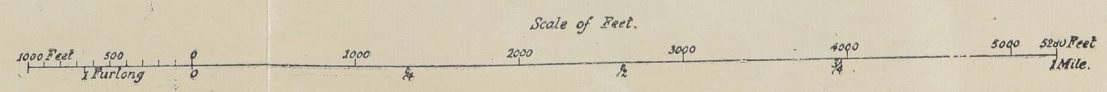
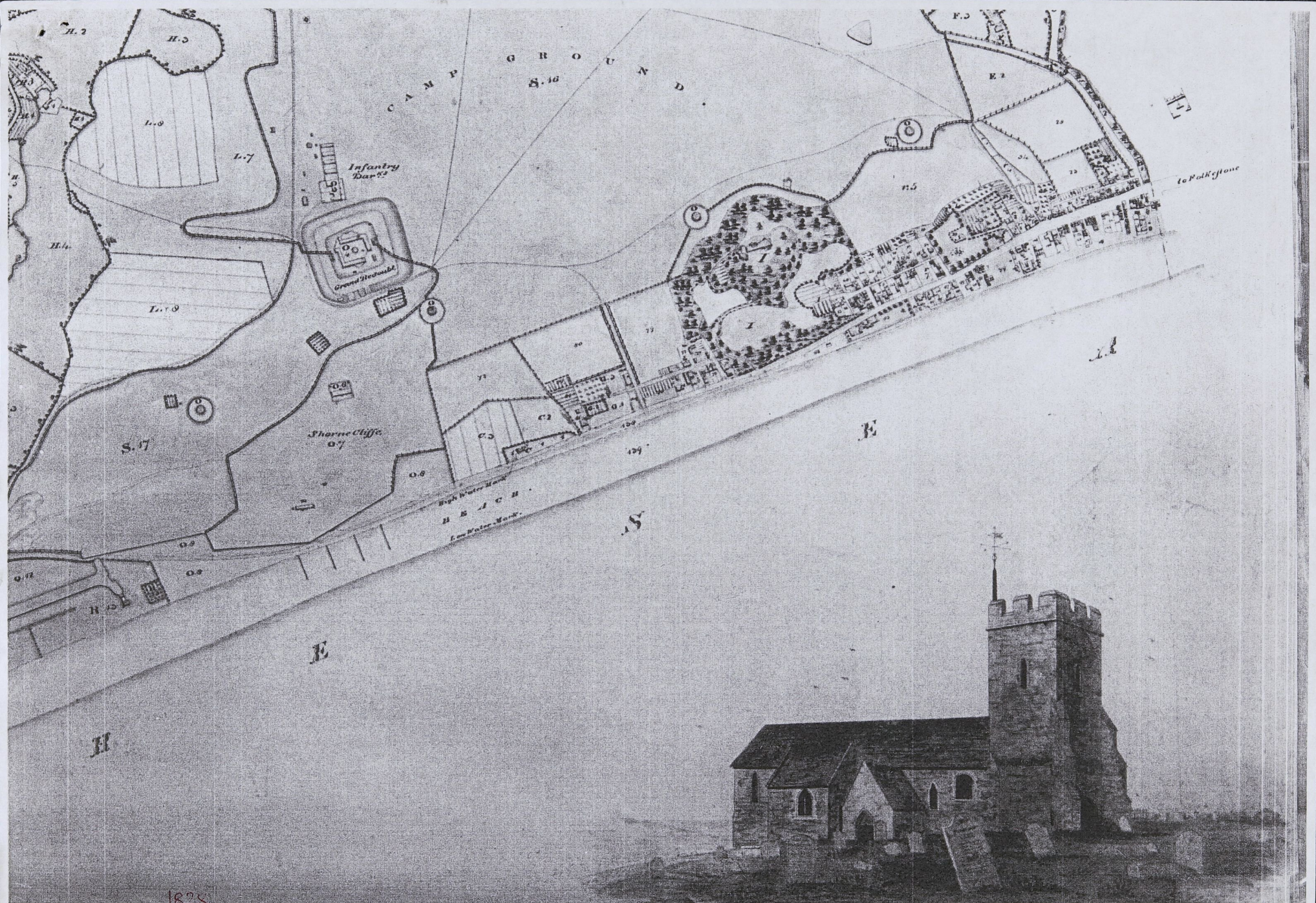


WAR DEPARTMENT BOUNDARY IS INDICATED THUS



H. HARLEY
 SHORNCLIFFE
 20.5.1922



1828

From John Adams map, Parish of Cheriton. (Hexagase Room: F'stone Public Library) 1828

St. Martin's Horn St:

Sandgate

I Mauson & Pleasance Grounds
owned & occupied by Dawson Esq
14. 3. 2

V. 1. The Moors } 3 } Sunex
2. Boot Field } 6. 0. 34 } Land
3. Slip } 3 2 }

m 4 Sheat Hill H. 2. 16

Cliff Land (under cliff)

Jas & Henry Jeffery

82 Waddell's Reading room
& Land

89 Fayler & Co Hot & Cold Baths

101 Roberts, New Iron Yards & R. Marsh 33

138 Land between road & High
water mark H. 2. 7

139 Beach between High & low water
mark H. 1. 36

Total of Parish 1789. 0. 23

Alexander Melnyk in name of - 94
Wm Melnyk of name Sandratt (Castle Hill)
for Hytha - of St. Clare - dan & Henry
my Alex? Name who took the name
of Melnyk in lieu of Stunne

Government Land ¹²⁷ 1828

1. Cavalry Barracks & yard	5	1	11
2 Garden		1	8
3 Infantry Bks & yards		3	6
4 Redoubt Bks & yards		3	3
5 4 Towers 6. 7. 8 & 9	1		20
6 Hospital & yard			34
7 Shore Cliffe	14		35
8 Waste land adjoining road	5	2	17
9 Slip by Seabrook	3	2	2
10 on beyond	4		7
11 Cavalry Bk Field	5	3	15
12 Seabrook Field	3	3	
13 Land by sluice house & Lowinghall 17		1	24
14 Cannon Bank (slip)	3	1	4
15 Royal Military (cannon)	4		21
16 Camp Ground	156	1	10
17 Shore Cliffe Barrack ground	35	1	18
18 Military Rd to Sandgate	1		32

Total Govt. Land 259. 2. 35

3 Feb 1885 The rock wall forming the
old Castle Hole pond being re-
moved by R. E. Department.

audgale
Bd. of Health

31 James Dagnier	Sandgate		21	25 John Duested	Sandgate	2	30
31 Methodist Society	ch		11	42 Widow ch	ch		3
36 John Marsh	ch		16	44 Radnor Earl	Beach 48	1	36
38 Rich ^d Marsh	New Dm		36	10 Danley Earl	Eudbrook		30
38 Jas Flister	Sandgate		3	22 John Reynolds	Sandgate		24
39 Hoogben & Chester	d		4	22 Widow ch	ch		6
42 Joseph Marsh	d		14	25 John Rea	ch		30
42 Stephen ch	ch		23	29 Widow Russell	ch		12
43 Wm. Kennett	ch		4	34 Rich ^d Roberts	ch		32
Collar & Dennis				43 Stephen Marsh	ch		4
20 Ordnance	Barracks	41 3	39	18 Stephen Samiden	ch	2	
21 John Reynolds	Cavalry Bk field	5 3	15	31 R. K. Somerfield	ch		14
22 Jas Dames	Sandgate		3	35 Shaw Sir J Bt	ch	3	13
22 Widow Moore	ch		2	39 Ben Madcock	ch		3
22 Wm Coleman	d		2	39 Thomas Sherlock	d		21
23 Jas Daniels	d		8	42 Widow Saunders	ch		12
24 Rich ^d Laddell	d		2	43 Ann Lomes	ch		4
24 John Moorey	d		2	44 Widow Osborne	ch		2
25 Rich ^d Graves	d		6	31 James Taylor	ch		14
Ambrose Nymann	ch		17	33 Lewis Paine	ch		14
James Bugg	ch		4	33 Mrs Taylor	ch		76
Stephen Page	ch		25	40 D. Munnery	d		76
Richard Page	ch		13	43 Matts Tiddeman	ch		9
Overton & Othen	ch		7	44 Mrs Valer	d		12
Lewis Paine	ch		10	81 Mrs Beattie	d		23
Thomas Purday	ch		15	33 John Wright	d		19
William Hall	ch		7	35 Madalith	Reading ²	2	18
Richard Page	ch		1 9	38 Hy Hoghen	Sandgate		2
Cyrus Purday	ch		2 6				
Robert Paine	ch		16				
Henry Peake	d		5				

Bd. of Health

Extracts from a Survey of Cheriton
Parish by John Adams Junr 1828

of Hawkhurst & Dover, Land Survey
occupiers

No.	Name	Location	Acres	Roods	Furlongs
42	Ashtell Thos.	Saudgate	1	4	12
30	Ayers Hy	clv	4	2	8
1	W. Locke Buchanan	Joy Collage			
28	Baxter James	Saudgate			14
29	Beattie James	clv			27
43	Baleman Stephen	clv			15
44	Rolfe Hy *	clv			7
45	Burk Joseph	clv	1	35	5
23	Auslet *	clv	1	34	
34	Cooper Thos	clv			31
36	Cook Peter	clv			13
36	Coleman	clv			1
38	Chester Wm	clv			1
3	Dawkins Hy	Seabrook Farm	56	3	33
4	clv	Saudgate	14	3	2
18	Darley Earl	Saudgate Endbrook	2	35	8
23	Drainer Jas	Saudgate			13
34	Dunn Thos	clv			6
24	Cock Henry *	clv			5
25	Mrs Farnor *	clv			25
36	Evelyn Alex Eng	clv			8
29	S. Macdonald *	clv			8
29	Ashtell & Nickalls *	clv			11
31	Fox John	clv			2
41	Fisher Francis	clv			20
41	Fisher Wm *	clv			3
41	Widow Hogben	clv			5
41	Elis ^m Fisher *	clv			10
27	Risk Graves	clv			5
23	John Hollis	clv			7
26	John Hogben	clv			7
26	Valentine Harro	clv			10
26	Hammond and Nilton	clv			10

occupiers

26	Nomi Boys *	clv			
28	Lamesh Stein	clv			
28	Hall Wm	clv			
34	Hoile Jas	clv			
34	Joy Wm *	clv			
35	Hammerley Wm	clv			
35	W. C. Brokeham	clv			
37	Stobbs Jas *	clv			
38	Hoile Robt	clv			
39	John Chas *	clv			
40	Am Hobbs	clv			
40	John Else *	clv			
44	Hall Wm	clv			
15	Jas Jeffery Junr	clv			
16	clv				
37	Johnson Wm	clv			
37	Hoile L. Beck	clv			
37	Jas Hobbs	clv			
37	Wm Daniells	clv			
38	Wm Harro	clv			
25	John Hadcock	clv			
30	Widow Laws	clv			
32	Wm Hall	clv			
32	Joseph Hodges	clv			
32	Hall	clv			
40	Wm Waddell	clv			
40	Wm Lennimon	clv			
44	W. Lewis	clv			
27	Rev D. G. Kenne	clv			
27	Loves Stein	clv			
29	do	clv			
23	Lewis & May Ted	clv			
24	John Moorey	clv			
24	John Mepsted	clv			
28	David Mannering	clv			
28	John Williams	clv			

Saudgate

Acres	Roods	Furlongs
3	1	25
1	1	17
		20
		30
		15
		12
6	3	3
		1
		8
		3
		12
		10
10		21
1	2	12
		27
		2
		2
		3
		3
		7
		14
		9
		23
		3
		4
		6
		4
2	2	31
		14
		19
		3
		3
		11
		5
		5

Egham 15th edn. 11-
1893-4

Shorncliffe is approached from Sandgate Broadway on the south-east and south-west by two military roads, winding very picturesquely up the ascent to the plateau. In addition to these, the Camp is reached by a road on the north side, leading from the main road between Folkestone and Newington, and the pedestrian or horseman can avail himself of two or three other foot or bridal paths, which



CAMP FROM THE NORTH.

serve as approaches from various points. Perhaps the most pleasing for pedestrians, from Folkestone, is the footpath leading through the fields from Cheriton Road, past Ingles Farm, and down the valley to the estate of Lord Pelham; then go up the gorge which passes close to the main guard-house on the Camp; but however

approached, the Camp will repay a visit, as from its elevated position extensive land and sea views are commanded. Seaward, the white cliffs of France appear, and the surface of the channel and the fine semi-circular sweep of Dungeness Bay are dotted with vessels of every rig and tonnage. To the westward a splendid view of Romney Marsh is obtained; whilst in the extreme distance the Fairlight Downs, near Hastings, are seen. To the north are spread fertile meadows and cornfields, bounded by the back bone of Kent.

The Camp consists of ranges of wooden and cement huts forming three sides of a square, and numbered A, B, C, D, and E; the soldiers' huts occupying the first two rows of each range, whilst the officers' huts and officers compose the third and fourth rows. Each range is calculated for a battalion of a thousand men, in addition to which there are permanent barracks capable of accommodating two batteries of artillery, and a new range of cavalry barracks. New concrete and brick-built huts are superseding the old wooden buildings, and the barrack accommodation is being continually added to. A commodious church is situated in the south-west angle, and during 1860, a permanent character was given to the Camp by the erection of substantial reading rooms, brick built, and also of a capital fives-court to each range, for the recreation and amusement of the private soldiers, but now very little used. The visitor to the Camp will not fail to notice near the church a large iron tank on arches, surmounted by a clock. This contains the main supply of water for the Camp, which is provided by the Folkestone Water Works Company, from their reservoir at Cherry Gardens. The water is supplied by the Company to a reservoir half-way up the eastern military road, and from thence pumped by a small

*Exhib 15th edn. V-
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engine to the tank above noticed, where it is equally distributed throughout the entire range of buildings, supplying the huts from standards, as well as the ablution rooms and wash-houses which are in every range. On the southern slope of the heights, between Sandgate and Seabrook station, sheltered by the cliff from the bleak north and north-east winds; is placed the general hospital for the camp, the buildings composing which are erected in four terraces, rising one above the other, while lower down, to the right, is a hospital for women and children. Shorncliffe, from its elevation above the sea, its dry sub-soil, and bracing air from the north and north-east, will long maintain the reputation it has acquired for salubrity and freedom from sickness among the troops stationed there, which usually comprise three or four battalions of infantry, detachments of cavalry, the Military Train, Royal Engineers, as well as brigades of Royal Artillery. Shorncliffe is also the headquarters of the Major General commanding the south-eastern district, whose command extends from Maidstone to Brighton, in Sussex. During the Crimean War, in 1854-56, the German Legion was stationed here, and the first division of the troops was reviewed by Queen Victoria, in person, on the 9th August, 1855. In January, 1859, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales visited Shorncliffe, and presented Colours to the 100th, or Prince of Wales' Royal Canadian Regiment, and in June, 1884, he again attended to inspect the 10th Hussars (of which regiment he is colonel), on their return from the campaign in Egypt.

Near the Military Road, leading from the Wheatley Memorial Fountain in High Street, Sandgate, to the Camp, Sir John Duncan Bligh, late ambassador to the Court of Hanover, erected a very handsome mansion in the

Tudor style, now the residence of Lord Chichester, which forms a prominent and pleasing object in the view from the lofty plateau on which the Camp is situated, its surrounding grounds being very tastefully laid out in terraces.

Sandgate Castle was built by Henry VIII., and is identical in design with the three others erected by that monarch at Sandown, Deal, and Walmer, for the defence of the shore. One seems previously to have existed here, for Hasted quotes a writ of Richard II. to the Captain of Sandgate Castle directing him to "admit his kinsman, Henry of Lancaster, with his family and horses, to tarry here for six weeks;" of this no traces now remain, though the name given to the hollow near to the barracks of "castle hole" probably indicates a proximity to the site. The Castle has been disused for a long time.

The Church is dedicated to St. Paul. It was formerly a Chapel of Ease, built by the late Earl of Darnley, and consecrated in May, 1822. It is now a Consolidated Chapelry, and District Parish, formed out of the adjoining parishes of Folkestone and Cheriton. It is not an elegant building, but has been enlarged and made capable of accommodating eight hundred persons. There is a fair organ, and two memorial stained glass windows, one to the memory of the late James Marjoribanks, Esq., and the other of Colonel Wylie, late Churchwarden. The living is in the patronage of the Vicar of Folkestone, and the Vicar of Sandgate derives his income entirely from the payments for seats and voluntary offerings, the Church being unendowed.

