FUSILIERS NEWS

The Fusiliers – England's infantry at its very best



Bury has a long standing relationship with the Lancashire Fusiliers

Former Lancashire and Royal Regiment of Fusiliers prepare for the annual Gallipoli Day parade in Bury

The 1 November Fusilier Newsletter

In this edition, read about a range of 1 and 5 FUSILIERS activities, two epic charity fund-raisers and Fusilier cadets in National Cadet week.

1 FUSILIERS

Putting BOXER through its paces

First Fusiliers are the first British Army unit to put BOXER to the test on exercise, taking our new fleet onto Salisbury Plain Training Area. New platform. New capability. Same fighting spirit.
At the forefront of the Army's transition to modern armoured warfare, the Fusiliers are helping turn BOXER from new equipment into battlefield capability











A member of the 1 FUSILIERS anti-tank platoon, Lance Callum Corporal Holmes was featured on the British Army website discussing the weapons they use.



Soldiers from W (Recce Strike) Company paused during recent training to mark Afghanistan Day. Deployed in the field with BOXER, the Company held a short service to remember those Fusiliers who lost their lives on operations in Afghanistan. Wherever we are, we remember them.

Casualty Situation training







Success at Queen’s Division



Congratulations to the Fusiliers who have successfully completed the Queen's Division Training Team (QDTT) Potential NCO Cadre, demonstrating the grit, determination and leadership required of our future junior commanders.

A special mention to Fus Marks, who finished in the top three, achieving a Distinction. An outstanding performance and thoroughly deserved recognition.

Honouring the dead from WW1

This week, Fusiliers from X Company travelled to France to fulfil one of the most solemn duties a soldier can undertake — laying fallen comrades to rest, more than a century after they made the ultimate sacrifice.



Supporting the MOD JCCC "War Detectives", our soldiers provided the bearer parties for Privates George McIntosh, of the Bedfordshire Regiment, and Percy Tolliday, of the Middlesex Regiment, alongside three Unknown British Soldiers, each receiving the dignity and honour they deserved.



The visit also provided an opportunity for a short battlefield tour, visiting the Thiepval Monument, and retracing the footsteps of the Northumberland Fusiliers at the Somme, reflecting on the sacrifice of those who came before us.

5 FUSILIERS

A Fond Farewell to LCpl Jason Kenny

Although LCpl Jason Kenny officially retired from military service in July, we were delighted to welcome him back to the **Fusiliers Band** last week so that we could formally thank him for his service and make a presentation to mark his retirement.

Jason's military musical journey began in 1988 when he joined the 6th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers as a drummer. He then learned to play the cornet and attended his first camp in the late 1980s, embarking on a remarkable career that included training at the Army Junior School of Music in Bovington and the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall, before serving with a number of Army bands throughout his career, including the Duke of Kent's Band, Adjutant General's Corps Band, Royal Irish Band, King's Division Band and the Royal Logistic Corps Band.



Bandmaster WO1 (BM) Peter Elcoat presents Jason with his memento of the Band

In 2015, following a successful Regular Army career, Jason joined the Army Reserve and became a member of the Fusiliers Band, where he remained until his retirement.

Many members will know Jason primarily as a clarinettist, but his versatility saw him move around the section whenever required, and also supporting on saxophone when required. He was always willing to help wherever he could, taking on library duties, supporting and mentoring younger musicians, and sharing the benefit of his extensive experience. Jason also possessed an encyclopaedic knowledge of music theory, repertoire and composers; sometimes annoyingly so, but always with the aim of helping others develop and learn.

Jason's dedication and good humour have made him a valued friend and colleague, and he leaves the Band with the respect and gratitude of all who have served alongside him.

On behalf of everyone in the Fusiliers Band, we thank Jason for his many years of service and wish him every happiness and success in his well-earned retirement.

5 FUSILIERS vs London Regiment

The Battalion eased into the 2nd round of the Army Reserve Cup earlier in October with a victory over the London Regiment.

Dominating the match, 5 FUSILIERS ran out as 11-0 winners, with a special mention to Sgt Rickwood of Z Company, who scored 4 alongside his 3 assists.

Goals from Capt Shotton (2), LCpl O'Niell (2), Sgt Rickwood (4), 2Lt Small-Edwards, Fus Carter and Capt Burt gave the team their well deserved win.



Success at Brecon

Fusiliers Coates (X Company) and Steen (C Company) have successfully completed the ARes Fire Team Commander Course with QDC in Brecon, a two week course that will qualify them for promotion to LCpl.



In an excellent showing from the Battalion, Fusilier Steen was placed 3rd on the course, with Fusilier Coates placed as top student, a testament to their preparation and hard work.



