

3 Medical Regiment

(Before disbandment and re-organisation in 2023)

Introduction

This unit history covers **3 Medical Regiment** (2009 - January 2023), its predecessor **3 Close Support Medical Regiment** (2000-2009) and the field ambulances in its lineage, including **16 Field Ambulance** (1942-1993), **16 Armoured Field Ambulance** (1993-2000) and **24 Armoured Field Ambulance** (1983-2000). Individual squadron histories are included as annexes.

3 Medical Regiment (formed on 1 April 2009) was a Regular Army unit that provided front line close medical support. It was held at high readiness to deploy as part of the Joint Expeditionary Force (Land) Light Brigade Support Group, commanded by 102 Logistic Brigade.¹



Unit crest (photograph courtesy of Terry Hissey)

¹ 3 Medical Regiment | The British Army (mod.uk) <https://www.army.mod.uk/who-we-are/corps-regiments-and-units/army-medical-services/3-medical-regiment/> (accessed 31 May 2022)

The Regiment was under the command of 1st (United Kingdom) Division,² whereas its predecessor, 3 Close Support Medical Regiment, had been under command of 3rd (United Kingdom) Division, in Bulford. The unit, as a light role medical unit, was equipped with wheeled ambulances (Land Rover Battlefield Ambulances). Its personnel included medical support officers, doctors, nurses, a physiotherapist, dental officer and combat medical technicians, and drivers, communication specialists, chefs, clerks and engineers.

Re-organisation under Future Soldier programme (2023)

Major changes occurred within the AMS from 28 February 2023 under the Future Soldier programme, with a reduction in the number of Close Support Regiments and the formation of Multi-Role Medical Regiments.³ 3 Medical Regiment was drastically affected. The Regimental Headquarters and 18 Support Squadron disbanded on 28 February 2023, and the unit's two Medical Squadrons were re-subordinated to Regular Field Hospital units to create Multi-role Medical Regiments (MMR). Thus 12 Medical Squadron was re-subordinated to 22 Field Hospital to form 22 MMR, and 29 Medical Squadron was re-subordinated to 34 Field Hospital to form 21 MMR.⁴ *See separate histories.*

4 Armoured Medical Regiment was re-designated as the formerly disbanded 2 Medical Regiment, and 5 Medical Regiment was re-designated as the new 3 Medical Regiment. This thereby aligned the nomenclature of the remaining three Close Support Regiments as 1, 2 and 3. In this way the heritage of AMS units would be retained at sub-unit rather than unit level. The new 3 Medical Regiment would become integral to a new formation, the 7th Light Mechanised Brigade Combat Team (previously 7th Infantry Brigade), within 1st (United Kingdom) Division.

A history of 3 Medical Regiment (2009-2023)

3 Medical Regiment was formed on 1 April 2009 under the Improved Medical Support to a Brigade (IMSB) concept, through the disbandment of **3 Close Support Medical Regiment (3 CSMR)**.

3 CSMR had been formed in 2000 from the amalgamation of **16 Armoured Field Ambulance** and **24 Armoured Field Ambulance**, which were re-designated as 16 and 24 Close Support Medical Squadrons within the larger regiment, alongside two other squadrons, 12 Close Support Medical Squadron and 7 Evacuation Squadron.

On formation of 3 Medical Regiment in 2009, 24 Close Support Medical Squadron was disbanded, and C 250 (Hull) Medical Squadron was re-subordinated to 3 Medical Regiment from 5 Medical Regiment.⁵

² The 1st (United Kingdom) Division was known until July 2014 as 1st (United Kingdom) Armoured Division, based in Herford, Germany. Under the Regular Army Basing Matrix associated with the Army 2020 changes, the Headquarters of 1st (United Kingdom) Division left Germany and moved to York in 2015.

http://www.aff.org.uk/linkedfiles/aff/latest_news_information/cregulararmybasingannouncementgridunclas.pdf

³ Future Soldier (programme published 25 November 2021; British Army Website <https://www.army.mod.uk/our-future/>. Future Soldier Guide https://www.army.mod.uk/media/15057/adr010310-futuresoldierguide_30nov.pdf)

⁴ Future Soldier (programme published 25 November 2021), British Army Website, <https://www.army.mod.uk/our-future/>. Future Soldier Guide https://www.army.mod.uk/media/15057/adr010310-futuresoldierguide_30nov.pdf

⁵ C 250 (Hull) Medical Squadron derives its lineage from 250 (Hull) Field Ambulance (Volunteers). The Squadron was formed on 1 December 1999, when 5 Field Ambulance amalgamated with 250 (Hull) Field Ambulance (Volunteers) to form 5 General Support Medical Regiment, the two field ambulances becoming squadrons within the larger Regiment.

In 2014, as part of the Army 2020 restructuring, 3 Medical Regiment was re-organised as a hybrid Adaptable Force medical regiment (containing both Regular and Reserve Squadrons), by re-subordination of 64 Medical Squadron from **xxx**, and 251 Medical Squadron from 225 Medical Regiment.⁶⁻⁷ During this process, 16 Close Support Medical Squadron (previously 16 Armoured Field Ambulance) was also disbanded.

On re-organisation, the unit moved from Gaza Barracks, Catterick to Fulwood Barracks in Preston in summer 2014. For the next four years its component sub-units were a **Regimental Headquarters**, one Regular Medical Squadron (**12 Medical Squadron**),⁸ two Reserve Medical Squadrons (**64 Medical Squadron** in Chorley, and **251 Medical Squadron** in Sunderland),⁹ and a Support Squadron (**18 Support Squadron**).

In 2018, following disbandment of 2 Medical Regiment, 3 Medical Regiment reverted to a completely Regular unit, taking on **29 Squadron** from that unit. Its two Reserve Medical Squadrons were transferred to 254 Medical Regiment, which became the sole Reserve Medical Regiment for the whole of England.

Between 2018 and 2022, 3 Medical Regiment comprised a **Regimental Headquarters**, **18 Support Squadron** and two light role Medical Squadrons (**12 Medical Squadron** and **29 Medical Squadron**).

Previous unit insignia



(in use in 2014)

⁶ Army Headquarters, A2020 Measure 08-005 – Implementation Order: Reorganisation of 3 Medical Regiment, dated 6 December 2013.

⁷ **Hybrid**: a Regular unit that includes Reserve force elements as part of its permanent establishment. 3 Medical Regiment was one of two hybrid Adaptable Force Medical Regiments (the other being 2 Medical Regiment) between 2014-2018.

⁸ See Squadron history at end of this chapter

⁹ The Reserve unit **251 Medical Squadron (Sunderland)** joined 3 Medical Regiment on 1 August 2014, on re-subordination from 225 Medical Regiment. The Squadron transferred to 254 Medical Regiment in 2018.

3 Close Support Medical Regiment (2000 – 2009)

3 CSMR was formed on 1 April 2000 as a result of the Strategic Defence Review, by the amalgamation of **16 Armoured Field Ambulance** and **24 Armoured Field Ambulance**,¹⁰ which became individual squadrons in the new unit.^{11,12} The Commanding Officer, Second in Command, Adjutant and Regimental Sergeant Major of 24 Armoured Field Ambulance took over the equivalent posts in 3 CSMR.¹³

3 CSMR provided medical close support to 3 (UK) Division as part of the Divisional Medical Group, with three deployable Medical squadrons (12, 16 & 24 Close Support Medical Squadrons), and an Evacuation Squadron (7 Evacuation Squadron).

The Regimental Headquarters, Headquarter Squadron, 7 Evacuation Squadron and 24 Close Support Medical Squadron were co-located in Catterick. 16 Close Support Medical Squadron was located in Tidworth and 12 Close Support Medical Squadron in Swanton Morley. By 2005, 7 Evacuation Squadron was absorbed into the three Close Support Medical Squadrons.

