Newsletter 9

RAOC Enlisted Boys' & Boys' School RAOC - Junior Leaders Battalion RAOC & REME - RAOC Apprentice College - Junior Leaders Regiment RAOC

Ex Boys' Association May 2008

Reunion Dinner 2008 Confirmed

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Welcome to the Ninth Newsletter, I am glad to inform you that the 2008 Reunion Dinner has now been confirmed and will take place on the 16th August 2008 at the Holiday Inn in Coventry (M6 Junct2).

A big thank you to Jim Ferguson who has offered to coordinate the event and hopefully we will all enjoy a memorable evening.

The cost of the dinner is £25 per person (drinks not included), special accommodation rates have been negotiated and all details of the reunion dinner are on the Associations web site, please ensure to go online and book in time, (we need the Dinner payments at least 28 days prior to the event) to save any disappointment.

At the end of this Newsletter there is a list of attendees, so take a look and see if any of your old friends are there.



News & Comments

The Admin Team is now fully operational and we offer a warm welcome to the following members who have offered their valuable time to assist in the running of our Association from various locations around the globe.

George Hendley - Secretary & Treasurer
Dave McCarthy - Nominal Rolls
Adrian Hayward-Wills - Document & Photo Scanning

More information about our Admin Team is featured later in this Newsletter.

Web Site Improvements

We are continually seeking ways to improve the web site and George Tether is busily in the process of improving our Members Personal Profiles.

George writes:

“We are in the process of moving the “Members” view of the “Personal Profile” from our Members-List to the Forum. This means less work for our staff when amendments need making, at the same time enabling members to change any details themselves.

This would be done by clicking “My Controls” once in the Forum and then the respective text under the heading “Personal Profile”.

Members can also now upload their own profile photo and also an “avator” (the little picture to the left of each forum-entry).

Although you can now change all the details yourself it is still important that you inform us of changes to your e-mail address, as this is our prime method of remaining in contact with you.

You will be notified by e-mail once your profile has been moved.”

RAOC EX Boys’ Association Wall Plaques - For Sale

Our Chairman Paul Jones has secured a limited number of Wall Plaques. These are on sale for £20 plus £2 postage. They can be obtained by contacting Paul Jones providing your name and address and a cheque for £22 made payable to “JLB RAOC”.



Pauls contact details are:

Paul Jones
181 Titchfield Road
Fareham
Hampshire, PO14 3EN

From the evening of the Reunion Dinner, your contact for ordering the wall plaques will be our Association Secretary George Hendley.

Photography Cleaning & Editing Service

We are pleased to be able to offer a Cleaning and Editing service for our members, old and damaged photographs. Currently any photo that is submitted to the site that is damaged or scratched is digitally improved using the latest technology. This is free of charge and the member who has submitted the photo has a repaired copy sent back to them by e-mail.

To help raise funds for the Association we are now offering this service for any old or damaged photos you may have even if they are not related to the Association at a fee of £2.00 per photograph, this is considerably cheaper than the High Street. All you need do is the following:

Scan the photo at a resolution of 300dpi

E-mail it to: nigel.hancock@juniorleadersraoc.co.uk

If the photo is not possible to repair you will be informed and no charge made.



