ARMY

RAOC ENLISTED BOYS' & BOYS' SCHOOL RAOC

JUNIOR LEADERS BATTALION RAOC & REME

RAOC APPRENTICE COLLEGE

JUNIOR LEADERS REGIMENT RAOC & RCT

NEWSLETTER

XVIIII

HONI·SOIT QUI MAL·Y·PENSE
SUA TELA TONANTI

R·E·M·E

ROYAL CORPS OF TRANSPORT

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Introduction and Welcome

Dear Members,

A very warm "**HELLO**" from our Founder and Chairman Mr. Paul Jones, **all** the Association Committee Members who work behind the lines, George Tether, Bill Chamberlain, Dave McCarthy, Brian Wild and lastly, me the Editor of the Ex-Boys' Association Newsletter, Adrian (HW) Hayward-Wills, to the Nineteenth Ex-Boys' Association and **Summer** Edition Newsletter for 2013.

As our regular and observant readers will know, it is was our intention to produce two Newsletters (**Summer** and **Winter**) per annum, with a publication in June and December of each year. This **Summer** 2013 Ex-Boys' Association Newsletter, provides a further format to reach its members in addition to our extensive and ever expanding (thanks to George Tether) website. However, it has been decided to now publish a Newsletter once a year. This annual publication – *of which will be of the same quantity and quality as membership have been used to* – will now be published half way through the year, publication date will be annually and in the month of June.

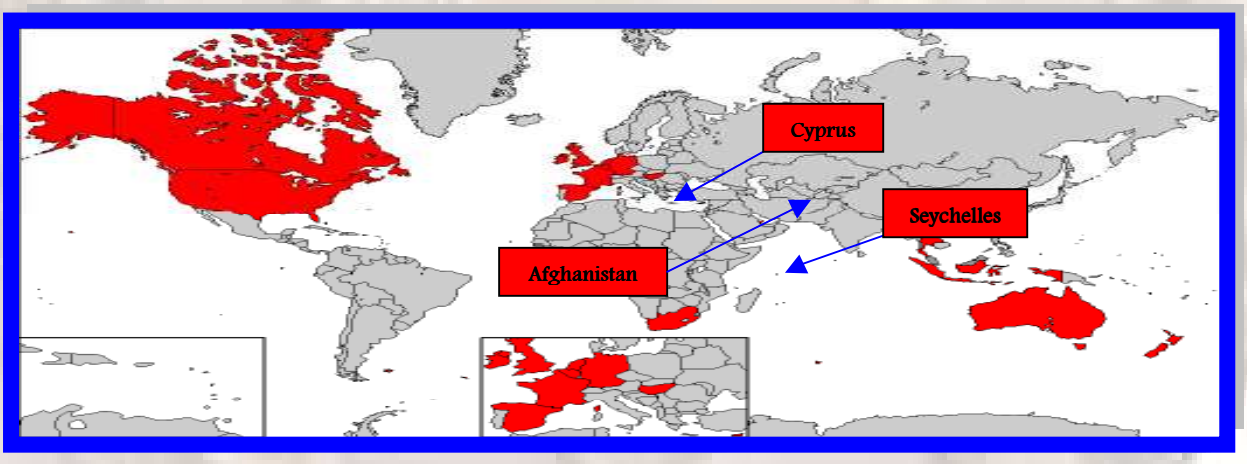
This is a particularly short Newsletter than usual as I have been very busy at work and I am unfortunately not receiving any articles for publication. Please send an article on any subject associated with our respective Corps' - readers will be interested. In this Newsletter there is an update on my work in Afghanistan, where I am introducing change, direction and management to the handling of Detainees taken from the battlefield by NATO (ISAF) troops and in particular, human rights compliant prisoner and detainee handling.

The RAOC, REME and RCT Ex-Boys' Association website and accompanying Newsletters are excellent platforms for members to stay in touch with each other. An awful lot of work – *all voluntary* – goes into these two portals for the Association. Feedback in any environment is essential for growth and prosperity; on behalf of all Committee Members of the Association please make use of these excellent facilities.

Clearly we are always on the look out for interesting "*copy*". Should you wish to include any articles for the Newsletter, please feel free to contact The Editor Adrian HW via the Contacts Page on our website which is www.juniorleadersraoc.co.uk

Membership

Our Founder and Chairman Mr. Paul Jones is pleased to report that membership has grown continually. Moreover, we were and are thrilled to have reached our **650th** Member during the month of April 2012! As at June 2013, we are running close to 690 Members!!



We are or course, as an Association, delighted to announce that membership continues to grow on a worldwide basis, as can be observed on the above map – we have members as far and wide as Afghanistan, the Seychelles and a Committee Member in Cyprus However, Bill Chamberlain needs more leads from you, including former permanent staff other ranks and officers – please see Lost Pals section further on in the Newsletter.

A lot of time and effort by the Committee Members - *on a purely voluntary basis* - is spent "*behind the lines*" on recruiting and processing ex-boys to become members of the Association. Bill Chamberlain either conducts this by a direct mail process or via a simple but effective telephone call.

What's Inside?

In this particular Edition of the RAOC, REME and RCT Ex-Boys' Association Newsletter, you will find the following interesting subjects associated with our respective Corps. As the Editor of the Newsletter, I am always on the look out for items of copy, be it Rifle Shooting at Bisley or an items of kit, perhaps a Wall Shield or the Lee Enfield Rifle. Anyway, below are screen captures of this Summer's Newsletter and all for your edification and delight!



eBay is a great source of items and memorabilia associated with the RAOC, REME and RCT.

You can often find excellent photographs and information (not often correct though!) on items/lots that Sellers are auctioning off.

As with any purchase on-line, caveat emptor!



There are pages associated with the RAOC Gazette and the Magazine of the Colleges.

"The Thunderbolt" etc.

All the Journals we have are on-line and ready to be viewed!

What's Inside?



The ever-popular military Wall Shields article where members of the Association can display their Wall Shields that they were presented with upon leaving the Army or a Unit etc.

This particular article provides an opportunity for members to send in a picture and perhaps an article with regards their Wall shield that is languishing around their loft or study!

"Go on – send a picture in!"

There is the Book Review Section covering several books associated with the RAOC, REME and RCT.

This section of the Newsletter allows Members to send in either their own work or a recent book that they have read.

"Go on – send a Book review in!"





There are several younger members of the **RAOC, REME and RCT Ex-Boys' Association** whom will recognise the above logo, taken from an early edition of the RAOC Gazette – 1930's! – This logo will now form part of the Newsletter that will introduce and encompass the regular important notices of the Newsletter. This particular section is ideally suited for those new members whom have recently joined the Ex-Boys' Association.

For example, the Association Forum; Membership Numbers; New Members; Reunion Notices; information pertaining to the various Associations of the RAOC, REME and RCT; The Thunderbolt Magazine and perhaps finally, items for sale within the Association Regimental Shop.



In its simplest form, "*Station Topics – At Home*" will form the regular "Standing Orders" of the Association Newsletter; editorial after this section will include information not seen before within the Newsletter, for example articles on Junior Leaders Boxing or Football. I will regularly include this page and above screen capture, for the benefit of our newest members of the Association, some of whom perhaps may have not seen previous Newsletters.

Did you know, that in addition to this Bi-Annual Newsletter, there is another area in which there is more up-to-date information that provides members with information pertaining to ALL the new photos that have been uploaded, new Thunderbolt Magazines donated and to recently joined members to the Ex-Boys' Association? Well, this arena is entitled "Ex Boys' Forum". A point of interest regarding the website, we often receive requests for the re-sending of access details (password/username), where that persons e-mail address has changed and the Army Number is omitted. We cannot send access-details - ***for reasons of security*** - unless the Army Number is supplied. You need not necessarily use the website-form, an informal mail will suffice but please remember, the Army Regimental number **MUST** be there

The Forum for members is not only easy to navigate but it also provides up to the minute information relating to the Ex-Boys' Association and to RAOC and REME matters as a whole. Information that is posted on the Forum Part-1 Orders is the best way to follow with what's happening and who's new to the Association. Below is a screen capture of said Ex-Boys' Forum and an explanation as to what is a Forum!



The FORUM for members of the Ex Boys' Association R.A.O.C. R.E.M.E. & R.C.T.

Remember! As Members, it's our Association but your Forum!

George Tether has also kindly included the possibility of linking members of the Ex-Boys' Association to their own web sites from the "Members" list. In computing, a hyperlink (or link) is a reference to a document that the reader can directly follow. For example, on the Members List and on the Personal Profile, a link will be visible at the bottom of the Profile enabling Members to visit another Website. You can have up to two private link-addresses shown on your introductory-profile (the one on the "members" page, that all visitors can see). Please e-mail George directly with your link (s), should you wish it/them to be published. An example is sited below:-

Name	Lawrence (Frank) TIDSWELL
Regimental number (1st.4) & Corps	2391 .... RAOC
Enlisted	10.1962
3C9bWbcl	Watts ..... B
Passed out with rank	12.1963 .... J/Pte
Discharged with rank	12.1963 ....
Occupation now	Hotel owner
862	898
For Members	» 'Members' click here to see Frank's Forum-Profile
	» has no personal photo album
Non-members <click here> for access to the "Contact-Form" if you want to contact this member.	
Members personal web-link(s)	www.sunburstinn.com
	www.gulfbeachvacationcondos.com

An **Internet forum** or **Message Board**, such as the RAOC, REME and RCT Ex-Boys' Association, is an online discussion site where people can hold conversations in the form of posted messages.They differ from chat rooms in that messages are at least temporarily archived. Also, depending on the access level of a user or the forum set-up, a posted message might need to be approved by a moderator before it becomes visible. Forums have a specific set of jargon associated with them; e.g. a single conversation is called a "thread".

A discussion forum is hierarchical or tree-like in structure: a forum can contain a number of subforums, each of which may have several topics. Within a forum's topic, each new discussion started is called a thread and can be replied to by as many people as so wish. Depending on the forum's settings, users can be anonymous or have to register with the forum and then subsequently log in in order to post messages. On some forums, users do not have to log in to read existing messages.

A forum consists of a tree like directory structure. The top end is "Categories". A forum can be divided into categories for the relevant discussions. Under the categories are sub-forums and these sub-forums can further have more sub-forums. For example, Photos, New Members, New Features, Memories, General and Birthdays etc. The *topics* (commonly called *threads*) come under the lowest level of sub-forums and these are the places under which members can start their discussions or *posts*. Logically forums are organised into a finite set of generic topics (usually with one main topic) driven and updated by a group known as *members* and governed by a group known as *moderators*. A *post* is a user-submitted message enclosed into a block containing the user's details and the date and time it was submitted. Members are usually allowed to edit or delete their own posts. Posts are contained in threads, where they appear as boxes one after another. The first post starts the thread; this may be called the TS (thread starter) or OP (original post). Posts that follow in the thread are meant to continue discussion about that post, or respond to other replies; it is not uncommon for discussions to be derailed.

Posts have an internal limit usually measured in characters. Often one is required to have a message of minimum length of 10 characters. There is always an upper limit but it is rarely reached – most boards have it at either 10,000, 20,000, 30,000, or 50,000 characters. Most forums keep track of a user's postcount. The postcount is a measurement of how many posts a certain user has made. Users with higher postcounts are often considered more reputable than users with lower postcounts. Some forums have disabled postcounts in the hopes that doing so will reduce the emphasis on quantity over quality of information.

Remember! As Members, it's our Association but your Forum!



Membership Numbers











Date	Membership Numbers	Membership History of the Ex Boys' Association
July-12	668	Wimbledon brought Membership to **668** Members "New Balls!"
Aug-12	670	A superb Ex-Boys' Reunion brought us to **670** Members in the Association
Sep-12	672	September brought a small increase of Membership to **672**
Oct-12	676	A cold and wet October brought **676** Members
Nov-12	677	Armistice Day brought Membership to **677**
Dec-12	678	Santa Claus will hopefully deliver some more members for the Association
Jan - 13	679	January Snow and a Membership Number of **679**
Feb - 13	684	Valentine's Day brought Membership to **684** Members
Mar - 13	685	The March Hare ran away with **685** Members
Apr - 13	686	April Showers brought a Membership Number of **686**
May - 13	686	The FA Cup Final brought a loss to Manchester City but a Win of to us!
June -13	687	Sweltering June at Wimbledon brought **687** Members to the Association

New Members on Parade

629 David John HILBORN - Baker 1970-72
630 James KELLY - Parsons 1970-72
631 Anthony Dudley CROWHURST - 1974-75
632 David Lewis HABGOOD - Hill 1963-65
633 Paul Brian MOSS (REME) - Parsons 1972-73
634 Peter William UPTON - Body 1962-65
635 Curtis Vaughn CHERRY - Arakan 1985-86
636 John HARDCASTLE - See 'Comments' 1971-73/1979-80
637 Timothy Robert NEWNES - Benghazi 1984-85
638 - Roger RUDD - Baker 1970-72

639 - William Smith MURRAY (REME) - Watts 1970-71
640 - Roy EDDINGTON - Berlin 1984-85
641 Trevor Robert BOYCE - Steevens 1959-61
641 Michael John FRYER (REME) - Baker 1957-58
642 Brian WICKS - Parsons 1961-63643 David Alexander DEWAR - Horne 1972-74
644 Derek CATTERALL - Baker 1970-72
644 - Maj. Gen. David Leslie Burden
645 Keith Jervis JONES - Brunei 1978-79
646 William CHAMBERS - 1968
647 Robert Walter CHARLTON - Cutforth 1973-74
648 Colin James WESTWOOD - Watts 1965-67

649 Michael TIPPER - Mulcahy 1962-64
650 William John EGBEARE (REME) - Tope 1958-60
651 Ian FOSTER - Anguilla 1976-77
652 Graham PYE - Arakan 1975-76
653 Michael John WHITE (REME) - Rowcroft 1969-70
654 Michael Ian BARR - Hill 1962-64
655 Alan Michael VANSTONE - Steevens 1965-67
656 Alan James JENSEN - Parson & Body 1964-66
657 Andrew Thomas CARR - Steevens 1971-73
658 Raymond John Edward (Jim) BOND - Gordon 1964-66
659 David BURKILL (REME) - Cutforh 1971-73
660 Raymond Howard DICKENS - Boys Training Wing 1946-47
661 Terry JENNIANS - Burma 1976-78

RAOC BOYS' SCHOOL
RAOC & REME BOYS' SCHOOL
RAOC & REME JUNIOR LEADERS BATTALION
RAOC APPRENTICE COLLEGE
JUNIOR LEADERS REGIMENT RAOC & RCT

EX BOYS' ASSOCIATION

New Members on Parade

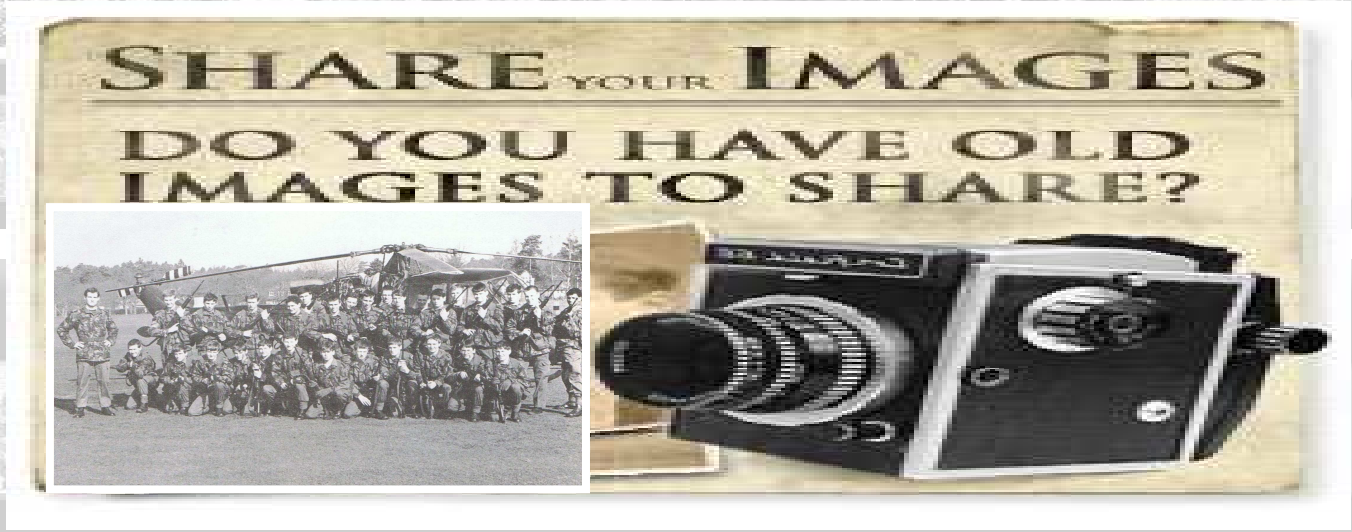
661 Clive Edmund CALOW - Watts 1962-64
662 Fergus KIDD - Parsons 1966-68
663 Edwin Allan LARRARD – Watts 1967-69
664 Stanley TRACEY (REME) – Parsons 1974-75
665 Ronald CHAPMAN – Hill/Rowcroft 1969-71
Hugh Macdonald KAY – Association Member Passed away
665 John Anthony GAUNT – Parsons 1959-60

