

# SOLDIER

MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY

## TOP SHOTS

Army's best images

Also:

What you told CGS

Help stamp out fraud

Alcohol abuse: the risk

REMEMBRANCE



November 2003 £2

[www.soldiermagazine.co.uk](http://www.soldiermagazine.co.uk)

**O<sub>2</sub>****FOR ALL MILITARY PERSONNEL**

orange

**10 GREAT PHONES • 3 NETWORK CHOICES • 5 TARIFF CHOICES ON EACH NETWORK****FREE****vodafone****YOU CHOOSE WE DELIVER**

- MOBILES
- CONNECTION
- MINUTES
- ACCESSORIES

\* = Colour Screen

† = Camera Availability

♪ = Polyphonic Ringtones

**MIX 'N' MATCH A SMALL SELECTION OF AVAILABLE TARIFFS****1**

VODA 200 ANYTIME  
200 MINS FREE ANYTIME  
NOT CROSS NETWORK  
10P PEAK 5P OFF PEAK  
JUST £30 PER MONTH

**2**

02 LEISURE TIME PLUS  
50 MINS OFF PEAK  
PLUS 50 CROSS NETWORK  
+ 100 TEXT FREE  
30P PEAK 2P OFF PEAK  
JUST £20 PER MONTH

**3**

ORANGE TALK 60  
60 MINS FREE ANYTIME  
INC CROSS NETWORK  
10P ANYTIME  
JUST £19 PER MONTH

**4**

VODA DAYTIME 200  
200 MINS FREE DAYTIME ONLY  
20P PEAK 5P OFF PEAK  
JUST £25 PER MONTH

**5**

02 - 250  
250 MINS ANYTIME INCLUDES CROSS NETWORK  
50 TEXT  
+ VOICEMAIL FREE  
+ UNUSED ROLLOVER  
JUST £35 PER MONTH

**6**

ORANGE TALK 200  
200 MINS FREE ANYTIME  
INC CROSS NETWORK  
10P PEAK & OFF PEAK  
JUST £25 PER MONTH

**FREEPHONE**  
**0800 018 8200**

PLEASE HAVE  
YOUR  
BANK DETAILS  
HANDY WHEN  
ORDERING

\*OFFER SUBJECT TO STATUS & 12 MONTH CONTRACT INC. 30 DAY NOTICE PERIOD. \*VODA TARIFF FOR THE 1ST 6 MONTHS OF YOUR CONTRACT  
ALL OFFERS APPLY TO DATE OF PHONE CONNECTION & ARE CORRECT AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.

## Cover picture

Top shot: Sgt Brian Gamble's strikingly manipulated image of a sangar in Northern Ireland won him second prize in the Canon-sponsored best use of the digital medium category in the Army Photographic Competition.

Report and more pictures in centre pages.

Emma Dunks-Lunn describes her wheelchair, acquired with the help of the ABF, as her "life-line". Full story in Page 31.

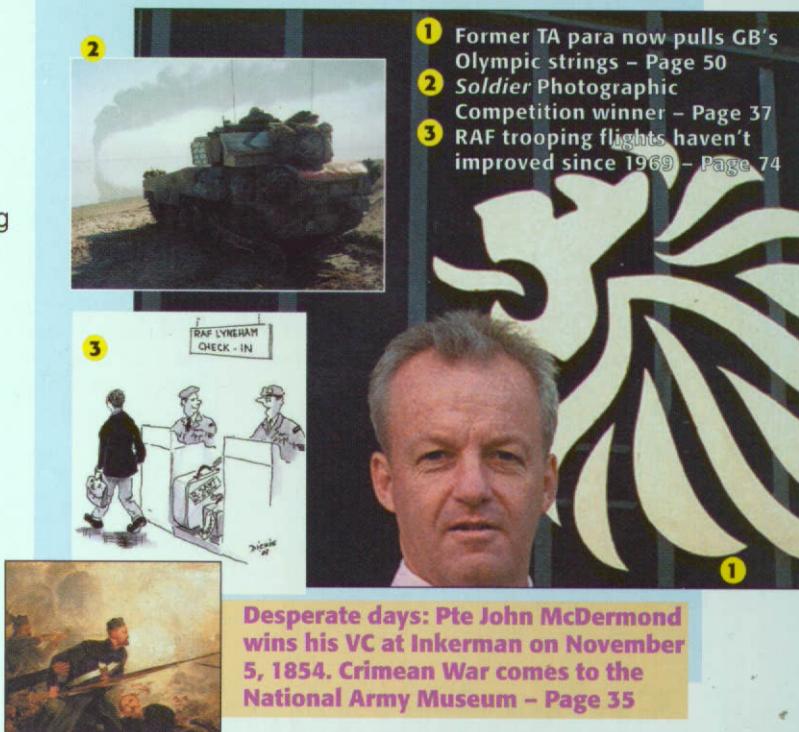



"OK, so it's a tradition ... but you're still nicked." – See Pages 4-5

## In this issue

... of your award-winning magazine

- 4 Have you got the bottle?**  
New campaign to promote responsible drinking
- 17 Operation Telic**  
Bomb disposal, pictures and stories
- 21 Joined-up approach**  
Warrant officers 'enrol' at Shrivenham
- 22 CGS's Briefing Team**  
The issue YOU raised with head of the Army
- 25 Help MoD beat the cheats**  
Fraud is costing the Department millions
- 28 Roving the range**  
Soldiers try the Land Rover Experience
- 38 My Army: Gordon Kennedy**  
Red Cap star (left) on life with the military
- 40 Snap judgement**  
Army Photographic Competition results
- 42 Gateway to the outdoors**  
Norway centre offers best of adventures



Desperate days: Pte John McDermond wins his VC at Inkerman on November 5, 1854. Crimean War comes to the National Army Museum – Page 35

## PLUS

- 27 Kitstop: FCLV**
- 33 Chip**
- 46 Sport**
- 62 Info section**
- 64 Diary**
- 66 Wish list**
- 71 War films to win**
- 73 Soldier to soldier**
- 74 Mail**
- 78 Vox pop**

→ Ten books to be won – Pages 68-69

# Read on – if you've got the bottle

If you drink sensibly there's no problem, but you could lose your job if you don't

Report: Ray Routledge  
Pictures: Steve Dock

ALCOHOL abuse can cost a soldier his or her rank – even their job – which makes it a matter the Army takes very seriously.

It is also a serious matter that more than 35,000 deaths a year in Britain are drink-related and four per cent of the population is dependent on alcohol.

To play its part in tackling the problem, the Army is launching this autumn a campaign backed up by ongoing publicity on BFBS and Garrison Radio.

The message applies to everyone – even non-drinkers – so read on if you've got the bottle.

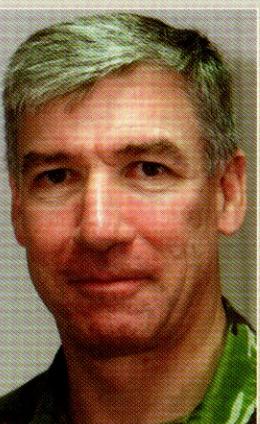
"The Army is not a 'non-alcohol' organisation, but it is into sensible drinking with effective supervision," said Col Tony Harking, late RE, who is heading the alcohol-awareness campaign.

He has brought in Galahad SMS Ltd, a firm of consultants with expertise in drink and drugs misuse, which will roll out an alcohol education programme across the Army.

"We are not promoting going teetotal or a ban on alcohol. What we do say is that drinking is an individual responsibility."

While the policy towards soldiers using illegal drugs normally results in discharge from the Service, what many don't realise is that for those who abuse alcohol, discharge is also an option.

"We handle arms and ammunition and



Campaign : Col Tony Harking

drive heavy vehicles such as tanks," said Col Harking. "Alcohol impacts on health and safety in much the same way as drugs.

"There is also a medical dimension and the harm that can accrue though an excess of alcohol consumption."

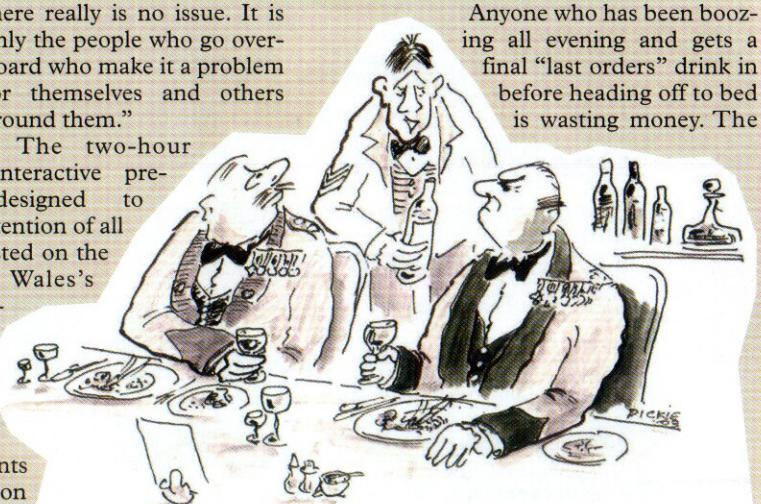
So when do you know that enough is enough? Anne Fox of Galahad, a social scientist with expertise in drug and alcohol abuse, has been working with the Army for six years.

"We are not telling people to stop drinking, they are not going to do that," she said of the education package.

"We are saying that as long as you drink sensibly there really is no issue. It is only the people who go overboard who make it a problem for themselves and others around them."

The two-hour interactive presentation, designed to engage the attention of all ranks, was tested on the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment. Soldiers were asked for their honest appraisal and their comments were taken on board.

"You've had your allowance of red, sir... How about some nice Malvern Water?"



## Sobering thoughts about alcohol abuse

- Alcohol contributes to almost 80 per cent of violent crime.
- Courts martial statistics in 2002 showed 53 per cent of all cases involved alcohol.
- One in four men and one in seven women drink more than recommended levels.
- Alcohol is estimated to be a contributing factor in 60 per cent of fatal car accidents involving young men between 1000 and 1600 hours.
- About 30 per cent of pedestrians killed in road accidents are

above the legal limit for driving and more have drunk some alcohol up to the limit.

- Alcohol is a contributory factor in 30 per cent of all domestic accidents and 30 per cent of drownings (50 per cent in the 20-30 year age group).
- About 24 per cent of assaults take place near places of entertainment, mostly pubs and clubs.
- In 1998 nearly 4,500 people died from alcohol-related diseases.

(Figures are from Institute of Alcohol Studies and MoD PS2)

"We want soldiers to be aware of something they might not consider to be a problem," said Anne. "If they go away from the presentation with even a few facts that put doubts in their minds about their drinking behaviour, we've done our job."

Along with a fast-moving, picture-based PowerPoint show and video clips, the presentation includes demonstrations given by Mark Keane, who was kicked out of the

Army in 1997 for failing a compulsory drug test.

Now working for Galahad, Mark plays the role of a part-time barman to demonstrate how many glasses of water it takes for an individual to rehydrate, and the cost of drinking.

Anyone who has been boozing all evening and gets a final "last orders" drink in before heading off to bed is wasting money. The

effects usually kick in when the drinker is asleep.

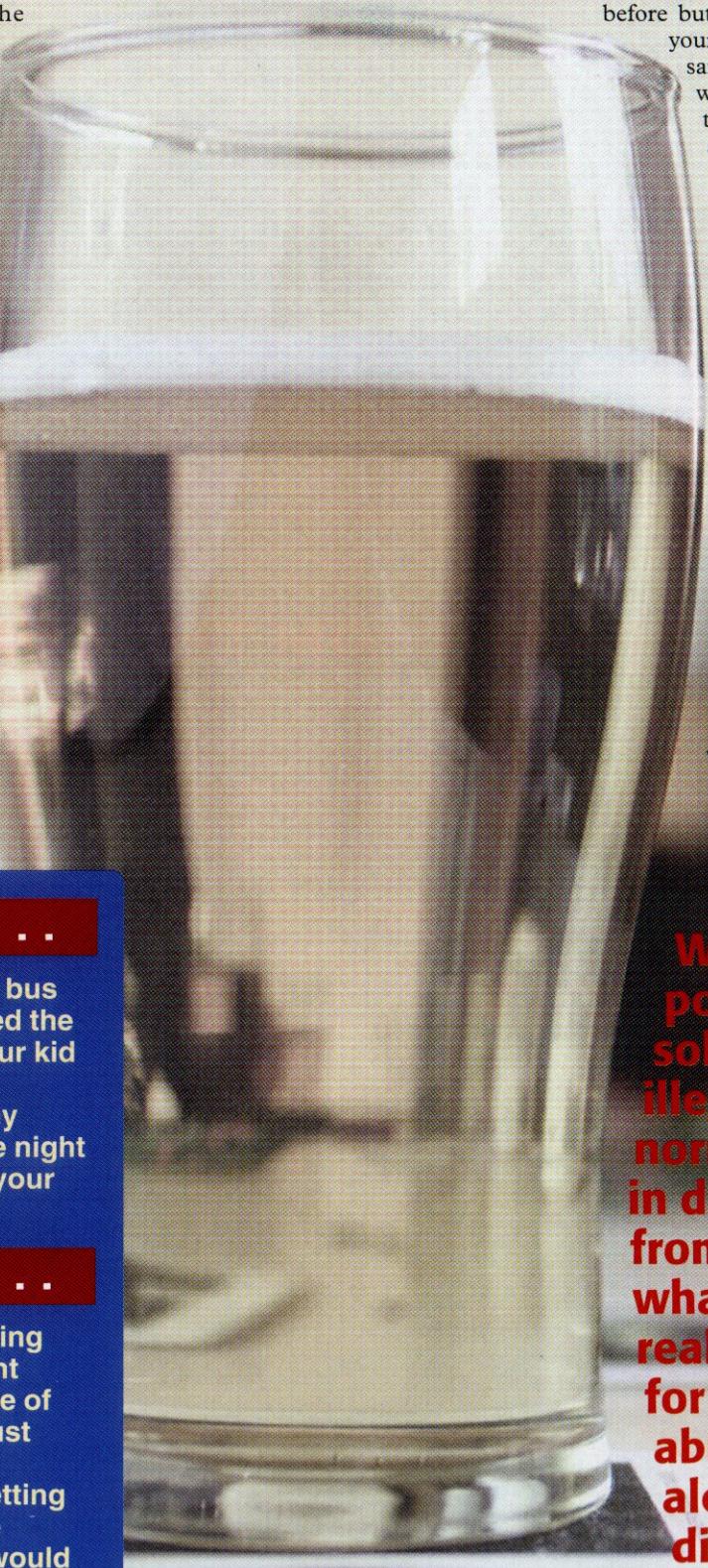
"Another element the presentation addresses is the link between alcohol and aggression," said Anne. "We ask the soldiers how much control they think they have when drinking. The results surprise them."

She said much of the information was developed from major research in 1996.

"We found that the more heavy-handed and more stringent the rules about drinking in barracks, the worse the incidents off camp were. Commanding officers who allowed sensible drinking on camp were rewarded with more reasonable behaviour both on and off site."

"The US Army has found this too. It did research into banning drinking on camp entirely but found that local towns suffered. So keeping it in-house is a good policy."

An instruction allowing alcohol consumption in unit accommodation has been issued. "People did it surreptitiously



### Think about it . . .

Would you trust a school bus driver who gets hammered the night before he drives your kid to school?

Would you trust an Army driver who gets drunk the night before he takes you and your mates on exercise?

### Think about it . . .

If you saw a surgeon getting smashed in a bar the night before he operated on one of your family would you trust him?

If you saw your mate getting ratted the night before he packed your parachute, would you trust it?

before but we have now said 'this is your home, treat it as such,'" said Col Harking. "Soldiers will be treated as adults in their own homes. But if they abuse the privilege it will be removed. It is about responsibility and having a grown-up approach to it."

"What we are keen to emphasise is the role of the team," added Col Harking. "A soldier who has a hangover is not only letting himself down, but his mates too. Would they trust a soldier who was drunk or incapable next morning at driving or going on the ranges?"

"Teamwork is vital to what we do as an Army and if that breaks down then soldiers are no longer effective."

"We trust a soldier with arms and ammunition, we should be able to trust him with a beer."

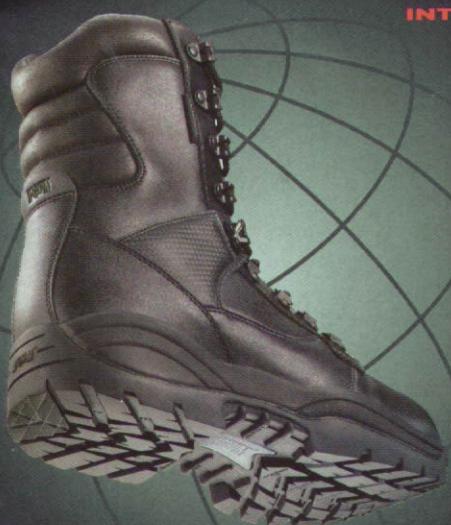
While the policy towards soldiers using illegal drugs normally results in discharge from the Service, what many don't realise is that for those who abuse alcohol, discharge is also an option



**MAGNUM®**

ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT™

## A WORLD APART FROM THE COMPETITION



INTRODUCING THE FUTURE OF TACTICAL UNIFORM FOOTWEAR-

THE ELITE SERIES BY MAGNUM. A NEW INDUSTRY STANDARD

IN FIT, COMFORT, PERFORMANCE AND DURABILITY.

THE ELITE SERIES MEETS AND EXCEEDS GLOBAL SAFETY

SPECIFICATIONS INCLUDING ANSI, CEN, AND CSA

STANDARDS.

THE FUTURE IS NOW

FOR FURTHER DETAILS, CONTACT MAGNUM

[ +44 (0) 1702 541771 ] [ [contact@magnumfootwear.co.uk](mailto:contact@magnumfootwear.co.uk) ] [ [www.magnumfootwear.co.uk](http://www.magnumfootwear.co.uk) ]

MAGNUM UK, Aviation Way, Southend on Sea, Essex SS2 6GH, UK

**ELITE**  
SERIES



Lethal convoy: A force of heavily-armed Iraqi tribesmen drive into the desert near Al Hawtah to confront militia from another tribal group

# Kings step in to stop desert bloodbath

More Op Telic reports and pictures – Pages 17-19

Fifty-strong company form buffer to keep tribesmen from going to war

MAJOR conflict between two warring tribes in southern Iraq was prevented by the diplomacy and tact of heavily-outnumbered troops from the 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment.

Fifty soldiers from the battalion's D Company stood between thousands of angry militiamen from the Awlad Amer tribe and dissident members of the Garamsha tribe.

The catalyst for conflict was the kidnap of Qnsay Abdul Khalik from the Awlad Amer tribe and a demand for a \$100,000 ransom to be paid for his release by the Garamsha tribe.

About 1,000 armed Awlad Amer tribesmen, supported by mortars and machine-guns, gathered in old Iran-Iraq war trenches in the desert to the south of the main Garamsha town of Al Hawtah.

Soldiers from 1 Kings deployed to the area with Warrior armoured fighting vehicles and Land Rovers in support. They established a buffer zone between the two tribes in an attempt to reassure the Awlad Amer and prevent hostilities breaking out. Soldiers confiscated machine-guns and mortars.

Maj Andy Hughes, the officer commanding D Coy, acted as a mediator and negotiated separately with Sheik Amir Lalfaez of the Awlad Amer and Sheik Kadim Abdali of the Garamsha.

After several tense, nerve-racking hours the tension eased when the hostage was released and the militia dispersed.

Maj Hughes said: "The potential for hostilities and a great deal of bloodshed was very high. The swift and timely response by the soldiers of D Company averted a potentially large-scale tribal conflict. The cost of failure does not bear thinking about.

"In total there were only 50 Kings soldiers involved in the operation. They showed great diplomacy and tact throughout. Obviously nerves were jangling a little because of the size of the armed forces

opposing each other but they maintained their order extremely well.

"It was a highly professional and well-executed operation," he said.



Buffer zone: Kingsmen in position to keep tribal militias apart

## Four hurt in bomb blast

FOUR British soldiers were injured by bomb blasts in Basra last month.

One soldier was wounded when the Land Rover he was travelling in was hit by an unidentified explosive device as it drove past a petrol station on the outskirts of the city. Another blast near the entrance to a military base in Basra injured three. None of the injuries was said to be serious.

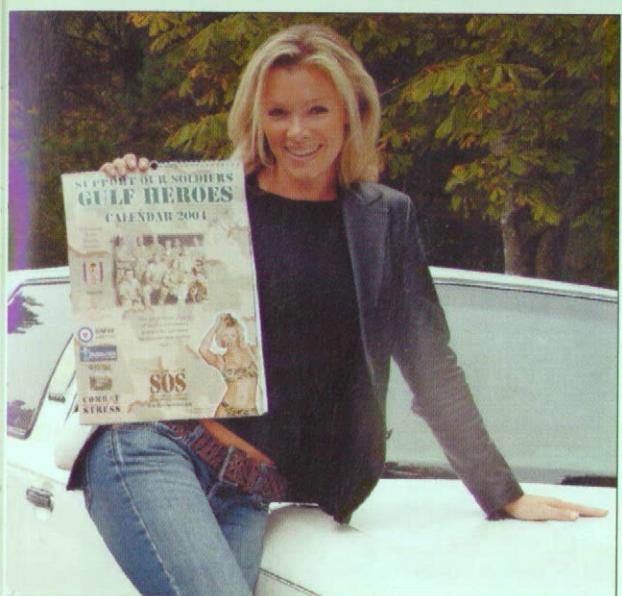
An attack on the headquarters of 19 Mechanized Brigade in Basra, thought to be a small mortar, did not

cause any casualties or damage to the base.

Troops were deployed in a public order role to quell disturbances which erupted during a pension payment demonstration at Basra Port.

A large crowd, which included people ineligible for payments, became violent and two companies of soldiers were sent to support Iraqi police on the scene. The troops quickly brought an end to the demonstration and order was restored.

## A date with Nell



Make a date with Nell: Model, Page 3 girl and forces' sweetheart Nell McAndrew, above, launched the Gulf Heroes 2004 calendar brought out by Support Our Soldiers (SOS), a website set up by Karen Webster while her son, Gnr Nick Coward, was deployed in Iraq with 12th Regiment RA.

SOS, which has Nell as its patron, was created to help families and friends of soldiers in the war, and it continues to support those in Iraq or recently returned. It is hoped sales of the calendar will raise £25,000 for the National Gulf Veterans and Families Association, Hollybush House in Scotland and the three Service benevolent funds.

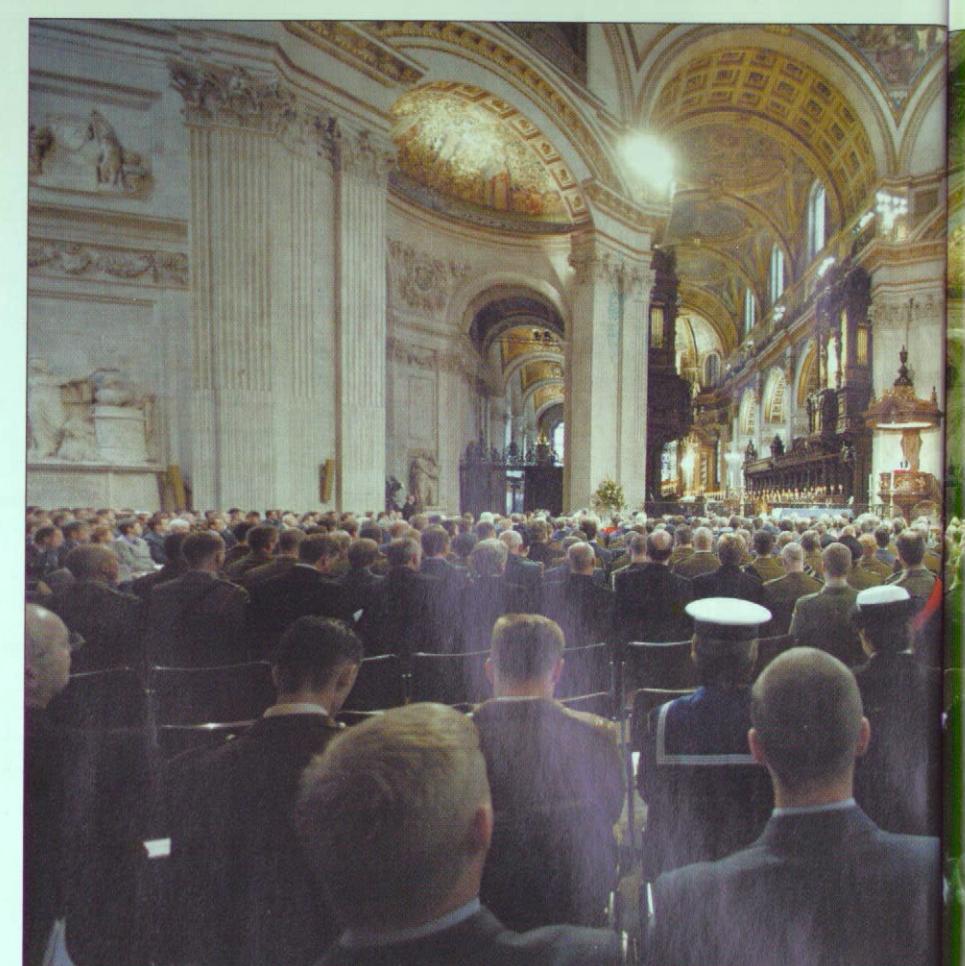
The calendars cost £5 each (plus £2 p&p) and are available by mail order. Cheques payable to "Support Our Soldiers" should be sent to PO Box 70, Shipley, West Yorks BD18 1BP, or online at [www.supportoursoldiers.co.uk](http://www.supportoursoldiers.co.uk)

● Soldier's colourful 2004 calendar is also on sale right now. Turn to Page 52 for full details.

## This won't hurt . . .



Open wide: Capt Beth Dover RADC checks the teeth of a boy at a school in Knezevo, Bosnia. Her visit, with UK Battle-Group Civil-Military Cooperation Cell officer Capt Rodrigo Marchessi, was arranged to help the community regain its trust in local authorities riven by crime and corruption.



## Prayers for Iraq fallen

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, accompanied by 12 other members of the Royal Family, joined 900 Servicemen and women who had fought in Iraq in a national service of remembrance in St Paul's Cathedral last month.

Uniformed representatives of every unit which served in the Gulf took part, as did 250 relatives and friends of the 51 Service personnel who died during the conflict earlier this year.

The service was led by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, and lessons were read by Air Chief Marshal Sir Brian Burridge, who led British forces in the Gulf, and the Duke of Edinburgh. The Rt Rev David Connor, Bishop to the Forces, led an act of remembrance.

The dead and wounded, both military and civilian, were remembered, as were those still involved in operations in Iraq.

Main picture: Alan House

## Sid scoops lottery



Picture: Graeme Main

Jackpot: Gütersloh-based Sgt Darren "Sid" Sidebottom, above, of 2 Close Support Regiment RLC, is £15,000 richer . . . thanks to the Army Sports Lottery. He scooped the top prize in a special draw to mark the tenth anniversary of the lottery and reported to Aldershot to be presented with his big cheque by the Director of the Army Sport Control Board, Maj Gen Simon Lytle.

Sid, a systems coordinator for 2 CS Regiment, has had two tickets in the lottery ever since it started but had never won a penny until now. He and his wife Rachael are planning to celebrate with a family holiday to Florida for their children Aaron, 11, and Elesha, four.

In the past decade the lottery has raised nearly £5 million for grants to individual units and major capital projects, such as all-weather pitches, as well as generating £4.7 million in prizes.

If you want to join the fun, ring the lottery office on Aldershot mil (94222) 3550 or 01252 348550 or ask your unit admin office for details.

● To see who else won, turn to Page 61.

## Gurkhas find arms dumps

### More major caches uncovered in Bosnia

GURKHAS operating north of Prijedor in Bosnia have uncovered huge caches of illegal arms and ammunition during recent sweeps.

Soldiers of A Company, 1st Battalion, The Royal Gurkha Rifles, part of a UK battle-group, found two M55 triple-barrelled 20mm anti-aircraft guns in a barn. They also discovered two .50-calibre mounted machine-guns, several 82mm mortars and three 82mm recoilless guns.

Several other caches found within a 2km radius produced 200 boxes containing 150 grenades, mortar rounds

and rockets – more than six tonnes in all. Fourteen M57 rocket-launchers and 45 rocket-driven Bangalore torpedoes were also uncovered.

Capt Hitman Gurung, 2ic of A Coy, said: "These caches had obviously been well managed, so their removal directly contributes to making this area a safer place to live again."

"The success has really depended on the quality of the soldiers and it has been great for the guys for all the hard work they've put in."

The arms finds, under Operation Harvest, follow similar major successes

by the 1st Battalion, The Highlanders, which has now returned to Edinburgh.

● Members of the Royal Gibraltar Band who played at Petar Koi School in Mrkonjik Grad were a huge hit with the children. The eight musicians were joined by dozens of pupils marching beside them as they performed on the school football pitch. The school was presented with a CD of the band's music.

Lethal weapons: An anti-aircraft gun found by Gurkhas operating north of Prijedor in Bosnia

Picture: Cpl Yves Genuis



## More support for faith groups

A DIRECTORY of religious advisers who can provide local support to Armed Forces followers of faiths other than Christianity has been launched by the MoD.

Muslim, Hindu, Jewish, Sikh and Buddhist members of the Department's Religious Advisory Panel helped to draw up the list of advisers.

Announcing the project, Defence Secretary Geoff Hoon said: "The Armed Forces are determined to become even more representative of our diverse society, harnessing the wealth of talent and skills of individuals from different backgrounds across all religious groups."

### IN BRIEF

● Maj Gen Peter Pearson, right, has been sworn in as Administrator of the Sovereign Base Area after taking over as Commander British Forces Cyprus. He described the post as "probably the best two-star appointment the Army and Royal Air Force has to offer".



● Training support in the Armed Forces has turned purple with the formation of a new directorate at RAF Halton. The Army School of Training Support, until now based at Upavon, has disappeared under the umbr-

ella of the new Defence Centre of Training Support. The first Director General Training and Education is Capt Mike Farrage RN. Command of the centre will rotate among the Services.

● A modern apprenticeship course run for the Royal Armoured Corps by Wilt-

shire College and Somerset College of Arts and Technology was recognised with an accolade at the National Training Awards' regional ceremony for the South West. Under the scheme, 900 soldiers have so far achieved modern apprenticeships and 1,200 have gained National Vocational Qualifications in the subjects.



ABOUT AS COMFORTABLE  
AS IT GETS

IN THE BALKANS

WHAT YOU WEAR MAY ONE DAY SAVE YOUR LIFE. SO IT'S COMFORTING  
TO KNOW THAT GORE MILITARY KIT HAS BEEN PUT THROUGH SOME OF THE  
HARSHEST CONDITIONS KNOWN TO MAN. INSIST ON GORE.  
BECAUSE ONE DAY YOUR LIFE MAY DEPEND ON IT.

**GORE-TEX**  
fabrics

**GORE**  
Creative Technologies  
Since 1928

Silverbanks 02077 900 900 [www.military.co.uk](http://www.military.co.uk) John Bull 01748 833 614 [www.johnbullclothing.com](http://www.johnbullclothing.com) Field & Trek 01268 494 444 [www.fieldandtrek.com](http://www.fieldandtrek.com)  
GORE-TEX, GORE and designs are registered trade marks of W L GORE & Associates.



Blade runner: Trainee pilot SSgt Matt Tones, Royal Signals, carries out his pre-flight checks

## Sky's the limit if you take chance

THE PRESTIGIOUS Army pilots' course has become a victim of its own success and the Army Air Corps is taking steps to increase the number of applicants.

Although flying is an exciting option for NCOs and officers looking for a change of direction, the course is not attracting the interest it could within military circles.

Maj (Retd) Roger Southgate, SO2 Selection/Flying Training at the School of Army Aviation at Middle Wallop, said:

"A lack of awareness and a fear of failure are the biggest factors putting soldiers off applying. We aren't short of qualified pilots but we want to increase the quantity coming through the selection process to ensure we are getting the best."

To turn out the 70 pilots or so a year that it needs, at least 200 applicants have to be attracted through the school's front door. The course lasts 18 months.

Achieving the coveted Army "wings" is not easy and the failure rate is high. Many

soldiers believe flying is beyond their reach when in fact it is well within their grasp, as the numbers who pass the course each year prove.

Unlike the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force, whose pilots are commissioned, AAC pilots are a mix of capbadges and ranks – corporal to captain – and all arms and corps, including direct entry officers

from Sandhurst. About half are officers and half NCOs.

Lance corporals must have at least two years' service and be recommended for promotion to corporal, while officers should have two years' commissioned service after Sandhurst. Soldiers have to be on the course by the age of 30, officers at 28.

Selection is the same for all ranks and individuals must be recommended for pilot training by their commanding officer.

● **Full details on how to apply can be found in the Army General Administration Instructions (AGAIS), Vol 2, Chap 43 or by contacting SO2 Selection on 94329 674307/ 674303.**

### What the student pilots think. See Vox pop – Page 78.

### Argylls spell it out

SOLDIERS of the 1st Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders formed up on the parade square of their new home in Howe Barracks, Canterbury, to spell out the word Argylls. The battalion recently completed two-and-a-half years based in Belfast.

### HIVE in better shape

A BIGGER, better HIVE Information Centre was opened at SHAPE, Belgium by Mrs Anne Moore-Bick, wife of the GOC. Soldiers and their families working and living in the multi-national community can use its improved information and referral services. The move was funded by a €1,519 grant from *Sixth Sense*, our sister publication in Germany.

### EOD academia

SEARCH and munition clearance skills and training have been formally recognised by the launch of **National and Scottish Vocational Qualifications**. The award gives EOD personnel a recognised civilian academic qualification.

## Naafi ploughs £1.2 back into Army welfare

NAAFI has announced that a final welfare dividend of more than £1.2 million will be returned to the Army in addition to the £275,000 paid earlier in the year. It is the first year in three that Naafi has paid a dividend to the Army.

The welfare dividend is being delivered to the Armed Forces from the £6.5 million profit Naafi made in 2002-03, a substantial improvement from the £0.5 million from the previous year and a significant loss in 2000-01.

Naafi spent £600,000 on ten portable shops for British forces in the Gulf. The air-conditioned leisure facilities, which were shipped to the Gulf, were staffed by 54 members of Naafi's own Expeditionary Force Institutes (EFI).

Lt Col Rory Maxwell, CO 6 Supply Regiment RLC during the conflict, said: "Naafi has done an immensely important job to boost the morale of soldiers in battle. The provision of a Mars bar and a can of pop brings a sense of normality to soldiers who have been fighting in the desert for days."

## Speedster Mark smashes record

BLIND ex-soldier Mark Threadgold has smashed the sightless world speed record on water.

The former Royal Signals sergeant averaged 99.17 mph on Lake Windermere in a 35ft powerboat, bettering the previous best of 73 mph.

Mark, 36, a Regular soldier for 15 years, lost his sight after sustaining a serious head injury.

Last year he broke a world endurance record for blind people when he drove a rigid inflatable boat around the Isle of Wight in under two hours.

His latest record bid will help raise fund for the £100,000 Blind Ambition appeal launched by St Dunstan's, which helps sightless ex-Service people.

● [www.st-dunstans.org.uk](http://www.st-dunstans.org.uk)



## Under Big Ben

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

### Concerns over BW vaccines were voiced

CONCERNS over the simultaneous administration of anthrax and pertussis (whooping cough) vaccines were conveyed to the MoD weeks before the Department began a 1991 Gulf conflict anti-biological warfare immunisation programme which included both vaccines being given at the same time.

Pertussis vaccine was used to speed up the effects of the anthrax vaccine in the short time available between administering the vaccine and the expected start of hostilities.

In a written answer to Parliament last month, Defence Minister Lord Bach said "preliminary" findings by the National Institute for Biological Standards and Control (NIBSC) caused concern to the institute "because there was evidence of severe loss of condition and weight loss in mice when these vaccines were given separately".

There were no side-effects when either was used on its own.

The pertussis vaccine, 40,000 doses of which had been procured from the Institut Merieux, was not licensed for use in the UK, but was in France under the name Vaxicoq.

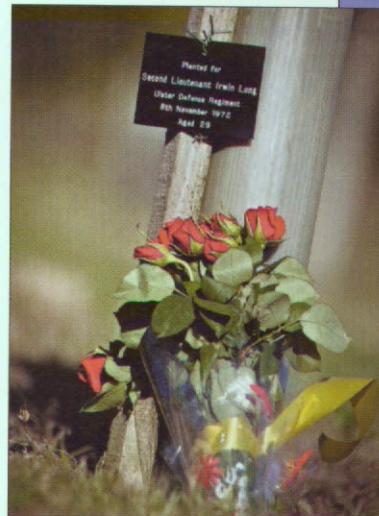
Alerted to the NIBSC concerns, the Department of Health faxed a letter outlining them to the MoD on December 21, 1990,

under cover of a note from the then Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Dr Jeremy Metters.

"Dr Metters recalls advising MoD of the importance and relevance of the information from NIBSC and of their and his concerns," states Lord Bach in the written answer.

On January 2, 1991 the MoD began its anti-biological warfare immunisation programme for Service personnel preparing for the 1990-91 Gulf conflict.

**Vehicle statistics:** Of the 116 Challenger 2 main battle tanks and 982 other armoured vehicles deployed on Op Telic, one Challenger 2 was destroyed in a tank battle, two Scimitars were lost in an air-land battle and a third rolled to its destruction, and one Sultan "drowned". At the end of decisive operations on April 30, 73 per cent of the Challenger 2s remained available for further combat. Of the 239 Warriors deployed, 78 per cent were fit for combat on April 30.



We will remember: Roses, above, rest against an ash sapling dedicated to the memory of 2nd Lt Irwin Long, who was murdered in Northern Ireland on November 8, 1972.

They were placed by his widow, Eileen, who attended the dedication in the National Memorial Arboretum of the Ulster Ash Grove.

Lt Gen Philip Trousdale, above right, GOC Northern Ireland, lays a wreath at the plinth at the centre of the grove. It is dedicated to the Armed Forces, the Royal Ulster Constabulary and the North-



ern Ireland Prison Service. Around the plinth are six stones from each of the counties of Northern Ireland, and around them an ash sapling has been planted for each of those lost during the Troubles.

## If you haven't had Telic audit, check in

ANY soldier who deployed on Operation Telic and who has not been called in to their medical centre for a post-Iraq medical audit should make an appointment with their medical officer to do so as soon as possible.

The intention to carry out the audit was announced at the end of July and most personnel will have been notified through their chain of command of the requirement to attend an interview at their medical centre.

There they will be asked to assist a member of the medical staff to fill in the

audit form FMed 1002. The audit will check off issues such as immunisation and when and where it was received; exposure to hazards; and the transfer of temporary medical records.

### Sapper squadron re-formed

A FLAG-raising ceremony was held to mark the re-formation of 30 Field Squadron RE as an integral part of part of Ludgershall-based 26 Engineer Regiment. It was disbanded in March 1991 following Options for Change.

### IN BRIEF

● **Marchwood Military Railway** at the Sea Mounting Centre near Southampton has celebrated its 60th anniversary. The railway was vital in the build-up to the Normandy landings in June 1944.

● Local cadets joined soldiers from 2 Signal Regiment, 1 PWO, and the E and

WRR to parade through York last month to exercise the military Freedom of the city.

● It's a tough job, but someone's got to do it. Pictured, right, Capt Brian Penfold and Maj Werner Stroud flank celebrities Liz Carling and Anneka Rice for a Make-A-Wish charity fashion show at the



## We've got you haka-ed

Sgt Maj Tony Costello of the 1st Battalion, The Green Howards got an earful when 100 Fijian soldiers based in Northern Ireland gathered in Ballykelly Army Base to celebrate their national day with an expression of national culture and identity.

He was on the receiving end of the fearsome *haka*, the warrior challenge more usually associated with the rugby field than Ballykelly.

The Green Howards hosted the event. It was the first time the day, which marks Fiji being ceded to Great Britain 129 years ago, has been celebrated in the Army. There are currently 1,600 islanders serving throughout Britain's Armed Forces.

Picture: Keith Cotton

# Suez medal fast-tracked

SOME veterans of the Suez Canal Zone campaign of 1951-1954 could have the new clasp in time to wear on parade on Remembrance Sunday.

Veterans Minister Ivor Caplin said: "We expect all who have applied, about 10,000, to have their medals during the early part of next year." He said a few would be issued in time for November 9.

The Army Medal Office has set up a special section to cope with up to 200,000 applications for the "Canal Zone" clasp, which will be worn with the General Service Medal 1918-1962 or its naval or air force equivalents.

The qualifying period is 30 days' or more continuous service in the Suez Canal Zone between October 16, 1951 and October 19, 1954.

Reduced periods for those who died or were wounded

in-theatre will be sufficient. Next-of-kin of veterans who have died since 1954 will be eligible to apply, but must provide supporting documents. Anyone who meets the criteria but who did not receive a GSM can apply for that as well.

Civilians who served full-time with BFBS, Naafi, the British Red Cross, SSAFA, Forces Help Society, Combined Service Entertainments, Women's Voluntary Service and other organisations are also eligible.

Service at sea will not count towards the qualifying period, and nor will time spent in the zone on official visits by personnel based elsewhere.

Mr Caplin paid tribute to those who fought for the medal. "It was a legitimate and well-organised campaign that the Government has been pleased to respond to."

### How to apply

Send your service details, including full name, date of birth, Service number, unit on discharge and dates in theatre to:

**Army Medal Office, Government Buildings, Worcester Road, Droitwich WR9 8AU.**

## One year old ...



We're one: **Josette Lesser**, Garrison Radio's sports editor, celebrates the first anniversary of the station's sports news programme by blowing out a birthday candle at the Aldershot studios. She was joined by Army Sport Control Board director **Maj Gen Simon Lytle** and other guests to mark the occasion. The programme broadcasts a mix of live reports and results.

