

The Newsletter for the Friends,  
Patrons, Volunteers and  
supporters of The Wardrobe



December 2024  
Volume 5. Issue 3

# Redcoats Review

## Ferozeshah Issue

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the Ferozeshah Issue of 2024 of the Redcoats! Review, marking the 179th Anniversary of the second battle of the First Sikh War 11 December 1845 – 9 March 1846. It is the first issue since I was asked to be Chairman of Redcoats!

As ever the editorial team has put together an original narrative of an aspect of regimental soldiering. In this edition they have given us an account of the families that have served in our regiments from the 1790's to the present day, from private to major general; they have examples of grandfather, father and sons; of brothers; and in one case 6 generations of soldiers to the infantry regiment of Wiltshire. In 1968 in Minden there were 14 sets of brothers in just one battalion, 1st Battalion The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment.

Emmanuel May is a serving warrant officer in the Gendarmerie. He took leave from the Gendarmerie to research the Wiltshire Regiment's involvement in the world wars, particularly his grandfather Alfred Edward May MM 7th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment, who served in World War 1, then stayed in France and lived in occupied France in World War 2. Emmanuel is a great friend of the Museum and joined us on the last Society of Friends Battlefield tour to the Normandy Landings.

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### FUTURE EVENTS

April 2025 Museum reopens to Public  
10 May 2025 Official re-opening  
Summer at The Wardrobe 19 July 2025

## CHAIRMAN'S LETTER CONTINUED

Our contributions to Redcoats! are used to support the Rifles Berkshire and Wiltshire Museum, the museum that holds the archives, artefacts and memorabilia of our regiments. A year ago, the Chairman of the Rifles Wardrobe and Museum Trust Nigel Walker gave a full account of the plans for Update 25. It is well under way. Redcoats! will be making a significant contribution to Update 25 which we will include in another issue when the Update has been completed.

Hopefully you will be able to attend the re-opening of the Museum on Saturday 10 May 2025 and "Summer at The Wardrobe" on Saturday 19 July 2025.

Simon Cook

Chairman Redcoats!

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## MUSEUM INTERIOR AS WE GO TO PRINT

Those of our readership who have the privilege of working, volunteering or regularly visiting the museum will be aware of the stark contrast of an empty ground floor of 58 The Close and just how large each of the rooms actually are without display cases. The following images are intended to show the blank canvas that Update 25 presents.



Looking down from the staircase towards the museum entrance, note the carpets have been replaced with laminate flooring.



An empty Room 2 looking so much larger with the display cases having been temporarily removed and shows the ceiling plasterwork to maximum advantage.



Room 1 having some remedial work done to ensure the décor is up to the Curator's impeccable standards. The room has stud a wall where the long L shaped display case used to be and the small image above give us an idea of the décor from earlier times.

6 January 2025 will see the display cases being returned and the new exhibits being created. The official opening date is 10 May,

# The Regimental Family

As the Museum, prepares to re-open in April 2025, having completed the Project 25 refurbishment, perhaps it may be a suitable time to look back at what the term Regimental Family entails by following a journey, through from the earliest days to the present: i.e. following the 'Golden Thread'.

One definition of a Regimental Family could be given as a military community that soldiers feel a part of, and which is characterized by a sense of comradeship and identity. Regiments are a key part of the British Army's administrative structure, and each one has its own history, traditions, and insignia.

In 1782 Regiments of Foot were given county affiliation to assist in recruiting and it is inevitable that recruits would follow fathers, brothers or cousins into the same regiment thereby adding another meaning to a "family regiment",

The purpose of this small piece is to illustrate the family connections our regiments had from the 1790's until 2019.

## Our Regimental Family connections

*The Most Generations of the same family to have served.*

### **62<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Foot, The Wiltshire Regiment and DERR**

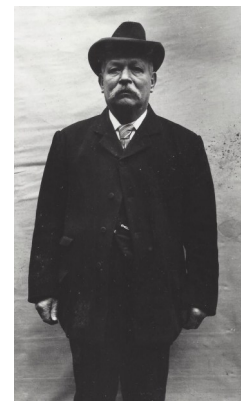
From the Regimental Timelines, available on the Museum's website; we find an entry not long after the Regiments arrival in India.

