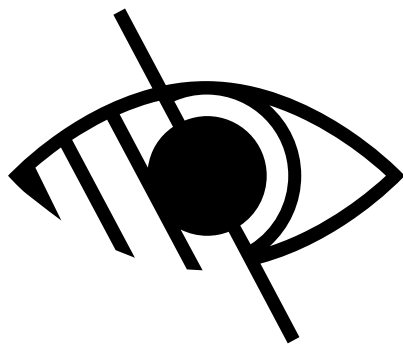


Household Cavalry Museum



Large Text Guide

Table of Contents

1. Introduction

Dressed for Work

Horse Guards

The Royal Gateway

Ivory Passes

Protecting the Monarch

Sovereign's Guard

Ceremonial Duty

Display caption

Display caption

Practice Makes Perfect

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Music

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Man and Horse

2. Stables Gallery

The Stables

Horse Furniture

The Other Ranks Saddle

The Other Ranks Head Kit

Life Guard Officers Saddle

Blues and Royals Officer's Head Kit

Officer's Pattern Saddle

3. Gallery 2

Our Origins

Display caption

The Crown in Peril

Royal Beginnings

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Law and Order

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Granby: Hero of the Household Cavalry

The Armourer's Craft

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Fine Figures of Men

Uniforms on Duty

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Rise of Napoleon

The Battle of Waterloo

Display caption

Display caption

Major Edward Kelly

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Waterloo

Extraordinary Acts of Bravery

Ornamental Extravagance

Private Life and Public Image

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Sporting

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Gifts and Royal Connections

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Sociability – Dinner and Dance

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Back Into Action

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Mounted to Mechanised

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

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Display caption

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Display caption

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The Changing Face of War

Sacrifice

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Display caption

Conflict since 1945

The threat from the Warsaw Pact

Duties from Home

Events following the Fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989

The War on Terror

This is the large print for the Household Cavalry Museum.

The content appears in order of the Galleries. To orientate yourself, please reference the table of contents which lists the sections.

Introduction to the Household Cavalry Museum.

The Household Cavalry Museum is a living museum in the heart of Horse Guards, one of London's most historic buildings and headquarters of the Household Division. The museum has an outstanding collection of rare and unique treasures from ceremonial uniform and royal standards to musical instruments and horse furniture, all relating to the ceremonial and operational duties of the Household Cavalry Regiments. Visitors can gain a unique behind-the-scenes look at troopers working with horses in the original 18th Century working stables and hear firsthand accounts of their rigorous and demanding training.

This museum will:

- Explain who the Household Cavalry are
- The history of Horse Guards Building
- How they learn to ride
- History of the Household Cavalry since their founding in 1660.

Getting around

The museum consists of three rooms. They highlight the history of the Household Cavalry Regiments – Life Guards and Blues and Royals and showcase their collections.

Please note the first entrance area including the introduction gallery has uneven flooring. These are the original 18th Century cobble stones from when Horse Guards used to house up to 70 horses. In the stables Gallery you will see there is room for just 15 horses today.

Introduction Gallery

Real Soldiers

The Household Cavalry consists of the two senior Regiments of the British Army —The Life Guards and The Blues and Royals.

As highly trained soldiers, serving in both mounted ceremonial and armoured reconnaissance roles, we normally begin our service on horseback, guarding the Monarch and performing our ceremonial duties in the capital and across the United Kingdom. Most of us are then trained as armoured reconnaissance soldiers, deploying around the world and serving at the heart of the British Army's operations.

This is the best of both worlds.

Dressed For Work

You can easily identify us when we carry out our ceremonial duties: The Life Guards wear scarlet tunics and white plumes, while The Blues and Royals wear blue tunics and red plumes. When we are on combat operations, we wear uniforms designed to help us with the tasks we perform.

A trooper of The Life Guards in the full ceremonial uniform, known as Mounted Review Order. This is worn when we escort and guard His Majesty The King and members of the Royal Family during State occasions.

A trooper of The Blues and Royals wearing the ceremonial uniform, known as Mounted Review Order.

A soldier dressed in multi-terrain pattern (MTP) camouflage, equipped with Osprey body armour and carrying an SA80 individual weapon which may be fitted with an under slung grenade launcher. Variants of this equipment were used by our soldiers deployed to Afghanistan.

Horse Guards

You are in Horse Guards, one of London's most historic buildings. Designed to house soldiers and their horses, it is still the headquarters of the Household Division of the British Army, in which the Household Cavalry play a central role. Beneath you are the original 18th century stable cobblestones.

The arch formed by this building is the official entrance to the Royal residence. It is guarded by two sentries on horses and two sentries on foot.

The Royal Gateway

Horse Guards Clock, presented to the Officers' Mess of The Blues by Lt. The Hon. Thomas Langford-Brooke, who served from 1864-1869. The time is set to 4pm, commemorating the moment in 1894 when Queen Victoria, having found the entire Guard gambling and drinking, ordered a daily inspection at 4pm for the next 100 years. Known as the 'Punishment Parade', it has become a tradition that continues today.

Ivory Passes

Horse Guards was the official gateway into St. James's Park, to which the Crown controlled access, first by a password and later, from 1775, by issuing ivory passes that allowed carriages to pass through the archway. They became a sign of particular Royal favour and were highly sought after. They are still in use today for members of the Royal Family and senior Government officials.

Protecting the Queen

Historically, our principal role has been to serve as the bodyguard to the Monarch and members of the Royal Family. No other regiments have worked as closely with the Monarch as we have. Over the centuries since our formation, we have protected the life and body of every Monarch against internal and external threats, from attempted coups to assassination plots and civil uprisings. Today we provide protection for His Majesty King Charles III on a daily basis with The King's Life Guard, and on other ceremonial and State occasions.

Her Majesty The Queen (Queen Elizabeth II) in Garter robes, attended by Colonel Patrick Tabor MVO, Commander Household Cavalry, Silver-Stick-in-Waiting.

Her Majesty The Queen (Queen Elizabeth II) at Horse Guards in 1953, at her first Trooping of the Colour as reigning Monarch.

Sovereign's Guard

The most senior officers of the Household Cavalry have been responsible for the personal safety of the Monarch at all times.

This privileged position is symbolised by the carrying of a gold-headed staff by the Colonels of The Life Guards and The Blues and Royals. These officers are referred to as the Gold Stick and take turns to attend on the King —though now only on ceremonial occasions —when they are referred to as 'Gold-Stick-in-Waiting'. They are supported by the Silver Stick-in-Waiting, who is the regular serving officer who commands The Household Cavalry.

Gold stick, inscribed with the Royal cipher, or badge, of King William IV, carried by Earl Cathcart, Colonel of the 2nd Life Guards, from 1797 to 1843.

Silver Stick, carried during the reign of King George II, with an early cipher, or badge, on the handle showing the Union between England and Scotland.

Ceremonial Duty

We provide the Monarch's escort on both ceremonial occasions and play a key role in both the security and pageantry surrounding these public events. But our work here is not just spectacle. By the practical demonstration of our unified discipline and horsemanship, we are also expressing the symbolic stature and standards of the Monarchy itself. Precision and Perseverance —watch words for the Household Cavalry, whether we are in London, across the United Kingdom or on operations aboard.

The King's Life Guard rides from Hyde Park Barracks to Horse Guards as part of a ceremony that has remained largely unchanged for hundreds of years.

“*‘The pressure a young trooper is under on parade in front of millions of people watching on TV teaches him to handle situations on duty abroad. Our troopers are more stable, confident and mature than most soldiers. The kit cleaning ritual and horse management develops self-motivation. Our sense of belonging is keenly felt in the Regiment.’*

- Captain Richard Waygood, Riding Master

Ceremonial Duty

The principal ceremonials we participate in include parades for The King's Birthday, the Garter Service, state visits by foreign Heads of State, the State Opening of Parliament, Remembrance Sunday and the Lord Mayor's Show—all in addition to the daily guard we provide for the Monarch here at Horse Guards.

- 1). Warrant Officer of The Blues and Royals in Mounted Review Order. The helmet we wear today was first introduced by Prince Albert in 1842, and is made from gilded white metal. The polished nickel silver cuirass (breastplate) is ornamented with brass studs and shoulder straps, and has been worn since the Coronation of King George IV in 1821. A gold standard bearer's cross-belt is worn over the top of the cuirass. The Warrant officer carries the Regimental Standard on Escorts and for The King's Life Guard.
- 2). Corporal of Horse of The Life Guards, dressed in Dismounted Review Order. This ceremonial dress has changed little since the time of Queen Victoria. The white cross-belt has a red flask cord attached, and is a reminder of when soldiers used to carry gunpowder flasks.

Practice Makes Perfect

A trooper takes at least 10 hours to prepare for daily inspection. Cuirasses (breastplates) and helmets are cleaned with Brasso and chalk brushes. Leather straps fixing the sheepskin cover to the saddle are brushed with shoe whitener. Each buckle hole must be cleaned out with a nail.

Breeches are 'white-sapped' while worn; jackboots are soaked in hot beeswax before being smothered in layers of black polish. Wire wool is used to rub out any imperfections on the leather surface.

