



The Green Machine



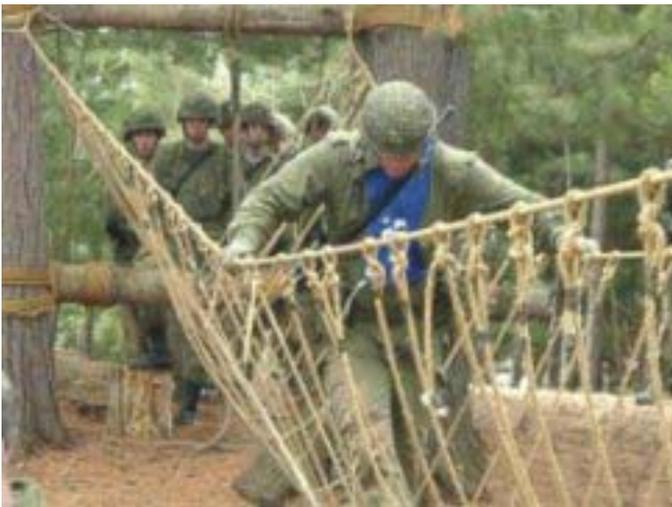
The "On Line" Magazine
Of
The Royal Green Jackets Association

Volume 2 Issue 5

Produced in the UK, USA and Australasia

May 2002

The "Brocks" on Exercise



One of the Regiments of Canada that we hold an 'Alliance' with is the *Brockville Rifles*.

Recently they took part in an Exercise designed to test them both physically and mentally.

Beginning at first light Saturday, about 400 reserve soldiers from eastern and northern Ontario began a 24-hour competition designed to test them mentally and physically.

The troops taking part in the Military Skills Challenge were from 33 Canadian Brigade Group which includes 18 units that sent 27 teams of between eight and 10 soldiers per team to CFB Petawawa for the competition.

Read the report which has been received from Lieutenant-Colonel R.S. Garber CD inside

The defence of Calais

It is 62 years since three 'Green Jacket' battalions, 2nd Battalion The King's Royal Rifle Corps, 1st Battalion the Rifle Brigade and the 1st Battalion Queen Victoria's Rifles, took part in the heroic defence of Calais.

Their heroism, determination to succeed and what it meant to those withdrawing through Dunkirk is told in part by Major Allan a Rifle Brigade officer. The story he tells could be equally applied to the other two battalions. Winston Churchill also relates how important the role of 30 Infantry Brigade was.

History relates how, since the defeat of Napoleon, it was generally agreed that the presence of the enemy in the channel ports could be a disaster. Much British blood had been shed to save the channel ports in the 1st World War.

History was about to be repeated.....



No Computer? You don't have a PC? You need not miss out on things. Why not take a trip to your local library or Internet Café? For just a very small outlay you can visit the RGJA's own web site, leave messages, relate stories, read the Green Machine on line, join the Internet Branch and find old friends.

Connecting to the net is simple and fun. And better still you will be instantly amongst friends. Go on—try it!

Visit the Association website at <http://www.rgjassociation.org.uk>



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The Royal Green Jackets Credit Card



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Editorial



Hello,

April has been a month which I can honestly say has been full of trials and tribulations in many respects

It started with the elderly brother "tinkering" with something new for the Green Machine. When he tried it nothing happened. So he rang our ISP only to be told that the feature could not be used as we didn't have some widgets installed.

This was a little odd as we were already using the same "extensions" for the main website and they worked there.

Ken therefore rang the ISP and spoke to them. Apparently we needed to move to a new super duper high tech all dancing server.

This would be completed within a short period of time and we might experience a short period of "down time" but no longer than 24 hours - or so we were told..

Nearly a week passed and nothing happened. Then they moved us. The move took a little more than the promised 24 hours though. We were off line for nearly 72 hours in total and at the end of all that - nothing worked. Our mirror site no longer mirrored the main site, the Rifleman's Rest didn't work (it still doesn't work properly) neither did the Internet Branch pages.

Ken now started the mammoth task of re-assigning links, replacing lost photographs and other things. With over 600 pages, 1000 pictures and 500 plus email addresses it has not been an easy task

All in all it was a complete shambles and even now we are all working on sorting it out.

Keith even had to rebuild the Green Machine (on-line) from scratch !! He was not best pleased.

So where are we now then? Well everything is nearly back to normal and hopefully we will have ironed out the remaining problems as they appear.

Someone has to be blamed. Should it be the ISP, or Ken as Webmaster? No I think it has to be the person who was tinkering in the first place.

Let us hope for a quieter May.