*'On 4 Aug 1869, India, Alumbagh. Cholera deaths increase. Company from Headquarters joins encampment On 8 August Sheckpore detachment rejoined Headquarters, cholera being abated. Losses: 49 Men, 3 women and 12 children On 9 August Camp shipped across River Goomtee to Sheckpore.'*

In this tragedy Canteen Sergeant William Cooper lost his wife and one of their two children. The death of another Sergeant left a widow and one surviving child. Canteen Sergeant Cooper and the Sergeant's widow married and from this union five further children were born. The regimental lineages of Minty and Staples stem from this second marriage.



Canteen Sergeant Cooper (sometimes known as Elkins) in the uniform of a Yeoman of the Tower of London in 1870. Mr Cooper in retirement on the right



In December 1987 the sixth generation of the family, *the Minty's* passed out of recruit training to serve in 1 DERR .



The fourth , fifth and sixth generation of Minty's to serve photographed with the Passing Out parade Inspecting Officer, and Depot staff also cap badged DERR.

The family have seen action in the Boer War, World Wars 1 and 2 and another branch of the family, the Staples, had fathers and sons serving with the Wiltshires in both world wars.

By coincidence we have what surely is a rare occurrence in that the right hand marker of the Escort to the Colours at the 1929 Presentation of Colours to the 2nd Battalion, the 1939 Presentation of Colours to the 1st Battalion The Wiltshire Regiment and the 1984 Presentation of Colours to the Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment was a WO2 with the surname of Minty.

Bringing the family connection full circle, Canteen Sergeant Cooper would have served under the fourth Stand of Colours of the 62nd (Wiltshire) Regiment of Foot that used to hang in Salisbury Cathedral. On 17 May 2023, a short service was held in the Memorial Garden of the Wardrobe, to inter the cremated remains of the fourth stand of the 62nd Colours; this in keeping with the MOD's policy for Colours that have been officially declared 'disintegrated'.



Appropriately enough the casket containing the remains of those Colours were lowered into the plot by the fifth and sixth generation of the Minty family to have served in the regiment

### 49<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot

In 1799 the 49<sup>th</sup> Regiment (Hertfordshire) Regiment were part of the British Forces taking part in the Campaign of the Helder in North Holland. At that time, the Regiment was being commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Isaac Brock and the Regimental Paymaster was Major John Savery Brock, his younger brother.



Portrait of Major General Sir Isaac Brock painted after having commanded the 49th (Hertfordshire) Regiment of Foot and on being Governor of Upper Canada



Major John Savery Brock, Paymaster of the 49th (Hertfordshire) Regiment of Foot. He was Isaac younger brother by 3 years

*'There is an apocryphal story from the 1799 Helder Campaign that Savery Brock, although a paymaster, rode forward to join in the fighting. His horse was shot from under him and he picked himself up, Isaac called out to him "By the Lord Harry, Master Savery, did I not order you, unless you remained with the General, to stay with your iron chest? Go back to it immediately!" Savery is said to have retorted, "Mind your regiment, Master Isaac; you would not have me quit the field now?" This exchange is said to have caused great mirth among the troops - as well it might, to see their all powerful lieutenant colonel put down.'*\*

(\* A Matter of Honour by Jonathan Riley—Chap 3 page 56.)