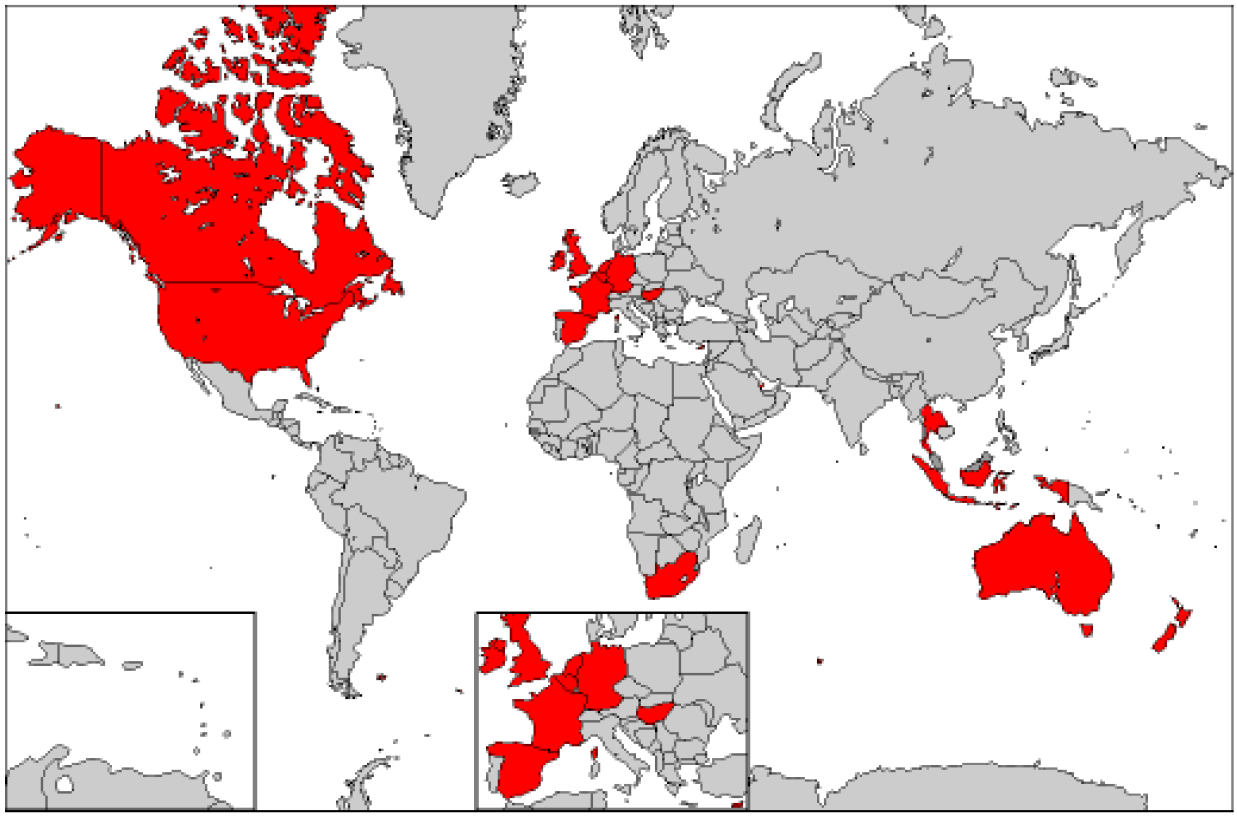


Membership

Our membership is continuing to grow at a steady pace, since our last newsletter we have had a membership increase of 10 percent with our membership now totalling

330

It is also very interesting to see how widely spread our membership is across the globe!



Australia - 4	Belgium - 1	Canada - 4	Cyprus - 2
Dubai - 1	Eire - 1	England - 251	France - 1
Germany - 12	Hungary - 1	Jersey - 1	Malaysia - 1
New Zealand - 1	Northern Ireland - 6	Scotland 16	Seychelles - 1
Singapore - 1	South Africa - 2	Spain - 3	USA - 3

Wales - 8

Cutforth Platoon (Circa) 1971) Re-Union



Geordie Pendleton, Charlie Piechniczek, Phil Wall, Ian Loftus, Kev Sanders
Tony "The Boss" McIntyre

Back in January 2008, Ian Loftus began the task of attempting to locate all surviving members of the glorious Cutforth Platoon, for which the date of 14th September 1971 will, forever, be imprinted in their minds.

Thanks to the wonders of the internet and the help of Kev Sanders and Phil Wall, ably assisted by the Oracle known as Bill Chamberlain, various members were found, spread throughout England and, in the case of Nigel Hancock, Hungary (thought: Is this because no Deportation Treaty is in force between the UK and Hungary?)

After the initial reminiscing of times long past, a recurring theme kept being mentioned – "Wouldn't it be great to meet up again for a beer!" Geordie Pendleton, in what can only be put down as a moment of insanity, suggested April 19th at the Union Jack Club (UJC). Once those words consigned themselves to cyberspace everyone's attention was devoted to that date.

So dawned the fateful day. Geordie Pendleton, being a good ex-Staff Clerk had arrived on the Friday evening, so that he wouldn't be late, stood at the top of the steps of the UJC in order to greet the first arrivals. A taxi drew up and out stepped Phil Wall and Kev Saunders. As they slowly walked up the steps, each party warily eyed each other, not wanting to be the first to greet the other, in case they were mistaken. This lasted all of three seconds before thirty five years disappeared with the words, "Geordie", "Kev", "Phil".



Phil explaining the "Offside Rule" to our resident Ref, Kev Sanders.

We entered the UJC and whilst the two new arrivals put their luggage into the Luggage Store, Ian

Loftus and his wife, Morag, arrived. Morag had accompanied Ian to:

a. ensure that he was actually going to spend his time with a load of blokes

and:

b. that this load of blokes were the type of people who would associate themselves with Ian.

