

## **THE KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS MEMORIAL BENCH AT THE BRITISH NORMANDY MEMORIAL, VERS SUR MER**

5<sup>th</sup> June, 2024

Dear Borderers, Family and Friends,

I wrote to you earlier this year appealing for funds to sponsor a regimental memorial bench at the new British Normandy Memorial at Vers sur Mer. Your response was magnificent and we achieved the target with ease. I write to thank everyone who contributed to the appeal.

I show a photograph of the bench below which was dedicated on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024 during the Regimental Battlefield Tour to Normandy. You can see the plaque clearly on the bench and a photograph of Corporal Martin of 6 KOSB whose family travelled with us on the tour and who stood with us as we visited the battlefields around Caen and at Operations EPSOM and BLUECOAT. The bench was dedicated in a short but moving church service by our Padre, Stephen Blakey.

The Bench is on the pathway from the carpark to the main Memorial and will be seen by every single visitor who visits the British Normandy Memorial for years to come. His Majesty the King and other members of the Royal Family will be there during the D Day 80 Commemoration this week.

My sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to the appeal fund – you have ensured we have a presence at the site which will be the centrepiece of the United Kingdom's commemoration for decades in the future.

***Once a Borderer, Always a Borderer***



**Lieutenant General (Retd) John Cooper CB DSO MBE**  
**32<sup>nd</sup> Colonel, The King's Own Scottish Borderers**