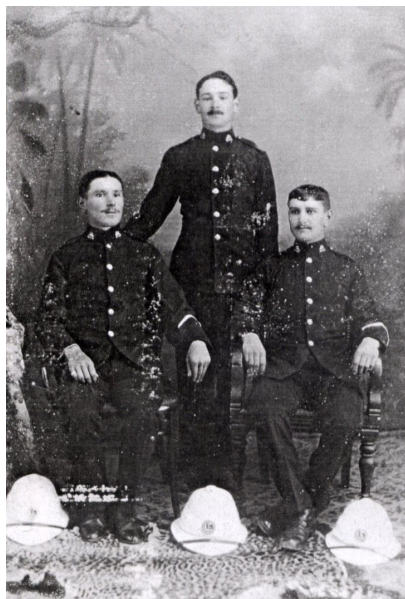
### **Royal Berkshire Regiment**

The ***Clemetson*** brothers, Fred and Will from Milman Road, Reading were both serving in A Company 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion The Royal Berkshire Regiment and were mobilised in August 1914. Fred was killed in action on 25 August 1915, together with four other soldiers from Reading when a 4.2 shell landed in the brickfields where they were billeted; they had just returned from bathing. Fred is buried in Hebuterne Cemetery. Will was able to survive the war.

Fred ( on the left) and Will Clemetson, They are seen here with the pre war 1906 pattern leather equipment, which polishes well, but is no good in wet and muddy conditions.



The **Webb** brothers, Edwin, Albert and Edger Webb, from Blewbury (then in Berkshire but now in Oxfordshire) were regular soldiers serving prior to the Great War; as this picture shows. Albert and Edgar were both killed in action on 1 July 1916 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment's attack on Ovilliers, on the Somme.



Left to Right, they are Private Edwin Webb, Corporal Albert Webb, Private Edgar Webb

Photographer was M Pins & Co, Meerut . Meerut is 80 Kms north east of New Delhi

The three **Gold** brothers, Cecil, Patrick and Alec, shown in these two images, served together during the Great War 1914-18.



The photo above shows Cecil (centre) and Patrick (right) re-charging their batteries after a strenuous field exercise in England prior to embarkation to France in 1915. In the photo on the right, from left to right are Cecil (Kia 3/7/1916), Patrick and Alec Gold. Cecil was killed in the same action as the Webb brothers above but 2 days later







Another Berkshire family with strong military connection is the **North** family from Hungerford. The family served in both the Berkshire Yeomanry and the Royal Berkshire Regiment. Pictured above, receiving his Legion D'honneur is Albert Wilfred North with his son John North (lower left corner), both served in the Royal Berkshire Regiment. John, after his service for many years was the Royal Berkshire Standard bearer. Find out more on the North family on page 14.

### Royal Berkshire Regiment and DERR

The **Kew's** family service is amply demonstrated in this photograph which shows Captain (Retired) Daniel Kew MC and Bar, DCM, MM with his son Sgt C Kew both of the Royal Berkshire Regiment and his grandson then Junior Private Kew, who later served in DERR going on to become a SNCO. His younger brother also served in DERR. Fancy having to follow in the career path of a person who had won the MC and Bar, DCM and MM.





The *Simpson* brothers are another family with close regimental ties. Their father had served in the Royal Berkshire Regiment. Ronald Henry (known as Ron), the eldest (in the centre of the painting) enlisted into the Royal Berkshire Regiment continuing on into the Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment. Ron went on to become R S M of 1 D and D and then gain a Quartermaster's commission. Roy Herbert (on the left of the painting, originally joined the Coldstream Guards and later transferred into DERR. Peter Stacey, who served with Roy, believes Roy was the smartest man ever to have worn a uniform and that he ended his service with the Malayan Regiment. The youngest brother, Roland John, but always known as Peter, is on the right of the painting as a Lance Corporal. Readers who may be surprised by the cap badge may not realise that it is of course the Wyvern and the cap badge was worn by the four infantry regiments of the Wessex Brigade in the 1960's until regimental cap badges were re-introduced by the MOD in late 1969. The painting is a recent acquisition for the museum.

## Wiltshire Regiment

The White brothers, George, William, John and Frederick, coming from Russell Street, Wilton, Salisbury all served in 1/4<sup>th</sup> Wits; initially deploying to India in 1914 and the to Palestine in 1917. John White gained the MM during the Palestine campaign.



