



February 2025

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" (which was also squashed!). 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" (masthead from the the 1950's) is published monthly and is intended to keep the friends & family of the Regiment up to speed with the accomplishments of the current serving members of the Regiment and all affiliated organizations.

14th Bn C.E.F.

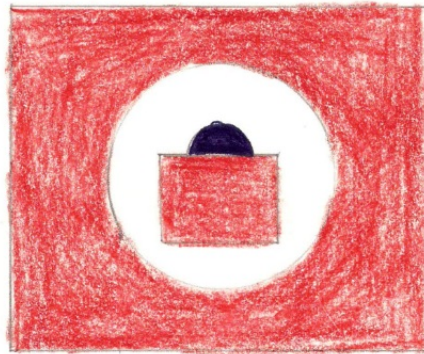
R.M.R.

BATTLE FLAG

1st Div

3rd Bde

1914 - 1918



Sketch of the missing 14th Battalion Battle Flag. Photo credit: RMR Museum.

Dear members of the RMR family,

As we march into a new year, we're excited to bring you updates that highlight the past, present, and future of our proud regiment. This issue delves into stories of intrigue, connection, commemoration, and celebration that reflect the spirit and dedication of the RMR community.

Leading the issue is the story of the RMR's [missing battle flag](#), a decades-old mystery that has yet to be solved. We invite you to join the search and uncover the fate of this piece of regimental history, a symbol of the sacrifices and triumphs that define our legacy. Perhaps you hold a clue that could bring this story to its rightful conclusion? I've cleverly buried the story at the end of the Intercom so you'll have to scroll past all the other articles to find it!

Selfishly, I'm also thrilled to announce the launch of the [Rum Ration podcast](#), created by former RMR members (Rejoy Chatterjee and me). We're hoping that it will be an engaging series exploring military history and the regiment's legacy, offering a fresh perspective on the stories that have shaped who we are today. It's a must-listen for

anyone passionate about our shared history.

Additionally, we celebrate the camaraderie of the regiment with highlights from this year's [Levee](#), recognize contributions through the [Museum Visitor of the Year award](#), and reflect on the life of [Comrade Tim Chambers](#), who will always remain part of our family.

Thank you for your continued dedication to preserving and sharing the RMR story. Let's step forward together, remembering those who came before us and embracing the opportunities ahead.

On behalf of the Honorary Colonel, David Bensadoun, the Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel, Isabelle Racicot, the Regiment's Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Maciej Jonasz, and the Regimental Sergeant-Major, Chief Warrant Officer Jim Quesnel, please accept our continued best wishes - and spare a moment for a thought and prayer for our RMR soldiers who are currently deployed overseas on operations.

Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense.



