

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2624

Date: Monday September 23 2019 15:08:52 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email: Willi.watson@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham (formerly Brighton)  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
HMS Centaur & Friends get-together at The Plough Inn Ripple Sunday 22nd September. I was so looking forward to this annual gathering that includes the remnants of the 3rd and the 4th commissions of the "Fighting C" those of us who toured Canada and the USA with FVD and Charlie Bowden with an augmented Staff Band in 1965 ... and many other "Deal Bandboys" of a rich vintage that contained so many outstanding musicians and personalities in the '50s and '60s. Sadly I was steadily more unwell as the week progressed with the upshot being that I write this from hospital having had a blood transfusion to counteract internal bleeding with further tests "up hill and down dale" (if you get my drift?!) promised later in the day. My sincere thanks are due to Graham Hoskins for getting proceedings underway at The Plough and to the two speakers PDM Jon Ridley and former PDM John Ware a former Centaur shipmate and the PDM at the time of the IRA atrocity at the RMSM 30 years ago. Roger Smith Alan Howard and Eric McKone were also not well enough to attend but are pleased things went well and send best wishes to all. Thanks also to Adrian Brett for his report on Jon Ridley's speech and I thoroughly agree that Jon ... and Jason Burcham ... have the very best interests of the RMBS in their hearts. Here's to 2020! [Webmaster] GET WELL SOON WILLI!

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message #: 2623

Date: Monday September 23 2019 13:12:10 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email: keng0iti@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
May I say a big thank you to Adrian Brett on his messages re the so called amalgamation of the Royal Marines Band Service with a Military sounding name. Well done Adrian for keeping us so informed. As one of the older members of the old School of Music I sincerely hope we retain the old title. I joined when we were the Royal Naval School of Music and very proud of it. Times have changed of course and I am more than happy the way things have gone over the years to produce what we see and hear now. Brilliant musicians all of them. Many thanks again .

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message #: 2622

Date: Monday September 23 2019 05:47:27 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
There was a huge turnout yesterday for the 30th Memorial Service in the Memorial Gardens. Many were obliged to stand in the car park as the fenced area was full. A most significant and apposite reminder of that day was the new bronze plaque which we were told later in the day by Graham Hoskins had been hastily fitted the day before. The sensitive but assertive text has the imprimatur of Graham in its wording and sentence structure and it is a fitting tribute to all. The annual meeting at "The Plough" which has become a mini-reunion for many of us "Fighting C" was organised by Willi Watson who through illness was unfortunately unable to be present. It was well attended and enjoyed by all. Speeches were made by Graham Hoskins and it being the 30th anniversary of the bombing by John Ware the incumbent PDM in 1989. I had elicited comment and opinion from a number of former RMBS in respect to the prospect of "Royal Marines" being excised from the future title of the school of music articulated by me on these pages recently. Everyone I spoke to was in agreement: that it would be a travesty and outrage for that to be considered a respectful choice. In an instant all of our heritage and reputation as the world's finest service musicians with the most comprehensive and established musical training would come under the all-inclusive generic title of "military music". It was therefore very refreshing and inspiring to hear the remarks of the current PDM Jon Ridley whose informative and sensitive speech and response to my question was to allay the fears of most ex-RMBS present. Having outlined the new divisions of administrative responsibility ( which has gained us another half-colonel!!) Jon informed us that from next year 20 army musicians would be trained at Portsmouth after the closing down of Kneller Hall. (I could sense the rancour rising in my throat as he spoke!) I had never met Jon Ridley before yesterday but was inordinately impressed with his articulacy and general affable demeanour endorsed by his invitation to comment and questions from those present. He clearly has a strong personal feeling and respect towards those who have served in the RMBS in former times. I outlined my personal views that to remove "Royal Marines" from the title of any future joint services school of music would be a travesty and should be resisted at the highest levels. Why should the army piggy-back on our long established reputation? The response of the PDM was gratefully received by those present and provided the necessary reassurance we all needed. There is to be no change of title at the current time and the army musicians although stationed in the same area would be a quasi self-contained unit and the RMSM would remain as ever and independent, with the army providing all of its functioning needs within its own structure. Several of the many present thanked me for my question and were clearly satisfied and relieved with the response we got from Jon Ridley. I feel confident that if there is even a slight ripple of change of title it will be defended by our current leaders.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2621

Date: Thursday September 19 2019 21:27:56 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None Now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard The Funeral for the Late B/SGT Barrie Baker was held in Adelaide on Tuesday 17th September. Representing the RMB were Bob Chumley and Myself. However the church was full with all of Barrie's friends from the many walks of life that he had taken since arriving here in Oz. I was asked to recite "The Ode" which I was honoured to do for his family and on his leaving the church I gave as good a Salute as possible which was also appreciated that was as military as we could make it. Barrie had served in South Africa straight from training He then had time in the Staff band at RMSM. I think he then went to HMS Cayton before returning to Deal for a further time in Staff Band. He was then posted to HMS Terror in Singapore where I then met up with Barrie for the first time since "Boys" wing. I had arrived in Singapore to join Band of 3Cdo Bde. With Barrie's passing we have lost not just a good mate but a fine musician teacher and I am told a very fine Golfer. The wishes and condolences that had been sent to me were passed on with Gratefull thanks from his family. My thanks to those of you who did acknowledge Barrie's passing.

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message #: 2620

Date: Thursday September 19 2019 08:31:37 EST  
Name: Paul Thompson  
Email: alfie3710@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3710  
Hometown: Birmingham  
Instrument/s: sax/violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sorry to hear about Barrie was with him in Terror on my first draft he was like an older brother to me never forget the man. His wife Sandra had just given birth to her 1st child and she treated me like a friend of the family. My thoughts are with you and your family Sandra look after yourselves and God bless. Brum

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message #: 2619

Date: Wednesday September 18 2019 14:08:19 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard Many thanks to Col/Graham for his brilliant moving account of Phil's Funeral Service . A truly great send off to a giant of a man. Both Heather and I were with everyone in thought just impossible for us to attend. Sorry. Also many thanks to Mike Hickman for sharing those lovely words with us all. Regards to all hoping to make it to Portsmouth &€" Gizmo&€" permitting!!!! Barry Radford

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2618

Date: Wednesday September 18 2019 05:42:55 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Dear Richard Those colleagues without access to Social Media may like to be aware that the funeral in Kent on Monday of Phil Hughes was a Band Service special. Standard Bearer Corps flag Uniformed Officers from Portsmouth Jon Yates performing "Memories" from the musical "Cats" WO Bugler live musical support from Graham Harvey's Symphonic Winds during the Service notable recollections from long term friends and our own Graham West as the entirely appropriate Celebrant taking the hour long service at the Crematorium. Over 200 friends were present with standing room only for the many who packed into the chapel. It was a privilege to witness this outpouring of love and recognition of his superior musicianship that Phil deserved. This was a funeral with "full military honours" - Band Service style. Totally remarkable . Graham.

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message #: 2617

Date: Wednesday September 18 2019 05:33:27 EST  
Name: Michael Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Guys As we approach the 30th year of that terrible day I thought I would share these word that I placed on my wreath at the South Barracks Gate on the day that the Gap Band Marched through DEAL WE WILL REMEMBER THEM IT WAS A FINE BRIGHT SUNNY DAY THE BAND WAS COMING IN TO PLAY MUSIC WAS THE NAME OF THE GAME NO TWO DAYS WERE EVER THE SAME UNTIL THAT FATEFUL DAY OF SHAME SINCE WHEN NOTHING HAS BEEN THE SAME THE COWARDS WHO CAME OVER THE WALL HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THEM AT ALL JUST A BAND IN FOR THE DAY MANY MUSICAL NOTES TO PLAY A FLASH A BANG IT WAS ALL SO FAST HOW LONG COULD THIS HORROR LAST WHEN THE DUST AND BRICKS STOPPED FALLING IT WAS TIME FOR FRIENDS TO START CALLING FOR MATES WHO WERE NO LONGER THERE ALL THEY COULD DO WAS STAND AND STARE AT THE HORROR BEFORE THEM OF WHAT WAS ONCE COMPLETE LAY NOW IN RUINS AT THEIR FEET COULD IT BE THAT SOME HAD DIED NO WONDER GROWN MEN CRIED FOR ON THE BLOODY AWFUL DAY ELEVEN GOOD MEN HAD BEEN BLOWN AWAY

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message #: 2616

Date: Friday September 13 2019 03:43:52 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2615

Date: Wednesday September 11 2019 16:08:13 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Sad news indeed of the Crossing of the Bar of Barrie Baker we shared a Stand as Solo Clarinets in the Far East based in HMS Terror and HMS Alert. My Condolences to his Wife Sandra and Family. So glad that I managed a couple of Aus Reunions so Barrie and I had time to catch up on our Corps History and what we did together like playing in the First Eleven Soccer Team. RIP Barrie.

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message #: 2614

Date: Wednesday September 11 2019 14:51:03 EST  
Name: MICHAEL G HUTTON  
Email: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: Berkshire  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Farewell 'Barrie'. We never served together but of course knew each other as boys and men from the same period. I met up again with Barrie and Sandra (A Deal Girl of course) in 2004 when we had a mini reunion in Adelaide way down in lovely OZ with Tom Lambert Bob Chumley Eric Hayward and of course Barrie and our girls which has over the last years since that date been a regular event in the Ozzie Sunshine. So Tom and now Barrie have left the quintet and my wife and I are very sad to hear the news and our thoughts are with you Sandra on these sad times. I'm attending the Ripple get together in a couple of weeks time and I'm sure most of the guys and girls there will spend a few moments thinking of you both. RIP Barrie.. One day we will all join you & Tom along with Many Others. Michael Hutton.

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message #: 2613

Date: Tuesday September 10 2019 09:22:37 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3513  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dickie Very sad to hear from Eric about Barrie Baker crossing the Bar. Barrie was my last instructor before I was rated in 1959 and together with Colin Tottle and David Parkin they got me through the four years training at the school. I will forever be grateful to those three gentlemen for the life in music I have enjoyed ever since. My thoughts are with Sandra and her family. Rest in peace dear friend Mike

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2612

Date: Tuesday September 10 2019 03:06:10 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMX/3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard Bad news. Our friend of many years Barrie Baker (RMB/X 2040) passed away in Adelaide Australia at 1100hrs today Tuesday 10th September. When I know anything further I will let you know. Eric

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message #: 2611

Date: Wednesday September 4 2019 20:18:33 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:  
Richard Bad news I'm afraid. I have just this minute spoken with Sandra Baker and she told me that Barrie is not expected to last the week. Today being the 5th September at 11.15 hrs Ozzie time. This is the only avenue that I have to inform those that know or knew Barrie and I am sure those people would like to be kept up to date> It is going to be a difficult time for Sandra these next few days so if there are to be any messages that need to be passed on I will do gladly. Thank you Richard Eric.

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message #: 2610

Date: Friday August 30 2019 05:45:07 EST  
Name: Leonard Lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

Service Number: Hampshire  
Hometown: PORTSMOUTH  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
RIP Royal Marines School of Music. To be known as Royal Military Academy of Music.....so sad. Sharing with Army. Logistical nightmare methinks. [Editor] Say it ain't so! (?)

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2609

Date: Tuesday August 27 2019 15:01:28 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX 3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi noting the entry by David Seed reminds me of my occasion in Aden when there was a Bomb explosion in the Cafe which I used to be a customer. That was the Blue Peter Cafe and having heard the explosion the immediate response was to run to the area of the Bomb explosion where I among others assisted in helping the injured into the old Army Ambulance of one such injured person only to have my thumb trapped in between the slamming doors of the Ambulance and my thumb still has the split nail to this day. That was one of the instances where Colonel 'Mad' Mitchell declared Martial Law in Aden and decreed an Order that if anyone put their head above a Parapet the Soldiers were to Fire upon it! It was fairly quiet after that..... <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/obituaries/military-obituaries/army-obituaries/5796166/Lt-Col-C-C-Mad-Mitch-Mitchell.html> I regret that I have no knowledge of the deceased Col. Royal Marines.

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message #: 2608

Date: Monday August 26 2019 09:36:44 EST  
Name: David Seed  
Email: dseed78739@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 4084  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Flute/Tenor Sax  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Just read the obituary for Lieutenant-Colonel RA Campbell in todays Telegraph for those who remember him he was the Officer Commanding J Wing in the mid to late 60's. Commended for his bravery in Aden. RIP <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/obituaries/2019/08/25/lieutenant-colonel-bob-campbell-royal-marine-commended-bravery/>

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message #: 2607

Date: Monday August 26 2019 09:09:33 EST  
Name: paul thompson  
Email:

Service Number: West Midlands  
Hometown: Birmingham  
Instrument/s: sax/violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Have now been in touch with Sandra & Barrie Baker he is now in a nursing home and doing ok Sandra says she took him down the sea front last week so let's hope he's on the up & up.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2606

Date: Friday August 23 2019 05:51:56 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sad to hear of the passing of Phil. No words can be added to those already said. My sincere condolences to his wife and the rest of his family and to those who had the pleasure to serve and know such nice fellow.  
Phil Hughes RIP

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message #: 2605

Date: Friday August 23 2019 01:40:32 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Morning all I awoke yesterday to a message from David Cole informing me that Phil Hughes had crossed the bar. A very sad day indeed a great loss to music and the Band Service family. A fantastic musician and a lovely man. It seems only yesterday that we were boys learning our trade in the school in Deal during the 1950s. We are all thinking of Joy and her family at this time and wish them well. Yours aye Mike

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message #: 2604

Date: Thursday August 22 2019 11:48:08 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury Somerset  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a:

Comments:  
My sincere condolences to the Family of Phil Hughes who I last saw ironically at the funeral of the late Russell Spencer Thomas in Plymouth. Phil and I duetted on occasion so we had a close working relationship on the Stand. Sadly missed by all who knew him I am sure.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2603

Date: Thursday August 22 2019 11:26:29 EST  
Name: paul thompson  
Email: alfie3710@gmail.com

Service Number: West Midlands  
Hometown: Birmingham  
Instrument/s: sax&violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sorry to hear about Barrie Baker being ill I served with him 1962-3 at HMS Terror he was my tattoo master among other things met his wife Sandra and their daughter many times they were the best please remember me to them.

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message #: 2602

Date: Thursday August 22 2019 10:03:54 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard Agree with every word that dear Derek (Ush the lush) stated re Phil. such sad sad news. Having served with Phil at C.T.C.R.M. I knew him to be a superb musician and a great man. Heather and I send our condolences to Joy and family. R.I.P Dear Phil an honour to have both served with you and known you.  
Barry Radford

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message #: 2601

Date: Thursday August 22 2019 06:01:25 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Bude Cornwall (Now Pompey!)  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Fiddle  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Re. the recent loss of our former Corps Bandmaster Phil Hughes. I just want to say that although we all knew that Phil has a bit of a hard time of it of late fighting such a debilitating disease (in and out of hospital) none the less I'm sure that we were all hoping and praying that the man would surely pull through. His tragic loss now seems so unbelievable and that this should happen to such a great person as well as such a superb musician! - We're all fully aware that we have to leave this earth at some point but like many I'm sure I still find it difficult to accept that someone so respected as a man and great musician has left us too early. I last saw him with Joy at this years MFM and he was fine then as we chatted away reminiscing about our early days. He'd also told me how proud he was to be the very first bandsman to play the RAH Organ when playing at one of the very early concerts there! - We'd had some real fun times back in the very early 60's when serving together on board HMS Blake's very first commission! - Later we met up again when drafted to HMS Raleigh and where Phil's gigging started in earnest! - He was always a great muso' back then on both flute and piano but he just kept getting better and better and deserved all the recognition and respect he gained from everyone in the corps that knew him later in his career. He'll most certainly be very much missed at the great Deal Panto's from now on that's for sure. RIP Phil old mate and to Joy and the family our most deepest sympathy.  
x

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2600

Date: Thursday August 22 2019 05:13:52 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: GrandadRoy66@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dickie So sorry to hear the sad news of Phil Hughes' passing. A lovely man a fabulous musician. Please pass on my condolences to Phil's family.

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message #: 2599

Date: Saturday August 17 2019 07:23:54 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: Kingsdown  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I learn from Joe Baggs who has attended the funeral that Alan Rammell has died. Many will remember Alan as a delightful RMSM civilian member of Staff at Deal and know of his influence when teaching the higher musical skills expected of those seeking promotion through the ranks. Alan will be sadly missed by the many who owe so much to his interest in them. May he rest in the peace he has earned and so richly deserves. Graham

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message #: 2598

Date: Tuesday August 13 2019 09:50:06 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard Such a heart warming posting from Col/Graham. Many a year in coming to fruition. But at last recognition for our colleagues and members of our great Band Service Family who were sadly taken from us so early. Would it be possible if someone who is attending the Annual Memorial to take a photo and send it to you Richard so we can all share this great step forward??. Regards to all hope to see many of you in Portsmouth. Barry Radford

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2597

Date: Monday August 12 2019 05:51:29 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Colleagues all It has long been recognised that the thing missing from the Memorial Garden site of the 1989 RMSM bombing in Deal has been a record of the names of those who lost their lives there. With the thirtieth anniversary approaching it is entirely significant and appropriate that this oversight I learn is to be remedied. I have written to Jonathan Ball CEO of the Royal Marines Charities to thank him for his kindness in arranging for a bronze plaque carrying the names to be in-situ by the 22nd September this year. I have told him that his thoughtfulness can never be fully repaid. I did however want him to be aware of the depth of positive feeling that his action will generate as a further gesture of goodwill from the Corps to this historic town wherein so much valued co-existence still abounds. I sent him the sincere thanks and appreciation of all Band Service colleagues the bereaved and others for seeing a need and acting upon it so satisfactorily. Yours ever Graham.

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message #: 2596

Date: Monday August 5 2019 15:29:27 EST  
Name: David A Mütter  
Email: dam6567@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: London  
Instrument/s: euph/cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Len What an interesting proposition you present. My feeling is that a sermon is redundant as the whole point of Christianity is witnessed by the very fact that you are all sat there remembering those who have given their lives for their friends (John chapter 15 verse 13  
â€œ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends â€œ) You donâ€™t need a sermon to tell you what you are already doing by acknowledging the fact that your brothers in arms has already sacrificed their existence for their friends. I would suggest an appropriate piece of music played by our comrades would be more to the point giving us as individuals time to reflect on the finest points of sacrifice that of giving freely. David

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message #: 2595

Date: Tuesday July 30 2019 08:27:47 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

Service Number: Hampshire  
Hometown: PORTSMOUTH  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi all I have suggested this idea on "another place"..... I am not religious but enjoy thoroughly the camaraderie and closeness felt at the Remembrance Service on Sunday after the reunion. Listening to the lecture.. sorry .. sermon on these occasions it occurred to me that the vicars/reverends were mostly unattached or had scant knowledge of the Band Service. With that in mind I have posted for thoughts that one of our own Graham Hitchins might take the sermon on a regular footing. He has agreed. I post this to garner any thoughts on this. Good or bad. If there is no great dissent I will start making enquiries initially with the RMSM.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2594

Date: Monday July 29 2019 21:45:06 EST  
Name: RICHARD VALENTINE  
Email: richval1951@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Proud Preston  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/s...Piano here and there. Vibe....and.....  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Brothers, I don't do Facebook! This is not the time or place for me to explain why but I urge all of you who ARE involved in the social media to include me.....or should I say the ex RMB website that hundreds of you have supported in various ways.....to relay important information regarding anything that should be shared with this amazing family of ours. Good and bad it all matters. All of you who continue to be in touch and make any kind of contribution I thank you. Be well all of you. Dickie.

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message #: 2593

Date: Saturday July 27 2019 00:31:06 EST  
Name: Kevin Hart  
Email: Kingfisher-man@talktalk.net

Service Number: PO36812r  
Hometown: Knottingley  
Instrument/s: Cornet and Violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Shipmates if you are intending Marching at this years Cenotaph and HAVE applied to the RMA can you please let me know so I can update our list! If you haven't applied and want to attend please let me know there are still places available that have been put aside for Ex RMB only. I only have until early August to fill the remaining slots. If you need help in any way with the application let me know. Kevin Hart

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message #: 2592

Date: Monday July 22 2019 19:51:14 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3051  
Hometown: 9 Spencer Drive Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard Here is an update on the condition of our mate Barrie Baker (RMB/X 2840) I have just spoken to Barrie's wife Sandra so this is hot of the press. Barrie was yesterday (22 July) yet again fitted with new stents to his Kidneys. I am not sure how many times this has been performed. The hospital in which Barrie has been for many weeks now have decided that it is time to move him to a Nursing Home (To me that sounds like "we need the bed ") I hope I am wrong on that. He is as always cheerfull and is fully aware of his situation. I will keep you posted on any developments.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2591

Date: Saturday July 20 2019 12:29:13 EST  
Name: RICHARD VALENTINE  
Email: richval1951@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
PHIL HUGHES (update 2) Hi Dickie I went to the hospital this afternoon and found David Cole already there. As you can imagine the stories came thick and fast. Phil is in good spirits and can't wait to get back home he says that you can't get into his house for cards people have sent. He is still very ill but he is not letting it get to him. He needs our prayers. Best wishes Mike  
Tellick PHIL HUGHES (update 1) I have just had an e-mail from Phil's wife Joy stating that Phil has been hospitalized for 7 weeks now and that he has liver failure. He has had many well wishes and he is keeping in good spirits. Once the doctor's have sorted an on-going medication regime for him it is hope for him to return home per Joy's message. I would send further correspondence to his home address as follows: 14 JOHN TAPPING CLOSE WALMER DEAL KENT CT14 7QY Yours aye

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message #: 2590

Date: Friday July 19 2019 13:47:15 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Memorial at CTCRM  
Chas

Fleming 10 July at 09:23 A. This is a message to any of my ex RMB friends. I have been asked by Trev the CTC Band Sec to collate emails of ex RMB's who would want to attend a short memorial in the Bandroom at CTC either on the Friday or Monday morning....either side of the 22nd September to be decided. It happened last year and a few people were missed out. Present will be CTC Band (obviously) the New Entry Trainees who will have just joined and us as the wider family. Please could anyone who would like to attend send me an email by private message so that I can pass on to Trev. All are invited and very very welcome. Could you please pass on to your wider circle of RMB friends who are not on my list so that no one is missed out. It is important that we get the message out there. This was put on Facebook by Charlie if anyone would like to attend please email me (Ray) with your email address and I will forward it to Charlie I think it is a wonderful idea and a great way to remember our lost friends

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message #: 2589

Date: Wednesday July 17 2019 13:14:57 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: Berkshire  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It is as we all know the 30th year anniversary of the Deal Bandroom Bombing by the IRA. On Sunday last the Portsmouth and Collingwood Bands combined to put on an amazing show at the Walmer Memorial Bandstand. There were many supporters and veterans in the audience (one was 106 years old!) and the Royal Band conducted by Col Jon Ridley & Capt Andy Gregory were just the 'best in the business'. The audience was enormous stretching from the Lifeboat House to the other end of Walmer Green to just about opposite the old 'Lord Nelson' ( where once - Band Boys used to get their first pint of Scrumpy ) The Royal Band on the Bandstand were augmented by the Collingwood Band who marched along the Strand and joined them for the dedication and finale. A fantastic display of precision and musicianship. I managed to meet up with a few old mates wont mention the names - its just some of the usual guys who used to play in the 'All Stars' Have a good Summer...See you in the countermarch...Mick Hutton.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2588

Date: Monday July 8 2019 11:00:15 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi all I have just been to see Phil Hughes in Ashford hospital. He is obviously unwell but is in good spirits. If anyone would like to send him some abuse by the way of a get well card I know he would appreciate it. He is in Cambridge ward M2, C1 Green Bay, WILLIAM HARVEY HOSPITAL, KENNINGTON RD, WILLESBOROUGH ASHFORD, KENT TN24 0LZ

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message #: 2587

Date: Sunday July 7 2019 13:43:37 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi all Re Dickie's posting when the "Fleet Band" was based in Chatham under the late lamented Peter Sumner we did several cruises on Fleet Tankers "Olna" and "Oleander". We saw at first hand the work these men did and the conditions they worked in. I was inspired to join them but on release from the RM Band I couldn't get a seaman's discharge book despite having passed out top of my class at the cookery school in "Pembroke". I eventually got a job as a cook with the Royal Maritime Auxilliary service aboard a salvage vessel running out of Chatham and Dover. Our job was to change the buoys on the East Coast bombing range off the East Coast. On one occasion we were used to pick up a Royal Navy aircraft that had crashed in the Irish Sea. One day I was working in the galley when the skipper came to me and said there was someone in a rowing boat alongside asking for me. We happened to be working in the Firth of Forth and the person asking for was Ron Mackay. I believe at the time he was B/M of the band up there. He and his wife Jeanie arranged a very nice "up homers" with Graham and Margaret Hoskins that evening. I had a very happy three years in that ship which by the way was named "Kinloss". I then met the Memsahib and came ashore to work for a catering company. My Father was with the RFA in the late forties as a Radio officer on the RFA Eaglesdale I can remember her still having the gun sponsors and as they had a mainly Indian crew it was curry for practically every meal a great pity I didn't appreciate it then!! Best wishes Mike .

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message #: 2586

Date: Saturday July 6 2019 22:07:22 EST  
Name: RICHARD VALENTINE  
Email: richval1951@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/s  
n/a:

Comments:

Dear comrades I am incensed that I should read of how the Royal Fleet Auxilliary are being offered a pay 'raise?' so lacking the true number they deserve. I served 18 months on an Aircraft Carrier (ok it was in peace time) and saw much of that fleet in close quarters and I was and still am in awe of their duty and commitment to our Royal Navy. Those of us who had this privileged 'sea time' will recall how we were integral in assisting in ships stores for groceries and if you were even luckier you would have heard and observed your bugler exchange calls with the 'oiler' Tidepool who just so happened to have an ex bugler onboard in his chosen employ after RM discharge. Nichols? Alan Brooker Jan Bettinson 'Plum' Plummer were our Buglers but more than that an essential part of our band that of HMS Eagle.....the final commission. I have never resorted to politics on this site. I do however suggest to you all that especially if you have had that experience of being at sea and been involved directly or even observed the action that the RFA undertake on our behalf that you recognise and support them. Their history is surely in tandem with ours! Per Mare Per Terram! Courtesy the RFA for much of it! Yours aye! Dickie.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2585

Date: Friday July 5 2019 09:33:02 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard - yet another brilliant posting by you on your (our) Web Page. You are the glue that helps keep our great Band Service Family in touch with each other. You give us news of not only people we have served with but people we know of but have never met. We thank you for that. You are always giving us news on our Old colleagues but little is said about you!!! Truly hope your MRI Scan reveals nothing sinister. I am in regular touch with Mike Tellick and it is great that he is doing ok. Both Heather and I were thrilled that you found time to phone us yesterday evening. Thank You truly hope you can make it to Portsmouth this year. I've recently been for an M.O.T. on my Gizmo - I'm ok for another year (despite a recent very bad fall). (No damage done) before they want to see me again - Regards to all our old friends out there. Hope to see you in Portsmouth. Barry and Heather

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message #: 2584

Date: Thursday July 4 2019 17:07:33 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3051  
Hometown: 9 Spencer Drive Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Unfortunately none now.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard I as I am sure there are many others who appreciate your efforts over so many years. I am also sure that we hope that this will continue for many more years to come. I speak with Barrie Baker regularly and he is always very cheerful and is fully aware of his situation. However as of two days ago he told me that he expects to be out of Doc by the weekend. He and I go back as far as (Boys Wing) as does also Graham but he was far ahead of me and was almost due to be Rated I think. I will pass on your thoughts when I next talk to him. I served with Bob Sanders many years ago now in the Band of CinC Nore Command Chatham. That was 1957 to 61 when the command closed down. My best wishes to Mike Tellick and all others mentioned most of whom I don't know but as you say Richard we are all one Family.

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message #: 2583

Date: Thursday July 4 2019 15:24:08 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: richval1951@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Always will be Preston no matter what!  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello everyone: Now I must say that I'm no 'doom and gloomer' but as is my quest I have taken it upon myself over 2 decades to record good and not so good news. As I write I can only mention those who I have knowledge of due to my contacts and it is only those who remember me and my ability to post the information whom I can depend upon. Being a non-facbooker I tend to miss out on much but please don't berate me for that? I want to ask those of you who will respond to Mitch Booth's signal about our dear friend Rodney Williamson that should you write or send a card to Rodney at his care home you include myself Dickie Valentine in those thoughts. Rodney has not been the same since he lost his wife some years ago and I met him at a recent reunion and was dismayed for him and for myself. Same goes for Phil Hughes who currently is in an Ashford hospital as is posted on my Notice Board page. Please include myself in sharing sentiments with him for an hopeful steady recovery. Did some of you see the 'good news' of Sandy Sanders' 90th birthday? I have since posted that under Willl Watson's portal on the Notice Board. Dear Mike Tellick is doing better if I dare to mention that as he is undergoing treatment for a common threat to us older ones. I'm sure he will not be upset if I share that additional piece of good news. So.....news good and bad is all part of our very complex lives but this RM Band family will continue to stay bonded by way of my efforts over what time is left to me. May I reach out to you all and thank you for the privilege and whether we have served or even know our fellow who is not doing too well right now drop him a line as we are brothers after all and in all cases we spent our youth getting to know literally thousands of comrades. That is unique and to be preserved. Sincerely your friend colleague and webmaster, Richard. PS: Not to forget to include all our colleagues around the globe, Barrie Baker whom I have recorded several times at the Australia reunion and as mentioned by Graham Hoskins. I ask Eric Hayward to pass on our best wishes to Barrie for his recovery.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2582

Date: Monday July 1 2019 08:21:13 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email: graham.hoskins@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard I learn from his wife Sandra that Barrie Baker solo clarinet is very poorly and in hospital in Australia. He has been valiantly fighting numerous and debilitating health issues over recent years as many may know. Having been diagnosed with kidney disease requiring regular insertion of stents on top of having a brain impairment as well as having recent falls he deserves our prayers and recognition of his desperate situation. He and Sandra are aware of the severity of his condition and I have their permission to inform readers of your webpage who may remember Barrie (SNCO ginger hair good footballer and good humoured friend). He spent the later stages of his career in the Eastney Band where he became hugely popular when regularly embarked in HM Yacht Britannia. Our thoughts are with him and his family at this difficult time. Hang in there Barrie! Graham

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message #: 2581

Date: Sunday June 30 2019 11:49:23 EST  
Name: Ray Iloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Bill Sabine's Funeral To clear any confusion the family have confirmed that Bill's funeral will take place on: WEDNESDAY 10th July at 12.15 at EFFORD Crematorium Plymouth. I think there will be a good turn out. Regards Ray

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message #: 2580

Date: Wednesday June 26 2019 11:27:19 EST  
Name: Mervyn Hyatt  
Email: MLHY1sax@gmail.com

Service Number: Q004075T  
Hometown: WATCHET  
Instrument/s: CLT/SAX/VIOLIN  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sad to hear the sad news of the passing of Bill Sabine. I have lots of great memories of years gone by. A great sense of humour alongside his obvious musical talent. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family. May he Rest in Peace.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2579

Date: Monday June 24 2019 09:10:59 EST  
Name: Colin Bath  
Email: colinbath1944@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3750  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Cornet Trumpet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Can I share my sadness of the news of Bill's passing I last saw him at a w/country Reunion he never changed and rightly so we had some great times together and I shall always remember him with affection we helped each other return to base on many occasions times when it would be nice to return to days gone by. Rest in Peace Good night and God Bless You xx

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message #: 2578

Date: Sunday June 23 2019 09:02:49 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: Newbury  
Hometown: Berkshire  
Instrument/s: Euph &#39;n&#39; &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sad to hear of the loss of Eric Gaze â€" I remember him well from HMS Gambia days way back in 57/58 when we were based in Trincomalee Ceylon the old East Indies Station. (B/M was Doug Haigh and B/Sgt the dreaded Dan Oâ€™Connell.) I think Eric was probably the youngest member of the band of 18 at that time and he didnâ€™t know â€"aft from forâ€™ardâ€™ or â€"port from starboardâ€™ â€" but he learned very quickly. As the only Cpl of the mess deck and in charge bellow decks I teamed him up with â€"Shacks Princeâ€™ (the oldest member of the band) and our two solo cornets of course for cooks and other below decks duties. I think he learned quite a lot on that commission. One quite humorous asset Eric possessed was he was able to sleep standing up while leaning against the bulkhead! even when the ship was rolling!! We never met again after that commission but Iâ€™m sure he was a great asset to all Bands in his career. I hope to attend his memorial in Plymouth.

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message #: 2577

Date: Sunday June 23 2019 05:35:43 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Last evening I was privileged to attend the first of annual Trevor Atwood Memorial Concerts featuring the youngsters of Kentâ€™s Shepway Brass Academy together on stage with Snowdown Colliery Welfare Band. Trevor was never one to over-orchestrate his achievements or feelings but he would have been immensely proud of his family last evening who came together to further his constant aim to involve young people in the art and enjoyment of making music. I congratulate them on ensuring that Trevorâ€™s legacy his celebration of life will be one of great lasting value. Such deserved recognition surely comes to very few. They will stand tall and be pleased at the outcome of Trevorâ€™s widow Alysonâ€™s initial idea of a trophy to be presented annually in his memory. Unique in design and concept it was presented for the first time last evening. Indeed it is a reflection of Trevor my remarkable colleague and friend. Graham.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2576

Date: Saturday June 22 2019 17:22:04 EST  
Name: David (Trog) Tremaine  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3928  
Hometown: Buckingham  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sorry to read of the passing of Bill Sabine. Bill and I both being Cornish were very good friends both at Lympstone and Stonehouse. I well remember helping him move into a tiny cottage in the village of Ide near Exeter when he first got married. Bill was a product of Penzance Silver Band and was an excellent cornet player with his own 'brass band' style. As already mentioned he and Ginge Bath made a great team in the Plymouth Band. There are many stories that can be told about Bill but perhaps now is not the time. I lost touch with him when I was drafted back to Deal in 1977 but did catch up with him at one West Country reunion and he hadn't changed at all. May he rest in peace. David (Trog) Tremaine

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message #: 2575

Date: Friday June 21 2019 14:01:36 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: GrandadRoy66@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bassoonish  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dickie So so sorry to hear of the passing of young William Sabine. I took over Bill's bed in room 15 in the wing when he and Tad Marriott departed to their new adult life....also served with Bill in Plymouth Group Band. There were many great talented players within this band and Bill and Ginge Bertie Bath were a cut above and very funny guys. This world is going to be a sadder place without Bill around. My condolences to Bill's family  
Roy

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message #: 2574

Date: Thursday June 20 2019 16:06:06 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard Saddened to read of the passing Of Bill Sabine. Last saw him at a West Country Reunion but served with him at Whale Island. A superb Cornet player and brilliant guy. R.I.P Bill. Condolences to the family Regards Barry

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2573

Date: Thursday June 20 2019 11:34:55 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury Somerset  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Oh dear another member of the former Plymouth Group Band has left us.  
This on the eve of my next hospital admission too.  
My condolences to his Family  
and Friends. Rest in Peace Bill.  
Bill Hartland.

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message #: 2572

Date: Monday June 17 2019 05:10:22 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
Thanks Mick I appreciate your message & email and sorry Dickie I should have thought to look there but I was just thinking bandies on here not those also associated with us! Stan will be pleased Ray

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message #: 2571

Date: Monday June 17 2019 04:22:44 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Very sad news to see that another ex-Gambia Band member of the Last East Indies  
Commission has crossed the Bar, that being Erik (Tubby) Gaze as he was more familiarly known to so many of us.  
Last saw Erik at a West Country Reunion in Plymouth where I believe he was  
working as a Taxi Driver/Proprietor? If I am able I would wish to attend his Funeral. My condolences to his family and immediate friends.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2570

Date: Sunday June 16 2019 04:07:01 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: Berkshire  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Regarding Major Martin Pound. He was the Company Commander of J wing in Burford of course way back certainly when I joined in January 1949 and remained so when we moved to Deal in 1950. A charming man and very pro the Band Service. Son of a Naval Admiral fantastic cricketer and hockey player for the Corps and also the Navy. There are a couple of pictures on my life story of him with the Boys Cricket Team circa 1951 and the Number 5 Comandant General's Squad early 52 I think. Regards to all...Mick. [Webmaster] Yes indeed Mike and we thank you for pointing this out and may I remind everyone reading this that the 'Find' search engine on main page and Notice Board will lead you to at least the three references to Major Pound.

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message #: 2569

Date: Thursday June 13 2019 07:32:26 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Do any of our 'Senior' members remember Major Pound who was Boys Wing Company Commander in about the 1950s? Stan Hacking has been in touch with a relative who would love to have any information about him especially any pictures please let me have any details your help would be appreciated. Has anyone heard anything about Phil Hughes? Stan tells me he is very poorly and in hospital (not sure which one) Cheers! Ray

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message #: 2568

Date: Tuesday June 11 2019 04:18:22 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: Berkshire  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
What an amazing tale by Mike Tellick and fantastic news about David Cole. I know we all used to moan when the dreaded draft came up and we were on our way to some Cruiser or Air Craft Carrier with conditions similar perhaps to the Sailing Ship Days (well perhaps not quite !) but I bet that many of you would have liked to be on Mike's trip last week. Well done David Mike and your great British Legion Band.regards to all.....Michael.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2567

Date: Monday June 10 2019 16:58:09 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard I have just returned from a trip of a lifetime. I was privileged to attend the commemorations in Normandy aboard the MV BOUDICCA with the Central Band RBL under the direction of Captain David Cole OBE!!! We embarked at 1030 at Western docks Dover on June 2nd and most of the band having stowed their kit in their cabins or ROOM as my Pongo mate insisted on calling it found their way to the bar. Then to lunch. We mustered on the after deck to rehearse with the girls that were going to sing with Rod Stewart rehearsals over I then found that one of the bags of music was missing it was eventually found 4 days later in the ships office!! Rod Stewart eventually came onboard at 1730 and sang "Sailing" the less said about that the better!!! We sailed at 2100 with an escort of Tugs complete with fire hoses and a gun salute from the Castle. The band playing military airs to the assembled Veterans and crew. The following morning found us in Dunkirk where some of the Vets went ashore to re-live memories of 1940. We left Dunkirk that evening and sailed for Poole where we were greeted by the Royal Marines in their Ridged Raider craft circling the ship in salute to the veterans. I believe the BOUDICCA is the largest cruise ship to have docked in Poole. The Commandos from Taunton and CTC gave the veterans a display of their weapons and vehicles which was enthusiastically received. The funniest part of the day was the sight of a dozen hairy Bootnecks trying to manhandle a very large fighting vehicle on to a transporter without success. Enter a forklift truck to do the job. Then on to Portsmouth where the veterans went ashore to the parade and service on Southsea common. We have all seen that so I will not say anymore other than it was very impressive. We sailed from Portsmouth on Wednesday evening to a tremendous send off. All the ships were at Procedure Alpha with a Royal Marine Band on the flight deck of HMS QUEEN ELIZABETH the BOUDICCA had an escort of RN ships out into the Solent where at 2130 there was a short dedication service in remembrance to the boys of 1944. Then most people retired to the bar. These veterans all of whom are in their 90s are an extremely lively bunch many stayed up until after midnight I am told as I was asleep by then honest doctor!!! Thursday morning found us on Le Havre where everyone boarded coaches to go to Bayeux. There were 9 coaches in convoy and we had a Police escort all the way of the two hour journey much of which was on empty motorways because the police had closed them off for our passage. On arrival at Bayeux the veterans went to the service and visited the cemetery with their private thoughts and prayers. We in the meantime rigged up in the biggest tent I have seen and awaited the return of everyone who then enjoyed what is probably the best bag rationing have ever had only the French would put a chocolate mousse as a dessert in a packed lunch!! The band played for about 90 minutes entertaining the troops and was well received especially when we did a shortened version of Last Night of the Proms. On returning to the ship it was straight to the bar and then a late supper at 2300. It's hell at sea these days!! Friday was a rehearsal day for us as we had a show with the dancers and singers from the ships entertainers. The Big Band rigged up in the afternoon for an hour and got everyone on their feet. David got bubbly for a party that evening to celebrate his third BAFTA and one of the band had organised a cake. When David also announce his new gong there was pandamonium what a surprise and well deserved. Saturday was spent at sea we were due to go to Portsmouth but due to adverse weather the Captain decided to head straight for Dover where we arrived that evening. I can honestly say that it was one of the most moving and thought provoking of weeks of my life to see and talk with these old gentlemen and ladies has been a privilege and something I will never forget. I have shed a few tears which is a bugger when trying to read dots. I was bught back to reality on Sunday morning when I got home and rang the bell the Memsahib opened the door with the words "forgot your key then?" I hope this gives you a flavour of a very special week for our nation. Oh I must add that besides myself David Cole Mike Scurfield Andy Rowett and Graham (Percy) Pinder were the ex bandies. Regards to all Mike

message #: 2566

Date: Saturday June 8 2019 16:23:06 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Congratulations to David Cole on his Queens Birthday Honour Awards of the OBE Personally I consider that all of the Effort and Work that David has done in the interests of the Band Service and the Royal British Legion he should surely now have been Knighted? Yours aye Bill Hartland

message #: 2565

Date: Monday June 3 2019 16:10:33 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX 3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
As we approach the 75 th Anniversary of the D-Day Commemorations I have to reflect on my own experience of the 25 th Anniversary when I was on Loan to Plymouth Group Band for the Occasion. This Anniversary was for us a time of bivouac on a beach in Quistreham Normandy where we camped on a Holiday Camp Site. Much ad about nothing as we toured the French countryside dressed in No. 14s and seated in the rear of a French Army Truck. Bayer and Lyon comes to mind where we performed and on one occasion we had a Torch Lit Beat Retreat where the French Fire Service held blazing torches for us to read our dots not that many of us needed march cards as we were more than familiar with the pieces from memory. As I stated I was on Loan from HMS Raleigh but never returned there as Jimmy Pottle decided that he wanted me to remain in the Band at Lympstone where I remained up to my retirement from the Service. Fifty Years have flown by for me so anyone who stil lsurvives from that era I hope that you are well and enjoying your retirement too.

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2564

Date: Tuesday May 21 2019 04:42:50 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: Berkshire  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph &Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Last Sunday Concert by the combined Royal Band and the Hampshire County Youth Wind Ensemble was a very entertaining event. It included some very modern and interesting music plus the premiere of a piece called 'Something Old Something New Something Borrowed Something Blue' by Christopher Coleman - (Stuff like this wasn't available for ships band of 18 in my day!!) Anyway it was a superb concert by both bands with the Youth director Adam Broughton and Captain Andy Gregory ( perhaps some of the youth band's boys and girls might be tempted to join the RMB ) Thanks again Andy..See you on the Bandstand in Walmer in July. Mick Hutton.

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message #: 2563

Date: Wednesday May 15 2019 08:35:12 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Just returned from a great 10 days in France. (the wine rack needed replenishingðŸŒŸðŸŒŸ) a quick turn around leaving for Plymouth tomorrow (Gizmo willing!!!!) to attend the West Country Reunion on Saturday we hope to see lots of old colleagues there. We are enjoying a lovely spell of weather up here on the Wirral Peninsular. Iâ€™m keeping in touch with Mike Tellick who finishes his R/Therapy Treatment this week tells me that Lewis Sykes had a set back and is to start Hormone Treatment again. Thinking of you Lewis hope all goes well Regards Barry

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message #: 2562

Date: Sunday May 5 2019 15:56:12 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
On May 6th 1959 60 years today I made the most decisive and significant decision of my life-to leave home and join the Royal Marines as a musician. I have had a long and very distinguished career as a musician in London- after my 7 years service in RMBS- as an orchestral and studio recording player and I have been a professor and examiner at several leading tertiary music colleges. None of this would have been possible without that early musical training and the embryonic environment-surrounded by so many fine and inspirational musicians. More significantly I truly believe was what those 7 years taught me apart from the valuable musical experience because it is that singular residual legacy that has engendered the confidence and achievements of so many of my contemporaries- whose future careers have laid outside the discipline of music. And is not that the key word? Discipline. Routine whether it is musical practice or just getting to work on time and smartly dressed. Where did we learn that? More importantly was what I learned about other people: that their views and opinions were as valid and important to them as mine were to me and I could not impose mine upon them-unless by my living example- if it were proved that mine were better. Politicians please pay attention!! "The tissue of life to be We weave with colours all our own. But in the field of destiny We reap as we have sown"-- John Greenleaf Whittier I raise a glass to my fellow 3/59 squad mates: RMB 3729 J/Musn Arbery E.J. (dcd) RMB 3730 J/Musn Brett A.J. RMB 3731 J/Musn Clegg D.E. RMB 3732 J/Musn Evans L. RMB 3733 J/Musn Forsdick R. RMB 3734 J/Musn John R.B RMB 3735 J/Musn Mosely R.M. RMB 3736 J/Musn Richardson Best wishes to all Adrian

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2561

Date: Thursday May 2 2019 08:56:41 EST  
Name: Paul Foley  
Email: paulfedex@me.com

Service Number: P036943D  
Hometown: Bolton  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a:

Comments:  
The Funeral Service of Keith Pullen will be held on Tuesday 14th May at 10am. Weston Mill Crematorium Ferndale Road Plymouth PL2 2EP Everyone welcome

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message #: 2560

Date: Thursday April 18 2019 09:02:41 EST  
Name: paul thompson  
Email: alfie3710@gmail.com

Service Number: rmb 3710  
Hometown: birmingham  
Instrument/s: sax/violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
just a quick note about our Jack (Malpass) i was with him in Terror in '62 and bought his car.

---

message #: 2559

Date: Wednesday April 10 2019 00:52:17 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard Well it's been and gone so to speak that is / was the Adelaide Reunion. So report follows. Numbers for this years Adelaide Reunion were a tad short with a number of members now undertaking Chemo so they were not in any condition to be attending. Some of those chaps said that they really would like to join but their situation would not in any way allow this. We of course understand completely. There were a number of members who had promised to join us this year but other problems made their attending out of the question. Such as being in the the Defence Force Bands as duty always calls. However as Richard already knows one member Roger Walker decided to avoid the function altogether by trying a different approach and dived down the stairs resulting in a broken neck and being placed in an induced coma on life support. Whilst under he was operated on and neck bones were fused. He is fortunately on the mend and is quite cheerfull about the whole affair. So we were down to just a handful. Tony Oberdries from New Zealand with his lovely wife Pat Syd Pavitt from Perth Western Australia myself Eric Hayward with my better half Jan. As I can no longer drive and Jan is almost as old as I we were very kindly driven across from home in Bendigo Victoria to Adelaide by Jan's neice Kim who then made up the group on our table. The usual toasts were proposed to Her Majesty Absent Friends and our new Captain General. As the numbers are now small and so many of those who have promised to attend fail to do so on so many occasions it is now left up to anyone who thinks it is worth continuing to give it a go by assisting me with the organisation. The consensus re continuing or not was for those who do join us at the Military Tattoo in Sydney Australia 17th - 19th October 2019 will make the final decision as to whether Canberra will be the better venue for the possible 2020 reunion. It's been good for fifteen years and I thank all those who have made the effort to join us from such large distances as the UK and NZ. As for myself I will attend if I am able. Regards to all those serving and who have served. Eric

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2558

Date: Saturday April 6 2019 21:52:38 EST  
Name: RICHARD VALENTINE  
Email: richval1951@gmail.com

Service Number: 008  
Hometown: Earth  
Instrument/s: Who cares!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I can't tell ya! How fulfilled I am having taken the bull by the horns to reach out to Roger Walker who was only a 'name' to me when I was in Junior Wing and throughout my service since 1965 and here we are today 2019 and a zillion miles apart and I call him! Thanks to Eric Hayward .....same zillion miles over the water.....it just rang and Roger picked up! He broke his neck but he's going to be ok. What MORE can I say than I have been totally immersed in conversation with a great guy who I never served WITH but as is always the case someone who had to aspire to the same standards and wear the same uniform. Roger conveys his good will and thoughts to those who know him.....his number is on Eric's message.....so easy to do.....give him a call and it matters NOT whether you knew him.....RMBs know all RMBs period! Sorry to bore you.....but really? Break your neck.....and call Roger.....he broke his! Dickie. PS: Oops.....I may be a little inebriated but it's all good.

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message #: 2557

Date: Saturday April 6 2019 21:07:52 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:  
Latest on Roger Walker sunday morning in Aus. He is able to chat on phone Number is 0498 694 718 I inadvertently supplied wrong number in original message he has come on in leaps and bounds and hoping to get home soon but still a long way to go despite him getting out of bed and walking against nurses orders but that's Roger Am sure he would love to hear from some of his old mates Cheers Eric

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message #: 2556

Date: Friday April 5 2019 09:59:29 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: Berkshire  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It's a while now since the loss of Peter Heming! Has anyone news of his funeral? If and when it was? Some of us would have liked to have paid our respects to a lost comrade.. Mick. [Dickie] I'm sorry Mick and Ian Epps another who is just as miffed that the communications channel failed YET AGAIN with Peter's funeral taking place quickly and for the life of me I cannot recall who it was who told me so. Seemingly very 'hush hush'.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2555

Date: Thursday April 4 2019 04:57:32 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: Jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australi  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:  
latest up date on Roger Walker Fell down stairs broke neck out of coma serious and a long way to go  
Spoke with his son but actually managed to speak briefly with Roger himself said he is very very sore. No  
other news

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message #: 2554

Date: Tuesday April 2 2019 15:26:03 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi all. Following the memorable 2016 gathering of the class of '56 in Deal Barry Radford and I have decided that it  
would be a spiffing wheeze to have another one to celebrate 65 years of memories. So I have booked the RMA club in Deal  
on Saturday April 24th in 2021. This will be the last time we will get together as a year group so PLEASE if you know  
of ANYONE who joined up in 1956 get the word out. As last time Sue Cornish will provide a super buffet for our delight.  
Timings and other details will follow nearer the date. Please email me so that I can get the ball rolling with  
your contact details email mobile or landline. No excuses like "I'm doing my hair" always assuming you have  
some!!! Come on down and spend a weekend of memories by the Kent seaside. You know it makes sense. Best wishes  
to all Mike 3512

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message #: 2553

Date: Tuesday April 2 2019 11:07:36 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3050  
Hometown: Congresbury Somerset.  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart and other Wind Instruments.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi all Well a damper put on my 59th Wedding Anniversary on the News that my one time discussion mate  
Jack Malpass had crossed the bar and now Roger and his accident. Peter Heming comes to mind that in 1953 we both received Prizes at the end of term so to speak  
so I will seek out the programme guide which was published for Parents Information if I am correct in my assumption  
then that may be a link to his RMB/X Number? Best  
Wishes to the Aus Reunion and wish that I could have joined them once again.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2552

Date: Tuesday April 2 2019 01:57:26 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Richard I have just received sad news by way of Syd Pavitt that Roger (Mr Universe) Walker has had a serious accident and is in intensive care in hospital in Sydney. He has been in a Coma and on life support. This info was passed to Syd by Roger's son Matt and after I talked to Matt a few minutes ago he has asked me to let all in the UK who know/new Roger. I don't do that other crap site FB but if anyone who does and reads this then please pass on above message. Good wishes can be sent to Rogers son by ringing 0489 694 718. Sad start to reunion weekend . Cheers Eric.

---

message #: 2551

Date: Tuesday March 26 2019 08:38:33 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: EUPH AND CELLO  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard I've just read on the brass band web site 4 bars rest of the passing of Jack Malpass (trombone) such sad news I served with Jack at HMS Raleigh with Bandmasters Jim Bearman and Bill Plock. Regards and sympathy to Morag and family. RIP Jack thanks for the memories Barry

---

message #: 2550

Date: Sunday March 17 2019 10:23:35 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: Berkshire  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Great Concert last night from the Albert Hall. It was very comfortable to be able to sit at home without the hassle of travel and finding your way around London and the AH. Once again it showed the amazing talent that the modern Band Service has - covering such a wide range of music ( not quite sure about the obscure Overture !!) but then I was never a Clarinet player. Nearly wished I was 60 years younger. Well done to all those wonderful players and of course the guys and girls in charge and a special mention for the 'Corps of Drums' who are just immaculate in everything they do. Will certainly make an effort to attend the October reunion on the Saturday night this year as I believe its going to be better !! Regards to all..Mick Hutton.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2549

Date: Wednesday March 13 2019 05:17:49 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: Rmb 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Morning all Just a quick update on Jim McMeel. He is back home the medics decided against a triple bypass and came up with another solution. Don't ask me what it is 'cos I'm not a doctor yet!!! I hope to see him tomorrow and have a natter. If any of you are going to the MFM this weekend I will be there shaking a tin on behalf of the Charity so please remember that notes are lighter than coins and will be much appreciated. Regards to all  
Mike

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message #: 2548

Date: Tuesday March 12 2019 02:48:21 EST  
Name: KEVIN HART  
Email: kingfisher-man@talktalk.net

Service Number: P036812R  
Hometown: KNOTTINGLEY  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Good  
afternoon shipmates just a quick update for those who are or wishing to or attending the 2019 Remembrance parade in London. All is going well for our weekend 'get together' the room is booked and food menu in place. We have also secured world class entertainment for you to go in between the serious lamp swinging and a variety of other events to fill our night Taff Ryan had volunteered to do an old dance utilising a table and rolled up newspaper but unfortunately the fire dept has banned it so we've turned it into an outside firework display!  
Only joking Taff! Anyway all's going well berets have been supplied and most delivered anyone else require one let me know we have 76 coming on the Saturday evening and places are still available. On Sunday we will hopefully double that for the March Past but I must remind all attendees that the actual numbers for Cenotaph parade on Whitehall will be limited by the organising committee of the British Legion (numbers should be known by May) so if you are not picked for the main parade still attend because we will still be meeting up with them afterwards to carry out our own March Past on Horseguards later and lay our wreath to fallen mates. On another note I have now set up a Royal Marines Musicians Branch within the RMA it is free to join and is now growing fast please feel free to join.

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message #: 2547

Date: Saturday March 9 2019 05:37:57 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Morning all If anyone has two spare tickets for next weeks MFM Friday or Saturday please contact Andy Rowett on his mobile. 07305 351918. Thanks and regards to all Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2546

Date: Friday March 8 2019 11:56:43 EST  
Name: Dickie Valentine  
Email: richval1951@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
DAVID HENRY HARRIS 1949 - 1993 Shortly after Dave's passing I sought to create a tribute to him using the theme of music which was so much a necessary part of his life. After spending many weeks creating my beloved "clarinet" I had it framed along with dedicatory words and presented it to the School of Music at that time still in Deal. This tribute (a cross-stitch) was given to the school and I have not laid eyes upon it since. Have you? Ron Kempton (deceased) was Dave's former B/M on Ark Royal and they became great friends which continued to the untimely death of David. Ron ensured that the School of Music accepted the framed dedication and I was told many years ago that it was on display in or outside the Bandmaster's office. A source whom I know to be currently serving has not been able to trace it. If anyone in Portsmouth band to date has any idea where it is I would appreciate it. The full tribute is accessible from my web site from the drop down menu of In Memoriam on the main page. Dickie.

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message #: 2545

Date: Thursday March 7 2019 14:56:19 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None Now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Terry I served with the last three members of the Chatham Division Band from 1957 to 1961. They were Band Sergeant Vic Chantler Band Cpl Ernie Rann and Musn Len Pankhurst. They were at this time of course as members of the Band of CinC Nore Command. Len Pankhurst Flute/piano retired I think in 1958. Vic Chantler and Ernie Rann retired after the closing down ceremony of the Nore Command in I seem to remember was in early 61. They upset the RSM from Deal who was in attendance for the occasion by wearing Chatham Division insignia on their cere's. Vic Chantler was a very good Violinist and Ernie Rann was an excellent Trumpet and Violin. He was also the band Drum Major and taught me my Drum Major skills which came to the fore while I served with the RAAF Central Band. I actually ended up as the Australian Forces Senior Drum Major for a number of years. As a long serving member of CinC Nore Command I would love to have been able to join you for your reunion but not this time. However I wish you all who are there all the very best. Cheers from Oz Eric.

---

message #: 2544

Date: Wednesday March 6 2019 09:46:53 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard Congratulations to Mike and Erica Tellick on becoming First Time Grandparents ðŸ•ðŸ•ðŸ•  
Regards to all Barry

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2543

Date: Wednesday March 6 2019 08:26:11 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email: terryfreestone@vfast.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X 2505  
Hometown: Barham  
Instrument/s: marricc@sky.com  
n/a:

Comments:  
On Saturday 8 June 2019 Alan Brooker has put together another reunion of all those who formed those elite bands known under various titles ; viz. Chatham Division band CinC The Nore band HMS Pembroke band Home Fleet band CinC Western Fleet band and finally CinC Fleet band before moving away from Chatham to Northolt in 1983. Alan is available for bookings on 01634 855797 or mobile 07783 737025 email is from the line below Terry's home base of Barham and the muster time and place is 1930 Saturday 8 June at the Cannon pub in Brompton High Street Gillingham. ME7 5AS

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message #: 2542

Date: Monday March 4 2019 15:27:24 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Jim McMeel update. I visited Jim in the Medway hospital this afternoon. He was sitting up in a chair looking at a "Hornblower" video. ( Getting some more sea time in )!!! He is in good spirits considering the problems he has. The doctors are having a chat tomorrow and the outcome is probably going to be a transfer to St. Thomas's in London where Jim expects to have a triple bypass. Dickie I passed on your good wishes for which Jim says thank you. Mike

---

message #: 2541

Date: Monday March 4 2019 08:07:06 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
STAN HACKING Stan is now home but still not well he says he feels more comfortable at home he thanks all those who sent him get well cards Ray.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2540

Date: Sunday March 3 2019 16:02:28 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email: terryfreestone@vfast.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X 2505  
Hometown: Barham  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Richard: First I have to thank you for pointing out my stupidity when I had Rule's details already on file. Yes he must be having the last laugh with his claim to be RMB/X 1 when he had a number allocated over 12 years before the X was introduced in 1925. And why would anyone want to do that..?  
I had first entered him on my Excel file headed RMB 2nd Series (the X files you might call them). I had long been looking for X1 when I saw a Guestbook entry from Mervyn (Bilko) Durrant on 27 October 2013 and promptly entered it as gospel never having heard this claim before recently repeated by Adrian. When I first decided to start to try to compile a complete list of all who have ever served in the RM Band Service created in 1903 I never realised what a gargantuan task it would be. I slowly found that the paper records were in different places having been chucked out in the major reorganisation of Fleet commands about 25 years ago. The first RMB series were taken in by the Fleet Air Arm museum at Yeovilton and Captain Roy Swales RN kindly let me have a copy of their compilation from RMB 1 A W Shepard in 1903 to RMB3087 R L Taylor in 1925 (sadly to lose his life in the sinking of HOOD). So little problem with that sequence I called RMB 1st series most numbers are present. It has its own pages a separate file from RMB 2nd Series (the X files). Apparently the entire sequence from Oct 1925 is held at the Records office at Kew and Captain Swales told me some years ago that an individual enquiry cost £35 a pop! Even with the interest on all my Cat.IV gigs I would find it a bit of a strain with upwards of 3000 entries so I have spent years poring through old Blue Bands or RN Casualty records for names mostly without numbers. Of course now I have another file I call RMB Master which tries to list ALL members numbers or not thus creating yet another far bigger set of information none of which can be viewed synoptically (i.e. side-by-side for comparison). It is this that caused me to miss seeing my entry in RMB 1st series that indeed I had a H G Rule as RMB 2121 and thank you for pointing it out. Perhaps I should explain to our readers that in case of a sudden unexpected Drahtchit to HMS Heaven I shared my files with you a couple of years ago so the stuff will not be lost after spending so much time on this problem set of X files. So in conclusion I apologise to Adrian and everyone else for my error (I am still on the lookout for RMBX numbers - in short supply!) and thank our WebMaster Richard for sorting me out.  
Best wishes to everyone and please keep your details coming in if not already done so. Terry

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message #: 2539

Date: Sunday March 3 2019 15:16:35 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

And Capt Peter Heming STILL has no number. Has anyone tried to contact his relatives? Just bemused by this. Cheers from a hot 38 expected plus already high 20s at 0815. But you can keep your snow. Eric

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message #: 2538

Date: Sunday March 3 2019 09:49:44 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Many thanks all for the mention of Ghandi Rule it took me back to Mr Adams (woodwork) and his "come and see what this silly boy has done" Guess who was the aforementioned "silly Boy" Ah! happy days. Thanks for the good work Dickie. Dave Lambert

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2537

Date: Saturday March 2 2019 12:55:40 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I am frankly astonished!! Thank you Terry Freestone once again. We boys had always assumed that when Gandhi Rule claimed to be RMB 1 he was just 'coming the old soldier' and trying to assert his seniority. I do not think anyone ever believed he actually was RMB 1...or indeed RMBX1. Now we know the truth and on behalf of all the old boys under his watchful eye I feel I must apologise for having doubted his assertion. He was such a character and his own self-importance is so clearly personified in that clip from Pathe News where Prince Philip visits his workshop. HRH is clearly wanting to talk to young Geoff Avis but old Gandhi pushes in to become the centre of attention and up-stage Geoff!! I wonder if it was to tell HRH he was RMBX1..... Happy birthday Adrian - March 3 Is this the infamous video clip where Gandhi Rule 'pushes in'? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x9KQC1RIZHs> According to Terry's database.....Rule H G (Ghandi) RMB 2121 Cornet/Vin? Born 28 May 1898 New Market Date joined 16 July 1913

message #: 2536

Date: Saturday March 2 2019 11:44:57 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X 2505  
Hometown: Barham  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Adrian was almost right. Gandhi Rule was No.1- however with addition of the all-important very first X of the long line of the RMB/X sequence commencing 10 November 1925. It would be interesting to know his full Christian names instrument and above all how he came by the nick-name 'Ghandi'....? I recall when the School moved back to Deal from Burford in Jan 1950 he was operating an instrument repair service from his terraced house in York Road just off the Strand. He must have accepted this m e t a l w o r k instructor job with the barracks after I departed later that year. My database is only as good as the input I get. May I ask all who have not already done so to let me have their details for posterity. PS Don't forget all ex-Chatham band members - our next mini-reunion is at the Cannon Brompton on Saturday 8 June 2019. Booking via Alan Brooker please. PPS: Editor has to stretch m e t a l w o r k due to some tech glitch in the coding else it will not appear.

message #: 2535

Date: Friday March 1 2019 16:06:03 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London / Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute &#39;n&#39; Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

What an interesting erudite and informative message regarding Register Numbers from the inestimable Captain Terry Freestone. Of course he is entirely wrong in what he writes! We boys from the late 50's and early 60's know only too well that RMB 1 was the instructor 'Gandhi Rule...as he frequently told us...!!!!!! Regards to all and keep smiling...while you still have teeth! \* m e t a l w o r k

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2534

Date: Friday March 1 2019 05:30:43 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email: keng0iti@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd  
Instrument/s: Cornet / Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
What an informative and interesting message from Terry. He's a mine of information. He mentioned HMS Leviathan and my Dad was in that band he mentioned which was a mixture of the crew. Dad was on Tenor Horn. There is a photo of the Band which I sent down to the Royal Marine Museum .

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message #: 2533

Date: Friday March 1 2019 04:36:27 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: Berkshire  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Thanks Terry for that very detailed information. I'm sure we all appreciate that our original joining up number whatever it may be called was with us for our careers and is very fitting that it can be used on Dickies Sunset site as it does remind us all of past colleagues when they joined and whatever rank they reached during RMB service. regards to all....Michael Hutton.

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message #: 2532

Date: Thursday February 28 2019 08:46:59 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email: terryfreestone@vfast.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X 2505  
Hometown: Barham  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard I have just seen the messages about our register Numbers on the web-site. As I have only very recently answered an enquiry from David Mutter on this subject perhaps it may be of interest as so much inaccurate info is being exhibited if I copy my answer to him on the subject. I shall merely add that although I shed a number when made up my abiding memory is of RMB/X 2505 and still like many old chums with theirs no doubt used occasionally for security stuff. It might be helpful to include it the Guest Book pages. To answer your query: On being Commissioned I was (as were all) discharged and next day started a new existence as an Officer totally without a number. This was in 1970 (Ben Finney & I). We even got a full new kit at Lympstone! Sometime around 1973 or thereabouts we were informed that our pay accounts were moving from DPRORM in Eastney to HMS Centurion in Gosport and as everything was being computerised the machines needed numbers to function thus we were each allocated a 6 number prefixed for RM Officers with the letter N. I think RN officers were C. I vaguely remember mine was N 020??? whatever. As it was only used for pay not an identifier I never memorised it as I had my RMB/X 2505 for 23 years. When I came to retire in 1982 the situation was the same: but whether or not that situation continued I cannot say. As we know conditions of service are always being improved or changed anyway. For example when I retired as a Captain I was and still am equivalent to a Lt Cdr/ Army Major/ Sqdn Ldr for pay and pension but in 1999 all serving RM officers were "downgraded" by all moving up a nominal rank so the Captain of my time is now called a Major but nobody got a penny more in pay or pension. That's why Vivian Dunn and all successive PDMs were a Local Lt Col- substantive rank was a Major up until whoever was in post when the "Big Leap" happened in 1999. The modern day "Majors" no longer have gold -braided cap and spurs as they rank with an Army Major. Plus "A change as the prophet is alleged to have said.....Or perhaps more accurately as Tommy Steele sang "Fings ain't what they used to be". Incidentally the correct name for Other Rank numbers is Register Number as in the top Right-Hand corner of our R138 Service Certificate. As it is often abbreviated in puser's forms as Reg. No. I suppose it is only natural that people assume it is short for Regimental Number (which of course the Corps is not) but it is our Number on the Register and has been since Arthur William Shepard of the naval band in HMS Leviathan in Plymouth made history by being the first on the Register on 10 July 1903 as RMB 1. I hope this answers your query? PS The "X" was introduced on 5 October 1925 and a new start made from 1. I could go on about the why but won't..... Terry [Dickie] I am positive that somewhere in the recent past I have complemented Terry for his well blessed memory and compulsion for accuracy. For those who didn't know it during Terry's career and well into his retirement he has compiled literally several thousand names that include 'register' numbers instrument/s and where possible includes some service history of the individual. The simple matter of completing Peter Heming's entry on the ex RMB web site caused a bit of a stir and I am pleased that as ever we can rely on not just the answer by Terry but some highly important history. We are ever in your debt.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2531

Date: Wednesday February 27 2019 19:24:24 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Pleased to read your comments Dickie. I couldn't agree more once an RMB always an RMB Eric

---

message #: 2530

Date: Wednesday February 27 2019 15:28:03 EST  
Name: Dan Archer  
Email: archer378@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: PO22378c  
Hometown: Pytchley  
Instrument/s: Bugler  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Band Officers changed their regimental numbers after being commissioned after 1973 when we went to the prefix P0 and Q00 numbering system for other ranks and N0 as a prefix for officers. It was to do with computerisation. I am not sure how RM Officers were numbered prior to 1973. Dan Archer (Dickie) Point well taken Dan! I would suggest that ALL band officers would have chosen to retain their RMB/X and RMB numbers irrespective of this 1973 directive which I personally became a part of and I make the point in addition that most of us if not all would prefer and relate to our RMB numbers.....computerisation be damned! My sentiments are endorsed by the fact that several living ex RMB officers including PDM have happily included their RMB/X numbers on our archive. Let's just put it this way.....we ARE RMB albeit historically affiliated to the Royal Navy. I feel positive that we are dealing with semantics here and that literally each and every band officer would prefer to keep to his roots and for ever be RMB. Splicers!

---

message #: 2529

Date: Wednesday February 27 2019 15:01:41 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Evening all I have been informed by Sandra McMeel that her husband Jim has had a heart attack. He is in the Medway Hospital and in no immediate danger. I hope to visit him at the weekend so can pass on any messages. Thanks Mike (Dickie) Jim was a new L/Cpl instructor for a time during my training c 1965-69 then we were Eagle shipmates on the last commission of the carrier. Please pass on my very best for a full recovery to my old ship!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2528

Date: Tuesday February 26 2019 10:54:16 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Well done Michael. Great research &... We should all be so very proud of serving in our great Band Service Family. What a privilege for us all. Regards to all Barry

---

message #: 2527

Date: Tuesday February 26 2019 04:30:18 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: Berkshire  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I don't know who this former PDM might be but he needs to look at our sunset page as he will then see that former Band Officers do retain their Regimental Numbers! The only one who didn't have one was Sir Vivian. I have just checked a few..Roy Nash Tom Merrett Wally Shillito Ron Kempton and Dick Place and I'm sure they would have all been proud of that original identification as being one of a great Band Service. Michael Hutton.

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message #: 2526

Date: Sunday February 24 2019 15:39:56 EST  
Name: BILL HARTLAND  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
My suggestion about contacting the Mess Secretary to find out Pete Hemings Service Number has been shot to bits by a former PDM who emailed me that Commissioned Officers do not continue with their RMB/X Numbers. I stand corrected again? Kind regards Bill Hartland

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2525

Date: Saturday February 23 2019 15:47:37 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Re: Peter Heming I tend to agree with my fellow squaddie Eric Hayward but I am afraid that I cannot offer any notion of what his RMB Number is. However as he was D of M at Lympstone for a while and I suggest an Inlier in the Officers Mess then someone in Authority contact the Mess Secretary of CTCRM as it is now? He/She must have details of allocating Mess Receipts which would have required Name Reg No: and Cabin Number in the Mess. Just a thought but now to more pressing issues I have duly written a Get Well Soon Card to Stan Hacking who made some kind comments about my Instrumental Prowess in the Plymouth Group Band during his comments at his last Concert in Exeter attended by my Wife and I and Roger Jones and Bruno Brown. Stan was a tad earlier than Peter Heming so I doubt that he would grasp from thin air any number for Peter. One could in the distant past obtain such information from HMS Centurion but with the advent of Data Protection Act not even Relatives can obtain anything about their former relatives. Peter would be listed as Lieutenant Peter Heming RM when he was at Lympstone.

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message #: 2524

Date: Friday February 22 2019 14:44:57 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just thought that I would mention that the Late Capt Peter Heming did have an RMB/X number and it would have been in the range of between RMB/X 2840 and my own 3051. Probably late 29s.. Cheers from Oz. Eric. Thank you Eric. Hope someone can help further. His service record hopefully is in the hands of his surviving family.

---

message #: 2523

Date: Thursday February 21 2019 04:48:13 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
Stan Hacking  
Stan is currently not very well and is in hospital again having been in and out several times over the last few weeks suffering from Sepsis & long term problems with his cancer. I am sure it would cheer him up to have some 'Get Well' cards from some of his old mates they can be sent to: Mr Stan Hacking Creedy Ward Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital (Wonford) Barrack Road Exeter EX2 5DW I will try to put updates on his condition as he progresses  
Regards to  
all. Ray

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2522

Date: Tuesday February 19 2019 14:05:11 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: Berkshire  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I need some help guys! We would like to put Denis Ovenden's regimental number on the sunset page but both Terry Freestone and I cannot find it so we're hoping that one of you out there who may have been in his squad when he joined or have that information could let either Terry or myself or Dickie of course know...Many thanks regards to all...Mick.

---

message #: 2521

Date: Friday February 15 2019 10:18:25 EST  
Name: Paul Collett  
Email: tubby.tuba@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3827  
Hometown: Wimborne  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
Congratulations to Mike and all from 2/56 squad. How many are left from the younger 3/61 intake? Lets have a roll call Where have all the years gone!

---

message #: 2520

Date: Friday February 15 2019 03:43:07 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: Berkshire  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Great to read about Barry & Mike's anniversaries I was trying to think of some of those that I joined up with but only Bob Rawson came to mind as many of the others have left us. Sad news about Peter Heming. We didn't cross paths during my time except I do recall when I spent a brief time as an instructor I took him through his Cpl's Class. I next met up with him many years later in the 90s when he was MD of the Southampton Music Society and had for personal reasons to drop out of directing a show - so I ended up as MD for 'La Cage Aux Folles' with a fantastic Pit Orch of 24 and performing in the Mayflower Southampton on the biggest stage in the south of England - plus many guys in the band who were ex RMB. RIP Peter-there's a big band in the sky! Mick Hutton.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2519

Date: Thursday February 14 2019 14:10:53 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard Ditto to everything My Old Squaddie Mike Tellick says... I can even remember John Cowdrey despite the snow arriving in short trousers????? Many thanks Mike from Heather and I for the Congrats!!  
Regards to all Barry

---

message #: 2518

Date: Thursday February 14 2019 02:24:06 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Good morning It was a snowy day 63 years ago today when 30 boys joined the Royal Marines School of Music and will be forever known as 2/56 squad so it's a happy birthday to Barry Radford John Cowdrey Ray Grant. Along with myself we are the only known survivors from that intake. At 14 years old arriving at East barracks one did wonder what on earth we had done!!! It was freezing the snow covered the whole of East Kent and the barrack rooms hadn't been updated since Noah was in short trousers. However we survived and have had the honour of serving alongside some of the very best people in the greatest Band Service on the planet. Also Barry and Heather Radford have Been married 55 years today. CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU BOTH. MIKE

---

message #: 2517

Date: Sunday February 10 2019 12:35:30 EST  
Name: Ian Epps  
Email: ian-epps@virginmedia.com

Service Number: RMB  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I first met Peter when I left Ark Royal in 1966 and was drafted to the CinC's band held at Excellent. The band was headed by Captain Royston Nash with Bandmaster Peter Heming as his right hand. The two of them were both brilliant musicians whose enjoyment of well-played music was passed down to the band that were the happiest band I had ever been with. Roy and Peter were intent of bringing the band to a high degree of excellence and changed the format of concerts to what is normal today if you play some of the records that were made in the 50's and 60's and compare them to the ones made today you will see what I mean. We played concerts around the country normally the prerogative of the Staff Bands we even played one time at the De Montfort Hall in Leicester which had until then been a venue where Deal Staff Band normally performed. In the year I spent with the band I learnt a lot from Peter which I found came in useful when I left and became a VBI. Freda my wife and I used to baby sit for Peter sometimes and when he came back from I think it was the Antarctic on Bulwark he invited us aboard and I found out that he had got permission for the band to grow beards "another one off" but they had had to be shaved off before returning to the UK. He became a very good friend but like many of our friends that we made in the service we lost touch but we as a family were very sad to hear of his death. RIP Peter and I hope there is a great big band up there somewhere where you can continue to make great music and maybe meet up with Roy .

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2516

Date: Monday February 4 2019 16:06:48 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Clarinet / Alto / vln  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dickie Following the sad news of the passing of Peter Heming I would like to send my condolences to his family and loved ones I served with Peter for some years when he was DOM of FONAC band and my memories of him are those of a fine musician and a man of intuition in the band service somewhat before his time and those who were in his band when he recorded prior to asking permission from the Head Office will remember that it wasn't long after that staff bands began recording too!! Peter had his own way of doing things and I for one thought well why not but others may not have quite gone along with my perception. However the time I spent with Peter was memorable his leadership was exceptionally different but as a conductor he got from his musicians exactly the performance he wanted. He was not everyone's cup of tea but I shall remember him as a fine player conductor and colleague RIP Peter Jem

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message #: 2515

Date: Sunday February 3 2019 13:23:31 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Saddened to read of the passing of Peter Heming. I served with him in Whale Island then latterly at Lympstone in fact he was my last Boss prior to my medical discharge. Peter was quite an eccentric person but a super musician and a very caring Boss. RIP Dear Peter. Many Happy Memories.. Condolences to his family. Regards to all Barry

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message #: 2514

Date: Friday February 1 2019 03:41:32 EST  
Name: Paul Collett  
Email: tubby.tuba@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3827  
Hometown: Wimborne  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sorry to hear of the passing of Ernie Ward. I remember him from my Terror days. He was a true Gentleman. My thoughts go out to his family

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2513

Date: Friday February 1 2019 02:59:17 EST  
Name: Trevor Wye  
Email: trevorwye@gmail.com

Service Number: Kent  
Hometown: Ashford  
Instrument/s: Flutes  
n/a:

Comments:  
I remember Ernie well in the Staff Band at Deal. He was a lovely man who was always helpful and kind. I remember his being very patient with my eccentricities in Deal! Trevor (2857 TOK)

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message #: 2512

Date: Thursday January 31 2019 10:47:40 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Another sad occasion as we say farewell to Ernie Ward regret I can't attend his funeral. It was lovely to read Adrian's comments about all those lovely guys from way back. Bill Plock Trevor Wye my friend Doug Haigh (Bandmaster on the Gambia when I was the only Cpl in the Band) and of course Hugh Heatherwick who I met up with at the 'Ripple' gathering last September. All fantastic individuals who were along with many others responsible for making the Band Service Great. RIP Ernie.....Mick Hutton.

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message #: 2511

Date: Wednesday January 30 2019 15:41:51 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I was very saddened to hear of the passing of Ernie Ward. A really lovely man. As a young and very keen flute-player in the J&W Wing (59-62) I heard several names of other more senior flute-players and Ernie Ward was such a name! He is on the Royal Yacht and plays for the Queen! I had other eminent peers to respect and admire! Solo Flutes! I was lucky to play with some of these most notably Bill Plock and Trevor Wye. Bill was one of the most encouraging and inspiring players I had met as I was still in the J&W wing but seconded to Staff Band. Then Trevor arrived from HMS Terror and I had another and formidable talent to aspire to who has since leaving RMBS attained international success as a teacher. My first draft to HMS DRAKE was for less than a year but Lt. Doug Haigh was like a father to me. Knowing I was spending all my pay on travelling to London for lessons with Albert Honey (Diplome d'Etudes Paris Conservatoire) he invented official trips to London for me such as reviewing new band arrangements at Boosey and Hawkes with attendant rail warrant!! I was seconded to HMS RALEIGH for 3 months when their flute-player was doing a promotion course and to my great pleasure the Bandmaster was! Bill Plock! He put out all of the marches with piccolo solos for Divisions and in the wardroom programmes included every piece with a tricky or exposed flute solo. I was indulged and loved every minute! Fond memories of another great man! I was then drafted to Portsmouth Group Band where at last I met B/Sgt Ernie Ward who I was to replace on the Royal Yacht. He was very welcoming encouraging and very appreciative of my burgeoning ability. He stayed in the band for a month or so before going back to RMSM. I recall the combined Portsmouth orchestras concert in the Guildhall in 1963 (photo of rehearsal on the website). It was the first time I had heard or played Delius and the flute solos played by Ernie were memorable. I was drafted back to Staff Band in early 1965 for the USA Tour and Ernie was still there possibly awaiting a draft. Ernie was not playing though as Hugh Heatherwick was my stand partner. However I used to walk up to Sidney Road to babysit for him the statutory sandwiches and cans of beer on the kitchen table!! RIP Ernie Ward---a gentleman.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2510

Date: Wednesday January 30 2019 10:56:36 EST  
Name: snowy snowden  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3818  
Hometown: fareham  
Instrument/s: oboe  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have just spoken to Ernie Ward's son Stephen. He would like to let you all know that you are welcome to attend his dad's funeral. This will be on Tuesday 5th Feb at 3.20pm and held at Barham Crematorium Kent CT4 6QU and afterwards at the RMA Walmer. Snowy Snowden

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message #: 2509

Date: Wednesday January 30 2019 05:11:31 EST  
Name: Jackie (Paddy) Semple  
Email: contactjackiesemple@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3868  
Hometown: Carrickfergus  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Really sad to read Ernie Ward has passed to the Bandroom above. I endorse everything as stated by Snowy Snowden. Ernie was a True Gentleman and an excellent Footballer. It was a joy to serve under him more than 50 years ago and the happy memories remain to this day. I extend my sincere condolences to his Family. Paddy

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message #: 2508

Date: Monday January 28 2019 09:11:43 EST  
Name: stuart &#34;snowy&#34; snowden  
Email: stuartally@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB3818  
Hometown: fareham phone 01329842428  
Instrument/s: oboe  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I was deeply saddened to hear the news that Bandmaster Ernie Ward had passed away. This is a man whom I personally had the greatest admiration and the greatest respect for not only as a great musician but more importantly as a human being a true gentleman. We served together in HMS Terror Singapore in the late 60's under the direction of Mr Ray Woodfield another highly respected member of the Royal Marine Band. My thoughts go out to Bandmaster Ward's family on this very sad occasion. A quick message to my good mate Ray Samson of whom I served with at Dartmouth. Ray I returned your Email but it did not seem to get to you! So here is my home No. 01329 842428. I would love to hear from you!! Anyone else who would like to get in touch please feel free to do so! Snowy

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2507

Date: Tuesday January 22 2019 03:09:35 EST  
Name: Michael Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Greetings to all I have been in contact with the School regarding this years Reunion and I am pleased to inform you that it will be held on the weekend of the 5th and 6th of October so you can all start planning. Hope you are all well and hoping to see many in October once again that weekend is my ?? birthday so come and join us. I might even buy you a tot. Mike

---

message #: 2506

Date: Thursday January 10 2019 06:41:20 EST  
Name: Dan Archer  
Email: archer378@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: PO22378c  
Hometown: Pytchley  
Instrument/s: Bugler  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just read Oscar Richards' final 365a from his Job at School. Great foreword by Graham Hoskins as ever showing loyalty to those who served under his leadership in his bands. I can only say I love Oscar. We served together in FOSNI with Graham as DofM and HMY again with Graham as DofM. Oscar's enthusiasm started long before he joined the Corps. He told me once that he won several talent contests at Butlins as well as the Junior Personality Award when he was a kid. Congratulations on another job well done. Dan

---

message #: 2505

Date: Thursday January 3 2019 13:34:06 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: Rmbx2638  
Hometown: NEWBURY  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
As I was unable to attend my great friend Denis's funeral today it was great to read that our great RMB family was well represented. I have been thinking about Denis most of today and a bit guilty that I could not be there. Farewell Denis. We shall meet again. Mick. [Webmaster] See photo of Denis and Mike at the Plough some months recently on Denis' obituary via the listing on the Sunset page.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2504

Date: Thursday January 3 2019 13:23:55 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email: oliveranthony49@gmail.com

Service Number: 3975  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
In reply to Martin Jackson's comment. It will be great to see you Martin. Your old sparring partner Graeme Verroken attends with Carol and the Family. The Cathedral Service is something quite special. Take care . Tony Oliver.

---

message #: 2503

Date: Thursday January 3 2019 11:30:40 EST  
Name: David Seed  
Email: dseed78739@aol.com

Service Number: RMB4084  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Flute/Tenor Sax  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Graham Ward and myself attended Denis Ovenden's funeral today alongside a number of ex Royal Marines from the local RMA. We lined the entrance to the crematorium as a guard in honour of Denis. The service started with Moonlight Sonata then a reading of Psalm 23 by his granddaughter Alanna followed by the Hymn The Day thou Gavest. The service was led by The Rt Revd Peter Hullah who had been a friend to Denis and family for many years who after the Hymn recounted memories of Denis. Ex Bugler Bob Wareham then gave an excellent rendition of the Last Post and Reveille. Following the Committal the family and friends withdrew to the sounds of the Ashoken Farewell played by John Perkins. RIP Denis. [Webmaster] Heart warming to know that some travelled a great distance to pay their respects. Well done everyone!

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message #: 2502

Date: Monday December 31 2018 16:04:38 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat  
Instrument/s: None Now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I was informed on Sunday 30th December that Peter Checkley RMB 4181 has Crossed the Bar. More info when I receive same. Details of Peter's Career can be seen on the Adelaide Reunion 2018 report. On a lighter note can I wish you all a Happy New Year and may 2019 be kind to you and yours and may you win the pools so that will allow you to join us ex RMBs in Adelaide on the first weekend in April. Cheers from a very hot Victoria 0900hrs and already in the very high 20s. Eric.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2501

Date: Sunday December 23 2018 14:42:47 EST  
Name: martin.jackson  
Email: martin.jackson@livewest.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4207  
Hometown: PLYMOUTH  
Instrument/s: Not sure  
n/a:

Comments:  
Good words Tony Oliver. I will definately be there next year and try and organise some folks down here to go as well a shame for all this to end when the time we all spent in the service had such an impact on our lives and long lasting friendships made.

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message #: 2500

Date: Sunday December 23 2018 08:50:23 EST  
Name: Gerry Taylour  
Email: gerrytaylour@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2742  
Hometown: Nottingham  
Instrument/s: Piano and Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just seen a video on the Royal Marines Band Service Facebook site of a recent concert by the RMSM band held at St. Marys Church Portsmouth. Apparently the school now has it's own choir together with their own 'vocal director'. How times have changed! It reminded me of an event in Deal in about 1957. I was on a promotion course there and became involved in a performance of the 'Dream of Gerontius' directed by Vivian Dunn in the depot church. I was one of the singers I think there was about 30 of us the orchestra was probably supplied by the staff band. Does anybody else remember the event? Yesterday evening I was out playing with my Loughborough Concert Band at our annual Christmas concert. We sounded really good particularly in Philip Sparkes suite 'A Medieval Christmas'. Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year to you all Gerry Taylour Ruddington Nottingham

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message #: 2499

Date: Friday December 21 2018 13:26:43 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: rmb 3645  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Box  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Agree with Barry Radford re. the reunion next year. Please don't allow this new former bandsmen Cenotaph parade take precedence over our regular get together or all of the efforts of so many will be destroyed in one fell swoop! Whilst it is good and proper to honour our fallen I think in all fairness that we all do this every year in our respective cities towns and villages and long may this continue. However whilst our Band Reunion doesn't exactly clash with the event I worry that the night pre. the march might just become the new reunion for many. Already there appear to be so many former bandies signing up to the event and booking into the UJC for the evening meet up. I'd hate to think that this could be to the detriment of our regular official get together! I do feel however that we should try to promote our HMS Nelson RMB event somewhat stronger than it is at the present. Perhaps we ALL need to do our bit towards that? - This year saw numbers down and I think the whole thing needs a serious reboot - including the small but important things such as the hearty welcome drink. (Tot for those who drink it or a suitable alternative equivalent to those who don't!!) The choice of food perhaps might also be a consideration. Not everyone favours a curry. Basic stuff such as Fish and Chips or a good old Hog Roast might have an alternative appeal! Cheese and biscuits to follow even. All suggestions welcome! Re. any lengthy speeches after the RMSM Beat Retreat. Instead perhaps it'd be preferable to have a break mid-evening in the mess for the PDM (or whoever) to say a few words there and even have a Q&A session for members on completion. (It's cold for so many in that gym/drill shed!!) Whatever anyone thinks we need to keep our reunion going and to improve if needs be. We just need to try to attract a lot more of our old oppo's down. If everyone who goes or those who may think of going for the first time next Oct brought along with them one other oppo - we'd soon have those numbers back up again! There are many names volunteering for the Cenotaph march. Many that I'd love to see again and some I don't know that I'd enjoy meeting up with. I see the names but cannot put a face. You all know what I mean! I'll close by simply asking that you all PLEASE give our reunion some thought for next Oct. I ask on behalf of so many of us and particularly those that work so hard behind the scenes to put on the event. Love Derek!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2498

Date: Friday December 21 2018 12:58:39 EST  
Name: michael hutton  
Email: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: NEWBURY  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Thanks Barry with the info about Ray's Music by the Plymouth Band Will make sure I get it for Christmas.... I have put some memories of our dear friend Denis if anyone would like to read them on Sunset. Merry Christmas to all. Mick.

---

message #: 2497

Date: Friday December 21 2018 06:23:54 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols . Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Sat listening to a new CD of Ray Woodfield's music. Brilliant! Just released Plymouth Band playing just Ray's music. Heather and I wish all members of our great Family a great Festive Season. Hope to see you at the Reunion. That's where we should all be trying to meet up??? Regards and good wishes Barry and Heather oYZ,,oYZ,,

---

message #: 2496

Date: Sunday December 16 2018 14:35:56 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None Now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Yes Mike That has come as a bit of a shock although it is many years since Denny was one of my six Bassoon Instructors. One tends to think that these chaps will go on forever. You may be interested to know the latest on Barrie Baker. I spoke with him yesterday and he told me that he had just had a bad week in hospital and Sandra his wife said when I spoke with her that she had thought that she had lost him. However Barrie said he is feeling okay and thinks the problem was solved but said that he won't be attending the coming reunion. I am not expecting any good news soon. If you or anyone else would like to send good wishes to Barrie and Sandra his number is 08 83226532 with of course the Australian code in front. To all the readers of this site may I on behalf of we ex Pats wish you all the compliments of the season and may 2019 be good to you all.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2495

Date: Saturday December 15 2018 16:30:03 EST  
Name: michael hutton  
Email: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: NEWBURY  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
WOW That's not fair! Having just said farewell to John Stone yesterday today I find out that Denis Ovenden has also left us. The three of us were together on our first ship and I was Denis's best man when he married Maisie. Can't really take it all in at the moment. I bet Eric in Oz is also shocked at the bad news...Mick Hutton.

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message #: 2494

Date: Saturday December 15 2018 09:25:35 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email: oliveranthony49@gmail.com

Service Number: 3975  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I read with interest that there are some of us marching past the Cenotaph in 2019 each person no doubt has a reason to want to do so. It's a shame that there are no such numbers showing the same interest in attending the Royal Marine Band re-union which is held in Portsmouth every year. This year there were only 97 tickets sold for this event and as you should know is held over 2 days. I understand this is the lowest attendance for some time although numbers have been falling every year. This year after the Cathedral service and as usual quite a few of the attendees met in the RMA at Eastney and much to our surprise we were joined by the PDM and Lt Col Burcham. They came to express their concern at the dwindling numbers and suggested ways of trying to redress the present situation. No doubt those ideas will be published in due course. I would like to ask all ex RMBs to ask yourself if you want the Band re union to carry on because the powers that be will surely think twice about the commitment needed from The Band Service to provide The Orchestra and Portsmouth Cathedral if there's continued faltering interest. Please think about this and let's make an effort like you will for the Cenotaph march past?

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message #: 2493

Date: Saturday December 15 2018 04:16:43 EST  
Name: KEVIN HART  
Email: kingfisher-man@talktalk.net

Service Number: P023612R  
Hometown: KNOTTINGLEY  
Instrument/s: Cornet and Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Morning Shipmates This is a request for all Ex RMB'S to attend at next years Remembrance parade at the Cenotaph in London 2019. For this I have set up a group on Facebook namely RMB Cenotaph 2019 which has all the details for you. Please note that this is a closed group so you will have to be cleared prior to using the chat but this will not take long. I have a small committee and 400 ex RMB members so far. In relation to the Remembrance weekend I have pre booked a suite at the Union Jack Club for the previous evening 9th November to have a mini get together and major lamp swinging and exchange of ditties etc this room however only holds 170 people so if you wish to come (wives and partners included) then please feel free to let me know and get in quick places are filling up fast. Many thanks  
Kevin Hart

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2492

Date: Friday December 14 2018 16:14:24 EST  
Name: michael hutton  
Email: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: NEWBURY  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

**Comments:**

We all said farewell to John Stone today. It was a very big turnout as you would expect as John & Mauveen have a very large family. John's son David spoke first with a lovely tribute to his Dad then followed grandson Mathew and granddaughter Katie with their memories of a much loved Grandad. There was music by Barbara Streisand The Swinging All Stars (from when John ran the Duke of Wellington in Bristol) and of course from the Band of HM Royal Marines. Last Post in church by a Bugler from Portsmouth and at the graveside after the service he played reveille as the coffin was lowered which we all found very moving. As previously mentioned John and I along with many others are members of a great family that grew up together way back in the 50s and there are still many of us who have memories of that time when Bands on ships and naval establishments all around the world were great families of men and wives and girlfriends who had a wonderful life making music just for the love of it. Farewell my mate John I shall miss your wit your smiling face and your lovely family. Sorry John forgot to mention you were a great Horn Player too! RIP My Friend....Michael.

---

message #: 2491

Date: Thursday December 13 2018 05:23:19 EST  
Name: Michael Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar  
Instrument/s: Spain  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Greetings to one and all. Another year has almost passed us by a year older and no wiser. This year we once again have lost many old friends to the great massed band where ever it my be. I would like wish all members still on this most valuable site a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful and safe New Year and add my thanks to Richard for his continued work in keeping it going to me you are and always will be my friend. To many others you also are my friend try and visit us in October next Year it would be pleasure to see some of you again. In the mean time good luck good health to you all. Have a great festive season. Mike H

---

message #: 2490

Date: Sunday December 9 2018 15:51:34 EST  
Name: Kevin Stone  
Email: kev\_stone@mac.com

Service Number: E8131392  
Hometown: Kingsbury Episcopi  
Instrument/s: None I&#39;m Ex RAF  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

My father Bandmaster John Stone has recently passed away. I was in the process of the funeral things and saw Mick Hutton's post and followed it. I am in tears here I love my Dad John Stone He raised me nurtured me guided me My life was a life of the RMB we moved we got posted but we always had the music. My favourite instrument is the French Horn thank you Dad thank all you in the RMB bless you. Kevin Stone (Son of the greatest Dad John Stone) (Webmaster)  
On behalf of your extended RMB family we are grateful for John's service and his camaraderie. Our condolences are extended to you and your family. Richard.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2489

Date: Wednesday December 5 2018 14:59:40 EST  
Name: Jim Mason  
Email: j.mason30@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBx2353  
Hometown: Bedhampton  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sad to read about John Stone we served together in the early 50's in Manoel Island and the cruiser "Glasgow" in Malta. My condolences to Mauveen and the family.

---

message #: 2488

Date: Tuesday December 4 2018 11:54:25 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noelrmb@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Oh such sad news that John Stone has passed Served together HMS Phoenicia in the early 50s. My condolences to Mauveen and the family. Noel

---

message #: 2487

Date: Monday December 3 2018 16:32:25 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: rmb/x 3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sad to view the announcements that two of my former Band Members have crossed the Bar. John Stone was B/Cpl in HMS Ganges when I first met him my having just completed the Cpl's Promotion Course in Stonehouse Barracks and a soon as John saw my Lance Corporal Stripe on my Greatcoat he immediately thought that he was relieved of his duties of Corporal of the Mess! Chris Philpott Cornet and Viola? was in HMS Terror when I arrived out in Singapore and he lived a tad down the hill from me in Johore Bahru. So thanks to the Editor who has reproduced my Vanished Friend Poem below (which I had previously entered on my web site of HMS Gambia so this may already have been viewed by many others in the past?) this illustrates the downfall many of us who fall into if we do not ever attend Reunions and I have attended many World Wide so I speak with some authority on this subject. Sad also to hear from my Old Squaddie Eric Hayward it has befallen upon him as the Sole Organiser of the Adelaide Reunion. Eric I wish you well but also offer my sympathy for taking on a thankless task.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2486

Date: Monday December 3 2018 12:06:41 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard Saddened to read Brian's news re John Stone. I served with John at Whale Island. Many memories to cherish. Brian please pass on our condolences to all of the family RIP John Barry

---

message #: 2485

Date: Monday December 3 2018 11:50:44 EST  
Name: michael hutton  
Email: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: NEWBURY  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
As another year nears its end so another of our great family has left us. John Stone and I were great buddies we joined up together had our first ship together so have been around for quite a few years. John along with Denis Ovenden Stan Wilkinson Eric Lee Barrie Brunt and many others in our band of 24 way back in 1952 were all members of Mountbatten's Flag Ship HMS Glasgow Band - and what a great team we were. I'm sure that Stan & John used to organise the Booze before any football matches the band played in so you can imagin that we didnt win any !! Just a snippet of great times. Farewell John you were always one of my dearest friends and this is a very very sad day...RIP dear John. xxx Mick.

---

message #: 2484

Date: Monday December 3 2018 09:50:02 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
A VANISHED FRIEND Around the corner I  
have a friend. In  
this great city that has no end; Yet days go by and weeks rush on And before I know it a year has gone. I never see my old friends  
face For  
life is a swift and terrible race. He knows I like him just as well As in the days when I rang  
his bell And he rang mine. We were younger then And now we are busy tired  
men. Tired  
of playing a foolish game Tired of trying to make a name. "Tomorrow" I say  
I will call on him Just to show that I think of him. But tomorrow comes and tomorrow goes And the distance between us  
grows and grows. Around the corner yet miles away Here's a telegram; He died today. And that's what we get  
and deserve in the end Around the corner "a Vanished Friend. Anon.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2483

Date: Monday December 3 2018 04:50:29 EST  
Name: Brian Thorogood  
Email: Brian.thorogood.bt@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3456  
Hometown: ROMFORD  
Instrument/s: Violin and Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
It is with great sadness to advise all that John Stone ex B/M my brother in law has passed away late last night RIP John.

---

message #: 2482

Date: Monday November 26 2018 04:35:25 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Almeria Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Greetings one and all. With regard to the various Reunions that take place in different places why do so many people not attend? A very good question you may say many ex personnel come up with the distance excuse..... WHY?? An unanswerable question?? Many of them are on Facebook and if you are on it they ask to be your friend. I AM your friend I served for nearly 26 years and we were always friends. Since I retired in 1981 I think I have missed no more than maybe 4 Reunions and these days apart from our web master Richard I travel a great distance A little story a few years ago at a Reunion I was asked a question have you seen so and so my answer was he died a couple of years ago! Next comment Oh I wish had seen him before he died. Simple answer..... get your backsides in gear and come to the Reunions it is NOT painful. Lastly like Tony Oliver I too went to Plymouth in Pete Westaway's time and I traveled from SPAIN. So what is the problem? Answer simple..... cannot be bothered! Merry Christmas to one and all. See you next year???? Mike H

---

message #: 2481

Date: Thursday November 22 2018 14:47:26 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi all Regards comments below. There have been quite a number who have travelled even further than those mentioned having attended our simple gathering here in Oz. We appreciate the effort put in by those chaps which of course entailed air bookings at great cost. At a peak attendance of 26 we are down to single figures now but are still in touch with those who "May" attend one day. We look forward to meeting and greeting when they do. As the next reunion of we in Oz will take place on the first weekend of April 2019 think about joining us. You won't be disappointed. Just ask me for details. Cheers to you all either serving having served or even thinking of serving in the finest Band service . Three Cheers. Eric.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2480

Date: Thursday November 22 2018 11:21:13 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Bravo! Well said. People should put up or shut up!!! Mine and Heathers' journey to the reunion was over 300 miles each way. We have just signed up for the West Country Reunion another return journey of over 600 miles. Our Band Service is unique. Please people don't knock it. Support it!  
Regards Barry

---

message #: 2479

Date: Thursday November 22 2018 09:40:24 EST  
Name: Dickie Valentine  
Email: richval1951@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
An excerpt of today's conversation across a distance of over 3 thousand miles: "Surely if everyone thinks we belong to a 'Special Family' how come the numbers for the reunion are so poor? I know it's a bit of a sacrifice having to get accommodation but they could attend the church service then have a cucumber sandwich and lemonade before going home. It seems a bit selfish to me." It's about 300 miles from Deal to Plymouth yet Tony Oliver did it because he would be seeing old mates who won't go to Pompey why bother? Not wishing to make waves mates he even went to Plymouth Band reunion when good old Pete Westaway ran it but it didn't stop him going to THE main reunion. Like Tony I just get a bit miffed. Because Tony like myself value and care about what the Band Service did for us it's a way of saying thank you to all those who helped us along the way one way or another. AMEN! Dickie and Tony

---

message #: 2478

Date: Wednesday November 21 2018 16:29:06 EST  
Name: Derek Roberts  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3914  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
My old friend who I have been in contact with has asked me to let all his other ex shipmates know that last October Tony Marples suffered a serious stroke on which he is now on the slow road to recovery. He is sorry he has been unable to make contact as he lost his sight amongst other problems and still has difficulty in his vision to write. His wife is looking after him through the recovery period and will pass on any messages to him via any on this site.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2477

Date: Thursday November 15 2018 06:03:34 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Comments:  
Westcountry Reunion 2019 'Artillery has been booked for May 18th and we will finalise the numbers for pasties closer to the date'. Hi Dickie & Everyone Ifron is organising another get together next year Saturday 18th May 2018. The previous one was an outstanding success so he is arranging another for us. I know some will think this is distracting from the 'Official' Reunion but that is not the case we have many senior old ranks (silly old sods!) in the area who couldn't make the one at Pompey even if they wanted to. This is a lunchtime session so those that need to can get back the the Nursing Home or Matron as early as they wish!! So this should be considered as an additional get together and in any case they are months apart. Ifron obviously needs to know the numbers attending so they can order enough Beer & Pasties. I was unable to attend the last one as I was recovering from an operation but I will be attending this one. Best wishes to all. ps Guys can either visit the Facebook page or email me and I will pass on the details

---

message #: 2476

Date: Thursday November 15 2018 05:13:08 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a: GrandadRoy66@gmail.com

Comments:  
Dickie With regards the Annual RM Band Re-Union I too feel that it has become "Stale". I am also seriously thinking of non attendance in the future. I have always believed that the RM Band Service is a family and that the re-union is a party for us all to celebrate that fact. It no longer feels that way and it has become "boring" (for lack of a better word) I cannot understand why there is a sad lackage of former DOMs attending. Why do we have to have it in the RN CPO's Mess when there is a perfectly good RM Band room next door? All the money raised on the night will then go back to the RM Band. (Is this feasible?) Regards  
Roy PS: These are personal thoughts. It is not my intention to stir up any trouble.

---

message #: 2475

Date: Tuesday November 13 2018 16:50:44 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X 3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Comments:  
Much Ado about Nothing? Well my comments appear to disappoint about the Reunion in Pompey which I have attended on occasion..... It appears that a redaction on my part is called for so I therefore redact my comments without an actual apology. [Editor] How typical! Please..... those who perhaps like myself who really don't understand the church organ view the following link. <https://youtu.be/C1bdzPrIkY> Yours aye Bill, WEBMASTER:  
I have edited this message to give it more clarity and request this case closed as we are NOT a forum and as email addresses are available as is required any further banter can be done on a personal level. As for the organ and its new addition.....as previously mentioned by myself as having begun my musical career as a boy chorister and having sung to many accompaniments by church and cathedral instruments all I can say about this particular organ is.....c'est magnifique! Say no more!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2474

Date: Sunday November 11 2018 00:02:33 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Comments:

It was most gracious of Jem Tugwood to apologise for his mistake...and even more gracious of me not to have named him as the recent perpetrator of the misquote!! He is however in very good company for changing the order of those five words probably by accident in his case. Richard Valentine has included part of the Daily Telegraph account of the origins of the poem but omitted the title of their piece...yes you have guessed: "They shall not grow old" ....!! And the Peter Jackson film on BBC is titled "They shall not grow old"! That is what prompted my original post. Can you imagine the opening of Hamlet's Soliloquy rendered as "To be or to be not that is the question.". It may seem like nothing but poets know what they are doing and their intellectual property needs respect protection and accuracy through correctly quoting their original words.

---

message #: 2473

Date: Saturday November 10 2018 22:51:05 EST  
Name: Pat Pusser Hill  
Email:

Service Number: Q004163  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: pusserhill@ntlworld.com

Comments:

Hello Friends The BBC recently ran a programme about this historic anniversary. In the title they misquote Binyon. I have yet to receive a response to my email in which I asked if the error was deliberate. This is not the only line or word Binyon's in poem that has had a question mark over it. In his original text and submission to The Times (I believe) he wrote ".....nor the years condemn." When published condemn had been substituted with condemn. I could not find any record of fingers pointing at editors type setters or original manuscript proof readers. Mr Binyon chose to allow it. I might pipe up about the Cathedral organ and the additional hardware when we all think it has been forgotten. Take care everyone! Pat H.

---

message #: 2472

Date: Saturday November 10 2018 16:53:44 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: richval1951@gmail.com

Comments:

\*\*They shall grow not old as we that  
are left grow old: \*\* On  
his 70th birthday in August 1939 Laurence Binyon explained that the idea for his most famous poem came to him on a cliff top at Polzeath in Cornwall: "The stanza "They Shall Grow Not Old" was written first and dictated the rhythmical movement of the whole poem." The words of these four crucial lines beat sonorously in monosyllables echoing the solemn funereal drums of the second stanza. It is this sombre repetitive rhythm that invests the fourth stanza with such enduring power when read aloud in public. Enough Said! Dickie V

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2471

Date: Saturday November 10 2018 11:31:10 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Clar Alto vln  
n/a: jemtugwood@sky.com

Comments:  
Hi Dickie Having just read Adrian's Comment re the words of Binyon "They shall not grow old" etc. I totally agree and if perhaps you could edit the incorrect order of words to "they shall grow not old" I would be most grateful. I guess submitting a report sometime after the event made me a trifle careless and didn't pay proper attention when quoting quotes for which I apologise to all my readers..... I should have listened to what my mother told me trouble is when someone once said to me after repeating those words "Why what did she tell you?" I had to reply "Don't know I wasn't listening!" My remarks about the Trumpets de Maris however still stand Best wishes  
Jem

---

message #: 2470

Date: Saturday November 10 2018 08:54:35 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email:

Service Number: rmb/x 3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Comments:  
Hi Everyone I note the disparity of opinion of my previous entry. Obs taken so I will say no more but I hope that the following Link will satisfy your comments. <https://youtu.be/ck4sN5sb-hM> Adrian I will be in touch on your obs directly with you on email.

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message #: 2469

Date: Friday November 9 2018 10:11:17 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: clarinet  
n/a: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Comments:  
Can anybody help please. At present I don't have access to facebook and I would like to get in touch with Alan Brooker re. the Chatham reunion next year. Many thanks in advance Dave

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2468

Date: Friday November 9 2018 03:51:06 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

**Comments:**

My dear Richard At the risk of being considered a curmudgeonly old pedant may I be allowed to comment upon a really annoying and commonly held misquotation repeated on your website? This has been further exacerbated by the title of a recent film. The correct quotation is: "They shall grow not old as we that are left grow not old" .....and NOT "They shall not grow old etc." This may seem a trifle to some but to a poet to have a line misquoted is like a composer having his notes changed. The original words emphasise the active verb "grow" and bring attention to LIFE and living (albeit after death) whereas the misquote draws the reader to the negative. I am certain that the poet knew this only too well and had he wished to underline the negative he would have chosen the too frequently misquoted words.....particularly during this centenary period. Adrian

---

message #: 2467

Date: Thursday November 8 2018 07:56:24 EST  
Name: Leonard Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: S clarinet  
n/a: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

**Comments:**

Re the Trumpet Clarion.... I have just listened to the above on the link Dickie suggested. The sound demonstrated is very pleasant unlike the sound produced at the Memorial Service which to my ears was terrible and out of context.

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message #: 2466

Date: Wednesday November 7 2018 03:28:41 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

**Comments:**

Dear Richard Oh dear Oh dear! Bill you have totally misunderstood Jem's comments re those "horrid trumpets". They are in fact a recent addition to the organ stops. Until you have heard them you really shouldn't comment. They are in my opinion Horrendous and should be banished. Why spoil such wonderful music?? Regards to all Barry Editor: Not having attended I can only depend upon these reports but as a musician who began his musical life attending church and a chorister from the age of 8 I have been audibly cognizant of many church instruments and can only imagine the perhaps medieval 'trumpet' stop on the magnificent organ at the Old Portsmouth Cathedral. Please take some time to enjoy a web page that I now link below and for those who truly wish to learn more there are YouTube links that actually give an example of the trumpet stop. My warm regards to all. Dickie. <http://www.nicholsonorgans.co.uk/portfolio/portsmouth-cathedral-hampshire/>

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2465

Date: Tuesday November 6 2018 16:46:48 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X 3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Comments:

Hi One and All Not wishing to deride Jem Tugwood of his Reunion Report may I remind him and anyone else that the Trumpets he refers to are Memorial Trumpets which were purchased in Memory of our Forebears who lost their lives during both World Wars. I too made a similar comment about the Fanfare during the Memorial Service only to be rebuked by the Late Terry Parker! So may I suggest to Jem that he suffers the blast of those noisy instruments in future? Now to the Current Remembrance and the comment that a part of it had been recited from Memory. ODE OF REMEMBRANCE

With proud thanksgiving a mother  
for her children England mourns for her dead across the sea. Flesh of her flesh they were spirit of her  
spirit Fallen in the cause of the free. Solemn the drums thrill: Death august  
and royal Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres. There is music in the midst of desolation And a  
glory that shines upon her tears. They went with songs to the battle they were young, Straight of limb  
true of eyes steady and aglow. They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted They fell with their  
faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary  
them nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember  
them. They mingle not with their laughing comrades again; They sit no more at familiar tables at  
home; They have no lot in our labour of the daytime; They sleep beyond England's  
foam. But where our desires are and our hopes profound Felt as a  
well-spring that is hidden from sight To the innermost heart of their own land they are known As the  
stars are known to the night. As the  
stars will be bright when we are dust Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain; As the stars that are  
starry in the time of our darkness To the end they remain.

In regard to my Fellow Squaddie of 1952 I will follow up on his entry later  
not that any of it is at issue as he has it all correct in detail save that RSM Franks and Captain Blood the Adjutant  
were not amused and as an exponent of Extra Drill the only thing I derived of it was that I got back to East Barracks  
and was allowed to have a Shower Bath. An email will be winging its way to you and Jan shortly.  
All my Hospital Apis have been endured so my next needle is injected on Friday  
9th November of this year so I hope to be able not only to attend our Morning Service but also Read a Poem taken from  
the 8th Army book of poems. Ed sorry if I have taken up too  
much space herein.

message #: 2464

Date: Sunday November 4 2018 15:32:06 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: jananderic9@gmail.com

Comments:

Dave if I may be so bold but it would seem that the only fun you had was counting one to three. We in the Squad of 3  
of 52 were graced with antics of the likes more senior Squadies of PJ Flynn and 'Tok' Wye to amuse us. Now Flynn  
a legend in his own life time was the bane of the DIs and even the RSM. Flynn would arrive on parade having giggered the  
night before illegally of course still wearing his civvy shoes and other articles of attire not inductive to making  
afesaid RSM happy. This would then bring down the periods of extra drill to many of us who had appeared to enjoy the  
spectacle of the above. Flynn has been written up in detail on Dickie's site. You may wish or maybe not to look his  
story up? Now "Tok" Wye was another who delighted in stirring the DIs. But if the poor DI had not met  
Tok before it would always be the question from said DI quote "Whats your name boy" to which the reply was  
always in a questioning way WHY Cpl? Tok was another brilliant Musician but unlike Flynn didn't need to tell  
everybody. Another lad was named Symington. When Roll was called by any new DI he was always called SIMMINGTON  
who of course refused to answer. When asked why he didn't answer he would then explain in a rather forcefull way that  
"MY name is Symington if you please". Memories of so long ago. But we survived even the likes of  
Bugle major Wagstaff. Well most did. So counting One to Three was perhaps the easy part. I hope others of my  
time can now tell a few stories that I may have forgotten about. My best regards to all of you out there.  
Eric.

message #: 2463

Date: Sunday November 4 2018 08:17:26 EST  
Name: David Mutter  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: dam6567@gmail.com

Comments:

Hi Richard

I  
must congratulate you and your squad mates for enlisting into the RMBS on 2 nd November 1965. As we all know  
we were taught how to count up to 3 (taking it by step...1 â€" 2 â€" 3). This was recited to us by our  
â€"teacherâ€"™ who allowed us to join in on occasions. What fun!!!! We were also taught to distinguish between  
left and right but there was always one who could not grasp this concept. Your picture reveals this. However by the  
time we completed our training all had mastered the mathematics and the concept of left and right... (or is that a  
myth?) Regards to all David

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2462

Date: Thursday November 1 2018 09:14:02 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: richval1951@gmail.com

Comments:  
**REMEMBER REMEMBER THE 2ND OF NOVEMBER! 1965**  
What with one or two medical challenges among us I believe we all still survive although several in the squad didn't complete training. Congratulations to those of us for what for me is a privilege to have served with and in some cases at close quarters. In my case it was a gunnery school an aircraft carrier and then a yacht! We are all very lucky boys for the experience and again I say - PRIVILEGE! Yours aye! Dickie.

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message #: 2461

Date: Thursday November 1 2018 06:48:43 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Comments:  
**FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE 2018** Riviera Concert Brass are proud to present their now popular annual Festival of Remembrance 2018 at Central Church Torquay on Saturday 10th November starting promptly at 7.30. We will be accompanied by the Torbay Police & Community Choir. This is in support of various Service based charities including Royal British Legion SSAFA and others the main beneficiary this year will be Veterans with Dogs. The format is the same as the National Festival of Remembrance in the Albert Hall it starts with the entrance of Standard Bearers then music suitable for the occasion this will be accompanied by a specially prepared video which is always very moving we then move into the service of Remembrance including The Last Post. This is a very popular event and we hope to have a large audience but there is always room for more so why not come along and help honour all of our Service Personnel Past & Present and enjoy some good music and great company. Tickets are only £5 and can be obtained by phoning 01803 409181 or will be available on the night. We look forward to seeing you there.  
Ray Lloyd Chairman Riviera Concert Brass

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message #: 2460

Date: Sunday October 28 2018 09:15:43 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Comments:  
Hi Richard Last Thursday evening I attended the monthly meeting of the Canterbury branch of the RMA. We had a new member join us for the evening. His name is ALBERT (DARKY) LEE. He is a sprightly 93 years young and joined the Royal Naval School of Music at Malvern in 1941. He was a Trumpet and Violin player. After training he was drafted to his first ship the DIDO class light cruiser HMS DIADEM. He served in her for several years on the Arctic convoys to Murmansk and was present on D Day. Albert also served in Arbroath Scarborough and Burford. He was demobbed in 1950. Albert remembers that he was in a dance band with Paul Neville. He currently lives in Gillingham Kent. His brother Ted also served in the Band Service as a Trumpet and Viola player. Albert is not on the inter web or faceache. If anyone out there who knows him feel free to contact me and I can put you in touch. Best wishes  
Mike

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2459

Date: Sunday October 21 2018 10:08:30 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Comments:  
Thanks Eric for your kind words about the OZ reunion. It seems a long time ago (WOW 2004) since the five of us got together for the first downunder reunion and all because I was trying to find a great friend - Ron Champion. However enough about reunions for the moment !!!! What a lovely sight to see a Royal Marines Band on the Flight deck of the nearly new and ready 'Aircraft Carrier' WOW I couldn't believe it! Some time ago the plan of said boat was published and I checked it out for bandroom and accomodation for at least 24 Bandsmen or maybe even 18 ?? Sorry...No room for a band on this ship was the reply...But at least the 'Blue Band' pictures have reminded us all of what it used to be like. Luv to all..Mick.

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message #: 2458

Date: Saturday October 20 2018 18:52:54 EST  
Name: Eric hayward  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: jananderic9@gmail.com

Comments:  
Hi Richard In my previous post I failed to point out that the Adelaide Reunion was started by none other than Michael Hutton when he visited us in Oz in 2004. So I would suggest to those who organize "THE' Reunion" that they should continue to support those elderly ex members especially those who have supported and been loyal to the Royal Marines Band Service. If it were not for them and those like them the Band Service would not be what it is today. The very foundations of the present were laid by those such as Michael whose knowledge and professionalism paved the way for the members who now occupy the various positions in the five remaining bands. So make your reunion as welcome as it was in past years and a Tot on arrival seems the right way to go. Some may disagree with my comments. All are welcome to their opinion. I look forward to being shouted down. Again My best wishes to all past and present. Eric.

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message #: 2457

Date: Friday October 19 2018 21:41:44 EST  
Name: Eric hayward  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X 3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: jananderic9@gmail.com

Comments:  
Hi Richard On Trafalgar Day in 1952 42 innocent young chaps assembled at the Royal Marines School of Music in Deal. That was exactly 66 years ago. Those lads were aged between 14 and 16. Most of us had no knowledge of music or playing an instrument. I was asked to show my fingers and teeth by a Capt. who said that I would make a fine bassoon player. I had no idea what a Bassoon was! What happened to the rest of those chaps? Some like myself continued to serve for a long period of time. One unfortunate lad only lasted a few weeks as it was found he had TB so he was discharged. I was lucky enough to serve overseas once in the band of CinC East Indies and later in the Band of 3Cdo Bde in Singapore. Between those I served in either Deal or CinC Nore Command Chatham. How good were those days!!!! Having been offered a position in the Central Band of the Royal Australian Air Force I left the Corps in May 1965 feeling somewhat apprehensive for what might lay in the future. All was okay in the end and I served until retiring from the RAAF in 1992. With a gap between Corps and RAAF of only three months. However my loyalties have always remained with the Royal Marines Band Service and fond memories of my time with those with whom I served. It is because of this that I and other Ex RMBs have enjoyed our Reunions in Adelaide since 2004. Today's Band Service as professional as they are will not enjoy the experiences that we were able to enjoy even though we may have been in cramped living conditions three decks down in the confines of the steel walls of one of HM Ships. So in years to come how many of these present day serving members will look back and remember any other than the person sitting on the stand next to them? My best regards to all of those in that group of 1952 who like me can remember that day 66 years ago who may read these few words. Of course to you Richard how the hell could we manage to reconnect without what you have done to keep us all together. All the best to you and yours Eric. (Paddy you came to Adelaide not Sydney)

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2456

Date: Thursday October 18 2018 08:33:10 EST  
Name: Jackie (Paddy) Semple  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3868  
Hometown: Carrickfergus  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: contactjackiesemple@gmail.com

**Comments:**

It was sad to read about Michael Hutton's decision not to attend anymore reunions. His commitment to the Royal Marines Band Service and the close camaraderie he has with his colleagues will be sorely missed. I have personal experience of both when in Portsmouth and at the Sydney reunions he attended. His letter appears to indicate there may be problems with the Saturday Night Bash (which he did not attend) and the Sunday Service which he clearly explained. The Sunday gathering in the RMA is clearly a really enjoyable experience for all those attending including Michael and it is an excellent example of what reunions are all about. Perhaps some of the problems are caused by the lack of involvement of ex Bandsmen in the actual planning of the reunion. A previous writer gives an excellent account of serving in the past and some of the differences serving today. He clearly shows there have been massive changes over the last 50 odd years. For me these changes should evolve and not happen overnight. To ensure this happens you need the old and the new involved in planning reunions and perhaps meet and greet along with the serving of a tot on arrival would have remained as an integral part of the reunion. The organisers serving today may be totally unaware of the importance of such events especially to those who served many years ago on both per mare and per terram as opposed to serving today in the Albert Hall and Guildhall Square in Portsmouth. Surely we have sufficient volunteers living in Portsmouth who could be invited and who would willingly contribute to the organisation of our annual reunion. Their input would be invaluable and go a long way to ensuring the reunion was for everyone attending. They could also give invaluable feedback including critical observations or otherwise by those attending all of which would help to avoid any repetition at the next reunion. I would appeal to Michael not to give up attending reunions. You are part of the furniture Michael and an essential part at that. Your presence your opinion and everything else matters to those who know you. You are 85 years young and you still have many reunions in you yet. My late father (who had over 40 years military service) was still attending his reunion and annual parades in his wheelchair (having lost both legs to diabetes) up to his passing at 90 years young. Hopefully we will all see Michael at next year's reunion.

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message #: 2455

Date: Wednesday October 17 2018 05:43:18 EST  
Name: Mike(taff)Webber  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X 3144  
Hometown: Gornal nr Dudley  
Instrument/s: Clarinet. Saxophone. Viola  
n/a: mikewebber78@btinternet.com

**Comments:**

Hi Richard. How sad to read Mike Hutton's announcement that he will no longer attend the Annual Reunion! Not wishing to preach to my "elders" but as someone who has only been "Retired" for the past two years I have learnt on many many occasions that standards in ALL walks of life have changed (in some cases) dramatically!!! and as an octagerarian Mike will appreciate not always for the better? BUT. I have already realised that his presence at the reunion is valued by his contemporaries and those who came afterwards!?? How can he deprive so many of his experience and knowledge and most importantly FRIENDSHIP? One thing age has taught me is "BE FLEXIBLE " in the acceptance of change. Sincerely Mike Webber

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message #: 2454

Date: Tuesday October 16 2018 08:12:31 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

**Comments:**

I think that there are many ex-RMBs like Michael Hutton who will no longer attend reunions but possibly for different reasons. As someone who played the Dedication Fanfare under the watchful eye and ear of FVD Michael is well qualified to comment upon performance particularly in respect of tempi and general musical shape. However musicians in my very considerable experience are very sensitive to criticism and take it very personally and can be very defensive as Michael discovered in the reply from the PDM last year. I did not hear the fanfare played last year or this but feel we owe Leon Young a huge debt of gratitude for having written such a superb musical legacy for the RMBS and the very least we as guardians of that legacy owe him ( and the music ) is a degree of continuing discipline in regard to what the composer intended and clearly marked on the score. A far more significant and pertinent reason for many not attending could be the changing atmosphere within the RMBS and its more recent progression from a music school (whose prime objective was to train and supply competent musicians for the ships of the Royal Navy) to landlocked career musicians of a higher standard whose role now seems to be to perform "showband" concerts of largely American wind band repertoire in addition of course to their important ceremonial function. I seriously doubt there is one person currently serving who has spent time aboard a ship. Now I believe sincerely that to be the nucleus of the problem in respect to a changing atmosphere. The confines of a small mess deck engender a camaraderie and respect for space possessions and opinion! No one wanted overt dissention which might aggravate others and a mutual respect for difference of character and opinion ensued. We loved the sheer variety of some quite amazing individuals. And that is the crux of the problem. As in so many aspects of life today political correctness has thwarted and smothered the individuality of so many who could be this current generation's Albert Hill Alan Shankland Stan Wilkinson et al! It is doubtless highly commendable that the musical standard of the RMBS has improved so immeasurably in recent years and that a professional structure exists that was not there certainly during my 7 years service but because of these changes it now attracts a different entrant often highly competent on entry. I doubt anyone joins now unable to play an instrument but leaving as a reasonably able player 3 years later. Sadly our senior ranks diminish each year and soon there will be only a handful who recall those days but it is important to maintain traditions both musical and social and events like the annual Sept 22nd reunion at "The Plough" at Ripple (organised by Willie Watson) may well come to replace the more formal Portsmouth event which seems from several accounts to be a quite different gathering from former years both in atmosphere and content.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2453

Date: Tuesday October 16 2018 02:26:22 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Comments:  
Dear Richard Sad to read that dear Michael Hutton is giving up on the reunions. Heather and I always enjoy our chats with him on the Sunday especially this year with his wonderful collection of photos which he has donated to the School. Michael has given so much to our Band Service and I thank him. We have had some wonderful wonderful people in our beloved family of Musicians and I truly fear for the future. Things do not feel the same any more. We will if it happens attend next year. One little point I must make is that without the past the present and future would not exist!!! Michael I have many happy memories. I consider you to be a friend and I admire you greatly. Regards to all Barry

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message #: 2452

Date: Monday October 15 2018 15:45:20 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello ret:  
n/a: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Comments:  
I didn't take in the Saturday Night Bash this year but heard many remarks about it on Sunday after church when many of us met up in the RMA. Last year I did write to the new PDM about the Fanfare performance which I thought lacked rehearsal time as tempi and articulation were somewhat untidy. He did get back to me with a very nice letter but didn't accept any of my remarks. I actually thought it was much the same this year....So as I'm 85 in a couple of days I think now is the time to bow out of the reunion weekend even though I do enjoy meeting up with all those who might remember me but am not quite happy with all the hype in church anymore. Regards to all..Mick. [Webmaster] That would be a huge loss to me and I'm sure many others who know you Mike.

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message #: 2451

Date: Monday October 15 2018 10:44:51 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Comments:  
Dear Richard both Heather and I enjoyed the recent reunion in Portsmouth. So sad you couldn't make it again. But everything crossed for next year. Cathedral Service and Music was amazing (I'll leave the summing up of that to Jem!) and I thought the sermon was brilliant. (well worth our round trip of 572 miles) Well done to all. As usual the couple of hours in the RMA Eastney was most enjoyable. Saturday night somehow didn't seem same not the usual atmosphere as normal. No meet and greet with welcoming drink no diaries or CDs ooh !!! (know how hard it is to organise the reunion). I also realise that the Band Service is forever moving On and ever changing. I may upset some people now but I question that if a 30 minute lecture after the Junior Band Display was the time and place for it. Regards to all Barry

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2450

Date: Thursday October 4 2018 02:22:24 EST  
Name: Ron Hempsall  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2217  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Clart/Vln  
n/a: hempsallr@aol.com.

Comments:  
The passing of Dave Wells was very sad indeed for me. We had known each other since joining on the I.O.M in 1945. He was one squad ahead of me. Contrary to statement made that no one was there to wave him farewell there were a couple of us in the persons of Terry Freestone Ben Finney and myself. The burial service was held in Ringwoud Church. Rather small and full to overflowing as he was well known in Kingsdown for his service to the community. He is buried in the church yard with his wife should you be down this way and wish to say a few words.

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message #: 2449

Date: Wednesday October 3 2018 07:25:14 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a: ehadmira@gmail.com

Comments:  
Hi Rich Thank you for adding the front and back cover of the Order of Service for Nobby Clark. I anticipate that it will be welcome reading by those who were unable to attend. While my Wife and I had a traumatic journey in reaching Stoke Fleming and being taken down Single Lane Tracks (Hardly qualifeid as Lanes like we have in Somerset?) so we got there eventually and I missed the start of the Funeral Service so I hope that I did not offend anyone clanking around the Church with my Metal Sticks although I feel that I did cause some concern to one member of the congregation who appeared to be only to keep a straight leg so sorry mate but I did say to you Don't move and I can manouvere around you which I did.....! So thanks to my Built in Road Traffic Information System we had as I say a stressful journey around Venn Lane! Bart kindly suggested ditch it like I did mine which is lying on the M5 somewhere! (Bart was a Professional Heavy Goods Driver unlike myself who was the Band Coach Driver I think Beth took the loss of Nobby very well but it must have been a Sad Time for her and Her Family. Rest in Peace Nobby and while you are elsewhere you may recall our run ashore in Nagasaki and our trip to Hiroshima? Yours aye Bill Hartland.

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message #: 2448

Date: Tuesday October 2 2018 17:09:48 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a: keng0iti@gmail.com

Comments:  
So sorry to hear of the passing of Pete Worsfold. I have memories of our days on the IOM. Pete was Bugler for no.5 platoon and many times he would let me blow a â€œGâ€• at the end of each block of an evening.....for the life of me I canâ€™t remember what it was for but eventually I took his place when he went on draft. I donâ€™t think we saw much of one another after Howstrake but he was a fine fellow and musician . Another of the old and bold now at rest. RIP Peter.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2447

Date: Monday October 1 2018 12:45:07 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Comments:  
Dear Richard Just had a lovely long chat to Ray Woodfield sadly he will not be able to attend the reunion this coming weekend. But he will be in Portsmouth in November for a concert. Ray sends his regards to all who remember him especially the members of his beloved Whale Island Band. Oh happy Days. Hope to see lots of old faces and perhaps some new ones over Saturday and Sunday. Safe journeys to all. regards Barry

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message #: 2446

Date: Friday September 28 2018 13:44:58 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX 2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & #39;n&#39; &#39;Cello  
n/a: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Comments:  
Its that time of year again as the reunion in the RMSM is due shortly plus the Memorial Service in Portsmouth Cathedral. It reminds me of last year when some former colleagues asked me if I would be going! Ray Woodfield for one said he wouldn't know anyone! That did surprise me as Iâ€™m sure he would have.  
Anyway that brings me to last weekend when I was invited to â€™ HMS Centaur and friendsâ€™ get together at the Plough in Ripple. ( I was one of the friends of course as I didn't serve on the Centaur but was a VBI on HMS Albion her sister ship. ) What a turn out! There were guys with their wives and some girl friends that I hadn't seen for many years - probably since Deal reunion days so it was certainly a gathering of many EX RM Stars..... Joe Baggs Richard Baker Adrian Brett Merv Durrant Pip Fairchild Terry Freestone Hugh Hetherwick Phil Hughes Walter Jones (Hadn't seen him since we joined up in Burford) Eric McKone Steve Misson Ian Shawcross Rodney Preston George Simpson Alan Walker... Iâ€™ve obviously missed some names and I apologize for that and not mentioning wives & girlfriends & sons & daughters & friends who were also there. I have mentioned quite a few and I hope Iâ€™m forgiven if Iâ€™ve missed you out. Graham Hoskins said a few words and it was nice to hear his comments and I also had a chat with Margaret as weâ€™ve known each other for many years. It was Graham who informed us that Dave Wells â€™ former Bandmaster of the Centaur Band had been buried days before this event and that no one had information about the internment. We presume that it must have been a private family event but weâ€™re all sad that there had been no RM Band Service representative at the funeral. However it was a splendid get-together particularly when my dearest friend Denis Ovenden turned up with girl friend and daughter having travelled down from deepest Lancashire by taxi would you believe to join us. The new PDM had been invited but apparently heâ€™s on a Cat IV in Singapore for four weeks ?? so couldn't join us! all right for some.. Perhaps next year. NOW - last but by no means least...Dear Willi Watson who organised the gig keeping us in order â€™ plus a free drink on arrival and organising a very reasonable priced lunch. So if any of you out there would like to join us next year just contact Willi for info. Thanks Dickie. Iâ€™m sure you know my name but just in case...RMBX2638 Euph & Cello-- 85 this October. Many regards..Hope to see you in church if youâ€™re coming over..Mick.

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message #: 2445

Date: Thursday September 27 2018 13:47:31 EST  
Name: Michael McDermott  
Email:

Service Number: QOO4442R  
Hometown: EXMOOR  
Instrument/s: Piano/Cornet  
n/a: mackenmusic@btinternet.com

Comments:  
ANDY WAUGH I was devastated and deeply saddened when I heard the news that Andy had passed away recently. My sadness was exacerbated somewhat when I realised that I was unable to attend his funeral as I was recovering from surgery that I had undergone earlier in the month. Here are a few thoughts then of a man whom I personally had the greatest admiration and respect for not only as a musician but perhaps more importantly as a human being. Andy was a personal friend of mine and during our time together we enjoyed mutual admiration and respect for each other both professionally and socially. He lived his life for The Band Service. Passionate about his music and completely dedicated to achieving and maintaining the highest of standards he also employed a work ethic that insisted on striving for the very best a standard which he maintained until the end of his career. I was able to witness this as I saw his career progress from Musician to Colour Sergeant. We served together in FOSNI and CinCNavHome Command Bands. During our time in Portsmouth he was selected for Royal Yacht Service and I think I may be right in saying that he considered this to be the pinnacle of his career. Everything that he had worked for came to fruition in that draft and he realised then that he had achieved the goal that he had set himself from when he first joined The Band Service. As an aside I did ask Andy once why he always had his Bass Guitar so high up on his chest and his immediate reply was that if his hero Mark King from Level 42 wore it there then he saw no reason why he should not do the same. Fair play! It was when Andy was serving as a Colour Sergeant and I held the appointment of Corps Bandmaster that I saw his true value both as an outstanding player on all three instruments and a very reliable SNCO. I am not really sure if the term exists anymore but there used to be a group of SNCO's known as "B Streamers". These were Colour Sergeants who had opted not to take the academic route to promotion but were content to pursue a more "hands-on" approach that involved them playing their instruments for the rest of their career whilst providing an unparalleled amount of experience and knowledge that would contribute to the everyday organisation of a Royal Marines Band. Directors of Music and Bandmasters alike valued them immensely and Andy Waugh without any shadow of doubt fell firmly and squarely into that unique category of people. I like many of you have lost a dear friend and colleague someone with talent in abundance a passion for music unswerving loyalty to The RMBS and most of all humility. The world is a much poorer place for having lost him and yet I believe that we are much richer for having known him. Rest in Peace Andy I shall never forget you my friend. Mac McDermott

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2444

Date: Wednesday September 26 2018 13:25:08 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Comments:

Having been Medivaced to and fro' hospital today (again) am feeling a tad tender in the tenderest of regions but am happy to share the following link with you all at this coming time of Remembrance kindly sent to me by our Church Organist. <https://youtu.be/3CBHeFnH1nA> Hope to make it to the Funeral of my old friend Gordon 'Nobby' Clarke. [Webmaster] Stunning choral music so appropriate and reflective. Thank you for including us all with this moving piece of great choral music. RV.

---

message #: 2443

Date: Tuesday September 25 2018 13:46:34 EST  
Name: Ian Epps  
Email:

Service Number: Rmbx2698  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: barbelshopping@virginmedia.com

Comments:

Hi Richard Went to Peter Howse's funeral today over 50 there plus Gosport Solent Brass Peter was a member for many years. They had to cut down the band to around 12 members because of space but they certainly gave Peter a very good musical send off. There were quite a few ex service gents there I was with Wally Spencer who lives in Portchester so both of us had short journeys. RIP Peter. Thanks Richard especially for your last very apt message to us all. Please keep up the good work and I hope to see you in October. Cheers.  
Ian

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message #: 2442

Date: Friday September 21 2018 13:13:41 EST  
Name: Les Sheppard  
Email:

Service Number: Q004417V  
Hometown: Stoke Fleming  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: shesleppard@hotmail.co.uk

Comments:

I have received information that the Funeral of Gordon 'Nobby' Clarke will be held at St Pter's Church Stoke Fleming TQ60PX at 1400hrs on Tues 2 October.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2441

Date: Friday September 21 2018 11:19:22 EST  
Name: RICHARD VALENTINE  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: richval1951@gmail.com

Comments:  
FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS It is more than unfortunate that on too many occasions there has been no announcement of funeral date information for those brothers we have lost. Some of us may think this topic too morbid or that as creator and webmaster of this 22 year long sojourn that I have some kind of quirk or take pleasure in recording the demise of our fallen and our losses. I could never compare what I continue to do with that of Terry Freestone the immense database of names numbers facts of literally thousands of our comrades before and after some of us. Thankfully he has secured that priceless record under the auspices of RMSM and it is comforting to know that his hard work will not be lost. I hope to do something similar to ensure that all my work is not lost and that what is an important archive is preserved for generations to come. I am ever grateful for those of us who will drop a line or write a message to share news of illness loss and those truly joyous 'good news' messages of overcoming cancer stroke and other life threatening sickness. When our time comes as grievous as it is for family and close friends it surely has to be something to celebrate as life itself is our daily celebration. So I ask all of you to consider just how important it is for so many of us who remain to be included in the 'joy' of celebration when you say goodbye to your loved one. Being left out gives one a feeling of neglect and dare I say dismissal? On rare occasions the direct family will request privacy negative flowers and other conditions regarding the final hours prior to interment. Those wishes will always be honoured and posted as and when and IF it is shared with me. Myself and several others have felt 'let down' by not having been given the opportunity to attend David Wells' final rite. When you have known someone almost your whole life it seems one has a right a duty to be alongside other comrades who have shared so much through good and hard times in tribute to our RM Band 'family' member. In closing I hope I have made my point succinctly and without anger. I care deeply and respect all who I have served with and whom I have had the privilege to come to know of who were well before my time and many after. Respectfully  
Dickie

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message #: 2440

Date: Friday September 21 2018 09:34:42 EST  
Name: Ed Pescud  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX 3099  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: baranded23@gmail.com

Comments:  
(From Ed Pescud  
RMBX 3099 Solo cornet) THE LOSS OF A VERY GOOD FRIEND On September 19 th we lost a very very dear friend Gordon (Nobby) Clark. Both my wife Barbara and I were shocked as we did not expect this to happen to Nobby so quickly. Nobby and I served together in our late teens and early twenties once in Malta under the baton of Lt Newcombe later with Flag Officer Air Home at Lee on Solent then again in Singapore with Nobby in CIC Band and myself in the Commando Band. From then on we continued our friendship with regular visits and phone calls. He attended our wedding with Dave Curtis and later our silver and golden anniversaries and obviously we became firm friends with him and his wife Beth and later the family. Nobby himself was a larger than life character and a true gent "those of us who met him and served with him will remember him with affection. When answering the telephone it was always amusing to hear the deep voice "Allo" which is something both of us will sorely miss. It has been a privilege to know you mate and to be your friend you will be greatly missed. Our thoughts go out to Nobby's wife Beth to Susan and Judith their daughters and the family on this sad occasion. Rest in Peace Nobby Eddie and Barbara Pescud

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message #: 2439

Date: Thursday September 20 2018 15:35:18 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Comments:  
Dear Richard Both Heather and I are deeply saddened to hear the news re -Gordon ( Nobby) Clark. It was an honour to have known and indeed serve with Gordon. He was a perfect gentleman and a human being of the highest order. Our thoughts are with Beth and Family at their time of great loss. Another great guy joins the great band room in another place. Deepest sympathy to Beth and family. Barry and Heather Radford

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2438

Date: Thursday September 20 2018 10:55:27 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: graham.hoskins@gmail.com

Comments:  
Dear Richard Former Bandmaster David Wells was laid to rest in Ringwould Churchyard this morning after a memorable funeral attended by a significant gathering of his family and friends many of whom had served alongside him in their careers. Significantly he lies near to the grave of Lovell Pockock who as a Royal Naval Chaplain serving at Deal wrote the Royal Marines Band Service Prayer still used today. Also nearby lies former Band Officer Reg Long. Metres away in the adjacent field the sheep bleated in a poignant lament as David's interment proceeded. Another light has been extinguished but David will be remembered by all who are able to attend the HMS CENTAUR & FRIENDS reunion at lunchtime of Saturday in The Plough Inn at Ripple. This event will follow on from the early morning service of remembrance at the Memorial Garden to mark the 29th anniversary of the Deal Bombing. A day of overriding sadness perhaps but with the successful Memorial Bandstand standing proud on Walmer Green we know that a Phoenix has risen from the ashes of original despair here in Deal. Graham Hoskins

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message #: 2437

Date: Thursday September 20 2018 10:23:21 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Comments:  
Sad sad news of the Demise of Gordon 'Nobby' Clark who was my relief in HMS Terror in 1965. My Sincere condolences to Beth and Family and I would welcome news of his funeral so that my wife and I may attend. Sorry Beth. Yours aye Bill and Joan.

---

message #: 2436

Date: Thursday September 20 2018 02:49:42 EST  
Name: Les Sheppard  
Email:

Service Number: Q004417V  
Hometown: Stoke Fleming  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: shesleppard@hotmail.co.uk

Comments:  
Gordon 'Nobby' Clark RMBX 3147 It is with great sadness that I write to inform you that yesterday morning (Wed 19 Sept) Nobby suddenly passed away in Torbay Hospital. Nobby was in hospital receiving chemotherapy treatment for lung cancer which he had recently been diagnosed with. No further details are known at this time. I will publish details of the funeral when known. Rest in Peace Nobby. A true Gent. Les

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2435

Date: Wednesday September 19 2018 16:16:45 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Comments:

Hi Rich There is an article on the RMA Web Site remembering those who lost their lives on September 22nd 1989. Please follow the following Link to access the write-up. <https://mailchi.mp/rma.org.uk/reporting-network-for-week-ending-21-september-2018?e=5dd3d02049>  
Yours aye Bill.

---

message #: 2434

Date: Sunday September 16 2018 09:45:07 EST  
Name: Ian Epps  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2698  
Hometown: Faversham  
Instrument/s: Trombone & VBI  
n/a: barbelshopping@virginmedia.com

Comments:

Gentlemen The funeral of Peter Howse will take place at the Portchester Crematorium on Tuesday 25th of September at 1pm. Family flowers only please. Donations can be made to the Royal Marines Charitable Trust. See you in the countermarch Ian RIP Peter

---

message #: 2433

Date: Saturday September 15 2018 17:00:25 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Comments:

Chanced upon this YouTube Video and wish and wished to Share it with you All?  
[https://youtu.be/7O\\_nukMhzdI](https://youtu.be/7O_nukMhzdI) Long time since I was on the Horse Guards Parade Ground under the Direction of one Paul Neville who I suggest was more on edge and nervous than any of us? Yours aye Bill.  
[Dickie] Professionalism Poise Perfection!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2432

Date: Tuesday September 11 2018 07:15:08 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Comments:  
Hi Rich I have had an email via a third party suggesting the names of some of those pictured with the Late Cliff Meatheringham and that came from the Jock who I could not put a name to? Well that was Jock Brown who was Bandmaster at Ganges in 1960 where Cliff was the Band Sergeant. Regret that Jock's suggestion were not correct and he suggested that the figure on the right of the picture was John Borrington but Margaret and I disagree that would and could only have been Cliff. Terry Parker was a Maybe for one with Spectacles in mid picture. Anyway Margaret is grateful for your reproducing the picture on your Web Site and looks forward that I may deliver more info' on those in the photograph in the near future. Yours aye Bill Hartland.

---

message #: 2431

Date: Monday September 10 2018 16:57:05 EST  
Name: Lt Cdr Mike Hill  
Email:

Service Number: P/M936318  
Hometown: Waterloooville  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: hillmoore@aol.com

Comments:  
Very Many thanks Eric.

---

message #: 2430

Date: Monday September 10 2018 16:45:08 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon / Bass Drum  
n/a: jananderic9@gmail.com

Comments:  
To Lt Cdr. Mike I have passed on your message to Roger Walker. Hope you have a good result.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2429

Date: Monday September 10 2018 09:28:26 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Comments:  
So nice to read the lovely comments about Dave Wells having left us for the greater Band. He and I along with many were colleagues way back in the distant past although he was three years ahead of me we were involved in many gigs together over those years. He will of course be missed by many and as Willi has already mentioned we shall be raising our glasses to a former B/M when we get together at the Plough in Ripple in a couple of weeks time. Mick Hutton.

---

message #: 2428

Date: Monday September 10 2018 08:10:22 EST  
Name: Edward Mcdermott (paddy)  
Email:

Service Number: Q004119X  
Hometown: Belfast  
Instrument/s: Fl/Picc/Sax  
n/a: edmcdermott@sky.com

Comments:  
As messaged by Roy and Dave so sad to read of the passing of our flute instructor B/Master Dave Wells. Everyone who had him as an instructor benefited from his musical knowledge and military experience during our time in training and our future within the band service. RIP Dave you were an inspiration to those who knew you.

---

message #: 2427

Date: Monday September 10 2018 05:07:05 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: Willi.watson@btinternet.com

Comments:  
I am sad to hear of the passing of DAVID WELLS who was Bandmaster of the 4th commission of HMS Centaur 1963-65 ... aka "The Fighting Cæ". We remaining Old Centaurians and many friends will meet for our annual get-together at the Plough Inn Ripple from noon on Saturday 22nd of this month. We will miss David's beaming bearded face on that day and if any old RMBs who knew him wish to join the 30 of us in raising a glass to his memory please come along. I feel privileged to have formed a friendship with David during the last 5 years based on our mutual teaching experiences post service as well as our eventful times on Centaur. He was a kind decent man with a great sense of humour and had an accurate memory stretching back his 88 years delighting me with tales of his childhood and his RNSM beginnings on the Isle of Man. My commiserations are with David's family and friends at this time.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2426

Date: Sunday September 9 2018 11:36:40 EST  
Name: Mike Hill Lt Cdr  
Email:

Service Number: P/M 936318  
Hometown: Waterlooville  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: hillmoore@aol.com

Comments:  
I normally provide the link between this site and the Association of Royal Yachtsmen and have updated the Royal Yacht records. I have also discovered that my son in law's half sister [Ann Pimperton] second marriage was to Roger WALKER and went to Australia when Roger became a successful body builder and became Mr Universe. Good to see pictures of him at the Adelaide reunion last year.. Would like to know if Ann is still Alive and well and her whereabouts. The marriage for whatever reason did not survive. My Son in Laws grandchildren are asking some difficult questions.

---

message #: 2425

Date: Sunday September 9 2018 10:48:07 EST  
Name: Dave Seed  
Email:

Service Number: Q004084U  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Flute/Tenor Sax  
n/a: dseed78739@aol.com

Comments:  
So sorry to hear of the passing of David Wells as the previous message from Roy he was my Instructor at the school of music always firm but fair like many 14 year old boys something we needed in our first time away from home. Following the message from Terry Freestone I sent him a message telling him that I had put his name down along with Harry Eden on a bio I have just done for a recital I am doing in our local church even after after over 50 years he is still in my thoughts. RIP David David

---

message #: 2424

Date: Sunday September 9 2018 09:25:07 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: (Flute & sax), Bassoon music library  
n/a: GrandadRoy66@gmail.com

Comments:  
Dickie So sorry to hear of the passing of Dave Wells. My first instructor. Never saw much of him after leaving Deal but never forgotten. Please pass on my condolences to his family and friends. Cheers mate Roy

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2423

Date: Friday September 7 2018 02:11:10 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Music Librarian  
n/a: GrandadRoy66@gmail.com

Comments:  
Totally devastated to hear of the passing of Andy Waugh. Worked with Andy in many a dance band gig. A lovely man and an excellent bassist. So long Andy you're gonna be missed.

---

message #: 2422

Date: Wednesday September 5 2018 09:05:39 EST  
Name: David (Jack) Kennedy  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3940  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: david.kenne488@onetel.com

Comments:  
I am devastated at the news of Andy Waugh's passing he was a fine musician and a good friend. I feel proud to have played a small part in his band service career and have always enjoyed meeting up with him on occasions after leaving the band. Farewell old mate we will all miss you greatly. R.I.P. - Yours sincerely Jack.

---

message #: 2421

Date: Tuesday September 4 2018 05:47:24 EST  
Name: John Ware  
Email:

Service Number: rmb3791  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a: john.ware3791@btinternet.com

Comments:  
So sorry to hear of the untimely passing of C/Sgt Andy Waugh earlier today. I have fond memories of him. A good musician and a great guy!

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2420

Date: Wednesday August 29 2018 07:27:42 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X 3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Colleagues I am deeply saddened at the number of losses the Service Appears to be experiencing and can only add that I am truly fortunate in my Health Care going back to RNH Chatham RNH Devenport and the BMH in Singapore. That is not to forget our National Health Service whose Care for me with Crohnns is Second to None and also to NICE who Fund and Authorise my Treatment. So let us all thank our Good Fortune if we are still above Ground eh? Currently awaiting diagnosis at the Bristol Heart Institute. Note that some of those who I managed described me as Mr Hartless! Behind my Back! They quickly forget how I helped them to achieve BSI Standards and Quality Awards?  
Yours aye Bill Hartland.

---

message #: 2419

Date: Monday August 27 2018 07:37:24 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email:

Service Number: rmb3645  
Hometown: Bude (Adopted Pompey!)  
Instrument/s: Cornet Fiddle Compass Comb and Paper!  
n/a: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Comments:  
Hello again Gents Re. Ian (Ginge) Ritsma (was Hammond) Cornet and Fiddle. For those of you who knew Ian or remember him from serving days and would like to pay their respects to the lovely fella I give below his Funeral details. Regards Derek  
Thursday 6th September 1400hrs at Weston Mill Crematorium  
Ferndale Road Plymouth PL2 2EP Being a bit of a colourful character he requested that everyone wear colourful clothes if you are comfortable with this.

---

message #: 2418

Date: Tuesday August 21 2018 09:16:14 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Fiddle  
n/a: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Comments:  
Gents I've since discovered that if you click onto my underlined text on my previous entry below then it will take you directly to Ian Ritsma's Facebook page where his daughters are keeping it currently updated. There are recent pictures of Ian on there too. Cheers all.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2417

Date: Monday August 20 2018 16:32:32 EST  
Name: David Tremaine  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3928  
Hometown: Buckingham  
Instrument/s: Bass trombone  
n/a: tremaine3928@gmail.com

Comments:

Very sad to read of the passing of Ginge. I got to know him well at Whale Island. Not the greatest musician in the world but boy what a mechanic! He was the only one Matt Dillon would let near his beloved car to service it. Ginge taught me to drive on the island we only got stopped by the Master at Arms once!! I left Whale Island in 1966 and unfortunately never met up with him again although others knew where he was and what he did when he left the Band Service. A thoroughly nice bloke my condolences to his family and friends. Dave Tremaine

---

message #: 2416

Date: Monday August 20 2018 08:42:09 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Fiddle  
n/a: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Comments:

Opened my p.c today to be hit with this very sad news. Another one of our own has gone to meet up with his friends in the ever growing Massed Bands of HMRM. - I only spoke to "Ginge" (Ian Ritsma) a couple of months ago when he told me about his problem. He was very stoic about it all however and in fact seemed more concerned about myself as I'd only recently had MY lung op! (typical of the man!) - It's such sad news - as it always is when one of our brethren in particular pass on. This has come as a shock to me personally however. I feel for his family right now - as I'm sure those of you that knew Ian will also do and may wish to pass on your condolences to them. Many more of you will have good memories of him no doubt. I served with Ginge in both HMS Terror Singapore and later again at Whale Island in the 60's and I will only ever remember him as a fun-loving thoroughly nice guy to be around. RIP and now you are at last free from pain Ian old mate. Below is how his daughters announced his passing today on Facebook. [Webmaster] Not being a Facebook user I cannot seem to edit this message to make any easier to get to the aforementioned message by his daughters. I trust that the whole message is linked somehow to the message so I shall leave 'as is'. Never served with Ian but he was a supporter of this site and there remain several areas that include content from him. My sincere condolences to the Ritsma family. May he rest in peace.

---

message #: 2415

Date: Monday August 13 2018 14:14:32 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Comments:

Hi to All purchased Reunion tickets today. Cost Â£20.00 per person See you all there Regards to all Barry

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2414

Date: Friday August 10 2018 11:20:34 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Comments:  
Sadly I was not able to attend Chris Sheppard's funeral last week. Were any of our members there? I did send a message via the Hotel in Paignton where the after service get together was gathering. If so perhaps you would get in touch with me and let me know of attendance etc; Many thanks. Mick.

---

message #: 2413

Date: Thursday August 2 2018 15:25:22 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a: GrandadRoy66@gmail.com

Comments:  
Hi Dickie Just to inform you that our friend and colleague "Geordie" Hill (French horn) ex FOSNI BAND passed away on Tuesday 31 July 2018. No funeral details as yet but will post ASAP ROY

---

message #: 2412

Date: Tuesday July 24 2018 04:49:38 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: mikhik1@gmailcom

Comments:  
Greetings one and all.....and Dan long time no see sounds as if your birthday was a great success I have to agree with you. Tony O and I had a similar session at a funeral in Deal earlier this year and he is great fun. I am looking forward to another session in October at the Reunion which this just happens to fall on my birthday say it quietly (77) its only a number. It will be a fun weekend as it always is no doubt there will be many others to share with how about you ??? I know Richard will be there this year looking forward to seeing him again he was sorely missed last year. Happy belated birthday Dan good to know you are still in touch. Maybe our paths will cross again one day. Regards to you and yours. Mik H

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2411

Date: Monday July 23 2018 07:30:04 EST  
Name: Dan Archer  
Email:

Service Number: PO22378C  
Hometown: Pytchley  
Instrument/s: Bugler/Drum Major  
n/a: archer378@yahoo.co.uk

Comments:

Dear Dickie. Wonderful to talk to you via Tony Oliver from the village pub yesterday. Dear Tony has been a good friend and shipmate for 55 years and it was a great pleasure for me to have him at my 70th Birthday party this past weekend. He did not stay with me but at my daughters as she is more practised at dealing with double incontinence in older people. ðŸ™• We held the party in the orchard in the pub garden and it was a glorious English summer's afternoon with copious amounts of ale and cider being drunk... mostly by dear dear Tony ðŸ™•. Tony made a wonderful speech and presented me with a bag full of presents that had been turned down by a big issue seller. I digress I am now in possession of a cracked mug with 70 on it. A book on how to learn the Bugle in 5 minutes and a pair of black lace knicks with quite a small posing pouch. Obviously he had forgotten I was a Bugler ðŸ™•. What a wonderfully thoughtful mate he is. Later in the evening I was coerced into a Bugle 'Sound Off' with an old friend who I had joined up with as a Junior Bugler in 1963. After a couple of miss-starts we both managed to crack out several bugle calls each of a commendable standard..much to dear old Tony's delight. I think he was so delighted he scuppered more of the lager that I had to buy him to get him to attend. We decided to stop blowing when we realised that it was after midnight and the village had 'fallen in' on the edge of the village green. Sunday was a recovery day with dear dear Tony dragging me to the pub again to buy him enough lager to get him home. He was being driven by St Alison of Upper Deal the patron Saint of fallen Trombone holders..Tony is her only case as he is such a handful. Tony spoke lovingly of the wonderful time you and he have spent together Dickie and Tony like myself is a great supporter of this forum. Best wishes Dickie. Dan.

---

message #: 2410

Date: Friday July 20 2018 10:45:33 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Comments:

Sad to receive the news this morning while I was viewing my emails from my hospital bed that Derek Ernst passed away last night. My condolences to his wife and family. A loss to the Australian Reunion members too. I anticipate that Eric Hayward will relay more details to this Guest Book? [Webmaster] On behalf of all I wish you a speedy recovery from what causes you to be in hospital. Eric sent the missive to a list of contacts I would say are connected with the Australasia reunion.