Luckily we passed on both counts. So off to the bar we marched ourselves. As we were ordering, up strolled Charlie Piechniczek, with his pint glass half empty proclaiming that he had been there for the last couple of hours. With drinks in hand and blocking the gangway, between the bar and the wall, we were all happily regaling each other with events since we last met when, up marched Tony McIntyre. The mentor of 29 young soldiers had arrived and, after refilling our glasses, retired to a table. The next six hours disappeared almost as quickly as the beer. Charlie, unfortunately, was not staying overnight as he had to travel abroad, (to Scotland); departed with sincere and heartfelt wishes ringing in his ears.



"Come on Tony, show me your Airbourne Stunts"

"Later Lad Later"

At 1830 hours, it was a unanimous decision to finish for the time being, and reconvene at 2030 hours in order to get some food. After walking past various restaurants, Tony made the command decision to enter an Indian restaurant, whilst we all dutifully followed him. The waiter taking the order, assumed Kev was from Wales as he ordered, "Balti and chips." Soon the table was laden salvers of food and glasses of beer. Again memories of yesteryear dominated the conversation and all too soon it was time to leave this establishment. At this point, Tony McIntyre went to stand up, but the chair refused to move. Tony deciding, in a split second, to demonstrate his athletic prowess, attempted a backward roll, from the table, and he would have succeeded if the previous mentioned chair now responding to the effects of gravity, had not got in the way. A shocked silence descended upon the restaurant. Fortunately Tony had not suffered any damage and was soon on his feet. A slow walk back to the UJC ended the first day. Next morning dawned, and having met at breakfast it was decided to pay a visit to the Imperial War Museum.

Once inside we viewed the kit, on display, often making the comment that the state of the equipment would not have passed a Muster Parade or Locker Inspection which Tony had taken. After an hour or so, Tony made his farewells, as he had left his wife packing the cases back home as he was going on holiday.



Kev, Ian and a very delicate looking Geordie (The morning after)

Following the Imperial War Museum we took a leisurely stroll along the banks of the Thames, viewing the London Eye and the numerous “living statues”. This was followed by lunch, just off Covent Garden and, again, the glut of “living statues” that are everywhere. Then it was back to the UJC to partake of coffee or beer, depending on individual preference..

We gradually dispersed, to wend our way back to our respective homes, fondly thinking of the previous 24 hours and how 35 years can be crammed into a few hours. All of us, however, are determined to meet up for the Junior Leaders Dinner, in August, and, hopefully, those mem-

Last Post



RSM Maurice CE Gosling

Ex RSM of the Junior Leaders Battalion 1963-65

It is with sadness that we inform you of the death of Maurice Gosling. He passed away on Saturday 5th April 2008, his wife, Vera, having passed away five days previously. It is said that right up to his death, he never lost the bearing of a man who had held a senior military rank.

Maurice never walked anywhere, he marched, chest out and back straight.

submitted by George "Ted" Stace

We have also been informed of the following who have passed away.

Fred Death, Ex RAOC Boy Soldier & Armourer 1934 - 37	Date of Death Unknown
Roger Gilbert, Ex RAOC Boy Soldier & Armourer 1934 - 37	Date of Death Unknown
Rex Harral, Ex RAOC Boy Soldier 1952 - 54	Passed Away 1983
Harry Jeans, Ex Boy Soldier at Haslar 1935 - 39	Passed Away 2004
Reg Dix, Ex Boy Cpl at Haslar 1935 - 39	Passed Away 2004
Lancashire, Ex RAOC Boy Soldier & Armourer 1934 - 37	Date of Death Unknown

If you have photos or memories of our members who have passed away please visit the Associations website and post your memories.

RAOC Association

If you are not already a member, try RAOConline who will put you in touch with the nearest Branch, or alternatively join the RAOConline Fellowship (its Free) which is a branch in its own right.

Your Admin Team

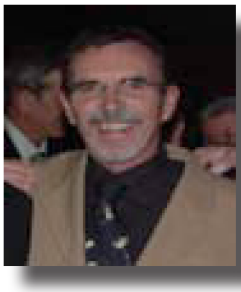
If you require any assistance please feel free to contact any of the following:



Paul Jones

Paul is our founder and Chairman. He can be contacted for ANY information that you may wish to have about the site and it's purpose.

Email: paul.jones@juniorleadersraoc.co.uk



George Tether

All matters concerning the online-presentation of the site, membership and the Forum

Email: george.tether@juniorleadersraoc.co.uk



Bill Chamberlain

Lost Pals, this section is looked after by Bill, who spends many hours helping *lost pals* to find each other

Email: bill.chamberlain@juniorleadersraoc.co.uk



Allan Jones

Our contact for USA & canada

Email: allan.jones@juniorleadersraoc.co.uk



Nigel Hancock,BEM

Send your digital photos to Nigel via email. Please do not forget to add all known details, especially dates and names.

Email: nigel.hancock@juniorleadersraoc.co.uk



George Hendley

George has a dual role, that of Secretary and Treasurer (who says men can't multi task). George has two contact emails they are...