The horses' hooves are brushed with oil and their white legs chalked up. Using a furnace, farriers make and fit shoes for each horse.

The whole kit including saddles, collar chains, sword slings, plumes and cuirasses must be fitted correctly. If the helmet is too loose, it tips back. Too tight, it causes an unbearable headache. The inspection is taken by the Adjutant. The trooper graded best is awarded guard duty in the sentry boxes, with the worst carrying out guard duty dismounted.

3). Uniform of a Major of The Blues and Royals. This uniform has a white cross-belt and is worn during public rehearsals for state occasions. Badges of rank are represented on the epaulettes worn on each shoulder. Officers wear aiguillettes on the right shoulder. Aiguillettes (French for 'needles') are made from plaited gold wire basket cord and were

once used by riders to tie up their horses. They are unique to the Household Cavalry and were adopted during the reign of King George IV.

- 4). Captain of The Life Guards dressed in Mounted Order Review. The gold cross-belt, sword belt and slings are known as 'gold kit' worn only when a member of the Royal Family is officially present. The gold oak leaf and acorn design, embroidered on the collar and cuffs, is a reference to the time when King Charles II is said to have hidden in an oak tree during the English Civil War.
- 5). Farriers of The Life Guards wear a dark blue tunic on parade with black-plumed helmets (red plumes for the Blues and Royals). This allows the farrier to carry out messy tasks, such as emergency shoeing or administering medical treatment to a horse, without visibly spoiling his uniform. Two farriers are always present during parades and are positioned to the rear of the Sovereign's Escort.
- 6). Officer's state sword, currently in use, based on a pattern used by The Life Guards from 1832, and made by Wilkinson Sword. It has a plated hilt ornamented in brass with a black fish-skin grip. The Regimental initials are below the crown. The scabbard is silver-plated with plain, ribbed brass mouldings.

- 7). Farrier's axe, now carried only on ceremonial parades. This originally had two functions: the spike could be used to dispatch a badly wounded horse; while the axe head was used to remove the dead horse's feet, since the individually marked hooves were required to update the register of horses.

- 8). Life Guard Squadron Standard with the Royal Cipher of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Sometimes called a Union Standard because it bears the badge of the Union of England, Scotland and Ireland (rose, thistle and shamrock) beneath the crown. This is one of two kinds of standard carried by the Household Cavalry. The other is a Royal Standard, or Sovereign's Standard, bearing the Royal Coat of Arms. The Household Cavalry are the only regiments given the honour of carrying a Sovereign's standard.

- 9). Shabraque (saddlecloth) with a black sheepskin cover, as worn by an officer's horse of The Blues and Royals. These are only worn when the Sovereign or members of the Royal Family are present. They are made from fine red cloth and cut to a regimental pattern with pointed ends (those of The Life Guards are rounded) with a gold lace border. The Monarch's Crown and Garter Star, with battle honours richly embroidered in scrolls appear on each corner.

10). Jowl plume (bridle ornament) suspended from the bridle of a horse of an officer of The Blues and Royals. Made from horsehair, they were originally used by The Royals in 1825 during the reign of King George IV, and were inspired by similar ornaments worn by the Austro-Hungarian Hussars or Light Cavalry.

Music

Music has played a major role in our regimental life. On the battlefield, where visual signalling was often difficult due to poor visibility or variable terrain, the trumpeter was vital in communicating signals such as the call for a charge, a halt or a change in direction.

Today, musicians are also trained in chemical decontamination and general duties, providing emergency assistance during military operations.

- 11). Musician's state coat, made from crimson velvet, gold braid and lace, and worn on State occasions. Its design has remained unchanged since 1685.
- 12). Silver kettledrums, one of two pairs, presented by King William IV to both regiments of Life Guards on 6th May 1831 at Windsor, to match those his father King George III had presented to The Blues in 1805. The drums, originally costing 1000 guineas, are made of pure silver and were made in London. Each weighs about 59 pounds (26.8kg) and is identical to those carried by the mounted band of The Life Guards today.
- 13). Kettledrum banner, 1953, the year of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. Made from crimson damask, with coloured silks used for the Royal Coat of Arms, and embroidered with gold and silver wire thread. The three embroidered crowns symbolise the Union of England, Scotland

and Ireland. The outer edge is embroidered with an intricate design that includes the rose of England, the thistle of Scotland and the shamrock of Ireland, with oak leaves at the corners.

- 14). Silver salver signed by serving officers of The Royal Dragons. This silver salver was presented to David and Eve Rogers as a wedding gift in 1943. Most of these officers would be killed in action before the end of the war two years later.

Their son Colonel Peter Rogers as Commander Household Cavalry was the driving force for the creation of this museum at Horse Guards.

Man And Horse

Working with horses, we need to train them and ourselves hard. We strive to encourage a special bond between horse and rider. Unlike most other regiments in the British Army which recruit only from their local areas, the Household Cavalry recruits from across the entire country. Like other regiments, we also recruit from the Commonwealth.

While officers in the past used to be familiar with riding and hunting before joining, this is not always true today, New recruits, especially those from urban backgrounds, might never have sat on a horse before. But we soon train them all to become riders capable of handling the rigorous demands of State occasions.

Man And Horse

Around 85% of all soldiers recruited to the Household Cavalry undergo direct training with horses. The remaining 15% are trained as specialists on armoured reconnaissance vehicles. To qualify for mounted ceremonial duty, soldiers must complete twenty weeks of intensive training culminating in their Kit Ride Pass Out.

The trainees must attain the highest levels of excellence in all aspects of their final inspection. Only then is the trooper qualified to take part in mounted State ceremonial. Further training to improve on these skills is given during annual Summer Camp in Norfolk.

The 16-week training programme, known as the Khaki Ride, at the Household Cavalry Training Wing at Windsor, ensures that trainees learn to ride and look after their horses properly.

Every step taken by the trainees is made under the exacting eyes of the Riding Master and his staff. Correcting errors at this stage is important to ensure the highest possible standards later on.

The end of a riding session at Holkham Beach, north Norfolk. The training undergone by both men and horses fosters a spirit of co-operation between the men as a group.

Training can also be fun. Here the young recruits and their horses are enjoying a well-earned break from ceremonial duty.

Cornet William Wales was commissioned into The Blues and Royals in December 2006 and served with the Household Cavalry Regiment at Windsor until December 2007.

Captain Henry Wales was commissioned into The Blues and Royals in April 2006. He was attached to the Army Air Corps from 2008-2013 and retired from the Army in June 2015.

Stables Gallery

The Stables

This working stables is used daily by The King's Life Guards. At different times of day you will see horses being brought in and out, groomed, fed and watered, their hooves being oiled and shoes checked, their saddles tested and adjusted, or just see the stables themselves being mucked out and the bedding replaced.

The Changing of the Guards takes place at 11.00am on Horse Guards Parade (outside Museum entrance). The Old Guard then returns to Hyde Park Barracks and the new Guard uses these stables to prepare for sentry duty on Whitehall.

Horse Furniture

Just as soldiers have their own uniforms, each horse has its own saddlery which we call horse furniture. It has evolved over many years and reflects changes in the Monarchy, regimental amalgamations and new saddlery techniques. Examples of this furniture can be seen to your left.

The Other Ranks King's Life Guard Display

The two sets of equipment, displayed immediately left and right, have been worn by The King's Life Guard since the reinstatement of ceremonial uniforms in 1947. Although the saddles are the same, the Life Guards wear a white sheepskin on the saddle while the Blues and Royals wear a black sheep skin. Both regiments wear the same white webbing girth with a surcingle (a piece of leather with a buckle on the end) over the top to keep everything in place. The head kits and saddles are displayed as ready for the daily 4 o'clock inspection when the Officer of the Guard will check that all horse furniture has been cleaned and is serviceable for the following day's duties.

The Other Ranks Saddle

The saddle on display has been in service since the early 1900's. It has a laminated beech wood tree with steel arches at the front and rear. The saddle is webbed and has a blocked seat made from the same kind of tough leather that you would find on the soles of your shoes. The girth attachments can offer slight adjustments to the saddle position and the green felt panels help to fit each saddle to the unique curves of each horse. The various brass fittings were used to attach swords and rifle buckets.

The Other Ranks Head Kit

The head kit on display has been constructed so it can be used as both a bridle and as a head collar in the stables. It uses a combination of two bits in the horse's mouth: a Bridoon snaffle and the larger Bit Banbury that carries the Peninsula battle honour. The brass headstall on the head piece was added to offer protection to the weak spot between the horse's ears. The chain collar when fastened around the horse's neck would offer protection from sword slashes in battle.

Life Guard Officer's Saddle

Life Guard officers wear a bearskin over their saddle while Blues and Royals officers wear an astrakhan cover. At the front of the saddle under the bearskin there are two rubber pistol pouches where the officer would have kept his pistols when mounted but pistols are no longer carried on parade today.

Blues and Royals Officer's Head Kit

The head kit displayed came into service in 1969. The majority of it comes from the Royal Horse Guards (The Blues) but the beard comes from the Royal Dragoons (The Royals). The chain collar is referred to as a Bright Chain and attaches to the front of the saddle and head collar but can be detached to secure the horse to a picket line when it has been dismounted.

