Preston.

Just for the record, the Maida Vale district of London was named after the same battle.

Memorabilia of The Queen's Lancashire Regiment, the 14th/20th King's Hussars and The Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry can be seen at the Museum of Lancashire, Stanley Street, Preston, which is open Monday to Wednesday and Friday to Saturday, 1030-1700. It is closed on Thursdays, Sundays and bank holidays.

[www.armymuseums.org.uk](http://www.armymuseums.org.uk)



Picture: Stephen Legg

# Switched on . . .



## SOUND OF MUSIC

SMALLER than a computer mouse, this gadget plugs into the standard 3.5mm headphone socket of any music or video system and can then be attached to a hard, glossy surface by its sucker.

Using the signal from the audio device, the Soundbug effectively creates a sounding board and can generate sound levels up to 75 dBm.

① £33.95, from [www.tiggypig.com](http://www.tiggypig.com) (01603 890359).

To win your own Soundbug simply visit the Tiggypig website and tell us the name of their reggae-singing hamster. Send your answers via e-mail to [asimms@soldiermagazine.co.uk](mailto:asimms@soldiermagazine.co.uk)

The winners will be drawn at random from the correct answers received by August 1. Usual rules apply.

## WATCH WHAT YOU SAY

STILL waiting for Bowman to be introduced into service?

This walkie-talkie watch (part of a pair), below, is hardly state-of-the-art technology, but it does have a 250ft range and is supplied with two sets of earphones, and changeable face covers.

① £30, from [www.gadgetshop.com](http://www.gadgetshop.com) (0800 7838343).



## BALANCING ACT

COMPLETELY rechargeable, this cordless equilibrium radio will work continuously for up to 36 hours at 70 per cent volume.

Sporting a telescopic aerial, the radio also features a display window showing the time, an alarm clock function and light.

① £80, from [www.gadgetshop.com](http://www.gadgetshop.com) (0800 7838343).

# Game on . . .

## COMMANDOS 2, PS2

EIDOS Interactive's *Commandos 2: Men of Courage*, the sequel to the award-winning *Commandos: Behind Enemy Lines*, which was released on PC CD-ROM in June 1998 and has sold more than one million copies worldwide, has arrived on the PlayStation 2.

*Commandos 2* is a tactical action strategy game, set against the backdrop of the Second World War, which puts players in control of an élite group of soldiers who must venture deep into enemy territory to complete a series of mission-based objectives.

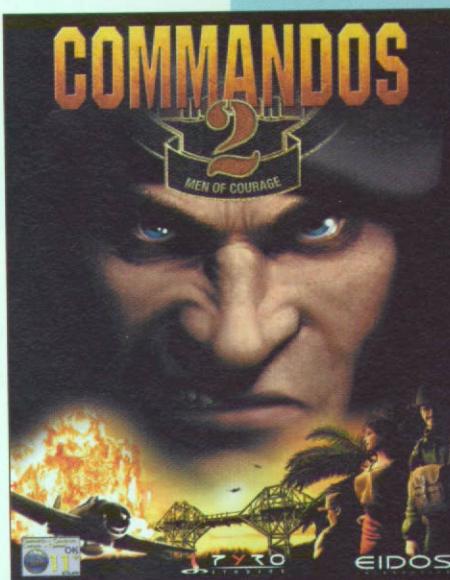
The six characters from the first game have been joined by three new ones: Lupin the thief, Natasha the seductress and Whiskey the dog. Characters now share abilities but have their own personalised, unrivalled skills.

A completely new 3D game engine, enabling indoor and outdoor locations as well as the facility to rotate each environment, helps to create a huge interactive playing field.

This console version of the game also features a completely revised control system. Developers Pyro have dispensed with the "point and click" control method of the PC version and replaced it with a system which gives players direct control over the characters.

**VERDICT:** Worthy of a mention in dispatches. 9/10

## OUT NOW



## WIN . . . WIN . . . WIN . . .

For your chance to win one of five copies of *Commandos 2* for the PlayStation 2, simply tell us the name of the game's development team.

Send your answer on a postcard to *Commandos 2* competition, Soldier, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU by August 1. Usual rules apply.

## BYTE-SIZE NEWS

LARA Croft, who has dazzled and beguiled audiences in six episodes of *Tomb Raider*, now has the representation to accompany her star status – a Hollywood agent.

Eidos Interactive and Core Design, the publisher and developer of the blockbuster game series, has announced that Croft has signed with Creative Artists Agency (CAA).

"Lara Croft represents a dynamic personality for CAA and a ground-breaking type of client for our business," said CAA's Elie Dekel. "The fact is, Lara Croft is a star, she is a one-billion-dollar brand and is recognised by 95 per cent of males between the ages of 12 and 25."

CODEMASTER has executed a massive coup by signing computer and video game rights deals with 15 of the most successful football clubs across Europe.

The UK-based game developer intends to produce and simultaneously launch an individually branded and badged game for each club on the PlayStation 2 and XBox.

The *Club Football* line-up, which is scheduled to be released this autumn, will include Arsenal, Liverpool, Manchester United, Barcelona, Rangers and Inter Milan.

## SOLDIER OF FORTUNE: GOLD, PS2 OUT NOW

WITH the atmosphere of a blockbuster action-thriller, *Soldier of Fortune: Gold* plunges players into the deadly world of John Mullins, a gun-for-hire who is charged with tracking down and taking out a fanatical terrorist organisation.

The first-person shooter's ten covert missions, which span five continents and cover 26 levels of play, take in the underworlds of political hot spots across the globe.

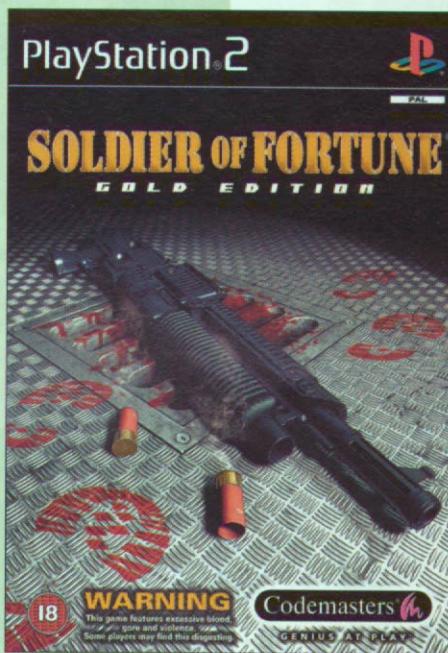
As Mullins engages in sabotage, stealthy assassination, and full-frontal assaults, it's the player's skill as a clear-headed marksman that separates the hunter from becoming the hunted.

Mullins has access to an arsenal of lethal weaponry including a sniper rifle, grenades, plastic explosives and prototype pulse guns.

And in *Soldier of Fortune* "real" bullets do "real" damage; shoot an enemy in the leg and he falls, writhing and grasping his wound. Shoot someone in the head and he falls down dead. The game's detailed characters have hit points all over their bodies; take aim and fire – whether an opponent is left floored or killed outright is up to the gamer.

Powered by Raven Software's GHOUL rendering system, the game displays unprecedented detail and realism in its creation of locations and character model animation.

And it is because of this realism and frequent graphic scenes of animated violence



that *Soldier of Fortune* is being marketed responsibly with an 18-rated certificate.

**VERDICT:** *Soldier of Fortune: Gold* is without question the most realistic covert-operative shooter on the PlayStation 2. Those looking for fast-paced, adrenaline-fuelled action need look no further than this excellent offering from Codemasters.

9/10

## WIN...WIN...WIN

**SOLDIER** has joined forces with Codemasters to offer you the opportunity to step into the shoes of a hired gunman.

For your chance to win one of ten copies of *Soldier of Fortune: Gold* for the PlayStation 2, simply answer the following question:



What is the full name of the lead character in *Soldier of Fortune: Gold*?

- a) John Prescott
- b) John Cleese
- c) John Mullins

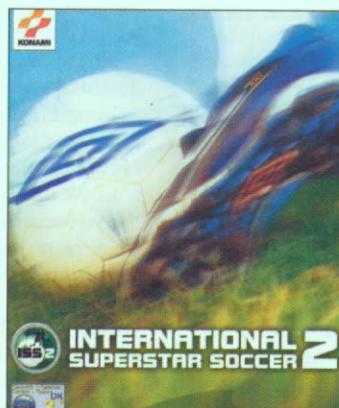
Send your answer on a postcard to *Soldier of Fortune: Gold* competition, Soldier, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU. The winners will be drawn at random from the correct answers received by August 1. Usual rules apply.

