



The Official Newsletter of the Napoleonic Association .

Vol.1/2020



This picture will always be how I remember Ian and Maureen. Their re-enactment history spanned many years and included frequent visits to Spain, in particular La Coruna.

[www.NapoleonicAssociation.org](http://www.NapoleonicAssociation.org)

## Editor's Page

Hello everyone,

First of all, please accept my apologies for the lack of Adjutants in 2019. It was a busy year, with some illness in the family, and for various reasons I just did not get around to doing any editing.

Welcome, then, to the first edition for 2020, the “Lockdown” issue.

As you can see from the picture, our re-enactment has moved indoors and at the moment consists of virtual tea parties on Zoom.

I have, at least, had time to make some new caps and shirts—they were intended for the Waterloo event.

I do hope that you are all well and that by staying safely in your own homes you have managed to avoid being infected with Coronavirus. I can see from Facebook that many of you have come up with some very inventive ways of keeping the re-enactment going, like Virtual drill sessions and sing-songs round the camp-fire. In our own regiment we are getting together on Zoom to share a cup of tea, or a dinner party and it is so good whilst we are all in Social Isolation to actually see and talk to our friends in this way.

Some of us did in fact manage to get to an event this year, in January, when we went to Coruna to commemorate the death of Sir John Moore. We also had another, very special reason to go, to commemorate our dear friends Ian Love and Maureen Lancaster who both passed away in 2019. Some of their ashes have now been laid to rest beside the grave of Sir John. More of this story can be found later in this issue.

We heard earlier this year that Tim Pickles, one of the leading lights in North American re-enactment, has passed away. Some of you will have met him and he was a founder member of the Napoleonic Association.

We have also heard from the First Brigade, who held a “Virtual” re-enactment over the first weekend in May, and there is a report from Rob Yuill in this issue.

Much of the news and information from the NA has now moved to Facebook thanks to Rory and Emma, the newly co-opted media team. However, The Adjutant will continue to be circulated for all of those members who do not subscribe to Social Media, and still want to be kept informed of what is going on during this ever increasing period of Social Isolation. I have not included a list of events for this year, as most of them have now been postponed, but we still hope that something may happen in the Autumn and we will keep you informed.

Please keep sending your articles and news to me so that I can continue to produce an Adjutant at regular intervals. I would like to be able to issue one more edition this year, to keep everyone informed of how we are all managing to stay safe and sane during Lockdown and without our regular fix of re-enactment in the field.

*Kate*



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## The NA Committee

Chairman	Martyn Monks
Treasurer	Jerry Sperring
Secretary	Catherine Waymouth (Freya "Bob" Ericsson)
Safety Officer	Adrian Lobb
Events Officer	Robert Draper
Membership Secretary	Fran Read
Media Officer	Laura Short
Co-opted Media Team	Rory Martello Butcher Emma Norfolk



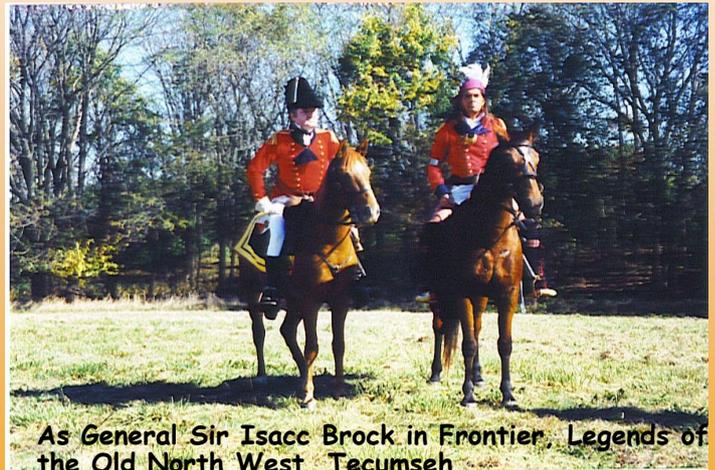
Tim Pickles 15/06/1953 to 03/04/2020

A lot of you who are new to Napoleonic Re-enactment may not even be familiar with the name of Tim Pickles as he had lived in New Orleans for the last 30 years and was very involved with the American War of 1812 Re-enactments and he became Lt. General of North America. Occasionally he came to Waterloo but not in recent years. He was a founder member of the Napoleonic Association in the UK.

A lamentable loss as he was only 66 when he passed away from Brain Cancer.

The following obituary comes from the The Times, Picayune, Louisiana

Timothy Pickles passed away April 3 at the age of 66. He was from Yorkshire, England, and he studied at Harrogate College. He was a resident of New Orleans for 30 years. Timothy was a fixture in the national and local film industry. His first professional big break was on the mini-series, "Noble House," where he consulted on costumes. He was producer for several shows on the History Channel. Well-known and respected in the film industry as a historical consultant as well as his expertise on American and European military costumes and protocol, he worked on such projects as *The Last of the Mohicans*, the popular series *Mail Call*, *The Free State of Jones*, and Sofia Coppola's *The Beguiled*, as well as the recent reboot of the *Roots* TV series in which he helped stage battle scenes. His last work was advisor for the 2019 re-enactment of the Slave Revolt march that ended in New Orleans. Timothy, although a Brit, was also an expert on the Battle of New Orleans and was instrumental in many re-enactments. You can find him as General Pakenham in the documentary of the battle at the Chalmette Battle Field visitor center. He also wrote a book about the Battle of New Orleans: *New Orleans 1815: Andrew Jackson Crushes the British*, and another book titled: *Malta 1565: Last Battle of the Crusades*. A familiar face at his beloved St. Patrick's Church Latin Mass, Timothy served as usher there for many years. He had an encyclopedic knowledge of history and could recite perfectly bits of dialogue from his favorite films. Timothy, very much the gentleman, had the kind of upbeat personality people liked to be around, always brightening a room not only with his presence but also with his knowledge of present and past events especially around historic and world events. His old-time natural charm, culture and eagerness to bring people together are irreplaceable. And his attachment to the English Catholic heritage he received, was one of his noblest traits. He loved New Orleans for its unique customs and deep history. He was a Knight Commander of the Star of Ethiopia and was awarded the Knight Grand Cross of the Lion of Rwanda by the King of Rwanda, for services rendered. He was a Knight Commander of Merit with Star of the Sacred Military Constantinian Order of St. George, and served the order as Vice Delegate for the South; active in the Order of Lazarus; one of the founders of the Napoleonic Association; founder of Louisiana Living History Foundation Historical Military Productions; and member of the Round Table Club. He is survived by his wife, Mary Lou Holmes, and 3 stepchildren Alex, Grier, and Sallie.