Officer's Pattern Saddle

This design was in use from 1918 until it was replaced in 2003. It has extended fans at the rear and broad points at the front arch which help to distribute the weight of the rider and his kit evenly across the horse's back. Saddle panels are stuffed with wool and made of leather which is stained brown on top but left unstained on the underside where contact is made with the horse. The seat is made of hog skin and the skirts and saddle flaps are made from solid skirt hide with hog skin print.

Gallery 2

Our Origins

It is 1660. After 11 years exile in France, Charles II returns to England. But his future is far from secure.

The new King finds a society still divided following the brutal Civil Wars (1642 – 1651) and the fall of Oliver Cromwell's Commonwealth Protectorate. Cromwell's New Model Army, which had been such an effective fighting force, was now disbanded. England and its King are vulnerable.

Recalling how he had seen the French King protected, Charles II creates a new bodyguard made up partly from 500 'private gentlemen' who all paid for the privilege of guarding him, and partly from former Cromwellian troops.

King Charles II – B1630 – D1685

At the Restoration in 1660, King Charles II returned to England in triumph following an 8 year period of exile in Holland and Belgium. Whilst in Holland the King had created a mounted bodyguard comprised of personnel who had gone into exile with him, and it was this force of 80 cavalier gentlemen together with the bodyguard of his brother the Duke of York which formed the Life Guards, the first regiment of the British Regular Army.

The Crown In Peril

For over 300 years, we have provided personal protection to every Monarch, guarding them from assassins, rebels and rioters. In 1664, Charles II built stables for our horses on this very spot, the entrance to his seat of government, underlining his reliance on our close loyalty and effectiveness. He was right to be cautious. During his reign, we quashed the civil unrest in 1677 sparked by the violently anti-Catholic preacher Titus Oates. A year later, Charles II instructed that an officer accompany him at all times, creating the offices of Gold-Stick-in-Waiting and his deputy, Silver-Stick-in-Waiting, roles that continue today.

Royal Beginnings

The Life Guards

In exile, Charles II had admired how the French King Louis XIV organised his spectacular household guard. Many of the same Royalist men who fled with Charles to France now formed a new bodyguard that was to become 'the Life Guards'. Parliament, which was suspicious of this bodyguard, was compelled by the threat of further political chaos to officially recognise the Life Guards.

The Blues and Royals

The Royal Horse Guards, a regiment known as 'The Blues'; was created from a former Commonwealth regiment. It also closely served the Monarch but only became part of the Household Cavalry in 1820. 'The Royals' draw their name from the Royal Dragoons, who began in 1661 as a cavalry regiment sent to defend the overseas possession of Tangier. They amalgamated with The Blues in 1969 to form 'The Blues and Royals'.

- 1). Musician's State Coat. The Household Cavalry musicians were originally paid and clothed by King Charles II, and wore livery similar to that of his jockeys. The design has hardly changed since: only the cipher alters with the Monarch. The jockey-type hat was introduced in 1858. This example has on it the Royal cipher of Queen Victoria.

- 2). Silver Stick carried by a Household Cavalry officer with the duty of protecting the King's person. The office of Silver-Stick-in-Waiting was first created by King Charles II in 1678 in response to a perceived threat to his life. This Silver Stick with the cipher of King George IV, 1820, was carried by Lt. Colonel Sir Robert Hill who had earlier commanded The Blues at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815.
- 3). Propaganda pamphlet known as The Kingdomes Intelligencer, 18th-25th March 1660. Published two months before the Restoration of King Charles II, it lists the officers of 'His Majesties Life Guard of Horse' at Charles's exiled court in Holland. Many of these gentlemen became officers in The Life Guards upon its establishment in January 1661.
- 4). Pay warrant of June 1670 for the Life Guards and signed by King Charles II. It orders the sum of £1124 to be given to Captain Sir Philip Howard so he might pay the men and officers of his Troop. The habit of giving lump sums of money to commanding officers to pay their soldiers continued well into the 18th century. Howard became one of the leading society figures of Restoration London.
- 5). Officer's sword, 1661, the Royal Horse Guards (The Blues). The silver hilt and pommel bears the coat of arms of Aubrey de Vere, 20th Earl of Oxford and first Colonel of the Blues. It depicts a boar within a garter. During this period, officers were expected to supply their own horses and

equipment, and colonels were given money to fund their regiments, so they had great freedom on how they did so.

- 6). Private gentleman's sword, 1660-1668, the Life Guards. It was used both for active service and as a ceremonial sword. The relief design on the hand-guard shows a key moment in the English Civil War, with a representation of the oak tree in which King Charles II sheltered after the Battle of Worcester, with the angel protecting him from the Parliamentarians searching for him, who are depicted as devils.
- 7). Cavalry helmet, 1660-1690, typical of the kind used by the cavalry during the English Civil War. In comparison to later helmets, it stands out for its stark functionality.
- 8). Cavalry cuirass (breastplate), essential to the active service dress worn by the horse regiments until the 1690s. The armourer who made it was Thomas Carpenter of London. The total weight of both front and back plates was a heavy 34lbs 9oz (15.77kg). The bullet mark on the left side of the cuirass is evidence of it having been 'proved', or tested, by firing a musket ball at it, and not a sign of battle damage as is often thought. The cuirasses we wear today look very similar.
- 9). Bridle gauntlet, 1660-90, with flexible fingers, worn on the hand holding the reins.

10). Steel plug bayonet, 1670. At this time our soldiers carried muskets as well as swords and pistols. The plug bayonet was designed to be inserted into the end of the musket to form a pike. Loaned by the Royal Armouries.

Law and Order

The regiments were often used by magistrates to maintain the rule of law. From Horse Guards and from billets around London, we maintained public order during crises like the Great Fire of London (1666), for which we earned the praise of the London public, and the frequent riots over food prices and low pay that shook the capital. Chief among these were the Weavers' Riots (1765), Corn Riots (1766) and the devastating Gordon Riots (1780).

We were also asked to sort out party political punch-ups on the street ignited by Parliamentary infighting, to safeguard national elections, or quell the spread of republican sentiment.

Maintain the rule of law involved us in a whole range of duties that later would be carried out by bodies such as the Metropolitan Police, which was not created until 1829. We conducted anti-smuggling operations against the illegal trade in tea in the 1760s, and hunted down highwaymen who haunted the roads to London. We destroyed illegal crops of tobacco secretly grown to avoid government tax, escorted money carriages delivering pay to the Royal Navy in Portsmouth, and

guarded customs revenue on its return to the Treasury. Inevitably carrying out these tasks brought us into conflict with the public.

Life on the streets of Britain's cities was anything but civil. Public unrest rose during elections, as satirised here by William Hogarth in An Election Chairing the Member (1754). ©Bridgeman Art Library.

Justice was a public affair in the 18th century, with executions providing a special day out. The execution of the Earl of Ferrers at Tyburn, London 1760, was one such crowd-puller. Here we see the Life Guards maintaining public order at the scaffold. (©Museum of London).

Gambling and drinking were common vices in the 18th century, with public houses centres of rowdy and seditious behaviour. Literary lions, scandalmongers and rabble-rousers patronised these establishments. (©Bridgeman Art Library)

Protestants rioted over the Roman Catholic Relief Act of 1778 that lifted the severe penalties imposed on Catholics since the 1690s. Named after Lord George Gordon, leader of the Protestant Association, the Gordon Riots wrecked central London. (©Museum of London).

Law and Order

- 1). Miniature copy of the Riot Act, 19th century. During this period many officers carried copies of the Riot Act in their pistol cases or screwed into the handle of their pistols, to consult before any use of weapons.

The card reads:

12 or more riotously assembled to the danger of the public peace. Command silence with a loud voice and with same read proclamation.

Our Sovereign, Lady Queen chargeth and command all persons, being assembled immediately to disperse themselves, and peacefully to depart to their habitations, or their lawful businesses, upon the point contained in the Act made in the first year of King George, for preventing tumults and riotous assemblies. God Save The Queen. Must read correctly: variance fatal.

- 2). A pair of pistols, 1815, that belonged to Captain Edward Kelly of the 1st Life Guards.
- 3). Medals, awarded to the Life Guards for their part in the suppression of the Jacobite Rebellions in 1715 and 1745, and the Gordon Riots of 1780.
- 4). Beadle's truncheon, 1832. With the Royal cipher of King William IV. The beadle was a magistrate who issued truncheons to the military when deployed to keep public order.

Granby: Hero of The Household Cavalry

Even today we have our heroes from the past. John Manners, the Marquess of Granby, remains such a hero. In the Seven Years' War (1756-63), he was sent to Germany as General of the cavalry, which included The Blues, and later The Royals. While leading a spectacular charge at the Battle of Warburg, he lost his hat and wig, forcing him to salute his commander without them, an incident still commemorated by the tradition that non-commissioned officers and troopers of the Blues and Royals are the only soldiers in the British Army who may salute without wearing headdress. Granby was a commander who actively cared for his soldiers' welfare, encouraging retired troopers to set up as publicans. Today, there are many pubs named after him.