THE FUSILIER FAMILY

Jack Rigby raises over £54,000

To mark the anniversary of Lee Rigby's death, his 13 year old son Jack set out with a simple goal: raise £250 for '*Scotty's Little Soldiers'* by walking 26.2 miles.

He didn't just hit his goal—he completely blew it, raising over £54,000 to support children who have lost a parent in the Armed Forces.



His mother, Rebecca, said:

> *"Jack is quiet, but he's very determined. I couldn't be prouder of him, given all he's been through."*

The Cycle Ride continues…

Fusilier veteran Geoff Green arrived in Bury as part of his 683km cycle ride from Alnwick Castle to the Tower of London, raising vital funds for MindfulStep, The Royal British Legion and The Fusilier Aid Society.

Geoff received a warm welcome at *The Two Tubs*, joined by fellow Fusilier veterans before visiting The Fusilier Museum (Bury).



Geoff then gets back in the saddle for his next 123km leg to Lilleshall.

See below for the end of Geoff's ride…



At the House of Lords, Cadet RSM Elisa Gjoka of Essex ACF was presented with the prestigious ILM Achievement Award by Lord Lingfield, Chairman of the Cadet Vocational College.



This award is presented to the cadet from the whole of the UK that has the best ILM Level 3 submission. The qualification is generally achieved by people in their 20s in their first or second job with some line management responsibility, so it is an impressive personal achievement for Elisa, as well as an acknowledgement of the maturity of senior cadets and the responsibility that they have for supporting and instructing younger cadets.

Geoff Green's epic bike ride ends…

On Saturday 3 October Fusilier veteran Geoff Green arrived at the Fusilier Museum in Warwick. This stop off was part of 683km cycle ride from Alnwick Castle to the Tower of London to raise vital funds for Geoff's charity MindfulStep, The Royal British Legion and The Fusilier Aid Society.



The welcoming committee at Warwick, included the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire Simon Miesegaes and a grand assembly of Fusiliers.



Arriving at RHQ in London, completing a stupendous 683km cycle ride from Alnwick Castle to HM Tower of London.

Over nine days, Geoff made stops at Catterick Garrison, Settle, Bury, Lilleshall, Warwick and Henley, before completing the challenge in London.



The RHQ welcoming committee

National Cadet Week

Laighton Lawes aged 16 from Cowpen Detachment, Northumbria Army Cadet Force, has been a cadet for more than two years. For Laighton, being a Fusilier cadet is about much more than wearing a cap badge. His older brother serves with the Fusiliers, and the support to both from the wider Fusilier family has left a lasting impression.



One of Laighton's proudest moments came in 2026 when he took part in the Nijmegen Marches, representing the Fusiliers at an international event. After pushing himself physically and mentally to complete the marches, his team went on to win the British Military Contingent Best ACF Team 2026 award.

Looking ahead, Laighton hopes to pursue a career in engineering and one day become a Cadet Force Adult Volunteer.

Hannah SNU joined the Army Cadet Force to challenge herself, gain new experiences and develop skills beyond the classroom.

Annual Camp has been a particular highlight. Spending several days away with fellow cadets from across Northumberland has given Hannah the chance to experience activities beyond the usual parade night routine, to meet new people and create lasting memories.



Hannah's connection to the Fusilier family is a personal one. Although she initially joined because Newbiggin was her local detachment, she also has a strong family link through her father, who attended the same detachment as a young person before enlisting into 1 FUSILIERS as a regular soldier in 1995, and later a reservist in 2020.

Looking ahead, she hopes to study Law at university before pursuing a career as a legal officer in the Army Legal Service.

One of **Lt Malachi Fontenelle's** proudest achievements was rebuilding 36 Cadet Detachment, which faced possible closure. When he took command, the Detachment had just three cadets. Through recruitment, engagement with local schools and the community, improved communication with parents and investment in developing the volunteer team, Lt Fontenelle helped transform its future. Under his leadership, the Detachment now numbers to approximately 60 cadets.



He has completed leadership training, including Initial officer training and the KGVI Course, while developing his instructional skills.

Malachi now serves as an ACF officer, having held roles including Detachment Commander and Media Officer at Company, Sector and Area level.

A huge well done to our Fusilier cadets who smashed **Master Cadet** and gave their all throughout the week!







New Area Colonel, Warwickshire & West Midlands



At the 70th Warwickshire & West Midlands Area Colonel's meeting in October, there was the official handover-takeover between outgoing Colonel Steve Burton MBE and incoming Colonel Mike Cooke MBE, under the watchful eye of Colonel (Ret'd) Bob Carruthers OBE.
We all wish Colonel Steve the best for the future and thank him for his sterling efforts over the last 5 years.

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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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