

December 2022

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 above is from 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.



RMR soldiers standing guard as cenotaph sentries for the Westmount Remembrance ceremony, o6 November 2022. Photo credit: WO (ret'd) Cyril Jordan.

Greetings

November 2022 certainly felt like old times, as the entire RMR Family was quite busy with Remembrance Week activities, field training, and social activities. The officers' mess held their first in-person mess dinner in their mess since 2019, the regiment paraded in Pointe-Claire and Westmount, the RMR Association conducted a successful poppy campaign and supported the Hampstead parade (and marched in the Kahnawake parade), the RMR Museum held an exhibition called "Westmount At War" that brought hundreds of visitors to the armoury, and the cadets were highly supportive of all Remembrance activitivies. All in all, one heck of a busy month, or as we used to say before Covid, it was "November".

In the coming weeks the tempo will begin to slow down a bit, and after the traditional holiday activities will take place, most folks will be able to relax a bit, catch their breath, and rest up in preparation for what will certainly by a busy and challenging 2023. The RMR Association has booked their holiday party for 13h00 on 04 December at Baton Rouge (Decarie) and the Junior Ranks Club has confirmed their victory party after beating the combined officers & NCO hockey team... feels like a bit of psychological warfare at play!

Of course, not everyone has a great time during the holidays. I encourage everyone to reach out to someone from the regimental family they haven't spoken with in awhile just to see how they're doing. The RMR serving members and the RMR Association are teaming up to serve supper twice in December at the Old Brewery Mission (OBM), and the RMR Association has once again confirmed they will be financially supporting the OBM's homeless veterans program from the proceeds of their Poppy Campaign. A great example of the poppy donations helping in the local community. Thank you to the RMR Association for setting such a high standard of giving back where it counts, and thank you the RMR's Padre, Captain Rici Be for keeping this initiative going strong!

On behalf of Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel David Bensadoun, the Regiment's Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Maciej Jonasz, and the Regimental Sergeant-Major, Master-Warrant Officer James Quesnel, please accept our continued best wishes for a healthy, happy, and thoroughly enjoyable holiday season!

Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense.

LCol (ret'd) Colin Robinson, CD

Editor, Intercom

Articles from the past month:



Meet the RMR's NCO's: Sergeant Jonathan Carson

"Meet the RMR's NCO's" is a monthly series where we profile a different NCO for readers to get to know the folks who make up the 'backbone of the army'

Westmount, Quebec – 12 November 2022: Sergeant Jonathan Carson grew up in Vancouver and joined the Regiment in 2011. His military career has taken him around the world (Ukraine, Mali, Senegal, and Latvia) and across Canada.

There are few Army Reserve NCO's who have as much operational experience as Sergeant Carson, and reading about his advice to young soldiers is well worth your time.

Read the complete story about Sgt Carson here.



RMR FOUNDATION LAUNCHES FUNDRAISER

GivingTuesday marks the opening day of the holiday giving season. Occurring annually on the Tuesday after Black Friday and Cyber Monday, the movement encourages individuals and organizations to join together and find innovative ways to give back to the charities and nonprofits they support. Tuesday, November 29th, 2022 serves as a focal point in our collective efforts to make our society stronger and more caring. Please consider making a donation to support the RMR Foundation today.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Have you participated in a domestic operation in the last five years?

We want to hear from you for our systemic investigation on mental health!

Canadă

DOMOPS Mental Health Survey

Westmount, Quebec - 02 November 2022: The DND/CAF Ombudsman is investigating mental health questions. The focus of this investigation is the identification of mental health needs and mental health supports that are accessible for Primary Reserve Force members. The Ombudsman's office would like to hear from CAF members who have participated in a domestic operation as well as from the leaders who supported them.

<u>Complete the survey here</u>.



Exercise XERUS ENDURCI involves landing craft

ARTICLE WRITTEN BY LIEUTENANT ALEX RAY

Westmount, Quebec – 09 November 2022: Ile St Thérèse, Quebec – October 28 to 30, 2022: The Royal Montreal Regiment (RMR) deployed 4 Platoon, who were part of 450 reservists deployed to the island in the heart of the St Lawrence off the shores of the Island of Montreal to take part in Exercise Xerus Endurci. 125 support personnel made up of the Canadian Coast Guard, Naval Reserve and 438 Tactical Helicopter Squadron also took part in the exercise. The aim of the exercise was to practice dismounted light infantry maneuvers to validate the capacity of operational platoons operating in civilian sectors with complex terrain.

Learn more by reading the full article here.



Acts of Kindness Continue

Westmount, Quebec – 13 November 2022: This is an update to the **original story about 'the kindness of strangers'** that highlights the importance and strength of inter-regimental bonds. In October 2020 the RMR Museum was contacted by a Jill Scahill, a volunteer at St. John's Parish, where she had been cleaning the gravesite of an RMR soldier killed in 1915. Intrigued at how a young Canadian ended up buried in Upperthong, Metropolitan Borough of Kirklees, West Yorkshire, England, she wrote the RMR Museum looking for more information on Clarence B. Denman. This year, Jill communicated with the RMR Museum curator, to report that she had made a wreath herself for our comrade and placed it on his grave marker.

Read the story here.



RMR Family Commemorates Remembrance Day

Westmount, Quebec - 12 November 2022: The RMR participated in the Pointe-Claire Remembrance ceremony in the morning and then later marched to the Westmount cenotaph, before returning to the armoury for a rededication ceremony. Covid restrictions having been lifted entirely for the first time in two years, and the customary wreath laying and proper order of service was followed. Cadets were allowed to march in the parade again, and the RMR Association (Br. 14) followed the band to lead the parade, with the veterans taking their customary place of precedence for this sacred ceremony. Lest We Forget.

Learn more by reading the full article here.

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 providing free materials to supplement Quebec's curriculum.

Please DONATE to support the RMR Family

Tax receipts issued automatically.

Charitable BN: 891421844RR0001

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