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message #: 2409

Date: Thursday July 19 2018 02:03:30 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Comments:

On Tuesday I attended the funeral of Derek Holder at Barham crematorium. A number of former colleagues were also there. Jock Brown Dave Mutter Pip Fairchild George Simpson Bob Gill and Mick Goss. The service went well with some lusty singing of the hymns. We listened to the 2nd movement of Mozart Clarinet concerto a nice tribute to Derek. As my car was "unwell" I was driven there by a friend and he was highly amused at the dits being spun at the lamp swinging afterwards in the Jackdaw pub in Denton village. On another note ðŸ™•¼. The Central Band RBL will be in the Gulbenkian Theatre Kent university on September 1st. at 1900. It would be great to see old colleagues there. Mike

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2408

Date: Tuesday July 17 2018 15:10:26 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Comments:  
Thanks Adrian for your thoughts on Chris. I would like to add that many of us from that time feel much the same about one of our finest musicians during that period. I would also like to add Derek Holder to that list as he also spent many years in the Staff Band though the 60s and equally a star on the Clarinet and later was of course the leader of 'The All Stars' clarinet section. I also had a telephone call from my old mate Denis Ovenden a couple of hours ago and he would like me to add his condolences to both families. RIP Chris and Derek. farewell to two more great RMB Musicians.....Mick.

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message #: 2407

Date: Tuesday July 17 2018 09:35:19 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto sax/ clar/ vln  
n/a: jemtugwood@sky.com

Comments:  
Dear Dickie for information of anyone considering attending the RMB Reunion this year. I spoke to the lady in the office in Portsmouth who informs me they are waiting to have a Blue Band meeting re the reunion to agree on the cost of this year's tickets as last years ran at a loss so it looks likely the cost may go back up to £20:00. She is going to give me a call in due course which I hope won't be too long. As usual no tickets issued but attendees will be registered at the main gate for checking in on the night Regards  
Jem

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message #: 2406

Date: Saturday July 14 2018 11:43:24 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Comments:  
I am sorry to hear of the passing of Chris Sheppard. Throughout my time in Staff Band we had some formidable front desk string partners George Simpson and Chris Sheppard on 1st vlns and Len Bramidge and Fanny Waters on viola (both to attain recognition in the outside music world respectively in Halle and BBC orchestras) and Ron Kempton and Mick Hutton on cello. All were well able to cope with the demanding repertoire thrust upon us particularly during "D of Ms" ( or whatever it was called) exams. I first played the Ravel orchestration of Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition" in Canada Rd Concert Hall...and Saint-Saens "Rouet d'Omphale" ...the latter so seldom heard now. The foresight of FVD in including these pieces both as a challenge to the orchestra and the conductor and his inviting of eminent teachers of conducting such as Maurice Miles and Clarence Raybould made this period in the Staff Band both memorable and instructional for me at least and prepared me for the challenges of the civilian musical world. I recall Chris as an ever-smiling B/Cpl always fun and always supportive and someone who clearly enjoyed music and the companionship of those with whom he played. RIP.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2405

Date: Saturday July 14 2018 08:24:29 EST  
Name: Gerry Taylour  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX 2742  
Hometown: Nottingham  
Instrument/s: Piano  
n/a: gerrytaylour@btinternet.com

Comments:  
Please see the link from the top left column of the main page of this website. The full story about this photo will be revealed complete with all the names. Gerry Taylour

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message #: 2404

Date: Saturday July 14 2018 05:58:19 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: graham.hoskins@gmail.com

Comments:  
Dear Richard  
I learn from this week's East Kent Mercury that Major John Perkins has decided to pass on responsibility for the Deal Memorial Bandstand. I have asked him to accept my personal thanks for all he has done to maintain the stature of the memorial and to so successfully keep it in the public eye. The years have passed so very quickly since the tragic 1989 event and I know from experience that it has taken a lot of dedicated effort for him to have held the reins over the years he has. As one of those who saw the memorial project from the very beginning when support for the idea was decidedly patchy I couldn't be more pleased to see that after nearly thirty years the Bandstand on Walmer Green still commands enthusiastic interest. Tomorrow will again see the public coming to Deal in huge numbers from near and far for the annual re-dedication Concert featuring the Royal Band from Portsmouth and John together with his dedicated team of workers are worthy of such support. John Perkins is a name that will long be associated with the event and the reasons for it. I wholeheartedly congratulate him and on behalf of us all thank him for his dedicated service. Graham

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message #: 2403

Date: Saturday July 14 2018 02:59:34 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Comments:  
Hope to see many of you on Walmer Green at the Memorial Bandstand tomorrow for what will be yet again a fantastic concert by the Royal Band from Portsmouth. Looking forward to meeting the new PDM and checking out his baton technique. Mick.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2402

Date: Thursday July 12 2018 03:26:37 EST  
Name: Ray Watts  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2349  
Hometown: Bicester  
Instrument/s: Sax & Viola  
n/a: watts.m353@gmail.com

Comments:

I was very sorry to hear that Barney Wilson had passed away. We were both in the Viola class on the IOM. Barney being one of the older members in the class would help me a lot. He always denied that in later years saying that all he did was show me how to take the Viola out of its case. He must have done more than that because when we moved to Burford I was awarded the 1946-7 prize for Viola. R.I.P. Barney

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message #: 2401

Date: Tuesday July 10 2018 11:05:41 EST  
Name: Gerry Taylour  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2742  
Hometown: Nottingham  
Instrument/s: Solo Piano and since retiring Trombone  
n/a: gerrytaylour@btinternet.com

Comments:

The Loughborough Concert Band with whom I have played trombone for many years played on the wonderful bandstand in Queens Park Loughborough on which was one of the hottest afternoons this year. We certainly got the audience tapping their feet with our rendition of 'Sea Shanties' arranged by Paul Neville. It's a great piece does anybody remember it? Next job is at Newark Castle bandstand hope it's a lot cooler. Best wishes GerryTaylour.

---

message #: 2400

Date: Tuesday June 26 2018 14:01:15 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Comments:

So sorry to hear of Derek "Chinny" Holder crossing the bar. He was a great help to me when I joined the "All Stars" and also the "Marlowe Misfits" a band got together by Paul Neville to play in the Marlowe Theatre in Canterbury. Derek was a fantastic clarinet player made all the more remarkable by the fact that one of his fingers was shorter than the rest owing to an accident when he was younger. RIP old soldier.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2399

Date: Sunday June 24 2018 05:28:57 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: graham.hoskins@gmail.com

Comments:

I learn with great sadness that Paddy has died. After his father's passing Paddy stayed close to the RM Band Service and was instrumental in setting up and leading the hugely successful RMA Concert Band at Eastney through its formative years. This he did with distinction while also making available musical scores and recordings from his father's success with EMI. In conjunction with this he ran his own CD & DVD marketing business from his home in London utilising precious historic EMI material from its archive of his father's recordings. He was a respected Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Musicians of which his father had been Worshipful Master in the 1980s and had served as one of the Company's Court of Assistants a role that could perhaps have led to him eventually becoming Master himself. Paddy was also a Freeman of the City of London. After leaving the Corps he took an active interest in the RMA holding a responsible position in its management structure over many years. It has been a great shock for me to learn of his passing for I was totally unaware of any health problems that may have hastened his death. The Corps has lost one of its very best and a final link with the Dunn family. It should not be forgotten that the family produced distinguished Army Directors of Music as well as our own Sir Vivian. Paddy who as a youngster grew up in North barracks at Gå's house while his father was serving as the first Principal Director of Music RM in the 1950s nurtured a lifelong regard for the Corps' Musicians. He even took lessons with the cornet professor before the decision was made that he should join the Corps as a young GD officer. He served with distinction until retirement with the rank of Major. His subsequent award of an MBE indicates the respect of his contemporaries for his overall and genuine ability to lead from the front. In his lifetime Paddy was rightly proud of his father's illustrious achievements however I am sure that like father like son he now also deserves acclaim for taking the family name forward. We in the RM Band Service have benefited hugely from his long association with us and it is my privilege to say so. Graham.

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message #: 2398

Date: Friday June 22 2018 05:39:57 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Comments:

I didn't expect to be back on this great site quite so soon but it is with great sadness that we have to learn of Paddy Dunn's passing. As some of you may recall many of us served with his dad Sir Vivian and I did know Paddy & Leone as children way back in the 60s along with many of my colleagues. I of course came across Paddy again when I joined up with the RMA Concert Band some 10 years ago. I always found him to be a great lover of the Band Service even though of course he was a Bootneck throughout his RM Career. His dedication to the RMA and of course the founding of the Band was inspirational and we owe him a great debt for that. My particular thoughts today are with his wife Annie who I always found to be such a lovely lady and since leaving the RMA Band I have always missed the chats she & I had during rehearsals and concerts with the Band. RIP Paddy..You will have to join the 'Old Man' now.....Michael Hutton.

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message #: 2397

Date: Tuesday June 19 2018 03:23:28 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Comments:

I notice yet again that the 'Beating Retreat' on Horse Guards was not on National TV but we still have to witness the same old routine from the Guards I always on the Tele. The Royal Marines routine was outstanding yet again this year and we all know how difficult dividing four bands is to the corners of HG Parade. Well done to the new PDM and all those fantastic Girls & Boys....Mick.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2396

Date: Saturday June 16 2018 13:07:57 EST  
Name: Adrian BRETT  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Comments:  
A welcome to Paul Thompson on this excellent site. Hello Paul!! As your service number is only one or two squads before mine 3/59 we must have been in J wing together but unusually for me with a good retentive memory I cannot place your name or your face!! Sorry. However I am sure you will remember me as I am assured by many that I am unforgettable!! Good to see you here. Write lots of posts. This is an archive for posterity and not a passing social media site. Best wishes. Adrian Brett

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message #: 2395

Date: Wednesday June 13 2018 10:34:49 EST  
Name: paul thompson  
Email:

Service Number: rmb3710  
Hometown: birmingham  
Instrument/s: tenor sax /violin  
n/a: alfie3710@gmail.com

Comments:  
Hi all not seen you all for 60 yrs don't time fly. Get in touch if you want.

---

message #: 2394

Date: Wednesday June 13 2018 10:00:27 EST  
Name: Charles Laws  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/x3057  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Swimming pool with water polo ball  
n/a: Charles Laws@gmail.com

Comments:  
Just like to tell you a very short story. On the night of my Birthday party my daughter who was a ex naval nurse decided to chase up a trophy I won back in 1978 so after many phone calls she found the right person. He then sent a tankard with pictures of my name on it and a picture of the trophy. He believes I could be the only bandy to win it. It was for coaching swimming and water polo also the navy water polo team. I wish to Thank the Chief PTI.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2393

Date: Wednesday June 6 2018 08:13:25 EST  
Name: David Mutter  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: dam6567@gmail.com

**Comments:**

Dear Richard I'm pleased that the 'famous four' have been truly identified and what the gig was all about. Thanks to the joint efforts of Terry and Jock. The new question concerning the fellow in the instrument repair shop can be solved as I have his picture along with Algy Guest surrounded by numerous brass instruments plonked on top of a work bench. The picture is published in a book titled "Royal Marines Deal, A pictorial history" by Andrew Lane page 135 published by Halsgrove 2000. (the phot is dated 1977) The name of the man in question is Mr R Charters. The image on your web site I think must have been taken some time after 1977 but of course this could be another trick for us to get the name wrong!!! Regards David [Webmaster] This IS embarrassing!  
Having had same book in my library since it was published I must have come across said photo. Bryan Walker has sent these images in and posted on other media due to a huge archive left behind by our very own Basil Kidd and it will be good to put names to faces. This one should have been endorsed much sooner but your attention and ever deep interest in this site and matters relating will be ever appreciated. Thank you David and regards to you and all out there.

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message #: 2392

Date: Friday June 1 2018 14:22:39 EST  
Name: Ray Alberrry  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX 3187  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: musicmaker177@gmail.com

**Comments:**

Hi Terry I am going to have a guess who the B/Sgt is in that photo on the ex RMB site. I think it is Ned Kelly who would have only being made up to B/Sgt in that year (I was promoted just after him) I only have the RMB website on my phone and I made too many mistakes trying to up load this message the key only being small. If you think I am correct please uploload it onto the website. I saw some of the massed bands march to Horse Guards last night but not the beating Retreat My grandson Is in the Navy and he sent me the video. I hope the full retreat is either on UTube or the Forces channel on TV. Hope you are in best of Health I'm still blowing but only in a small 6 piece trad band just for fun sometimes play at an Old Peoples home now and again. See if I am right in that photo All the best Ray Alberrry

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message #: 2391

Date: Thursday May 31 2018 03:03:25 EST  
Name: Charlie. Laws  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X3057  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Swimming Pool  
n/a: Charles.coach/

**Comments:**

Just had 80 Birthday and am now training my grandson to swim the English Channel next year and have been asked to train air ambulance next year in a relay swim next year. I am also train to race myself next year. [Webmaster] Wonderful news Charlie and on behalf of everyone affiliated with this site a belated birthday greeting. Well done!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2390

Date: Sunday May 27 2018 08:54:03 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX 2505  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: terryfreestone@vfast.co.uk

Comments:  
Dear Richard sorry I seem to be late off the mark on this one - a spell of warm settled weather has had me spending much time in the garden and neglecting the computer. At first I thought it was me then realised that Jock with his LS&GSM meant that the date of the US Marines visit to Deal had to be after November 1964 when he got his "blue". I was made BMr in February 1963 so it must have been Terry Williams - or Freddie Flux perhaps. Mick Hutton and David Mutter got closest to the right answer. The cornet player and sad-looking violin repair man are both unfamiliar to me. Please put this up on Guestbook for me. A lazy afternoon listening to the concert on Walmer Green this afternoon. I saw John Goold with Betteshanger band there on the first concert three weeks ago best wishes to all Terry PS Regards to "Tremaine my fine bass trombone in CinC Fleet band 40 years ago.

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message #: 2389

Date: Sunday May 27 2018 00:35:11 EST  
Name: Dan Archer  
Email:

Service Number: P022378C  
Hometown: Pytchley  
Instrument/s: Drum Major  
n/a: archer378@yahoo.co.uk

Comments:  
The guy in the pic at the back of the bus is Victor Harvey Judd. Vic was in the Eagle Band 1967 to 1969 with me when Jock Brown was the Bandmaster.

---

message #: 2388

Date: Friday May 25 2018 15:21:05 EST  
Name: David Mutter  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: euph/cello  
n/a: gam6567@gmail.com

Comments:  
My dear Adrian which one are you? Front middle or back in the bus? I'm pleased that you have been able to help us in the quest for the middle of identification on the man with the tasche. Perhaps as a bit of extra info on the occasion you could enlighten us as to what the gig was all about! Was it Independence Day US at the US Embassy? I must also apologise on the rank of the US Marine who is infact a Master Sgt and not a Master Gunnery Sgt. As 'a by the way' the 'President's Own' Band wear a music lyre instead of crossed rifles on their rank insignia. When you see Hugh again give him my regards. Thank you for your indulgence Richard. David

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2387

Date: Wednesday May 23 2018 15:26:08 EST  
Name: Adrian BRETT  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Comments:  
Regarding the photo. Definitely Terry Williams and Jock Brown but no one has mentioned the guy on the bus.....that is definitely me!! On another note I visited the RM exhibition at the Deal Museum this afternoon with my old friend Hugh Heatherwick and we swung the old lamp a bit with the nostalgic memories. Hogging the photographs in no uncertain terms.....three photos can you believe...is our own Dickie Valentine as a cherubic youth barely out of short trousers and stirring an enormous Christmas pudding in the galley which judging by his subsequent growth he may well have consumed all by himself!!!

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message #: 2386

Date: Wednesday May 23 2018 02:07:40 EST  
Name: Pat â€Pusserâ€™ Hill  
Email:

Service Number: Q004163M  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Euphonium & Cello  
n/a: pusserhill@ntlworld.com

Comments:  
The BK phot..... My meagre loot is on BSgt Williams to the left. I joined in 1967 (with 59 other JMus and JBgls) and Staff Bandmaster Brown was around the Concert Hall and Higher Training areas of North Barracks for a long time into my JWing training. Not sure of the significance of the Corps DMjr in this phot but with USMC presence it may be the end of a BMâ€™s course or exchange programme. Someone will know for certain but I have a vague memory of a SNCO exchange with the USMC Presidentâ€™s Own Band or the USMC music place in Virginia? To be fair I was young then and not now! As ever my friends Pat H

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message #: 2385

Date: Tuesday May 22 2018 15:21:46 EST  
Name: David Mutter  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: euph/cello  
n/a: dam6567@gmail.com

Comments:  
Hi All who are interested in the guess who it is in the phot Two names are definitely correct and they are Drummy Bowden and Staff Bandmaster Jock Brown. Master Gunnery Sergeant USMC is a complete mystery but the fellow with the tache is the conundrum!! As some would believe it could be Terry Freestone or Mr Bassoon man Bandmaster Williams. This phot was taken between 1964 and 1967? Terry Freestone was on the Bandmasters course in 1961 so would have been a Bandmaster by the time this phot was taken? Hm! Please if you know the answer let us know!!! Regards to all knowledgable people and geniuses David

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2384

Date: Tuesday May 22 2018 14:16:11 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Comments:  
I suppose two out of three aint bad !!!!!Its not Terry Freeberg ! Its Band Sgt at the time Terry Bungy Williams of Bassoon song fame.....Mick. [Dickie] That's a plucky observation and I'm waiting for Terry Iceberg to say yeah or nay! Thanks Mike.

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message #: 2383

Date: Tuesday May 22 2018 08:47:20 EST  
Name: David Tremaine  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3928  
Hometown: Buckingham  
Instrument/s: Bass trombone  
n/a: dtremaine3928@gmail.com

Comments:  
Hi Richard e: photos from the archives. The first one I'm sure is Terry Freestone - American - Charlie Bowden Jock Brown. David [Editor] Yes David that was my first thought although there is a photo on the website that bears a Terry lookalike if I recall taken out front of the street side entrance of the SoM but for sure that does look like a Sgt Terry. He will endorse in coming hours I'm sure.

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message #: 2382

Date: Sunday May 20 2018 08:39:40 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine (aka) Dickie  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Will always be Preston but not there now  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Piano  
n/a: richval1951@gmail.com

Comments:  
Greetings to everyone! In the 22 years or certainly since a guestbook message board call it what you may has been in place only ONE visitor has complained regarding the requirement of e-mail address in the visitor details at the beginning of a message. Whether this has always been the case is irrelevant and just to explain as to why then if the visitor wishes to have any response directly then he/she needs to include a contact address. No finger pointing or suggesting to many of our visitors but some of the communications have smacked of a more famous messaging nature and that is the last thing we want here. It's not a forum but just a way of being either convivial or complementary or informative with announcements both good and sad. I would like to take this opportunity once more to thank the many hundreds of you who have contributed in the many ways wether it be your own accounts of past years served and donations in currency that continue to help with brand name domain hosting and internet fees. So.....if you don't want to share your e-mail address then please refrain and save your angst. There are one or two corrections made to Derek's messages per his request. With respect and warm regards Dickie.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2381

Date: Thursday May 17 2018 08:16:16 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Comments:  
Dear Richard Such a joy to read Michaels report on Eric (Janâ€™s) funeral. It would have been such a long journey for us to attend. But Heather ( who is making such good progress and feeling so much better...) is going over to Liverpool on Monday to place some flowers on the Atlantic Memorial in Ericâ€™s memory. Regards to all Barry and Heather

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message #: 2380

Date: Wednesday May 16 2018 19:47:24 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: jananderic9@gmail.com

Comments:  
Hi Richard Here is a report on the recent reunion in Adelaide. This year it was held on the first weekend in May with new venues for all of the events. Those attending were Bob Chumley Robert (Ginge) Chamberlain Roger (Mr Universe) Walker Syd Pavitt Barrie Baker Peter Checkley and of course myself. Apologies were received from Mike Thompson Ray (Taff Taylor) Bill Mathews and Tony Oberdries. A few others couldn't make it this year but hope to next time. Our wives and partners made up the group. We gathered on the Friday evening 4th May at the Watermark Hotel in Glenelg for the Meet and Greet with plenty of food and drinks. Unfortunately just as things had settled down to an enjoyable time we were advised the table booked for us had only been booked for two hours so we would have to move on. We moved to a different bar area which turned out to be rather noisy. The evening over all was enjoyable and all retired looking forward to the "official dinner" next day. On Saturday 5th May at 1800hrs we assembled in a rather cosy room at the Broadway Hotel Broadway South Glenelg where our dinner was held. This year turned out to be a lot less "formal" than in past years however the Loyal Toast was proposed as was the Toast to Absent Friends. A Toast to the Royal Marines was also proposed by our new associate Peter Checkley. A letter from the PDM Lt. Col. Jon Ridley was very warmly received and out thanks go out to him for his comments regards keeping the older past members involved with the Band Service. Peter Checkley joined the RMB 5th September 1967 his number being RMB 4181. After transferring to the GD branch the following year he joined JE39. After 25 years he had progressed through the ranks to WO2. He left the Corps immigrating to Australia 1992 where he then joined the Australian Army SAS Regiment and served two tours of duty with them in Afganistan where he was seriously injured. He was medically discharged in the rank of Major after a total of 45 years continuous service. Peter was accompanied by his lovely wife Jenny and his assistance dog Ruby who sat under the table and devoured the largest Carrot I think I have ever seen. Our Sunday event is usually a BBQ at midday this year due to unforeseen circumstances it was decided to gather for a very late Breakfast or early lunch (BRUNCH) in the hotel where three of us were staying. This turned out to be a good idea and at 1030hrs we all sat down to a most enjoyable meal. This is usually the time to discuss plans for the next reunion being 2019. One member present said he felt the Reunion had "Run it's Course" and this present one should be the last. I'm glad to say the consensus was to continue and the decision was made we would again gather in Glenelg in 2019. Now the decision has been made we are hoping more will find their way clear to attend. Venues are in process of being sorted and is looking like the date will be either LAST WEEKEND of March or FIRST WEEKEND of April 2019 in Glenelg Adelaide South Australia as usual. Please spread the word. I have checked and our Reunion will not conflict with the Mountbatten Festival of Music so is possible those who enjoy the time at the Royal Albert Hall would still be able to join us. For those of you who know Barrie Baker and Ray Taylor you may not be aware both are struggling with ill health and if you would like to have contact with them please feel free to contact me and I will provide their contact details. My best regards to all and once again thank-you Richard  
Eric Hayward

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message #: 2379

Date: Wednesday May 16 2018 05:42:39 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Comments:  
I did manage to get to Jan Greenleaf's funeral at the Plymouth Crematorium yesterday. It was a full house with family and friends plus many ex and serving Bandsmen. Not that I knew any of them but I did get to meet the present D of M of the so called Plymouth Band plus the B/M and one other member...Most of these guys joined in the 90s so its fair to say I didnt really know anyone. However I did feel it was my privilege to represent the older generation. Farewell Jan RIP. It also gave me the opportunity to call in on the way home on Frank & Maureen Dominey. Frank is in the early stages of Parkinsons but is coping and it was a joy to see them both. Then it was John & Maureen Stone who had to put up with me for an hour as I bashed their ears about old times for an hour. So a pretty full day! 360 miles! a funeral and four old buddies to check out. There's life in the old & bold still....regards to all Mick. [Editor] You are an example to us all Michael! Well done! Dickie.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2378

Date: Friday May 11 2018 17:20:30 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Pompey ( â€ˆâ€™twas Bude!)  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Fiddler  
n/a: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Comments:  
Sorry Mick Iâ€™ve just re read your query re Noddy Kyleâ€™s whereabouts? Iâ€™m clearly too old and should try to read a little more carefully for I can see that your mention of both Stocks and Rogâ€™ Hammond were incidental to your point and itâ€™s wasn't actually those two fine trumpeters of yesterday that you wanted to make contact with! So apologies from this old â€ˆduffer!â€™ However my message still applies that - should anyone wish to make contact with either of them then give them a shout! â€™ Meant to mention my eternal thanks to former Bandmaster Mike â€™Taffâ€™ Webber who has been a constant help during my recovery keeping in touch via email and talking me through the hard times. Thanks a million to Richâ€™ Valentine too for connecting us. Mikeâ€™s help has been immense having been through the very same opâ€™ 2 years ago so knows every little foible of whatever Iâ€™m going through which is so beneficial. Cheers! To you both once again.

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message #: 2377

Date: Friday May 11 2018 16:52:46 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Pompey ( â€ˆâ€™twas Bude once!!)  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Fiddler!  
n/a: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Comments:  
In response to our old mate Mick Tellickâ€™s query I wouldnâ€™ know about the first whereabouts enquiry but I am in regular touch with both Dave Stockham (â€™Stocksâ€™) and Roger Hammond so I can share their tel. landlines with you if you contact me via my e-mail address above. Iâ€™m quite sure that both would welcome a call as both are very old school and not net users unfortunately. [Editor] Derek meant Facebook users. Similar to many in our over 70 age brackets sadly so donâ€™ get the benefit of Richâ€™ / Dickieâ€™s wonderful RMB family site. BTW my 4th week of recovery from my recent half lung & tumour removal continues on itâ€™s merry way. I wish I could say I felt â€™merryâ€™ too about it. The constant 24 hours of pain despite the painkillers isn't exactly a barrel load of laughs I have to say but still better than the alternative of course!! Yesterday and today Iâ€™ve experienced faint signs of it abating a little which has been a bit of a relief to say the least!! - Iâ€™m hoping now that this is a possible sign and that I havenâ€™ spoken too soon!!? - I do know that the good book states that it will take a minimum of 8 weeks for it to really start to subside and even after a year or more patients may still expect the odd twinge or two!! Nice to know!!!! Iâ€™, Anyway enough of me. See you all at the Oct reunion!!? X

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message #: 2376

Date: Friday May 11 2018 09:36:47 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Comments:  
Has anyone heard of "Noddy" Kyle (Cornet & Violin)? Along with Roger Hammond and Dave Stockham he came from Sheppy. I last saw him about 30 years ago when he worked on the Olau Line running out of Sheerness to Flushing in Holland. Best wishes to all Mike

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2375

Date: Monday May 7 2018 10:05:05 EST  
Name: Raymond Watts  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2349  
Hometown: Bicester  
Instrument/s: SaxViola  
n/a: rwatts@btinternet.com

Comments:  
So sorry to hear the news about my dear friend Jan Greenleaf. If my memory serves me correctly I first met Jan in 1946 and we have kept in touch ever since. I had recently planned to visit Plymouth this summer and was looking forward to meeting up with him. He was a true gent and it was an honour to have known him. RIP Jan.

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message #: 2374

Date: Friday May 4 2018 13:18:37 EST  
Name: Mick Tynan  
Email:

Service Number: RM 15769  
Hometown: Belfast  
Instrument/s: Bugler  
n/a: mjt273312@gmail.com

Comments:  
I would love to hear from any of my old mates

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message #: 2373

Date: Tuesday May 1 2018 13:05:17 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4336  
Hometown: Hereford (Now Deal!)  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: french.horn@sky.com

Comments:  
A Horn playing colleague of mine is looking for a Peter Fryer who I'm told studied Trumpet at the RMSM Deal (1970's?) and later went on to join the Police in Jersey. I don't recall anyone by that name but if anyone can throw any light on this request please drop me a line via my e-mail. Cheers!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2372

Date: Tuesday May 1 2018 04:55:14 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: mikhik1@gmail.com

Comments:  
May I join those and add my condolences to friends and family of Eric. What a gent he was it was a pleasure to speak with him at the Reunions he attended in his later years. I wish a few more would follow his example and come along it does not hurt. Rest in peace Eric it was a great pleasure to have been in your company albeit for a short time. ERIC GREENLEAF- RIP

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message #: 2371

Date: Monday April 30 2018 08:44:04 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Comments:  
Hi to all Like many others I am truly saddened to read of the passing of Eric. My oh my what an extraordinary man. Proud to have known you Eric. You were a gentleman. Many many memories. Condolences to everyone who was lucky enough to have known this great man. Such a sad loss. regards Barry

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message #: 2370

Date: Monday April 30 2018 04:29:01 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Comments:  
Very Sad news today as what must be our most senior Band Sevice member Jan Greenleaf has left us for the other even greater Band ! He was a great chum to all who knew him and will be missed by everyone. You all need to download the Heritage info as Adrian says its of great interest to all who joined or served in Deal. Michael Hutton.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2369

Date: Monday April 30 2018 04:24:00 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Comments:  
Good morning from a very soggy Sittingbourne I too am sorry to hear that "Jan" Greenleaf had crossed the bar. He was a great help to us youngsters from the school on our first draft. Always a smile and a timely word of advice. I next came across him in Manadon where he worked in the mess as a DHA. A lovely man who will be missed by his family and bandies who had the privilege of knowing him. RIP old friend. Mike

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message #: 2368

Date: Sunday April 29 2018 15:55:00 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Comments:  
So sorry to read in the Obits the passing of another Oldie who I served alongside in HMS Drake and HMS Thunderer aka Manadon where he became a WRA after leaving the Band Service. R.I.P. Eric (Jan) Greenleaf Bass Drum and Clarinet and Viola.

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message #: 2367

Date: Thursday April 26 2018 06:12:02 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Comments:  
I urge everyone to go to this site and download the pdf. Having been born in Deal trained at RMSM and served 4 of my 7 years RMB service in the town I thought I knew about my hometown. How wrong can one be! The new Royal Marines Heritage Trails are a revelation in several areas and for anyone who served in the Royal Marines and grew to love the town as so many did this new tourist route is de rigeur for everyone! but can be conveniently viewed online as the website is so user friendly and hugely informative. The historical research is impressive and the photos will bring back a few old memories for all of us. The older photos are unique and I certainly have not seen many of them. A lot of readers here will remember the 1960 Tattoo on North Barracks Parade Ground. All we juniors had to do a PT display I recall. A large photo of the finale is within the webpages. Thanks to all involved in the preparation and I can sense the accurate input from Graham Hoskins in much of the text!! ADRIAN

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2366

Date: Tuesday April 24 2018 02:36:42 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Comments:  
Hi folks I thought you would like to know that David Cole and the BBC team have won the BAFTA for the second year running. It was for the Passchendaele commemorations last year. David wrote and arranged most of the music for the event. Thoroughly deserved well done David. Best wishes to all. Mike

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message #: 2365

Date: Sunday April 22 2018 11:08:50 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Comments:  
Dear Richard So pleased to let you know that I have returned home today from hospital with my dear wife Heather. She is very very fragile but I'm sure now that she is home her recovery will be hastened. Many many thanks to everyone who has been in touch with messages. How lucky we are to have such true friends from our Great Band Service Family. All via your great Web site. Thanks to you Richard and also all of our many friends out there. ã€ regards to all Barry and Heather [Editor] Our thoughts and prayers for you both as Heather returns home and a steady recovery.

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message #: 2364

Date: Saturday April 21 2018 06:24:01 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Bude Cornwall (Pompey now!)  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Fiddle  
n/a: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Comments:  
Oh! Baz / Barry Radford! - Thanks for your response to my ramblings. However old mate whilst I appreciate your kind words of course how awful you must be feeling right now with your dear wife having to be rushed off to hospital so suddenly. Life can certainly be cruel to us "old cretins" can't it? You would know as Lord knows you've been through the mill a few times to say the least young man! I've just been very lucky until recently when "Old Father Time" decided to come along and single me out for a taste of it!! Please convey my very best to Heather Barry. Here's to the speediest of recoveries for the lovely lady and less stress for you too mate! Recovery at home is not quite as easy i'd first envisaged por moil - I spent yesterday attempting to make contact with the Ward Nurses for them to expedite the District nurse. Finally did all that but got a "no show" from the District Nurse! (Not a happy Bunny as my damned drainage bag has been leaking - sorry if you're having your breakfast!) Phoned 111 this morning in desperation (as District Nurses are only available Mon to Fri's!) and they've promised me that I would hear back with the hour. It's now 2 hours so I have to call yet again!! Maybe there IS something to said for remaining in hospital after all!! Just a tad annoying as I've no idea what damage I might be doing in the meantime! Cheers again ya all! [Richard] Hang in there Derek!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2363

Date: Friday April 20 2018 15:46:45 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

**Comments:**

Dear Richard How fantastic to read Derek's remit. Fantastic to know that you are home dear friend. But my how you appear to have been through the mill. But for sure you haven't lost your sense of humour!! Good luck with everything that is to follow. I can only echo Derek's praise of the NHS Staff and Ambulance Crews. Only yesterday my dear Heather was admitted to hospital via a 999 call. How wonderful these tremendous people are and I am so very grateful for the way Heather was looked after (and continues to be in hospital). Regards to all and take care Barry [Webmaster] One can only echo the sentiment regarding Derek's recent experiences and equally importantly I say that well wishes to Heather for hopefully a quick recovery and back home to you Barry. I know you will keep us posted. Richard.

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message #: 2362

Date: Friday April 20 2018 15:00:57 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Bude Cornwall but Pompey now!  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Fiddle  
n/a: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

**Comments:**

Just a quick note from my recovery position at my home in Queens Rd Pompey! Great to be home free of all of the trappings of all of those Hospital rules and reg's to say nothing of the various noises off to add further discord to your time spent in such royal establishments!! However nothing but exceptional praise once again to all of the hospital staff involved in the process of my op's recovery. Rushed off their feet they are yet somehow NOTHING was ever too much trouble for any of them. Enormous volumes of energy and such buoyant sense of humour kept my entire ward going and most of us seemed to suck that in and use it to our advantage to aid our recoveries. Never ever been in that situation in my life before so the whole hospital thing was virtually brand new to me. I therefore owe Rich' Valentine an enormous pint or two for putting me in touch with our own former B/M Mike Webber who managed to guide me through exactly the same Upper Lobectomy op that he too had experienced a few years back. Essentially it's the removal of a malignant tumour in the left lung that involves losing the left upper lobe too via keyhole surgery. Mike I am so very grateful to you too for giving me the "heads up!" What you failed to tell me however was that I'd also wake up looking like "Michelin Man" on my return to the world post op! - I'd become a victim of what just 1 in 180 people contract that is Surgical Emphysema. Air gets somehow trapped in between the operation area and the outer skin and you just seem to blow up!! - When I awoke I couldn't see a damned thing and couldn't work out why until a nurse explained! - A Doc' was called and within an hour I managed to open my eyes thank God!! Only then I could also see why. My head and shoulders were absolutely enormous with the texture of a sand bag and only over the next few days did I gradually decrease in size to match the rest of my body! In the meantime I'm trying to overcome the actual operation itself! - This past week has been a barrel load of laughs you can imagine! I now have 2 weeks to wait for the biopsy results of the upper lobe to establish whether Chemo' or Radio therapy will be required and another 7- 8 weeks to get back to feeling somewhere near normal! Just so glad to be out to the UK's current glorious temperatures that's for sure. Able to sit in the garden yesterday and today to listen to the sound of birdsong for a double bonus! Anyway I waffle yet again. Sorry folks!  
My very grateful thanks to both my old comrades Barry (Baz') Radford and Mike Tellick for their very kind words on these pages. You can't ever seem to beat that old special camaraderie that we "old bandies" will always have for each other. Friends were always more than friends and still remain so to this day! Something that is totally impossible to explain to any civvy! BTW ' Trust you too are also recovering well now Baz' Barry Pettitt? All the best folks.

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message #: 2361

Date: Thursday April 19 2018 00:33:21 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

**Comments:**

Hi all I am sorry to learn through my squaddie Barry Radford that Derek Usher is in sickbay. I am sure we all wish him all the very best for a quick recovery and that he will be back to his normal ebullient self. Like you Barry I do not do "face ache" or "twater"!!!! Best wishes to all Mike

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2360

Date: Wednesday April 18 2018 09:50:26 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Comments:  
Hi to all Sorry to hear the news that dear Derek (the lush) Usher is in hospital. ( I donâ€™t do Facebook) hope he is out and home soonest.. Derek take care old friend both Heather and I are thinking of you. Heres hoping that things go well for you. Also great news re Barry Pettit being home and making good progress. Regards  
Barry

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message #: 2359

Date: Tuesday April 17 2018 14:46:19 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bassoon - previous Flute/Tenor Sax  
n/a: GrandadRoy66@gmail.com

Comments:  
Hi Dickie Great to hear from Taff Webber again. As someone else stated the scariest "Duty Nick" in Company with Dave Wells. Terry Freestone and John Whelton were a close second. Terry Williams was a teddy bear in comparison. Going ashore was a mission impossible sometimes.....if you missed the "Liberty Boat" (what the hell was a Liberty Boat.... we're on dry land) Civvies properly stamped clean hankie clean shoes tie etc anything awry TOUGH you missed the boat and had to sit on your bed and await the next one! 1st Shore leave for me was 1800 - 2100 Saturday Beach Parlour Bingo walk along the beach and home..... no time to go to the Flea Pit no pubs avoid Mad Mick and Middle Street. But oh! good days.

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message #: 2358

Date: Monday April 9 2018 04:17:04 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3492  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: mikhik1@gmail.com

Comments:  
Greetings to one and all Like Michael Hutton I also attended the funeral of my old sparring partner Wally Walters as said by Michael. The place was full with many standing upstairs and others filling the aisles. I did attend the wake at the RMA and it was a great occasion so nice to meet up with his dear wife Rena and family again long time no see this also applies to many old soldiers who attended many I had not seen for years too many to mention. Before people started to leave a port toast to Wally was made by his family and we sang with family 'There's only one Wally Walters' which was mentioned many time during the service and at the wake. I am sure the family took great pleasure with so many old friends attending. He will be missed and remember by many. WALLY WALTERS RIP

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2357

Date: Thursday April 5 2018 14:49:39 EST  
Name: bart bartholomew  
Email:

Service Number: rmb 3871  
Hometown: Dartmouth  
Instrument/s: solo clarinet/tenor sax  
n/a: bart.fatknacker@gmail.com

Comments:  
Sorry to hear that Tom Rumney has gone to the massed bands up top. He was my sergeant on HMS Hermes 1966/68 so rest in peace my old mucker.

---

message #: 2356

Date: Wednesday April 4 2018 15:33:26 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Comments:  
There was a fantastic turn out at Barham to give Wally Walters a great send off last Thursday. A very moving service with many tributes from his wife and family. He was much loved by all and a great family man. The chapel was full and many of us had to stand throughout but it was a lovely service. I didn't make the wake at the RMA so perhaps there may be further info from someone who did.....RIP Wally. Michael Hutton.

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message #: 2355

Date: Monday April 2 2018 04:56:32 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

Comments:  
Thanks to Graham Hoskins for the info re the celebrations of the Corps in Deal. I hope the Civic Lunch goes as well as the Bon Accord Lunch in Aberdeen Graham. Bon chance!!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2354

Date: Saturday March 31 2018 07:10:05 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: graham.hoskins@gmail.com

Comments:  
Colleagues You may be interested to learn that arrangements have gone ahead here for the setting up of a Royal Marines Heritage Trail in Deal. A man in the town recognised that historically there was much to interest visitors that would be lost with the passage of time as local memories fade. From a simple idea the project has gathered pace and received funding for a quite elaborate set up. The "Trail" will take in all the landmarks both inside out outside of the barracks wall in which the Corps has featured over the years. We learn that in the 1600s the very first section of the newly formed Duke of York & Albany's Regiment of Foot came from London to Deal where it was based in Sandown Castle now virtually lost to the encroaching tides. The "Trail" is marked by numbered XXXI discs let into the paved areas and a guide book is available to assist those going from place to place. CGRM will inaugurate proceedings from his residence of Deal Castle on the afternoon of St George's Day this year. Being the 100th anniversary of the Zeebrugge Raid lots will be happening that day. In Dover there will be a special commemorative service a march through the town by Royal Marines with fixed bayonets together with a RM band from a Portsmouth and a civic lunch in the Townhall will end the morning activity. Deal in the afternoon as I have explained to be followed by activities on board HMS SOMERSET docked in the harbour in the evening. Quite a day for those who try to attend it all. From the above you will see that although the Corps left Kent finally with the departure of the RMSM in 1996 it has rightly not been forgotten locally. Amazingly the Sergeants' Mess Pantomimes have been resurrected by colleagues living in the vicinity. Written and directed by Brian Short former "Bandie" the shows run for ten days in the week following Christmas are totally sold out within an hour of tickets going on sale and generate each year in excess of £30 000 for Corps and local charities. An incredible record for amateur thespians in big boots! There is huge support in this historic town for all of you that wore the familiar blue uniform here giving it its positive image over many years. You are not forgotten! Graham.

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message #: 2353

Date: Saturday March 31 2018 04:44:41 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Comments:  
A night's sleep has replenished the old grey cells a little. The photo taken in Eastney band room must have been 1963 and not 1964. My reason for changing the date is that I now recall HMY Britannia sailed from Pompey on Jan 4th 1964 for several months and I had my 19th birthday aboard on March 3rd 1964. Thinking again I believe this photo must have been taken in the middle of '63. Someone will know when the B/Ms class started but I seem to remember it was in September each year. B/Sgt Ernie Ward who I replaced on flute is in the photo so had not left for Deal. I seem to recall he left Pompey shortly after the important concert in Portsmouth Guildhall the rehearsals of which took place in Eastney bandroom.

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message #: 2352

Date: Friday March 30 2018 15:40:58 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Comments:  
Just had a look at the photo Taff Webber has put on his 'buddy page' of the orchestra in Eastney band room. This was taken in 1964...not 1960 when I was still in 'J' wing!! 2nd violinist up on the left is Jim Dale and the principal viola is Geoff Pearson Charlie Solomon on trumpet. We all joined Portsmouth Group Band together in 1964. I am playing my silver piccolo (seen clearly) with 2nd flute B/Cpl Rod Farrell and 1st flute B/Sgt Ernie Ward. Ernie went to Deal shortly afterwards to do the B/M's course and I replaced him on the Royal Yacht. This was the combined orchestra of Pompey Group and HMS Excellent etc that played a concert in the Portsmouth Guildhall in 1964. Good shot of B/Sgt Gunner Hargreaves on 'cello. I remember it well as we played several of the short pieces by Delius and it was the first time I had played any of his music. The 1st oboe should be Terry Gee and it looks like Terry Parker playing bass clarinet. I think the 1st horn is Les Dawkins. No doubt Willi Watson will put us all right about all the remaining players!!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2351

Date: Thursday March 29 2018 10:06:21 EST  
Name: martin jackson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4207  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Always questionable  
n/a: martin.jackson@liverygroup.com

Comments:  
Hi Guys Getting ready for Easter looking through the messages just wanted to say hi to anyone who I served with in Plymouth and Portsmouth great times. Be healthy

---

message #: 2350

Date: Tuesday March 20 2018 11:44:58 EST  
Name: Bob Taylor  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4121  
Hometown: Stubbington  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/viola  
n/a: Bob.taylor2311@btinternet.com

Comments:  
Good to hear from Taff Webber. I had the privilege of pushing him in his wheelchair a few months ago at the Southampton Cruise Terminal in my capacity on the Meet and Greet team. He was embarking on a cruise to Norway and I was assigned to push his wheelchair. I was told to collect a Mr Webber from the priority area and take him on board. As we were talking I asked if he had been to Norway before and he said yes when he was in the RM Band on HMS Victorious. I mentioned that my first trip to the Arctic was on board HMS Nubian when I was with Chatham board. It was then that it dawned that this was the famous Taff Webber. I said straight away that he was my Viola instructor at Deal and he remembered me straight away. Needless to say we had a good chat as I wheeled him to the cruise ship. He hadnâ€™t been in the best of Health but was well enough to travel. It was great to see him and reminisce over old times.

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message #: 2349

Date: Saturday March 17 2018 05:12:11 EST  
Name: Steve Swann  
Email:

Service Number: Q004215B  
Hometown: Hilton Dorset  
Instrument/s: Trombone holder  
n/a: Steve.swann@datasharproug.co.uk

Comments:  
Hello everyone I do indeed remember them both Paddy. Not sure which one I was most nervous about. I seem to remember the scary three. The third being Sgt Williams the bassoon player. I cannot remember which one made me run round the parade ground with my mattress on my back. All character building for sure. I also remember Taff Webber as our Bandmaster in Plymouth and what a good one he was. Fair and looked after his men. Thank you Taff a pleasure to serve with you and hope you are well. Hope everyone the best of health and happiness. Swanny

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2348

Date: Friday March 16 2018 14:36:46 EST  
Name: Ed McDermott(Paddy)  
Email:

Service Number: Q004119X  
Hometown: Belfast (Gosport)  
Instrument/s: Flute Piccolo, Sax  
n/a: edmcdermott@sky.com

Comments:

Hi Taff good to hear from you. Remember the days when you and Dave Wells were duty in J Wing. You were both known as the dreaded W's the scourge of J Wing fond memories but very scary to anyone wishing to go ashore.

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message #: 2347

Date: Thursday March 15 2018 12:30:33 EST  
Name: Taff Webber  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX 3144  
Hometown: Dudley  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: mikewebber78@btinternet.com

Comments:

hi I am ex Bandmaster Taff Webber. Served 1953-1978. Kindest regards to all

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message #: 2346

Date: Wednesday March 7 2018 13:52:57 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Comments:

Later in the junior orchestra I had the immense pleasure of sitting next to him. He was as I often reminded him the very first oboist I ever heard â€” in the flesh! I recall the piece too. It was the overture to Schubert's â€” Rosamundaâ€” with a ravishing oboe solo seldom played today though a fine piece. It was certainly well ravished by Wally! Capt. E. S. Ough was relentless in his rehearsal and selected Wally for particular scrutiny and critique. This was I think my first experience of the power of a conductorâ€” to control and sometimes humiliate another musician who was clearly doing his very best however mediocre. I truly believe that dear old Ernie meant well by his actions which he believed would encourage a young player to work harder. Over the years when I recalled this moment to Wally which was highly significant to me and engendered a wish not to be the recipient of such criticism Wally just laughed. He told me he could never understand how his oboe playing could possibly have inspired me and had not put me off for life any ambition to succeed as a musician. Sometimes in life it is such seemingly mundane and insignificant momentsâ€” five minutes in East Barracks Concert Hallâ€” that do ignite the necessary fuel to carry on oneâ€”s personal journey into self-awareness personal fulfilment and realise oneâ€”s potential as a musician. I thank you dear old Wally and may you rest in peaceâ€” but please now you have joined our Celestial RM Band in 'The Heavens' crescendo to the top of the phrase and watch the pitch of that top Bb! Adrian Brett

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2345

Date: Wednesday March 7 2018 13:16:36 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: Barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Comments:  
Such sad news regarding dear Wally. I know he has been so poorly for such a long time. A very brave man who has suffered more than most. Rena and family are in our thoughts at this time. Yet another fantastic member of our great family moves on to the ever growing Band Room in another place. RIP dear Wally it was an honour and pleasure to have known you. Barry and Heather

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message #: 2344

Date: Wednesday March 7 2018 11:24:25 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email:

Service Number: rmb3645  
Hometown: Pompey (former home was Bude!)  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Fiddle  
n/a: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Comments:  
Thanks for those fitting and interesting words about dear old Syd Rose Michael Hutton. What a fine person he was in all respects and one enviable musician who we all looked up to at that time. He certainly received a great send off for his wake last week at the RMA club (in spite of many not able to attend due to the damned weather!) Many friends of Syd who couldn't attend were rewarded somewhat however as it was all so brilliantly filmed for a live stream on Facebook by the lovely Lisa, (daughter of Graham Verroken). Well done once again Lisa and indeed Dad Graham for m/c'ing the whole event so professionally! Sadly now we hear to day of another former staff band member and oboist Wally Walters. I knew that Wally hadn't been at all well recently but none the less it still managed to come as a complete shock to read the news via his daughter Eileen on FB this morning. Wally has also joined our band of the greatest musicians to have ever served in our Corps to follow closely behind good old Syd Rose whom he served with in Deal. Lovely fella was Wally with a smile for everyone and such a damned decent chap too in the short time that I knew him. I would always give him "stick" as I believe both he and I were one of the shortest members of the RMBS!! - Wally however won that record for he was even shorter than me! Others will know a lot more about Wally and I'm quite sure will have various dits to recall their times with him for sure. My condolences to his lovely wife Rena and daughter Eileen on this very sad day. RIP Wally. x

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message #: 2343

Date: Sunday March 4 2018 12:47:51 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Comments:  
Due to the dreadful weather conditions I was unable to get to Syd's funeral or the get together at the RMA in Deal so I would like to add my tribute here. I suppose there may be many guys who will contact this great site with personal information about Syd Rose who might have been their B/M or perhaps a pupil. I never served with him but of course knew him as a contemporary and colleague during those years in the 60s when he was one of our finest Trumpet players and he was along with others a regular member of the 'Fanfare Team' especially on Memorial Days. During my last days as B/M of the Staff Band Sir Vivian would always import Syd into the band for broadcasts & recordings etc; so he was always in demand as a performer. I also recall the 1967 Sgts Mess Pantomime - Stan Glasspole's famous 'Treasure Island' when Syd was 'Squire Trelawny Ben Finney was Ben Gunn Pete Fox the parrot (flown in on a rope!) and I had the roll of 'Long John Silver' with wooden leg - crutch - eye patch over one eye. During the show with Dougie Drake as MD he had arranged a fantastic version of 'Cherry Pink & Apple Blossom White' as a duet - Syd on Trumpet and myself on Valve Trombone with a fantastic Pit Band accompanying us. What a treat that was and I think that Roger Moore and a few of his friends from London were in the audience on the last night. When I left the Band Service Syd then took over the Staff Band and was I'm sure a tremendous help to the new guy Colonel Paul the new PDM. After retirement Syd took on the roll as principal Trumpet in the 'All Stars Band' for many years - always a joy to spend time with him during those concerts as his sense of humour was second to none. I'm sure many of you will have great memories of Syd which I regret fade as we all get older - but I shall always remember him as one of our 'greats' along with many others who over the last many many years have made the Band Service what it is today. Rest in Peace dear Syd. Michael Hutton.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2342

Date: Saturday February 24 2018 19:42:40 EST  
Name: Paul Foley  
Email:

Service Number: P036943D  
Hometown: Bolton  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a: paulfedex@me.com

Comments:

Anyone on here old enough to know anything about a John Brazill he was a musician playing Oboe or Bassoon firstly with the Grenadier Guards from about 1920-1932. He then joined the Royal Marines and was stationed at Portsmouth for several years till he moved on to Plymouth. Name- John Brazill DOB: 05/04/1903: Died 24/07/1971 in Plymouth. His Granddaughter in Australia is trying to find out more about him

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message #: 2341

Date: Friday February 16 2018 05:37:52 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: mikhik1@gmail.com

Comments:

Taff Jones So sad to read about the passing of Taff I remember him well we both joined 03 01 56 sixty two long years ago. I never served with him in fact I do not recall our paths crossing once we had left the wing. My condolences go to his family and to those of our great family who the pleasure to know and serve with him. Taff Jones RiP

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message #: 2340

Date: Thursday February 15 2018 17:04:28 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX 3050  
Hometown: Congresbury Somerset.  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Comments:

Hi Everyone Seeing the request of a Joyce we had a Cecil Joyce in our East Barracks Boys Band. He was Cecil Joyce who I never saw again once I had qualified to go onto Sea Service in 1955! I also attended the Well Attended Funeral Service of the Late Cliff Meatheringham and I am able to send copies of the Service Sheet to anyone who wishes to see and receive them. My wife and I were well received by the Family many of them were not even born when Cliff and I served together in particular in HMS Ganges Band under the Baton of Dick Plaice a well known Ballroom Dancer along with his wife in Shotley! I have been able to circulate the Service Sheet to Ken Tyler an old Shipmate of Cliff and his Family. Replying to enquiries on CECIL JOYCE He was in the band of the Royal Naval College Dartmouth from 1956 to 1958 and again from 1961 to 1965 but including time with five different ships in the Far East. Cecil's father Bandmaster Victor C Joyce LRAM served in Gallipoli in the first World War and on retirement took up the appointment of Bandmaster at my School where he trained dozens of potential musicians for the then Royal Naval School of Music. Later Mr. Joyce became Colonel in the local Home Guard. Trevor Lintott

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2339

Date: Thursday February 15 2018 13:35:58 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/anything  
n/a: GrandadRoy66@gmail.com

Comments:  
Hello Richard I was just wondering if any of our ex Bandy family out there know of or maybe served with a Bandmaster by the name of DONALD JOYCE. I am trying to get any information for his Granddaughter. Please send any info or photos via this website or my e-mail. All information will be dealt with in strictest confidence. Thank you all Roy Editor:- According to Terry Freestone's extensive database I share with you and Donald's granddaughter these details. RMB 3032 Donald F Joyce - Bandmaster 2nd Class - Born 6/20/1910 - Portsmouth - Joined 13/10/1924 - Died 12/19/1941 - J Trendall book "A life on the ocean wave" p132. Website - RN Casualties page for December 1941 - Missing presumed killed in HMS Neptune.

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message #: 2338

Date: Thursday February 15 2018 06:16:10 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

Comments:  
So sorry I cannot attend Syd Rose's funeral. He was Bandmaster when I joined St Vincent as a newly rated Musn. An absolute gentleman who helped and encouraged me. Requiescat in Pace.

---

message #: 2337

Date: Wednesday February 14 2018 02:58:37 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Comments:  
Hi to all 2/56â€™s 62 years ago today we joined the Great Family of the Royal Marine Band Service (and I would do it all again! 1/2) just 4 of us left we think!! enjoy your day guys. Iâ€™ll raise a glass later. Regards to all. Thanks for the memories! 1/2 Regards Barry

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2336

Date: Wednesday February 14 2018 02:08:13 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Comments:  
Happy birthday to any surviving members of the 2/56 squad who joined 62 years ago today. Barry Radford (squad watch) he goes on about it all the time!!! Ray Grant John Cowdrey and myself seem to be the only ones left. Best wishes to all serving and past members of our great family Mike

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message #: 2335

Date: Tuesday February 13 2018 15:07:33 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None Now  
n/a: jananderic9@gmail.com

Comments:  
Hi Richard Sad to report that Ray (Taff) Taylor is not at all well and his wife Jenny has been in hospital for ten days or more. Ray I believe has been diagnosed with Myeloma. If any of their friends would like to pass on good wishes etc I will be more than pleased to pass them on for you. My best regards to you and yours Richard. Cheers Eric.

---

message #: 2334

Date: Monday February 12 2018 14:22:16 EST  
Name: Graham Harvey  
Email:

Service Number: Q003968W  
Hometown: Kingsdown Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: graham3968@hotmail.com

Comments:  
Memorial Concert to Trevor Attwood It was so very sad for us all to learn of the passing of Trevor Attwood towards the end of last year. I had known Trevor since we were boys together in the wing and I have always had the greatest respect for him as a friend musician and of course just as a very genuine good caring guy. For the past few years he has been playing in the White Cliffs Symphonic Winds in Dover and he is certainly missed as within our ranks. The Band will be having a memorial concert in memory of Trevor on Saturday 17th February at St Mary's Church Walmer 7.30. We shall be ending the concert with Trevor's arrangement of Saint Saens Organ Symphony (Finale) with Rod Starr once again playing the organ as he did for it's first performance at the Royal Albert Hall. Quite a high percentage of this 50 piece band are ex RMB's who live in the area and would be thrilled if any of you are able to attend in memory of Trevor. We look forward to welcoming you if you require tickets please contact Graham on 01304 373697 or tickets will also be available at the door. Profits raised will go towards 'The Trevor Attwood Cup' which will be presented annually for achievement/or progress in the Shepway Brass Academy to students aged between 8 and 18. Trevor was a great source of encouragement to young developing musicians in the area and I know this will be a most fitting tribute to him.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2333

Date: Wednesday February 7 2018 04:55:28 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: willi.watson@btinternet.com

Comments:  
FRANCIS TAFF JONES Solo Cornet. 1/56 New Entry Squad. I am sad to announce the passing of Taff whom I remember fondly from when we served in the Portsmouth Group Band in the very early 1960s. He served on HMS Tiger before coming to Pompey and was a fine trumpet player. Our daily journeys during The Bournemouth Bandstand fortnight (Cat:4 plus subsistence!) through the New Forest in Roger Hammond's car singing our heads off in extemporised harmony will always stay in my memory. His medical condition in his later years entailed dialysis three times a week which he bore with admirable stoicism. Our thoughts are with Beryl and the family. RIP dear friend.

---

message #: 2332

Date: Thursday January 25 2018 23:33:52 EST  
Name: Colin Parsons  
Email:

Service Number: not a service man  
Hometown: Leigh on sea  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: jaypars43@outlook.com

Comments:  
Respect 2 All.

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message #: 2331

Date: Tuesday January 23 2018 07:11:29 EST  
Name: Edward Toon  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3667  
Hometown: Burton upon Trent  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Violin  
n/a: edwardtoon@gmail.com

Comments:  
Sad to hear of the passing of Syd Rose last Saturday. he was my Bandmaster of the HMS Vincent Band. It was a very Happy Band & Syd was always a good encourager. He was always available to talk to & a wonderful Musician. Will always be remembered.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2330

Date: Monday January 22 2018 13:27:32 EST  
Name: Ian Epps  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx 2698  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: barbelshopping@virginmedia.com

Comments:  
It was with  
great regret I read this morning of the passing of Sid Rose what a real gentleman he was. He was my bandmaster during my stay at St. Vincent in 62/3 and he made life for all the band most enjoyable a really happy band. I never saw him again until I met him and Den Brown at the Reunion a few years ago and we had a long "catch up" chat. In subsequent years we always chatted but both Sid and Den has been missed the last couple of Reunions. It's this getting old lark. I am coming up to Canterbury Crematorium on the 1st of Feb a nephew passed away and I aimed to drop into Kent and Canterbury Hospital (a place I know very well after I smashed my leg and spent three months in traction) and I was going to see if they would let me visit Sid before I came back down to Fareham but now I'm too late. Many will have memories of Sid mine are of a bandmaster who gave me some very good advice when I was coming up to 30 (I took it and signed on) and made my stay in Vincent a great pleasure. RIP Sid

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message #: 2329

Date: Monday January 22 2018 11:14:59 EST  
Name: Keith Meatheringham  
Email:

Service Number: RMB  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: pix@dobsonagency.co.uk

Comments:  
To all former Royal Band Members & colleagues of Cliff Meatheringham RMB. Your many wishes thoughts and memories brought comfort to myself and family at this sad time. It is so lovely to know how highly he was respected and regarded for his kindness generosity musical skills & knowledge he was a true gentleman dignified and honest to the end! Our thoughts are with other comrades who find themselves in ill health at this time. Margaret Meatheringham & family. 47 Chesterton PS: It's not yet confirmed but the funeral is looking like it will take place at... 9th February 2018 (All Very Welcome). Holy Trinity Church 32 Watermoor Rd Cirencester GL7 1JR With a reception/wake at Cirencester Football Club (Cliff's local team who we often watched). Cirencester Town FC The Corinium Stadium Kingshill Lane Cirencester Glos GL7 1HS We will inform you of any changes to the above & times etc. Many thanks Keith Meatheringham w: (01723) 269141 m: (07802) 530583

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message #: 2328

Date: Thursday January 18 2018 16:03:35 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: jananderic9@gmail.com

Comments:  
Hi Richard On Monday 15th January my partner Jan and I travelled to Ballarat Victoria to attend the funeral of B/Sgt Raymon John Clemetron West. As we had only been informed of the timing of the funeral late on the Saturday we decided that we would leave on Sunday and stay over night in Ballarat. This then enabled us to look for local florists to arrange a floral tribute. Although all of this was done in a hurry the flowers arrived at the Crematorium just before the funeral was to begin. It was a nice Sheaf of flowers and as had been requested were tied with Corps Colour ribbons with the message; In Memory of B/Sgt Raymon John Clemetron West RMB/X 2111 On behalf of all ex RMB Members. "He was one of ours" The service was short. Ray's Daughter Stacey read a letter from Mike Hutton detailing Ray's service in the Band. Mike and Ray served in the Med together. He had a good send off with fifty or more present. Ray's son Steve who we in Oz had adopted into our Reunion Group was unable to attend as he is now residing in the UK which was a shame as it was only in very recent times that both he and Ray met. My best wishes to you Richard and thank you.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2327

Date: Monday January 15 2018 14:12:34 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email:

Service Number: RMB X1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a: keng0iti@gmail.com

**Comments:**

What lovely stories are on the message board concerning Cliff Meatheringham. We know he was a great Musician and I had the pleasure of being with him in the Deal Staff Band. I could tell some tales about Meths and the laughs we had together.... there won't be many of us about who remembers being under canvas near Wormwood Scrubs. Meths Myself and Georgie Barr shared a tent!!!! I think we were doing a Tattoo at White City. What we all know is he was also a man of a kind and generous nature. Whenever I was short of cash he would ask if i would like a sub!! I had to leave Deal on a "Pier Head jump" and had leave on the first train out of Deal as my wife was seriously ill. Bless him he offered me a £1 "In case I was broke. As it happened I wasn't I have been in contact with him all these years and will miss his phone calls and his long messages on his Christmas cards. We have visited many times and had B/B at his various addresses. I have been in touch with Margaret but my Condolences to all the family. RIP Meths .....Hey I hope you have your "Collar Dogs" in!!!!

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message #: 2326

Date: Monday January 15 2018 11:04:30 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

**Comments:**

Its just great to read such wonderful words about Cliff from Trevor Bill and Adrian. We all hope that Margaret will be able to read them as we're all sad at the loss of another great Royal Marines Bandsman.. RIP Dear Cliff.. Michael.

---

message #: 2325

Date: Monday January 15 2018 10:23:47 EST  
Name: Trevor Wye  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2857  
Hometown: Hastingleigh Kent  
Instrument/s: Flute  
n/a: tw@trevorwye.com

**Comments:**

I am so sorry to hear about 'Meths'. He was so helpful to me when I sat next to him in the SB in Deal. A few years back he took to phoning me "I'll bet you don't know who this is" in his unmistakable accent. I didn't have to guess. A very nice gent! Trevor

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2324

Date: Monday January 15 2018 06:43:15 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Comments:  
So sad to have lost another old shipmate such a gentle man and a true blue who I served with in various bands notable Ganges and Plymouth Group Bands. Sadly missed and I offer my condolences to Margaret and his whole family on behalf of my wife also. Rest in Peace Cliff.

---

message #: 2323

Date: Monday January 15 2018 04:34:44 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Comments:  
how what

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message #: 2322

Date: Saturday January 13 2018 16:48:39 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Comments:  
Mr Cliff Meatheringham Colne Ward Tetbury Rd Cirencester GL7 1UY That is the Postal Address of the Hospital in which dear old Cliff is being treated at this time. Once I have contacted the Family to agree a day when I may visit Cliff I intend to renew old friendships with Cliff who I think we last met at either a West Country Reunion or an All Stars Concert in Margate. Yours aye Bill Hartland.

Phone : 0300 421 6200

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2321

Date: Thursday January 11 2018 11:58:11 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx 2505  
Hometown: Barham  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: terryfreestone@vfast.co.uk

Comments:  
CLIFF MEATHERINGHAM. In Colne (or Colin) Ward of Cirencester Hospital 0300 421 6290 where I found the staff extremely helpful. When I called I spoke to his son Keith on 07802 530583 who told me that a few months ago Cliff who is 87 was digging the garden and normal things then started to develop small things; a rash an ache a cough etc that moved quickly on to a more serious debility that remains stubbornly undiagnosed but believed by the puzzled medics to be a form of blood cancer and is in palliative care. I spoke to Cliff with some difficulty but at least he was somewhat clearer than Sid Rose.

PETER WORSFOLD. a well-known face in Deal and the All-Stars for decades Pete who I calculate must be at least 90 is now in a Deal care home- St Winifreds on London Road near Cowper Rd if I recall. He was on Warspite in 1944 then in 1945 the Amenity Ship Menestheus with BM Charles Hotham as 2ic which included some of the top instrumentalists of the wartime Band Service. I'll try to keep it coming Terry

---

message #: 2320

Date: Wednesday January 10 2018 14:54:55 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx 2505  
Hometown: Barham  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: terryfreestone@vfast.co.uk

Comments:  
SYD ROSE. I visited Syd this afternoon in McMaster ward Kent & Canterbury hospital where I found him in the company of two charming ladies from Deal; Jessie Nash & Brenda her friend who visit regularly. I was saddened by his appearance and found his speech largely incomprehensible. He is on Nil by Mouth so feeding by drip and very thin as a result. It is not possible to get information from staff if one is not Next-of-Kin so cannot give any prognosis for his future. I came away feeling sad that my old friend from seventy years ago in Burford doesn't seem to have much to look forward to. I'll try again in a few days. Terry

---

message #: 2319

Date: Tuesday January 9 2018 13:56:39 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email:

Service Number: RMB1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a: keng0iti@gmail.com

Comments:  
After my last message of hearing about our members in Hospital I have learnt today that Cliff Meatheringham is in Hospital and is quite poorly according to his wife Margaret. I knew he had been under the weather recently but he has been in and out of Hospital a few times and has been in for two weeks this time. I'm afraid they haven't found out what his problem is at the moment I'm sure many of his his pals would like to know of him being Hospitalised. He is in Cirecester Hospital but I don't know the ward. Get well soon old pal. Ken T or "Katie" as Cliff always calls me.!!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2318

Date: Monday January 8 2018 14:31:45 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd  
Instrument/s: Cornet /Violin  
n/a: keng0iti@gmail.com

Comments:

So sorry to hear the news of two of my old pals ending up in Hospital. Syd Rose and my very good pal Ron Hemsfall. Ron was looking forward to Christmas with his family in the Algarve but a fall put paid to that. Many thanks to who informed us of him being in Hospital and if anyone is visiting him or Syd please give them my best wishes for a speedy recovery. Syd if I remember rightly was a pal of another mate of mine the late Roy Nash. Getting a bit slow myself these days but having passed the 90 mark it can be expected. How I wish I could run up Snaefell on the IOM like we use to do have a mug of tea and a huge wedge of fruit cake then run back down!!! A belated Happy New Year to you all.

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message #: 2317

Date: Sunday January 7 2018 10:44:50 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Comments:

Dear Richard Just had a telephone call from Ray Grant (French Horn) to inform me that Malcolm Cockerill (Cornet & Violin) has passed away and the funeral has taken place!! I have no further details. Not seen Malc for many a year. He just seemed to disappear off the Radar. Sadly another one of our great family joins the Great Band Room in another place. Regards to all Barry

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message #: 2316

Date: Saturday January 6 2018 14:25:47 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: EUPH & CELLO  
n/a: &#39;michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Comments:

A sad beginning to the New Year as we've lost another great musician in Ray West. My memories of Ray (sometimes known as Ginge !) go way back to the 50s and my first ships band along with guys like Jim Mason Denis Ovenden John Stone & Stan Wilkinson just to name a few of the terrific 24. Ray was our principal violin in the orchestra - lead alto sax in the dance band and an example all us young players looked up to. We spent many weeks on HMS Glasgow travelling around the Med as Louis Mountbatten was CinC so we visited many Heads of State including Marshal Tito and Haile Selassie where the band was always foremost in Lord Louis vists to pave the way for diplomatic engagements and meetings. Ray of course was always a leading light in our musical activities. When based ashore in Malta the first Band to achieve that in HMS Phoenicia and he was also involved in musical activities throughout the island. He introduced me to piano trio music as he had met the then governors secretary who was a brilliant pianist so we rehearsed and performed at the governors residence. Not only was Ray a fine musician but he was also a very accomplished photographer. Many of his pictures were of important events during Mounbattens time as CinC Med Fleet and I was lucky enough to be the 10% man when selling many of them to the fleet. Also a great hockey player and we both played for the ships team and Med Fleet sides in Malta and Gibraltar. My memories of Ray are very fond ones as he inspired myself and I'm sure many others to greater things. We did not serve together again after those three wonderful years but I do believe he went on to greater musical activities after leaving the RMBS which I'm sure will be mentioned by his son Steve somewhere on this site. I did meet up with Ray just a few years ago when attending a reunion in Australia but he was not then in the best of health but it was great to see him and meet up with son Steve. RIP Dear Ray. Michael.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2315

Date: Thursday January 4 2018 15:30:50 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Comments:  
So sad to read of the condition of Ray West who I visited in 2009 with Eric Hayward following the reunion in Adelaide. As I recall Ray was still in his Dressing Gown mid afternoon so he wasn't too well then I suggest. We met his daughter who was either Studying at Melbourne University or was working there. Details are patchy these days of some memories. Best Wishes to the family at this sad time.

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message #: 2314

Date: Wednesday January 3 2018 13:01:01 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Request as De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: mikhik@gmail.com

Comments:  
May wish all ex rmbs a very happy and hopefully a peaceful New Year. Also I would like mention the young boys who entered the portals of East Barracks 62 long years ago today 3rd January 1956. To those who I have contact with over the years I name Stan Putterall Michael Booth Rodney Williamson John Whelton Alan Walker I wish them good luck for the future we were as an old song says We were rough and ready boys but oh how we could harmonise. And over many years we did. To all those that gone to the dark side I wish the same many of whom wish to be my friend on FACEBOOK you already are my friend so why not come to Portsmouth in October for the Reunion you never know I might even buy you a drink as the Saturday is my ??th birthday it does cause pain to attend you may learn what has happened to some old friends. To you Richard I wish you everything and give great thanks for your continued dedicated work to keep the site up and running. Mike H

---

message #: 2313

Date: Sunday December 31 2017 06:44:23 EST  
Name: Gerry Taylour  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2742  
Hometown: Nottingham  
Instrument/s: Solo piano and since retiring Trombone  
n/a: gerrytaylour@btinternet.com

Comments:  
How many of us are still playing I wonder? Q I still enjoy playing with the Loughborough Concert Band but must admit I find it hard work at times usually due to lack of air or concentration. I suppose I will know the time when it comes to retire. Don't want that to happen ever. I would like to wish all our ex.colleagues a very happy and healthy new year. Sincerely yours Gerry Taylour

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2312

Date: Friday December 29 2017 11:31:08 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bassoon?  
n/a: GrandadRoy66@gmail.com

Comments:  
Dickie I know you are far too young to remember but I am trying to find out a few Bandy orientated queries.  
1. When did Junior Musicians cease wearing lyres as collar dogs? 2. When did Junior Musicians cease wearing the thin red stripe on their trousers? 3. When did Senior house take over from CG Squad? And when was the last Senior House? Have a brilliant New Year everyone. Roy

---

message #: 2311

Date: Wednesday December 27 2017 20:58:38 EST  
Name: James Kay  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3467  
Hometown: Lincoln  
Instrument/s: Trombone & String Bass.  
n/a: hamish.kay69@yahoo.com

Comments:  
Just to let you know Richard that I am in hospital in Tenerife suffering from pneumonia but now on the mend. I could not find your email so I asked Stuart Macleod to let you know. This is just back up. My wife daughter her husband and the two grandchildren went home on Boxing day and I hope to be fit to fly on New Year's Eve. Catch you later. Jim .

---

message #: 2310

Date: Sunday December 24 2017 05:04:10 EST  
Name: Charles. Laws  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X3057  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Cornet /swimming pool and Water Polo Ball  
n/a: charles.laws2@outlook.com.

Comments:  
I'd like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I know I'm getting older but I joined up with my old Navy Water Polo players last week and Played against the Navy A and B sides also the Royal Marines and beat them both The average was 59years and 6 months great day out.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2309

Date: Saturday December 23 2017 12:16:45 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Comments:

Hi to all Seasons Greetings to all out there from Heather and I. We both hope the Festive Season is great for you. I've noticed some cryptic comments of late!!!!!! Surely Richard's web site is the real place to be connected to for a comprehensive and full update on our terrific Band Service Family??? Many thanks Richard for everything you do for us!! Best Wishes Barry and Heather δΥΖ,,δΥΖ,,δΥΖ,,δΥΖ,,δΥΖ,, [Webmaster]  
"Thank you Barry and Heather a very merry Christmas to you and I say to all!"

---

message #: 2308

Date: Friday December 22 2017 14:55:40 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Onces upon a time Bassoon Bass Drum  
n/a: jananderic9@gmail.com

Comments:

All the best wishes for this Festive season to all past present and perhaps those who are thinking of joining the best band service and who happen to still support Dickie on this site. Good luck to you all in 2018. If I haven't said it plainly enough Well A very Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year to you all. Cheers Eric.

---

message #: 2307

Date: Friday December 22 2017 11:53:35 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Pompey (was Bude/ Booooooood!!!)  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Fiddle (of sorts!!!?)  
n/a: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Comments:

Thanks to Baz Radford for the "heads up" on the now Dr Grace. A really interesting read together with the fortunes of Sam ("Pick up thy musket!") Hairsine with Brighthouse! (Former PDM Lt Col Chris Davis has also conducted the famous band a couple of times and I believe will be doing so again shortly) Chris is also the current DoM of the RMA Concert Band now - for those of you not aware! On a separate subject does anyone reading these pages, have any knowledge (or know of someone who might do so) of 94 year old former "Bandy" Fred Wiley who passed away peacefully on Sunday last? Fred served on one or two HM Ships during the war and even swapped drafts with an "oppo who sadly joined HMS Hood - and of course we all know what became of her. Poor Fred had to live with that for a very long time and it often haunted him as he came through various other battles unscathed! He joined The RMA Concert Band when it formed in 2006 (aged 83!) and was a fine tenor sax player. He also taught woodwind and was a very good music arranger as well! Fred very much belied his years and thoroughly enjoyed his time with the band and went to support them after retiring at many gigs! He had a great persoanlity too. He was always smiling and never a bad word for anyone! I only went to visit him last week and he was still proclaiming to be the luckiest man alive!! On reflection I guess (like many who survived those dark days) he was considering what he'd been through and then to go on to enjoy/lead a relatively peaceful life! Note to Terry Freestone. Do you Terry have any knowledge of Fred or know anyone that may have known him? - Unfortunately it now appears that we didn't ask him enough questions when he was alive!! Regards and a very happy festive to all!! Derek.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2306

Date: Friday December 22 2017 07:14:47 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: mikhik1@gmail.com

Comments:  
Just a short message to wish all that have not yet transferred their loyalties elsewhere a Very Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year. Anyone attending Portsmouth in October please bring some beer tokens the Reunion just happens to fall on my ??th Birthday.

---

message #: 2305

Date: Wednesday December 20 2017 13:47:13 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bassoon ( Of sorts)  
n/a: GrandadRoy66@gmail.com

Comments:  
To all Serving and ex Royal Marine Musicians may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a very Prosperous 2018. Will see you I at the Re-Union. In 2018 Long may your Lucy be merry and bright Stay safe Roy

---

message #: 2304

Date: Friday December 15 2017 02:27:47 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Comments:  
Just want to wish all bandies past and present a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous 2018. It has been a busy year musically speaking culminating tonight in a joint gig with the London Mozart Players. Looking forward to that and then a break until mid January. Best wishes to all. Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2303

Date: Thursday December 14 2017 15:45:06 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X 3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Comments:

Hi and Happy Christmas to one and all. I today received a Christmas Card from 'Don' Don who may I ask? Don Peerless or Don Feather? Should anyone have a Postal Address for either of these two who I served with on two different ships I would be grateful if you would either let me have their Postal Address or Telephone Number so that I may call them. Don (Ginge) Feather (HMS LION) or Don Peerless (HMS Gambia). Kind regards Yours aye  
Bill Hartland. P.S. My Old Web Site for HMS Gambia is now on [www.hmsgambia.org](http://www.hmsgambia.org) and being Managed and Edited by the Son of a former Shipmate. The 'New' Editor is Ray Thomas of Indiana State University.

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message #: 2302

Date: Friday December 1 2017 06:08:40 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Comments:

Torbay Police  
& Community Choir & Riviera Concert Brass (RCB) Christmas Concert. Wednesday 13th December 2017  
RCB are delighted to join forces with Torbay Police & Community  
Choir for a Spectacular Christmas Concert at Central Church Tor Hill Road Torquay TQ2 5RF starting at 7.30.

It promises to be a great night with lots of fun and singing so why not pop along see some old mates and get Christmas off to a Cracker.  
Tickets are available on the door

There are several former Royal Marine  
Bandsmen in the band See you there Ray

---

message #: 2301

Date: Thursday November 23 2017 13:19:45 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: graham.hoskiins@gmail.com

Comments:

Dear Richard Colleagues may wish to be aware that the funeral of former Bandmaster Trevor Attwood MBE is scheduled for 1520 on the afternoon of Monday 4th December 2017 at Barham Crematorium off the A2 to the North of Dover. A Bugler from Portsmouth will sound Last Post & Reveille and there will also be a significant musical tribute on the day. Graham Hoskins

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2300

Date: Wednesday November 22 2017 07:57:37 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Comments:  
Good to see Col/Nick adjudicating at Brass in Concert at The Sage Gateshead. His first gig as Dr. Grace. There is an excellent interview with Dr. Nick in the November edition of Brass Band World plus an excellent review of Col/Nicks last CD recording. Both worth reading if you can grab a copy or read on line. It was also good to see Capt SAM Hairsine conducting the World Famous Grimthorpe Band. Proud to be an ex RM BandyôY• Regards to all Barry

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message #: 2299

Date: Tuesday November 21 2017 05:34:43 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: mikhik1@gmail .com

Comments:  
A little late on this been rather busy with RBL events. So very sad to hear of passing of Terry Parker what a nice fellow he was to know and serve with. Happy memories of Deal in the mid 60s when he was the librarian for the staff band. the library then was stuck at the back of the concert hall. over the years I saw him at the Reunion I would always greet him with a voice trying to copy FVD and say Parker which many who were in Deal at that time will remember as FVDs way to get Terry's attention. My sincere condolences to his dear wife and family and those of us that the pleasure to know and serve with Terry (Believe you me it was a pleasure). TERRY PARKER RIP

---

message #: 2298

Date: Sunday November 19 2017 11:23:56 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Comments:  
Just a quick message to say that the Central Band RBL will be giving a Christmas concert in St. Georges church Deal on Saturday December 9th. Tickets can be obtained from the Astor Theatre on 01304 370220. A bargain at Â£15.00. Hope to see as many ex bandies from the Kent area there as possible exercising their singing voices to get Christmas off to a rousing start. Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2297

Date: Sunday November 19 2017 04:09:24 EST  
Name: David (Pony) Moore  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX 3262  
Hometown: East Preston  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Saxophone/Violin  
n/a: variedmood@btinternet.com

Comments:

I got to know Trevor when we were both on the same 1975 - 76 Bandmaster's Course and our families became very friendly and have kept in touch ever since. He was a devoted husband to Alyson and a very proud father to Catherine. A consummate gentleman with a superb memory for detail and outstanding organisational skills he always appeared to be one step ahead of the game. Both my wife and I were shocked and distressed to learn of Trevor's untimely passing at such a young age. He will be sorely missed by all his friends and past colleagues Rest in Peace Trevor

---

message #: 2296

Date: Saturday November 18 2017 15:27:10 EST  
Name: Frederick Greville Wain  
Email:

Service Number: X2024  
Hometown: Burford  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: Steve-wain86@btconnect.com

Comments:

Hi just to let you know Fred Wains thanksgiving funeral will take place at St Johns Church Burford Oxon at 1530hrs on 22 November 2017 following a private family cremation service earlier in the day. Kind regards to all.

---

message #: 2295

Date: Saturday November 18 2017 09:59:51 EST  
Name: Peter &#34;Pip&#34; Phillips  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3874  
Hometown: Gateshead  
Instrument/s: S/Clarinet  
n/a: peter.phillips@live.com

Comments:

Having read message from Dave Tremaine re-Bunny Bunch I would like to add my condolences to the family.I was best oppos with "little hopper " in J wing and I think Bunny was a couple of years ahead of us. R.I.P.  
Peter

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2294

Date: Friday November 17 2017 04:17:12 EST  
Name: David Tremaine  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3928  
Hometown: Buckingham  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: tremaine3928@gmail.com

Comments:  
Sorry to read of the passing of Bunny Bunch. He was the elder of two brothers and was known as 'Big Hopper' His brother Derek was obviously known as 'Little Hopper'. Too many of my J Wing oppos are going far too early. R.I.P.  
Bunny Dave Tremaine

---

message #: 2293

Date: Friday November 17 2017 02:57:31 EST  
Name: Trevor Lintott  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2448  
Hometown: Egletons 19300 France  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: trevlin31@gmail.com

Comments:  
TERRY PARKER ...We send our deepest condolences to BERYL her family and his many friends on the passing of Terry on Saturday 11th November.

---

message #: 2292

Date: Thursday November 16 2017 15:42:20 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Comments:  
Good evening all I have just heard from Beryl Parker the Terry's funeral will go ahead on WEDNESDAY 22nd November at the the Garden of England Crematorium Bobbing ME9 8 GZ at 1100. Afterwards at the UK Leisure pavilion Gore Court Rd, Sittingbourne.. Family flowers only please. Donations to the Alzheimers society and Age UK, Sittingbourne. From previous experience the crematorium will be packed do please arrive early. It would be helpful if you could let ME know if you are attending so that the catering can be arranged accordingly. Thank you Mike MY mobile is 07787550087

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2291

Date: Thursday November 16 2017 15:33:37 EST  
Name: David A mutter  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: dam6567@gmail.com

**Comments:**

It is a very sad time at the moment as there are many of our friends who have died; their very existence has ceased to be. All we have is a memory of them some of whom have been of more importance to us than others but are still never the less important. They are part of our individual histories. Ray (bunny) Bunch always to me was a person of calmness and stability. He was a person who saw things as they were and accepted the opportunity to overcome problems and inconveniences as a challenge to resolve them. A RM attribute of Improvise adapt and overcome! I was on junior training with Ray and nothing seemed to dampen his spirits even in the "bad" times. I remember him as a steady reliable person and musician. I never alas served with him after training. My condolences go to his family and friends. RIP Ray  
David

---

message #: 2290

Date: Thursday November 16 2017 08:28:04 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

**Comments:**

Leroy Anderson The Typewriter Has anyone got an arrangement of this I can borrow please preferably for Brass Band but I can transcribe a Concert Band arrangement if needed. Russ Davies is insisting that he wants to dress up again (not sure the public is ready for another exposee of this sort) so to keep him happy & quiet if anyone can help I would be obliged. Best wishes Ray Lloyd.

---

message #: 2289

Date: Wednesday November 15 2017 11:16:37 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

**Comments:**

Like everyone else I am shocked and saddened to hear of the passing of Trevor a really nice man who has been taken far too early. Condolences to his family. Regards Ray

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2288

Date: Wednesday November 15 2017 07:16:19 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/anythingamybob  
n/a: GrandadRoy66@gmail.com

Comments:  
Dickie So sad to hear of the passing of another RMB Trevor Atwood. Please pass on my condolences to Trevors family.  
God Bless Trevor

---

message #: 2287

Date: Wednesday November 15 2017 04:33:29 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: mikellick@hotmail.co.uki

Comments:  
Hi all it seems that I had a senior moment (again)!! Terry Parker's funeral is scheduled for WEDNESDAY 22nd November at 1100. However as previously stated it could change. Sorry for the confusion and thanks to "Hawkeye" Radford and Dickie for pointing my error. Mike

---

message #: 2286

Date: Tuesday November 14 2017 16:10:50 EST  
Name: Ian Epps  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx 2698  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: ian-epps@virginmedia.com

Comments:  
With the passing of Terry I have lost another of my best friends. I suppose it's an age thing. Terry was a great loss to the band service as he was a great clarinet player. He served "Fred" well as his librarian to the Staff Band but when he got to the end of this twelve he said "enough is enough" Fred[s] never going to let me go from the Staff Band so I'm off. We and the music scene lost a brilliant clarinet player as after he left he never picked up the instrument again. He and Beryl spent a lot of their time after their boys (4) grew up supporting the "Lions" and their local Labour party so visits were timed around their involvement with those. In Deal as boys at the school we were both courting trainee nurses at Kent and Canterbury Hospital who were in same class and friends. After they had become Staff Nurses we married them one of our best decisions. When Terry left after his twelve he went as a Trainee Manager with Currys and he started in the shop in Fareham and I was in St Vincent band at the time so we got to meet up again. Currys moved Terry to Sheppy followed by Canterbury but other than a year on the Ark Freda and I stayed living in Fareham. By then I was the VBI at Sultan where I finished my twenty two. Since retiring we have managed to stay with each other for holidays and cruises. Terry was a true friend and will be greatly missed by my wife and I and his many friends. RIP Terry

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2285

Date: Tuesday November 14 2017 14:50:48 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Comments:

Hi all I have just spoken to Beryl Parker re Terry's provisional funeral arrangements. Subject to change because the Coroner has to be informed it will be at 1100 at the Garden of England Crematorium Sheppey Way Sittingbourne ME9 8GZ. The wake will be at the BowWater sports pavilion in Sittingbourne. Please keep an eye on this site for any further updates. Feel free to contact me on my mobile 07787550087. Mike

---

message #: 2284

Date: Tuesday November 14 2017 04:05:39 EST  
Name: John Ware  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3791  
Hometown: Callington  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a: john.ware3791@btinternet.com

Comments:

I cannot tell you how devastated I was to hear from Graham of Trevor Attwood's sudden demise. A great shock as he had seemed so healthy and strong to the end. Something none of us had expected. Our thoughts and prayers are with Alyson and Catherine at this sad time. As my predecessor as PDM Graham has already told how important Trevor was in his career. He was the same for me. I "inherited" him as an efficient and experienced Secretary who was totally loyal in every way, he was always protective when necessary but never slow to offer advice when asked - and you ignored his advice at your peril! A man who was always much respected as a colleague but who became a faithful friend with whom together with Alyson Liz and I have remained in touch to this day. A great rock especially in the days post bombing and throughout the often difficult times to follow I literally could not have done it without him. Rest in peace Trevor we'll see you in the countermarch. John

---

message #: 2283

Date: Monday November 13 2017 06:32:21 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: graham.hoskins@gmail.com

Comments:

Dear colleagues It is with the greatest sadness that I report the death of Trevor Attwood MBE. He died last night of a heart attack at his home in Walmer. Remarkable in every respect his value as a Band Service icon is known to all those whose lives he touched. His contribution to my own career cannot be overstated. We have lost another very very good man and I personally was devastated when Trevor's wife Alyson gave me the news this morning. Graham Hoskins.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2282

Date: Sunday November 12 2017 14:48:55 EST  
Name: Eric Haayward  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/x3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bass Drum  
n/a: jananderic9@gmail.com

Comments:  
I too am saddened at the loss of another of our best. I served with Terry on HM Ships Gambia and Superb in the Band of CinC East Indies in 55/56 and also in the Band of 3CdoBde from 62to65. What a great asset to both bands and to the Band Service. My sincere condolences to his wife Beryl and the rest of his family

---

message #: 2281

Date: Sunday November 12 2017 13:58:02 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a: keng0iti@gmail.com

Comments:  
So sad to hear of the passing of another member of our old School Terry Parker. Terry was in the Staff Band with me and I do believe he took over the job of Librarian from me when I retired. ... and left him in the hands of "Fred." We have been in contact for quite a number of years mainly at Christmas time with his usual long and informative letters. A great musician and friend and will be sadly missed by all .My condolences go to Beryl and Family.

---

message #: 2280

Date: Sunday November 12 2017 13:18:59 EST  
Name: Jim Mason  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx 2353  
Hometown: Bedhampton  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: j.mason30@btinternet.com

Comments:  
The way we were! Have a look at FILM 4 on Thursday 16th November at 11.00 a.m. The film "INDISCREET" (Ingrid Bergman and Cary Grant) The best Cat.4 that we ever did!!!

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2279

Date: Sunday November 12 2017 04:51:21 EST  
Name: Jim Mason  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2353  
Hometown: Bedhampton  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: j.mason30@btinternet.com

Comments:  
Sorry to hear about Terry we served together quite a lot and took part in many memorable gigs. He was a great character and a fine musician. Another of the old members that helped to make the Band Service what it is today. Condolences to the family.

---

message #: 2278

Date: Saturday November 11 2017 17:28:19 EST  
Name: David A Mutter  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: dam6567@gmail.com

Comments:  
I am saddened to hear of the passing of Terry as he was a legend amongst my first draft from boys wing training at HMS St Vincent under the Bandmastership of BM Syd Rose in 1964. Like all good musicians he was very unassuming and did not portray the accomplished musician that he was. He always was very positive in his approach to music and life. Another person in the 'Band Service' family to be honoured. RIP Terry David

---

message #: 2277

Date: Saturday November 11 2017 17:08:10 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Comments:  
Just received the sad news about Terry. Having just watched the Albert Hall Memorial Service on the BBC this Saturday evening - and then find we've lost another of our great Band Service servants. I knew Terry very well as he was the Staff Band librarian as well as being a fantastic Clarinet player when I was the B/M of that great band in Deal in the late 60s. We shall meet up with I hope a lot of his friends when funeral arrangements are made. RIP Terry my thoughts are with Beryl and his family. Michael.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2276

Date: Saturday November 11 2017 10:32:13 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Comments:  
TERRY PARKER I have just had a messenger conversation with Stephen Parker Terry's Son who advised me that his father passed away at 05.00 hrs this morning November 11th 2017. Stephen is trying to contact as many people on Messenger to let them know of his death but as he has only just managed to join Messenger he is finding it a tad difficult because he doesn't know who the Contacts are. Once again sorry to be the bearer of sad news.

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message #: 2275

Date: Saturday November 11 2017 03:33:56 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Comments:  
Just heard the sad news that Terry Parker has joined so many of our great family in the Great Band Room in another place. Condolences to Beryl and family. Terry was such a great great character. RIP Terry. Thanks for the memories Barry Radford

---

message #: 2274

Date: Saturday November 11 2017 02:04:31 EST  
Name: Mike  
Email:

Service Number: Tellick  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Comments:  
Good morning It is my sad duty to inform you that Terry Parker crossed the bar last night. He had been ill for some months and was moved from the local hospital to a nursing home only yesterday evening. I will let you know of the funeral arrangements when I get them. In sorrow Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2273

Date: Tuesday November 7 2017 04:05:19 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Comments:  
Festival of Remembrance Riviera Concert Brass will be holding their annual Festival of Remembrance on Saturday 11th November 2017 at Central Church Torquay starting at 7.30pm. This has grown in popularity over recent years and is now regarded as one of the 'premier' remembrance events. The format is based on the National Festival of Remembrance with concert type music and readings for the first part and a Service of Remembrance for the second part. This year we delighted to be able to play the Trevor (Bruno) Brown brilliant arrangement of 'War on the Big Screen' featuring many of the most famous war film themes. The main theme of the event this year is Unspoken Heroes Nurses Firemen & Women Ambulancemen & women with a beautiful video on the big screen supporting the music. I believe the Devon Festival of Remembrance in Exeter Great Hall is not taking place this year so if you would still like to attend such an event here is your opportunity. Tickets will be available at the door on the night. There are several ex RMBs in the band myself Des Law Mike Griffiths & Russ Davies it would be great to see some of our old friends/mates there. We will Remember Them Ray

---

message #: 2272

Date: Monday November 6 2017 15:41:44 EST  
Name: Frederick Greville Wain  
Email:

Service Number: X2024  
Hometown: Burford Oxfordshire  
Instrument/s: Flute pianoforte  
n/a: Steve-wain86@btconnect.com

Comments:  
it is regret that I have to advise that my father ex-band sergeant Frederick Greville Wain has on 5th November 2017 passed away following a brave fight with cancer. He was very proud to have been part of the RM Band from 1943 To 1957 and he met his wife to be whilst the band was located at Burford getting married in 1948. I have a copy of his Certificate of Service in the Royal Marines which is quite enlightening but I am sure only scrapes the surface of his band career. if anyone knew of him and cares to share some of those memories I would be interested to hear from you. From his record I note that he served on HMS Phoebe and Kenya of which I have some photos. Also mentioned are Heron Devonshire and Terror? I recently saw the RM Band at Twickenham and told dad they were very smart and his reply was simply "so they should be". On leaving the service he did many jobs including running the family motor mechanics garage and joining and leading the local retained fire station from 1968 to 1986. A gentle man whose quiet disposition belied the underlying strength and determination to complete a task including his own personal battle against his cancer. Traits I am sure he learned whilst in the RM Band. He no longer suffers and the world is a poorer place than it was last week. RIP dad you were an inspiration.

---

message #: 2271

Date: Friday November 3 2017 03:52:24 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a: GrandadRoy66@gmail.com

Comments:  
Hi Richard sorry not been in touch or been to any re-unions for a while as I had become very disillusioned with all things "Bandy" for a while. I can assure you that I will be back! I will also Dickie be forwarding my "subs" to you ASAP. I served on HMV BRITANNIA on an off from 1981- 1990. I really hope the world is treating you well old friend and that life is good. To all who know/knew me Hi and please keep in touch via my e mail or my Facebook page. Roy

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2270

Date: Tuesday October 31 2017 15:53:29 EST  
Name: Jim Mason  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2353  
Hometown: Bedhampton  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: j.mason30@btinternet.com

Comments:  
Sad to hear about Stan. I was Bandmaster in the cruiser "Glasgow" and he joined the band when he left Junior Wing "in the early 50's. A real enthusiast and always full of humour. Never a dull moment with Stan around. Just one more of the characters that made the Band Service what it is today.

---

message #: 2269

Date: Tuesday October 31 2017 13:59:37 EST  
Name: David A Mutter  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: dam6567@gmail.com

Comments:  
I would like to offer my condolences to Stan's family of his passing. He was as has been said before a jolly man with a smile on his face. I only met him a couple of times but he always acknowledged me with some humorous remark. RIP Stan. I would also like to say that it was a great surprise and pleasure to see a message from John Hamshare with whom I spent some time with in the Staff Band at Deal and for a longer period with the Staff Band of the Corps of Royal Engineers (Chatham). It would be good to get in touch again. It seems you have been through the mill with one thing or another but still have your sense of humour. Good for you John.  
Regards to all David

---

message #: 2268

Date: Sunday October 29 2017 06:11:22 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to read of the crossing of the bar of Stan Thomas. I do remember him we never served together but like most we met during Massed Band rehearsals. Stan was always cheerful as I recall happy to pass the time of day always very bubbly. My condolences to his family and to those of us who had the pleasure to know and serve with him. Stan Thomas R I P

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2267

Date: Saturday October 28 2017 03:39:03 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Farewell Stan RIP - another of our great family now retired to the Euph & Cello clan club in the Sky. My condolences to your family, Michael.

---

message #: 2266

Date: Thursday October 26 2017 16:30:59 EST  
Name: James Kay  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3467  
Hometown: Nettleham Lincs.  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I was so sorry to learn from Ernest that dear old Stan Thomas had crossed the bar last night. My condolences go to his family with love respect and sympathy. I knew Stan for more than 50 years and remember him with fondness and much humour. Rest now Stan and Take the Long Sleep. You have earned it. R.I.P.

---

message #: 2265

Date: Thursday October 26 2017 08:15:58 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just read Bill's posting re Stan Thomas. Not seen him since my visits to see my old friend John Hargreaves. Stan was a real character and both Heather and I send our condolences to his family on their sad loss. Stan joins many of our Friends in the great band room in another place. RIP Stan Barry and Heather Radford

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2264

Date: Thursday October 26 2017 05:06:45 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi All Another old soldier has crossed the bar and I picked this sad news from Messenger this morning. Stan Thomas Euph and Cello. This news conveyed by James Thomas. Feeling sad. My dad passed away last night surrounded by family and friends. I held his hand and went with him as far as I could go until he released my hand and went on without me. To watch this man that I loved take his last breath has left me feeling empty and so so reflective of our past times. He was my dad and now he is gone. I hope to see him again in paradise when I too arrive for my appointment to leave this life. He was my dad and I loved him.

---

message #: 2263

Date: Thursday October 26 2017 00:18:10 EST  
Name: John/Tony Hamshare  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3372  
Hometown: Eastleigh  
Instrument/s: Cornet - Viola (and very trying classical guitar)  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi I've just stumbled (no I'm sober) onto this site from a RM group on Facebook and saw the call for bandies who served on HM RY Britannia. I is one of they and she were my first posting after being spotted during the Cassell Prize contest [in which I believe I was the first musician to compete on two instruments—but not at the same time—and a fat lot of good that did me 'cos I didn't win]. I passed out in February 1958 (no I was sober then as well) and went down to Eastney barracks. As you probably know we were shore-based for most of the time but went on board when members of the Royal Family took their annual trips to the Cowes Week Regatta or sailed around the Scottish Isles as a break from public duties. The first long trip I recall was when Her Majesty went to Canada for the official opening of the St Lawrence Canal. An even longer voyage occurred when the Commonwealth Games took place in Australia. The Royal Family flew most of the way there—and back—but Britannia went right around the world. I left the Royal Yacht band in February 1961 and spent 3 years on HMS Tiger. For the last 4 years of service I stayed on terra firma with the Staff Band in Deal. Then in 1967 and fearing another sea-bourne posting I jumped ship so to speak and joined the Royal Engineers Staff band in Gillingham. Yeh yeh I can hear the hisses and jibes—but my heart has always been linked to the RM band. Final word: It's so sad to see so many familiar names on the obituary list. I'm 77 now and after a triple heart bypass two carotid arteries unblocking removal of a cancerous kidney and a brain tumour I count my blessings. Regards to all John/Tony Hamshare

---

message #: 2262

Date: Monday October 23 2017 18:32:56 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Bude/Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Fiddle.....sometimes!!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Happy Birthday to our esteemed editor in chief Mr Dickie/Rich Valentine!! Thanks for all that you do to keep us together. - You were greatly missed at the annual "oldies" RMB bash old friend! Hope to catch up with you when you're next in Pompey. Have a great day & evening! Derek

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2261

Date: Saturday October 21 2017 12:16:30 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello Colin yes I remember your father when I was a Band Boy at Burford in 1948 and he was i/c the Oceanaires dance band. I also met him around 35 years later when I was Assistant General Manager of the Royal Albert Hall and I think he had a pub at Sunbury on Thames. As I am collecting info on former RMBs I would welcome any info you may have about his career.with best wishes Terry Freestone

---

message #: 2260

Date: Thursday October 19 2017 04:56:42 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Rich For your records I served on "The Yacht" in 80 and 81

---

message #: 2259

Date: Wednesday October 18 2017 10:11:33 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Clart alto vln  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dickie re your request for details of Yacht service I served on the yacht between 1967 Brazil trip to 1973. and again from 1980 to 82 Best wishes Jem

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2258

Date: Thursday October 12 2017 07:16:15 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3645  
Hometown: Now Pompey (was Bude Cornwall)  
Instrument/s: Cornet/ Fiddle  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Just a massive t hanks to everyone for the impeccable organisation of the annual reunion as usual.  
A great night for us all. A fitting and wonderful end to NG's PDM tenure topped only by his last baton performance with his magnificent orchestra on Sunday morning at the cathedral. Excellent choices of music for all to enjoy. Many possibly noticed him wipe a tear away just prior to LOTOW! - What an amazing contribution he's made to the Band service over the past 8 years. Well done a massive thanks to you too and a happy retirement Nick! Great to meet up with so many old 'oppo's once again and seeing a few new/old faces there this time too!! - I'd list th  
PS We all missed you Rich/Dickie! You still owe me a pint btw. ....Two  
now!!!

---

message #: 2257

Date: Thursday October 12 2017 06:43:41 EST  
Name: Mike Hill  
Email: hillmoore@aol.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Waterloooville  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

An excellent web site. I keep the records for service in the Royal Yacht and it has always been difficult to locate members of the Band Service until I found this site. Not many are members of the Royal Yacht Association out of the 193 I have identified. Sadly 40 have passed over the bar but 46 are members and will be attending the reunion dinner at HMS Collingwood on 1 Dec. If you need further info drop me an e mail. Yours aye  
Mike HMY 1960-63 LSA(S)

---

message #: 2256

Date: Monday October 2 2017 08:43:46 EST  
Name: Keith Deary  
Email: happytrumpeter@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Folkestone  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:

Does anyone have contact details for Paul Tommo Thompson who was a boy corporal 1960-61 please. Last time I saw him was (I think) the 1989 reunion. He was trying to get in touch about a year ago but I'm unable to find his details. Cheers Ginge

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2255

Date: Saturday September 30 2017 16:24:38 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:

Sadly I can report that another Old Stager has crossed the bar. Neil Eyre has passed away following a long illness at the age of 89. Neil was a former RN who rejoined into the RM Band Service then on retirement he joined the RAF Band serving at RAF Locking near Weston super Mare. He was a founding member of the RAFA Band. Sadly missed by all who knew him and known as a Joker and the BFG aka Big Friendly Giant.

---

message #: 2254

Date: Friday September 29 2017 14:42:25 EST  
Name: Colin Hotham  
Email: hotham854@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Deal Kent.  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:

You will probably remember my dad B/mr Charles William Hotham - Seafarers/Oceanaires etc?

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message #: 2253

Date: Thursday September 28 2017 06:47:40 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:

HMS CENTAUR & FRIENDS GET-TOGETHER THE PLOUGH RIPPLE 22nd SEPTEMBER 2017. As you can probably gather from Adrian Brett's enthusiastic post this event was a most enjoyable occasion where the warm and sunny weather matched the mood of all who attended. There were 50 of us gathered together including 17 family members and we were all very pleased that the PDMRM Lt Col Nick Grace and his wife were able to join us giving us a chance to thank him and wish him well for the future upon his imminent retirement. Former PDMRM Lt Col Graham Hoskins touched upon Nick's exceptional contribution to the Band Service in his address and in reply Nick praised our generation for providing the foundations of the excellence of today's RM Musicians. I passed on the best wishes of Old Centaurians and other Friends who were unable to attend and a toast to "Absent Friends" and to the Queen led to a barbecue lunch for those who wished to indulge. Hugh the Chef ably assisted by Steve looked after us all as did Alyson & co behind the bar and The Plough buzzed with the chatter of old pals catching up with the lives of those they had served with many years ago. I am very grateful to The Plough for having us yet again and Hugh Irving tells me that an email from Graham Hoskins thanking them for looking after us has been posted up in the pub for all to see. My thanks go to all who attended and contributed to another happy and successful gathering of shipmates friends and comrades ... and their family members ... and I will contact everyone next summer with invitations for 22nd September 2018. Until then please take care of yourselves and each other. Willli.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2252

Date: Saturday September 23 2017 06:14:55 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London and Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Thanks to Willi Watson for organising another successful gathering of ex-RMBs at "The Plough" Ripple yesterday. Our former PDM Graham Hoskins gave a spirited speech and encapsulated the feelings of so many present. He emphasised how September 22nd being the anniversary of the bombing has become also a day of renewing old friendships with the meeting at the Plough... after the morning service at the Memorial Garden. Graham related some humorous anecdotes from his RMBS service and stressed the changes that have occurred in musical standards under the aegis of the current PDM Nick Grace shortly to retire. I think all former RMBs are astonished at the standard of playing we now hear from players be it Mountbatten Festival or Edinburgh Tattoo. Many young musicians are joining at post-Grade 8 level and music college standard and quite proficient on their instruments. Contrast this with the past when so many had to learn a string instrument in 3 years to a reasonable level....it always astonished me. Nick Grace also gave a speech in which he praised the older bandies present as being the foundation and arbiters of what the RMBS has now become with some poignant memories of his early days in J Wing. He emphasised the strong and lasting familial ties between serving musicians....evidenced by the warmth and spirit emanating from all those present. It certainly felt like a family gathering...which of course is what it has become. For me it was especially pleasurable to meet two old friends from my service. I had not seen 'Fred' Jones since he was my B/Sgt on 'Britannia' in 1964 and we recalled (with some pain) the famous 4 day journey in January to Kingston Jamaica crossing the Bay of Biscay in a force 10 and 4 days of "Bill and Huey" for the entire crew.....I would have welcomed death to more mal de mer..... I ate only ginger biscuits for 4 days!! It was also a great pleasure to be reunited with Dennis Ovendon (Bassoon) who was in Staff Band with myself and Hugh Heatherwick. A lovely man sensitive and highly intelligent and a pleasure to talk with both then and now. Lastly my thoughts and best wishes go to those present who have serious health issues which cover the entire gamut of major illnesses and less serious issues but all to be expected when you consider there was no one present yesterday under 70....and I am told ex-BM David Wells is approaching 88...and looking very good too. Those who have not attended this social gathering now in its 7th year(?) please try to come long next Sept 22nd as a great welcome awaits you and a guarantee that there will be someone you know. Thanks again to Willi for organising the event and keeping everyone informed. Best wishes to all Adrian Brett

---

message #: 2251

Date: Thursday September 14 2017 10:15:55 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Thanks Mike for the sad info about Terry please give him my best wishes next time you see him and Beryl of course. It is sad to see and hear about the 'Old & Bold' in decline but there are lots of us in our late 70s and 80s still treading the boards so to speak so I suppose we should be thankful we are able to keep in touch with some who are less able. Ray Woodfield rang me the other day to ask if I was going to the reunion and I said I would be. He seemed quite concerned that last year he didn't seem to know many people! So if he does turn up this year I hope those of you who do know him or perhaps know of him will get him in a corner and bash his ears. The RMA Concert Band are performing in Guildford Cathedral this coming Sunday (I'm no longer a member) but it does remind me of a gig I did there in 1968 when B/M of the Staff Band which was Sir Viv's finale when we made a rather memorable recording. Sadly I haven't been given an invite....Anyway if you're in the area why not pop in to see and hear if they are any good.....See you at the reunion....Michael.

---

message #: 2250

Date: Wednesday September 13 2017 05:06:57 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Terry Parker I visited Terry on Monday and found him in a confused state. He greeted me with the customary "Hello Royal" but that is about as far as the conversation went. He told me that he had been decorating upstairs and needed to get back to finish the job!! Bill Hartland sent him a card which I read to him a few minutes later Beryl arrived and asked who the card was from Terry didn't know. Thanks Bill for keeping in touch. So to sum up Terry is not in a good place mentally which is very sad for someone has been of the party for many years here in Sittingbourne. Both he and Beryl have been staunch members of the Lions organisation over the last 40 or so years. I can remember being ambushed by Terry and his bucket when collecting around Christmas outside of the local Sainsbury's on more than one occasion always with a smile how could you not donate? Anyway I will call in again tomorrow to see the old soldier. Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2249

Date: Tuesday September 5 2017 05:03:37 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
HMS CENTAUR & FRIENDS GET-TOGETHER at THE PLOUGH RIPPLE on 22nd SEPTEMBER 2017 Starting from noon onwards with a barbecue lunch available at Hugh the Chef's price of £5.00. Ex-PDM Lt Col Graham Hoskins will be saying a few words to us as will our special guest Lt Col Nick Grace the retiring PDM who will attend together with his wife giving us a chance to say "Goodbye and good luck for the future". There will be 9 Old Centaurians (possibly 10) attending ... some 25 FRIENDS ... and at least 15 WAGS ... so we may even reach an accumulated 50 making for a most happy occasion whatever the final attendance. If any other retired Bandies would like to attend this gathering please let me know ... the more the merrier! I look forward to seeing everyone (Dickie?) on the day. Best wishes Willi.

---

message #: 2248

Date: Sunday September 3 2017 15:21:28 EST  
Name: David Tremaine  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3928  
Hometown: Buckingham  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Sorry to read of the passing of Andy Brodie. Andy was a smashing bloke and has been taken from us far too early. My condolences to Mike and the families. Dave Tremaine

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message #: 2247

Date: Saturday September 2 2017 10:16:46 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X2505  
Hometown: Barham  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Sad news today that Ann Neville wife of former PDM Lt Col Paul Neville died Thursday 31 August in her sleep at her nursing home in Timperley Cheshire. She had been in the home for some years due to her increasing degeneration through dementia and associated problems. Paul & Ann met while the School was at Burford in the late 40s and were married soon after. Ann always supported her husband as he progressed through the ranks to his commission in May 1957 and later when he succeeded Vivian Dunn as PDM in 1968 retiring ten years later. Paul himself is in variable health and will be 89 next month. All who knew him will hold him in their thoughts at this time of sadness.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2246

Date: Saturday September 2 2017 03:16:46 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi folks Yesterday I visited Terry Parker who has been transferred to the Sittingbourne Memorial Hospital having spent nearly five weeks in the Medway Maritime. He is receiving palliative care here and of course it is much easier for Beryl to visit him as it is quite a trek to Chatham. Terry is very confused but still able to converse with people but does tend to wander "off piste" sometimes. I spent half an hour with him and Beryl and he smiled when I told him the Colonel Vivian was looking down on him and asking "Parker where is the music"!!! He still remembers his old friends from Staff Band days so if anyone would like to send him a message he is in KESTRAL WARD SITTINGBOURNE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL SITTINGBOURNE ME10 4XX. Terry would be chuffed to think that people from our great band family still remember and care for one of our own. see ya in Pompey in October. Mike

---

message #: 2245

Date: Thursday August 31 2017 15:04:04 EST  
Name: Andrew Seddon  
Email: andrewsologuitar@hotmail.com

Service Number: PO33327P  
Hometown: Wakefield  
Instrument/s: Bugler  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi everyone just a note to say hello from sunny Wakefield.. Andy Seddon

---

message #: 2244

Date: Friday August 25 2017 12:05:18 EST  
Name: Mike Brodie  
Email: mikeatmeads@sky.com

Service Number: PO33236W  
Hometown: Dover  
Instrument/s: Clarinet & Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It is with deep regret I wish to inform you that Andrew (Andy) Brodie passed away last Wednesday after a 4 month battle with pancreatic cancer. His funeral will be next Thursday 31st August 11:15pm at Orwell Church Ba' Hill Milnathort Kinross KY13 9YU.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2243

Date: Friday August 18 2017 04:22:40 EST  
Name: Claire Williamson  
Email: clairewilliamson111@hotmail.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Norwich Norfolk  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
After visiting this page after many a year was sad to hear of the passing of both Max and his wife Kath. My Father Bill "Goofy" Williamson X2334 and Max were good friends during their service together. I have in fact one of Max's shoe brushes on my computer desk! May all both RIP xx

---

message #: 2242

Date: Monday August 14 2017 12:33:17 EST  
Name: Peter Law  
Email: peterlaw1223@gmail.com

Service Number: rm25009  
Hometown: Wolverhampton and many afterwards  
Instrument/s: All of them? If I had practised.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Thankyou for the news that Kath Beare had now joined Maxie for an eternity together. Love to Bev and Julie and families and have a good send off for your mom. Pete Law known to the girls as Mini Sticks.

---

message #: 2241

Date: Saturday August 12 2017 15:37:06 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a:

Comments:  
Very Sad to read of the passing of Kath Beare who hailed from near my Town of Birth and we used to join together that is Maxie Kath and I in the Birmingham Bull Ring to catch the Coach back to our Ship in the Home Fleet. I would probably not have known of her passing had it not been published on this Site.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2240

Date: Friday August 11 2017 03:35:45 EST  
Name: Trevor Lintott  
Email: trevlin31@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX2448  
Hometown: Tulle France  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Sydney E. Richardson MBE I was most saddened to learn of the death of Syd and I send my condolences to Jen and Philip. Syd and I were the greatest of friends and twin Solo Cornets. We were born three days apart in April '31 and were educated at rival Sea Schools. We joined the Band Service in the summer of July 1947. He was brilliant bandsman ashore and afloat making up for my short comings. He was an inspiration.

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message #: 2239

Date: Sunday July 30 2017 07:42:41 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Terry Parker. I have just been in conversation with Beryl Parker to get an update on Terry. He has now been in hospital for three weeks and is thoroughly fed up. Every time the medics want to send him home something crops up. last week his potassium level went sky high so that had to be dealt with. Terry is eating well and talking to anyone who will listen and possibly some who don't !!! He is also getting out of bed and walking well again. So Beryl is hoping to get him home on either Monday or Tuesday this week. Fingers crossed. On another note the Central Band RBL will be on the bandstand at Eastbourne every afternoon from Sunday 6th August until Friday 11th. In addition we will be performing in the evenings except Monday and Tuesday.. If you are in the area please come and see us.  
Kind regards Mike

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message #: 2238

Date: Tuesday July 25 2017 05:09:31 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk.  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
i was saddened to hear of the passing of Syd Richardson who I served with in the Eastney/Yot band 1960-63. He was a cheerful character and a fine cornet/trumpet player. He appears as one of the soloists on an LP we recorded at Walthamstow Town Hall in February 1961. I believe that this was the only recording ever made where the title "The Royal Yacht Band" appears on the album's sleeve ... and I also think that this is the only recording ever made by a RM Band that was negotiated on a fee plus royalties basis! Syd Roy Morgan and Maxie Beare recorded the cornet trio "Three Jolly Sailormen" on that disc and it is a sobering thought that Roy and Maxie passed away within two days of each other last October ... with Syd now completing the loss of these three fine musicians. RIP Syd ... and thank you for many precious memories.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2237

Date: Tuesday July 25 2017 04:48:56 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I went to Syd Richardson's service at The Oaks. A lovely service and good to see a good number of ex RMBs. I knew Syd from various places but I remember him fondly from 3 Cdo Bde in Singapore. Requiescat in Pace.

---

message #: 2236

Date: Monday July 17 2017 18:24:40 EST  
Name: Jim Mason  
Email: j,mason30@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBx 2353  
Hometown: Bedhampton  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I knew Ken ( Ned ) Kelley very well we were very close friends and served in a number of ships together being Solo Clarinets we always sat on the same stand. I recall some very memorable runs ashore around the world. He was a very fine musician - one of the best.

---

message #: 2235

Date: Monday July 17 2017 16:22:15 EST  
Name: David A Mutter  
Email: dam6567@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: euph/cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
After reading Michael Hutton's remarks concerning the passing of Syd Richardson of whom I served with Whaley Band and for a few months with 3rd Cdo Brigade in Singapore I don't think some of us understand the difficulties some of our RMB family have had to come through before they have become members of something greater namely ourselves the Royal Marine Band Service. Conflict and disorientation has forced our children into difficult situations in times past (and maybe present) but the wonderful thing is that we the RMBs have benefitted. Of the names mentioned in Michael's message most if not all have been good comrades without a doubt. RIP Syd and all who went through difficult times. I salute you all. Regards David

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2234

Date: Monday July 17 2017 15:01:44 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Another of our great bandmen has left us..Syd was a TS Exmouth - later the London Nautical Training School boy where many RMBs started their musical careers along with guys like Bob Rawson Cliff Bull Mick Walters Dennis Brown Mick Rice Greesy Wilson...many others who's names I regret I can't remember..and myself. I hope to see some of you at Syd's farewell next Monday He was a fantastic guy and of course a great Trumpet Player. Regards Michael.

---

message #: 2233

Date: Monday July 17 2017 12:12:51 EST  
Name: Vance griffin  
Email: Vtg61@yahoo.com

Service Number: P036844b  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Bugler  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi everyone I know I don't contribute very much to this page but could some of the older guys help me? So my sons football coach is married to Clare (nee Kelley) it turns out her father was a bandsman at Pompey/yacht Singapore Malta etc his name was Ken Kelley I would love to find out a bit more about him and maybe there is someone out there that served with him he would have been in his 80's now Thank you in anticipation Griff

---

message #: 2232

Date: Sunday July 16 2017 03:30:21 EST  
Name: John Borrington  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX 2416  
Hometown: Dronfield  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sorry to hear about Syd Richardson He wa my Band Sgt in The 3Cdo Bde in Singapore 1968-70. A lovely man. My condolences to Jen his wife and Philip his son.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2231

Date: Saturday July 15 2017 17:24:29 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford300@ yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Derply saddened to hear the news regarding Syd Richardson. I knew he had not been well for some time. I have many happy memories of serving with Syd in Whale Island. A lovely lovely man. A true gentleman. Rest in peace dear Syd. Thanks for the memories Barry and Heather Radford

---

message #: 2230

Date: Saturday July 15 2017 15:37:41 EST  
Name: Merv Durrant  
Email: mervcd3518@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3518  
Hometown: Ropley  
Instrument/s: Clarinet 2nd Blk COACH Pantec  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dickie Have just been informed that B/Sgt Syd Richardson has passed away and his funeral is on Monday 24th July at 1215 at the Oaks Crematorium Havant. Merv

---

message #: 2229

Date: Monday July 10 2017 15:40:18 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
The Royal Band on Walmer Green at the Memorial Bandstand put on a magnificent concert yesterday. OK it was most of the MFM music with the memorial service at the close but it was just the one band and they were amazing. Conducted by both Capt Ian Davis and then Col Nick Grace they put on a show second to none. It was great to meet up with some old mates and even a couple of former PDMs. What a fantastic group of great musicians we now have in the RMBS ! As Col Nick said at the opening 'The Best in the World' best wishes to all. Michael.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2228

Date: Monday July 10 2017 15:28:35 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi all I have been today to see Terry Parker in the Medway Hospital. My wife and I took Beryl to see him. He is in the old Naval part of the hospital which to say the least is crowded!!!! I fully expected to see one of Nelson's crew in there!!!! Terry was very tired and to be honest both Beryl and I were shocked to see the state of him. Yesterday he was sitting up in a chair and chatting a complete contrast from today. Beryl has purchased a bed so that Terry does not have to go upstairs. Terry quipped " I hope it's a good one." His sense of humour has not deserted him which is a good thing. He really appreciates the messages of support from his former colleagues. Mike

---

message #: 2227

Date: Thursday July 6 2017 08:33:10 EST  
Name: Jim Mason  
Email: j.mason39@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBx2353  
Hometown: Bedhampton  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:

Best wishes to Terry Parker for a speedy recovery -we were colleagues in the 50's- sat on the same stand!! Jim

---

message #: 2226

Date: Tuesday July 4 2017 13:58:34 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clart  
n/a:

Comments:

Terry Parker update. Terry was sent home last Friday I suspect they wanted the bed!!!! He is in the care of Beryl and the local NHS. I saw him today and he is in good spirits although has an inflamed left hand. Terry asked me to pass on his thanks to Ken Michael and also Terry Freestone for their good wishes.I met Terry Freestone at our gig at Elham last Saturday. I will keep in touch and report as things progress. Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2225

Date: Sunday July 2 2017 04:33:52 EST  
Name: K Tyler  
Email: keng0iti@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sorry to hear Terry Parker is in Sick Bay again. We were pals in our Staff Band days and have kept in touch over the years if only by Terry's newsy letters at Christmas. I think he took over the Librarians job from me!! Get well soon old pal.

---

message #: 2224

Date: Saturday July 1 2017 10:45:57 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi again everyone.. Best wishes to Terry for a speedy recovery.. Have just had a look at the 'facts & figures' for the new HMS Queen Elizabeth found in the magazine 'Homeport'. Looks very impressive except there is no room for a Royal Marines Band ! I recall being in 6 deck when on HMS Albion with a volunteer Band so maybe they will find somewhere in the 'bilges' for a Band/Sgt to gather together a few drunken sailors to perform when required !!! Sail on Bandy ! regards to all Michael.

---

message #: 2223

Date: Friday June 30 2017 02:15:35 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dickie I have just had a call from Beryl Parker to say that her husband Terry is back in the Medway Maritime Hospital ( RNH Chatham ). They think he has Sepsis again. I will keep you posted as to his progress. Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2222

Date: Friday June 16 2017 13:37:43 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Now finally retired from playing Euph (had my last blow with the RMA Band last night after performing at the very last 'All Stars' in March) and was delighted to see a couple of the School of Music's young Euph players there to help out !!!!! My point is - why havent the RMA Band managed to find a replacement Euphonium Player ? There must be one out there somewhere ? If any of you know of one who might be interested...then get them to contact the Band's Secretary or anyone who is a member. The Band now has a new MD in the name of Chris Davis a former PDM so get along there and enjoy making music as we've all done most of our lives. Hope to see many of you at the Deal Bandstand Concert on the 9 July.  
regards to all Michael.

---

message #: 2221

Date: Thursday June 15 2017 06:17:52 EST  
Name: Peter Law  
Email: peterlaw1223@gmail.com

Service Number: RM25009A  
Hometown: Wolverhampton  
Instrument/s: Side drum.Bugle.etc  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Does anybody know where John (carrots) Reynolds is. He was in Pompey Band for many years. Many thaks for your help shipmates. Pete Law

---

message #: 2220

Date: Thursday May 18 2017 11:22:03 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury North Somerset  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar and E Flat Sax  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I offer more on the Late Brian Smith who played for many a year in the All Stars Band and suggest that my previous statement about no one paying any tribute about his passing still stands. Brian was Senior to myself in Service but that didn't prevent him in his friendship to one and all in East Barracks in the early Fifties.  
<http://www.exroyalmarinesbandsmen.net/NOTICEBOARD/bill/01.htm> Brian is pictured here in the above link and one other Martin Gee is on the right of the picture. So Eric Hayward if I have missed you out of where you are in the picture well that is because I don't think you were in it. My kind regards to all.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2219

Date: Friday May 12 2017 03:36:25 EST  
Name: Mike Tellck  
Email: mikelteck@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 352  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi all just to let you know that the Central Band RBL will be playing in St.Pauls Church Chichester on Saturday June 3rd at 1900. Along with us will be a Military Wives Choir. Then on June 10th we will be in St. Georges Church Deal . Again at 1900. By popular request from the Deal public we will be accompanied by Opus 32 a very talented choir from Sittingbourne. Our BAFTA winning boss David Cole will be conducting both evenings so if you have nothing better to do please come and see us. Best wishes to all Mike

---

message #: 2218

Date: Tuesday May 9 2017 15:10:57 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email: french.horn@sky.com

Service Number: RMB4336  
Hometown: DEAL  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
Apologies I meant Herman Clarke. (Not Herbert)

---

message #: 2217

Date: Tuesday May 9 2017 12:58:48 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email: french.horn@sky.com

Service Number: RMB4336  
Hometown: DEAL  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
At Dover Castle today (where I work!) I was chatting to a lady who had a HMS Victory 250 Fleece on. I also noted that she was wearing a RMA Badge. The conversation moved onto what connection she had if any with the Royal Marines. She said that her late husband served in the RMBS. To cut a long story short her name was Sandra and she was the wife of Herbert "Nobby" Clarke! I didn't know Nobby but I know many of you did. We chatted for ages and it was a pleasure to meet her.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2216

Date: Monday May 8 2017 11:26:39 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Sorry to read of the demise of B/Cpl Brian Smith. We were in the Staff Band together and I recall him to have been a very capable bassoonist and a very pleasant man who came on the famous 1965 USA Tour. I also recall him testing a new bassoon 'mouthpiece' to enable the bassoon to be played on the march!! It was a very narrow mouthpiece like a clarinet or sax and with a single reed...the bassoon thus becoming a single reed instrument!! ADRIAN

---

message #: 2215

Date: Monday May 8 2017 06:43:34 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X2505  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
To reply to Len Lewry's request about which CG squad he would have been in; I have checked my records t Register Number and although I don't have definitive evidence believe he would have been in 44 squad as were most of his contemporaries by Register Number.

---

message #: 2214

Date: Friday May 5 2017 17:54:10 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Once upon a time a Bassoon Holder  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard May I too add my sad thoughts to the passing of Brian Smith. He and I along with Martin Gee were the only members of the Bassoon class during the period 52/54. I had joined after the former two and knew absolutely nothing about music or what a Bassoon was. It seemed at the time that we all muddled along having during that period we had at least six different instructors. Among them were such well known members of the bandservice as Pete Sumner Dennis Ovendon Pete Wooley. Brian was Rated before me and I don't think I ever saw him again during my service in the RMB but I was rather chuffed to hear that he was still playing in he Deal area until quite recently. I had finished "blowing" way back in 87 due to a bit of Arthritis in my hands. I wa surprised at reading Bill's letter that no representation of ex Members were at Brian's Funeral but was equally pleased to read Graham letter saying that there was. Thank you Graham. As an aside Richard, I have thought for a long time now that your site has been "highjacked" by "FB". I refuse to print the name in full. However even though my contributions are limited of late I do check here every morning before I do anything else.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2213

Date: Friday May 5 2017 13:39:33 EST  
Name: Caroline Brooker  
Email: marricc@sky.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Gillingham  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Good evening. I am trying to locate an ex bandsman by the name of DAVID ARTHUR ROWLAND believed to have served until 1970 when he left to join Kent Police Force. I believe he moved down to the West Country when he left the police to run a kennels and breed dogs. We have a mutual friend who served with him in Kent Police called Barry Coppen who would dearly like to be in contact with David again. It is also believed that David played a brass instrument perhaps trumpet? If anyone knows the whereabouts of David please be kind enough to give him my details I would really like to be able to put two old friends in touch. Caroline Brooker 01634 855797

---

message #: 2212

Date: Friday May 5 2017 12:01:15 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Gentlemen Please be assured that despite the dearth of timely information regarding the funeral of Brian Smith three of his former colleagues were able to attend in support of Brian's wife Maureen. Graham Harvey Joe Baggs and I were present as well as a distinguished former GD SNCO. As ever Graham

---

message #: 2211

Date: Friday May 5 2017 10:31:25 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I need help.... Yeah I know.... But can anyone out there let me know what CG Squad I was in? I can't remember any of the members or the number. I think it would be about 43/44? (numbers not years!!!!) Strange request but if anyone can help..... Cheers.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2210

Date: Friday May 5 2017 08:17:05 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Like Bill I am sad to hear of Brian Smiths passing and that the news was not available for many of us to have attended his funeral. He was a great member of the Band Service a fine Bassoon player and although I did not serve with him I do recall his contributions to the varied concerts in the Deal concert hall over many years. I'm sure all of us send our condolences to his family and friends. Farewell Brian...Michael.

---

message #: 2209

Date: Thursday May 4 2017 09:51:26 EST  
Name: Dickie Valentine  
Email: richval1951@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
For the very few who are not Facebook'rs I wish to express my deep concern on behalf of those yet to learn that Alan Upton (4068) has had two strokes and his condition began while on holiday in the USA. He was hospitalised in Florida and then when considered appropriate he was flown back to his home in Spain. Now in a local hospital he is making steady progress with physical therapy and I can assert that his sense of humour is as rambunctious as ever. I am in contact with him directly and pleased to say that besides his wife Karen his son Mark and daughter Elaine are at his side. We wish him well. Thoughts and prayers for a steady recovery Alan. Dickie (4069)

---

message #: 2208

Date: Wednesday May 3 2017 15:20:10 EST  
Name: Ernest Hartland  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I am rather disappointed that no one has yet made any comment about the Crossing of the Bar of Brian Smith. [Webmaster] Of course I would agree seeing as I have a reliable source (or three) in Deal whereas it was only announced in the Mercury two days before the funeral and as far as anyone is aware nobody from the band service attended. I only could post what information I was fed at the time and I'm ever grateful to Graham Hoskins for letting me know at his earliest opportunity which was April 19th. Brian passed Away on the 9th after a long battle with dementia and no mention was made of his band service. Very odd and very sad.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2207

Date: Saturday April 29 2017 11:43:19 EST  
Name: Oggie Busby  
Email: granite4@sky.com

Service Number: 3784  
Hometown: Helston  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
Sheila would like to thank all who gave donations in memory of Keith ( ackers ) the sum of Â£1 140 was devided between the Harefield and Dartmouth Hospitals.

---

message #: 2206

Date: Tuesday April 25 2017 09:24:04 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email: graham.hoskins@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have just learnt of David Cole's phenomenal success at the 2017 BAFTAS TV & Film Awards where his team responsible for the annual Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall was awarded the top accolade. He was up against 'Strictly Come Dancing' 'Ant & Dec' 'The Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations' etc. I cannot fully explain how thrilled I am to see this national recognition for it is so thoroughly deserved. I have watched in awe as David's career has progressed and how he has seamlessly moved into civilian professional life where his musicianship can have the wider recognition it deserves. The words he found when finding himself having to give the acceptance speech from the dais whilst clutching the Award were profound and totally without self aggrandissment. He gave the occasion extra gravitas and is to be further congratulated for this. I have written to him on behalf of our Band Service that holds him in such great esteem. He has achieved so much for us all to be proud of. and we are! Graham.

---

message #: 2205

Date: Wednesday April 12 2017 12:01:44 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email: french.horn@sky.com

Service Number: RMB4336  
Hometown: DEAL  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
At long last RMBS Silk Ties are now on sale at the Blue Band Shop Â£20 p&p.  
[www.royalmarinesbands.co.uk](http://www.royalmarinesbands.co.uk)

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2204

Date: Sunday March 26 2017 07:49:13 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I attended last night's Mountbatten Concert. As Michael Hutton said it was a fantastic evening with some outstanding playing. I particularly liked the overture Berlioz's " Corsair" it showed off the fabulous clarinet section. However I felt as did others that as the evening progressed it got louder to the point that ears were beginning to hurt. I have noticed this trend over the years and it spoils the overall effect. Well done to Colonel Nick and the musicians for a very professional show. Also to " Brian Aldridge" aka Charles Collingwood quite the best compA're for some time. Best wishes to all Mike

---

message #: 2203

Date: Friday March 24 2017 18:14:19 EST  
Name: Irfon Higgins  
Email: ijhiggins@aol.com

Service Number: RMB4323  
Hometown: Ammanford  
Instrument/s: Alto sax  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Ticker Butterworth was at the All Stars concert in Margate Mike Scurfield will probably have his contact details he is hoping to attend the Cdo. Forces reunion in Plymouth on May 6th.

---

message #: 2202

Date: Friday March 24 2017 06:51:24 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Attended the first night of the MFM yesterday...Once again the performance was amazing. Just three conductors this year and Col Nick Grace took the majority of the programme on his shoulders as we all know it is his last year as PDM. The standard of playing and presentation never fails to impress so all us ex members get quite jealous as we cant be part of it. If you have the time get there tonight or tomorrow as there may be some spare seats...certainly up in the top flight if you can stand the climb up those dreaded stairs. 'Rule Britannia' regards to all...Michael.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2201

Date: Wednesday March 22 2017 01:27:28 EST  
Name: Matt Stevenson  
Email: mattsdigs@ntlworld.com

Service Number: PO21960V  
Hometown: Colchester  
Instrument/s: n/a:

Comments:  
Could any one let me know the whereabouts of a former Royal Marine squaddie of mine called Ian "ticker" Butterworth who completed his recruit training back in september of 1963 in 791 squad and then transferred to the R.M. band service. If any one knows of his contact address could they get him to phone me on 01206 513409 or use the above E-mail address as I am attempting to form up a second re-union of this squad in may of this year. Many thanks matt stevenson

---

message #: 2200

Date: Friday March 17 2017 04:41:40 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi all Re my last posting the Winter Gardens have found my kit I left there last Sunday. Panic over!!  
Mike

---

message #: 2199

Date: Tuesday March 14 2017 06:41:23 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: Rmb3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi folks it was good to see everyone at the Winter Gardens on Sunday. I am sure that the public enjoyed the evening as did the members of the band. I left some kit in the dressing room to the left of the stage as you look at it, consisting of a black short sleeved bshirt and a pair of trousers. In the pocket of the shirt there is a slip of paper with details of the next Chatham band reunion. They were on a metal hanger with a lightweight cover. In the rush to get out I completely forgot about them. I have been in contact with the Winter Gardens and they have not found them. However they have found a jacket so if anyone has lost one contact the box office on 01843 292795. If anyone has found my kit please contact me. Thank you Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2198

Date: Saturday March 11 2017 12:17:03 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: GrandadRoy66@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB4079J  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Culzean Castle Killer Drum  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dickie and all ex Bandies It is official the Royal Marines Museum is definitely closing on 1st April 2017. It will re open in 2020 at HM Dockyard Portsmouth after a multi million makeover! Good news though the Memorial Garden is not affected and will remain open. The Car Park will also stay open.....Yay!

---

message #: 2197

Date: Sunday March 5 2017 05:16:59 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Last evening I was privileged to attend a concert in St. Mary's Church in Walmer given by 'White Cliff's Symphonic Winds' under the direction of their founder and Musical Director Graham Harvey M.Mus LRAM ARAM. FRSA whose career as a Warrant Officer 1 Bandmaster in the Corps we recall with pride. Musicians included many former colleagues still able to demonstrate their lasting abilities. The music chosen for the programme included Shostakovich Philip Sparke John Williams Franze Von Suppe Lennon & McCartney Dvorak and others. Uniquely the concert ended with the final movement of Saint-Saens Symphony No.3. Arranged by former Bandmaster Trevor Attwood MBE who himself is a member of Symphonic Winds. He had originally transcribed the piece from the original orchestral version in order for me to include it in a Mountbatten Albert Hall Concert in 1984 for which I shall be forever grateful. Hearing it played again last evening was very special indeed and my sincere thanks go to Trevor and Graham for giving me the opportunity to do so. All made even more memorable by the familiar faces in the band of former comrades still showing the world that musical experience in the Royal Marines remains beyond compare. Quite remarkable. Graham Hoskins

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message #: 2196

Date: Thursday March 2 2017 11:33:50 EST  
Name: Colin (Taff) Simpson  
Email:

Service Number: PO25693u  
Hometown: Bridgwater  
Instrument/s: Bugle/Drum allegedly  
n/a:

Comments:  
Thanks to Dickie and everyone else who contacted me regarding Martin Jackson wanting to get in touch. I rang Martin last night quite strange after 38 years. We have agreed to meet on my return to the UK. Again my thanks to all.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2195

Date: Tuesday February 28 2017 09:26:11 EST  
Name: Jim Mason  
Email: j.mason30@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2353  
Hometown: Bedhampton  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sad to hear about Joe Simms and his problems we were boys together in th Isle of Man 1945/46 but never served together again during our careers. I remember him well - one of the best.

---

message #: 2194

Date: Monday February 27 2017 03:37:07 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello retired  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just a final reminder that the 'ALL STARS' on the 12th March needs your support so if you havent got a ticket you need to get in touch with Mike Scurfield on 01304 827391. If you want to have a blow then likewise get in touch with Mike. This has to be the very best ever ! The PDM Col Nick Grace will be in attendance and it will also be his last as he retires later this year. Look forward to seeing you there.. regards to all Michael.

---

message #: 2193

Date: Saturday February 25 2017 14:32:59 EST  
Name: Ray Thomas  
Email: brisray@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Bristol UK but now Terre Haute Indiana US  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Bill Hartland who has contributed to this website used to write a website for the HMS Gambia Association. That site was taken offline in 2014 and now only exists on the Web Archive - <http://web.archive.org/web/20131225085811/http://www.hmsgambia.com/> I wrote about my father's time on HMS Gambia at <http://brisray.com/dad/> and in 2005 Bill contacted me about getting the Association's site started. Late last year I decided to rescue everything I could from the Web Archive and as Bill and I have kept in contact asked him to send me the original files he used which he very kindly did. There are still a lot of images missing and a lot of work left to do but the site is now up at <http://hmsgambia.org/> Not to detract from this site or others such as <https://rzncomms.org/2015/02/12/gallery-of-images-hmzs-gambia-part-1/> if anyone can help contribute to <http://hmsgambia.org/> I really would like to hear from you. Ray

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2192

Date: Friday February 24 2017 03:26:13 EST  
Name: John Borrington  
Email: john@borrington.com

Service Number: RMBX2416  
Hometown: Sheffield  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have just been reading the E Mail from Joe Simms son about his father. I would be grateful if he could send me his E Mail address as Joe and I were together on HMS Glasgow 1948-50 (our 1st Ship) and Hms Daedalus 1951-52. We lived together in private lodgings as there was no room for the Band at HMS Daedalus .

---

message #: 2191

Date: Friday February 17 2017 08:53:56 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I knew Maurice Gee quite well and worked for him a couple of times as he was a fixer/contractor. He was quite a character! Oddly though at the time I am sure I did not know he was ex-Pompey Group RMB. I certainly played for him at the old PYE studios at Marble Arch. I think I got to know him through Monty Montgomery (tp) who sat next to me in the Theatre Royal Haymarket on my first job after leaving RMB in 1966. Monty had been the trumpet player in Mantovani so that would make sense.

There is a famous story about him auditioning for the vacant bass trombone position in the Philharmonia. Playing some orchestral passage in front of the audition panel in a decidedly prosaic fashion one of the panel members said "Sing it man sing it!!" whereupon Maurice put the trombone down and proceeded to sing the passage loudly!!!! Adrian

---

message #: 2190

Date: Thursday February 16 2017 13:52:28 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: BASSOONAPHONE  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to hear the news that TERRY WOOD has passed over the bar. I was with Terry in the wing mid 60s but I went west and lost touch. I'm sorry we never met up again but kept in touch via facebook. my condolences to Terry's Family R.I.P. Old friend

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2189

Date: Thursday February 16 2017 10:15:32 EST  
Name: Geoff Baker  
Email: jandgbaker@talktalk.net

Service Number:  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
My Father Fred Baker had a dance band before and after the war. He lived at 14 Park Road Walthamstow and I have found a blank letter sheet in my late Father's belongings headed Maurice Gee Orchestra with 14 Park Road as the address. On researching Maurice Gee on the internet I see an entry from a Martin Gee on your website and wonder if it is the same Maurice Gee on my Fathers letterhead. I have various photos and it may well be that Maurice Gee is in one of them. Hopefully Martin will read this and get in touch. Geoff Baker

---

message #: 2188

Date: Tuesday February 14 2017 02:09:21 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I would just like to wish a happy birthday to the survivors of 2/56 squad who joined the RMSM on this day 61 years ago. As far as we know there are only four of us left. Barry Radford Ray Grant John Cowdrey and myself. It's been a long journey full of interesting events and momentous occasions. So have a great day chaps hope your leg is getting better John. I am on a short break in Venice with the memsahib and daughter at the moment lots of good wine and food!!! Hope to see you in Pompey in October. Mike

---

message #: 2187

Date: Wednesday February 8 2017 09:13:31 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
With just about a month to go before the very last 'ALL STARS' concert in Margate I thought it might be useful to mention that there could be many guys and girls out there who are not on our wonderful 'Dickie's' website. So if you do know of any ex members who may not be aware of this occasion then please let them know. We need a complete sell-out in Margate on the 12th March so lets all do what we can to make it so !! regards to all Michael.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2186

Date: Monday February 6 2017 14:05:56 EST  
Name: Bryan Walker  
Email: french.horn@sky.com

Service Number: RMB4336  
Hometown: DEAL  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
The Civilian badly injured was Doug Pullan. Sadly he passed away 6/7 years ago. He was lucky to survive as long as he did.

---

message #: 2185

Date: Monday February 6 2017 07:20:28 EST  
Name: Pat Hill  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
In conversation the other day with a friend who wanted to know about the history of the Walmer Bandstand in memoriam of our friend's fallen. When speaking of the casualties I for shame could not remember anything about the Concert Hall sweeper. Other than he was seriously injured I know nothing. Anyone help? Best regards to all Pusser!

---

message #: 2184

Date: Saturday February 4 2017 13:09:06 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email: french.horn@sky.com

Service Number: RMB4336  
Hometown: DEAL  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dan & Trog I will call Henry tomorrow (Sunday 5th Feb) and see if he's up for visitors. I'm sure he'll be delighted to see a friendly face but I think it's best that I check first and foremost. Ray has given me your email Dan. If you can send me yours Trog I'll let you know the outcome. Cheers Billy W.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2183

Date: Friday February 3 2017 04:35:03 EST  
Name: Chris Archer  
Email:

Service Number: Po22378c  
Hometown: Kettering  
Instrument/s: Drum Major  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I am currently living in Kettering about 8 Mile's from Henry Monaghan. I am more than happy to go and visit and check how he is getting on. I will need address and contact details plus Henry's permission of course.  
Dan Archer

---

message #: 2182

Date: Thursday February 2 2017 17:09:58 EST  
Name: Jim Mason  
Email: j.mason30@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBx2353  
Hometown: Bedhampton  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
The way we were!! 2nd February a significant date in my career. On this date in 1948 I joined the troopship "Staffordshire" at Liverpool bound for Malta. I had been called in from the battleship "Duke of York" to join a newly formed band for the cruiser H M S Liverpool based in Malta. (Commissioned Bandmaster Bill Fitzgerald). The foreign commission was due to last for two and a half years (In fact it lasted for three years because of the problems in Palestine). I was still a Band Boy and by the time we got back to the UK I had been promoted to Band Corporal (at eighteen!!) I had not had the opportunity to pass the appropriate course. In those days promotions were made "provisional". You could retain the rank provided that you could pass the course when you eventually got back to the UK!! Those were the days!! Jim Mason

---

message #: 2181

Date: Thursday February 2 2017 14:53:53 EST  
Name: Dave Tremaine  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3928  
Hometown: Buckingham  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Ray So pleased that someone has found Henry at last I've been trying for years with no success. If he is up to a visit I will gladly go over and see him. Sorry I can't make the West Country reunion. Please give my regards to all those who do attend. Dave

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2180

Date: Thursday February 2 2017 04:20:54 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Henry Monaghan. After many attempts by several people Billy Walker has managed to contact Henry and had a conversation with him on the telephone thankfully he is still with us but sadly not well having suffered a stroke. He is unable to attend the West Country Reunion but I am sure everyone who knows & loves him will be delighted to know he is still with us. He is currently living in Wellingborough I am not sure if he is up to visitors but if anyone living locally would like to visit I will ask Billy to see if he is up to it. Henry doesn't do "TEC" so doesn't do email/Facebook etc. Best wishes to all Ray

---

message #: 2179

Date: Monday January 30 2017 13:01:07 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
Plymouth Reunion Hi everyone Gary Pumford is arranging a get together for ex Commando Forces Band/Falklands Band & other West Country based bands details are on Facebook but I know not everyone looks at that the details are: Saturday 6th May starting at 12.30 lunchtime at the Artillery Arms 6 Pound Street Plymouth. If you want to go either go to FB and let him know or if easier leave me a message on here or email me and I will put a message on there for you. Ray

---

message #: 2178

Date: Thursday January 26 2017 12:20:22 EST  
Name: Oggie Busby  
Email: granite4@sky.com

Service Number: RMB 3784  
Hometown: Helston  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
The funeral of Keith (ackers) Boswell was held on tuesday afternoon at St Clements Church in Dartmouth. The service was well attended with many ex colleagues from far and wide Deal and Portsmouth as well as those from nearer. It was a fitting service although very emotional for many of us for such a fine and well respected person. Many old friends were reunited although sadly under such circumstances. I think we all felt it during "Eternal Father" and Sunset. I'm sure I speak for all in passing our heartfelt condolences to Sheila and family.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2177

Date: Tuesday January 24 2017 17:18:37 EST  
Name: MERV HYATT  
Email: MLHY1@aol.com

Service Number: RMB4075  
Hometown: WATCHET  
Instrument/s: CLT /VIOLIN/SAX  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just got back after attending Keith Boswell' funeral. What brilliant turnout for a brilliant man (Standing room only). A lovely service aided by the BRNC Volunteer band - containing a few ex bandies who I haven't seen for a few years plus an infiltrator in the name of Dave Lambert. My heartfelt best wishes go out to all Keith's family. RIP Keith. Merv H

---

message #: 2176

Date: Tuesday January 17 2017 12:51:48 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Some believe.....bassoon  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
For Graham I'm sure that Merv' is in the photo somewhere it looks like he might be the charabanc driver. The Vicar looks very dodgy as does the lady next to him.. If you zoom in between the two gentlemen at the rear left it looks like someone has written something it looks like "PLUS" or FIVE? If it's Pompey then the pub will be The RMA tavern but clues are few and far between..... [Editor] I think Dave Tremaine has given good clues. I recall when at Whaley frequenting the Derby Tavern close by and they served Brickwoods! The worst pint I had ever tasted.

---

message #: 2175

Date: Tuesday January 17 2017 12:28:29 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Milk monitor and music librarian extraordinaire  
n/a:

Comments:  
My sincere condolences go out to the family of "The Accrington Yodeller" Keith Ackers Boswell. R.I.P my friend Roy

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2174

Date: Tuesday January 17 2017 11:31:58 EST  
Name: martin jackson  
Email: martin.jackson@dchgroup.com

Service Number: RMB 4207  
Hometown: PLYMOUTH  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Piano (Only on paper)  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Can anyone help me to locate Taff Simpson ex bugler. I think he lives in Somerset somewhere would like to contact him for a beer or two. Any help would be appreciated my number is 01752 600125 Cheers Martin Jackson [Editor] I know he's around as he is rarely not at a Pompey reunion so you should find him soon. Tried Facebook yet?

---

message #: 2173

Date: Tuesday January 17 2017 08:35:37 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Gentlemen all The old photograph I forwarded for interest and comment came to me some time ago from former Drum Major Colin Bowden BEM who spent virtually all his illustrious career with the Divisional Band at Eastney Barracks. His view was that the picture was almost certainly taken right outside of the main gate to that barracks where there were certainly two adjacent pubs. Great fun anyway and all credit to those whose views are likely to have been geographically correct. Certainly if it is of Eastney in Portsmouth then the sailor with his 'mando' wouldn't have had far to come from his ship! Whatever our spirits have been lifted from the gloom of so many losses from our Band Service family over recent months which was the idea behind publication of the picture. May we all in this new year enjoy healthy and restored friendships as we meet in various countermarches.... Graham

---

message #: 2172

Date: Tuesday January 17 2017 04:27:46 EST  
Name: David Tremaine  
Email: dtremaine3928@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3928  
Hometown: Buckingham  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Graham I'm pretty sure your photo must be in Portsmouth. The logo on the pub wall says 'brilliant ales. Brilliant ales were a company who worked with Portsmouth Brewery which along with Plymouth Brewery produced the some of the worst beer in the world! David

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2171

Date: Monday January 16 2017 14:39:45 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Graham...If you look beyond the group and over their heads !!!! Could that be the outline of 'The Nelson' in Deal? The foreground part is no longer there but of course the picture would have been taken with North Barracks gate behind the taker? Gravel path on his right. Hope to see lots of you at the 'ALL STARS' in March...Regards Michael.

---

message #: 2170

Date: Monday January 16 2017 11:34:35 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X 2505  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: S Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Ref the Graham mystery pic: Good try David but I don't think it's the old Dolphin in Deal by the Sick Bay. In fact I don't think it is Deal at all due to the dabtee on mando(line). Perhaps Eastney Barracks circa late 1890s? I don't recall Stonehouse in Devonport having a frontage like that.

---

message #: 2169

Date: Monday January 16 2017 09:32:58 EST  
Name: David A Mutter  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard In reply to Graham Hoskins's puzzle I think it is the main gate into the Infirmary and schoolrooms in Deal NE of North Barracks (Just across the road as it were.) on the Gladstone Road and directly opposite North Barrack Road. The name of the pub I believe was The Dolphin. Other points about the photo are interesting namely the caps which were worn without a peak as the peak cap was not introduced until later for general use. The cap badge can't be identified as to whether it is that of the musician with a lyre on top or RMLI with a bugle atop the globe and laurel. The good conduct stripes may indicate that Royal Marines were awarded them on the same basis as the Army who had only to serve three years instead of four years with the Royal Navy. The occasion presented in the photo could be that of the bride and groom posing for photo with all his mates from the barracks. My assumption that it's a wedding party is simply because of the button holes some of the men are wearing in their lapels. I hope to find out if I am right or not.  
Regards David

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2168

Date: Sunday January 15 2017 03:48:59 EST  
Name: Glyn taff thomas  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx 3224  
Hometown: Dartmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Does anyone know of whereabouts of Jackie Malpas? (Trombone) my last meeting with him was in HMS Raleigh 1959! He married a lady by the name of Morag from Kilmarnock

---

message #: 2167

Date: Tuesday January 10 2017 16:35:15 EST  
Name: Oggie Busby  
Email: granite4@sky.com

Service Number: RMB 3784  
Hometown: Helston  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
On behalf of Sheila The Funeral of Keith (Ackers) Boswell will take place on Tuesday January 24th at 2pm at St Clements Church Church Road Dartmouth.

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message #: 2166

Date: Tuesday January 10 2017 10:36:31 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard I am sat reading this months edition of The British Bandsman. (a brass band publication). Mentioned is Royal Marine Bandsman Frederick Charles Palfreman. A trombone player who was born in 1899 and served on HMS Warspite at the Battle of Jutland at the age of 17. Frederick survived the war and died in 1987. Just wonder if anyone had any more information on this ex Bandy? Most interesting to read more of our heritage. Both Heather and I wish everyone out there a very Happy and Peaceful 2017. We hope to see lots of you at Margate in March!! Regards Barry [Editor] I believe his RMB number was RMB 2182 and was born Westminster London. Joined Nov 26 1913. Discharged free. These records courtesy of Terry Freestone.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2165

Date: Monday January 9 2017 17:15:00 EST  
Name: MERV HYATT  
Email: MLHY1@aol.com

Service Number: Q004075T  
Hometown: WATCHET  
Instrument/s: CLT/VIOLIN/SAX  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Haven't logged since my last note and have only now heard the very sad news of Keith's passing. My deepest thoughts and sympathy goes out to Sheila and family at this very sad time. May he rest in peace. MH

---

message #: 2164

Date: Tuesday January 3 2017 12:33:40 EST  
Name: Sheila Boswell  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
We would like to thank everyone for all the lovely messages about Keith (Boswell). Although we are heartbroken the messages have been of great comfort and brought back wonderful memories. Much love Sheila Elaine & Pam

---

message #: 2163

Date: Tuesday January 3 2017 00:17:20 EST  
Name: Dan Archer  
Email: archer378@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: PO22378c  
Hometown: Pytchley Northamptonshire  
Instrument/s: Bugler/Drum Major  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I am so sorry to hear the very sad news of Keith Boswell's passing. Like others I had the good fortune to serve with Keith in the FOSNI BAND at Rosyth under the command of then Lt Graham Hoskins. Virtually all of us married ranks lived in MQs just outside the base and a fairly bleak place it was too. This forged many family friendships amongst us all. My late wife Beryl and I were fortunate to count Keith and Sheila amongst our close friends. I always loved Keith's droll Lancashire sense of humour and his dogged support for Accrington Stanley. My thoughts are with Sheila and family. RIP old friend.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2162

Date: Monday January 2 2017 13:32:52 EST  
Name: Stuart Snowden  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3818  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Oboe  
n/a:

Comments:  
Having followed the website for a good while now it was a pleasant surprise to hear from Dave Mutter bringing up the 1/61 squad of which I was part of. I am pleased to say that after a triple heart bypass in 2000 and a heart attack in 2012 I have reached 2017 feeling fit well and extremely lucky!! Although I have just retired my time is still very much occupied by my beautiful wife Sally and my lovely family....2 daughters 3 grandchildren 3 stepdaughters 1 stepson 6 step grandchildren and another on the way!!! Music still plays a big part in my life. I now play the flute classical guitar and have recently bought 2 ukuleles ( one for me and one for the wife ) just for the fun of it! I have recently found some old photos of which I will post up soon. For all those who do remember me especially 1/61 squad I would like to wish you all the very best for the New Year. Snowy Snowden.

---

message #: 2161

Date: Monday January 2 2017 10:53:51 EST  
Name: David (Jack) Kennedy  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3940  
Hometown: Accrington now Devon  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
Although expected I was still shocked to hear of the death of my dear friend Keith Boswell. Keith and I both went to the same school in Accrington at Hyndburn Park. He was a couple of years older than me. I remember him coming back to the school after joining the band service and thinking that is what I would like to do. When I joined up Keith was one of the older boys and was like a big brother to me always had time to chat and advise never too busy. I remember back then he used to talk about his 'pash' Sheila back in Accrington and how great she was. Sheila was obviously the love of his life even all those years ago and remains so to the end. After we were both drafted I never served with Keith until my final 3 years when I joined the band at Dartmouth. There he was - still the same gentle humourous personality always a pleasure to be around. RIP old mate and see you in the countermarch.  
David (Jack) Kennedy

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message #: 2160

Date: Monday January 2 2017 08:23:43 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
So very sad to hear the news of Keith Boswell. I knew Keith in J Wing same room. Then served with him in FOSNI same married quarter block in Arbroath. Such a lovely gentle man. My thoughts go out to Sheila at this very sad time. Stay strong.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2159

Date: Monday January 2 2017 06:04:27 EST  
Name: Paul Collett  
Email: tubby.tuba@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3827  
Hometown: Wimborne  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sorry to hear the sad news of the passing of Keith Boswell. We were in the same C.G. squad but I don't think I had seen him since. I remember him as a not only a very good musician but also as a great team player. My thoughts are with his family at this very sad time.

