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Patron: Air Vice Marshall Ranald Munro CBE TD VR DL
Dutch Patron: Dr Robert Voskuil
Padre: The Reverend Brian McAvoy MBE MA RAF (retd)

Newsletter, June 2020



© Amanda Howe

At the going down of the sun - we will remember them

Strange days indeed. Amanda Howe's image above perhaps tells a story of our time? The sun will always set, and the Memorial will always stand, whatever is happening in our very transient world.

I thought that it is also time for a change in our newsletter. So, for this edition, rather than my ramblings, I have asked for articles from a number of contributors from quite different but interesting perspectives. I would like to continue this format in future - so if anyone would like to contribute, please get in touch.

I will at the end, give you an update of recent events and forthcoming initiatives.

Before I hand over to my friends who have been kind enough to send me the following stories, I have the painful task to report too much sad news.

*Please take a couple of quiet moments to reflect and remember those
who are no longer with us*

So many of you knew the 'Big Man', Lee Crichton. Lee and his great friend, Rich Greasley, some three years ago, started a Face Book group they called The Pegasus Appreciation Group (PAG).



Rich, Sharina, Sue and Lee at the unveiling

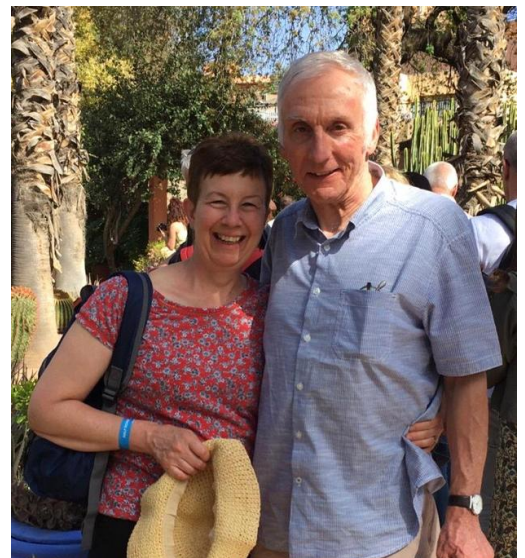
What their targets were at that time, I have no idea, but the idea to raise money for Airborne charities and comrades in dire need soon snowballed, I think, beyond any expectations. I believe that now, PAG has raised getting on for £200,000!

Lee and Rich gave FOTT our first major donation of £5,000 and ultimately followed that up with another £20,000 or more! I'm told that Lee considered FOTT to be 'his' charity. We are indebted by Lee's generosity and like you all, devastated by his early demise. I am pleased to report that Rich has commissioned a beautiful bench in Lee's memory, and it will shortly be installed next to our Memorial Garden at Burrough.

RIP Lee

When we formed FOTT, one of the first to show an interest and to offer help, was Keith Hamilton from Somerby. At first, I don't think we realised how lucky we were to have an architect with such specialist knowledge of ecclesiastical and historic buildings. Keith soon became an indispensable member of our team, he advised on types of stone, carving and lettering; next to Keith we really were a bunch of philistines! He gave his expertise freely and subsequently carried through, not one, but two planning applications. I didn't realise that he was such a fit and keen cyclist until I started to meet him at the Memorial, when he would swoop in on his road racer. But my abiding memory will be his calm, quiet manner and his modesty. His untimely passing is not only a tragedy for Karen and his family but a huge loss for FOTT'

RIP Keith



Karen & Keith

Lastly, we heard recently that 'Pete' Watkins (97), who we featured in our last newsletter, has tragically succumbed to the virus. Pte Alfred Milsom 'Pete' Watkins 3976895 was a one-time member of The 10th Battalion and a WW2 Veteran. Unfortunately, we have very little information about Pete's time in the Battalion, other than knowing he was injured during a Parachute Training Course with the Battalion at Kabrit in February 1943. We pay tribute to his time in the Battalion and with the Regiment, but most importantly, his service during WW2. Our flags will remain at half-mast for his funeral.