Email: secretary@juniorleadersraoc.co.uk
treasurer@juniorleadersraoc.co.uk



Adrian Hayward-Wills

All matters relating to scanning - either photos or documents.

Send your photos or documents to Adrian by post, complete with a stamped addresses envelope for their return to you. Please email Adrian for his postal address

Email: ade.wills@juniorleadersraoc.co.uk



Dave McCarthy

All matters concerning ex Boy's and members of permanent Staff where their names are relevant to Nominal Roll, Battalion Structure, Intake & Passing Out Dates of ex Boy's etc

Email: dave.mccarthy@juniorleadersraoc.co.uk

Notes from the Editor:

Due to various technical problems the article Where are they Now and The Book Review have not been included in this edition, it is hoped to be able to included them in the next issue.

The Photo Competition in the last edition did not prove popular with our members and has therefore been removed.

If any member would like to submit any articles for inclusion into the next Newsletter please contact: Nigel Hancock, who is also very interested in hearing from members and what they have done since leaving the Army.

It is proposed to author an Interactive DVD, which will include all images, documents etc from the Web site, the cost is expected to be £5 per copy, the monies raised will go directly to the Association funds, before we undertake this project we would be interested in hearing your views and if you would be interested in ordering a copy, once again please contact Nigel at nigel.hancock@juniorleadersraoc.co.uk

Reunion Dinner 2008 Attendees as of 19 May 2008

Surname	Christian name	Attending	Guest	Total		
Ferguson JB	James (Jim)	Yes	Yes	2		
Alderman A	Allen	Yes	Yes	2		
Almond TC (REME)	Thomas	Yes	Yes	2		
Barnes AM	Tony	Yes		1		
Belcher B	Brian	Yes	Yes	2		
Chamberlain E (REME)	Eric	Yes		1		
Chamberlain WH	Bill	Yes	Yes	2		
Coxe S	Stewart	Yes	Yes	2		
Crickard R	Robert	Yes	Yes	2		
Fifield RC	Richard	Yes	Yes	2		
Gaffney R	Ronald	Yes	Yes	2		
Halsall JL	John	Yes	Yes	2		
Hampton DF	David	Yes		1		
Hendley GW	George	Yes		1		
Henson JVG	John (Tich)	Yes	Yes	2		
Hocking WJ	Bill	Yes		1		
Huck LE	Ernie	Yes	Yes	2		
Ling R	Roderick (Rod)	Yes	Yes	2		
Lorimer TB	Thomas B	Yes		1		
Madden SG	Stuart	Yes		1		
Malbon CM	Christopher	Yes		1		
Mallet GJ	Graham John	Yes	Yes	2		
Martin PJ	Patrick	Yes	Yes	2		
Milburn E	Edward	Yes	Yes	2		
Moore AD	Anthony David	Yes		1		
O'Shaughnessy AF	Tony	Yes	Yes	2		
Page R	Richard	Yes	Yes	2		
Payne RG	Roger	Yes		1		
Pendleton K	Keith	Yes		1		
Petty GH	Harry	Yes	Yes	2		
Pickup A	Bert	Yes		1		
Postlethwaite DR	Derick	Yes	Yes	2		
Prior-Sanderson RJ	Robert	Yes		1		
Quinn D	Dave	Yes	Yes	2		
Raffan FA	Tony	Yes	Yes	2		
Ridley J	John (Ben)	Yes	Yes	2		
Roberts PRG	Peter	Yes	Yes	2		
Sangster IC	Ivan	Yes		1		
Schesmer GCH (was Tether)	George	Yes		1		
Standen RJ	Richard	Yes		1		
Tagg G	George	Yes		1		
Tingle J	John	Yes	Yes	2		
Trout VS	Stan	Yes	Yes	2		
Vickers G	George	Yes		1		
Walker D	David	Yes		1		
Wall PF (REME)	Phillip	Yes		1		
Walls RG	Roger "Yank"	Yes	Yes	2		
Wheeler JA	John (Johnny)	Yes	Yes	2		
White JA	John (Widge)	Yes	Yes	2		
White RJ	Robert (Widget 532)	Yes	Yes	2		

P. Staff

Brierley S	Stewart (MBE	Yes		1		
Fenney R	Roland	Yes	Yes	2		
Head JK	John K (Jake)	Yes	Yes	2		
Page GJ	Geoffrey James	Yes	Yes	2		

Stace GTE	George TE (Ted)	Yes	Yes	2		
Foster J	John	Yes	Yes	2		

Non-Members Reserve List

Holtby	Edward	Yes		1		
Vickers A (REME)	Alf	Yes		1		