

The Carillon Chimes

The Newsletter of the Carillon Tower &
War Memorial Museum



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Mrs Pauline Cutter

Pauline was a long serving volunteer, secretary, committee member and museum guide, always willing to cover the rooms and a lady who got enormous pleasure from her association with the carillon.



Mel with Pauline

Unfortunately the years have finally caught up with her and she is no longer able to carry on with her duties and has settled down for a peaceful retirement at Huntingdon Court.

As a token of our appreciation and knowing her love of the carillon we presented her with a framed photograph of the carillon with a message over printed thanking her for her loyal service. She was clearly delighted at the gift. The framed photo was produced by Mr Peter Minshall.

Donation to Leicestershire Scouts

We were pleased to be able to find a suitable home for some scouting objects we had in our collection.

Following an enquiry, was there a Scouts Museum? We discovered that there is a small collection at Oaks in Charnwood camp site and the intention is to grow it to show the history of scouting in Leicestershire.

The items we had were in storage and unlikely ever to see the light of day in our museum so it was satisfying to be able to place them with an organisation that will not only value them but display them for others to enjoy.



Thanking us for the items they pointed out that the neckerchief was of special interest as it had belonged to District Rover Crew between 1963 -68. The leader, Mr George Winnert and his wife had hand embroidered them and this was only the second example they had seen.

[Letters from the Front](#)



Captain J D Hills served with the 2/5th Leicestershire Regiment and wrote hundreds of letters home, sometimes 2 or 3 a day from the front during WW1.

These remarkable letters are being made available through a blog: [Captain JD Hills | Letters From the Front](#) published to coincide with the day they were written 100 years ago. They are a '**must read**' giving details of day to day life in France, written in a very matter of fact style.

Capt Hills was also tasked to write the regimental history of the 2/5th which was, incidentally printed and published in Loughborough by Echo Press (the book can be read on our website) again It is not your usual regimental history but a very easy to read account of the battalions exploits in the Great War and the spirit of comradeship amongst these men from the towns and villages of Leicestershire. The Regimental Headquarters of the 2/5th was in Loughborough.

[What's New?](#)



Following a talk that I gave to the 'Curiosity Club' about the building of the Carillon Mrs Sylvia Wade approached me to offer, to the museum a small booklet entitled, *I Am Kept*, a religious publication of thoughts and letters by Tpr Charles Harold Mawson who was killed 12 Oct 1917 in the Great War, I was on point of politely declining when something caught my eye, inside the booklet was two BAFSVs (British Armed Forces Special Vouchers)

In about 1961 I was in Berlin and the army was still being paid half in German Marks and half in these vouchers that could only be spent in the NAAFI so I recognised them immediately. I looked on the internet and was quite surprised to find that they were still in use in Berlin up to the late 70s. It was something to do with the governments reluctance to buy foreign currency. I do remember that they were easy to dispose of too the National Servicemen who on 29 shillings (£1.45) a week could not afford the Berlin night life and were happy to exchange their Marks for BAFSVs

[Post WW2 Conflicts – Aden](#)

We are planning to develop our display of post WW2 objects and stories; after all military history did not come to an end in 1945. It will be in two parts, a display in the Yeomanry Room telling



the 'Cold War' story and a second display in the Airborne Room featuring other conflicts.

Here is a interesting (well I thought it was) film made in 1964 about Britains involment in Aden and upcountry in the Radfan Mountains, the rebels or dissidents as they were known (or dizzys to us) were agitating for union with Yemen. Just look where it got them, the country is in absolute chaos.

That's me on the right and if you want to watch the film cllck on: [Soldier in the Sun](#)

Captain Logan



In the last newsletter I told of visiting Leicester Cathedral and spotting a plaque on the wall commemorating Captain Henry Spencer Logan and that we had a chair in the museum that he had presented to the officers of the Leicestershire Regiment in 1890. I had been unable to find any details of the circumstances of his death and appealed for help. As always Marigold Cleeve came to the rescue, I have reproduced her contribution in full.

Captain Henry Spencer Logan was born in Birkenhead in 1869, the son of Crawford Brown Logan, a wealthy solicitor from Birkenhead, and his wife Wilmot Jane (née Harvey). Captain Spencer was educated at Eagle House School, Wimbledon, and Uppingham.

He joined the Leicestershire Regiment as a Second Lieutenant on 29th March 1890. In 1891 he was stationed at the Tower of London. Promoted to Lieutenant on 18th May 1892, he is listed on the 2nd Battalion Muster Roll for that year. He was promoted to Captain on 19th January 1900.

He was an instructor at the Royal Military College in Canada, served with the Leicesters' in South Africa and Madras, India, and was subsequently, from December 1904, attached to the Egyptian Army. Captain Logan was not married.



Sudan 1898-1908

**Whatever happens, we have got
The Maxim gun, and they have not.**

Following the Battle of Omdurman in 1898 (when an army commanded by the British General Sir Herbert Kitchener defeated the army of Abdullah al-Taashi, the successor to the self-proclaimed Mahdi, Muhammad Ahmad) an Anglo-Egyptian condominium was established in the Sudan.

The first duty of the new administration, the restoration of public order, met with comparatively little opposition, although occasionally there was trouble from residual groups of Mahdists.

