

Registered Charity 273422

ISSN 0141-6588

30th ANNIVERSARY EDITION



CHOWKIDAR

Volume 11 Number 4 Autumn 2007

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NOTES ON BACSA

The Association was formed in 1976 and launched in Spring 1977 to bring together people with a concern for the many hundreds of European cemeteries, isolated graves and monuments in South Asia.

There is a steadily growing membership of almost 1,600 (2007) drawn from a wide circle of interest - Government; Churches; Services; Business; Museums; Historical & Genealogical Societies. More members are needed to support the rapidly expanding activities of the Association - the setting up of local committees in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Sri Lanka, Malaysia etc., and building up the Records Archive in the Oriental and India Office Collections in the British Library; and many other projects for the upkeep of historical and architectural monuments. The Association has its own newsletter *Chowkidar*, which is distributed free to all members twice a year and contains a section for 'Queries' on any matter relating to family history or the condition of a relative's grave etc. BACSA also publishes Cemetery Records books and books on different aspects of European social history out East. Full details on our website: www.bacsa.org.uk

The enrolment fee and subscription rates are obtainable from the Membership Secretary.

A Message from our President on the 30th anniversary of BACSA's founding

Dear Members and Friends

This is the first opportunity I have had to communicate with you since I had the honour to be invited to become President in succession to Lord Peter Rees. I hope that during my tenure I will be able to progress your Association as Peter did so successfully during his many years as our President. I can report that BACSA is in good health, and we have almost 1,600 members and our accounts show a healthy surplus. We have an extremely dedicated and hard-working Executive Committee, chaired by David Mahoney supported by excellent Honorary Officers and Area Representatives, and we have the benefit of the wisdom of our Council.

The great sadness this year has been the death of Rosemarie Wilkinson who was such a positive and vital First Lady of BACSA. Our hearts go out to Theon and his family in their loss.

I am writing this from Kolkata where the South Park Street Cemetery is in good hands. However, I think we will have to consider a project for the Scottish Cemetery with an Appeal to interested Indian and British companies. I am then going on to Bangladesh where I hope to visit several of the small Tea Garden Cemeteries.

My involvement with BACSA started in 1980 when I joined the Executive Committee to represent UK companies, and I have been delighted to be involved fairly closely since then. We are a unique and wonderful Association and I am again grateful to all those who devote so much of their time to our various projects and works.

I hope that you will be at our General Meeting in October and, in the meantime, with every good wish.

Peter Leggatt

13.8.2007

A Message from our Chairman, David Mahoney, FRICS

It is said that at some time most families in Britain had at least one member serving in the Indian sub-continent. Therefore, as one with no family connection there at all, I am something of a fraud.

Not for me - the decaying grave of an ancestor crying out for tender loving care, nor a distinguished dynasty whose pride I must maintain, nor even an entry in some register in a forlorn hill station church register.

Why then should someone untouched by a connection have such an interest in the location, identification, recording and restoration of 'foreign' cemeteries containing 'strangers'?

The answer is simple – Theon Wilkinson. When first I read his book *Two Monsoons*, which should be required reading for every journalist who professes to understand 300+ years of Europeans in Asia, I became interested in what Theon was trying to do – not only to stop the decay and destruction of significant historical, and architectural memorials but also to save important biographical and social information.

Over the last 30 years, with the help of an army of former residents – high and low, Area Representatives and helpers in the Home Country and the Sub Continent and many other supporters, a lot has been achieved to keep nature at bay but, with the assistance and goodwill of Cemetery Committees, much still needs to be done. As BACSA's current financial position is very sound, only the availability of help on the ground prevents more work being done.

However, all of us owe a debt of gratitude to Theon and Rosemarie, for not only providing a means of protecting a heritage, but also the opportunity to regularly meet old friends and others with a love of the East.

David Mahoney
August 2007

BACSA – OUR OWN HISTORY

Earlier this year we wrote a short summary about BACSA, looking back over the past thirty years at our history and achievements. This is reproduced below, to remind older members of our past, and to inform newcomers.

What is BACSA?

The British Association for Cemeteries in South Asia is concerned with the location, identification, recording and restoration of the many hundreds of former British Cemeteries, isolated graves and monuments in South Asia. Our aim is to make positive interventions where there is a strong local base of people willing to restore cemeteries, by offering financial aid and 'advice'. BACSA does not supervise restoration work but encourages the impetus from local communities so that they maintain a vested interest. We are equally concerned with recording the names and biographical details of those who lie within these cemeteries, and elsewhere.

How we started

During a visit to India in 1972, our Founder, Theon Wilkinson, discovered the poor condition of the cemeteries and published his findings in *Two Monsoons*. BACSA was formed on 13 October 1976 and launched the following year. At the inaugural meeting, held at the Cavalry & Guards Club, seventy-six people attended, including representatives of Regimental Associations, the Indian Army Association, the Indian Civil Service Association, the India Office Library, the Pakistan High Commission, Friends of Highgate Cemetery, the Society of Genealogists, the Federation of Family History Societies and the National Army Museum. Others had come through family ties with the Indian subcontinent, in some cases, like the Cotton family, with links going back nearly two hundred years. Lord Louis Mountbatten was among our first life members and Countess Mountbatten, Lord Brabourne, Field Marshal Sir Gerald Templar and Viscountess Slim have all given BACSA their support. Theon Wilkinson, our Honorary Secretary for 28 years, was awarded an MBE for his work for the Association.

Where are our Projects?

Our remit covers the area where the East India Company traded, from the Red Sea to the China Coast. There are an estimated two million mainly British burials in the Indian subcontinent alone. In the past thirty years we have carried out over a hundred projects in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Burma, Indonesia, Malaysia and Aden. Recent projects have been the restoration of the Cantonment Cemeteries at Agra, Jhansi and Meerut and work at St Matthias Cemetery, Madras. At Singapore we funded the microfilming of pre-war Burial Registers.

How we work

BACSA has no paid staff and no office. Volunteers work from their own homes. We have a Council, an Executive Committee and 25 Area Representatives, based mostly in Britain, who visit South Asia at their own expense. They have detailed knowledge and contacts and it is through them that local contacts are usually identified, who can then undertake restoration. We receive queries from the general public, sometimes forwarded through the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, the Ministry of Defence, the British Legion, the British Library, etc. asking for help in tracing relatives' graves. Through our Area Reps and their local contacts we have been able, in many cases, to find and photograph such graves.

Our Publications

BACSA has published forty Cemetery Records books, compiled by our members. These are detailed accounts of cemeteries, often with plans, photographs and full inscriptions taken from the tombs and checked against the Burial Registers, where they exist, and other reference books. Our titles include *The Foreigners' Cemetery, Yokohama, Japan*; *The Peshawar Cemetery, Pakistan*; *The Burma Register of European Deaths and Burials*; *The Protestant Cemetery, Bangkok* and many more. We have also published nearly forty books, written by BACSA members, with a wider public in mind. These include *Ulysses in the Raj* (1992), the story of Greek trade in India; *Memoirs of an Adventurous Dane in India* (1999), a young sailor who joins the City Police in Calcutta; and *A Railway Family in India* (2001), five generations of the Stevenage family in India. *Chowkidar*, our house journal, is circulated twice a year to our members.

BACSA Archives

Our Archives are housed in the British Library at St Pancras. They include 853 files on different cemeteries, with photographs, CDs, sketches, reports from visitors, letters from people whose ancestors are buried there, etc. There are also files of Burial Registers, Monumental Inscriptions of those with South Asian links, who died in Britain, and Additional Deposits including family histories. BACSA's own records are here too, and will be available under the 30 year rule.

Our Finances

At the end of our first year, in 1977, the total balance sheet was £702.20. We raise money through annual subscriptions and life membership; through the sales of our books and second-hand books donated to us; by generous donations from members and well-wishers; and by judicious investment. Between 1999 and 2006 we spent £77,655 on projects and our average spend per year is over £11,000. We are setting up maintenance funds for continuing work on selected cemeteries.

Our Members in 2007

BACSA members today number 1,573 and include the following individuals and associations:

Alumni Associations of Indian Colleges & Schools; Assistant Keeper, Oriental Antiquities, British Museum; Association for the Preservation of Historical Cemeteries in India (APHCI); Oriental Booksellers (UK and India); Burmese Cemetery Committee; Family History Societies (UK, USA, Canada, Australia); Friends of UK Cemeteries; Genealogical Societies (UK and abroad); Indian National Trust for Art & Cultural Heritage; Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan, British & American academics; internationally known authors including novelists and historians; Oriental Art Historians; Oriental prints and paintings dealers (USA and UK); Photographic Collectors; Planters Association, Malaysia; Publishers; Regimental Associations; UK & Overseas Museums; UK & Australian Heraldic Institutes & Societies; UK & USA University Departments of South Asian Studies, Art & Archaeology; UK & USA University Libraries; UK Military History Societies; Winner of the Royal Asiatic Society Sir Richard Burton Award.

THIRTY YEARS AGO

Although BACSA was fully launched at the Spring meeting on 30 March 1977, the first *Chowkidar* did not go out to members until the Autumn of that year. The newly written Constitution and Rules allowed for the publication of 'useful results' of proposed researches into cemeteries in South Asia, but it did not specifically mention a journal. The idea came from a meeting between the Founder and Secretary for many years, Theon Wilkinson, and myself, Rosie Llewellyn-Jones, the soon-to-be Editor. A number of interesting letters had already started arriving from members, eager to share their memories of life in the Indian subcontinent up to 1947 and other distant places where the East India Company had set foot. Indeed, it was as if BACSA had suddenly provided a forum where reminiscences and questions that had been pent up for the previous thirty years, could be shared with a sympathetic audience.

At that time, in the late 1970s, there was little room for people who had served abroad in the dying days of the British Empire, and also surprisingly little known about their lives. A few had published their autobiographies, or memoirs, but the idea of looking at the collective past of an Empire's willing, or unwilling, servants, had not really begun. Asian studies, at the few British Universities that then taught the subject, consisted of language courses, literature, history, architecture and the study of interesting, but distant, tribal people. That there was a whole 'tribe' of people who had led the most fascinating lives abroad, sitting on one's doorstep, so to speak, was simply ignored.

One of the earliest books to discuss 'the passing of the burrah sahib' and what he (and she) had left behind was poignantly entitled *Where the Lion Trod* by Gordon Shepherd, published in 1960. Although the author had passed the ICS examination, he had spent the war years in Europe and was thus able to bring an objective, but nevertheless affectionate eye to bear. After that there was almost nothing until BACSA member Charles Allen published *Plain Tales from the Raj*, in 1975 based on radio interviews with people who had been out in the Empire.

