



**LEICESTERSHIRE & DERBYSHIRE
(PRINCE ALBERT'S OWN)
YEOMANRY ASSOCIATION**

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The last LDY camp May 1967 on Colonel Tom Baring's farm near Salisbury Plain,
all "volunteers" as pay, rations etc had ceased in February, uniforms were to be withdrawn in the Autumn.

Dates for your Diary

Sat October 15th Annual Reunion Dinner, TA Centre, Tigers Road 7.00 for 7.30pm

Thursday 24th November Leicester, and Saturday 26th November Derby
9/12L Homecoming Parades with members of the Sqn who have been with them in Afghanistan.
Come and show your support, information from the drill hall or the chairman

Sun 20th May, Frezenberg Memorial Service, Newtown Linford Parish Church, 11.00am



B (LDY) SQN, THE ROYAL YEOMANRY
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The Leicestershire and Derbyshire P.A.O. Yeomanry Association –

Your New Association - It is over 55 years since the Leicestershire Yeomanry last paraded as a Regiment and nearly 65 years since 153 and 154 were disbanded. As anticipated in last year's newsletter the Leicestershire Yeomanry Association has yielded to the inexorable ravages of time and merged with the Leicestershire & Derbyshire Yeomanry Association. The LDYA was formed to support past and present members of LDY Sqn, The Royal Yeomanry since it was formed in 1992.

We are very pleased and proud that his Royal Highness H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh has consented to continue as Patron of the new association, and to enhance our ties with the serving squadron it was agreed that the Honorary Colonel should be President. Your new committee represents a happy amalgamation of the former members of both Associations. Membership is open to all who have served or have an interest in our current or former regiments.

The Derbyshire Yeomanry Old Comrades Association remains and details are elsewhere in this issue.

The Newsletter - Many of those on the circulation list are distant addresses from whom there has been no contact for some time. Last year we included with the newsletter a survey to find those who wish to continue receiving it. Our thanks to those who replied with their support; but many have fallen away and the numbers no longer justify the expense of a print run. We also require more help on the editorial side.

This year the newsletter has been split into two, The Sqn report, and The LDY Association newsletter to enable us to send it out by e-mail in glorious colour, with a copy shop doing a small run for those who still require print. We also look forward to putting more Association information on the web site www.paoyeomanry.co.uk

Squadron Dinner and Association Reunion Sat 15th October 2011 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

The Drill Hall, Tigers Road, South Wigston. Your Committee will meet at 6.20pm in the Officers' Mess

Invitations have already gone out to those who normally attend. Last year the Squadron did us proud with drinks in the Sgts Mess followed by an excellent meal with the Regimental Silver shining in the candlelight. The Honorary Colonel R Boyle proposed the Toast to The Regiment and this was responded to by Capt J Graham with an update on the Squadron. A most enjoyable evening. Our thanks to Capt Grenville Turner for his organisation, we hope to see you all this year.

Cover Photo Camp 1967 - In last years of the Leicestershire and Derbyshire Yeomanry's existence as a Regiment our role was aid to the civil powers in the event of a Nuclear strike on the Midlands. On mobilization Squadrons were to go to ground in the cellars of unsuspecting stately homes, whilst the bombs fell hopefully elsewhere. We were then to emerge and sally forth on our reconnaissance task, to plot the levels of radiation as the fallout clouds blew downwind, report on the damage to roads and building, the problems facing the civilian population and assist with their evacuation from the fallout areas.

Prior to that we had been practicing "advance to contact" in our Dingos (Daimler scout cars) in a manner that would not have been out of place on an open flank in WW2. The Home Defence Nuclear role was not popular and the more cynical among us thought that Harold Wilson's government was hoping that if they gave us a tedious enough task we would fade away. We did not and so in February 67 the government bounced the pay cheque and stopped any further funding. The Drill halls remained active and in May the then commanding Officer Col Tom Baring took the Regiment for a week's camp on his farm just off Salisbury plain. Food was bought, tentage, vehicles and radios were borrowed or hired. Charnwood Troop even took their own landrover which they had rebuilt, taxed and insured. The blank ammunition and pyrotechnics were collected from Cogswell and Harrison in Piccadilly more used to supplying it to film studios.

The MOD no longer our paymasters could no longer dictate our training and a happy week was spent by all honing their recce skills against the resident cavalry regiment's Centurion tanks on the plain, whilst enjoying considerable press coverage as the "go it alone terriers". Sadly in the autumn MOD withdrew the uniforms and as private armies are illegal training came to an end

Can anyone help me with the names on the photo? I have a lot of gaps in the back rows and would like to be able to put it all the names on the web. You will find a larger copy of the photo with others from the 67 camp at www.paoyeomanry - Personalities and Men – LDY ... 1967. Luke Smith

Frezenberg 15th May 2011 - A packed Newtown Linford church watched as the LDY Guidon and the F Sqn Cadet Standard were paraded into church under the eagle eye of SSM Darren West. To the frustration of the cadet Colour Party they are no longer permitted to bare side arms. Despite appeals to the very top this was ruled to include the cadets' sabres carried in previous years and the alternative of use of their "Ceremonial Lances" was deemed unsuitable in the close confines of the church aisle.