As the visitor enters Sandgate by either of the roads from Folkestone, his attention will be attracted by the handsome red-brick-and-slated pile of buildings extending from the Broadway to the Castle, which was erected some

Shorncliffe was built to defend the south coast from Napoleon in 1796 and was home to Sir John Moore who designed and created the legendary Martello Towers



Marching from Shorncliffe Camp

As the birth place of the Light Infantry Brigade and the legendary Green Jackets of the 95th Rifles, Shorncliffe was the gateway to the trenches of WW1 where 3 million British and Commonwealth soldiers trained and departed to Europe. In addition, it was home to War Horse stables that trained and recuperated horses that served on the front line. Home to 650,00 Canadian soldiers during WW1, Shorncliffe still celebrates Canada Day every year. The history of Shorncliffe covers the time period from 1800 to the present day in British military history.

Sir John Moore



Shorncliffe Trust was set up to:

- Redevelop the Shorncliffe Redoubt and surrounding land, Sandgate into a first class educational & heritage centre that will attract tourism from around the world
- Provide facilities on site for recreation and create jobs and training for the local community
- Utilise the experience and knowledge of its management team to provide consultancy services to the heritage tourism industry

As seen on



IWM Partner



26 April

WO 44/603 1812 from John Brown

p.249 The half bastion next the Canal is formed and in a few days the foundation to the elevated face, & the low plank Wall will be laid. Advantage has been taken of a large quantity of superfluous Earth and Stones produced from the excavation which has been wheeled across the Canal and laid behind the Beach opposite to the Sluice which adds considerable strength to it in its weakest part.

The Bridge to introduce the Sandgate Road across the New Cut is prepared, and as soon as the stank which separates this part of the Work from the Canal is removed, the Water defence will be established. It is however to be observed that such is the magnitude of the Ordnance Work adjoining, that some years will still be required to complete it, and as the defence of the one depends on that of the other, no other advantage is gained by expediting that part which belongs to the Commissioners, except the satisfaction of having it out of hand.

Danish Guns I beg also to mention that it would be desirable to remind the Master General of the Ordnance that the Cannon, Carriages, Side Arms and other Stores (promised last ~~year~~ Season but which were necessarily delayed in consequence of the danger of landing them at Shorncliffe, so late in the Year) are now required, to request that they may be forwarded without further delay and landed at that place opposite the left extremity of the Royal Military Canal.

During the year 1812 to 1813, the work at Shorncliffe, both excavation and masonry was complete, the drawbridge laid down. The alteration to the public road leading to the Bridge, on both sides made and gravelled a Quay or landing Wharf 40 feet long of masonry had been built at the Seabrook extremity of the Canal for the landing of Timber and other heavy articles.

The military road and towing path were to be covered with beach one foot thick and six inches respectively. Between 2 and 3000 tons of shingle or beach were conveyed by barge each day to covering the Military Road and towing path.

STRICT MEASURES

Around 1845, we note that about 31 acres which included the Parapet, Military Road and Towing path were to be let for grazing. On condition that the ground was to be grazed by sheep only -- no part to be mown or broken down And should heavier beasts than sheep be put thereon it was to be clearly understood and agreed that such beasts may and shall be impounded. It sounds like wheel clamping.

Weeding not to be neglected, ground to be weeded, nettles cut and the thistles spudded at least 3 times a year. We could wish that this area were today equally well maintained. Honl Board of Ordnance.

Directors Report 1825 A violent storm in the winter of 1824 occasioned the removal of a considerable part of the great bank of shingle near Hythe and the sea, after inundating the intermediate country nearly forced an Entrance into the Canal. This part of the coast remains in an unprotectable state, the sluices belonging to the Corporation of Hythe ~~have been~~ were destroyed and have now been replaced.

A considerable quantity of silt entered the Canal by the breaking down of some Mill ponds in the Sea Brook rivulet during the same stormy weather. This however can be removed so soon as the sluice at Shorncliffe shall be completed.

Report 1823 The quick fences are thriving -- a considerable extent of the Military Road between Shorncliff and Hythe has now been planted.

1823. A new seagate at the head of the Trunk and a stone apron will be required to complete the works at the sluice, and as the security of the Canal depends upon the efficiency of the Sluice, the work will be continued until completed.

was built around 1775
11
The NEW INN, later known as the Royal Kent Hotel, was situated next to William Hall's boatbuilding yard. In 1806 it was considered the principal Inn and was run by Richard Marsh.

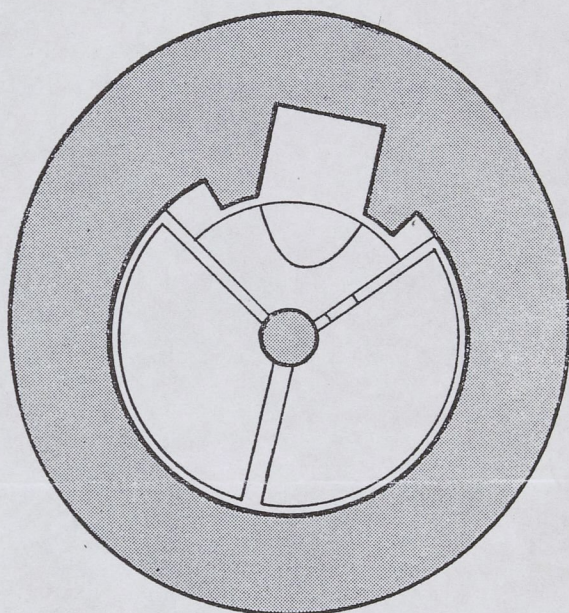
Well, here we have William Ford's view of the New Inn, a lugger pulled up on the beach alongside. Men at work caulking their boats. And in the foreground, the recruiting officer getting the hapless local yokels well ginned up before pressing the King's shilling upon them

Well, here we have William Ford scene of village life. Here is the New Inn, a lugger pulled up on the beach alongside. Men at work caulking their boats. And in the foreground, the recruiting officer getting the hapless yokels well ginned up, before pressing the King's shilling upon them. More fodder for the Peninsular Wars.

SLIDE
Many of us still remember the Royal Kent Hotel, a weatherboarded building with a pillared portico which lent enormous charm to the High St. It was scandalous but quite typical of the Folkestone Council to refuse to make a preservation order on this historic 18th building, having already granted permission in May 1961 to demolish it. The Sandgate Society was quickly formed, under the leadership of Mrs Greenwall. in an attempt to bring pressure to bear to save the building. Although it was considered, architecturally the best pre-19th century building in Sandgate, the developers as usual got their way. 1775
And what have we got in its place today. The John Moore block of flats and Riviera Court, painted shit yellow.

It is thought that Mrs Siddons may have stayed here, when in 1797 1789 towards the end of she came to sebathe, to restore her health.

'I have bathed four times' she wrote, and I believe I shall persevere for Lucas Pepys says my disease is entirely nervous. I believe I am better but I get on so slowly, that I cannot speak as yet with much certainty'. Mrs Piozzi, however, had other her own views on the subject, and so Mrs Siddons Disorder that we have all been at such a stand about turns upon close Examination to be neither more than the P -- - given her by her Husband. what a world it is!



Ground floor plan of tower no 23 at Dymchurch, showing cavity in thickest part of the wall for highly inflammable materials

On the ground floor every precaution was taken to avoid accidents by fire. As there were no windows, light was provided by a lantern placed on a shelf in the magazine partition wall behind which a sheet of glass was fixed thus forming an internal window. In this way the naked flame was kept well away from the combustible material. As little metal as possible was used in constructing the magazine to avoid sparks; wherever metal was essential, copper was used as it is less liable to spark than other metals. The door hinges and latch were made of this material and the door itself was covered

From Mythe Barrack Nov 28 1824 (WO 44/55)

... in putting up a Gate as proposed to shut up the Military Road near Seabrook the object in view is merely to prevent persons from making a thoroughfare across the exercising ground by which so much injury has been done to it and which can be prevented in no other manner, if this were to be left open all the other precautions would be rendered perfectly useless. The Key will be left with the Sergeant at the Sluice House from whom it can at all times be obtained and there will be no objection to the Barrack Master and others who may have occasion to make frequent use of that Road having Keys.

Signed Lord Greenock Lt Col RE Staff Coy.

THE GARRISON

CHURCH OF

ST MARK,



SHORNCLIFFE

11TH November 1998

AN ACT OF REMEMBRANCE
on the 80th Anniversary of
ARMISTICE DAY



with a

FINAL SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR

57 YEARS

OF WORSHIP AND MINISTRY IN ST MARK'S CHURCH

dedicated 16th July 1941

The Service will be conducted by:
The Reverend J C D Cook CF
Deputy Assistant Chaplain General
and
Chaplain of St Mark's Garrison Church

The Sermon will be preached by
The Venerable J J Holliman QHC
Deputy Chaplain General
and
Archdeacon for the Army

The following Clergy will assist at the Service:

The Reverend J B d'E Chittenden
Officiating Chaplain to HM Forces
at St Mark's Garrison Church

The Reverend Canon J H Wright
Rector of St Martin's, Cheriton

The Reverend D B Small
Rector of Holy Trinity Church, Wickwar,
Chaplain at St Mark's Garrison Church
1976 - 1978

The Reverend P J Evans
Sometime Officiating Chaplain to HM Forces
at St Mark's Garrison Church

The Reverend C A Mitchell CF
Chaplain to the 3rd Battalion The Parachute Regiment

Organist

D Bence Esq

Verger

J E Dawson Esq

ORDER OF SERVICE

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Hymn

Stand

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home;

Beneath the shadow of thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone,
And our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting thou art God,
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home.

*During this hymn Standards are brought up
and presented at the High Altar.*

Greeting and Bidding

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, we meet today in this holy Church, on the eightieth anniversary of the Armistice which brought to an end the Great War, in fellowship with men and women throughout this Kingdom and the whole Commonwealth, to thank God for all his mercy and goodness towards us, and to remember in prayer all those who laid down their lives on the Battlefields of Europe, Africa, Asia, the Far East and the Falklands, in the Air and on the High Seas, fighting for justice and peace. For the last time in this holy Church, dedicated during the dark days of the Second World War to St Mark the Evangelist, we beseech God's grace, that we in our lives may walk worthy of that great sacrifice. But first let us, in humility and a spirit of penitence, call to mind our sins, acknowledging that it is human selfishness and hardness of heart which lead to violence and conflict in this world.

Priest: Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of Peace:
Lord, have mercy.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Priest: Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin and division in our world:
Christ, have mercy.

All: **Christ, have mercy.**

Priest: Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of
God's kingdom,
Lord have mercy.

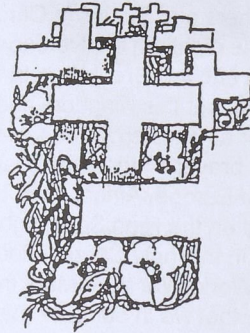
All: **Lord, have mercy.**

May Almighty God have mercy upon us, forgive us all our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Let us remember before God, and commend to His sure
keeping all those whom we knew, and whose memory
we treasure, and all who have lived and died in the service
of mankind.

"They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn;
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
we will remember them".

All: **We will remember them.**



The Last Post

The Silence

The Reveille

In the immortal words of the Kohima Epitaph:

“When you go home, tell them of us and say:
For your tomorrow we gave our today.”

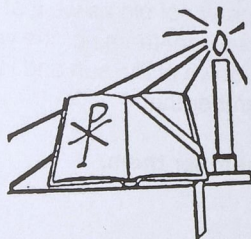
Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life; hear our prayers and thanksgiving for all whom we remember this day; fulfil in them the purpose of thy love; and bring us all, with them to thine eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Ecclesiasticus Chapter 44 verses 1 - 15

Read by Brigadier T J Minter OBE

Commander 2 (SE) Brigade



Hymn

Onward, Christian soldiers,
marching as to war,
with the Cross of Jesus
going on before.
Christ the royal Master
leads against the foe;
forward into battle,
see, his banners go:

*Onward, Christian soldiers,
marching as to war,
with the Cross of Jesus
going on before.*

At the sign of triumph
Satan's host doth flee;
on then, Christian soldiers,
on to victory.
Hell's foundations quiver
at the shout of praise;
brothers, lift your voices,
loud your anthems raise:

Like a mighty army
moves the Church of God;
brothers, we are treading
where the saints have trod:
we are not divided,
all one body we,
one in hope and doctrine,
one in charity:

Onward, then, ye people,
join our happy throng,
blend with ours your voices
in the triumph song:
glory, laud, and honour
unto Christ the King,
this through countless ages
men and angels sing:



Second Reading: Revelation Chapter 21 verses 1 - 4, 22 - 26.
Read by the Reverend J B d'E Chittenden OCF

Hymn

AND did those feet in ancient time
Walk upon England's mountains green?
And was the holy Lamb of God
On England's pleasant pastures seen?
And did the countenance divine
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here
Among those dark satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!
I will not cease from mental fight,
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
Till we have built Jerusalem
In England's green and pleasant land.

Sermon: *The Venerable J J Holliman QHC*
Deputy Chaplain General



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL



Kneel: Let us pray for the Church and for the world, and let us thank God for all his Goodness..

Especially on this day tinged with sadness do we thank God for the devoted ministry of chaplains and lay-people in this Church over many years. We thank him for all those whose lives he has touched for good in this place, for all those who have grown closer to Christ through the Proclamation of the Word and the Celebration of the Sacraments in this Church.

All: Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for all those Regiments and Battalions which have served in this Garrison, for all those Veterans' Associations and ex-Servicemen's and ex-Servicewomen's Organisations which have connections with this Church. Their flags, standards and memorials are all around us, and in this, the last Service in this Garrison Church, we ask for God's blessing on all their members, and for refreshment, light and peace for the souls of all who are commemorated here.

All: Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

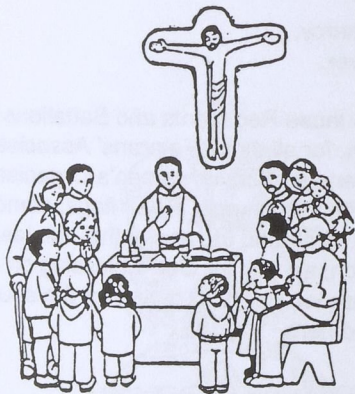
O Lord our Governor, we pray for your servant Elizabeth, set over us in your providence to be our Queen. Give her grace and wisdom to fulfil the varied duties of her calling, enrich her in the life of her family and her home; and may she always be a source of strength and inspiration to her people, and promote your honour and glory.

Lord, in your mercy.
All: **Hear our prayer.**

The Deputy Chaplain General and attendant clergy move to the High Altar while the following verses are sung:

Stand: We love the place, O God,
wherein thine honour dwells;
the joy of thine abode
all earthly joy excels.

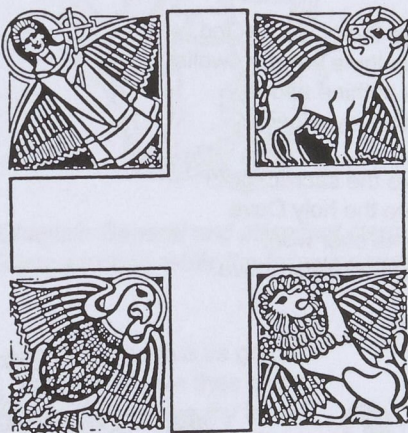
We love thine altar, Lord;
O what on earth so dear?
For there, in faith adored,
we find thy presence near.



Let us thank God for this High Altar and all the Altars of this Church, that in the years to come they may continue to minister to God's people.

Almighty God, we thank you for those through whose skill this altar was fashioned and for all those chaplains who have offered here in this Church the Holy Eucharist to feed your people and enable them to grow in grace. Bless, we beseech you, the places to which each of these altars will be taken, and may they continue to be fitting Tables on which are celebrated the Mysteries of the New Covenant, through the power of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Deputy Chaplain General and attendant clergy move to the Pulpit and Lectern while the following verses are sung:



We love to sing below
for mercies freely given;
but O, we long to know
the triumph-song of heaven.

We love the word of life,
the word that tells of peace,
of comfort in the strife,
and joys that never cease.

Let us thank God for this Pulpit and Lectern and pray that after this Final Service they may continue to minister to God's people.

Most merciful Father, we give you thanks for those who fashioned this Pulpit and Lectern, and we pray that all who shall in another church preach your Word and proclaim the Gospel from them may be filled with your Holy Spirit, that their wisdom and fervour may turn again the hearts of the sinful and establish the faith of all who hear them; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Deputy Chaplain General and attendant clergy move to the Font while the following verses are sung. The Congregation turns to face the Font.

We love the place, O God,
wherein thine honour dwells;
the joy of thine abode
all earthly joy excels.

We love the sacred font;
for there the holy Dove
to pour is ever wont
his blessing from above.



Let us thank God for this Holy Font and pray that in the years to come it may continue to minister to God's people.

Almighty God, we praise your name for all those who have received New Birth through the cleansing and healing waters of this Holy Font. We pray for its safe transfer to the Garrison Church of St Christopher in Hereford, that through its continued use many more of your children will be added to the number of the Redeemed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



The Deputy Chaplain General and attendant clergy move to stand before the Stained Glass windows while the following verses are sung:

Lord Jesus, give us grace
on earth to love thee more,
in heaven to see thy face,
and with thy saints adore.