LCol (ret'd) Colin Robinson, CD
Editor

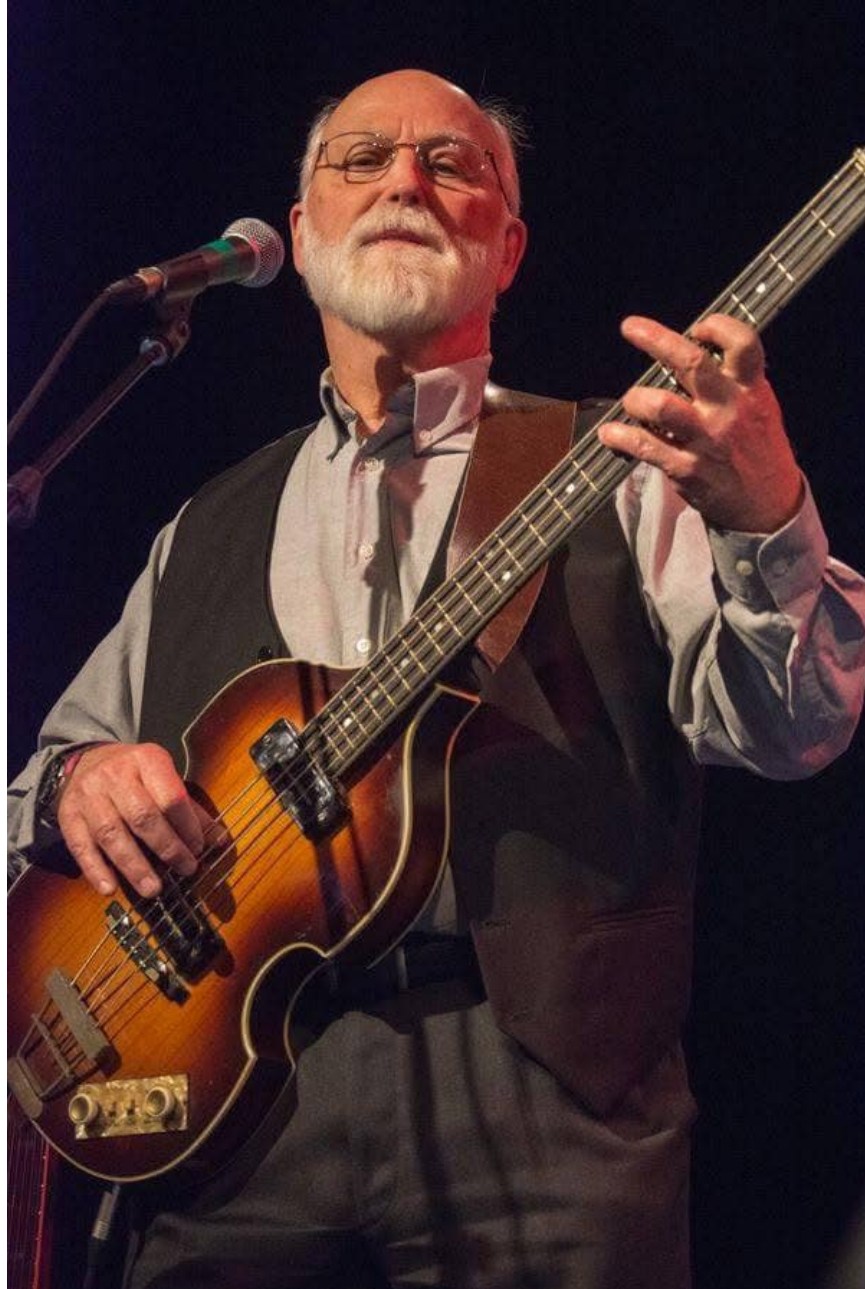
Articles from the past month:



RMR Kicks Off 2025 with Levee!

Westmount, Quebec – 02 January 2025: The New Year was kicked off in fine fashion yesterday at the RMR, with approximately 20 members of the extended RMR family gathering for the “RSM’s breakfast”, as well as some traditional moose milk carefully prepared according to the RMR’s “RQ’s Recipe”.

The RSM, CWO Jim Quesnel, made a large hot breakfast for attendees and began the morning with a toast to the New Year. Throughout the day many visitors came through to pay their complements and enjoy a drink in the company of friends and comrades.



RIP: Comrade Tim Chambers

Westmount, Quebec – 04 January 2025: The RMR Foundation regrets to announce the death of Comrade Tim Chambers. A dedicated member of the Royal Montreal Regiment (RMR) Family as both a former serving member (1968 – 1972) and a loyal member of Branch 14 (RMR Association), Tim was a cherished figure in the veteran community and his contributions have left an indelible mark on all who knew him.

Tim's unwavering commitment to honoring and supporting veterans exemplified the spirit of service and gratitude. As a proud member of the RMR, his dedication extended beyond music, reflecting his deep respect for the sacrifices of those who served. His efforts brought not only entertainment but also a sense of connection and recognition to the veterans and their families.

Tim Chambers will be deeply missed by his comrades, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing him. Our heartfelt condolences go out to his family and loved ones during this difficult time.

Lest We Forget.



Next of Kin Travel Benefit Explained

Thanks to Lieutenant-Colonel (ret'd) George Siket for passing this valuable resource along to share among the RMR Family.

Westmount, Quebec – 15 January 2025: The Next of Kin (NOK) Travel Benefit, recently highlighted by the Department of National Defence in The Maple Leaf, is a significant program designed to provide financial assistance for family members of Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) personnel during critical situations. This benefit ensures that the family members of serving members, including Reservists like those of the Royal Montreal Regiment (RMR), can be present during times of personal or family emergencies. [Read the full article here.](#)



RMR Museum's "Visitor of the Year" for 2024

Westmount, Quebec – 18 January 2025: Mr. Ron Zemancik, the RMR Museum Curator, is pleased to announce the winner of this year's Visitor of the Year: Corporal Ling-Ling Fang. In recognition of her outstanding performance as a BOR Clerk and in appreciation of her continued assistance to the Regimental Museum staff.

Ron remarked about Corporal Fang *"As the financial specialist in the BOR she is instrumental in preparing pay requests and new contracts for the Museum staff....always a daunting task.... we are extremely grateful for her unwavering support."*

The Royal Montreal Regiment's museum serves as a repository of historical artifacts, documents, and memorabilia related to the regiment's rich history and military heritage. Located within the unit's armoury on Ste-Catherine street in Westmount, the RMR museum plays a vital role in preserving, sharing, and celebrating the military history and heritage of the regiment, ensuring that its legacy continues to be remembered and appreciated by future generations.



