

## 47 ROYAL MARINE COMMANDO ASSOCIATION

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### Committee

*C J Harris President*  
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*M de Bolster*  
*E Hartwell*  
*G M Haywood*  
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## DESPATCH 32 *July 2015*

### FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Veterans, Families and Friends,

47 Association has had a successful six months with some solemn commemorations for those who gave their lives for freedom in Europe, and some high-spirited celebrations too. Just weeks ago, we heard the news that we've lost our much-loved former Secretary Betty Field - who in addition to organising our trips for a decade, was the widow of two of our veterans. Her funeral is on July 20th. Many of us saw her for the last time just a few months ago in London when she came with her family to watch the handover of the 47 Standard from Les Pike to Lou Sartorel. Last August she staffed a stall in Portsmouth selling John Forfar's book along with her successor as Secretary - equally well-loved Ingrid Fearne - Ingrid's husband Fred, and committee member Geof Haywood and his wife Jill. Betty was a lovely woman who remained a staunch supporter and kept the flame burning. She would have been delighted to know that 47 RM Commando Association arrived back in Port en Bessin in June to a fabulous welcome. Led by Pierre Albert Cavey - the Mayor and a true friend to 47 - the French showed friendship and remembrance for the men who died 71 years ago as well as honouring the gallantry of those who survived. The stone memorials sparkled in the sun, the flowers were freshly watered, and the Veterans were on parade supported by more than one hundred of us watching as our President Chuck Harris read the Roll of Honour. Serving members of the Royal Marines were there, and joining us was one French Naval Veteran and one from our own Merchant Navy. Thanks to Geof for his organisation, the Padre John Wasley and Lou with the Standard for making the ceremonies so memorable. The Commando Bar - now named the 47 - the traditional watering hole on our trips was teeming with life, and this was the last time we were hosted by the Pitel family who are moving on after nine years. Thirty people also managed to re-trace the march from Asnelles to P en B and, in another highlight, our Veteran Mark Packer MM found the house where he'd been sheltered when injured on 7th June 1944. I'd like to thank our fabulous committee members so far not mentioned, our Veteran members Ken Parker and Ted Hartwell and the hard-working younger ones who helped organise things, Marc de Bolster - our historian who runs the website the jeeps and so much more - and Ken Cowdery who organised the walk. Back in the UK, Sandra Tebbutt and

Gemma Davison run the books, Lannah writes the Despatch and Peter Spear who takes time to call many veterans to keep us all in touch, despite a run of bad health. I hope to see you soon.

Patrick O'Connell, Chairman, Son of Capt Guy O'Connell HW Troop

### KAPELSCHE VEER 70th ANNIVERSARY

Harry Prescott believes he is a very lucky man. He survived the sinking of his landing craft on D-Day, the landing and battles to liberate Walcheren and the many patrols and missions between. And he had fortune on his side again at the battle to capture Kapelsche Veer on the night of 13 January 1945.

Kapelsche Veer was believed to be a potential crossing point along the River Maas for the enemy to

counter attack  
the port of  
Antwerp. After  
two determined  
and costly  
failed attempts  
by determined  
Polish forces,  
47 Commando  
were set the  
task of  
capturing the  
enemy  
position. There  
was little time  
to plan or  
prepare for  
code-name  
'Operation  
Horse'.

47 Commando  
launched their



*Harry with a Polish comrade*

attack from both left and right of the enemy defences with the darkness of night being their only real cover. Both attacks were repelled with terrible casualties – 11 killed and 42 wounded. In the midst of the action Harry had been ordered to bring a wounded comrade back to the aid station. He is convinced that is why he remained unscathed whereas so many others fell. The position was eventually taken at the end of January 1945 after 'Operation Elephant' - a much more concerted effort by a larger Canadian force supported by tanks.

So it was very poignant to hear Harry Prescott read the exhortation at the 70th anniversary commemoration. He was in the company of a Polish veteran as well as British, Polish, Canadian and Dutch dignitaries. There were Dutch Marines, family members, school children, a brass band, standard bearers and many others present too. Marc, Mariel and myself were all there to accompany Harry and represent the Association.

The event was followed by a lunchtime reception nearby. Mariel and Marc then took us to Arnhem for a visit to the famous 'Bridge Too Far' and museum.

