



Newsletter

No. 18, May 2019

From the Curator's Desk

We are very pleased to congratulate our Administration Officer Mrs. Pamela Langford who has been appointed to the, full-time, post of Assistant Curator here at the Museum. Pam took up her new position on 1st April 2019 and is now happily beavering away on the collections!

Since the beginning of the year, our volunteers have photographed, repacked and put all the Museum's uniforms onto padded hangers and into Tyvek covers. A new storage cabinet has been purchased to relieve pressure on space and complete this work.

Former members of the Regiment may be amused and somewhat surprised to hear that, in accordance with professional Museums standards and current MOD guidance, a new secure cabinet and HSE hazard signage have had to be purchased to store any item of the collection identified as having potential radioactive content, including Susat sights and Mark III and IV compasses!



Display on Kohima featuring Japanese Army items captured by the Regiment.

Looking forward, we are fast approaching a very significant series of anniversaries of The Regiment's service in the Second World War. Starting with the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Kohima, "The Stalingrad of the East" and D-Day and the invasion of Normandy. To mark these the Museum is mounting a number of exhibitions and events. Our current exhibition in the Worcestershire Soldier Gallery is on the Battle of Kohima. It opened on the 5th April, on the anniversary of the beginning of the battle. This will be followed by an exhibition in late June to coincide with the arrival of the 1st Battalion in Normandy on D-day +16.

As a final part of our commemorations, the Museum is reprinting a 75th anniversary edition of "The 1st Battalion, The Worcestershire Regiment in North west Europe", by Major D. Y. Watson. This publication has been out of print for many years and its copyright is soon to lapse, so this reprint will have the added benefit secure its future use for the Museum.

Editorial

In this issue, after a succinct summary of the Irish Question by Alan Cowpe, we have a personal account by an officer of the 2nd Battalion of his service in Dublin in the aftermath of the First World War. We are very grateful to his son for providing this personal memoir which gives so much more detail than the official record. Those who have served there in the more recent Troubles will recognise some similarities, including American involvement, the difficulty of dealing correctly with aggressive women and fudged political solutions.

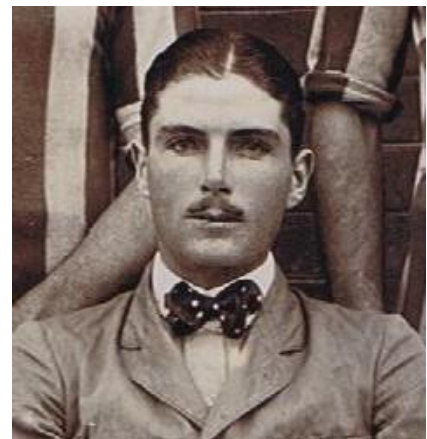
After four years of involvement in the commemorations of the First World War which generated many enquiries about members of the regiment who served during that period, the museum staff and volunteers are now turning their attention to researching the years up to 1945 in anticipation of increased interest by relatives in family members who served after the Great War. The article on the construction of an ambitious database by some new volunteers under the supervision of Joe Deveraux explains part of this process.

We look forward to seeing as many as possible of the Friends who live locally at the AGM on 15th of this month.

An Early Field Kitchen

In a letter recounting some of his experiences before the First World War while serving in the 3rd Battalion The Reverend JS Spackman wrote:

You may be interested to know I experimented with what was probably one of the first field kitchens. It was a primitive arrangement, invented by an Ordnance Officer at Dover. It consisted of a horse-drawn GS wagon. Under the driver's seat were a drum of paraffin and another drum with a force pump. Along the bottom of the wagon there were three lengths of piping, with primus burners at intervals. Above these were bars across the top of the wagon with hooks from which dixies could be suspended. We were out on a three-day scheme and were ordered to test these. I was a corporal at the time and was acting as CQMS and OC cooks. Major Palmer ordered tea for the outposts at midnight. We had to make it in bivouac, where we could see what we were doing, and then drive round. We made a row like a tinker's cart as we drove round the quiet country side, and by the time we reached the last outpost the "brew" was pretty strong as it had been boiling all the time!! 2/Lt Stokes-Roberts (later promoted into the Hampshire Regt) was violently sick after taking a long drink of the "tea". I never heard what was the outcome of the experiment, but I know I spoilt a perfectly good suit of Service Dress with the oily contraption.



