

3para1945-48 Palestine Website Message Forum Archive

Janet Dowlman

Dec 7, 2025 - 11:46PM

Death of Alan Mead

My father Alan Francis Mead sadly passed away on 26 October 2025 at the age of 99 years.

He wrote the book 'Kalanyot - Letters from Palestine' about his time spent in Palestine from 1945-8 and also about his military training. He attended a number of reunions with his regimental colleagues. Members of the Thames Valley Parachute Regiment were in attendance at his funeral which was held on 19 November.

janetdowlman@gmail.com

Dec 7th, 2025 - 11:46 PM

Neil Batley

May 28, 2025 - 3:01PM

PhD Research

I'm not sure how frequently this website is now visited, but on the off-chance that veterans and / or their families may see this message, I wanted to introduce myself as a PhD student from the University of Southampton, researching the experiences of young soldiers who served in either the 6th Airborne or 1st Infantry Divisions in Palestine between 1945 and 1948.

I'm currently trying to access personal papers (e.g. letters, diaries, memoirs and photographs) of British servicemen who served during the Mandate in this period, to try and help understand what they experienced when they reached Palestine and how this may have changed their views about the situation and the local people they encountered.

I realise it's not possible to say too much in this message, but if there is anyone happy to get in touch to discuss the research in more detail, please feel free to contact me on the following email - n.d.batley@soton.ac.uk.

I really appreciate you reading this note.

Thanks in advance.

Neil

Who do you wish to contact ? 3 Para Palestine Veterans / Families of 3 Para Palestine Veterans

n.d.batley@soton.ac.uk

May 28th, 2025 - 3:01 PM

Janet Dowlman

Oct 31, 2024 - 5:17PM

Re: Death of William Watts (Wattie)

I have just read the sad news that Bill Watts has passed away - condolences to his family.

Bill and my Dad, Alan Mead, became firm friends when Bill set up this amazing historical 3 Para website. Bill had featured in a Daily Mail 'Lost & Found' article in 2008 which led to him tracing my Dad and others. My Dad contributed some of the photos from their time in the 3rd Parachute regiment in Palestine 1945-8. Bill traced around 65 members of the battalion and he organised reunions with old friends most of whom hadn't seen each other since 1948. One reunion in 2011 was attended by the late Bernard Cribbins.

My Dad had already had two books published but Bill inspired him to write his third book in 2014 after my Mum passed away. The book is called 'Kalanyot - Letters from Palestine' by Alan Mead. It was about his life as an evacuee in Northampton then his Air training and Parachute regiment training and his record of his time in Palestine taken from letters he wrote to his Grandfather and later to my Mum. Bill wrote part of the Foreword in this book.

My dad is now 98 and has been in a care home for nearly 2 years with vascular dementia and although he

struggles with current day matters he still likes reading and can be easily encouraged to talk about his time in the regiment. I know he has fond memories of his dear friend Bill 'Wattie' Watts

I did meet Bill myself a few times and kept in touch with him when my Dad was unable to do so himself. I hadn't heard from Bill for a couple of years although I had sent emails and letters to him so I wondered how he had been. I remember Bill as a true gentleman - may he rest in peace.

Janet Dowlman (nee Mead)

Deborah Sumby

Sep 20, 2024 - 6:42PM

Death of William Watts (Wattie)

It is with regret that I must announce the death of my Father William Watts (Wattie), creator of this website. He died peacefully on 8th September 2024 aged 98. His funeral is on Monday, 30th September 2024 and details can be found on the following website:

<https://william-frankjohn-watts.muchloved.com/>

Dad started this website aged 76 without any prior knowledge of website design and managed to trace many members of the 3rd Battalion Parachute Regiment with whom he had served in Palestine 1945-1948.

May he rest in peace.

Who do you wish to contact ? Anyone who knew or knew of William Watts (Wattie)

Sep 20th, 2024 - 6:42 PM

Fraser Hammond

Mar 28, 2024 - 1:40PM

My grandad Robert (Jock) Brown served in 3 Para in Palestine.

Is anyone still active on here?

My grandad passed away about 7 years ago aged 89.

I wish I'd found this site before. I have his wings, blazer with para badge and some old photographs from Palestine but I would love to get his service record.

Who do you wish to contact ? Anyone still active on here?

jfraser360@hotmail.com

Mar 28th, 2024 - 1:40 PM

Howard Seaton

Jul 30, 2024 - 4:54PM

Re: My grandad Robert (Jock) Brown served in 3 Para in Palestine.

Hi, my dad served in Palestine too in the 3rd Parachute Brigade between 1946-48.

I too have old photos and would love to know where they were taken. I think he was in Haifa and Tel Aviv.

I had a reply from the daughter of the chap (William Watts) who set up this site so it is at least being monitored.

I guess the are fewer and fewer paras around.

I have requested my dads service record from the MOD, at the moment records are being transferred to the National Archives which is slowing things down.

Thanks Howard

howardseatoin@outlook.com

Jul 30th, 2024 - 4:54 PM

Ian Caughey

Jun 5, 2024 - 6:30PM

RSM James 'Paddy' Caughey

My late grandfather James "Paddy" Caughey, was the RSM 3rd Batt in Palestine. Would love to hear from anyone who knew anything about him or has any photos of him.

Many thanks in advance.

