

Volume 11

November 2011



Thorough

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KITCHENER SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION

Welcome

Welcome to third newsletter since its relaunch earlier this year. This edition covers recent KSA adventures, news, merchandise and information about KSA events.

A big thank you to everyone who has contributed to this newsletter. If these articles have inspired you to share your stories with the KSA please do not hesitate to contact us.

Editors: Emma Traherne & Victoria Manson

Kitchener Memorial — Victoria Manson

The KSA are contributing to the replacement of the recently damaged memorial plaque on the Kitchener Memorial on Marwick Head, Orkney. The old plaque read: "This Tower was raised by the people of Orkney in memory of Field Marshal Earl Kitchener of Khartoum on that corner of his country which he had served so faithfully, nearest to the place where he died on duty. He and his staff perished, along with the officers and nearly all the men of HMS Hampshire, on 5th June 1916".

Reportedly the HMS Hampshire sailed into a line of submerged mines laid by a German U boat, just off the coast of Orkney. Over 600 men were killed, including Lord Kitchener, and only 12 men survived as the life rafts were all destroyed by the waves in the terrible weather conditions.

The plaque was first unveiled by General Lord Horne of Stirkoke, in front of a large crowd of Veterans and the people of Orkney. There is a 2 minute film clip on the internet (scotlandonscreen.org.uk) that



The Memorial



HMS Hampshire

Recent Somerset House Get Together

On the 28th July, a few KS's met up at Somerset House to watch 'James Bond: The Spy who Loved Me'. For those of you who are not avid Bond fans; 007 was played by Roger Moore who has to stop the crazed Stromberg from destroying the world to create a new civilisation under the sea.

We thoroughly enjoyed sitting under the stars, eating nibbles and drinking wine. It was a fantastic night and a nice opportunity to meet up outside of the three annual events. We hope to encourage Scholars to continue meeting up during the rest of the year so let us know if you wish to organise an event, be it big or small.

Policing London: A Summer of Contrasts — Benjamin Hodges

As London was gripped by Royal Wedding Bank Holiday fever, I was getting ready for what was going to be the sort of thing to tell the grandchildren. I had been posted to stand on the Mall, in my tunic, white gloves and beat duty helmet, to provide security for the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall. We took up our positions as members of the public, many of whom had been camping overnight, cheered and applauded our arrival. Not the usual response to the arrival of the Met's finest!

The day was long, but enjoyable and everyone was in good spirits. I managed to sneak a look over my shoulder as the happy couple drove past and was able to enjoy the flypast and the spectacle of thousands of people making their way up the Mall to wait for the newlyweds to appear on the balcony. As I was watching TV that night, trying to spot myself, I could never have imagined how the last few weeks of the summer would pan out...

On Monday 8th August I arrived on duty for a 13 hour night shift. Tottenham was still smouldering and tension was in the air, but at that stage the violence had not spread to the London Borough of Southwark, where I work. After responding to a fairly routine call I found myself turning the corner

and facing a large mob on Walworth Road. There were approximately fifty to sixty youths and they had forced a bus to stop in the middle of the road, were putting barricades up and starting to attack shops. I was on completely the wrong side of the barricades and in trouble; I drove my car at speed down the road, my car taking hits from missiles being thrown at it. I then stopped, got out, and with four other officers, drew my baton and faced down the mob. We started to advance towards them, before having to withdraw as the volume of rocks, missiles, pieces of wood and anything they could get their hands on rained down on us. While withdrawing (or running for my life, as it is also known) my colleague tripped and I had to stop and help her into the car so we could get away. In over 8 years of policing, it was the most frightening shift of my career. The rest of the night is still something of a blur. I recall it took us several hours to regain control of Walworth Road and there was looting going on all over the borough.

But what struck me most of all was the contrast between everyone pulling together and being happy at the start of the summer and "broken Britain" being so graphically played out on the streets of London.

Since then, I was fortunate enough to be awarded a Commissioner's

Commendation for Bravery and I have met Mayor Boris Johnson. There were many brave acts that went unrecognised during the period of disorder while we battled to restore order. It was an unprecedented time for the Metropolitan Police and, if the contents of the bins in the canteens of police stations are anything to go by, we survived on a diet of takeaways and energy drinks!

