

BFES SCEA Association

Newsletter & Journal - Winter 2018



Issue 41

A Message from the Chair

There have been a number of events which have occurred since the publication of the last Newsletter on which I would like to comment and which are highlighted further in this Newsletter.

In early October we had a most successful **AGM** at the Queen's Hotel in Leeds attended by nearly 50 members. The venue was excellent and superbly organised by Sue Adams. Wally Lewis, our archivist, laid on a most interesting display of various school artefacts, which he had received from different sources, which gave a wonderful historical perspective on Services schools worldwide.

Within this Newsletter you will find further details regarding a Warner Hotel reunion we are planning for next June. To enhance the attraction of this event we are relocating it to the Holme Lacy hotel near Hereford. This is to enable us to have one of my former Welbeck students, who is now the Commanding Officer of 18 Signals Regiment, to give us an after dinner address about his career which has led him to the command of this elite regiment. The regiment is co-located with 22 SAS regiment in the Sterling Lines, and gives close dedicated support to both the SAS and SBS on covert overseas operations. His wife, who is a serving officer in the Intelligence Corps, will also give us an address about her career to date. I do hope you will come along and join us at this event which promises to be a most enjoyable occasion in a lovely part of the UK. I would ask you please to give an early response as we have been obliged to pre-reserve a large number of rooms.

Those members who attended the Gütersloh reunion will remember an exhibition on the theme of **The British in Westfalia** in the Gütersloh Museum. **Professor Blum** of Paderborn University, who compiled the exhibition, wishes to extend her research and would welcome assistance from those who served in Germany. Arthur and Sheila Maxfield, who now live in Germany and who some of you met at the Gütersloh reunion, have met up with Professor Blum and are happy to be a point of contact.

Dr Huxford, who is conducting her own research into the **Cold War in Germany**, has expressed her gratitude to the association for enabling her to conduct interviews with members and you will find she has written a brief report on her research.

Finally, you will find included in this newsletter a copy of touching email I received from Wendy Thomson who is trying to make contact with teachers who, in the 1970's/80's, worked with her recently deceased father **Norman Thomson**. I see this as another way in which the association can enable members to help each other re-establish contact with former colleagues. I am so pleased that I have already been able to put her in contact with a number who knew her father.

Ken Jones—November 2018

Nolan Clamp and Bob Parkin



The Association is very sad to report the passing on August 5th 2018 of **Bob Parkin**, aged 92, a senior member of the HQ BFES staff in the 1970s and 1980s.

Many of us have very fond memories of his wonderful character which always radiated warmth, good humour and a constantly gentle, supportive manner.

A touching tribute to Bob is included in this Newsletter.



We also learnt as this publication was underway of the passing of an icon of the service we worked for and the past President of our Association - **Nolan Clamp**.

Nolan - **Director** from 1976 to 1991 - sadly died on 4th November 2018, aged 88. A fulsome tribute to Nolan will feature in the Spring edition of the newsletter.

Photo—Nolan (left) with Mike Bennett at Shackleton School. Mike will represent the Association at Nolan's funeral.



Association Curry Lunch—April 2019 (Revised Date)

Revised arrangements are now in place for the curry lunch to be held at **The Gurkha Museum, Winchester on Saturday April 27th 2019.**

The curry lunch will include starters, a main course and a dessert followed by tea and coffee. A salad will be available for members who would like to come to the lunch, but do not like curry. The cost will be £30 for both members and their guests.

The bar in the Library will be open from 12 noon. Lunch will be served in the **McDonald Gallery** at 1pm.

If there is sufficient interest there is the possibility of a tour of the museum itself.

A Booking Form is contained within this newsletter and the closing date for their receipt is 15th April 2019.



2019 Reunion—Holme Lacy House, Herefordshire

The Association has arranged for a weekend break at the Warners Leisure Hotel, Holme Lacy, Herefordshire, HR2 6LP.

The chosen dates are **June 28-30th 2019** and the venue is easily accessible by taxi from Hereford station or via the M5/M50.

Holme Lacy is a Grade 1 listed mansion set in 20 acres of grounds in the Wye Valley. There is plenty to do with daily entertainment (which includes **Last Night of the Proms on Saturday evening**). There is also a swimming pool, gym, putting green table tennis and croquet.

There are 17 double or twin rooms and 6 single rooms available to us. No single supplement applies.

The cost per person is £290. This includes breakfast and dinner.

A welcome drinks party is to be arranged on the **Friday** evening, and a farewell dinner on **Sunday** evening where we will be honoured with an after dinner speaker kindly arranged

by Ken Jones, before departure on Monday morning.

The Commanding Officer of 18 Signals Regiment, will give us an after dinner address about his career which has led him to the command of this elite regiment. The regiment is co-located with 22 SAS Regiment in the Sterling Lines, and gives close dedicated support to both the SAS and SBS on covert overseas operations.

A deposit is required of £30 per person and must be paid by 10th January. Full payment by 12th April. No refunds will be given.

This promises to be a very enjoyable weekend with time to chat and meet friends and colleagues at leisure.

Please feel free to invite your friends as well and if you have any questions - please do not hesitate to contact Sue Adams -

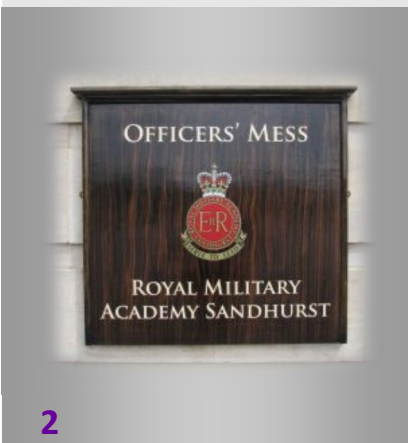
email buckwell.adams@gmail.com or telephone 01823 663195.



2019 AGM and Lunch at the RMA

2019 AGM and Reunion Lunch at the **Royal Military Academy Sandhurst** —5th October 2019 .

Look out for full details and booking form in the April 2019 Newsletter.



Lakeside Log – 1947

A kind of ungulate, non-ruminant omnivorous mammal

The following “Log” was found in one of the first **BFES** schools and published in the **BFES Gazette in August 1947**.

It was considered to be of such general interest that it was reproduced as a typical example of the resourcefulness and ingenuity of the teachers who had been recruited to our early Service.

January 14th. First impression, a delightful building with huge windows and wide terrace, with steps leading down to the Lake. The school is set in the woods adjoining a large Army Camp on the edge of a village. The building contains some large furniture; half a dozen exercise books and pencils. School roll made up of twenty-one very-assorted children from three to thirteen years of age. German master (interpreter) in sole charge.

January 15th. School hours at present 9 a.m. to 12.20 p.m. only: I am interviewed and welcomed by the Brigadier who offers every possible help; The R.E.O. and his deputy had already “*done their stuff*” well when the first contact was made.

I did say the children were assorted, but I find that there is apparently one common factor—their behaviour! They kick the German master (interpreter) in charge and call him what an Oxford Dictionary terms “a kind of ungulate, non-ruminant omnivorous mammal”.