## ISS 2, PS2

ACTING as an arcade-oriented companion to the phenomenally successful *Pro Evolution Soccer*, *ISS 2* is a fast-paced football title that marries immediacy with an intuitive and comprehensive control system.

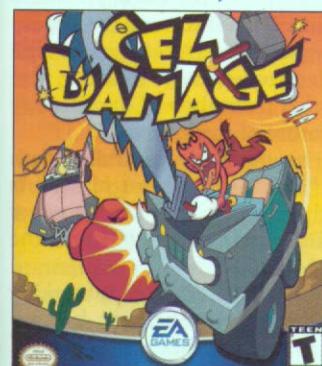
Every move associated with the beautiful game – from through balls, one-two passes, chipped returns and first-time volleys – are all easily executed.

The title's excellent graphics are complemented by commentary from ITV Sport's Jon Champion and BBC1's Mark Lawrenson.



**VERDICT:** Top summer signing. 9/10

## CELL DAMAGE, XBOX & GAMECUBE OUT NOW



**VERDICT:** Wanton wackiness. 7/10

THIS frantic title from Electronic Arts reaches into the violent and wacky world of cartoon physics to present a vehicular combat title with a twist.

Taking command of any of the six main characters, each with their own unique machine of cartoon destruction, players must battle through more than ten levels based on different cartoon themes.

Three gameplay modes and 36 different weapon power-ups ensure that gamers will not quickly tire of the animated action.

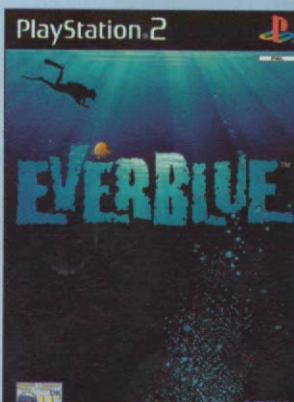
## OUT NOW

## EVERBLUE, PS2

SET on the island of Daedalus, a haven for divers keen to discover unspoilt beaches and treasure-laden seabeds, *Everblue* offers gamers a subtle mix of puzzles and exploration.

Players take control of Leonardo Deplhino, a local boy who is investigating the disappearance of an old friend, and must guide him through the town centre, gathering information on the locations of shipwrecks before taking to the sea in search of clues.

*Everblue's* realistic underwater settings are first-class and accurately reproduce the feeling of scuba diving.



**VERDICT:** In-depth gameplay 7/10

## SONIC ADVENTURE 2, GAMECUBE OUT NOW



**VERDICT:** Vintage Sonic. 8/10

COMPUTER gaming's favourite son, Sonic the Hedgehog, makes his debut on Nintendo's GameCube in *Sonic Adventure 2: Battle*.

The title features faster action, all-new two-player games, and a branching storyline that lets you choose to save the world as Sonic, or conquer it as one of the game's many bad guys.

In the single-player mode, gamers must negotiate their way through 30 stages which include a forgotten pyramid, an abandoned military base and a giant space station.

## Sending out a message swift, loud and clear

PUBLISHED to coincide with the 25th anniversary of the Princess Royal becoming colonel-in-chief of the Royal Corps of Signals, Laurette Burton's pictorial tribute brings together more than 200 photographs portraying the history of Army signalling from the Crimean War onwards. From the days when communications

were sent by messengers, flags and lamps to the modern era of satellites and battlefield communication systems, **The Royal Corps of Signals** (Tempus, £12.99) have upheld their motto "Swift and Sure".

## Monty's final triumphal battle

PROLIFIC military author Charles Whiting turns his attention to Field Marshal Sir Bernard Montgomery to tell the story of his triumphal final battle, which culminated in the surrender of all German forces in May 1945. This fast-moving book, originally printed in 1989, delves into the secrets of Monty's campaign and tells

how this enigmatic soldier achieved his goal through ruthless generalship and disregard for orders from above. **Monty's Greatest Victory, The Drive for the Baltic April-May 1945** (Pen and Sword, £19.95) is never less than gripping.

## Irish contribution to Crimea considered

IRISHMEN fought on both sides of the Crimean War and this is the first book to assess all levels of their involvement. Drawing on contemporary letters and memoirs, **Ireland and the Crimean War** (Four Courts Press, €35) by David Murphy describes the experiences of the Irish who fought with the British as well as the armies of France

Turkey and Russia. The stories of those who worked as chaplains, engineers, navvies and in the medical services are also told, along with those of the war correspondents, the most important of whom was William Howard Russell.



These illustrations from Queen Elizabeth II: A Jubilee Portrait in Stamps, by Fay Sweet (The British Library and Royal Mail, £14.95) show four of the five designs by John Gibbs for his 1990 "Gallantry" issue. Containing more than 200 colour images, this philatelic feast of a book features all the UK special stamps so far issued for royal occasions during the Queen's reign, plus much else besides.

# On the trail of Colonel C

We search for the truth about a legendary British inventor

**Swear Like a Trooper: A Dictionary of Military Terms and Phrases** by William L Priest (Howell Press/Spellmount, £18.99.)

### Review: Chris Horrocks

WHEN someone has taken 20 years to compile what his publishers describe as a "definitive" collection of more than 5,600 international military expressions, it might seem churlish to suggest that some of his gen may be less than pukka.

But with due respect to Will Priest, an American military historian, it came as a surprise to be told categorically that a certain contraceptive device took its name from a British colonel called Cundum.

Priest tells us this officer made the first condom in 1776 from dried sheep intestines. His source is quoted as Eric Partridge's 1992 edition of a dictionary published in 1785.

Partridge, who served in the Australian infantry in the First World War and the British Army and RAF in the Second, was one of the greatest authorities on language.

His *Dictionary of Historical Slang* (Penguin), first published in 1937, tells us that between 1665 and 1820 the word cundum had three meanings – a form of safety sheath named after "its deviser, a colonel in the Guards"; a false scabbard over a sword; and the oil-skin case for regimental colours.

Soldier research, conducted in the interests of clarification, found that the first illustration of a condom dates back 3,000 years to Egypt; that the ancient Romans had a word for it – condon (Latin for receptacle); and that exam-

ples dating from 1640 were once found in Dudley Castle, Warwickshire.

So where does this leave the good colonel? The last word might well be found in the *New Penguin Dictionary*, published two years ago, which declares that he probably didn't exist.

There are other entries in this dictionary destined to raise eyebrows in Britain. "Compo", for example, merits only: "soldiers' pay, an abbreviation of compensation". No mention of compo rations.

Look up "glasshouse" and you find it was the name given to a USAAF bomber turret; there is no reference to the Aldershot landmark which became synonymous with detention barracks Army-wide.

It is difficult, however, to be wholly critical of a book which has the potential to entertain as well as irritate – even if occasionally it does both at the same time.

Entries such as "Colonel's wife's silk stockings – see Silk stockings, colonel's wife's" will no doubt excite curiosity, but the explanation hardly merits the effort of turning the pages.

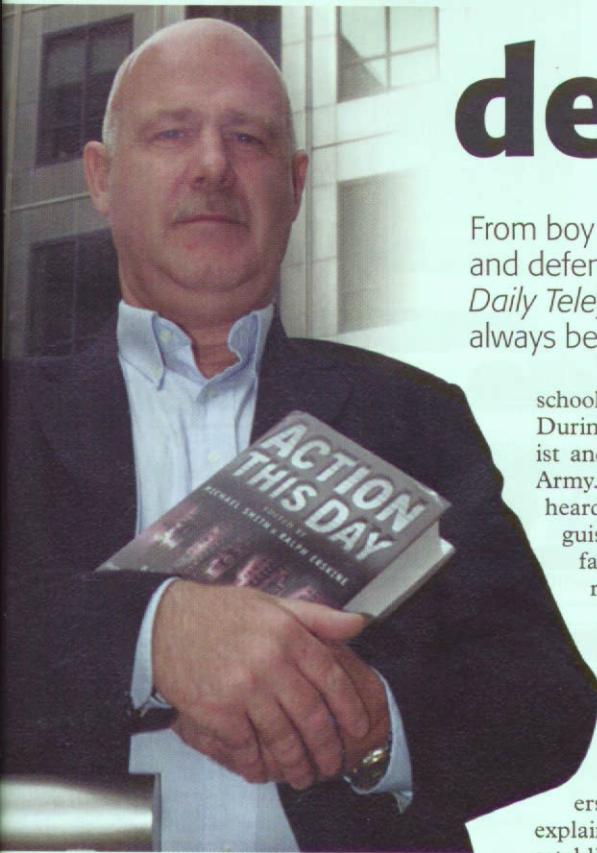
American tongue-twisters like "single-digit fidget" and "six-and-twenty tootsie" also provide light relief from the self-explanatory or four-letter nature of many entries.

