

KING'S ROYAL RIFLES LOSE THEIR TEDDY BEAR



'An exciting time for the people of Folkestone'.

Folkestone and the district had a novel and exciting experience of a wild beast hunt, a Himalayan bear, brought home from India, by the Kings Royal Rifles having made its escape from Shorncliffe Camp. The bear is the regimental pet of the rifles having come into their possession whilst in the East.

By some means the animal made good its escape from captivity and it is supposed made for the open country beyond the camp.

A large number of the Kings Royal Rifles scoured the country in search of the fugitive and reported the matter to the county and Folkestone police force in order to get their assistance.

Western Times 28th Dec 1910.

Himalayan Bear Caught After 40 Hours Liberty

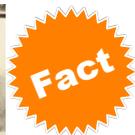
After about forty hours liberty during which his movements have caused considerable apprehension in the country in the vicinity of Folkestone and Hythe, the Himalayan bear which escaped

on Christmas night was recaptured yesterday afternoon. It was not, however until it had been decided to give up the search that news was received of the culprit's whereabouts. A little boy saw the bear amongst the ruins of some burnt out quarters and reported it to some soldiers. The bear however resented the loss of its liberty and he refused even to be

cajoled with a bottle of ginger beer, which is his favourite luxury item. Some of the soldiers got to close quarters with Teddy, as he is named, but he gave them a rough and tumble, several being thrown over before he could be got on his chain. *Nottingham Evening Post 28th Dec 1910*



The above articles appeared in newspapers printed over 100 years ago. Look at the two pieces again, make notes about the tone, style and wording used. Discuss your notes with your classmates and teacher.



A number of regiments who were stationed at Shorncliffe camp had bears as regimental mascots. The 17th Lancers had a bear called Bruin. The word Bruin is an old English word meaning Brown Bear. Bruin also escaped from Shorncliffe Camp



The picture on the right is of another famous bear. Winnie came to England with Lt Harry Colebourn a veterinary officer with the Canadian Cavalry during World War One.



Using your classroom computers and the Internet, search for details about the life of Winnie the Bear. In particular find out where Winnie was born, what city in Canada she is named after, where she lived after 1915, which famous author visited Winnie in the 1920's, and what was the name of the book the author wrote as a result of his visit. Discuss your answers with your teacher.