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# CADETLIFE



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# **CRUSADERS INVADE ENGLAND**

**T** o be honest, "invade" is not *technically* accurate... Nevertheless, the Crusaders and sponsors COL Shane Blanton and LTC Rob Stinson, along with MAJ Jack West, spent a week in England last month getting an insider's look at two prestigious and world-renowned British boarding schools—Eton College and Wellington College—and seeing significant sites of Christian heritage and other historic sites.

Mark Sayer, classics instructor at Wellington, made the Crusaders feel really welcome. He arranged for them to visit classes, eat meals, visit houses and play soccer with the Wellington boys. After the visit, he remarked that the Crusaders' presence caused a stir on campus. At a Bible study the following week, Mr. Sayer was delighted to discuss Christian education and discipline as a result of questions raised from conversations the Wellington boys had with the Crusaders.

Thanks to Eton host Paul Williams, a mathematics instructor who visited Chamberlain-Hunt last year, the Crusaders got to meet the tailcoat wearing Eton boys and exchange stories about life at their respective schools. They also had the rare privilege of a College Library tour, where they saw a Gutenberg Bible, J. C. Ryle

manuscripts, documents written by Oliver Cromwell and by King Charles II, among other treasures. After the tour, the Williamses graciously served a traditional British tea at their home to warm up the Crusaders before they set off up Eton's High Street and across the Thames River bridge for visit to Windsor. The day ended with a sumptuous meal in one of Eton's private dining rooms.

Besides these two schools, the Crusaders packed in quite a bit of sightseeing in a few short days. Upon their arrival in England, the troop went directly to Oxford. LTC Stinson led a walking tour that included Carfax Tour, Christ Church College, the Martyrs' Memorial and the 124 narrow, spiral steps to the top of the University Church





### "In all thy ways acknowledge him and he will direct thy paths." Proverbs 3:6

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tower, from which they got an unobstructed view in all directions of that ancient city.

They spent a cold, snowy day seeing Stonehenge, the remains of William the Conqueror's hilltop fort at Old Sarum and Salisbury Cathedral (and one of the four surviving originals of Magna Carta) before seeing a *real* Crusader knight's grave at the ancient church ruins next to Greatham Manor, which houses L'Abri Fellowship. It was equally cold but not snowy as they toured Warwick Castle and Stratford-upon-Avon, and London. Among the sites they saw in London were priceless British Library manuscripts (including two more of the surviving four Magna Carta originals, the oldest existing gospel manuscripts, early editions of Shakespeare's folio and drafts of Beatles songs), the Parliament building, Westminster Abby, Trafalgar Square and Piccadilly Circus.

A memorable trip for all involved, COL Blanton hopes to take Cadets to England each year to develop further Chamberlain-Hunt's relationship with these and other schools for mutual benefit.

The Crusaders who went to England were Matt Carver, Alex Clark, Sean Clayton, Kyle Clingan, Daniel Edwards, Jamie Headley, Andrew Irby and Kwabena Kwarteng.



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# **CROMWELL AND CHRISTENDOM**

O ne of the most fascinating moments for me during the recent excursion to England was standing face to face with the towering statue of Oliver Cromwell outside of Parliament. I had, only the day before, seen a document written and signed by the very hand of Cromwell himself, and there was a certain solemnity about standing face to face with Cromwell, the man who established the parliamentary principle (which is, to no small extent, embedded in our own Constitution), outside the very walls of Parliament.

Very few men, me included, are able to consider Cromwell with any manner of objectivity. Whether he is canonized or reviled, Cromwell must be commended for asserting boldly, in word and deed, the crown rights of Christ Jesus. The words "Christ, not man, is King" were inscribed on his tomb, a fitting memorial to a man who attempted, with some missteps and oversteps, to embody the highest principles of Christian statesmanship.

