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**Sept  
2017**



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# The INTERCOM

*The INTERCOM is the RMR family's newsletter, which originally started as "The Bugler" in 1914 on the troopship carrying the 14th Bn (RMR) overseas. Censorship quickly squashed the initiative, but the RMR tried again in 1916 with "The Growler".*

*In WW2 the RMR had two battalions, one overseas from 1939-45, and a Home unit stationed in Westmount. In an effort to boost morale and keep the lines of communication open between the two battalions, the "Intercomn" ("n" intentional) was born.*

*The current "Intercom" is published on an ad-hoc basis and is intended to keep the friend & family of the Regiment up to speed with the accomplishments of the current serving members of the Regiment and all affiliated organizations.*

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Greetings,

August was a busy month for the RMR family! This issue has articles ranging from RMR's meeting Prince Charles, a father badging his son into the Regiment, the winner of the Commanding Officer's Challenge Trophy, Invictus Games national flag tour - and pretty much everything in between!

**LAST CALL FOR THE RMR REUNION 'SMOKER'** - it is being held tomorrow (Saturday 02 Sept 2017), details below. I am looking forward to seeing you there, and I will be smoking up some nice surprises again this year (not just pork!).

Please take a moment to read this selection of the accomplishments of the RMR Family over the past month that are shown below. As well, please take a few moments to think of or utter a prayer for deployed RMR members and those who are battling illness or disease.

On behalf of Honorary Colonel Andrew Molson, and the Regiment's Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel John Shone, please accept our continued best wishes.

*Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense.*



LCol (ret'd) Colin Robinson, CD  
Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel  
The Royal Montreal Regiment

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# RMR REUNION SMOKER

*Regimental Reunion: 02 Sept 2017*

## **LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER**

The RMR Association will be hosting another Reunion 'Smoker' for all Regimental Family members and Friends of the Regiment at the Canadian Forces Sailing Association in Dorval on Saturday 02 September 2017 (tomorrow!).

[Register for the 'Smoker' here](#)





## *Private Morneau wins CO's Challenge*

### **RMR's infamous "Back Breaker" competition is back**

Farnham, Quebec - 28 August 2017: Private Morneau won the RMR's infamous "Back Breaker" competition this Sunday in Farnham, completing the 13 kilometre forced march in full gear (tactical vest, rucksack, helmet, weapon, and gas mask) in one hour and 42 minutes. A minimum weight of 35 kg is carried by each participant.



## *The Battle of Hill 70: A Re-telling*

Article written by Captain (ret'd) Hamilton Slessor

Westmount, Quebec - 04 August 2017: "In the summer of 1917, the Allies were losing the First World War. Russia was collapsing into revolution, half the French Army was experiencing mutiny, and the island of Great Britain was being slowly strangled by German submarine attacks on its shipping and strategic bombing by German Gotha bombers. The United States had recently joined the Allies, but at that time their army was smaller than Canada's.

A tremendous British offensive was planned in Belgium near Passchendaele which was meant to sweep the Germans from the English Channel coast where their bombers and submarines were operating. But they needed to divert German reinforcements away from Passchendaele in order to be successful...

[Read about the battle here](#)

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## RMR Association to host Invictus Games Flag Tour

**13 September 2017 - open to all**

Westmount, Quebec - 30 August 2017: In the months leading up to the Invictus Games Toronto 2017, the Official Invictus Games Flag will travel with 150 Flagbearers from coast to coast to bring the spirit of the Games and the power of sport to all Canadians. The 37-day cross-Canada journey will visit 22 military bases, 15 Legions and over 50 communities who have been a part of Canada's rich 150-year history. The RMR Association (Branch 14) of the Legion is the only stop on the island of Montreal, and the entire RMR Family is encouraged to welcome the Invictus Games Flag Tour in the RMR's armoury on Wednesday 13 September 2017, starting at 18h30..

[Read about the Invictus Games here.](#)

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## *Father badges son into the Regiment*

### **The Rambarransingh family continues to serve in the RMR**

Farnham, Quebec - 27 August 2017: In a ceremony held in the field after successfully completing the 13 km Battle Fitness test, Private Rambarransingh was officially badged into The Royal Montreal Regiment along with the other graduates of this summer's Infantry course.

What was different for Private Rambarransingh was that unlike his peers who were badged by the Regiment's Commanding Officer, LCol John Shone, and given their first rank hook with the RMR designation on it by the RMR's Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel, LCol (ret'd) Colin Robinson, he was badged by his father, Comrade Nikita Rambarransingh, a former Sergeant in the Regiment.

[Read about the badging here](#)



*"We were wading in mud up to our knees the whole time. We were a sorry dirty bunch of soldiers coming out, but what a relief to get out of that Hell"*

#### **DUVAL DIARY: WITNESSING THE WAR 100 YEARS ON**

The quote is from Private Raymond Duval's diary entry precisely 100 years ago (02 August 1917). The RMR Foundation is working to keep alive the memory of those who served during the First World War and is publishing the daily diary of an eye-witness from the RMR: Private Raymond Duval, MM. In the space of a month readers have witnessed Duval's enthusiasm for war diminish rapidly.

[Read about Private Duval and his diary here.](#)

[Read the daily diary entries here.](#)





## *Home on the range*

**RMR kicks off training year with a bang - well, several bangs truthfully!**

Westmount, Quebec - 30 August 2017: The Royal Montreal Regiment kicked the training year off with a "Call to Arms" training weekend in Farnham that included completing the full Personal Weapons Test Level 3, as well as various elements of the Individual Battle Task Standards. Morale was high all weekend as the soldiers got to enjoy fine weather while conducting their training, and a break was organized for them to watch the Mayweather/McGregor fight!.

[Read more about the training here.](#)





## **Ceremonial Guard meets HRH Prince Charles**

Ottawa, Ontario - 09 August 2017: Ceremonial Guard is a summer tasking available to all trained Regular or Reserve members of the Canadian Forces. The three month contract consist of two phases. Phase 1 is the intensive drill phase, in which members learn and practice the drill movements required for the various ceremonies performed on parliament hill. The Second phase consists of public duties, these duties include: the changing of the guard, sentry at Rideau Hall, and assisting in funeral ceremonies..

[Read more about the RMR's serving on the Hill here](#)



## *Remembering Angus and Kenneth McLeod*

### **Two RMR brothers killed in the same explosion, 27 June 1917**

Westmount, Quebec - 23 August 2017: The RMR Foundation was contacted by Frank Mahieu of Belgium for permission to use a photo of a group of RMR officers taken at Cassel in April 1915 that had been published on 12 April 2015 as part of the the RMR Foundation's "This Day in RMR History" centennial project. Mr. Mahieu was using the photo on his Facebook page that is entirely dedicated to remembering the fallen, and in particular he has a section devoted to brothers who were killed in the Great War.

[Read more about the McLeod brothers here](#)

## **Contact**

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The RMR Foundation is a  
non-profit incorporated body,  
designed to

*"Serve the best interests of  
The Royal Montreal Regiment*

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*and accept such tasks  
designated by the Trustees to  
help any member body of the  
Regimental Family."*

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support the RMR  
Family.**