

# FUSILIERS NEWS

## The Fusiliers – England's infantry at its very best



Attending the  
burial of  
uncovered WW1  
remains is a  
regular RHQ  
privilege

Maj Paul Martin, Maj Mick McCarthy, Capt Jordan Whiteman and Maj Ian Kippen at Hooze Crater for the re-dedication of the grave of Serjeant JH Bott DCM, 11th Royal Fusiliers

## The 1 August Fusilier Newsletter

In this edition, read about the latest Fusilier promotions and awards, commemorating UN Peacekeepers, the Heartstone KFOR and Kosovo 25 exhibition, and the successful cross Channel swim by 1 FUSILIERS.



**Maj Gen J Swift OBE**  
**Colonel FUSILIERS**

## Colonel of the Regiment's Congratulations

**T**he Colonel of the Regiment and all Fusiliers congratulate the following on their promotions and appointments:

- Colonel Jez Dodd selected to be Commander 19 Brigade in the rank of Brigadier from August 2026.
- Lieutenant Colonel Liam Wilson to be Chief J3 CJTF HQ Baghdad in the rank of Colonel from February 2026.
- Major (to be Lieutenant Colonel in 26) Luke Rowbottom selected to command 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment from February 2027.

Finally, as a member of the wider Fusilier Family, congratulations to Lieutenant Colonel Emma Bowes-Crick, the daughter of Major (Retd) Colin and Doreen Bowes-Crick who has been selected to command 210 Multi Role Medical Regiment based in Manchester from November 2025.

## Commemorating UN Peacekeepers

**D**uring recent commemorations in London marking the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers, Lieutenant Colonel Matthew Clarke FUSILIERS laid a wreath at the Cenotaph on behalf of the Armed Forces. Also participating were Lord Collins of Highbury, representing HM Government, international Defence Attachés, members of 5 Regt RA (recently returned from duty in Cyprus), and the Band of the Royal Marines.

Matt was selected due to his previous service with the UN, commanding a Company Group in South Sudan – a hugely rewarding experience, protecting



campes containing tens of thousands of people displaced during the civil war, and building hospitals and infrastructure.

The service occurs annually to mark the sacrifice of the 106 British and 4,327 other peacekeepers killed while serving the UN, and the over 61,000 peacekeepers deployed on duty worldwide in the cause of peace

## Demonstration against changes to the NI Legacy Bill

Over 200 military veterans assembled in Parliament Square before the NI Legacy debate on 14 July.

Including about 20 Fusiliers, they paraded to show their opposition to the Government's proposed changes to the NI Legacy Bill.

Over 150 members of *Rolling Thunder*, the veterans Motorcycle Club, also rode around Parliament Square, making a considerable noise and making their presence felt.



Regt Sec's beret and hackle is straightened up by his brother...

## Heartstone's KFOR and Kosovo 25 exhibition

On the 20 May, Ian Kippen, former Fusilier, represented the Regiment at an exhibition of photographs taken in Kosovo by documentary photographer Nick Sidle. The event, called **KFOR and Kosovo +25**, was put together by Heartstone and hosted at the NATO Headquarters in Brussels. Heartstone is a non-profit organisation based in the Scottish Highlands, which brings people together from different backgrounds, cultures, nationalities, races and faiths to recognise a common human experience. Nick Sidle's attachment to KFOR in 2000 coincided with 2 FUSILIERS' operational tour, and Fusiliers make several appearances in his photo-documentary

From the beginning of the mission in 1999, the United Kingdom was the largest contributor to KFOR, with 19,000 troops.

Ian was pleased to meet Paul 'Poe' Davis, seen here standing next to his photograph, with he and Pete Fletcher handing out blankets and toys to an Albanian refugee family.



The exhibition included a photograph of a very fresh faced Fusilier - it was Simon Valentine, who was tragically killed in Helmand Province, Afghanistan in 2009. His mother, Mrs Carol Valentine, had come over to Brussels for the exhibition. The many guests very much enjoyed meeting the subjects, their relatives, and soldiers recently returned from Kosovo.

