

Volume 14

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Thorough

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KITCHENER SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION

Dear KSA Member,



Legacy and Fundraising: Lord Kitchener National Memorial Fund (LKNMF)

The Trustees of the Lord Kitchener National Memorial Fund (LKNMF) have been considering how best to secure the future of the Fund, to enable it to continue to award Scholarships both at undergraduate University (KS) and postgraduate European (KES) levels.

As you are well aware, by the new Scholars joining the Association, the Memorial Fund still continues to provide Scholarships to the sons and daughters of those who serve, or have served in the armed services, just as it did when you were successful with your own application. Whilst we have continued with the University Scholarship, due to escalating costs, for the past five years we have been unable to grant Kitchener European Scholarships to INSEAD. We would like to change this as soon as possible and secure funds for the future of both Scholarships.

If any Scholars feel inclined, the Trustees would be hugely grateful for any donations, or future Legacies in favour of the Fund. Any contribution you may wish to make, now or in the future, will help to perpetuate the work of the Fund which has already completed nearly 100 years of existence and helped the lives of thousands of Scholars.

If you would like to discuss this further or learn more about the Fund of today please contact Lieutenant Colonel David Hamilton, the LKNMF Secretary, at secretary@lknmf.com

Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship - Alexandra Ashcroft

I have recently been awarded a Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship (WCTF) to spend 10 weeks this summer investigating Quorum Sensing, cell-cell communication in bacteria, and its potential use in therapeutics against Cholera.

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust is unique in that it is one of the few awards offering a blank slate. Anyone can apply from any background with any idea. I urge anyone with adventure and travel aspirations to give it a shot; you lose nothing from trying! This is especially pertinent to undergraduates. All you need is passion for a cause. The youngest person to win the award is the inspirational Richard Serunjogi, whom you probably all know better as one of the founders of the Spirit Of London Awards.

I applied because I really wanted to get funding to work in Dr Bassler's lab. Dr Bassler is a founder of quorum sensing and a great mentor and role model for women in science. I contacted her and amazingly she said I could work with her and so we began to apply for funding.

It was my mother who suggested the WCTF. I didn't expect to make the short list but slowly and secretly, despite all my attempts not to, I began to hope. These hopes were promptly crushed when I

received the email that I had only made the reserve list. As the days went by and I was not called forward as a reserve, I forgot all about it...until one morning I woke up at 7am and indulged in the common affliction of compulsive email checking, I saw an email asking me if I could have a Skype interview at the last minute. 15 minutes later I was in the most bizarre interview, where three very distinguished gentlemen rotated to sit in front of the PC. I thought the interview went dreadfully, I couldn't hear half the things which were said and was convinced that I had misinterpreted all of the questions.

If I am honest I can't really remember much after being told that I had got the fellowship; as everyone says when they win something like this it is so difficult to articulate your feelings. I do recall being told to calm down so I guess some of my exuberance must have shown through. However I personally think I kept it together pretty well; the screaming and jumping only started after I put the phone down!

Alex will be undertaking her fellowship this summer between June and September. She has set up a website as a platform to disseminate her findings:
www.socialbacteria.com
<http://www.wcmt.org.uk/>

Annual Dinner, Friday 8 March 2013

This year's Annual Dinner was held at the Mess of the Inns of Court & City and Essex Yeomanry – a regiment that has enjoyed a 400 year association with the legal profession. Some 38 Kitchener Scholars and eight guests were in attendance. As usual, the Dinner was preceded by drinks in the Mess's bar before KS attended the Association's Annual General Meeting, at which a review of the year past and a preview of 2013 events were delivered by the Chairman, Jonathan Price. The Association's new Treasurer, John Ryder, was also introduced.