Ian

ian.caughey@me.com

Jun 5th, 2024 - 6:30 PM

Caroline Smith

May 8, 2023 - 6:38AM

My Father info

Anyone who may remember my father William Thompsom from Walthamstow UK, who served with the Red Beret Paratroopers unit in Palestine circa 1945-1947

caroline349.cs@gmail.com

May 8th, 2023 - 6:38 AM

Vincent Atherton

Apr 20, 2023 - 7:43PM

Billy's War

I have been writing a historic novel based on the stories my Dad (Bill Atherton) told me of his time in the British Army from 1942 to 46. He was involved in the invasion of Europe and then posted to Palestine. Feedback on my initial drafts from Lancaster University, where I took my MA in Creative Writing suggested that his time in Palestine was far the most interesting to a modern audience.

I have finally sent it off to the publishers and it will be available from 28th May 2023. I'd love to think it was of interest to soldiers who were there with him

<https://www.troubador.co.uk/bookshop/historical/billys-war/>

Who do you wish to contact ? Palestine Veterans

paul_atherton1@sky.com

Apr 20th, 2023 - 7:43 PM

Nicholas Roe

Dec 10, 2019 - 10:46AM

Passing of a Para

With sadness I inform that Malcolm S. Roe 19110135 Pte passed away in early October aged 91. Amongst his treasured items I found his Palestine Service Medal and Para Cap badge & uniform wings. His medal is inscribed with A.A.C. (Army Air Corp) I am struggling to find any records so wonder if anyone knew him or of him. Regards
Nicholas

jaynic227@sky.com

Dec 10th, 2019 - 10:46 AM

Shaun Lomax Jun 7, 2019 - 11:02PM

My father.

I'm trying to find photo's of my father John Lomax known as 'Jack'. His service number was 14050584 and I think that he was in Palestine in 1947.

Any record of him would be greatly appreciated.

Who do you wish to contact ? Anyone who knew John Lomax, known as Jack

Other comments My dad 'Jack' Lomax was in Palestine in 1947, it would be great to find a photo.

shaunclomax@aol.com

Ian Foster

Mar 5, 2019 - 8:10PM

WW2

I have been told by an elderly aunt that my late father, Arthur Foster originally from Bramley-Yorkshire, Wortley, nr Leeds and after WW2 lived in Burton upon Trent, served in the army as a police officer in Egypt.

Being ex Army myself I immediately thought RAMC (Red Cap) but they have no record of Arthur.

Recently came across this site and wondered if he could have served as a British soldier in Palestine Police?

I don't have his Army Number.

Any advice would be much appreciated.

Thank you.

Ian

dramaqueen1 @ntlworld.com

Simon Hattrell

Mar 12, 2016 - 8:20PM

Does anyone remember Capt JPR Philip Hattrell of 3 Para?

I would really appreciate hearing from anyone, who may remember my late father Capt JPR Philip Hattrell of 3 Para attached from the Suffolk Regt, who was killed in Haifa March 1947.

Who do you wish to contact ? Anyone who may remember my late father Capt JPR Philip Hattrell of 3 Para attached from the Suffolk Regt, who was killed in Haifa March 1947.

s.hattrell@bigpond.com

Mar 12th, 2016 - 8:20 PM

Paul Wright

Nov 8, 2018 - 8:52PM

Re: Does anyone remember Capt JPR Philip Hattrell of 3 Para?

My Uncle (Pte. Charles Carter) was a member of 3 Para in Palestine and I think that he may have worked closely with your father. Sadly Charlie died in a road accident in 1953.

While in Palestine he and an officer were trapped by a group of Jews who stoned them. The officer was killed and Charlie survived with a fractured skull. I know little else but as far as I am aware Capt H was the only officer killed around the same time as Charlie was in theatre. It may have been coincidental with the execution of Dov Gruner.

Paul

pswright@gmail.com

D Rowe

Jul 24, 2018 - 9:00PM

Palestine and WW2 - Captain Rowe

Hello

My late father in law, Captain Granville ('Dickie') Rowe MM served in Palestine and throughout WW2. My husband has many photographs of his father and of Palestine. Does anyone remember him? Many thanks

donna.pony1@yahoo.co.uk

Alan wicks

Jan 8, 2018 - 8:33PM

Mr Alfred George wicks

My dad Alfred George wicks served out in Palestine with 3rd Paratroop regiment. He has just turned 92 years old. He is in good health. And lives in Essex. And we are so proud of him

al.wicks@btinternet.com

Jan 8th, 2018 - 8:33 PM

Wattie

Feb 13, 2018 - 7:48PM

Re: Mr Alfred George wicks

Hi Alan,

I was also serving with the 3rd Battalion in Palestine during the period 1945-48 and I built this website in 2002 in the hope of tracing some of my old comrades.

If you will email me with details of any army friends which your father wishes to contact I will see if they appear in my records. Obviously I will also need to know which company he was in and when he embarked for Palestine
Wattie

Who do you wish to contact ? Alan Wicks

wattie_para@ntlworld.com

Feb 13th, 2018 - 7:48 PM

Alan wicks

Feb 13, 2018 - 10:17PM

Re: Mr Alfred George wicks

Thank you for come in back to me wattie. I will see mydad this weekend. And will ask him if he as a few names.
And the information you have ask for. Many thanks Alan

Yigal-Yosef Pomerantz

Jul 1, 2018 - 2:15PM

Re: Mr Alfred George wicks

Hi

I would like to interview veterans who were in Palestine for a documentary film.

Can you please help me

Thanks

Yigal Pomerantz

Who do you wish to contact ? Any member that served in Palestine during1940-1948 for a documentary film

Other comments My contact info:. yigalpom@yahoo.com

mr peter lupino-poole

Nov 16, 2008 - 7:35PM

Re: Welcome to your Bravenet Forum!

exellent site could someone please contact me as my granddad was in A com 3btn & 3 bgde h.q. mt. carmel hafia
1946-47

trickytree1979@yahoo.co.uk

Yigal-Yosef Pomerantz

Jul 1, 2018 - 2:10PM

Hi

I would like to interview veterans who served in Palestine.