24 Close Support Medical Squadron was disbanded in 2009 on re-organisation of the Regiment.

3 CSMR on humanitarian deployment in Kenya

The Royal Army Medical Corps regularly deploys medical regiments to Kenya in order to provide much-needed medical care to remote and inaccessible communities. In 2006 it was the turn of 3 CSMR.

The military artist David Rowlands was commissioned by then-Commanding Officer Lt Col Kevin Beaton to accompany 3 CSMR to Northern Kenya. There the Regiment delivered much-needed medical care to the tribal people of Samburu and Marsabit Districts.

The painting below commemorates the valuable humanitarian work undertaken by the RAMC and associated arms, depicting one of the Medical Patrols which contributed to the administration of 10,000 life-saving vaccines to mothers and children, 7,000 primary care consultations, and the extraction of 1,000 teeth.¹⁴

¹⁰ **3 Close Support Medical Regiment** 'Authority is given for the redesignation, reorganisation and amalgamation of 16 Armoured Field Ambulance and 24 Armoured Field Ambulance to form 3 Close Support Medical Regiment. Implementation date 1 Apr 2000' (General Staff Order - Authority for the Redesignation, Reorganisation and Amalgamation of Units: D/DASD/2/3327 (AMD 1) dated 14 Apr 2000)

¹¹ **16 Armoured Field Ambulance** was re-designated **16 Close Support Medical Squadron** on amalgamation

¹² **24 Armoured Field Ambulance** was re-designated **24 Close Support Medical Squadron** on amalgamation

¹³ **16 Armoured Field Ambulance**, last Unit Historical Record 1 April 1999 – 31 March 2000, Annex A

¹⁴ David Rowlands prints http://www.davidrowlands.co.uk/gallery/gal_detail.asp?varPaintCode=678



3 CSMR Medics in Africa (artist David Rowlands, reproduced with permission)

3 CSMR Deployments to Iraq (Op TELIC)

3 Close Support Medical Regiment was fully involved in operations in Iraq. It provided Dressing Station 1B as a formed sub-unit to its twin unit, 1 Close Support Medical Regiment, on Op TELIC 1; it provided individual squadrons in support of Op TELIC 2, 3, 6, 9 and 10; and it deployed as a complete unit on Op TELIC 12.

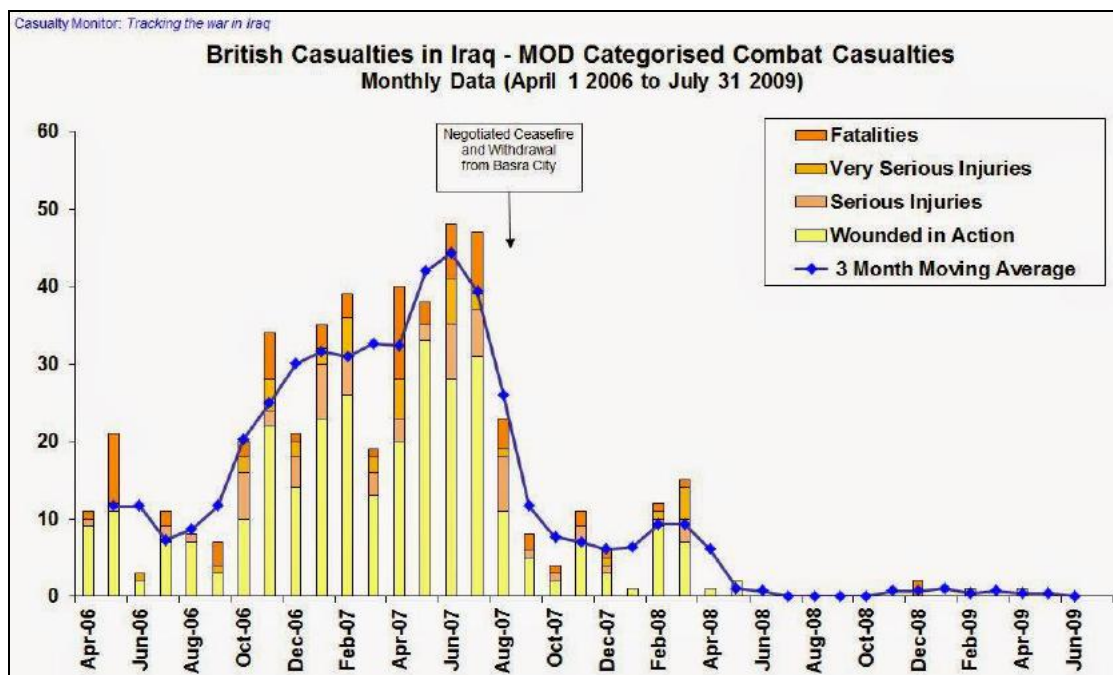
On TELIC 1 (February-June 2003), each of the two Dressing Stations (DS 1A and DS 1B) had four resuscitation bays and a surgical team providing Role 2 support. DS 1B received the bulk of casualties (including injured children) due to 7 Armoured Brigade wishing to retain DS 1A (with its COLPRO capability) on wheels in order to move it to any location suffering a Chemical Warfare strike – the main perceived threat. Several of the unit's armoured and battlefield ambulances were hit by small arms fire – one having a lucky escape when a rocket-propelled grenade failed to detonate on impact.¹⁵

During TELIC 9 (November 2006 – May 2007) the unit lost **Corporal Kris O'Neil** and **Private Eleanor Dlugosz** who were killed by an Improvised Explosive Device on 5 April 2007 whilst travelling in a Warrior vehicle returning from patrol in Basra. Two other soldiers from 2 LANCS Battle Group and a civilian interpreter were also killed in the same incident.¹⁶

¹⁵ 1 Close Support Medical Regiment: Interim Post Operational Report and Lessons Learned – OP TELIC (6 May 2003)

¹⁶ Ministry of Defence, 6 April 2007. 'Operations in Iraq - Second Lieutenant Joanna Yorke Dyer, Corporal Kris O'Neill, Private Eleanor Dlugosz and Kingsman Adam James Smith killed in Iraq'
<https://www.gov.uk/government/fatalities/second-lieutenant-joanna-yorke-dyer-corporal-kris-oneill-private-eleanor-dlugosz-and-kingsman-adam-james-smith-killed-in-iraq>

The Regiment deployed as a complete unit on TELIC 12 (May-October 2008) where it had a very successful tour supporting 7 Armoured Brigade. The CO of 3 CSMR was appointed as CO UK Medical Group and simultaneously as Comd Med, while the unit was tasked with providing the Hospital Squadron in addition to the RHQ and Close Support Squadron. This structure had been successfully trialled on TELIC 11 with 1 CSMR. TELIC 12 marked the turning point in the campaign as the emphasis changed to mentoring and embedded training with the Iraqi Security Forces. No UK personnel died or were injured as a result of enemy action on this tour, for the first time in the TELIC campaign.¹⁷