Policing is a great career and I have enjoyed my service to date. If any KS are interested in joining full time, or becoming a Special Constable, please feel free to get in touch.

Benjamin Hodges KS 1998 – BSc Econ (Hons) International Politics and Strategic Studies.

KSA on the Radio waves

Jonathan Price (Chairman of the KSA) was interviewed on the Lynne Duffus *Morning Show* on BFBS radio on Monday 21 March (repeated Sunday 27 March as part of Hal Stewart's *Forces Life* broadcast). The aim of the interview was to build contact with 'lost' KSA' and spread the word about the Kitchener Scholars Fund. At least one 'lost' KS has been in contact with us thanks to the broadcast.

Lord Kitchener Wants You

The iconic Kitchener poster was voted the third best poster advertisement of all time in a recent competition called the 'Outdoor Hall of Fame'. See all of the other winners online at:

<http://www.outdoorhalloffame.co.uk/>



DecAid — Henry Munns

Six weeks of my summer was spent assisting in an epic challenge in aid of our Servicemen and women. I first heard of DecAid and the Munro Mission through my Officer Training Corps. The aim of the Munro Mission is to raise £80,000 for DecAid's grand total of £350,000 in aid of SSAFA (Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association) and BLESMA (British Limbless Ex Service Men's Association). It aims to achieve this through sponsorship of a team of three climbing all the Munros (mountains in Scotland over 914 meters) in 49 days with no motorised transport.

I jumped at the opportunity to become part of the support team and at the end of July met the team in Edinburgh to assist in the final preparations. The starting point was the Isle of Mull, the route then headed east through the Grey Corries and onto the Cairngorms. We then turned south towards Ben Lomond, to begin the route north through Glencoe and the Western Highlands. My role was to act as navigator on several days and as a bicycle mechanic to ensure the 8 bicycle were operational at all times.

The highlights of the six weeks

were completing 11 Munros in 16 hours, meeting the Duchess of Cornwall on the Balmoral Estate and the stunning views of Scotland. The team finished on Ben Hope, completing the challenge in 48 days 6 hours and 56 minutes.



The time that I spent with the team was tough but very rewarding. Though the Munro mission has finished you can still donate or participate in other DecAid events so please visit the DecAid website at www.DecAid.co.uk.

Henry Munns is in his second year, studying Economics at Plymouth University and currently in search of a placement for next year. He is also a keen member of the Officer Training Corps and enthusiastic mountaineer.

Your KSA Committee

Chairman: Jonathan Price

Vice Chairman: Jim Watson

Treasurer: Ben Hodges

Hon. Secretary: Simon Piggott

Webmaster: Tim Price

Merchandise: Susan Saunders

Editors: Emma Traherne & Victoria Manson

Jim Rothwell, Carl Fazackerley

Sara Hook

Future Events

Sunday 13th November 2011, 11am:

Remembrance Sunday Ceremony on Horse Guards Parade.

Please contact the Secretary if you wish to attend. His contact details are on page 4.

Save the Date. Friday 30th March 2012:

Annual Dinner in London. More details to follow.

KSA Memorial Evensong Service, St Paul's Cathedral, 5 June 2011 — Jim Rothwell

This year saw a new format for the Memorial Service, which took place in the main part of the Cathedral, but with spaces reserved in the Quire for the Kitchener family, KSs and guests. KSs were treated to the beautiful singing of the full Choir as part of the Evensong Service - benefitting further from the amazing acoustics provided by the dome of the Wren structure.

In welcoming the congregation, the Canon in Residence made reference both to the Lord Kitchener National Memorial Fund and the Association. Meanwhile, the Reverend Andrew Hammond, the Minor Canon and Succentor of St Pauls, who delivered the sermon, could not resist a reference in it to the iconic Kitchener poster, by wishing that a similar "Your Church Needs You" poster could be produced in this more secular age.

A short wreath-laying service then took place immediately thereafter in the Kitchener Memorial Chapel - located at the base of the North-West tower of the Cathedral - with prayers said both for the first Lord Kitchener as well as those KSs that had perished in the Second World War. In a touching moment, the present Lord Kitchener then placed a wreath at the foot of his ancestor's effigy, with all in attendance taking a moment at that point to pause for reflection.