Waiting at the altar to receive the Guidon and Standard was the Association's Chaplain the Rev Dr Peter Hooper. New in post he has recently succeeded the Rev Richard Worsfold. Rev Peter gave the address and led the service in an easy and assured way that belied that it was his first time. Towards the end of the service and prior to blowing the Last Post, the Chaplain blessed the Guidon in recognition of the new Battle Honour embroidered upon it "Iraq 2003".

Our singing was augmented by the Woodhouse Eaves Choral Society and it was good to see there was still a sprinkling from 153 and 154 among the veterans in the nave who were joined by the Mayor of Wigston and Oadby Councillor Michael Griffiths and his wife in whose Borough the drill hall is situated.

We were greeted on a blustery hill top by the cadet band playing at the Regimental Memorial on which the Vigil Guard stood with their lances reversed. Wreaths were laid on behalf of the Old Comrades, the Squadron and the Cadet Squadron. Then once the Old Comrades had paid their respects to the memorial and were safely "off parade" the Squadron and cadets on ground more suitable for mountain goats than drilling soldiers marched passed the Honorary Colonel who took the salute. Congratulations to 3 i/c and acting Squadron Leader Captain Jules Harrison on the Squadron's performance and if the ranks looked a little thin this is because sixteen of them including all the senior officers were in Afghanistan mostly serving with either the 9/12 Lancers or the Scots Dragoon Guards. The numbers on parade were complimented by an excellent turn out of cadets under their new OC Major Ian Flamson

To everyone's surprise formalities on top of the hill concluded with an impromptu fly past by a Dakota aircraft; coming in from the North, flying slow, dead straight and very low directly over the Memorial. Informalities ensued with many returning to Welbeck, the Defence Sixth form College at Woodhouse Eaves for an excellent Sunday roast.

John Redfern LY

sent us this photo from Australia.

Cpl Hubbard, T/Mjr A.Cramp, Trmp F Wright, Trmp A Hopkins, Boy J Redfern the youngest on parade at 15yrs 4 month



LY Memorial May 1939



David Morcom 154 – In last year's photo taken in Italy displaying some curious looking birds are the R Battery cookhouse team. In front of the tree is Bdr. Tom Owen, the head cook, who was notable for his considerable efforts to provide variety from the issued rations. They all look remarkably cheerful in what were appalling conditions: cold, within range of occasional shell fire, and no natural firewood about.



The Derbyshire Yeomanry Old Comrades Association.

The Association was formed immediately after the end of WWII and still meets on the 1st Thursday of the month, with the exception of June, July & August, when there are no meetings. These meetings are held at the RBL Club, Chellaston, Derby, commencing at 1030hrs. The annual Regimental Reunion Dinner is held each year in April, the next will be on Saturday 28th April 2012 at the Hallmark Hotel, Midland Road, Derby.

Poppy wreaths are laid each year at the War Memorials in Derby, Long Eaton and Ashbourne. The Association sponsors a Regimental plot at the Westminster field of Remembrance which takes place on the Thursday prior to Remembrance Sunday. An annual Newsletter is published in February each year and this is distributed by post to our membership throughout the world. The DY Association is financed mainly by personal donations and the proceeds of an annual Grand National prize draw.

Contacts: Secretary, FP Bacon MBE, 50 Whitehurst Street, Allenton, Derby, DE24 8LG. Tel 01332 343045 email streakybacon220@btinternet.com. Treasurer, Trevor Kingman, 29 Pendlebury Drive, Mickleover, Derby, DE3 9SS Tel 01332 519322 email trevorkingman123@btinternet.com



'F' (Leicestershire Derbyshire Yeomanry) Squadron Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland Army Cadet Force News letter. Major Ian Flamson GCGI. Officer Commanding

The activities of the Squadron have continued on a positive footing throughout 2010/11: Taking over 120 cadets on our Spring weekend camp to Yardley Chase and following this number with 116 cadets attending our Annual Camp, held this year at West Toffs camp STANTA PTA. Commitment from the Officers and SNCOs of the Squadron make it possible for these cadets to enjoy activities and events which might not fall within their normal lives and to that point thanks must be given for their continued commitment.