Picture: Graeme Main



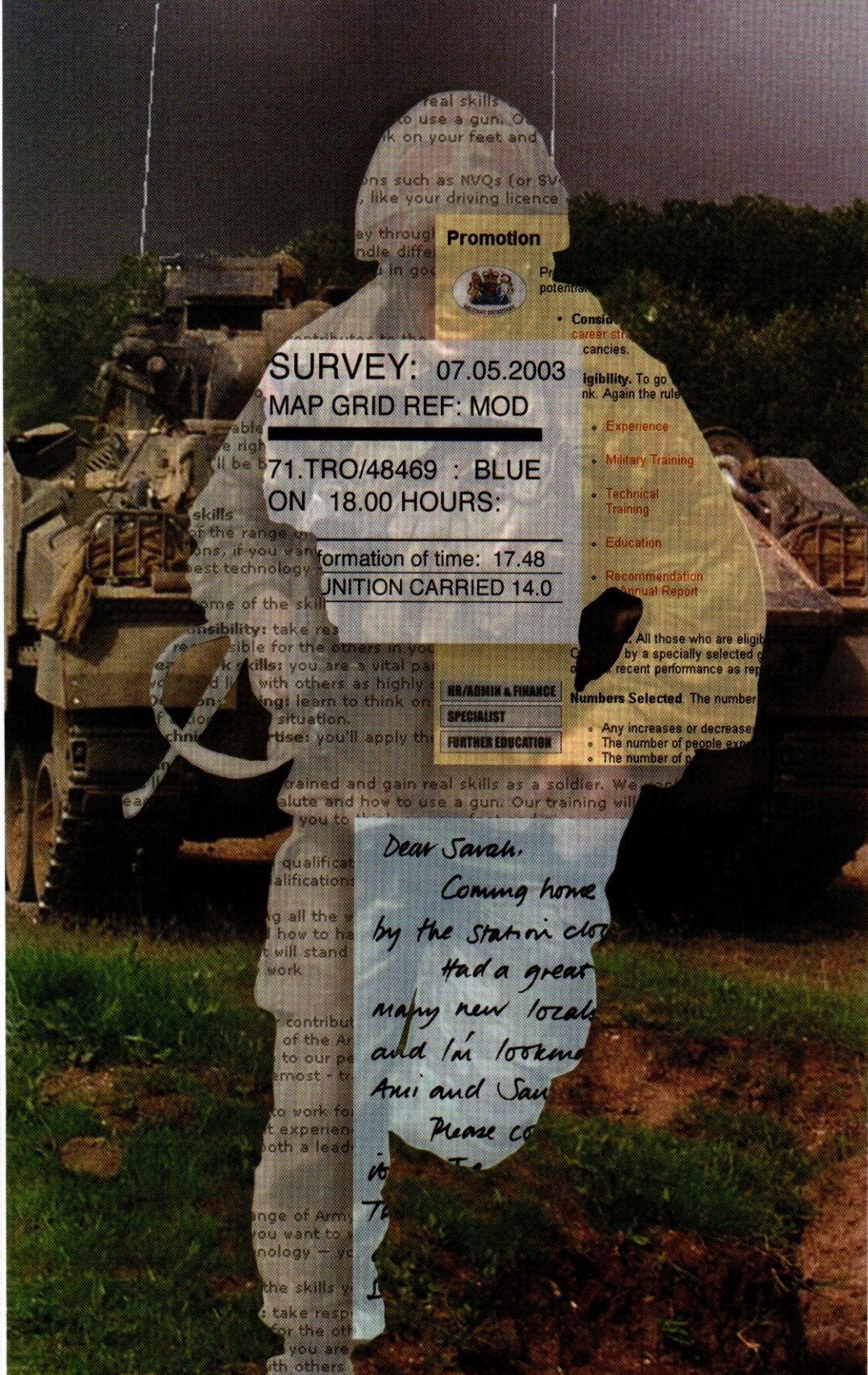
Dorchester. Brian, from 20 Aircraft Workshop REME, and Werner, from HQ 160 (Wales) Brigade, are members of the Project Chance management committee.

• **Civil Contingency Reaction Force** exercises to test procedures in the event of a significant civil emergency have taken place

around the country. One exercise scenario was based on a cargo plane crash near Swindon, another at Shorncliffe, near Folkestone.

• The **Epynt Way**, a 90km circular footpath following the boundary of the Sennybridge training area in Wales, has been opened to members of the public.

## Assaulting the objective was the easy part ...



**... reading orders and calculating the distance were the real challenges!**

Reading, writing and the ability to work with numbers are all skills for life that no soldier can afford to be without. For some, however, this is a real challenge.

### Can you help?

By volunteering a few hours each week you could help Army personnel to meet that challenge and in the process gain yourself a national qualification. This is available to Link Up supporters at no cost.

As part of a national project, the Army Link Up pilot areas are Tidworth, Warminster and the South West; Höhne and Fallingbostel.

If you have skills to share, and can offer your help -

### Become a Link Up supporter

Contact:

**Sue Thain**  
Link Up Project Manager

Tel - (Civ) 01985 223637  
(Mil) 94381 3637  
Fax - (Civ) 01985 223492

*email Lup@6aec.detsa.co.uk*



**ARMY**  
**The Basic Skills Agency**

**Home Office**  
BUILDING A SAFE, JUST  
AND TOLERANT SOCIETY



department for  
**education and skills**



Opening salvo: Former war correspondent Kate Adie, second from left, is pictured with, from left, Capt Tanya Gatheridge AGC (ETS), Maj Nadine Heron RMP and Maj Rachel Grimes RLC at the launch of "Women at War", a major new exhibition at the Imperial War Museum, Lambeth

## Quake team set tempo in Nepal

THIRTY Territorial Army soldiers from the Civil Affairs Group helped the government of Nepal to prepare for a major earthquake which scientists predict is overdue.

Kathmandu Valley, home to two million people, is said to be particularly vulnerable in the world's most quake-prone country.

The keys to eight pre-positioned ISO containers of rescue stores were handed to community leaders by Lt Col Harry Walker RE, who headed the TA group.

CAG initiated the project during a disaster contingency planning exercise in Nepal last year. It identified the need for basic rescue equipment and secured £45,000 from the British Embassy to pay for it. During the recent trip, the TA team supervised the installation of the containers and other equipment at strategic sites.

In addition to shovels, picks, ladders and ropes, the ISOs hold lighting equipment,



Going, going, gong: Sgts Victor Galpin, left, and Caroline Knowles-Ley, both RMP, received Voluntary Reserve Service Medals while on the earthquake exercise in Nepal

stretchers, hard hats, boots and first-aid kits.

The group also hosted a three-day seminar for 150 people from key organisations. Lt Col Bede Strong, who led the seminar, said: "To hear their renewed motivation to act as a result of the seminar was incredibly rewarding for the whole team."

**Going to Afghanistan:**  
Reservists from across Gloucestershire complete an eight-mile march while training for their deployment to Kabul.

They were among a 53-strong contingent of Territorial Army soldiers from the South West-based Rifle Volunteers mobilised for Op Fingal. More than were required came forward, avoiding the need for compulsory mobilisation.



## Paper talk

### What the Press has been saying

● Richmond in North Yorkshire emerges as the best place for unattached women in search of a partner. There are more than two single men for each "singleton" there, although MP William Hague said this has more to do with Catterick Garrison, the British Army's largest base, than anything else. – *Daily Telegraph*

● To commemorate the 60th anniversary of D-Day, war veterans will receive lottery grants to travel to the battlefields on which they fought. Lottery cash will be used to fund special tours of the battlefields in Europe, North Africa and the Far East. A commemorative medal is also being considered. – *Daily Telegraph*

● Commanding officers of Infantry battalions which have not contributed £1,000 towards the £130,000 cost of a bronze statue of British infantrymen have been instructed to pay up. The statue, of two soldiers in assault mode with SA80 rifles, is due to be unveiled by the Prince of Wales next year at the Army's Sennybridge training area in Powys, Wales. – *Times*

● Singapore's infamous Changi Prison, where thousands of Allied PoWs and civilians lived and died during the Second World War, is to be demolished. – *Daily Telegraph*

● Some of the 5,800 reservists mobilised compulsorily for war duty in Iraq were given such short notice that they had no time to prepare their families or their employers. Some employers did not even know that they had reservists on their payrolls. – *Times*

● The Royal British Legion is mobilising an army of Second World War veterans to protest against exorbitant council tax rises. A spokesman said most were on fixed incomes and many would suffer because of the rises. – *Express*

● Prince William has abandoned plans to do conservation work in Africa and will instead join his brother Harry at Sandhurst within two years. St James's Palace said it was "absolute fiction" that William was spending two years in Africa. – *Sunday Express*

● The MoD's £340 million refurbished headquarters, due to be reoccupied in May, are so eerily quiet that background noise will be piped in. – *Mail on Sunday*

# Promote yourself



## Move your Army career forward with the ECDL qualification

With ECDL you will gain the IT skills needed for a qualification which is recognised right across the world.

Your Army Learning Centre can supply the complete ECDL package at a discounted price to members of the defence community, and Army personnel can use their Standard Learning Credits to claim back 80% of the cost.

Learners who achieve the ECDL qualification are also eligible to receive a FREE Microsoft Office Specialist course and exam valued at £30.

To find out more contact your nearest Army Learning Centre, call **0870 909 0432** or visit our website at [www.learndirect.co.uk/army](http://www.learndirect.co.uk/army)

**Terms and conditions:** To be eligible for the free course and exam, the learner must complete the ECDL course and qualification at an Army Learning Centre. The free course and exam is only redeemable at an Army Learning Centre. No cash alternative.



[www.learndirect.co.uk/army](http://www.learndirect.co.uk/army)



 **LearnDirect**

www.learndirect.co.uk/army

# Hazard warning

Bomb disposal is big business in weapon-filled southern Iraq

Report: Andrea Frazer

Pictures: Cpl David Whittaker-Smith (RAF)

A LETHAL legacy of unused and unexploded ammunition and air-dropped weapons and missiles litter the Basra and Maysan provinces of southern Iraq, posing a significant threat to the lives of local people and coalition forces.

"The ammunition is a mixture of Iraqi, former Soviet, American, British and other nations' equipment acquired by Iraq," said Capt Phil Davis, SO3 EOD, 19 Mechanized Brigade.

"The stuff we find ranges from a single grenade to large ransacked ammunition compounds containing many thousands of items in various states of serviceability.

"The extensive spread of items varies in density and age. Some stem from the recent conflict while others are a legacy of Op Granby and even the Iran-Iraq war."

Thousands of anti-tank and anti-personnel mines are stored all over the country, often in public places.

The enormous task of detection, identification, rendering safe and disposing of the vast quantities of ordnance in the region is the responsibility of the Joint Force (EOD) Group, headed up by 49 Field Squadron (EOD), 33 Engineer Regiment (EOD).

The group has brought together teams from the Royal Logistic Corps, the Royal Engineers, Royal Air Force and Royal Navy and includes Norwegian and Czech units.



Putting ordnance out of harm's way covers the full range of bomb disposal operations, from explosions and finds to disposal of improvised explosive devices and conventional munitions.

Officer commanding Maj Chris Warhurst said: "The idea of a joint force EOD group was used in Afghanistan but I believe this is the first time that the three Services and multi-national elements have worked together.

"We have a range of missions, the first being force protection, to look after and assist UK and coalition forces, to get rid of any munitions which pose a direct threat to our troops, such as RPGs and mortars, and medium and heavy weapon systems.

"A very close second is the humanitarian aspect, assisting the Iraqi people to get back to normality as soon as possible. "This involves clearing areas such as schools, mosques, hospitals and essential services – places where the old regime used to stockpile ammunition. These are routine daily tasks."

Bomb disposal teams are held at high readiness to respond to priority taskings, and are regularly supported by helicopter, medics, the Defence Fire Service and explosive dog protection teams.

During Op Telic 1, the group completed 600 tasks and destroyed 200,000 individual items of ordnance.

Since the start of Op Telic 2 in July, 1,500 tasks have been undertaken and personnel have destroyed 590,000 items across the spectrum of ordnance and 350,000 rounds of small-arms ammunition.

The scale of the job facing bomb disposal teams in-theatre is immense and desert conditions mean there are addi-

**Stockpile: Artillery shells are prepared with demolition charges for destruction**



**Job done: Yet more sensitive munitions are destroyed**

tional challenges to contend with. Working in a heavy EOD suit is awkward in any climate, but carrying an extra 45lb in temperatures of 50C is something else. A job lot of ice vests worn under the suits help a little.

Dust and sand getting into delicate equipment, particularly the Wheelbarrow, is an added complication so careful maintenance is essential.

In a country where everything has a use and scavenging and looting is rife, it is vitally important to remove sensitive munitions to protect people from harm and ensure the weapons and ammunition cannot be used against coalition forces and the Iraqi people.

Looters have put their lives at risk by dismantling unstable munitions in arms dumps to steal copper components which are smelted into ingots and sold on the black market.

# Job well done

## Summer of tension comes to an end for mechanized brigade

THIS month will bring with it the end of 19 Mechanized Brigade's tour of duty, writes **Andrea Frazer**.

Troops from the 1st Battalions of The King's Own Scottish Borderers, The King's Regiment and The Queen's Lancashire Regiment, with 19 Brigade Signal Squadron, 40 Regiment RA, 38 Regiment RE and 19 Brigade HQ can look back with pride at what they have achieved during the past four long, dangerous and extremely hot months in southern Iraq.

The brigade arrived at the beginning of a very tense summer. Units immediately began forging relationships with the local community, working round the clock to build upon the successes of 7 Armoured Brigade and manage Iraqi expectations.

With security viewed as a priority, huge effort was focused on creating a stable society and establishing Iraqi security units such as Iraqi police, the élite Police Support Unit, Iraqi Civil Defence Corps, Border Police, Power Police and the Iraqi Riverine Patrol Service.

Local infrastructure was broken and units were acutely aware that reconstruction and regeneration work had to rank high in the brigade's priorities. About

\$5.8 million was spent on quick-impact projects designed to improve the quality of the infrastructure. A large chunk of the money was used to fund the refurbishment of 85 schools in 19 Brigade's area.

Eighty pylons across seven separate power lines were repaired as a joint effort between the brigade and local people, enabling communities to enjoy a period of uninterrupted power; pre-war levels were three hours on and

three off. Five hundred Power Police now guard pylon routes to deter sabotage and looting.

A fuel distribution plan has been implemented and various fuels are now imported, including 40,000 tonnes of benzene and 30,000 tonnes of LPG. A guard force has been trained and is operating to protect fuel refineries.

The brigade will hand over responsibility to 20 Armoured Brigade later this month when the 1st Battalion, The Light Infantry, 26 Regiment RA, 20 Brigade Signal Squadron, 1st Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales, 20 Brigade HQ, 35 Regiment RE and the Queen's Royal Hussars have familiarised themselves with their areas of operation.

**Local infrastructure was broken and units were acutely aware that reconstruction and regeneration work had to rank high in the brigade's list of priorities.**



Watchful: Cpl Mark Baxter RMP inspects the first Iraqi Police Support Unit graduates

## Our men at the embassy

TROOPS from The Light Dragoons and the 1st Battalion, The King's Own Scottish Borderers have guarded the British Embassy in Baghdad.

After embassy staff left the capital in the wake of the bombing of the UN's headquarters, soldiers remained to protect and maintain the location.

A good relationship has been established with local people and military Land Rovers and foot patrols are greeted with cries of "Hello Britannique."

Army medics routinely treat children suffering from minor cuts and scrapes at the embassy gate and off-duty soldiers have played football with youngsters in the area.

## Recruits graduate with honours

THE first recruits of the newly-formed Iraqi Police Support Unit (PSU) graduated from their six-week specialist training course in Basra.

Formed to bridge the capability gap between the existing Iraqi police and the coalition forces, the unit will provide the Basra Chief of Police with a highly-effective strike capability within the city.

The course, the first of its kind, was run by instructors drawn from Infantry, Royal

Artillery and Royal Engineer units and the Royal Military Police. Recruits were taught skills such as weapon-handling, first aid, patrolling and basic arrest techniques, house and vehicle searches, hostage rescue, physical training, leadership and basic drill.

They also learned about justice, preservation of evidence, and handling and caring for prisoners. A further 240 students have enrolled on the second course.



Busted: Pte Paul Yates, Sgt John Battersby and Pte Robert McCormack, all of B Company, 1 QLR, sit on top of the mountain of aluminium seized during a search in Basra's suburbs

## QLR's metal mountain

TACKLING and arresting criminals is a daily occurrence for soldiers of the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment based in Basra.

Following a tip-off, a patrol from Burma Company uncovered an illegal aluminium smelting operation in the Al Hayyaniyah area and discovered a massive pile of aluminium ingots, standing at 6ft high and weighing more than two tonnes.

The find, the largest made by the battalion in Iraq, was too big to be carried in the patrol's vehicles and had to be transported back to their base in a truck.

Four Iraqi men were arrested during the incident.

In an operation which targeted former regime loyalists, soldiers of Anzio Company rounded up a leading figurehead and a number of his supporters in a series of raids in Basra's suburbs, tightening the net on terrorism and organised crime in southern Iraq.

The battalion is also racking up success in the battle against illegal weapons. Anzio Company, acting on intelligence from a local man, made a substantial weapons find in the At Tuwaysah area.

Corunna Coy scored a major coup with the arrest of a bomb-making team and its equipment in simultaneous night-time raids across the city. Its efforts have disrupted a well-organised terrorist group.

## Sappers bridge the gap

A PONTOON bridge, built by 38 Engineer Regiment with the help of the Norwegian Telemark Battalion, has restored road links between two villages on the outskirts of Basra.

Their work has made life a lot easier for 10,000 local people, enabled children to get to school and the sick to travel to hospital. The original bridge between the villages of Abu Al Khasib and Bab Suleyman was damaged during the Iraq's long war with Iran and recently collapsed when a heavily-laden wagon tried to cross.

The bridge collapsed, crashing into the tributary of the Al Shatt Arab river which runs through the heart of the city.

Military engineers have also undertaken force protection works, provided diving, EOD and artisan trade support to the brigade, conducted more than 400 boat patrols and produced 350 tonnes of potable water a day through two reverse osmosis plants.

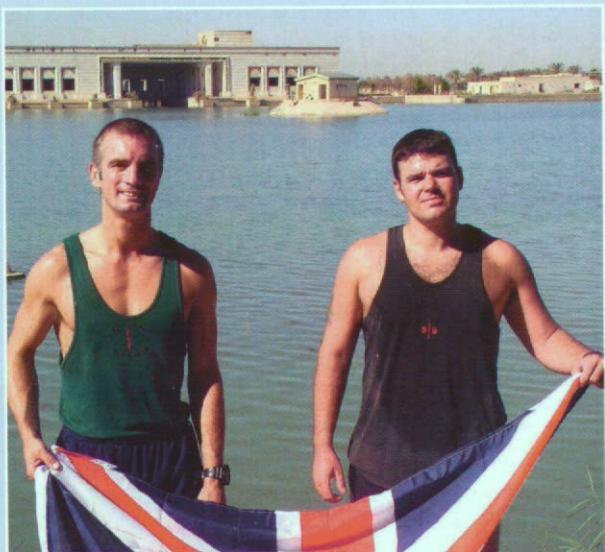


Leading the way: Lt Col Rob Lowth, of 38 Engineer Regiment, and Maj Torger Gillebo, Norwegian Telemark Regiment, join villagers at the opening of the new pontoon bridge restoring road links outside Basra

## Terriers deployed

TERRITORIAL Army soldiers from B and D Companies, The East of England Regiment (V) and 201 (Bedford) Squadron, 158 (Royal Anglian) Transport Regiment RLC (V) have deployed to Iraq on a six-month tour of duty to undertake general duties such as patrolling and security to essential support tasks such as driving and catering.

• TA soldiers from the Tyne Tees Regiment operated a rolling programme of guard duties, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at the British HQ in Basra Palace, Basra airport and the massive logistics base at Shaibah.



SSGT Justin Lewis, left, won a 5km road race staged in Baghdad to mark America's annual Labor Day.

And his 33 Engineer Regiment colleague, Cpl Dinger Bell, right, finished seventh. The course took them around the lake in front of which they are pictured. On the same day Lewis learned he had been promoted to the rank of staff sergeant.

The two men, from Wimborne, are attached to the Iraq Survey Group hunting for weapons of mass destruction.

# It's your Army. It's your charity.



The Army is like one large family, bound together by the sacrifices so many of you have made. But it's reassuring to know that, if you or your immediate family ever needs help, you can rely on the ABF. However, to continue our work, the Army's National Charity needs your support too. Right now we're looking for dedicated people to donate time and effort into vital fundraising activities. **Will you take one pace forward?**



**ARMY  
BENEVOLENT  
FUND**  
SUPPORTING THE BEST

The ABF is the Army's National Charity and is committed to the welfare of Army and ex-Army personnel and their families. (Registered Charity No. 211645)

**020 7591 2042**

**website:** [www.armybenfund.org](http://www.armybenfund.org)

**e-mail:** [enquiries@armybenevolentfund.com](mailto:enquiries@armybenevolentfund.com)

Army Benevolent Fund, 41 Queen's Gate, London SW7 5HR

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE PART,** in events and activities, please contact us for a Fundraising Pack. Complete the coupon and send to: Army Benevolent Fund, FREEPOST SW3705, London SW7 5BR.

Name.....

Address .....

.....

Postcode ..... Tel No. ....

Email .....

The information collected will be used for administration and marketing purposes by the Army Benevolent Fund. It may be used to contact you in the future, if you wish to be contacted please tick here.  L4944 SOLDIER 11/03

# HONED approach

## Tri-Service course for warrant officers on trial at Shrivenham

Report: Ray Routledge  
Pictures: Mike Weston

NON-officer training has made its debut at the Joint Services Command and Staff College, Shrivenham, and early indications suggest it is a big step forward.

First trials of new method to prepare warrant officers for work in a tri-Service environment have been completed.

Course director Lt Col Kris Chafer AAC said it came about as a result of the Defence Training Review, which identified as a weakness the lack of joint training for WOs.

The two-week residential course, which has already attracted interest from abroad, covers high-level training objectives.

Warrant officers are increasingly being used at levels which, ten years ago, would have been the responsibility of a captain or major.

"The first course was a trial, so we can re-jig as appropriate, although the overall content is more or less agreed," said Lt Col Chafer.

It involved several WOs already in joint appointments and some who were already experienced in joint environments. Their feedback will inform a pilot course scheduled to begin next month. The final version should be up and running by the spring.

"Each will comprise 30 WOs in three groups of ten. Each syndicate will have a mix from all three Services," said Lt Col Chafer. "Where we can help them is by giving them the tools to do their jobs in high-level, high-responsibility posts."

There have already been enquiries from overseas, "but," said Lt Col Chafer, "we want to get it right ourselves first before we look at the international dimension."

While mainly classroom-based, the course includes practical elements in which students play the roles of a joint task force commander's staff. They gain an appreciation of defence diplomacy, management techniques and tools, and of the different Service cultures.

"This is a prestigious course," said Lt Col Chafer. "A great deal of investment has been put into it."



**Lt Col Kris Chafer**

## And here's what they thought of it

### WO2 (AQMS) Pete Hushin REME, serving with SHAPE

I had previously been at 148 Battery, a combined Royal Navy-Army posting and on joint operations with Nato in Kosovo. Parts of the new course have been very useful and informative, some has been good but not relevant and about a quarter needs to be changed.



### WO2 Kevin Edwards, Joint NBC Regiment

I was selected because I am with a joint organisation. It has been useful to see how the other Services operate and to understand their traditions. We can all learn a great deal from each other. The course length is probably about right because you can't take people like us out of our working environment for too long. Shrivenham is a great environment for learning.



### WO John McMath RAF, RAF Cranwell

I was a WO on a Harrier squadron but am not in a joint role at present. I came here

with no pre-conceived ideas. It is difficult to start with a blank sheet of paper because there is major diversity in backgrounds and Service cultures. It is difficult to find common elements and to turn those elements into something you can take into

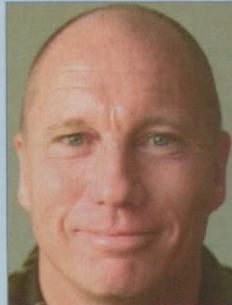
a joint environment. We now have a clearer appreciation of our sister Services, although whether that is a result of the course or of putting people together in one area, I don't know really.

### WO1 Dawn Scott AGC (SPS), serving at PJHQ

It is relevant to those about to go into a joint Service environment. There are a couple of things that need to be changed before the pilot starts in December. The organisers are taking everything on board and getting feedback from us. As for the JSCSC, the facilities are exceptional.

### WO Bob Loughlin, RAF Regiment, working for the Chief of the Air Staff

I was an instructor at the School of Infantry, Warminster, and spent two years on loan service with the Army in the Middle East. I think it has been very worthwhile, a great insight into how the Forces work. It is certainly worthwhile if it helps with joint issues. The course has a real future, but getting senior WOs away for more than two weeks would be difficult. I would like to see WOs from other nations take part. It will have a benefit where we work with them already. The Shrivenham site is ideal and it has given us a high profile in front of senior officers.



### WO1 Mark Cornell RE, technical adviser (projects) HQ British Forces Cyprus

The drawback is that this course is going at 120mph. Have I benefited from it? I have learned a bit, especially about how the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force work. But there is one aspect of jointery that has been missed. Military force has four strands - Army, Navy and RAF, and a civilian component. Nowhere has the course covered how that civilian element comes in.



# Taking issues

CGS's Briefing Team toured the UK and abroad to listen to the concerns riding high on the agendas of soldiers and their families

AS the British Army geared up for war in Iraq, a small Camberley-based team was travelling far and wide to listen to the concerns of soldiers and their families, and to convey those issues directly to the Chief of the General Staff.

Location, they found, had little impact on the nature of concerns. As ever, most points raised were financial, in particular administration of pay.

The briefing team tour lasted from January 9 to May 4 and took in Afghanistan, Belize, Brunei, the Falklands, Grantham, formed TA units in the UK and families in UK and Germany. Some visits were cancelled because of Op Telic.

Are soldiers' complaints listened to? The answer is yes. Last October the briefing team informed the Army Board of the

## CALL-UP TIME TOO SHORT

**Mobilisation** – Visits were made to medical reservists training at Grantham; to 395 AD Troop (V) at Lyneham; to 165 Port Regiment (V) at Marchwood; and to the 51st Highland Regiment (V) platoon in Kabul.

**Process** – The Reserves Training and Mobilisation Centre and the quality of training at Grantham drew widespread praise, particularly from those mobilised for the 1990 Gulf War. Medics said morale was higher because fewer Regular reservists had been mobilised than in 1990. They had had, apparently, a negative impact.

**Notification**. Many were critical of the short notice of compulsory mobilisation and blamed the Army. Air despatchers claimed that not one had received 14 days' notice and many had received only four.

**Finance**. Rates of pay were the biggest issue for those at Lyneham and Marchwood, and in particular the ceiling of £22,650 for corporals and below, and the amount of detail required to justify a Reserves Hardship Allowance. Some said they were paying the Army for the privilege of being mobilised.

At Marchwood, with an average age over

five main issues arising from its summer tour. Top complaint among junior ranks was the issue of the other-arms bergen, which wasn't big enough to accommodate all their warfighting kit. They asked for the infantry version.

The infantry bergen is now being issued and the other-arms version withdrawn.

Junior NCOs were aggrieved that on posting they had to hand in their webbing, carefully tailored to the individual, and draw a new set from their new unit. In infantry battalions they now keep their webbing on posting.

Most troops felt the green holdalls were too small to hold their complete issue of clothing. Now every soldier gets a large black holdall, and will

41, it was said even junior ranks would command wages above the ceiling.

In Kabul, not one reservist had received Longer Separated Service Allowance (LSSA) three weeks before the tour end.

**Duration**. All those mobilised for Op Telic had expected some indication of the length of their commitment, if only for the benefit of employers. Medics argued that to sustain civilian practices, they would prefer to report for repeated tours of, say three months, with three-month intervals.

**Employment**. The Kabul TA platoon said their security role fell short of expectations. They saw the deployment of Regular RE foot patrols as a snub.

(● CBT team members noted in the report that they had been struck by the high and perhaps unreasonable expectations of some mobilised TA members, particularly in terms of finance and the idea of a duration of deployment.)

**CGS comments:** *I am aware of the difficulties experienced during mobilisation but we must not forget the very positive aspects of what was achieved, for the first time on such a scale across the three Services and over a relatively short space of time. There is already work going on to see where we can improve our procedures and members of the TA who have been mobilised for the first rotation are seeing the benefits.*

eventually be issued with two. On these pages are some of the issues raised on the latest tour and excerpts of CGS's responses to some of them.

**On the road:** CGS's Briefing Team at Camberley before setting out on another round of unit visits. From top, Lt Col Mark Blagbrough RWF, WO2 Alan Cameron RHF and Cpl Lesley Huddleston AGC (SPS) are keen to hear about the issues which concern soldiers, officers and families.

Picture: Graeme Main

## IRRITANTS

**TA ID cards**. TA members questioned the policy of holding ID cards at unit level rather than issuing them to individuals. They said this sent a clear message that they could not be trusted.

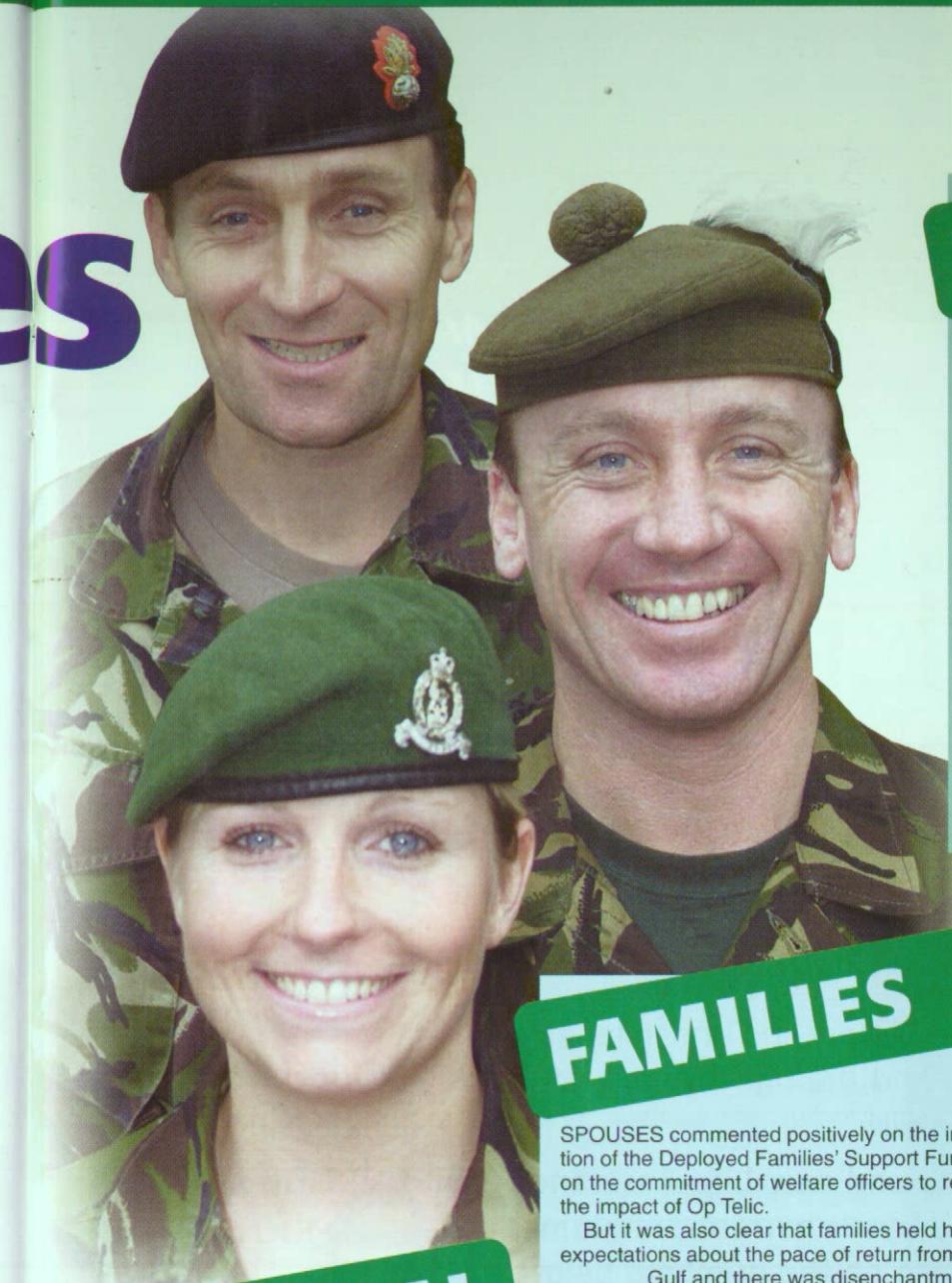
**CGS:** *We do not issue ID cards to most members of the TA for reasons of security, but in view of the weight of feeling I have asked that we consider how we could issue them more widely without undermining security procedures.*

**Families' ID**. Wives wanted one ID card to be used at any duty station, as is the policy for RAF dependants, rather than have to arrange for a new ID card on arrival at every new duty station.

**CGS:** *I take the point. Work is now in hand to see how we can take this forward.*

**Disturbance allowance**. While accepting that costs incurred by single soldiers were significantly lower than those for married soldiers, many in single accommodation argued that they incurred some expenses and so deserved some recompense.

**CGS:** *AG's staff have been looking at the issues relating to allowances for single and married personnel, and disturbance allowance is on their radar. This also relates to the other Services, so we cannot act in isolation. It is under consideration.*



## FINANCIAL

PAY administration continued to be a major concern of many, irrespective of rank or location. The enquiry centre at Glasgow, introduced in February, was not popular among regimental admin staff, who said it constrained their ability to speak directly to subject matter experts.

Delayed payment of LSSA was an issue for Regulars and TA alike in Afghanistan. Long Service Advance of Pay (LSAP) continued to be contentious, with most senior NCOs in favour of reducing the qualification age at least to 30 or the 12-year point.

Late Entry officers wanted to know why they lost three years of their pension on commissioning.

**CGS comments:** *If we expect our allowances to be paid in full and on time we must ensure that what we submit is timely and accurate. Examples of problems over LSSA quoted indicate that oversights were made at unit level. I am aware that at Glasgow considerable efforts are being made to improve how we deal with the information. The LSAP proposals raised are being considered by the staff and we can expect some progress shortly.*

## TOUR GAPS

WHILE many acknowledged the positive impact of the drawdown in the Balkans, there was consensus that the deployment to the Gulf would be for the long term.

Some said the Formation Readiness Cycle (FRC) had failed to withstand the test of Gulf deployments. For REME and R Signals in particular it had not ensured a reasonable interval between operational tours. Some families favoured four-month tours, accepting that they would be more frequent and that there would be no R&R.

**CGS comments:** *I am aware of the concerns of those in the combat service support arms and efforts are being made at Glasgow to reduce their turbulence, where possible. I am interested by the suggestion that a four-month tour might be more appealing than a six-month deployment, and I have asked that further work be undertaken to identify the relative merits.*

## AND ...

## FAMILIES

SPOUSES commented positively on the introduction of the Deployed Families' Support Fund and on the commitment of welfare officers to reducing the impact of Op Telic.

But it was also clear that families held high expectations about the pace of return from the Gulf and there was disenchantment that expectations were not being met.

These views were fuelled by feedback from theatre. The comment was heard regularly that "troops are sat on their packs in the middle of the desert doing nothing, so why can't they come home?" There was a view that if soldiers could return to attend courses, then they could attend the birth of a child.

**CGS comments:** *Many families, rightly, saw the team's visit as an opportunity to vent pent-up frustrations. It was quite clear, however, that often unfounded comments from husbands in theatre had been amplified and accepted as fact within garrisons, with the result that there was a prevailing air that decisions had been taken without reason. This underscores the critical role played by the unit welfare officer in conveying accurately information from theatre and scotching rumour.*

*I sense that the unpredictable nature of warfighting has come as a shock to many people. There were positive aspects of our operations, not least the way in which our families were supported at home. It is incumbent upon us now to learn the lessons of the conflict.*

**Pace of life.** Officers said they were having to attend to competing and expanding demands in barracks, including new disciplinary procedures, Investors in People and health-and-safety issues. These impacted on other, arguably more pertinent, aspects of command and training.

**Equipment.** Concerns that soldiers would not feel confident in SA80 A2, highlighted in the last briefing team report, proved generally unfounded. The few concerns raised reflected an impatience to receive the upgraded weapons. Lack of available IT equipment was a major frustration for young officers and senior NCOs.

**Belize.** Troops were enthused by the prospect of an increase in training levels in Belize to cater for light-role battalions, but disappointed at the lack of training resulting from the level of operations elsewhere. AAC pilots were frustrated at the short notice of postings to Belize, while REME staff were concerned at the loss of yet another appealing posting due to the introduction of civilian helicopters.

Families were concerned at the lack of funding for an annual return flight to the UK.

**Brunei.** Gurkhas argued for local overseas allowance (LOA) in Brunei, in common with their British counterparts. British families asked for the establishment of a padre. Junior ranks accommodation was said to be particularly poor.

**Falkland Islands.** Concerns were raised at apparent anomalies in disciplinary procedures between the RAF and the Army, although this was being addressed within theatre. There was unease at the lack of provision of guaranteed flights to accompany schoolchildren to and from the UK.



# Get a Life...

## We mean it! How would your family cope if you died unexpectedly?

Life assurance is one of the most important policies you will ever buy.

Our unrivalled experience of the Military and understanding of your lifestyle enables us to find the right policy at the lowest price for you and your family.

**Whether you're looking for a brand new Life Assurance policy or comparing the cost of your current premiums, contact our award winning team on the numbers below.**



To see just how much you could save on your Life Assurance, pop into your local branch, visit [www.naafi-financial.com](http://www.naafi-financial.com) for more information or call:

**00800 0001 02 03**

(free from the UK & Germany)

**+44 1722 342245**

(from the rest of the world)

**Our Locations - UK:** Abbeywood • Aldergrove • Brize Norton • Catterick • Collingwood • Faslane  
HMS Raleigh • Lisburn • Plymouth • Portsmouth • RAF Cosford • RAF St. Mawgan • Tidworth  
**ATRs:** Bassingbourn • Lichfield • Winchester • **Germany:** Fallingbostel • Gutersloh • Hohne  
JHQ • Osnabruck • Sennelager • **Cyprus:** Akrotiri • Dhekelia • Episkopi • **Gibraltar**



**The overworked vet**

IN 2002 a vet in Northern Ireland was found guilty of conspiracy to defraud the MoD and given a 15-month prison sentence.

The vet was found guilty of assisting with fraudulent claims for animals said to have been traumatised by low-flying Army helicopters.

To make a compensation claim, farmers needed to provide evidence that a post-mortem examination of the animal had been carried out by a vet.

The vet allegedly undertook 9,000 post-mortems and claims ranged up to £8,000.

Fortunately, the culprit gave the game away by claiming to have completed 200 post-mortems in a single day.

**Nice little pension earner**

A pensions clerk was sharing an office in Glasgow with a colleague. To generate payment of pensions, each clerk had to enter a code into a computer.

One clerk went on holiday, giving a personal code to the colleague to enable pensions payments to continue.

Armed with both codes, the second clerk generated payments to a fictitious person using the BACS system. Twelve months and 17 transactions later, he had embezzled £479,000.

Unfortunately transaction number 18 went wrong and he ordered a cheque by mistake.

He is now regretting his greed – in prison.

# Let's nick 'em

Fraud is costing the MoD millions of pounds and the law needs your help

**Report: Ray Routledge**  
**Pictures: Graeme Main**

FRAUD cost the MoD more than £2 million in 2000, but the Department is fighting back.

This month it is launching an initiative to tackle theft and corruption.

Gen Sir Michael Walker, the Chief of Defence Staff, has lent his support to a campaign which will be hammered home via posters, advertisements, website information and awareness presentations.

DS Robert Allen, head of the MoD Police's fraud squad, and Paul Archer, head of the Defence Fraud Analysis Unit, told *Soldier* the average fraudster was a very ordinary individual, perhaps the person you are working alongside as you read this.

Vehicles, tools, fuel, clothing, ceremonial kit, foodstuffs – practically anything that can be picked up – have been reported stolen.

Outright theft is one form of the problem, fraud another. Typically, it involves

an act of deception such as forging a signature on a claim or making a false statement about personal circumstances.

DS Allen said: "We are joining together to protect assets being targeted from within – such as false travel and subsistence claims and dodgy flexitime forms – but from the outside, too.

"This initiative aims to bring the Services along with what we have been doing with the civilian side for some time. Our message is: 'Something wrong – tell us'.

"It's all about people anywhere within the MoD – Service or civilian – reporting suspicions. They are the people who have the knowledge and we can develop that intelligence to target criminal activity."

DS Allen said fraud could have an impact on front-line soldiers. "If resources are misused or subject to product substitution in the procurement process, soldiers on the front-line are going to suffer because of a lack of resources or through inferior products."

About 200 cases of suspected fraud are reported every year. These can range in value from a few pounds to millions. "Historically vulnerable areas have included property management and maintenance."

DS Allen quoted a fraud perpetrated by a contractor, which, on face value, appeared to be worth only a few pounds. On investigation it had turned into a small fortune.

"He was providing accommodation services for married quarters," said the head of the fraud squad. "The work involved fitting carpets, for which he was paid by the square metre, fitting new gripper and trimming door frames.

"On every job he inflated the area of work by up to 30 per cent. He used existing gripper and charged for new, and trimmed non-existent doors."

He was making only a few pounds on each house.

"Working closely with the Treasury Solicitor in this case we recovered £400,000 for the MoD," said Det Sup Allen. "What seemed a trivial amount grew into a huge sum."

Often the first lead on a case can come from a virtually unnoticed source.

"We want to alert people to the responsibility they have for their own area of work; for instance a storeman who notices that deliveries from a particular company are always one or two items short.

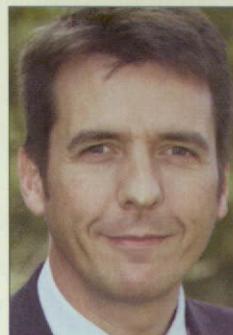
"Anyone on the ground floor can have an impact."

And that means you.

● If you have suspicions call the fraud hotline in confidence on 0800 161 3665.



Paul Archer



DS Robert Allen





Built for the job: The Iveco Multi-Role Light Vehicle which will become a close armour scout when it is delivered after 2006

Pictures: Alvis Vickers

# New scout's about

Alvis Vickers to build 486 new-generation recce vehicles for Army

A RUGGED and nippy all-rounder has been chosen to supply the Army's close reconnaissance, platoon-level command and general peacekeeping support vehicle requirements, writes John Elliott.

The Alvis-Iveco Multi-Role Light Vehicle will replace elements of the Army's fleet of Land Rovers, Saxons and Combat Vehicle Reconnaissance (Tracked) family of vehicles.

Alvis Vickers has won the £200 million MoD contract to develop and manufacture 486 of the Future Command and Liaison Vehicles (FCLV). After a demonstration phase running until 2005, the vehicles will be delivered to units between 2006 and 2009.

The highly mobile 4 x 4 is based on an Iveco design being developed for a major Italian Army programme.

## Future Command and Liaison Vehicle (FCLV) fact file

**Performance:** Top speed of 100kph.

**Size:** Height 2.5m; length 4.7m; width 2.5m.

**Protection:** Against small arms, anti-personnel mines and artillery fragments.

**Weapon:** Can carry 7.62mm general purpose machine gun.

**Airportability:** C130J can carry two; Chinook can carry one underslung.

Lightly armoured, armed and air-portable, the FCLV is designed to work with artillery and on tank operations. In the former it would be flown in, driven towards the front line and used to spot targets for the gunners.

In the latter it would, for example, be used by the commander to move quickly around the battlefield to gain a bigger picture of where his units were and where they needed to be.

