

# ARTILLERY CLERKS' ASSOCIATION THE CROSSED QUILLS

ISSUE 7 NOVEMBER 2003



## President's Foreword by Maj Gen Mike Shellard CBE

I am delighted to have the opportunity to write the Foreword again this year for our splendid Association newsletter. It has been another busy year for us all, and especially for those who have been deployed on operations overseas or involved in the Firefighting role.

The year started for us with the excellent Reunion dinner in April and we were very privileged to have as our Guest of Honour General Sir Alex Harley who came not only as the Master Gunner, but also as a former Adjutant General and someone therefore who had a good understanding of both the Royal Artillery and The Adjutant General's Corps, and the trials and tribulations of modern day clerking!

May I pick up on something else from our last dinner, the introduction of our Historical Secretary, Joe Hoggins. Do please support him in his efforts to bring together a full record of the achievements of clerks down the ages. I'm sure he will be making an appeal for your help in this newsletter. Please also support the work of our webmaster, Dave Stotan. Both of these members are giving freely of their time for

our benefit, and we ought to do all we can to help them.

I can't let the opportunity pass to offer my congratulations to Andy Tibble on the well-earned award of a Meritorious Service Medal.

Lastly, I have been lucky enough to be your President for nearly five years now and the time has come for us to find my successor. Eighteen months ago our Guest speaker at the annual dinner was Major General Peter Currie CB who was until his recent retirement from the Army the Deputy Adjutant General. After consultation with our Chairman and one or two other senior members of the Association it was agreed that I would approach him and I am pleased to be able to tell you that he has accepted our proposal. You will want to have the opportunity to ratify this at your next AGM of course, but I can heartily recommend him to you. Meanwhile I look forward to seeing as many of you as can come to our next Reunion on the 3rd April.

My best wishes to you all,

*Mike Shellard*



Association Website  
[www.artyclerk.fnet.co.uk](http://www.artyclerk.fnet.co.uk)



*Local SSgt (AC) John Reynolds, who was the first Chief Clerk HQ 1st Lt Wing AAC, Detmold in 1958. John was the first soldier in BAOR to wear the new AAC beret and cap badge.*

*Photograph by kind permission of Maj (Retd) John Reynolds*

## Chairman's Notes by Lt Col Joe Falzon BEM

Autumn is with us again already. It has a habit of stealing up on me as fast as the reminders I receive at this time of year from Andy Tibble to put pen to paper and complete "The Chairman's piece" for Crossed Quills on time.

I clearly remember the "thank you" letters I used to receive when I was still serving roughly saying that one can never extract the best value of any event, be it a training exercise, seminar or a reunion dinner, if the logistics were not right. Our Reunion Dinner last April was just one of those memorable occasions when all the planning and preparation paid off handsomely due to the unstinting efforts of our Reunion Secretary. I am sure that all those who attended would wish me to thank Andy again publicly for his tremendous contribution.

We have quite a number of our members who are currently in Iraq "fighting the peace", with others (including our intrepid Treasurer) in training to deploy in the next few months. We all know that the peacekeeping phase will probably be a long drawn-out

affair, but experience and fortitude will stand our comrades in good stead. We have every reason to be proud of them, as we look forward to seeing them back home safe and unharmed.

I hope you enjoy the full taste of this issue of your magazine. I know how much time and effort has gone into the collating, production and distribution. We rely heavily on Andy Tibble to draw all this activity together - I am sure you would wish to join me to thanking him for offering us such a good edition once again.

It has been another extremely good year...., as I have been saying year after year, please continue to help your Committee to deliver what you need. When you have time, all of us would welcome a friendly chat over the phone, or better still use our website "Message Board".

With every best wish.

*Joe Falzon*

# Secretary's Report

## By Mel Charlton WO1(SMAC) Retired

We are travelling through the Centenary Year of the forming of the Artillery Clerks' Section quite rapidly. Having been out of the army now for two years I sit on many occasions reflecting military life as it was and yes I do miss it. I miss the close camaraderie that we all had when we served. How nice it would be if we were like other Branches where members live close at hand and can meet up regularly to quaff a pint or two and swing the lantern for a while in their own club premises. Reunion Dinners are a blessing despite about only a third of membership turning up. One can hear members saying "good to see Jack here this year or sorry to hear that Fred is ill and couldn't make it". Unfortunately members of our Association are scattered worldwide and several do not keep regular contact, unlike Maj(Retd) John Reynolds in Canada. John and I communicate quite regularly by e-mail which brings us closer together in heart despite being miles apart in reality. My e-mail address is [artyckassnsec@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:artyckassnsec@yahoo.co.uk) for those of you that are getting the hint.

I have just read through Capt (QM) Retd Pete Bunn's article again and it is so inspirational. That feeling of 'those were the days' comes to mind (although a little bit before my time). Thank you Pete for the excellent articles appearing in issue 6 and this 7th Issue. What happened after Manorbier and the WO1 appointment at the School of Anti-Aircraft Artillery? Please let us all know about your commissioning.

The Centenary Weekend and the Reunion Dinner held on 5th April were fantastic. Our Reunion Secretary WO1 Andy Tibble served us all proud and we can all sing his praises and enjoy his report and the photographs depicted in this magazine. Congratulations also go to Andy on being awarded the MSM last July. Well deserved Andy and congratulations from us all. The support of our Honorary President Maj Gen Mike Shellard CBE and Guest of Honour, The Master Gunner St James's Park, Gen Sir Alex Harley KBE CB was also very much appreciated by all those in attendance. The Loyal Message from HM The Queen was the icing on the cake. Thank you from us all Andy. All under the watchful eye of our Chairman Lt Col(Retd) Joe Falzon BEM who keeps everyone on their toes.

A big thank you to the members who contributed to this magazine. Trying to get material for the proposed publication 'The History of the Artillery Clerk' is like getting blood out of a stone. I am grateful to Bill Johnson's daughter Shirley who managed to obtain a copy of the book 'The Artillery Clerk' by Capt E J Smith RA (Late Officer in Charge of the RA Clerks' School). The book is the 3rd edition printed in 1941 and cost 2 shillings and 6 pence. It is not a history book but a book of clerical procedures. Bill has donated it to the new Historical Section of the Branch (under the auspices of our Historical Secretary Joe Hoggins) and hopes it is pleasant reading for whichever of the members read it in the

future. Thanks once again Bill.

During the period since my last report there have been four deaths of former artillery clerks namely, Lt Col(QM) Retd John Gray who died last January. Also former WO1(SMAC) Chris Freeman died on 30 December 2002 aged 57. Former WO1(SMAC) Fred Jones died on 12 October 2002 aged 85 and former SSgt(AC) Ian Ridge who died on 25 January 2003 aged 60. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of these departed brother artillery clerks. Rest in peace.

Congratulations go to WO2 Martin Meek who has been promoted to WO1. SSgt Mark Spring, Tresh Matthews, Paul Mudd and Dougie Silver promoted to WO2. Sgts Alf Alvin and Daz Ward promoted to SSgt. Lt Col Richard Horner MBE was awarded the bar to his LS&GC Medal. How the Salisbury Journal published it on 20 March this year and not the Gunner magazine is difficult to understand.

WO1 Des Riley newly elected as Secretary East is also our tie man. It is understood that he is down to the last 40 odd and an imminent rush expected before the next Reunion!! His contact details are elsewhere in this magazine.

At the AGM in April I reminded all members about keeping the Secretary informed of any changes in rank, addresses, telephone numbers, awards or e-mail addresses. This request goes out to all members please.

Thank you for the continued support of Area Secretaries (I promise to get

more organized and review your responsibilities this year).

Thanks also go to the Treasurer Major Paul Corker who keeps our finances in order, our Welfare Officer Ted Morgan, the Webmaster David Stotan and our Standard Bearer Andrew Jones. Special thanks to Capt(Retd) Chris Berry Area Secretary East who took time out to represent the Association at the RA Assembly at Woolwich this year.

It would be nice to see more members making use of the Message Board on our website [www.artyclerk.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.artyclerk.fsnet.co.uk). Even if it is to welcome a new member or congratulate a member who has been promoted or awarded a medal. It is also a damn good way of letting people know what's going on. As we go to print we have 187 members.

As an Association we have now been going for 5 years. It is now time to reflect. As an individual how many members have you introduced? Well perhaps it's now time for you to do something about it. Check the Wanted List. There must be at least one or two of those individuals which you could cajole into becoming members.

Once again in closing, may I draw your attention to those members who are ill or have been ill over recent months. Our thoughts and prayers are with you as always. Take care and kind regards to you and yours. See you at the next Reunion in April. Ubique

*Mel Charlton*

1st Singapore Regt RA, Pulau  
Blakang Mati, Singapore  
1951

John Reynolds having just  
been appointed to the AC  
Section as a sub LBdr (AC)  
and held the rank of War Sub  
Bdr (AC). John had to revert to  
LBdr (AC) on 1 Apr 52 when  
the war sub ranks were  
abolished.

Photograph by kind permission of  
Maj (Retd) John Reynolds



#### In Memory of our departed Brother Artillery Clerks

Former WO1(SMAC) Fred Jones  
Died 12 October 2002  
Aged 85 years

Former WO1(SMAC) Chris Freeman  
Died 30 December 2002  
Aged 57 years

Former SSgt(AC) Ian Ridge  
Died 25 January 2003  
Aged 60 years

Former WO1(SMAC) and Lt Col(QM)  
John Gray  
Died January 2003

Rest in peace brother Artillery Clerks

The secretary would like to  
thank all those members who  
attempted to name the Mystery  
Entertainer depicted in Crossed  
Quills Issue 6. Only Major (QM)  
Retd Eddie Mills guessed  
correctly. The Mystery  
Entertainer is none other than  
WO1 (SMAC) Retd Bill  
Johnson.  
Well done to both of you



## Reunion Secretary's Report By WO1 (SSM) A M Tibble MSM AGC (SPS)

The Committee has decided, after reading the many messages left on the Artillery Clerks' website that we will remain with the UK Reunion Dinners taking place in April of each year and not in October as mentioned at the AGM. It is hoped that there will be a BFG Dinner, which will possibly be held during the months of October or November, commencing in 2004. Further details will follow in due course.