Following a Grace delivered by former KSA Committee member, Philip Chapman-Sheath, those assembled tucked into a delicious meal accompanied by fine wines. For those whom the subsequent chocolate tart did not succeed in finishing off, there was even a cheese course! During the Dinner 15 new Scholars were presented with their certificates by the Association's President, the Lady Emma Kitchener, who was accompanied at the event by her husband, The Lord Fellowes of West Stafford DL (Julian Fellowes). It is intended that photographs of individual KSs receiving their certificates will be available to view on the Association's revamped website shortly.

Once port, coffee and mints had been served, the Chairman introduced the guest speaker, a retired artilleryman: Major General Jonathan Bailey CB MBE PhD, whom he described as a soldier-thinker who served to disprove the old adage that military intelligence was an oxymoron. In keeping with that introduction, he gave a thought-provoking speech on leadership and success. To illustrate the former, he drew on some of the dilemmas that had to be confronted in a leadership role, based on his experiences of active service in Rhodesia, Northern Ireland, the Falklands and Kosovo. When it came to success, he argued that whilst some might achieve it early in life, for many it came much later. He added that by focusing on what one was good at, areas of weakness could often be mitigated and that bluffing was always an option if all else fails!

General Bailey then ran through a series of names, asking those in attendance whether they recognised them. They were: Louis-Alexandre Berthier, August Graf Niedhardt von Gneisenau, Sir Herbert Lawrence, Siegfried Westphal and Sir Francis de Guingand. Although few of those KSs in attendance had heard of them, it was pointed out that they had all been very successful, but had lived in the shadow of senior commanders. (These commanders were respectively Napoleon, Blucher, Haig, Rommel and Montgomery.) General Bailey added that there was no shame in being a good second-in-command, but that people in this position were rarely written about even though these are usually the people who actually make things happen.

Turning to the Westbury-based Selection Board process through which prospective Army Officers initially pass (something that a number of those at the dinner had experienced), General Bailey noted that these recruiters sought people who have a desire both to lead a team, but also to be led themselves. He had analysed the data around the performance at Westbury of those who had subsequently gone on to become Senior Officers, identifying that they had a number of traits in common. He suggested it might be interesting for somebody to do a similar sociological study of KS cohorts.

Bringing his remarks to a conclusion, General Bailey urged KSs to go out and achieve their goals whatever they might be. He warned, however, that success did not usually come easy: when people were asked to recall their greatest achievements, they usually replied by describing them also as the hardest. He recited Lord Kitchener's dictum about the role of education and, whilst attesting to its relevance and the importance of intellectual ability, made mention of a school friend that had not been particularly bright but had gone on to be far more successful than the cleverest boy in his year, earning a fortune in the City. Asked why, his school friend observed that: "Nobody pays you for being clever, you need to do something." Whilst money was certainly not necessarily to be considered a measure of success, he thought his friend's advice was still probably sound.

Victoria Manson, one of the Co-Editors of this Newsletter and the individual who had invited General Bailey to address the assembled KSs, gave the vote of thanks. She picked up on his comment about conducting a sociological study of KS, noting that if the obituaries published in the Newsletter were anything to go by, Scholars often went on to achieve great success in their chosen fields.

Your KSA Committee

Chairman: Jonathan Price

Treasurer: John Ryder

Vice Chairman: Jim Watson

Hon. Secretary: Simon Piggott

Merchandise: Susan Saunders

Editors: Emma Traherne &

Victoria Manson

Jim Rothwell

Sara Hook

Future Events

The St Paul's Memorial Service will be held on Sunday 9th June at 3.15pm followed by tea in the Crypt.

Please contact the KSA Secretary (contact details on the back page) if you wish to attend this event.

Use Easyfundraising

Donating to the Kitchener Scholars' Association is incredibly simple. If you shop online we encourage all KS to use Easyfundraising. 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.**



London to Bastion

In 2011, new KSA Treasurer John Ryder swapped his office in London for an airfield in the desert when he was called up from the RAF Reserves to undertake an operational tour in Camp Bastion, Afghanistan. Here he talks about his experiences and about life as a Reservist.