Clive CRAISTER - Association Member Passed away
665 Nicholas DOHERTY – Swiney 1975-76
666 Malcolm William JACQUES - Steevens 1963-65
667 Barry James QUIGLEY – Steevens 1964-66
668 Martin John Kenward – 1965-68
669 Clayton Edward MARQUAND - Body and Haslar 1953-55
670 Ian Michael WARNER – Horne 1972-74

671 Keith Walter MITCHELL – Horne 1954-56
672 Peter GIBSON – EBTW 1947-48
673 Leslie Stewart FREEMAN - 1955-57
674 Christopher Michael FUDGE (REME) – Rowcroft 1958-60
675 Michael LAMB – Balaclava 1980-81
676 Paul GARDINER – Williams 1969-72
677 Mark Ivan SMITH – Anguilla1978-79
678 – Alan Neil THOMSON - Body 1962-64
678 Tim Paul GILLETT – Alamein – 1979-80
679 Keith Michael REED – Parsons – 1960-162
680 Denzil Francis Adrian COWDRY – 1952
681William Owen COLE – 1983-86
682 Colin Alexander Den-McKay – 1970-71
683 Dave REYNOLDS – Balaclava 1985-85
684 Charles Lawrence SINISTER – Body 1959-61
685 Gene Arthur Harry GIBLETT – Hill 1960-62
686 Keith William Alfred MUSK – Body 1958-60
687 Martyn Trebert (REME) – Brunei 1979-80

PHOTO GALLERY PHOTO GALLERY PHOTO GALLERY PHOTO GALLERY

Members will be interested to know that we have a continuing and ever expanding library of images available that may well be from their era whilst in Boys Service. Please take a few moments and look at the Photo Gallery, which is updated on a regular basis.



We NEED **your** input of photographs to keep the site **ALIVE**, **KICKING** and **INTERESTING!!**

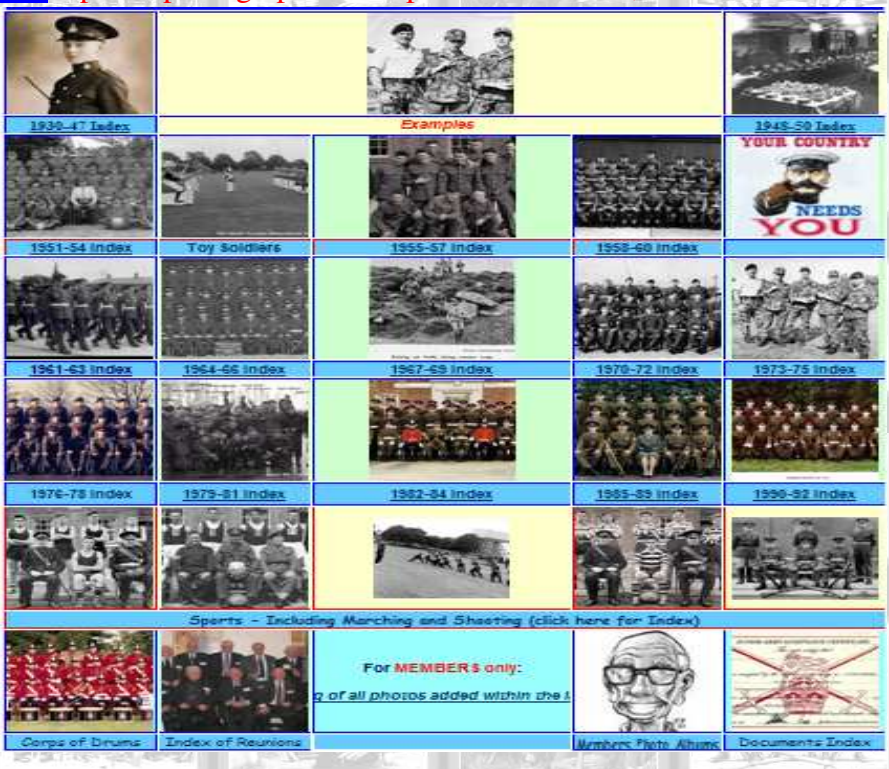


Photo Index of the Ex-Boys' Association

George Tether has been particularly busy (in fact, he's always busy for the Association!) with the photo indexing of **ALL** our photos that have been kindly donated to the RAOC, REME and RCT Ex-Boys' Association.

You will find this section when you click on to the Photo Gallery Section of the Home Page. Simply scroll down the page until you find the subject matter or years you are looking for and then click the line under the photo on the main-index page, thanks to George Tether, it couldn't be simpler.

General Information

There are now quite a few new web sites that have information associated with the RAOC, REME and RCT. Additionally, there are many ex-boys and permanent staff from the RAOC, REME and RCT that do not know of these different sites or whom do not use a computer. If you know anyone who is an ex-Boy or Junior Leader or perhaps an ex-member of the Permanent Staff, then please try and pass them on any information to assist our organisation to grow and expand our site and find a venue for them to meet up with old friends and former colleagues.

If on browsing the site you recognise any faces in the photographs or perhaps there is a mistake in a location or name of an individual, please feel free to inform the Site Administrator so that we can update the information. Additionally, if you can remember any names and dates of people who served with you, we would also like this information to complete the roles for historical purposes.

If you have any recommendations to improve the Website or this Newsletter, please feel free to provide your ideas for consideration via www.juniorleadersraoc.co.uk

RAOC on Line

RAOConLine http://www.raoconline.com

The Aim of RAOConLine Forum is to foster comradeship between those who served in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps of all ranks, trades, ages and gender; including those former RAOC Members still serving.

RAOConLine forum is FREE for all to view and only requires a simple on-line FREE registration to enable you to reply to or post new messages. The RAOConLine Fellowship Branch of the RAOC Association exists for former RAOC to interact beyond the Forum

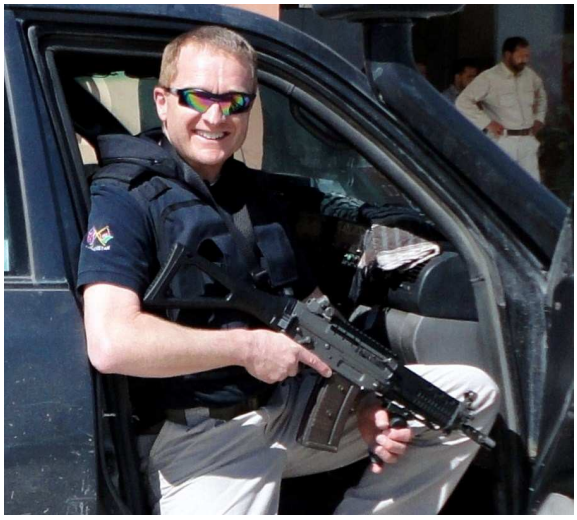
If you are not already a member, perhaps you should consider RAOConLine who will put you in touch with the nearest Branch of the RAOC Association and perhaps former comrades in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

NEWSLETTER NEWSLETTER NEWSLETTER NEWSLETTER

If any member would like to submit articles for inclusion - for example, a book review or anything connected with Boys Service - into the next Edition of the Ex-Boys' Association Newsletter - please contact in the first instance

Adrian Hayward -Wills

Alamein Platoon (RAOC) 1981 – 1982



RAOC BOYS' SCHOOL
RAOC & REME BOYS' SCHOOL
RAOC & REME JUNIOR LEADERS BATTALION
RAOC APPRENTICE COLLEGE
JUNIOR LEADERS REGIMENT RAOC & RCT

EX BOYS' ASSOCIATION

Committee Information

It has been found necessary to circulate the Membership to see if there are any of you interested in coming on board, to take over from Bill Chamberlain, the sourcing of ex-Boys and to assist those seeking to locate ex-Pals.

Bill indicated that he would be relinquishing this role at the end of 2011; however no one has come forward to indicate a willingness to carry on this valuable and worthwhile side of our business.

Bill has kindly agreed to carry on searching for "Lost Pals" and assisting in reuniting old friends but is adamant that he will give up doing this by the time the August 2012 Reunion takes place.

Having carried out this role out for over 7 years - undertaking searches, assisting in maintaining the Roll and contacting ex-Boys by whatever means possible and also trying to help ex Boys find Lost Pals, he feels it is time to take and make, the break.

This role is of major importance, as many of you will know from experience and requires someone who has total discretion, takes pride in attention to detail, a good memory, spare time and above all, an interest in all the aspects of this rewarding role.

An interest in Family History and the use of a Family History search programme would be an advantage. Bill would be willing to help anyone taking over this role. As with all our other Admin roles, this is a voluntary position.

If you are interested and wish to discuss this valued and important position in more detail, please email Bill Chamberlain, supplying a contact home phone number.



RAOC Association



In 2007, the RAOC Charitable Trust converged with The RLC Association Trust and RAOC funds were transferred to the RLC. These funds and those of the RPC, ACC and RLC are invested as a long term reserve.

Income from the RLC Days Pay Scheme supports benevolence, fraternity activity and administration of the Forming Corps Associations, managed by the RLC RHQ Secretariat.

The RAOC continues to maintain two committees; the RAOC Council which replaced the Board of Trustees, and the RAOC Association which continues to function as before.

The Association aims to create and cherish comradeship, foster the interests of members and their families, look after those who suffer hardship by maintaining contact with members and the appropriate welfare agencies, which includes; SSAFA, the British Legion, RLC Benevolence and the Army Benevolent Fund.

Regular meetings, social events and the twice yearly RAOC Gazette provide the means for all members to contribute to the successful achievement of these aims.

The Association has 21 Branches with approximately 2500 members! There are 15 regional branches which cover the following areas: Ashchurch, Berks/Hants/Surrey, Bicester, Birmingham, Chilwell/East Midlands, Corsham/Bristol, East Anglia, Isle of Wight, Kineton/Didcot, London, Merseyside, Newcastle, Salisbury, Scotland and York.

In addition to these local branches there are a further 6 branches with country wide membership; RD & MTI, RAOC On Line, Golf Society, Rugby Football, TA and the Vehicle Specialist Fellowship.

All these branches run their own social gatherings while there are two main events each year which are organised centrally: the Association Reunion, AGM and Dinner in April, and Corps Sunday in July.

Membership is open to all personnel of the Regular and Territorial Army who served in the RAOC, RASC/RCT, RPC, ACC and RLC. Former members of the ATS and WRAC who served with the RAOC will also be most welcome to join. Membership fees vary and are paid to the branches.

The RAOC Officers' Club, which remains independent of the RLC, has 750 members and holds its AGM and Dinner in October each year, membership costs just £5.00 per year.

Two RAOC Gazettes are published each year and delivered to members of the Association and the Officers' Club. The Gazette includes the dates and applications for attendance at the RAOC social events organised by the RAOC Secretary and RHQ The RLC.

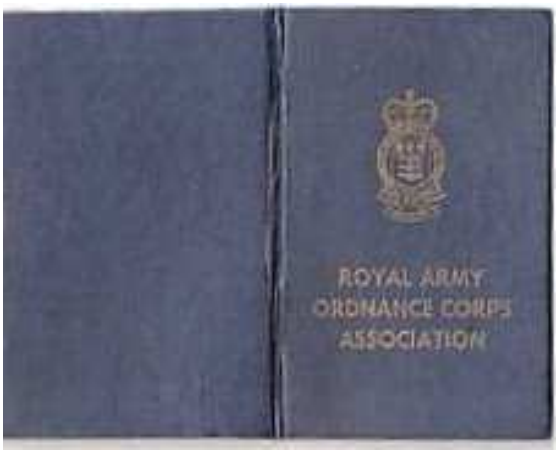
If you would like further information, please contact the RAOC Secretary at the following address:-

Dettingen House
The Princess Royal Barracks
Deepcut
Surrey
GU16 6RW

Telephone: 01252 – 83 33 76

Email: raocassociation@rhqtherlc.org.uk





Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers

The aim of the REME Association are:-



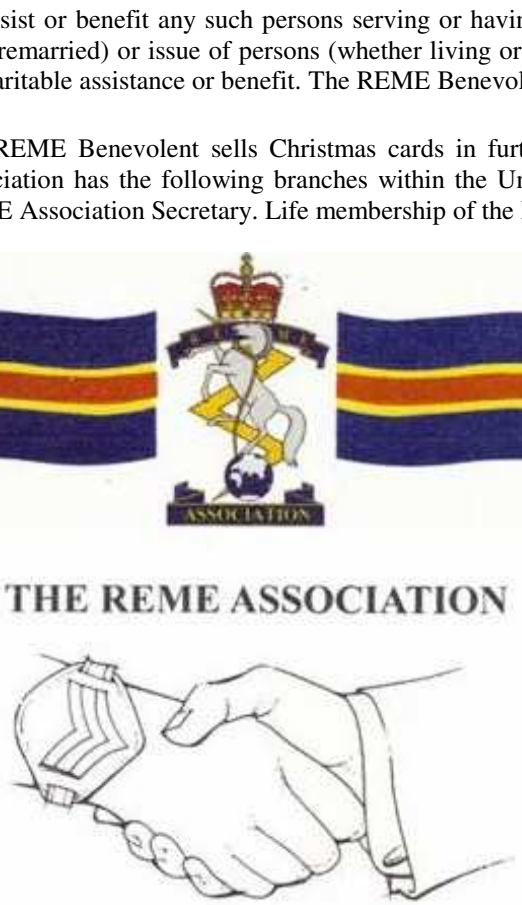
- To foster the esprit-de-corps and well being of the Corps.
- To keep those who have served in or with REME in touch with one another with a view to keeping alive a spirit of comradeship.
- To establish links between the serving and ex-Service members of the Corps with a view to helping the former during resettlement from Service to civilian life.
- To help, in conjunction with the REME Benevolent Fund and other welfare agencies, both serving and ex-Service members of the Corps and their dependants who find themselves in difficult circumstances.

In addition, the aims of the REME Benevolent Fund are:

To assist or benefit any such persons serving or having at any time served in the Corps or being dependants, wives, widows (whether or not remarried) or issue of persons (whether living or dead) serving or having served in the Corps as may from the time being be in need of charitable assistance or benefit. The REME Benevolent Fund welcomes donations and legacies to assist it in its work.

The REME Benevolent sells Christmas cards in furtherance of its work and details can be obtained from the Secretary. The REME Association has the following branches within the United Kingdom. Most branches meet monthly and details can be obtained from the REME Association Secretary. Life membership of the REME Association costs just £10.

THE REME ASSOCIATION



EXTENDS THE HAND OF FRIENDSHIP

To ALL Serving and Retired Members of the Corps

Join

The Secretary of the REME Association

Captain G M Anderson (Ret'd)
RHQ REME
Isaac Newton Road,
Arborfield, Berkshire, RG2 9NJ
United Kingdom

Tel: 0118 976 3219
Fax: 0118 976 3672

Email: association@reme.org.uk

Royal Army Service Corps & Royal Corps of Transport Association



SERVING
Ex-regimental members
and their families

Patron: HRH The Duke of Gloucester KG GCVO.

President: Major General G.E.C Carrington CB, CBE Chairman: Lieutenant Colonel R.E Wills.