Until next month then

Kevin

Website team



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May 2002

The Green Jacket

DURBAR 2002

3, 4 and 7 night breaks specially arranged for

The Royal Green Jackets

at

SANDFORD

Holiday Park



12th - 19th October 2002

Message from the President: General Sir Robert Pascoe KCB MBE

Last year we held our first Durbar. Those who sat on the sideline to see how things would go were probably in the majority. But 250 of us backed a hunch and made the effort to try it out. We were not disappointed and whether it was for a week, a short break of three or four days or just the First Sunday, we loved it. It so happened that earlier in the year we also had the best Reunion that any one could remember. Lesson? These two events can only expand and strengthen our regimental programmes and plans for association, in every meaning of that word, and reunion

This year we shall build on that spirit aiming to establish Durbar as a permanent regimental fixture

See you there! _____

As already mentioned the First Sunday was very popular and is a feature this year too. The First Sunday is 13th October, all day! For those coming for this day only, use the booking form on line. Insert 'First Sunday' as your Holiday Dates adding the number in your party. The cost for the day is £10 per head and includes a really good lunch. The programme will be much the same; The Regimental Church Service, Muster and March Past; Band Display followed by lunch. There will be a special guest and, we hope, the odd surprise.

PROGRAMME. The detailed programme building on from that of last year will be developed over the coming months and will contain many new features. To keep abreast with planned events keep checking the website and Green Machine (on-line) A Booking form available on line on the website which once filled in should be printed off or use the Hotline Booking number

Ring **0870 444 7774** quote "GJ"

Click here for the on-line booking form from the website

Staged in Association with
WESTSTAR

Holiday Parks



The Green Machine



The Cog fit into place - or - handbags at 10 paces !!!



The trouble with email, the old fashioned GPO type mail and any other form of communication that does not involve either face to face or voice to voice direct communication is that things can be "misheard" or "misunderstood".

Such was the case towards the end of March.

The staff on the Green Machine is very small. There are only 7 of us in total but we are spread over 3 continents. Misunderstanding can easily occur.

Let me tell you a story.....

(Max Bygraves eat your heart out).

The April edition of the Green Machine was progressing nicely when the elderly brother (who does all the real work for the UK end) suggested that perhaps we were missing a trick or two and that maybe the paper version and PDF file were not achieving their aims, that is to say they were becoming too big and as a result Branch Secretaries were perhaps not reproducing them for their members. We should reduce

the overall size of both to increase the chances of them being distributed more widely.

THIS WAS HANDBAGS AT 10 PACES TIME !!

Criticise my little babies - how dare he ????

Fur flew in all directions !! Ken Ambrose, caught in the middle of an apparent family dispute, naturally stepped in as Webmaster, smartly stepped out again, retired to the pub and called in a UN peace keeping force.

In actual fact there was no real argument but a misunderstanding and when I had finally calmed down, sobered up and looked at what Keith was trying to say I agreed with him. Ken reappeared and after a careful look around removed his tin helmet and stood down Terry Waite.

The end result was the new publication called :

"The Green Machine's Cog"

"The Cog" is designed as an electronic file only and with a maximum file size of approx 600k. This means that everyone on the Association email list, together with other interested bodies will be able to receive it.

It will go out to everyone each month

It will have a brief description of the main stories being covered by the Green Machine (On Line) and will be posted out in advance of the 1st of each month.

The paper and PDF version will of course continue but slightly reduced in size. "The Cog" will become the main advertising point for all three versions but primarily for the On Line edition.

As I now produce this, the paper and PDF versions of the Green Ma-

chine the initial response to the "The Cog" has been very favourable.

After a lot of work on the emailing lists which involved copying all the addresses from the website, combining those with my own address book then adding the address book from Ken I ended up with an address book of just over 800 names! This was swiftly backed up on a zip drive - there was no way I was going through that again !!!!

Of course there were quite a few addresses which were out of date. I allowed for that in the planning and said at the time that if I received 100 "bounced" emails I would be happy. I received back in total 102 so I didn't sulk for too long.

The names of those who bounced were posted to the website and I am getting a steady trickle of corrections coming through.

Overall I think the whole exercise can be considered a success.

Now where did I throw my teddy???





The Green Machine



The "Brocks" on Exercise



Beginning at first light Saturday, about 400 reserve soldiers from eastern and northern Ontario began a 24-hour competition designed to test them mentally and physically.



The 'Brocks Team' with the C.O and R.S.M

The troops taking part in the Military Skills Challenge were from 33 Canadian Brigade Group which includes 18 units which sent 27 teams of between eight and 10 soldiers per team to CFB Petawawa for the competition.

Although local troops were not involved in the games, CFB Petawawa was chosen for the exercise because of its central location and excellent training area.

"This is the first time that military skills has been held in Petawawa for troops from 33 CBG and the aim of this is to have a competition within the different units that are under my command," said Col. Daniel Lafleur. "We want to develop friendship, to get their skills as military soldiers upgraded and to have cohesiveness and esprit-de-corps within the brigade."

The competition was designed to put into practice in the field the skills the troops practice on a weekly ba-

sis in their home units. They came from as far away as Sault Ste. Marie in the northwest to Cornwall in the east.

