

THE DUKE OF LANCASTER'S REGIMENT



REGIMENTAL NEWSLETTER

EDITION 2



THE COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT



Congratulations to Brigadier Peter Rafferty who assumed the appointment of Colonel of the Regiment on Friday 6th December. He had the honour of an audience with the Colonel in Chief on 19th November.

The Colonel's biography is attached.

REGIMENTAL GOVERNANCE

In order to streamline the work of the Regimental Board and ease the burden on members we have now formed an **Executive Committee** consisting of the Col of the Regt, COs and Regt Sec. The committee will focus on the "Sustainment" line of operation e.g. marketing, recruiting and branding. It will provide more responsive guidance when dealing with these matters and other Army initiatives on behalf of the Regimental Board, but long term policy will still be dealt with by the full Board.

In the last Newsletter it was noted that we were looking at innovative ways to assist the Colonel of the Regiment with his duties following the drawdown of our Deputy Colonels. Consequently, we have appointed Cols Boyd, Kenyon and Lawrence as **Representative Colonels**. Their role will be:

'To undertake representative duties on behalf of the Col of the Regt so that the Regiment is able to develop and strengthen its links with the wider regimental family. This will assist in developing a powerful, positive image that deepens the knowledge of the Regiment and strengthens its identity. This will build goodwill and support recruiting. It will contribute to ensuring that the Regiment is recognised as THE North West's Infantry Regiment.'

Each will have specific responsibilities for our OTCs, CCFs and ACF units as well as representing the Colonel more widely.

Lines of Operation

As you know, there are many facets to the work of the Regiment and for simplicity they can be grouped into what the Army now calls Lines of Operation (LOOs). You might not have heard of the term, but it is now widely used and we have started to use it to capture the broad sweep of Regimental activity.

We have 5 LOOs in two main groupings. These and the endstate they lead us toward are shown in the slide on the next page.



Every Regimental activity can be mapped to the above LOOs and they will shape the work, organisation and structure of RHQ.

The Col of the Regiment has also set two clear Regimental Priorities, which will focus the Regimental effort:



FUTURE REGIMENTAL ORGANISATION

FR 2020 UPDATE

We now know the 42 Infantry Brigade plan as it affects 4 LANCS in Liverpool. In this plan the Band will move from Townsend Avenue to Alamein Barracks, Huyton. The Barracks will also become the home for the re-established (Javelin) Anti Tank Platoon. While the plan still awaits formal Army ratification, the Brigade is confident that it will be approved. Given the unfavourable position we were in previously, with the stark loss of any Reserve presence in Liverpool you will agree that this is a significant improvement.

4 LANCS will implement the plan from 1st April this year and the Colonel of the Regiment has consequently agreed with the Brigade that A (Ladysmith) Company will be removed from the order of battle on 1 April 2014 and the Javelin Platoon will form on that date. The driver for early change is two fold. Firstly, in order to ensure that the 4th Bn can begin to meet the pairing requirements with the 2nd Bn, we need to start the building, training and integration of the Javelin platoon as soon as possible if it is to have any chance of being effective by mid-2015, when moves are required to be complete. Secondly, we need to build the future capability as soon as possible so that we increase our chances of retaining as many current Kingsmen as possible and move a going-concern to Huyton. Consequently, while there will have to be post mapping of numbers and ranks to the new establishment, the majority of the Company should smoothly transition into the Javelin Platoon and will be encouraged to do so. It is hoped that all current members of the Company will choose to remain in the Reserve and in the Battalion at Huyton or Manchester or any other surviving Reserve centre.

There is then, finally, the question of the Liverpool Scottish personnel. The Liverpool Scottish (LS) presence has enriched first the King's and then the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment, but sadly the FR2020 decision means that this direct connection with part of our regimental heritage must now be drawn to a final close. The Liverpool Scottish presence in the Battalion and Regiment will therefore pass with A Company on 1st April. Personnel will of course be invited to remain within the Javelin platoon, but will be required to revert to Regimental dress regulations.