2/Lt A E Stokes-Roberts
when captain of the 1st
Battalion hockey team in
1913.

Ireland

By Alan Cowpe

“Gladstone spent his declining years trying to guess the answer to the Irish question. Unfortunately, whenever he was getting warm the Irish secretly changed the question.”

This tongue in cheek comment by Sellars and Yeatman in “1066 And All That” captured the essence of the relationship between Ireland and Britain over the centuries. The factors remained the same, but they differed in specifics over time. They still do.

Although like the Saxons they were victims of the Norman conquest, the native Irish retained their distinct heritage, never became part of the cultural mix which defined the emerging English nation, retained many of their traditional Gaelic Chiefs, and developed a semi-independent political status while the rulers of England looked elsewhere. Eventually a Tudor attempt to regularise the rule of the English crown prompted armed resistance by the Chiefs of Ulster and Munster.

This prompted a decade of violence in the 1590s which resulted in the confiscation of the Chiefs' lands, and their settlement by English immigrants; this was the first of the “plantations” which transformed the ethnic, religious and political dynamic of Ireland. The need for military funding to deal with native Irish violence directed against these English settlers in 1641 led to the recall of Parliament and the constitutional crisis which gave rise to the Civil War. The violence was aggravated by religious differences between Irish Catholics and English Protestants, and the 1590s rebellion had been given an extra frisson by the attempted intervention of a foreign power (in this case Spain) in support of the rebels.

These elements became a recurring feature of the politics of Ireland. Ireland mainly supported the Royalist cause in the Civil War, and after the English Civil War had ended, Parliamentary forces under Oliver Cromwell were despatched to eliminate this residual threat. These campaigns left a legacy of bitterness and resulted in a significant further expropriation of Irish land for plantations populated by mainly Scottish Presbyterians, especially in the north. When the deposed James II attempted a comeback against King William (of Orange), he chose again to enlist the support of Irish Catholics as well as French mercenaries. He was defeated, but the 1640s/50s set the political and religious fault lines in Ireland which remain with us today.

The outcome of all this was never properly settled, and in the 1790s there was a major insurrection against English rule, caused by economic hardship and by resentment at the domination of the Anglican Church in a very Catholic country; and foreign intervention (in this case from France) again presented an even more direct threat to English rule in Ireland. The English government suppressed the rising ruthlessly.

Catholics had been excluded from public office in the British Isles since the Glorious Revolution (and subject to discrimination well before that). In England that was an irritant affecting a minority. In Ireland, with its overwhelmingly Catholic native population, it was a major issue which had the effect of excluding the majority population from governance. This and more widespread discrimination added to the grievances of the Irish peasantry, who lived on the economic edge and bore the brunt of hardships resulting from an economy which by comparison with England, consistently struggled. Catholic emancipation was therefore a cause which attracted great support in Ireland, and threatened another breakdown of order. Emancipation in Britain as a whole in 1829 was therefore driven by the need to resolve the issue in Ireland; and it was an Anglo-Irish Prime Minister (the usually very conservative Duke of Wellington) who understood that Catholics were normal people and saw the reform through.

This concession to Irish opinion was however never likely to resolve the Irish question. The Irish system of land tenure embedded poverty in the countryside, both government and landowners showed indifference to for instance the dreadful consequences of the potato famine of the 1840s, and Irish peasants concluded not surprisingly that low-level violence was their only recourse against bad treatment. Irish landowners were equally as culpable as absentee English landowners, so the potato famine was a problem probably better seen as a class rather than a national issue; but it became in folk memory the definitive symbol of English misrule. Meanwhile the voice of Irish nationalism emerged periodically in terrorist violence pursued by the Fenians (again with sporadic support from overseas, this time from the spreading Irish diaspora), and peacefully by mainly (but not exclusively) Catholic Irish representatives in the Westminster Parliament. And it was this pressure which led to the arguments about a Home Rule solution which persisted throughout the second half of the 19th century, and with which Mr Gladstone wrestled against the opposition of conservative politicians who saw the prospect as the beginning of the end for the kingdom and for the empire.