The day began with precision shooting at 5 a.m. and continued throughout the day and overnight with an obstacle course, rope bridge crossing, Jeep pull, log carry, march and shoot, pop-up target shooting, distance estimation, night navigation and night shooting.

The winning team was decided through a combination of team times and accuracy points.

After completing the night-time portion of the competition, the soldiers were given a few hours sleep and fed breakfast before taking part in the awards ceremony. From there, most soldiers expected to sleep soundly during the bus ride home before returning to work and school on Monday.

Col. Lafleur said he began observing his soldiers at 7 a.m. and he had nothing but praise for his troops and the competition itself. "I spoke to a lot of my soldiers and they are happy and eager, not only because they think that they're winning but because they are doing something that is worthwhile and that's the main reason that they are over here this morning.

They are learning things throughout their career and now they are putting them into practice.

They're not doing their normal routine like going to school or working. They are in the field doing what they are trained to do," he said.

Captain Mark Giles, the public affairs officer for 33 CBG, said that reserve soldiers parade an average of one night a week and a few weekends a month, averaging about 600 hours of service a year between September and May. "I love

the brotherhood. These are all my brothers and my friends. I wouldn't be here without them. I've never done this before. I'm in okay shape, as I run quite often, but this is tough and I'm enjoying it," he said.

Many also take special courses during the summer months. "They train on a weekly basis but that mainly emphasizes individual skills so it is very different from an exercise like this," he said.

Rifleman Kyle Bucking, 19, of Prescott is part of the Brockville Rifles and an OAC high school student. In the reserves for almost a year, he originally signed up because of his lifelong desire to be a soldier

He said he particularly enjoyed the physical challenge of the skills competition and the camaraderie between his unit teammates. "Our unit didn't (specifically) train for this. It came up suddenly and we said, 'Hey we can do that,' and so we went for it. I think we're doing quite well. We're really working together. I'm not saying whether we're going to win or not but we are trying. These are great guys to work with," he added.



'Brocks' on the move..

Capt. Giles said that every participating unit will submit a post-exercise report to determine if a similar competition will be held next year.

The winners were the Prince of Wales Regiment from Kingston



The Green Machine



The Defence of Calais

Editors note: Once again The Rifleman has provided the Green Machine with a wealth of information on the Defence of Calais.

For reasons of space I have had to choose just one of the articles. For all the articles please read the full report in the Green Machine (On-Line)



1874

1965

The following is an extract taken from 'Their Finest Hour' Volume 2. 'The Second World War' by Sir Winston Churchill.

Prime Minister to General Ismay, for G.I.G.S. 23 May 40

"Apart from the general order issued, I trust, last night by Weygand, assuring the southward movement of the armies via Amiens, it is imperative that a clear line of supply should be opened up at the earliest moment to Gort's army by Dunkirk, Calais, or Boulogne. Gort cannot remain insensible to the peril in which he is now placed, and he must detach even a division, or whatever lesser force is necessary, to meet our force pushing through from the coast.

If the regiment of armoured vehicles, including cruiser tanks, has actually landed at Calais, this should improve the situation, and should encourage us to send the rest of the Second Brigade of that Armoured Division in there. This coastal area must be cleaned up if the major operation of withdrawal is to have any chance. The intruders behind the line must struck at and brought to bay.



The refugees should be driven into fields and parked there, as proposed by General Weygand, so that roads can be kept clear. Are you in touch with Gort by telephone and telegraph, and how long does it take to send him a ciphered message? Will you kindly tell one of your Staff officers to send a map to Downing Street with the position, so far as it is known to-day, of the nine British divisions.

Do not reply to this yourself."

Prime Minister to General Ismay 24 May 40

"I cannot understand the situation around Calais. The Germans are blocking all exits, and our regiment of tanks is boxed up in the town because it cannot face the field guns planted on the outskirts. Yet I expect the forces achieving this are very modest. Why, then, are they not attacked? Why does not Lord Gort attack them from the rear at the same time that we make a sortie from Calais? Surely Gort can spare a brigade or two to clear his com-

munications and to secure the supplies vital to his army. Here is a general with nine divisions about to be starved out, and yet he cannot send a force to clear his communications. What else can be so important as this? Where could a reserve be better employed?

This force blockading Calais should be attacked at once by Gort, by the Canadians from Dunkirk, and by a sortie of our boxed-up tanks. Apparently the Germans can go anywhere and do anything, and their tanks can act in twos and threes all over our rear, and even when they are located they are not attacked. Also our tanks recoil before their field guns, but our field guns do not like to take on their tanks. If their motorised artillery, far from its base, can block us, why cannot we, with the artillery of a great army, block them? . . . The responsibility for cleansing the communications with Calais and keeping them open rests primarily with the B.E.F."

(This did less than justice to our troops. But I print it as I wrote it at the time.)