The 70th Artillery Clerks' Reunion and Association Dinner will be held in the Royal Artillery Sergeants'

Mess, Woolwich over the weekend 2 - 4 April 2004. The dress for the dinner night on Saturday 3 April 2004 will be Mess Kit for serving members and black tie (with medals) for retired individuals.

A Reunion letter giving more details about the Reunion weekend will be forwarded to all members shortly.

Further information on the above Reunion can be obtained from the Reunion Secretary, WO1 (SSM) Andy Tibble MSM AGC (SPS) by contacting him on (9) 4261 2250 or 01276 41 2250 or by email at [staffasst@rmas.mod.uk](mailto:staffasst@rmas.mod.uk)

## Welfare Officer's Report by Ted Morgan Former OMS(AC)

Although many welfare matters have passed over my desk since the last issue, none have required any direct attention except for the odd telephone call. Most of the time we are directly dependent on information received from our members so please, if in doubt give me a ring. My daytime number is 01332-371217, evenings 01332-678418 and if these don't work my mobile number is 07970212183.

SSAFA Forces Help have holiday cottages just outside Ryde on the Isle of Wight for the use of serving and ex-serving members of HM Forces, high season is £150 per week

and low season £120 per week, discounted ferry fares are available. The cottages consist of two beds and are fully fitted out to a high standard with fully fitted kitchen, bathroom, lounge with TV etc, sorry no children or pets. The cottages are located within the grounds of St Vincents Care Home for ex-servicemen and women, 5 minutes walk from Ryde, the only contact you have with the home is booking the keys in and out. To book phone 0193-563248, fax 01983-567714 or e-mail [stvincents@iowssafa.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:stvincents@iowssafa.freeserve.co.uk). Any other info please give me a ring.



## Update from the WebMaster as at 23 SEP 03 - David Stotan (Former WO2(QMS(AC)))

The good news is that the Message Board continues to provide an excellent forum for our members to exchange views or to ask for assistance. For those of you who have dared to venture onto it I have been impressed in the way in which everyone has got to grips with how to use it in a very short space of time. I don't have any bad news except to make a plea for more messages to be posted, and for those of you who do make the effort...Thanks very much.

There has been a spate of very nasty computer viruses let loose in the wild of late and it is extremely important to ensure that your home computer is fully protected with the latest anti-virus DAT signature files. At the time of this article the latest update from McAfee is 4294 dated 18 Sep 03. Below is a selection from the Top Ten "Nasties" posted by McAfee:

Virus News, Warnings, Warning!! - Worm/Swen

Spreads by e-mails as a randomly named attachment with fake sender address. Message text tries to convince you that attached file is cumulative patch for MS Internet Explorer, MS Outlook and MS Outlook Express. Spreads also through KaZaa and IRC.

<http://www.grisoft.com/us/remtext.php?id+swen>

Remover utility is available. More information is in  
<<http://www.grisoft.cz/virbase/virbase.php?lng=us&type=web&action=view&q>

virus?6fdabdd980000> Virus Encyclopaedia.  
2003-09-18

Warning!!-Worm/Sobig.F

<<http://www.grisoft.cz/virbase/virbase.php?lng=us&type=web&action=view&q>

virus?6fdab9da85f000.New variation of the same theme. This variant stores itself under a name WINPP32.exe to the main Windows directory (e.g. C:\WINNT) and writes a value to the registry key.

SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run with a name "TrayX" and value "C:\WINNT\winpp32.exe/sinc".2003-08-19

Warning!!-Worm/Mimail

I-Worm/Mimail is a virus which is sending itself via e-mails with following text:

The virus uses MESSAGE.ZIP file as an attachment, this archive file contains MESSAGE.HTML file, which is in fact its own EXE version of the virus, and a short script designed to copy the virus on the hard disk of infected computer, and to launch this file.

When computer is infected, virus creates the VIDEODRV.EXE file in Windows folder, where it also creates some temporary files (eml.tmp). Virus is launched every time computer is started due to virus's key VideoDriver in ...\CurrentVersion\Run.



RA Branch, GHQ FARELF, Tanglin Barracks, Singapore 1951  
Rear Row: Bdr (AC) Bill Heaven, WO2 (QMS(A)) Bill Burnaby, WO1 (SMAC) Stan Spruce, Bdr (AC) John Reynolds  
Front Row: Maj H Goldsborough, Maj C Ackereley, Brig F Clark CBE, Maj H Huleatt

Photograph by kind permission of Maj (Retd) John Reynolds

## Treasurer's Report 2003

Where does the time go? Over the past twelve months I have met members in Kosovo, in North Yorkshire during Op FRESCO and now as I go about my business in Canada. The only people I do not meet these days are the other members of the committee. It only seems like a few days ago we were sitting around the table at Woolwich enjoying another excellent dinner and each other's company. What am I doing as Treasurer at the moment. Well, let me cover a few areas:

### Statement of Account as at Mon 29 Sep 03

ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
Cash	£28.50	Function	£1,238.53
Current Bank Balance	£1,720.28		
Deposit Bank Balance	£1,134.87		
Shop Stock	£545.25		
<b>TOTAL ASSETS (A)</b>	<b>£3,428.90</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,238.53</b>
		<b>LIABILITIES (B)</b>	
<b>AVAILABLE CASH (A-B)</b>	<b>£2,190.37</b>		

### Notes on the Statement of Account:

Subscriptions. Although I have recovered over £300.00 as a result of my letter to all debtors, sadly £460.00 is still owed. Please get in touch with the Treasurer should you be in any doubt.

Mandate. 59 members are not subscribing by the mandate system. At audit it seems that those members not subscribing by the mandate system are debtors to the fund. Please contact the Treasurer for the mandate forms.

Transfer between Accounts. £1000.00 was transferred from the Deposit Account to the Current Account to ensure that the bills raised for the Reunion Dinner were settled prior to the individual cheques arriving in the account. All cheques have now been received and the reverse transfer will take place on my return to the UK in Nov 03.

### Gift Aid

As highlighted in my letter to all members, when I receive the declaration form the fund may claim £1.41 for every £5.00 a member has subscribed to the fund. A self-made declaration form has been posted to all members. They are beginning to arrive and I will be writing to the Tax man very shortly to receive our first injection of cash. This will be an ongoing event that the Treasurer will monitor closely.

*P CORKER*

*Major*

*Treasurer Artillery Clerks' Association*



*RHQ Staff 45 Med/FD Regt RA, Hohne 1979  
Front Row: Sgt (AC) Ralph Lalabalavu, Bdr Dick Jeavons,  
LBdr Bluey Hayes, Gnr Steve Hyatt  
Back Row: Gnr George Laughlin, Bdr Vince Scott, Gnr Densy Day  
(up high) Sgt (AC) George Doyle, WO2 (QMS(AC)) Mick Carter*

*Photograph by kind permission of Capt (Retd) Dick Jeavons*

## The Association Committee 2003-2004

Honorary President	Maj Gen Mike Shellard CBE
Chairman	Lt Col(Retd) Joe Falzon BEM
Secretary	Mel Charlton WO1(SMAC) Retd
Treasurer	Maj Paul Corker AGC(SPS)
Reunion Secretary	WO1(SSM) Andy Tibble MSM AGC(SPS)
Welfare Officer	Ted Morgan WO2(QMS(AC)) Retd
Standard Bearer	Andrew Jones Sgt(AC) Retd
Association Padre	Rev Dennis Brett WO2(QMS(AC)) Retd
Webmaster	David Stotan WO2(QMS(AC)) Retd
Historical Secretary	Joe Hoggins BSc WO1(SMAC) Retd

### Regional Secretaries

North	Vince Scott WO2(QMS(AC)) Retd
North West	Dennis Norris WO2(QMS(AC)) Retd
Midlands	Steve Callaghan WO2(QMS(AC)) Retd
London and South	Steve Truslove Sgt(AC) Retd
West	WO1 Des Riley LSL/AGC(SPS)
East	Chris Berry Capt RA(Retd)
Scotland	Ted Fairbrass Sgt(AC) Retd
Wales	No nomination
Germany	WO1 Roy Deal LSL/AGC(SPS)
Rest of World	The Secretary

## The Association Website

Have you visited the Artillery Clerks' Association website yet??

Take a look at

[www.artyclerk.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.artyclerk.fsnet.co.uk)

The site is maintained by  
our own Webmaster  
David Stotan

*173 Loc Bty RA, Whitfield  
Barracks, Kowloon, Hong  
Kong 24 September 1953  
Bty Office Staff  
LBdr Munday (Bty Pay Clk),  
Gnr Biggs, Gnr Grey, Sgt (AC)  
Reynolds, Gnr Ackland*

*Photograph by kind permission of  
Maj (Retd) John Reynolds*



# Minutes of The Artillery Clerks' Association Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 5th April 2003

## 1. Opening Remarks by Chairman

The Chairman Lt Col(Retd) Joe Falzon BEM opened the Meeting at 1715 hours by stating how nice it was to see so many back together again at Woolwich supporting the Centenary Dinner.

## 2. Apologies for Absence

There were 33 apologies for absence and that their names would be read out during the Dinner.

