

# The King's Regiment Association Liverpool Branch

A Branch of the Duke of Lancaster's Regimental Association



*'Nec Aspera Terrent'*

## APRIL 2014 NEWSLETTER – ISSUE 43 ELECTRONIC EDITION



### DONATIONS TO THE ASSOCIATION

The Committee would like to thank the following who have made a cash donation to the general association funds:

MRS S CLEGG, C CULLEN, K HASTIE, M HUNT,  
YOUR GENEROSITY IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.



### BRANCH PRESIDENT KING'S REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, LIVERPOOL BRANCH

Lieutenant Colonel David Chadwick TD, has accepted the invitation from the King's Regiment Association, Liverpool Branch Committee, to be Branch President with effect from 1st March 2014.



### 'KINGSMAN'

A lot of rumours have been circulating recently re the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment no longer wanting to use 'Kingsman' and opting to use 'Private' instead.

I have had confirmation from Colonel Chris Owen, Regimental Secretary at Preston, that there is no truth in these rumours what so ever.





We require your letters, comments, photographs, stories etc., for inclusion in the next Newsletter which will be published in:

**JUNE 2014.**

The closing date for submission is:

**MONDAY 26TH MAY 2014.**

Please forward to:

Eric Roper  
171 Queens Drive  
Liverpool  
L18 1JP

**email: [eric\\_roper@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:eric_roper@blueyonder.co.uk)**

I can scan photographs and return the originals, but please provide a **SAE.**

Please enclose a detailed description, ie, names, dates etc., of any photograph(s).



## **'100' CLUB**

**The February 2013 draw was made at City Office, Liverpool on Tuesday 4th February 2014 by Committee member Stan Castell BEM, and the winner is:**

**1ST PRIZE (£40)  
MR J ARMSTRONG**

**The March 2013 draw was made at City Office, Liverpool on Tuesday 18th March 2014 by Committee member Norman Pickles, and the winner is:**

**1ST PRIZE (£40)  
MR J BUTLER**



### **FAMOUS MILITARY QUOTES**

**"Forgive your enemies, but never forget their names."**

**John F. Kennedy**

† LAST POST †

**CORPORAL DENNIS WINDSOR**  
**LATE 1 KINGS**



It is with regret, that I inform you of the untimely death of Dennis Windsor, who passed away on 25th January 2014.

Dennis' funeral took place on Wednesday 5th February 2014 at 1300hrs in Agecroft Crematorium in Salford, followed by a wake in the Kersal Club

Dennis served over 9 years with the Battalion in the Signals Platoon through Minden, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand, Londonderry and Colchester.

**JAMES DOUGLAS PHILLIPSON**  
**LATE THE KING'S REGIMENT - KOREAN VETERAN**

It is with deepest regret that I have to report the passing of James (Doug) Phillipson, who passed away on Wednesday 29th January 2014 aged 80 years.

His funeral service was held at Kendal Parish Church on Tuesday 11th February 2014, followed by interment at Parkside Cemetery.

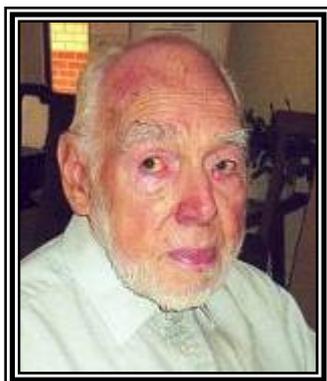
The Preston Branch Standards of the King's Regiment (Manchester and Liverpool) and the Red Rose Branch of the Korean Veterans Association attended.

Doug is survived by his wife Mary and 3 grandchildren.

In civilian life, Doug he worked for NORWEB, was an avid supporter of Kendal Football Club and Kendal Cricket Club.

**Terry Byrne (Red Rose Branch, KVA Standard Bearer)**

**CHARLES CULLEN**  
**LATE THE KING'S REGIMENT - WW2 VETERAN**



It is with deep regret that I have to report that Charles Cullen, age 95, passed away after a long illness, on Saturday 15th February 2014, in Cromer, Norfolk.

His funeral service took place at Our Lady And St Joseph Church, Sheringham and Cromer, Norfolk on Friday 21st March 2014., followed by cremation at St Faiths Crematorium.

Charles is survived by his wife Molly, daughter Christine, son Eugene, four grandchildren and three great grandchildren.



Kingsman Shelton was the first soldier that I got promoted. I have the Platoon photograph and there he is proudly turning his hands inwards to display his first stripe. It is the nature of the Army that one moves on and whilst still in the battalion we went our separate ways.

We move rapidly to 1975/76 and the scene is Londonderry where he is an Intelligence Sergeant responsible for Strabane some 30 miles from Londonderry and away from the battalion. This is Bandit Country. He has long hair and lives in a garden shed at the back of the police station. He did it brilliantly well (especially the hair); he made friends with and gained the confidences of Special Brach and the UDR. It was dangerous, lonely and uncomfortable. He did it for 18 months without complaint and yet the biggest sacrifice was separation from his wife 30 miles away; they were very lucky to meet once a week.

He is now a Colour Sergeant serving with the TA battalion, 5/8 KINGS and I have just one story. Richie paraded for HM The Queen Mother for the second time in his life. In preparation for the Mess photograph each member put his hat on a seat. Richie in company with another rogue put worms in several hats and waited for the fun. It was great until he felt something wriggling under his own hat.

He left the Army and after an adventure in the USA returned to join Liverpool University Officers Training Corps where he was to be commissioned as a Captain. Kingsman to Captain by whatever route is a fantastic achievement.

He leaves the Army for the final time and joins the Court Service working in Liverpool, the Wirral and Chester. We meet up again. By nature he is the same Richie but now he looks great in a suit. He has kept his good looks (unlike some). He has gravitas and underlying steel. He is also heavily involved in the KRAK, the King's Regiment Association Knowsley. His energy helps to provide fraternity and to further Regimental pride.