BACSA's foundation was also long before the present interest in genealogy arose, when there was no organisation like FIBIS (Families in British India Society), no *Indiaman* magazine (recently closed down) nor the electronic India List. Neither were there any conservation groups in the Indian subcontinent, other than the ASI (Archaeological Survey of India). BACSA had preceded the setting up of INTACH (Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage) by a decade; we were the first foreign association to address the problem of decaying British and European cemeteries in South Asia. There was no Empire and Commonwealth Museum in Bristol, although the little British in India Museum had opened in Colne, Lancashire in 1972. (It is now at Hendon Mill in Nelson.)

Thus, started at exactly the right moment, *Chowkidar* discovered a gold mine of information, social history, scandal and much more. The cover of Volume 1, Number 1, September 1977 is reproduced on page 89. If it looks a little amateurish, then that is exactly what it was. It was reproduced by cutting a stencil, then running off copies on a Gestetner, the first piece of office equipment that would allow multiple copies to be produced cheaply. The size was a modern A4, at a time when foolscap-size paper was still in use. Six pages were stapled together, by hand, and only black and white line-drawings could be used. Photographs were introduced in 1980, the first being appropriately the lighting of candles on All Souls' Day in South Park Street Cemetery, Calcutta, which had been newly refurbished by BACSA. The format was changed to a more manageable A5 size (the current size) in 1985, and different coloured covers were used to mark each new volume. Today both text and photographs are put on a CD and taken to the local printer, who produces the finished product.

The first issue contained a number of features which are still found in today's *Chowkidar*, including 'Mail Box' and 'Can You Help', showing that either we got it right the first time, or that people have been too polite to say anything since. There was a rich, eclectic mixture of topics discussed, including ghost stories, smallpox vaccination in India in 1787, early photography and prejudice against women doctors in the East. The suggestion was made to members who couldn't easily get to London for BACSA meetings, that they might look around their local graveyard for inscriptions of people with Indian connections, and from this came the great Monumental Inscriptions project which currently numbers about 10,100.

Most of these inscriptions are in the United Kingdom, hence the abbreviation UK MIs, but some are further afield, particularly in places like Gibraltar, and the Cape, the route by which Britons travelled out to the East, and sadly didn't always travel home again. An appeal for 'home movies shot in India during the 20s, 30s and 40s' came from the Centre for South Asian Studies in Cambridge, which now regularly provides material for a seemingly endless series of TV programmes on the 'Raj'. BACSA Books was hardly a feature in the early issues, with just a mention of the title, author, and sometimes the price, but no ISBN number. It was thought that with the lack of interest in Britain's colonial past, the small flow of reminiscences by people who had lived and worked abroad, would soon dry up and there would be no need for further book reviews. How wrong we were!

At the very start of BACSA, an archive of information was being built up at the India Office Library and Records, then in Orbit House, Blackfriars Road. A catalogue of cemeteries was being assembled, with cross references, photographs and biographical information on those interred. (Today the index of cemetery files is on line at the British Library, although the contents of the files are only accessible to people in the Library's Reading Room on the third floor.) Enquiries came in from people who wanted to know the condition of family graves left behind in South Asia. Today it is often about the graves of grandparents, or great grandparents. In 1977 it was queries about a father's grave in Secunderabad, or a husband's grave in the same cantonment. Were we intending to cover former French and Portuguese colonies in the subcontinent, enquired a reader? And 'local members resident in South Asia' were exempt from paying subscriptions. At this period it was still very difficult to get money out of India, the economic reforms being still some thirteen years in the future. Some of the names mentioned in connection with projects, are no longer with us, people like Aurelius Khan of Calcutta, and Vincent Davies, working on cemetery restoration in Bihar, where he got 38 graves restored for Rs500 (£30). Many others are still happily here today, showing a commitment that has lasted thirty years.

Wars and upheavals, particularly in Afghanistan and the North-West Frontier Province, have taken their toll on cemeteries since BACSA was founded. *Chowkidar* Vol. 1, No. 2 noted a letter from Lady Wheeler, the widow of Sir Mortimer Wheeler. She had been excavating in Kandahar, and had found, during a walk in the neighbourhood, the graves of British soldiers killed in the battle of Maiwand. Almost a thousand graves were found 'and only the slight ripple of the ground indicates their presence' she wrote. Enthusiastic plans were made by BACSA to erect a plaque to commemorate the fallen men, and calling on their regiments to support the project. Unfortunately this came to nothing when the Russians invaded Afghanistan in December 1979, and it doesn't look as though the plaque will be put up for some years yet.

Reading through the early *Chowkidars*, one is struck by the fact that nearly all cemetery restorations were initiated by visitors from Britain who were travelling abroad to visit old haunts, to meet old friends or to visit a parent's grave. Today many of BACSA's projects are initiated by local people who appeal for help to save neighbouring cemeteries, or who visit decaying historic sites and feel something should be done. This is a welcome sign that the heritage message is getting through and that the old British cemeteries are now rightly regarded as a part of Asian history. BACSA's website attracts queries from all over the world, bringing in new members and donations. We still receive letters of course, but much correspondence is by email today. *Chowkidar* is not on line, that is, it can't be accessed electronically, so you still have to be a member to receive it, or friend of a member. This special issue contains a number of extra features, as well as the usual articles, so good reading.

FOUND!

Few things in life bring a greater reward than being able to help relatives find a grave they had long thought was lost for ever. BACSA cannot always provide the answers to questions that arrive from all over the world, but we will try our best. Take the query that arrived from Jan White in June 2006. She had been recommended to contact us by the Curator of the Royal Signals Museum at Blandford. 'I'm wondering if you can give me any information regarding the grave of baby Geoffrey Stephen Millen aged nine months, who died on 12 May 1937 and was buried in the British Military Cemetery, Trimulgherry, Secunderabad, India', she wrote. Baby Millen was brother to Jan White, born three years before her, while their father was serving with the 4th Indian Divisional Signals. On his return he was in regular contact with the Foreign & Commonwealth Office about the condition of the grave of his baby son.

Jan White had tried 'several avenues, including the War Graves Commission' but was unable to obtain any up-to-date information. All she knew from a photograph was that an engraved headstone with a marble surround covered the grave, and that a tree had been planted on it. Various suggestions were made, including contacting the BACSA Area Representative and the Bishop at Secunderabad. Jan White's baby brother had probably been buried in Cemetery No. 5 at Secunderabad, which was opened in 1860 and closed in 1954, so was well within the time frame of the 1937 burial. The plot number was unknown. Acting on the information we had given her, Jan White went out to Trimulgherry earlier this year and BACSA subsequently received a joyful email saying that the little tomb had been found, and not only that, but the burial register had been found too, a bit battered, but still legible. Undergrowth was cleared away from the tomb, and the burial record photographed. A happy ending to a long search.

In February this year, our Founder, Theon Wilkinson, was handed a short email as he left the India Office Library Reading Room. It was from Bushan Chavan, who lives in a village called Wadi Budruk in Maharashtra. In broken English Mr Chavan explained that there was a World War One memorial in his village, and he attached an outline sketch. He wanted the answers to several questions, including the meaning of the initials at the top of the memorial, which we deduced to be GRI, that is, George Rex Imperator. He also wanted to know how many similar memorials there were in Maharashtra (which we couldn't answer), when the memorial was erected, and the names of the village men who had been killed fighting for the British. The memorial carried the simple inscription: 'Wadi Budruk. GRI. From this village 81 men went to the Great War 1914-1919 of these 18 gave up their lives'.

We sent Mr Chavan's email and sketch to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and they were able to provide details for only three of the dead soldiers who had joined the Mahratta Light Infantry. They are commemorated on the Basra Memorial, in Iraq, itself a scene of conflict today. They were Govindrao, Shankarrao More, and Baji More, all sepoy. Two men from the same village, who joined the 5th Mahratta Light Infantry, were killed during World War Two, and are commemorated on the Alamein Memorial in Egypt. This is not the first time that BACSA has come across war memorials in Indian villages, but we are no nearer to establishing who erected them. Because the inscription is in English, under the initials of the King, we assume they were put up by a British official, but was this on his own initiative, or was it standard policy? And if so, how many more are there in India, to mark the sacrifice of these soldiers from the villages?

Theon Wilkinson also tells us of another discovery, which again emphasises the need to find the right organisation to help, in this case BACSA. The story begins in October last year when 85-year-old Mrs Marjorie Pirrett wondered if her father's death in Wellington, India, was still marked by a commemorative stone. Television programmes commemorating the 60th anniversary of the last war had prompted her to write to 'The War Office, London' enclosing a copy of her birth certificate (she was born in Lahore), and details of her father's service with the 2nd Lancashire Fusiliers. Although wounded during World War One, when he lost an eye, RQMS Harry Goodwin rejoined his battalion, only to die of a perforated ulcer in 1928. His daughter asked for her letter to be forwarded to the appropriate authority and it was duly sent to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission who replied that it was outside their area of responsibility, and that the letter was therefore being passed to 'the Ministry of Defence department that have information on the graves of casualties from all three of the armed services that died outside of the two World Wars'.

A few days later Mrs Pirrett received a letter from the relevant MoD department (the Armed Forces Administration Agency in Gloucester) regretting that they had 'no record of military commemorative memorials located in India' and that they were therefore passing the letter to the British Library in the hope it might be of assistance. The British Library in turn passed the inquiry on to BACSA which Theon Wilkinson received on his routine weekly visit. He wrote to Mrs Pirrett to reassure her that BACSA would do what we could to trace her father's grave through two separate lines of approach: (1) through the records we hold in our archive within the British Library which contains a file on Wellington, a large army centre and (2) through our Area Representative for the Nilgiris who might be able to arrange a search for the grave. Only eighteen days had elapsed since her original letter had passed through the various official channels and Theon had to explain that we were a voluntary organisation and that it might take a little time. But two weeks later our search at the British Library had confirmed her father's burial, on 30 April 1928; and in addition his name was on a brass plaque inside the Wellington Garrison Church to the memory of five members of the Lancashire Fusiliers who died while serving there between 1927-28

This information was sent to our Area Representative, Dee Featherstone, who in a very short time was able to provide photographs and full details of the grave and church tablet, the news of which reduced Harry Goodwin's daughter to tears, as she wrote in her letter of thanks and she continued: 'How wonderful after all these years I have this comforting news, thanks to BACSA. ... I am frankly astonished that so much is being done by Associations such as yours who receive enquiries like mine, with such sympathy and promptness.' 'An example of the "long arm" of BACSA!' concludes Theon.