This portrait by Sir Joshua Reynolds celebrates Granby's heroic action at the Battle of Warburg. He is attired as Colonel of The Blues, but his head remains bare in tribute to his abandonment of protocol in the pursuit of valour. (The Royal Collection, ©2007, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II)

Granby was known throughout the army for his generosity and genuine concern for the welfare of his soldiers. In this painting by Edward Penny, c.1765, he is seen giving money to an impoverished soldier and his family. (Courtesy of the National Army Museum)

Granby's name survives today in the form of numerous portraits adorning pub signs around the country. This is a testament to the high regard in which he has been held by both former soldiers and their descendants.

The Armourer's Craft

Officer's service sword, 1899-1902, used in South Africa during the Boer War.

Officer's dress sword and scabbard which belonged to the Duke of Wellington. It is typical of the 1796 pattern, with the hilt and guard made from gilded copper, and the grip covered in silver wire. After the Battle of Waterloo, Wellington was appointed to the honorary position of Colonel of the Blues.

Helmet of the Life Guards, with bearskin crest 1832-1843. Made from silver and silver gilt, this helmet was worn by the two regiments of Life Guards on field exercises and training manoeuvres. It replaced earlier, less elegant models.

Officer's state sword and scabbard, 1832-1872. This form of sword, used by the Royal Horse Guards (The Blues) and by the Life Guards were modelled upon French cavalry swords, but adapted to suit ceremonial duty.

Officer's state sword and scabbard, 1814-1842, made by Wilkinson Sword. This was the first type of State sword carried in the Household Cavalry. State swords today are based on the sword pattern adopted by the Life Guards in 1832.

The Armourer's Craft

Presentation sword and scabbard, 1859 in silver gilt, given to Colonel John Yorke who commanded The Royals in Crimea.

Helmet with bearskin used by the Life Guards, 1817. This flamboyant design replaced the short-lived 'Waterloo helmet' and was worn during full dress outings such as Royal Escorts, Reviews and events. Although spectacular, the helmet was impractical as its weight often undermined the rider's balance.

Helmet of the Royal Dragoons, 1830, as it would have appeared in Marching Order, when travelling between the barracks and camp. The high fur crest, not seen here, would have been packed away for safekeeping during the march.

'Albert Pattern' helmet, 1847-1855. Introduced by Prince Albert, the design was based on Continental models and is very similar to that worn by the Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment today.

Brass sword hilt, 1821-1833, with dragon head pommel from a Life Guard Bandsman's sword. Made by Reeves and Greaves of Birmingham, the grip is made from wood, covered in fish skin and bound with brass wire.

Officer's state sword. 1888, given by the Prince of Wales to the Colonel of the 1st Life Guards, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar.

The Armourer's Craft

Horse Grenadier's broadsword, 1755. These particular swords are characterised by their straight double-edged blades and basket shaped hilt or guard. They were mostly carried by mounted troops from the 1700-1800s.

Officer's helmet, 1815, of the Royal Horse Guards (The Blues). It was worn by Lt. Colonel Sir Robert Hill, who commanded the Regiment at the Battle of Waterloo. Changes in uniform and equipment at this time resulted in the original horsehair crests being replaced with red and blue woollen ones. These have not survived in the example displayed. On the existing metal crest, there is a rose, thistle and shamrock design, representing England, Scotland and Ireland.

Farrier's axe used by the Life Guards, 1883. The steel blade was used to remove the hooves of dead horses so that the rider could then claim another horse.

Officer's helmet with horsehair crest, 1812-1814, worn by the Life Guards during the Peninsular War. It is decorated with motifs taken from classical mythology, such as the Medusa's head of snakes on the front of the crest. Medusa was one of the Gorgons of Greek mythology from whose blood sprang the winged horse Pegasus.

Fine Figures of Men

The uniform we wear on ceremonial duties today was largely introduced by Queen Victoria and has never been worn in battle. Its design originates from the 18th century when breastplates, helmets and jackboots protected the wearer against sword cuts and pistol bullets. Monarchs since then have taken a great interest in the uniform's design, keen to ensure the impressive spectacle presented by their bodyguard.

By 1880, with battlefields dominated by rifle fire and modern artillery, this uniform was irrelevant and we started to wear khaki on active service. But our traditional dress uniform still plays an important part in Royal pageantry today.

Uniforms On Duty

King George III (pictured right) was particularly fond of The Blues and adopted their uniform as court dress while at Windsor. The Royal Family still wear it today as 'Windsor Uniform'.

- 1). Officer's full dress coat (right) and waistcoat (left), 1795-1800, The Blues. Worn by Lt. Charles Lorraine and made from blue woollen broadcloth with a scarlet collar and lapels, gold lace loops and gilt buttons.

The 1790s saw shifts in uniform and equipment design. The old-fashioned but comfortable long coats, little changed since the mid-17th century, were replaced with a tight-fitting waist-length tunic called a coatee which tended to be too restrictive.

- 2). Officer's tricorne hat with leather case, 1770-1790, The Blues. The tricorne hat was so called because the black felt brim was fixed in place with buttons to form a hat with three points. When packed in the leather case, the brim was turned down and strapped to the saddle.
- 3). Watercolour print of a trooper in The Blues, c.1742. No lapels are shown on the blue coats, and the turned skirts, or coat tails, as fastened with a button.
- 4). Print of a Life Guards trooper, c.1791, wearing a tightly fitting coat, which would have been scarlet, with turn back coat tails. Twin cross-belts were worn with a bicorne (two pointed) headdress, replacing the tricorne hat worn by the cavalry.
- 5). Watercolour print of a trooper in The Blues, c.1742.
- 6). Officer's cuirass (breastplate), 1821, of the Life Guards. On the wishes of George IV, cuirasses were reintroduced into the Household Cavalry and were worn at his coronation in 1821. The front plate has a sunburst design bearing the Royal cipher with the Order of St. George.

7. Officer's cuirass (breastplate), 1814, Of the 2nd Life Guards. Worn for the State visit of Tsar Alexander I of Russia. Varnished with black lacquer with gilt scalloped edging, studs and breast star. Created for the Hyde Park review witnessed by the Tsar, these cuirasses were never worn again, much to the annoyance of the officers who had to buy the uniform themselves.
- 8). Bear-crested helmet, 1818-1834, of an officer of The Royals. This 'Roman style' design has an applied black lacquer varnish with gilded royal cipher, Waterloo and Peninsula battle honours at the front and laurel and oak leaves at the back. The overlapping gilded metal scales forming the chinstrap also have an oak leaf design.
- 9). Officer's cuirass (breastplate), full dress coat and state sword of the 2nd Life Guards, 1825-1830. Worn by Captain John Trotter during ceremonial and state occasions.
- 10). Bearskin cap, 1825-1836, worn by both regiments of the Life Guards. This one was worn by Captain John Trotter at the coronation of the Prince Regent as King George IV in 1821. This headdress reflects the Prince Regent's obsession with Napoleon's stylish Imperial Guard. It has a swan feather plume and grenade badge at the front and back.

- 11). Oil painting, 1832, of a trooper of the 1st Life Guards by John Frederick Tayler. Acquired with the assistance of the Art Fund and The Victoria and Albert Museum Purchase Grant Fund.
- 12). Officers' cocked hats, 1817-1830, the Life Guards and The Blues. Worn by Captain John Trotter of the Life Guards and Captain Simon Hurst of The Blues. Made from black felt and decorated with gold lace embroidery and swan feathers. These hats typify one of the many aspects of dress officers were once expected to own.
- 13). Service dress coat and Albert pattern helmet, 1842-1856, of The Blues. It was worn by the 1st Marquess of Anglesey, Colonel of the Royal Horse Guards (The Blues). The Albert pattern helmet replaced the Roman style helmet on Queen Victoria's insistence and remains as the Household Cavalry helmet today.
- 14). 1st Life Guards cuirass (breastplate) 1821-1832. Worn at the Coronation of George IV in 1821, with blue wool frill and canvas linen liner. The liner bears issue markings for Regiment and Troop, with the soldier's name identified in ink.
- 15). Albert pattern helmet and plume, 1871, of the 1st Royal Dragoons. Originally introduced by Queen Victoria and worn until the amalgamation of the Royal Dragoons and The Blues in 1969. The plume is made of horsehair and the helmet of steel, gilt brass and leather.

- 16). Full dress cartouche box, 1837-1857, the Life Guards. It is made with blue velvet edged with gold lace and ornamented with trophies of arms in gold embroidery bearing the 'Peninsula' and 'Waterloo' battle honours.
- 17). Full dress cartouche box, 1837-1857, of an officer of the 2nd Life Guards. Made from black patent leather with red leather lining, the flap bears a fine Garter Star in white metal and enamel, superimposed on the Collar of the Order of the Garter. The gilt monogram of the 2nd Life Guards is inscribed with battle honours.
- 18). Cartouche box, 1857-1901, of The Blues. Its design has not changed from 1856 to the present day. Made to carry the powder and shot used by flintlock weapons, such as pistols. When percussion weapons such as the breech loading Martini Henry Carbine were developed in 1840, the box became ornamental.
- 19). Cartouche box, 1857-1901, of an officer of the Life Guards.
- 20). Officer's patrol jacket of The Blues, 1881-1914.
- 21). Officer's full dress tunic of the Royal Dragoons, with Colonel's shoulder cords, 1931-1936. Notice the silver cartouche box with George V cipher and eagle badge secured with a gold lace cross belt with buckle.