Offloading urgent blood supplies and arranging for their immediate collection, situating an airport baggage scanner in place with a forklift and loading a Chinook helicopter into a C17 transport aircraft were all part of the day-to-day eventualities that I faced as an RAF Mover at Camp Bastion.

I joined the Royal Auxiliary Air Force in 2007 and undertook basic recruit training. This was followed by the Movements trade training to learn all the skills required for the preparation of cargo and the loading and unloading of baggage, palletised freight and all manner of vehicles including tanks, helicopters and even boats into the RAF's transport aircraft.

I then joined a Flight on my Squadron, undertaking a rolling programme of new and refresher training, based on a commitment of attending one weekend per month and a 15-day long continuous training period once a year.



important mail, general cargo, food and other provisions, vehicles and helicopters. We used a variety of vehicles including the Atlas cargo loader and the CAT All-Terrain Forklift, which is great fun to drive!

It was a 24/7 operation and we worked 12-hour shifts, following a pattern between day and night shifts; days were especially busy and really hard work, with the temperature on the airfield rising to well above 50°C. Our accommodation was relatively comfortable and meals were varied and plentiful – I'll never forget one evening when we all tucked in to a delicious beef wellington! In the free time that we did get, we were well-looked after with the NAAFI-run cafes and shops, well-equipped gyms, internet and phone access. There's even a Pizza Hut operating from a converted shipping container! However, Bastion is completely dry, so the only beer available is alcohol-free.

The whole experience was incredibly satisfying; working and bonding with the regular forces was really rewarding and it was great to put all of the training into practice. It was frequently thought-provoking to think I was following in the footsteps of previous generations of my family who've served in the Armed Forces in conflicts stretching all the way back to the Crimea. On returning to the UK, after a month off, it was time to return to my civilian job and to the training weekends with my Squadron. With the expansion of the Reserves, the opportunities have never been better to choose from a great variety of jobs across the Navy, Army and RAF Reserves and I highly recommend a Reserve Forces career to any fit and motivated KSs looking for a new challenge alongside their day-to-day career.

www.raf.mod.uk/rafrereserves



Having agreed a call-up date, and after two months of intensive pre-deployment training in the UK, I deployed in May 2011 for a three-and-a-half month tour at Camp Bastion, Helmand Province. With so many aircraft movements daily, Camp Bastion has been described as the UK's fifth busiest airport and the camp has grown to the size of Reading with a population of 30,000 military personnel, civilians and contractors. It never ceased to amaze me what an incredible feat of engineering and logistics it is to keep this huge temporary town functioning

when everything from the location, geography and weather, not to mention the insurgency, was against you.

As a member of a six-person team within the Joint Movements Unit, my job was – loading and unloading the in and out-bound RAF C130 Hercules, C17 Globemaster and TriStar aircraft plus chartered A300, B747, Ilyushin and Antonovs. Loads included passenger baggage, the all-

A Sound Investment: Sara Hook, one of the latest additions to the KSA Committee, arranged an informal get-together on the 31st January 2013 via our Facebook group. A small group of Scholars met in the Old Bank of England pub on Fleet Street for a few drinks after work and had a great time getting to know new faces and re-connecting with familiar ones. Following the success of this event we are hoping to continue to have similar events across the country. We would like to encourage all Scholars to find us on Facebook under Groups/ Kitchener Scholars' Association. If you would then like to arrange an event simply post on the wall: your city, a date/time and a venue. The Committee is more than happy to assist you with this where they can. Do not forget to tell Victoria and Emma about your event so that it can be published in the Newsletter!

Obituary — Captain G H Hennessy RM

Graham Harold Hennessy was born in London in 1923. Educated at St Mary's College, Sidcup, Kent and as a Lord Kitchener Memorial Scholar at St Paul's School, London (1938 -1942), where he was a school prefect and Captain of High Master's House as well as a keen boxer and rugby player.

