



# The NetWorker

**Newsletter of the Pen & Sword Club  
Issue No: 7, January 2010**

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## Farewell to two friends and colleagues

The last year brought unwelcome news for The Pen & Sword Club. Major Roger Hudson died suddenly at his home in France and later Colonel Donald Campbell, who fought long and hard, in typical style, against his illness, passed away.

The Club was represented at Roger's funeral in France by Major Richard Huxley, who now lives in Savins, France. The Memorial Service for Donald was well attended by former and serving colleagues of Media Operations.

Our thoughts and condolences go to both Liz and Jane in their loss. We hope to see them, together with Cath Gillies, at our annual dinner in July where we can express our appreciation for the work and comradeship of Nigel, Donald and Roger over the years.



*Donald Campbell as few of us saw him. Pictured on horseback while on an illegal immigrant patrol of the Hong Kong/China Border in the early 1980s.*

*The photo was rescued from a skip by Director of Public Relations Roger Goodwin when he closed down the Joint Services PR Section in Hong Kong.*



Always a smile: Roger Hudson, will be remembered for his “chocolate brown” radio voice. For many years he was one of the best known and most popular journalists of British Forces Broadcasting around the world.

## What no Newsletter?

Colonel Mike Peters, National Chairman and Editor apologises for the long gap since the last issue of *The Networker*. For many, good, reasons production was postponed on a number of occasions but he now hopes to get back to a more regular schedule.

Says Mike: *The Networker* takes time to put together so I ask all those who have promised contributions of various kinds to sit down and put pen to paper or, preferably, sit at the keyboard and get tapping. Photographs old and new are much welcomed.

There is great interest in seeing any pictures of our British Army of the Rhine days.

*A reminder too that the Club has a small group at its centre which works hard to make events happens. In future it would be appreciated if members make a nil return if they cannot attend any event, or if the function is not of interest. With few exceptions all members have an e-mail address. Please take the small amount of time to send us a reply or, more importantly, express an opinion on suggested events.*

*Several events were mooted last year including a battlefield tour; a trip to Gibraltar to study Operation Phoenix and the newly discovered stay-behind tunnels, and a visit to Le Mans which would have incorporated a look at the Break Out Battles in Normandy of 1944.*

*None of these events happened because numbers were too low. But at the last moment we did get members asking if they could take a place. Tell us early and make a commitment – we could be doing more than we are!*

## The year went well.

Nevertheless the year's events went well. There was a consistent turn out for the RAG lunches; the Cenotaph Parade in November – which we will attend again this year – and for the Christmas get together in The Army & Navy Club.

Due to the impending General Election the club's annual dinner in the House of Commons has been re-arranged to the later date of July 17. So far we have over 30 takers. Check your diary and see if you can make it.

During 2009 I was pleased to represent the club at Media Operations Group (V) functions.

The dinner in Central London was impressive for the number of very senior officers and diplomats who attended.

## First MOG (V) Lady Commanding Officer.

Media Operations Group (V) gets a new Commanding Officer in September this year when Lieutenant Colonel Rose (Rosie) Stone takes over.

Says Rosie: I began my military career with Queen's University OTC, Belfast, at a time when big shoulders and electric music were the in thing. Showing a clear aptitude for 'Mess' games and shooting, it was inevitable that I attended the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, and was commissioned into the Women's Royal Army Corps in August 1990.



Rosie's first posting was to a Gunner Regiment in Germany but her excitement was short lived as the unit immediately packed up its guns and promptly shipped her straight back to Northern Ireland for a tour of duty. Despite this set back to her plans for traveling the world, over the next eight years Rosie managed to train in places as far afield as Bavaria, Borneo, Cyprus, Canada, Bolivia and Hong Kong.

Her Regular Army career, now as a young captain in the Adjutant General's Corps, also included a busy six month tour in Bosnia with the UN and three excellent years running an Army Youth Team in Colchester where she indulged heavily in her love of mountains and became a qualified kayak and archery instructor.

Responsibility soon caught up with her, and after attending the RAO Course at Worthy Down she was, fortunately, posted to the Army Training Regiment Winchester as 2IC B Company for her final two years Short Service Commission. It was at this point that Rosie extended her very basic media skills (a couple of articles for the odd Journal and some media escort duties in Bosnia) to include a full PR campaign for the company that sponsored her swansong mountaineering expedition to Bolivia.

And so it was....armed with a portfolio of radio interviews and various articles (plus a very tacky appearance on some" specky "satellite TV programme about laptop

computers) Rosie completed the MOG (V) selection weekend in October 1997. The memory of being grilled on media crisis management by Spencer Gammond and Paul Beaver will remain with her for a considerable time to come!!

