

## Editorial Journal 31 June 2012

Dear members,

This year has been yet another busy year.

The Society continues to answer requests for information from interested parties from around the world, with an increasingly large number coming from both America and Australia. We were also busy supporting the Zulu War event held at Pluckley, Kent on the 24th and 25th March 2012.

This event at Pluckley, the original home of the 24th Regiment, was a stunning success. The event was planned and organised by Bob Driver and Roy Bennett - with a little help from the Society - with our Vice President, Ian Knight, giving a superb talk following the sumptuous black tie dinner.

The guest list read like a *Who's Who* with the guests of honour led by Prince Shange of the Zulu Royal Family and Dr. Paul Matawele. The whole weekend was well attended by the public but the highlight was being able to allow Prince Shange to hold the genuine Victoria Cross of James Langley Dalton, for which we owe a debt to The Royal Logistics Corps for their assistance. Another highlight was taking Prince Shange into the church at Pluckley which commemorates the founding at Pluckley of the 24th Regiment over 300 years ago. On entering the church, the morning service was coming to a close; the somewhat startled vicar and congregation swiftly gathered round Prince Shange who was taken off to meet the village elders over a cup of coffee. It was a remarkable weekend.

With the next event already arranged at Brecon for the coming weekend 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> June, we have decided that the next Zulu weekend in Kent will be held next year. This will coincide with the largest ever display of items and treasures from the Zulu War which will be displayed at Tenterden Museum for the summer of 2013, starting at Easter. The full 'weekend programme' will be published towards the end of this year and members will be notified in good time. The weekend will include a gala dinner at Sissinghurst Castle.

Dr Adrian Greaves

Prince Shange, Dr Adrian Greaves and Ian Knight with Commissary Dalton's VC.