He joined the Royal Marines as a direct entry 2nd Lieutenant in 1942 and joined HMS Rodney in 1944 as Acting Lieutenant. He saw active service during World War II at Normandy and Alderney (this was the first time a battleship had fired on Crown territory).

Following the end of the war he returned to Chatham and then in 1947 joined 44 Commando in Malta as Adjutant and PA to the Commanding Brigadier. Whilst in Malta he met and married in October 1948 Dolores Ellul.

From 1950 he moved to the Royal Naval College, Greenwich to qualify as a specialist Gunnery officer, following which he became Chief Instructor Royal Marine Gunnery School (1951-4), and was promoted to Captain. He was then seconded to Army Headquarters, Malta (1955-7) becoming responsible for operations, training and intelligence. He returned to Royal Marines Barracks, Portsmouth as Chief Instructor in 1957.

In 1960 he returned to active service, as Captain with 42 Commando with HMS Bulwark serving in Kuwait and took part in the campaign against Indonesia. Following which he served in Singapore, Aden, Cyprus, Egypt, Hong Kong and Kenya.

From 1963 to 1966 he served as Corps Historian and Assistant Curator of the RM Museum in Eastney supervising the preservation of the official Records of the Royal Marines, creating exhibitions and accepting donations of items into the museum.

Upon retiring in 1968 he became an International Co-ordinator and new business controller for PPR (Planned Public Relations) International and worked on a variety of different accounts including Gulf Oil.

Following his retirement he moved with his wife to Spain and only returned in 2005 due to ill health. He passed away peacefully on 4th November 2012 aged 89.



Subscriptions The Hon. Secretary writes:

The Chairman and I are delighted that with the diligent work of the Committee over the last three years. The KSA as a community is now stronger than it has been for a while. Our three key events each year have generally been at full capacity. The Newsletter Editors have worked hard to ensure that we have at least two and sometimes three Newsletters per year after these had rather withered on the vine in the first decade of this century.

Recent success has come at a cost. We subsidise, at a rate close to 60% of the true cost, new Kitchener Scholars and undergraduates at the Annual Dinner to encourage their attendance. Printing and postage of the Newsletter to nearly 500 Kitchener Scholars for whom we do not have an email address incurs significant expenses. Finally, Vice Chairman Jim Watson is leading a project to update our very antiquated website which will require an investment of around £1,000 with a website designer and hoster.

We currently have income of around £3,500 based on subscriptions from Scholars. This annual subscription has been at £10 per annum for well over a decade.

The annual deficit in the last two years has been close to £1,000. Whilst we have adequate cash reserves of some £13,000 to cover us for some years yet, the Committee has decided that we will need to put up subscriptions to £20 per annum with effect from 1st October, 2013. We would envisage that this rate will prevail for at least five years, and probably considerably longer.

I will be writing to or emailing Kitchener Scholars in due course, but if you are reading this Newsletter, wish to support the KSA and attend our events, then I would ask that you amend your standing order appropriately.

Please contact me using the details below if you need our bank details.

Finally, if you are reading a hard copy of this Newsletter and have an email address, please do drop me a line at secretary@kitchenerscholars.org as this will help to reduce our costs.

Simon Piggott, Honorary Secretary

Merchandise

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



Chairman	Hon. Secretary	Treasurer	Merchandise & Certificates	Newsletter Editors
Jonathan Price 54 Kestrel Avenue, London, SE24 0EB jsprice@ntlworld.com	Simon Piggott The Old Rectory, Wakerley, Northants LE15 8PA secretary@kitchenerscholars.org	John Ryder johnryder@outlook.com	Susan Saunders 506 Fulham Palace Road, London, SW6 6JD susancrookemail@yahoo.co.uk	Emma Traherne eltraherne@gmail.co.uk Victoria Manson vixmanson@hotmail.co.uk