In January 1998 Rosie left the Regular Army and became a civilian for one day before joining the eclectic ranks of the Media Operations Group (V). Doreen Cadwallader welcomed her into the little house at HQ Land Command and over the next 10 years she learned to survive in the fast moving world of media specialisation and made some good friends along the way.

She took up the role of OC C Squadron (Ops Sp & Trg) in 2006 managing the continued development of media production and Combat Camera Teams.

March 2008 saw Rosie move out of MOG(V) to spend just over a year as the 2IC Manchester and Salford University OTC. It was back to the world of students, leadership and adventurous training with more travel to France and South Africa for a tour of the Boer War battlefields!

However, withdrawal symptoms from Media Ops soon set in and Rosie returned to the fold as the SO1 Media Operations at PJHQ. She takes up command of MOG (V) from Tim Purbrick in October 2010.

## Promotion and MBE for Anita

Networker is pleased to report that club member Anita Newcourt has been promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and is now working at HQ Land alongside Colonel Alistair Bruce as SO1 Media and Communications Reserves.

The MBE comes for her work at Heathrow Airport where she is Manager of the Royal Suite and VIP Operation. "I would like to think it's a reflection on my organisational skills in throwing a great party," says Anita.



## MOG (V) Deployments

Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel Tim Purbrick reported in full direct to all club members before the New Year. Today he adds that the unit has five officers and other ranks deployed to Operation Herrick in Afghanistan.

Major Paul Smyth is running the Media Operations Centre at Camp Bastion and Lieutenant Julian Allen is commanding the Combat Camera Team. Three of the officers who volunteered for the Group's Rapid Reaction Reserve flew out in January - Lieutenant Colonel Rosie Stone, Captain James Ogglesby and A/Sergeant Bob Seely.

## Pictures from the Past.

Straight out of the scrap-book. This photo was taken on a TAPIO pool exercise in Wales. Who can say where and when?





*From left to right: Roger Tutt, Penny Studholme, Ian Proud, Anita Newcourt, Donald Campbell, Bob Peedle, Lynda Black and Barry Hawgood.*



Anyone you recognise here?

### **On Land & Water in Wales.**

Wales and The Marches region detachment proved they are equally at home on water and land last year.

*Pictured, below, on the Monmouth Brecon canal for a belated celebration for Regional Chairman, Colonel Bob Purvis are left to right, the "birthday boy" and Majors Doug McArthur, Patrick Morgan and Captain Mike Glynn.*





### Curry Queuing with Brecon's Gurkas.

Our second regional picture, below, shows you're never too old to have your photo taken with pretty girls.

The girls were waylaid just before going into the arena to stage a display of Nepali dancing at the Gurka Company (Mandalay) Durbar at the Infantry Battle School, Brecon.



## *Left to right Pete Griffiths, Doug McArthur, Mike Glynn and Bob Purvis.*

The weather, if not sunny, managed to stay dry, allowing the former TAPIOs the chance to watch the Brigade of Gurkhas' Massed Bands, several demonstrations of martial arts and traditional dancing as well as the opportunity to wander round the many traditional sideshows and stalls.

A highlight was the lunchtime curry in the Sergeants' Mess, and in good form as usual, the queue for the curry was led by the regional members, who were strategically placed at a table near the curry lines.

"We try and meet once or twice a year," said Regional Chairman, Bob Purvis, "so it was icing on the cake to have our meeting at such a convivial military occasion.

## Marching at The Cenotaph.

For the first time members of the Pen & Sword Club took their place at the annual Remembrance Day march past The Cenotaph in Whitehall in November.

On parade were Colonels Mike Peters and Bob Purvis; Lieutenant Colonels Lawrie Phillips, Barry Hawgood and David Falcke, Majors Doreen Cadwallader, Peter Williams John Boyes, Patrick Morgan, Doug McArthur and Pat Morrish.

Initially there was some media interest in our presence at the parade for the first time and although we got a mention from one of the TV commentators and in the national press the hoped for interview did not take place.

Unfortunately Colonel Tony Baldry was unable to join the group at the last moment but we were most pleased to welcome Pat Morrish. Pat's long service in the TA in which he earned the right to wear both Para and Commando berets as a Gunner is recalled alongside his experienced contributions to some BAOR exercises.

John Cadwallader, Ex Royal Signals joined us and in December also attended the Christmas dinner.

It was a stirring occasion and we were all amazed at the public reaction to those who marched. Mike laid a wreath on behalf of the Unit and the club while we were all kept in step to the stentorian tones of Peter Williams – a leading light in Devon's British Legion.

