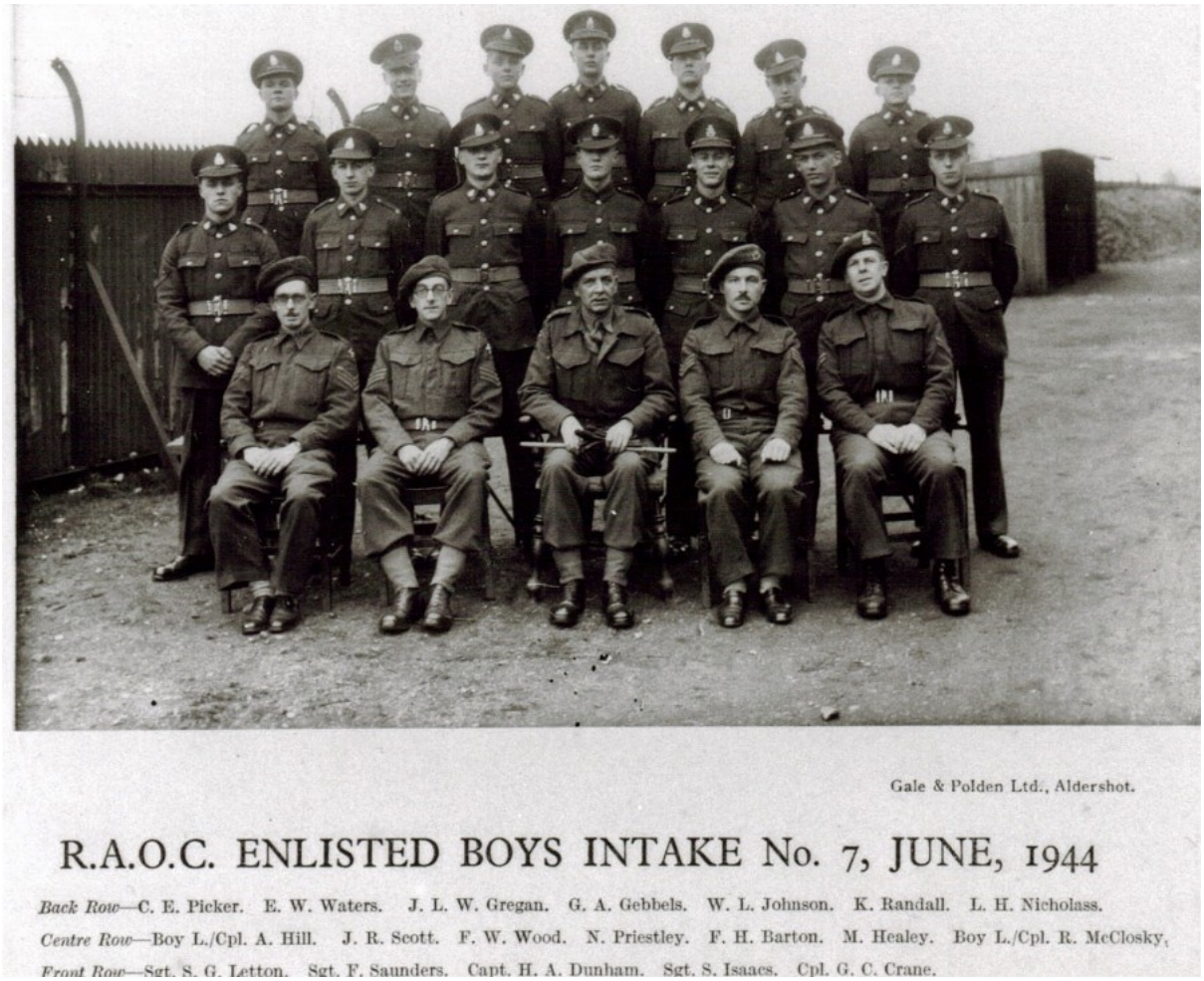
This memory was donated by Les Nicholass
Boy Soldier 1944 – 45



1944 Intake No. 7 RAOC Enlisted Boys

Commanding Officer Captain H A Dunham RAOC.
Second in Command RAOC
Sgt's S G Letton, F Saunders, S Issacs & Cpl G C Crane.

