

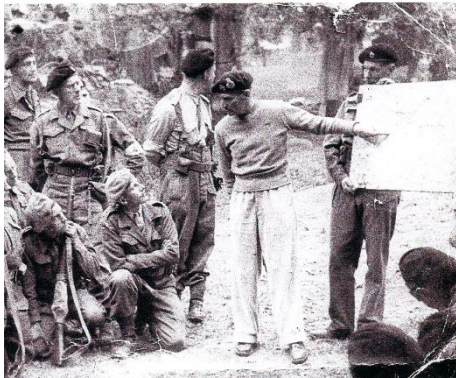
June 2019



Friends of The FUSILIERS MUSEUM OF NORTHUMBERLAND

"This museum has genuine spirit"

visitor from Dudley
10.10.2018



Montgomery briefing No.1 Independent Machine Gun Company

Normandy and the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers

To mark the anniversary of D-Day and the battle for Normandy, a new projection has been created for the museum's ground floor.

Running on a continuous loop, it shows a sequence of captioned images from the museum's own collection and other sources. The images are accompanied by quotations from the diary of Sergeant TC Dixon of the 7th Battalion.

The battle for Normandy
Three battalions of the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers took part in Operation Overlord and the Normandy landings in June 1944, seventy-five years ago this year: the 4th, 7th and 8th Battalions. The 1st and 2nd Battalions were fighting through Italy at the same time.

Of the three battalions, the 8th had been formed into the 3rd Reconnaissance Regiment (Royal Northumberland Fusiliers).

A formation of 100 men from the Regiment landed on D-Day itself, 6th June 1944, their task Beach Traffic Control. The rest of the Battalion followed, taking part with the 7th Battalion in the fighting to capture Caen.



Advance to Vire, near Caen, Normandy

The Regiment fought through northern France, Belgium, Holland, crossed the Rhine in March 1945, and ended the war in Bremen, Germany.



The night before crossing the Rhine

The 4th Battalion operated as three Independent Machine Gun Companies, each with a 4.2" mortar platoon. The Companies were attached to the 7th, 11th and Guards' Armoured Divisions. No.3 Company landed at Arromanches on 9th June 1944; No.2 Company on Sword beach on 14th June; No.1 Company at Le Hamel on the night of 25th June. By September they had all reached Belgium.



Machine gun carrier passing through Antwerp, Belgium

The 7th Battalion came ashore from landing craft at Arromanches on 29th June: three machine gun companies and a 4.2" mortar company. Sergeant Dixon describes their landing: "Down went the ramp of the L.C.T. (Landing Craft Tank) and soon we started down the steep ramp into about 18" of water glistening in the red lamps of the beach wardens, quite an experience, but we made the shore in one run, so at 0300 hours we were on French soil."

The projection replaces a sequence about the Northumberland Fusiliers in the First World War, which ran for five seasons from 2014 to 2018.

Fusiliers Museum: This Way

Thanks to Alnwick Castle Ventures the museum has new directional signage



We acknowledge with grateful thanks the support of: The Army Museums and Ogilby Trust, Historic England, Joicey Trust, Percy Hedley Charitable Trust, Samares Investments, Sir Francis Festing Fund, Small Family Fund

Celebrating our 50th Season at Alnwick Castle



Drummer boy's jacket (1810-1820)

A generous grant from Museum Development North East (ACE) enabled us to display our early 19th century drummer boy's jacket in its purpose built case.

Working with textiles conservator Janet Wood, we purchased a bespoke acrylic torso, from Conservation by Design, on which to display the jacket. Janet completed the installation in good time for the open season 2019.



'Boy Routledge, son of the late Private Routledge, of the 1st Battalion and the Depot is the smallest soldier of the King in Service; his height, when the photograph was taken being exactly 4ft 1in. We trust the lad will turn out as good a soldier as his father was before him.'

(St George's Gazette, 1902)

Education boost

Our Education and Outreach Officer has received a grant of £2000 from Historic England's Heritage Schools programme.

The funds are being used to create an education space and can be used to support visits by schools to historic venues such as the museum. The aim of the visits is to increase children's understanding of their local heritage. They will enjoy an object handling session tailored to their learning and will be able to engage with the museum's displays. Our Education and Outreach Officer has been liaising with schools and home education groups to arrange visits.

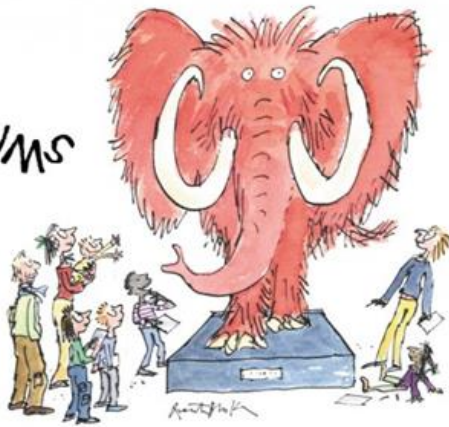


Volunteers

Our dedicated team of volunteers continue to contribute knowledge and expertise in research, cataloguing and other projects.

Their popular object handling sessions began again during the Easter holiday. We welcome Dave Hogg who has joined the volunteer team. The volunteers promoted the Fusiliers' Regimental Day, St George's Day, with related brass rubbing and other activities.

Kids in Museums



Kids in Museums

The museum has been nominated for the 'Family Friendly Museum Award'.

The award is run by the charity 'Kids in Museums'.

St George's Parade, Alnwick, 2019



Honorary Colonel of 5 Fusiliers, Lord James Percy, takes the salute, Saturday 27th April 2019

"Northumberland Fusiliers Museum very good with three great guys explaining a range of weapons. My teenagers loved it."

Simon from Chester April 2019
Tripadvisor®

Visit our website

www.northumberlandfusiliers.org.uk

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Supported by
The National Lottery®
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