It will be fitted with the Bowman com-

munications system and a driver's night vision system using thermal imaging.

Col Charles Hookey, leader of the Close Armour Integrated Project Team at the Defence Procurement Agency in Bristol, said of the FCLV contract: "This has been a clean, comprehensive and well-run competition which has produced a clear winner, representing good value for money. It is excellent news for the British Army, the RAF Regiment and British industry."

• **LOCKHEED** Martin Systems Integration is to supply the MoD with a range of vehicle-mounted and airportable electronic warfare equipment. The £150 million Soothsayer project will provide EW units of the Army and Royal Marines with state-of-the-art equipment designed to detect, identify and locate radio, radar and other electronic signals.

• TWO assessment phase contracts have been let by the Defence Procurement Agency to find a faster warning system for nuclear, biological and chemical attack. The Integrated Sensor Management Scheme (ISMS) will be designed to give timely warning and reporting into the command and decision-making chain. The aim is to deploy the initial capability in late 2005.

• **THE** first Trojan prototype is being evaluated by the Royal Engineers Trials and Development Unit at Bovington during a ten-month demonstration trials period. The breaching variant, based on Challenger 2 technology, will re-define what close support sappers can deliver to the all-arms battle. It will replace the ageing Chieftain Armoured Vehicle RE (AVRE).

# Roving the range

Do you think you can drive off-road safely? We subjected three soldiers to the Land Rover Experience

Report: Ray Routledge  
Pictures: Steve Dock

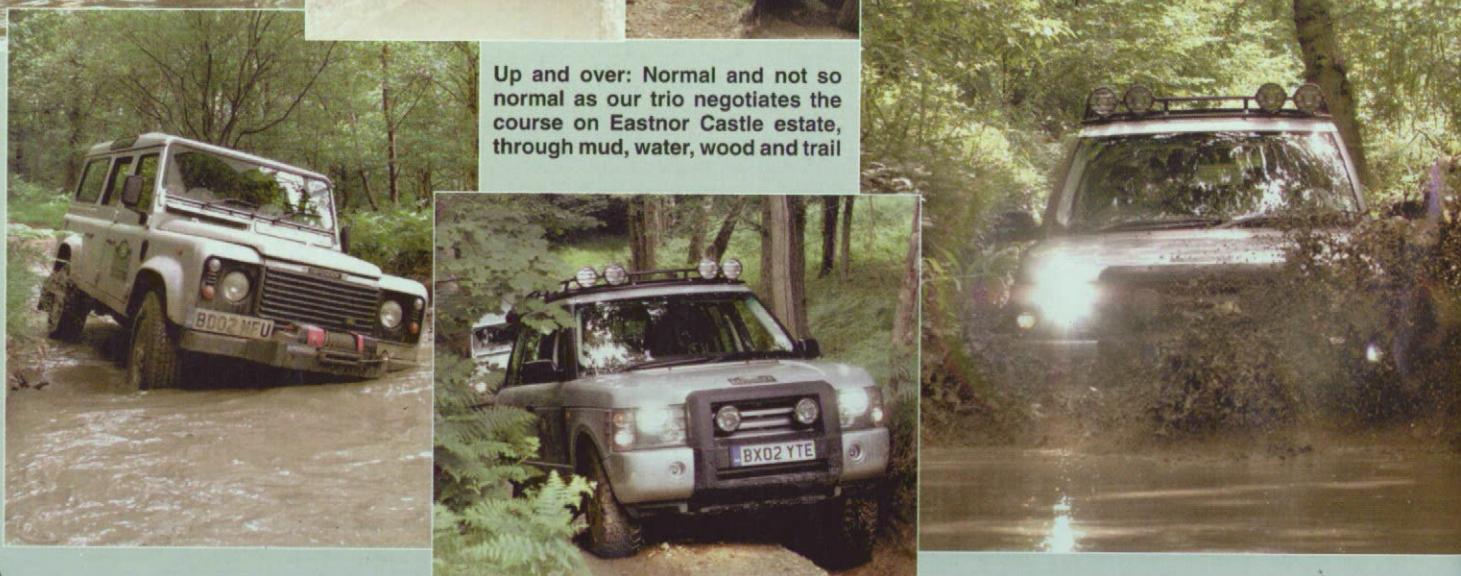
IT'S muddy, slippery, boggy, wet and challenging... the ultimate in off-road driving.

Welcome to the Land Rover Experience, featuring rough and uncompromising terrain and expert instructors.

We persuaded three soldiers from the motor pool of the Tidworth-based 1st Battalion, The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, one of whom had passed his driving test only the week before, to accept the challenge. They headed for the



Up and over: Normal and not so normal as our trio negotiates the course on Eastnor Castle estate, through mud, water, wood and trail



## Off-road courses

Land Rover run off-road courses at centres near Aberdeen, Bangor in Northern Ireland, the Yorkshire Dales, Bala in North Wales, Market Harborough in Leicestershire, Milton Keynes, Honiton, Devon and Eastnor Castle.

Most are one day in length, although the winching course is two days. Prices range from £170 a person for the familiarisation course to £600 for the winching course. Land Rover provide the vehicles.

For further details go to [www.landrover.com](http://www.landrover.com) or ring 0800 376 9175

woods and muddy trails of the 5,000-acre Eastnor Castle estate near Ledbury, Herefordshire.

Conditions were made no easier by a heavy downpour which waterlogged parts of the course. Our instructors were Ken

Knight and Nigel Smith and our vehicles a Land Rover Defender 2.5 diesel and a top-of-the-range petrol-driven Range Rover 4.4 HSE.

"Coming here is all about making progress," said Nigel. "They will learn techniques to overcome obstacles in safety and with minimum impact on the environment."

Our three soldiers were on the one-day familiarisation course, which includes instruction on understanding the controls and how the vehicles work.

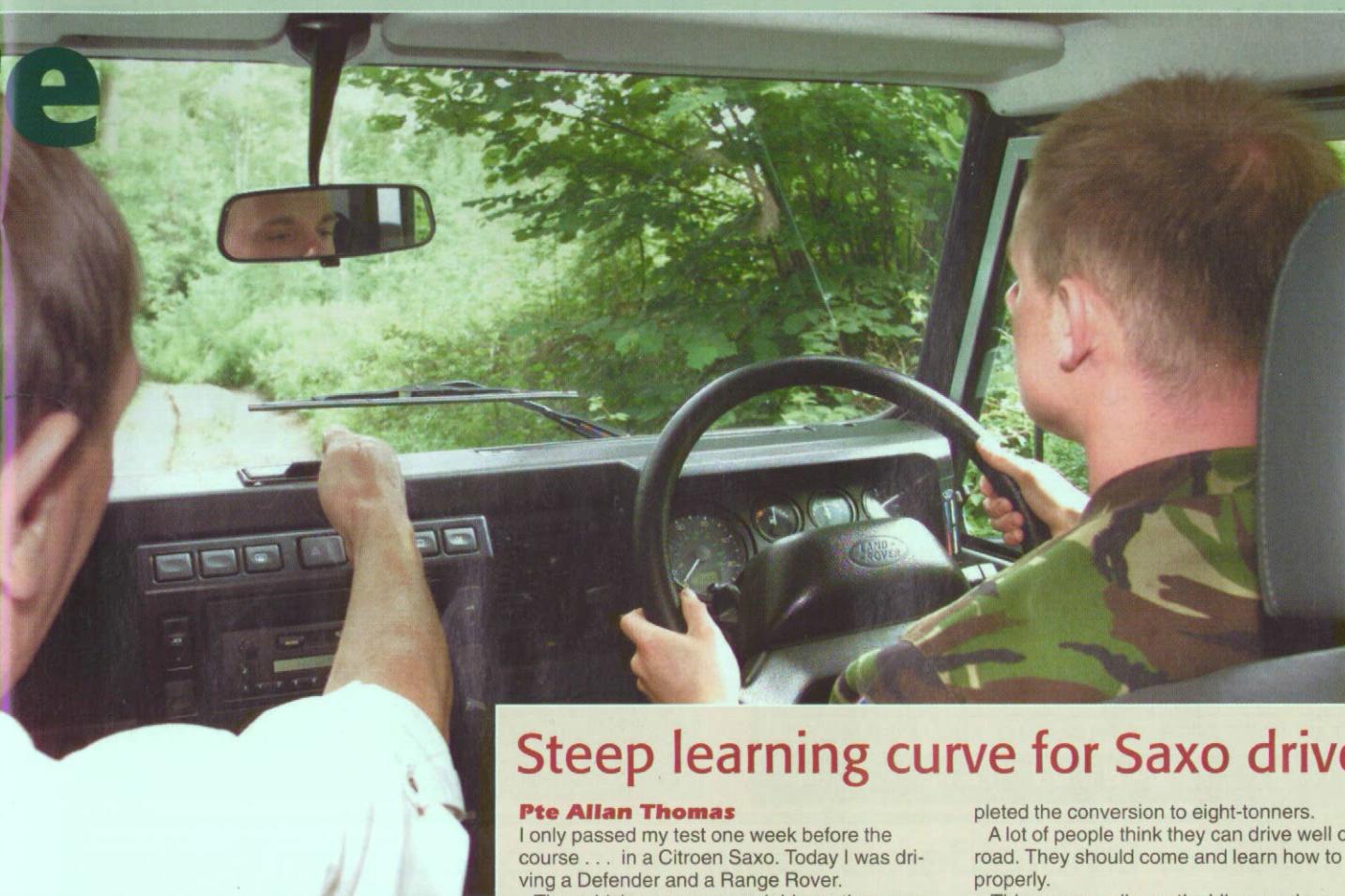
"The familiarisation course must be completed by anyone wanting to go on to the more advanced levels, such as winching and trailer-handling," said Nigel.

"It includes advanced steering techniques and using the gears instead of the brakes on those long, slippery slopes. Because we are off-road we have to ensure care is taken of the environment."

With that it was off to woods. The trails, barely wide enough for the vehicles, slide their way up and down hills offering side-slope leans of up to 20 degrees, splash through water courses and whip under branches which obstruct the driver's view.

Over-steering was the most common error, according to Nigel. "Because the

**'The whole experience is about faith in your own ability, faith in the vehicle and faith in the instructors'**



Best foot forward: Pte Allan Thomas negotiates the tricky trails through woodland

surface offers very little resistance, turning the wheel sometimes produces almost no effect on the direction of the car. So you put more on and still nothing happens, then more and more. Over-steering can severely damage the tyres and the driver loses control.

"Driving with the foot on the clutch is another common problem and something we do not encourage. When coming down a slope with feet above the pedals, the natural instinct is to brace yourself and the foot goes down. It mustn't."

Climbing and descending hills are about being in the right gear and proper use of the throttle.

At the end of a successful day, our three soldier "students", weary from concentration and the rush of adrenalin, proudly accepted their certificates. They had passed the challenge.

Thanks for the chance: The end of a gruelling day at Ledbury. From left: Pte Allan Thomas, Pte Mark Kendall, Nigel Smith (in vehicle), Pte Daniel Phillips and Ken Knight

## Steep learning curve for Saxo driver

### Pte Allan Thomas

I only passed my test one week before the course... in a Citroen Saxo. Today I was driving a Defender and a Range Rover.

The vehicles were so much bigger than anything I've driven before I just did not know what to expect. But it was OK. I was really nervous when the vehicle leaned on a side-slope. I was convinced I was going to hit a tree. The whole experience is about faith in your own ability, faith in the vehicle and faith in the instructors. They were clear, friendly and helpful and offered a lot of encouragement.

I would recommend everyone to come here.

### Pte Mark Kendall

I have been driving for four years. I drive Land Rovers and have just com-

pleted the conversion to eight-tonners.

A lot of people think they can drive well off-road. They should come and learn how to do it properly.

This was a really worthwhile experience and very enjoyable.

Some of it could be quite frightening, especially going down the really steep, muddy, slippery hills, and just trying to control the vehicle.

### Pte Daniel Phillips

I enjoyed today and learned a lot. I have not been off-road before so it was something new.

There were times when it was difficult and I over-steered because it wasn't always clear what the position of the wheels was. I have been driving about 18 months and would love the Army to buy some Range Rovers.



## WE HAVE A SOLUTION TO YOUR DEBT PROBLEMS

- Is debt effecting your life, relationships, or work ?
- Do you dread the mail in the morning - or the phone ringing ?

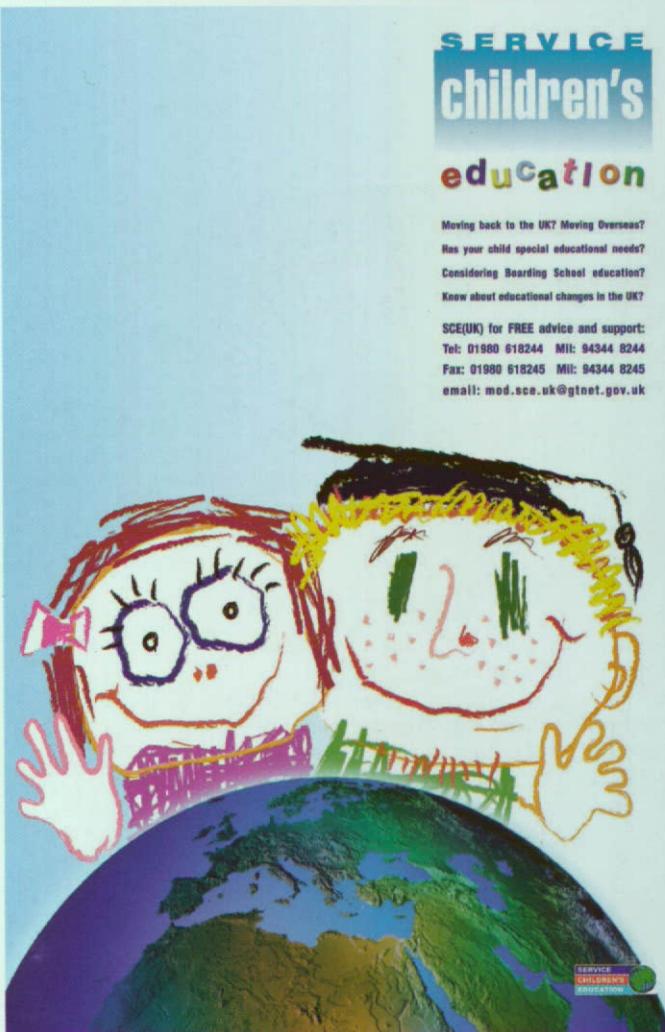


**Our aim is to get you out of debt within 60 months**

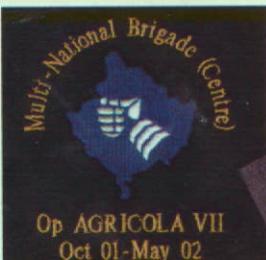
Strict confidentiality assured · No employer contact · We employ EX-Armed Forces personnel as counsellors, who understand through personal experience the stress of the job with DEBT!

For real solutions - not more loans call

**DCM 0845 1200 662**  
National calls at LOCAL RATE  
DEBT COUNSELLING AND MANAGEMENT  
[www.apex-debt-help.co.uk](http://www.apex-debt-help.co.uk)



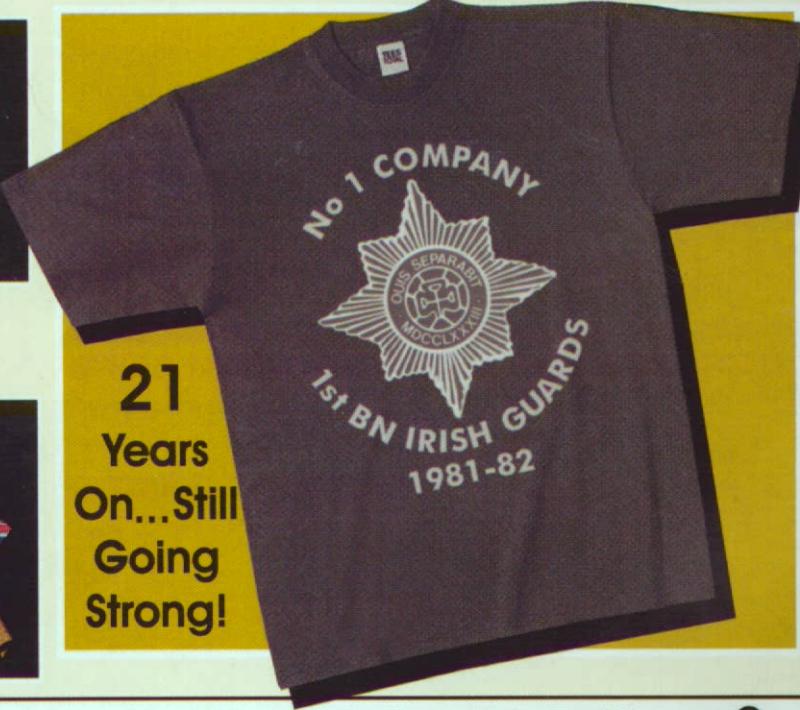
## Printed or Embroidered Leisurewear to Your Own Design



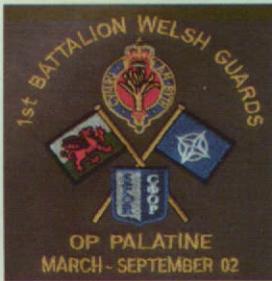
T-Shirts  
Sweatshirts  
Poloshirts



21  
Years  
On... Still  
Going  
Strong!



Rugbyshirts  
Drill Tops  
Fleeces



**FREE**  
Sample Shirt  
on ALL New  
orders above  
20 Shirts

For a FREE Colour Brochure and H.M. Forces discounted price list including details of our FREE sample garment offer contact :

TEES TOTAL, 153 High Street, Wootton Bassett, Swindon, Wilts SN4 7AB

Tel : +44 (0) 1793 849888  
Fax : +44 (0) 1793 849890  
Email : [sales@teestotal.co.uk](mailto:sales@teestotal.co.uk)



# Taking control

Army charity helps Emma to regain her independence

Report: Andrea Frazer

Picture: Chris Barker

ARMY wife Emma Dunks-Lunn has muscular dystrophy. At the age of 22, her body movement is restricted from the neck down and she relies on the use of a wheelchair at all times.

When husband LBdr Richard Lunn was deployed to the Gulf with 40 Regiment RA, she was left alone and immobile at home in north Yorkshire with their two-year-old son Lewis.

But thanks to a point in the right direction by her unit families' officer, Emma was given a grant by the Army Benevolent Fund towards the cost of a Balder electric-powered wheelchair and so regained the independence she needed to care for her son while her husband was away on duty.

Mrs Dunks-Lunn told *Soldier*: "I used to rely on my husband for so many activities that my condition restricts, particularly things like driving to the supermarket. The beauty of my new wheelchair is that it can be adapted to fit into a car and enables me to drive without help from others. It can also be adapted in the future to suit my needs as my health deteriorates.

"It has a lift system which helps me access places previously unreachable, like getting down to the floor to play with my son, reaching the shelves of my kitchen cupboards, or just boarding a bus.

"The Balder wheelchair is an expensive piece of kit but it's my legs and my lifeline. I'm in it every day of the week, so it has to be reliable and able to do everything I need it to.

The Army Benevolent Fund made a substantial contribution towards the cost of the wheelchair, along with the Royal British Legion and the Royal Artillery Charitable Fund.

Simon Brewis, Director Grants and Welfare at the ABF said: "Mrs. Dunks-Lunn has our admiration for the way she is coping with her health problems and bringing up her son when her husband is away from home.

"This is a most deserving case and we are only too pleased that our help has not

**'The Balder wheelchair is an expensive piece of kit but it's my legs and my lifeline'**

New set of wheels: Emma enjoys her new mobility with son Lewis and husband Richard

only improved the lives of a young family but has enabled LBdr Lunn to pursue his military career for as long as possible."

On his return from the Gulf, Richard said "It means a lot to me to know that from now on while I am away I don't have to worry about Emma and Lewis.

"We are so thankful for the support we have received from the Army Benevolent Fund.

"Emma is determined to maintain as

much control over her life as possible and this special wheelchair will enable her to do this. She is even looking to acquire some form of qualification which she would not have had the confidence or independence to do before."

The ABF provides support to serving and ex-serving Army personnel and their families in times of need.

● To contact the ABF call 020 7591 2000 or go to [www.armybenfund.org](http://www.armybenfund.org)

## Why choose Queen Ethelburga's for a boarding education?

- Our boarding facilities are considered to be the best in Europe
- A history of being a Sunday Times' Top UK School for GCSE & A-Levels results
- Our Key Stage 3 Test Results are well above the National Average
- We have invested over £18,000,000 in new facilities and resources
- Equestrian minded students can bring their horse to school with FREE Livery
- We offer over 100 different Scholarships, Bursaries and Riding Options



### Teaching Resources

Over £18m has been invested in high quality new classrooms, libraries, computer networks and floodlit sports facilities. We accept a broad range of pupils from many backgrounds. They leave us confident and successful. 98% of A-Level 6th Form go to University.

### 100 Scholarships, Bursaries & Options

From 100% of full boarding fees, to free livery for a horse at school, to scholarships for Art, Choral/Music and Sport. Having just gone co-educational there are a number of interesting awards for boarding boys. There are remissions of up to 20% for Forces and other categories of parental career. Over £750,000 is awarded each year. Please ask for full details.

**20%**  
REMISSION  
FOR ARMED  
FORCES

### Boarding Facilities - every bedroom has...

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



### Equestrian Facilities

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

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

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

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

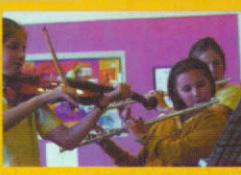
## Chapter House Preparatory School

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



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

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



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

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

## QUEEN ETHELBURGA'S COLLEGE & CHAPTER HOUSE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Thorpe Underwood Hall, York. Y026 9SZ. Telephone for prospectus & video: 08707 42 33 30  
You may care to visit our website: [www.queenethelburgas.edu](http://www.queenethelburgas.edu). E-mail: [remember@compuserve.com](mailto:remember@compuserve.com)



"You might well have to use a CD instead of a band, matey... but we absolutely refuse to march past to 'Boogie Nights'."

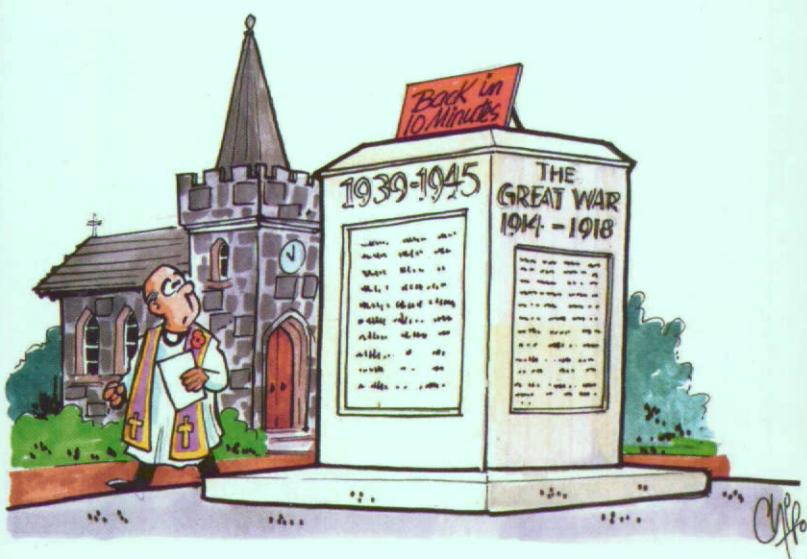
## Remembered with pride



"Colditz veterans? Anybody seen the Colditz veterans?"



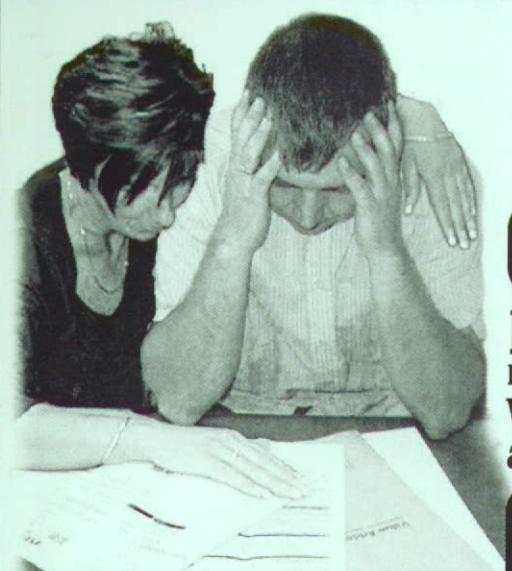
"Rusty speaks... take his name!"



"No, you silly old sod!... I said: Let's get ourselves a couple of popsies!"

# DEBTS OVER 15K?

WE CAN and WILL help you to resolve your debts !



Financial commitments out of hand ?  
Relationships taking the strain ?  
Feel there is nowhere to turn?

## LET US HELP !

We have years of experience assisting Military Personnel

**RESOLVE(uk) LTD** Debt Counsellors & Advisors  
Licensed debt counsellors REG No.500295

We will help you to reduce your outgoings into ONE  
affordable monthly payment without further loans

Independent DEBT ADVICE with a personal touch.

FREE consultations. NO UPFRONT FEES.

A FAST and EFFICIENT resolution to your problems

CALL US NOW IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE

**01732 451 133**

8am to 8pm

7 days a week

[www.resolveuk.com](http://www.resolveuk.com)

## Specialist Legal Advice

on

Personal Injury Claims  
Police Interview  
Courts Martial

Family & Matrimonial Problems

Nigel Burn and Gilbert Blades are well known  
for their **Courts Martial** expertise throughout  
the UK and Europe

Contact:

Nigel Burn or Gilbert Blades  
BANK STREET, LINCOLN  
LN2 1DR

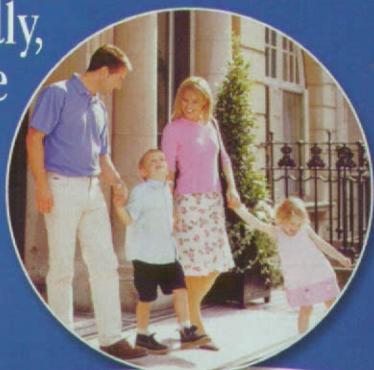
Tel: (01522) 512345  
between 9am - 5.15pm or  
Nigel Burn

Mobile: 07775860608 after 6pm  
[www.wilkinchapman.co.uk](http://www.wilkinchapman.co.uk)

**Wilkin  
Chapman  
Epton  
Blades**  
SOLICITORS

LEADING IN LAW IN LINCOLNSHIRE

Your friendly,  
affordable  
London Club



- Close to Marble Arch and Oxford Street
- Affordable room rates
- Choice of restaurants and bars
- Concessionary NCP Car Park rates
- Function rooms for dinners, receptions, reunions and private parties

The Victory Services Club,  
63/79 Seymour Street,  
London W2 2HF

Tel +44 (0)20 7616 8325

Fax: +44 (0)20 7724 1134

e-mail: [info@vsc.co.uk](mailto:info@vsc.co.uk) THE VICTORY SERVICES CLUB

**VSC**

Free Membership to Serving Personnel,  
Reserves and their Families

Right: Pte John McDermond VC (1832-68), 47th (The Lancashire) Regiment of Foot, winning the Victoria Cross by saving Col Haly, his commanding officer, at Inkerman, on November 5, 1854

*Oil by Louis William Desanges*



# Desperate days

Reports from Crimea alerted public to plight of their soldiers

IN 1854 the Crimean War had as strong an effect on the nation as the recent conflict in Iraq, writes Jo Woolley of the National Army Museum.

It saw the military might of the world's greatest empire – sent to teach the Russian Tsar a lesson – stretched almost to breaking point. The British Army was ill-prepared for war. Incompetent command famously caused disasters such as the Charge of the Light Brigade, where 600 soldiers rode into murderous Russian fire in the "valley of death", and contributed to a far greater tragedy.

In the trenches besieging Sevastopol, soldiers in summer uniforms struggled to keep warm in the Russian winter, starved without rations and fuel with which to cook, and died of cholera and dysentery.

Army hospitals lacked the supplies to cope with the scale of the suffering and medical staff were overwhelmed. By Janu-

ary 1855 the rate of sickness and mortality in the Crimea was such that, without reinforcement, the British force was within 30 days of ceasing to exist.

Against all odds, the conflict was a victory for the British soldier. His discipline, bravery and heroism in battle was brought home to the British public by eye-witness accounts telegraphed by the world's earliest war correspondents.

These reports also brought into British homes the spectre of soldiers abandoned to cold, disease and official neglect. The storm of indignation that followed unseated the government, led to rapid reform and inspired the

striking of a new medal for valour – the Victoria Cross.

A new National Army Museum exhibition to mark the 150th anniversary of the war analyses the role of the Army command and the impact that civilians such as William Russell and Florence Nightingale made on its course.

Among the displays are the order that launched the charge, the prototype VC approved by Queen Victoria and some of the earliest war photography by Roger Fenton. Above all, letters, diaries, drawings, photographs and personal relics of the soldiers are drawn upon to tell the story of the Crimean War.

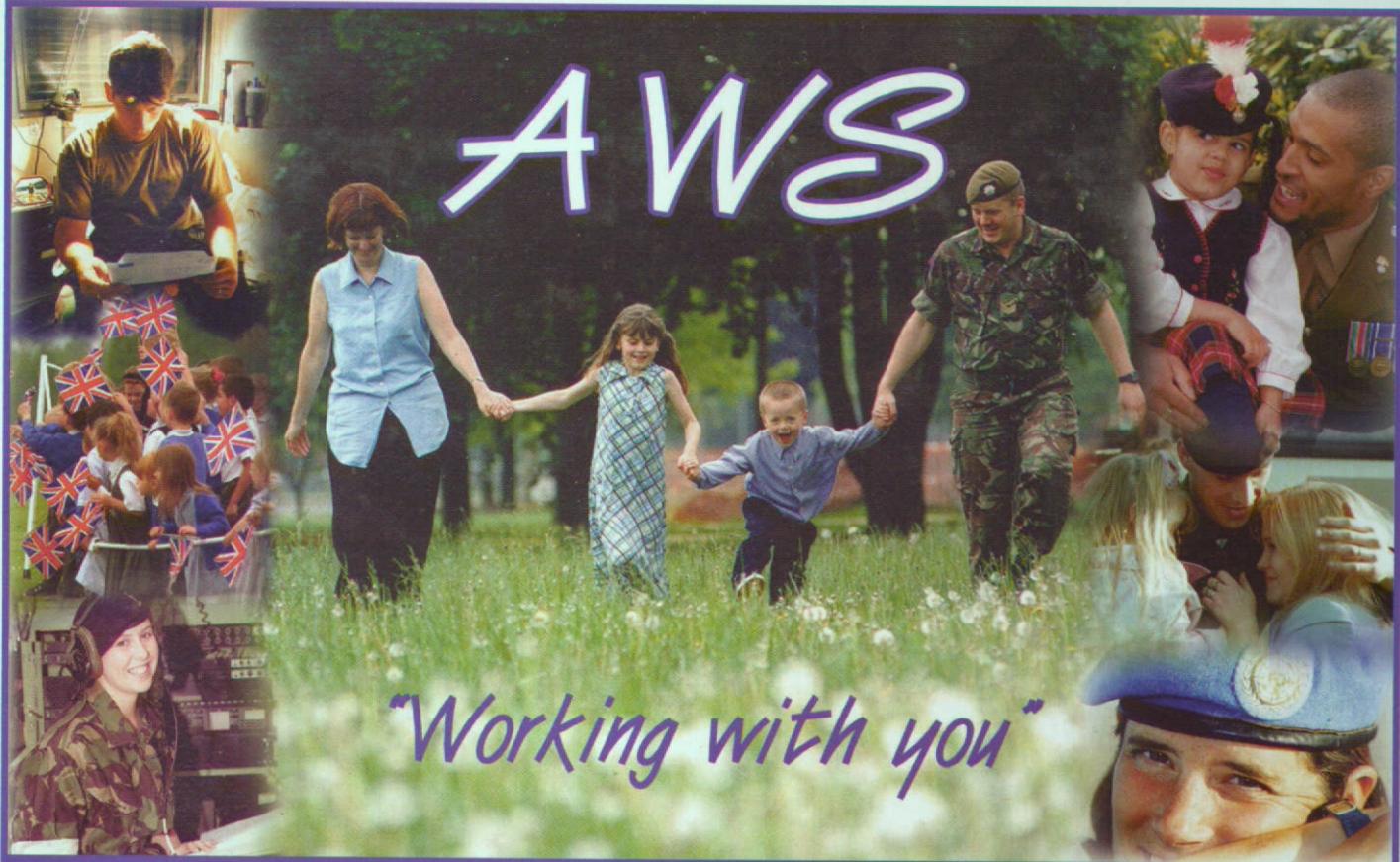


**A Most Desperate Undertaking: The British Army in the Crimea, 1854-56** will be open until the end of next year at the National Army Museum in Chelsea. For more details, go to [www.national-army-museum.ac.uk](http://www.national-army-museum.ac.uk)



**Above:** Trumpeters Gritten and Lang of the Royal Artillery. The lad, William Lang, was barely 13 when he first heard the whistling of cannonballs on the banks of the Alma. He says he was frightened "for the first half hour, but has never been afraid of them since". *Photograph by R Howlett*

**Left:** Group of the 47th in winter dress: Replacements for warm clothing lost on the supply ship *Prince* had begun to reach the Army in January. The gratitude of the soldiers was tempered by regret, as Capt William Radcliffe of the 20th Regiment noted: "I spoke to a man yesterday that was carrying some sheepskin coats on his back, and said what capital ones they were. He said: 'Yes Sir, it's a pity they didn't come before so many poor fellows were in their graves'. I could not but agree with him." *Photograph by Roger Fenton*



# “Working with you”

Providing Community and Personal Support  
to Single Soldiers, Married Soldiers and  
their Families

For your nearest Army Welfare Service Office  
Telephone: Civil 01722 43 6569/43 6461  
Military 94331 2569/2461  
E-Mail: [www.afab@hqland.army.mod.uk](mailto:www.afab@hqland.army.mod.uk)

## BIVVY Thermalwear

### ‘Mission Essential’ lightweight thermal clothing

Whether in field training or combat, you need to carry a lightweight, thermally efficient, intermediate layer at all times. Here's a unique opportunity to purchase tried and tested clothing, **direct from the manufacturer**. If you order a BIVVY jacket from this advertisement we will send you a **FREE** Coolmax vest worth £8.00.

- 200grams/m<sup>2</sup> microfibre, four times more efficient than polyester fleece.
- Warm, lightweight, compact and hard-wearing
- Windproof, moisture resistant and quick drying.
- Maintains insulation when wet and performance after stowing.

as worn during  
active service in Afghanistan  
**BIVVY Jacket**  
can be yours for just  
**£59.95\*** (inc.P&P)



Ring your Order through today  
or complete the coupon and post  
(allow 10 days for despatch)

Name: .....

Delivery Address: (UK and BFPO only) .....

\* Payment can only be made  
by VISA, MASTERCARD or cheque,  
made payable to TW Kempton (CC) Ltd  
Please indicate your chest size  
when ordering.

**TW KEMPTON**  
(CORPORATE CLOTHING) LTD  
Mail Order Department  
Byford Road, Leicester LE4 0DG  
Tel: 0116 261 0001  
Office Hours: 09.00 - 16.00hrs  
Monday to Friday

Post Code: .....

Chest Size (tick appropriate box): XS(36")  S(38")  M(40")  L(42"44")  XL(46")  XXL(48"50")

Payment: Cheque  Credit/Debit Card  Card No.

Card Expiry Date: .....

**OFFER VALID UNTIL 31.12.03**

## UK Prep Boarding School Boys and Girls 6 to 11yrs **20% Remission to Forces**

We are a small, friendly, modern boarding school. We have just spent over £1million on making our boarding accommodation the best in the UK. We have a history of being a Sunday Times Top 100 UK Preparatory School for Academic Results. In the Key Stage 2 Tests a large proportion of our 10 year olds achieved the higher level 5. Our Sport and Leisure activities are amazing. If you want to give your child the very best, happiest start in life, then please ask for our prospectus and video.

## CHAPTER HOUSE SCHOOL

Thorpe Underwood Hall, York, England

**Tel: 01423 333330**

Web: [www.ChapterHouseSchool.org.uk](http://www.ChapterHouseSchool.org.uk)

Queen Ethelburga's College Charitable Trust (No 1012924) for the purpose of providing Education

# Scimitar AT WAR

WINNER of this month's competition is LCpl Chris Glover of C Squadron, 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards, based at Imphal Bks, Osnabrück.

His picture of a Scimitar on the Al Faw peninsula impressed the judges with its simplicity, framed by a pale column of smoke drifting from a burning oilpipe on the other side of the water.

We "read" pictures from left to right – just like words – and the position of the Scimitar on the right of the frame draws the eye to the vehicle and then into the middle distance, just as the crew would have been doing, wondering what was going on on the far bank.

Runners-up were LCpl April Rooney, a budding unit photographer with 4 R Irish, who submitted an atmospheric picture of a soldier in a riot helmet, and LCpl Hayley Dansie, of 6 Regiment RMP, also based in Northern Ireland, who transformed into a powerful image a simple clip of ammunition being loaded into a heavy-calibre weapon.

## SOLDIER Photographic Competition

Top: Scimitar on the Al Faw, by LCpl Chris Glover. Right: Ammo, by LCpl Hayley Dansie. Below: Silhouette, by LCpl April Rooney

All pictures published in the magazine competition, which will run until February, will be judged for the £250 Soldier Award, one of the categories in the 2004 Army Photographic Competition.

Send your entries, preferably prints up to A4, to the Chief Photographer (address in Page 3), including a self-addressed envelope for return, or e-mail them to [phot@soldiermagazine.co.uk](mailto:phot@soldiermagazine.co.uk), indicating Soldier Photo Comp.

Competition closing dates: December – November 3; January – December 1.

Soldier competition rules apply. Query line: 01252 347357 or Aldershot mil 2357.



2003 Army Photographic Competition – centre pages

## When it all got too much for Sharon

SHARON thought it was a good idea at the time. Her husband was serving in Iraq and she was struggling with two small children. She lived a long way from a bus route and could not drive.

She had got used to depending on her husband to drive them all to the supermarket to do the weekly shop. There she could buy the good-value clothes for the family.

As soon as her husband was away she began to struggle. She missed him terribly and didn't have any close friends. She felt trapped in her isolated surroundings and, in a desperate attempt to feel better, started taking taxis to town, where she would spend large sums on DVDs to fill the lonely evenings.

She also bought a new clothes for herself and the children using the store cards offered to her whenever she went out. On top of this Sharon started looking at catalogues and bought a load of stuff through them.

She began to realise that she was buying more than she needed and getting into a mess, but she somehow could not stop. It wasn't long before bills were arriving way over the amount that she could afford. When the

## Manage your money

Credit Action Director Keith Tondeur, will be pleased to answer, in confidence, specific questions addressed to the Editor.



first of the threatening letters began to appear, she was unable to sleep because of worry and ended up, exhausted, in her doctor's surgery. Her GP realised her lack of sleep was due to depression and worry and by gently probing was able to see that this was caused by her overspending.

Sharon's doctor did a great job in restoring her self-esteem, but he also encouraged her to get help to sort out her mounting debt problems. He gave Sharon a letter explaining her situation and why she had overspent on so

many different things. Sharon had already put to one side a copy of *Soldier* that had a debt advice column encouraging anyone struggling to phone the Consumer Credit Counselling Service for free advice on 0800 1381111.

She did so, explaining her situation and telling the counsellor about the letter from her GP. She was sent a sample letter to send out to all the people she owed money, which she did, together with a copy of the letter she had from her GP. Sharon was delighted when she received letters in reply accepting her offers of repayment. Some even agreed to cancel the interest charges. The store where she had bought the most clothes recently agreed to take them back and refund the value.

Things were soon under control and Sharon is determined she will never get into such a state again. She has started making lists of things she will buy only when she needs them and has also gained the confidence to start taking driving lessons now her husband is back home.

0800 1381111 or  
[www.creditaction.com](http://www.creditaction.com)

# It started with a kiss

The Scottish actor-comedian enthuses and jokes about life with the military as the second series of *Red Cap* is filmed

Interview: Chris Horrocks  
Pictures: Graeme Main and BBC

THERE'S a scene in the next series of the TV drama *Red Cap* in which Sgt Bruce Hornsby pauses during his morning jog around a British Army base in Germany to flirt with a young female colleague beside a Land Rover.

As he leans over to steal a kiss, the camera picks up the bizarre sight of a Saxon armoured personnel carrier corkscrewing down a sloping road towards them, seemingly out of control.

In the nick of time Hornsby spies the rogue APC and pulls back from what might have been the kiss of death. The runaway Saxon misses the Land Rover by a hair's breadth and all hell breaks loose.

Typical day on a modern Army base? Of course not, but not necessarily *that* far-fetched.

The two Special Investigation Branch warrant officers who advise on accuracy and authenticity – WO1 Clive Robins and WO2 Gary Ward, both from HQ Provost Marshal Army at Upavon – don't vet the scripts, but they are on hand to ensure nothing too silly reaches the screen.

The Royal Military Police and the

Army in general gave the first series full marks for credibility. This, balanced by the dramatic licence applied by the producers and writers, helped to attract more than seven million viewers.

By the umpteenth take of the Saxon scene, filmed at the Army Training Regiment Pirbright, in Surrey, Gordon Kennedy, the actor-comedian who plays Hornsby, had shouted so much that he had lost his voice.

An interview seemed out of the question, but after lubricating his larynx with water, Kennedy was soon back to his fast-talking, wisecracking best and launching into a spontaneous outburst of praise for his hosts.

"The Army are really, really helpful, and the SIB in particular," he enthused. "It's important that, as far as we can, we make it authentic and they have been fantastic to work with. They will tell us how things should be done but they won't be

"They are our eyes and ears for authenticity. Coming back for series two there was that worry that if we hadn't done the job right in the first series a lot of people would say it was rubbish.

"But what's been brilliant is that *all* the people that we work with, not just the SIB, have all said they thought *Red Cap* was very authentic.

"In a way that is great because the SIB are not the most loved part of the Army.

"But those advisers have been fantastic in their support, helping us on all the details – how you arrest someone, for example, because with the Army there is so much procedure involved; how you interview someone of a more senior rank than you. It's all so different from normal cop shows."

Inevitably, those details extend to uniforms and how they are worn.

"There has been a huge saga about berets which has been very funny," said Kennedy with a grin. "Every time we walk

out of our dressing room you see some Army guy going 'Geeez... look at *that*!' and you have to go and get your beret put on right.

"In the first episode of the new series we are in Bosnia, which is great because we are all in uniform. It's the first time we wear the combat and berets and stuff but there was an awful lot of beret-adjusting going on for about an hour-and-a-half before the cameras rolled.

"They wouldn't let us anywhere near the cameras because half of us were walking about looking like Frank Spencer."