## 3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 19 October 2002

The Chairman explained that the Minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 19 October 2002 had been printed and distributed in Edition 6 of The Crossed Quills, and unless any member had any objection, they would not be read out again.

## 4. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 19 October 2002

The Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 31 March 2001 were approved.

Proposer: Mr Graham Brown  
Seconder Maj(Retd) David Cussell

## 5. Matters arising from the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 19 October 2002

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 19 October 2002.

## 6. Chairman's Report

The Chairman gave a general update as follows:

- a. Stating that WO1 Andy Tibble and Mr Mel Charlton had been very busy in the myriad of preparations required for the Centenary Reunion Weekend.
- b. That the objectives of the Centenary Reunion were in four words, Companionship, Friendship, Celebration and Remembrance, and that he placed a high value on the Church Service which he hoped that everyone would be able to support.
- c. It had been an up and down year with Membership reaching 183. Recruiting didn't happen and that we were to keep 'pottering away'. Attempts had been made to get Mr George Martin to attend but he was overseas.
- d. We were always looking for new members.
- e. Later on we would come to the elections and anyone who wished to stand for election was to make it known. The Committee would stand again for election.

## 7. Secretary's Report

- a. The unfortunate deaths of former WO1(SMAC) Chris Freeman (aged 57) who died on 30 December 2002 and former WO1(SMAC) Fred Jones who had died on 12 October 2002 (aged 85).
- b. Congratulations to:
  - (1) WO2 Martin Meek

promoted to WO1 since our last Meeting.

(2) SSgt Mark Spring promoted to WO2 since our last Meeting.

(3) SSgts Tresh Matthews, Paul Mudd and Dougie Silver selected for promotion to WO2.

(4) Sgts Alf Alvin and Daz Ward selected for promotion to SSgt.

(5) Lt Col Richard Hormer MBE on being awarded the bar to his LS&GC.

c. Ties were on sale from WO1 Des Riley at a cost of £13.00.

d. Cuff links and tie pins were on sale at a cost of £21.70, with an order form on the notice board in the main foyer. Payment was to be made to WO1 Andy Tibble prior to departure.

e. A reminder was given to all members about keeping the Secretary informed of any changes of rank, addresses, telephone numbers, awards or e-mail addresses. (After note: all members are requested to take note of this request)

## 8. The Treasurer's Report

Liquidity State as at Sat 5 Apr 03

Assets	
Current Bank Balance	£2,449.79
Deposit Bank Balance	£2,130.33
Shop Stock	£ 649.25
Total Assets (A)	£5,229.37
Liabilities	
Function	£3,029.74
Total Liabilities (B)	£3,029.74

Available Cash (A-B)  
£2,199.63

Notes: Subscriptions. Subscriptions outstanding total £790.00. This would enhance the General Purpose Fund. Treasurer to action this in early 2003.

**Mandate.** 46 members are not paying by Standing Order Mandate. Members are continuously encouraged to subscribe by this method. Treasurer to action in early 2003.

**2003 Function.** It had been calculated that when all creditors were cleared for the 2003 function, approximately £1,000.00 will remain in the account to offset future functions.

**Gift Aid.** The Treasurer explained the benefits of Gift Aid. A proforma was distributed to those attending with a request that members complete, sign and return to him.

## 9. Welfare Secretary's Report

The Welfare Secretary had nothing to report

## 10. Reunion Secretary's Report

a. The Reunion Secretary briefed attending members on the format for the evening and the Sunday Church Service.

b. The Chairman requested that everyone 'muck in' with the hosting of the guests.

## 11. Any other Business

a. Election or Re-election of Committee

The Committee comprised as follows were re-elected in their appointments.

Chairman

Lt Col (Retd) Joe Falzon BEM  
Secretary Mr Mel Charlton  
Treasurer

Maj Paul Corker AGC(SPS)  
Reunion Secretary  
WO1(SSM) Andy Tibble  
AGC(SPS)

Proposer Mr Chris Berry  
Seconder Mr Colin Davidson

b. Replacement Area Secretary West

WO1 Des Riley was proposed & accepted to replace WO1 Trig Tregower as Area Secretary West:

Proposer Mr Mel Charlton  
Seconder Mr Mick Grenham

c. Proposal by Birmingham and District Branch

Birmingham and District Branch of the RAA had proposed that the post of the RAA Membership Secretary be re-instated as a part time post funded by members of the RAA for a period of up to 5 years. Funding would be on the basis of £2.00 per RAA branch member as declared by branches on their annual return. Funds could be collected by branches either individually from members or by branch fund raising events. After much discussion a vote was taken and a unanimous decision was taken against this proposal.

a. RAA Assembly - Woolwich 10 May 2003

The Chairman stated that he was unable to attend the Assembly on 10 May 2003 and requested if anyone else could attend as our Association delegate.

Mr Chris Berry volunteered to attend the RAA Assembly on

10 May 03 as our Association delegate and would inform the Assembly of our decision at para 11c. above.

d. "History of the Artillery Clerk"

The Chairman reminded members of the proposed book, "History of the Artillery Clerk". That it may take a couple of years to produce and that we would be relying on members to submit historical articles and photographs to the Secretary. There had been a poor response so far.

e. Sunday Morning Church Service

The Chairman briefed members on the Sunday morning church service, requesting as much support as possible.

f. Proposed insurance cover for Committee Members

The Chairman proposed a vote in respect of the insurance cover for Committee Members, to which attending members gave their unanimous support.

g. Vote of Thanks

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to our Webmaster Mr David Stotan and commended the site to everyone.

Maj(Retd) Pat Verdon proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee for the work that they had done over the past year.

h. Accommodation of Wives

The Chairman stated that the Committee would continue to investigate the accommodation of wives.

j. Germany Dinner

WO1 Roy Deal stated that he



15 Med Regt RA, Gun Club Barracks, Kowloon Hong Kong 1956  
Back Row: Gnr Ayee, Gnr McCready, Gnr Lofthouse, Gnr Conway, Gnr Blanshard  
Front Row: Gnr Clay, Sgt (AC) J Reynolds, Capt J A Henry (Adj), Bdr Marbeck, Gnr Smith

Photograph by kind permission of Maj (Retd) John Reynolds

would put out a flyer to everyone in order to obtain the consensus of opinion to hold a Germany Reunion Dinner in October this year.

12. Date of Next Meeting

There being no further business from the floor, the Meeting closed at 1825 hours. The next Meeting would be held on Saturday 16 Oct 2004. (Afternote - now amended to Saturday 3 April 2004)

Mel Charlton  
Secretary

## Artillery Clerks' Association Ties

WHAT tie do you wear on a Friday? The Association tie is available at a cost of £13.00 each. The ties are of a silk/ polyester quality of Gunner zig zag design depicting the crossed quills and 'AC' in gold. Send your cheque made payable to 'Artillery Clerks' Association to:

WO1 Des Riley LSL/  
AGC(SPS)  
DGES(L) D Res 5a(5)  
DLO Andover, Monxton Road  
Andover, Hants





# Artillery Clerks' Association Charter

## General

1. The Association, entitled the "Artillery Clerks' Association" was formed at Woolwich on Saturday 7th March 1998. This Charter is being adopted to guide its activities. The Charter may be changed at any time by the Committee to reflect the wishes of the Association members.

2. The Aim and Object of the Artillery Clerks' Association is to promote comradeship amongst its members, both serving and retired and to provide a focal point for all members of the Association. The Association is essentially an old comrades association of former Artillery Clerks, either serving or retired.

3. The Artillery Clerks' Association is affiliated to and is a Branch of the Royal Artillery Association (RAA). All members of the Royal Artillery Association will be granted life membership of the RAA on acceptance.

## Eligibility

4. Full Members. Full membership of the Association is open to any former Artillery Clerk in the rank range from Sergeant to Warrant Officer Class 1, either serving or retired. Membership may also be granted, with the recommendation of a former Artillery Clerk, to clerks who served in the Royal Artillery in the rank range from Gunner to Bombardier, and have subsequently been promoted to Sergeant in the Adjutant General's Corps.

5. Honorary Membership. Honorary Membership of the Association is specially designed to cover the widows and relatives of deceased Artillery Clerks. Other special cases of honorary membership will be considered on merit by the Committee and voted upon by the Committee and voted upon by the members at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Honorary members may not vote on matters voted upon at the AGM.

6. Authorization. Membership of the Association may be sought by anyone under these rules. In the event of there being some doubt regarding application, the Artillery Clerks' Association Committee will arbitrate. The Association Committee has the right to refuse any application for membership, or cancel any existing membership, for example, for disciplinary reasons.

## Purpose

7. The specific purpose of the Association is to provide:

a. A focal point for comradeship, largely through periodic reunion of:

(1) A formal Annual Reunion Dinner.

(2) An informal Dinner to be held at a frequency and location to be decided by the Committee, to include wives, girlfriends and widows.

(3) A very limited welfare service. This essentially means that the Artillery Clerks' Association, in promoting

contacts between members, provides a network through which help can be given to any member. The focus for this activity within the Association is the Secretary.

## Organisation

8. The affairs of the Artillery Clerks' Association will be overseen by the Artillery Clerks' Association Committee. The Committee will meet at intervals decided upon by the Chairman, and will comprise of:

a. President (Honorary).

b. Chairman.

c. Secretary. Responsibilities cover:

(1) Association Membership.

(2) Correspondence.

(3) Providing a focus for the Association's welfare work and links to the RAA.

(4) Production of a periodic newsletter.

(5) Coordinating the activities of the Area Representatives.

d. Treasurer. Responsibilities cover:

(1) Maintenance of a bank account entitled the "Artillery Clerks' Association".