As General Sir Isacc Brock in *Frontier, Legends of the Old North West, Tecumseh*

## The British Division



Good day Ladies and Gentlemen

Trying to keep positive in one's outlook during these strange and worrying times is advice that we are frequently offered, but as we all know, it's not that easy to comply with all of the time - so it is with no small thanks to Kate for getting this Adjutant off the ground and stirring some of us into action to contribute our customary piece.

I am sure that Duncan is, like me, wondering when we will next get our Divisions into action. Apart from the NA's programme, the loss of Waterloo20 is a particular shame (We have been assured by the organisers that 2021 - the 206<sup>th</sup>! is a definite) and fingers crossed we might get a couple of events before the end of the year. The British Division remains confined to barracks, like a coiled spring, ready and eager to leap into action once again.

Military news is of course limited, every society across the world is in the same position that we are. All of us send all our good wishes to the re-enactment community across the world, whatever period they represent.

I think it is worth a word on behalf of all those who have to organise and manage the events we attend and perhaps a touch of caution for all of us. All we have to do is turn-up and do our thing, but there is so much more to managing an event, not just the site management but in particular the police and emergency services (God bless em all!) whose support is essential to any public event. They will need time to regain their strength and stability after they have been so sorely tested over the weeks and months of this emergency.

This is the longest break in re-enacting that I have ever experienced, and it's some 30 years since the time when I first began serving his Majesty, it's also particularly poignant to me as it's 20 years since my own regiment the 2/44<sup>th</sup> was founded (August 2000). Happy birthday 44<sup>th</sup>. I have included a very bad picture taken not long after our commencement, showing some of the fresh faced, motley crew who were around in the early days. Two of them are still with us - me and a very young Dave Preece (He's the one second from the right). You can tell that I have been using some of this extra spare time to sort out some old pics (most pre-digital).

If you are suffering from really bad re-enactment withdrawal symptoms there are things you can do, and many have - just opening the wardrobe door and getting a whiff of gunpowder off some moth-balled jacket does not suffice, dressing in kit and posing in front of the mirror, drilling, parading in the garden (For those that have one) , I still would not recommend going out and doing your 1 hours exercise on the streets in kit - you might get arrested, but at best will probably scare the living daylights out of everyone else, but it may be one way of ensuring people keep their distance from you!

There are loads of pics being posted on FB and elsewhere on social media, some past, some present. One regiment I know is conducting an online video drill competition for their guys, others have thought of putting up the tent in the garden, mine could do with a good airing after being stacked away for some 6 months. Haven't (yet) got to the point where I would set up full camp (fire and all) but it could come to that.

When we eventually meet up and greet old friends once again, I am sure that as always and however long a gap it has been since the last event, we will pick up from where we left off. We are merely a sleeping giant. Our organisation and command structure combined with your military precision and social skills in engaging the public will once again kick-in. One thing is for sure equipment will sparkle and the precision of our fire-power will be awesome after all that gun servicing and cleaning. It will be as if we had never left.

Until then. It's family and friends first and before all else. Look after yourselves, stand together (In open order with of course 2 metre spacing). Stay safe and keep smiling.

*"We are come to a new era in the history of nations; we are called to struggle for the destiny, not of this country alone but of the civilised world... We have for ourselves the great duty of self-preservation to perform; but the duty of the people of England now is a far nobler and higher order... Amid the wreck and the misery of nations it is our just exultation the we have continued superior to all that ambition or despotism could effect; and our still higher exultation ought to be that we provided not only for our own safety but hold out a prospect for nations now bending under the iron yoke of tyranny of what the exertions of a free people can effect."*

*William Pitt (the younger). Address to parliament Summer 1804*

Ed

Major General Edwin Parker.  
Commander - British Division



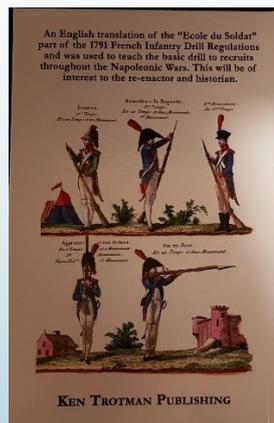
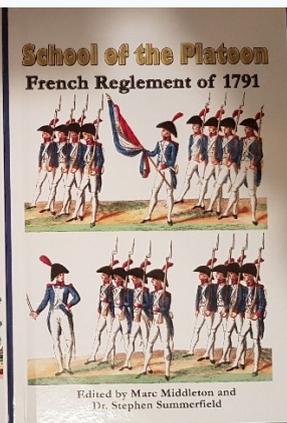
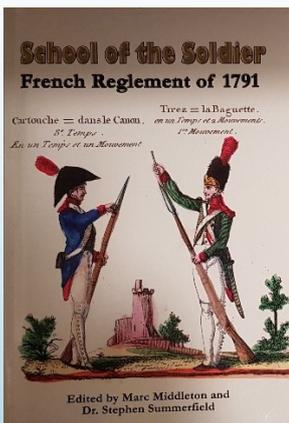
## From the French Brigade

Well the build up to the new season was full of excitement, with anticipation levels increasing, new campaign style events planned, trips abroad organised, kit repaired and/or renewed, drill sessions discussed, then lockdown. It might be all over by May, no chance. Events dropped quicker than Russian soldiers in front of Sénarmont's artillery at Friedland. We hang onto the hope of an event in Ajaccio later this year and the possibility of one or two home grown events from late August. The Dutch are still hoping that Le Chateau d'Heeswijk Libere III will take place in late August.