Preparation of work for school impaired by lack of any kind of light from 1800 to 2100 hours

January 16th. Carpenters cut legs of army furniture. Locksmiths cut keys. Q.M. brings office furniture and cupboards (in anticipation of equipment to come). Electricians connect the building to the camp generator (I live over the school). Signals fix telephones. Try to get some order in the school despite all this!

The Brigadier has done finely, and clearly was much in earnest when proffering help. Wonder, was it my glamour or the fierce looks of the R.E.O. that achieved such wonderful co-operation?

January 17th. Kind loan of a few books and paints from A.E.S. Carpenters still working. I collect pieces of wood and shavings.

January 21st. Carpenters working repairing tables; fitting shelves; for towels and coats. Furniture on lakeside terrace moved to make space for games.

Playground is at present about 2 miles long and 1 mile wide—the lake being frozen. Ice 2 ft. in thickness and covered with snow. Suspect scarlet fever case. Send for M.O. 12 miles away.

January 24th. Acquired large room in twin building across a rustic bridge—for games room and assembly hall. Held parents’ meeting, all most enthusiastic and anxious apparently to co-operate.

January 27th. School hours changed 9 to 12 noon and 1.30 to 3.30 p.m. Still no stock arrived. Went after school with interpreter, to visit his friend, the manager of a spindle factory. Returned with sack of fine beech sawdust, which will be useful for stuffing toys, plastics, etc.

January 28th. Note that children now address German master (interpreter) as “Sir” instead of by the aforementioned sibilant word! Having begged soap, soda, etc., give the boiler man a demonstration of **scrubbing in the English housewife style**. He scrubs out the new games room which has been unoccupied for a year. Water freezes as he scrubs, so we have an indoor skating rink.

Begged some flour, made modelling material - with sawdust and paste. Bought- two magazines and use advertisements for number cards, freezes etc.

January 29th. Gave boiler man a demonstration of how to remove ice from indoor skating rink. Used hall as a change from 2 sq. mile ice play-ground.

Rowland Edward “Bob” Parkin

For over 20 years Bob Parkin provided the knowledge, inspiration and guidance required for the Inspection and Advisory Service (IAS) to become effective and appreciated. His understanding of the needs of Service Children was detailed and exceptional. He was devoted to the creation of the best possible learning environment for all such pupils. Teachers who worked with him were guided by his knowledge, leadership and tenacity, his warmth and great sense of humour, his support of initiatives taken and his sincere friendship. Above all was his pursuit of high standards in all that he required to achieve quality provision in service schools.

He will be long remembered and greatly missed.

Bob was born in West Stockwith, a village on the banks of the River Trent, where Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire meet. It was a rural world. He would recall that he only heard news about what was going on in the world in the 1930s by listening to a neighbour's radio, which he could hear if he stuck his head in a cupboard against the party wall.

Bob left school early to go to sea in the second world war, and that opened the door to a wider world.

Bob went on to work in education for nearly 50 years. Work took him and his family around the world. In the 1960s he was headmaster of Iserlohn Primary School: in the 1970s he trained teachers at Loughborough College, and in Pakistan and Swaziland. In the 1970s he was Assistant Director at HQ BFES and in the 1980s he was Senior Adviser for Service Children's Schools in Germany. In retirement he still enjoyed a bit of supply teaching, digging out the old puppets for storytelling and teaching arithmetic 'his way'.

Teaching was his natural calling. As many people have been reminding us, his speciality was building relationships with children, parents, and the community. One retired

teacher, a young member of staff in the 1960s, said: 'It is unusual for a group of teachers to have a relationship with their Headteacher lasting from then to now, but we have **He was of the best!**'

Teaching fitted well with his other passion, football. There never was a time when he wasn't refereeing, coaching or talking football. One of his retirement projects was coaching in the USA: he liked a bit of travel. But Bob always enjoyed coming home to his roots. The death of his wife, Barbara, was very hard for him to bear. Grandchildren, great-grandson Oscar, and the wider family meant a great deal to him. He had a close bond with his sister, Rita, loyal and loving to the end.

So did his friends. One who knew him for many years, **Michael O'Connor**, remembers Bob like this:

'I clearly remember running behind Bob, holding on to the rear carrier of my Pigeon Roadster as he pedalled us home, through the Beijing dark, after a restaurant night out - and feeling quite happy at being a follower.

Following the death of Barbara, Bob saw an advert placed by **Terry Rivers** (formerly St Patrick's, Rheindahlen) seeking applications for teaching positions at Yew Chung International School, Hong Kong. Bob and Terry had met previously when Bob was employed by the ESF. Bob was interviewed by the Director of Yew Chung and employed to assist Terry with the extension of the school from Primary to Secondary. He became greatly respected by both the expatriate and Chinese staff and was in contact with many of them right up to his death.

From Hong Kong Bob transferred to Shanghai to open the Yew Chung school and then to open Beijing Yew Chung Primary school. After a major back operation in Beijing Bob returned to England.

How vigorous Bob was, even at 70, heaving equipment around as we opened the new Yew Chung Primary School in Beijing, and putting his strength, athleticism and sports

February 3rd. Bagged some bad potatoes, used good parts for potato cuts.

February 4th. Used chocolate wrappers and gum arabic for cut paper pictures. Reading chiefly from home-made books. Writing and Arithmetic (worked out in my flat each evening) continues apace. Explored cellars of Army H.Q. A veritable treasure house! Old cardboard folders printed with Canadian Army instructions, and very rusty tins of paste. Boiled this down – it makes excellent glue.

Interpreter went in search of feathers for use with glue and quills to make paint-brushes. He returned with so many I wondered what happened to the chicken, and in this weather too. Bought sandpaper in the Village but couldn't find the word for it in my German/English dictionary. Still, I secured it eventually.

February 5th. Toilets frozen—engineers came. Main sewer, frozen, nothing can be done they say. Gramophone on "unofficial loan" arrived. Lucky enough to buy some suitable records from Welfare. Cut out sandpaper letters and pasted them on Canadian Army covers for use by infants.

February 6th. Open day for parents. They arrive to see children at work. Carpenters and engineers also arrive. Later after much persuasion and drawing of many diagrams by me - agree to dig a temporary cess pit. They said it was impossible owing to ground being frozen solid to a depth of two feet. I pointed out that they would dig a hole readily enough if anyone died, and that if one could be dug for the dead, one could certainly be dug for the living.

February 8th. Piano tuner arrives without tools.

February 10th. Piano tuner arrives with tools. Repairs piano upon which up to my arrival, the children had danced.

Carpenters' pieces + sand- paper + ink = bricks for infants.

February 11th. No Water coming into school: asked for engineers. My hair + quills + twigs = paint brushes.

February 12th. Engineers came, say water main frozen in the ground, and, nothing can be done.

After much persuasion 50 gallon tank fixed in basement, but how on earth do I fill it with water? Wireless arrived on "unofficial loan". Packing provided us with silver backed paper and bags of activated carbon which make splendid beanbags for P.T. Borrowed old carpet for a play rug, mended it and had it beaten with snow.

Potatoes + butter muslin + waterproof ink = trinket sets.

February 15th Begged some flour and made paste.

Paste + ink + paper gleaned from Signals, make paste papers to cover Canadian folders. Tank still empty – only two buckets of water for all purposes.