It was an honour to accompany Harry on the trip and a delight to see him being treated with so much warmth and respect by the Dutch community. Special mention goes to Marc and Mariel

who were fantastic hosts to us both throughout the trip. On one evening, they brought us to the busiest bar Harry had seen since VE Day. Harry enjoyed a dance with one or two 'interesting' local characters. But I cannot tell you any more. What goes on tour stays on tour!

Ken Cowdery

## NORMANDY 2015

*It's hoped that the following report will appear in the July/August 2015 issue of The Globe & Laurel together with the photo.*

### 47 RM Commando Association in Normandy commemorating the 71<sup>st</sup> anniversary of D-Day

For most of us the trip started boarding our coach outside the Royal Maritime Club at 6.30am on 5th June, not forgetting to pick up Bugler Mark Metalako RM from HMS Nelson. After the ferry crossing and drive to our hotels in Port-en-Bessin, our first port of call was the 47 Cdo Bar to be warmly greeted by proprietors, Nathalie and Stephane and their family. Meeting up with the rest of the party who had travelled independently, Bugler Mark said it was like one enormous family reunion which, of course, it was.

Next morning, we boarded the coach for Bayeux, first stopping off at the sea front memorial at Asnelles. A Guard of local Pompiers, a warm address by the Mayor, an equally friendly reply by veteran and President Chuck Harris followed and Chuck presented the Mayor with a framed print of David Rowland's painting of the assault upon the Eastern Feature at Port en Bessin. Among those present were folk joining Ken Cowdery on the 12 mile yomp following 47's route in 1944 from Asnelles to Port-en-Bessin.

The service at Bayeux Cathedral was as moving and emotionally charged, as ever. The Liberation Band and Pipes from the Netherlands ended the service with "Highland Cathedral", a rousing, slow march that kept many back in their seats. Equally impressive was the work of our 47 Association Standard Bearer, Lou Sartorel.

After lunch, we moved to Bayeux Cemetery to lay a wreath to the memory of the many marines of 47 Commando who rest there and I also laid one to the memory of the men of 48. Next day, the anniversary of Port en Bessin's liberation, began with a service on the Western Feature with the Mayor of Port-en-Bessin, Docteur Pierre-Albert Cavey and other civic dignitaries. Our own special guests were Captain Christopher Clough RN, Deputy Defence Attaché at the British Embassy in Paris, Brigadier Peter Cameron RM and Colonel Graeme Armour, Commanding Officer of 1 Assault Group RM together with a section of his NCO's and men. They and an appreciable crowd of townsfolk and tourists were welcomed by Chairman, Patrick O'Connell. The Standards of local veterans associations were on parade as well as 47's and our Chaplain, John Wasley led the service.

Afterwards everyone made a swift transit to the Captain Cousins Memorial on the Eastern headland. There, Geof Haywood read from Doc Forfar's book describing the final assault on the enemy bunker and Essie Cousins and the Mayor laid a wreath to the memory of Captain Cousins.

Another walk followed, to the memorial at Place Gaudin. During a brief ceremony, wreaths were laid by the Mayor, Captain Clough and Colonel Armour.

A reception followed in the Salle des Fêtes where the Mayor made a welcoming speech. Patrick replied and each of the veterans expressed their gratitude for the kindness they had received from the townsfolk both now and over many years. Captain Clough, Brigadier Cameron, Colonel Armour and the marines of 1AGRM spoke with as many members and veterans as they could both at the lunch and then, more leisurely, in front of the 47 Bar through the warm and sunny afternoon. Can't be beaten.

Later, our party travelled to the nearby Chateau du Bosq which had been occupied by the German military during the war. Thanks to the generous hospitality of M & Mme le Tellier, we



were able to appreciate the grounds, the beautiful interiors and also the wonderful spread including tarte aux pommes and sparkling wines.

Monday morning our veterans paraded at Place Gaudin to meet with girls from St Georges School, Ascot which is becoming an annual event. After the wreath-laying, the girls spent quite a while quizzing our veterans on their experiences and feelings at the time. There's always rapport and warmth on these encounters.

The afternoon programme took us to Sallenelles to the home of Dr and Mme Kottler where Doc Forfar's RAP had been located in the cellar during the action in 1944. Outside the house is a memorial to men of the 4th Special Service Brigade (41, 46, 47 and 48) who had held the area in the late summer of 1944. We paid our respects with the bugler, the exhortation and the laying of our wreath. People were able to see the former RAP and some of the relics, mainly German, found in the grounds. Relaxing in the sunny garden, we were served refreshments by our hosts and their son, a captain in the Fusiliers Marine.



