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Battlefield
tours: A North
American
perspective



Battlefield
Guiding for
the British
Army



All the Kings
Men - the
1/5th Norfolks
at Suvla Bay



BATTLEguide

The Journal of the International Guild of Battlefield Guides

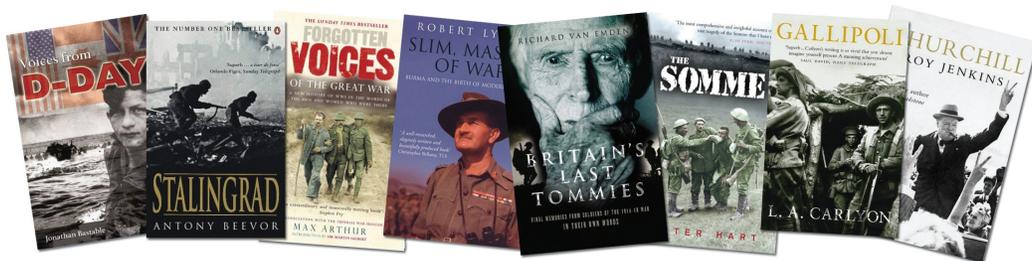


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BATTLEguide

From the Editor

It will come as no surprise to you that as the new editor I am proclaiming this first issue to be the dawning of a New Age, setting new standards of excellence etc. But I am sure that you will agree that really these standards come from the new design, created by Frank Toogood, to give us a journal with real style and energy. But without content, design is but mere window dressing: an Editor has no purpose without words to edit.

As the Guild toasts avers, we are used to *'Eating talking supping wine / Exchanging stories of derring do / Of campaigns old and newer too'...* so please lets have some of those great bar tales as written articles. Our patron, Professor Richard Holmes defined the purpose of the Guild as being "to develop and raise the understanding and practice of battlefield guiding, provide an environment to meet fellow guides and share information, expertise and knowledge on a wide range of issues". As Editor I could not ask for a clearer brief but to achieve that I need your ideas and more importantly, your articles.

As "Battle Guides" we are fortunate to be paid to interpret the history and emotion of the fields of battle which represent our place of work and I intend to see the Journal help this work.

I recently visited Gallipoli where, on a memorable day on the plain at Suvla Bay, I 'smelt the cordite' as I listened to Clive Harris tell of "All the Kings Men" and his connection to this lovely region: in this issue he re-tells that especial story and I hope that you to will experience that feeling which epitomizes all the best battle-field tours.

Other contributors include John Grodzinski ranging over Canadian battles whilst Ed Church de-bunks some hoary old myths: Stuart Brown defines Army Battlefield Studies and Vern Littlely confirms the truth that that behind every great man, there is an even greater woman. All of which goes to prove what a diverse range of great talent we have within the Guild.

It is this wealth of knowledge and experience which makes the Guild so unique a meeting place and with your help the Journal can become an essential part of its activities and benefit all members and promote the Guild to a wider world.

Mike St Maur Sheil

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Cover

Suvla Bay: near Azmak CWGC looking eastwards along the line of advance of the 1st/5th Norfolks where they made their famous attack and disappeared into history.

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The Guild by Patron, Prof. Richard Holmes CBE TD JP

Some things – personal relationships, business schemes, literary ventures - never quite work out the way they ought. Life is full of great theories, but too many of them never come up to scratch. The International Guild of Battlefield Guides (GBG), in contrast, was a terrific idea which, over the six years since its foundation, has developed in a way that I would have scarcely thought possible.

Some things – personal relationships, business schemes, literary ventures - never quite work out the way they ought. Life is full of great theories, but too many of them never come up to scratch. The GBG, in contrast, was a terrific idea which, over the six years since its foundation, has developed in a way that I would have scarcely thought possible. The Guild originated in response to a widely-perceived demand that something should be done to help raise the understanding and practice of

battlefield guiding. Many of us had overheard toe-curling comments on site from other ‘guides;’ had seen children scrambling unshepherded and unmoved over ground on which men suffered and died, or had received rueful complaints from friends who had been on tours that promised much in the brochure but delivered little on the ground. And, in conscience, there can be very few of us who have not felt that they could, with a little help from their friends, raise their own game.

There was, though, a feeling that that the need was wider than this. Not only is battlefield touring a growth industry, but military history itself exercises an extraordinarily wide appeal: just look at the best-sellers list. There are many people who are very seriously interested not only in battlefields themselves, but in the social and political consequences of what happened on them. Most of these folk will never lead a tour in their lives, but that does not stop them from being as passionately

concerned with battlefields as those whose livelihoods hinge upon them.

The Guild's twin objectives sometimes raise an eyebrow, but I am more than ever convinced that they are perfectly right. On the one hand, the Guild meets the requirement of raising personal standards by way of its rigorous validation programme, leading, in due course, to the award of the coveted Guild Guiding Badge. On the other, there are many Guild members who, for wholly understandable reasons, do not wish to go down this particular route, but nonetheless enjoy the weekly bulletin, the Guild's regular meetings (with the recent Waterloo tour as a shining example of the sort of quality work our organisation can produce) and, of course, its AGM weekend with a black-tie dinner in the most engaging fellowship in the world.

The Guild has become an international body in a way that I would never have expected in 2003. It is now represented in Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, South Africa, Spain and the USA: it has almost 300 members. Both Canada and the Netherlands now have such a firm base of knowledge and expertise that Guild members in those countries can now be validated within their own shores, and I believe that both Australia and South Africa are on course to join them.

As a voluntary organisation, the Guild depends hugely upon

the energy and goodwill of the small group that provides its core leadership, and future changes within the Guild's Council are likely to produce a flatter structure. And, like any voluntary organisation, the Guild will always be subject to cross-currents of opinion, from private frictions to public disagreements: it would be surprising were this not the case. But in a deep and abiding sense all the Guild's members – old, new, guides and visitors – are united by their fascination with battles, those events that Churchill called 'punctuation marks in history,' and the men who did their duty as they saw it, at the risk, and sometimes the cost, of their lives. We are privileged to have ringside seats for 'mankind's most passionate drama,' and the Guild has worked so very well because its members are all linked by their commitment to these haunted acres.

On a personal level, I am conscious of being closer to the end of my career than to its beginning, but I rate my involvement with the Guild as one of the things of which I am most proud. At its meetings I never fail to learn. Amongst its members I always find new friends. And when (more often than I might admit) I have a question to ask, I can usually find someone who can answer it – without muttering about my ignorance. Indeed, if I had to characterise the Guild in a single phrase, it would be generosity of spirit: not simply the acquisition, but the sharing of knowledge. That, surely, is what we are all about.

Richard Holmes
Patron

Prof Richard Holmes CBE TD JP is Professor Emeritus of Military and Security Studies at Cranfield University and an Honorary Fellow of Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

With a list of best-selling books such as "Redcoat", "Tommy", "In the Footsteps of Churchill", "Marlborough" & "Wellington" and TV series for the BBC such as "War Walks" and "The Western Front", he is perhaps the most widely recognised military historian and battlefield raconteur of our time.

He still teaches on the Higher Command and Staff Course, which he helped set up. He spent 36 years as a Territorial infantryman, rising from private to brigadier, and in the process commanded 2nd Battalion the Wessex Regiment and spent eight years as Colonel of the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment.

As well as being our Patron, he is the President for the British Commission for Military History and the Battlefields Trust as well as a Trustee of the Royal Armouries. He lives in Hampshire with his wife Lizzie, and has a trusty charger called Thatch, who has carried him across numerous battlefields in Britain and France, helping him raise around a quarter of a million pounds for his favourite charity, The Army Benevolent Fund. ■

MY HOVIS ADVENTURE

By Private Ed Church, West Yorks

The West Yorks from left to right: Privates (and Guild members) Wade Russell, Jon Cooksey, Clive Harris and Ed Church



Author's Collection

It was quite out of the blue that I received my call-up to assist in the filming of the latest Hovis commercial being filmed in Liverpool by director Sir Ridley Scott. I was approached by my very good chum Dickie Knight, organiser of the Re-enactment group that I belong to, the Vickers Machine Gun Society, who told me that well-known Khaki Chum, Taff Gillingham, was trying to raise a company of WW1 soldiers to appear as extras in the forthcoming Hovis production.

Apparently, in a last ditch attempt to revive their ailing product, Hovis were sponsoring the most costly commercial ever filmed, and one of the scenes involved a company of soldiers being waved off to war by crowds of townsfolk, hence the call-up, as they required approx 200

men to make up the column.

Mobilisation orders were issued and about 20 of us duly paraded in Ipswich at 2200 hrs on 30th July in full marching order (FSMO), complete with SMLE. We were loaded (shoe-horned?) into minibuses and off we set at about midnight, destination Liverpool. A reasonably uneventful, but sleepless journey saw us arrive on location at about 0600hrs (God knows what the hapless visitors at the 2 motorway service areas we stopped at en route thought!) whereupon we shook ourselves down and shot off in pursuit of scam (as soldiers do). The film company, well used to the demands of hungry soldiers no doubt, did us proud with bacon and sausage sarnies and mugs of gunfire. Then the fun started. We had to be squadded into those who

could and those who couldn't and the serious business of learning WW1 drill commenced, complete with irate section NCOs bawling and hollering – Bad Lad's Army had nothing on these paragons of quiet virtue, I can tell you. "Church, what's the matter with you, you horrible individual – can't you tell your left from your bleedin' right?" Anyhow, it all started to fall into place, and after much blaspheming we started to look the part.

Much forming of fours, turning left, turning right and halting later we started to feel that indefinable pride that only successfully carried-out drill can give you. Having mastered this, we then went on to drill with kit and rifles and lo and behold the fun started all over again! I had never realised what a heavy,

awkward piece of kit a SMLE is, seemingly having a mind of its own and more painful projections than my wife! If it could get snagged on a piece of webbing it would. Another 2 hours of this and we had it about right – even the section commanders seemed satisfied, and it is no doubt down to their unswerving commitment and professionalism that after only 4 hours we looked as if we had been doing this for months (and felt like we had!). I am equally sure it was also down to the fact that all those present were immensely enthusiastic and determined to do it right. By the end of the drill session we could carry out the basic manoeuvres without thought, although I must say there were one or two who just couldn't get the hang of marching properly however hard they tried (Teddy Bears on parade?). Still, with any luck they would get hidden away in the center of the column hopefully.