So, we have 2021 to look forward to. Plans are currently afoot to commemorate the bi-centennial of Napoleon's period on St Helena. A wide range of activities are being planned by The French Government, St Helena Tourist Board and many others during the period 4-6<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

Within the French Brigade we now have all the units working together from originally sourced drill manuals. Our officers and NCOs attended a third l'ecole d'Infanterie with our guest speaker once again being Marc "Demi-Frog" Middleton, principal instructor of the "Ecole d'Infanterie de Seclin" and cadre in the "Bataillon-Uni" (Composite Battalion). Marc, along with Dr Stephen Summerfield, produced an excellent book, in English, entitled "The School of the Soldier 'French Reglement of 1791'". Not surprisingly the initial print run soon ran out and additional copies were ordered. Following the success of that book they recently produced "The School of the Platoon, French Reglement 1791". Once again, this new book is proving popular and many within The Brigade already have a copy. Copies have also been sent to our English speaking 'French' colleagues across Europe and in America. What is proving so positive about the books is the way that many questions and discrepancies about drill are now being discussed and agreed upon and put into common practice across the various French troops around the globe. A massive thank you goes out to Marc and Stephen for helping make this happen. I think it was nearly 25 years ago that I first met Marc and his enthusiasm and passion for Napoleonic re-enacting and drill were infectious then, it has not diminished over time.



During the first weekend of April, Marc hosted a virtual ecole, on-line via the 21e Discord site. Some of the more tech savvy, dare I say 'youngsters' (well they are, compared to me) within 21e use Discord to discuss all things Napoleonic and play a variety of Napoleonic and other games together. Josh and Matty came up with the idea of a virtual ecole, and Marc was happy to oblige. The session went well and lasted for just over 3 hours. It was good to have people taking part who had been unable to physically attend any of the earlier ecoles. Future sessions are being planned, so it will be interesting to report back on how these virtual sessions progress. By the end of the lockdown period us older hands will hopefully have come to grips with audio, streaming, and the various other buttons and options that maximise the benefits of Discord.

I've also noticed various recordings on social media platforms of individuals doing drill, and musicians playing, both Allied and French. All helpful things to watch for those new to the hobby and for those more experienced ones amongst us. It will be interesting to see how the virtual campfire sing alongs develop in the coming weeks and months.

Just over a year ago in last Adjutant I reproduce an article research, written and produced by Shannon Selin. Shannon has a wonderfully thought provoking and interesting blog site which I highly recommend to readers and which can be found on her web site at <https://shannonselin.com/>. Her latest blog, copied below, shows how folk coped with the boredom in the 1830s during a cholera pandemic. I'm grateful to Shannon for letting me reproduce this fascinating blog.

Are you stuck at home and wondering what to do? Here are some tips for dealing with boredom - or ennui, as it was commonly called - from the 1830s, when a cholera pandemic was raging around the world.

### **Find an honorable pursuit**

One should never suffer himself to become a prey to ennui, or, to use the nearest phrase we have to it in English, the blue devils. These azure imps, if once they get the possession of a man - I don't include woman, for she has a thousand charms to dispel - are a greater curse to him than were the plagues of Egypt to its royal master. He cannot walk, for he has no object in view - he cannot sit, or even lounge. His spirits are too restless, his nerves too irritable - he cannot converse, for that is a labour to him - to read he is unable, his attention cannot be fixed - to sleep with comfort is equally impossible with him; for his tormentors...move about him in dreams and fill them with inquietude.

If it was made the curse of man that in the sweat of the brow he should eat his bread, it is equally true...that in laboring for that bread, he should find his greatest blessing. I envy no man his carriage who rides abroad in it without occupation or object in view. I am sure of being happier trudging on foot, so long as I am intent on some honest and honorable pursuit. (1)

### **Watch an opera, or a mime**

The cholera has spread such terror in Paris that the Theatres are menaced with total ruin if this panic should last much longer. It is a truly sad spectacle - the saloons empty - the banquets deserted - the rows of boxes without a single spectator, and the actors grimacing in gaiety or sentiment before a few idlers, who listen mechanically to the scenes of a comedy or the choruses of a vaudeville, and whose vague and uneasy attention discloses a grave pre-possession of mind and a sad anguish of the heart. All this passes in an atmosphere of chloride of lime, camphor, and vinegar, and in the midst of a continual buzzing of the words 'cholera,' 'malades,' 'bulletins,' 'morts,' and 'hopitaux;' sadness, loathing, fear, and ennui from one corner of the Theatre to the other. Such are the characteristics of the Theatres for the last eight days. It has, however, been made a subject of remark that the large Theatres and the minor ones are deserted, whilst the Opera and the Funambules are overflowing with spectators. The highest class and the lowest populace appear to require distraction in the same degree. The music of Meyerbeer and the graces of Taglioni, equally with the buffooneries of Debureau, can dissipate fear and diminish danger. At the Opera you could imagine yourself in the midst of the most prosperous days of the Restoration - at the Theatre Français, at the Gymnase, and others, one feels that he is in the very worst days of the Revolution. (2)

### **Get drunk**

The New York Mercantile Advertiser says that it has been a subject of general remark that since the appearance of the cholera, intemperance has increased to an alarming extent. It observes, 'Many people have not the inclination or the power to direct their attention to study, and having no places of amusement within their reach, seek to drown ennui in ardent spirits, which once tasted, many have not sufficient control over their appetite to pause, but rush onward madly to destruction. We suggest to those who have so laudably embarked in the suppression of our intemperance to think of some mode of innocently amusing the minds of the middling classes; let them...offer a premium for the best essay on the subject. Of one thing we feel convinced - while total abstinence is not only their aim, but also a rigid adherence to certain religious creeds, to the exclusion of amusement, we think that though temporary good may result, the benefit will not be enduring. Let any one dwell on the construction of the human mind, and think how many and various are its desires and appetites, and we are convinced he will think with us, that those desires and appetites may be changed to a more moral and healthy channel, but they never can be subdued. (3)

