

MPS



No 131

2022



The Regimental Journal of the
Military Provost Staff Regiment *and*
Military Provost Staff Association



Military Provost Staff Regiment and Association Journal 2022

Editor

Major (Retd) RG Corcoran MBE

Contributors

The Editor would like to thank all contributors for their articles and photographs.

Apologies are given to the donors of the articles that have not been included.

The editor and publisher kindly request that photographs be supplied in jpg format if possible and at a resolution of 300 dots per inch at the size they will be printed. Original hard copy photographs are also fine.

Cover Photographs

Front cover

The late Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Second 1926 - 2022

Back cover

The new proposed MPS Cap Badge

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Lieutenant Colonel Michael Clare Garsia CB - Father of the Corps.



Military Provost Staff Regiment and Association Journal 2022

Contents

The Regiment	6	Gymnasium	29
Editorial	7	Regimental Sport	30
Gazette	8	Exercises	37
Provost Marshal's Notes	10	Regimental News	38
Commanding Officer's Notes	11	SCF North	50
Provost Day 2022	12	SCF South	52
HM Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee	15	SCF Midlands and Wales	54
Funeral of HM Queen Elizabeth II	16	SCF Scotland	55
Detention Company	24	Reserve Company	58
Offender Management Unit	24	MPS Regiment History	62
HQ PM (A) Detention and Custody Team	25	Can You Remember?	65
Support Company	26	Association News	70
Headquarter Company	28	Deaths	77



The Regiment

Deputy Colonel Commandant

Major General BJ Bathurst KCVO CBE

Provost Marshal (Army) and Army Competent Authority and Inspector

Brigadier VW Buck

Commanding Officer Military Provost Staff Regiment and Commandant Military Corrective Training Centre

Lieutenant Colonel MT Fielder RTR

MPSC - MPS Regimental March

The New Colonial

MPS Regimental Motto

Veritas et Aequitas (Truth and Equity)

Regimental History - Notable Dates

Formation of Military Provost Staff Corps - 1906

Formation of Military Provost Staff - 1992

Formation of Military Provost Staff Regiment - 2014

Military Provost Staff Association

President and Chair

Brigadier VW Buck AGC (RMP)

Trustees

Lieutenant Colonel (Retd) P Andrews OBE

Major R Moffatt AGC (MPS)

Captain T Crickmore AGC (RMP)

Captain R Smith AGC (MPS)

WO1 (RSM) E Redgate

Staff Sergeant E Mannion-Williams

Mr L Pearse

Regimental Secretary

Major (Retd) RG Corcoran MBE

Veritas et Aequitas - Truth and Equity

Editorial

Major (Retd) RG Corcoran MBE

The passing of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Second, has, understandably had a big impact on 2022. The MPS Regiment's participation is rightly recorded, in some detail, in the following pages, everyone who took part, in whatever capacity, was immensely proud to have taken part in such a moving historic event.

The MPS Regiment's Jubilee celebration was a very successful and well organised event, it also included the opening of the Heritage Centre by PM(A).

This year's event will follow a similar pattern and will be celebrating the Coronation, please see the MPS Association website for details, it is currently planned to hold the event on 7 May 2023, and will also include a Trustees and Annual General meeting.

The rear cover of this Regimental Journal is the proposed new design of our cap badge, it is heartening to see the historical reference to our antecedent Corps being continued in perpetuity.

On Regimental and Association matters, I have included a pattern of the proposed MPS Regiment and Association tie, it is based on the new Carolean era to reflect the new Monarch, it will, in due course replace both the old MPSC and the MPS Regiment ties, in order to have one tie that reflects both the MPSC and the MPS Regiment, I



think it encompasses the more traditional Oxford blue with the new cap badge. Details will follow once the design has been agreed.

It would be remiss of me not to mention the passing of the late Jimmy Nicholson, his funeral was attended by a large

contingent of current In-Pensioners and members of the Association, I am deeply indebted to Jimmy for leaving a legacy for the Association. His medals and military memorabilia will be on display in the Warrant Officers and Sergeants Mess.

The Regimental Journal is only as good as the articles it receives, it is a reflection of both serving and veterans, please do consider submitting an article with photographs, it will be published!

The new design Regimental tie



HM King Charles III and the Queen Consort visited Colchester on 7 March 2023 and the MPS Regiment provided staff for the Guard of Honour. His Majesty is fully aware of who we are and our role and asked Cpl Carr, on the right... 'Are you looking after the naughty people ok?'

Gazette

Honours and Awards

RHQ Congratulates the following members of the MPS Regiment on their appointments and awards

Colonel Commandant Adjutant General's Corps Commendation

W1056303 SSgt E Mannion-Williams

Provost Marshal (Army) Commendation

25136161 SSgt Marc Walkington

The Provost Captain's Sword

Capt T Crickmore AGC (RMP) awarded when serving with the MPS Regt

Promotions

Staff Sergeant to Warrant Officer Class 2

25165056 SSgt DP Buckham
25149377 SSgt MJ Carver
25136290 SSgt BM Foxon
24930789 SSgt PMJ Furlong
25167811 SSgt KK Ollivierre

Sergeant to Staff Sergeant

30130363 Sgt TW Clifford
30127780 Sgt AM Forde
25218745 Sgt DM Kerr
25201855 Sgt FJ Mckay
25113832 Sgt PK Ratumaitavuki
30101105 Sgt BJ Stapleton
25136161 Sgt MC Walkington
30043359 Sgt JW White

Corporal to Sergeant

30123153 Cpl DP Benn
21170750 Cpl S Gurung
21171850 Cpl M Gurung
25200469 Cpl J Harland
30087144 Cpl RML Mcgavin
30097162 Cpl SS Prophet
21171524 Cpl M Rai
21170831 Cpl R Rai
30032333 Cpl RO Rainford

Assignments In

21170817 Sgt Sherpa to Sy & Rec on 3 Jan 22	30185847 Cpl Dennis to SCF Scotland on 11 Apr 22
21170693 Sgt Tamang to Det Coy on 3 Jan 22	30103035 Cpl Graham to SCF North on 11 Apr 22
30019314 Sgt Smith to Det Coy on 10 Jan 22	30089677 Cpl Ross to SCF NI on 11 Apr 22
W1060895 Sgt Raine to SCF Scot on 10 Jan 22	24930789 WO2 Furlong to Sy & Rec on 11 Apr 22
25097301 Sgt Leweni to SCF NI on 31 Jan 22	F8504411 Flt Lt Vaughan to OC Trg Wg on 25 Apr 22
T8432978 Sgt Scarlett to Trg Wg on 4 Apr 22	25165056 WO2 Buckham to Welfare Dept on 20 Jun 22
25134198 SSgt Simcox to Sp Coy on 4 Apr 22	SSgt Mannion-Williams to SCF South on 20 Jun 22
30101105 Sgt Stapleton to QM Dep on 4 Apr 22	25121416 WO2 Thornton to Ops Support on 20 Jun 22
25122584 Sgt Struczynski to Sy & Rec on 4 Apr 22	30130363 SSgt Clifford to DUS Records on 20 Jun 22
25117141 SSgt Unwin to Ops & Trg Sup on 4 Apr 22	25162480 SSgt Leyland to Ops PI on 9 Jul 22
25133391 Sgt Venters to SCF Scot on 4 Apr 22	30117687 Sgt Lorito to RHQ SSA on 15 Jun 22
Sgt Hayward to SCF M&W on 4 Apr 22	25149377 WO2 Carver to Design Cell on 1 Aug 22
30185843 Cpl Carr SCF M&W on 11 Apr 22	25165066 Sgt Fatiaki to Ops PI on 8 Aug 22

30069367 Sgt Peters to Det Coy on 8 Aug 22	25099485 Sgt Burns to SCF South on 27 Oct 22
30183779 Capt Westland to OC HQ Coy on 15 Aug 22	25107938 Capt Hancock to OC SCF Coy on 1 Nov 22
25113832 SSgt Ratumaitavuki to Det Coy on 15 Aug 22	24911685 Maj Moffat to DCOMDT on 1 Nov 22
25136290 WO2 Foxon to PSI Res on 22 Aug 22	25213532 Sgt Kyme to SCF North on 21 Nov 22
R8433078 Sgt Jokat to Det Coy on 22 Aug 22	30074187 Cpl Southey SCF M&W on 28 Nov 22
30101105 SSgt Stapleton to Det Coy on 23 Aug 22	30094441 Cpl Sautu to SCF NI on 28 Nov 22
25136161 SSgt Walkington to QM Dept on 23 Aug 22	W1060837 Cpl Bacon to SCF North on 28 Nov 22
25163270 Sgt James to QM Dept on 29 Aug 22	25230859 Cpl Wilkinson to SCF North on 28 Nov 22
25218745 SSgt Kerr to Det Coy on 5 Sep 22	30189935 Cpl Boggs to SCF North on 28 Nov 22
25167811 WO2 Ollivierre to WO2 CPERS on 26 Sep 22	30152687 Cpl Phillips to SCF South on 28 Nov 22
25161525 SSgt Clerice to RHQ FSA on 28 Sep 22	30072126 Sgt Hutchinson to DUS Records on 26 Oct 22
D213530H PO Bryant to Det Coy on 1 Oct 22	25169779 Sgt Bielefelo Sy & Rec on 21 Nov 22
252200469 Sgt Harland to Det Coy on 1 Oct 22	30043359 SSgt White to Welfare Dept on 21 Nov 22
30032333 Sgt Rainford to Ops Pl on 1 Oct 22	25132771 Sgt Blakemore to OMU on 5 Dec 22
30097162 Sgt Prophet to SCF South on 18 Oct 22	25114511 Sgt Parker to Sy & Rec on 5 Dec 22
25211169 Cpl Wright to Sp Coy on 17 Oct 22	21171850 Sgt Gurung to Det Coy on 5 Dec 22
21171524 Sgt Rai to Det Coy on 18 Oct 22	21171082 Sgt Gurung Sy & Rec on 5 Dec 22
21170750 Sgt Gurung to Sy & Rec on 24 Oct 22	30127780 SSgt Forde to OMU on 19 Dec 22
21170831 Sgt Rai to Det Coy on 18 Oct 22	W1053281 Sgt Uda to DUS Records on 19 Dec 22

Assignments Out

30168813 Capt Keenan to ICSC on 4 Jan 22
 21171300 Sgt Gurung to EPI BFC on 27 Jun 22
 30067375 Maj Rakaidawa to NATO Sennelager on 4 Jul 22
 25201855 SSgt McKay to BFAI JSPSU on 9 Jul 22
 25204796 Sgt Rigby to DPSG on 8 Aug 22
 D246104S PO Carrie to HMS Collingwood on 12 Sep 22
 21169392 SSgt Rai to 16 AA Bde HQ on 5 Sep 22
 25095577 Capt Vella to HQ PM(A) on 1 Nov 22
 21170969 Sgt Tembe to MRTC on 28 Nov 22

Transfers 2022

DSC 239

30145847 Cpl Davies
 30145843 LCpl Carr
 30089677 Bdr Ross
 30006071 Sgt Wright
 30126550 Cpl Dennis
 3010 3035 Cpl Graham

DSC 240

W1060837 Cpl Bacon
 30074187 Cpl Southey
 30189935 Cpl Boggs
 30094441 LCpl Sautu
 30152687 Cpl Phillips
 25230859 Cpl Wilkinson

Provost Marshal's Notes

Brigadier VW Buck

Now in my last six months as Provost Marshal (Army) and this is my final forward for the Military Provost Staff Regiment and Military Provost Staff Corps Journal. Over the past year the achievements and efforts of the Military Provost Staff, Civilian Staff, other supporting cap badges in MCTC and the Service Custody Facilities have been wide and far reaching, providing first class support across Defence. Both the Institutional Foundation Review and Future Soldier will impact on the specialist capability with a reduction of 24 personnel, but the professionalism and pride shown by all will mean the restructuring will not see any reduction in outputs.

In December 2021 the Service Custody Facilities were inspected by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons, and in January 2022 it was the turn of MCTC. Both received some excellent feedback and overwhelmingly positive reports, with one highlight praising the performance of the staff during the pandemic. MCTC was also compared favourably, and in some cases better, to many of the civilian prisons. Additionally, in the four areas against which prisons are scored, MCTC has improved in one area since the last inspection in 2017 and remained with a grade of 'GOOD' in the other three areas.

Operational outputs have continued unabated across all parts of the Regiment, including a plethora of short-term training missions overseas, and the renewal of the Open Road contract to provide drugs, alcohol and anger management counselling for those placed under the charge of the Military Provost Staff. It is a great set of tools to address offending behaviours, coupled with the continued delivery of offending behaviour programmes by the National Probation Service.

Operationally, the Military Provost Staff have also been called upon to support Defence's approach to the situation in Ukraine, delivering training to Ukrainian troops within the UK, in what now appears to be an enduring



commitment. They are delivering battle lessons on Prisoners of War, both handling and holding, in an International Armed Conflict setting. This is in addition to the Regiment's involvement with Ukraine since late 2015 where they have sat on the Multinational Joint Commission MP Sub-committee, assisting with the transformation of the Ukrainian Military Law and Order Service towards a fully functioning MP force.

The Personnel Reform Intervention to Enhance Military Effectiveness (PRIME) initiative is now in its second year and is gathering momentum. PRIME sees core custodial staff delivering early non-custodial intervention work to address soldiers' poor behaviours prior to them potentially escalating, offending and subsequently entering the Service Justice System. As PRIME is an initiative endorsed by the Army Executive Committee it continues to keep the Military Provost Staff front and

centre at the highest levels.

There has also been great inroads with the professionalisation of escorting across Defence with the initial roll out of Op CARRIAGE. The close working relationship between my Headquarters, the MPS Regiment and the Military Court Service has seen an introduction of MPS led escorting from Court Martial Centres for those found guilty of the most serious crimes, as well as those who pose the greatest risk to not only Defence and the public, but also to themselves.

New members of the Military Provost Staff now begin their MPS careers with enrolment on the Level 3 Custody and Detention Officers Apprenticeship Scheme, a civilian recognised qualification which has taken many years to come to fruition. The first learners who enrolled in 2021 are now entering the final stages of their Apprenticeship and will soon be the first Level 3 qualified members of the Regiment. This demonstrates a clear and unequivocal commitment to our people.

In June 2022 it was a privilege to attend the MPS Association Annual General Meeting and have the honour of opening the Military Provost Staff Heritage Centre, a collection of historic custody and detention material from the Regiment and its antecedent Corps, the MPSC. For those that have not seen it yet, it is well worth a visit. The day was rounded off nicely by a thoroughly enjoyable and well supported Platinum Jubilee Families Day.

Finally, with this being my last entry as Provost Marshal (Army), I thank you all for your unwavering support, commitment and professionalism in all that you do, and wish every single one of you success and fulfilment for the future. The achievements of the Military Provost Staff Regiment are only possible through your dedication and hard work, whether Regular, Reserve or Civilian Staff, you all are integral members of the wider team. Thank you and keep up the good work.

Veritas et Aequitas.

Commanding Officer's Notes

Lieutenant Colonel MT Fielder RTR

Greetings and thank you for taking the time to read my notes for this year's journal. Your reward will be a short offering, rather than an over-long account listing the things which have happened this year, which are many. I will instead confine myself to mentioning two things from the past year, one from the world of own-force detention and the other from that of operational detention. I hope you will derive from my decision to look briefly at both sides of the MPS Regt's mission that I consider them to be of equal importance; I am sure that if we are to have a long-term future, we must fully embrace our operational commitments.

The first thing I would like to speak of is His Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) inspections of, and reports on, the Service Custody Facilities (SCF) and the Military Corrective Training Centre (MCTC). The value to Defence of the independent reports from HMIP on the SCFs and MCTC cannot be over-stated. They are vital to protecting Service detention against those who would seek to do away with it altogether.

When HMIP give us the bill of health which they did at the start of this year, it is not just a validation that the things we do are making a difference to our detainees. It is also a vital reinforcement of the reputation of the Service Justice System more widely. The success of the inspections was founded on diligent preparation, but more fundamentally than that, they were a success because we have embedded good practices over a period of years and because we have staff (military and civil service) who believe in what we do and who believe



in the capacity of the detainees to raise themselves above their failings.

The most significant operational activity we have been engaged in has been teaching prisoner of war handling to Ukrainian soldiers cycling through the UK under the banner of Operation INTERFLEX. This operation has already seen thousands of Ukrainian troops receive basic training from the British Army in the UK, with the programme due to continue into 2023. The MPS Regt has assumed responsibility for the delivery of the

Captured Persons battle-lesson, re-written by our training wing to ensure its relevance for the war against Russia. Without a doubt this is having a direct influence on the battlefield as you read this article. Teaching the lesson has also encouraged our instructors to think about the strategic reasoning behind humane treatment of prisoners, as many young Ukrainians have questioned why they, having suffered directly or indirectly as a result of Russian war crimes, have to abide by the restraints of the Geneva Conventions.

Humanitarian arguments are unsatisfactory in these circumstances: the answer is that failure to comply jeopardises international support for Ukraine's war effort. Simple strategic messaging like this is vital to understand, not only for Ukrainians, but also for British soldiers who have fallen foul of the Geneva Conventions in the past, and who may do so again if we as an Army cannot articulate these basic strategic messages at the lowest level. Operation INTERFLEX will continue to be critical not just for Ukrainians but also for the MPS Regt.

The impact of these two activities, HMIP's inspections and Op INTERFLEX, is a clear exhibition of the strategic value which the MPS Regt offers to the nation day-in, day-out. We are little-known, but must never allow our anonymity to blind ourselves to our importance. I can think of no other Regiment in which the NCOs carry, daily, such a strategic burden as ours do. We should be proud of this and take the time to remind ourselves of it from time to time.

Provost Day 2022

Sgt Hobson RAF



After months of planning, stress and various Skype meetings back and forth around the UK Provost Day 2022 was upon us all. Personnel from all over the UK from various units will be arriving at DSPG in Southwick Park for the big day.

