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November 2021

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 second '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" (the masthead is 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.



2021 Poppy Campaign Launches: *The Honourable Marc Garneau, CD, flanked by RMR Association President, Comrade Sue Guerin, CD (left) and the 2021 Poppy Campaign Chair, Comrade Georges Gohier, CD (right).*

Greetings,

The 2021 Poppy Campaign has launched, and while the pandemic's presence is still felt quite keenly, things are getting closer to being 'back to normal' with three physical poppy locations open, as well as [Poppy By Mail](#) being back in operation for a second year.

Not everything is back to normal, of course. Please note that due to the province-wide municipal elections mandate for Sunday 07 November 2021:

Westmount's Remembrance Day parade will be held on Saturday 06 November 2021 at 11h00.

There are some interesting stories below, including images of RMR soldiers conducting training in Farnham, a CD for a retiring CIC officer, a memorial tablet being donated to the RMR Museum, and a new initiative to publish a series of epitaphs from fallen RMR soldiers every day during the Poppy Campaign. Be sure to check the RMR website every day to read them, and I believe you'll be surprised by the final one revealed on 11 November 2021.

Please take a moment to read this selection of the accomplishments & news 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 of our extended regimental family who are battling illness or disease.

On behalf of Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel David Bensadoun, the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel John Shone, and the Regimental Sergeant-Major, Chief-Warrant Officer Stephan Leroux, please accept our continued best wishes.

Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense.



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

Articles from the past month:



Mayor Christina Smith helps start 2021 Poppy Campaign

Westmount, Quebec – 29 October 2021: The RMR Association (Branch 14, Royal Canadian Legion) kicked off the 2021 annual poppy campaign in Westmount with the help of the Mayor of Westmount, Her Worship Christina Smith. She was pinned by the Chair of the RMR Association's 2021 Poppy Campaign, Comrade Georges Gohier, CD at the kiosk outside the IGA in Alexis-Nihon plaza, officially marking the start of the 2021 campaign in Westmount.

The 2021 poppy campaign runs until the end of day on 10 November 2021. Under the able leadership of the 2021 campaign chairman, Comrade Georges Gohier, the RMR Association (Br. 14) will be manning kiosks at the IGA Alexis-Nihon, outside of 5 Saisons on Greene Avenue, as well as inside Metro Grocers on Victoria Avenue. They will also be maintaining donation boxes throughout numerous business in Westmount (Hogg hardware, various banks, coffee shops, etc.) – buy yours today, or visit poppybymail.ca to order online!

[Read the full story and see pictures here](#)



RMR conducts Urban Operations training in Farnham

[See pictures here](#)



'Poppy By Mail' relaunched for 2021 by RMR Association

Westmount, Quebec - 01 November 2021: Branch 14 (RMR Association), a Royal Canadian Legion branch located in Westmount, today relaunched "Poppy By Mail", a website that allows Canadians to make a donation securely online and receive a poppy by mail:

www.poppybymail.ca.

This service is provided entirely by unpaid volunteers, with all proceeds going directly to the Legion Poppy Fund. Branch 14 (RMR Association) pledges to mail them the same day that donations are received, however delivery times will vary according to Canada Post. This initiative has been set up to fulfil individual family orders only. Maximum of five (5) poppies per donation. Bulk orders (schools, institutions, etc.) are encouraged to visit the Legion's Dominion Command for alternative solutions.

[Read the full story here](#)



We Will Remember Them: Epitaphs of Fallen RMR Comrades

Westmount, Quebec – 29 October 2021: Inspired by the book "Canada's Dream Shall Be of Them – Canadian Epitaphs of the Great War," by Eric McGeer and Steve Douglas, Captain (ret'd) Hamilton Slessor has extracted epitaphs of RMR soldiers killed in the First World War, and one will be posted each day during the annual Poppy Campaign that runs from today until 11 November 2021.

The first is an especially sad one as it is for two brothers who share the same headstone, both killed fighting at Vimy Ridge (spoiler alert: their third brother in the RMR is killed four-months later):

**"IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR BELOVED SONS WHO
DIED FOR KING AND COUNTRY"**

Private William James West, 14th Battalion, April 9th
1917 (age 19)

Private Arthur West, 14th Battalion, April 9th 1917 (age
27)

[Follow the epitaphs here.](#)



CD for retiring CIC Captain Sybil Brooker

Westmount, Quebec – 16 October 2021: Captain Sybil Brooker, CD was awarded her Canadian Forces decoration last night during, in the words of Cadet Corps 2862's Commanding Officer (CO), Captain Eric Simon, what was an 'exceptional' ceremony held on the parade square of the RMR's armoury last night. Attended by her family and the CC 2862 staff and officers seated in a socially distanced fashion on the parade square, with the Cadets themselves spaced out along the balcony who had an excellent view of the proceedings. Special guests from the Regiment were two former CO's of the RMR, the RMR's Honorary Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel (ret'd) Colin Robinson, CD, and Lieutenant-Colonel (ret'd) Jacques Girardin, CD.

[Read the full story and view her service record here.](#)



Memorial to Lieutenant Pope donated to RMR Museum

Westmount, Quebec – 18 March 2021: Mr. Zack Belknap recently donated a memorial tablet to the RMR Museum. The memorial tablet, dedicated to the memory of Lieutenant Jerry Gordon Pope, came from the Hatley United Church which had been deconsecrated and was being closed, and the overseers were looking for a suitable place for the plaque to live on.

[Read the full story and view additional images here.](#)

About the RMR 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 providing free materials to supplement Quebec's curriculum.

Please DONATE to support the RMR Family

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