Can you help me?

Thanks

Yigal Pomerantz

Who do you wish to contact ? Any member that served in Palestine during1940-1948 for a documentary film

Other comments My contact info:. yigalpom@yahoo.com

Fee

Nov 22, 2016 - 10:53AM

Uk servicemen in Palestine during 1945-48

Hi there,

I'm carrying out some research which looks at the experience's of British (police/army)personnel serving in the
Palestinian between 1945-1948. I would like to make contact with any servicemen who were in Palestine and can
depict what it was like to serve during this period.

I'm also interested to hear about what it was like to work as a Brit in Palestine once the Farran/Alexander Rubowitz case came to light. I understand that this is still a sensitive matter but if anyone would also be willing to discuss their experience it would be much appreciated.

Please feel free to get in touch,
Fjollai@outlook.com

Robert Timmins Oct 15, 2016 - 6:22PM

looking for anyone who served or knew Norman in palestine

Norman from Walsall sadly passed away on 9-11-2016 aged 89. After a lot of spells in hospital over the last few years he sadly succumbed to bronchial problems. Sadly missed and he would have loved to have been at Eden camp today 15-10-2016. We attended and felt honoured as his son in law and my wife his youngest daughter, to be in the company of the veterans who served. Any info would be greatly appreciated and we have lots of his photos from his time in Palestine Malta and Cyprus. Please e-mail me should you have any info. Regards Bob and Kaz. 🍷🍷

Who do you wish to contact ? anyone who served with norman leslie johnson

Other comments 2para 8th brigade ?

bobtheredliub@aol.com

Debra Gould

Jun 30, 2016 - 12:05AM

Palestine 1945 until unknown

Please is there anyone who knew my father and uncle who served in Palestine unfortunately both have died. We are trying to put together information about them. The only information I have is that Henry was often a pall bearer because he was tall. Kind regards Debra.

Who do you wish to contact ? Any one who served with my dad and uncle. Henry Thomas George storey. Sgt James Leonard Jeffries.

Other comments Looking for information

deborah.gould@hotmail.co.uk

Jun 30th, 2016 - 12:05 AM

G Collier

Aug 13, 2016 - 8:50AM

Re: Palestine 1945 until unknown

Debra Gould

Please is there anyone who knew my father and uncle who served in Palestine unfortunately both have died. We are trying to put together information about them. The only information I have is that Henry was often a pall bearer because he was tall. Kind regards Debra.

Other comments Does any one remember my Father from 3 Para 45 to 48. AFG (Tony) Collier

gcollierconsultants@outlook.com

Thomas Robert Williams

Aug 4, 2015 - 9:44PM

Searching for any info on my grandfather Thomas Moses Williams

Hello i.m looking for any type of information on my grandad Mr Thomas Moses Williams. His date birth is 29.11.26. I have a few pictures but not sure how to post them. One of them has on the back- Palestine. 27.4.46 and underneath that it says "JAFFA" My grandad was mixed race African and had a twin brother Andrew but i dont think they were together in Palestine.

I would be so very grateful for any help at all and would be willing to send my phone number or email pictures or anything needed.

Kindest regards.

Thomas Robert Williams

Other comments Looking for any info battle or other on my grandfather-Thomas Moses Williams

tommywilliams9181@gmail.com

Andy Harrison

Jul 21, 2015 - 2:21AM

my Dads (Gordon Harrison) service

My Dad did his national service in Palestine, being in the RASC and being assigned to the 17th Field Ambulance. I am going to write a story on British forces in Palestine, and anyone who can give me info would be greatly appreciated. My dad, Gordon, was from Derby.

Who do you wish to contact ? anyone from RASC/17th Field Ambulance circa 1946/47/48

andyharris391@hotmail.com

Paul Atherton

Feb 18, 2015 - 4:26PM

Private William Atherton RASC

My dad was in Palestine from August 1945 to late 1946 when he was demobbed. He was a driver/mechanic in the RASC and drove a truck on a regular route between Jerusalem and Ismailia.

He was a tiny man from south Lancashire. He was very reluctant to tell me much about it and now he has gone. He flew from England on a Liberator bomber following 11 days leave between the invasion of Europe and his posting in Burma. In the end he stopped in Jerusalem after the Japanese surrendered.

I know just a little of the conditions: the heat, the disease and the flies. I am reading the history of the politics and terrorism.

I hope to write a novel about his war time experiences so any one who knew him or the circumstances at the time would be a great contact. I look forward to hearing from some one

Who do you wish to contact ? Any one who knew William Atherton

paul_atherton1@sky.com

Feb 18th, 2015 - 4:26 PM

Andy Harrison

Jul 21, 2015 - 2:25AM

Re: Private William Atherton RASC

Paul

My dad was also RASC, but after the time your dad was there. I just thought i'd email you to see if you found anything out and could pass any leads on.

thanks

Andy

Who do you wish to contact ? anyone from RASC/17th Field Ambulance

andyharris391@hotmail.com

Shane Gilson

May 28, 2015 - 11:34AM

Ken (Taff) Gilson his great grandson want to know what he was like.

Hi

I am looking up my granddad's past life as he never really talked about it when he was alive, I want to honor him in so many ways but I believe this would be a fitting tribute. All I know is that he was in 3 para, served in Palestine where he married my Nan, in 1946 or 47? His name was Kenneth Fredrick Gilson born in South Wales and was affectionately known as Taff. Please can you ask if any of your members know of him or even have a picture or 2 so I can show his grandson who is missing his granddad badly.