After the 1910 election the Irish nationalists held the Parliamentary balance of power with a Liberal government sympathetic to the cause, and the result was a Home Rule Bill in 1914. This provoked fierce opposition from Ulster Protestants - the descendants of the plantation settlers - who wanted no part in a Catholic state and mobilised to defend their interests by force, and from Her Majesty's (supposedly) Loyal Opposition in Parliament which actively encouraged armed opposition to the government. The outbreak of war postponed resolution of the Home Rule question, and the 1916 Easter Rising (supported without much enthusiasm or effect by Germany) ended the possibility of a peaceful resolution. The hardline British reaction to the Rising converted a handful of cranks into martyrs, destroyed support for the constitutional Irish nationalist parties of the pre-war years, persuaded many nationalists to turn to violence, and many previously loyal to the crown to shift their sympathies. The Fenians had been numerically insignificant; after 1916 violent nationalism became very close to being a mass movement, identified exclusively with Catholicism. The Home Rulers had included some Protestants, but nationalism was by this time a Catholic cause. At a time when religion was largely irrelevant in British politics, it defined identities and political aspirations in Ireland. When the Great War ended, the government found itself dealing with something close to an insurrection against British rule. The army was needed to support the police, and they were reinforced by paramilitaries (the infamous Black and Tans) who continued the long tradition of brutal action against a discontented Irish civilian population.

Violence tends to beget further violence, to destroy trust, to reduce the scope for compromise, and to make the search for political solutions more difficult. And so it was in the years of the Troubles which followed. Unconstrained violence was practised against each other by Irish Catholics and Irish Protestants, by nationalist fighters against the agencies of government, and by some of the security forces of the British state against whoever they deemed to be on the wrong side. When the British government lost the will to carry on the fight, it took the political magic of Lloyd George to conjure a ceasefire into existence, conceding independence to an Irish Free State, selling partition of the to the nationalists as temporary and to the Ulster Protestants as permanent, and keeping the new country within the Empire under the crown in order to placate the Conservative Party members of his coalition government. This was a compromise too far for the nationalist hardliners in the new Irish Free State. Those nationalists who signed the deal literally signed their own death warrants, and the Irish Free State was born in 1922 into its own civil war between those who wanted to continue the struggle against the British and those who wished to settle for what they had.

At least that seemed to the English to have settled the Irish question. But nationalist aspirations remained, as did the pre-occupation of the Protestant majority with the perceived threat from Ulster's Catholic minority; and the oppressive treatment of this minority ensured that the nationalist cause remained alive, though mainly dormant until the spark in the 1960s which revived violence as the route to political change in Ireland.

Ireland 1919-1922

Most of the material in this article comes from a personal account by Lieutenant Twining of his service in Dublin with the 2nd Battalion The Worcestershire Regiment. The copyright of the original text is held by his son John.

Following the Easter Rising of 1916 by the IRA the British government executed some of the ringleaders and imprisoned others, but before those imprisoned were released in 1917 Mr Asquith, the Prime Minister visited them. This, together with President Wilson of the USA's suggestion at the Paris Peace Conference that all nations should be granted self-determination, raised their expectations that their aim of an Irish Republic might be achieved. But the Sinn Fein delegation to the Peace Conference came back empty-handed. The IRA therefore started a programme of intimidating and shooting members of the Royal Irish Constabulary (RIC) and raiding police stations to acquire arms which severely weakened the RIC. Government attempts to strengthen the RIC by recruiting some ex-military men known as the 'Auxiliary Cadets' and a force from England which were nicknamed the 'Black and Tans' because of their black shirts and leather equipment exacerbated the situation because of the initial ill-discipline of these groups.



