



The Band of 3PWRR led all the Homecoming Parades

The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment

Known as "The Tigers"

Your Infantry Regiment for Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Sussex, Surrey, Kent, Middlesex and The Channel Islands



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TIGERS RETURN FROM OPERATIONS IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN TO HOMECOMING PARADES

After months of deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan the Battalions are now in their home bases. The 1st Battalion was one of the last units out of Iraq but also deployed men to Afghanistan. The 2nd Battalion continued to rotate company size groups through Afghanistan on continuous deployment as the Theatre Reserve Battalion. They are now back in Cyprus. They are preparing for Ceremonial Duties in London 2010. The really good news is that the Regiment is fully recruited. We are your County Regiment and for further information go to www.army.mod.uk/pwrr or contact Regimental Headquarters on rhq@123pwrr.co.uk



The Editor

1st Battalion

Armoured Warrior Battalion based in Paderborn, Germany - Returned from Iraq & Afghanistan



The 20 Armoured Brigade Flag is lowered for the last time in Iraq

The last 6 months have seen the 1st Battalion come back together after having been spread to the four winds during deployments in Afghanistan and Iraq.

B Coy Group returned from a 7 month tour of Helmand in March, having spent the latter half of the tour in Musa Qala. Contact with the enemy was frequent as B Coy fought to push the Taliban further from the town, in doing so they gained the thanks and respect of the local population who had been living under the harsh regime of the Taliban.

Recce Platoon also deployed to Afghanistan, returning at the end of April. Both groups were involved in particularly heavy fighting, and as part of a limited armoured force in theatre were in high demand. The remainder of the Bn deployed to Iraq on what was to be the last OP TELIC. A Coy made an invaluable contribution as part of the Strike BG and were involved in a number of varied tasks. Battalion HQ, Javelin Platoon and C Coy were split into smaller teams conducting MiTT (Military Transition Team) and force protection tasks. Often in groups as small as 16 men these teams embedded themselves with the Iraqi Army, assisting, training and living with the Iraqis in Basra City. Mortar



Guildford Parade



Tunbridge Wells Parade

Platoon and HQ Coy formed the Basra City QRF, an essential task supporting all troops in the city. As the hand over to the US progressed, all elements of the Bn returned to Germany, with the exception of C Coy who reformed as a complete Coy at the end of April. C Coy then conducted desert patrols to protect the mammoth logistic convoys extracting equipment to Kuwait. The Company also undertook the final UK patrol in Southern Iraq, at 0100 on the 11th May, more than 6 years after it had all started; Sgt Robson MC commanded the very last British vehicle across the boarder into Kuwait. With the Battalion together in Germany focus was on the homecoming parades. The parades gave the Battalion the privilege of marching through towns in our recruiting area, culminating with a drum head service in Canterbury. It was the first time in eight years that a parade has been conducted and the response from the local population was a humbling experience. All troops involved were overwhelmed by the support and respect shown by the public, with thousands turning out at each location to clap and cheer their local heroes. In addition the Battalion collected over £35,000 for the Army Benevolent Fund by street collections. Parades were held in Worthing, Portsmouth, Southampton, Romsey, Guildford, Lewes, Tunbridge Wells and Canterbury.

Minden Day was celebrated on the 1st August, which was the 250th anniversary of the battle and we welcomed the visit organised by RHQ of members of predecessor regiments.

Operational Awards

Awards have been announced for action up to March 2009. We have had great success with 3 x Military Cross, 4 x Mention in Despatches and 8 x Joint Commander Commendations. The Medals are predominantly for 2 PWRR but also reflects 1 PWRR involvement in Afghanistan.

The MC holders are:

W02 BL Kelly - 1 PWRR
Sgt TEG Sorensen - 2 PWRR
L/Cpl CJ Spooner - 2 PWRR

The MID holders are:

Captain AJ Burgess MC - 1 PWRR
Lt ER Hunter - 2 PWRR
Lt DS Reed - 2 PWRR
Lt MR Watt - 2 PWRR



We are Fully Manned, from the Colonel of the Regiment

"In October we will be fully manned. Everyone else will claim their stake in our success, and that's fine. But we know that the only way we dragged ourselves back to full Manning was by being utterly unreasonable. Lots of people told us two years ago that it could not be done; that the demographics, or the 'gate-keepers' or the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan would prevent the Tigers from meeting the target I set for the Regiment, we have committed time, energy and money. Everyone has been in the front line of this massive effort. Our surge pre-dates the economic down-turn; this has been a success story in the making for many months. I congratulate you all."