MAIL BOX

A reminder of a 'small war' that took place in the 1870s is the little cemetery at Bukit Chandran, in Perak, Malaysia. As long time BACSA member Alan Harfield relates in his book *Christian Cemeteries of Penang and Perak* (1987) the war was a result of the changing British policy in the Malay States, as they then were. British involvement in Perak had begun in 1818 when trading agreements were made with local chiefs. By the end of the century there was an increased demand for tin, which had been produced for centuries in the area. The first British Resident, James Wheeler Woodford Birch was appointed in 1874 and he began to change what were considered inefficient procedures and policies, especially those concerning revenue collecting and slavery. Birch may not have been the most tactful of men, and he had the reputation of being a hard administrator. In July 1875 local Malay chiefs met secretly and decided to get rid of the Resident and to end all foreign influence. Late that autumn Birch and a small party of twelve crewmen, fourteen sepoy, Lieutenant Abbott and an interpreter set off by river boat to publicise the new British policy, by posting proclamations. These were torn down, and the Resident, who had retired to a 'floating bath-house' was stabbed to death through its palm walls.

When news of his assassination reached the British authorities at Pula Penang a relief force was launched with officers and men of the 10th Regiment of Foot. Advancing through the jungle to Pasir Salak, the place where the Resident had met his death, the force was defeated and had to withdraw from the area. Additional reinforcements were now sent from Hong Kong and India, but the Malay chiefs did not surrender without inflicting more fatal injuries on the British troops. The small Bukit Chandran cemetery is dominated by the Perak War Memorial, a column that commemorates the fifteen officers and men who fell during the campaign. Each casualty has an individual grave, including Major Henry Lumsden Hawkins, the Brigade Major who was transfixed by a spear passing through his chest. The cemetery was visited by our Area Rep for Malaysia, Michael Rawlinson in June this year, and he reports that he found it in 'immaculate, constantly maintained condition'. The graves of James Birch and four men killed with him in November 1875 lie in a separate, iron-railed enclosure, on the east bank of the Perak river, west of the present Route 109 at Kampong Bandar Baharu. The small enclosure, in a clearing contains five stone crosses, and Michael Rawlinson says that care needs to be taken when visiting the graves due to venomous snakes, which feed on the riverside rodents.

Still in Malaysia comes the welcome news that restoration of the old Protestant Cemetery in George Town, Penang, known as the Francis Light Cemetery is now complete. Work was partly funded by BACSA and included repairing and painting the walls, installing a new gate, cleaning the tombs using a soft water jet and laying down a path for visitors. The work has been co-ordinated by the Penang Heritage Trust, who have clearly done an excellent job, as photographs show. (see page 90) Captain Francis Light was the founder of the British colony at Penang, and it is fitting that he lies in the cemetery at the centre of George Town, which he established in 1786, naming it after King George III. Captain Light worked as a trader for the East India Company and was superintendent of the new colony until his death from malaria in October 1794. A statue of him stands outside the State Museum today. The pioneering spirit shown by Francis Light passed down to his son, William, who was appointed surveyor general in southern Australia, recommending where the city of Adelaide should be established, and laying out the area in the short space of two months.

Joan Broadbent of Huddersfield has a great-grandfather who was posted to India for over ten years following the Mutiny of 1857. He was Colour Sergeant John McGrath of the 33rd Regiment, and his great-granddaughter has a copy of his memoirs, the originals of which are in the Duke of Wellington Regimental Museum, Halifax. Details of John McGrath's life in Gujarat between 1859 to 1861 are given in detail, when the regiment had their HQ at Deesa cantonment, near Palanpur. A couple of years ago, Joan Broadbent visited the town, only to find that the cantonment had been progressively dismantled after Lord Kitchener's reorganisation in 1905, and that a sprawling new town now exists on the site today.

'The original British Cemetery still exists to the extent that a boundary wall is still there. However it now encloses what is largely an open space. The area must have accommodated a few hundred graves but these have largely disappeared, the construction materials having been recycled by the local population. It is now a sad and sorry site of almost complete devastation. Strangely, about a dozen memorials are still standing but again, many of the inscriptions, having been carved on more valuable white stone have disappeared.' Only one grave can be said to be intact [that of] 'Drummer Whitnall of 33rd Regt d.26th August 1859 aged 16 Erected by Geo Williams and the drummers of the Regiment.' It was likely, thought Joan Broadbent that John McGrath would have been present at the little Drummer's funeral, for he writes of attending many such sad occasions. Although Deesa was generally regarded as a 'healthy station,' over a three years period 90 men, eight women and 'many children' had died from cholera and 'heat apoplexy'. In a single afternoon six men, two women and three children were buried following an outbreak of cholera, which may also have killed Drummer Whitnall. Some of the headstones from the Deesa cemetery had been 'rescued' by the local Roman Catholic Church and were visible, in fragments, at the church and school compound. A second cemetery containing graves from a later period, was in a much better condition, although overgrown.

From Deesa, and following in John McGrath's footsteps, the journey took the couple to Dwarka, about 250 miles away on the Gujarat peninsula overlooking the Arabian Sea. This was a fortified position which the British had captured using scaling ladders in 1820 while attempting to combat piracy in the area. A single gravestone laid flat in the town centre records 'Here lies the body of William Henry Marriot Lieutenant in HM 67th Regiment of Foot and Aide de Camp to the Honourable Mountstuart Elphinstone Governor of Bombay died 8th December 1820 aged 26 years. The gallant officer was the first person who mounted to the Assault of the Fort of Dwarka on the 26th November 1820 and died of wounds received on that occasion. His friends in token of their admiration of his Gallantry, Respect of his Virtues and Esteem of his Amiable Qualities have erected this stone on the spot where the ladder was planted. Brief, Brave and Glorious was his Young Career'. (see back cover) This historic grave was found 'covered in accumulated filth' but the locals working round it knew that it was there and what it was. 'They were pleased to hose it down so that we could read the inscription, albeit badly broken and cracked. It is in a location where everybody walks over it, including the cows and it is remarkable that it is in no worse state and indeed that it still survives at all in its original location.' We are grateful to the Broadbents for their long and detailed report.

BACSA member Fergus Paterson, whose ancestors lie in the old cemetery at Saugor, in Madhya Pradesh, tells us of another relative, the husband of a great aunt, who is buried in Chennai (Madras), Lieutenant Colonel John Monckton Coombs. Unusually, a full account of the murder of Colonel Coombs is given on his tombstone in St George's

Cathedral Cemetery, which was recently awarded a BACSA grant. (see page 91) The Colonel was an officer of the 10th Madras Native Infantry and the Commandant of the cantonment at Palaveram. He had had an 'honorable career of thirty-three years in the Indian army, during which he was employed both on the general staff and in a confidential capacity to General Macdowell, the Commander in Chief and the Hon. William Petrie, Governor of the Prince of Wales Island', as Penang was then known. While returning from 'ball practice with his brigade' Colonel Coombs was mortally wounded by 'a Havildar of the 5th Regiment, who, infuriated by passion and blinded by intoxicating drugs mistook the person of his intended Victim, and aiming at the life of another, sacrificed that of his best Friend and Protector. The Assassin atoned to the laws for his atrocious crime. But what can compensate the loss of a fond husband and indulgent father, to his bereaved family, Of an esteemed comrade to his Companions in arms, of a Talented Gentleman, to the Society he graced and of an accomplished Officer to the Government which he served with fidelity and zeal.' The havildar, an Indian soldier, is named from several sources as Emaum Ally.

There are several curious points about the story, says Mr Paterson, that even Sherlock Holmes would consider odd. Firstly, the two men, the victim and the murderer had known each other for many years, and thought highly of each other. Indeed, Colonel Coombs 'had done his best to see Ally was promoted up the ranks as he had an outstanding record of heroism in battle, [and] he even commissioned his portrait to be painted'. Captain Albert Hervey, who interviewed Ally while he was awaiting trial, and later wrote a full account of the event, said Ally told him 'it was written in the book of my fate to shoot somebody that night...and the first person I could get hold of happened to be the brigadier,' which contradicts the tomb's inscription that Ally was aiming at somebody else and shot Coombs by accident. 'In advancing his own theory as to a possible motive, Hervey uses words such as "ill-feeling", "jealousy", and "conspiracy" suggesting that much was left unsaid.' Ally was found guilty at his trial and condemned to death by hanging, which was a particularly gruesome and protracted event. The havildar's remains were subsequently placed in an iron cage and suspended on a gibbet until it became 'a whitened skeleton, a severe and terrible warning to others'. Finally the remains were returned to his family and buried on the plain towards St Thomas's Mount.

The Rohilla War Memorial, at Bhitaura, near Bareilly, in Uttar Pradesh, is one of the oldest war memorials in India commemorating a narrow British victory of October 1794. It marks the site where the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Robert Abercromby's men, defeated the Rohillas, led by Ghulam Mohammed Khan, in the Second Rohilla War. The latter had usurped the Rohilla throne, and killed the legitimate heir, the son of the late ruler. It was, in effect, a palace revolution, but the East India Company had pledged to support the heir, and a force was on its way to the Rohilla capital, when it had to stand and fight. Fourteen British officers were killed, and their dismembered heads stuck on poles as trophies. Some 2,500 men were killed or wounded, an enormous loss for the Company's Army.

It was rumoured, with good reason, that Ghulam Mohammed Khan had bribed a British officer, Captain Ramsay to throw the fight, and it was Ramsay's action, wheeling his cavalry through two battalions of his own force, that led to the heavy loss of life. The memorial was erected on the orders of the Governor General, Sir John Shore, and marks the burial place of the Company officers and men. Two graves of Rohilla *sardars* (leaders) are also here. The deteriorating condition had long given cause for concern and *Chowkidar* reported in 1994 that it seemed to be near collapse. It was being monitored by BACSA member Sandy Lall, who had been visiting the site since 1977. We were preparing to make a grant for restoration when to our delight we obtained a report and photographs, through the kind offices of Hon. BACSA member Lieutenant General S.L. Menezes. This showed a beautifully restored monument, standing proudly in a newly repaired walled compound, entered through a handsome classical archway. (see page 91) At one end stands a new mosque, erected in 2005 'to pay homage to the Muslim rulers of the area'. Within the compound also stands one of the few remaining survey towers, erected as a triangulation point when the Great Trigonometric Survey was in progress. The whole area belongs to the local mosque, who organised the restoration. It is a highly significant site both for India and Britain. Although some of us might quibble with the Hindi inscription which commemorates the leader of the *first* Rohilla War (Hafiz Rehmat Khan, killed in 1774), it is nonetheless a splendid restoration and a fitting tribute to the dead of both sides.