It is the house of prayer,
wherein thy servants meet;
and thou, O Lord, art there
thy chosen flock to greet.

Let us thank God for these stained glass windows, and pray that in the years to come they may continue to minister to God's people.

Almighty Father, the entrance of whose Word into the world gives light, we give thanks for those who fashioned these windows for the adornment of your House, and pray that the light may continue to shine through them inspiring your people so to follow the Blessed Virgin Mary, St George, St Alban and all your blessed Saints in such godly living, that we may come to those unspeakable joys, which you have prepared for them that unfeignedly love you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Deputy Chaplain General and attendant Clergy move to the Lectern, and the Congregation turns to face them.

Let us thank God for all who have ministered to God's people in this place, especially for John Chittenden, Priest, John Dawson, Verger, and David Bence, Organist.

Almighty God, we give thanks for those who have ministered latterly in this holy place as priest, verger and organist . Through them the light of Faith in this Church has been kept alight: The Gospel has been proclaimed and Christ's Sacraments celebrated, in a Church maintained in cleanliness and beauty, and where the pure strains of organ music have lifted men's hearts to you and prepared us to join our voices to those of the angels in the heavenly Jerusalem. These thanksgivings and all our petitions we draw together in the words which Jesus Christ your Son, our Saviour, taught us:



All: **Our Father, who art in heaven
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn:

In this hymn we pray for the souls of all past worshippers in this Church.

In our day of thanksgiving one psalm let us offer
For the saints who before us have found their reward;
When the shadow of death fell upon them, we sorrowed,
But now we rejoice that they rest in the Lord.

In the morning of life, and at noon, and at even,
He called them away from our worship below;
But not till his love, at the font and the altar,
Had girt them with grace for the way they should go.

These stones that have echoed their praises are holy,
And dear is the ground where their feet have once trod;
Yet here they confessed they were strangers and pilgrims,
And still they were seeking the city of God.

Sing praise, then, for all who here sought and here found him,
Whose journey is ended, whose perils are past:
They believed in the Light; and its glory is round them,
Where the clouds of earth's sorrow are lifted at last.

ACT OF SELF-DEDICATION

Our Lord Jesus Christ once said to his disciples as they were leaving the Temple - "You see these great buildings? Not a single stone will be left on another. Everything will be destroyed" (Mark 13 verse 2). Though it will not be destroyed, yet this great building will cease to be a Holy Temple to God's glory; and yet the Church is not stones or buildings, which come and go, but is the People of God, you and I, and this Church will go on until the end of time, and beyond into eternity. Therefore let us now dedicate Ourselves to the service and purposes of God:

All: Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labour and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that we do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord remember and accept all your offerings and submissions to his will ; send you help from the sanctuary, and strengthen you out of Zion.



Hymn

During this hymn the Collection is taken, and the Standards are taken from the High Altar.

For all the Saints who from their labours rest,
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesu, be for ever blest.

Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness, still their one true Light.

Alleluia!

O may thy soldiers, faithful, true and bold,
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
And win, with them, the victor's crown of gold.

Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.

Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
Steals on the ear the distant triumph-song,
And hearts are brave again and arms are strong.

Alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest:
Sweet is the calm of Paradise the blest.

Alleluia!

But lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day;
The saints triumphant rise in bright array:
The King of Glory passes on his way.

Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Alleluia!



THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

All: God save our Gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen.
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us;
God save the Queen.

Thy choicest gifts in store
On her be pleased to pour,
Long may she reign.
May she defend our laws,
And ever give us cause
To sing with heart and voice,
God save the Queen.

God bless our native land,
May heaven's protecting hand
Still guard our shore;
May peace her power extend,
Foe be transformed to friend,
And Britain's rights depend
On war no more.

THE BLESSING

Remain Standing

The Lord be with you

All: **And also with you.**

Let us bow our heads and pray for God's blessing.

May St Michael the Archangel defend you in the day of trial; may the angels and all the hosts of heaven protect you; may the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Mark and all the saints pray for you; and may God Almighty bless you, the Father the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

After the Service coffee and tea will be served in the Sir John Moore Library and the Pearce Hall. All are welcome. Those who so wish may view the Church.



Mrs Douglas
14 Rutland Sq:



Stane to sin
Name unveiled by Duke of Cornwall
5 July 1873



Closing down after
55 yrs. not just
a building -

fall of city & temple
near annihilation
of a people -

Brigadier
Minter - Deputy Constable Dover Castle
Col. Shorcliffe Camp SE Brigade

A HISTORY OF ST MARK'S GARRISON CHURCH SHORNCLIFFE

The first known Services in Shorncliffe Camp were in 1853 and these were held in a hut which was used as a school during the week and for Church Services each Sunday.

A Church was built in 1855 on a plot of land overlooking the Military Cemetery. This was a building of wood and galvanised iron. In 1932 Shorncliffe was a full Garrison comprising 3 Infantry Battalions (in Risborough Barracks). These were the 13/18 East Surreys in Napier Barracks, the Argyle & Sutherland Highlanders and at Moore Barracks the 11th Manchesters. Burgoyne Barracks housed the Royal Engineers, Ross Barracks the Royal Artillery and at Somerset Barracks the 13/18 Hussars were in occupation. To the west the Royal Army Service Corps were to be found. The then St. Martin's Plain Camp was used as an Army School of Education. When the 13/18 East Surreys evacuated Risborough Barracks in 1934 their place was taken by the Sherwood Foresters who at that time had the distinction of winning the Army Challenge cup for football three years on the run.

Hospital Hill speaks for itself. In those days, the Military Hospital, commanding a wonderful view of the English Channel, boasted two operating theatres, a dental theatre, four large wards, an X-ray theatre, a families' bay and the well known St Helena Maternity Wing. For about 10 years prior to the demolition of the hospital in 1970, parties of the Chelsea Pensioners used to come from the Chelsea Hospital. Those grand 'Old Comrades' would spend two or three summer weeks holiday at the Shorncliffe Military Hospital. They came in coaches, parties of 20 to 30 at a time and always had a marvellous stay.

In 1936 the original Church was considered thoroughly unsafe as a cross Channel gale had blown part of it down! Eventually the building was demolished in 1937. After the demolition, Pearce Hall (given to the camp as a north vestry for Communion Services by a Sandgate Minister of that name) was used as a temporary church until the new church was built.

The new Church was built on the site of an old cookhouse which was in those days regarded as the centre of the camp. There were married quarters on the south side of Sir John Moore Plain and Ross and Somerset Barracks with married quarters on the north side of North Road. These have since been demolished. Tenders for the new Church were sent out in September 1937 and it was expected that the cost would be in the region of £30,000.

In previous days because of the size of the old Church, it had been necessary to hold three or four Services each Sunday morning. It was therefore decided that the new Church should be large enough to accommodate all units in the camp. In consequence it was planned as the largest Church in the British Army, and a pattern for future Garrison Churches.

The Church was designed by Mr John H Markham of H M Ministry of Works and Buildings, and the contractor was Otto Marx & Sons of Folkestone.

The foundation stone was laid on 25th April 1939 by Lt Gen Guy C Williams, CB, CMG, DSO, General Officer Commanding in Chief Eastern Command.

During the building of the Church German Prisoners of War who were camped at St Martin's Plain helped in the construction. William Joyce, 'Lord Haw Haw', once spoke over the radio from Germany and stated that the enemy knew that we were building a new Church at Shorncliffe and that they intended to bomb it. They tried, but fortunately were unsuccessful.

The Church was completed in 1941 and the Dedication Service was held on 16th July. The then Chaplain General to the Forces, The Rev C D Symons, MC, MA, DD, KHC, dedicated the Church under the name of St Mark. The Church was filled to capacity for the Service. As a precaution against enemy attack a fighter protection was supplied for this occasion. Perhaps this is unique in history. During the Service, the planes could be heard circling overhead.

The Church was used for Services until 18th May 1942, when the then Garrison Commander decided it should not be used and future Services should be held in Company Lines. This was because an enemy air raid had destroyed Christ Church in Folkestone on the previous day. Now only the Clock Tower is left of Christ Church. The ground is a garden for the people of the town.

A Trust Fund had been opened before the War by the Chaplain General and a local Solicitor, Mr Kendrick. In 1949 it was decided to use this money to buy an organ and furniture for the Church. On 22nd November 1949 a Service was held at which the Archbishop of Canterbury (Geoffrey Fisher) dedicated the new organ and pews which had been bought from the Trust Fund.

A Baptism Ewer was presented to the Church by Lt Col A J A Gray, RAMC, on 31st August 1952 in memory of his mother. All plaques on the walls of the Church are of Regiments and civilian organisation who have either been stationed in the camp or who have held their annual Services in the Church since 1952.

A very fine oak lectern was presented to the Church on 15th November 1953 by the Light Infantry Brigade to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Light Brigade which was formed by Sir John Moore at Shorncliffe.

There are five stained glass windows in the Church:

St George, the Patron Saint of England, which was transferred from the old Church building.

Mary and the Christ Child which was presented by the Shorncliffe Branch of the Guild of St Helena and was dedicated on 25th April 1961 by the Bishop to the Forces, The Bishop of Maidstone, the Rev Stanley Betts, and two windows of St Alban who was the first martyr of the Christian Church in Britain. The first is by the font and was presented by Mrs Shelley Byshe Claridge in memory of her husband who was a Lt Col and was killed during the last war. The second window of St Alban is of a more modern design and was presented by the Infantry Brigade and the Devon and Cornwall Sub District 1957-1967. Over the west door in the centre of large clear windows there is a stained glass window which has on it the words "To the Greater Glory of God from the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion who worshipped here 1954-1960". This was transferred from Plymouth.

There are four Standards of Regimental Associations laid up in the Church. The South African War Veterans, laid up on 6th May 1962.

The Standards of the Buffs and the Royal West Kent Association on their amalgamation in 1959, and the Standard of the Canadian War Veterans which was laid up on 22nd October 1967.

On one of the side altars you will see a wooden cross which was given by the 3rd Bn The Coldstream Guards. This was used for Anglican Services in the field in the Great War 1914-1918. Also there are two candlesticks and a cross which were presented to the Garrison Church, Shorncliffe in memory of the Officers and men of the Royal Artillery who died in the Zulu War in 1879.

In the porch by the west door are two tablets. The one on the left on entering is in brass, and commemorates the men who died in South Africa in 1901-1902 from No 3 Shorncliffe Company Mounted Infantry.

The one in stone on the right commemorates the South African Cadets of No 4 Squadron No 8 Wing Royal Air Force.

An unusual cross which hangs over the High Altar was presented by the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion in 1973. Designed by the art department of the Battalion's Education Wing, and made and installed by Junior Leaders themselves, this cross symbolises a spear of light.

The Church Book of Remembrance was presented by Major J R MacLachan, RAEC, in 1973, and on 6th April 1975 a free standing lectern to hold this was presented by Mr Ronald Prior, a civilian lecturer at the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion.

BBC Television's "Songs of Praise" programme was recorded at the Church on 31st October 1974 and transmitted on Remembrance Day, 10th November of that year.

The largest number of people attending a Service in the Church to date is 1,350, on Remembrance Day, 9th November 1975.

The flags hanging on the wall of the Chancel are those of St George, St Andrew, St Patrick and St David. Those hanging in the Nave are the flags of the various Regiments for which Junior Leaders are trained at Shorncliffe.

In 1976, a new organ was installed. During February thousands of pieces were delivered by the organ builders, Messrs Hill, Norman and Beard. It took about ten weeks to assemble. One of the most interesting operations was the fitting of 1,496 pipes, varying in size from 4 inches to 11 feet. Then came the tuning, which took almost three weeks. It is a two manual organ. It has aroused interest as most recently made organs are electrified, whereas this one has a tracker action. The dedication ceremony took place on 3rd June 1976 and Dr Joanna Fraser gave an organ recital which showed to the full the capabilities of this fine new instrument. The Folkestone Choral Society sang "The Heavens are Telling" in the Church to the accompaniment of the new organ that evening.

Revised by:
John Edward Dawson (Verger)
from an original by A F Howard.

Please pray for all who worship in this Church, and for the work of all British Forces.

The weekwork on the Tomb

of Hal built by

for Haselane from the

ruined village of Zillehede

in the year 1915.

C O

Buy for RPT House
New Deal on the case

C. The 15th of Garrison

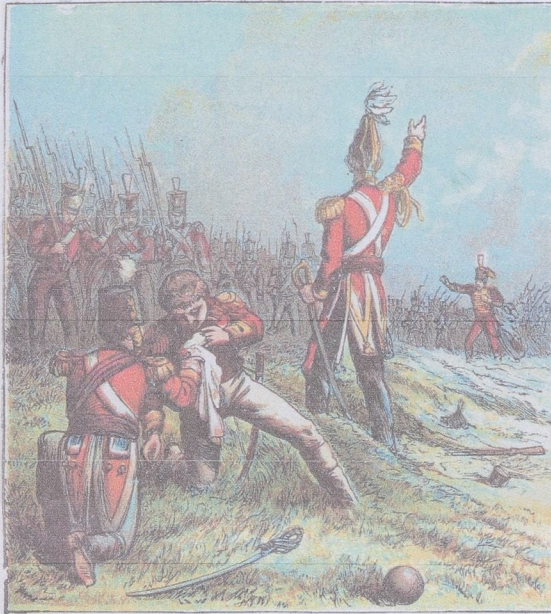
St. John Bunker

1870 1

1953

Brill R Boerwin
F in Ayl-Heeden

Shorncliffe
TRUST



Sir John Moore Commemoration

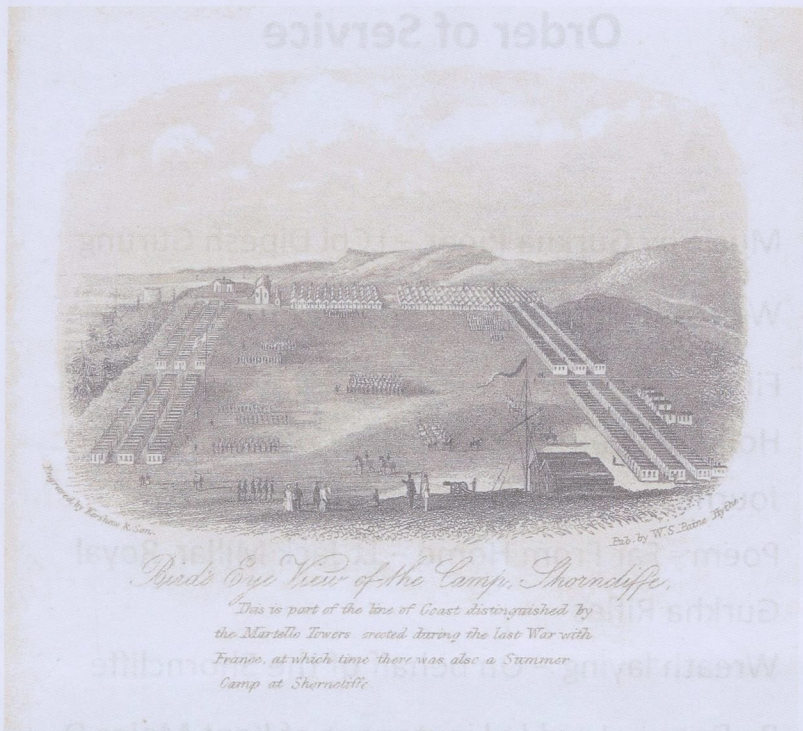
Saturday 16th January 2016

At the Sir John Moore Memorial

Sandgate, Kent

Order of Service

- Music by Gurkha Piper – LCpl Dipesh Gurung
- Welcome and Introduction – Chris Shaw
- First reading – Poem OWE CANADA – By Jan Holben, Chairman Shepway Council
- Journeys – Chris Shaw
- Poem - Far From Home – Lt Jack Millar, Royal Gurkha Rifles
- Wreath laying – On behalf of the Shorncliffe
- By Deputy Lord Lt Lieutenant of Kent Major D Bradley BEM DL
- Minutes Silence
- Music by Gurkha Piper - LCpl Dipesh Gurung
- Poem - Not on England's bended Knee - Major Rob Yuill, The Rifles
- Closing



Side Eye View of the Camp, Shorncliffe.