Controller: Lieutenant Colonel M.J.B Graham



For the past several hundred years, men and women have served in transportation regiments for land sea and air in British Army units; they have been imperative in the movement of vehicles, supplies and personnel and have often seen action on the front lines some have even been awarded medals for gallantry and valour.

Strong comradeship to regiments, squadrons and units have forged deep loyalties and bonds that often last for a lifetime. Ex-personnel and those who have worked closely with these regiments can retain their link by becoming members of The Royal Army Service Corps and the Royal Corps of Transport Association.

The Association, as we know it today, was the result of the formation of The Royal Corps of Transport (RCT) in 1965 but the origins can be traced back over two hundred years to the first South African wars of the eighteenth century, when a memorial fund was set up to look after the interests of returning war veterans.

The first major development was in 1927 when Royal Army Service Corps (RASC) clubs and funds were amalgamated to form The Royal Army Service Corps Association. At that time there were Branches world-wide, from European Countries in the West, through Egypt in the Middle East to China in the Far East. Following the Second World War many new Branches were formed throughout The United Kingdom by men who wished to retain those bonds of comradeship forged in difficult times.

In 1939, there were 10,000 members of the regiment but by 1945 there were 135,000 and one soldier in ten was wearing an RASC cap badge, as such the association has been there to embrace and to aid a vast number of ex-personnel.

In 1965, the Corps was re-named The Royal Corps of Transport and the association assumed its present title. Membership then included some ex-members of The Royal Engineers whose trades had been transferred to the new Corps. The Association is for all former members of the regiment and for those who have had close links, members often participate in the meetings and activities of branches closest to them. Branches interact with each other on a regional and national basis through direct contact and through the association HQ



The Controller
RASC and RCT Association
Dettingten House
The Princess Royal Barracks
Deepcut
Camberley
Surrey GU16 6RW

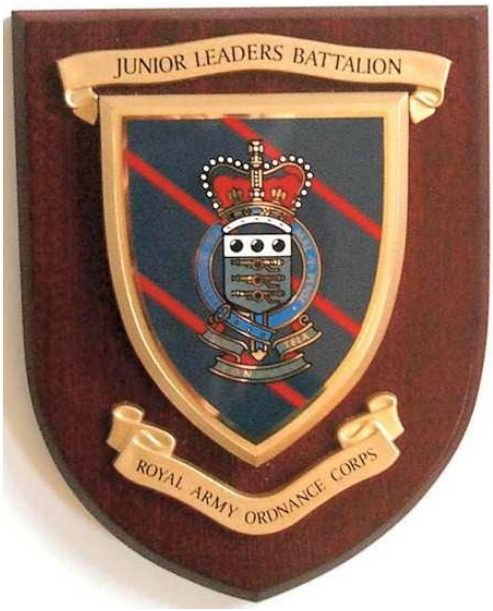
Tel: 01252 833391 Ext 5391 (Controller Secretary)
01252 833397 Ext 5397 (Accounts/Shop)
01252 833398 Ext 5398 (Benevolence)



RAOC Ex-Boys' Association Wall Plaques

Our Founder and Chairman, Mr. Paul Jones has commissioned a limited number of RAOC Wall Plaques. These superb quality wall shields are on sale for £20 plus £2.50 postage. If paying by PAYPAL, please add an additional £2.00 please to cover PAYPAL's fees.







These delightful plaques can be obtained by contacting Brian Wild - Secretary and Treasurer - providing your name and address and a cheque for £22.50 made payable to: - "***Ex Boys' Association***"



For further details:-

E-mail Brian Wild using the Contacts Page on

The Ex-Boys' Association Website



CD of Edinburgh Tattoo - For Sale

There is also a CD of the Edinburgh Tattoo of August 1961, £10 plus £2. Post and Packaging. If paid for by PAYPAL, please add an additional £2.00 to cover PAYPAL's fees – many thanks. For further details, please e-mail Brian using the Contacts Page on the Website.

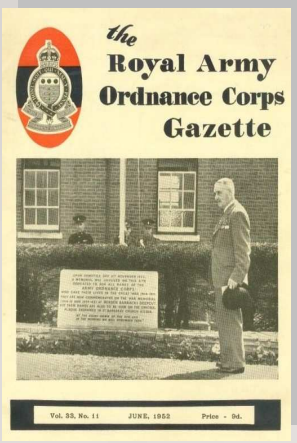






1902 **The Royal Army Ordnance Corps Gazette** 1992

The Journal of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps and Ordnance Services, and the Official Organ of the RAOC Association



THE RAOC GAZETTE







In the past, you could find extracts of the RAOC Corps Gazette on the Ex-Boys Association website that were copied from an original owned by one of our members or extracted from official Gazettes by permission of the RLC/RAOC Association & Museum.

The RLC Museum now has plans to digitalise all RAOC Gazettes for viewing on-line and feel that we may undermine that project by displaying the images for viewing. They have also advised that Copyright may be being breached.

We have therefore, reluctantly, removed the Gazette extracts from our site

You can visit the RLC Museum Website to keep yourselves abreast of events:-

http://www.rlcmuseum.co.uk/docs/majorholdings.html

Corps Journals

The RLC Museum archive holds a complete set of RLC and forming Corps Journals dating from the nineteenth century to the present day. These are available for consultation in both hard and electronic copy.

The Corps Journals provide information on Corps activities, unit news, Corps sport, operations and it is also possible to glean information on individual soldiers and officers on such matters as gallantry awards, transfer between units and promotions etc.

They have stated a target date of early 2012 for the Gazettes 1914-1964 to be made available online.
It is understood that a charge (or subscription) will be made to view the Gazettes.

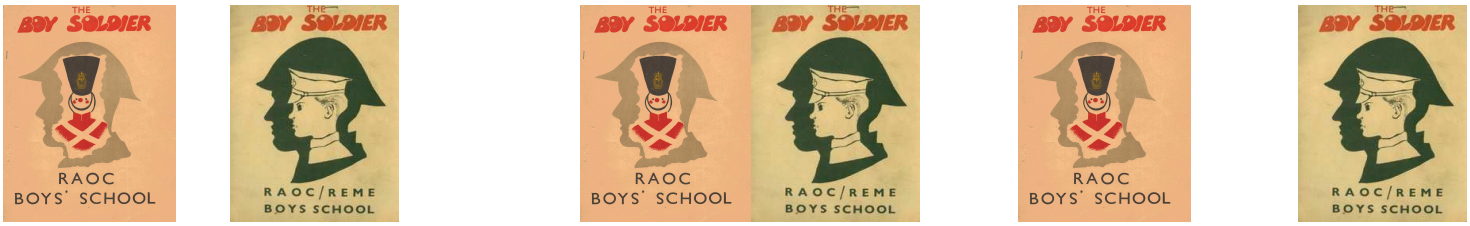
What remains in force is that, as in all other sections of our web-site and Newsletter, we are totally dependent on material sent in by you, our fellow members; this can be from private collections or perhaps from internet auction houses such as eBay or QXL.com

If you have **ANY** material that may help to complete the picture of life as a Boy Soldier, be it photos, your personal memories, certificates, badges or any other item you think may be of use to the site, please do not hesitate to contact us.

RAOC BOYS' SCHOOL
RAOC & REME BOYS' SCHOOL
RAOC & REME JUNIOR LEADERS BATTALION
RAOC APPRENTICE COLLEGE
JUNIOR LEADERS REGIMENT RAOC & RCT

EX BOYS' ASSOCIATION

COLLEGE MAGAZINES COLLEGE MAGAZINES COLLEGE MAGAZINES COLLEGE MAGAZINES



Members of the Ex Boys' Association may be interested to know that we are now – *thanks to members of the Ex-Boys' Association, Ron Richardson & Mike Comerford* – in possession of a fine collection of College Magazines known as **The Boy Soldier** & **The Thunderbolt**.

This Magazine is currently on-line and is free to Members wishing to download a copy for their records. The Boy Soldier (RAOC Boys School) and The Thunderbolt Magazine, provides a unique and personal insight into College life.

Below are examples currently on-line of the Thunderbolts we already have. Clearly the Association is keen to obtain a complete collection and would welcome further donations. Please contact Adrian Hayward-Wills or George Tether in the first instance via the Contacts Page.



Newsletter General

A regular and popular section of the Ex-Boys' Association Newsletter is the Book Review.

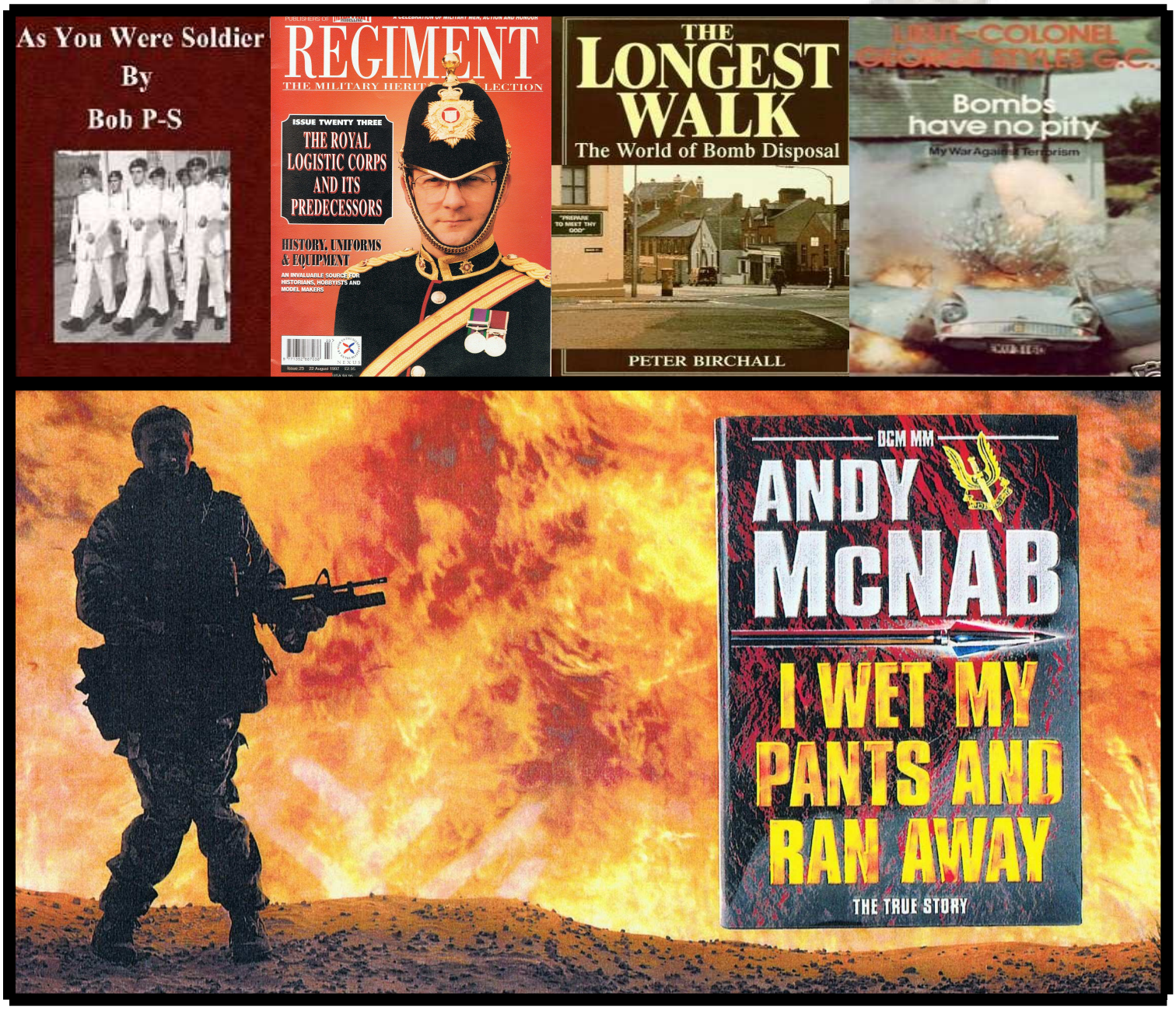
This particular section entitled "***Book Review***" includes reviews on relevant RAOC, REME and RCT books, both recently published and out-of-print books and perhaps members' own books that they have written and would like to be given a wider audience. Furthermore, where possible, this section will include a review on one of the subjects covered in the Newsletter.

Should any of our members have an RAOC, REME or RCT associated book that they would like to do a review on, feel free to contact me using the Contacts page on the website.

I have included a number of useful pieces of information on the book, which include the following: -

- **Hardcover/paperback**
- **Publisher details**
- **Language details**
- **ISBN details**
- **Book Dimensions details**

Future books for review in the Ex-Boys' Association Newsletter may include the following books - apart from the Andy McNab SAS one!



Know Your RAOC, REME and RCT Wall Shields

Adrian Hayward-Wills

Military Wall Shields have played an important part in Army life. In this now popular and regular feature - which was started in the **Summer** Edition Newsletter (2011) - are pictures of Wall Shields from various Army units connected with the RAOC, REME and RCT.

Perhaps you may have a shield hanging on your wall at home and would like it featured in this particular section – better still, take a picture of it and send a short article about the Unit you served in! Association readers **WILL** be interested in your article.

Please keep sending those Wall shields in!! Please contact Adrian Hayward-Wills (Newsletter Editor) in the first instance









Know Your RAOC, REME and RCT Wall Shields

Most Army Wall Shields have the same basic dimensions, these measurements being approximately 6 inches (15cms) in width and approximately 7 inches (18cms) in height. Mainly constructed of wood but I have seen some in a composite material.

Five of the largest collections in the country I have seen are that of RMA Sandhurst, the Tower of London, H.M.S Victory and more recently, at Bramshill Police Academy in Hampshire and a smaller one at the National Arboretum, Alrewas – well worth a visit!"

So go on, photograph your wall shield - *preferably against a white background* – and send to me and receive the adulation it deserves!!









END













A delightful Charles Stadden Royal Corps of Transport Pewter Drummer

Introduction

Charles C Stadden (always known to friends and family as Chas) was born in Leytonstone, London on 12th June 1919. His parents were Francis Stadden and Emily James who had been married on 10th February 1912 in West Ham Register Office. Francis Stadden had served in the Middlesex Regiment and the Devonshire Regiment during WW1 attaining the rank of Company Sergeant Major. In peacetime he was employed as a stationers manager for Strakers of London.

During his full time military service he was with the Royal Army Service Corps (Horse Transport), The Cyprus Regiment and the Royal Fusiliers. By the time he was demobilised in 1946 he was a Sergeant in the Royal Fusiliers and had seen active service at Dunkirk, Eritrea, Abyssinia, Crete, Syria, Sicily and Cassino, Italy.

Background



On the reconstitution of the Territorial Army in the post-war period he served as a Sergeant in the Royal Fusiliers T.A. and then the Royal Sussex Regiment T.A., Littlehampton until 1967.

Charles Stadden had been interested like most youngsters in model soldiers, but in 1951 he decided to turn his hand to their commercial production. The experience gained in light engineering before the war assisted him in revolutionising some of the manufacturing techniques.

Whilst still producing 'master' models for manufacturers he allowed his artistic talents to return to drawing and painting and the current interest in military uniforms made his work much sought after. His name is included with the well known military artists of an earlier era such as Harry Payne and Richard Simpkin.

Over the years Charles Stadden produced military figurines in 25mm, 30mm, 54mm, 85mm and 90mm sizes as well as larger sculptures and wood carvings. He could produce 54mm pewter master figure from scratch in less than a day and a 25mm pewter master figure in a few hours. Although most well known for military subjects, he produced many other pieces for the toy and giftware trades including sculptures of film and pop stars. He created masters for Subbuteo sports games, Triang Hornby railways and for Scalextric racing cars.

He was just as productive with his artwork. His oil and watercolour paintings adorn the walls of many military museums, offices and private collections. Others have been available as prints, postcards, first day covers and Christmas cards. He has written and illustrated books on military history. Although he ceased to make figures around 1995, he was still painting watercolours until a few weeks before he passed away at the age of 83 years.

END



Introduction

We, the Admin Team, feel it is necessary to ask all our members to consider the future direction of "our" website and in particular the "Forum".