---

message #: 2158

Date: Sunday January 1 2017 16:46:40 EST  
Name: Dave (Trog) Tremaine  
Email: dtremaine3928@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3928  
Hometown: Buckingham  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I was so sorry when Oggie informed me that Keith had passed away. I wrote to Oggie asking for an update as I had intended to visit Keith when he was able to receive visitors. Alas it was not to be. Between my email to Oggie and his reply Keith had passed away. He was one of my first room NCOs in J wing in the 1960s and I couldn't have asked for a kinder more helpful person. Unlike some he was so good to us very junior musicians straight out of new entries. I last saw him at a Dartmouth Regatta day when we both happened to be watching something in the park. Not having seen each other for some 40 years we immediately recognised each other and had a long chat about our various careers. Keith was a smashing bloke and will be missed by all who knew him. Dave (Trog) Tremaine

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message #: 2157

Date: Sunday January 1 2017 13:39:13 EST  
Name: oggie busby  
Email: granite4@sky.com

Service Number: RMB 3784  
Hometown: Helston  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sorry to be the bearer of bad news on the first day of 2017. On behalf of Sheila Keith [ackers] Boswell took a turn for the worse at 1100 and sadly peacefully passed away this afternoon. I'm sure everyone would wish me to pass on our condolences to Sheila and family.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2156

Date: Saturday December 31 2016 14:24:56 EST  
Name: Jim Mason  
Email: j.mason30@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBx2353  
Hometown: Bedhampton  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
The way we were!! In 1952/54 I was the Band Sergeant in the cruiser Glasgow based in Malta with Michael Hutton and Commissioned Bandmaster Ernie Ough. Living conditions on board were as Michael has described - awful. Ernie Ough asked me to write a report on the living conditions which I did and it was then sent off to "higher authority" We never heard another word! On returning back home I joined the Bandmaster's Course and on the day that we qualified I was called to the Drafting Office to be told that I would join the Glasgow as Bandmaster the following week. I commented that I had just done two and a half years in the Glasgow and was told that as I was the chap that wrote the report I could go back and sort it out! Luckily by then the ship was in the Home Fleet and the problem no longer existed.

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message #: 2155

Date: Saturday December 31 2016 06:02:03 EST  
Name: David A Mutter  
Email: dam6567@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
A happy New Year to all and especially to the 1/61 new entry squad as it is our 56 th anniversary. We the chosen few began our RMB careers on Monday 2 nd January 1961. The roll call being J/Musâ€™ AifBromley Richard Humphries David Hurl David Mutter Gordon Oaks Tony Richardson Denis Rundel and Stuart Snowden. The J/Bugs were Beer Biggs Brogan Jefferies Quiggly (?) and Sheriden. Two of our number did not complete J/Mus training namely Richard Humphries (medical) and Gordon Oaks. Two J/Bugs transferred to the Commando as G/D marines after completion of their Junior Training; Brogan and Quiggly. May the New Year bring us all comfort happiness and contentment. David

---

message #: 2154

Date: Thursday December 29 2016 11:05:09 EST  
Name: MERV HYATT  
Email: MLHY1@aol.com

Service Number: Q004075T  
Hometown: WILLITON  
Instrument/s: CLT/VIOLIN/SAXVee  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to hear about 'Ackers'. Hopefully knowing his outlook on life will in time make a good recovery. My sincerest thoughts go out to Sheila and all the family in this most difficult time. MH

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2153

Date: Thursday December 22 2016 16:13:52 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Terry Parker. Just to let those of you who know Terry that he has been in the Medway Maritime Hospital for the last week. He is now back home and is in the care of a specialist nursing team. The cancer has moved to his one remaining kidney he also has Alzheimer's. I am in touch with his wife Beryl on a daily basis if you have any messages for a Terry please send through me at my email address. He needs our prayers at this time. Mike

---

message #: 2152

Date: Thursday December 22 2016 15:11:35 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Have just spent quite a long time looking at Roy Nash's fantastic pictures and for those of us who are at the age when the memory is slightly fading it's very frustrating when you can't put names to faces! However I am sure that there are many of you guys out there who may be of a similar age to me who must be able to help!!! As Roy was a year or so before me I can't name them all but I'm sure I know a few guys who can help me when we get together for the 'ALL STARS' last performance on the 12 March next year. (Get your tickets early as it will be a sellout we hope) even if you're not playing you need to be there. Anyway here's a few names from Roy's pics to wet your appetite. Fred Stagg Jimmy Morrow Ken Booth the infamous Cpl Oscar Murch and next to him Dave Elliott.....That's in the 'Burford Picture 1948. More to come....Regards to all Michael.

---

message #: 2151

Date: Thursday December 22 2016 11:14:56 EST  
Name: Gerry Taylour  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Nottingham  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
I find the photo's on notice board in 'Photo's in Roy Nash's time' quite fascinating particularly to the one of 'B Company Deal 1951'. I recognise and can put a name to a lot of the faces. I think I am on it. However I cannot not remember a company organisation. Perhaps the 'B' referred to 'boys'. So was this photo of all the boys in Deal at the time. Can anybody enlighten me?

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2150

Date: Wednesday December 21 2016 13:42:00 EST  
Name: Oggie Busby  
Email: granite4@sky.com

Service Number: r.m.b.3784  
Hometown: Helston  
Instrument/s: basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I agree with all good wishes for ackers we were shocked when Sheila told us things didn't go too well at Harefield we are in contact with Sheila so will post any updates. It's 53 years since we were in C.G. squad together and almost as many from our time in Condor although i was made redundant in '73 we have remained friends and in contact ever since. I hope like all other ex bandies things will soon improve and he'll back to his happy smiling self again that would make the best Christmas gift ever. Our thoughts and prayers are with Sheila and family.

---

message #: 2149

Date: Tuesday December 20 2016 04:09:41 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bassoonphone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dickie Please pass on my best wishes for a speedy recovery to Keith (Ackers - The Accrington Yodeller) and family. I served with Keith in FOSNI band and found he was a real unassuming GENTLEMAN. We called him The Accrington Yodeller due to the jumpers he wore. I still and always will remember him with great affection.  
Roy

---

message #: 2148

Date: Sunday December 18 2016 04:29:29 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: S.Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sad to read of Keith "Ackers" Boswells' ill health. A natural gentleman whom I knew in Boys Wing and later in Arbroath. I feel for his lovely wife Sheila and hope he pulls through this terrible time.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2147

Date: Saturday December 17 2016 08:32:25 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND.S.Wales  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard It was sad reading of the news by Graham Hoskins of Keith Boswell. He was a great chum of all those years ago when we were in training in the early 60's. Through your website may I pass on my good wishes to Keith and his wife. I hope all will be well in the end. Thank you. Mike.

---

message #: 2146

Date: Saturday December 17 2016 04:09:57 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
On behalf of all ex members of our great family especially those in the RMA Concert Band I would like to wish everyone world wide a 'Happy Christmas' and good health for the New Year. We have lost quite a few members this year and our thoughts must be with their families at this sad time. Best wishes to all. Michael.

---

message #: 2145

Date: Thursday December 15 2016 11:01:51 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Gentlemen Colleagues and friends gathering at this festive time may wish to hold one of our number in their special prayers. I learn that Keith Boswell who has been in poor health for several years had his long-awaited heart transplant eight weeks ago. Sadly it did not go well and he remains in Harefield Hospital under intensive care. His wife Sheila has been with him over these last stressful weeks and will maintain her vigil at his bedside. Keith many will recall is a delightfully sensitive person whose time in the Band Service has been his greatest joy. Surrounded now by the love of his wife and his dedicated hospital team he deserves and needs our love and support from wherever we are in the world. We pray for his recovery and more time with his devoted family as he completes what will be a lengthy convalescence. Graham Hoskins.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2144

Date: Tuesday December 6 2016 08:06:18 EST  
Name: Taff Ryan  
Email:

Service Number: Q004143C  
Hometown: Rosyth  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
Fosni Band's QE2 Gig. Like Roy and Len I was lucky to have been on that memorable Gig which must still be one of the best Cat IV Gigs to date and this was all to do with the foresight and planning of Col.Graham Hoskins so thank you Sir for some superb memories.

---

message #: 2143

Date: Monday December 5 2016 15:11:30 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@Gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Non Now Former Bassoon Holder  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard May I through your site wish all those who are on your vast list of contacts the very best for the coming Festive Season and hope that we will all enjoy the year to come. The first Main Event in 2017 being of course the Reunion of Ex RMBs in Adelaide on the 24th 25 and 26th of March. Hope to see you there. Details will be promulgated shortly. A very warm (temperature wise) cheers from Oz. Eric.

---

message #: 2142

Date: Sunday December 4 2016 09:45:47 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bassoon and other trivial hooters  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dickie So sorry to hear the sad news of Roy Kaighins passing. Please pass my condolences to Roys family A very gifted musician. ALSO To Graham Hoskins Thank you for including me on that world famous QE II gig in 1973. I had only just joined FOSNI Band and the 1st thing I had to do was go to Glasgow and get a passport it was then I knew it wasn't a wind up

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2141

Date: Friday December 2 2016 08:06:31 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3859  
Hometown: Southsea  
Instrument/s: S. clar.  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Just a quick line to add to Graham Hoskins' letter re QE2.... It certainly was a great trip due in no small part in Lt (then) Hoskins' negotiating skills. I believe we won the gig after one of those responsible for booking the acts caught FOSNI band doing a concert in Aberdeen showing off the versatility of orchestra dance band and concert band with Bugles etc. in one show. YPO... an amazing gig many thanks. By the way it was NEVER the Yacht band's gig!!!

---

message #: 2140

Date: Wednesday November 30 2016 08:09:06 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

**Comments:**

St. Andrew's Day... I take this opportunity to wish all current members of the FOSNI Band a happy day of celebration north of the border and to send best wishes in particular to those who were serving at Rosyth in 1973 when they beat off all tri-Service competition to be taken as entertainers aboard the QE2 for a special eight-day VIP millionaire cruise to the Mediterranean. In company with Joe Loss and his orchestra The Dutch Swing College and a host of internationally acclaimed artistes the band joined the ship at Southampton and themselves treated as guests with individual cabins enjoyed the experience of being played away from the jetty by a Welsh choir of 200 and a Guards Band from London. Displaying expertise in all musical combinations during the cruise - culminating in a midnight Beat Retreat ceremony on the dance floor of the ship's 'Double Down' room on 'British Night' FOSNI Band was demonstrating ahead of time standards now accepted as the norm. The 'tongue in cheek' idea prevalent up to then that the FOSNI Band was the Band Service Penal Colony was banished forever by that remarkable and well deserved Cat.IV engagement and I wholeheartedly congratulate and thank the members of that band of over forty years ago. Splice the mainbrace gentlemen! Bravo Zulu and all that..... Graham Hoskins.

---

message #: 2139

Date: Sunday November 27 2016 12:46:44 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clar  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Last night's concert by the Central Band and OPUS 32 in St. Georges church Deal was a fantastic success. It was nice to see a few ex Bandidies in the audience. Pete Worsfold Steve Misson Alan Howard Joe Baggs Mick Eastbrook and a bugler Barney Barnett. It was great to see them and get their comments. The choir OPUS 32 from Sittingbourne were amazed by David Cole's band arrangements for their pieces. One of the ladies of the choir asked what the big brown instrument was. She had never heard of a Bassoon!!! A sad reflection on some schools music education or lack of it!! Seasons greetings to all! Mike Question . What is the difference between an Oboe and a Bassoon? Answer. A Bassoon takes longer to burn!! Apologies to any Bassoon burners sorry players out there.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2138

Date: Thursday November 24 2016 09:16:32 EST  
Name: John Dixon  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx3369  
Hometown: Scawby Nr. Brigg  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Having seen the post by Mike Tellick to do with the funeral of Herman "Nobby" Clarke's funeral I decided that as I am just a few miles from Scunthorpe I would go along and as an ex Bandsman show some support. I didn't know Nobby that well but I'm sure that our paths would have crossed some time back then in the 60's. I discovered on that day that like me Nobby was born in 1940 and started out in the Salvation Army Band same here and also did his audition for the School of Music on tenor horn same here! Quite a coincidence I thought. Sadly I didn't get to the get together at the pub afterwards but managed to say hello to Nobby's son and also to Roy Adrian who is an ex musician friend. I was glad that I was able to help see Nobby off on his final journey. Best wishes to all John

---

message #: 2137

Date: Wednesday November 23 2016 07:12:27 EST  
Name: HERMAN &#39;NOBBY&#39; CLARKE  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3329  
Hometown: SCUNTHORPE  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
ALL OF NOBBYS FAMILY WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERONE FOR THEIR KIND WORDS AND PRAYERS FOR OUR DAD. HE IS NOW IN THE BAND WITH HIS FRIENDS WHO HAVE PASSED BEFORE. HE WILL BE WITH US ALL THE TIME.  
THE FAMILY OF H F CLARKE

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message #: 2136

Date: Tuesday November 22 2016 04:04:11 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alt/ clar / vln  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sorry Dickie pressed the wrong button just now. I have been reading up about Phil Stephens and can't for the life of me remember him although the photo rings a very loud bell. However I send my most heartfelt wishes to his family and many friends who are praying for his recovery at times like this and especially now as we all get a little bit older I feel it's particularly gratifying to now that at this sad time many many friends and people who like myself can't quite put a name to a face are sending their personal best wishes to a colleague who is one of us for a speedy recovery Best wishes: Jem

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2135

Date: Monday November 21 2016 13:39:43 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:

As so many of us grow older and our bodies show the over-use of its many parts (!!) those of us who are lucky to be still marining on...(well we do not want to be soldiering on do we?) must thank the good Lord (or our inherited DNA ) for continuing in reasonably good shape. I am certain all that good food in the dining hall in North Barracks when we were in 'J' wing must have contributed somewhat. I never had better in my 7 years service. Never went to the galley in any RN establishment..well once! My biggest fear and worry when I left home at 14 yrs 2 months and 3 days was not being able to go into the kitchen and have a slice of bread and jam! What did I get? Breakfast at 0630 such as I had never experienced. Lunch at 1230 with several choices plus dessert (only available on Sunday in my family) and then tea...tea with bread and jam and Wagon Wheels (!!)..and then supper at 1830. No wonder we put on weight! ADRIAN

---

message #: 2134

Date: Saturday November 19 2016 02:42:51 EST  
Name: Dave (Trog) Tremaine  
Email: dtremaine3928@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3928  
Hometown: Buckingham  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Ray You are certainly doing some good work on our behalf - thanks very much. What does the RM Band tie look like? I don't think I have ever seen one. Any chance of a photo somewhere? Dave (Trog) [Editor] On the front page of this site. Pasting into this guestbook proving insurmountable if you'll pardon the pun!

---

message #: 2133

Date: Friday November 18 2016 05:40:47 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3482  
Hometown: Roquetas DeMar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Have been rather busy lately with British Legion here in Spain. I have just picked up on the crossing the bar of HFC Clarke. Like Barry we were in the wing at the same time and I also travelled with Barry and a few others on that same line. Nobby was a flautist we served together on the Hermes first comm in 1960/. He was a very likeable chap my condolences go to his family and to all who knew and served with him in his other family the RMB. Herman Frank Clarke RIP

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2132

Date: Thursday November 17 2016 06:22:49 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Band Service Ties Update Right you orrible lot!! Stop Halt - About Turn Blue Band has now been in touch with me and they will now be taking over the purchase & selling of the ties & scarves its too complicated to discuss on here but at last they have realised they should be doing this on our behalf so please don't send any more cheques to me (I will destroy any I get) please now contact Sue: Sue Huggett Blue Band Subscription Secretary Eastney Block HMS NELSON Portsmouth PO1 3HH Tel: 02392 726173 I least I tried and got the ball rolling [Editor] We should create a medal for you! Well done and well done the Blue Band!

---

message #: 2131

Date: Tuesday November 15 2016 16:27:48 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Good evening all just to let people in the Kent area that the Central Band of the RBL under the "control" of David Cole will be in concert in St. Georges Church Deal on Saturday 26th November at 1900. Tickets can be obtained from Martin Dadd on 07760 844833. Alternatively from the Astor theatre box office. Look forward to seeing some ex Bandies there. Mike

---

message #: 2130

Date: Tuesday November 15 2016 09:38:21 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
Band Service  
Scarves. I think we need to be aware that our Band of Brothers also now includes Band of Sisters whilst most of us only ever served in a male dominated world the world & the Band Service has changed and rightly so. There must now be quite few female ex Bandies who clearly wouldn't wear a formal tie but the manufacturers say they can do a ladies scarf in the same design this may not only be of interest to ex bandies but also wives/girlfriends etc who could wear them on formal occasions such as Mountbatten Music Night Remembrance services etc. Price would be the same approx Â£15 but again I would need to order a minimum of 50 so I will see what the response is. Would make a lovely Christmas/Birthday present!!

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2129

Date: Monday November 14 2016 19:48:44 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
Thanks Willi You are on my list so far I have about 40 takers not bad in 5 hours (I think the Blue Band & Corps Museum have missed a trick here). I am sure I will reach the 50 mark ok so I will be contacting the Manufacturers tomorrow to progress this thanks for the support Ray

---

message #: 2128

Date: Monday November 14 2016 18:12:14 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
Re. RM Band Service ties; well sourced Ray Lloyd! I chased up the Blue Band and the RM shop a couple of years ago and was given vague promises about their future availability which came to nothing so well done that man!!! I would dearly love a tie and I will trawl all the ex-RMBs I'm in touch with to see if there are further takers. I can also put a notification on Face Book's two RM Band sites if you wish Ray? If Billy Walker doesn't mind being a "distribution agent" he would be a splendid choice to entrust with that task! The price is most acceptable as would be any costs involved in sending them out. Good luck and thank you Ray!

---

message #: 2127

Date: Monday November 14 2016 09:02:31 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
Band Service Ties I am the proud owner of a Royal Marine Band Service tie which I bought at a reunion 3 years ago I have been trying to get one for Stan Hacking who is retiring but I cannot find one anywhere. I have tried the Corps Museum The Blue Band Office but no-one seems to think it is important!! I have contacted the manufacturer who tell me I will need to order at least 50 I am willing to do this if there is sufficient interest from some of you in buying one I don't want to be left with 49!! I estimate it will cost between Â£10 & Â£15 hopefully I can do that including P&P/Shipping. If people can let me know if they would like to buy one I will take that on trust and as long as I get about 49 takers I will order some. Billy Walker is going to act as my out source worker!! for around the Deal area. Ray

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2126

Date: Friday November 11 2016 10:19:37 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email: keng0iti@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have just spotted the photo of the Howstrake football team It was taken after I had left the IOM. A long time ago but here are some names that I remember: Wallace ?? Spurvey ?? Paul Neville ?? Stigwood Capt Keen WO Compton ?? Chris Taylor Chapman I can recognise some of the others but their names I can't recall. Regards to All.

---

message #: 2125

Date: Friday November 11 2016 10:06:56 EST  
Name: Richard &#39;Dickie&#39; Valentine  
Email: richval1951@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: was Preston  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a:

Comments:  
ARMISTICE DAY & Bernard 'Max' S Beare (deceased) date of birth: Dear friends I rarely but somewhat of a necessity sign into Facebook (just the title of the social media network makes me cringe somewhat) but on this very special day I took a cursory glance into it and to my dismay I found reference to Maxie's birthday and several (so far) who actually wished him well! He'd get a laugh out of it I'm entirely positive but on the flip side of that aspect of this anomaly I would like to suggest that for everyone who peruse the behemoth social media we at least ensure we are cognizant of the subject we are relating to? Maxie loved to speak in questions such as his manner. On a positive note I close by saying that Maxie was born on November 11th and all his life had been a stalwart patriot and an invaluable member of the greatest military band in the world The Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines. Sorely missed and will never be forgotten. I just wish that those FB'ers who take a name for granted and matter of fact fill in a blank or comment without the knowlege of the subject realise their error and be a tad more sincere. Of course dear Maxie had total control of his computer and his Facebook account will still be active until someone somehow can close the account. You had many happy birthdays Bernard and I'm sure that you would have loved to be with us as we pay our respects to the countless number who gave their lives for our freedom and our beloved traditions that can only be so very BRITISH! Without apology: Rest in peace dear friend and that goes for all who gave their lives for us ALL. Dickie Valentine

---

message #: 2124

Date: Thursday November 10 2016 11:27:07 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi all Herewith the details of Herman " Nobby " Clarke's funeral. Monday 21st November 1200 Woodlands Crematorium Scunthorpe. There in an open invitation to anyone who would like to attend. Likewise the wake which will be held in The Bird in the Barley pub managed by Suzanne Nobby's daughter. Sandra would like as many of his friends to attend as possible. RIP Nobby Mike

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2123

Date: Thursday November 10 2016 07:19:29 EST  
Name: Dave Pratley  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4111  
Hometown: Dartmouth  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I am looking for a photograph of 3/66 new entry squad with the names of all involved. I have seen some of the pictures that Keith Hanger has put on the web site but there are no names of the individuals. I am sure somebody will be able to fulfill the request. Here's hoping it can bring back memories good or otherwise. Thank you all.

---

message #: 2122

Date: Tuesday November 8 2016 03:04:01 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Melos Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Deeply saddened to read that Nobby Clarke has passed away. We as Band Boys travelled from Retford Station back to Deal many many times. RIP dear friend. Sandra and family are in my thoughts. Another great guy lost to our great Royal Marine Band Family. Barry Radford

---

message #: 2121

Date: Monday November 7 2016 14:32:46 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi all again I have just heard from Roy Adrian that Herman (Nobby) Clarke passed away today after a long battle with cancer. I have no other details. Mike

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2120

Date: Monday November 7 2016 05:17:37 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi folks Just to let you know that I have just spoken with Beryl Parker. Terry is not too well at the moment. His cancer has spread to his rib cage. He is going to hospital this afternoon ( Monday ) to see the specialist. This along with his increasing memory loss is a great worry to all of us who know and love him. I am sure that his many friends in the service and beyond will want to wish him luck on his journey. Both he and Beryl need our support . Mike

---

message #: 2119

Date: Sunday October 30 2016 05:16:04 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Magnificent Musicians Hit Liverpool. Dear Richard Heather and I plus our dear friends Iain and Eileen Macdonald had the great pleasure of attending a Royal Marine Band Concert last night at Liverpool's Philharmonic Hall. Some 15 years since they last performed at this venue. (Let's hope it's not another 15 years before they return!!) These superb musicians performed in front of a capacity audience. It was indeed a Mountbatten Concert Mark 2. Indeed a lot of the music played was performed at this years Royal Albert Hall Concerts. Sadly minus the Fanfare Trumpets. We all know that Lt/Col Nick Grace is the most Senior Military Musician in the country. Albeit I may be biased but there can't be many Military Ensembles to match the versatility and excellence of the current members of our great band service family? Heather managed to have a quick word with Col Nick during the interval who along with Capt Ian Davis Major Jon Ripley conducted this great concert. I spotted a few Band Service ties being worn but sadly didn't recognise the faces. A thoroughly enjoyable evening we had and of course I was so proud to be a member of this Great Family. Many thanks to all. Please come back soon. Regards to all. Barry

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message #: 2118

Date: Friday October 28 2016 10:55:54 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Great Concert by the RMA Concert Band last night to a sell out audience in the Eastney Museum. Also great to have Dickie Valentine alongside to share the event. They still need a replacement Euph player as we're having to invite guest players to take the Euph seat! So once again - Is there anyone out there who might be interested in joining? Do let me know and I'll give you all the info or just check out the RMACB website. See you all at the 'ALLSTARS' Its the last one next March 12th so we need everyone to attend either blowing banging or cheering us on.....Regards Michael.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2117

Date: Tuesday October 25 2016 08:02:04 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
Posted on Facebook. re Geoff McGarr's Funeral Friends and colleagues. A further update regarding the details of Geoff's funeral. Walter Parsons of Salisbury Road St. Judes Plymouth are the undertakers should anyone wish to send flowers. Pat has decided to accept the offer of HMS Drake Senior Rates Mess for the wake. This creates a slight problem in that the authorities require a detailed guest list. Can I ask then that if you intend to attend the wake that you let me know via this page so that I can help Pat to compile the required list. Please pass on all of the details to anyone you can think of who might wish to say goodbye to Geoff. If anyone doesn't use FB or know how to if you email me your details name & voh Make/Model & Reg No I will try to do it for you BUT I am away from home from Saturday. Regards Ray

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message #: 2116

Date: Sunday October 23 2016 07:06:41 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Festival of Remembrance - Salute to Heroes. Riviera Concert Brass (I am Chairman of the Band) will be holding their annual Concert/Service in Central Church Torquay on Friday 11th November starting at 7.30 we do have 3 ex RMBs in the Band Mike Griffiths Des Law & myself. It is based on the Country Festival of Remembrance in Exeter. The first half being appropriate music (we will be playing a specially arranged piece called Songs of the Great War) to Commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme the second a service of Remembrance. Perhaps since we have lost more good men/friends this year it would be nice if any ex Bandies living close by were able to attend and we could share a few moments in their memory. Tickets will be available on the door all proceeds going to Armed Forces Charities it would be really nice to see some old friends there. Regards Ray

---

message #: 2115

Date: Saturday October 22 2016 06:06:16 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
For the attention of Wilmer & all others this is on Facebook. Friends and Colleagues. Geoff McGarr's funeral will be at Weston Mill Crematorium (Plymouth) on Tuesday November 1st at 1100hrs. His funeral will be Humanist. Pat has asked me to pass on her wish for as many to attend who can and who want to. I will confirm the venue for the wake when it is finalised and where flowers may be sent if desired. I am sorry I can't be there I shall be out of the country but if someone could pass on my condolences I would appreciate that. Regards Ray

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2114

Date: Friday October 21 2016 16:08:13 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
In regard to  
comments concerning reunions. A reunion is a meeting of persons who have shared a common bond..or indeed, a common band. A re-uniting of souls who have shared a common experience, be it music or a run ashore!! Does it matter if those who have enjoyed that common experience (and still feel it in their bones and breath) are not able to attend these organised events? Does it diminish our corporate bonding or camaraderie? NO!!!  
Being present at such organised events is laudable and significantly enjoyable, but possibly beyond the means of many ex-RMBs subsisting entirely on a small state pension income travel being so costly in UK. However I know that those unable to attend are present in spirit..or indeed at 1150 in spirit (!!!) Sippers all round. Adrian

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message #: 2113

Date: Wednesday October 19 2016 17:01:23 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@mail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard, Referring to a previous post about not being able to attend the "Main Event" here are many of us throughout the world who I am sure would like to be able to attend however due to circumstances mainly age distance and health are unable. I through many years of service to the RAAF Central Band here in Oz always looked at the date notified as the REUNION date but was always on duty somewhere out here. But that didn't stop my best wishes to all those who were able to be there. However as most are aware we here in Oz have tried hard over the last twelve years to bring and keep together as many of our ex RMBs as we can to celebrate our time in the best band service known to man. This will again be the case at end of March 2017 in Glenelg Adelaide SA - All welcome. I keep in touch with a few of your contributors on this site but have refused to have anything to do with that other medium "FB". On the 21st of this month "TRAFALGAR DAY" 1952 that is 64 years ago I and about 40 other young aspiring ROYAL MARINE Bandsmen and Buglers arrived at the gates of East Barracks to start what for many went on to become life long careers. To those of that intake who are left and unfortunately that number is reduced year by year I send my very best wishes. Along with those of you who are able perhaps could we raise a combined toast to the Band Service and to the Corps and hope that in some way we can still attend those reunions for years to come.

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message #: 2112

Date: Wednesday October 19 2016 14:43:15 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello (ret)  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Nice to see some comments about the reunion I expect Jem Tugwood will give a full resume in good time. I was particularly impressed by the PDMs talk after the great Band Display. He's now been in the job for sometime and tells us how important the Royal Marines Band Service is to the UK which is great news for its future and all the wonderful men & women involved in it. I do recall many moons ago Sir Viv & Lord Louis were responsible for keeping us going in the 50s & 60s. Great service on Sunday with some very impressive music from the Orchestra and the Choir. However I was not impressed by the Dedication Fanfare! I really felt it was played too quick poor intonation which to me lacked proper rehearsal time. I'm quite sure that Leon Young would have felt the same as some of my contemporaries said on Sunday. I will give my full thoughts to that performance in the next issue of the 'Blue Band' hoping that they will print it of course. Sid Rose Terry Freestone & I spent many years playing in and directing the Fanfare Team so hopefully our comments are sound. Just a reminder that the RMA Concert Band are performing in the Eastney Museum on the 'Corps Birthday' 27th October at 7.30 a great concert is sure! Tickets are short but you might get a seat in the 'Minstrels Gallery' Regards to all Michael.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2111

Date: Wednesday October 19 2016 11:07:30 EST  
Name: Richard &#39;Dickie&#39; Valentine  
Email: richval1951@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: was Preston  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Dear Barry et al It was my loss not being there once again this year due to some urgent commitments after the Deal 'bash' and a severe bout of gout! Pardon da pun! You might recall Whaley as my first draft out of training and in my short time there I got to know you and so many others dear to our hearts including Albert Hall Chris Taylor and Matt Dillon. My choice of draft after the Eagle was back to Whale Island (I thought it was going to be a good grease) and my wish came true but in the form of CinC Nav Home now based at Eastney..... I WAS DREADING IT! However it turned out to be a blessing and although sadly I had just missed Tom Lambert and many others (including Maxie Beare who I travelled twice to see in NZ decades later) I enjoyed happy and educational times with a band that also provided the great privilege of my attachment to HM Yacht Britannia. I am proud and a better man to know so many now and those who have gone before from my era in the best band service on the planet. As a proud ex Whale Islander please DO include me in the plans afoot and February would be a great time for me to stand by for flights. With fondness and happy memories to you and Heather and all our old mates. Richard.

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message #: 2110

Date: Wednesday October 19 2016 10:53:01 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a:

Comments:

Dear Richard just a line to say how much Heather and I enjoyed this years Reunion. It was great to see so many old friends and in particular , Mr Music Ray Woodfield and looking so well. I had 6 great years at Whale Island serving with Roy Nash Chris Taylor and Ray. It is 45 years next year the then band at HMS Excellent was disbanded. After talking to several of ex Whaley Band . We decided to try to arrange a last goodbye evening. (Whilst we are still able to attend) Anyone interested please get in touch with me or Terry Puttrell and Merv Durrant. Possibly this would happen sometime in February 2017. Great to see so many in Portsmouth but the great sadness of not seeing you there still lingers. Regards to all Barry

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message #: 2109

Date: Wednesday October 19 2016 10:42:54 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a:

Comments:

Hello Dave (Seed) Thanks for your message I did attend the reunion last year (unable to this year) and I am planning to attend again next year. Sadly Stan is probably too frail now to attend (I will have to take him home for 10pm) but if he feels up to it I would certainly bring him. As to the others many are still 'active' and gigging so difficult for them to attend which is why it is nice to have a 'satellite' get together but I will never use this as an alternative to the 'main' event. I hope to catch up with you again. Take Care Ray

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2108

Date: Wednesday October 19 2016 07:55:59 EST  
Name: Pete Law  
Email: peterlaw1223@gmail.com

Service Number: RM25009A  
Hometown: Wolverhampton and many afterwards prior to NZ.  
Instrument/s: No more bugle. (Thank God says Maxi) and drums.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It comes across in the words of all that know Maxi that he helped people. As a bugler joining Pompey band in 1968 I was helped by Maxi (Mr Cat 4) in learning dance band on the drum kit. When Buddy Rich Ken Schooley Ronnie Eilam were not available I was ready with my Premier Blue Marine Sparkle kit. Maxi arrived at the bandroom only to tell me you don't need your floor tom-tom cymbal stands etc not enough room in the car. (Less is more comes to mind) I was allowed sticks and brushes just. But he helped me to learn what gigging was all about. Prior to the gig it was up homer's for a meal with Kath and his two daughters who called me Mini Sticks. Fond lasting memories of this family and a man who led by his faith in God and was a doer of the Word with his actions to help others. Love to Kath and Family  
Pete Law (mini sticks)

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message #: 2107

Date: Monday October 17 2016 10:09:22 EST  
Name: David Seed  
Email: dseed78739@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 4084  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Flute/Tenor Sax  
n/a:

Comments:  
Re Ray Lloyds previous message it's good to see ex members of the Band Service meeting up to celebrate the Corps Birthday it would have been nice to see them at the Band Service Reunion

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message #: 2106

Date: Sunday October 16 2016 13:39:03 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
Corps Birthday Get Together in Exeter. John Dunn is organising a get together in Exeter at Buffet City (Chinese Restaurant) it is an open invitation no advanced payment/booking required we will meet approx 7.30 on Friday 28th October those attending so far are John Dunn Bert Parton Colin Brocklebank Charlie Fleming Stan Hacking & Ray Lloyd it would be great to see some more of our old colleagues who live in the area. We have lost too many good men lately so lets keep in touch. Per Mare Per Terram Ray

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2105

Date: Saturday October 15 2016 13:16:08 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bassoon etc  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard and Mick Sproston I have only just read the devastating news about my old mucker GEOFF MCGARR  
We were in the Wing together in the mid sixties. Unfortunately I lost touch with him. I really cannot  
put into words how I feel at this time what can one say.... If anybody sees Geoff please say a sad Hi.  
2016 has been a real nasty year. Please pass my Heartfelt regrets to his family God Bless Old  
Friend Roy

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message #: 2104

Date: Monday October 10 2016 23:29:19 EST  
Name: Julie Herbert  
Email: julieherbert@xtra.co.nz

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Thank you for the kind words on dads passing We are having a private family only cremation on Thursday 13th  
October and the local Salvation Army is holding a memorial service next week Julie Herbert Maxie Beares  
eldest daughter

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message #: 2103

Date: Monday October 10 2016 09:29:29 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/clart/Vin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to hear of the passing of Maxie Beare I had the pleasure of meeting him at Eastney and cruising the world  
with him many times in the Sgts mess on the Royal Yacht Britannia. Maxie had an uncanny knack of getting dance band  
gigs wherever we went Maxie managed to get a gig somewhere even in Bora Bora. Maxie was such a likeable man never short  
of a smile and kindly conversation. He was a terrific Trumpet player and had so much experience it was a pleasure to be  
in the same band and to learn so much from him. Maxie will be sorely missed by his many many friends colleagues and all  
of those who had the pleasure of serving with him. Rest in peace dear friend - Jem.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2102

Date: Monday October 10 2016 05:52:30 EST  
Name: Gerry Taylour  
Email: gerrytaylour@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Nottingham  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
My wife and I are so sad to learn of the passing of dear Maxie. He was a good friend and although separated by thousands of miles we kept in touch for many years. In fact we heard from him only a few days before he died when he sounded in good spirits although obviously concerned about Kathy. We served together in HMS Terror (1952/1954) where he was like a dad to me a 'green as grass' barely 18 year old straight out of East Barracks. We met up again later in the 50's at Eastney and had several tours on the Royal Yacht. We enjoyed some great times together. We would wish to pass on our heartfelt condolences to his family particularly to Julie and Beverly. Gerry and Joan Taylour

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message #: 2101

Date: Sunday October 9 2016 11:22:59 EST  
Name: Jim Mason  
Email: j.mason30@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2353  
Hometown: Bedhampton  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sad to hear about Maxie we go back a long way to the Isle of Man where we served together as boys and again in a number of appointments during our service. I also managed to visit him in New Zealand a few times over the years. One of the best!

---

message #: 2100

Date: Sunday October 9 2016 10:37:51 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
For Maxie Beare to have crossed the bar as his many colleagues and friends were gathering in Portsmouth for the annual Band Service Reunion seems to me highly significant. No one over the years has shown more interest in maintaining links with his earlier time in the Corps than Maxie. His long and interesting items that have appeared in this forum together with his published letters in 'Blue Band' have been generated by his very real interest in what his friends have done during their musical lives. He had a place for all in his heart. His daily care for his very sick friend and our colleague Joe Simms over so many long years are an example to us all in these days when care for others seems to be on the wane. Totally unconcerned for his own health security he set out each day to help others and in this was successful. He asked for nothing and gave much throughout his life and deserves the accolade of being recognised as one of the best exports to New Zealand that this country has ever made. Maxie is of those who made the Band Service what it is today highly internationally respected and totally professional. This weekend the sounding of the Memorial Fanfare in Portsmouth Cathedral will have had extra significance for all those who were lucky enough to know him. Graham Hoskins

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2099

Date: Saturday October 8 2016 15:46:59 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@Gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now.  
n/a:

**Comments:**

So sorry to hear of the sudden passing of our friend Max. He had been a stalwart of our Adelaide reunion even though it was difficult for him to leave Kath for those few days. He and Joe Simms came "over the Ditch" to join us on several occasions. In later years they were never far apart having been boys together however it became too difficult for Max to bring Joe over on the last two reunions he attended. But all the time he was with us he would be worrying about Joe back in NZ. I would hesitate to say that there would not be many of us who would look after a mate as Max looked after his best mate Joe. At the same time looking after his dear wife Kath who has been quite ill for some time. My partner Jan and I pass on our sincere condolences to Maxie's family.

---

message #: 2098

Date: Saturday October 8 2016 14:05:07 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email: keng0iti@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd  
Instrument/s: CoernetViolin  
n/a:

**Comments:**

So sad to hear of the passing of Maxie. It was only a few days ago that a much delayed E Mail arrived from him in answer to my last one to him. I never served with Maxie but remember him from Howstrake days. In fact it was only last week that I was looking through his articles from those days that he had put on this Web site. Much nostalgia !! Rest in peace Maxie.

---

message #: 2097

Date: Saturday October 8 2016 12:44:50 EST  
Name: Dickie Valentine  
Email: richval1951@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston (USA since 1992)  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Maxie had not long left the hallowed grounds of Eastney Barracks when I showed up after leaving Eagle tied up in Portsmouth harbour never to sail again! It is a lovely memory and who would have thought that it would be many years before he and I would meet up in New Zealand (twice) after I had left the band service done over 10 years as a piano technician in Nottinghamshire and then emigrating to the USA and only after another 7 years would I become an agent working for United Airlines. It was and still is a 'perk' to fly wherever we go (stand by of course) and I took it upon myself to fly to Auckland as a surprise for what was Maxie's 70th birthday. Over time we had kept in touch and although we had never served together we formed a bond of friendship that encapsulated my family even though they had no affiliation with the RM as I had married quite late and well after my leaving the service. Maxie had so many not so much 'close shaves' but one could say that it was 'curtains' going back many years the most recent scare when he was found unconscious by a very elderly neighbor but it was yet again a hoax. Maxie was devoted to his wife Kath and they both treated me royally on both occasions that I visited with them the second time around with an airline buddy. I have only ever heard great things said of Bernard and I just wanted to say I count myself very lucky to have known him and experience his zest and love of life. Now in eternal rest dear friend rest in peace. Richard Charlotte and Pam.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2096

Date: Saturday October 8 2016 06:17:35 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
RMB x 2234 BERNARD "MAXIE" BEARE Born 11th November 1930 died 7th October 2016 I was sad and shocked to hear of Maxie' passing having talked to him only a few days ago on SKYPE when he seemed in better form than he had been for months. I served for seven and a half years as an adult after my "girl's" time and 6 of those years were spent in the same band as Max ... Eastney and the Yot and HMS Centaur ... and it is poignant that we had our annual "HMS Centaur & Friends" get-together just a couple of weeks ago when he would have been in the thoughts of our very tight-knit ship's band. For some years I have kept in almost daily touch with Max ... and Kath before Alzheimer's took it's dreadful grip of her ... by email telephone and SKYPE and we exchanged DVDs and CDs mainly those with RMB content reflecting how proud he was to have served for 26 years. I loved Max like a brother and will miss his constant presence in my life more than words can express.

---

message #: 2095

Date: Friday October 7 2016 10:28:24 EST  
Name: Roy Morgan  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX 2771  
Hometown: Hemel Hempstead  
Instrument/s: Trumpet / Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I would like to enter on the memories page please that my father Roy Morgan former Bandmaster aboard HMS Britannia in the 1950s has died on 5th October 2016.

---

message #: 2094

Date: Sunday September 25 2016 14:07:16 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bass Oon soprano Oon Sp Oon Fort Oon  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dickie very sorry to hear of the passing of "Daly" Atkinson. I served as did you as a Junior in Deal. Daly was such a character full of tales of his life and times. Havn t seen him since Plymouth Group Days. Please pass on my condolences to his family. Is 2016 the worst year yet? Roy

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2093

Date: Sunday September 18 2016 11:47:28 EST  
Name: Dave (Trog) Tremaine  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3928  
Hometown: Buckingham  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

So sorry to hear of Daly's passing. He joined us in Plymouth from the Yacht in the early 70s and was for some time a member of our trombone section which at that time comprised of Graham Harvey (with hair!) Daly and me. It was a good section and we enjoyed playing alongside each other. I have one very old photo of the section a bit torn but I will endeavour to email it for publication. I knew that when he left he went to James Shepherd but I never knew what happened to him after that. Thanks for forwarding the information. Dave Tremaine

---

message #: 2092

Date: Sunday September 18 2016 04:20:46 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I remember Daly very well I can recall when he and Charlie Fleming joined the band at Eastney during my time there they both came straight from the wing. What a fine pair of trombonists they were as I'm sure others would agree. My condolences go to his family and to those who knew and served with him. Daly Atkinson RIP.

---

message #: 2091

Date: Thursday September 15 2016 05:17:19 EST  
Name: Alick Harwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4012  
Hometown: Dargate Whitstable  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Just picked up from FB the passing of Bob (Daly) Atkinson on 2nd May. I remember him in the wing as a superb trombonist and he went on to greater things. Post on FB reads: Not sure if anyone will remember Robert (Bob) Atkinson but he was a great Trombone player back in the day playing for Jimmy Shepherd's versatile brass as solo trombone and also many great bands up and down the country especially in Yorkshire until he emigrated to Australia in 1984 with his wife and kids. He continued to play in Australia as well as conduct. Bob and the family returned back to the UK in 1997 but unfortunately due to years of playing he lost the muscles in his lips. He did return to playing for a short while to play at the Yorkshire 1st section areas in 2014. Sadly he passed away in the early hours of this morning. If anyone has any old pictures of him or recordings of him playing we would really appreciate it. [http://youtu.be/Y2mEQ\\_zcerw](http://youtu.be/Y2mEQ_zcerw)

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2090

Date: Tuesday September 13 2016 04:34:42 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
Re my previous message: We do have a full drum kit in our store room where we practice so we only need the person to play it. It is a good one and there are lots of volunteers who get it out set it up and pack it away. Here's hoping!! Ray

---

message #: 2089

Date: Sunday September 11 2016 09:34:42 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Percussionist Wanted in Exeter. Even though Stan Hacking is retiring the band will continue under his name with a new director we are in desperate need of a percussionist if anyone reading this would like to join us or knows of a percussionist who can help please get in touch. It is great to hear of so many old friends who are still actively involved in music when I left the RMB I went to see Prof Hargreaves who made me promise I would continue with my music and to help others enjoy it as much as he did. Well I have kept my promise to him on joining the Devon & Cornwall Constabulary I played in the band and for several years I was the 'Band Officer' the senior officer in the band until I retired I was an Inspector. When that band was 'disbanded' by an incompetent Chief Constable I helped form a new Brass Band in Torquay (Riviera Concert Brass) which is still going strong I am Chairman of the band. No longer able to cope with a small cornet mouthpiece I now play Euphonium. I also play Euphonium in the Stan Hacking Concert Band I also chair the 'Steering Group' for this band. Whilst we are looking for a Percussionist anyone else would be welcome to have a blow.

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message #: 2088

Date: Monday September 5 2016 16:15:14 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It's great to see all these ex members still involved in the music scene - Stan and Billy and Gerry still giving it some welly. (sorry about the pun!) I however have just decided to call it a day on the blowing front and have retired from playing my Euph in the RMA Concert Band as I'm now in my 83rd year. There must be an ex Euph player from our fantastic Band Service (somewhat younger than I) who would love the job? If so..... get in touch with Bill or Andy on the RMACB website and do Your Duty. Or get in touch with me. Regards to all. Michael. [Webmaster] On behalf of us all Mike  
Congratulations on your exemplary service to both the RM Band Service and all other musical commitments including the RMA Concert Band.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2087

Date: Monday September 5 2016 14:08:30 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email: french.horn@sky.com

Service Number: RMB4336  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Horn & Bugle  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I had the honour of playing the Last Post at the farewell to Dave Varlow at the wonderful setting of Hawkinge Cemetery. The Horse drawn hearse looked magnificent. I continue to be busy with 'both' my instruments(!) Last week I had 3 Last Posts & Reveilles a Brass Quintet on Wednesday for Lt-Col Richard Dixon's Funeral and a Wind Octet in the evening. Yesterday I had a Proms Concert at the Marlowe Theatre Canterbury with Kent Concert Orchestra and in between the gaps I was working in the Secret Wartime Tunnels at Dover Castle! Alas I will be retiring my Bugle on Remembrance Sunday 2016 but will continue to work for English Heritage at Dover Castle and devote much more time to the Horn.

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message #: 2086

Date: Monday September 5 2016 05:01:17 EST  
Name: Gerry Tylour  
Email: gerrytylour@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2742  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
I thought that you may like to know that the 'Loughborough Concert Band' with whom I play trombone with much enjoy performing pieces arranged by two illustrious ex members. These are Paul Neville's 'Sea Shanties' and Ray Woodfield's 'American Trilogy'. We recently included these in our concert on the bandstand at Stratford upon Avon on August Bank Holiday Sunday. As we expected the place was teeming with thousands of visitors and I am pleased to report that we were warmly received. This engagement was definitely the most prestigious we have had so far. Ex bandies appear to be very short on the ground here in the East Midlands. If there any of you out there in this neck of the world it would be great to hear from you. Best wishes Gerry Tylour.

---

message #: 2085

Date: Sunday September 4 2016 06:59:20 EST  
Name: Andy Wright (shiner wrights son)  
Email: andywright1967@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3716 (my father's)  
Hometown: Rushden  
Instrument/s: Euph/cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
I was reading with interest the letters concerning the 1966 FA cup final and I'm sure my father shiner wright played he always joked that he'd played at a cup final when asked for which side he'd reply neither the confused looks were a picture could anyone shed any light on the matter? He and my mum came back from Singapore in the March of '66.  
Best regards Andy Wright

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2084

Date: Friday September 2 2016 17:30:13 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@Gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon (under protest) Bass Drum  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I do apologise Graham. Put it down to th age factor. Did I get anything right? I do remember PJ Flynn making us all wait on the East Barracks parade ground till he was ready to arrive. Those were the days!!

---

message #: 2083

Date: Friday September 2 2016 10:33:44 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email: graham.hoskins@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Gentlemen In the interests of historical accuracy I feel I should put the record straight by affirming that as the then senior section leader Neptune House I became the first Boy Sergeant Major on the adoption of Boy NCOs in 1953. I was also awarded the Commandant General's Certificate of Merit now the Prince's Badge worn proudly by many since including our illustrious Principal Director of Music Colonel Nick Grace OBE RM. These achievements together with a Cassel Prize medal kick started me on a successful career that I never truly deserved and I take this opportunity to sincerely thank all who helped me along the way both personally and professionally. Yours ever  
Graham

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message #: 2082

Date: Friday September 2 2016 05:14:54 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Stan Hacking's Final Concert. Just a reminder that Stan is retiring this year and is preparing for his final concerts. The last 'Normal' concert will be at St Peters School Exeter on Sunday 25th September starting at 7.30. It would be nice if some of his old mates were able to attend as a surprise several have already confirmed I can arrange tickets without Stan knowing some tickets may be available at the door on the night but a good crowd is expected. It would be great to see you there. Following this concert Stan will for the last time take the band for 2 Spectacular Christmas Concerts. Best wishes to all. PS: re the previous message about Boy Sgts in my time we had Number 1 & Number 2 Diamonds I was honoured be be Number 1 Diamond for Neptune House with Roger Jones as my Number 2 Diamond! [Webmaster] Myself a section commander.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2081

Date: Thursday September 1 2016 17:17:59 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@Gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon Bass Drum and effat Baton.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Mick I'm sorry to correct you ref the first Boy Sgt Major. The change over from Section Leaders to Boy NCOs was in January 1953 and the first to hold the exalted rank of Boy Sgt Major was the late Vic Sylvester with the first sgts Stan Hacking Pete Westaway Terry Williams and one other who I can't remember. One each for the four Houses Gloucester Eagle Barham and the best of all Neptune. I obtained the rank of Boy Cpl but was reduced by Major Boothby for not disclosing who broke my jaw. Of course as is usual I will accept being corrected on any of the above info. 1953 is a long time ago and the remaining members nominal roll of that time is getting shorter. My best regards to you Mick

---

message #: 2080

Date: Sunday August 28 2016 05:48:08 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sad to read of the passing of my old friend Dave Varlow. I had known Dave and his dear wife Lynn since 1956 when he and I were in J Wing he was a member of Barham House. He was a good boxer in the days of inter house boxing those who knew him may recall his fight with a bugler named Joe Murray a fierce contest of three rounds to say that both were bloody would be an under statement I think Dave won we would always talk about it each time we met. I am sure but I think he may be the first Boy Sgt Major. My sincere condolences to Lynn and other members of his family and to those who had the pleasure to know and serve with him, DAVE VARLOW RiP PS: Dave can be seen in his boxing days in the photo section with the wing champions of 1956 Barham House

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message #: 2079

Date: Saturday August 27 2016 09:52:16 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Just viewed the brief 'you tube' version of the Queen Mother's visit to open the New Block. Evoking more memories. I was one of the few chosen to meet Her Royal Highness. (virtue of having just received the Squad Watch from 2/56 Squad)! ((along with Jnr/Bug Hormond - Dobbing)) ((( spelling is I'm sure incorrect!!!!)). And yes once again I have proof!! A copy of the East Kent Mercury stowed away in my memory box!!! What a wonderful gracious lady she was. But sadly the New Block is no longer standing some 60 years on. Regards to all Barry

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2078

Date: Wednesday August 24 2016 12:40:34 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Went over to Deal yesterday and spent a pleasant afternoon with Les Evans (Euph/Cello) who resided in the opposite bed from me in "K" block in 3/59 New Entry Squad..... My God how I was scared of him then as he was 16 and I merely 14, and furthermore I (having grown up in Deal) could not understand a word he or Jack Arbery and Dave Clegg from Yorkshire uttered!! What a great afternoon we had!! Regional dialects having subsided we communicated well.....actually not SO well as we are both deaf!! 'Dits' rattled around the licensed premises we encountered in our slow crawl around the town of my birth and only a few tourists complained of having been hit by swinging lamps.....

---

message #: 2077

Date: Wednesday August 24 2016 02:48:04 EST  
Name: Dave Tremaine  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3928  
Hometown: Buckingham  
Instrument/s: Bass trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
In answer to Derek Roberts' question re: the band playing out the Queen Mary. The Band would have been C in C Portsmouth. The Drum Major is Matt Dillon. The Bass Drummer looks like Tom Tucker (percussion) and the trombone either Mick Goss or Pete Horstead. Dave (Trog) Tremaine [Webmaster] Sounds legit' to me although I served at C in C Nav Home at the end of the 60s and Matt was Drummy then and I also recall John Tucker at that time. I'm trying to be more convinced as I go back to the photo so more endorsements to come will be welcome. Thank you Dave for this identity check. Dickie.

---

message #: 2076

Date: Monday August 22 2016 07:19:24 EST  
Name: Raymond John Walters (Wally)  
Email: renawalters@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3529  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Oboe/Cor Anglais  
n/a:

Comments:  
Regret to inform you that Wally has finally been diagnosed with lung cancer. Treatment complicated by his heart problems pacemaker and diabetes but they are going to try low dose chemo in the hope of shrinking the tumour. He looks and feels better than he has done in months and is off bowling at the moment! He wants everyone to know that he feels fine and is enjoying life. Lots of gallows humour flying around! Will keep you informed.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2075

Date: Sunday August 21 2016 13:18:05 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

I dutifully attended the funeral of Dave Varlow on Thursday at Holy Trinity Church Folkestone. It was a lovely sunny day and I spotted Mike Tellick sunbathing on a bench opposite the beautiful church. Once inside (almost like a small cathedral) we met up with Les Evans and Ken Rollins and wife who had driven over from Deal. We were joined shortly by Ken "Ginge" Glentworth who is no longer ginger but grey like us all. I remarked to Mike Tellick as I struggled to understand a single word the Scottish vicar was saying that it is the first time in my experience that the service would have benefitted from subtitles! The family went on to Hawkinge for the burial and we ex-RMBs repaired to The Grand Hotel to get a few in before the official kick-off as you do. A lovely light and airy room resplendent in bright sunshine awaited us on arrival my having delivered a short history of Folkestone to our assembled company en route. A very moving photo montage of moments from Dave's eventful life had been arranged most tastefully including his CG Squad photo among others from his time in RMBS. Unique in my experience was a small white tree with tiny envelopes and a message from Dave inviting everyone to have a wish on me (or a drink) and a selection of bottles of wine surrounded the tree. I remarked to Dave's family that as a child I would sometimes get a piece of cake wrapped in a serviette a paper hat and a balloon after a family gathering but it was the first time that I have gone home with a bottle of wine!! Tony Oliver joined us in time for a pint before the speeches largely from former colleagues in Kent Police where Dave had been an Inspector after leaving RMBS. The Deal contingent all left before the amazingly fine buffet arrived so I ate for them as you do!! The atmosphere throughout the afternoon was not at all sad or melancholy but full of joy and happiness for a man who was clearly a bundle of fun and loved by his family friends and former colleagues and for his spirit and warmth to still radiate throughout the room after his passing is a tribute to the qualities of the man.  
ADRIAN

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message #: 2074

Date: Saturday August 13 2016 10:34:30 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

At the risk of being very boring it was the 1965 FA Cup Final that the Staff Band played for and it was Liverpool v Leeds on Saturday May 1st....and I still believe this is what John Dixon recalls. This is not to say that a RM Band did not play again the following year. I left in March 1966 so I know that I did not play that engagement. Also I think too that Mike Hickman is recalling that 1965 match as it was after this that we started the infamous rehearsals for Edinburgh and USA on South Barracks drill field. I can still hear that plummy-voiced bootneck Colonel bellowing across the field when we made a slight error " A failure!.....". [Webmaster] Never boring!

---

message #: 2073

Date: Saturday August 13 2016 05:56:09 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: S/clart.  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Good to read of Terry Freestone recovered from a fainting episode. I served with him et al In FOSNI band. A great band service character.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2072

Date: Friday August 12 2016 05:18:44 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
1966 Yes we did perform at the cup final in that year and Everton won the cup much to Tony Oliver's dismay. He was and still is a Wednesday supporter. It was a busy year for us Deal lads after the Final it was back to the drill field for more rehearsals this time for the Edinburgh Tattoo and also for the 3 month tour of the USA and Canada happy days as I am sure those who went would agree including my dear friend Adrian.

---

message #: 2071

Date: Thursday August 11 2016 16:26:51 EST  
Name: Dan Archer  
Email: Archer3Archer378@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: Po22378c  
Hometown: New Zealand  
Instrument/s: Drum Major  
n/a:

Comments:  
The Deal Band did play at Wembley in 1966 at the FA Cup Final between Sheffield Wednesday and Everton. Maybe that is what you are thinking of John Dixon.

---

message #: 2070

Date: Tuesday August 9 2016 13:07:38 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Rich re all those who thought they were or were not there (John Dixon) to mention one. At HMS Ganges it was open day & in the drill shed the Navy (in its generosity) supplied a 12 inch tv for about 200 of the performers to watch. Have you ever tried to watch a football match in a postage stamp?!! Happy days. Cheers Pendles

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2069

Date: Tuesday August 9 2016 13:04:03 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
All this chat about the '66 footy match passes me by. Chatham Band was on its way to Weymouth for a gig probably a carnival. A German squadron of Minesweepers was in port. An interesting evening ensued. No one mentioned the match or the war!!! Best wishes to all Mike [Webmaster] Very droll Mike :->

---

message #: 2068

Date: Tuesday August 9 2016 09:23:07 EST  
Name: John Dixon  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3369  
Hometown: Scawby N. Lincs.  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Well I seem to be outnumbered on the was I or wasn't I at the 1966 Word Cup Final!! I have just always assumed that I was there but maybe my memory is playing tricks on me and thinking of the 1965 Cup Final Adrian. I bow to the superior knowledge of others on the matter! Best wishes to all John

---

message #: 2067

Date: Saturday August 6 2016 03:40:38 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB. 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/clarinet/vln  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just a short note re the Reunion I have spoken to the lady in the Reunion office who tells me that they aren't sending out tickets this year because lots of people forget to bring them to the actual gig so they are leaving them to be picked up at the main gate in HMS Nelson. Some ID may be required she didn't mention it but with the security level nearly off the scale it might be prudent to have some. Best wishes to all my friends and colleagues keep up the good work Dickie this is still one of the best sites on the web Jem

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2066

Date: Friday August 5 2016 03:03:48 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
I think that John Dixon may be thinking of another occasion in the Staff Band when we went to Wembley in 1965 to play for the FA Cup Final....I think!! Mike Hickman will surely remember.....

---

message #: 2065

Date: Thursday August 4 2016 14:50:35 EST  
Name: Bryan Walker  
Email: french.horn@sky.com

Service Number: RMB4336  
Hometown: DEAL  
Instrument/s: Horn & Bugle (Retiring from the latter 13/11/16  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dave Varlow's Funeral arrangements : Thursday 18th August 2016 1300: Funeral Service at Holy Trinity Church Sandgate Road Folkestone. 1430: Burial at Hawkinge Cemetery followed by light refreshments at the Grand Hotel Folkestone.

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message #: 2064

Date: Thursday August 4 2016 13:49:00 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
HMS CENTAUR & FRIENDS ANNUAL GET-TOGETHER at THE PLOUGH INN RIPPLE at 1300 hrs on THURSDAY 22nd September 2016. I will email or telephone all those who have previously attended and I am hoping that 10 members of our band will attend this year including our drummer and oldest Old Centaurian Bob "Sandy" Sanders. FRIENDS who have not previously attended are welcome but please be aware that last year nobody under the age of 71 attended and the latest year that any of us joined was 1959. Please let me know if you wish to come along so that Hugh the Chef can judge numbers who would like lunch which he will provide for £10 for 2 lunches if you wish. Wives partners etc. are also welcome to attend of course. We are still seeking Old Centaurians Ken "Willie" Shears Gerry Miles George Siviter John "Slim" Taylor and Ken Richards. If anyone knows of their whereabouts please let me or Dicky Valentine know! I am looking forward to seeing everyone on the day!

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2063

Date: Thursday August 4 2016 09:39:09 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Re the World Cup Final 1966 and in response to the memories of BARRY RADFORD and LEN LEWRY. As Barry said wonderful memories of a great day ... when England had a manager the players ... and a plan!! Is there any chance of you getting the photos you mentioned to Dickie Barry? He could add them to what appears in What's New on the Notice Board? (It's in the works - from Dickie) As for Len's recollections you may not have been aware that after the half-time Massed Bands display (see photo on What's New!) only the Group Band proceeded to the players' tunnel by the Royal Box to play for the award of the Jules Rimet Trophy at the end of the match. We watched the 2nd half at that tunnel's entrance until we were sent down to ready to march out onto the pitch ... so most of us didn't see Germany's equaliser one minute before full time ... and Jimmy Greaves CERTAINLY didn't!!! (see my little story!). I don't know where the other bands went after half-time but they were not with us. I and others watched extra time within a few yards of Alf Ramsey and his coaches until we went back down the tunnel ready for the end ... and missed Geoff Hurst's 3rd and England's 4th goal!!!

---

message #: 2062

Date: Wednesday August 3 2016 21:10:13 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Stan Hacking is Retiring. After 32 years of forming and conducting his band Stan has reluctantly come to the conclusion that due to failing health he will retire from conducting at the end of this year as you can imagine it is a very hard decision for him his heart says 'Go On' but his body says no. He has 3 more concerts to complete with 2 being at Christmas but his final 'Normal' concert will be at St Peter's School Exeter on Sunday 25th September 2016 starting at 7.30. I thought it might be a nice idea if any of his old pals could attend the concert without him knowing to support him for his final 'Gig'. It promises to be a great night filled with emotion and no doubt some tears so I think it would cheer Stan to see some of his old mates in the audience. If anyone can make it on the 25th September it would be great to see you if you email me I will let you know where tickets can be obtained it will be a large turnout so please book early. PS: re 66 World Cup I apologise that my information about the bands performing at the Tournament later that day is incorrect it was after all 50 years ago!

---

message #: 2061

Date: Wednesday August 3 2016 08:47:21 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/clart/vln  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi Roy I was on the Tiger from '65/66 we were in Cardiff when the Aberfan disaster struck and made our way there by coach meeting the Tiger after she arrived later on. We were (the band) involved in digging out various buildings but the really important stuff was left to those who were frantic with worry about the tragic loss of life it was a very sad time for all involved. See you at the reunion? Regards Jem

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2060

Date: Wednesday August 3 2016 05:47:25 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Long Brown wooden thing with holes  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard Some more info for Mike Hickman re HMS HERMES She was in Plymouth in 1970 along with HMS TIGER. Both were being converted HERMES to a "Through Deck Carrier" and TIGER from Cruiser to Helicopter carrier having its stern rebuilt with two hangars. Also HMS EAGLE was alongside and I have some old movie footage of D/M Satchwell teaching (?) Smithson outside our bandroom in HMS DRAKE as he was going to be D/M on EAGLE. DRAKE band played at both commissionings and I remember TIGER had 2 baby tiger cubs as their mascot. Final anecdote HMS DAEDALUS band had to travel from Lee on Solent to ROSYTH in 1974 by coach to embark on HERMES for a trip to Denmark. As we passed Inverkeithing we saw the remains of HMS LION in the scrapyard. This brought a tear to Pete Scott's eyes as he had served aboard. One last query It is also the 50th anniversary of the ABERFÂN disaster (October 66) I understand that some RMB's were involved in the rescue does anyone know if this is correct. Thanx. REMEMBER CULZEAN

---

message #: 2059

Date: Tuesday August 2 2016 11:09:33 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: S Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have to take issue with some of the memories regarding the '66 World Cup.....I would be amazed if any one can provide footage of the band at the end. We left after the half time display. I do recall standing behind the German goal by the tunnel and seeing England's equaliser being headed in. It may be MY memory is hazy but I am CONVINCED we left before the end and did not go on the pitch during the England team's walkabout after the presentation.

---

message #: 2058

Date: Tuesday August 2 2016 03:03:01 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard wow I was beginning to doubt my memory. But thanks to the definitive Mr Watson I know I'm ok!!! I have photos of Ray Grant John Tucker and myself on the edge of the pitch with several of the England Team celebrating after extra time. Wonderful wonderful memories. To my knowledge none of the bands were involved in the gig at Earls Court. Cheers Barry

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2057

Date: Monday August 1 2016 18:05:28 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
World Cup Final Wembley July 30th 1966. The bands involved were the Portsmouth Group Band and other bands from Pompey such as C in C Portsmouth based at Whale Island all under the heading of Portsmouth Command. We were directed by Captain Peter Sumner D of M Group and Royal Yacht Band with Group Bandmaster Graham Hoskins and Drum Major Colin Bowden with B/M Peter Hemming and Drum Major Matt Dillon from Command. The Group Band played before the match to include the traditional "Abide With Me" sung lustily by the crowd ... and for the presentation ceremony at the end of the match. The Massed Band's half-time marching display was given by 110 RMBs and Buglers as can be seen in the photo now posted on "What's New" on the Notice Board. I don't know about the other Pompey bands but Ray Lloyd's suggestion that some of us were involved in the Royal Tournament certainly didn't apply to Peter Sumner and we of the Group Band ... and 30th July seems too late for the Tournament to still be on anyway! Apart from appearing in Matthew Eastley's book about the final called "66 on 66" and telling my Jimmy Greaves story on the Radio 5 documentary narrated by actor Tom Courtenay I have enjoyed reminiscing about that unique day with Graham Hoskins Colin Bowden Roger Hammond Francis "Taff" Jones Eric McKone Gordon Saville.

---

message #: 2056

Date: Sunday July 31 2016 15:07:11 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: allandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
66 World Cup. I was a boy in 'J' Wing for the game but remember the day well if you can remember there was a small TV room in the bottom of K Block and it was packed with all those who could get in not only to watch the game but to watch the Massed Bands we were all so eager in those days. As you can imagine it was quite a squeeze and very noisy when West Germany equalised I swear if there had been a German in the room he would have been lynched!! From talking to others who were there it was under the Direction of Peter Sumner the bands as I understand were also the same band involved with the Royal Tournament taking place at the same time apparently Pete Sumner went into panic mode when there was extra time as the bands needed to get back to Warwick Hall and get ready for that GIG watch the video of the game you will see a white helmet going back and forth which is apparently Peter Sumner trying to sort the band out. I had the pleasure of speaking to Sir Geoff Hurst a few years ago and he answered all the usual questions "Was it a Goal" modesty doesn't allow me to put his reply on here! but he was interested to hear that The Royal Marines Band got paid more than the players! I hope that brings back some happy memories Ray

---

message #: 2055

Date: Sunday July 31 2016 06:43:33 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Regarding the '66 World Cup.... We played before the game stood up as a concert band then marching for half time. I'm pretty sure we left before the end.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2054

Date: Saturday July 30 2016 14:56:54 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard In reply to John's posting. It was most certainly bands from the Portsmouth Area that supplied the music for the said World Cup . Royal Yacht Band was the lead band with the other establishments joining them for the half time display Cheers Barry

---

message #: 2053

Date: Saturday July 30 2016 09:14:51 EST  
Name: John Dixon  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3369  
Hometown: Scawby N Lincs.  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
Interesting to read post from Barry Radford Re: 1966 World cup final. I was in the Staff Band Deal at the time but feel sure that we took part on that amazing day. I don't have a programme or any photos of the occasion but friends are always impressed when the subject comes up!! A great memory of those good old days. Best wishes to all John Dixon.

---

message #: 2052

Date: Saturday July 30 2016 02:59:01 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard More Memories!! 50 years ago today along with many more Members of our great family I played at the World Cup Final. (The only one we have won). Under the direction of Capt. Peter Sumner. (and it was Cat IV) Memories. There will be members out there with perhaps more selective memories!! But I have my programme and some unique photos to remind me of this great occasion. Cheers Barry

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2051

Date: Friday July 29 2016 17:37:58 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Bassoon (some say No I didn't!)&#39;t)  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard just heard the news that my old mate Russ Ireland has crossed the bar. We were in the wing together in 66 / 67 / 68. Russ was a very funny guy always happy. Hadn't seen him since he moved abroad but I was devastated to hear this news. Please pass on my condolences to his family and friends. So long Russ it was a pleasure to have known you. Roy

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message #: 2050

Date: Friday July 29 2016 11:01:46 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dickie Thanks to Mike Hickman for his post. I was drafted to the Hermes in 1961 as a replacement for Jim Morrow. His boots were difficult to fill as he was one of the very best clarinet players in the Corps at the time. As I joined the ship we were supposed to be going to the USA but were diverted to Gib as a replacement to the Centaur which was tasked to the Gulf to help in the Kuwait crisis. Shades of things to come!! When we returned to UK waters the ship went to Oslo for a few days. I have been a fan of Scandinavia ever since. I then volunteered for the second commission under the baton of Dan O'Connell. Whatever happened to him? Later Graham Hoskins. Some names I remember from those days are Mick Beer Geoff Avis Brian Holder Courtenay Morton Ron McCullam Scouse Cooper John Sharpe John Meir Jock Gallagher Terry Toon Dave Wallace Ray Alberly Lew Sykes Polly Perret Lofty Logan Dave Mullan. Buglers were Taff Grimes and Willie Thornton. Percussionist was Terry Lampert. Later replacements were Ken Schooly and Harry Thornley. (I think) Hermes was known as Happy Hermes and I certainly enjoyed my time in her. We paid off in 1964 and went our separate ways me to Manadon and then Chatham. Incidentally I never once heard the expression "Chatham Dogends" in the five years I was there. Where did that come from?? Am off to Eastbourne on Sunday for a week on the Bandstand with the RBL Band under the baton of David Cole all good fun. Best wishes to all.

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message #: 2049

Date: Friday July 29 2016 05:08:58 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Thanks to Dave Seed for that bit of info. The Hermes was planned as HMS Elephant before she took the name Hermes. She was laid down I think sometime towards the end of the war and then renamed she was refitted at Barrow and came into service in 1959. I with many other fresh faced lads served on board the first commission 1959 to 1961. The band was made of B/M Maurice Pierce Sgt T Freestone Bcplis Jim Morrow and John Bradshaw Musns B Austin Perc Alan Walker Cl Violin Robbie Coleman CL Violin Bob Baker Crnt Violin Jonnie Couch Cl viola Pete Yeatman Solo Crnt Dennis Swan Solo Crnt HGB Lock Euph Cello Bob Hodkin S Clarinet Pete Mc Roy and myself Tromps Brian Gammon Basses Herman Clarke Fl Piano Mc Pherson Alto sax Violin as you can see a few young lads from the wing made up this band some now departed but not forgotten we had fun that's for sure. The Buglers names escape me I'm sorry. HMS Hermes (R12) was a Centaur-class aircraft carrier originally planned as HMS Elephant but renamed in 1945. She was launched in 1953 and served in the Falklands War. She was sold to the Indian Navy in 1986 who recommissioned her as INS Viraat. \*\*\*\*\* I hope my editing does justice to your well memorized experience aboard Hermes Mike. Richard.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2048

Date: Tuesday July 26 2016 04:06:13 EST  
Name: Dave Seed  
Email: dseed78739@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 4084  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Flute / Tenor Sax  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard Just returned from my annual trip to India and whilst there noticed this article in the Times of India it should invoke some memories of times gone past. Aircraft Carrier India Navy Ship Viraat sailed under it's own propulsion for the last time to the Cochin shipyard as INS Viraat is slated for decommissioning on completion of ERDD it will be towed back to Mumbai for the decommissioning ceremony. The 2nd aircraft carrier of the country has spent 29 years under the Indian flag and 27 years with the Royal Navy the ship holds the Guinness Record for being the oldest serving warship. INS Viraat is a Centaur Class Aircraft Carrier and served in the Royal Navy as HMS Hermes which was the flagship during the Falklands Campaign in 1982. She is commonly referred to as the "Grand Old Lady" among Naval Officers and Sailors. She has spent nearly 2 250 days at sea sailing 5 088 288 nautical miles this implies that Viraat has been at sea for over 6 years and covering the entire globe 27 times. Dave

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message #: 2047

Date: Tuesday July 12 2016 04:59:11 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard Sat listening to Classic FM (as we do!!) Just played Mozart 40. Brought back memories of the Wonderful Ray Woodfield (in full frock coat) on Victory Ship stood rattling the tambourine to this great piece of music whilst we were playing for some high ranking naval dinner. Oh happy days. (Some 40 years ago) I continue to make steady progress after my recent health blip. Still waiting for results of numerous scans and procedures. But thankfully my Gizmo is still working well. Regards to all Barry

---

message #: 2046

Date: Friday July 8 2016 05:08:33 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
RUSS IRELAND I have just found this on Facebook sad news another good guy gone! From Al White for those not on the Royal Marines Band website: The following message has also been sent to the Royal Marine School of Music site This afternoon I received a phone call from Lorraine Ireland wife of ex RMB 4105 Russ Ireland MBE I have some very sad news as Russ passed away at his home in Portugal on 28th June. He had been suffering from leukaemia (AML). We met in Raleigh Band in 1978 where David Lambert Ian Ashton Albert Parton were serving : we became good friends and he was my best man at my wedding. We then served together in Cmdo Force Band together and The Falklands Campaign in 1982 with Brian Short Gary Pumford Martin Dale and many others Lorraine advises me that he has been cremated and his ashes will be scattered at sea where the Royal Marine prayer will be said. I hope that someone from The Blue Band will pick this up and add his details to the In Memorium page R.I.P Russ

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2045

Date: Sunday June 26 2016 13:30:19 EST  
Name: Dickie Valentine  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Trevor Brown update: 'Trevor continues to make good progress despite having to go back into hospital for further assessment and observation. His new liver is working well and he is very grateful to all the medical staff at both Ipswich and Addenbrookes hospitals for their care and a 'second chance'! Also he has appreciated very much all the messages of support and love from family and friends.' Via Roger Jones and Ray Lloyd

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message #: 2044

Date: Wednesday June 15 2016 13:53:09 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just a reminder for any of you who might be interested in seeing and hearing a great show. Sorry we're not at the Albert Hall! But we' The RMA Concert Band conducted by Tony Smallwood are performing in the Assembly Hall Worthing Sussex by the Sea on Sunday 26th June at 7.30. This rather special concert has James Morrison fantastic Trumpet Player from down under as our special guest. SO if you need a good night out with some fantastic music then we look forward to seeing you there. Regards to all Michael.

---

message #: 2043

Date: Sunday June 12 2016 04:38:08 EST  
Name: Ray LLoyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
Trevor (Bruno) Brown Bruno is on the road to recovery Roger Jones tells me he has recovered his 'appetite'! and is now back home he still has a long way to go but hopefully it won't be too long before he is back to some sort of normality. He will have to return to hospital for constant check ups but the future is hopefully good. Since he is now back home and has all his Gizmos! I am sure he would love contact emails etc from any old colleagues who have the time to contact him. Best wishes to you all Ray

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2042

Date: Friday June 3 2016 07:36:04 EST  
Name: Richard (Dickie) Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Thank you Terry Freestone for alerting me regarding the BBC Radio 3 broadcast from CTCRM. Here in the eastern USA we are 5 hours behind the UK so the actual broadcast was at Zero Dark Hundred for me but thanks to the modern BBC and its digital archives we have the ability to listen again and again if we wish to and certainly for the next 29 days I think. As I continue to listen (now on the Hebrides Overture) with my morning coffee I am recovering from what must be one of THE best renditions of Grainger's 'Molly on the shore'. Grainger's music is infectious on me and as both a pianist and clarinetist his music is ever difficult to get your tongue around and digits on both instruments. I congratulate Huw Williams on a job well done! All the band were simply 'right on' throughout the piece and I have to pay special tribute to the solo clarinet in those sections where exposed playing was executed with dexterity and consummate ease. Ahh! Here we are at that beautiful solo melody with two clarinets in thirds. Again my thanks to Terry and I know you all will enjoy the programme. The link is working from the What's New section of the Notice Board. With warm wishes to all, Dickie. \*Note: It would be remiss of me not to congratulate Capt Steve Green and the Band of CTCRM for their involvement and performance.

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message #: 2041

Date: Thursday June 2 2016 06:12:53 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: allandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Trevor (Bruno) Brown. As many of you will know our dear friend Bruno has not enjoyed the best of health recently and I have been monitoring his condition with the help of Roger Jones (his brother in law) I have just received this information which I thought I should share with you: 'Just to let you know that Trevor has at last had a liver transplant. The operation took place last night (Wednesday) at Addenbrookes and he is now in ICU recovering. Not sure when we are going to be able to visit him as the initial stages after the operation are monitored very closely so I guess it will be tomorrow all being well. We understand he is making good progress given the major op he has just had. It's a long road to full recovery though his life will be much better as he could not have gone on much longer as he was. I am sure we all wish him a full and speedy recovery I will update the website when I know more.

---

message #: 2040

Date: Friday May 20 2016 08:55:23 EST  
Name: Bob Taylor  
Email: Bob.taylor2311@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB4121  
Hometown: Stubbington  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Attended the Memorial Service for Brian Allen today. Good to see so many ex RM Bandsmen there including ex PDM Chris Davis and D of M's Andy Henderson and Ted Whealing both of whom gave a great eulogy. The excellent music was provided by the RMA Concert Band under Major Smallwood (ret'd). The choice of Elgar's Nimrod was particularly poignant as Brian was born and raised in Malvern. After the service we retired to the Meon Valley Marriott Hotel for refreshments and food and where many a dit was spun. Those of us who had the privilege to know Brian will know what a cracking bloke he was and like so many of our friends and colleagues was taken from us far too early.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2039

Date: Sunday May 15 2016 04:17:34 EST  
Name: Phil Crossland  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Croxley Green Herts  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sorry to hear of Brian's passing. Good guy pleasure to have known him through The Central Band of The Royal British Legion. Thinking of his family at this time.

---

message #: 2038

Date: Friday May 13 2016 11:56:56 EST  
Name: Bob Taylor  
Email: Bob.taylor2311@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB4121  
Hometown: Stubbington  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to hear about the passing of Brian Allen. I knew him well from our days in Chatham Band and was pleased to meet him again at the last Chatham Dog Ends reunion. After I transferred into the the RN I became friends with his brother and was best man at his wedding in Malvern. Too many of our dear friends and colleagues going too early. Reminds us all of our limited time on this Earth. Will be attending Brian's funeral on Friday.

---

message #: 2037

Date: Wednesday May 11 2016 05:50:23 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Bude Cornwall - Now Pompey!  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Fiddle  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Brian's wife Di has now given details of Brian Allen's Service of Thanksgiving. It will be held on Friday 20th May 2016 at 11.30 a.m. at St John the Baptist Church Church Road Shedfield Southampton SO32 2HY For those travelling from the Pompey and Fareham areas it may be wise to mention that The Wickham Horse Fair is on that day so there will be some roads closed. Diversions will obviously be in place but best to allow sufficient time. Cheers all. Derek

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2036

Date: Sunday May 8 2016 03:54:42 EST  
Name: paul collett  
Email: tubby.tuba@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3827  
Hometown: London now Corfe Mullen Dorset  
Instrument/s: basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to hear of the passing of Brian Allen and Paul Singleton Brian and I met when he joined the CBRBL. He was a fine musician and conductor. He was also very versatile helping out on Tuba or Trombone when needed. We were also at the first rehearsal of the RMACB. Paul Singleton and I were in training at the same time and also served together at Chatham. As Dave Mutter recalls I also remember his great admiration for the USMC. My thoughts go to both of their families at this sad time

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message #: 2035

Date: Saturday May 7 2016 03:59:51 EST  
Name: David A Mutter  
Email: dam6567@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I am saddened to read in the guestbook of the passing of Paul Singleton who was on junior training with me in the early sixties. He was always immaculately turned out and had gleaming spit and polished boots and shoes. He was a keen follower of the US Marine Corps and in fact owned their dress blues uniform. I believe he spent time at the US Embassy in London during his leave at times. I only saw him a few times after he was rated one being when he was sent back to Deal to learn how to play cymbals for parade band a somewhat unusual draft!! Later after both of us had left the Band service in the 1990s I met him at either Heathrow or Gatwick airport where he was a security officer and me off to a cello gig. He told me that after he had left the Band Service he joined the RM Reserve in London completing his Commando tests and being part of the unit which he thoroughly enjoyed. The last time I saw him was at a couple of rehearsals with the RMACB and the veterans weekend at Lympstone in 2007. My condolences to his family and friends David

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message #: 2034

Date: Friday May 6 2016 14:46:56 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
It's great to read all the lovely comments about Brian over the last few days. I didnt know him in the Band Service as there is 20 years in age between us but I have sat alongside him now on Euph in the RMA Concert Band for the last six years since we lost Hedley Lock and of course got to know him quite well. It was a sad day for all the band last Saturday when we were given the news of Brians passing but I'm sure all of us were thinking of him particularly during our concert in Bath Abbey. He was always keen to know about my time in the RMB and of course I got to know him very well. RIP Brian. We will all miss you. Michael.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2033

Date: Friday May 6 2016 05:47:47 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3482  
Hometown: Roquetas De mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Words are not enough having heard of the loss of Brian Allen. He Joined the Band at Chatham with his great friend Andy Henderson. Straight from the wing what a pair of great guys they turned out to be. I can remember many times whilst we were at sea the fun and games we had. He was a good instrumentalist and was always willing to join in everything with gusto. I was saddened years ago when I heard of his illness and always enquired at the Reunion when I saw Andy. My most sincere condolences go to all of his family and to all of you who had the pleasure to serve and know a young man as Kevin Vickers said taken too early. God Bless you Brian. Brian Allen (RIP)  
PS If any one sees Andy Henderson please pass on my regards and condolences. I do not have any contact for him.  
Many thanks Mike H.

---

message #: 2032

Date: Tuesday May 3 2016 13:36:13 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email: french.horn@sky.com

Service Number: RMB4336  
Hometown: Great Mongeham  
Instrument/s: Horn & Bugle  
n/a:

Comments:  
Saddened to hear of the passing of Brian Allen. Bri took me under his wing under training at the RMSM. He was from Malvern and with myself from Hereford we always travelled home on leave together also the long trip back to Deal! After training we went our separate ways but did meet up from time to time such as Massed Bands. Sincere condolences to his family. In Honoured Remembrance.

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message #: 2031

Date: Monday May 2 2016 11:44:45 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: Roytheboy948@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: I was issued with one.....?ðŸŽ.ðŸŽ¼ðŸŽ¤ðŸ•œâ™  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Rich So so sad news about the passing of Brian Allen Ray Edwards and Charlie Miller. It's only May 2016' what a sad year this has already been. Please pass on my condolences to the families . I hope to be at Brian's funeral when all details are known R.I.P GUYS .

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2030

Date: Monday May 2 2016 09:19:05 EST  
Name: Kevin Vickers  
Email: k.vickers1@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB3423  
Hometown: Abingdon now South Brent Devon  
Instrument/s: Cello ang Euphoniumoon the Service.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I was so sad and shocked to learn of the passing of Brian Allen. I knew him well as his Instructor in M Wing. In the scheme of things he should not have gone before me. He was a terrific guy whose company everyone enjoyed. Not only that he was a terrific baby sitter my children used to get away with anything when he came. I remember he struggled with his cello playing and was kept back a term at the end of his training. It wasn't for the lack of effort on Brian's part and in the end I managed to convince Doug Haig that to get rid of him would be a sad loss to the Band Service. I know I was proved to be right and although sadly his career was cut short he made his mark. Penny and I send our sincere condolences to Brian's family and would like you to know we are thinking of you RIP Old Friend.

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message #: 2029

Date: Sunday May 1 2016 18:30:45 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Bude Cornwall - Now Pompey!  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Fiddle  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Very hard to put into words about the recent passing of dear Brian Allen (Former WO1 Bandmaster RM). I've only known him since he joined the RMA Concert Band when we formed in April 2006 but what a great musician he has been for us. Great Euph' player who sat alongside another Bandmaster of reknown Mick Hutton. A remarkable character was Brian and especially when you consider what he had been through. Sadly (as most will know) he had to take a medical discharge following a brain h emorrhage that unfortunately coincided with an MFM performance - of all times. Although he thankfully recovered from the subsequent op ' his short term memory was affected for some time. Such a shame as Brian was well on his way to becoming a Director of Music at that time having passed all relevant exams. He was clearly destined to go a long way in the RMB. None the less he's made the most of his life since then and has been forever involved in teaching and playing in various good bands including the Hampshire Constabulary Band and of course the RMA Concert Band where he often turned his hand to taking rehearsals whenever the current DoM was unavailable. Brian never seemed to stop smiling and always had a permanent sense of humour. He could only ever see the best in people and life itself. Just over 2 weeks ago I visited Brian in QA Hospital Portsmouth and although he didn't look his best understandably at the time he was very stoic about everything and was convinced he'd be out in time to play in a recent concert at the RM Museum and failing that he'd definitely be on the Bath Abbey one last night (Sat 30th April)! Sadly it was not to be and all of the band were totally shocked to receive the news just before we did the Abbey concert as you might well imagine. He was one of those stalwart people that you admire from time to time and just like Albert Hall Hedley Locke and Jimmy Mann before him he will be missed terribly by us all and it will not seem right that he is no longer with us in person. I'm sure he will be in spirit however and wishing us well. Seeing the amount of tributes there have been from so many today on both Facebook group pages of the RM Band Service and The All Stars gives an indication of how well Brian was thought of by so many RMB's who joined and served with him. I'm sure others will want to contribute on here and will have known Brian far better than I. (Although I feel now that I've known Brian for a very long time too!- I'd like to have known him when he served) What a sad week it's been with so many of our great former RMB's passing on. It's never easy for any one but Brian was taken long before his time. He was only 61 bless him! Our heart goes out to his wife Di his two sons and family. RIP old mate. We will miss you greatly!

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message #: 2028

Date: Sunday May 1 2016 07:28:42 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon etc.  
n/a:

Comments:

Just letting you know Eric has been in St. John of God Hospital in Bendigo since last Tuesday with Major back problems and is looking like being there for sometime. It was expected he would be having Surgery however today Surgeon stated he is very reluctant to operate due to Scar Tissue from two previous operations and massive arthritis throughout his spine. The only plan of attack at this stage is pain management and when can cope with it hydrotherapy to strengthen his back muscles and 'maybe' get him on his feet again. He will have Ipad with him at Hospital so can receive emails at the above email address. I am sure he would love to hear from some of you chaps he has known over the years. Kind regards His partner Jan

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2027

Date: Sunday May 1 2016 02:04:05 EST  
Name: mike Jones  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3808Y  
Hometown: Bridgend Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard and all I have just received the sad news that Brian Allen who was in the Fleet Band at Chatham during my time there has passed away. I don't have any more details but he was a great friend and we did many ship visits in those great days. RIP Brian. Mike

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message #: 2026

Date: Thursday April 28 2016 01:58:12 EST  
Name: Taff Ryan  
Email:

Service Number: Q004143C RMB 4143  
Hometown: Rosyth  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It is with great sadness that I report the passing of Alan ( Bomber ) Mills who passed away at his home in Deal yesterday. I served with Bomber for many years in FOSNI BAND and you could write a book about this lovely guy. He will be sadly missed by all who had the pleasure knowing him. My sincere condolences to his family and his many friends.

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message #: 2025

Date: Saturday April 23 2016 10:30:30 EST  
Name: Russ Ireland  
Email: hootertooter@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4105 (Q004105Q)  
Hometown: Aljezur Portugal  
Instrument/s: cornet & fiddle  
n/a:

Comments:  
I am so sorry to hear that Charlie Miller has passed into the Big Band in the Sky. We were boys together way back in the 60s and whilst never serving in the same band became friends when we were VBI's him at HMS DRYAD and me at HMS HERON. It was always fun when we shared gigs to augment the bands we had and we accomplished a number of interesting achievements. The most notable being taking the combined volunteer bands to the Cologne Carnival way back in the 80s. Whilst this gig was Heron led it would not have been possible without the support of Charlie and his support. The Volunteer Bands still enjoy this gig 30 years on. My condolences go to Liz & Richard at this sad time. RIP

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2024

Date: Saturday April 23 2016 05:52:05 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Re my last posting Terry Puttrell has confirmed that the Charles Miller posting on the Sunset Page was indeed Dusty. Terry has spoken to Liz and confirms that after the Funeral. There will be a Wake in The Ship in Langston. None of us had in fact seen Dusty for many years but it would be good if anyone in the Portsmouth Area could be there to support Liz Richard and family. Another great guy joins the Great Band Room in another place. Condolences to Liz and Family Barry

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message #: 2023

Date: Thursday April 21 2016 04:43:20 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Rather late with my comments as the PC has been out of action for a couple of weeks. Very sad news to hear of the loss of Roy Nash. He was one of my contemporaries and a very fine musician gentleman Band Officer who should have got the top job of PDM. However he chose to leave the RM and move on to other forms of music making taking on the directorship of the G & S company who toured all over the world. One of our finest.  
Michael Hutton

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message #: 2022

Date: Tuesday April 19 2016 08:52:50 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi to all Is anyone able to confirm whether the Charles Miller on the Sunset Page. Is in fact Charlie (Dusty) Miller Bass Player who served in Whale Island in the late 1960's . He also did part of his EVT in Enfield with me whilst I was Head of the Music School for the London Borough of Enfield. Regards to all Barry

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2021

Date: Tuesday April 19 2016 04:45:53 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sorry to hear of the passing of Roy Nash a true gent in every way. I can remember him whilst I was at Deal in the early 60s. It was his house in Walmer that became my second married quarter. My condolences to all of his family and those like me who had the pleasure to know and serve with him.

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message #: 2020

Date: Wednesday April 13 2016 09:04:24 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email: g0iti@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to hear of the passing of Roy Nash a great Pal of mine in our Staff Band days. A true Gentleman and great musician. We had been in contact fairly recently but lost touch again. I last saw him when he brought a band up to give a concert in Halifax many years ago!! My condolences go out to his family... RIP Roy..

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message #: 2019

Date: Wednesday April 13 2016 08:46:10 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston (now Ballston Lake - USA)  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Richard Valentine  
of Ballston Lake NY wrote: Although 18 years separate us Roy Nash was someone I recall very well when I was under training at the School of Music in Deal between 1965 and 1969. He was admired and highly respected for his musicality and his professionalism. Many years ago I was fortunate to sing tenor in a local professional caliber choral group who were performing 'Trial by Jury' with David Hyde Pierce as guest performer. Roy and I exchanged letters about the production and I'm sure I sent him a recording of the performance. His musical career has been exemplary and he has touched many souls with his art and his friendship. We never served together but we wore the same uniform and shared the same love of music. For that I'm entirely grateful. I shall attend his memorial service on the USA east coast and represent the ex pat's on behalf of the Royal Marines Band Service. My sincerest condolences to his family.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2018

Date: Wednesday April 13 2016 08:24:53 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Giverny France  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Saddened to read of the passing of Roy Nash. I served with him on Whale Island. A great boss brilliant musician and true gentleman. Condolences to Roy's Family Heather and I are in France just visited Claude Monet Gardens. Brilliant. Gizmo working well. Regards Barry and Heather

---

message #: 2017

Date: Tuesday April 12 2016 13:48:19 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Clarinet / alto / violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sorry to hear the sad news about the passing of Roy Nash. I didn't know him very well other than to remember him as being an extremely smart and fine officer who was an outstanding musician and a terrific conductor. When he left the Band Service he was greatly missed but the D'Oyly Carte were the lucky recipients of a wonderful musician. He will be sorely missed by his many friends and associates in the Band Service and his hundreds of fans in the civilian music world. RIP Jem Tugwood

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message #: 2016

Date: Tuesday April 12 2016 08:18:01 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Clarinet / alto / violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear all Last Saturday Pam and I spent the evening in London with our very good friends Paul and Lynne Harthill where we went to the Royal Albert Hall to see the Mountbatten Festival of Music by the massed bands of HM Royal Marines. The show can only be described as truly magnificent the music well selected and the arrangements by various members of the band were terrific the soloists and vocalists were a joy to listen to and there was something for absolutely everyone. The Corps of Drums were well I can't think of an appropriate word to describe such a brilliant performance it has to be a young persons game because memory plays a large part of the performance so shouldn't be attempted by anyone with approaching Alzheimers! The musicians are all extremely talented and the setting and stage display under the musical direction of Col Nick Grace and his fellow Directors of music was second to none. Our friends who are both ex Royal Navy thoroughly enjoyed the show. I will not name anyone in particular because to single anyone out among such talented musicians would be somewhat unfair save to say we enjoyed a wonderful evening of beautiful music. In fact it was so good HRH Prince Phillip even attended mind you as the Captain General of the Royal Marines it was probably a "duty job" for him although I do know that he always enjoyed the band when embarked on the Royal Yacht Britannia of which I am proud to have been a part of all those years ago. A great evening and fortunately not a bit like a Justin Bieber concert this one was for grown ups! Best wishes to all Jem

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2015

Date: Sunday April 10 2016 04:28:29 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Mountbatten Festival as Barry has already said WOW!! What a fantastic and varied program of music. It proves yet again that the RMBs is the very best there is. Thanks Col. Nick and the boys and girls of the bands involved.  
On another note does anyone know where the Band Service ties can be purchased. Last night none of the people who were selling merchandise seemed to know anything about them. When I showed them mine it drew a blank expression. I seem to remember that I got mine from the Blue Band a few years ago. Any help would be appreciated. Thanks again  
Mike

---

message #: 2014

Date: Friday April 8 2016 19:08:25 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello &Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just attended MFM at the Albert Hall. WoW WoW. pure quality and superb presentation I am proud to be an Ex Royal Marine Musician. Well done to Col Nick all concerned. Regards Barry

---

message #: 2013

Date: Friday April 1 2016 03:30:00 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email: terryfreestone@vfast.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X 2505  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Sincere condolences on the passing of Charles Francis to his daughter Margaret and family. Could she please get in touch with me as I would like to find out more about his service and perhaps prepare a tribute for Blue Band magazine.Terry

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2012

Date: Wednesday March 30 2016 11:59:07 EST  
Name: Charles Francis  
Email:

Service Number: RMB X1281  
Hometown: Lowestoft Suffolk  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piccolo  
n/a:

Comments:  
It is with regret that my Dad Charlie Francis passed away on Thursday 18th March. He was in the R M as a bandsman and later appeared in the All Stars at the Winter Gardens regularly up to his mid 80's. He was a remarkable 91 years old. We will miss him deeply. From his daughter Margaret

---

message #: 2011

Date: Thursday March 24 2016 04:45:55 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
May I also thank Mike Tellick for organising the '56ers reunion at the RMA last Saturday evening which proved to be a quite exceptional evening and such a good prelude to the ALL STARS concert the following day. As a mere '59er I felt privileged to be invited along with Dickie Valentine who was staying with me in my Folkestone flat for the weekend. The tenor and content of Graham Hoskins' extempore speech was most apposite emphasising how those present who joined the RMBS 60 years ago are the building blocks of the modern Band Service infusing continuing professional standards whilst maintaining and cementing the strong loyalty and camaraderie so evident in the friendship openly expressed between those present in the RMA. Thank you Graham for your excellent (and short!!) speech and your inimitable presence at a most memorable evening. The weekend continued with the ALL STARS concert at Margate. A varied programme was assembled by David Cole which judging from the enthusiastic audience response was exactly the melange of music they love: several marches an overture selections and the inevitable ceremonial music aided by an efficient Corps of Drums. For me it was both good and satisfying to see so many of my contemporaries playing in the band including Mick Eastbrook Steve Misson Phil Hughes Wally Walters Dougie Powell George Simpson Roger Smith Mike Tellick Bob Gill Miles Attwell Harry Prescott Alan Walker Richard Baker...and someone I have not seen since 1965...Pip Fairchild. It was such a pleasure to talk to Jock Brown (85) in the interval who had been Staff Bandmaster in the Staff Band during my incumbency 1964-66. He has hardly changed at all and still the upright smiling and friendly gentleman that I recall with great affection from those distant days of FVD in the Staff Band and the '65 USA Tour. A serious dent in the litre bottle of SINGLETON single malt whisky that Dickie had kindly brought over from USA (courtesy of Business Class on United Airlines!!) was made post RMA on Saturday night (until 0200!!) and after the concert on Sunday we continued our Scottish holy communion on returning to Folkestone but had an early night...0130!! On Monday morning we met up with Tony Oliver and did a mini-pub tour of Deal to seal the weekend in appropriate fashion and to reminisce upon how fortunate we all are to have served in the RMBS and to maintain friendships forged many years ago which are so important in our later years. Best wishes fond memories and good health to all ADRIAN

---

message #: 2010

Date: Wednesday March 23 2016 16:27:48 EST  
Name: Pip Phillips  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3874  
Hometown: Gateshead  
Instrument/s: S/Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Happy 50th anniversary to the CG squad that passed out from boys wing this week in 1966. I remember myself and John Yates were packed off to Chatham Band and the rest of the lads sent far and wide. I hope to make the re-union this year and hope to meet old friends from then and lads from HMS Eagle I joined in '67-- Happy days Pip

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2009

Date: Tuesday March 22 2016 11:03:18 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Saturday March 19th saw the class of '56 gather in the RMA club Deal for the long awaited reunion. Some 25 members of that year's intake came together with their ladies from far and wide to swing the lamp and roll back the years. Also present were invited guests one of whom Graham Hoskins did us the honour of giving a highly entertaining speech. Dickie Valentine made it all the way from New York via North Wales Grimsby and Grantham well done Dickie. There were messages from Mike Hickman and much applause and cheering on the announcement that he had put £50 behind the bar. A glass was raised in your honour Mike. Good wishes were also sent from Mick Goss Malcolm Kennard Frank Dominey and from New Zealand Max Bear. Thanks gents. Sue Cornish put on a magnificent spread which will go down as possibly the best table I have seen at any reunion. OUTSTANDING!! The raffle raised £250 for the RMCTF and a cheque was presented to Col Nick Grace at the "ALL STARS" concert on Sunday. Thanks to all those who gave prizes or put their hard earned cash in lieu. Finally a massive thank you to everyone it is YOU that made the evening go with a swing especially Stan and Phil who ran the raffle also the the mensahib Erica and Audrey Sykes who twisted your arms to buy tickets. I will try to sort out some fots to put on this sight. See you in another 60 years?? Mike

---

message #: 2008

Date: Monday March 21 2016 16:10:24 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euphonium & Celloellick  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard It was great to see you this weekend at both the 56E's Reunion and The All Stars Band Concert. What a fantastic weekend the reunion organised by My Squaddie Mike Tellick was an amazing evening and I would bravely suggest it was a first of its kind (unless anyone knows otherwise???) Not only was it a great evening for us all and our Ladies but we also managed to raise a sum of £250.00 for RM Charity coffers. The All Stars Concert was so very enjoyable and well attended and the quality of performance on less than 3 hours rehearsal. WOW. Congratulations to all. The 56's have surely thrown down the challenge to the 57's or any other year of Entry. Many thanks to all at the RMA but especially to Dear Old Mike Tellick. Cheers Barry and Heather

---

message #: 2007

Date: Monday March 21 2016 14:43:39 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: Ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Lucylongaphone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It is 1024 22nd March 1966. I leave my tearful parents on Portsmouth and Southsea high level station. "The sun ain't gonna shine anymore" by The Walker Brothers is at No 1 in the pop charts. I am on my way to join the Royal Marines Band Service. My life will change from a 15 year old schoolboy to a professional musician in the Greatest Military Band in the world. For the next 30 years I will meet and serve with some of the greatest musicians friends colleagues ever graced this planet. I wouldn't change a thing. Happy 50th Anniversary to John Beddow Dave Seed Mick Sutton Jeff Prett Dave Franklin Pete Law Dave Powell Terry Turner and Alec Passey.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2006

Date: Tuesday March 8 2016 14:12:43 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
For those of you who might be interested....the RMA Concert Band under the direction of Tony Smallwood will be performing in a concert at the Assembly Halls Worthing on Sunday 26th June at 7.30pm. This concert will include the appearance of James Morrison the 'Wizard of OZ' on trumpet who has agreed to appear with us. For those of you who may not be familiar with James talent just check him out on 'U Tube' and you'll have a pleasant surprise. Tickets are going fast so if you want a seat book soon. Michael.

---

message #: 2005

Date: Saturday February 20 2016 06:42:48 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email: terryfreestone@vfast.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello shipmates I am asking for your help please; I have been asked by Vic Sylvester's daughter Claire to write an obituary tribute to her father for the next issue of Blue Band. If I get a copy of his SC (R139) it will be helpful but it will be of much greater help if those who were more contemporary in time with him could let me have any details. The only time he and I served together was in the early 70s when I was SO(M) and he ran the store for me so despite our proximity we didn't come in to close contact. He was a very caring kindly and honest soul and a person one could utterly rely on. I would like particularly to hear from anyone who served at sea with him as that is where the majority of Bandies served in the 50s and 60s. Many thanks Terry Posted by Dickie Valentine from the USA

---

message #: 2004

Date: Friday February 19 2016 14:23:22 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clart  
n/a:

Comments:  
Does anyone know the whereabouts of Dave Wallace ( Clart/Viola ) Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2003

Date: Thursday February 18 2016 19:44:59 EST  
Name: Roy Adrian  
Email: ra.adrian181@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:

So sad to read of the passing away of 3 more members of 'our family'. My condolences to the families of 'Vic' Sylvester Mick Webster and Mike Button. I suppose I was closest to Mick Webster as we spent all but a few weeks (he joined in 2/57 me 3/57 NE Squads) of our 3 years & 8 months together in J Wing. Not only that but we were fellow bassoonists - at least for the first 18 months. Then the DoM(T) decided to change us over to trombone. I wasn't keen on that and within 6 months was back on bassoon. Mick stayed on trombone right through until we both 'Passed for Duty' in No 33 CG Squad in December 1960. Having joined 'M' Company briefly prior to drafts Mick immediately changed back to bassoon (wise move!!!). Whilst we never served together as adults we frequently met up for Massed Bands gigs and once we swapped drafts Mick went to BRNC Dartmouth whilst I went back to HMS Condor. He was also an excellent fencer but most of all a great pal who will be missed so much. Unfortunately I never met up with Mike Button but I gather that he was very popular and he will be a great loss to his family. 'Vic' Sylvester I also knew for many years. Apart from his time in the Instrument Store for a short period he was the B/M at Lymptone with the CTC Band during the time that I was Band Secretary there. It was a pleasure to serve with him and we kept in touch for many years after we both left the RMB. An active member of Sgts Mess Committees and an enthusiastic marathon runner. R.I.P. MICK MIKE and 'VIC' UPDATE ON 'NOBBY' (Herman) CLARKE - My wife and I went to visit him at home the week before last. We were lucky to catch him on one of his 'better' days but he does have bad ones also. He has now had several chemo sessions but has more to come. We keep in regular touch with him and Sandra (his wife). She does a hard but wonderful job of looking after him. Nobby seemed quite emotional both on our arrival and departure and we plan to visit him again soon. He would love to hear from anyone who knows him - if you do please do so - it would cheer him up tremendously. (I can supply his email address) Greetings to you all  
ROY ADRIAN

---

message #: 2002

Date: Tuesday February 16 2016 16:11:37 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi Chris re Bill Harrison. If you contact me on email I can put you in touch. Mike

---

message #: 2001

Date: Tuesday February 16 2016 15:26:50 EST  
Name: Andy, Colin and Tuula Wright  
Email: andywright1967@gmail.com

Service Number: &#39;Shiner&#39; Wright RMB 3716  
Hometown: Rushden Higham Ferrers and New Zealand  
Instrument/s: Euphoria and Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

We have just heard of the sad passing of Vic Sylvester our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Vic's family. My father knew Vic during their time in the band service and also after Vic was recruited as a steward at the East of England Show at Peterborough along with Nobby Clarke Vic was always a gentleman courteous amusing and gentle he will be terribly missed. Andy Colin and Tuula Wright (the shiner wright family)

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2000

Date: Tuesday February 16 2016 05:16:48 EST  
Name: Chris Thomson  
Email: christopher.t@btinternet.com

Service Number: D110778P  
Hometown: Dundee  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello I am trying to contact Ex Band C/Sgt Harrison. He was the Caledonia volunteer bandmaster about 1970-72. I was a baby tiff at Caledonia at that time and played in the band. I would like to make contact with him if possible. Kind regards Chris Thomson

---

message #: 1999

Date: Monday February 15 2016 09:03:30 EST  
Name: Helen Button  
Email: helenbutton@upbeat.karoo.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Hull UK  
Instrument/s: Mike-Saxophones  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I would like to thank everyone who has contacted Dan Tim or myself regarding our recent loss of Mike. Your thoughts prayers and kind words are very much appreciated. Mike had a very fulfilled life and remained positive throughout his recent illness. He had complete peace his faith very much intact and remained the genuine caring person we all loved. At his Thanksgiving service tributes were given from friends past and present and the photo slide tribute had some photos from the Royal Yacht days. This tribute can be viewed on YouTube: Mike Button - Celebration of his life. Thank you on behalf of Dan Rachel Tim and myself... Helen <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GW5NZbQy-UE>

---

message #: 1998

Date: Sunday February 14 2016 07:29:35 EST  
Name: RAY ALBERRY  
Email: musicmaker177@gmail.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: DONCASTER  
Instrument/s: SOLO CORNET  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sad to hear the passing of Vic Sylvester. We were boys together went thro' our B/Cpls B/Sgts B/Mr classes together. Very good musician and an excellent administrator most will remember him in charge of the Instrument store on his 5th Five RIP Vic. He was always into running things and was to the front running the band boys Panto in "B Coy" in the 50s!!

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1997

Date: Sunday February 14 2016 07:05:44 EST  
Name: Pete Law  
Email:

Service Number: rm25009  
Hometown: Wolverhampton and many afterwards  
Instrument/s: Bugler and now Sibelius 6  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Mike Button's Celebrations: At the crem' Mike's minister from his church said straight away looking across at the coffin "Mike is not in the coffin". I knew then we were in for a great celebration to remember a young very talented musician that made it clear that he had put his faith in Jesus and started to swap the Salutation Jazz pub in Portsmouth on a Sunday and drafted himself to the Pentecostal Church. As you know Mike had faith in Jesus that had such an impact on many for the better both spiritually musically because he had found the answer to life and was not afraid to tell others about it. He lived what he believed. To better himself as a musician he would catch the early train on Saturday to sit in with the National Youth Jazz Orchestra in London at rehearsals. Some of the charts I saw him sight read in very interesting time signatures he played as if he'd written them. All his family became Christians so they were so much at peace as to where Mike is now and you would have thought that you were at a party. The church celebration was ace! I did not want it to end. Many photos of Mike in the RM Band that were put up on the big screen brought back happy memories. Mike and Helen set an example to their children. That's what kids need today examples that are real and last. See you soon Mike. Pete (Maranatha) Law

---

message #: 1996

Date: Sunday February 14 2016 00:49:10 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I would like to wish members of 2/56 squad a very happy 60th birthday. Barry Radford Ray Grant John Cowdrey and myself joined the RMSM at Deal on this day in 1956. We remember those who have crossed the bar and others who have dropped off the radar of life. I look forward to meeting up on the 19th March at the "56ers" reunion in the RMA Deal. If there is anyone out there who had not signed up for this 'one off get together' please get in touch with me ASAP. Best wishes to one and all. Mike

---

message #: 1995

Date: Saturday February 13 2016 16:27:39 EST  
Name: Vick Sylvester  
Email: cm6162@sky.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euphonium and cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

My Dad WO2 Vick Sylvester died today.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1994

Date: Friday February 12 2016 14:22:41 EST  
Name: Neil Boxall  
Email: n.boxall1@ntlworld.com

Service Number: Q004334N (Was RMB4334)  
Hometown: Redhill Surrey  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Very sad to learn of the loss of Mick Button. He was a great influence on me in the 70s when I first became interested in jazz. He was a great musician and brilliant chap and one I will never forget. RIP Mick and thanks for the great memories I have of you.

---

message #: 1993

Date: Monday February 8 2016 09:51:12 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sad news to read of the passing on to the "Great Band Room Above" of Mick Webster. Such a good guy. Hadn't seen him for many years but last I heard he was some where up in Scotland. RIP Mick. Condolences to Mick's family. As Adrian commented. Far too many of our "Old Mates " have departed these past few months. Regards to all wishing you good health and contentment Kind regards Barry

---

message #: 1992

Date: Monday February 8 2016 08:15:22 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
I have just heard via Derek Usher that Mick Webster (Bsn) has died. I remember him well even though he was maybe 3 years older than me albeit in Gloucester House too. There were only two boys in the basso class: Jim Atkins and Mick Webster as I recall. Also Mick was a talented fencer while still in J Wing and represented the Corps and RN whilst still a junior....some kind of a record I would imagine. Far too many people I have known seem to be dying this year.....

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1991

Date: Saturday February 6 2016 07:26:35 EST  
Name: John Pring  
Email:

Service Number: Q004249T  
Hometown: Whitstable  
Instrument/s: Tenor Sax/Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just heard the news about Mick Button. Can't believe it really. Such a nice guy and good sax player and always so 'skin' looking;-) Last saw him at a reunion a few years ago with his son who was in the band. Sincere condolences to his family. RIP my friend.

---

message #: 1990

Date: Friday February 5 2016 15:22:56 EST  
Name: Pete Law  
Email:

Service Number: po25009a  
Hometown: Wolverhampton and many afterwards  
Instrument/s: Bugler  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
With what you are seeing now Mike and because of the one you choose to put your trust in it won't be long before all your family and those who also will trust through your stand for what you believed in about Jesus the Saviour of the world. We will enjoy eternity and the reunion of reunions together. Looking forward to it. Pete Law

---

message #: 1989

Date: Friday February 5 2016 09:24:50 EST  
Name: Dave Seed  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4084  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Flute Tenor sax  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sad to hear of the passing of Mike Button a great sax player and a great person I remember him spending hours in the practice rooms at Eastney learning all the chords so he could play the ad lib solos in the dance band. It was so nice to see him at the reunion a few years ago.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1988

Date: Thursday February 4 2016 07:17:44 EST  
Name: MERV HYATT  
Email: MLHY1@aol.com

Service Number: QOO4075  
Hometown: WILLITON  
Instrument/s: CLARINET/VIOLIN/SAXOPHONE  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Very sad to hear of the passing of Mike Button - an awesome musician who will be sadly missed by all who knew him. My sincere condolences go to Helen and family.

---

message #: 1987

Date: Thursday February 4 2016 07:15:27 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email: anthonyoliver@fsmail.net

Service Number:  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone ( Holder !!! )  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It was with a great deal of sadness that I heard of Mick Button's passing. I served with Mick in The Portsmouth Group Band as it was in those times and also on The R Y Britannia on several trips. He was a lovely guy and a very talented Tenor Sax Player indeed. He was full of fun and always joined in with the lads. I last met Mick at the re union about 2-3 years ago. He was mighty proud of his family especially as his boys Tim & Dan had followed his footsteps into The Royal Marines Band Service. I am sure he will leave a big hole in many people's hearts. RIP Mick

---

message #: 1986

Date: Monday February 1 2016 23:30:05 EST  
Name: Dan Archer  
Email: archer378@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RM22378  
Hometown: Kerikeri  
Instrument/s: Drum Major  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just picked up the news of Mike Button's passing. At the time I was in Akaroa Bay where we visited on the 1977 Yacht Trip. Mike was in the Band at that time and I have many happy memories of this fine man. My sincere condolences to the family.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1985

Date: Monday February 1 2016 12:01:43 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/ clar/ vln  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Just read the sad news of the passing of Mick Button which came as a great shock as I remember talking to him at the Reunion a couple of years ago. Mike was a fine musician and always ready to rig up at the drop of a hat and very keen on all kinds of jazz including some very avant garde stuff which needed some careful sorting out. We spent many months together on various cruises on the yacht and it was obvious he was an asset to the band. He will be sorely missed and I offer my sincere condolences to his family friends and all who had the opportunity and pleasure of knowing and playing with. RIP Mike Jem

---

message #: 1984

Date: Monday February 1 2016 08:29:35 EST  
Name: Dickie Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston (now in USA)  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

It is in extreme sadness that I write to record the passing of our dear friend and colleague Mike Button. I had the privilege of serving with him during our time as members of the newly relocated CinC Nav Horns moved from Whale Island to Eastney and also continued to be HM Yacht Britannia band. I have been in touch with the Button family since those days and in fact both our families met up at the family home then in Hull. The children were and are aspiring musicians with Tim (percussion) and Daniel (clarinet) going on to be important and invaluable assets to the best band in the world. I grieve for our loss and my heart reaches out to Helen and all the family. Rest in peace dearest of friends. You are sorely missed. Mike and myself (photo by Pete Law) on Antigua beach truly having a tough time working for HM whilst serving on Britannia for the Caribbean voyage of 1975 41 years ago this month.

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message #: 1983

Date: Monday February 1 2016 07:42:41 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a:

**Comments:**

I have just learnt of the sad news that Mike Button has died. A real gent and terrific sax player. RIP Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1982

Date: Sunday January 31 2016 04:46:22 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Great to see a post from you Cliff. I recall with pleasure my first draft to HMS DRAKE in 1962 straight out of J Wing with you as B/Sgt. I still remember little things you told me about flute playing from a time when I was eager to absorb any new information. You taught me a way to think about the rhythm in legato phrases with tricky fingerings which I have always remembered when playing the  $\hat{a} \dots \alpha$  piccolo solo in Carmen which I have played many times and always think of you!! I have practised that tricky solo in Svendsen's 'Carnival in Paris' for 53 years but it has never come up on the stand!! Hope your retirement is enjoyable and sorry you could not attend last year's "All Stars" as I played and was looking forward to seeing you. Best wishes. ADRIAN

---

message #: 1981

Date: Thursday January 28 2016 09:36:59 EST  
Name: C. Meatheringham  
Email: gl71xs@gmail.com.

Service Number: RMBx 2154  
Hometown: Cirencester Glos.  
Instrument/s: flute & piccolo  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Being in the prime of life & ere departing my present commission as a civilian may I offer all past & present members my best wishes especially those who may still be around to remember me such as Maxie (Bruin) Beare Ken (Katie-K.T.) Tyler Dennis Dent--an ex ship mate-- Neil Eyre (euph & cello--now Bass with the R.A.F.A. Band) to mention just a few. If passing through this old town a FREE cup of whatever could be made available should anyone wish to divert to this abode & rap on the door. If no answer "sorry we are not in!" The post code GL7 1XS seems to afford many firms our location the actual no. is 47. Again best wishes to all if I have processed the system correctly. Cliff Meths.

---

message #: 1980

Date: Monday January 25 2016 04:53:35 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Has anyone any idea of the whereabouts of 'John Borrington' Trombone player quite a good fast bowler in his younger days and Bandmaster? Let me know if you've any info...Many thanks. Michael.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1979

Date: Thursday January 21 2016 11:23:58 EST  
Name: Bob Taylor  
Email: Bob.taylor2311@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB4121  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Clarinet / Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Having checked the 1/67 New Entry Photo I realise that the name of the fifth member of our troop was Bob Crouch. My apologies Bob wherever you are and my New Year greetings to you albeit belatedly.

---

message #: 1978

Date: Tuesday January 19 2016 15:08:49 EST  
Name: Irfon &#34;taff&#34; Higgins  
Email: ijhiggins@aol.com

Service Number: RMB4323  
Hometown: Tycroes  
Instrument/s: Alto sax  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Belated Happy New Year to all great to see Drum Major Dan so active. I'd like to make an appeal for any ex Musicians living in south Wales (the old one) On Sunday I attended at the 1st ever Wales veterans band rehearsal (for ex service musicians) at Briton Ferry. There were about 30 players and the standard was pretty good look up James Barnes' 3rd symphony which we played against good bit of sight reading! I was told about the band by ex RMB Terry Lambert who unfortunately couldn't make the rehearsal. The band has an excellent DoM Craig Roberts who has worked with Grimethorpe among others. The band was short on trumpets and bassoon all ex musicians welcome. Terry and I only RMB at present. Next rehearsal Feb 21

---

message #: 1977

Date: Monday January 18 2016 16:10:35 EST  
Name: Dan Archer  
Email: archer378@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: PO22378C  
Hometown: Kerikeri New Zealand  
Instrument/s: Drum Major  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It was with great pleasure that last week I was able to visit Maxie Beare and Joe Simms at the retirement village where they both live in Orewa just North of Auckland. I also met with Kath Maxie's wife who is not too well at this time but is well cared for. Maxie looked great and was in good spirits despite the worries he has had with his own and Kath's health. Max looked fit and well and was very chipper. Max gave my friend and I a guided tour of the village which is superb accommodation and the care facilities looked second to none. Maxie owns his own bungalow on the site. It was great to see Joe Simms again. Joe has also had a rough year with a broken hip but he keeps smiling. Communication is difficult for him as he can barely speak but he smiles a lot and is well thought of by all the staff in the village. Maxie looks out for him.. well they have been mates for 72 years since they joined up together in 1944. I have some photographs of my visit with both Joe and Maxie but I don't know how to post on here maybe Dickie will email with instructions. I am currently in Wellington and hoping to see the Band when the Edinburgh Tattoo arrives in February. I will endeavour to get and see the guys again when I am next in Auckland. Best wishes to all. Dan [Dickie] instructions on the way Dan. Bless you for your staunch effort regarding these special friends.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1976

Date: Tuesday January 12 2016 16:37:50 EST  
Name: Bob Taylor  
Email: Bob.taylor2311@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB4121  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Greetings to the four other young bandsmen who joined up with me on 10th Jan 1967. Eddie McDermott Steve Bidmead Terry Storey and I am ashamed to say I have forgotten the name of the 5th member of our little troop. My father served 32 years in the RN and always joined a bluejacket band on whatever ship he served on playing cornet. In the early 70's he formed and conducted a band on board HMS Devonshire. I have several photo's of him conducting the band on the jetty. Does anyone know who if any became the VBI on the Devonshire and took over from my father who sadly passed away a while ago. A Happy New Year to all ex RM Bandsmen everywhere.

---

message #: 1975

Date: Sunday January 10 2016 07:25:13 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Chaps Does anyone have the current contact details of Alan (Ginge) Walker please. I wish to contact him re the 56ers reunion. Thanks Mike.

---

message #: 1974

Date: Friday January 8 2016 02:59:30 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hello As you may be aware there is to be a reunion of boys who joined in 1956. It will be held in the RMA club Deal on Saturday 19th of March. Plan "A" is to muster at 1900 for 1930. A welcome drink of rum for those who are "G" (remember that?). Also a Bucks Fizz or soft drink for those who prefer it. Sue Cornish will put on a buffet for us so please let me know as soon as possible any special requirements Veggie Gluten free intravenous drip etc. Please bring your wives lovers etc but I will need to know names and numbers by March 1st at the latest. The cost of this OUTSTANDING event is Â£10 per person payable in advance. Please make cheques out to Mike Tellick I will bank them and pay the club one week before the evening. any monies left will be put behind the bar. My address is 8 PEREGRINE DRIVE SITTINGBOURNE KENT ME10 4TZ Graham Hoskins has accepted my invitation to be our guest of honour along with his wife Margaret and we look forward to greeting them on the night. I you have any photos please email them to Roger Smith and he will make a montage for us cos he is clever like that and has nothing better to do!!! Look forward to seeing as many 56ers as possible. Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1973

Date: Sunday January 3 2016 06:54:54 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Greetings to all and a belated Happy New Year to you all. I would like send a special New Year greeting to the 30 young boys (well they where then) who joined the Band Service of the Royal Marines on this day 3rd January 1956 60 years ago today that year it was a Tuesday. I will post a photo later in the picture section of these lads amongst whom some will recognise such as Eddie Bretherton (RIP) Rodney Williamson Richard Baker Mitch Booth Alan Walker Vic Wood (RIP) John Welton John Alford Noddy fowler and Myself somewhere in there is Terry Puttrell. As the film Cockleshell Heros was recently mentioned I would like to point out that at the start of the film a Band is seen marching through a barrack gate at Plymouth I think the tenor drummer was shown in close up this was Noddy Fowler who went on to be not a percussionist but a Solo Clarinetist. HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL. [Editor] I'll post the image on the squad photo portal via Notice Board later today.

---

message #: 1972

Date: Friday January 1 2016 09:46:29 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Happy New Year to All Now that 2016 is upon us. A reminder to all 1956's that a 60th Reunion is happening on 19th March at RMA in Deal . Names to Mike Tellick or myself to be added to the list. Graham Salthouse Ray Manderson etc. Where are you? and many more. Cheers Barry

---

message #: 1971

Date: Thursday December 31 2015 17:05:06 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Happy New Year to one and all of the Great Band Service Family. Glad to see that some of you were at the premier of 'Cockleshell Heroes'. Yes I was in the Band that did the recording at what ever the studio was called! and I also recall being in the 'Pit' at the premier in the Odeon Leicester Square! There must still be others who were there? You might also recall a certain guy who was one of the doormen at that event ...his name was Stephen Boyd and he went on to become a Hollywood Actor playing a leading role in 'Ben Hur'.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1970

Date: Thursday December 31 2015 10:55:34 EST  
Name: David A Mutter  
Email: dam6567@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a:

Comments:

Dear All I wish you a very happy new year and may it bring you happiness and good health. For those of us who are not in the best of health I wish you a speedy recovery or at least a comfortable and supported one. I would also like to wish 1/61 New Entry Squad on our 55 th anniversary (January 2 nd 1961). May be we could all meet up in the summer months somewhere to celebrate? Oh by the way has any of 1/61 got a passing out photo as we wore berets because not all of us had caps needless to say I donâ€™t have photo but would like one if possible. Thank you. Regards David

---

message #: 1969

Date: Tuesday December 29 2015 14:48:30 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

All best wishes to you all and let's hope that 2016 will be kind to you and yours. Ken the Band of CinC Nore Command (HMS Pembroke Chatham) were tasked to do the premier of "Cockleshell Heroes" at the Odeon Leicester Square. We rigged up on the pavement outside the cinema. After performing we were all given a ticket each. All in the front row. Talk about stiff necks. That would have been about 1960 I think.

---

message #: 1968

Date: Tuesday December 29 2015 13:52:42 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email: keng0iti@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd Hebden Bridge  
Instrument/s: Cornet Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

It's not often I pen a message here but I would like to wish one and all a very Happy Healthy and prosperous New Year. Especially Healthy to all those that are suffering with complaints etc.  
It's good to see Nobby Clarke is fighting like a good 'un. keep smiling mate. He mentioned the film Cockleshell Heroes. I wonder if there are many of us left who recorded the Military music to that film? Best wishes to you all.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1967

Date: Monday December 28 2015 02:56:52 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Met up yesterday with my old squaddie from 3/59 New Entry Squad Les Evans. He was over in UK from Northern Cyprus where he now lives and is staying with his daughter in Telegraph Road Deal. We met in 'The Telegraph'-- a very nice Shepherd Neame pub at the bottom of the hill. What a great 3 hours we had together as only two old bandies can after not really having had a proper chat for years. I thought we might get chucked out as we were laughing so loud! It was an hilarious scene what with me having lost about 90% hearing in my right ear (56 years of professional piccolo playing..) and my good ear blocked and Les deaf in his left ear. Positioning our seating was quite a feat in order to hear each other but I reckon between us we almost had a pair of functioning lug holes! Many will remember Les- the only junior to be married in J Wing. He always was a character and seems to have developed his skills in this department over the years. He has founded a branch of the Royal British Legion in Kyrenia Northern Cyprus and he organises concerts in his local Orthodox Church in the village where he lives which attracts international artists even though the church only holds 100. All the locals attend and Les tells me that they stand outside when all the seats are taken. Les sends best wishes to all who served with him and especially to those not in great health. I thought of ex-Staff Band members last week who like myself probably made their first professional recording at Abbey Road Studios. I have been fortunate to work there regularly since leaving RMBS in 1966 and now I am proud that my son has a studio there. He invited me to the Xmas party at the studios last week. We exchanged presents his to me in a Sainsbury's bag and mine to him in a Sainsbury's.....!! I recently found my vinyl LP of "The Art of the Military Band" which we recorded at Abbey Road in 1965. I shall try and get the photo of the band put on this website as many who played in the Staff Band read these posts. Best wishes to all for 2016 Adrian

---

message #: 1966

Date: Sunday December 27 2015 08:45:36 EST  
Name: Heman (Nobby) Clarke.  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano.  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hello to all of you on this our own R.M.B. web site I would like to thank Roy Adrian and Jimmy Kay for the support that they are giving to me and my wife Sandra during these difficult times for us both. Have also had a hospital visit and loads of messages of support from John Barry Shucksmith who lives just down the road from me in Barton on Humber. You folks will never know what this support means to us both. Thanks to you one and all. Things are being sorted as regards scans etc so some sort of treatment can be worked out for me. Must get back to TV now Cockleshell Heroes is on. May have seen it before though.

---

message #: 1965

Date: Thursday December 24 2015 19:05:05 EST  
Name: Derek usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Boode Kernow but now Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet a small wooden box & a stick !  
n/a:

**Comments:**

To add to all other Christmas Greetings I too wish everyone whom I ever served with and those that I didn't the very Merriest of Christmases and a healthy and most of all peaceful 2016!

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1964

Date: Thursday December 24 2015 12:11:42 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Seasonal greetings to one and all. The memsahib and I wish you all a peaceful and happy Christmas.  
Mike.

---

message #: 1963

Date: Wednesday December 23 2015 10:53:52 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Both Heather and I send Seasons Greeting to all our great "Band Service Family" out there. Ive heard from Ray Woodfield Steve Savage Maurice Keat Brian Thorogood GINGE Deary Merv Durrant Terry (Stan) Puttrell many many more. We wish you Peaceful and healthy 2016. Kind regards Barry and Heather

---

message #: 1962

Date: Saturday December 12 2015 11:01:08 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
sorry to hear Nobby's news. We served together in Chatham back in the 60s. Stay strong old friend. Thinking of you and Sandra. Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1961

Date: Saturday December 12 2015 08:07:00 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi everyone...If you haven't received a card from me as usual it's because I'm still waiting for Paddy Dunn to come up with the RMA Concert Band Cards!! so as it's now the 12th and he is a bit dodderly I had better wish you all 'A Very Merry Christmas' be safe look after yourselves and your 'old relations' as most of us are now! Have a great New year and keep up with Dickie and this wonderful website that keeps us all in touch. Michael.

---

message #: 1960

Date: Saturday December 12 2015 05:21:21 EST  
Name: Herman (Nobby) Clarke.  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello to all on Band Website I wanted to thank my old pal Barry Radford for his kind remarks on the site that I saw this morning. Yes I remember well us meeting up on Retford Station to catch a steam train back up to Deal as Bandboys. That is looking back many years ago now but I remember them as happy days on the whole. They were a bit of tough times living in East Barracks but I would not change a thing.

---

message #: 1959

Date: Friday December 11 2015 14:43:27 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Sad to read Nobby's Thinking of you and Sandra. Stay strong old friend. long time since we used to meet up at Retford Station to travel by Steam Train to London then on to Deal as Band Boys. You are in mine and Heather's thoughts. Regards to all Barry

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1958

Date: Friday December 11 2015 13:23:01 EST  
Name: Clare Groves (nee Longman)  
Email: cchngroves@me.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Gosport  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
My father (John Longman RMB3433) was in the Royal Marine Band from the age of fourteen and left in 1971. I have recently found out that he played at the World Cup final 1966 and as I now have the programme from the day wondered if anyone had a photograph of the band playing? I would appreciate a copy or some suggestions of where I may be able to get one. Please reply to my email address. Thank you Clare Groves

---

message #: 1957

Date: Friday December 11 2015 03:59:36 EST  
Name: Herman (Nobby) Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Folks Just wanted to tell all my RMB pals that I am out of hospital at last. I have been told that I have cancer in the Pancreas which has also spread to the liver. Because of this my home care is being passed on to the Macmillan Nurses and with their help I can fight this which I intend to do. Thank you for all your care and concern. Nobby. [Dickie] On behalf of all our buddies I can assert that you are in our prayers Nobby. This Christmas has yet more meaning for us all welcoming the sacred birth. Joy through our pain. May you and Sandra have a special time with your family.

---

message #: 1956

Date: Friday December 4 2015 01:57:27 EST  
Name: Dan Archer  
Email: archer378@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RM22378  
Hometown: Kerikeri  
Instrument/s: Drum Major  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I am very sad to hear of Geoff Bishopp's death like others who have posted I served with Geoff in HMS Eagle 1967-1969. Always a quiet guy but very friendly I always liked him RIP Geoff

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1955

Date: Sunday November 29 2015 08:49:00 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: senapod@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Ctl/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard I have just heard the news that Lady Jill Garrod had passed away. She was the wife of the late Sir Martin Garrod who was well known in the Corps and a great supporter of the Band Service. Sad news indeed. Mike Jones

---

message #: 1954

Date: Tuesday November 24 2015 06:40:27 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sad to hear of the passing of Geoff this now means the two brothers are reunited in the Big Band in the Sky. I had the pleasure of knowing both during my time mainly at the home of the Dog Ends Chatham where Geoff was the Librarian they came from a sleepy little town not far from Deal called Wingham their parents had a Haberdashery shop right opposite the Black Dog public house a good a place as any in a village. My condolences to his family and all who like me had the pleasure to know and serve with him. Geoff Bishopp RIP

---

message #: 1953

Date: Sunday November 22 2015 05:40:39 EST  
Name: David [Jack] Kennedy  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3940  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
The funeral of Geoff Bishopp will take place at Weston Mill Crematorium Plymouth 1400 on Wednesday the 2nd of December. To correct my previous message Geoff passed away at 0630 on Monday 16 of November not Sunday. Regards Jack.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1952

Date: Saturday November 21 2015 14:58:40 EST  
Name: David Tremaine  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3928  
Hometown: Buckingham  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sorry to hear of Geoff Bishopp's passing. We were juniors together and also served on the Eagle with Mick Tellick Pip Phillips etc. Geoff was a gentleman who enjoyed life especially at tot time. I never saw him angry or heard him raise his voice. I have great memories of our times together. RIP Geoff

---

message #: 1951

Date: Saturday November 21 2015 07:06:36 EST  
Name: Peter (pip) Phillips  
Email: peter.phillips@live.com

Service Number: RMB3874  
Hometown: Gateshead  
Instrument/s: S/clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sad to hear of the passing of Geoff Bishop. I was a bit behind him in boys wing then met up again in Chatham Band. I remember he was kind enough to give me a lift home in his Hillman Imp if the band was ever late getting back from a gig. RIP Geoff

---

message #: 1950

Date: Saturday November 21 2015 06:54:32 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikelick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sad to hear of Geoff Bishopp's passing. We served together in the band aboard HMS Eagle on the 67/8 commission under Jock Brown's baton and thereafter in the C in C Western Fleet band under the redoubtable Peter Sumner. Geoff was a good shipmate to have around and was a laugh after a couple of sherberts. My condolences to Lesley and his family. RIP Geoff.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1949

Date: Friday November 20 2015 18:06:26 EST  
Name: Bob Taylor  
Email: Bob.taylor2311@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB4121  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to hear about the passing of Geoff Bishopp. I had the privilege of playing in string quartets with him during my time in Chatham Band. A big gentle man with a kind heart. My condolences to his family. RIP Geoff.

---

message #: 1948

Date: Friday November 20 2015 08:24:27 EST  
Name: Ivor South  
Email:

Service Number: QOO4252W  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just seen a post on the Blue Band Forum that former Band Colour Sergeant Geoff Bishopp passed away last Monday. RIP Geoff.

---

message #: 1947

Date: Friday November 20 2015 05:06:52 EST  
Name: David [Jack] Kennedy  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3940  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
To everyone who knew Geoff Bishopp I am sad to tell you that he passed away in Derriford Hospital Plymouth on Sunday 15 of November. I will post funeral details when known. Regards Jack.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1946

Date: Thursday November 19 2015 03:07:34 EST  
Name: Glyn &#39;Taff&#39; Thomas  
Email: mailto:glynthomas62@gmail.com

Service Number: Rmbx3224  
Hometown: Falmouth  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Re terry Parker in 61 terry & I were drafted to Singapore just the two of us! Off to heathrow! On board plane engines revving returned to stand!! All off! Engine trouble!! Terry & I back to hendon transit camp!! Next day boarded!!! All off FOG back to camp!! Next day were off!!!!!! Went to italy landed!! Engine trouble!!!!!! Back to heathrow!! I kid you not!!! Took off next day it took us four days to get to Singapore!!! Terry & I may have had one or two! In a pub outside the transit camp!! = can mike remind terry of this please.

---

message #: 1945

Date: Tuesday November 17 2015 10:36:09 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London and Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Great news that Terry Parker is back home and enjoying a little fruit juice! Who in the Staff Band circa 1962-66 could forget Terry...the butt of so many pejorative remarks from Fred. I can still hear his stentorian upper class voice turning towards the small door at the left of the stage: "PARKER!! PARKER!!...Where is Parker?" as the request for a missing 2nd violin part or the 3rd clarinet part of a march was considered by Fred to be the most important event in the world. Terry would eventually appear smartly attired and profusely apologetic for not having responded to the first of several requests from Viv. What patience he seemed to possess. Polite and efficient the missing part always appeared in barely an instant. His librarian skills astonished me. Quite how he dealt with the frequent overt and public criticism from Fred in front of the whole band I do not know...unlike the bootneck orderly who reputedly when Fred had been especially critical of him (clearly an ongoing psychological trait) would wrap Fred's boots in his white shirt before packing his case before an away engagement to gain his retribution! What happy days! Good luck and good health to all...especially Terry. Adrian

---

message #: 1944

Date: Monday November 16 2015 15:03:26 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clart  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Terry Parker latest. Terry is now back home and enjoyed a glass of wine with his dinner. He must be getting better!!! He does have to return to hospital in a couple of weeks to have further tests. Thanks again for your support. Mike [Editor] Great news midst the gloom. Best wishes to Terry from myself and on behalf of all our buddy pals. Dickie.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1943

Date: Monday November 16 2015 02:25:39 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: Miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Terry Parker update. Good morning folks I have just spoken with Beryl and the news is that Terry is still in hospital. He was supposed to go into theatre this morning to have the drain to his kidney removed under X-ray conditions. HOWEVER! on Saturday evening he called a nurse over and said "what's this tube doing here?" Terry had pulled it out whether by design or accident we don't know. He may come home today if the medics ok it. I have passed on all the messages from well wishers they know who they are and Beryl and Terry are most grateful for your support.. I will keep you all posted Mike

---

message #: 1942

Date: Monday November 9 2015 12:14:03 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear friends Just to let you know that Terry Parker is in the Medway Maritime Hospital to any Chatham rates it is the old Naval hospital. Without going into the medical details 'cos I am not a doctor (yet)! Terry has a problem with his kidneys. Beryl and I saw him this afternoon and he is a bit confused as to what is going to happen. I took him a grape for which he was most grateful or possibly even grapeful!! We chatted for half an hour by which time he had had enough of my witty banter. If any of his old shipmates from his days in the Staff Band or other drafts wish to send a message please do so through myself by email and I will pass them on to Beryl. They live only five minutes from me I can deliver quickly. Mike

---

message #: 1941

Date: Thursday November 5 2015 10:10:40 EST  
Name: Russ Ireland  
Email: hootertooter@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4105 (Q004105Q)  
Hometown: Aljezur, Portugal  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Fiddle  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Greeting to each and to all. Hoping that you all are well and looking forward to the various musical feasts that occur around this time. I don't get to hear much good music in Portugal as their diet is quite backward as far as we are concerned. I am really writing to offer an opinion about Bill Mathews' joke article in that is this relevant to these pages? As interesting as may be I don't quite see any connection to music etc. Sorry Bill. Wishing you all the very best for the future. Russ. [Editor] First I must praise God that you write so matter of factly as the most recent missive about you was dire to say the least. I dropped the ball re Bill's message but was so impressed by his ability to include the image that I let it go. Not many are successful in including images such is the complexity of the program. Good to hear from you and a healthy festive season and prosperous new year.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1940

Date: Tuesday November 3 2015 17:25:32 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3242  
Hometown: Tennyson (Australia)  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
This Could Have Saved Lives.  
William J C Matthews A Tuesday  
November 3 2015 An Open Letter to Aircraft Manufacturers  
Many years ago when I was about eleven or twelve years of age living in England I was reading  
a very popular comic called the "Eagle" I remember in one of the stories they published a blueprint for an  
Escape Pod not unlike the drawing below.

The  
year was about 1953 when a test pilot by the name of John Derry went through the sound barrier at the Farnborough Air  
show. (I was there that day) The DH110 that he was flying came along the runway and at about 12 feet he then pulled  
into a climb banking left and intending to fly back over the crowd at around 500 feet the twin boom of the plane came  
apart with the 2 engines continuing on and hitting the crowd killing about 62 people I'm sure that had he had an escape  
pod of this type he may have survived and I think that my fear of flying comes from having experienced this at the  
time. Since that time I have flown in many aircraft and watched with some dismay at the  
development of the industry and I am so angry that the designers have not come up with a system like the one pictured  
above I have mentioned it to people in the industry before but was always told it would be too heavy ? That may have  
been so back then but with the power of the engines used today if they jettisoned some of the other things like a TV  
screen behind every seat it could be possible to integrate the above design ? They did it back in the 1960's for the  
space program I'm just hoping that any aircraft designers reading this will take up  
the challenge. It is now 2015 and we have had three very tragic accidents during the last 12 months so come on guys and  
girls get your act into gear and help people enjoy their flights into the future. Yours  
Faithfully Bill Matthews.

---

message #: 1939

Date: Monday November 2 2015 05:15:47 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello to all my friends from 4/65 New Entry Squad. Well 50 years ago today we were all travelling toward Deal  
to take the Queen's Shilling (you'll be Sorry! was heard from the back of the drill shed) to embark on an experience  
that was to shape us all into the people we are today. I for one look back on the experience with great pride  
and satisfaction and still feel that pride when I recall my time in the greatest Military Musical Organisation in the  
World. So much has happened over the last 50 years First Man on the Moon Concorde The Falklands War The Terrible  
Bombing at the School of Music 9/11 The Internet and much much more and still the Royal Marines Bands are regarded as  
the Best in the World. So to Dickie Alan Andy Max Peter Simmo Willi & John I wish you all a Happy  
Anniversary and wish you good health & happiness. Very Best Wishes Ray

---

message #: 1938

Date: Sunday November 1 2015 14:58:21 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London and Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Contrary to Jem Tugwood's post I must say that I did not personally encounter any "gay abandon in boys'  
wing".....but speak as you find Jem!!!!!! Adrian

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1937

Date: Saturday October 31 2015 03:26:20 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/ claret/ vjn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Having just read Willi 's post brought back to me the exact feelings and emotions he describes I was in the 4/58 squad so a couple of years behind but his recollections are exactly the same as mine. I have to admit it was a terrific shock to the system but as the days weeks and months passed and I got to understand much of the Marine speak used with gay abandon in boys wing and found out I was able to reply to what months before was complete foreign babble. The next big thing in my life was getting 9 o'clock shore leave at the weekends and at 16 on Wednesdays too life was getting better and better the next best thing to happen was getting a girlfriend in Deal and suddenly I WAS FLYING!! Great times indeed and even better to come for the best part of 25 years what was not to like well there were some not so good times but they are hard to remember now. Best wishes Jem

---

message #: 1936

Date: Friday October 30 2015 06:30:23 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
GREETINGS to all who joined in the 7/56 NEW ENTRY SQUAD on 30th October 1956. I am very happy to be in touch with Roger Mick Phil and Frank good friends and fine musicians that they became and if any other survivors of our squad read this please get in contact with me. The big news on that day 59 years ago was that the SUEZ CRISIS started a fact that bypassed us in our little world in K Block where we never saw a newspaper and were too busy to hear any BBC news on the barrack's wireless relay system. As most of us were just 14 years old there was hardly time to glance at a copy of the BEANO DANDY or EAGLE ... our preferred reading at that age! No we concentrated on keeping our ill-fitting denim fatigue trousers up learning how to spit and polish and bluebell our brasses with the use of a button stick and unravelling the mystery of the HUSSIF (housewife!) with the help of the incredibly posh but very nice QARNNS Sisters. We were shouted at by the drill staff and the PTIs ... "up the wallbars (up the octave!!) GO!!!!" ... and lay in bed listening to the mournful sighing of the Goodwin Lightship's foghorn thinking of home and family and wondering if we had done the right thing in joining up. The answer to that is quite simple ... where else would I have found comrades shipmates fellow musicians and friends that could match those who I was proud and honoured to serve with? BLESS THEM ALL!!!!!!

---

message #: 1935

Date: Sunday October 25 2015 00:37:40 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3242  
Hometown: Tennyson (Australia)  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dicky I did that maybe it was because I attached the Photo of Sylvia & I in the Valley of Giants when we went on tour to WA last month I have forgotten what my message was but I think it went something like a feeling of sadness when we hear of all the folks we used to know passing on & realising that there is not a lot we can do about it we also said we are both in good health and enjoying our senior years and we sent you and all your readers our love and best wishes for Christmas and 2016. Yours Faithfully Bill & Sylvia Matthews. [Editor] Yes indeed the photo cannot be inserted as I have tried doing it my end also. We are happy to hear from the Matthews' and I echo their sentiment of best wishes for a peaceful Christmas and a healthy and prosperous 2016.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1934

Date: Friday October 23 2015 15:12:44 EST  
Name: Paddy Semple  
Email: contactjackiesemple@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3868  
Hometown: Carrickfergus  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello to anyone who left home 54 years ago today to start training in the Depot Deal as a member of 6/61 New Entry Squad . Time flies when you are enjoying yourself but it seemed to take a bit longer then. Hope you are keeping well Dickie.

---

message #: 1933

Date: Thursday October 22 2015 16:16:54 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Onetime Bassoon BassDrum and Eflat Baton  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Charlie Bill and all others of us who joined 63 years ago on Trafalgar Day 21October 1952. How time flies when your having fun. A quick reminder once again. The Adelaide Reunion of ex Bandies will be held on the first weekend of April 2016. That is the 1st 2nd and 3rd.. Why not come and join us. You will not be disappointed.

---

message #: 1932

Date: Wednesday October 21 2015 09:52:37 EST  
Name: Charlie Laws  
Email: charles@charleslaws.wanadoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X3057  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Swimming and water polo coach (cornet)  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I know this has taken it's time to come out but Dave (Aggy) Weston who worked in the Instrument workshop passed away late last year. I have been given permission by his wife Midge to publish on our web site. He passed away with an enlarged heart and he went peacefully. RIP

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1931

Date: Thursday October 15 2015 11:57:58 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Hi Richard just like to say many many thanks to all of our friends who have sent me cards and birthday greeting for my 75 Birthday today!!! Fantastic reunion last weekend great to see so many old friends and ship mates. So sorry you couldn't make it Richard but you were in our thoughts. Especially on Sunday in the Cathedral. What fantastic music making from both the orchestra and choir. Regards to all Barry

---

message #: 1930

Date: Wednesday October 14 2015 10:26:09 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: rmb 3645  
Hometown: Bude Cornwall - Now Pompey!  
Instrument/s: cornet & Fiddle  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Sadly for the first time in a very long time I missed the Saturday Night reunion this year due to a pre-arranged engagement with my son! However I more than made up for it on the Sunday commencing with another glorious Cathedral Service featuring the combined orchestra of both RMB Collingwood and the now Portsmouth Royal Band who were of course as good as ever. We were treated to no less than five well known pieces that one or two of us may have had the pleasure of playing in the past but I have to say that this orchestra's interpretation was sublime. For those interested they opened with Ernest Tomlinson's "Little Serenade" (Ernest - well known for his light music compositions - sadly passed away in June of this year aged 91). Two pieces by Composer Gabriel Faure then followed (1) Morceau de concours featuring the beautiful flute playing of a musician whose name I'm not familiar with right now unfortunately. (Someone may know as he deserves much credit. - Adrian Brett you would have approved I'm sure of that!) (2) The haunting "Pavane" was next up to once again expose some more fine playing by the same flautist who was joined by the excellent oboe clarinet and string playing of this fine orchestra. Flute: Daniel Bennett and Natalie Wade Clarinet: Rachel Wright and Sarah Hope Oboe: Ellie Wilson Angela Duggen and Zara Davies. Gounod's famous Judex from "Mors et Vita" really showed the orchestra off to it's fullest I thought. It's a simple yet paradoxically difficult piece to play well - each section having to be right 'on the ball' with the lovely melody being so exposed throughout. Lastly came the dramatic "Heroic Elegy" (a tribute to soldiers) by Ernest Farrar. - sadly his last known composition before being shot in the Battle of Ephey in Ronnsay France. Just another example of an awful waste talent of such a young man at the time. (Just 33yrs old!) Anyway I note that I've got carried away here so suffice to say that the whole service was as moving as it's ever been with the excellent Choir featuring with orchestra in Hubert Parry's "I Was Glad." Later we saw the premiere of a brand new new composition for Choir written by RM Musician James Dunlop entitled "Deal" - in tribute to our 11 Bandsmen obviously. Needless to say it was truly moving. Well done James. The Dedication Fanfare trumpets were as ever and continued to set the hairs on the back of the neck stand up! Add to this the final hymn with Vaughan Williams arrangement of "All People That on earth do dwell" and the orchestra's final selection of "Finlandia" and I thought perhaps I might be growing some more hair but alas one glance in the mirror on completion soon put paid to that little thought! Nice meet up with many old comrades outside of the cathedral that also included both a couple of special old DoM's Ted Whealing and Dave Cole before repairing to the RMA Club (Although for Ian Thomas Hooky Walker and it was via the Dolphin Pub opposite!) Great catch ups there with good old Baz (Barry) Radford Merv' "the Swerv" Durrant and a nice old chat with one of the best trumpet players the corps has seen Sid Rose who I've not seen since J Wing and someone he remembered me straight away and soon reminded me of the potential I once had but didn't pursue it as I should have done. He was dead right of course and much regret for yours truly but at 18 I wasn't that bothered back then. I'd passed out and could do a job and thought that was really all I needed to do as long as I kept playing every day! Sadly for some it's only later in life do you look back and say "if only..." Great to see Mik Hickman Roger Hetherington Barry Pettit Tony "Oily" Oliver again too. Sorry I missed you Jem Tugwood and Pam this time. "Was difficult at the Cathedral and I arrived too late at the RMA club! Catch you next year undoubtedly old chap! Later I took off down to support the RMB v Betteshanger Colliery boys in the Annual Rugby game staged this year at HMS Temeraire. Needless to say Capt Andy Gregory and his RMB boys came out victorious with cups presented by PDM Col. Nick Grace before retiring to the clubhouse for a great rest of the day meeting up with many currently serving RMB's as well as some more of our own boys. Altogether a great time was had by all as the remaining time became an alcoholic blur. Just missed you this year Mr Valentine! Shame you had 'snags' in making it. Catch ya in 2016! ....if we're spared!!!! :-)

---

message #: 1929

Date: Wednesday October 14 2015 05:25:16 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Reunion 2015 Hi Dickie Returned safely from another enjoyable Reunion in Pompey from the New Entry Squad 4/65 we had 3 members Max Hill Peter Holloway & Me we were so sorry that due to circumstances beyond your control that you were unable to join us you were sadly missed. The 3 of us recalled stories of our first 6 weeks which brought much laughter & tears it seems incredible that this is our 50th anniversary of joining and I suppose like all human beings over those 50 years we have experienced love sadness joy & pride which we shared with each other I hope you are ok and will be able to join us next year. To all RMBs past & present I wish you good health & happiness Ray

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1928

Date: Wednesday October 7 2015 10:17:13 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Joe Fairclough was Drum Major and CSM at HMS Drake in 1962...my first draft out of 'J' wing. A very pleasant man who was well liked by the band (albeit mercilessly teased behind his back!!). Being the sole bootneck and totally outnumbered by bandies I think he very slowly began to appreciate our unique humour and more relaxed attitude to the Corps!! RIP Joe.

---

message #: 1927

Date: Wednesday October 7 2015 05:51:22 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have just read on the RMA website that CH/x 5312 exC/Sgt J. Fairclough has crossed the bar. Joe was a Drum Major for many years and I served with him in "Drake" in 1960/1. His funeral will take place at 1200 on Monday October 12th at Efford Crematorium Plymouth PL3 6NG. Rip Joe

---

message #: 1926

Date: Thursday October 1 2015 04:13:11 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Family and many friends gave Albert a great send off yesterday at the Porchester Crematorium. The quartet from the RMA Concert Band played some of Alberts favourite music 'Early One Morning' then some wonderful tributes from family and friends. Music from the Band 'Linden Lea' some lovely poems read by two of Bert's sons last post and finally the 'Regimental March' played by the quartet. Farewell Bert we shall all miss you.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1925

Date: Tuesday September 29 2015 11:38:05 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sad to report the death of Roger Aplin in Spain recently. The funeral was held today (29/9/15). No other details available. He was also a Hampshire Police officer. Requestat in Pace.

---

message #: 1924

Date: Tuesday September 29 2015 06:12:18 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Russ (Taff) Thomas Can someone please email Taff's postal address Stan Hacking (who was unable to attend the funeral) would like to write to his widow your help in doing this would be greatly appreciated. Well ticket has arrived accomodation is booked at the Royal Maritime Hotel so looking forward to seeing lots of my old pals at the upcoming Reunion. Can anyone suggest somewhere close & safe to park my car (I will try to get into the park at the Royal Maritime Hotel but understand it is limited). Sadly for me I am struggling to walk far (I need to have a hip replacement) so any advice would be great Best wishes to all ex bandies Ray

---

message #: 1923

Date: Friday September 25 2015 11:46:43 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi again Richard. Sad to read of the passing of Polly Perkins. I served with him for a short time with 3Cdo Brigade. RIP Polly. Regarding those attending the Reunion who joined up in 1956. Mike Tellick or I will be willing to add your names to the list for the 56 Ers one off Reunion next March. It was initially intending to be a 2/56 Reunion but seeing that there are only 4 of us left!!!! we opened it up for all 56Ers Wives or Partners. Due to limited space afraid we have to limit it to that chosen few. Regards to all. Once again hope to see lots of you in Portsmouth for the Reunion for all of our great family. Kind regards Barry

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1922

Date: Thursday September 24 2015 17:13:02 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Onetime Bassoon BassDrum and Eflat Baton  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard It is my sad duty to inform you that Gordon (Polly) Perkins passed away yesterday (24/9 /15) Australian time after a long illness. Polly had lived in Western Australia since the early 1960s. This information was passed to me Via his son Ray and more info will be sent on as soon as I know it I served with him in the Band of CinC Nore Command Chatham in the late 1950s and then again in the Band of 3CdoBde in Singapore in the mid 60s. As I remember he was a fine Violinist and Ctl/Alto player. As I have yet to gain more info if those wishing to pass on condolence messages then feel free to do so through me.

---

message #: 1921

Date: Thursday September 24 2015 14:17:59 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Some positive news. I have been to Walton Centre today for an MOT and Tweek to my "Gizmo" so I will probably now glow in the dark. But they are very pleased with the results of pain relief I am benefitting from by using the said "Gizmo"!!! They have now programmed it so I can use whilst sleeping which will be amazing. So I am now fully charged and ready for the Reunion next month. Heather and I hope to see lots of old and really good friends again. (looking forward to a big hug from you Richard) Once again many thanks for all that you do for our great big family and the friendly manner you do it!!!! Regards to all see you in October. Barry

---

message #: 1920

Date: Thursday September 24 2015 10:33:44 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury Somerset.  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi All Further to the comments by the Web Master frankly I don't consider you a Mate so please desist from that vernicular as I used to remind my Prison Convicts when taking Applications Don't call Me Mate! On the Bright Side I am at last happy to view the Order of Service for my Old Shipmate Squaddie and Friend of some 63 years and long ago forgave hime for being a Taffy..... some may get that eh? Most of the Last East Indies Commission on HMS Gambia appear now to have crossed the Bar and as and when any news of the passing of others comes to my notice I will out of respect for them advise the Web Master accordingly. Anyone wishing to contact me may do so at the email address attached to this message. (Editor) It would seem my outreach prior to your latest was poorly received by the master of bombast. My conscience is clear and I'll leave your poor use of grammar and inept spelling for those who know better to correct for themselves. It would be good to just be quiet bearing in mind my burying of mine hatchet. I'm doubtful your bedside manner as a prison officer was conducive to giving the offender an opportunity to rehabilitate. Consider 'mate' as a figure of speech in this case not someone whom I warm to but as I said..... "life is too short" and we all see that day by day. Anyone wishing (should they feel so inclined) to contact Mr H then do so and NOT through this medium. Thank you.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1919

Date: Monday September 21 2015 15:46:01 EST  
Name: Richard (Dickie) Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston (and bloomin' proud!)  
Instrument/s: Piano Clarinet Voice Vibraphone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Thank you Mr. Hartland for an apology that I will grandfather in with respect to all your previous messages that got under my skin. I'm over it! Life is too short mate. Bearing no malice it is always more productive to be humble. There is too little time but so very much more to do. Oh! Welcome back to the buddy list. Just be cool eh!? Dickie

---

message #: 1918

Date: Monday September 21 2015 11:02:06 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a:

Comments:  
Oops and apologies wishing my life away yet again. Yes Eric it was October 21st so despite your woeful health problems your mind is still sound eh? Sorry too to the Editor massive error by me.

---

message #: 1917

Date: Monday September 21 2015 06:17:06 EST  
Name: Charlie Laws  
Email: charles@charleslaws.wanadoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X3057  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Swimming and water polo coach (cornet)  
n/a:

Comments:  
Remember the day very well all 4ft7ins I still swim most days of the week coach swimming including channel swimming. My friend who joined with me Doc Waites has passed over the bar. Saw Taff last year still called me Bubbles.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1916

Date: Sunday September 20 2015 17:48:51 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Onetime Bassoon BassDrum and Eflat Baton  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Bill Trafalgar Day OCTOBER 21 not as you have it as September. However I will along with you say Hi to all of our intake who are left. Only seems like yesterday that we all arrived in East Barracks.

---

message #: 1915

Date: Sunday September 20 2015 16:46:57 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmira1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a:

Comments:  
So today marks not only the Anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar but the New Entry into the RMSM of himself with about sixty others. Some stayed for the whole of the Course others fell by the wayside so to all those of us who are still left Happy Anniversary of 63 years ok I know there are those still around who joined before us but I think we were taken in owing to the massive losses of WW2 and the impending departure of those who were still in uniform but due to retire. I really wonder how many of those who entered East Barracks into 'L' Block are left to tell the tale? I really would like to hear from anyone of our number if they care to get in touch with me. Two of our number have crossed the Bar in the past few weeks namely Russ Thomas who joined up with myself and also served on HMS Gambia and Graham Dench who also served on HMS Gambia as part to the Last East Indies Commission.