(2) Accounting for all the finances of the Artillery Clerks' Association.

(3) Presenting a Statement of Account to the Committee (as and when required) and annually at the AGM

d. Regional Representatives. Responsibilities cover:

(1) The recruitment of new members.

(2) Maintaining an area membership list.

(3) Coordinating travel to Reunions and other Association activities.

Areas covered are:

(1) Scotland.

(2) Wales.

(3) The North West consisting of Cumbria, Lancashire, Merseyside, Greater Manchester and Cheshire.

(4) The North consisting of Northumberland, Tyne and Wear, Durham, Cleveland, Yorkshire and Humberside.

(5) The Midlands consisting of Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, West Midlands, Leicestershire, Hereford and Worcestershire, Warwickshire and Northamptonshire.

(6) The East consisting of Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex.

(7) London and The South consisting of Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Greater London, Surrey and Kent.

(8) The West consisting of Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Avon and Wiltshire.

# ARMY ORDER 54 OF 1903

## Pay and Promotion of Clerks, Royal Artillery

### EDWARD R.I.

**A.O.54**    **WHEREAS** We deem it expedient to amend the regulations relating **18**  
**April**    to the pay and promotion of soldiers employed as clerks in Our Royal Artillery; **Artillery**  
**1903** **3038**

**OUR WILL AND PLEASURE** is that all soldiers who may hereafter be permanently employed as clerks in Our Royal Artillery shall form a section to be called the Artillery Clerks' Section, and shall, from the 1st April 1903, be paid and promoted as follows:

	Rank	Pay s. d.	Class for Allowances.
<b>1ST DIVISION</b>			
On Promotion from the 2nd Division	Warrant Officer	5 6	16
<b>2ND DIVISION</b>			
On promotion from 3rd Division.	Company Sergeant Major	4 0	17
After 3 year's service with pay at 4s per day.	Quarter Master Sergeant	4 6	16
After 3 year's service with pay at 4s 6d per day.	Quarter Master Sergeant	5 10	16
<b>3RD DIVISION</b>			
On appointment	Acting Bombardier	2 0	20
After one year's service in the division	Bombardier	2 6	20
After 2 year's service with pay at 2s 6d a-day.	Corporal	3 0	20
After 2 year's service with pay at 3s a-day.	Sergeant	3 6	19

No increase of rank or pay under this article shall be allowed, unless specially recommended by the officer under whom the non-commissioned officer is serving.

Given at Our Court at St. James's this 21st day of March, 1903, in the 3rd year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command,

Sr. JOHN BRODRICK

(9) Germany.

(10) The Rest of the World - covered by the Secretary.

9. Additional members of the Committee may be appointed by the Chairman as required, for example, Reunion Secretary and Assistant Secretary.

#### Fees

10. Membership fees are to be determined by the Committee. There is to be a fee to join the Association and the annual renewal fee.

11. Fees are to cover the costs of administration, including telephone calls, postage and stationery.

12. Reunions are to be self-financing, that is, those attending are to meet the full cost of all activities of the Reunion.



# 69th (Centenary) Artillery Clerks' Reunion and Association Dinner

Friday 4th - Sunday 6th April 2003

by WO1 (SSM) Andy Tibble MSM AGC(SPS)

On the evening of Friday 4th April 2003, Association members and their wives joined together in the RA Sgts' Mess Woolwich for the start of the Centenary Reunion Weekend with a Cocktail Reception. Members were joined by invited guests, SO to MG, Col (Retd) and Mrs M J N Richards Regtl Col, Col and Mrs M B Cooper, CO 16 Regt RA, Lt Col and Mrs D J Scouller RA, RSM 16 Regt RA, WO1 (RSM) and Mrs A J Simpson.

Prior to the Reunion Dinner on the evening of Saturday 5th April 2003, an AGM, chaired by Lt Col (Retd) Joe Falzon, was held. The Chairman explained that the objective of the Centenary Weekend were in four words, Companionship, Friendship, Celebration and Remembrance. The present Committee were re-elected in their appointments, which was warmly received by those in attendance. WO1 Des Riley kindly agreed to take on the appointment of Area Secretary West, which had become vacant. Following the AGM, all members assembled on the Front Parade to await the arrival of the Guest of Honour, The Master Gunner St James's Park, Gen Sir Alex Harley KBE CB, Honorary President, Maj Gen Mike Shellard CBE and invited guests, Regtl Col, Col M B Cooper, Editor of Gunner, Maj (Retd) J W Timbers and the RASM, WO1 Derek Gilbert. A Reunion photograph was taken and is shown on the rear of the magazine.

A trumpeter from the RA Orchestra sounded and the Centenary Reunion Dinner commenced, chaired by the Reunion Secretary, WO1(SSM)

Andy Tibble. The top table was piped into Dinner by LSgt Macrae from F Coy of the Scots Guards. Members sat down to a most excellent meal provided by the RCWO, WO2 Dave Barrow, Maury McCallum and Dennis Angus. The evening was orchestrated under the very professional care of the Mess Manager, Mrs Mary Faulkner assisted by all the ladies and staff. A leader plus 7 from the RA Orchestra, under the direction of LBdr Simon Duggan, provided excellent entertainment during the meal, including the Post Horn Gallop and a finale of the The RA Slow March.

After 'ease springs' members and guests were entertained with a pipe display provided by LSgt Macrae of the

Scots Guards. The Honorary President, Maj Gen Mike Shellard CBE then read out a letter from the Chairman, Lt Col (Retd) Joe Falzon BEM, to Her Majesty's Private Secretary and the response in the form of a Loyal Message from Her Majesty The Queen. The Loyal Message was well received by all those in attendance. The Reunion Secretary then gave a hearty welcome to all those attending and thanked all members present for supporting this special occasion as we celebrated the 100th year of the formation of the Artillery Clerks' Section. Thanks were given to those who had travelled great distances to be with other members of the Association. The Reunion Secretary welcomed the Guest

of Honour, Gen Sir Alex Harley KBE CB, Col M B Cooper, Maj (Retd) J W Timbers and WO1(RASM) Derek Gilbert.

The unfortunate deaths of former WO1s (SMAC) Fred Jones and Chris Freeman were reported. A toast was taken in their honour. Thirty three greetings and apologies were read out from the UK and as far afield as the USA, Canada, Germany, France, Cyprus, Riyadh in the Middle East, Belize in Central America, and those on Operations in the Gulf, indicating the universal spread of the Association. A toast was given to absent friends. A further toast was given to all those Artillery Clerk's and service men and women who were currently serving on operations in the Gulf, wishing them a safe and speedy return.

A special mention was also give to our senior citizens who were present, Tom Webb, Bob Day, Vic Holdaway, Bill Johnson, Jim Cussell and Bob Lewney.

Congratulations were expressed to Lt Col Richard Horner RA, in his absence, who had been awarded the bar to his LS and GC Medal. Congratulations also went out to those recently selected for promotion. WO1(SSM) Martin Meek on promotion to WO1. SSgts Tresh Matthews, Paul Mudd, Dougie Silver and Mark Spring on promotion to WO2. Sgts Daz Ward and Alf Alvin on promotion to SSgt.

A special mention was made of the hard work that Dave Stotan had provided in the running of our very own website, [www.artyclerk.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.artyclerk.fsnet.co.uk). Appreciation was shown by attendees.



A special mention was also made of Mr Andrew Jones who had paraded the Association Standard at the St Barbara's Day service at the Garrison Church Larkhill in December 2002 and who continued to serve us proud.

During dinner, The RASM, WO1 Derek Gilbert was presented. He gave a most informative "State of the Union" report. The RASM is once again thanked for making our Reunion one of his own official functions, thereby providing a most substantial saving to those in attendance.

The Guest of Honour, The Master Gunner St James's Park, Gen Sir Alex Harley KBE CB, was presented in the form of a résumé of his career. The Master Gunner gave a delightful response, which was warmly received by all those in attendance.

The Reunion Secretary stated that the Association was going from strength to strength with 183 members, that we were universally spread throughout the World, and that no other Branch of the RAA could boast such a diverse membership. The Association truly lived up to our motto of 'UBIQUE'. It was further mentioned that due to the diversity of membership, the Reunion Dinner was the only opportunity that members had together to enjoy each other's company. Unlike other branches of the RAA, members were unable to get together on regular occasions and for that reason Reunion Dinners must never cease and the Secretary requested continued support for them.

In closing, the Reunion Secretary wished everyone all the very best for the forthcoming year and looked forward to seeing everyone at next years Reunion.

The 69th (Centenary) Reunion and Association

Dinner continued into the early hours of Sunday morning, in the Ayre's Lounge. Perhaps a gallant mention should be made of a couple of individuals who nearly didn't make it to bed. At 0445 hrs, Maj Paul Corker, Capt Phil Headford and Steve Truslove were seen leaving the bar!!

At 1000 hours on Sunday 6th April 2003, a dedicated Church Service for the Artillery Clerks' Association was held in the Royal Garrison Church of St Michael and All Angels (Royal Military Academy Chapel) Woolwich. The service was taken by Reverend Clifford Charlton O.C.F. During the service former Association Comrades, who had gone to their rest before us were remembered and their names were read out by the Chairman. After the Church Service, those members who attended retired to the RA Sgts' Mess for a curry lunch. This was the culmination of a very special and successful Centenary Reunion Weekend. The Artillery Clerks' Association had fulfilled its objectives of Companionship, Friendship, Celebration and Remembrance. A most excellent weekend thoroughly enjoyed by all those in attendance.