One of Cromwell's finest and most Christian acts as Lord Protector of the Commonwealth, something which should not be lost on us today, was his reopening of the British realm to the Jewish population in late 1655, after 365 years of expulsion. Judaism, as a religious system, was not to receive special treatment or privilege; Jews were to understand and recognize that they were residing in a Christian commonwealth; AND Jews were to receive the human rights protections that the state owed to all human beings (including the right freely to practice their religion, as long as their

The Lord Protector was sensitive to the fact that, while a Christian commonwealth is not obligated to show equal deference to all religions and that it should set the conditions for the gospel to prosper (Is. 49:23 – "...and kings shall be your guardians, and their princesses your nurses"), *only* the Christian worldview can account for the principle of religious toleration.

religion did not become outwardly seditious).

Only the Christian worldview, likewise, can provide an account for resistance to militant and seditious religious expressions of the sort that modern society encounters with militant Islam, for without the claims and authority of Scripture, one loses all principle moral complaint against

#### (Continued from page 2)

terrorism, religious war and sedition. Cromwell, while eager to promote toleration for those who would peacefully practice Judaism and even Islam within the borders of the Commonwealth, was *intolerant* of Christian terrorist movements expressed in the Levellers, Fifth Monarchists and Clubmen.

Despite his mistakes, Cromwell was aware that Christianity, though it is a religion of dominion, extends that dominion only through the "foolish means" of the preaching of the gospel. Levellers and Clubmen, then, attempted the use of force *in spite* of their religion.

Cromwell was sensitive to the fact that, though Christianity requires religious toleration by the state (even though it requires the civil magistrate to support the propagation of the gospel), Christians must be careful. They must be careful not to commit the error of either forcing their will by the power of physical compulsion or confusing toleration with multiculturalism or pluralism. Just as certain Christians are capable of committing egregious and violent sins in the name of the Cross, adherents to other worldviews (militant Islam comes to mind immediately, but one must insist that not all Muslims fall into this category) are equally capable of taking advantage of cultural and societal conditions that, in an effort to be politically correct, even-handed and tolerant, will permit those intent on evil to prosper.

It is one of the most understated ironies of history that Cromwell, often cast as the "poster boy" of intolerance was, in fact, the champion of religious toleration *even* as he championed the notion of the Christian Commonwealth.

Intolerance is necessarily opposed to the Christian worldview, and the last remnants of Christian culture are threatened today by those who seek to subvert by violence, *and* by those who, in the name of "tolerance," blindly embrace every anti-Christian worldview. If the West is to survive, the Christian*ness* of the West, along with the principle of biblical toleration, must be reasserted. As the Lord Protector held, "what is all our histories, but God showing himself, shaking and trampling on everything that he has not planted."

"Knowledge and wisdom in submission to God!" —ROBERT D. STINSON LTC, CHA Commandant

*Photos:* (top) LTC Stinson with Mark Sayer at the north front of Wellington College, which opened in 1859. (*middle*) Crusaders Kwarteng and Clingan fane fear in Warwick Castle's torture chamber as COL Blanton snaps a shot. (*bottom*) Crusaders pose by the statue of Edward VI, who established "King's College" at Eton in 1440.







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O n 02 April, the day of Port Gibson's annual Heritage Festival, Chamberlain-Hunt

Ouasauicentennial's

the final Pass in

After months of

searching for current

addresses, the Alumni

office mailed

announcements to

close to 3,000 former

Cadets. The many

even from those who

were unable to attend

Having recently

reconnected with so

many alumni,

Chamberlain-Hunt

wants to keep

communication open.

If you attended

Chamberlain-Hunt,

send in your e-mail

address and

encourage your

former classmates to

do the same. In the

coming year, the

office will

Alumni

Don't be left out!

your years at CHA.

publish an alumni directory for

those who want to be included.

▲ Iso, if you are an alumnus/a

Awho served in the US

military, please send us your

name, rank, branch of service

and years of service as well as

KEEP IN TOUCH!

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encouraging.

the gathering, were

positive responses,

last big event before

alumni gather on campus for the

Review in May.

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