Rise of Napoleon

France, the greatest source of dangerous republican ideas since its own revolution in 1789, was now a belligerent power controlling most of Europe. The rise of Napoleon Bonaparte, self-made Emperor of the French, brought a new threat to Great Britain and her Empire. With his eye on the British possession of India, his ambitions to master Europe and its international trading routes had to be thwarted.

He had been defeated by British, Austrian, Prussian and Russian forces (the allies) in 1814, and the French monarchy restored. Napoleon was sent into exile, but in March 1815, he escaped, returned to France, and quickly won the army back to him. The allies immediately mobilised their forces to defeat him, agreeing to join forces in the Low Countries. The British and Prussians were the first to move, and in June 1815, Napoleon crossed the border to confront them in Belgium.

The Battle of Waterloo

The armies met on 18th June 1815 at Waterloo, just outside Brussels. It was the bloodiest engagement in which we ever fought. The Life Guards, The Blues and The Royals were all heavy cavalry and fought on horses with swords.

- 1). Copy of the Napoleonic Eagle of the 105th, captured by The Royal Dragoons at Waterloo. The Roman eagle was chosen as the symbol of the French Army by Napoleon himself, and was presented by him to the regiments.
- 2). Saddle used at the battle of Waterloo by an officer in The Blues. Officers had to provide their own horses and saddlery for military duty.

Major Edward Kelly of The Life Guards slew a French colonel at Waterloo with this sword, later earning the praise of the Russian Emperor and a knighthood of the Order of St Anne of Russia. His letters home provide a valuable account of his army experiences, but increasingly describe a man desperate to obtain greater recognition for his exploits at Waterloo.

- 3). Tail of a bay mare, ridden by Kelly at Waterloo. During the battle Kelly lost three horses, including his favourite bay mare who carried him to safety from the French lancers, despite having suffered a head injury herself from an enemy lance.

- 4). Presentation sword of Kelly. Given to him by the non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the Regiment in recognition of his bravery at Genappe and Waterloo.
- 5). Sabretasche (or sword bag) of Kelly. The sabrestache was clipped to the belt and used for carrying documents. It was adopted by the British Cavalry in 1812 and was based on earlier French and Prussian examples.
- 6). Spurs worn by Kelly at Waterloo.
- 7). Service sword carried by Kelly at Waterloo. Kelly killed Colonel Habert, commander of the 4th Cuirassiers (French Cavalry), in hand to hand combat, and then cut off his epaulettes as a trophy.
- 8). Waterloo field bugle, 11815, used by John Edwards to call for the decisive charge of the 1st Life Guards. Edwards was only 16 at the time, and was the field trumpeter to the household troop commander, Major General Lord Edward Somerset.
- 9). Portrait of Captain Edward Kelly of the 1st Life Guards wearing the uniform of an Aide-de-Camp with his Waterloo medal.
- 10). Trumpeter's service dress coat, 1815-1820, The Royal Horse Guards (The Blues). It has white turnbacks (coat tails), scarlet collar and gauntlet cuffs, and is ornamented with gold lace, gilt buttons and chain epaulettes on the shoulders.

- 11). Officer's coat worn by Robert Hill of the Royal Horse Guards (The Blues). Hill was wounded by a musket ball in the right arm, and it had to be amputated.
- 12). Miniature portrait of Robert Hill of The Blues. Hill commanded The Blues at Waterloo and was one of three brothers who served in the Regiment. Prior to Waterloo, he had served as Household Brigade Major during the Peninsular War. He was to become Colonel of The Blues and was appointed Silver Stick when the Blues officially became part of the Household Cavalry in 1820.
- 13). Medals awarded to Sir Robert Hill of The Blues. They include the Order of Bath, Army Gold Medal, Waterloo Medal, 1793-1814 Service Medal, the Order of St George and Order of Maria.
- 14). Silver watch work at Waterloo by Lt. Colonel Clement Hill, brother to Sir Robert. He also served in The Blues, later to rise to the rank of Major General of the Madras Army in India.
- 15). Waterloo Medal awarded to trumpeter John Edwards, who signalled the charge of the 1st Life Guards at Waterloo. This medal was the first campaign medal to be awarded to all ranks present at the battles of Ligny, Quatre Bras and Waterloo. It was also the first medal on which the recipient's name, rank and unit was impressed around the edge by machine. The medal bears the head of the Prince Regent who was to appoint himself Colonel-in-Chief of both Regiments of Life Guards.

- 16). Obituary card for trumpeter John Edwards, who joined the Regiment at 9 years old in 1809, and served his country for 32 years. The card reads 'Now waiting the trumpet of salvation.'
- 17). A horse hoof mounted as a table snuff box and a lock of hair from the mane or tail of the charger Marengo, ridden by the French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte at the Battle of Waterloo.

Sir Robert Hill, one of three brothers who fought at Waterloo, commanded The Blues. This is the actual coat he wore and the musket ball that wounded his arm which was later amputated. Hill's Career in the Regiment began in 1794 when, aged 16, he purchased the rank of Cornet (equivalent to 2nd Lieutenant). He gained a full lieutenancy in 1797, a captaincy in 1800. By 1805, he was a Major, and in 1813, aged just 35, he was a Lieutenant Colonel and a Commanding Officer.

Waterloo

The Battle of Waterloo was fought in appalling conditions, with savage hand to hand fighting inflicting terrible casualties and injuries. Individual soldiers performed acts of extraordinary valour, creating some of our greatest heroes.

At the height of the battle, to prevent the allied centre being overrun, the regiments were ordered to charge. The Life Guards and The Blues hurtled into the elite French cavalry, the Cuirassiers.

'The noise of swords striking armour was like the ringing of ten thousand anvils.'

At the same time, The Royals charged into the massed ranks of French infantry.

'When we met, the shock was terrific. Some riders ... caught hold of each other's bodies ... wrestling ... for life, but the superior physical strength of our regiment soon proved itself.'

The Royals captured the Napoleonic Eagle of the 105th Regiment of the Line. This was on top of the flag pole on which the French regiment's Colour was carried. It was a symbol of huge importance and its loss was considered a lasting disgrace.

In the scene to your right, Corporal Styles has been handed the Colour and is about to carry it to the rear and safety. In commemoration of this event an eagle is worn to this day on the uniform of The Blues and Royals.

Extraordinary Acts of Bravery

Corporal John Shaw of the 2nd Life Guards was already famous as a boxer who fought with brute force. In the cavalry charge at Waterloo, Shaw achieved fame by killing 10 French cavalymen before he met his own end on the battlefield. When his sword eventually broke, he continued to strike at the heads of the French, knocking them off their horses, by using the hilt. Charles Dickens, in his novel *Bleak House*, refers to Shaw as 'the model of the whole British Army in himself'.

Cast of the skull of Corporal John Shaw of the 2nd Life Guards. His body was buried on the battlefield, but his skull was recovered and returned to England where the novelist Walter Scott, excited by the drama of the battle, also had a plaster cast made of it. Scott mentioned Shaw in his personal correspondence, and in prose and verse. He was fascinated by the special bond between men and officers that contributed to the final victory.

'*Shaw The Life Guardsman*' written by Lt. Colonel Knollys, is an account of the life of John Shaw. The 'Waterloo Men' were seen as national heroes after the battle, and their achievements continued to capture the public imagination well after the victory celebrations had become a distant memory.

Photograph of an oil painting of Corporal John Shaw by William Etty. Corporal Shaw was already a national figure as a boxer when this picture was painted. He was over 6ft 3ins tall and weighed 15 stone. All recruits to The Life Guards and The Blues had to be over 6ft tall and were considered good physical specimens by many artists. Etty, a painter best known for painting nudes, attended classes at the Royal Academy, where members of the Household Cavalry would often feature as models.

Heavy cavalry sword, 1796, of the type carried by the cavalry at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815. Corporal Shaw, drawing on his experience fighting the French in the Peninsular War, advised his troop to aim at the backs of the cuirassiers' necks, as this was where they were most vulnerable.

'Waterloo Heroes' walking cane of the Life Guards, 1842-1857. Presented to the Life Guards by Queen Mary, wife of George V, it has been decorated with a scrimshaw type of carving depicting several regimental personalities and Waterloo heroes. Among those depicted are Corporal John Shaw and Lord Uxbridge, 1st Marquess of Anglesey.

Artificial leg of Lord Uxbridge (1st Marquess of Anglesey). Uxbridge lost his leg at Waterloo and had artificial ones made for him. These were known as 'clapper legs' because they produced a clapping sound when in use. Later, this prompted Uxbridge to commission a limb-maker to invent a more developed

leg, articulated at all the joints. Patented as the 'Anglesey Leg', this model remained commercially available until 1914.

Watercolour of Lord Uxbridge's son as a young man, 1820-1823. He is dressed in the ceremonial uniform of the Life Guards. Lord Uxbridge had commanded the cavalry at the Battle of Waterloo and was later appointed by Queen Victoria in 1842 to the colonelcy of the Royal Horse Guards (The Blues).