A well-earned lunch followed, during which I met up with some other Guild members, privates Russell, Cooksey and Harris and it transpired that none of us knew the others would be there. A team photo seemed the only decent thing to do! Once we had all eaten we were squaddied into 4 sections of 32 riflemen, 8 ASC and 8 stretcher bearers, each with a section commander and an officer and we fell in for a dress rehearsal. The band, in Scarlets, led us off to the strains of "Tipperary" and we strived to put into practice all that we learned that sweaty morning. What a glorious

sight - everybody seemed to be in step and the sound of 200 pairs of hobbled boots on concrete was unbelievable ! a couple of practice runs and were shepherded onto coaches and it was off to the filming location, a delightful period cobbled street in Toxteth, of all places. Here we were put into position and we awaited direction. I was fortunate enough to be squaddied into 1 section, 3rd man down on the inside left, which was immediately behind the three officers on horseback (more of that later) and we marched and marched up and down that bloody street for what seemed like for ever. Marching on cobbles was an experience I am hardly likely to forget in a hurry as the words "Torvill & Dean" spring to mind, but it was all going along swimmingly until the horse I was behind decided to lighten its load, if you get my drift. Still, when you are in close order there is no room for manoeuvre so it was just straight through and keep smiling! It was about midway through the afternoon that I discovered how heavy a SMLE is when kept at the slope, and my left arm kept going numb. I was gratified, and not a little relieved to look around me and see that I wasn't the only one so suffering! It was interesting, and quite amusing to see the Director's bewilderment when the soldiers wouldn't do a thing without a command from their section Serjeants.

Eventually the director called a halt and we were formally dismissed, after about 5 hours

of marching, sloping arms, about turning, marching back to position, ordering arms, standing at ease and standing easy. By this time my dogs were well and truly barking, I can tell you. But what a great day ! Not one of the men I spoke to would have missed it for the world and I daresay there may never be another occasion when 200 idiots like this will assemble again in such a fashion. After having attended the all-important pay parade, and de-brief, we assembled gratefully around our company transport, slung our kit in and wedged ourselves in for the journey home, leaving Liverpool at about 21:30 and arriving at Ipswich at 03:30 (I bloody well slept on the way home!)

What did I learn? Well, for those of us who take tours of the Western Front it was just a rare glimpse into another era and one which cannot but enable us to tell the story better for having done it. I for one will be able to tell with more conviction of tired arms and sore feet, but more importantly of the sense of occasion, pride and camaraderie which developed on just one small day in my life, and the indefinable connection I had made with my Grandfathers and Great Uncles who had all experienced what I had been through, but with people trying to kill them!

Footnote: Despite Liverpool, and Toxteth's reputation, it would have been a bloody brave scally who tried to take the wheels off our minibus! ■

BATTLEFIELD GUIDING FOR THE BRITISH ARMY – THE CLIENT'S VIEW

By Stuart Brown

Battlefield tours are seen by the British Army as a source of excellent training value: they deepen professional knowledge, bring the ground alive, reinforce cap-badge spirit and boost morale. I sit in both camps: I am a serving Army officer and also a GBG Member. I have seen many differing styles of tour and the approaches that guides have taken – some of which have worked and some have not. I hope that this article will provide GBG Members with a detailed insight into what the Army wants so that you may provide a more valuable service. (Also, if you had not already heard, the British Army no longer calls them Battlefield Tours – they are now called Battlefield Studies (BS)).

Types of Battlefield Study.

There are three types of BS in the British Army:

Realities of War Tour. 'Realities of War Tour' (ROWT) are formally a part of 'Phase 1 Training': the basic recruit training that every regular soldier must attend. Most recruits get two and a half days (including travelling time) for a ROWT but those based at Harrogate (and perhaps Winchester in the near future) get five days. The aim of a ROWT is to bring alive the Core Values of the British Army, more on those later on.

Battlefield Study. Battlefield Studies are conducted by active units and formation headquarters as a formalised study of a specific unit or campaign, with a view to integrating the lessons of history to current practice. Each tour will have a specific aim and a bespoke set of training objectives: every BS is different. Although 2 units may visit the same battlefield, one may look at how the troops fought on the ground, whereas the next group may want to investigate how they were trained or supplied.

Staff Ride. Staff Rides are run for the staff of headquarters or students on a staff course. Staff Rides look at a campaign or specific battle from the formation (usually Divisional) perspective and above. They tend to be more intellectually grounded and often are used as a Tactical Exercise Without Troops (TEWT), where – having looked at the ground – the staff then devise a detailed plan on how they would fight that battle themselves. Sandhurst Cadets run a similar kind of exercise in Normandy over a 2-day period but concentrating on platoon and company tactics.

Current Issues. Most tours are great. When they are not, it is usually because the guide cannot speaking in a language soldiers understand; the guide is no more than a gifted amateur or the guide 'flies by autopilot' and gives the same presentation on the ground every time, regardless of what the unit is trying to learn.

Current Regulations. Army regulations for how BS is to be run is Army General Administrative Instruction (AGAI) Volume 1, Chapter 23 – Battlefield Studies Policy. Any guide who is approached by an Army unit to run a BS should check that the organisers are fully conversant with this document. Knowing more about it yourself will help you tailor your support and help the organiser get the BS approved – this means you stand a better chance of getting the job!

Conduct. From the AGAI, BS's are to be:

- 1 *To sites or campaigns relevant to the unit/ formation role and mission.*
- 2 *Of demonstrable relevance to operational concepts, doctrine, command and control (C2) capabilities, organisation and equipment and complementing other collective training or education.*
- 3 *Undertaken where alternate forms of training and development cannot achieve the same training outcome more cost effectively.*
- 4 *Authorised and controlled by the Operational Chain of Command, ensuring planning, conduct, and funding.*



Author's Collection

Civil Servants can attend a BS but the AGAI covers specific considerations for them that must be adhered to.

Funding. All BS's are carried out at Public Expense – this means that the officers and soldiers attending will not contribute personally to the cost of the tour. Because BS's spend Public Money, they are tightly controlled and monitored: the military organiser has to provide the best possible tour at the lowest possible price.

Application Process.

In order to get a BS approved, the organiser must carry out the following:

Apply for the BS in Principle. The Organiser has to spell out what he intends to achieve with the BS and how. The more detailed this initial application is, the better chance it has of being approved. The Guide can help with detailing costs, timings and suggesting the best

sites to visit. The template for an Application in Principle is in the AGAI. Getting approval in principle should provide the money for a recce.

Apply for In Country Clearance. In the past, when the British Army has entered another country, it has been called an invasion. Therefore to stop the host country being surprised or upset, the exercise organiser applies for 'In Country Clearance' via the relevant British Embassy or Consulate. Again, a template is in the AGAI. A BS needs special approval if anyone intends to wear uniform or attend / run a parade. Be aware that only major Colleges or HQs get permission to travel outside of the NATO European theatre unless a unit has a specific link to a battlefield, such as the Royal Welsh and Rorkes Drift.

Apply for the BS in Detail. This is where the exercise organiser lays out exactly how he will accomplish all the training objectives and how much it will cost.

Format. A BS is to take the following format:

- 1 *Preliminary Study to prepare the audience for the BS that they are about to undertake and to arouse their interest. This usually takes the place of pre-deployment study periods, background reading or a combination.*
- 2 *Field Study. This should be chronological where possible, as much of the battlefield should be covered on foot and opportunities should be provided for the soldiers and officers to share any research that they have carried out themselves.*
- 3 *Integration. Students analyse what they have learned in a coherent way and say how it relates to their current job or role. This can be conducted at the end of the tour, on the way home or back in base location.*

What Each Kind of BS Needs to Succeed.

These are my top tips on how a good Battlefield Guide will work with the Army to ensure the best possible BS:

Organising Team: It was handed down to me a long time ago that the best possible organising team for a successful BS is:

Tour Leader: An Army Officer responsible for the entire BS and makes all the applications etc.

Tour zIC: A junior Officer or SNCO who is responsible for all the administration: booking transport, meals and hotels if necessary and keeping track of the finances.

Tour Guide: That's you: you provide the local knowledge, hotel and transport recommendations and how to ensure that the sites visited and the order they are visited in provides the best possible educational value. It is a good idea to attend the recce if you can.

Tour Sergeant Major: He makes sure - in the time-honoured tradition - that the officers and soldiers are in the right place at the right time to ensure that the BS runs smoothly. He will also maintain discipline and run any acts of remembrance.

Know the Reason for the BS. Spend time understanding the aim of the exercise and what specific training objectives you are to assist in accomplishing. Visiting the unit concerned to understand the exercise and the unit role will help in this. Tailor your delivery to suit.

Know the Modern Audience. The British Army is changing: we used to have to rely on veterans to tell us all what it is like to be under fire and take casualties. There are now 19 year olds serving who have all this experience in spades.



**Veterans of Afghanistan
ponder Passchendaele**

Understand that some of those deploying on a BS after returning from combat should be treated carefully when describing the dead and wounded etc. – some of their mates may still be freshly buried or hospitalised. Use the BS to allow them to share 'out loud' their recent combat experience, making the BS a healing as well as an educational experience (it will no doubt further your own understanding of war also). Spend time understanding who will be going on the BS and how much of an expert they are on a relevant topic: a Royal Engineer will be only too happy to tell you how he would Bridge the Rapido nowadays, whereas a new recruit has only his Training Corporal and

Hollywood to thank for his current military knowledge. Put the tour into context for your audience.

Realities of War Tour.

Specific tips for running a ROTW tour:

Audience: Aged anywhere from 16½ to 33 years old with a very limited knowledge of the Army and what it is like to be a soldier. Therefore ROWT should concentrate on individual accounts of war and should not look any bigger than company/ squadron sized operations. It may be worth linking the study to some of their recent experiences in training. Veterans are very useful in helping recruits to understand war but many of their instructors will have recent combat experience also. It's good to get veterans to share their experiences with someone recently returned from Afghanistan in public to show recruits that the personal experience of war has changed little.

Core Values of the British Army. Remember that a ROWT is all about bringing alive the Core Values of the British Army, which are: Courage; Discipline; Respect for Others; Integrity; Loyalty; Selfless Commitment. You should summarise each stand by making it relevant to one or more of these values.