*Veterans at Pegasus Bridge*

Travelling home next day, we were able to view the refurbished Centaur Tank that once stood outside at Pegasus Bridge. Now inside the Airborne Museum, Geof Haywood had a word with Mark Worthington, the curator, who invited the whole party inside to view it. The finishing coat of paint had been applied by Royal Marines from Hasler Company. A Centaur VI Close Support tank of the Royal Marines Armoured Support Group, it was the only remaining tank of its kind known to have taken part in the D-Day landings.

So we came, almost, to the end of our trip and the 47 RM Commando Association dinner at the 47e Café. Always a great evening. With the place full to the gunwales, the occasion was also tinged with a little sadness because Nathalie, Stephane and their family will be moving on. Setting off for home on Tuesday, we paid a quick visit to the Cultural Centre in the town to see

an excellent exhibition of photographs taken at last year's 70th Commemorations. So, the thanks for this great weekend, as ever, go to our Secretary, Ingrid Fearne, for her superb organisation and together with husband, Fred, their tireless concern and care for veterans and all members of the party, to Geof for his groundwork and legwork, to Patrick for his leadership and to our veterans for being just what they are - courageous, courteous and ever cheerful bootnecks.

Tom Busby

## **NORMANDY Extras**

**Jeeps** Marc de Bolster again arranged for jeeps to take veterans and others up to the Eastern and Western feature and all the bits in between. Only 2 or 3 were expected but, as often happens, Marc magicked up several more and around half a dozen did the honours. Their efforts are much appreciated and several drivers are members and strong supporters of the Association. **Marc** also had a great deal of success with his book *47 Royal Marine Commando: an inside story...* and our veterans were kept busy signing copies.

**Mark Packer** was reunited with the family in the Port who took him into their home when he was injured and suffering from blurred vision. Mark could never forget that they tore their bedding sheets for use as bandages. While they were attending to him Antoine Langlois, the father, came running in to warn there were Germans in the street. The family quickly took him out through the back of the house and over a wall where, because of his wounds and loss of vision, Mark couldn't go any further so they hid him under some fishing nets. Michel Laulier, it seems, had always known the story because the family are related to his wife. All part of 47's rich history!

**A veteran of 4 Army Commando**, Roy Maxwell, joined us for several events after he had been spotted wearing his green beret in Ouistreham by Lou Sartorel and Chaplain, John Wasley. Roy landed on Sword Beach and then moved up to Pegasus Bridge. He later went on to Sallenelles and was with 4 Commando when it landed at Flushing as part of the attack on Walcheren. It's hoped that he'll join us and swell the ranks of veterans.

**Donation** Tina Jonkers and Roger Vermeyleen, members, jeep owners and strong supporters presented a cheque for €300 for the Association to our President, Chuck. It had been raised by the WWII Living History and Remembrance Association and we are very grateful.

## **IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF 47 COMMANDO – 6 JUNE 2015**

It was early morning, 6th June. They had made it to the landing point at Asnelles. Many were missing or wounded yet there was a determination amongst those still standing to complete their objective: Port En Bessin by nightfall. Yes, like the events 71 years before, this year's walkers had suffered casualties before their 'mission' had even started. Rumours abounded of 'self-inflicted wounds' received in the early hours at the near-impregnable 47 Bar. Thankfully, all our veterans - made of sterner stuff - made it to a poignant ceremony hosted by the Asnelles community. They made an impressive sight as they lined up proud and true. There was a warm welcome from the local community and thoughtful words from Mayor Alain Scribe. Association President Chuck Harris presented a framed print as a small token of thanks. Mark Bentinck and Alex Wilson recounted the story of 47's landing on D-Day. Led by Bob, our new mascot, over 20 of us – French, British and Belgian, then set off on our 22km trek.

The 'wounded' were comforted that Michel Deserable and Michel Laulier were along side us in support.