On the 6th of June 1944 the 7th intake into the RAOC Enlisted Boys' Wing , commenced with who is currently one of the oldest Boys' of our association namely 10596494 Leslie H (Nick) Nicholass, followed by 10596495 Frank H (Mush) Barton, together with Boy L/Cpl's A Hill, Roger McClosky, Boy's C E Picker, E W Waters, J L W Gregan, G A Gebbles, W L Johnston, K Randall, J R Scott, F W Wood, N Priestly, Maurice Healey. & Geoff Gleeson, all who all joined at Parsons' Barracks Aldershot.
They all passed out into man service in 1946. Whilst serving in Middleton Stoney, Bicester.

Boy L/Cpl A.(Paddy) Hill was, in 1948, a W.O.II in charge of the Junior Leaders at the start of the National Service Intakes into Aldershot Barracks, Talavera and Salamanca, and Badajos. I have not been able to make contact with him since 1955

Norman Priestly was commissioned early on in his career as an Amunition Examiner and

received a commendation for his work. He retired some time in the 1960's and lived in Basingstoke.

Roger McClosky, joined the RAOC as a boy from an infantry regiment and went on to serve in the War Office and overseas was commissioned early on in his career and unfortunately died during the 1960's

Charles E.Picker rose to the rank of Conductor and served in Malaya and Singapore in the 1950's and, until the end of his service worked at the War Office. Charles and his wife settled in Worcester and Charles passed away after a short illness in 1999.

Johnny R. Scott served in Malaya and Korea during the conflicts in those areas. I have not been able to make a contact with him since the 1960's

Les. H Nicholass served in Malaya during the conflict in the 1950's After a spell in Singapore in FARELF Records office in 1955 he left the service and is working at this time in Colchester Essex

Ken Randall served in Malaya and Korea during the conflicts in those areas. At the end of his service he went for a job in Newark with an Engineering company, and was second in line for the job which another applicant actually got, this was his pal from civilian life and boy service Charlie Picker. He married Kit and retired eventually to Buckingham living in an old School House, he went with Kit to Australia in 1999 and died of a sudden heart attack in 2001

F.(Fred) W. Wood rose to the rank of Lt. Colonel and was decorated for exemplary services with the D.S.O. and the MM and served 48 years in the same job as Ammunition Examiner both as a serving Officer in the R.A.O.C. and as a Civil Servant. He saw service in Malaya and Korea. He retired to Worcestershire and in 2003 died of a Heart Attack.

(Johnnie) L.W. Gregan rose to the rank of full Colonel and served for many years in senior posts in the R.A.O.C. including the Far East and Germany. Presently living in Devon in retirement with his partner Moira. His wife Esme who he married in Tanglin Singapore whilst on service there died in 2004. He had been on a quest to sail around the Greek Islands in his boat but had to give that up and retired to Devon.

Eddie Waters served in the Korean War and was awarded the M.M.
He was killed in action in the Korean Conflict.

Maurice Healey joined from the Ox and Bucks Lt. Infantry, saw his service out and retired to Dunham on Trent. He died of Cancer in 2007 leaving his partner having lost a wife a few years earlier.

Geoff Gleeson joined the RAOC from an infantry regiment as a band boy but did not like that and was transferred, he was the last to join in 1944 and I have been unable to trace him since.

Geoff Gebbles, was invalided out of the Army soon after service in West Africa in the 1950's and lived with his wife and family in Newton le Willows, he died after a protracted illness in 2006.

Frank (Mush Barton) was invalidedd from the Army soon after leaving boy service and has never enjoyed particularly good health, he was married for some years and his wife tragically died some years ago. He has been and still is living in sheltered accommodation in Southampton, the city of his birth. He has a wide and supportive family and presently enjoys better health than he has ever done.

W.L. (Bill) Johnstone left Army service soon after leaving boy service and as far as we know lived in Manchester. We have not been able to trace him since 1946.

Only those persons ***in cursiv font*** above are known to be alive at this time 2/1/2007