It was at the behest of a number of members some years ago that we created a Forum and it was hoped that it would be used extensively by members to post their memories, seek lost pals, discuss their Houses & Platoons, offer up names to faces on photos, advise on corrections, make suggestions etc.

Sadly, the Forum is underused to put it mildly.

Many of our members are also members of RAOConLine (ROL) and have used this sister site to some degree. However we did have a dedicated Forum Thread on that site which has, along with many other threads, been removed. Posts on ROL regarding the Ex Boys are now merged under the RAOC Forum and are very difficult to locate or follow.

Discussion

OUR FORUM BOARD provides a dedicated home for members to participate in all and any discussions.

Forum posts are archived, easy to find and are specific to the XBA. For example:-

PART-1 ORDERS

"**MEMBERS"** (We have added this new Forum) Shows the – **Name – Corps – Years - House/Platoon**, of our members. This will allow you to locate individuals more easily.

"**BIRTHDAYS**" (We have updated this Forum) Now lists all members in the month in which their birthday occurs – if yours is not there please let a George have your DOB.

"PHOTOS" Information advising Members of the latest photos placed on the main site.

"NOTICE BOARD" General announcements by the Admin Team

"MEMORIES" Information listing the latest entries, by members, placed on the main site.

FORUM

SITE TALK Talk about matters concerning the site layout.

Feedback & Suggestions - Suggestions on improving not only the website but also the Forum are welcomed.

Photos - Can be placed here (they will also be put into the Photo Albums if not already there)

News - Latest news for you or about you; our members

MEMBERS TALK - Where members can discuss a number of subjects

Memories - Enter and talk about your memories of life in Boy's school.

Reunion & Events - Talk about reunions and upcoming events of interest. This Forum is there for **you:**

Want to organise a mini-reunion and seek members to attend
Inform Members of your own arranged reunion and offer invites to join you
Inform members of how your own recent reunion went down.
Comment on the XBA Reunions.

Lost Pals - Active search and assistance for tracing lost pals

Obituaries - If you know of anyone who has passed away, then please inform us here. If you have any photos or other memories that you would like to place on the "Roll of Honour" photo-gallery on the main site, then please complete the form, which can be accessed from the main site.

Platoon/House Talk - Where members of a Platoon can meet in the quiet room

This Forum **now has dedicated threads** for each Platoon/House so that members can"banter" about their "home" and talk about individuals and events.

Association Newsletter - Announcements and banter related to our Newsletter.

Life after Boy's School - Talk about your postings and experiences after leaving Boy's School. If we see any names of interest on any Forum that we do not have contact details for we will endeavour to locate the individuals.

Market place - Want to buy or sell something? Why not try here? Members should be aware that whilst we have almost 700 members we have contact details for a total of almost 2000. Perhaps the lost pal you seek is one of those?

General Topics - Anything not covered somewhere else.

Conclusion

We urge you to give serious consideration to participating in the Forum as it is a sounding board for development, a meeting place for members and also insures the future of our Association and the website.

Finally – we on the admin team are not getting any younger and the future of the site will surely rest on "younger blood lines".

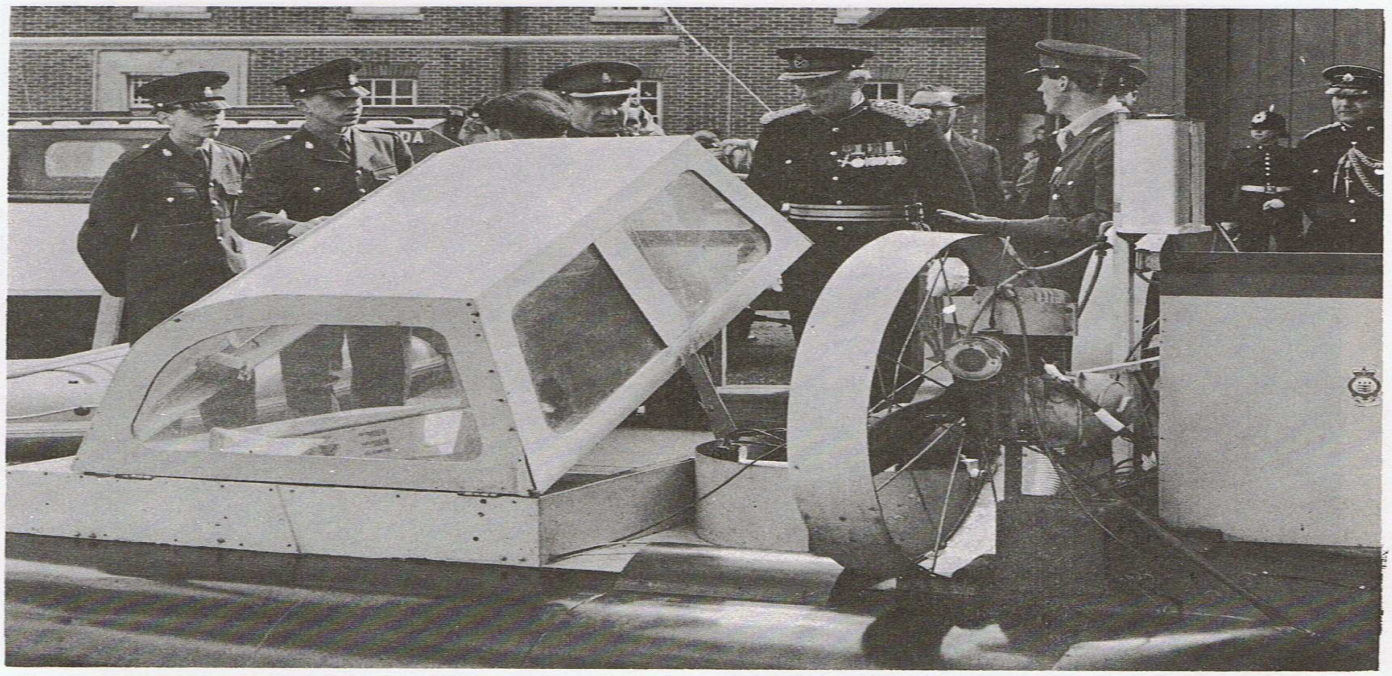
New and younger admin staff will be needed in due course, so if you are interested and feel you may have skills that would help us – please contact a member of the admin team so we can have a chat.



Junior Leaders Hovercraft Club

Whilst on Newsletter duties for the Ex-Boys' Association, I noticed a short article on the Hovercraft Club at the College.

Below are some pieces referring to the Club but other than the below photos, the knowledge that it was perhaps powered by a Villiers motorcycle engine and a front page taken from the May 1969 RAOC Gazette (which I Pasted and Copied from eBay!), the Ex- Boys' Association has little if anything else to go by. Please help to fill the gaps and perhaps write an article!



April 1969 The Inspecting Officer, accompanied by the Commanding Officer, Lt Col E Ridgeway and Captain J B Wright, looks at the Unit Hovercraft "Tonans"

THE HOVERCRAFT CLUB

Officer in Charge: Lt J Norris

Although the Hovercraft "Tonans", recently featured at a Passing Out Parade, has not been in "flight" recently, great steps forward have been made in the mechanical field.

The old rudder system has not proved satisfactory, and has now been taken off. A new double system of rudders working behind the Fans themselves has been designed by Lt Norris and is nearing completion. An unfortunate lack of availability of stores has held the project up.

In the meantime, and with the help of Sgt Furneaux-Harris, the new 2IC Hovercraft Club, the craft has been repainted - a nice shade of orange, the only colour left in the Education store!

An unfortunate accident at the last hobbies exhibition, where a visitor put their foot through the side is being repaired, and is almost complete.

With luck, the craft will be ready for flight by the end of June and other hobbies will be awakened by it's stimulating roar on the Sports field every evening.

Article Courtesy of The Thunderbolt Magazine – Circa 1970 (Summer)

A **Hovercraft** (**air-cushion vehicle**, **ACV**) is a craft capable of traveling over surfaces while supported by a cushion of slow moving, high-pressure air which is ejected against the surface below and contained within a "skirt." Although supported by air, a hovercraft is not considered an aircraft. The first mention in the historical record of the principles behind hovering and hoverboats was by Swedish scientist Emanuel Swedenborg in 1716.

Hovercraft are used throughout the world as specialised transports. They can also be used after a natural disaster for emergency purposes. Because they are supported by a cushion of air, hovercraft are unique among all other forms of ground transportation in their ability to travel equally well over land, ice, and water. Small hovercraft are used for sport or passenger service, while giant hovercraft have civilian and military applications, and are used to transport cars, tanks, and large equipment in hostile environments and terrain.

In 1915, Austrian Dagobert Müller built the world's first air-cushion vehicle. Shaped like a section of a large aircraft wing, the craft was propelled forward by four aero engines, with a fifth that blew air under the front of the craft to increase the air pressure under it. In motion, the craft also trapped air under the front, increasing lift. Thus the *Versuchsgleitboot* is half way between the ram-air vehicles similar to later Soviet designs, and the modern hovercraft that uses air forced into a skirt.

Designed as a fast torpedo boat, the *Versuchsgleitboot* had a top speed over 32 knots (59 km/h). It was thoroughly tested and even armed,with torpedoes and machine guns, for operation in the Adriatic, however, it never saw actually combat and as the war progressed, due to lack of interest and perceived need, it was eventually scrapped and the engines returned to the airforce from whence they came.The theoretical grounds for motion over an air layer were constructed by Konstantin Eduardovich Tsiolkovskii in 1926 and 1927.

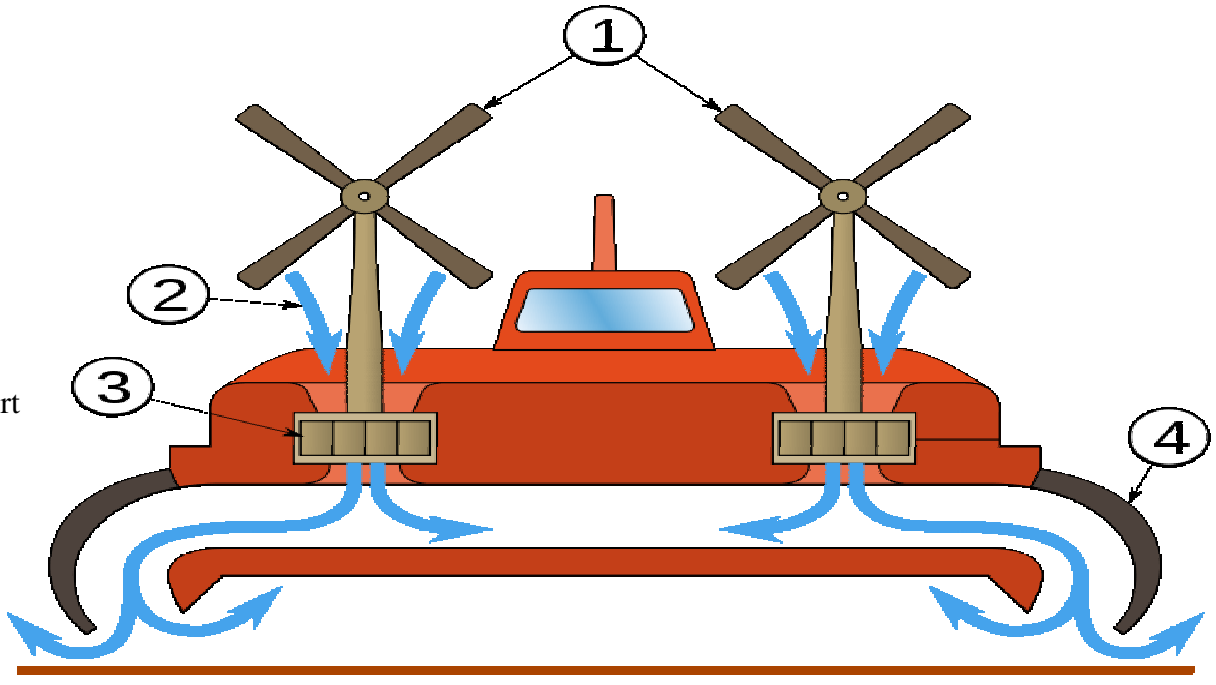
The first design that would be recognized as a true hovercraft was designed by Finnish aero engineer Toivo J. Kaario in 1931. Kaario's design included the modern features of a lift engine blowing air into a flexible envelop for lift. He built his first prototype, Finnish: *Pintaliitäjä* (Surface Soarer), in 1937. Kaario never received funding to build his design, however, Kaario's efforts were followed closely by Vladimir Levkov in the Soviet Union, who returned to the solid-sided design of the *Versuchsgleitboot* and are today classified as ground effect vehicles. Levkov designed and built a number of similar designs during the 1930s, and his L-5 fast-attack boat reached 70 kn (130 km/h) in testing. However, the opening of World War II put an end to Levkov's development work.

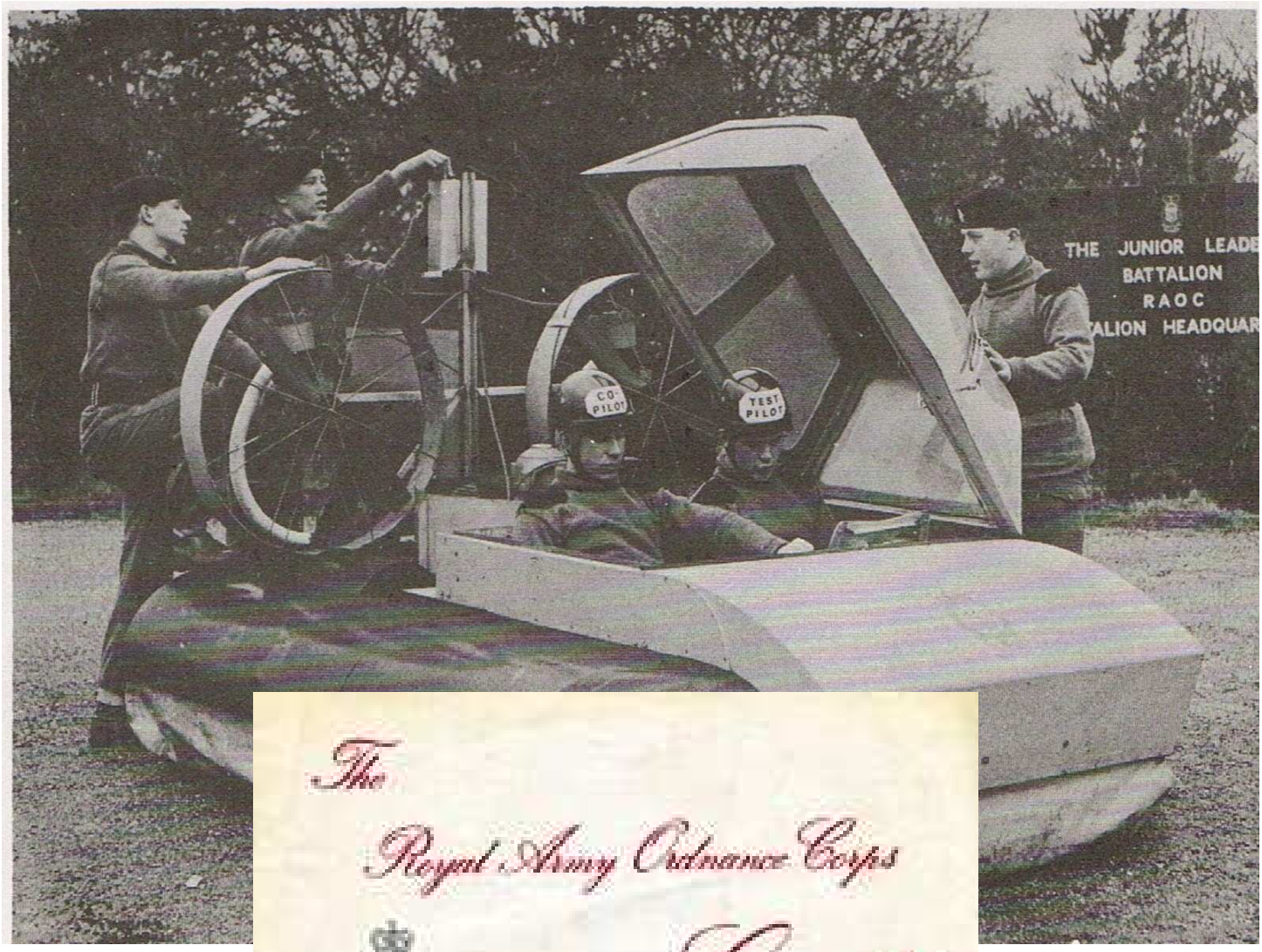
The idea of the modern hovercraft is most often associated with Sir Christopher Cockerell. Cockerell came across the key concept in his design when studying the ring of airflow when high-pressure air was blown into the annular area between two concentric tin cans, one coffee and the other from cat food. This produced an annular ring of airflow, as expected but he noticed an unexpected benefit as well; the sheet of fast moving air presented a sort of physical barrier to the air on either side of it.