Liverpool Scottish individuals employed outside the 4th battalion should always have conformed to standard Regimental dress requirements. Clearly from 1st April, the wearing of all forms of Liverpool Scottish attire by all Reserve personnel will cease. We have also been informed by Merseyside ACF that independently they have been considering the impact of the FR2020 changes and their continuing ability to support the Liverpool Scottish Cadet detachments, along with their imminent move to a new location. They also intend to rebadge the LS detachments to the Duke of Lancaster's by 1 Apr14, which matches the 4th Battalion timetable. We are as yet unsighted on what the Brigade and ACF County Headquarters intend to do about the future location of the Townsend detachments.

It is not our intention to do anything regimentally to mark the passing of the Liverpool Scottish platoon. The official loss of the Liverpool Scottish cap badge on formation of the current Regiment in 2006 and the subsequent laying up of the Liverpool Scottish Colours in 2009 is believed to have most appropriately marked the end of the formal, official contribution of the Liverpool Scottish to the Regiment's order of battle. The same tributes were afforded all of our antecedent elements at that time and it is considered inappropriate therefore to conduct any other formal event given the current status of the Liverpool Scottish in the Army order of battle. However, it is for CO 4 LANCS to determine how he may wish to mark these changes within his battalion and he will announce in due course the arrangements that will be put in place. This approach has the wholehearted support of the Liverpool Scottish Regimental Association.

The Colonel of the Regiment has also written the following message.

'We now turn to a new era and I have at the recent Regimental Strategic brief to former Senior Officers and at the AGM that followed outlined the recruiting challenges we face, particularly in Liverpool. Whilst I fully understand and share the regret felt at the loss of A Company and with it the Liverpool Scottish, I am confident of your whole hearted support for the Regiment as we look to the future. If we are to bring our recruiting performance up to scratch, both Regular and Reserve, and maintain our reserve footprint in Liverpool, we will have to live our Regimental motto, Nec Aspera Terrent. But I am confident that the retention of the Band and the Javelin Platoon on Merseyside will provide the platform we need.'

REGIMENTAL IDENTITY

Regimental Characteristics

The increasingly competitive recruiting marketplace demands that each regiment should have a clear statement of those characteristics that define it and will attract recruits. During the summer, a workshop of all ranks from across our 3 battalions addressed this. The result is the attached statement of our Characteristics, which has been endorsed by the Board and is now Regimental policy.

The two key aspects are that for the first time we have clearly and unambiguously set out our brand, a brand that is the will of the serving Regiment. The Colonel invites all ranks, past and present to do all that they can to support that brand statement, which sets out the image we wish to portray and our identity. The Brand is thus, that

"We are collectively 'The Lions of England,' individually we are 'Kingsmen", soldiers of the Duke of Lancaster, Our Colonel in Chief, Our Sovereign. Uniquely we are the Infantry Regiment of the North West of England"

In line with the Characteristics Statement, it was the overwhelming wish of our battalions that they wanted a change to the TRF which is worn on combat dress/MTP PCS only and they would like to wear the Lion of England instead of the Glider. This was also agreed and RHQ is leading with a design and submission to the Army Dress Committee. It should be noted that the Glider flash, a battle honour conferred upon our antecedent Border Regiment, remains integral to No1 Dress, No2 Dress and mess kit etc.

THE BATTALIONS

1 LANCS



The 1st Battalion is currently operationally committed as the UK Standby Battalion. It has re-subordinated to 4 Mech Bde and 3 (UK) Div but in autumn switches to 4 Inf Bde and 1 (UK) Div. Next year it will move to Cyprus for a 3 year tour.

Training is currently focused on developing basic skills, particularly marksmanship. It will regenerate Somme Company – support company which will include the Assault Pioneers.