We travelled from MCTC the day prior to ensure that all the safety briefs for the day. With an early start and blue skies, the next day, we all met for a morning coffee armed ready to go for a long day ahead. By the 0900 hours the stand was all setup and arranged perfectly to showcase the MPS Regt from past to present.

During the day many people visited the stand and asked questions and looked at all the kit and equipment we had on show and spoke about how they were admitted into MCTC "back in the day" some of the old veterans told us all stories of how it was and used to be during their time of service and what MPS staff was like. The smiles on their faces and laughs proved that they had many stories from back then.

Sgt Newbatt and Sefer the MCTC



drugs dog completed a stand show casing his work that he conducts day in and out of MTC. Sefer was eager to show off his skills to friends and family of 1MP Brigade. We set up a mock search of kit and equipment that a normal admission would bring in to show how effective the search dog is.

Sefer searched the kit and indicated on the boot where the drug was located, and a small applause was given by the spectators. After which the children that were watching had a slobbery kiss from Sefer this was not optional! Overall was a great day out and good to showcase MWD Sefer to the wider Brigade.

During the day the Major Wharton jumped into the stocks and enjoyed being soaked by all the visitors and even Lt Col Fielder Commandant of MCTC got a little wet. We raised just over £45 to donate to the ABF soldier's charity. After



Maj Wharton pre-soaking!



CO soaking!



a busy afternoon the stands we able to collapse and everyone to go and enjoy the evening celebrations down on the sports field. There were drinks flowing and food stands with a huge stage with some great music for everyone to enjoy.

As Attached Arms working with MPS at MCTC, it was great to be a part of the Provost Day at Southwick Park, where the RAF Police attend their Phase 2 Training alongside the Army. The benefit of the services working together should

not be underestimated, as so much can be learned from one another. Whilst helping on the MPS stand, I was able to talk to a lot of military personnel about everything we do as a Tri-Service team at MCTC from the Staging System, bed blocks and locker layouts through to the emphasis on rehabilitation and education as well as the importance of health and welfare. As a leader within the RAF, we are taught 'people first'. If the health and welfare of your people is in good order,

they are more able to focus on the task at hand. This is what I strive for at MCTC and it was a great experience at Provost Day to be able to share this with the many people that came to see our stand. It led to great conversations with many serving and ex-serving military members sharing stories and experiences of their careers and how far the military has moved forward and continues to move forward training and educating its personnel in an ever-evolving society.



Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee

On the 4th June 2022 the MPS Regiment celebrated the 70th anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second's accession to the throne in style with an excellent Families Day.

Events such as cake cutting and a wide variety of stalls added to the day, which was extremely well attended. Judging by the number of Hawaiian shirts being worn, attendees certainly took the timed event seriously!

It was an excellent event that was reflective of the day, as the Commanding Officer wrote in his forward for the event:

'In the name of celebration, particularly after the tribulations of covid, I thank you again for coming today. I have always believed that the families are the bedrock of the military and I am delighted that we have been able to organise a day which puts the families firmly at the centre of the Regiment,



where they belong.

The MPS Regiment is a Regiment of unsung heroes, custodians of the most vulnerable members of the services, and of the reputation and good name of Defence. They couldn't do it without the families and friends who support them day in, day out.

And finally, thank you to WO2 Thornton and his team, without whom none of this work be happening.'



FUNERAL OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II 19TH SEPTEMBER 2022

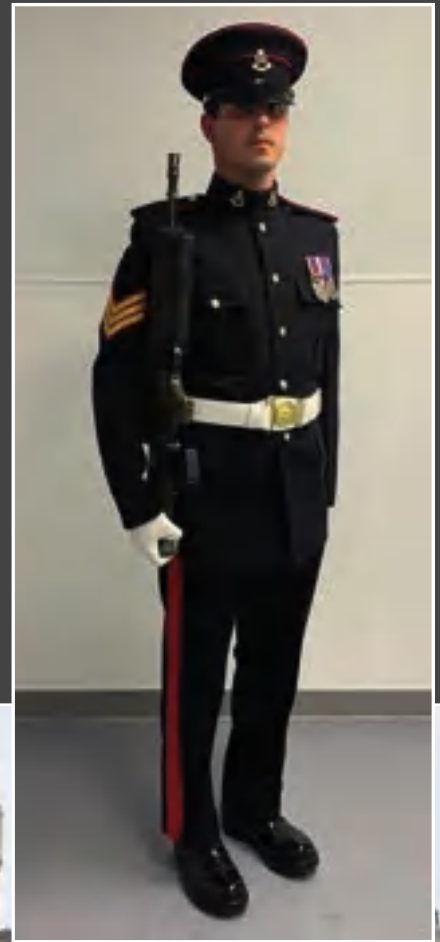
Sgt T James, Detention Company, MPS Regiment

On Thursday 8th September 2022 the world was informed of the heart-breaking news that Queen Elizabeth the Second had passed away peacefully in her sleep, in her beloved residence of Balmoral. Her Late Majesty was loved by all.

Following the news, no time was wasted on 9th September 2022 Operation

Bridge was called, put in place in the event of Her Majesty passing, six members of the MPS Regiment were given the privilege and honour to represent the regiment in her late Majesty's state funeral.

Those given the privileged honour were directed to report to Worthy Down AGC RHQ, on arrival they all





received ceremonial equipment. Number One dress was provided and a much awaited brief from WO1 (Corps SM) Wayne Heathcote, he addressed all AGC members who would be taking part in the funeral, it was stated that two contingents were assigned to the AGC, a marching contingent conducted in London and a street lining contingent conducted in Windsor.

These contingents received two days of drill training in Worthy Down before moving onto their next location for assigned roles. It was the intent of the Corps SM that time be used to get to know each other and gain a strong cohesive bond to help with the imminent stresses and pressure the funeral would impose. After the first morning's drill session an about turn was called and several members made the wrong drill movement, a wave of laughter was heard from all, this was the intent, with all mistakes made and lessons learnt in Worthy Down, contingents were able to relax and work on their personal drill in a united bond as a fine body of men and women.

On 13th September 2022 contingents were split down, greeted by the School of Ceremonial Staff and Instructors of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst

to conduct rehearsals. The marching contingent were housed in Pirbright, and Street-lining Contingent housed in Longmoor. This was so all other Corps and Regiments assigned to the funeral could practice and rehearse together. These contingents remained in locations and commuted to London/Windsor until the funeral was conducted.

Those who took part in the funeral from MPS Regimental have been kind enough to provide a narrative on their thoughts, feelings through the preparation in rehearsals and the penultimate funeral watched by estimated five billion people across the world.

Marching Contingent Role – Procession

Sgt Carver

Being the sole member of the MPS Regiment to take part in the procession for the Queen's funeral was an absolute honour and a memory that I will carry for the rest of my life.

I really enjoyed listening to an amalgamation of various bagpipe players, who had there have been one would have lifted the roof off Wellington Barracks at 6am on the day. The music

played was eerie and haunting, but really set the tone ahead of the procession. Generally, the noise being created by the amassing crowds in the hours before the procession was enough for anyone to say they are proud to be British.

In all honesty, not an enjoyable moment but just to mention the camaraderie between the troops including the Commonwealth attachments was first class, everyone being there for the same reason and going through the same rigorous training and routines had a feeling of one army instead of multiple cohorts.

My lasting memorable moment would have to be hearing the words 'Hot Scoff' on rehearsal day, only to be handed a loin sausage and omelette bap at three in the morning, I myself am still convinced it was in fact corned beef!

Street-Lining Contingent Role - 8 Half Company Street Liner

SSgt J White

The 10 days spent on Operation London Bridge was a unique experience which varied between moments of humour and banter and sombre moments that over five billion people worldwide witnessed.

For me the most memorable moments took place on the Long Walk in Windsor. The first being the feeling of adrenaline as we turned right onto the Long Walk and you could first see the thousands of people covering every available inch of the mile and a half road. The second most memorable moment was being stood at Present Arms as Her Majesty and the processions passed by. It truly was a once in a lifetime moment which I doubt will ever be matched.

There were a number of moments during the many days of rehearsals which provided some dits when we returned to Colchester. These include seeing the moment of pure panic in a bagpiper's eyes as he knocked a tin of liquid Brasso into his instrument case the night before the funeral. This led to a dozen people from various backgrounds rushing around trying to get appropriate cleaning equipment to assist him in getting his Bagpipes back to their original, clean state. Another rather humorous moment was seeing the look of pride in Cpl James eyes as he proclaimed himself to be the 'Banter King' to Lt Gen Jones during a conversation about how we had got on during the early morning rehearsals and many hours spent 'marching up and down the square!'



Role – 8 Half Company Senior Sergeant

Sgt T James T

On my arrival I was given the privilege to conduct initial drill practice for both contingents, some members of the AGC had not conducted any form of drill since basic training, a diverse set of people and various forms of experiences and ranks from Private to WO1, one member of the MPGS informed me that the last form of rifle drill he done was with a SLR, it became clear that I would need to start from the basics of drill and progression to conduct funeral drill in a short period of time prior to our departure to Longmoor and Pirbright. All members took on the challenge and left with a good state of competence, I took great enjoyment and pride seeing members of 8 Half Company perform with confidence which in turn helped bond and establish team ethos.

A most enjoyable moment would be role assigned, my first ceremonial duty in the military was street-lining for her late Majesty on her birthday parade, to be street-lining again on her funeral parade felt a most solemn moment and a true honour. My most memorable moment throughout the rehearsals and funeral was receiving wise words of advice from the RSM of Sandhurst, “this will be the last present arms you will ever give to her late Majesty, and the last one she

will receive in a ceremonial event” I remember a distinct silence and a time of solace, the magnitude and importance was fortified then and there was no question in anyone’s commitment, everyone wanted to give her late Majesty the best parade possible, a true honour for all.

Role - 8 Half Company Street Liner

Sgt W Corbett

My most memorable experiences would be when conducting the early morning full rehearsal at 4 am in the morning. I found this harder than the actual event, maybe because of the cold or it seemed a lot longer than the actual event itself. Also seeing the Queen’s coffin come by me within an arm’s length on the day of the procession. While in the reverse present arms on the Long Walk.

My most enjoyable moments were marching out of Victoria Barracks on the day of procession and seeing the public cheering and clapping us as we marched to the long Walk. Another moment includes whilst standing in our positions and seeing all the public waiting for the Queen.

Role - 8 Half Company Street Liner

Cpl R James

The most memorable moments for me

were being three feet away from the hearse and coffin of her late Majesty. I took great enjoyment having the opportunity to meet new people from the AGC, interacting and getting to know other characters from our diverse Corps.

An enjoyable memory was also the enjoyment and fun we all had in the down time, housed in a 16 man room in a block of 64 people in very little living space, there was always a friendly face or a joke coming to keep morale and spirits high.

It was just an honour to have been picked to do this for the Queen for the last time.

Role - 8 Half Company Street Liner

Cpl S Nuku

It was a privilege and an honour to take part in this historical ceremony.

It was amazing how everyone got together within a few days to give our Queen a good send off.

The memorable moments, was when 8 Half Company marched out towards “Long Walk” and seeing a sea of people.

And when we did the Royal Salute and Present Arms as the hearse passed, that’s when it hit me. Farewell our Noble Queen.

Thank you your Majesty for the opportunity join and serve under you in the Army.

May the Queen Rest in Peace – God save the King.







Operation London Bridge A Personal Perspective

Cpl Selina Nuku, 8 Half Company MPS Regiment

When did you get the initial Warning Order?

It was late Friday afternoon, (9 September 2022), during a team discussion on JDP 1-10, when I was asked by my IC if my No.2's were fully serviceable, to which I replied 'Yes'. At this point, I did not know the significance of what appeared to be a normal request. Then, I remembered my medals and forage cap were still in the tailors back at camp, SCF Bulford; but true to form and in keeping with being a good soldier, 'no bluff-too tough'. As I cast my memory back to that question from my IC, it rapidly exploded into what felt like a whirlwind. I was instructed to leave the current ITR Package and only given 20 minutes to pack all my room and exercise kit, I still did not know where I was going or when I was required to parade. I was hastily driven back to Bulford Camp, (by one of the Detention Specialist Course personnel, and whilst on the journey back, I knew I still had to collect my items from the tailors; I did this before being making my way to the parade destination; namely AGC Worthy Down.

Can you describe the atmosphere during the preparation stages?

When I finally arrived at AGC Worthy Down, I was greeted by Sgt Gurung who was specifically booking everyone in for Op London Bridge. After being ticked off, I was immediately hurled into the clothing store for No.1's fitting and all the accessories that came with MPS ceremonial uniform. I managed to collect my medals and forage cap. We were all then treated to a de-brief from WO1 Heathcote at 1800 hrs that day, he specifically detailed the expectations we must fulfil during the State Funeral.

On Sunday 11 September was our first drill practice, our drill instructor was identified, and I was thrilled to know this to be a fellow MPS comrade. Sgt Thomas James, (Ex Guards) was suitably dubbed 'The Tom' for the duration of the build-up phase, mainly due to his infatuation with all things military, drill and his humbling loyalty to the cause. 'The Tom', put us all through our paces,



routinely refreshing and reteaching those who required extra Arms Drill. I want to take this opportunity to thank 'The Tom', mainly for being patient with me, I'd never done this type of drill before in my 20 years of service and was elated to have done it with fellow MPS comrades. That evening and little did I know, every evening to follow; saw everyone rapidly sorting out drill kit, bulling boots, frantically ironing and preparing for the days ahead.

What were the days leading up to the State Funeral like for you?

It was extremely fast paced; we were either practising drill until our bodies were bruised with the motion; or perfecting our kit until it was in pristine condition; or receiving briefs from high-ranking officers. One brief that really landed on me was delivered by the AGC Corps Colonel on Monday 12 September; this brief followed a photograph of all AGC Service Personnel involved within the entire operation. I specifically remember this brief, due to it being the most heartfelt, emotional and once a lifetime brief to have been given. Even though I remember it as a 'blur', I can almost feel it now as I write this, the feeling of being proud to be chosen for this once in a lifetime historical occasion. It was at that very moment I made a vow to myself; to give her the very best, to dig deep and conjure up all the mental resilience I could muster; not only for myself, but for our country and our beloved late Queen.

On Tuesday 13 September, we were all relocated to Longmoor camp for our first rehearsal for the Windsor

Street Lining; focusing on Arms Drill and marching as a formed body at a pace of 116 paces per minute, 'The Tom' was fierce with this and the number 116 will forever be etched in my drill memory. The proceeding few days, appeared to all roll into one, where we were persistently put through the same practises until it became second nature. I can honestly say that, even whilst on tour, I had never added so much salt to my food to ensure my body could endure the physical requirements, who knew marching, and Arms Drill could take so much out of you? I personally don't understand how they do what they do routinely, and to make it look so easy, is just incredible.

How did you feel during the long walk trail rehearsal?

My contingent left Longmoor at 2300 hrs on Friday 16 September and headed to Windsor, the journey was sombre, with the realisation of the task ahead slowly becoming reality. Only those who were part of my section for the State Funeral know this; but I'll share this with you all now:

It was 0300 hrs on freezing Saturday morning (17 September), nothing would have stopped the rehearsal, not even the temperature, which dropped to a mere 4 degrees. We formed up and marched off from Victoria Barracks, what a sense of pride I felt. Not knowing, at this point, that this feeling would be amplified on the actual day itself. Although, I can honestly say that I have never been so cold in my entire life: wondering why my military kit did not keep me warm during the early hours, who would have thought a combination of No.2's

shoes and thin tights wouldn't be sufficient for freezing temperatures.

We also survived another early morning rehearsal, standing up for a constant 6-hour period, with rifles, following an intense programme, combined with bruised bodies and aching joints. This is pretty good going in my book. We were then taken back to Longmoor camp, where last minute kit preparation took place, it was also time for us to get some well-earned rest before the next early morning parade.

It's now the day of the State Funeral, can you describe the day for us?

Monday 19 September, the day is finally upon us, reveille set at 0400 hours, setting off from Longmoor camp soon after: destination Windsor. I think it would be fair to say, 'I was buzzing,' all the hard work and the days spent living in each other's pockets was all worth it, with the build up leading to this very moment on this truly remarkable occasion. As the coach pulled up, I noticed groups of people camping along the 'long walk trail'. I was calm and relaxed in the knowledge that I'd done and prepared all I could. One last group photo in front of the Wooden Guardsmen and we were all ready to go.

In formation and formed within our different companies, we stepped off. In that instant we were met with mass media coverage, the weather most certainly onside, as I remember it being extremely warm, a stark cry from the previous morning rehearsals. As the order came to turn right, along 'the long walk trail', I was in awe, and shocked to see the sea of people with the only clear space available laid before us, which is where we set form to our 10 pace markers. I distinctly remember the crowds clapping and an overwhelming feeling of pride, thinking, 'WOW!! Here we go'.

Even though the day was long, it seemed to have stood still and flew by all at the same time. Whilst patiently waiting, conducting Arms Drill and patrolling our line, the growing anticipation ever increasing, as we wait for the final order to 'Present Arms'. The Royal Hearse passed, not realising how close I would be to the procession itself; I saw the detail on the crown as it floated by; then it hit me and I remember saying to myself, "Farewell our noble Queen, it was an honour to serve you".

Following completion of this momentous phase, we marched back to Victoria Barracks with



crowds clapping and showing their appreciation to troops that took part on this stately occasion. There are some things I have done in my career that I wish to never repeat, then there are some things I have been a part of that will never compare; this being one of them, what a moment I will cherish for the rest of my life.

What happened after the state funeral?

As with anything in the military, when you work hard you are given time to rest and recoup; whilst back at Longmoor camp we were given 24 hrs enforced rest for all included in the nationwide procession. The following day we made our way back to AGC Worthy Down for yet another historic official photograph, swiftly followed by a hosted brunch in the WO's & Sgts' Mess. Whilst there we had the pleasure of meeting the AGC Colonel Commandant and was presented with a prestigious coin to mark the part we played, I would like to take this opportunity to pass on my

thanks; this coin will be proudly added to my collection.