---

message #: 1914

Date: Saturday September 19 2015 04:19:50 EST  
Name: Trevor Lintott  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx 2448  
Hometown: Egletons France  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It is with great sadness I learned of the passing of ALBERT HALL. We first knew one another at school. We had our own band taught by an ex RMB bandmaster who had seen action at Gallipoli. Parading on the cold flight deck of the carrier THESEUS in HONG KONG 1951 we were not aware that coming round the island to relieve us was our sister carrier the GLORY. We immediately sailed off for home unaware that we were replaced by a band headed by ALBERT and Terry Freestone on their new commission. ALBERT was a friend generous to a fault and assisted in our schools "Old Boys Association" and attended a centenary reunion in 2003. RIP ALBERT you will long be remembered.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1913

Date: Wednesday September 16 2015 10:20:46 EST  
Name: Ray Watts  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2349  
Hometown: Ramsbury  
Instrument/s: Sax/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Very sorry to hear that Albert Hall has passed away. We joined together in Scarborough as part of 98 squad. After boys service our paths never crossed. We did meet up again at the all the All Stars in 2001 a gap of 53 years.  
RIP Albert

---

message #: 1912

Date: Monday September 14 2015 15:24:26 EST  
Name: David (Pony) Moore  
Email: variedmood@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB/X3262  
Hometown: Littlehampton  
Instrument/s: Clarinet Sax Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I was very saddened to hear of the sudden passing of Albert such a lovely gent'. In July 1958 Albert was the B/Sgt of FO2's Band in the Far East my first band made up by a large number of youngsters just out of J Wing. During our 18 months we had five ships including HMS Belfast. However Albert and the BM D J Smith kept all us youngsters on the straight and narrow very effectively. For the rest of my service I never came across Albert but that all changed when I joined the RMA Concert Band two years ago where he was playing his tuba to the same high standard and was still the absolute gentleman and fine musician I'd known all those years ago. Seven weeks ago Albert came on his second RMA Band sailing cruise for a week around the Solent in the corps yacht 'Ocean Wave' which he thoroughly enjoyed so much so that he thoughtfully gave me (the skipper) a beautiful painting of yachts sailing into Pompy past the the Round Tower. This was a typical thoughtful gesture. I will always think of you Albert when I look at that painting hanging in a special place in our home. R.I.P Albert

---

message #: 1911

Date: Sunday September 13 2015 06:48:42 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email: terryfreestone@vfast.co.uk

Service Number: RMBx 2505  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Albert my old shipmate from the carrier GLORY 1950-3. His passing leaves just Dennis Brown and myself the two solo cornets as survivors. Bert was a sound reliable musician on both bombardon and string bass versatile and experienced which was so necessary in a band of 16. During this long commission of 2 1/2 years in which the band's main role was flight deck ammunition party he spent a lot of off-duty time as ship's photographer and he had a very advanced camera for those days taking many pics of planes landing- on in various shot-up states from sorties over North Korea which sold well when exhibited in the canteen flat. After our return to UK in July 53 we didn't meet again until 1961 Bandmasters' class during which most of the summer months we brass were bolstering the fanfare party of Fred's Deal Staff band at diverse locations such as the Royal Highland Show Edinburgh and Lymington Tattoo so well away from our studies of passing 6/4s and consecutive 5ths and Octaves with Prof Ernie Stride in the 3rd Dragoon Rooms. However most of us passed one way or another and other than instructing duties in J Wing we rarely saw each other again in the next ten years. After he went to pension in 1970 he became a most effective civil service Executive Officer at Centurion Gosport having as Ray Alberry has explained passed the exam with a very high mark. This was unsurprising as Bert always showed a very high level of intelligence and character; unsurprising as years of mess-deck living usually exposes most peoples nature and temperament. I last saw him at the Leas Cliff Hall Folkestone a couple of years ago with the RMA Concert Band and he hardly seemed changed though now in the 80s rather than the 20s. Goodbye old friend and may this run-ashore be the best ever Terry. [Editor] This message posted by myself for Terry due to technical difficulties.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1910

Date: Saturday September 12 2015 09:01:25 EST  
Name: Peter Yetman  
Email: petesworkshop@fsmail.net

Service Number: Q003325S  
Hometown: Crawley Sussex  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I was so sorry and saddened to hear that Albert had died and wish to pass condolences from myself and my wife to all his family Living in Gosport we came across each other on many occasions. During his time as the BM of the Gosport Silver Band he would visit my workshop to get the odd 'knock' sorted and our paths crossed frequently when we both worked at Centurion. As all who knew him said in other tributes Albert was a true gentlemen to the end and doing what he liked most being engaged in music. At peace now with his beloved wife Diane

---

message #: 1909

Date: Thursday September 10 2015 02:26:26 EST  
Name: Herman (Nobby)Clarke.  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I thought that I should pass on some news that I received from Maxie Beare about his wife Kath. As mentioned before Kath had a fall in her care home some time ago and was taken to hospital with broken bones. He tells me now that in hospital Kath has had yet another fall and has had a stroke. Both Maxie and Kath are having a bad time recently and is asking for all our thoughts and prayers.

---

message #: 1908

Date: Wednesday September 9 2015 18:25:16 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Bude Cornwall - Now Pompey!  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Fiddle  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I've held off adding my condolences to dear Albert as his family asked us to refrain from doing so until his family were fully informed. I'm glad to say that they have all been given the sad news now and we're all free to pay our own tributes to the lovely man. Their request was really aimed at the social media and I'm quite sure that none of his family will have seen anything on this site as it's not quite so public. Suffice to say that we in the RMA Concert Band have been dealt a severe shock by his passing as he has been so fit and well for a person in his mid 80's and hardly ever missed any of our rehearsals or gigs. Sadly he was due to play in our most recent concert at Bognor Regis on Sunday 6th Sept but failed to turn up. This was considered odd for Albert not to have informed anyone. Sadly it turned out that he was in fact all set to leave for that gig for his car was found outside his home with the keys in the ignition his tuba in the boot and his joining instructions and directions on his front seat. He must have popped back in to check something but never made it out again. It's so damned sad for as many know he was not only a damned good musician and "pot" player but he's been genuinely one of the nicest guys you could encounter - both in the Band service and as a person. He made time for everyone and always had an interesting anecdote to tell you. He was just good company and belied his age totally. - Oddly only the week before last I was chatting to him after rehearsal in the RMA club and the age subject came up. I told him that he was very much odds on to become the first nonagenarian. He laughed of course but said "Do you know I bloody well hope so!" Albert was always going to go on playing so much! At the very least we can all comfort ourselves in the knowledge that he went out for him as he loved playing so much! The way he would have liked which was to play his music to the very end. Albert was also my Bandmaster at Whaley (CinC's Home Fleet Band) 1968 -70 and right back then he was exactly the same. A true gent who earned the respect of all who came into contact with him. He lost his dear wife only last year and I know that he missed her terribly but somehow he managed to gradually immerse himself back into the band again and with the support of his close family he appeared to be very much back on track and had kept himself busy ever since. Albert you really are going to be sorely missed old chap and tomorrow's rehearsal is going to feel extremely empty without you We all salute you. RIP

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1907

Date: Wednesday September 9 2015 09:51:23 EST  
Name: RAY ALBERRY  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: DONCASTER  
Instrument/s: SOLO CORNET  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I'VE JUST READ THE SAD NEWS ABOUT BERT HALL. I FIRST MET BERT WHEN HE WAS IN PLYMOUTH GROUP BAND. AND YEARS LATER SERVED AS HIS B/SGT IN HMS ARIEL(FOAC) WHILST THERE IN A CUPBOARD IN THE BAND OFFICE WE FOUND A FEW DIARIES FROM BANDMASTERS SERVING ON SHIPS IN THE 1ST WORLD WAR.. LIKE ALL BANDIES IN SQUARE NUMBERS IN 1964 IF THEY HAD TO DO GUEST NIGHTS AND DIVISIONS A LOT THEY DRIPPED IN THE BAND ROOM. SO BERT GOT THESE DIARIES OUT AND READ EXTRACTS FROM THEM.: BANDSMEN COALING SHIP THEN MARCHING THE RM DETATCMET 50 MILES FROM PORTMOUTH TO A COASTAL PLACE NEAR BRIGHTON. IN THE END ARIEL BAND STARTED ASKING US TO READ THESE DIARIES TO SEE HOW THE BAND SERVICE WAS IN THOSE DAYS. WHEN WE BOTH GOT DRAFTED TO DEAL I TO THE BAND MASTERS CLASS AND BERT TO J WING AS AN INSTRUCTOR WE LEFT THOSE OLD DIARIES AND I DO NOT KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM. I ALSO SERVED WITH BERT AT WHALEY UNTIL HE WENT TO PENSION. HE FOUND THAT ALL HIS EDUCATION SCHOOL CERTIFICATES WERE OUT OF DATE. FOR ENTERING THE CIVIL SERVICE SO HE TOOK THAT SHORT EVT COURSE. AND SAT THE CIVIL SERVICE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS EXAM AND THE RESULT WAS HE CAME OUT ONE OF THE HIGHEST PASSES IN YEARS TO BECOME A HO AT HMS CENTURION. I GIGGED WITH HIM IN SMALL DANCE BANDS LATER ON IN CIVVY STREET.. ALSO ON TIME AND NEVER LET YOU DOWN. TRULY A GUY OF THE FIRST ORDER.

---

message #: 1906

Date: Tuesday September 8 2015 18:12:35 EST  
Name: Jim Mason  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2353  
Hometown: Bedhampton  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sorry to hear about Albert Hall. He and I Joined together in 98 Squad the last squad to join via the wartime system Scarborough and Howstrake Camp Isle of Man. The Junior Wing moved to Burford after Summer Leave 1946 and I met up with Albert on a number of occasions in succeeding years but never again served with him. He will be sadly missed.

---

message #: 1905

Date: Tuesday September 8 2015 17:43:51 EST  
Name: John Bushell  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4003  
Hometown: Dunfermline  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
Sorry to hear the passing of one of my Bass Instructors Albert Hall. Albert was a true gentleman and whilst under training I never heard him raise his voice. Condolences to his family. RIP Albert John Bushell

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1904

Date: Tuesday September 8 2015 14:33:17 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
I like many others am truly saddened to hear the news re- Albert Hall. I served with Albert in HMS Excellent . He was such a mild mannered man and a real gentleman. I don't think I ever heard him raise his voice in anger. Another great loss from our Band Service Family. RIP Albert. Thanks for many great memories. Barry Radford

---

message #: 1903

Date: Tuesday September 8 2015 10:27:42 EST  
Name: David Mutter  
Email: dam6567@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
I am saddened to hear of Albert Hall's passing. I can remember how respected he was by the tuba/Dbass class when I was in J Wing although I was a euph/cello class member. Bert was my Bandmaster when at HMS Excellent. After that I met up with him again at the annual All Stars Band at Margate and with the RMA Concert Band in Portsmouth. I had by this time taken up the tuba and so was in the same section as Bert. He was a very loyal and committed musician whose talents were never broadcast by himself but was appreciated by others. My condolences go to his family at this difficult time. RIP Albert

---

message #: 1902

Date: Tuesday September 8 2015 03:37:25 EST  
Name: paul collett  
Email: tubby.tuba@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3827  
Hometown: Wimborne  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I was so sorry to hear of the passing of Albert Hall. Albert was my Instructor at Deal and fellow player in the RMACB when the band first formed and at the All Stars at Margate. He was a true gent. Paul Collett

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1901

Date: Monday September 7 2015 21:01:06 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
Stan Hacking's 80th Birthday On Monday 14th September 2015 Stan will be 80 as many of you know he has not had the best of health over recent years but he remains positive and struggles through but I know it would cheer him up no end if as many of his old colleagues as possible could send him a Birthday card on this special day. His address is: Mr S. Hacking 4 Clyst Holt Avenue Exeter EX2 7TQ. Here's hoping Ray

---

message #: 1900

Date: Monday September 7 2015 15:26:07 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
It is very sad news to report the passing of Albert Hall. Yesterday afternoon  
The RMA Concert Band were in Bognor Regis about to perform a 3PM Concert in the local Theatre. We were all concerned at rehearsal time that Bert had not turned up as he was always on time as a regular in the Bass Section in fact principal Tuba. Unfortunately we were later to learn that Bert had put his Tuba in the car keys were in the ignition and he must have gone back into his house perhaps feeling unwell. We have now been informed of his passing so it's a very sad day for all members of the RMA Band and of course for all of you who would have known him. I have known Bert for most of my life. We were both in the 1961 B/Ms Class along with Benn Finney Terry Freestone Len Green Jim Robertson Denis Brown Fred Mathias and Ron Rowson and although a couple of those guys may no longer be with us I am sure that there will be many of you who will remember our Bert? RIP Albert. Michael Hutton.

---

message #: 1899

Date: Monday September 7 2015 12:49:37 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo

Service Number: RMB 3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Rich Russ Thomas's funeral will be held on Tuesday 15th at 11.30 at Western Mill crematorium in Plymouth. I also have to tell you of the passing of Gordon Millar (euph/cello). His funeral will be on Monday 14th at Efford Crematorium at 11.00

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1898

Date: Wednesday August 26 2015 01:55:18 EST  
Name: glyn taff thomas  
Email: glynthomas62@gmail.com

Service Number: rmbx3224  
Hometown: falmouth  
Instrument/s: solo cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to hear the news that Russ Taff Thomas has joined the big band in the sky! A legend of the Plymouth group band! RIP Russ.

---

message #: 1897

Date: Tuesday August 25 2015 10:32:09 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: Rmb 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/ clarinet/vln  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Have just returned from a week or so in Spain and have just heard the news of Maxie having another heart attack as with Derek's message I would be grateful if my best wishes for a speedy recovery could be conveyed to Max and also to Kath who has had a fall. I had many very happy years playing alongside Max on the Yacht and in BoraBora Maderia and many other places which Max managed to fix up. Get well soon both Max and dear Kath Best wishes Jem

---

message #: 1896

Date: Tuesday August 25 2015 08:59:08 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Bude (Booode Kernow!) but now Pompey.  
Instrument/s: Cornet a small wooden box & a stick!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello Rich! Just seen Nobby's post re. Maxie Beare's recent heart attack and subsequently passed this on to his old top brass playing buddy at Eastney - Dave Stockham. As Dave is not a p.c. user he's asked if we can please pass on his very best wishes to Max for a speedy recovery and he hopes that his wife recovers from her fall as soon as too! They spent many happy times at Eastney together and on "The yacht" of course! - Dave often recounts some stories of their time together there. He said to ask if Max can remember when they duoad the Posthorns in the Mountbatten Room in the Officers Mess? (It's now part of the RM Museum and rehearsal room for the RMA Concert Band!) Apparently they were to both perform from the room above that has opening windows to the room below. It was Jim Mason's idea that it would be very effective coming from both sides up there. However Max couldn't appear from his window until quite a few bars in due the bl"dy window mechanism jamming! Dave remembers that he could hardly play for laughing and neither could the rest of the band when they looked up to see Max's predicament as he fought hard to release the catch!! - Good job it wasn't live TV!!! Anyway if you would do this Nobby (or pass to whoever you know has the best contact?) that'd be good and I'll let "Stocks" know. All the best Maxie!  
Derek Usher.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1895

Date: Monday August 24 2015 13:16:52 EST  
Name: Herman (Nobby) Clarke.  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Maxie Beare has been in Hospital again after having yet another Heart Attack. He also has a Gastro Problem. To make matters worse his wife Kath has had a fall in her care home and she is also now in Hospital. I feel sure all members of our RMB family would like to know that our thoughts and prayers are with them at this time.

---

message #: 1894

Date: Sunday August 23 2015 06:12:04 EST  
Name: Charlie Laws  
Email: charles@charleslaws.wanadoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X3057  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Swimming and water polo coach (cornet)  
n/a:

Comments:  
Sorry to hear news that Taff has passed over the bar joined up with him 21st Oct 1952. Last time we met he still called me bubbles something I got tagged with when joining up he said he could never remember my name. RIP Taff.

---

message #: 1893

Date: Saturday August 22 2015 10:54:46 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo

Service Number: RMB 3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It is with sadness that I have to tell you that Russ (Taff) Thomas passed away this morning I will post more details as I learn them. Dave Lambert

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1892

Date: Thursday August 20 2015 05:08:34 EST  
Name: Mike Hlckman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Re Stan's request for Rodney Williamson. I attended the Funeral for dear Sid in Deal a few weeks ago and asked someone if they had heard or seen Rodney of late no was the answer. I last saw him at the Deal concert last year just after he had lost his dear wife. I know from that meeting that he was still living in the Whistable area but at the cricket club after Sids burial I was told that he may or is moving to Scotland to be close to his son. Should be able to gather more info I will pass it on. [Editor] Thank you Mike. We have one or two others who are keeping watch for this important search.

---

message #: 1891

Date: Tuesday August 18 2015 16:30:01 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi All I find it quite disturbing that I keep receiving into my Inbox a message with some 54 email addresses entered into the CC line. The message is in reference to Reflux Medicine. Has anyone else received this kind of message with all of those email addresses shown? Having suffered a massive Bill to rid my computers of a Trojan I do think it timely for everyone to be reminded not to forward messages with others email addresses. Simple to enter addresses into the BCC or make an address group so that you only enter the Group Address. Sorry that I was unable to attend the get together in Exeter recently but business prevented my travelling down to Exeter on this occasion but should such an event be announced in future I would hope that I could support it. It is with regret that I have closed the HMS Gambia Web Site along with the HMS Kenya Association Web Site due to a number of reasons not least the lack of support from Members of Both Associations.

---

message #: 1890

Date: Thursday August 13 2015 06:16:53 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Stan Hackings Lunchtime Session! Well that was brilliant! 6 of us enjoyed our little get together unfortunately Derek Roberts & Frank Dominey were unable to join us but we had Stan Trevor (Bruno) Brown John (JD) Dunn Colin Brocklebank Dave (Griff) Griffin and myself had a great time. Much laughter and pi\*\* taking taking place all enjoyed it JD suggested we should write a book but I am not sure we could find a publisher! Still some stories get better with age and embellishment!! Another session will be planned I look forward to seeing many of you in Pompey for the Reunion. Good Health & Best wishes to all ex RMBs

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1889

Date: Thursday August 6 2015 11:30:27 EST  
Name: Taff Ryan  
Email: taffryan51shug@gmail.com

Service Number: Q004143c  
Hometown: Rosyth  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Stuart Macleods Funeral. Stuart's funeral will be held at 1100hrs at Gerardines Church Lossiemouth 14th August.

---

message #: 1888

Date: Tuesday August 4 2015 10:04:18 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
HMS CENTAUR & FRIENDS GET-TOGETHER at THE PLOUGH RIPPLE on 22nd SEPTEMBER 2015. Those who attended last year's gathering enjoyed the occasion enough to suggest a repeat performance and with 3 more Old Centaurians expected this year and Maxie Beare on SKYPE from Kiwiland half of the original band of 1963/64 will be reunited. Some more FRIENDS have said that they will attend so we can look forward to a happy occasion. The official Memorial Day service will take place at the Memorial Gardens at 0800 as usual. Those of us who would prefer a more informal way to pay our respects to the 1989 victims and to remember other comrades no longer with us I suggest we meet up at the Gardens at the later time of 1130. The GET-TOGETHER proper will be from 1300 onwards and last until everyone has had enough. There will be some sandwiches and other finger-food available as a spot of lunch. Please try to bring along your photos of your service years to re-ignite some memories and if you can think of any one else of our era who might like to attend please let me know.

---

message #: 1887

Date: Sunday August 2 2015 06:23:12 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: rayandalilloyd@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
Lunchtime Get Together. For all ex bandies in and around Exeter/East Devon. Myself Stan Hacking Bruno Brown Derek Roberts & Colin Brocklebank will be getting together for a lunch and chat (lamp swinging) on Wednesday 12th August from 1pm at the Barn Owl Exeter. Anyone free to join us would be more than welcome. I am attending the Reunion at Pompey this year (accomodation already booked ticket cheque in the post!) sadly Stan's health is not good enough for him to travel and last all night which is the reason I have arranged this informal get together I know he would be delighted to see any old friends. See you in October Ray

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1886

Date: Thursday July 30 2015 10:27:29 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Yesterday morning I attended the funeral of Sid Sheard. It was well attended by ex Bandies most of whom I did not know. Of those known to me were Wally Walters Mik Hickman Alan Wardle Dave Mutter Merve Durrant Charlie Laws George Simpson and Alan Walker. ( he used to be Ginger) !!!! Sid got a good send off and the sheer number of those present showed just how well liked he was. On another note I had a call from the Blue Band in answer to a call I made a couple of weeks ago to say that the tickets for the reunion have not been printed yet. Don't panic!!! Next week the Central Band of the RBL will be on the bandstand at Eastbourne so if anyone is in the area come down and listen to us. Mike

---

message #: 1885

Date: Thursday July 30 2015 08:41:08 EST  
Name: Taff Ryan  
Email: taffryan51shug@gmail.com

Service Number: Q004143c  
Hometown: ROSYTH  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It is with much sadness that I must report the sudden Death of Stuart [Guppy] Macleod in his home in Bangkok. Stuart was a solo Clarinettist and a very fine Alto and Sop. player. He was from Lossiemouth in the north of Scotland and died at the young age of 53yrs. Funeral Details will follow at a later date as this only happened yesterday 29th July. A Sad Loss.

---

message #: 1884

Date: Sunday July 26 2015 05:25:01 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I was saddened to see that Sid Sheard had passed away; he was certainly one of those characters who once met ... never forgotten!!! With regard to LEN LEWRY'S confusion about which CG Squad he was in and JEM TUGWOOD'S attempt to help him ... and getting confused about which Squad HE was in (an unusual error for a fine Sussex man!) ... does this not show how important it is to keep sending in SQUAD PHOTOS to Dickie and our website? Such photos are vital as part of the fabric of our history and it is well worth nagging every ex-RMB we come across to somehow get them online. I will put details of our next "HMS Centaur & Friends" get-together on Memorial Day 22nd September 2015 onto the Guest Book very soon and will email or telephone last year's attendees with their personal invitations. I hope that the Summer goes well for everybody ... but I will pass on the holiday photos thank you!!!! Best wishes to you all Willi.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1883

Date: Friday July 24 2015 10:49:43 EST  
Name: Jem tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Altoc  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Merv You're Absolutely right 1960 would have been CG squad 31 I was rated in March '61 so the CG squad would have been 34 I think the only persons I can remember who were in it were Polly Perrett and Merv Body I'm sure other names will come to mind at some stage. See you at the Oct bash All the best Jem

---

message #: 1882

Date: Friday July 24 2015 09:57:31 EST  
Name: Mervyn C Durrant  
Email: mervcd3518@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3518  
Hometown: ALRESFORD  
Instrument/s: Clar/Broom/Pantec/Coach.  
n/a:

Comments:  
I have just been reading the Guestbook Notices in which Jem Tugwood stated he was in 31 CG Squad. If he looks on the Squad Photo Site he can see that he is not included in the photo. I know because I was there!!!! Perhaps someone else can assist him in finding which Squad he was in. Suggest maybe 34 Squad. Hope to see you at this years' Reunion Jem. Regards Merv.

---

message #: 1881

Date: Friday July 24 2015 07:17:48 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/ clar/ vln  
n/a:

Comments:  
With regard to Len's query re his CG Squad number I was rated in March 1961 and I think my CG Squad number was 31 and there were 3 a year so he should be able to work out which one from that. Incidentally I don't have a photo of the said squad it would be nice to be reminded who was in it with me hope this is some help Regards Jem

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1880

Date: Friday July 24 2015 03:50:41 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X2505  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Just a quick report that I had a call from John Cowdrey yesterday to say he was home and doing well starting to get in shape to commence his rehabilitation PT and circuit training in a few weeks. He is not a confident user of the internet so would welcome any contact perhaps particularly by phone. I hope to see you all at the Reunion on October. Last year we were booked in and a fortnight before my wife had her second fall of the year and broke her femur so no show. I hope we shall be luckier this year. I don't suppose there is anyone left out there that will remember Bandmaster "Bunny" Attfield of HMS Sheffield in the West Indies circa 1952? I have had a query from his grandson about him and although I remember the name at the time I was in the Far East and then he went to pension. Jock Brown Ray Woodfield & John Elsley remember the name but didn't serve with him so if there is anyone can shed light please sing out. Best wishes Terry

---

message #: 1879

Date: Wednesday July 22 2015 04:09:49 EST  
Name: Brian Thorogood  
Email: Brian.thorogood@sky.com

Service Number: RMB3456  
Hometown: Romford  
Instrument/s: Clarinet and Violin  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Just heard about Sid Sheard passing over the bar I first encountered Sid in HMS Phoenicia he was a great friend and I will always remember him. Rest in peace Sid and God bless you. Brian

---

message #: 1878

Date: Tuesday July 21 2015 13:58:13 EST  
Name: Arthur Deakin  
Email: ad3113@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X3113  
Hometown: Hartlepool  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

**Comments:**

I have just read about Sid Sheard heart breaking news we were oppos in J/Wing & both in Neptune House. I met up with him on a trip I had to Deal & had a couple of pints together. A great guy & always ready for a laugh. Rest In Peace Sid & God Bless and look after your family. Arthur Deakin

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1877

Date: Monday July 20 2015 07:58:14 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I've just returned from Spain after a week away and read of the very sad news of the passing of Sid Sheard he was such a character and although I didn't know him as well as many others I did enjoy talking to him at subsequent reunions and remember him with deep affection he had a sharp mind and never had a bad word to say about anyone it was indeed my pleasure to have him count me as a friend he also never forgot my name. He was a lovely man to know and I know he will be sorely missed by his family and his many many friends. Rest in peace Sid you will never be forgotten. Jem

---

message #: 1876

Date: Thursday July 16 2015 06:08:11 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I hope someone can help me here... I cannot remember what CG squad I was in and I can't remember who was in it.... Looking at the squad photos on here I guess it must have been between 42-45 (numbers not years!), I think the late Dennis (George) Sanders and Graham Robinson were in it but for the life of me I can't get the others. Many thanks. RIP Sid Sheard a great character who is well remembered and will be for many years to come.

---

message #: 1875

Date: Wednesday July 15 2015 10:58:41 EST  
Name: Terry Puttrell ( Stan )  
Email: terry.jan@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMB3487  
Hometown: Gosport Hants  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I was so shocked to hear about 'our Sid ' passing away. We had great times together especially at football. Always having that great sense of humour and laughter. We will miss you Sid for sure. Our thoughts are with his lovely family at this time of sadness. Stan x

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1874

Date: Wednesday July 15 2015 09:18:18 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

So sad to read of the passing of my dear friend Sid. I would have first met Sid towards the end of 50s with boys wing football team and in later life when I returned to Deal after a commision on the Hermes. What a great chap he was and always bubbly and full of fun. He was an avid Spurs supporter and followed them closely. Whilst at Deal in the early 50s Sid had this idea that perhaps the Band footy team should play a game against an all star team that raised money for charity he got everyone to purchase a complete white strip so we could at least look like his other team Real Madrid contact was made with the stars but alas Sid's dream was never fulfilled. Deal Town played them much great disappointment to all especially Sid. This is one story about him as you all know there are many more. I can remember the day he met his dear wife Sheila I have never seen him so happy so my sincere condolences go out to her and the rest of his family and those of you who had the pleasure to know and may have served with him. My dear departed friend SIDNEY GEORGE SHEARD RIP MIK H XXX [Editor] Please visit Sid Sheard's Recollections on the site for lots of great memories of the past and at our reunions only recently.

---

message #: 1873

Date: Tuesday July 14 2015 11:11:41 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

May I add to the many sentiments already expressed concerning our late departed friend Sid Sheard.... Sid was one of life's true gentlemen and quite unforgettable as so many have and will attest to. Effusive extravert gregarious in extremis (!!) and an absolute joy to meet and be with. One of life's supreme optimists. Sid's glass was always half full.....often quite literally!! That unique smile, possibly a permanent grin....could light up any room or situation. Many here will recall Sid careering about RMSM on his bike as company runner or having a chat with him as block sweeper. There are unconfirmed reports that he once appeared on Massed Bands playing a tenor drum but looking singularly uncomfortable... Sid missed a few reunions due to his ongoing health issues which he casually dismissed in his inimitable manner as 'just something which gets in the way'. I was so pleased to see him at the back of Portsmouth Cathedral this last October and that impish grin greeted me as I went to shake his hand. Such warmth and affection emanated from that man and it touched everyone who knew him. One incident I particularly recall.... I was en route to the annual Frankfurt Musikmesse and had decided to travel by car and boat with my American wife (No Will!...not that one!!). We had boarded the Dover to Ostend ferry for the overnight crossing. All was fine. Weather looked good. Cabin was fine and up to American standards(!!). I went to the bar... as one occasionally does. The barman had his back turned to me and seemed to be preoccupied with some administrative business. "Excuse me" I tentatively spoke "....any chance of a large gin and tonic?" The barman turned round and with hardly a pause after his recognition replied: "For you Adrian as many bloody gins as you want old pal...." On realising the barman was dear old Sid the prospects of an early night faded into the distance as did the chances of this marriage surviving the crossing....I was not far wrong. I staggered to the cabin about 4am.....we docked about 6. Someone had to drive to Frankfurt and clearly it would not be me! Oooooops! Thanks Sid.... Sid exuded warmth love and friendship and made everyone in his company feel special. Respectful and welcoming he could often be quite observant in a critical way...usually for a good laugh at that person's expense... but he was never seriously malicious and could take as good as he gave. A life full of joy and friendship and we who had the privilege of knowing him and being his friend should today be thankful for the experience of knowing one of life's truly honest and unique characters. My 70 years on this mortal coil has taught me one thing and possibly one thing only. There are only two types of people: givers and takers. Sid was a supreme giver....of joy love and friendship. RIP old pal.

---

message #: 1872

Date: Tuesday July 14 2015 05:10:37 EST  
Name: Paddy Semple  
Email: contactjackiesemple@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3868  
Hometown: Carrickfergus  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

**Comments:**

So sad to learn of Sid's passing. He was a great character and a joy to be with at our reunions. Sincere condolences to his family. RIP Sid.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1871

Date: Tuesday July 14 2015 02:48:56 EST  
Name: Herman (Nobby) Clarke.  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I was very sad to hear that Sid had passed away. I remember serving with him in Singapore and he was always a happy go lucky sort of chap the life and soul of any party. He will be sadly missed but never ever forgotten. Rest in Peace old Chap.

---

message #: 1870

Date: Monday July 13 2015 16:18:12 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Deeply saddened to hear the news regarding dear Sid. A true gentleman and a legend within our Great Family. RIP dear Sid. You will never be forgotten. Condolences to Sid's family in their time of grief. Barry

---

message #: 1869

Date: Monday July 13 2015 15:41:30 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just heard about the passing of Sid Sheard. A very sad day indeed. I remember him from our days in B/Coy or J Wing as it became. As has been said elsewhere Sid was a great sportsman and the life and soul of the party. I send my condolences to his family and friends. RIP my friend Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1868

Date: Monday July 13 2015 13:56:20 EST  
Name: Charlie Laws  
Email: charles@charleslaws.wanadoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X3057  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Swimming and water polo coach (cornet)  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sorry to say Sidney (SID) George. Sheard passed yesterday after a long fight. He was a great mate and anybody he met would like him. He had a full life married to a lovely lady and had a daughter and son. He did many jobs during his time in Deal mainly company runner with his red devil and block cleaner plus clean the bosses car played football for Staff Band and Depot. I was also in Singapore where we had some great evenings. RIP dear Friend.

---

message #: 1867

Date: Monday July 13 2015 13:41:32 EST  
Name: Richard (Dickie) Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston Lancs (Schenectady - for now) USA  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear friends During what began as a happy and informative chat on the phone with my dear friend Adrian Brett my afternoon was broken in a worst way when our dear friend Tony Oliver interrupted online with a message to say that Sid Sheard has passed away. What an icon! Who could ever forget the warmth of character and his ebullient and commanding personality? I am one of many who have had the absolute pleasure of knowing Sid from my time in boys wing and of course when visiting Deal for either massed bands or pre-embarkation training. I got to see more of him at our recent reunions in Portsmouth and that lovely smile and booming voice will be forever etched in my memory. Sid was a generous contributor to the website dedicated to ex RMBs in particular and I urge you to find his link either on the buddy page or in his own section on the Notice Board and other links. He was an avid sportsman and a loving family man. Sid was always concerned for me and he knew I have had some challenges in recent years. A man with a huge heart and I will miss him sorely but am grateful for his life and his presence among fellow bandies. We certainly had a good laugh with him didn't we? My sincere condolences to his family and all his friends. Rest in peace dear friend. Sid Sheard - gone but never forgotten. One of the best ways to remember Sid Sheard.

---

message #: 1866

Date: Thursday July 9 2015 14:31:09 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmira1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
The item below may be of assistance to those of yesteryear such as myself who still wonders why we did not receive Cat IV payments in the past. RM MUSICIANS AT RMA EVENTS  
There has been a great deal of ill-informed talk recently about the requirement to pay for RM Musicians who support RMA events. While it is understood that in the past payment has often not been required for these services they are in fact subject to the Tri-Service Policy for the Service Bands and Military Musicians covered in JSP813. In this Policy Financial Categories (FinCats) range from FinCat 1 "Core engagements paid for by the Public Purse to FinCat 5 - commercial engagements where the sponsor pays full costs to the MOD. The RMA is one of the RN Service Charities and engagements for it are considered FinCat 2 "Charitable and Ex-Service/Regimental Association events. As such full abatement may be granted for the capitation rates of RM Band personnel when supporting RMA events. However Treasury Policy dictates that all marginal costs (transport substance and insurance etc.) for FinCat 2s cannot be funded from the Public Purse and must be passed on to the sponsor. It should be clearly understood that the RMA is not suddenly forcing its members and Branches to pay for RM Musicians to support RMA events: the RMA is as bound by JSP 813 which is being more rigorously applied under the present constraints in the Defence budget as is the serving Corps. This is wholly appropriate: extrapolated across Defence if military musical representation was provided to all commemorative events at no charge this would accumulate a considerable burden for the tax payer to bear. Lastly the rumour about it now being necessary to pay for RM Buglers at the funerals of former RMs is unfounded. The provision of a Bugler at the funeral of a former RM is conditionally considered as a Financial Category 1 commitment i.e. a core engagement paid for out of the public purse. My kind thanks to the RMA for this update.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1865

Date: Thursday July 9 2015 10:27:48 EST  
Name: Taff Ryan  
Email: taffryan51shug@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB4143  
Hometown: Rosyth  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
Some of the old FOSNI. BAND are having a get together to coincide with the Corps Birthday on the 28th Oct. in the RMA, club in DEAL at 1900hrs. This will be an informal affair but a chance to meet up with some of the family again in the home of the RMBS, which is Deal. All welcome.

---

message #: 1864

Date: Wednesday July 8 2015 15:24:16 EST  
Name: Bob Graham  
Email:

Service Number: P033333R  
Hometown: Walmer formerly Oakham Rutland  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sad to hear of the news about Geoff Comber. Geoff joined the RMB as a Clarinet and Violin player in 1973. We went through training together and were in the same room in M Wing. He was serving in HMS Ark Royal when we did a swop draft in late 1977 and he took my place at CinC Nav Home Eastney. He left the RMB in th 1980's and joined the RAF serving with the Central band at Uxbridge and finishing his time at the RAF College Cranwell Lincolnshire. When Geoff left the RAF he settled in Bourne Lincolnshire and worked for Network Rail as a signalman on the line between Melton Mowbray and Leicester very close to my home town of Oakham. I have checked the local newspaper and apparently he was killed while riding his motorbike near Saxby Leicestershire probably on his commute to or from work. I'm sure many ex bandies from my era will be sad to hear of his passing. RIP Geoff

---

message #: 1863

Date: Tuesday July 7 2015 10:36:56 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just spoken to John Cowdrey in St. Thomas's Hospital.....Seemed quite cheerful despite some confusion about what his medical problem is exactly. This website is SO IMPORTANT as we all get older.....John received several calls from ex-bandies purely as a result of Mike Tellick promulgating a mobile phone number.... REMEMBER OUR RMB FAMILY.....A MESSAGE OR A PHONE CALL MEANS A LOT WHEN YOU ARE NOT WELL..... My best wishes to all.....ADRIAN

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1862

Date: Monday July 6 2015 05:46:25 EST  
Name: Colin Bath  
Email: Colinbath1944@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3750  
Hometown: Shaftesbury  
Instrument/s: Trumpet/cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

As a first time user I hope this message gets through to anybody that remembers me. I have just heard that John Cowdrey has not been to well so sent him a text message which I hope reaches him. I also read a message from Adrian Brett who I remember as an Excellent Flute/ Piano player. Wish I was 16 again and back at school of Music with Sid Rose as an Excellent Instructor and Good Old Prof Hargreaves. I'm now an old Git of 71!!!!

---

message #: 1861

Date: Sunday July 5 2015 10:02:15 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi all Herewith an update on John Cowdrey. He went into St. Thomas's London on July 1st for a routine checkup and is still there. Apparently the medics THINK!! he might have a blood clot but they are not sure! Up until this morning (Sunday) he had not been seen by anyone else. So John is hoping that the diagnosis is wrong. Tiz a mystery which we hope will be solved soon. I am sure he would appreciate a message from anyone who knows him. I assume he does not have access to his computer so a text to his mobile would be good. 07729465173. The reunion of the 56ers is gathering pace. 25 so far including partners. March 19th. Deal RMA. MIKE

---

message #: 1860

Date: Sunday June 28 2015 07:55:19 EST  
Name: Paul Thompson  
Email: alfie3710@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3710  
Hometown: Weston-s-Mare  
Instrument/s: Sax/Clarinet/ Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi all Nice to read all of your letters have not seen a lot of you since Margate 93 please get in touch if you remember me thankyou. Thomo

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1859

Date: Wednesday June 24 2015 05:06:08 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I have read with interest and concern the sick bay reports with regard to Maxie Beare. I had the distinct honour of serving with him briefly at HMS St. Vincent. He may not remember me but he had a tremendous influence on me both as a "gigger" and as a member of the band. I am so glad to read that he is coping well after a setback. I wish him well. A true gent and a legend in the Band Service.

---

message #: 1858

Date: Tuesday June 23 2015 10:36:01 EST  
Name: Support  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Test Message....

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message #: 1857

Date: Monday June 22 2015 16:39:23 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
There was a good turn out on Friday last to bid farewell to Lieutenant Tom Merrett at St Mary's Church in Walmer. A Lt Colonel past PDM Captain Director of Music J Wing and many Ex RMBs certainly enough to form a ships band although perhaps too many Bandmasters were in view. During the service two of Tom's children gave tributes to their Dad and looking around the family group there were quite a few of them including many grandchildren. It was very clear that Tom was a great family man and had enjoyed life after the RMBS as a specialist clarinet teacher for over 30 years. Jim Mason gave a resume of Tom's career in the Band Service before the final hymn "Eternal Father strong to save". Then after the blessing we all left the church with the sound of "One more step along the world I go".  
RIP  
Tom...Michael Hutton.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1856

Date: Thursday June 18 2015 02:30:34 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: Miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi all Sometime ago I spoke with Barry Radford and we decided to have a 60th reunion of the boys who joined the RMB in 1956. I have spoken with the new steward at the RMA in Deal and they are very happy to accommodate us. The date will be the Saturday of the "All Stars" band weekend March 19th 2016. Consideration was given to have the reunion over the weekend of the RM Band visit to Deal in July but the sheer number of people in the town for that event would make it difficult for accommodation car parking and just getting into the area. I have asked for buffet meal and a tot on arrival. If anyone has special dietary requirements please let know. So if anyone is interested please let me know by email or phone me on 07787 550087. The costing has yet to be finalised but I envisage that it will be about £10.00 per person. Of course ladies will be most welcome. We need 40 people to make it a viable evening so please give it some consideration. Mike

---

message #: 1855

Date: Tuesday June 2 2015 15:48:42 EST  
Name: John Thomas Smith  
Email: bsandra147@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX2080  
Hometown: Wimbledon London  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:

A big Thank You to everyone for the recent emails I have exchanged regarding my fathers service. It is with great sadness that I actually have to inform you that Dad passed away on Tuesday May 26th (15 days after his 87th birthday). But I am delighted to tell you that I had read your messages to him also read him the memories from this site and he did recall names and places! I have all his service records and I will continue to try and piece together all the past to ensure that his memories are treasured. I am immensely proud of Dads service and will endeavour to learn more! Particularly why certain comments have been entered onto said service record!!!! His discharge paper has a handwritten (probably everyones were then) note from Sir Vivian Dunn stating that he was accomplished in Military music pieces for the clarinet!! The funeral is still to be arranged but likely to be at the end of the month but I will post details so anyone who wishes to can raise a glass to another good man (I believe you call it) crossing the bar!! Off I go to work through Royal Marine Band CDs to find appropriate music for the service and tomorrow I best buy silver duraglit to polish his medals!! If its ok with you all I'll stay on this website to see if I can learn more. Regards Sandra

---

message #: 1854

Date: Sunday May 31 2015 07:43:55 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi again I have just had a call from John Cowdrey. He tells me that things are on the mend albeit a slow process. It will be some time before he is running around the parade ground once more! Altogether he seems to be very optimistic about the future. Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1853

Date: Saturday May 30 2015 03:11:47 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: Miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi folks Just to let you know that John Cowdrey has been very ill. He had a heart operation at the end of April in St. Thomas's in London. All went well at first and John was on the way to recovery when things went TU! As a result he spent longer in hospital than was intended and was in intensive care for some time. He is now back home and being cared for by his daughter. He is very weak and cannot talk for long. I am sure he would appreciate a card or email from anyone who knows him. Mike

---

message #: 1852

Date: Friday May 29 2015 02:56:29 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sorry to hear of the passing of Lt. Tom Merrett...an important figure in my life though only on the touchlines of the game. As a young boy growing up in Walmer I used to chat to our neighbours who told me their son was a Bandmaster in the Royal Marines. This may well have engendered my initial interest in the possibility of joining up later. I was passionately interested in music from a very early age and blessed with a good singing voice winning the Boy's Vocal Solo class in the Kent Competitive Music Festival 1956/57. When my voice changed I was desperately unhappy with no means of musical communication with the additional stress of having moved away from Deal to the Isle of Wight when my father became a prison officer. The RMSM saved my life provided me with the foundations of a good musical education social skills personal discipline and a camaraderie second to none as is regularly confirmed on this wonderful site. It also brought me back to the town I had grown up in and which I missed greatly.... It was not until my days in the Staff Band circa 1965 that I encountered Lt. Tom Merrett. What a lovely man! A true gentleman. I recall clearly playing a piccolo solo: 'The Deep Blue Sea' with a small orchestra in the Painted Hall RNC Greenwich for a Trafalgar Night dinner conducted by Lt. Tom Merrett and still have the programme somewhere. I am sure others will have words to say about him but for me Tom Merrett was in my limited experience a gentle and sensitive man and I am certain would have been a wonderful boss.

---

message #: 1851

Date: Wednesday May 27 2015 12:29:23 EST  
Name: Kenneth Tyler  
Email: keng0iti@gmail.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd Hebden Bridge  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello Richard It is with sadness that I have to report the passing of another of our Comrades. He is Wilf Spurway RMBX2001 Tenor Sax and Violin. We were in the same Platoon and Section in the IOM days. We have met over the years along with Des Snell who has also passed away. I have spoken to Wilf's wife this morning and the Funeral is on Monday the 1st of June at the Yeovil Crematorium at 1240. I have settled down after losing Esde in February and was able to give Mary some comfort this morning. Also thanks to Bill Hartland for his info received earlier. Regards Ken.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1850

Date: Friday May 15 2015 11:09:50 EST  
Name: Taff Ryan  
Email: taffryan51shug@gmail.com

Service Number: Qoo4143c  
Hometown: Rosyth  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
I'm trying to get in touch with anyone who joined up with me in 2/67 squad . I'm hoping to get some photos from that time as all the old photos I had collected were thrown out by mistake by my younger brother so fingers crossed. Many thanks Taff Ryan

---

message #: 1849

Date: Tuesday May 12 2015 10:46:36 EST  
Name: Daniel Clark  
Email: danielrichardclark1982@gmail.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Hampshire  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello I hope this email finds you all well. I am sorry to bother you but this is a fingers crossed type request that I hope you may be able to help me or perhaps point me in the right direction of the history of service of my grandfather. His name was H.E. Atfield (Harry) and he served during WW2 within the Royal Marines. One of these positions being a bandmaster. The only information I have been able to find is from the BBC Ge nome of a Religious Service broadcast from the HMS Warspite "21st January 1945 - 11.30 : RELIGIOUS SERVICE on H.M.S. ' Warspite ' (recently recorded at sea). Conducted by the Rev. A. R. Blackledge R.N. Lesson read by the Captain of the ship Capt. Eveleigh, R.N. Music by the ship's Royal Marine Band under Bandmaster H. E. Atfield, R.M" And that is about it. I would be over the moon if there is anyway or anyone who could help me uncover anything about him. He passed away when I was very young from Motor Neurone disease - when I was too young to properly know him. As he had fought for my right to freedom I feel it is my obligation to ensure my daughter to be knows who he was. I am sorry if this is not the correct forum or place to be requesting assistance of you - however anything you can do to help me would be greatly appreciated. Many thanks for your time in reading this. Kind Regards Dan Clark

---

message #: 1848

Date: Tuesday May 12 2015 08:11:37 EST  
Name: Bob Taylor  
Email: bob.taylor2311@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB4121  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just wanted to add my thanks to Alan Brooker for organising a wonderful reunion of the Chatham Dog Ends. It was the first one I had been to and it was terrific to meet up will all my old friends from 40 years ago. I am already looking forward to the next one in two years time.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1847

Date: Monday May 11 2015 12:18:25 EST  
Name: Alan Brooker  
Email: marricc@sky.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Gillingham  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I would just like to say thank you to everyone who came to the Chatham Dogends Reunion this weekend. I think we all had a very good night and there was certainly a lot of lamp swinging going on! After taking into account our combined ages it was decided that leaving it for another four years maybe a little too long! Therefore I am pleased to say that I will be happy to organise another get together for those of you who would like to attend in two years time. That will give my liver time to recover!! I would also like to thank you all for your generosity the collection we had after the "Death of Nelson" ably performed by my good friend Geoff Francis came to a very healthy £100 which will be donated to Pembroke House Gillingham. Thank you again gentlemen and ladies see you in two years.  
Alan Brooker

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message #: 1846

Date: Sunday May 10 2015 06:14:31 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
Re MAXIE BEARE ... DON'T PANIC!!!!!! Maxie has asked me to let those of us who exchange emails with him not to panic about his silence over the past five days or so. He has a problem with his email programme that should be fixed hopefully within the next couple of days but those who talk to him and Kath on SKYPE should find as I have that this service is unaffected. In the meantime he sends best wishes to everybody ... and so do !!!  
Willi.

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message #: 1845

Date: Sunday May 10 2015 04:15:40 EST  
Name: Matt Eastley  
Email: matteastley66@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
My name is Matt Eastley and I am a football writer and historian and I am currently researching a book about the 1966 World Cup Final at Wembley called simply 'I Was There' - I would very much like to trace a member of the Royal Marine Band which played that day which came from the Portsmouth base I believe (although maybe they were drawn from other bases as well). I appreciate any surviving band members will be (at least) in their mid 70s and in some cases a lot older but I am hopeful there will be some survivors able to share their recollections of that day. I can be contacted by email and my website is [www.matteastley.co.uk](http://www.matteastley.co.uk) - thank you very much for taking the time to read this.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1844

Date: Sunday April 26 2015 02:24:05 EST  
Name: Herman (Nobby) Clarke.  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Nice to see the photo of Max and Kath back home together and looking so well. They have had a tough time recently I know but with the help they both deserve lets hope that things get better for them. Years ago Max helped me get back in contact with my old flute instructor Charlie Lashmar and his wife Celia who took me under their wing when I was having a bad time family wise as a Bandboy. I also met them both again when I visited New Zealand with the HQ.3rd Cdo Band from Singapore and they made sure that I enjoyed my stay with them again. Sadly Charles died a while back now but I kept in contact with Celia. I had a letter from Celia yesterday telling me that she has moved house (Still in Auckland) but in a much more suitable place for her needs. This all goes to prove the point that in our RMB Family there is always someone who will go the extra mile to keep in touch with and look after each other as the years fly by.. Max is a good example of this.

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message #: 1843

Date: Friday April 24 2015 19:04:02 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Onetime Bassoon BassDrum and Eflat Baton  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi Richard. Have just returned from attending the funeral of the late Ex B/Sgt Ralph John Allan Payne in Adelaide. He had a great send off with not only those of us Ex Bandsmen but also some Royals from the RMA as Ralph had been a long standing member of the local Branch. Along with me were Bob Chumley and Barrie Baker to represent what Ralph had rightly told his family was the best band in the world. The place was packed with Ralph's extended family five children ten Grand children and ten Great grand Children with of course their respective families. Just as a matter of interest for those who have in the past joined us here in Adelaide. We were all invited to join the family at the Watermark Hotel for Lunch. They will remember the continuous quantity of food that was available from the Smorgasboard. The kitchen works like the one on a US Carrier. Nonstop for hours.

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message #: 1842

Date: Thursday April 23 2015 15:19:03 EST  
Name: John Smith  
Email: bsandra147@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X2080  
Hometown: Wimbledon  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Thank you for the messages that I received since my first message on behalf of my Dad. I'm trying to work my way round the website slowly but surely. I grew up thinking I knew everything about the Royal Marines (I can still hear my Dad - "when I was in the Royal Marines....." ) wrong - there is so much for me to learn!!! Although I know Marines are American and Royal Marines are British if I had a pound for everytime he told me that!! I now have more information from Dad. He was in 87 squad. Enlisting on August 28th 1943 and discharged on May 10th 1958. Initially his training was at Howstrake (I have read some of the memories on here - memorable place) then he was on HMS Duke then Deal HMS Sheffield Victory back to Deal HMS Pembroke Illustrious Vanguard Newcastle Tyne Birmingham and HMS Afrikander with various stints back in Deal in between. If this rings any bells with anyone I'd love to hear from you. I'm trying to piece some history together. He had his medals stolen many many years ago but fortunately I managed to get them replaced as a Christmas present a few years ago. I dont think unless you've had them yourself you realise exactly what they mean I found out that Christmas. I forgot to check which he has but I recall a war medal Korean medal and a service medal but I think there are 5 in total. One question on the website there is a photo of 87 squad passing out on 24th March 1944. Just wondering if this could possibly be Dad in there? There is a 'boy' that I would pick out to be him but maybe I want it to be! Would it be possible that you would pass out about 7 months after enlisting? I'm thinking realistically not that it would be longer perhaps you can enlighten me? If there is anywhere else I should've posted his service record please let me know! Regards Sandra

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1841

Date: Wednesday April 22 2015 09:13:40 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Sorry we didn't get a chance to chat at the MFM Adrian; you probably observed that Mike Tellick and I were chaperoning four Japanese ladies friends of Mike ... and what with concentrating on the band and on taking a series of duff photos of the head of the person sat in front of me!!! ... I didn't think of looking behind me. I'm glad that you picked out the Mexican overture "Danzon No 2" by Marquez as particularly catching the ear of you and your wife as it was a most interesting and entertaining piece ... and you were obviously as impressed with all the soloists as I was. You write most interestingly on the subject of the modern band "sound" in comparison to that in our day the '60s and agree that much can be put down to the band seating arrangement which I have observed is pretty ubiquitous looking on Youtube and CD covers. Another thing to remember is that RM bands use trumpets not cornets nowadays which will immediately brighten the sound also enabling more forward projection. The quality of the instruments used is far superior to our day when it was a bit of a lottery as to what you drew from the instrument store and many instruments were old old-fashioned and/or clapped out!!! The B & H Sovereign tubas used are of a much larger bore than the previous ones and give a dark bed of sound for the rest of the band to "sit on" and gone are the days when somebody like the late great Pompey Group bandsman Jack Evans could cause an adjutant's horse to bolt with one well-aimed blast of his bombardon ... from 25 yards or more!!! ... and remember Chick Haynes on his G bass trombone with a sound like tearing sailcloth!!! Now Adrian ... I know you will remember with great fondness the tour of Canada and the USA in 1965?!! In the September we rehearsed and combined with the President's Own US Marine Corps band in an event at 8th (avenue) and I barracks in Washington DC and I spent the second of our two nights there staying with horn player and arranger John Bourgeois in his house. He said that what struck him was the far darker "orchestral" sound our band made compared to the US Marines (his words!) and it's worth remembering here that he had only heard us as a marching band at that time!! We discussed this at length and agreed that the President's Own use of trumpets not cornets sousaphones as opposed to tubas and their lack of the great tenor sound provided by euphoniums was responsible for this phenomenon. That evening was notable mainly because of the amount of alcohol that was consumed until well into the small hours (for National pride's sake you understand?!!) and it was about 4 am that John produced his Conn 8D horn and persuaded me to play the Strauss first horn concerto with him on the piano. This was a performance interrupted several times by the need to pob with laughter ... and to re-hydrate but we got through it somehow. Little did I know that he had secretly taped it only finding out when he played the tape back over breakfast in the morning which increased my headache considerably!!! (NB: it was not until fairly recently that I discovered that John went on to become Colonel Bourgeois the 25th Musical Director of the President's Own Band. You can Google him and see a video of him reminiscing about his career. A kind humourous and talented man!!). That certainly was a momentous tour ... wasn't it Adrian!!! Best wishes to all Willi.

message #: 1840

Date: Tuesday April 21 2015 04:49:49 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

I was sat just one row behind Willi at the MFM but could not attract his attention! I concur with his assessment of the superb standard of playing throughout the concert. The varied programme was interesting and many (including my Latvian-Russian wife Eugenia) will have appreciated the Mexican number with its characteristic Latin rhythms but with unusual orchestration and tonal colours. The soloists were astounding throughout most notably the B/Cpl trumpet soloist whose high register playing was the equal to John Barclay our finest London studio player. The solo clarinet who played "Clarinet Marmalade" was outstanding too...and female vocalists too! One thing I noticed slightly perturbed me in the overall 'received sound...and balance' as an audience member. What has happened to the 'traditional' seating plan of a military band when did it change and who made the decision? I recall playing in the RPO for Stokowski in 1967 when he re-arranged the seating of the symphony orchestra having the 1st Vlns on the left and 2nd Vlns on the right with the 'cellos and basses in the centre with violas just in front of them. This results in a more homogenous sound from an audience point of view with the bass and middle parts emanating from the middle of the orchestra with woodwind behind and brass behind them. Several other conductors insist on this seating plan too. Now in RMBs (well certainly the Staff Band) we used to adhere to an equivalent tonal arrangement as conceived by Stokowski... with clarinets in one long line with flute/picc/oboe/ Eb clarinet directly behind. The wonderful middle tenor register of the band so distinctly unique to RM bands consisting of sixes euphoniums and horns sounded from the centre of the band with cornets to the left and trombones to the right and basses on the end. We now have a different arrangement and consequently a different sound...not like the 'traditional' symphony orch seating. All the clarinets are on the left. The flutes oboes are on the right in front of.....the saxes!! The very special RMB tenor register no longer comes from the middle of the band.... the result is a much more American sound..... Maybe someone decided on this seating because of the plethora of American style arrangements now being played but for me the unique RMB sound in concert has altered radically. I attended a RMA Concert Band concert a couple of years ago and was impressed that the old traditional seating was retained under David Cole...but not this year in the All Stars. I found it odd playing piccolo with a battalion of saxes retained behind and all of the sounds I was so used to coming from different areas of the band. I hope these comments create some dialogue on this important matter (which is my intention and not just the musical meanderings of an old pro!!) but I also hope someone can elucidate on the history of this important decision which has changed the sound of the concert band...but fortunately not the marching bands. Can you imagine the difference in the sound of a RMB on the march with trombones in the front rank? Heaven forfend!!  
ADRIAN

message #: 1839

Date: Monday April 20 2015 05:59:23 EST  
Name: paul collett  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3827  
Hometown: Corfe Mullen Dorset  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

I fully agree with Willi Watson's comments on the MFM last Saturday although I didn't get to see Willi I did meet up with Adrian Brett and a few others that I hadn't seen for a while. Adrian the sax player who's name you couldn't think of was Billy Tomkins who was in Terror with me in Singapore. I hope that helps you.

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1838

Date: Sunday April 19 2015 13:58:27 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
MOUNTBATTEN FESTIVAL of MUSIC 2015. I attended my first ever Festival of Music at the Royal Albert Hall last night Saturday 18th April ... and I was completely blown away by fantastic standard of musicianship in the wide range of styles that was on display. I could detect no weaknesses in any section of the band and the instrumental and vocal soloists were outstanding. As I walked around "backstage" before the concert and in the interval I was struck by how professionally the band members behaved and what an air of self- belief self- confidence and pride they exuded. The Directors of Music who conducted including the PDM were obviously greatly liked and respected by the bands as they mouthed the words of the vocal numbers with obvious enjoyment and there seemed a great atmosphere of camaraderie between the different ranks ... certainly there was no "them and us!" on display!! I went to the RAH in a coach which is organised from Sittingbourne every year by Mike Tellick. Others joined us in London meaning that Mike had laid on tickets organised a superb meal and entertained more than 100 people!!! This despite the fact that he's from Lancing ... and has a beard!!!! My sincere thanks to Mike and Erica for putting me up (putting up with me??!!) at their house overnight ... and well done Mike for your hard work and dedication to the task. I must apologise to my fellow audience members for my over-exuberance in the second half of the concert. I was on a "legal high" having had an ice-cream in the interval ... and had overdosed on vanilla!!! When the DVD and/or CD of this year's MFM comes out ... BUY IT!!! ... it'll knock your socks off!!!! My best wishes to you all.

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message #: 1837

Date: Saturday April 18 2015 09:34:44 EST  
Name: Glyn Taff Thomas  
Email: glynthomas62@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3224  
Hometown: Falmouth  
Instrument/s: solo cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Does anyone know the whereabouts of Dusty Miller bass player HMS Terror 1962 \_ 64. Dusty and I played rugby for HMS Terror and enjoyed one or two pints of Tiger together. The last I heard of him he had joined the metropolitan police. I would also like to be contacted by any of the HMS Newcastle band 1956/58.

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message #: 1836

Date: Friday April 17 2015 11:56:18 EST  
Name: martin jackson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4207  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Piano!! cornet (even worse!)  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Trying to get hold of Taff Simpson and Ginge Harman 01752 600125

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1835

Date: Thursday April 16 2015 16:18:41 EST  
Name: John Smith  
Email: Bsandra147@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number: RMB2080  
Hometown: Wimbledon  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
hi I hope you don't mind me posting here. I'm posting on behalf of my Dad really. He served from 1943-1958. I know he started training on the Isle of Man and I have a list of all his service ships. He will be 87 in May and recalls his service time fully. He just doesn't have any idea about computers! Just wondered if anyone else is here from those times?

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message #: 1834

Date: Wednesday April 15 2015 05:23:51 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi folks MFM tickets I have just had two tickets for this Saturday's performance returned to me because of illness. If anyone would like them please contact me ASAP on 07787 50087. My mobile number is 07787 550087 The seats are in the Arena very near the front and are Â£30 each. Thanks Mike

---

message #: 1833

Date: Tuesday April 14 2015 06:08:09 EST  
Name: Paul Harker  
Email: paulharker5@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3995  
Hometown: Norwich  
Instrument/s: Cornet and Violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
I would just like to wish the lads of 1/64 New Entry squad Happy Anniversary. Its 51years today when we joined the best band in the world and had the best training. The lads out there still with us I hope you are all fit and well. The lads unfortunately no longer with us. I hope we all meet again in the counter march of the big band in the sky.  
Regards Paul Harker

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1832

Date: Friday April 10 2015 15:41:40 EST  
Name: LAURIE RACE  
Email: laurie.race@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX3101  
Hometown: DEAL  
Instrument/s: SOLO CORNET  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Joined 1953 postings DARTMOUTH PLYMOUTH HMS TYNE HMS BIRMINGHAM HMS LION THEN BACK TO DEAL LEFT 1962

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message #: 1831

Date: Friday April 10 2015 06:28:52 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
The sun rays shone brightly yesterday outside the crematorium in Ruislip for the funeral of Terry Beynon. Rays of friendship and love also radiated inside the chapel from the many present there to pay their last respects. The chapel was full with many having to stand at the back for the duration of the very pleasant and relaxed service conducted by Major Graham Mizon of the Salvation Army. I arrived to see a large crowd gathered outside none of whom I recognised but soon I heard the familiar voice of Merv Durrant beckoning me over to a small group of ex-RMBs : Merv Tom Bowler and Fred Parr--all of us having travelled fair distances on a hot day to attend. Ted Whealing duly arrived with the family contingent in a limo and naturally came across to be with us and indulge in the pleasant courtesy of recognition. Moving tributes were paid to Terry from his son Glyn and sister Jeanette and a wonderfully entertaining warm and sincere tribute from Ted. The genuine affection for our late departed colleague was evident throughout Ted's eulogy. The delivery and content engendered spontaneous laughter and appreciation from all present and in no way diminished the demeanour of the occasion. A reception was held at a nearby hotel and a nice touch was that family photograph albums had been placed on a table for all to peruse. One of these was exclusively filled with photos from Terry's RMBS career...instantly commandeered by Merv who for the next hour or so regaled us with anecdotes about everyone who appeared in a photo!!! He even recalled where they had served details of family scurrilous memories and was a veritable encyclopedia of RMBS information. To watch Merv and Ted poised over the album as they pored over its contents was an entertainment in itself. A lovely relaxed service followed by some pleasant socialising in nice surroundings together with memories and recollections flowing copiously was a fitting tribute to a man who was clearly loved by all who knew him. RIP Terry Beynon.

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message #: 1830

Date: Monday April 6 2015 03:55:46 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: Miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have just had a conversation with an ex Bugler John Parker who joined in with the 1/56 squad. He has lost a photo of the Buglers House taken around Sept/October of that year. Does anyone out there have a copy that they could let him have to scan? His phone number is 01795 535769 (Faversham). I was sorry to hear of the death of Terry Beynon my condolences to his family and friends. Looking forward to the MFM next week I am taking 107 people this year. Over the last twelve years or so I have organised this trip from a starting point of just two of us going from Sittingbourne. Might just start my own tour company!!! Best wishes to all past and present RM Bandies.  
Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1829

Date: Saturday April 4 2015 19:43:31 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Onetime Bassoon BassDrum and Eflat Baton  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard Bob Chumley has said that he informed you of the death of RMB/X 1763 Ralph Payne our friend and staunch supporter of our RMB reunion. His number would give some idea of when he joined the RNSM. He had told me but I have forgotten. Ralph decided that he would not attend our reunion this year as he thought it time he treated his wife to a Pacific cruise. Unfortunately this turned out to be the last sea time Ralph would take as he died at sea on or about 01 April. I can't pass on any more info because until his daughter contacts Bob and then Bob contacts me I have none. Ralph told us many stories of wartime sea duty which for him as can be imagined was not always a walk in the park. His last ship before posting back to UK was on HMS HOWE in the Pacific theatre. Sorry to be the herald of bad tidings but Ralph enjoyed a mostly good life and only recently had visited Malta among other of his wartime haunts. Not bad for a man in his late eighties. As there appears to be a slight spelling mistake below in the Spam info I am now about to inform you that as far as I know I am not a Robot although at times I've been likened to one. My best regards to you Richard Eric.

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message #: 1828

Date: Tuesday March 31 2015 07:06:52 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi to all A belated "Thank You" to Kevin Vickers for providing a copy of the elusive 27 CGSquad Photo. Sadly now viewing it. I realise how many great people are now no longer with us. I tracked Kevin down via the "Buddy List". So once again many thanks to Richard for providing us with access to our great family. Regards to all Barry

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message #: 1827

Date: Tuesday March 31 2015 04:42:43 EST  
Name: Ted Whealing  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3426  
Hometown: Rowlands Castle  
Instrument/s: clarinet saxophone & clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Terry Beynon's funeral is on Thursday 9th April 1215 at Breakspear Crematorium Breakspear Road Ruislip Middlesex HA4 7SJ. Please be there if you can.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1826

Date: Friday March 27 2015 17:53:29 EST  
Name: Mervyn C Durrant  
Email: mervcd3518@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3518 QOO3518L?  
Hometown: Ropley Alresford  
Instrument/s: 3rd Clarinet 2nd Bike Pantec Coach &#39;sniff&#39;  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Very sorry to hear of the sad death of Terry Beynon. It was only last year when I spoke to him on the phone and had a good chat re the good old days. We joined up together in the 3/56sqd in Deal in April. I would like to offer my condolences to his wife and family and perhaps someone would kindly let me know when his funeral will take place.

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message #: 1825

Date: Friday March 27 2015 04:52:10 EST  
Name: Ted Whealing  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3426  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Clarinet saxophone & violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have just been informed of the sad death of Terry Beynon. I served with him on HMS Ark Royal from 1959 to 1961. He died in hospital after suffering a seizure his wife Nset was with him. They had just returned from an enjoyable holiday in Florida. He was a good friend and will be much missed.

---

message #: 1824

Date: Wednesday March 18 2015 04:31:20 EST  
Name: Trevor Lintott  
Email: trevlin31@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX2448  
Hometown: Egletons France  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet lapsed  
n/a:

Comments:  
Clifford You're a Scholar and a Gentleman. But what else could you be having graduated from the Royal Naval School of Music? I very much regret we lost touch in both directions. Put it down to the vagaries of the Spanish post. There's a letter in the post to you. Love to Margaret. Many thanks to you Dick for creating and maintaining such a marvellous website. Greetings to all who remember me. Trevor

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1823

Date: Monday March 16 2015 21:09:56 EST  
Name: Cliff Meatheringham  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/x 2154  
Hometown: Cirencester  
Instrument/s: Flute & Piccolo  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Can anyone give me the present address or contact details of Trevor Lintott. I have had the last two Christmas cards returned from his address in Spain. I had a Christmas card from him with a french postmark last December. Thank you for any assistance & best wishes to all who may remember me..Cliff METHS.

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message #: 1822

Date: Monday March 16 2015 05:31:38 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to all All Stars Concert at Margate this coming weekend. Heather and I were hoping to attend but not 100% at the moment. So sadly we will not be there. Good luck to all taking part and we will be with you in thought. Regards to all of you out there. Was great to hear from Glyn (Taff) Thomas after many a year!! Heather and I have just celebrated our 51st Wedding Anniversary. Many thanks to our great friends who sent us cards. Cheers Barry Radford PS. Still no posting of Number 27 CG Squad photo. Surely someone has a copy!!!! Please.

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message #: 1821

Date: Sunday March 15 2015 05:20:44 EST  
Name: Herman (Nobby) Clarke.  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Calling on any ex. H.M.S. Hermes (First Commission Capt.Tibbets) the few that are left. I am trying to make a sort of scrapbook of the time that I spent in the R.M. Band Service. (Sad Eh!!) With the help of my "Certificate of Service Record" I have been checking on time spent in various postings. The details of time on Hermes seemed a bit odd. I was never a good sailor so I was often sea sick and bored stiff. Reading the dates for my time on Hermes it gives the dates 7th Of Jan.1960 to 9th of Oct.1961. Maybe it is just me having yet another Senior Moment (I seem to have a lot of those recently) but it did seem to me that I was on that boat for much longer. If anyone can shed more light on this it would be most helpful. Nobby.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1820

Date: Sunday March 8 2015 20:29:25 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Onetime Bassoon Bass Drum and Eflat Baton  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Adrian may I on behalf of those of us in the Antipodese who attend the Adelaide Reunion pass on our thanks for your kind words re Tom King and for your attendance at his funeral. As you have stated Tom was the last of the RM Band of HMS Exeter his long lost mate having departed some months before him. It was through a local Adelaide civilian gentleman who had known Tom's friend here in Adelaide that he and his old bandmate were reunited. John Turner the gentleman concerned was in the habit of scrolling through the internet and had come across my reminding notices of coming reunions for ex Royal Marine Bands persons in Adelaide. Having heard many stories of Ted Jones' life as a young RM Bandsman and knowing that he was a survivor of HMS Exeter he contacted me and told me that Ted in fact lived within a few miles of where we ex RMBs were to gather. At about the same time Tom King had advised HQRMB that he had lost touch with one of his mess mate survivors of the Exeter. The full story is elsewhere on Dickie's site including the visit to us by Capt Long and Sgt Bugler Snell with a video from Tom to Ted. I can tell you that when that video was played to Ted at the reunion there was not a dry eye in the room. My kind regards to you Adrian.

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message #: 1819

Date: Thursday March 5 2015 09:57:46 EST  
Name: David A Mutter  
Email: dam6567@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a:

Comments:

Dear Richard I read with interest Mike Tellick's message concerning ex-RMBs in the Band of the Corps of Royal Engineers (Chatham). There have been at least six including those mentioned by Mike plus Eddie Boshier euph/cello Robin Philpot flute/piano me euph/cello and Alan Frost euph/cello (Alan was a superb euph player who served with the RE Aldershot Band). John Hampshire was an excellent player on both trumpet/cornet and viola. If anyone knows of his whereabouts I would appreciate that. Thank you. David

---

message #: 1818

Date: Tuesday March 3 2015 01:03:31 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: senapod@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Dear Richard I have just spoken to Maxie Beare this morning. He has asked me to let you know that he has been in hospital for just over a week having had a heart murmur. He's on about 12 pills a day and will be seeing his doctor in a few days time for a check up. I will keep you posted on his progress as I shall ring him again to see how he is. He sends his best wishes to you as I do too. Mike.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1817

Date: Saturday February 28 2015 01:21:49 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi all Regarding Robert Taylor's posting about his meeting with Keith Shipman there were also two other former RMB musicians in the Royal Engineers Band based at Chatham. They were Jim Melbourne Oboe and John Hampshire. I think John played the Cornet but stand to be corrected. Jim was the Oboe in the Band at HMS Drake under Tom Lambert when I went there in January 1960. I cannot make the "Dogends" reunion in May as I have a gig in London on that day I hope it goes well for everyone concerned. Can anyone tell me where the expression "Dogends" comes from. I don't recall it being used when I was in the band in two spells from 1965 to 1971. Has anyone heard of the whereabouts of Lew Shallcross Trombone. Or Terry Lampert percussion? It is many years since I have seen these two guys I served with in the "Drake" Band. Happy days. I had a email from John Cowdrey the other day, he is not at all well and will be going in to St. Thomas's hospital for a quadruple heart bypass. I am sure he would like to know that we are thinking of him and would appreciate an e-mail. Mike

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message #: 1816

Date: Friday February 27 2015 16:16:04 EST  
Name: Robert Taylor  
Email: bob.taylor2311@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 4121  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: clarinet/viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Interesting to read Mike Tellick's mention of Keith Shipman. After I left the Band Service in 1974 and joined the RN I was drafted to the RN Display Team in 1976 to take part in the window ladder display and the field gun display. That year we appeared at the Edinburgh Tattoo and one of the Bands there were the Royal Engineers and of course who should I bump into but Keith Shipman fully resplendent in his Royal Engineers uniform. Needless to say we had a good catch up over the period of the tattoo. Looking forward to attending my first Chatham Dog Ends reunion and meeting up with all my friends from over 40 years ago.

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message #: 1815

Date: Friday February 27 2015 02:35:05 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Apologies for late report! On Friday February 20th I attended the funeral of Musician Jeremy Ballard at St. Agnes Church in Moseley Birmingham. I had managed to buy a very cheap rail ticket in advance... only £10.80 return I was staggered when the cab fare from Birmingham New St. Station to the church cost me more than the rail fare! I have to watch the pennies now that I have retired from the Lion King orchestra after 15 years..I am 70 on Tuesday! The church was packed. At least 300-350 mostly from the regular worshippers as Jerry had been a regular member of the congregation since 1972 and had lived close to the church in St. Agnes Rd. We were treated to the slow movement from the Schubert String Quintet as we entered the church and there were many musical contributions including several from young family members throughout the service. I have to say it was the longest funeral service I have ever attended and at more than one and a half hours duration my poorly hip was giving me gyp having to endure a hard wooden pew! Tributes were paid by several people attesting to Jerry's skills as a violinist respected teacher and fine caricaturist. Family members notably several of his grandchildren paid their respects and gratitude for someone who was clearly a good husband father grandfather..and great-grandfather. A photo of Jerry on his wedding day was in the Order of Service...resplendent in his Portsmouth Group Band RM uniform. Sufficient to say that Jerry was clearly loved and respected by all who knew him from the congregation former pupils and his colleagues from the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra where he had been Principal 2nd Violin for many years. I spoke to a few who I knew from having played with them at BBC Pebble Mill in the BBC Midland Radio Orchestra. I enquired about ex-B/Cpl Eddie Boshier RM who I had half expected to be there but evidently he retired to Stoke or some place near. I was told an amusing story about Eddie. Apparently as he played his final note in the orchestra before retirement he handed his 'cello to a colleague who had bought it. "That's it...no more scraping a living for me!" Not quite as dramatic as the final appearance of Tim Hugh former principal of the BBCSO. (What is it about 'cellists?). After the final note of the recorded concert from BBC Maida Vale Studio One Tim walked calmly off the stage placed his 'cello on the floor and screaming how he would never play again promptly proceeded to jump up and down on the instrument until it was a mass of splintered wood! His colleagues were aghast and shocked as they knew it to be a very valuable instrument....but Tim had taken a cheap Chinese 'cello to work that day having planned the whole valedictory event!!!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1814

Date: Tuesday February 24 2015 07:54:52 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
There was a very good turn out to say farewell to Mike Howarth yesterday at his funeral in Milton Keynes. I will not mention any names but there must have been between 30 or 40 ex RM Band personnel there to support Mike's family on this sad occasion. Just a mention of Bugler Tom Cartwright RM who gave us a lovely rendering of Last Post and Reveille to round off a tribute service to one of our wonderful comrades. Michael Hutton.

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message #: 1813

Date: Sunday February 22 2015 03:44:22 EST  
Name: Herman (Nobby) Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello to all RMBands people past and present. I watched with a lot of interest the performance of the Royal Band on Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Takaway Show last night. The music was not to my taste or indeed what I was expecting however there is no doubt the the Band members really enjoyed taking part and it showed the versatility of these young musicians. Well done to all involved. I make a scrapbook of R.M. Bands activities and if anyone can let me know the name and rank of the Band Officer in charge it would very helpful. Once again may I say Well done to all involved.

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message #: 1812

Date: Wednesday February 18 2015 17:55:16 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk.  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
Thank you Adrian for representing us at the funeral of Musn King a man who suffered so much as a Prisoner of War of the Japanese who survived to lead a long and productive life but never forgot his connection to the RMB. His sea journey to Australia at the age of 88 to meet with his only surviving shipmate is truly remarkable. I feel privileged to have served in the same uniform as such a man.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1811

Date: Wednesday February 18 2015 01:23:36 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Yesterday I dutifully attended the funeral of Musician Alfred Thomas King (93) at Eltham Crematorium which is only 10 minutes from my home to represent the RMBS. I was pleasantly surprised however to see a large group of some 20 older men in blazers green berets and corps crests and ties....and two banners! Evidently Tom had been a very popular member of the City of London RMA and this group plus other RMA members from Canterbury and Surrey had come to give Tom a good send off. I joined the guard of honour as the coffin passed into the church. The chapel was full and a traditional Christian service took place with RM prayers and Last Post and Reveille played by a young RM Bugler from the Royal Band in Portsmouth. A brief account of Tom King's life was read out mostly in his own words. He had been born in Hackney East London in 1921 into a large family of nine girls and just two boys. Somehow Tom had found himself in a Shaftesbury Home but at 15 in 1936 he joined the RMBS. His first ship was HMS Effingham. When I had read that Tom was the last survivor from the RMB on HMS Exeter I had naively supposed this was from the Battle of the River Plate in 1939 when that ship chased the Admiral Graf Spee and many of the band died. Apparently Tom did not join HMS Exeter until 1942 when in March that year that ship's fate was determined in the Battle of the Java Sea after which the crew were taken prisoner by the Japanese. Tom survived three and a half years in a Japanese POW camp where 153 of his fellow shipmates were to perish. Quite amazing how many men who suffered acute nutritional deprivation in POW camps have survived into their 90's! Tom was medically discharged in 1946 aged 25 and later joined the civil service as a clerk. It was amazing to hear the story of how Tom believing all fellow band members from HMS Exeter had passed on had heard that one solitary member was still living....in Australia. Tom was determined to be reunited with his old friend Ted Jones and having been banned from flying due to a previous heart attack somehow managed to find a boat to complete the arduous journey to Australia aged 88! A nice touch was a small bound book of photos from Tom's trip included as a souvenir in an envelope with the Order of Service. Tom King was clearly a much loved and popular man and a member of the City of London RMA and the Far East POW Veterans and both those institutions were well represented at the funeral. I felt quite proud to be the only ex-RMB to my knowledge and to be the representative of those who knew Tom and were unable to attend. RIP Musician Alfred Thomas King.

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message #: 1810

Date: Monday February 16 2015 15:02:29 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: Miketellick@hotmail

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Looking at John Masters' photo of the "Victorious" 1959, Keith Shipman is left man rear row. Keith was a fine Tenor Sax and Violin. He joined the Royal Engineers Band in Chatham on discharge from the RM Band Service. Mike

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message #: 1809

Date: Saturday February 14 2015 06:30:10 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

It's always a sad day when we have to say farewell to one of our colleagues. Mike Zoonie Howarth I remember so well even though he was only in my band for about a year! Straight from recruits training to 'Manadon' (HMS Thunderer as the skipper preferred to call it) as a rather shy reserved sort of guy who I don't think had ever marched in a band before he came to us. A good but reserved sort of Bassoon player who needed lots of encouragement. That he certainly got from myself and the great bunch of guys in the band. I did after a little persuasion manage to get him to try 'Lucy Long' and then the 'Bassoon Song' that I had acquired from Terry Williams of 'Sgts Mess Panto' fame and as we all now know he came to make it his own after performances from the minstrel's gallery in the Great Hall at Manadon and even writing his own verses. I'm sure there are many of you who will have enjoyed his renditions of that throughout his career. We never met up again until many years later when I had left the RMBS but was attending a memorial service in the Deal church and he was then a C/Sgt playing in the orchestra and after the service he spotted me at the back of the church and just ran up that long isle gave me a big hug and said I love you! ...if there is another band somewhere for all of us I hope we'll get to meet again. Farewell 'Zoonie' RIP. Michael.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1808

Date: Saturday February 14 2015 01:24:13 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: Mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
just want to wish Barry Radford John Cowdray Ray Grant and any other 2/56 squad members out there a "Happy Birthday". It was 59 years ago today that we joined the RM School of Music in Deal. Strange to think that all these years later that those draughty rooms in East Barracks are now up market homes. I expect that the people now living there have no idea of what went on in those rooms. I name the aforementioned people as we seem to be the only ones left. If anyone knows different please get them to get in touch via this fantastic websight. mike

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message #: 1807

Date: Friday February 13 2015 02:08:19 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Like so many people I am sorry to hear the passing of Mike Howarth. Along with Mike I was one of the lucky few to have served at Manadon under the guidance of Michael Hutton. Mike was a fine musician and a man with a wicked sense of humour well you have to have that playing the Bassoon! Rest in peace old friend. Mike

---

message #: 1806

Date: Thursday February 12 2015 08:47:23 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/ clar/ vln  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sorry to hear of the passing of Mike Howarth one of the band service characters and a valued friend. We spent some time at Manadon under the direction of Mike Hutton in what I believe was a dream draft. It was here that Mike honed his skill in performing Lucy Long and over the years I think he was unable to go anywhere without performing it in his own inimitable way and although he played it many times Mike always managed to provide a slightly different rendition to that previously heard and more than once had the Orchestra accompanying him in " stitches" how he and we managed to get through it from start to finish astonishes me to this day. He was a very likeable man and to those who had the pleasure of knowing him and having his company and friendship will remember him with deep affection and understandable sadness at this time. I send my most sincere condolences to his family and friends and all who knew him or had heard of his reputation knowing that he will be sorely missed by all. RIP Mike Jem

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1805

Date: Thursday February 12 2015 04:08:49 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Very sad indeed to read of the passing of another member of our great family. Like most I knew Mike what a great jovial guy. Mike (Zoonie) Howarth RiP. My sincere condolences to all members of his immediate family and to those of us that had the pleasure to serve and know him.

---

message #: 1804

Date: Wednesday February 11 2015 15:37:27 EST  
Name: Bill Callow  
Email: bill.callow@ntlworld.com

Service Number: QOO3979  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Rich The following message was forwarded to me from Freddy Bryson Bassett: Dear All For those who may remember him Mike (Zoonie) Howarth former RM Bandmaster at Eastney passed away to the Grand Lodge above yesterday 10th February at 08:30hrs. Mike was diagnosed with advanced stomach cancer some months ago and having refused chemotherapy or invasive surgery remained cheerful and alert to the end. Mike lived in Woburn Bedfordshire. Please let me know if you are interested in attending his funeral. Freddy

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message #: 1803

Date: Wednesday February 11 2015 07:47:11 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Regarding John Masters pic of the HMS GAMECOCK Band do I see Wally Hibbert (RiP) in the front row and standing behind him I am sure that is Ray Woodfield. and back row on the left is that Stan Wilkinson (RIP) [Webmaster] Thank you for this Mike and to Terry Freestone and others for suggestions for names to faces. Keep them coming.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1802

Date: Monday February 9 2015 10:42:22 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: Miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi With reference to John Masters' fot of the " Gamecock" Band I recognise two people. Second from left back row is I believe Dan O' Connell. Third from the right back row is Ray Woodfield. Hope this helps. Mike [Webmaster] Yes Mike it all helps and anyone out there who wants to make any attempt at names on ANY photos that are not there then please DO send them in. Thank you.

---

message #: 1801

Date: Sunday February 8 2015 19:34:32 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Ian I remember you from those days at Chatham as I was there from 57 to 61. With B/Sgt Vic Chantler and B/Cpl Erny Rann (Drum Major). I think we had the best DofM in Lt. Tom Merritt. A very honest man. The sax players were Nobby Hall (Alto) and "Chopper" Cox (Tenor). Do you remember Chopper arriving in time for Colours with his Scooter covered all over with Chickens that he was selling. He had of course knocked them off on the way into work. I arrived in the gate one morning to be told by the Master at Arms that it seemed I was a bit late. I said "that's okay they can't go without me" only to hear the band step off. I received two days Fourteens from the boss. I had occasion to put in for some leave and the boss asked what it was for. I told him that I was due to get married. He said and I quote "BLOODY FOOL" Refused. So I had the weekend to do the deed. Oh sweet memories.

---

message #: 1800

Date: Sunday February 8 2015 11:56:25 EST  
Name: Ian Epps  
Email: barbelshopping@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX2698  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Trombone/fishing rod/welding torch VBI Sultan  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I am eternally grateful to Tom Merritt for when I was sent to Pembroke from Jan 60 to the end of March 61 and my personal life was in turmoil. My wife Freda and newborn daughter had been flown back from Malta in February to Great Ormond Street Hospital where she was under a Professor who had been flown out from England to assess her (she had been on the danger list in the Naval Hospital since shortly after she was born in September). It was then one operation after another and Tom bless his heart gave me as much time as I could be spared to take Freda to London as he could to see our daughter. Beverly survived until her early 20's. My mode of transport was unusual in those days a three wheeled Morgan with a 1000cc V Twin JAP engine bolted on the front. It was both the best enjoyment and most exhilarating motoring I have ever had before or since it certainly gave the rest of the band a laugh. Two things I remember most about Pembroke. 1. The band-room was alongside the Chatham Field Gun practice track very noisy when we were up to full speed getting ready for the Royal Tournament and we didn't need a percussion section when we were practicing; and that brings us onto the other recollection. 2. We were up in London for the Tournament when the band had to return to Pembroke on a Monday (our free afternoon) for a Guard & Band for one of the Sea Lords visiting. As "luck??" would have it after inspecting the guard the Sea Lord came over to the band and during his walk through stopped by the Eflat sax player (I can't recall his name) and asked how he was enjoying being up at the Tournament oh dear what a mistake. He (the sax player) replied "Sir I live on the Isle of Sheppy and I would rather be in the prison there than living in Warwick. Hall the prisoners there have better accomodation somewhere to put clothes somewhere clean to wash better food and certainly more spare time than we do "SIR". Well I couldn't see the Captain's or Tom's face but I'm sure they were a picture. It had a good effect as the next morning a high powered group came round Warwick Hall and the following day we had new bedding mattresses and lockers and the food improved a 100%. Please if anyone goes to see Tom please give him my very best regards and a thank you for all his help Best wishes to all readers Ian or Eggy

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1799

Date: Saturday February 7 2015 03:55:49 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi folks just to let you know that the Central Band of the Royal British Legion under the "control" of David Cole will be in concert at the Duke of York's School Dover on Saturday February 21st at 1930. We will be playing David's arrangements of "Riverdance" "kaleidoscope" and a host of other interesting numbers. If you are interested please ring Martin Dadd on 07760 844833. Look forward to seeing any ex Bandies there. Mike

---

message #: 1798

Date: Friday February 6 2015 15:13:50 EST  
Name: Alan Brooker  
Email: marricc@sky.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Gillingham  
Instrument/s: Bugler  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
DOGEND REUNION A date has now been confirmed for the second Dogend Reunion! It will be Saturday 9th May 2015 festivities commencing 1900hrs. The venue as before The Countryman Pub or the old Ghuznee Fort as we knew it! Rum for the Gentlemen and Cava for the Ladies on arrival a cold buffet and a repeat of the libations prior to the speeches. Unfortunately as with everything the cost has increased to Â£10 per head. I will open an account so please send your cheques made payable to A. Brooker. I need to confirm numbers by the latest March 2015 so please let me know as soon as possible if you will be attending and send me your cheques. The address to send them to is:- Alan Brooker 59 Allison Avenue Darland Gillingham Kent ME7 3BY Please can I ask that you pass this information on to anyone you know who was a "Dogend" between 1970 and 1980 and let us have a good turn out! All or any updates will be on the "Dogend Reunion" Website or use the old dog and bone 01634 855797. Looking forward to seeing all you old ship mates on 9th May 2015. Alan

---

message #: 1797

Date: Thursday February 5 2015 02:13:55 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Rich Greetings and happy new year to the family of readers. I see from Terry's last that there is a dog-end reunion in May. I would be grateful for details I find that I am free that weekend and it would be good to catch up. Dave Lambert

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1796

Date: Sunday February 1 2015 09:22:36 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
CORPS BUGLE MAJOR DON HAWDON. Just in case there are others like me who don't regularly check the "In Memoriam" section of our website (in my case because it can often be a sad and painful experience) I thought it worthwhile bringing Colin Bowden's beautifully-written account of Don Hawdon's life and career to their attention. I served with Don in the Pompey Band and on the Yot and always found him a kind articulate and interesting person ... certainly one of my favourite Buglers!! Colin in relating his fine sporting achievements forgot to mention that Don was a key member of our RM Deck Hockey team on the "Britannia" helping us to maintain the unbeaten sequence of matches we so jealously guarded by bringing his authentic hockey skills to bear in a game whose rules were: No 1: There are NO rules!! No 2: Violence and cheating are encouraged at all times!!! and No 3: NEVER turn your back when the D of E has a deck-hockey stick in his hands!!!! Don is pictured in both of the Yot Band photos shown on the SQUAD PHOTO section under my name. The one of the band dressed in blues was Capt Ken "Chinny" McLean's final trip on Britannia and shows myself and the recently-deceased JERRY BALLARD in the back row. Don and Colin are sat next to each other. Also pictured is MAXIE BEARE who reminded me when we chatted on Skype this morning that both ROY MORGAN and HAROLD PRICE pictured in the front row were rare recipients of the RVM ... and you don't get many of those to the pound!!! This photo was taken on the Yot's fo'c's'le when we were anchored in the Lagoon opposite St Mark's Square Venice. I am very glad to have known Don ... and I'll never forget him. Best wishes to all.

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message #: 1795

Date: Saturday January 31 2015 15:57:24 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Onetime Bassoon Bass Drum and Eflat Baton  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Thanks Terry for your update on Tom Merritt. I served with him in the Band of CinC Nore Command from 57 to 61. After the band was dissolved on the closing of the Nore Command I never saw him again. Now only a few months ago after seeing his name mentioned in the BB just on a whim I looked up his phone number and rang him. His good lady wife answered the phone and asked who was calling. I of course said "I am Eric Hayward and am ringing from Australia". She replied much to my surprise "Oh Your Eric who used to ride your bike in from Dargets Wood" After all those years she could remember that. Now Ex Chatham chaps would know that Dargets Wood was where the married Quarters were. Anyway I did enjoy a few moments talking to the man himself. Please Terry if you should speak with him offer my best and most sincere wishes to them both. Of all the "bosses" I had in the RMB he was the best.

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message #: 1794

Date: Saturday January 31 2015 11:04:00 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X2505  
Hometown: Barham  
Instrument/s: Solo Cort  
n/a:

Comments:  
I'm sure all our readers will be pleased to join in sending wishes for a very Happy Birthday Anniversary to Lieutenant TC Merrett LRAM RM who is 93 today. Tom was SO(M) and Editor Blue Band Editor for 10 years and I relieved him in that capacity when he retired in 1972. He is now resident in Generals Meadow Nursing Home near St Mary's church Walmer. Unfortunately he is not in the best of health lately and his son Chris himself an ex-Lieutenant RN- tells me that he is losing weight and also his usual sharpness of mind. Band Service visitors will be very welcome but they should be prepared for Tom to be perhaps resting when they call. Tom wrote up his war time experiences a couple of years ago for BB. It seems unlikely that he will be able to attend the next Reunion of the Chatham Dog-ends planned by Alan Brooker for Saturday 9 May. Tom was the senior serving ex- Director of Music at Chatham from when it was the band of the Commander -in-Chief The Nore which closed in 1961.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1793

Date: Friday January 30 2015 13:52:04 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

#### Comments:

I was saddened to hear of the passing of JEREMY BALLARD RMBx3079 wonderful violinist superb teacher consummate artist and cartoonist ... and cornet holder!! I served with Jerry as he was generally known at Portsmouth Group and on the Yot in the early '60s where a lively articulate and talented bunch of young men lived in the one big cold and unattractive room that passed muster as the single man's accommodation in Eastney Barracks. The occupants of this room included Jerry John Watson Mike Angress Terry Gee Kevin Vickers Roger Hammond Dave Stockham and myself ... and there was a constant flow of temporary residents these being married men waiting for the arrival and re-housing of their families from their previous drafts. Mick Blandford and Mick Beer I remember with particular fondness the latter of course could charm and skylark his way into anyone's heart! Apart from the sheer drabness of the accommodation there was constant dissatisfaction with the lack of individual-practice facilities amongst the more dedicated instrumentalists who were not content to fall into the traditional bandsmans' malaise of sleeping in the afternoon. This is borne out by the fact that three of the above-mentioned purchased their discharge and entered the music profession ... with another entering Cambridge University's Robinson College and taking Holy Orders. Jerry was well used by the D of M Capt Ken "Chinny" McLean playing in concerts officers' wardroom evenings and on the Yot he played many times for the Royal Family. He pleaded with the D of M and the Bandmaster Roy "Taff" Morgan to be released from marching duties which he had no time to practice his cornet and would let down the high standards of the band. This all fell on deaf ears and there were several sharp exchanges of words that caused Jerry much resentment and determined him to prove his point ... and get his own back into the bargain!!! He formed a plan!!!!!!! Jerry applied for his M1!! M2 and M4 exams were a good way to earn extra money and were encouraged by the powers that be as successes showed the band and the D of M in a good light so Jerry presented himself for his practical exam to a good-humoured Chinny McLean on the given day. "What are you going to play on your violin Ballard?" asked Chinny. "The Mendelssohn concerto", replied Jerry which was the work he was currently studying with his teacher and which he had practised for hours and proceeded to play with his usual passion and accuracy. Chinny stopped him having heard enough. "Now Ballard" said the D of M "what are you going to play on your cornet?" Grasping his B&H silver-plated "Imperial" Jerry replied "Baa baa black sheep sir" upon which there was an awkward silence. "In C major" added Jerry informatively!!!! Well ... suffice to say that Jerry never did pass his M4 ... but By Golly he graced the orchestral and violin-playing world with his large avuncular bearded presence and made a mark that will be long-remembered. I saw him a few times when I was working in London and the CBSO came down to play at the Festival Hall or at a Prom. They were performing at the Albert Hall once when I saw him in the nearest pub to the hall the Queen's Arms. After greeting him I said "Have you practised your cornet lately Jerry?" ... and he made as if to answer but instead started to laugh ... and so did I until to other peoples consternation we stood with tears rolling down our cheeks red-faced and gasping for breath!!!! So ... job done point made Jerry!!!! He was an inspiration to me and others of a like mind ... and I will never forget him.

message #: 1792

Date: Friday January 30 2015 00:53:08 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianjohnbrett@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

#### Comments:

I was saddened to hear of the death of Jerry Ballard a lovely man and a fine violinist. I did not meet him in the RMBS but knew of his fine reputation as a player. I used to see him regularly at the BBC Pebble Mill Studios in Birmingham where I played principal flute in the Midland Radio Orchestra--a freelance recording orchestra-- and Jerry came in with many of his colleagues from the CBSO where Jerry had been principal 2nd violin. He was treated shabbily by Simon Rattle who was determined to get him replaced. No one who has served in the RMBS would ever allow someone to publicly shame or embarrass them without remonstrance and a strong verbal defence. Jerry held his ground and his pride and resigned rather than be dismissed. He told me it was the best decision of his life as he discovered he had a natural talent as a teacher and became the most sought after violin teacher in Birmingham. We often spoke of our time in RMBS and he told me a very amusing story concerning FVD. Not long after his appointment as principal 2nd violin in the CBSO Jerry was amused to see on his schedule that a forthcoming concert was to be conducted by Sir Vivian Dunn. None of the musicians in the orchestra knew who this conductor was....apart from Jerry and ex-B/Cpl Eddie Boshier who played in the cello section. Jerry and Eddie soon enlightened the orchestra about Fred!! On the morning of the rehearsal FVD trode to the podium and pompously announced he would commence with the overture. After several sections had been played he stopped the orchestra and pompously noticed a smiling bearded figure leading the 2nd violins. "You sir" pointing at Jerry ".....give an account of yourself. Do I know you?" Jerry immediately sprang to his feet clicked his heels and saluted: 'RMB 3xxx. Musician Ballard...SAH!!' The whole orchestra burst into uncontrollable laughter and FVD visibly coloured with acute embarrassment and it was a while before he managed to gain control of the band. I shall attend the funeral on behalf of the RMBS and those who knew and served with Jerry.

message #: 1791

Date: Friday January 16 2015 04:33:46 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelonkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

#### Comments:

I read with great interest Terry Freestone's comments about the BBC and the lack of military band music currently broadcast by that august institution. Decisions and decision-makers do change in large corporations and I am sure he is correct in his evaluation of the present situation. I do not however believe that there is an actual bias against military bands merely that fashions in music change and the BBC clearly feel that 'our music' is somewhat passé. This was not so in the past by any means! I recall my first ever BBC broadcast with the Staff Band from the BBC Farringdon Studio in London where we recorded 6 or so marches as part of the long-running programme; "Marching and Waltzing" and we regularly appeared on "Friday Night is Music Night" from the BBC Camden Theatre-- when a military band was a regular contributor to that time had served in military bands which could account for the popularity and inclusion of military music in programmes. Furthermore of course the BBC Wireless Military Band had been formed in 1927 and continued their studio recordings until disbanded (literally!!) in 1943. It included some of London's finest players not surprisingly as they were contracted for 3 rehearsals and 3 concerts for a salary of £27.....and inordinate amount in 1927.....and 18 hours work left plenty of time for other freelance engagements when there was a huge amount of employment for musicians in London. Those were the days when musicians were well paid and the profession of music was highly respected. The BBCWMB was conducted by B.Walton O'Donnell former Director of Music in HM Royal Marines who composed many original works for the band. When I was appointed Principal Flute in the BBC Radio Orch in 1974 my predecessor Bruce McClay had been a BBC employee for 50 years and was a founder member of the BBC Wireless Military Band! I am not sure when the broadcast of military music waned but I recall c.1978-1980 a memorable recording of BBC Maida Vale Studio One. A military band had been assembled comprising of current and former

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1790

Date: Tuesday January 13 2015 08:48:47 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
In response to Terry Freestone's plea for the BBC to play more Military Band Music may I suggest a switch to Classic FM in the afternoon with Ann Marie Mindhall. Yesterday had the pleasure of hearing not one but two items played by the Band that we all served in and love to this day for a couple of hours she does requests and I am sure she would play for us if we asked.

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message #: 1789

Date: Friday January 9 2015 16:13:28 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: One time Bassoon Bass Drum and Eflat Baton  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Terry You have mixed up the the two ships Gambia was first then we joined Superb. We flew to Columbo before joining the Gambia in Trinco' as the Band of CinC East Indies about Oct 55. I have the some photos. Didn't get on with Staff BM Shipway at all. Cheers from Down Under Eric.

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message #: 1788

Date: Friday January 9 2015 14:55:31 EST  
Name: Terry Parker  
Email: terry@the-parkers.fsworld.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX2560  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello everyone. I have no excuse for not keeping up to date with this the RM Band site but will try to do better in the future! As I live about five hundred yards from Mike Tellick I am sure he will keep you all up to speed with the goings' on in Sittingbourne etc etc. Yes as he and Terry F. have discovered I joined at Burford on 1st September 1948 in the 107 squad and moved with the School to Deal on 6th January 1950 getting rated on 26th June 1952. I then went straight into the Staff Band in Deal under the care of Bandmaster Dave Woods and Drum Major Charlie Bowden. Got married to Beryl in 1955 and shortly afterwards was introduced to HM Ships via HMS Superb in Trincomalee followed by HMS Gambia. I won't go on as I suspect this will become tedious! Musician Terry Parker (late Sir Vivian Dunn music librarian)

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1787

Date: Friday January 9 2015 11:32:19 EST  
Name: Richard (Dickie) Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
In answer to Terry's plea I'm happy to say that there is still the prog' available for the next 8 days. As Terry says a pity this orchestral work which really doesn't cut it eh! Copy and paste this link: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b04v21xm> I'm sure we all wish Terry and Lucia the best and one hopes that they have ample assistance with Lucia's healing. Barham is not that far from Deal. With best wishes to them and to you all, Dickie.

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message #: 1786

Date: Friday January 9 2015 11:01:05 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X2505  
Hometown: Barham Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Readers who are also listeners to Radio 3's daily Breakfast slot 0630 - 0900 will have been aware that last year they had an invitation for listeners to nominate a piece of music by a British composer. By the time we got to September I was getting a bit impatient for a piece for military band and sent the following signal: May I suggest no list of British works would be complete in this centenary year without that outstanding march of the British Army "Colonel Bogey" by Kenneth J Alford (Major Frederick Ricketts RM). Adopted over two world wars it has survived Tommy's own adaptation of words that have rendered it a classic and Alford's list of marches was rated by the late Sir Vivian Dunn to be the equal of JP Sousa. Terry Freestone [address supplied] Nothing seemed to happen and I sent it again about 21 October each time getting an automated reply of acknowledgment. Again no success then a couple of days before Christmas I got a phone call from a friend I met on a cruise last year who told me much to my surprise and some disappointment that on Thursday 18 December they played my request mentioned my name but apparently not using a RM or other service band but the BBC Concert orchestra playing the version used in the River Kwai film! Of course that morning I was getting Lucia ready to take her in for a specialist appointment at Canterbury hospital for investigation into her history of falls in the past year (Fractured pelvis in March and fractured femur in September); so of course I missed it and have been unable to get it on the Play-back facility due to the complexity of the BBC website. It would be interesting if anyone heard it; I have been aware for years that the Beeb are heavily prejudiced against military bands. The only time I ever hear MB music is when they play a recording either by the Northern wind ensemble under Timothy Reynish or the Eastman outfit under Frederick Fennell. Brass bands are fine of course under their left-wing philosophy dating back to Roith's Calvinistic socialism. I got plenty of evidence of this in my years at the Royal Albert Hall. Best wishes to all Terry.

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message #: 1785

Date: Wednesday January 7 2015 02:44:13 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: Miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Thank you Terry for your info on Terry Parker. I will pass it on when I see him this morning. Mike

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1784

Date: Tuesday January 6 2015 15:37:45 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email: terryfreestone @vfast co uk

Service Number: RMB/X2505  
Hometown: Barham Nr Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

To help with Mike Tellick's query re Terry Parker: RMB/X2560 Terence William Parker Solo Clarinet was a member of 107 squad joined Burford September 1948. Which CG squad he was in would have depended on how old he was when he joined. I see he was discharged CS1 expired in the July issue of Blue Band in 1964 so assuming he was 30 in the spring he would have been 18 in 1952 and perhaps in the first term CG squad that year. There were three a year one each term and we know all early Rating to Musician (adult) status had been stopped on arrival at Deal on 6 January 1950. I estimate he would have been CG Squad No 6 probably 7, 8 as an outside chance. This shows what a help it is for members details to be stored centrally by someone and I won't be here for ever.... More details please shipmates better for me to have it twice over than not at all. Ironically I have far fuller records of the (first) RMB series which ran from 10 July 1903 to October 1925 than I do for the subsequent RMB/X series which followed starting again at number 1 until about 1954 when they dropped the X soon after 3054 had been passed and RMBx3399 was the last followed by RMB 3400 (A E 'Joe' Baker) until the Q prefix replaced it around 1972-3 with two zeroes to make the number a 6 digit job for the computers at Centurion. The suffix letter was arbitrarily chosen by the computer for some IT reason best known to the geeks running it. I hope this helps best wishes to all yours aye Terry

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message #: 1783

Date: Monday January 5 2015 15:31:44 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Can anyone out there help with a problem that a friend of mine has please. Terry Parker ex solo Clarinet cannot remember which CG Squad he was in. He also can't remember who were his squad mates. We were playing bowls this morning and this came up in conversation. He would love to have an answer to this problem. Thanks on behalf of Terry.

---

message #: 1782

Date: Friday January 2 2015 08:03:41 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

A REPLY TO GERRY TAYLOR: I like you Gerry find the squad and group photos a fascinating trawl and seeing those (mainly) young faces and names reignites many memories of the past. To find a photo of your 1952 CG Squad may I suggest you try to remember what number it was given and what month you passed for duty then check on all the names in the Buddy List and all entries on the Notice Board and if you can remember the names of your fellow squadsmen post them on a Guest Book entry with an appeal for news of them. You mention the RM Record office and an "archive"! The rub is of course that there doesn't seem to be any logical record of us joining serving or leaving the RMB which is why it is so important that these photos especially those of New Entry squads keep coming in to Dickie as these can form the foundation for a data base of those who served. TERRY FREESTONE has made an important start on this work and ADRIAN BRETT and myself are also becoming involved. An example of how many of us have become "lost" to posterity is that when I was alerted that I was due another clasp on my GSM awarded after I had left the RMB I had to send a copy of my service record to the MoD ... and it still took 6 months to be confirmed and for the clasp to be sent. From this it can be deduced that there is no "Record Office" that can with a click or two on a computer reveal my 11 year RMB history in all it's glory!! Finally Gerry I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the part you played in my M1 exam in 1961 at Eastney. I started off with Mozart's 1st horn concerto (for horn in D; I hoped my transposing skills might earn me a few brownie points!!!) and was scarcely 16 bars into it when there was a knock on the door. "Come in" said Capt McLean and your head popped into the room. "Urgent phone call Sir" you said. "I'd better take this" said Chinny "just carry on playing Watson ... I'll still be able to hear you." He then disappeared into the office for 30 minutes by which time I'd played the entire concerto oiled my valves and had a quick snooze!! (Well maybe NOT the latter!!!). A few scales and a pep-talk later I returned to the bandroom a slightly puzzled but richer young Bandie!!! I think you were acting as Band Sec. at that time but your intervention in that exam proved to me that you had the most superb musical timing!!!! MANY THANKS!!!!!! HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1781

Date: Friday January 2 2015 06:52:26 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Having just returned from the UK where I spent a very pleasant Christmas and New Year with my family for the first time in many a year. Now I am back I would like (belatedly) to wish all members past and present of the ROYAL MARINES BAND SERVICE and their families a very happy and peaceful New Year may you all remain in rude health and I am looking forward to meeting many again in October. You all take great care. You are special. Regards to all.

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message #: 1780

Date: Thursday January 1 2015 05:41:53 EST  
Name: Gerry Taylour  
Email: gerrytaylour@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2742  
Hometown: Nottingham  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
May I wish all members of our band family a very happy New Year. I am finding the squad photo section of our wonderful website fascinating. Two faces from the past meant a lot to me. Firstly Paddy Dolan with whom I went out gigging whilst we were both instructors in Deal during 1962-1964. He lived opposite us in Freemans Way. I wonder what it is like there now. Are those apartments still standing? The other face was Ted Hewlett whom became godfather to my son in 1960 in Portsmouth. Unfortunately I cannot find a photo of my passing out in 1952. I wonder whether the Royal Marines Record Office would still hold copies of the missing ones in their archive (if there is such a thing!) All the best from Gerry Taylour

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message #: 1779

Date: Thursday January 1 2015 03:27:24 EST  
Name: Paul Collett  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3827  
Hometown: Corfe Mullen  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
I would like to wish all readers Ex and serving members of the Band Service a happy and healthy New year

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1778

Date: Wednesday December 31 2014 13:47:12 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Southsea  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Best wishes to all for 2015... Boo hoo I'm all alone 'cos Linda is in Hong Kong until Friday. Never mind I'll celebrate with some Stroma next door. Strange name for a girl.

---

message #: 1777

Date: Wednesday December 31 2014 06:54:30 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email: french.horn@sky.com

Service Number: RMB 4336  
Hometown: Great Mongeham  
Instrument/s: Horn & Bugle!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Wishing everyone a Happy Healthy and very Wealthy 2015!

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message #: 1776

Date: Wednesday December 31 2014 03:59:38 EST  
Name: Paul Collett  
Email: tubby.tuba@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3827  
Hometown: Corfe Mullen Dorset  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I would just like to echo Barry Radford's thanks to Adrian for an excellent speech at Albert's funeral. I am certainly glad that I made the trip and it was nice to see that so many of Albert's old friends gave him a rousing send-off. Paul

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1775

Date: Tuesday December 30 2014 08:29:15 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to all "Bravo" Adrian on a brilliant and witty Eulogy yesterday. Both Heather and I were honoured to be able to attend and witness the great send off that Albert Phillip Eric!! received. Good to meet up with several Bandies some I met for the first time but it was especially pleasing to see Ray and Pat Grant. (Ray and I joined up together in February 1956) Heather and I wish all members of our great family a very Happy New Year. If the "Gizmo" continues to do its job we will see you either in Margate or Portsmouth.  
Cheers Barry and Heather

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message #: 1774

Date: Tuesday December 30 2014 06:16:28 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelionkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I dutifully attended the funeral of "Our Albert" yesterday at Stockport Crematorium. Met up with Mike Logan and his wife in the pub next door in time honoured fashion, and spent a pleasant half an hour with them reflecting on Albert and his life. Fearing there may be only a small gathering how wrong could I be! How could have I doubted that Albert of all people would have been known to many people in Stockport? There was an amazing turnout with many from the RN as Albert had been a member of the local White Ensign Club. The RMBS were well represented by myself Mike Logan (with Barbara) Merv Durrant Barry Radford (with Heather) Ray Grant Dave Barton Paul Collett and from the Buglers Dave Hadfield. Hope I have not missed anyone. Apologies if so. The chapel was packed with two rows either side of the central aisle standing and many outside who could not get in!! I gave the EULOGY and in writing it I included a section of quotes from the individual tributes to Albert which appeared here on our website so that those unable to attend were in fact "there" by their own words speaking to those present. It was much appreciated by the comments to me from a number of people who spoke to me afterwards to express their thanks. I placed a bunch of red roses and a card with a red rose on the coffin which read: "From Adrian Brett and on behalf of all his many friends in the Royal Marines Band Service. R.I.P. Albert. A reception was held after the service at the local Catholic Church Club next door to Albert's local "The Armoury". After a while I wanted to actually sit in his pub and together with all fellow RMBS present we went next door to reminisce upon Albert drink a few pints of the local Robinson's bitter quietly seated together at one table. A fitting tribute to a unique man who I am sure was there with us "in spirit". \*\*\*\*\* [Editor] See the Eulogy link from What's New section - Notice Board on our EX

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message #: 1773

Date: Sunday December 28 2014 04:28:13 EST  
Name: per kleiven  
Email: per.kleiven@hotmail.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Oslo Norway  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Sir I am in the possession of the starboard name plate of HMS FORTH. I'm searching for a nice picture of the wessel HMS Forth. I will frame it and use it in my home. I have seen some nice pictures by Brian Thorogood(?). Is it possible to get some pictures showing this beautiful wessel? Sincerely Per Kleiven Oslo

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1772

Date: Monday December 22 2014 16:41:54 EST  
Name: Sidney George Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal, Kent.  
Instrument/s: Percussion.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
To Richard. Serving Ex. Young and Old May I take this opportunity to wish one and all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and prosperous New Year and to comrades who are no longer with us I would like to pass on to their families the Love and Peace of all serving and ex RMBs. Sid and Family.

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message #: 1771

Date: Sunday December 21 2014 16:06:35 EST  
Name: Roy Adrian  
Email: ra.adrian181@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3647  
Hometown: Carlton-le-Moorland  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a:

Comments:  
My Dear Friends The Festive Season is virtually upon us so I'd like to join the rest of the messages already posted in wishing EVERYONE in our very special Bandservice Family whether ex or serving near or in far off lands young or old A Very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. My special Thanks to Dickie for his sterling work and dedication in his efforts to keep us informed of friends past and present through this website. The Squad photos are great - Well Done they bring back so many happy memories. Roy

---

message #: 1770

Date: Saturday December 20 2014 16:04:14 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Piano Clarinet Voice Vibraphone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Friends MERRY CHRISTMAS! I want to thank you from the very corners of my soul for all your support. I report good and bad news but it just HAS to be done! We are SO unique! I served on HMS Eagle on her last commission and was fortunate to have in my company the likes of many but as seen here Harry Martinson (Basses) and Mick Murray (Saxophones) are two "of many" dear friends who I have not seen perhaps since this photo was taken when the 'Shipwrecks' were still wrecked. If you know where either of them are then please tell 'em to be in touch. Life is too short. Again my thanks to you all for giving me all the material for a great web site. Dare I say? Dickie Valentine. Dickie Harry (Big H) and Mick Murray (2004)

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1769

Date: Saturday December 20 2014 07:09:41 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
For the Info of Russ Ireland. As far as I am aware John Tansey is still living in the same house on the outskirts of Plymouth (I think he still has the tapes hidden away somewhere!! (those who served with him at Lymington will know what I mean!!) Merry Christmas to all and a Healthy 2015. Cheers Ray

---

message #: 1768

Date: Friday December 19 2014 15:53:08 EST  
Name: Roy Adrian  
Email: ra.adrian181@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3647  
Hometown: Carlton-le-Moorland Lincoln  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a:

Comments:  
Having just caught up with the latest messages posted on this site I was so sorry to read of 'Albert' Hill's passing on. We were boys together and for a while served at Chatham before meeting up again at a Deal Re-Union. What a character and such a loyal & sincere friend. The Bandservice was always his love and in return the Bandservice loved him. I send condolences to his family. R.I.P. Albert Your memory will last forever. Roy

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message #: 1767

Date: Friday December 19 2014 11:14:03 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
I would like to echo Mick Hutton's kind and heartfelt words regarding Dickie our inestimable webmaster who has given us the means to maintain contact and enhance the friendships we made when serving in the RMB. Mick is absolutely right in saying that the content of the Guest Book postings has been interesting and varied. Dickie said that it is used more like a forum than was maybe originally intended but ...hey!! ... ANY way that we can get people talking has got to be a good thing ... and it has a much more dignified air than any other of the social media sites!! As for the 2014 CD of the Mountbatten Concert WOW! is my opinion!!!! I am finding the growing content of the new Squad Photo site incredibly interesting. One can see a name from the past put a face to that name and in many cases hear that person's voice transporting us back to those days when we were young and healthy with the world our lobster!!! Please keep those photos coming in ... and chivvy up any pals you are in touch with to do the same. There's a lot of gaps to fill for Adrian Brett to add to the all-important data base he is constructing of all of us who served in the RMB. On a sadder note GINGER (Don) FEATHER phoned me last night to say that his wife passed away a few days ago. Suffering from Alzheimer's for quite a time her passing was not altogether unexpected but still came as a shock to him. Myself and a few other of his Centaur shipmates have joined together in offering our condolences; any other old pals of his who wish to do the same please get in touch with me for his contact details. I wish all my loved and respected RMB brethren a Happy Christmas and a HEALTHY New Year!! I'll see you in Margate in March.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1766

Date: Friday December 19 2014 10:55:44 EST  
Name: Stan Puttrell  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3487  
Hometown: Gosport  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to hear Albert passed away. He was such a character always larking about. He will be sorely missed like our all absent friends of the RMB family. Sorry I will be unable to attend but Barry Radford will pass on my condolences. R.I.P Albert Stan

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message #: 1765

Date: Friday December 19 2014 04:51:00 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
What an amazing collection of articles we have seen on the guestbook this year! Both sad at the loss of friends and joyful with the getting together of many old friends. We need to send particular greetings to Dickie because if it wasn't for this wonderful site he created none of us could enjoy the benefit. So to Dickie and family all serving RMBs the old & bold particularly my group of the over 80s let's hope for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We shall look forward to the 'All Stars' on Sunday March 22nd in Margate If you don't blow or bang just come for the beer! Or maybe you would like to follow the RMA Concert Band? Just check out our website or look in the Blue Band all the info is there. Finally I would just like to add that the latest MFM cd has got to be the best ever! What an amazing group of musicians we have in the Band Service today. Best wishes to all. Michael.

---

message #: 1764

Date: Thursday December 18 2014 13:33:56 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelionkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
I wonder if the obit re: COMMINS...is "Blood Commins"...a name I often heard but could not connect with? In my vague past in the West End Theatres I did recall such a name but never connected it with RMBS.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1763

Date: Thursday December 18 2014 11:26:19 EST  
Name: Russ Ireland  
Email: hootertooter@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4105  
Hometown: Aljezur  
Instrument/s: Cort&Fid  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Greetings to one and all at this busy time of year. I would like to take the opportunity to wish all Bandys & Bugs a great Christmas and a Stonking New Year. Nuff said. Anybody seen or heard from Sgt/Bug John Tansey? Best wishes. Aye. Russ.

---

message #: 1762

Date: Thursday December 18 2014 11:13:25 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: Miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I agree with Barry about the squad photos. The 2/56 photo was put on the website by my dear old friend Willi Watson. We were indeed Boy Musicians when we enlisted on February 14th 1956. We were renamed Junior Musicians later in that year. I guess Willi joined as a "Junior" and assumed that the title had always been that. However it doesn't really matter as we are all in the same great family. Merry Christmas to all our readers and may 2015 be a prosperous one for us all. See you at the reunion you know it makes sense.

---

message #: 1761

Date: Thursday December 18 2014 08:32:18 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Great to see all the Squad Photos coming in Mike Tellick proudly displays a copy of 2/56 recruit squad (Michael at that time we were Boy Musicians not yet Junior Musicians!!). Photos of numbers 26 and 28 CG Squads but as yet still no photo of Number 27. I know there are not a lot of us left but surely someone out there must have a copy!!! Please!!!!!! Wishing all out there a fantastic Festive Season Regards Barry

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1760

Date: Wednesday December 17 2014 08:13:35 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelionkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

**Comments:**

I suppose that in everyone's life there are a few people who stand out and are literally unforgettable. Albert Hill was one such person. A quite unique character with a natural and unaffected charisma which endeared him to everyone. From the rawest recruit to the CO, I swear even the CO called him Albert. Everyone else did regardless of rank!! It was difficult to work out exactly what it was about him that endeared him to all who met him. He was not a natural comedian like some others but there was a very special quality emanating from him which though hard to explain was immediately evident to all. He was i/c Rm 114 in Gloucester House where I was billeted after New Entry training in 1959. He was warm friendly and very helpful and we became good friends. I met him at the Deal reunions several times after we both had left and I stayed with him in his flat in Stockport on a number of occasions. I played in the orchestra for the BBCTV 'The Good Old Days' for the last 8 years of its long run on TV and would go over to Stockport after the recordings. Albert always insisted that I have his bedroom and he would sleep on the sofa as I was a guest in his home. At the time Phil (always Albert in RMBS) was an orchestral porter at the BBC in Manchester responsible for setting up the orchestra each day with the correct number of chairs and stands etc. Inevitably the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra named him BBC Phil!! His famous 'cabaret act' was the highlight of many orchestral tours to the utter delight of the young female members of the orchestra who adored him. He would perform at the drop of a hat or should I say trousers!! In respect of this performance witnessed by many in the drill shed each year I must make the obvious comment that show business is declining in its standards. It has been noticed by others far more eminent than myself that so few contemporary acts possess that WOW factor. Well one thing is certain about Albert's performance it definitely had the WOW factor!!!!!! When I phoned him and his answering machine turned on I was greeted with two three-beat rolls and Massed Bands playing 'A Life on the Ocean Wave' so his time in the RMBS had meant a lot to him. After working at the BBC Albert worked for a time as a hospital porter at Stepping Hill hospital in Stockport and I can not imagine a job more suited to Albert's inimitable charm and humour. He will be missed by many. I have booked my train ticket and shall be attending his funeral on December 29th. RIP Albert a truly unique charismatic and unforgettable character. Adrian

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message #: 1759

Date: Wednesday December 17 2014 04:58:51 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Dear Richard Just heard from Mike Logan Phillip (Albert) Hill funeral. Monday 29th December at 1500hrs at Stockport Crematorium. Heather and I will be there hope to see some more faces from our great family. Regards Barry

---

message #: 1758

Date: Monday December 15 2014 12:39:17 EST  
Name: Pip Phillips  
Email: peter.phillips@live.com

Service Number: RMB3874  
Hometown: Gateshead Tyne and Wear  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

I too was sorry to hear of the passing of Albert Hill - I met him when I left Deal to go to Chatham in 1966. I always found him to be happy and helpful to a young musician. I was only in Chatham for 9 months before heading off on the Eagle in 1967. Can't remember if he was still in Chatham when I went back there after the tour on the Eagle. RIP Albert Pip

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1757

Date: Monday December 15 2014 11:46:36 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/ clar/ vln  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Sorry to hear about the passing of Albert Hill one of the Bandservice's memorable characters and obtainer of things onboard HM Ships. I spent a year or so on the Tiger with Albert and remember one day when he was the Rum Bosun having delivered a Rib Of Beef to our mess deck in place of the usual ham roll the evening before. As was usual for a good deed like this Albert was invited to "sippers" at Tot time with the usual queens going to the Bosun too. After a couple of hours Albert decided to "get his head down" and duly flaked out on his bunk unfortunately he forgot to take his glasses off and at the first opportunity some one decided that it would be a great laugh to paint his lenses black. On waking up and with a hangover to end all hangovers Albert immediately thought he'd gone blind and in his blind panic fell off the bunk into an almighty heap on the deck. I've seen panic before but not like that it was a sight (to coin a phrase) to behold. Albert had a wonderful sense of humour and an even larger number of tattoos which many people will have seen. He was a character a go fa' and a great bloke to have known he will be sorely missed by all who had the privilege of having known him. RIP Albert Jem.

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message #: 1756

Date: Friday December 12 2014 08:34:09 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:

Rich I would like to echo the thoughts about Albert Hill. I was a young musician fresh from " the box" when I joined Chatham Band for the trip Paul mentioned. As you can imagine for a fresh faced innocent to be taken under Albert's all encompassing wing was an education second to none. I believe I learned more in those 3 months than the previous 4 years at Deal. Rest in peace Dear friend Dave

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message #: 1755

Date: Friday December 12 2014 03:44:53 EST  
Name: Paul Collett  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3827  
Hometown: Corfe Mullen Dorset  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a:

Comments:

Very sorry to hear the sad news of Alberts passing. I served with him at Chatham and on a South American tour in 1969 on RFA's Olwyn and Lyness. He was one of those characters that in some ports he was still remembered from his trip on HMS Tiger in 1964. One of the great characters of the Band Service. RIP  
Friend Paul

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1754

Date: Thursday December 11 2014 08:08:17 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sitingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clartian  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Albert Hill. We were boys together and then we served under Peter Sumner in the Fleet Band. Albert relieved me as librarian went to sea in the "Eagle" in 1967 and when I returned in '68 I again took over the position of librarian. Albert was a star of the Band Service and a character par excellence. When he left the Band Service he went to the Band of the Royal Tank Regt. On one occasion whilst we were in Kiel for Kiel Week aboard I think it was the "Intrepid" I had omitted to pack a piece of music namely "Duel for Drummers". The boss asked me where it was and was not best pleased when I said that it was in the band room in Chatham. I went to the ships telephone exchange had a word to the German Matelot who put me through to the "British Panzer Band" in Honer. The B/M said "oh you will be wanting Albert then" needless to say the dots were delivered to the ship by the next morning and were on the stand by the time we rigged up. A typical Bandy move!!! As I have already said Albert was a real character and one of a kind. RIP old friend.  
Mike

---

message #: 1753

Date: Thursday December 11 2014 07:21:19 EST  
Name: Sidney George Sheard  
Email: sidsrmb3211@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi Richard. So sorry to hear that one of ours has passed on. Phillip (Albert) Hill was a character who was loved by everyone who knew him and he will be sorely missed. The last time I saw Albert was at the reunion a few years back and it was like he hadn't changed from the days we were both band boys. Rest in Peace dear Albert. We will all meet up with you one day. Condolences to his Family. Sid.

---

message #: 1752

Date: Thursday December 11 2014 04:47:43 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

So sad to read of the passing of Albert what a great chap he was. He did indeed hail from Newark and as said I also have no knowledge of any family. I had the pleasure of his company on the Tiger in 1964 when she totally circumnavigated South America when the ships band was made bigger for this cruise. Many of us will remember Ph for his party piece which to those who knew him or saw it will never forget seeing it. Having not seen him for many a year makes this an even more bitter pill to swallow as I can recall the last he and I crossed paths was at one of the last Reunions in Deal and I wil never forget that evening as yes he did it. Apart from Military career I believe at sometime he had some involvement with an Orchestra in the Manchester area my condolences to all who had the pleasure and it was a pleasure to know and serve with him. Phil (Albert) Rest in peace I am sure you will meet many old friends and entertain them once again. RiP old buddy I am missing you already. XXX

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1751

Date: Thursday December 11 2014 01:28:50 EST  
Name: Herman (Nobby) Clarke.  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to all I have just seen the confusion that has been caused by my C.G. Squad photo. I can confirm that Gilbert/Rolfe is just one person who had a double barreled Surname. Can I also wish all of your readers Seasons Greetings and best wishes for 2015.

---

message #: 1750

Date: Wednesday December 10 2014 17:16:33 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Both Heather and I are greatly saddened to read the news re - Phillip (Albert) Hill. I served with Phillip on HMS Tiger. Phillip hailed from Newark where he lived with his parents. To my knowledge there is no other family. If at all possible both Heather and I will attend Phillip's Funeral. I will contact Mike Logan for details. Phillip was a legend whilst serving in the Band Service followed by service in the Army. Phillip, Rest in Peace my old friend. Both Heather and I have got some precious memories to cherish. Regards to All Barry

---

message #: 1749

Date: Wednesday December 10 2014 16:16:56 EST  
Name: Mike (Lofty) Logan  
Email: brenda.logan@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3714  
Hometown: Manchester England  
Instrument/s: Flute & Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Ritchie It is with great sadness that I have to inform you that Phil (Albert) Hill died today 10th December suddenly at home. There may be a coroner's inquest but how can we get in touch with any ex Bandies living in Manchester who would remember Albert? We don't think he had any family so anyone wishing to go would they please contact Mike Logan on 0161 747 6567 and we will pass on funeral arrangements as soon as they are known.  
Mike and Brenda Logan

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1748

Date: Tuesday December 9 2014 05:11:39 EST  
Name: Robert Taylor  
Email: bob.taylor2311@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 4121  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Having just returned from five weeks at sea on the Balmoral in my role as a dance host and being knackered after dancing every night I am afraid I was disappointed that Martin Obidans wasn't the lounge pianist on this trip. I did however meet a gentleman called Dixie Deane. He joined the Royal Yacht in 1957 as a Leading Telegrapher and served on her until 1986 finishing as a WO RS. He asked me to remember him through this site to all ex Band Yachties especially Maxie Beare and Jim Mason. Looking on Maxie's notes I notice there is an entry called Dixie Deane showing a picture of Dixie with Maxie's wife. I'm sure it is the same Dixie I had the pleasure of meeting. May I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

---

message #: 1747

Date: Monday December 1 2014 04:16:03 EST  
Name: Mervyn C Durrant  
Email: mervcd3518@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3518  
Hometown: Ropley Alesford  
Instrument/s: 3rdClart 2ndBike Pantec Coach &Broom  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Sid As regards G-R He was in HMS Phoenicia Band in June 1960 when I joined the Band not long after he left to come home and was replaced by Pete Lewis (Solo Clart) also of Neptune house. Nice to see you & Charlie at the reunion and that you were both happy with the digs? Merv

---

message #: 1746

Date: Sunday November 30 2014 11:36:29 EST  
Name: Sidney George Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hoymail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal, Kent.  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard. Anyone out there with photos of C.G. squads end of 1957 possibly 24/25/26 C.G. squads. As regards Gilbert Rolfe he was in Neptune house and was about six months younger than me. He was a very quiet lad who kept himself to himself. I believe he died very young about 19 or 20. May I take this opportunity to wish you Richard your family and all serving and ex RMBs a very Happy Peaceful Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Sid.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1745

Date: Saturday November 29 2014 17:11:21 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Onetime Bassoon BassDrum and Eflat Baton  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Barry The John I refer to was in fact a Cornet player. He actually received the Squad Watch from Training Staff after those first few weeks of training after joining. I must say that it was wondered by the rest of us how he had managed to do this? Cheers to all from Down Under and Compliments of the coming Festive season to you all. Dickie any alterations you care to make to my posts is OKAY with me. My problem is Glasses. They are always in the other room.

---

message #: 1744

Date: Saturday November 29 2014 13:09:07 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
I'm pretty confused now Barry!! Bass player Jack was the person I expected to see on Nobby's 26 CG Squad photo for some reason and if he joined in early '55 it could have been quite feasible for him to be rated in August '58. Mick Hickman says that there is no one missing from the squad and that GILBERT and ROLFE are in fact one person GILBERT ROLFE or GILBERT-ROLFE!!!! The familiarity or that name immediately struck a chord in my memory and I remembered a shortish solo clart player in Neptune House. Because of the anomaly of the number of bods in the squad it must be assumed that GR's name turned him into two people due to bad spacing and a duff compiler of the photo. The next question is ... when did Jack and John Rolphe get rated ... and is there anyone out there who has THEIR CG Squad photos??? This sort of information is so vital if we are to build the much-needed data-base of the RMB. BARRY: It's heart-warming to see that you still live in my beloved Sussex my home for many years. Have you got a photo of your 2/55 New Entry Squad and your CG Squad to put online?? PLEASE EVERYONE!!! Dig your squad photos out of your lofts scan them in and get them to Dickie. NAMES are all important so add them yourself if they are not printed on the photo. All we then need is ONE (or more) person's regimental number and we can then calculate a whole squad as we were all numbered alphabetically. THIS IS HOW WE CAN BUILD UP A RECORD OF WE WHO SERVED!!!!!! My best wishes to Barry Mick Eric and Nobby ... and to all others who remember me.

---

message #: 1743

Date: Saturday November 29 2014 09:16:47 EST  
Name: BARRY PETTITT  
Email: barryg1940@googlemail.com

Service Number: RMBX3355  
Hometown: SEAFORD SUSSEX  
Instrument/s: CORNET/VIOLIN  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Eric Just to clear up the Rolph problem Jack (BASS) joined with me in the 2/55 squad and I believe as far as I remember John solo cornet was a couple of years earlier. All the best Barry.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1742

Date: Friday November 28 2014 15:35:56 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Onetime Bassoon BassDrum and Eflat Baton  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Adrian/Mick John/Jack Rolfe joined with New Entry No 3 of 52 with 42 others. His number would have to have been in the RMB/X series around about 307- as can be seen my number is/was RMB/X3051. Terry Freestone had been doing what you are doing Adrian for a long time so should be able to liase with him I should think. All the best Eric. [Dickie] Eric: I have as ever done my spell check and corrected Rolphe to Rolfe. Please let me know my assumption was correct. I'm just to big for my boots sometimes, BTW I served for a short time with Jack in Eastney before he retired as a postie in Eastbourne. What a lovely guy! Last saw him at the post bombing reunion in Deal.

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message #: 1741

Date: Friday November 28 2014 05:43:37 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik11@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
With reference to Herman Clarke's squad photo I think that a squad member is not missing it is the one with the surname of Gilbert Rolfe not Jack Rolfe he was before this time I think.

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message #: 1740

Date: Friday November 28 2014 04:35:34 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelonkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Further to Willi Watson's remarks I am trying to build up a database of former RMBs: Name/Service No./Instruments/ Contact/etc.. Any info is gratefully received. I believe that Terry Freestone had started this project some while back but not sure how far he got or whether it was solely restricted to a list of service numbers ( If you read this Terry and would like me to use your garnered info please contact me ). The way I am going about this is via New Entry Squad photos and knowing just ONE service number of an individual.....so cracking another 'Enigma' code!! I know my no. was 3730 so know that Jack Arbery was 3729 and Dave Clegg 3731 as service numbers were allocated alphabetically. I have Parents Day programmes from 1961/62 which contain service numbers of prizewinners which is another aid. New Entry photos are gold dust though. As CG squads were constituted of juniors from different NE squads these do not help in completing the database but could be an extra fact that could be entered i.e. number of NE Squad/No. of CG squad. Got to keep the remaining grey cells working!!! Best wishes to all ADRIAN

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1739

Date: Thursday November 27 2014 18:27:32 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Re Nobby Clark's posting of No 26 CG Squad on the Squad Photo section: As Dickie has commented what an excellent scan this is of a photo that has obviously been lovingly looked after for more than 56 years. Well done Nobby! The trouble with this is that it shows with beautiful clarity that there are 26 names of squad members ... and only 25 bodies!!! It seems that Jack Rolfe was abducted by aliens at some point ... or was standing in a very deep hole?!! Never mind! ... this omission hardly detracts from a great photo that will help to build up a data base and vital record of those of us who served. I hope somebody can come forth with Barry's squad photo and please ... keep them coming so that Dickie can add them to this fascinating section of our wonderful website. Best wishes to all who remember me.

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message #: 1738

Date: Wednesday November 26 2014 10:13:52 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Hi to all great to see Nobby Clark's Squad Photo of 26 CG Squad Remember them all except Pembleton? Anyone out there got a copy of 27 CG Squad? I was in that and have been able to source one yours in hope Barry

---

message #: 1737

Date: Tuesday November 25 2014 09:05:52 EST  
Name: David [Jack] Kennedy  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3940  
Hometown: Horrabridge  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

The funeral of Derek Scott will take place at 13.00 hrs on MONDAY 8th DECEMBER 2014 at Weston Mill Crematorium Plymouth PL2 2EP. Family flowers only. If desired donations to Cancer Research via The Funeral Directors on the day.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1736

Date: Monday November 24 2014 13:17:31 EST  
Name: Rodney Preston  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3699  
Hometown: PORTSMOUTH  
Instrument/s: Clt and Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I was very sad to read of Zoonie Howarth's news as like so many of us I have such happy memories of times spent with him. Zoonie may the end of your time with us be as pain free as possible I have thought of you many times over the years and regret having not seen you for so long.

---

message #: 1735

Date: Sunday November 23 2014 10:22:28 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Very sad to read of the crossing of the bar of Derek Scott. I used to meet up with Derek on Snow Hill Station in Birmingham and lead him across London to catch the next train to Deal way back when? Sadly the last time I met Derek was at the Wake following the funeral of another old friend Peter Westaway. I would invite Jack Kennedy to email me with the day/date/ and time of the funeral as I would wish to attend which is subject to the NHS appointments and treatments. I am now on first name terms with most of the Nurses Doctors and Consultants in Bristol Hospitals..... Regret that I was unable to attend and support the funeral in WSM of another ex RMB recently.

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message #: 1734

Date: Sunday November 23 2014 09:06:36 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

Service Number: RMB 3859  
Hometown: Southsea  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Mick I did not expect that response to my original enquiry. So sad to hear your news but never say never. Words fail me for the first time in a long time. I will cherish the memories... Perth for the dirty weekend the laughs in Arbroath (what a great bunch). You were the first to greet me off the coach at Eastney from a wet a windy Vernon divisions with the words "congratulations Sarge" on my promotion. Others that I'd better not publish!! Be strong old friend we're all with you.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1733

Date: Saturday November 22 2014 10:55:46 EST  
Name: Sidney George Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard. Thank you for posting 1/54 new entry squad. What a bleak cold day that was all those years ago but looking on the bright side it gave me a wonderful life meeting all the friends I made over the years during my time in the RM Band service. It was great meeting up with you and so many old friends at the Reunion in October. I must thank Bob Chumley for sending me the new intake photo which brought back so many memories of the guys that took that journey that changed our lives for ever over 60 years ago. Take care Richard and look forward to seeing you in the not too distant future. Sid.

---

message #: 1732

Date: Friday November 21 2014 06:31:30 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Mick I do not have any words to add to those that have already been posted on this site. I have some fond memories of you which I believe started as you first came to Deal. As Richard quoted last seen at the Reunion a couple of years ago what a happy day that was I like many were pleased to have shared some time with you that weekend. You take care of yourself the best you can and enjoy your time with your beloved family and rest assured that the other family that is the BAND SERVICE OF THE ROYAL MARINES loves you and you will never be forgotten. Stay brave and I know you will keep smiling through it all. Mik H XXX

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message #: 1731

Date: Friday November 21 2014 04:50:08 EST  
Name: David (Jack) Kennedy  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3940  
Hometown: Horrabridge  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It is with great sadness that I report Derek Scott passed away last night [20-21 November] in Derriford Hospital Plymouth after a short illness. I will post funeral details when known.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1730

Date: Thursday November 20 2014 15:44:10 EST  
Name: Anthony Oliver  
Email: anthonyoliver@fsmail.net

Service Number: RMB 3975  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
it was with more than a hint of regret I read Zoonie Howarths letter updating us all about his health issues.I remember as if it was yesterday doing Yacht Trips with Zoonie. He was a SNCO yet one of the lads with Alan Upton also in the Band it was a great time to be travelling the world. I wish you peacefull times Zoonie in the knowledge you are surrounded with loved ones. Ollie

---

message #: 1729

Date: Thursday November 20 2014 06:18:19 EST  
Name: geoff hill  
Email: geoff.hill46@btinternet.com

Service Number: QOO3807H(RMB3807)  
Hometown: Exeter now Deal  
Instrument/s: Euph/cello proper/upperer  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
My dear Michael and fellow MUDWORM To the un-initiated and uninformed - Michael and I were two of five Bandmasters who were members of the Members of the Undiplomad Warrant Officers Royal Marines (MUDWORMs). Nowadays of course our boys have qualifications galore and full credit to them. I could not possibly add to the erudite comments of my friend and our ex-PDM Graham Hoskins other than to add that Michael you are a splendid chap and although you advocated that chicken poo rubbed into the scalp would stave off baldness you were so clearly in error. With fond memories and much love. Geoff

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message #: 1728

Date: Wednesday November 19 2014 23:45:59 EST  
Name: Dan Archer  
Email: archer378@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: PO22378c  
Hometown: Pytchley  
Instrument/s: Drum Major  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Zoonie Sad and grave news like everyone who has served with you I remember the laughter and jokes. We first met in FOSNI Band when GAC was the Boss and we ventured to all the dark and wet corners of Scotland and Northern England plying our trade. Oh what fun we had and what great characters we had in that Band. Len Lewry and I always comment on Lanimer Day!! (thanks for that one Graham !!) which coined the phrase when knackered or drunk or both "Well and truly Lanimered" Great days and then again in the Yacht great fun and lots of laughter with you instigating most of it. It's been a great loss that we have not seen you around for a few years as you were and are a very popular man. My darling Beryl succumbed to the same disease as you nearly two years ago and like you refused the treatment as it was just too advanced. I am lost for words at her courage and of yours shipmate. Just wanted to say what a pleasure it was to serve with you Mike. Very best wishes Dan

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1727

Date: Wednesday November 19 2014 04:59:39 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

My dear Zoonie

I have just read devastating news of your condition posted on this web page. I write immediately to say how deeply sad Margaret and I are to know that you are suffering at this time. We have long wondered where you are and how you are for you are a lasting personality in our lives and we have never forgotten the kind and entirely supporting effect you had at various times during my career in the Corps. I knew that I could always totally rely upon you both as a musician and Bandmaster and did so often. It was a joy for me to receive instructions from Her Majesty the Queen herself that you should be awarded a subsequent Jubilee Medal in 1977 for she has noticed that your name had been omitted from the original published list. The Corps thought that Flag Officer Royal Yachts would submit your name and FORY understood that the CO at Eastney would do so. In short nobody did but the Queen noticed and insisted on rectifying the matter. That was very special Zoonie and she wouldn't have bothered if you hadn't been entirely worth it. I hope and trust that you still have the copy of the letter from the Palace instructing me to arrange for the medal's presentation that I was able to pass to you. At various times your humour and sheer exuberance made difficult days bearable and I was always grateful for that. From moments of hilarity in the Yacht to your rendition of The Bassoon Song in Portsmouth Guildhall where dressed as Father Christmas you found that after vocalizing getting the reed through the beard in time for bassoon entries was a near impossibility. You kept going however and the performance is remembered by all who were present as entertainment at its best. Amateur brilliance of great originality and worthy of a professional comedy star. I greatly admire your stoical acceptance of your condition having been diagnosed with an inoperable cancer choosing as you have to endeavour to take things as they come rather than go for invasive therapies. Your strength of character shines through as it always has and you are an example to those of us who watch your journey in total admiration. Just know that Margaret and I send you all love and support at this time of huge difficulty for you and your family who have already undergone such trauma in recent years. Battle on bravely my friend. With my kindest regards Graham.

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message #: 1726

Date: Tuesday November 18 2014 15:14:49 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

May I add my thoughts to those of Dickie's about 'Zoonie'... I was B/M of his first ship at RNEC Manadon in 64/65 when he was a shy gentle quiet young Bassoonist! However we all know how he developed into one of the band services real characters and was a great guy to have in your corner. I like to think it was I who introduced him to the 'Bassoon Song' at Manadon and I'm sure many of you will have enjoyed his performance of it and many other great moments in his service career. My thoughts are with you and your loved ones Mike. Michael.

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message #: 1725

Date: Tuesday November 18 2014 15:13:13 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto claret vln  
n/a:

Comments:

To my friend Mick Howarth Hi Zoonie Just read your message on our web page and want you to know that although we haven't communicated (other than a couple of years back at the reunion) for a very long time it doesn't detract from my wondering how you were doing all those years. I can't remember when we first became acquainted I think it was prior to our Manadon days maybe not I recall we met up in Malta at some time but most of all I remember the great times we had at Manadon it was a dream draft and we had so many great times while we were there. I'm sorry to hear you are not in good health but your friends (of which you have so many ) will be thinking of you and your onward journey. I send you my best wishes my friend you are someone that just cannot ever be forgotten Jem

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1724

Date: Tuesday November 18 2014 14:28:39 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Schenectady (was Preston)  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Piano  
n/a:

**Comments:**

To Mick & Zoonie™ Howarth: I am more than certain that what I am about to say to you is an echo of what so many others will have thought or be thinking upon reading your stoic message that tells us all that you are ready to leave this life and transfer to the next. My time as a member of the C in C Nav Home band which found itself transformed from Whale Island to Eastney upon return from my time on Eagle included the privilege of serving with you sharing incredible laughter (mostly generated by yourself) and a very healthy love of music. We revisited our friendship back in 2012 (I think it was) when you surprised all those who know you when you showed up at our beloved reunion in Portsmouth. You might recall how typically you had to proclaim who you were as after so many years and how we all can change (Jem Tugwood excepted) you having lost your darker locks completely and myself with extra weight and grey hair. No matter dear friend all those lovely memories were recalled and your insatiable wit and camaraderie warmed my heart. Your choice has been made and you have the love and support of your dear daughter and family as the days pass us all by. There are few that I know to have shown the courage you share with us. Although we are all immediately shocked by the news you share it also prepares us and helps us give you the support you need until your time comes. I speak on behalf of all your RMB friends when I say &Eel love you&E and am joyful that I shared special times with you. Better to do that when we are both on this side rather than over a silent grave. I thank God for your life and that which you live. When we meet again I shall be looking up toward the Bassoon section from my clarinet section. Life is so unique and you have made a huge difference to so many of us by your very being. Your infectious laughter will always ring out in our memories. Peace my friend. Yours truly  
Dickie

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message #: 1723

Date: Tuesday November 18 2014 13:40:45 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email: Jemtugwood@sky.com

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/ claret / vln.  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Hi Dickie Nice to see the Squad photos etc section on. The Notice Board for some reason I can't find/ didn't keep any photographs from all those years ago so was wondering if there is anyone out there who might have some photos of the 4/58 new entry squad and the CG squad from Jan to end March 1961 can't remember the number. May I just say what a wonderful article Adrian ( Brett) wrote about Leon Young so informative and also we have also been able to gain an insight into the remarkable career of Adrian as a professional musician after leaving the band service. To have an even better insight into the career of this remarkable musician Google him I know he won't mind me suggesting this but we have people amongst us that have really made a mark in the world of music and it's so pleasing to know about it and also in some cases to know the man himself Best wishes Jem

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message #: 1722

Date: Tuesday November 18 2014 09:54:55 EST  
Name: Mike &#34;Zoonie&#34; Howarth  
Email: mikehowarth@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3938  
Hometown: Woburn Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Although I've been on this site many times I haven't previously viewed the guestbook for some unknown reason. I am still in contact via Facebook with Freddy BB and Charlie Fleming and also Knocker White and Steve Cook by phone. My old friend Len Lewry asks in a previous note (or is it thread or post or something else modern) about my health. Although many of you will know what a clean living life I've led both during my 24 years in the Band Service and then subsequent jobs various it appears my latest 365A from above has put a stop to any further promotion. On September 15 this year I learned I have inoperable and therefore terminal stomach cancer. By a marvellous quirk of fate nearly 3 years ago I moved into a house in Woburn with my disabled war veteran daughter (she got blown up in Bosnia while a Staff Sergeant in the Intelligence Corps) and her family. Her husband had just completed pensionable time in the same said Corps. As an unexpected result I am in the best place possible both physically and mentally to spend my remaining time in the place I love surrounded by the people I love most. We together decided against the chemotherapy offered and decided that quality of life is more important than the possible extra quantity given by the chemo when balanced against some horrendous side effects and continuous visits to the hospital. I'm afraid I'm not strong enough for visitors but do remember my time in the Band as one with many laughs!  
Bless 'em all!!!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1721

Date: Tuesday November 18 2014 06:08:14 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
DAVID LLOYD MEMORIAL WEBSITE. david.lloyd.muchloved.com Dear friends and comrades David's brother Frank has set up this site for friends old comrades and former colleagues of David to record their thoughts and pay tribute to this great horn player and musician. You can view some photographs of various times of his life and can contribute your own snaps if you have any of relevance. If you wish to make a donation to the Lloyd family's chosen charity ALCOHOL CONCERN just follow the instructions given on the site. David will be cremated in Weston-Super-Mare on Friday 21st November at 1430hrs and Bryan "Billy" Walker will play Last Post accompanied by Frank and a horn octet in a special arrangement by Dave Cole. I know that our hearts will go out to Frank Linda and the family at this time and I am sure that many a tear is being shed at the loss of such a special RMB brother.

O love they die in yon rich sky  
They faint on hill or field or river: Our echoes roll from soul to soul  
And grow for ever and for ever. Blow  
bugle blow set the wild echoes flying And answer echoes answer dying dying  
dying. (Alfred Lord Tennyson).

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message #: 1720

Date: Sunday November 16 2014 12:05:27 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Having just set up a tribute page to my young winger I would wish you all to make your entries there if you knew Martyn. Sadly he was yet another one who was taken from us at an early age. Sadly missed. <http://gingeloney.muchloved.com/frame.aspx> ? I would be grateful if the web master would add the above link to the Sunset Page.

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message #: 1719

Date: Sunday November 16 2014 05:45:41 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik11@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Greetings to one and all I have just returned to a pleasantly warm Spain after spending a few days in the UK and very pleasant they were too. I spent some of the time in London apart from the shopping I managed to take in a couple of other odds and ends like being present in the Albert Hall on Saturday afternoon the lads and lassies were simply great and on the Sunday I took part in the Cenotaph parade with members of the RMA I paid my respects re the 1989 11 and laid a wreath. After that took in Tower the Poppies what can one say. My sincere condolences to the family of David Lloyd and all who know him I never had the pleasure of meeting or knowing either of them David young man RIP I am sure you will be missed by many. My Regards to all. Sempre Fidelis.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1718

Date: Friday November 14 2014 05:40:57 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
DAVID LLOYD. Even though brother Frank had kept me informed of David's illness in these last few difficult weeks I was shocked and immensely saddened when Frank phoned to tell me of his passing as I'm sure are all who served with and knew this hugely talented musician as a friend. He was a great player nationally and internationally acclaimed and the music world will be mourning the loss of this gentle modest artist. I was proud to have been involved in kick-starting David's professional career and will always treasure the recordings he made with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales as reminders of what a superb horn player he was. I'm sure that all our thoughts are of Frank and the family at this time. RIP David ... and thankyou.

---

message #: 1717

Date: Wednesday November 12 2014 07:41:12 EST  
Name: Russ Ireland  
Email: hootertooter@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4105 (Q004105Q)  
Hometown: Aljezur  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Fiddle  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Greetings to one and all. Following the Celebrations of Remembrance and all the splendour entailed I thought I would bring to your attention a piece of video of which we will all have strong feelings about. There is a campaign for those that don't know for the inauguration of a National Defence Medal of which we are all entitled to should it be approved. I would recommend out of interest that you look on the Magic Eye for the NDM website and apart from the interesting comments take a look at the recent NDM video. It truly affects us all past present and future! I certainly know what I was doing at that time. There are a lot of people putting a great deal of pressure on the government with regard to this issue and I hope you find it of interest. If so please pass the info on to any Shippers you may know. Best wishes always. Russ.

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message #: 1716

Date: Wednesday November 12 2014 04:54:36 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi all As Quartermaster of the Central Band RBL I am in need of a new supply of Red Cumberbunds. Does anyone know where the RMB obtain theirs from? I would be grateful for any info. Thanks Mike

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1715

Date: Tuesday November 11 2014 11:00:17 EST  
Name: Sidney Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard. Looking at the new entry and passing out squads. I was wondering if there is any one out there who may have the 1/54 new entry squad and also the Sept 57 CG squad as my grandchildren have never seen any pics of me as a band boy. I would be very grateful if any one could help. Also my heartfelt thanks to the Band Service for putting on a great reunion and my thanks to Merv Durrant and his son Ian for making my stay in Pompey most welcome. Take care Richard and look forward to seeing you again in the not too distant future. Sid.

---

message #: 1714

Date: Monday November 10 2014 17:22:45 EST  
Name: stuart (Titch) McLeod  
Email: stumac3911@yahoo.com

Service Number: RMB3911  
Hometown: Rainham Essex  
Instrument/s: solo clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Calling on any ex RMBs in the London area that may wish to come along for a blow The Heroes Band is a new Band who rehearse in Liverpool St on a Monday evening (see details on our website) [www.theheroesband.org.uk](http://www.theheroesband.org.uk) we are made up of ex service men and ladies with teachers and musicians from the US embassy our ranks also include serving lads from the London based Guards Bands who come along to help out and of course ex RMBs including myself. We have a growing calendar for next year which looks to include a trip to Italy. So if you've got a bit of spare time come along and help us raise some money for the lads.

---

message #: 1713

Date: Monday November 10 2014 05:27:55 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Re the greatcoat debate... good to see the Portsmouth band wearing the new ones at the Cenotaph. Pity the band at Portsmouth service were still wearing capes!! Not enough to go round???

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1712

Date: Sunday November 9 2014 14:55:34 EST  
Name: Vic Penn  
Email: pennspad@btinternet.com

Service Number: rmb3418  
Hometown: Harrow now living in Walmer  
Instrument/s: pno/clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Out of curiosity when did the band service stop using tenor drums? Regards to all...Vic Penn

---

message #: 1711

Date: Saturday November 8 2014 15:13:54 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: One time Bassoon Bass Drum and Eflat Baton  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Greatcoats. Location London. Engagement Lord Mayors Show. Time: November 1958. Weather Inclement. Dress of the Day Greatcoats until that was until "Charlie" Drum Major for the use of decided that we should remove said Greatcoats. Remove we did. Counter order Greatcoats will be worn. So back go on said greatcoats. "But Sir The Guards Band have removed theirs". "Oh Okay we will also remove them". So once more off the dreaded coats came. Now for those who remember those times all of this putting on and taking off meant rearranging the length of the White Blancoed Belt which by this time has become a bit of a mess. I being the Bass Drummer had also the Tiger Skin to remove and replace. Novelty has somewhat worn off by this time and a certain amount of frustration has developed within the band. Which by the way was "THE" Chatham Band The one formally known as the Band of CinC Nore Command D of M Lt. Tommie Merritt. It appears that Guards have now decided to wear their coats. "Quick you fellows put yours coats back on" For the final time that day we were once again back in the ordered Dress of The Day. At the end of the March having carried the first Rod Tension Bass Drum Guards D of M approached Charlie and asked 'was it at all the right thing to do to get the RM Band Bass Dummer to try to put the Guards Band out of step?'

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message #: 1710

Date: Saturday November 8 2014 03:57:08 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelonkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
In my ever increasing research for items of particular interest to ex-RM bandsmen I have just discovered another great source of information and facts particularly in respect of uniform changes etc. and specific orders to RMBs.....RMROs/AFOs and GOs One RMRO from 1946 brought a smile to my face this morning....and I hope to yours too! \*\*\*\*\* RMRO No.1457 Drum Majors' Maces The practice of Royal Marine Drum Majors throwing their maces into the air will only be carried out at the discretion of the Major General Royal Marines on the parade ground of a Royal Marine Establishment. \*\*\*\*\*

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1709

Date: Friday November 7 2014 10:44:14 EST  
Name: max hill  
Email: gaebriellehill@aol.com

Service Number: rmb 4065  
Hometown: Bournemouth  
Instrument/s: cornet/piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi to all my fellow members of 4/65 new entry squad. A local ex member of our band of brothers brought to my attention the hope to recreate the photo taken on our enlistment. Great idea lads & I can confirm I shall be attending next years reunion. Could not make any previous ones as my late wife was Canadian & we spent every September & October over there. My very best wishes to any who may remember me. Max (Swede) Hill.