My story ends. You all have your special memories; mine are very singular. Richie was a very good soldier, a proud Kingsman and a friend to many.

“YOU ARE JOKING, AREN'T YOU” rings in my ears.

Richie, “I salute you.”



### **RUNNING FOR CHARITY**

**Five members of the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment Band, WO2 Richard Howe, Musician Nicola Smith, Sgt David (Wilf) Pickles, Cpl David Smalley and Musician Holly Blomfield (pictured below left to right), ran the Liverpool Half Marathon on Sunday 23rd March 2014 for Blue Apple Heroes Charity, for soldiers with PTSD. £600 Raised so far, but any further donations will be gratefully received!**



LETTERS PAGE



**DAVID LANGSTON, WRITES:**

Please would it be possible for you to bring this event to the attention of your members.

The Northern Ireland Veterans' Association Service of Remembrance will take place on Saturday 20th September 2014 at 11.30am at the National Memorial Arboretum, Croxall Road, Alrewas, Staffordshire DE13 7AR

The service will commemorate and remember all those who lost their lives in service of the Crown as a result of the conflict in N. Ireland.

The service will be followed by a parade down to the Ulster Ash Grove for the laying of wreaths.

Following the laying of the wreaths, there will be a 15 minute pause before the parade forms up for the return march to the visitor centre during which the guest of honour will take the salute.

The service is open to all and all Associations are welcome to parade their standards. It would be appreciated if Associations arranging for groups of their members to attend could notify us of numbers and confirm if their standard will be parading.

We look forward to welcoming you to our annual memorial service.

**Yours**  
**David Langston**

**Email:** [nivaservice2014@gmail.com](mailto:nivaservice2014@gmail.com)

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROBIN HODGES, WRITES:**

Eric,

I understand that there was a Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes (RAOB) Lodge in 1 KINGS in Kenya.

I would like to include something about the Lodge in the Historical Record. I wonder if you could ask if anyone can help with any information at all?

**Thank you**  
**Robin**  
Court Hill Farm, Potterne, Devizes, SN10 5PN, England  
**Telephone:** 01380723371 or ++441380-723371  
**Email:** [729hodge@armymail.mod.uk](mailto:729hodge@armymail.mod.uk)

***Editors Note:***

***I remember in 1964 there being a Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes Lodge within the battalion in Abercorn Barracks, Ballykinler, Co Down, N. Ireland.***

***I seem to recall the ORQMS (WO2 Andy Howett) and Cpl Ernie Whittingham (BOR) being members of that Lodge.***

LETTERS PAGE



**DAVE PRATT, WRITES:**

Eric,

I would like to thank you for sending me the latest issue of the KRAL newsletter.

It is so good to see some familiar names from the old days.

As always, the finished newsletter is down to your hard work.

**Regards and best wishes to everyone there in Liverpool.**

**Dave**

**IAN WILLIAMS, WRITES:**

Hi Eric

I have attached some photographs of 5 KINGS which show my father, **Harry Williams** and Co during the late 1950 - 1960's?

My Dad was in the Band/Corps of Drums, and at some point, when I was a nipper, he became Drum Major for a time. Sadly Dad has been dead for the last 32 years, he would be 94 now.

The only associated name I remember from that time is a guy called **Sid Stanmore?** I also recall going to the kids Regimental Christmas Party's in the 1960's.

It would be good if anyone could shed a little light of that time, but I guess individuals in the know, are maybe no longer with us either.

Best Regards

Ian.



**Remembrance Parade, St John's Gardens, Liverpool mid 1960's  
Cpl Harry Williams 2nd left front rank. Harry was 5'10, the guy on the left must be 6'6"!**

LETTERS PAGE



**MAJOR JOHN SHANNON MBE (HONG KONG), WRITES:**

Dear Eric,

Another excellent and most interesting newsletter, containing so much news.

Very many thanks. And keep up the good work.

**John**

**MRS S CLEGG, WRITES:**

Dear Eric,

I hope that you and Eileen are keeping well. It is so nice to hear from you both, please do keep in touch.

I have enclosed a cheque as a donation to the King's Regiment Association, Liverpool Branch. I thank you for your hard work and dedication in producing the newsletter which I enjoy reading so much, as did Leslie before his untimely death on 25th April 2012.

We shared so many happy memories with the many, many Kingsmen we came in touch with during Leslie's long career with the King's Regiment, in some quite marvellous locations around the world. As with life of course, we also shared some sad times, but they were greatly outweighed by the good times, and the moments of happiness with laughs galore. It is so good to see some of the names of our friends every now and then in the newsletter.

Please allow me to express my earnest best wishes to everyone in the association, especially those who knew Leslie and I, and wish you all a Happy and Healthy 2014.

**Take care,  
God Bless  
Sybil**

**KEITH PAGE, WRITES:**

Served in 1st Battalion The King's Regiment in Northern Ireland, Germany, Colchester, Chester, Falklands, Canada and Kenya.

Just wanted to let you know I am well and doing fine and living in Liverpool. I resigned as Chairman of the Pals because of personal reasons and health problems. The Pals are doing very well for what I gather and I wish them luck on all fronts. I hope to see you all at the unveiling of the Pals Memorial in August this year and/or at the One bottle of beer night.

**Regards and best wishes  
Keith**

**Email: [pagonalis7668@gmail.com](mailto:pagonalis7668@gmail.com)**

**ANGUS MCLEOD (24553008), WRITES:**

I served with 1 KINGS in BAOR, N.Ireland, Cyprus etc and would like to get in contact with people from the Regiment and any photos please.

**Angus**

**Telephone : 07858112307**

**Email: [gusmcvic@gmail.com](mailto:gusmcvic@gmail.com)**



**MARGRETE MOORE (DENMARK), WRITES:**

**Dear Eric,**

Many thanks for the latest issue of the newsletter, I always enjoy it and keeping up, as best I can, with what is happening in UK.