As we meandered across fields toward Le Buhot, we paused to hear more about 47's first encounters behind enemy lines and the sad loss of Mne Lumsden. We reached Hotel La Rosière before midday where, to our surprise, owners M and Mme Moignard had laid on food and drinks. Before departing, Alex told the story of 47's serious skirmish at La Rosiere. We also heard how French families had taken in many of the wounded at great risk to themselves. Major Bob Perry laid a wreath on behalf of the Association. Geof Haywood, using his instinctive Royal Marine initiative, produced a 47 Association cap as an impromptu gift for our hosts. Mme Moignard insisted it would suit her husband better.



*Mission accomplished*

Next stop was a picnic lunch at Fontenailles, which restored sufficient energy for the subsequent tramp across fields of long grass (with kind permission of M and Mme Hué). Another break was not far, this time at the beautiful L'Abbaye Sainte-Marie near Longues. Thanks to Mme Zimmerlin and the D'Anglejan family, we were allowed free entry to the grounds. The locally produced ice cream on sale proved to be popular in the hot weather. Upon reaching Mont Cavalier, we were relieved to be found by the ghosts of two '47 Royal Marine Commandos' who assured us that the position was clear. We listened to an account of the story of 47's difficult and costly mission to capture Port en Bessin. Despite initially not going to plan, the brave actions of the men had turned the tide of the battle and led to the eventual capture and liberation of the Port. The French community had again helped during the mission and with the wounded. At least one Frenchman paid the ultimate price for helping one of 47's wounded.

We paused for reflection at the Escures Memorial before completing our mission where many had started the night before - 47 Royal Marine Commando Bar. It was a welcome sight to us



all – even those brave souls who had suffered there so badly the night before!  
 What a beautiful day it was for a walk with friends old and new in the wonderful Normandy countryside. And it was a great way to learn more about 47's heroic story. Here's to next year.

Ken Cowdery

### IN MEMORIAM

*We have learned of the death of the following veterans and supporters and offer sincere condolences to family and friends:*

**James Frederick Traverse Healy** 4th August 2014, Haugh of Urr, Scotland, aged 88.

James Healy served with 47 RM Commando from 1944 to 1946. His family know little about his war service. Like so many, though proud to have served in the Royal Marines, he didn't talk about it very much. The family have applied for his service record and hope to find out a little more. However, a couple of photographs give some clues. One is marked on the back, "Royal Marine Officer Cadet Training Unit, Thurstowe, Devon, May 1944." The other says, "47 RM Commando, Warburg, Germany, September 1945." He told the family that he paid the German photographer in tobacco.

After the war he worked in Fleet Street for Newsweek, Odhams Press, launching three national magazines and then for the Times, working on both the Educational and the Literary Supplements. Later, he moved out of London and built up a toy company with his wife. To quote his brother, "Gregarious and friendly, he could never fathom why people liked him. It was because he always set out to help everyone and anyone, especially those who worked for him."

**Mary Nicholls** 5th February 2015, Rawtenstall, Rossendale, aged 86.

Mary was the widow of Norman (Nobby) Nicholls who served in B Troop. In the last couple of years she was able to travel with us to reunions in both Normandy and Walcheren with other members of her family and was able to speak with veterans who served with her husband. She proved to be a delightful lady to meet and talk to and will be missed by everyone who met her.

**Elizabeth (Betty) Ann Field** 29th June 2015, Hill Head, Hampshire, aged 82.

Betty was our efficient and much-loved Secretary for many years and the longest serving, to date. She was the widow of 47 veteran Bill Field. Much later, Cpl Gordon ("Tim") Tye, also 47 Cdo, became her partner and helped with all the paraphernalia that a Secretary has to take on trips. This included the Standard, of course, and for several years Tim was the standard bearer. In 2003/4 Betty fought her way through a great tangle of red tape and form-filling in order to get our veterans and families and friends to the 60th anniversary of D-Day in France. Betty was well able to cope with the bureaucracy of both the French Government and our Ministry of Defence, however, because she had been a Civil Servant at HMS Centurion for many years. Having guided us through the 65th anniversaries in 2009, Betty felt the need to give up the post the following year but was still a great supporter of 47. Because she lived in the Portsmouth area, she attended many RM events at the Royal Marines Museum. Every Remembrance Sunday, come rain or shine, she laid a wreath at the 47 RM Cdo stone in the Garden of Remembrance in the grounds. Even in the last couple of years when she was in a wheelchair, she managed this with the help of her daughter Pauline Harris and other family members. To those who knew her, she will always be remembered with affection and also gratitude for all she has done for the Association and as a very special person.