The exhibition has been seen in many venues across the UK, most notably at the Fusilier Museum, (Lancashire).

25 years later, KFOR is still active with 4,500 troops, almost 100 of which are from the UK Armed Forces. Tensions have been rising recently and NATO conducted an operational rehearsal of the Allied Reaction Force HQ at the capital, Pristina. It is clear that an end to the mission is not happening anytime soon.

**if you get the opportunity to see KFOR and Kosovo +25, it is well worth the effort.**

## 1 FUSILIERS Swimming Team complete the Channel crossing



At the start...

courage, commitment, grit and determination by all swimmers, who completed this challenge to raise funds for the Fusilier Aid Society

In the early hours of 10 July, Lt Keeley Lloyd-Janes touched the cliffs of France to complete the channel swim and make the team official Channel Swimmers.

In what were tough conditions with winds and choppy waters, the team worked extremely hard to ensure they got to France within their target time, completing the swim in 15 hours and 27 minutes.

A real  
show of



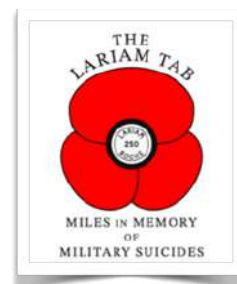
Success at the end...



# NOTICES

## The Lariam Tab

### Miles in Memory of Military Suicides Supporting the National Memorial Arboretum



**O**n 29 August 2025 former Fusilier Andrew Marriott will begin a long-distance walk from Scotland to the Cenotaph. The 420-mile hike remembers all armed forces and veteran suicides, and especially those caused by the anti-malarial drug Lariam.



Andrew Marriott

The walk starts at West Linton (south west of Edinburgh) where former army major Cameron Quinn hanged himself in the family home. The route takes in other commemorative sites and should finish in Westminster on 19 September.

There is no dedicated place where military suicides are marked but a venue for peaceful contemplation and remembering does exist at the 150-acre National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire. While the NMA cannot be expected to endorse any campaigning about Lariam, it would be a most appropriate beneficiary from

the blisters and aches of this venture. A visit to their grounds provides a valuable place for grieving and it is also becoming a major educational resource, embracing environmental and ecological themes alongside those of remembrance.

If you would like to support this venture, please visit

[www.justgiving.com/page/the-lariam-tab](http://www.justgiving.com/page/the-lariam-tab)

More details at [www.lariamtab.com](http://www.lariamtab.com)

Many thanks for any help you can give.

## Fusilier

### Officers' Club Dinner

**T**he 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner of the Fusilier Officers' Club (Warwickshire) will take place on **Friday 10 October 2025** at the Officers' Mess Bramcote Barracks, Nuneaton.

Further details from the Dinner Chairman Lt



The Dinner in 2024

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# HOW TO CONTRIBUTE

Contributions are welcome from anywhere in the Fusilier Family. As a guide, articles should be about 150-300 words, but these are not absolute limits. An accompanying good photo and caption are recommended. Get them to [fusiliernews@outlook.com](mailto:fusiliernews@outlook.com) by the 25th of each month.

Archive copies are held in the Regiment's Dropbox account.

Please note that the Editor and RHQ make every effort to ensure factual accuracy and whilst we might edit articles for reasons of space, we do not censor them. Any mistakes are purely accidental and no harm or slander is ever intended.

## EDITORIAL POLICIES

### Photos

The Editor accepts photographs for publication on the understanding that those submitting them have, where required by data protection legislation, obtained consent to publication from those depicted. Anyone who believes this is not the case or has a DPA related concern should contact the Editor.

### Non Endorsement of products or services

The Newsletter is not a place for personal or classified adverts as we do not want to be seen as endorsing or approving the product or service in question.

The only endorsements / adverts allowed in the Newsletter are those from Fusiliers Direct or those that directly benefit the Regiment.

### Obituaries and Deaths

Obituaries are published in the annual Fusilier Journal, not this Newsletter. Significant deaths of Fusiliers during the year are reported by a Notice sent out by RHQ FUSILIERS.



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