Dead matches + ink = counting bundles.

February 17th. Water cart arrives to fill tank --- water freezes in rubber pipe from car to tank. Soak pipe in precious hot water and return to cart. Tap on cart now frozen; take this out and begin again. Pipe freezes as water runs in! I thaw pipe again; that tap again - give up! Fill 50 gallon tank with rusty funnel and two buckets. Triumph! Tank at last full! Discover that it leaks three quarters of the way up! empty it to the leak level. Reading, writing and arithmetic mingled with or mangled by these operations.

Cut stick printing tools from carpenters' scraps, also use tooth paste tube tops.

February 15th. Water, what luxury! Work unimpeded. '

February 19th. All toilets frozen inside the 'house. No water in the village because. no power. Engineers and plumbers came - nothing can be done they say, but another cess pit is dug as a result of my persuasive powers. They light a huge fire which licks the wall of the house to thaw the pipes. **I tremble lest school catches fire - no water to put it out.** Decide to give a fire drill alarm as a test. All children out in 30 seconds.

February 20th. Engineers dig - snow stops work. A real blizzard! No toilets. No water in village.

February 24th. Desperate for water. Water on in village for one hour. Today's arithmetic – "How long will it take one man with two buckets carrying Water 300 yards to fill a 50-gallon tank?"

No toilets.

February 26th. Use cotton wool out of aspirin bottle for stencilling patterns. Can I keep up supply of cotton wool I wonder! Send boiler man two miles to deserted airfield to pick up petrol cans I remember seeing there on the day of my arrival; must have water somehow!

February 28th. No water in village. Water cart sent 12 miles to nearest town. Water freezes on way back and bursts tanks. Water on for half an hour in village.

March 3rd. Water tank full. Primitive sanitary arrangements working. Spend lunch hour burning fluff off pipe cleaners to make them into weaving needles to use with scraps of wool given by parents. Canadian Army covers make grand card looms.

March 4th. Snow blocks roads and cuts off village from outer world

Wonder will children come to school by boat instead of sleigh when the thaw comes.

Instant "Creation" at a moment's notice



The first Trumpet Major David Atkinson knew of his participation in the BFG production of Haydn's oratorio "**The Creation**" was at a quarter to midnight the night before the performance.

He had been playing with the rest of the band of **4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards** at the farewell for Brigadier Mike Regan from 20 Armoured Brigade in Detmold. It was only when he got home that he learnt of the request to be in Hamm with his trumpet early the following morning for a couple of rehearsals at **Hamm Primary School** and a performance of "The Creation".

Four other military bandsmen, likewise "called up" to add weight to the orchestral accompaniment of the 76 strong **BAOR Chorus** had longer notice but owing to other engagements also had just one day to rehearse their contribution to a complex musical work.

experience to use as he coached after-school football in Hong Kong. He stayed up with the play, while I could only just run along the side tine.

Bob had remarkable powers of recall, rivalling those of the legendary Memory Man, Leslie Welch. He knew someone or something that connected with just about everyone. It was somewhat disconcerting for an interviewee to find that the interviewer knows your college lecturer or your school's last Head.

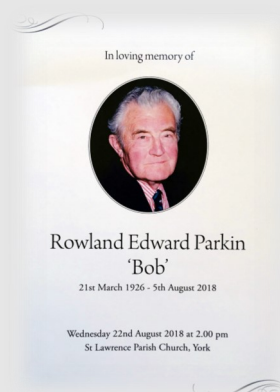
Bob related things and put them in order. That was important to him: establishing an orderly system that you could depend on and use efficiently.

More recently, Bob went to live in York. The loss of physical strength and reduced mobility which followed a spinal operation frustrated him, particularly because it constrained the social opportunities of this most sociable of men. Watching a football match on television required someone to discuss it with.

Family visits, reunions, phone calls, letters and social media chats helped ease his isolation, and he stayed in touch with people he'd known all over the world.

Bob's strong Christian faith contextualised his strengthening view that life, as he was experiencing it recently, wasn't worth living. When he spoke to Mike Bennett (long serving head at Super Shackleton School), he would part with the words 'Keep smiling, Mike'.

This thought for others, generous and big-hearted, was characteristic of a remarkable friend.



Maltese style

July 2018 marked 40 years since the (final) closure of the schools in Malta. To mark the occasion a group of 19 ex-teachers converged on Manchester to make merry as in the traditional Maltese style. We all agreed that none of us had changed in the slightest and that Malta was most definitely one of the happiest times of our lives.

Jeff Bonner had kept the pink football kits from that era which were squeezed into causing Trev Ricketts to burst into song. A great time was had by all and we eventually let Tommy Jordan out of the restaurant.



Article & photo credits -
Kath Rawcliffe



Actually, nobody had very much time to prepare the hour long opus for public approval. With chorus and soloists scattered between **Rheindahlen** and **West Berlin** the earliest anyone could get together was the Friday before the Sunday afternoon performance. It meant preparing "Creation" in rather less time than the seven days needed for the original production.



For the bandsmen Hayden meant a considerable change of pace from the normal run of military music.

"Oratorio is not really geared for heavy brass playing," said Bandsman Martin Doughty, a trombonist with the band of **5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards**. "I like orchestral music but there is limited opportunity in this area and you can't afford to be choosy."

Counting the rests was the real difference, according to Band Sergeant Major Brinley of 4/7 DG. You might have to count as many as 250 bars rest which was more than the entire length of most military compositions.

This was the third occasion that singers from across BFG and West Berlin had assembled to perform a choral classic. Before the venues had been messes in Sennelager and Hamm, but a performance of "The Messiah" last March (1986) sufficiently impressed **Pastor Hans-Martin Thimme** to invite the choir to come to his church (**St Pankratius, Hamm-Mark**) and sing in front of his congregation. Offers of up to 50 beds were made by his congregation to accommodate those travelling from a distance. The main inspiration behind the monumental task of achieving choral unity over such a distance was **Stuart Gill**, an inspector of BFES schools in Germany. He acted as musical director and through his contacts with the music department of **Christ Church College, Canterbury**, was able to arrange for a 24 strong student orchestra to come to Hamm for the weekend.

Organisation, support and back-up were provided by Tom Nielsen-Marsh, head of the BFES teachers' centre in Enger. In fact, school teachers provided the bulk of the singers, with dependants of servicemen accounting for much of the remainder.

There was a contingent from the PSA and at least one staff officer, Sqn Ldr Chris Rackham, air liaison officer at 4 Armoured Division, who was grappling with a heavy cold on the day of the performance.

The soloists included **John Russell**, head of St Peter's School, Lübbecke,

husband and wife **Jeffery and Heather Morton**, who teach at King's School, Gütersloh, **Caroline Luard**, the wife of a staff officer at 1 Armoured Division, and **Drummond Walker** a Briton who is a member of the Detmold Opera Company.

After the hectic activity of "The Creation" the BAOR Chorus will draw breath



with the hope of being back in action next May (1988), postings and prior commitments permitting.

Adapted from an article in Sixth Sense no 422 – 25th November 1987.