**The funeral will be at Portchester Crematorium (PO16 8NE) at 1 pm on Monday, 20th July**, leaving from Betty's house: 12 Alfred Road, Stubbington, Fareham, Hants PO14 2QY and returning there afterwards. Pauline (07817 512402) says all are welcome to arrive at

Betty's beforehand and relax with a tea or coffee and/or return after the service. Pauline and the family will continue to lay a wreath at the 47 Memorial Stone on Remembrance Day (Betty's strict instructions though they would have, anyway) and also keep the stone clean and tidy. The Royal Marines Museum will be moving to the Historic Dockyard at some future date and the family will be in a good position to keep us informed about any plans for the Garden of Remembrance.

### FÉCAMP

It's possible that some members may get to Fécamp for their 2nd September liberation commemorations. There are no firm details as yet but if you'd like to consider going on the trip please contact the Chairman (07940 511751 or 0207 6363503).

### NEWS

**Vandalism** The Chairman writes:

"Plans by Dutch residents to dedicate a plaque to 47 at Kapelsche Veer under the willow tree have been disrupted by vandals. For many years there have been brass plaques on a memorial



wall, and local residents planned to add new ones for units that had been left off including 47. This was all at their own expense. A few months ago thieves stole the existing plaques, leaving organisers with a funding gap and the problems associated with re-drawing the wording on the others. The Committee agreed to send €100 from Association Funds and any other members who wish to make individual contributions can contact committee member Ken Cowdery who is soon to take on fund-raising activities for the Association."

Ken, Marc de Bolster and Ingrid are all in touch with Ton Guezen of Stichting Pheasant Waalwijk, the foundation which is funding the memorial.

**Lou Sartorel** Congratulations to Lou, who has just been appointed Standard Bearer to the Windsor and District Branch of the RMA. It means that he is able to compete in the National Standard Bearers Competition which takes place at the Annual RMA Weekend on 19th & 20th Sept at CTCRM, Lympstone.

Thank you to Geof Haywood for the following information: Competitors carry out a series of moves with their Standard and are marked on their bearing, turnout, drill and competence. If successful he would then parade the RMA National Standard for one year. This would be at events such as the RMA Reunion weekend Sunday parade, Royal Albert Hall RBL Festival of Remembrance, Remembrance Sunday at the Cenotaph, funerals or repatriations, military parades wherever deemed appropriate – UK or foreign and the RM/ RMA remembrance parade at the Graspan Memorial in the Mall. He would lead all other RMA or junior service standards i.e. Army, RAF or civilian behind the Union Flag or a Navy Standard when on a joint parade. It's a very privileged position and an honour to carry the National Standard for the RMA. We hope that if he wins none of those parades would interfere with his position as 47 Standard Bearer.

Good luck, Lou!

**Globe & Laurel Jan/Feb 2015** The shortened version of Mariel's article on the 70th anniversary in Walcheren appeared with the photo of vets, buglers and standard bearer at Dishoek. Unfortunately, the photo caption read, "Wreath laying party at Bergen op Zoom



Cemetery”, not the information given. I’ll make sure that captions for any future photos are made very clear. LB

### Spean Bridge

At the Commando Monument, on a previous visit, we noticed a plaque to 47 which had clearly been there a long time and needed some TLC. Returning in April, we placed a plaque to Ted Battley behind and as close to it as space allowed. Although it’s probably not in the Secretary’s job description, Ingrid brought her metal polish and buffed up the 47 plaque a treat. It says:

IN MEMORY OF  
THE MEN OF  
47 R.M. COMMANDO  
WHO TRAINED HERE



*A woman's work...*

### VAUBAN

A travel article I read recently showed a photograph of the citadel in Besançon in eastern France. The caption said that it was built by Vauban in the 17th century. As I’d always presumed that the Vauban Tower in Port en Bessin was built by a local man, it made me want to find out a little more.

Sébastien de Prestre de Vauban was born in Burgundy into a family of the minor nobility. Orphaned when he was ten and left in poor circumstances, he lived among the local peasantry until a Carmelite prior undertook his education. During the reign of Louis XIV, Vauban became a soldier. Wounded in battle several times, he learned a great deal about defensive positions and ultimately became the foremost military engineer and architect of his day. Ultimately he became Marshal of France and advised Louis on the protection of France’s borders against her neighbours.