Eamon de Valera in custody after the Easter Rising (Photo: National Library of Ireland)

The need to maintain stability in Ireland therefore became one of the army's major pre-occupations when the war ended. To achieve this the garrison there was strengthened and the 5th (Special Reserve), the 2nd, 3rd and 4th battalions of the Worcestershire Regiment were amongst the units sent there between April 1919 and 1921. However only the 2nd, based in Portobello Barracks Dublin, became actively engaged in operations against the IRA. Initially they were called upon to guard key installations including GHQ Ireland, Mountjoy Prison and the major ammunition depot, but by January 1920, as the security situation deteriorated, the army became more actively involved in searching houses to arrest wanted men and seizing arms and incriminating documents.

At first the IRA made no effort to target servicemen and many officers continued to live out of barracks and soldiers spent their off-duty time in Dublin. But when the IRA became concerned at the success of the army's increased intelligence on their activities some key IRA members met in November 1920 to plot the murder of many army intelligence officers. The army however became aware of this proposed meeting, raided it and captured some of the ringleaders, but others escaped and were able to carry out part of the plan the next day by murdering fifteen army intelligence officers. By coincidence an operation the next day designed to surround a stadium where an important hurley match was to take place because it was thought likely that the crowd would include many wanted IRA members, backfired and the Auxiliary Cadets opened fire as the crowd fled killing a number of civilians. This was widely interpreted as a reprisal for the murder of the army intelligence officers. Shortly after this, military activity was increased and Lieutenant Twining was appointed Intelligence Officer of the 2nd battalion and was given a team of 14 NCOs and men to oversee all raids carried

out by the battalion and to patrol the curfew in the battalion's area of Dublin. He recalled that one of his early raids on a Catholic seminary for young priests near the barracks failed because the officer in charge of the searchlight turned it on ten minutes early so when the raid went in all the inhabitants were at Mass, wearing their pyjamas underneath their surplices and their beds were still warm.

While the increase in military operations temporarily reduced the scale of IRA activity it also encouraged recruitment to the IRA and increased the intimidation of those who had hitherto not supported Sinn Fein. The official statistics give some idea of the scale of IRA activity: from 1st January to 18th November 1921 176 policemen and 54 soldiers were killed and 251 police and 118 soldiers were wounded in addition to a large number of civilians killed. Early in 1921 the IRA formed a number of 'flying columns' consisting of about 30 'regulars' supported by part-time volunteers. In Dublin it was estimated there were about 300 regulars supported by 5,000 volunteers helped by many women and youths who carried out non-combatant duties.