Later the marchers, partners and friends retired to The RAF Club for traditional refreshments.



*Medals galore: David Falcke, left, Doreen Cadwallader and John Boyes, background.*

## **A HELTER SKELTER PHILOSOPHY ON LIFE – FROM TOP TO BOTTOM .... AND DON'T STOP UNTIL THE BOTTOM**

### **IT WAS A HELL OF A RIDE, SAYS BARRY**

I think those around me probably agree that I do live in line with just such a philosophy, writes Lt. Col Barry Hawgood. It sums me up quite well and if I manage to go out of this world thinking, “Wow, fantastic, what a ride.” I will feel my life was really quite fulfilling.

This contribution to The Networker comes just as I retire as, probably, one of the longest serving members in the Armed Forces. The end of my military career brings mixed feelings and memories. And yet I still look forward to the future - with trepidation and excitement - as I think of the adventures of a lifetime I may be facing next year - but more about that later.

If any of you have not read about the successful campaign for immigration rights for Ghurkhas who left the Brigade before 1 July 1997, and Joanna Lumley's involvement, I do wonder where you have been or whether you have been rejecting all forms of communication!

Ghurkhas were my life for several years after September 2002, when a FTRS (Full Time Reserve Service) contract to continue in media operations failed to materialise and instead I was asked to join a newly formed Ghurkha team to fight the legal challenges being brought against the MOD by ex-Ghurkhas. They were disgruntled by what they perceived as discriminatory treatment over their terms and conditions of service including pensions and immigration.

What began as a year's task ended up being seven! Not bad for a TA officer who had been seriously looking at returning to civilian life. But what led to this extended involvement in Ghurkha matters? The ruling from the first Judicial Review in February 2003 was the reason. The ruling cleared and defended the MOD's position on all accounts except one – that Ghurkhas were only allowed one period of three year's married accompanied service during their first 15 years of service if a Sergeant or below. This quite unjust and unreasonable condition of service for Ghurkhas was highlighted as the only area where the Army might be challenged. This led to a review of married accompanied service during the next two years and then, as luck would have it, the then Secretary of State for Defence, Geoff Hoon, in January 2005 decided that as Ghurkhas were to be given greater immigration rights (thanks to a certain Home Secretary the previous October) a wide and comprehensive review of all Ghurkha terms and conditions should be carried out with the aim of bringing them in line with every other serving Army member, whether British or Commonwealth.

So there I was, close to the end of another contract, with potential for a further two years of work to be done. Interestingly, at this juncture I was put under the cosh because my job was up for grabs, and I actually had to compete with others for it. Several eager, recently retired SO1s were keen to take over. I was fortunate. The Board saw sense, in my opinion, and re-appointed me so that I could continue to use the knowledge and experience built up over the past couple of years to benefit the next phase!

The comprehensive review was a massive task. Our team of five developed 21 different work strands, covering everything from pensions, unique leave arrangements to the legal aspects of change, and conducting surveys and opinion polls to assess the impact of change. It meant involving just about every other Government department, particularly the HRMC and Treasury; because Ghurkhas did not pay tax or make NIC contributions before 1 July 1997 (it was the night before in Hong Kong when several of our Media Ops Group members witnessed the closure of Hong Kong in Hong Kong).

The outcome announced by the US of S in March 2007, brought Ghurkhas into line with everyone else, except that we did recognise their unique position as Nepalese citizens by ensuring they were able to continue to serve as Ghurkhas within a ring-fenced Brigade



which would continue to only allow Nepalese citizens to join provided they had gone through the selection and recruitment process in Nepal.

A review that recommended changes was of course not the end of the story. To get all our recommendations in place needed an organisation to implement them. And I guess that is what I did – working with the Director of Manning (Army)'s organisation to bring the 60-odd recommendations to fruition. We are almost there! There are some outstanding issues still to be resolved, such as the recruitment of Nepalese women, on which from a personal observation, more staff work time has been expended trying to fathom out an appropriate way forward to both recruit and select fairly and then train them than was spent on preparing for Operation Overlord.



***With the Royal Marines in Turf Lodge in 1978: Barry is pictured right along with his Commanding Officer, Lt. Col. Tom Secombe centre, and his brick commander Lance Corporal Bolt. Eighty per cent of the most wanted IRA men were from this district.***

But all good things come to an end and rightly my time in the Army came was up in December last year. It was the culmination of a career that has spanned some 22 years in the Royal Marines, where I have seen operations in Borneo (Sabah and Sarawak) Northern Ireland, Cyprus, bringing the Australians into the world of amphibious operations and the aftermath of the Falklands War when as the PRO for the Corps, I had some very challenging issues to deal with.

