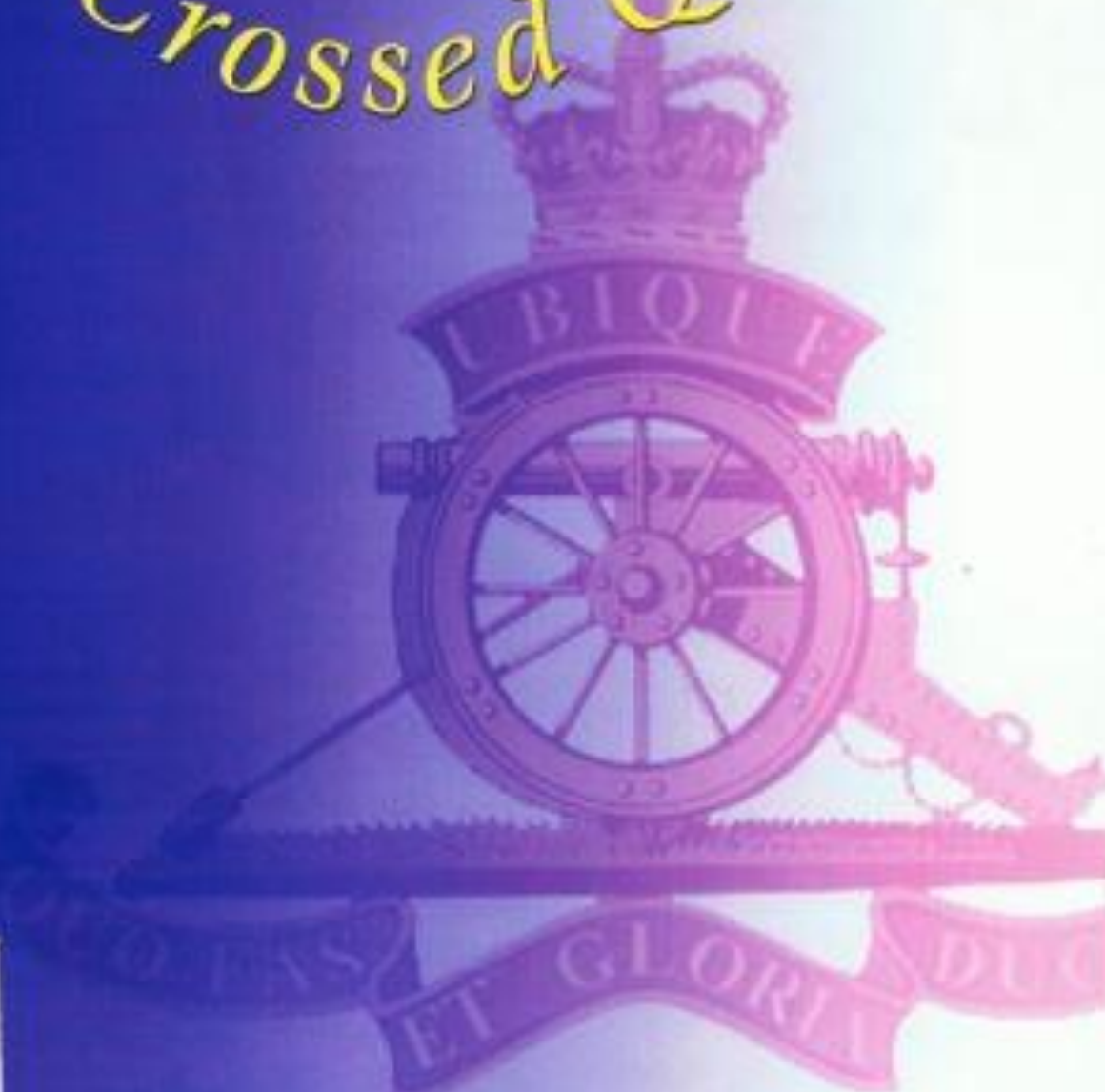


The Artillery Clerks' Association
Crossed Quills



Issue 5
August 2001



President's Foreword by Maj Gen Mike Shellard CBE

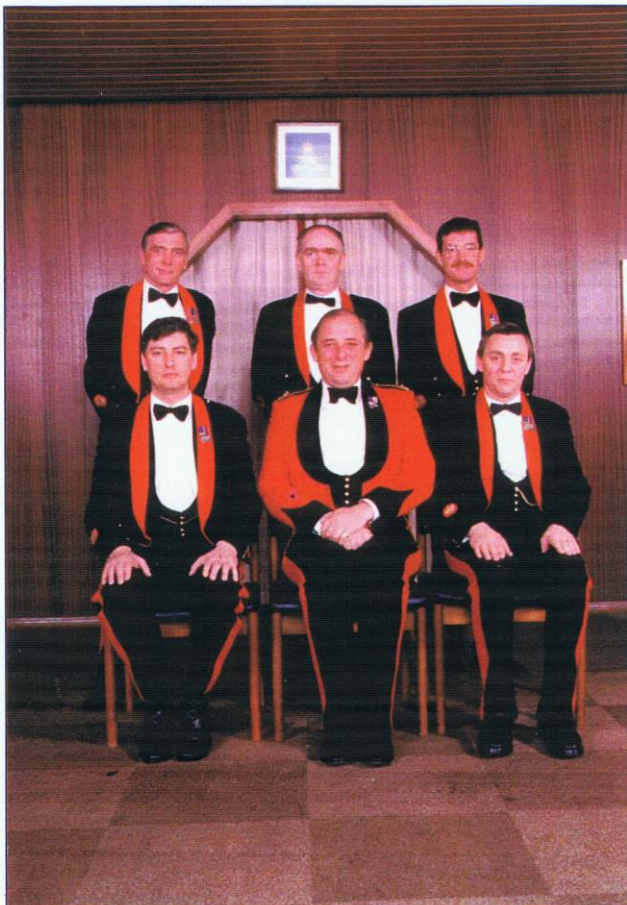
WELCOME to another edition of the Newsletter, and the chance to catch up on the activities of the Association.