New BACSA member James Buchanan tells us that a few years ago he was able to follow part of the route taken by his great-grandfather on a Himalayan journey in the 1850s. Colonel Lewis Mansergh Buchanan was a young officer who arrived in Calcutta in the eventful year of 1857 to join his regiment, the 88th Connaught Rangers. The Regiment had left Britain in July of that year as news of the severity of the Mutiny became apparent and arrived in November. But this is not really a Mutiny story. At the end of the first hot weather campaign in June 1858 the Regiment marched into the battered cantonment at Cawnpore, having served in the field for six full months. 'Our quarters' wrote Colonel Buchanan 'were a block of old cavalry stables selected from their being almost the only buildings there that had escaped the flames by which the whole European station of that city of dreadful memories had been destroyed, and my share of it was an ordinary loose-box.' Not surprisingly after serving in temperatures that ranged between 100 and 125 degrees Fahrenheit, and now having to exchange their campaign tents for 'an aimless existence in quarters never intended for human beings and subjected to the same excessive temperature' many of the soldiers fell sick with fever and exhaustion. In fact more died in a single month than had fallen to the bullets of the enemy in the previous eight months. 'Every evening the continuous drone of the Dead March performed by the remnants of our Band proclaimed to our weary and almost hopeless ears that another batch of comrades, officers, and men, were being conveyed to their last resting places.'

When he himself had almost given up hope of survival, the young man found himself being gently lifted from his loose-box into a *dak-gharrie*, a travelling coach, and 'found to my inexpressible joy that my destination was the Himalayas, that glorious region of mountain, forest, cool airs and falling waters. A journey of five hundred miles in that gharrie was before me, but so great is the influence of the mind even on a worn out body that with my back on Cawnpore I felt that I had something left to hope and to live for...' Happily Colonel Buchanan not only survived the journey, but made a complete recovery and was later able, in the company of several fellow officers, to visit the source of the Ganges while on leave, and a year later tried to get into Tibet, much to the annoyance of the Chinese Border Guard. But what a grim reminder of the cost of the campaign for many others who now lie in Cawnpore's cantonment cemeteries.

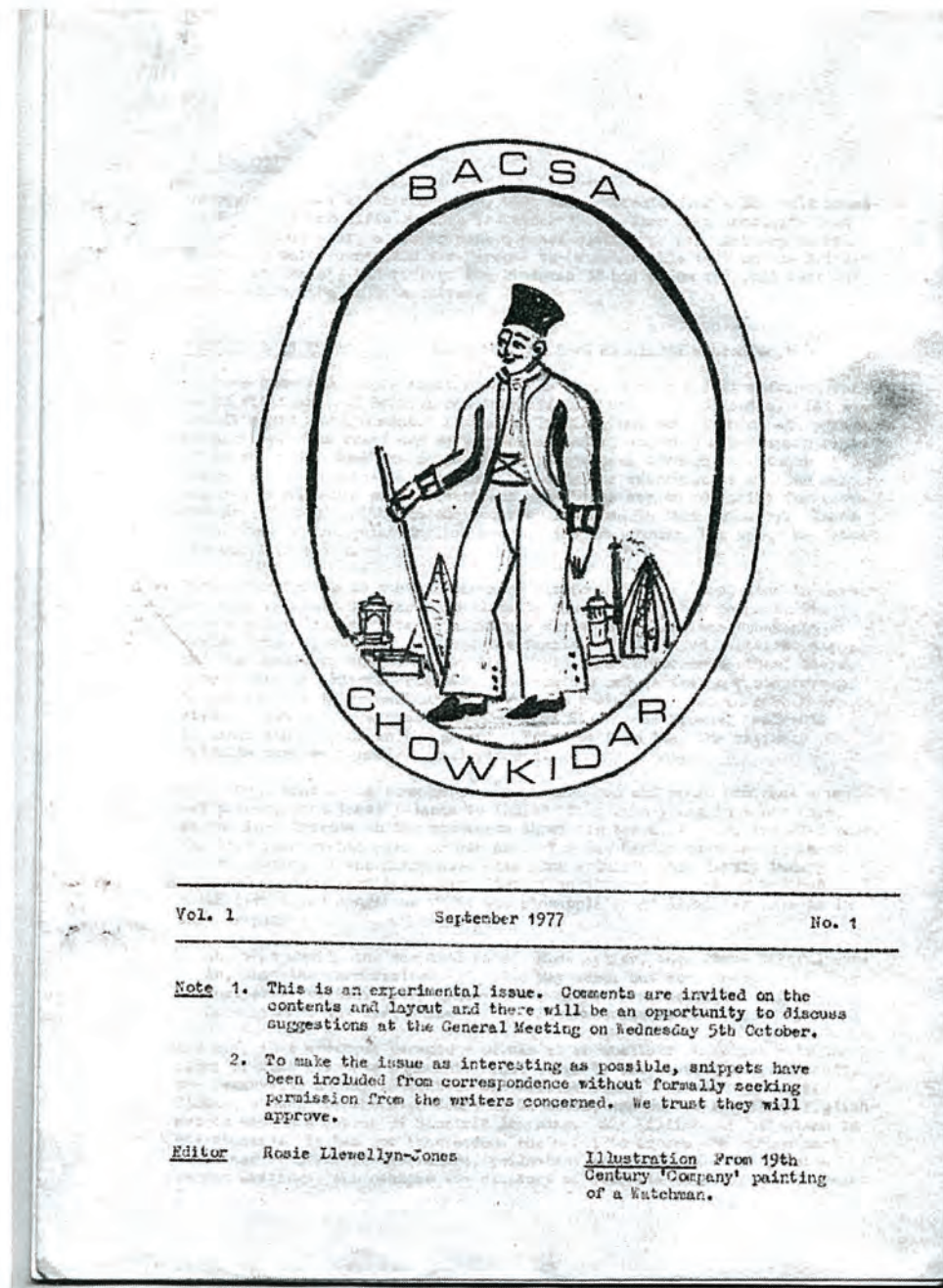
'Is BACSA aware of a small British cemetery by the ruins of a small Anglican church in Matheran in Maharashtra?' was the intriguing question posed by Tim Tucker earlier this year. 'I found it buried in bushes about 27 years ago, but failed to refind it two years ago. The ruins of this church (St Paul's Church) are at the highest point in Matheran, and the graves were situated beneath the small bluff above the township.' BACSA does in fact have a file on this little cemetery, but we asked Mr Tucker for further information. He told us: 'When I first went to Matheran at the end of 1960, the church was roofed, and the doors were still openable. There was even a roof over the main gate way, so that worshippers could dismount from the carriage away from the sun or rain. In a lean-to built at the side of the church I found an empty child's coffin. Since then the decline has been steady and inexorable. The roofs have collapsed and the jungle is taking over. In 1979, when I first came across the graves, they were buried under trees, but some of the inscriptions were readable. As Matheran was listed as a hill sanitarium, it is surprising I found so few graves.' The site was first 'discovered' for the British by Hugh Poyntz Malet, the then district collector of Thane district in May 1850. 'After the building of the fascinating little railway, it became a favourite of the British. Cars are still forbidden at the top and the place retains a unique charm. Hotels with names like Rugby, Royal and Ascot are a reminder of times when the British lodged there in droves, refusing admittance to non-Europeans. Parsis built spacious holiday bungalows there, but these are falling into disrepair too. Matheran hill rises 2,000 feet from the baking Maharashtra plains, is covered in trees and beautifully cool. It attracts more than its fair share of monsoon downpours. It is infamous for its monkeys, but the honey you get there from the jambur trees is the most lovely I have ever tasted.' No wonder the British prized their hill stations, but how sad that the names of those buried in this delightful spot are today probably lost to us forever.

BACSA member Christopher Corbett has recently sent in a photograph of a grave in what must be one of the more remote spots on earth. The Cocos Keeling Islands lie in the Indian Ocean, about half way between Sri Lanka and Australia. The territory, which now belongs to Australia, consists of many little islands, one of the smallest of

which is called Home Island. Here is a tiny cemetery, unused for years, and containing only four graves. One of them is that of John Hanron, and his connection to South Asia is that he was born at Peshawar, India on 25 November 1883. He died in the Cocos Islands on 22 February 1930. As the name implies, the islands are known only for the production of coconut, and the plantations were worked by slaves in the early part of the nineteenth century. One wonders what John Hanron was doing there, to find death in such a lonely outpost.

The funeral of Lieutenant General Sir James Charlemagne Dormer in 1893 was an elaborate and solemn occasion, as befitted a man who had taken part in many of the significant battles of the 19th century. He had fought in Awadh during the Indian Mutiny, had helped to capture the Taku Forts in China and enter Peking, and had been honoured for his gallantry at Tel-el-Kebir, in the 1882 battle, fighting against disaffected Egyptian officers. General Dormer had retired to Ootacamund, popularly known as Ooty, and it was here that he died in May 1893, following the amputation of an injured toe. Unusually, his body lay in state for a short time at his residence, Woodside, and a large number of people came to pay their respects. 'The face was quite peaceful' reported the local newspaper, 'the hands were crossed and a rosary was in them. The foot of the bed was covered with wreaths of lilies and other white flowers. At the foot stood a small table, bearing the crucifix and tapers with small vases of white flowers. On a table behind lay his helmet, his sword beside it. On the one side of the mantelpiece stood a photograph of the dead Chief, taken on 6th of April last in all the vigour of his strength. Near it a water-colour of Lady Dormer.' (The Dormers were an ancient Catholic family from Warwickshire.)

At 2.00 pm the funeral cortege started from the house and a final salute of gunfire was heard at regular intervals. The band of the Royal Scots played the *Dead March* and 'numerous officers in the station, as well as men from Wellington fell in behind the chief mourners and were followed by a number of civilians and private residents. On the coffin, draped in the Union Jack, were placed the sword and helmet', while behind came the General's favourite horse, 'in full trappings with the boots reversed in the stirrups...' a sign of mourning peculiar to military funerals, where the 'caparisoned horse' as it is called, symbolises that the deceased will ride no more. Having blessed the coffin at the gates of the church, the Bishop and others led the way back, singing the *Miserere*. 'The service concluded, and after the Bishop had sprinkled the coffin with holy water and thrown incense on it, the *Libera me* was chanted and the coffin was once more taken up, to be finally placed in its last resting place.' The grave is near the western wall of the most westerly point of the cemetery and is in remarkably good condition. (see page 92) BACSA member Christopher Penn, who sent this report to us, has a particular interest in Ooty, because it was here that his photographer ancestor A.W.T. Penn worked for many years, and it was this Penn who had taken the photograph of General Dormer, which is referred to in the account above.