Our strength lies within the new recruit and the greatest ambassador that we can ask for is one that speaks with



genuine interest and knowledge. Cadets are eligible to join from the age of twelve but they must also be in year eight at school. The Squadron has various detachments spread across the North West of Leicestershire and their locations and parade times are recorded below. Interested parties simply need to take the plunge and visit their chosen location; the Detachment Commander and staff will be more than happy to answer any questions that individuals may have.

Ashby – Trinity Church Hall – Thurs – 1900-2130
Castle Donington – ACF Hut Devlin Lane – Wed- 1900-2130
Coalville – ACF Hut Waterworks Rd – Mon – 1900-2130
El Alamein Peggs Green – Beaumont Centre A447 – Tues 1900-2130
Ibstock – Ibstock Community College – Mon - 1900-2100
Loughborough – TA Centre Leicester Rd – Thurs - 1900-2130
Shepshed – Shepshed High School – Wed - 1900-2130
Corps of Drums – Loughborough TA Centre – Wed - 1900-2100

Frezenburg continues to play an important part in the ceremonial calendar and the Squadron takes pride in supporting this event. Cadet SSgt James Flamson is seen here carrying the Squadron Banner into church in preparation for the service. As cadet forces are not permitted Colours or Guidons by title we have continued the close Cavalry connection by having our latest Banner created in the fashion of the Guidon.

Further information on the Squadron and the Army Cadet Force for Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland can be obtained from our county website at the following address: www.lnracf.co.uk



LEICESTERSHIRE YEOMANRY OBITUARY 2010-2011

ALLEN M.A.		LEICESTER	2010
BLAIR-FISH THE REV CANNON J.C.F	154	SUSSEX	21 SEPT 2010
COBB R.		SUSSEX	2010
ELINSON LT. R.R.H	154	CHICHESTER	12 APRIL 2010
EVANS F.S.G.		MIDDLESEX	2010
FREER JOHN	LY 154	LOUGHBOROUGH	24 OCT 2010
GARPORT G.		KIBWORTH	2010
HALFORD J.B.	LY 1934/46	RUGBY	MARCH 2011
MASON H.F.	154	LEICESTER	29 DEC 2007
MILLS I D	LDY COY	SILEBY	15 MAY 2010
NEWTON R.		NEWBOLD VERDON	JAN 2009
ODOM H.		LEICESTER	2010
PARTRIDGE MAJ.W	DLI	HINCKLEY	31 AUG 2011
PUFFET H.	153	POCKLEY, YORKS	2010
SKELHON W.		STATHERN	31 Dec 2008
TARRY G. CAPT	LY 154	COSBY	SEPT 2011

Maj Bill Partridge served with 9 DLI at El Alamein, was a friend of the Association and made the following comment in a previous newsletter. A rifle platoon officer I was under the first shells that 154 fired in anger ! thank you for not dropping them short.

Lt Christopher Blair-Fish at the outbreak of war was an undergraduate at Oxford studying history. He joined the university OTC and was then called up to join 37 Signal Regiment Royal Artillery. Commissioned in September 1941 he was posted to 154.

Sailing from the Clyde with the Regiment he disembarked from H.M.T Pulaski at Port Tewfik in Egypt on 10th October 1942. Within a frantic few days all the guns and vehicles had been drawn from the stores, painted, a pale yellow shade of camouflage and equipped for the desert. Moving into the line with just three days to spare, before on 23rd October at 2100hrs they joined in the barrage which opened the battle of El Alamein.

Following the battle and a "rest" in Cairo the Regiment travelled to Persia as part of Paiforce. Blair-Fish remembered "I felt for the refugees travelling that dismal road from Baghdad back to Mafraq. It was colder that January, it was a biting cold as you stood in your truck facing the wind at dawn: it was rain in Paiforce and glutinous mud. I remember too the night the sentries saw a latrine retreating into the darkness (the next morning Q Battery's heavy five seater was seen floating down river in the monsoon rains). Heating tents and equally cooking by that evil smelling oil was a luxury. We had two tins dripping into the flash pan – one of crude oil and one of water. I remember Frank Wickham's face after he got too close to a petrol brew up and removed most of the skin".

With Q Battery in Italy he recalls the battle for Mounte Campo and Monte Cadruzzo where in a week of fierce fighting only the Regiment's communications and the frequent use of their guns enabled the infantry to hang on to their hard won gains on the mountains. "I worked closely with Tony Felgate on the C troop gun position. I remember Tony Harvie's scurrilous versifications and was at the gun position when he won his MC. But more vividly I remember the Strigara OP when we were being shelled regularly. The news came through that Peter Matthews had been killed. Tony Harvie gulped and carried on - I think that was his best friend. Q battery were left temporarily without any OP officers other than myself".