Best regards and many thanks in advance.

Shane Gilson - very proud son of Ken (Taff) Gilson
Who do you wish to contact ? Anybody who knew my granddad
shanegilson@eircom.net

Christian
Apr 1, 2015 - 1:53PM
My grandad k scurr
My grandfather. Mr Kenneth scurr was in 6th ab
I have a cig case from Palestine 1947 from a pow ??
Thanks christian
Who do you wish to contact ? Any of his unit
Apr 1st, 2015 - 1:53 PM

Ps do have images of my grandfather and cig case
Many thanks
Who do you wish to contact ? Any of his unit
Christiansimonw@hotmail.com

Tyler Gill
Jan 27, 2015 - 9:39AM
Cecil G. Gill
I am looking for anyone that remembers anything about my grandfather Cecil G. Gill. Since his passing in October 2008 I am trying to get to know more about what he did not generally speak of, his time spent in Palestine with his unit.
Tgill1992@me.com

Dick Armstrong
Nov 14, 2014 - 12:28PM
Boro Soldiers in Palestine
Hello

My name is Dick Armstrong, I am currently working here in Israel, I am interested to learn more about two young paras from Middlesbrough who served and died here in what was then Palestine, during the Palestine mandate 1945-1948.

The names of the paras (info obtained from The Parachute Regiment – Palestine 1945-1948, are as follows:

RICHARDSON, ANDREW, Private the Parachute Regiment, A.A.C. 9th Bn. Age: 20 Date of Birth 02 August 1925 Date of Death: 02/06/1946 Service No: 14903501
Additional information: Son of Andrew Wylie Richardson and Elizabeth Richardson, of Middlesbrough, Yorkshire.
Grave Reference: 7. H. 2. Cemetery: RAMLEH WAR CEMETERY.

DARBYSHIRE, PHILIP Private the Parachute Regiment, A.A.C. 2nd Bn. Age: 20 Date of Birth 02 December 1926 Date of Death: 25/10/1947 Service No: 14126645
Additional information: Son of William N. Darbyshire and Violet M. Darbyshire, of Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, Yorkshire. Grave Reference: E. B. 19. Cemetery: KHAYAT BEACH WAR CEMETERY.

I am a resident of Teesside, where the two soldiers originated from and I am attempting to find as much info as possible on the said individuals.

Any assistance with this request shall be greatly appreciated.

Thanks & regards

Dick Armstrong
armstrong977@btinternet.com

Dan Pearson
Apr 2, 2014 - 10:57PM
Reginald Pearson

Does anyone have information regarding Reginald Pearson who was in this regiment and served in Palestine for at least 1945. Any information or photos would be most welcome as I'm undertaking research into my grandfather and his time in this regiment.

Thanks
Dan
Danpearson456@gmail.com

Jonathan Addison
Mar 19, 2014 - 5:40PM
Experiences in Palestine
Hello all,

I am writing a fictional novel set in Palestine in the spring of 1948. I'd be particular interested in hearing from anyone who served in Palestine around this time with specific reference to the following events.

- 1) Illegal Jewish immigration
- 2) Fighting the Haganah, Stern gang, Lehi.
- 3) The period of civil war between Jews and Palestinian Arabs (1947-1948)
- 4) Overall impressions of life in Palestine during that period.

Any help would be appreciated.

Jonathan
Who do you wish to contact ? Former soldiers
reaperinthesky@gmail.com

Helen Watson
Mar 17, 2014 - 11:58PM
commemorative plates

Hi Bill hope you are well. Mum has been sorting thru my dads things and has decided now is the time to part with most of his para memorabilia including his commemorative para plates , they are all in perfect condition as he really treasured them. I wondered if you know of anyone who may like to buy them. I have photos of them if anyone is interested. theres 2 para ones and one Polish Para plate. If you could ask around for us that would be great . Thanks Helen Bill Gilliland's daughter
Who do you wish to contact ? Bill Watts & other ex servicemen
helenwatson39@yahoo.co.uk

Matt scallan
Nov 9, 2013 - 1:52AM
Anyone know Frank (Patrick Scallan)
I'm doing some family history and would love to hear from anyone that knew him

Thanks

Matt
Who do you wish to contact ? Anyone who knew Frank (Patrick) Scallan
Mattscallan@googlemail.com

b

Brian Hewson

Sep 13, 2013 - 2:01PM

Jimmy (James) Hewson

Does anyone have any information on my late dad, Jimmy Hewson from Oldham he was a Sergeant who served with the 3rd Brigade in Geneifa, Palestine in 1945.

Before this he was a part of the 9th Parachute Battallion who took part in the assault on the Merville Gun Battery in Normandy on D Day.

Who do you wish to contact ? Anyone who has info on my late dad

brian.hewson1@ntlworld.com

Dawn bent

Sep 11, 2013 - 6:59PM

Stanley Bent

Does anyone remember my dad Stan Bent

Dawn@spudsnveg.co.uk

Joss Martin

Aug 31, 2013 - 1:42AM

J C Webb - 6481544

Hi, I am trying to track J C Webb - 6481544. He may be the same Jimmy Webb who lived in Brighton in the early '60s and was involved with the live music scene.

Please make contact if you have any information about his whereabouts - or even to confirm that this J C Webb was not the same as Jimmy.

Thank you

jjrhbm@hotmail.com

John McArdle

Aug 21, 2013 - 3:29PM

Anyone know Raymond John Brown (Jack)

Do you have any information on Raymond John Brown (Jack).

We understand he served in Palastine.