Unit and Formation BS.

Specific tips for running a ROTW tour:

Organisers: They may have no experience at all in running a BS. Therefore offer them as much help as possible, as this will help the BS through the approval process and therefore get you a job.

Audience: Trained officers and soldiers have a wide amount of experience and expertise. Find out if their most recent operational tour links to the training objectives of the BS – this will make it a lot easier for the soldiers and officers to relate to the historical lessons.

Audience Presentations. If time allows, get the audience to contribute to a BS Study Guide and also present their findings in a short talk when on the ground. You will have to accept

that they will make historical errors but you may be pleasantly surprised at the lessons and conclusions that they draw. Also, get the experts to consider how they would approach the same tactical problem today. For example, if you are discussing the use of the machine gun in WW1, ask if there is a machine gunner in the group and then get him to describe how he would do it today. It will often be the case that the modern solution is the same or very similar.

Padres. Excellent for conducting bespoke and moving memorial services: it's what soldiers expect of their own padre.



Author's Collection

Bring the Padre

A Padre can also add depth to any ethical issues that you may want to discuss. They are useful to have on hand if a soldier is having 'flashbacks' brought on by visiting a battlefield, after a recent and nasty operational experience.

Study the Ground. Terrain is a big factor in battle and it is important to get the audience to understand how it impacts on the battle you are studying. This cannot be learned in a classroom and is key to justifying the BS to gain authority and approval. If you hand out maps, try to use 1:25 000 or 1:50 000 maps (as this is what soldiers are used to using) and use

modern map symbols wherever possible to get them used to the modern symbology.

Kit. Soldiers love kit. Have someone on hand or at the Pre-Deployment Study period with kit and weapons to see and handle. Also, if you are describing a river crossing, see if you can get the Army to supply boats and operators to cross the river with.

Consider the Enemy. It is all too easy to look at the battle simply through the eyes of the British Army but a good BS will consider how the enemy viewed the ground to increase the tactical awareness of those on the BS.

Know Current Doctrine. This will help you portray how current doctrine has evolved since the date of the battle you are helping them study. If you cannot do this yourself, then perhaps the Ex Leader will be able to help.

Staff Rides.

Staff Rides may spend all day at one or two stands, considering the same action and piece of terrain, having been given background knowledge of the battle, tactics and weapons of the day and the starting positions of the belligerents. The Students will then plan the battle or campaign in syndicates on how they would have fought the battle with troops and weapons of the time or with contemporary kit and tactics. The syndicates then back-brief on their findings, perhaps that evening in the hotel. At this point, the Guide is on hand to comment on the feasibility (as objectively as possible) of the tactics portrayed in a historical context. The Guide should rarely need to involve him or herself in the modern doctrinal discussions and evaluations – that’s for the Brass!

Finding a Guide.

Only Poppy Travel currently holds a contract with the Army to deliver ROWTs to Phase 1 Recruits. The rest of the Army, however, has no set rules on how to find a guide to support a Battlefield Study. However, officers planning an exercise will normally go to one of the following:

1 *A recommendation from another unit or*

their Regimental Association (so always leave your card or a leaflet behind)

2 *War Studies Department, Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.*

3 *Defence Academy, Shrivenham.*

4 *Adverts placed in Sapper Magazine or their Regimental Magazine.*

5 *The Guild website and the Internet.*

Summary.

I hope that I have given you an insight into what the Army wants and expects of a Battlefield Study, the regulations, the training objectives and how best to support soldiers in training. Every unit will want something different from its battlefield study and it is the tour that is tailored to the unit’s needs that will be the most successful: it will want them coming back to you for more.

Maj. Stuart Brown is a serving officer in the Royal Engineers, having commissioned in 1994. He has served in Northern Ireland, Kosovo and Iraq and recently commanded a Squadron in Afghanistan. He now works at the ARTD Staff Leadership School in Pirbright, where he teaches leadership, coaching and instructional techniques. Stuart is also a Guild member. ■



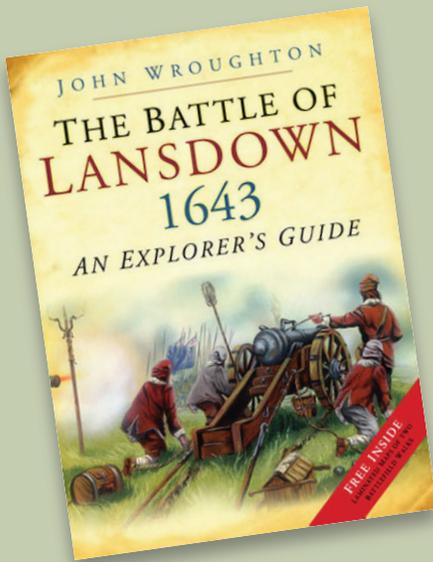
BOOK REVIEW

The Battle Lansdown 1643:
An Explorer's Guide

By John Wroughton

Lansdown Press
41 The Empire
Grand Parade
Bath BA2 4DF

P/b. 92 pages
ISBN 978-0-9520249-8-9
Price £9.99



This is an excellent publication from the PC of a respected scholar of the seventeenth century and a local authority on the battle. John Wroughton treats his readers to a precise and incisive view of the battle between Waller and Hopton which raged in the hills to the northwest of Bath.

He also delivers a wealth of illustrations, photographs, maps, engravings and the charming line drawings by Stephen Beck. The one

thing I didn't like about the book was the illustration on the cover.

Lansdown was not an artillery battle and I bridled against the very re-enactment appearance of the gunners in their stocking caps although thankfully the Peter Young tassels have gone. That aside, Wroughton first sets the scene with a description of Bath during the Civil War and the regiment formed from the Trained Bands to fight for Parliament under Colonel Alexander Popham, and then he takes us methodically through how the armies of the period operated and fought. He explains all the terms he uses in his later text and then goes on to tell the story of the battle in understandable phases, recounting what happened in a step by step manner, giving the evidence for the events he narrates as he goes with references transcribed into text boxes.

In good post-modernist tradition Wroughton does not limit his work to the military story but reveals how events impacted on others and gives the views of the action from the standpoint of the wounded, the local inhabitants and the contemporary politicians so readers can build up a comprehensive picture of the engagement. I was particularly taken with the chapter on the archaeological discoveries and the photographs of the various artefacts unearthed, and it was amusing to read of the legends and myths that surround this battle, as they do so many others. I also liked the way

the author always brought attention to the human side of the struggle, not just in describing the senior commanders or telling the romantic story of the death of Sir Bevil Grevile and his place being taken by his son, but also in the mini-biographies of many of the men who also took part, such as the veteran Frenchman Major Francis Dowett.

The back of the book is devoted to helping visitors to explore the field, both by car for the initial stages and then with two carefully directed walks for the later action, for which he provides a laminated, pocket-sized map and information card. Wroughton's style is similar to that of a first rate Battlefield Guide, not only is he a rattling good storyteller but he shows you where to walk, where to look and what to look for. I would add that currently there is an excellent B&B pub, The Lord Nelson, in the royalist HQ village of Marshfield. Overall this is an excellent publication, and a very worthwhile purchase for anyone interested in the English Civil War but a particular essential for those intent upon walking the battlefield.

Lansdown Press is not a major distributor but copies are in the bookshops, but can also be obtained post-free direct from the publisher (above). I heartily recommend you acquire one.

Review by Chris Scott,
Director of Validation and
Badged Guide, No. 05. ■

ALL THE KINGS MEN - THE 1/5TH NORFOLKS AT SUVLA BAY

By Clive Harris

“In the course of the fight, creditable in all respects to the 163rd Brigade, there happened a very mysterious thing. The 1/5th Norfolk’s were on the right of the line, and found themselves for a moment less strongly opposed than the rest of the brigade. Against the yielding force of the enemy Colonel Sir H Beauchamp, a bold, self confident officer, eagerly pressed forward, followed by the best part of the battalion. The fighting grew hotter, and the ground became more wooded and broken. At this stage many men were wounded or grew exhausted with thirst. They found their way back to camp during the night. But the Colonel, with sixteen officers and 250 men, still kept pushing on, driving the enemy before him. Among these ardent souls was part of a fine company enlisted from the Kings Sandringham estates. Nothing more was ever seen or heard of any of them. They charged into the forest, and were lost to sight or sound. Not one of them ever came back”

Sir Ian Hamilton’s - Final Gallipoli Despatch



Author's Collection

Captured Turkish Map of Suvla Bay
(British Markings)

Key

- A - 1/5TH Norfolks Landing Beach
- B - HQ Night of 11/12 August 1915
- C - Azmac CWGC
- D - Last reported location of Btn
- E - Ravine where bodies were found

Students of the Great War will be familiar with the story of the vanishing battalion, whether through the learned work of the Gallipoli Association, the definitive account by Nigel McCrery or more disconcertedly a gallant David Jason at the head of his men, all of them apparently personal friends of the King in the film “All the King’s Men”. The reality of the battalion’s fate that day is, alas, far different.

The Battalion

The 1/5th Norfolk’s had been formed in 1912 from the embers of the counties 2nd and 3rd Volunteer battalions as part of the new territorial army, they were raised from across the county with companies in Kings Lynn, Downham Market, Fakenham, Dereham, Cromer, Great Yarmouth and North Walsham. E Company, drawn almost entirely from the Sandringham Estate was raised at the personal request and enthusiasm of King Edward VII in 1908 and included the Kings own land agent Frank Beck, the battalion was commanded by genial yet strict Lieutenant Colonel Sir Horace Proctor-Beauchamp, the 6th Bart of Langley Hall. A career soldier, he had served in the 20th Hussars in 1878 and saw active service in the Sudan, India, and the Boer War before his retirement in 1904, twice mentioned in despatches he was made a CB prior to leaving the army. Recalled to the colours in 1914 for the duration of war he was a popular leader

who led through respect and inspiration, despite his own admission that he held a lack of comprehension of modern infantry tactics.

The battalion set sail from Liverpool on the 29 July 1915 on board the SS Aquitania, they had already suffered their first casualties when on a route march two men plundered a barrel of cider from a cottage door, it was in fact weed killer and despite medical care both men died.