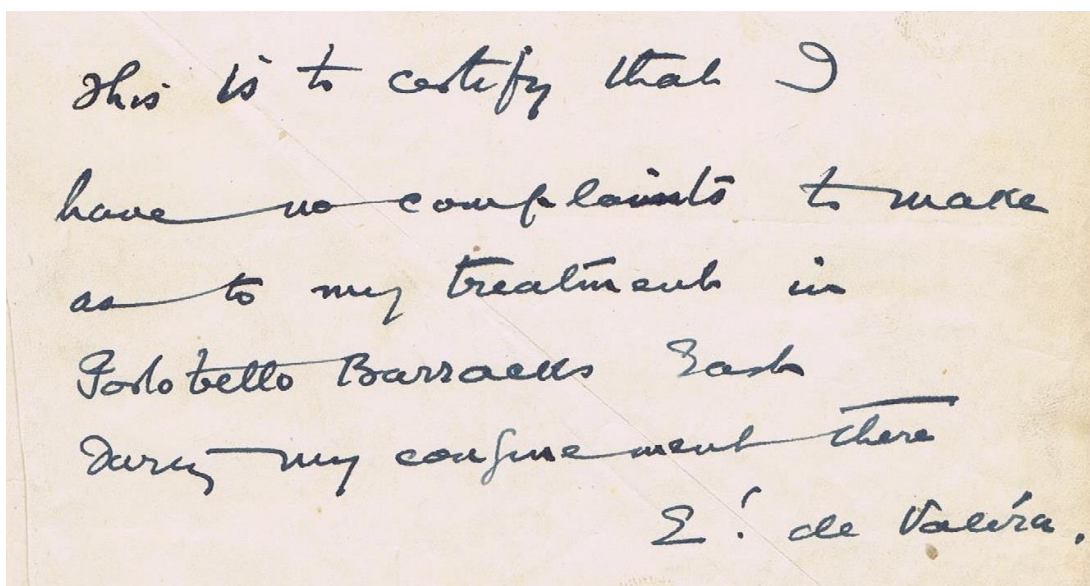
The struggle reached its climax between April and June 1921 by which time it had become increasingly difficult for the security forces to obtain information on IRA plans because the population was either sympathetic to Sinn Fein or terrorised. Twining ran into an ambush in April. Fortunately, his lorry had been provided with armour plated sides so he emerged with only one man slightly wounded. During a raid at this time his team surprised a high-level IRA meeting in progress, arrested 8 men and recovered some revolvers concealed under ashes in the grate, but the ringleader escaped. Those arrested were acquitted at their trial because of the intervention of an American woman who was in Ireland investigating 'atrocities' being committed by the British. Though it remained difficult to obtain information the Intelligence team had by now developed an instinctive knack of spotting suspicious characters which enabled them to arrest an increasing number of men carrying weapons. The IRA also at this time started holding up off duty soldiers and removing their belts, puttees and boots. To counter this Twining organised parties of officers and men to visit pubs and dance halls in plain clothes and hold up the clients. One Saturday night the IRA responded by holding up a large body of soldiers from the battalion and stripping them of all their clothing. This was understandably resented by the men and Twining came under pressure to counter this tactic. He responded by sending out teams armed with non-lethal weapons supported by a few armed men to protect them. This resulted in 11 unfortunate civilians being stripped naked and their clothes burned in the streets and a further 70 deprived of their trousers and shoes. This tactic succeeded as there was only one complaint and no more soldiers were targeted in this way. He said this seemed rather childish in retrospect and was the only reprisal he took part in. (It seems almost unbelievable today that the IRA did not take the opportunity to kill more off duty soldiers, but perhaps many Irishmen who had fought alongside them in the war retained a respect for them).

On 19th June Lieutenant Breeze of the battalion was murdered by the IRA a few miles out of Dublin while off duty. This caused



2nd Lt Alfred Donald Hugh Breeze. 2nd Bn.
Killed by the IRA, 19th June 1921.

outrage in the battalion and some men responded by firing indiscriminately at the houses outside the barracks until they were brought under control. Feeling was still running high in the battalion so on return from the funeral Twining searched his files for a suitable raid which might mollify the men. He decided on a house in an area where there had recently been a number of ambushes of vans carrying mail from GHQ. The house had a large garden and access to roads from both front and back doors. Lieutenant Bone, a tough officer with a good reputation when in a tight corner, but who was incapable of dealing with aggressive women, was selected to approach the front door and demand access, while Twining approached from the rear. As he neared the back door he challenged a man seen leaving the house, but he disappeared back into the house. Twining entered with his team and found the man, who had heavy facial hair and said his name was Hayden, starting to destroy documents. While he was kept under observation the rest of the house was searched though obstructed by two women, and a slip of paper was found listing various items of clothing headed 'President's laundry'. The man was again questioned, gave a different name and story and at this stage Twining wondered whether he might be the President of Sinn Fein. He was by now in a quandary. One part of his team had been sent to GHQ with one of the women from the house because he had no female searchers, and he had begun to feel vulnerable as it was getting dark and the raid had been in progress for some time and the IRA were known to be active in the area. On the other hand, he had a top secret message in his safe that he was not under any circumstances to arrest de Valera, President of Sinn Fein, if he came across hm. He eventually decided he must take the man in for further questioning so the team collected the documents found, told the woman and man they were under arrest and gave them the opportunity to go upstairs and collect their coats accompanied by Bone. Bone rushed downstairs a few moments later and said the woman was starting to undress. Twining wrote *"I knew this was not a situation which Bone was capable of dealing with, so I went upstairs myself. There followed a rather bizarre pantomime. In a firm voice I ordered the woman to desist from undressing. She promptly pulled off her skirt. I said this won't do and you must please dress at once, but she continued her strip tease. After a somewhat embarrassing scene during which I told her she would be forcibly dressed if necessary, I had the bright idea of sending for the man and telling him to intervene".....After a little raging and ramping and some warm words of abuse the woman put on her clothes and off we went"*. The woman was sent to Bridewell and Twining took the man to Portobello Barracks where the orderly officer interviewed him formally in the guardroom and asked him his name. He replied "I am President de Valera of the Irish Republic". The battalion diary records that on reporting the situation to Brigade HQ the battalion received two messages in quick succession, the first to congratulate the battalion on its success and the second to order de Valera's immediate release. It was later discovered he had been in secret talks with the British government about the formation of the Irish Free State. Before his release he signed the following note:



