

# Quarterly Newsletter



Welcome to the Autumn 2017 *HorsePower* Newsletter. The museum is currently winding down from a busy period over the school summer holidays. Since our last newsletter we've had many exciting events including a Battlefield tour, numerous group visits and much more!

#### **Battlefield Tour to Flanders**

The HorsePower Museum battlefield tour was planned to coincide with the centenary celebrations of the Great War and to raise awareness of the Museum's collection and extensive archives.



travelled to Hautrage Military Cemetery to cover Lt Soames story, the Regiment's first casualty of the war.

Following the first night in Mons, we travelled to Nery next morning. It was here that the 11<sup>th</sup> Hussars encountered the German 4<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Division early on 1 September 1914. Lt Col TT Pitman's fascinating photographs of 103 years ago were easy to place, and are held in our museum's archives.

We then moved north to Vimy Ridge which proved to be a highlight of the tour for many. As was Lt Col Nick Tuck's account of the commander of the Canadian Corps; our very own Julian 'Bungo' Byng whose story is well documented in *HorsePower*. That night was spent in the ancient fortified town of Arras.

Next morning was spent at the nearby Faubourg d'Amiens Cemetery to hear the moving account of the 10H action at Monchy-le-Preux in 1917. Following a walk around Zandvoorde where 10H had seen further action, the party visited the excellent Passchendaele Memorial Museum and Tyne Cot cemetery nearby.

We then took the short drive to Ypres and that evening attended the moving Menin Gate Ceremony during which a wreath was laid. The tour finished with a snapshot of the Messines area, with a pause at Vlamertinge cemetery to reflect on the losses suffered by 10H in 1915. For a full account of the tour go to <a href="https://www.horsepowermuseum.co.uk">www.horsepowermuseum.co.uk</a>

## Join the Friends of HorsePower!

We invite you to become a Friend of *HorsePower*, The Museum of The King's Royal Hussars in Winchester.

By joining us you will have the opportunity to support the work of the Museum in any way that you can and also receive a wide range of related benefits:

- Free entry to the Museum for yourself, and half the adult rate for anyone accompanying you
- 10% discount on purchases in the Museum shop
- Regular newsletters keeping you up to date with the Friends' activities and developments in the Museum
- Be the first to know about and book lectures and talks, and receive a 20% discount
- Friends' coffee club
- The opportunity for closer involvement with the Museum and its work

To find out more, please contact us.



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## **New Acquisitions**

HorsePower has been lucky enough to obtain some exciting new items for our collection since the last newsletter.

#### **Sword belonging to Lord Airlie**

The museum has very kingly been lent the sword which once belonged to Lord Airlie of the 10<sup>th</sup> Hussars, who was Killed in Action leading the 12<sup>th</sup> Royal Lancers at Diamond Hill during the Boer War. Our thanks go to The Rt Hon The Earl of Airlie KT., GCVO., PC. for lending the sword to the museum.

#### **Uniform Collection**

Our good fortune continued in the way of donations recently when we received a quantity of 11<sup>th</sup> Hussars uniforms. These had all belonged to Thomas George Upton OBE DCM, details of which can be found elsewhere on this page. We are as always, extremely grateful to the family for the donation.



### **Heritage Open Days 2017**

The museum again took part in the national Heritage Open Days. This year we had 200 visitors to the museum over the open weekend of the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> September. We look forward to taking part again next year!

#### **Online Shopping**

The museum have joined up with the King's Royal Hussars Home Headquarters to make our merchandise available to purchase online. For further information and to view our current stock, please visit -

www.krh.org.uk/krh-shop.html

#### **Soldiers of The Great War**

As part of the centenary commemorations of the Great War, we will be running a series of short biographies on those from the Regiment who served during the period.

#### Thomas George Upton OBE DCM

joined the 11<sup>th</sup> Hussars on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 1904, having previously been an Ironmonger's apprentice. He immediately showed his talents as a natural born soldier, and by September 1910 had been promoted to Sergeant.



Being a crack shot himself, Tom Upton was a musketry instructor for the Regiment before the outbreak of the Great War. It was because of his training regime that the 11<sup>th</sup> Hussars were quick to hold their own as infantry in late 1914.

Tom Upton didn't cross to France with the Regiment in 1914, he stayed in Aldershot as an instructor to the 12<sup>th</sup> Reserve Regiment of Cavalry. He was to re-join the 11<sup>th</sup> Hussars at the front the following year, working his way up to RSM before the end of the war, earning the DCM in the progress.

After serving as RSM of the 11<sup>th</sup> Hussars during the closing actions of the Great War, he was commissioned and became Regimental Quartermaster. He finally retired from military life in 1939.

His Regimental and Military achievements are too numerous to list, but it can safely be said he was a much loved and prominent figure of the 11<sup>th</sup> Hussars.

His son Peter Upton went on to serve with the Regiment, eventually becoming Regimental Secretary and instrumental in setting up our museum.

All information has been gained from the museum archives. If you would like to research a soldier of the Regiment please contact the museum, or visit our website for more information.

Please follow us on:



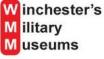
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