Seventy Years on - Christmas 1948

On 1st July 1946 **John Trevelyan**, Director of Education for Westmorland was appointed to the position of Director of British Children's Schools, British Army of the Rhine. By **December 1948**, John Trevelyan was reporting:

"B.F.E.S. is now celebrating its third Christmas. A backward glance to our first Christmas in Germany and a brief picture of things as they were then will help to heighten the contrast between B.F.E.S. at its beginning and B.F.E.S. as it is now. It is good at times to stand at a distance and see things in their perspective.

"Two years ago the Regional staffs had been on the ground for six weeks. They had arrived at their Regional Headquarters just in time to become installed before the onset of one of the hardest winters in living memory. Installed is rather a grand phrase for what was the experience of most of them.

"In **Dusseldorf** the Regional Education Officer and his assistant were taken to a block of modern flats and told the third floor was their office. Three small flats centrally heated with modern kitchens and modern bathrooms might make nice flats, but alas, with only one table as furnishing, for the whole suite of offices, no chairs, no desks, no lights, no paper, no envelopes, no typewriters, no file covers, and above all, no staff, was not the best of beginnings. However, they had in their pockets a brief from Headquarters at Herford and a very incorrect list of where British children might be found in **Land Nordrhein Westfalen**. Headquarters were able to supply them as a beginning with ten file covers, about fifty sheets of paper, a few pencils and a large number of promises regarding typewriters, staff, furniture, light fittings and transport. Many of these promises were kept. The first teachers began to arrive five days after their own arrival. They had chairs to sit upon, and a car to meet them at the station, though not guaranteed free of breakdowns. A conference with the Regional Headquarters and Army Headquarters gave some idea where children might be found in an area larger than England and Wales. The work had begun.

"In other regions experiences were similar. The best organised supply channel

Welcome to New members

Terry Bugden taught in Bourne BAC School, Kuala Lumpur; Windsor Boys' School, Hamm, and St George's School, Hong Kong. He and **Judy** currently live in Somerset.

Jane Clarke taught in a number of Service Children's Schools in Cyprus, Berlin, Germany and Naples from 1984 to 2017, and has now retired to the Isle of Wight.

Colin Hunter served in the Royal Army Education Corps from 1984 to 2010. He served as SO2 Schools in Hong Kong (1992-1995) as SO2 Education BAOR (2004-2008) and as Bursar at SHAPE school (2010-2014).

Colin now lives in York.

Sharon Mapplebeck worked with the SCE Eastern Area Advisory Service from 1988 to 1991, followed by a posting to Cyprus and then back to Germany. Sharon now lives in Barnsley.

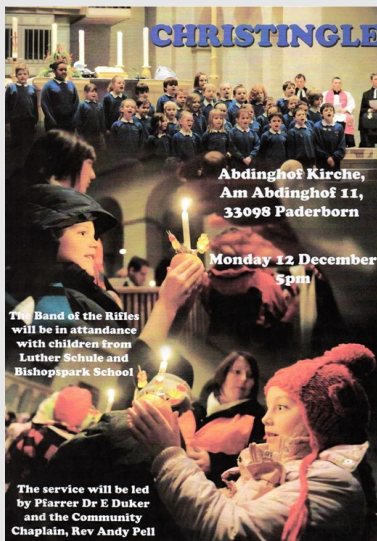
Gill Needham, between 1992 and 2013, taught in 6 different schools in Germany, and has now settled in Lincoln.

Richard Stenton taught for 31 years in Cyprus at St John's School, Episkopi. His wife **Sue** taught in Berengaria and then joined Richard at St John's School. They now live in Harrogate.

Wendy Thomson is the daughter of the late **Norman Thomson**, who taught at RAF Muharraq ('68 to '71), Gütersloh ('71 to '73), Celle ('73 to '76) and finally, until his retirement, as Head of Hamm Primary School. Wendy lives in Gloucestershire.



The traditional 2010 *Anglo-German Children's Christingle*



Service took place in **Abdinghof Church, Paderborn.**

Children from local British and German schools took part in the service of lessons and carols, accompanied by teachers and parents.

There were around 500 children there and they were all given a Christingle.

A Christingle is made up of an orange representing the world with a red ribbon around it, representing the blood of Jesus.

Fruit and sweets are skewered on four cocktail sticks which are pushed into the orange to represent the fruits of the earth and the four seasons. Finally, a lit candle is pushed into the centre of the orange, representing Christ, the light of the world.

Photos: Jennifer Atkins



was the supply of teachers. How they came, all eager for an entirely new educational world, for the virgin territory where British children in some places had been running around wild, in other cases had been grouped together in some upstairs room in a barracks which was called locally the school, and looked after by voluntary helpers who gave them sums and kept them quiet pending the setting up of the British Families Education Service.

"*The winter of 1946/7* is a sorry tale of long journeys in freezing conditions, journeys abandoned through weather conditions, of breakdown of transport, feverish activity by teachers in their new locations to set up school and teach with a ball of string as the sole piece of equipment and loud groans from every location for school supplies.

"The picture of that first winter cannot be taken out of the background of Germany in 1946/7. The transport situation was incredibly bad. Cars which should never have left the workshops were doing long journeys in the worst conditions and frequently failing to get anywhere; a spare wheel for a car was a luxury, and new tyres to grip ice were beyond the hopes of all; trains were delayed through lack of fuel. The system of food distribution for the Germans had broken down, and the import of food for them became a first priority. One consignment of B.F.E.S. stores was loaded on to five different ships in London docks and five times unloaded for cargoes of higher priority. The furniture for B.F.E.S. schools was in process of manufacture in a country where the workmen were too hungry to work and the raw materials not available for the articles to be made. Pending the manufacture of the B.F.E.S. pattern of school furniture Rhine Army had on supply an interim pattern of desk. The interim pattern arrived in the schools after the supply of B.F.E.S. furniture had begun its slow and uneven trickle which stocked the schools with tables, but with no chairs to sit upon. In the buildings taken as schools, works services were halted through shortages and bad weather. In the U.K. the shortage of raw materials for books and apparatus had its repercussions on B.F.E.S in Germany, and although the publishers were generous within their limits, and on the whole B.F.E.S. was generously treated in comparison with schools at home, when the supplies came through they seemed very insignificant to fulfil the high hopes of those who saw the opportunities in Germany. ***Never in the history of educational endeavour have people chosen so bad a time and so bad a place to begin an entirely new venture with so little to meet so many possibilities.***

"1947 was a year to make-do and mend. Somehow in a variety of places schools became established, the children were taught and registers were kept, a mid-day meal was provided for eighty per cent of the children. Somehow the number of schools opened began to grow, the trickle of supplies became a steady stream, buildings never intended for schools were turned into delightful educational environments.

"A co-educational boarding school was opened; a comprehensive system of administration began to grow. Somehow B.F.E.S. had come into existence. Within this environment the education of British children was proceeding and the schools seemed to belie the grim struggle the teachers were having behind their cheerful exteriors. School journeys, school concerts, hobbies competitions, co-operation with the German educational systems, Parent-Teacher Groups, conferences on teaching methods, visits from Members of Parliament and well-known educationalists, gave an impression of normality which nobody felt, but created a tendency to compare things as they were with what they ought to be; the possibilities of the environment were pressing heavily on the probabilities of accomplishment. Throughout 1948 B.F.E.S. had many good friends and in such a period of shortage and frustration we cannot praise too highly the assistance

given by the Unit Quartermasters and Local Administrative Unit Commandants on the ground and by the staffs of the Services, and Control Commission, Germany, at formation Headquarters.