This effect, which he called the "*momentum curtain*", could be used to trap high-pressure air in the area inside the curtain, providing lift based on pressure, not airflow. In theory, only a small amount of active airflow would be needed to create lift, much less than a design that relied only on the momentum of the air to provide lift, like Frost's Avrocar or a helicopter. In terms of power, a hovercraft would need about half to one quarter of the power required by a helicopter.

Cockerell built several models of his hovercraft design in the early 1950s, featuring an engine mounted to blow from the front of the craft into a cavity below it, combining both lift and propulsion. He demonstrated the model flying over many Whitehall carpets in front of various government experts and ministers, and the design was subsequently put on the secret list. In spite of tireless efforts to arrange funding no branch of the military was interested, as he later noted, "The Navy said it was a plane not a boat; the Air Force said it was a boat not a plane and the Army were *'plain not interested'*" – Typical!

1. Propellers
2. Air
3. Fan
4. Flexible skirt





The Royal Army Ordnance Corps Gazette



Yesterday



Today





Comment by Ivan Sangster :

"I can't help out with names for this photograph. The hovercraft had been built by the apprentices themselves. The hovercraft club was one of the hobbies clubs that most apprentices attended themselves. I remember being one of the crew of the hovercraft on an open day on the sports field. You turned by speeding up/slowing down one of the propellers at the back because the rudder was worse than useless."

The Commanding Officer's latest innovation, the Hovercraft Club, is flourishing and is well illustrated by the cover picture. The *Hovernauts* pictured there are Wright, Salmon, Boobier, Cox and Burfoot. Outside camera range was Lieutenant J. B. Wright. An experimental launching has proved that some minor tinkering only is necessary before the official launch on the square—always providing the RSM is not looking.

The Royal Army Ordnance Corps Gazette



THE COVER PICTURE

IN the Junior Leaders Battalion there are opportunities for many spare time hobbies and a new innovation, keeping up with the times, is the *Hovercraft Club*. The members of it call themselves. *Hoverleaders Limited.*

The cover picture shows the first working craft on the road—or should it be, *off the road*? Two more are under construction and it is hoped to have all three hovering by mid-summer.

For the technically minded, *Tonans*, The Thunderer, is powered by three Villiers 250cc motor cycle engines, two for propulsion and one to provide lift. *She* hovers seven inches from the surface and is capable of crossing land and water—in case of mechanical failure, she floats. The framework is of wooden construction with a rubberised canvas skirt. The controls are of aircraft type and operate a rudder.

The names of the Hovernauts in the picture are given in the Junior Leaders newsletter on page 435.

The photograph is by the Ministry of Defence, OS 14.

AFGHANISTAN – UPDATE

By

Adrian Hayward-Wills

The United Kingdom government is engaged in Afghanistan as part of a 50-nation coalition to prevent international terrorists, including Al Qaeda (AQ), from again using Afghanistan as a base from which to operate, threatening our security and that of the region. As my time in Afghanistan comes to an end and transition knocks on the door of President Karzai and Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, I thought I would end my Newsletter transmissions with a vignette of overall HMG policy.

As you can appreciate, transition means that HMG (UK) engagement in Afghanistan is shrinking and is increasingly civilian, not military. Within the Afghan system, there are big questions about how the move from an environment dominated by ISAF (principally the US and UK) to Afghan structures will work – including in areas such as security (Prisons and Police), counter terrorism and counter narcotics.

Even a year ago, the end of the ISAF mission in 2014 seemed some way off to many Afghans. But nearly all are now focussing on the profound changes that will take place in the country over the next 18 months. As well as the security hand-over, these will include a political transition, as Karzai leaves the Presidency in 2014; an economic transition, as the country adjusts from the uniquely high level of financial support towards a more normal aid relationship; and – no more than a distant possibility but more talked about than for many years – a potential peace process.

The international community agreed at the Chicago and Tokyo Conferences last summer (2012) to continue substantial financial support for security and development for several years (at roughly current levels - (half of GDP). But the Home Secretary will discover that most Afghans nonetheless feel deeply uncertain about what 2014 and the complex process of transition holds for them and their country.



Counter-Terrorism - CT

Although the Al Qaeda (AQ) threat has diminished since 2001, the Afghanistan-Pakistan theatre remains a high priority for UK CT interests. Afghanistan will be a country of concern for many years. The central government has never enjoyed full control of the mountainous East and this won't change after 2014. The Taliban's safe havens in Pakistan will continue to provide a base for the insurgency – in the absence of a peace settlement. The Home Secretary's meetings with the Ministry of the Interior, the National Directorate of Security, the Attorney General's Office and the Supreme Court will be an opportunity to explore the capacity of these institutions to fill the gap left by the International Community.

There is no Afghan counter-terrorism strategy or regular forum in which to discuss strategic issues such as the prioritisation of threats, the roles of the different departments and the capabilities required (which are significant). The Home Secretary has briefed the Afghan departments on the UK's strategy and the way in which the different departments and agencies work together – but we need to be realistic about what can be achieved in a country which was a semi-feudal monarchy only 40 years ago.

The UK (HMG) is setting up Justice and Security Partnerships with a number of countries including Afghanistan, as the Foreign Secretary set out in his speech on 14th February 2013. The early 2013 visit has enabled the Home Secretary to see the capacity-building work HMG does with CT investigators, Detention staff (me!), prosecutors and courts to strengthen their effectiveness and human rights compliance. She will want to test robustly how far there are coherent and credible plans in place to sustain this (sophisticated) legacy after 2014.

The recent United Nations Assistance Mission Afghanistan (UNAMA) report on the treatment of detainees in Afghan custody, in addition to on-going legal action against the UK MOD, has highlighted the challenge of creating a "*Compliance Pathway*". The Home Secretary will want to reiterate that detainees should be treated in accordance with Afghanistan's international obligations: if they are not, our ability to cooperate with and support the Afghan authorities will be badly undermined. She may, in one sense, be pushing at an open door: President Karzai has responded to the UN report positively, issuing a decree setting out a number of actions to be taken to implement its recommendations. But we are still some way from a culture in which human rights compliance can be taken for granted – certainly without clear leadership from the top and including international agencies such as the International Red Cross (below) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).



Counter Narcotics

The HMG lead on counter narcotics in Afghanistan will be transferring from the FCO to the Home Office later this year. This visit presents an opportunity for the Home Secretary to assess the scale of the drug problem and to see efforts underway to address it. 95% of the heroin on today's UK streets originates in Afghanistan – making this country of key importance in the Home Office's drug strategy.

The World Bank estimates that by 2015, the '*narcotics-economy'* will represent 20% of Afghanistan's GDP; and the narcotics trade is deeply rooted - inside the Government as well as the insurgency. The Ministry for Counter Narcotics and the Ministry of Interior are the main actors, and over recent years the UK has built significant counter narcotics capacity in both departments, as well as (jointly with the US) establishing the Counter Narcotics Justice Centre at which all high level narcotics offences are investigated and tried.

However, there are serious questions about the sustainability of much of our work: in particular, the capacity and willingness of future Afghan governments to prioritise tackling the drugs trade, given the more immediate challenges they will face and a declining international presence. Taskforce 333 (which the Home Secretary will visit) is a good example of the challenge: it started life as a UK- mentored CN unit, but now devotes 70% of its effort to CT.

Policing

The Afghan Police have come a long way in a short time. But their rapid growth has led to problems including low skills levels, illiteracy, corruption and human rights violations. The UK has seconded a senior diplomat to head a team working with the Ministry of the Interior to develop a realistic and effective reform plan, and to corral the often incoherent international effort. The UK occupies key mentoring and training roles for senior police.

Illegal migration

The UK faces a significant illegal migration threat from Afghanistan: Afghans are the UK's fourth highest asylum intake by nationality. But the return of failed asylum seekers to Afghanistan has been a relative success, with over 800 removed in 2011-12. The Home Secretary's meeting with the Minister for Refugees and Reintegration will be a chance to emphasise the importance we attach to these returns; to finalise details of a programme for the return of unaccompanied Afghan minors; and to encourage an increased level of attention to organised immigration crime.

The Average Day in Afghanistan

"*A would-be suicide bomber was shot dead before reaching his target in Kabul. One police officer was killed and two others were injured in the suicide attack in Logar Province this morning. Two Afghan intelligence agents were killed and three others wounded in a suicide car bombing in Nangarhar province early Sunday morning.*

NDS officials beat journalists and snatched their cameras after a suicide car-bomb attack in Jalalabad. Ashraf Ghazni Ahmadzai, threats from Al-Qaida and Hezb-e-Islami has made Kabul, the capital city of Afghanistan, the most vulnerable and the most insecure capital city in the world. Four civilians killed and two wounded in IED explosion in Helmand, 10 Taliban killed and 13 others injured in Badghis

Two bomb planters and 10 insurgents killed in two separate incidents in Helmand province. A woman was killed and 16 civilians injured in an explosion in Fariab Province. ISAF helicopter crashes in Kapisa province. NDS: Recently released Taliban prisoners rejoined the insurgency. NDS: Taliban not behind recent suicide attacks in Kabul

A suicide attacker blew himself up next to a bus carrying Afghan National Army (ANA) personnel in Pul-e-Surkh area of the capital Kabul at around 7:00 a.m. local time today (Wednesday 27 Feb. 13), injuring 6 ANA officers and a civilian, Kabul police official said. Kabul police officials would not provide further information on the incident.

At least 35 Taleban insurgents, including three Arab fighters were killed and 42 insurgents injured in two separate operations in the western Herat and Badghis provinces, local officials said yesterday. An operation war launched last week in the Kishk-e-Kohna district of Herat province and the Moqor district of Badghis province, said Herat deputy governor Asiluddin Jami, who added that the Taleban district governor of Gulran, Mawlawi Abdul Khaliq Baloch was also detained. An Afghan soldier and a policeman were killed in the operation.

An Afghan police officer drugged 17 colleagues and shot them dead on Wednesday with the aid of the Taliban, Police said, the latest in a series of so-called "insider" attacks involving Afghan security forces (Prison/Police etc) and the Taliban. The attacks have undermined trust between coalition and Afghan forces whom are under mounting pressure to contain the Taliban insurgency before most NATO combat troops withdraw by the end of 2014. The killings, the worst in a string of similar attacks in recent months, occurred at an Afghan Local Police (ALP) outpost in the eastern province of Ghazni. What a dump that place is!!!!"

A plan to attack the opening ceremony of the Afghan Parliament was foiled after Afghan security forces seized 16 missiles in south-eastern Kabul on Monday night. The Afghan forces discovered and seized the missiles in Kabul's Musahee district which were ready to be fired into the city, Kabul police chief Gen. Ayoub Salangi said. Afghan Interior Ministry officials said that the militants were planning to carry out the rocket attacks on an opening ceremony of the Afghan parliament.

A suicide bomber blew himself up during a traditional Afghan game of Buzkashi, a game of horse polo played with a dead goat, killing at least ten spectators in the northern province of Kunduz on, the local governor's office said. Among those killed were the district police chief who is the brother of Afghanistan's House Speaker, Abdul Rauf Ibrahimi.

Afghan intelligence discovered and defused a truck bomb packed with nearly eight tones of explosives in Kabul last week, the biggest of its kind discovered in the capital, officials said. The intelligence forces discovered the explosives in Ali Walkhail village in Kabul's district 16, wired and ready for detonation, spokesman for the Afghan National Directorate of Security (NDS) Shafiqullah Tahiri told media. The area was raided by the security forces and five Haqqani network insurgents were killed in a resulting firefight.

Armed Taleban beheaded three civilians in Kandahar province, according to local officials. Security officials of Kandahar say that the incident took place in Ghorak district of the province. Security officials added that the three civilians were residents of Helmand province who were charged by the insurgents for spying for the Afghan government.

A policeman has shot dead three of his colleagues in the Shamalzai district of southern Zabul province, an official said on Tuesday. The overnight incident in Spinkai Manda area was the result of personal differences, the 303rd Border Police Zone Commander, Brig. Gen. Tafsir Khan Khogyani, told Pajhwok Afghan News. He said the victims had exchanged harsh words with the killer a short while before they were gunned down. The killer managed to escape.

A group of suicide bombers attacked the Afghan Quick Reaction Force base in Jalalabad, the capital of Afghanistan's eastern Nengarhar province early morning today killing five Afghan officers, provincial police officials said. According to provincial police officials one suicide bomber detonated his explosives-laden car at the entrance gate of the Quick Reaction Force headquarters and two bombers blew themselves up inside the compound. Provincial police added that four other suicide bombers were killed in a gun battle with police.

According to local authorities in north-eastern Badakhshan province of Afghanistan, Taliban militants abducted at least 10 Afghan national army soldiers along with a doctor in this province. Provincial governor spokesman Abdul Maroof Rasikh confirming the report said the individuals were abducted by Taliban militants during a military operation in Wardoj district around 3 days back

The homespun Afghan Burqa is under siege from east and west these days — cut-price competition from China, and Western influences that are leading many urban women to exchange the full-body cloak for a simple headscarf. The decline is most noticeable in Kabul, the capital, where women began joining the work force and adopting Western dress soon after the 2001 U.S.-led invasion that ousted the puritanical Taliban.

Demand for Burqas appears strongest in the provinces, where family pressures and the power of conservative warlords continue to enforce a stricter Islamic code. Alim Nazery, who has traded in Burqas in Kabul, NE Afghanistan for 27 years, remembers selling at least 50 Burqas a day when the Taliban were in charge. Now he says he sells 20 a day, mostly to women from the provinces.

*Three Georgian soldiers with the International Security Assistance Force (*ISAF*) were killed yesterday when insurgents attacked their position in southern Afghanistan with a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device, the alliance said today. "We can confirm three Georgian service members from ISAF were killed yesterday when insurgents attacked their position…" the* NATO-*led force said in response to an emailed query from Pajhwok Afghan News. One suicide bomber blew himself up near the Georgian military base in the Musa Qala district of Helmand province late on Monday. The bombing happened in the Landi Nava area the district.*

Taleban threats have caused the closure of nearly 40 schools in Shajoy district of Afghanistan's southern Zabul province, local officials say. According to provincial deputy governor, in the past two months nearly 40 schools have been closed due to Taleban threats in Shajoy district. Meanwhile, a number of residents in Zabul also express concern about the threats from the Taleban.

In conclusion, as Afghanistan enters a crucial year and as we draw down as part of transition and the Afghan authorities take lead responsibility for their own governance. The insurgency has been weakened but is not over; Helmand remains the most insurgency-ridden province in Afghanistan. We have nevertheless made good progress. The Afghans have already taken responsibility for security in six districts but some of the most difficult, in the contested North and extreme South of the province, remain to be handed over.

ANSF forces were tested after the marine surge into the North of Helmand was reversed last summer, and demonstrated they were able to hold the ground. They have recently conducted a successful clearance operation in the insurgent heartland of Kajaki district. Successful operations boost ANSF confidence and this is judged by our military colleagues to be the most important ingredient of sustainable transition.

HMG has made good progress on service delivery: more schools and clinics are open and there are 170 more miles of hard-top road than in 2010. We have also established the state institutions which should ensure this progress is sustainable. We have pioneered representative District Community Councils – *the only elected ones in Afghanistan* – to hold the Government to account for service delivery and ensure the local population remain committed to Government: the first real taste in Afghanistan of bottom-up rather than top-down government at this level.