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message #: 1708

Date: Thursday November 6 2014 10:53:43 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Again Willi..... time must be dumbering the old grey matter. The report I heard on Classic FM was that it was the first change in uniform for some 50 years!! Didn't mention the colour After seeing the photo I think it is smart and the Chevrons you mentioned must have been a L/Cpl. Stripe. Look forward to seeing the new look on TV Regards to all Barry

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message #: 1707

Date: Thursday November 6 2014 06:15:39 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello Barry and Len ... the great Greatcoat debate!! My wife drew attention to the picture of three Buglers wearing (I quote) "...the new parade uniform..." that appeared in Wednesday's Daily Telegraph. I looked in confusion for quite a while trying to work out how long these re-designed tunics were why was there a LS badge on the RIGHT forearm where were their dress-cords ... and why the double row of buttons a la D of M? Were these new No 1s masquerading as confused No 2s? Plain blue collars with METAL G and Ls?? WHAT'S GOING ON I thought?!! My wife then said (this was after she'd thrown a bucket of cold water over me) that these could be greatcoats and then it all began to make sense. The paper said that the uniform "... is based on the dress worn by the Marines 50 years ago." Well ... THAT was a shock!!! As I was conjuring up images of Crimea and the Boer wars my heart suddenly did a huge lurch. 50 years ago I was in the Far East and E. Africa on HMS Centaur ... and had already been in the RMB for 8 years!!!! What a sobering moment this was as I was confronted by the fact that Tempus has been having a damn good Fugit almost without me knowing!!! I did my first Cenotaph with the Pompey Band in 1960 and we were in greatcoats (khaki of course!!) on a cold day made to seem colder by the amount of time spent standing still while the service and wreath-laying take place ... and by the lack of sleep and hangovers resulting from a night on the town. It was rubber sheet time at the UJC (if you made it back there!!!) and any revels were well deserved after a day of rehearsals for and performance at the Festival of Remembrance at the Albert Hall with Ralph Reader bashing your ears!! The Brigade of Guards' Bands played the static music for the ceremony and I will never forget how beautifully "Sailor" Milan of the Irish an ex-RMB played "David of the White Rock" on his euphonium. It brought tears to my eyes helped of course by having consumed too much beer the night before ... and the fact that I was freezing my nuts off!!! Barry says that the band are in these new-fangled greatcoats next Sunday. SEE PRIOR MESSAGE TO THIS BELOW. Good luck to the lads and lasses; the weather forecast promises mild conditions and they may be too warm. In fact with Global Warming maybe the service shouldn't have bothered with the doubtless expensive re-jig of the uniform and donated the dosh to worthwhile benevolent causes instead? But ... (Geordie accent required here!) "what do I know?!!!" Best wishes to all ... and don't forget to post your squad/ship/group photos in the new section of Notice Board. Names required!!!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1706

Date: Wednesday November 5 2014 07:58:15 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Barry Blue with silver G&L collar badges gold rank badges. They are tailored no white belt/pouch. Look pretty good. See today's Telegraph.

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message #: 1705

Date: Wednesday November 5 2014 04:31:47 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB93507  
Hometown: Meols  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
hi to all just heard on the news that the Royal Band will be wearing Greatcoats at the Cenotaph this weekend. First time since those 'orrid capes were introduced in the 1960's!!! Memories. Wonder what colour they will be? regards to all Barry

---

message #: 1704

Date: Tuesday November 4 2014 05:41:08 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I don't know if my last message went through or I hit the wrong button. Any way can anyone give an update re the health of Mike (Zoonie) Howarth? I heard at the reunion he was not very well.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1703

Date: Monday November 3 2014 13:17:45 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Peter & Dickie Yep! I plan to be there next year wouldn't it be great if we could 're do' the New Entry picture! I too send my very best wishes to Alan so sorry to hear he has been poorly I also seem to remember that Andy also had some health problems I hope he is well over that now. A few years ago I did speak to Max on the phone he was indeed living in Bournemouth but I lost his number and contact with him but knowing him I am sure he is still involved in the local music scene so hopefully someone who knows him will point him in our direction. The last I heard about Simmo (Bugler) he was teaching music somewhere in Kent. From memory I seem to recall that John Beadle lived in Watchett (Somerset) not sure how we could check up on that and last but not least I have no idea where to look for Willie Watson although my ageing brain cells seem to think he came from South Kent somewhere! I am ok now well retired from the Police I retired as an Inspector in 2002 and now just enjoy life Teaching Football Referees being Chairman of my local Cricket club Chairman of a local Brass Band (I still play) and Steering Group co-ordinator! (Not Chairman) of Stan Hackings band (ex Colour Sergeant). I do like playing with Sibelius its amazing what someone with little talent or knowledge of arranging music can do Keep up the good work with the website see you next October 4/65 RULE!

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message #: 1702

Date: Monday November 3 2014 12:32:21 EST  
Name: Peter Holloway  
Email: petrose1@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMB4066  
Hometown: Winchester  
Instrument/s: sax/clar/violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dickie Thought I would pop a line to you on our joining up birthday week. Sorry I missed you this year but I shall be attending next year which as you rightly said will be our 50th anniversary. (do we get cards and presents for that one) Ha! I do hope Alan makes a full recovery I did try to contact him via e-mail but maybe I have got his e-mail wrong when I spoke to him last time. It would be great to get nearly everybody there next year I think but don't quote me that Max Hill is in Bournemouth? I am in regular contact via jokes on a weekly basis with Barry Radford & Merve Durrant whom we met up with a few weeks ago at the RMA band concert in Winchester cathedral. I seem to not have your private e-mail anymore have you changed it? All the best see you in the countermarch!

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message #: 1701

Date: Monday November 3 2014 11:23:05 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Having perused the Guest Book entries for a while so many entries that I cannot keep up with them may I just mention a few facts as I recall them. In relation to comments made about DI's Roger Tyack was our Football Team Manager so I would not wish anyone to take him to task for being a D.I. under the command of RSM Franks and Capt Blood. The Blot on the landscape for me and most probably others was a Weasel called Rigden. Some of you may well recall him? The Saint on the DI's was a Wally Preston who I noticed when I lived in Malaya was the Welfare Officer who had the arduous task of informing wives who had lost their husbands in Borneo and Sarawak. What a nice Gentleman he was and for all I know he still being alive still is? Noted someone on about Spring Bayonets? Well on my first ship in the Home Fleet we had a Colour Sergeant whose nickname was Knuckles! Perhaps Abe Ingram may recall him as he made both of us after his Tot enjoyed making us lay out our Kit in the Torpedo Workshop which was several decks below our Mess! None of the Bootnecks appear to recognise the fact that the Band Service had the highest percentage of losses during WW2 and none of those around us in those days mentioned it only to remind us about Corps History and I would not wish to denigrate the losses and efforts of those Royals who went before us and made the Supreme Sacrifice so I will not go there. I appear to have run to the limit so watch this space in the future?

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1700

Date: Sunday November 2 2014 15:29:22 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelonkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

I have just seen on BBC TV that Acker Bilk has died aged 85. Well what has that got to do with ex-RMBs? Quite a lot as it happens! I joined the BBC Radio Orchestra as Principal Flute in 1974. After a few weeks in the job I noticed a familiar name on the week's schedule of conductors: Leon Young. Where had I heard this name before? Of course! the composer of the 'Dedication Fanfare' written to inaugurate the fanfare trumpets in memory of all of those RM bandmen who perished in WW2 and which we hear every year (the high scary trumpet entry immortalised in the words of Sid Rose: 'I love Colonel Dunn' ). When I nervously approached Leon Young and told him I was ex-RMB at this first BBC recording session in 1974 I could not have met a nicer man. He was quite short very smart and with grey neatly combed hair and a lovely warm smile. What an arranger! 'The Leon Young String Chorale' was very famous at that time. After my initial introduction he made several special flute featured arrangements and we chatted during and after the sessions during which he recalled his time in the RMBs...which in his case had mostly been on small ships in heavy action.... He was a trained church organist and in the war was of course conscripted and chose the RMBs, as so many fine musicians had also joined. After his war service in RMBs he became a publisher's arranger working for Francis Day and Hunter in Charing Cross Road. His job like others in this role was to produce commercial arrangements of whatever was considered by the boss (in music publishing always Jewish!) to be popular and worthy of arranging and once the 'tune' was owned by the publisher they could do whatever they wished with the item and make a lot of money. Any subsequent arrangement needed their permission and attracted substantial royalty fees each time it was performed. Sometimes a staff arranger would be required to compose a piece that would make a lot of money for the publishers but attached to the name of a new 'discovery' whose performances would attract a lot of performances and publishing royalties. One day his boss told him there was a 'new kid on the block' and there was a lot of money to be made. Leon told me, on my honour, that he sat down and wrote a slowish melody, and never got the credit or the money. STRANGER ON THE SHORE. Adrian P.S I am writing the jist of this to the GUARDIAN who in the past have published several letters of mine!

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message #: 1699

Date: Sunday November 2 2014 08:45:44 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: senapod@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clu/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

With reference to the so called Bootneck anti bandsman mentioned in despatches I am sorry but I totally disagree with the comments made by Mick Hutton and Adrian Brett. My experience on promotion courses at Lymington and the many times I experienced seetime with RM detachments on board ship during my time in the Fleet Band at Chatham I found the Marines were very kind to us in all aspects. Some even mentioned that we in the RM Band Service were "the flag of the Corps". Mike Jones.

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message #: 1698

Date: Sunday November 2 2014 04:57:38 EST  
Name: Gordon Eric Perkins  
Email: perkinsrmb@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X2430  
Hometown: perth western australia  
Instrument/s: violin and clart.  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

After taking a peek at the last couple of messages from Eric Hayward and Mike Hutton regarding DI's and PT instructors and being a former Burford Boy I just had to respond..We did have a few anti band persons (I do remember doing extra drills with those dreaded spring Bayonets) who could forget those things !!! Tom Catchpole I remember well as we had a couple of rather 'untidy lads' one called Gash Cartwright (I and another Eddy Fields and could not get the message and one time Gash was attempting to go ashore but was stopped by Tom who told him that if "gash" was his son he would give him poison.. to which "gash" replied that he would take it! I think they were Churchill's words.. Things did change in Deal and one wondered what had hit us (and why). I had had previously had a run in with Capt. Blood in Malta and sure he thought he had blue blood in his veins..later when I was movements clerk in the orderly room (hallowed ground) I found some were even human but have not forgotten the nasty ones. Sadly there are not too many of the Burford Boys left. Gordon (Polly) Perkins.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1697

Date: Saturday November 1 2014 16:40:33 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Many thanks Mick for reminding me about Roger Tyack. The nightmare returns. He certainly hated us as "Band Boys". I think the hate was returned. He along with others of his ilk apparently made men of us. By the way a belated Happy Birthday from Jan and I.

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message #: 1696

Date: Saturday November 1 2014 11:23:46 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It was great to read Adrian's account of life as a Band Boy ( sorry Boy Musician ) in 1952 especially his encounters with the dreaded 'Drill Instructors'. As a Burford Boy in January 1949 I dont think we had it quite so bad - the DI's were a little more human! After all we were living in the middle of nowhere and although we all had to do the drill experience it certainly wasn't as concentrated as later in Deal. I remember the 1st Drill was a guy called Tom Catchpole a QMS as we didnt have the dreaded RSM like the joiners in Deal who had to suffer the likes of RSM Franks and Capt Blood or was it Mansell the adjutant on his horse!! Catchpole seemed much more friendly and he also trained the boys Hockey & Cricket teams. After all we were not being trained as Bootnecks like in Deal Eastney Stonehouse & Lymptstone. One more Drill Instructor comes to mind from Burford days - Tex Yardley a rather large C/Sgt who turned out to be a rather gentle giant. During my time as a musician in Deal before joining the HMS Glasgow Band in late 51 I did come accross a DI called Roger Tyack a Cpl at the time - he hated bandsmen and showed it on many occasions being a real pain in the arse to all young musicians and boys. 3 years later on my return to Deal as a B/Cpl I met up with him again and with careful coaching he eventually became quite fond of the Band Service and later when we were both in the Sgts Mess and I was Capt of both the cricket & hockey teams he had to behave himself or he wouldn't get a game. Best wishes to all..Michael.

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message #: 1695

Date: Saturday November 1 2014 08:43:36 EST  
Name: Richard (Dickie) Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston - now Schenectady. NY  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
On 2nd November 1965 this unlikely looking bunch began to make their mark at RM Depot Deal. 49 years ago! I would suggest that it would be more than a great idea for as many of us to get together at the 2015 reunion which marks our 50th year since joining the band service. I can say that Pete Holloway Alan Upton Ray Lloyd Andy Cunningham and myself have been regular attendees but it would be great if those not seen since the 60's were to be located. I think that at least one or two were returned to civvy street before completion of full training. Knowing that Alan Upton has recently had an operation and apart from aches and pains and other medical ailments we all continue to bear with determination may I wish everyone of 4/65 squad the very best and that I remember everyone with great respect and I'm grateful for the opportunity to have begun our service together. Each of us mentioned have reached our level of success and surely in our retirement there are more achievements attainable. Cheers! Splicers!! Dickie Valentine.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1694

Date: Saturday November 1 2014 06:27:17 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
In answer to Jem's query about the name "Cassassin". If memory serves me right not far from Eastney Barracks there was "Cassassin Street" where in the early 80s a number of us went to some memorable parties. I believe a certain Piner A was on the nominal for one or two. I well remember the morning after having been well "Cassassinated" the previous evening. That may have something to do with the drum solo.  
All the best Dave

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message #: 1693

Date: Saturday November 1 2014 04:19:36 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: senapod@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard May I through the web page pay my thanks to Robert and to others in our family who have thanked me for the help they received all those years ago. Also for the best wishes I have had with reference to the chemo therapy. Well although the tiredness is with me; the last chemo I had was in fact three years ago. I am due for a further check up at Singleton Hospital in Swansea in February next year. I wish everyone well for Christmas and 2015. All the best Mike.

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message #: 1692

Date: Thursday October 30 2014 12:59:22 EST  
Name: Robert Taylor  
Email: bob.taylor2311@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 4121  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I would like to send my best wishes to Mike Jones and wish him a speedy recovery from the chemo he is having to undertake. I also would like to send him belated thanks. After transferring to the RN after leaving Chatham Band in which I served with Mike I ended up back at Pembroke to do my Writer training. Drafty in his perverse wisdom decided that the four years I had just served in Pembroke wasn't enough and on completion of training I was drafted to the Pay Office. I decided to further my education qualifications and improve on my O Level english language by taking O Level music. Come the day of the exam it was Mike who the schoolie asked to play the piano for the oral part of the exam and I am sure it was down to his help that I passed. I don't remember ever going across to the bandroom to thank him for his help so I am now nearly 40 years later taking the opportunity to thank him and to wish him a speedy recovery. As you know I go on cruises as a dance host and am just about to embark on the Balmoral for a five week cruise to the Caribbean. I hope the ladies don't wear me out. I am hoping that Martin Oberdans will be onboard as the lounge pianist so can have a drink and a chat with him. I am sure many of you that know him will want me to pass on your regards to him.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1691

Date: Thursday October 30 2014 07:07:48 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton now Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
HAPPY 58th ANNIVERSARY to all surviving members of 7/56 RECRUIT SQUAD who joined on 30th OCTOBER 1956. After travelling to London for our 0900 attestation at 28 Charing Cross Road I sat next to my new-found friend Roger Smith (still a great pal to this day) as we journeyed through the Kent countryside to Deal with mixed feelings of excitement and trepidation. We were a large squad of 32 23 J/Musicians and 9 J/Buglers and from that day our lives changed for ever. I am very pleased that the three "babies" of the squad are still in touch namely Messrs Dominey Hughes and Watson and I am still in touch with the two brothers-in-law Goss and Smith. I know for certain that two members have passed away; Keith Whittall an undemonstrative and sensible Northerner ... and Jamie Buchanan who had a smile that lit whole buildings up and was the first Scotsman I ever got to know and gave me a most positive impression of the dwellers of that country. I have no idea where the remaining 25 are ... and that includes the three lads who for reasons unknown never did make it into man's service. If any of them read this or if anyone else knows of their whereabouts please contact me. I also have two things to say about this invaluable website of ours so ably managed by our own Dickie Valentine. Firstly I have become aware that there are many ex-Bandies who have internet access and I'm sure occasionally dip into the goings-on of the Notice Board and Guest Book but have not joined or re-subscribed to the Buddy List. Contributions made by this method are what allows our esteemed Webmaster to maintain and/or make improvements to a facility that so many of us value so highly. There must be many of you who like me believe in the words of the great Marx ... "I'll not join any club that will have me as a member!!!" (that's Groucho not Karl by the way!!!) but I hope you can all make an exception for this great cause. Secondly a plea for Dickie: would it be possible to have a special section somewhere for Squad Photos both recruit and CG ... maybe even ships' or shore establishments' band photos? These could be put in chronological order maybe ... with dates and most importantly as many names as possible. A plea to all ex-Bandies to scan or send in their contributions could then be posted. Just a thought?!! My best wishes to all who remember me. [Webmaster] Your final paragraph.....an excellent idea and I'll get the wheels in motion.

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message #: 1690

Date: Tuesday October 28 2014 16:39:29 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Well said Charlie. I also wish to say the same to all of those who we joined up with 62 years ago on Trafalgar day 1952. How could we forget that date in the Corps History. As Adrian has said we had all of the then 300 years of Corps History drummed into us by the likes of Sgt King and other notable DIs. But we lived through the tough times some more wet behind the ears than others but what we were taught during those years of J Wing I think has proved a bonus for the rest of our lives. I know it did me no harm. I retired from the military (RAAF) in 1992 a straight 40 years. Who would have thought that possible all those years ago. HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL THOSE PAST AND PRESENT WHICHEVER BRANCH OF THE CORPS THEY MAY BE LUCKY TO BE IN.

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message #: 1689

Date: Tuesday October 28 2014 06:57:10 EST  
Name: Charles Laws  
Email: charles@charleslaws.wanadoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X3057  
Hometown: DEAL  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet & Water Polo/Swimming  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Yes Happy Birthday to the Corps I spent a lot of time with Marines. Being HQ Company Clerk Galley SGTS Mess barman J Wing Postie Block Cleaner Clerk and runner next to PDMs office Corps Swimming Coach Navy and Combined Services Water Polo Coach Aquatic Adviser to RM PTs Yes I Did Play my instrument from time to time and enjoyed it. I was taught a lot by the RMs and has helped me since I retired have respect for people in all walks of life let's hope you get another 350 years HAPPY BIRTHDAY.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1688

Date: Tuesday October 28 2014 05:19:21 EST  
Name: Brian &#34;Eggy&#34; Hobbs  
Email: brian.hobbs@mjmmedical.com

Service Number: RMB3884  
Hometown: Helston  
Instrument/s: Hospitals (now)  
n/a:

Comments:  
Happy Birthday to us! Happy Birthday to us! Happy Birthday dear bootnecks! Happy Birthday to us (and RMB's as well!)

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message #: 1687

Date: Monday October 27 2014 14:22:21 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelonkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
My friends and former colleagues Today (October 28) we celebrate with pride 350 years of the Royal Marines as a regiment... The Duke of York and Albany's Maritime Regiment of Foot'.....as we were all made to remember in our Corps history!! I recall and many here will too as boys we were frequently confronted by 'not-too-bright' RM NCO Drill Instructors who when they had exhausted all other ways of subjecting to us to their discipline and authority would assume that we were all thick and stupid! In their monosyllabic parade ground vocal tones they would demand "a memorable date in the history of the Corps".....when we were often still lined up in ranks of three on the parade ground! "Erm.... please Corporal...1706?? Battle of Gibraltar?...Belle Isle?...Walcheren?" I studied Corps history with a vengeance and memorised all of the battles and the names of those great heroes and the ensuing and developing battle procedure..... Here was a way in which I a very poor Royal Marine...but a rapidly developing musician.....could win over these NCOs who were giving me such grief. I knew more than them! OK today you might call me a 'smart-arse' and maybe some of my squaddies thought so too but I never did it in malice....I just wanted to survive in what for me was an unpleasant environment on the parade ground.The RM NCOs shouted at me and the manner in which they treated me and and my colleagues sometimes seemed grossly unfair but I could redeem my shortcomings as a 'regimental' Royal Marine by my knowledge of Corps History. My development as a functioning member of the Royal Marines nevertheless continued by achievements as a musician within The Royal Marines Band Service despite these early confrontations with RM authority! I never felt animosity (which definitely existed at that time between RMs and RMBs.) from any RMB NCO or Officer to me...only friendship and mutual respect. God Bless you all..the pillars and arbiters of my present-day character....and many more here can substitute their own heroes I daresay. Thank you BM John Browning B/Sgt. Peter Wastall BM David Wells BM Bill Plock Musn TDK Wye.....and Capt Ernie Ough Capt Leo Arnold Capt Peter Sumner.... and especially Doug Haigh my first DOM as a 'trained rank'..and I do not forget FRED!!! (As in Lt.Col F.V Dunn ...but also Fred Pittaway (drums) and Fred Pacey(Bass) in HMS DRAKE Dance Band 1962!)).....but where is my old 'Sea Daddy'....HOMER JONES (perc)???? In a greater reflection however over 350 years of RMs we all here ought to consider the role of the RM musician.....and how it has changed from 'Drum and Fife' (on the field of battle) to 'Clarinets and Bassoons' to the full Military Band...and the ships' bands we all know about. But now we have 'Show Bands' with singers and musicians with electronic instruments and some musicians have a unique 'soloist' status... Times change.....music changes. Friendship and camarade...never. HAPPY 350TH BIRTHDAY!!!  
ADRIAN

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message #: 1686

Date: Friday October 24 2014 08:21:25 EST  
Name: David Smart  
Email: musicaldirector@talktalk.net

Service Number:  
Hometown: London  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Please can you let your members know of a new band formed in Central London in January 2014. It's called The Heroes Band and raises funds for Help for Heroes through concerts. If any musicians would like to join we would be interested in hearing from you. Our website is [www.theheroesband.org.uk](http://www.theheroesband.org.uk) Best wishes to all our fellow military muso's!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1685

Date: Sunday October 19 2014 03:52:43 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard and all Very interesting reading on our website and may I also give belated greetings to Mick Hutton who was my first B/Mr at RNEC Manadon in 1964! I was there for 4 months before going to Deal to be part of the band for HMS Eagle. I am sorry I cannot meet up with you guys but due to my chemo therapy the tiredness I have to put up with during the day is a problem that I have to endure. Best wishes to you all Mike.  
[Webmaster] I can assure you Mike that you are never far from my thoughts and I am sure I speak for everyone when I say that we hope you continue to endure with as little fatigue as possible.

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message #: 1684

Date: Saturday October 18 2014 04:46:54 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelionkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/ Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Belated birthday greetings to Michael Hutton. Good to see you on Sunday morning and in such fine condition for 81 years! You are respectfully one of the finest examples of a 'product' of the RMBS and what an individual could achieve by talent and hard work. Although you narrowly missed your commission the respect that is always paid to you as a Bandmaster from former members of your bands attests to your powers of leadership and the ability to inspire others to achieve too. I truly believe that your account of life in the RMBS (which appears here on the website) ought to be compulsive reading for all as it encompasses an account of the many challenges in your life both personal and professional. The RMBS is very different now and there can be few today like you and your colleague Ron Kempton who started life as orphans initially without the emotional security of family and to whom the RMBS provided all that security and also the professional musical challenges necessary for a fulfilling life. High achievers often come from humble beginnings. When I started to study the psychology of human development prompted by an interest in people (and no doubt forged in the hot furnace of life in the RMBS!!) I was very impressed with the theory of Albert Adler the first dissenter in the school of Sigmund Freud. Adler believed that what motivated people to achieve anything in life was a strong desire to improve their situation which is especially true for those whose early life is deprived: "The grit in the oyster produces the pearl"..... Best wishes and 'Good Health' to you Michael. P.S. Tomorrow October 19th we in The Lion King orchestra celebrate 15 years of performances... that is more than twice the time I spent in the RMBS. Tempus fugit.....time flies!!

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message #: 1683

Date: Friday October 17 2014 11:48:18 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi everyone. Another year goes by and a great get together for the reunion last weekend. Good to see so many old friends especially Lou Cooper this year who managed to avoid falling down a London escalator as in 2013..Sorry Lou it was lovely to see you. As expected the music on Saturday and Sunday was excellent however I did feel the Dedication Fanfare was a bit quick. ( sorry Corps Bandmaster I had been involved with it many times in the past.) We all realize what a hectic year its been for the Band Service so the PDM's words were welcomed with enthusiasm and it would be great news if the RMBS were to increase in numbers in the future. Once again great to see so many friends and best wishes to all from birthday boy today 17th Oct; 81. Michael.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1682

Date: Friday October 17 2014 05:57:40 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Another great weekend. To Roy Hallin and Graham Hoskins... Hear Hear.

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message #: 1681

Date: Thursday October 16 2014 05:24:47 EST  
Name: Jim Kay  
Email: hamish.kay69@yahoo.com

Service Number: RMB 3467  
Hometown: Nettleham Lincs.  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard - Some time since I had an entry in the Guest Book but I thought people might want to know what a great Reunion we had this year at Portsmouth. I suppose we are diminishing slightly as the years roll on and most of those who attended joined as Boys in the 1940/50/60's. The standard of music was wonderful and very emotional for all of us. My wife Tanya and I are already looking forward to next year and hope to see many of the same people and hopefully many others. By the way I have had an overhaul on my PC and lost a few E-mail addresses including the one you now use Richard so send me a brief mail so that I can send you the photographs I took last Saturday and Sunday. Best wishes to all serving and ex-Bandsmen everywhere. Jim Kay.

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message #: 1680

Date: Thursday October 16 2014 04:24:01 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Roy I am totally delighted and relieved to read your letter today and hasten to thank you for it. My reason for 'going public' as it were in response to your original letter was that I was determined to nip in the bud any overcharged feelings from colleagues who maybe wouldn't have realised that your words were occasioned by grief and loss. More importantly now you have shown real courage and concern by writing openly to us all. Your stature has grown though this episode and all your friends will be hugely uplifted by knowing that you have not only come through this hiatus unscathed but raised the bar for us all. Few of us would have responded in the way you have and I admire and thank you for doing so. What a splendid example of contrition to follow the most amazing Reunion Weekend we have just enjoyed! Bravo Zulu Splice the Mainbrace! Yours ever Graham.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1679

Date: Wednesday October 15 2014 15:21:53 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 4079  
Hometown: Southampton  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

A letter to all serving and ex Royal Marine Musicians and Buglers. I would like to take this opportunity to formally apologise for my comments regarding the aftermath of the Deal tragedy. I personally would like to thank Graham Hoskins for his letter and comments. I had no intention of upsetting anybody. You were absolutely correct Graham in saying "anger can manifest itself in some weird and wonderful ways". I had 30 fantastic years serving in the greatest Corp in the world. (Best 3 years in FOSNI). I have been to the memorial bandstand and garden on many occasions to pay my respects in my own way and will continue to do so while I still can. Thank you Graham my regards to Margaret. Roy Hallin 2014

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message #: 1678

Date: Monday October 13 2014 15:30:33 EST  
Name: Dan Archer  
Email: archer378@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: PO22378c  
Hometown: New Zealand  
Instrument/s: Drum Major  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

I was not fortunate to be in UK for the reunion but did catch the the Memorial Concert in Deal on the Bandstand. It was a superb day and the weather held off..just. It was great to meet up with so many old friends including a few ex PDM's. Maybe I will make the reunion next year when I have moved back to the UK. I want to support Graham Hoskins' fine words in his reply to Roy Hallin. Hatred has no part of it for me anymore it is a wasted emotion and full of pain. Our duty is to never forget our fallen brothers and ensure that we support the Bandstand which is probably the best memorial they could have. Best wishes to all from sunny New Zealand. Dan

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message #: 1677

Date: Friday October 10 2014 09:15:43 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton (now Dersingham Norfolk)  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

**Comments:**

A message for Bill Hartland: You correctly identified Graham Hoskins and Don "Ginger" Feather in the photos of our get-together at the "Plough" Ripple ... but you failed to spot horn player Vince "Benny" Goodman cornet and viola Bert Nicholls and hiding behind his luxuriant beard and coiffure DAVID "Ginger" WELLS our Bandmaster on Centaur 85 years old but looking great and in sparkling form! You are right Bill: the 22nd of September was in many ways a very sad day from the paying of respects at the Memorial Gardens where I thought not only of the eleven so brutally torn from us 25 years previously but also of the many other friends and comrades I served with who are no longer with us to the evening Beat Retreat with it's moving finale which included fittingly the theme from "Band of Brothers" which always "fills me up". The familiar marches I remembered in every detail of bass- line tune counter-melody and harmony. Roger Smith standing next to me softly whistled the solo clarinet parts ... and I dealt with everything else!! The sound and sight took me back to when we of my generation played and marched like this when we were young and optimistic with "the World our lobster!!" Our meeting in the afternoon was a life-affirming event between people who had served together and who had an average age of about 74 to 75 many having or having had health problems of mixed severity but all enjoying a chance to "catch-up" and of course to reminisce. I believe that an event like this helps bind us ex-RMBs even closer together and reminds us of our responsibilities to try and support old comrades in their latter years and in times of sickness or loss. I have had many encouraging messages from those who found our get-together worthwhile so I can see no reason as to why we shouldn't do it again in 2015. Best wishes Bill ... and all others who remember me. Have a great reunion in Pompey this weekend.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1676

Date: Thursday October 9 2014 01:12:37 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3242  
Hometown: Tennyson  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
I was saddened when I read on the ITA website that George (Mr Bass Trombone) Roberts passed away last month at the age of 86 ! I still have most of his recordings and listen to them often. Rest in Peace George Thanks for the wonderful sound of that Bass Bone. Yours faithfully Bill Matthews.

---

message #: 1675

Date: Wednesday October 8 2014 11:06:38 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Having just viewed the Noticeboard I am somewhat disturbed in that of those pictured only two of those in the picture can I say that I Knew! They are ginge Feather and Graham Hoskins the latter I have not seen since 1953 ish? A Sad Time to commemorate the passing of our young brethren who were taken from us but hope that those attending the Pompey Reunion have an enjoyable weekend which I regret I am unable to attend.

---

message #: 1674

Date: Tuesday October 7 2014 08:19:51 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelionkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London / Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Well Barry you must have been in the Raleigh band when I joined it temporarily for 2-3 months probably in 1963. I was an inlier and do not remember anyone too well from that short time though oddly I do recall Ray "Ginge" Watts (Alto sax) who usually attends the reunion. I must have known a few more but with the passage of time and the old grey cells diminishing...well you know the feeling I daresay!! I shall be at Portsmouth Cathedral on Sunday morning and Holy Communion at the RMA post-service!!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1673

Date: Monday October 6 2014 20:55:03 EST  
Name: Andrew Seddon  
Email: andrewsologuitar@hotmail.com

Service Number: PO33327P  
Hometown: Bradford  
Instrument/s: Bugler  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi everyone Greetings from Wakefield

---

message #: 1672

Date: Monday October 6 2014 10:16:37 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi to All re - Adrian's posting. Another blast from the past . Bill Plock. I was at HMS Raleigh when Bill was the Bandmaster taking over from Jim Bearman then followed by Bob Ellis. Happy days. Raleigh Band joined up with Plymouth Group for a concert in Paul Nevilles days and the said Flute and Harp Conerto was also performed. Hope to see many of you this coming week end ( Just had an Email from Brian Thorogood who is recovering from a hip replacement so will notbe. In Pompey . But he sends regards to all.) Cheers Barry

---

message #: 1671

Date: Monday October 6 2014 06:26:35 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelonkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/ Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just had a look at the British Pathe Newsreel of the Massed Bands on HGP in 1958!! Quite interesting with rope-tension drums pea-shooter trombones and piston valve horns. I could recognise a few faces notably Bill Plock (as a B/Sgt) who like me never used march cards but memorised the music as those wrist lyres for piccolo were notoriously unstable with the inevitable result of march cards falling to the ground! Bill Plock was a lovely man and a superb flute-player so an inspiration to me as a band boy. He had a very beautiful and natural sound....something Trevor Wye (RMBX2857) remarked upon recently when I saw him. I had the great pleasure of sitting next to Bill in the Staff Band for several concerts and I recall him playing the Mozart Flute and Harp Concerto with Norman Webb the very last National Service RMB entry. I was temporarily detached from C in C Plymouth Band over to HMS Raleigh for a few months ( just before I went to Pompey Group) and Bill Plock was the B/M there and was genuinely pleased to see me in his band. I recall when he left RMBS he went to teach up at Gordonstoun School in Scotland but sadly sustained a fatal heart attack shortly after.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1670

Date: Tuesday September 30 2014 17:24:43 EST  
Name: Eric Charles Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat  
Instrument/s: Onetime Bassoon BassDrum and Eflat Baton  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard and all who corespond on this great site. May I wish you all the very best for the coming Pompey Reunion. At the same time can I advise that The Adelaide Reunion will be held on the last weekend of March 2015 and we would love to see some of you there. I have been noting all of the comments re 25 years ago. What a tradgedy. I of course was here in Oz but when the news reached us we in RAAF Central Band immediately arranged for condolence messages to be sent to HQ RMB along with a Floral Wreath. We received no notice from the UK so are not aware that the above even arrived. But no matter. Our thoughts were and are with you all in the UK at that and this time.

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message #: 1669

Date: Tuesday September 30 2014 07:26:28 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi all Just read the comments re Bert Farlow and very pleased to see that he is well. He was My B/M on HMS Victorious and a few years later the DoM 3 Cdo Bde in Singapore. An absolute gent and a pleasure to work with. See you at the reunion.

---

message #: 1668

Date: Monday September 29 2014 08:58:54 EST  
Name: Mike Hlckman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Greetings to one and all. Bit late on this one as I have away from home since the middle of the with no access to a computer. Lovely to read all the comments regards the fateful day 25 years ago I would loved to have had those moments in Deal with you many thanks to you al for your posts rest assured I did not forget and had my own period of quiet reflection. I was in my office in the post office in Margate when I received a meesage as to what had occurred and I just knew straight away what had caused the explosion I like Richard felt the need to be in Deal that evening of course I was a lot closer I visited the RMA where I met some of the poor souls who been doing the not very nice job of you all know what so sad they where as we all were and still are. Looking forward to seeing all of you that will be present in Portsmouth in a couple of weeks time tiil that day you all take care. Sempre Fidelis. My Best wishes to you all.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1667

Date: Sunday September 28 2014 11:34:43 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham Norfolk (ex- Brighton)  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

I was so pleased to read Robert Taylor's posting about the nicest and most gentlemanly RMB Bert Farlow my fellow horn player and townie being alive and one hopes well. Bert's father Ross Farlow, was a member of a very fine choir back in the 50s and he became very friendly with my mother who had seperated from my father when I was 10. We had had to move from the county of my birth to a tiny two up two down (near Five-Ways Robert!) and she had to work to keep me and my older half-brother with no supplementary help from elsewhere. In 1955 my half-brother left to do his National Service in the RAF and I began to run a little wild. Ross talked about his two boys Bert and Darryl and their life in the RMB and it was proposed to me that this could be something I could consider. I was 13 and applied to join up and to my poor harrassed mother's relief off I went at the age of 14 years 2 months to change my life for ever!! I didn't play an instrument and couldn't read music ... so why the horn? Was it because of Bert? ... or was it that I seemed to have an unusually perceptive ear? Who knows?!! Whatever the reason this wonderful instrument has driven my life since that first time I picked one up and blew a note in East Barracks all those years ago. Thank you Ross; thank you Bert. Thank you RMB!!! When next you see Bert Robert please add my best wishes to those of Richard and Barry. Kindest regards to all who remember me.

---

message #: 1666

Date: Sunday September 28 2014 08:23:49 EST  
Name: Robert Taylor  
Email: bob.taylor2311@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 4121  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Am pleased to say the Trafalgar Night Dinner for the Brighton Mason's held at the Old Ship Hotel in Brighton went very well. Quite tiring playing fiddle for two hours but enjoyable never the less. The only disappointment was that Bert Farlow was unable to attend as he was away in France so I was unable to pass on the regards of Richard and Barry Radford. He did however ask to be remembered to me and sent his regards.

---

message #: 1665

Date: Saturday September 27 2014 03:57:28 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email: Jemtugwood@sky.com

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/ claret/ van very  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Very pleased to announce I have now received my Reunion tickets so look forward to meeting old friends and colleagues at the bash. I noticed Eric Mckone was at Deal for the Remembrance Day when 11 of our comrades were killed and we will never forget them. Does anyone know if Eric will be at the bash on the 11th we were great friends many years ago and it would be wonderful to meet up with him again best wishes to all Jem

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1664

Date: Friday September 26 2014 09:16:01 EST  
Name: John Dixon  
Email: john.dixon369@tesco.net

Service Number: RMBX3369  
Hometown: Scawby Brigg N.Lincs.  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I have to say what a pleasure it was to meet at The Plough Ripple on Monday 22nd. There were some old familiar faces and some not quite familiar. Please forgive me if I didn't recognise you straight away but it has been a long time. It all felt quite wierd for a while but more relaxed after a few chats (and a couple of beers !!) It was great to see Ian Shawcross Willi Watson Adrian Brett Benny Goodman and many others. I had a nice little chat with Graham Hoskins too which was a nice bonus on the day. Someone mentioned that Pip Fairchild lived at Minster. I would appreciate any more info, or a way of contacting him. Well thanks again fellas. It was a lovely afternoon and I got to see Deal again too. How it has changed since I was last there. Very best wishes to all John Dixon

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message #: 1663

Date: Thursday September 25 2014 13:39:03 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

hi good to hear the whereabouts of Bert Farlow. He was Bandmaster of The Home Fleet Band on HMS Belfast before we moved to HMS Pembroke. Such a nice guy enjoyed every minute of him being in charge. if you do get a chance to have a chat to him Robert. Please pass on my regards. Good luck with the "Gig"  
Cheers Barry

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message #: 1662

Date: Thursday September 25 2014 09:59:31 EST  
Name: Robert Taylor  
Email: bob.taylor2311@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 4121  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

This coming Saturday dressed as a sailor from Nelson's era I shall be playing violin at the Old Ship Hotel in Brighton for the Brighton Mason's Trafalgar Night Dinner. I am particularly looking forward to this gig as one of the senior Mason's is none other than Bert Farlow my old Neptune House divisional officer so I am looking forward to catching up with him for a chat and hopefully a drink. For the last two years I have played at similar Trafalgar Dinners for the Masonic Trafalagar Night dinners in Fareham and Gosport and also at the Explosions Museum in Priddy's Hard Gosport. They are always well attended and the music appreciated by all. Much thumping of tables for Hearts of Oak Rule Britannia etc.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1661

Date: Tuesday September 23 2014 11:12:08 EST  
Name: Russ Ireland  
Email: hootertooter@hotmail.com

Service Number: Q004105Q (RMB4105)  
Hometown: Aljezur Portugal  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Fiddle  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Greetings to one and all. I would like to try and pick up a bit on the message from Roy Hallin. We were all affected by the bombing of RMSM and the friends we lost. Sadness loss and disbelief are all stages of grief coupled with shock and anger. All these stages which were mentioned in Graham's letter to us all. All things whilst not necessarily heading do become familiar with time and should be remembered. It may be worth pointing out that the RM Band was once again at the forefront of history in that this action created the fact that we lost more people than any other unit in an IRA action. It may also be worth mentioning although we should all know and be proud of the fact that we lost 25% of RMBs in WWII. A greater percentage than any other arm of the forces. I was serving at C in C Fleet the day of the bombing. Only two days earlier Richard Fice left the band. We had 4 gigs to perform that day which was very difficult for us all. We managed ok which could only be attributed to the RMB spirit and professionalism - especially under duress. The crowds were both respectful and outstanding their understanding of the situation. The last gig was for me the most moving of Sunset and evening hymn of my career. Words could not describe the atmosphere in the crowd and the strength that came from within the band. Notwithstanding the circumstances that day will live forever in my memory. The following day the SNCOs got together and thought about a tribute for the fallen. Names don't matter as they know who they are. Long story short a concert was created and held at RAF Northolt a few days later and a very significant amount of money was raised not forgetting a raffle where the 1st prize was a flight for 2 on Concord. People from all over London either gave money made pledges offered wonderful items for the raffle etc. These things weren't for thanks or personal gain. They were done for our Band of Brothers (sic) who would have done the same for us. No matter how tough the situation for us the show must go on. Sorry to be boring but feelings run deep.

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message #: 1660

Date: Tuesday September 23 2014 03:28:17 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Yesterday was a sad day in our history the 25th anniversary of the atrocity that killed so many of our family. The memorial service at the site was held at the precise time of that tragic event all those years ago and was well attended by the relatives and friends of those involved. Some of us felt that it was best left to those people to remember their loved ones alone. So we duly met up at the site at 11AM to pay OUR respects to people whom most of us didn't know never the less we are a family and as such stick together. Having paid our dues we then adjourned to the "Plough" at Ripple which even my satnav could not find at first where a large number gathered to talk over old times. A list follows: Graham Hoskins Roger Smith Willi Watson Bert Nicholls Ian Shawcross John Dixon Don Feather Tony Oliver Adrian Brett Eric McKone David Wells Richard Baker and Wally Walters. Apologies if I have missed anyone from this list. Sometime in the afternoon Roger Willi Don and myself went to Roger's house and settled down to swing the lamp. Willi took the chair and was recalling times past on the Yacht and Centaur at which point I must have dozed off only to wake some 45 minutes later and HE WAS STILL TALKING!!! Bless. Whilst we were at the Beat Retreat in the evening I had a text from John Cowdrey saying that he was in the "Plough" and where was everyone else. He was only eight hours late. Not to worry John next time eh? I had a long conversation with Tony Oliver whom I did not know personally but will meet up again in Pompey in a few weeks time. See you in the Countermarch folks.

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message #: 1659

Date: Monday September 22 2014 13:46:31 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmiral@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi on this sad day I wish to recall this moment in our history but I have made a number of entries on FaceBook. I am due to reflect on a couple of items mentioned in other entries. Siviter was a Trombonist in HMS Ganges who I let have my copy of the History of Music for Ten Shillings when I was a Hard Up newly Married Man! So no regrets there if it helped him to achieve greater things in Life. Barry Radfords comment about us being Royal Navy? Bas I suggest you refer back to your Green Pay Book and read the first page of it. Rest in Peace Brothers who lost their lives in Deal 25 years ago.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1658

Date: Sunday September 21 2014 10:41:04 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Southampton (Fareham)  
Instrument/s: Bass Drum technician Cymbal Ringer  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dickie Unfortunately I will not be attending the re-union this year due to My Son's wedding. I like many others will be remembering our MURDERED colleagues Monday 22/9/14. I cannot believe 25 Years have passed! Unfortunately I still have a bitter taste as to the way some of my "Colleagues" were using the tragedy. Mark Welstead Bob Scarrett and I worked so hard to raise money via a nationwide lottery and raised approx Â£12 000. I believe we are still waiting for a Well done or any form of gratitude. Please remember these opinions are personal to me other members of Portsmouth band have their own thoughts and opinions. Sorry to be a moaning old S-- but I cannot forget the 22nd and the weeks that followed. R. H

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message #: 1657

Date: Sunday September 21 2014 07:55:38 EST  
Name: David Mutter  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear all On the 22 nd of September we shall remember those who were killed in the Deal bomb incident. It was my intention to attend this year for the first time but due to circumstance that will not be possible. I thank Graham for giving me the information of time and venue and am sorry that I will not be able to meet up with him in person to thank him. However I will be remembering those who died on that terrible day by getting my cello out at 0800hrs and playing the Adagio from the Divertimento by J Haydn transcribed by the famous cellist Piatigorsky. A note for Mick Hutton regarding the Grieg piano concerto premier I am sure it will be a resounding success and wish you well for the performance of piano with Brass Band. I have only heard of one other orchestral piece arranged for piano and Brass Band and that is Rhapsody in Blue by George Gershwin. For those attending the Band Reunion this year have a good time and hopefully see you next year. Regards David Mutter  
[Webmaster] Bravo David!

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message #: 1656

Date: Friday September 19 2014 09:51:46 EST  
Name: Don Gale  
Email: Sellingplod@btinternet.com

Service Number: RM22276  
Hometown: Ramsgate  
Instrument/s: Drum Bugle  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Well done spent ages going through items even seen my old instructor Sgt Bugler Tex Rickards from 1963 Would love to go back to that era again.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1655

Date: Friday September 19 2014 04:21:11 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham Norfolk (ex-Brighton)  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
ATTENTION PLEASE!!! And profuse APOLOGIES!!!! In the message I posted yesterday (18th Sept) I mistakenly said that the suggested time for those wishing for a later meeting at the Memorial Gardens on Monday would be 1000 hrs. This should read 1100 hrs ... please note this and spread the word to any other ex-RMBs who may wish to come along. Those of us who wish to can then segue neatly into the get-together at the "Plough" in Church Lane Ripple just a couple of miles down the road. Once again my apologies! ... MEETING TIME at the MEMORIAL GARDENS is 1100 hrs MONDAY 22nd. (Do any other of you suffer from these so-called "Senior Moments" which can lead to foolish mistakes like mine above? This morning my wife kindly brought me a cup of tea in bed and said "We are still a Union!!!" and I've been wondering ever since if I had said something to offend her!!!).

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message #: 1654

Date: Thursday September 18 2014 13:00:51 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham Norfolk (ex-Brighton)  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Greetings to all With regard to the goings-on on Memorial Day next Monday 22nd September and the moot point of who should be attending the 8 am service that day a few of us had a discussion regarding this and decided that we will meet up at the Memorial Gardens at 1000 hrs to pay our respects to those victims of the 1989 outrage. I am sure that there will be some who will want to attend the earlier formal service but if others feel that they wish to leave that time to the families and intimates of those murdered it may be a quieter less crowded time for us to collect our thoughts. This time may particularly appeal to us older ex-RMBs who didn't personally know or serve with the victims ... not I'm sure that this fact will diminish sorrow and anger on this day. I would like to remind those who will be in Deal on this Monday that a few of us ex-Centaur '63-'65 pals are meeting up with old friends at the "Plough" in Church Lane Ripple any time from noon onwards and if any other ex-bandies would like to come and join us you will be more than welcome. As Adrian Brett noted a few days ago extra lanterns have been installed ready for a good swinging ... and there is also going to be a large delivery of fat ripe for chewing!! Your help in tackling this task Adrian will be much appreciated!!! A full menu will be available at the "Plough" from 1200 to 1400 tea and coffee are on tap for those who prefer ... and there is ample parking. Looking forward to Monday ... best wishes to all Willi.

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message #: 1653

Date: Thursday September 18 2014 10:52:19 EST  
Name: WO2 Mike Robinson  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
All I have recently been made aware of the concerns over the tickets for this years' RMBS Reunion. I would like to take this opportunity to update you all on this matter. There has been an unforeseen delay in the production of the tickets and these will be sent very soon and I look forward to seeing you all in October.  
Mike Robinson WO2 Bandmaster ASO(M)

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1652

Date: Tuesday September 16 2014 04:43:02 EST  
Name: BarryRadford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to all Heather and I have just returned from a visit to the National Arboretum where we paid our respects to the lads murdered so wickedly. I can not understand the thinking of people at the Ministry of Defence. Who for some reason decided that all Royal Marines should be classed as Royal Navy. Having visited before we knew where to look for our colleagues but first time visitors must find it confusing. Shame on you whoever made this decision. You will all be in our thoughts this week and we look forward to being in Portsmouth in October.  
Regards Barry and Heather

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message #: 1651

Date: Monday September 15 2014 17:02:40 EST  
Name: Richard (Dickie) Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston (Schenectady NY for now)  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear friends I realise that this 'guestbook' has been more in use as a kind of forum which I appreciate and have absolutely no objection to. It's rare that we ever get an actual non RMB 'guest' so we shall continue on with this capable means as an alternate to personal e-mail as it can involve many and therefore is appropriate. I continue with reference to the up-coming anniversary that shocked and left our RMB family bereft. Everyone will recall where they were and what they were doing on that awful day almost 25 years ago. I had just gotten into my car after a piano tuning (putting on the radio) that I had done in Southwell Nottinghamshire. I was stunned and of course my mind and my memory immediately shot to my vivid recollection of the approach to the bandroom with the (in my day) pressing shop and prefabricated classrooms that were across the way. As the news continued to filter through to all the national channels i.e. radio and tv and actually seeing familiar faces who thankfully had survived it became clear that I felt a need to be in Deal and be as supportive as I could be in the aftermath. Upon my arrival in Deal I went directly to the local hospital where I expected to visit my dear friend (injured by the blast) from Eastney days John 'Jay' O'Neil. By that time he had been released and I subsequently visited him at his home. This is my own (small) story but it's very important to me. For the many hundreds of us who also visited the reunion held in our beloved drill shed a little later we all mingled and shared our brotherhood and it surely helped staunch the emotional bleeding that we had all been consumed by. I will say my prayers on the anniversary. I will pray for those who are at peace and pray for those families who remain in this life who were denied the joy of living their lives with their sons brothers husbands et al. It is my intention to visit the UK in coming weeks and to incorporate my time with many of us who attend OUR reunion. I'm sure that we will all be able to reiterate our feelings and share our prayers again at that time.  
WE SHALL NEVER FORGET. Dickie

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message #: 1650

Date: Monday September 15 2014 07:59:50 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: Miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Re. the memorial service on the 22nd. Thanks to Graham. Question answered. Mike.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1649

Date: Monday September 15 2014 04:36:55 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown: Kingsdown Deal  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Dear Richard Adrian has raised the subject of the 8am Memorial Service to be held on 22nd September at the Memorial Garden off Canada Road Walmer and that attendance may be restricted to bereaved families. The actual area of the garden is quite small and the annual Service has always been held so that bereaved families can seek solace with their own at this time in their year. It has never been publicised meaning that only those who know about it attend. However there has never been a restriction on the attendance of former members of the Band Service many of who attend regularly. Be assured that the bereaved greatly appreciate the presence of former colleagues of those killed. PDM and other uniformed personnel from RMBSHQ together with a small group of musicians who play throughout the short Service will be present and the occasion is always one of great dignity and significance. Last Post and Reveille and the reading out of the names of those who were killed coincides with the actual time of the bombs detonation in 1989. Twenty-five years is but the blink of an eye in the ongoing lives of the bereaved families and being at the Memorial Garden the actual site of the bombing in the presence of those who also grieve and remember makes their journeys to Walmer even more worthwhile than they would otherwise be.. As ever Graham Hoskins

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message #: 1648

Date: Sunday September 14 2014 12:47:25 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: Miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB.3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Further to Adrian's posting my hairdresser is the son of one of the boys who were murdered. Aaron Nolan works here in Sittingbourne. I will ask him on Monday morning and let you know the situation re the memorial service.  
Mike

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message #: 1647

Date: Sunday September 14 2014 04:39:43 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelonkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/ Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

**Comments:**

The 25th anniversary of the Deal bombing on September 22nd 1989 will be one week away this coming Monday as many here will know. I read in the East Kent Mercury that the 8am Memorial Service is "family only". Is anyone able to confirm this? I would like to pay my respects at the site as I am certain others would wish to do but I shall respect the wishes of family members if indeed privacy is requested. There is a commemorative 'Beat Retreat' by RMB 'HMS Collingwood' in the evening outside Deal Castle I believe at 1930. Hope to see some old faces on the day wherever....and I have noted Willi Watson's suggestion of 'The Plough' in Ripple in the afternoon.....I understand extra lamps have been installed especially!!!!!!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1646

Date: Friday September 12 2014 12:36:49 EST  
Name: Robert Taylor  
Email: robert.taylor528@o2.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 4121  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard many thanks for the info regarding Jack Tomlin.I am sorry to hear he has passed on. I would have loved to have chatted with him about my late father Hopefully other VBI's out there may remember him. Best wishes Bob.

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message #: 1645

Date: Wednesday September 10 2014 01:54:10 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: Miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clart  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Have faith Michael I ordered my ticket yesterday over the phone and was assured that it would arrive "shortly". I am trying to persuade Lewis Sykes to come but he doesn't seem too keen as he did not enjoy last year. See you there and we will enjoy a chat.

---

message #: 1644

Date: Tuesday September 9 2014 12:33:30 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email: Jemtugwood@sky.com

Service Number: RMB3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/claret/VPN  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Merv Is "The tickets are in the post" the same as "the beer's in the boot and the cheque's in the post"!! hoping to see many friends again at the forthcoming reunion regards Jem

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1643

Date: Monday September 8 2014 06:17:21 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik11@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
TICKETS I wish someone would have the b\*\*\*\* and stand up and tell what with our tickets. I contacted RMBSHQQ on the 27th of August and was told they were going in the post that week anyone received a ticket yet? I now read that Merve phoned them on about the 6th of September and he was told that they are at the printers. I am beginning to wonder is there going to be a REUNION this year it will be an outrage if it is called off. Fingers crossed for all in the same boat hope to see in Portsmouth. [Webmaster] Cool yer heels Mike! I'm sure it will be alright after what seems to have been some conflict with a new mess vendor. Nothing will prevent our much anticipated reunion. See you there!

---

message #: 1642

Date: Monday September 8 2014 04:09:29 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Everyone who may be interested in a unique concert ! On the 27th September at St Bartholomews School Newbury I shall be conducting the first performance of the 'Grieg Piano Concerto' with a Brass Band accompaniment! That can't be right I hear you all say! But it is so.....The band involved is fairly local to me and they are 'The Aldbourne Band' directed by David Johnson who you may know as a serving member of the RMBS and a fantastic Euph player and arranger for Brass & Wind Bands. The band is championship class and has taken to the Grieg transcription by myself very enthusiastically. David directs the first half of the concert which includes some excellent items such as the Shostakovich Festival Overture and a Porgy & Bess Suite by Gershwin. The Grieg Concerto is the main item after the interval and I'm fairly certain that we could call it a 'world premier' as I've not heard of anyone else ever attempting this!! If any of you know different I'm sure you will let me know. The pianist by the way is a local professional 'Oliver Williams' who is very keen to play with the band. If you want a ticket for this rather special Concert then just email me or take a chance at getting a ticket on the day..they are just £10. Best wishes to all. Michael.

---

message #: 1641

Date: Sunday September 7 2014 06:51:52 EST  
Name: Andrew Deacon  
Email: andrew.deacon1@btopenworld.com

Service Number: Q004263F  
Hometown: Margate  
Instrument/s: cornet/violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hoping to make Reunion in Portsmouth this year.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1640

Date: Saturday September 6 2014 15:04:52 EST  
Name: Mervyn C Durrant  
Email: mervcd3518@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3518  
Hometown: Ropley Alesford  
Instrument/s: 3rdClart 2ndBike Pantec Coach &Broom  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dont panic Jem I rang the office (BLUE BAND) and i was told they were at the printers!! We shall get them for the reunion so dont worry the Lady told me. So your cheque Jem is not earning the band reunion fund any interest .

---

message #: 1639

Date: Saturday September 6 2014 11:13:32 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email: Jemtugwood@sky.com

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/clrt/VPN  
n/a:

Comments:  
Further my query about the reunion tickets my cheque still hasn't been cashed and no tickets have arrived yet getting a bit close is anybody having the same trouble? I know Mik Hickman and a couple of others are in the same boat regards Jem

---

message #: 1638

Date: Saturday September 6 2014 02:20:44 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Chaps Just to say that I have just returned from a two week cruise with the Central Band RBL on the good ship Balmoral or is it "Immoral"!!! Along with us were three members of the RMBs. One of them Craig had gigged with us before so sort of knew what to expect. However the others were thrown in at the deep end!!! Ryse has only being playing the Horn since January and is grade 6 already!!! and Peter was on Trumpet. They were sightreading most of the seven programs we played no time was allotted to us for rehearsals. They are all a credit to the Band Service and will go far. There was an abundance of young ladies aboard so no problems there!! I did put them right about the "Whispering Bushes" at Langalini in Copenhagen!! Not that they needed it. We visited Tallin St.Petersburg Helsinki and Copes where you need to take out a mortgage for a beer. A buzz was started the "someone" had seen flying fish in the Baltic and that you could feed dolphins at Langalini with smoked salmon. Some of the more gullible spent a good part of the day looking for the flying fish. A certain member of the band who went around sticking condoms in the keycard insert on cabin doors was sent on a wild goosechase for a non existant shore phone call when we were in the North Sea. Ho Ho. It was all taken in good part and I have no doubt that they will get me back at some stage. It was a very good trip and judging by some of the bar bills a good time was had by all. Hope to see you at the Reunion.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1637

Date: Friday September 5 2014 09:38:19 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham Norfolk (ex-Brighton)  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
how poignant and touching to see that ANNE WOODWARD has discovered our ex-RMB website and that she is the daughter of B/Sgt HAROLD PRICE. Harold was a superb trombonist who featured as a soloist in many of the musical engagements we undertook. He was a personable and good humoured man and I feel privileged to have served with him on the Royal Yacht and at Eastney Barracks. I think that Anne must have come across the picture of the band taken on the Yacht in 1961 but appearing in Maxie Beare's memories incorrectly as 1957. (This was the year Maxie joined the Yacht). This was the last trip made with Capt. Kenneth (Chinny) McLean as D of M. He flew back from Venice after a tearful farewell and offer of employment with him in his new job ... D of M of the Butlin's Organisation!!!! B/M Roy Morgan directed the band and orchestra for the rest of that trip. Harold also appears in a photo of the Yacht band where he is sitting next to (Capt) Paul Neville who is undertaking his first trip. We are resplendent in our tropical white uniforms in this picture. I have two original copies of this photo and if Anne would like to contact me via the Buddy List or our Webmaster I would be more than happy to send her one of these to add to her family archives. If anyone else is interested in seeing this photo I could scan it and put it on the website if Dickie can give me guidance as to how to do it.

---

message #: 1636

Date: Thursday September 4 2014 16:24:53 EST  
Name: Anne Woodward ( nee Price)  
Email: annegler@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi I came across one of your photos online when i was researching my late fathers ancestry. I am the daughter of ( ex b/sgt) Harold Price who it seems you served with on the Royal Yacht in 1957. I just wanted to thank you for sharing your photos and stories. Kind Regards Anne Woodward

---

message #: 1635

Date: Tuesday September 2 2014 14:42:51 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham Norfolk (ex-Brighton)  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Return message for JOHN DIXON ... although ANYONE can read it 'cos we've nothing to hide ... have we John????!! I think I speak for many others who are intending to pop in to our little meet in the "Plough" when I say how fantastic it would be if you could make it Deal on 22nd ... and YES! ... of course spouses and family are welcome (there's even a small shed in the garden for mother-in-laws!!). I would say that any time from 12 noon onward will be a good time to come along. It's a very informal occasion and we can grab a snack and have a drink (drivers beware of course!!) and chat and reminisce to our hearts' content. Those of us who wish to can pop down the road later where Roger and Ann will have some beer tea and coffee on tap so that the "rabbit" can continue unabated and for those who are going to the castle for the Beat Retreat later food can be available near that time. We were also thinking that those who wanted to pay their respects at the Memorial Gardens and didn't wish to intrude on the very intimate 8am service could go some time later in the day either individually or as a group of "old-timers". So dear John ... things are beginning to take shape for an interesting day that will be full of mixed emotions for many of us. I will telephone Ian Shawcross as soon as he returns from Ireland and speak to him for the first time in 49 years!!!! I do hope of course that you will be giving him a call as well!! It would be great if we could persuade him and Ros to come and join us ... and that goes for any other old pals and comrades of those far off times. To contact anyone who is on the Buddy List get onto it and navigate the alphabetical listings as required and as long as the person is "live" ... ie: is up to date with their subs you can click on their name and their email address will be revealed. For joining the Buddy List how to subscribe and ANYTHING at all you need help with John ... throw yourself on the tender mercies of Dickie Valentine our fantastic Webmaster. He'll never let you down!!!! Best wishes to you and yours and to all others who remember me.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1634

Date: Tuesday September 2 2014 08:29:29 EST  
Name: John Dixon  
Email: john.dixon369@tesco.net

Service Number: RMBX3369  
Hometown: Scawby Brigg N. Lincs.  
Instrument/s: Bass / Tuba  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Message for Willi Watson. Hi there Willi. I'm recognising your Mr. fix it skills here!! I think you always did have a certain 'joie de vivre' if you don't mind me saying!! Good for you. End of Sept. is looking a bit busy but if the get together is on Monday 22nd. Sept. then I could possibly make the journey down. It sounds as you suggest a good opportunity to meet up and I could get to fit in an extra visit to see my family in Whitstable. And yes it would be good if we could get Ian Shawcross to come along too. It all sounds very exciting. What sort of time would it be at Ripple and are wives / partners welcome? I keep discovering little gems of info. about people I can just about remember or had almost forgotten about on the 'Notice Board' on this website. Amazing!! All the best for now  
John Dixon

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message #: 1633

Date: Monday September 1 2014 13:00:18 EST  
Name: Robert Taylor  
Email: bob.taylor2311@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 4121  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Does anyone know if B/Sgt Jack Tomlin is still around. My late father MEA(H) Bob Taylor was in the Blue Jacket Band on board HMS Bulwark for the 61/63 commission under Jack as VBI. I have the commissioning book and several other photo's and would love to chat with him and see if he remembers my father. I hope someone can help me. My father was in several bands throughout his 32 years. I believe the last one was on HMS Devonshire in the early 70's so again if the VBI from that ship is around again I would appreciate being contacted. Many thanks. EDITOR: I am sorry to have to tell you that Jack Tomlin deceased sometime in October 2005. I was privileged to have served with him as he was bandmaster on HMS Eagle for the last commission. RIP Jack.

---

message #: 1632

Date: Monday September 1 2014 10:53:06 EST  
Name: ROGER SMITH  
Email: rogerannsmith@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3597  
Hometown: Ripple Deal  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Willi and all who are looking for Ian Shawcross Ann has just phoned Ians sister-in-law an old school friend of hers so we now have some phone nos. for him:- Home No. is 01304 374755 Mobile is 07973821464 Dont try to ring him now as he is away in Ireland for another three days. While I am writing may I thank all who have sent get well wishes to me after my Cancer and little brush with the hear- after I changed my mind and decided that to play in Richard Bakers band was too important to miss!!! I here tell that Phill Hughes has been practicing the piano part to "Arti Shaws Clarinet Concerto" Thank you all. Wishing you all the very best in life. Roger Smith

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1631

Date: Monday September 1 2014 06:45:25 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email: willi.watson@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham Norfolk (ex-Brighton)  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Firstly a message for Sid Sheard: Sid when replying to John Dixon you mentioned Ian Shawcross. Have you or has anyone else reading this got a contact tel. no. or address for Ian? I would love to see him again after a gap of nearly 50 years!! Now a message to all potentially interested friends and comrades: I and a few other ex-CENTAUR '63/'65 RMBs are planning to meet up in the "Plough" at Ripple on Memorial Day 22nd September. Hopefully there will be other pals from our service days there and anyone who is interested in a chat and a bite to eat on that day is more than welcome. If things get too crowded in the pub ex-Centaur solo clarinet Roger Smith and his wife Ann who live in the village have kindly asked everybody back to their home for tea coffee or whatever. There is a BEAT RETREAT given by the COLLINGWOOD Band at Deal Castle later that day (circa 1930 hrs ... see!! ... you never lose it do you???) which many will wish to attend I'm sure. Please let me know if you would like to come along to this low-key but potentially most enjoyable get-together or know of any other ex-RMBs of that era who I could make contact with. Finally a message for JOHN DIXON: If we could find Ian Shawcross and get him along on the 22nd ... this would be the perfect excuse for your family visit to Whitstable with a little deviation in the direction of Deal??!! Just a thought.....!!!!

---

message #: 1630

Date: Sunday August 31 2014 05:31:44 EST  
Name: John Dixon  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3369  
Hometown: Scawby Brigg N. Lincs.  
Instrument/s: Bass / Tuba  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Message for Sidney Sheard Hi there Sid and many thanks for that info. on Ian Shawcross. Yes please do pass on my regards when you see him next. My son and daughter live in Whitstable so I really should make the effort to pop down to Deal when I visit them. Best wishes to all John Dixon

---

message #: 1629

Date: Saturday August 30 2014 07:58:12 EST  
Name: Sidney Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal, Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

A message to John Dixon. Hi John. Ian Shawcross is alive and kicking and still playing in the wine bars of Deal. When I see him next I will pass on your regards to him. I hope you are well Richard and look forward to seeing you again at the reunion. Regards to the Family, Sid.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1628

Date: Saturday August 30 2014 04:39:44 EST  
Name: John Dixon  
Email: john.dixon369@tesco.net

Service Number: RMBX3369  
Hometown: Scawby, Brigg N. Lincs.  
Instrument/s: Bass / Tuba  
n/a:

Comments:  
Whoops!! I just noticed a couple of spelling mistakes in my last message. Sorry about that.....must have had one of those senior moments!! Oh and I can now see how to get on the Buddy list so will have a look at doing just that. Anyone know how Ian Shawcross is doing these days? I assume he is still living in Deal. Cheers for now Best wishes John Dixon.

---

message #: 1627

Date: Friday August 29 2014 08:54:28 EST  
Name: John Dixon  
Email: john.dixon369@tesco.net

Service Number: RMBX3369  
Hometown: Scawby Brigg N. Lincs.  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Well hello there Adrian Michael and Willi. Really great to read your memories of our time at Deal etc. Funny how the Pink Shell Club seems to feature highly! We must have had some fun in those far off days!! I was particularly sorry to here that 'Noddy' Taylor is no longer with us..... how sad. I also learned from reading the obits. page on the notice board of this website that Ron Kempton passed on about two years ago. He was my best man when I married in 1960. Also a few other names I recognise from those way back days. Gosh..... sobering thoughts!! But yes I remember with much fondness the trips to Toronto Vancouver and also the great tour of Canada and the U.S. following the Edinbrough tattoo in 1965. There is a note from Colin 'Noddy' Redfern on the Notice Board here about the Toronto and Vancouver trips and the hire car that he managed to wreck on the way back!! A couple of good old photos attached to it too. Wonderful to here from you all after all these years. How do I get on the Buddy list or am I already?? Keep up the good work. I will certainly keep in touch now I have discovered this. Very best wishes to all  
John Dixon

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message #: 1626

Date: Thursday August 28 2014 11:33:57 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: ehadmira@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
ROY WILSON  
Prompted into memory lane by the sad entry of Bob Wilson's demise I am reminded of my squad oppoâ€™ and fellow Solo Clarinetist who sadly passed away in the Far East in 1956 in HMS Terror. That was Roy Wilson who I pipped to the award of the outstanding student prize winner of 1953 and was awarded with the book of Elementary Harmony by Kitson. The book is now in the possession of my eldest granddaughter who is an exceptional musician former President of her University Choir et al? But is now studying for her Masters Degree at Bath University. Royâ€™s father was a journeyman musician Bass Player on Cruise Ships and was when I last met him he was a String Bass Player in the Orch/Trio of the Universal Hotel in Gibraltar who played for the Spanish Dancers who entertained us on a run ashore and who expected us to pay Ten Shillings for them to take a little green coloured drink! Not many of us fell for that ruse I have to say except jolly Jack maybe? So sad to hear of yet another who has reached and crossed the Bar maybe too sooner than anyone may have expected. Rest in Peace Bob. Yours aye Bill Hartland.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1625

Date: Thursday August 28 2014 10:28:41 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/claret/vln  
n/a:

Comments:  
Thanks for your help Mick hope to see you at the reunion Jem

---

message #: 1624

Date: Thursday August 28 2014 06:01:55 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Guys I did manage to make contact with HQRMBMS yesterday and I DID get a reply. It seems that there has been some issue with the Mess which is now resolved and tickets will be sent out in the near futrue which I hope means SOON. Regards to you all. Mik H.

---

message #: 1623

Date: Wednesday August 27 2014 11:44:02 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email: terryfreestone@vfast.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X2505  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello Shipmates in answer to Jem's query about the Reunion tickets I too sent off in June and like Mick have yet to hear. Nobby the badge on Colonel Grace's left shoulder is the Prince's Badge introduced by CG in 1978 the 75th anniversary of the Band Service and 25th anniversary of the appointment of the Duke of Edinburgh as Captain General to give the Band Service an award meant to be equivalent to the long-standing King's Badge for the GD folk and in place of the Certificate of Merit for the outstanding member of the former Commandant General's squad which was started as soon as we arrived in Deal from Burford on 6 January 1950. I hope to see you all on 11 & 12 October if/when our tickets arrive..... Best wishes to you all Terry

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1622

Date: Wednesday August 27 2014 04:51:27 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

In reply to Jem's query about Reunion tickets I expressed concern today also like Jem I posted my cheque early (June to be precise) as of this morning it has yet to be cashed Mmm so what is going on I ask. I have this morning contacted through E mail HORMBS hoping for some answers should I get some I will keep you informed. In the mean time my regards to you all and should we get our tickets I will see you in October.

---

message #: 1621

Date: Wednesday August 27 2014 03:23:09 EST  
Name: Herman Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hello to All I watched and very much enjoyed the Edinburgh Military Tattoo the other evening especially the part played by the Royal Marine Band Service. One thing that I had not noticed before however concerning Col. Nick Grace. High up on his left shoulder some sort of badge could be seen. Anyone know what this is? Needless to say the R.M. Bands performance was very impressive as was Col. Grace's control of the Massed Bands during all of the show. Well done to all concerned.

---

message #: 1620

Date: Tuesday August 26 2014 14:38:53 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham Norfolk (ex-Brighton)  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

How wonderful to read a posting from the hugely- talented bass/tuba player JOHN DIXON whom we all so admired when he served in the RMB. John you can see from the reaction to your message how pleased people are that you are alive and kicking ... and from what you say still providing that smooth bass to the odd jazz combo or three! Adrian has made mention of the "Pink Shell" club where we would look forward to Thursday nights (I'm pretty sure?) and you Ian the sadly-missed Noddy et al providing us with top class entertainment. In the months of '65 prior to us setting off for the Edinburgh Tattoo and the hugely enjoyable tour of Canada and the USA I was cajoled (!!!?) into helping Rosemarie and her mum out at the club (my elbow's STILL a bit twisted ... not!!!) acting as barman/bouncer together with loveable rogues Alan Tomlin and Ginger Couch!!! I talked to Alan who has two memorabilia shops in Guz just the other day and we got to chatting fondly about those days ... although the chat was fairly censored as he was on speaker-phone and his partner was listening!!!! John ... I myself re-established contact with my RMB past only last year and give thanks each and every day that I did as I email phone Face Time or Skype guys who shared remarkable experiences with me in our youthful days ... and I curse myself for not doing it sooner as I see how many dear pals are no longer with us. Please hop aboard and maybe think about getting on the Buddy List which will give your old friends who are online the means to get in contact with you. Time marches on for all of us and we all need a bit of moral support at times. This website is a wonderful asset and we are also lucky in having such a dedicated webmaster as Dickie Valentine. by the way ... today (26th) was FRANK DOMINEY's birthday!!! He served on Centaur with John and joined up with me. Have a good one Frank ... and many more of them!!!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1619

Date: Tuesday August 26 2014 03:36:35 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email: jemtugwood@sky.com

Service Number: RMB3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/ claret / van  
n/a:

Comments:  
Is anyone having trouble receiving their tickets for the Reunion? I sent my cheque off in April and followed up with a call after a month only to be told that the tickets would be sent out in July. I called again on 11th July to be told the tickets would be sent out in the next couple of weeks. It is now August and still no tickets I tried to phone again but cannot get anyone to answer. Anyone got any ideas as to how and when I can get my tickets? Jem

---

message #: 1618

Date: Monday August 25 2014 09:20:54 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Yet another blast from the past 'John Dixon'! I wonder if you remember John a certain hire car we took from Toronto to Niagra Falls and I think we got as far as Buffalo before returning to get back in time for our gigs at the National Exhibition in Toronto Canada way back in the 50s. I'm fairly certain it was you along with Kempton, Jimmy Morrow Noddy Redfern myself and who was the other one.....yes it's just come to me Colin Wyer. regards Michael.

---

message #: 1617

Date: Monday August 25 2014 04:00:10 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelionkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/ Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Great to hear from you John Dixon!! Several have wondered what became of you as nothing has been heard for years. I recall our time in the Staff Band together with Hugh Heatherwick Taff Pearce George Simpson Mick Hickman....and of course your good friend Ian Shawcross. Remember all those evenings playing jazz up at 'The Pink Shell Club' on Deal Seaford? Ian Shawcross on trumpet and flugel you on bass and Norman Taylor on drums (sadly no longer with us) and that officer 'Freddy' (Nigerian Navy??) on piano. Glad to hear that you are still playing. If you are in London come along and see me at the Lyceum Theatre where I have been playing 'The Lion King' for the last 15 years. Keep posting on this great site...you will meet a lot of old friends!!

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1616

Date: Saturday August 23 2014 20:24:47 EST  
Name: George Morrisom  
Email: georgesax57@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just wondering if the Bandservice Forum is still active as having probs logging on . . . . I don't do FB  
Regards G.

---

message #: 1615

Date: Thursday August 7 2014 09:08:27 EST  
Name: John Dixon  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3369  
Hometown: Scawby Brigg N. Lincs.  
Instrument/s: Bass/Eb Tuba  
n/a:

Comments:  
Recently discovered this website and amazed that I recognise a few names i.e. Willi Watson the late Rev. John Watson the late Charles Bowden Adrian Brett. Interesting that you served on HMS Centaur '63 to '65 Willi. I was on there '61 to '63. Can't say I enjoyed it all that much but we had some good times all the same and saw the world of course. The rest of my time I spent at Deal in the band and orchestra there up to 1967 when I left to start my civilian life. It has been quite an eventful and varied life but always managed to carry on playing in different bands and groups wherever I happened to be around the country. I am now 74 and still fit and enjoying playing a bit of cool swingy jazz here and there. I could chat for hours but better not. Good to know that you are all out there and enjoying life. If anyone remembers me do say the word. Goog luck to you all. Cheers for now John Dixon.

---

message #: 1614

Date: Thursday July 31 2014 14:06:08 EST  
Name: Ian Epps  
Email: ian\_epps@virinmedia.net

Service Number: RMBX2698  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Jock Wilson I remember him well he served with me on the Ark Royal from June 65 to June 66 when she went to Plymouth for her last refit. He was barbering on the Ark and never seemed to stop we were lucky as he cut hair in the sailors messes not ours. The last time I saw him he he was in his element he served me a pint in the RMA opposite the Memorial Bandstand he did love his pint and I can't think of a better place to see him for the last time. All the very best to you all Ian(eggy)Epps

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1613

Date: Tuesday July 29 2014 05:40:53 EST  
Name: Barrie Davies  
Email: barriedavies@talk21.com

Service Number: PO20357M  
Hometown: Gillingham  
Instrument/s: n/a

Comments:  
Hi I served onboard HMS Intrepid with Vic Sylvester who to the amusement of the assault squadron watched my attempt at stations only for procedure alpha. Could anyone put me in touch with Vic. Barrie Davies

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message #: 1612

Date: Tuesday July 29 2014 04:32:17 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
JOE FAIRCLOUGH. I have just learned that ex Drum Major Joe Fairclough is poorly and in Derriford Hospital Plymouth. I am sure he would appreciate some Get Well Cards & Messages from old colleagues I do not know what ward he is in but I am sure any mail sent to the hospital will get to him. The address is. Mr J. Fairclough DERRIFORD HOSPITAL DERRIFORD ROAD PLYMOUTH PL6 8DH Best wishes to all Ray

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message #: 1611

Date: Tuesday July 29 2014 03:53:53 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
ITMA ! If you go to youtube Royal Marines 350 March London there is a video of last fridays events in London. I have tried sending it direct to this website but my computer skills ain't that great!!! yours aye Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1610

Date: Sunday July 27 2014 14:31:49 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi folks Just been reading Willi's latest posting about the Centaur Band. Willi the reason you cannot find Bert Nicholls in the phone book is that he lives in Minster in Sheppey as opposed to Thanet. I will try to find his number for you here. An old oppo of his is Terry Parker and he might be able to help. Last Friday I was among the 500 Royal Marines exercising their right to march through the City of London. The day started at 0500 with an early morning call and a cuppa. I was joined by two ex Bootnecks and their wives from the Canterbury branch RMA. We duly boarded the commuter coach from Sittingbourne at 0655 and made our way to London. Alighting at Aldgate the plan was to tube it to Moorgate by this time we had been joined by another from the Medway Towns and he suggested we walk it so we did. Don't ask why! It's quicker by Tube!!! We met all the RMA members at Finsbury Sq, along with the Band from Collingwood. We then made our way to the Honourable Artillery Company where we formed up and were inspected by The Lord Mayor of London she is better looking than Boris!!! After a short service we reformed into a column of six and marched through the City to the cheers of thousands. The parade ended at the Guildhall where we were treated to a reception lasting some two and a half hours. The RMA band provided small groups to entertain us and I met Jon Yates with his Brass 4tet. There were only three Blue berets on parades and two of them were old time "Ships Marines". Needless to say how can I put it we were all very "tired" when it was over and we caught the coach and were home at 1830. A great day was had by all but I don't think I will be around for the 400 anniversary. After all I am 72 and 3/4s.

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message #: 1609

Date: Sunday July 27 2014 05:54:34 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham Norfolk (ex Brighton)  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:

Thank you Mike for your speedy response to my ex-Centaur Band search. I don't know what they feed you over in Espana but it's obviously doing wonders for your eyesight for you to have spotted Willie Shears in Deal all the way from the Iberian Peninsula!!!! BUT SERIOUSLY Mike ... many thanks. Unfortunately it's a case of the horse having bolted. With Roger Smith in Ripple Richard Baker in Deal and our Centaur Bandmaster David "Ginger" Wells in Kingsdown we have several Bandy Spotters in the area ... and we can add Don "Ginger" Feather in Minster to that list as well. Our old shipmate Bert Nicholls lives in Minster but Ginger has been unable to find him at home when he calls and my "192" searches have failed to come up with a telephone number. It's all VERY frustrating ... and of course time marches on!!!! The "Blue Band" will be my next port of call. Best wishes to all I served with.

---

message #: 1608

Date: Thursday July 24 2014 04:23:53 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Everybody Greetings from (yes you know) a hot and sultry Spain. Danny the barber yes I remember him well and I did get the chance to talk to him at the Reunion he came to at Portsmouth a few years ago. All that has been said about him I agree with and I am sad to hear of his passing RIP Danny. Of course before Jock Wilson came on the scene there is another name to conjure with those older members who had the pleasure to reside in East Barracks will of course remember the father of John Perkins affectionally known as Polly (just like his son). Will!!! On the subject of Ken (Willie) Shears if you can contact someone from the Deal area they may be able to help you contact him I saw him at the brilliant concert there last weekend. Till October Mi Amigos Hasta Luego and Adios.  
Mik H.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1607

Date: Wednesday July 23 2014 13:52:54 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham Norfolk (ex Brighton)  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Barry is correct in saying that Danny Daniels joined the RAF after leaving the RMB (was he attracted to the endless supply of Brylcreem I wonder??). He was stationed at Uxbridge and became the Central Band's "Procurer in Chief". I had many a chat with him in the '70s and hopefully was able to help him out in sourcing the more esoteric requirements of the Band's horn players ... and other brass. I lost touch with him when I moved to Cambridge to enter upon the next stage of my musical life and I was terribly saddened to learn that his funeral was in King's Lynn ... just a few short miles from where I now live. I assume that he had been living in this area since retirement but of course unless people have access to the internet and our wonderful ex RMB website (Bless you Dickie!!!) there is no way of tracing people if they have slipped off the radar. Danny gave me my first RMB haircut ("What's under yer 'at's yours!!! ... what isn't's MINE!!!!" Remember??) and that room at the Bootnecks' end of the New Block was a haven of peace. Danny chatted away in his friendly way ... and the tacitern Jock just responded to us with that slow smile of his. Talking of barbers and wondering how to contact old comrades it is worth mentioning that our tonsorial needs on HMS Centaur from '63 to '65 were taken care of by Willie SHEARS (you couldn't make it up could you?!) Band Corporal and cornet player who was out in one of the body-search cutters with Roger RP Smith at the scene of the Lakonia Disaster. Roger and I would love to find him and others of that Band of Brothers so if anyone can help us please contact either of us or this Guest Book. Thankyou. Best wishes to all I served with; I hope to see some of you in either Pompey or Margate.

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message #: 1606

Date: Thursday July 17 2014 09:31:37 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Hi to all Good to read Adrian's recollections and comments. Danny was a Cornet Player who on leaving joined the RAF .(I think!!!) I did the Jnrs Course with Jock Wilson in 1963. A brilliant guy of great character. Regards to all Cheers Barry

---

message #: 1605

Date: Thursday July 17 2014 08:55:36 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelionkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/ Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

**Comments:**

This admirable site does a lot to repair the diminishing memory of many of us I suspect!! Who could forget Danny and Jock (Wilson??) the 'J wing' barbers...without the gentle jog from Barry Radford I would certainly have forgotten. I am certain I speak for many of us in saying that having left home aged 14 and 'thrown in the deep end of adult life' suddenly subjected to initial training and the DI regime and all that entailed those weekly visits to the barbers' shop were important. Here we were in contact with 'trained ranks' ...not those with rank and authority but ordinary warm and friendly humans and I found the barbers' shop like the pub later in life (!) a great leveller. Everyone was equal. Danny and Jock were really quite special people probably without even realising. That weekly experience was much more than a haircut. It was contact with the sort of adult I hoped to become: friendly accepting and non-judgmental and a lot of fun. I think Jock had been a trombone player but not sure about Danny. Whoever appointed them to their positions as barbers should be congratulated for they fulfilled an important and necessary role in the personal development of so many young boys....something few 'developmental psychologists' could ever understand....they were naturals and did not imagine they were teaching life skills by example.....RIP Danny . Best wishes to all. ADRIAN

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1604

Date: Monday July 14 2014 12:56:24 EST  
Name: sue garbutt ne foster  
Email: misty.sharp1@btinternet.com

Service Number: r m b 3706  
Hometown: portsmouth  
Instrument/s: euph & cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Have just arrived home from Deal after a great day at the Band concert on the green yesterday. We had the band from Portsmouth playing in the bandstand and the band from Collingwood marching along the strand it was just great. I was born in Deal and I have never seen so many people in Deal and all enjoying the wonderful music. Oh yes we did have a few showers but lots of sunshine during the concert. I saw lots of faces from way back Wally Walters John Ware and Jay O'neil which was lovely. My daughter Michelle came with us and she said it bought back lots of lovely memories of her dad Trev when he was in the band. The bandstand looked great with the new shutters in place. We are already looking forward to next year and another great day. Sue.

---

message #: 1603

Date: Saturday July 12 2014 03:59:25 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to all I presume that the recent departure to the Bandroom in Another Place of John Daniels is THE Danny Daniels beloved barber to many a Boy Musician in the mid to late 1950's. Danny did attend a Reunion a few years ago and he told me "That he was amazed how many of the boys remembered him". How could we forget!!!!!!  
Rest in peace Danny. On a more cheerful note Open Golf Championship is taking place up here next week. Practice start tomorrow. It is manic up here. Regards to all Cheers Barry

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message #: 1602

Date: Tuesday July 8 2014 03:09:52 EST  
Name: Steve Swann (Swanny)  
Email:

Service Number: Q004215B  
Hometown: Blandford Forum  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Thanks for correcting my memory Bob your's is obviously better than mine good to hear from you too. Yes I did get badly sun burnt painting the pool before we could use it. Also transferring to HMS Triumph and not HMS Glamorgan. As always thank heavens that this exists due to the hard work and dedication from you Dickie. Hope you are well and enjoying your retirement. Cheers Swanny

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1601

Date: Monday July 7 2014 11:58:00 EST  
Name: Robert (Bob) Taylor  
Email: bob.taylor2311@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 4121  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Good to hear from Swanny. You are right about us going down to the River Plate on RFA Olwen and sailing from Rosyth. I remember you being fair skinned got quite badly sunburnt. I have to correct you on one point though. We jackstayed from the Olwen onto HMS Triumph. It was quite scary bearing in mind the height difference. On the Olwen we made good use of the swimming pool which was located on the helicopter deck. We also rigged up a few times to play at different raz's with several ships. We played at the British Embassy in Rio and I always remember how opulent it was. Apart from the poor young chef being murdered it was a good trip. My first trip with the Band was on HMS Nubian up to the Arctic Circle via Stockholm. We called in at Lulea which is as far up as you can go before turning round to come back again. We called in at Helsinki as well and one of the places we played at was The Church in the Rock which was opened in 1969. I have since returned there twice in my Dance Host capacity and when escorting the tours ashore from the ships enjoy regaling the passengers with how I played there in the Band.

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message #: 1600

Date: Sunday July 6 2014 13:34:28 EST  
Name: Steve Swann (Swanny)  
Email:

Service Number: Q004215B  
Hometown: Blandford Forum  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

I read with interest Bob Taylor's tale of the South America trip which I too was on. It was actually my first trip to a far and distant land like most of us who were young bandies at the time what an eye opener it was. I also remember us doing a RAS from RFA Olwen (I think) which is the ship we sailed out on from Rosyth to HMS Glamorgan which we sailed into port on. Taff Kinsey and I were one of the last few to get across after everyone had pulled all the gear across and were quite rightly tired. When it was my turn to go across I was nervous to say the least and I honestly thought I was going to get seriously wet if I was lucky. I do indeed remember the chef who was sadly murdered. When I left the band to become a Policeman in Reading a guy joined our shift who was the navy chef who replaced him. They say it is a small world and I think that that little tale goes some way to suggesting this is true. I also remember coming back on HMS Triumph. When we were crossing the Bay of Biscay in a really bad storm I brought back some food from the galley for Dave Johnson (bassoon player) who was literally green as a result of being sea sick poor beggar so at least he had something to throw up which I was told was really important. Oh well enough of my rambling on hope everyone who reads this good health wealth and contentment.

---

message #: 1599

Date: Friday July 4 2014 12:47:35 EST  
Name: Robert (Bob) Taylor  
Email: bob.taylor2311@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 4121  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

I wonder if anyone out there can help me with some info. In the early 60's I was in the RM Cadet Band with Steve Tanner and Mark Welstead and I knew that I wanted to join the RM Band. My Father was an MEA(H) in the RN and in 1965 he got a married accompanied draft to HMS Mull of Kintyre in HMS Terror. One of our neighbours in Sembawang was a Band Corporal. I'm fairly sure his first name was Geoff and pretty sure he played French Horn. My Father told him of my keenness to join the RM Band and he arranged for me to have an interview. This was conducted by Lt Dougie Haig and B/Sgt Dickie Dawson. It was quite surreal as it was held in the Tropicana Club in HMS Terror. Needless to say I got through it and after turning 15 in November 66 I was flown home on my own in Jan 67 to join the School of Music. I think I am still the only member of the Band Service to have joined this way. I would be interested to know if any members of Terror Band from 66 would know who Geoff was. Incidentally my Father was a keen cornet and trumpet player and always joined the Volunteer band on ships he served in. He was on HMS Bulwark 61/63 and was in the band under B/Sgt Jack Tomlin. He also formed and conducted the Band on HMS Devonshire in the early 70's until a VBI was drafted in. I would welcome any info on any of the above facts. Cheers. Bob (Titch) Taylor

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1598

Date: Friday July 4 2014 04:02:03 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: Miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:

Good to hear from you Robert I was not on the SA trip as the band used to split into two and I was probably on the Scandinavian trip we seemed to do regularly. I was normally on these as I spoke Swedish after a fashion owing to the fact that I was engaged to a girl who lived on Lapland. ( Don't ask). Happy days eh? I last saw Brian Peever at Neff Collins's funeral a few years ago in Fareham. He had not changed a bit still the same Drum Major that we remember not too many of them about in our day eh? I left the band in October '71 and did a cooks course down at the S&S school. Came out top of the class and got a job on an old Pussers salvage vessel running out of Chatham and Dover. Many adventures on that ship in the three years I was aboard picking up "dead" aircraft and doing everyday salvage tasks. Great fun and I learnt a lot about cooking. I remember on one occasion in Scotland I put Haggis Neaps and Tatties on the menu to say that the crew didn't want it is an understatement so I ended up making 35 omelet that night. However I was determined not to be beaten and three days later they had it for breakfast as " Scotch Sausage" ! The chef always wins. Am playing at Wimbledon this weekend so must do some dhoby Mike

---

message #: 1597

Date: Friday July 4 2014 02:24:55 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:

Rich What a memory jog from Robert's last message. What happened to Jim Foxwright? I remember sharing a bedsit in "Andy Snacks" just on the Rochester roundabout and trying to cook spaghetti in the early hours after a "lock in" at the City arms. What it was to be young!!!! Thanks Robert All the best to all Dave

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message #: 1596

Date: Thursday July 3 2014 16:26:36 EST  
Name: Robert Taylor  
Email: bob.taylor2311@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB4121  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I remember Mike Tellick very well having served with you under Pete Sumner. The Drum Major was Brian Peever who was then replaced by the late much missed Andy Croft. Unfortunately my next cruise on the Balmoral is a five week Caribbean Cruise starting in November. It would have been good to catch up and have a few drinks. I shall be at the Memorial Service in October. Were you on the South American tour where we picked up HMS Triumph in the River Plate? It was a sad trip as a young chef was shot dead in Rio and we had to leave early and go up to Recife. Anyone else remember that? I remember many names from my four years in Chatham. Andy Cunningham Jim Foxwright Roger Bagnall Barry Hancock Hookie Walker Swede Moyle just to name a few. Happy days.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1595

Date: Thursday July 3 2014 04:48:20 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:

hi all just caught up with Roberts Taylor's posting. I am sailing on the Balmoral this August with the Central Band RBL. We are going to Tallinn St Petersburg Helsinki and Copenhagen. If you are on this cruise Robert please make yourself known to me as we must have served together in Chatham under Peter Sumner. I was the Librarian there. Other members of our band you may know are Paul Collett and Ian Clarkson. The boss is David Cole.  
Mike

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message #: 1594

Date: Tuesday July 1 2014 08:43:02 EST  
Name: Robert Taylor  
Email: robert.taylor528@o2.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 4121  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

It's been quite a while since I have been on this site so have been catching up. I was interested in Dave Lambert's comments about meeting up with Martin Orbidans on his cruise. I never served with Martin however on retiring I took up ballroom dancing and now regularly sail with Fred Olsen as a dance host. I get a free cruise and in return have to dance and socialise with all the unattached ladies on board. I know hard life. On my first cruise on board Balmoral I got talking to the lounge pianist and of course it was Martin Orbidans. We spent the next two weeks exchanging dits whilst he was playing and shared many of the them with lounge drinkers much to their delight. I served in CinC Fleet Band from Jan 70 until transferring to the RN in Jan 74 having suffered with a problem with the roof of my mouth that made it difficult to continue playing. In 76 I was on the RN Display Team so must be one of the few people to have played Boom Bang a Bang for the climbers then actually did the Window Ladder Display myself. Best wishes to any from my intake 1/67 and all members of Chatham Band from my days.

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message #: 1593

Date: Monday June 30 2014 12:10:21 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury North Somerset  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Having just reviewed some of my previous entries I am sad to say that not only will the HMS Gambia Association web site be closing but my future being in common with others of our age uncertain I accept that it will be inevitable that any further entries by me will come to an end. So in my parting shot my I ask if anyone recalls some of the Marches with an Euph part which for the life of me I cannot recall! Was it a counter melody in the middle of the march which the euph took the major part? Oh how my memory plays tricks on me so please anyone even you Dickie may I have any suggestions? Before you go searching I have already tried and listened to British Phalanx a memorable march tune familiar to me but not the tune I am seeking a resolution to. Dam! It is almost like know the answer to a word puzzle clue but not being able to come up with the required lettering to fill in the correct answer..... Note that this entry was made with my having my left hand in plaster.....but I do not offer that as an excuse for any typo errors.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1592

Date: Sunday June 22 2014 06:33:10 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Southsea  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Thanks Ray for your good wishes. A full house in Exeter Cathedral last night for the RMA band. First class playing in aid of Armed forces Day. Surprise visit from Den Challis who was in the audience. The band continues to go from strength to strength and enjoyed playing the Finale to Saint-Saens' Organ symphony with the Cathedral organist.

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message #: 1591

Date: Wednesday June 18 2014 12:20:26 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
Good luck to the RMA Concert Band who are performing at Exeter Cathedral this coming Saturday (21st June) I would have loved to have joined you but unfortunately my own band has a concert at the same time in Plymouth. So to all those I know who I would have enjoyed a pint & a chat to I wish you all the very best and hope your visit to Exeter is an enjoyable one and not the last visit! Very Best wishes Ray

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message #: 1590

Date: Tuesday June 17 2014 10:10:29 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Southsea  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I agree with Dave Mutter... It was good to hear the Captain General played by the Guards. But I wish someone would teach them how to play the trio. The sonorous tenor melody was lost thanks to the heavy bass drum. There were no troops marching just the band and STILL it went louder and louder. End rant

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1589

Date: Sunday June 15 2014 10:22:09 EST  
Name: David Mutter  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: euph/cello  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Dear All Is this a first? What first is that you may ask? The Royal Marines got a mention on the Trooping the Colour Ceremony on Horse Guards Parade on Saturday. The march "The Captain General" composed by none other than our Sir Vivian (of course you all know that) was played by the massed Foot Guards Band in recognition of the 350 th anniversary of the formation of the Royal Marines (albeit by another name). My friend Annie and I attended the Beating Retreat ceremony on Wednesday 4 th June and were proud and impressed by the standard of playing by all participants. Styx again stole the show but well done to all. We both enjoyed the reception in Westminster Hall after the Retreat and were pleased to see the RMA Concert Band keeping up the good work. David

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message #: 1588

Date: Saturday June 14 2014 05:42:16 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email: willi.watson@btinternet

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham Norfolk (ex Brighton)  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Dear Andy Wright We will NEVER forget your dear dad Shiner. As I write this my framed photo of 31 CG Squad is visible less than 3 feet from me with Shiner standing tall and erect next to our squad DI. Richard joined up less than 3 months after me and plays a prominent part in my memories of those far off days. I lost touch with him after we were rated and it was only by chance that I rediscovered him at the Higham Ferrers Bookshop. My wife and I visited him and your mother a couple of times and it was lovely to chat with that large bearded and ever good-humoured man. I only spoke to him once after the move across the road and was shocked to hear of his illness and subsequent passing. Thank you for posting your message in the Guest Book and reminding those of us who knew him what a special person Shiner was. Take care Andy.

---

message #: 1587

Date: Friday June 13 2014 05:10:05 EST  
Name: Andy Wright  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Remembering my dad today 'Shiner' Wright RMB 3716 euph and cello where have the last 6 years gone? I'll have a tot for you mate.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1586

Date: Monday June 9 2014 16:16:15 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Great to read all the comments about the Beat Retreat on Horse Guards last week. I just wanted to mention that the RMA Concert Band was also playing for the after the show reception in Westminster Hall on that day and it was nice to hear complimentary comments about our performance from some of the senior ranks present. I also wanted to boast about my son Simon who last Sunday along with many others was involved in a 100 km cycle ride from Tidworth to Horse Guards to raise money for 'Help the Heroes'. He was born in Plymouth 50 years ago when I was the B/M at Manadon and I'm very proud to say he came in 5th out of over a thousand riders. Have a great summer....Michael.

---

message #: 1585

Date: Monday June 9 2014 04:41:23 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Folks I have to correct my last message that I placed on this site regarding my mate Jimmy Kay. I stated that Jimmy was in hospital for a hip replacement operation. In fact it was for a knee joint operation (Good job I was not the surgeon) we could have said it was a "Buy one Get one Free Deal". Anyway the good news is that the op went well and he is in fact going home today. He will of course have a few weeks before things are back to normal but knowing Jimmy he will soon be well and truly fixed. Bye for now. Nobby.

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message #: 1584

Date: Sunday June 8 2014 02:21:47 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Together with my wife and Jimmy Kay and his wife we also attended the Beat Retreat on Tuesday night at Horse Guards Parade. We had travelled up from Lincolnshire and by the time we reached our Travel Lodge in Enfield changed for the event we then had to get ourselves into Central London via British Rail Train and then the Underground. For Sandra and myself who have not been to London for many years this was quite an ordeal in itself. Anyway we did this in the end with the help of the locals. Lots of security meant that we ended up in a queue near Marble Arch waiting to be let in. Finally we were admitted via Admiralty Arch just in time for the show. All this was worth while in the end. We all thought the bands and the music were 1st class although I must agree with Adrian Brett (that's a first) I was not a fan of some of the arrangements of the Last Post etc. Once again as Adrian said the Royal Marine Bands performance stood out from the rest. All in all we thought the trip was well worth while and was sorry when it came to an end. Now we are back home I expect it will be a long time before we get chance to see the R.M.B. in action again. By the way Jimmy Kay was admitted to hospital on Saturday for a hip operation. I am sure all his mates in the Bands Service wish him well.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1583

Date: Friday June 6 2014 03:17:10 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelonkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/ Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

With my wife on Tuesday evening I dutifully attended the Beat Retreat ceremony at Horseguards' Parade with the massed bands of HM Royal Marines. In this the 350th anniversary year of the formation of what has become HM Royal Marines the Royal Marine Bands were joined by representative bands from the USMC and the Royal Netherlands Marines. Consequently the ceremony was adjusted to accommodate contrasting styles of music and drill which resulted in a slightly different event from the traditional evening we have come to appreciate over the years though none the less enjoyable. As a participant 50 years ago for the celebration in 1964-- the tercentenary year-- inevitably I was taken back to that time as a young member of Portsmouth Group Band. Many of you reading this account will have been there with me too and possibly a few of these were in attendance as onlookers this year also. The first thing to be said is that fortunately the weather held out...just! Dark and ominous looking rainclouds hovered overhead but some divine intervention prevented the threatened downpour... and it was sunny also for the Wednesday evening I can report. Each of the bands gave performances in their special styles with many later items involving the whole ensemble. The individual tonal sonority of the different bands was evident and interesting. The USMC Band had a very bright and 'brassy' sound with a strong top and bottom end with tight and high sounding side drums. The Royal Netherlands Band was very similar but with obvious 'big band' input in the sound which was ably shown by some screaming trumpet solos from one member and a general leaning towards a light music/big band sound. And the Royal Marines? What can I say that has not been said before. The sonority of the Royal Marine Bands is without peer anywhere in the world and always has been. In the British Pathe newsclips which I unearthed (and many have watched) you can hear it even in the small ship's bands during the war! The unique sound is a question of balance and orchestration. It is that wonderful middle register that no other band possesses: horns saxophones and uniquely and most importantly euphoniums!! A large number of clarinets and a much more mellow and 'orchestral' brass colour competes the general homogeneous sonority...everything blends together so you do not hear the separate sections as with the other bands. There were quite a few marches that were new to my ears but also many old favourites. A new modern arrangement of 'Sunset' was played which incorporated elements of "Eternal Father" and although quite a shock to an old pro such as me waned on A.C Green (I think it was his arr. we played) the new version was quite effective but I missed those natural breathing points at phrase endings. This was a continually metrical performance as the bugles do not hold the notes for three beats at the end of the phrases...which feels odd to me...and would do to many reading this!! A good evening's music well-played with excellent manoeuvres and co-ordination between the assembled bands and demonstrating the affiliation and co-operation between the three Marine Bands present...a real "Hands Across The Sea" .....a march which was inevitably played at the end. Thank you to all.

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message #: 1582

Date: Thursday June 5 2014 02:30:44 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Good morning folks. May I draw your attention to a concert being given by the Central Band of the Royal British Legion this Sunday evening in the Winter Gardens Margate at 1930. David Cole fresh from his triumph with the RMA Band in Malta will be waving the wand. Tickets can be obtained from Cinqueport music on 01304 210600. I look forward to seeing some of you there and having a natter. Mike

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message #: 1581

Date: Monday June 2 2014 16:05:29 EST  
Name: Roger (Skinner) Atkins  
Email: rjatkins01@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3920  
Hometown: Spalding Lincolnshire.  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a:

**Comments:**

looked at this site by chance and spotted Paddy Semple (thanks for the football comment aged bones now so can't even kick a ball) and Pete Pendlebury. anyone else out there who remembers me from my time at HMS Raleigh and CTC Lympstone?

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1580

Date: Monday June 2 2014 13:41:21 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi again Richard Oops it is 5 years for John not 8 Fingers not working very well Sorry  
Cheers Barry

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message #: 1579

Date: Monday June 2 2014 13:24:14 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard Like Michael I am amazed that the Horse Guards Beat Retreat isn't being televised. Must be the first time for many a year. It would appear that the well known television service has more frivolous things to spend our money on. Shame on them , i had a chat to Wendy Hargreaves this morning. I can't believe it is 8 years today since John entered the Great Big Band Room in another place. I have many happy memories to hang on to. Wendy has had a tough couple of years but she is very positive . Wendy also passes on her regards to the many old comrades of John. I have recently been to the Walton Centre for an M.O.T. On my "Gizmo" . Pleased to say that it is still working well and estimated battery life left is 18 months to 2 years before it will need replacing.. Regards to all Barry

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message #: 1578

Date: Monday June 2 2014 09:09:18 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Is there anyone out there who can explain why this event is not being televised for all the nation to witness? Michael Hutton.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1577

Date: Sunday June 1 2014 05:29:56 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
LEST WE FORGET..... On this day sixty-six years ago a Service was held at the Royal Naval School of Music at Burford during which fourteen silver trumpets were dedicated as a memorial to its uniformed personnel who had been killed in WW2 and whose names are inscribed on the Roll of Honour. The trumpets had been provided through subscription by their surviving comrades. Leon Young a serving BBC hostilities only musician wrote a unique fanfare "To Comrades Sleeping" that was first performed at that 1948 service. That fanfare has been sounded at annual RMSM memorial services ever since. It is of interest that an original directive was that the fanfare team was always to be formed from SNCOs of the Band Service and wearing caps not WP helmets. Now that each Royal Marines band has a set of similarly styled trumpets whilst the dedicated originals are securely kept in the Corps Museum no such rules apply and the most capable players are rightly selected to play them regardless of rank. To be selected is recognised as a privilege. Fanfare teams now paraded in the same helmeted ceremonial uniform as their colleagues proudly demonstrate sparkling finesse at many events. We should remember that the ability to perform to this standard began on an afternoon steeped in sadness but with huge significance on the 1 st June 1948 in a sleepy town in Oxfordshire..... Graham Hoskins

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message #: 1576

Date: Wednesday May 28 2014 08:28:27 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: senapod@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo to you Richard and all Very good report by Graham Hoskins on the Corps 350th. I too would like to mention that the experience I gained by serving with the Fleet Band at Chatham and the times we had to spend at sea on board ship living with the RM detachment on board.This had always been a most enjoyable experience and the respect these guys had for us in the Band Service was overwhelming.Often they said we were the "Flag of the Corps"! Need I say more! Best wishes to all Mike.

---

message #: 1575

Date: Wednesday May 28 2014 03:40:12 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email: french.horn@sky.com

Service Number: RMB4336V  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Horn Bugle & Historic Property Steward  
n/a:

Comments:  
Here's Horseguards B/R 1950! <http://www.britishpathe.com/video/royal-marines-beat-retreat/query/guard>

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1574

Date: Wednesday May 28 2014 03:32:39 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email: french.horn@sky.com

Service Number: RMB4336V  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Horn Bugle & Historic Property Steward  
n/a:

Comments:  
Well said Graham Hoskins. I will raise a glass to the Royal Marines on our 350th Anniversary and proud that I served 26 of the 350 years. Per Mare Per Terram.

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message #: 1573

Date: Monday May 26 2014 09:19:02 EST  
Name: Ivor South  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Such a shame that the BBC it seems doesn't recognise it as such!

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message #: 1572

Date: Monday May 26 2014 06:15:02 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Ladies and Gentlemen Next week sees the climax of the Corps 350 th anniversary celebrations with Beat Retreat on Horseguards Parade in London. The nation will again rightly stand in awe of the talent before them as the intricacies of the event unfold. Prior to this and as part of the celebrations the Officers Warrant Officers and Senior NCOs of the Band Service are holding a Regimental "Red Jacket" Dinner in Portsmouth. Senior past and present members of the Band Service will gather to remember their forebears and salute those who represent the future. On behalf of all who have served in the Band Service over the years I ask that at this special time we briefly pause to remember our friends and colleagues of whatever rank who in their time helped to indelibly imprint the Royal Marines Band Service name across the Globe. Today's hugely applauded professional representation is the result of the dedication of each of you carried forward now with pride by those wearing the uniform knowing that they are the jewels in the crown of the Corps of Royal Marines with huge responsibility for further burnishing its image - something that they gladly accept. This is more than just a special birthday for the Corps it is an appreciation that the standards set by its Band Service have never been higher and all who have been or are involved deserve to be warmly remembered at this special time. "Bravo Zulu" shipmates!  
"Splice the Mainbrace"..... Graham Hoskins.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1571

Date: Tuesday May 20 2014 10:45:26 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just to let all you ex RMBs know that the RMA Concert Band are off to Malta this coming Sunday for a week. Wives Girl friends etc are included and we're all looking forward to playing in Six Concerts throughout the Island ending up with a finale at the old Opera House in Valletta on the last Saturday. Perhaps the serving Band Service should be doing the gig but they are rather busy with 350 years celebrations elsewhere! If any of you want me to look up old girl friends just give me a phone number or address and I'll be quite willing as we're all free during the day time!!!! Best wishes to all....Michael.

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message #: 1570

Date: Sunday May 4 2014 05:19:15 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelionkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/ Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Best wishes to those of 3/59 New Entry Squad whose lives were inexorably changed on May 6th 1959 55 years ago on Tuesday. I know that Dave Clegg and Les Evans are still with us sadly Jack Arbery has passed on. I can not remember who else was in the squad so a few of my grey cells have worn out through overuse.....or the odd libation...probably both! Good luck and good health to all Adrian

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message #: 1569

Date: Saturday May 3 2014 22:10:30 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Onetime Bassoon BassDrum and Eflat Baton  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Now you see Richard. With yourself Barry Bill and I there are at least four of us still alive and kicking. .

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1568

Date: Saturday May 3 2014 08:40:53 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3050  
Hometown: Congresbury- no floods at present!  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi All and for the benefit of my old squaddie Eric Haywood and not Eric Greenleaf who was the Bass Drummer and Third Clarinet and later WRA at Manadon YES as Barry Radford states we are still around albeit thanks to the NHS and I too am booked for a Reunion this month in Torquay with a tour of Plymouth Dockyard included. I have attended most of the Reunions if not all as some were scheduled while I was hospitalised but yes the likes of me are still around and my one regret is that I will never be able to attend a Reunion in Adelaide again so my one and only visit there will remain with me to the end of my days. (I attended family reunions in Bendigo without the knowledge that Eric lived nearby to some of my distant relatives so had to thank the late Tom Lambert for putting me in touch with Eric) Sadly I attended the funeral of my Solo Clarinet Stand in the latter days of the Plymouth Group Band when we were based in Lymstone. Ginge Loney was an incredible exponent of the Clarinet and not only is his passing a loss to us all but a sad day that he never achieved recognition of his competence in playing a clarinet. Trips abroad are now curtailed due to problems in obtaining Travel Insurance but I would dearly love to go to the USA once more to see my two grandchildren and also to make it to another Adelaide Reunion so I live at the moment in anticipation of any of those two wishes coming true. Hope that satisfies all and sundry who read this?

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message #: 1567

Date: Thursday May 1 2014 14:13:03 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a:

**Comments:**

just to assure Eric that that there are still lots of us still around!!! Thankfully funny time of the year what with all these Bank Holidays. but regards to all. Hotel booked for Reunion hope to see many of you there. Cheers Barry

---

message #: 1566

Date: Wednesday April 30 2014 18:23:33 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Onetime Bassoon Bass Drum and Eflat Baton  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi Richard I must congratulate you on the effort that you put in to produce the Adelaide Reunion Report now on the Notice Board. However there does not appear to be much interest in this wonderful site that had at one time more than a few corresponding members. They surely have not all departed for higher places. Or have they? My best wishes to you.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1565

Date: Thursday April 24 2014 12:26:55 EST  
Name: George wood  
Email: Georgewood2@talktalk.net

Service Number: Rmbx3035  
Hometown: Darlington  
Instrument/s: Cornet / violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi folks long time no see

---

message #: 1564

Date: Monday April 14 2014 11:12:20 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Thanks Paul. Where have all the years gone. I can still remember "marching?" from Deal station to North Barracks. Again from me all the best to 1/64 Dave Lambert

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message #: 1563

Date: Monday April 14 2014 05:12:07 EST  
Name: Paul Harker  
Email: paulharker5@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3995  
Hometown: Norwich  
Instrument/s: Cornet and Violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
I would just like to wish all my old squad mates from the 1/64 New Entry a Happy 50th. As it is 50years since we joined the Royal Marine Band Service today. I know we have sadly lost a few of the lads over the years. But if there are any of you out there who read this. I wish you all the best. Paul Harker

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1562

Date: Saturday April 12 2014 05:56:44 EST  
Name: paul thompson  
Email: alfie3710@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3710  
Hometown: Weston-s-Mare  
Instrument/s: clarinet-violin-tenor sax  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello All Hope you are all well im in my 70s now would like to hear from anyone who knew me

---

message #: 1561

Date: Thursday April 10 2014 10:35:09 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: billhartland@msn.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Shipmates and a sad announcement in that my young oppo' Martyn Loney has passed away. He apparently passed away suddenly on April 7th 2014. I have no details of his funeral at present but will post them to Richard if and when they become available to me. Martyn was only 62 so you can understand why I found it such a shock to read of his passing in our Regional Newspaper Obituary Column.

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message #: 1560

Date: Sunday April 6 2014 12:41:56 EST  
Name: john taylor  
Email: sackbut68@oange.fr

Service Number: rmb 3782w  
Hometown: pessac sur dordogne france  
Instrument/s: tenor sax  
n/a:

Comments:  
just noticed this site wow!!!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1559

Date: Friday April 4 2014 15:44:31 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clar.  
n/a:

Comments:  
I have just received an email from professor Eric Shepherd a former Royal Marine who knew John Watson and his family when they served in Germany with the British Army. Professor Shepherd would like to contact John's son Martin to express his thoughts. Can anyone help with a contact number or email address? Thanks

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message #: 1558

Date: Friday April 4 2014 03:19:34 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clar.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
hi All On Wednesday I attended the funeral of an old friend Rev. John Watson. The service was held in Bexhill Parish church of St. Peter. The service took the form of a Requiem Mass and was attended by many people representing the many facets of John's life in the ministry. We learned from his son Martin that John's early life was in the Salvation Army and they were well represented from the local Citadel. On leaving the Band Service where he was a fine Euph and Cello player he went to Theological College obtaining a pass mark of 98% in his final exams and then had a number of jobs as he progressed in the ministry. John then decided to join the Army Chaplaincy service and was posted to the Household Cavalry the Blues and Royals. On leaving the Army he went to Australia where he was chaplain in several schools. On returning to England he again was chaplain in a number of schools the last of which was Sutton Valence near to Maidstone where he became a leading light in the theatrical life of the school. In later life he moved to Bexhill to help in that area where he again worked with the Salvation Army. As I have already mentioned many of his friends from the Churches and other areas of John's life were there including four of us from the RMB. Roger hammond. "Pony" Moore Michael Angress and myself. I know that Merve Durrant wanted to attend but ill health prevented him from travelling. RIP to a friend and colleague. you will not be forgotten.

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message #: 1557

Date: Thursday April 3 2014 08:02:20 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown: Kingsdown Deal  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Having contacted Mike Scurfield to thank him for again arranging for the Allstars band to perform so ably at the Wintergardens in Margate again this year I am conscious that no salutation has appeared on this web page since the concert. Allow me please to pen these few words in tribute. The event was another memorable one in a glittering lexicon. It is wonderful to see the more mature players still doing their utmost to rise to the standard required with most of them managing to do so superbly. It is important that they should know that their considerable input to the evening has again been greatly appreciated by the capacity audience. Many of the 130 or so players in the band had travelled huge distances at their own expense to be there. Memorably Professor Frank Lloyd came from his university at Essen in Germany to rise from his position in the horn section to perform a solo item that fully demonstrated his expertise as a world class musician. Colonel Paul Neville founder conductor of the band was brought to Margate to appear as guest conductor for the closing item in the first half of the concert following which he was driven back to his home in the Midlands. Helped onto the stage he was given the welcome he deserved. A WW1 item arranged by Ray Woodfield was well received and added hugely to the ambiance of the evening. I have to say that when Mike Scurfield a professional actor these days appeared from the dressing room dressed in army uniform of the period to lead the community singing he looked a bit like FVDs first appearance at Deal when lovat uniforms were first introduced! Great fun. David Cole's immaculate musicianship showed throughout the evening as he raised the bar to new levels. His ability to marry humour with pathos and to ensure that everyone enjoyed being on stage with him was most noticeable and his inclusion of local soprano Margaret Threadgold was inspired. The whole evening was a remarkable 25th anniversary tribute to those whose lives were cut short by the bombing of the School of Music in 1989. It had been suggested that this year's concert may be the last after twenty five years but to the credit of those who have returned to play year on year 97% have said that they want to keep coming back and next year's concert date is already booked! What a team what a demonstration of personal commitment. Gentlemen those who merely look on proudly salute you all as a significant 'Band of Brothers' Graham Hoskins.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1556

Date: Wednesday April 2 2014 03:07:42 EST  
Name: sue garbutt, ne Foster.  
Email: misty.sharp1@btinternet.com

Service Number: R.M.B. 37606  
Hometown: Hayling Island  
Instrument/s: euph / cello.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Today is the first anniversary of Trev's death and if he was still here he would have been very upset to hear of the death of his friend John Watson. We had some great times in the early years in Deal. May they both rest in peace. sue.

---

message #: 1555

Date: Monday March 31 2014 15:24:56 EST  
Name: David Hookham  
Email: djhookham@yahoo.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I am doing some genealogical research into two brothers Verdi and Ralph Maurice Skinner who both played in the Royal Marine Band Plymouth Division in the 1930s. I know that both served on the RNY Victoria and Albert and also travelled to Canada in August 1939 to the Canadian National Exhibition with the rest of the band under the leadership of Major R J Ricketts. Can anyone tell me anything about them and their service in the RM Band? Thank you in anticipation David Hookham

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message #: 1554

Date: Monday March 31 2014 07:16:34 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have just returned from a cruise to Norway to see the Northern Lights. The cocktail pianist was Martin Orbidans!!! I haven't seen him since the time we served together in Britannia in the early 80's. He is doing very well and he sends his best to any who remember him. Enough to say we had a jar (or 3) and a lot of "remember whens" and it made a good holiday better. Until the bar bill at the end!!! All the best to all and See you in the countermarch  
Dave Lambert

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1553

Date: Monday March 31 2014 04:49:25 EST  
Name: Dan Archer  
Email: archer378@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: PO22378C  
Hometown: Moerewa Bay of Islands New Zealand  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have just read and enjoyed Willie Watsons article on the Lakonia disaster superb piece of Band Service history. I had good fortune (?????) to serve with Richard Baker in Britanna when he arrived in Italy to replace Trev Foster after he had been taken ill and casevac'd home. Babsy was without doubt the biggest morale booster I have ever known. Funny man. Exactly the type of guy you need to raise spirits after something as dreadful as the Lakonia experience. Great article.

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message #: 1552

Date: Monday March 24 2014 13:55:39 EST  
Name: Derek Roberts  
Email: derekroberts@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3914  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
I have just received a visit from ex RMB Ray Sampson (cnt/vln) who left the band service in 1967 he was asking if I knew of his buddy Ex B/Cpl Ray Colquhoun (cnt/vln). Does anyone have info as to Ray Colquhoun contact details or whereabouts if so I will then gladly pass them on.

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message #: 1551

Date: Saturday March 22 2014 17:48:29 EST  
Name: jim clague  
Email: jim.clague9@facebook.co

Service Number: rmbx3197  
Hometown: coalville leic  
Instrument/s: cornet violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
Looking for old mates.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1550

Date: Saturday March 22 2014 05:11:50 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just a final reminder if anyone checks in today..... The  
'All Stars' is tomorrow Sunday 23rd March --Rehearsal at 2pm Concert at 7.30. Just get there and enjoy the  
Day.....Michael.

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message #: 1549

Date: Friday March 21 2014 05:24:10 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelonkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/ Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
The funeral of Rev. John Watson (Euph/Cello) will be on Wednesday April 2nd at 2pm at St. Peter's Church Oldtown  
Bexhill-on-Sea. Jackie has requested no flowers but donations to Alzheimer's Society.

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message #: 1548

Date: Tuesday March 18 2014 14:18:20 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Super tribute by Michael with reference to John Watson. I was in the Euph &  
Cello class with John. He was always a larger than life kind of Guy. John was so laid back he was almost horizontal. He  
was a great musician and he is a sad loss to our great family. John and the great Hedley Lock in the great band  
room in the sky. Wow what a thought. RIP John you gave so much to many so many people in life. A quick  
thank you to Derek "Ush the Lush" for his kind words. Hope to see lots of you in Margate.  
Cheers Barry

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1547

Date: Tuesday March 18 2014 10:20:59 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
More sad news as most of you will have seen.. John Watson a great Euph & Cello player from a bygone age has left us. I remember him very well as we sat alongside each other many times in the old Deal Concert Hall way back before the 'Prison in Pompey' had been changed into practice rooms! After the Band Service he went into the Clergy and I remember him giving a great sermon at Sir Viv's memorial service in St Martin-in-the Fields London. His last letter to me was some years ago when I asked him if he would come and preach at a reunion service. He told me that he would try and make it but I dont think he ever did. He also conducted Lady Dunn's funeral and was still in touch with Paddy & Leonie who by the way he was always constantly in trouble as a band boy when chasing her round the barracks. RIP John. There are many of us who will be thinking of you. Michael Hutton.

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message #: 1546

Date: Tuesday March 18 2014 07:36:39 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3645  
Hometown: Bude/now Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Fiddle  
n/a:

Comments:  
I must keep up to date on here! Have to say I've not looked in on to this great site for weeks to update myself and here I am today discovering that there's been both good and very sad news. I have to say that my path never crossed with Andy Croft yet I knew him only by glowing reputation within the RMB. Suffice to say that I never heard a single negative word spoken about the great man. On the contrary only ever did I hear what a superb all round gentleman and "good egg" he was to all who ever served with him. Sadly I just missed the opportunity leaving the service just prior to him succeeding Matt Dillon's role at Excellent! Without doubt it's testament enough that our colleagues at the time would only ever speak about Andy in a positive light. That in itself proved what an inspiration he must have been to so many who were lucky enough to have served directly with him. I can only add my good wishes to his very close family and say RIP Andy you clearly deserve to. Re. the good news.( albeit a tad late now!) but I send my hearty Congratulations to Ole Bazzar & his lovely wife Heather on the occasion of their Golden Wedding! - (Who said "It will never last you know...!!" I know what you mean about "Where have the years gone!?" especially when it only seems like yesterday. Life can be both wonderful and downright cruel sometimes but I guess in the scheme of things we ALL have our allotted time and it's up to us ALL to make the most of what we're given eh!? Amazingly it's our turn next! - Pauline and I will hit our Golden Wedding anniversary too on 23rd May! I've never forgotten our honeymoon as it was spent at Walmer due to being required for the Massed Bands Corps birthday rehearsals for Horse Guards that week to celebrate 300 Glorious Years!! - Needless to say the bunting will be out once again this year with the RM's 350th birthday!! So I concur Mr Radford if anyone knows where those years have gone I'd like some of them back please!!!!" Hope to see you and many others at The All Stars Concert this coming Sunday. It should be a very special and indeed emotional one for us all.

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message #: 1545

Date: Monday March 17 2014 03:35:12 EST  
Name: Paul Collett  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3827  
Hometown: Sutton  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
Very sad to hear the news of John Watsons passing. I remember him from the J wing shows and also took part in " Simon and Laura " which I think he produced with the Globe players

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1544

Date: Sunday March 16 2014 12:02:54 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet.  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sad to hear of the passing of John Watson. He was a Brighton lad and we used to travel back to the School of Music along with others. A very good musician and friend. Last night was a fantastic occasion at the MFM. Well done to all concerned. Mike

---

message #: 1543

Date: Sunday March 16 2014 08:55:28 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelonkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/ Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have just received an email from Trevor Wye (RMBX 2857--Solo Flute) informing me that the Rev. John Watson (Euph/Cello) passed away on Friday night in a care home where he has resided for a while suffering from Alzheimers/dementia. Many here will remember John as highly intelligent an excellent player and a truly great and inspirational person to be around. He had that special aura surrounding him which radiated to others and brought the best out in what they did. John produced the 'J Wing' end of term 'Gang Show' at the Globe circa 1961 which many will recall taking part in. John left the RMBS to be ordained and has had several important posts within the church during his second career. Another sad loss.....

---

message #: 1542

Date: Friday March 14 2014 11:03:32 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dickie May I add my congratulations to Barry and Heather on their memorable anniversary. As you say old friend where have all the years gone!! Also thanks to this fantastic site I received a mail from David Mutter and he has taken my spare ticket and will be joining us on trip to the MFM tomorrow evening. What he doesn't know is that on the coach back last year we consumed six litres of wine and a similar amount of fruit juice for those who a "T". All that makes the evening go with a swing!!! See ya at Pompey in the Autumn. Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1541

Date: Friday March 14 2014 08:32:09 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: rmb3507  
Hometown: Meols, Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi to all Heather and I are celebrating our Golden Wedding Anniversary today (where have all the years gone!!!?) Many thanks to the many people who have emailed text, E Cards and phoned. To date we have received 40 cards!!!! Thank. You Hope to see many "old friends" in Margate Cheers  
Barry and Heather

---

message #: 1540

Date: Wednesday March 12 2014 17:37:55 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi All I think the following link would embarrass any horn player especially Derek Darley and maybe even Wally Waters to name just a couple of the horn players who come to mind. Stand down Goodwin. [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jAq\\_hpzk3IU&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jAq_hpzk3IU&feature=youtu.be) What an example for Horn Players to follow?

---

message #: 1539

Date: Tuesday March 11 2014 10:33:17 EST  
Name: mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi folks Just a quickie I have organised a trip to the MFM on Saturday 15th March for 117 people. I have had one ticket returned to me. Is anyone interested in joining us at the Albert Hall for this gig? The ticket price is £29-00. I have a coach going from Sittingbourne at 1530 at a cost of £10-00. If interested please contact me on 07787 550087. or Email Thanks Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1538

Date: Saturday March 8 2014 09:06:39 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelonkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/ Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Thank you Graham for your account of Andy's funeral. Unfortunately I had booked a birthday weekend in Amsterdam so I was unable to attend sadly. Your sensitive report however gave me a sense of the occasion and a residual feeling of the atmosphere of the day. The respect for Andy was shown by the attendance of so many people many of whom I imagine would not have been ex-RM/RMB. I remember Andy as really pleasant polite friendly and highly efficient. He clearly continued his life along these lines and will be missed by many who knew him better than myself. His achievements in the RM attest to this personal integrity but his finest legacy from what Graham has written (and which I found quite moving) has to be his family. God bless you Andy.....and thank you once again Graham for your sensitive concern for past colleagues.

---

message #: 1537

Date: Saturday March 1 2014 09:39:36 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
A village funeral..... Andy Crofts MBE our greatly respected colleague and friend was yesterday laid to rest in the churchyard close to his home at Worth in Kent following a funeral of elegance that will live long in the memory of the huge number of his associates from over the years who attended. They had travelled from the USA and Canada as well as from many parts of the UK. The GD Corps and Band Service were represented both uniformed and otherwise. Andy would have been delighted in with the huge numbers present and with the tributes publicly paid to him by family members from the youngest grandchild present through to the oldest son. Each in turn stood to say what Andy had meant to them personally in a poignant display of love and affection. With the large attendance of former RMBs the day was a reunion for many who would otherwise rarely meet. It was a proud day for all amid the sadness of the loss of another valued colleague whose contribution to our combined heritage was recognised in a memorable service that I was proud to attend.  
Graham Hoskins.

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message #: 1536

Date: Sunday February 23 2014 11:00:52 EST  
Name: Eric Wallischeck  
Email:

Service Number: N/A  
Hometown: Kings Point NY  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
I wanted to share my condolences on the passing of Andrew Crofts MBE RM. After he retired from HM Royal Marines Andy spent two weeks every summer for 25 years at the United States Merchant Marine Academy training our Regimental Band (where I last served as chief of staff) on how to march in the style of the Royal Marines. We got to know each other and spent many evenings over a whisky (or several) or a pint (or many) talking about his time in the service his cricket club Churchill (his home was named Chequers Cottage) his activities in researching VC recipients military history and any of the many other interests that he had. He was a gentleman and a good friend. My thoughts and prayers go out to Karen and his family friends and all the others whom he touched. Fair winds my friend.  
Humbly E. Y. Wallischeck Captain U.S. Maritime Service

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1535

Date: Sunday February 23 2014 05:59:58 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
For info: I understand that Andy Crofts' funeral is to be held at 1430 on Friday 28th February 2014 in the small parish church in the village of Worth in Kent between Deal and Sandwich with burial afterwards in the churchyard. Graham Hoskins

---

message #: 1534

Date: Wednesday February 19 2014 14:40:41 EST  
Name: Pete Law  
Email:

Service Number: RM25009A  
Hometown: Wolverhampton and many afterwards  
Instrument/s: Bugler  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Good memories of Andy. I'm sure he was the first Corps Bugle Major to conduct a fanfare for band and bugles on Horseguards. Pete Law x Bugler.

---

message #: 1533

Date: Wednesday February 19 2014 13:56:08 EST  
Name: geoff hill  
Email: geoff.hill46@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB3807 - QOO3807H  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I also would wish to voice my memories of an exceptional erudite friend and colleague. My first recollections are of Andrew Crofts arriving at BRNC Dartmouth as a Corporal Bugler way back in 1968 after having served several years with a Commando Brigade and sporting medal ribbons being greeted by our Bandmaster Jim Robinson with the immortal words 'I suppose you think you are some sort of f\*\*\*ing hero'. Well Andrew maybe not an hero exactly but a true gentleman who will forever be remembered with enormous affection by all who have been fortunate to have known you. My thoughts are with his lovely wife Kare his three splendid boys and their families.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1532

Date: Wednesday February 19 2014 03:58:57 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelionkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/ Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Sad to read of the passing of Andy Croft. Knew him through J Wing and he came on the famous 1966 USA Tour. Very smart I recall and a very fit looking man. We spoke together at the funeral of Ron Mansbridge and reminisced on past times together but I have not seen him since. I imagine there will be a good turnout for the send-off of such a popular and friendly colleague. I shall attend when details are posted.

---

message #: 1531

Date: Tuesday February 18 2014 14:12:22 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Saddened to hear the news regarding Andy Croft. Such a fine man. He had the task of taking over from Matt Dillon at Whale Island. (not an easy task!!) But Andy was the man to do it. Rest in peace Andy. A great loss to our wonderful family Barry Radford

---

message #: 1530

Date: Tuesday February 18 2014 11:56:51 EST  
Name: Paul Harker  
Email: paulharker5@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3995  
Hometown: Norwich  
Instrument/s: Cornet and Violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
I was so sorry to hear about the very sad loss of Andy Crofts. He was our Drum Major at BRNC late sixties early seventies and he did me the great honor of being an Usher at my Wedding. Paul Harker

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1529

Date: Tuesday February 18 2014 06:49:37 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
I am saddened to learn of the recent death of Andrew Crofts former Bugle Major cricketer Freeman of the City of London visiting lecturer at the New York United States Merchant Marine Academy and all round gentleman. Funeral arrangements as yet unknown. Graham Hoskins

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message #: 1528

Date: Sunday February 16 2014 04:04:52 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi everyone...It's that time of year again! The 'ALL STARS' 25th anniversary concert is on Sunday the 23rd March at the Margate Winter Gardens. It's going to be a great programme including a 'Corps of Drums' from HMS Collingwood Band Frank Lloyd is giving us a Horn Solo Colonel Paul Neville our original Director is coming to conduct some items. There will be many tributes to our lost colleagues from musical numbers within the programme and we all hope for a full house. It's up to you! Come and join this great celebration of friends and music along with David Cole and the rest of us....We need the Money for our great family charities....Regards to all. Michael.

---

message #: 1527

Date: Wednesday February 12 2014 09:23:09 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Having served with Wally Shillitto I too wish to express my condolences on his passing and my regret that no one considered it appropriate for those who knew him to be advised of his funeral as we were not able to attend his funeral from far and wide as many of us did for Drummy Bowden. [Editor] One can only guess that it was his request not to have fanfare. His ashes are later to be scattered off West Sands St Andrews. In actual of fact I have endorsement of that presumption as it was his wish to have a private send-off.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1526

Date: Wednesday February 12 2014 05:58:40 EST  
Name: Alick Harwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4012  
Hometown: Whitstable  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sad to say that George Croxford (Trombone) passed away peacefully after a long illness on 24th January. Funeral will be at Barham at 1200 on 19th February.

---

message #: 1525

Date: Wednesday February 12 2014 02:58:36 EST  
Name: Bernard S Maxie Beare  
Email: maxie2234@xtra.co.nz

Service Number: RMB x 2234  
Hometown: OREWA NZ  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I too was really saddened at the passing of Wally Capt Shillitto. We served together in the Terror Band and I have been in letter contact with him as he did not use the PC. My condolences to Ursula and family RIP Wally now in company with Dewey Smith Jock Middleton Bob Swan Dodger Long Wally Walton all former HMS Terror Max and Kath

---

message #: 1524

Date: Monday February 10 2014 11:16:07 EST  
Name: Gerry Tylour  
Email: gerrytylour@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2742  
Hometown: Nottingham  
Instrument/s: Solo Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Thank you Ken Tyler for informing us of the sad loss of Wally Shillitto. Wally was a Band Corporal and good friend to me during my first posting to HMS Terror Band from 1952 to 1954. It was clearly obvious at the time that he was destined for higher office. In my contribution on the Notice Board (Gerry Tylour Memories I) there are several photos of the band with Wally. I consider it a privilege to have been associated with him. RIP Wally.  
Sincerely Yours Gerry  
Tylour

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1523

Date: Monday February 10 2014 05:31:14 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sad day as yet another of our era leaves for the big band in the sky. I remember Wally Shillitto very well in my first stint in the Staff Band way back in the mid 50s he was one of the slightly more senior guys to those of us who had just come back from a two & half year spell on various HM Ships. He went on to higher things as we all know and was a great member of our great family. RIP "Wally".... Michael Hutton.

---

message #: 1522

Date: Friday February 7 2014 09:00:26 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email: keng0iti@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBx1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello Richard It is with great sadness that I have just heard from his Partner Ursula that Captain Wally Shillitto (Retired) has passed away and was cremated yesterday on the 6th. Feb. Wally and myself served together at HMS Royal Arthur HMS Vengeance then in the 1950's with the Deal Staff Band. I can re-call some memorable runs ashore especially one in Gibraltar and others that didn't end in hangovers.!!! RIP Wally.

---

message #: 1521

Date: Thursday February 6 2014 15:32:14 EST  
Name: BRIAN SHORT  
Email: briantheshort@btinternet.com

Service Number: q004468y  
Hometown: DEAL  
Instrument/s: PERCUSSION  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Yes the pretty boys of the band service who were hand chosen for special sea service on Ark Royal in the 2KA4 mess are having a reunion. Tis 'appening over the weekend of 12/13 July in Deal coincidentally the same weekend the RM Band concert and beat retreat happen on the bandstand. Ark Royal ranks will tour the old barracks on saturday before a fabulous dit fest at local hosteleries before A&E and bo bo's. Next day thick heads wil arise for the memorial bandstand concert and more of the same along with the mini reunion that is the band weekend. Names to me for inclusion in the festivities and to Taff Clarke for a memorial polo shirt!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1520

Date: Friday January 31 2014 16:00:55 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat  
Instrument/s: None Now.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi All just to remind you all that the most important item on the calendar is of course the coming Adelaide Reunion. The last weekend of March 28th 29th and 30th. Same venue same times Just check the notice board. As many as can come are welcome I promise you won't regret it..

---

message #: 1519

Date: Thursday January 30 2014 12:18:04 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3645  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Fiddle  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Ladies and Gents Sorry in advance for I seem to be the bearer of bad news in my recent postings. However Bill Callow has received an email to our RMA Concert Band from a Garry Thomas who has tragically just lost his brother Malcolm (Tommo) Thomas former RM Bugler serving from 67 - 86. Malcolm had a sudden heart attack recently and sadly he was hoping to attend our concert with Garry on Sun 2nd Feb at Worthing. See below the email:- Enquiry from: Garry Thomas Subject: My Brother  
Message: I'm coming to see the band at Worthing 02/02/2014. My Brother Malcolm Thomas was in the R.M. Band Service joining when just 15yrs of age at Deal R.M.School of Music and served for many happy year's. I booked the tickets without telling my brother in the hope he would be able to come with me but I'm sad to say that my brother died of a massive heart attack at the R.S.C.H. on the 22/01/2014. Please would you inform any of the band that may of known him. Malcolm (Tommo) Thomas. I would also ask if you'll play Life On The Ocean Wave as a dedication to a man I am so proud to say was my Brother. Contact Nos 01903 249935 Mob 07977467116.  
Many kind Regards.  
Garry

Thomas. Here is a note to me from Mick Hutton too:- Hi Derek. I have been in touch with Garry Thomas and he has told me that his brother Malcolm Thomas joined in 1967 as a Bugler in Deal and left in 1986. His Reg No is PO25697K. They would also like to borrow a corps flag to use on the funeral day which is Friday 7th Feb in Brighton. I expect that most of his contemporaries will be from the Bugle Branch. Regards Michael. Finally Len Lewry has also been in touch as you see and here he gives details of Malcolm's funeral. Hi Derek. I've requested some info about the above from Rab Thompson who joined up with him. I will pass on any info' when i have it. Malc's funeral is at 11h00 7th February North Chapel Woodvale Crematorium Lewes Road Brighton. He died suddenly of a heart attack. Regards Len I am merely the messenger for this announcement but I'm quite sure that there are many of you who would either like to get in touch with Gary to offer your sympathies etc; or even may wish to pay your respects at his forthcoming funeral. Yours  
Aye Derek

---

message #: 1518

Date: Monday January 27 2014 15:04:39 EST  
Name: Derek usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3645  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Fiddle  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello again all I'm dropping this note following a call tonight by Dave Stockham who in turn has been contacted by his old oppo K. "Knocker" White (Basses) to say that he has sadly just lost his wife after her valiant battle with 3 years of illness. - As Dave is not a computer person it falls to me to pass the message on! All those that knew and may have served with "Knocker" either at Ganges or the Yacht or Scotland or wherever may wish to send him their sympathy/condolences. - He was such a lovely fella and I'm sure he would welcome some contact from any of his other old oppo's at this time. He's apparently very stoic about it but none the less we all know that deep down it cannot be easy to suddenly be plunged into a life on your own after being surrounded by love and warmth. He can be found at : 21 St. Giles Gate Scawsby Doncaster S Yorks DN5 8PG Tel: 01302 783706 Many thanks for allowing me to use this space Dickie! Derek [Dickie] On behalf of all those who know 'Knocker' I want to express my sincere condolences for his loss. Our hearts and minds are always moved by such life changes. As brothers together we are family. Our prayers and thoughts go out to you.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1517

Date: Friday January 24 2014 07:36:30 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I'm grateful for the lovely comments and assure that I will fix the names for photos soon. Warm regards to all.

---

message #: 1516

Date: Friday January 24 2014 07:20:48 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
I would like to thank Graham Hoskins for his kind comments about the HMS Centaur blog which appeared on our website yesterday. More especially I would like to thank him for going to see David Wells and giving him sight of the article. Having no idea where David was nowadays... or even if he was still on this mortal coil... I was delighted to hear that he is very much still with us as will others be who served with him on Centaur and elsewhere.  
"Official" thanks are due to Dickie Valentine for his hard work in producing this account... and of course for the very existence and continuing excellence of this our very own website. Aren't we lucky!!! I am aware that Dickie had some problems with his laptop stuck as he was in the wilds of North Wales. He was there this week for some shooting he says. One can only hope he managed to bag Leigh Halfpenny and Adam Jones. George North would be a bonus with just over a week to go before the Six Nations!!!! Today 24th January is the 50th anniversary of what came to be known as "The Dar Incident" when a Tanganyikan army revolt took HMS Centaur and 45 Commando RM to Dar-Es-Salaam to forcibly put down the insurrection. This story and the Band's role in it will appear in Part 2 of my account of "The Fighting C" 1963/4. Meanwhile my love and best wishes to all my Centaur Band comrades.

---

message #: 1515

Date: Thursday January 23 2014 09:04:45 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx 2687  
Hometown: Kingsdown Deal  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard May I thank and congratulate Willi Watson for his superbly crafted article now available on the Notice Board. So much of the interesting history of the RMBS is lost because it is not recorded for posterity by those who were personally involved. This story of a commission on HMS CENTAUR and it's involvement with a passenger liner fire at sea is harrowing in the extreme and needed to be told. I am sure it will have been covered in the past but bringing it to the forefront again in this exemplary first hand account will be of enormous interest to serving and past Band Service personnel alike. It gave me the greatest pleasure this morning to take my Ipad along to the home of David Wells Bandmaster of HMS CENTAUR at the time of the tragedy in order that he and his wife could access the account that has appeared courtesy of your goodself. He was able to substantiate all that you have published and adds his thanks to Willi for tenacious and exacting reporting of a significant event in our history that deserves high acclaim but typically has waited until now for true prominence. Full marks once again to you Richard as host of this marvelous website. As ever Graham Hoskins

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1514

Date: Tuesday January 21 2014 07:38:35 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3645  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Vln  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello again. Further to my plea below I've since been kindly contacted by both Terry Freestone and Barry Radford who corrected my spelling of Bob's surname. I put Hodgkins when of course it was HODKIN! Therefore once again if that wrong name put anyone off the scent if anyone can throw light as to the whereabouts of BOB HODKIN then I'd be grateful. - Barry thought he may be in the Chesterfield area. I've tried a couple of numbers there to no avail so far! Cheers. Be Happy and Healthy! Derek.

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message #: 1513

Date: Sunday January 19 2014 16:53:58 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3645  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Fiddle  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello All. I'm trying to track down Bob Hodgkins (Oggie). Anyone any knowledge of his whereabouts possibly? Cheers! Derek

---

message #: 1512

Date: Wednesday January 8 2014 01:29:37 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
I have been talking to Barry Radford John Cowdray and Lew Sykes and we thought it would be nice to try to get as many joiners of the 1956 intakes as possible to get together in 2016 to celebrate our 60 years in this great organisation. This could possibly take place in Margate over the "All Stars" weekend or in Deal.  
So if you joined up in 1956 and are interested in a get together for a glass of Sanatogen and a chinwag about your ailments please feel free to contact me. It might get Frank Dominey out of his Devon retirement home!!!! One can always hope eh? If you have any ideas I would appreciate your comments.. Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1511

Date: Sunday January 5 2014 10:42:53 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Last night attended the Astor Theatre in deal for this year's Sgts. Mess Panto. It was up to it's usual high standard. Brilliant!!!! Well done to Brian Short and the cast and crew for such a good evening. To give you a flavour of the humour the ugly sisters were Betty Swallocks and Anita Dump. Nuff sed I think eh? Great fun was had by all. Mike

---

message #: 1510

Date: Sunday January 5 2014 05:19:10 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
May I join the many members in congratulations to Jon Yates on the award of a richly deserved gong. I like many can recall his playing for many a past year. I first met Jon in the 60s and can remember him meeting his lovely wife Karen when he like a few members of RMB played with the Southsea Brass Band under Gordon Saville long time ago but happy memories. May I wish a belated Happy New Year to all members of the great family that is the RMB and hopefully again this year some of you may take the time to come and chat in Portsmouth later in the year those that attend the 25th Memorial Concert in July see you at the bar. My best wishes to you all stay safe but more importantly stay healthy. Mik H

---

message #: 1509

Date: Saturday January 4 2014 02:29:40 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Good morning everyone good to hear from Roy A and Derek U again. Yes Derek retirement is great. I have never been so busy what with playing with the RBL Band and my duties as QM in that band. (Why do people keep losing kit)??? Hey Mike I have left my bow tie at home do you have a spare? Being an ex mess deck dodger I have spares of most things in my bag. Now Roy Do you know the difference between an Oboe and a Bassoon? The Bassoon takes longer to burn! Apologies to Bassoon holders. Anyway enough is enough I am off to the Sgts. Mess Panto this afternoon I just hope Deal is not under water.. Keep smiling chaps Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1508

Date: Friday January 3 2014 14:31:29 EST  
Name: Roy Adrian  
Email: ra.adrian181@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3647  
Hometown: Carlton-le-Moorland Lincoln  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a:

Comments:

Hello Everyone May I join the already 'ensemble' in congratulating Jon Yates on his well deserved BEM in the New Year's Honours List. Well done Jon - you were always a great credit to the Bandservice whilst your musicianship inspired us all. It was nice to see that my 'Squaddie' Derek Usher has returned to the screen again -Hi! I hope that your home town (Bude) is coping and holding its own during this terrible weather. Yes Derek I'm still holding and attempting to play that bamboo cane and am enjoying being a member of the nearby RAF Waddington Voluntary Band - sorry no ex RM Band close by. We regularly give concerts so it keeps me on my toes. Likewise I'm so pleased to hear that Paddy Semple is on the mend again after his recent setback. Paddy & I served together at HMS Raleigh and were members of a most successful football team - happy memories. Hope your health continues to improve Paddy. In closing A HAPPY NEW YEAR to all our readers. Roy

---

message #: 1507

Date: Friday January 3 2014 08:42:31 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: rmb3645  
Hometown: portsmouth  
Instrument/s: cornet/fiddle  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hello all! Trust it's not too late to add my Happy and Healthiest of New Years to everyone! Not been on the site for some weeks I have to say so I've missed a few notes from one or two of you. Sorry to hear about your little hic up Paddy Semple! - So glad to read that you're back on the mend again though. Great news to kick off 2014. Similarly J Yates Esq BEM RM! - I don't think there is a single person in "our family" that would say that the award is not richly deserved! - Like Len I too am proud to know him as a friend and musician and even prouder to still be playing in the same band as him! (The newspaper clips and details are on both the RMACB Facebook page and on our web site [www.rmacb.org.uk/news](http://www.rmacb.org.uk/news) & media page - should you wish to read more!) Nice to see a msg from "young!?" Roy Adrian on here too! (We joined up together in apr 57!) Hi Roy! Trust yer doing well? Still playing that long vertical bamboo stick!? Dave Stockham sends his best to you Maxie (Beare)! - Incidentally I was one of the 300 who did the "300 Glorious Years Massed Bands" gig on Horse Guards in May '64. I remember it as if it were only yesterday. Where the #""? did 50 years pass by!? - I can't believe it's the 350th this year - although I should as it's also my 50th Wedding Anniversary too! I had to give up my honeymoon for that non paying job as they would not excuse me! I can only think that I must have been such an important cog in that huge band back then!?? -) Enjoy retirement ya all for you only get one chance at it!! (Nice tho' innit Mick Tellick!?) As long as you have your health that is. Let's all do our best to keep healthy everyone and I wish you well in 2014.

---

message #: 1506

Date: Friday January 3 2014 06:48:30 EST  
Name: Kenneth Rollings  
Email: kenvalrollo@fsmail.net

Service Number: RMBX3324  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Clarinet & Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I would like to wish all R M Band Personnel past & present a very Happy New Year.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1505

Date: Wednesday January 1 2014 13:33:10 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Thank you Graham. You have said what we all feel about Jon and I think perhaps Sir Viv would have had the same opinion as all of us. Good luck for 2014 to all. Michael.

---

message #: 1504

Date: Wednesday January 1 2014 06:19:10 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
May I add my congratulations to Jon Yates on his "Gong". A worthy recipient indeed. Mike

---

message #: 1503

Date: Tuesday December 31 2013 18:28:32 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3242  
Hometown: Tennyson ( NSW Australia)  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello from "Down Under" My Wife Sylvia and I are sending this to all our friends in the Royal Marine Band Service. It is a greeting to all of you who remember us wishing you all the very best of 2014 good health and we hope to see some of you if we go to the Adelaide Reunion this March. God bless and love from us in "Oz."

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1502

Date: Tuesday December 31 2013 06:15:42 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I can only add "Hear hear" to Graham Hoskins' comments regarding Jon Yates. To play in the same ensemble as him is an honour and a joy. BZ.

---

message #: 1501

Date: Tuesday December 31 2013 05:13:17 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown: Kingsdown Deal UK  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Jonathan Yates BEM May I be among the first to congratulate Jonathan Yates whose name appears in today's New Year Honours List. There can be no more worthy recipient of this National recognition. Jonathan has been and continues to be an icon of the Royal Marines Band Service. Successive Directors of Music have basked in the light this incredible musician has generated across the world among of whom I readily include myself. Constantly reliable in every detail he also has unmatched charisma that takes his ability to new heights. I am sure that I will be speaking for many as I forward this deeply heartfelt tribute to an admirable colleague. Long may he continue to lead us through the delights of musical entertainment and in the case of many of us reminiscence. Jonathan - you are a champion!  
Graham Hoskins (PDM 1982-1989)

---

message #: 1500

Date: Monday December 30 2013 13:02:09 EST  
Name: Paddy Semple  
Email: contactjackiesemple@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3868  
Hometown: Carrickfergus  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dickie I would like to thank everyone for their kind messages of support by e mail card and telephone during my illness and to say thankfully I am well on the road to recovery. I am sure there are more worthy personnel who need our support although I am very grateful for the support I received. Hopefully I can now be discharged. May I take this opportunity to wish all Bandsmen serving and non serving a very Peaceful Prosperous and Healthy 2014  
Kind Regards Paddy Semple

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1499

Date: Friday December 27 2013 20:29:13 EST  
Name: Bernard S (Maxie) Beare  
Email:

Service Number: RMB x 2234  
Hometown: Orewa  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Kia Ora from godzone wishing all former and current members of the best band in the world all the very best for 2014  
I guess the band will be at Horse Guards for the 350 celebrations in 2014 more later Max and Kath xx

---

message #: 1498

Date: Thursday December 26 2013 23:24:46 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelionkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/ Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
The compliments of the season to everyone. Special thoughts to those of you who are not in the best of health and good wishes for better times in 2014. As my wife is Russian Orthodox I get to celebrate Christmas and New Year twice as they use the old calendar!! So I have another Christmas Day on Jan 7th. Hey ho!! ADRIAN

---

message #: 1497

Date: Tuesday December 24 2013 15:43:49 EST  
Name: Roy Adrian  
Email: ra.adrian181@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3647  
Hometown: Carlton-le-Moorland Lincoln  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
To All Members & ex Members of our wonderful Band Service near or in far off lands here's wishing you all  
A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PEACEFUL AND HAPPY 2014. Thanks Dickie for keeping this website going so well. ROY

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1496

Date: Tuesday December 24 2013 09:21:13 EST  
Name: Ray (Lofty) Edwards  
Email: britrm6@aol.com

Service Number: RMB3621  
Hometown: Yeovil, now Myrtle Beach USA  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Greetings from the "Redneck Riviera" We wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous Healthy and for our extended family members serving abroad a Safe 2014. Best Wishes always Ray & Beverly

---

message #: 1495

Date: Tuesday December 24 2013 07:59:54 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I echo the previous wishes. Thoughts with our huge family of brothers and sisters at this time.

---

message #: 1494

Date: Monday December 23 2013 09:15:11 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email: jemtugwood@sky.com

Service Number: RMB3701  
Hometown: Worthing (formerly Brighton)  
Instrument/s: Alto/clart /vln  
n/a:

Comments:  
Pam and I would like to wish all our ex RMB friends and acquaintances and our Royal Marines family who are serving their country in distant lands a very happy safe Christmas and may your New Year be all that you could wish for.  
Jem and Pam

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1493

Date: Monday December 23 2013 06:50:24 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Greetings to members of the great family that is the RMB from Spain. I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful Healthy New Year.

---

message #: 1492

Date: Sunday December 22 2013 13:20:11 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Southampton  
Instrument/s: Bassoonafone/Bass Drum (1st Desk)  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi to all Wishing ALL serving and Ex members of our very exclusive family A very Happy Christmas and a healthy prosperous 2014 Roy & Jan

---

message #: 1491

Date: Sunday December 22 2013 04:23:14 EST  
Name: Sidney George Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard. May I take this opportunity to wish you your family and all serving and ex serving RMBs a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and prosperous New Year Sid..

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1490

Date: Friday December 20 2013 11:19:12 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
I just wanted to inform everyone that Trevor (Ginge) White Sansom who died on Wednesday 11th December had a stroke in November and although he fought very hard and even held on to life till his daughter came to see him from Australia was buried today 20th December at Whitley Bay. Unfortunate that we didnt get the sad news sooner as some of us would have liked to attend his funeral. However I'm sure that many of us will be thinking of him over the coming days as a colleague friend and member of our great Band Service past and present. Michael Hutton.

---

message #: 1489

Date: Friday December 20 2013 01:38:28 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Whoops!! I seems that in my old age I cannot copy a simple instruction. The websight for the Royal Swedish Navy Band petition is [www.bevarammk.se](http://www.bevarammk.se) ( Not enough "a"s in my original posting). I hope this helps. Mike

---

message #: 1488

Date: Thursday December 19 2013 12:25:12 EST  
Name: David Mutter  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Euph/cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard I hope your retirement will be a happy one and also that you and all bandies serving or retired have an enjoyable festive time. Regarding the Royal Swedish Navy Band the website Mike gave comes within this web address <http://www.marinensmusikkar.se>. When this comes up you will see [www.bevarammk.se](http://www.bevarammk.se) below the picture of the Band. When you click this link it will take you to the petition page where you can click on "In English" if you wish fill in the form and send. At the bottom of the page you will see that you can troll through the names who have signed. All the best David

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1487

Date: Thursday December 19 2013 10:10:32 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Rich I would like to echo the best wishes on your retirement. "Good init". Mick are you sure on that email for the Swedish Navy band? My machine can't find it. I hope you all have a peaceful holiday season and may you all have a good 2014. Dave Lambert

---

message #: 1486

Date: Thursday December 19 2013 04:17:56 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart/ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dickie Congratulations on your retirement it's great I promise you. May I also wish you and all your readers a very Happy Christmas and a great 2014. On another note could I ask through this medium to help save the Royal Swedish Navy Band from disbandment. They are subject to "cuts" and are the last of their kind. I had dealings with the Stockholm band on several visits there as I spoke a little Swedish. If anyone would like to help please go to [www.bevarmmk.se](http://www.bevarmmk.se) and there you can sign the petition. Yours gratefully  
Mike

---

message #: 1485

Date: Wednesday December 18 2013 13:16:41 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sad to hear about Trevor White Sansom. He and I had our first ship together on HMS Glasgow way back in 52. Does anyone have any further information about the sad news as I'm not sure where he was living and we had not seen him at the 'All Stars' for some years? Merry Christmas and a happy New Year to all the serving and ex RMBs. Michael.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1484

Date: Tuesday December 17 2013 23:13:50 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Kangaroo Flat  
Instrument/s: None Now.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Richard May I wish you and what seems to be the few remaining subscribers to your wonderful site the Happiest of Christmas Greetings and lets hope that 2014 will be kind to you all.

---

message #: 1483

Date: Tuesday December 17 2013 05:06:15 EST  
Name: David [Jack] Kennedy  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3940  
Hometown: Horrbridge Devon  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
This week I received a Christmas Card from Jean Hoare wife of Bill Hoare that told me Bill had passed away in August of this year. Bill was the Double Bass Professor in the school of music in the 1980's. During this time both Bill and Jean became great friends of our family. I am sure that all who had contact with him during his time in the school of music will have fond memories of Bill. He was an excellent player teacher and great guy to have had around. Over the years we kept in touch by Christmas cards and the occasional get together when he visited his home town of Tavistock. I have many happy memories of Bill and will never forget his warm glowing smile. R.I.P Bill

---

message #: 1482

Date: Monday December 16 2013 13:13:04 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Whilst directly addressed to our Webmaster I hope that this proposed "blog" will interest ex- and serving-bandies especially those who served on HMS Centaur 1963-65. Dickie..... Roger Smith and I would like to "do" a piece about our adventures on Centaur to mark the 50th year of the infamous SS Lakonia disaster which occurred just 2 days into our east of Suez commission with a follow-up about our involvement in the "Dar Incident" which occurred just one month later. Google these happenings and there is much to read but we wish to add the personal involvement of ourselves and our much-loved shipmates. How do we go about this please. With best wishes Willi. [Dickie] Please forward any and all info and anecdotes of your recollections. Attach a word document to any e-mail and all photo attachments ideally should be in .jpeg form.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1481

Date: Thursday December 12 2013 06:33:55 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Not good news so close to Christmas. I have just learned that Trevor (Ginge) White Sansom passed on to the great massed band at 1030 last night. I knew Ginge from my days at Deal in the early to mid 60s he was a very good percussionist and one of the smartest I have ever known not even a hair out of place I last saw him years ago when he paid a rare visit to a Reunion which in those days were still held at Deal. I know he continued to bash his tymps during his retirement I am not sure with what group though. My sincere condolences to all who knew Ginge during his time with the RMB and to all members of his family he has left behind. TREVOR (GINGE) WHITE SANSOM RIP.

---

message #: 1480

Date: Sunday December 8 2013 09:09:05 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email: willi.watson@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Dear Dickie Having had a stent stunt at Papworth last Thursday (you ARE awake during these procedures.....I listened to Freddy Hubbard for an hour and a half whilst two stents were done) I thought I would send a sympathetic email to Paddy Semple recovering from his stint at the stent stunt (ouch!!). I received a reply saying "WRONG PERSON" pointing out that there was a full stop after "jackie" in this responder's address. I re-sent my email this time getting an irate-seeming message asking me to remove their name from my address book. Having put in Paddy's details correctly I replied in biblical terms but of course the problem remains: his address is not being recognised. WHAT NEXT?! Your assistance would be most welcomed. Please note my new email address. Happy Christmas to you and all our buddies Willi. Please also note my new email address [Dickie] Paddy's email is contactjackiesemple@gmail.com I have noted your email change and keep your chin up and get well soon.