The Earl of Uxbridge was on his horse next to Wellington at Waterloo when he was hit in the knee. "By God, sir, I've lost my leg!" he reportedly said to which Wellington replied, "By God, sir, so you have." The leg had to be amputated. A fine example of British reserve, but a comment that hid Wellington's disapproval of the secret affair Uxbridge was conducting with his sister-in-law.

Ornamental Extravagance?

In the 19th Century, it was widely felt that officers were recruited on account of their connections and wealth rather than their ability. Officers bought their rank and positions in the Household Cavalry were the most expensive in the Army. This rank or 'commission' was an investment that could be resold when an officer left the service. This custom, coupled with a long period of peace after Waterloo, led to public accusations about the Household Cavalry's 'ornamental extravagance'. It was not until 1882, when the Household Cavalry deployed to Egypt, that the public came to appreciate our fighting quality once again.

'Perfectly well bred, polite and gentlemanly ... Many know German and Italian, all know French ... the style in which we live is very elegant ...

Private Life and Public Image

An officer had to buy his ceremonial uniform, two horses, and maintain a costly London lifestyle that his pay would not cover. This presumed a private income and ensured only those from a certain class were able to become officers.

Officers spent peacetime pursuing their own interests, especially hunting, while the non-commissioned officers actually ran the regiment. Soldiers living in the old barracks in Windsor and Knightsbridge lived in cramped conditions with poor sanitation.

- 1). Officer's state tunic of The Blues, 1895-1907, with gold cross belt, waist belt and aiguillettes (shoulder cords), worn by Wolseley for ceremonial and formal occasions. Wolseley provided the inspiration for the 'Moden Major General' in Gilbert and Sullivan's opera 'The Pirates of Penzance'.
- 2). King George V's full dress tunic, c.1926. The King was Colonel-in-Chief of all regiments of the Household Cavalry.
- 3). Officer's mess jacket of The Royals, 1850-1904. Scarlet jacket with a gold-laced, blue Mess waistcoat belonging to a Lt. Colonel.
- 4). Bronze bust of Field Marshal Viscount Wolseley, 1907, Colonel of The Blues between 1895-1907. Previously, Wolseley commanded the expeditionary force which included the Household Cavalry in

Egypt (1882) and the Sudan (1884-5). During the voyage to Egypt, he fell ill and was restored to health by a surgeon of The Life Guards. This fostered a high regard for our Regiments that was to last Wolseley's entire life. This bust was a leaving present which he gave to the Officer's Mess.

Sporting

- 5). The Kadir Cup of 1934, won by Lieutenant Jack Hamilton-Russell of The Royals. This was for the sport of pig-sticking or wild pig hunting on horseback. Popular among officers stationed in India, the Kadir Cup was the most coveted trophy in all India.
- 6). Equestrian silver cups won by Major W.H. King of The Blues at the Royal Military Tournament. These were for 'Lemon Cutting' in 1904, 1905, 1980 and 'Push Ball' in 1905.

'Push Ball' can be likened to basketball on horseback.

'Lemon cutting' was a more diplomatic version of 'Cleaving The Turk's Head' where mounted officers had to split an imitation head mounted on a pole at full gallop. This event was later abandoned in favour of 'Cutting The Lemon'.

- 7). The cricket book of The Blues. A record of matches played form 1867-1873 and illustrated with cartoon sketches of members of the Regiment.

The Olympic gold and bronze medals for racquets won by Lieutenant Colonel John Jacob Astor (LG) at the London Olympic Games in 1908. (Kindly donated by Lord Astor of Hever)

8). Silver wine jug from the Officers' Mess, Windsor, 1860. The relief decorations show riders taking part in a horse race, known as the Cornet Cup.

9). The rugby cap and medals awarded to Corporal Hyland (LG) for winning the Army Rugby Cup in 1920 together with one of the 35 international football caps won by Trooper Charlton who served in RHG from 1953-1955. Jackie Charlton OBE was to become a member of the England World Cup winning team in 1966.

Gifts and Royal Connections

10). Jockey silks and boots in the racing colours of the Household Cavalry worn in races between 1904-1907.

11). The Zetland Trophy, 1874. When Lord Zetland left The Blues in 1874, he failed to give the customary leaving present to the Officers' Mess. When he was asked about this omission, the wealthy Zetland casually remarked "Oh, buy a piece of silver and put it on my bill." The officers took him at his word and duly commissioned this enormous table centrepiece. It took four men to lift it and it cost them the then astronomical sum of £1000. The central column depicts The Blues at the Battle of Waterloo, topped by a figure of Mars, the God of War.

- 12). Silver mounted snuff horn, 1834. This was formally placed by the Lieutenant Colonel's place setting at the mess dining table. It was a leaving present to The Blues by Sir James Stewart.
- 13). Silver cup of the 2nd Life Guards, 1892. Known as the Leyland Challenge Cup, it is from the N.C.O.s Mess at Windsor.
- 14). Gold-headed cane with sharkskin case, 1819-1901, its head bears a relief depicting the signing of Magna Carta. This cane belonged to the 1st Lord Fairhaven, but was originally owned by the Duke of Albany, youngest son of Queen Victoria and her cipher is on the top of the case.
- 15). Gold watch and winding key, 1867, which belonged to the Bandmaster of the Life Guards, and was presented to him by the Sultan of Turkey during his State visit to Windsor in 1867.
- 16). Painting on back wall: The Image of Lieutenant Colonel Frederic Burnaby, from a painting by James Tissot conveys an impression of upper class life in the Household Cavalry. Despite the languid elegance it suggests, Burnaby was an active sportsman, traveller and skilled linguist. When he was killed on 17th January 1885 in hand-to-hand combat at the Battle of Abu Klea, while trying to save his men from the rebel army of the Mahdi, Queen Victoria noted in her diary how news of his death 'quite took my breath away'.

Men like Burnaby revitalised previously flagging public respect for the Household Cavalry.

- 17). Silver gilt box by Carl Fabergé, 1912, with London hallmarks bearing three miniatures and diamond ciphers of King Edward VII, Queen Alexandra and Prince Edward, Duke of Clarence. Presented by Queen Alexandra to Lt. Colonel Sir George Holford of the Life Guards as a wedding present in 1912.
- 18). Gold snuff box, 1818, Officers' Mess, Windsor. Given by the Marquess of Douro to the Mess of the Royal Horse Guards on his leaving the Regiment. Snuff was a finely ground, flavoured tobacco sniffed into the nostrils. Used by Royalty and the elite since the 17th Century, it was available in a wide variety of flavours and was a common sight in the Mess.
- 19). Cigarette holder bearing the crest of The Life Guards, c.1860.

The enamelled silver cigarette case belong to Kaiser Wilhelm II, The Colonel-in-Chief of the Royals (1st Dragoons). The Kaiser took an active interest in the regiment often inspecting them in England during visits to his grandmother Queen Victoria and also inviting members of the Regiment back to Berlin.

Sociability – Dinner and Dance

- 20). Five regimental dance cards, 1889-1926. Used by ladies to follow the order of dances, and dancing partners. Much of the music composed for these dances is still played by the Regimental bands today.
- 21). Brass gilt spurs, 1850s, used at formal and State occasions by The Life Guards as part of their ceremonial and Mess dress. Officers were invited by the London Academy of Dancing to learn how to dance without tearing ladies' dresses with their spurs.
- 22). Invitations, c.1835, for Captain John Trotter of The Life Guards. They illustrate the opportunities for officers in the Household Cavalry to mix and socialise with the highest social circles in London.
- 23). Stewards and Master of Ceremony badges. The Annual Balls were important occasions attended by officers of the Regiments and various local dignitaries. They were held at Windsor Guildhall and the Portman Rooms in London.
- 24.) Lady's fan, c.1871, decorated with portrait photographs of officers from The Blues. Officers pictured on the fan include Colonel Burnaby, the Earl of Zetland and Lord Forrester. Forrester was Commanding Officer of The Blues and he commissioned Johan Strauss I to compose the 'March of the Royal Horse Guards', which was performed at a farewell public concert on his retirement from the regiment.

Back Into Action

The Life Guards and The Blues did not fight in the Crimea. Queen Victoria wanted to keep them in London and it was to be 67 years after Waterloo before they were to see action again.

Our soldiers had become bored with ceremonial duties. They were restless and longed for action. No one exemplified this thirst for adventure more than Colonel Fred Burnaby, who had crossed forbidden regions of Russia, pioneered ballooning and fought in Africa.

Eventually The Queen relented and allowed our regiments to deploy to Egypt in 1882 to suppress a nationalist uprising. They took part in the famous moonlight charge at Kassassin, which stirred popular imagination at home. Two years later, the Household Cavalry formed the Heavy Camel Regiment as part of an expedition to relieve General Gordon in Khartoum.

At the turn of the century a second composite regiment was sent to South Africa where it fought in the Boer War with distinction for over a year whilst the Royals saw continuous service throughout the three-year campaign.

25). Victorian silver inkwell stand, 2nd Life Guards, 19th century. One of a pair, the stand depicts the Heavy Camel Corps. For the campaign in the Sudan 1884-5, it was decided that the cavalry should be mounted on camels in order to operate more effectively in the desert. All three Household cavalry regiments contributed fifty officers and

men, as did The Royals.