A lot has been going on, and I am delighted to hear from your Chairman that our membership numbers continue to rise. This is a sure sign of a successful club, and I am sure we will go on growing in the years to come.

This year's annual dinner was another splendid occasion, with a good turn-out, an excellent meal and an entertaining speech by our Guest of Honour, Major General Freddie Viggers. This year we are looking forward to another equally enjoyable evening, and I hope as many of you as possible will attend.

In the meantime, my very best wishes to you all, and see you in April 2002.

Mike Shellard



Anyone recognise any of these SMACS pictured with the MGRA BAOR Maj Gen David Quayle back in 1988/89?

Chairman's Notes by Lt Col Joe Falzon

WELL, here it is - the fifth edition - within these few pages we have set out to produce something for everyone and to make this edition even better than the previous two. You are the judges of whether that challenge has been met - I personally think that Andy Tibble, who did most of the 'grind', has done a fantastic job.

As many of you will know, Mark Testi, who had been Secretary for over two years, has now handed over the baton to Mel Charlton. Prior to his retirement from the active list, Mel thought it prudent that the Association should have a serving member as the Reunion Secretary. Andy Tibble has stepped into the breach, and has already laid the foundations for our 2002 Reunion Dinner to be held on Saturday 6th April next year.

I always feel that the strength of our membership comes from its diversity: a small group who have retired, others who are flourishing in their second careers, and those who are still serving. But we must not become complacent. We need to remain vibrant and forward looking, to contribute to the Association on a local and regional basis, and to go and seek out new members. Remember to keep sending in your comments about Crossed Quills and to use your magazine as the vehicle to promote your talent. The editor should be challenged not so much where to start but where to stop with your string of enthusiastic contributions.

It has been another good year....please continue to help your Committee to deliver what you need, be it newsletters, websites, parades, reunions, comradeship, mutual support or just a friendly chat over the phone.

With every best wish

Joe Falzon

Army Numbers

THE following Association members are requested to inform the Secretary Mel Charlton of their army numbers or previous service numbers:

Sparky Allen, John Baik, Pip Bailey, Martin Birch, Dennis Crawford, Jim Findley, Terry Foster, Stu Hunt, Derek Kelsey, John Lindley, Tony Meek, Bill Morland, Joe Phelps, Dennis Phillipson, Alex Ross, Vince Scott, Steve Seymour, David Stotan, Gordon Timmis, Ken Ward, Ron Waterfield, Andy West, Chris Wood, John Yeowell

Outgoing Secretary's Notes

MEL suggested that as I was the outgoing Secretary, I ought to pen a few lines in that capacity. I must therefore apologise to all those who thought they had finally heard the last of me. The disappointment you are feeling will no doubt be significant so, in the words of St Michael, I'll be brief!

Once the mantel of office is passed, one's mind tends to meander and lean towards reminiscence and contemplation. It seems a lifetime ago since Mel and I were reflecting on the disappointing turnout to the 97 Dinner. How could we turn it around and breathe new life into our failing reunions? Our decision to become an official branch of the RAA was the turning point. With official backing and status we were able once again to attract the support we used to enjoy. Piece of cake really! The work involved in setting it up was immensely rewarding and I'm glad I was in the right place at the right time. In the last year we have taken delivery of our Branch Standard, dedicated it on St Barbara's Day at Larkhill and included it

in our reunion photograph. In addition we have 161 members world wide. Sadly, we bade farewell to Wil Henry and Andrew Salmon - gone, but not forgotten.

If you are like me, the anticipation in turning up at Woolwich each year is every bit as good as the 'do'. That first glimpse of the Front Parade as you drive down Shooter's Hill was as special this year as it always was. But of course it is the meeting up with old buddies which is really why we bother. So, looking the spit of John Travolta in my Teddy Boy outfit, it was a real surprise and pleasure that I bumped into an ex-Arty Clerk at our Summer Ball in July. Eric Mills and I served in 22 Air Defence together and he, his wife and son were guests of one of my SNCOs that evening. It was great to hear that Eric and family were enjoying Civvie Street up in the North East. It's high time you became a member Eric so get your application form in soonest. I also introduced myself to an In Pensioner whose name escapes me and I just had to ask if the names

McKinnel, McCarthy and Waterhouse meant anything to him - silly question really. A small world indeed.

My promise of brevity is sounding more hollow by the line, so here's my only bit of business. Many thanks to all those who promptly returned their RAA Census forms especially John Reynolds who took the trouble to phone me and fax his through from Canada. If you have forgotten to return yours, don't worry, send it into Mel as soon as you can. If you didn't receive one then let us know and one will be sent to you.

And finally, a plea. The job of Secretary is made easy only by the support of the Association's members. Please give Mel the support you have given me, it really does make all the difference. OK, so brevity is not a strength but you're rid of me now. My very best wishes to you all for the future and I look forward to seeing many of you at future reunions - next year perhaps. Ubique.

Mark Testi

The following poem was kindly sent in by Former WO1(SMAC) Arthur Rowell in time for it to be reproduced within this year's Reunion Dinner menu folder. Arthur was 81 years of age last June:

Regimental Bonding

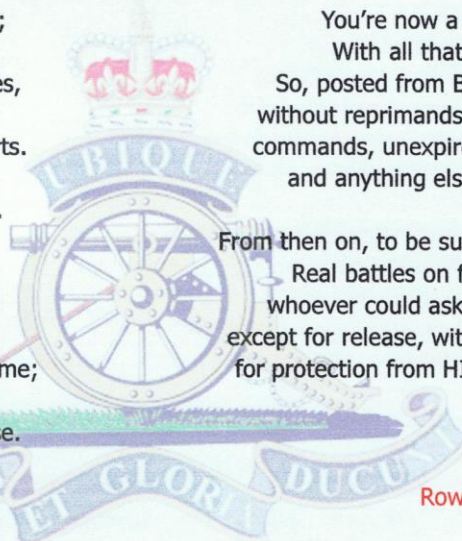
It's passing out Parade, rank on rank;
Bags of pride, bull and swank.
Swaggering along with polished brasses,
blancoed-up to our khakied arses;
but, with pride of Regiment in our hearts.