### **Insult the ladies**

All who have been in the habit of resorting to this town [Margate, England] must have had frequent cause to regret the monotony and dullness which occasionally brood over it, as a cloud surcharged with cholera or plague. For some time past this hebetude, with its accompanying ennui, has exercised its undisturbed control, and turned the bright summer months to the dark gloom of throat-cutting November - until, on the 21st [August] the spell was broken - the ladies' tongues were released from bondage, and the whole town became in commotion through the following adventure:

Two military sprigs from Canterbury, whose names I will forebear to disclose, but who are said to be attached to the 93rd Regiment, have been for some time displaying their puppyism at the various places of amusement here, in successful endeavours to emulate the dandyism of the notorious 10th [Regiment], and annoy all those whom they presume to be below their level. These new Damon and Pythias...with that consummate assurance and self-conceit which characterize the fop and, as often, the fool, amidst other displays of blackguardism...commenced their insulting operations on every female whom they approached, and among others, on 'the dark-eyed' daughters of Nathan, the intimate friend of Lord Byron, and celebrated composer of the 'Hebrew Melodies.' Those who know Nathan can well imagine how he would have acted on the receipt of this intelligence, communicated to him by his insulted daughters. He did act as his friends expected. He first demanded an explanation - on which the 'gallant sons of Mars' attempted to sheer off, and finally denied the fact; but as Nathan persisted in his demand, they tried to shuffle out of the disgraceful affair, by doubting his qualifications to receive the satisfaction of a gentleman. Upon this, he very properly knocked down these military soi-disant gentlemen on a dunghill, where, without attempting to crow, they only sought to arrange their white feathers. (4)

### **Read a newspaper**

The editor of the New Orleans Herald says, 'The theatres are closed; it is too hot to hunt; too tedious to fish; and most of us are almost too indolent to read. The only amusement in which our citizens can now indulge is to ride out in the dusk of the evening, or walk the streets and inhale the cool air after dark. In these times of dullness, the man who would invent any pleasant means of banishing ennui should be looked upon as a public benefactor.'

If the stupidity of the climate had not infected the editor, he might, could, would, or should have said, 'We are the public benefactor - the pleasant means of banishing ennui.' (5)

## Or not

We certainly are plague-struck! Each way we turn – each object we meet – is spotted with the mark of the pestilence, ennui. Breakfast is joyless – we have no chuckle at the reminiscence of over-night's row in the House – no dreamy blissful recollection of the look of love 'our lady' cast from her opera-box on us – no soft melody vibrating in our ears of the sweet singers of the season. We are plagued with the absence of all these. We take up a paper – it is 'full of emptiness'.... Is it it not a plague to wade daily through six columns on the directors' evidence on the Secret(!) Committee on the Affairs of the Bank, with the consolation of reading 'to be continued' at the termination? Is not this, we say, an inducement to commit suicide? ... We were...in Grosvenor-Square – soliloquizing 'as we went, for want of thought' of anything, save that of our manifold plagues – a sudden fit of sneezing, the interesting concomitant of woe, seized us; and...the reverberation actually roused three old housekeepers, who shut the windows in apprehension of heaven's artillery.

Reader! – Is it not plaguy hard the times should be, when the noise of an honest man's nose should be mistaken for a thunder-clap? (6)

"Blue Devils," *Providence Patriot* (Providence, Rhode Island), July 27, 1833.

"The Cholera in Paris," *Bell's Life in London and Sporting Chronicle*, Vol. XI, No. 356, April 29, 1832.

"Amusement Necessary to Sobriety," *Western Times* (Exeter, UK), October 6, 1832.

"War of Mars and Apollo at Margate," *The Age* (London, UK), August 24, 1834.

"Happiness in New Orleans," *Morning Post* (London, UK), August 30, 1837.

"London, The City of the Plague," *The Age* (London, UK), September 9, 1832.

Salut et fraternite

Duncan



Dolce far niente (Pleasant Idleness), by Auguste Toulmouche, 1877

## A Corunna 2020

This year re-enactment will be very limited, if at all, but at least, for some of us, we managed to fit in an event in January 2020. The event happens every year at this time, but this time it was more poignant and special, and thanks must go to Stephen Lancaster for extending the invitation to join the Buffs for a “Last Huzza” for Maureen Lancaster and Ian Love, who both passed away in 2019, and who had for many years supported the event at Corunna and had many friends there. Both had been ill for quite some time, and it was with great sadness that we learnt of Ian’s death in April 2019, closely followed by Maureen in June. For those of us who were unable to get to their funerals it was our way of paying our own personal respects to two very dear friends who will be sadly missed.

A group of us from the Buffs, 3rd Foot Guards, 71st and others travelled to Northern Spain on the 14th January to take part in the commemorations for Sir John Moore in Corunna. We travelled from Heathrow on a Vueling flight which was the most scary experience I have ever had in the air. Because of the high winds the take off was somewhat bumpy, followed by a relatively smooth flight until we started to descend to Corunna, when we began to be tossed about in all directions in a most alarming way. Adrian got worried when he heard the Captain rap out a 3-word order and the cabin crew switched on the illuminated signs above the escape exits.

However, we landed safely and headed for our accommodation. Most of the party had been booked into a hotel together by Phil Reynolds but the 3rd Foot Guards contingent had not been aware of this arrangement so we booked independently into the newly refurbished Hostal Alboran very near to the Plaza Major and the sea-front.

Wednesday was a free day so we took the opportunity to do some sightseeing. Adrian and I were accompanied by Helen McArdle and it was her first ever trip to a foreign re-enactment. Her particular hero of the Peninsular campaigns was Sir John Moore, so we took her to see the Garden of San Carlos, where he is buried, and also the site of the house where he died of his wounds, as well as the Tower of Hercules, the core of which is an original Roman lighthouse. Here we spent some time sitting in the sun and looking at the views across the harbour and watching the Atlantic waves crashing against the shoreline.

The weather in Northern Spain was somewhat wet and windy, so much so that other flights had been cancelled and Matt Ring was only able to join us a day later. The weather also affected the programme of events, as the local authorities closed all the parks and gardens so on Thursday 16th, the actual day of the commemoration of the death of Sir John Moore, we held the ceremony inside the Military Museum opposite where he is buried.