A sepia digital photograph of the four White brothers believed to be in 1914 before deploying to India. They are George, William, John and Frederick. [At this point we do not know which one is which]. {From a collection kept by Private George White}.

The ***Ince*** brothers. Leonard Ince (22) and his younger brother Octavius Clement Ince (21) both enlisted on the same day of 19 July 1915 into the 6th (Service) Battalion Wiltshire Regiment. Leonard's service number was 17751 and Octavius' number was 17752. Not content with doing things together on the same day they must have the unique distinction of brothers winning the MM on the same day in the same action. The citation reads:

*These two men on July 2nd organised such men as were available during the attack into a bombing squad, acting as bayonet men themselves, and successfully drove the Germans back down a trench at a moment when those present were hesitating. The action taken by these two men was most determined and dashing. All that we know is that they came from Islington.*

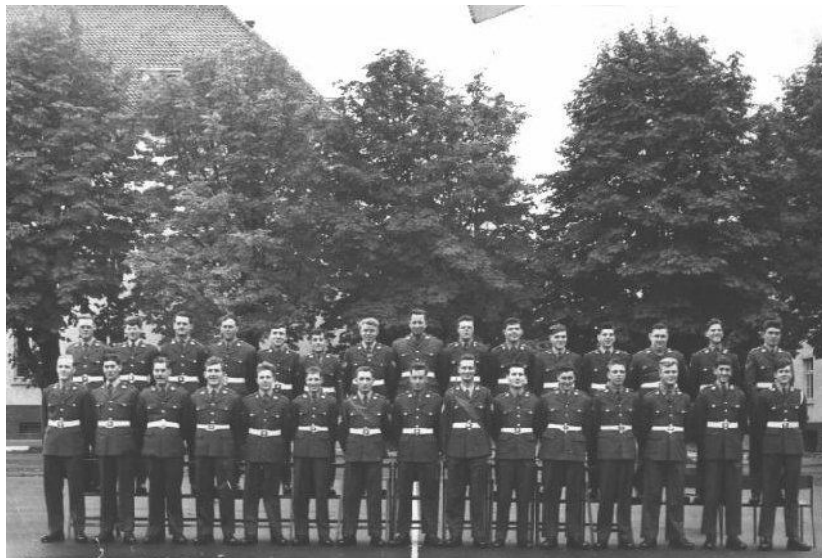


Sergeant Maurice Albert Wyndham Rogers MM  
in the action that gains him the posthumous VC

The *Rogers* Brothers, regular soldiers served initially in the Wiltshire Regiment's Corps of Drums before the Second World War. Maurice Albert Wyndham Rogers (the right hand of the two brothers) was a member of the successful Wiltshire Regiment Athletics team in 1936 and went on to win the Military Medal in 1943 in Sicily and then the Victoria Cross in June 1944 at Ardrea, just on the outskirts of Anzio.

### **DERR, RGBW and Rifles**

On two occasion 1 DERR demonstrated the depth of family connections by photographing their brothers in arms serving with the battalion.



The first photograph taken in 1968 when 1 DERR were stationed in Clifton Barracks, Minden, West Germany. The brothers have been identified ( L to R) as the *Stockley's, Silence's, Whites, Brownes, Choules, Potters, Collins, Watton's, Watsons, Iles , Burtons, Edmonds, Jordans* and *Mahers*. For the Volunteer readers of the Newsletter, if you look very closely at the fifth person from the left in the rear rank you may recognise Mervyn Browne, who volunteers as a gardener at the Wardrobe.

