

FUSILIERS NEWS

The Fusiliers – England's infantry at its very best



RHQ
FUSILIERS at
HM Tower of
London

The 2026 Regimental Cocktail Party at RHQ on a very sunny (and hot) Thursday evening in June. Many attended, including serving personnel, veterans, key partners and members of the wider Fusilier family.

The 1 August 2026 Fusilier Newsletter

In this edition, read about the Cadet Roadmap, the Fusilier Band on tour, stories from people and places, and 1 FUSILIERS sporting achievements.



Maj Gen J Swift OBE
Colonel FUSILIERS

Colonel of the Regiment's Congratulations

The Colonel of the Regiment and all Fusiliers congratulate the following on their selection to command:

- 5th Battalion Royal Regiment of Fusiliers - Major (to be Lieutenant Colonel in Jan 2028) John Marcon wef Jan 28.
- Royal Gibraltar Regiment - Lieutenant Colonel Alan Williamson wef Jun 27.

The Cadet Roadmap

As part of the Cadet to Officer Roadmap, 30 Cadets and their adult volunteers visited HM Tower of London on 1 Jul 26.

Hosted by Colonel Warwickshire, the Senior Cadets from Warwickshire and the West Midlands ACF and King Edward's School CCF had the opportunity to visit RHQ, the Fusilier Museum (London) and the wider attractions of the Tower and London.

Most importantly, they received a brief from Capt Roland Swift and 2Lt Hugo Binelli-Thomas regarding their personal journeys to becoming Officers within 1 FUSILIERS and 5 FUSILIERS.

The next phase of the Cadet to Officer Roadmap will be a visit to RMAS in order to watch the Commandant's Parade in December 2026



5 FUSILIERS



To mark the beginning of the week of Armed Forces Day at the end of June, the 5 FUSILIERS Band played an impromptu concert in the James Cook University Hospital in Middlesbrough. By day the Band's oboe player, Anna Homes, is a Resident Doctor at the hospital.



On 3 July, Fusiliers from C Company 5 FUSILIERS based in Balham and Blackheath participated in the SSAFA 13 Bridges Challenge at Wandsworth Council Armed Forces Day. The team completed the 10-mile course in 2 hours 18 minutes.

The Fusilier Band on tour ...

The Fusilier Band are on their tour:

- St Thomas More School in Blaydon
- Chantry Middle School in Morpeth
- Whitley Bay High School
- Shiremoor Primary School
- Gosforth Central Middle School
- George Stephenson High School.

They performed two sets at the Freeman Hospital in Newcastle and then across the road to Paddy Freeman's Park.



...and abroad

The Band then travelled to Harskamp in the Netherlands and joined forces with musicians from the Band of 150 Regiment Royal Logistic Corps and the Band of The Royal Yeomanry for an afternoon and evening rehearsing the music for the rest of the week.

The Band was promoted to centre stage this year. They played in Wedren whilst awaiting the other bands and marchers of the Flag Parade to join them later.



The Band was then on the coach at 0230hrs and playing the troops out of Heumensoord from 0430hrs. After the iconic photo opportunity under the helmet they were then on to Wijchen to play at the roadside for a couple of hours.

Later that week, the Band had the privilege to perform a concert in the beautiful grounds of Bronbeek, Arnhem. As well as being a history museum, Bronbeek is a home for Dutch military veterans. It was a special honour for us today as one young chap in the audience was celebrating his one hundredth birthday !



PEOPLE AND PLACES



Maj Chester Potts, Chairman of the Fusiliers Club, at a recent passing out parade at the Infantry Training Centre, Catterick, when 8 Fusiliers joined the Regiment



On 4 July, Veteran Fusilier Mick Sanders took on the Yorkshire Three Peaks challenge tomorrow to raise funds for Fusilier Fest 2026. Mick covered 24 miles across Pen-y-Ghent, Whernside and Ingleborough. A real test of determination and resilience.