On Friday evening we were all invited to attend a military band concert as part of the commemorations. The local re-enactors had been very good friends of Maureen and Ian, and the commemoration this year was as much about them, and “Chewy”, another former re-enactor who had also passed away in 2019. Photos were displayed on the screen during the concert, which included a piece written especially for the Battle of Coruna, a tribute to Edith Piaf and a piece entitled “Queen in Concert”. It was somewhat surreal to sit there in kit singing we will rock you...

By Saturday the weather had improved and we all assembled again at the museum for a demonstration of the uniforms and weapons for the public, followed by a lunch in the museum.

Then the parade moved out to the garden opposite for the wreath laying ceremony. The ladies of the Buffs provided all of us with a rose, red for the ladies and white for the men, in memory of Maureen and Ian. The wreath laying was followed by a gun salute.

Maureen’s last wish had been for her ashes to be fired from a cannon, and Stephen had arranged for this to be accomplished during the commemorations. A charge made up from some of Ian’s and Maureen’s ashes was fired from the walls of the Garden de San Carlos. After that, a mini skirmish took place in the esplanade gardens behind the museum, which ended with another salvo from the guns, Stephen firing the very final shot which was truly Maureen’s and Ian’s Last Huzza.

Later, when all the public and others had gone, we returned to Sir John Moore’s tomb in the garden where Stephen and Begonia, Maureen’s close friend in the Spanish partisans, scattered the remaining ashes in the flower beds around the tomb. As we paid our last respects to our friends, we laid our roses along the wall surrounding the tomb.

So now Maureen and Ian rest in peace together, alongside of Sir John Moore, in the place where they had spent many happy times with friends from both the UK and Spain.



These three photos, by Belen Marino Casal, give a good representation of the re-enactors, both British and Spanish, gathered to pay respects to Maureen, Ian and Chewie, as well as to Sir John Moore, on the 18th January 2020.

The photo to the left shows the plaque on the building (now a Santander bank) which stands on the site of the house where Sir John Moore died of his wounds sustained at the battle of Elvina on the 16th January 1809.

Below: This photo of “Chewie” was taken from a 2001 copy of a Spanish magazine called “Euro Uniformes”, their version of Skirmish I would imagine. I found it in a bookshop in Coruna owned by Manuel Arenas Roca, who has been the co-ordinator of the re-enactments in Coruna for many years



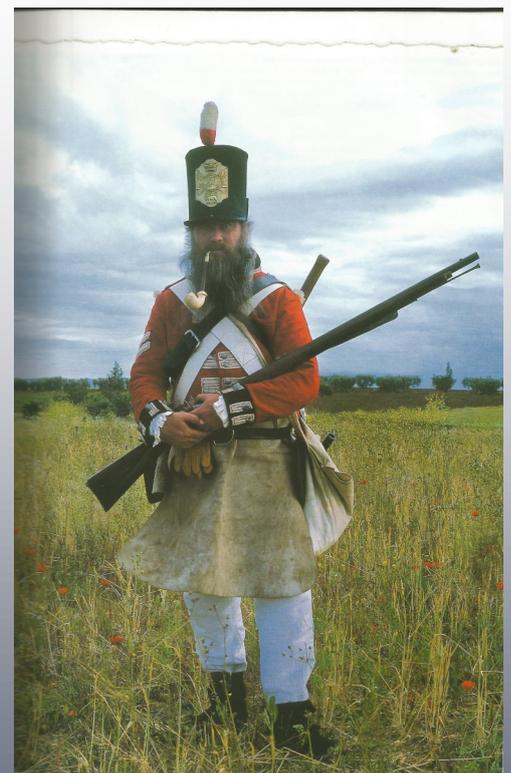
The tomb of Sir John Moore



Sir John Moore

These two images above were scanned from a tourist leaflet I picked up whilst in Coruna which is why they are not as sharp as the others.

The tomb stands in the centre of the Garden of San Carlos, on the ramparts of the old town. The garden and the Mausoleum were constructed in 1834 at the orders of Fransisco Mazarredo, the Military Governor of the A Coruna to honour the memory of the British General.



Suboficial británico del 50th Foot Regiment.



Memories of Coruna. Thursday's Parade, Evening dinner and Saturday's gathering before the final commemoration.  
Photos: Kate Lobb





**The Last Huzza**

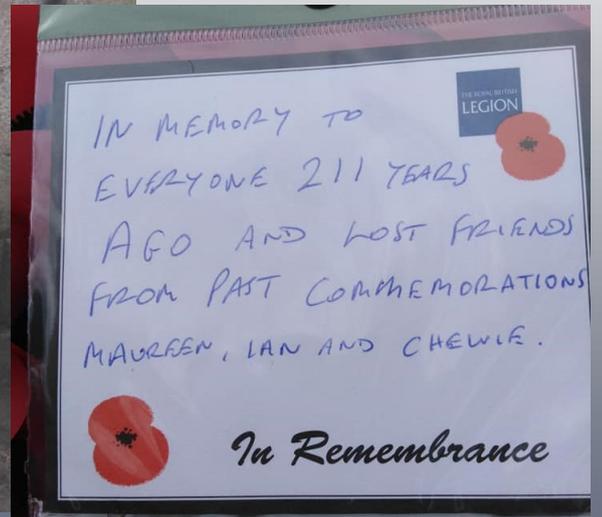
Right: Wreath laying at Sir John Moore's tomb

Below: Skirmish amongst the trees

The Last Shot by Stephen Lancaster

We left our roses on Sir John's tomb, as a memorial for Maureen, Ian, and of course Sir John himself.

Photos: Kate Lobb



## A Look Back at the beginning of the Battle Proms

# The Battle Proms Concert Battle Abbey



## NEW ENGLISH CONCERT ORCHESTRA

Douglas Coombes – Conductor  
Carole Lindsay-Douglas – Soprano

Saturday 8th August 1998

Souvenir Programme

A John Slough of London Production  
in association with  
English Heritage



Whilst clearing out some boxes of paperwork (something to do during Lockdown..) we came across this programme from what we believe is the first ever Battle Prom Season in 1998 and held, naturally, at Battle Abbey.