"By the **second Christmas in Germany** the machine, however creakily was working. Teachers who had been out for a year began to go home and new ones took their places. The new arrivals found schools established and had little knowledge of the painful beginnings. By Christmas 1948, nearly 400 teachers will have come to Germany and over 100 of the pioneers will have returned to the U.K. The pioneers had an experience which they will value in retrospect. They will be better teachers for the psychological upsets they had to endure both in the methods they had to adopt in their schools and the world they met outside their school hours.

"Since 1946 great changes have taken place in Germany itself as a derelict people have striven to rehabilitate themselves. For those of B.F.E.S. who are joining the Service now the conditions and problems are entirely different from those of two years ago.

"Nevertheless those conditions and problems still have their effects. Where 1947 was a year of make-do and mend, 1948 has been a year of tidying up and reaching for normality. But not without its adventures too, as for example, the opening of the second boarding school. There, the Army relinquished the buildings and five weeks later five hundred children arrived (incidentally at one o'clock in the morning), to a school equipped to sufficient normality to undertake an official opening a few days later by the Minister of Education.

"Previously the problem had been to establish a service, now the problem is to make the service truly educational which is the normal problem of all systems of education.

"But we are still in a world of austerity and perhaps the affluence of the 1930's will never again be experienced either in Germany or in the United Kingdom. When all raw materials are strictly limited and strictly allocated we have to plan well ahead for our requirements. Headquarters, B.F.E.S. has, in the first term of this school year 1949/50, been arranging for supplies for the school year 1950/51. This is a token of the advance we have made from the days of crisis to the period of administrative normality.

"In two crowded years the British Families Education Service has established itself firmly as an educational system. It has 88 Primary Day Schools, two Secondary Day Schools and two co-Educational Secondary Boarding Schools. There are well over five thousand children attending its schools, nearly a thousand of these in boarding schools. This Christmas it has about 280 British teachers in its schools, and but for the prolonged method of recruitment they would number over three hundred. These schools and these teachers are spread over an area approximately the same as England and Wales. The children attending these schools belong to the Royal Navy, the Army and the Royal Air Force, the Control Commission and British parents working with civilian organisations. In these schools also are children of nearly **sixteen different nationalities** whose parents are in Allied Missions and Organisations. Some of the schools are entirely Army in character, others are entirely Royal Air Force, others are entirely Control Commission, Germany, but the large majority have children from all Services. The administration of such spreading over an inter-Services network means close co-operation between the Services and B.F.E.S. administration. It means that the day-to-day problems of a Local Education Authority in U.K. become peculiarly distorted. School transport for getting children to school, where public utilities are non-existent, means arranging for Service transport to be provided. Supplying mid-day meals, where the only market for food is the official ration and the school cooks are Germans, gives Meal Organisers extra things to think about. Assembling and dispersing boarding schools for the school holidays where there is no system of luggage in advance, where all movements by rail are

Big Christmas Card Send-off 2008

Mail is one the biggest morale boosters for members of HM Forces who are separated from their families, friends and loved ones, whilst deployed around the world at Christmas.

Children at **William Wordsworth School** in Sennelager designed and made Christmas cards for their parents who had recently deployed on operational duty for the festive period.

Out of the 193 pupils at the school, which caters for the children of soldiers based in 20th Armoured Brigade in Germany, 138 of them had a parent on duty in **Iraq, Afghanistan** or the **Falkland Islands**.

And there was an added bonus for the children, as footage of some of them making the cards was to be placed on the Army website alongside corresponding footage showing the journey their card took through the postal system - possibly right up until the moment their mum or dad opened it in theatre.

In the two months leading up to Christmas 2008 nearly 35,000 sacks of mail weighing 280 tonnes, with each bag carrying approximately 50 items, were sent to soldiers in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Vicky Rutherford, mother of Charlie, 9, Aidan, 6, and Owen, 5, who all attended the school made cards for their father Sgt Andrew Rutherford who was recently deployed to Iraq, said: "I think it's a lovely idea, it means the children can really get involved in something and deal with the fact that their father won't be here over. "All the kids have been getting very excited; the anticipation of what their dad will think of the cards when they get them has been building up. It will be a big morale booster for him while he is over there."

He joined the Army in 1994 and had previously served in **Bosnia, Kosovo, Sierra Leone, Kenya, Oman** and **Northern Ireland**, although this was the first time that he was away from his

children over Christmas.

Vicky, who was taking the three boys plus their two other children Honor, 3 and Mya, 13- months to her parents in the UK over Christmas, added: "Of course it will be tough with Andy being away.

This will be the first time that he will be away over the Christmas period but we will be able to call him regularly and the army welfare facilities will provide a lot of support.

"Events like this are a big help and really make the children feel a lot better.

"I am trying to arrange a lot for the kids to keep them occupied while dad's away, so that the time goes by quickly."

Wilma Simpson then head teacher of **William Wordsworth School** explained the importance of the role schools can play to help children deal with one of their parents being deployed.

She said: "I was delighted to facilitate this for our pupils who have mums and dads overseas.

"At times like this when large numbers are deployed, we try to carry on as normal and to keep the kids' minds focused.

"We have introduced an e-blueys club where children can write letters which will reach their parents wherever in the world they are posted to.

"Our staff has also had deployment awareness training and many of them, who also have sons and daughters at the school have experienced deployment before.

"It is about having empathy, allowing pupils perhaps a quiet moment as and when needed, a kind word, listening to mum, and having time for the children, which this Christmas card event is all



organised by the **Movements Branch of Rhine Army**, where some children have to travel by rail distances equal to Newcastle to Exeter and then on by road and air transport to their homes, means that the simple dispersal of a school for holidays becomes a major operation which has to be begun weeks beforehand and is not completed until every child is inside the door of his own home. Such examples could be multiplied.

"It is thus at **Christmas 1948**, we who have been in B.F.E.S. from the beginning and have so many times been lost in a maze of difficulties can stand at a distance and see the proper perspective. We still have our difficulties; we still have much tidying up to do, and, as ever in things educational, always will have. Nevertheless there is no denying what has been accomplished. Two years ago nothing; today an educational service which bears comparison with any.

The British child in Germany can enter a school at three years of age, and if the Occupation lasts long enough he can proceed through all stages of the British system of education up to University entrance. That is the true picture of the last two years."

With the departure of **John Trevelyan** in 1949 to the Ministry, and later to the British Board of Film Censors, the pioneering phase could be considered at an end. The beginnings were behind and the future was, to say the least, uncertain, but foundations had in fact been laid which, as we now know, were triumphantly to stand the test of time.

From the Origins of the British Families Education Service by FH Buckley, MBE and WW Smith, MBE

A Song for Christmas 2003



At the start of November, plans were hatched to supply some Christmas cheer, courtesy of the Garrison's children. The brainchild of Sarah Rutherford-Jones was to produce a CD of carols, performed by the Garrison's little angels! Even if their singing wasn't necessarily angelic, there was another opportunity for the children to express their artistic talent by competing to design their school's CD cover.