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The Defence of Calais

Prime Minister to General Ismay 24 May 40

"Vice-Chief of the Naval Staff informs me that [an] order was sent at 2 a.m. to Calais saying that evacuation was decided on in principle, but this is surely madness. The only effect of evacuating Calais would be to transfer the forces now blocking it to Dunkirk. Calais must be held for many reasons, but specially to hold the enemy on its front. The Admiralty say they are preparing twenty-four naval 12-pounders, which with S.A.P.* will pierce any tank. Some of these will be ready this evening. "

Prime Minister to C.I.G.S. 25.V.40

"I must know at earliest why Gort gave up Arras, and what actually he is doing with the rest of his army. Is he still persevering in Weygand's plan, or has he become largely stationary? If the latter, what do you consider the probable course of events in the next few days, and what course do you recommend? Clearly, he must not allow himself to be encircled without fighting a battle. Should he [not] do this by fighting his way to the coast and destroying the armoured troops which stand between him and the sea with overwhelming force of artillery, while covering himself and the Belgian front, which would also curl back, by strong rearguards? Tomorrow at latest this decision must be taken.

It should surely be possible for Dill to fly home from any aerodrome momentarily clear, and R.A.F. should send a whole squadron to escort him."

Prime Minister to Secretary of State for War and C.I.G.S. 25 May 40

"Pray find out who was the officer responsible for sending the order to evacuate Calais yesterday, and by whom this very lukewarm telegram I saw this morning was drafted, in which mention is made of "for the sake of Allied solidarity". This is not the way to encourage men to fight to the end. Are you sure there is no streak of defeatist opinion in the General Staff?"

*Semi-armoured-piercing

Prime Minister to C.J.G.S. 25 May 40

"Something like this should be said to the Brigadier defending Calais:

Defence of Calais to the utmost is of the highest importance to our country and our Army now. First, it occupies a large part of the enemy's armoured forces, and keeps them from attacking our line of communications. Secondly, it preserves a sally-port from which portions of the British Army may make their way home. Lord Gort has already sent troops to your aid, and the Navy will do all possible to keep you supplied. The eyes of the Empire are upon the defence of Calais, and His Majesty's Government are confident that you and your gallant regiment will perform an exploit worthy of the British name."

This message was sent to Brigadier Nicholson at about 2 p.m. on May 25.

The final decision not to relieve the garrison was taken on the evening of May 26. Till then the destroyers

were held ready. Eden and Ironside were with me at the Admiralty. We three came out from dinner and at 9 p.m. did the deed. It involved Eden's own regiment, in which he had long served and fought in the previous struggle. One has to eat and drink in war, but I could not help feeling physically sick as we afterwards sat silent at the table.

Here was the message to the Brigadier:

Every hour you continue to exist is of the greatest help to the B.E.F. Government has therefore decided you must continue to fight. Have greatest possible admiration for your splendid stand. Evacuation will not (repeat not) take place, and craft required for above purpose are to return to Dover. Verity and Windsor to cover Commander Minesweeping and his retirement.

Calais was the crux. Many other causes might have prevented the deliverance of Dunkirk, but it is certain that the three days gained by the defence of Calais enabled the Gravelines waterline to be held, and that without this, even in spite of Hitler's vacillations and Rundstedt's orders, all would have been cut off and lost.



Rifleman Richard Golding, recovering from injuries sustained at the defence of Calais is visited by General JC Smuts accompanied by Canadian Hospital Staff



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Royal Green Jackets Association Forecast of Events 2002

Date	Event	Venue
Tues 1st January	RGJ Birthday	
Thurs 7th March	TA and Cadets Dinner	Davies Street
16/17 March	Celer et Audax CCF Trophy	Stowe School
Sun 17 March	TA and Cadets Council meeting	Davies Street
Thurs 18th April	London Club Golf Day	Oxford
Thurs 25th April	RGJ Regimental Dinner	Davies Street
Wed 12th June	Celer et Audax Ladies Lunch	Royal Hospital
Sat 22nd June	Officers Summer Ball	Warminster
24th/25th June	Light Division Sailing Regatta	Seaview Isle of Wight
Sun 30th June	Celer et audax Stakes	Goodwood
Fri 12th July	RGJ Officers Club Cocktail Party (BBQ)	St Cross
Sat 13th July	RGJ Sounding Retreat - Reunion	Sir John Moore Barracks
Sat 20th July	Band Memorial Service	Regents Park
Thurs 25th July	RGJ Regimental Day and At Home	Somerset House
Fri 13th September	Clay Pigeon Shoot	Royal Berks
5th/6th September	Light Division ACF Trophy	Sir John Moore Barracks
Tues 8th October	RB Club Dinner	Naval and Military Club
12th-19th October	Regimental Durbar Week	Sandford Park Poole Dorset
Sun 13th October	TA and Cadets Council meeting	Sandford Park Poole Dorset
Tues 15th October	43rd & 52nd Officers Ladies Lunch	House of Lords
Thurs 31st October	Celer et Audax Club Dinner	Cavalry and Guards Club
Mon 4th November	RGJ Officers and GJ Clubs Committee	Winchester
Thurs 7th November	Field of Remembrance	Westminster Abbey
Sat 9th November	Oxford Reunion	Slade Park Barracks
Sun 10th November	Remembrance Sunday	
Wed 4th December	RGJ Officers Club London Cocktail Party	Davies Street
Wed 11th December	RGJ Carol Service	St Georges Hannover Square