And despite his book being saddled with that adjective "definitive", Priest himself is realistic enough to admit that his labour of love "can be offered only as a guide, not as the final word".

The good news is that he is already working on another edition. May we suggest he considers revising his entries on compo, glasshouse – and the phantom Colonel Cundum?

BRIEFS ARE IN PAGE 71

# Intense about defence



Interview: Anthony Stone  
Picture: Steve Dock

WHY is *The Daily Telegraph* always having a go at the Army? That was the question a disgruntled colonel put to the paper's defence correspondent Michael Smith when he cornered him at Sandhurst.

"But we are not having a go at the Armed Forces," he told the officer. "That is a misunderstanding of the situation. By and large our coverage is very positive."

Former Int Corps sergeant Michael Smith is, by his own admission, Army-barmy and he wants the *Telegraph* to be seen as the soldier's paper, even if that means featuring the bad as well as the good.

"Certainly there should be coverage of Army deployments in foreign contexts, but we also write about barrack blocks not being up to scratch, Army pensions, and stories where soldiers are not getting the treatment they should," he said.

"That throws me into conflict with Army authorities at times because it is not always the kind of stuff the PR machine would like to go out."

Michael Smith joined the Army at 15 as an apprentice surveyor and spent two years at Bramcote, near Nuneaton, where the Junior Leaders Royal Artillery was based.

"The old adage that the Army makes a man of you was certainly true of me because the reason I was being virtually expelled from

From boy soldier to best-selling author and defence correspondent of *The Daily Telegraph*, Michael Smith has always been passionate about the Army

school was that I was fairly immature," he said. During the next 15 years, the future journalist and author travelled the world with the Army. His career changed course when he heard the Intelligence Corps needed linguists and his work as an electronic warfare operator involved analysing and reporting information.

Helpful background when it came to writing *Station X*, the best-selling account of Bletchley Park's Second World War code-breaking feats, and co-editing, with Ralph Erskine, *Action This Day* (Bantam, £25), in which a number of key writers, including some who worked there, explain the historical significance of the establishment. Among his other books is *The Emperor's Codes*, on a related topic.

After studying Arabic for a year in London, Smith was posted to Cyprus with 9 Signal Regiment and went to Oman on attachment. A German interpreter's course followed, then a hush-hush stint monitoring Soviet and East German communications.

"It gave me the idea that when I left the Services I might become a journalist and do reporting in a different context. Of course, it is not that easy."

However, while working for the BBC at Caversham, Berkshire, where broadcasts from around the world are monitored, he broke the story about the Iranian fatwa on the author Salman Rushdie.

Work for the *Financial Times* and *Sunday Times* followed and then as assistant foreign editor of the *Telegraph* he wrote many of the major stories on the Gulf War. In his current specialist role he now combines two great passions – journalism and defence.

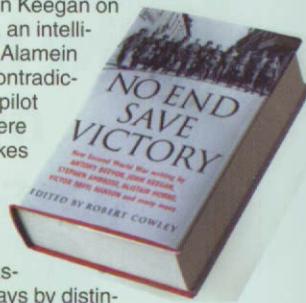
The colonel at Sandhurst might not always approve of what he reads over his cornflakes. But then Michael Smith probably wouldn't be doing his job if he did.

## 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 booksearch; 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](mailto:books@helion.co.uk) Website: <http://www.helion.co.uk>

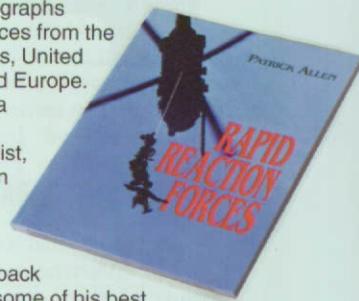
## This blockbuster is one for the armchair

IF you're looking for that legendary "good read", here it is. Antony Beevor on Stalingrad, Sir David Fraser on Normandy, Sir John Keegan on the siege of Berlin, an intelligence officer at El Alamein and that strange contradiction – a Kamikaze pilot who survived. If there can be any new takes on the Second World War, they are in *No End Save Victory* (ed Robert Cowley, Cassell, £25) – 45 essays by distinguished writers or men who were simply there, filling 688 blockbuster pages. Not for beach or bedside, but to put by to savour in an armchair as the nights draw in.



## Fast and élite forces shot for the record

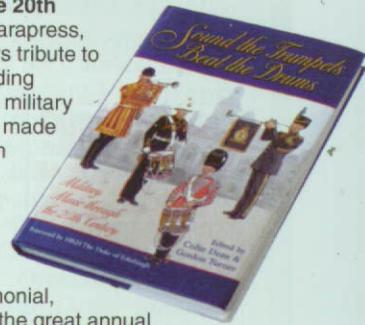
BY far the best feature of *Rapid Reaction Forces* (Airlife, £16.99) by Patrick Allen is the outstanding colour photographs depicting forces from the United States, United Kingdom and Europe. The author, a leading photojournalist, specialises in military helicopter operations, and this softback showcases some of his best work. Chapters on 16 Air Assault Brigade highlight Operation Palliser in Sierra Leone, a text-book example of the rapid reaction concept.



## Musical history is pitched just right

WHAT better way to celebrate the International Military Music Society's 25th anniversary than by blowing its own trumpet with this estimable companion. *Sound the Trumpets Beat the Drums, Military Music through the 20th Century* (Parapress, £17.95) pays tribute to the outstanding contribution military bands have made to the British way of life during the last 100 years.

Chapters cover ceremonial, tattoos and the great annual occasions and are illustrated with black and white photographs. With a foreword from The Duke of Edinburgh, and a wealth of well-orchestrated information, this history will delight enthusiasts.





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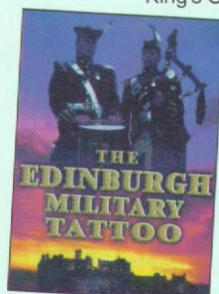
Models shown for illustration purposes only. V70 roof rails are an optional extra. Prices correct at time of going to press.

## VIDEO/DVD

MAKING their "premiere" on DVD are four of the greatest British war films of all time. From the Warner Home Video collection come *Ice Cold in Alex* (1958), *The Colditz Story* (1955), *The Cruel Sea* (1953) and *The Dam Busters* (1954).

Out later this month will be *The Edinburgh Military Tattoo*. It's on video or DVD and available from all good stockists, price £14.99, or by mail order from DD Video on credit card hotline 01829 741490.

Regiments featured include the Grenadier



Guards, The Queen's Own Highlanders, The King's Own Scottish Borderers, The Black Watch, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, the Corps of Drums of the Royal Marines, the Band of The Royal Scots and many more.

Also available from DD Video are Alistair Cooke's *Blitz on Britain* (£12.99), a landmark documentary about the Second World War; *Coronation* (£12.99), the story in film of the Queen's Coronation in Westminster Abbey; and the four-title *Imperial War Museum Collection* (£14.99 each) from the vaults of the IWM.

## BOOKS IN BRIEF

**Before They Fade...** Engaging collection of soldierly reminiscences by Chelsea Pensioners, compiled from informal conversations initiated by Martin Snow and Robin Ollington. All proceeds go to the Royal Hospital Chelsea, so every purchase is a donation. Cheques for £7, inc postage, should be made payable to R Ollington, 1b Avenue Studios, Sydney Close, London SW3 6HN.