26). Print at rear of case: 'The Moonlight Charge of Kassassin' by the Household Cavalry, 1882. On September 10th 1882, the Egyptian army attacked British troops at Kassassin in order to recapture the Suez Canal which had been seized by the British. The outcome of the battle was in the balance until the arrival of British reinforcements just as darkness fell. The Household Cavalry composite regiment who soon abandoned their guns.

28). Officer's winter dress frock coat and forage cap, worn by Colonel Frederick Burnaby while serving with the Royal Horse Guards (The Blues), 1859-1885. He was a giant of a man, 6 feet 4 inches tall and weighing well over 20 stone. He was extraordinarily strong and worked out regularly in a London gym lifting weights, something that his brother officers found rather odd.

29). Officer's cuirass and State Sword, 1872-85 belonging to Colonel Frederick Burnaby, the Royal Horse Guards (The Blues).

30). Sudanese dagger and leather scabbard, Sudan, 1885. This war trophy was recovered from the battlefield of Abu Klea where Burnaby was killed along with seventy-four other men, including nine officers and ninety-four wounded.

31). Pair of field boots, worn by Colonel Burnaby when he was killed at the Battle of Abu Klea, Sudan, 1885. They are civilian rather than military boots because

Burnaby had joined his regiment voluntarily. He did this knowing the War Office would deny him an official appointment.

32). *A Ride to Khiva*, by Colonel Frederick Burnaby, describes his unofficial spying mission to the caravan city of Khiva, deep in Tsarist Russia. He decided to go because he had read in all the papers that all foreigners were expressly forbidden from travelling there. On his return, he published his account of the journey that captured the public imagination.

Mounted to Mechanised

When war broke out with Germany in August 1914, we deployed a composite mounted regiment to the Continent once again, but we now carried rifles and, for the first time, Vickers machine guns. However, the threat was so immense and the fighting so violent that virtually all of our 3 regiments soon followed. London ceremonial was greatly reduced. Conscription was introduced and the whole home population was immersed into war for the first time since the Civil Wars 250 years earlier.

Our casualties in 1914 and 1915 were particularly horrific but it soon became apparent that there was little use for cavalry in the stalemate of trench warfare. Our horses found themselves behind the lines while our soldiers fought first on their feet, later being formed into infantry and machine gun battalions. Some of us were even equipped with bicycles!

Mounted to Mechanised

Following the success of the Household Cavalry's exploits in the African campaigns at the end of the 19th century, the Army reforms introduced by Haldene confirmed that one of our regiments would always be in the Army's expeditionary force whilst the other two would remain on ceremonial duties in London.

This meant that rifle training and peacetime manoeuvres were experienced for the first time. It was a time of change where rifles, motor vehicles and khaki uniforms had become a part of everyday life.

- 1). Letter from Buckingham Palace and Queen's South Africa Medal and Martingale of "Freddy" of the 2nd Life Guards, 1903. Freddy was the only horse to return from the Boer War in 1900. He took part in every action in which the Regiment was engaged and covered 1,780 miles. Freddy became the lead horse in the Household Cavalry Musical Ride and was presented to Queen Alexandra at the Royal Tournament. She asked why he had no campaign medal, and immediately demanded that he be awarded one.

- 2). Slouch hat, 1900, worn by Trooper Edward Lowman of The Life Guards during the Boer War. Contemporary photographs show that far from the smart figures portrayed in the press, the Household Cavalry were scarcely distinguishable from the Boers, wearing old trousers, slouch hats and riding ponies from Australia and Argentina, supplied as replacements for their own horses. They were only issued with new clothing for a parade in Pretoria, just prior to returning home.

- 3). Helmet, 1899-1900, used during the Boer War. Khaki was worn by the army in the Sudan, and became the standard service dress in the Boer War and thereafter. Queen Victoria travelled from Scotland to Windsor especially to see the Household Cavalry off in November 1899. 'They were all in khaki uniforms', she wrote, 'which seemed to me very practical.'

- 4). Spirit cooker and pan, or 'Billy Can', 1899, used by The Life Guards during the Boer War for cooking rations.
- 5). Iron rations, 1899-1900. The rations are sealed and contain cocoa and pemmican (a form of dried meat), and were intended to sustain life for 24 hours. However, by late 1900, many men were complaining of lack of food. George Freemantle of The Life Guards wrote: 'We have been very badly off for food for a good many days. We had only about one biscuit each so you can guess how we got on. It was almost starving us.'
- 6). Cavalry telescope, c.1900, used during the Boer War by Lieutenant Hon R. Ward of The Blues. It is sighted to a range of 10,000 yards. The nature of tactics changed during the Boer War, with the cavalry fulfilling more of a mounted infantry and scouting role.
- 7). Canvas horse feedbag, hay net and grooming kit, 1914. When regiments were in the trenches, they left their horses a mile or two behind the front line. They were cared for by men detailed as horse holders, and were responsible for five or six horses each.
- 8). Universal pattern saddle, with sword and Lee Enfield rifle, 1902-1914. This saddle was designed to spread the burden more evenly across the horse's back. Each man carried the .303 Lee

Enfield rifle in the rifle 'bucket' on the off-side (or right hand side of the horse) with thirty rounds of ammunition in a bandolier over his right shoulder. A further sixty rounds were carried around the horse's neck. A highly effective new sword, introduced in 1908, designed for thrusting, was also carried on the saddle.

- 9). Lee Enfield speed cavalry carbine, 1904-1926. The traditional role of cavalry was to change during the Boer War. The Cavalry Drill Book of 1904 confirmed that 'instead of the fire-arm being an adjunct to the sword, the sword must become an adjunct to the rifle.'
- 10). Binoculars and case, 1917. These became particularly valuable during the First World War where warfare had evolved away from close combat to engagements, based on close observation of the enemy's position.
- 11) First World War service dress tunic and steel helmet, 1st Life Guards, 1914-1918. The battle dress tunic was made from a green serge material and is stitched and padded at the shoulder for a rifle butt. The basic design has remained unchanged and has continued to be worn by the Household Cavalry right up to the 1960s. A 9 pocket Cavalry bandolier containing two clips of 5 bullets in each was worn over the right shoulder during WW1.

- 12). Map case, 1914-1918, issued to Lord Tweedmouth, who was a machine gun officer. It contains maps of France and Belgium and an instruction book with instruments for calculating firing trajectories and range. It shows how the cavalry had to adapt to the changing nature of warfare.
- 13). Vickers machine gun with tripod, c.1914-1918, used by The Life Guards in the final battles of the First World War. The Vickers Gun had a reputation as a highly reliable weapon, capable of firing over 600 rounds per minute and having a range of 4500 yards. Water-cooled, it could fire non-stop for long periods.
- 14). Trooper's battle dress uniform, 1939-1945, worn by armoured car drivers of the 2nd Household Cavalry Regiment, which from July 1944 pushed through France, Belgium, the Netherlands and into northern Germany.

The Changing Face of War

After 1918, we entered another period of change. The Royals retained horses for imperial policing in India and the Life Guards and the Blues for ceremonial, but the wider cavalry continued to mechanise.

At the outbreak of war in 1939, the first of our two newly formed Household Cavalry composite regiments were deployed to Palestine with horses but in 1941 became motorised with lorries and fought in Iraq, Syria and Persia. They finally converted to armoured cars in 1942 fighting in North Africa, Italy and Germany, as did the Royals.

Once again, conscription was introduced which was to last as National Service for another 25 years. Our second composite regiment landed in Normandy in July 1944 and led the breakout across France and into Belgium.

The finest armoured car regiment I have ever seen.
- **General Horrocks, Commander XXX Corps**

At the end of the war, both of our regiments were to remain in Germany as part of the army of occupation and to counter the new threat posed by the Soviet Union and her Warsaw Pact allies.

Sacrifice

Household Cavalrymen have sacrificed their lives fighting for their Monarch and their country in every campaign, from the Dutch Wars in 1660 to Iraq and Afghanistan today.

Throughout the First World War (1914-1918), all our Regiments suffered horrendous casualties in men and horses. The Battle of Ypres, October 1914, took an especially heavy toll.

Since the Second World War, we have continued to serve and suffer casualties in operations around the Mediterranean, the Balkans, the Middle East, South East Asia, Northern Ireland, the Falklands, Iraq and Afghanistan.

- 1). Death medallion of Trooper Thomas Clements of The Life Guards, 1918. Made of bronze, these medallions were given to the next-of-kin of those who gave their lives during WW1. It is inscribed with the words 'He died for freedom and honour.'

Framed photography of Trooper Thomas Harold Clements of The Life Guards wearing ceremonial uniform shortly before leaving for France in 1914, as part of the British Expeditionary Force.

Campaign medals awarded to Trooper Thomas Harold

Clements of The Life Guards, 1914-18. They include the Mons Star, The British War Medal and Victory Medal.

2). Death medallions of Howard Avenel St. George, 1914. He was killed in action on the 15th November 1914, just one month after arriving at the Front.