Whilst sailing to the Dardanelles there was no shortage of drama, during a storm in rough sea, the unit’s machine guns broke loose on deck and two were lost overseas before the sterling work of 2/Lt Rollo Pelly saved the remainder. Later in the journey the ship was attacked by a submarine, its torpedoes missed much to the relief of one of the Cunard stewards on board, his last voyage had been on the ill fated Lusitania two months earlier.

On arrival in theatre the battalion with the remainder of its brigade (4th Norfolk’s & 8th Hampshire’s) transferred to the SS Osmiah and passed Imbros on the 9 August, for the first time they could hear and see shells bursting on the Peninsular in and around Achi Baba.

They were to reinforce the newly opened Suvla Bay landings, since the arrival of the MEF in April stalemate had ensued around the two existing fronts of Helles (British) and Anzac (Australian & New Zealand).

They had fought with extremely limited resources through these months, now a much larger force had arrived including new Kitchener divisions under the command of General Stopford to force a new landing at Suvla. They were to push inland across the Suvla Plain and capture the high ground of the Anafarta Hills. This fresh force would then link up with the Anzac troops to the south clinging to the slopes of Chunuk Bair and cut the neck of the Peninsular, an objective of the initial landings in late April.

The Battle

The 1/5th Norfolk’s stepped ashore at 0530 on the 10 August 1915, by which time the invading force had landed, cleared the high ground around the Salt Lake and pushed inland to the flat plain. Initiative however had been lost and Ian Hamilton was already showing great concerns about the lack of offensive spirit being shown by General Stopford and his staff. A fresh attack was required to prevent the stalemate of Helles and Anzac repeating itself at Suvla. The weather shifted from blistering heat to freezing nights and within hours the battalion were warned to advance inland to the front line. Little time or consideration for reconnaissance appears to have been given before the men set off: they were stopped to receive maps that bore no relevance to the ground they were to cover and each man was issued with two pints of water to last him three days

A photograph of Private George Stanley Miller of the 1/5 Norfolk's, together with his 1914-15 Campaign Medal



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and they were recommended to keep a pebble in the mouth to aid salivation.

At 0500 on the 11 August a patrol of four men under 2/Lt Burroughs advanced some 1200 yards to contact, by 1400 it was reported that the battalion was now formed up and ready to advance two hours later clearing the Turks from the scrubland and linking up with the 53rd Welsh Division on their right and 10th Irish Division their left.

The attack began in utter confusion; no orders were passed as to the location of Brigade HQ, dressing stations or ammunition supply dumps. The objectives were unclear with some officers believing they were the advance units clearing the way for the main attack whilst others that they were the main force intending to go as far forward as possible, both schools of thought however were concerned about the prospect of attacking in daylight, with little artillery support, over open country with little cover and no knowledge of the ground in front of them.

With the Colonel at the front he led them off down a track towards the Turkish positions, as he companies filed out on either side of the road they were urged on by their company commanders with shouts of "Come on Yarmouth", "Forward the Lynns" and "Good old Sandringham". Bayonets were fixed and a mystery order reached the lead men advising them to move half right. With this a dangerous gap opened between them and their fellow

brigade units; they were still a mile and a half from the main Turkish line when they advanced at the double. Isolated sniper positions began to take their toll and then shell and shrapnel fire began to fall on the exposed troops from Chocolate Hill. Quickly adapting to artillery formation the Battalion advance further in 50 yard rushes and were now taking severe casualties.

When they reached a collection of farm buildings they came under intense machine gun fire from the front, both flanks and the rear, they were now effectively cut off. Dust from the battle brought visibility down to a hundred yards, the deep ditches and thick hedges that made up the drainage courses and field boundaries led to the companies being separating and any semblance of cohesion was lost. After a fierce struggle in and around the farm buildings that had now been set alight by Turkish fire, the Colonel and the remaining 250 men pushed further on into wooded area and were never seen again.

The Conclusion

The mystery of the battalion continued for the remainder of the war with question being asked and little information being gained, one problem was the lack of eye witnesses to survive the attack, those that did were either severely wounded and had an unclear view of what occurred or captured and remained in Turkish captivity until after the war.

When the Imperial War Graves Commission returned to the battlefield in late 1918 to make

permanent burial sites, a team working in Suvla Bay area found a Norfolk's cap badge, the discovery of a number of bodies soon followed. The Reverend Charles Pierrepont Edwards was contacted as he had been sent to the peninsula with the specific task of discovering the fate of the Norfolk's; he had served with them in August 1915 earning an MC for bringing in wounded men under fire. Following further exhumations a mass grave of 180 men, 122 of them wearing Norfolk's shoulder titles were found, whilst only 2 men, Privates Carter and Barnaby, were identified. One of the three officers found carried the silver cap badge and shoulder titles of Colonel Proctor-Beauchamp, but this was not considered sufficient evidence to formally identify him conclusively.

It was clear that the missing Norfolk's had been found and on the 7 October 1919 the men were given a Christian burial in Azmak Cemetery, their final resting place. For over 50 years little further information was released as to the last moments of the Norfolk's attack, Pierrepont Edwards official report stated little more than a local farmer reported finding the bodies in and around the ruins of his farm when he returned after the war, he removed them all to a ravine where they were located by the burial parties. In 1922 a gold hunter watch belonging to Captain Beck emerged in the hands of a former Turkish General Musta Bey, he offered it for sale, but safe passage from Constantinople to Smyrna

was agreed and the watch returned after the intervention of Kemal Atatürk. The watch was presented to Captain Beck's daughter Margeretta on her wedding day.

In 1965 perhaps the most bizarre twist in the story emerged when a New Zealand veteran along with three comrades made an incredible statement that;

"A strange cloud 800 feet in length, 220 feet in height, 200 feet in width emerged and straddled a creek or sunken lane, a British regiment of Norfolk's, of several hundred men, was then noticed marching up this sunken lane or creek towards Hill 60, when they arrived at the cloud with no hesitation they entered the cloud and marched straight into it... an hour later when the last file had disappeared into it the cloud rose up and moved away northwards."

The account featured in numerous sci-fi journals such as Space view and Flying Saucers. A more plausible explanation is that the men had witnessed from their spot on Canuk Bair the fog of battle and the Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry advancing on Scimitar Hill, itself an action that ended in huge loss and confusion but was fought in a swirling mist on the 21 August, nine days after the Norfolk's attack.

Throughout the 1960's the story re surfaced and always with a UFO based link, finally the Gallipoli Association sought the truth and following an appeal in their excellent journal The Gallipolitan for witnesses, a Royal Engineer Signaller

Gordon Parker came forward with a new theory, Parker was a reliable self made man who had at one stage owned Felixstowe Docks to assist his own import export business. Parker wrote that after the war he had become a friend of the Rev Pierrepont Edwards MC who, during one conversation about the fate of the Norfolk's, had confessed to something he had not included in his official report. He said that each of the bodies had received a single bullet wound to the head. He had no reason to exaggerate or lie but the chances of every man in battle receiving a single head wound in battle is beyond belief unless an atrocity had occurred.

In 1991 further evidence came to light when the sister in law of a survivor, Arthur Webber, told his secret that he had kept for 75 years; after being wounded in the attack and lying unable to speak he heard Turkish soldiers coming along;

"they were collecting the dead and shooting and bayoneting the wounded and the prisoners. A Turkish soldier came up and bayoneted me in the thigh, he was about to do it again when a German officer appeared on the scene and said, this man is not a dead man and must be taken prisoner of war, I realised what a lucky escape I had had in all that carnage"

The Battlefield Today

Visitors to the Gallipoli Peninsular can be rewarded with an excellent walk covering the Norfolk's fateful battle ground, Suvla Bay is the least visited of the Gallipoli sites and largely uninhabited, road

surfaces deteriorate after the sign for Hill 60 CWGC. Four wheel drive vehicles are recommended especially in winter months and wild or goat keeper's dogs should neither be approached nor fed.

Stand 1 – Hill 10 CWGC

– Though no Norfolk men are buried here, the cemetery provides the perfect back drop for the Suvla Landings and the initial capture of the high ground behind the cemetery. Buried inside is the author and artist Edmund Yerbury Priestman who wrote "With a Baden Powell scout in Gallipoli" whilst serving with the 6th York and Lancaster's, a worthy read to accompany your visit. Another famous soldier who served in this area with the London Regiment was band leader Billy Cotton.

Stand 2 – The small rocky outcrop near the track junction heading due east towards the Anafarta Range – This is the area of the Norfolk's HQ on the eve of battle, the view is relatively unchanged today as it was in 1915, the open country ahead of you along the track is the ground they would have covered, follow this to Azmak Cemetery

Stand 3 – Azmak CWGC – the largest cemetery in the Suvla region, it contains over 1000 burials, among them the graves of Privates Carter & Barnaby, the grassed area at the back of the cemetery contains the bodies of the unknown Norfolk's found in late 1918.

Stand 4 – 1km beyond the Cemetery slightly north east along a rough track – from here is the ravine where the bodies were found and a further

500 metres beyond that the collection of farm buildings where the gallant Norfolk's made their last stand, still charred with battle damage in a state of disrepair they make for a chilling end to the Norfolk's story.

I always find this part of the Gallipoli Peninsular a most moving spot, tranquil, undisturbed and under visited. But for me it is not just the compelling story of the 1/5th Norfolk's that make it a special place.

My great-grandfather, Charles Miller from Yarmouth along with his younger brother Ernest Miller served in the Norfolk's: both survived the war but on that long August day in 1915 they both lost their elder brother, George Stanley Miller, in that fateful attack. Unlike the men in the film, none of the Miller brothers knew the King or worked on his estate but this is their story.

And now it is mine: my son is named after him and so I tell this story with sorrow and pride for the man who was never to return to the peace of his beloved Norfolk – my uncle, George Stanley Miller.

End note

War can be a nasty and uncompromising business and the stark reality of the fate of the 1/5 Norfolk's has no bearing on my attitude to Turkey today, as a regular visitor to the Peninsular I have found nothing but kindness by the Turkish people, from the famous statement of reconciliation by Ataturk to the



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The man walking the talk. Clive and his party at the position where the Norfolk's spent the morning of the 11th August prior to being ordered into the attack

people who live or work on the battlefield today my Turkish friends have done so much for remembrance of the Gallipoli Campaign that I am often left humbled by their generosity.

