

Col. David 'King' Gladwell Parker



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'King' Gladwell Parker graduated from Sandhurst in 1957. He was a soldiers soldier, good sportsman and had a long distinguished career. He joined the RLI in 1961 and became 2IC of A Company and served in the Congo crisis. In 1971 Major Dave Parker became the OC of 1 Commando RLI. On May 1974 he became the CO of RLI till November 1975. He was greatly loved by all troops and respected by all other Services. He was a brilliant tactician and a prime developer of the 'Fireforce' combat tactic. His last posting was as Colonel in Headquarters 3 Brigade. Col. Dave 'King' Parker was tragically killed on 23 December 1975 when his helicopter crashed during Christmas visits to his troops. A truly great soldier was lost.