RIP Pete



Our first article is from Derek Chambers, who as you know created 'The Last Stand of The Tenth' which is now exhibited in the IWM Airborne Museum, Duxford:

My father was an old soldier. I was still a child when he left the Army and he didn't talk to me much about his wartime experiences - perhaps they were too recent - but when my twin sons, Peter and John, were growing up, he liked to share some of his stories with them. They were proud of their Grandad and he was proud of them, especially so when John joined the Territorial 10 Para. and when Peter joined the Foreign Legion 2 Rep.



The Hammer

They kept up their connection with their regiments, attending events and supporting projects, keeping me involved on the side-lines. Like any dad, I take a keen interest in their activities and they are kind enough to take an interest in mine.

One result of this was that in 2008 I was asked to do a painting for 2 Para, recording an engagement in Afghanistan ('The Hammer' Scaramanger AO, Helmand Province). This was new territory for me in more ways than one - I painted portraits and landscapes, not war pictures.

Learning as I went along, and pleased to be supporting the Regiment, I completed the picture. Three years later I was asked by Colonel Andy Harrison if I would do a life-size portrait of Richard Holmes, the war historian. This now hangs in the Defence Academy in Wiltshire.



Richard Holmes

In 2018 I had a phone-call from my son John - a Lt. Col. Duncan Mann, of 2Para, Colchester Barracks, was asking; 'Would I be interested in depicting a Second World War battle in Tunisia?' This ended up as a 5 x 6-foot oil painting of 'The Battle of Tamera', marking the 75th anniversary of the battle. Now hanging in the Officers Mess 2Para, Colchester.



The Battle of Tamera

It was at about this time that Pete, having settled down to family life in Sudbury, was out in the High Street there with John, collecting for Friends of the 10th. They got talking about the Afghan painting and about the one I was then working on. They were aware that the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Arnhem was coming up and that the Friends of the 10th would have a big part to play in the commemoration - organising events, rallying support, raising funds. Later Pete spoke to Terry Lowe, who is on the Committee of the Friends and suggested: 'I could ask my Dad to do a painting to fund-raise for Arnhem.' I got a call that same day: 'Dad, could you do a little watercolour?' 'Of course,' I said. My knowledge of Arnhem at that point was limited to having seen *A Bridge Too Far*. I had no idea what lay ahead of me. Then Grahame Warner, historian of the 10th, got in touch and put me on a fast learning curve.

There are plenty of written records of the Battle of Arnhem including formal reports and personal memories, but there are very few visual records. The bloody, brutal, fast-moving encounter between the thousands of incoming British troops and the occupying German Army took place on and around the Rhine bridges in Arnhem and nearby Oosterbeek. It was over in nine days. 1,485 British and Polish troops died, 6,525 were taken prisoner and only a handful returned home. The Dutch population, sheltering in their cellars and hideouts from the deadly storm of bullets, had gone from their initial joyful welcome of the liberating army to nursing the wounded and burying the dead. It was not a time for taking photographs or making films.

Afterwards, surviving soldiers were reluctant to go back to Holland. They felt they had let down the Dutch by their failure to capture the bridges and to halt the German advance.

However, a handful were persuaded to return in 1946 and to re-enact some aspects of the battle for the film, *Theirs is the Glory*. This film gives some vivid insights. But however you approach it, the whole episode, although brief, is crowded with imagery, emotion, memory.

I needed a focus point, something I could put down on canvas. So, I went to Oosterbeek, met Dr Robert Voskuil who showed us many of the battle sites, we looked round the splendid museum and visited the cemetery where every year the Dutch express their enduring gratitude for the sacrifice made by the British and Polish troops.

I began to understand that the painting could not be an overview of such a battle. It had to be a close-up. Of the many desperate and dramatic moments that are on record, I chose *The Last Stand*. On the afternoon of Wednesday, 20th September, having already lost over four hundred and fifty of his men, killed, wounded or taken prisoner, Commanding Officer Lt Col Kenneth Smyth, who was himself already wounded, together with the remnants of his Battalion, was tasked to defend the eastern side of the Divisional defensive perimeter at Oosterbeek. By now, the Battalion was reduced to just a handful of Officers and fifty-eight NCO's and other ranks as a cohesive fighting unit. Another forty 10th Battalion men were dispersed fighting with other units.