The cover of the first Chowkidar 'an experimental issue', published in September 1977. It contained six pages, but no illustrations. (BACSA Collection)



*above – tomb of Captain Francis Light in the Old Protestant Cemetery, Penang
(see page 83)*

below – newly restored gates at the same cemetery (2007)



above – tomb of Colonel John Monckton Coombs at Madras (see page 84)

below – the newly restored Rohilla War Memorial at Bhitaura (see page 85)





above: retired officer Colonel Hawes at the grave of General Dormer, Ootacamund (see page 88)

below: the lonely grave of Henry (Harry) Inglis at Cherrapunji (see page 93)



The last *Chowkidar* published a review of the biography of Frederick Wilson, (1816-1883) better known to the British as Pahari Wilson, and to the locals as 'Hulson Sahib'. BACSA member Charles Allen, commenting on Wilson, rightly describes him as an 'ecological disaster' for his rapacious deforestation of the hills. He was known as a 'real tyrant' among his neighbours, even as late as the 1970s, nearly a hundred years after his death. But one fact not previously known was the Kipling connection. Charles Allen has discovered that in the summer of 1888 Rudyard Kipling spent a week with friends in Mussoorie and there heard the Wilson story, probably from Frederick's own son Charles, at the Hotel Charleville. Almost immediately afterwards Kipling started work on one of his best known novels *The Man who would be King* set in Kafiristan, but drawing on a number of key elements in the Wilson story of a man of unbridled and unscrupulous ambition. (Charles Allen's eagerly awaited biography *Kipling Sahib* will be reviewed in our next issue.)

CAN YOU HELP?

Last autumn we published a query from BACSA member Anne-Charlotte Inglis about her distinguished family, whose first member in India was George Inglis, a merchant. Although a photograph exists of the now vanished memorial in Sylhet to this enterprising man, the condition of the grave of his only son, Henry Inglis, buried at Cherrapunji, was unknown. It was not even certain if the grave still existed. Because it is from Henry that Anne-Charlotte Inglis is descended, she was particularly keen to learn more about him and his wife Sophia, the daughter of the local Political Agent. On reading our short article, BACSA member Peter Barlett contacted an old friend, Alan Wood, who lives in Shillong, who replied with the following good news at the end of February: 'Yesterday I went to Cherra[punji] and was told by the locals that this is the grave of sahib Henry (or Harry as they pronounce it). All inscriptions have disappeared. It is located about 50 yards from the ruins of the bungalow. There is only one grave so Sophia must have been interred in the same. The grave is still intact and in good condition. I am trying to find some older people who would know more about Henry Inglis.' Mr Wood sent a poignant photograph of a large rectangular tomb of forbidding grey stone, standing in an isolated tract of land. (see page 92) Cherrapunji, in the north-eastern Indian state of Meghalaya, has the distinction of being one of the wettest places on earth, with an annual rainfall of 450 inches. The ruins of the Inglis bungalow referred to lie within a large compound, about an acre in size. All that remains is part of the boundary wall, and broken bricks and stones.

Henry Inglis died in London, having expressed a wish to be buried at Cherrapunji, and unusually, in spite of what must have been logistical difficulties, this was done, Sophia escorting his embalmed body to India. Sophia subsequently remarried, and on her own death, her son took her body home to be buried beside that of her first husband.

Two infant children, Edwin Inglis (d. 1847?) and Douglas Inglis (d.1854) are recorded as being buried here too, in what is called the Mission Compound. (See BACSA book *Assam & North-East India: Christian Cemeteries and Memorials 1783-2003* by Eileen Hewson, page 108.) It may be that this devotion to their adopted homeland by the Inglis family touched the villagers so deeply that they are still able to point out the grave after well over a century. But there is an intriguing backstory too. Henry, always known locally as Harry, was actually the Assistant to the Political Agent, Major General Frederick Lister, his wife's father. The General is said to have oppressed the local Khasi people, and this aroused the wrath of Thomas Jones, the Welsh missionary who championed the Khasi and set up a school for their children. The two men, Jones and Inglis, fell out, and court cases ensued, which ended in the missionary fleeing for his life to Calcutta, where he died in 1849. So perhaps there is an element of fear, even today, in the villagers' collective memory of Harry Inglis? Certainly, the lonely tomb near the ruined bungalow strikes one as a particularly bleak monument. Alan Wood has also found that a local friend of his, Professor David Syiemlieh, a historian at the University of Shillong, has been researching the life of Henry Inglis, so this may not be the end of the story.

The story of Lola Montez, the glamorous courtesan who became the mistress of King Ludwig I of Bavaria is well known, and we are reminded of it by a correspondent from Germany, Herr Henning Hoffmann. In fact, Lola was responsible for the downfall of the King, who was toppled from the throne in 1848 in the so-called Year of Revolution in Europe. All very interesting, you might say, but what has this to do with cemeteries in India? It is no secret that the young Elizabeth Rosanna Gilbert, who later became Lola Montez, had Indian connections. She was described by Emily Eden, who met her in Simla, as 'a pretty little thing'. This was before Elizabeth had reinvented herself as a flamboyant dancer of exotic origins, claiming descent through her mother from an old Spanish noble family. In fact the truth was far more prosaic. She was the only child of Ensign Edward Gilbert and Eliza Oliver, the daughter of Charles Oliver MP, a wealthy man from Limerick in Ireland. The couple had married in 1820. Ensign Gilbert travelled to India early in 1823, with his wife and little daughter, Elizabeth, who had been born in Ireland two years earlier. Arriving at Calcutta in July, Ensign Gilbert left shortly afterwards to join his new regiment, the 44th Foot, who were stationed at the Dinapore cantonment in Bihar. Here, sadly, he died on 22nd September, aged only twenty-six. He was buried in Cemetery No. 2 at Dinapore (there are three old cemeteries here), and the inscription on his grave reads: 'Sacred to the Memory of Ensign Edward Gilbert H.M. 44th Regt. who departed this life the 22nd of September, 1823, Aged 26 Years. This monument is erected by a Friend [at] Dinapore' Ensign Gilbert's wife and daughter may have decided to stay in Calcutta, otherwise surely Eliza would have had her husband's tombstone inscribed.

As was the custom, the young widow was soon remarried within the year to an officer, Lieutenant Patrick Craigie, and Elizabeth was sent back to Britain for her education. At the early age of sixteen Elizabeth, like her mother, married a Lieutenant, one Thomas James, who was posted to Calcutta with his new wife. This led to Elizabeth making her last appearance on the Indian scene, before her transformation. There are detailed accounts of her life as Lola Montez, including the most recent biography by Bruce Seymour, published in 1996, but our interest and that of Henning Hoffmann is with the Dinapore grave. Does it still exist, he wants to know. At present BACSA has no local contact in the Dinapore area, so perhaps someone there, or a visitor, could answer this question.

The German involvement in India was not as great as that of other European countries, so we were particularly interested in the story of Major John Christian Francke, a native of Saxony, who died at Trichinopoly in 1833. Major Francke is a mysterious character as Sue Winch, who is married to one of the Major's descendants, is the first to acknowledge. He was born in 1755 with the surname Rudolph but later adopted the pseudonym Francke. Details of his German family are unknown, as are the reasons for his arrival in England. A rare memoir of his life, now in the British Library, London, relates that Francke 'came into England much against his own will and inclination, having no knowledge of the language where still more unlucky circumstances made it necessary for him to enlist as a private Soldier into the Service of the Honorable East India Company which he did at Basingstock [sic] in the month of November 1775. His companion unwilling to quit him was to his great joy and comfort likewise enlisted in the same Service. Soon afterwards he was sent on board the Camden East Indiaman and arrived at Madras in June 1776. He was then drafted into the Artillery along with the young man his companion, Major Horne then Commanding.' He was, states the author of the Memoir, 'a Saxon by birth, a Russian by education, and an Englishman by chance'. Something seems to have gone wrong a couple of years after his arrival in India, and he was 'removed' from his post in February 1778, without learning 'of the cause of his removal, except what idle reports stated, to which he gave no credit, and himself never made enquiry, being still rather backward in the knowledge of English Language'.

In spite of this set-back, John Francke rose to the rank of Major in the Company's Army. His service during the siege of Seringapatam in 1779 earned him praise from Sir Arthur Wellesley, the future Duke of Wellington, who was 'much pleased' with the way in which Francke had been able to organise the passage of the heavy guns, and carriages, drawn by cattle which of course had to be fed and watered on the march. Francke served the Company's Army for another twenty years until he was invalided out in 1819 and retired to Trichinopoly. During this time he married a woman named Annatschy, who was possibly Russian, and acquired two Indian mistresses, Paussiah and Allomayla.

At least fifteen children were born to him from these three women. At his death in 1833 he was financially broke, and left little in his Will except a diamond ring to his eldest son, although he comes across, writes Sue Winch as 'a cheerful old man, broke but happy'. (The Memoir was penned after his death by Lieutenant Henry Harriott, and addressed to the Officers of the Madras Artillery, to raise funds for Francke's large family.) The reason he chose Trichinopoly may be because a small German community was living there, made up of missionaries, who had included the celebrated Christian Friedrich Schwartz, a Prussian born Protestant. But this is speculation. All we can say today is that there are a small number of now unnamed German graves at the Trichinopoly Fort in the Christ Church cemetery and that the adventurous Major lies among them, with three of his daughters. Any further information on the life of Major Francke, and his grave and the inscription on it, would be appreciated.

Mrs C. Reeves is in search of information about her late relative William Percy Newth Handover, who died near Seremban (Malaysia) in 1924. She believes that 'time and wars have destroyed any records that may have been useful'. William Percy Newth was born in Paddington in 1889, but was taken into the Handover family at an early age, possibly as the result of a fire in his family home. By the age of twenty-one he had already taken part in a plant-hunting expedition to Venezuela and had sent samples of over 600 dwarf coconuts to a nursery in Florida. William was studying Botany at the Royal College of Science, part of Imperial College, London. He was evidently an ambitious young man and had applied to the Colonial Office, which initially offered him an agricultural post in Uganda, but this was withdrawn when a medical examination showed him to be suffering from the effects of Trinidad 'malaria', picked up on his travels. By 1924 William was working for the Dunlop Corporation in Port Dickson, no doubt involved in the lucrative rubber producing trade. It was here, at the early age of thirty-four, that he died. His body does not seem to have been taken to Seremban, about twenty miles away, and his burial place is uncertain. Dunlop's do not hold any personnel records from this period. BACSA Area Rep for Malaysia, Michael Rawlinson, has produced several useful leads for Mrs Reeves, and any reader who may be able to help is invited to contact the Secretary.

Another story of an early death abroad and the difficulty of getting information from foreign organisations comes from Jonathan Stones. His grandfather, Arthur Beaumaris Clarke was Principal of Baroda College from about 1905 to 1919. Very little information is available, apart from the fact that Principal Clarke was involved in discussions about the College becoming a University, which it eventually did. Where was Arthur Clarke buried following his death in the early 1920s? Probably in St James's cemetery, Baroda, although whether the grave exists today is not known. Jonathan Stones would welcome any information because he would like to visit the site. The present day University of Baroda has not responded to his emails or letter.