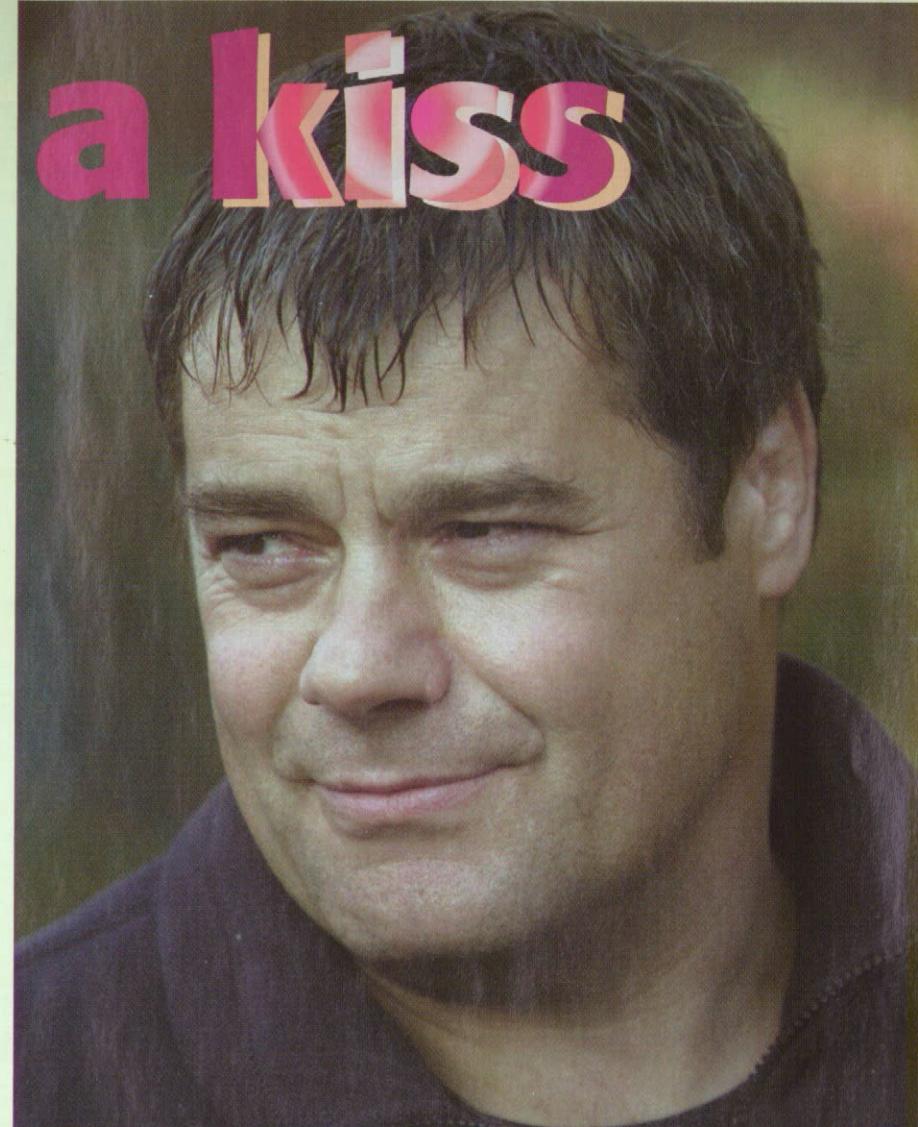
Kennedy said he didn't know why the show was so popular.

"I hope it's because it's entertaining and funny, but it also has a feeling of being set in the real world. As I say, it's not your normal cop show – it's got a lot of excitement because it involves the Army and a lot of the action takes place out of doors and is stunt-oriented."

**Something about the Armed Forces appealed to me but I was never tempted to join – too scared**



Gordon Kennedy with star Tamzin Outhwaite in an episode of *Red Cap*



So what perception of the Army did he think viewers would get from the show?

"It gives a positive view but not a PR view. I've been really impressed with the honesty in the stories, which are based on things that *might* have happened. Some of them aren't very complimentary about people who have served in the Army. I think it is a smart move not to try to soft-soap the viewer. The point is, the SIB *does* investigate serious crimes in the Army, so you can't get away from it, you can't cover it up. But I think also people wouldn't like it if it was some asinine, distilled thing – it wouldn't work and we all live in the real world."

The real world involves controversial events in which the British Army is closely involved, but Kennedy would not be drawn on his personal standpoint in the moral debate over the

war with Iraq. And the almost ever-present smile faded for a while as he referred sympathetically to the recent deaths of members of the Royal Military Police while serving in that troubled country.

"When you work with the Armed Forces, to a large extent any personal view you may have of the Iraq situation is removed because you come to realise they are out there doing a job," he said. "Obviously this has come very close to home with the deaths of those RMP guys."

"But the Forces are saying that the rights and wrongs of it are not for them to debate. They are the practitioners – they are not the ones making the corporate policy decisions."

"You have to respect them and their bravery and commitment."

**Ever-present grin: Gordon Kennedy, left, said: "Half of us were walking about looking like Frank Spencer"**

Gordon Kennedy was brought up in East Lothian, where his father was a doctor who served in the RAF in Aden and his mother a nurse. At school, Kennedy junior excelled at rugby. He later trained as a PE teacher at the Scottish School of Physical Education (SSPE).

Any affinity he now has with the military stems from that time, when he spent four years working in a close environment with a small group of people. He described it as "a very regimented life" – a physical regime had to be adhered to.

"There was the sort of camaraderie that I now recognise working with the Army, like the guys driving the APCs or in the bands.

"So there was something about the Armed Forces that appealed to me but I was never tempted to join – too scared."

The wicked grin tells you that the big Scot, who first found fame in the Channel 4 comedy show *Absolutely* and went on to present the Lottery show, co-star with Ian Glen in *Glasgow Kiss* and guest on *Have I Got News for You*, cannot be serious for too long. So how did this PE teacher become an actor?

"When I first came to London and people used to ask where I'd trained, I'd say the SSPE and all these directors would think it was an acting school in Scotland," he quipped.

At school he had taken part in charity shows and with friends he started performing comedy at the Edinburgh Fringe. Several of them moved to London and *Absolutely* followed. He and three others from the show are still partners in a production company.

Kennedy, who is married with two children, was typically self-deprecating when asked how the flirtation between him and the Royal Military Police woman developed.

"Oh, I can't give anything away, but it's very, very exciting," he said, with a twinkle in his eye and just a hint of irony.

"As you can imagine, for a man of my age, it's not going to get too serious. After all, we don't want anyone switching over to watch something else thinking, 'Oh my God, he's going to take his clothes off', do we?"

Series two of *Red Cap*, starring Tamzin Outhwaite, is due to start in the New Year.

# Snap judgement

Top photographers frame up for success in Army's annual competition

WINNING entries in the annual Army Photographic Competition provide an insight into the wide spectrum of activities undertaken by British Army personnel during 2002, writes Andrea Frazer.

The competition, open to amateur and professional photographers, attracted more than 250 images shot between February 2002 and January 2003.

Top prize for the Army's professional Photographer of the Year went to Stuart Bingham, Shrewsbury-based HQ 5



Division's highly experienced and well-travelled MoD cameraman.

Regular Army and TA personnel, staff and cadets of the Army Cadet Force as well as MoD civilians and contractors who work directly for the Army were eligible to compete for prizes including digital cameras, photo equipment and cheques ranging from £200 to £1,000.

Many aspiring photographers, particularly at unit level, are reluctant to enter the prestigious event, believing their subjects are not exciting enough. But as this year's competition illustrates, photo opportunities in the Army can crop up in almost any location.

Short-listed photographs included moments captured during exercises in Botswana, Kenya and the USA, operations in the Falklands and Northern Ireland, training in Otterburn and Salisbury, a cycle race on the Isle of Man and, believe it or not, Christmas lunch at Gibraltar Barracks in Surrey.

Maj Gen David Richards, Assistant Chief of the General Staff and host of

Helping hand (left): The best Army PR image of the year, by Sgt Brian Gamble  
In flames (below): Fire strike image from Stuart Bingham's winning portfolio



Charging ahead: A Challenger 2 main battle tank pictured on Salisbury Plain by 43 Bde's Sgt Brian Gamble

this year's awards ceremony in London, said: "Army life provides superb opportunities for the amateur and professional photographers among us. Congratulations go to all the winners, each of whom has demonstrated a high level of photographic skill. With the excellent array of prizes on offer, I may be tempted to enter next year myself."

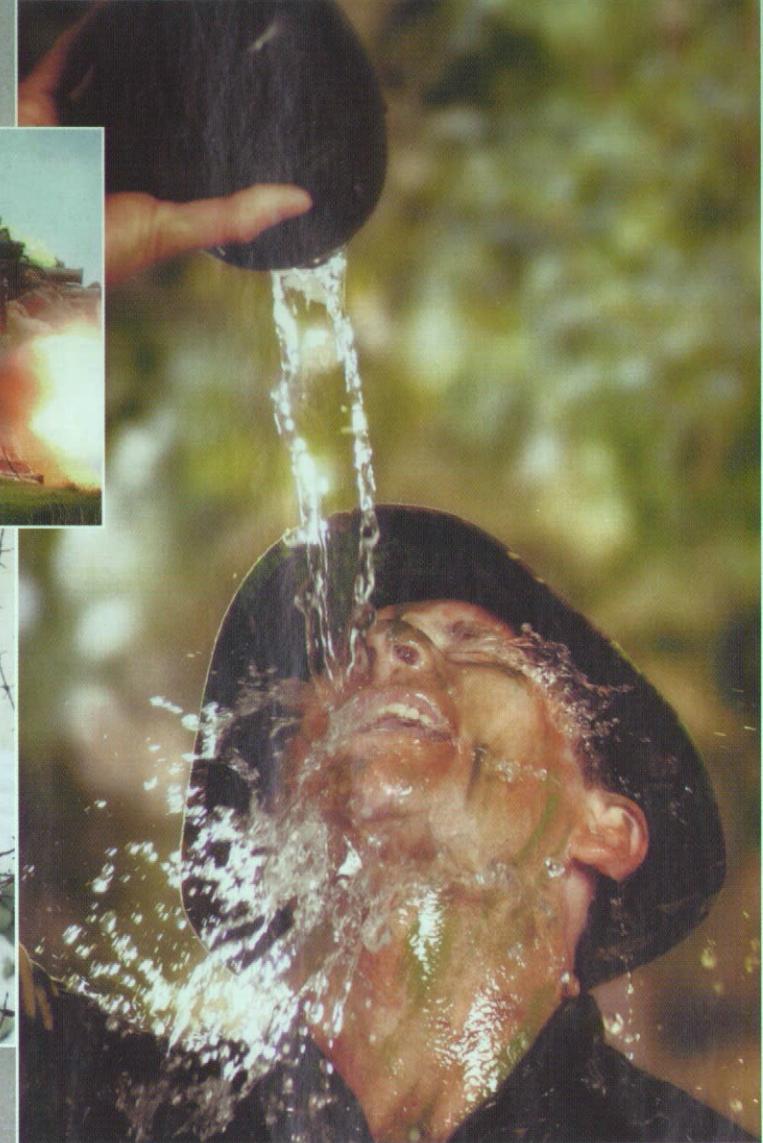
Expectations for the 2004 competition are high already. The eagerly-awaited event is expected to attract a significant number of powerful images shot during the Army's operations in Iraq.

Maj Peter Griffiths, who will organise the competition for the Director of Corporate Communication (Army), said: "I'd encourage soldiers who have taken photographs in Iraq, Afghanistan, the Balkans, Northern Ireland and anywhere else they have been in the world to enter them."

"Lots of people have digital cameras so there must be hundreds of great Army-themed images out there and we would love to see them."

The format is being redesigned to make it more accessible to amateurs and to provide plenty of scope for the imagination. Only photographs taken between January 2003 and January 2004 will be accepted.

Judging is likely to take place next March and full details can be found on DCIs and the Army website: [www.army.mod.uk/competitions/apc2003.htm](http://www.army.mod.uk/competitions/apc2003.htm)



Fire power (top): A Milan anti-tank missile, captured by WO2 Pete Bristo, roars down the range at Otterburn. It won best picture in the Army equipment category.

Behind the wire (above): Best amateur photograph, taken by Maj Jonny Crook, KORBR, of 16 Air Assault Brigade

Cooling down (right): Sgt Paul Brownbridge, HQNI, impressed the judges with this digitally-manipulated image



The background picture, of paras on patrol in the Falklands, is part of Stuart Bingham's winning portfolio

## The judges

Dave Barlow, Art Editor of *Focus*, the MoD newspaper, Garry Coward-Williams, Editor of *Amateur Photographer*, and, representing the Army, Col Dick Harrold of DCC(A).

The competition was sponsored by Olympus, Publicis, Services Sound and Vision Corporation, Nikon, Fuji, Canon, Kodak, *Loaded Magazine*, AGFA and *Soldier Magazine*.

## All the results

**Best individual portfolio, sponsored by SSVC:** Stuart Bingham, HQ 5 Division (£1,000 cheque).

**Best Army equipment photo (Olympus):** WO2 Pete Bristo, ARRC (digital camera); 2nd, Sgt Brian Gamble, 43 (Wessex) Brigade (digital camera).

**Best personnel photo (Publicis):** Graeme Main, *Soldier Magazine* (£500 cheque); 2nd, WO1 Chris Cox, 3 RSME (£300); 3rd, Steve Dock, *Soldier Magazine* (£200).

**Best recreational/sports photo (Nikon):** Stuart Bingham, HQ 5 Division (£250).

**Best amateur photo (Fuji):** Maj Jonny Crook, 16 Air Assault Brigade (digital camera).

**Best use of digital medium (Canon):** Sgt Paul Brownbridge, HQ Northern Ireland (digital camera); 2nd, Sgt Brian Gamble, 43 (Wessex) Brigade (digital camera).

**Best use of colour (Kodak and *Loaded Magazine*):** WO1 Chris Cox, 3 RSME (£300); 2nd, WO2 Pete Bristo, ARRC (one year's magazine subscription).

**Best Army PR image of the year (AGFA):** Sgt Brian Gamble, 43 (Wessex) Brigade (£1,000).

**Soldier award for best single image short-listed by the magazine:** Sgt Gary Ranu, 1 LI (£250).

# Gateway to the great outdoors

Former gunner offers soldiers the chance to return to Scandinavia

Report: Andy Simms  
Pictures: Graeme Main

SHORTLY after taking up an invitation to become a full-time instructor at the British Outward Bound Centre (BOBC) in the small town of Evje in Southern Norway in 1983, Brian Desmond fell head over heels in love... twice.

As well as meeting his wife, Ingunn, the former Royal Artillery gunner began an enduring affair with the countryside surrounding the BOBC, which offered British soldiers a gateway to a diverse range of recreational and adventure training activities for more than 30 years before it closed its doors for business in 1991.

"After spending my first year in Norway I knew that I was finished as a Brit," explained the former Great Britain biathlete, who won the National Biathlon Championships in 1976 and attended three World Ski Orienteering Championships before giving up competing in favour of coaching.

"You can not fail to be enchanted by this country's outstanding scenery and it didn't take much to persuade me to make Evje, and the Setesdal Valley in which it sits, my home."

Two decades have done little to temper the expatriate's ardour towards a daily backdrop of log cabins, lush forestry and snow-capped mountains reflected on the surfaces of brilliant blue fjords, and Desmond is keen to share the object of his affections with others.

"Closing the BOBC was a huge

mistake and one which has denied soldiers the chance to experience adventure training in one of the most beautiful countries in the world.

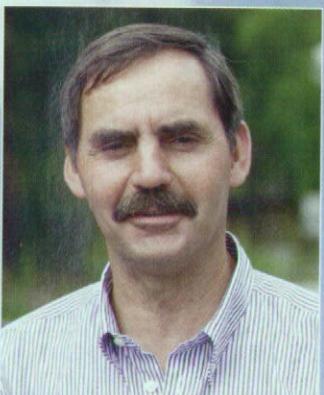
"Norway has everything Canada has to offer in terms of adventure training activities with the only real difference being that it doesn't take a day on a plane to get here."

"We've got the mountains, rivers and lakes, and extreme weather conditions in the winter, and all within close distance of each other. You can step off a plane, coach or ferry in the morning and be abseiling or canoeing by early afternoon."

In a bid to reintroduce the Scandinavian countryside to troops based in the UK and Germany, Desmond's travel company, Destination Setesdal, has struck a deal with the local council that will allow units to visit Evjemoen, a former training establishment for Norwegian conscripts and members of Norway's élite King's Guard.

Situated 40 miles north of the city of Kristiansand on the outskirts of Evje, the facility has benefited from a £10 million face-lift and now boasts traditional Norwegian-style accommodation, complete with saunas, a modern canteen and kitchens, a fully-equipped gymnasium and football pitch, and even its own cinema.

An ideal base for adventure training expeditions, Evjemoen is within easy reach of challenging climbing



Biathlete: Brian Desmond

areas for abseiling, 3,000ft hills for hiking, Europe's longest outdoor go-kart track, a six-hole golf course and driving range, and a spectacular 40km long inland fjord for kayaking and fishing. A short drive to the north and soldiers can find themselves in the mountains, while to the south lie the skerries, ideal for sea canoeing, and some of Norway's most challenging and impressive glaciers.

One of the star attractions of the area is the El Dorado of white-water rafting, the River Otra, which, with its attractive series of waterfalls and rapids, attracts thrill-seekers from across the globe.

"This is one of the best rivers in the world for white-water rafting and kayaking," explained Tim Davis, a former staff sergeant in the Army Physical Training Corps and now the owner of the Setesdal

Rafting Centre in Evje. "The Otra is a lot wider and steeper than most rivers, which makes it very exciting to negotiate as there are not lengthy gaps between each set of rapids.

"It is a seasonal river and when the water levels are at their highest some of the rapids would prove a challenge for even the most accomplished oarsmen.

"It is the most rafted river in Norway and we had 8,000 people pass through this centre last year. The sheer volume of people coming here speaks for itself."

For winter activities, there is a local ski stadium with 20-target biathlon range, an 8km floodlit cross-country ski track and reserve cross-country



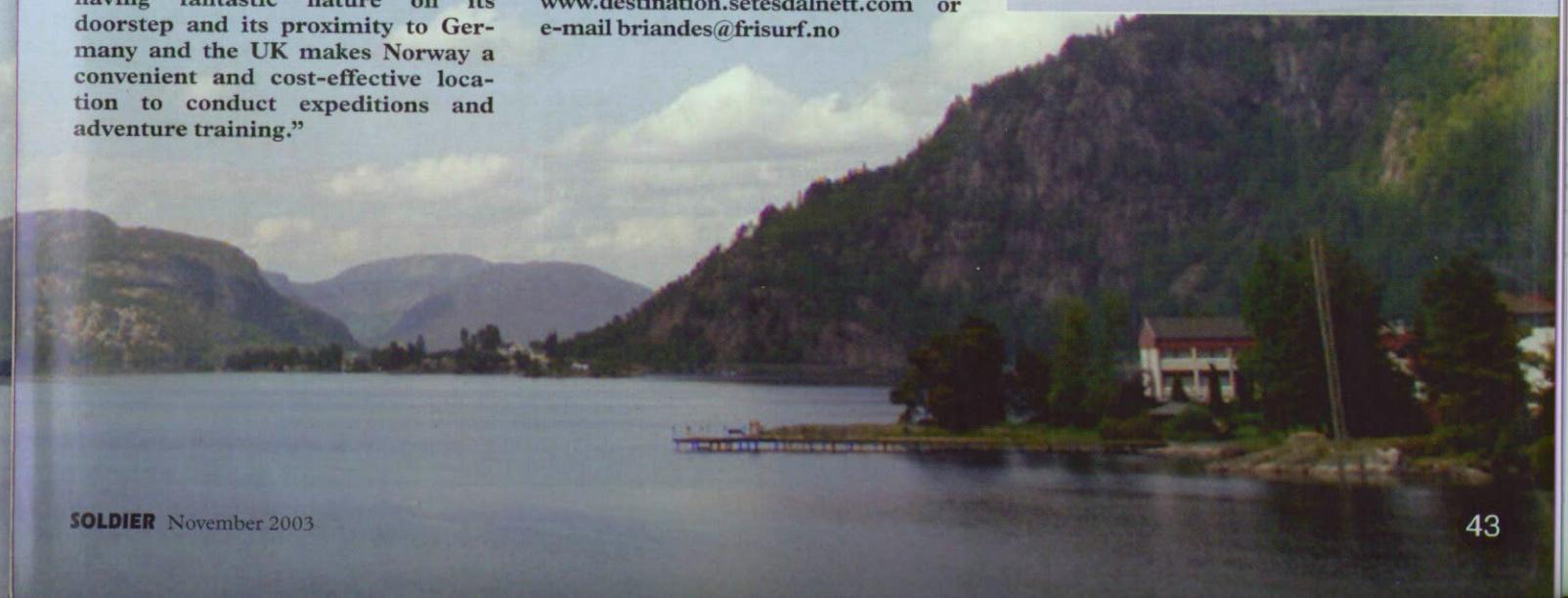
Viking voyage: Evjemoen can offer British soldiers access to a vast array of adventure training and recreational activities such as climbing and abseiling, top right, white-water rafting on the River Otra, above, and go-karting at the longest outdoor track in Europe, right

ski arena. In addition there are more than 60km of prepared ski trails, a downhill centre for alpine skiers and snowboarders, and the nearby mountains become an ideal playground for snow and ice climbers.

"Ewjemoen means that there are once again, after a break of 12 years, the facilities available for soldiers to experience a Viking adventure," said Desmond. "The combination of having fantastic nature on its doorstep and its proximity to Germany and the UK makes Norway a convenient and cost-effective location to conduct expeditions and adventure training."

■ Evjemoen has already been given a stamp of approval by the Adventurous Training Wing at HQ Land, which means that units using the centre for level three expeditions will be eligible for financial support.

The facilities are available to Service personnel all-year-round for summer and winter activities. Units can book accommodation on an ad-hoc or time-share basis. For more information visit [www.destination.setesdalnett.com](http://www.destination.setesdalnett.com) or e-mail [briandes@frisurf.no](mailto:briandes@frisurf.no)



# SOLDIER WEB WATCH



SERVICES



MEDALS



BOOKS



CLOTHING



MOTORING



OPPORTUNITIES



BUSINESS



MUSEUMS



HELPING HAND

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

>> go

## SERVICES

[www.uknationallottery.com](http://www.uknationallottery.com)

No matter what country you are posted to in the world you can still play the UK Lottery through this members' site.

[www.modoracle.com](http://www.modoracle.com)

Free web mail for all service personnel. Access your email anywhere in the world. No storage limit.

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

The largest dedicated UK database of forces and ex-forces personnel on the web.

[www.armedforces.co.uk](http://www.armedforces.co.uk)

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

## MEDALS

[www.worcmedals.com](http://www.worcmedals.com)

Worcestershire Medal Service Ltd.

[www.no1medals.com](http://www.no1medals.com)

All your medal needs. Miniature and full-size mounting.

## BOOKS

[www.militarybooks.co.uk](http://www.militarybooks.co.uk)

Probably the best military books site in the world.

[www.milpkb.co.uk](http://www.milpkb.co.uk)

Get "A Soldier's Pocket Book" - On-line security ordering.

[www.first4ebooks.com](http://www.first4ebooks.com)

Ebook membership website. The best business ebooks on the market today, with lifetime membership and unlimited downloads

## SUPPLY ★ DEPOT

enhance your performance!

sports nutrition and training supplies at

## TRADE PRICES

AST, Maximuscle, EAS, Golds, Weider

Prolab, Dymatize, MuscleTech & more...

[www.supplydepot.co.uk](http://www.supplydepot.co.uk)

To advertise in Soldier's Web Watch email:  
[advertising@soldiermagazine.co.uk](mailto:advertising@soldiermagazine.co.uk)  
 or telephone 01252 347352

## HELPING HANDS

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

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

[www.blesma.org](http://www.blesma.org)

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

[www.ngvfa.com](http://www.ngvfa.com)

The National Gulf Veterans and Families Association website.

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

Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association Forces Help.

[www.batls.com](http://www.batls.com)

Battlefield Advanced Trauma Life Support - providing training in the management of trauma casualties under battlefield conditions.

## OPPORTUNITIES & BUSINESS

[www.armycaeds.com](http://www.armycaeds.com)

ACF leaders wanted.

[www.readymoneyround.com](http://www.readymoneyround.com)

Ex soldier makes good, will help you to do the same.

[www.job4u.co.uk](http://www.job4u.co.uk)

Work from home part/full time.

[www.88thFoot.co.uk](http://www.88thFoot.co.uk)

Film and TV work and battle trips around Europe with Wellington's famous redcoat regiment sponsored by STAYSYS Ltd.

[www.24-7twosuccess.com](http://www.24-7twosuccess.com)

Let me help you to financial freedom sure and simple. Ideal for forces families. Moving house or country not a problem.

[www.arktismilitary.co.uk](http://www.arktismilitary.co.uk)  
**Arktis**  
 QUALITY OF ENDURANCE  
 enquiries@arktislt.co.uk

[www.laptop-land.co.uk](http://www.laptop-land.co.uk)  
 01672 564937 or 07884 108783

russ@laptop-land.co.uk

Refurbished laptops from £150  
 DVD laptops from £450  
 Forces discounts available

**EUR  
O  
LENS**  
 CONTACT  
LENSES

[www.eurolenscontactlenses.com](http://www.eurolenscontactlenses.com)

disposable contact lenses - on-line

Acuvue®, Focus®, Soflens®, Freshlook®. and more

FREE  
SHIPPING  
TO BFPO  
ADDRESSES

  
 ARMY  
 BENEVOLENT  
 FUND  
 SUPPORTING THE BEST  
 Call 020 7591 2000 or visit [www.armybenfund.com](http://www.armybenfund.com)

## MARKET PLACE

[www.eurolenscontactlenses.com](http://www.eurolenscontactlenses.com)

Contact lenses by mail, worldwide delivery.

[www.get-in2shape.co.uk](http://www.get-in2shape.co.uk)

Lose weight now. Ask me how!

[www.GameToRent.com](http://www.GameToRent.com)

Make big savings by renting with the UK's best value game site..

[www.toye.com](http://www.toye.com)

Medals, medal mounting and military accoutrements.

[www.staddendirect.com](http://www.staddendirect.com)

The manufacture of Charles Stadden military figures.

[www.colonialsoldier.com](http://www.colonialsoldier.com)

Truly individual 4ft tall hand carved British Empire wooden soldiers. Conversation pieces for messes and home decoration. Commissions taken.

## MOD LINKS

[www.army.mod.uk](http://www.army.mod.uk)

Official website of the British Army.

[www.bfgnet.de](http://www.bfgnet.de)

Official website of British Forces Germany.

[www.top-of-the-range.co.uk](http://www.top-of-the-range.co.uk)

  
 TOP OF THE RANGE  
 Military Equipment & Clothing  
 for the kit that WON'T fail

[www.feltons-surplus.com](http://www.feltons-surplus.com)

01772 204200

Lincoln Street, Preston, Lancs PR1 6RE



Internet Services for the Army  
[www.milnet.uk.net](http://www.milnet.uk.net)

[www.TheLaptopMan.co.uk](http://www.TheLaptopMan.co.uk)

TEL: 01304 827070 FAX: 01304 827171

Refurbished & New Laptops. Accessories, Batteries & Repairs.



Watches

[www.traser-uk.com](http://www.traser-uk.com)

® The best for night vision

Don't be left in the dark!  
 Come and see our military products at...  
[www.traser-uk.com](http://www.traser-uk.com)

  
 ALL THE LATEST  
 MUST-HAVE  
 GADGETS REVIEWED  
 BY SOLDIER

[www.soldiermagazine.co.uk](http://www.soldiermagazine.co.uk)

## CLOTHING & KIT

[www.armyandoutdoor.co.uk](http://www.armyandoutdoor.co.uk)

Premier kit shop in the north west for Cadets/TA/Servicemen extras.

[www.sass-kit.fsbusiness.co.uk](http://www.sass-kit.fsbusiness.co.uk)

Not just another kit list!

[www.messkitonline.co.uk](http://www.messkitonline.co.uk)

Tailored mess kits at factory prices.

[www.feltons-surplus.com](http://www.feltons-surplus.com)

Lancashire's largest stockists of ex-Army clothing.

[www.VestGuard.com](http://www.VestGuard.com)

Body armour, batons and kit.

[www.camosupplies.biz](http://www.camosupplies.biz)

New and surplus military kit.

[www.dragonsupplies.co.uk](http://www.dragonsupplies.co.uk)

Essential military kit online!

[www.stringtownsupplies.co.uk](http://www.stringtownsupplies.co.uk)

Superb new website, over 1400 products - military kit, survival and much more! Mail order catalogue on request.

[www.smamit.co.il](http://www.smamit.co.il)

Smamit designs and makes custom made packs and military kit for the individual soldier and the small unit.

[www.army.co.uk](http://www.army.co.uk)

Army surplus and supplies.

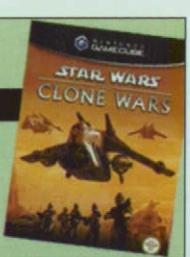
## MUSEUMS

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

Definitive guide to regimental museums, ancestor tracing and 4,000 volume regimental bibliography.

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

REME Museum of Technology.

  
 STAR WARS  
 CLONE WARS

Game on...  
 LATEST GAMES:  
 DOWNLOADS,  
 REVIEWS & HOT LINKS

# Terriers' track triumph

Soldier talks exclusively to the 2003 European ASCAR champion

Interview: Andy Simms

IN Deuce Racing RML's driver Ben Collins, the Territorial Army backed the runaway winner of the 2003 European ASCAR racing series.

Behind the wheel of his TA-sponsored 450bhp camouflaged Chevrolet, dubbed the Stealth Car, the ex-Formula One test driver won six races, smashed four lap records and set nine fastest laps before securing the championship title with a record points total in front of a 40,000 strong crowd at Rockingham Speedway.

"It has been a fantastic year for me, but to be honest I had high hopes from the very beginning of the series," explained the 28-year-old, who only arrived on the ASCAR circuit, recognised as the fastest growing area of motor sport in the UK, in time for the last race of 2002.

"Since arriving from America ASCAR has gone from strength to strength and has attracted big names like Colin McRae, so when the opportunity arose last year to become involved I leapt at the chance.

"My goal in racing has always been to race against the best and to beat the best, and I am overjoyed that my performance this season was good enough to win me the series.

"Deuce Racing are known for being a winning team and getting a well known sponsor like the TA on board was a real boost – and without doubt gave me the best-looking car on the grid.

"There are many synergies between ASCAR and the military and

I believe that is why the sponsorship deal has proved so prosperous. Racing is all about teamwork, fitness, personal challenge and dedication – all attributes that I am sure you can also find in abundance in the Army."

Unlike most of the other drivers he consistently beat to take the chequered flag this season, Collins began racing at a relatively late age having grown up harbouring ambitions of reaching breakneck speeds not on the tarmac of a race track, but in the air.

"I always wanted to be a fighter pilot, but all that changed on my 18th birthday when my parents arranged for me to spend a day at Silverstone," explained Collins, whose Stealth Car is capable of hitting speeds of more than 190mph. "I became hooked instantly and one year later I finished fifth in the National Formula First Championship.

"When I first started out the fact that I never graduated from go-karting was constantly rubbed in my face by other drivers, but thankfully I proved myself on the track and do not get as much stick nowadays."

Indeed, as well as silencing the playful jibes of his peers, Collins's expeditious rise through motor sport's ranks and ability to run at the front and beat drivers of greater experience at every level has earned him acclaim from some of racing's top names.

Former Formula One driver Martin Donnelly, who was lucky to escape with his life when he crashed his Lotus-Lamborghini during a practice session for the Spanish Grand Prix in 1990, once described Collins as "an aggressive driver with phenomenal natural speed."

And after driving for Jackie Stewart's Formula Vauxhall team in the 1995 Winter Series and racing against the 1969 World Champion's Formula Three team, Stewart expressed the belief that Collins's talent would take him all the way to the starting grid of Formula One.

The prospect of pitting his skills against the Schumacher brothers and the rest of racing's multi-million pound élite is one that naturally appeals to the self-confessed adrenalin junkie.

"For the time being I am content competing in the ASCAR series and will definitely be back to defend my title next year," Collins enthused. "Ultimately I have got my eye on moving into NASCAR or Formula One."

"NASCAR is the biggest and most successful championship in the world and has the earning potential to match. I'd be lying if I said that I don't want to have all the trappings that come with being a top driver, but that is not why I got into racing."

"My main motivation, like soldiers in the British Army, is that I want to be the best."

## Being sponsored by the Territorial Army gave me the best-looking car on the grid



Pole position: Stealth Car's racing driver Ben Collins celebrates winning the 2003 European ASCAR series at Rockingham Speedway

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

**ATHLETICS:** 4 Div Superteams competition, men's **standings** – 1, ATR Pirbright A; 2, RMAS; 3, 8 CS Coy REME; 4, 10 Regt RLC; 5, 16 CS Med Regt; 6, ATR Pirbright B; 7, ATRC; 8, 3 RSME A; 9, HQ 4 Div; 10, 47 Regt RA; 11, ATR Pirbright C; 12, ATR Winchester; 13, RMP CPU; 14, 1 Coldm Gds; 15, 3 RSME B; 16, SEME. **Women's standings** – 1, RMAS; 2, ATRC; 3, ATFC (ETS); 4, ATR Pirbright; 5, 16 CS Med Regt; 6, SEME.

**FENCING:** Inter-Services championship winners, men's – RAF. Women's – Army. Men's sabre – RN. Women's sabre – RAF. Men's foil – RAF. Women's foil – Army (SSgt Sonia Greaken (RLC) and LCpl Jayne Perry (REME)). Men's epee – RAF. Women's epee – Army (Capt Liz McLellan (RLC) and OCdt Louise Dolden (RMAS)). **Master swordsman** – Sub Lt Keith Bowers (RN). **Master swordswoman** – LCpl Perry. **Men's champion at Arms** – Wg Cdr George Liston (RAF). **Women's champion at Arms** – OCdt Naomi Lee (NUOTC).

**FOOTBALL:** Massey Trophy – AAC 0 RLC

3 (Cpl Brough (2), LCpl Sullivan); CA Mus 0 R Signals 8 (Sgt Collins (2), Cpl Stephen-son (2), Cpl Moffatt (2), Cpl Leonard, Cpl Simpson); Int Corps 2 (LCpl Tarr (2)) AMS 0; APTC 0 RE 6 (Spr O'Neill, Sgt Lawren-son, WO2 Smith, LCpl McCormick, LCpl Pierce, Spr Tyler); Int Corps 0 R Signals 9 (Sig Wood (4), Simpson (3), Cpl O'Connor, Cpl Richardson); Infantry 4 (Pte Brown (2), Pte King (2)) APTC 0; RE 3 (Spr Lawson, O'Neill, McCormick) RAC 0; RLC 3 (Sgt Hope, Pte Biggs, Pte Ayre) AGC 1 (WO2 Kincaid); CA Mus 1 AAC 5 (WO2 Johnstone (3), Sgt White, Cpl Peters).

**Pricewaterhouse Cooper League** – AGC 9 REME 2; AMS 2 R Signals 4; Int Corps 0 RLC 4.

**ROUNDERS:** Inter-unit championships – 1, QRL; 2, HQ NI; 3, 15 Sig Regt. **Inter-corps championships** – 1, R Signals; 2, AGC.

**RUGBY UNION:** APTC tour to Australia – Melbourne University 27 APTC 18; HMAS Cerberus 19 APTC 26.

**Infantry tour to South Africa** – South-ern Natal 10 Infantry 47; Natal Dukers 15

Infantry 3; Pietermaritzburg 24 Infantry 18.

**SHOOTING:** Home nations match – 1, Combined Services (1,759pts); 2, England (1,753pts); 3, Scotland (1,747pts); 4, Ireland (1,725pts); 5, Wales (1,698pts).

**SQUASH:** 5 Div championships, dou-bles – 1, WO2 Ian Piers (14 Sig Regt) and SSgt Jason Bayles (14 Sig Regt); 2, WO1 Shaun Carey (Royal School of Signals) and SSgt Keith Humphries (RWXY).

**Veterans** – 1, Lt Col Peter Russell (HQ AG); 2, Maj Simon Ward (HQ 5 Div). **Over 40's** – 1, WO1 Carey; 2, Capt Adi Wood-ley (Royal School of Signals). **Over 35's** – 1, Capt Nirmal Battachan (30 Sig Regt); 2, WO1 Chris Harwood (USU).

**Novice Plate** – 1, WO2 Willows (22 Engr Regt); 2, Maj James Francis-Jones (HQ AG).

**Novice Open** – 1, SSgt Bayles; 2, Sgt Keers (22 Engr Regt). **Open Super Plate** – 1, WO1 Carey; 2, Sgt Dir Pun (30 Sig Regt). **Open Plate** – 1, Pte Matyasira (29 Regt RLC); 2, Capt Woodley. **Open men's** – 1, WO2 Ian Pierce (14 Sig Regt); 2, Capt Battachan.

# Final round for Powell

Coach counting on new faces to deliver championship title

Report: Andy Simms  
Picture: Graeme Main

SPEAKING on the eve of his third and final season in charge at Aldershot's Maida Gymnasium, Army boxing coach SSgt Vinny Powell confessed to having mixed emotions about his team's forthcoming campaign.

"It is hard not to feel a little down about coming to the end of my tenure as coach," explained the former Welsh ABA lightweight champion who retired from the ring after representing Great Britain at the 1998 Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur.

"When I stopped fighting I never imagined that I would get the same buzz from boxing again, but this job has renewed my passion for the sport and when I go I am sure that I will miss it."

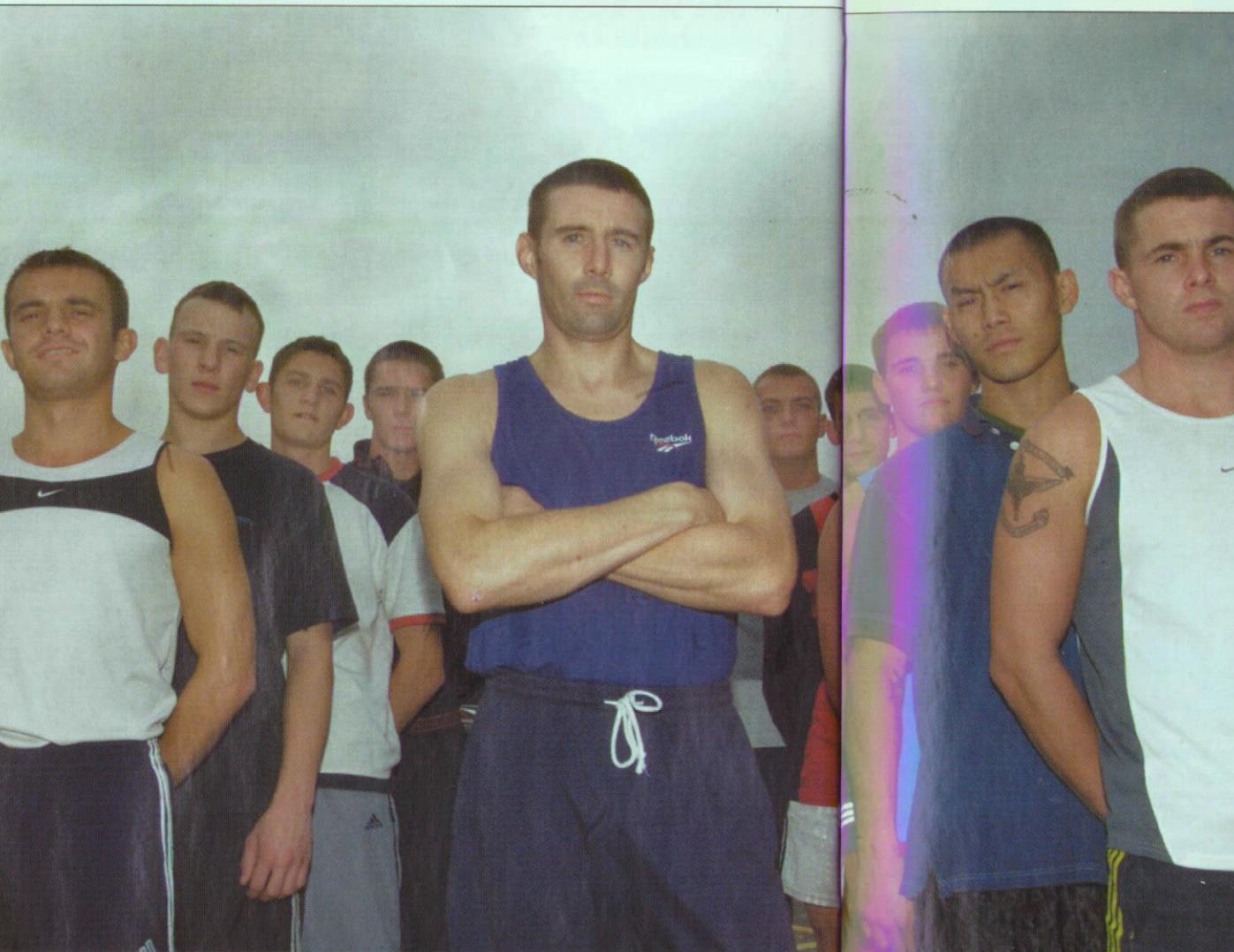
However, the knowledge that he must soon step down from the post he was recommended for in the summer of 2001 by his predecessor and former Great Britain team-mate WO2 Neil McCallum, has not prevented the once quick-footed lightweight from getting excited about the prospects of his team this term.

"The competitive season cannot get going soon enough," enthused Powell, who spent six seasons on the Army team under the tutelage of Mick Gannon during the 90s. "It feels great to be back in training with the squad after the summer break.

"Whatever happens this year I want the lads to enjoy their boxing, but our main goal as ever will be to retain the Combined Services championships and win as many English, Welsh and Scottish ABA titles as possible."

If Powell is to sign off on a winning note, he will do so with a vastly different team from the one that recorded the Army's 21st successive Combined Services victory in Portsmouth earlier this year.

"We lost some of our top boys in the summer," Powell added. "Some, like LCpl Tony Davis (1 RRF), who is training full-time with England in preparation for next year's Olympic Games, for good reasons and some not so good. Tony's situation is great for him but bad for us and we will miss his quality this season, but I



New kids on the block: Army boxing coach SSgt Vinny Powell, centre, with the raw recruits he hopes will bring his reign to a winning end

have drafted in a lot of new faces to replace those who have left and as a team we are confident of doing well.

"I am looking forward to working with the new guys we have here, they have knitted together well and there has been a very positive atmosphere in training. It's nice to have so many fresh faces here who are keen to get down to the hard work."