The second photograph was taken some six years later in 1974 when the Battalion was stationed in Ballykinler, Northern Ireland. Those brothers identified in this photo are the *Whites, Tuckers, Hobbs, Cooks, McIntyres* and *Leggs*. If any of our readers can identify the other sets of brothers please contact the editorial team,



The *McIntyres* had five brothers serving in 1 DERR. Mac was the first to join and had left before the youngest had signed up so the most McIntyres we had serving at the same time was four. This image shows the four of them serving with 1 DERR in Osnabruck in 1984 With Stephen "inspecting?" Brian, Rory and Alan. Rory's son later joined 1 DERR and after amalgamation remained in 1 RGBW. Martin, the eldest one, left before this photo was taken, married a girl from Berkshire whose grandfather, a Royal Berkshire soldier, was killed in 1915 at the Battle of Loos.



## DERR/RGBW

The **Tait** brothers in Gorazde, Bosnia. They were taking part in the evacuation of Bosnian Muslim civilians from Gorazde, January 1995. WO1 Ian Tait (on the left) was the Battalion's second RSM. His brother was a WO2 (Company Sergeant Major).

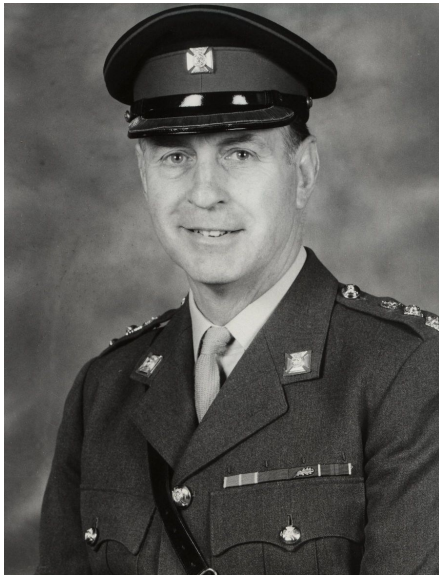


## DERR/RGBW/RIFLES

Then bridging the time of DERR, RGBW and The Rifles we have the father and son team of Stephen (Toby) North and his son, Peter. Toby was RSM of 1 DERR and then QM of 1 RGBW. Son was a JNCO in 1 DERR and then a SNCO in 1 RGBW and 1 Rifles before gaining a commission. The image below is of them on a battalion run in Cyprus in 1996. Toby is the nephew of John North, see page 9.



**Step Brothers Commanding at the same time.** Brigadier Bill Turner, who commanded 1 DERR in Berlin and Ballykinler, and went on to become Colonel of the Regiment, followed his father Major (QM) Turner into the Royal Berkshire Regiment. Lieutenant Colonel Tony Carter, who was Bill Turner's stepbrother, served in the Wiltshire Regiment and represented the Army at Rugby and commanded the Wessex Depot at the same time that Bill was commanding 1 DERR.



Brigadier Bill Turner photographed as Colonel of The Regiment



Lieutenant Colonel A E Carter, as a young subaltern at Le Marchant Barracks Devizes

**Brothers in the same platoon,** has happened not once but several times in the Corps of Drums. We have seen it with the Rogers brothers but in 1 DERR Corps of Drums it happened with the Cook and Davis brothers,



Davies brothers, front rank first and third drummers from the left



The Cook brothers, both in the Corps of Drums, photographed with their parents who came out to 1 DERR in Berlin with a Regimental Association visit from the UK in 1972. Their father is wearing blazer with a Wiltshire Regimental badge.

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## CSM 5495735 William Higgins DCM

10th Battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment (Princess Charlotte of Wales's)

In July this year Mrs Valerie Smith (Nee Higgins) came to the Wardrobe where she presented to the Museum her fathers Distinguished Conduct Medal awarded to CSM 5495735 William Higgins 10th Battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment for his actions in Sicily 1943. He was killed in action on the 26th January 1944 and was not aware of the award. He is buried in Minturno War Cemetery, Italy.

She came to the Wardrobe and met up with Museum Volunteer and Redcoat member Colonel Michael Cornwell where she presented the medal to the Regiment which was received by Michael and it is now in the Medal collection. This is the only DCM from that campaign for the Royal Berkshire Regiment that we have. We are hoping this medal will appear in the revamped museum next year. She also handed over various items, documents, and photographs. Prior to this presentation the museum had no images of CSM Higgins DCM.