---

message #: 1479

Date: Thursday November 28 2013 12:56:17 EST  
Name: Sidney Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Richard. I haven't been around much lately as I am ongoing with my treatment but I am responding well to the treatment. I was reading Jem's report on the reunion and it looks as if everyone had a good time. I am hoping to make the next one Richard so I look forward to meeting up with friends past and present. Take care Richard and hope to hear from you soon. Sid. [Editor] Just keep on getting stronger mate that's all we can hope for and pray for. You are ever in our thoughts I'm sure.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1478

Date: Wednesday November 27 2013 02:49:35 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelionkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/ Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Another gem from British Pathé. Thanks Noel for your posting. At 4:00 you can hear the RMB on 'HMS Vanguard' but (and I had to re-wind to check this ) you can see a few bandies just behind the Queen Mother...and a tuba!! I wonder if there are any 'oldies' here who were present at this momentous event in 1953. I do suggest that folk trawl through the British Pathé Archive as it is much more rewarding than watching re-runs of old TV shows!! And then there is the 'British Movietone' news.....which I have yet to investigate..... Best wishes to all....and special congratulations to Dickie on his retirement from gainful employment!

---

message #: 1477

Date: Monday November 25 2013 06:02:50 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Re Fred Watters... yes he was a violinist and a very good one. You're looking good Dickie. Why don't you grow a beard?

---

message #: 1476

Date: Sunday November 10 2013 17:35:08 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None Now.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Again Richard A correction I must make to previous post. Tom was 'One' of nine of the band of 14 bandsmen from HMS Exeter who survived the war. After their capture by the Japanese the whole band spent three and a half years labouring in the Nickel mines in the Celebes. They were in 1945 finally repatriated to the UK through Perth Western Australia. These members of the RMB were along with Bandmaster McDonald of the Band of HMS Glorious sunk in the Med the only POWs of WW2. The latter of course in Germany. He I feel would have had a much better time than those from the Exeter. I have photographs of the Graves of the five members of Exeter's Band who died. They after the war were reinterred in the Commonwealth War Grave CoXXXXry in AMBON. If you would like Richard I will try and send those photos to the site if there is any interest. The full story is printed somewhere else on this site [Editor] It would be OUR duty to record such a memory. Please do forward as and when. On this memorable day we should remember those who gave so much for our liberty. Thank you from our collective heart.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1475

Date: Saturday November 9 2013 16:34:11 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None Now.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard Have just read the news in the Sick bay Re Tom King. For those who have no idea who he is please allow me to enlighten them. Tom King is the last survivor of the Sinking in Action of HMS EXETER in the battle of the Sunda Strait by the Japanese on the 2nd of March 1942. Tom with nine others of Exeter's band spent 3 and a half years in captivity in the Celebes where five members of the band including the bandmaster died. More perhaps later have to dash now to a concert by Mike Thompsons band Thomo to those who knew/know him.

---

message #: 1474

Date: Thursday November 7 2013 10:18:57 EST  
Name: Paul Harker  
Email: paulharker5@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3995  
Hometown: Norwich  
Instrument/s: Cornet and Violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dickie On Bill Callows photos the New Entry 64. I think a couple of the names missing are far right at the back is Dick Harvey and far right at the front is Paddy Watters. I think they were both Cornet Players. Dick was also violin not sure about Paddy though. Hope this finds you well. All the best to Bandies past and present.  
Paul Harker.

---

message #: 1473

Date: Thursday November 7 2013 08:09:32 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

A great reunion once again. Thoroughly enjoyed as usual but with the downside that there never seems to be enough evening to get round to talk in depth with everyone! Enjoyed reading Jem's report tonight. Well done Jem. I always get the feeling that if those that never manage to get to our reunions would most likely do so every year if they got to attend just one Cathedral Service! The wonderful orchestra and choir together with the fanfare teams never cease to lift me. The whole experience (& you need not be religious to enjoy it) is just such an unforgettable experience just being there. - Even my un-musical wife is thoroughly hooked after her second visit this year! - For instance Mascagni's "Cavalleria Rusticana" always does it for me and the soprano who led at the Cathedral this year was just awesome. (Anyone know who she was?) As the music crescendoed so the hairs stood proudly on the back of my neck at the same time as I was wiping one or two tears away from my face - and hers too! That really was soo uplifting! I won't go on as those who go to the service will know exactly what it means to us all. Even the reading of names of some of our fallen former RMB's brings it all home to me and you cannot fail to be moved whilst at the same time feel so very proud to have served in the same elite service that they did. Anyway soon after that weekend I had the privilege to embark on an epic tour of Northern India and am only just back. (I don't feel too guilty being retired and spending my kids inheritance!!) It's a thought that on seeing the recent news that I may even have helped contribute to their rocket launch expenses too!! My point is that having had a good read tonight of the recent guestbook entries I have naturally picked up on Adrian's clever Pathe News spot of the RM Depot HRH Prince Phil's visit in 1957. Thanks once again Adrian! Apart from laughing at poor old Geoff Avis's shove out of the way by Ghandi I've run the film 2 to see a flash of the J/Wing orchestra and tried very hard to spot old chums there but it's hard with such a faded film. But oh the memories for me because for some reason I was selected to meet the Duke that day in a tutor session with old Prof' Dudley. (Probably because I was "skin!!"). - Just ask Baz Radford Merv' Durrant or those who knew me back then for confirmation or see the pics I'm sending when I met HRH on that memorable day!! - (It was either Pete Scott or myself that vied for being the most "skin" in 1957 - 60 I think!). Anyway all I know is that my Mum and Dad were very proud and used the pic' to put in my old local paper back in Bude Cornwall where I hailed from. It even made headline news - on page 3 I think!! Thanks for the stories that this has created to make the guestbook appear a little more interesting along side the inevitable news of the passing of old comrades that we of course will always hold dear. Keep the stories coming. I'm off to look for more now! There has to be footage of the Massed Bands at Horseguards in 1964 (300 Glorious Years)? I was there and it was my #### honeymoon. They refused to give me time off either. - God! I really must have been such a very important cog back then!!? - Scarily next year is the 350 years celebrations. Where did that time go!? Adieu for now.  
Derek

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1472

Date: Sunday November 3 2013 17:08:26 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelonkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/ Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Well Kevin Vickers my old friend I guess it is me who 'Should've gone to Specsavers'.....!!!! You are absolutely correct in saying that is Ron Kempton conducting the Trafalgar Night Dinner at Greenwich now I take a second look. Apologies. Pity we cannot hear the sound. Some good close-ups of a few fiddle-players. Was hoping for a bit of input re the battleship footage. Anyway I am pleased you have all enjoyed the source of these clips. It is well worth trying other subjects of interest as there are 90 000 clips. For me as a researcher it is a goldmine regarding musical style and interpretation circa 1930...with great players like Albert Sandler and his trio with Reg Kilbey on 'cello who I knew well. Some astonishing 'novelty acts' and many of superb singers. These newsreels are important as an historical resource as the short musical interludes...a song or an instrumental piece with one of the many popular bands made famous by BBC broadcasts...these all were educating the general public in a variety of musical styles. With an increase in home buying records (78s then of course) sadly the live playing situations diminished. Of course the advent of the LP 33 1/3 rpm's in 1950 meant that almost all music had to re-recorded in 'high-fidelity' meaning lots of work for the boys...well those at the top at least. I benefitted from another change...the move to digital sound. The first sessions we did in the National Phil Orch where I played 76-92 harkened back to the old 78 days in a way as everything had to be done in one take...the difference being that it was a 4 minute take on a 78 but 22 minutes in one section on the new CDs as initially they did not have a way of editing. Best wishes to all!

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message #: 1471

Date: Sunday November 3 2013 07:18:22 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email: williandlesley@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Happy Anniversary??!!..... to all fellow joiner-uppers of 7/56 Junior Recruit Squad on that life-changing day 30th October 1956. I've already reminded Roger Frank and Phil and would love to hear from any other fellows of that special vintage. It is (amazingly) 50 years since we the Band of HMS Centaur were preparing to embark on a very lively 12 months East of Suez starting with our involvement in the Lakonia disaster just a few days after we sailed. That harrowing experience rather put the mockers on our Christmas celebrations and we weren't to know at that time that there was more to come (Dar-Es-Salaam etc. etc.!!). I am in touch with Uncle Maxie Hippo Bagsy and Roger and would love to hear from other old ships. There has been talk amongst us of a "Centaur '64" reunion; how that could work logistically I'm not sure. Suffice to say that Maxie hasn't got enough room to put us all up since he and Kath downsized which is a shame. Maybe we should aim for a massive Skype session. Any other ideas? By the way well done Adrian!.....not only for putting us onto the Pathe site but for stimulating so many ex RMBs into chatting about a mutually-interesting subject. It is nice to see a sudden surge of postings in the Guest Book site and I would love to see more. Best wishes to all (including YOU Roy Adrian!).

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message #: 1470

Date: Saturday November 2 2013 03:37:09 EST  
Name: Dickie Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston (always and forever)  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Piano/Voice/Vibraphone  
n/a:

**Comments:**

'twas this day November 2nd 48 years ago when a small select number found themselves like lost sheep in North Barracks after making various journeys across the country. Myself who will never forget the 'clunk' of the carriage door upon closing and seeing my dear mother slowly disappear on an ever diminishing sight of the platform in Preston. Alan Upton from Leicestershire Ray Lloyd from the west country Our immaculate 'best boy' Andy Cunningham from Charlton (well we know he supported them). Pete Holloway (from Saathaampton - spelling intended) Max' Hill another from the west I believe. One or two I don't we have seen since that time and you can see the complete squad by going to <http://www.exroyalmarinesbandsmen.net/NOTICEBOARD/IIoyd.htm> To all my buddies who shared those incredible days weeks months and years I raise my glass and wish you well. This is a date I will never EVER forget and I'm proud to say that my mother made the best decision for me at the time. Not having a surviving father it must have been a hard thing for her to do. God bless you dear mum. Dickie. PS: Of course it only took a matter of hours before I was dubbed as Dickie. Dickie Valentine was becoming quite popular in the 'pop' world until he sadly lost his life along with his band when travelling to/from a gig. Travelling to his next gig at the Double Diamond Club in Caerphilly Wales he was killed outright in a car crash on a single lane bridge at Glangrwyney near Crickhowell Wales on 6 May 1971 at the age of 41 together with pianist Sidney Boatman and drummer Dave Pearson aged 42. [9]

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1469

Date: Thursday October 31 2013 06:18:11 EST  
Name: Kevin Vickers  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3423  
Hometown: South Brent  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Thank you Adrian for your research. Having viewed the Pathe news clips with great interest I remember the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh to the Depot in 1956. Seeing people like Ghandi Rule and John Wagstaffe (who can ever forget trying to go ashore when he was duty NCO) again re-kindled many old memories. The Trafalgar dinner at Greenwich was not conducted by Paul Neville but by Ron Kempton he was wearing a bandmasters mess dress and I recognised Ron's own style of conducting. If memory serves me correctly Paul Neville had recently taken over as PDM in 1969 so it would be unlikely that he would conduct at a mess dinner.

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message #: 1468

Date: Wednesday October 30 2013 13:52:09 EST  
Name: Paddy Semple  
Email: contactjackiesemple@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3868  
Hometown: Carrickfergus  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:

A Big Well Done to Adrian Brett for his research. I just had a look at Pathe News and the Junior Band at St Pancras Station in 1964. Never dreamt I would see that again. Have a look at the stills. I think that is John Bushell on Bass. Len Lewry would have been at this one as well along with many others who will be shocked to see it. Amazing work by Adrian. Paddy

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message #: 1467

Date: Monday October 28 2013 06:15:12 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:

Happy Birthday. Splicers.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1466

Date: Saturday October 26 2013 03:24:39 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelonkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/ Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Further research in the Pathe News archive has revealed even more interesting footage! There are clips of Massed Bands in 1950 with sound and also 1958...without sound. A 15 minute clip of a Trafalgar Night dinner at RNC Greenwich 'Painted Hall' in 1969 with orchestra close-ups and conducted by Paul Neville who is seen conducting the naval officers in some sort of a sing-song.....sadly there is no sound to this clip. The real gems however are a large band aboard a battleship in 1945 playing 'Sunset' and the presentation of new colours at Eastney Barracks in 1932!!!!!! The band sounds incredible. You can certainly hear the piccolo....and it wasn't me!! ( Probably Albert Palmer who Viv always told me about ). The battleship seems to have an inordinate number of cornet players up by a gun turret. It looks like cornets they are playing as the buglers are in the front of the band as per norm. Band sounds great. Go to: [www.britishpathe.com](http://www.britishpathe.com) Enter 'Royal Marine Band' into the search box and all of the clips will come up. For the 1969 clip enter 'Trafalgar Night Dinner at Greenwich' Watch and enjoy and try to spot yourself. Adrian

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message #: 1465

Date: Friday October 25 2013 15:58:31 EST  
Name: Mervyn Durrant  
Email: mervcd3518@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3518  
Hometown: Ropley Alesford  
Instrument/s: Pantec & Mr Fix it BILKO  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi all Yes Ghandi was always a good flip to the front being RMB/X 1 !!! Nice friendly instructor to us Boys in XXXI/work/woodwork/ and always swinging the lamp as we say "a character." It was also interesting seeing the Boys Band playing on East Barracks parade which is now gardens to the flats that occupy our barrack rooms. Could not see Ernie Ough watching the display!!!! I thought there was a quick shot of Bugle Major Wagstaffe talking to the Duke. Maybe someone out there can recall other moments of interest . Merv

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message #: 1464

Date: Friday October 25 2013 09:27:45 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelonkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London / Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

I am so pleased that so many of my old friends have watched the Pathe News clip which I found during general research on the Pathe site which is a great and interesting archive and well worth 'trawling'. When I found the RM Depot visit by HRH I knew that it would engender positive interest from those who were in J Wing with me....though having joined in May 1959 I missed the visit. I too was gobsmacked at the way in which Gandhi (Gandi/Gandy/Ghandi?) Rule barges in to get in the limelight and speak to HRH!!! Poor old Geoff Avis missed his chance of a youngstership with HRH. This reminds me of an experience of my own whilst serving on the Royal Yacht in 1963. I was the youngest on the RY at the time and celebrated my 18th birthday 'at sea'..... HRH The Queen Mother toured the mess deck and came to the RM mess which was then almost next to the NAAFI kiosk. I was introduced as the youngest serving member on the yacht and the flute player in the band/orchestra. HRH replied that she enjoyed the orchestra's playing very much each evening and asked me how I was enjoying my time on board. Well as those who know me well can attest I am not slow to come forward... or to slow to speak! I remarked that I enjoyed it very much but found it very difficult to find anywhere to practice...as having found a great practice space...a small chamber which housed the air-conditioning units for the Royal Apartments... I had after several productive weeks of practice been turfed out by an irate CPO who told me my playing would disturb HRH by filtering through the air vents!!!!!! On reflection these 50 years later having been young and fearless of authority at the time I said something to HRH along these lines which was rather impudent and certainly gained a few frowns from the 'scrambled egg' who were present... but only a slight twitch from S/Bmr Johnny Masters! To my utter amazement she replied; "Well young man we must definitely do something about this.". I returned to my 'practice grot' and the next time the CPO came to admonish me I politely told him of my conversation with HRH and politely referred him to Her Majesty!! I was not a very good Royal Marine..... Best wishes to all. Adrian

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1463

Date: Friday October 25 2013 07:53:19 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/clart vln  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just been looking at Len Lewry's entry and got to thinking what came first the Sausage or the egg!! it's new one on me but something to think about Cheers Jem

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message #: 1462

Date: Friday October 25 2013 06:50:04 EST  
Name: Roy Adrian  
Email: ra.adrian181@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB3647  
Hometown: Carlton-le-Moorland Lincoln  
Instrument/s: Bassoon (of sorts!)  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello Everyone In response to Mike Tellick's message re HRH's visit to Deal in 1957 YES I do agree that it is the young Geoff Avis being pushed aside by Ghandi Rule in that clip. (What a find by Adrian Brett - it seems to have got many of us looking at it.) What a year 1957 was as not only did Geoff Avis and I join up along with Derek Usher and Peter Scott among others (all of us in 3/57 New Entry Squad) and then of course the visit by our Captain General (who later in the day officially performed the opening ceremony of Deal Pier) and toward the end of the year we were honoured by the visit of The Late Lord Mountbatten. On this occasion all of J Wing was sat on the floor in the Stone Gymnasium in South Barracks eagerly listening to his address - also in awe looking at the masses of medal ribbons he had on his jacket. What a happy year with such memorable occasions. Len Lewry mentioned that this was 'sausage factory production time' - I agree but I agree even more that those years produced some fine pals whom we were privileged to serve with and establish life-long friendships. Greetings to all. ROY ADRIAN

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message #: 1461

Date: Friday October 25 2013 04:32:05 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512I  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi again Does anyone know the whererabouts of the Rev. John Watson ex Euph/Cello? I was at a party recently and was talking to the recently retired Dean of Ely Michael Chandler. It came up in conversation that I was an ex Bandie and it turns out that these two gentlemen knew each other in the past. Michael would like to get in touch with John again so if anyone know anything please let me know. and I will pass on the details.  
Thanks.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1460

Date: Friday October 25 2013 03:42:39 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
With reference to Jack Semple's entry... I joined on 5/9/61 5/61 squad. It is intersting to note that there was only about six weeks then between squads and there were 24 bands in service. It was a sausage factory then but turning out some great eggs at the end of 3-4 years!

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message #: 1459

Date: Thursday October 24 2013 14:28:31 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Have just looked at the Duke's visit to Deal. The Bandboy who was pushed out of the way by Ghandi Rule looks like Geoff Avis. I could be wrong though. Anyone got any ideas? Mike

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message #: 1458

Date: Thursday October 24 2013 09:48:40 EST  
Name: Paddy Semple  
Email: contactjackiesemple@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3868  
Hometown: Carrickfergus  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Greetings to anyone from 6/61 New Entry Squad who joined today some 52 years ago. RIP and fond memories of our dear friends and fellow squad mates who sadly are no longer with us including Shiner (Chee) Wright and Todd Slaughter. Paddy

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1457

Date: Thursday October 24 2013 08:04:56 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: S/clrt  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just looked at the link from Adrian. It's a bit dark and jumpy but worth it just to see the blessed Gandy Rule push his way to the front to speak to the Duke!

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message #: 1456

Date: Tuesday October 22 2013 06:00:12 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: thelionkingflutes@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/ Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
I am currently in the process of writing a book about the music profession in London and how new technical innovations have seriously affected the working conditions and employment prospects of musicians over the past 100 years. Obviously this has necessitated a lot of research and in doing the work I have discovered many interesting sources and archives. One of particular significance is the 90 000 news clips from the old PATHE NEWS which many will recall was a feature of cinema visits years ago. Among the clips is one which you all will enjoy: an account of the visit in 1957 to the R M Depot by the Duke of Edinburgh. There are shots of the barracks orchestra in the concert hall...even old Ghandi Rule in the metalwork shop!! Go to this website to view the clip. You may even see yourself!!  
: [www.britishpathe.com/video/duke-of-edinburgh-visits-royal-marine-depot/query/musicians](http://www.britishpathe.com/video/duke-of-edinburgh-visits-royal-marine-depot/query/musicians)

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message #: 1455

Date: Thursday October 17 2013 14:24:59 EST  
Name: Andy Wright  
Email: andywright1967@gmail.com

Service Number: my dads RMB3716  
Hometown: Rushden  
Instrument/s: dad was euph and cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi all apologies for the late entry about last weekends reunion but im still getting over it I sort of suggested to the band sergeant at the bar that he should really vent those barrels or they wont pour !!! Silly me I had a few in the wood after said comment !! But after my initial trepidations about attending as dad has been departed some five years now and if anyone would remember me well all I can say is thankyou RMB old and new for making me feel part of the family. .... again !! We were greeted before our tot by Barry Radford and his lovely wife thanks guys that was the welcome that I needed so from then on it was lots of hellos, handshakes and hugs. The band were one of the best I've heard ( ive been to approx 20 reunions) Sundays church service was also as amazing albeit the first hymn was interesting as its been mentioned already I got it around the last verse. The english theme was powerfully emotional as were the fanfare trumpets dedication and the whole musical experience. Following on was an invitation to the RMA which brought about another surprise in the form of Jimmy Kay who served with my dad on HMS Tyne and visited Helsinki where my dad met my mum !! I cant thank the RMB and Richard Valentine enough for keeping the reunions going im still smiling !! Im already going to book for next year. Thank you all .

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1454

Date: Thursday October 17 2013 10:49:39 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Sorry I'm late with info but after a great weekend in Pompey with many of our great family my wife and I have just spent a few days in 'Swanage' a particular favourite of ours as I'm 80 today 17th we made our way home to find the A34 as usual just north of Newbury blocked with yet another car transporter accident !!! It was great to meet up with you all and the church service was wonderful. Lovely to meet Sue and her daughter who reminded me that Trev Foster was in my band at Manadon many years ago. Roll on 90 ? Regards Michael.

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message #: 1453

Date: Wednesday October 16 2013 05:50:24 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London/ Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
A great weekend once again. So good to see old faces and meet a few new ones. The one thing which singles us ex-RMBs from other people that we meet in life in my view is that we do not need to 'check out' a person who we meet for the first time. We know they went through the same training and have learned how to get on with others with tolerance and lots of humour! We respect different points of view ( however vociferously expressed ) and most importantly in conversation no one ever hogs the limelight. The most articulately expressed argument however intelligently put though can be demolished in a single word.....or two!! The cathedral service as others have attested to was memorable and the orchestral playing was the best I have heard at a memorial service. Some quite beautiful oboe solos and the horns were excellent. The choice of music was perfect and not over-ambitious as has sometimes been the case so well within the capabilities of the strings in particular who consequently could really give of their best and give a fine performance. Len Lewry has already alluded to the George Lloyd. The steely lonely high and quiet violin opening still remains in my memory.....a very difficult string passage for any orchestra..superbly played and setting the atmosphere for a most unusual movement. I have to confess that with all of my orchestral experience in London I have never played any music by George Lloyd and I confess to never having heard any of his works something I intend to remedy soon. The RMA was welcoming as always and many thanks to Bill Callow for organising the excellent buffet. All in all a great few days among great people. Long may the tradition continue!!!

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message #: 1452

Date: Monday October 14 2013 13:02:22 EST  
Name: sue garbutt ne foster  
Email: misty.sharp1@btinternet.com

Service Number: r m b 3706  
Hometown: hayling island  
Instrument/s: euph & cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
hi what a great evening on saturday its was great to meet so many friends from years ago way back to 1962 first was adrian breitt then we had the old yacht band of the late 1970's to early 1980's they were barry petit jem tugwood john hillier, alan upton, and wally walters. then there was the lovely mick hutton who was with trev at manadon in 1965. the display by the band was just fab the musicians looked so very young. sorry we didnt get to say goodbye to you all but we left early as michelle was feeling unwell. once again thanks for a great evening sorry if i have left anyone out. regards sue.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1451

Date: Monday October 14 2013 09:12:53 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Unfortunately couldn't attend the Saturday night shenanigans but attended the cathedral and the RMA on Sunday. What a difference in the orchestra and the choice of music. The orchestra was well balanced and played within themselves. It was worth going for the Easter Hymn alone. The strings in the Lloyd's Largo were particularly controlled in a difficult opening. Pity about the first hymn... I sussed it out in the last line!!!

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message #: 1450

Date: Tuesday October 8 2013 12:33:25 EST  
Name: Sue Garbutt ne Foster  
Email: misty.sharp1@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3706  
Hometown: Hayling Island  
Instrument/s: Euph & #34;cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Myself and my daughter Michelle will be at the reunion on Saturday and looking forward to seeing lots of mine and Trev's friends from years ago our ticket numbers are 151 & 152 so should be a good evening. Sue

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message #: 1449

Date: Saturday October 5 2013 10:46:37 EST  
Name: David A Mutter  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Cello and Tubas  
n/a:

Comments:  
For those interested to know I attended Dave Curtis's funeral on Tuesday 1st October and was pleased to see so many people there. The chapel was packed and only standing room around the sides and corridors available for those at the end of the queue. Yours truly being one of the standing with no service book brigade however this was not a problem. The service ran smoothly and Jock Brown was the first of three to reminisce about Dave. The others were his son and sister-in-law. It was good for me as I had never met Dave and it gave me a glimpse of his background and life during and after his Band Service experience. He became a Primary School Teacher reaching the status of Head Teacher. His musical input to the children was of the highest order and he was a person who knew that it was important to be able to communicate with the children on a level with which they could respond. Dressing up in costumes and acting the fool made for happy times. It seems Dave was also a keen golfer and in later times enjoyed playing bowls. There were four ex bandies present so far as I know and they were Jock Brown Ginge Hemsall Mike Sole and me. There was a wake at Folkestone Bowls Club for those who wanted to attend and reminisce.  
Dave Mutter

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1448

Date: Tuesday October 1 2013 09:12:39 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sorry to hear about Dave Curtis and John Longman. Dave was a corporral in Fosni when I was a young lad... a quiet thoughtful man. John was my sea daddy on HMS Victorious in the sixties and tried to look after me and Phil Southwick... to no avail! RIP brothers.

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message #: 1447

Date: Monday September 30 2013 11:58:48 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet and E Flat Saxophone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have been able to receive from the Blue Band articles which some of those who are not members of the Blue Band Subscription will not be privy to and with the kind consent of the Blue Band I am pleased to say that those articles may now be viewed on the following link. <http://www.hmsgambia.com/royalmarines.html> I do hope that this will be of value to those who have served. Kind regards Bill Hartland. Editor [www.hmsgambia.com](http://www.hmsgambia.com)

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message #: 1446

Date: Sunday September 29 2013 17:24:11 EST  
Name: Andy Wright  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Rushden  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I'm attending the reunion this year as I have done many times when they were in Deal and now Pompey I used to attend with my father Shiner Wright (RMB 3716) who left us in 2008 but in his memory I still like to attend the reunions it's sad to hear numbers are down but if any of my fathers oppo's and looking at the names on the site there are many that I remember recognise me please come and say hello and have a tot looking forward to seeing you all again it's been a few years. Kindest regards Andy Wright

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1445

Date: Sunday September 22 2013 09:47:46 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi all I have just returned from Deal where I along with many others attended the memorial service for the lads murdered 24 years ago. It was a short but moving ceremony. The music was played by a Brass group from Portsmouth and performed to the usual high standard we have come to expect. Members of the families laid wreaths and displayed great dignity on what must have been a very sad occasion for them. Thanks must go to the Trust that keeps the memorial in such a tranquil and serene place. On another note I can't make the reunion this year. I have a gig (cat 1)!! in the Cadogan Hall in London. I was going to attend on Sunday but have family commitment on that day. Hey Ho That's life. Mike

---

message #: 1444

Date: Saturday September 21 2013 20:46:36 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None Now.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Great news Richard but it does make our Ozzie gig look a bit slack with only ten on average attending. However with still five months for all of you to save your pennies we may increase that number somewhat.

---

message #: 1443

Date: Saturday September 21 2013 13:54:28 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: alto/clart /vln  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sorry to hear that the numbers attending the Reunion are down this year but Pam and I shall be attending with Pam's Dad (Dougy). We took him and Pam's step mum to the MFM a few years ago and they both thoroughly enjoyed the spectacle so we thought Dougy might like to see what a grand night the Reunion is for us and what with the magnificent display by the band put on purely for us and I can assure all the members of the band we thoroughly enjoy it so a big THANK YOU in advance. We look forward to seeing friends past and present and for those who for whatever reason are unable to attend we hope we see you next year. Jem [Editor] It would seem that we are going to over at least 110 as one of my dearest oppo's is number 107! Come on lads.....there is still time.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1442

Date: Saturday September 21 2013 03:54:27 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Having read the comments re the lack of numbers I am so sorry not to be able to attend this years re-union. This is due to having a gig in some far flung venue on the Saturday night. BUT I will be at the Cathedral and RMA on Sunday. I hope all goes well and that numbers improve. Regards to all.

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message #: 1441

Date: Friday September 20 2013 09:23:09 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Quite a few interesting points about the reunion this October lets hope it helps some of you to make up your minds that its something we should not miss. Perhaps I could add that it is the 110th birthday of the Band Service this year (it all started in 1903) and that's certainly worth celebrating as next year the bootnecks are going to go mad over 350 years of history so lets enjoy our moment of glory. I am going to send a photograph of a past reunion (taken by Basil Kidd in the mid 60s at an hotel in Sloane Square and as you can see it was a sit down job with top table etc; no Sir Vivian that year ! I think he was in town at a private function with HRH.) so if anyone can name at least 12 of those present then he or she can have a tot on me on the Saturday evening. Look forward to seeing you all on the 12th. Mick Hutton.

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message #: 1440

Date: Thursday September 19 2013 08:16:09 EST  
Name: Sidney George Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Kent  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard. It seems I have stirred up a hornets nest about getting to and from the reunion which was quite unintentional.As to the offer from Merv Durrant I wish I was available to attend this year.I was fortunate to serve with Merv in Singapore so I know he and his son will make people welcome.Maybe next year Merv all being well.Have a great reunion chaps and will be thinking of you all past and present. Sid.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1439

Date: Thursday September 19 2013 05:15:12 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Greetings one and all. I must say I am disappointed at some of the comments as regards cost etc with regard to the Reunion. I too am a pensioner. As most of you know I and Richard and others make long journeys every year to be with our family of the RMB yes I agree it can be quite costly but I lay a little each week aside for the year would that not help? Adrian's idea is a good one but there would be the cost of getting to a designated pick up point. As for the cost of trains may I suggest that maybe an investment in a Senior Rail Card may help to keep cost down e.g. on the Sunday after the Reunion I am meeting my wife and we are going by train to the west country over the weekend it involves 5 train journeys total cost Â£105 I myself do not think that is a bad price. With the 'Train Line' who we always book with for example a return fare from Deal to Portsmouth leaving on the Friday and return on Monday would cost Â£44. Give it some thought lads it is and was our lives let us not lose what we had as boys and men so different from today. My best wishes to you all whether you will be at Portsmouth or not you are all special people and I do miss some of you take great care of yourselves and I hope that one day some of us will once again meet. My regards to you all and your loved ones to those that are not well I hope you make full recovery. SEMPER FIDELIS Milk H. [Editor] I don't want to sound a little trite but consider the cost of a pint of beer (averages around 3 quid) you might imbibe even once or twice per week. If you were to conscientiously opt out of that extra one and put it away on a regular basis for this special event it would be wonderful to have you join us. I have yet to experience a welcome 'back' such as the one I receive each year. Be well and see you again one day soon we all hope.

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message #: 1438

Date: Wednesday September 18 2013 09:44:21 EST  
Name: Mervyn Durrant  
Email: mervcd3518@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3518  
Hometown: Ropley Alresford  
Instrument/s: Pantec & Mr Fix it BILKO  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi Dickie Having just read the comments from Sid Sheard and Nobby Clarke re the cost of getting to this years Reunion I thought that some of the bandies may be interested in the following:- Re accommodation for the Reunion my son Ian can do Fri/Sat or Sat/Sun B/B for Â£90 with a good pussers breaky (sorry no S--- on a raft) He has plenty of rooms for the Reunion weekend. IF anyone is interested then call the RED LION Cosham on 02392382041 and ask for Ian Durrant (Baby Bilko) Hope this will help some of our ex -bandies. There is plenty of parking facilities at the RED LION. Regards Merv

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message #: 1437

Date: Wednesday September 18 2013 08:33:23 EST  
Name: Martin Jackson  
Email: martin.jackson@dchgroup.com

Service Number: RMB4207R  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Cornet / Piano  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

First time in 25 years but will be going to the reunion. Looking forward to it.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1436

Date: Wednesday September 18 2013 03:28:17 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I agree very much with what Sid Sheard has said. I have no problem with the charge made for attending the reunion and think it is worth every penny. The problem is for us wrinklies is the cost of travel and accomodation. Not so bad for the people that live down South but living as I do in Lincolnshire the expense involved are a bit too much to bear. Very kind thoughts of Adrian Brett's comments about asking other members to help with the costs but I do not think we could expect others to help out in that way. I suppose our only hope is for a win on the National Lottery (Even that is going up by 100% in October) Anyway. To all those that can make it have a great time and rest assured that we will be thinking of you.

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message #: 1435

Date: Tuesday September 17 2013 19:52:22 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None Now.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard and all who are contributors to this wonderful site. I having left the UK in 65 have never been to the UK reunion. However from this great distance I appreciate the problems of travel costs. I also appreciate the problems of trying to maintain numbers who attend these very worthwhile occasions. Having spent ten years now promoting our own reunion here in Australia we have been very successful in maintaining a loyal following with as can be seen on this site a regular attendance of some who have travelled great distances. However I find that the one continual difficulty is getting those members who are intending to join us failing to let us know until the last minute. So I suppose that the same thing would apply to your members who have distance to travel who may not know until late in the day whether they can afford the expense of attending. I hope that your numbers will increase enough in the weeks ahead. Good Luck. As an aside to talk of reunions. Next week my partner and I will set out for the two day drive to Sydney to view the International Fleet Review. This is to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Royal Australian Navy who as such sailed into Sydney Harbour on the 13th October 1913. Also I'll get to see the Royal Marines Band (Plymouth) and attend a concert to be given by them. This will also give me a chance to meet up with several members of the RAN Band who are ex RMB. Might I say "WHOOPIE"

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message #: 1434

Date: Tuesday September 17 2013 19:30:56 EST  
Name: Derek usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: rmb3645  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: cornet/Fiddle  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Rich On Mick Hutton's suggestion I'm writing essentially to place a cheeky plug for our Royal Marines Association Concert Band's web site as we feel sure that there they may be one or two out there who may just be interested in what we are doing! At the very least there may just be one or two who'd like to take a peek if only to see some of the former RMB personnel who are still managing to blow (or suck!?) their assorted "hooters" etc; here in Pompey! As a band we're extremely active nowadays and playing at least 2 gigs a month (this month even more!) We played two last week - one at Romsey Abbey with the now popular Military Wives Choir and another at our home in the RM Museum Eastney. This coming Sunday 22nd Sept we're at The Winter Gardens Margate where we hope to see some old comrades and the following weekend we've two more concerts back to back. Saturday 27th at LTRM Lympstone for the annual RM Reunion there stopping overnight and then moving on to Andover where we've an afternoon concert at The Lights Theatre there. (I think we'll sleep well come Sunday night as none of us are quite as yyouunngg aas wee uusseed tooo beee ya knnooww!!) Anyway as the administrator for the site I feel it my duty to inform those of you who may care !!? Just type into your address bar www.rmacb.org.uk and then click onto all of the appropriate links. You can even see us playing and listen to track samples of our CD's - if you can stand it!! Anyway good luck all and thanks Rich for allowing me this space. See ya all at the reunion. Agee with Adrian re. setting up some form of fund to help those who'd love to come but can't due to finances. Problem is how and how could it be policed effectively? Not easy when doing it from afar. My only thoughts are that everyone should pay a minimum Â£10 subscription (Â£5 to the web upkeep and Â£5 to a welfare fund perhaps?) Sorry I'm not clever enough to offer anything better than this right now! Cheers all Derek. PS Is it possible to add our web address as a link via your site Rich? Editor: The link has been on our links page for several years now.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1433

Date: Tuesday September 17 2013 12:21:26 EST  
Name: Sidney George Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: Rmb/x3211  
Hometown: Deal,  
Instrument/s: Kent.  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Although I am not exactly on the headline I do think that to get to Pompey from Deal doesn't come cheap also accomodation can cost over £120 for two nights so is that the reason why the numbers are down. It will be interesting to hear other people views. I must apologise to Dickie for not getting in touch with him as I must owe him for my subscriptions to the band site. I don't think I can make it this year as I have a lot going on with my health. I am popping pills every single day which sometimes make me feel like god knows what. Anyway I thought I would put my two pence worth. Hope you have a great reunion and will certainly try and get to Pompey one year. Take care everyone and Richard keep this wonderful site going. Sid Sheard. Editor: Of all the faithful that have put finger to keyboard it's Sid's very own suggestion that I must admit has to be one of the most valid points put forward for the seemingly reduction in numbers. I personally am about to be pensioned off and not by choice and can certainly relate to the financial challenges that must be considered when it comes to this event. Thank you Sid for your kind thoughts and I feel sure that your words are taken with much sincere thought and agreement. Perhaps it might be an idea to sponsor a friend who we have served with who cannot otherwise find the financial resources to make the trip yet would otherwise love to be there. I note also Adrian Brett's excellent entry. We have to get to the nitty gritty if we all want to keep this amazing event alive. God Save Our Queen!

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message #: 1432

Date: Tuesday September 17 2013 09:24:54 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: London ( and FOLKESTONE )  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

**Comments:**

I hesitate to mention this but I am certain that the reason some ex-RMBs have not attended in recent years is not the actual cost of the evening which is as you rightly say very good value but it is the exhorbitant cost of travelling to Pompey from the 'outer regions' of the UK. Most of those likely to attend are older now and subsisting on meagre pensions so £60-70 for a rail fare/petrol is a formidable expense for many. I have wondered if there may possibly be a solution in the future. Maybe we could start a small "Reunion Travel Fund" which those of us still gainfully employed and those of a generous disposition could contribute to from which a small subsidy of say £30-40 could be paid to someone willing to drive a carload of ex-RMBs to Pompey? I am very aware that charity is often frowned upon but I seem to remember that "charity begins at home".....and I apologise if this suggestion hits a sensitive nerve in anyone but anything is worth a try rather than lose the reunion altogether and I know there are some very generous old mates out there. Best wishes and good health to all.

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message #: 1431

Date: Tuesday September 17 2013 04:26:56 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Hi to all Like Richard and Tony I am amazed at the low numbers that appear to have signed up for this years Reunion. I personally know how hard i fought to keep it going when the "School" were last contemplating kicking into touch. So come on all you out there. It is worth supporting and extreme good value for £20.00. You will be amazed who you just might see there. Looking forward to seeing many more than 80 or 90 old comrades there. regards to al Barry Radford!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1430

Date: Monday September 16 2013 15:44:42 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email:

Service Number: 3975  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

To date there have been 78 tickets sold for this years reunion. Can we really expect The present RM Bandservice to keep this annual tradition going when we that recall our special family of old comrades should support our present hosts. Come on lads support it with your presence. All it takes is a phone call see details on this site. You can even pay by credit card over the phone! I can assure you that such numbers will not satisfy an annual commitment by the powers that be. If you think we are a special family prove it get the tickets booked and I will see you in Pompey  
!!!!!! TO

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message #: 1429

Date: Monday September 16 2013 15:26:00 EST  
Name: Richard &#39;Dickie&#39; Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069 (and proud of it)  
Hometown: Proud Preston! (once was)  
Instrument/s: The soul!  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Friends colleagues comrades oppo's: I'm hopefully a little premature (perhaps) in my amazement that at this late stage we only have 80 odd tickets sold for one of the most incredible occasions that could be 'put on' for our benefit in the form of the annual reunion of the Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines. Please let me be put to shame with this assumption but please at the same time will you consider the fact that this is THE ONE THE ONE AND ONLY great occasion that gives you the opportunity to re-visit re-affirm review your past with some of the most unique human beings you shared a mess with or a barrack room. NO matter what! We must all be sick and tired of seeing our loved ones pass on without having shaken their hand or hugged them before that opportunity diminished so quickly. I implore you.....to give this one a go.....and if you have reasons to say NO then say NO and give us the reason on our guest book entry. You owe it to everyone if you think you have something valid to say. Change can ONLY come when voices are heard and identified. Amaze yourself.....amaze your buddies. Come and enjoy the pleasantries the AMAZING music and be a continuing part of our incredible family. Sincerely and beyond comprehension. Dickie Valentine.

---

message #: 1428

Date: Thursday September 12 2013 13:57:51 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Southampton  
Instrument/s: That&#39;s debatable  
n/a:

**Comments:**

A huge debt of gratitude is owed to Graham and Margaret Hoskins for the upkeep of the Deal Memorial Garden. Janet and I visited the Garden today (12 Sept) to pay our respects to our murdered colleagues. Unfortunately I lost the card that I had written to go with the flowers that Janet and I intended to place in the garden! So I apologise to all for the message we left on a used bank receipt. Thank you Graham for leaving bottles of water for the flowers. I also found a bunch of keys by the gate and have hung them on the gate latch. Janet and I also had a little wander into Town to try and find any reading material about The RM school of Music in Deal but to no avail I did manage to obtain Basil Kidds excellent book a recommended read Once again thank you Graham and Margaret and anyone else who look after the garden. Roy

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1427

Date: Wednesday September 11 2013 04:32:10 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email:

Service Number: RMB X1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Víon  
n/a:

Comments:  
May I endorse the message of Nobby Clarke re: the good work done by Graham and Terry and others I might say that keep the spirit of comradeship going in the Royal Marine Band service. A lovely message Graham on your visit to the Memorial garden. I only wish I could do the same and pay a visit. Many an hour I spent in that Concert Hall. Terry I am in contact with and know he is a stalwart as regards the old School. I'm past 86 now but memories never dim so thanks to you all not forgetting Dickie for his great Web-site. From one who was always saying " Roll on my Twelve"!!!!!!

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message #: 1426

Date: Tuesday September 10 2013 04:07:37 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: That&#39;s debatable  
n/a:

Comments:  
I am having a bijou holiday in Kent this week (New Romney) and Janet and I intend to visit Deal possibly Thursday 12 September to pay our respects at the Memorial garden. Hopefully we will be there at approx midday. If any ex Bandsmen are around please come and say "hello" Roy

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message #: 1425

Date: Tuesday September 10 2013 01:48:11 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano.We  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
We should all be thankful for likes of Graham for everything he does for all RMB'S past and present. I last saw him at the Funeral of a great pal of mine (Geoff Walton) at Barham Crematorium in Kent many years ago. He even said hello to me as we sat behind him in the Chapel which came as a surprise because I was not aware that he knew me. Terry Frestone was also there on that occasion. I have since learned that they both attend any funeral in Barham of ex Bandsmen. Just goes to show that we owe a lot to people such as Graham and Terry for the efforts that they make on our behalf. PS. My old pal Rodney Colbourne informed me that John Longman passed away yesterday. Rodney John and myself were all Bandboys together way back in the 50's and it is sad to hear that another old pal is no longer with us. Although we do not often travel down South these days we do every year pay a visit to Lincoln Cathedral and light a candle for all ex Bandsmen our way of paying our respects.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1424

Date: Wednesday August 28 2013 16:22:08 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Thank you Graham for what you have done at the Garden of Remembrance and all the other great work in Deal for all serving and former members of the Royal Marines Band Service. Always a good friend.  
Michael

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message #: 1423

Date: Wednesday August 28 2013 13:17:52 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: LONDON ( and FOLKESTONE )  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
I am sure that others would wish to join me in thanking Graham Hoskins for taking the trouble to submit a most sensitive account of his visit to the 'Garden of Remembrance'. I for one found it both moving and contemplative and it certainly made me pause for a few moments and to think of those who gave their lives. Thank you Graham. ADRIAN BRETT

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message #: 1422

Date: Wednesday August 28 2013 04:22:00 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email: graham.hoskin@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
My wife Margaret and I went with flowers yesterday to the RMBS Memorial Garden in Deal. We were there to remember a former Royal Marines Musician who died tragically two years ago on the eve of his 50th birthday. We found the garden to be a place of utter serenity. Well tended and beautifully planted with flowers and shrubs. Poppies in abundance and even discreetly placed bottles of water for flower vases available for use by visitors. Although surrounded now by newly built houses it retains its own dedicated car parking area and has remarkably become a private and quiet place of unique solitude where once music filled the air throughout every day. Placed on the actual site of the 1989 bombing atrocity the garden is somewhere we can each be alone with our thoughts and ever aware of the values of comradeship over all the years. Here something very special and of huge significance has risen beyond our grief.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1421

Date: Thursday August 22 2013 08:29:36 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
For those of us who were in "Raleigh Band" in the 70s a little dose of nostalgia. I have just watched "The Quartet" and in it is a small cameo performance of Jack Honeybourne the MD of the massed bands of Elizabeth Taylor's Husbands when we were backing Harry Secombe in concert. Seeing Jack brought back some good memories I hope it dose the same for others. See you in the countermarch Dave Lambert

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message #: 1420

Date: Wednesday August 21 2013 14:41:24 EST  
Name: russell Davies  
Email: rdmusic@talk21.com

Service Number: QOO3882Q  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a:

Comments:  
I am trying to find any contact info for Charlie Ankers (euphonium/cello) I left Deal in 1978 and last saw him about 1976. I think he was living in the chatham area but not sure . Any help would be appreciated. Best wishes to all ex and current bandmen. Russ Davies

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message #: 1419

Date: Saturday August 10 2013 12:48:39 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Today 10th August on Channel 5 there was a film called ' Hell Boats'. I had never heard of it and I dont expect many of you have as it was pretty poor...but it was made in Malta in 1969 and there were many familiar places in shot especially 'Manoel Island' where many of you would have served in the 50s & 60s. So if you want to check it out get the DVD or look it up on Channel 5. Regards, Michael. ps If any of you have any snippets of information about your days in 'Burford' between 46 & 1950 I would like to hear them.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1418

Date: Tuesday August 6 2013 03:26:52 EST  
Name: Derek Roberts  
Email: derekroberts@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just to bring all up to date on the Burford saga. I sent the 3 pages of info I had from the Burford Information Centre on to Michael Hutton who informs me that there are several inaccuracies in it. He will now speak to other ex RMBs who transferred to Deal with him in 1950 to update the errors in info centre's library for any future enquiries they may receive. So all in all the article and my visit has had the desired effect in getting it right. Regards to all Derek Roberts

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message #: 1417

Date: Monday August 5 2013 13:53:55 EST  
Name: Derek Roberts  
Email: derekroberts@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Re: Michael's comment on Burford. I did mention to the info centre in Burford that I thought it was the 1950's that the band moved but the information she gave me is a bit ambiguous in that one page says the 'marines' left in 1947 the other page mentions that it was used by the RMB and that the lease was taken over by the NHS in 1952. As always I knew someone would know when it did happen. I will forward the info that I have.

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message #: 1416

Date: Monday August 5 2013 03:43:12 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Derek Roberts has put some information up about the RNSM at Burford but has the dates wrong on our leaving! It was January 1950 when the whole lock stock and 300 Band Boys went by train to the Depot Deal. We then marched through the town to East Barracks to become the 'new' RMSM. If you have any other info about Burford Derek I would be interested to hear it. Regards Michael.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1415

Date: Saturday July 27 2013 13:33:12 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi Willi! It was good to see your name come up on the web, and that you are still alive and kicking. I remember that we used to travel back to Deal on the Brighton/astings.Ashford line along with many others whose name are a distant memory. John Watson ( Euph/ Cello and Bible) comes to mind. Great days looking back although I am not so sure that we thought so at the time. Just had a full day rehearsing with the Legion band for Eastbourne week so am knackered. I am also in touch with Frank Dominey a good friend from way back. Keep smiling old soldier  
regards Mike

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message #: 1414

Date: Friday July 26 2013 12:56:18 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Dersingham Norfolk  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

My dear Mik Hickman Many thanks for acknowledging my existence; I'd began to wonder if it was all a dream. What a coincidence that my first responder should be one from your particular section of the band/orchestra as only the other day I was re-reading one of my favourite books "How to Tune a Bass-Trombone with a Chainsaw" by Vairsmeijn Schleidgreess the famous Dutch musicologist. (It's companion volume "Brassica Propagation and the Tenor Drum" by his compatriot Veirlink Schtikks is also a jolly good read by the way). I'm toying with the idea that I might write a book one day before something else drops off. Titles under consideration are: "Did we Really Drop That Many Stands in The Oggin after that Brewery Run in Istanbul?" or "Did Charlie Bowden REALLY Mean to Tread on my Horn at the Norfolk Show?". Other likely titles are springing to mind constantly but more later. Apropos your last sentence it wasn't a bus.....it was Rog Smith's car Pompey Dockyard '63. Anyway if he'd driven FORWARDS we would have gone into the oggin so there was some cunning sense as to why we backed over my lovely shiny expensive gold brass full-double hand-built Paxman horn. (I feel a bit upset now). Great to hear from you Mik; hope all is well for you in Spain and that your health holds up well. We'll chat again soon I hope but for now love and best wishes.

---

message #: 1413

Date: Friday July 26 2013 06:16:49 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mihik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Well now here is a real blast from the past. Willy Watson French Horn of reknown. I remember you very well from years gone by at Eastney and also in the wing I was a few months ahead of you I joined in Jauary 56. I also recall some of the others you mention Frank Dominey (Flute) Barham House Ray Manderson (from Trumpington) Cornet Eagle House great friend of Graham Salthouse who I think has gone to great and good elsewhere Dennis I remember from mainly massed band gigs also he may have been in the Staff Band whilst I was there. It is good to hear from you stay onboard I am sure there will be others who will creep from the woodwork and remember you. Take care my regards to all you may see who care to remember me. My final words will be DO NOT LEAVE YOUR FRENCH HORN behind a moving bus.  
Mik H.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1412

Date: Thursday July 25 2013 14:01:19 EST  
Name: Willi Watson  
Email: williandlesley@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB 3599  
Hometown: Brighton (then) Dersingham Norfolk (now)  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Dear Old (sorry!) Comrades I have very recently been awakened from a coma induced say the strange people in white coats who surround me by those who knew me when I left the RMB in 1967. This coma apparently replaced the one induced on 30th October 1956 by those who were ABOUT to know me....but didn't fancy the prospect.As I know nothing about these events I hold no grudges. The above mentioned pale-garbed people ( some carrying large syringes some baseball bats some sandwiches) have told me to say that I am in regular touch with Mike Angress Ray Manderson Denny Ovenden (how did he get such a nice sound out of a bassoon with that large bass-drum stick?) and more recently Maxie Beare Roger Smith and Frank Dominey the last 3 due to discovering a rather wonderful website.....I'm told. By the use of what I'm informed is an email number (which seems different to what is written above my bedhead next to the restraints) any contact with those who remember me from boy's wing Yot/Eastney Centaur or USA '65 would be FANTASTIC!!! Also Mr R.V. how do I pay?? I am occasionally allowed to ask this lady (says she's my wife....but you can't be too careful!!!) for the odd pittance but it seems very grudging. Must go; I can hear the pills being counted out.

---

message #: 1411

Date: Tuesday July 16 2013 08:59:27 EST  
Name: sue garbutt ex wife of trev foster  
Email: misty.sharp1@btinternet.com

Service Number: R M B 3706  
Hometown: Fareham. hants  
Instrument/s: euph/cello.  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Hi has anyone got any photo's of Trev taken during his time in the band from 1958/1982 as i would like to pass them on to our 2 daughters. when Trev left myself and the girls he took all his royal marine gear with him and the new wife is keeping all his things and not allowing the girls to have anything that was Trev's they just need memories of their dad during his time in the band that he loved so much. we have just got back from deal the concert on the green on sunday was just great. Thanks sue.

---

message #: 1410

Date: Saturday July 13 2013 14:28:19 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bass Drumaphone  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Another Panto The small chappie at the back next to Russ Ireland was "Tich" Towers and CLINKERELLA was Zoonie Howarth. This was Gloucester House Panto (poss 1967) .....I can still remember part of mine and Dave Seed's dialogue after the birth of Clinkerella's baby.....DS "I'm Casey" me "I'm Kildare"  
(Both) we treat our patients anywhere whether in the country or in the town.....that's it I cannot remember anymore. Clinkerella was the only Neptune House member in this panto.....a few years later we all knew why! Keep the photo's coming it brings back so many happy memories thank you The year after (the Hippie Summer of 68) we did Treasure Island I can remember Mick Bonner as a turtle and Scouse Lucas as Blind Pugh any photos anyone??

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1409

Date: Friday July 12 2013 08:31:16 EST  
Name: Dave Seed  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4084  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Flute/Tenor Sax  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dickie Just received my "For Queen & Country" A year in pictures The Bands of Her Majesty's Royal Marines. What a superb photo album one I would recommend to all past & present (plus all supporters) of the Royal Marines Band service it not only shows the versatility of the Band Service but also just how hard they work throughout the year. As a spin off each sale also benefits the Royal Navy & Royal Marines Charity go to the Blue Band web site and order yours today you will not be sorry. Dave

---

message #: 1408

Date: Tuesday July 9 2013 14:30:25 EST  
Name: Peter Orton  
Email: orton\_peter@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X 3098  
Hometown: UK  
Instrument/s: Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
I would like to add my condolences to those of Noel Crook regarding the passing of Henry Garrett. I also knew him from HMS Phoenicia where I served from 1956 - 57. Not only did Henry allow me to use his Leica he allowed me to take it with me to the UK when I hitch-hiked home from Malta where I successfully carried it through customs thanks to a Maltese passport issued to me with my occupation being listed as "Government Official" a passport that I used on many occasions in the following ten years. He was also part of the group that smuggled me aboard HMS Birmingham when I "hitched" my first ride on my journey. The young officer that called the 1st Boat's Crew to take me ashore when we weighed anchor did so believing implicitly my far-fetched story!! When Henry was demobbed he rented a cottage in Swanage until he was cleared to emigrate to New Zealand and being in Portsmouth by that stage I was able to visit him most weekends until his departure for his new life to become a professional photographer. I hope he fulfilled his dream. He was a true gentleman and although I made few good friends whilst doing my time I certainly counted Henry and his family in that category. Whilst I am sad to hear of his passing I am pleased that he had a good innings. My condolences to all the family.

---

message #: 1407

Date: Wednesday July 3 2013 03:25:44 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So very sad to hear of the passing of Henry Garrett. The last time we met was HMS Phoenicia Malta 1953-55. Was only talking about him yesterday to my son James we were looking at the photo of the HMS Glasgow Band in France. He was a keen photographer then and often let me use his LEICA camera to get photos of our trips. My condolences to all his family. God Bless Noel Crook. ex RMBx2664 1949-66

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1406

Date: Monday July 1 2013 10:08:55 EST  
Name: Russ Ireland  
Email:

Service Number: Q004105Q (RMB4105)  
Hometown: Aljezur Portugal  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Fiddle  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Greetings to all. Re Panto #2. I seem to recall the panto was called 'Clinkerella' and was a J Wing show c68. I can put a few more names to faces. Here goes. Back row L..R Dick Clark Russ Ireland pass. Mick Bonner and I think between Trev Bignell and Dave Rumming is Dally Atkinson. Mid row L.....R Tim Saunders Sooty Sutton TSR..... May be Mick Sole Butch Holland A'ian Gordon. Front middle may be Terry Ferbrache. The make up was done by the J Wing Matron and Col. Sir. Fred Dunn's missus. I am not sure but I do recall during this production Mick Bonner was required to dress as a parrot and flew across the stage at RM Deal into wing speakers and knocked himself unconscious. We then had an ex parrot flying around to perhaps the best laugh of the gig. POLLY! POLLY!

---

message #: 1405

Date: Wednesday June 26 2013 11:12:32 EST  
Name: Chris Mutlow  
Email: chris@cmutlow.com

Service Number: RMB4029  
Hometown: Weston super Mare  
Instrument/s: Tenor Sax/Flute  
n/a:

Comments:  
Yep. That was not me in that Panto picture. If it was then my memory has really gone! Certainly recall most of the cast though. Sadly some are no longer with us. Alick Harwood was right and Roy Hallin was mistaken. All the best to you all.

---

message #: 1404

Date: Wednesday June 26 2013 08:17:00 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola but Euph now!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Re the Pantomime picture I like many others I suspect have thoroughly enjoyed this and the constant updates and you are correct about Andy we hadn't joined then. But number 8 is Pedro Hewitt I think that just about completes the line up. What a wonderful item it is great to see some of our old mates as they were when we were so young perhaps someone has another picture we could have a go at it beats crossword puzzles. Hopefully see you again in October Cheers Ray

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1403

Date: Wednesday June 26 2013 07:33:35 EST  
Name: Colin Bacon  
Email: colin\_bacon@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: PLYMOUTH  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard The Gentleman you are missing is "Pedro Hewitt" a percussionist. I think this complete s the Photograph Regards to everyone Great website BZ Rashy

---

message #: 1402

Date: Wednesday June 26 2013 05:17:25 EST  
Name: Alick Harwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4012  
Hometown: Chestfield Whitstable  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
10 - MP James 17 - Peter Phillips 19 - Rasher Bacon I may be wrong but I think Chris Mutlow may be misnamed and should be Bert? Brown. [Editor] Copy that! I've updated and thank you for yet more assertion.

---

message #: 1401

Date: Tuesday June 25 2013 10:36:08 EST  
Name: Paul Harker  
Email: paulharker5@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3995  
Hometown: Norwich  
Instrument/s: Cornet and Violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dickie Some of the guys in the panto photo I don't think have been mentioned yet are: BERT BROWN who is between JON YATES and ALAN WEB BILL ROBINSON who is between FISHY SALMON and TICH GRAYDON. Is that TICH HARWOOD next to SAM ELKINGTON? My final guess is that BERT PARTON next to BUBBLES REYNOLDS? Hope you are keeping well Dickie. All the best Paul

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1400

Date: Monday June 24 2013 11:05:50 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Sarisbury Green  
Instrument/s: Bassoonamaphone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
For Fishy Is that young lady in the front Andy Cunningham?? Chris Mutlow Kneeling next to Tanky? I also believe Graham Harvey is also present. Roy [Editor] I don't think Andy as he joined with me in Nov 65 and I thought would have been too early for us. Trying to put this one to bed.....thanks to all who are making great suggestions.

---

message #: 1399

Date: Monday June 24 2013 08:22:30 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
With reference to "the photo" could it be Graham Harvey behind Tony Overton? See you all at the reunion Dave

---

message #: 1398

Date: Monday June 24 2013 06:38:23 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email:

Service Number: 3975  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
With regards to Steve Salmon's photo of the Panto I dont think anyone has mentioned Haggis Graydon ( below me to the left ) If he has been mentioned I apologise SEE YOU ALL AT THE REUNION !!!!

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1397

Date: Sunday June 23 2013 07:31:40 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi roy Looking at the Panto fot it looks like Peter Phillips (solo Clart.) second from the left and Jon Yates third from the right (both front row) I stand to be corrected if anyone knows different. Mike

---

message #: 1396

Date: Wednesday June 19 2013 07:00:09 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Sarisbury Green  
Instrument/s: Bassoonamaphone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dickie I must say you have a way with words that tug at the old heart strings I for one will be at the re-union this year 2013. I have not attended for about 4 - 5 years and I am not proud to say I have no reason or excuse! It would also be an idea to "pay my dues" to you for this fantastic web site. I too spend too many days reminiscing and looking at the old photos. (were we really that young) I shall be at the bar on the evening of the re-union to await the long overdue pint that you and Tony Oliver owe me!!!! Cheers Roy [Editor] You are too funny :)

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message #: 1395

Date: Wednesday June 19 2013 06:41:09 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Sarisbury Green  
Instrument/s: Bassonamaphone (1st desk)  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
This is for Fishy Salmon ref Pantomime Photo. I Recognise Timothy Felix Peter Smye-Rumsby (RIP) Pete Rose Pedro Hewitt Fishy of course Tony Oliver Sam Elkington 'Smiler' Rumming Biff Beaver possible Oggie Busby???? Hmmm Is the Nurse James M P?

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1394

Date: Tuesday June 4 2013 05:20:56 EST  
Name: Geoff McGarr  
Email: macg53@msn.com

Service Number: RMB4137  
Hometown: Guzz  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
I have just seen Steve Misson's pic of an RM Band in Tokyo. I am sure that it is CinC Fleet band. We Flew out to either Hong Kong or Seoul to embark on HMS Bristol. I retired from the band service in Feb 1991 so I think this trip would have been 1989 or 1990. The Drum Major was a Cpl Bugler first name Simon. Sgt Bug Tom Plummer in the front rank. Mac McDermott is BM. Hope this helps Per Mare Geoff

---

message #: 1393

Date: Saturday June 1 2013 12:40:45 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston & Deal.....in my heart.  
Instrument/s: Piano & Clarinets (Voice/Vibraphone)  
n/a:

Comments:  
In response to Adrian's comments upon Harry Susan's great achievement:  
For those who read this message you could easily afford the time to YouTube the GWR Paddington Band and I'm sure speaking for myself that you will see Harry within the stands. It is compelling stuff! His great daily strive to perform and to give so much joy to everyone who cares to listen..... NOT WITHSTANDING HIS LONG SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY ..... HELLO!!!!!!? On behalf (along with Adrian Brett - fellow colleague) of all past and present serving members of the Band of H.M. Royal Marines. Congratulations Mr. Harry Susans for your gift of music and for a life well lived. Dickie Valentine

---

message #: 1392

Date: Friday May 31 2013 06:25:32 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: LONDON ( and FOLKESTONE )  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Station musician Harry 95 plays on An ex-military musician who has played at a London train station every Friday evening for 34 years will celebrate his 95th birthday this week. Clarinettist Harry Susans from the Great Western Railway Paddington Band performs with them on Paddington's platform 9. Mr Susans from Ponders Green Enfield joined the Royal Marines Band in the 1930's and is one of the oldest professional musicians in the country. The GWR Band with both professional and amateur musicians has been running for almost 100 years and plays a selection of classical pieces such as Mozart's 'The Magic Flute' at the station on Fridays. It has acquired a following on Facebook Twitter and You Tube as commuters regularly post pictures and videos of their performances. Surely Harry Susans must be the oldest surviving ex-RMB musician? Does anyone remember him? I am sending a birthday card "from all past and serving members of RMBS" and hope it gets to him via GWR Band Paddington Station Platform 9â€¦!!!!!!

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1391

Date: Friday May 31 2013 04:21:20 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Thanks for those moving words on "Our Guestbook". I was lucky enough to be invited to Bob Rawson's 80th Birthday Bash!! It was like a mini-reunion. 10 ex/bandies youngest one being Merv Durrant at 71 and the eldest either Ray Watts or Keith Roberts at 82!! A great time was had by all and of course many tales were told. This was just a taster for the reunion in October. Heather and I have already booked our hotel. We are perhaps unique in being able to meet up with many old shipmates and renew old long lasting friendships. I'm with you. If you haven't been to a reunion of late. Give it a whirl. You "WILL" enjoy it. Believe me. Missing names on Bob's Birthday photo. From left to right. Pony Moore Keith Roberts Peter Yetman and Cliff Bull. It was great to see Maurice Keat looking so well. (despite forking out for a cheap day I.O.W. Ferry Ticket!!!!) Regards to all  
See you in October Barry

---

message #: 1390

Date: Thursday May 30 2013 19:12:00 EST  
Name: Peter Orton  
Email: orton\_peter@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X 3098  
Hometown: UK  
Instrument/s: Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Eric. Many thanks for your response to my congratulations to Mr Valentine. I realise that it must be rather odd coming from someone who was so devoted to becoming an Ex RM Bandsman having made it my ambition in life from discovering I had signed up to some form of purgatory (for me rather than others who found it to be most satisfying) until my moment of final release but I do admire the work and effort that goes into a site of this nature just as I appreciate that my feelings were not those of the majority and that the site must certainly give great satisfaction to a very wide audience of Ex Bandspersons (I believe the 'opportunity' is now available to all). Apropos your picture #1 from Borneo it was taken in Aug 1963 during a short period when the 3rd Com Brigade Band was without a Euph/cello as I had been flown back the day after landing to be admitted into the Naval Hospital in Singapore (with the kind co-operation of Dr. John Lyon the Dr at the Commando Base) and then on completion of the 1st East Asian Cultural Festival flown back the following day to RN Hospital Haslar (I think it was) and subsequent discharge (at last!!!) I would love to have been a fly on the wall at your discussions with Jim although I am sure it was all complimentary given the reputation I had managed to garner during my time served. Or at least if not complimentary at least a laugh or two. Go well Peter Orton

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message #: 1389

Date: Thursday May 30 2013 17:28:56 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston & Deal.....in my heart.  
Instrument/s: Piano & Clarinets (Voice/Vibraphone)  
n/a:

Comments:  
Yeah.....I'm a little 'sunk'.....have been looking through too many old photos from this website I continue to love to devote to. We don't do facebook. We don't want to resort to trivia. All we want to do is record and share. I know things are a little silent of late. It's great to see us when we were more alive.....but let's rejoice NOW as we have the baton.....it's IN OUR HANDS! Keep living love life reach out to our great comrades.....and COME TO THE REUNION IN PORTSMOUTH and make your life that much more complete for the exercise. Yes I'm a little happier for a little tonic.....but my thoughts are for us all. I want for nothing on this site.....other than keeping us together. SO.....come one.....come ALL.....to YOUR next reunion. YOU WILL NOT REGRET IT.....and WE will ALL LOVE to TO SEE YOU ONE MORE TIME....."FROM THE TOP" Dickie Valentine

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1388

Date: Thursday May 30 2013 10:33:27 EST  
Name: Russ Ireland  
Email: hootertooter@hotmail.com

Service Number: q004105q (rmb4105)  
Hometown: Aljezur Portugal  
Instrument/s: Cornet & fiddle  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Greetings to all from Portugal. Still playing jazz and enjoying life. Having read the recent messages from members I would like to say Hi to Barry Wales. We served at HMS Condor 69-72ish. Interestingly we had Ireland Wales & (Brian) England serving together in Scotland. Happy daze. I wonder if this magic lantern could reach Ken Schooley. Ex VBI FONAC. Ken I need some advice about how to put together a drum routine for a Portugues Volunteer band the last time I tried this I was swiftly sent to the CinC Fleet penal colony. You should remember you were there! That was a career changing moment for me which I will cherish. Thanks.  
Russ.

---

message #: 1387

Date: Wednesday May 29 2013 21:18:02 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None Now.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello Peter. It was only a few weeks ago that I and Jim Mason were speaking of you while attending the Adelaide reunion. This as while reminising the days in Singapore and of course our time in 3rd Cdo Bde. Good to see that you are still around

---

message #: 1386

Date: Wednesday May 29 2013 09:51:28 EST  
Name: Peter Orton  
Email: orton\_peter@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X 3098  
Hometown: UK  
Instrument/s: Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Mr Valentine Congratulations on your website that I happened upon whilst perusing the net during a moment of spare time looking to see if Google had by chance an update on the current activities of one James Mason. Whilst most of my time in the service was spent attempting to conjure up ways to get out rather than stay in (I regarded myself more as a musician than a Royal Marine even though I did finish up in the invidious position of wearing a green beret at the time of my final and successful attempt to shorten my length of stay) I have never-the-less recognised many more names than I would have thought my brain would store from that period of my life. I was rather surprised to see a photograph of myself taken during my final period of 'time' courtesy of Eric Hayward incorrectly spelt with an 'H' [Editor - now fixed] but it did bring back a few memories (that I do not have space to relate in this correspondence) as Singapore was the scene of my successful departure. But thereby hangs a tale. Suffice to say that I have found the information stored on your site by the various members of HM's RMB interesting and again my congratulations on an ongoing job well done. My regards to all who knew me and are not too horrified by the memory (Fred made a point of avoiding me on the occasions we met during my professional career in London). Peter Orton

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1385

Date: Saturday May 25 2013 02:18:03 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Yesterday I had the privilege to see Eric (Jan) Greenleaf being awarded the Arctic Star for serving with the Arctic convoys in WW11. Many will remember Jan as the wine Steward who looked after us at Manadon Naval College. At 92 I wonder if he is our oldest member? Dave

---

message #: 1384

Date: Thursday May 23 2013 12:22:56 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Is there anyone out there who joined at Burford in January 1949 ? 110 or 111 squad ? I'm off to Bob Rawson's 80th birthday bash this coming Sunday. Along with Cliff Bull we three might be the only ones still alive from those two squads unless theres someone out there who knows otherwise....look forward to any replies. Regards to all Michael.

---

message #: 1383

Date: Sunday May 19 2013 02:48:58 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: senapod@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard and all I have just read the news of the March Competition 2013 by HQ RMBS at Portsmouth. It brought back memories of the early 70's whilst I was serving in Fleet Band at Chatham and the late Sumner was our superb DofM. Well we composed marches; that was Captain Peter Bob Gill and myself which were performed on quite a few gigs including a display we did during Kiel Regatta week in Germany. I just thought that I'd mention that it was good that our music on occasions was "home grown"! Best wishes Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1382

Date: Thursday May 16 2013 16:50:12 EST  
Name: Barry Wales  
Email: bandie3838@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3838  
Hometown: St. Helens Merseyside  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Lads Just to let any of you guys at Deal Daedelus Tiger and FOSNI 61-71 that I'm still alive and well

---

message #: 1381

Date: Wednesday May 15 2013 21:50:12 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None Now  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard firstly may I say thanks for the prompt posting of Photos of Adelaide reunion. I know I was late in sending but had waited on others to present me with higher definition. Am still waiting. For anyone interested these snaps may be viewed on the Notice Board Adelaide Reunion site. Secondly we seem unfortunately to be lacking with correspondence to this site. Facebook has a lot to answer for. It is such a pity because this had been such a good way to keep in touch. Forwarned is forarmed so I am herewith posting details of the next Adelaide reunion which again will be held as in past years in Glenelg South Australia over the weekend of 28th29thand 30th March 2014. Much food and drink will be consumed with of course the usual "stories" of times gone by. Please come and join us you won't be sorry. Cheers from a very wintery Oz land Eric.

---

message #: 1380

Date: Monday May 6 2013 03:01:33 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: LONDON  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Best wishes to all and special thoughts for all those in 3/59 New Entry Squad who joined RMBS on May 6th1959.....54 years ago today. Fond memories of Jack Arbery Dave. Clegg and Les Evans among others.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1379

Date: Saturday April 20 2013 12:05:27 EST  
Name: TREVOR FOSTER (deceased)  
Email: misty.sharp1@btinternet.com

Service Number: R M B 3706  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: EUPH/CELLO  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Jem sorry you couldn't get to Trev's funeral I was so looking forward to seeing you and catching up with you and to tell you a little story about Trev and your car the Ford Mexico he came home for lunch and all he could talk about was this Mexico what the car was like what it could do I think at the time we had our little A35 van so not a patch on your lovely Mexico. We gave Trev a good send off and it was just great seeing some faces that I hadn't seen since the 60s. even saw brother Pete and hadn't seen or heard from him in over 30 years aren't families just great. ha ha . regards Sue.

---

message #: 1378

Date: Friday April 19 2013 10:54:44 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: alto/clart/vln  
n/a:

Comments:

I would like to say a big thank you to Adrian and Dave for their kind guest book messages regarding the funeral of Trev Foster unfortunately I was unable to attend as I had another appointment which I couldn't break on that day but my thoughts were very much with all at the service and especially Sue and her family. It sounds rather like it may have been a Humanist service which are not what most people expect each to his own I guess but as Adrian says it's probably not what Trev would have wanted however it sounds like he had a good send off from his many friends and colleagues during and after and I'm sure Trev would have been pleased to know that so many were there. Jem

---

message #: 1377

Date: Friday April 19 2013 08:11:46 EST  
Name: David A Mutter  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Cello/tubas  
n/a:

Comments:

Dear Richard I would also like to give my thanks to Sue for catering for the ex-RMB contingent at Trev Foster's funeral service on 17 th April. It was an extremely good and kind gesture which as Adrian said was appreciated by us all. It was also good for me to meet up again with old mates and especially Pete Foster whom I hadn't seen for over 30yrs. He has not changed at all except for the colour of his hair amazing!! Regarding the service it was certainly different and unusual but it did allow each of us time for reflection on our own thoughts about Trev and what he meant to us and how he inspired us. I can also understand that there was a need for some to be involved especially with some good old hymn singing as an expression of saying goodbye to a friend. However we are all different and our view on how what or why something should be done will be an individual choice but we must accept that we agree to differ and go on our way unperturbed. There was much jollity in the pub which was true to form when bandies get together. David Mutter

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1376

Date: Thursday April 18 2013 11:21:47 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: Greenwich LONDON  
Instrument/s: FLute and Piano  
n/a:

**Comments:**

On behalf of all those who attended the funeral of Trevor Foster yesterday I would like to thank Sue for her kindness generosity and thoughtfulness in arranging a wake for Trev at 'The Seagull' after the event for all of his RMB mates. It certainly was a most unusual 'service' (being conducted by the funeral director) and without the string quartet playing would have been a most sterile and cold event.....something Trevor was not as a person...and neither did anyone who really knew him have described him as "a musical genius who spent 5 wilderness years....." !!! The inaccuracies in the eulogy were I am told many and it was delivered in a cold tone more suitable to reading the football results! Often in the case of second marriages there is a slight tension and rivalry at such events but there was a genuine froideur between factions which was felt by all present. To deny that Trevor had a former life in the RMB and for the second family to just go off by themselves was insensitive and thank God that Sue bless her had foreseen this tension and awkwardness and prepared for it. Things happen and you can not deny them. Even in 1130 Omar Khayam wrote: "The moving finger writes and having writ moves on. Not all thy piety or wit can cancel out mere half a line." Gloucester House was well represented ( and our CG Squad ) with John Ware Rodney Preston Tom Mailley and myself and other attendees were Derek Usher Merv Durrant Tony Oliver Len Lewry and some I have forgotten already.....sorry. A sad and difficult day rescued by Sue and her thoughtfulness and her obvious love for Trevor to whom she was married for many years and the mother of his children. Once we have loved someone that love does not disappear even when circumstances change as often they do.THANK YOU! Adrian

---

message #: 1375

Date: Thursday April 18 2013 10:57:35 EST  
Name: Russ Sykes  
Email: gnome332@hotmail.com

Service Number: PO33266Y  
Hometown: Leeds  
Instrument/s: Clar/Vln  
n/a:

**Comments:**

For Russ Ireland (re John Geary) Russ thanks for the extra info re John could you pm me- I'd love to know more about his 'little dance'! Cheers.

---

message #: 1374

Date: Thursday April 18 2013 05:07:32 EST  
Name: Russ Ireland  
Email:

Service Number: Q004105Q (RMB 4105)  
Hometown: Aljezur Portugal,  
Instrument/s: Cornet n Fid&#39;  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Ref: John Geary. I served with John at FOSNI from 69 -72ish. D of M's were Doug Haigh and Graham Hoskins. The B/M was Fred Mathias. As I remember John was a very good solo clarinet and also liked to study things like electronics and applied maths. I think he was studying for a degree. One of the most memorable things I recall about John was that he suffered severely with haemorrhoids which to him were a real pain in the \*\*\*e. The rest of the band offered a little sympathy but also found it amusing when he started his funny little dance whilst on parade or during concerts. I think he is on the photo taken at HMS Cochrane c1971. See Steve Cook's article. I am not on the photo as - I took it! Regards to all.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1373

Date: Thursday April 18 2013 03:53:24 EST  
Name: Trevor Foster (Deceased)  
Email: misty.sharp1@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3706  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to u all first of all a big thanks to all the lads that came to Trev's funeral. Oh my God what an awful funeral service couldn't even get the contents of the eulogy right. The music was lovely a big thank u to dear Rod Preston Trev's friend of 55 years. After the funeral we all went down to the Seagull for a great send off to Trev we had lots of laugh's and tales of years ago dear John Ware said a few words about Trev and we raised a glass to Trev. I was with Trev for 27 years and wanted him to have his band friend's around him at the end so thank's once again. Sue.

---

message #: 1372

Date: Tuesday April 16 2013 19:34:51 EST  
Name: Bernard S (Maxie) Beare  
Email:

Service Number: RMB x 2234  
Hometown: Orewa  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I can't help but get emotional when reading our Guest Book some letters are topical others bring back memories whilst I do not write a lot these days I do love to read and enjoy the comments. Good news and bad are there for the reading. Whilst I'm getting somewhat long in the tooth these days and sadly a lot of my mates of the early 40s are now playing in the Heavenly Orchestra I do have contact with a number of former RMBs. In NZ and in particular there are some dozen or more that share our comradeship and can tell you that should any visitor to our Aotearoa will be assured of a welcome and will leave with memories as did our latest in Charlie Solomon that's enough from this old Kiwi keep the letters coming and my thanks for being part of my LIFE Max [Editor] It's a privilege and and honour to accept all your wonderful contributions and anecdotes from your glorious past.

---

message #: 1371

Date: Tuesday April 16 2013 01:22:25 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi all Last Saturday I had the pleasure along with 97 others from here in Sittingbourne and the Central band RBL of attending the MFM. It was an outstanding evening of music and showed the many facets of the RMBs. The Elvis Presley tribute brought the house down!!!! During the interval I was approached by a gentleman who introduced himself as Jo Fairclough. He was the D/M in "Drake" when I was there in 1960/1. We had quite a chat and I think he enjoyed talking over old times for those few minutes. Here's to next years gig which is in March. See you in the countermarch. Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1370

Date: Friday April 12 2013 08:25:55 EST  
Name: Sue Garbutt ne Foster  
Email: misty,sharp1@btinternet.com

Service Number: R.M.B. 3706  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: EUPH/ CELLO  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi just to let you know that after the funeral of Trev it's all down to the Seagull for a right Royal Marine band send off for Trev. Trev's wife would not acknowledge that Trev had a life before they got together that is why our daughter Michelle and myself are giving him a proper send off. If any of Trev's friends have photo's of any part of Trev's life in the band could you please bring them with you many thanks and look forward to seeing you all and have a catch up. 2pm Wednesday Portchester crem. Regards Sue.

---

message #: 1369

Date: Monday April 8 2013 18:21:07 EST  
Name: derek usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: rmb3645  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Fiddle  
n/a:

Comments:  
Message to all of those (like me) who may have failed to pay their subscriptions for this year or last or both!!! I'm sitting here feeling guilty as I have just been reading the Guestbook notes when I've suddenly realised / remembered that I have not paid my subscription this year!! It occurs to me that I cannot be the ONLY one! In fact I'd say that unless we are all reminded of the fact occasionally it can so easily slip ones mind. Therefore Rich I apologise publicly for failing to do so and would be grateful if you'd tell me how you would like payment and I will settle up asap! Perhaps if you put your answer on here then those other guilty people (like me) will see and "cough up" too. It's so wrong to come on here and enjoy such a wonderful site without considering the slightest contribution towards it's upkeep - which I 'm sure all are extremely grateful to our Mr Valentine & his crew for the time and effort they make on our behalf to keep us all in touch. Finally RIP Trev Foster. - I have to say that I only really remember Trev' from J Wing as we all seemed to fly our separate ways once rated and drafted back then. So often we never saw any of those old oppo's again such was the sheer size of the Band Service as it was and with so many ships and shore establishments to disappear to!! But I do remember him as a top bloke none the less and even enjoyed one or two good runs ashore to Divito's etc!! Clearly from other reports he continued to go on and remain a well liked character after that too and I wish his family well when they remember all of the good and better times he spent with each and everyone of them throughout his life. Just so sad that he should be taken quite so soon. It's never nice for anyone let alone your closest relative. All the best. Derek

---

message #: 1368

Date: Saturday April 6 2013 10:31:37 EST  
Name: Russ Sykes  
Email: gnome332@hotmail.com

Service Number: PO33266Y  
Hometown: Leeds  
Instrument/s: Ctl/Vln  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello all I am looking for anyone who served with JOHN GEARY service number not known. He was Solo Ctl- and I believe an adult entry. I know he had his 21st birthday in Singapore in '69 and he had mentioned serving on the yacht at some stage. Guessing by his age he would have joined around 1966- he also mentioned having served around 8(?) years so that would be around 1973. Sadly John passed away on 28th Feb this year aged 64. I knew him from playing in the same band (The Yorkshire Volunteers) we played at his funeral in Featherstone West Yorks and I made sure (along with 2 other ex-bands in the Yorks Vols) that he went out to LOTOW. If anyone out there knew him I'm looking for info for an Obit for our quarterly band magazine and would be most grateful if you would get in touch. Thanks in anticipation.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1367

Date: Saturday April 6 2013 06:35:13 EST  
Name: Sue Garbutt ne Foster  
Email: misty.sharp1@btinter.com

Service Number: r m b 3706  
Hometown: fareham  
Instrument/s: euph/cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Adrian I am sure Jeff went back to Kings Heath Birmingham and yes he was a bus driver would you like to give me a ring for a catch up Sue. 02392 467584.

---

message #: 1366

Date: Saturday April 6 2013 04:41:56 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adranbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: Greenwich LONDON  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Does anyone have contact details for Geoff Pearson (Clt/Via) formerly Pompey Group Band and on Yacht with me 1964? I am sure he would attend Trev Foster's funeral if he knew about it. I seem to recall he became a bus driver with Southdown...or am I confusing him with someone else? Probably still lives in the area.....

---

message #: 1365

Date: Friday April 5 2013 11:43:51 EST  
Name: Sue Garbutt ne Foster  
Email: misty.sharp1@btinternet.com

Service Number: r m b 3706  
Hometown: fareham  
Instrument/s: euph/cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Adrian thank u for that great photo of Trev and u and Pete I have not seen it before have u anymore photos funeral 17th april 2pm at Portchester crem it would be great if u could be there best wishes Sue x

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1364

Date: Friday April 5 2013 10:56:52 EST  
Name: Sue Garbutt ne Foster  
Email: misty.sharp1@btinternet.com

Service Number: r m b 3706  
Hometown: fareham  
Instrument/s: cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Trevor's funeral is on wednesday 17th April at 2pm at Portchester crem Trevor didn't want any yellow flowers thank's regards sue Trevor's ex wife.

---

message #: 1363

Date: Wednesday April 3 2013 12:11:41 EST  
Name: sue garbutt ne foster  
Email: misty.sharp1@btinternet.com

Service Number: r m b 3706  
Hometown: fareham  
Instrument/s: euph/cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
As Trev's death was very sudden there is going to be a post mortem next week so the funeral will be at a later date. I will let u know the details when I have them. Thank u for all the messages from his band friends hope to meet up with some of u at the funeral. Regards Sue.

---

message #: 1362

Date: Wednesday April 3 2013 08:35:21 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: Alto/Clart /Vin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to hear of the passing of Tevor Foster he was a fine instrumentalist and a lovely man to know and have as a friend. I'm afraid I hadn't seen Trev since the North Africa/Naples trip on the yacht back in 1981 (if my memory serves me correctly) and it was on this trip ( I was the Bandmaster with Graham Hoskins as the Director of Music) that Trev had a nervous breakdown and had to be cas vac home and I never saw him again I heard his recovery took some time but hope he was able to return to old self. I did though know him as a friend during my time in the Band Service on previous Yacht trips and in the mess where we had many pints lots of laughs and put the world to rights I also found him to have a wonderful sense of humour as well as having a lovely personality. He will be sorely missed by many and I send my most sincere condolences to his family friends acquaintances and all those who had the pleasure of knowing him RIP Trev Jem

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1361

Date: Wednesday April 3 2013 07:08:41 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: Greenwich LONDON  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
In shock to hear the news about Trev Foster. We were very close friends throughout J Wing and he was J L/Cpl I/C my room 117 in Gloucester House. Lovely guy and his brother Pete also. Both Euph/Cello. He came from Southsea and we used to meet up on leave as I lived on IOW at the time. I am still in shock..... Please inform me of funeral arrangements if known. ADRIAN

---

message #: 1360

Date: Tuesday April 2 2013 16:29:44 EST  
Name: Sue Garbutt ne Foster  
Email: misty.sharp1@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3706  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just to let you know that Trevor had a heart attack today 2/4/13 and sadly passed away he was 68. Sue. Trevor's ex wife.

---

message #: 1359

Date: Monday March 25 2013 13:32:56 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet / Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi all Just to let you know that the MFM tickets mentioned in my last epistle have now been snapped up. Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1358

Date: Monday March 25 2013 02:35:11 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Good morning everyone I have organised a jolly to this years MFM on Saturday 13th April. There will be 98 of us in the party or would have been but for the fact that for various reasons four people have had to drop out. Therefore I have four tickets @ Â£29-00 (Stalls) for sale. If anyone is interested please contact mobile 07787 550087 or email mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk See you in the countermarch or the bar!!!! Mike

---

message #: 1357

Date: Sunday March 24 2013 09:55:00 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
2014 - 25 Years since the terrible event at Deal of course we should give this date some serious thought as how we should remember our fallen and pay our respects to the friends and families they left behind. Yes if it could be done then I think what has been mooted is a good idea. I would also like to mention that at last years Reunion that maybe as a tribute to the 12 perhaps once again we could form a contingent and again join with the RMA and parade at the Cenotaph as a group of us did a few years ago we were led by a former PDM Chris Davies and I know he is up for it and has the contacts to get it set up as has Bob Richardson who did all the hard work the first time we did it. It is a totally different experience from doing it as a gig we had fun. Those who took part the last time I am sure would be willing to show again on that one it was great to see Mick Eastbrook show up the first time I had seen him since he left the RMB. Let's give this some thought as another way to remember the 12 maybe both options are a viable proposition.

---

message #: 1356

Date: Wednesday March 20 2013 14:15:22 EST  
Name: Brian Thorogood  
Email: Brian.Thorogood@sky.com

Service Number: RMB3456  
Hometown: Romford Essex  
Instrument/s: Clarinet & Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I think Mick's idea is a good one I would have no qualms about taking part I think we must carry on and remember the RM Bandmen who were killed in the bombing and honor their memory. Brian T

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1355

Date: Friday March 15 2013 13:52:17 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Rich I have just returned to the website after being away from home for a while. I was very sad to hear of the passing of Dan Archer's wife to cancer. Dan you have my deepest sympathy, Sandy my wife of 37 years recently lost her battle with cancer. Dan just keep going mate it does get easier to deal with. All the best Dave

---

message #: 1354

Date: Friday March 15 2013 10:17:51 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RBMX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Well Paddy that sounds like a great idea and I would certainly go along with it if there was agreement from all concerned. My only concern would always be the weather conditions which would always be a gamble. Please send your thoughts to Scurs at cpm@cinqueportmusic.co.uk as he's the guy who would be the organiser. Regards Mick.

---

message #: 1353

Date: Wednesday March 13 2013 17:03:57 EST  
Name: Paddy Semple  
Email: contactjackiesemple@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3868  
Hometown: Carrickfergus  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I can see the merit in the thoughts of Mick Hutton and it is extremely difficult to offer any arguments against what is very wise council from a much respected member however I feel I must try to offer something for two very important reasons. 1. The memory of our former Colleagues and 2. The losses that will be suffered by the various Charities (Including the Royal Marines Band Benevolent Fund ) losses that I believe will be catastrophic in today's economic climate. Subject to the Editors permission to use this the following is an extract from the report on this website; on the 21 st All Stars Concert in 2010 and for me it brings home the true value of the Concert and the losses that will be suffered by Charity. The point of this concert is to raise money for charity and as the echoes of A Life on the Ocean Wave faded away presentations were made to the following charities: â€ The Royal Marines Band Benevolent fund â€ Â£2500 received by Captain Andy Gregory â€ The Deal Memorial Bandstand Trust â€ Â£1000 â€ Help for Heroes â€ Â£1000 â€ Kent Air Ambulance â€ Â£1000 â€ Royal Marines Association Deal â€ Â£1000 â€ Macmillan Nurses Leeds â€ Â£500 â€ Fight for Sight â€ Â£500. More will be given after the full figures are known. To date the All Stars Band have donated a total of £172 597 with £81 500 of it going to the Royal Marines Band Benevolent Fund. These figures clearly illustrate serious money for charity and when no longer available this will be sorely missed. On a personal note may I say that I have not been able to attend the concerts as much as I would have liked to (more recently for health reasons) but I do think it will be a very sad day if the concert is discontinued. Growing older is a major factor of life which we cannot change and no doubt this along with the sad loss of members who have left to join the other band in the sky have contributed to the reduction in members. Added to this you have the fact supported by Mick that serving members today just do not join the All Stars when they leave the Band Service. So what can we do? My thoughts are if the Mountain will not come to Mohammad then Mohammad must go to the Mountain. Every Year there is a Concert by the Royal Marines Band at the Memorial Band Stand in Walmer which is extremely well attended. I have absolutely no doubt many in the audience also attend the All Stars Concert in Margate. My suggestion is to hold a much shorter All Stars concert at the Memorial Band Stand prior to the Annual Concert by the Royal Marines Band. This audience is seated a long long time before the actual concert commences and I have no doubt they will enjoy some additional entertainment while they wait for the main concert to commence. I have also no doubt the organisers that have been doing an excellent job in Margate each year to date can find some way to get the audience to part with the much needed Funds for the Charities. If when getting ready to start the concert you find you are short of players there will be quite a few not too far away who should be only too glad to help and we all know from personal experience how quick we were able to change into uniform when we were required to so this will not be a problem for them. While this may only be a short term solution it does mean the All Stars Band can continue to benefit the various charities and honour the memories of former colleagues for a few more years yet and perhaps in true fashion at some time in the future they themselves will be allowed to fade away. I apologise if this is long winded but I felt it was important to respond to Mick's request and in doing so recognise and appreciate the contribution by all members of the All Stars Band over the past 24 years and if at all possible offer something which hopefully will help the All Stars to continue for another few years at least.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1352

Date: Wednesday March 13 2013 11:32:13 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Everyone..Yet again the 'All Stars' put on a great show at the Winter Gardens in Margate last Sunday to an audience of around 700. Numbers in the band are down but we were still able to produce a great sound with some difficult pieces that David Cole had selected to keep us on our toes. Two great solo items from Paul Coker & Jon Yates added to the excellent programe. There has been some discussion about next year's 'All Stars' as it will be the 25th anniversary of the bombing and our first concert of course. Should we make it the last one as membership has diminished over the past few years and we do not get any recruits from the serving RMBs when they finish their time. It would be interesting to hear any comments from all you guys mostly from those who take part of course. My personal view is that we should make next year our finale and go out with the best show we've ever produced. Perhaps having some help from the serving members ie; corps of drums and a fanfare team of 7 or if they are really keen ! perhaps the whole 14? Look forward to hearing any suggestions you might have....Regards Mick Hutton.

---

message #: 1351

Date: Saturday March 2 2013 04:23:37 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: senapod@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Ctr/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard and all I have just read some news in The GEM a free newspaper here in Bridgend that there was a brass band competition held recently in Porthcawl.The adjudicator was former PDM Lt Col Chris Davis. I wasn't at this event unfortunately but was very surprised to read this news. Best wishes Mike.

---

message #: 1350

Date: Thursday February 28 2013 14:48:56 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Paddy I do hope that things are going well for you. I think we'll be missing you once again on the first weekend in April in Glenelg South Australia but we will certainly be drinking your health.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1349

Date: Wednesday February 27 2013 17:33:03 EST  
Name: Paddy Semple  
Email: contactjackiesemple@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3868  
Hometown: Carrickfergus  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Thanks Tony O for your kind comments. I was really trying to offer a bit of fun and clearly you enjoyed it. Drop me a line at this email address as I cannot locate your e mail address even when using the Buddy List. Take care Paddy

---

message #: 1348

Date: Tuesday February 26 2013 14:11:04 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi everyone...Its that time again ! The 'All Stars' Band will be gathering in Margate on the 10th March for our annual charity concert. Rehearsal at 2pm and Concert at 7.30. If you dont still play your Hooter ....not to worry just come along and meet up with many of your past colleagues during the afternoon and evening. David Cole is out front and it looks like a good line up with fantastic soloists to boot. These concerts over the years have raised many thousands of pounds for RMB RM RN and other service charities so we look forward to you and your family and friends support. Best wishes to all serving and ex members of our great family. Michael.

---

message #: 1347

Date: Tuesday February 26 2013 12:43:18 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email: anthonyoliver@fsmail.net

Service Number: 3975  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Mr Semple congratulations on your latest contribution to the Guest Book. What a laugh !!!! Thank you Paddy.  
Tony O

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1346

Date: Sunday February 24 2013 02:35:53 EST  
Name: mike jones  
Email: senapod@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: CtrVln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard and all Update on my health is that I am back on to diabetic pills; just two a day and had a visit to the hospital for a check on my blood and all is well. My next check up will be in May. Best wishes Mike. [Ed] It's good to hear from you Mike I'm sure we are all glad you are coping and things are stable as one could expect.

---

message #: 1345

Date: Thursday February 21 2013 11:43:41 EST  
Name: Paul Davies  
Email: pghdavies@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Mr Valentine I am the current owner of a Besson 8-10 trumpet inscribed with the name of Kenneth Myatt (later Hayward) and dated 1958 who recently featured on your website in recollections submitted by John Buberle (who recently received a visit from Mr Myatt). I just thought it might be nice to let Mr Myatt (Hayward) know that his trumpet is being well looked after and being played by my daughter Grace. Maybe you have ways of passing this message on? Thanks and kind regards Paul Davies PS very nice website!

---

message #: 1344

Date: Wednesday February 20 2013 15:44:55 EST  
Name: Paddy Semple  
Email: contactjackiesemple@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3868  
Hometown: Carrickfergus  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dickie I have been really intrigued reading the various and very interesting comments in the Guestbook in relation to Marches and I do not want to be the Mad Major by crossing The Thin Red Line but yesterday I was thinking about The Standard of St George when listening to The Voice of the Guns when all of a sudden I remembered our Life on the Ocean Wave and our travels By Land and Sea as I walked On the Quarter Deck with Colonel Bogey. So whether it is Calvary of the Clouds or Calvary of the Steppes I will opt out and stay in T he Middy. I endorse the previous comments on this excellent site and long may it continue. Take care Paddy.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1343

Date: Wednesday February 20 2013 04:45:56 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
Well said Tony Thanks indeed to Dickie and friends for this wonderful site I like most I suspect view it most days and several times a day some days. I am hoping to go to the reunion again this year and look forward to meeting with Dickie and others again it seems such a long time ago in November 1965 that Dickie & I joined this wonderful organisation the Best Band Service in the World. I have Bruno Brown staying with me at the moment he visited the RM Band at HMS Raleigh yesterday and was amazed and the sound produced by the band in rehearsal. Best wishes Ray

---

message #: 1342

Date: Tuesday February 19 2013 14:38:06 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email: anthonyoliver@fsmail.net

Service Number: 3975  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I would just like to inform our many readers how lucky we are to have such a dedicated and loyal Editor of this site keeping it a wonderful one to visit and take in how special our " Family " is. I have just returned from a 4 day visit to see Dickie In Albany NY. His generosity and hospitality was outstanding it was also special to share some time with his lovely daughter Charlotte who I hadn't seen for some 12 years. Dickie and his web page designer Leila have put and do put a lot of work into keeping us all updated with our old and present friends of The Band Service Family we should all be grateful indeed. Those who present him with a few bob every year to help him keep the site going deserve a pat on the back. Those who don't should really think twice. Keep up the hard work Dickie and pass on our thanks to Leila. Tony Oliver

---

message #: 1341

Date: Monday February 18 2013 03:22:38 EST  
Name: Dan Archer  
Email: archer378@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: PO22378C  
Hometown: United Kingdom  
Instrument/s: Drum Major  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Dickie I am very sad to inform you that my darling wife Beryl passed away on 3rd February 2013 here in the Bay of Islands New Zealand Ber' and I were married for 42 years 21 of them in the Corps and Band Service. Ber' had been suffering from cancer for 7 months. Dan [Editor] On behalf of all our RMB family please know how much I offer my prayers and great empathy for your loss. Be strong you will overcome and live your life for Beryl and all of us who remain on this side of the after-life. Sincerely ~ Dickie.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1340

Date: Sunday February 17 2013 13:02:06 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Shipmates I view sometimes with some trepidation some of the comments entered here and without wishing to profess to being a considered professional on such matters would wish to impose on the matter of some Marches their Composers and Arrangers so would wish to invite those on the particular string of a certain march to view the following on YouTube. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ghc-MUTRgkQ> It should also come up with a picture of Kenneth Alford. This may just come to help others to reach a satisfactory conclusion on their various remarks? Additionally may I just take this opportunity to advise others that our long serving President of HMS Gambia has just crossed the bar... [Editor] I view more often than not with much trepidation some of your comments Bill and therefore I politely suggest that we be grateful that there is no discrimination and that we can just share the knowledge and input from many others besides yourself. This is NOT a forum but has been used as such at times to its detriment. There are other avenues you can use to make your feelings known perhaps directly rather than use this medium. The subject (on-going) is an interesting one that of the march in question. Positive comments and suggestions are always welcome. Negative opinions are not welcome.

---

message #: 1339

Date: Friday February 15 2013 09:49:49 EST  
Name: David A Mutter  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: cello/tubas  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
For those who followed the interesting discussion concerning the correct title of a march played by RM Massed Bands between that of "Cavalry of the Steppes" or "Cavalry of the Clouds" I decided to do a little research on Major F J Ricketts RM. It appears that he enlisted into the Army as a musician and later became a Bandmaster who ended his career in the army as Bandmaster of the 2 nd Battalion of the Argyll and Southern Highlanders Band where he remained for 19 years. He put this band on the map as it were and became well respected as a band leader. On leaving the army about 15 000 people turned up to say farewell and wish him all the best in his new appointment as Director of Music at RM Depot Deal. The interesting aspect of this move for me was that Bandmaster WO1 F J Ricketts' successor as bandmaster to the 2 nd Battalion Argyll and Southern Highlanders Band was one WO1 Bandmaster Charles Smart Beat ARCM who later became Bandmaster to the Black Watch Band. Like Major Ricketts he joined the RM's becoming Professor of Tuba and Euphonium at the Royal Marines School of Music at Deal. I suspect that many of the euph and tuba fraternity knew this already but it was very interesting news for me. Dave Mutter

---

message #: 1338

Date: Thursday February 14 2013 09:49:40 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing. Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: s  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Barry Oops! You are of course right. Put it down to increasing senility eh? Many happy memories of our days in the Band Service and of shipmates past. See you in October. Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1337

Date: Thursday February 14 2013 09:27:38 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi to all Age must have gotten to Mike Tellick!!! It is 57 years to day since we both joined up not 58!!!! Yes Mike not many of us left. R.I.P. Mark Ashton Jonny Couch Mick Bromley Chas Pelling and sadly many more. But what great memories we all have and are especially honoured and lucky to be members of the Best and most Exclusive Club in the World. The Royal Marines Band Service Family. I am still in regular contact with many ex Bandies. Look forward to see you all in October. Regards Barry Radford

---

message #: 1336

Date: Thursday February 14 2013 02:24:03 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing. Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dickie On this day 58 years ago 30 very young and innocent young boys were delivered to East barracks and esconsed in rooms P1 and P2, to start their lives in the RMB. Our squad insructor was one Sgt. Rickards and the musicians in charge of the rooms were Taff Roberts and Joe Tyne. I don't know how many of those 30 boys are still with us but I would like to send greetings to Barry Radford Ray Grant and John Cowdray and anyone else from the 2/56 squad still alive and kicking. On another note I was planning to attend the reunion this year but have gig with the Central Band RBL in the Codogan Hall in London. However I will hotfoot it to Portsmouth for the Sunday morning. See you there Mike

---

message #: 1335

Date: Sunday February 3 2013 06:28:15 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
A sad news day. I have just read on the Forum that Beryl the wife of Dan Archer has passed away from the dreaded big C. I have sent my condolences to Dan as I am sure many others of our RMB Family will also do. My regards to you all and you all take great care of yourselves you are special people. Mike H

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1334

Date: Saturday February 2 2013 09:32:42 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: I&#39;ve seen a triangle  
n/a:

Comments:  
I have only just heard of the Sad passing of Mick (Smokey) Cole. He suffered from life changing injuries at the hands of the IRA at deal in that terrible September. Last time I saw him he was still a happy smiling bloke that I always knew but never the same. My condolences go to Micks family another great guy gone but never forgotten. R I P Smokey Roy

---

message #: 1333

Date: Friday February 1 2013 22:08:22 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:  
"The Cavalry of the Stepes" I seem to recall as a regular "Dinner" music number a long time ago.It was never confused with Alford's 'Cavalry of the Clouds" a fine Parade march written I believe to commemorate the early Pilots of the World War 1. Of course I stand to be corrected and I'm sure I will be.

---

message #: 1332

Date: Thursday January 31 2013 09:52:26 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Rich Thanks to Dick Soulsby for the plug about the Dartmouth reuniuon. Dick does that mean you will be there? It would be grat to catch up after so many years. My email can be got through the buddy list (I think). Drop me a line please. All the best Dave Lambert

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1331

Date: Thursday January 31 2013 04:54:50 EST  
Name: Richard (Dick) Soulsby  
Email: soulsby@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number: Q004146B  
Hometown: Bath  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dickie may I post the following information which may be of interest to ex members of Dartmouth band?  
This year is the 150th. Anniversary of Naval training at Dartmouth as part of the celebrations their is to be a reunion  
of ex RMB members and their guests on March 29th (Good Friday) followed on Saturday the 30th. March by a concert by the  
Dartmouth all stars band (mainly ex RMB) both events are being held at the college. Full details can be obtained from  
Les Sheppard (ex RMB) his contact details are shesleppard@hotmail.co.uk best regards Dick

---

message #: 1330

Date: Wednesday January 30 2013 04:59:46 EST  
Name: Geof Gouk  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3769  
Hometown: Rochester  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
I was at that Royal Tournament and it was Cavalry of the Steppes I seem to remember that the tenor drums had  
tamborines attached to their drums especally for this march regards

---

message #: 1329

Date: Tuesday January 29 2013 12:46:11 EST  
Name: Steve Swann  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Cavalry Of The Steppes. Well it seems like I have raised quite a discussion about this. In fact when it was  
mentioned that it may have been Cavalry of the Clouds I went onto Youtube to listen to a rendition of Cavalry of the  
Steppes. I am quite sure it was this but it was a long time ago. Either way thank you Michael for where to get it.  
Best regards to all.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1328

Date: Tuesday January 29 2013 09:59:30 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi again Adrian (everyone will think we're the only two on this sight !) Ray Woodfield on our way back in the coach from a dinner gig in London way back in the dim distant 60s scribbled out an arrangement of that Russian folk tune and within a couple of weeks it was on the march cards and we were playing it everywhere including the 1968 Royal Tournament. That is the recording I've mentioned earlier.Regards to all Michael.

---

message #: 1327

Date: Tuesday January 29 2013 06:50:25 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Further to the comments made by Adrian and Mick about "Cavalry of the Steps".I had a search through my old(Very old)L/P records of the R.M.Band.I found one L/P.titled "The Worlds Great Marches"The band of R.M.S.M. L/Col Dunn.(1967)On side 2 band four is the march "Cavalry of the Steppes" (Knipper arr Woodfield).Is this of any help to clear up matters?Nobby.

---

message #: 1326

Date: Tuesday January 29 2013 05:26:58 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: Greenwich LONDON  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Michael: The simple point I was making was that surely it would have been more likely that RM Bands would have played "Cavalry of the CLOUDS"....a march by Kenneth J Alford...than "Cavalry of the STEPPES" a Russian march by Lev Knipper. As you rightly say I was not there but I am sure there is someone out there who will know which march was played. As for my playing 18 flutes each evening in 'The Lion King' having affected my brain you may well be right Michael!!!

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1325

Date: Monday January 28 2013 13:03:08 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard must have pressed the wrong button ! It's an Age thing ? I just wanted to let Steve Swan know where he can get the original 1968 recording...I'm not sure what Adrian is on about ? He couldnt have been there ! It must be something to do with all those African Flutes he puts up his nose every night? Anyway Steve give Paddy Dunn a ring on 020 8673 6157 or check out the website at [www.eastneycollection.com](http://www.eastneycollection.com) . lots of love to you and Adrian...Michael.

---

message #: 1324

Date: Monday January 28 2013 10:03:22 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: Greenwich LONDON  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Are we talking about the right piece? "Cavalry of the CLOUDS" is a march by Kenneth J. Alford which I remember well as it has a piccolo solo in the trio and more likely to have been played at RM massed bands than "Cavalry of the Steppes" which is a well-known Russian folksong.

---

message #: 1323

Date: Sunday January 27 2013 13:37:42 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: [michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com](mailto:michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com)

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
You might even buy the original recording or the massed bands called 'The Splendour of the March' number RMHSEC012...Regards Michael.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1322

Date: Sunday January 27 2013 08:45:30 EST  
Name: Steve Swann  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Mike Thanks for that I know I can hear some bands play it. I actually want the recording if one exist of the RMB Massed Bands playing it in 1968. Cheers Steve

---

message #: 1321

Date: Sunday January 27 2013 02:00:26 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Steve In answer to your query about "Cavelry of the Steppes". If you look on youtube you can hear it there. Also on Amazon it is available on a recording called "Men of Music". Hope this helps. Mike

---

message #: 1320

Date: Thursday January 24 2013 04:55:15 EST  
Name: Steve Swann  
Email:

Service Number: Q004215B  
Hometown: Dorset  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Cavalry of The Steppes Massed Bands 1968 Hope that everyone who reads this are well. The above piece of Music was probably the most memorable of all the marches I ever heard played by the band. I joined up in 1968 and can still remember vividly watching the massed bands rehearse. I would be most obliged if anyone can point me in the direction of getting this recording. Here's hoping. Be Well and Take Care everyone Swanny

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1319

Date: Monday January 14 2013 10:40:41 EST  
Name: Ian &#34;Eggy&#34; Epps  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2698  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: Trombone & VBI Baton  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

When I got home last night I wondered how to try and describe the atmosphere in St Mary's church in Walmer on Friday afternoon at Ron's funeral but I should not have worried Mick got it just right. It was a joyous celebration of a musician's life by his friends.

Before the coffin arrived most of us were standing at the rear of the pews greeting ex shipmates some of who to members of my era we hadn't seen in decades. Something else was also heard laughter something that's not often heard in a church at a funeral. One thing that you can guarantee at a band funeral service is that if the right hymns are selected it will be a good musical send off and on this occasion the hymns were right and the singing to a brass quintet and organ really did Ron proud. I said in my last "dit" that I was glad I saw Ron this year and now I'm glad I was able to go up to Deal to say farewell.

---

message #: 1318

Date: Sunday January 13 2013 14:57:39 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi everyone.....It was great to see so many friends and colleagues along with family to give one of our great musicians Ron Kempton a fantastic send off. The church was full the music and singing was tremendous and later in the RMA there was lots of chat amongst us all about the wonderful times we all spent in the Band Service. It was good to see the PDM there which I and all in attendance appreciated and he also joined in the RMA to share those thoughts. Although a sad occasion it just shows what a great family the RM Band Service is when so many members can get together to pay respects to one of ours who is no longer with us. Regards to all. Mick Hutton.

---

message #: 1317

Date: Thursday January 10 2013 05:22:09 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email: anthonyoliver@fsmail.net

Service Number: 3975  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

The Wizard Who's Odd The Sgts Mess Panto 4.1. 2013 - 12.1.2013  
£10 from Mrs J Hughes 14 John Tapping Close Deal Kent CT14 7QY  
01304 375448 Cheques make payable to Sgts Mess Panto Fund .

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1316

Date: Wednesday January 9 2013 12:51:50 EST  
Name: Ian (Eggy) Epps  
Email: ianepps@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX2698  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: Trombone & VBI baton  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

As one ages (and I have) you tend to look back with thoughts of "I wish I had done that" or "I'm glad I didn't do that" and as I get ready to go with my wife Freda up to Sittingbourne to stay with Terry and Beryl Parker so that we can attend Ron Kempton's funeral that I had one of those "I'm glad I did that" thoughts. Terry and I with our wives went to see Ron again in the summer we went last year but we thought he might be glad of a visit by a couple of "Burford Boys" again. When we saw him last year I hadn't seen him since I was a boy because after I was rated at eighteen the only time I was in Deal seemd to be to do my Corporal's and Sergeant's courses. I did have a short stay before I was drafted to HMS Newfoundland for a spell on the East Indies station long gone now. I even managed to go from draft to draft without a stay in Deal. Terry complains he didn't have my luck the Staff Band it's library and a certain PDM made certain he was never far away from the concert hall. Some would say "some people have all the luck". I'm really glad we went to see Ron and Barbra as Ron was in no state to get out and about. We sat in his sitting room a room full of Ron's memories and each memory raised led to another one and an hour or so flew by it's suprising how incidents so long ago surface and bring to mind so many of the friends we have all made in our time in the band service... When we saw them both this year they were in the mids't of the move to York problems. Any move is a problem but theirs had been exacerbated by the problems of selling their flat and Rons health. It seemed everything had now been settled and they were to be off to York where they had purchased a house. What a shock it was to hear Ron had been taken into hospital and intensive care just before Christmas and then even worse had died on Christmas Day. As I said at the beginning there are things in life when you say "I'm glad I did that" and visiting Ron and Barbra with Terry and Beryl was to me one of them. May I take this chance to wish you all A Happy Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

---

message #: 1315

Date: Wednesday January 9 2013 09:27:21 EST  
Name: Ken Rollings  
Email: kenvalrollo@fsmail.net

Service Number: RMB/X3324  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Clarinet & Violin  
n/a:

Comments:

Tribute to Ron Kempton who will be sorely missed true gentleman & musician RIP Ron Ken.

---

message #: 1314

Date: Tuesday January 8 2013 05:56:53 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a:

Comments:

re the Sgts Mess Panto is there a video of it to borrow or buy for those of us who are too far away to attend. I have fond memories of the panto from my J Wing Days (Also there was an interesting view out of the window whilst queueing on the stairs if my memory serves me right! Heres hoping Ray

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1313

Date: Monday January 7 2013 05:27:52 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi all Having been to the Sgts Mess Panto on Saturday I would like to congratulate all concerned on a very funny evening. The Scarecrow ( Derek Lindars) was brilliant. That is not to take away any credit from the rest of the cast they were super. The other piece of inspiration was the "Lawyer" from the from "Injury lawyers for you" NORFOLK AND CHANCE". he only said it once but had the audience in fits. Jay O'Neil is scary as the Wicked Witch. Well done to all and let's hope Brian Short has the energy to do it all again next year. Mike

---

message #: 1312

Date: Saturday January 5 2013 09:31:23 EST  
Name: Phil spud Taylor  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3837  
Hometown: Stratford on Avon  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello all great to be back have kept looking at site so sad losing some old friends.

---

message #: 1311

Date: Monday December 31 2012 07:08:50 EST  
Name: Arthur Deakin  
Email: ad3113@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: Rmb/x 3113  
Hometown: Hartlepool  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I would just like to wish all bandsmen/women their families a Happy Healthy & Prosperous New Year.  
Arthur

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1310

Date: Monday December 31 2012 04:31:06 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: Greenwich LONDON  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

**Comments:**

There are some people you meet in life who you will never forget. Ron Kempton was such a person. There are some who in one's formative years one wants to emulate. Ron Kempton was such a person. There are those who inspire and by the very manner and approach they adopt in what they do and the standards they achieve are able to influence others to try much harder and take pride in the results. Ron was such a person. We all have our own memories of Ron. For me as a 14 year old Jnr Musn attending the Winter Concerts I first noticed this sandy-haired 'cellist who seemed to be 'united' with his instrument. I had never seen such concentration or up till then observed a musician who seemed so much part of his instrument and the music he was playing. This was something very special....and I wanted to be like Ron Kempton and feel the music as passionately as he obviously did. Later of course I got to know him well in the Staff Band and 1965 Edinburgh Tattoo and USA Tour. Like everyone who met him I found him to be a really easy-going and very pleasant person to be around and he was particularly encouraging to those like myself and a few others who were making continued efforts to improve their playing by going to London each week for private lessons with established pro musicians. I had left the RMB before Ron showed the musical leadership he obviously had as a BM and D of M but those who were fortunate to serve under his direction must have been inspired to achieve their best performances under his charismatic and dedicated musicianship. There were very few like Ron and we are all less for his passing but should be grateful for having known him and I am so thankful that his musical stature and dedication was evident to me at such an early age and that it was an inspiration to me in my own musical development. Thank you Ron.

---

message #: 1309

Date: Sunday December 30 2012 06:42:07 EST  
Name: Sidney Sheard  
Email: sidsrmmx3211@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Dear Richard. My sincere condolences to Rons family. A great man who will be sorely missed. My memories of Ron were mainly in Deal who I found to be a true gentleman who always had time for everyone. R.I.P. Ron.

---

message #: 1308

Date: Saturday December 29 2012 09:56:35 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbil@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

**Comments:**

I have just telephoned Barrie (Vic) Sylvester to advise him of the passing of his dear friend and fellow euph and cellist which Barrie was totally unaware of. (So perhaps that is something which others may wish to address for the future?) For some of you you may recall the tale of when Barrie tried to visit Ron while they were tied up alongside on two separate aircraft carriers and Vic and Ron totally missed the plot of where each others messdecks were so were unable to find each other. Now that is something which should maybe mentioned in the forthcoming obits? I think that Vic thought he was actually returning of his ship at the time maybe???? Yours aye Bill.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1307

Date: Saturday December 29 2012 09:21:17 EST  
Name: pete pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB3861  
Hometown: exmouth  
Instrument/s: basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Rich So sad to hear of Ron Kempton's passing I only had the good fortune to experience him in action a couple of times but was amazed at his musicianship a great loss to us all rip Ron.

---

message #: 1306

Date: Saturday December 29 2012 05:23:21 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2687  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Ctr/Vln/Sax/Baton  
n/a:

Comments:  
I am sure that many colleagues will wish to join me in congratulating our current PDM Lt.Col. Nick Grace on his inclusion in the New Year's Honours List published today. His award is of huge significance for his OBE is one of very few in the whole of the Naval Service. We have collectively watched his immaculate presentations in this Jubilee Year and vastly admired his tri-Service musical leadership throughout. The Band Service of today is recognized as world-beating in every respect and the musicians and buglers whose confident and inspiring efforts make it so could not have done it without effective leadership from the top. Sensitive caring hugely capable and now awarded an OBE in national recognition we have a leader second to none.

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message #: 1305

Date: Saturday December 29 2012 05:12:23 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Very sad indeed to read of the passing of yet another to the great and good Massed Band Ron Kempton. I can remember as far back as 1961 when as a young musician I returned to Deal after my first sea time always found him to be very helpful along with many others of that generation. I recall as many his fine skills as Euphonium and Cello player. I was in the Staff Band when he was doing many promotion courses and remember him doing his DoMs in Deal as well. My sincere condolences to all the family he has left and to the many of you who had the pleasure to know Ron as a friend or had the pleasure to serve with him. RON KEMPTON RIP.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1304

Date: Friday December 28 2012 18:16:55 EST  
Name: David A Mutter  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Cello/Tubas  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Dear Richard I too am saddened to hear of Ron Kempton's passing a fine musician who I admired greatly. My first meeting with Ron was in 1963 when as Junior Musician I was seconded to play in the Staff Band Orchestra for a number of concerts. I sat on first desk with Ron who gave me good advice and encouragement which I really appreciated. He always was a cheerful and enthusiastic musician who didn't look down at us who were not as talented. I also met him again when I was drafted back to Deal in 1965. It was a pleasure and a privilege to be in the same cello section as Ron an experience I shall always remember. These times will be difficult for his family and my thoughts are with them. Dave Mutter

---

message #: 1303

Date: Friday December 28 2012 04:49:09 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Saddened to read the news regarding Ron Kempton. Another great loss to our wonderful family. I served with Ron when he was Bandmaster at HMS Deadulas in the late 1960's. A great musician. Who will ever forget his playing live in the "Barted Bride" on Friday Nights Music Night?. With Sir Vivien at the helm. R.I.P. Ron. An honour to have served with you. Barry Radford

---

message #: 1302

Date: Thursday December 27 2012 11:21:19 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston & Deal.....in my heart.  
Instrument/s: Piano & Clarinets  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

It is with a heavy heart that I write these few words referring to the release from all pain and suffering from this life of our dear brother Ron Kempton. There is a photo of Ron John Wright (deceased) Huw Morris (deceased) and I on the web site and I'm sure many of you will have seen it. It pains me to realize that those good men and great friends have left us behind but we must all smile through our tears and rejoice in our great luck to have known them. It is my belief that later on we shall all be together and you can take that or leave it whatever your beliefs are. My sincerest and deepest condolences go to Barbara and I must say that it was Ron who was the go-between for the time when (we lost Dave Harris) he ensured my tribute to Dave was given over to the school of music in Deal. That tribute I do believe is to be seen on display outside the B/M's office in Nelson. I know that Dave and Ron were great friends and I can only imagine the get together they must be having in the celestial sky. Meanwhile we all must live our life as full as we can. There is only this unique life live it! TO THE FULL. With love and respect to all our bretheren. Dickie.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1301

Date: Thursday December 27 2012 09:05:14 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: senapod@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Ctr/Vln/Pno  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hullo Richard and all. Sorry to see the news of the passing on of Ron Kempton. I remember when I had a 3 months stay with the Band in Scotland when he was DoFM and it was a memorable time and very busy especially when we went to Belfast and played for a Christmas service in the cathedral. My condolences to his family at this sad time. Mike Jones

---

message #: 1300

Date: Thursday December 27 2012 06:44:26 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a:

Comments:  
Very sad to see that yet another of my generation has crossed the bar. Last met Ron after the funeral of Mick Beer. Condolences to this family.

---

message #: 1299

Date: Thursday December 27 2012 04:31:12 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Have just had the sad news that Ron Kempton has left us for the big band in the sky. Ben Finney phoned me this morning with that information. Will let you all know funeral arrangements when available. Regards to all. Michael.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1298

Date: Monday December 24 2012 14:19:50 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a:

Comments:  
It is now 2000 on Christmas Eve 2012 my Grandchildren have just gone to bed I am just about to have a sneaky Xmas Eve beer. So may we take this opportunity to wish all Royal Marine Bandsmen serving and retired the best Christmas and a very very Happy and prosperous 2013. Our thoughts are with all our fellow servicemen and women who will not be home for Christmas. Roy and Janet

---

message #: 1297

Date: Monday December 24 2012 13:46:31 EST  
Name: Brian &#34;Eggy&#34; Hobbs  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3884  
Hometown: Helston  
Instrument/s: Violin Clarinet Cymbels & Sax  
n/a:

Comments:  
Best Wishes to all in the "Family" I promise to be at next years reunion! Eggy

---

message #: 1296

Date: Monday December 24 2012 09:10:37 EST  
Name: Ivor South  
Email:

Service Number: QOO4252W  
Hometown: Bridgwater(Somerset)  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Piano (Unofficial)  
n/a:

Comments:  
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all ex and serving members of the RMBS. Hoping for a better 2013. Have a good'un. Ivor.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1295

Date: Monday December 24 2012 06:15:55 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
It gives me great pleasure to wish all ex and seving members of the great family that is the RMB A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS and a safe and PEACEFUL NEW YEAR.

---

message #: 1294

Date: Sunday December 23 2012 15:48:57 EST  
Name: Roy Adrian  
Email: ra.adrian181@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3647  
Hometown: Carlton-le-Moorland Lincoln  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a:

Comments:  
A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Peaceful New Year to all members past & present across the globe. I will be raising a glass to you all and Thank You Richard for your continued dedication to this wonderful link which we can all share and enjoy. Roy Adrian

---

message #: 1293

Date: Sunday December 23 2012 11:11:56 EST  
Name: pete pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Rich Mat I wish your good self & all ex bandies a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy & prosperous Newyear Pendles.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1292

Date: Sunday December 23 2012 09:25:56 EST  
Name: ~Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Happy Christmas and a Joyeous New Year to One and All. Luke 2: 1-7 which is the lesson I was reading out at Morning Service today. Actually that was supposed to be all that I should have read but as the Service was running low on content I read 1-20! Well received none the less and to put the Cherry on the Cake our Eldest granddaughter who was home from University sang a Solo of Silent Night! Happy Days to one and all again?

---

message #: 1291

Date: Saturday December 22 2012 23:16:56 EST  
Name: William (Bill) Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3242  
Hometown: Tennyson (&#39;Oz)  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Wishing you Dicky and all the members and visitors to your wonderful Web Site A HAPPY AND JOYFUL CHRISTMAS ALSO A BLESSED 2013 if any of you are around western Sydney please do give us a call we would love to meet for a drink or chat. We hope to be at the Adelaide reunion in April maybe we will see you then. God Bless from Bill & Sylvia.

---

message #: 1290

Date: Thursday December 20 2012 20:02:32 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:  
To all who have served and to all those who are still serving May your Festive Season be one full of Joy with the right amount of Spirit/Spirits and the year 2013 be kind to you and yours. In other words MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1289

Date: Tuesday December 18 2012 14:41:54 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Best wishes to all ex and serving members of our great Band Service as Christmas and another year creep up on us. I've just started my 80th year so hope to be here in ten years time with the same message. yours aye Mick.

---

message #: 1288

Date: Tuesday December 18 2012 05:37:45 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: Greenwich LONDON  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
I first heard Lucy Long when I was in my first band at HMS Drake in 1962 played by that great character Lou Cooper. It was Ladies Night at Cin.C Plymouth. I was accompanying Lou on piano. His 'tour de force'....and I swear this is true even on Ladies Night...was to stick a 'French Letter' down the bazonk which inflated from the top of the instrument when he hit the lowest note in the cadenza!!!! I reminded him of this when I saw him some months ago in the RMA Deal. What a lovely guy. Seasons greeting to all and best wishes for those in Sick Bay.

---

message #: 1287

Date: Friday December 14 2012 09:30:02 EST  
Name: Sidney Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: DEal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard. May I take this opportunity to wish you and your family and all serving and ex serving RMBs a very Merry Christmas a Happy and Peaceful New Year. I haven't been around much this year as I have had a few problems with my health but I am being treated for it at the moment. I have got the big C in my bones in my pelvic also in my prostate but I am in good hands at Canterbury hospital and I am very positive that I will beat it. I will try and get to the next reunion as I have so many friends that have been part of my life for the last sixty years and hopefully for many years to come. Take care Richard and looking forward to meeting up with you all in the future. Sid and Family. [Webmaster] The silence is deafening. We all miss you mate. Be strong our thoughts and prayers are with you. Richard.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1286

Date: Thursday December 13 2012 04:02:31 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: senapod@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND South Wales  
Instrument/s: Ctr/Vln/Pno  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hullo Richard and all. May I also wish members of our special family a very Happy Christmas and a Happy 2013. With Best wishes Mike Jones

---

message #: 1285

Date: Tuesday December 11 2012 01:58:43 EST  
Name: Mike Tellickm  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi folks Just want to wish all members of our unique family past and present a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous 2013. I will raise a glass or three to everyone on the 25th and then have a lie down!!!  
If you are still stuck as to what to buy for that special person in your life may I recommend our latest CD. It's called "Christmas Fantasy". Just go to [centralband.com](http://centralband.com) and click on the link. It will be £12.00 well spent. And before anyone asks Christmas Festival is NOT on it!!! Merry Christmas everyone. Mike

---

message #: 1284

Date: Wednesday December 5 2012 18:44:17 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Roy while being a member of the Band of CinC Nore Command Chatham I first "played" Lucy Long in the Painted Hall at the Royal Naval College Greenwich in 1957 during the Trafalgar Night Dinner. So noisy I couldn't hear what I was playing so I stopped and wouldn't continue until noise subsided. This did not go down well with the top table and I received a reprimand. Ordered to continue "or else" I still have the printed programme somewhere as it was the first time I had a personal mention on a programme. I of course played it many times after that.  
On the last engagement that I was involved with in the RAAF Central Band in 1992 the band members asked me if I would play Lucy Long. Now as I was then the Warrant Officer and at the time the Conductor for this particular gig I declined. However the band insisted with the Bassoon player handing me her instrument and she taking over the baton. Result was not perfect by any means but all seemed to enjoy a little bit of fun. The attending audience didn't complain either. Glad to hear that the "Lucy" still reigns.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1283

Date: Monday December 3 2012 15:26:28 EST  
Name: Roy Adrian  
Email: ra.adrian181@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3647  
Hometown: Carlton-le-Moorland Lincoln  
Instrument/s: Lucy Long & Guardian  
n/a:

Comments:  
f.a.o. Roy Hallin - message 1285 Hi Roy - Good News - LUCY LONG is ALIVE & WELL - so no need for R.I.P. Having joined the RAF Waddington Voluntary Band last January (sorry that it had to be 'light' for 'dark/navy' blue) I was asked to play Lucy Long at our concert in June. I tried to do her justice and she was well received by the audience - so here's to LUCY LONG and the next 200 plus years in her history. ROY ADRIAN

---

message #: 1282

Date: Sunday December 2 2012 11:29:01 EST  
Name: Chris Mutlow  
Email: chris@cmutlow.com

Service Number: RMB4029  
Hometown: Weston super Mare  
Instrument/s: Tenor Sax/Flute  
n/a:

Comments:  
I too have great memories of working with Chris at HMS Raleigh. He was always "1st Flute" and I was a poor 2nd. He had a knack of not taking life too seriously yet got on with the job in hand. Condolences to his family.

---

message #: 1281

Date: Sunday December 2 2012 09:24:13 EST  
Name: Russ Ireland  
Email: hootertooter@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4105 (Q004105Q)  
Hometown: Aljezur Portugal.  
Instrument/s: Cornet & fiddle  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sad to hear of the passing of Chris Thomas. I along with others have many great memories of my time spent with Chris at HMS Raleigh. I was fortunate to called his friend. My deepest sympathies go to his family and yes I will raise a large glass to Chris at 15:30 6 December. He truly was 'The One Eyed Piccolo Player'. RIP  
Russ

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1280

Date: Saturday December 1 2012 12:33:35 EST  
Name: Ian Epps  
Email: ianepps@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX2698  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Reference "Lucy Long" I remember it well we used to try and play it during trombone lessons under the guidance of "Chang Kirkwood our trombone instructor back in 50/51. It's quite a trial for a "Makey Learner" trombone player. You can get the sheet music for Basson and piano from shoptrinitycollage.co.uk. price Â£12.99 You can download the track played by the Royal Marine Concert Band from Amazon price 69p or purchase the whole recording. from Amazon or the Blue Band site. If you ask "Google" Lucy Long basson solo it will direct you to a couple of good recordings. I hope this helps "Eggy"

---

message #: 1279

Date: Saturday December 1 2012 06:31:34 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
LUCY LONG Hi Roy not sure if you are serious or Tongue in Cheek but if you go to [www.gpollenmusic.co.uk](http://www.gpollenmusic.co.uk) then click on midi scroll down the page you will find the classic masterpiece you should be able to download it and play it and if you a music programme like Sibelius for example you should be able to print it out from that. As very very young boy in the 1960s I wondered why they called a Bassoon "A Donkeys D\*\*\* with buttons on" I soon learned why amazing what we learned in J Wing! I hope this helps Cheers Ray

---

message #: 1278

Date: Saturday December 1 2012 04:20:08 EST  
Name: pete pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Rich just received the the funeral arrangements for Chris Thomas which are December 6th 1530hrs at Efford Crematorium. Afterwards the wake will be at The Vine Stonehouse Plymouth. Sadly I will be unable to attend but send my condolences to his family Pendles.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1277

Date: Friday November 30 2012 10:56:43 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Upright stick with a metal bit attached  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Have just had very sad news from YOUNG Mr Grace (PDM's Bro) That the playing of that classical dramatic piece by Fred Godfrey has been banned from being played in The HM Royal Marines Band. Tis indeed a sad occasion but I for one will continue to remember "NODDY" "THE PANTOMIME HORSE" "FATMAN BATMAN not forgetting HM Queen Elizabeth II laughing her crown off at the antics of a young HENRY VIII on board HMY Britannia. A Sad Sad day R.I.P. LUCY LONG Incidentally if anyone out there has a copy of the Bassoon Part I would be eternally thankful Roy (Aunt Lucy Retd)

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message #: 1276

Date: Wednesday November 28 2012 11:36:25 EST  
Name: Richard &#39;Dickie&#39; Valentine  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston Lancashire.  
Instrument/s: Clar/Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear friends I'm sure you will have noted that I have made good effort in supporting the idea of a revitalised WCR (West Country Reunion). Instead of the plethora of guest book entries somewhat over-riding the idea of what the GB is supposed to be and not a forum I have chosen to place appropriate messages pertaining to the 'idea' on the Notice Board. Having discussed this with a few others it is my opinion and has much support that now that Pete has left us and we know that it was his charisma and enthusiasm that drove the numbers toward the event that those of us who feel it in their hearts and minds should raise a glass in company with thoughts and memory regarding Pete Westaway. I TRULY THINK THAT HE MUST BE TELLING US ALL.....TO GET ON WITH OUR LIVES and not be dwelling on the past. This is NOT in any way to pour scorn on anyone's good intentions. Only a mere suggestion to let Pete rest and Joan his widow settle back in her solitude knowing how dear and memorable a life together they shared. I reiterate no 'scorn' intended but a respectful suggestion. You can be sure that I have already lifted MY glass to 'the man'. I wish e v e r y o n e.....a happy reflective healthy Christmas and it is my hope that a new year brings to all a better one than the past one. Truly Dickie.

---

message #: 1275

Date: Tuesday November 27 2012 15:11:02 EST  
Name: pete pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@talktalk.net

Service Number: rmb3861  
Hometown: exmouth  
Instrument/s: basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Rich just heard the sad news from Bill Sabine via facebook that Chris Thomas flute/piano passed away last night in Derriford hospital Plymouth.Bill will be posting funeral arrangements on facebook I will post them to your site asap Pendles

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1274

Date: Friday November 23 2012 15:17:37 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic9@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Firstly this is a belated report on the Funeral of the late Capt. Tom Lambert. It was attended by a good gathering and the band Service was represented by Barry Baker Ralph Payne who joined the Band Service in in 1941 in the squad before Tom's and myself. I had the extreme Honour of Saluting Tom on behalf of all those of you who served with him. A Bugler was provided by the Royal Australian Navy in the person of Petty Officer Paul West who had served with Tom in the RAN Reserve Band. This was arranged by Lt.Col Nick Grace through his contact with his counterpart in the RAN.

Music played was from the latest Disc we had of RM Bands "Summon the Heroes". Eternal Father and Sunset.

Playout was the theme music for the Television series "New Tricks" one of Tom's favorite shows. So we left with a smile. Tom's daughter Gillian has all of the condolence messages that many of you sent in a

Leather folder which will be kept by the family. She thanks you all and hopes to be able to acknowledge them all. Finally please note a change of my email address. It is now: jananderic9@gmail.com

---

message #: 1273

Date: Thursday November 8 2012 06:06:16 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: Greenwich LONDON  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Sad to hear of Tom Lambert's passing. He was a true gentleman as many have said. My own contact with him was minimal and restricted to the famous 1965 tour of USA. He was I recall a most approachable friendly and encouraging man and someone although an officer who retained the common touch. I remember him asking....yes... asking if he could observe my practising the flute in Canada Rd CHI I was working on the Poulenc Sonata which he found a fascinating piece and he asked many intelligent questions about the sonata as he had not had contact with any of Poulenc's works. I still practised in all of my spare time and spent all of my money on music and lessons in London and Tom's avuncular words of encouragement kept me going in my pursuit of a professional career which as it transpired correctly he predicted would be outside of the RMB Service. Good memories of a good man and a good life lived well.

---

message #: 1272

Date: Monday November 5 2012 15:49:54 EST  
Name: Roy Adrian  
Email: ra.adrian181@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB3647  
Hometown: Lincoln  
Instrument/s: Bassoon & Typewriter  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Dear Tom R.I.P. Thank you for your friendship what a gentleman you were. I knew you as the man with the baton on the rostrum and also as your Band Secretary in the office. What a joy it was to hear you playing your cello in the adjoining room - only to curse the phone ringing to interrupt the playing. Thank you for the memories and for making my RMB days so much happier. My Love and Thoughts to your family. ROY ADRIAN

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1271

Date: Sunday November 4 2012 17:34:04 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3242  
Hometown: Tennyson  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

I wish to join and condone all the comments made by Tom's Mates on your web site I am not able to attend the Funeral but I will be playing my "Bone at the Remembrance day service in Kurrajong N.S.W. at 1100 (Oz time) and observing a one minute silence that for me will be dedicated to Tom's memory may I suggest that for those of us who are unable to attend do the same as a tribute to our good friend & comrade. Dicky I don't know how but would it be possible to send a greeting from your site if you incur any cost with this perhaps we as a group could send funds to cover it? Yours faithfully Bill & Sylvia Matthews [Editor] I would like to think that someone could print off all relevant messages about dear Tom's passing to his family. I'm sure you mean a message of sympathy on behalf of us all?

---

message #: 1270

Date: Sunday November 4 2012 10:46:37 EST  
Name: Rodney Williamson  
Email: r.williamson500@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB3491  
Hometown: Whitstable  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

It was in the sixties that I was invited to take over the job of Band Secretary and PA to Tommy Lambert and how happy I was to accept. Tommy was such a nice guy (that thread runs through everyone's comments) and a real joy to work for (and with). It was such a shock when he said that he was off to Australia but I imagine that our loss was Australia's gain. I thank Tom for his wisdom and tolerance in those early years of my administration training - he taught me much more than I had expected (in particular how to get hold of and organise the best Cat IV's)! A fine musician and a real gentleman that I was able to call a friend. RIP Tom Rodney Williamson

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message #: 1269

Date: Friday November 2 2012 10:55:36 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

**Comments:**

R.I.P. My dear Tom Lambert. Tom always addressed me as My Dear Bill so appropriate that my message records that. Yours aye Bill Hartland.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1268

Date: Friday November 2 2012 07:15:07 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Clar/Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Happy anniversary to 4/65 squad who joined up this day 2nd November 1965. 47 years ago! Shriek! I'll raise a glass or two later for us all. Pete Holloway Alan Upton Ray Lloyd Andy Cunningham besides myself and a very few others long time not seen. Cheers! Dickie.

---

message #: 1267

Date: Thursday November 1 2012 12:08:48 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Have just heard the sad news of dear Tom Lambert. As Graham has already said he was an icon in the Band Service to all of us who served during that time. Many of us will have fond memories of Tom as mess mate Cpl Sgt and Bandmaster on a ship or shore establishment and finally as Director of Music Captain Tom of the Pompey Band. I have many great memories of him as a cellist in the concert hall in Deal in the 50s along with the likes of Doug Haigh & Dennis Dent who were all an inspiration to us up and coming young players like Kempton Fielding Smith and myself. He took no truck from Fred and I like to think that was helpful to me when I had to face him later as B/M of the Staff Band. Over the last few years I have been able to attend the down under reunion in Adelaide a few times and always spent time having long chats about former colleagues with Tom and Marge but now they are both gone and that delight will no longer be there. My sincere condolences to all Tom's family. Michael Hutton.

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message #: 1266

Date: Thursday November 1 2012 06:30:14 EST  
Name: Graham Hoskins  
Email: graham.hoskins@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x 2687  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Clar/Vln/Sax/Baton  
n/a:

Comments:  
There is absolutely no doubt that Tom Lambert was a Band Service icon. Those who had the privilege of serving with him knew him to be a talented musician with particular skill as a cellist and with a deep interest in the orchestral repertoire. Only in recent years and having purchased a new instrument in the forlorn hope of continuing did he find that ill health began to erode his ability and he laid down his bow for the final time. Until he left the Corps to go off for a new life in Australia he was widely respected throughout the naval service and known to be popular with members of the royal family when embarked with his band in the Royal Yacht Britannia. Tom never lost his enthusiasm for the Band Service and his admiration for those serving today was a joy to see. In particular he appreciated the recognition now afforded to the old Royal Naval School of Music that he had initially joined. He felt that its wartime exploits had been largely sidelined following the setting up of the modern Band Service. It is greatly to his credit that his efforts to redress this situation were eventually successful. Tom Lambert was a Leader in every sense of the word. He had unflinching confidence and was one of very few prepared to stand up to FVD in the first half of the last century when to do so was to risk the curtailment of a promising career. Tom was a gentleman of courage and intellect. After a long and distinguished life his passing will be mourned by those whose own lives he touched albeit briefly. Quite simply he was one of the very best.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1265

Date: Thursday November 1 2012 03:32:18 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3242  
Hometown: Tennyson  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Yes I too have fond memories of Tom (The Gentle Man) Lambert when he organized his Band to come and give us a concert at the St Mary's Band Club a long time ago now I hope that my memory is correct Cliff Reace (Ex RAAF) was our Bandmaster then. I wholly agree with all that you wrote Dicky. He will be sorely missed at next years 'Ozzy Reunion a great Leader has been lost to us Thanks for the times when you helped us lesser Muso's to overcome the demands of "A Life on the Ocean Wave" rest in peace Tom I hope to see you again some day. God's blessings to the family and all who remember such a fine Man. Love to all Bill & Sylvia Matthews.

---

message #: 1264

Date: Wednesday October 31 2012 20:35:46 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Richard I have been given permission by Tom Lambert's daughter to pass on her SNAIL MAIL ADDRESS and also an EMAIL address for those who would wish to send condolence messages. They are as follows: Tom's Grandson's Email Address is dalela@bigpond.com.au His daughter: Ms. Gillian Pearse 110 Osbourne Ave. Woodville Park South Australia 5011 It is hoped that funeral arrangements will be known ASAP. It is hoped that all will be arranged for Friday 09 11 12 but still awaiting confirmation. Now also while I'm here would any of those who served with Tom and I didn't if they could send me any stories of their time with him to be included in an Obituary. This I feel would be better coming direct to me at the above Email Address.

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message #: 1263

Date: Wednesday October 31 2012 13:05:35 EST  
Name: Barry Jenkins  
Email: tromb123@australia.edu

Service Number: R/62272  
Hometown: DUBBO  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Very saddened to hear of Tom Lambert's passing. One of nature's gentlemen. Barry

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1262

Date: Wednesday October 31 2012 11:12:29 EST  
Name: Richard &#39;Dickie&#39; Valentine  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston Lancashire.  
Instrument/s: Clar/Piano  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Although I never actually met Captain 'Tommy' Lambert as he had just left what was Portsmouth Group Band and replaced by the then Captain Jim Mason who took over as we became known as CinC Nav Home. During my final weeks on board HMS Eagle I had requested a return to HMS Excellent thinking that I was going to slip back into the regime I had left behind some 18 months prior. It was a rude awakening. At least for a short time as I became to realize very quickly how lucky I was being in the company of many musicians who had served with Tom Lambert and their musicianship and cameraderie I have etched into my heart and my soul. I will be ever grateful to my mentor and solo stand colleague Malcolm Kennard who encouraged me taught me shared with me his love of music of all kinds. Since the inception of this behemoth [www.exroyalmarinesbandsmen.net](http://www.exroyalmarinesbandsmen.net) back in 1996 Tom Lambert had been a constant contributor in several ways including his extra generous giving by way of voluntary subscription in recognition of my efforts. Even though we had never met 'eye to eye' in the past we built up a friendship and a respectful musical rapport and we were exchanging music and thoughts only days before his swift departure from this life. I will always be grateful for my good fortune in knowing him talking with him (SKYPE) and exchanging texts and written letters. He was a kind and generous man and I know that having read so many thoughts and wishes dedicated to him that he was a guiding light in our midst.. My thoughts and my prayers are with his family at this time. I'm sure that I speak for all of us who knew of Tom and whether they served with him or not he surely was an icon of his time. Sincerely with sorrow and gladness. Richard - RIP Tom.

---

message #: 1261

Date: Wednesday October 31 2012 10:08:54 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

**Comments:**

I was sorry to hear of Tom Lambert's passing. He was my first DoM as a young musician straight from "The Box" in January 1960. Tom was boss of the band in "Drake" and along with others taught me so much about being a member of the RM Band Service. Tom was a fine boss and also a good (and fit ) sportsman playing Football and Hockey for the band. RIP Tom I have many happy memories of my time under your baton.  
Mike

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message #: 1260

Date: Wednesday October 31 2012 09:50:18 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email: jemtugwood@sky.com

Service Number: RMB3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Clar/alto and Vln  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

So sorry to hear of the passing of Capt.Tom Lambert whom I served with for many years at Portsmouth and on the Royal Yacht Britannia. Tom was a very fine musician and although we occasionally didn't quite see eye to eye I had a lot of respect for him and his professional capabilities he was always ready to give advice to young musicians and I know he was a great believer in fine orchestral and military band music and always gave of his best. He also enjoyed the finesse of the dance and jazz bands under the direction of his very dear friend Maxie Beare who I will add gave me my chance in the dance band in such places as Reid's Hotel in Maderia Bora Bora and many many other exotic places we had the pleasure of visiting on our travels after that I never looked back. They were great days and Tom always gave of his best he was well respected and liked on the yacht and indeed wherever we travelled to and I offer my sincere condolences to his family and all his friends and acquaintances I know he will be sady missed by everyone who had the pleasure of knowing him RIP Tom Jem

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1259

Date: Wednesday October 31 2012 07:05:10 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Very sad news indeed about dear Tom. I had the pleasure like Maxie and many others to serve with him both at Deal and Portsmouth many fond and happy memories especially from the 1965 Tour of America where although Tom was Fred's No2 at times he was still one of the lads. RIP Tom my sincere condolences to his surviving family and all who knew and had the pleasure not only having served with him but knew as a friend. Captain Lewis Thomas Lambert RIP.

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message #: 1258

Date: Wednesday October 31 2012 05:47:55 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email: keng0iti@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sad news when I looked at the Website this morning. Dear Tommy Lambert's passing away after falling ill quite recently. It's not so long ago since we had a chat on Skype. We were Band boys together and our paths crossed many times although I never served with him or under his Baton. My sincere condolences go to his family. RIP Tommy.

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message #: 1257

Date: Wednesday October 31 2012 01:10:06 EST  
Name: Bernard S Beare  
Email:

Service Number: RMB X 2234  
Hometown: Orewa  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I am so distressed at the passing of my very dear friend Tom Lambert we served only a short time together but during that time I learned more in more ways than just music Tom was up and til this very morning my dear friend. We corresponded regular met on more than one occasion in Adelaide and now Sir you are about to meet up with dear Marge so from Kath and myself RIP old and respected friend God Bless. Max and Katherine x

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1256

Date: Tuesday October 30 2012 22:41:58 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aonet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Gillian Pearce the daughter of Capt Lewis Thomas Lambert MVO RM rtd. has asked me to pass on the news that Tom passed away this morning 31st October 2012. Arrangements will be notified later.

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message #: 1255

Date: Friday October 26 2012 00:15:56 EST  
Name: Bob Chumley  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3195  
Hometown: Adelaide  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard I am finally home after 17 days in hospital for treatment of an infection in the donor sights in my legs. I would like to thank you and everyone who has sent best wishes and prayers for my recovery. I am off to NZ on Thursday of next week for 10 days with all 3 doctor's blessings. I hope to be able to catch up with Maxie & other RMB's while I am in Auckland. Once again thank you all I really appreciated your messages of support. It reminds me of the fellowship that we had and still have being Royal Marine Bandsmen. Cheers  
Bob

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message #: 1254

Date: Tuesday October 23 2012 06:27:14 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to all Heather and I have finally made it home after our trip to Portsmouth for this years reunion. After not attending the last two through illness it was just great to meet up with so many 'old friends'. Saturday evening was just brilliant. Sunday turned out to be rather traumatic for us both. Heather was taken ill towards the end of the fantastic 'Memorial Service'. She was duly attended by a very caring 'Para Medic' named Paul. I am pleased to say that Heather is now fine after being checked over both in Portsmouth and at home yesterday. We would both like to say, "Many Thanks" for all the messages we have received and say thank you in particular to Merv and Sue Durrant, Brother Terry Puttrell Brian and Carole Thorogood and everyone at the Cathedral. We look forward to seeing you all again next year. For those who didn't make it.. Give some thought to attending next year. You will not regret it. I promise!!!! Regards to all Barry and Heather

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1253

Date: Monday October 22 2012 05:43:17 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Well so soon after a great weekend at Portsmouth for the Reunion another one is already on the line. Great early warning this time the Reunion for 2013 is to be held on Saturday and Sunday 12th and 13th of October 2013 more info ASAP. This gives plenty of time to save up your pennies and make your plans to be there. My best to you all.  
Mik H

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message #: 1252

Date: Sunday October 21 2012 13:50:05 EST  
Name: Brian Thorogood  
Email: Brian.thorogood@sky.com

Service Number: RMB3456  
Hometown: Romford  
Instrument/s: Clarinet & Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I must say the reunion last weekend was superb the Junior band gave a fanstic display and the singer in the mess was very good. My wife was a bit nervous about coming again as last year there were not a lot of wives but this year she met a few wives who had not been for a couple of years and enjoyed herself. I notice this year there were a few from Deal whom I new from my time in the band let's hope next year the attendance will continue to grow.  
Best regards to those who know me. Brain Thorogood

---

message #: 1251

Date: Sunday October 21 2012 12:25:19 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury North Somerset.  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Following on with my Skype conversation with my fellow squaddie Eric Hayward who I wished I had known lived in Kangaroo Flat a suburb of Bendigo City Victoria State I could have made a reunion with him far earlier so my belated thanks to Tom Lambert who put me in touch with Eric albeit at a latter stage as I have been visiting distant relatives for some years before I became aware of the whereabouts of Eric. For the benefit of those who don't know what I refer to it is that the Hartland Family held a Family Reunion in Huntly just a tad North of Bendigo City every three years which attracted family members from all over the World. but that's another story.... Of all those listed in Eric's recollection there are those who I know or believe to know who have crossed the Bar a Nautical Term for those who have no experience of Sea Time.... They are:- Jock Cassidy Dave Chambers Dave Chivers Bobby Loft Jock Mackay ( First WO1 in the Band Service) Mal Waites and Roy Wilson the latter being the first one to cross the bar and whose father I recall was in the Trio who played in the Universal Hotel on Main Street Gibraltar for some years.... Roy Wilson was my fellow Solo Clarinet student and it was a Toss Up between him and I who received the Prize of the Most Prominent Student in their first year and my Prize was the book Elementary Harmony by Kitson which I have now passed onto my eldest granddaughter who plays Trumpet Classical Guitar and Bass Guitar and a number of Keyboards and is currently studying for her Degree to become a Doctor of Medicine.... I could go on and on but would like to mention that the WCR is very much on the horizon so if you receive a telephone call from me in the very near future it will be to ask you if you will support the WCR in memory of the late Pete Westaway. You have been advised.... Yours aye  
Bill Hartland Editor www.hmsgambia.com and guest editor of HMS Kenya Association

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1250

Date: Sunday October 21 2012 10:17:03 EST  
Name: Ray Edwards  
Email: britrm6@aol.com

Service Number: RMB3621/Q003621H  
Hometown: Redneck Riviera South Carolina USA  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Ian Know the face but can't place the name sorry. The "boy" center front row is Alan Brown (horn)  
RIP. My mess corporal on the Centaur early 60's. I remember you from St. Vincent just after that time. If I  
remember correctly you had a red three wheel MG or Morgan which you flipped and almost tore your ear off. Best  
wishes Ray (Lofty)

---

message #: 1249

Date: Saturday October 20 2012 16:06:56 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard Just thought that some may remember that today is TRAFALGAR DAY. Now this day  
may seem unimportant to most but to the following it was a very life changing day indeed. It was the day 60 years ago  
that all of them first walked through the gates of East Barracks Deal and became members of HM Royal Marines as either  
"BOY" musicians or "Boy" Buglers. They were Bunny Austin Mick  
Beer Bright Burgess Bill Busby Cassidy Chambers Cawthorne Chivers Curtis Dallaway Forbes Gough Bill Hartland Hayward  
Heath Higginson Hughes Hunter Johnson Charlie Laws Bob Loft Jock Mackay Martin Brian Oates Potter Powell John Rolph Ian  
Shawcross Barry Shucksmith Sciviter Scidmore Stringer Thomas Waites Wilkinson Wilson and George Wood. There may be a  
few others and your readers may well dispute my list. Now I wonder what happened to all of those chaps and if  
they are thinking of the other chaps that may have become lifelong friends or not. Happy memories

---

message #: 1248

Date: Thursday October 18 2012 14:00:03 EST  
Name: Ian Epps  
Email: ianepps@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX2698  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Trombone & VBI Baton  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I attended the Reunion with Terry Parker and our wives last weekend and what a superb time we had on both days.  
Terry had come down and was staying with me an arrangement that we have been following for a few years.  
At Saturday's evening meeting we were back in the Senior Rates Mess and what a joy it was. The organizing group from  
the school put on an evening I will long remember. The mess was packed when we got there but we found room for a drink  
before it was off to the gym for the band display. I filmed it all last year and put it on "YOU-TUBE" but  
this year I just sat back and enjoyed it. When we returned to the mess an excellent curry with wine had been laid on.  
Again excellent organization plenty of both food and wine for all including members of the band who joined us. I  
personally met people who I hadn't seen in very many years including Sid Rose my old Bandmaster in HMS St. Vincent.  
Merve Durrent joined us and then it was a laugh a minute when recollections were raised. I was also reminded of an  
incident when I lost a trombone slide over the side of a quarterdeck in Plymouth harbour. We had come from HMS Drake to  
do a "Guard & Band". It was a bitter cold day no gloves "Band Ready" the trombone came up and  
the little finger was dead and the slide finished up in the water. The Admiral laughed it seems but the band officer  
didn't nor did the diver who went down later in the morning and retrieved my slide. This year there was no wait  
outside before the Memorial Service in the Cathedral on Sunday. The place was packed and the music prior to the service  
was as always excellent and we were treated to a violin solo that was a joy to the ear just the right sound for the  
service that followed. The orchestra and choir seems to get better every year. The ex PDM line-up was very impressive.  
There is never enough time afterwards to chat to all your old "bandmates" as some have to  
travel long distances to get home. It was an excellent weekend and my thanks go to all who made it so because a lot of  
hours were spent to make sure that all the i's were dotted and the t's were crossed. THANK YOU ALL.  
Best regards Ian "Eggy" Epps

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1247

Date: Wednesday October 17 2012 04:38:06 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Bob Chumley's wife Carol has asked me to advise all who were so kind as to send get well greetings for Bob that he has been back in hospital for over a week now. His heart operation went well and his recovery is on track however he has infection in both legs where veins were removed to use for bypasses. Carol has been run off her feet however when able Bob and Carol will personally thank each of you. Cheers Eric Hayward

---

message #: 1246

Date: Tuesday October 16 2012 15:38:52 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Thanks to Ray Lloyd for the update on Stan Hacking and the list now stands at nine in number so softly softly appears to be the order of the day.. I am anticipating that I will receive names and addresses of those who have attended the WCR in previous years so I may just compose a letter and send out invites to those who are not apparently online and so may not know of my intention to rekindle the WCR even if it is just for one more year and in memory of my old friend Pete Westaway. It would be helpful if anyone who is interested if they could indicate if they would seek to make their own accommodation arrangements or would they be happy to have my tour organiser do it on their and our behalf also would you wish to have a formal dinner or just a buffet as in the past? All suggestions welcome for consideration and if anyone can get in touch with the Plymouth Bretheren and advise them of what is afoot that would be a tremendous help. Most West Country musicians still live in the Devon and Cornwall Region as I understand it so lots of publicity required to arouse interest I suppose? Thanking everyone in anticipation of some positive support. Yours aye Bill Hartland.

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message #: 1245

Date: Tuesday October 16 2012 09:46:58 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
I am delighted to hear this years reunion has gone well my thoughts were with all those who attended. For the last 20 years I have been an FA Referee Instructor and have had a course running at the same time (I did manage to get a sub in for a couple) but I have told the FA I will not be running one next year so I can be free to attend health permitting. For the attention of Bill Hartland I have spoken to Stan Hacking and he would attend the WCR (health permitting) so another to add to the list. Best wishes to all Ray

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1244

Date: Monday October 15 2012 13:35:10 EST  
Name: Derek Roberts  
Email: soloclart@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3914  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Clart/violin/sax  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Attended the annual reunion last weekend at HMS Nelson in Portsmouth. I am sure others will agree what a great evening it was. Good to be back in the Sgts mess. Junior band gave a fantastic performance as usual. Thanks to all concerned in making it so.