This is to certify that I
have no complaints to make
as to my treatment in
Portobello Barracks Cork
during my confinement there
E. de Valera.

Twining was later awarded the MBE and on the same day seven members of the battalion, who are assumed to have been members of his team, were awarded the Medal of the Order of the British Empire. This is a rare medal, the military division of which was instituted in December 1918. Only about 2000 medals were issued before it was discontinued and replaced by the Empire Gallantry Medal. The medal of one of the recipients, Pte HE Jones, is on display in the regimental museum.



The Right Honourable The Lord Twining
GCMG MBE KStJ

senior officers of the Regiment, but as he searched at the top of the list it was clear that he was at a loss on this occasion. The great man leant forward and pointed out his name at the bottom of the list; he had booked in under the rank he had held on leaving the regiment, 'Lieutenant'. I later discovered he was Sir Edward Twining GCMG MBE who, on leaving the regiment, had served a tour in the King's African Rifles before transferring into the Colonial Service where he eventually rose to be Governor of Tanganyika. He was later created one of the early life peers as Lord Twining.



Postscript (by HJL)

When I alighted from my taxi in white tie and tails to attend my first Regimental Dinner at the Dorchester in 1958 I checked my stride to allow a distinguished looking gentleman wearing the sash and star of an order of chivalry to enter the hotel in front of me. The doorman bowed as he opened the door for him and I entered in his slipstream and followed him down the passage signed 'Regimental Dinner The Worcestershire Regiment'. At the end sat Mr Smith from the Army Agents who ticked off the names of those attending. He prided himself on recognising all the

The Ledgers, WW2 and the Digitisation/Transcription Team . . .

It is well over 12 years since a number of packages were delivered to the archives at Norton Barracks from the Ministry of Defence. These packages contained a series of well-worn ledgers detailing the service of the 'other ranks' who served with the Worcestershire Regiment from 1919 up to the end of the Second World War: they form one of the most significant and unique additions to the museum archive.



The Ledgers

Army No.	NAMES (as full) (Surname first, in full letters)	Transfers to other Corps or cause of leaving the service and records of re-enlistment (if any) (including date)
5253010	ROWLEY William	Transferred to R.R.C. 11/4/41 Discharged 26.4.42
5253011	MALLEN Geoffrey	TRANSFERRED SOUTH STAFFS. 25.7.46
5253012	HOPKINS George Alfred	Transferred to R.R.C. 11/4/41 DISCHARGED 1942
5253013	BEAVON John Jeffrey	Transferred to Gloucesters. 12.12.45
5253014	OWEN Ronald	TRANSFERRED SOUTH STAFFS. 25/7/46
5253015	ROBINSON Ernest Hedrick	Transferred to R.R.C. 11/4/41 No. 1000 Regt 17.6.40
5253016	YATES Reginald Thomas	Discharged Para 29d. 8.7.42 R.R.C. No. 11/4/41
5253017	MIDDLETON Harold Edward	Transferred to R.R.C. 11/4/41 12.11.45
5253018	MOPLEY Reginald Frank	Transferred to 29th (Par) AA Bn 30.1.40. 3000 G.R.A. (CD+AA)
5253019	GRIFFITHS Andrew William	Transferred to 29th (Par) AA Bn 30.1.40. 3000 G.R.A. (CD+AA)