The painting depicts a scene from inside one of the houses defended by the main core of the remaining Battalion, situated astride the road junction formed by Utrechtsweg and Annastraat, an isolated and very exposed position located some two hundred metres ahead of the main 1st Airborne Divisional perimeter. With only small arms, mines, PIATS and mortars with which to defend the junction, and in the face of overwhelming enemy opposition and armour, the Battalion successfully defended this position for a further three days, fighting from house to house as the buildings were systematically destroyed and their numbers reduced.

On the 23rd September, with all their Officers now either dead or wounded, the remaining thirty-odd men holding this position were relieved and withdrawn into the Perimeter joining other mixed Airborne units fighting nearby.

I set myself the challenge of recreating a moment in those three days. I had seen the house and the reconstructed bomb damage in the museum at Oosterbeek. As images began to take shape in my head, I needed more detail of uniform and equipment.



My son John has a good friend, Spike, who he served with in 10 Para and who collects old uniforms and weapons. I spent a day with Spike and his son and one of his friends, Charlie, both regulars in the Parachute Regiment. In the front room of his terraced house in Southend I got them to adopt various positions - wounded, dying, resting, fighting - while I sketched and took photographs.

Then began six months of drafting and drawing, putting the skeleton of the painting together, tentatively getting paint onto board, always aware of a powerful feeling of inadequacy as I tried to convey something of the reality of the moment and the courage and endurance of the beleaguered soldiers.



I will never be satisfied with it. The task was impossible. But 10th Battalion Veteran, Victor Gregg, who was stationed about 400 yards from the action shown in the painting, was generous enough to say it was 'as good as anything he had seen'. This is the best compliment I could ever hope to get.

Our next contribution comes from Anna Baker-Cresswell, founder and CEO of the horticultural charity, HighGround:

When Tim Hall-Wilson contacted me early in 2019 to explain about FOTT and ask if HighGround would like to be involved, my instinctive reaction was Yes Definitely! It wasn't until Alec asked me to write something for this newsletter that I stopped to ask myself why I said yes.

There are many layers of yes, which probably start with the fact that FOTT's Mission is so simple and as the founder of businesses and now a military charity, I understand about the power of the message, and the importance of taking people with you.

To create a place where people can remember which will also teach future generations about courage, sacrifice, and freedom is a fine ambition and I have nothing but admiration for those who have executed the vision and brought the memorial in Leicestershire to life.



Jane and a patient planting herbs at Stanford Hall

The next reason I said yes is because of HighGround's work at DMRC Stanford Hall where we deliver the Horticultural Therapy service for injured serving personnel from all three services as part of their rehabilitation.

Some of our patients are serving in the Parachute Regiment, and the relevance to them of knowing that plants they have grown and nurtured have found their way to the 10th Battalion Memorial garden really struck a chord with me.

I didn't need another reason to say yes, but there are definite parallels between the young, fit individuals at the Get Busy Living Centre (adjacent to the 10th Battalion Memorial) inspired by the peerless Matt Hampson, and our patients at Stanford Hall. Injury was never part of their game plans but working to overcome it most definitely is.



Andy Wright at the Memorial

When Tim and Alec visited Stanford Hall last Spring to discuss how our respective charities could help each other, it soon became apparent that by helping to maintain the landscape around the memorial, HighGround would be making a meaningful contribution to FOTT and the fact that our patients could get involved made it a complete no-brainer.

However, none of this would be possible without Andy, our Therapeutic Gardens Manager! Andy is a professional horticulturalist and landscaper who left his home county of Surrey to move to Leicestershire and make the role of Therapeutic Gardens Manager his own, having started as a Volunteer for HighGround when we were at Headley Court.

Andy's horticultural knowledge, impeccably high standards and polite persistence have meant that the Horticultural Therapy service at Stanford Hall is now fully operational and he brings all these attributes to the work he does at the 10th Battalion Memorial garden.