Most of us know that following a big operation comes the big de-kit, this took the best part of the last day, but in true military fashion everything was logical and was seamlessly completed with ease. What a week. What an operation. What a Monarch. It was truly inspiring to see everyone come together at short notice, ensuring the occasion would be conducted, with the highest military prowess on display, and for it to be one of the most watched televised state funerals in living history.

What it's like being spotted on Sky News.

I couldn't quite believe it myself, having been spotted on Sky News, stood within touching distance of the Royal Hearse whilst televised live and on repeat social media streams; my socials exploded. I was also filmed marching down the 'long walk trail' where a fellow Fijian shouted to me, 'Vinaka' (Thank you), and I responded in my native language, 'Vinaka', sending shockwaves of admiration to my fellow Fijian and families back home in Fiji.

People still approach me and ask me what it was like; I still don't know how to put it into a sentence. To attempt a summary; 'Extremely emotional having served our longest reigning monarch for 20 years and being overwhelmingly proud to have been considered for such a stately event; it honestly was such an honour to be a part of such a momentous occasion and one that will be remembered for generations to come'.

May the beloved late Queen Rest in Peace.



Cpl Nuku marching.

Detention Company

2022 has been an extremely productive year for Detention Company. Under the command of Capt M Jackson and WO2 (Company Sergeant Major) Jenkins, Detention Company and its staff have delivered specialist custody and detention capability in support of the Service Justice System, in both the home base and overseas.

Detention Company has evolved for the better and 2022/23 has seen a complete re-write of the Unit Standing Orders (USO's), which have been replaced by more 'user friendly' and modernised Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's), of which staff can refer to in the course of their duties when dealing with adverse or risk related incidents, general administration of detainees or otherwise. A key component to this was the re-write of the 'Detainee Weekly Performance Report' which has seen a shift in focus on reporting and rewards detainees for continued engagement in their sentence plan. An important change to a document which is the catalyst for detainees' personal progression and ongoing rehabilitation.

2022 has seen Detention specialists who hold the rank of Corporal (Cpl) be employed within Detention Company as a permanent posting for the first time (historically Corporals would be posted to the Service Custody Facilities in support of the Service Justice System around the UK and NI). This has been well received by all and has allowed for a more diverse team of Detention Specialists with a wider breadth of experiences from which to draw.

It has been a very productive year for personal development of staff; Detention Company has welcomed



the implementation of the C&DO Apprenticeship Scheme, whereby its personnel must evidence their work-based achievements working with alongside detainees. The conclusion of which it is rewarded by recognised accreditation. Sgt Wright, Detention Company is congratulated on his apprentice of the year award.

Detention Company looks forward to plans to integrate Military Provost Staff, Army Reserve with Detention Company as part of the 2023 annual commitment duties, who will bring invaluable experience and a hybrid approach to implementing the MPS's Mission.

Detention Company would like to congratulate SSgt Carver, on his promotion to WO2, which will see him posted to Support Company and employed as the MPS Regiment's

Course Design WO. Congratulations also go to SSgt Ollivierre, on his promotion to WO2 and subsequent posting to 1 MP Bde, Andover, employed as the CPERS WO. Many thanks for their selfless work for Detention Company during their tenure.

Detention Company would like to say farewell to WO2 Jenkins and welcome WO2 Mulley, as the new Detention Company Sergeant Major.

Overall, an extremely productive year for Detention Company and this is no mean feat given that it has also prioritised the continued professional development for its staff, delivered by means of Company Study Periods, externally sourced courses delivered by His Majesty's Prison Service and other extra-curricular activities such as sport and education.

Offender Management Unit

2022 has proven to be a busy year so far for the Offender Management Unit. With assistance from the Probation Service, we have implemented bespoke sexual offender rehabilitation programs for the first time. This is seen as an important step in reducing reoffending and for aiding wider public protection.

The changing of seasons to spring also saw a change in OMU staff, with Sgt Stapleton moving to the QM's dept. His replacement as Sentence Planner, Sgt John McKay, was warmly welcomed with a team building day at Colchester Escape Rooms. In July we hosted a visit

from the Custodial Manager and his team from the newly established Discovery Wing at HMP Risley in Lancashire. This new wing is designed to house military veterans and puts them through a 9-week mentorship and life skills course. It's designed to give them the very best chance of leading successful lives post-release. HMP Risley were then kind enough to host a return visit for the OMU in September. It was a valuable opportunity to build relationships and share best practices. During our visit we got the chance to speak with two veterans who had successfully passed the 9-week

course and were now champing at the bit to leave Risley to start their joint personal trainer business. During the course they had been introduced to veteran charities who had helped them with funding and setting up their venture.

The OMU also attended the Veterans in Custody conference in Birmingham. During this we gained an insight into the charities that are here to help veterans resettle into life once released from Prison. It was a great networking opportunity, and many valuable contacts were made with potential employers for D Company DUS.

HQ PM (A) Detention and Custody Team

The HQ PM(A) team continue to be busy with various Custody and Detention work strands, both in the Firm Base and Operational areas. November 2022 saw a significant changeover of personnel with Maj Becky Smith taking over the role of SO2 Custody and Detention from Maj Rob Moffat who returned to the MCTC and assumed the role of DComdt and 2IC of the MPS Regt. At the same time she handed over the role of SO3 Custody and Detention to Capt Colin Vella. Capt Joe Hancock also returned to the MCTC as OC SCF Coy on commissioning, which enabled WO1 Matt Hancock to take up the role of SA Custodial.

In September the team delivered the first Detention Seminar since 2018. Attended by a varied rank range of MP personnel from 1 MP Bde, the intention was to teach, encourage and inspire its attendees to continue to actively plan, consider and train for CPERS activities.

The Detention Seminar was a very well supported event with a range of lectures and presentations being delivered by the MPS contingent of Officers and Warrant Officers who gave an oversight of experiences and lessons identified whilst dealing with CPERS on Operations across a range of conflicts including Op Corporate, Op AGRICOLA, Op TELIC, Op HERRICK and the MPS Regt current training support to Op INTERFLEX.

Maj John Wharton gave inspiring and informative presentations on Op NEWCOMBE, Op BANNER and BAHA MOUSA. This would be his last delivery prior to his retirement and the Custody and Detention team were exceptionally grateful for his continuous support for these activities.

Each presentation gave a true and accurate account of each operation and the CPERS activities conducted, how it was achieved but most importantly

the real life strategic implications, constraints, successes and lessons identified that should be considered by Defence when planning for any future Operations.

The seminar was also attended and supported by external agencies such as the International Committee of the Red Cross who gave a presentation on the role and activities in which it is involved, and key roles currently being played by them in a modern theatre.

The Seminar was then rounded off with a comprehensive Syndicate led planning exercise conducting a CPERS estimate against a conventional conflict within a modern theatre. This saw some extremely thorough, well planned and methodical estimates being briefed back from the syndicates, indicating that the seminar was if anything informative and succeeded in its ultimate goal the actively planning consideration and training for CPERS.

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Support Company

In January 2022 SSgt Leyland deployed to the British Forces South Atlantic Islands BFAI for six months.

His role would comprise of two main roles and responsibilities. One being the custodial advisor on Mount Pleasant Complex (MPC) which houses up to 891 service personnel from the Royal Navy, Army and RAF. The secondary role was deputise for the Command Warrant Officer (RAF) CWO, for us army folk, this is the equivalent to a GSM.

During the deployment as the custody advisor, you sit within Joint Service Police Security Unit (JSPSU). Which is mostly comprised of RAF personnel and a small number of RMP, and himself as the custody advisor representing the Military Provost Staff.

British Forces still play a key and vital role in the Falkland Islands with over 800 troops on the island. CBF's Mission is to deter any military aggression against South Atlantic Overseas Territories to maintain UK sovereignty over the territories. Although the threat to the islands may have subsided since the Falklands conflict in 1982, the security of the islands is still key.

This year marked the 40th anniversary of the Falklands conflict, and it was a real privilege for him to be on the Islands to witness the ceremonies that took place. In between carrying out his roles as custody advisor and CWO Deputy. A/ WO2 Leyland took full advantage of what the islands had to offer, weather, battlefield tours at Goose Green up to the mountains of Tumble Down, Harriet, Two Sisters and Longdon. Wildlife excursions to some of the smaller surrounding islands, and trips to the now City of Stanley enjoying food and drink in the Malvina restaurant.

By June, the weather was rapidly changing. When I arrived in January, it was in the Islands summer months, nothing to really brag about highs of 16 degrees Celsius and winds of 50-60 mph. Now in June having to dig your Land Rover out of the snow most mornings at -4 degrees Celsius. I was ready to come home, by 8th July I was sat on that plane heading back to the UK which was in a heatwave.

Looking back now it was one of the quickest six-month tours I have ever done. I think the people I lived and worked with, made the tour. Working alongside all three services and interacting with ranks ranging from 1 Star * Generals to SACs and Privates was a great experience.



AWO2 Leyland at Goose Green Museum (Falkland Islands).

In April 22 Sgt Issac deployed with 16 Air Assault Brigade deployed on Exercise Swift Response in North Macedonia. A multinational training exercise to build Military Strategic Readiness in support of NATO defence strategy/ deterrence objectives and to enhance relationships and interoperability with partners and allies. The exercise included approximately 9000 participants from 17 Allied and partner nations that took place at locations in Norway, Latvia, Lithuania and North Macedonia.

Sgt Isaac deployed in the capacity of the Observation and Mentoring team for UK Armed Forces. His role was to provide subject matter expertise and guidance with all matters relating to Captured Persons (CPERS), from the Point of Capture to CPERS being safely extracted and held within a Unit Holding Area (UHA).

16 Air Assault Brigade were being assessed on CPERS handling amongst other drills such as parachuting, helicopter drills and Indirect Fire during an arduous exercise. As a collective unit, all elements of the CPERS handling were conducted professionally whilst adhering to policies. The showcased CPERS drills, coupled with the MPS mentoring and observations throughout, to form a solid foundation for any future

operation. To cap off the end of the exercise, Sgt Isaac visited the capital city of North Macedonia, Skopje. A historic city with an abundance of ancient architecture and museums.

On 22 June 2022, Sgt Anderson was assigned to deliver the Captured Persons Battlefield Lesson (CPERS BL) at 35 Engineer Regiment, Carver Bks to Ex Trojan BL Engr Sup. The lesson's objective was to make sure everyone understood the value of CPERS on their Regimental annual Ex and how training can help them grow and expand their opportunities and take responsibly when administering CPERS. The MPS Regiment will feel proud moving forward knowing that everyone can treat CPERS lawfully and humanely while on duty. Sgt Anderson stated, "Realising how different our role as an MPS member from the larger army is eye opening and gave him the opportunity to emphasise the MPS Regiment's mission".

SSgt Tamang deployed to Iron Storm from 27 May- 17 June 2022. The exercise was designed to validate 1 Mercian Battle Group and supporting elements for their future deployment. The exercise was conducted in two phases. Phase one was live firing in Castle Martin and the 2nd phase was a field training exercise in

Salisbury Plain. SSgt Tamang deployed as the Observation and Mentoring for CPERS. SSgt Tamang observed several CPERS serials and gave immediate hot wash points. Also, SSgt Tamang delivered a presentation on After Action Review.

Sgt Gold deployed on Ex Kronos Hunter 5 (KH5) which saw five members of Reserve Company along with Sgt Gold & WO2 Mulley deploy to Cyprus along with RMP Regular and Reserve personnel. KH5 was a rare opportunity for the MPS and RMP to work together and enable each other to have a better understanding of each others capabilities. The first week was spent at Camp Radio Sonde. This saw a short and sharp acclimatisation package along with two days of ranges, which allowed everyone to complete their ACMT and become confident with live firing.

The following few days were spent conducting many low-level lessons which included policing and custody and a chance to get into a bit of battle rhythm to set the conditions for the final exercise phase. Whilst the exercising troops conducted lessons, Sgt Gold and WO2 Mulley constructed a Unit Holding Area (UHA) with the help of the MPS Reserve Company personnel, which would later be used to hold CPERS during the initial phase of the final exercise. As the exercise moved into its final phase, the exercising troops moved from Camp Radio Sonde to an Forward Operating Base (FOB) on the training area. Some moved by vehicle and some moved by air which saw an opportunity for a lot of reserve personnel to have their first flight in a helicopter. Once established in the FOB the exercise went tactical and scenarios began.

A lot of the training was based around policing but as soon as CPERS were taken the MPS Company reserves were confident and competent on how to handle each one. The final few days were slightly more kinetic with FOB defence, mass casualty and IDF all included. Again, this was dealt with well and a lot was learnt and gained from the time conducting the training. Once the final exercise was over everyone collapsed to Camp Radio Sonde to conduct post exercise administration before a final day of R & R was given for everyone to enjoy the local beach and some of the water sports on offer. A great opportunity for reserve personnel to get away and do something not only different, but



Sgt Harland delivering CPERS BL on Ex Darcheli Guardian, Sandhurst.

beneficial.

Sgt Andrew and Harland deployed Exercise Darcheli Guardian PDT (Formerly known as Fobex) is the Pre-Deployment Training (PDT) for Ex Churchill's Challenge (a stabilisation teaching Exercise) conducted over the period 20 – 22 September 2022 at the Barossa Training Area, RMAS, Sandhurst. Exercise DG PDT is delivered in part as a “round robin” style of SME

lessons and is designed to expose Officer Cadets to set Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) and given the opportunity to practise and confirm any knowledge imparted on them.

Sgt Andrew and Sgt Harland delivered the Captured Persons battle lesson (CPERS BL) over the 3-day period to approximately 90 students per day in a round robin style format. The aim of the delivery was to expose the cadets to the realities of taking captured persons in an operational environment and what was required in order to complete the taking of captured persons legally and ethically within the confines of policies and laws such as JDP 1-10 and the Geneva convention. The lesson included a theoretical introduction followed by practical application and practise by the cadets. Each lesson lasting approximately 1 hour, 3 x platoons per day were introduced to the CPERS BL.

All the students had little to no experience with what CPERS were and how we as an army would take them if dictated that we should. The students were receptive and showed a keen interest in understanding the content imparted upon them.

The delivery of the CPERS BL was a success overall as the feedback received was highly positive and that the cadets would be able to take CPERS during their confirmation phase in Ex Churchill's Challenge with little to no problems.



Headquarter Company



HQ Company has had a turbulent time as there have been many comings and goings. During the past year we have seen the departures of many senior members of staff with WO2 Nelson, Sgts Mills, Rai and Budha Magar all leaving the service after completing their Colour Service, moving on to pastures new. Sgt Mohammed transferred from the MPS Regiment to the Royal Signals and finally SSgt White has been posted on promotion to the MCTC Welfare Department as its 2IC.

With goings, there are also comings and HQ Coy welcomes Capt Westland RMP posted in from DSPG as OC HQ Coy, WO2 Furlong posted on promotion from 2 IC Sec & Rec to HQ Coy CSM, Sgt Bielefelo on posting from SCF(North) and Sgt Gurung 750 on posting on promotion from Spt Coy.

As well as the normal day to day running of the department, we have had some external tasks with Sgt Newbatt and Sefer the Military Working Dog conducting joint operations with the RMP and Essex Police, but also providing assistance to RMAS for when they have their Commissioning Balls.

Whilst there has been some turbulence within the department, Sgt Sherpa organised a successful team cohesion



day to Footgolf in Colchester where HQ Coy enjoyed some friendly competition on a somewhat unorthodox sport with Sgt Struczynski having to break out the WD40 for his joints prior to commencing the activity.

On a more sporting note, Sgt Jones

has been very busy running Boxing Camps for various members of the MPS Regiment and the GC Boxing team, entering participants into different bouts, but also receiving a CO's Coin for his contribution and continued work and effort in this area.

Gymnasium

WO2 (QMSI) Dave Hagan

Sgt Tom Gelder, RAF

SIO PT Jack Browne

SIO PT Mark Door

Garsia Sports Shield

This year has seen the return of the Commanding Officer's Regimental sports competition, the Garsia Sports Shield. The competition started in September 2022 and runs until July 2023, with the winning team being crowned after the final competition. So far there have been four individual sports competitions comprising volleyball, quick cricket, five-a-side football and uni-hoc.

Competition 1 was volleyball, which saw a success for D Company Team 1, courtesy of some wonderful skills from Sgt Sidney, which is to be expected given the amount of time he has had off work to play the sport! PT staff were genuinely surprised by the overall skill levels on show, which allowed for some competitive games and some actual rallies!

Competition 2 was indoor quick cricket, unfortunately inclement September weather put paid to the idea of rounders. This time there were fewer surprises at the level of skill on show (*read: low*), although Sgt Newbatt demonstrated enough hand/eye coordination to surprise everyone. Those individuals that had played cricket before were obvious and this left one team with a definite advantage, as D Company Team 1 ran out as worthy winners again.

Competition 3 was indoor five-a-side football, which saw a resounding win for D Company Team 2, scoring an average of eight more goals than the opposing team in each 10-minute game. As always



tempers flared when people were shown to not have as much skill as they thought they did and had to be calmed by the remarkable refereeing skills of SIO PT Mark Door.

Competition 4 was uni-hoc, which also marked the inaugural Cup competition, and saw officers and sergeants take on all other ranks. Demonstrating how a kid's game can be extremely popular even with adults, this match went down

to the wire with the officers coming out on top 7-5 in the last few minutes thanks to the marksmanship of Lt Col Fielder, who scored five of his team's seven goals and winning player of the match in the process.

With three more competitions to play, including cross country and rounders, the leaders are D Company Team 1. Watch this space in the next issue to find out the eventual winners.

Sporting Achievements

Badminton

Sgt Emma Mannion-Williams captained the Army Women's Badminton Team at the UKAF Badminton Championships in January, where they came second overall. She then won all three disciplines at the AGC Badminton Championships in August, for which she was awarded her Corps Colours. Not content with this she was also invited to attend the Wales National Team trials in November. A separate article on this is in the Regimental magazine.

