



October 2023

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.



LCol Maciej Jonasz and MWO James Quesnel leading the RMR on a forced march in Potton, Quebec, as part of Ex BACK BREAKER: 17 Sept 2023

Greetings,

September was a busy start to the training year for all aspects of the Regimental Family. The RMR Association started things off over the Labour Day weekend with their annual reunion ('Smoker') held in Kahnawake, with the help of our friends & comrades in the Mohawk Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion.

There was also the Virtual Army Run held on the banks of the Lachine Canal on 09 September 2023 (this Auld Phart was pleased to discover that he could still complete a 5 km run without embarrassing himself too much). Participants from the serving battalion and the various affiliated cadet units all ran and then enjoyed a BBQ sponsored by the RMR Foundation. [Birra Fanelli](#) generously donated refreshments that were gratefully received by the thirsty soldiers!

With the start of September there was a lot of collective training for the RMR, parade

nights started up again for the Cadets, and the RMR Association held their monthly meeting again after the summer break. The usual rhythm of regimental life is back in full swing!

Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel David Bensadoun invited the RMR out to his country home in Potton to hold their annual forced march (Ex BACK BREAKER) on his property, and then with his family and friends served the troops the lunch which he provided. He used the opportunity of the parade afterwards to announce to the troops of the changes to awards & incentives that the RMR Foundation had recently authorized at their annual general meeting: boosting the cash value of existing prizes, and adding two new incentive programs to encourage the non-military training and development of junior leaders, in particular Master-Corporals and Lieutenants.

Before you know it Remembrance Week will be here, so please make a note of the dates that the RMR will be involved in their customary activities:

- 27 October 2023: RMR Association Poppy Campaign starts
- 04 November 2023: Kahnawake Legion (Mohawk Branch) parade
- 05 November 2023: Pointe -Claire & Westmount parades
- 09 November 2023: Hampstead parade
- 11 November 2023: Montreal parade

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:



Corporal Desroches wins CO's Challenge in Army Run

Westmount, Quebec – At the annual RMR edition of the Army Run, Corporal Francis Desroches accepted and completed the Commanding Officer's challenge of adding 10km to the half-marathon and duly completed 32km, the longest distance of any of the RMR runners. The Army Run event saw large participation from members of the RMR's affiliated cadet units as well as serving members (and the occasional retired member who strolled in to participate and snag some free BBQ).

Subsequent to this story, Corporal Desroches has completed his first marathon (Montreal, image below), congratulations!



RIP: DICK STEACIE

Westmount, Quebec – 20 August 2023: The RMR Foundation regrets to announce the death of Mr. Dick Steacie, a friend of the Regiment who was quite generous in supporting the RMR Museum's expansion and outreach activities. Dick was named after his grandfather, Richard Steacie, the first RMR officer killed in combat and whose original "unknown" headstone now resides within the RMR Museum as the keystone of its WW1 exhibition. You can [read the entire story here](#).

Dick was a veteran himself, having served in WW2 aboard the frigate HMCS St. Stephen as an Able Seaman on the north Atlantic run.



Ex BACK BREAKER 2023

Westmount, Quebec – 19 September 2023: On Sunday 17 September 2023, the soldiers of the RMR were fortunate to be welcomed to a private residence in the Eastern Townships to conduct their annual 'BACK BREAKER' forced march and "welcome back to the training year!". Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel David Bensadoun had family and a group of friends press-ganged into running the grills, welcomed the Regiment to their home for a post-march BBQ.

[Read the full story here](#)



100-Year Old Recording of the RMR Band

Westmount, Quebec – 09 September 2023: While researching for the RMR Museum, Captain (ret'd) Hamilton Slessor discovered a link to a performance of Alford's march "**Great Little Army**" performed in 1922 by the Band of The Royal Montreal Regiment, under Bandmaster Lieut H.G. Jones.

While the sound is a little scratchy, it is not bad considering the recording was made 100 yrs ago. Enjoy!



RMR's First NAVEX of 2023

ARTICLE WRITTEN BY PRIVATE FANG

Westmount, Quebec – 29 September 2023: In an effort to enhance our navigation skills, The Royal Montreal Regiment organized a training session in navigation for its members on 23 September 2023, including two inexperienced private recruits, one of whom is myself. This training was conducted under the supervision of our CO, LCol Jonasz. We embarked on a journey in pairs, venturing into the forest near Viking Cross Country Ski Club, relying solely on our map and compass. Our objective was to navigate the terrain and locate as many checkpoints as possible. These checkpoints were clearly marked on our map, along with vital information such as contour lines, terrain indicators, and designated trails. The more experienced members of our group played a crucial role in breaking down the map into these essential components and demonstrating effective techniques for navigating the topography.

[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 *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

royalmontrealregiment.com



Fondation RMR Foundation | 4625 Ste-Catherine Street West | Westmount, QC H3Z 1S4 CA

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!