*This is part of the Fort of Coast distinguished by
the Martello Towers erected during the last War with
France, at which time there was also a Summer
Camp at Shorncliffe.*

Shorncliffe
TRUST



The Shorncliffe Trust Reg. No. 1152185

www.shorncliffe-trust.org.uk

secretary@shorncliffe-trust.org.uk

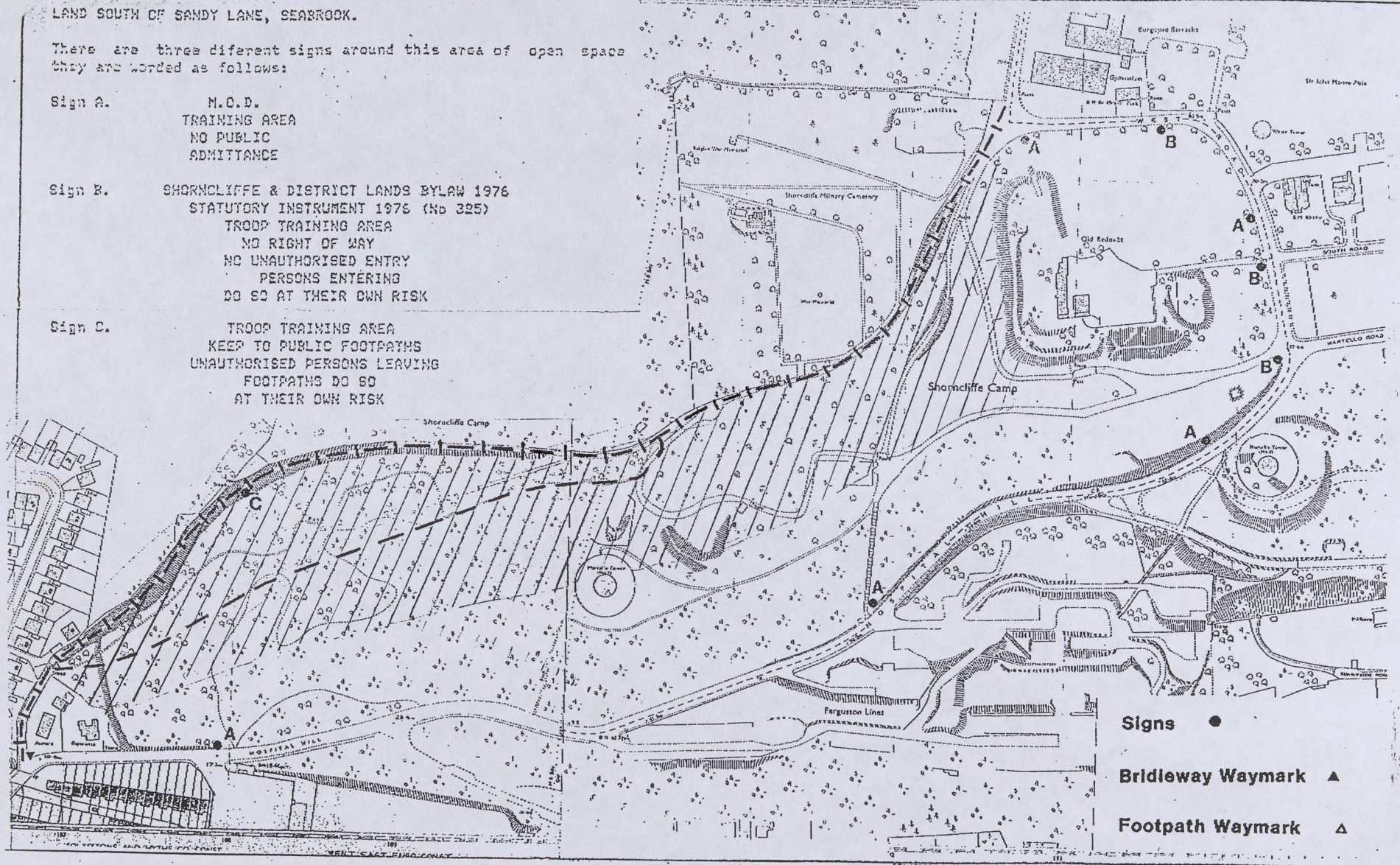
LAND SOUTH OF SANDY LANE, SEABROOK.

There are three different signs around this area of open space they are worded as follows:

Sign A. N.O.D.
TRAINING AREA
NO PUBLIC
ADMITTANCE

Sign B. SHORNCLIFFE & DISTRICT LANDS BYLAW 1976
STATUTORY INSTRUMENT 1976 (No 325)
TROOP TRAINING AREA
NO RIGHT OF WAY
NO UNAUTHORISED ENTRY
PERSONS ENTERING
DO SO AT THEIR OWN RISK

Sign C. TROOP TRAINING AREA
KEEP TO PUBLIC FOOTPATHS
UNAUTHORISED PERSONS LEAVING
FOOTPATHS DO SO
AT THEIR OWN RISK





Watering the Horses, Shorncliffe Camp.

H.B.'s P.O.L. 618



Hussars at Shorncliffe Camp.

H.B.'s P.O.L. 619



Guard Room, Somerset Barracks, Shorncliffe Camp.

H.B.'s P.O.L. 620

The British German Legion *the war*
established during the Napoleonic war,

The existence of the military camp at Shorndcliffe, some two miles from ~~the town~~ on the edge of Sandgate affected the town in several aspects of its life. The military lived in their own little world of parades, ^{ranks} and ~~military~~ discipline; the citizens' attitude was a combination of gratification and disapproval. Strongest was a feeling of pride and patriotism in the upright military figures seen strolling in the town. The officers were a stonagelement in polite society; they courted the young ladies and ~~lectured~~ provided intellectual entertainment by lecturing to the townsfolk on the scenes of their active service, ~~Perils of~~ ⁱⁿ the Crimea at the ~~Great~~ ^{or desert} Harveian Institute or the Sandgate. They provided a cricket team which played in many local matches; the band of the ~~Royal~~ Inniskilling Dragoons was in much demand for playing on the Lees or at musical evenings. On the other hand, Folkestone, normally a law abiding town and often congratulated by the Recorder for the shortness of its list of offenders, was definitely the more turbulent for ^{the} ~~their~~ ^{of the soldiers' troops} presence. The troopers seduced the servant girls, stole from the shops, purloined money to enable them to desert, fought honest citizens, and were frequently found drunk in or out of Sandgate's beershops or Folkestone's numerous public houses. [The punishments for such were severe - one unfortunate prisoner, Fahey by name, was convicted of theft. The regiment marched on the square forming two lines, He was bought in followed by the drums and fifes playing "The Rogues' March". The number was taken from his cap, his buttons and facings stripped off and he was taken to Maidstone for six month's hard labour, a combination of civil and military punishment.]

It was politically expedient that they should be made welcome. On the 9th April, 1855, ^{Queen Victoria} paid the first royal visit since the allied sovereigns passed through ~~it~~ ^{??} on their way to discuss the peace treaty in Paris which ended the Napoleonic [?] War, and before that one had to go back to Queen Elizabeth ^{Check} rumoured to have spent a night in Sandgate Castle. Folkestone was agog - preparations were ~~xxxxxxx~~ hampered by the fact that there was some confusion as to which station Her Majesty would favour. Rows of cheering citizens lined the streets

The occasion was marked by an absence of parade. The Queen, dressed in a blue and white dress with a white bonnet and feather was attended by Prince Albert, ~~and~~ two ladies in waiting and two gentlemen. She drove past the Pavilion Hotel, along the Lower Sandgate Road and up Military Road to the camp, where she was met by the Duke of Cambridge, the Commander in Chief, ^{Viscount} ~~Kxxx~~ Hardinge, ~~xxxx~~ and Lord Panmure, the Secretary of State for War, whom Miss Nightingale called "The Bison". ^{Check}

The Queen walked about and inspected the huts, and the Royal party conversed with the officers in German, a reminder of home for Prince Albert. The troops defiled past her in companies with the band playing a popular German march. She lunched in the officers' mess and, some doubt having existed as to the military cooks' ~~being~~ capacity to rise to the occasion, the food was provided by Mr. Breach of the Pavilion Hotel. The weather was splendid.

~~It stayed fine for Lord Palmerston a few weeks later~~

* *Caric expense* - *John King's visit amounted to £99,5,9*
The British German Legion 4.

The Queen ~~then~~ left at 2.30 the way she had come, by train to Hastings, change for Portsmouth where the Royal yacht took her to Osborne. *The townsfolk celebrated the occasion in a public dinner @ the Guildhall, the Mayor presiding, at which 60 gentlemen sat*
[The weather stayed fine for Lord Palmerston ^{for} a few weeks *damn **
later when he inspected the troops with the Duke of Cambridge and presented them with their colours at a fete in Sandling Park. There was a mock battle, then the soldiers formed squares while the band played "God save the Queen". Palmerston~~x~~ addressed the troops and said this occasion disproved those who said that the officers and men ~~xx~~ would not be received with honour~~x~~ and respect in this country. The soldiers were ~~xxx~~ regaled with a good old English dinner of roast beef, ale and plum pudding.]

The Government's motive in all this was the perfectly sensible ^{one} of making their friends and allies welcome, that they should feel part of the joint war effort, and to encourage them to face with ^{fortitude} ~~bravery~~ the hard and dangerous conditions in the Crimea whither they were soon to be sent. But the welcome of the townspeople who had to live with foreign soldiers on their doorstep, freed from the restraints of home, soon began to wear rather thin. Cases of drunkenness, several a week, started to appear in the records of quarter sessions. (The Folkestone Chronicle complained of the inferior character and loose habit of the infantry men, not the rifles who were of a better mould.) Better ~~guards~~ ^{guards} and more rigorous punishments were needed; the police force at the time consisted of five policemen and an inspector, but ^{acc. to local opinion} five hundred and twenty would ^{scarcely be enough} ~~be needed~~ to deal with the disorders.

[In ~~xxx~~ September the men were encamped on Castle Hill on

manoeuvres. Farmers' wagons and horses were pressed into service and this in mid harvest. There were complaints of broken hedges and stolen poultry for which compensation ^{had to} should be given.] The ^{had spent their bounty money, and} soldiers were starting to feel homesick ~~x~~ in a foreign land, ~~and~~ ~~desert~~ ~~x~~ Desertions became more and more numerous, one hundred ^{they spread over the country} going in ten days in October. Three were in Dover Gaol, nine ^{and Sevenoaks.} in Canterbury, some caught in London. It was alleged that Alfred Willis had tried to get John Frank to desert. In his defence the prisoner averred ~~x~~ that so far from this being the case, he had been approached by the said John Frank in a public house in Sandgate. John Frank, being in British uniform, pointed to his buttons and said "Victoria no good", and asked him to obtain a passage to Hamburg. Alfred Willis was squitted. Three officers were taken in London, one with £60 of the men's pay. In a ceremony at Shorncliffe they were degraded and dismissed the service, their swords being broken. [Two soldiers stole a fisherman's boat, the "Two Sisters" in order to escape across the Channel. They were caught at the ~~the~~ ^{the} harbour. A rifleman stole ^{check.} some boots from a shop in Guildhall Street while the shopkeeper's back was turned. But thefts were not always on the one side - ~~Carl~~ ^{Carl} line Robinson was arrested for stealing a watch from ^{the} sentence .] These, save for ^{the} /scale of the desertions, were petty crimes, manageable by the local constabulary. Worse was to come.

It was noted at quarter sessions that the Legion's disorderly conduct was becoming quite alarming in Sandgate from the notion that foreigners were ~~x~~ vengeful. Folkestone had taken the

precaution of establishing a special guardhouse in the Old
 gaol, and a portion of the Town Hall was to be warmed and gas
 lighted for the guards. *In Feb.* ~~At the beginning of 1856~~ a murder was
 committed near the new church in Sandgate Rd. (Christ Church) *week*
 when one Belgian stabbed another. *In the same month* Two prisoners were taken to the
 police station charged with stealing army boots from the stores¹/₂

Actually the boots had not been stolen but, ~~as~~ the custom was,
troops were allowed to keep misfits and sell them
privately.

Aggrieved by their comrades' unnecessary imprisonment, fifty
 members of the Legion stormed the station and its door was nearly
 demolished. The picket at first was reluctant to turn out, but
 at last did so, took over the prisoners and the men dispersed.
 There was a suggestion of fresh police forces being sent from
 London. However the prisoners were later handed back to the civil
 police and the Legion made a second attack with fists, boots and
 brickbats. The windows of several shop properties nearby were broken
 in the scuffle. A cavalry picket dispersed the men, and stayed on
 watch afterwards to prevent a recurrence of the disorder.

A question was asked in Parliament of the Under Secretary
 for War "Had there been a riot at Shorncliffe camp in which the Riot
 Act had to be read, and several persons severely injured?" Mr.
 Peel replied that there had been a misunderstanding between the
 police at Folkestone and the troops. One man had been put in prison
 and the affair had been put an end to by a detachment from the camp.
 Statements were wholly unfounded that men were drunken or disobedient
 to their officers.

WDO

But these disturbances were a trifle compared to the main object of the formation of the Legion which was that they should be sent to defeat the Russians. In October, 1855 the first instalment of ⁹⁰⁰ 900 men ~~was~~ ~~sent~~ ~~to~~ ~~Malta~~ marched in procession through the Town to the Junction Station where they took the train to Portsmouth and finally ship for Malta. ^{to} [There was great public enthusiasm, though the day was ~~marked~~ marked by on sad incident.] A servant girl was in such a hurry to see them leave, perhaps to wave goodbye to a sweetheart, that she fell over the Lees, suffered concussion and later died. ¹⁵⁰ [They were followed by a steady stream of recruits to be sent off.] Many died from the cholera on arrival at Scutari. There was in fact not very much opportunity for them to see active service (through no fault of their own) as ~~a~~ the ~~armistice~~ armistice was declared in ~~the~~ March 1856, and soldiers from the two sides began to meet and fraternise, (exchanging tokens and gifts.) [The same month the whole force, now consisting of 600 cavalry and 2,000 infantry marched through Sandgate, up the turnpike road, through Folkestone ^{and} ~~to~~ ^{by the} ~~the~~. "The effect of the dark uniform of the Rifles, with the red tunics of the Infantry and the gay trappings of the dragoons in their ~~black~~ black and scarlet semi hussar shakos as they descended from the heights or wound round the meandering lanes was most pleasing and picturesque," noted the Chronicle. X Eight thousand men in all had been enlisted since ~~in~~ ^{in the previous} June. X this was followed by a mock battle held in the field used by Folkestone cricket club ^{also which went on} and stretched up Caesar's ~~and~~ ^{and} camp and along the road to Canterbury.]

By April England was now officially at peace. ¹⁷⁰ [The celebrations with elaborate fireworks and gas lighting of public buildings in London

were tremendous - and costly. The economical burgesses of Folkestone marked the occasion more soberly with a proclamation read at the Council meeting, and five times in the town ^{or} ~~at~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ⁴¹ separate places,] the procession consisting of the Mayor, the Guard of Honour, the Town Crier, the magistrates and other notables, the clergy and inhabitants of the town, with the hand in attendance. [The celebrations for the Queen's birthday in June were conducted with especial verve. The foreigners were introduced to English sports, such as running, sack jumping and pig hunting which they were evidently not up to, then the bugles sounded and the troops paraded which they did with more success.]

The question was - what was to be done with the Legion ^{now?} now that peace had ~~been~~ come? In May, 1856 a thousand men had left Shorncliffe for Aldershot and it was rumoured that more would follow. But ⁱⁿ the same month, too late to be stopped, 400 recruits came from Heligoland. In June the final decision was made and an order was telegraphed that virtually the whole of the Legion should go to Aldershot, ~~a~~ preparatory for disbandment. Due to the haste of the men's leaving, there was a muddle over the luggage, every available van being pressed into service. Many were detained ⁱⁿ ~~at~~ for some hours in the pouring rain while the camp presented a deserted appearance. The end of the Legion was that ⁶⁰ the men were ~~disbanded~~ ^{renewed for the last time by sea via Southampton} at Aldershot and given a year's pay. The services of ^{such} ~~so~~ useful ^{trained} mercenaries were sought by other sovereigns - offers of employment came in from Naples, Holland and Spain. But the British Government felt a responsibility for the men they had enrolled and trained for two years without any opportunity to prove their prowess, and they were offered opportunities to go out to the Cape as colonists. ^{The} ~~an~~ offer ^{was} ~~viewed~~ by many with suspicion as they felt the Government had acted unfairly in ^{now}

deducting from their pay sums to pay for the ordinary ~~war~~ wear and tear of barrack life.

Meanwhile, their places in the empty camp were to be taken by 5,000 real live heroes from the Crème^a, commanded by Sir Colin Campbell, * amongst whom were the Ennis^askilling^a Dragoons and the 93rd Highlanders. The town planned a grand dinner of welcome for the veterans which cost them £300. Six to seven huddred solderiers were entertained on the lawn in front of the Paviilion hotel, decorated with evergreens for the occasion. From the Lees they marched down the slope, giving the numerous bystanders an x opportunity to see their bronzed features and honourable medals. ⁶⁰ Over a thougand pounds weight of beef and much else was consumed, the remnants being distributed to the poor. The speeches were many, a private giving the toast "To Miss Nightingale, but not to Mis-management", a sally considered good enought for Punch. || This was followed by a Grand Crèmean Ball, more of a society occasion, again at the (Royal) Pavilion (in the restaurant and library.) || And for many years to come till memories grew dim, the anniversaries of the main battles of the war were remembered and celebrated by officers and men alike.