Entries in red are covered in a separate article in this issue



The Green Machine



WINCHESTER REUNION 2002

The Annual Association Reunion for 2002 will be held as usual at ATR Winchester, Sir John Moore Barracks, on Saturday 13 July.

Due to the popularity of the event last year the Committee have decided to enhance the event by opening earlier. The gates will this year open at 12 o' clock. The bar will be open from this time and hot food will be available in the form of snacks from Robin Swain Catering.

Food service will continue throughout the afternoon with main meals being served in the restaurant from 7.00pm. Please note that the bar will close for one hour between 6.00pm and 7.00pm during the march past and Sounding Retreat.

Last years march past was a huge success and will be repeated this year. Please bring medals and berets and be prepared to divide into four groups, to include the TA and Cadets. Last year there were some shy onlookers. This year we want

you all marching.

Entrance to the Reunion will be by the main entrance to Sir John Moore Barracks, off Andover Road, one mile north of Winchester. All cars are to be parked in the car park at the entrance to the camp. The only exceptions will be disabled persons on production of their disabled badge.

Once again there is no entrance fee but the Association would welcome donations to offset costs.



Programme of Events Saturday 13th July 2002

1200hrs	Gates open
1200hrs - 1800hrs	Main bar open with snacks available
1200hrs - 1800hrs	Static displays to include
	The 95th Rifles
	The 52nd Re-enactment Society
	The Borneo Band
	Harvey Malcolm Clothing Company (blazers)
	The Museum Shop
	Regimental Recruiting Team
1800hrs	Buglers sound Assembly for the March Past on the square
1830hrs	President's address, followed by Sounding Retreat by Light
1900hrs	Main bar open – Hot meals available in Carvery
Sunday 14th July	
1030hrs	Light Division Chapel – Service of Thanksgiving



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May 2002

The further adventures of Randy McFlabb



We had all been cold at one point during our time in, and this was no exception. It was bitter, the sort of cold that ya mum made ya wear

those matching hat's and gloves with the bit of string that went up your arm around ya neck and down the other arm, just as well that my mum had a part time job in the Q M's dept.

The only thing that bothered me was the way that she still had to put my name and address in every bit of KIT that I had, she didn't understand the word COMPROMISE, she thought that it was something that you feed to ya flowers. Yet again we were up to our necks in it, sorting somebody else's mess out. As self appointed team captain, I had to be the one in charge. I was always first in, first to slot or drop a bad guy, always prepared to make the all decisive decision, the sort the BOSS never had the balls for!!, besides I was the all round action hero the team the regiment the world come to think of it had become accustomed too.

Besides any of that SEAN BEAN was looking at playing me in another award winning TV drama of Tabbingbacks' FO PARR' as team sniper leader while we were in the gulf.

COME TO THINK OF IT, I look dead 'ard on the back of my books and the birds luv it!!

I could never understand Tabber's doing the "NEXT" catalogue pose, ponce!.. no wonder my books out-sold his!

A single word began to filter down to me in the middle of the group, "stand by stand by stand by", L/Cpl Morse was great on the net but

maths was another thing. The excitement was almost too much for Tabber's as he put the finishing touches to his go faster's, the boss was fumbling with his map case, I'd grip him later. Sid would be acting as rear guard on this op, mainly because he had frozen solid, he'd never get used to the European weather.

He always said that he looked and felt silly in a DPM vest, they never matched his battle dress. I would have to back track later and jump start him before we did our 'exifil' out. Rubbing two hexy blocks up and

down his huge frame normally got him going, strange that!

After all we had been through together in various theatres of war and punch UP's with the locals at some place ending in ford we had never

lost the passion for a good slot and this job was to be exception.

This was the real thing and we all knew that as a team it would demand the utmost professionalism and dedication that only a member of the world's elite fighting force could produce, just as well that I had spent a good few years in the arms of the 'Black Mafia'. Trying to educate this lot in the art of soldiering the 'MAFIA WAY' was a real drama, OUTRAGEOUS if you ask me.

Still being the bloke that I was I'd gripped the boys the right way the only way, a right hook here, pick helve there, snooker balls in a sock from the back of a crowded bar, that always grabbed the attention of the less interested.

We were at the critical stage, the target was almost on us, no time like the present time to get the finest of details sorted out. I CALLED,

wrong whispered all the head shed's to my position which by now was getting a little overcrowded even for a trooper of my experience.