His fortifications are numerous and in many different location in France and are huge in comparison to the Port’s Vauban Tower. Some have complex star-shaped ground plans which presumably forced attackers to advance into an area where they could be fired upon from two directions. The Citadel of Besançon has huge, solid curtain walls built to surround the city and is now a Unesco World Heritage Site.

In Port en Bessin, the Vauban Tower was built by order of King Louis in 1694. It was part of a set of five observation towers built by Vauban to defend the Normandy coast. The article didn’t say against whom but mostly against the perfidious English, I imagine.

LB

### MONEY MATTERS

**THE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION** is £15 since January this year. If you haven’t paid **please** forward your cheque now to Gemma, our Treasurer:

G Davison, 91 Catherine Street, Rochester, Kent ME1 2HL

Cheques should be made payable to “47 RM Commando Association”.

Veterans have free membership.

**MANY THANKS TO THOSE WHO PAY REGULARLY**

## WALCHEREN 2015

The trip to Walcheren will run from Saturday, 31st October to Wednesday, 4th November 2015. We shall again have Dinner B & B at the Arneville Hotel in Middelburg. That and the cost of the ferry and coach travel will be included in the price, as yet unknown. The more people travelling the better the value. If you plan to come please let Secretary, Ingrid Fearne, know as soon as possible, sending a £25 per head deposit to:

Mrs I Fearne, 138 Beauchamp Road, Upper Norwood, London SE19 3DB

Cheques should be made payable to '47 RM Commando Association'.

The coach will pick up (very early) at the Royal Maritime Club, Portsmouth, and at the ferry terminal at Dover. If you wish to stay at the Royal Maritime Club overnight on the 30th please book as soon as possible, saying that you are with 47 Cdo, Membership no 4600 (or you get charged more), and that you require a packed lunch in lieu of breakfast. (Advance Bookings: 0239 2837681).

Ingrid can also be reached on 0208 2390145 or email: [ingrid.fearne@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:ingrid.fearne@blueyonder.co.uk)

## GEOF's AMAZING RM EMPORIUM

All the following are available:

WW2 RM Cdo figurine - £21 – **limited stock and a Special Purchase**

"From Omaha to the Scheldt" John Forfar,  
new edition - £20

"From Gold to Omaha" - £12

47 RM Cdo Plaques - £26

47 RM Cdo Baseball Caps - £8

Table Flags - £8

Pin badges not held but available

"The Capture of Port en Bessin" Prints:

Unsigned £20

Signed by artist David Rowlands £35



All items plus postage from:

Geof Haywood, 10 Elizabeth Road, Wimborne. BH21 1AX

0044 (0)1202 888194 [geofandjillh@btinternet.com](mailto:geofandjillh@btinternet.com)

## From the Editor

Thanks are long overdue to Geof Haywood for printing and distributing the paper copies of *Despatch*. The bulk go out by email but, at present, he sends out 52 issues. If you receive your copy by post and are willing and able to change to email, please let us know. It will lighten his load and he'll be very grateful. Geof also makes many other contributions, including information on all things Royal Marine when I need help. Thanks, Geof!

Glad to say that my novel *Either End of the Tunnel* has been out for a couple of months now and is on Amazon at <http://ow.ly/OtGm9>. The paperback is £8.99 and the Kindle edition £2.99. I also have a website with that and other links [www.lannahbattley.co.uk](http://www.lannahbattley.co.uk). There are more books to come but I've always been happy to suspend my writing activities for a while to edit *Despatch* and that still applies.

Lannah

## *JULY GALLERY*



*Follow-my-leader*



*John Archbold with Katie & Trixie,  
St George's School*



*Veterans at Asnelles*



*View from the Eastern Feature*





*At Pegasus Bridge*

### **47 RM COMMANDO WEBSITE**

Thanks, as ever, to Marc de Bolster for his time and expertise in administering and maintaining the website. People from all over the world are able to find us and get in touch, join the Association if they so wish and get answers to all manner of queries. The website provides a huge amount of information on the history of 47 RM Commando and its personnel as well as Association events. It also provides an extensive photographic record.

[www.47Commando.org.uk](http://www.47Commando.org.uk)

*Next issue - Despatch 33: January 2016*