

"THOROUGH"

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"Don't talk to me about atrocities in war; all war is an atrocity"
Field Marshall Lord Kitchener of Khartoum



Congratulations to Scholars of 2003

The examination results achieved this year are quite remarkable in that they contain six scholars gaining First Class Honours. This must not only represent something of a record, but will certainly gladden the hearts of the donors who can see their faith in the fund amply justified.

Barker D.	Bournemouth	Software Engineering	2.1
Bayly V.L.	Swansea	History	2.2
Best Ms N.D.	Exeter	Classics	1
Broughton R.D.K.	Lancaster	International Relations	2.1
Buckley Ms N.J.	Cardiff	Architecture	2.1
Bones Ms M.R.	Bristol	Microbiology/Pathology	2.1
Bones Ms R.S.	Newcastle	Accounting	1
Colby Ms C.A.	St Andrews	Modern History	2.2
Coulston B.R.	Bristol	Product Design	2.2
Donnison N.V.O.	Reading	Law	2.2
Hazlerigg C.R.E.	St Andrews	Zoology	1
Hemming Ms K.L.	Reading	Psychology	1
Hibbert A.P.W.	St Hughes	Biological Science	2.2
Lancaster H.	Durham	Chemistry	3
McNamara Ms S.	Manchester	Drama	1
Stanley J.M.	Exeter	Geography	2.1
Trewby Ms A.I.	Newcastle	History	1

Five scholars intend to continue with their studies, either to obtain higher degrees or to undertake research. Two are to enter the Services and two are taking a break to travel. The remainder are taking careers in commerce, finance, the civil service and teaching.

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Secretary:

Gerry Brierley, Heathcroft, 3 Green Lane, Brampton, PE28 4RE
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The Lost Gold of Lord Kitchener

"After the fall of Khartoum in 1885 an enormous quantity of stores had to be destroyed owing to the want of transport. Among them was about a million rounds of ammunition, which was ordered to be thrown into the Nile.

The duty of superintending its destruction fell to Kitchener, and when it was finished he found to his dismay that the contents of two of the boxes thrown into the river were not ammunition, but 10,000 gold sovereigns apiece.

It is hardly probable that any attempt will be made to recover the lost treasure, for ... it must be buried beyond all hope of recovery in the mud of which the bed of the Nile is composed."

Can any of our readers throw any more light on this incident which does not seem to be widely recorded or remarked at the time.

In Memorium

We are sorry to announce the passing of one of our more stalwart attendees. **Basil Thewlis** passed away on 12th May 2007 a few days after suffering a severe stroke. He was 87 years old at the time of his death. May he rest in peace, Our condolences go out to his surviving family and especially his wife Phyllida.

An adventure with the French Army and the realities of War



Ballooning at Metz

"Directly Herbert Kitchener had passed out of Woolwich an element of farce had come into his life. He had gone to the Franco-Prussian War. He had done what many other serious young Englishmen had done that year of Metz, and had enlisted as a private in the French Army resisting the German invasion. He was present at heavy fighting and very nearly died from pneumonia caught from exposure to cold in an artillery observation balloon."

At Horse Guards: on the carpet

"On returning to England he ran into heavy trouble with the army who informed him that he had actually been commissioned as a Royal Engineer subaltern at the precise time that he was with the French Army as a volunteer private. Herbert Kitchener was carpeted at the War Office. No less a person than the Duke of Cambridge, cousin of the Queen and the army commander in chief, 'called me every name he could lay tongue to: and said I was a deserter and that I had disgraced the British Army: and with a funny sort of twinkle added: "Well anyway, boy, go away and don't do it again"."

"Kitchener himself was clear that he had simply filled in spare time between finishing being a cadet and hearing that he had actually received his army commission."

(Excerpt from *The King's Shilling* by Richard Kelllett)

The alternative version

"It was during a vacation taken in 1870 for the purpose of visiting his father, who was then living at Dinan, in the north of France, that the young cadet gained practical insight into the actualities of a soldier's life. Appropriately enough in the light of subsequent events, Kitchener volunteered to play a part, however humble, in the ill-considered war against Prussia, which was officially declared by the French Government on the 19th of July. Already the Garde Mobile had been called out, and it was the 6th Battalion of the Reserves of the Mobile Guard of the Cotes du Nord that he enlisted. The streets of Paris resounded to the cry of "*A Berlin!*" Exactly two months later the Germans completed the investment of the city on the Seine. ...

"During his period of service Kitchener made an ascent in a balloon with two French officers, at that time a sufficiently daring adventure for a youth of his age. Of one thing we may be reasonably certain, and that is that when he was invalided home from Laval through severe illness he returned with a stock of experience which bore fruit in many later campaigns in which he played a more prominent part.

"Linen trousers and blouses may be excellent for summer ... but in the open field in autumn and winter they proved poor protection from the cold and the rain and the piercing winds.