Blare of the Band, bash of the boots.
Hard rifle on shoulder
And nobody bolder, than we
With our bayonets piercing the air!

Bang of the drum, then eyes-right to come;
Totter on until halt, then stand fast.
Order your arms; and feel quite at ease.
('cos really you did it only to please
your gunnery Sergeant and Bom).

You're now a real Soldier
With all that demands.
So, posted from Barracks you go;
without reprimands but with shouted
commands, unexpired rations and kit,
and anything else to go with it.

From then on, to be sure, you are to endure
Real battles on faraway shore;
whoever could ask for much more?
except for release, with an interim request
for protection from HIM who knows best.



Rowell A H BAP 9911855

Message from Mel Charlton, the Outgoing Reunion Secretary and Incoming Secretary

AN ambition of mine was always to become the SMAC at DRA Woolwich and to Chair the Annual Reunion Dinner. On passing the SMAC board back in 1987, I was actually earmarked to join DRA, however the incumbent at the time, for family and personal reasons was granted an extension of tenure and I ended up in Verden Germany with HQRA 1 Armd Div. To coin a phrase "the rest is history". To Chair the Annual Artillery Clerks' Reunion Dinner at Woolwich was destined never to happen.

As most of you are aware, back in 1995 there was no Reunion Dinner as the last of the Artillery Clerks moved out of Woolwich leaving the Reunion bits and pieces in suspended animation. Merv Chadwick, who was a sergeant at the time, stepped in and recovered them, built up a database, and organized both the 1996 and 1997 Reunion Dinners. I actually travelled back from Hong Kong, where I was serving at the time, to attend the 1996 Reunion Dinner. At breakfast on the Friday morning, I was greeted by Merv Chadwick. During the course of our conversation, I happened to say, "who is Chairing the Dinner tomorrow night Merv?" - he replied rather hesitantly, "well actually, I'd like you to do it Mel." The Lord works in many strange ways, my ambition was fulfilled at last, despite the short notice!! During Dinner I stated that I would take over the running of the Reunion Dinners on my

return from Hong Kong in 1997, and that we should be setting our sights on the forming of an Artillery Clerks' Association. There is no doubt in my mind that we all owe a debt of gratitude to Merv Chadwick.

The following year 1998, prior to the Reunion Dinner, members assembled in the Eyre's Lounge of the RA Sgts' Mess Woolwich to be briefed on the formation of an Artillery Clerks' Association. Lt Col Joe Falzon kindly took on the role of Chairman, WO1 Mark Testi as Secretary and Capt Paul Corker as Treasurer. I assumed the position of Reunion Secretary. Shortly after, the Committee decided to apply to become a Branch of the Royal Artillery Association (RAA). We were accepted with open arms and all members of our Association became Life Members of the RAA. (On production of our Membership Card we can gain entrance to the new Firepower Museum at Woolwich for only £1.30). A couple of months later Maj Gen Mike Shellard kindly took on the role as Honorary President. Much work was done in the early days to get the Association off the ground; the brunt of which was received and skilfully handled by the founding Secretary Mark Testi and the founding Treasurer Paul Corker.

During the last three years the Artillery Clerks' Association has gone from strength to strength. We now boast a proud membership of 161, with

members scattered around the World, including 3 Chelsea Pensioners. Guests of Honour have included Maj Gen Mike Shellard in his capacity as Representative Colonel Commandant (representing the Master Gunner), Maj Gen Mike Steele (Comptroller RAA) and Maj Gen Freddie Viggers (COS HQ Land Command).

For the past 6 years Reunion Dinners have been fully supported by the 'in post' Royal Artillery Sergeant Major (RASM). I have been privileged to sit with 4 of them (each one of them extraordinary gentlemen). Our Reunion Dinner is now fully recognised as one of the RASM's official dinners, thereby saving members the cost of the 'silver service', approximately £1,000.

Reunion Dinners have brought both laughter and tears, and mostly an overwhelming warm feeling of satisfaction seeing everyone brought together as friends and comrades to share and enjoy themselves in convivial surroundings.

Our Association Standard was dedicated at the Garrison Church at Larkhill on St Barbara's Day in December. Andrew Jones serves the Association proud as our Standard Bearer. The flying of the Association Standard at Larkhill on St Barbara's Day will be an annual event to which members are encouraged to attend.

All good things come to an end. My military service ended on 17th July this

The Association Committee 2001-2002

Honorary President	Maj Gen Mike Shellard CBE
Chairman	Lt Col(Retd) Joe Falzon BEM
Secretary	Mel Charlton Esq
Treasurer	Capt Paul Corker AGC(SPS)
Reunion Secretary	WO1(SSM) Andy Tibble AGC(SPS)
Welfare Officer	Ted Morgan Esq
Standard Bearer	Andrew Jones Esq
Padre Rev	Denis Brett
Webmaster	David Stotan Esq

Regional Secretaries

North	Vince Scott Esq	North West	Colin Davidson Esq
Midlands	Steve Callaghan Esq	London and South	Steve Truslove Esq
West	WO2(SQMS) Trig Tregower	Scotland	Ted Fairbrass Esq
Wales	No Nomination	Germany	WO1 Roy Deal LSL/AGC(SPS)

year. Having 'chaired' the last 6 Reunion Dinners and organised the last 4 as Reunion Secretary, I have now handed over the responsibilities of Reunion Secretary to WO1 Andy Tibble, who is the present Staff Assistant at RMA Sandhurst. Andy organizes the RSMs' Conventions at Sandhurst, including a dinner sitting over 220 individuals and many distinguished guests like Lord Robertson, CDS, AG and many VIPs. Our Reunion Dinner will be a 'doddle' to him.