Rugby 7s

A scratch team of 14 MPS Regiment personnel with only two days of training, coached by Sgt Mills and SSgt Hayward, went on a raiding party to RMP 7's held at the Defence School of Policing and Guarding, and ran out victorious with only minor scrapes and no major injuries. This was a considerable triumph considering the inexperience of the team and the lack of training, but is certainly testament to the coaching ability and

desire of the players to represent their Regt.

Cross Country

Additional plaudits must go to the Cross-Country team of Staff Sergeant Dilip Rai, Sergeants Tony Forde and Adam Kastein, and Corporal Alex Steerment, who acquitted themselves well at the AGC Cross-Country event at Worthy Down in February 2022.

Regimental Sport

Badminton

SSgt Emma Mannion-Williams appointed British Army Badminton Secretary

In March 2022, SSgt Emma Mannion-Williams was officially appointed the British Army Badminton Secretary.

Making an immediate impact and swimming in her element - namely organising, coordinating and managing - she set her vision: 'To ignite an annual training programme for the elite and to reinvigorate grass root competitions across Defence'.

Stepping into the role with ease, she set into motion her multi-tasking prowess, which saw both the Open Army Championships and the Inter-Corps Championships run seamlessly for all competitors.

With her in-built nature springing into action, she instantly identified newer, smarter ways of working, promptly streamlining many processes for the betterment of the Army Badminton



InterCorps Champs.



UKAF Tri Services 22.

Association (ABADA) Committee and the entire Army squad.

In line with her vision, she immediately began work on identifying space within an already busy annual badminton FOE to initiate a much-needed quarterly training camp, not only for the elite, but to bolster the current team and secure much needed strength in depth. She fought tirelessly to secure funding from the Army Sports Control Board (ASCB) and conducted research on the employment of the 'right fit' coach for the Army Badminton set up. SSgt Mannion-Williams continues to push the boundaries of the sport and has recently been selected to organise an Overseas Sports Tour to the USA, provisionally planned for April 2023. Watch this space for next year's update.

SSgt Emma Mannion-Williams, although now heavily involved in the background of the sport, still trains hard and routinely competes in all high-level competitions. More recently at the annual AGC Badminton Championships, where she utilised the event to solidify her progression throughout off season training, to then progress further in the build up to the Open Army Championships and even further again, stepping it up a gear before the prestigious UKAF and Tri-Service Championships.

Having now settled into her training rhythm and competing at various



Army Champs 21.

levels throughout the season, SSgt Emma Mannion-Williams continues to pave the way for her accelerated progression, attaining vast accolades over an extremely short competitor career within the sport. Only picking

up a racquet a mere seven years ago for the first time, (following a plethora of long terms injuries, sadly ending her footballing career); she continues to defy the odds and routinely competes at the highest level within her disciplines.

SSgt Emma Mannion-Williams has not stopped there; not only has she retained all three discipline titles, remaining the undefeated AGC Champion for a second consecutive year; she also consistently reaches all three discipline finals in the Open Army Championships, and routinely beats her counterparts at Tri-Service level; which is no easy task in itself.

However, this year has also seen her being headhunted to be the best in whatever she does. This has been noticed at the very top level and has seen her being rewarded with a national call up for trails to hopefully cement a place within the Welsh National Badminton Team; what a tremendous honour, to compete with adulation whilst representing your country, is there any greater achievement?

With this newfound dream, she equipped herself and has personally financed a badminton coach, (for both on and off the court training and confidence building). Focused and determined, she knew she needed assistance in on court focus and off court self-confidence, which is sometimes difficult to harness. But with the perseverance, assistance and dedication, you can always find a way. One thing that she continuously refers to in times of doubt or moments of intensified pressure, is a certain phrase: this phrase, etched on the walls of the prestigious Team GB and home to England Badminton reads: *I don't train because I like training, I train because I like winning!* Now, it doesn't matter how many days pass, or how many difficult turns you may face, whether that be in pre-season, during competitive matches or in general life; remember this quote and it may assist your doubts and drive you forward, it may push you to reach your ultimate goal.

It may not be being called up to represent your home country at a European or World event; but I assure you, it will have the same accolade attested to it, when you are triumphant in your endeavors.

Be under no illusion, badminton is a competitive sport, but it also provides a competitive edge to all abilities and levels. It doesn't matter if you have



AGC Champs 21 Winner.

Regimental Sport

been playing for years of if you have just started; there is something for everyone in the sport of badminton. It even provides those, who may never have played before, a chance to compete at the AGC and Open Army events, which caters for all abilities, literally anyone can enter.

If you are reading this and have never picked up a racquet before, why don't you come along to the next competition and give it a try, you never know you might even enjoy it. Plus, if you were to be unlucky and get knocked out within the first round of either the Men's or Women's Singles competition, then you automatically obtain an entry into the Plate event and Novice event, giving you extra chances of walking away with the all-important silverware.

Events are run this way to provide inclusivity for an array of ages and abilities, whether you have just picked up a racquet or if you are a seasoned player, the AGC Badminton Championships and Open Army Championships has a place for you.

If you require any further information relating to attending any badminton competitions for the upcoming season or any futures season dates, please reach out to SSgt Emma Mannion-Williams, as the Badminton IC for the MPS Regiment; Ladies Captain for the AGC and Secretary for the British Army Badminton Association.



UKAF Wales.



Wales.



Army silverware.

Rugby 7s

1 MP Brigade Service Police Rugby 7s Tournament

Sgt Fenn, Detention Company



June 2022 saw the return of the Annual 1 MP BDE Rugby 7s competition, held at the home of the Service Police in Southwick Park. Our preparation started with a few days training at MCTC, conducting team runs and handling drills. There was a wealth of experience within the team and early on we were confident that we were onto something good.

We travelled down to Portsmouth on the Wednesday and took over accommodation at HMS Tamar with a last team run that evening followed by a meal out at Gunwharf Quays. Thursday we were up early to move to Southwick Park and the start of the tournament. Our first game was against the MPGS, and we took to the field, after conceding a try early in the first half we were down 7-0 at half time. Second half saw us put on three tries from Sgt White, Cpl McGavin, and Cpl Rainima a full-time whistle of 21-7 MPS Regiment.

Next, came 158 Provost Company, where we certainly couldn't let off the gas as the much younger RMP team saw them moving the ball around the field

looking for gaps. Using our experience, we kept things under control and played our game with tries coming from Sgt White, Cpl Tuca and Cpl Uluilakeba. We walked off a win of 24 -12 MPS Regiment.

We were not due to play our next game for 45 minutes, so this saw us taking shelter from the sun, hydrating, and stretching off, ready for 1 RMP. It was our time to play, and to the field a little stiff and sore from the previous games we knew that we had to keep the momentum going and for the next 14 minutes we did. Tries came from Sgt White, Cpl Suluma and Sgt Ratumaitavuki. Some of the biggest tackles and hits I've seen in a long time from the MPS Regiment team. We were certainly making ourselves known from the side-line and showing that the MPS Regiment had shown up. Final whistle blew and yet another win for us with a score of 21-7 MPS Regiment and we head to the semi-finals with a tournament score of 3-0.

CJPU we're our competition in the semis, and a very young and fit team

took to the field for them. Lined up on the pitch, you could certainly see the age difference, and this was going to be a tough game. CJPU started strong and scored within the first 30 seconds, I feared at that point this was going to be a very one-sided game and probably the end of our tournament. We dug deep and yet again monster tackles and big hand offs were put in by MPS Regiment team, yet we couldn't get points on the board, another try for CJPU and a half-time score of 14-0.

Come the second half we took the field like a different side, I can't recall what was said at the half time in the huddle, but it had a lasting effect. We received the kick and crashed the ball hard into the opponent's half, big passes took the ball from left to right, moving up the pitch, a cross field kick from Sgt White from the 10-metre line saw Sgt Keir take a catch at speed and score under the posts. We were back in this and a second try came from a touch of class from Sgt's Fenn, Lawa and Ratumaitavuki for a score of 14-12 to CJPU. Two minutes to go and two points

Regimental Sport

down we need to pull it out of the bag and make something happen. We took the ball and with big hand offs coming from SSgt Bulivou put the ball in CJPU's five-metre line and the quick ball out to Sgt Fenn saw him score for a third try, putting the MPS Regiment into the final.

The final saw us up against a robust, young Royal Marine police Troop with no time to rest from the last game we took to the field. We kicked to them and immediately knew we were up against it. Big tackles came from them and our energy depleted fast, we had to keep going and our experience and strength shown through with a try from Sgt Fenn.

Restart and again there was no let-up amazing handling from the Marines and some incredible set pieces saw the score

tied. Second half and we came out of the gates continuing to run the ball up the pitch, side steps and hand offs were coming from everywhere getting us over the line once again.

Restart saw the game getting more aggressive with bigger tackles from both teams seemingly from all directions, both teams at this point were getting tired and a mis-tackle saw police Troop score and a yellow card being shown for a supposedly "late tackle" with 30 seconds to go we were down to six men and up against it. We managed to keep the ball out of our half and full time blew with the scores tied 12-12. Extra time and very tired, sore, and down to six players we set back up for golden try, we kicked to

the Royal Marine Police Troop and put the pressure on. A dropped pass saw a scrum in their 22-metre mark and chance to win. The ball came out, quick passes down the line seeing Cpl McGavin hand off and a side-step to score the winning try in the corner.

This was a great tournament for the MPS Regiment, and it showed to the rest of Provost Branch that we are a force to be reckoned with. The last time the MPS Regiment won the competition, was 2012, this is great achievement and a victory that everyone who played is rightly proud of. A special thank you goes to Sgt Miles and SSgt Hayward for their flawless coaching and team management throughout.

Swimming

MPS Regiment Swimmers Win 1MP Gala medals

Sgt Wright

In April 2022, the MPS Regiment swimming team, comprising of members from the MCTC and the SCF estate as well as attached arms (RAF) took part

in the 1MP Brigade swimming gala at Catterick.

The team came third overall, achieving the following medals: Gold:

Men's 50m backstroke and the men's 4x25m breaststroke team relay. Silver: Men's 4x25m individual medley, men's 25m butterfly, women's 4x25m team



MPS Regt Swimming Team 1MP Brigade swimming gala.

medley relay. Bronze: Women's 100m freestyle

There hasn't been much take up for open water swimming across the MPS Regiment, however, in June 2022, I took part in the Army Swimming Union Open Water Champs and completed the 2250m race.

In the future and before the end of the open water swimming season I hope to take part in more open water events, continuing to advertise events across the MPS Regiment as a whole and I look forward to putting in another team next year for the 1MP Brigade swimming gala.



Winners 4x 25m breaststroke relay team and 50m backstroke.

Squash

The Army Major and Minor Inter Unit Squash Championships 2022

Sgt Sabin Gurung

You cannot go wrong if you join the Army because you love sports. The British Army has long placed a high value on sport as a means of maintaining military fitness and attracting new recruits. However, athletic competitions also strengthen collective identification, cultivate regimental and 'esprit de corps', instill discipline, and prepare soldiers to fight for a common cause under all conditions. The MPS Regiment has been highly supportive and encourages individuals to participate in sports, fostering 'esprit de corps' - common spirit and feeling of pride and dedication among the members of regiment.

The Army Major and Minor Inter Unit Squash Championships 2022 was held between 17-19 May 2022 at the Aldershot Garrison Sports Centre. 16 major units and 10 minor unit took part for the title. Having the AGC Corps players on the team has helped the MPS Regiment build a solid reputation and a team that has recently dominated contests. "Do not play squash to get fit but get fit to play squash", these words written in squash court in DST, Leconfield when I first got introduced to this beautiful sport in 2010, kept flashing on my thoughts as I was trying to endeavour the agony of stretched hamstring and strained groin and yet pretending to be



MPS Regiment Minor Unit Squash Championship 2022 runners-up.

tough after the first day of competitive matches. The presence and support of the Commanding Officer, QM and RSM, boosted the morale of the team as we

prepared for the fierce finals against 254 Medical Regiment. Unfortunately, we, the defending champions, had to settle down with runner-up title this year.

Regimental Sport



The Army Major and Minor Unit Squash Championship 2022 took place at the Aldershot Garrison Sports Centre, Aldershot over the period 17-19 May 2022. There were 16 Major Unit teams and 11 Minor Unit teams. Despite the hard-fought battle for the title, 254 Med Regiment managed to win the Minor Unit titles this year. The MPS Regiment could not defend the title this year however we managed to secure the runner up place. This will be the last competition for SSgt Gurung and Sgt Rai as they are coming to the end of their service.

It has been an incredible pleasure and honour to be able to represent the MPS Regiment in sports (Squash)

alongside my primary profession. The favourite part of the competition was the opportunity to play, enhancing

sportsmanship and promoting the culture that "Failing is the part of process to Win".



Proud to support Army boxing

Exercises

Exercise SWIFT RESPONSE

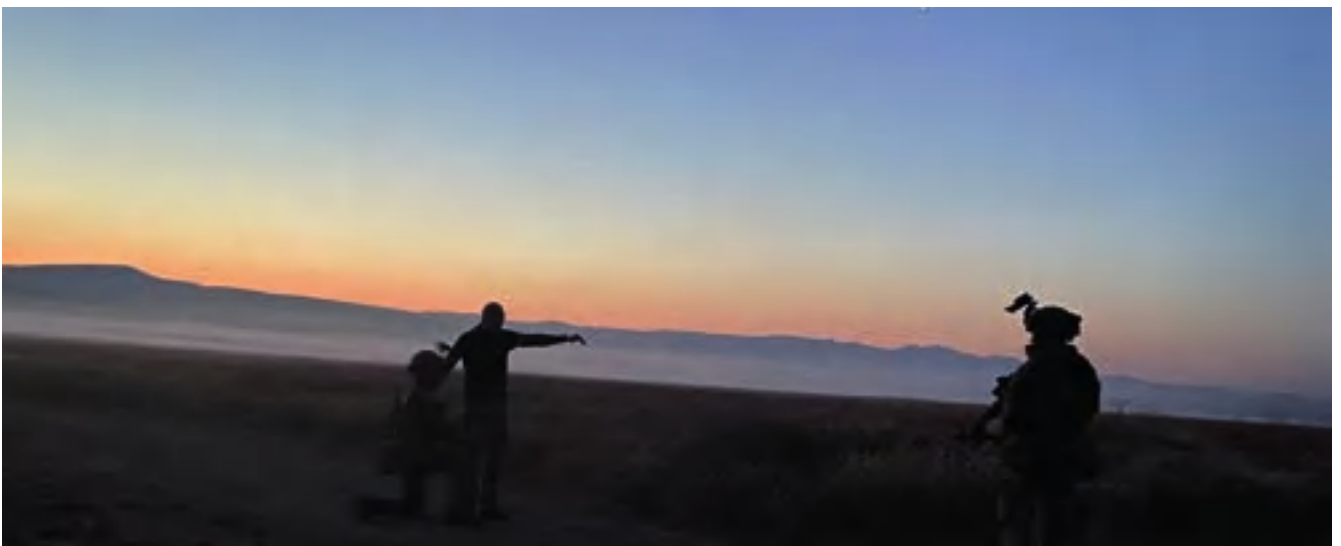
Sgt Isaac, Detention Company

16 Air Assault Brigade deployed on Exercise Swift Response in 2022 in North Macedonia, a multinational training exercise to build Military Strategic Readiness in support of NATO defence strategy/deterrence objectives and to enhance relationships and interoperability with partners and allies. The exercise included approximately 9,000 participants from 17 Allied and partner nations that took place at locations in Norway, Latvia, Lithuania, and North Macedonia.

Sgt Isaac D, AGC (MPS), Detention Company, deployed in the capacity of the Observation and Mentoring team for UK Armed Forces. His role was to provide subject matter expertise and guidance with all matters relating to Captured Persons (CPERS), from the Point of Capture to CPERS being safely extracted and held within a Unit Holding Area (UHA).

16 Air Assault Brigade were being assessed on CPERS handling amongst other drills such as parachuting, helicopter drills and Indirect Fire during an arduous exercise. As a collective Unit, all elements of the CPERS handling were conducted professionally whilst adhering to policies. The showcased CPERS drills, coupled with the MPS mentoring and observations throughout, form a solid foundation for any future operations.

To cap off the end of the exercise, Sgt Isaac visited the capital city of North Macedonia, Skopje. A historic city with an abundance of ancient architecture and museums.



Regimental News

Royal Hospital Chelsea In-Pensioner Visit



In late November the Regimental Secretary and the MPS Regiment RSM visited our two In-Pensioners, Wally Swan and Dave Williams. They are both in good spirits and enjoyed the visit, as ever their generosity was in abundance and they hope to see us all next year at the MPS Regiment Families Day event, which will coincide with the Coronation.

Field of Remembrance



Triple Crown 2022

Sgt Corbett, Detention Company

The AGC Triple Crown Challenge (TCC) is the Adjutant General's Corps annual military training event, testing a variety of military skills. This year the event was to be held at Worthy Down for the first time. Triple Crown 2022 was the 24th TCC and first in just over two years due to COVID-19 restrictions. This year 136 teams across the AGC competed. The MPS Regiment entered two teams.

The competition consisted of two events. A march and shoot competition which consisted of a team of four completing a 10-mile march carrying 23 kgs including rifle over undulating terrain, with a range shoot at the 5-mile point. The other event was a military skills competition, this involved a team of four marching 4 miles over undulating terrain carrying 13.5 kgs including rifle. At roughly each mile a military stand needed to be completed, these included first aid, observation, and an assault course at the end!

The MPS Regiment team for the March and Shoot competition consisted of Capt Nayagam (Team captain) Sgt Walkington, Sgt Stillman and SSgt Rai. The team for the military skills competition was composed of SSgt Raine (Team captain), Sgt Corbett, Sgt Hutchinson, and Cpl Steerman.



The event began on the morning of the 27 April. The March and Shoot team had an early start time of 0630 hours, from the point go the team sped off at a fast pace setting an average pace of

9.30-minute miles, which considering the weight of kit and terrain, was a strong pace that they kept at for the most part. At the range shoot, the team did very well only dropping a couple of shoots. The team came in at 86 mins and 14 seconds. An outstanding time that earned them second place in the competition, only just narrowly losing out to a team from the Brigade of Gurkhas.