2nd Battalion

A Light Role Infantry Battalion
based in Alexander Barracks,
Dhekelia, Cyprus returned from Afghanistan

DEPLOYED IN AFGHANISTAN ...but now back in Cyprus



The Company Base

The last 3 months since the previous edition of the TIT has continued to see a significant Tiger's presence in Afghanistan as 2 PWRR remain the military's Theatre Reserve Battalion liable for deployment at the drop of a hat. A Company (with their share of Z Company attachments) and Battalion Headquarters returned from a busy 4 months in Battle Group (Centre South) in Helmand near a village called Nad-e-Ali. Our parting shot as A Company Group left was to expand the ISAF presence further in to Taliban territory by seizing, holding and then beginning to stabilise a small village known as Zhagun Kalay. This 4 day battle group operation was meticulously planned and involved A Company Group advancing to contact against the Taliban with an Afghan National Army company alongside. The company successfully cleared the village and, with the Commanding Officer, were sitting down at a shura with the District Governor local elders that night discussing security.



Moving Out

There followed a brief stint of calm when the entire Battalion was together back in Cyprus enjoying the pleasures of Mediterranean living for the first time in a year. This was short lived however and in June the Commanding Officer redeployed back to BG(CS) to stand in as the CO following the tragic death of Lt Col Rupert Thornloe of 1 WELSH GUARDS who the CO had only recently handed over to. Hot on the heels of the CO's deployment, B Company Group were warned to return to Helmand and within 24 hours of receiving the phone call were on the coaches to RAF AKROTIRI to embark on a 2 month deployment to MUSA QALEH to stand in for a Warrior Company whilst they took part in Operation Panther's Claw. The speed and efficiency of B Company Group's deployment impressed everyone and proved what a versatile, flexible and professional soldier the Tiger is. It goes without saying that during their tour they acquitted themselves admirably.



Ready for a dusty patrol

Meanwhile back in Cyprus, C Company has borne the brunt of Cyprus duties and continued to maintain their readiness to deploy should the need arise, whilst D Company have held the Battalion together and enabled the deployment of B Company to take place in good order. The CO and B Company Group are now safely back and the Battalion has handed over the TRB mantle to 2 LANCES.



A Desert Patrol



Briefing by the Commanding Officer

Minden 250th Anniversary, Germany

The 1st Battalion hosted a visit by members of our predecessor regiments at Paderborn and Minden to commemorate the 250th Anniversary when Minden Roses were presented to the 1st Battalion by wives and senior officers. The following day a large parade took place in Minden, which included many bands and the building of a Bridge of Friendship over the River Weser.



The French re-enactment band - Minden



Members of the visiting comrades with Mrs Horder, the RSM's wife



Presenting Minden Roses - 1 PWRR

3rd Battalion

An Infantry Territorial Battalion

Centres in Canterbury, Dover, Rochester, Farnham, Portsmouth, Brighton, Camberley & Worthing.

Ex TIGER CLAN

3 PWRR deployed on Exercise Tiger Clan in mid August as their 2 week Annual Camp. The exercise was located at Garelochhead and the Battalion worked out of Greenfields Camp for the duration. Tiger Clan consisted of a 3 way rotation consisting of Field Firing run by WO2 Elson, Patrols Ex run by WO2 Goodhew, and Adv Trg run by WO2 Hawkins. An FTX was run by the Trg Maj over the final 4 days which incorporated all aspects of lessons learnt over the Patrols and live firing exercises.



Field Firing



The Commanding Officer of 3 PWRR receiving presentation from US Maryland National Guard who sent observers to the Summer Camp

The weather and climate was exactly what we expected from Scotland, cold wet and grey even though it was the middle of August. Qualifications were given out on certain events of the Adv trg and most of the troops made it to the peak of Ben Nevis. The patrols exercise was run with an Afghanistan back ground and tested all levels of command in as many scenarios as possible. Live firing used a culmination of GPMG, UGL and grenades with the weapons



Solo Sailing

being fired at day and night. The final Ex saw Kohima Coy deploy to a coy location and set up a patrol base. The Coy deployed recce and fighting patrols to locate the enemy. The FTX finished with Kohima Coy attacking a disused torpedo base that had been set out as an enemy compound. It was a fitting end to a hard, wet and and cold FTX.

After a hot shower and the G4 wash up, the battalion finished up with a curry supper followed by forced sleep before the long drive south. 3 PWRR had an excellent summer camp and it will be used as a good footing for training for future Ops.