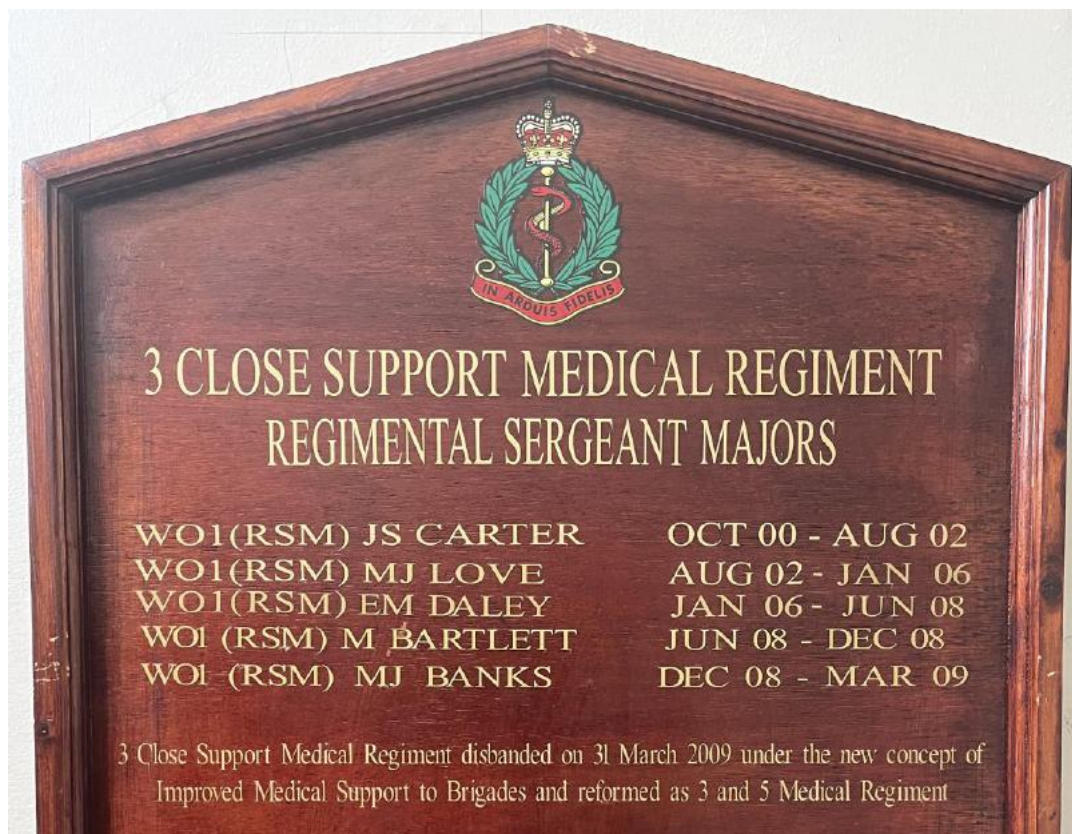
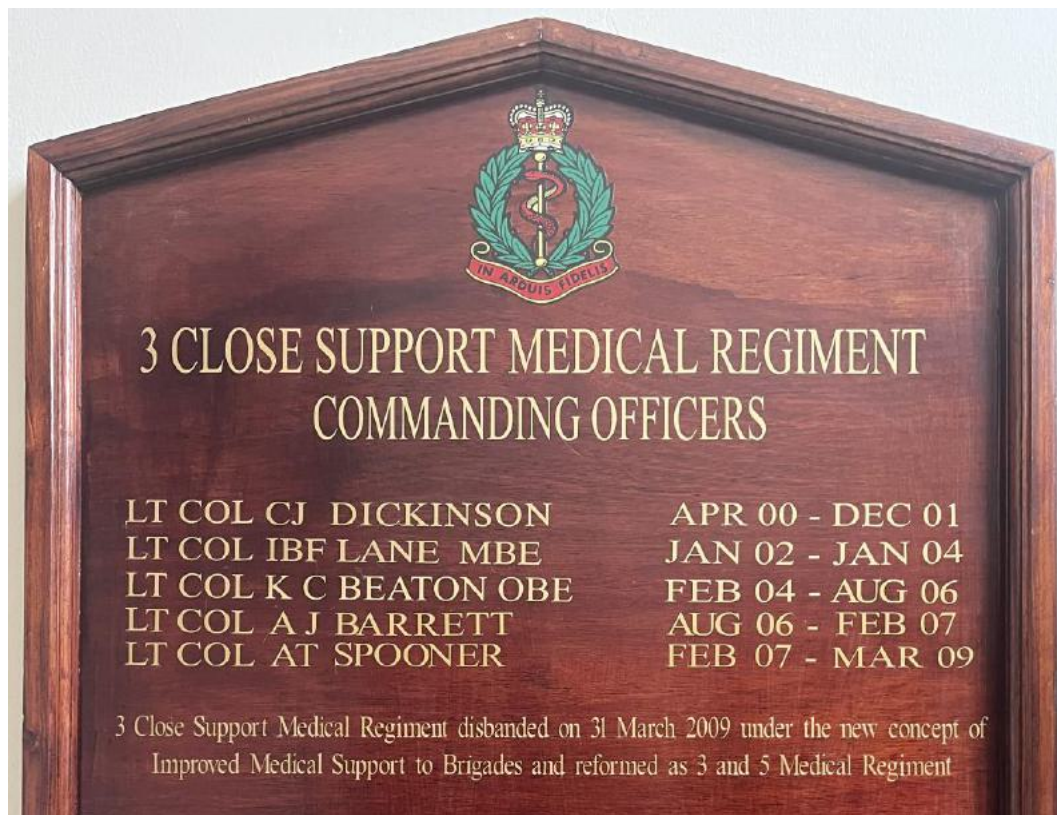


British Combat Casualties in Iraq, 2006 – 2009 (Source: Casualty Monitor)¹⁸

¹⁷ Vassallo, D. Organisation of the medical services on Operations TELIC and HERRICK. In: *Military Medicine in Iraq and Afghanistan – A Comprehensive Review* (Ed: Ian Greaves; CRC Press, 2019). Available online at <https://www.friendsofmillbank.org/op-telic-and-op-herrick/>

¹⁸ Casualty Monitor: British Casualties: Iraq <http://www.casualty-monitor.org/p/iraq.html> (accessed 31 May 2021)

3 CSMR Commanding Officers and Regimental Sergeant Majors (2000 – 2009)



3 Medical Regiment – its deployments (2009 – 2015)

Following its formation as 3 Medical Regiment on 1 April 2009, at the height of the campaign in Afghanistan, the unit commenced pre-deployment training for Op HERRICK.

Deployments to Afghanistan (Op HERRICK 12 and 17)

3 Medical Regiment supported 4 Mechanised Brigade on HERRICK 12 (April – October 2010), under command of Lt Col Nigel Partington, and on HERRICK 17 (October 2012 – April 2013), under Lt Col Phil De Rouffignac.¹⁹

It was during HERRICK 17 that a combat medical technician, **Corporal Channing Day**, was killed in action in Nar-e-Sharaj on 24 October 2012.

A Personal Recollection of Op HERRICK 17 (October 2012 – April 2013)

If someone had told me on deployment that we would be closing 24 bases, redeploying over 1000 items across 600 categories, closing one entire Squadron early whilst seeing 6000 primary health care patients and hundreds of emergency cases in Helmand Province alone, I'd have never believed them. But we did – and perhaps this tour really was the beginning of the end, with redeployment becoming uppermost in everyone's mind.

3 Medical Regiment deployed on Op HERRICK 17 from September 2012 to April 2013, a tour length of nearly seven months. 200 soldiers from the Regiment and over 40 Individual Augmentees, Regular and Reserve, across 7 cap badges made up the United Kingdom Close Support Medical Regiment, supporting units from Task Force Helmand, Joint Force Support (Afghanistan), Kabul Joint Support Unit and Kandahar airfield.

I was quietly envious of all those who could get their Regiment all together in one place, never more so than when one of our soldiers, Cpl Channing Day, was killed in action in Nar-E-Saraj on 24 October 2012, only three weeks into our tour. It is a credit to our youngest and our best that they picked themselves up and continued to deliver throughout the rest of a long and difficult tour: our lowest moment was never our defining moment.

¹⁹ Vassallo D. Organisation of the medical services in Iraq and Afghanistan. *Op cit.*, pp.72,75



Command on operations is a time which never stands still. Milestones are reached – base closure, first Rest and Recuperation flights, Xmas and Easter, but there is the sense that only the end of tour brings culmination and a finished product. Good humour, good friends and the support of your chain of command make the time go faster and there are always those back home to think about. The plethora of visits out to theatre, from royalty to Hollywood stars, to politicians and generals, are mostly welcome and only occasionally get in the way of real work.