After lunch it was the military skills team turn to compete, with the March and Shoot team doing so well. There was a bit of pressure to reciprocate a good result. After a good start and pushing through the medical stand with ease the team became slightly navigationally challenged and missed a vital checkpoint, this would however be the team's downfall. After the Medical stand, in which the Directing staff praised Cpl Steersman's efforts, the team did well to carry a simulated casualty over hilly terrain, followed straight after an assault course, which tested everyone's cardio. Even though the team achieved a respectable time, by not tapping in at the second checkpoint the team's effort was all in vain and received a DQ.

Overall TCC 2022 was enjoyed by all participants, especially for those taking part for the first time.



Regimental News

2022 UK Annual Bula Festival

Sgt Lawa, Detention Company



Sgts Ratumaitavuki and Lawa.

On 5 and 6 August 2022, the Fijian MPS SNCO cohort attended the Annual UK Bula Festival held in Aldershot.

'Bula' is a Fijian word that means

a variety of things: its literal meaning is 'life', and when used as a greeting it implies wishes for continued good health.

The Bula festival aims to celebrate diversity and inclusion within Defence, whilst recognising Fijians' contribution to the UK, in particular to Defence. It was an opportunity to enhance relationships with the non-military community: to share and learn from each other, and where possible, exploit opportunities for growth. The two days festival showcased live rugby, bands, local vendors, and others to create a vibrant atmosphere with street foods, beverages, sport, art and crafts, etc.

This was the first time the MPS were involved. The planning phase commenced with the intention of having a MPS stand for recruitment for both Regular and Reserve Coy, and for SERCO. The lead – Sgt Lawa headed talks with the unit CoC, Event Organisers and Reserve Coy, who were more than happy to support our request. The three MPS personnel involved were SSgt Bulivou, Sgts Ratumaitavuki and Lawa. On the 04th of August all administration was finalised, stores picked up and vehicle packed ready for departure at 0600hrs for the 5th of August.



Nathan Hughes – Bath and England rugby international.



Mr Tikolevu - His Excellency the Fiji High Commissioner to UK.

The event. Day 1 was a blessing as the weather was pleasant with the sun beaming down sending its warm breeze during the day which reminded us of the Fiji tropical weather. The place was filled with people from all walks of life coming together to enjoy the music, food, drinks, dances, rugby, and the

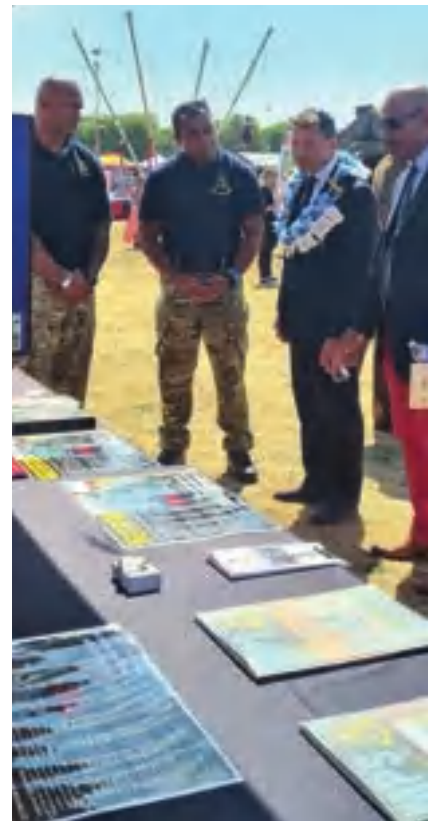


Mr Choudhary Mayor of Aldershot.

Fijian hospitality. The MPS stand was visited by people enquiring about the unit and were intrigued to find out about our job role as many have not heard of the MPS regiment.

Day 2. The main day started with a Fijian traditional welcome ceremony for the honoured guests, Major General DJ Eastman MBE and the Mayor of Aldershot Mr Choudary. After the welcoming ceremony the VIP were entertained to some traditional Fijian & Pacific dances, live band, showcase of traditional artefacts, 'kava', and they took the time to visit some stalls. The MPS stand was fortunate to be visited by Maj Gen Eastman, the Mayor of Aldershot, the Fiji High Commissioner to the UK, and Nathan Hughes - Bath and England rugby.

The day saw double the amount of people as day one as they enjoyed themselves with what was on offer. Throughout the day everyone was entertained by various live bands, Fiji Fashion parade show, Bars, food stalls, children's rides, rugby 7's to name a few. Overall, a fun filled day for people of all ages who thoroughly enjoyed the event and the beautiful Aldershot sunshine.



**Major General DJ Eastman MBE,
Lt Colonel M Nawaqaliva MBE.**

Regimental News

Fiji Support Network Welfare Roadshow

SSgt Bulivou, Detention Company



In June 2022 SSgt Bulivou and Sgt Ratumaitavuki accompanied a Team from the Fiji Support Network (FSN) in conducting a Welfare Roadshow at RM Chivenor, Barnstaple. This was after the request from the chain of command at RM Chivenor to address G1 issues within its Fijian cohort. The FSN is one of the many Defence employees' networks and aims to champion the provision of welfare support to Fijians across Defence.

Despite the short notice request the pair ensured all administration was ready. The journey was over five hours of driving each way but was worthwhile in the end. The programme started with a welcome brief lead by Capt Tiko – REME, followed by the unit chain of command brief and Q & A session. Next up was the chain of command and family's welfare brief, which was informative and an eye opener for the unit chain of command, who were surprised about the extortionate amount of money Fijian soldiers fork out from their pockets for visa payments for their families to remain in the UK. Lastly, was the discipline brief where



the MPS Regiment were involved. The pair briefed on the root causes of Fijian soldiers' admission to MCTC and statistics for the past few years. The brief was an eye opener and refreshing for

majority of the audience, as most haven't heard of the MPS Regiment, let alone what we do. It was pleasing to hear the MPS Regiment adding real value on the day. Overall, a very fruitful day.

Notes From Operation CABRIT 10 – Service Custody Facility, Estonia

Sgt Tanka Bahadur Tembe, MPS Regiment

Originating in 2016 from the Wales North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Summit, an enhanced Forward Presence (eFP) was deployed for the first time in 2017 to the Baltic region with four multinational battlegroups deploying in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland on a persistent, rotational basis. UK, Canada, Germany and the US are leading the four multinational battlegroups in the Baltic States and Poland.

Head Quarter of Operation CABRIT is in Tallinn, capital city of Estonia. two UK battlegroups with partner nation companies (currently French and Danish Squadrons) are in Tapa Army Base, 100km west of Russian border. These battlegroups are integrated into the host nation defence plan. Theatre Support Squadron (TSS), a support squadron of around two hundred personnel is supporting both battle groups in various capacities, service and support being the primary one. Royal Military Police and Military Provost Staff Regiment come under the TSS, being the important assets of deployed battlegroups.

British Forces Service Custody Facility (SCF) Estonia is situated in the Estonian main guardroom. There are two single cells and a process room given to UK forces to utilise. This facility delivers detention capability to Operation CABRIT providing custody facility for detainees enabling Royal Military Police to investigate further and should we have any Detainee(s) Under Sentence (DUS) by Battlegroup Commander's summary hearing, transit them through to Military Corrective Training Centre (MCTC) Colchester. In charge of the facility, Military Provost Staff Regiment personnel provide the battlegroup commanding officer with advice and expertise as required by the Secretary of State, to meet operational demands and fulfil legal obligations in handling detainees. They will have direct and unrestricted access to the Force Provost Marshal for all matters relating to the legal concern and complaints over the handling of detainees or detention facilities. MPS Regiment staff work within the RMP Detachment which is part of Theatre Support Squadron (TSS). They have a supporting workforce from



the eFPBG utilising all available Service Custody Premises Staff Course (SCPSC) trained staff.

As day-to-day routine tasks, Weekly and monthly Situation Reports are sent to Staff Assistant, Provost Marshal Army, SA, PM(A). Daily check of infrastructure and equipment; and weekly check of the facility are to be recorded on to SCF daily occurrence book. SCF maintains all the statutory requirements with regards to running the facility, complying with Service Custody and Service of Relevant Sentence Rule 2009, Joint Service Publications 837, and 830. Refresher training is to be

conducted at least once a month in order to keep Regimental Duty Staff current and competent.

Training needs to include every aspect of custodial duties and eventualities. As in-charge of the facility, one of the prime roles of MPS Regiment personnel is to manage all qualified and available staff: making sure that SCF duty is covered all the time, staff's Operational Stand Down (OSD) and Rest and Recuperation (R&R) leave are managed, bookings of transport and accommodation for R&R cover, conduct Hand-Over Take-Over and prepare and facilitate PM(A) inspection.

Regimental News

There are some significant benefits of this Operational Tour. During your six months tour you will get two weeks of Rest and Recuperation (R&R) leave and two sets of Operational Stand-down (OSD) leaves. You will get both Local Overseas Allowance (LOA) and Long Separation Allowance (LSA). Your family can claim two times Concessionary Travel allowance, it's a motor millage claim. You will have around 20 days of Post Operational Leave after completion of the tour. You will have also your UK council tax relief for six months. During your tour, you will have opportunities to visit local areas such as Tallinn (capital city), Tapa town (nearest town). There are other beautiful tourist attractions such as Rakvere and Lahema National Park to explore further.

In summary, I was engaged in advising Battlegroup Commanders and their Regimental Sergeant Majors on Custody and Detention matters throughout the tour. As facility in-charge,



I had to make sure that operational need of the battlegroups is met consistently by running the Facility smoothly and effectively. One of the best aspects of the

tour was to be exposed to the different trades of the British Army. I thoroughly enjoyed and at the same time learned a lot from the tour.

1 MP Brigade Pace-Sticking Competition 2022

Sgt T James, MPS Regiment, Event Lead

On Wednesday 18 May 22 Lt Col MT Fielder RTR (Commandant MCTC & CO MPS Regiment) kindly allowed the 1MP Brigade Pace Stick Competition to be held at the MCTC.

Following a two-year postponement of the competition through the formidable Covid 19 pandemic, 1MP Brigade 2022 Pace Stick Competition was finally granted to be held, continuing our great tradition of pace-sticking competition.

In the build-up MPS Regiment made all effort to ensure the success of the competition, the drill square was set up four months in advance and markers set. Afternoon practice sessions ran and two days of each month tutoring sessions were held in the wind, rain or in some cases snow. Fresh painted markers and dais where just some of the movements put in place.

A much-anticipated event, the regiment was privileged to host the Provost Sergeant Major WO1 J Miller AGC (RMP) who led the inspection and was also a judge for the event. He was impressed with the performance of all participating teams and looks forward to next year's competition. The MPS Regiment RSM, WO1 E Redgate checked sticks and was also a judge, he was also impressed with the standard



The judges: Event Lead Sgt T James, Pro Segeant Major WO1 J Miller (RMP), MPS Regt RSM WO1 E Redgate.

of sticking this year. Some veterans of the competition such as Sgt Johnson (Jono) Reserve Company who supported the event to drive his team, dusting off his faithful pace-stick stating, "this is the last time now", also the future of the regiment Cpl Nuku, SCF Company (Selena) borrowing a pace-stick from her CSM WO2 Gibson (Gibbo) who graciously accepted lending his stick.

Also, Cpl Uluilakeba (Lui) purchasing his first pace-stick, the smell of fresh varnish still in the air on the drill square.

Spectators did not disappoint, fellow MPS Regiment personnel showed support for their compatriots, some travelling from around the country to witness the competition. Also present were MPS Association members who also made the commute and were



Detention Company B Side...Driver - Sgt Kastein (Kas); Marker - Sgt Rigby (Alex), No 3 - SSgt Bulivou (Bully) No 4 - Sgt Williams (Neil).

greatly welcomed and in awe of the competition. The support only added additional pressure for the competitors. Keen supporters of the event such as Ops Officer Capt Woolley (Glenn) and the OMU CSM WO2 Harte (Chris) couldn't wait to see each performance with their watchful eyes. This did not deter the competing teams who raised their game performing to a commendable standard to which they should all be proud of.



Blessing... The Rev (Maj) Josefa Mairara.

**Detention Company A Side
MPS Regiment**

Drawn first, this had mixed reviews within



Presentation to Winning Team SCF Coy by CO MPS Regt - Lt Col MT Fielder RTR.

Regimental News

the team, some happy to get their turn out the way, others apprehensive to go first. Detention Company A Side competitors had switched participants several times due to other work commitment which affected their practice and training. This did not dampen their spirits providing a commanding performance, setting the standard required for all.

Detention Company B Side MPS Regiment

In traditional military order Detention Company B Side were drawn second, B Side were keen to match A Side's performance beating their rival company counterpart, they did not disappoint bringing on the fight. Similar difficulties with manning for B Side, they performed well with an inspiring team captain's performance from Sgt Kastein (Kas) who was awarded best sticker.

SCF Company MPS Regiment

A very competent rehearsed team. All SCF Coy members were spread around the UK, did not have a lot of time to practice together. They arrived at MCTC a week prior to the event taking full advantage of tutoring sessions ran by Sgt James (Tom). This gave time to become accustomed to their sticks, learn, understand the sequence, and further refine their performance. This



3 RMP...Driver – Sgt Wallace; Marker – SSgt Carnell; No 3 - Cpl James; No 4 - Sgt Cornish.

evaluated as a good tactic as SCF Company were awarded winning team of the competition, also Cpl Nuku (Selina) was awarded best novice.

3 Regiment RMP

From the 'march on' 3 RMP made a very strong start giving a stance, they were here to win. After a good inspection they set off with clear discipline made with their dressing and should be happy with their performance and team ethos shown.

1 Regiment RMP

1 RMP did not just come for the port, they were here to compete, impressing all judges through the inspection phase, another very well-rehearsed team who competed very well. 1 RMP should be satisfied with their performance narrowly missing winning team and awarded runners up.

MPS Regiment Female Team

The team who was last to worry, due to work commitments the team could only practice until last few days prior to the competition, however they prevailed, SSgt Raine (Jay) an experienced sticker was able to refine her team and able to produce a performance they all can be proud with.

On conclusion of the event The Commanding Officer of the MPS Regiment gave a closing address commending everyone who took part, and those who assisted with the competition. Awards presented, SSgt Baxter (Danny) SCF Company team captain taking great pleasure receiving the Competition Shield, reclaiming the title for SCF Company since 2014. It was then time for the much-awaited mass sticks lead by Sgt James (Tom) a tradition un-accustom or seen outside of 1 MP Brigade.

Once mass sticks and photos were complete all teams and spectators were invited into the MPS Warrant Officers and Sergeants Mess for a curry lunch and the bar was finally opened. Competitors and spectators were then able to let their



SCF Coy Winning Team...Driver SSgt Baxter (Danny); Marker – SSgt Raine (Jay); No 3 – Cpl Nuku (Selina); No 4 Cpl Uluilakeba (Lui).



Detention Company A Side...Driver – Sgt Johnson (Jono); Marker – Sgt Scarlett (Pete); No 3 - Sgt Hobson (Nancy); No 4 - Sgt Corbett (Will).

hair down.

Prior to the competition, competitors were given one direction above all, enjoy it! 2022 Winning Team SCF Company - the question is who will win in 2023?

Awards

Winning Team: SCF Company
Runners-up: 1 RMP
Best Sticker: Sgt Kastien (Kas)
Best Novice: Cpl Nuku (Selena)

Judges: Provost Sergeant Major WO1J Miller - AGC (RMP); RSM WO1 EG Redgate - MPS Regiment; Sgt T James - MPS Regiment.



1 RMP - Runners Up...Driver Sgt Howie; Marker – Cpl Bell; No 3 - LCpl Smith; No 4 - LCpl Rodell.



MPS Regt Female Team...Driver - SSgt Raine (Jay); Marker - Sgt Hobson (Nancy); No 3 - Cpl Nuku (Selina); No 4 - Cpl Parlour-Kenny (Leanne).

Regimental News

MPS Regiment Service of Remembrance



The Military Provost Staff Regiment held a poignant and moving Service of Remembrance on Friday 11th November 2022. The Service of Remembrance

was conducted by Padre Wilson and a Poppy Wreath was laid on behalf of the Military Provost Staff Regiment by the Commanding Officer, Lt Col M Fielder

RTR. Serving members of the Military Provost Staff Regiment, Detainees and Civilian Staff were amongst those present at the service.





Provost Remembrance Service



On Saturday 11th November 2022 the Provost Remembrance was attended by a contingent of serving members of the MPS Regiment and Veterans. As ever, it is a very moving commemorative service.

Afterwards, attendees went to the

Westminster Arms and a few follow on London hostilities afterwards. It was also an honour to meet Shaun Pinner, a former soldier who had been captured by the Russians whilst fighting in Ukraine and subsequently released. The story of his treatment is shocking, however his

resilience was steadfast throughout his period of detention.

The Commanding Officer wore a bowler hat, some may say with some style and panache, the RSM followed suit, albeit with a slightly different result!

SCF North



Way of Life

2022 has been an extremely busy but productive one for SCF North and SCF Company. Under the stewardship of Officer Commanding, Captain Joe Hancock, WO2 Peter Gibson, SSgt Hayden Lees and SSgt Danny Baxter.

There have been significant changes throughout the year, a massive farewell to Capt Colin Vella who left for HQ PM(A) and WO2 Peter Gibson who will leave the services, as a facility we thank them both for their leadership and guidance. Cpl Simon Prophet and Cpl Milan Gurung assumed new roles on promotion and Cpl James Wright takes his seat at MCTC as courses JNCO. Welcome's for newly arrived Cpl's Hannah Bacon, Chris Boggs, and Chris Wilkinson, who without doubt will embrace their new career path at SCF North. Sgt Temo Bielefelo bids farewell for MCTC and another welcome to Sgt Rich Kyme.