Who do you wish to contact ? Raymond John Brown (Jack)

john-mcardle@sky.com

Giora Bilu

Aug 1, 2013 - 4:47PM

Do you know Wallace R.M 2046996 ?

Among my father things I have found a silver disk, an 1" by diameter. Engraved the following: " 2046996 SGT WALLCE R.M PRES. "

It could be from 1940-1947, Palestine.

I will appreciate any info, help, hint or link.

thanks

Giora Bilu

2bgiora@gmail.com

Helen Burton

Jul 23, 2013 - 12:56PM

I am trying to obtain a copy of my dad's service history or have news from anyone who genuinely kne

I am trying to obtain a copy of my dad's army/parachute regiment service. He was in Palestine when the King David Hotel was destroyed. Would love to hear from anyone who was out there in that conflict and genuinely knew my dad. His name is Clive Burton and I understand he was know for the fact he neither drank nor smoked and never swore?

Who do you wish to contact ? Anyone who knew my dad Clive Burton.

Other comments All I know is he was in Palestine in the Para's when the King David Hotel was destroyed and would love to hear from anyone who genuinely knew him
panort60@gmail.com

Ken Day

Jul 18, 2013 - 2:14AM

Info on my dad

Hi all, My dad John Edward Day was apparently serving in the middle East in 1946-47. His sister told me that he was in Palestine but that he never talked about it. I remember him telling me how he had trained as a parachutist and I know after the service he was in the Artillery. I was wondering if anyone has any information re dad. He was born in Derby in 1925, lived in Portsmouth in the 60's and was a gunnery sergeant in the TA when I was a child.
kd1754s@hotmail.com

Michael Robinson

Jun 30, 2013 - 8:03PM

Harold (Bob) Robinson

Hi, shot in the dark but would anyone remember a Harold Robinson, also went by the name of Bob Robinson, I believe he also participated towards the end of the war. Would have been fairly recognisable as a rather dark skinned man as our descendents came from India and I also believe he was a keen boxer and cricketer. Thankyou all in advance should anyone remember him.

Michael Robinson.

66mjrobinson@gmail.com

david mccarthy

Jun 14, 2013 - 1:27PM

c/sgt harries 3rd para brigade

hello, i wonder if any member can help, i recently read in the book "the day the devil dropped in" a mention of csm jack harries 9th para bn. does anyone know if this could in fact be 878171 c/sgt o harries who served with 3rd para brigade in palestine?although the first initial is wrong the surname is not so common. any help would be very much appreciated, regards david

Who do you wish to contact ? csm harries

davidhmccarthy@aol.com

Cllr C. Ryan

Jun 5, 2013 - 4:00PM

Blackpool cenotaph Wreath laying.

Hello,

We are rededicating three new names onto the Cenotaph at the end of armed forces week, Cpt. Dukes is one of them. We were hoping to find a representative for wreath laying from 3 Para available as he was attached to them at the time of his death.

If anybody could help, please contact me via my Email address above or on (01253) 593549.

Regards,

Cllr. Chris Ryan.

Who do you wish to contact ? a 3rd Para Rep

Other comments RE: Cpt. E Harry Dukes

cllr.christopher.ryan@blackpool.gov.uk

Simon

Feb 2, 2013 - 12:54PM

Ted Midani

Edward "Ted" Midani died in October 2012 and a memorial address is being prepared for a masonic lodge of which he was a member.

Ted joined A company 3rd Battalion in 1945 and went to Palestine but we think that he was serving prior to that. He was Manchester PRA branch secretary 1947-1997. Colchester claim to have no knowledge of him, although his name is listed elsewhere on this website.

It is proving difficult to obtain any information about Ted's service etc. Can anyone assist? Does anyone remember him?

Thanks.
simon@tushingham.net

Alan Mead
Feb 24, 2013 - 3:22PM
Re: Ted Midani

Simon, Although it was along time ago I do remember Ted Midani. I joined B Coy 3rd Para Bn at Okehampton in July/August 1945 and he was already an established member of that Coy at that time. I remember he was with us at Larkhill and he was with us when we went to Palestine in Sept 1945. I think he left for demob the following year but as I was not a close friend I cannot give you more than that, I believe that he came from Manchester and also that he had tailoring connections. I think that he was popular but I don't think that he was in 4 platoon. Hope this small amount of info is helpful, cheers Alan
Who do you wish to contact ? simon
simon@tushingham.net
alanfmead@gmail.com

Amanda Harrap
Jan 16, 2013 - 2:41PM

My Dad, Robert 'Bob' Harrap
Does anyone remember my dad Bob Harrap? He was in Palestine 1947-48. I have photos of him and his mates, Ted and Les Bolton, Harry Walden and Ron Markwick.
Unfortunately my dad died in 1997 and I wish I could remember all he told me about his time out there. It would be nice if someone knew him or his friends. Thank you.
ajharrap@gmail.com

Paul Wright
Dec 16, 2012 - 8:32PM
Charles Carter of Aston under Lyne

I am hoping to find anyone who knew Private Charles Carter (my late uncle) who served with The Parachute Regiment in Palestine. I believe he may have been a company signaller at one time.

I was told that he was captured by Jewish terrorists along with an officer and they were both stoned. The story is that the officer died but Charlie Carter survived. Does this ring a bell with anyone?

thanks
pswright@gmail.com

Susan Morgan
Sep 22, 2012 - 7:17PM

Does anyone know my dad Billy Eckersall who served in Palastine
Hi, I am just wondering if anyone remembers my dad Billy Eckersall (William Eckersall) from Manchester who served in Palastine Hes was 83 years old this year - he does not use a computer but if anyone remembers him and would like to me to pass on any contact details i will be happy to do so.