In April 1908, for example, Abdul-Kader, a Halowin Arab and ex-dervish, rebelled in the Blue Nile province, claiming to be the prophet Issa (Jesus). On 29th April at Katfia he murdered Mr. Colin Campbell Scott-Moncrieff, deputy inspector of the province, and Muhammad Sharif the Egyptian Mamur (head of the sub-district).

The Anglo-Egyptian authorities, who had initially supposed that the uprising concerned only agrarian matters hurriedly responded. They gathered together camel police and some soldiers under Major Dickinson and his second-in command Captain Logan and despatched them to Katfia. On the night of 1/2nd May the rebels, however, made a surprise attack on the camp of the government forces, whom they regarded as 'infidels', and 17 of the government forces were killed or wounded. Those wounded included Major Dickinson and Captain Logan. Captain Logan died from his wounds on 9th May at Katfia. The rising was ultimately suppressed; Abdul Kader was captured and was hanged on the 17th of May. Thank you Marigold.

Sudan 1956

By coincidence the last British infantry battalion to serve in the Sudan before they got independence in 1956 was the Royal Leicestershire Regiment, before leaving, to mark the occasion, they built a plinth outside of the small town of Gebeit.

I have tried and failed to find if the plinth is still standing. So that is the next challenge! No one in Gebeit has email? **Is the plinth still standing?**



1st Battalion
Plinth erected at Gebeit, Sudan, to commemorate the last British troops to serve in the Sudan. Lieut.-Col. Watson, Major Cressh and 2 Lieut. Walker are seen admiring the plinth, which was built by L.Cpl. Hubbard of Leicester and Pte. M. Bland of Melton Mowbray.

If you locate 'Gebeit Sudan' on Google Earth go to the southern



edge of the town to the very last buildings that look like a cluster of army huts. Go left 7 o'clock to the first foothills and you can see the cap badges picked out in stone on the hillside, completed by soldiers with nothing better to do in the 1930s. Absolutely amazing! (If you have 'Map Pins' you will see that someone has marked one of the badges as Leicestershire Regiment but it is a mistake)

The Leicesters', on leaving Sudan sailed for Cyprus where the regiment lost 17 killed including one of the men in the above photograph, Lt Walker. Another one of Britain's small wars that is not featured in our museum.

Amongst those killed in Cyprus was Pte George (Billy) Sheffield from Hathern who is commemorated with a marble vase at St Peters and St Pauls Church, Hathern and Pte John Attenborough of Loughborough who is commemorated on the Carillon.

We are fortunate to have the Elizabeth Cross that was presented to his family. Gifted to us by his sister.

Humour

The future for
Museums?



Dashboard Dancer



War Poetry

The *Loughborough Echo* have discontinued the weekly poem feature and reading it reminded me that we have, this season, displayed a number of poems written by students of Rawlins Academy, Quorn so I thought I would publish one a month to make up for the *Echo's* decision.

Waiting for Battle

Hell approaches.
59, 58, 57,
I tremble, praying.
43, 42, 41...

My bayonet locks on.
35, 34, 33,
I pull back the bolt.
29, 28, 27...

Death lurks, I can feel the approaching thunder.
23, 22, 21,
I climb onto the ladder.
18, 18, 17...

The sergeant removes his pistol.
13, 12, 11,
The shells pound the field.
8, 7, 6...

I straighten my helmet.
3, 2, 1!
Go!
The bullet hits me!

Max Coleman (Year 9)

[Leicester Mercury WW2 Photographs](#)

Click on the link, some great photographs, soldiers and civilians. Well worth a visit.

World War Two: What life was like in Leicestershire between 1939 and 1945 - in pictures



we need some help, we are about to lose two of our volunteers for a couple of months just as the school holidays start and we need to find cover. Can you spare a couple of hours a week? No experience needed.

A simple task of manning the two upper rooms. Meet and greet visitors and just keep an eye on things.

We are open every day except Monday 1 pm till 4.30 pm (Children not allowed upstairs without a responsible adult)

[Congratulations](#)


Congratulations to Mr Peter Minshall our volunteer photographer and Museum Guide. His photo on Google Earth has been viewed 1000 times! Click on [Carillon](#) to see what they see.

[Recent Acquisitions](#)

A number of objects have been donated to us in the last month but I have run out of space, If you have donated an object, do not worry it will be in next month's newsletter.

[The Free Adverts](#)

If you like further details/application form for tickets email us at: carillonmuseum@gmail.com



**Colonel Robert Boyle DL, Honorary Colonel,
The Leicestershire and Derbyshire Yeomanry Squadron
and
Colonel Robert Martin OBE DL
County President The Leicestershire and Rutland Royal
British Legion
request the pleasure of your company at
The Beating of Retreat
By the Band of the Royal Yeomanry (Inns of Court and City
Yeomanry) and the Corps of Drums of the Leicestershire,
Northamptonshire and Rutland Army Cadet Force
on Saturday 25th July 2015 in the Ruins of Bradgate House,
Bradgate Park, Newtown Linford, Leicestershire LE6 0HE**

6.00 for 6.30pm	Tickets £25.00
Smart Casual	RSVP
Reception 7.15-8.15pm	Proforma
	Attached

NB. This event, to mark the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of Frezenberg, is in aid of the Army Benevolent Fund (The Soldiers' Charity), the Royal British Legion and the Leicestershire and Derbyshire Yeomanry Welfare Fund.