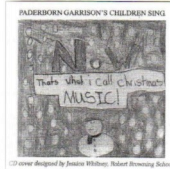
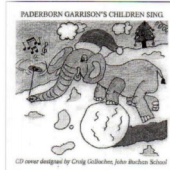
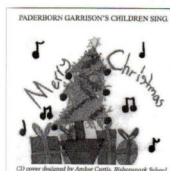
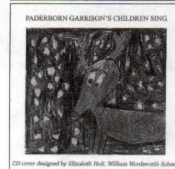
Under the watchful eye of Headmaster Paul MacArdle, John Buchan School's hall was transformed into a recording studio for the day. Steve Walker provided the technical wizardry and recording expertise, and ensured that the two carols sung by each school needed as few 'takes' as possible.

Each school's design competition winner had their artwork printed on the front cover of some of the CDs – look around this page – and Mike Green of Sennelager Tax Free Cars along with Michael Larson from SAAB presented them with prize money and certificate. Sennelager Tax Free Cars involvement did not end there; a massive thank you must extend to Steve Graham who spent four days and nights burning 1200 CDs!

The CD's popularity took everyone by surprise. As yet, the final total has not been calculated, but plenty of donations have been received and the total should reach several thousand euros.

Many thanks to all of the children, contributors, teachers and organisers, but most of all you the

purchaser!
All of your donations are to be ploughed back into the participating schools.



Christmas Credits - Wilma Simpson



2018 AGM—Leeds

The AGM 2018 was held in the Queen's Hotel, Leeds, on October 6th. 47 people attended the meeting followed by an enjoyable lunch: [photos pages 11,12 & 13.](#)

Despite many hold ups with traffic and train problems, most were able to arrive comfortably on time.

Association Archivist Wally Lewis put together an impressive archive display in the dining area and also received further contributions for the archive from several members.

Members had been asked to bring some photos from their time in Service Schools - these were shared amongst members and served to bring back many memories from times past and will be shared in the Spring 2019 Newsletter.



AGM Photo Credits
Hugh Ritchie

Meeting Report

Ken (Jones, OBE - chairman) opened the meeting by thanking everyone for their support of the Association and their attendance at this AGM and lunch.

He particularly welcomed new members Jane Clark-Dyke and Colin Hunter. Ken remembered his early days in Leeds University being a callow youth lacking in personal confidence and contrasted this with the overt confidence of the young people he had cared for during their Gap placements in China. He could never have imagined the career he has had since this uncertain start.

Ken went on to thank Wally Lewis for his sterling work in managing the archive and producing the display today. In addition, he thanked Hugh and Christine for their work in supporting the reunion in Germany and producing such



wonderful photographs—and to Gareth Morgans for his excellent report for the newsletter. This, in addition to the superb reports written by Rob Crow and Mike Harland.

Finally he thanked the committee for working so well together as a team.

He ended by hoping that all members attending today would share memories and have a very enjoyable lunch.

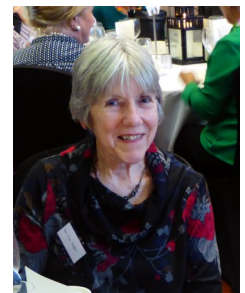
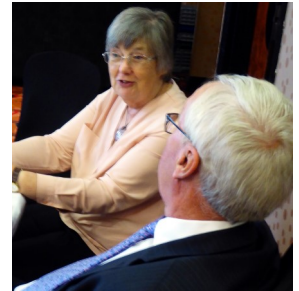
Lynn Marshall reported that the reunion in Germany in June had been an unqualified success. She gave special thanks to Ken for all the very hard work, on behalf of the Association, he had put into making the event such a success. It was reported that each part of the reunion ran like clockwork and that everyone met was very helpful and friendly and determined to make the visit successful. In addition the children/young people we met were a delight, showing a keen interest and much enthusiasm for their school and the education they were receiving.

Those who had attended the Reunion agreed that the event had been a great success.

There was discussion about how to **increase membership**. Ken talked about the geographical map of membership which was currently only available to the committee. This map showed pockets of dense membership. It was agreed that the map would be published to the website and password protected.

Mike Chislett reported that he enjoyed working on the **website**, but sometimes still had to Skype Glyn Pascoe (previous website manager) to ask for help in posting items.

Mike was keen for everyone to use the website and highlighted the statistics in the report. He also stated that the Association





AGM Photo Credits
Hugh Ritchie



had a **Facebook** link which he was considering resurrecting.

Ken spoke on behalf of Tom. He praised the quality of the **newsletter** and in particular the latest newsletter which had focused on the Reunion in Germany. He also commented that there had been a comment made at the last AGM that Tom look at the size of the photos as some were a little too small to identify individual people. Ken felt this issue had been addressed during the year. He also asked members to consider sending photos to Tom for inclusion in future newsletters. Each photo must contain a written annotation and ideally be at least 3Mb in size.

Wally Lewis—Archivist drew everyone's attention to the **Archive** display in the dining room. He said that it was very helpful of the IOE to send a list of items which they would like closing schools to send for inclusion in the archive. He also reiterated that the Archive would only accept original items.

Janet Bradley—Treasurer distributed the balance sheet to everyone. At 31st December 2017 the Association had overspent by £220.99. On final calculations, income had exceeded expenditure by £293 so reducing the overall deficit. There was some discussion as to how the subscription money was spent. Also a question was asked as to how much money the association currently held. It is £9,511.

Janet pointed out that the **Association subscription fee** no longer covered annual expenditure. The Committee thus proposed to raise the annual subscription from £10 to £15. which would allow a little "wiggle" room for increased expenditure in the coming years.

Election of Officers

Sue Adams proposed Ken Jones OBE as chairman. Jimmy Caldwell seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Ken then resumed the meeting explaining that all current officers had agreed to continue in their roles and therefore he was proposing that all committee members be re-elected. This proposal was unanimously accepted. The 2018 2019 committee:-

Chair: Ken Jones

Vice Chair and Archivist:

Walter Lewis

Secretary: Lynn Marshall

Treasurer: Janet Bradley

Membership Secretaries:

Hugh & Christine Ritchie

Events Manager: Sue Adams

Website Manager: Mike Chislett

Newsletter Editor:

Tom Nielsen-Marsh

Member: Jane Tull

Gareth Morgans had expressed an interest in helping with membership. Gareth was voted onto the committee as a co-opted member to support the work of the committee

Walter Lewis proposed this and Sue Adams seconded.

Agreed by all.

GDPR

Following the Association's adoption of GDPR this item was on the agenda to allow members to ask any questions or seek clarification on any aspect of the regulations. There were no questions.

Ken informed the meeting that the committee had worked hard to adopt sensible procedures and were grateful to Tom Nielsen-Marsh for his understanding of the subject area and presentation of a detailed paper which allowed the committee to agree to the appropriate proposals. Ken further stated that it is not the committee's intention to make

Living on a Cold War Frontier: an Update and a Thank You

By Dr Grace Huxford (University of Bristol)



Earlier this year, I got in touch with the BFES-SCEA Committee about an exciting new research project I am running here at the University of Bristol on the social history of British bases in Germany during the Cold War. I felt that the experience of teachers and educational professionals was a very important part of this social history, given their role in bases and the length of time many spent in Germany. I met with the Committee and put a short "call for participants" in March's newsletter.