*The Master Gunner listens inventively*



*The Chairman Lt Col (Retd) Joe Falzon explains the programme for the evening to the Master Gunner Gen Sir Alex Harley KCB CB and the Honorary President Maj Gen Mike Shellard CBE*



*The Reunion Secretary WO1 Andy Tibble MSM and the Secretary Mel Charlton enjoy a pre Dinner drink*



*WO1 Des Riley waits in patience for the punch line from Capt Phil Headford BEM*





*SSgt Dougie Silver explaining why he managed to miss the Front Parade photograph*

*WO2 Ian Constantine, The Standard Bearer Andrew Jones with the RASM*



*A splendid trio Bob Lewney, Lt Col (Retd) Vic Holdaway BEM and Bill Johnson*



*George McGilvery and Brian Leadbetter share a joke*

*Sgt Ritchie Syme explains to WO2 Ron Holmes how he lost his mess kit and turned up in a kilt*



*WO2 Gary Tyson, WO2 Mark Spring, WO2 Derek Ralphs and SSgt Paul Mudd who explains about the one that got away*



*WO1 Martin Meek, Dennis Norris and William Wallace who is explaining why he did not appear on the photograph on the square*

*Bob Day, Geoff Hyatt, Capt (Retd) Chris Berry, Joe Hoggins and Colin Davidson*



*Sgt Ronnie Whelan, SSgt  
Doug Silver (being supported),  
WO2 Roger Essex and SSgt  
Snowy Snowdon*



*WO1 Andy Tibble MSM and the  
Editor Gunner Magazine Maj  
(Retd) John Timbers*



*WO2 Gary Tyson, WO2 Mark  
Spring, WO2 Derek Ralphs and  
SSgt Paul Mudd*



*Tom Webb (not really asleep),  
Alan Lowthian and Graham  
Brown wondering whether to  
wake him up*

*WO1 Mick Hutchinson, Steve  
Truslove and Maj Paul Corker  
trying to convince everyone that  
it is just orange juice*



*The Webmaster David Stotan  
and Maj (Retd) Dave Cussell*

*Capt Phil Headford BEM and  
WO1 Des Riley - the punch line  
at last*







*The Honorary President Maj  
Gen Mike Shellard CBE*



*The Master Gunner flanked by  
the Reunion Secretary WO1  
Andy Tibble MSM and the  
Secretary Mel Charlton*



*The RASM centre flanked by Lt  
Col (Retd) Vic Holdaway BEM,  
WO1 Mark Testi MSM and WO1  
Andy Tibble MSM*

*The Honorary President, the  
Chairman, Regt Col, Col  
Martin Cooper and Capt Phil  
Headford BEM*



*WO1 Mark Testi MSM with the  
Regt Col, Col Martin Cooper*



*The Master Gunner checking  
what's on the menu with WO1  
Andy Tibble MSM. Note the  
Association Standard in the  
background*



*The Honorary President in  
conversation with the Chairman*



*The Master Gunner chats to the  
RASM WO1 Derek Gilbert and  
the Chairman*

## Members List as at 29 September 2003

Sparky Allen	·	Graham Flint	·	Tim Mathews	·	Gordon Timmis
Alf Alvin	·	Alan Foot	·	Tresh Matthews	·	Trig Tregower
Richard Ancliffe	·	Eric Frost	·	Martin Meek	·	Frank Trimby
Al Artley	·	Mark Gaines	·	Tony Meek	·	Steve Truslove
John Baik	·	Brian Garthwaite	·	Eddie Mills	·	Mel Turpie
Brian Bailey	·	Martin Geddes	·	Tam Millsip	·	Dave Tyler
Pip Bailey	·	Gerry Gipson	·	Brian Morgan	·	Gary Tyson
Brian Bassett	·	Ian Grant	·	Ted Morgan	·	Pat Verdon
Taff Bellis	·	Mick Grenham	·	Bill Morland	·	Dave Vesty
Chris Berry	·	Ian Groom	·	Andy Moss	·	Dick Walmsley
Martin Birch	·	John Haddock	·	Tony Mott	·	William Wallace
Dave Boulton	·	Ted Hall	·	Paul Mudd	·	Daz Ward
Peter Bradburn	·	'H' Hammond	·	Richard Nichol	·	Ken Ward
Denis Brett	·	Steve Hawke	·	Dennis Norris	·	Ron Waterfield
Graham Brown	·	Phil Hayes	·	Tony Nuttall	·	Duggie Waterhouse
David Brown	·	Phil Headford	·	Nick Perkovic	·	Tom Webb
Phil Buckingham	·	Marty Hester	·	Joe Phelps	·	Andy West
Pete Bunn	·	Alan Hill	·	Dennis Phillipson	·	Ronnie Whelan
Budgie Burgess	·	Geordie Himlin	·	Chris Piper	·	Wills Williams
Martin Butler	·	Joe Hoggins	·	Eddie Platts	·	Jeff Williams
Steve Callaghan	·	Ron Holmes	·	Jim Pottle	·	Ian Williams
Charles Camies	·	Vic Holdaway	·	Steve Prowse	·	Alan Witts
Iain Campbell	·	Paddy Hope	·	Derek Ralphs	·	Chris Wood
Walter Carney	·	Richard Horner	·	Steve Read	·	Al Wood
Mel Charlton	·	Stu Hunt	·	John Reynolds	·	Woody Woodford
Rob Clarke	·	Mick Hutchinson	·	Neil Ridout	·	Den Wright
Lawrence Collingwood	·	Geoff Hyatt	·	Des Riley	·	John Yeowell
Ian Constantine	·	Geoff Janik	·	Jim Roast	·	Bill Young
Ron Cooper	·	Dick Jeavons	·	Brian Rose	·	
Paddy Corbett	·	Bill Johnson	·	Alex Ross	·	<b>Total 187</b>
Paul Corker	·	Mick Johnston	·	Arthur Rowell	·	
Mike Cottrell	·	Ted Jones	·	Alan Sawdon	·	
Bob Cowan	·	Andrew Jones	·	Vince Scott	·	
Dennis Crawford	·	Derek Kelsey	·	Steve Seymour	·	
Kev Crump	·	Clive Knaggs	·	Mike Shellard	·	
Dave Cussell	·	Ralph Lalabalavu	·	Chris Shuter	·	
Jim Cussell	·	Dave Larcombe	·	Sid Siddall	·	
Colin Davidson	·	Brian Leadbetter	·	Dougie Silver	·	
Paul Davies	·	Russ Lee	·	Tony Skinner	·	
Steve Davies	·	Ray Lewis	·	Bob Smith	·	
Bob Day	·	Bob Lewney	·	Dave Smith	·	
Roy Deal	·	John Lindley	·	Brian Smith	·	
John Dewberry	·	Alan Lowthian	·	Snowy Snowdon	·	
Ray Dickinson	·	Leon Lyall	·	Phil Spencer	·	
John Dixon	·	Dave Manchester	·	Mark Spring	·	
Jim Doran	·	Tommy McCarthy	·	Trevor Spurr	·	
Paddy Ennis	·	John McDermott	·	David Stotan	·	
Rog Essex	·	George McGilvery	·	Dave Straw	·	
Ted Fairbrass	·	George McKinnell	·	Andy Sykes	·	
Joe Falzon	·	Paul McMahan	·	Ritchie Syme	·	
Foxy Fox	·	James McNamara	·	John Taylor	·	
Jim Findlay	·	Adam Martin	·	Mark Testi	·	
Ron Flemmings	·	Tony Martin	·	Andy Tibble	·	





## Some reminiscences of the Regular Army 1932-1941

In Crossed Quills Issue 6 we introduced one of our members Pete Bunn who was born on 22nd November 1911. Pete wrote about reminiscences in Woolwich 1932 to 1935.... The story continues:

### EDINBURGH - 1935-38

I arrived at Leith Fort in Edinburgh to find myself Chief Clerk - my first post as an Artillery Clerk. I had three stripes - but was only paid for one. This type of promotion was quite common at that time. One could get promotion but getting paid for it was another matter.

Scottish Defences was a Heavy Artillery station comprising 15in guns on fixed emplacements at the mouth of the Forth and the Clyde,

**Unlikely as it sounds but we did, at one time, have, a Lt Col Gunn, a Captain Nunn, a Sgt. Bunn and a Gunner Dunn!!!**

manned by Territorials under the Command of a regular Lt. Col. His staff was an Adjutant, a Chief Clerk, a Civilian Clerk, a Bombardier and a Gunner orderly and we were stationed in Leith Fort. Unlikely as it sounds but we did, at one time, have, a Lt Col Gunn, a Captain Nunn, a Sgt. Bunn and a Gunner Dunn!!! In addition to Heavy Artillery there was Medium, Light, Field and AA Artillery at that time very different from today. Light Artillery was used with mules in the mountains of the North-West Frontier of India.

Leith Fort also contained detachments from various other units such as the RASC,

RAMC, Education Corps. Pay Corps. etc. Leith Fort as a Barracks no longer exists, I believe, but Leith of course now has The Royal Yacht berthed there.

My sojourn in Edinburgh was not a momentous time although Edinburgh itself was a great city to explore and one learned how to go "first-footing" at Hogmanay! One could not get a drink in Edinburgh on a Sunday at that time but one could be got at South Queensferry, at the south end of the Forth Bridge; a journey not infrequently taken! I did achieve one notable sporting success during my time in Edinburgh. I played in the Barracks Football Team (a pretty motley lot) and we were given a bye into the final of some Cup or other. We lost - but - we won a

"runners-up" medal. How's that for success!!!