This was followed by a period of eleven years in public relations in civvies street, working initially in the West End of London for a PR and Advertising Agency, followed by stints with what is now the Cobham Group plc and then Head of Communications for Heron International plc.



Meantime, I had joined the media operations group (the TAPIO pool then), followed a few years later by an invitation to go to Bosnia as Chief Public Relations Officer. What I did not know at the time when accepting in March 1995 was that I would be having to sort out some difficult situations that had developed within the media team in Bosnia, nor did I expect to find myself spending nearly 14 months in total in theatre. But what an experience and one I was so glad to have had.



***Above: Taking in the sites of Sarajevo with Captain Karen Moseley***

That job in Bosnia was followed very quickly by a spell at Northwood, which led to me becoming the first TA media operative within the newly established PJHQ, working within a highly pressurised environment deep underground for the next two and half years. Fortunately I didn't have too long to wait before I was joined by that great naval historian and bristly Welshman, Lawrie Phillips. Between us, we provided all media support to the work-up exercises that the PJHQ team were put through in 1997/98 before it became responsible for all overseas operations and missions. We were kept in a rabbit hutch no bigger than a small garage, where Lawrie and I provided the two-way media support for every operation PJHQ became responsible for.

With both of us having had Bosnian experience, we vowed to ensure that those out in theatre were treated with respect and the media teams got the support they deserved – not the poor support we had both experienced whilst in theatre ourselves.



***Above: Speaking to the media in Maglay, Bosnia after a tank shell hit a school.***

My time finally came to an end in Northwood, where I left Lawrie to continue the fight with others. Since leaving we both now realise what a task we had been conducting – the present team in PJHQ numbers some six-fold more than our team at its height of activity, I believe. Leaving Lawrie, I joined Nigel Gillies, where I found him on his own trying to convince the then Adjutant General that he needed more manpower. It was a déjà vu moment! And so began several years in media operations working for the Adjutant General and then on the Ghurkha campaign.

## **The greatest endurance rally**

What of the future? At the beginning of 2008 I was with a friend who was reading his Classic Car magazine which contained an advertisement asking for entrants to take part in the re-run of the greatest and longest endurance rally of all time – the 1968 London to Sydney race, which was won by Andrew Cowan in a Hillman Hunter – the majority of you in the Club will know about that car!

The rally was due to start last November and finish in Sydney on the 10 December but it never did materialise – due to Australian quarantine issues. They refused to allow cars to proceed into Oz without a two day “strip”, to check for seeds, dust and anything else that we are not allowed to import into the country.

So by the time it was cancelled, friend John and I had bought one Hillman Hunter already equipped with roll bar! When we received news that the rally had been cancelled, our thoughts turned disappointment, what to do with a Hillman Hunter, and how our enthusiasm was to be replaced? We decided that the answer was to drive to Sydney on our own!

So decision made, we made plans to link with a suitable charity, and after much soul searching and advice from within doors, we went for the UK Prostate Cancer Charity because we have both reached that ripe old age when most men need to have that most invasive examination to make sure that they are going to live a good long life after 60!

We tried our first Hillman out on one of the Civil Service Motoring Association's Friday night 100 mile '12 car event', around the Cotswolds and it was clear after getting thoroughly lost, removing half the animal night life and finding that half the car might fall apart that we needed to reconsider our vehicle choice.

Persevering, we did identify another Hillman Hunter that was said to only have 20,000 miles on the clock and was rust free. Bingo, we had found our car. All that remained to be done was to completely strip the car, remove the brown vinyl roof and totally rebuild ready for the rigours of a 14,000 mile trip to Oz. A year later our car emerged, looking like the original winner of the 1968 race. We hope to depart for Sydney at the end of March 2010. This ties in nicely with the last weekend of the Prostate Cancer Charity's awareness month.

I am out of uniform now and concentrating during the first three months of this year to get our route finalised and to ensure we reach our fund raising target. I want to do this because at the end of the trip I will link up with my son and family who have immigrated to Australia and who I will not have seen for over a year.

I would like to ask all of you to help meet our fund raising target of £75,000 – no contribution is too small. Visit our web site – [www.gb2aus.co.uk](http://www.gb2aus.co.uk) - if I haven't written to you directly enclosing a brochure that will tell you even more about us, the Charity and the route. We are probably crazy taking such a project on at our time of life but the start of this story says it all.

If anyone can provide advice or help for any part of this charity-raising project, please get in touch. There may even be someone out there who would like to join us in another vehicle – you will be most welcome.

*The helter skelter - I'm only half way down (or maybe two thirds!).*