Susan Morgan (was Eckersall)

Who do you wish to contact ? Anyone who remembers Billy Eckersall from Manchester served in Palestine
Other comments If anyone knows my dad, and would like to contact him, he does not use a computer but i can get details to him
sapphosioux@sky.com

joe motherway

Aug 28, 2012 - 4:55PM

turner phil

hope somebody can help me,i'm trying to find any family member of the late phil turner.i think he served with 3para in palestine.i only came to know this real gentleman in 1962/3 in haig lines crookham where i moved to at 6years old as my dad was in 1para there i met up with the turner family and a great bond between ian,chris and myself started.

i do know that he was a recruiting sgt in northampton,i know this because he enlisted me there.

if anyone has any info please contact me.

Who do you wish to contact ? family of phil turner

Other comments ex 3para band 1960s-1973

jomotrans@eircom.net

Steve

Aug 26, 2012 - 4:56PM

2/3 Battalion Hockey team 1948

Hello Folks,

Does anyone know the names of the 2/3 Para Hockey Team 1948. They won the 6 Airborne Div title that year. Also does anyone have a photo of the team.

Thanks in Advance

Steve

Who do you wish to contact ? 2/3 Para personnel 1948

redongo@btinternet.com

Steve

Aug 26, 2012 - 8:55PM

Re: 2/3 Battalion Hockey team 1948

Hello Bill, I have tried your email but it keeps bouncing back so i am replying on this forum.

Thanks for the quick reply, my grand father Charles Upperton was ex 10th Parachute Battalion, then 2 Para after Market Garden. Whilst on 2 Para he was on the hockey team for the season 44-45 when 2 Para were the Div champions. When he was deployed to Palestine the battalion was merged with the 3rd Battalion so my assumption is he may of been part of that team.

I have attached a copy of the 2 Para Team for you to see. It was taken at Ashwell camp near RAF Cottesmore.

I will have a look at the picture of the 3 Para pic.... Thanks Bill much appreciated.

Regards

Steve

Who do you wish to contact ? 2/3 Para personnel 1948

redongo@btinternet.com

Judith Holder

Aug 7, 2012 - 9:29PM

ALFRED HOLDER

Does anyone remember a boy named Alfred Holder being in the A. Coy 3rd Battalion Parachute Regiment in Palestine around 1942-45?

Who do you wish to contact ? anyone
gadaboutjudi@yahoo.com

Judith Johnson

Jul 12, 2012 - 2:22PM

Looking for info re My Uncle who died 1939 Palestine

My Uncle, Private Arthur Haynes died in 1939, he was serving in Palestine as part of the 1st Battallion South Staffs regiment, i would love to know more about what they were doing there, what life would have been like for them, etc. Any info gladly received!

Who do you wish to contact ? Anyone with info re 1st Battalion South Staffs Regiment, 1937-39
jjpw@fsmail.net

Helen Watson

May 2, 2012 - 6:19PM

70th anniversry

Please can someone tell me when this yrs parade is at Hardwick to commemorate 70 yrs since the grounds were first used as a training base for paras. We are Bill Gillilands family & would like to attend this yr

Who do you wish to contact ? anyone
helenwatson39@yahoo.co.uk

David Barham "nipper"

Feb 3, 2012 - 10:12AM

My Dad

My Dad is Donald Barham, he served in palestine from 1945 for 3/4 years. He tells me he was 17 battilion light infantry but cant remember if they were to become 3 para. He was on the orantes with cpl mullins. But cant remember him. well he is 85 now. was A coy and Says he was in the golan heieghts also.

Does anyone remember him? if so I'm sure he would love to hear from you.he went on to become a corporal.
youthheadcoach@tiscali.co.uk

Angela sheldon

Nov 28, 2011 - 6:49PM

In Palestine 1945-1948- Royal Artillery

My dad w at king David's hotel when it was blown up his name was Ronald barton but was known as Dick. If there is anybody whose dad may have known him please get in touch. He was from Manchester
angiebaby59@btinternet.com

dave mullins

Sep 23, 2011 - 8:03PM

fathers photos

not heard from you for long time hope all is ok

davemullaztec@hotmail.com

Helen Watson

May 17, 2011 - 9:19PM

life in palastine

Hi after watching the tv drama about paras in palastine I would really like to hear from anyone who served with my Dad Bill gilliland .Bill Watts is kindly writing his memories down for me. I just want to know what you all went thru be it sad, funny, mundane or exciting, My dad never really told us what he did during his yrs in palastine so if you could tell me about your experiences even if it doesnt include my dad at least i will know a bit more about his war years many thanks Helen (Gilliland) watson
wattyfamily@yahoo.co.uk

Atlit Camp

Mar 23, 2011 - 3:28PM

Soldiers who were involved in dealing with Jewish illigal immigrants

Today, in the former Atlit (Athlit) camp for illegal immigrants there is a museum dedicated to the Jewish clandestine immigration to the country. In the museum we have a computerized database that documents the story of the period.

We are very interested in stories of British soldiers who served in Atlit, the detention camps in Cyprus or dealt with illegal immigrants.

If you want to share your stories with us, please contact us by E-mail: shimurya@gmail.com or by phone: +972 4 9542218

Thank you

Yael Kaufman

"BeNtivity Ha'apala" Database, Atlit
shimurya@gmail.com

Terry(Tug)Wilson

Feb 27, 2011 - 9:46AM

WO1(RSM)Joel MBE.MM 3 Para RSM 1959 to 52

Hi Guys, I was CSM A Coy 3 Para 75-78 but I am trying to get a picture of RSM Joel, you may or may not know that the current Battalion Sgts mess is collecting the pictures of ALL 3 Para RSMs and the only one they have not got is RSM Joel MBE.MM who was RSM from 1950 to 52. I just wondered if he served with any of your members, if so it might be that one or more might have a picture of him that could be copied for the current serving lads to use in their display, if so it would be very much appreciated.