Mrs Valerie Smith formally presenting her father's D C M to the Museum



WO 2 William Higgins  
DCM

### The Citation for WO 2 William Higgins

On 10/11 Nov 43 at CALABRITTO, CSM HIGGINS' Coy was attacked several times by considerable German forces. It was during the second attack that night that the enemy penetrated the Coy's right flank and broke through to Coy HQ. Without hesitation CSM HIGGINS left cover and single handed faced the oncoming German machine gunners who fired as they advanced. On closing with the enemy he killed two Germans after a severe hand to hand struggle. Armed only with a LM he then chased the Germans across the open and handling his weapon with the utmost fearlessness he dispersed no less than 20 Germans who broke and ran.

When the enemy attacked his Coy again on the night 11/12 he went out to a fwd pl which had lost its comd and half its strength. Under continual mortar and MG fire he reorganised the pl and when the enemy attacked stayed by the men directing their fire in an exposed posn. So vigorous was the action taken by him that the enemy was successfully beaten off. Throughout the fighting he set a magnificent example

of personal bravery and his determined efforts and powers of leadership inspired the men of Coy HQ to follow his example. Had Coy HQ been overrun a most difficult situation would have arisen, and there is no doubt that CSM HIGGINS' efforts were responsible for preventing this.

His action is only in keeping with the bravery he displayed on the GATANIAN PLAIN on 17 Jul 43, when with all his Offrs casualties he rallied his Coy and withdrew it according to plan, having first ensured personally to see that no casualties had been left behind. This W.O. has shown marked ability as a leader as well as a complete disregard of his own personal safety. His conduct and bearing throughout the campaign have been of a very high order and an inspiration to all men in his Coy.

Mrs Valerie Smith visiting her father's grave in Minturno War Cemetery, Italy for the first time.



## THE FAMILY FRENCH CONNECTION

This is an account from Emmanuel May, a great friend of the Museum. I first met him when he took leave from the Gendarmerie to stay in Shrewton so that he could research the Wiltshire Regiment involvement in World War. Staying with the family theme, this is Emmanuel account of the life of his grandfather.

Private 14443 Alfred Edward May MM  
7th Battalion Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire Regiment)  
*'From Salonica to Vichy France'*  
By Emmanuel May (Grandson)

Several years ago the Redcoats carried out a battlefield tour in France concentrating on operations in Normandy 1944. Our Battlefield tour guide was Andy Steele who arranged for the group to meet up with a French Police officer who had family Wiltshire Regiment connections. When he meet up and accompanied the group he told a fascinating story regarding his grandfather Alfred May.

On the outbreak of the the First World War my grandfather Alfred enlisted and thought he was joining the Oxford and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, but as he recounted later in life was 'Hi-jacked' by the Commanding Officer of the 7th Wiltshire Colonel Rocke, and as a consequence he became a 'Moonraker'.

On joining the battalion he was posted to 'C' Company and after training the battalion was initially dispatched to Marseille on HMS Hannibal, then on to Greece. He remained and fought with the battalion throughout the campaign, returning to France via Italy in 1918.

During this period he was awarded:

The Military Medal; The Serbian Commemorative Medal; 1914-15 Star;  
British War Medal; Victory Medal.

After the war he was awarded French medals:

Croix du combattant; Médaille commémorative 14-18; Médaille de la Victoire

It took time to bring back so many soldiers at home. I can be wrong but I read somewhere that the government made the choice to bring back first the most needed workers causing anger among British troops far away their home so long.

During that period, billets were needed, waiting the return. The 7th Battalion comes back in Noyelles for some weeks from 20 November to 16th December. There, he meets a young girl, named Clémence DEMADE, with whom he falls in love.

He is demobilised in June 1919 and comes back later in France to get married and to settle. He gets 3 children but sadly, Clémence died young.