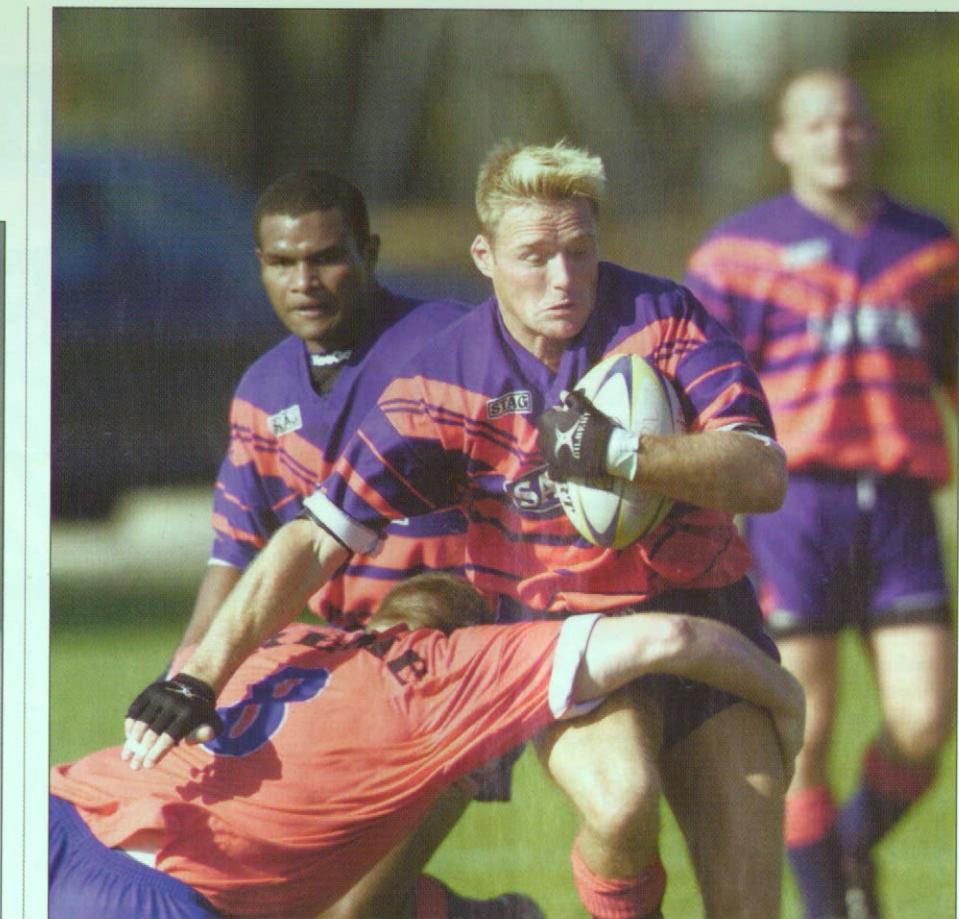
**It's nice to have so many fresh faces here who are keen to get down to the hard work ,**

Among Powell's new crop of fighters are LCpl Jason Summers (2 RGJ), LCpl Carl Dilks (1 Kings), 2nd Lt Nigel Potter (27 Regt RLC), Pte Chris Sagar (3 Sqn RLC), Pte John Tuiatu (27 Regt RLC), Spr Bret Flourney (RE), 2nd Lt Dominic Cugguda (27

Regt RLC) and Pte Gavin Taylor (1 PWR).

♦ LCpl Neil Robinson (1 GH) has taken over the duties of team captain from Spr Duncan Barriball (RE). The experienced lightweight, a Combined Services champion last year and semi-finalist in the senior ABAs, was handed the honour at the end of last season and will work closely with Powell and assistant coach LCpl Gordon Seal (1 SG).

♦ Powell's men highlighted their potential ahead of the opening rounds of this year's ABA championships by recording a creditable 4-4 draw against the



Leading by example: SSgt Pud Cowburn breaks through the REME defence at Aldershot

## Captain marvel

Treble delight for Army and RE skipper

tries before REME added to their own tally with a try apiece from Cfn Chris Tugaga and Roberts, and a straightforward kick from Sgt Dave Husband.

Despite conceding just before the half-time break, Cowburn's men showed no signs of surrendering their lead in the second period and stretched the deficit to 30-16 when WO2 Nelly Nelson and Cpl Ben Hughes crossed the REME line in close succession.

Any chances of a REME comeback evaporated shortly after when their most effective runner, Cfn Tugaga, had to be carried from the field of play with a broken ankle and WO2 Andy Sangers scored the sappers' sixth try of the game.

A late consolation try from Cfn Skippy Signor took the final score to 34-20.

Cowburn completed his hat-trick of trophy wins a week later, when his unit 1 RSME beat SEME 34-8 in the final of the Yeoman Cup.

♦ The AGC, last year's cup winners, beat the RLC 20-19 in the third and fourth place play-off match.

## SHORTS

## Six secure Sevens crown

**SPORTING** a strong Fijian contingent, 1 BW got their season off to a flying start by winning the BA(G) rugby sevens championships – despite finishing the final with just six players on the pitch.

Having qualified for the title-decider with relative ease, the eventual champions stormed into a 19-5 lead against pre-tournament favourites 1 DWR, with tries from Pte Peter Tukutukuwaq, Pte Sikeli Mulase and Pte Taniela Tomata.

Victory looked to be a formality until, six minutes from time, a yellow card presented their opponents with an extra-man advantage. Seizing the lifeline, DWR scored twice through Capt Richard Payne and Pte Ben Naivaluvou to reduce the deficit to just two points.

Defending as aggressively as they had attacked during the early rounds, the depleted Black Watch held on to secure a slender, but deserved, 19-17 victory.

♦ 6 Sup Regt RLC beat 3 REME in the final of the plate competition.

## Gunners at the double

**ATHLETES** from 3 RHA celebrated a double victory at the 7th Armoured Brigade triathlon championships in Hohne, winning both the major units and women's titles.

The performance of the gunners, who had to swim 750m, cycle 20km and run 5km, epitomised the ethos of the Desert Rats – fit, capable and professional.

Other winners included 9/12 L (minor unit team champions) and SSgt Stu Irvine (32 Engr Regt), who was the first competitor across the finish line with a time of 1hr 9min 2sec.

## European success

THE Dyncorp-sponsored Army basketball team signed off another successful season by winning the Eurobaskets International Basketball Tournament in Rimini, Italy.

Competing against teams from 17 nations, the Warriors won three of their four pool games before beating top Latvian side, Stopini, 82-67 in the tournament's final.

Newcomer Gnr Will Narruhn (16 Regt RA) and veteran players WO2 Neil Tolson (REME) and Sgt Carl Black (REME) were the pick of the trophy winners.

♦ The Army women's team, nicknamed the Braves, had to settle for second place at the UK and Ireland Corporate Games. Playing at Newcastle United's St James's Park, the Braves reached the final of the competition, but, with team captain Sgt Bev Bates sidelined through injury, were beaten to the silverware by a strong Tyne and Wear squad.

# Olympic ringmaster

Former gunner who didn't make Staff College now inhabits a world of movers and shakers

Interview: Roger Thompson

**BRITISH** plans to attend the Athens 2004 Olympic Games have only to "survive contact" to succeed. The Beijing Games are five years away and the middle ground is tuned to London's bid to host the Games in 2012.

At the epicentre of this Olympic kaleidoscope is Simon Clegg OBE, Chief Executive of the British Olympic Association, whose previous appointment, in 1989, was battery commander 7th (Parachute) Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery.

Simon began his military career by coming to grief at the Regular Commissions Board, Westbury and ended it with reservations about his ability to pass the Staff College exam process and progress through the necessary staff appointments.

He now enjoys direct contact with the Royal Family, Prime Minister Tony Blair and London Mayor Ken Livingstone and briefs ambassadors on their part in gaining support for the London bid.

Simon's first visit to the RCB, while still at school, was not memorable. He was unprepared and, in common with many candidates, found the "education officer" somewhat obtuse. Only a chance encounter on a London commuter train led him to the 10th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment (Volunteers), where he enjoyed two fabulous years. Earning more as a Territorial Army soldier than he could as a trainee surveyor, he revisited Westbury and passed into Sandhurst.

**He needs to draw together large autonomous empires, regenerate a major part of the capital, build a stadium for 80,000 in East London and improve the city's crumbling transport infrastructure. How could such a man possibly have coped at the Staff College?**

Life in the Royal Artillery was exciting. "Welcome," his battery commander intoned with a smile. "You're in the marathon next weekend. Any problems?" The words "I accept" were probably the most important of his life to date.

Surviving the 26 miles led to ski training. As 94 Locating Regiment nurtured the British cross-country ski team, the standards, and efforts to meet them, were exemplary. "In the Parachute Regiment I had taken a close interest in physical fitness, found it very gratifying and consequently was willing to push myself to run with the best,"

he recalls. Selection for the British biathlon team at the Sarajevo Winter Olympics was given the thumbs-down when the regiment was warned, at short notice, for Northern Ireland. A heart-to-heart with the CO concluded that "his time for Olympic selection had regrettably passed."

They agreed he should have a year's sabbatical, managing the British biathlon team. This was scant compensation and it took a posting to the parachute gunners and, ultimately, command of a battery to keep him in the Army for a further four years.

Any thought of an extended career withered after the 1988 Winter Games in Calgary where he managed Britain's sole ski jumper Eddie "the Eagle" Edwards and Dick Palmer, Britain's senior Olympic official, offered Simon the chance to join him in the Army as deputy general secretary.

His task would be to get the teams to the Games. The plans included uniforms with a 24in chest, girls with size 12 feet, extra-long beds for those over 6ft 8in, and the conversion of a Boeing 707 for the equestrian team's horses.

Nine Games and 14 years later the logistic SOPs are proven and Simon has taken over from Dick Palmer as chief executive. He is also Team GB's *Chef de Mission*. Athens 2004 is not far away and it is now a matter of lighting the fuse and "going operational".

Many of his phrases are rooted in the military, as are his methods of leading his Wandsworth HQ team. He might not have liked his first Westbury experience but recently arranged for his team managers and himself to attend a leadership trust course in Wales.

As the Athens fuse burns down the major talking point is the 2012 London Games. It is a bid by the British Olympic movement rather than Whitehall. From an early stage Simon needed the unequivocal support of Government, the Mayor of London and the wholehearted support of the British people.

High profile "knockers" might refuse to recognise the benefits a successful Games would bring to London and the nation,



Pulling strings: Former para Simon Clegg, Chief Executive of the British Olympic Association

but Simon considered the arguments were clear for the vast majority. The budget suggested was about £2.6 billion.

Decisions must be based on facts, not spin, and a clear statement of the strengths, limitations and resolve to clear the hurdles with minimum disruption.

Simon Clegg talks with the Prime Minister and the Mayor of London about "infrastructure" and "exit strategies".

The impact is at the national level, the financial consideration not far short of the defence budget, the coordinating instructions need to draw together large autonomous empires, regenerate a major part of the capital, build a stadium for 80,000 in East London and improve the city's crumbling transport infrastructure. How could such a man have coped at the Staff College?

London 2012 now has a separate bid team under American Barbara Cassani, the "right person at the right time" says Simon, who has been included on her board. "Be in no doubt that the London 2012 team is walking the walk of victory."

He does not believe his experiences as a para are essential to becoming CEO British Olympic Association but credits his style of management to his life in the Army

When the barman at the Officers' Mess requested permission to close the bar at 0500, they were still together.

## SHORTS

## Triumphant return

ALTHOUGH only re-formed this summer after a break of more than 30 years, the Army women's cricket team already has bragging rights over their Services rivals.

Moulded largely from hockey players, the Army side beat the Royal Navy in Portsmouth by four wickets before recording a 149-run victory over the Royal Air Force at Aldershot.

Army and Combined Services hockey star Cfn Amanda Potgeiter (REME) finished as top scorer on both occasions, hitting 127 and 179 not out respectively.

Anyone interested in joining the squad should contact team manager Maj Ruth MacGill on mil 94321 8390.

## Strip artist wanted...

THE Army women's rugby team is looking for a dedicated kit manager. Interested applicants should contact Capt Eddie Hutton on mil 94214 5524.

## On the up and up

COLCHESTER Garrison Cricket Club secured their third promotion in four seasons by comfortably winning the Osborne league division three title. Led by SSgt Jeff Carter (MCTC), the team won 15 of their 20 league games despite having to field a squad weakened by Op Telic commitments.

## FIXTURES

## Your sporting guide to November...

**ATHLETICS:** 5 – Army cross-country relay championships (Tuesdown Race Course, Aldershot); 19 – 4 Div cross-country league meeting (Aldershot).

**FOOTBALL:** 4 – Spall Trophy: Essex v Army (Braintree Town), Army Development v Oxford (TBC); 8 – RMCS v Army Crusaders (Shrivenham); 16 – Army Crusaders v TA (Aldershot); 17 – Middlesex v Army (Staines Town); 18 – Colchester United v Army Development (Colchester); 20 – Wiltshire v Army women (Away); 26-27 – Women's sixes festival (Grantham).

**RUGBY LEAGUE:** 12 – Army v Australian Combined Services (TBC).

**RUGBY UNION:** 11 – Combined Services v Barbarians (Aldershot).

**SQUASH:** 11-13 – Infantry championships (AFC Harrogate).

**SWIMMING:** 18-21 – AGC/RLC training camp (Aldershot); 20 – AGC/RLC championships (RMAS).

**TUG OF WAR:** 16 – AAA indoor championships (Birmingham); 26 – Land Command indoor championships (TBC); 29 – Army indoor championships (Aldershot); 30 – Inter-Services indoor championships (Aldershot).

**REGIMENTAL SHOPPING MALL**

**NEW** Our exciting new range of embroidered products are made to order and are available in any regiment / ship / sqn **NEW**

A PERFECT XMAS OR PRESENTATION GIFT FOR THAT SPECIAL PERSON

**ORDER FORM**  
Please allow 28-35 days for delivery

Product	Cost	Description	Qty	Unit/ship/sqn	Total
	£49.99 + p&p*	A presentation gift that is both inexpensive and yet classy. Gold and silver bullion combined with wool and silk produce this outstanding pennant. Size is 9.5" x 13"			
	£129.99 + p&p*	A superb music stand banner that would grace any wall or fireplace. Gold and Silver bullion entwined with exotic wools and silks producing a truly beautiful gift. This stand banner is of the highest quality! Approx size 23" x 23"			
	£6.45 + p&p**	A cut above a normal key ring. This embroidered key ring is made of the finest leather and hand stitched with gold and silver bullion. A great gift idea for PRI's or an excellent stocking filler for the old man!			

\* UK: £8.50    Europe/world: £14.50  
\*\* UK: £8.50    Europe/world: £18.50

**Sub-total**  
**P&P**  
**Total Cost**

Name .....  
Address .....  
Post code .....  
Start date ..... / Expiry date ..... / Issue number .....  
Card number .....  
Name on card ..... Signature .....

To see our full range of products and ORDER ONLINE visit [www.regimentalringtones.co.uk](http://www.regimentalringtones.co.uk)

For terms and conditions, please visit [www.regimentalringtones.co.uk](http://www.regimentalringtones.co.uk)  
Email: [enquiries@regimentalringtones.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@regimentalringtones.co.uk)

# WATERPROOF BREATHABLE TROOPER BOOTS

**TROOPER 1901**  
**£69.95**  
INC. VAT

- Full grain cow leather 2.6-2.8mm thickness
- Sympatex waterproof, breathable membrane
- One piece upper design
- Full bellows padded tongue
- Downward facing seams for water and chemical dispersion
- 3/4" anti-torsion shank
- Full length contoured footbed
- Reinforced quarter section with closed cell foam for ankle protection
- The famous VIBRAM unit for superb wear and comfort
- Sizes 4-14, full sizes only

**1 - 3 PAIRS - ADD £4.25 TOTAL (INC. VAT & P+P)**  
**4 PAIRS AND OVER - FREE CARRIAGE**

To place orders contact us at:  
**Giffard Newton & Sons Ltd.,**  
71 Townsend Road, Chesham, Bucks. HP5 2AD  
Telephone: 01494 782388

QUOTE REF. PF30

**ONLY £4.99**

## DON'T MISS OUR SUPERB CALENDAR FOR 2004

● Our photographers have selected some of their best recent work for the 2004 **Soldier** Calendar, available now.

● This striking pictorial record of the British Army at work, printed in portrait format on high quality art paper, features locations such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Northern Ireland, Canada, the Falkland Islands and Germany.

● There are also superb photographs of a firepower demonstration by a WAH-64 Apache helicopter, a missile firing in the Hebrides, the Sovereign's Parade at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, the Army v Royal Navy rugby match at Twickenham, the ceremony of Trooping the Colour in London, and a regimental mascot on duty at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium.

**SOLDIER**  
MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY

**ONLY £4.99** ● **LIMITED SUPPLY** ● **ORDER NOW**

Name:

Address:

Please send me  calendars at £4.99 each (inc p&p UK/BFPO)

Postcode:

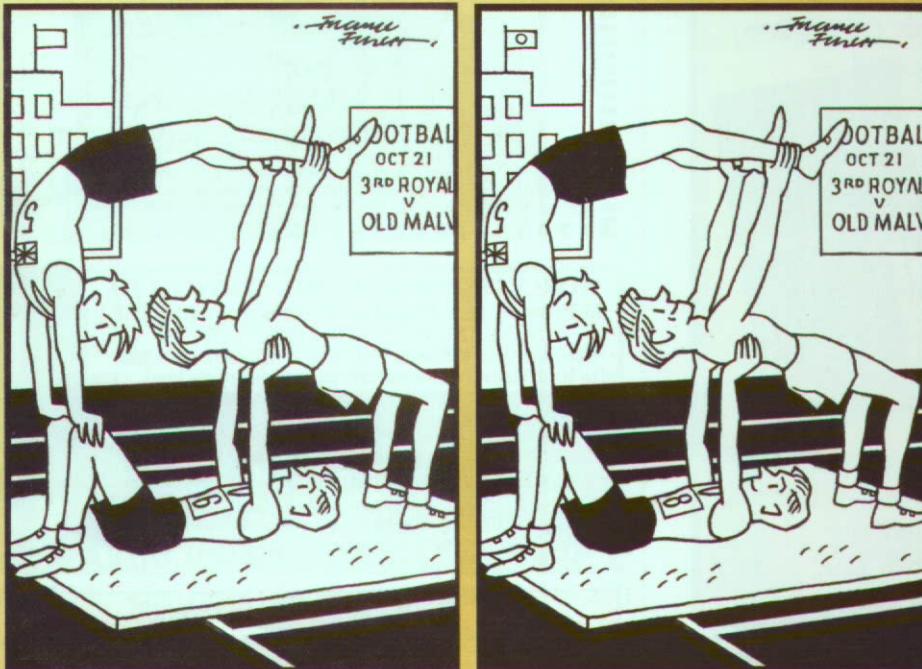
I enclose a cheque/postal order\* for £  
\*Please delete as appropriate

Please make cheques/POs payable to **Soldier** and allow 28 days for delivery.  
Orders should be returned to: **Soldier Magazine, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU**  
All items are inclusive of p&p for UK/BFPO. Overseas rates are available on request.

Credit card hotline: **01252 347353** [www.soldiermagazine.co.uk](http://www.soldiermagazine.co.uk)

No 744

# How observant are you?



TEN details have been changed in one of our archive drawings by Frank Finch. Circle the differences in the right-hand image, cut out the whole panel, add your name and address and send to HOAY 743, Soldier, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, GU11 2DU by December 1.

*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 January issue.

Name : (Give initials and rank or title)

Address :

September competition (No 742): First correct entry drawn at random was from Mr N E Evans, of Bridgnorth, Shropshire, who wins £100. Runners-up Mr D McLeavy, of Walton on the Hill, Stafford and Pte Gamon, Burma Coy, 7 Platoon, 1 QLR, receive a £10 gift voucher each. The ten differences were: parachute seams, top left; parachutist's harness, lower torso and foot; aircraft windows; lines around cloud; second and third parachute chords; lower cloud shape; tailplane of lower aircraft.



## Freeze frame

Now that's what I call a recovery position,  
said the man from REME

Write a caption for the photograph, right, published in *Soldier* in August 1950. The best, in the Editor's opinion, will win a prize from our silver logo collection. Usual rules apply, entries to reach us by November 28.



FOR seeing something in the September picture, left, that no one else did, we're awarding Sgt J Smith of DNBCC, Winterbourne Gunner, the prize. His caption was: "The field xylophone was a hit with the girls in the band".

We also liked "This is so much more fun than staying at home slaving over a hot stove" from Mrs A Jack of Arborfield; "You can take the women out of the kitchen but you can't take the kitchen out of the women" from Sgt N M Esty,



AGC(SPS), Sarajevo; "I say, girls, aren't these magic mushrooms simply magic" from R Cooney, Commen London Central; and "Well done, ladies, now you know how to boil water" from Reg Briggs, ex-R Signals, of Peterborough.

Capt M Gee RA, of 22 Bty, 32 RA, offered: "The girls could not control their laughter at the thought of one more spoonful of chilly powder in the RSM's curry".

# EMBROIDERED LEISUREWEAR

- ★ T-shirts, sweatshirts, polo shirts, rugby shirts, jackets & much, much more.
- ★ Free colour brochure. ★ Low minimum order
- ★ Competitive prices - embroidered polos from £6, sweats £8, t-shirts £4.75.
- ★ Free embroidery proof
- ★ No set up
- ★ Quick delivery



BANANA MOON WORKSHOP  
48 Old Lane, Birkenshaw, Bradford BD11 2JX  
Tel: 01274 688103 Fax: 01274 652524  
[www.bananamoon.co.uk](http://www.bananamoon.co.uk) e-mail: [sales@bananamoon.co.uk](mailto:sales@bananamoon.co.uk)

## Military Mobiles

0905 008 10 15

<b>ARMY</b> 323609	<b>ROYAL HORSE ARTILLERY</b> 310831	<b>BE THE BEST</b> 309880	<b>ROYAL NAVY</b> 310014
<b>THE IRISH GUARDS</b> 309838	<b>ROYAL SIGNALS</b> 309874	<b>WHO DARES WINS</b> 309974	<b>ROYAL AIR FORCE</b> 309646
<b>TONES</b> Black Bear	<b>LOGOS</b> Ride Of Valkyries	<b>PICTURES</b> St Patricks Day	<b>LOGOS</b> ROYAL TANK REGIMENT
British Grenadier	309806	Wait For The Wagon	310103
Reveille	101542	101568	360002
	101544	101566	
	101611	101912	

[www.militarymobiles.com](http://www.militarymobiles.com)

Regimental names and insignia, and other names and insignia used by the Armed Services, are trade marks reproduced under licence from the Secretary of State for Defence. Colour Pictures, Polyphonic Tones, Java Games, Credit Card ordering available soon. Check the web site for details. Calls cost £1.50 per minute. Average call length is 2 minutes. Calls from mobiles may be at a higher rate. More logos and ringtones are constantly being added, visit our web site for the full list. Please check your mobile phone and network for compatibility. Contact: [TheSarge@militarymobiles.com](mailto:TheSarge@militarymobiles.com) or Military Mobiles LLP, PO Box 3270, Bath, BA2 2WG

## BODYGUARD

### TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

For an information pack send a large SAE to:  
PROFESSIONAL BODYGUARD ASSOCIATION

The White House, 24 Cumberland Tce,  
Willington, Co Durham, DL15 0PB

[www.pba1985.com](http://www.pba1985.com)

### TIES, BADGES & PLAQUES

by Mail Order

### REGIMENTS, SHIPS, SQUADRONS

Clubs & Reunion Associations.  
Blazer buttons, medals, ribbons, etc.  
SAE appreciated

The Heraldic Co (GB), Dept S  
Overbriar, Beechwell Lane, Edge  
End, Coleford, Glos GL16 7HA  
Tel/Fax: 01594 832200 (8am/10pm)  
[www.theheraldiccompany.co.uk](http://www.theheraldiccompany.co.uk)

### Mess Group Caricatures

Over 80 to date - 14 years experience

Original painting  
+ A3 copy prints  
01707 69 52 96  
CARICATURES-DIRECT  
BY EMAIL  
£20/30 only!  
[www.caricature.co.uk](http://www.caricature.co.uk)

## BLACKBURN COLLEGE

Vocational Education Training Programme

Convert your experience into qualifications

We offer BTEC/Edexcel, HNC & HND  
in various Engineering, Managerial,  
IT and Telecommunication subjects

For more information:

Telephone: 01254 69-44-41

Fax: 01254 67-96-47

Email: [vets@blackburn.ac.uk](mailto:vets@blackburn.ac.uk)

Website: [www.etraininguk.com](http://www.etraininguk.com)

Blackburn College exists to serve the educational, cultural, social and economic needs of the local community and works with partners, to provide further and higher educational opportunities to a local, national & international clientele.



WORCESTERSHIRE MEDAL SERVICE LTD  
56 Broad Street, Sidemoor, Bromsgrove B61 8LL

Tel: (01527) 835375 of Fax (01527) 576798

Specialists in Ribbons, Full Size & Miniature Medals and Medal Mounting either for wear or display.

Medals professionally mounted to the highest standards

We have over 20 years experience and pride ourselves

on the quality and efficiency of our service

Send SAE, phone or email us for a copy of our comprehensive sales catalogue

See our website for full details of all our services.

"Secure on-line ordering on our website"

[www.worcmedals.com](http://www.worcmedals.com) Email: [wms@worcmedals.com](mailto:wms@worcmedals.com)

Credit card orders accepted



## CASH LOANS



- ✓ Up to £500
- ✓ We say YES to Tenants
- ✓ Immediate payout
- ✓ No credit check
- ✓ Call FREE on:

0800 619 2274



## SOLDIER

MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY

Calendar 2004



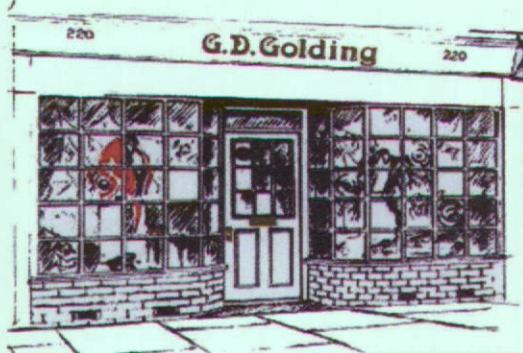
**SOLDIER**  
CALENDAR AVAILABLE  
**NOW!**  
See Page 52 for details



# G.D. Golding

(Tailors) Ltd

*The Military Tailors*



### Civil Livery and Military Tailors

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

#### Service

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

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

Telephone: 01727 841321 Facsimile: 01727 831462

website: [www.tailors.co.uk](http://www.tailors.co.uk) email: [tailors@goldings.co.uk](mailto:tailors@goldings.co.uk)

# Military Marketing International

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

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

Write for a full colour brochure:

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

Email:[mmisales@militarymarketing.co.uk](mailto:mmisales@militarymarketing.co.uk)

Website: [militarymarketing.co.uk](http://militarymarketing.co.uk)

Minimum order 25 shields - £11.95.

No VAT outside the UK. Shieldclocks - £19.00



## COURT MARTIAL ADVICE AND REPRESENTATION

### Green & Bull Solicitors

- Criminal Law Specialists
- Advice and representation in the UK and abroad at:

- Police station interviews
- Military custody hearings
- Summary Appeal Courts
- Courts Martial

- Contact Michael Green or Tom Bull at:

### **Green & Bull Solicitors**

**13 Tempo House,**

**15 Falcon Road**

**London SW11 2PJ**

Tel: 020 7223 5753

Fax: 020 7223 9003

24 hour pager: 07625209078 or 07625144062

## **GOLD WIRE BLAZER BADGES & HAND PAINTED WALL SHIELDS**

(Select any Regiment or Corps)

BERETS (SILK LINED), PACE STICKS, RANK SLIDES,  
SAM BROWNES, TIES (REGIMENT, CORPS OR ASSOCIATION)

Should there be any item you require which is not shown, please contact us, and we will endeavour to help, as we are unable to list all the products in our portfolio. Whether you are buying for yourself, or a loved one, we will be happy to give you prices and quantity discounts upon application.

### **MILITARY MATTERS**

BURN BANK LODGE, BURN BANK, GREENFIELD, SADDLEWORTH, OLDHAM OL3 7ET

TEL: 01457 877010 FAX: 01457 878499 EMAIL: [military.matters@btopenworld.com](mailto:military.matters@btopenworld.com)

### Military Tumblers-in-a-Tube



£15.95 + £2.00 p&p for each set-UK

Six tumblers are supplied in their own robust tube, now featuring the insignia of selected Corps and Regiments of the British Army. Made of high quality acrylic, these are ideal for use on all occasions when real glass is best left at home. Please call or write, to confirm availability and postage costs for destinations outside the UK.

Tumblers-UK, PO Box 6404, Brackley, Northants. NN13 7XR  
Tel: 01280 70 60 20 Fax: 01280 70 60 21

## DEBT PROBLEMS

### FINANCIAL WORRIES

Is the stress of debt affecting your life and work?

Are you struggling to pay bills?

Are you in arrears with your creditor payments?

Do you have debt collectors contacting you?

## DEBT SOLUTIONS

### PEACE OF MIND

If you can answer yes to any of the above then our experienced debt counsellors will help you to reduce your outgoings in to **one affordable monthly payment** without further loans!

## WELLBEING SERVICES

### THE PREFERRED CHOICE

Since 1997 we have successfully resolved millions of pounds of debts for hundreds of military personnel.

For a free consultation and free advice.



Telephone in confidence 01482 893258

[www.wellbeingservices.co.uk](http://www.wellbeingservices.co.uk)



## REGIMENTAL BROOCHES

DIRECT FROM THE MANUFACTURERS

**J.M.BICKERTON**

Manufacturing Jewellers

23 Vyse Street, Birmingham B18 6LE  
For List & Quote Tel/Fax:- 0121 551 7366

**HIGH QUALITY ASSURED**

E.mail [jmb@regimentalbrooches.co.uk](mailto:jmb@regimentalbrooches.co.uk)

Visit our website [www.regimentalbrooches.co.uk](http://www.regimentalbrooches.co.uk)

RAMC £140

**Head Start**  
**Cars**

Mercedes Benz, BMW  
Honda

Vauxhall, Toyota  
Ford

"Head Start Cars, giving you a  
headstart to the ultimate drive"

- majority of makes and models available
- SAVINGS of hundreds of pounds on each car.
- DISCOUNTS available for military personal and their dependents.
- Family run business with 50 YEARS EXPERIENCE of car sales.
- Finance available at competitive rates

Call now for a free no obligation quote

Head Start Cars Ltd, Hills End Lane, Attleborough, Norfolk, NR17 1BE  
Tel: 01953 456630 Fax: 01953 457750

[www.headstartcars.co.uk](http://www.headstartcars.co.uk)



email: [sales@headstart.co.uk](mailto:sales@headstart.co.uk)

## LOST YOUR MEDALS?

PALESTINE



## WE CAN REPLACE THEM NOW -

From the reign of Queen Victoria to the present day in both full size and miniature.

We mount medals ready to wear in both court and swing style. Professionally sewn in our own workshops.

Also available:

Brass cap badges and various veterans lapel badges. Glazed display frames and lidded presentation cases with brass effect nameplates. Complete engraving service.

We carry a full range of commemorative medals including: The General Service Cross, The Medal for National Service, Voluntary Service Medal, British Army of the Rhine Medal, Suez Canal Zone Medal, Maritime Service Medal and the Golden Jubilee Medal. Please send SAE for replacement list and colour brochure, or telephone us for a quote. Our experts are ready to help with all your enquiries.

A research service is also available.

## TOAD HALL MEDALS

Newton Ferrers, Plymouth, Devon PL8 1DH

Tel: 01752 872672 Fax: 01752 872723

e-mail: [chrissy@toadhallmedals.com](mailto:chrissy@toadhallmedals.com)

[www.toadhallmedals.com](http://www.toadhallmedals.com)



Special Military Prices  
on Tax Free & Tax Paid  
New Renault models

**Whitehouse**  
RENAULT  
[www.whitehousegroup.co.uk](http://www.whitehousegroup.co.uk)

**PHONE**  
07986 917 551

## Forces and Ex-Service Personnel

### WOUNDS? DISEASES? INJURIES? CAUSED BY SERVICE

ALSO INDUSTRIAL INJURIES, DISEASE  
AND PERSONAL ACCIDENT CLAIMS

**YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO**

## COMPENSATION

CALL THE CLAIMS SPECIALISTS!

**FREEPHONE  
0500 22 20 22 NOW!**

THORN COMPENSATION SERVICES LTD MARSH HOUSE, 92A  
MARSHLAND ROAD, MOORENDS, DONCASTER, DN8 4SZ.

## 24 HOUR BROCHURE HOTLINE FREEPHONE: 0800 328 4348

### EMBROIDERED BADGES

• Fantastic Quality • Min. Qty just 50 • Fast 3/4 Weeks Delivery • Free Origination 100+



EST. 1980, BEST - QUALITY - SERVICE - PRICES

### EMBROIDERED GARMENTS



• Polo's, Sweats, and Full range of Leisurewear • Free design Origination for 24+ (any combination) • All embroidered with YOUR Motif or Logo • Up to Nine Colours included at No Extra Cost

### TIES, CAPS & T-SHIRTS



- All items made to YOUR design
- First Class quality
- Fully guaranteed
- Friendly service
- FREE ADVICE

WE ALSO SUPPLY:

- Printed T-shirts
- Enamel Badges
- Wire Blazer Badges
- Golf Umbrellas
- Club and Corporate Ties

## ENSIGN MOTIFS

Portkil Bay, Kilcreggan, Argyll, G84 0LF

Tel: +44 (0) 1436 842581 Fax: +44 (0) 1436 842854

E-mail: sales@ensignmotifs.co.uk Website: www.ensignmotifs.co.uk



### Internet Servicers for the UK Armed Forces

Pay as you go, anonymous dial up access service

No need to register, set your dial up networking to dial 0845 638 9845, the username to 'guest' and password to 'guest' (both without the quotes!) and you're away. Easy to set up, and good for your personal security!

Ideal for work/home, serving/retired, families/cadets/etc etc! See [www.milnet.uk.net](http://www.milnet.uk.net) for more info, set up wizard, and free CD, or write to MilNetUK, Box 4111, Blandford, DT11 7YH

We donate a proportion of our profits to Service Charities. During 2002/3, this was over £1000 - please help us in 2003/4!

We also design and host web sites or your official .mil.uk or .mod.uk domain

And New for 2003 .. **MilSurf**

Also  
ADSL/Broadband

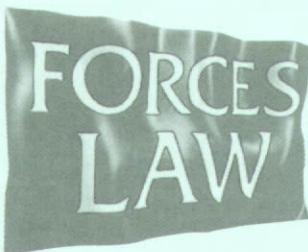
24/7 Prepaid Dial Up  
Standard Package - £13.99 per month  
plus different priced packages to suit everyone

See the MilSurf web site at [www.milsurf.net](http://www.milsurf.net)



**MilSurf** Unmetered Access from MilNet

Arrested?  
Need immediate Legal Advice?  
Contact:



0845 6011260

[www.forceslaw.com](http://www.forceslaw.com)

For free 30-minute initial diagnostic interview with lawyers experienced in the Armed Forces who speak your language

TAX-FREE

**BEST NEW-CAR DISCOUNTS**  
**Advanced Car Exports**  
Established 1979

TAX-PAID

[www.ACEsales.co.uk](http://www.ACEsales.co.uk)

Email: [info@acesales.co.uk](mailto:info@acesales.co.uk)



For the very best deals  
Call: (UK) 01525 406 206  
Fax: 01525 403 999

**FULL TIME  
RESERVE SERVICE**

**FLEXIBLE**

Are you a TA Officer or Soldier looking for additional service with the Regular Army?

Are you a Regular Reservist wanting to return to the Army to do further service?

From 6 months to 42 months in length?

For a Response Pack  
**0800 028 5533**

For further information  
[www.army.mod.uk/ftrs](http://www.army.mod.uk/ftrs)

Or speak to your Unit Administrative Officer

### THE GOLD WIRE BADGE COMPANY

THE SPECIALIST FOR TOP QUALITY BADGES	£11.00
GOLD WIRE BLAZER BADGE	£23.50
FAIRBAIRN-SYKES COMMANDO KNIVES (Black) WITH LEG/BELT SHEATH	
BERETS: RED, GREEN, NAVY, BLACK, SAS, LIGHT INFANTRY, MILITARY POLICE KHAKI, DRAWCORD LEATHER HEADBAND	£7.50
GOLD DRESS CORDS FOR STANDARD	£22.00
REGIMENTAL TIES & BOWS	£11.00
WHITE LEATHER GAUNTLETS	£26.00
WHITE COTTON GLOVES	£5.00
WHITE MASONIC GLOVES WITH LOGO	£6.50
LEATHER STANDARD CARRIERS	£32.00
LEATHER STANDARD CARRIERS (made to measure)	£37.00
STANDARD CARRYING CASE	£34.00
PARACHUTE REGT STANDARD CARRIERS WITH ALL ELEVEN BATTLE HONOURS	£42.00
ASSOCIATION STANDARDS	£42.00
STANDARD POLES	£48.00
PACE STICKS 36° - 38° - 40°	£60.00
SWAGGERSTICKS, CHROME & BLACK 24"	£13.00
LAPEL BADGES:	
RA GREEN BERET	£2.50
PARA RED BERET	£2.50
PARA CAP BADGE	£2.50
PEGASUS 1942 - 1999 COMMEMORATIVE LAPEL BADGE	£2.50
REGIMENTAL WALL PLAQUES	£24.00
SGT/SCPLS GOLD CHEVRONS	FROM £4.00
GILT PARA TIE SLIDES	£4.50
GILT 29 COMMANDO RA TIE SLIDES	£4.50
REGIMENTAL FRIDGE MAGNETS	£2.00
REGIMENTAL KEY RINGS	£1.50

One off BLAZER BADGES a speciality at no extra charge. SEND FOR FREE LISTS

11 Dalehead Drive, Shaw, Oldham, Lancs OL2 8JT.  
Telephone/Fax: 01706 846648  
E-Mail: [sales@thegoldwirebadge.co.uk](mailto:sales@thegoldwirebadge.co.uk)  
[www.thegoldwirebadge.co.uk](http://www.thegoldwirebadge.co.uk)



**Gorkha  
Treks UK**  
NEPAL - TIBET - BUTAN

### Planning a Unit expedition to NEPAL!

Gorkha Treks UK can offer you a full trekking package MOD-approved company

We provide an excellent service with discount prices to the Forces.

TREKKING, CLIMBING, RAFTING, MOUNTAIN BIKING, JUNGLE SAFARI

For details and full brochure Tel: 01782 257914 or email: [GorkhaTreks@UnitedKingdom99.fsbusiness.co.uk](mailto:GorkhaTreks@UnitedKingdom99.fsbusiness.co.uk)  
Visit our website: [www.nepalgorkhatreksuk.com](http://www.nepalgorkhatreksuk.com)

## Ties

from O. H. Hewett Ltd

Ties made to order in silk or polyester.

For information regarding prices and minimum quantities please contact:

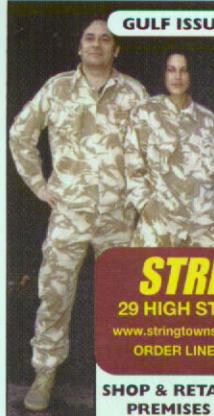
O. H. Hewett Ltd at 21 Farncombe Street Godalming, Surrey GU7 3AY

Telephone: 01483 426917  
Fax: 01483 424810  
Email: [enquiries@ohhewett.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@ohhewett.co.uk)



**ARMY**  
SIGN UP FOR A

**CHALLENGE**



**GULF ISSUE**  
DESERT CAMO JACKET/SHIRT Sizes: M,L,XL: £12.95  
DESERT CAMO TROUSERS Sizes: 26"-32" waist. Grade 1. £12.95  
BERGEN COVER DESERT CAMO (two-tone) Large. £24.95  
DESERT BOONIE HAT XS, S. £5.00  
DESERT CAMO SAS SMOCK M, L, XL. £109.95

## DESERT KIT

**N.B.C.**  
NBC S10 MASK Grade 1 £65. Supergrade £95.00  
SEALED FILTERS £15  
NBC SUIT MKIV D.P.M. or Olive. Med: £35. Large: £45. (All vacuum sealed). Also available in DESERT D.P.M. M or L. £55.00

## STRINGTOWN SUPPLIES

29 HIGH ST, POLEGATE, EAST SUSSEX, BN26 5AB  
www.stringtownsupplies.co.uk. Email: stringtownsupplies@btopenworld.com  
ORDER LINE & INFORMATION (01323) 488844. FAX (01323) 487799

### SHOP & RETAIL PREMISES

BOLLÉ DUST GOGGLES UV resistant £22.95.

NOTEBOOK COVER Two-tone. Desert camo. £8.95.

HEADWRAP Desert camo. £6.95.

SHEMAGH Sand/black or green/black. £6.95.

DESERT CAMO CHEST RIG Two-tone D.P.M. New £69.95.

DESERT CAMO ALL ARMS ASSAULT VEST Two-tone. New. One size. £139.95.

LEG HOLSTER Two-tone. Desert camo. £29.95.

B.F.P.O. POSTAGE PLEASE ADD £9.00



## FREE! CATALOGUE 2002/03

MILITARY & SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT, WEBBING, CAMO CLOTHING & KIT, NBC, BADGES, SLEEPING BAGS, BERGENS, BOOTS, HATS, GLOVES, BIVIS, POUCHES, AIRGUNS, KNIVES & MUCH MORE

PHONE, FAX, WRITE OR E-MAIL FOR YOUR COPY



"Cold cast bronze"  
MR121 (approx 25cm)  
£58.75 incl.

## PHOENIX WORLD

A full range of pewter and "cold cast bronze" figurines to suit your needs.