THE BRITISH GERMAN LEGION AT SHORNCLIFFE

The land for a military training camp was bought from Mr Hunt Jeffery and the Brockman family in 1794. The Government obtained about 230 acres behind Sandgate and to the south west of Cheriton for this purpose.

The camp must have been established by 1799 when the Duke of Gloucester received the troops and by 1803 Sir John Moore was training the Shorncliffe Brigade at the camp.

There were 3 sets of barracks and a hospital by 1828; the huts for the Foreign Legion, the Church and the canteens were added by 1855.

In March 1855 Lord Palmerston wrote to Lord Panmure, Secretary of State for War - with regards to the concern over raising enough troops to meet England's commitments in the Crimea: "We are 40,000 men short of the numbers voted by Parliament. We must resort to every possible means and every possible quarter to complete our forces. Let us get as many Germans and Swiss as we can ... We must override all Departmental obstacles, War cannot be carried on without troops."

The project was backed by the Duke of Cambridge and depots were set up at Shorncliffe, Hythe, Aldershot and Colchester. Over 9,000 men and officers had been recruited by March 1856 and the "German Legion" came into being.

On August 9 1855 Queen Victoria and Prince Albert had visited the German Legion at Shorncliffe. They travelled to Folkestone by Royal train and were escorted to the Camp by the East Kent Mounted Rifles.

Later in 1855 the Legion was renamed the "British German Legion". Many of the officers were British - though Colonel Baron von Stuttenheim held the rank of Major General in the Legion. Mercenaries were also recruited from other countries, including Canada and Italy.

It is worth reflecting that the life of the soldier at this

time was very bad; as illustrated by Col Arthur Egerton who said "The reasons for the shortage of men were many. The conditions of warfare as waged at the time were terrible. Discipline was brutal. The current opinion of a soldier saw him merely as a drunken animal. Military Hospitals were hot beds of disease."

The local people of Sandgate would probably have agreed with this portrait given of the soldier - townsfolk were afraid to go out after dark as they were chased and beaten up. The tales of bad conduct even reached the House of Commons, when on March 1 1856 Major Read asked the Under Secretary for War if the War Office was aware of the behaviour of the British German Legion soldiers at Shorncliffe. He quoted details of a clash between the men of the Legion and Folkestone Police. When the townsfolk had joined the fray the authorities had called in a British Regiment from the Camp. The blame for the fracas was put forward as drunkenness. However, Colonel von Stuttenheim issued a report (which did not impress the locals) stating that the details had been grossly exaggerated and that it had simply been a misunderstanding stemming from the arrest of 2 Germans by the Police.

A few days later the local paper stated "We believe the 'Jagers' leave for the East in her Majesty's screw ships Perseverance and Transit". These were not the first to go, as in October 1855 2,000 men had left for Scutari, this rose to 3,615 men and 138 officers. After this no more troops left for the Crimea from Shorncliffe and the force there numbered 4,000, who do not seem to have enjoyed improved relations with Sandgate. For that matter Dover was not impressed when some of the Legion route-marched there. Two miles from the town the Dover Authorities politely requested them not to enter the town. The soldiers returned to Shorncliffe, after the officers bought refreshments for them at the Royal Oak.

In October 1856 the Legion received orders to move to Aldershot and the locals were so willing to help evacuate them, that despite heavy rain and lack of transport, the barracks were cleared in 24 hours! The Folkestone Chronicle of 14 June 1856 stated "... every available van and waggon

was pressed into service for the conveyance of baggage to the railway station. The excitement continued throughout the day, the continual passage of troops and baggage to the station, where many of them were detained for some hours in the pouring rain ... In the evening the town presented quite a deserted appearance. ...³

Once the War was over a scheme was set up to settle the Legionaires in Kaffraria and by November 1856 the first had sailed from Southampton to the Cape of Good Hope. One thousand Legionaires arrived in Africa on January 28 1857 followed soon after by the rest - at a cost to the War Office of £2,000,000. - - - - -

Edited by Maureen Criddle from an unnamed script donated to the Society. The Editor is grateful to Ann Nevill for her advice and additional information.

- 1 Folkestone Chronicle August 11 1855 (see "Kentish Connection" Vol 4 No 3 pp75/76)
- 2 Details of the Officers of the British German Legion were published in the Folkestone Chronicle March 29 1856 - as extracted from the London Gazette of March 25 1856. (see "Kentish Connection" Vol 4 No 5 pp 114/115)
- 3 Folkestone Chronicle June 14 1856 (see "Kentish Connection Vol 4 No 6 p146)

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#### WARWICKSHIRE CENSUS PROJECT - 1851

Volume IV of the project is now available and covers the following parishes: Caldecote, Weddington, Solihull, Bubbenhall, Preston Bagot, Sutton under Brailes, Pillerton Hersey and Butlers Marston. The complete volume, with indexes costs £18; the indexes only, £3.95.

Apply to Relative Reflections, 54 Westbourne Road, Olton, Solihull, West Midlands B92 8AU for this volume or details of Volumes I to III. (A total of 40 Warwickshire parishes are now available.)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR TO 30 JUNE 1988

| <u>INCOME</u>                     | <u>New Romney</u><br>£ | <u>Folkestone</u><br>£ | <u>Total</u><br>£ |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Subscriptions                     |                        |                        | 532.20            |
| Book Sales - Federation           | 21.60                  | 110.11                 | 131.71            |
| Our Publications                  | -                      | 36.40                  | 36.40             |
| Meetings - Refreshments,          |                        |                        |                   |
| Non-Members                       | 13.06                  | 27.50                  | 40.56             |
| Raffles, net of prizes            | 10.53                  | 16.02                  | 26.55             |
| Interest on Bank Deposit          |                        |                        | 23.55             |
| Book Loans                        | 0.10                   | 3.03                   | 3.13              |
| Conference Profit                 | -                      | 136.96                 | 136.96            |
| Miscellaneous                     | -                      | 3.29                   | 3.29              |
| TOTAL                             |                        |                        | <u>934.35</u>     |
| <br><u>EXPENDITURE</u>            |                        |                        |                   |
| Journal - Printing                |                        |                        | 460.57            |
| Postage                           |                        |                        | 116.08            |
| Meetings - Hall Hire              | 35.00                  | 108.00                 | 143.00            |
| Lectures                          | 6.50                   | 112.00                 | 119.00            |
| Officers Expenditure,             |                        |                        |                   |
| Postage, etc                      | -                      | 36.02                  | 36.02             |
| Subscriptions, and                |                        |                        |                   |
| Insurance                         |                        |                        | 35.00             |
| Federation Books for              |                        |                        |                   |
| Resale                            |                        |                        | 87.72             |
| Miscellaneous                     |                        | 4.60                   | 4.60              |
| TOTAL                             |                        |                        | <u>1,002.29</u>   |
| Excess of Expenditure over Income |                        |                        | <u>67.94</u>      |

BALANCE SHEET AT 30 JUNE 1988

£

ASSETS

|                                 |               |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Bank Accounts - Deposit Account | 544.67        |
| Current Account                 | 108.03        |
| Cash in Hand                    | 1.79          |
| Amounts Due, various            | 22.00         |
| TOTAL                           | <u>676.49</u> |

LIABILITIES

|                                               |               |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Amounts Due - Printing 2 Journals (Estimated) | 200.00        |
| Posting 2 Journals (Estimated)                | 60.00         |
| Hall Hire, April and May                      | 21.60         |
| Book and Postage                              | 1.10          |
| Refund on Journal bought by Member            | 1.00          |
| Uncleared cheques                             | 133.09        |
| Subscriptions in advance                      | 10.50         |
| Secretary's Expenses                          | 5.00          |
| TOTAL                                         | <u>432.29</u> |

NET ASSETS 244.20

General Reserve brought forward 312.14

Deduct Loss for year 67.94

General Reserve carried forward 244.20

No value is placed on the Society's Library, stock of books, etc for sale, stock of Polylopes for posting journals, etc, and microfiche viewer.

dfw/a/BALSHEET



WILLIAM OLIVER - SHORNCLIFFE BARRACKS, CONVICT STATION 1851

William Oliver was one of three men, almost certainly brothers, whose surname appears in Ringmer alternatively as OLIVER or OLIVER UPTON. The eldest of the three John, also gave his birthplace as Ringmer (just north of Lewes) in the 1851 census. John was baptised at Ringmer in 1816 at the age of 20, naming his parents as Thomas and Ann, but there is no record of the baptism of William or his younger brother Thomas in Ringmer (or, as far as I can see, in other local churches or chapels). Thomas and his three sons are invariably described as labourers, and whenever I can trace them are found living in the part of Ringmer called Ashton Green. This was then a collection of cottages with a poor reputation - the area appears as "Sodom" in the baptismal registers of the early 19th century.

My first direct reference to William is when, described as of Ringmer, he married Sophia SHELLEY at West Firle on 20 October 1823. The couple had two children baptised at Ringmer, Elizabeth on 30 September 1827 and William junior on 14 August 1831. William also appears on an 1825 list of men liable for the militia ballot (ESRO/LPL/4/E2).

Ringmer was a large "open" village with rates of winter unemployment up to 30%, and the labourers were notably unruly, especially the Ashton Green men. The Oliver Uptons were amongst the worst, and frequently out of work. John was a militia man in 1825-6 (a particularly reprobate group), prosecuted by the parish for neglecting his family in August 1826 (ESRO/Par 461/31/3/62), charged with larceny at the Michaelmas 1826 quarter sessions (I don't know if he was convicted), the object of a failed attempt to deport him to Ticehurst in October 1826 (ESRO/Par 461/31/3/62), and convicted of poaching on 31 October 1828 and again on 25 November 1829 (ESRO/QDJ/EW1). He lived in Ringmer until his death in 1855.

Thomas had a shorter criminal career; he was one of a gang of "notorious Ringmer thieves and housebreakers" arrested for a series of offences in December 1826 when he was 23, and was accused of a burglary at Ringmer vicarage in which

a large quantity of pork, wine and clothing were stolen. An accomplice (another militiaman) turned King's evidence and Thomas was sentenced to hang at the assizes in January 1827 (Sussex Weekly Advertiser, 25 December 1826 and 1 and 8 January 1827). He was reprieved, but is not heard of again in Ringmer.

William was at this stage the most promising of the brothers, though also often out of work - I note him "on the parish" as early as the autumn of 1824, digging stone at 1s 2d per day (ESRO/Par 461/31/1/4).

In November 1830 there was a successful "Captain Swing" riot in Ringmer, in which the men gained a considerable increase in their wages - from 1s 8d to 2s 6d per day for a married man with two or more children, with regular family allowances too for the larger families. The Ashton Green men were in the van in this action. However, their gains were short-lived, and over the next two years were gradually lost, the parish authorities picking off trouble makers first one at a time and then in small groups, and gradually reducing wages. By 1832 the men were back where they started. Then when the new poor law was implemented in May 1835 the whole parish social security system on which the poor depended was swept away. A small riot in Ringmer on 22 May 1835, when about 30 men terrified the overseers into paying them their usual parish wages despite the new law, was followed by the arrest of four "ringleaders", including William. Their trial was a cause celebre, intended as an example to others in the area, and reported at length (Sussex Weekly Advertiser 1, 8 and 15 June 1835 and 6 July 1835). Despite William's denial that he had participated in the riot or in any intimidation he was remanded to the sessions - two relatives, probably his father and brother John, offered to stand bail but were ruled ineligible. At the Midsummer sessions he pleaded guilty, and was given 8 months hard labour. William, now aged 36, was noted as having been before the courts before, though I have not discovered when.

The harsh regime of the new poor law caused disaster for the poor labouring families of Ringmer - those with

three or more children could not possibly provide enough food for their needs from the wages now available. Seventeen small children (under five) died in the village in the summer and autumn of 1835 - about four times the normal number. Right through the next decade child mortality before the age of five was about 30%, twice as high as during the last 20 years of the old poor law. William and Sophia, with only two children, should just have been able to manage if he could have found six full days work each week, but they didn't - the Union guardians' minutes note that in October 1836 one of William's children was in the first batch to be admitted to the reorganised children's workhouse at Ringmer. William and Sophia's marriage collapsed under the strain. On 29 September 1838 Chailey Union (which includes Ringmer) advertised in the Sussex Agricultural Express offering a reward of 30s 0d for William's apprehension, as he had absconded and left his family. A few months later he was apprehended by the headborough and brought before the magistrates (Sussex Agricultural Express 6 April 1839). He pleaded that his wife had run away from him, that he had nothing to give the children to eat, so he too had run off. The children had been found deserted and placed in the workhouse. Sophia was by this time also in the main Chailey workhouse (adults were housed at the other end of the Union from their children), and was now dangerously ill. William had sent only £1 for their support. However, the magistrates had little to gain from jailing William, so he was severely reprimanded, and on promising to pay 7s 0d per week towards his family's support he was discharged. Sophia really was ill - she died within a few weeks, still in the workhouse, and was buried at Ringmer on 19 May 1839, her age given as 35.

William then disappeared from Ringmer for good. The 1841 census finds his two children, Elizabeth now 12 and William junior 8, still in Ringmer workhouse. The regime there was hard. Even the magistrates expressed concern when one small boy who ran away and was brought before them for punishment told of his treatment, but an investigation cleared the workhouse master as strict

*GENERAL MOORE*  
*at*  
*SHORNCLIFFE*

*Published by*

SANDGATE SOCIETY, SANDGATE, KENT.

## **LT.-GENERAL SIR JOHN MOORE, K.B. (1761-1809)**

### **Early Life**

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One of the most controversial figures in English history, John Moore, was born in Glasgow on the 13th November, 1761, the son of a doctor descended from the Muires of Rowallen and on his mother's side from the Earls of Kinnoull.

He left Glasgow High School at the age of eleven to accompany his father (Tutor to the Duke of Hamilton) on the 'Grand Tour' when for four years he travelled in Europe before becoming an Ensign in the 51st Regt. (now the K.O.Y.L.I.).

The bonds of family were strong in the Moore household and throughout his life John wrote regularly and affectionately to his mother and father as well as to his four brothers and his sister Jane, five other children died in infancy.

He was variously addressed as Jock, Jack and Johnny in their letters, an indication of how happy and relaxed were his dealings with relatives and friends.

Preferment was rapid for a young officer who proved to be efficient, generous and brave. In 1779, in America, he distinguished himself by rallying a mixed force of infantry which had been cut off from the main group and though a senior officer fled from the fight, Lieutenant John Moore held out against large numbers and managed to rejoin the main Army. As the result of his actions he was promoted Captain.

### **Sandgate and Shorncliffe 1802-1806**

By 1802 Moore had been gazetted Major-General and had seen active service in Corsica, the West Indies, Holland and Egypt. He had been wounded three times narrowly escaping death from poison when he swallowed a measure of lead azide meant as a dressing for his leg wound.

The officers who served under him thought the world of him presenting him with a silver sword as a token of their regard after the Egyptian Campaign.

There is no doubt that he was fair and considerate in all his dealings—he studied the careers of his subordinates and helped them in practical ways—he helped one to buy a company because he knew him to be efficient but poor, he recommended many of them as yet unknown and without friends into positions of command. Almost invariably his judgment of men was well-founded.

When Napoleon Bonaparte began to prepare his invasion of England, General Moore was given the Command of the South East with the defence of the coast from Dover to Dungeness as his first task.

To this end he advocated the construction of a series of Martello Towers by which he had been impressed in Corsica and the cutting of the Grand Military Canal from Cheriton to Cliffe End in Sussex.

These physical defences were undertaken with the assistance of William Pitt and under the direction of Colonel William Twiss who commanded the Engineers.

Under a Militia scheme some 340,000 volunteers from Kent had their names on the roll. Moore conducted exercises with several thousand of them who were to defend the lines of the Downs behind the regular battalions in the event of a French landing.

### **New Methods**

The training of the Brigade was the matter nearest to John Moore's heart. He left Chatham and took up residence in a tent on Shorncliffe heights the better to direct the programme.

His methods might not have been entirely new but they were the basis of the tactics by means of which Wellington was able to succeed in Spain and at Waterloo ten years later. In fact John Moore's greatest contribution to the British Army lay in his carefully designed plan for building and training the Light Division in the years 1803 and 1806 at Shorncliffe.

First he started with the selection of officers when he exchanged the "Old, Short and Weak" for the "Intelligent, Hardy and Active." His officers soon realised that he placed efficiency before social graces—the inefficient were retired and

their places taken by "officers of approved talents." He would have none but those with the "Manners, education and way of thinking of gentlemen."

He changed the uniform, the weapons, the tactics and the whole concept of an Infantry Division.

The "Brown Bess" was exchanged for the "Baker" musket. A lighter weapon firing more accurately at a greater range.

Artillery was introduced to fight in conjunction with swift moving companies of Infantry.