However, you haven't got rid of me altogether. I have now moved into the Secretary's post made vacant by WO1 Mark Testi. I look forward to working with you all, in particular with the Committee and our Area Secretaries who devote their own free time to your Association. It's great being part of the 'team'. I've rambled on enough. There is still a lot to do, and there are a lot of

former Artillery Clerks out there just waiting to join our Association. I expect you will be making full use of the enclosed loose leaf 'Application for Membership'.

Please continue to support our Reunion Dinners and keep in touch with the Secretary. My e-mail is artyclkassnsec@yahoo.co.uk, my address is on the Application for Membership Form and my home telephone number is 01980 620074. If you do change address, are promoted, commissioned, awarded a medal, do something out of the ordinary etc, etc, let me know, let us all know. We all care, and we all want to share!!

*May the road rise out to meet you,
may the wind be always at your back,
may the sun shine warm upon your face,
and the rains fall soft upon your fields,
and until we meet again,
may god hold you in the hollow of his hand.*

Welfare Secretary's Report

FURTHER to my report in the Minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 31st March 2001, I wish to appeal to all members to keep a lookout for any former Artillery Clerks who, in their opinion, require help and assistance of a welfare nature. Sometimes the recipients of our help do not know that they need it until we contact them! In the past we have arranged respite care, holidays on the Isle of Wight, replacement medals, provided disabled equipment and alleviated financial problems. At times only a kindly listening is required; something that Artillery Clerks' are extremely good at.

I wish to mention the Regular Forces Employment Association (RFEA). You are all fully paid up members from the time you completed three years military service, (or medically discharged), up until the age of 65 years. The RFEA provide employment advice and a quick referral service to any of the service organisations, eg SSAFA, RBL, Regimental Charities, etc. I am the Employment Consultant for Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Rutland and South Staffordshire. I would be quite happy to field any questions you may have, or put you in touch with the organisation you require. My office telephone number is 01332-371217 or at home 01332-678418.

Ted Morgan

Message from Andy Tibble, Reunion Secretary

FIRSTLY, I would like to say a big thank you to Mel Charlton, who during his time in the chair as the Reunion Secretary has done a splendid job in ensuring that the Reunion Dinners take place each year. I know that everyone within the Association has greatly appreciated all your hard work

For those of you who don't know me, I will briefly introduce myself. I was a Gunner for 14 year prior to compulsory transferring to the Adjutant General's Corps. I served with 50 Missile Regiment in Menden for 11 years, 39 Regiment in both Paderborn and Newcastle for 3 years. I then moved away from the Royal Artillery to HQ 42 (NW) Bde in Preston and to the British Embassy in Riyadh.

I am presently serving as the Staff Assistant at the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst. I am very much looking forward to carrying out the appointment of Reunion Secretary.

Next years Reunion Dinner will take place at Woolwich on Saturday 6 April 2002. It is our intention to invite the Director of Royal Artillery to be our Guest of Honour. Further details about the dinner will follow in due course.

If you require further information or have any suggestions, my email address is andy@tibble86.fsnet.co.uk or I can be contacted either at work on 01276 41 2250 or at home on 01276 21583.

I look forward to seeing you all at next years Reunion Dinner.



Jnr LBdr Joe Hoggins and Jnr Bdr Mel Charlton, Bramcote early 60s

The 'Terrible Trio' at Bramcote early 60s. Mel Charlton, Chris Chamberlain and Joe Hoggins



A handsome Jnr LBdr Joe Hoggins, Bramcote early 60s

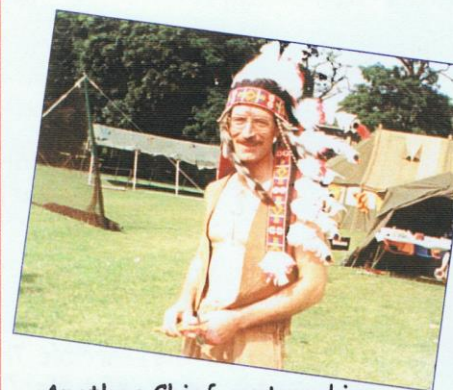
Members List as at 1st August 2001 - Total 161

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

Artillery Clerks' Association Ties

WHAT tie do you wear on a Friday? The Association tie is available from Roy Deal the Germany Secretary at a cost of £10.00 each. The ties are of a silk/polyester quality, of zig zag design depicting crossed quills and 'AC' in gold. Send your cheque made out to 'Artillery Clerks' Association' to:

WO1 Roy Deal LSL/AGC(SPS)
Station Staff Office
Krefeld
British Forces Post Office 35



Another Chief captured in Aldershot 1985

67th Artillery Clerks' Reunion and Association Dinner, Saturday 31st March 2001

IN a cooler month on a Friday night in March, several Association members joined together in the RA Sgts' Mess bar to form the advance party in Woolwich, for the Annual Artillery Clerks' Reunion. Prior to the Reunion Dinner on the Saturday night, an AGM, chaired by Lt Col Joe Falzon was held. Despite reaching the end of his military career, the President stated that he was quite happy to remain in office, which was warmly received by those in attendance. WO1 Mel Charlton who was also in the throes of finishing his military service took on the role of Secretary and handed over the post of Reunion Secretary to WO1 Andy Tibble. Following the AGM, members assembled on the Front Parade to await the arrival of the Guest of Honour Maj Gen Freddie Viggers, Hon President Maj Gen Mike Shellard and guest WO1(RASM) Chass Broadfoot. A Reunion photograph, shown on the rear cover of the magazine, was taken despite the wind and rain.

