



Durham Light Infantry Association

MONTHLY BULLETIN

February 2025

THE BLACK DOG RANGE SHOOTING COMPETITION

Ten of the Branches have entered team is the DLI Association Shooting Competition. The competition will take place at the Black Dog Air Rifle Shooting Range in Spennymoor during the month of February 2025.

The Branches taking part are Chester-le-Street, Houghton-le-Spring, Durham, Sunderland, Hartlepool, Bishop Auckland, South Shields, Stockton, Horden & Peterlee and Consett & Stanley. Many of the Branches are taking the opportunity to get some practice in before the competition proper at one of the Black Dog Air-Rifle Shooting Ranges at Spennymoor, Durham or Middlesbrough



< HARTLEPOOL AND BISHOP AUCKLAND TEAMS

Attached left is a photo of the teams shooting in the Inter Branch Competition and I am hoping you will be able to put it in this month's Bulletin. Neither branch posed any problems to the leaders, but the banter and camaraderie was good.

Hartlepool are on the left and from bottom to top is Ian Bolton, Ronny Eve, Stu Ackroyd and Tony Maw. Bishop Auckland are on the right and from bottom to top is Davy Fenwick, Lionel Ames, Paul Blaney and Cyril Jardine.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING TEAM



Ralph Douthwaite, Joe Wills, Bob Cranmer, and Richy Tough

CHESTER-LE-STREET TEAM



Fred Quinlivan, Steven Cox, Maj Chris Lawton, and Paul Garrett



Front Entrance to the Black Dog Range at Spennymoor

SOUTH SHIELDS SHOOTING TEAM



John Hambling, Robert Adamson, Christine Trotter and another of the South Shields team

STOCKTON SHOOTING TEAM



South Shields Shooting team on the stairs at the Range, with the Stockton Team on the ground floor, Tom Sowerby with Team members David Smith, Declan Sowerby, Chris Behan. Where Andy Bonell, the other team member, had disappeared to, we have no idea!



South Shields Shooting team (on the stairs) with the Stockton Team and its supporters (on the ground floor), left to right, Lt Col John Heron, Tom Sowerby, Joanne Hutchinson, David Smith and Chris Behan.

Things were somewhat difficult at Spennymoor Black Dog Shooting Range on Sunday morning 23 February. Both teams had problems with the weapons which were not performing satisfactorily. Unfortunately, the time allowed for each shoot also included any time which the Range Controllers had to spend on ensuring the weapons were working satisfactorily. The Stockton team were not allowed

time to finish Chris Behan's shoot as allocated time had run out as so much time had been spent with the Range Controller working on the weapon. Chris was only allowed time to shoot 17 of his rounds, all of which scored points! However shooting difficulties did not stop everyone enjoying the morning. As a result, unsurprisingly, South Shields won the match. Hmm!

CONSETT & STANLEY TEAM

More details about the Consett & Stanley Shoot when they become available.

HORDEN & PETERLEE TEAM did not turn up to shoot. They had left it too late to enter.



Lt Col John Heron chatting with Stockton Vice-Chairman Tom Sowerby at the Range

SOUTH SHIELDS CURRY NIGHT



Rita Drennan, Kev Dyer, Steve Hope



Richie Tough, Lenny Wright, Jo Wray



Tracy and Lee Moore



Head of the table John Hambling, with Doug Mather, and Geoff Stonehouse

It's our first curry night of 2025 on 20 March and an invitation is extended to any member of the association who would like to attend.

Our last Curry night was very

well attended (30) and included members from Sunderland and Houghton le Spring Branches. Some pictures are attached.

Details for the event on 20 March are as follows:

From 18:00 hrs meet in Wetherspoons, 16 Mile End Rd, South Shields NE33 1TA (not far from bus and metro interchange in South Shields)
19:30 hrs Seated for dinner at the Radhuni, 84-94 Ocean Rd, South Shields NE33 2JD (a short walk)

Cost is approximately a modest £20 a head for a starter, main course with rice or chips followed by ice cream or coffee.

(The food bill is simply divided by the number of attendees)

Please let me know if any of your members would like to attend in order that we can ensure we have enough tables booked.



Carol & Stu Barron, Bev and Doug Mather



John Hambling, with Rita, Carol & Stu Barron

DEATHS

The following deaths have been reported to the Rifles Office since the publication of the last Monthly Bulletin.

Terry Patrick Gilbert
Born: 20 Nov 1938
Died: Thursday 30 Jan 2025
Aged: 86 years
Served with: 1st Bn Durham Light Infantry
UK
Cyprus
Vice-President and Standard Bearer
Stockton Branch DLI Association

Joe Gregson
Born: 27 May 1933
Served 1st Bn Durham Light Infantry in 1950
Berlin, Egypt, Korea, Borneo, Cyprus
Transferred to RCT in 1968
Retired 1970


Colin Stratton
Died: Monday 3 January 2025
Served with: Durham Light Infantry
The Light Infantry
Singapore, Borneo, Hong Kong, Germany
Former Chairman of Was

Mr Robin Vigus
Ded: Sunday 16th March.
Robin was a long standing member of our Association
National service with DCLI.
Hington Branch DLI Association

Billy Grey
Died: 21 February 2025
Member of Durham Branch DLI Association

May They Rest in Peace




John R Heron
Lt Col Retired
DLI Association

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3 March 2025