New drills were introduced to give physical fitness and common methods of command to all platoons, but the essence of all his training was on self-reliance.

His young officers responded whole-heartedly. The Napiers, the Rowans and Paul Anderson swore that there had never been a man to compare with him as leader. They took him as a model and all six of them eventually became Generals.

When Sir John was knighted in 1804 the officers of the 52nd subscribed between £500 and £600 to present him with the insignia of the Star of the Bath in diamonds.

In the same year he rented York Cottage for his mother and sister who visited him for two months and spent a happy holiday basking in Johnny's popularity and success.

### **Romantic Interlude**

At this time Sir John Moore, always a handsome man, appeared a most romantic figure and there is no doubt that though he never married he was determined to marry Miss Caroline Fox the daughter of General Fox and niece of Charles James Fox. It was commonly believed that he was engaged to her at the time of his death at Corunna. Only his good taste and care for her reputation had prevented him from making public his love for a girl of 18 who was to marry one of his young officers (William Napier) whom she later helped to write a vindication of Sir John Moore's career.

While he was at Sandgate, where he rented Sir John Shaw's house, Moore was often seen with Lady Hester Stan-

hope, Pitt's niece, who was staying at Walmer Castle. An extraordinary, eccentric, adventurous but overpowering woman Lady Hester never married although in her later years in Asia minor she treasured a pair of jewelled cuff-holders and a bloodstained glove all that was left of her romantic interlude with Sir John Moore. She and Sir John were often seen riding side by side along the Downs. Her bold features, crimson habit and proud bearing contrasting with the plain uniform and gentle manners of the General.

Perhaps the modest, simple charms of the young Caroline "Little Lily" provided a contrast with "Hetty" which swayed his decision in offering marriage to the younger woman.

### Final Assessment

The Duke of Wellington who knew that the Government was not well disposed towards Moore thought of him as 'Sincere' and 'Kind' and supported him for the Command of the Spanish Campaign.

The King of Sweden, from whose country Moore escaped in disguise to avoid arrest, sent reports of his disobedience and lack of tact which must have given ammunition to Sir John's enemies in the Cabinet. All his life Moore tried to avoid political intrigue which was foreign to his nature—but in as far as the opposition insisted on praising him on all occasions to the discomfort of the government he was forced into an undesired limelight.

He was often compared unfavourably with his great Naval contemporary Lord Nelson possibly because he was more critical of the system as he found it and never hesitated to speak his mind. The poem on his death by the Rev. Charles Wolfe has not great literary merit but it caught the public imagination and was for a time attributed to Byron.

When he died as a result of a cannon ball wound at Corunna, his staff became confused and so failed to conclude what should have been a famous victory.

His final words were: "I hope the people of England will be satisfied! I hope my country will do me justice!" and "Stanhope, remember me to your sister."



There is a hint throughout his career that Sir John Moore was a magnificent subordinate but not a first class Army Commander. There is no doubt that he was an individual with great gifts. His English style was lucid and powerful, his honesty and generosity were exemplary, he was physically immensely brave and stoical in adversity. He had charm, grace and modesty.

Marshall Soult, looking back at the battle of Corunna has no doubt that Sir John Moore's planning "was well thought out in relation both to the terrain and the troops at his disposal" and "that he died in the middle of a battle which ought to bring honour to his memory."


There is no doubt that Lord Castlereagh and the Cabinet treated Moore in a very shabby way and that he was only promoted Commander in Spain after his predecessors had mismanaged the Campaign in a manner painfully obvious to the Duke of Wellington.

Perhaps the happiest period of his life was at Sandgate when although he speaks of "wet and bleak tents on Shorncliffe" his training system was successful, he was honoured by his Majesty and after some clear frosty days of exercises he knew that his men were "healthy" and "snug" in their new barracks.

(Original version by H. Roy Wright, M.A., 10th Aug., 1965)

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Shorncliffe  
TRUST 

## Sir John Moore Commemoration

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2016

### Itinerary V1.0

- 8.00am Chris Shaw and Trustees/volunteers meet Anup at Shorncliffe Guard House
- 8.15am Shorncliffe Trust to set up equipment/tables/displays/etc in Sir John Moore Library
- 9.30am Leave Library for Sir John Moore Memorial, The Esplanade, Sandgate.
- 9.30 – 9.45am Guests/re-enactors arrive at the memorial
- **10.00am Sir John Moore Commemoration Starts** Gurkha Officer, Piper and Bugler to attend.
- **10.30am Sir John Moore Commemoration Finishes**
- 10.40am Leave memorial to go to Shorncliffe Camp
- 10.55am Party arrives at Guard House, Shorncliffe Camp – booking in.
- **11.00am - 12.00pm Sir John Moore Library open for commemoration – including wreath laying for Lt Gen. Sir Christopher Wallace**
- 12.00pm -12.30pm Visitors leave Camp

#### Additional Shorncliffe Event

- *12.30 pm - 2.30pm Shorncliffe Tour of Shorncliffe backdoor Training areas, including Redoubt, old firing range, WW1 trenches and military cemetery.*
- *2.45pm Shorncliffe Trust meeting Gurkha Palace, 97 Enbrook Valley, Folkestone CT20 3NE.*

#### Contact Numbers:

##### **Shorncliffe Trustees**

Chris Shaw 07906 605104

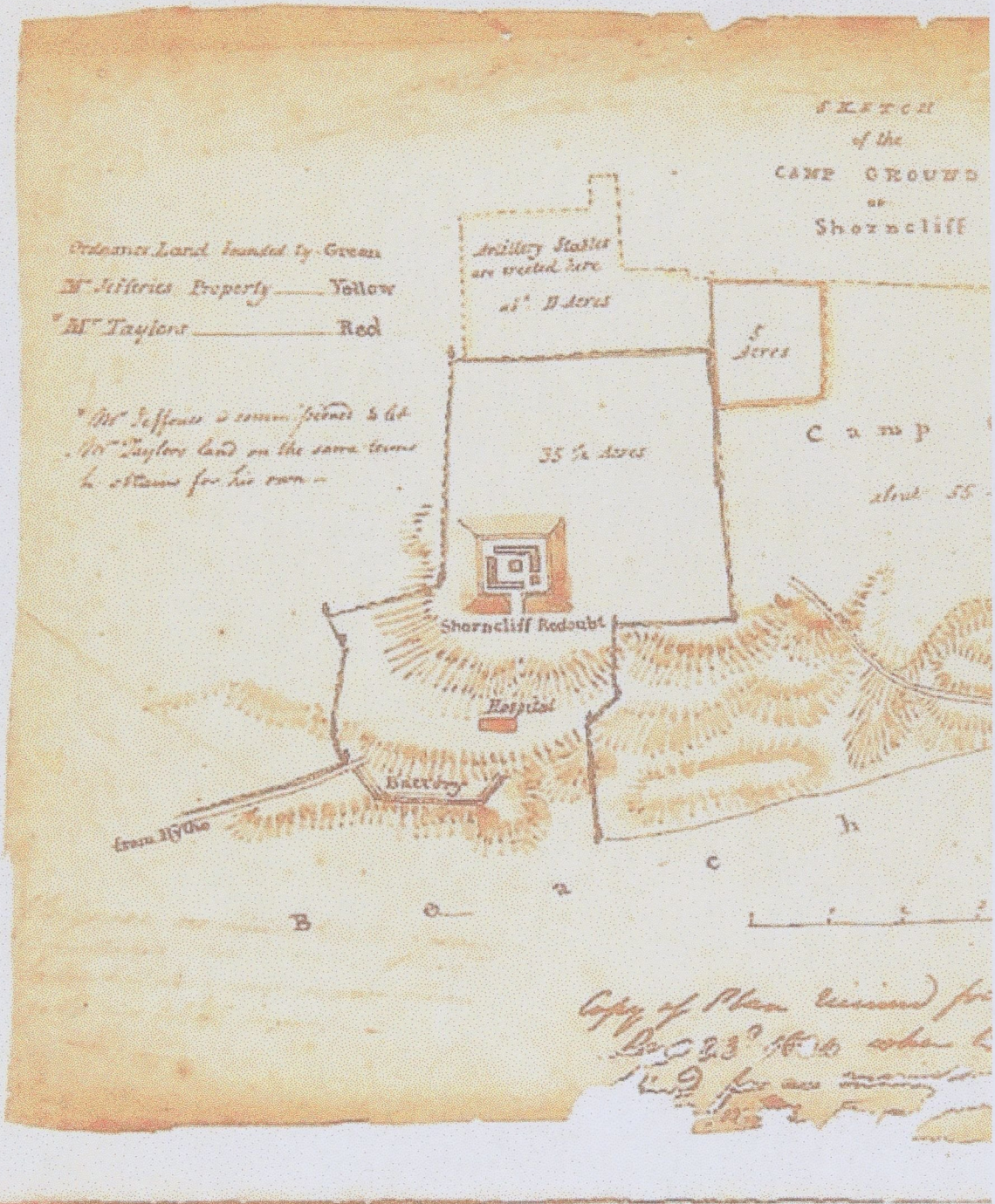
Vince Law 07866 360775

Sue Law 07531 389271

Steve Head 07906280379

##### **RGR Liaison:**

Anup 07540 306446



12 *Folkestone Almanac*, Thorpe & Co., 1895,p. 170.

13 *Castle Hill Magazine*, No. 4, p.131.

14

BOROUGH OF FOLKESTONE.

This is to certify that

J. HADLOW

of "Cranleigh" Grove, Sandgate

Sandgate.

is an essential worker, and must remain  
after general evacuation.

*Refred C. Wesley*  
Chief Constable.

South Eastern Defence Area.

CURFEW ORDER.

Jack L. HADLOW

5 Victoria Terrace Sandgate Hill,  
Folkestone

Identity Card No. ANIS. 5-1

is authorised to be out of doors in the Curfew Area  
during restricted hours.

*Refred C. Wesley*  
Chief Constable  
Folkestone Borough Police.

Serial No.

61

In Lieu of A.F.B.2606.

CERTIFICATE OF IDENTITY.

This is to certify that

*Eligible to use  
Antiaircraft Rifle  
Range in Shorncliffe  
Camp.*

of J. C. Hadlow  
122 High Street  
Sandgate.

is a Member of the Sandgate Platoon of the  
Folkestone Company of the Local Defence  
Volunteers, and is authorised to carry Arms

141st OFFICER CADET  
TRAINING UNIT, R. E.  
20 JUN 1940

SHORNCLIFFE

Mrs N. Goldie

144 Reynolds Rd  
Mt Pleasant  
Mrs Rodda  
Long Rock.

25



■ The Deputy Lord Lieutenant Lord Astor inspects the Gurkhas  
pd1413184 Buy these pictures from kentonline.co.uk



■ Above: Gurkhas parade before being awarded the freedom of Sandgate on Monday  
pd1413198



■ The pipe band  
Picture Dave Downey pd1413190

Pictures by Dave Downey

# Sandgate's salute to the Gurkhas

by Sam Lennon  
slennon@thekmgroupp.co.uk

CROWDS warmly applauded the Gurkhas as they were granted the freedom of Sandgate.

The regiment marched through the town and paraded on Bank Holiday Monday in glorious sunshine in front of a crowd of enthusiastic spectators.

The soldiers, with a pipe band, marched from Military Road and down the High Street to the Sir John Moore memorial at the Esplanade.

There the freedom was conferred on them by the Mayor of Sandgate, Cllr Geoffrey Boot.

During speeches he was joined on the podium by Major David Robinson, Second in Command of the 2nd Battalion, the Royal Gurkha Rifles, and Lord Astor, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Kent.

Cllr Boot said after the ceremony: "This is a tribute to the Gurkhas and all they do here.



■ Crowds cheering at the ceremony  
pd1413176

They have become part of the community and the honour is long overdue in Sandgate."

Maj Robinson said: "It is nice to be honoured in this way. We have a good relationship with the community."

Other guests at the ceremony included Cllr Peter Gane, the

Mayor of Folkestone, which gave the Gurkhas the freedom of his town four years ago.

The Gurkhas are mainly based just outside Sandgate at Sir John Moore Barracks, Shorncliffe, but several also live in other parts

Shepway as well as Dover and Ashford.

# Gurkhas get donation for visitor centre

A MAJOR boost towards a planned Gurkha Visitors' Centre in Folkestone is being given by the Saga Group via a £1,500 donation.

It is hoped the centre, in the former Garrison Roman Catholic Church at Sir John Moore Barracks, Shorncliffe, will be open to the public in January 2001.

Backing the project Peter Bettley, Manager of Communications at Saga Group said: "We believe the arrival of the Gurkhas in the area is a significant event and we are delighted to offer our support towards the visitors' centre.

Peter Lapham, Saga's Community Liaison Officer is due to present the cheque to a representative from the barracks next week.

Major Gerald Davies, Project Liaison Officer said modifications to the former church, will enable the listed building to be used for the project.

The centre will include pictorial exhibitions covering the history of the Brigade of Gurkhas since it became part of the East India Company in 1815, to the present day.

It will spotlight the Gurkhas involvement in the 1st and 2nd World Wars plus other more recent conflicts.

Major Davies added: "Entry will be free for anyone who would like to find out more about the Brigade."



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# REMEMBER WHEN? TT



**MEDICAL CENTRE:** A postcard of the Shorncliffe Royal Military Hospital 22/5611E/00

## How hospital looked

TWO old photographs featured in last week's Kentish Express inspired a Folkestone man to dig out a picture from the past. We showed Gurkha nurses at the former Shorncliffe Royal Military Hospital, back in 1964. We gave brief details of the hospital, which was demolished in the early 1970s, but thanks to Bob Coates, of St Mark's Close, Shorncliffe, we

can now show readers what it once looked like.

Mr Coates collects postcards of old Folkestone and has one of the Royal Military Hospital, at Shorncliffe Camp, shown above.

Last week former Kentish Express photographer Richard Taylor, who took the pictures of the Gurkha nurses, said the

building was "beautiful", however, the sender of the postcard, now owned by Mr Coates, described it a "more like a prison than anything else".

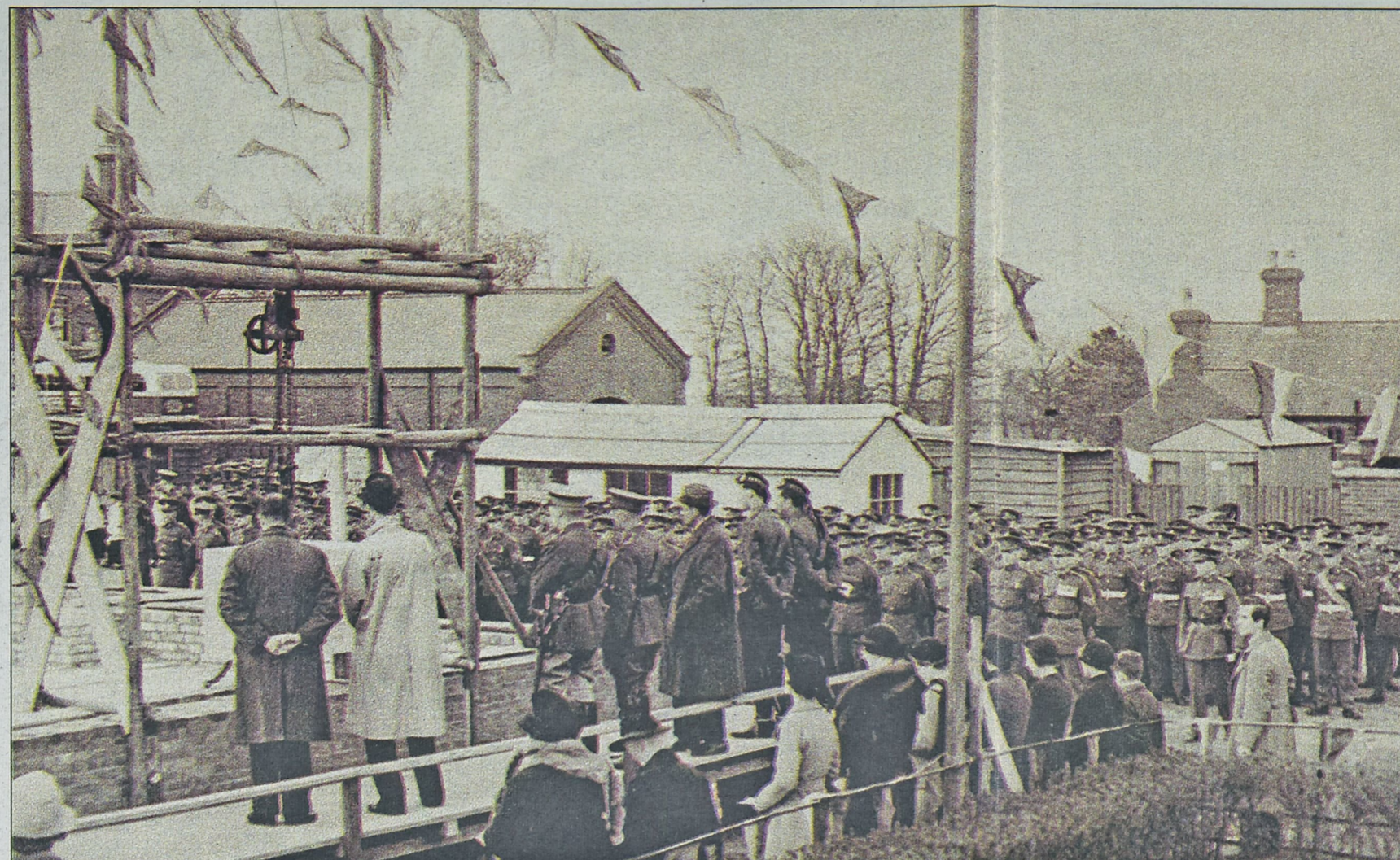
If anyone else has memories of the old hospital please write to us at Remember When, Kentish Express, 61 Sandgate Road, Folkestone, Kent CT20 1RY.