Sources

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A visitor to the battlefields for over 20 years and guiding since 1998, Clive is a published author and badged member of the guild. His specialist fields include Gallipoli, the Italian Campaign and the London Blitz, he lives in Knebworth with his wife Ali and son George. ■

NO SHRINKING VIOLET! By Mike St Maur Sheil

This is the first in a series about people who, whilst they may not be guides themselves, greatly benefit the experiences of those visiting battlefields thus enable guides to better conduct their tours.

We all direct our way around battlefields using the salient features of the landscape and the nick-names they acquired in the heat of battle – Hill 60, High Wood, Lochnagar, Pope's Nose, Avril's...

Not that the last name was ever in battle - unless with some hapless guide that has just turned up with 50 unannounced clients wanting toilets and lunch, and all in 15 minutes! For the Ocean Villas Tea rooms, known to all and sundry as "Avril's" after their doughty chatelaine, Avril Williams, has become as much part of the Somme as any piece of 1916 Tommy christened landscape.

And as such she makes a huge difference to any Somme guide's life: whether as a part of the Blunden narrative of Auchonvillers or an essential "pit-stop" for food and comfort, sooner or later we all end up at "Avril's".

So how did Avril, a single mother with two small children and totally ignorant of history end up playing such an intrinsic part of tours to the Somme. Like all the best stories it is a plot with many twists - she grew up in Nailsworth, near Stroud and left school with no qualifications. Various jobs in offices, working in kitchens followed and then marriage and a move to Skipton in Yorkshire where she began a play school group and then became a Youth Leader.

In the late '80's her marriage broke up and in 1991 she first came to the Somme to help her sister who was starting up a B&B. The business was not sufficient to support two families so Avril decided to start her own business doing teas for the tourists she saw wandering about and on July 1st 1992 she bought a dilapidated farm house - so poor was her historical knowledge that she had not real understanding of the significance of the date.

And so began the Tea Rooms - initially she served teas in her sitting room and when she had B&B guests, her two children, Mark and Cathy then aged 14 and 10 - moved into her bedroom. It was whilst clearing out the cellars that her interest was aroused by initials and names carved into the walls and Avril became convinced that the initials "J C" refer to James Crozier 9th Batt RIR, who was shot for cowardice in Feb 1916, as close by there is a carving of a badge which is similar to that on a ring known to have belonged to Crozier and which is now in a private collection.

Yet more research indicted trenches in the rear garden leading into the cellar and 1997 a team of enthusiastic volunteers excavated them so the Tea Rooms are literally steeped in history. With Avril in full flow it is not hard to imagine Blunden and his fellow officers huddled in their "underground workshop, with the Aid Post, and the stores...included a number of ancient blankets. These blankets

were probably the lousiest in all Christendom...one was glad to go down the eight broad steps; but a scratchiness was always mingled with one's satisfaction in such a menagerie".

It is this passion which has led Avril into her most ambitious [and as she herself would admit, craziest] project, namely the purchase of a collection of militaria from M. Andre Coillot who lives in Arras. The result of a lifetime spent collecting, it covers both World Wars and was originally sold in its entirety to the museum in Bapaume in 2004. However the deal fell through and when the Historial refused the WWII items it's future was in doubt. Enter Tony and Valmai Holt whose offer of a seedling donation goaded Avril into action so she merely re-mortgaged her property.

Expressions of surprise at such a huge commitment in these times of economic stringency are dismissed "I know I can't afford it but I know that I will always manage somehow". And so to date she has invested well over €100,000 in the purchase and housing of the collection. Currently she is anxious to improve the museum as quickly as possible. "Andre Colliot has another truck load of items but I really don't want to take them until I have arranged a proper place in which to display them. I am not a curator so the advice and practical support of people like Andy Robertshaw at the Royal Logistics Corps Museum has been invaluable".



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And now the Colliot Collection has set her off in yet another direction: in November a redundant barn will become the venue for a series of monthly Saturday lecture by luminaries such as Prof Richard Holmes, Martin Middlebrook and Peter Simkins which Avril hopes will become a institution for Somme visitors and pave the way to larger seminars and conferences.

Inevitably this will mean changes and whilst some might bemoan the creation of a “Tommy Canteen” with an adjacent set of reconstructed trenches to attract school parties as seeking to exploit the history of the location, the fact is that without her drive and energy the Colliot collection would have simply disappeared. Avril is very conscious that people might think she is trying to make a profit from the material of war, but as she explains, “I have never thought of myself as a business woman - it’s a matter of survival”.

And that is what she wants to do - to survive and ensure that the collection and the message it can provide is secured for the future.

Avril has established Auchonvillers as a gateway for visitors to the Somme and wants to develop it as an interpretive centre and an arena for historical lectures and debate.

Does she have any regrets: “Yes, I went to Italy and nobody pinched my bum. I was really disappointed!”

No shrinking violet, the inimitable Avril Williams!

For details of the Saturday lectures, see the Guild website. ■

BATTLEFIELD TOURS:

A NORTH AMERICAN PERSPECTIVE

By John R. Grodzinski

John Grodzinski teaches history at the Royal Military College of Canada, where he is also a doctoral candidate. He leads battlefield tours focusing on various North American conflicts during the 18th and 19th centuries. John was badged in November 2006.

Anyone wishing to visit battlefields or act as a guide in North America has a variety of conflicts from a broad period of history to choose from. These include early engagements between native groups, encounters between Europeans and natives, imperial between Europeans and their native allies, wars of national expansion, insurrections, civil war and much more. Some of these conflicts were related to wars in Europe, such as Queen Anne's War, which in Europe was the War of the Spanish Succession, 1702 – 1713. One must not forget numerous American wars as well, including the Seminole Wars, the Mexican American War, the Civil War and a host of minor conflicts, including the Canadian Rebellions of 1837-38, the Red River Rebellion, where the British troops were led by a certain Colonel Wolseley; the North West Rebellion of 1885 and others. There is a lot to choose from and as a guide, these offer many great experiences and challenges as well. This article will share a few of these with you.

My guiding areas of interest include the three major Imperial conflicts: the Seven Years' War, or French and Indian War as it is known in America, 1754-1763; the American War of Independence, 1775 - 1783 and our own Napoleonic conflict the War of 1812, fought from 1812 to 1815. I also lead tours dealing with 18th and 19th century North American fortification, all of which were North American adaptations of European practice. Each of these conflicts provides a number of guiding challenges, the most significant being distance. This is a large continent and one can easily travel the equivalent distance from Paris to Moscow, covering but a single conflict.

These three conflicts are of interest as they helped shape the political structure of the continent and laid the foundation of two countries: the United States of America and the Dominion of Canada. They involved indigenous peoples, who offered a unique doctrine that influenced European armies that further evolved once the natives adopted European arms; they involved several imperial powers, such as Britain and France, but also included participation by Spain and several German states. Colonists also became involved as militia, provincial, loyalist and their own national units. Naval power also played a role, not only on the high seas, but in inland waters, where the outcome of a campaign might hinge on the correct use of 30 foot long bateau in "riverine" warfare to convey troops and ensure logistics, or the construction of first rate ships, such as the 102 gun three decker HMS St Lawrence, launched at Kingston in September 1814 and built for service on a lake!

The Seven Years' War signified the resolution of ongoing competition by France and Britain in North America. The fighting began before the outbreak of war in Europe

and eventually became the major British theatre in a global conflict – some have called this the first global war. As campaigning intensified, Britain sent more troops to America and by 1760 had taken the major French strongholds at Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Louisbourg, Quebec and Montreal. By 1763, Britain had achieved an unprecedented victory and controlled most of the continent.

While the American War of Independence, or the American Revolution of 1775 to 1783 is well known, not all the campaigns are. Thus while armies campaigned along the eastern seaboard, it was more like a civil war as irregular and native forces clashed in insurgent and counter-insurgent struggles in the Mohawk Valley of Upstate New York and the southern colonies. In the end, 13 of 26 British colonies formed the United States of America, while the others were reorganized, including those in British North America.

The War of 1812 was the first and last war fought between the United States and Great Britain. The British strategy was largely defensive, at least until Bonaparte fell and then several large scale offensives were made into the United States. While each site enjoyed momentary successes, neither was able to achieve a lasting strategic victory and the war ended with none of the original causes resolved. Nonetheless, it is a fascinating element of the wider Napoleonic Wars and of particular interest to me.

As noted, distance is a major factor to planning and executing tours. For example, in 2008, I took a group to Boston to study the background to and the opening phases of the American War of Independence. The coach trip from Kingston, Ontario, at the east end of Lake Ontario, to Boston took 14 hours, which was partially broken by a stop at near the half way point at Fort Ticonderoga, New York to examine the actions fought there in 1775 and 1777. Nonetheless, the journey is long and for some, tiring. While some of the travel time is used to review maps or reading material and watch the odd film, many a bum was sore upon our arrival in Boston, which gave good reason to allow the group a free night to work out pains of the journey. Boston is grand for this sort of thing as the core of the city can easily be explored on foot and the north end of the city offers a concentration of 182 restaurants alone!

In Boston, one can study the rise of an underground state, the colonial congress and how it displaced the loyalist officers in the militia to create its own army and usurp British authority outside of Boston proper. At the Old State Hall, one can tread the ground where the Boston “massacre” occurred and consider the implications. Then it is a short

trip to Lexington, where the first shots were fired between British regulars and American militia and Concord, scene of a major encounter. The gauntlet like march of the British column and the relief force is much akin to what one can see of American forces in the film “Blackhawk Down.” Unfortunately, Bunker or Breed’s Hill, the site of the June 1775 British victory over the continental forces under Washington has been overbuilt by the city of Charlestown and is impossible to study on the ground.

As in Europe, urban sprawl has altered the topography and nibbled away or consumed many battlefields. A good example of a near total loss of an important battlefield is Lundy’s Lane, site of the largest battle of the northern theatre during the War of 1812. The Niagara campaign of 1814 was the longest single campaign of the war, lasting some 125 days, involving three major and two minor battles, two sieges and dozens of minor actions. It was the American’s last bid to achieve a significant victory before 18,000 British reinforcements, recently released due to Bonaparte’s abdication, arrived in North America.