I got leave about every three months and I travelled backwards and forwards to London - always on the "Flying Scotsman". I never tired of this journey. I think it took 6 hrs and to sit in a comfortable seat whilst the train thundered through the wonderful countryside was a great thrill to me. I cannot recall the times for the journey to London but for the journey to Edinburgh the train left Platform 1 from Kings Cross on the dot of 10am. and arrived in Edinburgh on the dot of 4pm. I think the train called at Peterborough, York, Doncaster

and Newcastle. I do recall that on one of the journeys back to Edinburgh; it was the day of the funeral of King George V, and we stopped at York for an additional couple of minutes to observe a silence.

I have a vivid memory of something that happened to me on the occasion of the Military Tattoo, held in the grounds of Holyrood House. I think the year was 1938. Some of you may remember the Aldershot Tattoo, which was held for some years after the war; this was the Scottish equivalent. I was given the job of controlling the various bands, which were on parade with their units. I was stationed on a hill above the parade and with a flag signalled when a band was to stop playing and signal again when a band was to start. When the parade came to an end I descended a lot of paths and I was proceeding in a military fashion along one of them when I was confronted by four figures. There standing with their backs to me were King George VI, Queen Elizabeth (the late Queen Mother), a very young Princess Elizabeth (now our Queen) and the late Princess Margaret. I do not think they saw me but I about-turned and disappeared at very great speed. That is the only occasion I had an audience with Royalty - nearly!

### JOURNEY TO SINGAPORE

In December, 1938, I received orders posting me to H.Q. Malaya Command Singapore. At least I was to attain my goal, to travel and see foreign lands! I had had to wait a long time to reach this

point. I, of course, had to have all the usual inoculations for malaria, typhoid, typhus, and everything else. I remember that for some hours after having them I thought I was dying! I duly reported at Southampton and sailed for Singapore on the SS Dilwara, a troopship of some 8000 tons. As soon as I set foot on board I found I had been promoted from Lance Bombardier Acting Lance Sergeant (AC) to substantive Lance Sergeant (AC) - skipping the rank of Bombardier (AC).

The Dilwara was small, it had no stabilisers and, in rough seas, proceeded in a corkscrew fashion - pitching and rolling at the same time. I have no recollection of the numbers on board but you could say that the amenities were sparse. We were very soon into the Bay of Biscay - buffeted by fierce storms - quite normal in the Bay at that time of year. I well remember a couple of nights of very little sleep. The mess deck was comprised of a number of long dining tables, each of which accommodated about 20 men. We also slept there - in hammocks slung from the ceiling - except that most of us tended to fold the hammocks on the deck and sleep there. After a meal we mucked in and washed the plates and cutlery which was then stacked vertically in racks on the side of the bulkhead. Such was the ferocity of the weather the night before we arrived at Gibraltar that every time we rolled the plates all came out of their racks and rushed backwards and forwards across the deck for the whole night. Only myself and one other of

the 20 men on our messdeck had breakfast the morning we arrived at Gib! I was to find that I was quite a good sailor and was never sick during my 8000 miles outwards to Singapore and my 10000 miles return trip. I recall that the chippie (carpenter) on board told me always to carry some dry biscuits in ones pockets and nibble at them from time to time and that if you were then sick it would not be so unpleasant.

We stayed in Gib for 24 hrs and the first evening we were allowed ashore. We found ourselves in a dockside cafe full of young ladies who appeared to be delighted to see us! They asked if we would buy them a "sherry" which, of course we did. This cost 21/2d (1p) and was undoubtedly cold tea or its equivalent!

They all seemed very pleased and it was a nice break for us after the previous few days. There was plenty of Military Police around to ensure that we behaved! The next morning we were off again and into the Med.

Sailing into the Mediterranean was wonderful - sunshine, blue sea and blue skies and lovely and warm. Leaning over the side and watching the flying fish leaping in our bow wave and just gazing at the sea I found most relaxing and satisfying. In fact, in all the thousands of miles I was to travel by sea, that was one thing of which I never tired. You must remember that I was a "townie" - born and brought up in the suburbs of London, who had seen very little of England, let alone the outside world. I recall a day in the Med when there was a sudden torrential downpour and everything became obscured and I thought this was totally wrong for such a wonderful place! Such was my conception of what the

Mediterranean should be!

There was not a great deal to do on board but we did have a bar which opened for about an hour at night. I do not think you could get beer as it was impossible to keep it in the conditions, but a Gin & Tonic cost 41/2d - something under 2p today. Gin was 2d and tonic 21/2d.

We used to play Housy - Housy (Bingo). This was the only form of gambling permitted by King's Regulations. I also vaguely remember an evening with some form of entertainment when we were permitted on the upper deck with the Officers - I expect it was only the Sergeants and not the others - but it is all only a dim recollection.

We entered the Suez Canal in due course and were passing through it on Xmas Day but our Xmas was postponed until we arrived at Suez the next day. Xmas dinner was served to us by the Officers in accordance with custom. We were also allowed ashore for a short time. Here we were regaled by hordes of Arabs trying to sell us things or producing day-old chicks from up their sleeves in the hope of getting some reward. We then proceeded into the Red Sea - next stop Colombo.

We had only a few hours ashore in Colombo but I was fascinated by this foreign land. Our next port of call was Penang, off the NW coast of Malaysia. We were not allowed ashore but I was to go there at a later date.

In early January 1939 we berthed in Singapore Harbour.

#### SINGAPORE - 1939- 41

Singapore then was not the city it is today. There were no high rise buildings - the streets were narrow with flood drains on each side and hundreds of little shops. There were some

very imposing buildings in the centre of the City and some very pleasant parks. There was, and still is, the famous Raffles Hotel. Other Ranks were not allowed into the Hotel - Officers only. There were also many harbourside warehouses called "godowns". Everywhere was green and everywhere was hot and very very humid. Temperatures were normally in the high eighties by day and down to the low eighties at night. It got dark at precisely 7.20pm - (Singapore is only 1 degree from the equator). There was a torrential - is short lived - storm every 24 hrs. These seemed to work in a

Our dress by day was short-sleeved shirt and shorts - khaki of course - knee length stockings, and shoes.

cycle moving forward a few hours every day or night. At night the air was full of the sound of cicadas. If a storm was about to break they would stop at the same time, as if they had been switched off automatically, and, when the storm had finished, they would resume as if by magic. I think there was a chief cicada out there with a conductor's baton!

And this is what one had to acclimatised to. Our dress by day was short-sleeved shirt and shorts - khaki of course - knee length stockings, and shoes. Our dress uniform was light-weight khaki. The headgear was a pith helmet (spelt with a "th"! ). Singapore was a three year station. The duration of an overseas posting was normally 6 years. India was, I think the only 6 year station but others were for three years only. These stations, and there were many overseas stations at that time (we still had a British Empire), were in two categories - good or bad - according to the climate. Singapore and Aden were bad stations - Hong Kong, Malta and Gibraltar good. If

you did not go to India, therefore, you would spend 3 years in one station and three in another. This did not apply in my case due to the outbreak of the war.

The main health problem in Singapore was Dengue - a form of malaria. I escaped it fortunately but others were not so fortunate. There was one other problem from which most suffered and that was "Singapore Rot". This was a fungal disease like athlete's foot, which affected the feet and hands in some, cases the arms and legs. So severe was it in some cases that the victims would be sent to Hong Kong for

a period in order to get rid of it. Dhobi itch was another problem. One description of Singapore, written in the Straits Times, was that Singapore is a place where the flowers have no scent, the birds have no song and the women have no virtue. The first two were basically correct although both were very exotic. As to the last statement I, of course, would have no knowledge!!

Headquarters Malaya Command was at Fort Canning, high on a hill immediately above Singapore Harbour. The accommodation was excellent consisting of barrack rooms, with plenty of fans, each accommodating half a dozen men. There was no air-conditioning at that time (except in the Cinema). The Barrack Rooms were on the first floor and immediately below, on the ground floor, was the Sergeants Mess which had a tiled floor, large comfortable furniture and a stage for entertainment etc. There was also a billiard room complete with bar. A verandah surrounded each floor and

there were no windows. The verandah was about 10-12ft wide.

There were large offices all complete with fans as were all the rooms. At the time I arrived they had opened a War Room underground and as time went on we were to have invasion exercises therein. The inhabitants of Singapore were mainly the indigenous Malay, Chinese and Indian. There were a lot of Indians attached to the Services, the Chinese were the shopkeepers and the Malays were very gentle and friendly folk.

Fort Canning no longer exists as such but is now a park. I understand, however, that some of the buildings remain.

There was one advantage of being overseas and that was having a servant - or "Boy". These boys were, in fact elderly Indians, most of whom looked about 90, and each looked after half a dozen of us. We had to pay them, but I cannot remember precisely how much; it was certainly only a very modest amount. They cleaned your boots and buttons, made your bed, did your washing etc. One of their functions was to delouse your bed every day. Bugs and mosquitoes were the main enemy at night. We had mosquito nets, of course, but the mossies always found an elbow or knee pressed against the net and they had a good feed from the outside. Bugs were another kettle of fish. To keep them out the bed legs were stood in cylindrical cigarette tins, filled with some noxious substance. The "Boys" would also go over the springs of the beds with a blow-lamp to get rid of the resident bugs. Nevertheless, come morning there was a thick circle of bugs on the inside of the top ring of the net - and you had the bites to prove it. Apropos the cigarette tins -

Players cigarettes came in sealed round tins of 50. Cost 1 Singapore Dollar or 2s.4d. (12 1/2 p). Wildlife of the insect variety came in several forms. Mosquitoes, Bugs, Flying Cockroaches, Flying ants, Red ants and Centipedes, to name but a few. Mosquitoes and Bugs I have spoken about. Of the others I suppose the Flying

#### A bottle of whisky cost 6 shillings (30p)

Cockroaches and Flying ants were the most troublesome. The Cockroaches were very large and flew around without any sense of direction and thumping you should you be in its way. The Flying ants always appeared if there was a storm and it was raining, especially at night. They would swarm around all the lights and if you happened to be near a light you would have them in your hair, down your neck and even in your beer - the latter being particularly offensive. If you had a centipede crawling up your arm you had to be particularly careful to brush it off in the direction it was travelling. If you brushed it off the other way all its legs came off in your skin and you had a very nasty sore for some time afterwards. It was not unknown to wake up in the morning to find a small colony of minute Red Ants beavering away at your bum. How they got into the bed was a mystery but they did no particular harm. There was one other beast of interest and that was the lizard. These dashed backwards and forwards across the ceiling at night devouring the mosquitoes and were something of a "protected species". They did have one drawback however - they were not particular where they urinated! If your bed was underneath it when it decided to let go and it landed on your body, you received a blister.