Adrian attended this event as a firer with the 2nd Queen's Regiment of Foot who were contracted as the firing unit, as can be seen in the programme.

In those days, it would seem that the organisers were happy to acknowledge and name the NA units who were participating. It is interesting to note that both the Cavalry and Infantry were drawn from NA Units.

You can see from the programme also that the format and content has not really changed at all, and the conductor of the orchestra is the same as today, Douglas Coombes.

Incidentally, Beethoven's Battle Symphony is now in the Classic FM Hall of Fame at 194. Why not download it and practise the musket firing to perfect your timings?

# The Battle Proms Concert

Cavalry Displays  
Skill at Arms : 5.00pm  
'Tent Pegging' Demonstration : 6.00pm

## Musical Programme

Performed by  
The New English Concert Orchestra  
( Leader - John Bradbury)

Conductor - Douglas Coombes

Soloist - Carole Lindsay-Douglas - Soprano

Performance commences : 7.30pm

von Suppé - Light Cavalry Overture (with cavalry display)  
Mascagni - Cavalleria Rusticana (Intermezzo)

Fauré - Pavane

Massenet - Meditation from 'Thais'

Mendelssohn - Hebrides Overture

Beethoven - 5th Symphony (1st Movement)

Tchaikovsky - 1812 Overture (With cannons and fireworks)

INTERVAL - 30 minutes

J.Strauss Jnr. - Unter Donner und Blitz (Thunder and Lightning Polka)

J.Strauss Sr. - Radetzky March

Mozart - 40th Symphony in G minor (1st Movement)

Beethoven - 'Battle Symphony'

(Wellington's Victory with 193 live cannons from the English Field Artillery Co., musketfire from the 2nd Queen's Regiment of foot, and fireworks)

Handel - Arrival of the Queen of Sheba

Traditional, Arr. Coombes - Portsmouth

Holst/Spring-Rice - 'I Vow to Thee My Country'

Arne - Rule Britannia - Soloist: Carole Lindsay-Douglas

Elgar - Pomp & Circumstance No. 1

'Land of Hope and Glory'

Fantastic Firework Finale

Performance finishes : 10.00pm (approx.)

## HISTORY IN THE MAKING



History in the making are a theatrical group of riders who perform the Military skills of both British and French Cavalry of the Napoleonic age. They will also be accompanied by the 2nd Queen's Re-enactment Regiment, a group of infantry re-enactors. The Queen's fought under Wellington against Bonaparte, and their battle honours include Corunna, Salamanca and Wellington's triumphal victory at Vittoria in June 1813. Both the infantry and Cavalry are members of the Napoleonic Association.

## Did You Know?

Whilst re-reading one of my many books on matters military in the Napoleonic/Georgian era during the current Lockdown, I came across what I thought was a very interesting piece of information relating to the War of 1812. However, you will have to read to the end of the article to discover what the answer was to “Did you Know...”

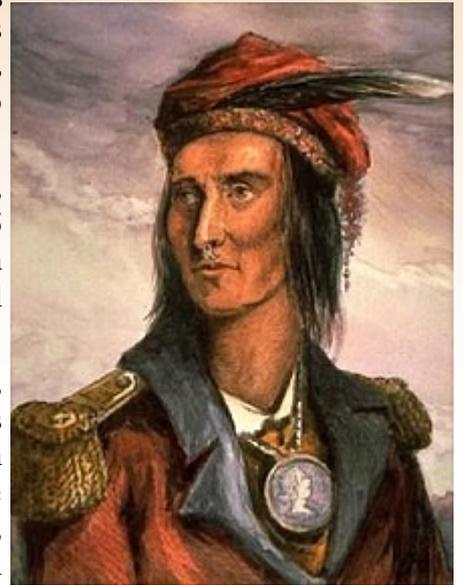
### TECUMSEH'S CONFEDERACY (Great Lakes to Georgia, USA) Indian Wars 1811–13/War of 1812

Fought between the Tecumseh Confederation of N. American Indians led by Tecumseh (1768–1813), Chief of the Shawnees, supported in the latter stages by the British, and the Americans led by Brigadier-General William Harrison, Governor of Indiana Territory.

*Aim:* Tecumseh, with infinite patience wove together a great confederacy of Indian tribes stretching in an arc from the Great Lakes to Georgia including most of today's Middle West, with the idea of forming an Indian nation which would prevent the American colonies from expanding westward. By 1811 his confederacy was in being. But while Tecumseh was gathering adherents General Harrison advanced on Tecumseh's capital, “Prophetstown” (50 miles south of Chicago), with 1,000 men to put a stop to his alleged conspiracy.

In an inconclusive battle at Tippecanoe Creek on 8 November 1811, against 450 Indians, Harrison lost 61 killed and 127 wounded against 36 Indians killed and about 70 wounded. The Indians, however, with Tecumseh away on a proselytising trip, lost their nerve and abandoned their base.

Early in 1812 Tecumseh returned to pick up the pieces of his movement, but the cohesion and determination had gone out of it. Nevertheless Tecumseh, now allied with the British, formed an army of 2,000 men in the Detroit area, destroying a company of 200 Americans, and fought some other units to a standstill. With the British under General Sir Isaac Brock, Tecumseh surrounded Detroit, whose garrison under General William Hull numbered 2,500 to Brock's 730 Canadians and Tecumseh's 700 Indians. On 16 August Hull surrendered Detroit without a shot being fired.



Portrait of Brigadier-General Tecumseh

By January 1813 the British under Major-General Thomas Proctor and Tecumseh, now a brigadier-general in the British army, held the initiative. The American general Harrison was ordered to recapture Detroit, but a part of his force of 850 Kentuckians were annihilated on the Raisin River and another unit of 800, trying to join Harrison, lost 650 men, which provided many scalps for the Indians.

