

75 AIRCRAFT WORKSHOP, KLUANG

Most contributions to our Corps magazine include the inevitable list of departures and arrivals. 75 Ac Workshop is no exception and since our last contribution we have bid farewell to quite a few. It is hoped that not many have been missed out when we mention Cpls C. B. Pratt, C. Bull, C. Knight, C. Crompton, L. W. Pallett, J. Riddell, M. P. Helmore, M. A. J. Waldron, R. M. Pratt, P. Hill, B. Ashurst, P. Machin, C. H. Webster, A. W. Kelso, A. Davidson and J. Allen. Lcpls M. Ball, P. S. Sibley, P. W. Storey, I. H. Murray, M. J. Pritchard and P. J. Robertson. Most recent of all has seen the departure of our OC, Major 1. H. Tomkins to colder climes but with the advantages of central heating. We wish him well in his new appointment.

We welcome to sunny Kluang (where unlike Penang it manages to rain more often than every four months) our new OC, Major R. Nix and Cpls N. H. L. Tindale, C. A. Bickley-Roe, A. G. Heydon, K. James, C. J. Graham, M. B. Bolt, R. S. Roper and C. J. Doyle. Lcpls F. E. Awan, P. S. Milbourn, S. R. Bromage, S. Carr, F. A. Green, C. J. Patton, C. H. Richardson, R. J. Croud, B. Dixon and Cfn J. Beattie.

Like most things in 75 Ac Workshop, promotions continue on the upward trend. Cfn A. J. Hall and J. Ward are now Lcpls. Lcpls S. I. Ayton, R. M. Pratt, J. A. Forwood, J. Hague, B. A. Mustafa, G. H. Webster, B. Ward, G. R. Turner, A. Donald, R. L. Parsons, J. D. Sutherland, J. Rogers, J. A. Gateley, S. Harrison, M. R. Brown, B. Hardy, P. V. Moorhouse. M. R. Little, R. J. Mills, B. D. Dickinson have taken the next step up to Cpl and Cpls F. Clifton, J. Cummings and J. F. Norton are now seasoned members of the Sergeants' Mess.

In the sporting sphere 75 Ac Workshop has had a very full calendar. At our annual athletics inter platoon championships on 11 May 1968, organized by Captain K. J. W. Goad RAOC many records were broke despite the heat and Tiger beer. 4 Platoon emerged narrow winners by only two points over 2 Platoon and once again

retained the Inter Platoon Trophy. The 'Old Soldiers' race was won by Chief Technician W. R. Harrington of the RAF which made quite a change! This very enjoyable meeting spurred our neighbours. the Gurkha Parachute Company to issue a solemn challenge to meet us at athletics. Even with their greater opportunities for keeping fit they could only narrowly defeat us. Special mention should be made of Lcpl Fougere. If he could be in three places at once, an athletics team would not be required as he would win all the events. Finally on the subject of athletics, a few senior ranks who thought that PE tests were finished for them have put in some good times and are looking forward to at least four more annual events!

Eight members of the unit entered a Road Walkover a distance of 13 (country) miles finishing at Kluang. Four finished in the blood wagon suffering from blisters and fatigue and CSM Jones, Cpl Grainger, Cpl Roper, Lcpl Fougere and Lcpl Evans received a certificate for completing the course. Congratulations to Ssgt and Mrs R. W. Miller on winning the Kluang Garrison mixed doubles Badminton Championship.

Football continues to be one of the major sports of the unit. WO II Jenkins and Ssgt Lucas and their able teams have shone in Garrison matches and the local Kluang league. At the close of the 1967/68 football season, the 'A' and 'B' teams once more excelled themselves in the local league. 'A' team were League Winners (1st Div). Runners Up in the Knock Out Cup (1st Div) and Runners Up In the 'Six a Side Knock Out Trophy. 'B' team were Runners Up in the League (2nd Div) and Runner Up in the Knock Out Cup (2nd Div). The football team would no doubt do well in divisional competitions if somebody remembered to send us the entry forms. It could be a conspiracy! Stop Press: The forms have now arrived for 17 Division Minor Units Competition - they must be psychic - and our first match is on 10 August 1968 - more news about this next time,

The unit cricket team, led by Captain K. J. W. Goad RAOC is to date having a good season. In the 17 Division Minor Units Knock Out Cup competition we reached the semi-final to be very

narrowly beaten by 2 Infantry Workshop in an exciting and close game. On the way to the semi final we disposed of several big guns in the cricket world including the Gurkha Transport Regiment who had reached the Major Units final. We supply the majority of players (nine in fact) for the Garrison side. Ssgt Lucas became a member of the ton up club when he got 102 not out for the Garrison against the Civilian Cricket Association XI.

The Stores Section RAOC would like to inform the Artificer (who shall remain nameless) who demanded 'Kluang Railway Station qty 2" that the demand can only be met in part satisfaction as we can only locate Qty 1.

The Garrison Rugby Club formed in the main by players from this unit had a successful season, winning 11 out of the 21 games played. We also staged two sevens tournaments and were runners up in the December meeting. The season was capped by the formation of a permanent Club-house where once again the technical knowledge of workshop personalities proved invaluable. Representation from the Workshop at Corps level and on inter Corps XV games was good throughout the season.

This season the workshop is again more than prominent in the Garrison RFC with Cpl I. H. Murray as Captain and Cpl A. Donald as Fixture Secretary. Six players from the RFC, four of them from this Unit (Cpls Murray, Donald, Jones and Ward), and two with Gurkha Units (Lcpl Tagi.muri and Cfn Pace), have been recommended for Corps selection. In addition to the acquisition of the very smart Club-house, the newest task is that of training local and State schoolboys and keeping the game in the public eye in the Kluang area.