We have also put in place budgetary systems which allow the provincial authorities to operate and maintain their new facilities by bidding for centrally held funds – again a first for Helmand which we are seeking to roll out elsewhere in Afghanistan. All this is already consolidating popular support for the Government as our polling data show.

The key to tipping the balance in the government's favour lies increasingly in Rule of Law (Prisons/Police etc) and Kabul the capital of Afghanistan. Helmand has shown that local democracy backed up by some decentralised budgeting works. HMG also needs to sustain well led adequate security force numbers in the most violently-contested Provinces. The greatest long-term risks to the Governors of the 34 Provinces is the unlocking of the narcotics nexus, where HMG offers support but any political solution will have to be Afghan-led and Afghan decisions that determine its future.

My time runs finishes in June 2013, I have completed a two year tour that involved the following:-

- **Designing, delivering and mentoring specialised training courses to over 700 members of the Afghan Security Forces.**
- **Co-ordinated with sponsors providing clear understanding of resource use, service delivery and project satisfaction.**
- **Advised, mentored and supported the National Directorate of Security - Afghanistan's secret intelligence agency.**
- **Advised, mentored and supported the Central Prisons Directorate – the Afghan Prison system.**
- **Provided regular detailed reports regarding all aspects of insurgent handling to interested international agencies.**
- **Advised on matters regarding treatment of insurgent detainees in accordance with Human Rights legislation.**
- **Provided tactical advice and support to interested parties; which included NATO Provincial Reconstruction Teams, government secret intelligence agencies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and other numerous United Nations (UN) agencies such as United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and lastly UNAMA, United Nations Assistance Mission Afghanistan.**

I have enjoyed my time (2 years) in Afghanistan and in particular Lashkar Gar and Kabul but like everything in life, it comes to an end eventually. I face Voluntary Redundancy from an organsiation I have enjoyed working for and have worked for over 24 years for but the new terms and conditions being presented to employees is simply unacceptable and I am leaving – ENDEX!




BOARD
Headquarters
k Force Helmand
ISAF









The Pith Helmet – Royal Army Ordnance Corps

By Adrian Hayward-Wills

As we all know, the British Army is deployed in all climates, the Royal Army Ordnance Corps was no exception, when deployed in extremes of climate, soldiers were often kitted out with appropriate headdress, below is one such example:-

The Pith Helmet (also known as the Safari Helmet, Sun Helmet, Topee, Sola Topee, Salacot or Topi) is a lightweight cloth-covered helmet made of cork or pith (*typically pith from the sola Indian swamp growth, Aeschynomene aspera; or A. paludosa or a similar plant*). Designed to shade the wearer's head and face from the sun, pith helmets were once often worn by Westerners in the tropics but have also been used in other contexts for example, in the Film *"Zulu"* and "*Carry on Up the Khyber*"!

Crude forms of Pith Helmets had existed as early as the 1840s but it was around 1870 that the pith helmet became popular with military personnel in Europe's tropical colonies. The Franco-Prussian War had popularized the German Pickelhaube, which may have influenced the distinctive design of the pith helmet. Such developments may have merged with a traditional design from the Philippines, the Salakot. The alternative name salacot (also written salakhoff) appears frequently in Spanish and French sources and comes from the Tagalog word salacsac (or Salaksak). Emilio Aguinaldo and the Philippine revolutionary military used to wear the pith helmet from the Spaniards alongside the straw hat and the native salakot during the Revolution in the Philippine-American War.

Originally made of pith with small peaks (bills) at the front and back, the helmet was covered by white cloth, often with a cloth band (or puggaree) around it, and small holes for ventilation. Military versions often had metal insignia on the front and could be decorated with a brass spike or ball-shaped finial. The chinstrap could be in leather or brass chain, depending on the occasion. The base material later became the more durable cork, although still covered with cloth and frequently still referred to as "pith" helmets. This form of headdress is now associated strongly with the British Empire. However, the pith helmet was used by all European and colonial powers, and by the United States Army during the 1880s, in the Southwest United States.

It was commonly worn by white officers commanding locally recruited soldiers in the colonial troops of France, Britain, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Imperial Germany and the Netherlands, as well as civilian officials in their tropical territories. White troops serving in the tropics usually wore pith helmets, although on active service they were sometimes replaced by more comfortable and less conspicuous alternatives such as the wide brimmed slouch hats worn by US troops in the Philippines and by British Empire forces in the later stages of the Boer War.







Parallel to the development of the sun helmet, a broadly similar helmet, of dark blue cloth over cork and incorporating a bronze spike, was adopted for military wear in non-tropical areas, although it was rarely thought of as a true "pith helmet". Modelled on the German Pickelhaube, but distinctly different, this headdress was first adopted by the British Army (which called it the "Home Service Helmet") in 1878, followed by the United States Army in 1881.

The British version was worn on most occasions by line infantry, artillery and engineers until 1902, and the introduction of khaki Service Dress. However, even with the introduction of Service Dress, the appropriate field service headgear was still being developed, and some units continued to wear the helmet on exercise while others adopted slouch hats (from Boer War experience) or the Broderick cap. Finally, the introduction of khaki peaked (billed) caps in 1905 relegated the helmet to being a purely full dress item. The blue cloth helmets worn by American mounted troops until 1901 were particularly elaborate, being decorated with plumes and cords in the colours (yellow or red) of their branches of service.

The Home Service Helmet is still worn by some British Army bands or Corps of Drums on ceremonial occasions today. It is closely related to the custodian helmet still worn by a number of police forces in England. During the Anglo-Zulu War, British troops dyed their white pith helmets with tea, mud or other makeshift means of camouflage. Subsequently khaki-coloured pith helmets became standard issue for active tropical service.

Pith helmets were widely worn during World War I by British Empire, Turkish, Belgian, French and German colonial troops fighting in the Middle East and Africa. Helmets of this style (but without true pith construction) were used as late as World War II by Japanese, European and American military personnel in hot climates. Included in this category are the sun helmets worn in North Africa by Italian troops, South African Army and Air Force units and Germany's Afrika Korps, as well as similar helmets used to a more limited extent by U.S. and Japanese forces in the Pacific.



The entire military of the America's colony the Philippines, which consisted of an army and a gendarmerie, used sun helmets. The U.S. Marine Corps first issued pith helmets called "Elephant hats" to the 1st Marine Division's deployment to Guantánamo Bay in 1940. They were worn in the South Pacific as well as worn by recruits in United States Marine Corps Boot Camp. The Axis Second Philippine Republic's military, known as the Bureau of Constabulary, as well as other guerrilla groups in the Philippines was another user of sun helmets. The British Army formally abolished the tropical helmet in 1948.

The Ethiopian Imperial Guard retained pith helmets as a distinctive part of their uniform until the overthrow of Emperor Haile Selassie in 1974. Imperial Guard units serving in the Korean War often wore these helmets when not in actual combat. Such was the popularity of the pith helmet that it became a common civilian headgear for Westerners in the tropics from the end of the 19th century.

The civilian pith helmet usually had the same dimensions and outline as its contemporary military counterpart though it lacked decorative extras such as badges. It was worn by men and women, old and young, both on formal and casual occasions, until the Second World War.

Until the 1930s there was a widespread assumption that wearing this form of headdress was necessary for people of European origin to avoid sunstroke in the tropics—indigenous peoples were assumed to have acquired natural immunity over many generations. Modern medical opinion holds that some form of wide brimmed but light headdress is highly advisable in strong sunlight for people of all races to avoid skin cancers and overheating.

The Royal Marines still wear white "Wolseley pattern" helmets of the same general design as the old pith helmet as part of their number 1 or dress uniform. These date from 1912 in their present form and are made of natural cork covered in white cloth on the outside and shade green on the inside. Decoration includes a brass ball ornament at the top, helmet plate and chin chain. A similar headdress is worn by the Tongan Royal Guard as well as the Compagnie des Carabiniers du Prince of Monaco and by the Sri Lankan Police as part of their dress uniform. In the Philippines, some ceremonial units use sun helmets, as do the Royal Guards of the Royal Thai Army.

British diplomats in tropical postings, Governors General, Governors and colonial officials continued to wear the traditional white helmets as part of their ceremonial white uniforms until the practice died out during the 1970s and '80s. The ceremonies marking the end of British rule in Hong Kong in 1997 were probably the last occasion on which this style of headdress was seen as a symbol of Empire.

After World War II, the Viet Minh of Vietnam based their helmet design on the French pith helmet of the former colonial power and adopted it as their own. Today it is still widely worn by civilians in Vietnam (mostly in the North but its use has seen sharp decline since 2007 when the motorbike helmet became mandatory for motorbike riders) but appears only rarely as part of the military uniform. In design, the Vietnamese model was similar to the pre–World War II civilian type but covered in jungle green cloth, sometimes with a [redacted]

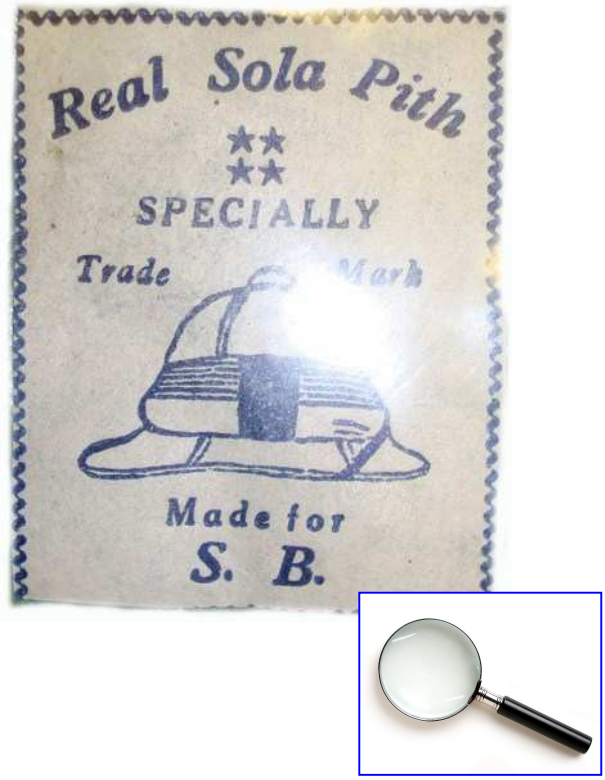


White (in some places light blue) sun helmets of plastic material but traditional design are still worn today by some mail carriers of the U.S. Postal Service (USPS), when delivering the mail on foot in hot climates such as South Carolina, Florida, Southern California, Arizona, New York and Hawaii.

White colored helmets with black ribbons (virtually identical to the one pictured above, belonging to Harry Truman) were the standard duty head gear used by highway traffic officers in the Dominican Republic's National Police up until the beginning of the 21st century, when these units were replaced by the creation of the Autoridad Metropolitana de Transporte (AMET) corps, who use dark green Stetson hats instead.

The pith helmet continues to be worn by cadets in senior positions at the Royal Military College of Canada for certain parades and special occasions. Notably, the Cadet Wing Commander, Deputy Wing Commander, Wing Training Officer, Wing Administration Officer, Squadron Leaders, Squadron Training Officers, and the Colour Party. The same pattern of helmet forms part of the ceremonial dress uniform of the Royal Canadian Regiment and Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, with distinctively coloured (red and French grey respectively) Puggarees.





Today, most people will associate the Pith Helmet either with outdoor adventurers such as the late Steve Irwin or of the military of the British colonial period or perhaps the famous Carry on Film "*Carry on up the Khyber*" While it is still in use today in many areas of the world, the pith helmet has declined from its former popularity.



Did you know that the clip from the above film "*Carry on up the Khyber*" was filmed in Wales? Well read on…

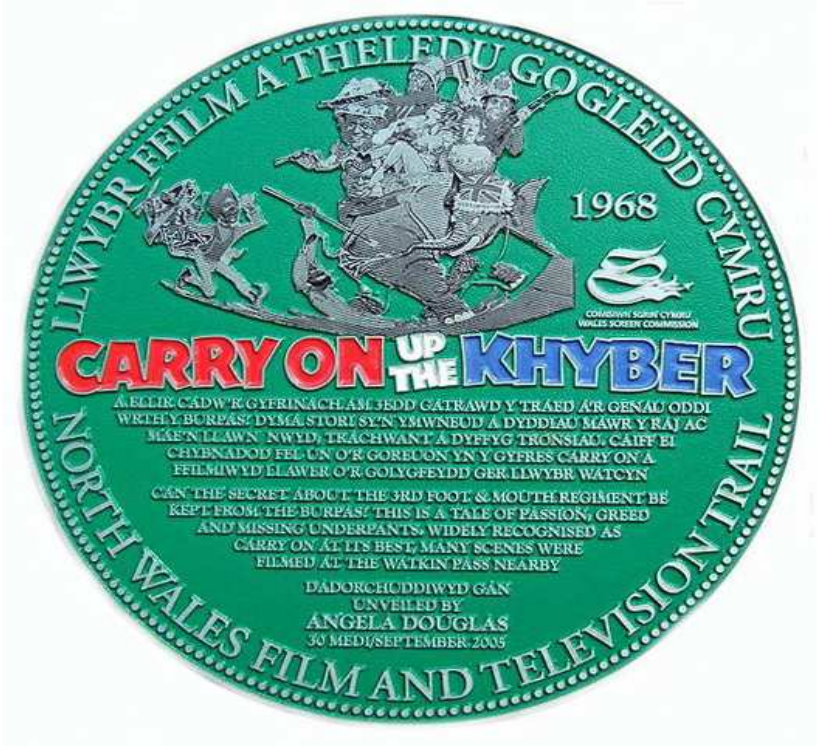
A plaque has been unveiled in Snowdonia to mark the spot where the classic comedy "*Carry On Up The Khyber*" was filmed in 1968. The Watkin Path that leads to the summit of Snowdon doubled for the historic outpost of the empire - where many an RAOC, REME and RCT Boy Soldier and Apprentice has trodden! Angela Douglas, who played Princess Jelhi, unveiled the tribute to the film, the 16th in the pun-laden series. The film is being honoured as part of the North Wales Film and Television Trail, run by Wales Screen Commission. The comedy, one of a string of low-budget classics, had funding for only 10 days filming in Snowdonia, rather than in the Hindu Kush – the very mountains I can see where I am based in NE Afghanistan!!

Angela Douglas, who had just married her actor husband Kenneth More, who was a huge star at the time, said he she had fond memories of project, which was also her first visit to Wales. She said: The films just hit the nation's funny bone and perhaps it was obvious we all got on so well and our joy of being together was infectious.

But we were all so shockingly badly paid that it's embarrassing that people think we were rich." She added that she remembered fondly the film's dinner scene, where characters ate while "shells" crashed round them. Douglas said: "There isn't one shot of me in close up because I couldn't stop laughing."

The film commission has also given a version of the plaque to Peter Rogers, one of the people behind the Carry On production, along with Gerald Thomas. Film buffs claim that the mythology surrounding Carry On Up The Khyber includes claims of its actors later being buttonholed by Indian restaurant waiters thanking them for showing their "homeland" on the screen.

The commission's research for the plaque also found another story about the film.



Princess Margaret, who visited the set, was said to be "incandescent" at the "disrespect" shown to her great-great grandmother, Queen Victoria, who in one scene was referred to as"Queen Vicky".

A little known fact about "*Carry On Up The Khyber*" is that the soldiers' costumes were borrowed from 1964 war classic, Zulu, which recounted the battle of Rorke's Drift, one of the most famous episodes in Welsh military history – well I didn't know that!