The battle was fought during the late evening and night of 25 July 1814, pitted the best trained American troops of the war, totalling over 3,000 men, against a similarly sized British force. At one point, the Americans captured the British artillery and the battle then degenerated to series of efforts by the British to retrieve their guns. This is a rare night action from the period and is noteworthy for its intensity and heavy casualties as each army lost almost 900 men.

Given the nature of the battle, it received many visitors following the war, at least until the American Civil War, after which American tourist preferred seeing battlefields from the more recent conflict. The battlefield was slowly consumed by the City of Niagara Falls and by the early 20th century, only the centre portion of the British position, then a cemetery, remained. Surrounded by a school, a dilapidated commercial district, gas stations and a major thoroughfare, painting an image of the close action of the evening and night of 25 July 1814 is challenging, but not impossible. Fortunately, portions of the battlefield have been reacquired and there are plans to open a new interpretive centre and battlefield walk for the upcoming bicentennial of the War of 1812.

The field of Chippawa offers a sharp contrast to Lundy’s Lane. Here, just a few miles south of Lundy’s Lane, was fought the first major encounter between British and American forces in 1814. Again, similarly sized forces, in this case brigades numbering some 2,000 men met in an open field and woodland on 5 July 1814. This battle is noteworthy for being the first occasion in the war where

American regulars defeated a similarly sized British force in open battle, the result of the lessons of two years of defeats, effective training and emerging American leaders. The battlefield is in near pristine condition, so much so that when one stands in the middle of it on a hot July day with their eyes close, the sound of musket and artillery fire can be heard, along the yelling of orders and the cries of the fallen. It is a haunting site. The story of how the battlefield was preserved is always fun. For years the ground lay fallow and was eventually purchased by the Niagara Parks Commission – however little was done to mark the significance of the site, at least until a distraught American visitor decided to act and wrote a letter demanding action. His letter opened “Dear Your Majesty...” I don’t know if The Queen ever saw the letter, but it went to the Ministry of Defence to the Embassy in Washington and then the High Commission in Ottawa. What followed was a hastened development of the battlefield as a historic site that is a joy to visit.

I will let a series of photos describe some of the joys and challenges to guiding the wars I am interested in. I hope it causes some of readers in Britain and Europe to come and visit. I am always ready to be a guide!



Atop Mount Defiance
near Fort Ticonderoga, New York,
September 2008

Here your hero is responding to a question. This point offers a superb vista of Fort Ticonderoga (in the lower middle of the photo), allowing one to use the ground like a tabletop to describe events from the Seven Years War and the American War of Independence. Here in July 1758, British and provincial forces under General Abercromby were defeated by a smaller French force under General Montcalm, effectively ending the British advance towards Montreal for that year. At

some 800 feet above the fort, the challenge is getting a group up there. The “paved” track is unsuitable for a coach, making the 20 minute climb up to the top a challenge for some; fortunately early “advertisement” of the impressive view, plus the provision of water is enough to get most up to the top, while the availability of a smaller van allows the less physically able a ride to the top. Naturally, the first thing I often say once we have everyone together at the top is that we climbed the wrong hill, which brings to some responses that cannot be put in print.



The Scene from the Boston Massacre,
5 March 1770

Historic Boston offers many wonderful opportunities to examine the rise of the insurgency in Colonial America and some of the events that led to the war in 1775. One of these is the site of the Boston “massacre,” where five Americans were killed by British soldiers. The red brick building is the Old State House, seat of the colonial government, while the area where the three people are standing is roughly where those shot fell. The challenge of using this site is traffic and noise. Due to traffic problems, I had the misfortune of arriving there with a group during heavy traffic time. Fortunately there is a market square a block away and that proved suitable to continue the narrative as one could still see the massacre site from there.

The cemetery at Lundy’s Lane was first used in the early 1800s and is now in a busy urban area. This formed the centre of the British position during the battle and eventually eight artillery pieces and a Congreve rocket section of the Royal Marine Artillery was located in this area. The site also allows an opportunity to examine the human aspect of conflict. The red coloured



Centre of Lundy's Lane battlefield

grave marker is to Captain Robert Pattison of the 6th Foot, who after serving in the Iberian Peninsula, came to Canada in June 1814 and was killed on 17 September 1814, during the final stages of this campaign, the siege of Fort Erie. The stone behind it is to Lieutenant Colonel John Gordon, who commanded the Royal Scots at Chippawa and died of wounds received at Fort Erie on 25 September 1814. The final stone considered here, is laying on the ground, marking the grave of Captain S.B. Torrens, also of the 1st Foot, who fell during the assault on Fort Erie on 15 August 1814.



Chippawa. A view from near the Niagara River looking west across the field of Chippawa, fought on 5 July 1814

This magnificent battlefield offers a great opportunity to explore Napoleonic era battle. The American right formed along the lane beginning at the bottom of the photo and extended west to a woodline on the western side of the field; the British brigade formed up along the right edge of the photo. Over 2,000 Americans

and a similar number of British and Canadian troops were on the field that day, with the British suffering some 485 casualties and the Americans 278. The intensity of the fighting is evident in the high rate of officer casualties; the 100th Foot arrived on the field with 17 officers, by the end, only four were left standing. The 1st Foot lost 10 officers, killed and wounded.

In May 1813, Lieutenant General Sir George Prevost, the governor and commander in chief of British



Sackets Harbor, New York.
A stand lost to politics

North America, decided to mount a daring raid against the American naval base at Sackets Harbor, New York, home to the Lake Ontario squadron. Using the ships of the Royal Navy and most of the garrison of Kingston, the force landed to the west of the American naval base, defeated the militia defenders and approached to within 200 yards of the dockyard before being ordered with withdraw. Their goal was the naval stores and the hull of a new ship under construction, which when set alight by the Americans who feared the British might take them, convinced the British commander he had achieved his goal and fearing the return of the American naval squadron, decided it was time to go. This field at one time offered public access to view Horse Island, in the background on the right. This is where the first British and Canadian troops splashed ashore and after clearing the island, used a causeway to get to the mainland and continue their advance to the dockyard. The property is now signed "Sinn Fein" and "Keep Off" and apparently the owner has an array of rifles that he is not loath to use. A new stand has been found in the yard of another residence, the owner of which is happy to accommodate tours. ■

Part 1 - The Great War

During a recent tour, when I had the great pleasure of guiding with the editor, we got to talking about various stories we have both heard repeated by other guides (definitely no names or pack drill!) with all the earnest delivery of a politician when you just know it's all Bo***cks! So, I was talked into setting some down for a laugh – see how many you can spot (and perhaps own up to? – I certainly perpetuated at least 2 of these in the early days!)

1 “Frederick George Dancox won his VC attacking, and capturing, one of the ornamental bunkers in Langemark Cemetery”

Wrong, he won it at a place called Namur Crossing about 2 miles from Langemark as the crow flies. This is one of those myths sadly encouraged by the otherwise excellent “Holt’s Guide to the Ypres Salient” (Whoops!). This error has been corrected in their “The Western Front – North” to some extent, but still places the 4th Worcesters in the wrong place – they were attacking parallel to, and just to the left of the old railway line, now a footpath. Their start line was opposite the road that leads to the 34th Div. Artillery memorial and German bunker, and about 800 yards away across the fields. The true story is easily researched (as Emrys Jones, Peter Hewlett-Smith and I did some years back) by reference to the 4th Worcester’s war diary and it is possible, with a little hard work and a good map and compass (remember those days?), to establish the site of “Dancox’s bunker”. There is now a private memorial at the crossroads on the site of the former Namur Crossing, erected and dedicated by members of Fred’s family a couple of years back.

2 “C S Lewis, who flew over Lochnagar Crater and who wrote of his experiences in his book “Sagittarius Rising” went on to write the Chronicles of Namia”

Wrong, he simply shared his initials with the other author. Went on to give birth to another legend, that of “The Lion, the Red Baron & the Big ‘Ole” (private joke – see Martin Featherstone for details).

3 “Clarence Smith Jeffries won his VC by attacking, and capturing one of the bunkers (The Barnacle) in Tyne Cot Cemetery” (this story is often embellished by further nonsense along the lines of “he pushed a grenade in through one of the gun slots and blocked it with his body”)

Wrong, he won his VC by capturing a blockhouse at Hillside Farm about 600 yards to the northeast of Tyne Cot and was killed attempting to repeat the feat on another bunker close by. Even a cursory examination of his VC citation reveals the truth of the matter (qv. VCs of the Great War: Passchendaele, Stephen Snelling – Sutton publishing). It is possible

that the part of the myth concerning the pushing in of a grenade is actually a transference of deed from that of an officer of the 12th Royal Scots who, on the 20th September 1917 attacked, and subsequently took-out a German bunker which was part of a complex known as “Potsdam” situated alongside the old Ypres-Roulers railway line (now the main road from Zonnebeke to Hellfire Corner) in what was called “Sans Souci Valley”. This officer neutralised the bunker by pushing a satchel charge of phosphorous into the gun slot and wedging it there with a rifle.

4 “The single track railway line running alongside the new by-pass from Poperinghe to Ypres was built by the Royal Engineers in 1915 to service the front”

Wrong – the railway line was in fact the main line into Ypres and was in existence before the Great War – it was taken over by the British Army and maintained by the RE. Likewise, the present main road did NOT exist during the Great War, the MSR (main supply route)

being the old Vlamertinghe road approx. 100 yards to the left of the new road on which can be found, amongst other things the smallest CWGC on the Salient (Red Farm) and the old Hop Store, the first specialist aid post set up by the Canadians to deal with gas victims in 1915.

5 "In quiet periods, Vickers Machine-gunners used to loose off a belt or 2 to boil the water in the jacket to make a brew"

Wrong – my uncle George was a No.1 Serjeant on a Vickers team and he confirmed that as the jacket of a Vickers is full of oil and grease, the water thus used would be foul and probably poisonous. Incidentally, it IS true that in emergencies they would piss in the jacket if short of water, thus making it even less likely they would drink any water from a barrel jacket!

6 "First day on the Somme – the first wave went over laden down like pack mules, carrying additional stores which made it very difficult to walk, yet alone run"

Wrong – recourse to battalion war diaries (qv. Accrington Pals as an example, or Tim Saunders' excellent "West Country regiments on the Somme" page 120 - I'll see you later Tim for the usual bung)

make it clear that very few men carried anything other than normal battle order and perhaps some extra ammo and sandbags. There were some places where the first wave carried some additional stores but these were few and far between. It is possible that the myth of heavily-laden infantry in the first wave is to somehow excuse the lack of success on the day.