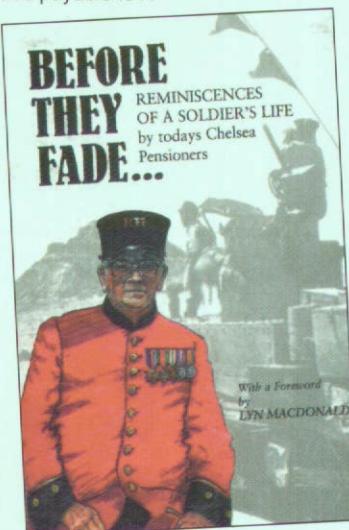
**The Infantry Regiments of Surrey** by Lt Cols Les Wilson and Patrick Crowley. This excellent book's 86 glossy and colourful pages cover the regimental histories from 1661 to The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment of today. Bryan Fosten's glorious illustrations show 205 uniformed figures as well as weapons, equipment, badges, buttons and more. Available from The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment Museum (to which cheques are payable), Clandon Park, Guildford, GU4 7RQ. Hardback £25, softback £20, plus £3 p&p (UK), £4.50 (overseas).

**The World's Elite Forces: Small Arms and Accessories** by John Walter. An important addition to the Greenhill Military Manuals series (£14.95).

**Secrets of World War II** by Norman Boast. Better-than-average self-published paperback which offers behind-the-scenes versions of pivotal moments such as Arnhem. The author is generously offering to send UK readers of *Soldier* a copy if you send £2 sae, or stamps, to him at 152 Cavalry Park, March, Cambs PE15 9DL.

**The Devil's Own Luck** by Denis Edwards. Pegasus Bridge to the Baltic, 1944-45, told from a fighting Tommy's point of view by one of the first Allied soldiers to land on D-Day. (Pen & Sword, paperback, £12.95.)

**The First Blitz** by Andrew P Hyde. Detailed account of the German bombing campaign



against Britain, 1917-18, which caused widespread carnage among men, women and children. (Pen & Sword, £19.95.)

**Another Vietnam: Pictures of the War from the Other Side** by Tim Page. Large-format, high-quality 240-page hardback chock-full of stunning mono images taken by Vietnamese photographers. A military collector's piece. (National Geographic, £35.)

**The Paras** by John Parker. Billed as "the inside story of Britain's toughest regiment", this large-format paperback includes a prologue on the wives and widows by Sara Jones, widow of Col H. VC. (Metro, £9.99.)

**Military Barracks** by Trevor May. Illustrated history of the buildings, the people and the lives they led, by the father of a former Royal Engineers officer who helped build accommodation for UN troops in Bosnia in the 1990s. (Shire paperback, 40pp, £3.50.)

**The Zulu War: Isandhlwana to Ulundi** by Michael Barthorp. Concise, well illustrated narrative first published in 1980. (Cassell, softback, £14.99.)

**Russia's Heroes 1941-45** by Albert Axell. Highly praised documentary account of the courage and endurance of a nation's men and women soldiers. (Robinson, paperback, £7.99.)

**The Battle of Bannockburn 1314** by Aryeh Nusbacher. The senior lecturer in war studies at Sandhurst has drawn on fresh knowledge to produce what has been praised as "the most accessible and authoritative book on the battle". (Tempus, paperback, £12.99.)

**Mist on the Rice-fields** by John Shipster. Soldier's story of the Burma Campaign 1943-45 and Korean War 1950-51. (Pen & Sword, paperback, £12.95.)

## MUSIC

Gordon Turner

# Musicians set standard with their own corps march

**Nulli Secundus** (Bandleader BNA 5175)

THE birth of the Military Music Class (later to become the Royal Military School of Music) at Kneller Hall, Twickenham, in 1857 heralded the first great step forward in military music.

Foreign bandmasters were gradually discarded, and instrumentation and music standardised. In 1994, under Options for Change, another great switch in military music occurred when all bands in the British Army were amalgamated into the Corps of Army Music.

A competition was held last year to find a regimental quick march for the new corps and Bandleader Recordings have now issued the 26 entries on one CD. The marches are played by the combined bands of The Prince of Wales's Division (Clive) and the Royal Logistic Corps, conducted by Lt Col Geoff Kingston, Principal Director of Music (Army).

It is a wonderful opportunity to obtain 26 new marches and to judge for yourself whether the best won.

**In Concert with the Band of the Dragoon Guards** (Bandleader BNA 5174)

THE Band of The Dragoon Guards have recorded a programme that includes such old favourites as the overture *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Gold and Silver Waltz*, *Panis Angelicus*, *Jealousy* and *Georgia*; the marches *Standard of St George* and *Great Little Army* plus *Hymn to the Fallen*, *West Side Story*, *Schindler's List* and others.

**Challenge** (Soundline SLB 4010)

HAVING spent five very happy years as director of music of the Cambrai Band of The Royal Tank Regiment I was pleased to hear their latest recording and compare the present standard with the band of 20 years ago. It is a fine programme with slightly too much pop music for my taste, although this is offset with two super tracks, *Hallelujah Chorus* and the Brahms *Academic Festival Overture*, four good marches – *Colchester Castle* (originally titled *Captain Blood*), *Voice of the Guns*, *Luftwaffe March* and *Sonderborg March* – and, of course, *My Boy Willie*.

If you have difficulties obtaining recordings, or any queries on military music, please write to me c/o *Soldier*.

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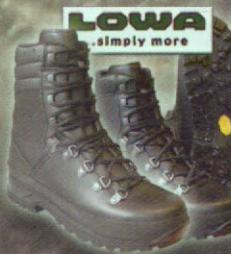


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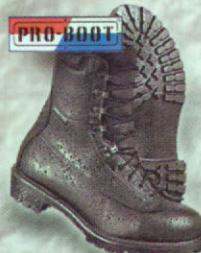
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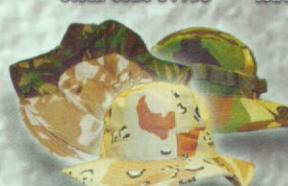
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## SOLDIER to soldier

## Green and gold

SO many areas of our society have been, until relatively recently, no-go territory for women that the title "first lady" has lost some of its impact.

Industry, politics, even the Armed Forces, have – whether they liked it or not – adapted to the relentless advance of the fairer sex.

So we should not be surprised that a woman has earned the right to wear the famous green beret of the Royal Marines. Capt Pip Tattersall's astonishing achievement in completing the All Arms Commando Course at Lympstone in Devon is a monumental milestone worthy of our whole-hearted admiration.

Let's face it, very few could complete this toughest of military tests.



As we report in Pages 24-25, the Adjutant General's Corps officer came back for more long after most people would have held up their hand and walked away.

Capt Tattersall told reporters that the hardest part was deciding to re-apply after she had twice failed to complete the course. That media spotlight on her progress must have made the whole process even more daunting.



SO the entire South Korean football team is to be excused national service as a reward for its stunning performance in the World Cup.

Instead of joining an army which has the depressing task of keeping a close eye on its nearest, but far from dearest, neighbour, members of the team will be free to take advantage of the many offers of footballing employment likely to come their way.

Fame and fortune beckons.

We hope it does also for Cpl Duncan Urquhart (Page 48), who was released from his military duties with the 1st Royal Tank Regiment to pursue Commonwealth Games gold in Manchester. Good luck to him and all the other military contenders.

### Home truths

**Sue Bonney**

# Some things don't change

But the Army has responded for most part to families' concerns

I WRITE this amid the intense activity of getting ready for the Army Families Federation's main event, our biennial conference in London. I have done quite a few conferences, and this one promises to be one of the best, with more than 500 people due to attend thanks to terrific support from units in getting families to it, an impressive list of speakers, and lots of time for questions and discussion.

It's all about what AFF is supposed to do – create a channel of communication between the Army and its families. And we have been doing it now for quite a long time.

To give everyone at the conference some bedtime reading, I have been putting together a brief history of the Federation to celebrate its 20th birthday. I promise it won't be boring: following the Fed's sometimes rocky road from 1982 can be as gripping as one of the best soaps.

Our arrival was greeted by some with less than full enthusiasm, but on the whole we behaved very well and resisted frightening the horses. We let smiling charm and quiet persistence win the day. Well, most days and most people. The Federation, the families and the Army have all evolved, worked and progressed together, from the "wife-of" era into spouses and partners, from telling wives how it is to consulting soldiers and their spouses and doing what is possible with exasperatingly limited resources.