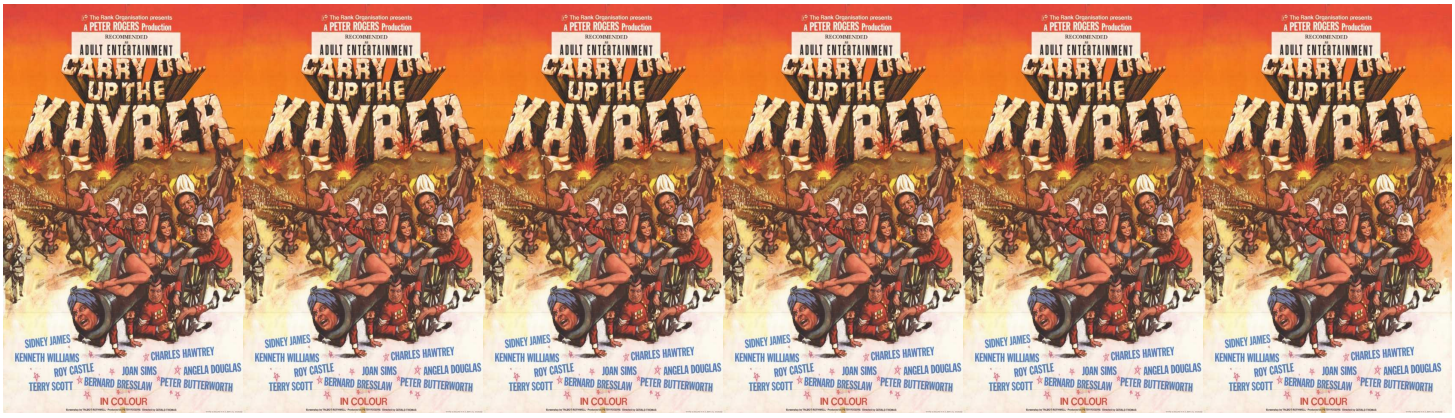






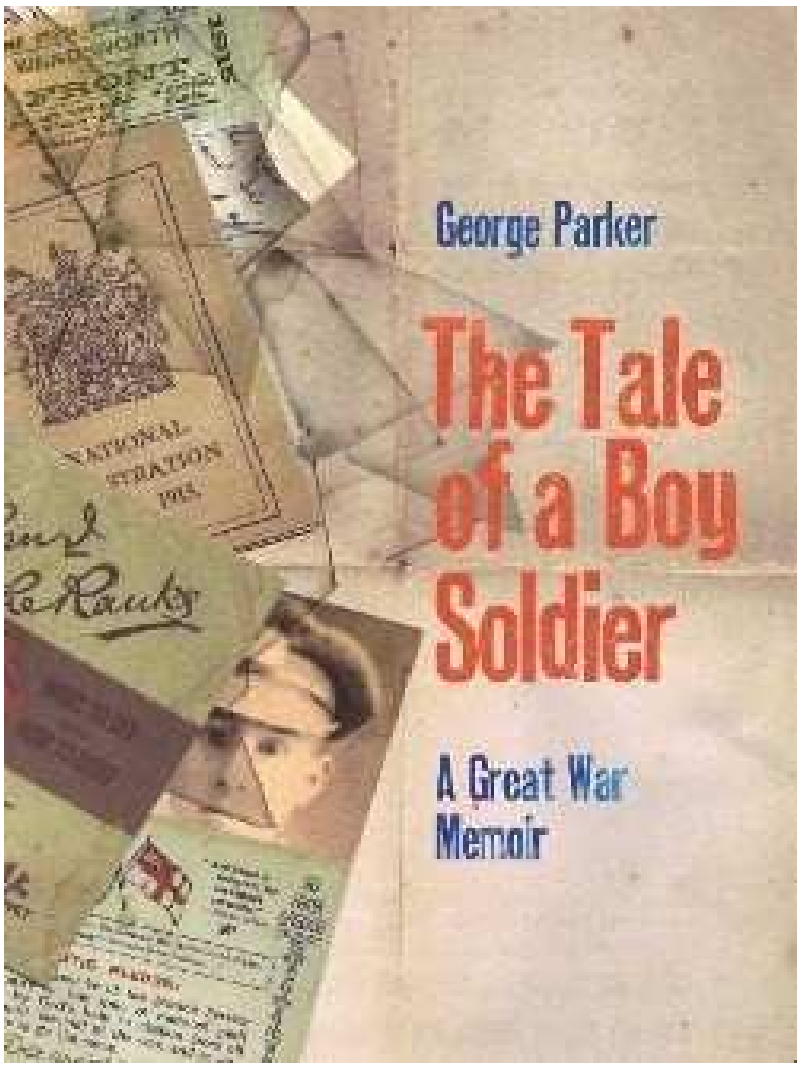


Above a contemporary Lobby Card – Film still taken from the Film “Carry on up the Khyber”



END

Book Review



- Paperback: 72 pages
- Publisher: QueenSpark Books (Sep 2008)
- Language English
- ISBN-10: 0904733432
- ISBN-13: 978-0904733433

Synopsis

As a fifteen-year-old boy during World War One, George Parker single-mindedly decided to 'fight for King and Country'. This is a truthful and sincere account of life in the trenches, told with a dry sense of humour that kept George and his comrades cheerful, against the odds. George Parker was born into poverty in Brighton in 1898 and joined up to fight in the First World War at the age of just 15.

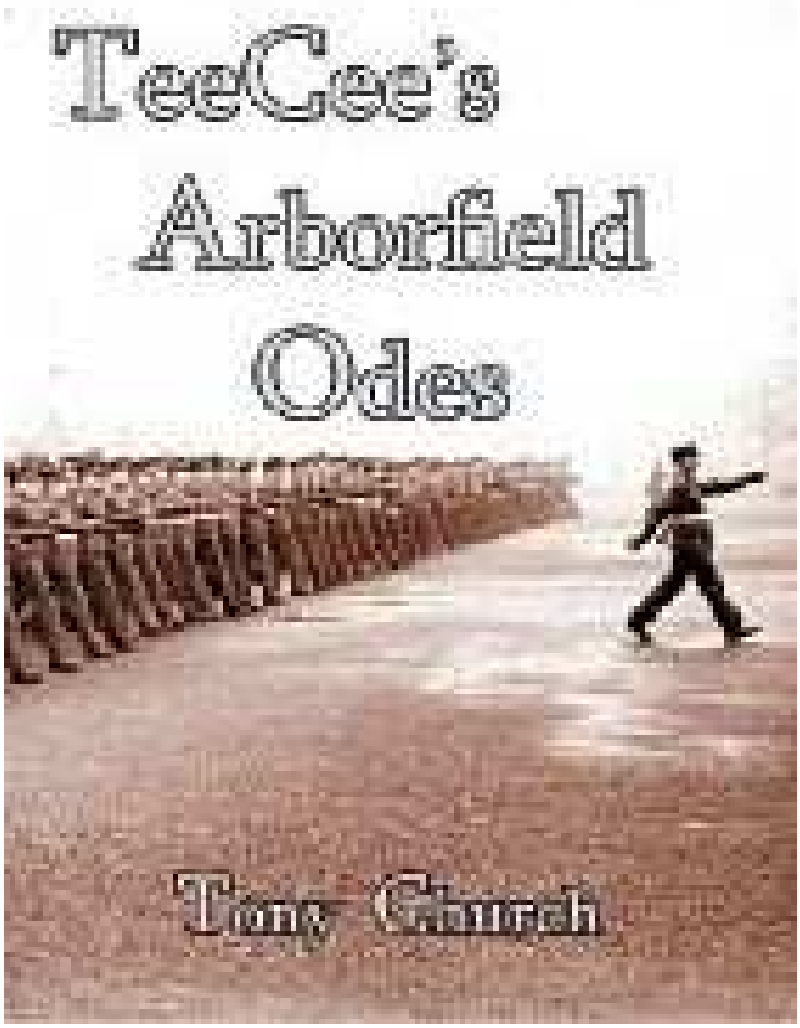
He fought in the trenches in both Ypres and on the Somme and, although wounded, survived the horrors of the 'war to end all wars'. In 1969 George wrote this memoir which provides us with a first-hand account of life in Brighton before the First World War and, in particular, of life for a young soldier in the trenches.

George remained remarkably optimistic, despite the hard living conditions that existed at that time and the fact that he was seriously wounded in battle. His courage and determination epitomise the resilience of the human spirit in overcoming adversity and surviving traumatic times.

The manuscript for *Tale of a Boy Soldier* was discovered by George's daughter, after the author's death. She knew nothing of his harrowing First World War experiences and brought it to QueenSpark Books in the hope that it would be of interest. Readers of the manuscript were so moved by George's personal account of The Great War, it was published and went on to become one of QueenSpark's best selling titles!

Additional photographs, a new WWI timeline and an evocative new colour cover (a winning entry from Brighton University Graphics student Jesse Green) make this a great read for biography and military history fans.

Book Review



Hardcover: 112 pages

Publisher: Las Atalayas Publishing

Language English

ISBN-10: 0955675324

Product Dimensions: 23.2 x 15.4 x 1.8 cm

Synopsis

For those who started their Army careers as Army Apprentice Tradesmen at the Army Apprentices School or College at Arborfield they will be well aware that Arborfield has always held a special place in their hearts.

TeeCee's collection of amusing and sometimes poignant verses reflects much of the life and attitudes of many who spent their formative years there and this collection of those well deserves a place on their bookshelves.

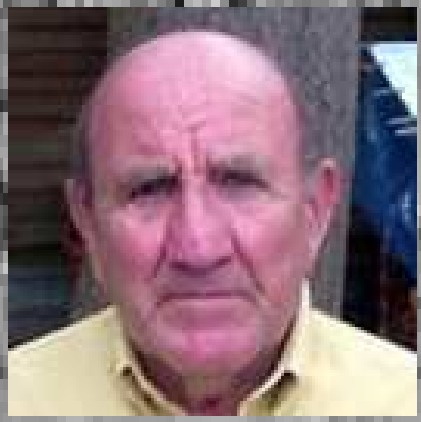
A hardback edition of an illustrated collection of amusing and sometimes poignant verses relating to the life and times of and at the Army Apprentices School, Arborfield.

This book well deserves a place on the fireside table of anyone who served at Arborfield as Tony Church has captured in his writing so much of the trials, tribulations, humour and life of an Army Apprentice.

Old Codger's – Photo Gallery

This is a Bugle Call for RAOC, REME and RCT Association Members to submit contributions to the Old Codger's revamped and most improved Photo Gallery contained within our website. This is where members can place photos and details of their service-life after Boys' School and let us know a little about their families and interest etc - We can even place a photo on the website when its your Birthday!

At this improved photo section, members can now "*hover*" their mouse over a photo and see a "*Now and Then*" photo! For those interested in making contact with old friends, you can place your search details on the Forum, doing so will allow other members to see it and hopefully someone may know of the individual's whereabouts. Below are some examples already posted on the website.

In Boys' Service	In the Army	In Retirement
		
		
		

Top to Bottom:- George Tether, Ted Taylor, Ben Ridley

Having the Old Codger's Page is particularly useful at Reunion times to identify lost pals! For example:-

In Boys' Service **In the Army** **In Retirement**



So please send us **YOUR** contribution, if you have not yet done so! What we need is one, or more, photos showing any aspect of your life during or after Boys School, including family.... In fact, just anything you like... It's **YOUR** personal photo-album and only visible to other members of the Ex-Boys' Association.

Furthermore, submitting such photos also allows us to place a photo on the website when its your Birthday! Ideally for the newsletter, we would appreciate three (3) such photographs to enable a before, middle and retirement photo strip!

Lost Pals

For those interested in making contact with old friends, you can place your search details on the Forum, doing so will allow other members to see it and hopefully someone may know of the individual's whereabouts.

Alternatively, you can contact Bill Chamberlain directly, (see the Contacts section) who, will wherever possible, conduct a search using the UK Info CD (purchased by the Association).

We have been successful in locating a considerable number of "*lost pals*" and it helps if you can provide additional information:-

- **First name and any second initial**
- **Current age (approx)**
- **Where the person hailed from**
- **His wife's name**
- **Last known location**
- **Any one or more of the above bits of information will allow the search to be narrowed down**

Hopefully we can "*make your day*" and you can meet up with those "*lost pals*" at one of our next Reunion Dinners!





RAOC BOYS' SCHOOL
RAOC & REME BOYS' SCHOOL
RAOC & REME JUNIOR LEADERS BATTALION
RAOC APPRENTICE COLLEGE
JUNIOR LEADERS REGIMENT RAOC & RCT

EX BOYS' ASSOCIATION



Ex Boys and Lost Pals (1)

It has been found necessary to circulate the Membership to see if there are any of you interested in coming on board, to take over from Bill Chamberlain, the sourcing of ex-Boys and to assist those seeking to locate ex-Pals.

Bill has decided that at the end of 2012, at the very latest, he will relinquish this voluntary work. Having carried out this role out for over 7 years - undertaking searches, assisting in maintaining the Roll and contacting ex-Boys by whatever means possible and also trying to help ex Boys find Lost Pals, he feels it is time to take a break.

This role is of major importance, as many of you will know from experience and requires someone who has - total discretion, takes pride in attention to detail, a good memory, spare time and above all, an interest in all the aspects of this rewarding role.

As with all our other Admin roles, this is a voluntary position.

If you are interested and wish to discuss this valued and important position in more detail, please email Bill Chamberlain, supplying a contact home phone number



Public Relations Administrator (2)

We are still looking for an individual to come on board as our Public Relations Administrator. This is a newly created role and we see this position as being crucial to ensuring the profile of the Association is brought to the attention of other bodies such as liasing with military sites, as well as the Press and other organizations.

As with all our other Admin roles, this is a voluntary position.

If you are interested and wish to discuss this valued and important position in more detail, please email Bill Chamberlain, supplying a contact home phone number.






The Last Post and Obituaries

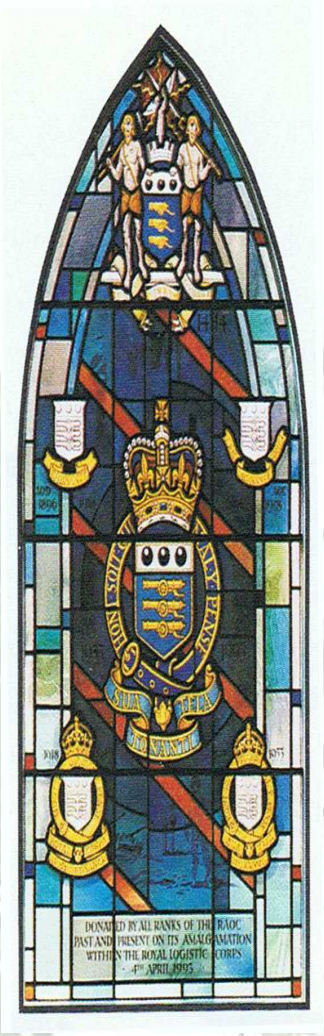
For the Last Post details contained within this Newsletter, the Ex-Boys' Assocation, are dependent on information from either relatives or Ex-Boys themselves. Please forgive any inaccuracies or omissions that have perhaps been quoted from memory.

Members may be interested to know of a website by the name of lastingtribute.co.uk. Lasting Tribute invites you to celebrate the lives of family, friends and people in the public eye who are no longer with us.

Recognised as the trusted guardians of one of the largest and fastest growing online archives of tributes in the UK, with more than one million searchable records and over 3,500 new ones being added every week; this company provides an online tribute and memorial website where you can create your own online tributes to celebrate the lives of those no longer with us. There are many references to our Armed Forces and an entry associated with the Boys' Service, is the late David Bowhay, late RAOC, who sadly passed away in 2009.

It is with deep regret that we have been notified of the passing of the following Ex Boys and Permanent Staff since our last publication. Our thoughts and deepest condolences are with the families at the time of passing and at the time of this announcement.

Their names have been added to the Ex Boys' Association Roll of Honour.