I don't know if the below is of interest to any of your members, but I received this mail about the re-launching of the Wartime News, from Barry Wilbraham.

**Regards  
Margrete**

Dear Friends,

I sincerely apologise if I have sent you this email before, but we are about to launch a new February edition of Wartime News in a pdf (Adobe) electronic format only, and many of you have already expressed their appreciation on hearing this news.

It is now almost three years since we closed the Bournemouth office down, and in fact, Marilyn is not back on board yet due to a commitment she currently has with the Imperial War Museum. We also realise that we have lost a good many friends due to ill health and age.... That is so sad.

However, we are well under way with the February edition and I hope you can spread the word with your own good friends that can provide an email address. All I ask, please, that if you would like to receive a copy, just email me back and your name will be added to the lists.

With very best wishes

**Barry**

**Email: [wartime@mac.com](mailto:wartime@mac.com)**

**KEN MANSFIELD, WRITES:**

Eric

Just receive copy of latest newsletter and was shocked to see the 'Last Post' for Jimmy Ling.

My wife worked with Margaret in the PRI Shop in Ballykelly and was wondering do you have or know anyone who may have contact details for her, as Margaret would like to send a personal condolences card.

**Kind regards**

**Ken Mansfield**

**Email: [kingo303@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:kingo303@tiscali.co.uk)**

**REUBEN CHAMBERS, WRITES:**

I would like to make contact with anyone who knows me from my time with 1 KINGS in Colchester, Canada, Germany, NI and UK.

**Regards**

**Reuben (24509309)**

**Telephone: 07976874930**

**Email: [reubenchambers@live.com](mailto:reubenchambers@live.com)**

LETTERS PAGE



**MAJOR P OAKLEY MBE, WRITES:**

Many thanks for the February 2014 Newsletter, being the only forum left to discuss regimental matters!

I was sent, and was grateful to receive, a Regimental Newsletter etc. from RHQ. Two things struck me: a couple of pre amalgamation regiments having dates in the diary - what happened to The King's Regiment? And the comment of 'the stark loss of any reserve presence in Liverpool'. Why not batter down the door of the Secretary of State and ask him why?

I suggest that reserves would be raised in short order if they were to be given some identity which would make them stand out. For example, The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment Liverpool Company, The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment Manchester Company and so on. Tie this in with the First World War commemorations of The Pals Battalions and you are on a sure fire winner.

Lord Dannatt, one time CGS, commented recently that recruitment of reserves was not going well. Not so surprising when the potential of recruitment of our two great cities is ignored. And I do hope the men at Townsend remain in post to continue the long line of great service of the TA.

It's frustrating to stand by and watch an apparent nonsense of recruitment hence another missive to the Secretary of State for Defence attached for publication, if you deem it appropriate (written before the decision to have a Javelin Platoon at Alamein Barracks, Huyton).

**Best wishes,  
Peter.**

*Secretary of State for Defence, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA*

*Dear Secretary of State,*

*Late last year I wrote to you in regard to the closing of the infantry TAC in Townsend Avenue, Liverpool, the regretful loss of its TA battalion, and the subsequent non-recruitment of infantry in that city. The letter is attached for your convenience.*

*Now that the last tranche of regular forces to be made redundant has been completed the need to get the Reserves up to strength, I suggest, takes on a pressing need. It begs the question as to why has the large potential pool of recruits in the cities of Liverpool and Manchester been ignored?*

*Both of these cities have a long and proud history of military commitment and, with each having a well know TAC, recruitment to them must be a realistic way of raising both the profile and numbers for the Reserves. Clearly recruitment from the much smaller towns in Lancashire etc. is proving to be slow and difficult.*

*Would you now consider the closures of the TAC's in Liverpool and Manchester to be a mistake? To now keep them active and recruit Reserves in the sure knowledge that based on history that the citizens of these two great cities would respond to the call at the least demands reconsideration.*

*I would be grateful for your response.*

*Yours sincerely,  
Peter Oakley  
29th January 2014*



## HUMOUR IN UNIFORM



### THE OBEDIENT WIFE

Grian Breen ex Kingsman, who had worked all his life, had saved all of his money, and was a real miser when it came to his money.

Just before he died, he said to his wife, 'When I die, I want you to take all my money and put it in the casket with me. I want to take my money to the afterlife with me.'

And so he got his wife to promise him, with all of her heart, that when he died, she would put all of the money into the casket with him.

Well, he died. He was stretched out in the casket, his wife was sitting there - demurely dressed in black, and her friend was sitting next to her. When they finished the ceremony, and just before the undertakers got ready to close the casket, the wife said, 'Wait just a moment!'

She had a small metal box with her; she came over with the box and placed it forlornly in the casket. Then the undertakers locked the casket down and they rolled it away.

So her friend said, 'Girl, I know you were not foolish enough to put all that money in there with your husband.'

The loyal wife replied, 'Listen, I'm a Christian; I cannot go back on my word. I promised him that I was going to put that money into the casket with him.'

'You mean to tell me you put all that money in the casket with him?'

'I sure did,' said the wife. 'I got it all together, put it into my account, and wrote him a cheque. If he can cash it, then he can spend it!'

### OH DOCTOR I'M IN TROUBLE!

In the greatest days of the British Empire, a new commanding officer was sent to a jungle outpost to relieve the retiring colonel.

After welcoming his replacement and showing the courtesies (gin and tonic, cucumber sandwiches) that protocol decrees, the retiring Colonel said, "You must meet Captain Smithers, my right-hand man, God, he's really the strength of this office. His talent is simply boundless."

Smithers was summoned and introduced to the new CO, who was surprised to meet a toothless, hairless, scabbed and pockmarked specimen of humanity, a particularly unattractive man less than three foot tall.

"Smithers, old man, tell your new CO about yourself."