"The folly of entering upon such an undertaking in a state of unpreparedness was evident at almost every turn. Kitchener was never guilty of such consummate folly, and we have every reason to believe that our French ally in the Great War has taken to heart the terrible but perhaps necessary lessons of the

Franco-Prussian campaign of 1870.

"Why did you go off and join the French Army?" the Duke of Cambridge asked the returned volunteer who had donned the kepi.

"Please, sir," came the straightforward answer, "I understood that I should not be wanted for some time, and I could not be idle. I thought I might learn something."

(Excerpt from *Lord Kitchener* by Harold J B Wheeler)

The family version

On his retirement in 1868, Kitchener's father, Colonel Henry Kitchener, with his second wife, went to live in Dinan, France. Young Kitchener, then 20 years of age, visited them there in 1870. At Dinan everybody, says M. Theophile Janvrais, the historian of the place, speaks of Lord Kitchener as 'The General'. It was to M. Janvrais that Kitchener's stepmother, who still lives in Dinan, told how her son had come to enter the French Army. She said:

"He had come to spend three months with us, for he had just been graduated from Woolwich and had his commission. He was enthusiastic for the French and wanted to help them. But his father, remonstrated, fearing that he would lose his commission in the British Army. With a French friend, however, he went to Paris and enrolled.

"I remember very little of what he did - only this: At Laval he went up in a balloon with some officers to observe the enemy. In this way he received an attack of pleurisy which has bothered him ever since. And it brought an end to his campaigning for France, for he was in bed until it was all over, at the siege of Paris."

(Excerpt from *The New York Times* June 7th 1916)

Positive news updates from two scholars

Amy Larkin writes from Oxford

It was unfortunate that it was not possible for me to attend any of the Kitchener Scholars events during the past year, as I have spent a great deal of my time abroad and did not receive the newsletter until well after the events had been held.

I am enjoying my degree in Theology and Philosophy and am now in my final year of study. My dissertation is on Black Theology and Black Power. On completion of my present course of study, I hope to continue at University to take a further degree in law with the intention of specialising in human rights.

Alexander Lamaison writes

In 2003 I had the honour of being chosen as a Kitchener Scholar to help me with my studies at Imperial College. As I have recently graduated, I felt that it was time to update you on my progress.

My course lasted four years leading to the eventual qualification Master of Engineering. I was fortunate enough to be at what seems to be the only university that classifies Computing as a branch of engineering rather than science, something I wholeheartedly agree with. In addition to greatly enjoying the course, I had a pastoral role in a hall of residence from the second year looking after the freshers. This may be the most fulfilling thing that I have done.

At the end of the third year I undertook a work placement in industry at a large international software company based in the West Country. Unfortunately, this turned out to be a disaster. I spent six months never once using my brain surrounded by people whose conversation on the rare occasions such a thing occurred, consisted of the computed games scores. Needless to say this rather shook me a bit. I had been blissfully happy for the previous three years at imperial but now dreaded entering into the real world. As a result I didn't enjoy my final year as much as I should have but luckily this didn't seem to affect my academic performance (it may have improved it) as I graduated with First Class Honours and won the IBM Project Prize for my final year project. I was offered a PhD place which was effectively "blank" I could research anything I wanted within reason. Although this was a once in a lifetime opportunity, I didn't immediately accept, as I was rather worried about what the future held.

With hindsight what I really needed was a good rest. After spending the summer relaxing I realised that I did want to do the PhD (fortunately it was still available) and even managed to find a last minute opening as a sub warden of a hall of residence. This means that I am likely to be at Imperial for a further three or four years.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Kitchener Memorial Fund for helping me at a difficult time and also to enquire about any changes to the membership fee to the Association as a result of my graduation.

Where are they now?

A not inconsiderable number of members of this Association are continuing to pay their annual subscription but have not informed the Secretary of their current contact details. If anyone knows how to contact these members kindly please advise them to update the Secretary's records :