One of the most surprising – and potentially depressing – things I discovered when researching our history was how long ago some issues were first raised: march-outs and cleaning schemes in 1983; lack of employment for wives in 1984; claiming unemployment benefit, the status of 18-plus children and support for estranged wives in 1985; payment for first and last moves in 1987;



**Sue Bonney is  
Editor of the AFF  
Families Journal**

difficulties in finding NHS dentists in 1992 (that's ten years ago!); compassionate travel for foreign-born wives in 1995; and the role and selection of families' officers in 1997.

Some of these issues are still not sorted. So, you might ask, what has AFF been doing for the last 20 years? Well, not sitting back twiddling our pearls. We have been raising those issues year after year, dripping away on the stone, and gradually achieving many changes for the better. Some may have been small, but all were significant. The huge improvement in communications has been a major achievement in itself.

However, with some issues, we hit the barriers of no new money and the current "no special treatment" policy from Government. These defeat the Army's best endeavours and we can hope for little change until they are raised or removed.

AFF doesn't achieve anything on its own. We work with the Army, at all levels. With retention issues forcing a recognition of people's expectations today, the Army has modernised its personnel policies. It has responded for the most part to our families' concerns wherever it can, particularly in the last five years. Much of what can be done is achieved by tweaking, adjusting and moving available funding around.

Miracles take a little longer – plus changes in policy at Government level.

We promise to keep dripping away. The conference will give everyone there the chance to raise these issues and many others with the policy-makers. Your voice will be heard and listened to, and your questions answered.

You might not like the answer, but at least you will have heard the reasons for it. It may be that your point of view will trigger a change for all of us. Thanks to AFF, you can communicate directly with the people who make the decisions.



# Feedback useful in all areas

I HAVE been a chef in the Army for ten years and have always been judged on performance.

After a visit to our regimental restaurant, units we cater for may comment to the shift supervisor or duty chef or make a written comment or complaint in a book provided for the purpose.

On a regular basis, departments, companies and troops are invited to send a representative to meet with chefs and the quartermaster to give their opinions on the service we provide.

I understand the benefits we as professionals can glean from such feedback. But why is it just the catering department that has a book for comments? I've not heard of the quartermaster's department, the clerks or the REME inviting feedback on their performance.

Another point: when other departments have an audit, they close down for a week. During our audits we produce three meals a day, seven days a week, plus functions, without a problem. – Cpl G J Elliott, Northern Ireland.

## War widows look to next generation

WHEN we began the War Widows Association of Great Britain, we were a group of 14, smarting under a sense of injustice. From that frail beginning we have become a national association with a bit of clout and a royal patron.

But those of us widowed by the Second World War are all becoming old and need younger widows to take over the reins if the association is to survive. Please help. Sympathisers can join as associate members. – Joyce Maxwell, 6 Constantine Road, London NW3 2NG.

# Gender-fair test benefits women

THE Basic Personal Fitness Assessment (BPFA), used as a minimum standard for soldiers' fitness, is tailored to reflect each individual's age and sex.

With every soldier completing an Individual Training Directive in equal opportunities, how is the Army allowed to introduce gender-fair testing as opposed to the gender-free testing adopted by such organisations as the police?

Confidential reports may contain comments relating to fitness, so why should a female soldier be awarded higher marks in the tests than a male who has performed to the same standard?

If this is reflected in the confidential reports of a man and a woman with otherwise equal performance, the female will be promoted because her report reflects a relatively high standard of fitness (compared with other females, not other soldiers) using the gender-fair system. Is that not a case of discrimination? – Name, address supplied.

### ▲ The Directorate of Training Policy responds:

Employment law requires that job and trade-related standards are gender-free. This applies to the Army and as a result our job-related fitness test (the Basic Combat Fitness Test) requires the same standards from men and women irrespective of age. In addition to the job-related test, the Fit to Fight policy,

introduced in 1999, incorporated a new measurement designed to help soldiers maintain a basic level of personal health and fitness in order to provide some protection against injury and ill health.

That minimum standard is naturally different according to age and gender and so the Basic Personal Fitness Assessment is gender- and age-fair. It is an assessment, not a test, and results are designed to assist individuals and units to identify areas of weakness, hence the requirement to complete it bi-annually.

### Prize letter

## This haircut allowance is good idea, but will taxmen think so?

ON the subject of a hosiery allowance for female soldiers (May), how often do today's Servicewomen actually wear skirts? Many units, not just ones in the field, have adopted Combat Soldier 95, which doesn't require the wearing of tights, as their working dress.

I know women soldiers who rarely, if ever, wear skirts despite receiving the allowance.

The proposal for a shaving allowance is fair and could be incorporated with a haircut allowance. Back with my battalion in Aldershot in the 1970s, failure to have a haircut every two weeks resulted in a "rifting" on muster parade. I estimate that during my 31 years in the Army, I have spent about £1,000 to keep my face in a state acceptable to the regimental sergeant major.

Attempts to claim tax allowances for expenditure linked to our work – haircuts, shoe polish, laundry – are invariably rejected by the Inland Revenue. (The Royal Navy gets a tax allowance for laundry so presumably soldiers do not wash their uniforms).

It is galling to see allowances unfairly awarded as in the case of hosiery. Do women still get

a footwear allowance for service in Cyprus? – WO2 L Skuse, RRW.

I WAS under the impression that those of us who shave, polish our boots and incur expenses such as haircuts because we have to keep up military standards, could claim back legitimate expenses. Like most others, I have never attempted to make such a claim. Is it possible to do so successfully and can you tell the rest of us how to put a few pennies back into our pockets? – Sgt G King, 1 PWRR, Kosovo.

▲ There's no such thing as a shaving or haircut allowance, although personnel are free to attempt to claim expenditure back from the Inland Revenue via the tax self-assessment form. It would be up to the Inland Revenue to decide if the claim was valid or not.

Hosiery allowance (approx £4 per year) is paid to females (although not officers) for hosiery to wear with their barrack dress. Males are issued (free of charge) the lightweight socks worn with their barracks dress.

Both sexes wear CS 95 to work. Females parading in No 2 dress would have to wear a skirt, even if they only parade once a year. – Editor

## Have your say, briefly

YOUR letters provide a real insight into issues at the top of your agenda... but please keep them as short as possible. The more space you take up to get your point across, the less room there is for the views of others... and we want to use as many as we can. E-mails should include your name, unit and location (not necessarily for publication). Anonymous contributions will be binned. The Editor reserves the right to accept or reject letters, and to amend correspondence for length, clarity or style.

## PISCATOR



PISCATOR

**"It's called Pay As You Dine... so cough up."**

Trials of the long-awaited scheme are due to begin at selected units in the autumn

**The Army Benevolent Fund is committed to the welfare of soldiers, ex-soldiers and their families in times of need. For information on how you can help the Fund by organising sponsored events or assisting with fund-raising, please give us a call on 020 7591 2000**



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## Singlies in surplus MQs incur moving expenses

I AM writing in response to the letter (May) from a staff sergeant who has his own home but lives in a surplus quarter, and the PS10 (A) response.

I am a single father living in a surplus quarter so my children can have somewhere to stay when they are with me. PS10 (A) says surplus quarters are public accommodation so the single person is not entitled to disturbance allowance or removals.

My question is why is this not looked at in the same way as married personnel? Maristat 3 and 4 have the same responsibilities and expenses to incur as Maristat 1 and 2 when moving on postings or arms plot moves (telephone connections, curtains, club subscriptions, mail to redirect, which disturbance allowance is meant for

when living in a surplus quarter). As for the removal aspect, single personnel in quarters also have furniture, so face the cost of hiring a removal van and doing the removal themselves or paying a firm to do the job. Are they not being discriminated against?

I have personally been in this situation for more than a year now. I had one forced move because I relocated out of the DHE area that I was working in to continue to live in that area. I had to move, although luckily there was another surplus quarter available even though I was not entitled to any of the above allowances.

I feel that there should be some sort of recompense available to people in similar circumstances. — **Cpl A Carter, Warminster.**

## I'm paying rent for my wife as well as her new boyfriend

I AM in the final stages of divorce and wish to extend my sympathy to any serving soldier beginning the same process.