Then my grandfather gets married again with another woman from the same village Noyelles, Marthe COURTIN with whom he will get 7 other children, among them my father. A family legend tells that a French painter named Marcel Gro-maire, native of Noyelles would have painted the Sergeant MAY in uniform.

The times are hard and I know that they lived poorly. He has been working in a dairy, then in a metallurgical factory in Aulnoye, not far from Noyelles and got his driving licence in 1929. He had the chance to be chosen by the director to be his own driver, certainly because he looked like a smart English gentleman !!



Ex Private May MM in France 1919 proudly wearing his Military Medal



Ex Private May MM later in life displaying both his British and French decorations.

When WW2 broke out, the director asked him to take his car to Aurillac, South of France where he had a manor. There, the car was disassembled and hidden under haystacks. The family was allowed to follow my grandfather in order to be safe. The danger for Alfred was to be captured by the Germans as a spy and executed.

During the journey, he threw his uniform in a ditch, and apparently his revolver in a well, He worked as a farm hand at the directors manor. Life was very difficult, living in a little flat with several mouths to feed. People evacuated from the North of France were regarded with suspicion, and nicknamed "*the Boches of the North*".

The threat came closer when the German troops crossed the demarcation line in 1942, forcing Alfred to stay at the manor most of the time. But in fact, the risk was on the eldest son, who remained in the North with his grandparents, and enlisted in the French resistance ( I suppose Francs Tireurs Partisans FTP). He has been executed in a ditch during a skirmish at the end of the war. He had two bullets in his chest but survived with one lung.



Alfred May in France between the wars with his second wife and the May children.

After the war, the family came back in Aulnoye and Alfred always working as a driver. He was very involved in the football club, supported by the factory and participated to create a boxing club. On August 3rd 1957, a joyful event occurs. Three Alfred' sons get married the same day with 3 sisters from an Italian family.

Alfred Edward MAY dies on October 2nd 1971, few months after his wife.

Emmanuel memories:

I was 6 when he died. I remember of him as an old tall man with a terrible French accent. I'm still fascinated by his history and particularly about him in the British Army, as far back as I can remember. But as many other veterans, he didn't talk about the war and his experience.

It could seem strange but I feel as if he was next to me :

He enlisted he was nineteen, 10 months, 23 days old. I enlisted at exactly the same age at one day away.

Arrived in France in 1915, the battalion was billeted in different places around Amiens. Amiens was my first posting in the Army in 1986.

He was awarded the MM not for a specified action but certainly for his meritorious service. Last April I was awarded the French MM for my deserving career.

I have the chance to have some artifacts as the British medals and his youngest brother gave me the helmet, shoulder badges, the spurs (he was in a transport section), but sadly no photo in uniform. These few lines summarize the information's collected during a (very) long period, knowing that all his military records have been destroyed during WW2 and it is a pleasure for me to present them.

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Editor's Note: We are indebted to Emmanuel for this fascinating account of his grandfather's life after having served in 7th Battalion the Wiltshire Regiment, as well as the support he gave us on on Normandy Battlefield tour. A few years ago Emmanuel May was made an Honorary Member of the Society of Friends.

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## VOLUNTEERS NEWS

As many of you will know many of our readers will know, Mac is a bit of a sleuth; well he did make a career out of sleuthing after his military service , and he has uncovered an interesting snippet on one of our archivist volunteers, namely Will Bennett.

Will has passion for matters concerning the Wiltshire Regiment and anything that encompasses medals. Mac has uncovered an article that appeared on the June 2024 Journal of the Orders and Medals Research Society





**MEDALS:**

(1) **DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL (VICTORIAN ISSUE)** named to Colour Sergeant Joseph Lynass, 62<sup>nd</sup> Regiment (COLR SERJT JOSEPH LYNASS 62<sup>ND</sup> REGT). Some letters have been double-impressed during the naming process. The DCM was ordered on 30 November 1855 with an annuity of £20 as a replacement award for that granted to 2944 Sgt William Dunne, 62<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, who had died the previous March, a month after having his DCM submitted to the Queen. Regimental records state that Lynass received his annuity "as a reward for his meritorious conduct in the Army". There is little doubt that this was an award for gallantry during the final attack on the Redan fortress at Sebastopol in the Crimean War on 8 September 1855 for which Lynass was Mentioned in Despatches (see below) and during which he was slightly wounded in the left leg. In theory