Also mess silver repaired/refurbished

**COMMISSIONS ACCEPTED**  
Send crossed Cheque/P.O. with order or S.A.E. for Brochure.

**PHOENIX WORLD REPRODUCTIONS**  
Rochester City Airport, Maidstone Road, Chatham, Kent ME5 9SD  
Tel: (01634) 685999 Fax: (01634) 684999  
Email: sales@pworld.co.uk

## EPAULETTE SLIDES

For officers or other ranks. With or without unit designation. also

## DRAB NAME TAPES

(in sets of six)

Any quantity supplied  
S.A.E. for price list

**Lancashire Embroidery & Insignia Ltd**

Knowsley Industrial Park North, Kirkby, Liverpool L33 7SA.  
Phone: 0151-546 5161 Fax: 0151-549 1128

## DRAGON SUPPLIES

FOR ESSENTIAL MILITARY KIT!  
NEW BRANCH NOW OPEN IN

### COLCHESTER

BERGENS, PATROL PACKS, BATTLEVESTS, WEBBING, SNUGPAK JACKETS, LOWA BOOTS, ARKTIS KIT, WINDPROOF SMOCKS, SURVIVAL KITS, BUFFALO JACKETS, MICRO SLEEPING BAGS, DESERT BOOTS, CAMELBAK HYDRO PACKS

TELEPHONE 01206 854354  
Secure on-line Ordering at [www.dragonsupplies.co.uk](http://www.dragonsupplies.co.uk).  
Unit C4, The Seedbed Centre, Wyncolls Road, Severalls Park, Colchester CO4 4HT

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE:**  
[www.soldiermagazine.co.uk](http://www.soldiermagazine.co.uk)

## Moffats School

Boarding for Boys & Girls 7 to 13+  
on the SHROPSHIRE / WORCESTERSHIRE border

*Small classes  
Expert help for Dyslexia / SpLD  
Games & riding in our 100-acre grounds  
Long experience of Service family needs  
Our own escorts to airport & station  
Ethos of kindness & tolerance*

At Kinlet Hall nr Bewdley Worcs DY12 3AY  
Please call for prospectus: 01299 841230 ~ [moffats.co.uk](http://moffats.co.uk)

Made to measure Mess Dress uniforms  
Highest quality and value for money



3 Piece  
Mess Kits  
From

**£275**

Inc. Vat & Rank + P&P

**Messkitonline.co.uk**

Telephone 0870 747 3930 for a personal quote  
Mess Dress • Accessories • Badges • Medals

### TEE-SHIRTS & SWEATSHIRTS

Polo's, Fleece, Badges, Hats, Hoods  
Embroidery - Screen Printing  
Heat applied Logo's & No.  
Tour Shirts / Day Tees / Stag & Hen Event Shirts.

Nottingham Screen Prints  
10, Park Road, Woodthorpe, Nottingham, NG5 4HR  
0115-967 6262 E-mail: [nottmsp@ntlworld.com](mailto:nottmsp@ntlworld.com)

To advertise in **Soldier** contact [advertising@soldiermagazine.co.uk](mailto:advertising@soldiermagazine.co.uk)

or telephone

**01252 347352**

## CONDOR SUPPLIES

Suppliers to PRI shops, TA/OTC/Cadet Units and individuals without access to PRI facilities.

★ Check out our web site ★  
[www.geocities.com/condorsupplies](http://www.geocities.com/condorsupplies)

10 Robert Street Fax: 01724 874941  
Scunthorpe Tel: 01724 874941  
N.Lincs DN15 6LU

## WINDSOR MEDAL MOUNTING SERVICES

Miniature medals supplied and mounted from £10.00 + p&p

Full size medals mounted from £3.50 each + p&p

Loose miniature medals supplied from £5.00 + p&p

ALL MEDALS MOUNTED PROFESSIONALLY, NOT GLUED

**TEL: 07786073060  
or 01522 702254**

3 WELLS COURT, LINCOLN LN1 2GY

**MICHAEL JAY**  
Exclusive HAND CUT  
TAILORING

**Our unbeatable MESS DRESS offer**

INCLUDES

- 14 day Make or
- 48 hr EXPRESS
- Lowest prices
- Best fit
- Highest quality
- Best payment terms



Local agent to measure in most areas

Tel: 01449 614602 Fax: 01449 614604

As our customers say  
The service is simply unbeatable

5 TOMO BUSINESS PARK, STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK IP14 5AY

## LOST OR NEW MEDALS

Full size & miniature supplied

Professionally mounted  
Hand-sewn ... not glued

## K&D Medals

33 The Crescent, West Wickham, Kent BR4 0HB

Tel: 020 8777 2455

[www.Kdmedals.com](http://www.Kdmedals.com)



## EMBROIDERED

SWEATERS SWEATSHIRTS

POLO SHIRTS CAPS & BADGES

## PRINTED

T-SHIRTS SWEATSHIRTS

JACKETS CAPS BADGES

AND LOTS MORE! ALL FROM ONE SUPPLIER!

MINIMUM QUANTITY ONLY 12

BFPO TAX FREE SERVICE - send for full list

**REYNOLDS SPORTS**

12-13 CROFTON CLOSE, ALLENBY BUSINESS VILLAGE, LINCOLN LN3 4NT

Tel: 01522 513333 Fax: 01522 530383

enquiries@reynolds-sports.co.uk

[www.reynolds-sports.co.uk](http://www.reynolds-sports.co.uk)



# LOST MEDALS

Replaced in record time

FULL SIZE & MINIATURE  
3 DAY MOUNTING SERVICE

Write or phone for quotation

**RAYMOND D HOLDICH**

Trafalgar Square Collectors Centre, 7 Whitcomb Street London  
WC2H 7HA

Tel: 020 7930 1979 Fax: 020 7930 1152

www.rdhmedals.com E-mail: rdhmedals@aol.com

[www.messdress.com](http://www.messdress.com)

\* RLC/AGC, D&D, Staffordshire:  
£320 (inc VAT & rank)



\* RTR, RRF:  
£360 (inc VAT & rank)

\* RE, R Sig, RAMC, REME, RA,  
Paras, Kings, Queens, AAC:  
£340 (inc VAT, rank, shirt & tie)

\* Female AGC:  
£455 (inc VAT & rank)

INTEREST FREE CREDIT

George Boots	£49.99	S/Dress Shirt	£14.99
George Boots Boxed and Spurs	£99.99	Spurs	£20
		Spur Boxes	£15
Patent Boots	£85	Courtmounting	£4 per medal
Self Bow Tie	£15	Most Medals	£6 loose
White Marcella Shirt	£22 & £27	*Please add p&p on all items	
Collarless Shirt	£27		

**Queens Golden Jubilee Miniature Medal £5** incl VAT & p&p  
(TKS Medals approved by MOD)

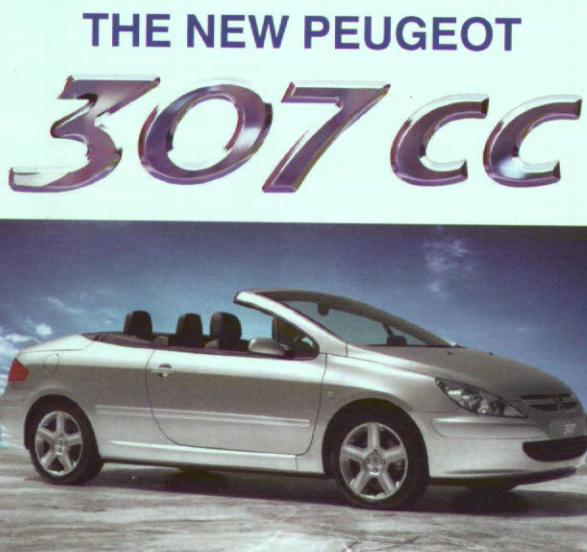
Visit us in Bournemouth 7 days a week by appointment. Contact us for officers price list.

**The Mess Dress Ltd**

88 Stewart Road, Bournemouth BH8 8NU

**Tel: 01202 302846 Fax: 01202 383874**

e-mail: sales@messdress.com



**Available to Order Now!**

Call Colin or Mike on:  
UK 01980 653434

# RANGERS



MILITARY SALES

# INJURED ON DUTY IN THE LAST 3 YEARS?

YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION

**Did you know** MOD Personnel have almost exactly the same rights as civilian employees

NOTHING  
TO PAY  
WIN OR  
LOSE

\*Subject to taking full instructions

# CALL BASSRA SOLICITORS

**0044 1274 727 190**

**email: claire@bassra.co.uk**  
Complete legal advice for service personnel

**SOLDIER CALENDAR AVAILABLE  
NOW!**

## VISTA TIES

are Tie Manufacturers and can supply  
your existing tie or design you a new one.

Please send us a picture of your badge  
or cypher and we will post a free coloured  
visual with a quotation.....OVER 300

DIFFERENT REGIMENTAL TIES IN STOCK



VISTA TIES  
40 DOME HILL  
CATERHAM  
SURREY CR3 6EB

Tel: 01883 337060 Tel/fax: 01883 337065  
Email: info@vistasports.co.uk  
Website: www.vistasports.co.uk

**M** MICHAEL JAY

**UNIFORMS**

MADE TO MEASURE  
OR's and Officers Mess Dress

OR's and Officers No. 2 Dress

OR's and Officers No.1 Dress

British Warm Overcoats

S.B. Blazers

Regimental D.B. Blazers

Sports Jackets and Trousers

Dinner Suits

Lounge Suits

48Hr. or 2Week Make up

**Michael Jay Tailoring**  
5 TOMO BUSINESS PARK, STOWMARKET  
SUFFOLK IP14 5AY  
TEL: 01449 614602 FAX: 01449 614604

## FOXTROT CHARLIE! FREE CATALOGUE

The SASS Catalogue  
No 16, is **NOT** just  
another kit list.

It offers you exclusive  
innovative items and selected  
issue equipment.  
Optional extras, after sales,  
repair service . . .



For your FREE colour catalogue, write, telephone or fax to the  
following address, or send the coupon below to:

**SPECIAL AIR-SEA SERVICES**  
**Sylvester Street Works, Sylvester Street,**  
**Lancaster, Lancashire, LA1 5DG**  
**Tel: 01524 64204 - Fax: 01524 844239**  
**Email: info@sass-kit.fsbusiness.co.uk**  
**Website: www.sass-kit.fsbusiness.co.uk**

Please send me your latest catalogue:

Name:.....

Address:.....

Postcode: .....

S

## PEN PALS

## TO ADVERTISE FOR A PEN PAL

Please send for details enclosing a stamped, SAE to:  
**Soldier Magazine**,  
 Ordnance Road, Aldershot,  
 Hants GU11 2DU

Or visit **Soldier Magazine** online at:  
[www.soldiermagazine.co.uk](http://www.soldiermagazine.co.uk)

Email: [hshekyls@soldiermagazine.co.uk](mailto:hshekyls@soldiermagazine.co.uk)  
 All pen pal adverts must be prepaid

**Sharon**, (19), 5'3", medium build, long brown hair and brown eyes. Enjoys pubs, clubs and the cinema. Seeking pen pals, 18-28. P464

**Lorraine**, (32). Enjoys scuba diving, swimming, weight-training, hiking and is a bit of a disco diva. Seeking pen pals that can equal her GSOH. Commence pen to paper now. P465

**Catherine**, slim petite brunette with long curly hair and green eyes. Enjoys pubs, clubs, films, music and shopping. Seeking guys and girls in the forces to write to, any age group. P466

**John**, (22), 5'8", athletic build with blonde hair. Enjoys keeping fit, pubs, clubs and meeting new people. Currently serving in Iraq and seeking female pen pals, 18-40. P467

**Lucie**, (21), average build with dark hair and hazel eyes. Enjoys music, socialising, writing letters, reading, travel and photography. Seeking pen pals, any age group. P468

**Jen**, (41), 5'7". Enjoys reading, walking, history, music and the cinema. Seeking friendly, honest and genuine pen pals around the same age. P469

**Angela**, (43), 5'4", very attractive with dark hair and slim build. Enjoys swimming, reading, karaoke, driving and psychology. Seeking pen pals, 35-42. P470

**Jaclyn**, (37), 5'4" with fair hair. A nurse in NI, likes animals and enjoys the theatre, walking, swimming and the cinema. Seeking pen pals with similar interests and age, 34-42. P471

**Patricia**, (35), 5'4", dark hair, tanned, size 12 who stands out in a crowd. Enjoys arts, crafts, music, painting, dancing, driving, the gym, cycling, meals out and the theatre. Seeking pen pals with similar interest and GSOH, 30-45. P472

**A 36-year-old 'Bridget Jones'**, who enjoys most things in life and is looking for a 'Mr Darcy'. Seeking genuine, honest and fun to be around soldiers/officers, 30+. Photo appreciated but not essential. P473

**Donna**, (28) blonde with blue eyes. Enjoys nights out/nights in, having fun and a giggle, music and the cinema. No blonde Barbie doll but seeking combat Ken. P474

**Heather**, single parent of one child. Enjoys walking, cycling, swimming, theatre, cooking and the cinema. Seeking genuine pen pal replies only, any age group. P475

**Patricia**, (37), 5'1", curvy blonde with blue eyes. Enjoys travel, music, reading, swimming and having serious fun. Lives on her own with a mad cat. Seeking nice, honest soldiers near or far for fun letters and lots of smiles, will answer all replies, 25-48. P476

**Adelina**, 5', Mediterranean complexion. Enjoys music, travelling, walking and the cinema. Seeking single soldiers in Iraq as pen pals, 30+. P477

**Gail**, (29), tall attractive blonde with blue eyes. Enjoys music, reading, keep fit, nights out and the cinema. Seeking single soldiers as pen friends, 29+. P478

**Lynne**, 5'5", slim blonde nurse with GSOH. Enjoys motor bikes, car rallies, golf, beach walks and natural history. Seeking pen pals, 34+. P479

**Ann**, (43), 5'7", blonde with hazel eyes. Enjoys the gym, mountain biking, walking and pubs. Seeking pen pals with GSOH, caring and honest, 35+. P480

**Catherine**, (35), 5'8", short with highlighted hair. Enjoys weight training, swimming and travelling. A nurse and also has a driving job, a mum of two children ages nine and one. Seeking pen pals, any age group. P481

**Patricia**, (56), 5'5", slim, young blonde with blue eyes. Enjoys reading, cooking, the countryside, music and mixing with people. Seeking pen pals who enjoy the countryside, i.e. Wales area, 50-60. P482

**Haley**, (20), 5'2", petite with brown curly hair. Enjoys the gym, socializing with friends and studying for her degree. A good personality and easy to get on with. Seeking pen pals, 18-26. P483

**Jen**, (41), 5'7". Enjoys reading, walking, history, music and the cinema. Seeking friendly, honest and genuine pen pals around the same age. P469

**Angela**, (43), 5'4", very attractive with dark hair and slim build. Enjoys swimming, reading, karaoke, driving and psychology. Seeking pen pals, 35-42. P470

**Jaclyn**, (37), 5'4" with fair hair. A nurse in NI, likes animals and enjoys the theatre, walking, swimming and the cinema. Seeking pen pals with similar interests and age, 34-42. P471

**Patricia**, (35), 5'4", dark hair, tanned, size 12 who stands out in a crowd. Enjoys arts, crafts, music, painting, dancing, driving, the gym, cycling, meals out and the theatre. Seeking pen pals with similar interest and GSOH, 30-45. P472

**A 36-year-old 'Bridget Jones'**, who enjoys most things in life and is looking for a 'Mr Darcy'. Seeking genuine, honest and fun to be around soldiers/officers, 30+. Photo appreciated but not essential. P473

**Donna**, (28) blonde with blue eyes. Enjoys nights out/nights in, having fun and a giggle, music and the cinema. No blonde Barbie doll but seeking combat Ken. P474

**Heather**, single parent of one child. Enjoys walking, cycling, swimming, theatre, cooking and the cinema. Seeking genuine pen pal replies only, any age group. P475

**CLASS... AND HOW TO GET IT** by Christopher Egerton-Thomas. The perfect gift for the ambitious and upwardly mobile. Softback 244 pages. "Despite serious themes ... a hoot and a joy to read". (Soldier review). "A brilliant book" (BBC World Service). £10 inc. p&p, cheques and POs to Brighton Publishing, 8 Mountbatten Court, Ingram Crescent, Hove, East Sussex. BN3 5LB. Tel: 01273-414468. 11/03

## BUSINESS OPPS

## BUSINESS FOR SALE IN WARMINSTER

**A successful small niche business employing two full time plus part-timers. For more than 15 years has supplied and made regalia to Freemasons and other Orders.**

CONTACT PETER HICKS ASSOCIATES AT  
**01380-816340**

**Ex-Serviceman & women wanted.** I am an ex-serviceman now earning in excess of 50k. Full training given experience not necessary. Phone Brian for an immediate interview on 020 8554 5296. 12/03

**Offshore jobs.** £22,000 - £60,000 P.A. No experience necessary as full training provided. For more info send SAE to P.O. Box 5318 Glasgow G74 3XJ. 12/03

**Work from home. F/T or P/T.** Hours that suits you. Genuine business opportunity. Web: [www.3-steps-2-freedom.co.uk](http://www.3-steps-2-freedom.co.uk) 01/04

**Immediate income** - National PLC requires motivated individuals to earn £50/£500 per week full/part time. For information ring Sandra on 0207 8060342. 01/04

**Cap badges, regimental ties**, blazer Badges, medals, insignia. Send £2.00 for list to: Cairncross (Dept S), 31 Belle Vue Street, Filey, North Yorkshire. Website address [www.cairncross.freeserve.co.uk](http://www.cairncross.freeserve.co.uk) 12/03

**Good quality jumpers** in regimental colours and other military gifts. For further information please call 020 7520 9212 or Email [inf@smartturnout.co.uk](mailto:inf@smartturnout.co.uk) or [www.smartturnout.co.uk](http://www.smartturnout.co.uk) 12/03

**Russian military watch** catalogue available from, RW1, 23 Burnside Road, Nottingham, NG27HU. [www.russianwatches.co.uk](http://www.russianwatches.co.uk) 01/04

## WANTED

## LEFT HAND DRIVE VEHICLES ALSO MINI BUSES/VANS

ANY CONDITION CASH BUYER

Tel: 020 8 534 4016/020 8 555 0823

(10am to 10.30pm seven days)

**Buy direct ... SAVE £40.00 ONLY £69.95 DELIVERED!!**

- G10 MILITARY WATCH
- STAINLESS STEEL
- RUGGED USE TESTED
- SWISS QUARTZ
- DATE
- BATTERY HATCH
- NATO STRAP

**+44 (0) 701 071 5212**

**MWM DIRECT LLC**  
**G10@mwmdirect.com**

Flags £8 each. BFPO £10. 152cm x 91cm (5 x 3 FT) printed full colour. British Army, NATO, UN, Union Jack, George Cross, England 4 Lions, St George Rose, Welsh Dragon, St Davids Cross, Scot's Lion, St Andrews Cross, White red or RAF ensigns,



Iraq, US rebel etc. over 300 various national & organisations banners also vehicle, table, hand waving 'flaglets' & flagstaffs. We deliver worldwide. Send for free catalogue.

Flying flags, 174 South Road, Hailsham, East Sussex, BN27 3NR, U.K. Phone: 01323 843471, Fax: 842234

Email: [flyingflags@hotmail.com](mailto:flyingflags@hotmail.com)

## PORTRAITS OR CARICATURES (PEOPLE, PETS, HOUSES, ETC.) SINGLE OR GROUPS



**FROM £60**

**B**Send photos to: Stanley Hurr 5 Buncott Road Wells, Somerset BA5 2EF Tel: 01749 677165 Email: [stanhurr@supanet.com](mailto:stanhurr@supanet.com)

**Web gallery:** [www.portraitsandcaricatures.com](http://www.portraitsandcaricatures.com)

## BOOKS

**Keep in step with SOLDIER'S POCKET BOOK.** Great value for money. A 'must have' for your kit. Price £7-50 See [www.milpkbk.co.uk](http://www.milpkbk.co.uk). Email: [sales@milpkbk.co.uk](mailto:sales@milpkbk.co.uk). Tel/Fax: 01964-542878. Military Pocket Books. PO Box 28, Beverley HU17 7LA. 12/03

**FREE MILITARY** catalogues/books wanted. Will collect. Marine & Cannon Books, Sandowne, Tiverton Heath, Tarporley, Cheshire CW6 9HN. Tel: 01829 732524. 11/03

**Peter Hicks Associates**, comprehensive range of military figurines. Available in resin bronze and silver. Commissions always considered. Ring for information/brochure. Tel/fax: 01380 816340/41. Website: [www.peterhicks.com](http://www.peterhicks.com) and email [sales@peterhicks.com](mailto:sales@peterhicks.com) 12/03

**Quality makers of pipe band & uniform accessories**, hand-embroidered badges Irish & Scottish family crest pipe banners, sashes, regimental banners & standards in bullion wire at rock bottom prices. ISO 9002 certified. Topflyz Industries 21/414 Majid Pura, Sialkot 51310/Pakistan. Tel: +92 432588547 Fax: +92 432588547 Email: topflyz@skt.comstas.net.pk

02/04

**MILITARY WATCHES, BRITISH, SWISS, GERMAN**. Superb, used by Special Forces, pilots, divers. Catalogues 4 x 1st stamps. 'AWMW', 84 Merritt Road, Greatstone, Kent, TN28 8SZ

12/03

**A 'Title' plus land for only £20.00p**. Unbelievable? Send for free details to: S.A. Survival, The Cabin, Strathy, Scotland, KW14 7RY.

02/04

**Squaddie gnomes are back**. Ideal gift for those with a sense of humour. Now only £25 each plus £8 P+P. Any regiment or rank. Tel: 01980-655099. www.cannongmilitaria.co.uk

11/03

**Military Fine Arts**. Britain's leading British publishers, artists and dealers. Send £3 for Edition 10, 1000-item Catalogue (incl. 20+ SAS). Cheque payable to G Jennings-Bramly, 5 Feversham Road, Salisbury SP1 3PP. Phone: 01722 328523. www.militaryfinearts.co.uk

11/03 01/03/05/04

**MILITARY WATCHES, SUPERB!** Pilots, divers, chronographs, special forces. Catalogue 4 x 1st stamps, 'AWM' (S), 'Granville House', 84 Merritt Road, Greatstone, Kent, TN28 8SZ.

04/04

**Vehicle Registration Plate**: Private plate for sale BI6 RSM, serious offers only. Buyer settles transfer fee, call 01788 556192 or email rkfd@rugsby-school.net

11/03

**Complete bagpipe band equipment**, hand embroidered Scottish/Irish family crests, banners, badges for police, forces and uniform needs. Free catalogues, write to Geoffrey Enterprises, Railway Road, Sialkot-51310 Pakistan. Fax. +92 432 588910 Website: www.geoffrey.com.pk

11/03 / 01/03/05/07/09/04

**Collector metal badges, caps, shoulder etc.** 200-different US \$100.00. Set of 50-German WWII metal badges, plates, medals US \$200.00. Embroidered badges specialist. Write to Geoffrey Enterprises, Railway Road, Sialkot-51310 Pakistan. Fax. +92 432 588910 Website: www.geoffrey.com.pk

04/04

## HOLIDAYS

**ORLANDO**. Brand new, luxury four bed, two bath villa, ten mins to Disneyworld. Sleeps eight-ten. Own heated pool. From £450 p.w. Details at www.floridapinesonline.com. Email: penny@floridapinesonline.com or tel. 01932 706282

12/03

**CYPRUS**: Limassol Bungalow - Larnaca Flat. Sleeps four, near beach/town, from £150.00 - £250.00 per week. Tel: 02085056855. E-mail: dmc28peel@tiscali.co.uk

01/04

**Florida, Kissimmee** villa with private pool to rent, three bedrooms, two bathrooms, sleeps six/eight. All mod cons, airport twenty minutes, Disney ten minutes, from £350 per week inclusive. Tel: 01442-833691.

10/03

**FLORIDA, Kissimmee, Orlando**, three bedrooms, two bathrooms, villa with own private heated pool. Sleeps up to eight, Disney fifteen minutes. From £325 per week. Call 01440-707176. Web: www.floridavilla.com. Email: ladypea200@aol.com

10/04

**Algarve-Luz**, very comfortable pretty villa with garden. Three double bedrooms, Three bathrooms. Near beach, pools, tennis, squash, golf and beautiful National Park. Tel. 0207 9381007.

11/03

## SERVICES

**CPC National/International courses** in the North West of England. Small classes, high pass rate, services discount and flexibility of dates. See our website for details of our next course - National & International held quarterly. www.transporttrainingservices.com Tel: 01925-243500. Email: Tachographsuk@aol.com

01/04

**Do you lack vitality?** Do you need more energy? Want to lose, gain or maintain your weight? Then don't waste any more time, Call 01763245357 or log onto my website: www.neroysfitness.com or email: 1bhealthfitness@aol.com

01/04

**Accommodation address for your personal mail**. Your mail, sent to our address, can be forwarded on to you for £2.20 per week or you can collect from our Wood Green, London N22 office very near the Tube for only £1.60 per week. Confidential service. Cordon Bell Mail Services (020) 8889 9271. Web: www.cordonbellmailservices.co.uk

04/04

**Do you want to lose weight and keep it off?** Thermatrim plus slimming capsules work so fast you can lose as much as 2 - 7 lbs each and every week. Call now and join thousands of slimmer, happier men and women. Contact us on freephone (UK) 0800 4792500, overseas customer +44 1642 803454 or visit www.dplan.co.uk Free, rapid delivery on telephone orders.

11/03



FREEFALL ADVENTURES SKYDIVING COURSES IN FLORIDA  
Freefall Adventures, Florida are happy to offer skydiving courses for beginner to advanced students in beautiful Lake Wales, Florida. Our skydiving school is British owned and operated. Located on the east coast of Florida, this tropical paradise is a great place for your skydiving vacation. Come join us for some extreme fun in the sun.

CONTACT US FOR FURTHER DETAILS:  
FREEFALL ADVENTURES, FLORIDA  
400 W. AIRPORT DRIVE, SEBASTIAN, FLORIDA 32958, USA  
TEL: (772) 388 0050 - FAX: (772) 581 4468  
Email: skydiveMik@aol.com www.ffadventures.com

## WANTED

### Ex Reg or TA?

45 Signal Squadron are expanding in the Essex and Suffolk area.

We are looking for experienced Service personnel to fill management positions that include R Signals detachment commander, FoS, YoFs, SQMS and SSM (other cap badges considered for non-technical trades). If you want to be part of the team that shapes our future, give us a call:

Tel: 01206 782257  
Email: join-45@36sigregt.org.uk

For details of the excellent conditions and rates of pay, including a tax free bounty of up to £1,300. Look at www.36sigregt.org.uk

## SHOP AT SOLMART



## £££ ARMY SPORTS LOTTERY RESULTS £££

**06 September 2003**

1st (556 runs, £6,500): Tpr CH Hope, Scots DG, Fallingbostel  
2nd (555 runs, £3,200): Cpl L Deboer, HQ Catterick Garr, Catterick

3rd (545 runs, £2,100): Ssgt AT Leftwich, Garrison Admin Office, Catterick  
4th (543 runs, £1,700): Sgt NJ Phipps, 30 Signal Regt, Bramcote

5th (530 runs, £1,300): WO2 PBW Hogg, 225 Signal Sqn, Lisburn  
6th (529 runs, £1,000): Ssgt M Reeves, Sp Bn HQ ARRC, Rheindahlen

7th (528 runs, £800): 2Lt PR Calderbank, HQ AMS, Sandhurst  
8th (525 runs, £600): Sgt C Taylor, 6 Bn REME, Tidworth

9th (524 runs, £400): Ssgt PJ Roby, 24 Regt RLC, Bielefeld  
10th (517 runs, £200): Sgt GW Walker, 99 PC Sqn RLC, Rheindahlen

Dhekelia; LCpl DC O'Hagan, 3 R Irish, Armagh; LCpl IA Richardson, 39 Engr Regt, Cambridge; Cpl PR Stalton, 7 Tpt Regt RLC, Bielefeld; Capt NC Stanton, NI CSS Regt, Belfast; WO1 J Sykes, 1 Signal Bde, Rheindahlen; WO1 A Williams, 12 Regt RA, Sennelager; WO1 AW Wilsher, RMA Sandhurst

**27 September 2003**

3 way tie for 1st Place (20 Goals £3,933.33 each)

WO1 D Barnstaple, Army Foundation Coll, Harrogate; Pte RM Gibson, ITC Catterick; Ssgt CJ Regan, HQ NI, Lisburn

28 way tie for 4th Place (19 Goals £214.29 each)

WO2 VG Bannister, School of Logistics, Deepcut; Cpl TA Bernthal, HQ 11 Region DDA, Tidworth; Cpl AGHA Bevington-King, QRH, Sennelager; Ssgt TO Bowes, 32 Engr Regt, Hohne; WO1 RCF Chappell, Bowman CMT, Ashchurch; OCdt L Copson, RMCS, Shruivenham; LCpl SD Crossley, 28 Engr Regt, Hameln; Capt GR Donohoe, 26 Regt RA, Guttersloh; Tpr KS Groves, RDG, Munster; Cpl L Hallsworth, 280 (UK) Sig Sqn, Krefeld; Maj BJ Hughes, JSCSC, Shruivenham; Pte SP Johnson, 1 SG, Munster; Ssgt CA Johnson, 25 Engr Regt, Antrim; Lt AC Jones, 3 RSME Regt, Minley; Gnr SC Jones, JSPC, Bulford; LCpl A Jones, 2 Para, Colchester; Cpl S Jones, 35 Engr Regt, Paderborn; Lbdr PS Kelly, 16 Regt RA, Woolwich; WO2 SM Labaj, ACIO Dumfries; Pte IM McIntyre, 16 Tk Tptr Sqn, Fallingbostel; Ssgt CS Miles, 4 Regt RA, Osnabruck; Maj M Moran, HQ 15 (NE) Bde, York; Pte GJ Muirhead, 1 A and SH, Canterbury; Capt M Mullally, HQ 39 Inf Bde, Lisburn; LCpl SA Redmond, LD, Swanton Morley; LCpl MJ Stratford, 1 KORBR; Sgt B Taylor, Scots DG, Fallingbostel; LCpl JM Williams, 1 RWF, Aldershot

## £££ WINNERS £££

**01 October 2003**

**1st PRIZE £15,000**  
SGT D SIDEBOTTOM - 2 CS REGT RLC

**2nd PRIZE £5,000**  
CAPT NJ OVERTON - 1 COLDM GUARDS

**3rd PRIZE £3,000**  
CPL RJ ANDREWS - ATR WINCHESTER

**4th PRIZE £1,500**  
CPL RA PHILLIPS - 39 REGT RA

**5th PRIZE £500.00**  
MAJ IJ WOOD - 1 RGBW

12-way Tie for 7th Place (22 Goals £166.67 each)

Cpl LJ Ashton, KRH, BFPO 812; Pte SB Barnes, QRL, Catterick; Maj SJ Cartwright, 1 RHF, Fort George; Sgt PJ Guppy, 2 R Anglian; Ssgt PG Morgan, 2 LI,



## REUNIONS

**Black Watch Association:** Remembrance Parade at Horse Guards Parade, Nov 9. Volunteers still required. Regimental Col Lt Gen Sir Alistair Irwin to take salute. Details: Frank Bailey, 1 Brianson Ave, Sneyd Green, Stoke on Trent, Staffs ST6 2NG or tel 01782 280912.

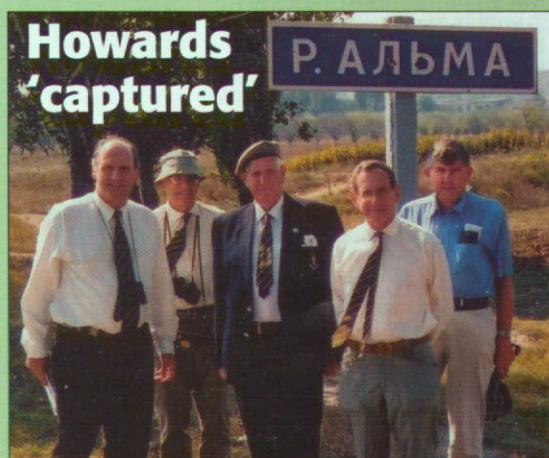
**Queen's Own Warwickshire and Worcestershire Yeomanry**, incorporating A Sqn QOMY and 76 Signal Sqn: Reunion lunch Nov 9 at Warwick. Ladies welcome. Contact John Mayfield, tel 01926 853461 or [mail@talkgas.net](mailto:mail@talkgas.net)

**Royal Anglian Regiment and Beds and Herts Regiment Association:** Wreath-laying and reunion, Nov 16, at The Keep, Kempston. Contact John Baggaridge tel 01234 294853 or [johnbaggaridge@yahoo.com](mailto:johnbaggaridge@yahoo.com)

**Army Medical Services WOs' and Sgts' Mess** Past and Present Dinner Club: Annual reunion Nov 22 at RMAS. Details: WO1 (CRSM) R S Parkes on 01276 412759 or Mrs Ann Bradley on 01276 412789.

**Black Watch Association:** Stoke Branch, Burns Night Dance, Jan 24 at Jubilee Hall, Stoke. Details: Frank Bailey, 1 Brianson Ave, Sneyd Green, Stoke on Trent, Staffs ST6 2NG or tel 01782 280912.

**Rapier maintainers:** Reunion dinner on Feb 7 in Bailleul Sgts' Mess, Hazebrouck Barracks Arborfield. Contact SSgt Al Friend on 0118



976331 or e-mail [radarreunion@aol.com](mailto:radarreunion@aol.com)

**Cyprus Police UK Unit 1955-60:** Reunion Mar 1, at Park Manor Hotel, Northstead Manor Drive, Scarborough YO12 6BB, tel 01723 372080. Ring hotel for bookings for dinner and accommodation and quote reference "Allison". Full details from Frank Cluer on 01372 720398.

**19 Regiment (Highland Gunners):** All ranks reunion, March 20 at TA Centre, Northampton. Details from Maj (QM) G C Porter, tel 01980 634230, or WO2 (BSM) Keir, tel 01980

Members of The Green Howards were almost involved in a second Crimean War when they were arrested by Ukrainian soldiers on the 19th century battlefield. Twelve members on a tour organised by the friends of the regimental museum were looking at the sites on which the Green Howards won their first battle honour when they were arrested and briefly detained at a local barracks while checks were made. Among those "nicked" were, from left, museum curator Maj Roger Chapman, Maj Miles Garnett, Pte Jack Haines, Colonel of the regiment Brig John Powell and Mr Edward Nicholl. The sign behind them says "River Alma".

634282, write to them at 19 Regt RA, Horne Bks, Larkhill, Salisbury SP4 8QU or e-mail [reunion19regiment@yahoo.com](mailto:reunion19regiment@yahoo.com)

**70th Artillery clerks:** Reunion dinner at RA Sgts' Mess, Woolwich on Apr 3. Contact WO1 (SSM) A M Tibble AGC (SPS) on tel 01276 412250 or visit [www.artyclerks.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.artyclerks.fsnet.co.uk)

**Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, Aden Veterans' Society:** Thirty-seventh reunion, June 18, at The Bulls Heads, Percy Street, Newcastle, Tyne and Wear. Details: Alan (Jonty) Batey, tel 01302 772044 or [jonty.rfn@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:jonty.rfn@tiscali.co.uk)

## SEARCHLINE

**Margaret M Coyne** (née Davey) worked for Naafi, ENSA in Belgium 1945-46. She died and was buried there. Margaret posted home postcards featuring 43 ENSA Hostel, HCS, BAOR; Sealed Field Post Office; R143/HCS; BLA; and HQ/HCS BLA. Any former colleagues please write to Charles Holmes, Mayfield, Le Pre Cadoret, St Lawrence, Jersey JE3 1JQ or tel 01534 734752.

Information concerning life and service of **Pte-Sgt John Williams Parker, 3 Per Sup Coy, RASC 1939-48** (interned 1940-42 Switzerland) and **RAOC 1948-53 MELF, Egypt** is sought by his daughter, Sonia Gardner. Write to her at 16 Barn Close, Whiddon Down, Okehampton, Devon EX20 2QR or e-mail [sonia@devonia.screaming.net](mailto:sonia@devonia.screaming.net)

**23 Field Ambulance Old Comrades Association:** Worldwide membership of 260-plus, three annual reunions nationwide and seeks to swell its ranks. All interested former members of 23 PFA and associated units are asked to contact Maj (Retd) R F W Wickins, Beckview, 6 Waters Meet, Warwick Bridge, Carlisle CA4 8RT or e-mail [bwickins@lineone.net](mailto:bwickins@lineone.net)

**Former 13 Light Anti-Aircraft Brigade** officers John Lawrence Mark Cave, Frederick Seebom, Arthur Norton Puddle, Oliver Raymond Clegg and Ewart Gratton Barter, James Michael Barter, John Dyson and George Stanley Mitton who served with **69 (West Riding) Field Regiment** (or their families) are sought. Also sought are surviving relatives of **Capt John Hinchcliffe Dawson** and **Capt Gilbert Woodhouse Rhodes Bottomley** of 70th (Bradford) Field Regiment RA.

Undelivered Sovereign's commissioning scrolls in the names of these veterans are waiting to be claimed. If you can help, contact 269 Battery RA, tel 01904 668600.

Information concerning military career of **Capt Carl Langer, 6 Bn Welsh Regiment 1914-18**, also attached to 3 Int Corps and Sniper School, is required by local historian in Clydach, near Swansea. Langer moved with his family to the Midlands in the 1930s. Contact Gary Packer on tel 01792 842888 or e-mail [garypacker9@aol.com](mailto:garypacker9@aol.com)

**QAIMNSR** cape badge wanted. **Joyce Gertrude Talbot** was wartime nurse on hospital ships, including **mv St David**, bombed at Anzio beachhead. Her son wishes to present her set of five medals, including Italy Star, to Royal London Hospital Museum. He requires an example of the **QAIMNSR** cape badge his mother would have worn. Anyone willing to donate or loan a badge so a copy may be made is asked to contact Gerard Talbot, 27 Middleberg Road, Canvey Island, Essex SS8 9RF or tel 01268 511140.

**Ex-REME** Liverpudlian **Lcpl Patrick Michael Martin**, last known at Holywell, Wales, sought by Sharon Martin [nankalamo@aol.com](mailto:nankalamo@aol.com)

Information on role of **sappers in Normandy** required for battlefield tour by Sgt A D Delve, 7 HQ Sqn RE, 21 Engineer Regiment, BFPO 36 or [andydelve@hotmail.com](mailto:andydelve@hotmail.com)

**Triangle Troop, 11 Signal Regiment**, Ouston, Newcastle, June 1979 Intake. Rod Mansell would like to hear from old mates and

requires troop photo. E-mail [royogi@aol.com](mailto:royogi@aol.com)

**Johnny Hillman**, who joined the **Royal Berkshire Regiment** as a National Serviceman on Oct 16, 1952 is asked to contact Basil Mortimer on tel 01189 872549 or Mick Lamble on tel 01235 868546.

Any news of Robert P "Blaster" Bates, 7 Armd Wksp 1983, please to Ex-REME Lcpl Norman Reid. [norrie@reid776.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:norrie@reid776.freeserve.co.uk)

**Ex-68 Sqn RCT** contact information and news of future events at [www.waggoners.co.uk](http://www.waggoners.co.uk)

## ASSISTANCE FOR AUTHOR

DOG handlers in the military during times of conflict from the Second World War onwards are the subject of a book being written by Paul Laban. Input from British and Commonwealth Servicemen and women is required to complete the research. All correspondence will be acknowledged. Write to Paul Laban, 26 Lanner Road, Maesycroed, Pontypridd, South Wales CF37 1EQ.

## UNIT DISPOSALS

**35 Battery RA** will disband on March 31. Anyone who has made a presentation to the unit since its re-formation in March 1985 is entitled to reclaim it. Any presentations not reclaimed by Feb 10 will be archived with battery property. Contact WO2 (BSM) Robbie Draper, 35 Bty RA, 22 Regt RA, Rapier Bks, Kirton-in-Lindsey, Gainsborough, Lincs DN21 4HZ or e-mail [robbedraper@hotmail.com](mailto:robbedraper@hotmail.com)

# Your own HR website

UNSURE about recent changes to your pension or your pay on promotion? Or perhaps you just want to keep up-to-date with key human resources events within the Army.

All of this information comes under the watchful eye of the Army's Adjutant General, based at Upavon, and to make your life easier, two web sites – **AGWeb** and **AG Internet** – have been built for two audiences, but with many similarities.

The difference is that they sit on two separate networks. **AG Internet** is hosted on the Internet and is focused towards the soldier at home or abroad and, just as importantly, his or her family.

**AGWeb**, the intranet, is hosted on the Army's own network, which is inaccessible to the outside world but reaches all the way down to sub-unit level.

These sites are watched over by the four-

strong AG's web team. It is their job to maintain the contents and to keep the data up-to-date, ensuring that the information is relevant to today's soldier.

This daunting task would not be possible without the help of the Intra/Internet Liaison Officers (ILOs) across AG's command. The primary role of the ILOs is to look after their own specific area, on which they are the experts.

Key areas of interest on the two sites are: Pay and allowances; conditions of service; sports and welfare; operational news; legal and discipline matters; manning and medical; education and museums; promotions, pay and pension; terms and conditions of service; individual development and training.

Internet: <http://www.ag.mod.uk>

Intranet: <http://agweb.cash.mod.uk> or <http://www.agweb.r.mil.uk>

## Workshops offer jobs for disabled

THE Lord Roberts Workshops, Edinburgh, now a part of SSAFA-Forces Help, have been providing work opportunities for disabled ex-Service people for more than a century.

A small business with a reputation for quality, it offers a bespoke woodturning service and specialises in the manufacture and restoration of traditional brushes, boot scrapers and boot racks. The workshop's efforts have been rewarded with a Royal Warrant and ISO 9001.

People with machining, woodturning or woodworking skills who would like to work in or near Edinburgh and feel they could make a contribution to the business are asked to contact General Manager Ron Mann, Lord Roberts Workshops, 6 Western Corner, Edinburgh EH12 5PY or tel/fax 0131 337 6951.

## OPERATIONAL HONOURS AND AWARDS

### Northern Ireland

**OBE:** Lt Col W M Campbell, R Irish; Lt Col J R Hockenhull MBE, Int Corps.

**MBE:** Capt P A Collister, Cheshire; WO1 R G Gray, R Anglian; Maj D R Orr Ewing, BW; WO2 P Plowman PWRR; Cpl I Vaughan, R Irish.

**QGM:** WO2 N J Bradley, R Irish; Cpl J S Hollingsworth, Para; SSgt S A Parker RLC.

**QCB:** LCpl M R Ball RAVC; Cpl J A Bowden, Int Corps; LCpl G Carr, Para; Sgt J A MacLachlan RHF; Sgt C L Nuber RGJ; WO2 R Pearson RLC; WO1 R V Price QGM, APTC; Sgt J R Smith, R Anglian.

**QCVS:** Cpl C T Anderson RHF; WO2 M J Bard, Cheshire; Lt Col A T Boyd MBE, RLC; Maj K M Broomfield AGC (SPS); WO2 B H Calder, A and SH; WO2 D Campbell, R Irish; WO2 C Davies, R Signals; Maj C M R Elmhurst SG; Lt Col E C Feldman REME; SSgt S J Griffiths, R Signals; Capt K W Hannah MBE BEM, Para; Cpl J E Hulme, Para; Lt Col R J Ladley MBE, R Anglian; Maj R E Parker RLC;

SSgt I C Noble, R Signals; Col J I S Plastow MBE, RGJ; Maj D S Powell RLC; Cpl M L Powell, Para; Cpl C A R Walledge AGC (SPS).

### Former Yugoslavia

**MBE:** CSgt J I Grattan, Staffs; Cpl E G Wind, R Scots.

**QCVS:** Capt K J L Czernik AGC (ETS); Sgt N A Hill, R Signals; Capt A D Lumley, R Scots; Lt R K S Muir, R Scots; LCpl S W O'Neill RE; Sgt A J Williams RLC; Cpl G J Wooley, R Signals.