When I first started the pilot at Headley Court in 2014 to test the benefits of Horticultural Therapy as a rehab intervention, the idea of ‘persuading’ serving personnel (mostly men) to do things in the garden was viewed with deep suspicion by clinicians more accustomed to treatment rooms and outcomes. However, with perseverance and, like Alec and Tim and the FOTT team, a deep-seated belief in the Mission, it now seems that being outdoors with meaningful activity in a safe, peaceful environment (the skill of our Horticultural Therapist Jane) heals both body and mind.

The words of the much missed Colonel Clive Fairweather who, on hearing of my plan to see if the military in the UK were ready for Horticultural Therapy said, “You can achieve a lot in life if you’re prepared not to take the credit” are never far from my mind...

Both Andy and I were hugely proud to be present on 7th September when the Memorial was unveiled, and I know that my Chairman and Trustees are also very proud to be involved as FOTT’s vision for the next chapter of the Memorial becomes a reality.

Anna Baker Cresswell.
www.highground-uk.org



Allan Esler Smith, the nephew of Brian Desmond Hurst, the Director of ‘Theirs is the Glory’ has written this fascinating insight from the perspective of the 10th Battalion:

75th Anniversary of filming Theirs is the Glory – The Men of the Tenth

13847	Sgt	BATEMAN. Jack	10 Para Bn, A- Coy, 4 Platoon	RAR NISSEN HUT 10
6913223	Pte	ETHERIDGE. Albert Edward	10 Para Bn, B-Coy.	RAR. Adv Party
6395879	Sgt	FREEMAN, George	10, Para Bn. D-Coy, 16 Platoon	WIA/POW
3128064	Sgt	MOROHAN. William James	10 Para Bn. D-Coy, 16 Platoon	RAR. Later to 2 Para Bn
6397837	Cpl	MATTHEWS. William	10 Para Bn. B-Coy	Esc/Peg I. Later to 2 Para Bn
3248635	Cpl	WILKINSON. John Robert	10 Para Bn. D-Coy	Esc/Peg I. Later to 2 Para Bn
14374177	Pte	GRAY. Arthur Branson	10 Para Bn. Sigs Platoon	POW
7893723	Pte	DIMMOCK. Gerry	10 Para Bn. HQ MT Platoon	RAR
2929873	Pte	KIRKHAM. William Kenneth	10 Para Bn. D-Coy, 16 Platoon	Esc/Peg I. Later to 2 Para Bn
6399403	Pte	DEAN. William Thomas	10 Para Bn.	RAR. Later to 2 Para Bn
6344345	Sgt	HUGHES. Owen George	10 Para Bn. B-Coy, 11 Platoon	WIA/RAR. Later to 2 Para Bn
6286415	Pte	WRIGHT. Horace Edward	10 Para Bn. A-Coy	POW
2615937	L/Cpl	MERCER. Peter Robert	10 Para Bn. D-Coy	WIA/Esc Peg I
5106380	Pte	FIRKINS. Arthur Henry	10 Para Bn.	WIA/RAR?

WIA Wounded in Action
 POW Prisoner of War
 RAR Returned Across the River

When we published '*Theirs is the Glory. Arnhem Hurst and Conflict on Film*' in September 2016 we had identified that men of the 10th made up 9 of the 120 or so veterans who returned to Arnhem 75 years ago in the Summer of 1945 to tell the story of their battle. You just can't imagine how difficult it would have been to return a year later in 1945 to the scene of a defeat in battle and remake a film there. In breaks the soldiers would identify field graves where they had buried their comrades and the stench of death filled their nostrils again but as soldiers, they got on with it.

Further research over the last four years and assisted significantly by the work of Bob Hilton, formerly of Airborne Assault Museum, has extended the list to 14 as above (with the addition of Dean, Hughes, Wright, Mercer and Firkins). Working with Alec Wilson we thought the 75th anniversary of the filming would be a good timing for this article.