Collectively, the battalion will exercise together this month and OTXs in France, Kenya and UAE are planned for later in the year.

Sport figures prominently in the programme. The battalion were winners of the Infantry alpine Ski Championships last month and have sent a team to the Army Championships.



They are also providing a sizeable proportion of the Infantry Football Squad currently touring the USA. There will be an inter-company novice boxing competition in July and this will contribute to the Regimental squad.

Adventure training is high on the list of battalion priorities and 5 expeditions are planned for the summer.

2 LANCS

The battalion returned from Afghanistan late last year after a very successful tour in Nad'Ali. It then conducted three highly successful homecoming parades in Carlisle, Lytham and Knowsley. In each town they received a tremendous reception. The next 4 months is a busy period for the battalion with the focus on individual training and adventure training. It will concentrate on marksmanship, fitness and CBRN (NBC in old speak). There will be a battalion shooting competition which will begin the process of preparing a team for the 3 Div Skill at Arms Meet (SAAM) late in the year. It will also run cadres for those in the Recce Platoon, Fire Support Group, snipers and Signal Platoon.



The Battalion will also begin training to provide the Falkland Island Reinforcement Infantry company (FIRIS) requirement. More widely the battalion has re-orbated to its AR2020 light infantry role. Partnership with 4LANCS has begun and in September it will re-subordinate to 42 Infantry Brigade.



Sport remains an essential part of battalion life and over the next 4 months the battalion will compete in various events including; Football in California, Rugby League in the UK and 2-man Bobsleigh in Austria. Boxing still figures prominently and intensive training will begin for battalion Novice Boxing Competition. From this will be selected a team to the Army Boxing Championships.

All ranks will take also part in numerous adventure training packages that includes; 2-man Bobsleigh, Skiing, Skydiving, Mountaineering, Sailing and Mountain Biking

4 LANCS

As you know, 4 LANCS as part of FR20202 will reduce to 3 rifle companies. The impact for Liverpool has been explained already. As part of the changes the battalion will pair with 2 LANCS and details of how that will work are being worked out.

The battalion is in the midst of a major recruiting campaign for the Reserve known as OP FORTIFY. Significant regimental resources are being committed to support them and also regular recruiting.



As part of the changes brought about in FR20202 the battalion will receive a considerable up scaling in its equipment holdings, which will include both weapons and surveillance equipment. They will support 2 LANCS in FIRIC and train in Kenya and Australia this year.

LATEST NEWS

Awards and Promotions

We are delighted to announce the following awards and promotions:

Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE)

Lieutenant Colonel G MAUND, the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment

Promotion to Lieutenant Colonel (Regular Army)

Major P R (Rob) DRIVER – APC Glasgow

Major N P (Nick) MACKENZIE – Infantry Battle School

EVENTS

The most recent Regimental Forecast of Events is attached. It is routinely updated and available to view on the Regimental Web Page.

WW1

Not unexpectedly, we are receiving a large number of requests to take part in various commemorative events throughout the North West and beyond. The demands on our battalions are such that we can meet only a few of these and it is also important that as a Regiment we determine for ourselves how we wish to commemorate our fallen. Consequently, as a Regiment we will commemorate the opening of WW1 by 'surging' into each of our 24 Freedom Cities, Towns and Boroughs and join with their Remembrance Sunday commemorations. In each town we will have between a section and a platoon of serving soldiers. We also intend to bring together the maximum numbers possible from our battalions at the annual Regimental Remembrance Service on 11 Nov in Manchester Cathedral. All members of the Regimental Family are warmly invited. This will be the only opportunity 2014-2018 to have a full Regimental Remembrance Service due to our Cyprus commitments.

Other significant events in 2014 we will be involved in are:

28 Mar. 'Liverpool Remembers'. An evening concert in the Anglican Cathedral. The Col of the Regt, 2 LANCS Colour Party and 4 LANCS Band will be present.