Prior to 1919 the enlistment of other ranks in the Army was handled at a Regimental level and in some cases at a Battalion level. This meant that there could be one, or more men, with the same number in each Regiment to say nothing of the Army as a whole. If a man was transferred from one Regiment (or Corps) to another he was given a fresh number by his new Regiment. The large number of casualties in WW1 highlighted one of the issues of this system and is centred, although not exclusively, on the Welsh Territorial Battalions which prior to 1917 used a 4 figure numbering system. Let's take the name Jones for example – there are stories of parents being told of the demise of their son only for this to be subsequently withdrawn as the wrong Jones (right number and right Regiment) had been identified as a fatality. This was partly corrected in 1917 when the four-figure system was replaced with a six-figure Territorial numbering system. For this and a number of other reasons it was decided in 1919 to transfer to an Army, vice Regimental, numbering system with each Regiment/Corps being allocated a unique 7-figure numbering block – once a number had

been allocated it remained with the soldier throughout the whole of his Army Service, regardless of any transfers. In almost all cases a man with a 7-figure number served (but may have enlisted before) at or after the time the system was introduced. The number block allocated to the Worcestershire Regiment was:

5239001 – 5328000

Although the early ledgers are information-rich (indeed some contain information on the WW1 service) the later ledgers contain little other than name, number and reason for leaving the Regiment. The ledgers are in two series those for men who originally enlisted in the Worcestershire Regt and those for men who transferred into the Worcestershire Regiment having originally enlisted in another Regiment or Corps (i.e. they have numbers outside of the above number block).

WW2

At one time WW2 was seen, by many, as nostalgia but as the number of people still alive who served (or lived) through that period dwindle the period is now moving into history. Indeed, schools have the period included in their history lessons and more and more people are asking 'I wonder what (insert relative) did in WW2'? To find out they turn to us if they believe their relative served with the Worcestershire Regiment in the war. We in turn go to our enlistment registers – there were men who were serving in 1919 who served during WW2 and were even killed. Although there is some indexing the whole series of ledgers is not cross-indexed.

It can be seen from the photograph of the ledgers themselves have seen better days and after 100 years of use further handling is to be avoided if possible. We have considered how best to preserve these unique documents whilst paradoxically making them more accessible. Digitisation and embracing the latest in technology appeared to give us the best option – the use of digital photography (to capture each page), voice recognition software and cutting-edge technology is critical to delivering this.

The Digitisation and Transcription Team

To realise the digitisation, vision a small volunteer team has been formed under curatorial oversight. The volunteers, Jo, Janet, Hugh and Joe, who come from a number of backgrounds and bring their own skills all have one thing in common – the tenacity to deliver a searchable and sortable database of the details (when available) of the men who are listed in the ledgers. It is estimated that there are over 30,000 names in the ledgers and that the project is likely to take upwards of a year to complete. To date all of the WW2 Worcestershire Regiment casualties (just over 1000) have been added to the database harvested from the Cemetery Register details and from the publication Soldiers Died WW2. The first transcription tranche of 4000 names from the ledgers is almost complete after which it will be quality controlled before being added to the master database.

Populating the database with the names and details from the ledgers is only phase 1 – the foundation phase. There are many other sources of WW2 information in the archive, including named photographs, award citations and individual pen pictures provided by relatives. In addition to this the National Archives in London house the original war diaries and information about POWs. But that is a story for another narrative – until then Phase 1 is our primary priority.

The following page contains images of the double-page spread of a 1919 entry.