I co-authored the book and I am the nephew of the film's Director, Ulsterman Brian Desmond Hurst who is better known for his classics *Scrooge* and *Tom Browns Schooldays*. But *Theirs is the Glory* was his favorite film as he had been a soldier in the First World War fighting in a bayonet charge at Chunuk Bair in Gallipoli. His battalion was virtually wiped out. Overall my Uncle made ten war and conflict films including *Dangerous Moonlight* and *Malta Story* and each of the ten films are profiled in a VE day article written last month which you can view on this link below:

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/my-book-propaganda-conflict-war-messaging-one-uk-film-esler-smith/>

The link has many rare clips and the documentaries I've made over the last decade and, importantly, it provides a link to watch *Theirs is the Glory* again and even a link to the 2012 Arnhem battlefield walk based on *Theirs is the Glory*. Each time you watch *Theirs is the Glory* you notice a new piece of detail and appreciate the importance of the veterans' film as a piece of history. I'd urge everyone to share their knowledge of the film with families and friends to help remember the men of Arnhem. Please always remember the closing line of the opening credit on the film:

"This film is a tribute to everyman who fought at Arnhem and an everlasting memorial to those who gave their lives."

THEIRS IS THE GLORY – FILM FACTS



Theirs is the Glory (1946) was the BIGGEST GROSSING WAR FILM in the UK for a decade and here are 10 facts as to why this is the greatest UK war film as an "everlasting memorial to those who gave their lives".

1. The right cast. Not an actor in sight- every person you see is part of the 1st Airborne or a civilian of Arnhem/Oosterbeek. Let no one criticise any acting of these veterans and civilians telling us their brave story.

2. The right director, became a protege of John Ford in Hollywood. He knew war and film and how to work with the soldiers (and as a protégé of John Ford in Hollywood he knew how to film conflict).

3. The right script. Hurst didn't like the original script and had it 'overseen/overwritten' by senior Arnhem veteran officers Major's Hibbert, Gough and Wilson (who will be well known and respected

by any Arnhem scholar) and one of his film proteges and future Bond director Terence Young. Most of the script ideas were put forward by the veterans themselves.

4. The right location. Back on the streets and fields of Arnhem and Oosterbeek. No easy task as many buildings were still mined and the troops identified the field graves of their comrades during breaks in filming.

5. The right time- released on the second anniversary of the drop/landing 17 September 1946.

6. The right support. The Joint Presidents of the film launch committee were (then) Admiral The Lord Louis Mountbatten, Field Marshal Montgomery and Lt General Browning.

7. The Royal Premier. The King Commanded a private screening at Balmoral. Queen Mary attended a screening in Kilburn.

8. The Prime Minister attended the London Premier.

9. It raised funds for the veterans and their Airborne Forces Security Fund.

10. The veterans and cast took no credits before or after the film. The focus is underlined at the start of the film in a rolling credit line, a "Tribute to every man who fought at Arnhem and an everlasting memorial to those who gave their lives".

THE MEN OF THE TENTH

Hurst selected fellow Ulsterman, **Sgt Jack Bateman** of the 10th Battalion for one of the key roles in the film. You will spot him early on as he is the Sergeant in charge of the Nissen hut ten. Symbolism is important throughout the film and the ten represent the 10,000 of the 1st Airborne and the fact that only two return to the hut at the end of the film represents the 2,000 (approximately) that returned across the river. Jack Bateman is there throughout the film as an anchor-point. He is at the front in the briefing room, in the Dakota reading his News of the World, he has to drop his mess tin of food and go and fight again and reassures his men during battle. He holds his dying comrade in his arms and receives some words to pass to the man's mother. He is the Sergeant that every soldier would want alongside him in battle.

Jack Bateman was 30 years old when he fought at Arnhem and was considered one of the 'old hands'. He had considerable battle experience having served in the Royal Ulster Rifles and had fought in North Africa.



Jack Bateman

Before joining the army, he was a fitter at the same Belfast shipyard that my Uncle Brian Desmond Hurst had visited as a child when taking lunch to his father and brothers. Jack's family remember him talking about his platoon taking heavy casualties and that he had hidden with a local family after the battle and then swam the Rhine to safety.