With Covid still playing a big part on how we conduct our routine business the facility has remained operational focused throughout with little impact to admissions via Catterick Court Martial Centre and Summary Hearings. Staff have time after time stepped up and



Team Day.

SSgt Danny Baxter

delivered, even with the additional influx of requests from the wider MPS.

Team Cohesion

Whilst maintaining high admission rates, overseeing OP Carridge including Custody and Detention. Staff have been encouraged to take every opportunity to be involved in team cohesion days, either that be sport or a good old knee's up in Richmond and surrounding areas.

Cpl Dodds led a team of keen footballers to the annual Cpl Shane Kay Trophy, with outstanding performances from across the SCF estate. The event was held at the MCTC in conjunction with Cpl's CPD day. However, the journey didn't start well with the transport having a malfunction outside the facility but staff's pro-active approach and willingness – SCF Midlands and Wales made the short journey to sunny North and become SCF taxi for the day.

To support small business in the Catterick area Cpl Panton took the opportunity to plan an outstanding event and allow for staff to taste delicious chocolate at a local chocolate factory maker, which was well applauded by all. From a personal view this will be something that will be embraced more



and more. A Well-deserved break in admissions allowed for staff to visit HMP Durham which was well supported by SCF HQ and reservist Cpl Andy Vipond. Staff were shown the large differences between SCFs and HMP.

The Future

To conclude what has been a productive

and busy year, with incoming, outcoming staff, high admission rates, new policies, MPS requests. This as not diluted the Facility's teamship, teamwork and outstanding work rate. As we approach the future, they is no doubt SCF North will deliver anything that his asked of them. A thank you to all that have been involved in any part of SCF North.



Can we help you?

The Royal British Legion provides financial, social and emotional support to millions who have served or are currently serving in the Armed Forces, and their dependants.

We offer a range of welfare services, including: independent pensions and compensation advice and representation; assistance with claiming state benefits; advice about re-training and employment.

Contact us for more information:
Visit www.britishlegion.org.uk
or call Legionline: 08457 725 725



SCF South



SCF South continues to provide pivotal contributions to the development, progression and the much-needed support to local units.

With a full complement of diverse team members, it remains the busiest SCF; not only backed by admission statistics, but Team South also leads from the front in all manner of Regimental trawls and requests.

This may sound challenging, and it is, but not as challenging as it was, especially dealing with the stresses of getting through the COVID 19 pandemic; By having the added pressure of detecting COVID 19 for all incoming detainees, whilst also ensuring staff in isolation were suitably cared for, was not easy. But through sheer dedication and experience of the entire team, brought everyone closer together and ensured the operational effectiveness remained a constant, during unprecedented times.

Despite being extremely busy with a feeling of building pressure, Team South managed to bid farewell to SSgt Buckham, Cpl Rai and Sgt Hutchinson who have all been posted to the MCTC for pastures new. It also saw this year being marked with the special farewell to Cpl T Gurung, following his completion of 24 years of service, the team wishes him all the best in his future ventures.

Whilst on the other hand, Team South welcomed SSgt Mannion-Williams, Sgt Prophet and five new team members: Cpl's Tittle, Graham, Steerment, Tuca and Philips, whom following their successful completion of the Detention Specialist Course joined this industrious team. Even though there has been a high turnover of staff the team has remained strong, with the desire to support each other being the lead focus for all.

Team South prides itself in having a strong bond with each person

understanding the importance of collaborative working, stepping forward when it counts and providing support to one another, regardless of personal circumstances. Even though this period has been extremely busy, we have still managed to conjure up an impressive record this year with team cohesion activities; including Indoor Sky diving, foot golf, 'minute to win it' style games afternoon and are already making plans for the upcoming activity for Dec 22, watch this space for next year. It is important to remember that even within the fast-paced nature that is the MPS Regiment, we must make a conscious effort to get out and enjoy the time, as and when it presents itself. It is proven that when we down tools for a well-earned get together, it solidifies the desire to push forward as one, to step up when it counts and to be there for one another.

Even though Team South are currently



at a record high for admission levels to date, the team have also conducted a plethora of regimental tasks; keeping in line with the good ole proverb 'Work Hard-Play Hard'; this is just some of the things we have been up to: Sgt Hutchinson delivering the BL to the RMP, Cpl Uluilakeba deploying on Exercise Cambrian Patrol, Cpl Nuku being stood up at the last hour for Op London Bridge, SSgt Mannion-Williams delivering the POW Battle Lesson to Ukraine Forces under Op INTERFLEX, Cpl Graham being the sole person to volunteer and provide assistance to the MCTC, Cpl Tittle facilitating the JEF(L) encumberment, Cpl Compton conducting the first SCF South Rule 58 transfer under Op CARRIAGE, Cpl Tuca remaining the constant in reliability for operational effectiveness and Sgt Prophet taking the lead in the delivery of the AGC (SPS) SSA course. All the while delivering support to local units and the military court service, specifically within the detention and custody space. This truly signifies the incredible achievements for such a small but close knit team, who do not waiver in adversity, who consistently showcase their abilities, who routinely step forward and support each other, can only be described as comradeship at its finest. It is literally the glue that holds us all together.

Team South also leads from the front the sporting arena too: with Cpl Tuca & Nuku being selected for the AGC Volleyball team, Cpl Uluilakeba and Tuca bringing home the win for the MPS Regt at the Rugby 7's, Cpl Tittle showing his prowess on the athletics field, Cpl Steerment going back to his



Cpl Tittle.

X-Country roots, and SSgt Mannion-Williams retaining the AGC Champion title in all 3 disciplines for a second year; she has also received her first call up for National trials for the Team Wales.

It is worthy of note that the above is not everything that has been achieved by Team South in the last 12 months, amplifying the extreme fast pace that is SCF Company. We have also hosted the CO and RSM on two separate occasions, which saw Cpl Nuku show off her culinary skills and Cpl Tittle showing his desire to reach for the stars, seizing the opportunity to feeling the full weight and responsibility of being this unique regiment's CO. Even if only for a few seconds; and knowing the decent character the CO exudes, we are certain he wouldn't have minded.

SCF Midlands and Wales

Sgt Hughes

Service Custody Facility (SCF) Midlands and Wales deliver a detention capability to service police and offer specialist advice to unit commanders, and staff support assistants. We remain operationally focused to grow and develop our custodial skills and knowledge.

We have benefitted from a very successful recruiting drive, and this saw the company have an injection of new JNCOs who are looking forward to their new careers as custodians within Service Custody Facility Company. We maintain a flow of detainees through the doors and continue to focus our attention on the rehabilitation of these service personnel.

With a relatively new team here at SCF Midlands and Wales we focus on training during quieter periods and continue to test mock admissions (headed up by Cpl Morille) and our operational commitments in the safe handling of CPERS in which members of the SCF have delivered this training to local units. Not only have staff continued to develop their custodial knowledge and



National War Memorial Arboretum Stafford (NWMA). From left: Sgt Hughes (SCF Midlands and Wales 2IC), Sgt Struczynski and WO2 Harte.

champion the capbadge but have also made time for their own chosen sports, Cpl Newman has represented the unit and brigade in squash. Cpl McGavin

represented the company in the 1MP Bde sevens rugby competition in which the team won. Sgt Hughes utilising his adventurous training qualifications to deliver and support adventurous training with the reserve unit.

Farewells

SCF Midlands and Wales said goodbye to our, IC SSgt Simcox who has been posted back to MCTC, he will use the remaining time to focus on his resettlement, we wish him all the very best, Cpl Lawa and Rose have been posted back to MCTC on promotion. Cpl McGavin will also head back to MCTC on promotion in which he will be posted to the welfare department. Finally, we say farewell to Cpl Pun who has served 24 years, again we wish him farewell and all the best of luck in Civi street.

Welcomes

We welcome our new IC, SSgt Hayward who will continue to drive us forward as a facility. Also Cpl's Maher, Carr, Newman Price and Rai. They all arrived at the facility with enthusiasm and bring to the table unique skills and experiences from their previous units. We look forward to what we can achieve as a facility and continue to develop.

London Half Marathon Achievement for Custody JNCO Cpl Newman

On the 3rd of April 2022 I took part in the London Landmark Half Marathon. For this event I decided to raise money for the British Heart foundation with a goal of raising £250.

Not only that, I also wanted to run a personal best time of sub 1hr 25mins. My training started in January, 2022 and I made my Just Giving page go live at the same time.

Fast forward just over three months and race day was here, having smashed my target of raising £250, I raised over £350, all I needed to do now was hit that goal time of a sub 1hr 25min, and I did it! I completed the London Landmark Half Marathon in a time of 1hr 24mins and 39 seconds finishing in 77th position out of over 17,000 runners. I couldn't have been prouder of myself. This was the highlight of my year and something I am very proud of.



SCF Scotland



SCF Scotland Staff.

Now that the pandemic restrictions have been lifted, it is back to normal jogging and 2022 has been a busy year north of the wall at SCF Scotland, with a large number of detainees and other commitments which has kept the staff busy and on their toes.

Based in the historical capital city of Scotland in Edinburgh's Dreghorn Barracks, SCF Scotland has continued to provide detention capability for all the units based in Scotland.

This year we have said goodbye to SSgt Boyd who has completed his service along with Cpl McCombe. Also, Sgt McKay and Cpl R Rai were posted to the MCTC on promotion to SSgt and Sgt respectively.

Welcoming in SSgt J Raine as the I/C and Sgt G Venters as the 2i/c at the beginning of March 2022. Also, we had the privilege of welcoming Cpl H Dennis on the completion of his DSC having transfer from from the RMP.



So far this year...

1 MP Brigade Visit

We were visited by PM(A) Brigadier Buck as well as the Provost Sergeant Major. The staff at SCF Scotland had the opportunity to give an insight into the day-to-day workings of Custody within SCF Scotland. And gave the staff a chance to sit down and chat to both the Brigadier and Provost Sergeant Major.

SCF Scotland Cohesion Days

Early this year the Cpl K Duncan organised a team cohesion day to GO APE in Dalkieth Country park. This gave the facility a chance to finally get together socially outside of work after the Covid restrictions in Scotland had been lifted. Fun was had by all even with all the disco legs. After the event staff met up in for a social drink and some food.

In October, after three different date

SCF Scotland



changes due to detainees being in the facility Cpl S Subba finally managed to hold a friendly darts tournament. Cpl S Subba organised a small trophy and some Nepalese food for the event which was enjoyed by all.

HMP Visit

Members of SCF Scotland all attend a visit to HMP Edinburgh. Organised by Sgt Venters, this visit was an eye opener for all members of staff on the handling of prisoners in a mainstream prison. Dealing with more severe cases and challenging behaviour daily. This visit was helpful also for the three members of staff currently undertaking the new detention specialist apprenticeship.

OP Interflex

Currently the MPS Regiment have been given the opportunity to be part of the OP Interflex team, who are mentoring Ukrainian recruits for the conflict in the

Ukraine and Crimea against Russian aggression in the area. SCF Scotland have sent several staff members Cpl C Cheetham, Cpl K Yonzon, Cpl M Suluma and Cpl K Duncan to teach these recruits the basics in POW capture techniques and procedures.

Community Engagement

Recently a local nursery had been vandalised by youths. Sgt Venters wife, Mandy took it upon herself to raise money for the nursery by running the Edinburgh 10k raising nearly £500. So, members of staff wanted to help by giving up their free time to assist the nursery and try to offset some of the cost of the repairs. By painting and covering up most of the graffiti and helping provide a safe place for the children to play.

Cambian Patrol

The Cambian Patrol started back up


after the restrictions of Covid had been lifted. Cpl M Suluma volunteered to be part of the event staff on the CEPERs Stand. Gaining experience on initial CEPERs capture and enjoying himself in the process.

Sports


SCF Scotland has a few budding athletes in a number of sports. SCF Scotland sent down two rugby enthusiasts CPL M Suluma and CPL J Rainima to take part in the 1 MP Brigade Rugby tournament helping MPS Regiment win the trophy. Cpl Rainima also represents the Army Scotland rugby team as well as a local rugby club.

SSgt J Raine Represents the Army and England in tug-of-war competing all over England.

Cpl K Duncan, Cpl C Cheetham and SSgt J Raine represented the Regiment at the 1 MP Brigade Swimming Gala.



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Reserve Company

The MPS Reserve Company have had an eventful year deploying on Exercise Kronos Hunter from 28 May to 12 June 2022, attending ITR and finishing off with the Annual Continuation Training (ACT) from 1 October to 16 November 2022.

Exercise Kronos Hunter

Sgt Furlong

We started our decent into Cyprus having left MCTC just after lunch and heading to Gatwick Airport.

From here we linked up with colleagues from 253 Coy and SIB part of 1RMP, whom were quite distinguishable walking in wearing military sunglasses and carrying MTP day sacks, if this was any sign of the exercise, it was that it was going to be a fun and entertaining one.

Whilst at Gatwick we had the pleasure of eating an overpriced version of McDonald's before finding out our flight was just over 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ delayed causing no end of stress to Cpl Furlong who was eager to get to the other end to watch a football match.

Once we boarded both the MPS and 1RMP were conveniently positioned to the rear of the aircraft this allowed us to start building relationships within the group.

Apologies must however go to the EasyJet cabin crew who were harassed constantly by Cpl Furlong in his eagerness to establish the Liverpool vs Real Madrid score... on reflection he would have perhaps been better off not knowing as the end result as it only ended in tears, we believe literally!

Touching down in Pathos airport just after 0015 we were greeted by beautiful warm weather and our minibus to Radio Sonde our home for the next 13 days, where upon arrival we were given a short brief and requested to take a quick covid test before being dispersed into our dorms.

This in itself was the first challenge of the exercise as several of the exercising troops had arrived ahead of us and was already asleep.

I think most of us managed to get to sleep around 0130 and was swiftly awoken around 0530 for breakfast this then set the tone for the duration of the camp, hard and fast with little rest.

Our first day compromised of camp orientation, several introductory lessons as well as hot and cold injury and plan of

exercise which sadly had to be rewritten with over 40 RMP and Instructors unable to make the trip, however as the old saying goes, no plan survives first contact....

After being given some time to carry out personal administration we were back into the classroom for more lessons including navigation.

Sadly though 'personal admin' did not mean sunbathing, and no one took this harder than Cpl Furlong who could be found penning a service complaint citing something about it being a human right to get a suntan in Cyprus and regaling all who would listen to his tales of Lion Star 2016 when sun bathing was mandatory and the officers brought you beers....

Shortly before 1930 we prepared for a night navigation lesson in Happy Valley. We were told we had to navigate to several places around the valley to discover letters to solve the acronym. Cpl Norman and Cpl Furlong destroyed the field coming in first a massive 3 minutes before anyone else, they even had an opportunity to take in the views at Turtle beach. LCpl Deans, and Sgt Anderson, being older and wiser took their time and enjoyed the moment... it was to be one of the more sedate moments of the camp.

The next day the pace was no slower we woke up at 0500 to depart for the ranges at 0600. We started with a standard zeroing and check group shoot at 100m, safe to say some were certainly better than others however the range staff were fantastic (A shout out here must go to Sgt Gould and WO2 Mulley help) at getting people on and in no time all were zero'd and ready to go.

As a bonus we soon found that the ice cream man had a built in troop detector and had parked himself up on the ranges offering cold ice creams at a reasonable price, this was a welcome break in the sweltering 32C heat.



In the evening we went out for another acclimatisation walk this time two 50 minute walks around Happy Valley in PT kit with a 15 minute break, the heat

was high and the walks were certainly not getting easier and as these were done as squaddled walks we couldn't even veer away to the beach!

Day 3 saw us move out to the Ranges once again this time for an ACMT shoot, this saw a few of the MPS boys having to re-shoot on 1 or 2 positions, given that we don't get much range time this was to be expected but all passed the reshoots without further difficulty.



Once the ranges were complete, we were back into the classroom for MP based lessons, these were interesting for us within the MPS however when the opportunity came to build the UHA on camp we found this was far more up our street!!! During the camp we were visited by CO 1RMP whom awarded several CO coins, two of which going to our own WO2 Mulley and Sgt Gould, so far as we are aware these were awarded for the successful completion of a beach recce the pair undertook, it must have been a covert op as no one else was invited.....

For the next three days we then went onto BCS and soldier first training for most people this was a remind and revise however it's always good to refresh on some of the greener skills to which as a unit we don't tend to touch on very much.

We were fortunate that the RLS team delivering this were all Close Protection (CP) trained so the training was quite niche and different to sometimes what was taught from a textbook. What followed then was several hours spent rehearsing ROC drills and there were certainly some questionable target indications being sent out.

BCS out of the way it was then time to start the four day FTX, with a light bit of packing out of the way and Sgt Clapson finally returning to camp (We were worried she was lost for a second) with some much need 'Moralbo' for the



the night and at 0030, Those orders gave no move before 0530 with the exercise starting at 0600...or so we thought, much to Sgt Andersons' delight timings were moved forward and we were tasked to set up sentry positions around camp which marked the transition from simply being in Radio Sonde camp into a more tactical phase taking place from MOB Radio Sonde.

With the support of reserve soldiers from Leeds UOTC who were playing our enemy we were kept busy with several scenarios that built up the J2 picture and a subsequent move to FOB Pinetrack which is located on RAF Akrotiri.

All agreed that once this move had taken place there was a definite shift not only in mindset but in how the sections

MPS lads for the few days, we moved onto the orders process going late into



Exercising Troop - FOB Pinetrack.



Exercise Kronos Hunter 5 2022.

Reserve Company

worked and operated together with the response to scenarios becoming slicker and more professional as the exercise went on.

Key highlights of this were Cpl Furlong's improvised UHA which was then used for a HVT scenario that LCpl Deans' section took charge of. As this was an MP exercise we still had to handover to the 'MPS' so that we could then pick up other scenarios however there were some definite learning points taken from this.

Next up was Cpl Normans' untimely capture by the UOTC soldiers who did unspeakable things to him before leaving him near dead in the road. This must have been quite humbling for Cpl Norman who manages the segregation unit at HMP Belmarsh and who is normally a very tough and robust character, sadly the 19 year old students got the better of him no thanks to his section who hadn't even noticed he was missing....