7 "The crucified Canadian Serjeant"
Whilst perhaps not wrong, despite countless efforts made to secure primary source no-one has yet succeeded, and are now unlikely to. It is likely that this is an amalgam of various atrocity stories passed on by soldiers in times of stress. Every account starts with something like "Well, I didn't actually see it myself but I was told about it by a mate whose best mate was batman to an officer who was told by another officer who got it from the Orderly clerk"

8 "John Patrick Condon is the youngest identified British casualty of the Great War"

Wrong – the CWGC have reluctantly agreed that the body under the headstone in Poelcapelle CWGC is almost certainly that of a rifleman named Patrick Fitzsimmons and that Condon is buried somewhere near Birr Crossroads in an unmarked

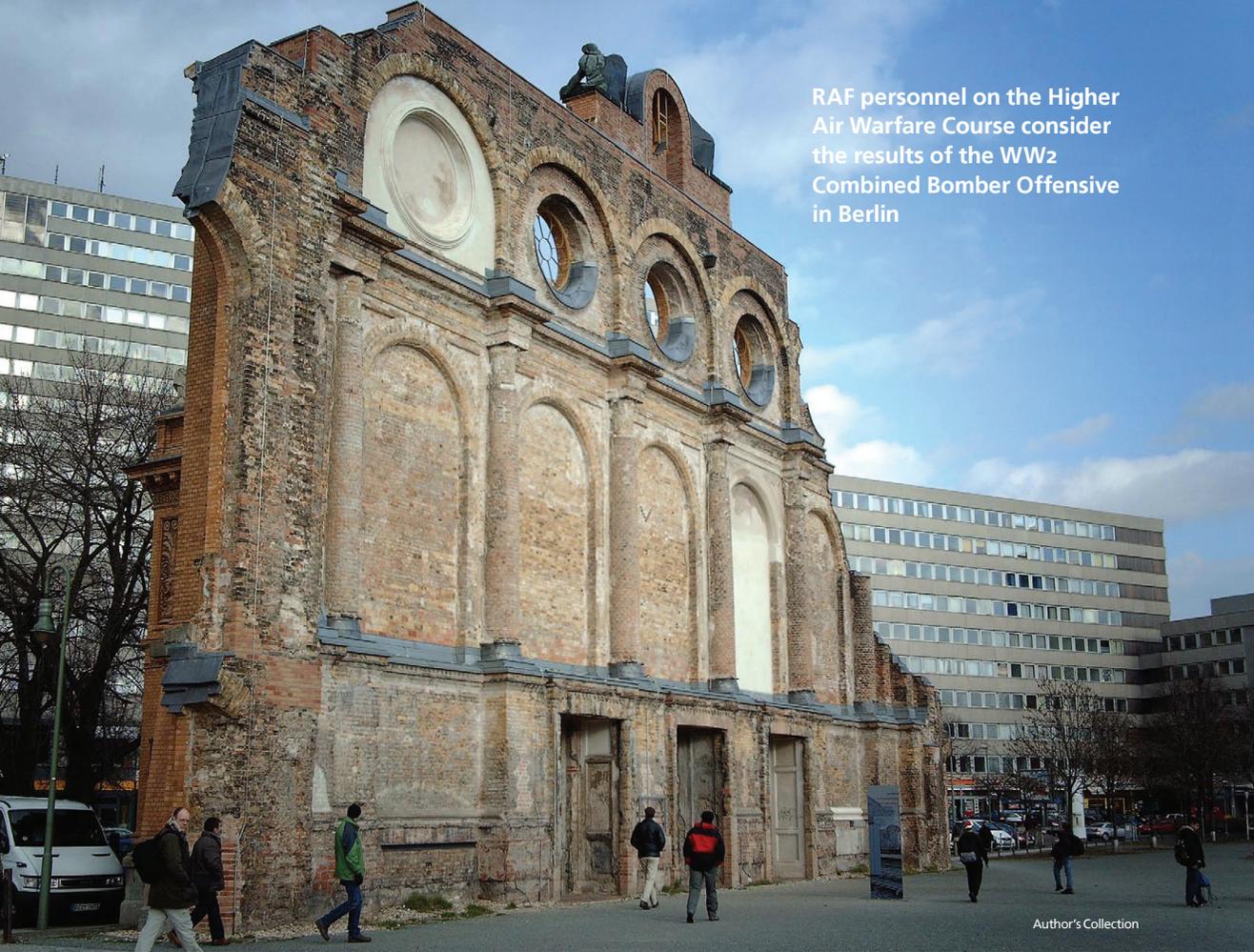
grave. In any event there is no documentary evidence to show that Condon was in fact 13 yrs old, a search of birth and census records in and around his place of birth revealing that only 2 boys with the given names of John Condon were born in that area, one in 1894, the other in 1896, this being most likely to be our man by other corroborating evidence. For more details go to www.cwgc.co.uk/Condonevidence.htm.

9 "George Llewellyn Davies, buried in Voormezele Enclosure No.3 was the inspiration for J M Barrie's 'Peter Pan' "

Probably wrong according to published sources – it is more likely that the youngest of the children was actually the inspiration and that George was part of the "Lost Boys", but, what the hell, why waste a perfectly good, findable and accessible grave and a cracking story?

10 "The cavalry attack on High Wood on 14th July resulted in the wholesale massacre of the attacking cavalry"

Wrong – in fact, casualties were comparably light, the cavalry reversing when it became clear that they were facing stiff opposition. It is accepted they lost 10 men killed and 91 wounded. (Source: "Battleground Europe-Bazentin Ridge, Edward Hancock"). ■



RAF personnel on the Higher Air Warfare Course consider the results of the WW2 Combined Bomber Offensive in Berlin

Author's Collection

BATTLEFIELD TOURS OF THE AIR By Pete Hawtin

I read with interest in the last issue of *The Battle Guide* that I received, Steve Smiths' article on the Battle of Britain and noted his comments about whether it is possible to run a battlefield tour of 'the air'. Well the answer is an emphatic Yes and it is happening on a regular basis across the globe within the RAF.

How do I know this? Well, on 1 Feb 2008 I published the new RAF Policy for Staff Rides, I held the budget for this activity and I was the focal point for authority for said exercises to go ahead! To provide even more Guild presence to this process I also worked directly for fellow Badged Guide Andy White – unbelievably the first

serving RAF Badged Guides in the only organisation in the Service with Staff Rides as a measurable output! Times have moved on and I am now back in the fold of the Regiment, however Andy has now taken things to the next level through provision of training for unit personnel in how to deliver this effect.

To explain. In 2004 their

'Airships' at the highest echelons of the RAF command structure formally acknowledged an enduring requirement to educate all our airmen (and women) of every rank and profession in aspects of air power, ethos, heritage and a little more besides. Whilst this was already happening to a greater or lesser extent on the numbered squadrons, wings and other

units, there was a distinct need to ensure that the same applied across the board to those fulfilling other, sometimes lone appointments. The answer was to offer a form of military education familiar to us all as something akin to a battlefield tour. Whilst this kind of activity has been well catered for in the Army and at Joint Staff College for many years, it was not something that the RAF as a whole had hitherto contemplated as a requirement.

However, as the clue was in the title, by definition battlefield tours tend to focus on er,..... battlefields. The RAF required a different approach, so as well as adding an 'air dimension' to a tour the active engagement of participants was sought through empowering them to deliver certain aspects of the exercise themselves.

Additionally, a modern focus (acknowledging the 90th Anniversary of the RAF) was also required to allow participants to draw comparison and contrast from / with the past to the way we do business today. The title 'Staff Ride' was chosen over the more obvious 'Battlefield Tour' before my tenure and whilst the RAF usage differs from the Army definition of the term, it does serve to distinguish between the two. My published definition of an RAF Staff Ride was therefore:

'The guided, participatory analysis of selected historical operations at relevant locations, in order to develop the moral and conceptual components of Air and Fighting Power across the RAF.'

The focus is upon the why

and the how of an operational aspect and seeks to analyse the historic events and to make comparisons / contrasts with today. Areas for study include leadership, air power, deployed operations and ethos. Whilst maintaining a distinct 'light blue' flavour exercises often examine joint and combined operations as well as concepts of air employment first seen in WW1. For instance, the examination of the lay down of the RFC airfield at Abele in Belgium in 1915 reveals lessons the are equally applicable at B3 expeditionary airfield in Normandy in 1944 and at Camp Bastion in Afghanistan in 2008. Erstwhile enemies are not forgotten either as lessons in Air Land Integration employed by the Germans during the Blitzkrieg of 1940 can be applied to the Allied approach in Normandy

Describing the vulnerability of airborne transport aircraft to ground fire to RAF Police personnel at La Fiere, Normandy



Author's Collection

Describing the vulnerability of airborne transport aircraft to ground fire to RAF Police personnel at La Fiere, Normandy



and again contrasted with modern operational issues. The majority of RAF trades can be catered for in this manner. I recently advised some engineering officers that examining the operational tempo of aircraft turn around in the WW2 Malta air battle was directly applicable to the high tempo of operational turn around required of Harrier ground crews at Khandahar in 2007 and beyond. This was a fact not lost on them as it is something that requires a good deal of leadership, motivation and skill to get right at 4 o'clock in the morning in Afghanistan when a ground call-sign is screaming for air support.

Whilst on the surface, RAF Staff Rides resemble battlefield

tours, it is the air centric, forward looking, participatory element that makes them different. Furthermore, the Chief of Air Staff endorses their use and has provided the budget to allow them to go ahead without personal contribution, something that is currently unique in that respect across the Armed services today and something that might explain why few commercial companies have RAF parties sign up for their tours. Before seasoned guides and tour managers throw up their hands in horror at the thought of groups of 'blue jobs' touring the world at government expense unguided and alone I must explain that each application has to pass rigorous scrutiny at a number of different stages before it

receives authority to proceed. Furthermore, we are incredibly fortunate to have robust academic support from Kings College London, Director of Defence Studies (RAF), on occasion the Air Historical Branch and of course, Badged Guides Hawtin and White, all which come at little or no cost to the service. Additionally, Andy White now runs a training programme which aims to provide organisers with the necessary background to provide the administrative support to the exercises. Before deployment many units undertake presentations to wider audiences on stations, some of whom utilise the services of veterans and even vintage aircraft or equipment. Comprehensive daily de-briefs and discussion periods are

conducted 'in the field' and on return a detailed Post Exercise Report is compiled, extracts from which are briefed to the Chief of Air Staff.