"Well, sir, I graduated with honours from Sandhurst, joined the regiment and won the Military Cross and Bar after three expeditions behind enemy lines. I've represented Great Britain in equestrian events and won a Silver Medal in the middleweight division of the Olympics. I have researched the history of..."

Here the Colonel interrupted, "Yes, yes, never mind that Smithers, the new CO can find all that in your file. Tell him about the day you told the witch doctor to get stuffed."



## HUMOUR IN UNIFORM



### A STEP IN THE WRONG DIRECTION

There is a new Commander of a desert military base and Captain Hick Munt is showing him around the buildings.

After he has made the rounds, the Commander looks at Captain Munt and says, "Wait a minute, you haven't shown me that blue building over there. What's that used for?"

Captain Munt says, "Well Sir, you see there are no women around. Whenever the men feel in need of a woman they go there and use the camel..."

"Enough" says the Commander in disgust.

Well, two weeks later, the Commander starts to feel in need of a woman. He goes to Captain Munt and says, "Tell me something, Hick." Lowering his voice and glancing around, he asks, "Is the camel free anytime soon?"

Captain Munt says, "Well, let me see." He opens up his book. "Why yes, Sir, the camel is free tomorrow afternoon at 1400hrs." The Commander asks to be put down for that time.

So the next day at 1400 hrs, the Commander goes to the little blue building and opens the door. Inside, he finds the cutest camel he's ever seen. Right next to the camel is a little step stool, so he closes the door behind him and puts the step stool directly behind the camel. He stands on the stool and drops his pants.

A minute later Captain Munt walks in. "Ahem, begging your pardon, Sir," says Captain Munt, "but wouldn't it be wiser to ride the camel into town and find a woman like all the other men?"

### THE SQUEEZER

The local bar was so sure that its bartender was the strongest man around that they offered a standing £1000 bet.

The bartender would squeeze a lemon until all the juice ran into a glass, and hand the lemon to a patron. Anyone who could squeeze one more drop of juice out would win the money.

Many people had tried .... over time: weightlifters, dockers, etc., but nobody could do it.

One day, this scrawny little fellow came into the bar, wearing thick glasses and a polyester suit, and said in a small voice, "I'd like to try the bet."

After the laughter had died down, the bartender said, "OK"; grabbed the lemon; and squeezed away. Then he handed the wrinkled remains of the rind to the little fellow. But the crowd's laughter turned to total silence .... as the man clenched his little fist around the lemon .... and six drops fell into the glass.

As the crowd cheered, the bartender paid the £1000, and asked the little man: "What do you do for a living? Are you a lumberjack, a weight-lifter, or what?"

The little fellow quietly replied: "I used to be a Kingsman, but I now work for the Inland Revenue."



LETTERS PAGE



**LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROBIN HODGES, WRITES:**

Eric,

Since we last emailed I have been contacted by another old Kingsman who was on the Congo rescue flights in 1960. I have now interviewed at least one soldier who was on each of the three flights as well as one of the pilots and a diplomat involved on the ground.

It has been very worthwhile and once the Historical Record is published it will be worth putting the story on Wikipedia.

Malcolm Grant Haworth wound me up yesterday to do some research about a Kingsman who featured in a Spy cartoon. You might like to look at the Wikipedia entry which I finished last evening at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William\\_Fletcher\\_\(rower\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Fletcher_(rower)). This is outside of the research for the Historical Record but I am concurrently producing a Regimental List of all Officers who served from 1685-2006 and I already had most of details of Colonel Fletcher's Service.

I think that the next project within the research for the Historical Record will be to examine the involvement of Kingsmen in South Arabia and Aden. I know that a number of Officers served in Aden and possibly others as well. A number of soldiers also joined 1 KINGS having served with another Regiment in Aden. I would be very grateful if anyone who received the Radfan or South Arabia bars to the General Service Medal could send a SITREP.

**Robin Hodges**

**Telephone:** 01380723371 or ++441380-723371

**Email:** [729hodge@armymail.mod.uk](mailto:729hodge@armymail.mod.uk)

**CHARLIE ROTHERHAM, WRITES:**

Dear Sir,

I left The Light Dragoons a couple of years ago and with an ex Grenadier Guard, set up Soldier In Blue. We provide Ex Servicemen, their families and reservists with opportunities to be Military Advisors and Extras in films.

We are currently looking for people to be in "Testament of Youth", a WW1 drama that will be filming in the Sheffield/ Doncaster/ Leeds area in the March and April. We will need men and women of all ages, but in particular we are looking for Ex Servicemen and Reservists to play soldiers. Anybody interested, should Register on our website [www.soldierinblue.com](http://www.soldierinblue.com) and send an email to [info@soldierinblue](mailto:info@soldierinblue) saying they are interested in "Testament of Youth". It should be great fun and an opportunity to earn some good money.

We would appreciate it tremendously if you could put this out to all of your Association Members, and publicise it on any social media outlets that you have.

**Many thanks,**

**Charlie**

**07900431829**

## SINKHOLE SWALLOWS GRAVE AS MILITARY CHIEFS LAUNCH RESCUE BID



The body of World War One soldier Private Francis Ryan was lost when a 20-foot-deep sinkhole opened up under his final resting place

Military chiefs are trying to save Private Ryan after a giant sinkhole swallowed his grave. The body of World War One soldier Private Francis Ryan was lost when a 20-foot-deep sinkhole opened up under his final resting place. His military headstone has also been left teetering close to the giant hole.

Private Ryan died, aged 40, on 23rd July 1915 after volunteering to serve in The 3rd Battalion, The King's Liverpool Regiment. His grave lay undisturbed for almost a century beneath a Scots Pine in a military cemetery in Pembroke Dock, West Wales. But his coffin was swallowed up by the sinkhole late last year.

A team of Ministry of Defence officials are fighting to rescue Private Ryan's remains in time for the centenary of the outbreak of World War One.