Jack was platoon sergeant in No.4 Platoon, A Company, 10th Battalion. His colleague Sergeant Harry Houghton who I was fortunate to speak with was platoon sergeant of No. 3 Platoon, also in A Company, remembered Jack as a very resourceful man but that their respective platoons didn't meet on the ground during the battle. Harry believes that Jack was in Major Anson's aircraft that was possibly hit by flak. Harry remembers seeing the premier of

Theirs in the Glory in Liverpool and being delighted to see Jack Bateman in his starring role and realising, for the first time that his mate had survived.



Gerry remembers some 68 years later

Private Gerald ‘Gerry’ Dimmock served in the Motor Transport Platoon and in the latter stages of the battle he told me that he used his jeep with improvised stretchers made from doors to convey wounded men to the Tafelberg Hotel or if more seriously injured to the St. Elizabeth Hospital in Arnhem. The photo above shows Gerry as guest of honour at the 2012 Arnhem battlefield walk. As a former ‘tankie’ Gerry explained that he was called upon to help with some of the scenes featuring German tanks and he features in close up in the film towards the end when the soldiers are fighting from dug-in positions as shown right.



Gerry Dimmock



Sergeant George Freeman (second right) served in No16 Platoon of D Company and was wounded before being taken prisoner at the end of the battle.

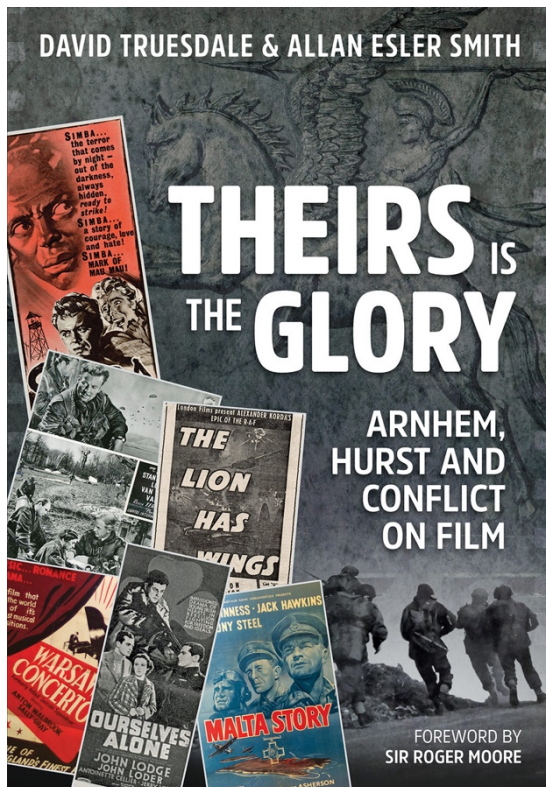
Private A.B. Gray, No14374177, was taken prisoner after the battle and sent to Camp IVB,

Corporal W. Matthews served in B Company and became an evader after the battle and escaped on Operation Pegasus.

Sergeant W.J. Morohan served in No16 Platoon D Company and was evacuated across the Rhine at the end of the battle.

Corporal J.R. Wilkinson served in B Company and was taken prisoner after the battle; he later served with the 2nd Battalion. Joe Wilkinson came from St James Street in Doncaster and was a former employee of British Ropes Limited. Corporal Wilkinson spent five weeks behind the German lines after the battle. Reported as missing he had joined a band of comrades who had been cut off and with whom he had made contact with the Dutch underground. Modestly when interviewed by the *Yorkshire Evening News* in September 1946 about his role in the movie he dismissed his exploits with the comment "We did a little sabotage." In the film a shot shows Corporal Wilkinson charging across a road, PIAT projector in hand, to do battle with an approaching German tank.

Private Kenneth W. 'Ken' Kirkham served in No16 Platoon D Company of the 10th Battalion.



I would be interested to hear from relatives of the fourteen men to sketch in more detail of their time at Arnhem and if they have any details of the time the men spent making *Theirs is the Glory*.

Theirs is the Glory. Arnhem, Hurst and Conflict on Film can be bought via the details below.