### Afghanistan

**MBE:** Sgt R J Powell AGC (RMP).

**QCVS:** Capt C P Barrett RE; Maj D R McNeil, Para TA; Capt P D Talbot-Jones, Para TA.

### Sierra Leone

**MBE:** Maj M J Edkins, D and D.

### Congo

**MBE:** Col T J P Watts, late R Signals.

### Miscellaneous non-operational awards

**QCB:** LCpl R P Davies PWRR; Pte S A Duff PWRR; LCpl B J L Johnson PWRR; Pte S M Poland PWRR.

## SOLDIER COMPETITIONS

**World at War DVD set (Sept)** winners: A Kirkin, Bushey, Herts; Parachute Regiment Recruiting Team, Colchester, Essex. Answer: Franklin D Roosevelt.

**The Great Escape (Sept)** winners: Sgt K Garret, NI; M Stephen, Churchfields, Kent; I Quick, Chicksands, Beds; LCpl T Whitney, Lichfield, Staffs; Cpl J Peden, Canada. Answer: John Sturges.

**John Virgo (Sept)** winners: J Macdougall, Haxby, Yorks; G W Seatter, Harrow, Middx; G E Hodgson, Osnabruck; J L Birtle, Rheindahlen; D Shortman, Stockport, Cheshire. Answer: Mark Williams.

**Indy Car (Sept)** winners: D Edwards, Croydon, Surrey; A Paling, Colerne, Wilts; M Russell, Swindon, Wilts; M R Kerry, Nottingham; Cpl A R Bird, Rheindahlen. Answer: 1993.

## Useful numbers

**Army Benevolent Fund** 020 7591 2000; [www.armybenfund.org](http://www.armybenfund.org)

**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)

**Career Transition Partnership** 0207 766 8020 [www.ctp.org.uk](http://www.ctp.org.uk)

**Confidential support lines:**

UK 0800 731 4880

Germany 0800 1827 395

Cyprus 080 91065

Bosnia 0800 731 4880

Others UK 1980 630854

**Operations worldwide** Paradigm Homelink Access Number \*2999@thePINprompt

**Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society** 01372 841600; [www.combatstress.com](http://www.combatstress.com)

**Consumer Credit Counselling Service** Free

Confidential Helpline 0800 1381111

**Family Escort Service** 020 7463 9249

**Gulf Veterans Association** 0191 230 1065 [www.gulfveteransassociation.co.uk](http://www.gulfveteransassociation.co.uk)

**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.ngvfa.com](http://www.ngvfa.com)

**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.britishlegion.org.uk](http://www.britishlegion.org.uk)

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

**ESHRA Ex-Service Homes Referral Agency** 020 7839 4466 [www.eshra.com](http://www.eshra.com) or [eshra@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:eshra@britishlegion.org.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)

**SAMA 82** (South Atlantic Medal Association) Falklands conflict veterans 01495 227577 e-mail: [densama@aol.com](mailto:densama@aol.com)

**Samaritans** 08457 90 90 90

**Service Children's Education** 01980 618244 Services Cotswold Centre 01225 810358

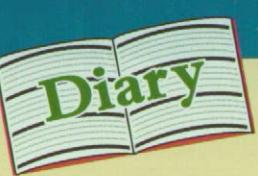
**SSAFA Forces Help** 020 7403 8783; [www.ssafa.org.uk](http://www.ssafa.org.uk)

**SSAFA Forces Help Housing Advisory Service** 01722 436400

**Veterans' Agency (includes War Pensions Agency)** 0800 169 2277 (from UK); 0044 1253 866043 (from overseas); [www.veteransagency.mod.uk](http://www.veteransagency.mod.uk)

**Victim Support Western Europe** (SSAFA Forces Help) in Germany 02161 47 2272; from outside Germany 0049 2161 47 2272

**WRVS** General enquiries 02920 739906; [www.wrvs.org.uk](http://www.wrvs.org.uk)



## DATES

## NOVEMBER

15-16: Army Arts Society annual exhibition, Medieval Hall, Salisbury Cathedral, 1000-1600.  
16: British Model Soldier Society Bristol area annual show, The Pavilion, North Parade Road, Bath. Details on 0117 9732067.

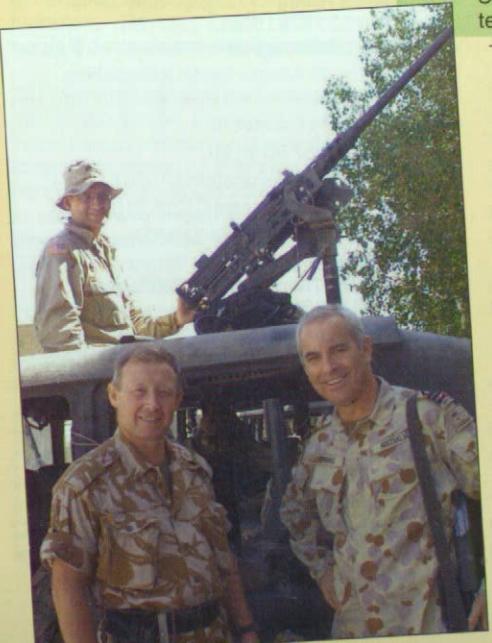
\* FOUR-year-old Lauren, daughter of LCpl Karl Shearer, who died during the war in Iraq while serving with the Blues and Royals, officially opened a building in Peterborough named after her father. Lauren and her mother, **Suzi**, were joined by members of the regiment and civil leaders. Karl Shearer House is the headquarters of Close Brothers Military Services.

Karl, 24, was killed when his Scimitar came under attack from Iraqi troops and plunged into a canal at Basra on April 1.

\* Samantha Roberts, whose husband **Sgt Steve Roberts** of the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment was killed in action near Az Zubayr on March 24, has joined forces with Keighley brewery Timothy Taylor to raise funds for the Royal British Legion. The Steve Roberts Challenge will invite local pubs to raise more than £10,000 for the 2003 Poppy Appeal.

\* A copy of the register of paratroopers killed during the Second World War was displayed at **Tatton Park**, Knutsford, before moving permanently to the Cheshire Record Office. Bestowed by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, the copy was presented to mark Tatton Park's wartime role as the Army's Parachute Training School.

\* WORK has begun on an £860,000 programme of work at the **TA Centre** in Wigman Road, Bilborough in Nottingham. It should be finished by the end of January.



## She flies through the air with the greatest of ease

SSgt Helen O'Connor gives the thumbs-up during a tandem jump in Germany to raise funds for the British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association (Blesma). Helen, who is serving at Gutersloh with 43 Supply Squadron, 1 Gen Sup Regt RLC, had her right foot amputated after an accident in Oxford last March.



A keen runner until then, she made the jump to "put something back" after all the help she had received from family, friends, colleagues, Headley Court and Garrison Rehabilitation in Germany. Helen completed her tandem jump with instructor Bill "Kiwi" Sharp at the British Parachute Jump Centre, Badd Lippespringe, Sennelager. She persuaded **Sarah Sanders**, wife of her boss, WO2 (SQMS) **Frenchy Sanders**, to make the jump as well, and together they raised about €3,000 (about £2,000) for Blesma.

## School's party

Good old days: Army pupils, right, at the **Duke of York's Royal Military School** in Dover dressed to mark the school's bicentenary.

Britain's first co-educational state-funded and state-administered school, it was founded by the "Grand Old Duke" in Chelsea as the Royal Military Asylum for boy and girl orphans of soldiers killed in battle (later the Duke of York's Headquarters, it has been sold back to Cadogan Estates).

The present Dukes of York and Cadogan watched pupils, all from military backgrounds, re-enact the arrival of the first children in 1803. The school, which is an agency of the MoD, was presented with new Colours on its annual Grand Day by the Duke of Kent, its president.

• **The Charity of Mars** – Page 71



## Hunt for smallest soldier

STANDING just 4ft 10in tall, weighing 83lb, and with a chest measurement of 30in and size two feet, former Bdr Dennis Royston Manfield (Army Number 14110967) could well be the smallest soldier to have served in the British Army during the 20th century.

Dennis, who is pictured between two colleagues after their enlistment in 1946, recently donated his uniform to the Muckleburgh Collection Museum at Weybourne Military Camp, Norfolk, where he was based during his National Service.

His uniform, which he had kept since his demobilisation, still fits him perfectly.

The museum wants to try to find out if he really was the smallest soldier to have served.

Anyone who knows better is asked to contact Neil Storey, Education and Displays Officer, The Muckleburgh Collection, Weybourne Military Camp, Weybourne, Norfolk NR25 7EG or tel 01263 588608.



## Keeping it in the family



## Back with the Brits . . .

LIVERPOOL-born naval officer **Cdr Steve Dunning**, right, Australian Defence Force, found himself serving alongside British personnel at the Coalition Press Information Centre in Baghdad. With him is **Maj Bob Bone** AGC (SPS), a TA Arabic-speaking liaison officer.

"It felt familiar," Steve said. "My father was in the Royal Horse Artillery and our family has a tradition of military service going back 150 years."

"Dad spent 13 years in the Australian Army after active service in North Africa and Europe during the Second World War with the British Army, and his two brothers also fought in the war. One was killed at Arnhem. His grandfather was also in the Royal Horse Artillery."

"I and my two brothers joined the Australian Defence Force." Steve has now left Baghdad to take up a post as Senior Naval Officer Reserves, South Australia.

CSGT Jim Smith and daughter Cpl **Angela Mason** show off the Adjutant General's Certificates of Commendation they received for their work at the Reserves Training and Mobilisation Centre at Chilwell during the build-up to the Gulf war.

The centre mobilised more than 3,000 soldiers in just five months. Jim, who managed a team of eight civilians, ensured every soldier had accommodation and was briefed on kit and equipment before deploying.

Once the kit was issued it was Angela's responsibility to make sure transport was in place to transfer troops to the airhead, and to recover them when their tours were complete.

"I'm extremely proud of Angela," said Jim. "It's great that we both received the award, because we never expected it. It's cause for a double celebration."

REGULAR soldier Cpl **Ginge Mather** poses with cadets **Amy Watts**, left, and **Claire White** and the regimental drums during a once-in-a-decade family reunion for those connected with The Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment.

More than 500 people converged on Hounslow, home of the 1st Battalion, for the event in Cavalry Barracks. Highlights included a drum-head service and a march-past, at which the salute was taken by **Lt Gen Kevin Donoghue**, the Colonel of the regiment.



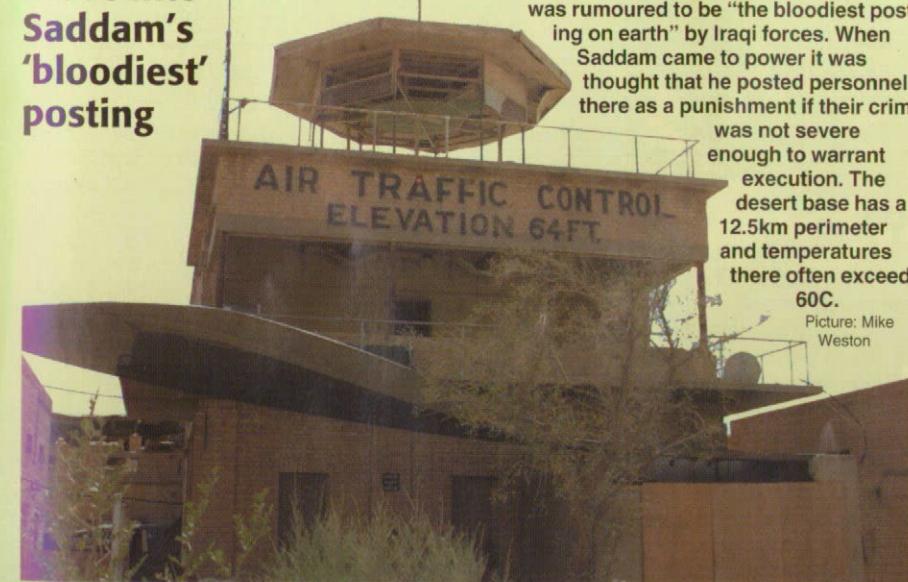
\* **Maj Ali Twinn** is believed to be the first female cadet company commander in the North East of England. She has been appointed by Durham Army Cadet Force.

## Loggies move into Saddam's 'bloodiest' posting

Home sweet home: Shaibah – currently home to the soldiers of the Royal Logistic Corps – was an Royal Air Force airfield from 1927.

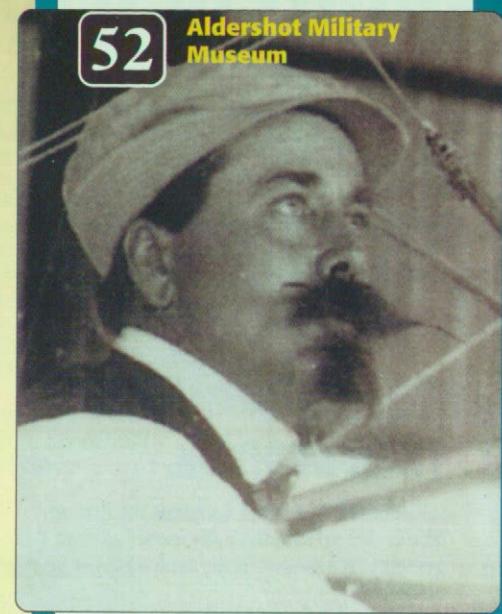
Taken over by the Iraqi air force in the 1950s, it was rumoured to be "the bloodiest posting on earth" by Iraqi forces. When Saddam came to power it was thought that he posted personnel there as a punishment if their crime was not severe enough to warrant execution. The desert base has a 12.5km perimeter and temperatures there often exceed 60C.

Picture: Mike Weston



## Legends of the regiments and corps

52 Aldershot Military Museum



At the controls: Samuel Franklin Cody

## Colonel who wasn't

IN 1906 an American, Samuel Franklin Cody, was appointed chief kite flying instructor to the British Army. His system, adopted by the Army, was used for suspending spotters in the air beneath a system of kites.

The top kit had a basket in which the spotter sat. Kites were a quicker and easier alternative than the balloon systems and airships of the time.

Most of the Army's kite flying was undertaken by the Royal Engineers at their balloon school in Farnborough.

### FIRST FLIGHT

Cody built and flew "British Army Aeroplane No 1", making Britain's first officially recognised powered flight in 1908. Although his contract wasn't renewed by the War Office, which saw no future in powered flight, he went on designing, building and flying his own aircraft. On one occasion Cody met the King, who referred to him as "Colonel". The tag stuck.

Cody died in a flying crash in 1913 and was buried with full military honours in Aldershot's military cemetery. His flying helmet, gloves, a propeller from one of his aircraft and some of his flying trophies are on display in the Aldershot Military Museum in a gallery devoted to his flying exploits.

Aldershot Military Museum, Queens Ave, open Mon-Sun, 1000-1700. Adults £2, children/concessions £1; 01252 314598, [www.hants.gov.uk/museum/aldershot](http://www.hants.gov.uk/museum/aldershot)

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

# Switched on . . .



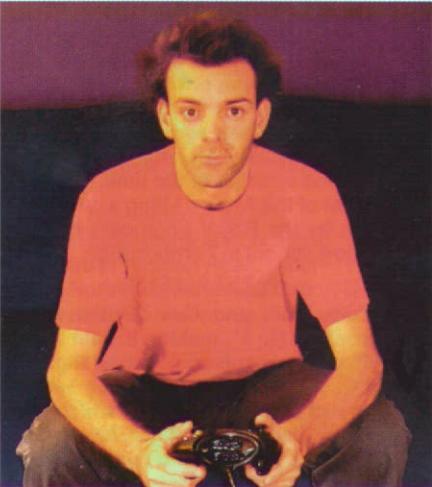
## TURN HEADS ▲

LOGITECH'S QuickCam Sphere is the first and only webcam that physically moves to keep a person's face automatically centred in the field of view.

Its unique adjustable design and robot-like personality offers the option to zoom in up to three times the normal viewing size, making video instant messaging and video calling more fun, with the person on the other end able to see detailed facial expressions. It includes a built-in microphone for easy addition of audio to instant messaging or video clips.

£99.99, from [www.logitech.com](http://www.logitech.com)

# Game on . . .



## DO YOU THINK YOU'RE SEXY?

IN a bid to prove once and for all that computer gaming has moved from geekiness to sexiness, Gamer.tv ([www.gamer.tv](http://www.gamer.tv)) has launched a nationwide search to find the UK's sexiest gamer.

After online knockout heats, the two-month "game idol" campaign will culminate in a televised grand finale at a high-profile London venue on December 12. Broadcast worldwide on one of Gamer.tv's satellite shows and with a first prize of an all-expenses paid trip to Hollywood up for grabs,

the final's judges will crown one male and one female winner.

Contestants must be over the age of 18 and be able to prove in due course that they are genuine computer and video gamers by completing a series of tough tests set by the competition's organisers.

Hollywood hopefuls can e-mail their photos, as well as those of their partners, friends and relatives, to [www.sexiestgamer.com](http://www.sexiestgamer.com)

♦ For more information visit [www.gamer.tv](http://www.gamer.tv) or [www.sexiestgamer.com](http://www.sexiestgamer.com)

## MINI MARVEL ▼

WEIGHING in at 20g and no bigger than a car key, this Mini USB drive from Iomega punches way above its size and weight.

Small enough to slip into a pocket, the device provides space for your most important files, photos and digital effects, and is available with capacities of 64MB and upwards.

£25, from [www.iomega.com](http://www.iomega.com)



## MOVIE MAKER ▲

DESIGNED to be ultra compact and easy to use, Logitech's Pocket Video 750 boasts the same functions as its bulky counterparts.

Easily transportable, the camera is ideal for budding Spielbergs who are always on the move.

£200, from [www.logitech.com](http://www.logitech.com)

## BYTE-SIZE NEWS

THE hottest August on record in the UK caused a predictable slump in console hardware sales. Nintendo's GameCube was hit hardest of all, with weekly sales figures slipping below 1,000 units for the first time since its launch.

SONY Computer Entertainment has confirmed that the PlayStation 3 will feature backwards compatibility with the PS2 and PSOne, ensuring continued support for older software formats in the new hardware.

THE family of a man killed by teenagers allegedly influenced by action from the *Grand Theft Auto* series are preparing to file a reputed \$100 million lawsuit against the game's publishers Take-Two Interactive.

MICROCHIP developer Intel claim that their new mobile phone processor, codenamed Bulverde, will allow for Xbox-quality gaming on phones and PDAs.

GAMES watchdog ELSPIA estimate that the gaming industry, which employs some 20,000 people, generated more than £2 billion for the UK economy last year.

## MUNCH'S ODDYSEE, GBA

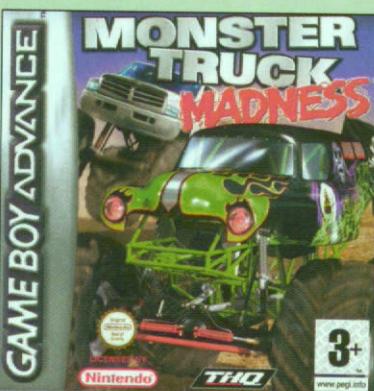
PREVIOUSLY available exclusively on the Xbox, *Munch's Oddysee* is the third game in the *Oddworld* series.

With their sacred land in danger of being destroyed by the greedy Glukkons, Munch and his sidekick Abe team up to teach their foes a lesson by arming themselves with wacky weapons, acquiring a wide array of weird and wonderful power-ups, and possessing the minds of their enemies.

A puzzle game at heart, *Munch's Oddysee* remains as addictive, and at times frustrating, as ever on the small screen.

**VERDICT:** Ideal for the portable puzzler. 7/10

## MONSTER TRUCK MADNESS, GBA



HAVING become one of the best-selling racing games on the PC, *Monster Truck Madness* now looks set to win over a new legion of fans on the Game Boy Advance.

The title's pick-up-and-play gameplay is ideal for the handheld market and allows gamers to get behind the steering wheels of some of the most powerful and outrageous vehicles as they crush, jump and roll their way to victory. With 30 tracks featuring destructible objects and real-time vehicle damage, *Monster Truck Madness* offers gamers classic arcade-style racing action.

**VERDICT:** Motoring mayhem. 8/10

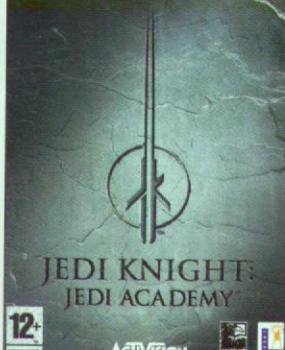
## REPUBLIC: THE REVOLUTION, PC OUT NOW

THIS strategy simulation from Elixir Studios tasks players with overthrowing Vassily Karosov, a dictator who rules the fictional Russian state of Novistrana with an iron fist and a regime based on fear and oppression.

Starting with just one loyal supporter, gamers must build up a faction strong enough to oust the president by converting key members of the country's 10,000 citizens to their cause. Methods of winning power range from inciting strikes and riots to organising music festivals and charity galas.

**VERDICT:** Power is everything. 9/10

## JEDI KNIGHT: JEDI ACADEMY, PC OUT NOW



IN this follow up to LucasArts' *Jedi Outcast* gamers are immersed in the role of an apprentice at Luke Skywalker's *Jedi Academy* where they must learn the power and danger of the Force.

A unique level selection system allows the player to choose their own path through the game as well as the missions they undertake to improve their Jedi skills. Aside from learning to master different lightsabers, trainees must also get to grips with weapons such as the blaster and Imperial repeater.

**VERDICT:** Star Wars buffs only. 6/10

OUT NOW



OUT NOW

## WIN... WIN... WIN

**SOLDIER** has teamed up with THQ to offer you the opportunity to enjoy gaming while on the move.

For your chance to win a copy of *Monster Truck Madness* and *Munch's Oddysee*, and a Game Boy Advance SP to play them on, simply answer the following question:



In which game did Munch's sidekick Abe make his console debut?

a) Oddworld b) Oddball c) Odd job



Send your answers on a postcard to Game Boy Advance SP competition, **Soldier**, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

The winners will be drawn at random from the correct answers received by November 28.

Usual rules apply.

## THE ITALIAN JOB, PS2, XBOX, GC OUT NOW

THERE are three modes of play in this high-octane arcade racer inspired by the new blockbuster film of the same name.

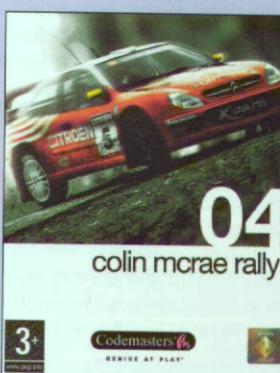
In story mode gamers follow the plot of the movie, which pays homage to the original 60s British film, breaking and swerving their way through 15 different missions behind the wheel of a Mini Cooper.

Alternatively, players can choose to race against the computer or a friend in the game's circuit racing mode. A series of stunt driving challenges completes the hat-trick of game styles.



**VERDICT:** Mini magic. 8/10

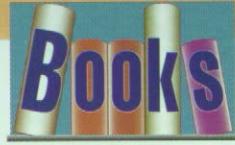
## COLIN MCRAE RALLY 04, PS2, XBOX OUT NOW



**VERDICT:** King of the road. 10/10

THE intense gear-grinding action featured in *Colin McRae Rally 04* takes Codemasters' dominant six million-selling series to a new level.

Boasting the best car handling physics engine ever used in a racing title, the game's exhilarating rally challenges include four-wheel and two-wheel drive championships, country-specific rallies and stages, a group B championship featuring classic rally cars and, for the professional, an expert championship, which demands the best performance from even the most die-hard rally fans.



## Book of the TV series is highly acclaimed

IN the side panels of these pages we feature five books on the 1914-18 conflict, appropriate for the month in which we remember the fallen. Prof

Hew Strachan's *The First World War* (Simon & Schuster, £25), accompanying the Channel 4 series to which he was chief consultant, has received high praise. Sir Max Hastings has called it "a book to end all books" and Prof Richard

Holmes "a towering achievement". This is not part of Strachan's ongoing three-volume history of the war, rather a one-off work aimed at the general reader. It casts aside some of the clichés about generals and includes original colour photography.

## Ypres, where poison gas made its evil debut

THE second battle of Ypres in 1915 was infamous partly for the fact that in it, Germany used poisonous gas as a weapon of war for the first time. In

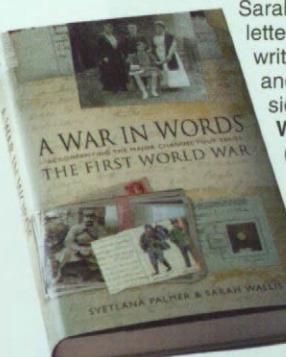
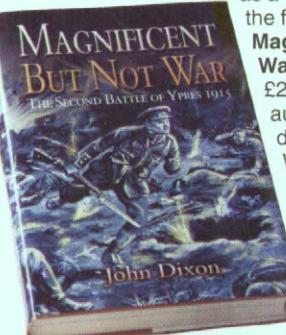
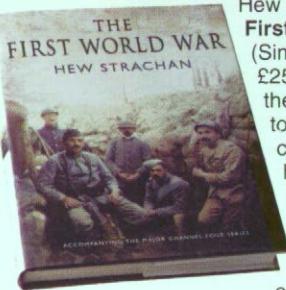
**Magnificent But Not War** (Pen & Sword, £25) John Dixon, author of the definitive First

World War history of the Monmouthshire Regiment, has produced a well researched and detailed day-by-day record of the battle, drawing heavily on personal accounts, regimental histories and war diaries and supported by maps and photographs.

## Ordinary people in extraordinary times

WHILE researching the Channel 4 series *The First World War* (see top of column), Svetlana Palmer and Sarah Wallis unearthed letters and diaries written by combatants and civilians from all sides. Their book **A War in Words** (Simon & Schuster, £14.99), another companion to the television series, draws on these to paint a poignant picture of the inner lives of

ordinary people who found themselves thrown into extraordinary circumstances in time of conflict.



# Cassino gamble

## Campaign was 'as arduous as Stalingrad'

**Monte Cassino** by Andrew Parker (Headline, £20)

**Review:** Brian Jewell

THE invasion of Italy in August 1943, following as it did the Allies' successful North African campaign and the conquest of Sicily, was a key element of Churchill's strategy.

He hoped by this means to keep a window open on the East against the threat of Russian dominance in that part of Europe and was convinced that an invasion of France across the Channel would be premature and unlikely to succeed.

American opinion was all in favour of such action but Churchill's viewpoint prevailed. Some have always held that the Italian front was an expensive and unnecessary diversion.

This book makes it clear how expensive it was and with what loss of life. The battle of Monte Cassino, fought over three months, was won only because of the Allies' enormous superiority in men and material.

The German forces, under the command of the vastly experienced Gen Kesselring, had the advantage of a system of interlocking fortresses known as the Gustav Line extending across the narrowest part of the Italian peninsula and considered impregnable.

In the opinion of one German combatant who had experience of both campaigns,

Monte Cassino was as arduous as the siege of Stalingrad.

The author exploits the modern technique of "oral history", interweaving his account of the campaign with abundant personal detail and the experiences of individuals who were involved in it. His many sources include the reminiscences of the late Spike Milligan and the touching recollections of a young Italian boy, Tony Pittaccio, who lived through both the German and Allied occupation, finding little difference between the effects of either.

A danger inherent in this technique is that it is possible to lose the main thread and overall movement of a campaign in a welter of personal detail, however fascinating.

The author has not fallen into this trap: he has clearly divided the push towards Monte

Cassino into its four component episodes, tracing the course of events from the Salerno landings through the fall of Naples to the struggle for Monte Cassino itself and finally the triumphant entry into Rome.

He leads us with clarity through somewhat confusing results of Italy's surrender, which took place while these events were in progress, and explains how the defection of their erstwhile allies left the Germans in considerable difficulties.

Of particular interest is Parker's analysis of the various nations involved in fighting on the side of the Allies. He provides background information about how these diverse elements came to take part in the action and sheds light on their individual styles of warfare and attitude. As well as British and

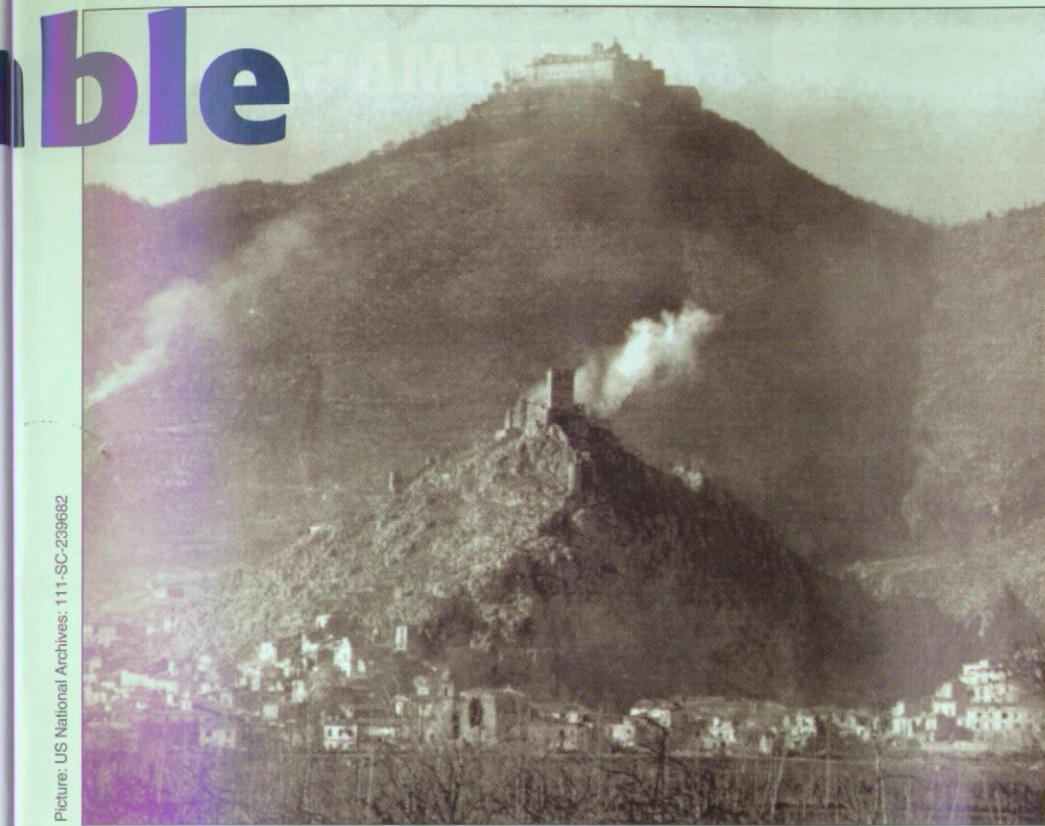
American troops, the forces included a French Expeditionary Corps under General Juin, the 2nd New Zealand Division, the 4th Indian Division, the 1st Canadian Infantry and 5th Armoured Division and the Polish Corps under Lt Gen Wladyslaw Anders, which played a major part in the campaign and was first to enter the ruined fortress of Monte Cassino after Kesselring eventually gave permission for the German withdrawal.

Graphic description of what ghastly sights awaited the victors makes chilling reading.

The destruction of the ancient monastery at Monte Cassino on February 15, 1944 was, according to Parker, "one of the most iconic moments of the war".

Situated at the heart of the seemingly impregnable Gustav Line, the monastery contained

Picture: US National Archives: 111-SC-239682



Beginning of the end: Shellfire lands near Castle Hill, with the monastery behind, in January 1944

priceless art treasures, many of which were prudently removed to safety on Kesselring's orders before the fighting began. It was also a place of quasi-mystical status as a spiritual shrine, the repository of the remains of Saint Benedict.

The Italians felt that attacking the monastery was akin to destroying Westminster Abbey, but the exigencies of war were allowed to overcome the scruples of religious opinion.

Writing 30 years after the destruction of Monte Cassino by Allied bombers, war correspondent Martha Gelhorn reported: "I saw the monastery turning into a muddle of dust and heard the big bangs and was absolutely delighted and cheered like all the other fools."

As the campaign unfolds, the author touch-

es upon the now accepted rivalry between British and American leadership. The vanity of the military commanders of that period is typified by American Gen Mark Clark's determination to be the first to enter Rome, even, it seems, to the extent of threatening to have his troops fire on the British if they attempted to get there before him.

Parker leaves us with the impression that the Italian campaign, for all its ferocity and eventual success by sheer weight of men and material, was not of war-winning importance. The many uncertainties and misunderstandings among prima donna commanders led to indecision and a "situation that added greatly to the problems of Commander-in-Chief General Alexander".

Lacking as it did the glamour of D-Day and the heroics of Stalingrad, the Italian campaign has tended to be neglected by historians. Indeed, Parker's book is the first to deal with this subject for more than 20 years.

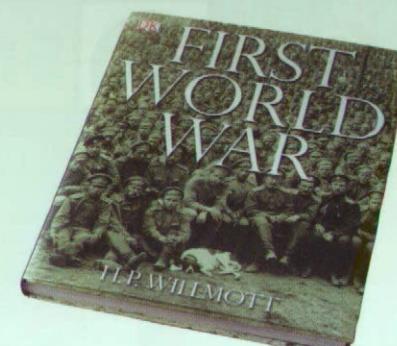
But the participants and their hard-won achievements deserve the sympathetic recognition accorded to them by the author.

It is a painstaking and exhaustive tribute to those men ironically self-styled "The D-Day Dodgers".

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)

### Soldier ordering service

Website: <http://www.helion.co.uk>



## Sombre subject, but this is a joy to read

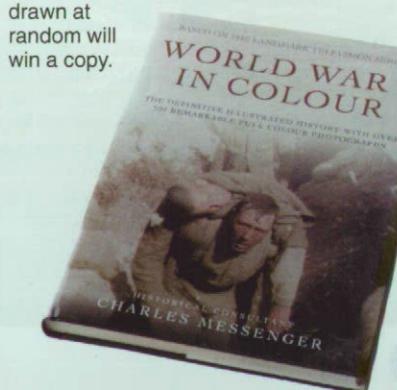
PUBLISHER Dorling Kindersley (DK) has, true to form, produced a visually exciting work in *First World War* (large format, £25) which is a joy to read. H P Willmott's powerful and moving text is complemented by brilliant use of images, combining newly commissioned photography, and older pictures, including 75 never published previously in the UK or US. The war on all fronts is carefully examined and there are eyewitness accounts of soldiers and civilians taken from letters and diaries.

■ In association with DK, we have two copies of this book to give away as prizes. Tell us on a postcard, to reach us by December 1, the date and time on which the German armistice was concluded. Mark the postcard "Armistice competition". The first two correct entries drawn at random will win a copy of the book. See panel at foot of facing page for details.

## Ten people's stories of the D-Day countdown

IF you thought the First World War was fought in black and white, wait until you see *World War One in Colour* (Ebury Press, £20). Inside this book, accompanying the Channel 5 series, are more than 200 full-colour photographs, enhanced by modern computer technology. Former RTR officer Charles Messenger was historical consultant.

■ Ebury Press has made available FIVE copies of this book as prizes in a competition. Tell us on a postcard marked "Colour" the name of the Bosnian city in which Archduke Franz Ferdinand was assassinated in 1914. Closing date is December 1 and the first five correct entries drawn at random will win a copy.



WIN!

WIN!

WIN!

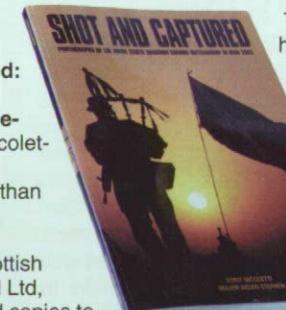
## Help Blesma

ONE of several visually stunning books we reviewed last month was *Shot and Captured: Photographs of the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards Battle-group in Iraq 2003* by Tony Nicoletti and Maj Aidan Stephen.

Its 164 pages contain more than 200 high-quality images taken between March and May.

Now the publishers, the Scottish Daily Record and Sunday Mail Ltd, have kindly sent us two signed copies to give away to readers as prizes in a competition.

The book is being sold in aid of Blesma (order hotline: 0870 90 90 204).



To win a copy all you have to do is answer the following simple question:

**What precisely do the initials making up the word Blesma spell out?**

Write your answer on a postcard or the on back of a sealed envelope and send it to: BLESMA Competition, Soldier, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 6DU. Make sure it reaches us by December 1.

The first two correct entries selected at random will win a signed copy of this large-format softback book. Usual Soldier competition rules apply.



# Snugpak

Sleeping Bags | Clothing | Rucksacks

RE-ORDER NO. CH14345

TO : Supreme Commander  
of Allied Forces  
MEMO

We have been reliably informed  
that enemy agents have been  
flooding the market with  
inferior imitations of  
Snugpak product putting  
in jeopardy the welfare  
and credibility of  
our troops

Buy British  
Buy Snugpak



..---.STAND BY FOR...  
.RE-INFORCEMENTS-.  
..SNUGPAK...---.....  
CODE GREEN 2004..--  
...COMING SOON....-..



United We Stand  
[www.snugpak.com](http://www.snugpak.com)  
[www.snugpakusa.com](http://www.snugpakusa.com)

Keep Checking Soldier Magazine  
for Status Update

**Snugpak**  
Waterloo Mills  
Silsden  
West Yorkshire  
UNITED KINGDOM  
BD20 0HA  
Brochure Hot Line  
+ 44 (0) 1535 654 479

Buy **traser®**  
products direct from  
**SOLDIER MAGAZINE**

## STREAMLIGHT® TRIDENT

Now available in the UK,  
STREAMLIGHTS have been used by  
emergency services & armed  
forces for over 25 years worldwide.



### STYLUS REACH

Your Flexible Friend for  
hands-free  
illumination!  
Soldier Price  
£36.99  
inc. P&P



### traser®

Watches  
guaranteed  
for 2 years

Light source  
guaranteed  
for 10 years  
Precision  
Swiss  
movement  
Robust case  
construction  
Visible in zero  
light conditions

3-Mode head-torch with  
'Night-vision' Green LED  
2 White LED's & a  
Krypton Bulb  
Soldier Price  
£36.99  
inc. P&P

### S300IP

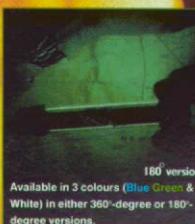
All polymer  
case and strap  
traser lights on  
all 3 hands  
Push-in crown  
40 month battery  
Soldier Price  
£104.90  
(Polymer strap)

### S310IS

Stainless steel case  
Carbon bezel  
traser lights on  
all 3 hands  
40 month battery  
Soldier Price  
£174.90  
(Stainless steel strap)  
£154.90  
(Other straps)

### S360IT

Titanium case  
Screw down crown  
Hardened  
sapphire glass  
8 year  
lithium battery  
Soldier Price  
£219.90  
(Titanium strap)  
£174.90  
(Other straps)



### Krill Lamps®

#### Electronic Light Stick

The Krill lamp  
will glow for up  
to 120 hours  
on just 2 x AA  
batteries.  
Unlike chemical  
light sticks they  
can be turned on  
and off as required  
by using a simple twist  
on/off operation. They are  
water resistant to 50 metres  
and are powerful enough to use  
as a map reader or as a personnel  
marker during night manoeuvres. The Krill  
is an absolute must for your kit bag!

Longlife - 120hrs £20.99 inc. P&P

Extreme - 50hrs (twice as bright) £22.99 inc. P&P

AVAILABLE DIRECT FROM SOLDIER MAGAZINE AT  
SPECIAL MILITARY DISCOUNT RATES

To order telephone the hotline on

**01252 34 73 53**

Other traser products are available to buy online: [www.traser.com](http://www.traser.com)

**VIDEO/DVD**

# Make yours a triple

We've got six classic 'war' videos to give away in time for Christmas

FILM giants UCA have packaged together in time for Christmas video releases of dozens of great modern films.

On sale now in all good retail outlets at just £12.99 for three videos, they range from adventure to horror, science fiction to love stories, historical to military.

The distributors have given us six packs of military-related VHS videos to give away to lucky readers. The first teams up *Black Hawk Down*, *Hamburger Hill* and *Southern Comfort*, and the second a classic helping of *Lawrence of Arabia*, *Bridge Over The River Kwai* and *The Guns of Navarone*.

*Black Hawk Down* is the true story of a failed American mission to abduct two Somalian warlords in Mogadishu in October 1993. Based on a battle which cost the lives of hundreds of Somalians and 18 Americans, it stars



Tom Sizemore and Ewan McGregor. *Hamburger Hill* is based on the battle to take Dong Ap Bia in the A Shau Valley during the Vietnam War.

First released in 1987, it depicts how a heavily-outnumbered unit of the 101st Airborne Division overcame the odds to complete its mission behind enemy lines. It stars Tim Quill, Dylan McDermott and Courtney B Vance.

The third in the pack is the gripping and creepy 1981 *Southern Comfort*, which has shades of the Vietnam War. It revolves around the misfortunes, most of them fatal, of a squad of

Louisiana National Guardsmen who fall foul of backwoods swampland Cajun fishermen. The cast list includes Keith Carradine and Powers Boothe.

*Lawrence of Arabia* (1962), David Lean's extraordinary, multi-Academy Award-winning film of a British officer who united the Arab world against the Turks and re-took Damascus during the First World War; the powerful *Bridge Over The River Kwai* (1957), starring Alec Guinness as a prisoner of the Japanese; and *Guns of Navarone* (1961), based on the Alistair MacLean novel and starring Gregory Peck, David Niven and Anthony Quinn, are among Britain's greatest war films.

We've got three of each to give away. To have a chance of winning, tell us on a postcard or sealed envelope which of the film's many stars played the role of T E Lawrence in David Lean's desert blockbuster. Was it:

**a) Omar Sharif b) Anthony Quinn c) Jack Hawkins d) Peter O'Toole?**

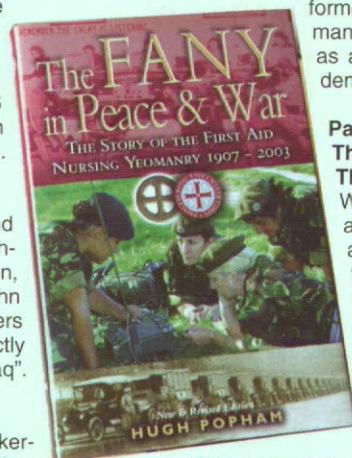
Indicate which of the two collections you would prefer. Answers received by November 28 will go in the hat and usual rules apply.

## BOOKS IN BRIEF

**The FANY in Peace & War** by Hugh Popham. First published in 1984, this new edition brings the story of the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry up to date. Formed in 1907 by an eccentric sergeant who envisaged nurses on horseback riding round battlefields to tend the wounded, the corps' modern role is in communications, with strong links to the City of London Police, the Territorial Army and the Royal Signals. The author died in 1996 and the final chapter was written by serving members of the corps. (Pen & Sword, £19.95.)

**The March Up** by Bing West and Maj Gen Ray L Smith. Taking Baghdad with the 1st Marine Division, with an introduction by Sir John Keegan. Claimed by the publishers to be the first book to come "directly from the front lines of the war in Iraq". (Pimlico, £10.)