Before the war Blair-Fish had been a pacifist and his strong religious views were confirmed when among the usual artillery courses he spent Christmas 1943 on a 7- day "Ordinands Course" run by the Assistant Chaplain General in Jerusalem. Returning to civilian life he joined the church in the South of England and came to re-unions whenever his duties permitted.



The Battle Honour Iraq 2003 is now embroidered on the Guidon ,and believed to be the first for a TA unit since 1945. The Royal Yeomanry have provided the following details. I hope in a future newsletter one of those involved may provide a more personal account,

The Royal Yeomanry (RY) mobilized Regimental Headquarters (RHQ) and two sub-units in support of the UK's CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear) counter-measures for Operation TELIC.

Royal Yeomanry's standing mission had been to provide force elements at 180 days' notice. In practice, in early December 2002 the Commanding Officer, who was a Territorial, received a warning order, and personnel received mobilization papers on 4 January 2003, ordering them to report for duty on 1 February. After two weeks at Chilwell, RHQ deployed to theatre on 13 February, with the remainder of the regiment carrying out pre-deployment training and arriving in Iraq on 3 March, less than 90 days after the original warning order.

In theatre the two squadrons formed a composite squadron, which became Y Squadron of the Joint NBC Regiment. During the war-fighting phase of the operation they had responsibility for NBC support to 1 (UK) Armoured Division's rear area and 3 Commando Brigade; Y Squadron, also commanded by a Territorial, had by the time of initial hostilities been re-organised to take Regular components of the Joint NBC Regiment under command.

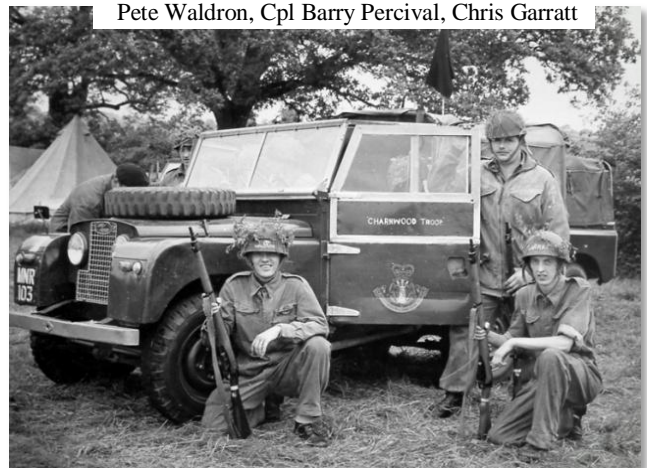
RHQ were detached from 1 (UK) Armoured Division to the US 75th Exploitation Task Force (75 XTF) and Coalition Force Land Component Command (CFLCC) to act as the liaison between the UK and US NBC efforts throughout the theatre of operations.

On cessation of the war-fighting phase, Y Sqn reverted to Operational Command (OPCOM) Royal Yeomanry and took up Peace Support Operations to the North of Al-Qurnah following a relief-in-place with elements of 16 Air Assault Brigade. By virtue of deploying the Regimental HQ and 2 subunits under command, the Royal Yeomanry were awarded the battle honour 'Iraq 2003'.

The Carillon Museum, The Carillon Tower, Queen's Park, Loughborough. Well worth a visit to see the collection of LY items from WW1 and WW2 which was built up by George Basford and are on display on the second floor. Projects for the winter include re-equipping the mounted trooper and his horse as they would have been on landing in Belgium in 1915. The Museum is open in the summer months but is happy to organise group visits out of season and welcomes old comrades who might be able to advise or help with the displays. For more information or a copy of their newsletter contact Mel Gould: email carillonmuseum@gmail.com.

Charnwood Troop Landrover 1967

bought as a wreck and made good by
Pete Waldron, Cpl Barry Percival, Chris Garratt



Treasurer's Report. The funds of the LY and LDY Associations have been amalgamated and during the year; we have shown our support to the LDY Welfare Fund by making a donation from our reserves of £500. This



9 Pl LDY Coy Ex Polar Bear Germany 1990

Lt V Morgan-Jones, ?, Tuft, ?, Russ Deacon, Sgt Short
?, Stokes, ?, Cpl Fox, Masson, Marc Bailey

year the LDY Squadron has mobilized some 15 members who have been serving either in Afghanistan or Cyprus with the regular army. The Association has sent them comfort parcels.. This was achieved thanks to donations received by members of the Association and serving members of the Squadron.

The Treasurer holds stocks of Regimental items which will be on display at the dinner and are available from him.

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|-----------------|--------|
| LY Nylon Tie | £5.00 |
| LDY Nylon Tie | £5.00 |
| LDY Silk Tie | £12.00 |
| LDY Key Fobs | £1.50 |
| LDY Stable Belt | £12.00 |
| LDY Jumpers | £40.00 |
| LDY T-Shirts | £11.00 |