Lady Fellowes then invited those present to tea in the Crypt of the Cathedral, where socialising continued over a delicious selection of patisseries - followed by strawberries and cream for those who still had room. Closing proceedings, Emma went on to thank people for coming and requesting feedback on the new format. Your correspondent, having not attended previous services, has no point of comparison, but would thoroughly recommend attendance by those of you who were unable to make it this year. The beautiful music, the intimacy of the wreath-laying and the convivial atmosphere of tea are all worth experiencing.

Merchandise

Full details of sizes, prices and how to order out our wonderful range of merchandise can be found on the KSA website. So show your support for the KSA now with a Hoodie, tie or bag.



Obituary — Air Marshal Sir Geoffrey Dhenin

Air Marshal Sir Geoffrey Dhenin died on 6th May 2011 aged 93. He was born in 1918 the day after the formation of the RAF, and was educated at Hereford Cathedral School and St John's College, Cambridge. He completed his medical studies at Guy's Hospital London.

He joined the RAF in 1943 as a junior medical officer and served in bomber stations in Lincolnshire. He was awarded the George Medal for saving a man trapped in a burning crashed Lancaster bomber.

He trained as a pilot in 1945 and qualified as a senior specialist in radiology in 1953. That same year he flew three times through a mushroom cloud in Australia to gather radiation information. He was awarded an AFC. In 1957 he carried out further mushroom cloud recordings on

Christmas Island where he was "master sampler" for Operation Grapple, Britain's H-bomb test. For this work Dhenin was awarded a Bar to his AFC.



From 1971-1973 he was the

Principal Medical Officer at RAF Strike Command, and during this period was elected a Fellow of the International Academy of Aerospace Medicine. In 1974 he was promoted to air marshal; for four years he served as Director-General of Medical Services (RAF), the first active pilot to hold the post. He was appointed KBE in 1975 and elected a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society. Dhenin retired from the RAF in 1978 and for two years was Adviser, National Guard, Royal Saudi Air Force. Dhenin commanded the RAF Hospital in Cyprus from 1960-1963 and returned to Britain to take charge of the hospital in Ely. In 1968 he served as Director of Health Research at the MoD in 1970 was appointed Honorary Physician to the Queen.

He married, in 1946, Evelyn Rabut. She died in 1996, and in 2002 he married, Sylvia Howard who survives him with a son and two daughters of his first marriage. A second son predeceased him.

Keep in Contact and Easyfundraising

- Find out more about the KSA on our website www.kitchenerscholars.org
- Join us on **Facebook, LinkedIn and Friends Reunited.**
- Donating to the Kitchener Scholars Association is incredibly simple if you do any shopping online. By registering, logging into www.easyfundraising.org.uk and selecting the Kitchener Scholars Association as your cause of choice, a small percentage of the money you spend online will go to the KSA at no extra cost to you.

Correct Subscription?

Have you recently graduated from University? If so, please could you check that you have amended your standing order for membership from £1 pa payable on 1st October to £10 – otherwise the Secretary will be chasing you!

Committee News

We regret to inform Kitchener Scholars that Philip Hunt has retired from the KSA Committee due to ill health. We all wish him a speedy return to good health and thank him for all of his work for the KSA over the years.

Benjamin Hodges has accepted the role of Treasurer.

Ben, the son of a Royal Navy Warrant Officer, was awarded a Kitchener Scholarship to read International Politics and Strategic Studies at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth in 1998. A member of the TA between 1998 and 2007, he served a tour in the Former Yugoslavia in 2001. Ben joined the Metropolitan Police Service in 2003 and after serving his probation in Camden, he was posted to Special Branch and subsequently Counter Terrorism Command where he worked on a number of high profile terrorist cases as well as countless covert operations. He returned to borough based policing with a posting to CID and then back to uniform. He was a member of the RAuxAF between 2007 and 2011 which included a tour in 2009 to Iraq in support of counter terrorism operations. Outside of work he is a keen cricketer, hill walker and Harlequins RFC fan.

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