Pembroke Dock district parade marshal David Boswell said yesterday: "Mother Nature has taken over and when she opens up her body there is not much you can do. "It's a shame it's happened but the MoD have looked into it and are trying to restore the grave to its original condition as soon as possible. "This is the only military cemetery in Wales so will be nice to have it re-opened and ready for the centenary of the First World War."

The MoD has so far failed to trace a living relative of Private Ryan. He was born in Longford, Ireland, in 1875.

The war cemetery is the final resting place for 23 Commonwealth service personnel from the First World War and 51 from the Second World War.

An MoD spokeswoman "Work to fill in the sink hole is due to begin next week and is expected to be completed by the end of March. "The chosen option does not involve any exhumation and the MOD is confident that work will be effective. "However in the extremely unlikely event that the option chosen is not effective the MOD will have to consider other options some of which may involve exhumation."

**Acknowledgment:**  
**Richard Smith (Daily Mirror 1st March 2014)**

**SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE & DEDICATION  
ADDITION OF NAMES TO THE HALL OF REMEMBRANCE  
LIVERPOOL TOWN HALL - FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2014  
SPEECH BY THE COMMANDING OFFICER 42 (NORTH WEST) BRIGADE  
BRIGADIER C M B COLES**

“Firstly may I thank the Lord Mayor for asking me to speak about the background and the history of the Hall of Remembrance. As mentioned the Roll of Honour was unveiled by His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales on the 2nd July 1921. The list of war dead began to be compiled during the First World War when names of the fallen were posted in a window overlooking Exchange Flags and relatives queued to add names. The list was far from complete and hence names have been added since 1921 on the additions panel to the side of the lift.

Among those names recorded are a number of holders of the Victoria Cross, most famously Captain Noel Chavasse, one of the very few to have earned the distinction twice. Others include Lieutenant E. F. Baxter, Captain E. N. F. Bell, Sergeant D Bell and Sergeant T Neely.

Others listed include Lord Kitchener of Khartoum who was an Honorary Freeman of the City of Liverpool, and many who served in the armed forces of Australia, Canada, South Africa and other countries, but had local connections. Listed on the FRESCOES are many battlefields including; The Somme, Ypres, Passchendaele and Gallipoli.

Not surprisingly, the majority of those named had served on what was then formally known as “The King’s (Liverpool Regiment)” which had many battalions, but the wide range of units in which others served is indicated by the array of regimental and other service emblems displayed in the Hall. In more recent times the local regiment has been merged with the Manchester Regiment, and now has been integrated into the Duke of Lancaster’s Regiment.

The frescoes were unveiled on the 24th July 1923, again by His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales. Frank Owen Salisbury, known as ‘Britain’s Painter Laureate’, who had been highly praised for his painting of “The Passing of the Unknown Warrior” commemorating the nation’s dead in Westminster Abbey, was invited by Liverpool City Council to design murals in the vestibule. It has been said that the theme of these paintings was inspired by a poem which the mother of a soldier killed in battle sent to Salisbury after she had seen the Westminster Abbey Memorial.

The six paintings along the wall of the Remembrance Hall, together with two allegorical ones at both ends of the Hall tell a story of valour and honour as requested by the Council to comfort the bereaved. The project was sponsored by various trade organisations and public institutions, assisted by donations from individual citizens. Thus, the vestibule, a bare and not very imposing room, became a hallowed place - a shrine of magnificent memories with the walls clothed by a pictorial epitomisation of war, its duties, trials, hopes, fears, agonies and sacrifices.

*The frescoes are titled:*

*Infancy, Duty’s Call, Sacrifice, Immortality, Renown, Remembrance, Triumph, & Peace.*

**Today, we honour 37 more names which have been added to this Roll of Honour  
in the past year.**

**TURNING THE LEAVES – LIVERPOOL ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL  
THURSDAY 13TH MARCH 2014**



**1914-1918**

**LCPL D COWIE  
CPL A CRONE  
PTE D DANIEL**

**TURNED BY  
JOHN THOMPSON  
Ex 5/8 KINGS**



**1939-1945**

**SGT G JOSLING  
PTE P KEANE  
PTE R KEIR**

**TURNED BY  
LT COL DAVID CHADWICK TD  
Ex 5/8 KINGS & LUOTC**



**IRAQ**

**2LT J C BRACHO-COOKE  
KGN D J WILSON  
KGN A J SMITH**

**TURNED BY  
STAN CASTELL BEM  
Ex 5/8 KINGS**

**THE REMAINING 2014 TURNING OF THE LEAVES CEREMONIES WILL  
TAKE PLACE AT THE LIVERPOOL ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL ON:**

**THURSDAY 12TH JUNE 2014 AT 5.30 PM**

**PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE FOR JUNE 2014  
FROM THE ORIGINAL DATE OF 5TH JUNE TO 12TH JUNE**

**THURSDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 5.30 PM**

**THURSDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2014 AT 5.30 PM**

## THE KING'S REGIMENT AND THE CHINDITS

### The King's Regiment was the only Regiment to be awarded both CHINDITS 1943 and CHINDITS 1944 as Battle Honours

#### CHINDITS 1943 BATTLE HONOUR

**13th Bn The King's Regiment** was formed in June 1940 at the new Depot at Formby. In 1941 it sailed to India for Internal Security duties. War against Japan began 8 December 1941. In 1942 the Battalion began jungle warfare training in India and was organised as 5, 7 and 8 Columns of Special Force commanded by Brigadier Orde Wingate. Its role was to act as a raiding force in support of an allied offensive against the Japanese occupying Burma. The offensive was cancelled because of problems with the Chinese part of the operation. However, Special Force was ordered to continue with Operation Loincloth as a trial for future jungle operations. On 16 February 1943 the force reached the border with Burma and began to cross the Chindwin River, which represented the front line with the Japanese, with orders that those who could not keep up were to be abandoned.

