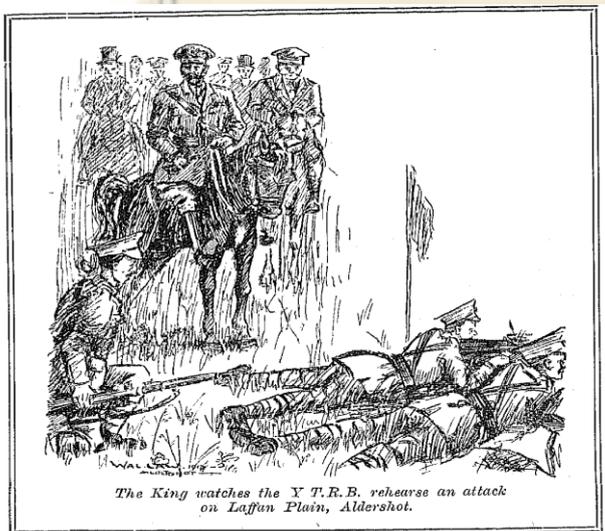


CHIN-WAG Newsletter

Villiers Park Educational Trust's commemoration of the First World War through extracts from the Old Etonian's and Eton Manor's CHIN-WAG Newsletter

No. 56. Vol. V.

September 1917.



May I congratulate Major Villiers on being awarded the D.S.O. and on "Coppernob" winning the Military Medal?

I see we are still bringing home the pots. Old sayings never die - "Otter than ever." If you get much "Otter" the Government will be claiming the "Otters" for defeating the U-boats. At jumping, too, the Club has come out on top. Good old "Dicky Bird".

We are at present resting some good way behind the line. There are two or three ponds where we can get a good swim, and jolly fine it is too, especially after having done a good day's work. My division has been holding some Boxing Contests lately, and very good fights they were too. One match was a 10-round contest between an ex-lightweight champion of England and the champion of the division. The champion of the division was the winner, and I think he has sent his opponent to "Blighty".

Sorry to see that nobody has forwarded a German gun to the Manor House yet, but I hope one is on the way.

Hoping you are all A1 and have a good try for pulling off the September Swimming at the Lambeth Baths - I remain, yours sincerely,

- Mo.

On NOT being asked to write for "CHIN-WAG."

A frivolous retort to "Lavecrep" who WAS asked.

I'm tired of writing articles on War, and Peace, and pigs;
Of trying as composer too of giddy Irish jigs.
I'm stared at in the "workman's" I catch at seven-fifteen
P'raps just because my nose is red some folks may think
me green;
It's no result of drinking, that is a certain bet;
But still, with mirth half-hidden, I see you doubt me yet.

* * * * *

By now, of course, you're wondering what the dicken's this about.

Keep calm, just keep your hair on, and you will soon know when to shout.

The fact is, I'm in trouble - a victim of dark despair;
And that is why I write this rot, make you my grief to share!

* * * * *

Some chaps there are for CHIN-WAG here are simply asked to write,

While others sometimes write to ask the way to spell "indite"

Once I sent a poem gay - I admit A. Wagg never asked it;

It was received, I know not why, in his waste-paper basket.

But that was not the bitt' rest drop in my deep cup of woe,

For when I offered more to write, he glared and snapped out "No!"

* * * * *

That's the reason here you find this piffle for perusal,
Solely in defiance of the Editor's refusal.

So if in future you would write - (who said "Good Heavens preserve us!") -

Although *not asked*, write hard and fast for CHIN-WAG, don't be nervous!

- "Inkubus."

Please revisit www.villierspark.org.uk each month for the next edition of CHIN-WAG from a century ago.