Eric Anthony WARD (RAOC) - *24 Jan.1922 - †Dec 2012

Terence E. WALLING (RAOC) *14th May 1947 - †28th Dec 2012

John BRUNT (RAOC) *1932 - †27 August 2012

Robert John "Bob" HUGHES (RAOC) *29 Aug 1946 - †24 March 2013

Kenneth H. AVERY (RAOC) *1943 - †10 April 2013

Frederick Charles HAILES (RAOC) *29 Aug 1949 - †1991

Alan Edward PROCTER (RAOC) *2 January 1962 - †26 May2013

Barry LAMBERT (RAOC) *1 Jan 1943 - †18 May 2013



Roll of Honour Web Page

RAOC BOYS' SCHOOL
RAOC & REME BOYS' SCHOOL
RAOC & REME JUNIOR LEADERS BATTALION
RAOC APPRENTICE COLLEGE
JUNIOR LEADERS REGIMENT RAOC & RCT

EX BOYS' ASSOCIATION













Juniors A to E	Juniors F to K	Juniors L to R	Juniors S to Z
Permanent Staff			

Click here to listen to the LAST POST in a new and moving rendering

Roll of Honour Web Page

RAOC BOYS' SCHOOL
RAOC & REME BOYS' SCHOOL
RAOC & REME JUNIOR LEADERS BATTALION
RAOC APPRENTICE COLLEGE
JUNIOR LEADERS REGIMENT RAOC & RCT

EX BOYS' ASSOCIATION

Roll of Honour

Junior Soldiers - A to E

Click on the name-box for photos & any available memories or comments
Hover the cursor over a name for more details

ADAMS, Ronald (Ron)
AGGETT, Peter R.
ALLEN-HAUNCEY, William H.
ALLISON, C.J.
ALMOND, Thomas (RSAVS)
ANDREWS, Edward H. G.
APPLEBY, George E.
ARCHIBALD, Ian
AVERY, Kenneth H.
AVERY, Raymond

BALDWIN, David W.
BALLANTYNE (RCT)
BASSINDALE, John (RSAVS)
BATCHELOR, Alan J.
BEECROFT, Brian G.
BEER, Philip J.
BELLROSE, Michael
BENNETT, Owen JT
BENTLEY, Derek
BEVERIDGE, Gavin A.
BINNS, Ken (Dusty)
BLAND, Gordon S.
BLOOR, Michael F.
BLYTHE, Gary
BOWHAY, David W. "Zippy"
BRADSHAW, Christopher
BRENNAN, Edward L. (Ted)
BRENNAN, William E. L.
BROADBENT, John G.
BROCKLEBANK, Gordon
BROWN, David S.
BRUNT, John (Jack)
BULLIVANT, Geoffrey (RSAVS)
BUNKER, Paul
BURGHART, Edward W.
BURGIN, Howard
BURNS, John (Jack)
BURT, Dougie
BUTLER, John (Johnny)

CAESAR, David C.
CASEMORE, David J.
CHOWN, Terry (RSAVS)
CLARK, David (RSAVS)
CLANCY, James
CLAUGHTON, Leonard A.
CLAY, Roger J.
CLEMOW, Alan
CLIFTON, Christopher R.
COLES, Leslie Charles
CONWAY, Ronald
COOLEDGE, Michael
COOPER, Benjamin S.
COPSEY, Joseph
COULTARD, Aubrey C.
CRAIGHE, Rodney
CRAISTER, Clive
CROCOMBE, David W.
CROWHURST, Stephen G.

DALY, Thomas
DAWSON, George W.AL
DEATH, Frederick W.
DELPH, Thomas H.
DICKSON, James G.
DILWORTH, John (Paddy)
DIX, Reg
DOWN, George W.
DREW, Michael J.
DUFFUS, Ian R.
DUNCAN, Graham S.

EASTLAKE, George E.
EGLINGTON, Rodney C.
EMBERSON, A.I.A.
EMBERSON, J.R.

Juniors F to K | Juniors L to R | Juniors S to Z | Permanent Staff

Family and friends are encouraged to submit photos and any personal memories of an individual's time at Boy's School, Junior Leaders or Apprentice College, for inclusion on the site





Eric and Norma were my neighbours when I moved from Heatherside, Camberley to Alphington Avenue, Frimley around 1993. I lived there for 15 years and then retired to the IOW 5 years ago. A man who loved life and I was privileged to spend a few of mine with him. Eric loved the Army and spent all of his working life in or working for the Military.

He was a proud member of the RAOC Association, had a chest full of medals as did his Dad an ex Guards RSM who was Commissioned.

He had a sense of humour to match the best of us and I spent many a night in the SM in Deepcut and his home The Little Foxes in Frimley listening to his stories.

When I first met him he used to tell people I was from Jamaica and I constantly reminded him I was from Trinidad but he always forgot and in his defence used to say Trinidad. Jamaica, all the same the West Indies stop winging. So one day over the garden fence I saw him cutting his lawn and shouted " Taff ", he switched the mower off and turned and said to me don't be so bloody daft you know I am English not Welsh. Yes I replied and I am from Trinidad not Jamaica. We both had a good laugh.

His Garage was and still is laid out like a REME Workshop all the tools numbered, boxed, bagged and laid out as to an inventory hanging on the wall. He would tackle any job and have a go at repairing anything when he was fit enough to do so. Logged all his mileage and carried out his own vehicle repairs.

You could write a book about Eric, he was much loved and touched the hearts of all who knew him





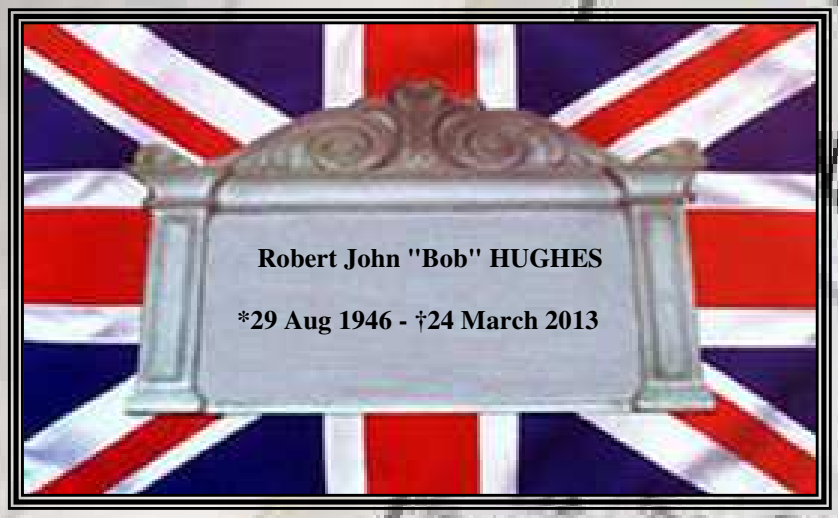
Terry was much more than a business partner, he was my brother in all ways save blood.

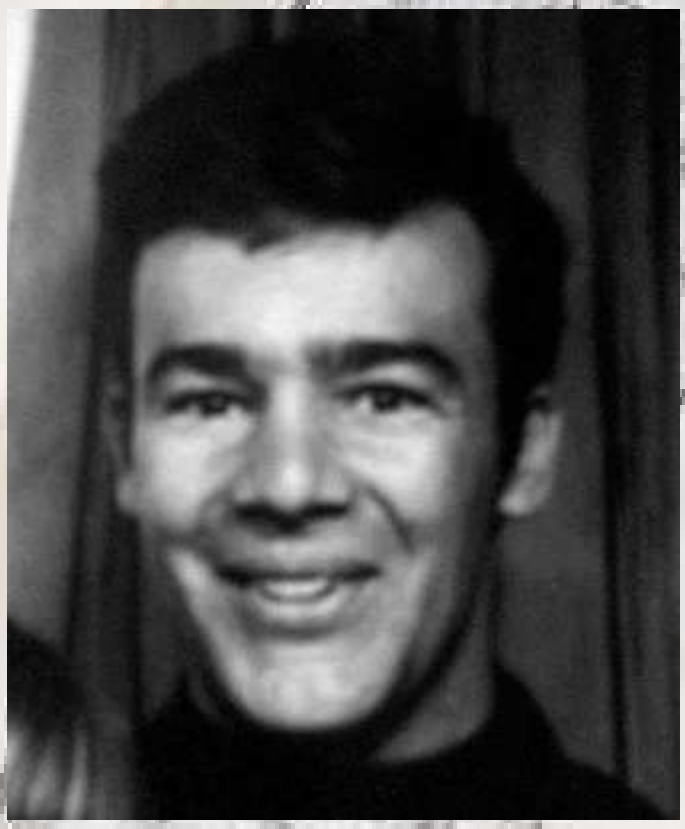
He and I were just looking at the RAOC Ex Boys' Website not 2 weeks ago and talking about all those that had passed on that he knew and he shared some stories about each one. Who could have thought in just a fortnight his name would be added to this sad list.

I do not know if you were aware, but Terry changed his name to Walling here in the States, so you may want to note that on the web site.
Terry kept in close contact with Paul Penny and I have heard from Billy Gibson and Jack Frost a couple of Terry's mates from his time in the service.

We plan to spread his ashes off a Cruise ship next month, as taking ocean cruises had become his favourite pastime..

Robert C Eskin, January 2013





Former RAOC J/RSM
Member of Mulcahy Platoon from Sep 1961 – April 1964

Another RAOC brother has left, Bob Hughes was mainly involved with Heavy Drop Air Despatch working at JATE (Old Sarum) then later 16 Parachute Heavy Drop Company RAOC based at RAF Hullavington.

Bob had been very poorly for some time, COPD, Heart and Diabetes, but he was a fighter, always had a wicked sense of humour, well liked and respected.. Bob was due to attend a Heavy Drop reunion this Friday, where lots of old friends visited Bob at home in Dinton in Salisbury. Thursday all met at Bob's home for a drink /buffet, Friday saw Roger Cole (ex 22 SAS & Heavy Drop) giving a talk & Presentation) on Operation Storm 1972, this was in aid of the Charity BLESMA. The Village Hall in Dinton was packed.
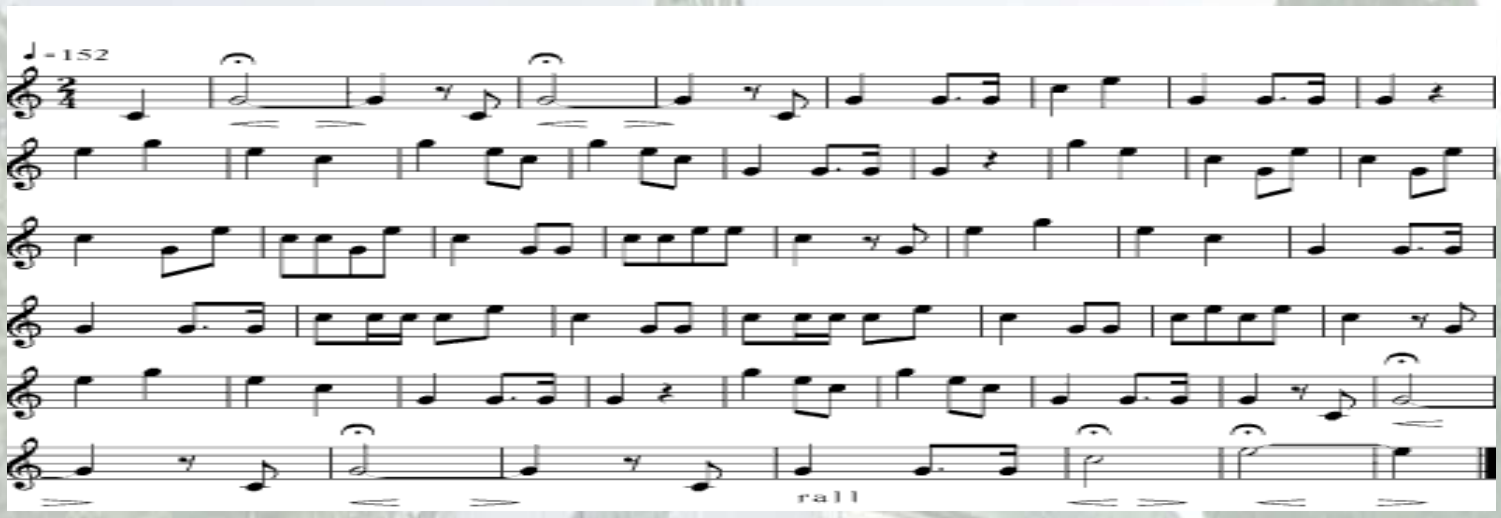
Bob's friends all said their farewells Saturday morning at Bob's bedside, Bob was determined despite being ill for some time to meet all his old mates from way back, Bob passed away late Saturday night peacefully in his sleep. Bob hung on in there for some time and got to see good mates till the end. Bob has a Facebook profile which is still active, if anyone here remembers Bob please feel free to leave a message on his FB profile, great man AND Boss, thoughts are with Sue and family.

R.I.P Bob, we miss you, but will never forget. **Geordie Broughton, March 2013**

The Last Post

Did you know that "*Last Post*" is a bugle call used at Commonwealth of Nations military funerals and ceremonies commemorating those who have fallen in war. "The Last Post" is also the name of a poem by Robert Graves describing a soldier's funeral during World War I.

"Last Post" was originally a bugle call used in British Army camps to signal the end of the day. The name derives from the practice of inspecting all the sentry posts around such a camp at the end of the day and playing a bugle call at each of them. The "Last Post" was thus the last point of this inspection, and the bugle call signalling that this post had been inspected marked the end of the military day. This custom dates from at least the 17th century and originated with British troops stationed in The Netherlands, where it drew on an older Dutch custom, called Taptoe.



The Taptoe was also used to signal the end of the day but has more prosaic origin. Taptoe originated signalling the moment that beer barrels had to be shut, hence that the day had ended. It comes from the Dutch phrase Doe den tap toe, meaning "Turn the tap off" (not to be confused with "Taps" which has a similar function but different tune and origin).

During the 19th century, "Last Post" was also carried to the various countries of the British Empire. In all these countries it has been incorporated into military funerals, where it is played as a final farewell, symbolising the fact that the duty of the dead soldier is over and that they can rest in peace. Last Post is used in public ceremonials commemorating the war dead, particularly on Remembrance Day in the Commonwealth of Nations and The Netherlands (known as Veterans Day in the United States).

Since 1928, "Last Post" has been played every evening by buglers of the local Last Post Association at the war memorial at Ieper (Ypres) in Belgium known as the Menin Gate, commemorating the British Empire dead at the Battle of Ypres during the First World War. The only exception to this was during the four years of the German occupation of Ypres from 20 May 1940 to 6 September 1944, when the ceremony moved to Brookwood Cemetery in England. On the evening that Polish forces liberated Ypres, the ceremony was resumed at the Menin Gate, in spite of the heavy fighting still going on in other parts of the town.

These buglers are quite often mistaken as being from the local fire brigade; however, they are present every day representing the Last Post Committee. They are indeed members of the fire brigade and can sometimes be seen wearing the uniforms but it is not the Fire Brigade that organises "Last Post". "Last Post" was used by British forces in North America in colonial times but its function was taken over in the United States by "Taps", which has been used by the United States Army since 1862 which incidentally is a beautiful piece of music.

The Commitee



Rear: Dave McCarthy, Brian Wild, George Tether, Bill Chamberlain

Front: Paul Jones, David Burden (Patron), Ade Hayward-Wills

Admin Team

If you require any assistance with regards to the Association, please feel free to contact any of the following. Contact can easily be made via the Association Website and clicking on to the Contacts Page:-



Paul Jones

Founder and Chairman



George Tether

All matters concerning the on-line-presentation of the site, Membership and the Forum



Bill Chamberlain

All matters concerning the location of Lost Pals and recruitment of Members for the Association

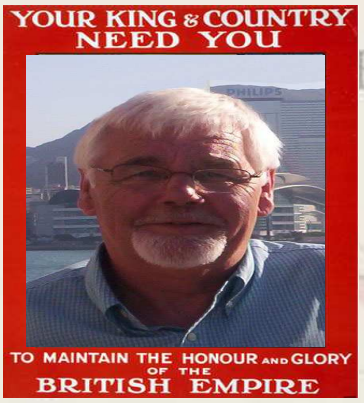
Admin Team



Dave McCarthy

All matters concerning the Battalion Structure, Nominal Rolls and Passing Out Dates of Ex-Boys

ing ex-Boy's and members of permanent Staff where



Brian Wild

Secretary and Treasurer to the Ex Boys Association



Adrian Hayward-Wills

Editor of the Ex Boys' Association Newsletter

Next Newsletter Issue 20 Winter 2013

Membership Update

Memorabilia

Book Reviews

Music Reviews

RAOC, REME and RCT Wall Shields

RAOC BOYS' SCHOOL
RAOC & REME BOYS' SCHOOL
RAOC & REME JUNIOR LEADERS BATTALION
RAOC APPRENTICE COLLEGE
JUNIOR LEADERS REGIMENT RAOC & RCT

EX BOYS' ASSOCIATION



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Happy Reading!!!!

Adrian Hayward-Wills