13 Jun. Rededication of Preston Cenotaph. Colour Party and Guard from 2 LANCS.

1 Jul. Accrington – Freedom Parade. 1 LANCS.

31 Aug Unveiling of Liverpool Pals Memorial. Involvement tbc.

1st two weeks Sep. Date Tbc. Burial of two unknown soldiers in Flanders from The King's Own.

28 Oct. Commemoration of first action of Jullundur Bde. Indian Army Memorial Neuve Chapelle. The brigade included 1 MANCH and with the antecedents of 5 Sikhs and the Frontier Force, which are today in the Indian and Pakistan armies respectively. The

commemoration, beside a strong Regimental presence will, it is intended, include participation from community groups, schools, the Jullundur Brigade Associations and, if possible, serving representatives from the Sikhs Indian Army and Frontier Force Pakistani Army Regiments.

9 Nov. Remembrance Sunday. Serving presence in all Freedom Towns.

11Nov. Regimental Remembrance Service. Manchester Cathedral.

(20-28 Apr 2015. Gallipoli Commemoration. The Dardanelles.)

Regimental Annual Lunch

The Annual lunch for serving and retired Officers will be Fri 4 Jul in the Freemason's Hall Manchester. Cost will be £52 per person. An e calling letter has been sent. Hard copies will soon be sent to those without E mail.

The Kingsman

The Journal is being compiled now and will be distributed after Easter.

MUSEUMS

Cumbria Museum of Military Life – www.kingsownbordermuseum.btck.co.uk

The move of the museum to the Alma Block is progressing at full speed. This will provide the Museum with more space and better visitor access. It will allow more objects to be put on display and reinforce the strong links between the Regiment and the local community.

It is expected the work will be complete in early autumn.

Lancashire Infantry Museum – www.lancashireinfantrymuseum.org.uk

In January, work commenced on a major re-development of the museum's main gallery space: the Somme Room. This saw the large task of firstly moving the existing exhibits and putting them in storage. The work is moving on a pace and new display cabinets are being installed. Once the main building work has been completed exhibits will be reinstalled but in a fresh and more accessible way to appeal to all visitors. The final result will be revealed late in the year.

Museum of The Manchester Regiment – www.tameside.gov.uk/museumgalleries/mom

An extremely important part of the collection has always been its medal collection and over 2500 are held by the museum. The museum provides a permanent and secure home for the medals so families and friends are able to view the medals of their loved ones and know that they will be safe and secure for the benefit of generations still to come.

Thanks to the generosity of the Esmee Fairbairn Collections Fund, a major project has been completed that allows access for the first time to the lives and deeds of individual soldiers in a collection of superbly researched volumes.

HMS LANCASTER

Our affiliated ship recently returned from an exciting deployment of the Caribbean on which they visited Barbados, the Dominican Republic and Trinidad & Tobago amongst other nations. To the enormous credit of the Ship's Company, they have interdicted and seized over 2 tonnes of illicit drugs with a "street value" of £160m.

Congratulations go to Commander Peter Laughton MBE who took command of the Frigate in November 2013. He is committed to further strengthening the links between the Ship and our Regiment in 2014, so please look out for information on events in the near future.

THE REGIMENTAL SHOP

If you have never visited the Regimental Shop on line, it is certainly worth a visit. Available in the shop are clothing, badges, books, ties and other great gift ideas. You can visit the online shop at:

www.dukeoflancastersregimentshop.com

You can also visit the shop itself on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at RHQ in Preston. The Manchester outlet has now closed and all stock has been brought to Preston. The shop manager Dave Pennington is on 01772 260591 to answer any enquiries or via email at

RHQLANCSshop@gmail.com

LEARN MORE

The Regimental Website

Visit our Website for further information at:

www.army.mod.uk/lancs

We are also on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/pages/Duke-of-Lancasters-Regiment/112487935430308

And Twitter @LionsofEngland



Nec Aspera Terrent