A trumpeter from the RA Orchestra sounded and the Reunion Dinner commenced chaired by the Reunion Secretary WO1 Mel Charlton. Members sat down to a most excellent meal provided by Mr Dennis Angus and Cpl Simon Griffiths. The evening was orchestrated under the very professional care of the Mess Manager, Mrs Mary Faulkner, assisted by Mrs Cindy Baker, plus all the ladies and staff. A Leader plus 7 from the RA Orchestra, under the direction of SSgt Simon Lockwood provided excellent entertainment during the meal, including a finale of the post horn gallop.

After 'ease springs' the Reunion Secretary gave a hearty welcome to attending members and thanked them for supporting the Reunion and Association Dinner. Thanks were given to those who had travelled great distances, in particular to Capt Bob Cowan from Nepal. The Reunion Secretary welcomed the Guest of Honour, Maj Gen Freddie Viggers. The senior guest WO1(RASM) Chass Broadfoot was also welcomed, along with WO1 Clive Hunt and WO2(SQMS) Paul Blythe, the RSM and Chief Clerk of our affiliated Regiment, 16 Regt RA.

The unfortunate deaths of former WO1(SMAC) William Henry, former SSgt(AC) Chad Palmer and former Sgt(AC) Andrew Salmon were reported and a toast was taken in their honour. 53 greetings and apologies were read out from the UK and as far afield as the USA, Canada, Germany, France, Cyprus, Riyadh in the Middle East and Belize in Central America, indicating the universal spread of the Association. A toast was given to absent friends.

Congratulations were expressed to Capt Martin Birch recently commissioned from WO1 AGC(SPS) into the Gunners. Congratulations also went to those recently selected for promotion, Andy Sykes to WO1, Ian Constantine, Geordie Himlin and Nick Perkovic to WO2 and Stu Hunt, Rich Nicol and Mark Spring to SSgt.

During Dinner, WO1(RASM) Chass Broadfoot was presented. He gave a most informative "State of the Union" report. The RASM is once again thanked for making our

Reunion one of his own official functions, thereby providing a most substantial saving to those in attendance.

The Guest of Honour Maj Gen Freddie Viggers was presented in the form of a resume of his career. He gave a delightful response, which was warmly received by all those in attendance.

A special mention was made of the hard work that Dave Stotan had done in producing our very own website. Appreciation was shown by attendees.

Mention was also made of the Association Standard, which was dedicated during the St Barbara's Day service at the Garrison Church Larkhill. It was a beautiful service and a proud moment for the members of the Association who were present.

In closing, the Reunion Secretary stated that the Association was going from strength to strength with 160 members, that we were universally spread throughout the world, and that no other Branch of the RAA could boast such a diverse membership. It was further mentioned that due to the diversity of membership, the Reunion Dinner was the only opportunity that members had together to enjoy each other's company. Unlike other branches of the RAA, members were unable to get together on regular occasions and for that reason Reunion Dinners must never cease and requested continued support for them.

The 67th Reunion and Association Dinner continued into the early hours of Sunday morning, in the Ayre's Lounge. Perhaps a gallant mention should be made of the several individuals who never made it to bed, which included at least two RAOs, whose names just slip the memory.

After note which did not appear in the GUNNER magazine. At 0825 hrs on Sunday morning, Paul Corker, Bob Cowan, Daz Ward and Ian Grant were seen leaving the bar!!!

The Association Website

Have you visited the Artillery Clerks'
Association web-site yet??

Take a look at

www.artyclerk.fsnet.co.uk

The site is maintained by our own
Webmaster David Stotan.

WANTED

(For Association Membership)

John Adams
 Peter Allwright
 Ron Anson
 Bob Barber
 Ron Baynes
 Campbell Borthwick
 Adrian Boxall
 Dave Brookes
 Dave Askham
 Gary Barker
 Dave Boswell
 Alan Broomhead
 Ron Allen
 Jimmy Anderson
 Robbie Astick
 Derek Baldry
 Baz Barry
 Benny Bennett
 James Bond
 Ron Bristo
 David Brown
 Dave Burfitt
 Tom Carmichael
 Mick Carter
 Chris Chamberlain
 Dick Cliffe
 Andy Collins
 Alan Cosgrove
 Tom Browne
 Stuart Carnegie
 Les Carton
 Bill Charlsworth
 M Collinge
 Paul Buxton
 Jeff Carter
 Merv Chadwick
 Ron Cooper
 S Cornwell
 Keith Creswell
 Pat DeMaria
 Pete Deverall
 Mick Dunn
 SJA Evans
 Harold Deacon
 P Drury
 Mel Durrant
 Roger Escott
 Karl Ezard
 Fred Cullingford
 Derek Dalrymple
 John De Maria
 Jim Diamond
 Derek Donovan
 Dave Dunn

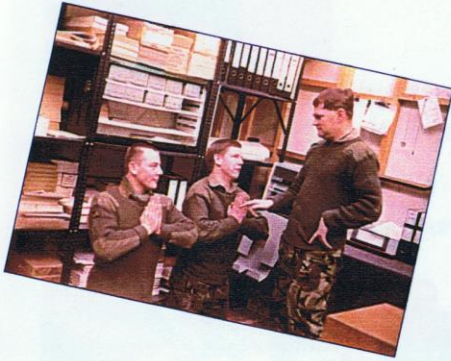
Steve Edgeley
 Paul Evans
 Paul Fairbank
 Vic Ferguson
 Dick Finch
 Derek Gauci
 Chris Gluning
 Paul Green
 TH Fairweather
 PE Field
 John Haddow
 CJ Hamley
 Clif Fields
 Dave Fisher
 Keith Garbett
 John Gray
 Bob Hagen
 Brian Harrington
 Ted Harvey
 Dennis Hinton
 Andy Holder
 John Hopkins
 Steve Hoyle
 Derek Hughes
 Tab Hunter
 Adrian Harrison
 Mick Hopkins
 Pete Hubbard
 Idris Hughes
 Pete Hutchinson
 Terry Hart
 Adrian Hawker
 Eric Hubbard
 Tony Hunt
 Steve Jones
 Bob Kindness
 Jack Knott
 John Lane
 Brian Hyland
 Steve Jukes
 Trevor Kemish
 Alan King
 Dave Langstaff
 G Jacobs
 Alan Jeffery
 Chris Jones
 Ted Jones
 Kev Keast
 Dick Kimble
 Dave Larcombe
 Steve Lee
 Mick Lynch
 Ron Marsh
 George McLaughlan