---

message #: 1243

Date: Saturday October 13 2012 06:33:07 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Thank you to the few who have made contact with me ref a Reunion in Memory of the Late Peter Westaway and I can now try to proceed as Joan Westaway has now made contact with me to tell me that she is delighted that someone has taken the initiative in trying to resurrect something which Pete did for six years and which ordinarily Pete would have carried on even though it appears that he suffered some financial loss in the process. So far I have had seven positive responders but am not disheartened as not everyone is on the Internet. I will now contact my Tour Organiser and invite her to put the questions to the China Fleet Club and see what they have to say. I hope that through the grapevine in the Senior Rates Bar this weekend that some will mention this matter for the interest of others? Do expect an email or letter from me in due course as Joan Westaway is to furnish me with a list of addresses of all those who have attended the West Country Reunion in the past..... Kind regards Yours aye Bill Hartland. Editor www.hmsgambia.com

---

message #: 1242

Date: Tuesday October 9 2012 04:44:17 EST  
Name: Dave Seed  
Email: dseed78739@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 4084  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Flue/Tenor Sax  
n/a:

Comments:  
Richard Sadly due to other commitments I will not be able to attend this years reunion I can't remember the last time I missed one it must have been nearly 20 years ago. Although I will not be there in person I will be in spirit and I will lift a glass on Saturday evening to wish you all well. Have a great time Best wishes Dave

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1241

Date: Monday October 8 2012 09:51:30 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dave Ah 1868. If I remember that will be 1908 or 8 minutes past seven!!!! Mike

---

message #: 1240

Date: Sunday October 7 2012 04:51:05 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Mike Are you sure its not 1868? Dave

---

message #: 1239

Date: Sunday October 7 2012 04:29:06 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Good on yer Dave now you can buy me that beer you have owed me since 1968!! Look forward to seeing you and swinging the lamp again. Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1238

Date: Sunday October 7 2012 03:35:37 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Rich I think that the idea of a reunion in memory of Pete Westaway is a very good one. I for one will attend whatever format is decided. Dave Lambert

---

message #: 1237

Date: Saturday October 6 2012 06:44:36 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
As the date approaches ever so quickly and my being so busy with this that and the other may I remind those who remain from our intake that our Sixtieth Anniversary of the day we entered the Honoured Portals of the Royal Marines School of Music on October 21st 1952. Sadly the only one who I have any contact with is RMBX3051 Eric Hayward and it is such a long way for me to travel to be able to celebrate with him and Jan.... Trafalgar Day for those of you who are not familiar with the date..... Very disappointed with the few who have indicated willingness to join in a West Country Reunion in memory of Pete Westaway and my tour operator requires a minimum number to make it worth while to take on the arrangements. So while some of you are enjoying hospitality in Pompey next weekend maybe you could slip into your conversations a suggestion to others that the WCR is in the offing? Yours aye Bill Hartland editor www.hmsgambia.com

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message #: 1236

Date: Friday October 5 2012 06:22:30 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Mick Sorry to here that you will be absent next week and for a good reason I will raise a glass or two to you of your chosen spirit. As for your lads dwindling 2 56 I guess mine from 1 56 are as well . Stay well and hopefully we will see you next year.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1235

Date: Wednesday October 3 2012 02:17:37 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi all I can't be with you in Pompey or is it Pompei!!! next weekend. I have a family committment but will be with you all in spirit (Probably Gin). Have a good'un it is good to hear that Barry R is back in circulation. There can't be many of us 2/56 squad left. Best wishes Mike

---

message #: 1234

Date: Tuesday October 2 2012 19:04:23 EST  
Name: Tony Hunter (Overton)  
Email: tonyhnr@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 3999  
Hometown: kennethmont Huntly Aberdeenshire  
Instrument/s: cornet and violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
This is one for Bill Hartland? My father served on HMS Gambia with the Royal Marine Detachment and I know Peter Westaway knew him and I wondered if you knew him and could tell me something about him. His name was Fred Overton and served on Gambia about the same time you did. Could you please tell me something about him if you knew him. I know he was a bit of a rebel and we came down to Chatham when Gambia payed off in the late 50s I am trying to put together some of his history and hope you can help.

---

message #: 1233

Date: Tuesday October 2 2012 16:35:23 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: rmb3645  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s: cornet n Scrapebox  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Mike Sorry I'm going to miss your cans of San Miguel at the stage door this w/e! Regarding who's round it may be at the Nelson shindig? I always remember who's round it is despite my advancing years! Oddly I can never remember where I put my specs or why I went up the stairs or why I expected to find a pair of pliers in the fridge etc; but put me into a pub or any bar and amazingly I seem to regain a perfect memory that it's definitely NOT my round! I can therefore only deduce that it must be yours or Roger's!!!!? CU and many others at the Rum Barrel no doubt ! Derek PS Good to see the rejuvenated bionic Baz Radford back again too! Lush Ush!

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1232

Date: Tuesday October 2 2012 11:41:58 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Derek Good advert sorry I will not be able to make this one so cans by the stage door is not on this time. But no doubt it will be beers all round next week in Portsmouth. Is it mine yours or Dave's or is it about time Roger H dug deep????? See you there YES?

---

message #: 1231

Date: Tuesday October 2 2012 09:32:11 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to all Pleased to say that Heather and I will be in Portsmouth for the reunion next week. 'Gizmo' is working fantastically well! In the last 6 weeks I have also had cataracts removed from both eyes!!! So I should be able to see you all in 'HD'!!! Also been in touch with Bill Hartland to lend support to any 'West Country Reunion' which will be a fitting tribute to Peter. (I know what it takes to organise these things so come on all of us that are fit enough. Give some support ) Regards to all Barry and Heather

---

message #: 1230

Date: Monday October 1 2012 17:39:50 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet n Scrapebox  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello to all former RMBs' in the Kent regions. I'm borrowing some space here (Thanks Rich!) to do a cheeky advert for the Pompey based Royal Marines Association Concert Band to let you all know that we shall be appearing once again at the Winter Gardens Margate this coming Sunday 7th October at 3 p.m. THIS CONCERT WILL ALSO FEATURE THE CORPS OF DRUMS OF THE BAND OF HM ROYAL MARINES PORTSMOUTH (ROYAL BAND) for some added panache! Tickets are Â£12, Â£13 and Â£14 available only via Mike Scurfield at Cinque Ports Music and NOT the Winter Gardens Box Office. Tel him on 01304 210600 or 01304 827391 Please come along if you're able and bring your own lemons to suck (if you must) at all of your old comrades !! There's bound to be one of us there that you'll know to chew over old times together before at the interval or after the show! We're a decent band now and therefore no ear plugs will be required! Margate inviting us back is a pretty good endowment I'd say! It's all once again under the baton of Capt Dave Cole. See you there. Love Derek. (End of commercial!)

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1229

Date: Monday October 1 2012 16:35:39 EST  
Name: Dickie  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a:

Comments:  
Until I hear otherwise the latest news about Maxie Beare is that he's had another stroke and that he's on the mend. However I'm sure that all those of us who know Bernard will want to send our best wishes to him. Since their move from their beloved home to more of an assisted living arrangement Maxie and Kath's lives have taken a drastic but necessary change. Let's all let them know we are thinking of them. Get well Maxie. Richard Valentine.

---

message #: 1228

Date: Monday October 1 2012 15:49:26 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello Friends I wish to thank the very few who have so far made an indication in regard to a West Country Reunion in 2013. I have to say that in order to make this event happen the Tour Organiser would ideally require a minimum number to take up a firm booking before we can say let's go ahead. 50 or 60 would be an ideal number which would give them some bargaining power in getting prices reduced get my drift? This would for me be a one off event and I have asked for it in memory of Peter Westaway my old pal shipmate and sporting opponent on many occasions so if you are able to spread the word then please do so. Guest Book messages often fall off the open page so get forgotten unless someone does a scroll to the next and subsequent pages which is understandable..... Many thanks. Yours aye Bill.

---

message #: 1227

Date: Monday October 1 2012 09:01:58 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard and all Reference to Mike Hickman's letter re Re-unions unfortunately I am unable to attend as despite the fact it is a year since my last chemo therapy sessions I suffer from extreme tiredness during certain parts of the day and this means I have to lie down and sleep. My brain is finding it difficult to accept this change in life but the staff at the hospital say that I have to listen to my body!! Sorry friends in the exRMB but who knows maybe I'll get back to normal one day! Best wishes to you. Mike. [Editor] Many of us know how challenged you are Mike. I detect some understandable anguish and a little despair. Please know that I for one think of you and your plight often and I'm sure that many others do also. I shall raise a glass to you at the reunion.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1226

Date: Sunday September 30 2012 04:23:45 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Yes I agree it would be a fitting tribute to Peter Westaway if a West Country Reunion could be arranged I never served in the west country but I (like many others) have attended the said function and really enjoyed it. As for it being talked about at the Portsmouth bash in two weeks time I ask the question will those who are talking about it on this site be there to put their points across??? I could mention some who will not be there but I will not. For those of you that will be there I am looking forward to seeing you again this year.

---

message #: 1225

Date: Saturday September 29 2012 16:30:17 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Anyone who had difficulty in contacting me by email try Billhartland@hmsgambia.com or Billhartland@btinternet.com by double clicking on any email address should automatically default to your email programme. Once the Annual Reunion is over perhaps we may be able to take stock of the issue and with the assistance of the web master of this site we can manage something definite? The beauty of using Isle of Wight Tours is that they arrange collection and payment of monies to the venue so no problems for anyone of us in arranging things. The Format as such can be determined by a collection of options to be decided upon by ourselves. Main objective for me is to hold a Reunion in Memory of Peter Westaway and for no other reason really. Kind regards Yours aye Bill.

---

message #: 1224

Date: Saturday September 29 2012 06:38:28 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
For Bill Hartland Hi Bill I have already emailed to let you know that i am interested but just re-confirming this I would be happy with any arrangements given enough time! Come on lads lets have a local Get together Pete would have wanted that if unable to contact Bill using the link in these pages (I couldn't) just put a message on here. Perhaps it could be discussed at the main Reunion! Cheers Ray

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1223

Date: Friday September 28 2012 13:24:28 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: rmbx3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
My sincere thanks to the one or two who have indicated an interest in the West Country Reunion but there has to be a far greater interest for me to proceed with it. So please do get in touch and let me know whether or not you are up for it? At this time my sole aim is to hold a reunion in memory of Peter Westaway and then let things take its natural course from there on. You don't have to have known or served with Pete to attend just attend in his memory like???? Kind regards  
Bill Hartland.

---

message #: 1222

Date: Friday September 28 2012 09:37:39 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Everyone I am most grateful to the few who have indicated that they would support by attendance a Reunion Weekend in 2013 but to allow me to go ahead with contacting the Organisation who would undertake this unenviable task I believe that there will have to be a more positive response for me to proceed with inviting anyone to take on this responsibility and fundamental expense. If there is a true response to my suggestion then please write to me at editorbill@hmsgambia.com indicating exactly what your requirements and expectations are. For myself I have the utmost regard for the I.O.W. Tours who have arranged more than one or two Reunions for the HMS Gambia Association and have no reservations in asking them to do what Peter Westaway would have done save that they are in a better position to take on this task. Question to ask yourselves are Do you want a Full three night weekend reunion? Do you or would you rather have a two night weekend reunion? Do you just want to attend an evening reunion party? Would it have to be held in the China Fleet Club in Saltash? Or would it have to be in an Hotel of your choice? The questions I could pose are endless so please do give me an indication which would embrace all of the things which you would wish to see and have. Once I have a distinct indication of what the majority would wish to have for a Reunion then I would put it to my contacts to arrange and they could give a full indication of what the cost would be. All arrangements including the Hotel Costs and Insurance are undertaken by the Organisers so no worries that any individual would have to be concerned about collecting monies or dealing with any problems. Kind regards  
Yours aye Bill Hartland.

---

message #: 1221

Date: Thursday September 27 2012 19:41:08 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi all I posted a sad message on here on the 24th about the circumstance of the passing of COLIN HUGHES. He was run down on the pavement outside the RAN Band accommodation in Cairns North Queensland and was killed. He was reported to be 45 years old. He had only been a member of the RAN Band for a short time after moving to Oz recently. The RAN band were on duty in Cairns as part of Navy Week. The offending "driver" was drunk at the time and was arrested at the scene. I apologise for the mis-spelling of Colin's surname and this may be the reason for the lack of response from those who may have known him. As a 45 year old Colour Sergeant then some of you out there would be aware of his existence. If it is at all possible would some one please pass on the condolences of the ex RMBs here in Oz. to Colin's family. Thank you.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1220

Date: Thursday September 27 2012 13:03:43 EST  
Name: Sidney Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi All. So pleased to see that Bob Chumley is recovering from his operation. Bob and I joined up together in Jan 1954 as sweet loving dear little band boys. How the years have flown. To Bob and his family I wish you a speedy recovery. Sorry I won't be at the reunion this year. To all that will be attending I hope you have a great week-end and I will raise a glass to you and all absent comrades. Sid.

---

message #: 1219

Date: Thursday September 27 2012 03:33:42 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Bill Just read your posting on the website. I for one would be interested in joining you at a future reunion in the West country. I am sure that we could get a car load from here in darkest Kent. Hope you are well. Greetings to all former RMBs out there. Mike

---

message #: 1218

Date: Monday September 24 2012 17:15:23 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX 3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Rich and your ardent followers? Having just returned from our Annual General Meeting (HMS Gambia Association) I am minded that with the passing of the late Peter Westaway there are sufficient of us remaining who would wish to continue the West Country Reunion at least in Memory of the late Peter Westaway who did his utmost best to keep us together despite his own health failings.... Please consider assisting in this endeavour by inviting our -West Country - RMB Friends to contact me and then I will put it forward to the Business who would take on this onerous task on our behalf? The 'Business' being the Isle of Wight Tours who ran and managed our Reunion in Huddersfield this past weekend. Yours aye Bill. Editor [www.hmsgambia.com](http://www.hmsgambia.com)

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1217

Date: Monday September 24 2012 03:58:59 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:  
Sad news just received via Mark Jones of Australian Army Band. COLIN HUGHS Ex RMB serving with Royal Australian Navy Band was struck and killed by a DRUNK driver in Cairns North Queensland. Condolences to his family and friends from all of us ex RMBs out here.

---

message #: 1216

Date: Sunday September 23 2012 21:31:19 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:  
Carol Chumley has asked me on behalf of Bob to provide this update on Bob. Bob had his heart Op on Friday and what was thought to be only a double bypass turned into a Five (repeat Five) valve bypasses. He was kept in an induced coma for twenty four hours but is now out of ICU and is in the heart ward where he is sore but aware. He was grateful to be told that so many of you had sent messages of support and Carol will reply to each and every one when time is easier.

---

message #: 1215

Date: Saturday September 22 2012 04:47:02 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: 3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
If any of you are ever feeling down I implore you to listen to a "Tribute to Chiz Bishop" on the notice board. It is quite the most amazing version of Take the A Train I have ever heard. Truly uplifting on a sad day. RIP Chiz - Dickie

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1214

Date: Saturday September 22 2012 04:16:19 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: Q003859C/RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
22 September... RIP the eleven. Words are not enough.

---

message #: 1213

Date: Wednesday September 19 2012 17:01:53 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:  
For those who are interested Bob Chumley enters hospital in Adelaide today Thursday 20th September for Heart OP tomorrow. Messages of good cheer can be sent to chummers@optusnet.com.au I'm sure Bob and Carol will appreciate your support.

---

message #: 1212

Date: Wednesday September 12 2012 03:43:56 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dotty's funeral will be held at Barham Crematorium (off the A2 south of Canterbury) on Wednesday 19th September at 1520hrs. Tony O

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1211

Date: Wednesday September 12 2012 03:39:50 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email: anthonyoliver@fsmail.net

Service Number: 3975  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

It is with deep sadness that I have to inform you of the passing of Dorothy Amy Dacombe the widow of the late Jack Dacombe ex RMB BBC Variety Orchestra and Professor of Trombone RMSM. Dotty passed away peacefully on Thursday 6th September at The Knoll nursing home in Walmer. I am sure I was one of many who used to visit them in their cottage on Church Path Deal (still owned by Dotty) from 1963 onwards. I have been very fortunate to have known them very well and I have been privileged to be Dotty's close friend since Jack died in 1993. She was bright and sharp witted to the end and I will miss my weekly visits very much. She always talked very fondly of Jack's boys and was always interested in The RM Band news I was able to pass on. RIP Dotty and enjoy your reunion with Jack.  
Tony O

---

message #: 1210

Date: Saturday September 8 2012 07:55:17 EST  
Name: A.K.Busby [Oggie]  
Email: alankeith.busby@sky.com

Service Number: RMB 3784  
Hometown: Helston Cornwall  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

What a shock to hear about Ackers. We were in the same C G squad and at Condor together 66-68 and have kept in touch ever since. Hoping things will soon improve. Thinking of Sheila and family at this time.

---

message #: 1209

Date: Tuesday September 4 2012 05:29:19 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: alianraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Hi Bill Re a West Country Reunion I for one would attend and I know of several others who will if they can  
Cheers Ray

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1208

Date: Monday September 3 2012 17:15:30 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aonet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:  
Roy would the "oggie" Busby by any chance be Bill Busby( Flute and piano) who would have been in J wing with me in 1952/55. If so and you still have contact could you please give him a "wakeup" and tell him I'd like to get in touch.

---

message #: 1207

Date: Monday September 3 2012 12:11:55 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a:

Comments:  
Having just returned home from a short foray down into East Devon I chanced upon one Ed Pescud and his lovely wife Barbara in Sidmouth. During our short walk from town to car park Ed and I had a repress of our past in the Band Service and we both got onto the subject of the West Country Reunion and I suggested that we should at the very least hold another reunion in remembrance of Peter Westaway who passed earlier this year and who took it upon himself to try to galvanise enough enthusiasm to those of us who had served in various bands in the West Country to come together by way of Fellowship and to remember the good times and the not so good times although on reflection we didn't have a bad time like those who went before us in WW2 and Korea! So what say you stalwarts before it is too late? Do you wish to hold a reunion not a morbid celebration but a Reunion which would celebrate the 'Life and Times of my Old Band Boy Fo' and my Old Shipmate on HMS Gambia Peter Westaway? Pete packed a powerful punch for those of you who never knew him he being a Light Cruiser Weight and Me being a mere Light Welter Weight! Kidney Punches were not a foul according to Pete! Others may also recall his style when he got physical????? Now my humble apologies to Syd as written about by my other old squaddie Eric Hayward. I would have hoped that my passing your email address to another old shipmate of mine from the East Indies days who also lives in Rockingham you would have responded to his email to you inviting you to the RNA in Rockingham? Please do try and make a response to TC if you would wish to please me. Thanks to all and may there be an abundance of repied into my Inbox ref a Reunion soon???? Yours aye  
Bill. Editor [www.hmsgambia.com](http://www.hmsgambia.com)

---

message #: 1206

Date: Sunday September 2 2012 09:20:02 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Bassonaphone  
n/a:

Comments:  
I am going to be in Cornwall from 8 Sept - 18 Sept 2012 if there are any "old" Bandies out there who remember me from my Drake Raleigh ITCRM days please E mail me and maybe you can buy me that drink you promised me!!  
Oggy Busby Robbie Coleman are two silly old sods that I would love to meet up with again Cheers Roy

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1205

Date: Friday August 24 2012 17:04:30 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:  
Syd if you would rather have nothing to do with us "old fogies" just say so. You may or may not know any of us here in Oz but there again you may find that to meet up with we ex members of the greatest band Service known to man could be something to enjoy. A simple reply one way or the other please.

---

message #: 1204

Date: Wednesday August 22 2012 04:28:34 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Stan Hacking Just a quick update to say the lunchtime meeting went very well lots of lamp swinging and laughter was enjoyed by all probably due to the late announcement of the meeting no-one else managed to join us BUT we had a very pleasant unexpected phone call from Graham Hoskins wishing us all well a gesture that I know Stan appreciated very much he asked the girl behind the bar if he could speak to the ex Royal Marine bandmen who were having a reunion we hadn't booked ourselves in as such but she had no problem finding us due to the fact we all looked like silly old men laughing and enjoying ourselves. so Thank you again Graham. Next time Bruno is down I will arrange something again but hopefully give more notice. I am unable to attend the reunion this year as I will be running an FA Referees Course (which I have done for the last 15 years) but hopefully I can get someone to cover for me for the weekend next year so I can attend. I hope all those who do attend have a great time I will be thinking of you all Best wishes Ray

---

message #: 1203

Date: Sunday August 19 2012 12:15:33 EST  
Name: Ray LLoyd  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Stan Hacking, Trevor (Bruno) Brown Derek Roberts Stan Hacking and I are having a lunchtime get together at the Barn Owl PH Exeter Near the Holiday Inn Express Honiton Rd on Tuesday 21st August from 1pm if anyone in the area is free and would like to join us you would be more than welcome. Sorry this is such short notice but Stan has been away and I have only just managed to speak to him to confirm he is free. I just thought it would be nice to have a little get together that is not 'Official' of a funeral. Best wishes to all Ray

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1202

Date: Friday August 17 2012 21:36:16 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Syd I have sent you a private email but just in case you didn't receive I'll repeat what I've said.  
Yes there are several ex RMBs out here in fact there are four in WA. Namely Pat Trevis Ray (gunner) Yates Polly Perkins and ex WO Taff Cox who has just been appointed Manager of the WA Symphony Orchestra. We hold a reunion for ex RMBs in Adelaide and the next one will be on the first weekend of April 2013. I will if you wish send details to you but if you check the Notice Board on this site then they are already there for you to check on. If you are interested in joining us then contact me on the above address. Cheers Eric.

---

message #: 1201

Date: Tuesday August 14 2012 18:30:48 EST  
Name: Syd Pavitt  
Email: pavtan@iinet.net.au

Service Number: RMB 3888  
Hometown: Rockingham WA Australia  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
I have just been looking through some of the pictures on the web site. It has brought back a lot of good memories. I have been living in Australia (home) since 1976 only been back to England three times for all the wrong reasons (illness and funerals). If there is any one out there that remembers me it would be great to hear from you. Keep the images coming on the web site all the best Syd Pavitt.

---

message #: 1200

Date: Sunday August 12 2012 04:30:51 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email:

Service Number: 3875  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
SGTS MESS PANTO 4th - 12th January 2013 I can confirm that tickets are being sold by The Astor Theatre on WeGoTickets.com or by telephone on 01304 370220 3 performances have already been sold out !!!!!, Â£10 per ticket. Should you wish to sponsor a performance this is Â£300 with 20 free tickets and drinks. So hurry up folks !!!!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1199

Date: Saturday August 11 2012 19:01:13 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Tony Good to see you back but sorry to hear that you are not able to march at 120 paces to the minute. Get well soon mate makes my problems seem so minor. Did spend six months in a wheel chair a few years back. Didn't like it at all.

---

message #: 1198

Date: Saturday August 11 2012 11:36:00 EST  
Name: Mags Marsh  
Email: tony\_3178@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X3178  
Hometown: Devizes  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Eric Sorry it's been so long since I wrote. Have been in Hospital for the last 4 and a bit months. Just got home and having turned on my computer I found I had 1543 emails. Had to get my daughter to sit and try to delete about 1500 rubbish ones. I will try and get back on and talk some more. I really enjoyed finding this site. Will be a cripple for some time so won't be able to get about. Talk soon Eric Tony (Mags)

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message #: 1197

Date: Saturday August 11 2012 07:34:22 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND Mid glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Ctr/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo to all I have just read Mick Hickman's sad news of Ian (Monz) North's demise due to the big C. He was a great guy and good to work with in those busy days in Fleet Band. I too would appreciate it if my condolences could be passed on to his family at this sad time. Mick Jones.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1196

Date: Friday August 10 2012 06:40:51 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
More sad news I have just picked up from the Forum that Ian (Monz) North crossed the bar at the end of July due to the big C. I remember him well as a cornet and violin member of the dogend brigade a very likeable chap. My condolences to his family and all of you who had the pleasure to know and maybe served with him. Monz RIP.

---

message #: 1195

Date: Tuesday August 7 2012 17:09:40 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard Although this will only be of interest to those who had attended Adelaide reunions and had met with Ted Jones it is now known that Ted's funeral will be on Thursday 9th August in Adelaide. Ted's family have asked John Turner to speak at the funeral as John had been a sort of "unofficial" carer. This John has agreed to do and is very pleasing for us all. This goes to show just how much John has been appreciated by not only Ted's family but by us all. It is unfortunate that the date of the funeral has fallen at a time when all of the local Ex RMBs will not be anywhere near Adelaide and so Steve Adkins who is accepted as an "honorary" ex RMB being the long lost son of Raymond West who served with Jim Mason and Michael Hutton has agreed to represent the Band Service on our behalf. Flowers have been declined in favour of donations to a nominated charity and this has been taken care of.

---

message #: 1194

Date: Saturday August 4 2012 23:12:49 EST  
Name: Bob Chumley  
Email: chummers@optusnet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3195  
Hometown: Adelaide  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Re the passing of Ted Jones. Bill I would like to say that John Turner was indeed a good friend and companion of Ted's. We always acknowledged John's contribution and help. He has always been invited to our reunions here in Adelaide and has attended even when Ted was not present. I have sent condolences to Ted's family on behalf of us all. I did telephone Bert King to tell him of Ted's passing and he said he will miss his old "run ashore" mate. Bert is now of course the last surviving Bandsman of HMS Exeter. Bob Chumley

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1193

Date: Saturday August 4 2012 20:14:46 EST  
Name: Bernard S BEARE ( MAXIE)  
Email: maxie2234@xtra.co.nz

Service Number: RMBx 2234  
Hometown: OREWA NZ  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear friends How nice to read the Guestbook and to catch up with all the gossip having been quiet for some time I must bring you up to date with NZ not to mention the ABs and the Rowing?? Had a call the other week from yet another former Bandy Hugh Finn who is now resident in Godzone and Mike Miller continues his success with the RNZ Navy Band we recently had the US Marine Corps band here in NZ celebrating 70 years since they arrived in 1942 the Band performed a two hour concert and was just superb. I was joined in the retirement village where we now live by another RMB Norman Joe Feast like me is having trouble to settle but will overcome as we do?? I was really saddened to hear of he passing of Ron McCALLUM we were in Eastney together and agree he was a fine Trom player. Must also comment on the passing of Ted Jones we only met the once but he left a lasting impression as all ALL bandsmen do I note that the two reunions are being well publicised I only wish I could make the Pompey trip complete with name tag?? The RMA here in NZ now have 4 Bandsman in attendance Joe Simms Vince Harris Jim Roots and myself right then I s'pose that's all the news from NZ so with no further ado Kia Ora warm regards Maxie

---

message #: 1192

Date: Friday August 3 2012 15:36:41 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to read of the passing of Ted who I spent some time with in Glenelg Adelaide in 2009. My condolences to John Turner who acted as Carer for Ted for quite a long time without any recognition may I add? I was also privileged in informing the HMS Exeter Association that Ted had been found and so allowing them to add his details to their survivors listing. Now I have the sad task of advising them of his crossing the bar. Yours aye Bill.

---

message #: 1191

Date: Friday August 3 2012 04:51:57 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard It is my sad duty to inform those who may be interested that the death occurred this morning Friday 3rd Aug. of 89 years old Ex Musician Edward (Ted) Jones. Ted was one of the last two remaining survivors of the Royal Marine Band of HMS Exeter which was sunk on March 2nd 1942 in the Battle of the Sunda Strait by a superior Japanese fleet. The Band of Fourteen spent many hours in the water before being picked up by the Japanese who then transported them to Malaca where they were interned for three and a half years. During this time they were put to work in the Nickle mines and as a result five of the band died including the Bandmaster. Ted was 17 when he was captured and would have been Ninety in the coming October. [Webmaster] See Adelaide reunion 2008 for a great pic' of Ted with Ralph Payne.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1190

Date: Thursday August 2 2012 00:44:41 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email: anthonyoliver@fsmail.net

Service Number: 3975  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

I am pleased to inform readers that The Deal Sgts Mess Panto is to be resurrected again at The Astor Theatre in Deal from 4-12th January 2013. "The wizard who's odd" has been written by Brian Short and the cast comprises of ex bandsmen and marines. Phil Hughes is the Musical Director and the lead role of Dorothy is being taken on by Alan Upton. Tickets ( £10 ) will be going on sale sometime this month by The Astor. ( details to follow !! ) The proceeds will be going to Service charities. Watch this space!!!!

---

message #: 1189

Date: Tuesday July 31 2012 06:13:21 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: Greenwich  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a:

**Comments:**

I have kept in touch with Hugh Heatherwick since we were boys in the flute class 59-62 and together in the Staff Band and Edinburgh Tattoo/ 1964 USA Tour. Indeed I saw him a few months ago. He now lives in Hereford and works a couple of days a week in his son's design studio in London. He did not oddly enough having trained at the Guildhall School of Music on leaving RMB go into the music profession. He taught general music for a few years and then became involved in matters "Green and Environmental" but has maintained an interest in music of course. His son Thomas Heatherwick is Sir Terence Conran's (HABITAT) prodigA© and Thomas is one of the finest and original designers in the world today. Hugh told me that this present period of his life at 69 working with his son is the most satisfying of his life which is great to hear!!

---

message #: 1188

Date: Monday July 30 2012 10:48:23 EST  
Name: Rodney Williamson  
Email: r.williamson500@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3491  
Hometown: Whitstable  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

**SMALL POINT OF INTEREST** I have just read an article in The Telegraph Plus (dated Monday July 30th) about Thomas Heatherwick designer of the wonderful Cauldron in the Opening Ceremony of the Olympics. The name seemed a little uncommon though familiar and on reading the full article I noted " His father Hugh Heatherwick trained as a pianist was a member of the Band of the Royal Marines and a boxer". I don't recall much about the "boxer" but I remember well his pianistic and flautist skills. I'm sure many other readers will remember Hugh who was an interesting character as well as a fine musician. I remember on moving from Pompey to the RMSM paying my first visit to the coffee boat and walking in on a heated discussion about the correct way to pronounce Shostakovitch! Not quite what I'd been used to at Daedalus! Best wishes to all Rodney Williamson

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1187

Date: Sunday July 29 2012 10:04:27 EST  
Name: Terry Parker  
Email: terry@the-parkers.fsworld.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX2560  
Hometown: Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Good day to everyone. You've got me at last particularly those ex Gambia members. Anyway I see that Eggy has again mentioned my name so I think it is time that I responded. I think his idea of being issued with name badges at the Pompey reunion is to be encouraged and I don't really believe it would cause too much extra work for anyone. In fact the issue of a blank name-badge when members arrive would I think be perfectly acceptable. Anyway if it is not a success it could be quietly dropped from future Reunions! All the very best to everyone and Beryl and I look forward to meeting a few old faces in October with or without name badges. Terry Parker. [Webmaster] Well I for one am spurred on to acquire my own just in case the powers that be have not thought it a good idea. I'm sure cost cannot be prohibitive. It's MY loss the past reunions where I have been in the company of someone who I rubbed shoulders with when I served and even worse for those who conscientiously donate to the web site. I would rather have a name to my face and enjoy more conversation than otherwise. For those who want to be on-board with this idea I'm sure that your local professional stationary shop/office supplies would be able to help. See you at the bash!

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message #: 1186

Date: Saturday July 28 2012 06:25:57 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury North Somerset  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

**Comments:**

For the benefit of those who have not received a Pension due to their leaving the Service prematurely I would invite you to view items related to Pensions on the HMS Gambia Links Page. There are also many other Links which may be of interest to those who may not be aware of such items. With regard to my admission about the date year in which Ron McCallum crossed the bar it is 2011 and not 2012 so 2011 is the correct year date as I am advised by the daughter (Tracy) of Ron. In addition any of our time served members who may be familiar with Rons old Service Regimental Number I am sure that Rich would welcome your relaying it to him to add to the Sunset Page. I have also made a request to Terry Freestone who has made it one of his tasks to record all RMB/X Numbers for posterity. Kind regards to all and do enjoy your annual reunion. Yours aye Bill Hartland Editor www.hmsgambia.com

---

message #: 1185

Date: Tuesday July 24 2012 17:29:19 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Sad to hear that yet another of our time has passed out for higher duty. Ron McCallum was in room N9 East Barracks RMSM Deal when I was allotted a space in that room way back in 52. Along with Harrison Vanderplank and Flynn until I was accepted I was kept very much in my place. I was later to serve with him in the band of CinC East Indies aboard HMSGambia and later HMS Superb. A very proud Irish man. RIP Ron.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1184

Date: Tuesday July 24 2012 02:53:18 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart/ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
I was sorry to hear of the passing of Ron McCullum. I served with him in the HERMES 1962/4. He was a very nice man and a steady influence on the younger members of the band. He was a fine Trombone player and along with Ray Alberry ran a tight band mess. I believe that he went on to serve in the Canadian Armed Forces and rose to be Director of Music. Keep on blowing Ron in the Military band in the sky. R.I.P.

---

message #: 1183

Date: Monday July 23 2012 18:07:36 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a:

Comments:  
It has been confirmed by Tracy daughter of the late Ron McCallum that Ron had passed away on 14th May 2011 so very sorry if I have given the wrong date out to others. Yours aye Bill.

---

message #: 1182

Date: Monday July 23 2012 11:35:39 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi I have received a message via our HMS Gambia Guest Book from the daughter of Ron McCallum that he passed away in Canada. I am a tad uncertain about the year date she has conveyed in her message so that may have to be amended shortly as soon as she confirms the dates implied in her message. Regardless of dates Ron aparently passed away in Canada while truth be known I thought that he was still gigging in Los Angeles so to hear that he actually passed away in Canada is somewhat of a surprise. Ron joins the likes of the late Pete Westaway as another former member of the HMS Gambia Crew. Very sad to recall this as another passing of a nice man who was very quiet and a proper gentleman as I recall from the days when we were all located in East Barracks in Deal! Sure Les Weddell would welcome this sad news as Les and Ron were in the same trombone class which carried all its usual attributes and bruises as those who were in the training class of the late Pete Westaway? Yours aye Bill Hartland. Editor  
[www.hmsgambia.com](http://www.hmsgambia.com)

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1181

Date: Wednesday July 18 2012 08:43:25 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhick1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Greetings to you all from a still very warm and sunny Spain. First of all like others I have been away for a few days in the UK so Merve when you read this get well soon old buddy we need you at the Reunion to spin a few more dits and maybe dig deep and buy a beer or two. Having just returned from the UK I am happy to report that I have had a very sober (well) weekend in Deal with Tony Oliver and a few others and attended the Concert and re dedication of the Bandstand what a superb afternoon. The weather was kind the company was good and the concert..... well what can one say it was as usual excellent my congrats to all involved in the taking part and the organisation all to be praised. Once again we were treated to a fly past by the BBMFsuper! A large crowd once again on Walmer green were very patriotic in the singing and the applause for the Band was full and well meant. If you missed it try coming next year you will not be disappointed. Those that have made the effort I will see you all in October to those that have yet to decide give it a go. Till that day you all take great care of yourselves you are special people.  
Siempre Fidelis. Mik H.

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message #: 1180

Date: Monday July 16 2012 12:35:10 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi to all Great to hear that lots of people have been in touch with Merv. I've been away for the weekend but have been in touch daily!!!. Actually spoke to Merv this morning. He sounds fine. But like us all he appears a little reluctant to take things easy!!!. Like many of us he thinks he is 'Bullet Proof'. He is somewhat (don't know why) suprised by all the good wishes and messages he has received. You only reap what you sow Merv!!!. But it is great that his improvement has been so good. You can't keep a good man down. Both Heather and I are looking forward to the reunion. See you all there. Regards to all Cheers Barry

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message #: 1179

Date: Sunday July 15 2012 19:49:26 EST  
Name: Ian &#34;Eggy&#34; Epps  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2698  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Trombone/Welding Torch( Story follows)  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi readers In a reply from an e-mail from me I've had e-mails from Merve "the Swerve" to say he's at home again and at his desk he's even promised to buy me a drink at the Reunion. The first thing I'd like to say is "Just get well soon Merve". With Merve's promise of a drink I'm glad that I bought tickets for the Reunion for Terry Parker myself and our wives after I read that the venue for the Saturday reception had been relocated in the Chiefs Mess. What a relief all the comforts of the second "home" to the Chiefs. There is one thing that I think might assist many who attend the Reunion and that would be the provision of "Name Badges" at the door with the tot. It wouldn't be compulsory to wear them but I find that many people have changed over the years and I'm sure it would help a lot to break the ice at times. Many who attend don't seemed to have changed in basic appearance (except to have grown a few lines and grey hairs) Merve the Swerve Blondie Rawson Mick Hutton and Terry Freestone to name just a few but I'm sure there others who come I would know if I could recognise there changed appearance and remember their names. Ex members when I have asked why they don't come have said to me that they don't know anybody but I'm sure they would find an ex band friend who they haven't seen in years if we were wearing name badges. It's just another problem for our organiser I know but I think if the word got around it might encourage more to come. [Editor] I agree and I will make advances on the organisers to consider this.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1178

Date: Thursday July 12 2012 17:08:32 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet / Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi folks Sorry to hear about "Merv the Swerve" and his problem. Keep on smiling mate and get back to your old self. I know what it is like to be in sick bay and we all hope that people remember us. I was in the Kent and canterbury hospital 8 years ago and had so many "Bandies" visit me that I swear that the nurses thought I was gay. !!!! I soon put them right on that score. Get well soon Merve. Mike

---

message #: 1177

Date: Thursday July 12 2012 15:00:53 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Merv Sorry to hear about your heart attack. I had a stent fitted 8 years ago and not looked back. I just take daily warfarin but apart from that life is good. Best wishes Dave I Lambert

---

message #: 1176

Date: Thursday July 12 2012 14:50:51 EST  
Name: Ian H Durrant (son of Merv)  
Email: ianhd1@gmail.com

Service Number: n/a  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi there My father was taken to hospital yesterday evening (11th July 2012) due to a suspected heart attack. On arrival he had a stent inserted in one of his main arteries and a heart attack was confirmed. He's in Basingstoke Coronary Care Unit at the moment but doing fine. He's been told he needs to pack up smoking and take more care of himself. He's awake laughing and aware of this scary situation forced upon him! Many thanks to the marvellous paramedics amazing surgeons and all-too generous doctors and nurses. Best wishes to you all regards Ian PS - To all ex-bandsmen and those currently in service who are also ill please get well soon. Big embrace.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1175

Date: Thursday July 12 2012 10:31:28 EST  
Name: HQBSRM  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Lots of them!  
n/a:

Comments:

Gents  
and ladies there is a change of venue for the 2012 RMBS Reunion to the UPPER BAR of the Senior Rates Mess HMS Nelson for the Social part of the evening. There will be a plethora of bar staff from the M1s course (over 6 ranks) so the beer will be cold and the queues short! The beat retreat will still take place in the gym. A substantial discount has been negotiated with the Royal Maritime Club 75-80 Queen Street Portsmouth PO1 3HS Tel: 023 9282 4231 Please quote: " Royal Marines Band " at the time of booking to get the discount. The rate they are giving is below that of serving personnel discount to please book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. 30 rooms are on hold and booked out to the event and also attract a discount from normal rates at the Holiday Inn Express Gunwharf Road Portsmouth Hampshire PO1 3FD Tel: 023 9289 4240 . Please quote: " RMB Reunion " at the time of booking to get the discount.  
We look forward to seeing you this year. Please ensure that you contact HQBS and book your ticket as soon as possible to enable the committee to be able to negotiate the best possible prices on food and drinks.

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message #: 1174

Date: Thursday July 12 2012 05:47:34 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.ukr

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi to all Just had a phone call from Sue to tell me that Merv Durrant had a heart attack during the night. He has had a 'Stent' fitted and hopefully will make a decent recovery. He is in hospital and comfortable. Hope to speak to Sue again later. Will keep you informed. Regards to all Barry PS. Heather and I have ordered our Reunion Tickets. See you there

---

message #: 1173

Date: Wednesday July 11 2012 15:46:10 EST  
Name: Tony Hunter (Overton)  
Email: tonyhntr@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 3999  
Hometown: Kennethmont Huntly Aberdeenshire  
Instrument/s: Cornet and violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi guys having had major surgery on my own back and with a medical back ground to boot the sensation you are getting in your legs and feet are due to nerve damage and can take up to 18 months to 2 years to get back to some kind of normality. Since 2001 I have undergone several op's due to breaking my neck and lower back so speak from experience. It's a long recovery so don't give up and I agree with the drug taking. If it's not right for you stop taking them and tell your doctor asap. or don't take anything and work through it. If you want please get in touch and if I can help I will. Mean time take care and keep smiling guys. See you in the counter march.

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1172

Date: Wednesday July 11 2012 14:58:53 EST  
Name: Chris Mutlow  
Email: chris@cmutlow.com

Service Number: RMB4029W  
Hometown: Weston super Mare  
Instrument/s: Tenor Sax & Flute - long time ago!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Adrian, Thank you for your last post. I am taking that tablet. I am over 60 (just). I have had 4 lots of major spinal surgery two within the last 6 weeks. Similar problems to you with your spine but mine is lumbar. After the last op I have severe numbness and tingling in my feet. I shall stop taking this tablet now and see what happens. They call my numbness etc Dysaesthesia. Again thank you. Maybe it will help maybe it won't but it is worth a try!  
Chris.

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message #: 1171

Date: Wednesday July 11 2012 08:55:39 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adranbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: Greenwich LONDON  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello Folks!! Some friendly advice to all. Always make sure you read about the side-effects of any drug you may be taking. Purely by accident I have discovered that all my recent problems and symptoms although associated with cervical spondylosis (narrowing of the spinal cord) are also a side-effect of taking a blood-pressure tablet 'Amlodipine'. I have read on the internet that 75% of patients over 60 years of age have suffered from paresthesia ( electric pins and needles/burning/tingling ) when taking this drug. I stopped taking the drug for two weeks and have never felt better in my life! I took one tablet and overnight all of my symptoms returned. It is likely the combination of the condition and taking the blood-pressure drug has aggravated and exacerbated the symptoms. I shall be asking my GP to prescribe me something else from now on. I paid out Â£1000 for private consultations with neurologists almost paid Â£1000 for a MRI scan and was thinking about spinal surgery in USA....and I almost lost my job!! This might all have been caused by side-effects of a commonly prescribed drug.....so take heed my friends.

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message #: 1170

Date: Monday July 9 2012 20:13:18 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Richard Correction to my Post of 27 June. As the dates mentioned in that Post are for the Easter weekend. Dates for Adelaide reunion are 5th 6th and 7th April 2013. That should still give those who intend to join us time to save Pennies Pesos Dollars or Franks. Apart from Airfare our prices will be very reasonable. As they say in the classics SEE YOU IN THE COUNTER MARCH> [Webmaster] B\*\*\*\*r! Now we are using frankfurters as currency as times is so 'ard! ;) NOTED Sir Eric!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1169

Date: Monday July 9 2012 14:50:42 EST  
Name: E.Johnson  
Email: beck.meadows@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB2271  
Hometown: Norwich  
Instrument/s: trombone/cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Served on H.M.S Newcastle 1948-49. Ganges 1950-52. Musical instrument store storeman 1953-58 then Ganges again until 1960 when I left to join the Civil Service.as a CO.at age 30. Was a bandboy at Howstrake and Burford

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message #: 1168

Date: Saturday July 7 2012 05:42:48 EST  
Name: PADDY SEMPLE  
Email: contactjackiesemple@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3868  
Hometown: CARRICKFERGUS  
Instrument/s: TROMBONE  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I am guilty just like Derek Usher and no doubt many others of leaving it late to order reunion tickets each year. I was wondering if it would help everyone to be able to purchase your ticket for next year when attending this year's reunion. The Band Service already has full details of everyone attending and it should be a simple process of collecting £20 from anyone wanting to attend the year after issuing a ticket and recording the ticket number issued against the recipient's name. It would be an option that would reduce administration for the organisers and any additional costs such as postage. Obviously for Security reasons it would have to be restricted to persons attending only and with so many regulars each year it should be a practical operation. It would provide the organisers with a good indication of numbers for the following year and the funds to get everything organised. Additionally it would enable those attending from afar (Australia and the USA) to plan their trip with no fear of cancellation. May I take the opportunity to advise my new e mail address is contactjackiesemple@gmail.com and I apologise to anyone who has written to my old e mail address and not received a reply. Kind Regards Paddy Semple

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message #: 1167

Date: Wednesday July 4 2012 12:22:02 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s: cornet n scrapebox  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello All I'm writing to concur with Mike the Hik! and Baz the Rad! to say a big thanks to Col Nick for putting us all on the correct path to another successful reunion. I have to say I was becoming concerned as I was one of the guilty ones for not having signed up yet! Worse was when I tried to do so (using the link provided in the Guestbook) it came straight back to me as being out of order! - Only a swift email to our esteemed editor Sir Richard who then put me wise by instructing that this web link was no longer a concern the reunion is safe and that all was now well! I have to say that I've never concerned myself until now about the urgency to send in one's request for tickets until around August time. On reflection perhaps this has been a tad selfish on my part for if everyone did that then clearly how are the powers that be going to make suitable arrangements for venues catering and bar requirements etc;!? - This I think at least proves a lesson to the rest of us who also leave it until later to book up methinks! - Let's just hope that we see a few more old familiar faces this time around. That'd be nice for everyone. So I apologise to WIMC and have now shifted my 'arris to book up for Dave Stockham & myself to be in attendance once again and look forward to seeing the rest of us "old codgers!" propping up the bar once more. Cheers all! Derek.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1166

Date: Wednesday July 4 2012 06:55:17 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhick1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Great news indeed my thanks to Col Nick for giving what we wanted as Barry said NOW'S the time to repay Col Nick and the Band Service in which we all served by showing some solidarity and get your names in. I had an Email from an ex saying that the venue last year was poor everyone is entitled to an opinion and I said to him about the days when we used to have in the Drill sheds at Deal and Portsmouth and of course the Naafi at Deal did we complain no we did what all Bandsmen do we adapted to our environment. Enough of that I will be at the Deal Bandstand for the concert next week (weather please be kind) and if I get the chance I shall thank Nick personally. For those that have not yet decided give it some serious thought those that have good on yer see you at the bar wherever it may be. Sempre Fidelis. [Editor] Thank you Colonel Grace for re-locating the bar back to the Chief's Mess and we can only hope that we have significant numbers for us all to enjoy and in anticipation thank the efforts of those currently serving at what hopefully will be a busy bar. RV.

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message #: 1165

Date: Tuesday July 3 2012 14:15:37 EST  
Name: Steve Swann  
Email:

Service Number: Q004215B  
Hometown: Blandford Forum  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Bill I think that is a great idea Bill. I spoke to Flo Clarkson and she said she would be happy to help other than she was not very good with a computer funny how our memories of so long ago sometimes let us down. I did not leave Paul Welstead's place until gone 11.00 the following morning. I cannot drink anywhere near as much as I used to but I think Paul and I had a bottle of wine each and a pint of beer so no hangover. Looking at the message from Ray Lloyd it seems like there are some others who would like to attend as well. Richard is it possible to have something akin to a voicemail box in here without creating too much work where people can register their interest. Take care Bill and I hope you get sorted out soon. Steve [Editor]  
I'll see what I can do to put up some kind of list where I can post names.

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message #: 1164

Date: Tuesday July 3 2012 08:24:24 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.ukr

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to all What brilliant news from "Col Nick". Just goes to prove what a great guy he is. Looking forward to being there this year also pleased that people's comments have been listened to and sorted. Come on everybody. Let's have a great weekend. Not been there for a couple of years but Heather and I will see you there. Regards to all Barry

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1163

Date: Tuesday July 3 2012 08:13:00 EST  
Name: HQBSRM  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Gents Ladies Ticket sales for the RMBS reunion are now starting to trickle in the reunion will definitely go ahead although numbers are still low at present. Many thanks for spreading the word. HQBSRM

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message #: 1162

Date: Tuesday July 3 2012 07:38:00 EST  
Name: Dickie Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
From the PDM: Dear Richard Thank you very much for your email and I can confirm immediately that the RM Band Reunion will be taking place as advertised on 13th & 14th October 2012 in Portsmouth. I was not aware that the Reunion would not take place for any reason and whoever decided to post that on your guestbook site certainly did not speak to me first. I can assure you and your loyal followers that the Reunion will take place as usual even if it is just you and me. The only minor change is that we intend to move the Bar back in the WO&CPO Mess and not in the gymnasium. This should be far more comfortable for all those attending and there will be additional beer pumps to ensure the queue for the bar is kept to a minimum. Members of the band will assist with serving at the bar which will ensure a friendly face and good Band Service banter. I have spoken to the Blue Band office this morning and they have informed me that the Blue Band website is experiencing some problems over the last week or so. I am assured that these issues are being worked on and hopefully the site will be up and running normally as soon as possible. I hope all is well and I look forward to seeing you again at the Reunion in October. Regards Nick

---

message #: 1161

Date: Monday July 2 2012 19:11:49 EST  
Name: Chris Mutlow  
Email: chris@cmutlow.com

Service Number: RMB4029W  
Hometown: Weston super Mare  
Instrument/s: Tenor Sax & Flute  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sad to hear of the passing of John Porter. So many memories of him in J Wing. I always remember his first introduction to us baby bandies. "My name is John Porter. But you can call me Drum Major for short". Great guy. Wish I knew of his illness before receiving this sad news. Does anyone know where he last resided?

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1160

Date: Monday July 2 2012 11:35:03 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi Dickie Thanks for putting my message into the guestbook hopefully someone will organise something. Whilst trawling around the web I found this notice on another RMB website John Porter was our Drum Major when we were in J Wing sad to see he went without many knowing this is attributed to Gary Powell for your info if you want to include it. FORMER DRUM MAJOR JOHN PORTER BEM It is with great sadness that I was informed about the passing over the bar of JOHN PORTER. His name appeared in the latest edition of The Globe & Laurel. I did some research and found an obituary in his local paper in Hadleigh Essex which states JOHN EDWARD PORTER passed away peacefully in hospital on the 25th March 2012 and the funeral took place on the 9th of April. The names of his deceased wife and daughter in the obituary confirm this to be our JOHN (BREADHEAD) PORTER who was such a great character and a fine example of a Royal Marine. I and many more out there had the honour of serving with John and he was a great s (GATHERING) in the West Country having not attended any reunion for over 20 years. It is so sad that we did not get the opportunity to wish him farewell in the usual Royal Marines traditional way which I am sure he would have appreciated. Right up to the end he still rode around on his big Harley Davidson and played his golf. I feel sure there will be many dits on the Buglers page which will reflect on his professionalism and wit. Rest in peace Drummy God Bless

---

message #: 1159

Date: Monday July 2 2012 08:55:41 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi Bill What a wonderful idea sadly I and many others missed the details of Pete's Funeral (Dickie has explained how I missed it I was looking in the Guestbook not on the main page) both Stan Hacking & I and others would have attended but the idea of a memorial get together would be a fitting tribute to a great man and something that I and I am sure many others would attend we just need someone around the Plymouth/Cornwall area to arrange it hopefully someone will pick up the mantle. Best wishes Ray

---

message #: 1158

Date: Sunday July 1 2012 19:35:35 EST  
Name: bill sabine  
Email: billsabine1@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: bideford devon  
Instrument/s: principal cornet player  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Brilliantly said Steve Some people are so forgettable and Peter was certainly not in this category when he was our bandmaster he used to listen to our problems on a daily basis. Ignoring his own problems which occasionally you would learn bits and pieces in passing for instance remember Pete's New year resolution to give up smoking and already mastered this for a week to ten days however the first day back to work someone managed to smack into his car having the effect of Peter going straight to the shop and buying a packet of fags. Steve just to elaborate on the "dicker" business when he was eliminated from the dance band I believe Pete and Henry were in Wally's office listening to his waffle and when Pete and Henry came out Peter said to Henry in passing what the f\*\*k was all that about then said Butterworth you are out of the dance band from now. With people diving behind lockers as we all appreciated what a thug Ticker was I found out in later life how Peter stuck up for me when I was a little boy in J wing even going against one of his own students that I should have been awarded the Parker Cup But bless you Noddy. It was brilliant you and Paul got together for the evening how was the headache after that? It has been suggested that anyone who served with Peter in the Band service and on the Ark Royal to get together for a final tribute to a wonderful guy. If anyone agrees this might be a good idea please let me know and I will try to arrange it. Bill Sabine

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1157

Date: Saturday June 30 2012 11:40:57 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry1@virginmedia.com

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Can I ask for someone in this excellent forum to let me have details/contact number for Wally Shillito. I have been approached through a third party by some relations of his who would like to get in touch

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message #: 1156

Date: Friday June 29 2012 13:04:33 EST  
Name: Steve Swann  
Email:

Service Number: Q00 4215B  
Hometown: Blandford Forum  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I attended Pete Westaway's Funeral on Wednesday the 27th June 2012 having collected my old friend Paul Welstead on the way. It was really well attended by those people who knew Peter and whose life he touched. People from the darts team he had played darts with for over 30 years musicians (apart from us bandies) and of course lots of family and friends alike. Being the straight talking Yorkshire man that I am I cannot help but comment on the fact that there were not as many bandies from the Plymouth Band when Pete was the Bandmaster as I had expected in fact only 10. I say this as he had made such a lot of effort organising the West Country Reunion aiming to keep everyone together even when he was not in the best of health. That being said it was nice to see the guys I did such as Andy Clarkson George Latham Bill Sabine Nobby Clarke Scotty and their wives Jack Kennedy Tich Richardson Wally Walters & Bill Hartland who joined up with Peter Graham Richardson Dick Salisbury and others who I hope will forgive me for not listing them. I guess around 15ish ex bandies in all. Pete's coffin was draped with a Union Flag with a Pith Helmet and a Ceremonial Sword atop and I have to say when he was brought in it was a very emotional moment not least of which for Joan and the rest of his family. His trombone was on a stand and leaning against a wall at the front for all to see. The service was quite unusual in that there were no hymns being sung and it was more like a concert playing Pete's favourite pieces of music. All of which were fantastic. It was amazing to find out after 45 years of knowing Pete that we both shared the same favourite piece of Music "Bruch's" violin concerto. A bugler of course played the Last Post & Reveille really well and I am sure many of us would have liked to have shaken his hand and thanked him but by the time we got out he had gone. I am sure that Joan Pete's wife will not mind me saying that the Vicar made a few mistakes during the service one of which was to call her Jean initially although he corrected himself. One mistake that I know would have made Pete laugh as it did many of us inside was when he read out a letter that was kindly sent in by Capt Wally Shillito with some true very honest and kind words about Peter and how they got on. However the Vicar said that he would like to read out a letter sent in by Bandmaster Shillito. (oops!) A Cornish poem was read out and I never realised that Pete was such a Proud Cornishman and I was informed afterward that he was born and died in the same room. That's being true to ones roots if ever I heard it. Afterward we went back to the Britannia Inn in St Austell where Joan had laid on a smashing spread and we were able to talk and reminisce about days gone by in the band and in particular about Pete. A book was passed around asking for us bandies who attended to write a few words in about Pete. As you can imagine Joan was told stories about Pete she had not heard before which can be encapsulated with one liners such as " Butterworth You are Out Of The Dance Band" which really made her laugh especially when I gave her the full account as to how Henry Monahan ran into the changing room shouting " look out Ticker's here" upon reaching his locker he climbed in and shut the door. "Dead Leg Pete" was another and for those of us who were in his class as boys will remember what a very accomplished trombone player Pete was. He used to show us once how to play something and if we did not get it right he would give us a dead leg and remind us we had another. Quite frankly I am surprised I can still walk. I was a much better Band Room Sweeper than a Trombone player. I had several brief chats with Joan and I am glad to say that she stood up to the very emotional day brilliantly and I will be calling her from time to time to see how she is getting on. Paul & and I went back home to his place (via Morrison's) where I bought some nice wine and beer and had a fantastic evening with him and his lovely wife Gill drinking until way gone midnight in honour of Pete. On that note I will close and to all those that read this may I wish you good health and happiness and thank heavens that Richard runs this site as well as he does so that memories such as this are shared and not forgotten. Steve Swann

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message #: 1155

Date: Thursday June 28 2012 12:54:39 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Come on chaps get your names in remember the trouble we had last year to get them to do an about turn to reinstate a weekend instead of one day. It is a once a year chance to get together to remember dear and departed good mates with whom some of us spent more years with than we did our own families. As Richard says some people travel many miles to attend the REUNION yes that includes me but others travel much more distance than I do. Surely do we not owe this weekend not only to those who lost their lives in the last war and those who have crossed the bar and to the Deal 11 yes we have the Concert each year in Deal but that is mostly attended by people from the local area yes many people attend the All Stars Concert in Margate but we are talking about the BAND SERVICE REUNION something that has stood the test of time how long I am not sure. WE cannot let this institution die. Many times at a REUNION I have heard I wish could have seen him before he died. So come on get your names in it is a good weekend lots of chats and some times you may meet someone you have not seen for years. So join the happy band and get your names in one never knows you will (may) enjoy it. Like Richard I will be in Portsmouth if you are there I may even buy you a drink

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1154

Date: Wednesday June 27 2012 20:11:29 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Surely that's not possible. I know that I am always warning of the coming Adelaide reunion and am not ever likely to attend "THE" main event but it's unthinkable that there will not be one. Come on lads and now of course ex ladies of the best band in the world EVER. If your reunion in the UK dies what hope do we have who try to keep things going out here in the Antipodes. However I'll just remind you all that we WILL be holding a reunion in Adelaide on the last weekend of March2013 (30th 31st and April 1st) even if there are only a dozen of us.

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message #: 1153

Date: Wednesday June 27 2012 05:06:09 EST  
Name: HQBSRM  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Gents Ladies There is a possibility that this years RMBS reunion will not go ahead due to the low numbers of applications to date. If you are able to attend please return your applications as soon as possible and spread the word! For more info please see the link below: <http://www.royalmarinesbands.co.uk/pages/reunion.htm>  
Kind Regards HQBSRM [ex RMB Editor] This web site has sought to promote the reunion at its earliest possible date of doing so not forgetting the stellar offer by Brian Hobbs to accommodate west country visitors. I shall be making the trip from the United States and applaud all those who make mammoth journeys to attend. To everyone who IS going to attend let an oppo know and encourage them to share good times and amazing music!

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message #: 1152

Date: Sunday June 24 2012 04:42:37 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Rich I would just like to join Michael Hickman and all the others in saying Many Thanks to you for all your efforts over the years in maintaining this wonderful site. Keeping us in touch with friends where ever they are. I look forward to sharing a pint with you at the reunion this year Cheers Pendies

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1151

Date: Thursday June 21 2012 07:52:43 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi Richard Just a short note to say thank you for those kind words you have written about those of us that contribute to the site. you do a sterling job and in my opinion no praise is high enough for the work you do to maintain the site and keep it alive I am sure many others will feel the same. Looking forward to the day when once again I shall be in your company in October till that time take care. Siempre Fidelis.

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message #: 1150

Date: Thursday June 21 2012 06:13:51 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3242  
Hometown: Tennyson  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

So sorry to read of Peter's passing I only saw the news today on this site and would like to pass our Love to all his Family and wife Joan I'm not able to come to the funeral as we My wife Sylvia & I live in Australia. My memories of Pete go back to when we were in Junior Wing at Deal that was in about 1956 or 7 when I first joined the Trombone class of Sgt Smith about 6 months before my 18th Birthday and I remember how the class helped me to start playing the T'Bone that has been my whole life interest. So thank you Richard for your help in keeping us all in touch with one another and I get great pleasure in keeping up with the lives of all the Ex RMB's.  
Yours faithfully Bill & Sylvia (Nee-Anderson) Matthews.

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message #: 1149

Date: Wednesday June 20 2012 13:16:54 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:

Dear Eric (Hayward) Mike (Hutton) and to all those of you who continue to support the site that is committed to keeping everyone in touch and informed. Thank you for your kind thoughts and comments over the many years since the humble beginnings of this site i.e. 1996. It has not happened under sole control but has had and I do hope continues to enjoy the invaluable input of a friend who over time has given her extended time and considerable skill to enhance the pages. In the early days I had to literally type in code to put onto white backgrounds that which you would read in the format you see here. Without getting too technical the advancement of HTML (Hyper Text Markup Language) and the availability of web creation programs have made it much easier enjoyable and satisfying to see the end result. However without the expertise of the two hands at a keyboard or control of a computer mouse it would not have happened. Without getting either too morbid or emotional about what I'm about to conclude this message with if it were not for the great and imaginative in-put of the likes of Don Flounders Gerry Judge Mick Hutton Bernard Beare Bill Hartland and so many many others the site would be that much less worthy of all my time and that of my colleague and assistant. As long as I am given the ability by God's grace I will count it as my privilege to continue to give my time freely and enthusiastically to inform entertain and provide a platform for anyone affiliated with this great family of the Royal Marine Band Service. With respect and warm regards Richard (Dickie) Valentine

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1148

Date: Tuesday June 19 2012 23:41:04 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:  
To Chris Mutlow, Chris I too have had Spinal ops and on completion of the last one in 2006 I was required to wear surgical stockings for a period of some six weeks. During his time I suffered with a strange feeling in both of my feet. This felt as though my feet were being crushed. On removal of the stockings the condition did not improve and stayed with me for several years until I mentioned it to my GP. He sent me to a specialist who diagnosed ARACHNOIDITIS. Lookit up on GOOGLE. I think that is what you may find your problem to be. Medication has improved the situation slightly. Best of luck Eric.

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message #: 1147

Date: Tuesday June 19 2012 23:26:54 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:  
For those who may remember Raymond(RAY) West RMB/x 2111. Ray is at present in Hospital in Ballarat Victoria. His condition is not serious but is complicated by Ray's poor mobility. Ray is also suffering the early onset of Parkinsons Ray has only recently been united with a son that he never knew. To see them together it is like seeing two peas in a pod. The son Steve has now become a staunch supporter of the ex RMB reunion in Adelaide because it was through reminders that were placed on this and the Blue Band site of coming reunions that Steve was able to trace his father. Richard this site is most important and although most use only this Guestbook section I and I'm sure others realise what a great effort is needed to maintain it. If I may say so well done. Great to catch up on Skype too.

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message #: 1146

Date: Sunday June 17 2012 18:25:04 EST  
Name: Chris Mutlow,  
Email: chris@cmutlow.com

Service Number: RMB4029W  
Hometown: Weston super Mare  
Instrument/s: Tenor Sax & Flute  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just to let you know those of you who remember me I have just been discharged from hospital after a fourth operation over the last 3 years on my lower spine. I now have 9 screws in place holding 4 joints together that have been causing problems with my legs. I am still fully employed as an Area Manager with the AA having retired from the police some 8 years ago. I still experience some numbness in my legs but hopefully that will pass with time. I really enjoy reading the news on this wonderful site and check it almost daily to see what is going on. All the best to all ex RMB's.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1145

Date: Sunday June 17 2012 16:16:16 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi everyone.....Just to add to message from Steve. I have spoken to Joan Peter's wife who has told me of the families shock at Peters death as we who have known him most of our lives are shocked. She is going to let me know when the funeral will be and I will pass that on to you all through Richard's great website. Mick Hutton.

---

message #: 1144

Date: Sunday June 17 2012 16:12:27 EST  
Name: Chris Archer  
Email:

Service Number: PO22378C  
Hometown: New Zealand  
Instrument/s: Drum Major  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I am sorry to hear of the passing of Reg Fluke I had not seen him for many years however he was the Junior Wing Bugle Major when I joined in 1963 and I will always be grateful for him seeing more in me than my musical incompetence at the my audition!!! Reg made an effort to get my class to play the Pipe Chanter so that there might be Pipers in the Corps for 42 Commando Pipe Band which he had done so much to get up and running. Reg left Deal and the interest waned!! Reg was a good bloke and always cracked jokes with us boys unlike his predecessor Waggy who only cracked heads!! Rip Bugle Major. Dan Archer

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message #: 1143

Date: Sunday June 17 2012 07:37:40 EST  
Name: Steve Swann  
Email:

Service Number: Q004215B  
Hometown: Blandford Forum  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just had a call from Tony Oliver who informed me of the sudden and very very sad death of Pete Westaway. I have been calling Pete every month or so for the last several months to see how he has been keeping and he was always very upbeat and positive and this comes as a huge shock. He was my instructor as a boy and the Bandmaster of my last band before leaving. I just got off the telephone from his wife Joan who is as one would expect still in shock as it happened so unexpectedly and quickly. Joan said that there will have to be a Post Mortem as they do not know the cause of death and therefore cannot give a date for the funeral. Joan also said that she will do her best to let as many people know as she can of the date when she knows it Joan also said that she would like a Bugler for the Funeral and if anyone still has any contacts that can assist with this please be so kind as to do so. Joan can be contacted on 01726 813939 it will be one less thing for to deal with at this very hard and difficult time for her and their children. Peter was a smashing man with a dry sense of humour who worked hard to bring ex bandsmen together at the West Country Reunion and therefore pleasure into peoples lives. I for one can say that my life was and is richer for knowing him as I am sure can so many others. I will be attending his funeral to celebrate his life and I urge all that knew him to do the same. He thoroughly deserves a great send off and having spoke to Joan I know it would mean a lot to her and all his family. .

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1142

Date: Sunday June 17 2012 01:16:11 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email: anthonyoliver@fsmail.net

Service Number: 3975  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Dickie I was very sorry to hear of Pete Westaway's passing. He was my Trombone Instructor for a while who I had met again over several West Country re-unions. He put a great deal of effort in this function although not in the best of health. He was a good honest man with an engaging personality. R.I.P Pete.

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message #: 1141

Date: Saturday June 16 2012 06:02:13 EST  
Name: Alan Flook  
Email: pelsham@aol.com

Service Number: RMB3943  
Hometown: Faversham  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Dickie I understand you are experiencing problems with your website therefore I would like to post the following message through your guestbook. I regret to inform you that on 8 June 2012 my father PLYX3914 ex Bugle Major Reg Flook passed away peacefully. The funeral will take place on Thursday 21 June 2012 at 1400hrs in St John the Baptist Church Stamford Bridge York YO41 1DG Yours aye Alan Flook

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message #: 1140

Date: Friday June 15 2012 17:31:54 EST  
Name: Anthony Whale  
Email: anthonywhale@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Peter Westaway (Rest in Peace) Hi there I have regret to inform you that Peter Westaway passed away this afternoon 15/6/12. He was my mother's brother and my uncle. He has recently had problems with his feet due to diabetes I believe and last week had all his toes removed from one foot. He died at home with his wife Joan and my mum Jean at his side. I expect aunty Joan will be in touch with Royal Marine bandsmen of his generation when she overcomes the initial shock. Meanwhile could you possibly spread the word on behalf of her and her family. Anthony Whale (nephew) [Editor] As many of you will know I only heard from Peter the other day with his news and I am stunned and saddened to hear of this loss. I'm sure we are all grateful to God for taking him and relieving him of his pain. Our memories and our good fortune for knowing him will sustain us. Rich Valentine.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1139

Date: Thursday June 14 2012 13:19:05 EST  
Name: Dickie Valentine  
Email: rishalie1999@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston (now currently Schenectady NY)  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear colleagues friends and readers Due to what seems to be an insurmountable problem with my web browser I am currently unable to update the pages therefore a recent message from Pete Westaway by e-mail I am reproducing here as follows: Hello Richard I thought it was time I updated my sickbay. In April this year I had another toe off which the surgeon didn't think would solve the problem. The first week of June he said he would like to take all toes off on my left foot. I just said if you can get it to heal take off what you want. Anyway last week I had the front half of my foot removed. We will have to see how it goes. All you diabetics out there take good care of your feet. The only thing certain I will still get socks for Xmas. Cheers Pete. I'm sure our thoughts and prayers are with him. Thank you for your patience while I take the time to re-structure my computer problems. Dickie.

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message #: 1138

Date: Wednesday June 13 2012 11:43:44 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Managed to get to John Williams Memorial Concert in Chichester at the weekend. It was a great evening and a fitting tribute to a good guy. There were 43 Musicians on stage all who had at sometime played in bands conducted and trained by John. The Concert was conducted by David Hirst a well known figure in the Brass Band World and a friend of John's. Merv also I was delighted to find Louis and Audrey Sykes also attending. So it was a mini reunion evening for us also. I was delighted to meet John's Sons and also his Sister. Both Merv and I had already met Mary. John's Widow on previous occasions. The evening was a celebration of John's work within the local brass band music scene and the numbers attending both as players and audience was a fine tribute. Both Heather and I had a great weekend with Merv and Sue and we are now back home on the Wirral. I found the driving tiring but do-able. So we will see you in October in Portsmouth. Regards to all Barry

---

message #: 1137

Date: Tuesday June 12 2012 09:37:16 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: Greenwich  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just a quick note to say that tonight after seven and a half months on sick leave I am returning to the pit of 'The Lion King' at the Lyceum Theatre. I still get these damned electric pins and needles in hands arms and legs but you could not really call it pain just very uncomfortable and I have got used to it. I figure I may just as well put up with the discomfort while playing (and earning good money!!) than sit at home with the same situation eking out my state pension! Many older folk get diagnosed with diabetes and just have to get on with living with it. Same I figure with compression and narrowing of the spinal cord caused by what is in effect arthritis of the neck. Apparently most older people have it to some degree but spinally without symptoms sadly not so in my case. I played a couple of rehearsals with the British Legion Band just to 'test the water' and see how I managed to play for two hours and it went OK. Confronted with some of those old band parts in all of those flat keys Db and Gb I am amazed I used to play these pieces when I was 16...I must have struggled if the truth were told!. I must say that not working these last months has given me a taste of what genuine retirement entails and I ain't looking forward to it at all and would sooner die with the damn whistle in my hands and be taken out of the pit in a wooden box! I was thinking the other day that I have played professionally for 53 years (well I did get Â£1 on my first pay parade so that means professional in name even if I did have to salute to get it!). Not doing something that is so natural is very depressing as you feel a whole part of your life has gone. Hopefully it has returned again. Best wishes to all. ADRIAN

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1136

Date: Tuesday June 12 2012 04:04:45 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Derek my old pal my old booty!!! Thanks for your message. The Margate gig went well with David on song as usual. Good audience all of a certain age!! I ended the evening by being a taxi service for two old folk as their cab did not turn up at the appointed time. As it turned out six more people were waiting in the rain for cabs that were late so I went to the Taxi office and gave them in no uncertain terms a piece of my mind and if they employed drivers who actually could speak English and knew the area that would be a great help. Are you still flogging your wares or like me enjoying life? I don't miss the travelling one bit. See you in the countermarch old friend. Mike

---

message #: 1135

Date: Monday June 11 2012 17:30:45 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Boode Kernow but now Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet Small wooden box & stick !  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello Chaps ! Just popping on to say that should any of you wish to have a look at some familiar old faces then look no further than The RM Assoc' Concert Band Facebook page & hit the "Like" button if you will as we're anxious to get it recognised a lot more than it currently is. That's no doubt because nobody is aware that it even exists !! Cheers! Note to Mike Tellick. Hope your Margate gig with the Central Band of the Brit' Legion went well yesterday Mike & that Mr Cole was on his usual top form !? Adrian Your account of Jamaica reminded me of my famous visit on board HMS Blake in 1961 after escorting Princess Margaret there for their Independence inauguration/celebrations. Contrary to your experience most of the citizens of Jamaica at that time couldn't have been happier to know that they were soon to become a self governing nation. We seemed to be welcomed with open arms wherever we visited & played on the island! - When the big day came (as a point of interest) it was our band that became the focal point in Kingston town when 1000's descended to attend the independence ceremony to hear us play out the British National Anthem for the last time & become the very 1st band to play their New Jamican National Anthem as the flags were lowered & raised accordingly to loud cheers! & fireworks ! (Jem Tugwood will no doubt remember this most famous of days !?) - Kika-poo & joy juice ! Ring any bells Jem !? - This drink was a locally concocted strong rum punch in a wooden barrrell which I remember we liberally scooped out in half pint glasses on completion of said gig ! - Not entirely sure how we got back on board now. Did we swim !? - We might well have done. Colours on the quarter deck the very next morning at 09.00 hrs was an absolute joy for us to be a part of .....as you might imagine !!? Having said all of this though Adrian I too remember going ashore in pairs for a minimum degree of safety as there were still reports of random knife attacks on visiting service personnel even then. It was your wallets for some Ganga that they were more interested in than any independence of course ! - Kingston never was the safest of places to be late at night & still isn't sadly. Enough of my ramblings! Let's hear some more from one of you ! Best Derek.

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message #: 1134

Date: Thursday June 7 2012 12:43:35 EST  
Name: Dave Seed  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4084  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Flute / Tenor sax  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Richard, Joan & I have just returned home from visiting Helen & Colin Brocklebank we had a great time talking over old times and looking at photographs of days gone by. I was asked by Colin to bring my Flute with me as he had arranged for me to rig up with Stan Hacking's concert band I worked out it was over 35 years since I last played in a concert band and I thoroughly enjoyed myself a few ex bandies play in the band notably Ray Cochrane & Steve Grant (flutes) Steve Herbert (french horn solo cornet in the band service) and Colin (clarinet) Helen is also in the band playing cornet. It had been a special few weeks for Stan as he had been selected to carry the Olympic Torch for a stage in Exeter for anyone who wants to see Stan on this momentous day they can see it on day 3 of the Torch relay web site. Stan brought the torch to band practice to show all attending Colin tells me that they are having a photo taken at the next band concert with Stan holding the torch in front of the band I will try and get a copy to put on the notice board. On the Thursday we went to watch Charlie Fleming conduct the Lymptstone South West Telecoms Brass band which are sponsored by Tony Rowe an ex bugler who own's the company. It was nice to see Jen & Charlie again as we hadn't seen them for about 15 years one of the reasons we went to see the band is that Helen Colin's wife also plays in this band. Regards Dave

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1133

Date: Tuesday June 5 2012 12:27:31 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi to all Hoping to get down to Chichester this weekend for John Williams Memorial Concert on Saturday. I missed his funeral (Like lots of Ex/Bandies!!). But the 'Gizmo' is working well and both Heather and I feel the need to make an effort. Will be staying with Merv and Sue Durrant for a few days so it will make a nice break. And it will be a good 'Test Run' for the drive down for the Reunion. Hope you have all enjoyed the 'Jubilee Celebrations'. Band Service has had lots of exposure. Busy Busy!!! Regards to all Barry

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message #: 1132

Date: Tuesday June 5 2012 07:23:47 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: Greenwich  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
B/Cpl Chick Haynes (Trombone) was my sea daddy aboard Britannia in 1964. What a character he was as Kevin Vickers recalls. He was one of the last old Group Band musicians who were not centrally drafted and remained in Pompey all their service. I remember when we docked in Kingston Jamaica in 1964 we were told to go ashore in a minimum of two. There had been some trouble prior to our visit and I went ashore with Chick to have a look around. We were flabbergasted when some of the locals spat at us in the street and told us to go home!! Apparently as I discovered later this was because many locals felt very let down that the British had left the island and left them with an incompetent administration and much preferred the previous situation.....something which obtained in several other colonies after they gained independence. Whatever you may think of the British Empire ( and we were guilty of many acts of violence and took advantage of cheap slave labour evidenced in the recent Jeremy Paxman TV series and book "Empire") we did provide a disciplined structure in government and administration which sadly was not maintained by those inexperienced individuals left in charge after we left.

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message #: 1131

Date: Monday June 4 2012 10:07:29 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.ukm

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Mike I have contacted Colin O'Connell by email. I was in the "Hermes" band that Dan took to sea in 1962. This was the second commission of that fine ship known as " Happy Hermes". I was able to give Colin a few details about his Father and am trying to trace some fots he can have. Hope you are well and supporting the Spanish banks!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1130

Date: Monday June 4 2012 09:22:55 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass TRombone  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi Colin I think you are correct sorry to say, I was in Deal the years you mentioned and can remember a Dan o Connell, I served until 1981 and I do not recall another member of the Band Service with that surname. I am afraid that is all I can offer someone may come up with some more information you never know. In the meantime take care and I wish you luck in your quest for information.

---

message #: 1129

Date: Sunday June 3 2012 17:59:45 EST  
Name: Colin O'Connell  
Email: codg@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Derby  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi I am trying to find any information concerning my Father Daniel ( danny ) O'Connell I lost contact with him in 1968-69, when my parents divorced ( married to Joy ) The only information I have is when I was born in 1962 he was based at the Royal Marine barracks in Portsmouth he also went on to Deal and we spent time in Singapore. I belive he could be the Danny O'Connell that is listed in the In memory section on this website If anyone could confirm this and who may of known him please email me Thank you for taking time to read this  
Colin O'Connell

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message #: 1128

Date: Thursday May 31 2012 09:43:32 EST  
Name: Kevin Vickers  
Email: k.vickers1@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB3423  
Hometown: South Brent Devon  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi Dan Reference you query I think Roy Morgan left the Portsmouth Band in 1961. He was the Bandmaster and was on the Royal Yacht Trip to the Med that year and was relieved by Jock Brown. Chick Haynes the Bass Trombonist died in the early 80s I think I last saw him at Len Spencer's Funeral in about 1974. I think Chick became a porter at the Local Hospital in Portsouth. Chick was able to pass wind on demand at any time and I remember he managed to step the Band off on Adjutant's Parade before the Drum Major could complete the executive word of command.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1127

Date: Thursday May 31 2012 04:33:48 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet / Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dan Reference your request about Roy Morgan. He was in the Portsmouth Band in the 1950s. I have a recording of him playing the Post Horn Solo "The Huntsmen" also on that EP (remember those?) is the Trumpet Trio "Three Jolly Sailors" with Roy Kenneth Watson and Ronald Jolliffe featured soloists. The band is conducted by Colonel FVD. Also on that disc is a rendering of "Waltzing Matilda" Arranged by Jigs Jaeger (Irish Guards). I am afraid that I can't shed any light as to what happened to him after this date. In any case he would be in his late 90's now. Best wishes to you and yours Mike

---

message #: 1126

Date: Wednesday May 30 2012 05:47:54 EST  
Name: HQ Band Service  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
13th-14th October 2012 The RM Band Service Reunion will take place at HMS Nelson Portsmouth from 1900 on Saturday 13th October 2012 (No accommodation is available in HMS Nelson) 1900 Guests arrive at HMS Nelson Gymnasium Sports Bar 2000 Ceremonial Marching Display (Bar will close 10 min before performance) o/c Bar reopens 2359 Bar closes 0030 All guests clear of HMS Nelson The RM Band Service Memorial Service will take place at St Thomas of Canterbury (Portsmouth Cathedral) High Street Old Portsmouth at 1045 on Sunday 14th October 2012 1045 Guests to be seated in St Thomas of Canterbury (Portsmouth Cathedral) High Street Old Portsmouth 1100 Orchestra commences The cost for the reunion is £20 per person. Please make cheques payable to: Blue Band Magazine completing the form below enclosing a stamped addressed envelope and sending to: RMBS Reunion Portsmouth Hampshire PO1 3HH. The dress for the evening is Lounge Suit/female equivalent.

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message #: 1125

Date: Monday May 28 2012 02:18:23 EST  
Name: Dan Archer  
Email: archer378@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: PO22378C  
Hometown: Moerewa  
Instrument/s: Bugler  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Chaps The request below popped up on the Once A Marine site I have heard the names but know nothing about them. Any info would be appreciated through me on email or on here. Regards to all Dan  
On behalf of friends in Australia. Trying to trace (if still alive) two Bandsmen by the names of CHICK HAYES & BANDMASTER ROY MORGAN. In the 1950's their Band frequently visited and played concerts in Howard Davis Park in Jersey and afterwards visited 'The Exeter' Pub / Cafe for refreshments after the Concerts. KEVIN LE COCQ (now in Oz) whose parents owned 'The Exeter' at the time would like to get in touch if at all possible.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1124

Date: Thursday May 24 2012 12:37:39 EST  
Name: Jack Kennedy  
Email: david.kenne488@onetel.com

Service Number: RMB 3940  
Hometown: Accrington now Horrabridge Devon.  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
Bill Hartland could you please contact June Chamberlaine email d.chamberlaine@btinternet.com as your last email did not get through.  
Many thanks Jack.

---

message #: 1123

Date: Friday May 18 2012 04:40:55 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi folks Just a quickie to let you all know that the Central Band of the Royal British Legion will be playing in the Winter Gardens Margate on Sunday June 10th downbeat at 1900. David Cole is the director of this fine body of men and women some of whom are former RMBs. If you have nought to do and fancy a night out do come and listen to what will be an interesting programme of music. The Seafarer Esprit de Corps Symphonic Dances from Fiddler on T' Roof will be some of the pieces featured. Tickets can be obtained from Mike Scurfield on 01304 210600/ 827391 if you are coming from OZ I am sure you can get an "Awayday"!!!! Mike

---

message #: 1122

Date: Thursday May 17 2012 14:16:22 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Having made my best efforts to take part in the funeral of Dave Chamberlaine I regret to say that I arrived at Efford CeXXXrty in time but not in health so had to abandon my venture into God's country and return home. I couldn't manage to get out of my car and also had to abandon my hoped for visit to my old shipmate in Manadon. I have written an apology and explanation to the email address which was Dave's so if anyone can inform Dave's widow about it I would be obliged.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1121

Date: Thursday May 17 2012 08:14:10 EST  
Name: Jonas  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4123  
Hometown: Rhondda  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Can anybody out there help Glyn Thomas he wants to find RM band members from HMS Newcastle 1956 they wrote to a national newspaper asking for girlfriends for ten lonely bandmen one of the lads former trombone player Jacky Malpass found his wife in this way if Jacky is out there or any other member of the band please contact Glyn on.....07960658164 .....many thanks .....Jonas.

---

message #: 1120

Date: Wednesday May 16 2012 11:59:21 EST  
Name: Len lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Depends on the fee...  
n/a:

Comments:  
Ran into Col. Jim Mason today. He is looking in good health and asks to be remembered to all who know him. Respect....

---

message #: 1119

Date: Tuesday May 15 2012 19:45:59 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Ian may I just make a comment re your fine comments on the notice board. When I was in Band of 3Cdo Bde we transited through the Maldive Islands and landed at the RAF Base at GANN. At that time there were only two English women on the island and they were the wife and daughter of the Officer Command RAF Base Gann. The US Base which you mentioned is on Diego Garcia. Would Chocco Busby be the flute and piano/bass drum. My best oppo during training was BILL Busby would this perhaps be the same chap. We never met again after being rated. Love to know what happened to him.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1118

Date: Wednesday May 9 2012 14:02:36 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet and Saxophones  
n/a:

Comments:  
Health issues permitting I hope to attend the funeral of Dave Chamberlaine at Efford Plymouth on May 17th and hope that I will be able to pop in and see another old shipmate in Manadon on the same day.

---

message #: 1117

Date: Tuesday May 8 2012 20:56:17 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: rmb3645  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet n Scrapebox  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello Folks Just a quick commercial for any of you who may be in & around either Horsham W Sussex at the Capitol Theatre on Sun 13th May 3 pm or in Pompey on Thurs 17th May at the RM Museum Eastney 7.30 pm - our band The RMA Concert Band will be performing a 2 hour concert at both venues led by the legend that is Capt Dave Cole MVO MMus ARAM RM. It'll be a chance for any former RMB's to catch up with the rest of us 'old codgers' - who are still managing to blow and make decent sound come out the other end ! (he says modestly!?) So far - since we formed in 2006 wherever we play people are quick to still sing our praises so we must be doing something right ! I think we'll continue until there's no one left (of our target audience !) to play to OR there's no one left in the band to play to any kind of audience !!! :- ) Come & say hello to us if you can. (You're bound to find someone you once knew well amongst us !!) Cheers!  
Derek

---

message #: 1116

Date: Tuesday May 8 2012 10:12:07 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham Hants  
Instrument/s: Bassoonaphone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dickie So sorry to hear of the passing of Dave Chamberlaine I served with Dave in HMS Drake 1970 - 72 and Raleigh 72-73. The two senior NCO'S were Dave and Fred Stagg two quieter gentlemen I have yet to meet. God Bless Roy

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1115

Date: Tuesday May 8 2012 05:42:34 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

Comments:

Good morning/evening Eric Thanks for the info on Barry and Colin I will email Barry and write to Colin in the near future. I think it is sad when someone "drops out" like Colin has. I remember him as always having a smile on his face and usually nursing a hangover as he was gigging most nights of the week. Damn good musician though!! Perhaps if anyone who knew him would write to him at the address you have posted here he might get in contact again. You never know. Another one who has disappeared is Lew Shallcross (Trombone). Anyone know where he is? I have been reading your article in the BB with interest. Like you I was only a mediocre Clar. player but a damn good mess deck dodger!!!! I served with Tom Lambert in "Drake" in 1960/1 where Michael Rice was my mentor. He stuck me on principle clar.on my first day in the band four weeks later we had an inspection from "God" where we played "Toccata and Fugue" as a test piece. Talk about a stiff learning curve!!!! Michael is another man I have the greatest respect for and the lessons he taught me I put into practice when I became a teacher with Kent Music School over 50 years later on my retirement from work.. Some of my students are now at Uni studying music and in one case (A trumpet player) Veterinary Science! Well you can't win them all. I spoke to Terry this morning and he will probably mail you I did say probably!!  
Mike

---

message #: 1114

Date: Sunday May 6 2012 20:47:29 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:

Mick you may like to try and contact Collin Tottle at this address. 24 Madeline St. Halllett Cove South Australia 5158. Collin has been on our data base for the Australian Reunion since we started nine yers ago and after being asked on numerous occasions to join us he does not seem to want to participate in any way. From what I have been told he has become quite reclusive which is a hell of a shame. Perhaps if you bring back some memories he may and I stress may find that he does indeed have friends who care. Anyway I'll leave it with you. If you receive the Blue band Magazine you will have seen my account of my time in "J" wing and my introduction to the Bassoon. Although I never became a "top" player of this instrument I became what I consider to be a good Bandxman rather than a Musician. I never would have got in the door at todays standards.

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message #: 1113

Date: Sunday May 6 2012 19:26:04 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:

Mick if you would like to contact Barrie I know he won't mind me passing on his email address.It is ; mozart.b@bigpond.com However don't expect an imediate reply. I think he only reads his mail once every two years or so. Being a little bit facetious there Mick but he is slow to reply. Barrie attends the reunion of ex RMBs in Adelaide every year and is still the same Barrie that I knew back in "J" wing in the early 50s.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1112

Date: Sunday May 6 2012 09:30:06 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Hello Eric Thanks for getting in touch we don't know each other but that's the RMB family for you. I was interested to read your account of your demob routine in Deal seems fairly typical to me. Have clip board and nobody will touch you!!! These days there is only one entry per year. They start in September where I believe they do 12 weeks at Lympstone. After Christmas leave they start their musical training. I have a friend who joined in Sept. 2010. He wanted to be a Bugler so after a week at Pompey playing the Bugle and Drum they said to him that his Bugle and Drum work was very good but— "Have a Bassoon"!!!! He is already up to grade 5. Bearing in mind that he has only been playing it for 15 months. The lad has already been to the Falklands with the Concert band and Orch. It is a very different world to what we knew but the standard is much higher. I have passed on your message to Parker T. As usual he is not there probably raising the money for the Lions somewhere no doubt. If you should come across Barry Baker or Colin Tottle please give them my regards. They were both my instructors in the huts in East Barracks along with Dave Parkin. I shall forever be grateful to them for the knowledge they passed on. I am still playing so they must have done something right!!!! Best wishes Mike

---

message #: 1111

Date: Saturday May 5 2012 18:38:06 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury North Somerset  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar and Saxophones...  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Sadly just been informed of the passing of Dave Chamberlain (by Pete Westaway) who was a member of the CG Squad in which I too passed for duty. My condolences to his Wife and Family. Yours aye Bill  
Hartland Editor www.hmsgambia.com

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message #: 1110

Date: Thursday May 3 2012 19:25:07 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Mick if you don't mind me jumping in on your message but when I returned from Brigade Band in Feb 65 and having spent 3 years out in far off lands I went on three months leave. I had put in for discharge by purchase whilst in Singapore and the okay came through whilst I was on leave effective 15th May. So in May when I eventually went into Deal barracks and tried to put on my uniform still Blues at that stage nothing would fit. I still had the Green Beret Khaki battle dress with Cdo Flashes etc. and I was just able to look reasonable. However the Company Sgt Major name long forgotten advised that the Colonel didn't want to see anyone who had dared to purchase a discharge. So with clipboard in hand I traversed the depot for about two weeks without really doing anything constructive until the gate was finally opened and I was allowed to go free. When I say free it had cost me one hundred and twenty four pounds for my discharge. Pay at that time was about nine pounds a week. I sailed for Oz on 21 September 65 with my RAAF pay in my pocket. Twenty seven pounds a week. Please say Hello to Terry Parker for me. I served in Brigade Band with Terry.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1109

Date: Thursday May 3 2012 06:39:27 EST  
Name: Mike Tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi Tony Thanks for your mail. As to the whereabouts of the crests I left Fleet band in December 1971 for demob. I can certainly remember the crests but have no idea what happened to the when the band moved to Northolt. As for the field gun I can't remember seeing that at all but there again as the memsahib always says to me " You have a selective memory"! I wouldn't be surprised if there were not a student or two standing there now scratching their heads thinking " What do we do with this"!!! Discuss. Talking about Deal and the demob process. As you know when going before the Colonel for final discharge one is inspected to make sure that you are fit and proper to go and see the boss. Well the RSM name escapes me gave me the once over and demanded to know who had made a "pigs ear" of pressing my Lovats. Well when I said "The pressing shop sir" You could have heard a pin drop clang!!! I think that there would have been a fairly quick inspection of said pressing shop soon after Happy days eh? If you do ever come back to this area I think you will need a map to find your way around the Medway Towns. It has changed so much over the years not always for the better. I play bowls twice a week with an old mate of yours from your days in the Commando band. Terry Parker Solo Clar. He lives here in Sittingbourne and is a leading light in the "Lions". He is forever trying to get me to part with money for something or other!!! I look forward to hearing from you again am off to play a gig in Windsor this afternoon with the band. See you in the countermarch Mike

---

message #: 1108

Date: Sunday April 29 2012 19:48:07 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Tony that bloody wheel got me in strife. The RAAF Central WO was a git. I was the only Bass Drummer on the outside of the ring as all the other BD's were in the centre. Anyway there must have been some sort of sound time lapse and this git of a WO came up alongside me and grabbed my arm and shouted to me to stop banging. I had at the time both arms behind my back tucked in neatly under the head of the Tiger Skin so I had not even been playing Banging. He became my WO when I transferred to the RAAF. He was not a bad Bassoon player. But a lying git if ever there was one. At eighty odd years old he is still going around his local district cutting lawns. Do you remember Ray (Taff) Taylor falling foul of the D of M RAAF (Sgt Ldr Hicks). He put Ray in front of Jim Mason who awarded Ray a period of punishment to be served in the Watsons Bay Hotel and for "Gods sake keep out of Hicks' way". It was during that Tattoo that Hicks chased me around to join his band and auditioned me on a borrowed Bassoon in ant sentry box at the showgrounds. Remember one night just before we were to march on that Shiner Wright (Euph) lost his contact lens and when the gates opened and the lights came through to reveal the front of the band on their hands and knees trying to find Shiner's lost eye piece. Pity that we can't just sit and talk Tony. So many memories of those days. The Cocos Islands are now as are the Maldives a holiday destination. Looking forward to your next episode. I assume that you still are in the same marital state. I'm not. If you are remember me to your wife. Once again cheers from Oz.

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message #: 1107

Date: Saturday April 28 2012 11:03:01 EST  
Name: Mags Marsh  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X3178  
Hometown: Devizes (Now)  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet etc!!!!  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi Eric Thanks for the reply. Your memory is much better than mine. When you say things I suddenly get a rush of things in my head. The RAF Hastings we flew in to Perth had to turn back because the Radar was not working properly. The Cocos Keeling Islands had an elevation of about 15/20 feet above sea level which meant that they were hard to find on Radar. As you said we eventually got there. Really fantastic coral islands. Really nice people. The overnight chalets were picture postcard. On the beach with Palm trees all around white sand and blue sea. Coral reef off shore. Beach used to move at night with all the crabs. I have some photos which I am trying to get loaded. (Not a computer buff) As the islands were a refuelling stage I wonder what is happening there now. I remember the coconuts we all took on the aircraft were suddenly victim of air pressure and leaked. (good old days of flying) Good trip to Perth. Staying with local families. Next trip to Aussie was Sydney. Remember HMAS Watson. One of my memories of there was the fantastic food. Bottom of the hill was Watsons Bay Hotel. Our local watering hole. We managed to start a pile of pennies on the bar. Several dips in the bay before the locals explained that it was Shark Bay. Sober thought. Remember the Tattoo and the famous WHEEL. Running out of room. More later. Glad to keep in touch Eric. Kindest regards Tony

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1106

Date: Saturday April 28 2012 10:29:52 EST  
Name: Mags Marsh  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X3178  
Hometown: Devizes (Now)  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet etc!!!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Mick Thanks for the update on Pembroke and Dockyard. Keep meaning to go back and have a look around. From what you say its changed so much it will be hard to find your way around. Do you know what happened to the collection of shields and crests or the field gun? Sad to hear of Pete Sumner passing on. Not only was he a really good boss but also a very clever person. I had served with him first in the Med Fleet and then he was Company Commander of M company in Deal. That's when he asked me to go to Pembroke as Band Sec. I and many others always felt that he was overlooked as Principal Director. Lot of pretty shady goings on around that time??? I also managed to have a couple of really good courses whilst at Pembroke. They had one of the most up to date typing schools of the time. I managed to touch type after only 7 two hour lessons. It was called Touch and Sound. Then the CPO at the Cookery School allowed me to attend on a part time basis a cookery course. I also used this skill briefly. On the whole a really good time. Great to hear from you hope keep up the memory trips. Thank you. Mags.

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message #: 1105

Date: Thursday April 26 2012 09:13:30 EST  
Name: Richard (Dick) Soulsby  
Email: soulsby@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4146  
Hometown: Bath  
Instrument/s: Trombone?  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Happy anniversary to all surviving members of 2/67 New Entry Squad (25th. April 1967)

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message #: 1104

Date: Monday April 23 2012 03:59:17 EST  
Name: Mike tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Tony Thanks for your message good to hear that you are still alive and kicking!! You may be interested to know that "Pembroke" is now part of the University of Greenwich. Always was a seat of learning as I remember in fact I took my EVT at the cookery school and have a lot to thank them for as I went on to have a successful career in catering before moving on to a temporary job (30 years)!! in the Jewellery trade. Nowadays there is a road through the Barracks/Dockyard which links the lower road to Dock Rd and then on to the M2. The Dockyard is now an Historic Centre which still houses the Ropery and Flag Loft as well as HMS Cavalier Gannet HM submarine Ocelot. Peter Sumner was the best boss I served under without a doubt and we became good friends in later years when I was a commercial traveller and used to visit him and Margaret in Doncaster. Sadly Peter died some years ago and I along with many others attended his funeral. I am still in touch with Roy Adrian and a few others from that time in "Pembroke" and we often talk about the trips to Kiel and Scandinavia that were yearly jobs we did in those days. As I say good to hear from you Mike

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1103

Date: Monday April 23 2012 00:02:54 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Tony It was Trevor Starling you and I who took over the transport section in Aden. The carrier that took 45 CDO down to Dare-salaam was HMS Centaur which just happened to be passing through. Do you remember that the RSM was Court Marshaled after that because the Ammo issued was all blank. Can't remember his name but I'm sure someone will do so.. It was during that trip to Aden that the mail for the band was being sent back to HQ in Singapore. This was because the local postie had not been informed that the Band of HQ 3rd Cdo Bde at that time was in Aden. Almost three months without mail. It was also on that trip the Jock McKay and I decided to sort out our 'differences' behind the Sgts Mess. Outcome 'Null all'. Now you must remember Selwyn Horner. I tried to teach him to drive on a Bedford RL without much success I believe that we eventually flew back to Singapore on an almost empty RAF Comet transport. Staged both ways through the Maldives. In I think April of 64 we flew by RAF Hastings to Perth WA via the Cocos Islands and were enabled to perform there at an impromptu dance on the understanding that the local Qantas Staging Staff unloaded the gear from the plane and loaded it up again afterwards. Which of course they did. I do believe that we are still the only 'LIVE' band to perform on the Cocos Islands. The next morning we took off in the face of a coming thunder storm and flew on to Perth for British Exhibition week. The ROCK of which much more could be said had it's final worship ceremony at the University of Western Australia when a Memorial Rock was in position just outside the hall we were due to perform at. Remember the students standing watching. I did have a colour slide showing the 'worshipping' members on their knees and bowing to said 'ROCK'. Students must have thought we were all mad. The Ladies who hitched a ride on Hastings down to Perth from Cocos who had to get changed behind a sheet at the front of the plane just as the sun shone through!!! Total flying time for that trip was 24 hours in 8 hour sections over a total distance of 4000 miles. All because of the Indonesian Confrontation. Can't take up any more of Dickie's site. However if you ever get the chance to come this way Tony well the welcome mat is out.

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message #: 1102

Date: Sunday April 22 2012 18:38:53 EST  
Name: Tony Marsh  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X3178  
Hometown: Devizes (now)  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet. Typewriter  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Eric Your memory seems to be better than mine. It's funny how some things vanish and then with just a couple of key words all sorts of things come back. I had a very varied time with 3rd CDO BDE. Took over as company pay clerk when the Confrontation kicked off. Remember playing squash with my Pay Sgt and getting a squash ball hit me in the left eye. Causing a laceration to the eye. Nice rest in hospital. Then when we were on one of our usual trips to 45Cdo in Aden trouble blew up in East Africa and 45 embarked on Victorious to go and sort it out. That left us lot on a visit with very few lads to entertain. As usual we rallied round and took over some of the jobs left vacant. I was Cinema operator. Got to go up and down to Steamer point and to HMS Juffair to change the films. We also manned th MT Section and took a convoy up to Dhala. Not bad for Bandies eh! Do you remember our jaunt round Malaya. Pete picked up a ROCK that suddenly became a symbol on the bus. When told to do anything the reply was We have to ask the ROCK> Ruffled a few feathers among our leaders. Wonderful temperature up in the Cameron Highlands. Have been back to most of the places we visited. Singapore Malaya Borneo Sabah. Also several times to Australia. My son lives in Perth and is an Aussie now. Great to catch up and many thanks for jogging my memories. Best wishes and regards Mags

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message #: 1101

Date: Sunday April 22 2012 18:09:32 EST  
Name: Mags Marsh  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X3178  
Hometown: Devizes (now)  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet. Typewriter  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Mike Yes I was Band Sec to Pete Sumner. Best Boss I ever served. I often wonder if the collection of Crests in the corridor leading up to his office are still there. I used to try and collect them from any visits or trips. Also managed to scrounge a small naval field gun from the dockyard. Was in a bit of a state but with help managed to clean it up. As I used to help out the Royal Marine Cadets it was decided to do a mini Field Gun run for Navy Days. It worked really well. I wonder what happened to the gun? Mags.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1100

Date: Tuesday April 17 2012 21:46:01 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:  
Tony just remembered after twenty four hours that the twin engined aircraft was a RAF Valetta. Doesn't help much but hey just another memory.

---

message #: 1099

Date: Monday April 16 2012 20:53:22 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB?X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Tony The lake you mentioned was at BAU and the water was so pure. I was told that the lake was formed when the gold mine at the bottom was flooded to prevent it from becoming a prize for the Japanese. When the war ended they could not pump it dry so no more gold. The aircraft you mentioned was a Single Engine Scottish Aviation Pioneer. The other chap with us was none other than Rodney Colbourne. We had gone up to Siby by RN Minesweeper. It was intended that we all fly back to Kuching by some other aircraft. A twin engine thing that at the moment I can't remember the name of. But it couldn't take all of us so we three VOLUNTEERED to go in the little one. Do you remember that the Pilot Officer who was driving this thing telling us we would fly at 6000ft. and to pull the cord if the engine failed and that we could jump out when we hit the trees? How to make one feel confident. However I must say that it was much better than flying in any mark of C130 Hercules which I ended up doing for the next 27 years in the RAAF. So good to hear from you Tony. My best wishes to you and yours. Keep safe.

---

message #: 1098

Date: Monday April 16 2012 18:33:11 EST  
Name: Mike tellick  
Email: mikellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Tony I am assuming that you are the same "Mags Marsh" that was Band Sec to Peter Sumner in the late '60s. I met Peter in later life when I was a commercial traveller in the jewellery trade. Both he and Margaret made me very welcome at their home in Doncaster whenever I was in their area. It would be great to meet up with you again after all these years (well over 40)!! There is many a lamp to be swung and dits retold no doubt with just a bit of embellishment!!! Surely not!!!!!! Best wishes Mike

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1097

Date: Monday April 16 2012 14:53:49 EST  
Name: Tony (Mags) Marsh  
Email: tony\_3178@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X3178  
Hometown: Devizes  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet (Typewriter)  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Eric I saw your Photograph of Borneo. I am one of the people in it. Just a short resume of that trip. We had already (maybe) done a small concert for an old peoples establishment on our way to Simanggang on the northern border between Borneo and Indonesia during the Confrontation. When we got to Simanggang to play for an advanced Company of 42 CDO and 9/12 Ghurka and Royal engineers. The Camp was next to a flooded fresh water mine lake. During that tour you and I managed to beg a flight in an Auster Spotter Plane. I think that their was someone else in the plane. I hope my memory is not playing me tricks. Regards Tony

---

message #: 1096

Date: Tuesday April 10 2012 16:09:33 EST  
Name: michael hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: rmbx2638  
Hometown: newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:

Just a quickie to say that the RMA Concert Band performed in Southampton for the RMS TITANIC memorial day today Tuesday 10th April. A splendid concert to a very keen audience with many relatives in attendance of those who perished on that great ship. David Cole at the helm and it was on the TV and radio this evening. Regards to all. Michael.

---

message #: 1095

Date: Sunday April 8 2012 19:45:50 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB?X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Good to see that you are still around Ken. Maybe a trip to Adelaide next April will reignite some friendships from way back. We would love to make you welcome at our reunion.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1094

Date: Saturday April 7 2012 04:26:33 EST  
Name: Mike tellick  
Email: mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing, Now Sittingbourne  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard  
Happy Easter to you and all readers on this excellent site. Along with a goodly representation of our unique family I attended the funeral of "Rivs" Howgill last week. It was a sad yet humour filled occasion with stories from his sons about their dad. I met up with amongst others Adrian Brett whom I had not seen since I was rated in 1959. Could I ask through this site to ask him to contact me at mikeltellick@hotmail.co.uk Thanks again for all the work you put into making this site work. Yours aye Mike

---

message #: 1093

Date: Wednesday April 4 2012 20:06:11 EST  
Name: Ken Collis  
Email: colliseumnz@g mail.com

Service Number: RMBx2403  
Hometown: Bristol Chatham ow NZ  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Still alive and kicking..... the bass drum that is.

---

message #: 1092

Date: Wednesday April 4 2012 12:35:25 EST  
Name: Samantha Maidment (nee Hughes)  
Email: sammmaidment29@sky.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Please can someone update my fathers entry as follows: C/SGT Bugle Major Hughes Dad's Service Number was - 256872 Dad's Funeral will take place on Monday 16th April at 12 o'clock at St Martin's Church Mongeham Deal followed by a burial at Hamilton Road Cemetery and then afterwards at the RMA The Strand Deal. Everyone welcome  
x

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1091

Date: Tuesday April 3 2012 19:20:21 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aonet.com.au

Service Number: RMB?X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi Richard Once again the Adelaide reunion has been and gone. Why are the years so short now. Glenelg South Australia was again the venue for the gathering of ex RMBs and we had a great weekend. It did seem to pass so quickly but for those of us who were there it was great to catch up again, those present were: Tony Oberdries from NZ Mike Thompson (known to his bugler mates as TOMMO 2) John Meir Ray (Taff) Taylor Ralph Payne who retired from RMB in 1954 Ginge Chamberlain who had managed to keep his rams away from his 5000 sheep I kid you not Barrie Baker Pat Trevis Bob Chumley and of course the one and only Capt Tom Lambert who although very tired was able to join us for the official lunch on the Saturday. Also joining us for the first time was Kevin Hillier Ex RAN Band who did his training at the RMSM in Deal and is therefore one of us. Apologies were received from several of our stalwarts Bill Matthews Jim Mason and Maxie Beare among others. When I am able I will send a Photo but must confess that I don't know how to do that so will await my better half to arrive home. Our weekend started with the usual meet and greet on Friday 30th which was once again held in the Dining room of our motel with food to feed an army. Of course the bar open was also open. Saturday 31st after photos we were piped aboard the replica of HMS Buffalo by Cadets of the RAN and enjoyed a wonderful lunch. The toast to Absent Friends was proposed by Tom Lambert. He unfortunately had to leave shortly after because he was so tired. He has gone through a bad stretch recently having lost his dear wife on Boxing Day and now in a full care facility. But as he said "he made it". After the Loyal Toast a letter received from the PDM was read to the silent assembly with a cheer on hearing the last few words which indicated that PDM would at some time attend our reunion. Tom then indicated that he would have to leave and on doing so received three rousing cheers which he thanked us all for and wished us all well. So much more I could tell but the weekend was over after the Sunday BBQ and the reading of Paddy's Poem and Jan and I had to dash off back to Bendigo so that she would then be able to attend a family funeral. Adelaide now awaits we ex RMBs to arrive in 2013 for the next reunion of ex RMBs. I hate to stress the point but for those who have not yet attended well you really don't know what you have missed. But just so that you may be able to join us well the first weekend in APRIL 2013 has been booked. So see you there.

---

message #: 1090

Date: Sunday April 1 2012 16:35:01 EST  
Name: Dickie Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Piano  
n/a:

Comments:

Dear friends I am informed (courtesy of Tony Oliver) that the funeral arrangements for Mick Hughes are confirmed. April 16th at 1200hrs. Location: Mongeham C of E Church and then burial at Hamilton Road Cemetery. Afterwards at the RMA. Our condolences to Mick's family.

---

message #: 1089

Date: Sunday April 1 2012 07:44:48 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adranbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: Greenwich LONDON  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:

I attended the funeral of 'Rivs' Howgill on Friday. Although I did not know him well I do recall him as a junior member in the flute class at RMSM during my last couple of years as a junior 1961-62. It was a beautiful sunny afternoon at the crematorium in Sittingbourne and there was an excellent representation by ex-RMBs upwards of 20 or so I would estimate. The padre gave one of the finest tributes I have ever heard at such an occasion; warm caring and addressing the qualities of the man and the valued contributions he made in his life. 'Rivs' three sons stood up and one of them gave several accounts of their Dad's great sense of humour. It was not a sad occasion at all and the relaxed composure of all the family was noteworthy and clearly a credit to 'Rivs'. Terry Freestone immaculate and articulate as usual gave an account of 'Rivs' service career and later employment at the Royal Albert Hall. A reception was held at Gillingham British Legion Club... dutifully attended by many ex-RMBs. I enjoyed some pleasant time with among others Mike Tellick and Bob Gill and his wife. Also present at the funeral was Terry Parker looking little different from when I recall him as Staff Band librarian...at Fred's beck and call. I can still hear Fred's voice: "Parker....Parker...." for him to be duly reprimanded for some missing part or score only to scurry back to his little hidey-hole. So all in all a very good send off for someone clearly greatly respected and loved by all who knew him. RIP "Rivs".

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1088

Date: Thursday March 29 2012 16:37:41 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bassoonaphone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dickie So sorry to hear of the passing of Johnny Williams. I served with John in Plymouth Group Band in 1969 and remember John as always having a smile on his face. I will certainly endeavour to be at his funeral to say goodbye. Roy

---

message #: 1087

Date: Thursday March 29 2012 08:30:09 EST  
Name: Alick Harwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4012  
Hometown: Whitstable  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Reported by JC Puddle on Wednesday 28th March. "It is with great regret and a saddened heart I have to report that Mick Hughes passed away this morning to the big Buglers' Grot in the sky. He was taken ill to QEQM Margate in the early hours of this morning and unfortunately died at 0900hrs. He was a great character best man at my wedding and loyal friend to me for about 45 years. I will miss his sense of humour and little quips that made Mick who he was. My heartfelt condolences go to Cherry Sarah and Samantha. RIP Mick my good friend. Funeral arrangements are yet to be arranged and I will post when known. Watch this space for those who wish to attend...Alick

---

message #: 1086

Date: Wednesday March 28 2012 18:02:55 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3242  
Hometown: Tennyson/Sydney  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
This weekend in Adelaide the reunion will be held and I should have been there but unfortunately have to be in hospital next Wednesday for a minor adjustment to the internal plumbing? so to all those who have been able to make the reunion Greetings from Sylvia and I we hope you all have a good time and hope to see you all next year. All the best of life.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1085

Date: Tuesday March 27 2012 10:09:57 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2902  
Hometown: Par  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
My apologies to all who may have wanted to send a E mail to Dave Chamberlaine the correct address is d.chamberlaine@btinternet.com sorry for the confusion Cheers Pete.

---

message #: 1084

Date: Monday March 26 2012 18:16:05 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a:

Comments:  
I would very much wish to send my sincere best wishes to Dave Chamberlain but the email address which is portrayed in the Guest Book cannot be right. I would be most grateful to who ever can establish the correct description of the email address.

---

message #: 1083

Date: Sunday March 25 2012 18:00:40 EST  
Name: Maxie Beare  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx 2234  
Hometown: Orewa NZ  
Instrument/s: SOLO CORNET  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
My dear friends Today the 26th March 2012 is that date that I joined our Band Service way back in 1945 and I am still in contact with Joe Simms and Alan Johnson there were more but sadly over the years have lost touch what a shame. So if any are out there and wish to reminisce please do so. I heard recently from John Masters with news of the Margate Concert names and programme. Not many known to us oldies appears all out of Puff like myself. Having moved prior to Christmas to a retirement village this is my first opportunity to catch up surprising how much one misses by not reading more often! Must say it's a real pleasure reading of the achievements of former Bandsmen why wasn't I born talented instead of ansome? Don't answer that! Right then that's all from the South Pacific for now off now to practice more later warm regards. Bernard S Maxie Beare

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1082

Date: Sunday March 25 2012 16:39:51 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX2902  
Hometown: Par  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

At last some good news! I opened my daily paper this week to see a picture of old friend Stan Hacking, Xmas 18 months ago he was in hospital and not expected to survive. Now he has because of his charity fund raising been selected to carry the Olympic flame somewhere in the Exeter area. He goes on a daily walk so appears quite fit. Good on you Stan the band service will be watching with pride. Cheers Pete.

---

message #: 1081

Date: Friday March 23 2012 19:38:24 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX2902  
Hometown: PAR  
Instrument/s: Trombone.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Such sad news on the site of my old friend J.T. Williams we served together at Plymouth and met many times at brass band competitions may he rest in peace after his long ordeal. My condolences to his wife and family. Another of our brothers is suffering the same problem as was John. Dave Chamberlaine has been suffering for the last two years in silence. I e mailed this week to find out how the treatment had gone only to find nothing had worked and he is now in palliative care with a daily nurse etc. I am sure there are lots of bandsmen who would love to wish him well. His E mail address is david@juned.chamberlaine@btinternet.com I am sure he would like a call. Best Wishes to all.

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message #: 1080

Date: Thursday March 22 2012 13:19:11 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar. Spain  
Instrument/s: bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:

The Late John Williams. RIP. Just let those of you who may wish to attend the funeral for John it is on Tuesday the 10th April at 1200 Hrs at the crematorium Chichester. By family request please no Black clothing family only flowers any donations should be made to St Wilfrids Hospice Grovesnor Road Chichester. I will be attending.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1079

Date: Tuesday March 20 2012 16:33:58 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/clart/vln  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Sorry to hear of the passing of John Williams who I knew for a period of time but can't for the life of me remember where or when it was. I do have a recollection of John having a very keen sense of humour and being one of those likeable characters that every band had and I for one like many others felt good just by knowing him. I send my deepest condolences to his friends and family he will be sorely missed. Jem

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message #: 1078

Date: Tuesday March 20 2012 11:33:15 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Sad Greetings from Spain. I have received an E Mail from Barry Radford to let me know that John (Johnny) Williams (French Horn) crossed the bar on Sunday 18th March. John had a long battle with dreaded big C for about 15 years and lost it when it got into his bones. Like many of us John and I were in the wing (Eagle House) at the same time in the late 50s in fact we shared the same room when we moved from East to North when the New Block was new we never served together but like most our paths crossed on the playing fields of Deal. I can also remember him from his days with the Brighton Bus's Brass Band which he conducted for a few years and with some success. My condolences to his wife Mary and family and to all of you who had the pleasure to know and maybe serve with John. JOHN WILLIAMS RIP.

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message #: 1077

Date: Monday March 19 2012 14:12:29 EST  
Name: Terry Freestone  
Email: terryfreestone@vfast.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X 2505  
Hometown: Barham Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Ahoy there Shipmates I'm appealing for help in compiling an obit. notice for Blue Band on our late companion Rivers Howgill requested by Mark Snell down in Nelson. As BB is probably very near to going to the printers time is of the essence. Rivs served in Eagle (B/Mr Dennis Brown) St Angelo in Malta Ganges and Pembroke with CinC Fleet band. Pam is sending me a copy of his Service Certificate but that only gives the bare bones; it needs personal reminiscences and anecdotes to bring an article to life and while I formed a very great regard for his integrity and personal qualities I wasn't in a position to get to know him closely in those days. Can I ask anyone who ever knew Rivs to cull their memories of runs ashore and times past so we can do a worthy job for our late dear friend. A make and mend with leave for any assistance you can give. Best wishes to you all. Terry

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1076

Date: Monday March 19 2012 07:45:14 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Folks After hearing of the sad news of Riv's Howgill's passing I got to thinking of other people who I knew in Pembroke Band at that time. One such person was Roy (Alf) Kaigin (Not sure of the correct spelling of the surname) he also was a Flute and Piano player and a fine musician all round. Like Riv's I never met up with Alf after I left the RMB but I did hear that he went to Canada. He also became keen on composing music of all types including some for Military Bands. Does anyone out there know what became of Roy (Always thought of as Alf by me) and if indeed he is still with us? If he is I would love to make contact with him again. Best Wishes to all. Nobby.

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message #: 1075

Date: Sunday March 18 2012 09:14:01 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hullo to you all. I've just read the sad news of Rivers Howgill. He was a great friend during our time with Fleet Band at Chatham and a very good flute player too. My condolences at this sad time to his family. Mike.

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message #: 1074

Date: Saturday March 17 2012 19:01:26 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Roger joined the RAAF AIR COMMAND BAND as a Clarinet player at Richmond New South Wales in the 1970's. I only met him once when we that is RAAF Central Band were tasked to mass with them for some gig in Sydney. He was not with them for long. I am not sure how or why he left but think it was something to do with his body building. However as an ex RMB he has been on our Data Base for the Adelaide Reunion for the last nine years. He has been unable to join us at all as every time he was advised of the date he replied that he could not attend as he was otherwise occupied in China. As a result of seeing the photo of Paddy and Roger we are now trying to regain contact as it seems he may have changed his email address. If anyone should know of Roger's address either email or snail mail could you please let me know. Incidentally our reunion is only two weeks away. Just time to catch a flight I'd say.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1073

Date: Saturday March 17 2012 05:07:18 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

More sad news to hear of the passing of Rivs Howgill. I first met him when I was posted to Pembroke Band Chatham on my arrival back from Singapore. He was a smashing chap who would help out anyone if he could. When I ended up in Haslar for quite a long time he always made sure that my wife Sandra was provided with travel warrants to visit me and would stop at nothing to ensure that my wife and family were given the support that they needed at that time. Sadly I never saw him again when I had to leave Pembroke Band and indeed the RMB but I will always remember him for the kind friendly happy go lucky chap he was. Rest in Peace old chap.

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message #: 1072

Date: Friday March 16 2012 11:43:23 EST  
Name: Mike tellick  
Email: miketellick@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3512  
Hometown: Lancing  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar./ Sarnie Boat!!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Richard Just heard the news about Rivs Howgill. Some years ago he met a friend of mine on a train to London. They were on their way to see their son off to join the Navy. They found out that Rivs was an ex bandie and asked him if they knew me yes was the reply. At that time Rivs worked at the RAH and offered my friend the use of the box belonging to Lady Grade widow of Lew for the MFM that year. Thanks to Rivs my friend's other son has now joined the RMB as a bassoon holder well someone has to!! That was my first visit to the MFM and in April I am taking a party of 98 to this years gig many of the musicians from the RBL Central band. Thanks Rivs for the memory and hospitality of that night years ago. It is always sad to hear of someone one served with crossing the bar especially at such a young age. My thoughts are with his family at this time. Your's aye  
Mike

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message #: 1071

Date: Thursday March 15 2012 12:04:57 EST  
Name: JEM TUGWOOD  
Email: jemtugwood@sky.com

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: ctt/alto/vln  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

It was nice to see the photograph of Paddy Semple with Roger Walker who I had the pleasure of knowing for a brief time back in the early 70's I think. I remember that Roger was at Eastney for a while and had 3 or 4 uniforms of all different sizes which were necessary when he was competing in body building competitions and put on or dieted down in weight in double quick time. I looked up a short profile about him on Google some time ago and it would appear that the year he entered Mr Universe for a second time having won it the year previously (think I got that right) Arnie Schwarznegger also entered and it became obvious that the competition was somewhat fixed as Arnie brought a film team etc with him to record the crowning event. If Roger has joined this site or needs a little nudging towards doing so I'm sure there are plenty of old friends out there that would be very pleased to hear what he has been doing all those years of non contact. I also seem to remember that Roger was/is a Clarinet player and found it somewhat difficult at times to play it as his arms were so big he couldn't bend them enough to hold the thing or that was what I was told by those who knew him better than I. If you're out there Rog, leave a message on the site there are loads of people waiting to say Hello including Peter Scott who I believe you a friend of. Best wishes Jem

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1070

Date: Thursday March 15 2012 10:56:15 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Greetings one and all. Some sad news I am afraid. I have just read elsewhere that Rivs Howgill (Flute) crossed the bar yesterday after a short illness. I served with him at Chatham as did many others he was a jovial chap and he had a massive Great Dane that slobbered all over everyone and everything not much room at the bar if the dog was there. My sincere condolences to his wife Pam and family and to all of you who had the pleasure to know and serve with him. Rivs Howgill. RIP.

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message #: 1069

Date: Monday March 12 2012 14:14:43 EST  
Name: Paul Harke  
Email: paulharker5@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3995  
Hometown: Norwich  
Instrument/s: Cornet and Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Richard Have just got back from the All Stars concert in jolly old Margate. Had a great weekend playing and talking with lads. One very funny thing happened when I was under training although it wasn't too funny at the time it was happening. I was returning from the galley one meal time and I thought it would be a good idea to cut the corner off the trip by going across the parade ground. Big mistake hadn't gone too far when a voice boomed out behind me. WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU ARE DOING LAD? I turned round to see an older guy I thought dressed in BD (battle dress) with three upside down hooks on his arm. You might guess my reply but I said just going back to my block TROOP. Cut a long story short he took no time at all explaining his actual rank which was of course Provost Marshall. He took no further action fortunately for me. One last thing while in Margate spoke to Pete Rose and Dave Lambert about 50th reunion for the 1/64 New Entry Squad in Deal April 14th 2014. So if any of the boys still with us who subscribe to this great site are interested get in touch or know the whereabouts of any of the squad. Myself Tony Hunter Pete Rose and Dave Lambert are already on board. Thanks Richard all the best.

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message #: 1068

Date: Monday March 12 2012 12:07:50 EST  
Name: Mags Marsh  
Email: tony\_3178@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X3178  
Hometown: Salisbury (Devizes now)  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Reading Derek's really good articles of the Good Old Days took me back so fast. Almost like it was yesterday. Lt/Capt Mansell was a real Adjutant Bxxxxxxx. Having suffered at his and his staffs hands and survived intact lo and behold if upon embarking on HMS Birmingham in the Med he was the Captain of Marines. Still the same attitude but now he had to deal with grown men. The story goes that whilst serving in Malaya and on patrol he received a gunshot wound in the backside. (Pain in the Ass??) The tale that went round is that it was 'Friendly Fire'??? Have no real proof other than the Marine serving with him was on another Ships Marine Detachment and told the tale. He was awarded the MC. (Mansell) What about some of his henchmen. RSM Dai Morgan (Little Hitler) Red Headed Provost Marshall (Can't think of his name) Drill Instructors by the score. Names not printable. Eagle House (Black Dog) Rode a motor bike to and from Chatham. Until a couple of really helpful angels sweetened his petrol with sugar. Naughty boys?? What was the name of the RSM before Morgan who rode a sit up and beg bike? I agree Derek that the way we were treated then would in today's climate be almost taken to the Geneva Convention. (Ha Ha) Remember the crime of Silent Contempt. Look wrongly or not and you suddenly found yourself between an escort and on the way to the Guard Room. Once suitably dealt with by the CO it was off to the Cell Block for a 7 day rest. (Torture Starvation Bullying Humiliation Firm Handling Etc) Must admit if I had kept my mouth shut and not reacted I would not have spent so much time in Cells. Didn't do any lasting harm. Gave me lots to remember!! More memories later. Cheers all.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1067

Date: Sunday March 11 2012 10:13:08 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi to all Today is 'All Stars Concert' day in Margate. Good luck to all. Second one in a row I have missed. But hope to be there again next year. Let's have a report of events this year. Please. Didn't get one last year. I've enjoyed the 'ramblings of Derek Usher (Ush The Lush). Brings back many memories. Especially of Capt. Mansell. I met him many years later. And asked about his attitude to us 'Band Boys'. He admitted that he was hard with us but really liked us. Then he asked if I had been in trouble in later life. No was my reply. Well he said. My system worked then didn't it??? Words of wisdom or what!!!! I continue to make good progress and my 'Gizmo' is working with pain relief. Hope to see many of you in Portsmouth in October. Regards to all Cheers Barry [Editor]  
Lo!! I wonder if Derek is so forgiving but lovely to get your update to his dit' and lovely also to know that you are enjoying much less pain than of late. Good on yer Baz! See you in Pompey.

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message #: 1066

Date: Friday March 9 2012 09:45:23 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB3645  
Hometown: Buuude in Kernal me &#39;ansome! - or Pompey now as it happens !  
Instrument/s: Cornet n Fiddle (sort of!)  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Just a note to Adrian. Thanks so much ole chum for your consideration & reminder in your most recent posting. I agree with you about the abuse factor. In fact do you think I could still sue the old b\*\*\*\*\*? - I'd certainly have enough witnesses to the event! Controversially (as we've seen recently in the press) there are many other people in high places being prosecuted for offences committed as far back as the 70's & 80's! More & more sufferers seem to have come out of the woodwork & who knows? - I too could be an extremely damaged soul but simply not aware it (until now) !! - :-))is he still alive? Even if he is frankly I wouldn't concern myself anyway. That incident was all a part of the process of the strictest discipline & learning & to make you doubly aware in future. You just COULD NOT allow those sort of total injustices to destroy or weaken you. It would always be a case of take it on the chin & get on with your lot for there is no way in the world that you'd ever get to win as a one year Junior Musician! But hey! Look what a fine man it eventually made of me Adrian! A lean mean fighting machine if ever you saw one !!!? & here's the BONUS - I could ALSO play an instrument or two at the end of training!! - What could that Sad Bad Major Mansell RM do when he retired eh? - Ride a bloody horse shoot some poor s'd & be cruel to children that's what! - A great legacy Sir! - I like to think that I won in the end! Thanks for your final assessment of this old fella Mr Brett! - Cheers all! P.S. The Guest Book works! As a result of my ramblings it's succeeded in alerting yet another old colleague in Mr Roy Adrian who has taken the trouble to drop me a line. Last seen when were both in 3/57 squad together! Such was the size of the RMB then. Great to hear from you Roy & I'll be in touch soon!

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message #: 1065

Date: Thursday March 8 2012 03:48:13 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend.Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hullo Richard Having been asked how my health was/is these days as the last report on Sick Bay was in September here is an update. I have had to have blood transfusions now and again as the haemoglobin level has been low. Two weeks ago I had to go into hospital in an ambulance with pneumonia! I was there for a week. I had a transfusion whilst I was there too! So there we are. I have to go to the blood clinic every month and then they can check on how things are. All the best Mike.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1064

Date: Wednesday March 7 2012 11:03:47 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: Greenwich LONDON  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Reading Derek Usher's 'entertaining' recollection of life in 'J' Wing and his horrific experience on parade made me ponder for a while....Can you imagine the public outcry today if such a story appeared in the press? Every single human right would have been violated by this single public act of personal humiliation and the adjutant would be very lucky not to have served a prison term... I am personally willing to attest to the fact that Derek's psychological and personal development was arrested in its infancy by this one single public act of humiliation in the presence of 2000 men on parade which has made him the quiet reserved withdrawn and anti-social character that he is today.....

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message #: 1063

Date: Wednesday March 7 2012 10:29:10 EST  
Name: Nobby(Herman)Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello to All Have just spent a very happy couple of hours at Jimmy Kay's place. Jimmy had a visitor Tom Bowler and we enjoyed very much talking about our "Boy's Wing" days at Deal and we were at times in fits of laughter recalling some of the antics we and other's got up to way back then. They were sometimes hard times but we also remembered many happy times as well. I for one would not change anything. Best Wishes to all of the RMB family.

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message #: 1062

Date: Sunday March 4 2012 17:37:54 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB?X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello again Rodney Been some time since we last corresponded. Memories of one Joseph Dickson Place and of course Chippy carpenter both of whom have departed for the massed band of the Departed. Tony (Mags) great to see that you are still around my best to you and yours. Cheers from Oz land Eric.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1061

Date: Sunday March 4 2012 12:52:54 EST  
Name: Mags Marsh  
Email: tony\_3178@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X3178  
Hometown: Devizes  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet (Swimming Trunks)  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Rodders and Beryl. Glad to see you are both in Gosport. Such a long time from Singapore and Daedalus. What a lot of time has passed under the bridge eh! Hope we can swap memories. Have put my email. Regards to you both Mags

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message #: 1060

Date: Sunday March 4 2012 06:30:25 EST  
Name: Rodney Colborne  
Email: rodney.c123@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX 3330  
Hometown: Gosport Hampshire  
Instrument/s: Flute & Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have been reading messages from old comrades and just to say I am living in Gosport and always pleased to hear from anyone who knew me. Nice to hear of Graham Dench and Mags Marsh. Regards to all Rodders & Beryl.

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message #: 1059

Date: Saturday March 3 2012 16:58:19 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Bude Cornwall but Pompey since &#39;68 !  
Instrument/s: Cornet &#39; Fiddle (sort of!)  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Rich! Just back from 3 week hols down in Kerala Sth India. Nice for some you might say. But in truth I'm just spending the kids inheritance! Anyway I've popped onto the site tonight to see all the messages & those great but sad pic's of Deal Barracks sent in by Ginge. Well done to him too. They certainly seem to have got the old memory banks working overtime with contributions by many great colleagues that I've known or served with. As soon as I started to read some of the recalls I found myself instantly transported back to my time training days 1957-1960 & the very mixed feelings I experienced then until somehow I learnt to accept it as a way of life from which there was very little chance of escape - unless you were desperate! There were some of course who just couldn't hack it & did all in their power to escape by jumping the wall - only to be seen 3 or 4 days later being marched back in disgrace & in close order less RM's or cap badges! Later you'd see the transgressors being doubled around the parade ground or Drill Shed for an hour or more in full fighting order all weighed down with sand! Once I'd witnessed this I knew I had to get my head down and get on with it. There really was little point in moaning about your lot as we were all in the same boat anyway! - Strangely I got to enjoy the challenge more & more after those early days & you cannot replicate the camaraderie we enjoyed (& still do as our reunions clearly testify!) But Roy Adrian's account amused me greatly. (Hi! Roy, remember me? You should do we were in the same recruit squad in Apr 57 !!) Just his mention of Major Mansell sent instant shivers down my back. Did anyone EVER like him? His wife & kids perhaps - but even that's hard to believe right now! He was next to evil & pipped the RSM twice over! - Similarly to Roy I also experienced the breath of his bloody horse on a freezing cold January Wednesday Adjutants Parade. - We always made an extra special effort for this parade to ensure we weren't going to be "picked up" for anything at all. To this end we all used to inspect each other in detail prior to falling in. So I went onto parade confident that there was nothing about my appearance that I could possibly be penalised for..... WROONGG !!! Standing rigidly to attention not moving a muscle but still feeling confident as the Major leant down on his horse to inspect Peter Scott right next to me. At this point I was level but below the horses head that suddenly shook wildly letting out an ear shattering sneeze all over me! My face was wet with it's saliva & unbeknown to me it had succeeded in dulling down my cap badge & buttons sufficiently just prior to his move onto me. As he did so his immediate words were to instruct Sgt Tyack to have me removed from the parade & to double away to return with a dustbin! - I'd no idea why until I returned with said 'bin. The Major then instructed that the whole parade be stood easy whilst I was instructed to take the bin to the centre near the Diaz jump into the bin and was then told to announce to all four corners of North Barracks Parade that "I am Rubbish" four times followed by the reason given by the Major that I had neglected to clean my brasses which was both an insult to both he his RSM & fellow drill instructors and of course my house (Barham House at the time!) I also had to peel spuds for the remainder of the week & lose a w/e's leave! Thanks Mansell Sir you \*\*@!%\*!?! (Mmm. 'Just realised that this will sound a bit far fetched to those who joined after Staybrites were introduced!) How easy life was after that & indeed plastic painted helmets & white gear! No more blanco! Happy days eh!? - Look forward to more anecdotes if anyone has them! Derek.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1058

Date: Saturday March 3 2012 09:35:41 EST  
Name: Mags Marsh  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X3178  
Hometown: Devizes  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet (Swimming Trunks)  
n/a:

Comments:  
Glad to see that there are still some of us about. Read messages from Eric Hayward. Thanks. Remember our days in the Water Polo team Charlie. Cold Water at Folkestone? Nice to see Sid Sheard Bob Chumley Graham Dench are contributors. Hope to keep contacting from now on. Anyone heard from Rod Colbourne. Best wishes to all Mags

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message #: 1057

Date: Wednesday February 29 2012 07:55:26 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: Greenwich LONDON  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
All very interesting these posts about 'the good old days'!! I played the last 8 years of BBC TV's longest running show--"The Good Old Days" from the City Varieties in Leeds in the mid-80s. One week I decided to make contact with Albert Hill ex-Glos Hse J/Sgt and went to visit him in Stockport. He met me at the station.....with his Glos Hse notebook complete with ALL of the notes with days and remarks: "Brett-dirty buttons"...."Arbery dirty welts of boots".... "Griffiths -haircut". Just when you thought you had forgotten all those parades behind the New Block Albert gave me a reminder!! Actually as I recall it we were inspected before afternoon instruction as well as mornings when there were no parades on the main parade ground. How on earth did Laurie Loveless and Ginge Hammond ( I think ) manage to repair and run a big American car which they kept over by the adj's stable somewhere? Reading about Ginge Carruthers brought a tear to my eye. What a lovely kind man he was and one of our heroes if the story is to be believed. Reputedly when he was a B/Cpl on board a ship some 'pigs' started to throw food at the trio.....after which Ginge went up to the main offender and promptly smashed him over the head with his fiddle...earning DQs and being dipped to Musn. I want to believe the story to be true! Anyone have contact info for Albert Hill (P.E.Hill-trombone) ???

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message #: 1056

Date: Saturday February 25 2012 07:28:49 EST  
Name: Graham Dench  
Email: thedenchs@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X 3236  
Hometown: Pitmedden Aberdeen  
Instrument/s: Flut and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Earlier this week my wife and I were fortunate to once again be able to attend a concert in Aberdeen by the RM Band Scotland which is based at HMS Caledonia Rosyth and was under the direction of Capt Ian Davis. The concert was one in the series that the RM Bands give in aid of the maritime charity Seafarers UK and what a great concert it was given in front of a near capacity audience. I thought that the programme and quality of musicianship was absolutely outstanding and though I am sure we consider that concert bands were good back in our days and they were the Concert Band and Big Band we listened to the other evening was in my opinion far superior. Apart from the musicianship and talent what impressed me greatly was the far more relaxed type of discipline throughout the band and the fun and enjoyment the players were so obviously having during the concert all of which I am sure helped to produce that great concert. Long may they continue this standard the wife and I are already looking forward to next years concert. Like many other ex colleagues I too was very saddened to see the photo's of North Barracks but they did jog the old memory banks and what memories came flooding out many happy and some not so happy - extra drill and parades in the drill shed!! It has also been good to read of the many memories in the letters of other ex bandies and as some names of the distant past are recalled. With my good wishes to all who might remember me.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1055

Date: Friday February 24 2012 19:27:38 EST  
Name: Tony Hunter (Overton)  
Email: tonyhnr@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 3999  
Hometown: Kennethmont Aberdeenshire  
Instrument/s: Cornet and Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

If memory serves me the empty garages were at the back of recruit wing and part of the MT department. It's where the recruits formed up before marching onto the main parade every morning. In 64 when I joined we formed up for church parade outside M coy and HQ Coy by the globe then the ODs were separated and then off to St Mikes. The fotos are really great and brought back a lot of memories. Will be in Deal after the All Stars concert and looking forward to a good look around and seeing some of the old places and drinking holes so any one fancy a pint?

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message #: 1054

Date: Tuesday February 21 2012 06:24:04 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email: french.horn@btopenworld.com

Service Number: RMB4336  
Hometown: Great Mongeham  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Good news! Thanks to the convenience of PayPal I have renewed my buddy list subs! I'm still 'playing' the Horn. I recently worked with Kent Sinfonia for a Tour of China consisting of 10 Concerts. An amazing Country and a great experience for me as it was one place I'd never been to during my 26 years in the RMBS. Tonight I'm playing with the Kent Concert Orchestra at the new Marlowe Theatre at Canterbury. For my sins I'm Principal Horn of the Central Band of the RBL where our DOM is David Cole. Please see my website: <http://www.bryanwalkerhorn.co.uk> Last Summer I worked for English Heritage as a Guide in the Secret Wartime Tunnels at Dover Castle. This Thursday I have an interview to do it all again this year! If successful the job will be permanent which will be a weight off my mind as it's not that easy getting work when one is almost 57! (Well in 3 days to be precise!) All the best to those who me and those who don't!

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message #: 1053

Date: Monday February 20 2012 07:43:08 EST  
Name: Charlie Laws  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/X3057  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Water polo ball and Cornet?  
n/a:

Comments:

I know were some of the red Lino ended up from the concert hall on my floor at home and is still under the carpet.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1052

Date: Sunday February 19 2012 09:34:02 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rvalentine1951@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Clarinet & Piano  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Dear Jem one and all I have recently spent a weekend with Tony O' and during my sojourn around Deal I made a trip down Canada Road et al. You have to see it all to truly believe it! As for that Drill Shed Jem it's been dust pan and brushed and there now stands expensive housing as indeed the whole of North Barracks are a good sized housing estate. Only one or two references to the old place such as Neptune Court and I do believe that there is a road named after Gloucester. You can all be assured that the beauty of East Barracks and South Barracks has been preserved as those buildings are protected due to their historic value. Non the less the are all VERY expensive housing condo's and flats. One or two of our fav' pubs have gone on the Strand. RMA still remains the Stag but Lord Clyde gone and several others here and there. Dunkerley's took over the Pegasus next door the good ol' King's Head and the Port Arms still there. Just down the road from The Hole in the Roof near the r/w station is going to be of all things.....a Wetherspoons! However the Beach Parlour is unchanged and Deal is worth a visit still for the best of ever reasons. It was for many of us our first home away from home. 'appy memories! Keep 'em alive eh? Dickie. PS: Hands up all those who are older than Merv!!!!

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message #: 1051

Date: Sunday February 19 2012 08:26:25 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email: jemtugwood@sky.com

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/clart/vln  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

My memories of the parade area behind J wing are mainly of Saturday morning fatigues parade it soon became apparent that where you stood in the squad directly affected what fatigue you were likely to get detailed off for as the list was usually read out in the same order each Saturday. The worst fatigue was to my memory polishing the deck of the music library which in those days was located next to the musical instrument workshop in east barracks opposite the Buglers practise block. The library was a large hut with what seemed to be an endless amount of floor covering and took ages to complete and one to be avoided at all costs there were of course some square numbers to be had but what they were has slipped my mind at present. I remember that during the Winter months firefighters was a good gig to get on as it meant escaping morning parades was a nice warm job and not too taxing. What I don't understand is why the drill shed was destroyed and left (apparently) as a heap of rubble unless of course vandalism has evolved into demolition these days it's almost as if someone has destroyed it to make some sort of a statement but I'm blown if I can fathom out what or why. As has been previously written we all have our own memories of the barracks and our time spent there be it north east or south and some of those memories send shudders through our bodies (bit like first sighting Lympstone for a course back in the 60's urrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr) but alongside those memories I think we all have some special ones that helped to build our future lives and made us proud to have been part of such a special service.....hang on I'm filling up here silly old sod!!! Jem

---

message #: 1050

Date: Sunday February 19 2012 07:27:01 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: A long wooden one  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Dickie it appears that a can of worms appears to have opened over "those photos".As I know no one that is older than Merv Durrant I have to go along with his memories. Bert Fuggle will be turning in his grave at the site of the parquet flooring being ripped up. I wonder what happened to it and all the Brass plates off all the doors? One of the funniest drill moves I remember was "You are all blank file men Squad will about turn.....one one two STAND STILL!!!! Never ever used it in my career but still there in my memory. Say what you like about RM Deal I have more happy memories than bad. How about you?"

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1049

Date: Saturday February 18 2012 13:24:03 EST  
Name: pete pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Rich with reference to the shell case outside the new block I wonder if it was the one in the area between Gloucester House & Neptune House coridor I think it was a 12 inch shell from HMS Barham cheers Pendles.

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message #: 1048

Date: Saturday February 18 2012 08:37:49 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Great to see the input about those photos of the barracks. With the Globe Theater and the MT section came the .22 rifle range where I manage to get medals in 52 Barham Group winner and Inter Dept. As for the Church parades this only came out last year talking to Sheila this about the same year I decided to go sick to get out of it with stomach ache nothing wrong really so I was kept in over night next day into an ambulance and off to the Naval Hospital in Chatham where they duely removed my appendics now when anyone see's the scar ALL 12 inches of it it's OMG what ever happened there done by a RN Surgeon Captain so beware in telling PORKIES. So wonderful to read all that is going on with friends and comrades. My very Best wishes to every one Noel

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message #: 1047

Date: Saturday February 18 2012 05:40:56 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto clart vln.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sorry Dickie I posted the message and forgot to input my personal details did the message still go? Jem No I don't believe so.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1046

Date: Friday February 17 2012 17:13:23 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB?X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:  
I wonder if some one of my time would remember the Brass Shell case that hung on the edge of the parade. This was struck at 0800 on the order from the RSM "Bugler Strike the Gong". This shell case was a relic from a Battleship in WW1. Anyway it disappeared during the sinking of the piles for the building of the new blocks being built and rumour had it that the gong was put into one of the holes under the piledriver. No one was ever charged over it but it was thought that one of the 200 plus 'Boy Musicians' was responsible.

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message #: 1045

Date: Thursday February 16 2012 18:07:00 EST  
Name: Roy Adrian  
Email: ra.adrian181@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3647  
Hometown: Carlton-le-Moorland  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello Richard - to join the great debate re the area behind the New Block. I agree that during the week it was Gloucester House' (personal!) parade ground but on Sundays it turned into the OD's Church Parade Ground with where B/Sgt Joe 'Ginge' Carruthers was i/c. Having inspected us he then duly marched us off up to Walmer Baptist Church before 'collecting' and marching us back again after the service - hence we always got our Sunday lunch rather late a bit on the cold side & what the C of E lads 'kindly' left us!!!!!! I too shed a tear or two on seeing the Deal Barracks photos - how sad especially as I could see some of the windows of the rooms I had lived in. Also the Drill Shed held memories for me. By invitation of the Adjutant (Mansell!!!!!!) on "STAND FAST NEPTUNE HOUSE" I managed to spend 3 x 1 hrs on 3 consecutive evenings in there because his horse had sneezed on the brasses of my belt. Protest by myself and an appeal by Sgt Ken Thwaites didn't do any good and could easily have led to an increase to the "3 Hours Extra Drill" - ah well can laugh at it now but it all adds up to the many many happy memories I and many of us have of RMSM Deal during its 'glorious years' . As the song goes "Those were the days my friend" Best wishes to you all  
ROY

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message #: 1044

Date: Thursday February 16 2012 10:05:50 EST  
Name: Ginge Deary  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3806  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Roy wrote "Church Parade was always held on the area outside the Globe and in front of M Company" while I remember the location as being to the rear of the New Block. I suspect the difference of opinion is due to the fact we were in J Wing at different times and the area Roy mentions was used at a later date.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1043

Date: Wednesday February 15 2012 17:21:40 EST  
Name: Dave Mutter  
Email: dam6567@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: cello/tubas  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Dear Richard In response to Ginge's phots and Roy's remembrance of what went on and where my recollections are slightly different. Firstly I would like to thank who ever took the phots of RM Depot and RMSM that looking on the inside of the 'New Block' brought back many memories of those times in the early sixties. The drying room and the corridor towards the recruits for the Commando were unbelievable. The doors still have the brass foot plates and the sight of the bedside light brought to remembrance Sgt Major Diamond's great saying "Pay attention light bulbs!!" on pay parade every Thursday in the 'beloved'!? drill shed the scene of the horrors of the 'Adjutant's parade'. Say no more!! Behind the 'New Block' was the Gloucester House assembly parade place of which I was a member where boy nco's did their worst and the House 'adult' Sgt would give us grief. In those days we paraded for Church Parade and I think each 'House' were inspected and marched independently to the Church by their Boy Sgt. It was also the area where 1/61 new entry squad did much of their drill practice. Approaching an Officer with a written message with cape on? The mind boggles. Thank you whoever you are for the bringing to mind of those days. Dave Mutter The MT slot was not far from the Globe and probably to the right of it.

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message #: 1042

Date: Wednesday February 15 2012 14:16:42 EST  
Name: Mervyn Durrant  
Email: mervcd3518@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3518  
Hometown: Ropley Alesford  
Instrument/s: clarinet/ violin / broom / pantech  
n/a:

**Comments:**

In the early days church parades were on the main parade. The MT was next to the Globe theatre as were the workshops. In my day (1956/60) there was no garages behind the new block- it was Gloucester House parade ground so they must have been built after 1960. Bearing in mind during that time there were 300/400 junior musicians and buglers under training so each House had their own parade ground around the block. CG Squad parade was outside K Block. Hope this information is of some use. (See you at the Reunion Roy and I will tell you more!)Merv

---

message #: 1041

Date: Wednesday February 15 2012 09:02:12 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Terrywilliamsaphone  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Dickie/Ginge Church Parade was always held on the area outside the Globe and in front of M Company. The area behind the New Block was if my tired old memory serves me the former MT Yard and repair shops. Can anyone confirm these details It wouldn't matter if this area was where Junior Bandies were digging their escape tunnel but it helps me rest a little better at night. Wouldn't it be great if we could do a THEN & NOW set of photies taken at the exact spot.....any takers Roy

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1040

Date: Monday February 13 2012 10:46:13 EST  
Name: Ginge Deary  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
I can't take credit for being the photographer. I've just passed on someone elses work which was sent my way. The area in front of the garages to the rear of the New Block was used for Sunday parades. The Happy Trumpeter

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message #: 1039

Date: Sunday February 12 2012 14:04:57 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Bassoonamaphone 1st Bass Drum  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dickie Just viewed "The sad demise of RM Deal" in pictures. I cannot believe that I am not the only one who shed a tear at such a sad sad sight. I remember entering from Canada Road as a 15 year old schoolboy and going from boy to adult in the hallowed North-East-South Barracks. Yes we all wished our time away whilst being there and couldn't wait to leave. The photo "help me out here" is of the garages at the rear of J Wing to the left of the Cemetary. Thank you Mr Deary for taking such poignant pictures. Thanx Roy

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message #: 1038

Date: Monday February 6 2012 17:12:03 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB?X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None nowHi Tony  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Tony Last time I heard from you was when I left 3Cdo Bde in Feb 65. As you say we are getting older. Much water has passed under the proverbial bridge. What have you been doing for all these years? If you ever think of coming this way just pop in.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1037

Date: Sunday February 5 2012 17:19:03 EST  
Name: Magsmarsh  
Email: tony\_3178@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X3178  
Hometown: Devizes  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi to all old RMSM mates. Long time since I even thought about mates. Getting older now. Look back on Med fleet days and 3Cdo brigade days.

---

message #: 1036

Date: Thursday February 2 2012 13:46:54 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email: anthonyoliver@fsmail.net

Service Number: RMB 3975  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone ( Just ! )  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Dickie Thank you for those kind words about Dotty I did her shopping today 2 x Dental Fixture Paste 2 x Salt & Vinegar crisps 2 x Packets of Cadbury's chocolate Buttons and 2 x Kiwi Fruit her smile was worth it. It was great to see you mate even though we are obviously way under the mark as we used to be 2 trips ashore is very light considering the time you spent with me. It was also great to visit Wally & Rena Walters. Thanks for all your efforts making the trip down to Deal. PS: Have you ever heard the full Also Sprach Zarathustra? AWESOME mate! Take care see you in New York ! Tony [Dickie] I LOVE the works of Richard Strauss.....period! Thank you mate God bless and take care always.

---

message #: 1035

Date: Tuesday January 31 2012 12:08:00 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mikhikl@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Everybody I have the answer to those who wish to know the date(s) for the Reunion 2012. As published in the Winter edition of the Blue Band it will be held on the weekend of October 13th 14th at HMS Nelson Portsmouth. NB: There again this year is no accomodation available in HMS Nelson. Hope this helps my flight is already booked. See you there.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1034

Date: Sunday January 29 2012 22:59:52 EST  
Name: Richard WELLS  
Email: rbwells@rbwells.demon.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: UPOTTERY Devonshire UK  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Greetings all! I am one of the two sons of the late Bill "Bomber" Wells who was Drum Major to the massed bands in the 1940's and finished his RM service in 1953 as CSM of the Boys' Wing at East Barracks Deal. Robert and I lived there in a flat next to the coal yard and over the canteen for several years and have powerfully nostalgic memories of bugle calls from Reveille to the Last Post as well as the thrill of listening daily to the practice of the best military band in the world. Other memories flood in such as those of the South Barracks pantomimes and "smokers" in which Dad was often the MC of football matches at Deal Football Ground in which Bill occasionally played in goal in earlier years - happy memory of a boy musicians' drum roll as he would run up for a goal kick and then occasionally as they delivered him an explosive beat timed to his kicking the ball he would instead jump over it. Robert and I also used to cycle in from Eastleach where we lived to get our haircut at Burford camp and had a glorious week's stay once at "The Nest" - a prefab set aside for the occasional staff family break. I would love to hear from anyone - though it's increasingly less likely nowadays - who remembers "Bomber Wells" (RMB X 171 - French Horn) who sadly died at 56 in 1969. Kind regards to all. RBW and JRW.

---

message #: 1033

Date: Sunday January 29 2012 14:37:07 EST  
Name: John Palmer  
Email: jspfalmouth@msn.com

Service Number: RMB 3832  
Hometown: Falmouth  
Instrument/s: SOLO CORNET  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi Folks I'm trying to find out the date of this years reunion in Pompey Brian Hobbs is feeling the water and trying to see if there is any interest in running a coach from Helston to Pompey for the reunion. Up to now I have been unable to attend for several different reasons but this year I am quite looking forward to it can you help?? To all out there who know me HI and to those who knew me but had forgotten it's time to think back and to all who don't know me I look forward to meeting you.

---

message #: 1032

Date: Friday January 27 2012 15:27:38 EST  
Name: Brian Hobbs  
Email: brian.hobbs@mjmedical.com

Service Number: RMB3884  
Hometown: Coverack  
Instrument/s: Clarinet Violin & Hospitals  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi Pop Pickers (West Country variety) After consideration of how short life actually is I have thoughts about arranging for a coach (executive variety - definitely not East Kent Charter Coaches) to travel from Helston Cornwall to Pompey (via A30 A35 and then other major roads to Pompey) for this years reunion collecting ex RMB's (and families?) on the way. Traveling up on the Saturday morning and returning on Sunday evening. Is anyone interested? If so I will organise and report the best deal I can get - coach will need bar and WC! If anyone is interested please email me on brian.hobbs@mjmedical.com Eggy

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1031

Date: Monday January 23 2012 07:32:37 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to all It would appear that some one has got into my mail box and people on my mailing list may have received some unsavoury emails supposedly from me. Please be assured it was certainly not me. I apologise to all concerned. Kind regards Barry

---

message #: 1030

Date: Friday January 20 2012 08:33:20 EST  
Name: John Dray  
Email: john.h.dray@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3571  
Hometown: Waterloooville  
Instrument/s: clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Bit of an imposter really! Joined RMSM in 1956 (6/56 squad) after a couple of years realised that my musical ability was totally inadequate so changed over to GD. At the same time Terry Yeo and 'Stewpot' Stewart-Hopkins also changed to GD. Had a great time as a Bootneck serving mainly on ships from the Arctic to the Antarctic and many many stops between.

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message #: 1029

Date: Tuesday January 17 2012 11:20:09 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rvalentine1951@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Clarinet & Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear friends colleagues Although I was using GoToMyPc quite successfully until yesterday I'm sorry to have to say that during my absence in the UK I'm not now able to retrieve my e-mails or access my PC as there must have been a power failure back in New York. Any pressing info' or a need to contact me please use the e-mail address I have activated at the top of this message. My very best regards to all and thank you for your patience. Dickie Valentine

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1028

Date: Friday January 13 2012 14:49:41 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email: keng0iti@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB X 1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd  
Instrument/s: Cornet /violin  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

May I thank Eric for his info on Tom Lambert with his phone no. etc. I had no success at first but managed to speak to him this morning. I have known Tom since Band Boy days and have been in contact over the years since his retirement to Adelaide. E-Mails stopped coming when Marge first entered hospital and no Christmas card this year so I knew things weren't good for the family. My thoughts are with Tom and family at this time and hope and pray that all the thoughts of us all help him through this period. I never did serve under Tom's baton during his rise up the promotion ladder. He made Captain and I Cpl.....Where did I wrong? Ken Tyler [Editor] .....but Ken we only needed one Capt. and surely deserved you as as one of our Cpl's. Yes I spoke with Tom also at great length. It was one of the best calls I made and so much more important at a time of need for one of our brothers.

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message #: 1027

Date: Thursday January 12 2012 20:29:46 EST  
Name: Tony Hunter (Overton)  
Email: tonyhntr@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 3999  
Hometown: Kennethmont Aberdeenshire  
Instrument/s: Cornet and Violin  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Adrian Can I just say a big thank you for attending Dave's funeral I could not make it myself and I make no excuse but can only offer reasons. But you and Pat and others were there to see the passing over of a great friend who will always be in my heart. I first met Dave at Whale Island in the 70's and we became good friends we parted company when I was drafted to the Ark Royal yet behold we crewed up with extra bandies and there he was. I don't need to go on and say what a great guy he was because for those who knew him know what I am trying to say. I couldn't go back to Margate to see him as I wanted to remember him as I left him. Happy smiling and in the best of health. So my friend thank you so very much and your god be with you.

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message #: 1026

Date: Tuesday January 10 2012 21:38:00 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Where EVER I feel happy!  
Instrument/s: So many!  
n/a:

**Comments:**

I have just had the most splendid conversation with Tom Lambert who is presently hospitalised in Adelaide Australia. Of course he's resident there and only too recently has suffered the loss of his dear wife Marge. My thoughts and feelings were activated sufficient to make that great step YES to Call him by SKYPE and the hospital put me through to him quite readily. With the greatest respect Tom has an incredible memory. He's DOWN but NOT OUT! Please guys.....give him a call.....I am so HAPPY I did. We chatted about many things and yet can you imagine we never have yet met? As I got drafted to Pompey and Jim Mason became boss Tom had left at the same time. I'm asking all of you who may know Tom and even if you don't just reach out.....and listen to him talk. It is VERY refreshing to experience and from a man who has just suffered a great loss. Sincerely Richard Valentine.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1025

Date: Tuesday January 10 2012 16:53:55 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB?X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Richard May I be permitted through this medium to appologise to all ex RMBs who knew Tom Lambert and his late wife Marge. I had been told that all of those on Tom's address book had been advised by email of the sad passing of Marge and of the funeral arrangements. However having been contacted by Mike Hutton and Maxie Beare I now realise that others may not not in fact have known. I had been given the info direct by phone as I am in contact with Tom's family at least once a week and was told that I didn't need to inform anybody. Now for those who would wish to do so Tom can be reached by phone on the following number 08 83 75 5222 which is the number for the Ashford Hospital Adelaide. He is in room 21 Marion Wing and would no doubt love to hear from friendly voices remembering of course the time difference.

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message #: 1024

Date: Monday January 9 2012 08:37:31 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Ctl/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hullo to all I too have Vic's phone number and it is true that talking to him makes his day. I also now and again phone Margaret Sumner the late Captain Peter's wife who still lives in Doncaster and in her mid 80's sounds great. Mike.

