

THE BATTLE OF DETTINGEN 27th JUNE 1743

Hostilities between France and Britain opened before war was formally declared in 1744. By 1742 sixty two thousand men had been raised by the British. John Earl of Stair an elderly veteran of the wars of Marlborough was appointed to command in the low countries. Among his troops was Lieutenant General Ligonier's Regiment of Horse, also known as the 'Black Horse' from whom were descended the 7th Dragoon Guards (Princess Royal's) who eventually became the 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards.

In 1743 he marched to Germany and joined Hanovarian and Austrian forces. At Dettingen on Main the combined armies under the command of George II himself, were manoeuvred by the French into a bottleneck, between the river and the hills blocked by the French army posted in a strong position. However a French commander disobeyed orders and advanced to the attack. His ill disciplined troops were broken by steady volleys from the British infantry. The French rout was completed by the charges of the British Cavalry. Dettingen was without a strategic result, however it was the last time a reigning monarch lead his troops to battle.

Today, in addition to the coveted Battle Honour Dettingen, there are two tangible reminders of the Black Horse's action. One is the celebrated "Dettingen Standard" borne by Cornet Richardson who received "seven and thirty cuts and shots upon his body" while defending it, which is now in the National Army Museum. The other is a pair of French Kettledrums, one in the same museum, its fellow being in the Regiment's own museum at York.

The Committee welcome you
to the 1986 Dettingen Dance
and hope you have a
most enjoyable evening.

Committee

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|-----------------|----------------|
| President | Cpl Dean |
| PEC | Cpl Turner |
| Dance President | Cpl Fitzsimons |

CORPORALS MESS

4th/7th ROYAL DRAGOON GUARDS



DETTINGEN DANCE

SATURDAY 26th JULY 1986