5 Column commanded by Major Bernard Ferguson marched to Bonghaung Gorge where it had a fight at Nankan on 6 March 1943 whilst sabotaging the railway bridge. As the Column withdrew it ambushed a Japanese convoy at Milestone 20 on the Banmauk-Indaw Road on 27 March but the following day dispersed when attacked at Hintha. Many men escaped without any equipment and died in the jungle; their enduring legacy being the introduction of survival kit carried in 'belt order'. The Column made it back to the Chindwin on 28 April.

7 Column was to assist in the capture of Indaw but remained close by 8 Column until a battle at Thabyetna when the Columns were attacked when crossing the Irrawaddy on 29 March 1943. Major Kenneth Gilkes led the survivors of 7 Column through Burma to Poashan in China, which was reached on 30 May.

8 Column commanded by Major Scottie Scott was to march to Kachin and support the local resistance. Together with 7 Column, 8 Column had its first contact on 25 March when they kept the Japanese away from a resupply DZ at Baw. After the enemy attack on the river crossing at Thabyetna the Column pressed on and reached the Chindwin on 10 May 1943.

The survivors who returned to allied lines had walked over 1,000 miles through the jungle. Their experience led to the jungle warfare training still practiced by the Army.

The parade state of the Battalion before departure from Imphal was reported to be 721 all ranks; 384 returned to India. The Battalion suffered 304 dead of whom 117 died as prisoners of war. It is believed that 32 survived captivity. At Imphal the column commanders had the painful task of drawing up lists of the men believed taken prisoner. One Major headed his report: "Prisoners – presumed killed." Some days later a Staff Officer wrote back, acidly pointing out that there was no such designation in military terminology. The Major penned a six-word reply: "Sir, we are fighting the Japanese."

Individuals and small groups survived for up to a year in the jungle by using 'Escape and Evasion'. Many of the 188 who died in the jungle were with comrades at the time of their death but their bodies were not recovered and were therefore shown as Missing believed dead.

Survivors of what became known as 1st Chindits had all been repatriated to UK by June 1945, except the very few selected for subsequent operations, including Major Ferguson DSO as a Brigade Commander and Major Scott MC as Commanding Officer 1st King's. The 13th Battalion was disbanded on 5 December 1945 after the personnel were drafted to the 1st Battalion.

### **CHINDITS 1944 BATTLE HONOUR**

**1st Bn The King's Regiment** was based in India on the outbreak of war and was employed on Internal Security until 1943 when it began jungle warfare training for a second Special Force to be commanded by the promoted Major-General Orde Wingate. As a result of the experiences of 1st Chindits, the Battalion was organised as 81 and 82 Columns, one commanded by the Commanding Officer and the other by the Second-in-Command. The Battalion's first task was to prepare a landing site in the jungle, nicknamed Broadway. The Battalion took off in gliders on 5 May 1944 and successfully secured and prepared Broadway for the remainder of the Brigade which followed in aircraft. Both Columns deployed out of Broadway on clearance patrols on 13 March with 82 Column returned in time to take part in the three day battle to defend the area from 27-30 March.

Both Columns left Broadway on 3 May to move to Blackpool, another jungle base. On 19 May 82 Column commanded by Major Richard Gaitley was split during an attack at Pinbaw. The main Column reached Blackpool on 20 May, joining 81 Column. Following the death of General Wingate it was decided that the Chindits were to be employed in conventional operations but they were not provided with any supporting Arms or Services. The two Columns marched towards Maitkyina, on the way pausing at Lake Indawgyi for casualties to be evacuated by flying boats. Early in July they were committed to the battle of Point 2171 at Taungni. Towards the end of the month the survivors were ordered to Maitkyina from where they were flown out to India.

The half of 82 Column which had been left behind at Pinbaw formed King's Company of 1st Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers and was committed to the battle of Mogaung from 1-26 June. The few survivors then moved to Warazud from where they too were flown back to India.

**1st King's** lost 97 dead during 2nd Chindits with almost all the remainder being wounded or suffering from medical conditions which left the Battalion out of the ORBAT for eight months.

The survivors of 2nd Chindits volunteered in considerable numbers to train as parachutists in preparation for future operations and on 1 March 1945 15th (The King's) Bn The Parachute Regiment was formed in India. 1st Kings was then made up to strength by a draft from 13th Kings before that Battalion was disbanded. Neither Battalion saw further action. But in Burma, whilst 14th Army was driving the Japanese steadily back, Chindit POW in Rangoon took a leading part in liberating the city. An RAF reconnaissance flight on 3 May over-flew Rangoon jail where it recorded, painted on the roof, "**JAPS GONE EXTRACT DIGIT**".

**The most prominent Kingsman of the Chindits was Lieutenant-Colonel Scottie Scott DSO MC. He had been commissioned in 1940, was awarded the MC for his commanded of 8 Column in 1st Chindits, and the DSO whilst commanding 1st King's in 2nd Chindits. He ended the war as a 2nd Lieutenant (War Substantive Colonel). By 1952 he was again a Major when he was selected to Command 1st King's Own. He is shown front and centre of the Regiment's Broadway painting.**

**This research is an extract from the "Historical Record of The King's Regiment (Liverpool) 1945-1958" by Lieutenant-Colonel Robin Hodges, which includes a complete list of all Regimental *Honours and Awards for the Second World War*, many of them not awarded or announced for some years after the war, and a complete list of all Regimental *Soldiers Died in the Second World War, the last of whom was found after the reunification of Germany in the former DDR.***



## **PHILIP JAMES HAYDEN**

**Date of Birth:** 21/08/1920

**Army Number:** 3771136.



I Joined the TA in Liverpool and served at the Kings Regiment Barracks in Townsend Lane. Liverpool, until called up in 1939, The Kings Regiment Liverpool.

At that time I was on Guard duties at Liverpool Docks. After a few months I was posted to the South Coast defences and served at Pevensey Castle. I then volunteered for Special Forces and was accepted. I was given two weeks embarkation leave at the end of 1941 and told to report to barracks. From there I was sent by train to Liverpool Docks, Ten minutes on a tram from my home, however, I could not get there. I and others were taken by lorry to Birkenhead and billeted there for several weeks.