Since then I have been delighted to have received so many emails, letters and phone calls from those who had lived and worked in Germany. I have now interviewed thirteen individuals with an education connection and have heard about many astonishing, moving or amusing aspects of life in Germany. From teachers in Berlin, I learnt about living on the Cold War 'frontline', venturing into East Berlin or travelling out of the city on the British Corridor. I also heard about the extraordinary week when the Berlin Wall came down, coinciding with a timely visit from HMI! From others, I learnt about evacuation planning, the impact of military exercises and troop deployments on life on the bases, and the challenges and rewards of working with service children. I also heard more about teaching practices, barrack-block teaching rooms, curriculum changes and mirroring UK schools to aid the transition of children back into the UK system. Outside of work, participants also shared their wonderful memories of travelling around Western Europe on holiday in caravans and cars ('When distance was measured in hours rather than miles', as one participant put it). Many people also described their experiences exploring Germany, meeting local German people and enjoying "Kaffee und Kuchen", as well everything from social clubs, theatre groups and parties to petrol coupons and the NAAFI.

It has been a real privilege to hear all of these stories and historians are now, quite rightly, paying this Cold War period far more attention. I want to extend my thanks formally to all those who have participated and for their generosity in speaking to me about their experiences. I also want to thank the Committee who have been so encouraging in their support of this project.

If you would still like to participate or would like to know more, please feel free to email me on grace.huxford@bristol.ac.uk or to telephone on 0117 3317079 (I am often out of my office teaching, so email is often best in the first instance and I can call you back).

With thanks and best wishes,

Grace Huxford

Research on the History of the British in Germany

Dr Bettina Blum - Paderborn University

I am a historian and responsible for the exhibition "*The British in Westphalia*" which was shown in Paderborn in the winter of 2017/18 — a smaller version is now travelling through Westphalia (please find more information on www.briten-in-westfalen.de; or on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/BriteninWestfalen/>).

Following the success of this project, a new exhibition will be shown at the *State Parliament of North Rhine Westphalia in Dusseldorf in May 2019* which will be open to the public. This exhibition will include experiences from Brits and Germans in the

Rhineland, especially in the areas of Dusseldorf, Cologne, Bonn and JHQ Rheindahlen. I am also planning a research project together with Paderborn University which will cover the whole area of BAOR/BFG.

In my research I don't concentrate on military history nor on political history (although both aspects are part of the story), but on the history and experiences of people – of soldiers and officers as well as of wives and children and of course of their German neighbours, colleagues and friends. I focus on personal experiences of Britons and Germans, on daily life in the barracks and married quarters in Germany and on Anglo-German relations.

From the feedback we are getting we realised how many interesting customs, hobbies and exchanges the British presence brought to Germany — and how many customs and encounters have influenced the British communities here.

As this is a joint Anglo-German history I try to capture both British and German perspectives and to add as much variety, depth and colour to the exhibition and research project as possible. Therefore I am looking for *your* experiences and memories: I'm very much interested in personal memories and I would be happy to conduct interviews or learn about personal experiences via email.

And I am looking for photos (slides, prints, negatives and film), maps, postcards, personal letters, commentaries, event programmes, trophies and all kinds of memorabilia — to borrow for the exhibition, to copy and return or to keep them in a museum as a memory for future generations:

- Life in the Rheinland, especially in JHQ
- photos and memorabilia from the Rheinland, especially from JHQ
- objects, photos, magazines etc from British schools and clubs
- objects and photos from Anglo-German clubs, sport clubs, choirs, theatre groups...
- objects of daily military life (e.g. pace sticks, rules how to behave in an officers mess, rules or documents concerning parades or exercises, the mirror to look for bombs)
- anything about British Family life in Germany
- Maps (especially Facility Maps, maps of the British zone or smaller areas with garrison towns, maps from exercises etc)
- booklets for British families explaining the history and the facilities in Germany, the areas and towns they are posted to, the customs and local by-laws
- British newspapers/magazines from different German garrison towns
- documents relating to the evacuation of families in case of war
- anything concerning Soxmis and Brixmis

I would be very thankful for any help. And I'm very happy to answer any questions about the project or myself.

Contact: bettina-blum@web.de

Departed Friends

Linda Thompson, who died earlier this year, (2018) worked in Bielefeld, Hong Kong, Brunei and Cyprus. Linda had retired to Cyprus.

Gordon Bland taught in Margival in France; Maastricht (AFCENT), Berlin, and Bielefeld.

Steve Jorgensen - former headteacher of Akrotiri School Cyprus died November 2018 in Cyprus.

Tony and Delia Green - the British couple killed in Majorca flash floods in October were being driven to a hotel in Cala Bona when they were caught in the floodwaters. Tony was one-time headteacher at Krefeld Primary School.

the regulations onerous on either the committee or members but it was important to be acting within the letter of the law.

In future a GDPR statement would appear on the bottom of the annual subscription form.

For information 32 people have not yet responded to the request to return the GDPR form stating their agreement with the regulations.

Events

Sue Adams pointed out that the dates of the events listed on the menu had changed. Following some discussion with committee members there was a revised event list for 2019.

Curry Lunch: April 27th 2019

Holme Lacy weekend: End of June 2019

Sandhurst AGM: 5th October 2019

Following the success of the Germany reunion Ken had approached a former Welbeck student who is now the **Commanding Officer** of the elite 18 Signals regiment which gives dedicated covert support to the SAS and SBS regiments with a view to his being an after dinner speaker at the Holme Lacy weekend break. He had agreed.

The meeting closed at 12.29.

He's making a list
He's checking it twice
He's gonna find out who's naughty or nice
Santa Claus is in contravention of
article 4 of the General Data Protection
Regulation (EU) 2016/679

BFG

Summer 2019 sees the closure of the remaining schools in British Forces Germany - except for Attenborough which will convert to a 0 to 11 school, and Ramstein.

Contact Us

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Events Coordinator

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Web Manager

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mwchis@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

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We're on the Web!

<http://www.bfes-scea-association.org/>

Your comments, articles, news items, photographs, and letters would be gratefully received in electronic or hard-copy format.

Find us on Facebook. Log on to Facebook and type in "British families education service association". If you have a Facebook page, please spread the word about us.

Norman Leslie Thomson



"I have been given you all as possible contacts (by Hugh Pierson, HQ BFG) who might be able to help me trace anyone who was taught by, or who worked with, my father Norman Thomson during his time teaching for BFES and then SCEA between 1971 to 1982. We moved to Germany after he started teaching forces children in Bahrain from 1968-1971, RAF Muharraq.

He taught at The Haig Primary School, RAF Gutersloh, then Grenville School, Celle, before getting a headship at Hamm Primary School from around 1976 until he had to retire at age 50, 1982. While at Hamm, he also organised national schools athletic championships but he may also be remembered for organising a trip for us as a family through the Eastern Block countries for 6 weeks in Summer 1973. I recall him telling me that colleagues and friends didn't think they would see

us again! I was ten and remember seeing Lenin in his tomb. I don't think any other Forces family tried doing this!