At time of writing (originally in Apr 2008) I had in excess of 50 applications for exercises either waiting to deploy or actually out and about. Units have studied well-known air actions such as the 'Dambusters' Raid and Battle of Britain, to the well-known, but often forgotten 'non-kinetic' example of Air Power, the Berlin Airlift. RAF personnel have carried out the WW2 POW 'Long March', transited through the 'Comete Line', studied ballistic missile defence against Hitler's V 1 – 3 weapons, paid their respects at

St Omer airfield in France and stood in windswept, haunted acres of the 8th Air Force and Bomber Command in Lincolnshire. In addition there are staff rides as an integral part of the RAF Intelligence Officers Course (courtesy of Andy White), the RAF Regiment Junior Officers Course and the RAF Regiment Sniper Section Commanders Course (both courtesy of Hawtin) as well as various course delivered by the Air Warfare Centre. All these are in addition to tours examining other areas of the operational art we are more familiar with (Normandy and Walcheren spring to mind) as well as ethos, repatriation and the Operational Welfare Package

(The Hop Store and Toc H). To that end I would say that it is more than possible to carry out an air related battlefield tour – it happens on a weekly basis!

Pete Hawtin is a RAF Regiment Squadron Leader. Since having joined the RAF in 1988, he has seen operational service in Gulf 1, Falkland Islands, NATO (Bosnia), Kuwait, Gulf 2 and NATO (Afghanistan), and is currently responsible for delivering Operational Pre-Deployment Training for Afghanistan.

In 2007 Pete became the first serving member of the RAF to become a Badged Guide, having joined the Guild at its launch in 2003. Pete has badge No. 28. ■



Author's Collection

Padres Peace at Langemarck

MARRIAGE PROPOSAL By Richard Peters

It was a small party, my daughter, her husband, a girlfriend of hers, Emma, and her Army Officer boyfriend, George, for a quick Friday to Sunday to take George to see his Great Uncle's scenes of action in the 63rd Division and finally, his grave. I had prepared carefully, researched in the battles, arranged for George to read the exhortation at the Menin Gate, and, I thought, attended to every detail. During the weekend, I sensed that George, veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan, was not paying full attention; I upped the passion, the pathos, increased the detail, but never felt that I had 'achieved' as guide. On Sunday evening, as we dispersed, he thanked me courteously and we separated.

On Monday evening I learned from my wife why I had failed; George, despairing of an appropriate moment during the tour had proposed to Emma on a rainswept street in South London on Sunday evening – the ring had been in his pocket all weekend – I had totally failed to provide a suitable venue for the proposal!

Will one of the validators tell me what I should have done? ■

DON'T WORRY DEAR YOU WILL GET THERE IN THE END By Vern Littley

This article is not about a battle, campaign or about battlefield touring and I fully accept that it seems a strange title for an article for the Guild magazine, but please let me explain why. A few years ago like others before and now after me, I steadily worked through and submitted the various assignments to earn the Guild badge. When one December afternoon years ago I rang my wife and she said that three self-addressed A4 envelopes had arrived. Immediately, I knew that they were marked Guild assignments and like a child at Christmas I asked her to open them and tell me the results.

After what seemed like hours as she opened the envelopes and started to check the results on the feedback sheets. I crossed my fingers and was suddenly emotionally

broken when she said "That I had been referred on all three assignments". She knew how upset I was and said those wonderful words of encouragement and which are now the title of this short article.

After the shock and horror set in, I slowly began to regain my composure and analysed where I had gone wrong, "Not enough detail", "Where are the chemists and what are its opening hours?" and "You need to relook at the assignment question and resubmit etc". Perhaps, too many would have given up at this point, but no, I learnt from my failings and again began to work and more importantly learn the valuable lesson about becoming a badged guide and what the Guild and its founders expected of me. I continued to carry out further research, look for the unexpected in the assignment question and recognised that facts however small, whether it be different presentation methods, modern day features, historical aspects, understanding sources were vital and I suddenly realised how much a guide was expected and needed to know.

As the months and years rolled by, I slowly began to believe that I could get my badge and that success was in sight. The boxes on the Guild Website started one by one, to get ticked off and that I might just succeed, even after my previous failings - sorry referrals. Then finally came the day that I finally completed all nine and received my Badge in the post. I can honestly say although a private affair in my living room it was a very proud moment, which was only surpassed years later by walking out in front of the Guild at Uxbridge, to properly be presented with my badge by our patron Richard Holmes.

When I wear my badge on past battlefields, I feel very proud to be a badged guide. Now in hindsight, I thank the validators for their support and encouragement and for being hard on me in those early December days some four or so years ago. I fully accept that I am a better guide for doing the assignments and am proud with what I have achieved and stand proudly when the "Referral Club toast" is proposed. Finally, the last person who must be remembered and thanked for helping me to success was my wife and as I walked out to collect my badge from the Patron, I remembered my wife's words again and yes "My dear, I did get there in the end". So thanks to all in the Guild but especially... thank you, Mrs Littley! ■

Keys By Ian U Endo

Imagine the scene. Two badged Guild members who shall remain anonymous [but lets call them 033 and 038] are being really professional and doing a pre-tour recce high in the Vosges mountains.

After an early breakfast and equipped with two cars they indulge in an exciting race along a switchback mountain road abounding with tight Z bends for some kilometres before 038 gets fed up with 033 flashing his lights in some testosterone laden attempt to pass and decides to stop and see what the blazes is bothering 033. Merely a pair of boots left on the roof of the car...

The planned route itself is a linear walk from a summit to the foot of the mountain so our dynamic duo leave one car at the end before returning to the start in the 2nd car and setting off knowing that a car awaits at the end of the walk. Great day follows on the mountain with all routes and times established and it is an elated if exhausted duo who arrive at the 2nd car.

Assignment 5: Problems on Tour - what do you do when the keys of your car are safely locked in another car, a mere 600m of ascent and 2 hours walk away?

Plan B = a lovely French lady and a bottle of champagne [you owe me 033!].

Moral of Story: Ensure that you have a key clip in a secure pocket where you affix your car keys before leaving the car and always, always carry a bottle of champagne! ■

D-day Kebab By Sharon Parks

This tale was related to us by Jack Smith of Gravesend Kent, who served as a stoker on the Steam Tugboat Empire Class "Betsy" for 6 months in 1944.

Jack was 21 at the time and had been working on the tugs for 3 years, his 16 year old brother had lied about his age and joined Jack on board.

In early June 1944 "Betsy" was one of the 2 Empire class tugboats assigned to escort the blockships that were to

be sunk to form the breakwater off of Arromanches, Mulberry "B" (The other tug was called "Winnie").

Having set off on June 5th from Gravesend, they were re-directed to Poole, to wait for 24 hours. They sailed across on the night 6/7 June arriving early on the 7th.

Jack thought they escorted 17 ships, Arromanches museum states that there were 15.

Sinking the first ship was done by opening the seacocks, Jack relates that it didn't sink fast enough and went slightly out of the required line, after that, explosives were used to blow the bottoms out of the remaining ships.

Jack relates the story of one ship, due to be sunk, which had a Greek captain. It was normal in those days for the Merchant marine to keep rabbits and chickens on board to provide fresh meat for the crew, and eggs if you were lucky.

The Greek captain had on board 17 sheep..... When questioned by the Eastend tugboat men as to what would be done with the sheep, the Captain was philosophical "I have no crew to feed, the sheep can go down with the ship".

The tug crew thought this was tough on the sheep but sheep would be worth something at Billingsgate! They could keep them until they returned to England... scheduled to be in about 3 months! The crew each hoisted a sheep on to their shoulders and carried them onto their tug.

After 2 days and nights of constant baaing and sheep clumping up and down the deck over their bunks the tug boat men admitted their mistake and sold the sheep on to another ship.

Jack spent 3 months at Arromanches, took 9 days leave then returned for another 3 months. He went ashore once in the whole time he was working in the harbour, to collect some mail.

The sad part of the story, is that his 16 year old brother was killed in a tug boat accident off the East Coast of England on New Years Day 1945, just before his 17th birthday. ■

JOURNAL SUBMISSIONS

By the Editor

The deadline for the next issue is Friday, 15th January. 2010 and will concentrate on WWII so your suggestions and contributions are invited. To avoid possible duplication and resultant disappointment, please discuss your idea first with the editor before you put finger to keyboard.

Any battlefield description should enable readers to understand the topography so maps are of real importance: considerations should also be given to details useful to the visitor such as especial access and accommodation.

Personal memoirs are always welcome but please try and relate them to specific battlefields or significant events and illustrate wherever possible with visual material.

Photographs: hackneyed saying it may be, but “a good photograph is worth a thousand words”, so please, wherever possible, provide photographs and maps: the latter are essential in our work as guides and enable the reader to relate the article to specific ground.

Please note that a photograph which looks good on your computer screen, does not mean it will reproduce on the printed page. Almost certainly any picture which you have downloaded off the internet will not reproduce well and anyhow, is it your copyright? Photographs taken using mobile phones will work provided they are shot using the largest possible picture size and set to “Superfine” or its equivalent.

If you are using a camera then please ensure that it is also set to produce the highest quality images: submitted images should be at least 8” [20cms.] longest dimension and set at 240 pixels per inch. When these are saved as Jpg files they will be about 1Mb in size: merely send them as a Jpg attached to an email. If you have any doubts then please consult the editor for advice. Please do not embed any pictures within your article but submit

them separately: pictures submitted as part of a Powerpoint file will be rejected.

It is essential that you ensure that all pictures and maps etc have copyright clearance so any material which is not of your own creation should always be supplied with credits and attributions. Failure to do so is likely to result in both pictures and article being rejected.

Please note that articles which have already been published in similar journals such as the WFA Bulletin are unlikely to be considered for publication unless of exceptional significance.

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