I thank you in advance.

Tug Wilson 3 Para 1959 to 87.

terryv_wilson@hotmail.co.uk

Ted Morris

Aug 14, 2010 - 2:45AM

Anyone know William (Bill) Morris

Looking for old pals or information on William (Bill) Morris. He served with the regiment in Palestine after being drafted from Ulster Rifles? as part of the back fill for losses due to Operation Market Garden.

When speaking to him he has mentioned playing basketball, driving NCO's and officers around in his Willys Army Jeep that had an embroidered sign with my Mum's name on, Betty. He also mentioned teaching others to drive on the airstrip and watching with some amusement when he unclipped the steering wheel and handing it over to the passengers!!

Also spoke about the day when the football team got ambushed and sentry duty when the Arabs would steal anything that wasn't locked down. Mentioned as well that he got promoted to Lance Corporal and was busted the same day for speeding, he was celebrating being promoted!

My Dad was born in Canning Town, London, but got bombed out and moved to Leicester with his family before joining the Army and serving on the Ack-Ack batteries on the Kent coast with his father. He then went through different Infantry regiments before joining the Para's.

If anyone remembers him or has any stories then please get in touch. When is the next veterans meeting as I would love to take him along.

Please get in touch, regards and thanks from Ted Morris.

Who do you wish to contact? Anyone who remembers my Dad

Other comments Served in Palestine, acted as a driver, played basketball and was briefly a Lanc Jack before being busted

tedandmich@gmail.com

Helen

Feb 12, 2010 - 3:03AM

Looking for info on father

My quest is same as many before. Belatedly nearly 20 years after my fathers death I wonder about his Palestine experience. I have his discharge certificate which indicates he was part of the Army airborne transport development centre. He was young and a private and from a parachute regiment. I have a regimental badge but cannot connect this info to battalion/ regimental histories. Will applying for his army record give me much info?
Many Thanks
helen@fourwinds.org.nz

kenneth bettany
Mar 16, 2010 - 2:27PM
looking for old comrades of j section 3 para signals
please feel free to contact me if you are an old comrade as i would like to hear from you
Who do you wish to contact ? old comrades of j section 3 para signals
ajsimon69@aol.com

chris mark hassell
Nov 13, 2009 - 10:51PM
information on father
does anyone remember my father Dennis (den) Hassell who served in palestine, I have his uniform insignia from the arm which shows him to have been in the parachute regiment. unfortunately thats all I know as he passed away 30 years ago and didnt tell us anymore.
Who do you wish to contact ? anyone who might remember my father
mark.hassell@mypostoffice.co.uk

RAINBOW
Aug 23, 2009 - 7:42AM
Searching for: John Bishop - A coy.3 para.group
He's an Internet friend of mine, but I haven't heard from him for awhile. Is he okay? Please let me know if you'd heard from him. He once said that he lives in Leicester, England. He served with Lt. General Walsh, Sgt. Legg, and Lt. White.
John combines his love of history and poetry. Here's one of his poems:

THE BATTLE AT EL GAMIL
5/11/56

Eleven years after world war two,
airborne troops were ask anew,
parachuting down on Egyption sand,
Major Walsh plays his hand.

With Pte.Eccles marking the spot,
control falls to the Majors plot,
two platoon with Coates in command,
attack a pillbox as was planned.

Clements fires a bazooka shot,
Egyption soldiers lose the plot,
hands up and out they show their face,
Binnsy marches them back to base,

Major Stevens and B coy's men,
fall amidst a snipers den,
badly wounded in the hand,
the Major stays and keeps command.

Then they attack the sewage farm,
Cpl.Woods fall, causes alarm,

with Maj.Stevens wounded again,
Captain Beale takes the rein..

C coy.attack the cemetary then,
Major Norman and his men,
call, and get air support,
to halt the danger snipers thwart,

Pte Beech with bren in hand,
dispatches a soldier in the sand,
the Egyption's bazooka failed to fire,
soldiers remember to attach that wire.

To Hms. Albion, we send good cheer.
for sending us those crates of beer,
Hms.Bulwark played their part,
to quench our thirst then depart..

Waiting for commando men,
C coy. took the cemetary then,
advanced still further to the flats,
hencforth stopping sniper attacks.

B.coy. then moved into the flats,
c.coy.then the barracks attacked,
the barracks fell with great success,
c.coy. occupied the officers mess.

A military success draws to a close,
but lets not forget those we opposed,
men on both sides were very brave,
in britains small heroes are made.

JB. A coy.3 para.group
cassandra1212@hotmail.com

Col Herbert Holeman
Aug 9, 2009 - 7:37PM
kudos

Thanks to Sgt Roy Mobsby, I found this great website, to which I have placed a link from my para pages at
<http://www.herbertholeman.com/para/writer@herbertholeman.com>

BBC Radio 4
May 25, 2009 - 7:22PM
BBC Radio

Tomorrow (Tuesday 26th May) we have an item on making History at 3.00pm (Radio 4) about Palestine in 1945 - 1948.

We're really keen to find someone who served during this time and who can explain what a tough posting it was.

You would need to live in the London or Home Counties area as we would like to record this on Thursday.