BACSA member Pauline McGreggor Currien visited Anjengo in Kerala, south India earlier this year. She spent quite a lot of time in the fort there, which was built for the East India Company by John Brabourne. Appointed Governor or Chief of the Anjengo factory in November 1693, Brabourne lost no time in erecting a simple fort-house of timber covered with palm leaves, which the Council at Bombay pointed out was an obvious fire risk. A more substantial brick house containing a hall for the Company's six servants was ordered to be built, with specific instructions that the fort was to have a 'necessary house' (a lavatory) over the fort walls. Apparently since Brabourne's building had not contained this essential item the fort gate had been left open all night so people could wander out to relieve themselves. The Bombay Council, when it found out, thought that this 'irregularity may prove of so pernicious consequence as the loss of that garrison, especially in a country where they are surrounded with such treacherous people as the Natives and the Dutch'. Dangerous times indeed and Anjengo fort did resist a number of attempts at capture and the takeover of its valuable trade in pepper and cotton cloth.

A number of early graves remain in the fort area, although today the only legible inscription, reports Pauline McGreggor Currien, is to the Governor John Brabourne and his wife Deborah, who died in 1695. But here is a mystery. According to BACSA records, and other sources, the earliest burial at the fort was in 1704. It was indeed of John Brabourne's wife, and it was her death that was given as the reason for his leaving Anjengo and his post as Governor. Is it possible he was married twice, one wonders, and did he subsequently return to Anjengo? The illustrious name of Brabourne in India is of course well known and it would be good to learn more about the first of the family to venture East.

TRIBUTE TO ROSEMARIE WILKINSON 1928 - 2007

Many BACSA members will know by now of the passing of Rosemarie Wilkinson, who died on 3 April, after suffering ill-health for some years. Rosemarie's work in supporting BACSA cannot be over-estimated and it is true to say that we would not be the same organisation today if she had not been there to guide us with inspired advice, practical support and her sheer hard work. Rosemarie attended every BACSA meeting until near the end.

She was a familiar figure, first at various meeting places, then at the Commonwealth Institute, where we met for many years, and latterly at St Columba's Church Hall. Whenever a small crisis seemed likely to erupt, or a pressing question needed answering, Rosemarie was always there, calm and helpful. Those coming new to BACSA got a warm welcome, and were often introduced immediately to another member who would look after them while they found their feet.



Rosemarie Wilkinson

Those who met Rosemarie only at meetings possibly did not realise the immense amount of work she did behind the scenes for BACSA. She was both Membership Secretary and Deputy Treasurer for many years, and 'kept the books' long before computers became essential tools in book-keeping. When the twice yearly BACSA mailing was still being done in-house, it was Rosemarie who was responsible for sending it all out, and for working out the different postage rates. Almost to the end, her nimble fingers were tying up the packages of new and secondhand books sent all over the world. The logo on the BACSA letterhead, and on the front of this and every other *Chowkidar*, was Rosemarie's work. When we were looking for a suitable illustration for a chowkidar, or Indian watchman, she produced a mica drawing and copied it, carefully adding a selection of tombs in the background. Rosemarie also drew the maps for many of BACSA's books and designed the memorable covers.

In 1986 Rosemarie was interviewed by BACSA member Cynthia Langdon-Davies, for a special edition of *Chowkidar*, marking its first ten years. This is probably the only interview that Rosemarie ever gave, not being a person to court publicity. Cynthia wrote then in admiration of Rosemarie's many and varied talents: 'Since 1954 she has been a pillar of the Church of England Children's Society and is now Chairman of the Social Work Committee with a budget of £8 million, as well as being on the Council and the Finance Committee.....Rosemarie also does tapestry, upholstery and furniture restoration professionally for friends. She *makes* time for golf.' To this should be added that she was an excellent cook and hostess, with the knack of bringing even the shyest person into the conversation and making them feel at ease.

Rosemarie's Raj credentials were impeccable. Her father was Captain Percy John Warren McClenaghan of the 5/8th Punjab Regiment (Burma). Her paternal grandfather was the Venerable Henry St George McClenaghan, one time Rector of St Peter's Parish Church, Killaghtee, Dunkineely, Co. Donegal and Archdeacon of Letterkenny in Ireland. A brass plaque to her father in this church records that he was born on 6 May 1898 and 'killed at Lahore 9th December 1930 by an Indian Sepoy who ran amok.' During World War One Captain McClenaghan was awarded the Military Cross for an action in Palestine, where 'he set a very fine example to his men'. He would have been proud of his daughter, who was left fatherless at the age of two years old.

Rosemarie's loss is a great loss to BACSA, but it is also of course a greater loss to her family. Her husband Theon, their son Wynyard and daughter-in-law Mary-Louise, know that they have the continuing sympathy and prayers of BACSA members. Rosemarie was our own 'burra mem', a woman who led by example. (RLJ)

NOTICES

'Exploring the Indian Mutiny – The Final Act' is the title of another exciting tour to India arranged by Palanquin Travels for Spring 2008. The mutiny lasted well into 1858 and saw the trial of the King of Delhi, Bahadur Shah Zafar, the recapture of Lucknow, and the death of Laxmibai, the Rani of Jhansi. These historic events will be remembered exactly 150 years on. For details of the tour, which is led by the BACSA Secretary, please contact Palanquin on 0207 436 7475, or write to 92-93 Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3PS. The website is www.palanquintravels.com

BOOKS BY BACSA MEMBERS

The Great Uprising in India 1857-58: Untold Stories, Indian and British Rosie Llewellyn-Jones

The events of 1857-8, known in old British textbooks as the Indian Mutiny and in modern Indian ones as the First War of Independence, have spawned a voluminous literature, the bibliography of which is now itself a book. To straightforward histories can be added works of fiction ranging from G.A. Henty to J.G. Farrell, and films of which perhaps the most recent is the Bollywood blockbuster 'Ballad of Mangal Pandey'. This year's anniversary has greatly added to this mountain of publications, and more is no doubt still to come.

So, is there anything new to be said? Rosie Llewellyn Jones's latest work convincingly shows that there is. The key here is in the sub-title. The author is not a military historian and makes no attempt to follow in detail the marches and counter-marches of the troops or to re-enact events which are already very well-known. What she has done, after setting the scene for north India in 1857, is to find aspects of the story, many drawn from Indian sources, which have either eluded previous historians or which, like the murder of Major Burton, the Political Agent in Kotah, have been sidelined because they do not greatly impinge on the main action. These she presents with her customary lucidity of style, depth of scholarship and command of detail.

Rosie Llewellyn Jones is best known as an authority on Lucknow, and Lucknow was both one of the flashpoints of the uprising and its main focus after the recapture of Delhi. Most of us were brought up on stories of the siege of the Residency, which is up there with Rorke's Drift and the Peking Legation as one of the action high points of the Imperial story. Tapping both Indian and British sources, this book is excellent at putting the siege into its local context, starting with a perceptive analysis of the disruption and multi-layered discontent caused by the British annexation of Awadh (Oudh). The story is followed through to its climax and indeed well beyond, though it must be said that in this section a map of Lucknow would have been helpful to the reader.

Karl Marx, discussing the uprising in his little known capacity as the London correspondent of the *New York Daily Tribune*, wrote that 'It would be an unmitigated mistake to suppose that all the cruelty is on the side of the sepoy and all the milk of human kindness flows on the side of the English.' Sadly, few historians can disagree. Mutinies were nothing new, but the savagery of this one, the breach of solemn promises of safe conduct, and above all the slaughter in cold blood of women and children, inspired a reaction of unprecedented ferocity. Faced with a choice between an eye for an eye and turning the other cheek, devout Victorian Christians

unhesitatingly opted for the former, and large numbers of totally innocent people died as a result. Military commanders such as Neill and Hodson who saw themselves as avenging angels were eulogised, while the Governor General, who rashly suggested that a distinction should be drawn between the mutinous regiments which had killed and those which had not, was calumnised as 'Clemency Canning'. But even Canning believed in symbolic punishments, and he was only with difficulty dissuaded from demolishing the Red Fort and Jama Masjid in Delhi, the latter to be replaced with a cathedral.

Of course, not all government officials were hell-bent on revenge. Allan Octavian Hume, Collector at Etawah, was energetic in suppressing the mutiny in his area but ensured that captured mutinous sepoys got a fair trial. In later life he was to be the founder of the Indian National Congress. One chapter investigates the role of the Company's prize agents in the aftermath of the uprising, another largely neglected area. Finally, as befits an author with a BACSA pedigree, there is a chapter devoted to the memorials to the conflict, ranging from the Cawnpore Well to the ubiquitous equestrian statues to India's Boadicea, Lakshmi Bai the Rani of Jhansi. This book is a good read, and even those already steeped in the subject will find a lot to interest them. (HCQB)

2007 Boydell Press ISBN: 9781843833048 £30.00 pp264

My Forty Years in India Fred Bremner

Fred Bremner was born in Scotland in 1863. He worked briefly in his father's studio in Banff. Going out to India in 1882 he was for seven years an apprentice photographer with his brother-in-law G.W. Lawrie, of Lawrie & Co. at Lucknow and Nainital. He went on to establish his own studio, first in Karachi, then Quetta, and later in Lahore, before finally settling in 1910 in Simla, the summer capital of British India where he stayed until he retired to Scotland in 1922, dying twenty years later. Initially, when photographing on his own behalf, in order to ensure an income, he concentrated on producing regimental albums for British Army units, and also *Types of the Indian Army* (1895) before diversifying. He was one of the very few British photographers of the period to leave any written record of their years in India. This brief but fascinating autobiography was written in 1940 at his family members' request, long after his final return to Scotland. Originally produced privately for his own family and friends, it is now published for the first time by Hugh Ashley Rayner, from a rare original copy owned by Brij Sharma, the noted photo-historian.