Planning, what we said now would dictate the way the task would work out. All the 'head sheds' had their part to play, but as duly elected leader the golden rule was that only my voice would be heard, unless of course it went belly up then the boss or tabbers could pick up the pieces.

If we could hold a mess meeting three hundred miles behind enemy lines in the gulf then I could see no problem with what we were doing now. The only downside being that we didn't have an official photographer or painter with us to "capture the moment". Still I'm sure that I could work something out later.

All was going well in our OP until all the body heat from the "HOT BRIEF" began to thaw Sid out. Just before he had frozen, Sid had farted but the foul smelling air had been captured between the various grasses that had made up his skirt. It is regimental policy that orders are given in such a fashion that only the boss doesn't get what's going on. Mind you that seemed to be a standard SOP where ever we went.

Suddenly things began to go noisy on me as the men began to fight for every inch of fresh air that was left in this confined little space, loud retching began to bang around the walls of the OP, followed by the gut wrenching spewing as those empty stomachs were filled with the finest FIJI could offer. Controlled panic had set in. REALISING the seriousness of the situation I was first out, just as every leader should be. I had briefed the lads that if we were to get spotted or compromised everyman was on their own and that we would meet at the pre arranged ERV.



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The further adventure of Randy McFlabb

To get to this we would carry out the classic SAS STYLE E&E routine. Go back in a straight line for at least a click and a half, turn left into a dog leg, left again into a box and then go back the way you had come, sounds confusing but with years of ops behind me there was no way that I could lose any of the team. Besides we had the state of the art Comms kit, Magellan, tacbe, satnav and 10 pence in your 24hr survival belt kit for a land line call should you need to make one.

The guard room always made me wait when I did a reverse charge call. They had to get permission from the ADJ to sign a chit so as I could do it, bloody politics!!

As with some ops, it doesn't matter how much you put into it you can never account for the unexpected

like Sid's backside. Looking back on it I suppose with a little hindsight we could have left Sid behind altogether, but he was as much of the team as was the fear that gripped us all at certain times. Back in some place ending in ford we had one of the quickest debriefings ever. It was agreed by all that the task hadn't been achieved and that we would have to choose our moment another time.



History has proved what constitutes a good war, but for the educated this is always a question to far, a bit like a bridge really. There are no easy answers to any of these difficult, philosophical questions. Only the wise words of wisdom from a great man like Fijian Sid's great great uncle lugalangahullahallamollamola(Bert to his family & close friends)," a man with short legs will leave behind a great cloud that will travel great distance and reach many parts"?

With strong words like that it shows why we are the best in our field, mind you the crops next door ain't doing to bad this year either.....

Branch News



USA Branch

Well this is another month and I am all behind like the cat's tail so you will have to accept my apologies for that. What I have done is to send the Green Machine newsletters from March and April for your gratification and hope to be back on course for producing the "Chosen Men" in May. I know you are all gagging for the rest of the Great War slang and the other odd snippets that I stumble across.

We have had some new members join us and they are:

Johnny Davies McMullen, Francis McCarthy, John Player and George Nicholson, Terry Hay.

Although the latter two are in Canada, they want to keep an affiliation with the USA. Which brings me on nicely to another subject. The Canada branch, like ourselves, is small in numbers. They have inquired as to whether our membership and their membership should merge to form an RGJA North America branch. Democracy being what it is, it makes sense to put it to the vote as to whether we do or don't. All votes will be in the strictest confidence, naturally. The details of the vote are detailed below and I would be grateful if you would take time out to e-mail me your decision. And if you have changed your e-mail let me know.

By now you should all have seen my pleas for orders for the insulated mugs! Well not pleas but these are a nice little piece of kit that are going down well at work and the sam-

ple that I have here is attracting a lot of attention from the people at work. I don't have the final prices yet but suspect about 4 dollars a mug if I am to break even. Keeps drink warm for ages and looks good even if I say so myself. Here is a picture of it again:



And at no cost to your good selves I have included a regimental diary.

Jon Tate Branch Chairman



The Green Machine



Branch News



Australasian Branch

What a month April was! The membership list continues to grow at a rapid rate. Prior to Anzac day we were joined by:

Jim Morris, 23887140 Ex 1RGJ 1961-67

Peter Carter, 24099191 1RGJ 1966-69

Graham Flemming 22802910 KRRC 1954-1957

Bernie Carr 24064477 2RGJ 1965- 1969

Jim Devaney 24718445 4 & 3RGJ 1985-1995

Mick Merridan 22996416 KRRC 1953-1957

And

Tom Cutbush 24338741 2RGJ 1974-1978

This takes the Branch membership to 45 with a couple more presently thinking about it.

