



101 (City Of London) Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) Regimental Association



December '12 NEWSLETTER

publicity@101erra.org

The Chairman's Christmas Message 2012...

It's been a funny old year! I was supposed to retire from work in August and retire from TA! I managed to retire from TA after 32 years and part retire from work after 39 ½ years! I am now busier than ever doing STUFF most days so my five day weekends are packed.

One extra duty I picked up in my retirement thanks to Jem Blades was the chairmanship of our Regimental Association – not that I feel this to be a hardship! I spent a number of years with the Regiment as have so many others of you. For that reason I have a great interest in its future and keeping contact with past colleagues and a great many friends is part of that. This is where the Association plays such an important role to past, present and future members of 101 Regiment by providing a communication route.

2012 has seen a great deal of work going on within the Association both in view and behind the scenes! Long committee meetings at the Union Jack Club discussing how we can improve the service we provide for you our members with the odd pint or two to help matters along! details of which will be forthcoming on our Association website in the near future. A successful dinner at 579 at Tunbridge Wells by kind permission of Martin Heffer OC and our thanks to Nigel for organising the evening.

As 2012 comes to an end – 101 Regt Association looks forward to the future and 2013. Our membership is on the rise, the website growing and more plans in the making for a busier year ahead. Without harping on I would ask all our members to keep up to date with what is going on with our Association – log on to the website for events, information and the gallery! If you have anything to offer then our webmaster will be more than happy to take contributions for consideration!

To all our members – may I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a great New Year for 2013.

Phil Webb, Chairman.



Membership Subs are due 1st Jan 2013.

Please send/confirm your 2013 subscription to the Membership Secretary, Graham Plumridge.

graham101plumridge@hotmail.co.uk

Confirmed Forthcoming Events

Saturday 19th January 2013 – New Year Beer Bimble – Starting point Wetherspoons, London Victoria Station between 08:30 and 09:00hrs contact graham101plumridge@hotmail.co.uk

Derbyshire High Peak – “Off-Piste” Aircraft Wreck Hill Walking (and drinking) weekend – March 30th/31st 2013 – contact Brian Green.

Proposed Future Events

Greenwich Naval College and Mean Time Brewery visit – TBA – contact Graham Plumridge

Black Cat Ball and Fundraiser 2013 – TBA – watch newsletter for details.

101 ERRA 2013 Battlefield Tour – TBA – watch newsletter for details.

Newnham Memorial Dedication 9th December 2012

A dedication service for a memorial plaque in memory of 6 Sappers killed at Crown Lane, Newnham during WW2 took place on Sunday 9th December. Present at the service were members from 101 ERRA, REBDOC the BD Branch REA and representing 33, 101 Engr Regt's was SSM WO2 Nick Kennedy 58 Fd Sqn.

Their story: Crown Lane, Nately Scures, Nr Hook, Hant's August 18th 1940 10.30am On the morning of August 18th 1940, a detachment of soldiers from the 6th section of the 48th Bomb Disposal Company Royal Engineers were called to an incident near Hook railway station to de-fuse an unexploded bomb that had fallen overnight. The bomb had fallen into a brickyard adjacent to the track in Crown Lane, approximately a mile from the station. The bomb had to be de-fused due to its location and threat to the main line. Due to the amount of time that had passed since the bomb had come down the young Engineers knew they were in grave danger but they pressed on regardless. They began to dig down to the bomb which had penetrated deep into the ground, while excavating the bomb exploded killing 6 and severely injuring their NCO Lance Sergeant Button who was thrown a considerable distance by the blast. For his action's that day Lance Sergeant Button was awarded the Empire Medal. The dead soldiers were later interred at Aldershot Military Cemetery, their names and ages were:

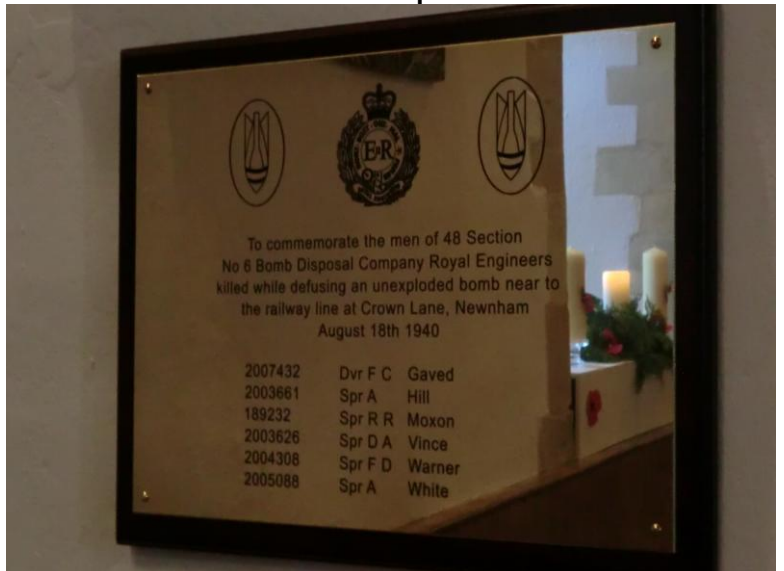
- Dvr Fred Gavid 22yrs
- Spr Arthur Hill 20yrs
- Spr Ralph Moxon 21yrs
- Spr Douglas Vince 23yrs
- Spr Fred Warner 23yrs
- Spr Arthur White 23yrs

A wreath was laid on behalf of 101 ERRA at the church alter during the service, it was later moved to stand beneath the plaque.

We must give a special mention to Jeff Ford, without Jeff's hard work and perseverance this event may not have taken place. We were made to feel very welcome at his beautiful church; light refreshment's were laid on for us after the service.



The Plaque



Committee Members

- Honorary President – Colonel Aidan Smyth QVRM TD RE (V)
- Chairman – Major Phil Webb TD RE (V)
- Honorary Secretary - Mr Nigel Clark
- Treasurer - Mr Dave Inman
- Membership Secretary – Mr Graham Plumridge
- Publicity Member – Mr Brian Green
- Non Serving Member – Mr Roy Holland
- Non Serving Member – Mr Dave Smith

Association/Regimental Accoutrements



101 (EOD) RE Regimental Tie £13.00



101 (EOD) Regt RE Association Pin £3.00

Contact graham101plumridge@hotmail.co.uk