On the one hand we earlier have had Field Marshal Lord Frederick Roberts *Forty One Years in India*, and thereafter in this case *My Forty Years in India* by Fred Bremner. While there were mighty armies at the former's command, the

achievements of the latter seemingly ordinary person, with no armaments to hand but with his extraordinary powers of visual observation and acuity of eye, his camera being his only weapon, are astonishing. The 21 black and white photographs reproduced are both acute and impressive, when one recalls the early cameras and working conditions of that era. Bremner remains one of the pre-eminent photographers of the British in India covering the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century, encompassing landscapes, historical monuments and personalities. This is a rare cameo, beautifully and lovingly produced as are all Pagoda Tree publications. The pathos of the concluding quatrain mirrors the achievements of this very ordinary man and his extraordinary work: 'What is life? A fleeting vision,/ Just a dream and nothing more,/ Just a dream that will soon vanish/ Ere we reach the other shore.' Unhesitatingly recommended. (SLM)

2007 Pagoda Tree Press, 4 Malvern Buildings, Fairfield Park, Bath BA1 6JX ISBN13 978 1904289-07-4 £14.00 plus 70pence p&p UK pp70

Digboi War Cemetery, Assam India Eileen Hewson

A collection of 200 plus memorials from written records and surveys of the fatalities on the Indo-Burma border during World War II with some biographical details of the deceased. This book, and the one below, complete the trilogy of books on Assam. (The first book, published by BACSA in 2005 is *Assam & North-East India: Christian Cemeteries and Memorials 1783-2003*.) Eileen Hewson has travelled throughout the North-Eastern state of Assam, recording the memorial inscriptions found in isolated graveyards, tea estates, hospitals and churches. Digboi, with its strategic position near the Burmese border, meant it was used as a supply base during World War II. It was also an escape route for refugees fleeing the Japanese invasion. Following an earthquake in 1950, the Digboi cemetery was relocated to its present site, and several graves from other parts of Assam brought here too. The booklet includes the names of Indians serving with the British forces, and a few foreign nationals.

2007 Kabristan Archives, 19 Foxleigh Grove, Wem, Shropshire SY4 5BS. tel: 01939 234061. ISBN 978-1-906276-04-1 £4.50 & 60p postage (UK) pp29

Guwahati War Cemetery, Assam India Eileen Hewson

A collection of 500 plus memorials from written records and surveys of the fatalities on the Indo-Burma border during World War II with some biographical details of the deceased.

2007 Kabristan Archives 19 Foxleigh Grove, Wem, Shropshire SY4 5BS. tel: 01939 234061. ISBN 978-1-906276-05-8 £4.50 & 60p postage (UK) pp54

'Just My Bill' Wilfrid Sworder 1894-1930 A Biography John Sworder

Wilfrid (Bill) was born into a family of Hertfordshire yeomen fanners established over many generations. But his mother and her eight siblings were born in India to a General of the Madras Cavalry, some of whom also served in the ICS and the Judiciary. Bill was denied his first choice of career, the Indian Police, by the Kaiser's war. This he miraculously survived although continuously in France or Flanders from May 1915 to the Armistice, serving in the Royal Artillery. Both as Forward Observation Officer, and, aged 23, commanding a Battery, he was awarded the Military Cross. Post-war he moved from BAOR to spend three years with the West African Frontier Force, then six years in North West India. He died in a fall from his horse, racing. His devastated widow, aged 23, came home with an infant aged one year and another (the author) aged three months.

This is a lovingly observed tribute from a son who did not know his father. It is well illustrated with photographs, maps and family trees. Although not written by a professional writer, and more in the way of a family history, it is illuminating about life in the East in the early part of the last century. Recommended.

2006 John Sworder, Thorpe House, Fordcombe, Kent TN3 0SH No ISBN £8.50 including p&p from the author. pp128

BOOKS BY NON-MEMBERS THAT WILL INTEREST READERS

Remembered: The History of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Julie Summers

This commemorative volume is the history of the Commonwealth (formerly Imperial) War Graves Commission (CWGC) published on the occasion of its ninetieth anniversary, having been founded by the visionary Sir Fabian Ware, and established by Royal Charter, in 1917. The CWGC honours 1,700,000 men and women of the Commonwealth Forces who died in the two World Wars. Its guiding principle has been equality of treatment for all the war dead of these two wars, irrespective of military or civilian rank, country or creed.

Since its inception in 1917 the CWGC has constructed more than 2,500 cemeteries and plots, and today maintains graves and memorials in some 23,000 locations in over 150 countries, including Kohima and Imphal in north-east India, and Singapore and Hong Kong in South-East Asia. *Remembered* illuminates the CWGC's work not only in commemorating the war dead, but also in preserving some of the most important heritage sites connected with the two world wars. Drawing on archival material and reminiscences and anecdotes, Summers, a writer and historian, traces the history of this remarkable organization.

She is also the author of *Fearless on Everest: the Quest for Sandy Irvine* (2000); *The Shackleton Voyages: a Pictorial Anthology of the Polar Explorer and Edwardian Hero* (2002); and *The Colonel of Tamarkan: Philip Toosey and the Bridge on the River Kwai* (2005). She encompasses the outstanding contributions made to the work of the CWGC by such prominent personalities as Rudyard Kipling, its first literary advisor, and whose son is one of the World War One dead commemorated by the Commission, as also the renowned architects Edwin Lutyens, Reginald Blomfield and Herbert Baker. The evocative images by Brian Harris, an award-winning photographer, provide a moving tribute to the servicemen and servicewomen commemorated in the Commission's cemeteries and memorials around the world, some in isolation, some virtual cities of the dead. The Preface by Ian Hislop is poignant. This is the first, brilliantly produced, major illustrated history of the CWGC for forty years, reminding us of the sacrifice made by so many, as also the astonishing relevance of the CWGC in preserving their memory. (The profits from this publication will go towards the work of the CWGC.) (SLM)

2007 Merrell Publishers Ltd ISBN 978 1 8589 4374 9 £29.95 pp191

After Ambassadors, Before Dukes KRN Swamy

This is a very readable book, splendidly produced, with some enchanting illustrations. The author's enthusiasm for his subject is always infectious, with the same brilliant results as in his earlier publications, reviewed in *Chowkidar*. As he indicates, this work is a collection of 51 weekly features on India's former Maharajas that he has contributed to various Indian and international publications since 1980. His major regret is that his forty-year-old collection of archival material collected from libraries all over the world, including the British Library, Library of the US Congress and the National Archives of India, as also of newspaper clippings since 1947, was irretrievably lost in the heavy rains in Bombay in June 1980. In his indomitable way, he has battled on to produce this fascinating work. The subjects of some of his chapters are probably already well-known to many readers, but nevertheless are still educative, e.g. 'Sardar Patel and the Maharajas', 'Nehru and the Maharajas', 'The Mahatma and the Maharajas', 'Jinnah and the Maharajas', and 'Indira Gandhi and the Maharajas'. All the chapters attract intellectual curiosity, some more titillating than others, e.g. 'The Contrary Maharajas', 'Elveden – the British Palace of the last King of Punjab', and 'The Most Flamboyant Maharani'. The illustrations of the jewellery of the Maharajas are scintillating, e.g. 'A gem – studded military uniform of the Maharaja of Indore', 'The Pearl Carpet of Baroda', and 'The Timur Ruby of Maharaja Ranjit Singh'. An unputdownable read. (SLM)

2006 A Writers Workshop Greybird Book ISBN 81 8157 496 6 £20.00 plus £2.50 p&p pp267

The Arab Chest Sheila Unwin

A beautiful lacquer screen, made in Japan in the late 16th century shows the arrival of a Portuguese caravel, a small sailing ship, at the port of Nagasaki. Apart from the curiosity of seeing these unlikely figures, the Portuguese sailors, with their ruffs, tall hats and padded breeches in Japan, there is an object of great interest on the quayside, which has just been unloaded. It is a wooden chest, on small legs, with an elaborate brass hasp, carrying handles at the sides and circular decorative mounts on the panels. It is, says the author of this fascinating book, a prototype of the Arab chest, once found all over the Indian Ocean, from the Gulf States to Zanzibar and the east coast of Africa. Perhaps surprisingly Sheila Unwin appears to be the first person to explore the history of these chests, which were once fairly common household objects. In a society which largely did without free-standing furniture like chairs and wardrobes, the chests were used for holding blankets, a bride's dowry, guns, and gold among other things. The wealthier the owner, the more elaborate the decoration on the chest.

The author's interest began in the late 1940s when she was living in Tanganyika, in fairly primitive conditions. She saw an Arab chest in a Dar-es-Salaam house, and determined to own one. In those days, she writes, Zanzibar was a good place to buy a good chest because they were brought there each year from the Gulf, in dhows. In what is now a vanished world, before oil money transformed the region, trade was carried on in pearls, spices, Chinese porcelain, gems, silk and much else. The chests were used as ballast and because they came from the area loosely defined as Arabia, they were known as Arab chests, but the name, says Unwin, 'more correctly denotes ownership rather than provenance'. In reality early chests were trade items collected by Arabs from the ports or areas on the west coast of India. And indeed, the names of the types of chest bear this out – the Bombay, the Surat (*sandhuq Suratī*), the Malabar, and the Shisham, probably made south of Bombay. Even the so-called Shiraz is based on a prototype from Surat. Teak was a favoured wood, bound with elaborate Islamic or Hindu-inspired brass corners, hinges and hasps. Copies were made locally, particularly in Zanzibar and along the east African coast but originals are recognized by their elaborate brass work, and, in the case of the Malabar chests, their florid carving.

Having traced the prototypes to India, the author then makes a convincing case for the original inspiration for the chests having come from Portugal, with some later Dutch influence. When the chests are placed on stands, and the stands contain integral drawers, the notion of the early modern cabinet on legs is realized. It evolved, in the West, into the chest of drawers, with a rising top, but remained at a lower level for Eastern customers, used to sitting on floor cushions and rugs. Fine linear carvings, copied by Indian craftsmen from 16th century Portuguese

originals confirm this theory. The constant factor on all chests are the side handles, for lifting. This is a highly original book, beautifully illustrated, whose material has come entirely from visual and oral sources. An examination of early European Wills of people who died in the East might have found written evidence, but perhaps that is another book. Highly recommended. (RLJ)

2006 Arabian Publishing Ltd ISBN 978 0 9544792 6 8 £25.00 pp134

Saturday's Child: A journey through an Indian childhood Daphne Economou

The subject of this autobiography was born and brought up in Madras where her little step-sister is buried. Her Greek father worked for the famous firm of Ralli Brothers. She continued her education in England and presently lives in Greece. She revisited her family house on the then Commander-in-Chief Road in Madras in 1973. This is not a conventional autobiography. It is a contemplative one, reflecting on her childhood in an exotic India a long time ago, both in prose and poetry. She hauntingly recalls the events, figures, feelings and traumas of her childhood, amidst the ambience of what is now a strange adult world.

