

# Queen`s Regt News

JUNE 2008 ISSUE 2

Queen's Regiment 1966 - 1992

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# **Update from the Webmaster**

By Mike Collins

What can I say! June has been really busy on the site the work done by Dave Hammond & Paul Dormer at the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn reunion has meant that members have been flooding in from the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn and still are as word spreads. There has been some changes to the site most notable the change of name. The name thequeensregiment.co.uk is now secured for the next 5 years and the site has moved onto a new host which we pay for so all those annoying ads have now gone. They are still on the message board and guest book but that should be sorted by July.

There is still a link to the new site at the old one to guide members there. This will stay in place for a few more months.

The member's details page is now up and secured behind a password, so over the next few weeks I will start to upload the information, members can contact me for their password to gain entry.

Please see *Update on* page 2

MORE THAN SOLDIERS, IT'S ALL THE FAMILY

# 1 Queen's Reunion on 31/05/08

By Paul (Joe) Dormer

The annual reunion has now been going for some years now, and all started when I was at the Queens Reunion at the victory services club, London with Mick Saunders.

Whilst at the event we asked the organisers if it was possible to bring along our wife's who in their own right had completed a full career in the British Army, this was denied and the organisers wished it to remain a purely bloke only do.

We therefore thought it would be a good idea to get the old battalion back together once a year at Herne Bay in Kent. A battalion is more than just soldiers, it's all the family, my kids grew up with other member's kids and they also enjoy meeting up yearly.

### Op Banner Event Sept 2008

By Mike Collins

2,000 tickets are now available for people to attend an official service to honour members of the UK Forces and civil servants who lost their lives or were injured in Northern Ireland.

The service is being held on Wednesday 10 September 2008 at St Paul's Cathedral, London. It will also pay tribute to over 300,000 personnel who served in the Province on Operation Banner, the official title for military operations in Northern Ireland, between 1969 and 2007.

**Veterans Minister Derek Twigg said:** 

"The Armed Forces made an enormous contribution towards the peace and stability that now exists in Northern Ireland. Operation Banner lasted for 38 years, with several generations of servicemen and women taking part in often extremely challenging circumstances.

"We should never forget the loss of so many Service personnel and the thousands who were wounded over that period. The service at St. Paul's will be an opportunity for us all to pay tribute and say thank you for their considerable efforts."

Over the course of Operation Banner, 763 servicemen and women were killed as a direct result of terrorism. This includes 651 Army and Royal Marine personnel; one Royal Naval Serviceman; 50 members of the former Ulster Defence Regiment and later Royal Irish Regiment; ten members of the Territorial Army and 51 military personnel murdered outside Northern Ireland. 6,116 members of the Army and Royal Marines were wounded over the period.

Andrew Bennett, now Chair of the Northern Ireland Veterans Association, was a member of the Royal Corps of Signals. He served in Northern Ireland between 1986

Please see *Op Banner Event* on page 4

#### Update from page 1

Due to request there is now a wife's page and after reading Paul's piece on the reunion it was a good move so spread the word to your better half's.

And finally the roll of honour page is complete with all those who fell whilst in service. I have now started to add those who have gone after service, so if you have any names please forward to me. They will also appear on the Battalions list with RIP if it is requested.

PLEASE KEEP SPREADING THE WORD WELL DONE ALL.

Once we Know how many of us are going we plan to meet up afterwards to raise a glass to our lads that gave all

#### **Joke**

#### Sent in by john collier

An Irish woman of advanced age visited her physician to ask his advice in reviving her husband's libido.

'What about trying Viagra?' asked the doctor.

'Not a chance', she said. 'He won't even take an aspirin.'

'Not a problem,' replied the doctor. 'Give him an 'Irish Viagra'. It's when you drop the Viagra tablet into his coffee. He won't even taste it. Give it a try and call me in a week to let me know how things went.'

It wasn't a week later when she called the doctor, who directly inquired as to her progress. The poor dear exclaimed, 'Oh, faith, bejaysus and begorrah! T'was horrid! Just terrible, doctor!'

'Really? What happened?' asked the doctor.

'Well, I did as you advised and slipped it in his coffee and the effect was almost immediate. He jumped straight up, with a twinkle in his eye and with his pants a-bulging fiercely! With one swoop of his arm, he sent me cups and tablecloth flying, ripped me clothes to tatters and took me then and there passionately on the tabletop! It was a nightmare, I tell you, an absolute nightmare!'

'Why so terrible?' asked the doctor, 'Do you mean the sex your husband provided wasn't good?'

'Feckin jaysus, 'twas the best sex I've had in 25 years!

But sure as I'm

sittin here, I'll never be able to show me face in Starbucks again!'

#### 1 Queen 's reunion from page 1

Our first two Reunion's were at Jimmy Jhuels pub, but the reunion got bigger and bigger and now has a permanent place at the Royal British Legion, Herne Bay, Kent. I try to get the event always on a Saturday and I get the date out at least 6 months in advance.

The reunion is open to all members of the First Battalion and there wife's girlfriends and children. There is always entertainment laid on. There is no cost to members apart from your beer money.

This year I actually was sober enough to get a photo taken early on, there were 156 members at the do, which is a great turnout. They had travelled from all over even as far as Australia. Duncan Smith thought all the problems that the NHS could throw at him, and still made the Reunion. Also a big thank you to the Officers that turned out in force this year.

It truly amazes me that the battalion turns out in force year after year and the word continues to spread, now that Mike Collins is running this truly awesome sight I believe that it will just get easier and easier to keep in touch.

See you all next year

Photo`s on the Regimental site 1<sup>st</sup> Bn page

#### Op Banner Event from page 2

and 1990 as an Electronic Counter Measures Operator with a Bomb Disposal Team, and with a Brigade Signal Squadron. He said:

"Operation Banner is the longest campaign in British military history, and those who served, and in some cases lost their lives over the years, deserve this national recognition. As a Northern Ireland veteran I am proud to have the opportunity to attend this service alongside former colleagues and families."

Tickets for the commemorative service are available for Armed Forces veterans of Operation Banner, including MOD civilians and the families and friends of those who lost their lives.

An application form can be downloaded from www.veterans-uk.info or by calling the free ticket line on 0800 169 2277. Each application will receive two tickets.

## The Story So Far

By Mike Collins

Members to date

- 1st Bn 74
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn 29
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn 80
- 4<sup>th</sup> Bn 14
- 5<sup>th</sup> Bn 5
- 6/7<sup>th</sup> Bn 10
- Wife's 0

This gives us to date around 200 members taking into account those who served in more than 1 battalion.

Photo's to date

- 1st Bn 125
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn 61
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn 71
- 4<sup>th</sup> Bn 4
- 5<sup>th</sup> Bn 3
- 6/7<sup>th</sup> Bn 4
- Barracks and camps 0
- Wife's 0

Can I ask again please if you have any photo's you can put on the site send them to me. If you do not have a scanner let me know and I will pay for post and scan them then return them back the next day.

# THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT 1966-1992

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