Nick Patrick making.history@bbc.co.uk
making.history@bbc.co.uk

Andrew Arnold

Mar 11, 2009 - 10:24AM

Red devils

Hi my dad passed away two weeks ago. His name was Stuart Roy Arnold. Lance Corporal Arnold was involved with Bomb Disposal. He blew up bridges and without going on too much I was hoping someone on here may have known him. I think his first name was spelt Stewart although it was really Stuart, most people knew him as Roy. If you know him I would love to hear from you
regards

Andrew

arnz45@optusnet.com.au

wattie

Mar 11, 2009 - 8:11PM

Re: Red devils

Hi Andrew,

Thank you for leaving a message on my website.

I suggest that you Click on OBTAINING SERVICE RECORDS - on the Index page of my website - and follow the instructions to obtain a copy of your father's Service Record from the Ministry of Defence.

This will tell you which units your father served with.

If he served with 3 Para please get in touch with me again and if you have any suitable photos, taken in Palestine during the period 1945-48 I shall be pleased to add them to my website.

Regards

Wattie

ex Sgt 3 Para Palestine 1945-48

arnz45@optusnet.com.au

Tim Chidlow

Apr 25, 2005 - 11:36PM

Anyone who knew Denis Chidlow 3 Para Palastine 1947

I'd just like to hear from anyone who knew my Dad in Palestine. He didn't talk about it.

Who do you wish to contact ? Anyone who knew Denis Chidlow 3 Para Palastine 1947

tchidlow@blueyonder.co.uk

Andrew Arnold

Mar 11, 2009 - 10:56AM

Re: Anyone who knew Denis Chidlow 3 Para Palastine 1947

Tim

I know what you me my dad was the same. It took a lot to get it out of him. He was in 3 Para and served time in Palestine somewhere around 44-48 I think

regs

His name was Stuart Roy Arnold

Andrew

arnz45@optusnet.com.au

L/cpl David Parker

Mar 9, 2008 - 11:15PM

3 Para Palestine

HQ Company. Still living in Nottingham.

Please add my name to the list.

Lieut. John Shaw, died two years ago.

Who do you wish to contact ? Anyone who might have known me; Stan Orton;

Other comments In Palestine from 1945-47

berylk@lineone.net

Mar 9th, 2008 - 11:15 PM

Andrew Arnold

Mar 11, 2009 - 10:53AM

Re: 3 Para Palestine

Hi my dad was in Palestine, his name was Stuart Roy Arnold, do you know him?

Regs

Andrew

arnz45@optusnet.com.au

Peter Wright

Feb 5, 2009 - 9:39AM

Sgt (?) Geoffrey Wright

I believe Geoffrey Wright (my father) was a Sergeant in the paras in Palestine. He died when I was very young and I would love to hear from anyone who knew him.

I have heard that he was severely affected by the kidnap and hanging of one of his colleagues, and know he subsequently suffered a breakdown.

peter.wright@wright-associates.com

valerie jacobs

Dec 23, 2008 - 4:25PM

Sgt Cyril (Bill) MANNING

does anyone remember my dad CYRIL MANNING also known as BILL MANNING. He was a sergeant when he left the army (possibly colour sergeant). He was Irish. Dad was at Monte Cassino, Greece, Palestine and Germany
bernieinspain@yahoo.co.uk

barry watson

Dec 7, 2008 - 3:31PM

geoff watson

anyone know my father geoffrey watson went on to east africa and zambia

barry@itcraftlab.com

Mandi Watkins

Nov 18, 2008 - 4:05PM

Does Any One Know my Dad?

Hi All

Am trying to find any information on James Morris. I know he served in Palestine in the late forties. But that is about all. If anyone knew him I would be interested to find out.

kes74756@msn.com

Tom Gleave

Jun 18, 2008 - 2:20PM

9th Battalion

Please add my details to the Guest Book;

Tom Gleave

9th Battalion

B Company

Still living in Newmarket.

Can be contacted via my son on tim.gleave@btinternet.com

Bob Bynoe

Feb 17, 2008 - 2:35PM

Palestine

My Dad served in Palestine not sure but sometime between 1945-47. as he is not IT savy he has asked me to check the site out for him.

Any one who remembers him can contact me

Regards Bob

Who do you wish to contact ? Any one whos know's my Dad Tommy Bynoe

bob.bynoe@anchor.org.uk

Roger Scott

Feb 16, 2008 - 4:12PM

Article in Daily Mail dated 16th February

Following the article in today's Daily Mail by Bill Watts, I was in the 8th - 9th battalion, returned to England in 1948 and formed the 3rd battalion and went to Germany. I would be glad to contact anybody who served in that period. My daughter is sending this email as I do not have a computer. You can respond to her email address. My daughter is Lesley Tustain.

Or you can write or telephone me direct, my name is

Roger Scott

9 Larch Crescent

Holt, Norfolk, NR25 6TU

Tel. 01263 711902

lesley.tustain@virgin.net

Helen

May 4, 2006 - 8:20AM

Funeral & parade in his honour

It's my sad duty to tell you that my dad died on May 2nd his name was William Gilliland but you would know him as Bill or maybe Jock. He was parade commander on many a parade in Sheffield, Eden camp Wakefield & Barnsley & Hardwick Hall he is seen on Bill Watts site carrying the standard and with Bill (picture named B&Me) You are all very welcome to come to the Funeral its at Grenoside Crematorium North Chapel May 9th Tuesday at 3.30pm, Also there is a parade dedicated to Dads memory on 21st May at Hardwick Hall, the family will be there and we would be so proud if you would join in, in your berets etc. We were SO SO PROUD of our dad and I can't begin to describe how much he meant to us & how much we will miss Him. my email address is at the top please contact me if you want any more info, God Bless you all Helen
wattys@wattys.fsworld.co.uk