I was lucky – our vital role was recognised, and every day one of our soldiers did something that made me smile with pride. Their courage under fire was often the stuff of legend, but, to them, modesty means it's just doing the job that they trained to do. With handover, homecomings and holidays forming the blur at the end of tour, I can look back and say with utmost conviction that we played our part – and then some.

Lt Col Phil De Rouffignac, Commanding Officer 3 Medical Regiment (2011-2014)²⁰

²⁰ Personal communication by Lt Col Phil De Rouffignac to Col DJ Vassallo, 2 July 2014 (reproduced with permission)



Cross dedicated to Cpl Channing Day, retrieved from Afghanistan and currently in 12 Medical Squadron lines

Commanding Officers and Regimental Sergeant Majors, 3 Med Regt (2009 – 2023)



ANNEX - The Squadron Histories

The individual Squadrons within 3 Medical Regiment carried on the lineage of their predecessor field ambulances or medical regiments.

The following Annex firstly contains short histories of the two Regular Squadrons which formed part of 3 Medical Regiment before being re-subordinated to 22 and 21 MMR respectively in 2023, namely **12** and **29 Medical Squadrons**.

It also contains short histories of its two disbanded Regular Squadrons, **16** and **24 Close Support Medical Squadrons** (whose lineage included **16 Field Ambulance** [which participated in the Falklands War], **16 Armoured Field Ambulance** and **24 Armoured Field Ambulance**).

This Annex finally also contains histories of the two Reserve Squadrons (**64** and **251 Medical Squadrons**) which formed part of the Regiment between 2014 – 2018.

12 Medical Squadron (lineal successor to 12 Field Ambulance)

12 Medical Squadron was previously known as **12 Close Support Medical Squadron**, through which it traced its lineage to **12 Field Ambulance**. This Field Ambulance delivered medical support on the Western Front to 12 Brigade within 4 Division throughout the First World War.^{21,22,23} It also served in the campaigns in North Africa and Italy during the Second World War.²⁴

12 Close Support Medical Squadron became operational in 2001 (shortly after formation of 3 CSMR). It was initially based in Swanton Morley, Norfolk, before relocating in August 2009 to join the rest of the Regiment in Catterick.

During its short history as such, the Squadron deployed to the Balkans and then to Iraq on TELIC 2, 6 and 12.²⁵

The Squadron then supported operations in Afghanistan, providing close medical support to 4 Mechanised Brigade during 3 Medical Regiment's deployment on HERRICK 12 (April – October 2010).

This Squadron was temporarily the only Regular Medical Squadron in 3 Medical Regiment between 1 August 2014 and 1 December 2018.

Under the Future Soldier programme, 12 Medical Squadron was resubordinated to 22 Field Hospital on 28 February 2023 to form 22 Multi-Role Medical Regiment.

²¹ See: 4th Division – The history of 4th Division. In: *The Long, Long Trail*. <https://www.longlongtrail.co.uk/army/order-of-battle-of-divisions/4th-division/#:~:text=The%20history%20of%204th%20Division.%20This%20division,%20initially> (accessed 29 September 2024)

²² See: Field Ambulances in the First World War. In: *The Long, Long Trail* <https://www.longlongtrail.co.uk/soldiers/a-soldiers-life-1914-1918/the-evacuation-chain-for-wounded-and-sick-soldiers/field-ambulances-in-the-first-world-war/#:~:text=The%20Field%20Ambulance%20was%20a%20mobile%20front%20line%20medical%20unit> (accessed 29 September 2024) See also: The Defence Medical Services in the Great War. <https://www.friendsofmillbank.org/ww1>

²³ The National Archives. WO 95/1474/2 Divisional Troops: 12 Field Ambulance War Diary, 1 January – 31 December 1915. <https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/C14053067#:~:text=Divisional%20Troops:%2012%20Field%20Ambulance.%20Date:%201915%20Jan%201%20->

²⁴ Imperial War Museum Photograph Collection: The British Army: No 12 Field Ambulance, RAMC, North Africa And Italy, 1942 – 1944 <https://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/205009421#:~:text=One%20album%20of%20photographs,%20post cards,%20cartoons,%20facsimiles%20of> (accessed 29 September 2024)

²⁵ For an overview of the medical commitment to Op TELIC, see: <https://www.friendsofmillbank.org/op-telic-and-op-herrick>

29 Medical Squadron (lineal successor to 29 Field Ambulance)

Introduction

29 Medical Squadron transferred to 3 Medical Regiment in 2018. Previously, it had been an integral part of 2 Medical Regiment throughout that unit's existence (2008 – 2018).

This Squadron's lineage starts with **29 Field Ambulance**, formed in West Germany in 1950, which carried on the name of its predecessors that served in the World Wars. The Squadron subsequently formed part of **1 Armoured Division Field Ambulance** (formed 1977), **1 Armoured Field Ambulance** (1982), **1 Close Support Medical Regiment** (2000), **2 Medical Regiment** (2008), and thereafter **3 Medical Regiment** (from 2018).

First World War

29 Field Ambulance was formed as part of the 9th (Scottish) Division on 21 August 1914.²⁶ Following training in Scotland, the unit proceeded to France in May 1915 and was soon involved at the Battle of Loos. The following year, 29 Field Ambulance participated in the Battle of the Somme, including the capture of Longueval and the Battles of Delville Wood and Le Transloy.

In 1917 the unit took part in the Battle of Passchendaele, the action of Welsh Ridge and the First and Second Battles of the Scarpe during the Arras Offensive. In 1918 the unit was involved on the Somme, in the Battles of the Lys and The Advance in Flanders, supporting the capture of Outtersteene Ridge and seeing action in the Battle of Courtrai.

9th (Scottish) Division was selected to be part of the occupation force and on 4 December 1918 they crossed into Germany to take up a position at the Cologne bridgehead on the Rhine. In late February 1919, the original units were demobilised and replaced by others, and the Division was renamed the Lowland Division.²⁷

Second World War

29 Field Ambulance is recorded as serving in Iraq (10 April - 31 May 1941) and Syria (8 June - 12 July 1941) with the Middle East Forces.²⁸

²⁶ *The 9th (Scottish) Division in 1914 – 1918*. The Long, Long Trail <http://www.1914-1918.net/9div.htm> (last accessed 30 January 2021)

²⁷ There is a website dedicated to the 29th Field Ambulance in the First World War: <http://www.wartimememoriesproject.com/greatwar/allied/ramc29fldambl-gw.php>

²⁸ 'Orders of Battle 1939 - 1945 War - RAMC', War Office File 0534 / 3, in 'Second World War Orders of Battle', Historical Branch (Army)

Cold War

29 Field Ambulance reformed in Goslar, West Germany in 1950, moving to Hildesheim in 1951 and to Osnabruck in 1958.²⁹ It was one of six field ambulances serving with the British Army of the Rhine.

1977 – Amalgamation with 29 Field Ambulance, to form 1 Armoured Division Field Ambulance

On 1 September 1977, 29 Field Ambulance amalgamated with 28 Field Ambulance to form **1 Armoured Division Field Ambulance**, based in Hohn, ³⁰ with its individual squadrons maintaining the separate lineages to each field ambulance. On 1 October 1982 the new unit was renamed **1 Armoured Field Ambulance**.³¹ A later change to the establishment necessitated a new Authority for Formation (under the same name of 1 Armoured Field Ambulance) on 1 October 1993.³²

1990 - Op GRANBY (Saudi Arabia)

Following Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait, the Squadron deployed with the whole of 1 Armoured Field Ambulance (known as 1 AFA) to Saudi Arabia in October 1990, providing first-line medical support for 7 Armoured Brigade (the Desert Rats). The heavily reinforced 1 AFA (eventually numbering some 400 personnel) was subdivided into two main sub-units for this operation, Dressing Stations 1A and 1B (DS1A and DS1B), as well as four Armoured and two Wheeled Ambulance Sections. During the ground war, 1 AFA operated in two parts, with RHQ, DS1A and the Forward Troop operating in support of 7 Armoured Brigade, and DS1B providing medical cover for the Divisional troops.