A massive congratulations to the team from 4 Company that took part in the Cadet Enterprise Challenge. Competing against Sea and Air cadets as well as the 3 other London Sectors, they managed to win the overall competition!





Veteran Arthur Marshall is walking the Wainwright Coast to Coast from St Bees to Robin Hoods Bay.

Arthur who is ex 3rd Battalion wants to 'give something back' to the hospital and the charity after they treated him for throat cancer 7 years ago. Arthur has already smashed his £500 target and has the blisters to prove his efforts. To donate, please go to Fusiliers Connect.



Congratulations to 2Lt Shardlow (on the right) who recently passed out of RMAS. 2Lt Shardlow, of A Coy in Sheldon, is studying at Loughborough. Currently working in London, he will train with C Coy over the next 12 months till he returns to university



Former Fusiliers and Chelsea Pensioners came together at the East Durham Veterans Trust



SPORT

Ex GALLIPOLI GEARS - Mountain Bike Charity Challenge

In June, the Regiment's mountain biking team, alongside two brave Battalion volunteers, including our Padre, proved that no amount of mud could dampen the Fusilier spirit. The team took on a brutal 24 hour endurance challenge on the Salisbury Plain training area, aiming to



complete a 10km route every two hours for 24 hours in support of Cancer Research and The Fusiliers Aid Society.

“Mother Nature threw a wrench in the gears immediately, with an opening lap so thick with mud it forced an emergency route change for the remainder of the event. As night fell and the early morning chill set in, the challenge became a gruelling test of pure grit and sleep-deprived determination. Despite the brutal conditions, all 9 riders pushed through the darkness to cross the finish line, turning a miserable weather forecast into a massive victory and raising a fantastic total of £1,345 for two incredible causes.”

WO2 A Dixon

1 FUSILIERS Boxing coaches

This week, personnel from 1 FUSILIERS successfully completed both Level 1 and Level 2 Boxing Coaching Courses at the Boxing Gym, Mooltan Barracks, Tidworth.



The course has equipped the Battalion's coaches with the knowledge, skills and confidence to safely deliver boxing training across the Battalion, helping to develop fitness, resilience and discipline.

NOTICES

Fusilier Fest 2026

Join us for a day or weekend at Selby House Farm, Stanton, Northumberland, on Fri 7 Aug to Sun 9 Aug,

The Fest is dedicated to bringing the Fusilier family together.

Open to all Fusiliers and all ranks for a fantastic mix of activities, camaraderie, food, music and family. The cost is £10 per adult.

The Diabetes UK Challenge

On Friday July 3rd Lt Col (retd) Nick Beswick started Diabetes UK's challenge to take a million steps over the next three months. He is ahead of schedule and has just completed July's quota with a few days to spare, but a lot more pounding still to go! No complaints from his artificial hips so far...



Nick is stepping up for Diabetes UK to support the 5 million people in the UK who live with diabetes, day in day out. I'm looking forward to clocking up a million steps and hope to see some birds along the way! You can help too, just by making a donation. Like me, many of you will know family or friends who suffer from diabetes. Did you know someone is diagnosed with diabetes every two minutes? Diabetes UK are on a mission to create a world where diabetes can do no harm by funding vital research into life-changing treatments and providing support to help people to live better with diabetes. But they need our help. No matter how much you can give, it will make a difference. So please donate today.

<https://donate.justgiving.com/fundraising/nicholass-million-steps-challenge>

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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 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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**“Sud accumsan
libero pretium
pharetra quis.
Nunc elit lorem
magna vitae.”**

-DIAM NOBIS



Highlight
Flash style
lore Epsom
dolor smet



Heading

Names are inscribed on separate tablets for each regiment involved, including of course the Northumberland Fusiliers, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, Royal Fusiliers and Lancashire Fusiliers. Our former comrades are thus, as ever, not forgotten. The Fusiliers have established a close relationship with La Ferte sous Jouarre where the BEF drove the German armies out of the town at the start of the Marne battle. They tell us that no other regiment remember their dead like the Fusiliers. The town entertained us royally after the ceremony.