River Crossing

Regimental News



350th Anniversary of the Danish Life Guards, (l to r) Maj G Fotheringham, a very tall DLG, Col S Jacobsen & Col PT Crowley



The Not Forgotten Association Capt Dan Power discusses his wound with HRH The Duchess of Gloucester



Regimental Sailing - Seaview IOW
2 PWRR in the lead (at the start)



The Liberation Parade, Guernsey, Sir Geoffery Rowland, Bailiff of Guernsey speaks to the 1 PWRR Contingent

(courtesy of the Guernsey Press)

ARMY CADET FORCE

CITY OF LONDON & NORTH EAST SECTOR ARMY CADET FORCE



On Exercise
On Penhale Training Area

It has been a busy year for PWRR army cadets from the City of London & North East Sector ACF, which includes a PWRR detachment in Bethnal Green. Since the beginning of the cadet year on Annual camp in July/August 2008, they have found themselves taking part in a range of military, adventurous training and ceremonial activities.

COLNES Commandant, Colonel Mark Bryant said:



"You cannot overestimate what these kids get out of the ACF and how it changes some of their lives. In all this, the support we get from the regiments to which we're badged is invaluable. As well as practical support, they provide inspiration and a link to proud traditions. Cadets and instructors alike are honoured to be part of it all."



Taking Aim

SUSSEX ARMY CADET FORCE



Adventure training within Sussex Army Cadet Force offers cadets and Cadet Force Adult Volunteers (CFAVs) an opportunity to try activities such as kayaking, climbing and mountain biking. Each year the County Adventure Training Officer plans and conducts training weekends in various locations around the UK.

In 2008 we ran weekends that gave the CFAVs an exciting opportunity to take part in canoeing, climbing and mountaineering and to show them how much fun adventure training can be. These weekends were very successful with groups getting a great

deal of benefit from canoeing, climbing and mountaineering. Then, for those interested, we assisted them in applying for and attending National Governing Body or to Joint Service Adventure Training (JSAT) standard courses run at our Cadet Centre for Adventurous Training (CCAT) or at JSAT locations. We have three CCATs which are located at Halton in Lancashire, Cwrt-Y-Gollen in South Wales and Dingwell near Inverness.

Sussex ACF regularly goes to the Peak District, Snowdonia, Brecon Beacons and Scotland and enjoyed a range of Adventure Training activities. Recently our cadets and instructors have been up to Scotland for the Easter weekend and to Snowdonia for Adventure Training with more activities planned for later in the year. These weekends have been a great success. The cadets particularly



Kayaking

enjoyed Scotland as we stayed in two small cottages on the south side of Ben Nevis, with climbing within walking distance of the accommodation and canoeing on the Caledonian Canal. With perfect weather, a great activities and a picturesque location all resulted in a great few days in Scotland. We have, on occasions, been joined by serving soldiers who assist us with driving our vehicles and teaching climbing or canoeing.

Our Annual Camp this year was held in August with an opportunity for cadets to spend two days adventure training. This was held at Beckingham, Lincolnshire, and will be an opportunity for our cadets to undertake "taster" sessions in kayaking, climbing, archery and mountain biking.



Rock Climbing

Tigers Charity Cycle Ride

Between 29th June and 3rd July 2009, twenty members of the regiment took part in a charity cycle ride for the Army Benevolent Fund (ABF). They cycled up to 90 miles a day, for the 5 days visiting the various locations where homecoming parades were going to take place. The group were led by The Regimental Sergeant Major of 1 PWRR, WO1 (RSM) S Horder. The lycra team had a very successful ride and raised thousands of pounds for the ABF and raised the profile of the regimental image in all the towns that they sped through. Seen in the picture, departing very early from Dover Castle, preparing to visit Kent, Sussex, Surry and Hampshire



Joining the Regiment **Why not try "LOOK AT LIFE"!**

Finding young volunteers to join the Regiment is a full time job. The Regiment is keen that nobody enters into it without having knowledge of the job and what is expected of the individual. To that end the Regiment has an input into the Army "Look at Life" (LAL) with the newly formed Army Recruitment Teams (ART) at Shorncliffe Folkstone, Pirbright and Thorney Island in Portsmouth. The PWRR will also run open days where you can come along and talk to serving soldiers and see equipment that you would be using if you joined. Fierce Tiger One will be held on the following date in Brighton 31st October 2009. Fierce Tiger Two will take place in Germany with 1 PWRR (Paderborn) 10th - 17th October, 14th - 20th November 2009. **REMEMBER - if you are 16 yrs old, try the Army Foundation College, Harrogate.**

If you wish to take part either visit your local recruiting centre or phone 0800 169 5808 or go to www.army.mod.uk/pwrr