When I decided to leave the marital home – a married quarter – I moved into single living accommodation. My wife, children and household possessions remained in the MQ, which, as licensee, I continue to pay for.

Because I was no longer on hand to help look after the children, my wife gave up her job and I found myself responsible for all household and family bills, including maintenance and a £1,000 loan my wife had taken out.

One day, I popped round to the house to see the children and discovered that my wife's boyfriend was in residence. My youngest child referred to him as another "daddy". Not wanting to cause a scene I left and sought the advice of my unit families' officer. He checked with the Defence Housing Executive and told me that there was nothing to be done about the situation.

I now find myself financially crippled, my car is for sale, I pay £420 a month maintenance, food and accommodation while my wife and her boyfriend share a house paid for by the taxpayer.

I also discovered that I am not entitled to legal aid but my wife is. She will also want a share of my pension.

The MoD needs to look at this situation and lay down rules for spouses to adhere to when a separation like this occurs. — **Name and address supplied.**

▲ WE carried a very similar letter ("Wife's affair puts MQ rules on spot") in the October 2001 issue. The DHE told us then that where a spouse remains in a quarter following a marriage breakdown, he or she is given a dignified period to find a new home before the licence lapses.

That period is 93 days. It would not be proper, DHE said, to issue a new licence to the spouse, thereby creating the right to occupy property intended exclusively for married serving personnel.

It is a condition of the licence that the licensee retains responsibility for paying the accommodation charge during this period. This ensures a clear line of financial responsibility during a very emotive period in which it would be inappropriate for DHE staff to become involved in determining the moral rights and wrongs of the situation. — **Editor**

## Mum can't fly RAF to see son in Falklands

COULD someone explain why families of Servicemen and women in the Falkland Islands have to pay £1,500 or more to visit them?

Travel agents have told me that only the RAF fly direct to Stanley and Falkland House in London confirmed it could cost me anything from £1,500 to visit my son in the Falklands.

Soldiers are sent there on a 12-month posting, so usually don't see their families until the end of the tour. Most personnel sent to the Falklands are single and get homesick, and would therefore love to see their families.

I've been told that the one free flight a year for Service personnel has been stopped and the full fare has to be paid. I asked about indulgence flights and was told they were only for wives and children. Surely visits from families would also boost morale? I am sure parents would be able to afford some payment but not the full price.

Service personnel are allowed a free flight home so surely if they do not wish to use them they could pass them on to their parents. – **Mrs E Scollick, Manchester.**

### PS4(A) responds:

Service in the Army involves foreign travel, indeed it is a major attraction for most recruits. For single and married soldiers it involves separation from families. The Army recognises this and its leave, welfare and travel policies are designed to help soldiers maintain contact with families while overseas.

In many cases it is impractical for families to visit during deployments because of dangerous operational environments. Lack of suitable facilities for visitors is also a key factor.

While this argument may not apply to the Falklands, it's important to stress that, to be fair, policies must apply equally. Where it is practical for families to visit, assistance is often available, such as indulgence flights. However, it is not a responsible use of taxpayers' money to operate flights to countries with a large spare capacity. Availability of indulgence travel is limited and so is not extended to parents and other family members.

An important part of the justification for soldiers' leave is the need for them to escape the confines and pressures of the operational theatre. They are encouraged to return home to recharge their batteries. Any proposal to transfer warrants to parents would undermine this. MoD expenditure is scrutinised by the National Audit Office and the use of public money to partially fund travel for a parent would not be considered legitimate.

## Our welfare phone cards weren't issued

AS a soldier serving on Operation Banner in South Armagh, I discovered that because of the operational welfare package (OWP) we no longer receive Northern Ireland pay. However, from the outset of the tour, OWP has been a farce.

For the first few weeks we were not issued phone cards and, because the Naafi didn't stock them, there was no way of buying any. One internet terminal between a company of men and Sky TV with just one decoder can hardly be classed as adequate, while the lack of newspapers and mail all contribute towards a poor welfare package. – **LCpl N J Caswell, REME, Forkhill, Northern Ireland.**

### HQ Northern Ireland responds:

Northern Ireland Resident Supplement (referred to by LCpl Caswell as Northern Ireland pay) is for resident, not roulement troops, and was replaced in 1997 by entitlement to Longer Separated Service Allowance (LSSA) for troops on roulement tours. It is not true that it was changed because of the introduction of the OWP.

Most soldiers believe it to be a good package, although there will always be local problems which can affect individual perceptions.

This HQ is aware of problems faced by some units over the issue of Operational Telephone Allowance cards. LCpl Caswell's card should now have been activated and he will be credited an amount taking into account the full length of the tour. He will not be financially penalised by the delay. The current system, which has a more than 95 per cent success rate, is under review and specific problems associated with short-tour roulement troops will be addressed.

Unit procedures are slick at delivering mail to outstations in the quickest possible time, but also depend on flying conditions. Delivery of mail is as efficient as can be achieved given the security situation.

We sympathise with some of LCpl Caswell's concerns and will continue to monitor the package to ensure it satisfies soldiers on the ground, although financial constraints will always frustrate our efforts to achieve this.

We have no complaint with individuals using *Soldier* as a forum for their frustrations but ask that his concerns are forwarded through the chain of command, where they will be addressed more fully.

Pubnet, where requested by units.

Sky TV facilities are available in the officers' and sergeants' mess, junior ranks' club and the guardroom, with linked TV sets in some accommodation blocks. HQ NI considers that Forkhill is provided with an adequate system and would not be willing to risk increasing the number of decoders unless public funding became available to cover the high cost of this service.

The unit receives newspapers in accordance with the welfare scalings of one per seven men. It is responsible for onward delivery to its outstations, including Forkhill. Since all movement is restricted to helicopters, there are occasional delays due to weather conditions but, in general, newspapers arrive in Forkhill on the morning of publication. HQ NI has received no other complaints about the delivery system.

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## Raw deal for officers who serve below age of 21

I AM writing in response to the PS10(A) reply to Capt J G Evans's letter regarding late entry pensions (April).

PS10(A) should consider the key issue in this debate, which is that every soldier, or officer, should be entitled to a pension based on time served, regardless if some of those years are between 18 and 21 years of age.

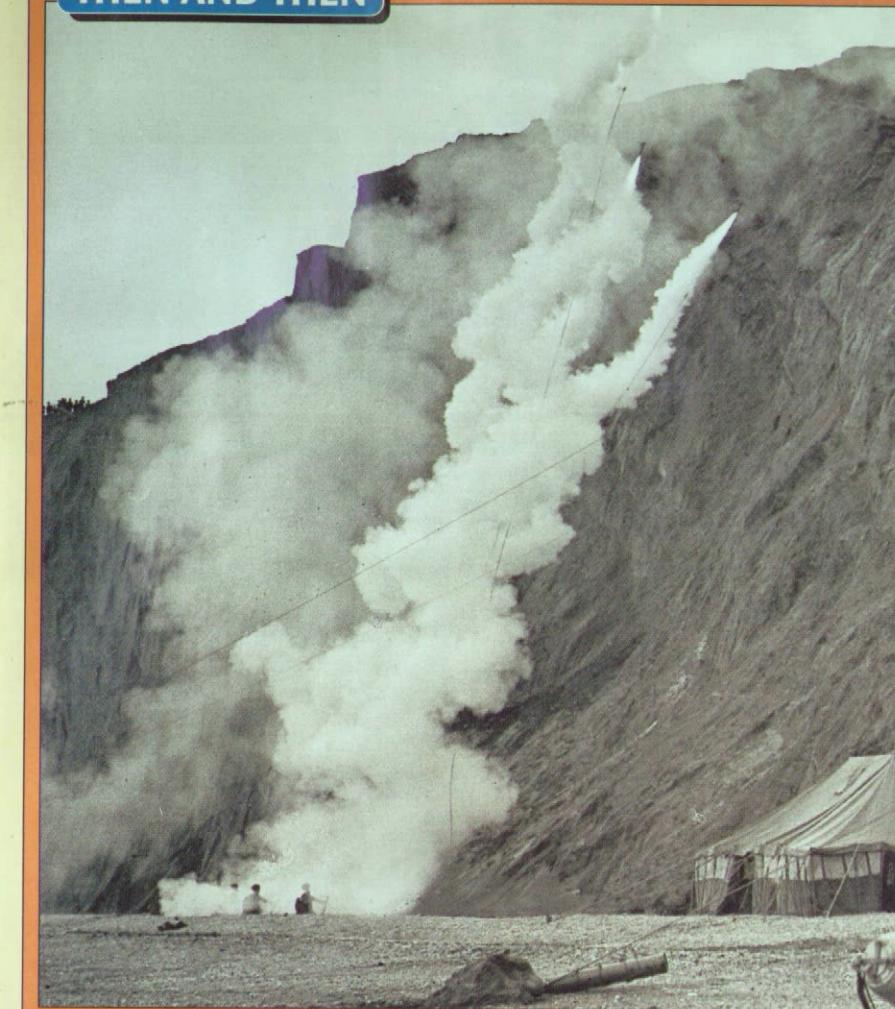
Suggesting that additional years should be discounted because others are similarly disadvantaged is not acceptable. If a soldier, or officer, is old enough to carry out operational duties, why is he not considered old enough to have these years count towards his final pension?