But Tecumseh's good fortune was quickly reversed when Captain Oliver Perry defeated the British at the Battle of Lake Erie on 10 September 1813, and gained naval control of the lake. This British defeat and the subsequent advance and capture of Detroit by Harrison with the resultant total withdrawal of British support, caused the collapse of Tecumseh's confederacy. Tecumseh led his men to Canada. *En route*, at the Battle of the Thames River on 15 October 1813 in the face of 3,500 Americans under General Harrison, General Proctor fled the field (and was accused of cowardice), leaving Brigadier-General Tecumseh in command of 800 British regulars and 1,000 Indians, to fight on. After 12 of them were killed and 27 wounded the British morale collapsed and the remainder surrendered. Tecumseh's Indians fought bravely and held on until their chief was killed, when they too fled and dispersed, leaving 35 dead.

In spite of his success Harrison (who later was to become President) was ordered to disband his fine body of Militia, so he resigned.

Therefore, Brigadier-General Tecumseh was the only American Indian chief to command British troops in battle. (Unless you know different....)

Adrian Lobb

*Extract taken from A Dictionary of Battles (1715-1815) by Brig. Michael Calvert and Brig. Peter Young*

# Event Report “Whittington Castle in spite of it!” aka The Camp Quarantine Muster

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

## An online event by 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade. Keeping The Hobby ‘Virtually’ Alive

The weekend 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> May should have been the first major event of the 2020 season for units of 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, coming together with others to take part in an event at Whittington Castle in Shropshire. An event hosted annually by 5<sup>th</sup> (Rifle) Battalion 60<sup>th</sup> Regiment and the Anglesey Hussars; which has become increasingly popular over the past few years, attracting more and more attendees each year. This year; for reasons known only too well by you dear readers; the event was cancelled.



1<sup>st</sup> Brigade Headquarters for the event.

During an evening of slight madness in April, whilst I was sleeping out under my old Army ‘basha’ along with my son, as part of the Great British Camp Out – (his idea not mine I hasten to add, and Anne and Catherine had more sense at least to be in a tent) – whether it was the fresh air or the whiskey; I had the idea “wouldn’t it be fun to do this in kit to replace an event we’re missing?” I was further inspired by two hardy souls from the 33<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Foot who did a drill weekend in the garden in place of their cancelled first Regimental event. Quicker, it seemed, than most muskets go from flash to bang; this kernel of an idea expanded to become an attempt to muster as many of 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade as possible for a virtual, on line event, conducted over the ether and internet. The reason, to keep the re-enactment spirit alive, keep re-enactment in the public eye and above all have a bit of fun.

The date was chosen; replace the Brigade’s first major muster and do the Whittington Castle event of 2<sup>nd</sup> May as a stay at home event. A quick canvas across the units and troops of the Brigade and it seemed there were enough of us mad enough to do it to make it worthwhile.

The base idea was, where possible, people would pitch tents in their gardens and then do the event, staying at home and we would all join together, on line, some-how. This led to some ingenious creations by individuals from a ‘complete’ camp at Bde HQ (including an [ornamental] artillery Park and French P.O.W) to great improvisations from members without gardens - one Rifleman from 2<sup>nd</sup> 95<sup>th</sup> pitching his tent in the living room of his flat, others pitching bivouacs in the back garden, and others simply ‘working out of billets’.



Definitely in new territory here and just ‘going for it’ to make it work - I decided to try to co-ordinate the whole thing via Facebook and to utilise ZOOM to allow periods of interaction throughout the day; all worked around a pre-issued Brigade routine to give some structure. An event page was created and people encouraged to post pictures of what they were up to throughout the day on it, and on which notifications to join a ZOOM event could be posted. Brigade HQ would do what Bde HQ does anyway, co-ordinate activity - just getting people on parade by FB message rather than runner, orderly and drum call.

As the event approached the anticipation was clear, with the first picture of someone’s tent being posted on the event page on the Wednesday!

Brigade routine took into consideration local conditions, (ie people have neighbours) so as per the Standing Orders of Craufurd’s Light Division a silent Reveille was to be the order of the day, so as to not alert the ‘enemy’ and there were to be no calls before 9am.

The Brigade Routine proved successful in holding the day together and was as follows:

Camp Quarantine, 1st Bde Orders for the Day

Routine 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

Fri 1st May - Set Up Camp

Sat 2nd May -

07.30-08.30 Reveille & Fires Lit

08.30 Roll Call with Bde HQ (via ZOOM)

09.00 Flag Up Ceremony at Bde HQ (Live stream)

09.15-09.55 Cleaning Kit/Preparation for Parade

10.00 Company Inspections & Drill (Drill Order or as per unit i/c instructions) - (ZOOM/Face Time by Unit Arrangements)

11.00 Tea & Wad - Tea Break with Jam & Bread or Cake etc.

11.45 Care of Arms - Weapon Cleaning

12.30 Mid Day Meal (Haversack rations)

13.20 Brigade Drill (Full Marching Order) (ZOOM Call with Bde HQ).



The Virtual Adjutant hard at work coordinating activities

- 14.20 Camp Duties. Fatigues/Admin. [ Tend Fires, Prep dinner meal, fire wood, water, etc)
- 15.00 Bde Sick Pde. Surgeon from the 33rd will inspect.).
- 15.30 - 16.30 Interior Economy [Cartridge Making, Sewing & Kit repairs, Musket ball casting etc etc - by individual/unit arrangements).
- 16.30 Parade for Guard. Spit & Polish full dress.
- 17.00 Flag Down Ceremony at Bde HQ (ZOOM Parade)
- 17.15 Fall Out, Lodge Arms, Dismiss
- 17.30 "Splice The Main Brace" - Beer O'Clock
- 18.00 Evening Meal
- 20.00 ZOOM Camp Fire get together
- 22.00 ZOOM Port & Toasts.
- 22.30 Bde Lights Out.



From Friday the event page was receiving pictures coming in of everyone's 'pitch' in the lines or billets; and from first thing in the morning we had pictures coming in of fires being lit, kettles on the boil etc etc. The buy in from people was remarkable and encouraging.