Maurice Metcalfe
 Mark Lindsay-Smith
 Derick Lund
 Alistair McKenzie
 Tony Martin
 Ken May
 Eric Mills
 Harry Lomax
 George Martin
 C McCusker
 Steve McKenna
 Ron Melvin
 Ken Moore
 Bill Olgvie
 Ken Peacock
 Duncan Pettitt
 Nick Powell
 Pete Murphy
 Gil O'Mallo
 John Osman
 Dave Parkinson
 Peter Petts
 Clem Pooke
 John Pratt
 Tony Mott
 John Nicholas
 Andy O'Neill
 Pete Oxley
 Bill Pattison
 Paul Perry
 Peter Petts
 Mick Price
 Gaz Prottey
 Howard Richardson
 Dave Robertson
 Dick Scatcherd
 Alan Seal
 Syd Simpson
 R Robinson
 Fred Pulfer
 Mick Regan
 Ron Reid
 Graham Roberts
 Tom Rooney
 Jim Rostron
 Mick Scaife
 Dave Scott
 Martin Smith
 Colin Stephenson
 TD Stokes
 Paul Stratton
 Bernie Swift
 Frank Thorne
 Dave Townley

Jock Stewart
 Dave Stoneham
 Tom Taylor
 Charlie Thompson
 Jimmy Treanor
 Kev Smyth
 Alex Stelfox
 Joe Stockhill
 Roy Swan
 Bill Tasker
 Graham Telford
 Bob Thompson
 Dave Tyler
 Peter Vincent
 Bob Walkingshaw
 Nigel Waring
 Chalky White
 Willy Williams
 Harry Waldon
 LS Warren
 Kev Watkins
 Fred Westwell
 Mick Williams
 Chris Williams
 John Wilson
 John Turner
 RVM Walker
 Charlie Welsh
 Geoff Whitby
 TC Williams
 Tony Wilson
 Malcolm Wynn

194 potential new members





Bill Morland questioning why Steve Jones and Jimmy Treanor haven't joined the Association yet! 22 LT AD Regt Londonderry N Ireland 1971



Dedication of the Association Standard at the Garrison Church Larkhill with the DRA Brig Jonathan Bailey, December 2000

Lessons we can learn from geese

- Fact No 1:** As each bird flaps its wings it creates uplift for the bird following. By flying in a V formation, the whole flock adds 71% greater range than if one bird flew alone.
- Lesson No 1:** People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are travelling on the strength of one another.
- Fact No 2:** When a goose falls out of formation it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front.
- Lesson No 2:** If we have as much sense as geese we will stay in formation with those who are ahead of us and be willing to accept their help as well as give ours to others.
- Fact No 3:** When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies at the point position.
- Lesson No 3:** It pays to take turns in doing the hard tasks and sharing leadership.
- Fact No 4:** The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those in front to keep up their speed.
- Lesson No 4:** We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging and not something else.
- Fact No 5:** When a goose gets sick, wounded, or shot down, two geese drop out of the formation and follow it down to help and protect it. They stay with it until it is able to fly again or until it dies. They then launch out on their own with another formation or they catch up with their own flock.
- Lesson No 5:** If we have as much sense as geese, we too will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.



Recognise anyone and where are they now? What a mob! Reunion Dinner Woolwich early 1990s

Minutes of the Artillery Clerks' Association Annual General Meeting held at Woolwich, London on Saturday 31st March 2001

1. **Opening Remarks by Chairman.** The Chairman Lt Col Joe Falzon BEM RA opened the AGM at 1800 hours and welcomed those attending. He encouraged those present to discuss openly any issues touching on the Association which they felt strongly about.
2. **Apologies for Absence.** The Reunion Secretary had received 53 apologies. An edited version of their messages was read out during the Dinner.
3. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sat 8 Apr 00.** The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sat 8 Apr 00 were read.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sat 8 Apr 00.** The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sat 8 Apr 00 were approved. *Proposed* by Mr Chris Berry, *Seconded* by Capt John Haddock RA
5. **Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sat 8 Apr 00.** There were no matters arising from the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on Sat 8 Apr 00.
6. **Chairman's Report**
 - a. The Chairman gave a warm welcome to everyone attending, thanking them for their support. (There were 63 in attendance). He said that it was very gratifying for the committee to see the response to our annual call to arms - the numbers attending this year were slightly higher than last year. He went on to say that this confirmed that the Association had not lost momentum.
 - b. He reminded those present that Maj Gen Freddie Viggers was guest of honour this year and felt sure that he would be made most welcome.
 - c. He announced that Maj Gen Shellard, our Honorary President had been appointed the next Regimental Comptroller effective in September this year. During the course of the evening, the Chairman encouraged people, as well as offering their congratulations, to persuade him to continue as Honorary President.
 - d. The Chairman announced that the membership stood at 160. He reiterated the need to encourage new membership. Members were asked to pass on the names of potential members to Mel Charlton.
 - e. The Standard was dedicated at a service at Larkhill as part of the St Barbara's Day Service in December. An article appeared in the February edition of Gunner Magazine. It was the Committee's intention to continue to support this event on an annual basis, parading our standard with the other RAA branches of the Wessex Region.
 - f. The Chairman announced, on a personal note that he was retiring after 37 years in the Gunners. Although last year he hinted that he may stand down this year, it would remain a privilege to continue in post if so elected.
7. **Secretary's Report**
 - a. The Secretary announced the sad news of the deaths of Wil Henry and Andrew Salmon since the last meeting.
 - b. The following members had been promoted/commissioned:

To Capt Martin Birch
To WO1 Andy Sykes
To WO2 Ian Constantine, Nick Perkovic
To SSgt Stu Hunt, Paul Mudd, Rich Nicol, Mark Spring
 - c. Ties were now on sale from Roy Deal at £10.00 each.
 - d. Most Army numbers were now recorded but there were still a few missing. The Secretary would be in touch with those concerned.

