

St Asaph was blessed with fine weather on Saturday morning when the local community witnessed the wonderful spectacle of the Royal Welsh Regiment on parade in the grounds of the cathedral and later marching in St Asaph High Street led by their billy goat mascot Lance Corp. Shenkin IV and the Regimental band.

It was a huge honour for the City mayor, Cllr Colin Hardie to welcome the Regiment to St Asaph and present Col. Lock with the Freedom of the City, an honour only bestowed on organisations who have given exceptional services to our country. The regiment is one of the oldest and most decorated in the British Army and has served in many of the more recent worldwide conflicts.

Before being given permission to “march off”, the troops were inspected by the City Mayor, Col Lock, Lord Lieutenant Henry Fetherstonhaugh and Chairman of Denbighshire CC Cllr Peter Prendergast to the sound of the band playing “pack up your troubles” , a first world war song composed by the Powell brothers who were residents of St Asaph.

The morning was concluded with a special Drumhead service in the cathedral conducted by the Dean, the Very Revd Nigel Williams.

Cllr Colin Hardie, Mayor of the City of St Asaph 11th July 2023