The final highlight was for Cpl Furlong who was asked if he would like a ride in a helicopter (perhaps as compensation for Liverpool losing to Real Madrid in the football or the lack of sun bathing opportunities) which allowed him to get some great ariel photographs of Happy Valley and Radio Sonde Camp.

The culmination of the exercise was an onslaught of attacks onto the FOB in an attempt to free the HVT which saw exercising troops fighting from various sides of the FOB and more ammunition being used than anyone in the MPS has ever seen!! This was a great finish to what was in the end a good exercise. All of us agreed that the move to FOB Pinetrack was the highlight of that stage.

With the exercise out of the way attention immediately switched to the most important day of all...beach day our first R&R day in 11 days.

We departed for tunnel beach at 0700 sadly it was a dry beach day but with some great water sports and boat trips on hand and copious amounts of ice cream however LCpl Deans and Sgt Anderson showed what Brits abroad really tan like from the comfort of the sun loungers.....I wont say anyone got burnt during this stage as we had quite clear instructions from the RMP Ops WO not to, along with some clear expectations being set as to what would happen if we did, let's just say that some of us had more of a glow about us than others when we got back to camp....

Once back into camp we were looking forward to a much anticipated beer and a barbecue.....It would be great to say that this is where that story ends but let's just say that some goal posts were moved on that last day which meant some folks missed out.

On reflection however some great lessons were learnt, individual skills were improved, and friendships made. It also demonstrated that the MPS could hold its own against our colleagues from the RMP and SIB.

Annual Continuation Training (ACT) Exercise Custodial Challenge 2022

The Company deployed to Longmoor and Rolleston to conduct this year's annual camp. They first spent two days in the field within a Harbour area conducting the Soldier First syllabus. Sgt Shane Gold carried out assurance making sure all training objectives were completed.

The troops, wet and cold still had high morale and enjoyed the fact that they were stood too by Sgt Balding shouting "CONTACT" when several cows came tramping through the harbour area.

SSgt Martin took the second phase of the training at Imber Village where they embarked onto an Urban Ops training package (FIBUA). For the majority, this was their first look at this type of training, and they all loved it.

For a select few who had the opportunity to act up as section commanders, it saw enthusiasm and confidence shine.



The fruitful final attack saw an abundance of grit and sweat from the attacking troops, which was great to watch from the side lines, along with the Core RSM (WO1 Miller) who came to visit the troops.

The third phase was a four-day range package covering shoots 1 – 8 followed by CQB shoots with carbine rifles. The troops had never seen the small variant of the general-purpose weapon and Cpl Vipond was heard stated he looked ally as #uc&.....

The four days on the ranges saw some great weather. Although it was cold and windy, the sun was out and shining. The morale would have definitely been different if it was wet, so thanks goes out to WO2 Foxon for ordering the sun.

The troops then had the opportunity to conduct some personal admin and a visit to Bovington Tank Museum was arranged by WO2 Stapleton.

The visit was actually more impressive than first thought. We had a guided tour and then given the opportunity to walk around the impressive site.

Cpl Nichol, an ex-tanker impressed all with his knowledge of all the tanks.

The Company then packed up and moved to Rolleston Camp for the final





stages of the exercise. These phases consisted of Operational Detention and a visit to the Land Warfare Centre to be introduced to the online simulator. Sgt Furlong thought it was going to be like playing Call of Duty on his PlayStation but was not prepared for its realism and tactics required.

SSgt Dickinson caused a few Blue

on Blue! He thought it was all for them selves and wanted to win...

WO2 McGrath and WO2 Foxon returned the Carbine rifles to the Armoury. WO2 McGrath's eyes lit up by all the specialised weaponry and asked to stay and play – reminiscing of his days back in the Vikings

All in all, the Reserve Company had

an eventful training exercise completing all training objectives and enjoying themselves at the same time. The OC was overly impressed by the efforts from the troops and the hard work from the Day Team especially SSgt Martin who did a lot of planning making the exercise as successful as it was.

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MPS Regiment History

Interesting Escapes from our Establishments Hong Kong and Colchester

Dan Cowley

Hong Kong

The loss of a Servicemen Under Sentence (SUS) (no females in those days) in 1975 was noted and the escape procedure was implemented. Local staff were allocated their search areas and tasks by the Duty Officer. The Commandant and the RSM were observing and judging the search and tasked area but taking no part in the overall incident.

To their front was the 'jungled scrub area' that the SUS was suspected to have entered, but, still unobserved or found, but to their surprise they observed some movement in the scrub; to insert some humour into the situation the RSM shouted "Call out the Dogs" and started making dog like barking noises [True].

This was to be of no avail, however, the commandant, not to be out classed, retorted in a loud voice; "Do not worry, if the Dogs don't get him the snakes will".

The previously observed movement turned into a violent movement and parting of the scrub, to be replaced by the missing SUS with hands erect and rapidly voicing; "It's alright staff I am over here".

Search over, SUS detained, and Hong Kong returned to it tranquil normality, the RSM and Commandant were to dine out on their unorthodox search technique for a number of years and locations; it does prove one thing that the British Soldier is more apprehensive of Snakes than Dogs.

Colchester

A Red Star SUS had been accepted by the Kitchen Staff in "D" Wing to work in that location, the staff was 'tipped' off by one of the other SUS that his Red Star had had moved in the direction of the boundary fence; he was not found. The escape procedure was implemented and the staff were allocated their search areas and tasks by the Duty Officer.

An off duty "D" Wing member of staff was in the Mersea Road and passed a local Bus Stop with a waiting queue, noting and recognising the escaped SUS who passed the queue and 50 yards up the Mersea Road entered one of the Infantry Barracks Guard Rooms and requested some assistants to apprehend the SUS; this was readily granted and two burly



Infantry Regimental Police cut short the freedom of this wayward SUS much to the surprise of the queuing public.

This Red Star SUS was granted a stay in the Close Confinement Cells of "C" Block with a change of dietary availability.

Colchester

The "A" Wing SUS had been processed into the wing in 1974 and had been marched in to the Wing Commander by the Wing WOI, later to be allocated a room and locked for the night in that room with the other seven SUS.

That night the Wing WOI decided to spend time that night in the Mess Bar, on leaving the Establishment to drive to his Married Service Quarter (MSQ) he was 'surprised' to see his Office Party SUS walking down the Berechurch Hall Road at 2200 hours, he stopped and offered the SUS a lift that was accepted; the WOI introduced himself as an off duty Police Officer that was going into the Police Station to pick up some property before driving for London. The SUS was invited to accompany him to London if he wished, this was readily accepted, they drove into the rear of the Queen Street 'Factory'; the WOI entered the rear of the Police Station much to the Police Officer's surprise [WTFRU?] on his introduction there were two burly Police Officers dispatched to the car to drag the SUS into the Duty Room for the second introduction to the "A" Wing WOI that day.

He was returned to the MCTC before he had been missed, again to be allocated another room this time in "C" Block and a second introduction to the "A" Commander the following day.

Colchester

The full complement of "D" Wing SUS in 1968 had been marched and accepted into the "Education Wing" for their afternoon of instruction, after this afternoon of instruction they were paraded and counted once, counted twice and a third time; each time the resulting number was the same 'one short/missing/unaccounted for'. The escape procedure was implemented and staff were allocated their search areas and tasks by the Duty Officer, the main concentration was within the Education Wing; nothing was to be found and there was to be no exit identified. It must be remembered that the Wing was bordered by "A", "B" Wing's and the establishments vegetable gardens all with no direct/joint fence accessibility, this leading the 'Old Hands' to the conclusion, that; he was still within the Education Wing but after two more later searches of now an empty Wing it was concluded that he has 'Escaped'.

A hue and cry was raised, civil and Military Police informed, and he was to remain 'adrift' long enough for him to be declared a Deserter, but then the local Police in his home county were to apprehend him; he was returned under escort from his County Regiment's Depot to be introduced to the Close Confinement Cells of "C" Block behind the Green 20-foot wriggly tin fence. He was to be warned that he may remain there until he said how he had managed to escape from the Education Wing, he was not to know that that was non-enforceable as it was contrary to the I & D Rules.

It was with great pride that he led an interested small party into the still occupied Education Wing and to enter a Lecture Room that he had been instructed on the availability of help when he was released. He had also attended the carpentry and woodwork classes; it had been during these courses his escape had been conceived sourced and individually mounted with no help from others.

He had simply built a wooden platform [That was still in position when he demonstrated where his hiding place had been] behind a full classroom length

notice board, I am of the opinion that he had assisted in the original carpentry course that had fitted the notice board within some of the classrooms; from there he had planned this original and well thought escape, all he had to do was wait for darkness and then climb the fences unobserved. SSgt J Laidlaw was to suggest that a presence should be provided for the Education Wing for that night, as he was of the opinion that the SUS was still in that Wing, this advice was dismissed by the then senior Major of the MPSC.

Instructions given by WO I (Wing WO1) John Carroll to a disruptive escape orientated "D" Red Star SUS, "If you really want to escape I will show you how to get over the Wing perimeter fence, with, the use of a 'Chairs Tubular Stacking' and you will not get injured on the 'Barbed Wire (BW); but please tell us when you are intending on going'".

He did not require that instruction See No. 2, he went on to cut all of his cotton issue under-clothes up and blocked all the drains above his isolation room; the only people he inconvenienced were the staff that used the staff room and the night watch this due to the time lag on the drain filling up and the location of his isolation room.

He was introduced to the lack of conversation, space, heating, bedding and choice of food in the "C" Block and to the nearest cell to the Toilet pipe; at least he had time for his BW dents to heal.

In 1991 A "D" Wing SUS (RMP) was locked up in the newly built A Wing. Due to an oversight the ceiling had not been re-enforced and he was able to climb up through the toilet ceiling space and crawl to the outside of the Main Gate and drop down outside into the central area of the camp and from there escape over the fence to Berechurch Hall Road. The escape was discovered at the morning hand over and the staff were sent out to search the local area. It is believed that the SUS was picked up before he left Colchester by a member of the staff who was driving round to look for him and when he entered the car, he thought he was getting a lift to somewhere else.

In August 1970 after the 'Milk Run (induction)' had been returned to the Wing, the "D" Wing morning fatigues were under way by those SUS, supervised by a senior SSgt in the rear section of "D" Wing that involved the filling of coal scuttles for each room for

heating at night; the one SUS carrying out these fatigues threw a half filled scuttle to the ground and bolted past the back Wire NCO [A probationer on the current Security Course] he ran to the Perimeter Fence and vaulted it in the direction of Ramparts Lane and disappeared into the Lethe Grove woods. The escape procedure was instigated, and the Foot Patrol (FP) confinement rings were put in place from available Shift and Office Staff, this, much to the delight of the other Security Course Personnel (SCP), after weeks of Classroom, Drill & Weapon Training. The vehicular rings patrols (VR) that had been set up, had after 30 minutes lost interest in their allocated areas, they went into their own areas of due to their local and past knowledge. One of the SCP with in the VR was to be driven to the Ramparts Lane area via the Mersea and Fingringhoe roads that contained one of the FP areas, during the banter between the two Patrols it was mentioned that the SUS may be in the married quarters in the Lethe Grove Estate having tea with resident; the SCP from the VP not being on the same humorous wavelength as the MPSC NCO's moved to the ploughed field between the married quarters and Ramparts Lane much to the amusement of all in that patrol gathering.

There he found a set of footprints spaced about 6 to 10 foot apart, he followed these for about 25 yards and over a rabbit proof wire fence under a covering of a growing fir trees was the wayward SUS; the SCP apprehended the SUS and marched him to the patrol gathering where the SUS was claimed by a further SSgt and whisked away to the Gate lodge in the VP vehicle leaving the SCP student to walk back to the MCTC Lines.

When he arrived at the Gate Lodge, he was able to see the fabrication of the incident in the Duty Officer's Book (DOB), it was interesting to be summoned by the Duty Officer 20 minutes later to the Gate Lodge; to tell and answer questions on the incident and interestingly he was never to be requested to attend the Court of enquiry.

The none Escape Esapes?

It was to be 12 years before I was to be the NCO that was to be in charge of the formation of that escape procedure closely watched by the Field Officer, but

then it was to be an 'Escape and Invasion' infantry Corporal that had climbed into the MCTC over the Perimeter Fence; he was to be arrested by the Quarter Master as the QM obeyed the Standing Instruction to all assemble at the Gate Lodge for distribution to search areas. This was to be the only sounding of the 'Re-Call/Stand Down Siren' before all of the SUS had been returned to their Wings, the Estate Gardening Staff had seen the entry of this NCO from the direction of Ramparts Lane and had been concerned as he was carrying a 'Long Weapon'; a confused and embarrassed infantry NCO was let on his way after a cup of tea and an introduction to the MCTC. As he had been from the Roman Barracks the other side of the Berechurch Hall Road, this Scottish NCO had been missed/passed by, by, his 'Hue-&-Cry' search teams; he must have had a story to tell 'believed or disbelieved' as to how he was able to get behind them during their search, 'who knows'.

The wailing of the 'Gate Lodge Siren' started at 1055 hours one in 1972 day, the note was continuing in an unrecognisable summons; all parties obeyed the call in their only known Standing Instruction 'Close the Wings with all SUS', when the Siren was activated other than the Friday 1000 hours escape siren test. As the party controlling staff passed through the Gate Lodge it was noted that the duty SSgt and Gate NCO were both staring at the Siren Pole ignoring the passing advice that it was an 'Electrical Short' as they said the siren switch had not been operated by the Gate NCO.

It was to take a decision by the RSM after the SUS Wing Checks had been collated and deemed correct that a decision was to be made to keep the Wing closed until after the PM shift had taken over control, the Department of Environment (DOE) head shed accompanied by the QM and an electrician was to deem that the siren wiring had shorted and had to be replaced.

The RAF Field Officer was as confused as all of the other Staff, there was to be no showing of the Adjutant, but this was after the Gate NCO had told him that the sounding was not intentional/unexplained he had remained with his coffee. After 25 years from the time of the siren installation, this, must be viewed as a good time/cost conclusion; but it was to be from then included in the DOE inspection roster.

MPS Regiment History

Historical Armlets Worn within the Combined Military Establishment (CME) and Military Corrective Training Centre (MCTC) Colchester During 1950 to 1959

I have been aware of the location of these Armlets and of their significance to the long lost Corps history, but now I think it is the time to bring them back to the location that they were originally used; and where so much of our corps history in the CME's has been lost to the 'Nick' in the 'Sky' together with the Commissioned holders of this lost 'History'. For these I must thank Mr. Colin Carnall an ex-RMP RQMS an old and valued friend, in service and out of service.

It is recorded and told that in Colchester during the 1950's it was Standing Instruction (SI) that the Wings would not be 'Unlocked' without the minimum of 5 to 7 Staff to be in attendance, this led to the requirement that at times to reach this total, all of the Wing Staff were required to leave their tasks and assist with the 'Wing Unlock'; to identify them from the SUS they were given 'Armlet's with 'STAFF' in red to be worn on their upper right arm as attached Staff. (e.g. Cook's, the armlets were also worn by them in the Cookhouses.)

It is also recorded and told that the Training Instructors' Physical, Drill & Weapons were at times Qualified Junior Ranks, these were also required to wear 'Armlet's' these Armlets were marked in Red Letters as 'INSTR' (Instructor); it must be remembered that in the 1940's to 1960's all Servicemen wore the 'Battledress' these Armlet's differentiated the Instructors from the SUS. This Armlet was also worn on the upper right arm by the attached Instructor's.

'Staff' Armlet

Red on blue & black.

Red 'script' embroidered

The STAFF is in 1 1/4 inch Embroidered Serif Red letters on a Navy-Blue 4x2 inch background patch stitched centrally on to the Armlet.

The Black Armlet is a 16x3 inch rectangle with six brass 3/8 inch Newy Brothers Ltd snaps Patent 20413 of 1922. The Armlet is of the wartime Black



issue as used by the CMP & MPSC for their Duty Armlets. The condition of this example is well used and well worn, found on a Bosley's auction site in the 1990s.

'Instr' Armlet. Red on Black. Red lettering.

The INSTR is in 1 1/4 inch non serif Red letters stitched centrally on to the Armlet. The Black Armlet is an 18x3 1/2 inch rectangle tapering to a 4x1 inch to a 1 inch buckle with a two-pronged fastening in Black by Solidae.

The Armlet is of the standard wartime design/issue for all arms and in all colours.

The condition of this example is 'excellent' with very little usage shown, found on a Warwick & Warwick auction site in the 1990s.

Both of these Armlets were obtained from auction sites at different times during the 1990s, the descriptions and research place both of these items in use in CME & MCTC at Colchester in the 1950s.

There has been no record found to indicate that either of these Armlets was ever worn in Military Prisons (MP), this as there was very little Military Training (MT) carried out within MP; most of the sentences involved hard labour (hard physical industrial labour) mostly from 0900 to 1900 hrs during locked and unlocked hours.

The colours of the Military armlets have a basic colour:

Black (B): Provost, British Embassy Control Officer. Black with a thin horizontal Red (R) Border: Land Army, 1/3 B-R-B: Control Commission. Blue: Quarter Master Staff. Dark Blue: Air Raid Precautions, Civil Defence & Vulnerable Points. Green: Intelligence. Khaki: (Often listed as Army Yellow) Military Detention Centres (Warder), Home Guard and miscellaneous. Red/Scarlet: Movements (Personnel and Vehicles), HQ Staff. White: Air Raid Precautions, Medical and Transport. Yellow: Civil Defence Corps CD 48. 1954 Lewis Falk Ltd.

This is just a general quick look at images of Military Armlets.

Lt Col P Andrews OBE
Dan Cowley 29 April 2022

Can You Remember?



Lt Col Jim Robinson at a Corps Weekend.



MPS commissioned artwork 2005.

Can You Remember?



MCTC 1986.



MCTC circa 1960s.



MPSC Door Plaque Badge.



