

# February 2024

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.



Greetings,

New Year, new you? January certainly passed by in a blur for a lot of folks as the unit hit the ground running with training exercises and individual training courses. Nice to see the Regiment's affiliated Cadet units actively participating in various competitions, and the RMR Association held their elections in January.

There is a large collection of stories below. 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 Maciej Jonasz, and the Regimental Sergeant-Major, Master-Warrant Officer James Quesnel, please accept our continued best wishes.

Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense.

LCol (ret'd) Colin Robinson, CD Editor

## **Articles from the past month:**



#### **Honorary Colonel's Christmas Parade 2023**

Westmount, Quebec – 18 December 2023: On Saturday 10 December 2023, the serving battalion of the RMR took a break from the serious business of soldiering, and enjoyed each others company for the annual Christmas festivities, which included the traditional a floor hockey game, new recruits serenading the diners, and the customary Christmas dinner where the leaders serve the troops with Private Dai appointed "CO of the Day" to rule over the dinner.



#### RMR TANK HUNTING

Over the weekend of 03 – 05 November 2023, the RMR sent a section of troops to Valcartier led by Sergeant Tom De Lutis to participate in joint training with the Royal Canadian Hussars and the Sherbrooke Hussars. The aim of the RMR was to play the role of the hunter, exercising their anti-armour tactics, weapons, and equipment. You can **read the entire story here.** 

Effective tank hunting begins with reconnaissance and target acquisition. The tank-hunting teams use terrain to their advantage and employ hit-and-run tactics to minimize exposure.



#### **RSM badges Pointe-Claire Cadets**

Westmount, 18 December 2023: On Saturday 16 December 2023, the Regimental

Sergeant-Major (RSM) of the RMR, Master Warrant Officer James Quesnel, was invited by Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps 2806 Pointe-Claire (RMR) to present regimental cap badges to 10 deserving Cadets. It was a homecoming of sorts, given that MWO Quesnel had spent nearly four years with the Pointe-Claire Cadet Corps, attaining the rank of Cadet Regimental Sergeant-Major before he joined the reserves.

Read the full story here



#### **Not Forgotten**

Westmount, Quebec – 23 December 2022: This is an update to the original story about 'the kindness of strangers' that highlights the importance and strength of inter-regimental bonds.

A big 'Thank You' to Jill Scahill and to everyone who volunteers to honour the memory of our fallen. 108 years after Private Clarence Denman died of his wounds, he has fresh flowers being placed on his tidied grave, a wreath honouring him at Remembrance Day, camp flags from his beloved regiment flank the wreath, his story is still being told, and his name has not been forgotten.



#### RMR 2862 Cadets Visit Ottawa

#### Article written by Cadet Corporal Feher, 2862.

Westmount, Quebec – 31 December 2023: The trip to Ottawa started with a big surprise. As we left the RMR 2862 cadets saw a giant blue bus with the Laval Rocket logo. This was a surprise as I know some of us thought it would be a normal bus. After the long trip, 2862 Cadets saw the National Defence Headquarters and the parliament building. Finally, we got to the Canadian Mint after waiting two hours on the very comfortable bus. 2862 Cadets went inside and waited in the Boutique while buying some souvenirs and looking at the giant gold coin and lifting up 28 bar made out of solid gold! The best part of it all was they gave you collectable coins as change. 2862 cadets had our tour and it was amazing, we learned many cool things about how they make coins and other amazing facts. we found out that the Ottawa Mint only makes collectable coins. You may wonder, then where do they make the currency we use? They make them in the Winnipeg Mint.

#### Read the full story here

#### **Free Admission to Parks**

Westmount, Quebec – 14 January 2024: Thanks to Lieutenant-Colonel (ret'd) George Siket for passing this along to share among the RMR Family: **Parks Canada will provide free daily admission to Canadian Armed Forces (CAF)** 



members, Canadian Veterans, and their immediate families beginning January 1, 2024, upon presentation of their CF One Platinum card. The card is administered through Canadian Forces Morale and Welfare Services (CFMWS).

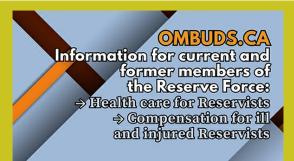


#### RMR Museum's Visitor of the Year for 2023

Westmount, Quebec – 25 January 2024: Mr. Ron Zemancik, the RMR Museum Curator, is pleased to announce the winner of this year's Visitor of the Year: Corporal Marcel Likeng. In recognition of his outstanding performance as a BOR Clerk and in appreciation of his continued assistance to the Regimental Museum staff.

Ron remarked about Corporal Likeng "Through his actions he has shown that he is ready to render help and service to the museum. In true RMR fashion he is ready to tackle any challenges presented to him."

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.



#### **Know Your Entitlements!**

Current and former members of the Reserve Force can learn about Compensation for ill and injured Reservists and Health care for Reservists by consulting the DND/CAF Ombudsman's website.



#### **Patrol Training in Valcartier**

Westmount, Quebec – 07 December 2023: Over the weekend of 24 – 26 November 2023, the RMR was conducting fighting patrol training in Valcartier as part of the 34 Brigade collective training for their Reserve Battalion Infantrie Leger (RBIL).

Patrols are arguably the ultimate test of proficiency in the Infantry. If done correctly it involves hundreds of activities synchronized into one silent body of 30+ troops moving like ghosts through the environment before arriving and unleashing mayhem on their objective before disappearing back into the night.

Read the full story here



#### **RMR Affiliated Cadets in the Annual Cadet Games**

#### Author: Captain John Wylie, Unit Public Affairs Representative, RCACC 2806 Pointe-Claire (RMR)

Lasalle, QC – On Saturday, January 20, 2024, all of the four RMR affiliated cadet units joined over 200 cadets from 15 different cadet corps and squadrons from the western half of Montreal competed against one another in this year's Cadet Games held at Lasalle Comprehensive Community High School. This one day tournament was all about promoting teamwork, developing leadership and building friendships across different communities. The tournament consisted of 12 different events ranging from more athletic activities like soccer, to more team building challenges like Giant Tic-Tac-Toe. Games Director, Captain Baron said, "We decided on a mix of group challenges and skill-testing activities because we wanted to create an inclusive experience where success was dependent on their ability to strategize, collaborate and problem solve together as a team."

Read the full story here



#### Sains-les-Marquions still honouring RMR for Liberation of Village 108-years ago

Westmount, QC – 22 December 2023: The town of Sains-les-Marquion, France held their annual Remembrance Day service at 11h00 on 11 November 2023 where they specifically honoured The Royal Montreal Regiment (RMR) who had liberated their town on 27 September 1918. Due to the initiative of Michel Gravel, a bronze commemorative plaque was positioned in the town in 2008, a gift from individual donors through the RMR Foundation, and the town continues to honour the Regiment every year. They also conduct a service in the ONTARIO CEMETERY, a Commonwealth Grave Commission graveyard where numerous RMR's are buried, a result of the actions on 27 September 1918. The liberation of Sains-les-Marquion, like many other battles during the Hundred Days Offensive, was a testament to the determination and courage of the Allied forces and marked a significant turning point in the war, ultimately leading to the end of the conflict.

Special thanks to Marie-José and Maurice Perdu who send us the images every year.

Read the full story 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 <u>Je Me Souviens</u> 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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Fondation RMR Foundation | 4625 Ste-Catherine Street West | Westmount, QC H3Z 1S4 CA

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