The month of April saw a hive of activity with collections being made to finance the trip to bring Scotty and Carol Scott over from Adelaide for the Anzac Day parade in Perth, signing up new members, organising flights, hotels and lunch for the Branch members.

The donations received by the branch for Scotty have not all been finalised yet, as some of the cheques are still waiting to clear. I would like to thank everyone who has donated, some have done so anonymously and some people have sent me emails letting me know that they had made a donation.

The Rifleman's Aid Society and all at RHQ especially Lt Colonel Peter Chamberlain, Sid Bunn, Steve Kinrade and Mrs Wroot deserve a special mention as does Peter Clarke in Adelaide for his help. Without these people and the donations by the

Rifleman's Aid Society we would not have been able to bring Scotty over for the parade. I am sure that Scotty and Carol and everyone who met Scotty and Carol are very glad he was able to come over.

Mike and Wendy Shannon, Merv Sprague, Scotty and Carol Scott, and Joe (Nobby) Clarke made the trip across from the eastern states of Australia to join the Perth members for the march. Unfortunately Peter Clarke was unable to make it at the last moment. By the time they had arrived the Branch had grown with the above listed members.

The night before the parade we all met up at the Duxton Hotel in Perth where many of us met for the first time. Nobby Clarke and Peter Carter met up again after many years apart, they both served in the same platoon. Many new friendships were found and a few war stories swapped and probably embellished a bit!

Scotty and Carol Scott were picked up from Perth airport in Trevor Jones's Rolls Royce and taken to the Duxton, which is a dingy little 1 star hotel in the back streets of Perth, apparently Carol was a bit stunned by the 5 star treatment and the family spirit displayed between all the members and their wives. Welcome to the Green Jackets Carol!

Everyone got on well together and had what I assume will be a memorable time together.

The following day saw us all in Perth again bright and early for the march, which was supposed to step off at 0930hrs, we eventually stepped off at 1045hrs, typical hurry up and wait!

However by all accounts this did not dampen the Green Jacket spirit one little bit. Once the parade marshals got their act together the chests

were pumped out, and with chin's upper most we stepped off with Scotty riding in a wheel chair pumped up with steroids and pain-killers.

Considering the fact that we had so many bands around us (all with a different beat!) we managed to stay in step at least most of the way albeit at a remarkably slow pace. All of us, including Scotty wanted to give it the old 140 paces a minute, however we had a bunch of old guardsmen in front of us which meant we had to adjust to what could only be described as funeral procession pace.

The crowd, estimated to be around 8000 people cheered us all on, with a few yelled comments from the crowd, along the lines of "Look, there's Green Jackets!" the TV coverage gave us about 5 seconds of "air time" mentioning the Green Jackets Association. The weather was brilliant sunshine and comfortably warm, with the majority of the Branch members looking resplendent in their Rifle Green Blazers and Berets.

After the parade, the members and their wives had lunch and a few drinks together. Which took us into the middle of the afternoon we then adjourned to my place to finish off the day. The following day Geoff and Yvonne Tarbin took Scotty and Carol for a trip around Perth, having lunch at Fremantle prior to taking Scotty and Carol off at the airport for the trip back to Adelaide.

Scotty sent me an email on his return home, expressing his and Carol's thanks, and how he and Carol thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Scotty now prepares for radiation treatment and more Chemo treatment. We are with you Scotty, good luck with the treatment.

A special mention should go to Carol, what a woman. Scotty chose



The Green Machine



Branch News

well when he married her.

Everyone remarked upon Carol's strength and dignity at this stress full time. Hopefully Scotty will now go into Hospital with the knowledge that he has many Green Jacket friends and a very good woman right there with him. Good luck mate.

We now go onto equip our new members with Blazers, Berets association ties etc for next year. There are a few occasions coming up for the branch such as November 11th remembrance parade, Christmas and a few Branch BBQ's and get togethers.

Numerous people, who now want the Blazers, ties, berets, blazer badges etc, have approached me. I shall do my best to get all this stuff organised, however if anyone can help out please contact me. People are already talking about next year's parade and they want to have all the gear next year.

With the Branch now getting much bigger, I am going to need some help, I have tried to take on a lot over the 18 months, so don't be surprised if I start delegating a bit.

Gordon and I will work at getting a video edited out of all the various videos taken on the day together with the TV coverage and placed

onto one tape and get it sent out to you all. What you all want now I guess, are the photos from Anzac day, so without further delay here are some of them.

Chris McDonald
Branch Chairman

Editors Note.

There a number of photographs to accompany this report. However they are to be used in a 'Special' article for the June edition of the 'Green Machine'. They will be included here then.

Branch News



The Internet Branch

There is little doubt that April will remain in the minds of all members of the Web Site Team as the month when everything that could have gone wrong did. I do not intend to go into too much detail because I know that the more spectacular events will be covered in some depth in the editorial sections of both the GM on line and the PDF download version of the Green Machine but to very quickly bemoan these events from my point of view.....