The Desert Rat insignia

In recognition of its support to 7 Armoured Brigade on Op GRANBY, 1 Armoured Field Ambulance was granted authority on 15 December 1995 to wear the Brigade Insignia (The Desert Rat).³³ The Desert Rat was

²⁹ **29 Field Ambulance RAMC** was formed in Goslar on 1 July 1950. It was identified by Standard Unit Code 5160 0290. The unit had moved to Hildesheim by 4 January 1951 where it remained until August 1958, moving to Harden Barracks, Osnabruck by 1 November 1958 (*information obtained from Army Staff Duty Card (29 Field Ambulance RAMC) - citing General Staff Order - Authority for Formation: BAOR/41772/A (Org 1) dated 13 Jun 1950*). The Army Staff Duty Cards (ASD cards) are an operational index of medical units and formations in the British Army from circa 1945 to circa 1970, containing locations, title changes and establishment references but no personal information, based on the General Staff Orders (GSOs) issued by the War Office / Ministry of Defence. Details were transcribed from the GSOs onto individual 'Unit History and Location Cards'. This unique set of index cards is held in the Museum of Military Medicine.

³⁰ **1 Armoured Division Field Ambulance** 'Authority is given for the amalgamation of 28 Field Ambulance APC RAMC at Glyn Hughes Barracks, Hohn, BFPO 30 with 29 Field Ambulance APC RAMC (moving from Harden Barracks, Oberkirchen, BFPO 29) and 1 Division Field Hygiene Section (moving from Shiel Barracks, Verden, BFPO 32) to become 1 Armoured Division Field Ambulance RAMC (1 Armd Div Fd Amb RAMC) at Glyn Hughes Barracks, Hohn, BFPO 30. Effective date is 1 September 1977.' (GSO – Authority for Formation: D/AMD/27/4/22 (ASD 2a) dated 21 July 1977)

³¹ **1 Armoured Field Ambulance** GSO – Authority for Redesignation: D/AMD/27/1/1 (ASD2) dated 3 Jan 1983

³² **1 Armoured Field Ambulance** GSO – Authority for Formation: D/DASD/209/2 (ASD3) dated 27 June 1994.

³³ Annex G to 1 Armoured Field Ambulance, Unit Historical Record, dated 31 March 1996

to remain a part of unit insignia (a heritage proudly carried on by the Squadron and 2 Medical Regiment) until 2014.



1994 - 1999 – The Balkans - Ops GRAPPLE, RESOLUTE, LODESTAR and PALATINE

Following the disintegration of Yugoslavia in the years after the death of Tito, the UN established a Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in 1992 to supervise the de-militarization of the warring factions and to provide relief to the civilian population. Further descent into civil war resulted in a succession of UN and NATO operations (UNPROFOR, IFOR and SFOR), before peace was eventually restored.

29 Squadron deployed (always with 1 AFA) to Croatia on Op GRAPPLE 4 in April 1994 in support of UNPROFOR; to Sipovo, Bosnia from October 1996 – April 1997 on Op RESOLUTE (the UK's contribution to IFOR); to Bosnia again on Op LODESTAR, the UK's contribution to the UN Stabilisation Force (SFOR); and one final time to Bosnia on Op PALATINE from September – November 1999.



*1 Armoured Field Ambulance, Ops RESOLUTE & LODESTAR, 1996 – 1997
(courtesy of Terry Hissey)*

2000 – Amalgamation, with formation of 1 Close Support Medical Regiment

On 1 April 2000, the three Armoured Field Ambulances (1, 2 and 3) amalgamated to form the large **1 Close Support Medical Regiment**, based in York Barracks, Münster (with C (31) Medical Squadron alone being based in Bergen-Hohne at the time).³⁴ The individual squadrons of the new regiment formally retained links through their names to the original field ambulances,³⁵ with the newly **designated A (29) Close Support Medical Squadron** maintaining the lineage to 29 Field Ambulance.³⁶

2003, 2005 – Op TELIC 1 and Op TELIC 7 (Iraq)

A (29) Close Support Medical Squadron (known as A (29) Squadron) deployed as part of 1 Close Support Medical Regiment on Op TELIC 1 in 2003 and on Op TELIC 7 (November 2005 – April 2006).

In preparation for Op TELIC 7, A (29) Squadron deployed on Ex MEDMAN in Canada in support of the 1st Battalion Royal Regiment of Fusiliers (1 RRF) and the 4th Battalion Royal Regiment of Scotland (4 SCOTS). During Op TELIC 7 itself, the Squadron supported 7 Armoured Brigade, with troops located in Basra Palace, Shaibah Logistic Base, Shatt al Arab hotel in Basra Camp, and Abu Naji in Al Amarah and Maysam province.

During that same year, A (29) Squadron also deployed to Poland in support of Exercise ULAN EAGLE.

³⁴ **1 Close Support Medical Regiment** 'Authority is given for the redesignation, reorganisation and amalgamation of 2 Armoured Field Ambulance, 3 Armoured Field Ambulance and 1 Armoured Field Ambulance to form 1 Close Support Medical Regiment at York Barracks, [Munster] BFPO 17 (RHQ, A (29) Sqn, B (30) Sqn, E (28) Evac Sqn and HQ Sqn) ... and Talbot Barracks, [Bergen-Hohne] BFPO 16 (C (31) Sqn). Effective 1 April 2000' (GSO - Authority for Redesignation, Reorganisation and Amalgamation: D/DASD/2/3326 (AMD 1) dated 1 Sep 1999)

³⁵ **1 Close Support Medical Regiment** was composed of Headquarters Squadron, A (29) Close Support Medical Squadron, B (31) Close Support Medical Squadron, C (30) Close Support Medical Squadron, and E (28) Evacuation Squadron.

³⁶ **A (29) Close Support Medical Squadron** has the official abbreviation of **A (29) Sqn**.

2008 – Re-subordination to 2 Medical Regiment

On 1 April 2008, after eight years of existence, 1 Close Support Medical Regiment disbanded to form 1 Medical Regiment, based in Münster, and 2 Medical Regiment, in Hohn, with A (29) Squadron being re-subordinated to 2 Medical Regiment.

2009 – Op HERRICK 10 (Afghanistan)

A (29) Squadron deployed with the whole of 2 Medical Regiment on Op HERRICK 10 (April – October 2009), during which time its medics cared for casualties during the busiest period in the whole of the HERRICK Campaign – Operation PANTHER'S CLAW.³⁷

2013 – Op HERRICK 19 (Afghanistan)

A (29) Squadron further deployed on an extended eight-month tour on Op HERRICK 19 (September 2013 – April 2014) in preparation for the withdrawal of British Forces in late 2014. During this latter tour the Squadron was based in Helmand Province, with detachments in Kabul and Kandahar.

2014 – Re-designation as 29 Medical Squadron

As part of the overall re-organisation of 2 Medical Regiment, A (29) Squadron was formally re-designated 29 Medical Squadron on 1 July 2014, thereby re-emphasising its lineage to 29 Field Ambulance.³⁸

2018 – Re-subordination to 3 Medical Regiment

2023 – Re-subordination to 34 Field Hospital to form 21 MMR

Under the Future Soldier programme, 29 Medical Squadron was re-subordinated to 34 Field Hospital on 28 February 2023 to form 21 Multi-Role Medical Regiment.

³⁷ Vassallo D. Organisation of the medical services in Iraq and Afghanistan. *Op cit.*, pp. 67-70.