F. Barlow, M. Burn, C. Holroyd,
D. Wilkins, Mr/Mrs Lonsdale,
R.J. Stacey, A. Stroud, P. Tarn,
U.E. Turpin, A.N. Tyler,
F.E.H. Potter, R.H. Walters,
M/S. Reay-Jones, J.C.Reid,
R.L. Richards, N.C.Riley,
K.A.Roberts, R/P Rugg-Gun,
S.G.B. Blewitt, Dr. S. Sheehan,
D.V. Skone, K. O'Doherty,
R. Ostle, G.P. Parsons, W.J. Perrin,
A.J. Phelps, T.D.W. Jackson,
J.S. Flack, L. MacLachlan,
M.J. Witcher, R.J.H. Ettrick,
F.B.Templing, F.H. Panton,
Miss C Geddes, T.J. Gibson,
P.A. Gibbs-Kennett, Kevin Grant,
R.B. Halliday, M. Campbell,
R/A. Campbell, M. Chapman,
C.J.Tanner, R. Clamp, D.G. Crab,
S.C.R. Dennis, A.R.Dickins,
P.T.E. Jessop, A.H. Mellins,
I. Cunliffe, R.H. Atkinson,
P.W.H. Barker, S.Bredin,
R. Bryant, N.R. Bunker,
N.J. Tregear, P.J. Baulf, S.J.Speirs,
W.R.J. Pugh, A.C.Newsome,
A.G. Catto-Smith, A.M.Hulme,
D.J.Coupland, G.C.L. Skingsley,
Miss E.V.Ward, J.D.M. Maddy,
R.J.F. Martin, N. Hillard,
J.J. Pogson, D. Barker,
C.P. Watkins, A.A. Hallsworth,
D.J. Haysey, I.M. Hibberd,
G.G. Russell, D.G. Palmer,
T.A. Podesta, G.A.Stocker,
A.J.D. Herberts, W.K. Henderson,
P.H.J. Lloyd-Jones, M.A. Sutton,
A.J. Pickett, A.E. Stevens,
E.P. James, Nichola Huet,
W.G. Oakes, Ryan Smith,
C.McLannahan, Watson McVannel,
Dr. J. Simmons, E.T. Wilmot....

Upcoming Events

Annual Dinner



The Annual Dinner and Awards Presentation will be held in the magnificent setting of The MacDonald Gallery (above) of The Gurkha Museum, Peninsula Barracks, Winchester SO23 8TS on Thursday 24th April 2008 starting at 7:30pm. The venue provides a wonderful presentation and tour for those who can arrive early.

Dinner is £40.00 for Scholars and £20.00 per person for Scholars still studying and their guest. The menu will appear on the website in February, along with details of the guest speakers and their subjects.

Emma Kitchener-Fellowes also promises to 'unveil' a surprise at this event which is the culmination of a very considerable amount of effort on her part.

If you intend to attend please tick the appropriate box on the reply form enclosed. If you would like to attend but are not sure you are able to travel there and back unaccompanied, we will try and arrange for you to travel with another member. Numbers are strictly limited to 80 persons, so please get your application in as early as possible.

The venue is very close to Winchester Cathedral and there is plenty of on-site parking for the guests.

Memories of Kitchener

I was interested to read the history of Lord Kitchener's Masonic activities. Shortly after India's independence, I visited the Lord Kitchener Lodge at the Masonic Hall in Janpath Road, Delhi.

When I arrived, I found four Brethren sitting at the foot of the staircase sharing a bottle of whisky, waiting for a fifth to turn up so they could open the Lodge. They showed me a typical Summons, printed during Kitchener's time. What a splendid, not to mention expensive, piece of coloured printing in gold, red and blue, on vellum. It had clearly been not only a large and mainly military Lodge, but a very busy and prosperous one.

Sadly, now on the verge of collapse, my presence was most welcome and I was asked to join the opening in the three Degrees and then closing again, there was no other work. During the ceremony I would attend to the tracing boards which were mounted on a remarkable piece of machinery – designed by one of Kitchener's military engineers, I was told.

The three boards were mounted in such a way that, by turning a handle at the side, they were moved vertically up and down by pulleys and chains to change the display for each Degree. It had not been oiled for years and made loud squeaking noises.

There was no festive board, simply because the hall steward had warned that any one eating there was likely to suffer extreme stomach conditions. Everyone therefore departed into the warm evening to eat at our respective residences, in my case a hotel.

I believe that the Lodge now thrives, with a strong membership of Indian brethren.

Rex Johnson, Sevenoaks, Kent

Seven Kitchener Lodges

Regarding Lodges named after Kitchener, I can confirm, thanks to details provided by Neil Wynes Morse of Canberra, Australia, that seven Lodges were named after Kitchener as follows:

Lord Kitchener of Khartoum Lodge No. 2767, London;

Kitchener Lodge No. 2998, New Delhi, East Punjab;

Lord Kitchener Lodge No. 3402, Dhekelia, Cyprus, formerly Cairo;

Lord Kitchener Lodge No. 3788, Bolton, Lancashire.

Lodge Kitchener No. 240 United Grand Lodge of Victoria, Australia.

There was a Lodge Earl Kitchener No. 308 in the Constitution of New South Wales, Australia and also an Earl Kitchener Mark Lodge No. 43 under the Constitution of the Grand Mark Lodge of Victoria, Australia.

Bruce B. Hogg, Middlesbrough

The March of Time

In order to finally transfer members details to technology driven interfaces, or computers as us oldies still call them, we would be grateful if members could repair some of the more egregious omissions from our hand written files. If you have the time and the inclination please drop us a line and confirm:

The year of the award of your scholarship

The course studied and any subsequent courses completed

A short profile of your career and whether you would be available to act as a Mentor for new scholars studying in a related field.

Confirmation of titles or awards that should be included in the correct addressing of correspondence etc.

Your email address if you have one.