- e. Articles for the next newsletter needed to be with the Secretary by 15 May 01.
- f. Members were reminded to notify changes of address promptly to the Secretary.
- g. The Secretary announced that, as notified in the last newsletter, he would be standing down after this AGM.

8. Welfare Secretary's Report

- a. Only 2 cases reported over the last year, the sad death of Andrew Salmon on 9th October 2000 and Will Henry on 14th October. Both families have waived their confidentiality for this report. Will's wife has asked me to thank the Artillery Clerks' Association for their kind offer of help and she is comforted by the fact that she can come to us for help at any time, she asks that we extend her good wishes to all Artillery Clerks everywhere and especially those she and Will had the privilege to serve with all over the World. Andrew Salmon's eldest son contacted us about a number of things which we resolved quite quickly for him, however both the eldest and second sons wanted his medals. A compromise was reached whereby copies of the medals were made and mounted by Toad Hall Medals of Devon. The copies are so good they cannot be told from the originals, honour and family unity saved! Both sons would like to thank the Association publicly for the help and advice we gave them. The cost of the medals was born by the sons.
- b. The Welfare Secretary reiterated that the welfare side is of a completely confidential nature and that normally identities are not made known, only the general outline of the case. We rely completely on referrals from members of the Association and guarantee that contact is made within 24 hours.

- 9. **Reunion Secretary's Report.** The Reunion Secretary briefed those present on the forthcoming evening's proceedings. He mentioned the photograph, leaving the accommodation in good order on departure, and timings for breakfast.

10. Any Other Business

- a. **Re-election of Committee.** The following committee members were re-elected:

Chairman	Lt Col J F Falzon BEM RA
Proposed	John Taylor
Seconded	Colin Davidson

Treasurer	Capt P Corker AGC (SPS)
Proposed	John Taylor
	Dick Jeavons

- b. **Election of new Committee Members.** The following new committee members were elected:

Secretary	WO1 J M Charlton LSL/RA
Proposed	John Taylor
Seconded	Colin Davidson

Reunion Secretary	WO1 (SSM) A M Tibble AGC (SPS)
Proposed	WO1 (SSM) I A A Campbell AGC (SPS)
Seconded	SSgt L J Lyall AGC (SPS)

- c. **Retired Member to serve on the Committee.** Colin Davidson suggested that a retired member serve on the committee to give a 'retired' perspective and would be happy to nominate himself. As both the Chairman and newly elected Secretary were about to retire, it was not necessary.
- d. Ties. Roy Deal had taken the stock over from Des Riley and were on sale immediately after the meeting.
- e. Standard Bearer. Due to Ian Grant's posting to York, it was felt that a standard bearer from the south needed to be appointed. Andrew Jones, who stood in as bearer for the dedication service, was happy to take the appointment. He would happy to take part at events such as the RA Assembly etc.

- 11. **Date of Next Meeting.** The date of the next meeting was TBC.

After note: The next AGM will be held on Sat 6 Apr 02.

ARMY ORDER 54 OF 1903

Pay and Promotion of Clerks, Royal Artillery

EDWARD R.I.

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

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

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

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

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

By His Majesty's Command,

Sr. JOHN BRODRICK

Artillery Clerks' Association Charter

General

1. The Association, entitled the "Artillery Clerks' Association" was formed at Woolwich on Saturday 7th March 1998. This Charter is being adopted to guide its activities. The Charter may be changed at any time by the Committee to reflect the wishes of the Association members.
2. The Aim and Object of the Artillery Clerks' Association is to promote comradeship amongst its members, both serving and retired and to provide a focal point for all members of the Association. The Association is essentially an old comrades association of former Artillery Clerks, either serving or retired.
3. The Artillery Clerks' Association is affiliated to and is a Branch of the Royal Artillery Association (RAA). All members of the Royal Artillery Association will be granted life membership of the RAA on acceptance.

Eligibility

4. **Full Members.** Full membership of the Association is open to any former Artillery Clerk in the rank range from Sergeant to Warrant Officer Class 1, either serving or retired. Membership may also be granted, with the recommendation of a former Artillery Clerk, to clerks who served in the Royal Artillery in the rank range from Gunner to Bombardier, and have subsequently been promoted to Sergeant in the Adjutant General's Corps.
5. **Honorary Membership.** Honorary Membership of the Association is specially designed to cover the widows and relatives of deceased Artillery Clerks. Other special cases of honorary membership will be considered on merit by the Committee and voted upon by the Committee and voted upon by the members at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Honorary members may not vote on matters voted upon at the AGM.
6. **Authorization.** Membership of the Association may be sought by anyone under these rules. In the event of there being some doubt regarding application, the Artillery Clerks' Association Committee will arbitrate. The Association Committee has the right to refuse any application for membership, or cancel any existing membership, for example, for disciplinary reasons.

Purpose

7. The specific purpose of the Association is to provide:
 - a. A focal point for comradeship, largely through periodic reunion of:
 - (1) A formal Annual Reunion Dinner.
 - (2) An informal Dinner to be held at a frequency and location to be decided by the Committee, to include wives, girlfriends and widows.
 - (3) A very limited welfare service. This essentially means that the Artillery Clerks' Association, in promoting contacts between members, provides a network through which help can be given to any member. The focus for this activity within the Association is the Secretary.