The first time we noticed that things were not all they should be was when Keith Stevens in his endeavours to expand and improve the GM found that certain features which should have been available were not and upon investigation we were told the a change of Server was called for.

This was supposed to take 24 hours to do but ended with the site being

down for 72 hours and when it did come back on there was an awful lot not right about the way it was running (and there still isn't) but we are working our way through the problems and looking at a full return to normal any day now.

Having said that I do apologise for the inconvenience caused to all of you. The items that were supposed to work better did not work at all and Keith ended up completely rebuilding the GM on line from start to finish.

Whilst all this was going on Kevin was trying organise a large mail shot for something called the 'Cog' and I have been trying very hard to perfect an on line application form for joining the Internet branch plus doing a few other little chores like trips to Winchester, a complete re-format and rebuild of my main PC.

The publication of the KRRC Annual Chronicle caused our membership within the branch to soar and John Gard, the Membership Secretary, has been burning the midnight oil keeping up with the applications. He

has not been helped by this month being the end of the financial year for his company. He has just about caught up and tells me that we are now well in excess of 200 members.

The hit rate on the main site and Green Machine continues to grow and our average homepage hits are now at 500 . There are still a lot of people who have not bothered to sign on to MSN for mail account. Some of those who have done it are now enjoying better communications with old friends than they did before so why no make the effort and give it a try. You can keep your existing account but still enjoy all the benefits of the MSN system as well.

Please note the new events section on the main menu of the site. It will give you all the information you need about Reunions and other information.

Best wishes to all
Ken Ambrose
Internet Branch Chairman



The Green Machine



The Virus Page by Robin Atter



Letter Fraud"

Not a virus to start with this month, but a warning about the so-called "Nigerian Letter Fraud". I've received a number of these letters over the last few months, very few actually coming from Nigeria - Mostly Togo and the Ivory Coast. The wording in each case is virtually identical, requesting the use of my bank account to receive millions of dollars of funds being transferred secretly out of the country of origin. I've been promised a large slice of these funds in reward, and all I have to do is pay out for certain licenses, taxes and other (non-existent) fees. Most of the letters I've received have come from differing names and sources, but give the game away by their virtually identical wording. Someone kindly put out a warning on the Guest Book some months back about this same problem, and I think most of us are fully aware of the fiddle - however, Americans seem to be falling for it, and figures averaging \$5000 have been obtained from each victim!

Macro Viruses.

Microsoft Word has a programming

language built into it, which allows you to write or record quite extensive procedures which operate at the press of a couple of keys. For example, if I press Control+a on my computer while using Word to write a letter, my full address and the current date appear automatically at the top of the page. Unfortunately, it never occurred to Microsoft that people might misuse this facility, and it has been employed thousands of times to write viruses that come attached to word files and which transfer to your machine as soon as you open the document concerned. One of the most common some years ago was CAP, which originated in Venezuela. You could easily check if your machine had been infected because a simple click on "Tools" at the top of the screen revealed a drop-down menu with the word "Macros" missing. Most of these Macro Viruses lurk in the normal.dot template on your computer. Use the find facility to locate normal.dot, and then erase it completely. Word automatically writes a new version, and any unwanted coding is removed. You must then reorganise MSWord to your own favourite settings (as these are also stored in the same file.) You will also need to virus-

check any documents produced since you think the machine became infected, because they will also carry the virus.

Around this month.

Gibe

I warned you about this last month and it is still doing the rounds. It is an email with an attachment that it pretends is a Microsoft "Internet Security Update", and which you must not run. What makes it more plausible is that Microsoft have actually issued an "Internet Security Update" on their own website. This is the only safe place to download this patch.

W32/MyLife.B

This also arrives as an email with the subject "bill caricature" and includes an attached file called CARI.SCR. The message tries to convince you that it contains a funny caricature of the former US president. When the file is run, it deletes all files on drives labelled C; D; E and F

Remember, as always: If in doubt, delete it out!

Robin

The Last Post

Well then, so that is April out of the way. I think enough has been said about it.

On a more positive note the new feature Keith wanted to introduce has now been inserted within the Green Machine - on line. It is called the Green Forum and is a place where you can air your views on any subject which you have an opinion on. It is, however, moderated and any comments which are likely to bring the Regiment or Association into disrepute will be edited

out.

The current topics under discussion as I go to print are the Regimental Xmas Card and whether we want a battle scene on our cards or not and secondly "Miss RGJ", is she offensive or not?

My own opinion, for what it is worth, is that I would much rather see a peaceful scene on my Xmas card rather than a battle scene. As for "Miss RGJ", again it is my own opinion that it is no worse indeed a lot better than you find in the tabloid

newspapers nowadays. However we are looking at ways to resolve this particular thorny issue.

May hopefully will be quiet but I have said that about each month so far and look what has happened - I am not holding my breath this time !!

Until next month

Kevin

Website Team