ABOVE: The church was built with the help of German prisoners of war in 1940

22/4633E

BELOW: Work was completed in 1941 and the church was dedicated under the name of St Mark's 28/4633E



EARLY DAYS: A Sunday service being held in the camp c1910, overlooking the military cemetery

21/4633E



RE-BUILDING: The largest garrison church in the British Army cost £30,000 in 1937 25/4633E

# Lonely symbol of military glories

THE first known services held in Shorncliffe Camp were in 1853 and took place in a hut which was used as a school during the week and for church services on Sunday.

The first proper church at the camp was a wood and galvanised building, built in 1855 on land overlooking the military cemetery.

In 1936, this building was considered unsafe after part of it was blown down during a gale and it was eventually demolished in 1937.

The Pearce Hall, which had been given to the camp as a north vestry for communion services by Sandgate minister, Rev Pearce, was used as a temporary church until a new one could be built. This was built on the site of a former cookhouse which in those days was regarded as the centre of the camp.

## Cavalry battalions

Tenders were sent out in September 1937 and it was expected that the cost of the new building would be in the region of £30,000.

At that time there were some three or four battalions, including cavalry, and various other units stationed at the camp and as the old church had been very small it had been necessary to hold three or four services every Sunday to accommodate everyone.

It was decided, therefore, that the church should be large enough to accommodate all the units in the camp. As a result it was expected to be the largest church in the British Army and a pattern for future garrison churches.

It was designed by John K Markham, of the Ministry of Works and Buildings, and the contractor was Otto Marx and Son of Folkestone. The foundation stone was laid by Lt Gen Guy C Williams, General Officer Commanding in Chief Eastern Command, on April 24, 1939.

German prisoners of war, who were camped at St Martin's Plain, helped to build the church.

William Joyce, better known as Lord Haw Haw, spoke on the radio from Germany stating that the Nazis knew about the new church being built at

FOR MORE than 100 years soldiers, their families and members of the local community have worshipped at Shorncliffe Camp.

The Garrison Church of St Marks is not only the largest in the British Army but has become a model for garrison churches everywhere.

Through war and peace, the church has been there for those who needed it but now, ironically, with the demise of the camp, the church stands as a lonely symbol of past glory.

In this special report chief reporter SUE POTTER looks at the life and times of St Marks.

Shorncliffe and that the Luftwaffe would bomb it. They did indeed try, but missed.

The new church was completed in 1941 and a dedication service was held on July 16 under the auspices of the then Chaplain General to the Forces, the Rev CD Symonds. It was dedicated under the name of St Mark.

As a precaution against the predicted enemy attack, the RAF provided a fighter plane for the occasion and those who attended the service could hear it circling overhead.

The church continued to be used for services until May 18, 1942, when the garrison commander decided services should be held in company lines as an enemy air raid had destroyed Christ Church in Folkestone the day before.

Before the war a trust fund had been set up by the chaplain general and a local solicitor, and in 1948 it was decided to use this money to buy an organ and furniture for the church.

On November 22, 1949, a service was held at the church at which the Archbishop of Canterbury, Geoffrey Fisher, dedicated the new organs and pews.

Plaques on the walls represent regiments or civilian organisations which have either been stationed at the camp or who have held their annual services there

since 1952.

The oak lectern was presented to the church on November 15, 1953, by the Light Infantry Brigade to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Light Brigade which was formed by Sir John Moore at Shorncliffe.

There are five stained glass windows in the church. These depict St George, patron saint of England, which was transferred from the original church, Mary and the Christ Child, and St Alban, who was the first martyr of the Christian church in Britain, who appears on two windows.

Over the west door, in the centre of large clear windows, there is a stained glass window with the words: To the greater Glory of God from the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion who worshipped here 1954-1960.

## Spear of light

An unusual cross which hangs over the High Altar was also presented by the Infantry Junior Leaders' battalion in 1973.

The cross, designed by the art department of the battalion's education wing, and made and installed by Junior Leaders themselves, symbolises a spear of light.

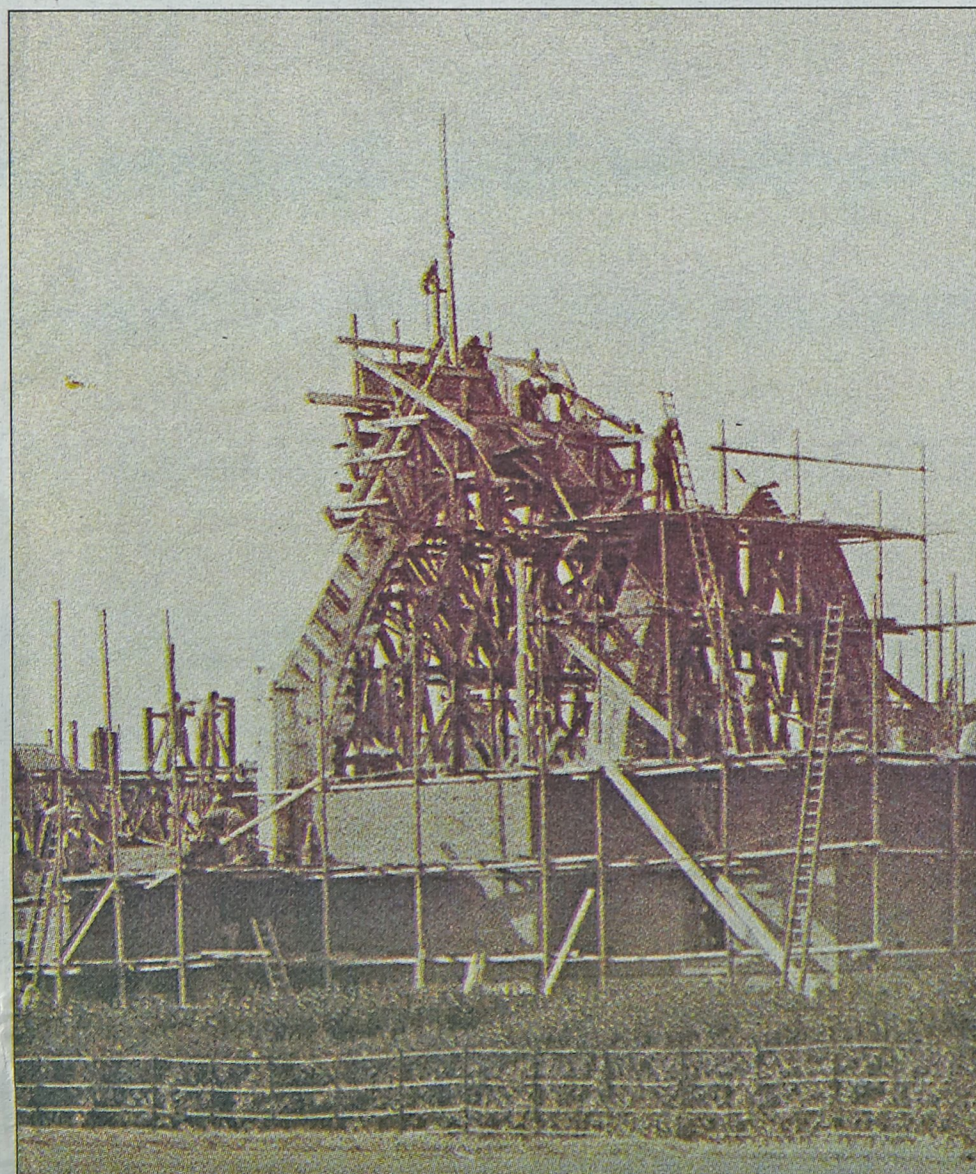
On October 31, 1974, BBC Television's *Songs of Praise* programme was recorded at the church and transmitted on Remembrance Day, November 10 that year.

The largest number of people attending a service in the church to date is 1,350 on Remembrance Day in 1975.

In 1976 a new organ was installed, taking some 10 weeks to assemble, and was dedicated on June 3, 1976. Organist Dr Joanna Fraser gave a recital which demonstrated the full capacities of the new instrument.

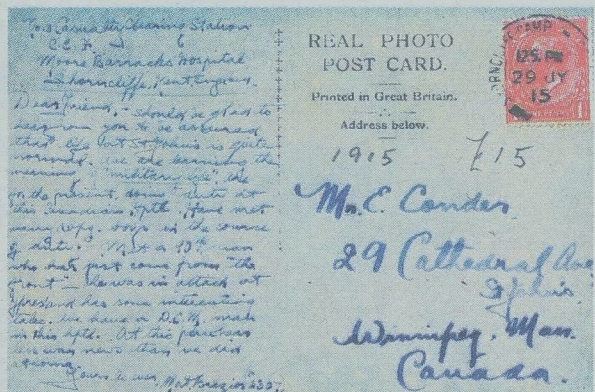
The Army has announced that the garrison church is surplus to requirements and will be closed.

The service of Remembrance on Wednesday November 11 is almost certain to be St Mark's song.



30<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2016

# THE WAY WE WERE



**FASCINATING INSIGHT:** A postcard sent in 1915 from a wounded Canadian soldier to a friend back home in Winnipeg

## Postcard from a wounded soldier at Shorncliffe

WE ARE indebted to historian Mr Robert Moulard for sharing with us this postcard from a wounded soldier at Moore Barracks Hospital, Shorncliffe, in 1915. He writes to a Mr E Conden in Winnipeg, Canada:

Dear Friend  
Should be glad to hear from you and be assured that life at St John's is quite normal. We are learning the meaning of military life and for the present doing duty at this Canadian Hospital.

Have met many boys in the course of duty. Met a 90th man who has just come from the front - he was in attack at Ypres and has some interesting tales. We have a DCM man in this hospital. At this place hear less war news than we did at home.  
Yours as ever  
Mr Beinzin (name indistinct)

■ If you have any pictures you would like to share you can get in touch using the addresses on page 2.



**SPLENDID SIGHT:** The Royal Field Artillery parades at Shorncliffe Camp



**RECUPERATION:** The Royal Military Hospital at Shorncliffe Camp

## SHOPKEEPER'S GOOD TASTE SERVES UP FLAVOUR OF GURKHA MEALS



**PIPING HOT:** An army marches on its stomach, and these Folkestone-based Gurkhas will have Nepalese spices and other ingredients at hand when a specialist shop opens in Cheriton tomorrow

# Shop offers spice of life

A SHOP especially for the Gurkha soldiers stationed at Shorncliffe will be opened tomorrow (Thursday) evening.

Guest of honour is Folkestone and Hythe MP Michael Howard at the grand opening of the business in Cheriton High Street.

More than 800 soldiers and their families moved from Brunei in south-east Asia to the barracks last month for a three-

year stint. The shop is the idea of Ashok Shrestha and has been endorsed by Army top brass.

A spokesman said: "Nepalese cooking needs certain spices that wouldn't normally be available in a place like Folkestone.

"So we have been positively encouraging this venture and we hopes it is a great success."

Mr Shrestha made a huge success from a similar venture in Cookham Church where the other battalion of Gurkhas was based until it moved to Brunei.

### TOURNAMENT OF THE LANCERS AT SHORNCLIFFE.

THE camp at Shorncliffe was visited last week during several days by many people coming to be spectators of the competition among the non-commissioned officers and privates of the 17th Lancers for prizes to be gained by superior skill in the use of their weapons. It took place in the riding school, which is not a shed, or covered

area, but an open space behind the Main Guard. Here the men contended, on horseback, with lances or swords of wood, not pointed, but chalked at the ends. The faces of the men were protected by wire masks or helmets. It was a pretty thing to look at; the order, "Ready, march," being given, the combatants advanced towards each other and commenced hostilities, each one's ambition being to disable his opponent. If either were unhorsed by his adversary a

point was lost; in case of a weapon being dropped the combatant dismounted to regain it, and then had to remount to renew the contest. Immediately on a point being made an exchange of the adversaries' weapons was made, and the struggle was renewed; when, if both made a point, the issue was decided by both making use of the lance. The successful competitors are entitled to an increase of 2d., 3d., or 4d., per day, according to rank, for the next year.



TOURNAMENT OF THE 17TH LANCERS IN THE CAMP AT SHORNCLIFFE.

18/4/1868

# Sadness as school for Army children closes

## Way we were



**Antony Thrower**  
Antony.Thrower  
@KRNmedia.co.uk  
01303 851683

ON JULY 25, 25 years ago, the corridors of Sir John Moore Primary finally fell silent after more than a century of serving the local community.

No longer would the halls be filled with the sounds of laughter, singing or pupils running between classrooms, talking excitedly.

Generations of children had taken their first steps in the world of education at Sir John Moore, but the class of 1987 would be the last.

Since the 19th century, the school, based at the Shorncliffe camp, had educated the children, most of whose parents were servicemen at the barracks.

But since the 1960s, the number of pupils had dropped from 300 to 85 as many families had been transferred to Dover. Only four teachers remained at the school. As a result, in 1985 Kent County Council decided the pupils remaining would be transferred to Andgate Road Primary and Cheriton County Primary as part of education cuts.

Nancy Hale, who had taught at the school in the 1950s and returned in the 1970s as head teacher, said in June 1987: "I have had very many happy memories, the pupils and the people who once worked here."

"Pupils from this small school have travelled all over the world and many still keep in touch."

"It has been difficult telling everybody

**GOODBYE:** Nancy Hale was the school's last head teacher



**END OF AN ERA:** The class of 1987 was the last to attend Sir John Moore

FOEM280612TWWW-2

involved that we are coming to an end but we shall uphold the school's high standards until the very last day.

"I've no idea what the future holds for us or the building but I am pleased the needs of the children will be met, although it will be hard for us all to say goodbye."

Letters of protest had been sent to Maidstone education headquarters and Shepway MP Michael Howard, but all efforts proved to be in vain.

Former pupil Colin Bickley, whose mum had been lollipop lady for four years, told the *Herald*: "I left the school 38 years ago and even today it still has a very good reputation."

"It was a very close community, as good if not better than a lot of bigger schools."

"I was very sad to see it go as it has done me and my family proud."

Chairman of the board of governors, Margaret Pratt, said: "We did all we could to try and keep it open but it just wasn't to be."

"We are very disappointed. I think the benefits of the school to the Army chil-

dren were enormous as they moved about so much and as it was a small school with friendly classes, the children got more individual attention.

"I don't want to make a sob story of this as it's a happy school. Miss Hale has been the heart and soul of the school and

understood the needs of the children.

"It's such a shame as it's the end of an era."