Sadly he died last January aged 86, and my mother chose not to have a memorial for him or funeral and I really missed the opportunity of catching up with people who have many other memories of him. It's a long shot, but you may know of people who worked at any of those schools or who served in the Forces at those locations as he could have taught their children. We were always active members of the officers' messes, attending Sunday curry lunches etc and family entertainment events. It's the anniversary of his birthday this Sat, 27th Oct, so I was hoping to make some progress soon.

If possible, I'd also like to obtain any work records that might still exist of his time working for SCEA.

Thank you.

Wendy Thomson
wendygoesgreen@hotmail.co.uk

Association Membership

Membership of the Association currently costs £15 per year.

Membership is open to anyone who has served with BFES, SCEA, SCS(NWE), SCE or latterly is serving with the remaining MOD Schools.

The membership year runs from 1st January to 31st December and payment can be made by Standing Order or cheque.

Further information and a membership application form is available from the Membership Secretaries,
94 Headcorn Drive,
Canterbury, Kent,
CT2 7TX

The Association Newsletter and Journal is published three times each year: spring, late summer and winter. Articles for the newsletter are most welcome and should be sent to the Editor at

bfes_scea_newsletter@yahoo.co.uk

Some members have now elected to receive their newsletter electronically via e-mail : an electronic version (PDF) is also available to read and/or download from the **Association Website**: you will need the current Association password to enable you to do so. A copy of each previous newsletter is also held on the Association Website at

<http://www.bfes-scea-association.org/>

BFES SCEA Association Curry Lunch

The Gurkha Museum – Winchester on Saturday April 27th 2019

Personal Information			
Title			
Name/Surname			
Contact Phone Number			
E-mail			
Address & Post Code			
<p>If you do not have an e-mail address and require confirmation and final arrangements to be sent by post you must enclose a stamped addressed envelope (with appropriate postage please). Thank you.</p>			
Meal(s)			
<p>I wish to book the following places for lunch and have indicated those who have special dietary requirements</p>			
Number of Members @ £30	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"></td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">notes</td> </tr> </table>		notes
	notes		
Member(s) Name(s)			
Chosen Menu option(s)	See overleaf – select on the day		
Number of Guests @ £30	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"></td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">notes</td> </tr> </table>		notes
	notes		
Guest(s) Name(s)			
Chosen Menu option(s)	See overleaf—select on the day		
Payment			
<p>I enclose a cheque payable to BFES/SCEA Association for the sum of: £</p>			
Bank Details:	Cheque No:		
<p>If you wish to pay by Electronic Bank Transfer the Association Bank details are</p>	<p><u>Lloyds Bank PLC</u> <u>Account Number</u> - 01403653 <u>Sort Code</u> – 30 – 92 – 69 <u>Reference</u> is always the function venue and date</p>		
<p>Send this completed booking form to arrive by 15 April to</p>	<p>Jane Tull, 64 Purbrook Gardens, Purbrook Waterlooville, Hants, PO7 5LD</p>		
No refunds for cancellations are possible after 15 April 2019			

BFES SCEA Association Curry Lunch

The Gurkha Museum – Winchester on Saturday April 27th 2019

Menu

Starters

Aludum (Potato dish)

Chicken Samosha

Onion Bhaji

Mixed salad

You can pick up at the servery and take your seats.

Main Course

Basmati Rice

Black lentils (Daal)

Chicken Curry

Lamb Curry

Potato with mixed vegetable

Papadums

Lime pickle

Mango chutney

Fresh chillies

Deserts

Fresh mixed fruit salads including strawberries

Cream will be placed in the jug on each table

Tea or coffee

Mints

Photo—the final days of HQ BFG in Rheindahlen

2019 Reunion—Holme Lacy House, Herefordshire

June 28-30th 2019

Personal Information

Title	
Name/Surname	
Contact Phone Number	
E-mail	
Address & Post Code	

If you do not have an e-mail address and require confirmation and final arrangements to be sent by post you must enclose a stamped addressed envelope (with appropriate postage please). Thank you.

Reservation details

I wish to **reserve** the following places for the **Reunion** and enclose a cheque for £30 for each person - please also see details overleaf ...

Number of Members @ £30		notes
Member(s) Name(s)		
Chosen Menu option(s)	Menu options will be available later in 2019	
Number of Guests @ £30		notes
Guest(s) Name(s)		
Menu option(s)	Menu options will be available later in 2019	

Payment

I enclose a cheque payable to BFES/SCEA Association for the sum of: £

Bank Details:	Cheque No:
---------------	------------

If you wish to pay your deposit by Electronic Bank Transfer the Association Bank details are

Lloyds Bank PLC

Account Number - 01403653

Sort Code – 30 – 92 – 69

Reference is always the function venue and date

Send this completed reservation form to arrive by 10 January to

Sue Adams, Tanglewood, 21 Buckwell, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 8TA

No refunds for cancellations are possible

2019 Reunion—Holme Lacy House, Herefordshire

June 28-30th 2019

The Association has arranged for a weekend break at the Warners Leisure Hotel, Holme Lacy, Herefordshire, HR2 6LP.

The dates chosen are June 28-30th 2019 and the venue is easily accessible by taxi from Hereford station or via the M5/M50. This promises to be a very enjoyable weekend with time to chat and meet friends and colleagues at leisure.

Holme Lacy House is a Grade 1 listed mansion set in 20 acres of grounds in the Wye Valley. There is plenty to do with daily entertainment including Anthony Inglis and the National Symphony Orchestra performing the **Warner Proms** on Saturday evening.

There is also a swimming pool, gym, putting green table tennis and croquet.

There are 17 double or twin rooms available and 6 single rooms available to us. No single supplement applies.

The cost per person, including breakfast and dinner, is £290.

A welcome drinks party is to be arranged on the **Friday** evening and a farewell dinner on **Sunday** evening at which we will be honoured with an after dinner speaker - Col Maskell-Pedersen - kindly arranged by Ken Jones.

Col Maskell-Pedersen arrived in Welbeck College having massively underachieved in a poor East London comprehensive school. After two years in Welbeck he proceeded directly to Sandhurst and following his commission he has had a stellar career over the next 20 years which included achieving two masters degrees. He now commands in excess of 1000 personnel which represents approximately 25% of the UK Joint Special Forces Group. He met his wife Lucy when they were both serving in Afghanistan. She too has had a stellar career which included serving as the ADC to the Chief of the Defence Staff. She continues to be a serving officer during which time she has also been granted two periods of maternity leave. This shows the extent to which the army has come on as a caring employer.

I feel certain that they will prove to be the most interesting couple to meet.

A deposit of £30 per person is required which must be paid by 10th January 2019.

Full payment will be required by 19th April and no refunds will be given.

This promises to be a very enjoyable weekend with time to chat and meet friends and colleagues at leisure.

Please feel free to invite your friends as well and if you have any questions - please do not hesitate to contact Sue Adams - email buckwell.adams@gmail.com or telephone 01823 663195.

Photo - tnm