To purchase a copy of the book just PayPal £20 (UK) or £27 (Europe, the £7 is for the extra postage) to allan.e.smith@btinternet.com with your address. It's nearly 400 pages, 350 images and hardback- publisher Helion. You can also contact me at that email address.

Allan Esler Smith

To Conclude

Well, I hope that you have enjoyed reading these three excellent articles – all from very different perspectives. I hope I can find more such first-class contributors in future – I much prefer editor to writer!

September Commemorations

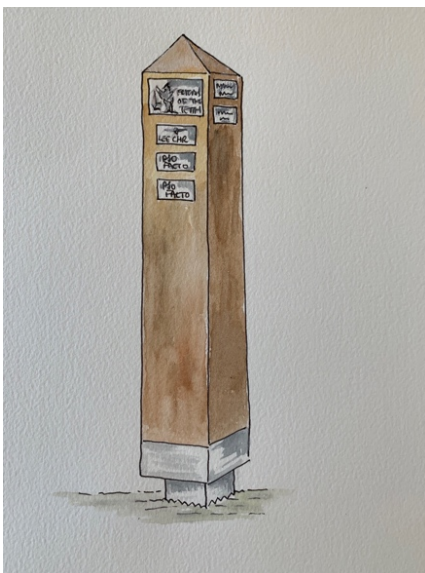
I'm sure you will understand that we cannot make any decisions nor offer any information about this coming September. We did have some very exciting plans for here in Leicestershire but now all are on hold.

We still don't have the full details of the plans over in the Netherlands, but I understand most of the major events will be cancelled, including the Ginkel Heath parachute drop and air-show, or drastically modified / reduced.

***However, we are still working hard on various initiatives and projects
which I hope you will find of interest***

***The oak marker to remember the 'Friends of Friends of The Tenth'
and 'Our Boys' Pathway'***

It occurred to us that we should have a tangible memorial to remember and respect those very special people who have been instrumental in helping us achieve our mission and sadly are no longer with us. It is distressing to know that we already have 3 names to remember, Nick Lucy, Lee Crichton and Keith Hamilton.



Many of you responded and were extremely generous in providing the funds to build and install this important yet simple memorial post. In just a few days the money had been raised. A big thank you to all of you who donated. I hope that you were pleased with your 'golden cockerels'.

We will be installing this marker in the Memorial Garden very soon.

At the same time, we will be also installing, Lee Crichton's bench, the two stone 'Dakota' benches and the unveiling information stone. Most importantly the replacement for the damaged sculpture is also ready and will be installed soon.

This will complete the 'hard' structures and will bring everything together to further enhance our beautiful garden.

We do, however, have another project in the pipeline which will be a stunning and poignant addition. Soon we will be able to offer to families and sponsors the opportunity to donate to provide a carved stone tile which will become part of 'Our Boys' Pathway'. We hope that, eventually, we will have a tile in the Memorial garden elliptical path for every member of the Battalion. I'm sure you will have seen other, similar initiatives for veterans of other units and campaigns



An example of the proposed paving - different project

FOTT Film Productions

We will have the following films in our website shop. They are available as either a download, DVD or USB memory stick. Follow this link to order <https://friendsofthetenth.co.uk/shop/>

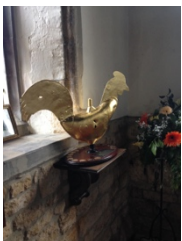


Remembering The Tenth

The hour-long film tells the story of the Memorial, the unveiling and includes an exclusive and riveting interview with 10th Bn Veteran, Victor Gregg, as well as a memorable introduction by Pam Henry-Lamm, the widow of Captain Myles Henry KIA. It includes IWM footage from Market Garden. Brilliantly and professionally made and directed by Thomas Hallifax and his fellow students at Brooksby-Melton Media College. A must see of that very special day last September.