³⁸ 'On 1 Jul 14, A (29) Sqn and Sp Sqn were re-designated 29 Med Sqn and 22 Sp Sqn respectively.' Army Headquarters, A2020 Measure 08-005 – Implementation Order: Reorganisation of 2 Medical Regiment, dated 11 August 2014

16 Close Support Medical Squadron (2000 – 2014, disbanded)

This Regular Squadron of 3 Medical Regiment, formed in 2000 and disbanded in 2014, derived its lineage from **16 Field Ambulance** (1942 – 1993) and **16 Armoured Field Ambulance** (1993 – 2000).

16 Field Ambulance (1942 – 1993)

The history of 16 Field Ambulance starts on 6 April 1942 when it was raised as the original Parachute Field Ambulance at Harwicke Hall, Chesterfield, serving thereafter in North Africa and at Arnhem. Later, the Unit saw active service in Palestine, Malaya and the Falkland Islands.

Op CORPORATE – the Falklands Campaign

On 8 June 1982, during the battle to regain the Falkland Islands after the Argentinian invasion, 16 Field Ambulance was on board the RFA *Sir Galahad* when the ship was attacked by Argentinian Fighter-Bombers at Fitzroy and set ablaze. The attack killed three members of the unit, **Major Roger Nutbeem**, **Lance Corporal Ian Farrell** and **Private Kevin Preston**, as well as 32 soldiers from the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards, eight soldiers from support arms, and five crew members of the RFA. Major Nutbeem's body was later recovered, temporarily interred and then repatriated to the United Kingdom. The bodies of Lance Corporal Farrell and Private Preston, along with those of their comrades were left on the *Sir Galahad*, which was towed out to sea and sunk as a war grave.



Commemorative plaque in Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel Memorial Garden, Pangbourne College, Berkshire (courtesy of Angela Perry MBE)



*RAMC Memorial Plaque at Fitzroy (courtesy of Lt Col Alan Miller RE, 8 February 2026)
They Shall Not Be Forgotten*

Praise for the Medical Services from General Sir Edwin Bramall, Chief of the General Staff, 1982

Immediately following the Falklands Conflict, the *AMS Magazine* reproduced the text of a letter sent to the Director General Army Medical Services by General Sir Edwin Bramall, Chief of the General Staff:

'With the cessation of hostilities in the Falklands, I would like to place on record my great appreciation for the efforts of the Medical Services in support of the Task Force.

The Falkland Islands campaign has been unique in many respects; none more so than for the appalling conditions in which casualties from both sides had to be treated. I have heard nothing but unqualified praise for all members of the Medical Service, not only for their professionalism and determination in tending the wounded but also for their personal courage and ingenuity; and although I have not yet heard the full story, I believe that 16 Field Ambulance performed near miracles in the aftermath of the bombing of the Sir Galahad.

I visited some of the casualties still in hospital yesterday (21 June 1982) and they all, to a man, were full of praise for the medical attention they received. I hope that you will ensure that my profound thanks and appreciation are passed down to all the staffs and units who have been involved in providing this outstanding medical support.³⁹

Op GRANBY (First Gulf War, 1990-91)

For details of the overall medical plan, though 16 Field Ambulance is not mentioned by name, see Chapter 5 'Medical Support' by then-Colonels LP Lillywhite and RA Leitch in 'Gulf Logistics'.⁴⁰

The unit's normal role in the UK was as a wheeled Field Ambulance providing second line medical support to HQ UKMF units and AMF (L). While 16 Field Ambulance did not deploy as a formed unit on Op GRANBY, the unit was certainly involved, both in the UK and in the Gulf. 110 personnel from the unit were attached to various units in the Gulf, thereby qualifying for the Gulf Medal 1990 - 1991: HQ British Forces Gulf Riyadh, 22 Field Hospital Bahrain / Al Quaisumah, 16 Field Ambulance Support Group Al Jubail, Medical Support Troop (A) Dharan and Medical Support Troop (B) Tabuk.⁴¹

The 'Operation GRANBY - Joint Medical Support Plan' held at Historical Branch (Army) gives the rationale for the formation of **16 Field Ambulance Support Group**:

1. General

The need for a structured, cohesive system of casevac from the Gulf Peninsula to UK Military and Civil hospitals resulted in the formation of 16 Field Ambulance Group.

³⁹ The Falklands Islands Campaign. *Army Medical Services Magazine* 1982 (October); 36:58

⁴⁰ Martin White. *Gulf Logistics – Blackadder's War*. (London: RUSI/Brassey's, 1995). Chapter 5 – Medical Support pp.77-114. See also: Craig RP. Preparations Made and Lessons learned by the United Kingdom Defence Medical Services During Operation Granby. *Journal of the US Army Medical Department* Nov/Dec 1992, pp.26-30.

⁴¹ Historical Branch (Army), Unit Historical Records.

This unit was tasked with the collection of casualties from civilian and military airfields in the UK and subsequent transport to Civil or Military hospitals.

The unit was formed on 12 November 1990 and was commanded by Lt Col J M Booth RAMC. It consisted of Headquarters and administrative elements of 16 Field Ambulance RAMC, 7 Sqn RCT and 200 bandmen and women from 8 staff and regimental bands. Various elements from SW DIST [South West District] logistic units provided additional support.

2. Key personnel were Lt Col J M Booth RAMC (Commanding Officer), Maj P Saunders RCT (2ic), and Major J Green RAMC as QM.

3. Bands involved were: Life Guards, RHG/D, 9/12 Lancers, Coldstream Guards, RRF, and the WRAC Staff Band.

By the end of hostilities, 16 Field Ambulance Group had received and dispersed over 600 patients aeromedically evacuated to the UK during the seven weeks of operation.⁴²



Unit crest, provided by Terry Hissey

⁴² Historical Branch (Army), Unit Historical Records. 'Operation GRANBY - Joint Medical Support Plan'

16 Armoured Field Ambulance (1993 – 2000)

Formation In December 1992 16 Field Ambulance converted to the armoured role, formally becoming 16 Armoured Field Ambulance on 1 October 1993.⁴³

Balkans Between 1996 and 1999 16 Armoured Field Ambulance deployed on Op RESOLUTE and Op PALATINE in the Balkans, and then redeployed in 2000 as the newly formed **16 Close Support Medical Squadron**.

DRASH System In 1995 – 1996 the unit was heavily involved in the initial trials of the Deployable Rapid Assembly Shelter (DRASH) system, and during 1995 its Dressing Station was equipped with DRASH modules. It deployed the system to Bosnia on Op RESOLUTE, and the Medical Support Troop (MST) was set up in DRASH in the unit location in Sipovo.

The advantages of the DRASH system were principally its speed of deployment, allowing a treatment facility to be erected in minutes, and the brightness of its interior relative to the previously used 18 x 24 tents. The disadvantage of DRASH was the requirement for training and co-ordination when handling the system, as the structure can be damaged if not used correctly. Nonetheless, the unit welcomed DRASH as a marked improvement over the G1098 tentage.⁴⁴

16 Close Support Medical Squadron (2000 – 2014)

16 Close Support Medical Squadron was formed by the re-designation of **16 Armoured Field Ambulance** on the latter's incorporation into the newly formed 3 Close Support Medical Regiment on 1 April 2000.⁴⁵ The squadron formed up in Tidworth and in late 2007 moved to Topcliffe. In July 2009 it relocated to Catterick to join the rest of the newly designated 3 Medical Regiment.

Op HERRICK 17

16 Medical Squadron undertook the Force Support Squadron role on Op HERRICK 17, providing primary health care and assured ground medical evacuation across the entire area of operations in Afghanistan.

Disbandment Changes to the Army's order of battle resulted in 16 Medical Squadron being disbanded on 1 May 2014, bringing an end to seven decades of '16' history and tradition. Care should be taken not to confuse this with the different history of the present-day 16 Medical Regiment.