This blister had the thinnest of skins and one only had to touch it and it would burst. If you were fortunate enough not to touch it, it healed very quickly but if you burst it you had a very nasty wound for a considerable time. I was unfortunate enough on one occasion to be the victim of a very good shot - just above my

navel. I stung, of course, and I had burst the blister almost before I knew it. It was some time before the wound healed.

The post from home was a very important matter to us. This came to us by the Short Sunderland flying boats. We could see them landing in the harbour from our offices and an hour or so later we would have our mail. I do not remember how long the flights took. Our leisure was spent mainly in the bar playing snooker or billiards or on the tennis court. There was also a certain amount of drinking! Working hours were from 8am to 1pm when we had "tiffin" (lunch). After lunch it was into bed until about 4pm then on to the tennis court for an hour or so. Occasionally one went out into the Town in the afternoon - "mad dogs and Englishmen etc" - but not very often. The tennis courts were clay and even if you had a heavy storm you could use the courts half an hour later - it dried out so quickly in the heat. I played a great deal of tennis and took part in several inter-unit matches. I wasn't terribly good!

I mentioned drinking - drinking beer particularly was encouraged for it helped replace all the salts etc you lost through the heavy perspiration from which we all suffered. As I recall a pint cost about 1 1/2d (2p). the beer (McEwans) was shipped out to Singapore from Scotland in an

ordinary cargo ship and by the time it arrived it was virtually undrinkable. Accordingly beer was drunk in three separate categories.

1. Was "a 75" - 3/4 beer, 1/4 lemonade.
2. Was a "topper" - 7/8 beer, 1/8 lemonade and
3. A straight beer.

95% drank "75s" a few hardy drinkers had "toppers" and the very rare phenomenon a "straight". A bottle of whisky cost 6 shillings (30p).

Weekends, generally were pretty hectic. Friday night was dance night. The band was a very ancient gramophone which played a selection of some dozen records. One record in particular I remember was "Begin the Beguine" - I cannot imagine how many times it must have been played during my stay. Most of the married personnel were there with their wives and us single blokes all sat at one table and ogled them - the wives that is! We played housey-housey for an hour or so before the dancing commenced. Dancing I believe ended at 11pm and that signalled a rush by all us single blokes up to our rooms, change into uniform, call a taxi, and rush off into Singapore. Our destination was the Singapore Café. This establishment was very similar to a bar in a Western Film, except that it had no gambling. We danced with a selection of ladies of every nationality - and drank. We stayed there until the early hours and invariably felt "poorly" when we went into work at 8am on Saturday morning. Sometimes on a Saturday we would go into Singapore and visit the Union Jack Club.

About once a month, on a Sunday, we had a band concert given by the band of the Manchester Regiment who

were the Infantry Regiment on the Island at the time. These were very popular. I remember one memorable Concert on the day we learned of the outbreak of War - 3 September 1939. Naturally enough the Band played patriotic music and when they played "Land of Hope and Glory" we all rose and sang our hearts out. It really was a very moving moment.

After the outbreak of War military preparedness was heightened of course, but life went on very much as before - we were a very long way from the action! In the October I was promoted Staff Sgt (AC), back-dated to a date before the outbreak of war. Again I had leapt a rank —Sgt (AC).

About this time I was given leave - to go to Penang. This entailed a rail journey the length of Maylasia - an enthralling journey through the jungle and vast rubber plantations. I only remember one stop and that was Kuala Lumpur, the Capital.

Penang was quite undeveloped except for a brand new barracks occupied by an Indian Regiment. There was no bridge from the mainland to Georgetown, the Capital, only a ferry. I remember very little of this leave except for the fantastic scenery. Palm-fringed beaches with the occasional kampong (a native house on stilts at the waters edge). We stayed in the barracks which appeared to be empty except for we few on leave. My only other recollection of this leave was of motoring around the banana plantations in a motor car. This was driven by a Sergt in the RASC and was a small Jowett. I cannot remember where he or the car came from the journeys around the mountainous Island were marvellous. For a short period before I was to return to the UK

I was posted to an Indian Regiment. The personnel were called "UP Jats". UP stood for United Provinces and is I believe, now part of Pakistan. They were Muslims and did not drink alcohol. As far as I recall the British contingent consisted of a Lt Col, Commanding officer, a Captain, Adjutant and half a dozen Other Ranks. All the other officers were UP Jats.

I remember one night when we were invited as special guests. I think it was probably a religious festival. All the food was curried - eggs, fish, vegetables - everything. It was absolutely delicious, all washed down with orange juice. They also performed one of their native dances. It was a memorable occasion.

At the end of April 1941 I was posted back to the UK and left Singapore on the SS Narkunda, a 22000 ton P&O Liner - the last 4-funnel liner. I was one of only six service personnel - the rest were civilians. The cargo was mainly tin and rubber.

At this juncture I must mention something that I have pondered on many times since - and still do - the fate of my good comrades that I left behind. We in the Sergeants Mess had lived, worked and shared our lives for more than two years. We were many thousands of miles away from our friends and loved ones and had formed a very close bond of friendship and comradeship. There were no telephones then and the only link with home a very sparse postal service. I did not think of these things when I left or for a long time after and was more concerned with my journey home and for the next four years living out the rest of the war. I do know that I was one of the last to leave Singapore before the Japanese invasion. However, after the war, I realised that

most of my comrades must have been Japanese prisoners of war and one has read all the stories about their fate. It is something that has haunted me ever since. And I will never know!

### HOMEWARD BOUND!

The Narkunda was a luxury liner and still enjoyed a lavish lifestyle. The food from a limitless menu was something I had not previously experienced and we servicemen had the time of our lives. The sleeping accommodation was somewhat different. I shared a cabin with another chap and while it was quite comfortable it was immediately above the screws and was somewhat noisy. The crew were mainly lascars.

I cannot recall precisely when I left Singapore but it was to be a long journey of some ten thousand miles. The Suez Canal was closed so that we had to travel round the Cape. Our first port of call was Bombay where we stayed for some 24 hours. My only recollections of Bombay are of the poverty and a religious

### We went through the Bay of Bengal and here we encountered the most mountainous seas of my travels

procession (probably Ramadan). This was quite extraordinary. The people in the parade included men with metal objects through the nose, the cheeks, the tongue and one particular man who had a cage which appeared to be of galvanised wire which was sunk into his breast and back; covered with flowers, with no other apparent means of support. We also had a bit of a hiccup - we were told that we servicemen were to be taken off the liner and replaced by civilians. We protested quite vigorously and that order was cancelled!

We left Bombay bound for Durban on the east coast of Africa. We went through the Bay of Bengal and here we encountered the most mountainous seas of my travels. As I mentioned before I was a pretty good sailor and I quite enjoyed it. I remember one day on deck when the ship almost stood on its stern and then plunged down and almost disappeared beneath the waves. It did stove in one of the forward hatches. We did not call into Durban as one of the crew had yellow fever and we were not allowed to dock. I was a bit disappointed as I had a slim hope of being able to contact my relatives who lived there.

Next stop Cape Town. This was to be a marvellous experience. We had two days there. We were allowed ashore on the first morning and I and a companion walked up the main street of what was a lovely city looking for a drink (what else!). We went into a pub and ordered two drinks and went to pay - but no. If we had taken all the drinks offered us we would have been paralysed. The warmth of the welcome we

received in Cape Town was something I have never experienced before or since. When we went ashore the next day there was cars waiting to take us up Table Mountain and the beautiful countryside for tea. The lady who took us then took us to her home where we had an evening meal with her family. Then we were driven back to the ship. It was a truly a heart-warming experience.

I cannot be sure but I think it was when we left Cape Town that we found we had an escort.

1 x Battleship - HMS Hood.  
2 x Battle-cruisers - HMS



## The Inquisitive Mind of a Child

Repulse and HMS Prince of Wales,  
3 x Cruisers - HMS Sheffield, HMS London and one other whose name I cannot recall.

There was also a large number of corvettes and destroyers - I think about 15 in all. I do not think it is accurate to say they were our escort. I think it must have been a Battle Fleet which happened to be going our way! We did have a little excitement on the way. There was a U-Boat alert one beautiful sunny afternoon and we were required to perch on the superstructure and scan the seas for a periscope through binoculars. The whole fleet scattered in all directions but nothing happened and we eventually re-grouped and resumed our journey. In due course we reached our next stop - Freetown in Sierra Leone (the "White Mans Grave" as it was known then). Needless to say we were not allowed ashore. I think we were there for about 24 hours and left one afternoon heading north for Gibraltar. The following morning upon rising we were amazed to find that we were travelling South instead of North. In fact we were returning to Freetown! This was all very odd until we learned that one of our Battleships - I think it was HMS Barham - had been sunk somewhere in the Atlantic and the bulk of the Fleet had been sent to the vicinity of the sinking. Incidentally, both HMS Repulse and HMS Prince of Wales were lost in Singapore waters later in the war.