PS10(A) failed to respond to his point regarding him equating his LE salary to that of a major. As an LE captain, his pension is based on a representative lower rate of pay than his current earnings, whereas his actual pay, based on job weight, qualifications and 24 years' experience, is closer to that of a major.

This is not specialist pay, but his basic salary. Capt Evans's final pension will be a much lower proportion of final earnings than other members of the Army.

Does PS10(A) consider this acceptable and why? What is required is a common scheme fair for all officers and rankers. – **Capt Dave Neely AAC.**

### THEN AND THEN



#### 25 YEARS AGO

From *Soldier*, July 1977: Two regiments of the Brigade of Gurkhas in Hong Kong – the Gurkha Signals and the Gurkha Engineers – have been honoured by the Queen to mark her Silver Jubilee year. Both will have the prefix "Queen's" attached to their titles. The news was conveyed to Lt Gen Sir John Archer, Commander Land Forces Hong Kong.

#### 50 YEARS AGO

From *Soldier*, October 1952: A real cliff-hanger unfolds on the Isle of Wight, above. Sizzling upwards go the rope-carrying rockets, to land on the top of cliffs above Culver Bay. The spectacular exercise by cliff-climbing Royal Marine commandos was staged for the benefit of students from the Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force Staff Colleges.

Scheme Review. There is a consultation document issued in March 2001, circulated to all units, which interested parties should read.

In particular, the recommendations in Section 5 include an immediate pension from age 40 or after 18 years' service, whichever is the later, with a terminal grant of three times pension.

Further news on the review is due to be announced later this year.

Capt Neely's second point regarding the representative rates for LE captains, which are below their current earnings, is an issue that has been raised by PS10(A) with MoD. We will continue to press for resolution of this anomaly at the earliest opportunity and will inform readers of the outcome.

## PS . . .

### Golden thank-you

I WRITE to thank you for contributing to the success of the Queen's Golden Jubilee by publishing information about how members of the Armed Forces and their families could be involved.

We registered many Army events in 20 countries and several organisers mentioned that they had found details of the invitation to participate in *Soldier*. Events were organised in Germany and Portugal as a result of the articles. A call was made to this office from an embassy in the USA after a reader saw an article about the jubilee in *Soldier*. Your help was really appreciated. – Kate Bourne, Golden Jubilee Summer Party, Dorset.

### Acting in rank

IN response to the letter about acting sergeants (May), I'd like to say that at least the author gets his acting rank and a sergeant's pension, even if he is doing a colour sergeant's job.

I am a corporal, doing a colour sergeant's job, and well qualified to do so. Within my battalion the five company technical CSGs are made up from one CSgt, two sergeants and two corporals. We all do the same job, in different companies. If we are qualified to do the job, why can't we all be given the acting rank of sergeant? At least then I could claim Pay of a Higher Rank for my job.

Are all armoured infantry battalions the same? And does anyone know if the Armoured Infantry Manning Increment (AIMI) is really out there and working? – Name and address supplied.

### Unequal beings

WHILE watching a BBC TV programme – *Guns 'N' Roses* – on RMA Sandhurst female subalterns recently I was surprised that, at the start of a regimental dinner night in a Royal Engineers officers' mess in Germany, a male officer pulled out the chair for a female subaltern to sit down. I was taught that in the mess all officers should be treated as equals (less the CO, of course).

Is this a slippery slope starting with the chair and culminating in carrying the female's bergen and weapon in the field? – Maj (Retd) T W Worster, Colchester.

### My 'private' income

I AGREE with Graeme Hutchison's comments regarding claiming "actuals" (May). Travel and subsistence claims should be equal across the board.

While we are talking about level playing fields, perhaps we civil servants could be paid a more realistic salary. I am a D grade (broadly equivalent to a captain) yet I am earning roughly the same as a senior private soldier. Are the military paid too much or civil servants too little? – Peter Brown, Estate Management Officer, Northern Ireland.

# Vox pop

SPECIAL

# Zeroing in

Canadian military marksmen have been training at Pirbright before competing at Bisley. We asked for their thoughts on the British Army

**WO Steve Verch,  
Combat Training  
Centre, New  
Brunswick**

The British Army is very well supported kit-wise and by the country, and it seems to get a lot of training time. I prefer my weapon [the C7 based on the M16, 5.56mm] to the SA80. On the range I noticed a lot of the British soldiers were having stoppages.



**Pte Reg Marshall,  
Royal Canadian  
Regiment**

What impresses me is that the British Army does not take bull from anyone. They don't take any messing around. The British public seem to be very patriotic and it seems their soldiers get a lot of support.



**Cpl Geoff  
Chamberlain,  
RCR**

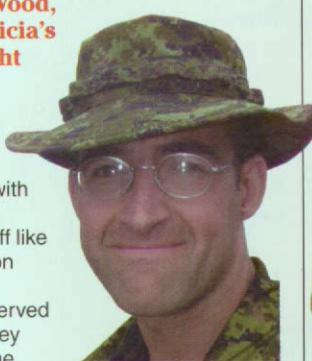
The British always seem professional in their marksmanship. They take it seriously, as do the people running the range. They seem to put in outstanding effort across the board in all aspects. The



ranges are well kept and everyone is on time. I heard a lot of good things about the SA80 Mk2, but a lot of bad things about the regular one, breakages and stoppages. But you don't hear anything bad about the accuracy of it.

**Sgt Michael Wood,  
Princess Patricia's  
Canadian Light  
Infantry**

You are very supportive of your military. I am impressed with your regimental families and stuff like that – they go on forever. Once someone has served in a regiment they never take off the regimental tie. At regimental functions you meet these high-ranking civilians who once served in the regiment and they still attend mess functions.



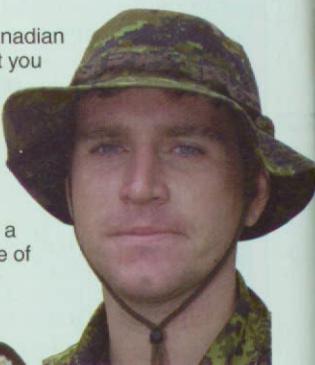
**Cpl Martin Waters,  
RCR**

I like the food . . . it reminds me of Christmas. I was born in England and when I go home it's sausage rolls and Cornish pasties. The food is a little bit of a lower standard than we are used to in Canada, where they are very very picky with hygiene. I don't mind it though because I like the food here.

**Cpl Rob Smith, RCR**

The biggest thing that has impressed me is the tradition – units can talk about a 300-year-old history whereas 125 years would be

the most for a Canadian unit. I like the fact you have modular rucksacks, which you can customise for particular missions. The food is all right – a larger percentage of it is deep-fried, I guess.



**Cpl Evan Jobe,  
RCR**

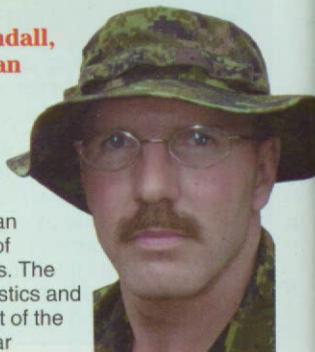
The camaraderie of the British really impresses me, as does the regimental system. One thing I really like is that each regiment seems to recruit from the same local area so they all have a stronger bond.