1888. MEDICAL - 1-100 (Rev. 1914) & Annex, Ed. 1, 1914

NAME (in full) (Surname first)	Attestation or Transfer			Period of Embodiment or Modified Service		Place of Birth	Full Name and Nationality of Woman to whom married, and Name of such Child (if any) (as full); if unmarried, name and address of next-of-kin stating relationship (as usual)
	Date of Attestation	Age on Attestation	Place of Attestation	Transfer to or from Regiment or Corps and Date	Trade on Enlistment		
R M S.R. T Army No. 5239001 5239002 5177	12-4-97 20-4-98 1882	18 1/2 20 1/2 18	London Birmingham	London Birmingham	Taylor Butcher	From To	<p>Margaret Clifford, London, Woolwich ²⁷¹⁷⁰</p> <p>Margaret Irene</p> <p>Emily Hannah Wilson William Edwin Hooper Florence May</p>

NAME (in full) (Surname first)	Address on Discharge	Rate of position awarded (if any)	Rank and Character on Discharge	Cause	Place	Date	Discharge or becoming Non-Effective	Place of Marriage and of Birth of each Child	Date of Marriage and of Birth of each Child
<p>1902/1879/5525</p> <p>1902/1879/5525</p> <p>1902/1879/5525</p>	<p>104, 104, 104</p> <p>104, 104, 104</p> <p>104, 104, 104</p>	<p>Private</p> <p>Private</p> <p>Private</p>	<p>Private</p> <p>Private</p> <p>Private</p>	<p>Discharged on expiration of his period of enlistment</p> <p>Discharged on expiration of his period of enlistment</p> <p>Discharged on expiration of his period of enlistment</p>	<p>London</p> <p>London</p> <p>London</p>	<p>1902</p> <p>1902</p> <p>1902</p>	<p>Discharged on expiration of his period of enlistment</p> <p>Discharged on expiration of his period of enlistment</p> <p>Discharged on expiration of his period of enlistment</p>	<p>London</p> <p>London</p> <p>London</p>	<p>1902</p> <p>1902</p> <p>1902</p>

Events & Activities

Wednesday 15th May – AGM & Talk by Simon Thompson, ‘The History behind the Italian/ Austro-Hungarian Front in WW1’.

Doors open from 11.00am at Dancox House. Lecture at 11.30am; AGM approx. 12.30pm. To be followed by a free light buffet lunch at 13.00pm. **Please rsvp so that the food can be ordered.**

To mark the 75th Anniversary of The Worcestershire Regiment’s role in the Second World War the Museum is holding the following events:

4th April – 31st May Temporary Display, ‘The 7th Battalion at Kohima, 1944’. Worcestershire Soldier Gallery, Worcester City Museum & Art Gallery Foregate St, Worcester, Worcestershire WR1 1DT. Open Monday to Saturday 10.30am - 4.30am and there is no charge for admission.

Saturday 15th June – Activity Day, ‘The Worcesters Push for Victory’, talks and displays at St. Helen’s Church, Fish Street (off High Street), Worcester WR1 2HN.

From 22nd June - Temporary Display, ‘The 1st Battalion in North-West Europe, 1944’. Worcestershire Soldier Gallery, Worcester City Museum & Art Gallery Foregate St, Worcester, Worcestershire WR1 1DT. Open Monday to Saturday 10.30am - 4.30am and there is no charge for admission.



Brigadier Hugh Richards CBE DSO (d.1983), formerly of the Chindits, commanded the 2,500-strong Kohima garrison during the Japanese attack on the hill top town in Nagaland. Faced by 15,000 enemy soldiers, the British-Indian troops held a tight defensive perimeter centred on Garrison Hill.

This newsletter is published by the Friends of *The Mercian Regiment Museum (Worcestershire)*, registered charity no. 276510. Neither the whole newsletter nor extracts from it may be published or posted on the internet without permission.

‘The Worcestershire Soldier’, The Mercian Regiment Museum (Worcestershire)

Worcester City Art Gallery and Museum, 40 Foregate St, Worcester, WR1 1DT.

Tel. 01905 25371. 10.30am – 4.30pm Mon-Sat (closed Sun and Bank Holidays)

“The Friends exists to help the museum to record, preserve and display the history and traditions of The Worcestershire Regiment, its predecessors and successors from 1694 to the present day including the deeds and sacrifices of those who have and are serving in it”, to join, or for further information please email museummercian@btconnec.com or 01905 721982.