Organisation

8. The affairs of the Artillery Clerks' Association will be overseen by the Artillery Clerks' Association Committee. The Committee will meet at intervals decided upon by the Chairman, and will comprise of:
 - a. President (Honorary).
 - b. Chairman.
 - c. Secretary. Responsibilities cover:
 - (1) Association Membership.
 - (2) Correspondence.
 - (3) Providing a focus for the Association's welfare work and links to the RAA.
 - (4) Production of a periodic newsletter.
 - (5) Coordinating the activities of the Area Representatives.
 - d. Treasurer. Responsibilities cover:
 - (1) Maintenance of a bank account entitled the "Artillery Clerks' Association".
 - (2) Accounting for all the finances of the Artillery Clerks' Association.
 - (3) Presenting a Statement of Account to the Committee (as and when required) and annually at the AGM
 - e. Regional Representatives. Responsibilities cover:
 - (1) The recruitment of new members.
 - (2) Maintaining an area membership list.
 - (3) Coordinating travel to Reunions and other Association activities.

Areas covered are:

- (1) Scotland.
- (2) Wales.
- (3) The North West consisting of Cumbria, Lancashire, Merseyside, Greater Manchester and Cheshire.
- (4) The North consisting of Northumberland, Tyne and Wear, Durham, Cleveland, Yorkshire and Humberside.
- (5) The Midlands consisting of Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, West Midlands, Leicestershire, Hereford and Worcestershire, Warwickshire and Northamptonshire.
- (6) The East consisting of Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex.
- (7) London and The South consisting of Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Greater London, Surrey and Kent.
- (8) The West consisting of Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Avon and Wiltshire.
- (9) Germany.
- (10) The Rest of the World - covered by the Secretary.

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

Fees

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

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

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

The Legend of St. Barbara The Patron Saint of Artillerymen

According to legend, Saint Barbara was the extremely beautiful daughter of a wealthy heathen named Dioscorus, who lived near Nicomedia in Asia Minor. Because of her singular beauty and fearful that she be demanded in marriage and taken away from him, he jealously shut her up in a tower to protect her from the outside world.

Shortly before embarking on a journey, he commissioned a sumptuous bathhouse to be built for her, approving the design before he departed. Barbara had heard of the teachings of Christ, and while her father was gone spent much time in contemplation. From the windows of her tower she looked out upon the surrounding countryside and marvelled at the growing things; trees, the animals and the people. She decided that all these must be part of a master plan, and that the idols of wood and stone worshipped by her parents must be condemned as false.

Gradually she came to accept the Christian faith. As her belief became firm, she directed that the builders redesign the bathhouse her father had planned, adding another window so that the three windows might symbolize the Holy Trinity. When her father returned, he was enraged at the changes and infuriated when Barbara

acknowledged that she was a Christian. He dragged her before the prefect of the province, who decreed that she be tortured and put to death by beheading. Dioscorus himself carried out the death sentence. On his way home he was struck by lightning and his body consumed.

Saint Barbara lived and died about the year 300 A.D. She was venerated as early as the seventh century. The legend of the lightning bolt which struck down her persecutor caused her to be regarded as the patron saint in time of danger from thunderstorms, fires and sudden death.

When gunpowder made its appearance in the Western world, Saint Barbara was invoked for aid against accidents resulting from explosions - since some of the earlier artillery pieces often blew up instead of firing their projectile, Saint Barbara became the patroness of the artillerymen.

Saint Barbara is usually represented standing by a tower with three windows, carrying the palm of a martyr in her hand. Often, too, she holds a chalice and a sacramental wafer and sometimes cannon are displayed near her.

In the UK, the feast of Saint Barbara is celebrated on December 5th

and is traditionally recognised by many branches holding a Church Parade on the closest Sunday to the 5th, some Regiments and Association branches hold a formal dinner.

In Memory of our departed Brother Artillery Clerks

William HENRY
Former WO1(SMAC)
Died 14th October 2000
Aged 81 years

Andrew SALMON
Former Sgt(AC)
Died 9th October 2000
Aged 81 years

Ian 'Chad' PALMER
Former SSgt(AC)
Died 16th September 2000
Aged 56 years

**Rest in Peace Brother
Artillery Clerks**



4th Row - Sgt S A Snowden, WO2(SQMS) I M Grant, Mr D Norris, Mr J Taylor, WO2(SQMS) R J Holmes, Mr C J Berry, Mr S T Truslove, Mr W M Wallace, Mr G O Hyatt, WO2(SQMS) A G Moss, Ssgt P J Mudd, WO2(SQMS) A Wlts, WO2(SQMS) I F Constantine, Mr A F Ross

3rd Row - Sgt R J Nichol, Mr W M Young, Ssgt M A Spring, Mr D G Stotan, WO2(SQMS) D J Ralphs, Sgt D A Ward, Mr E J Hall, Mr A C Davidson, Mr R H Lewis MSM, Mr D C Manchester, Mr G A Lowthian, Mr G Brown, Mr B Morgan, Mr M Hester

2nd Row - Mr J L W Yeowell, Mr J R Lewney, Mr W D Johnson, WO2(SQMS) P F Blythe, Sgt J T Allen, WO1 R H Deal, Mr J Lindley, Ssgt L J Lyall, WO1(SSM) I A A Campbell, Mr T E Webb, WO1 J M Hutchinson, Ssgt B D Bassett, WO1(SSM) A M Tibble, IP G R B McKinnell, Mr H J Cusell, BEM

Front Row - Mr A J Jones (Standard Bearer), Capt J W S Haddock RA, Maj(Retd) D Crawford BEM, Capt R N O Cowan AGC(SPS), Maj (Retd) R Ancilffe BEM, Maj R H Horner MBE RA, WO1(RASM) C Broadfoot, WO1(SSM) R M Teast (Secretary), Maj Gen F R Viggers MBE (Guest of Honour), Lt Col J F Falzon BEM RA (Chairman), Maj Gen (Retd) M F L Sheppard CBE (Honorary President), Capt P Corker AGC(SPS) (Treasurer), Mr R A Jeavons, WO1 J M Charlton (Reunion Secretary), Maj (Retd) P J Verdon, Capt M J Birch RA, Maj (Retd) D J Cusell, Capt P A Headford BEM AGC(SPS)