We eventually resumed our journey and duly arrived at Gib. Again we were not

allowed ashore and soon left for the last stage of our journey accompanied by a couple of destroyers and the original HMS Ark Royal. This vessel was no longer commissioned but was used as a vehicle for transporting aircraft. Our next stop was to be Gourock on the Clyde. We headed straight out into the Atlantic and eventually met up with a very large North Atlantic convoy bound for the UK. At this time Jerry had introduced the acoustic mine - this device homed in on the vibrations of the ships propellers and detonated. As our cabin was immediately above the propellers my companion and I thought it prudent not to sleep there and spent our nights on the last week of our journey huddled in the open on the top deck at the mercy of the elements. I still think it was a wise move! We duly arrived at Gourock and entrained for Woolwich.

Two other things - one silly - one sad. At some stage - I do not recollect whether it was at Freetown or Gib - I bought a large hand of very green bananas with the idea of delighting the family when I got back as they would then have ripened and they had not seen bananas since before the war. They ripened within about two days - long before we got home! The good old Narkunda was lost off North Africa later in the war when serving as a troopship.

I awoke on my first day in Woolwich to the realisation that this was the end of peacetime for me and I was now involved in the war - and thus ends my story. Just two things - firstly, on that first morning I

was to learn that I had been promoted from Staff Sergeant to Warrant Officer Class 1 - jumping the rank of Warrant Officer Class 11 and was to be posted after leave, to Manorbier in South Wales, as Chief Clerk of the School of Anti-Aircraft Artillery. Secondly, there were three sections on parade that morning and two other Warrant Officers and myself were ordered by the officer in charge of the parade to dismiss the troops. I had not done any drill for nine years and was at a loss as to the commands to use to effect the dismissal. However I listened to the other two experienced WOs without understanding a word they said but elicited the fact that they uttered three distinct commands. When it was my turn therefore I opened my mouth and roared three totally inarticulate sounds and to my delight the troops turned smartly to the right and fell out. I smiled to myself and thought "who's a clever boy then!" Afterwards I realised that all I had to say was "parade, Fall out".

Why are they selling poppies mummy?  
Selling poppies in town today

The poppies child are flowers of love  
For the men who marched away

But, why have they chosen a poppy mummy?  
Why not a beautiful rose?

Because my child, men fought and died  
In the fields where the poppies grow

But why are the poppies so red mummy?  
Why are the poppies so red?

Red is the colour of blood my child  
The blood our soldiers shed

The heart of a poppy is black mummy  
Why does it have to be black?

Black my child is the symbol of grief  
For the men who never came back

But why mummy are you crying so?  
Your tears are giving you pain

My tears are my fears for you child  
For the world is FORGETTING AGAIN



# WANTED

## For Membership of the Association

John Adams	·	Derek Donovan	·	Steve Lee	·	Trevor Stokes
Peter Allwright	·	Dave Dunn	·	Mick Lynch	·	Paul Stratton
Ron Anson	·	Steve Edgeley	·	Ron Marsh	·	Bernie Swift
Bob Barber	·	Paul Evans	·	George McLaughlan	·	Frank Thorne
Ron Baynes	·	Paul Fairbank	·	Eric Miller	·	Dave Townley
Campbell Borthwick	·	Vic Ferguson	·	Maurice Metcalfe	·	Jock Stewart
Adrian Boxall	·	Dick Finch	·	Mark Lindsay-Smith	·	Dave Stoneham
Dave Brookes	·	Derek Gauci	·	Derick Lund	·	Tom Taylor
Dave Askham	·	Les Gillard	·	Alistair McKenzie	·	Charlie Thompson
Gary Barker	·	Chris Gluning	·	Ken May	·	Jimmy Treanor
Dave Boswell	·	Paul Green	·	Harry Lomax	·	Alex Stelfox
Alan Broomhead	·	TH Fairweather	·	George Martin	·	Joe Stockhill
Ron Allen	·	PE Field	·	C McCusker	·	Roy Swan
Jimmy Anderson	·	Bill Heaven	·	Steve McKenna	·	Bill Tasker
Robbie Astick	·	John Haddow	·	Ron Melvin	·	Graham Telford
Derek Baldry	·	CJ Hamley	·	Ken Moore	·	Bob Thompson
Baz Barry	·	Clif Fields	·	John Nicholas	·	Bob Walkinshaw
Benny Bennett	·	Dave Fisher	·	Bill Ogilvie	·	Nigel Waring
James Bond	·	Keith Garbett	·	Gil O'Mallo	·	Chalky White
Ron Bristo	·	Mike Greening	·	Andy O'Neill	·	Willy Williams
Dave Burfitt	·	Bob Hagen	·	Pete Oxley	·	Harry Waldon
Tom Carmichael	·	Brian Harrington	·	Pete Murphy	·	LS Warren
Sandy Cran	·	Ted Harvey	·	John Osman	·	Kev Watkins
Mick Carter	·	Dennis Hinton	·	Les Price	·	Fred Westwell
Fred Carroll	·	Andy Holder	·	Jim Peggie	·	Mick Williams
Chris Chamberlain	·	John Hopkins	·	Ken Peacock	·	John Turner
Dick Cliffe	·	Steve Hoyle	·	Duncan Pettit	·	Derek Taylor
Andy Collins	·	Derek Hughes	·	Nick Powell	·	Chris Williams
Alan Cosgrove	·	Tab Hunter	·	Dave Parkinson	·	John Wilson
Tom Browne	·	Adrian Harrison	·	Peter Petts	·	RVM Walker
Stuart Carnegie	·	Mick Hopkins	·	Clem Pooke	·	Charlie Welsh
Les Carton	·	Pete Hubbard	·	John Pratt	·	Geoff Whitby
Bill Charlsworth	·	Idris Hughes	·	Bill Pattison	·	TC Williams
M Collinge	·	Pete Hutchinson	·	Jim Peggie	·	Tony Wilson
Don Cormack	·	Terry Hart	·	Paul Perry	·	Malcolm Wynn
Paul Buxton	·	Adrian Hawker	·	Mick Price	·	Brian Wolstenholme
Jeff Carter	·	Eric Hubbard	·	Gaz Prottery	·	
Merv Chadwick	·	Tony Hunt	·	Howard Richardson	·	
S Cornwell	·	Steve Jones	·	Dave Robertson	·	195 Potential New
Keith Creswell	·	Bob Kindness	·	Dick Scatchered	·	Members
Pat DeMaria	·	Jack Knott	·	Alan Seal	·	
John DeMaria	·	John Lane	·	Syd Simpson	·	
Pete Deverall	·	Brian Hyland	·	P Robinson	·	
Mick Dunn	·	Steve Jukes	·	Fred Pulfer	·	
SJA Evans	·	Trevor Kemish	·	Mick Regan	·	
Harold Deacon	·	Alan King	·	Ron Reid	·	
P Drury	·	Dave Langstaff	·	Graham Roberts	·	
Mel Durrant	·	G Jacobs	·	Tom Rooney	·	
Roger Escott	·	Alan Jeffery	·	Jim Rostron	·	
Karl Ezard	·	Chris Jones	·	Mick Scaife	·	
Fred Cullingford	·	Kev Keast	·	Dave Scott	·	
Derek Dalrymple	·	Roy Kinsley	·	Martin Smith	·	
Jim Diamond	·	Dick Kimble	·	Colin Stephenson	·	



# 69th (Centenary) Artillery Clerks' Reunion And Association Dinner

## Woolwich, London

### Saturday 5th April 2003



4<sup>th</sup> Row - Mr IM Grant, Mr GO Hyatt, Sgt PJ Hayes, SSgt PJ Mudd, WO2(SQMS) MA Spring, WO2(SQMS) GM Tyson, SSgt BJ Garthwaite, WO2(SQMS) DJ Ralphs, SSgt R Smith, WO2(SQMS) A Witts, WO2(SQMS) RJ Holmes, Mr ST Truslove, Mr E Morgan, Sgt SA Whelan.

3<sup>rd</sup> Row – WO2(SQMS) IF Constantine, WO2(SMIG) RE Essex, Mr D Norris, Mr DG Stotian, Mr R Cooper, Mr MI Grenham, Mr J Hoggins, Mr C Davidson, Mr GA Lowthian, Mr TE Webb, Sgt RA Syme, Mr GF McGilvery, Mr J Lindley, Mr RH Lewis MSM, SSgt SA Snowdon

2<sup>nd</sup> Row – Mr AJ Jones (Standard Bearer), WO1 JM Hutchinson, WO1(SSM) DA Riley, WO1 RH Deal, Mr JR Lewney, Mr WD Johnson, WO1(SSM) MK Meek, Mr CG Day, Capt (Retd) CJ Berry, Mr G Brown, Mr HJ Cussell BEM,

Front Row – Capt PA Headford BEM AGC(SPS), Maj (Retd) D J Cussell, WO1(SSM) RM Testi MSM, WO1(RASM) DJ Gilbert, Maj P Corker AGC(SPS) (Treasurer), Maj (Retd) JW Timbers, Mr M Charlton (Secretary), Gen Sir Alex Harley KBE CB (Guest of Honour), Lt Col (Retd) J F Falzon BEM (Chairman), Maj Gen (Retd) MFL Shellard CBE (Honorary President), WO1(SSM) AM Tibble MSM (Reunion Secretary), Col MB Cooper, Lt Col (Retd) VC Holdaway BEM, Maj (Retd) P J Verdon, Maj (Retd) D Crawford BEM