We were fortunate that despite the forecast of bad weather across the country; from SW to NE most had a fine day and were able to make the most of an excuse to be outside. For those that couldn't be outside top marks are given for initiative and improvisation. One rifleman of the 5/60<sup>th</sup> who hadn't a garden or the space to do arms drill inside, took to the tread mill in full marching order for the periods of drill to be a part of it. Another Rifleman drilling in his flat forgot the length of his Infantry Rifle with sword fitted and added a (very small) extra ventilation hole in his ceiling (don't worry the Brigade commander has excused him Barrack damages and polyfilla will square away the rest!).

One soldier of the 33<sup>rd</sup> went so far as to try and convince us that he was ensuring COVID-19 safety protocols were being observed, by wearing a face mask throughout the day (natural linen & hand stitched, hoping for brownie points for authenticity!) - though the fuzz protruding from around the edges revealed its true purpose was to hide a reluctance to shave off a lockdown beard rather than preserve his wife from risk of infection! The Brigade Commander notices all and the Sjt has his name.



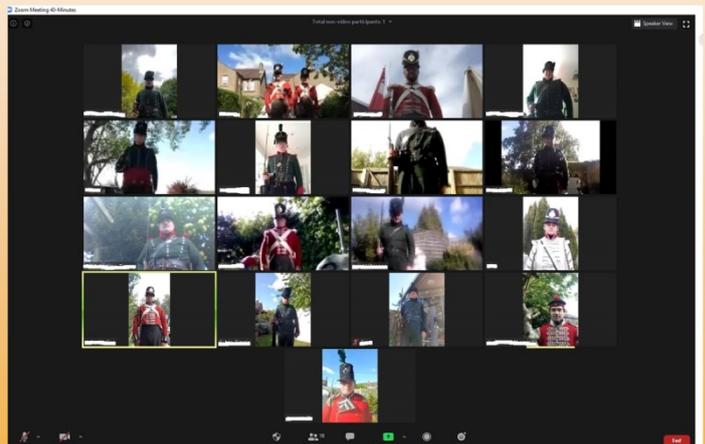
Some of the many encampments set up for the event including a tent set up in a living room and a blanket tent in a garden.

It proved to be a busy and fun day. One lesson learned was that it was key to have a dedicated 'Virtual' or Technical Adjutant who simply dealt with all the communications and technical hook ups and ran the show on line as well as someone who stood in-front of camera and commanding things from there. (As a former Regimental Signal Officer in the Army you would think I would have thought of this!). I'm thankful for my in house French POW from the 21eme; the techno savy teenage daughter who was able to just take over from me and let me get on with other things to save my head bursting into flames.

As well as the programmed drill timings and parades, people filled their day with a wide variety of activities you would expect to see going on around a re-enactment camp: making musket balls, cleaning and repairing kit; sabre practice; kit layouts; fife and drum practice; cooking; fiddle playing etc etc all of which they filled the

event page with pictures of. Some went for their daily exercise out and about in kit – two soldiers from the 33<sup>rd</sup> even patrolled their local river in search of reported 'frenchies'. There were also a number of K9 members of units on parade across the Brigade benefiting from this being a Dog Friendly encampment!

Following this full day; which also included a Surgeons sick parade with the Surgeon of the 33<sup>rd</sup> (in a form of Undress which brought new meaning to the term!) which included remedies for the sick, the lame and the lazy from Promotion to Colonel (he was mad) to a full face transplant!; the day concluded with sunset, flag down and 'no more parades today'. Then the order was given to Splice the Main Brace and the day concluded with evening meals, (many very scrummy dishes indeed being shared on face book) and then camp fire ZOOM hook ups, with some singing and much toasting before turning in.



Screen shot of some of the Brigade members on final parade. By the end of the day there were too many (56) to fit on one screen!

In all we had 56 uniformed participants taking part 'on parade' drawn from across the following units: HM Royal Navy; 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment of Foot Guards; Coldstream Guards, 2<sup>nd</sup> Btn; 2<sup>nd</sup> (Queens) Regiment of Foot; 32<sup>nd</sup> (Cornwall) Regiment; 33<sup>rd</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> West Riding) Regiment; 5<sup>th</sup> (Rifles) Btn. The 60<sup>th</sup> Regiment; 68<sup>th</sup> (Durham) Regiment Light Infantry; 2<sup>nd</sup> Btn. 95<sup>th</sup> (Rifles) Regiment. There also drop in guests from friends in 3<sup>rd</sup> Foot Guards and 16<sup>th</sup> Light Dragoons.

According to Facebook and its clever algorithms etc. we had an audience reach of over 2600 and direct interactions with 96. Probably not far off the number of visitors we could have had at Whittington and as many as would have come up and talk to us in the camp. So, in all we deemed it a success at keeping our hobby in the public eye.

More importantly, all those that took part enjoyed it, said they had great fun and found it a great break from the hum drum, and a chance to reconnect with the hobby (if only to check the uniform still fits and the weapons and kit are clean!) It must have been a success, as they have all asked to do another one to mark what would have been the weekend we would all have been together in Waterloo, and work is already at pace to make our second virtual event as fun and entertaining as the first with some differences and improvements from the former. It was, indeed an enjoyable success, and I attribute this wholly to the dedication, commitment and eccentric, loveable madness of my fellow re-enactors for making it all work. I'm looking forward to the next time we are all together again in a 'Virtual' field and encampment, but only in as much as a stop-gap until the next time we can all truly be together again in some field around a camp fire.

Rob Yuill

Commanding, 1st Brigade



Top: The 33rd Regiment practice safe drill

Left: Rifleman Biggin with Chosen Dog harper, one of the many K9s at the event.

Below: Rifleman Wilkinson at target practice





Top Left: Guardsman Stephens from the Coldstreams with a French prisoner

Top Right: Gunner Constance's Indoor Camp Fire

Left: Hash and Dumplings



And Finally....



*In 2019, at Waterloo, just 2 days after Maureen Lancaster's funeral, a small group of us arranged a short memorial ceremony and laid flowers in the chapel at Hougoumont in memory of Ian Love and Maureen Lancaster. Ed Parker read a poem which had been read out at Maureen's funeral and Jason the Maltese piper played a Lament. It was a fitting memorial for two very dear friends who are sadly missed.*



Photo: Susan Catley