It is essentially about the memories she is able to revive that today defy the ambit of time. She reveals her innermost feelings of that era, not withholding anything. There are poignant evocations after her 1973 revisit to India 'Trace of my footprint everywhere. In stone, in sand, in dust... For I have never been away.' Her introspection in recalling the world of her childhood is exceptional; her insights are remarkable. Her anguish at parting from people and places she loved is so compelling, that one almost weeps. Her recollections of wartime India make the book an historical commentary. The overriding postulation of this nostalgic book is as a celebration of love of the past, particularly of India. She bares her innermost sentiments of the fascinating India of her childhood with grace and joy. A memorable read, both heart-warming and heart-breaking. To quote just a few words: 'Could it be that Life is like a river continually changing, continually moving, yet always a river'. Her style is felicitous, almost metaphysical. The production is outstanding. Highly recommended. (The author has very generously donated part of the proceeds of this book to BACSA.) (SLM)

2007 Oceanida. Available from BACSA, 135 Burntwood Lane, London SW17 OAJ ISBN 978-960-410-454-3 £8.50, plus £1.00 p&p pp267

Rifles and Kukris – Delhi 1857 Christopher Wallace

Six regiments or battalions participated in the siege and recapture of Delhi in 1857 during the Indian Mutiny – the 52nd Light Infantry, the 60th (The King's Royal Rifle Corps), the 61st Regiment of Foot; the Sirmoor and Kumaon Battalions of Gurkha Regiments and the Guides Infantry. Lieutenant General Sir Christopher

Wallace's book is a straightforward military history of the waiting game played out on the Ridge overlooking the walled city of Delhi during the summer of 1857. The successful combined assault that began on 14 September led to the flight of the King of Delhi, Bahadur Shah Zafar and a highly significant boost for the British. Ironically it was the British themselves who, only a few years earlier, had reinforced three of the city's major defences, the Mori and Kashmir Gate bastions and the Water Bastion, when they had been in full control of the old Mughal capital. Now their engineers had to work out how to get back into the city which was being held by an estimated 40,000 armed sepoys. Collectively the British, Indian and Gurkha officers and men were known as the Delhi Field Force, and they numbered about 10,000, supported by another 2,500 men from Jind and Jammu. The British 60th Rifles and the Gurkha Sirmoor Battalion first met on the banks of the Hindun river at Ghaziabad, outside Delhi and immediately found other things in common apart from fighting the mutinous sepoys and their followers. 'We feel quite safe about the Goorkhas,' reported the Commissioner of Meerut, 'their grog-drinking propensities are a great bond with the British soldier.'

The British and East India Company Armies were caught singularly unprepared for the outbreak of mutiny on 10 May 1857 that began at Meerut. The Commander-in-Chief was on a summer break in Simla, and news of the uprising was brought by a horseman riding through the night from Ambala, where a frantic telegraph message had been received from Delhi. Although Meerut cantonment held a substantial garrison, there was a high proportion of new recruits with unbroken horses, who could not be expected to react as seasoned soldiers when something so unanticipated took place. There is a brief analysis of the causes of the Uprising, but the major part of this book is in diary form, focusing on the soldiers on the Ridge and their preparations for the assault. The characters of the officers and engineers are well drawn, often from their own words. One has to admire the Chief Engineer, Lieutenant Colonel Richard Baird Smith who although suffering from an attack of camp scurvy, which had filled his mouth with sores, 'shaken every joint in my body, and covered me all over with livid spots,' plus an ankle wound that he didn't have time to treat, still managed to draw up the plan of attack on Delhi. He confessed he was 'worn to a shadow by constant diarrhoea, and consumed as much opium, with as little effect, as would have done credit to my father-in-law'. (He was married to Thomas de Quincey's daughter.) On the other hand, Major General Archdale Wilson, commanding the Delhi Field Force, and escaping unscathed, comes across as a real Eeyore-like figure, continually complaining in letters to his wife. He wanted to withdraw from Delhi on the evening of 14 September against the wishes of all his officers. It was only the 'short but decisive' response from the injured and sick Baird Smith "'We *must* hold on" given in such a determined and uncompromising tone, that put an end to all discussion.'

As one would expect in a military history, the maps are excellent. The reader will not find here much from the Indian point of view, so this book should ideally be read in conjunction with *The Last Mughal* by William Dalrymple, to get a rounded picture of the siege. Proceeds from the book benefit The Royal Green Jackets Museum and the Gurkha Museum. Recommended. (RLJ)

2007 The Royal Green Jackets Museum Trust, Peninsula Barracks, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8TS £20 plus £3.50 p&p pp229

MISCELLANY

Congratulations to BACSA member Mrs Carla Contractor, who has worked tirelessly for years to get the tomb of Raja Ram Mohun Roy in Arnos Vale Cemetery, Bristol, properly restored. Built in the form of a *chhatra*, the tomb has been crumbling away for years and at one point was designated unsafe. The Mayor of Calcutta (Kolkata) visited the cemetery last year, and in turn invited Mrs Contractor to Calcutta earlier this year. Launching a restoration fund, to honour the man regarded as the father of the Bengal Renaissance, the Mayor received a single large donation which will pay for much needed repairs. A maintenance fund will also be set up, so the tomb will remain a fitting memorial to the Raja.

BACSA Area Reps – who are they and what do they do? The idea of volunteers based mainly in Britain, with a particular connection or interest in South Asia, began in the late 1980s. As the number of projects expanded, so did the need for people who would take on the job of liaising with local committees and individuals who were supervising repairs to cemetery walls, gatehouses, chowkidars' quarters and the tombs themselves, with grants from BACSA. If anyone has a special interest in an area not already covered, please let us know.

The current Area Reps are: Henry Brownrigg (Kerala, Madras, Tamil Nadu, Sri Lanka); Sue Farrington (Pakistan, Andamans); Marilyn Hywel-Jones (Bombay, Thana, Bandra, Belgaum, Punjab, Middle East, Aden); Valerie Robinson (Rajasthan, Gwalior, Shivpuri); Conrad & Jennifer Bailey (Bihar, Afghanistan); Robin Barnard (Bangalore, South Karnataka, Goa); William Brown (Poona, Kirkee); Sandy Lall (Madhya Pradesh); William Crawley (Haryana, Delhi suburbs); Dee Featherstone (Nilgiris & Wayanad); Jennifer Garwood (Calcutta); John Harding (Malacca); Alan Harfield (Indonesia & Singapore); Eileen Hewson (Himachal Pradesh, Kashmir including Leh, Assam); Sally Hofmann (Burma); Tom Inglis (Andhra Pradesh); Peter Leggatt (Bangladesh, West Bengal); Rosie Llewellyn-Jones (Lucknow); Ron McAdam (Faizabad); David Mahoney (Meerut, Uttarakhand Hill Stations, Hong Kong & China); Anne Maier (Gujarat including Surat); Michael Rawlinson (Malaysia); Malcolm Speirs (Moradabad); Robin Volkers (Mathura, Agra); Edwin Wilkes (Allahabad).

Notes to Members

When writing to the Secretary and expecting a reply, please enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

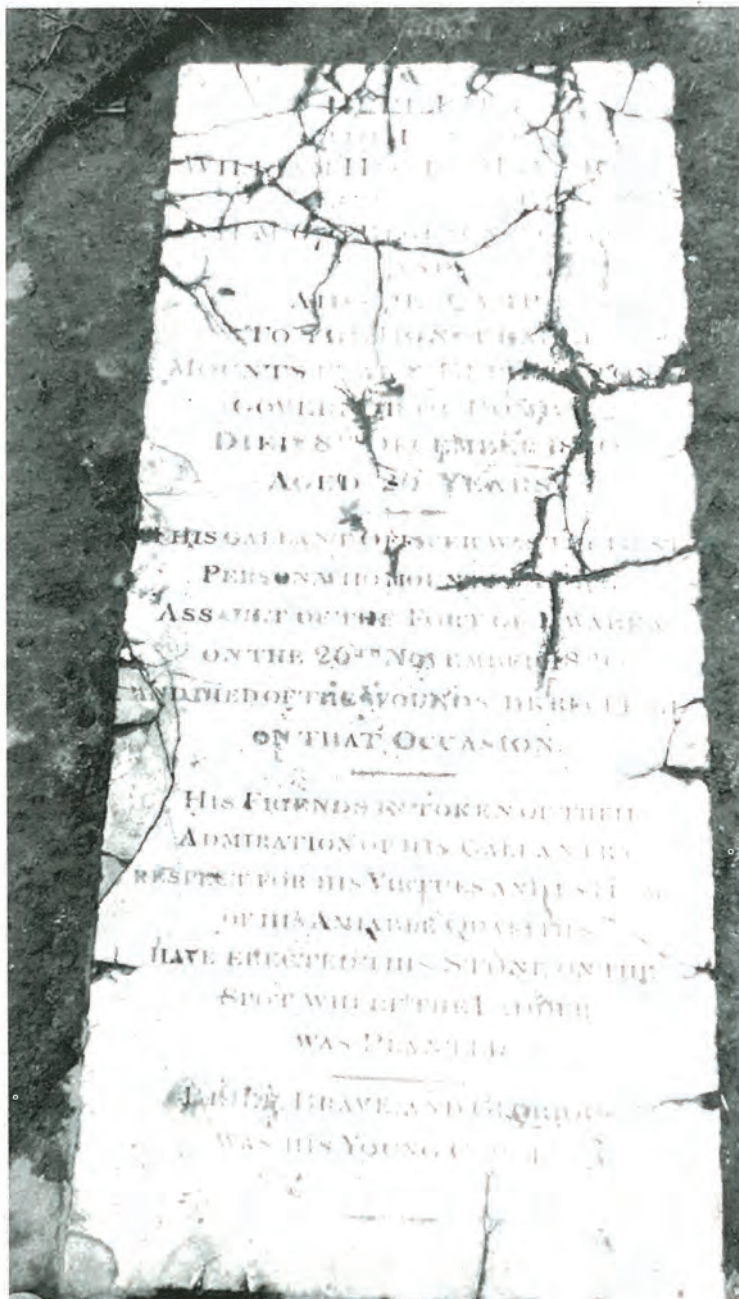
If wishing to contact a fellow-member whose address is not known to you, send the letter c/o Hon Secretary who will forward it unopened.

If planning any survey of cemetery MIs, either in this country or overseas, please check with the appropriate Area Representative or the Hon Secretary to find out if it has already been recorded. This is not to discourage the reporting of the occasional MI notice, which is always worth doing, but to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort.

***Books from India:** where prices are given in rupees, these books can be obtained from Mr Ram Advani, Bookseller, Mayfair Buildings, Hazratganj PO Box 154, Lucknow 226001, UP, India. Mr Advani will invoice BACSA members in sterling, adding £3.00 for registered airmail for a slim hardback, and £2.00 for a slim paperback. Sterling cheques should be made payable to Ram Advani. Catalogues and price lists will be sent on request. Email: radvanilko@gmail.com

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Designed and printed by Seagull Print Ltd Registered Charity No. 1003168
A not-for-profit organisation providing rehabilitation
and training for people recovering from mental health problems
Tel: 020 8944 7366 www.seagullprint.co.uk



The tomb of Lieutenant William Henry Marriot, who died on 8 December 1820 at Dwarka, Gujarat (see page 84)