Albert Willingham: Hero from England

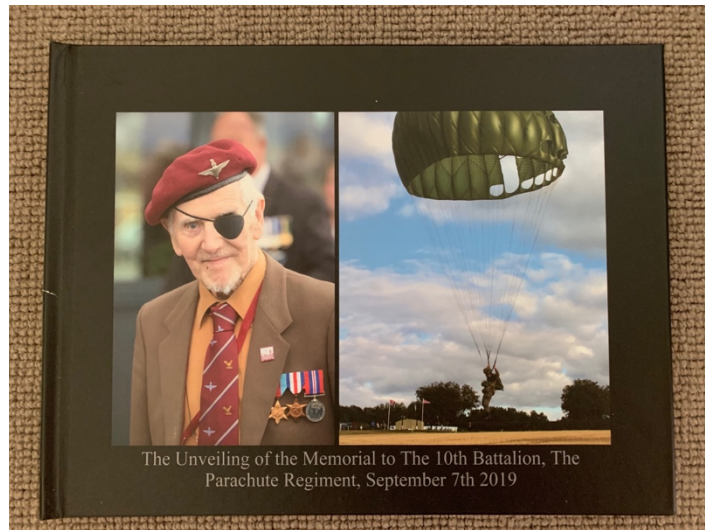
This beautiful, poignant, short film was professionally made in the Netherlands and features Dr Robert Voskuil and Jelle Vos (our Dutch mascot and poster boy) with some of his school friends, telling the story of the infamous cellar at number 2 Annastraat and Albert's ultimate sacrifice. A perfect film to gently introduce children to the history.



The 70th Somerby Commemoration

An hour-long film made in 2014 which follows the weekend in Somerby and the presentation of the Somerby Cockerel to the Bishop of Leicester (on behalf of All Saints, Somerby) by 10th Bn Veteran, Gerry Dimmock.

The unveiling photo album



In our website shop is the photo album of the unveiling last September. This A4 high quality, hard cover, book has 58 pages of more than 150 colour images by our brilliant photographer, Arjan Vrieze. It comes in a presentation box. A lovely memento of an amazing day. Follow this link to buy a copy - <https://friendsofthetenth.co.uk/product/remembering-the-tenth/>

I quote our President – Jennifer, Lady Gretton;

"The most wonderful memento of a memorable day has just arrived! I think it is done most beautifully with some lovely photos and what a wonderful reminder of a very special occasion. All the heartache and worry during the preparation came to a wonderful conclusion on the 7th September."

This will bring back so many happy memories for so many people and I know that everyone will say that it has certainly been worth waiting for!"

The Last Stand of The Tenth



I hope that having read Derek Chamber's article above, those of you who do not have a print of 'The Last Stand' may want to buy one. We have 3 versions for sale in our website shop. Please see 'Merchandise' below.

MERCHANDISE

Please visit our website shop where we have for sale, T shirts, ties and bowties, badges and prints. Also of course, the films and photo album featured above.

To buy, visit - <https://friendsofthetenth.co.uk/shop/>



The Somerby Cockerel is a limited edition (75) hand-made, gold-plated and hall-marked, solid sterling silver pin badge.

We also have the 'Unveiling Package' for sale at only £10 which includes the souvenir brochure, order of service, two badges and windscreen sticker (total value £18!).

Past & present Newsletters

Thanks to our great supporters at Reach Marketing, we have a new facility on our website. You can now read, in book 'turning page' format, this and previous newsletters.

Follow this link - <https://friendsofthetenth.co.uk/newsletters/>

REQUESTS

PLEASE? If you know anyone who does not 'do' emails and you think would like a copy of this newsletter, would you kindly print a hard copy and forward or post it to them?
Alternatively, contact me and I will post a hard copy to anyone unable to download this.

Should anyone wish to help in any way whatsoever, I would be delighted to speak with you. There is much more information on our website and social media pages:

www.friendsofthetenth.co.uk
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/friendsofthetenth/>



***An easy way to access our website is to use
your mobile phone to scan this barcode***

As I said earlier, if anyone would like to contribute to this magazine, I will be delighted to hear from you. Any material must be relevant to the WW2 10th Battalion or our current work to keep the legacy of the Battalion alive. We also reserve editorial rights.

You can contact me at:

alec@friendsofthetenth.co.uk

Alec Wilson
June 2020