**The Charity of Mars** by A W Cockerill. Story of the Royal Military Asylum (1803-1892), the forerunner of the Duke of York's Royal Military School at Dover. At the height of the Napoleonic Wars, the asylum was home to 1,600 military orphans and children in need. This vigorous history of the Army's experiment in education and social welfare is available from The Bursar, Duke of York's Royal Military School, Dover, Kent CT15 5EQ or Peter J Goble, 55 St George's Road, Harrogate HG2 9BP (softback, price £20.)



UK £15 plus £1.50 p&p; overseas add £2.50 p&p).

**Winning Modern Wars** by Gen Wesley K Clark. Sub-titled "Iraq, Terrorism and the American Empire", these are the views of a former Supreme Allied Commander Europe now tipped as a future American President. (PublicAffairs, £18.99.)

**Paths of Death and Glory: The Last Days of the Third Reich** by Charles Whiting. Prolific military author explores the appalling cost in lives of the final months of the Second World War. Volume 10 in the Spellmount Siegfried Line Series. (Spellmount, £16.99.)

**The Last Great Quest: Captain Scott's Antarctic Sacrifice** by Max Jones. Author uses new evidence and original research to argue that Scott's tale should be seen as far more than just a tragic adventure story. (Oxford University Press, £20.)

**The Daily Telegraph Book of Military Obituaries**, edited by David Twiston Davies. One hundred of the 1,000 obituaries of soldiers which have appeared since the *Telegraph*

began printing them 17 years ago. Includes the great, the brave, the adventurous and the eccentric. (Grub Street, £17.99.)

**Tracing Your First World War Ancestors** by Simon Fowler. Easy-to-use guide by someone who should know. The author was with the Public Record Office for nearly 20 years and now edits *Family History Monthly*. (Country-side Books, £7.95.)

**Forgotten Voices of the Great War** by Max Arthur. Paperback edition of the acclaimed history of the First World War in the words of the men and women who were there, published in association with the Imperial War Museum. (Ebury Press, £7.99.)

**Battlegrounds: Geography and the History of Warfare**, edited by Michael Stephenson. A collection of essays by some of the best military historians and writers, who discuss the impact of geography on military strategy and history. Battles covered range from Alexander the Great's attack across the Granicus in 334BC to the US-led siege of the Taliban in the mountains of Afghanistan two years ago. (National Geographic, £22.50.)

**The T Force Story**. A4-size, 170-page spiral-bound history of T Force operations in North West Europe between 1944 and 1948. To obtain a copy, send a cheque for £8.99 (incl UK p&p) payable to "5 Kings/2 T Force OCA" to T Wilkinson, OCA Hon Treasurer, 27 Ferriers Road, Stevenage SG2 0NU.

Online  
Ordering

# SILVERMANS

www.military.co.uk

Secure  
Website

Quartz British  
GS - NEW Issue  
with no  
battery hatch  
NEW £110.00



R.M. Special Boat  
Service 300mtr  
NEW £299.00  
Stock Code 80029

CWC

Quartz Military  
Chronograph  
NEW £230.00  
Stock Code 64051



CWC

Royal Naval Auto  
Divers with Date  
NEW £399.00  
No Date  
NEW £350.00



CWC

WWW.CWCWATCH.COM - BEWARE OF IMITATIONS - BRITISH MILITARY ISSUE - GUARANTEED



Genuine Issue  
SAS Windproof Smock  
£90.00 Stock Code 22001  
SAS Arctic Smock £95.00  
Dpm Para smocks  
£70.00 Stock Code 22005



Genuine Issue  
DPM Lightweight  
Trousers from £32.99  
Jacket from £32.99  
- Soldier '95 kit  
40+ NEW £39.99



Genuine Issue  
95' DPM RIPSTOP  
Combat Jacket £59.99  
Ripstop Hard wearing  
polyester shell.  
Trousers £45.00, Hood £19.99  
All three items for £115.00



Genuine Issue  
Soldier '95 PLCE Desert,  
DPM, Green or Black  
Tactical Assault vest.  
£125.00 Stock Code 55018



Genuine Issue  
Soldier '95 Kit  
PLCE Cmmdo  
Chest Rig  
Desert,  
DPM or O.G.  
NEW £55.00  
Stock Code 49002



Genuine Issue  
50ltr Patrol Pack  
\*Heavy duty  
\*Waterproof  
DPM, Desert,  
O.G. or Black  
NEW £80.00

ALL OUR DPM KIT IS IRR GENUINE ISSUE



Genuine Issue  
Desert SAS  
Windproof Smock  
£95.00 Stock Code 70633



BUFFALO  
Special 6 shirt  
Olive or Black  
£95.00



DANNER Acadia Boots  
Insulated or Uninsulated  
NEW from £195.00  
See website for  
more Danner Boots



LOWA Military Boots  
Goretex, Superb Quality,  
100% waterproof  
Mountain from £150.00  
Combat from £160.00



USA Issue Desert Boots  
\*Padded collar  
\*Panama Non-clog Sole  
\*Lightweight  
NEW from £80.00



Genuine Issue Norge  
Army Shirt Half zip,  
very warm  
Green, Black or Navy  
NEW £25.00  
Wool Sweater from £39.99



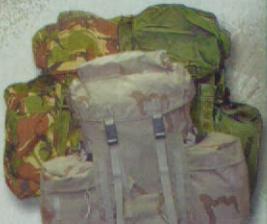
Thermobak  
2 ltr. Basic Hydration  
system but with many  
technical features built in  
NEW £49.99  
Stock Code 30666



USA & British Jungle Hats  
Avail: Green, Cammo, Tiger,  
Sand, Desert, Black  
£15.99, size 59+ £17.99  
Stock Code 18060



Shemagh £6.99  
Stock Code 18101



Genuine Issue  
PLCE BERGEN 125ltr.  
Green, Desert, Black or  
DPM IRR UK made £185.00



Genuine Issue Soldier 95'  
Black, OG or with Cammo cuffs  
Leather Combat Gloves Full Gore-tex  
lining & wrist adjusting strap,  
100% Waterproof. Black NEW £45.00  
OG NEW £40.00 Cammo NEW £45.00



GARMIN GPS 12  
Navigation  
NEW £140.00  
Stock Code  
30792



PHOTON Micro Light. White,  
Blue, Green or Red £15.99  
ISRAELI Finger Light  
White light £39.99  
Night vision £49.99



SNUGPAK Sleeka Padded  
Jacket Military Green  
(Black also avail) NEW £72.99  
Stock Code 01137  
Blk/Grn Rvrsble £85.00

Snugpak



SNUGPAK SPECIAL FORCES SYSTEM  
Is a Softie 3 & a Softie 10 with centre  
zip, using a unique new centre  
"zip in" baffle the bags can be used  
on their own or zipped together  
resulting in an extreme use  
sleeping bag NEW £175.00

Be the Best **Buy the Best**  
from the Best

Send a S.A.E for FREE Catalogue quoting Soldier

2 Harford St, Mile End, London E1 4PS  
Tel: 020 77 900 900 Fax: 020 77 910 008  
Opening Hours: Mon-Fri 09:00 - 17:30  
Sat CLOSED, Sun 10:00 - 13:00  
E-mail: Soldier@silvermans.co.uk

Prices subject to current cat. Standard UK p&p £3.99

## SOLDIER to soldier

## Everyone a winner

HAPPY birthday to the Army Sports Lottery, which in ten years has enriched both the fabric of Army sport and the bank balances of tens of thousands of soldiers.

As we report on Page 9, the lottery has raised nearly £5 million for grants to individual units and major projects and paid out £4.7 million in prizes.

From relatively small beginnings it now generates up to £180,000 a month, every penny of which – unlike the national lottery – ends up as a prize or in improved facilities.



Between £70,000 and £85,000 (depending on the number of weeks) flows out in prizes every month, up to £50,000 is allocated in grants, and the balance goes into a trust fund for bigger capital projects.

A new hockey pitch in Redfern Barracks, Edinburgh, hockey and cricket pavilions, and an electronic scoreboard for the Army rugby stadium in Aldershot are just a few of the major facilities which have been built or bought on a foundation of Army Sports Lottery money.

### Naafi turns corner

CONGRATULATIONS, too, to Naafi, which is ploughing £1.2 million into Army welfare as a result of a substantially improved trading performance. The dividend, on top of £275,000 paid earlier, is the first for three years.

Naafi spent £600,000 on shipping ten portable shops to the Gulf so that troops deployed on Op Telic could enjoy a bit of normality in the field.

### Shorter tour interval

A SOLDIER wrote to enquire if the average tour gap of 24 months, as stated in Parliament just over a year ago (Under Big Ben, August 2002), had changed. Could someone tell him what the average tour interval was now? The answer for Army units, as of July this year, is 10.1 months.

### Home truths

Sue Bonney

# Pension skips my generation

WORKING my way through the details of the new Armed Forces Pension Scheme for the *AFF Families Journal* (as you do) I discovered an Awful Truth.

I am too old. What's more, so is Him Indoors. Well, too far gone. He is almost first in line in the Escape Committee queue and due to jump next February, so the new scheme will not be an option for him, or me. Which is more of a pity for me than him, as it happens.

Under the new scheme, due to be introduced in 2005, widows and widowed partners will not only get larger pensions, they will get to keep them if they have the temerity to remarry or, presumably, re-partner.

Whereas if Him Indoors meets his fate before I do and I remarry some gorgeous toy boy (stand in line), I would lose the lot. Actually, all I would have to do is co-habit (tut!).

Interesting justice, isn't it? Thirty-plus years of tagging around, moving from quarter to quarter, mostly overseas, with no hope of a proper job, let alone paying National Insurance contributions, and I am left with no occupational pension and only a microscopic state pension of my own to look forward to. I reckon I have put my fair share of toil and tears into Him Indoors's Army career and pension, but if anything happened to him and I chose to try again, I would pay for it, literally.

It is assumed, you see, that I will have another man to look after me. I wonder if I'd lose it if I turned lesbian in my old age?

It appears that the Government/MoD doesn't believe in making changes retrospective, so there are likely to be quite a few spouses under the old scheme in the same position.

It is somewhat ironic to me that the generation of spouses who followed their soldier and were unable to work consistently, thus compromising their pension prospects, are the ones that are penalised, whereas today's spouses and partners, many of whom are already creating their

own pensions or can at least take out a Stakeholder Pension, will be able to keep their soldier's. I suspect this may mean a bit of noise for the MoD down the line – to the barricades, Sisters!



A personal view from Sue Bonney, Editor of the *AFF Families Journal*

◆ *AFF's Op Telic survey on the support and information to all Army families during Op Telic 1 and 2 has had a terrific response – more than 1,700 completed questionnaires, and still counting – and has provided some interesting and salutary reading.*

It came as no surprise to *AFF* that the findings so far suggest that communication and information were seen as essential in helping families to cope.

Forty per cent of Regular spouses in our initial sample said they felt well-informed by the military, but fewer than 20 per cent of Territorial Army spouses agreed. Perhaps not surprisingly, Regular families found it easier to access information than TA families, with around half of the TA group saying it was difficult to find the information they wanted.

Many TA and Regular families expressed a need to share experiences, and contact with other families was the most frequent suggestion for the future. We will be publishing a full report on the survey in due course, and you can find out more on the initial findings in the December edition of the *Families Journal*.

**‘Thirty-plus years of tagging around, moving from quarter to quarter, mostly overseas, with no hope of a proper job, let alone paying National Insurance contributions, and I am left with no occupational pension and only a microscopic state pension of my own to look forward to’**

◆ Some families who went through Op Telic 1 are about to go through Op Telic 3, when their soldiers leave for Iraq this month. So much for the ideal of 24-month intervals between tours, or even the currently quoted ten-month average figure [see column one], thanks to the extent of our current commitments.

But then reality on the ground is often very different from the ideal, or the oft-quoted numbers, and it is soldiers and their families who cope with that reality. I'd say we were worth the pension, wouldn't you?



## An honour to serve with 202

AT the end of July I returned from a full term of duty with 202 Field Hospital in Iraq. During that time the unit provided our forces with the highest possible standards of care and professionalism.

I have nothing but the highest praise for this fine Territorial Army unit and would also like to pay tribute to the outstanding quality of 202, whose morale and endurance, in difficult circumstances, went from strength to strength.

When chapters are written about the history of the TA I sincerely hope that outstanding praise is given to the men and women of all ranks who served with 202 Field Hospital during Op Telic. I for one would be honoured to serve with them again. – **Padre W G Bergin RACD, Barnsley.**

## UK firms are showing us their support

I WOULD like to put right the misconception that UK companies have not supported our military personnel as stated in the letter from Capt P Stredwick (Sept).

There have been many unsolicited offers of discounts from UK companies and lots of attractions local to deployed personnel that have given free entry or large discounts to military families.

Companies made these offers to show their appreciation and support for our Service personnel. I would like to say a very big thank you to them for their generosity and support.

Information of special offers and discounts for forces is available from HIVEs, and unit and Army Welfare Offices or see [www.army.mod.uk/aws](http://www.army.mod.uk/aws) – **Carole Gee, Information Manager, Army Welfare Service.**

### Please be brief

YOUR letters provide a real insight into the issues at the top of your agenda... but please keep them brief.

E-mails **MUST** include your name and location (not necessarily for publication).

Anonymous letters will be binned. The Editor reserves the right to accept or reject letters, and to edit for length, clarity or style.

## We'd be quids in with credit union

HAS a credit union serving the Armed Forces ever been considered?

The Association of British Credit Unions ([www.abcul.org](http://www.abcul.org)) defines one as a financial co-operative, owned and controlled by its members.

Credit union members save in a common fund. As well as being a good savings option – successful credit unions pay an annual dividend of up to eight per cent – money saved can be used to make low-interest loans to members.

Only people who come within the common bond of the credit union can join it and use its services. The credit union is directed and controlled by a volunteer board of directors.

I'm sure thousands of soldiers are borrowing at inflated interest rates, as high as 30 per cent in some cases. However, if you have money to save, you will struggle to find accounts offering more than 3.5

### Prize letter

per cent. We could balance the situation more in our favour, encouraging responsible borrowing and saving.

I'm unsure of the Armed Forces' official stance on credit, but it is offered on purchases from retail facilities in camps, often at the highest rates. The Pentagon has a credit union, providing services for all American defence personnel, including civilians. Is there a reason why we don't have one within the Army, Royal Navy, RAF and MoD? – **Sgt Martin Walton, 89 Sig Sqn, 35 Signal Regiment.**

**SO2a3, PS10(A) replies:** There is currently no credit union for the British Armed Forces and there are no plans to implement one. In comparison to the American Forces, the British Armed Services are very small and such a venture is unlikely to be either commercially or economically viable.

## No change over years on RAF trooping flights

HAVING joined the Army as an apprentice and served 22 years, I left in 1993 to become a civil servant. In the 34 years since, one thing has remained constant – our beloved RAF's inability to transport troops around the world in an efficient manner.

I run the admin for the Environmental Health Team in HQ 5 Division and every time any of my soldiers goes on an operational tour or exercise there is a cock-up over flight times, sometimes even the location of departures. The soldier is regarded as a piece of cargo.

As for departure times, you might just as well think of a number, multiply it by 100 and deduct your monthly salary.

Recently a soldier who works with me had her flight changed both on departure and return. On the return flight passengers had to share meals. To top it off, the vehicle to get her back to barracks was cancelled because she landed at a different airport a day late and her flight number had changed.

I realize the RAF is busy with operational commitments, but nothing has changed since I joined the MoD in 1969.

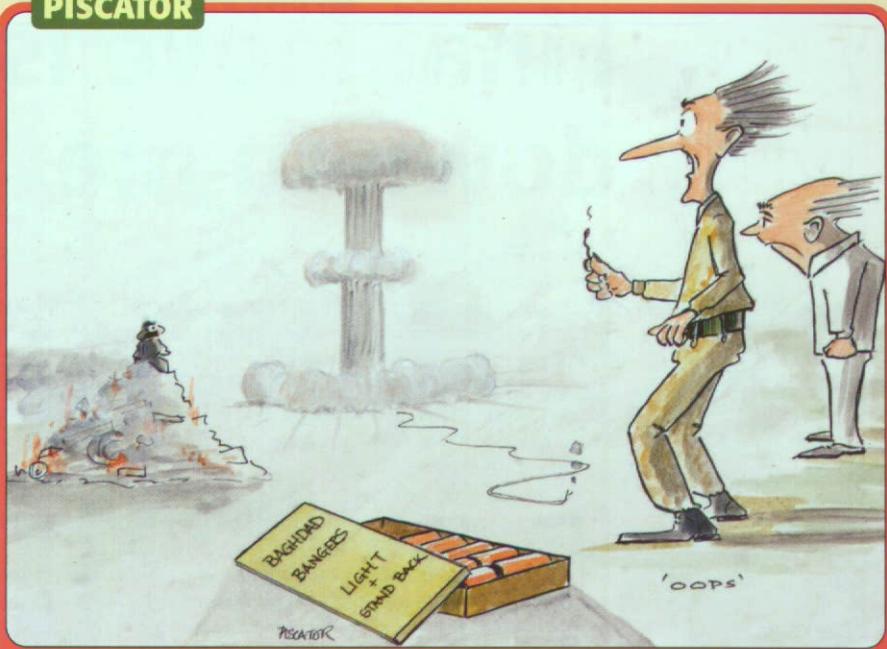


"Nice one! Mr Crab-basher is going all the way to Akrotiri... and his bags are going to Calgary"

I think the vast majority of soldiers who have travelled with Crab Air would agree.

Next time you are sitting at Heathrow bemoaning your slightly delayed flight, just think... you could be at Brize or Lyneham. – **R Sant, Shrewsbury.**

## PISCATOR



The Army Benevolent Fund is YOUR national charity, committed to the welfare of soldiers, former soldiers and their families in times of need. To continue our work we are looking for dedicated people to organise and take part in fundraising events for us. For a fund-raising pack, please call 020 7591 2042 or e-mail [enquiries@armybenevolentfund.com](mailto:enquiries@armybenevolentfund.com)



ARMY  
BENEVOLENT  
FUND  
SUPPORTING THE BEST

Call 020 7591 2000 or visit [www.armybenfund.org](http://www.armybenfund.org)



## Speed not cause of most accidents

I WAS delighted to see you giving prominence to road safety and the negative impact it is having on the Armed Forces ("Lethal Weapons", Sept).

Despite the loss of life, many still attach more importance, effort and resources to the other softer and, dare I say, more PC health and safety issues, despite them being less of a risk.

A problem is that we are being told speeding is the cause of most accidents when in fact it is not; bad driving is. Road deaths nationally are at their highest levels since 1997 (when speed became the sole focus of most road safety campaigns) and motorways, our fastest roads, are among the safest in Europe.

Many large organisations have recognised that poor individual driving skills are the root of the

problem and have introduced rolling programmes of continuation driver training, with large fleet operators reaping the rewards in terms of reduced accidents and associated costs.

While acknowledging the excellent opportunities that exist for Service personnel to improve their driving skills, is it not now time to make them compulsory? "Individual Training Directive(A) 13 – Road Safety"? – Lt Col RJ McBroom RAMC, Bristol.

WITH due respect to both views expressed above, the point of the Army HQ Land Command-led campaign featured in *Soldier's* September special report is to prevent young lives from being needlessly lost. Although we illustrated our article with an eye-catching image of a "speed kills" road sign, the feature made no direct reference to speed as a contributory factor. Other illustrations highlighted the need for safer driving. The figures speak for themselves, and *Soldier* is happy to be accused of lack of balance if it helps WO1 Frost's campaign save the life of even one soldier. – Editor

PS . . .

## Allowance denied

I TRIED to get Unaccompanied Baggage Allowance authorised for my soldiers for our deployment to the Gulf, only to be told that the allowance is not available because we did not have "comfy boxes".

However, every one of my men sent equipment ahead, loaded into their vehicles, unaccompanied. A few had personal equipment stolen during this move and this allowance should have covered them for insuring that equipment. On return from Iraq our personal baggage allowance was reduced and everything else had to be boxed and sent in ISO containers.

I cannot see why we should be denied an allowance that most soldiers get to claim whenever they go on operations or long-haul overseas exercises, just because we went to war. – Capt I Clarke, OC LAD REME, 1 BW (RHR).

## Married to the mob

I FIND the statement, "... you can't be a fully-committed career soldier and be married" by Capt K Williams ("Reserve Judgement", Vox pop, Oct), an insult to all wives, including my own, who have shared their husband's careers. If he ever gets the chance to meet the ladies of our present Chief of the Defence Staff and his deputy, Capt Williams might realise how wrong his statement was. – Maj (Retd) R S Bresloff MSM, Chester.

## Army road crash fatality figures 'lacked balance'

WHILE not wishing in any way to underestimate the severity of the issue of road accidents involving members of the Armed Forces, I feel that your special report in September presented an unreasonably alarmist comparison of fatalities in the Army with those in the other Services.

In 2002 the Army's strength was about 55 per cent of the entire Armed Forces. It is therefore hardly surprising that 60 per cent of off-duty deaths were Army personnel.

Furthermore, when considering total vehicle-related fatalities, including on-duty deaths, we can assume that a higher proportion of the Army use vehicles on-duty than do personnel in the Royal Navy or Royal Air Force. It should therefore not be "staggering" that "two-thirds of these fatalities were Army personnel".

We complain about the national media implying that soldiers are particularly bad when an incident hits the headlines, despite the fact that such incidents occur far more often in civvy street. Let's not see this lack of balance in *Soldier* as well. – Col Mike Manson, Defence Medical Services Unit.



# Advance of pay is great retention tool

THE following comments have been received as a result of Sgt Lynch's prize letter (August) and the response to it from PS4(A):

## Flannel

I WAS disappointed with the PS4(A) response to Sgt Lynch's letter on Long Service Advance of Pay (LSAP) ("Sailors get help to buy homes years before us", Aug.).

It failed to answer why there is a difference between terms of service for members of the same Armed Forces.

There was a lot of flannel regarding accompanied service, which is irrelevant and applies equally to the other Services. And let's not forget that soldiers in long-term or gay relationships are not entitled to married quarters.

The main reason for this anomaly is financial. If the Army allows LSAP to all from the age of 23, there is likely to be a large uptake. Disturbance allowance for single personnel and loss of income from single accommodation would cost the Army more.

Granting LSAP would be retention-positive, but the Army can't afford it. If the MoD can't fund it, why not buy one fewer Eurofighter? – Name, address supplied.

## Woolly

THE response from PS4(A) was woolly. I am 35 and had the same experience five years ago. I spoke to PS4(A), who advised me then that moves were afoot to change the LSAP DCI and make it common across the Services. If the Army is committed to accompanied service, why are we drastically reducing the amount of available quarters?

I don't expect my letter, or Sgt Lynch's, will change policy, but we have a duty to raise these issues in the hope that someone will take notice. – WO2 (Y of S) T F Parkins, Op Telic 2.

## Treatment

I'M disappointed with my treatment regarding house purchase. I'm in quarters in Aldershot and travel daily to Tidworth, where I am unable to take a quarter for family reasons.

I finish in the Army next year after 22 years and have bought a house in Farnborough. I am no longer entitled to Residence to Place of Duty (RPOD) but will receive Recompence in Lieu of Relocation (RILOR), and conse-

quently will be £22 a month worse off. My local support unit has tried everything to help me but regulations get in the way.

I agree with Sgt Lynch that the Army claims to invest in its people and encourage house purchase but then fails them when they help themselves. – SSgt S J Lloyd, Tidworth.

## Living together

THE reasons for the Army not allowing soldiers under 35 to claim for LSAP prove how behind the times the Army is. I am single, live in mess accommodation and have decided to buy a property with my partner. She can't move because of work commitments, so we have decided to live together first, something 80 per cent of society does already. It will give me something to get out to when my 22-year service comes to an end.

Doesn't the Army realise what a massive retention tool it has here?

Incidentally, married soldiers within my unit have spent three of the past 18 months with their families. Is that the Army promoting accompanied service? – Name and address supplied.

## Homeless link?

I READ with interest PS4(A)'s response to Sgt Lynch's letter. I was also interesting to note elsewhere in the magazine a feature concerning a centre for those fallen on hard times.

With 25 per cent of homeless people in Britain said to be from a Service background, has anybody else spotted a pattern? Many leave the Army after a full career to find themselves 20 years behind their contemporaries in the housing market. – S J Peet, Preston.

## Anachronism

SINGLE soldiers have a life outside barracks. This is a huge quality-of-life issue and one which must influence retention. I am about to be posted back to the UK to spend two years re-training at a camp where single accommodation is scarce. If I choose to live out and relieve some of the strain on this stretched resource, it will be without any financial assistance from the Army.

The Army's obsession with single troops living on camp is an anachronism – let's move with the times. – Cpl Evans, BFPO 8.

# Final move is down to me

I AM a WO1 with 19 years' service, 15 of which has been married accompanied, as encouraged by the Army.

I am planning for my retirement after 22 years' service and recently bought a house in my home town, 270 miles from my family's present location. I intend to let the property for 12 to 18 months then move the family in my final year of service.

My admin office tells me that although I am able to take advantage of the over-37 package, there's no compensation for the removal of my family.

I am moving into my own premises and it will be classed as my final move. Further enquiries resulted in my having been quoted £1,525 for furniture removals.

I am disgusted that the full burden of the final family move, arguably as stressful if not more so than any other move, is left to the soldier in this way. – Name and address supplied.



**PS4(A) replies:** Under current regulations there is no automatic entitlement to publicly-funded removals when moving to a residence on termination of service other than where eligibility exists under the over-37 provision or the final tour of duty provision.

An individual may be eligible for the over-37 provision at, or within, six months of their posting date, their 37th birthday during a tour or a change of marital status (to 1, 1s/c or 2).

In this case, the WO1 concerned has been informed that he may take advantage of the over-37 provision but is frustrated that he is not entitled to furniture removals at public expense. This is because, initially, he is not going to serve unaccompanied but intends to move his family during his last year of service.

Effectively, this means that he is seeking a delay in taking up the over-37 provision, a contingency not admissible under current regulations, which permit the over-37 provision to be applicable on posting (when aged over 37) or on reaching the age of 37.

We have sympathy with this case, especially as the warrant officer is taking the sensible decision to buy a home now in preparation for leaving the Service. He is also electing to serve accompanied for a further 12 to 18 months, a course of action which the Army encourages through the Accompanied Service Policy.

It is a shame he should be penalised. We suggest that his unit submit a full outline of the circumstances with a justification for eligibility for the over-37 provision, including furniture removals at public expense, to PS4(A), Trenchard Lines, Upavon, when he moves his family into his own home during the last year of service.

## This space is reserved



I THOUGHT you might be interested in this photograph, taken at the Beachley Old Boys' Association reunion on September 21 in Beachley Barracks.

The wearer is a member of the April 1942 42A intake.

As an ex-Regular, and later, MoD employee I have been taking *Soldier* for some years. Your support for the medal, and the good quality of the magazine, is much appreciated. – Alan Rice, Liss, Hants.

## THEN AND THEN



## 25 YEARS AGO

From *Soldier*, November 1978: Men of D Company, 1 Glosters based in County Londonderry are in the Republican hotbed of South Armagh to support 42 Commando RM as 1,400 tonnes of equipment is taken into Crossmaglen by truck. They are there to see the convoys are not interrupted by bomb or bullet. Men and supplies are usually flown in.

## 50 YEARS AGO

From *Soldier*, November 1953: Tidworth's face is lifted: The new Naafi canteen, above, at Assaye Barracks even has guest-rooms for entertaining ladies. The 50-year-old garrison town now contains sharp contrasts in military architecture. Old barracks have been converted into "flats" for privates, with bedrooms accommodating four men only.

# House scheme is a commercial venture

I WRITE with reference to a letter from SSgt Lamont (Sept 2002), in the reply to which PS10(A) mentioned an Assisted House Purchase and Letting Scheme being trialled in the Colchester area.

Was it a success and is it going to be

extended to the rest of the Army? Alternatively, are there any other plans to help soldiers buy their own homes and how long are we likely to have to wait for them to be implemented? – **Cpl Cox, Catterick.**

Blue Forces have conducted presentations in UK, Germany and Kosovo and HIVEs have been provided with literature explaining the scheme. It is open to all members of the Armed Forces wherever they are serving. Blue Forces are entirely independent of the Army and MoD.

The contact address for further information is Blue Forces, Building 2, Circular Road East, Colchester Garrison, Colchester CO2 7SZ. Tel 01206 560200, fax 01206 562260 or [info@blueforces.co.uk](mailto:info@blueforces.co.uk)



**PS4(A) replies:** Trials of an Assisted House Purchase and Letting Scheme have been undertaken in the Colchester area by a company called Blue Forces Services Ltd. It is a commercial enterprise designed to assist Service personnel in joining the housing market.

The scheme draws together all the necessary expert skills associated with buying and renting property. To be eligible Service personnel must have three years of their engagement to run.

# PS...

## Smarten up, lads

HAVE Queen's Regs changed so that it is now compulsory for soldiers to walk around town with their headdress off? If they do not want to show pride in their regiment, they could at least show pride in their appearance.

It is becoming the norm for soldiers to waltz through town (especially Aldershot) with berets stuffed in their pockets and Big Macs in their mouths. It is not smart and it does not project a good image of the British Army. Come on CSMs and RSMs... get a grip.

Well done to the Royal Welch Fusiliers in Aldershot, who obviously take pride in themselves and their regiment. – Steve Dock, (ex-Army and still as smart as a carrot), Salisbury.

## Wrong... twice

I AND several other ex-squaddies who enjoy *Soldier* wish to point out that the aircraft in the main picture on Pages 22-23 (Aug) is not a C130, as stated, but an Antonov AN-12 Cub, as confirmed by the glazed nose. – Doug Wilson, a very ex-soldier (1947), Bulkington, Warwickshire.

THE Caernarvon (Then and Then, Oct), is actually the good old Centurion. The Caernarvon was a tank consisting of a Conqueror hull and a Centurion turret. – Lawson Kent, Cornwall. B A Leggett, (late KDG/QDG), of Dorset, and T Bell (ex-RASC), Birmingham, told us the same thing.

## Medal mentions

IF Maj Kent-Payne ("You can have double medals", May), is suggesting that two medals were issued for the Borneo campaign – Dec 24, 1964 to Aug 11, 1966 – he is incorrect. There was only one, the GSM 1962 with bar "Borneo".

Personnel involved in the initial revolt in Brunei between Dec 8 and 24, 1962 (largely 1/2 Gurkhas, the Queen's Own Highlanders, 42 Commando RM and 12 (Minden) Battery RA), were awarded the GSM 1918-64 with bar "Brunei". Clearly, those involved in both the revolt and the subsequent campaign would have received both medals – but they were very much a minority of the total number. – WG Clarke, Durrington, Wilts.

IN response to Maj Beamer's question ("Are there any Service personnel who have been awarded both Silver and Golden Jubilee Medals", Sept), I presume he means still serving? I have and I'm still serving. – Maj Tony Wilmore, QRL.

I HAVE both jubilee medals. I was attached to 1 Coldm Gds in Windsor and the medal came with a certificate rather than engraved with number, rank and name. I received my Golden Jubilee Medal while serving as a Non-Regular Permanent Staff soldier with 60 Signal Sqn in Aylesbury. – SSgt Joe H Sale, AGC (SPS), ex-RAPC, London District.

# Vox pop

The regular feature in which we ask soldiers for their views on an issue



**SSgt Steve Coulson,  
Int Corps**

New challenges don't come any bigger than this. Selection is tough but fair and training lasts 19 months from start to wings. There are so many hurdles, but you take one at a time and only look as far ahead as your next flight and your next

big test. But it's a great job, even if you're having a bad day, you're still flying helicopters, with £3/4 million worth of aircraft underneath you – it can't get any better than that.

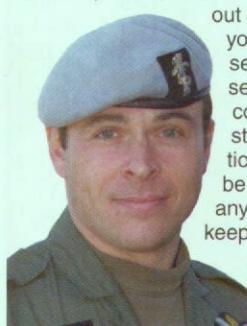


**Cpl Adrian Hunt, AAC**

I joined up as a ground crewman, became an air door gunner, an air observer and then trained as a pilot. The job satisfaction is great, it's very exhilarating and not a bad wage, either. My aim is to become a helicopter instructor.

**SSgt Ash Hubbard, REME**

I have gone from repairing aircraft to operating them. You never forget the buzz of your first solo, the moment the instructor steps out and says, "There you go, take it yourself". There is a lot of self-study on the course, you have to store all the information in your head and be able to recall it at any time. You need to keep a certain tempo going and can't afford to ease off at any time.



**Cpl Matt Donaldson, 1 RGJ**

It's not a well publicised course and I found out about it when I worked alongside the Army Air Corps in Northern Ireland. I thought I might as well try or I'd regret it for the rest of my life. It's hard work and you struggle and doubt that you're good

enough but if you knuckle down it is achievable.

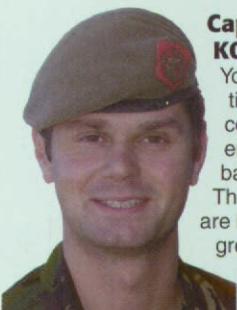
**Cpl Steve Howard, 1 LI**

I enjoyed selection, which was pretty straightforward ... nothing an intelligent NCO couldn't accomplish. The training is progressive, if you have problems at any stage, they re-teach and try to keep you on the course. The best bit is flying low-level at 100 knots over the countryside. You can't beat it.



**Cpl Henry Poole, LD**

The course is hard, you've got to set yourself short-term goals and keep at it. You're learning a new art – one day you're pants at it but once you get it, it's like a switch, something clicks and suddenly you can do it. Flying is wicked, the training environment is fun and friendly and they all want you to pass, which is paramount.



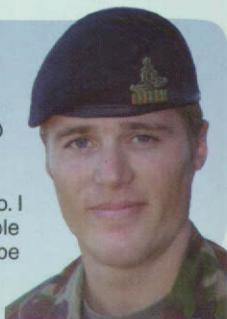
**Capt Jack Perschke,  
KORBR**

You must be enthusiastic, determined and committed and able to endure a lot of setbacks during training. The people you are with are high calibre and it's great fun. You go solo quite regularly through the course on different aircraft

types, both fixed-wing and rotary. Flying is pretty amazing, a mixed feeling of terror and great exhilaration, and when you get back down again you really feel like you have achieved something which few other people will ever get the chance to do ... and it's all courtesy of the Army.

**Bdr Sean Finch,  
19 Regt RA**

It's a great opportunity to be given as an NCO to be able to go away and fly, something the other Services don't do. I was one of those people who thought I'd never be good enough to do it, but when you push yourself it is achievable. I'd recommend it to anyone.



**SSgt Dave Luke, REME**

I've been working on aircraft for the past 15 years, so it's just a natural progression. It's been a fantastic challenge, doing things the average person doesn't have the chance to do, such as night flying with night-vision goggles.



Interviews: Andrea Frazer Pictures: Graeme Main

## SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU

**Distribution and enquiries: 01252 347353 (or Aldershot mil (94222) 2353)**

**Fax** 347358 (2358)

**E-mail:**

mail@soldiermagazine.co.uk

**Visit our website on**

[www.soldiermagazine.co.uk](http://www.soldiermagazine.co.uk)

**Visit the Army website on**

[www.army.mod.uk](http://www.army.mod.uk)



Founded 1945  
Incorporating the  
Territorial Army Magazine



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

**Managing Editor** Chris Horrocks 01252 347355  
(Aldershot military ((9)4222) 2355)

**Editor** John Elliott 347356 (Aldershot mil 2356)

**Assistant Editors** Ray Routledge 340753 (5753),

Andy Simms (Sport) 347362 (2362),

Andrea Frazer 340462 (5462)

**Art Editor** Nigel Kendall 347169 (2169)

**Chief Photographer** Mike Weston 347357 (2357)

**Photographer** Graeme Main 347357 (2357)

**Librarian** Stuart Robinson 347351 (2351)

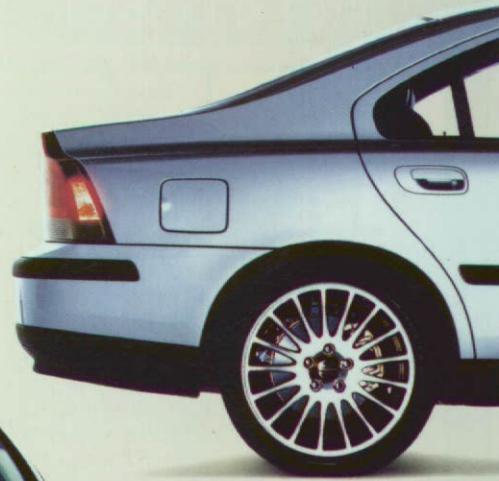
**Marketing Manager** Andy Clarkson 347352 (2352)

**SOLDIER** is  
published by the  
Ministry of Defence  
and printed by St  
Ives (Andover) Ltd.  
Crown Copyright  
2003.

Views expressed in  
this magazine are  
not necessarily  
those of the Army  
or the Ministry of  
Defence.



**VOLVO**  
for life



The Volvo range starts from  
**£10,675\***



## ARE YOU POSTED OVERSEAS?

THE VOLVO  
RANGE

WHETHER YOU ARE POSTED OVERSEAS OR CURRENTLY BASED IN THE UK IT'S WORTH KNOWING THAT VOLVO BRITISH MILITARY SALES ARE THE ONLY AUTHORISED SUPPLIER OF TAX FREE VOLVO CARS TO THE MILITARY. DEALING DIRECTLY WITH VOLVO BRITISH MILITARY SALES MEANS YOU WILL HAVE ACCESS TO THE FULL VOLVO RANGE AT TAX FREE PRICES WITH EXCLUSIVE OFFERS DESIGNED WITH YOU IN MIND. YOU WILL ALSO EXPERIENCE THE HIGH LEVELS OF CUSTOMER CARE AND EXPERTISE YOU WOULD EXPECT FROM VOLVO. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR NEAREST BRITISH MILITARY SALES OUTLET TO DISCOVER THE NEW VOLVO RANGE TODAY.

### UK OFFICE

Volvo Car Ltd (British Military Sales)

PO Box 200, Hatfield, AL9 7AR

**Tel: +44 1707 262388**

**Email: bms@volvocars.com**

### MÖNCHENGLADBACH

Bonsels-Weitz

Krefelder-Strasse 674 41066 Mönchengladbach

**Sales: 02161 9699973 Service: 02161 9699921**

**Admin: 02161 9699938 E-mail: bms@bonsels-weitz.de**

### GUTERSLOH

Autohaus Markötter

DammStr. 41n 33332 Gutersloh

**Tel: 05241 95 90 6 Fax: 05241 58 65 2**

**E-mail: Markoetter-export@t-online.de**

### OSNABRUCK

Ellers International Car Sales

Pageanstecher Strasse 16 49090 Osnabrück

**Tel: 0541 66 88 64 6 Fax: 0541 96 12 33 3**

**Email: taxfreesales@ellers.de**

FUEL CONSUMPTION FOR VOLVO RANGE: URBAN 38.2 MPG (7.4 L/100KM) TO 14.9 MPG (19.0 L/100KM), EXTRA URBAN 65.7 MPG (4.3 L/100KM) TO 26.9 MPG (10.5 L/100KM), COMBINED 52.3 MPG (5.4 L/100KM) TO 20.8 MPG (13.6 L/100KM) AND HAS CO<sub>2</sub> FIGURES OF 142 G/KM TO 309 G/KM. \*VOLVO S40 1.6 MANUAL.



# E.M.C TAX FREE



"WE WON'T BE BEATEN ON PRICE"

OFFICIALLY EUROPE'S LARGEST TAX FREE SPECIALISTS

## FREE MOTORING IN 3 EASY STEPS

**1** BUY A NEW FORD FROM EMC<sup>†</sup>

Ford Focus  
INK 1.6 Zetec



- Ink Blue Metallic Paint
- 15" spoke alloy wheels
- Air conditioning
- Heated windscreen
- Power heated Door Mirrors
- Chrome Exhaust
- Leather Seats
- Titanium scuff plates
- CD Player

EMC PRICE  
3DR £7995

BUY BACK PRICE £7995

EMC PRICE  
5DR £8395

BUY BACK PRICE £8395

Ford Focus  
TDCi Sport 1.8 Duratorq (115ps)



- Metallic Paint
- ST Sports Style Front Seats
- Side Air Bags
- Front bumper with integrated ST fog lights
- Mesh Front Grille with body colour surround
- CD Player
- Air Conditioning
- 17" 7 Spoke Alloy Wheels

EMC PRICE  
3DR £8995

BUY BACK PRICE £8995

EMC PRICE  
5DR £9295

BUY BACK PRICE £9295

Ford Mondeo  
TDCi Graphite Estate (115)



- Including Metallic Paint
- Alloy wheels
- CD player
- Air conditioning

EMC PRICE  
£9995

BUY BACK PRICE £9995

Ford Maverick  
2.0 XLT with Luxury Pack



- Leather trim
- Air conditioning
- Metallic paint

EMC PRICE  
£11995

BUY BACK PRICE £11995

Ford Street Ka  
1.6 Luxury



- Various metallic colours
- Leather trim
- Air conditioning
- CD player

EMC PRICE  
£9295

BUY BACK PRICE £9295

START ORDERING NOW  
FOR CHRISTMAS DELIVERY



ALFA ROMEO	HYUNDAI	RENAULT
AUDI	HONDA	SEAT
CITROËN	JEEP	PEUGEOT
CHRYSLER	MERCEDES	SKODA
JAGUAR	BENZ	VOLKSWAGEN
FORD	MG ROVER	VAUXHALL
FIAT		

**ATTENTION!**  
WE at EMC have  
nothing to hide!

All our prices include metallic paint and  
on-the-road costs. The price you see is  
the price you pay. No hidden charges.

**ALL CARS ARE  
UK SUPPLIED  
WITH A PINK  
LOG BOOK**

**WE WANT  
YOUR GALAXY**  
BEST PRICES PAID FOR  
CASH OR PART EXCHANGE

**CALL IN FOR  
BEST PRICES  
IN BFG**

► Complete this slip and return it to us by Freepost if you are interested in these or any of our other fantastic offers. ◀

In association with Cuff Miller Ford.

**E.M.C  
TAX FREE**  
UK PHONE 01323 739675  
[www.emctaxfree.com](http://www.emctaxfree.com)  
UK FAX 01323 734560

UK FREEPOST (BR 1394), CAVENDISH BRIDGE,  
EASTBOURNE BN21 5TD

For more details and to order call  
Steve, Scott, Lee and Simon.  
**GERMAN FREEPHONE**

08001 860183  
08001 827633



Pictures for illustration purposes only.  
\* Subject to terms & conditions. <sup>†</sup>Selected vehicles only.



Name/Rank .....
Unit/Tour Address .....
.....
Email .....
Current car (if any).....
Expected change date.....
Request for brochures.....
Make & model.....
Send to: EMC Tax Free, UK Freepost (BR 1394), Cavendish Bridge, Eastbourne BN21 5TD
Cut along dotted line