⁴³ **16 Armoured Field Ambulance** 'Authority is given for the formation of 16 Armoured Field Ambulance RAMC. Implementation date 1 October 1993' General Staff Order - Authority for Formation: D/DASD/209/2 (ASD 3) dated 27 June 1994

⁴⁴ 16 Armoured Field Ambulance. Unit Historical Records 1 April 1995 – 31 March 1996, Annex F

⁴⁵ **3 Close Support Medical Regiment** 'Authority is given for the redesignation, reorganisation and amalgamation of 16 Armoured Field Ambulance and 24 Armoured Field Ambulance to form 3 Close Support Medical Regiment. Implementation date 1 Apr 2000' (General Staff Order - Authority for the Redesignation, Reorganisation and Amalgamation of Units: D/DASD/2/3327 (AMD 1) dated 14 Apr 2000)

24 Close Support Medical Squadron

(Formed as 24 Armoured Field Ambulance, 1983; designated as a squadron within 3 CSMR in 2000, disbanded 2009)

***A note of caution:** Not to be confused with **24 Field Ambulance** which formed on deployment to Kenya in 1960 and disbanded in Yorkshire on 1 September 1976, reforming as **5 Field Ambulance**, which moved in 1977 to Oxford Barracks, Munster, in West Germany.^{46, 47} 5 Field Ambulance amalgamated with 250 (Hull) Field Ambulance (Volunteers) in 1999 to form **5 General Support Medical Regiment**, renamed **5 Medical Regiment** in 2009, then **5 Armoured Medical Regiment** in 2014 (see history). 5 Armoured Medical Regiment was re-designated as the new **3 Medical Regiment** in February 2023, under the Future Soldier programme.*

1 January 1983 – Formation of 24 Field Ambulance RAMC (at Catterick) as a new unit⁴⁸

1 Oct 1988 – Re-designation as 24 (Airmobile) Field Ambulance RAMC ⁴⁹

October 1990 – Deployment on Op GRANBY



Unit crest, 24 (Airmobile) Field Ambulance, Op GRANBY (courtesy of Terry Hissey)

⁴⁶ 'Authority is given for the re-designation of 24 Field Ambulance RAMC at Topcliffe Barracks, Thirsk, Yorkshire YO7 3EY as 5 Field Ambulance RAMC at Oxford Barracks, Munster, BFPO 17. Effective 1 September 1976.' General Staff Order - Authority for Redesignation: D/AMD/27/4/23(ASD 2) dated 20 July 1976

⁴⁷ For more information about this unit, as well as the First World War 24 Field Ambulance, see Brigadier Alistair Macmillan's article 'The RAMC And The Croix De Guerre' in the September 2018 issue of the RAMC Reunited Newsletter http://www.ramcreunited.co.uk/files/RAMC-REUNITED-NEWSLETTER-46---September-2018_j5oa3xk8.pdf

⁴⁸ Authority for Formation 'Authority is given for the formation of 24 Field Ambulance RAMC at Gaza Barracks, Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire. Effective 1 Jan 83. Completion 1 Apr 83.' General Staff Order: D/AMD/27/1/1 (ASD2) dated 14 Sep 1982.

⁴⁹ 'Authority is given for the re-designation at Catterick of 24 Field Ambulance (Wheeled) RAMC, as 24 (Airmobile) Field Ambulance RAMC. Effective 1 October 1988' General Staff Order: D/SG(OPS)468/2/24/3 (ASD 2b) dated 29 September 1988

30 September 1991 - Lt Col L H Lodge RAMC assumes command, thereby becoming the first female to command a regular army field unit.

June – December 1992 - Deployment on Operation HANWOOD (the British contribution to the UNPROFOR peace-keeping force in Croatia, between April 1992 and October 1993)



Unit crest, Op HANWOOD (courtesy of Terry Hissey)



Area of operations on Op HANWOOD (detail from Unit crest)

1 April 1993 – the unit re-roles to armour, becoming affiliated to 19 Mechanised Brigade. It accordingly adopts the new Brigade shoulder flash: a 6cm equilateral triangle which displays a stylised Black Panther's head superimposed on an inverted red triangle on a gold background with black piping. The flash is worn on Combat Jackets on the left arm directly below the epaulette.

1 October 1993 – Re-designation as **24 Armoured Field Ambulance**⁵⁰

2000 – The unit is re-designated as **C (24) Close Support Medical Squadron** within 3 CSMR.

2009 – Disbandment following the restructuring of the Army Medical Services under the Improved Medical Support to a Brigade concept.



⁵⁰ **24 Armoured Field Ambulance** General Staff Order - Authority for Formation D/DASD/209/2 (ASD 3) dated 27 June 1994

64 Medical Squadron

(sub-unit of 3 Medical Regiment, 2014 – 2018; re-subordinated to 254 Medical Regiment, 2018-2023 (tbc). Re-subordinated to 206 (North-West) MMR in 2023)

This Reserve Squadron was attached to 3 Medical Regiment from 2014 – 2018. It is derived from the Chorley Detachment formed in April 2001. This was a detachment of Evacuation Squadron, 5 General Support Medical Regiment with an establishment of 50 officers and soldiers. It was based at Lancaster House Chorley, purposely re-opened for the occasion, after extensive renovations, by the Mayor of Chorley, Councillor Tom McGowan, in a ceremony attended by the MP for Chorley, the Honourable Lindsay Hoyle, councillors and local dignitaries. Lancaster House, which is known locally as ‘The Barracks’, has been home since 1896 to a variety of Volunteer and Territorial Units including The Chorley Pals in the First World War.

The Detachment was afforded Squadron Status in 2006 to become C (64 Chorley) Medical Squadron (Volunteers), with an increase in its establishment to 150 personnel, and then renamed in 2010 as D (64) Medical Squadron (Volunteers). It was re-subordinated to 3 Medical Regiment on 1 March 2014 and re-designated as 64 Medical Squadron. The Squadron was transferred to 254 Medical Regiment on 1 December 2018.

Since its formation in 2001, the Squadron has deployed under its various guises to Bosnia on Operations OCULUS and PALATINE, to Cyprus on Op TOSCA, to Iraq on Op TELIC 1, 5 and 8, and to Afghanistan on Op HERRICK 7, 13, 14, 15 and 18.

The Squadron has always sought to foster relations with the local community. Its parent unit, 5 General Support Medical Regiment, was awarded the Freedom of the Borough in June 2007 and in May 2007 the MP for Chorley, the Honourable Lindsay Hoyle, accepted the invitation to become 64 Squadron’s Honorary Colonel. In 2011 he was appointed Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons, Chairman of Means and Ways.

In 2015, now forming part of 3 Medical Regiment, the Squadron’s continued close links with Chorley were further recognised through the conferment of the Freedom of the Borough upon 3 Medical Regiment, granting the Regiment *‘the right, privilege, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of Chorley on all ceremonial occasions with drums beating, bands playing and flags flying’* (see image on next page).

(TBC) In 2018 (tbc) the Squadron was re-subordinated to 254 Medical Regiment (tbc), and in 2023 was further re-subordinated to 206 (North West) MMR.⁵¹

⁵¹ 64 Medical Squadron. <https://jobs.army.mod.uk/army-reserve/find-a-reserve-centre/north-west/chorley-devonshire-road/> (accessed 29 September 2024)



*Freedom of the Borough of Chorley (image courtesy of Lt Col Hattersley).
This scroll resided at the HQ of 3 Medical Regiment. This was probably (tbc) transferred
to 64 Medical Squadron in 2023 as a result of the Future Soldier re-organisation.*

251 Medical Squadron (re-subordinated to 214 MMR in 2023)

(sub-unit of 3 Medical Regiment, 2014-2018; moved to 254 Medical Regiment, 2018-2019; moved to 225 (Scottish) Medical Regiment, 2019-2023; moved to 214 MMR, 2023)

This Reserve Squadron, based in Sunderland, has come under the command of a bewildering sequence of units in the twenty-five years since the start of the millennium, when **251 (Sunderland) Field Ambulance RAMC (V)** became a Squadron within **5 General Support Medical Regiment**, in 2000.

