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Dear Secretary and Branch Members,

I hope this letter finds you all in good health and filled with Christmas spirit!

Since being posted to Number 7 Company in July, my pace of life has picked up considerably. There is a very busy public duties plot even though we are now on 48 hour guards. A Guardsman can find himself in one of the royal guardrooms at least once a week! We are quite lucky this year as all the Public Duty Incremental Companies are clear of duty from mid December until early January. The new year brings a skiing trip for the Guardsmen in the French Alps, before we begin the public duties cycle again.

More recently the Company has been engaged in a number of activities in and around London. We have been doing quite a lot of charity assistance, most notably with London Poppy Day at the beginning of November. It was great to see Barrie and his team at Marylebone during the day. Where we helped raise £430,000. The Ideal Home Show was another activity where we have been able to help the Army Benevolent Fund raise much needed cash.

Sport in the last few months has allowed quite a few blokes to get away. There is a London Central Garrison rugby team filled from the ranks of the Incremental Companies and Regimental Bands. They have had mixed results lately and they have unfortunately lost their last two games although with a bit more training they look like they could shape up into quite a good team. The main sports event during November and December has been boxing, culminating on Wednesday with the Inter Company boxing competition.

I imagine you are all as excited as me about 2012, being a thoroughly Coldstream year. Last month it seemed quite a long way off but with Christmas just around the corner its going to be on top of us before we realise! I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible during the various activities.

It was great to see you all at the annual lunch, I look forward to our next encounter!

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy new year.

Yours sincerely,

WO II E Pickersgill
Company Sergeant Major