■ Did you go to Sir John Moore Primary and have stories to share? Call Antony on 01303 851683 or e-mail antony.thrower@KRNmedia.co.uk

**SILENT:** The Shorncliffe school buildings as they are today



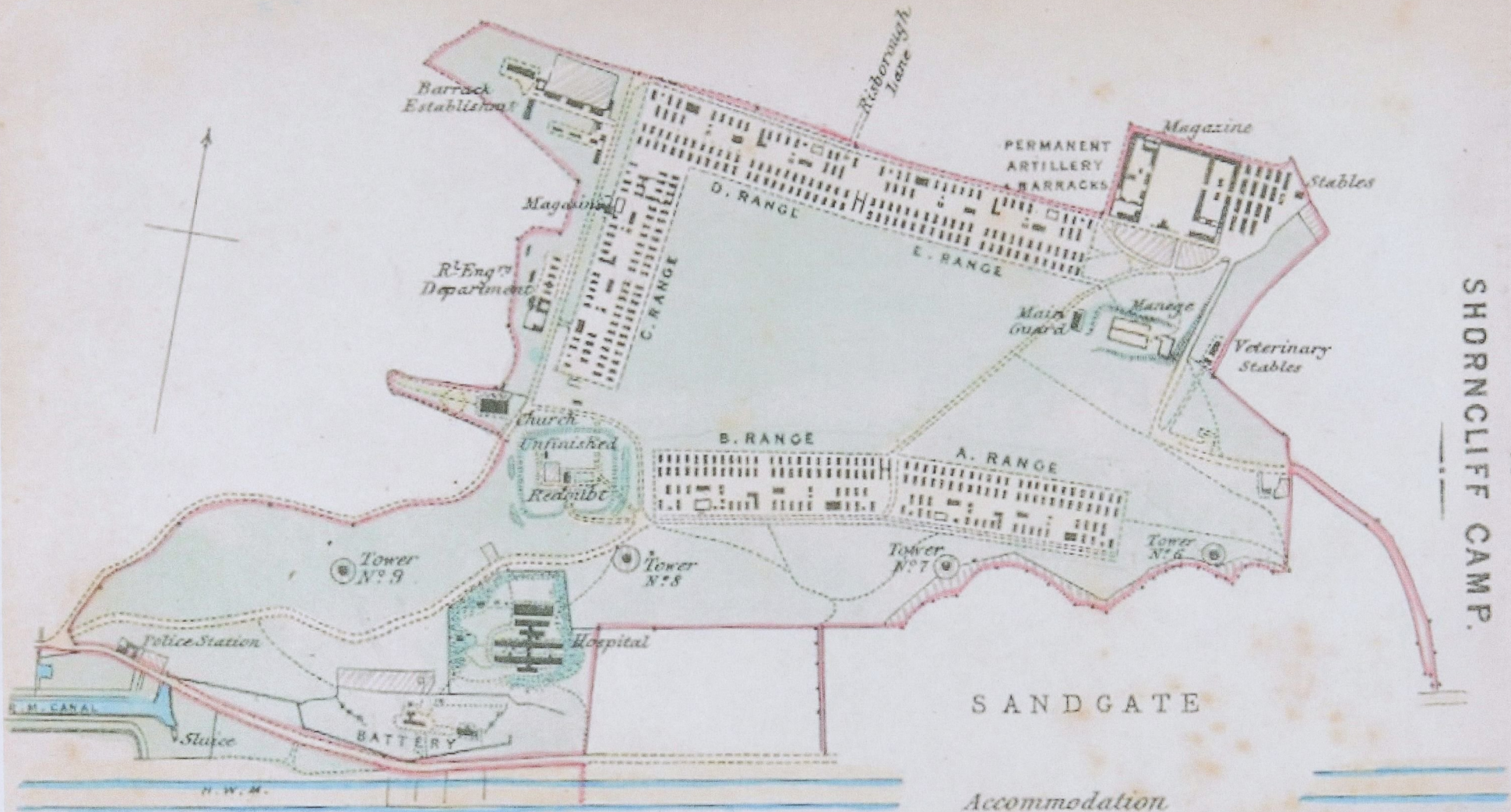
# SHORNCLIFFE CAMP

## WE ARE PLEASED TO PRESENT A LOOK AT SHORNCLIFFE CAMP AND ITS HISTORY

- 1257 There may have been a camp at Shorncliffe from this date
- 1588 There is written proof that men were stationed there in 1588
- 1779 The 4<sup>th</sup> Dragoons were there to assist the Customs & Excise to deal with smuggling
- 1790 First preparations were made to build a regular Army Camp there
- 1794 Troops began to arrive however the camp remained insignificant until-
- 1803 when Sir John Moore took command, it then became & still remains one of the most important stations for field troops, it was his idea to create a Light Infantry with which to beat the Napoleonic armies. Many new tactics were implored here against the expected invasion of the French.
- After Waterloo the army was run down and Shorncliffe fell into disrepair
- Then came the Crimean war and the German army recruited by Baron Von Stutenheier, arrived at Shorncliffe by our invitation, to be trained & equipped

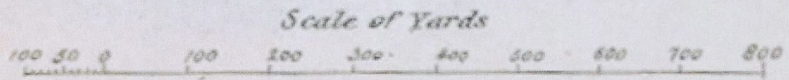
- **1855 Queen Victoria visited the camp to inspect the troops**
- **1899 The Connaught Rangers were the first Regiment to occupy Napier Barracks**
- **1902 Kaiser Wilhelm 11 visited the Royal Dragoons at Shorncliffe after their service in the South African war**
- **1914 In September 20,000 troops were in the camp**
- **1915 The Canadians came to Shorncliffe, within a year 40,000 soldiers were in training there**
- **1912 Brigadier General J.A.L. Haldane assumed command of the 10<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade & instituted plans for an Officers Library and a statue to Sir John Moore**
- **1923 The library was opened and statue unveiled by the Duke of Connaught**
- **During the second World War the Home Counties Brigade Infantry Training Centre was set up at Shorncliffe & the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion The Royal West Kents trained their recruits here**
- **1997 It was decided that the Sir John Moore barracks would be refurbished to be the UK home barracks of The Royal Gurkha Regiment**
- **2000 Work was completed and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion The Royal Gurkha Rifles arrived at the Barracks**





SHORNCLEIFF CAMP.

16



*Barrack Master* -----

| <i>Officers</i>    | <i>Non Com. Officers and Privates</i> | <i>Horses</i> |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| 163                | 3198                                  | 853           |
| <i>Occupied by</i> |                                       |               |
|                    |                                       |               |

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**Sandgate Council**

Dear Sandgate Resident

**Freedom of Sandgate Ceremony - Gurkha Regiment  
On Monday 5th May 2008**

You may already be aware that Sandgate Town Council on behalf of Sandgate have resolved to grant the Freedom of Sandgate to the 2nd Battalion Gurkha Rifles. This event will take place between 1100 and 1150 on Bank Holiday Monday with a parade of troops and pipe band in traditional Gurkha uniform marching through the High Street to the Sir John Moore memorial, where the ceremony will take place.

We do hope that as many of you as possible will engage with this community event. The Gurkhas have given sterling service to the UK over the years and are an asset to our community and this honour is long overdue.

As always in today's security conscious age there will be some inconvenience and we apologise for this. Unfortunately the High Street from Military Road through to Battery Point will be closed to traffic between 1100 and 1150 although diversions via Hospital Hill will be available. In addition to this, from the Military Road junction to the Sir John Moore memorial the High Street will have to be clear of parked cars between the hours of 12 midnight on 4 May until 12 noon on the Bank Holiday Monday. Your assistance in this if you are a car owner will be greatly appreciated.

We do hope that you will enjoy this one-off event and thank you for your co-operation.

Sandgate Town Council

*Sandgate Town Council,  
Sandgate Town Council Library, James Morris Court, Sandgate High Street,  
Sandgate, Kent, CT20 3RR – Tel: (01303) 248563  
[sandgateparish@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:sandgateparish@tiscali.co.uk)*

# More Gurkhas follow steps of advance party

SEVEN HUNDRED more Gurkhas and their families were due to arrive yesterday at Sir John Moore Barracks, Shorncliffe, from Brunei.

The 2nd Battalion The Royal Gurkha Rifles will be based there, along with the Battalion Band and the Brigade Training Team who have moved from Church Crookham.

An advance party of around 140 Gurkhas, who arrived in Folkestone several weeks ago, have already become a familiar sight in town.

Facilities for the soldiers include a BFBS radio-station broadcasting in Nepali and a privately run store at Cheriton specialising in Gurkha food.

A multi-million pound rebuild of much of the barracks to accommodate the soldiers is due to be completed this autumn.

Local folk can meet the Gurkhas when the first of a series of open days is held at the barracks on September 9.

F. H. 17.8.00

3<sup>d</sup> Report



SOLDIERS' INSTITUTE, SANDGATE.

It is with feelings of unfeigned gratitude to the Giver of all good things and Disposer of all hearts, that I again venture to lay before the Public a summary of my Third Years' endeavours to provide a Room for the Soldiers of Shorncliffe Camp, (free of all charge,) during their hours of relaxation from duty.

The New Building was opened on the 19th of December last, and many Soldiers have expressed their warm gratitude for the benefits it has conferred upon them.

By the kindness of friends, a Library of Four Hundred Books has been collected, of a religious, instructive, and interesting character, and there is room on the shelves for nearly Two Hundred more Volumes.

In May last, the Camp Scripture Reader, provided by "the Army Scripture Reader and Soldiers' Friend Society," resigned his situation; but although I have lost his services in the Institute, I hope to be able to supply his place, by a competent Superintendent, who for the Salary of Fifty Pounds a year, will devote his Afternoons and Evenings to the Soldiers who avail themselves of the advantages of the Institute; and who will also have the charge of the property it contains, and attend to the cleaning, warming and lighting of the Rooms.

The New Building required this year some additional outlay in Furniture, as the Rooms are more than double the size of those previously rented in Chapel Street. When this expense is deducted, it is calculated that about Forty Pounds would cover the annual cost of maintaining the Institute alone, inclusive of a small yearly addition to the Library, and the providing Periodicals and Stationery; and when to this sum is added the Salary of the Superintendent, it will be seen that nearly One Hundred Pounds will be required to defray the entire Annual Expences of the undertaking.

Miss Lucy Papillon opened a small room in Chapel St  
in 1858 for soldiers to gather in their off-duty hours.  
A new building opened with 5 rooms & a mission hall.  
She died in 1885.

*Ans'd  
24.10.97*

*Fri -  
Seafood -  
Cakes & Pie*

MR. E. I. T. BANKS,  
"WHYTE LADYS",  
HARRIETSHAM,  
KENT.  
ME17 1BJ.  
TEL: 01622 859334



*Landed <sup>once a week.</sup> ~~at~~ the war till 60s to Betchelors - check <sup>in</sup> ~~see~~*

Mrs. A. Nevill, 8 Radnor Cliff, Sandgate, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2JN

*Healt  
Swice*

Dear Mrs. Nevill,

8.10.97

I noted your request for information about Sandgate and Shorncliffe camp during the war and I am happy to recall my time in the camp in the summer of 1942.

I had joined the Buffs at Canterbury in November 1941 and in February '42 went to the 70th. (Young Soldiers) Battalion at Hothfield, Nr. Ashford. We were all volunteers.

In April the whole battalion spent a day marching from Hothfield to Shorncliffe and in the late afternoon left the A20 and marched up the Pond Hill road. ( I refer to the A/Z street plan as I did not know many names in 1942) On the west side of the road there was row of workshops and in front of them about a dozen Matilda tanks with men working on them. We were very impressed as these were the first tanks most of us had seen. A large sign, complete with badge, proclaimed them to be the "Duke of Wellington's Regiment". (Although there were several thousand troops in the camp at that time I cannot recall the name of any other unit). Our march ended on the parade ground at Napier barracks. Most of the platoons were allocated quarters in the still existing late Victorian barracks but we were sent to one of a row of more spacious World War 1 huts under a row of trees on the south side. The huts have long since disappeared. The camp is now smaller than it was in 1942. A large area of land and huts, etc., on the NE side has been sold as has the land above the Esplanade and on the West side. Another major change had been the enclosure of most of the camp in a high barbed-wire fence which was not a feature of army camps in the war.

Soon we settled down to training again the most regular feature of which in those days was parade ground drill. Other training included field work when we roamed over the land which is now the Channel Tunnel rail terminal and along the downs to the north of the A20. We had rifle firing at targets on the Hythe ranges and at gas filled balloons out to sea over the Military canal at Seabrook. The weather was almost perfect that year and soon on one or two afternoons a week we were marched down Brewer's hill to the Esplanade beach for a swim. We had a gap in the barbed-wire several coils of which ran the whole length of the beach. At the low tide level there was scaffolding to stop enemy landing craft and when the tide was in this was perfect for diving from. After our swim a few of us would have tea in a small cafe near Sir John Moore's statue. It is hard to describe how peaceful Sandgate was that summer. There were few people about and the only traffic was the odd Folkestone/Hythe bus!

Unfortunately there is often a dark side to life and this for me took place every few nights on the self same Esplanade! At least once a week we were detailed for night guard duty and

2.

stood for two hours at a time out side the guard room on the east side of the parade ground. Our other task was to mount the bicycle and armed with our rifle and five rounds of ammunition head south alone and without a light down Hospital hill past Seabrook and then along the Esplanade. The black out was perfect and the darkness usually total. The nights were always silent but even on a still night the noise from the waves on the shingle, un-noticed in the afternoon, made a tremendous roar! I always had a mental picture of large parts of the German army crouching under the sea wall waiting to kill or capture me and my relief on reaching the High Street and then on to Sandgate Castle to report to the Home Guard is hard to describe. Although patriotism did not allow me to think it at the time we were being used as live bait as if we were more than a quarter of an hour late the General Alarm was raised!

The most dramatic moment of our time at Shorncliffe happened on a Sunday morning. As a Lance/Corporal I had to attend the RSM's parade before going on to the service in the Garrison church. There were about 100 of us standing to attention on the parade ground awaiting his inspection. There had been no air-raid warning. Suddenly there was a roar and two German FW190 fighter bombers came from the east very low and fast over the Guard House block. This prevented a massacre as they saw us too late and could only machine-gun a hut about 100 yards away hitting a private in the arm. The whole parade had dived flat on the ground and as we picked ourselves up we heard explosions in the direction of Folkestone. We had no news at the time but I think that the date was May 17th. the day that most of the church in Sandgate Rd. was destroyed and two ladies killed.

Apart from that one incident I realised what a paradise I was in when I was sent to Dover for a few weeks. The streets were packed with troops, there were lorries everywhere and the town was little more than a dirt ridden, damaged slum. What a relief it was to get back. Even the week I spent in the old hospital overlooking the Esplanade was better than being in Dover! On one perfect Sunday afternoon four of us sunbathed by the Martello Tower at the top of Hospital Hill looking out to sea in total peace. Sadly, two of us were killed in battle before the end of the war. After the war I would sometimes stand there and reflect but now it has been built over. Another loss was that of the three young officers in charge of us who helped to make our time in the camp so pleasant, none of whom survived the war.

All good things come to an end and late in October we were marched to Folkestone West station and taken to Tonbridge to guard the road from there to Maidstone. Soon after Xmas we were in cold Nissen huts in Yorkshire and I had time to learn that Hull was very like Dover. By the middle of the year I left my friends most of whom fought up through Italy with the Buffs. For me a new life began with six weeks sea journey to India via S. Africa, and OCTU and to Burma in 1944. I have written six pages on this and will be happy to tell you more about Shorncliffe.

Your sincerely

SM Banks

ack  
21.1.98

MR. E. I. T. BANKS,  
"WHYTE LADYS",  
HARRIETSHAM,  
KENT.  
ME17 1BJ.  
TEL: 01622 859334



22.1.98

Dear Mrs Nevill,

As promised I send you more recollections of my time at Shorncliffe in 1942 with the 70th Buffs. I must apologise for the fact that many of the events that I write about happened some distance from your neighbourhood although I spent most of my time in it. This is due to the fact that our life at the camp tended to be routine and repetitive. Although training dominated our time there we were at all times on call to guard the coast when the need arose. On one occasion our company (nominally 120 men) was sent to Sandwich for a week to guard what we were told was a "secret harbour" This apparently had been constructed in the 1914 war although the only buildings remaining were the Nissen huts that we were quartered in. On several occasions we were aroused in the middle of the night by the bugle alarm and marched rapidly to the sea front, often to the Leas at Folkestone not knowing if the alarm was real or just a training exercise. When the disastrous attack on Dieppe took place in August we were told that there might be German reprisals and we were marched to Capel-le-Ferne and spent several days and nights in a hut on top of the cliff. Our most extensive travels occurred during exercise "Tiger" which took place in the spring and included the majority of units in the south-east of England. We spent several cold nights in and around the village of Sellinge and after two weeks ended up near Eastbourne. The poor army diet caused boils and I came back to Shorncliffe hospital with a fourteen headed carbuncle on my neck!

I remember Sandgate with an almost complete absence of children but in "Target Folkestone" it says that on the 6th of June at a council meeting it was noted that the evacuees were beginning to return from S. Wales. Although there were far fewer adults in the streets than there are now the shops and hotels did not seem to be short of staff. We often went to a dance at the Leas Cliff Hall as did a lot of other soldiers but there was also quite a lot of local girls there as well. My favorite cinemas were the Savoy where I saw "Dangerous Moonlight" and the small "bug hutch" in Hythe. Also I was privileged to see Alister Sim act in the corrugated iron clad Pleasure Garden Theater.

Your house was one of very many empty properties in Sandgate during the war but they were much safer then than now. A party of our men was sent to clear up an empty bomb damaged house. One of them took property said to be worth £5. Instead of today's usual "Caution" he was convicted of "Looting" and sentenced to three years in prison! On one evening two chaps from my platoon who were on patrol were found having a drink in the pub near the old railway bridge at the bottom of Hospital Hill. They each got 28 days in the "Glass House" at Chatham. Conditions there were such that ex-inmates seldom re-offended. Other memories include trains at Hythe station, the roar of Dover MTBs in the silent Channel and, from Dover, the sight through a telescope of a lone farm house on the cliffs in enemy occupied France. Please let me know if you have any further questions about my time in 1942 at Shorncliffe. My best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Em Banks