On the 3rd of January 1942 the lorries came back and took us to the Alexandra Dock in Liverpool, where we boarded the ship the Empire Woodlark. This ship was to be our home for the next few months. The ship left the dock and anchored in mid stream of the Mersey, going nowhere. I looked along the docks and thought about my Dad, who would be working on ships there. On the full tide we set sail, in convoy, we were never told our destination.

Our first port of call was Freetown on what was then the Gold Coast. The ship anchored in mid channel and we were not allowed to go ashore. Some of the lads decided to go for a swim, but they could not get back quick enough, when the Captain shouted over the megaphone that there where Sharks in these waters.

Our next Port was Durban. Here I saw the White Lady of Durban, she would sing on the Key side, through a megaphone to all the troop ships that came in. I remember the people of Durban with affection, we got ashore there, and the people were good to us, taking us

into their homes and feeding us. After a few days we set sail again, this time we were told that our destination was Singapore. Sixteen hours from Singapore, two Royal Navy Destroyers came out to meet us, I think that these were the Prince Of Wales and the Warspite, they diverted us from Singapore, as it had fallen to the Japanese, we were sent to Bombay in India.

After several Months in Bombay, Jungle training, we were sent to Assam, to a place called Lalygat, we were told that we were to be part of a Long Range Penetration Force, called the Chindit Commandos. At Lalygat we received instruction on Gliders, how to load and unload, load mules and equipment and do it quickly and in all conditions.

The day dawned, when we were to go, Operation Thursday, two hundred Miles behind the Japanese Lines in Burma. At 8 pm on the 5th March 1944 we took off, two Gliders towed by one DC10 Dakota. The Dakota's unhitched the tow and we were left to glide into our landing site, which was code named 'Broadway'. In the dead of night we landed, our Glider got in OK. However, others did not. We achieved surprise on the Japanese, but the cost was high in that several Gliders crashed, with heavy loss of life.

We set about fortifying 'Broadway'. It was three weeks before the Japanese set about attacking us. They brought up two field guns on elephants and started shelling us. Our own guns soon had the range and replied, and the Japanese guns ceased fire. They then came on foot attacking our perimeter at night, but they were driven back. The Gurkhas in the vanguard of our counter attacks.

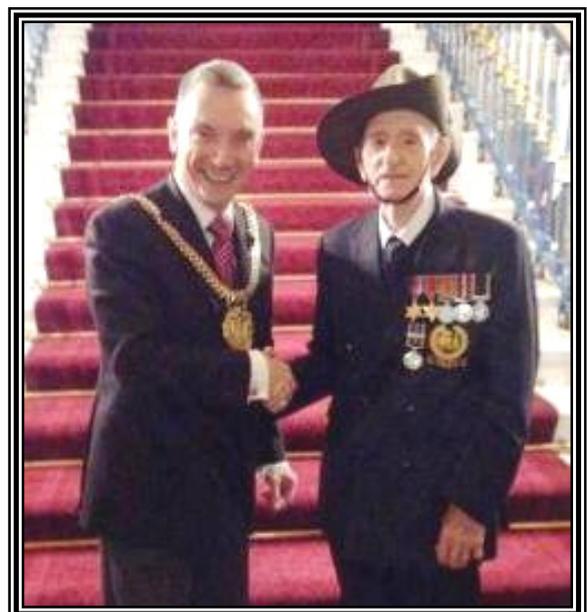
During our days at 'Broadway' we were sent out on patrols to give support to Engineers who would blow up the Railway and roads which fed the Japanese front lines, starving them of supplies. After a big battle at Kohema, the Japanese Army was pushed back, and onto us. We had spent a long time behind their lines, being supplied only by parachute drops. We were ordered out. To get out we had to march to a place called Mogong, where Brigadier Mike Calvert DSO had taken the town from the Japanese. I was riddled with Malaria and walking like a zombie, my fear was getting left behind for the Japanese to find, but somehow I kept going, and got out, looking like 'Ben Gun', uniform in tatters.

### **PHIL HAYDEN JUNIOR, ADDS:**

***On Friday 31st January 2014, my Dad, Philip James Hayden, aged 93 with several members of the family spent the afternoon, having tea with the Lord Mayor of Liverpool (Councillor Gary Millar), at the Town hall.***

***The Lord Mayor paid tribute not only to my Dad but also to the many Lads that did not return, and he gave his thanks from the People of Liverpool.***

***A great tribute, from a very nice man who was full of questions to my Dad about the Burma campaign. He showed a great and genuine interest.***



**HOW THE BRANCH IS RUN**

The Branch is managed by a management committee that meets quarterly at 11.30am on selected Sundays at Townsend Avenue.

Any member of the Branch is welcome to participate.

The committee is elected at the Annual General Meeting each year.

**CURRENT COMMITTEE**

***BRANCH PRESIDENT***

*Lieutenant Colonel David Chadwick TD*

**CHAIRMAN**

Lieutenant Colonel Ray Hughes QVRM TD

**DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**

Major Eddie McMahon TD

**SECRETARY**

John Schofield

Telephone: 07788 994621

Email: [jonnylad@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:jonnylad@tiscali.co.uk)

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Eric Roper

Tele: 0151 733 5946

Email: [eric\\_roper@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:eric_roper@blueyonder.co.uk)

**TREASURER**

Major Dennis Vickers TD

**ASSISTANT TREASURER**

Norman Pickles

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

John Butler, Terry Caffrey, Captain John Cashen, Stan Castell BEM, Brian Green, Joe McLoughlin, Roy Mitchell, Russell Start

**STANDARD BEARERS**

*John Schofield, Stan Castell BEM & Brian Green*

Any of the above committee member can be contacted through:

c/o City Office Liverpool

The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment

Room 9, Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool L2 3YL

Tele: 0151 242 2322

Association members meet at Townsend Avenue Army Reserve Centre between 12 pm and 4 pm on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of every month excluding Bank Holidays.