The Squadron derives its lineage from **151 Light Field Ambulance RAMC** (formed in 1937) and its successor units, namely **151 (Northern) Field Ambulance (TA)**, **251 (Durham) Field Ambulance RAMC (V)** and **251 (Sunderland) Field Ambulance RAMC (V)**. The latter became a squadron within **5 General Support Medical Regiment** (from 2000-2006), thereafter being re-subordinated successively to **225 General Support Medical Regiment** (2006-2014),⁵² **3 Medical Regiment** (1 August 2014-2018), **254 Medical Regiment** (1 December 2018-2019), **225 (Scottish) Medical Regiment** (2019-2023), and most recently **214 (North-East) Multi-Role Medical Regiment** (2023 – date).⁵³



⁵² General Staff Order - Authority for the Re-Designation of a Unit - Amendment No1. DGS/02/3332/Liab, dated 21 June 2007: 'Explanatory note: 251 (Sunderland) Medical Squadron (Volunteers) was a sub-unit of 5 GS Medical Regiment (Es No 02/3332/Vers 5) and is now to become a sub-unit of 225 GS Medical Regiment (Volunteers). Implementation date 1 April 2006'

⁵³ MOD Army website. 214 (North-East) Multi-Role Medical Regiment <https://www.army.mod.uk/who-we-are/corps-regiments-and-units/army-medical-services/214-north-east-multi-role-medical-regiment/> (accessed 17 Sep 2024)

251 Medical Squadron's predecessors

151 Light Field Ambulance RAMC was formed in December 1937 under the command of Major Swindale, although it was not until March 1939 that recruiting began in earnest with war looming. The unit mobilised on 1 September 1939 as the main Medical Unit of the Cavalry Brigade, consisting at the time of eight Officers, four SNCOs and 94 Other Ranks.

Following Dunkirk and the Battle of Britain, 151 Light Field Ambulance moved around the UK before embarking on SS *Northumberland* on 5 February 1941 for Port Said in order to support the 7th Armoured Division, 'The Desert Rats'. It arrived in Egypt on 23 April 1941.

In September 1942, having already supported 7th Armoured Division through many battles including Tobruk and El Alamein, 45% of the Unit were killed, wounded or captured at the battle of Sidi Pesegh. One of the unit's doctors, Captain Forster, received the Military Cross for his actions there, remaining in his post and tending to casualties for 96 hours without a break.

This work in the desert continued until July 1943 when the unit deployed to Sicily. Thereafter it moved up through Italy in support of the Allied advance, being present at Taranto, Salerno and Monte Cassino, with one section that landed at Salerno later going on to support over one thousand troops in Yugoslavia. As the war came to an end 151 Light Field Ambulance was rebranded as a Squadron and sent to Austria to establish a rest camp, being demobilised there.

The 1957 novel '*Ice Cold in Alex*' by Lt Christopher Landor, which explores the ordeals of an ambulance crew attempting to get back to Alexandria through enemy lines, uses experiences from the desert war as faced by 151 Light Field Ambulance. This novel was adapted for the wide screen in 1958, becoming one of the world's most famous war movies.

The Unit was reformed on 15 April 1947 in Birtley as **151 (Northern) Field Ambulance (TA)** with a detachment in Sunderland where it continued until its disbandment on 31 March 1967 with the reformation of the Territorial Army. The following day the Unit re-formed as **251 (Durham) Field Ambulance**.⁵⁴ The unit has been located in Dykelands Road, Sunderland since that day. In 1983 the unit was attached to 15 Infantry Brigade where it trained for its role in a NATO taskforce.

251 (Durham) Field Ambulance was the first TA Field Ambulance to deploy complete to an operational environment, in Bosnia in the 1990s. In 2000, the Unit, now named **251 (Sunderland) Field Ambulance RAMC (V)**, became a squadron within **5 General Support Medical Regiment**.

On 1 April 2006, **251 (Sunderland) Medical Squadron (Volunteers)** became a sub-unit of 225 General Support Medical Regiment (Volunteers). In the summer of 2014, 251 Squadron was further re-subordinated to 3 Medical Regiment as part of the Army 2020 reforms and was re-designated **251 Medical Squadron**.

251 Medical Squadron was re-subordinated to 254 Medical Regiment when 3 Medical Regiment ceased to be a hybrid unit on 1 December 2018, and then to 225 (Scottish) Medical Regiment from 2019-2023.

The Squadron has now been re-subordinated to the newly-formed 214 Multi-Role Medical Regiment. *(Dates and detail TBC)*

⁵⁴ General Staff Order – Authority for Formation: B to A/20/Misc/5164(ASD5c) dated 9 March 1967

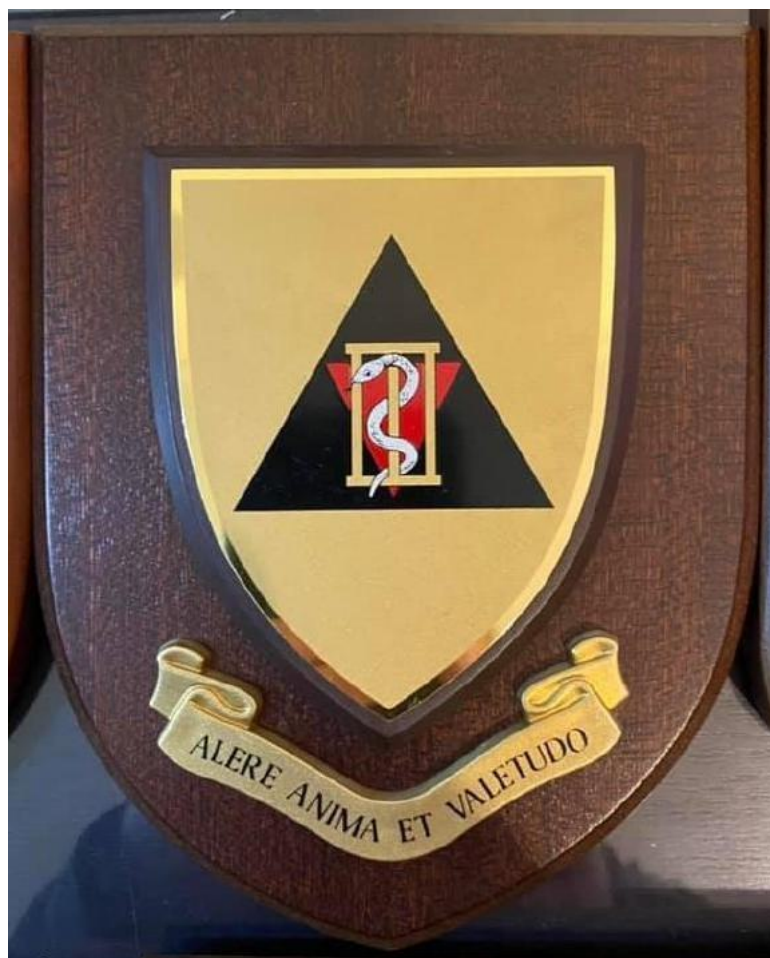
Acknowledgements

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Updated photographs of the CO and RSM appointment boards of 3 CSMR and 3 Medical Regiment, and of the Cpl Channing cross, were kindly provided by Lt Col Hattersley.

The author apologises for any errors or omissions. If you notice any errors or wish to contribute to this unit history, please email the author at djvassallo@aol.com

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*Unit crest, 2022
(courtesy of Andy Game)*