The above image is the beginning of a fascinating 26 page article covering the history of Sergeant Joseph Lynass of the 62nd (Wiltshire) Regiment of Foot, the campaigns/battles he fought in. The intricacies of the medals and some of the nuances with individual medals.

As a museum we are fortunate to have such depth of knowledge on our doorstep. Will has generously made his research on Lynass available to the museum, with other material to follow. If anyone is interested in reading the full article please contact Mac on Researcher2@thewardrobe.org.uk

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## GROUP VISITORS TO THE MUSEUM SINCE THE LAST NEWS-LETTER

One Company of Wiltshire Army Cadet Force, during its collective training weekend at Tilshead Camp in July, elected to trickle feed through the museum a platoon every hour so that they could learn of military history of the cap badge they wear. They will be the last Cadets to see the museum in its former layout. It would be a good exercise to see them back in 2025 so they can give a younger generation feedback to Update 25.

On 3 September Martin McIntyre hosted a German delegation of a Colonel, 3 Lieutenant Colonel's and a Warrant Officer, all from the UK Army HQ at Andover. Prior to the move of HQ Land from Wilton Liaison staff from allied officers frequently visited the museum.

Later in the same month 2 former Wessex Regiment officers came to conduct research from archives that had recently been accessioned from Brock Barracks. With a build up of Wessex Regiment Archives we hope this may become a more frequent event.

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### FAMILY ACROSS THE POND

There is in America a Re-enactment Society that dedicates itself to the 49th Regiment of Foot and one of its participants, Xavier Allen thrives as a Grenadier of the 49th Regiment of Foot. His fellow re-enactors include Light Company, Battalion representative as well as two musicians, a pioneer and a surgeon. To illustrate the extent they go to Xavier has sent us an image of his new grenadier uniform.



The society has also posed us some questions to answer, so if any of our readers wish to help provide the answers please contact the editorial team. The questions are:

Can we provide them with a list of the Officers and NCO's of 1775 to 1781?

What does a 49th Corporal's knot look like by design?

Can we provide the design of a Light Company's regimental coat in the Burgoyne Campaign?



## **Your Help Needed**

The aim of the Newsletters, produced three times a year, is to inform the different strands of the museum's family of supporters; be you a members of the Society of Friends, a Patron, a Volunteer or a Trustee (possibly a combination of all four groups) of what is happening in the museum and the Wardrobe complex.

As most readers will be aware the museum is currently undergoing a major refurbishment under 'Update 25'. Hopefully in the March 2025 issue the editorial team will be able to give you a detailed account of what has been achieved. At present the rooms are completely bare. Although they have been repainted and new flooring has been put down.

In the meantime the editorial team are hoping that the revised plans to distribute the Newsletter will provide the opportunity to increase supporting membership, but we would also seek you help: so please encourage anyone you know to consider one or more of the options below.

### **SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (The Redcoats)**

If you wish to join the Society of Friends (The Redcoats) please go to go to the museum website..... [www.thewardrobe.org.uk](http://www.thewardrobe.org.uk) and there click into 'Support us' and follow the link. Or contact any committee members for a leaflet.

### **THE PATRONS**

If you wish to become a patron please go to the museum website and click in 'Patrons'

### **VOLUNTEERING**

If you wish to become a museum volunteer please contact Beth, or Ross at the Wardrobe.....

01722-419419 or visit the museum website and click into Museum Volunteer (Bottom of first page)

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Your web page on the Museum web site is:  
<http://www.thewardrobe.org.uk/museum/contact-us/support-us/friends-events-and-publications>