Maj Becky and Mark Smith skiing.



Tom King MP, Secretary of State for Defence, visit with from left, Lt Col N Emson, Comdt, Lt P Burton and Lt Col P Andrews OBE.



Rupert Read briefing during a mess function.



Main Gate 1980s.

Can You Remember?



C Block circa 1980s.



Camp 186.



Pace Sticking circa 2000s.



PM(A) visit circa 2010.



MCTC Shooting Team circa 1980s.

Association News

MCTC Kure Japan Kurious Tales A Matter of Religion

Charlie Barber

The staff quarters of the Corrective Establishment were usually, but not always, a harmonious place to reside, for among our group of well-disciplined and considerate MPSC staff there were a number of "others". These were made up of Australian and New Zealand NCOs of the British Commonwealth. Contrary to the many stories that circulated that our colonial cousins were coarse, uncouth and ill-disciplined I have to say a few of them were not. Also in our midst was the attached staff, stalwart British NCOs, not MPSC, whose reasons for dwelling amongst us, we of the lower orders were not privy too.

One such sergeant was 'Hughey', who had once graced a unit of the Royal Artillery. He was a highly excitable and volatile fellow and his unit had decided they could spare him for a while. Hughey was appointed mess caterer with his own bunk adjacent to the mess bar, thus sparing the rest of us the pleasure of his company. He had some un-endearing habits, not least of which was listening to members' conversations at the bar and making caustic and unsavoury comments. Sometimes he offended the delicate ears of MPSC members who would say things like, "please stop it Hughey". Now and then an Australian cousin would take umbrage and bruising and broken glass would occur. Although not highly gifted with intelligence Hughey had a thirst for knowledge. To this end he invited a Japanese student called Heiko to his isolated bunk on a regular basis. She was rather old for a student but I understand she had been highly recommended by our maintenance man and undertook the task of teaching Hughey to speak Japanese. The RSM, a warrant officer and Christian man nicknamed 'Magoo' after the blind cartoon character, could no longer turn a blind eye. In fact he

was incensed that a member of his staff would keep a young student up until the small hours of the morning even if it was in the pursuit of knowledge. One awful morning Magoo struck. Armed with the duty staff sergeant he descended on Hughey's bunk and threw out the unfortunate Heiko as she was teaching Hughey a Japanese pronunciation exercise. Hughey spent a few unpleasant minutes with the Commandant later that morning. Shocked MPSC staff, fearing for the Commandant's safety, lingered within hearing distance of the Commandant's office. Legend has it that the loud shouting was not Welsh but English, well peppered with good old Anglo Saxon words Hughey survived the Commandant's wrath and resumed his post as mess caterer.

New regulations were imposed and certain freedoms previously discreetly enjoyed by staff were restricted. Hughey was not popular A chastened Hughey was soon back to his old habit of eavesdropping on bar conversations but was now less inclined to let it go in one ear and out of his mouth. Something had to be done about Hughey's eavesdropping and a small group of staff decided to do just that. One of our Australian staff was unusual in as much as in a previous life before joining "K Force" he had not been a sheep shearer in the outback or even a jolly swagman living by a billabong. He was in fact from a town in Yorkshire and had emigrated to Oz. During his

early service in Kure he had had an unnerving religious experience. He suggested to a group of us that Hughey might benefit from the same experience

Our hero from Oz had decided that his life as a brutal and licentious soldier, at least in his off duty hours, must be curbed. With this in view he had made his way towards 'Kure House' built by that scion of virtue and goodwill to

servicemen, Lord Nuffield. There, could be found all culture and educational courses a poor soldier far from home could hope for. The building was a glass and concrete structure rising above the shed-like houses with graceful roofs that surrounded it. Unfortunately the site of the building was at the end of a long road called the Hon-Dory. The residents, who catered for the baser instincts of humanity, lay in wait for the unwary culture hound. Having survived the trek down the Hon-Dory with his virtue intact our Australian comrade had only one more obstacle to negotiate. This was a narrow road that flanked 'Kure House'. This road was known as "Gobblers Gulch", as one side of the road had a high, steep embankment and the other sided by houses inhabited by ladies, slightly past their prime, who presumably raised turkeys for the Christmas trade.

Our Australian, being only interested in culture above the waist, made his way resolutely to the upper reaches of 'Kure House', past the crowded, noisy bar, hastily past the gym where little yellow men threw big hairy Europeans all over the floor in the name of jujitsu instruction, but really in revenge for the atom bomb, finally reaching the sanctuary of the dusty library and classrooms. At first he thought the area was deserted for it had a slightly neglected look. But then he struck gold, or thought he had. On the notice board there was a list of courses available to would-be men of culture. About to start on the following weekend was a short course on Zen Buddhism and the introductory lecture was in progress. On the podium were two Konketsu girls who were identical twins. Konketsu are mixed bloods and are different from the Japanese in appearance and this difference seems to give them something special.

The Ways and Means Act and How to Manipulate it

Dan Cowley

It all started with Mr Mann bringing into the Quartermasters (QM) Office a glass of water from the tap used to fill the kettle we used for making tea for the mid-morning break, this was the same water system that all of the, then depot student accommodation would have used during their course.

He asked if the QM he could smell the horrible aroma from the glass, the QM proceeded to smell, drink and view the water and he stated, "there is nothing wrong with that, milk and two sugars please". The tea was produced, and the incident passed into QM folk-law, as we had all at times noted the same 'funny smell' from this frequently used water tap; we had all dismissed the smell as old war time plumbing except *one in attendance.

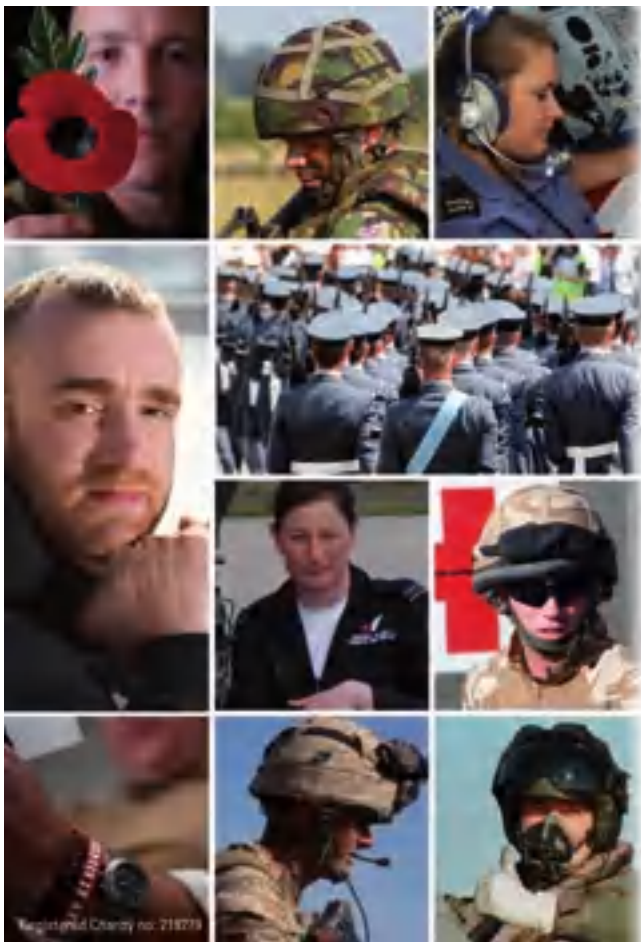
It was customary for the clothing store NCO to fill the Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant (RQMS)'s

position when that senior Warrant Officer was on leave, this relief was to take place 10 days after the above incident; *I was to fill the RQMS's slot for 14 days and on the first day after completing the list left by the RQMS, I initiated the W&MA; by approaching the Department of Environment (DOE)/ Ministry of Public Buildings and Works (MPBW) 'Head-Shed, Mr Raffe in his Office and passed on the mentioned 'smelly water' problem. "Leave it with me, I will raise a work maintenance permit for the static water tank that the water comes from by-passing the QM; this is what he did and within two days the lid from the tank was raised and the tank drained.

He brought three swollen foul smelling pigeon sized carcasses into the QM Office and stated the following "We have carried out a routine maintenance inspection on your water tank and these

birds are what we have found". "We have carried out a sanitising of the tank, refilled it and renewed the tank's cover to fill the gap that these birds had entered through". It was never to be decided how long these birds had been bathing in our drinking water, the QM was surprisingly silent on the subject; but Lt Col. Jim Robinson was always like that after he had been W&MA'ed.

Surprisingly no one suffered any ill health from this incident as far as we are aware, other than the three unfortunate birds. I often wondered about the other nine static water tanks that supplied all of the units kitchens, cookhouse, baths and ablution Bblocks, even the Officers Mess had its own static water tank; but if Lt Col. Jim never thought or worried about that, why should I, after all I only went there one day a year for Christmas drinks and they were not water based?



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Association News

The Military Provost Staff Heritage Centre



How do we learn from previous lessons and experiences and ensure that the history of the MPSC and MPS Regiment is maintained? It is more than likely that many of the readers will have a copy of 'In Glasshouses' but how many of you, have actually read it? The MPS has a rich history, both in the corrective training of service personnel and the support provided to operational detention.

Did you know that in 1974, 1 Commissioned Officer and 19 Senior Non-Commissioned Officers, deployed to Northern Ireland to support the internment during the troubles? Did you know that in 1982 the MPSC escorted Alfredo Astiz from the Ascension Islands to the UK and created a unique and bespoke detention area in Rousillon

Barracks, Chichester?

Over many years, the Association possessed small areas, in which several pieces of historical interest were displayed, but due to varying factors, more recently due to the COVID pandemic, rendered these frequently inaccessible. Loyal volunteers to the Association including Dan Cowley, Les Pearse and Alan Foley, who have preserved much of the historical items, but a worthy location had not been provided to showcase these, in all their glory. With growing aspirations for all members of the Regiment to be proud and knowledgeable of their history, the idea for a Heritage Centre was born.

The sole purpose of the Heritage Centre was to provide a place where

people could learn about their heritage.

The vision of a heritage concept was conceived during the summer of 2021 and unsurprisingly had mixed reviews across the Regiment as to its purpose, necessity and requirement. Undeterred, a small group of volunteers embarked on converting the building adjoining the Association Headquarters, where over the years, saw many uses including a woodwork shop, a storage area for MPS historical items and the prestigious print shop. It would be remiss to not specially mention two of the stalwart Civil Servants, who without their support, the building would simply not have been usable. Firstly, Colin Pethwick who safely removed several of the walls to the floor plan in use today and



secondly, Karen Wood, who sourced much of the soft furnishings, carpeting and coordinated the fire compliancy of the building. Both ensuring the vital and pivotal turning points secured the 'go ahead' in making this visionary concept a reality.

Noting this endeavour was undertaken during a COVID pandemic, the project team of volunteers did not rest on their laurels, from Sgts Walkington, Clifford, Blakemore and White showing off their painting prowess under the watchful eye of Sgt Anderson, to Sgt McHenry creating interactive stands to allow those to enact 'a day in the life of a con in concealment' to Mrs Carrie Mannion-Williams spending an entire late Friday night, whilst pregnant on her hands and knees painting a 'receptions' mural, of the very picture taken in 1922, to the impressive stacking, balancing and placement skills of both Sgt James and Sgt St Rose who travelled over 200 miles from point to point around the East coast, collecting display stands and somehow squeezing them into the small assigned works van from the kind



Association News



hearted residents that donated them for the cause, and topping it all off with SSgt Emma Mannion-Williams having an keen eye for a bargain and a prestigious vision for the Cpl Shane Kay Suite, which saw her embark on a 500-mile round trip to the depths of Wales and back, in just one day, to secure 5 VIP cinema seats and completing the build, which was showcased at the official unveiling of the newly dubbed MPS recognition coin and the erected brass plaque by Brigadier V Buck, PM(A) on 2nd June 2022.

The day was set, the weather was glorious, the team down to the wire with last minute touches in play. The pictorial documented timeline still unable to be completed, having one final piece left to mount, the 'official picture of the official opening'. Once it was taken, the race was on to download, print, frame and hang

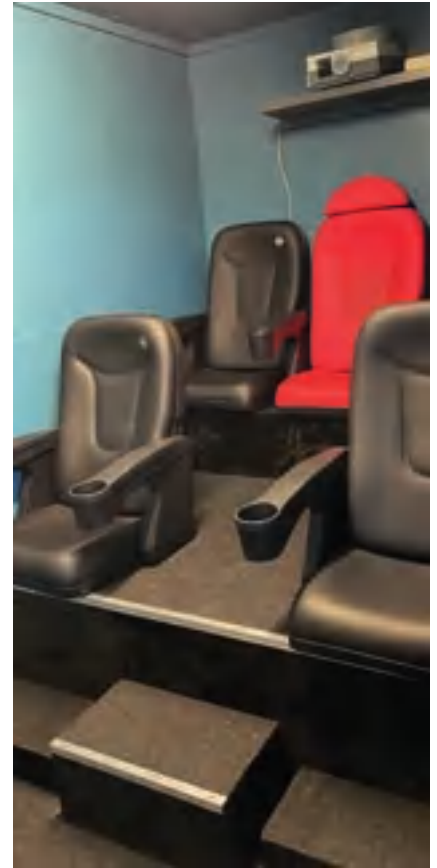


at the end of the timeline sequence just in the nick of time, where it was noticed by the Brigadier herself; she walked by, took a check pace and swiftly returned only to confirm her thought; how did a picture of me that was taken merely minutes before, find itself on the very wall she was looking at in that moment. All in a day's work for the MPS team, with a nod of appreciation.

The Heritage Centre has surpassed all expectations and now provides a location in where the 'old and new' can visit to remember or learn about the successes of the MPS. The challenges faced during the initial concept, still remain; heritage can only be successfully preserved if individuals value and subsequently transmit culture to the next generation.

Readers of this article are invited and encouraged to provide any historical items they may have and provide suggestions to the Association Secretary of how we can do better and enhance the stands already in place.

Access to the Heritage Centre is free to all Association members and those wishing to visit should contact the Regimental Secretary. It would be an honour to host you.



Jim Robinson enjoying a guided tour of the Heritage Centre.

Association News

New Headstone installed at Grave of SSgt Frederick James Andrews

Tony Hart

Having dealt with the MPSC grave in Holt near Wimborne (see last Journal), I turned my attention to the other known MPSC grave in Dorset. This was the grave of SSgt Frederick James Andrews who died on 24th November 1918 age 40 and is buried in the Weymouth Avenue Cemetery in Dorchester. On arrival at the cemetery, I soon found his headstone, the only issue was that it stated he was a member of the Military Police.

The CWGC website confirmed he was MPSC, so I took a photo of the headstone and sent it via e-mail to the CWGC. They confirmed the error and began the process of getting a replacement headstone installed. They said it could take up to a year, but the new headstone was in place after just eight months. In July 2022 Tom Squires and myself visited Dorchester to view the new headstone and we placed an MPSC wreath on the grave. So, the job was now complete, albeit 104 years late but the one outstanding question is who was Frederick Andrews?

Frederick James Andrews was born





in Wareham, Dorset in 1877. He joined the army (Dorset Regiment) in 1894 and served in India, China & South Africa. On 22nd February 1906 he married Lucy Eva Brushett in Dorchester, and their only child Eva was born in December of the same year. He transferred to the MPSC shortly after the outbreak

of WWI.

He was discharged on 22nd November 1916 because he was no longer fit for war service, this may well be linked to the reason he left the Infantry. He somehow managed to re-enlist into the MPSC on 10 November 1917 (with a new serial number). He was attached to the Military

Detention Centre in Hereford and died in Hereford General hospital. The cause of death was Pneumonia brought on by Influenza (Spanish Flu Pandemic). He was buried in Dorchester as his wife had returned home. His wife (died 1967) and daughter (died 1993) are buried in the same cemetery.

Deaths

Nugent: Mrs Grace Nugent died on 13 January 2022 and was buried on 3 February 2022. She was 100 years of age. She was the widow of SSgt Henry (Harry) Nugent MPSC (1950-1967) who saw service in Egypt, Cyprus, Shepton Mallet and Germany (on ERE). She was also the mother of Brigadier Maurice Nugent, a former PM(A).

Nicholson: In Pensioner Jimmy Nicholson, who passed away on Friday 6 May 2022. Jimmy transferred to the MPSC from the REME in 1955 and served in Colchester, Shepton Mallet and Singapore. He retired from the army in 1972 and went on to serve with the Police force locally. Jimmy never lost contact with the MPSC when he retired from the army, he was a proud and staunch supporter of the MPSC Association, and at one stage he was also an Association Trustee and he regularly attended regimental events.

Walker: WO2 JTN Walker MPSC, he transferred from the Queens Regiment in October 1973 and served in Colchester and Northern Ireland and retired in March 1984. He passed away in May 2022.

Charlton: WO2 Leslie Charlton MPSC. He transferred from the Royal Artillery in February 1977. He served in Colchester and he retired in December 1988.

Amey: WO2 Albert G Amey, enlisted into Royal Armoured Corps then transferred to Royal Electrical Mechanical Engineers. Transferred to Military Provost Staff Corps in 1961. Served in Colchester, Singapore and Aden. He retired in April 1975 and died in July 2021.

Todd: WO2 Paul Todd. Paul transferred from the Royal Corps of Transport to the Military Provost Staff in 1993. Paul Served in Colchester, the Falkland Islands and the Army Training Regiment in Winchester. He retired in 2006.

Livingstone: Major Derry Livingstone, Royal Highland Fusiliers. Major Derry served with the MPSC in Shepton Mallet and was Commandant at 77 Military Prison and Detention Barracks in Singapore. He was a Royal Highland Fusilier who later served at the Military Corrective Training Centre in Colchester as a Company Commander and on retirement became the Garrison Adjutant. A very keen Garrison Beagler for many years. Although he retired in 1974 he always maintained close links with the MPSC.

Watling: Sergeant Eddie Watling. Eddie transferred from The Royal Anglian Regiment in March 1990. Eddie served in Colchester and retired in February 1996.

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