© Published by the King's Regiment Association, Liverpool Branch

<http://www.kral.org.uk/>

**Printed Version By:**

**The Print & Copy Centre, 7A Rose Lane, Mossley Hill, Liverpool L18 8AD  
Telephone: 0151 724 1738**

**FROM: COLONEL CHRIS OWEN**

**THE DUKE OF LANCASTER'S REGIMENT - REGIMENTAL NEWSLETTER**

Communication from RHQ to members should be direct, nothing has changed. **But**, all members of the Duke of Lancaster's Regimental Association should be on the Regimental database and hopefully also paying their subscriptions to the Regimental charity. By paying they will **also** receive a copy of the annual **Kingsman**.

There should be a good number of your branch members who receive the Newsletter electronically. If not why not? I would be grateful that in your next Branch Newsletter after the February 2014 Regimental Newsletter, if you would pose, 4 questions:

1. Who has not received the Regimental Newsletter (latest copy attached) and do they wish you receive it?
2. If they wish to receive the **Newsletter**, can they please forward their email address to: [rhqlancs@gmail.com](mailto:rhqlancs@gmail.com), which will be stored on the RHQ database.

Furthermore,

3. Do members know that they are encouraged to subscribe to the Regimental Charity? This will also entitle them to receive the Kingsman.
4. Do they wish to subscribe?

For those that wish to subscribe, I have attached copies of the Regimental Flyer explaining the Work of the Charity with a section that can be completed and returned to RHQ.

**Chris**

**Col (Retd) C W OWEN**

Regimental Secretary  
The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment  
Regimental Headquarters  
Fulwood Barracks  
Preston PR2 8AA

Telephone (Civil): 01772 260426

**Email:** [rhqlancs@gmail.com](mailto:rhqlancs@gmail.com)

# THE DUKE OF LANCASTER'S REGIMENT

## THE REGIMENTAL CHARITY



### THE CHARITY

Did you know that the Regiment has its own charity? It is there to support the whole regimental family. What it does and where it gets its money from is explained below.

### WHAT DOES THE REGIMENTAL CHARITY DO?

Simply, the Charity provides funds to:

Support our wounded, injured and sick.

Help individuals in need, whether serving or veterans, and their families.

Provide battalions with grants for welfare, adventure training and sport.

Support the Regimental Association and regimental events.

Maintain our heritage, for example, by assisting our museums, chapels and on commemorating our fallen.

Sustain the regiment by, for example, supporting recruiting.

### HOW MUCH IS SPENT?

Each year the Regimental Charity will spend over £200K. Of this:

Over £70K will be given to individuals in need. On average we help with over 300 cases. For example: funding gym membership for an injured Kingsman recovering at home; support for those in Queen Elizabeth Military Hospital, providing mobility scooters for veterans and helping with care home fees.

Nearly £100K will be sent on general welfare. For example, supporting families' days, adventure training – both for groups and individuals; battlefield tours; sports tours; regimental events.

Around £30K is spent on Heritage. A significant element supports our museums, but the charity has also bought new uniforms for all our drums platoons. This maintains the platoons' distinct regimental image and retains the link with our past.

## **WHERE DOES THE CHARITY'S MONEY COME FROM?**

This money we get does not come from the MOD, but from:

Those who are serving give voluntarily a Day's Pay each year.

Annual regimental subscriptions from those who have retired.

From Will bequests and donations.

Fund raising, and

Investment income.

The demands on the charity's resources continue to grow and are always welcome any extra support.

## **HOW CAN YOU HELP**

As a regimental veteran, you can subscribe to the Regimental Association. This will keep you in touch with the Regiment and you will receive a copy of the Kingsman. Your money will also help the work of the regimental charity. You can join by completing the attached form and sending it to RHQ at the address given.

As a regimental supporter, you can contribute to the charity by making a donation to RHQ.

## **CAN I DO MORE?**

Yes – please remember the Regiment when fund raising.

Please also remember us when making your Will.

Find out more about the Regiment at:

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

**REGIMENTAL SUBSCRIPTIONS**

**STANDING ORDER**

To: The Manager

..... Bank

.....

.....

Account Number: .....

Sort Code: ...../...../.....

**Please pay the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment Charity**

**Account Number: 03273078**

**Sort Code: 30-96-85**

Lloyds TSB Bank, 94 Fishergate, Preston, Lancashire, PR1 2JB, the sum of £..... [1]  
on the first day of January 20.....and annually until further notice.

[1] Retired Officers - £15; Retired Soldiers £10

*Signature:* .....

*Name:* ..... BLOCK CAPITALS

*Address:* .....

.....

.....

*Postcode:* .....

**Please return to:**

**RHQ, The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment, Fulwood Barracks, Preston, PR2 8AA**

**THE REGIMENTAL CHARITY OF THE DUKE OF LANCASTER'S  
REGIMENT**

**(Charity Number: 1116946)**

**GIFT AID DECLARATION**

Are you a UK tax payer? If you are then as a charity we are able to reclaim the tax you have paid on your donation. To do this you must have paid income tax in the United Kingdom equal to the tax that will be claimed (currently 25p for each £1 you give).

So that we can reclaim the tax would you please complete the declaration below

Declaration

I am a UK Tax Payer and would like the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment Charity to reclaim tax on the donation that I have made and any future donations<sup>1</sup> to the Charity at no extra cost to myself.

Signature: .....

Name: ..... BLOCK CAPITALS

Address: .....

.....

.....

Postcode:.....

Date: .....

E mail: .....

Tel No .....

Mobile .....

**Please return to:**

**RHQ, The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment, Fulwood Barracks, Preston, PR2 8AA**

---

Cheques should be made payable to:

**'The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment Charity' .**