Rum Ration Podcast started by former RMR's

In an exciting new development, two former members of the RMR have launched a podcast that highlights the regiment's legacy while diving into broader aspects of military history. Taking the name "Rum Ration" from the inspiration of the RMR's regimental drink, this initiative provides an engaging platform to connect the past with the present, preserving stories that might otherwise fade with time.

The **Rum Ration** podcast offers listeners an immersive experience through its blend of historical storytelling and personal reflections. Hosted by two RMR's, Rejoy Chatterjee and Colin Robinson, the series covers a wide array of topics related to Canadian and global military history, featuring insights gained during their time in the regiment. Each episode is carefully curated to reflect the values and experiences that make the RMR unique while delving into significant military events and traditions.



25 Years of the Canadian Junior Rangers

Westmount, Quebec – 18 January 2025: From January 11-14, 2024, the Junior Canadian Rangers (JCR) program marked its 25th anniversary with a series of commemorative events involving Junior Rangers, Canadian Rangers, and dignitaries from across the country. This milestone celebration highlighted the vital role the JCR program has played in fostering leadership, citizenship, and community engagement among youth in remote and isolated communities.

Many RMR officers and NCO's have served in the Canadian Rangers over the past decades. The Canadian Rangers serve as mentors to the Junior Rangers, and were instrumental in organizing and leading many of the celebratory activities. Known for their presence in some of the most remote regions of Canada, the Canadian Rangers are a vital part of the Canadian Armed Forces, providing support for sovereignty operations, search and rescue missions, and disaster response.

The Junior Canadian Rangers program was established in 1998 as an initiative to provide young people aged 12 to 18 with opportunities to develop practical skills and enhance their knowledge of traditional and modern life in northern and remote areas. Operating under the Canadian Rangers, a sub-component of the Canadian Armed Forces Reserve, the JCR program focuses on leadership, outdoor survival, first aid, and cultural education, ensuring participants build a strong sense of identity and community.



Quest for Missing RMR Battle Flag

Westmount, Quebec – 15 January 2025: The Royal Montreal Regiment (RMR) has always cherished its storied history. From its origin story of valiant efforts during the First World War to its enduring commitment to Canada's defense, the regiment's

legacy is enshrined in artefacts, symbols, and traditions passed down through generations. One such artefact, however, remains conspicuously absent: the RMR's original battle flag.

A Flag That Told a Story: The RMR's battle flag served as a rallying point for soldiers of the 14th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force, during the First World War (1914-1918). This distinctive flag bore a bold red background, a white circle at its center, and a dark blue dome surmounted by a red rectangle — each element steeped in meaning. It symbolized unity, identity, and the indomitable spirit of the regiment amidst the chaos of war. It's said that the flag accompanied the battalion through key battles and stood as a silent witness to their sacrifices and victories.

A Vanishing Act: Regrettably, this important piece of RMR history has been missing for decades. Records suggest the battle flag was last housed at the RMR Armoury, where it was displayed as a tribute to the regiment's contributions during the First World War. However, at some point in the 1930s, the flag disappeared without a trace. Despite inquiries and efforts to locate it over the years, its whereabouts remain a mystery.

Why This Matters: For serving soldiers and veterans, the battle flag represents more than just fabric. It is a tangible connection to those who came before us, who forged the regiment's identity through grit, courage, and sacrifice. For members of the public interested in Canadian military history, it offers a window into the shared heritage of a nation shaped by the service of its citizens.

If you have any information that may assist us in locating the Battle Flag, please email to info@royalmontréalregiment.com.

About the RMR Foundation



Foundation

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

"Serve the best interests of The Royal Montreal Regiment and accept such tasks designated by the Trustees to help any member body of the Regimental Family."

Donations help with providing emergency financial assistance to RMR soldiers identified by the chain of command, and providing relief to veterans of the RMR.

Beyond direct veteran support, the RMR Foundation provides assistance for the needs of the RMR family, advises on request, the CO of the RMR or any of its affiliated units, promotes the role of the Reserve Forces within the Canadian Armed Forces and the

Regiment's affiliated municipalities, lobbies for the promotion of a more effective Canadian Defence Force, funds the operation of the RMR Museum's annual exhibitions, and supports the *Je Me Souviens* education program which provides free materials to supplement Quebec's history curriculum.

[Please DONATE to support the RMR Family](#)

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