Our regimental system means that you could be from anywhere in Canada.

**Cpl James Sandall,  
Royal Canadian  
Air Force**

The size and strength of the Army impresses me. The British Army is more than double the size of Canadian Forces. The support, the logistics and the whole aspect of the British Army is far superior because they train for the real thing at all times. The support we get when we are here is outstanding. It has rained everyday since we have been here, but, hey, that's what you expect.



Interviews: Anthony Stone Pictures: Graeme Main

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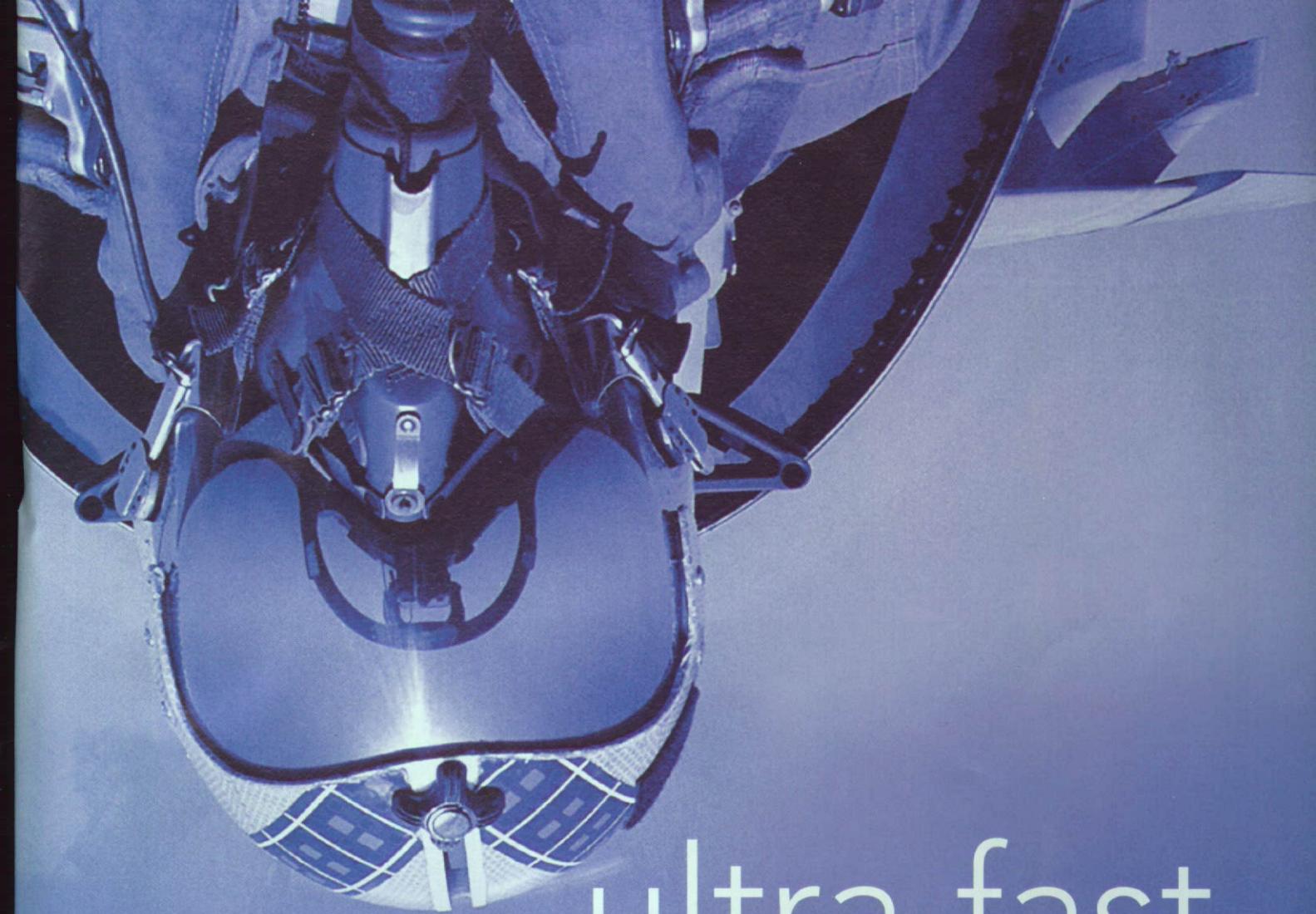
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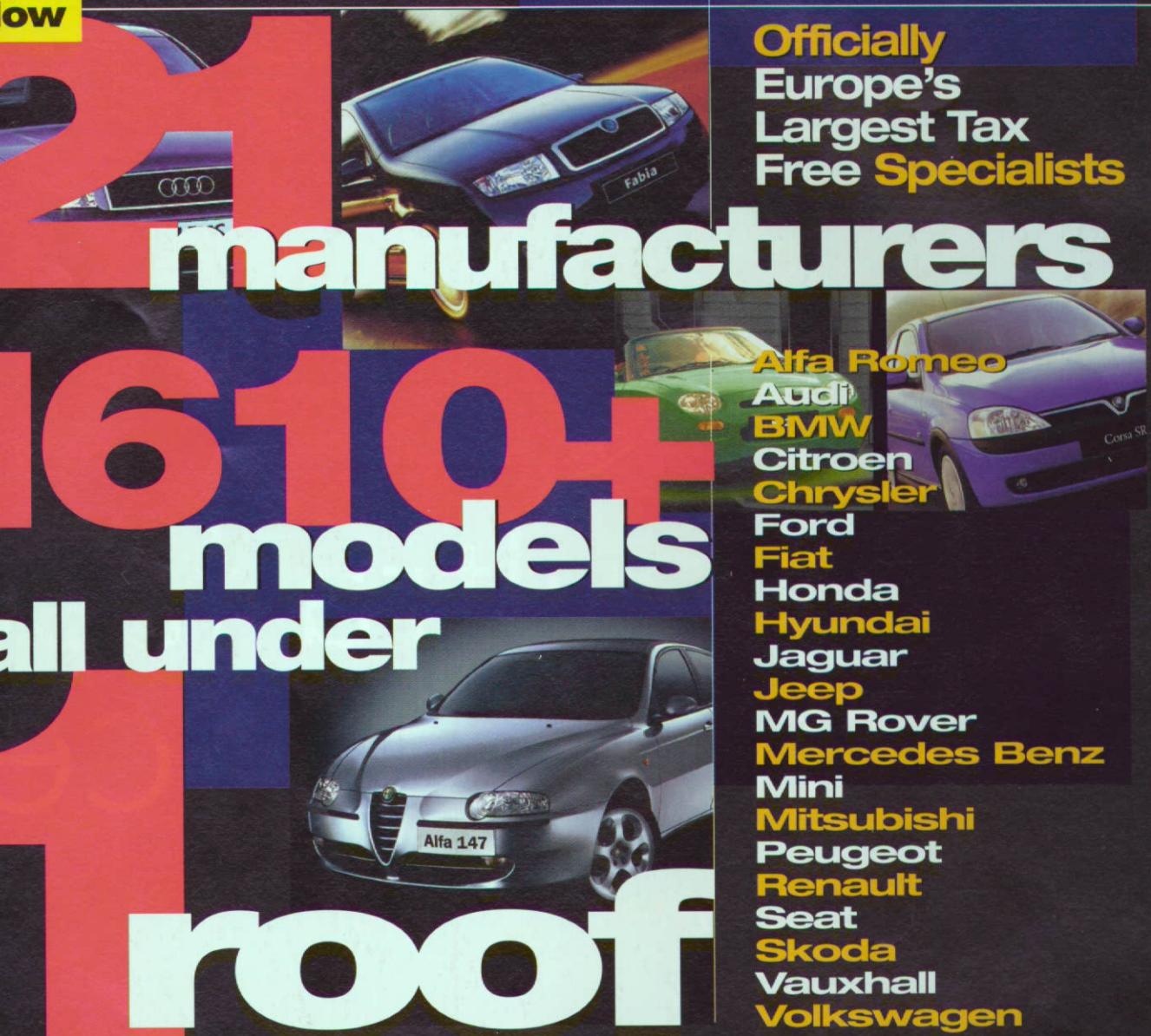
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