Poppy with framed newspaper clipping, 1914. This poppy is one of the first poppies to be used as a lasting memorial to a fallen hero. It was found wrapped around this small photo clipping of Howard Avenel St. George. One can only suppose that this paper clipping was framed by a grieving relative.

3). The Victoria Cross, awarded posthumously to Second Lieutenant John Spencer Dunville of The Royals, June 24th and 25th 1917. Known to his men as 'Johnny', he died as a result of wounds received during a nighttime raid against enemy trenches near Epehy in France. The London Gazette reported that *'Dunville placed himself between an N.C.O. of the Royal Engineers and the enemy's fire, and, thus protected, the N.C.O was able to complete a work of great importance.'* This was to destroy the enemy wire and clear a way forward for the advance. Although severely wounded, he continued to direct his men until the raid was successfully completed.

- 4). Telegrams from the War Office and Buckingham Palace, June 25th, 26th July 1917. Received by the parents of Lieutenant 'Johnny' Dunville informing them of their son's wounding and subsequent death. A fellow officer wrote to Dunville's mother shortly afterwards: *'I hardly dare to offer any words of sympathy. It seems so cold and formal. To me his death is a tremendous blow ... Of course in the regiment he was a general favourite from the day of his arrival and I don't think there was a dry eye yesterday when the last post was sounded at his graveside. It must be a comfort to know that he died as he did, the whole regiment admiring his pluck and mourning his loss'*.
- 5). Death medallion, commemorative scroll and letter of condolence for Trooper Ralph Waring Howell, Household Battalion, 1917. At 3.45am on the 3rd of May 1917, the artillery opened a heavy barrage on the enemy's trenches, and at the same time the troops of the Brigade, including Howell, moved forward to the attack. The enemy had anticipated the attack and within two minutes of the first waves advancing heavy fire was met from all sides from enemy machine guns. Trooper Howell was killed alongside 7 officers and 98 other men.
- 6). Portable altar with communion cup, wine vessel, wafer box, altar cross, Bible and priest's stole, 1916-18. Used by the Reverend R.K. Haines to conduct services in the trenches. Writing to his wife at Christmas 1918, Haines wrote: 'It is rather

difficult to do much in the way of services on the frontline, but I managed to arrange a very small celebration between 2 and 3 on Xmas morning in a small sap running out of the trench. There was room for twenty-five men at a time and I managed to do two services. It is very weird to scan the snow all around and not hear a shot fired.'

- 7). World War 1 respirator and photograph of Lieutenant Colonel Portal, 1916. The spirit of service and sacrifice which the Rev. Haines so admired in the Household Cavalry is evident in this account: *'The Bosch [Germans] began shelling us with beastly gas shells and everyone dashed for their respirator. In the confusion, the Colonel could not find his and called for his orderly to bring it. It couldn't be found but in a few seconds he came back with one in his hand and said 'Here it is, Sir.'* Colonel Portal put it on. When we came to take them off 20 minutes later, the orderly was *[found] dead ... He had deliberately given his own respirator.'*
- 8). French dictionary, pocket book, cigarette case with bullet hole, 1915. At 14.30 hours, May 13th 1915, The Blues and The Royals made a successful bayonet charge of Frezenberg Ridge. Corporal of Horse Buckby of The Blues narrowly escaped death twice on the same day. He was hit by a sniper's bullet in the left breast pocket, which penetrated his cigarette case, pocket book and all but a few pages of his French dictionary.

- 9). Helmet belonging to Trooper Simon Tipper of The Blues and Royals who lost his life on July 20th 1982 when an IRA bomb was detonated in Hyde Park. Trooper Tipper was one of four members of The Blues and Royals who died that day. They included Lieutenant Anthony Daly, Staff Corporal Roy Bright and Lance Corporal Jeffrey Young. Seven horses were also killed and 23 other people injured.
- 10). Nail from the IRA bomb. The explosive device detonated on July 20th was deliberately packed with nails in order to increase its deadly wounding ability and cause large numbers of casualties.

Letter from the Queen Mother, July 23rd 1982. This personal letter from the Queen Mother was sent to Lt. Col Andrew Parker Bowles, Commanding Officer of the Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment following the Hyde Park bombing, when men and horses from the Regiment were killed and injured.

Sefton's bridle. The IRA (Irish Republican Army) detonated a bomb in Hyde Park on 20th July 1982 as the Queen's Life Guard was passing. Four members of The Blues and Royals and seven horses were killed. Sefton survived, despite the fact that he and eight other horses were severely injured. Sefton became a national symbol of defiance against terrorism.

Conflict since 1945

First there was the withdrawal from Empire. Within 15 years of the end of the Second World War our regiments had patrolled the Suez Canal, administered the British mandate to facilitate a Jewish homeland in Palestine, countered the nationalist resistance movement in Cyprus, dealt with unrest in Aden and monitored the end of the communist insurgency in Malaya.

The threat from the Warsaw Pact.

Later, we manned a tank regiment in Germany until 1992 as part of NATO's defence of central Europe. This regiment would alternate every four years with our armoured car regiment based in Windsor.

Duties from Home

Throughout the 70s and 80s, we supported the police in Northern Ireland during the 'troubles' and we provided an armoured car squadron to the United Nations force in Cyprus. We also received new armoured vehicles in the 70s which were to prove their versatility, mobility and fire power in the Falklands War of 1982.

Events following the Fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989

In 1991 we were involved in the operation to remove Saddam Hussein's Iraqi army from Kuwait. This was the only time that we went into action on tanks. In 1994 we sent a squadron to Bosnia for the first time as part of the UN peacekeeping force. Further squadrons were deployed with NATO to the Balkans for the next eight years to keep the peace in Bosnia, Kosovo and Macedonia.

The War on Terror

Recently our soldiers have been actively involved in the War on Terror.

In 2003 D Squadron comprising approximately 100 men supported the US led invasion of Iraq. Although 3 soldiers were killed and several more wounded they distinguished themselves and many were awarded medals for gallantry. Our squadrons continued to serve in Iraq on six month tours of duty until 2009.

In 2006 we sent troops to Helmand Province in Afghanistan for the first time. Several of our squadrons have undertaken subsequent tours of duty there and on two occasions the whole regiment deployed. Each and every deployment has witnessed fierce fighting against the Taliban.

Our final tour of duty in Afghanistan was completed at the end of 2013 but in an uncertain and dangerous world our soldiers remain ready to deploy at short notice to any part of the globe to counter the many threats we face.

Keeping One Step Ahead

In the War against Terror, new technology has helped us to better see defend and protect against attack, often from an unseen enemy such as IEDS (improvised explosive devices).

Protective Ballistic Eyewear

Made from the same material as fighter jet canopies, these goggles are designed to resist bullets and bomb blast debris. The interchangeable lenses can increase visibility in low light situations and protect against intense solar glare.

Body Armour Plate

Data from medical examinations of casualties showed an increase in injuries to the sides to the sides of the abdomen that the old armour left exposed. New combat armour, reinforced with ceramic armour plates, now shields all sides of the upper body.

First Aid Kit

All personnel are first aid trained and carry their own first aid kit, including trauma wound dressings, a tourniquet and morphine auto-injectors. All of the items can be self-administered.

Celox Clotting Bandage

Elastic bandages and activated wound dressing are key advances in preventing blood loss. The bandages are impregnated with crushed shellfish or minerals that seal injured blood vessels and are proven to stop major arterial bleeding in three minutes.

Medical Instruction Manual

All soldiers and team medics carry a medical instruction manual to remind themselves of the drills they must go through when treating a casualty.

GPS Watch

This watch has a Global Positioning System receiver that uses satellite navigation to help with determining ground position, speed and direction.

Personal Mine Extraction Kit

The kit contains a mine prodder, day time and night time route marker system, trip wire feeler and a manual that provides mine awareness basics and procedures to be followed. The daylight route marking system has red markers for suspect mines and white for safe. At night, Cyalume chemical light sticks are used instead.

Ballistic Pants

Known as the 'Combat Nappy' this detachable pelvic body armour is worn by all our soldiers on the front line. It is clipped to a belt and then pulled through the legs to form a protective pouch over what the men call 'the important bits'.

Life Saver Water Bottle

This ultra filtration water bottle produces up to 4000 litres of clean sterile drinking water by removing all microbiological contamination from any water source.

Vallon Metal Detector

The point man at the front of a patrol uses a detector, such as the Vallon displayed here. They are used to locate IEDs (improvised explosive devices) concealed in the ground or in walls. The operator sweeps the device back and forth, waiting for a change in sound pitch, a flashing light or vibration.

On Patrol

The ability of our soldiers to adapt and succeed in this hostile environment when they may have been riding on ceremonial duties on the streets of London only a few months before makes them unique in today's British Army.

Our soldiers are confronted by a variety of dangers when they are on patrol, which can last for over 8 hours. Sometimes they are on foot and sometimes in vehicles.

On foot they will carry 60/70lbs in weight in temperatures of 55°C in summer and minus 20°C in winter.

The ever present danger of a hidden sniper requires vigilance at all times and the notorious Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) which have been buried and concealed underground are a constant threat.

In this scene, our patrol has discovered an IED comprising a pressure plate, battery and initiator filled with home made explosive.