---

message #: 1023

Date: Sunday January 8 2012 16:34:22 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB?X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Richard I and my better half attended the funeral of Capt Tom Lambert's Late wife Marge in Adelaide on Thursday 5th Jan. Attending in support from the RMB were Bob Chumley Barrie Baker and Ralph Payne who in fact has known Tom since they joined the RNSM together in the Isle of Man in 1941. Bob Chumley's wife Carol being a Celebrant conducted the service. Tom as you can imagine has taken the loss of Marge with a great deal of sadness. They had been married for 62 years. The day after the funeral Tom was admitted to hospital for assesment to full care accomodation. He has asked me to thank all of those who sent him condolence messages which he told me to tell you he will have to read them later after his son has down loaded and printed them out for him.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1022

Date: Tuesday January 3 2012 07:58:38 EST  
Name: Steve Misson  
Email: misson@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB3800  
Hometown: Walmer  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Prompted by Roy Adrian's comment about Vic Sylvester as suggested I gave him a ring today (on 01733 233886) to wish him a happy 76th Birthday on Friday 30 December. We were WOII(B)s together in the SoM department in the early 80s; he in the instrument store and me in the Central Music Library. I haven't seen Vic since we both attended Shiner Wright's funeral in Northamptonshire; he was still long-distance running then! He remembered me instantly and when I mentioned the running he remarked how much he missed it. Although he seemed a bit 'slow' in talking I am sure his memory is just fine and he is still drinking copious amounts of tea daily. At least he now has the catheter to drain it away! Roy remarked that if anyone rang Vic it would make his day and that is exactly how our conversation ended - by him saying that. So I too would urge anyone who has had contact with Vic to do the same. It has made me feel quite good talking to him.

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message #: 1021

Date: Monday January 2 2012 06:43:45 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/clart vln  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Just read Adrian's very interesting account relating to ex RMB's and their further careers I'm sure he is absolutely right that being part of this large but selective family we have all learned to live life to the full and to succeed in life with respect and consideration for our fellow citizens something that some of today's youth appear to have lost along the now accepted "permissive" way I know we all frowned a little about the disciplined side of our careers but we are all better men for it. Having looked through the Buddy lists I see lots of friends from days past who are subscribed to the site but don't appear at the reunions which is a little strange the site is a tremendously enlightening medium for those who live many miles away but meeting old friends and "run ashore oppos" from years past in the flesh at the reunion is something really worthwhile that has to be experienced. I see Johnny Woods (E J) and Johnny Woods (Woods J N) and many others (Hi Frank (Dominey) I remember we did meet up at a reunion some years back) are subscribed to the site they were good friends and run ashore oppos at some time or other in the past but we went our different ways and in time memories faded. If any of you are reading this I will be at the reunion again this year (with Pam my wife) and would love to meet up with you but a word of warning if I don't recognise you it's because you will have disguised yourselves by wearing a grey wig and adding some wrinkles to your face or even removed your hair completely but don't worry your offer of a drink will sharpen my memory of you and might even remind me of your names. May I wish each and everyone a very happy and dare I say it a prosperous New Year keep up the good work Dickie see ya at the bash!! Jem

---

message #: 1020

Date: Monday January 2 2012 06:30:36 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3242  
Hometown: Tennyson  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi Richard I read your e-mail about the passing away of Tom's wife with sadness for Tom and all who knew them both over the past few years at the reunion in Adelaide S.A. Both Sylvia & I will be at this year's event so hope to catch up with Tom then. I guess as we age the end of one's life seems to speed up the clock and weeks turn into yesterdays but we have fond memories to console us of the people who have been important to us and for me Tom is one of those people always the gentleman with his Lady wife who will be missed by us all may she rest in peace. Both Sylvia and I send our love to you "Sir" Tom hope you will be there in March. Could you forward this Richard as I'm not sure that I have Tom's E-mail. Yours faithfully, Bill & Sylvia Matthews.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1019

Date: Monday January 2 2012 04:15:02 EST  
Name: Maxie  
Email: maxie2234@xtra.co.nz

Service Number: rmbx2234  
Hometown: Orewa NZ  
Instrument/s: SOLO CORNET  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
My dear friends I should have been first wishing you all a Happy New Year being as us down under arrived in 2012 first. So take it as read we all send our warm regards to you young and old of our own Band SERVICE. Two days before Christmas Kath and I moved from our farm of 38 years to a retirement village here in Orewa hence with packing and unpacking we have been somewhat out of the scene. Now I am up to date with happenings I shall be in touch more so. Keep the mail coming and all the very best to you all. So proud to be a former Bandsman. Maxie Beare NZ

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message #: 1018

Date: Sunday January 1 2012 07:32:14 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adranbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: Greenwich LONDON  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
A Happy New Year to all who read this excellent facility which is a true conduit of news—good and bad—and views conventional and controversial!! A very special heartfelt thanks to Richard for his timeless efforts in maintaining this very important website and for his excellent and judicious editing skills. I have during this last year quietly reflected upon what exactly it is that makes us ex-RMBs so very special and so mutually caring. My conclusion is that irrespective of whether we served with an ex-RMB whose name comes up here; regardless of age or their current situation now what holds and binds us together is the knowledge that we all went through the same training—which set us up for life as caring human beings. I am sure that part of it is also due to the confines of mess life aboard RN vessels where tolerance and individuality of character is respected....and even encouraged!! I am always amazed at the success of ex-RMBs in so many fields outside of music...they almost all get to the top of their second chosen professions. Surely this is the most telling and significant attestation of a sound start in life in our formative years? Many thanks again Richard and many thanks RMBS for without that background so many of us would not have had the wonderful life and careers which we have enjoyed. God Bless You All in 2012. ADRIAN

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message #: 1017

Date: Friday December 30 2011 10:37:32 EST  
Name: Dickie Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Piano/Clart  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It is with great sadness that I feel I must report the passing of Marge Lambert (Capt. Tom Lambert's wife). I know that Marge was living in a nursing care facility for some time which must have been very difficult for Tom to come to terms with and to add more injury to the heart he lost man's best friend the family dog around the same time as Marge became resident away from the family home. I'm sure that many of us who know Tom will send him messages of condolence and support. On behalf of this on-going and incredible medium the ex RMB website I want to pass on our heart-felt wishes to Tom and his family. It continues to be a source of great interest and joy to be able to report happy times such as the Adelaide reunions recorded by photographs and great utterances by our comrades. We must be grateful for the happy times recorded and reflect soberly whilst at the same time we mourn such a loss as ours. Tom.....may your dear Marge rest in peace and may you find solace in these words. Truly Richard (Dickie) Valentine

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1016

Date: Thursday December 29 2011 14:47:01 EST  
Name: Roy Adrian  
Email: ra.adrian181@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3647  
Hometown: Carlton-le-Moorland Lincoln  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello All AN APPEAL - to all those who served with ex-WO2(B) Barry Clive ('Vic') Sylvester (Euph/Cello). I have spoken to him on the phone earlier this evening and whilst he is in good spirits he has had severe health problems for quite a while now and I believe that he is totally house-bound. He loves hearing from ex-Bandies who served with him in years gone by and it really cheers him up. It's his 76th birthday tomorrow (Friday 30th Dec) - if any of you remember him and you have a few minutes to spare consider give him a ring on 01733 233886 preferably before 8pm - I'm sure that it would make his day. Thanks! Roy [Editor] I fondly remember Vic when I was a boy trainee. His athletic posture ever pleasant demenour. A true character and a gent! I don't think he would remember me but I can say it is a pleasure to know him and to have shared the trodden parade grounds and path-ways around RM Depot Deal. Happy Birthday Vic' and I hope you have many more and that old friends will wish you well on your special day. Thank you Roy for the heads up!

---

message #: 1015

Date: Saturday December 24 2011 09:02:18 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Rich I would like to wish all serving and ex bandies a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Also to thank you Rich once again for running this superb site which keeps us all in touch. Many thanks to Adrian Brett for representing us all at Dave Stonebridge's funeral. Pendles

---

message #: 1014

Date: Friday December 23 2011 10:37:29 EST  
Name: Roy Adrian  
Email: ra.adrian181@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3647  
Hometown: Carlton-le-Moorland  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just want to wish all our readers irrespective of whether they know me or not A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND ALL THE VERY BEST FOR 2012. To Richard Many Thanks for keeping this website going and up to date and to all our 'family' not in the best of health - get better soon. You are all in our thoughts. Delighted to hear that you're out of hospital Barry (Radford) - keep the progress up the aches and pains will disappear in due course. ROY ADRIAN

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1013

Date: Friday December 23 2011 06:48:26 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RBMX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Here we are at the end of yet another year sad to see more of our colleagues have left the 'Concert Hall'. My wife and I send our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all ex & serving Bandsmen. Burford in January 1949 when I joined seems a long way off now but I still have great memories of everyone I met in the RMB and its still great to be able to contact many of them and also read about so many of you that perhaps I didnt meet during my service. Best wishes to all of you and keep up the good work Richard. Michael.

---

message #: 1012

Date: Friday December 23 2011 03:21:58 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adranbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: Greenwich LONDON  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
As promised I dutifully attended the funeral of Dave Stonebridge yesterday. It was a lovely sunny and quite warm day for late December. I bought a really beautiful bouquet of mixed flowers at Golders Green tube station and wrote on a lovely card I had brought with me a card showing Frederick the Great playing a flute concerto in his Music Room at Sans Souci Palace in Potsdam where CPE Bach was Kappellmeister and where JS Bach visited. I wrote: "To Dave. RIP. Fondly remembered by your RMB mates oppos and friends. Representing those unable to attend today--Adrian Brett RMB 3730." As soon as I entered the courtyard of the crematorium I spotted two very smartly dressed gentleman who had to be ex-RMBs which was confirmed by their Corps ties!! They recognised me and approached for a chat. Dave Tremayne had travelled from Buckingham and Pat Hill from Pompey. The service was very moving with an eulogy by Dave's cousin who is clearly a lay preacher. He recalled their childhood as cousins and alluded to some of Dave's demons without any details and the service concluded with the singing of "Abide with Me". I remarked to Dave Tremayne and Pat Hill afterwards how sad it is that in so many families members become estranged through circumstances over the years but that in our RMB family this never happens. Pat Hill and I went on to the family wake at "The Alliance" pub in West Hampstead at the invitation of Dave's brother. Dave's second wife and daughters were present at the funeral and wake and seemed very pleased that a few of us ex--RMBs had taken the trouble to attend. ADRIAN

---

message #: 1011

Date: Thursday December 22 2011 11:26:23 EST  
Name: M Hickman  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
I would like to wish all members past and present of the RMB a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. For those of you that are not enjoying the best of health at this time I wish you a speedy recovery. To those of you that have missed the get together in October get well and I would hope to see you all October 13th &14th 2012. Please all you special people take care. My regards to you all. Mik H.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1010

Date: Wednesday December 21 2011 18:19:02 EST  
Name: Sidney Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
To all serving and ex serving RMBs. I would like to wish a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous and Peaceful New Year to one and all. At long last I have my eye op in January so hopefully I will see all things clearer in 2012 and looking forward to meeting up with you all again in the not too distant future. Sid

---

message #: 1009

Date: Wednesday December 21 2011 13:37:51 EST  
Name: Arthur Deakin  
Email: ad3113@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: Rmb/x 3113  
Hometown: Hartlepool Co Durham  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Would just like to wish all past and present Bandies a Very Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year. I dont enter the site much as it seems most of my original mates have entered a higher place.

---

message #: 1008

Date: Wednesday December 21 2011 08:27:46 EST  
Name: Ginge Deary  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:

Have just received this message from Barry Radford: Hi to all Firstly many thanks for all the cards texts emails phone calls etc. that has we have received. We are both grateful for all the support given. I am now home. Let out early for good behaviour!!!! Things went well with the operation and the best place to recover is at home. 'Gizmo' is fitted . connected and appears to be working fine pain has been replaced by a warm tingly feeling. (Let's hope it lasts !!) I now have a small computer inserted under the skin in my 'right buttock'. so my 'brain' really is in my 'backside' (It seems that I have been talking out of it for many years anyway!!!) Still sore from the 'op' I have 2 wounds 1 on the base of my spine (where the electrode has been inserted) and the other is in my buttock!! I'm told the procedure I have had done is -'Spinal cord stimulator insertion'. Due to have 'Staples' out in about a weeks time and I am due at 'out patients' in 4 weeks to have the 'Gizmo' re set when all the swelling has gone down. We are all looking forward to a quiet family christmas which hopefully after many years be 'pain free'. Many thanks to you all once again for all your support Merry Christmas Love and Best wishes Barry Heather S  
Joe xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1007

Date: Tuesday December 20 2011 20:30:48 EST  
Name: Tony Hunter ( overton )  
Email: tonyhntr@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 3999  
Hometown: Kennethmont Aberdeenshire  
Instrument/s: Cornet and Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
May I take this oppotunity to wish all serving members and former members and their families the very best for Xmas and a very happy new year. Hope the hangovers are not too bad. See you in the counter march. Tony

---

message #: 1006

Date: Tuesday December 20 2011 17:19:54 EST  
Name: Dave Mutter  
Email: dam6567@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: cello/tubas  
n/a:

Comments:  
Thank you Adrian for supporting Dave Stonebridge on his final journey. You may not realise it but Dave would have been a very young member of Neptune House when you were at the end of your training. He was a really good bloke and very genuine person. Like Alan there are some of us who feel guilty about not going to visit him. We could have done better and like Alan we must be aware of the needs of those who might need our support. However we must not intrude where we might not be welcomed for whatever reason. It is a cautious path we must tread but not be afraid to ask or take that risk. Unfortunately I will not be able to be at Golders Green but will be mindful of Dave and those who will be there. I shall also be thinking about Bas Radford who has shown great courage in opting to undergo an operation which I hope will be of great benefit to him. This is indeed a bleak mid winter. Bart's troubles with computers I can identify with and I am pleased to read that his problem solving is typical of mine. May I take this opportunity to wish everyone an enjoyable winter celebration and a fruitful new year. Dave Mutter

---

message #: 1005

Date: Tuesday December 20 2011 16:26:11 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB?X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:  
A Very Merry Festive season to one and all and in early 2012 may you win the lottery so that you can afford to join us in Adelaide on the last weekend in March(30th 31st and 1st April) to be met and greeted at our Reunion. Bring your wife/partner/friend.. Joking aside Be happy and be safe. Cheers from Oz Eric.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1004

Date: Tuesday December 20 2011 02:44:08 EST  
Name: Adrian BRETT  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: Greenwich  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Not sure I served with Dave Stonebridge but the name is familiar. As I am not currently working and as so many ex-RMBs live a long way from London I shall go to Golders Green Crematorium on Thursday and represent those who would like to have been there. Any who do manage to go please make contact with me..... you can not miss me as I currently walk very slowly with a cane!! ADRIAN My dear friend  
It is admirable and commendable that you should make the effort on all our behalf to pay tribute to a lovely guy Dave Stonebridge. Irrespective of whether you served with him maybe swung by him in the odd counter-march I for one am very grateful to you as I did know Dave I served with him at Excellent and got very wasted with him on many an occasion. He was a great guy to be around and has been mentioned a wicked sense of humour. As for you old boy.....I hope things are progressing. Please keep us informed. Have a very Merry Christmas. Richard.

---

message #: 1003

Date: Tuesday December 20 2011 02:26:53 EST  
Name: bob chumley  
Email: chummers@optusnet.com.au

Service Number: rmbx3195  
Hometown: Adelaide  
Instrument/s: euph/cello  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Bart I had the same problem as you spoke to Richard who gave a few suggestions still did not solve the problem so after lots of consternation and like you thoughts of throwing the computer out or the window found in my case that it would not work with google chrome but works with internet explorer hope this helps bob

---

message #: 1002

Date: Saturday December 17 2011 13:51:00 EST  
Name: m.j.bartholomew  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3871  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: solo clarinet / alto clarinet  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Thanks to every one on Facebook with comments but I have sorted it. Threw the computer out of the window. SORTED! Bart

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 1001

Date: Saturday December 17 2011 13:06:45 EST  
Name: m.j.bartholomew  
Email: bart.fatknacker@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Dartmouth  
Instrument/s: solo clarinet / alto clarinet  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

I do not know if this arrives in the guestbook as I have been stuck in July. I can access the site and also the guestbook but have nothing since number 943 in July. If anybody has any help to give me regarding getting out of this mess I would be most grateful as I have done every thing possible this end. Cheers! Bart  
[Editor] I can assure you that your message (#1001) has been received by me for authorization. May I suggest you ask a friend with a PC to try to visit from there to hopefully assure you that it's NOT the guestbook server but something your end. Let me put it another way. I have not had any other complaints or observations on this matter which confuses me and I'm upset for you. Wish I could do more Bart. Richard.

---

message #: 1000

Date: Friday December 16 2011 05:28:37 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Just thought I would take a look before I leave for hospital. Shocked to read Alan's news regarding Dave. I did visit him last time I was in Margate and he did recognise me. But Alan is right Dave's latter life was sad. I had the pleasure of serving with him at Whale Island. In those days he was a very happy young man newly married etc. It is a sad day but Dave is now finally at peace. My life was all the better for knowing him. Rest in peace dear friend. Sadly Heather and I will not be able to attend Dave's funeral. But he will be in our thoughts. Regards to all  
Barry

---

message #: 999

Date: Thursday December 15 2011 18:43:59 EST  
Name: Tony Hunter (Overton)  
Email: tonyhntr@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 3999  
Hometown: Kennethmont Aberdeenshire  
Instrument/s: Cornet and Violin  
n/a:

**Comments:**

It is with great sadness that i have learnt that Dave Stonebridge has passed away. I went to the nursing home to visit Dave 3 years ago and always said i would go back. Like you Alan i have now left it too late and it saddens me that i did not. I served with Dave at HMS excellent and again on HMS Ark Royal when he came aboard to up the numbers for a trip to the states. He will be sorley missed. The band service has lost a good friend. To you Alan thank you for going there and taking the time to check him out only to be given that news. Thank you my friend for doing that i am grateful to you. As you say no more suffering and in a better place. R.I.P. Dave.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 998

Date: Thursday December 15 2011 16:50:24 EST  
Name: Edward McDermott  
Email: edmcdermott@sky.com

Service Number: Q004119X  
Hometown: Gosport  
Instrument/s: Fl/Sax  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Thank you Alan for passing on the sad news of David's passing. As you know we both new David at Deal in the 70's and I had the great pleasure of serving with him again on FOF3 when the band formed up at Deal in 79. No doubt other members on the site will be passing on their condolance to his family and many will be sharing their memories of David. So for the present may I pass on my condolance to his family and wish them peace and comfort at this sad time. RIP David you where a very special person.

---

message #: 997

Date: Thursday December 15 2011 14:21:07 EST  
Name: Alan Webb  
Email: alanatsea@yahoo.com

Service Number: QOO3948M  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Percussion.  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Ex Band Sergeant and friend David Stonebridge.  
Hi Dickie & all ex RMBs. Well I am not a regular contributor to the Guestbook so it is with great sadness and a heavy (guilty) heart that my second attempt turns out to be one of bad news. Whilst perusing the website this morning I took a look at the "Sickbay" list in particular DAVE STONEBRIDGE. It was evident that since the sad loss of Bob Baker a few years ago no one had written anything or suggested that they had visited Dave at his nursing home in Margate. As I had nothing to do this afternoon I felt guilty as hell and decided to pay Dave a visit after all it was only 20mins away from Deal. The words that greeted me when I arrived was nothing short of devastating Dave passed away 6 weeks ago!! The Nurse I spoke with was kindness personified she could see that I was truly shocked and invited me in to the home for a chat. She explained that Dave had developed cancer and was in a very bad way thankfully the pain and suffering were very short lived. In true "Bandy" style Dave still had the presence of mind to tell the staff to stop fussing "I'm going for a sleep" said Dave....sadly he never woke up. Dave passed away on the 1st Nov 2011 to this day he has still not been interred. The reason I suspect but did not clarify is due to time spent finding his family he had 2 daughters. At least they now know where their father is and hopefully some of his history. Dave will be cremated at Golders Green cemetery on the 22nd December 2011 at 1300hrs. It goes without saying that any ex who knew Dave even those that didn't would I am sure be welcome to say good bye to a good friend who sadly lost his way in life at such an early age. Why do I feel guilty? Dave as I said was a short drive away from Deal I kept telling myself that I should visit him....I NEVER DID and now it's too late. He died a lonely and confused man. There is a lesson no matter who no matter where or when in good times or in bad we should make the effort to look after our RMB family time flies by young or old we ALL should make the effort I won't forget today in a hurry I hope you won't either. God Bless you Dave RIP. In sadness. Alan Webb

---

message #: 996

Date: Thursday December 15 2011 06:00:54 EST  
Name: Valentine/Richard  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Charley Dibley's funeral is at 1440 on Friday 23 December at Barham Crematorium Canterbury. This info supplied by Terry Freestone. Thank you.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 995

Date: Wednesday December 14 2011 17:19:31 EST  
Name: Roy Adrian  
Email: ra.adrian181@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3647  
Hometown: Carlton-le-Moorland  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a:

Comments:  
Barry We never served together - apart from Horse Guards & Royal Tournament plus any other Massed Bands excuses!!!! - but you always had and always will hold my greatest respect. The Reunions you 'set up' were most enjoyable. I'm now thinking about you and your 'op' this Saturday - Best Wishes pal & get fit soon and I hope that you and Heather will be able to enjoy this Christmas. Christmas & New Year Greetings also to Richard and all subscribers to this site lets keep the news going throughout 2012 as well. BAND READY!!!!!!  
Roy Adrian

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message #: 994

Date: Tuesday December 13 2011 09:19:39 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi to all Getting sorted out for hospital on Friday operation Saturday. I will be out of action for some time. So this seems a good time for Heather and I wish you all a very Happy 'Festive Season' and contented 2012. Regards to all Barry and Heather Radford

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message #: 993

Date: Sunday December 11 2011 16:36:56 EST  
Name: m.j.bartholomew  
Email: bart.fatknacker@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: rmb 3871  
Hometown: dartmouth  
Instrument/s: solo clarinet / alto clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
My quest book seems to be stuck in July 2011 or no one is writing any more any help will be much appreciated. =====  
bart

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 992

Date: Saturday December 10 2011 12:42:47 EST  
Name: Jim Challis  
Email: baldibloke@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: PO22044E  
Hometown: Glasgow  
Instrument/s: Bugler  
n/a:

Comments:  
Les Barrett and I are looking for 'Oppo' Bugler Ray 'Harry' Pinn

---

message #: 991

Date: Saturday December 10 2011 09:25:18 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Looking for help please. Has anyone the address of Ivan & Jill Petters. It seems the address I have for them on the Isle of Wight is not valid Thank you for any help. May I and Sheila wish one and all of the Greatest Bands in the world or Very Best wishes for this Festive season. My 77 arrives on the 27th Dec Noel & Sheila

---

message #: 990

Date: Saturday December 10 2011 04:15:14 EST  
Name: Colin Hotham  
Email: c.hotham@btinternet.com

Service Number: Ex RAF.  
Hometown: Wootton Bassett (Ex Deal 1937-1955)  
Instrument/s: n/a  
n/a:

Comments:  
Son of Bandmaster Charles William Hotham RMB LRAM, Royal Naval School of Music later Royal Marine School of Music, Deal Howstrake (I of M) Scarborough Burford Deal, Colin.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 989

Date: Wednesday December 7 2011 07:15:06 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adranbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: Greenwich LONDON  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Not sure if this should go on the sickbay site but Richard will no doubt decide. I have been diagnosed with 'cervical stenosis'-a compression and narrowing of the spinal cord. It started with strong 'electric pins and needles' down both arms but has now gone to the legs as well. Not very pleasant and my left arm is very weak indeed resulting in my not being able to hold the flute for more than about 10-15 minutes so I have not played in the 'The Lion King' orchestra for more than 5 weeks. Actually I think that reaching forward about 50 times per show to grab different flutes (I play 18 in the show) has been the cause of the degeneration of the vertebrae in the neck. Bony spurs have grown on them and are growing into the actual spinal cord which affects every nerve in the body so one day it is bad in the arms and the next day the arms and legs!! Fortunately it sounds more alarming than it probably is as it is not a terminal condition and should be able to be rectified by surgery. So many of UK consultants are musical and play instruments...often to a high standard. Through my old friend Paul Harvey who played 2nd clarinet in The National Philharmonic Orchestra with me for 25 years I have been introduced to Dr. Gordon Plant. A former clarinet pupil of Paul I am hoping Gordon will get everything sorted out as he is an internationally famous neurologist at The National Hospital of Neurology and Neurosurgery at Queen Square London. At least he will appreciate why I do not want surgery through the throat!! At home busy arranging music for two CDs I hope to record later while I can still play!! SEASON's GREETINGS TO ALL. Adrian

---

message #: 988

Date: Sunday December 4 2011 14:27:20 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Clar/Piano  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Dear friends My website software keeps crashing! I did an update today which copies you in on the plight of Pete Westaway. I'm not sure at what point I'm going to be able to regain control and update but please be patient with me and I'll find the necessary means to upgrade and/or fix the problem. You can always email me from the site or from your own links with any news and I'll do my very best to correct the issue as time and resources permit. May I take this opportunity to wish everyone the complements of the season. I know some of us are not in the best of health and I'm sure I speak on behalf of all our extended family to those who have challenges at this time that we care and we think about you. Sincerely Richard Valentine.

---

message #: 987

Date: Friday December 2 2011 16:27:37 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB?X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

**Comments:**

With the passing Jock Cassidy another of our recruit squad of October 21st 1952 has left us. I note on the Sunset site that his regimental number has been omitted. Now with mine being RMB/X 3051 then Jock's number would have to be somewhere between 3000 and mine. As close as I can estimate he would be 3040. Perhaps a contact with his family could correct me if I am wrong. Could I ask Charlie Laws while doing this to pass on my condolences to Jock's family. On another subject the Festive Season is fast approaching so could I pass on my best wishes to all who read this site and also to all past and present members of the Finest Band Service. May you all have the joyfull time that you deserve and may you prosper in 2012.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 986

Date: Thursday December 1 2011 11:01:11 EST  
Name: Charlie Laws  
Email: charles@charleslaws.wanadoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3057  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Cornet and Swimming Gear  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just read in the local paper that John (Jock)Cassidy has passed away. I joined with Jock on 21st Oct 1952. Funeral is private. My condolences go to Betty and family. RIP

---

message #: 985

Date: Wednesday November 16 2011 12:16:43 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Beds  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Again a fantastic show from the Band. As for the comments by Len Lewry, oh sir Cliff did anyone notice the look on the Duke of Edinburgh face that said it all. My very best wishes to you all Noel

---

message #: 984

Date: Monday November 14 2011 14:36:38 EST  
Name: Stuart Henderson  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx2280  
Hometown: Chassenon France  
Instrument/s: Clarinet & Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Maxie Beare sent an email today suggesting viewing three Navy News sites which portrayed serving members of the RMB performing in Afghanistan for serving men & women of our armed forces. It was great..... brought tears to this old mans eyes also described the important work driving ambulances etc. God bless them all and sincere thanks yet again to Maxie for keeping in touch

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 983

Date: Monday November 14 2011 08:20:30 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Just treated myself to the new C.D. WOW!!! It will be on my Ipod for hospital !! What a treat. Well done to all concerned. "Simply the Best" (But we all know that. Don't we?) Regards to all  
Barry Radford

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message #: 982

Date: Sunday November 13 2011 17:07:26 EST  
Name: David A Mutter  
Email: dam6567@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: cello/tubas  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard I would like to respond to Len Lewry's comments about the Rememberance at the Albert Hall. I do appreciate that the ladies choir was off key at times but my thoughts were about the pride with which they were expressing and that was a deep respect for their partners. The most poignant moment for me was the courageous act of the lady who had lost her husband this year and felt that her presence was the highest respect and act of love she could show to the world for his memory and his sacrifice. The ladies of the choir are also proud of their partners and rightly so and I care not if their intonation was not spot on. I would like at this point to say that some of the civilian professionals were not up to the standard that would be expected of them although as Len rightly says those guys and gals with the white hats proved to be on top of the job in hand. I was also pleased to see that the RAF Band have rid themselves of those Busbies. Len and myself were band boys together and lived in the same room in Gloucester House along with Jock Spalding John Taylor and others. David A Mutter P.S. Richard please note that my email address has changed to dam6567@gmail.com

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message #: 981

Date: Sunday November 13 2011 11:48:26 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB 3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: S/clart.  
n/a:

Comments:  
I ranted on and on about last night's Festival of Rememberance and lost it because of heavy fingers and ignorance of IT. But here is a precis... I know they were service wives but their singing was dreadful and cringeworthy. That was followed by an even more embarrassing Cliff Richard... he couldn't sing swing or oobee doobee doo in tune. Looked like an octopus on LSD liked the band in white helmets though whoever they were!!! BZ. Feel free to crucify me.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 980

Date: Wednesday October 26 2011 03:53:11 EST  
Name: Herman Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Scunthorpe  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hello Richard I learned via an E/Email from Maxie Beare that my old flute instructor Charles Lashmar has passed away. When I joined up in January 1955 Charlie and his wife Celia took me under their wing as at the time I was having a tough time because my family was breaking up and without the help of these wonderful people I would never have managed to get through my time as a Bandboy. Later Charles went to New Zealand and I lost touch for a while. However when I visited New Zealand with HQ.3rd CDO BDE Band I met up with them again and once again they went out of their way to see that I enjoyed my stay there. Charles had been ill for some time and as Maxie told me yesterday has at last gone to join his ex RMB mates up above. Charlie as you can tell had a great influence in my life and to me was a greatly admired man who I have always looked up to and I will sadly miss. Nobby Clarke.

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message #: 979

Date: Tuesday October 25 2011 12:50:18 EST  
Name: Richard (Dickie) Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Piano  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Due to a serious altercation with Bill Hartland we have seen fit to remove his name from the buddy list and re-fund monies recently volunteered. My associate and I work relentlessly on behalf of all and in particular those of you who continue to support us with your donations. Due to the inordinate amount of creativity on the part of my associate we will NOT remove past submissions from Mr. Hartland out of respect to those who are/were associated with him during his time in service. Our web site is so vast and complex that it would prove difficult to remove all reference to this subject (and small-minded to boot) but having considered the valuable content and what other subjects are referred to within we think it only correct to keep them available to everyone who may have a keen interest in Mr. Hartland's history. Its just that we have ceased any further connection with him and all in that which he is affiliated. With great respect to all of you who continue to support in all ways you can. Dickie Valentine (and associate)

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message #: 978

Date: Friday October 21 2011 16:20:59 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB?X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Hi to all of you ex Royal Yacht Types who served with Capt Tom Lambert. Having spoken recently to him he told me that it would be great if he could talk about old times with someone who shared that time together. Tom is not at this time in the best of health. He can be contacted by emailing llam5326@bigpond.net.au or by phoning 0061 08 82 685912. I look forward to hearing from Tom that he has been in touch with anyone from that time.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 977

Date: Friday October 21 2011 13:03:45 EST  
Name: john dunn  
Email: john.dunn08@yahoo.co.ukrmb 3953

Service Number: rmb 3953  
Hometown: exmouth  
Instrument/s: cornet violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Joined july 63

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message #: 976

Date: Sunday October 16 2011 12:16:16 EST  
Name: John Jake Palmer  
Email: jspfalmouth@msn.com

Service Number: RMB 3832  
Hometown: FALMOUTH  
Instrument/s: SOLO CORNET  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
JUST BEEN TOLD OF THIS SITE AND WOULD LIKE TO JOIN I'M NOT VERY GOOD WITH THIS COMPUTER STUFF "HELP" PLEASE

---

message #: 975

Date: Thursday October 6 2011 10:42:13 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@googlemail.com

Service Number: Rmb3645  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet /Fiddle  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just to say looking forward to the w/e & meeting up with EVERYONE again particularly old "run ashore oppo's" but especially those that still owe me a round from Strait Street ( The Gut!) or Boogun Strata (Boogie Street !) Plus any other old ship mates I've not seen since we served on the Mary Rose !! That said both Dave Stockham & I will be bringing our respective " 'er indoors" for the first time this year so no doubt they'll have the reins fastened a little tighter around our necks than usual!! We might even have to be on our best behaviour :-(( ?? ... - unless of course we can persuade the Rum Bosun to distract them upon our entrance & at the same time become just a little more generous with our measures !!Sad to hear that neither Sid nor Barry can make it again this year. Good luck to ya both with your respective appointments & catch you on the next one. ' Be nice to buy you a pint Barry - after you've bought the 1st couple of rounds of course. ' Haven't seen you for ages (almost since I was Lush 2 years ago in fact!!) - Sadly I went down with bad Man 'Flu & couldn't make Matt Dillon's Farewell which was really galling. By all accounts it was practically an Excellent Band reunion !? ( or CinC Home Fleet Band to the unknowing !) Hope yer Gizmo works old chap & serves you well.Jam & Pam if you see me being restrained on my leash as I attempt to get to the bar mine's a pint of any bitter you can lay your hands on & I'll pay you back next pay day!! Thanks.  
-Lookin' forward to seein ya there again !Dickie look forward to seeing you again too. On my command "Buy me a drink" I shall expect same placed into my hands within the obligatory 5 minute serving time. On completion of the order we can commence the business of swinging A lamp or two.....!!Cheers all!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 974

Date: Tuesday October 4 2011 06:36:20 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard I must also join the list of non-attenders for this years reunion. I am still waiting to go into hospital to have my 'Gizmo' fitted. Second year I have had to miss. So annoying. Regards to all. Both Heather and I will be there next year. God willing!! Cheers. Barry [Editor] We wish you the very best Barry and indeed we all look forward to seeing you again soon.

---

message #: 973

Date: Monday October 3 2011 19:46:08 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@googlemail.com

Service Number: rmb3645  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet /Fiddle  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dickie I've just U tubed MNOZIL Brass as instructed! - Blimey where have I been not to have heard of them until now !!? - Thanks for enlightening us & sharing Tony. - Brilliant! A rare treat they are too. What a hoot & better still what fantastic muso's they all are eh!? - Make sure you have a look everyone when you get a mo' - You'll just want to keep watching every piece they've ever played. They're just so entertaining & good to watch. See you all at the Annual Nelson shindig hopefully !! Derek

---

message #: 972

Date: Monday October 3 2011 17:06:51 EST  
Name: Bill  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sorry but like Sid I will not be able to attend the Pompey Reunion but for different reasons as I will be in Leamington Spa attending the HMS Gambia Association AGM Reunion. Best wishes to all and I hope you all enjoy the weekend. Yours aye Bill.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 971

Date: Saturday October 1 2011 09:57:48 EST  
Name: Sidney Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard. I would like to wish you all a great week-end in Pompey next week end. Unfortunately I am unable to attend as I have a hospital appointment. (Nothing serious) Just getting my eyes sorted out. When I went for my check up at the optician they found out that I had very bad cataracts so it's time to get it treated. I hope you all have a great Reunion and I will raise a glass to you all. Sid. [Editor] We all wish you great luck Sid I'm hopeful that with the amazing technology today that you have complete success and that you will see things that much more clearly. It's a wonderful world we all share. Dickie.

---

message #: 970

Date: Thursday September 29 2011 17:29:23 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just thought I'd mention for anyone in the Kent area this weekend that the RMA Concert Band under the direction of Capt Pete Curtis are performing in the Winter - Gardens Theatre Margate this coming Sunday at 3pm. That doesn't mean that those outside the Kent County can't come! We look forward to any keen band followers. Michael Hutton.

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message #: 969

Date: Thursday September 29 2011 16:58:07 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB?X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:  
Ray please tell us more about the @#%\*&\* retreat. It must have been some show.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 968

Date: Thursday September 29 2011 06:52:39 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bassoonicle  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Rich Haven't been on the site for a while but was gutted to hear of the passing of Trev (Binge) Bignall and Jan Langley. I only new Binge whilst we were in training together 66-69 He had a fantastic personality and a great sense of humour. I don't think I ever saw him sad! I was serving in HMS Drake and Jan in HMS Raleigh so our paths crossed occasionally. I also remember he was the Trainer of the Unbeaten HMS Raleigh Football Team for Montigue Cup Games. I next came across Jan in HMS Cochrane we were then both in FOSNI Band. His best pal at the time was another late Bandy Jock Patterson. I'll always remember his voice it would have been perfect for a book recording! Another memory of Jan I have was at Culzean Castle at the famous double Beat "Cock up" Retreat with Capt Graham Hoskins.....Al I remember seeing was Jan Pushing Burt Chivers in the back and saying "keep going keep going" whilst playing one handed the clarinet passage from Cavalry of the Steppes!!! That is one great thing about this Band Service - MEMORIES! Never forget them.....RIP Binge and Jan God Bless  
Roy (Oct 11)

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message #: 967

Date: Monday September 26 2011 08:56:57 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury North Somerset.  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Good to see that another ex-Gambian has surfaced in that is Graham Dench who I will of course be emailing directly. I will be attending the Gambia AGM Reunion the same weekend as the RMB Reunion so I hope that all goes well with that and my best wishes to all those who may remember me (and of course to those who don't wish to recall me) albeit that there cannot be many of my recruit intake left. Chanced upon another ex bandy recently so he should have something to hand to you Dickie.... Kind regards Yours aye  
Bill Editor www.hmsgambia.com

---

message #: 966

Date: Saturday September 24 2011 15:47:27 EST  
Name: Roy Adrian  
Email: ra.adrian181@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3647  
Hometown: Carlton-le-Moorland Lincolnshire  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello Dickie To respond to Ginge Deary and to totally agree with Geoff McGarr. I also served at HMS Raleigh with Jan Langley - and what a great lad he was. I don't think that I ever saw him without a smile on his face and he always managed to cheer me up when my times as band librarian tried to get the better of me. He was a terrific person to have around. We used to joke about the lengthy train journeys he faced when going on leave saying that by the time he reached his Arran destination it would be time to turn round again. He was also a very good rum bosun!!! It was great knowing you Jan - R.I.P. Roy Adrian

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 965

Date: Saturday September 24 2011 12:47:53 EST  
Name: Geoff McGarr  
Email: macg53@msn.com

Service Number: RMB 4137  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

In answer to Ginge Deary I served with Jan Langley In HMS Raleigh back in 1970/71 before they became F.O.P. The bandmaster was George Lunn and the band sergeant was John Quaye. I believe that he lived on the Isle of Arran and I seem to remember him bringing his son into the band mess one time. I left Raleigh in April 1971 for the latter half of the Eagle's last commission. I didn't see Jan again until around the early 80's. He had left the band service by then and he used to go to a cafe in Plymouth pannier market where my wife worked at the time. We had a run ashore together in the pubs around Stonehouse (where we lived at that time) and unfortunately I never saw him again after that. I often wondered what became of him. A thoroughly nice guy. RIP Jan. Geoff McGarr

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message #: 964

Date: Saturday September 24 2011 10:19:39 EST  
Name: Graham Dench  
Email: thedenchs@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X 3236  
Hometown: Pitmedden Aberdeenshire  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I have just recently found this site on the web so made the effort and paid my subs today. I have had little personal contact with the RMB since my discharge in 1963 mainly due to work commitments but have always followed them at KGV concerts and on TV at tournaments etc. I retired in 2004 after working for thirty years with the Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen a maritime charity during which time we moved literally from one end of the country to the other and back again! If anyone out there remembers me and would like to get in touch I will be pleased to hear from them. Yours Aye

---

message #: 963

Date: Friday September 23 2011 04:53:20 EST  
Name: Stuart Henderson  
Email: Vernelles@orange.fr

Service Number: RMB X2280  
Hometown: Chassenon Charente France  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Violin  
n/a:

Comments:

Recently watched the Edinburgh Tattoo on TV and as always the sight of the Royal Marine Band performing brought a swelling of pride & tears to my eyes. Such a long time ago but still remembered.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 962

Date: Friday September 23 2011 04:04:32 EST  
Name: Ginge Deary  
Email: happytrumpeter@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Do you remember Jan Langley solo clarinet?  
I've had an e-mail from Jan's daughter requesting info or photos. Jan and her Mum parted when she was an embryo or foetus and she grew up never knowing her Dad or it seems knowing what he looked like. All she seems to know of him was that he had served on HMS Eagle. I served on HMS Eagle with Jan on the 1964-66 commission but don't recall where he went after that or ever seeing him again. I've sent her a couple of photos and told her what I know of him but if anyone can supply anymore photos or info I'll gladly forward them/it to her. She tells me Jan died in January 1990 and was buried or cremated at Tavistock. Apparently a trumpeter (she could mean bugler) from his former band played at the funeral. RIP Jan.

---

message #: 961

Date: Thursday September 22 2011 11:49:54 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3975  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Dickie I attended today's small memorial service in the garden of remembrance this morning. There was a good turn out and it was a beautiful morning. The small Band group from Pompey were excellent and The Band Service was represented by the PDM Corps Bandmaster and Corps Drum Major. I just can't believe it's 22 years since the cowardly act. Anyway it's not long before we all get together for the big bash in Pompey see you then Tony Oliver.

---

message #: 960

Date: Wednesday September 14 2011 09:27:20 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3859  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I feel I must comment on Adrian Brett's observations. I too listened to the band on the Edinburgh Tattoo on BBC and feel it is not a "sound" way to judge the sound. The BBC again managed not only to edit out the main part leading to the drum solos but produced an awful recording. I know it's not easy to record something like that but the youtube excerpts placed on by members of the public recorded on mobile phones was as good if not better than the BBC. I have always been able to pick out our bands by the rich middle sound produced in the tenor range and I still feel they are superior to the Army bands if only because of prudent use of the bass drum and the soft upper woodwind (no Eb clarinets!!!!!!!) Here endeth the rant.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 959

Date: Tuesday September 6 2011 16:02:36 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Piano/Clart  
n/a:

Comments:  
My dear friends We need to lighten up! Upon the recommendation of my dear friend Tony Oliver (Trombone) I have 'searched' for MNOZIL on YouTube. Please.....all of you.....when you have a mo'.....just go there and be totally amazed if not stunned at the combination of satire and great musical articulation. Thank you Tony for our conversation as I interrupted your TV watching of England and Wales this evening (Sep 6th) I in NY USA and thee in Deal UK. My friends.....enjoy the MUSIC! It's just outstanding! Dickie Valentine.

---

message #: 958

Date: Tuesday September 6 2011 10:42:26 EST  
Name: Simon Taylor  
Email: simon\_p\_taylor@talk21.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi I know this isn't the general idea of the guest book but it's worth a try! I'm trying to find an ex RM snare drummer in the Northwest/Cheshire area who might be willing to help out with doing some instructing for my drum and bugle band. We are The Alderley District Scout Band and compete in the National class of TYMBA. If someone might be able to help or know of anyone who might I'd be grateful if you could email me. Thanks Simon.

---

message #: 957

Date: Monday September 5 2011 16:06:49 EST  
Name: David Mutter  
Email: cello-brass@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Cello/tenor and bass tubas  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard I would like to respond to the tonality question of RMB bands. The interesting aspect for me is that it is not just the Royal Marines Bands that have progressed from one individual "sound" to another but that it is something that has happened to British Military Bands in general. The Foot Guards of the Household Division for instance have lost their distinctive sound in so far as the the low brass has lost that deep organ register. This could be the lack of the use of the BBb tuba on parade but not necessarily so as the EEb is capable of these lower notes. What I did observe on the 'Troop' was the use of the Bari sax which does give the lower end a bit of an edge. I personally believe that the standard of performance of all bands in all HM Forces has improved and they are capable of producing excellent music in whatever combination is required. Again this is just an observation of evolution rather than criticism. David Mutter

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 956

Date: Saturday September 3 2011 14:33:38 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury North Somerset  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Very sad to read of the passing of Trev Bignell who I  
last saw in 1975. Especially sad to learn that  
another young man has crossed the bar well before his time?

---

message #: 955

Date: Saturday September 3 2011 13:41:25 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Scunthorpe  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello Richard and friends I read with interest the comments that you made to my last message and to some extent I agree. Adrian was (and I hope still is) a great friend of mine at the time we were in the Band Service together. In fact he was a God Parent of my eldest son's Christening when we were in Plymouth. He really was a star among other members of the R.M.B. and as we all know he went on to achieve great things in his later career. It was just that I thought his criticism's sometimes go a little too far in my opinion which I just had to express. Speaking for myself I was never an outstanding musician just an average chap who always tried to do his best. With the help of instructors and Officers I will always be thankful to such as Charlie Lashmar Pete Wastel Trevor Wye Sid Rose and Terry Freestone who always gave the same sort of support to us less outstanding musicians as they did to the more talented of their pupils and I think because of them I and others like me still made a valuable contribution to the Royal Marine Band Service in our day. Changed or not I still think the R.M.B. is second to none in the field of Military Bands and long may they continue to do so.

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message #: 954

Date: Saturday September 3 2011 13:39:39 EST  
Name: Pete pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Rich I was going to pass on my best wishes to all members of 5/61 new entry squad on reaching 50 years since our joining of this great family when I read of the passing of Trevor Bignell a fine sax player and thoroughly nice bloke we served together in ctc band. Wendy and myself would like to pass on our condolences to his family Pendles.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 953

Date: Saturday September 3 2011 06:08:12 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: MikHik1@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Very sad to hear of the passing of Trevor Bignell I had the pleasure to serve with him whilst we were at Chatham. Trevor was a really nice guy and a fine player of the Alto Sax and Violin. My condolences go to all of his family and to those of his extended family of the RMB. And also as others have already mentioned thanks to David Seed for his stalwart effort to be present at Trevor's funeral. B/CPL Trevor Bignell RIP.

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message #: 952

Date: Saturday September 3 2011 04:34:46 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Scunthorpe  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello to all. The comments made by Adrian Brett and others about the changing sound of today's RM Bands may or may not be true but I for one am always proud of them when I see them performing on all occasions. We all have been guilty at times of saying "It's changed a lot since my day" but who are we to say these changes are wrong? [Editor] I don't believe that Adrian was suggesting the differences in sound are retrograde. I know Adrian very well and agree that he was and is an outstanding musician but I do think his recent comments are a little too involved for us mere mortals and I also think (forgive me Adrian) that he is using this site to brag (sorry again Adrian) about his wide and varied career. [Editor]  
On the contrary! I have never yet met Adrian but as a very discerning and (I do believe) articulate musician myself I appreciate the knowledgeable discourse as I am grateful to have served with many others who were more dedicated to the music than the other aspects of our service life. He should be rightfully proud to speak with such authority and we should recognize Adrian's achievements like so many other famous names who have been within our ranks. I expect I will have some sort of reply to this but I felt that I had to have my say. The way things are going with cuts in the services to date could mean that our band of brothers past and present could well be at risk once again. I hope not. Best wishes to all past and present members of the Royal Marine Band Service that we all love (Changed or not) Nobby. [Editor] Nothing written by Nobby has been erased. I wanted to allow him to speak his mind but I feel more than confident of my support for Adrian who I don't believe is using this medium to any advantage other than our interest and our education.

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message #: 951

Date: Saturday September 3 2011 01:40:34 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3975  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone Holder  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dickie please drop me a email my machine was ill and I lost a lot of data but this included E Mail contacts. I remember Trevor Bignell a lovely man I am sure he has attended the re union in the last few years. R I P Tony

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 950

Date: Friday September 2 2011 16:24:18 EST  
Name: Dickie Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: was Preston  
Instrument/s: Piano/Clart  
n/a:

Comments:  
I wish to extend my sincere wishes to the family and our extended family of the RMB regarding our loss of Trevor Bignell. I remember him very well from my time as we were in training together and surely passed in several counter-marches. As ever Dave Seed found himself in a situation where it compelled him to represent all the greatest qualities that we all share in attending the services for Trevor. Thank you David. Sincerely and thoughtfully Dickie Valentine. Our prayers are with you and for your family Trevor. RIP

---

message #: 949

Date: Friday September 2 2011 09:29:21 EST  
Name: Dave Seed  
Email: dseed78739@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 4084  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Flute/Tenor sax  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Richard it is with regret that I inform you of the passing of one of our old friends Trevor Bignell; I was only informed of his death early this morning and was able to attend his funeral in Blackpool. John Dunne had travelled up from Exmouth to attend and another ex-musician Mark Adkin (I hope I have got the name right) travelled from Lincolnshire. Trevor continued to make music playing in a number of ensembles and the family and friends were played into the service to 'For Your Eyes Only' played as a saxophone solo recorded by Trevor. A poem was read by George Phillips an ex Bugler who was a dear friend of Trevors. Trevor Joined in September 1966 and served in a number of bands so he will be well known to many.

Trevor Bignell 1951 – 2011  
RIP

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message #: 948

Date: Friday September 2 2011 06:25:19 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: Greenwich LONDON  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I am pleased that my ears have not deceived me in my old age and that others have noticed the changing sonority of the RM Bands!! Thank you Mick and Dave for your support! Another factor to consider is that many boys joined at 14 having hardly played an instrument and some not at all. Today's recruits are older and I am told often have Grade 8 standard and have played in county youth orchestras and consequently had proper orchestral training from teachers who have been through music college courses. The most significant change in the sound of RM Bands in my opinion was the influence of Lt Col Sir Vivian Dunn whose background as a string player made the band play more "on the string" with no gaps between notes and giving full length. Most military bands were playing the old clipped style of short notes and worse still clipped slurs in the slurred two/tongued two...whereas string players (and flute players like me who studied in Paris!!!) make the second note of the slur LONG. When I first played for the RPO in 1967 the 2nd trumpet was Stan Woods ex-RMB and brother of the famous Dave Woods who went to Canada and we spoke together about this. The 1st trumpet was John Wilbraham and he had observed the unique sound of RM Bands and particularly commented on the proper length of notes as opposed to the clipped style of other bands.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 947

Date: Thursday September 1 2011 17:49:36 EST  
Name: David Mutter  
Email: cello-brass@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: Cello/Tenor/bass tubas  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Following the comments of both Adrian and Mick I agree to their perception to the changes of tonality of the RM Band from the 1960's to today. The RM bands do not have that distinctive "sound" that they once had and this I suspect is the fruit of the visiting teacher to the school who has been "orchestrally" trained. Adrian rightly points to the notion of the difference between the use of the trumpet being more prominent than that of the cornet. This also applies to other brass instruments including the tubas. Like both Mick and Adrian I have observed that the overall balance has changed. This is not a new phenomenon as listening to early recordings of RM bands at the turn of the 20th century the style and balance was quite different from that of the sixties. What cannot be disputed is the high quality of musicianship that has always been the hallmark of the Royal Marine Band tradition. There have always been musicians of high calibre who can stand proud amongst the best and this does not exclude present serving members. As Adrian says it is not a criticism but an observation and that is the nature of progression from one point to another. Well done to those who performed at Edinburgh this year and especially to the Corps of Drums. You are definitely second to none. David Mutter

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message #: 946

Date: Wednesday August 31 2011 10:44:26 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend, South Wales  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard and all I totally agree with Adrian Brett's comments on the Edinburgh Tattoo only that I was not all that impressed with the new arrangement of "Sunset"! The arrangement used over many years by Capt AC Green was what was known as a masterpiece. The so called re arrangement was not to my musical taste unfortunately. Everything else was fantastic. With best wishes Mike.

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message #: 945

Date: Tuesday August 30 2011 14:47:05 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: Greenwich LONDON  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Like many I watched the BBC relay of the Edinburgh Tattoo...which brought back many memories of sodden march cards and even worse soaked No 1's and dripping blanko!! The drum display was nothing short of miraculous. Quite amazing precision and instrumental technique but also phenomenal imagination on the part of the 'composer' who we were told was a Cpl Bugler. What I was most interested in however (and some may disagree and be incensed that such comments come from a wood wind player albeit one who has played with the finest brass players in the UK!!) ...but...the sound of RM Bands has changed radically from my time and it is the brass sound which has changed and become much more orchestral and brighter in timbre. Players used to be recruited from the Salvation Army and Brass Band movements who had a much 'deeper' and 'plumier' conception of brass sonority particularly in the cornet/trumpet dept. The trumpets/cornets now sound very orchestral and bright to my ears crisp and precise...quite marvellous...but definitely different. Also I always thought that the one thing your ears could rely upon in identifying a RM Band...and what clearly distinguished it from any other band in the world...was that marvellous middle register of saxes horns and euphoniums which to my ears was less evident in the performances but possibly just the actual arrangements. NOT criticism but observation. Phenomenal playing from everyone at a standard no band in the world can attain.....no other band can play ppp!!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 944

Date: Tuesday August 9 2011 11:30:52 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RBMX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Just a quick note to mention Bernie Grivell who was a great friend of the Band Service in the early days at Deal. Mid 50s to the 70s. I remember him particularly as a keen football ref and cricket umpire. A great member of the Sgts Mess in those days and always working to help younger members of the band service and GD ranks. He was involved for many years in the running of the RM cadets in Deal and elsewhere. His funeral was yesterday at Barham and there were many band ranks there to send him off among nearly 200 attendees. Keep well. Regards. Michael Hutton.

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message #: 943

Date: Sunday July 31 2011 16:23:51 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RBMX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLART  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Everyone knows Amy Winehouse died! ( FWT Already mentioned this event covered in six to eight pages of one of those Red Tops!) Who is Justin Allen 23 Brett Linley 29 Matthew Weikert 29 Justus Bartett 27 Dave Santos 21 Jesse Reed 26 Matthew Johnson 21 Zachary Fisher 24 Brandon King 23 Christopher Goeke 23 and Sheldon Tate 27? They are all Royal Marines who gave their lives this week for you. There is no media for them... not even a mention of their names. Honour THEM by posting this. I did will you?

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message #: 942

Date: Thursday July 28 2011 17:52:18 EST  
Name: Tony FitzGerald  
Email: ecaryl@aol.com

Service Number: RBMX2447  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Piano & Flute  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Served 1947 to 1956 Served on Royal Yacht 1955 Signed up in BURFORD for the Royal Naval School of Music July 8 1947 Maxie Beare and I were teenagers together there!!! Now living in US in New Hampshire not far from Portsmouth!

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 941

Date: Sunday July 24 2011 04:05:36 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
What a wonderful story from Paul Whitfield well done Maxie for your input Great to hear also that Maxie is home and on the mend. My very best wishes to you all Noel

---

message #: 940

Date: Tuesday July 19 2011 14:04:51 EST  
Name: Paul Whitfield  
Email: paultina@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi I would just like you to know that because of your forum and my input of Nelson Clarke that he was able to talk to a Jan Greenleaf who is also 90 years old and lives in Plymouth and they have not seen each other or talked to each other for 75 years. They were brought together by courtesy of Max ( full name Bernard S Maxie Beare Solo Cornet. So very many thanks for Max for responding.) Neither Jan or Nelson are on email or computer and as I am in hospital for 1 week from tomorrow I will not be able to update you. But when I am discharged and back home I will update you with a few pictures hopefully. I have to say that my 90 year old father-in-law is over the moon at the moment and so excited at the prospect of chatting to more old boys.  
Regards Paul & Tina Whitfield

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message #: 939

Date: Tuesday July 19 2011 08:43:50 EST  
Name: Ginge Deary  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Bob Eley. Would this be the chap I knew as Ginge Eley? If so he was J Wing barber with Jock Wilson in the very early sixties. From there he went to HMS Lion.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 938

Date: Tuesday July 19 2011 05:55:55 EST  
Name: Charlie Laws  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/x3057  
Hometown: Deal, Kent  
Instrument/s: Cornet and Swimming Gear  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Its with great sadness to say Bob Eley passed away last Sunday his funeral takes place at the Roman Catholic Church on St Richards Road at 1030hrs Wednesday July 20th then burial at Eastrey.

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message #: 937

Date: Friday July 15 2011 00:38:30 EST  
Name: Michael Thompson  
Email:

Service Number: RM26593  
Hometown: Melbourne  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi all RMB's I am the wife of Michael Thompson (Tommo2) I'm writing to let you know that Michael is yet again fighting his cancer problems. His cancer came back last year in the throat and he finished he chemo two days before he conducted his beloved band Monash Concert Band at An Afternoon at the Proms/Festival of Remembrance. Nothing would stop him on that front. His remission only lasted three months and he had to take ten weeks off work to go through an extensive chemo regimen. Tommo is now back in hospital undergoing a very heavy chemo for 7 days before they do a Stem Cell Transplant. This web site has been set up for anyone that would like to send him a message and is kept up to date as best possible. <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/MichaelThompson2> I'm sure he would be overwhelmed to hear from some of his old ship mates. Regards Sue Thompson

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message #: 936

Date: Wednesday July 13 2011 11:48:51 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: [barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk)

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard Just returned home after the journey down to 'Pompey' for Drummie Dillon's Funeral. As you can imagine it was a 'mini Reunion' and all who attended did 'Drummie' proud. Some of the lads had travelled long distances to be there it was great to see Mitch and Marlene Booth Maurice Keat (who had walked over from the I.O.W.) Wally and Val Spencer Fred Bassett Bob Rawson Albert Hall John Tucker Peter Scott Mick Blandford Bob Cummins Norm Inglis Stuart (Snowy) Snowden Brian Peever and of course many more (but the memory isn't as good as it was) Afterwards we all assembled at the 'Lodge' in Cosham and were treated to a 'Great Buffet' Many thanks to Monica and family for their hospitality. I believe 'Mitch' managed to get a drink out of Maurice. (that's 2 in the last decade). WOW !!! Heather and I stayed with Merv and Sue for a couple of days and Merv did all the driving which eased things for me. It was a sad occasion but well worth the effort of getting down there. Regards to all  
Barry

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 935

Date: Monday July 11 2011 10:02:33 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Further to my last message in relation to the passing of David Samuel Greig better known as 'Jock' Greig I have entered a message and a photograph on the Obituary Page and Lit a Candle in memory of 'Jock' and the link to that page is as follows. <http://announce.jpress.co.uk/10370961> I did see that Barry Radford had already lit a candle but that must appear on a different page? Kind regards Yours aye Bill.

---

message #: 934

Date: Thursday July 7 2011 05:23:59 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3050  
Hometown: CONGRESBURY  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLARINET  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi Rich Sad news about Jock Grieg from Barry Radford and Jock and I were the Far East Uckers Champions in 1963 on HMS Alert and there is a picture of us somewhere on your Site of the Presentation of Winners Award (200 fags!). Noticed on the sick bay that you have inadvertently suggested a link to Maxies email address on the Australia Buddy Portal needless to say he is not on it as he is on the New Zealand Buddy List. Yours aye Bill. [Editor] Duuuuuuhhhh! A senior moment thanks for pointing that out.

---

message #: 933

Date: Wednesday July 6 2011 08:49:50 EST  
Name: Ginge Deary  
Email: happytrumpeter@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Does anyone have contact details for or know the whereabouts of Brian 'Rip' Kirby? (Percussionist). Rip was at Chatham 1963 and may have remained there until he joined HMS Eagle in 1965 for the second half of the 1964 - 1966 commission. I've no idea where he went from there but would like to make contact again if possible.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 932

Date: Tuesday July 5 2011 10:55:59 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard I have been trying to trace David (Jock) Greig for some time now. I went onto the internet today and I am shocked to learn that Jock has recently passed away and his funeral was today in Scunthorpe. What is deeply upsetting is that I should have been at a family funeral myself today in Scunthorpe at 10.30 today. But because of my mobility problems I could not go. It would seem that David's (Jock's) Funeral was at 11.30. I was in Eagle House with David and indeed I was Best Man at David and Fearnley's Wedding which would have been 50years Anniversary in December and the reason I was trying to track them down. Another fine guy left us for the Massed Bands in the 'other Place' . R.I.P David. I just had to pass this information on. I will try to find out more. Kind regards Barry

---

message #: 931

Date: Saturday July 2 2011 07:55:43 EST  
Name: Bob Cummins  
Email: bob.lindsey@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMB 3840  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dick e I would like to confirm that Matts Funeral will be held at Portchester crem on 12th July at 11.30 am. not 12.30 as was first thought. Regards Bob Cummins

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message #: 930

Date: Friday July 1 2011 15:02:27 EST  
Name: Dickie Valentine  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I would just like to add my own thoughts and feelings about our loss of Matt 'Drummy' Dillon. Although I wasn't at Whale Island for the longest time prior to my draft to Eagle I will remember with affection so many including Matt. He was always immaculate and I shall never forget his lovely mannerisms and that very powerful voice. He loved his beloved Jaguar (if I recollect assertively) and I'm sure that Merv Durrant and 'old' Tom Tucker were integral in keeping Matt in line. Not forgetting my old buddies Derek Usher 'Baz Radford 'big' Tom Tucker Wally Spencer and so many more. I had the great privilege of visiting with 'big' Tom many years ago and there is a lovely photo of him myself Wally and Matt at Tom's house. Great days! God rest your soul Drummy! Dickie Valentine.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 929

Date: Thursday June 30 2011 13:53:21 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe  
Instrument/s: Flute.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello Richard The news of the passing of Drum Major Matt Dillon was sad news to me indeed I had the privilege of serving at Whale Island in the late 60's with Drummy Dillon and another great man Royston Nash. Together they made my time in Whale Island one of the happiest times of my life in the RMB. As other people on the guestbook have already said Drummy Dillon could at times seem to be a bit strict but we all knew that if we really needed help he was the guy to see. Rest in Peace Drummy. You will never be forgotten.

---

message #: 928

Date: Thursday June 30 2011 13:00:55 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: ALTO/ CLART/VLN  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dickie Just read the sad news about the passing of Matt Dillon and although I never had the pleasure of serving with him I did however serve with Merv Durrant who I know was a very good friend and admirer of Matt Merv told me so many stories about the man that I somehow feel I may have missed out on a little bit of RM Band "must have" nostalgia. Matt was on the same level as those other late greats Charlie Bowden and Geoff Knox and will be remembered by all who had the pleasure of knowing working and serving with him I look forward to reading some of the many epitaphs that I'm sure will be written about him. I send my deepest condolences to all his many friends and colleagues and of course his family who will all miss him very much. RIP Matt Jem

---

message #: 927

Date: Thursday June 30 2011 11:01:27 EST  
Name: Bob Cummins  
Email: bob.lindsey@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMB3840  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dickie Bad news yet again Matt Dillon Ex Drum Major Whale island passed away at Salisbury last Friday. The funeral will be at Portchester Crem on Tuesday 12 July at 12.30 (time to be confirmed). Bob Cummins

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 926

Date: Thursday June 30 2011 10:12:56 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:

Dear Richard just arrived home after having my trial 'Gizmo' fitted. (will update you on that next week)  
I had a message waiting for me telling me of the sad news that Drum Major Matt Dillon has passed away. It was my pleasure to serve with 'Drummy' for almost 6 years on 'Whale Island'. (which were the best years of my service). I found him to be a very fair man who's only care was looking after that special breed of person. 'Bandy'. He was there 24/7 for those who needed him. Both Heather and I were proud to call him our friend. He will be greatly missed and our thoughts are with dear Monica Matt's devoted wife. Merv has the details regarding time and place for Matt's funeral. I will do everything it takes to attend and I hope to see many 'old friends' in Portchester. Rest in peace 'Drummy Dillon'. What a sight in the great Massed Band Display in the other place Drum Major's Bowden and Dillon strutting their stuff in front of the lads. See you in the counter march. Barry and Heather Radford

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message #: 925

Date: Thursday June 30 2011 08:20:18 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@googlemail.com

Service Number: rmb3645  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Cornet /Fiddle  
n/a:

Comments:

Hello to you all. Bob Cummins has just recently told me that yet another of our fine Drum Majors has joined both Drummy Bowden & Knox to lead our massed bands on the other side. This time it's sad to report the loss of Drum Major Matt Dillon. Those that served at CinC's Home Fleet Band at "Excellent" will all remember Matt very well indeed. - An immaculate man at all times & who set the example to all. - I just remember him in my short time there as being one of those true "firm but fair" sort of guys. - Personally I did not get to know him that well but no doubt he would always have remembered both mine & Jim Mc Claren's drooped moustache's !! - His favourite & quite regular instruction to us on any given parade - & in his Irish brogue - was to "Get yer moustache's in line with the lip!" - (Jason King was popular at the time!!) - I bet you can remember this Mr Dickie Valentine !!? Oddly we searched but couldn't find an RM regulation that highlighted the shape of ones moustach!. But Matt was a stickler for detail & on reflection he was possibly right. - After all we were supposed to be RMB's & not apeing TV stars of the day!) I'm sure many who will remember Matt will join me in mourning his loss. RIP Drummy!

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message #: 924

Date: Thursday June 30 2011 05:46:31 EST  
Name: Blue band  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:

It is with deep regret that we inform you that Matt Dillon PLX5466 passed away Saturday 25 June 2011 at 0744hrs. Matt was a GD Marine Drum Major who served during WW2 and as a Drum Major during the 60s at Whale Island. Funeral will be at Portchester Crem on 12 July 2011 at 1130hrs. No flowers donations to RMBBF RNLI or NSPCC will be most welcome. Being cor I N Newman ltd Griffin House 55 Winchester St Salisbury SP1 1HL.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 923

Date: Friday June 24 2011 14:31:47 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email: keng0iti@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBx1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd  
Instrument/s: Cornet/violin  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Hello Richard I feel I must comment on the two messages from Barry and Dave.They both edorse my sentiments on our Great band of Brothers who have served in the RMSof Music or when I joined the RNSof Music. How many times has my wife said "But Ken it's over 50 years since you left the service". It only seems like yesterday!! I am still in contact with quite a few who were Band Boys with me over the Isle of Man and that was nearly 70 years ago. I wonder if the comradeship is the same today. I'm sure it is. My very best wishes to you all.

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message #: 922

Date: Thursday June 23 2011 19:43:07 EST  
Name: David A Mutter  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3814  
Hometown: Canterbury  
Instrument/s: cello/tenor and bass tubas  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Hi Richard Having read Barry's comments about things events relationships that have happened in the past and the seemingly futility of those memories suggested by his son Spencer if I have understood the comments correctly to me means that time will reveal to Spencer the importance of our individual experiences of contact with individuals and organisations. The Royal Marine Band Service for me at least if not for a great many of us exposed us to a different mind set to our previous experience of life. All of us had to adapt to a new way of viewing the world and what happens within it. Through that journey we have made friends with whom we have shared and endured many good and many difficult times. All of that binds us together whether we like it or not and from that comes the notion of belonging and of family. All of whom we come into contact become part of our history especially those with whom we have been compelled to live with. This for most of the civilian population does not apply and therefore is not easy for them to understand. It may be a cliché but the experience of belonging to such an august organisation as the Royal Marine Band Service promotes pride and brotherhood. Indeed we are that Band of Brothers.if Barry's son Spencer is a football fan he might begin to understand his dad's commitment to his friends and comrades. Who knows?

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message #: 921

Date: Thursday June 23 2011 06:28:29 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Dear Richard It would seem the only contact I have had with you of late is sick bay update and notes of condolences!!! This time it is for Mick Hayward. I was in Eagle House with Mick 1956 -1959 then we served together in 3rd Commando Brigade in the very early 60's. Always sad to read of the departure of one of our own. This week it stemmed a chat I had with my Son Spenser (although he was born after I had left the Band Service he knows lots of our friends) said "Dad but all this happened many years ago and you haven't seen many of the guys for years". I will not print my reply. But after all these years have passed, No-one can take away our many memories (unless of course we succumb to one of those 'orrid ailments!!!). The time spent in Boy's Wing when boys from all walks of life were thrown together, (better than any high priced private boarding school!!!!!!). The times spent over seas or living on sheets of steel in the middle of some ocean. Memories are priceless and we are the lucky ones who are still here. Thinking of times long ago and all the life long friends we have had and still have. So Rest in peace Mick Hayward. Thanks for all the memories. Regards to all Barry

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 920

Date: Monday June 6 2011 07:44:34 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard Sad to hear the belated news regarding Tom Towler like Jem. I served with Tom on H.M.S Tiger with Bandmasters John Smith and then Ben Finney. Tom was a true gent and he had a wicked sense of humour. We left the Tiger roughly same time and I did visit Tom and his family on the one occasion in Fareham but like most people haven't seen Tom for many a year. Condolences to Tom's family. He was a great guy truly worthy taking his place amongst the ranks of the big 'Royal Marine Band' in the other place. Rest in peace Tom. See you in the 'counter march'  
Barry and Heather Radford

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message #: 919

Date: Monday June 6 2011 06:12:40 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: alto/clart vln  
n/a:

Comments:  
I was sorry to hear of the passing of my old friend Tom Towler we served together on the Tiger for the best part of 2 years from from 64 to 66 if my memory serves me correctly he was a man of great wit and a pleasure to have the company of another of his close friends at the time was Ray Samsom and I remember they used to spend many hours playing Crib together during our time at sea. Tom left the service following his 9 years as Ray says and like Ray our paths never crossed again he was a good friend and will be sadly missed by those who had the pleasure of knowing him I offer my most sincere condolences to his family close friends and colleagues. RIP Tom Jem

---

message #: 918

Date: Sunday June 5 2011 05:14:59 EST  
Name: RAY ALBERRY  
Email: ray@musicmaker3.fsnet.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX3187  
Hometown: DONCASTER  
Instrument/s: SOLO CORNET  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Solo Cornet. Doncaster Hi  
Rich Please would you insert the Following into The guest book of the Ex RMB Website: In April a civvy friend of mine phoned me informing me that a mutual friend (an EX RMB) had died in Fareham. The man being TOMMY TOWLER Cornet/ Viola. RMBX3422. For a short time I served as B/Sgt with Tom in The HMS Ariel band at Lee on Solent. We together with Baz Pettitt had a few moments of fame on TV and in the National Press playing Post Horn Gallop on 303 Rifles. We were going to play this number in the wardrobe on Taranto Night. With no fuss but the local and then National press heard of it. Then the Naval PR system asked us to go on TV. So we played on "Blue Peter" also Southern TV. Shortly after that I was drafted to Deal for The Band Masters Class and I never met Tom again until he left the service and became my Postman in Fareham. For years I think he went on his 9 years as he was not 30 when he became a posty. It took me weeks to find out his wife's address she was not listed in the BT phone book but I managed to obtain her address to get his Reg number and the date that he passed away. Here it is: Musician D.(Tom) Towler. RMBX3422. CORNET/VIOLA. DIED JANUARY 4TH 2011. PLEASE WOULD YOU INSERT HIS DETAILS ON THE ROLL OF HONOUR LIST YOUR S RAY ALBERRY

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 917

Date: Wednesday May 25 2011 12:50:05 EST  
Name: Sidney Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi Richard. Attended the Funeral of Brian (Clem) Clements at Barham Crematorium on a lovely sunny Monday morning. A great turnout of serving and ex serving RMBs. Standing room only which tells you what a popular and well liked man our Clem was with people coming from far and wide to hear a wonderful service also I must mention a moving Eulogy given by Ken Rollings a very close friend of Clem and Jan. Thanks also to the Bugler for a perfect Last post and Reveille and to the Standard bearer Dusty Miller. A reception was held at Deal Bowls club so many thanks to them for putting on a lovely spread. Lastly our deepest thanks go to Clem's son Dave and his family for making everyone feel most welcome. Many Many Thanks. Sid

---

message #: 916

Date: Wednesday May 25 2011 12:48:02 EST  
Name: ken rollings  
Email: kenvalrollo@fsmail.net

Service Number: RMB/X3324  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Clarinet & Violin  
n/a:

**Comments:**

The funeral of Brian Clements (Clem) was well attended by many ex-bands and I read the eulogy I mentioned some of the funnier moments of Clem's life as this man had a fantastic sense of humour. Our thoughts are with Janet David and Grandchildren. Ken Rollings

---

message #: 915

Date: Tuesday May 24 2011 14:45:02 EST  
Name: Ian Epps  
Email: ianepps@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX 2698  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi I'm a newcomer to writing on this page but there is a first time for everything and I was asked by Richard to update you on a visit to Ron Kempton. Terry Parker (Clarinet and Fred's staff band library whipping boy) his wife Beryl myself and my wife Freda visited Ron and Barbara in Deal whilst Freda and I were up on a visit before we went away on holiday together to the Med. Gib doesn't change except it's quicker to get up to the top in the lift and the apes have got older. I hadn't seen Ron since we were boys together in days long gone bye but when we all started chatting it seemed like only yesterday that we last met. Ron was in great form considering what he has gone through he doesn't get around too much but he's not lost his sense of humour. Barbara is his pillar of strength and keeps him as active as his condition allows. I'm sure Ron and Barbara would be pleased to see any of Ron's old friends as he doesn't get out much but they have asked that if anyone does think of a visit that you give them a ring. Ron's medical routine means he needs a bit of warning before entertaining visitors. See you all at the Reunion.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 914

Date: Thursday May 12 2011 01:06:01 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/amaphone/Bass Drum (Tuned)  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Haven't been on the website for a while but was shocked to hear of Dan Archers wife Beryl being so very ill. I first met Beryl and family in FOSNI Band in '73 she became a very good friend. Take care Bez I'll be thinking of you and Chris. Roy X

---

message #: 913

Date: Wednesday May 11 2011 08:14:48 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Saddened to read the news of Brian Clements. Like Mike Hickman I was a boy with Brian. He was a great guy. Condolences to his family. R.I.P. Brian Regards to all Barry Radford

---

message #: 912

Date: Tuesday May 10 2011 15:07:00 EST  
Name: Sidney Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Such a sad day for me to hear of the passing of a dear friend (Brian Clements) We were band boys together in Boys wing and for many an hour we would bang our drums in the Drum lobby with Dave Varlow Tosca wright Ken Schooley and Bill Pugh to name but a few. To his wife Jan and son Dave my sincere condolences. Rest in Peace Brian..You will be sorely missed. Sid

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 911

Date: Tuesday May 10 2011 08:57:19 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Greetings to you all. Once again I am the bearer of sad news to follow the last message from Charlie with regard to Brian Clements I am sad to say that I received an E Mail this morning from Dave Varlow saying that Brian had been taken back to hospital and has since crossed the bar to the great massed band above. I knew Brian for many years we were boys together in the wing in the late 50s he was a Percussionist by trade we never served together but like many our paths crossed on the field at Deal. Some of you may remember him in his later years as Brian was a barber in the Depot. He was a great guy and will missed by many especially those who like me shared a wet and a chat when I came over in the RMA at Deal. My sincere condolences to all of his family and to those of you who knew Brian and may have served with him. BRIAN CLEMENTS RiP.

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message #: 910

Date: Saturday May 7 2011 12:12:19 EST  
Name: Charlie Laws  
Email: charles@charleslaws.wanadoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3057  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Swimming costume and Water Polo Ball  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I've just heard that Brian Clements is not a very well man at the moment should I find anything else out I will inform you.

---

message #: 909

Date: Thursday May 5 2011 04:08:57 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Have just heard the news about Roger Tyack. I had visited him at the residential home in Deal and it was only when I spoke of cricket in the Depot that he could remember who I was but have not visited for a while. He and I were Cpls together in the 50s and were arch - enemies in those days when the RMSM were interlopers at the Depot. Drill instructors and Band Cpls just didnt mix! However some years later as SNCOs we became very good friends and were both involved in Sgts Mess functions such as the annual pantomime and he was a great member of the mess cricket team when I was the skipper. I knew Kitty his wife very well and both our families were very close. Sad that another one of our comerades has gone..He must be in the great Drill-Shed in the sky. Mick Hutton.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 908

Date: Wednesday April 27 2011 16:12:42 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: Greenwich  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a:

Comments:

It is strange how we remember a few of the RMs...those tyrants of our boys' service in North Barracks who yelled and shouted and put the fear of God into us young 14 year olds on the parade ground! I too remember Roger Tyack and can picture him in my mind..bolt upright and very fit... but I also recall his smile. Somewhere in the back of my mind I recall the aspect of his character which has been remembered.. a man of immense affability who just did the job he had to do very well.. strict and efficient on parade but a caring and considerate understanding human being when it really mattered. What greater epitaph could anyone receive? His roles in the Sgts' Mess pantomime were legend and if I can recall correctly after so long: " My name is Robin Hood...and I'm very very good.. Despite what many on parade might say... And when Charlie moves the band (looking down to the pit orch) With that silver mace in hand It's MY command that Charlie must obey!!" RIP....RSM Tyack

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message #: 907

Date: Friday April 22 2011 16:17:10 EST  
Name: Bill  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a:

Comments:

I too remember Roger Tyack as we came across each other soon after I joined at Deal in 1952 and while he was a DI under the late RSM Franks he was one of the more band boy friendly Drill Instructors who had to come down hard on everyone especially those wearing that broad red band down the seam of their trousers! Roger was the First X1 Team Soccer Manager and we had plenty of time together on those old East Kent buses travelling to away games in the Kent League. Perhaps others like Len Harvey and Dave Stubbs may recall those distant days? Along with Charlie Bowden Roger now joins others who have crossed the Bar so may he now rest in peace. Happy memories. Yours aye Bill.

---

message #: 906

Date: Thursday April 21 2011 17:42:48 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3242  
Hometown: Tennyson  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:

Very sad to hear of Roger's death he was fairly good to both me & my wife Sylvia when we married and went to live in Malta for about 15 month's he used to come over to our flat in Salima to watch the football from our roof along with Ron & Terry Champion yes we have fond memories of our times back in 1958-9. As you say Mick may he rest in peace. Yours from the land down under. Bill.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 905

Date: Thursday April 21 2011 17:02:16 EST  
Name: David Hibbert  
Email: dave3844@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: PO41849F  
Hometown: Gosport  
Instrument/s: None-Ex 40 Commando RM  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Dear Sir I am number two son of Walter Francis Hibbert ex RMB who sadly died in 2009. I happened upon your website by chance and found some pictures of my dad which was great. I noted that you asked Tom Lambert if he had any extra information about dad. I hope this helps. Dad joined on 23rd April 1941 with the number RMBX1699 and was placed in 76 squad. he signed on in Charing Cross rd and went to Malvern. He did leave the band in the early 70's to spend time with family but re-joined to finish with 30yrs service. he served in numerous ships throughout his service including HMS's Superb Indefatigable Invincible Cumberland Belfast Ark Royal HMY Britannia as well as shore based time at HMS St Vincent (where in 1975 I started secondary school on the revamped site). he finished his time at Deal where he trained the new recruits. he loved his time and missed his mates and yes he did have a good turn out at his funeral. he went out to of course. Life on an Ocean wave with the last post played by a superb band Corporal from Portsmouth. I served nine years in the RM and fought in the Falklands and served in Ireland. Now I'm a Police Inspector 3 yrs from retirement with two kids under 4!! Thank you to your contributors for the photo's it was good to see him in his prime. regards Dave Hibbert

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message #: 904

Date: Thursday April 21 2011 05:46:58 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Still very quiet here. Sad news for some of the elder statesmen of the site and maybe some of the younger ones as well. I have just read on the Forum that RSM Roger Tyack passed away earlier this month I can remember him during my time in the wing as DI and also in later years. I always found him hard but fair I think that when he left the Corps he went on to be a Beefeater at the Tower. RIP Roger.

---

message #: 903

Date: Friday April 15 2011 12:14:10 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Anyone in the Kent area who might be interested in the Royal Marines Association Concert Band? We are in Folkestone at the Leas Cliff Hall this Sunday afternoon at 3pm. Conducted by David Cole we look forward to seeing many friends of the Band Service old and new. Mick Hutton.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 902

Date: Tuesday April 12 2011 04:53:57 EST  
Name: John Bailey  
Email: johnbailey41@googlemail.com

Service Number: RM 20880  
Hometown: UNITED KINGDOM  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
I was a Ground Marker in No 1's on Horse Guards Parade in 1964 for the 300 Anniversary so seeing Charlie Bowden obituary brought back fond memories of my time at Deal particularly as a J Wing House NCO. I took Juniors to Scotland Vienna and Luxembourg  
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/obituaries/military-obituaries/naval-obituaries/8386590/Colour-Sergeant-Charlie-Bowden.html>

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message #: 901

Date: Monday April 11 2011 05:09:11 EST  
Name: Mark Snell  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
8th - 9th October 2011 The RM Band Service Reunion will take place at HMS Nelson Portsmouth from 1900 on Saturday 8th October 2011 (No accommodation is available in HMS Nelson) 1900 Guests arrive 2000 Ceremonial Marching Display Bar will close 10 min before performance) o/c Bar reopens 2359 Bar closes 0030 All guests clear of HMS Nelson The RM Band Service Memorial Service will take place at St Thomas of Canterbury (Portsmouth Cathedral) High Street Old Portsmouth at 1045 on Sunday 9th October 2011 1045 Guests to be seated in St Thomas of Canterbury (Portsmouth Cathedral) High Street Old Portsmouth 1100 Orchestra commences The cost for the reunion is £20 per person. Please make cheques payable to: 'Blue Band Magazine' completing the form below enclosing a stamped addressed envelope and sending to: RMBS Reunion Blue Band HQBSRM Eastney Block HMS Nelson Queen Street Portsmouth Hampshire PO1 3HH. The dress for the evening is Lounge Suit/female equivalent. REMINDERS: 1. You must include your postcode and telephone number. 2. Don't forget to send a stamped self addressed envelope. 3. Entry to HMS Nelson is by Queen Street gate only. 4. There is no accommodation available in HMS Nelson. 5. There are no parking facilities in HMS Nelson. FULL NAMES \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS (To include postcode) email: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Names of Guests: 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

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message #: 900

Date: Sunday April 10 2011 04:18:57 EST  
Name: Charles Laws  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/x3057  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Water polo ball and swimming gear  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Bill the problem is people join different bands and never seem to move very far I met Russ Thomas last year the first time since 1955 and he still couldn't remember my surname though Bubbles he could. My life was five bands. 3 abroad and two at home the rest of my time was coaching and teaching PTI's who instructed swimming better instead of brute force.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 899

Date: Friday April 8 2011 09:41:36 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Sorry to read of the passing of Kev Rowan who I last saw in late 1955 so I would pose the question of what happens to all those who leave the Band Service and seem to me to disappear into the woodwork? The same applies to some of those who I joined up with so where are they now? If any of them read this then fear not I am not coming to look for you if you can't keep in touch over the last 59 years I wouldn't wish to trouble you now..... Yours aye  
Bill.

---

message #: 898

Date: Friday April 8 2011 06:23:32 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Rouquetas de Mar, Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi to you all. Bit quiet in here these days. A little late with this one but as no one else has posted I thought perhaps it may be a good idea to pass on this info. Not good news I am afraid I am sad to report that another Sgt Bglr has crossed the bar to the front rank of the great massed band where ever it may be Sgt Bglr Arthur (Tanky ) Webb passed away on the 15th March in Deal. I knew him a little we never served together but like most of us our paths crossed at massed band time. My late condolences go all of his family and to those of you who may have known Tanky and maybe served with him. Arthur (Tanky) Webb RIP.

---

message #: 897

Date: Sunday April 3 2011 05:00:22 EST  
Name: Ginge Deary  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:

60th anniversary. <http://hms-eagle.co.uk/grosvenor/> Such is the popularity of the Eagle reunions many of the rooms have already been booked 18 months in advance! Don't miss the boat.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 896

Date: Saturday April 2 2011 15:53:59 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB?X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Hi all Well the Adelaide reunion is all over for 2011. Small attendance this time but new additions to our group from the UK were John Thorne(RMB/X2466) and John Woods whose number I failed to get. Capt Tom Lambert although not in the best of health couldn't be kept away and it was pleasing to all present when he was able to attend. Others who joined us for the weekend were Maxie Beare and Joe Sims from New Zealand Jim Mason from the UK Ray (Taff) Taylor from here in Victoria Ralph Payne Barrie Baker and Bob Chumley from South Australia and Pat Trevis from West Australia This made for a comfortable group when with our wives partners and a few invited guests we gathered on Friday 25th March for meet and greet before nosh and drinks and much lamp swinging of course. Saturday aboard the replica of HMS Buffalo was all official with Corps RMSOM and Royal Yacht ties proudly displayed. I might add that there appears to be more of the latter than others. The loyal Toast was proposed by Jim Mason followed by my self remembering Absent Friends. Sunday came too quickly and it was time for the BBQ before we all decided to do it all again next year at the same venue on the last weekend of march 2012. It was also suggested that a reunion should be held in New Zealand and Maxie Beare will be the one to organise that but there will always be a reunion of ex RMBs in Adelaide for those who wish to join us. Those who don't well they just don't know what thy are missing

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message #: 895

Date: Thursday March 24 2011 16:36:24 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3242  
Hometown: Tennyson  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Sorry to hear of Pete Westerway's brush with things medical hope all will go well with the WCR the Oz reunion is on this weekend in Adelaide they always have a good time over there I cannot attend this year as Sylvia & I are on a Tour of the North Island of N.Z. next week. Have a good reunion Pete see you in the Counter March ? Best wishes from "Down Under" Bill & Sylvia Matthews

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message #: 894

Date: Wednesday March 23 2011 16:36:49 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Sadly as another one of my former shipmates goes to another plain I regret that due to another medical appointment I am unable to attend the funeral of Dave Jennings who I spent many an happy hour with him trying to teach me to play Bridge along with Roy Shears and Terry Lampert. I have conveyed my apologies to the second son of Dave that I am unable to attend the funeral but I hope others may manage to attend. Another sad loss to the ex RMB Fraternity.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 893

Date: Sunday March 20 2011 16:58:26 EST  
Name: westaway  
Email: peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX2902  
Hometown: Par.  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello Everyone. As you may or not know I suffered a little setback on my way to play at the all stars concert. I collapsed unconscious at my daughters house and ended up in A@E at Dartford hospital. Having stayed there for a week and had every test and scan under the sun they could find nothing wrong so discharged. They kept asking me if I had been abroad I felt like saying I am abroad is this Pakistan or India. Nevertheless the treatment was excellent. Anyway more important matters the WCR goes ahead on the 9th of April. If anyone has yet to apply for tickets please do so now or by the 1st of April so I can finalize the buffet. Remember this may be the last one in the west country for awhile. All details on the site under re-unions or the calendar. Always room for more at the WCR. Thank you for all the kind messages and support see you on the 9th. Cheers Pete.

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message #: 892

Date: Wednesday March 16 2011 07:04:54 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: Greenwich  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Went to Chichester yesterday for the funeral of Ron Mansbridge who I joined with in 3/59 Squad...I think. There was a huge turnout of ex-RMs and other friends from Ron's time as an MOD security officer. Col Jim Mason was there and the ever-dependable Merv Durrant. Col Jim looks so fit and healthy and I could not believe it when he told me he is 82! A most amiable and relaxed Padre who knew all of Ron's family gave a very sympathetic account of Ron's life and achievements with particular emphasis on his great qualities as a family man. The crematorium was packed with two files either side of the aisle and many standing outside. A RM bugler in full ceremonials stood outside as we all entered and he later played LP and REV during the service. Glad I made the effort from Greenwich as I met a few who remembered me to my surprise..Andy Crofts and Jock Dunn..Jim Mason and Merv of course.. and I spoke with Brian Peever and Gary Powell too. A great send-off for someone I wished I had known better and who will clearly be missed by many.RIP.

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message #: 891

Date: Tuesday March 15 2011 06:31:37 EST  
Name: Charlie Laws  
Email: charles@charleslaws.Wanadoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3057  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Polo Player  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Richard Here are a few names I believe from Dave Mullan's photo. Back Row: Abe Ingram Bill Hartland Dave Stockton. Centre: Dave Mackenzie Jo Baker Rod Williamson Front Row: Jumbo Legg. On the otherside Bob Baker.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 890

Date: Monday March 14 2011 08:23:09 EST  
Name: John Fairnington  
Email: john.animalcrackers@ntlworld.com

Service Number: P041974U  
Hometown: Petersfield  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi all Not being a Bandsman but having served 26yrs in the Royal Marines I was wondering if any one can give some advice to my daughter who wants to join the Band. She is due to attend her audition in July 2011 and any advice for her would be most helpful. Thank you Per Mare Per Terram

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message #: 889

Date: Wednesday March 9 2011 04:43:10 EST  
Name: Max  
Email:

Service Number: RMB x 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale NZ  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Oh dear how sad to read of the passing of Ginge Mansbridge we did serve together in Pompy and on the Yacht and have happy memories of times spent together. It seems everyone knew of his smartness and being so up front so I can't elaborate. I didnt even know that Ron had been sick still old friend Rest in Peace and condolences to the family you will not be forgotten. Max in NZ

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message #: 888

Date: Tuesday March 8 2011 06:03:58 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Everyone I remember Dave Mullan very well just had a look at the photo of what looks like the wing 1st and 2nd Rugby 15s circa 57/58 it definitely is not two of the houses as the two from my squad were both in Eagle House. Dave was Neptune and if that is Dave Varlow he was in Barham. I can see two of my old mates from the 1/56 squad 3 to the left of Dave is Rodney Williamson (1/56) and next to him may be Dave Varlow on the right hand side of the front row in the lighter stripes with the ball is the late Eddie (scouse) Bretherton (1/56). It looks like Mick Jones in the centre of the back row? Someone surely will know more I feel that I should but it was a long time ago.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 887

Date: Monday March 7 2011 12:07:23 EST  
Name: JemTugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: ALTO/CLART/VLN  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Having read Maxie's notes regarding the 80th birthday of Vince Harris I thought I'd add a few words of my own that might bring back a few memories of days gone by when Vince was my first Bandmaster and Blake was my first ship. I'd just got rated and was informed that I was to join up with a new band which was to become the ships band of HMS Blake the year was 1961. Such a long time ago but I was amongst many experienced Musicians who became good friends and mentors. We joined Blake Mid '61 for a cruise to Rotterdam just to get us used to life on a warship and this was no small ship it was a Tiger Class cruiser anyway we joined as permanent crew in October 1961 and duly sailed to the Med stopping at Gib on the way where I found out that overindulgence in Brandy and beer wasn't a good thing for a young musician who thought he knew it all!! First lesson learned we made out way to Malta where we then commenced our "work up" to operational standard the weather was foul and we were very glad to finish the exercise and sail into Grand Harbour where I found a very unusual place called the "Gut". You can imagine as a young lad of 18 I was flying and my best mate Derek Usher and I became firm run ashore oppos. Say n'more but good times were had by all I recall that we were due to sail to Haifa in Israel but this was cancelled because of the Independence celebrations of Trinidad and Jamaica... yes you guessed it we were being sent to assist in the protocol it's a lousy job but someone had to do it!! The West Indies was marvellous the Med was also marvellous and Vince was a first class Bandmaster and through his guidance the younger members of the band learnt what it was to be a proper member of a "hungry 18" there's so much more to tell but I think memories are ..... well memories such wonderful times. May I add my belated best wishes to Vince on his 80th and say may you have many more oh and..... thanks for a truly memorable commission Regards Jem

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message #: 886

Date: Monday March 7 2011 07:33:14 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: ALTO/CLART ETC  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Sorry to hear of the passing of Ron "Ginge" Mansbridge I haven't seen Ron since I retired back in '83 but remember him (like Mick Hickman) from my time on the Yacht at Eastney and at other time when our paths (or the countermarch) crossed. He was as Mick says always immaculate and took his appearance both in and out of uniform just that little extra inch something which also showed in his professional ability. I recall he had a wonderful sense of humour and we enjoyed many a story from him while passing time away on those balmy days when we had seetime to do. Ron was also a very skilled Magician and kept us enthralled whilst performing yet another trick he was practising I think he also "performed" at one of the "sod's operas" on the yacht in front of the Queen who always thoroughly enjoyed those crazy shows which sometimes went to plan and sometimes didn't that was why they were so special and also soooooo funny. Although I haven't seen Ron for many years I shall always remember him as being a good friend to so many of his fellow Marines both Buglers and Musicians alike and I send my most sincere condolences to all his family RIP Ron you will be sadly missed Jem

---

message #: 885

Date: Sunday March 6 2011 07:28:27 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Very quiet here at the moment. Sad to report that I have picked up from the Forum that Sgt Bglr Ron Mansbridge has crossed the bar to the front rank of the great massed band elsewhere. No details were given but no doubt eventually for those that may wish to attend his farewell they will. I had the pleasure of knowing and serving with him during my time at Eastney what a smart bugger he was nothing was ever out of place not even the hair of his ginger tash. I last saw him a couple of years ago when he was an MoD plod on the Unicorn Gate he was still very smart. My condolences go to his family and to all of you who like me had the pleasure to have known him. RON MANSBRIDGE RIP.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 884

Date: Tuesday March 1 2011 05:30:48 EST  
Name: Ginge Deary  
Email: happytrumpeter@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3806  
Hometown: Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Below is a message from an ex crew member of HMS Eagle John Bryant who has been organising Eagle reunions for a few years. HMS EAGLE'S 60TH BIRTHDAY. 40 YEARS SINCE SHE PAID OFF!! Bookings now being taken for our 2012 reunion weekend at Torquay Friday 5th -Monday 8th Oct 2012. 3 nights dinner bed & breakfast inc' entertainment on ALL nights at a very good price of just £120 per person NO single supplements. see the hotel here... <http://www.grosvenorhoteltorquay.co.uk/about-us/> I'm also planning a coach trip to Plymouth on the Saturday departing the hotel at 09.00 and return by 17.00 if we have 30 who want to go the cost will be £10 per person We may do a "Fanny boat trip" round devonport and wave at the "sailors" ... happy days... I wonder if I can jack up a ship visit too see how "Jack" lives today. lol. Payment details... 1. £25.00 per person deposit 2. Balance post dated (1st June 2012)... £95.00 per person. 3. Upgrades I will let you know later they have 9 posh rooms out of the 46 rooms let me know if you are interested please. 4. I think the hotel does holiday insurance about £6 let me know if you want it please. 5. Please let me know if you are interested in the Plymouth trip. Book early as it is ONLY 19 months to go for this one Lads. If anyone is interested in attending I will pass on John's contact details.

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message #: 883

Date: Thursday February 24 2011 08:32:07 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hullo to you Richard and all. This is a cry for help from one Ex WO2(B) G.R.Gill who is asking if anyone in the offices in the RMSM can do a check on whether his R141 is in existence as after he left the Corps at Deal in 1980 somehow this important document never came to light after all this time. Can anybody help? Bob's number was QOO3333C. He still lives in Deal and can be contacted through me. Thanks. Mike.

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message #: 882

Date: Tuesday February 22 2011 18:03:32 EST  
Name: Anthony W. T. FitzGerald  
Email: ecaryl@aol.com

Service Number: RMBX2447  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Flute / Piano  
n/a:

Comments:

Would like to hear from those who served on Royal Yacht 1956-1957. Am residing in USA

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 881

Date: Tuesday February 22 2011 14:53:24 EST  
Name: Max Beare  
Email:

Service Number: RMB X 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Greetings all just to let you know that most ex RMBs are in the North Is and no way near to Christchurch there are a few in that area but we are not in touch anyway thanks all for your concerns. Maxie [Editor] Yes buddy we are grateful you are unscathed and we can only hope and pray for all those who are less fortunate.

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message #: 880

Date: Monday February 21 2011 15:44:35 EST  
Name: Max  
Email:

Service Number: RMB X 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
The years 1930/1 must have been a good year for our own Mums and Dads as I can now report the 80th birthday of yet another who has recently joined the esteemed Octogenarians? Happy Birthday ex Staff B/M John W Masters celebrated in January with Brenda and the girls Val and Lynda also present was Jock Brown looking as spritely as ever Go the RNSM Bernard S (Maxie)Beare

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message #: 879

Date: Saturday February 19 2011 17:13:51 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: CONGRESBURY  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLART  
n/a:

Comments:  
In the last couple of days I have held telecon's with Barrie (Vic) Sylvester and Stan Hacking. Vic had just come home after a spell in hospital and Stan because of his kind of health issues cannot associate with others because of his fear of contracting some little bug which could undo all of the treatment he is receiving by way of Chemo-Therapy and other medication he has to take so just in case anyone thought that they may just drop in on Stan may I suggest that you don't arrive unannounced for those reasons. Vic still has Carers looking after him in his home so if anyone who knows Vic can just give him a short telephone call I am sure he would appreciate it. Sadly neither Vic or Stan were aware of Ron Kempton and his health problems although they both expressed surprise and best wishes for Ron despite their own problems. Kind regards Yours aye Bill. editor www.hmsgambia.com and see link to C14 which I am also the editor of.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 878

Date: Friday February 18 2011 09:56:46 EST  
Name: Ginge Deary  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
I was surprised to read that Barry Radford joined in February 1956. I always thought he was so much older than that!!! :-)) Joking apart I will say with all sincerity that Baz is one of the nicest people you could ever wish to meet. Thanks for looking after me when I was a young lad Sea Dad. Love you loads.

---

message #: 877

Date: Thursday February 17 2011 17:42:05 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: CONGRESBURY  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLART  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I had a few minutes telecon chat with two stalwarts of the RMB yesterday the first was with Barrie (Vic) Sylvester who told me that he had just been released from hospital once again and a short chat with Stan Hacking who although able to speak to me he was not able to do much due to his mal(a)dy? Stan and I reminisced about our Band Boy Days and later of our being in the Plymouth Group Band together before he was one of the unfortunate number who were made redundant which was bad enough but some useless musicians were retained!?! Anyway both Vic and Stan asked me to give their kind regards to all those who knew them or served with them and both expressed surprise that Ron Kempton was in hospital and yet neither of them were aware of this. I look forward to seeing some old ships at the WCR in April meanwhile those of you who are online I invite you to send me any material you may have or be aware of in regard to HMS Gambia and HMS Kenya as my memory banks are now becoming depleted and I could do with adding something different to both web pages so as to keep some interest in ships in which we served? While I am here I would like to wish Barry Radford all the best with his own battle with his health meanwhile I am booked into hospital next month so happy days are here again! Yours aye  
Bill.

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message #: 876

Date: Monday February 14 2011 04:36:53 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard, 14th February, 55 years today the 2/56 Squad joined the Royal Marines School of Music. Thick snow all over Kent. Sadly not many of us left out there! But special greetings to John Cowdrey Mike Tellick and Ray Grant plus of course anyone else still around. No regrets. The 'Band Service' has been a great part of my life. Thanks to all the wonderful friends made because of this. How lucky we are. Regards to all Barry Radford

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 875

Date: Friday February 11 2011 09:44:34 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: CONGRESBURY  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLART  
n/a:

**Comments:**

I suppose one should say thank you to the current PDM for changing his mind or giving his approval for the Annual Reunion presently taking place in Portsmouth (thanks to the efforts of Barry Radford for reinstating the method of Reunions in Whale Island ) but why did this arise in the first place? As some may recall I personally would much prefer the Dinner and Chat Format of years gone by which I could only read of in the Blue Band (price one shilling or 5P for you modern readers) as I could not afford the time or expense in those days. Further I would add I do not like the venue which is why I do not support the reunion there and secondly I do not favour the format of the reunion. So I will continue as long as possible to support the West Country Reunion and on occasion the Adelaide Reunion whose format I very much favour. I have in the past supported the All Stars the Annual Reunion the West Country Reunion and latterly the Adelaide Reunion so one cannot say that I have neglected my attendance of these events some at great expense I may add but that aside one should consider those who undertake organising these events and either give them their support or tell them that they will not attend for whatever reason and then they may manage the situation to suit everyone. Answers on a Post Card please or send me an email to my normal address of editorbill@hmsgambia.com Meanwhile as we are approaching the 59th year of when my lot joined perhaps now would be an appropriate time to ask what do you plan for the 60th Anniversary of when you enlisted? Reminder for those who are still above ground we joined in October 1952! So does that ring any bells or do I have to remind you of Captain Blood Major Boothby RSM Franks Jimmy Pottle etc. just to name a few. I do? Then how about Dizzy Lang Ernie Ough Sunshine Newcomb and Tommy Challis? Rant over so print or not as you please Richard. Yours aye Bill Editor www.hmsgambia.com

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message #: 874

Date: Monday February 7 2011 04:58:45 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX 2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

For those of you who may be interested I have phoned the hospital regularly where Ron Kempton is and all they will tell you is that he is comfortable! Have also asked if I can visit but he does not wish to see anyone. Michael Hutton.

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message #: 873

Date: Tuesday February 1 2011 09:16:24 EST  
Name: Tony Hunter / overton  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3999  
Hometown: Kennethmont Huntly  
Instrument/s: Cornet and Violin  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Just read that Ron Kempton not well. Are there any more details please? Ron was my Bandmaster on HMS Ark Royal 1970 - 1971 great man and great friend. Hope all is well.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 872

Date: Tuesday February 1 2011 02:22:28 EST  
Name: Taff Ryan  
Email:

Service Number: Q004143c  
Hometown: Rosyth  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just read that Ron KEMPTON is not very well . If you read this Ron hope you get back to normal soon. All the very best. Taff Ryan.

---

message #: 871

Date: Monday January 31 2011 17:41:12 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury N. Somerset  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard I wonder how many of us who view your pages have come across the 1953 pages under Reunions? I had the pleasure of viewing all 16 pages and was able to see all those who I enlisted with who took part in the various Orchestral and Military Band Concerts of that time. The sad part for me was to see all those whose names appeared in print who are no longer with us in either mind or body. So many of those who entered the school in 1952 took part in this splendid celebration and I was shocked to not see many who I thought would have merited being in the various emsembles. Missing for me were notable clarinetists George Ayress and Gordon Cook and others of different instrumentation which I assume would or should have been present. I myself celebrated my Public Solo on the South Barracks Green at around this time and having the opportunity to play two cadenzas in Orpheus in the Underworld ably followed by David Ingram on Oboe with his cadenzas and Solo. Oh how time flies and how much many of us miss those days.... I suspect that this missive may stir one or two into thinking about the past and the good times we shared. Yours aye. Bill. Editor [www.hmsgambia.com](http://www.hmsgambia.com) and guest editor for the HMS Kenya Association.

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message #: 870

Date: Thursday January 27 2011 06:04:29 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: [adrianbrett@mac.com](mailto:adrianbrett@mac.com)

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: Greenwich  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
We had been rehearsing for Churchill's funeral in the wee small hours of the morning slow marching all through the City of London and into Westminster. At Fleet Street then still the printing centre a few of us nipped into the Daily Mirror offices for the heads and as we appeared in the office so did a bottle of scotch and glasses from some hack's desk! Later while standing in the freezing cold at the end of Downing St. I dared to speak out: "Excuse me DM but exactly what are we doing now?" "You're re'ersin' son!" replied Charlie "re'ersin' waiting!!" The Staff band were waiting to board the coach for a London gig. Charlie as usual was ticking off the names. "Where's 'Evverwick? " enquired Charlie. No response he asked again. "Does anyone know anything about 'Evverwick?" A wicked response from I think Ernie Marks. "He has been acting very strangely lately DM. Been reading that 'Morning Star' paper about Russia and all that and he wrote to Shostakovich to ask why he had not written anything for the flute." Clearly concerned about this Charlie was seen mumbling to a few SNCO's and finally to Fred who had arrived. Minutes later Hugh Heatherwick strode through the main gate in his grey DAKS suit with rolled umbrella and Daily Telegraph under his arm. Charlie accosted him: H...H...H...Hevverwick....Why are you not in Russia?"

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 869

Date: Thursday January 27 2011 02:01:01 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: Greenwich  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

We all no doubt will have our own memories of Charlie Bowden but I would like to share a few with all of you. He could take a joke even at his own expense and though he did not always appreciate Bandy humour he allowed it to go unchallenged. I recall the 1965 USA Tour Band waiting on North Barracks parade ground in full ceremonials for the official photos to be taken by the eminent society photographer Angus Bean who was up on the roof of the dining hall....After a long and boring wait Ian Shawcross (always one to bait Charlie) piped up: "Excuse me Drum Major...what are we waiting for?" Charlie replied that we were waiting for the sun to come out! " I think I can solve that problem " replied Ian "put Sgt Hemming on the roof..the sun shines out of his a\*\*\*! "Whilst on the USA tour we had been travelling for a whole day and very tired (some more than others!!). We doubled up on rooms and Charlie shared with Ray Banning. Ray went for a shower and left Charlie dozing on his bed. On returning to the room Ray spied a notice between the beds; "Are you tired? Stressed? Anxious? Try 'VIBROMASSAGE'. Insert 25c into the slot." Intrigued Ray put 25c into the slot whereupon he was confronted with Charlie apparently having a fit with arms and legs flailing around as the bed vibrated at high speed. Wrong slot.....

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message #: 868

Date: Tuesday January 25 2011 11:25:12 EST  
Name: Ginge Deary  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Beefeater Guide at The Tower of London <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jWFq-v7TKdQ&feature=related> Sound on and enjoy the humour. Filmed by a tourist whilst on a tour of the Tower of London. Then put on the web. I wonder if this ex Warrant Officer still has a job. Great military humour. You may have to cut and paste into your browser. It's brilliant..... a must watch item..... [Editor] Truly! A MUST see! Thanks for sharing Ginge!

---

message #: 867

Date: Saturday January 22 2011 11:52:10 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Just to inform everyone that Charlie Bowden had a good send off last Thursday in his home town of Porlock Nr Minehead in Somerset. There was a full church including many from the Band Service where Charlie had spent over 30 years and of course the local community where he also resided after retiring from the corps. So he and Betty (who he lost four years ago) had lived there for 30 years. Colin Bowden gave us an excellent eulogy and listed many of Charlie's exploits during his career as a GD C/Sgt and as Drum Major to the Staff Band and RMSM in Deal from 1949 to 1972. I did manage to say a few words on behalf of the Band Service about how Charlie had been an inspiration and help to many of us who had served with and alongside him during some of those years. It was great to see that we were well represented but too many to mention but perhaps I might add that Col Jim Mason and Maj Paddy Dunn lead our large contingent. I was able to pass on to Charlie's daughter many condolences passed to me by many of you who were unable to attend. Well done Charlie! We will all see you in the countermarch one day counting as we go. Michael Hutton.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 866

Date: Thursday January 20 2011 08:26:03 EST  
Name: John Griffiths  
Email: jgbugles@hotmail.com

Service Number: PO27737N  
Hometown: Eastry  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear All I write to inform you all that that most excellent Director of Music Ron Kempton is very poorly and in hospital. He is in Sandwich Bay Ward QEQM Hospital St Peters Rd Margate. Visiting is between 1500 - 2000hrs. He is very low at present and I am sure would welcome a visit from old friends to cheer him up. See you in the countermarch. Kind Regards John Griff

---

message #: 865

Date: Wednesday January 19 2011 07:11:46 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston (USA resident)  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a:

Comments:  
On behalf of myself and all the contributors to the ex RMB web site a huge vote of thanks to Lt Col Nick Grace for his humble change of direction back to the status quo. Our reunion weekend will stay and I urge all who read this message and who have not yet attended the event to please consider it and be assured that particularly in recent years they have proved to be exemplary. It's been said before and I'll say it again. Don't be one of those "if only" or "I wish" but be able to say how refreshing it was to be with kindred spirits again. I'll hope to see you there! Many travel far and from all over the globe too. For my money distance is no object! We are all worthy of our company. Life is too short. See you soon!

---

message #: 864

Date: Tuesday January 18 2011 10:17:37 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX 2902  
Hometown: Par  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello Everybody It's that time again. Tickets are available now for the WCR re-union. Details are in the calendar for April the ninth. Please send a SAE when applying. Some of you may have heard I suffered a slight stroke early in the new year so the reunion has been taken over by my wife. I have at present lost the use of my legs but wife is in charge of my fitness recovery and has told me I will be fit for the re-union. So all you have to do is get your tickets and turn up. See you in April Cheers Pete.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 863

Date: Tuesday January 18 2011 08:47:46 EST  
Name: Blue Band  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Lt Col Nick Grace has made an official announcement regarding the reunion. To view it please follow the link below:  
<http://royalmarinesbands.myfreeforum.org/sutra74058.php#74058> The next edition of the Blue Band and  
[www.royalmarinesbands.co.uk](http://www.royalmarinesbands.co.uk) will show the arrangements for the 2011 reunion when finalised. If the message from the PDM  
is reposted in any medium it is to be posted verbatim. Thank you

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message #: 862

Date: Tuesday January 18 2011 07:02:34 EST  
Name: :Ginge Deary  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
In his post Bill Matthews said:  
During a slow march Fred did his usual clapping to stop the band and in front of 200 of the best musicians in the land pulled the most junior one who happened to play the Trombone (yours truly) out to the front and had Charlie teach me to slow march! I remember a similar incident when Fred made a second clarinet player fresh out of junior wing march up and down in front of the massed bands playing um chugs. There were many rhubarbs aimed at Fred from the band which the N.C.O.s had to reluctantly quell. Although I had great respect for Fred his inclination to humiliate people especially the more vulnerable was not one of his admirable qualities.

---

message #: 861

Date: Monday January 17 2011 19:48:50 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3242  
Hometown: Tennyson  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I am sorry to hear of Charlie's passing most of the memories I have are good ones the most memorable was the time when the RMSM staff band were rehearsing on the drill field behind the Church for the Earls Court Tournament during a slow march Fred did his usual clapping to stop the band and in front of 200 of the best musicians in the land pulled the most junior one who happened to play the Trombone (yours truly) out to the front and had Charlie teach me to slow march! So thanks to him for one of the most important lessons in life and I still cannot do it. The most memorable was the time he got tangled up with Chris Wright in the counter march and also when the band played Colonel Bogey after the intro to Life on the Ocean wave he was a great Drum Major and the best I have ever had the honour to march behind. May you rest in peace Charles Bowden and I hope to meet again in the Big Band in The Heavens.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 860

Date: Sunday January 16 2011 21:59:47 EST  
Name: Max  
Email: maxie2234@xtra.co.nz

Service Number: RMBx 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Greetings from Godzone I shall be attending the Adelaide reunion on 25th March and also as a celebration it will be 65 years ago to the 26th March 1945 that my old cobbler Joe Simms and myself entered the RNSM at Scarboro as part of 93 Squad to my knowledge there are two more out there in Len Green and Alan Johnson now entering their 80s we are both fit and well travel and would love to meet up with more RMBx s and it's not too late to book through Eric and BOB meantime may all your Crotchets be Quavers..... See you there! Musically yours Max Beare.

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message #: 859

Date: Saturday January 15 2011 15:49:15 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: CONGRESBURY  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLART  
n/a:

Comments:

Further information ref Car Parking at Porlock gleaned from the Porlock Tourist Office. There is limited parking in Parsons Street which is adjacent to the Church if there is nothing available Doverhay Car Park max. 2 hrs parking is at the far end of the village just as you leave the village on the A39 to Minehead. There is also the Central Car Park - Long Stay - at the other end of the village.  
Yours aye Bill.

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message #: 858

Date: Friday January 14 2011 17:10:55 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: CONGRESBURY  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLART  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

My grateful thanks to all those who have managed to convey details of the funeral of Charlie Bowden which I will be honoured to attend. May I suggest that those attending assemble at the Ship Inn? If you are a customer they have excellent car parking!! Kind regards Yours aye Bill Hartland.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 857

Date: Thursday January 13 2011 07:09:09 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have information on Charlie's funeral. It will be on Thursday 20th Jan at 2pm in Porlock near Minehead The church is called DUBRICIUS. If anyone from the Deal area or east of Newbury in Berkshire is wanting to attend I live just north of junction 13 of the M4 so if you got to my address by 0930 we might be able to arrange a car share! Check with me at 01635 248987 or 07831 705589. Michael Hutton.

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message #: 856

Date: Wednesday January 12 2011 15:12:32 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email: ken.tyler1@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMBX1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd  
Instrument/s: Cornet/violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sad to hear of the passing of Charlie Bowden and would echo the sentiments of Michael Huttons comments. I knew Charles for at least five years whilst in the staff Band in the early 50's and despite a few ups and downs we all thought the world of him. He could also tell a good tale or two of his war time exploits etc. During a marching display rehearsal Charles would do everything by numbers and he would be saying 45 46 47 and in the counter-march we would mutter 23 34 62 etc. to put him off. He took it all in good part. It is not so long ago that I was in contact with him when he had a spell in hospital. I would also like to say how sorry I was to hear of the death of Johnnie Bull. Johnnie was Staff Band Librarian when I joined them and eventually took over from him when he got a draft chit. A really great character in all he did. His music sporting ability and a great story teller. Rest in Peace Charles and Johnnie.  
Ken Tyler RMBX1883

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message #: 855

Date: Tuesday January 11 2011 03:28:06 EST  
Name: Derek Jennings  
Email: derekjennings@ntlworld.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Chandlers Ford  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi I came across the RMB website today and spotted a picture of my father (Dave Jennings) in this photograph [http://www.exroyalmarinesbandsmen.net/Borneo\\_60\\_B.htm](http://www.exroyalmarinesbandsmen.net/Borneo_60_B.htm) on the site. You might like to put a note about him in the sick bay area as he's been taken seriously ill at the moment with heart and digestive problems and has lost a lot of weight. He's currently in the Nevill Hall hospital (Tretower ward) in Abergavenny. Best regards Derek Jennings (Middle of Dave Jennings 3 sons)

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 854

Date: Monday January 10 2011 14:50:42 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@googlemail.com

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet /Fiddle  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

May be a bit late I know but I cannot open without firstly saying all the very best to all of us former RMB's for 2011 & all the things you wish yourselves. (I'm wishing the Lotto may come my way but that's another story! But if I'm successful & get over the £2 mill' then I promise to pay the air fares of all of you travelling over to the Oct' reunion from lands beyond the UK!) I haven't had my say on the 2011 reunion debacle but agree with all of your thoughts. What a \*\*! = ? liberty ! - To move the goal-posts without warning to a single former member seems to me extremely autocratic. The very least Col. Nick might have done was to pre-warn or better ask everyones opinion at last years shindig? It would have been so easy to do so. But perhaps that's exactly why he didn't for he knew full well what our response might be. Sadly it seems to me & judging by the Blue Band announcement that we as a body have absolutely no redress on this one?? Oh well whatever the outcome it's an easy decision for me living in Pompey. My old buddies come first & I wouldn't ever want to miss the service again so I hope to see as many of you that can make it this year as last! Sad to hear of the passing of the gent' we knew as 'Drummy' Bowden. Proud to have been in many a band that he led so admirably. RIP Drum Major!

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message #: 853

Date: Monday January 10 2011 14:29:25 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX 2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Very sad news to hear that dear Charlie Bowden has left us. I first remember Charlie when as band boys having traveled by train from Burford in 1950 the whole School of Music marched from Deal Station to East Barracks lead by the Staff Band with Charlie at the front. During the next few years I and many others in the Band Service would get to know and admire Charlie as the very best at his job and some of us would get to know him more as a friend and colleague. After boys service and a couple of years on ships I got to know him very well when as a Cpl in the Staff Band. He was always available with help and advice and sometimes a bollocking when we were about our duties. Royal Tournaments White City Tattoos Edinburgh Tattoos Horse Guards, you name it Charlie was always there assisting or even organizing Fred in sorting out the correct way to do the job! He was particularly good when we were abroad in the USA or Europe on tour because he along with the Bandmaster would be at the for-front of the organisation. Later in my career I was Bandmaster of the Staff Band and Charlie was still there as the principal Drum Major of the Corps so I had over two years of service sharing all the problems and exciting times with him as my right hand man. I do know that at this time Charlie was on his own. My thoughts are with any family and I hope to be able to attend the funeral when details are known. Michael Hutton.

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message #: 852

Date: Monday January 10 2011 12:47:13 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email: jemtugwood@sky.com

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/clart vln  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

And so Charlie Bowden has passed on to that great parade ground in the sky and what a character he was I think he was the first "real" Drum Major I ever clapped eyes on back in June '58 and what an impression he made. Everything was new in those days of first joining and at times I think we were all a little bit in awe of him he was devoted to his job he had a keen sense of humour and perhaps more than a few idiosyncracies but this made him stand out amongst us. He was always immaculate he knew his job backwards and was to all intents and purposes Col Dunn's "right hand man" for many years. There will be many who have special memories of him with more than a few anecdotes up their sleeves. Totally loyal and a font of knowledge for the many budding Drum Majors who wanted to emulate him a better role model there was none. I look forward to reading of thoughts and memories yet to be posted by ex RMB's who knew him much better than myself but in the meantime I send my deepest condolences to his many colleagues friends acquaintances and family who will miss deeply Best wishes Jem

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 851

Date: Sunday January 9 2011 06:26:48 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Gentlemen It is with great sorrow that I have to inform of the passing of stalwart of the Band Service Drum Major Charles Bowden. I have no date or any further information on this matter. Charlie was a perfect gentleman in all he did he carried out his duties to the letter and at the same time was fair. I have many fond memories of him as I am sure do many others particularly during my time at Deal in the early 60s. DRUM MAJOR CHARLIE BOWDEN RIP. THUNDERBIRDS ARE GO!

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message #: 850

Date: Thursday December 30 2010 07:30:54 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: CONGRESBURY  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLART  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard and former friends and colleagues. May I wish you all a Healthy and Happy New Year 2011? Reunions aside I hope to be able to attend the WCR even though it is only a ONE DAY reunion so look for my S.A.E. and cheque in the Post Petel Be Happy. Yours aye Bill.

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message #: 849

Date: Tuesday December 28 2010 11:12:33 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard it is with some dismay that I read of the plans to change the format for the 'Reunion Weekend'. Perhaps we should be told of the real reasons! I couldn't attend this year because of ill health. (and that is the only reason that I wouldn't attend). Of course I have a personal interest in the weekend carrying on as it is. Having rescued the weekend a few years back from folding. Are the School of Music too busy to spend a whole 2 days with us former members? Is it a Cathedral thing? Come on Colonel Nick. Why? For what reasons? Kind regards to all Barry Radford Ps. Happy New Year to All

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 848

Date: Monday December 27 2010 16:30:16 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB 3730  
Hometown: Greenwich  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Firstly may I extend my sincerest thanks for the many messages of condolence I have received from ex-RMBs in regard to the brutal murder of my only brother Barry in Peru on December 15th., widely reported in the UK press. Some of the messages moved me to further tears and reminded me of what a huge, sensitive and caring family we ex-RMBs are and some of the writers I have not seen for almost 50 years but who still remember me. God bless you all. Sunday in Britain in the past was always a special day without work for family life and through church to reflect on our mortal fragility. As such it was clearly appropriate for all ex-RMBs to reflect and honour those who had died in the service of their country on a SUNDAY at the RMB Memorial Service. Tears always ran down my cheeks each year as I heard those names read out.....and Sunday was the day for such private emotions. If it has to be a one-day event, (Heaven forfend!) I would personally prefer a one-day RMB Reunion...on a SUNDAY...after which those that wish can swing the lamp as much as they wish or desire in the hostilities of their choice...as often happens now AFTER church. The expertise and panache of the recent Saturday evening reunion displays though appreciated and applauded are NOT what the RMB Reunion is about. It is about meeting and talking with surviving ex-RMBs and more importantly remembering those who have passed on. If a grandiose and spectacular display is really necessary then let it be AFTER the Memorial Service held on a SUNDAY.....but before the pubs shut!!

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message #: 847

Date: Sunday December 26 2010 07:42:41 EST  
Name: Roy Adrian  
Email: ra.adrian181@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3647  
Hometown: Carlton-le-Moorland Lincoln  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Dear Richard and all Members Past and Present Merry Christmas and a peaceful time ahead to all our readers. Our thoughts will be very much with the CTC personnel next year when out on their tour in Afganistan. As for the Reunion plans for next year like others who have commented already I think that it is sad that the 'tested and much loved plan' is being changed. I feel that it is tragic and disrespectful that the memories of the solemn Memorial Service is to be 'washed down in beer' within a few hours. The Memorial Service deserves its rightful place on its own - and that is ON THE SUNDAY. I hope the feelings of all our members can be passed on to those deciding on this unwanted 'plan'. Let's hear from many others who oppose this idea. Best Wishes  
ROY ADRIAN

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message #: 846

Date: Sunday December 26 2010 06:30:19 EST  
Name: Ginge Deary  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3806  
Hometown: Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

**Comments:**

It has been suggested that those who attend the reunions should be consulted and their opinions taken into consideration before changing the format of the event. Many years ago when the reunions were held at Deal the Saturday evening session was reserved for serving and ex members of the RMBS only with Sunday being the day for family and friends and the Remembrance Service. The idea of including wives/partners (both?) - there were no female bandies at the time so husbands didn't come into the equation - for the Saturday evening was raised but voted against by a considerable majority. It was considered the ladies wouldn't want to and indeed shouldn't listen to some of the lamp swinging which is one of the main features of the evening and as we would all be together on the Sunday all aspects were covered. Nevertheless a few years later the format changed without further consultation and I believe the number of RMB's and Ex RMB's attending dwindled - although this may be disguised by the inclusion of the wives/partners. The 'powers that be' didn't listen then. Are they likely to listen now?

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 845

Date: Saturday December 25 2010 08:40:16 EST  
Name: Paddy Semple  
Email: contact@jackiesemple.com

Service Number: RMB 3868  
Hometown: Carrickfergus  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Merry Christmas to everyone. May I take this opportunity to say a few words direct to whoever made the decision to have a change in format for the Annual Band Service Reunion. The Sunday Service (which is a Traditional part of the Band Service Reunion Weekend) includes a Memorial Service to our fallen comrades and for total respect alone it must continue to be held on a Sunday. This is like making a decision to hold the Annual Remembrance Day Service at the Albert Hall on the Saturday Night instead of at the Cenotaph on the Sunday. Having made this decision it is quite easy to make another decision and revert to the Status Quo. It is not a witch hunt so we do not want to know the details however I do feel that everyone would desire our traditional annual weekend continues as heretofore. Kind Regards Paddy Semple. RMB 3868

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message #: 844

Date: Friday December 24 2010 10:58:24 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard. May I take the opportunity to wish all serving and ex serving members a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I would also like to lend my support to all the letters on the guest book regarding the downsizing of the annual reunion held in Portsmouth. Not everyone (myself included) attend every year but when we do I am sure we do not want to see it being changed. So please please the powers that B keep it as it has been as I am sure it will certainly stop people attending what is a Fantastic week-end where young and old can meet up with friends from years gone by. Sid

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message #: 843

Date: Friday December 24 2010 09:24:26 EST  
Name: Herman(Nobby)Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: SCUNTHORPE  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello to all RMB'S past and present. I have only just heard of the plan to change the RMB Reunion from a weekend event to a one day affair. Although for one reason or another I have not been able to attend for the last couple of years I for one would hate to see any change made at all. As others have said some of us have quite a way to travel and to have only one day to do it in does not seem to make any sense at all. As for the Memorial Service. That is something that my wife and I look forward to most of all and we think that it should stay as a Sunday Service in order to keep it as the solemn occasion that it should be. After the service ends we always manage to have a chat with old pals before wending our way back to Sunny Scunny. Please please think it over again before going ahead with these changes. Seasons greetings to all. Nobby.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 842

Date: Friday December 24 2010 08:37:36 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email: anthonyoliver@fsmail.net

Service Number: 3975  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Dear Members I have read the remarks my friends have made in relation to next years re union. I was taken aback by the proposed change to the new set up of the re-union week end as the present format has been tried and tested for as long as I can remember. It was even the same format in Deal. I would have thought the idea of a change could have been trumpeted at last years re union as there were enough of us there to give a good indication to the powers that be about any proposed change but no although it must have been on The Band Service Agenda not one word was said about it. I am somewhat surprised that the PDM didn't say anything about it in his address on the Saturday evening? I think whatever our opinions minds have been made up and those that still care about our extended family will still turn up. ( I hope so anyway ) I do think that the suggested day instead of two is likely to put some people off especially those with long distances to travel. As someone has already stated " if the broom aint broke why change it". Ah well see you in the countermarch regards to you all and have a great Christmas. Tony Oliver

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message #: 841

Date: Thursday December 23 2010 23:29:59 EST  
Name: Tony Hunter  
Email: tonyhntr@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 3999  
Hometown: Kennethmont Aberdeenshire.  
Instrument/s: cornet / violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Having yet to attend a reunion at Portsmouth through ill health I was looking forward to coming down next year being fitter than I have been for a long time. To see that it has been changed to a one day event to me is not worth getting on a train for. Who ever came up with this idea has had no thought for the likes of myself and others who have to travel great distances. So can common sense prevail and get it back to the norm as I feel you are going to lose out on members not wanting to attend at all and this would be a great shame. I can only agree with the other comments from members and hope that it can be sorted out. Regards Tony

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message #: 840

Date: Thursday December 23 2010 13:35:55 EST  
Name: westaway  
Email: peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX2902.  
Hometown: Par  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:

Hello everyone does anyone have any contact with Ralph Sharpe ex BM and believed to have moved from Stonehaven to Aberdeen in Scotland any news please. Cheers Pete.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 839

Date: Thursday December 23 2010 13:28:20 EST  
Name: westaway  
Email: peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX2902  
Hometown: Par  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Quite a row over the next re-union in Portsmouth I see. Surely those travelling long distances are entitled to an explanation. But important to me the WCR will be held on April the 9th and tickets will be available in January. Just a one day event but people seem to visit old friends on day two. Everyone enjoys the evening and the cost is only twelve pounds and I have yet to hear a complaint about this venue. Please come I am sure you will enjoy it. Cheers Pete.

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message #: 838

Date: Thursday December 23 2010 07:30:52 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: alto/clart/vln  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Having read the letters from Dave Seed Mick Hickman Dickie and Pat Trevis I have to say I wholeheartedly agree with all the sentiments echoed next year's reunion. The last couple of years turnouts have been tremendous and I feel this may be a retrograde step to have the reunion service and the reunion get together on the same day let alone the fact that some of our "family" take great pains to travel hundreds of miles to attend. Each year we have the pleasure of meeting "new" old faces who look forward to the wonderful display by the band a friendly get together on conclusion and the Sunday church parade (that we all tried to avoid as band boys) but are now so happy to attend. We will also have the added logistical problems of parking seating (at the church) etc I know this is not a big deal but the crux of the matter is it's the Band Service reunion WEEKEND and that makes it special....well I think so but who ever listened to me? I will be attending with Pam and hopefully my daughter and her husband who are looking forward to the occasion having never seen "what I used to do" they will also get the opportunity of meeting my friends and colleagues who I am so proud to have had the privilege of knowing so for that reason the "weekend" is important to me and I know I speak for many others May I wish all my friends and colleagues a very Happy Christmas and may your New Year be all you wish it to be  
Jem

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message #: 837

Date: Wednesday December 22 2010 20:20:20 EST  
Name: Pat Trevis  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2949  
Hometown: Coo롱gup Australia  
Instrument/s: Sax/Violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
I would like to add my views on the new concept for the reunion next year. Although I only attend every few years I feel that to travel from Australia to the UK to attend a one day reunion is a hell of a way to come. As it is my intention for myself and my wife to attend next years reunion I hope some thought is given to reverting to the original format. Merry Christmas to all members past and present.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 836

Date: Wednesday December 22 2010 11:49:29 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Dear all I too have to question as to why are we changing a tried and tested format as far as I can recall we have always had a Reunion weekend for at least the last 40 to 50 years as someone said elsewhere IF IT AINT BROKE DON'T FIX IT. As for saying that it may encourage more people to attend I will lean the other way and say may attract less many people travel further than I do to attend and enjoy a full weekend of lamp swinging many others do not like to attend on the Saturday but do come to the Cathedral on the Sunday and then spend a few hours with the extended family. I hope this is not a back door way to try and (once again the School of Music) wash its hands of the Reunion like it did years ago when thanks to a great effort by Barry Radford and his team it was kept going. When Barry decided enough was enough I suggested to the then Corps B/M George Tate that it was time the school once again took responsibility for the Reunion and they did and I now think we should have some answers and a rethink please I urge you all do not boycott the event. Turn up as usual and we can still have a good time. Yes it is the Band Service Reunion but we have done our time so please let us have what have always had a full and good weekend. Finally a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and I hope A HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all.

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message #: 835

Date: Wednesday December 22 2010 06:46:35 EST  
Name: Dickie Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Piano  
n/a:

Comments:

RMB Service Reunion 2011 Dear friends I have to agree with Dave re the revolutionary idea of lumping the whole thing into one day. There is something quite unique special and hugely atmospheric about the meeting of our hundreds of kin on those sacred Sunday mornings. Of course no matter what day of the week we can all worship but if you (like myself) have done the mental 'run through' in your minds eye of how the event is going to function it conjures up a challenge for transportation and parking which we know is very tough at all times. The previous having been said I'm sure that the cliques of our devoted body who like to saunter old haunts (not forgetting the post-service get together at the RMA Eastney ) will develop our alternative to the single day function next year. I respectfully suggest that some serious re-consideration take place before this event and although I wish it to be a success I should hate to have to utter 'told you so' after it. Perhaps I'll eat my words and I'll do that humbly but I truly believe that tradition in this case should be left well alone. It's like an old ship we all hate to see her scrapped. Let's keep this one afloat? Merry Christmas to all.  
Dickie

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message #: 834

Date: Wednesday December 22 2010 05:53:58 EST  
Name: Dave Seed  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4084  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Flute/Sax  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Having received the winter Blue Band and the information re next years reunion can anyone give me a genuine reason for the Memorial Service being held on the Saturday? If as the PDM states it is to allow more members to attend then in respect of the Memorial Service where will they sit as the PDM quite rightly states earlier in his article that at this years service that "yet again it was good to see the Cathedral full to capacity" For those ex members who travel great distance to attend the reunion is a weekend event meeting old friends in the various hostelrys around Portsmouth on Saturday afternoon the Reunion in the evening then the Memorial Service on the Sunday morning in the 30 something years I have been attending I have never heard of anyone suggesting it all be done in one day. On a last note can the PDM please enlighten us on who the "wider Band Service Community" are who made this suggestion I have e-mailed a few regulars to ask if they had been consulted and as yet no one has said they had. My apologies for this message at this time of year but I do feel slightly aggrieved that those ex members who attend religiously every year don't seem to be important enough to be asked. Wishing all serving and ex Band Service members and their families a Happy Christmas and a Great New Year. Dave Seed

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 833

Date: Tuesday December 21 2010 17:44:38 EST  
Name: Tony Hunter (overton)  
Email: tonyhntr@aol.com

Service Number: RMB3999  
Hometown: Kennethmont Aberdeenshire.  
Instrument/s: Cornet / Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
from the frozen north which is Huntly in Aberdeenshire may I wish all serving members and all former members of the Royal Marine Band Service a very merry Xmas and Happy new year may all you wish for be yours and may your Gods be with you.

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message #: 832

Date: Saturday December 18 2010 17:05:22 EST  
Name: Eric hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a:

Comments:  
May I from way DOWN UNDER wish all either serving or having served all the very best of this the Festive Season and a Safe and prosperous 2011 and at the same time remind those who may be interested that the reunion of ex RMBs in Adelaide is fast appoaching. Check the Notice board.

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message #: 831

Date: Monday December 13 2010 05:49:52 EST  
Name: Blue Band  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
All profits to be donated to RMCTF [http://www.royalmarinesbands.co.uk/catalogue/Wootton\\_Bassett.htm](http://www.royalmarinesbands.co.uk/catalogue/Wootton_Bassett.htm) Please help spread the word and raise funds for OUR charity and give this the widest possible circulation

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 830

Date: Monday December 13 2010 05:26:23 EST  
Name: Blue Band  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:

<http://www.royalmarinesbands.co.uk/pages/reunion2011.htm> 8th October  
2011 The RM Band Service Memorial Service and Reunion will take place in Portsmouth on  
Saturday 8th October 2011 1700 - Guests to be seated in St Thomas of Canterbury (Portsmouth Cathedral)  
High Street Old Portsmouth 1700 - Orchestra commences 1730 - RM Band Service Memorial Service commences 1830 - RM Band Service Memorial Service concludes O/C - Move to HMS Nelson Gymnasium for  
Bar Closes 0030 - All guests clear of the establishment The cost for the reunion is £20 per person. Please  
make cheques payable to: 'Blue Band Magazine' completing the form below enclosing a stamped addressed  
envelope and sending to: WQ2 Bdmr G Standeven RM RMBS Reunion HQBSRM Eastney Block HMS  
Nelson Queen Street Portsmouth Hampshire PO1 3HH. The dress for the evening is Lounge Suit/female  
equivalent. For further details contact Warrant Officer 2 Bandmaster Gary Standeven  
on 02392726171 REMINDERS: You must include your postcode and  
telephone number. Don't forget to send a stamped self addressed envelope. Entry to HMS Nelson is  
by Queen Street gate only. There are no parking facilities in HMS Nelson. FULL NAMES  
(Christian and Surname) \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS (To include postcode)  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ email:  
\_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Full Names of Guests  
(Christian and Surname): 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

message #: 829

Date: Monday November 29 2010 15:54:06 EST  
Name: Roy Adrian  
Email: ra.adrian181@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3647  
Hometown: Carlton-leMoorland Lincoln  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a:

Comments:

How nice of Merv' Durrant to dig out a photo of the Cdo Bde Band which showed the Presentation to Sir Vivian Dunn.  
It was quite an occasion now fondly remembered. Well done Merv and Thanks. You have revived some very happy  
memories.

message #: 828

Date: Monday November 29 2010 09:28:56 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: ALTO/CLART/VLN  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I had the pleasure of attending the Assembly Rooms in Worthing last night to see Brubecks play Brubeck this was a  
concert given by the very talented sons of Dave Brubeck who celebrates his 90th birthday I think next Monday (or  
thereabouts). He has 4 sons each extremely talented Darius who plays Piano and introduced the evening for us  
Chris on Bass and Trombone and Dan on Drums another son Mathew is a cellist all are internationally known musicians and  
an absolute credit to Dave. Last night they were joined by a tremendous Tenor/Soprano sax player called Dave  
O'Higgins and I must admit I've heard some brilliant sax players in my time but never anyone like him he was absolutely  
out of this world I got to speak to him after and found him to be a lovely man and very helpful and interesting to  
speak to the brothers also signed autographs for us. Just for the record Keith Emmerson was in the audience who  
funnily enough is very friendly with a couple of my local pub regulars so you never know we may have him entertaining  
us one night in the pub I remember many years ago when he used to stab his keyboard and kick other instruments over on  
stage etc. but it has to be said as a musician he is still "the business" I think he is living in Shoreham now but was  
educated and lived his early years in Worthing. Well enough of my rambling just thought I'd make mention of a  
fine group and for students of jazz and great music I'd recommend the experience of being part of their concert.  
If this group get to be in you area make a point of seeing them you will not be dissappointed Best wishes and  
a happy Christmas to all Jem

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 827

Date: Monday November 1 2010 16:39:06 EST  
Name: Eric hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB?X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard Well here we go again with a reminder that the REUNION of Ex RMBs in the Antipodes is fast approaching. For those who have attended on previous occasions the venues are the same as before and the prices for accommodation and meals on the Friday and Sunday are as they have been for the last two years which one must agree is pretty amazing in todays world. Those who have not attended before but are hopefully contemplating doing so would like the breakdown please check the Australian Reunion portal on the notice board. Any further info please contact me at jananderic@aanet.com.au Cheers from Oz land Eric

---

message #: 826

Date: Monday November 1 2010 14:01:14 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Update re Stan Hacking. Noel has stolen some of my Thunder but Stan has just phoned me to let me know that he is at home and very pleased that he is. He has asked me to Thank All of you 'Our Family of RMBs' for all the Get Well Messages and Cards he has had. Anne said it would have filled the ward if she had tried to put them all up!! He really has enjoyed reading the messages some very moving and some downright RUDE they have no doubt helped him on the road to recovery. So yet again our Royal Marine Band of Brothers has shown how much the service and people in it meant and still mean to us all. As Alf Lambing would say 'Where's your Boots Bath!!!' Cheers Ray

---

message #: 825

Date: Monday November 1 2010 12:15:48 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just had a few minutes talk with Stan Hacking who is out of hospital last met him while we were in Plymouth Group Band 44 years ago he is still very poorly so conversation was short. I wish you a speedy recovery my friend. Noel & Sheila Crook

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 824

Date: Wednesday October 27 2010 11:28:15 EST  
Name: Ginge Deary  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3806  
Hometown: Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
A memorial bench inscribed: ALAN (SHANKS) SHANKLAND 4.4.1936 –  
19.1.2010 SADLY MISSED HUSBAND FATHER AND GRANDAD  
Has been sited opposite Walmer Castle. Shanks was  
a great character and an excellent clarinettist. R.I.P. old friend.

---

message #: 823

Date: Tuesday October 26 2010 08:17:00 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Update re Stan Hacking Good News. I managed to get in and see Stan last Friday and was pleasantly surprised to see him looking better than expected. He is still very poorly but the improvement over the previous 7 days has been remarkable. He was when I arrived surrounded by a 'Bevy' of beautiful women (his word) and was enjoying the attention. He will still be in hospital for a while yet but the future is looking brighter. The cancer seems to have been 'sorted' dare I say it the problem now is the Fibrosis of the Lungs he only has about a third of his normal lung capacity and that may not improve greatly which may mean sadly no more Saxophone playing which is a great loss. He continues to be cheerful (he has lost a lot of weight not that he was big before) and his wife Ann is doing her best to build him up. He very much appreciated the Get Well Cards and Best wishes he has received no doubt these are helping him through this difficult times so its still not too late to send one if you are still thinking of it!! As I left him I said do you have a message for everyone? He said 'I'll see you in the Countermarch' Cheers Ray

---

message #: 822

Date: Thursday October 21 2010 14:18:03 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: CONGRESBURY  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLART  
n/a:

Comments:  
Thanks to Ray for posting the sad news about Stan Hacking who I served with as Man and Boy. A true gentleman and a fine instrumentalist bar none. On behalf of my dear wife Joan may I hope for the best for Stan and you will be in our prayers. On another note I am grateful to the one musician who has taken the trouble and expense to send me pictures from his album of his time on HMS Kenya during the American and West Indies Station Commission of 1946-47. So many thanks David W. I just wonder if that will jar a few nerves of some of the others who must still be around and on the internet? Kind regards Bill.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 821

Date: Monday October 18 2010 11:54:17 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Richard Some news of one of Friend & Colleagues Stan Hacking (Ex Colour Sergeant Sax & Viola) who is currently very poorly. Stan was diagnosed with Cancer a few months ago he was eventually given some Chemotherapy in an attempt to control this awful disease but sadly it seems he had a very bad reaction to it which has resulted in him now also suffering from Fibrosis of the Lungs. He is currently very poorly and in the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital his future is uncertain!! I spoke to his wife yesterday who gave me this information and agreed that I could put this on our website for the information of all his friends. I am hoping to go and see him shortly and will of course pass on the Best Wishes of all The Band Service Past & Present. But I am sure it would cheer him up no-end if he was to receive lots of Get Well Cards from old friends. These can be sent to: Mr Stan Hacking Yarty Ward The Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital Barrack Road Exeter EX4 5DW. I will update you when I get more info. On a lighter side I had the pleasure of attending the Reunion this year sad that you couldn't join us it was another very pleasant evening my head wasn't too bad the next day. Best wishes to all Ray

---

message #: 820

Date: Sunday October 17 2010 04:59:45 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Everybody Greetings from a sunny and warm Spain. I can only agree with all the comments that have been made about the Reunion last weekend it was a total success once again. It was good to see the same old faces that turn up every year and a few new ones as well there were a couple of notable absentees due to various reasons I hope as do others that you can make it next year same time same place. I had the pleasure of spending most of Sunday with Adrian he almost got persuaded to stay but the lure of the Lion King eventually dragged him away even from a young lady Bugler's crutch. You all take great care now you are all special people and I hope to see some if not more of you next year at Portsmouth. Siempre Fideles

---

message #: 819

Date: Monday October 11 2010 04:36:37 EST  
Name: Adrian Brett  
Email: adrianbrett@mac.com

Service Number: RMB3730  
Hometown: Greenwich  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Just returned from a great reunion. I have two shows of "The Lion King" on Sat so only able to go to the Sunday service and following socialising in RMA and other famous Portsmouth churches!! Great that there were several people who remembered me instantly: Jem Tugwood Laurie Loveless Mick Hickman Merv Durrant Derek Usher Ken Schoolay and Dave Hough among others. Also good to meet some new friends who served after my time. Tony Oliver was apparently under strict instructions from Rich Valentine to look after me!! Someone took a photo of three fluteplayers: Sid Tanner Me and Dave Seed which I hope gets onto this site along with the large group photo taken by John Pring outside the RMA in the glorious October sunshine---21C.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 818

Date: Saturday October 9 2010 14:08:30 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: CONGRESBURY  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLART  
n/a:

**Comments:**

As no doubt some of you are already aware of my connection with the HMS Gambia Association I am now into writing a web page for HMS Kenya so would ask anyone who has served on HMS Kenya if they would be so kind as to let me have any material by way of photographs or ditties which they would not mind the Whole World viewing to send them to me by email as attachments or if they may rely on my returning any photograph albums they may loan to me preferably UK based only due to postage costs then I would be most grateful for their kind assistance in this regard. I apologise to those of you who will also receive this request by email but the message is just as sincere as I am trying to encourage as much to be done to assist one of my old shipmates i.e; John Rickwood Hon Sec and former SBA Dental Technician who is the current driving force behind those trying also to form a Colony Class Association. The latter is in response to dwindling numbers in all of the Naval Associations as we all get rather longer in the tooth and sparse of hair.... Kind regards Yours aye Bill  
Hartland editor www.hmsgambia.com

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message #: 817

Date: Tuesday October 5 2010 16:59:40 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/ Bassdrum  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Have only in the past month been in contact with Keith and we hope that as we are now in touch he may be joining US for our next reunion in Adelaide on the last weekend of March 2011. I may have mentioned before that we do hold reunions of ex RMBs and once again may I say welcome to any of you who would like to join us. The details are on the notice board under Australian Reunion Portal. For any further info on the subject contact me at the above address.

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message #: 816

Date: Saturday October 2 2010 09:32:45 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend.Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Dear Richard and all This morning (Saturday) I had a phone call from a "blast from the past" namely Keith Leckenby who I haven't heard of since 'J' Wing days in the early 60's. We had a fantastic conversation and apparently he has been to quite few re-unions over the years though he is living in Sydney down under and has done since 1966!! I am sure many of my generation will remember Keith and he still has fond memories of his days in the RMBS. I hope he will keep in touch as it is good to know that people like him have a great interest in how our 'family' are doing these days in the wide wide world. Best wishes to you Richard to all. Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 815

Date: Friday October 1 2010 10:12:53 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: CONGRESBURY  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLART  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

What Nonsense! Having read the article sent to me by Ginge Deary (Happy Trumpeter) I am astonished and dismayed as to what this Country is coming to. Having had the benefit of sitting directly in front of a full Brass Section and Percussion Section and the occasional benefit of being in the direct location of triple barrel 6 inch guns and suffering the drum pounding of Boris Hallett and Terry Lampert over many years my hearing when tested at an Ear and Eye Hospital was deemed to be commensurate with my age! And still I do not wear a hearing aid! What happened to Ear Defenders and Anti-Flash Gear? Oh by the way maybe some of your happy wanderers in the wilds of Spain may care to view my Links Page and read all about the European Arrest Warrant. Kind regards to all your readers. Yours aye Bill Hartland, editor www.hmsgambia.com

---

message #: 814

Date: Sunday September 26 2010 06:49:52 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Hi Richard Saddened to read of the death of John Collison John was rated in the same C.G. Squad as I was and we went on our first draught together. (Victory Barracks now H.M.S. Nelson) but after that only met on 'Massed Bands' and then 'All Stars' a few years ago. Another good guy departs to join the great band room in the sky. Rest in peace old friends. My condolences to his Wife and His Family. Will not be able to attend John's Funeral but will be there in thought. Kind regards Barry

---

message #: 813

Date: Saturday September 25 2010 14:03:56 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email: ken.tyler1@ntlworld.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd  
Instrument/s: Cornet/violin  
n/a:

**Comments:**

So Sorry to hear of the death of Alan Bulley..... another of the Old and Bold from our Howstrake days. He was in the squad after mine and was always known as "Jan". Sleep well Jan.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 812

Date: Friday September 24 2010 19:44:37 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/ Bassdrum  
n/a:

Comments:  
On Thursday 23rd September Allan (Jan) Bulley RMB/X1907 aged 84 passed on. Since we have been holding reunions in Adelaide Allen was a staunch supporter and he will be sadly missed by all of us ex RMBs who got to know him.

---

message #: 811

Date: Friday September 24 2010 16:25:50 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury N. Somerset  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to hear that Jan Bulley has passed away just glad that I was able to renew old ships with him in Adelaide in 2009. R.I.P. Alan. Bill.

---

message #: 810

Date: Saturday September 11 2010 05:21:20 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to you all I had an email from Maxie Beare and he has been suffering from chronic asthma and a heart murmur. I phoned him today and he said he was much better. Thankfully they in the North Island in N.Z. haven't had the awful problems after the earthquake in the south. Anyway I thought our family members ought to know the news from Maxie.. Best wishes to all Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 809

Date: Thursday September 9 2010 05:50:14 EST  
Name: M Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi everybody hope you are all well. In answer to Jems request for names in the film I can tell you that the Alto player was Ray Woodfield and the pianist was Colin (nobby) Redfearn. Like Jem I am looking forward to seeing faces old and I hope some new in a months time at Portsmouth. Till then Adios Mi amigos

---

message #: 808

Date: Wednesday September 8 2010 08:47:12 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: CLART/ALTO/ VLN  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I watched "Indiscreet" as mentioned in Jim Mason's message fortunately I recorded it so I could have a better look later at the musicians performing in the Great Hall at Greenwich which also brought back many memories being the scene of many "Greenwich" dinners I recognised Ron Kempton on Cello and also the Alto player sitting behind him but can't for the life of me put a name to the face I was also wondering who the Staff Band Bandmaster was until I replayed it again and immediately saw it was a very youthful Jim Mason. Did the orchestra actually play the Eightsome Reel as I remember it as being an extremely difficult piece in just about every key available maybe it was slightly easier on Violin but on Alto it was a b\*\*\*\*\* to get round. Couldn't put any more names to faces as I only joined in June 58 so maybe I got to know some of my older contemporaries in the film as I journeyed through my career I certainly got to know Jim very well we had some great times on the yacht. The alto playing is coming on great guns and I feel so fortunate to be lucky enough to have another go at playing after a gap of 26 years Look forward to seeing everyone at the reunion in October Regards Jem

---

message #: 807

Date: Saturday September 4 2010 04:57:38 EST  
Name: Jim Mason  
Email: j.mason@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBx 2353  
Hometown: Havant  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
A bit of nostalgia! to see the way we were - watch Channel 4 at 1.00p.m. on Tuesday 7th September. The Deal Staff Band appearing in "Indiscreet" with Cary Grant and Ingrid Bergman. It all seems a long time ago!! Jim

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 806

Date: Tuesday August 31 2010 17:51:45 EST  
Name: Eric hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/ Bassdrum  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Way back in the pages of history the Royal Marines Band of C in C Nore Command Chatham were tasked to perform at the world premier of Cockleshell Heroes at the very same cinema. Only this for this occasion we were on the pavement outside. I seem to remember we were all given a free five shilling ticket. But they were all in the front row and those of us who did go to see the film all had a stiff neck for days afterwards. Oh and by the way we will be hosting the next REUNION of Ex RMBs in Adelaide South Australia on the last weekend of March 2011. Check for details on the notice board.

---

message #: 805

Date: Sunday August 29 2010 15:52:03 EST  
Name: Taff Higgins  
Email: ijhiggins@aol.com

Service Number: RMB (always hated QOO) 4323  
Hometown: Tycroes  
Instrument/s: alto/?  
n/a:

Comments:  
More James Bond Cdo. forces band played at world premiere of OHMS at Odeon Leicester Square I believe the charity was King George V fund for sailors. 1977? I'm sure my old friend Billy W will remember. We were wearing caps in the orchestra pit and as we settled down to watch the film after playing we had a "Pssst", from the entrance to the pit " you'll have to leave the pit as Charles and Di can see all the white caps moving around. exit band stage left with some chuntering which ended as ever with DOM Wally wishing to give me even more words of advice about said chuntering I was very young well that's my excuse anyway. regards to all.

---

message #: 804

Date: Saturday August 28 2010 14:23:22 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: CONGRESBURY  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLART  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just spotted the error in my URL for my Links and Web Ring Page so my apologies to those of you who may have clicked on the link in my message below and been pointed to a Page 404 error. <http://www.hmsgambia.com/links.html> is the full and correct url if you care to click on that. Yours aye Bill.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 803

Date: Saturday August 28 2010 08:47:42 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:

Rich I have just read the previous entry and thought about a similar story involving 007 and Chatham Band. We did the premier of On Her Majesty's Secret Service and Capt. Pete Sumner had all his kit stolen from a dressing room so Ron McKay (sorry if the spelling is wrong) had to conduct the performance. Having just watched it again it still is the best Bond film but with the worst Bond. Dave Lambert

---

message #: 802

Date: Friday August 27 2010 23:59:39 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hullo Richard and all Just recently on TV there was a showing of the James Bond movie "The Spy who Loved Me" with Roger Moore and Barbara Bach. Well this brought back memories of 1977 when we at Fleet Band had to perform at Pinewood studios to play the theme by Monty Norman! However it transpired that we didn't have the music for this. These things happen! Anyway Captain Chris Taylor asked me to write some of the theme for the band for welcoming Roger Moore on to the film set! Well I managed to do this with the help of Geoff Truss; not all of the theme but enough to get by! This was the sort of crazy and busy times we had in those days. Best wishes to you all Mike.

---

message #: 801

Date: Saturday August 21 2010 07:56:49 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: CONGRESBURY  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLART  
n/a:

Comments:

Having just updated my web pages I thought that you should be appraised with the news that at the Head of my Links Page there is a YouTube Video of the Royal Marines and one of those featured in the still pictures is I believe a certain Late Band Corporal Thomson? There are other still pictures which I believe show other Band Service Members at Medal Presentations so if you haven't yet seen the YouTube Video may I invite you to do so through this entry in the Guest Book? Yours aye  
Bill. [WWW.HMSGAMBIA.COM/LINKS](http://WWW.HMSGAMBIA.COM/LINKS)

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 800

Date: Tuesday August 17 2010 15:08:30 EST  
Name: Merv Durrant (Bilko)  
Email: mervcd3518@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3518  
Hometown: Ropley Hants  
Instrument/s: clarinet/ violin / broom / pantech  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi all - glad to see Adrian Brett has joined us. I have in my possession (!!) a recording he made in 1979 with Warwick Records called 'Echoes of Gold'. I wonder if Adrian remembers - and has he still got his golden flute! We were boys together in Gloucester House in the late 1950's. (56-60?) All the best Merv PS see you all at the reunion!

---

message #: 799

Date: Wednesday August 11 2010 13:16:06 EST  
Name: jem tugwood  
Email: jemtugwood@sku.com

Service Number: RMB3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: clar/alto sax  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi all Have bought myself a Yamaha Alto (YS62) not the most expensive but a nice instrument which has a lovely action. I've decided to study improvisation but oh my God it's a whole new ball game. Got a great tutor called Amazing Phrasing and another one called Taming the Saxophone by a local player called Pete Thomas there is so much useful stuff in it but I'm having lots of problems getting smooth quick playing in all the keys and on top of that I can't think of anything tuneful when trying to improvise but as a therapy the daily practise keeps the brain occupied and I have some really marvellous jazz studies with an accompaniment on CD. If any of you new marvellous players that have joined the corps have any tips to offer I will be forever in your debt Regards Jem PS  
The web has been a bit quiet lately so I thought I might try to take advantage of the wealth of knowledge out there and maybe tap into the knowledge our new entrants have joined the corps with. Sorry if this sounds a bit facetious (think that's how to spell it) but being an ex Bandy IF IT'S FREE COUNT ME IN!!

---

message #: 798

Date: Friday August 6 2010 04:11:18 EST  
Name: Sgt Mark Snell  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Memorial service for John 'Shiner' Wright RVM There will be a memorial service and internment of ashes for Musn John 'Shiner' Wright in Exeter on Friday 13th August. The service will be at the Higher Cemetery in the Heavitree area of Exeter and will start at 1400. Afterwards at the City Gate Hotel Iron Bridge North Street Exeter for a BBQ buffet (weather permitting) and get together. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Capt Craig Burns on (01392) 414138 or email CTCRM-BAND-DOM @ mod.uk (remove the spaces either side of the @ symbol please)

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 797

Date: Tuesday July 27 2010 04:17:36 EST  
Name: Nobby(Herman)Clarke.  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello to all It was great to see that Adrian Brett has joined our happy band of brothers. Many will recall what a brilliant Flautist he was (and still is from all accounts.) He told me yesterday that he is still working living in London and has for the last 11years has been playing "The Lion King" at the Lyceum Theatre. Goes to show you can't keep the good ones down. Regards to all Nobby.

---

message #: 796

Date: Tuesday July 20 2010 10:28:54 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: rrmx 2902  
Hometown: par  
Instrument/s: Trombone.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello everyone The web seems very quiet these days. Can anyone help me with a e mail address of Sid Acott who is somewhere in canada I believe I know he contacted a few people in the country this year. Heres hoping . Cheers Pete.

---

message #: 795

Date: Wednesday June 30 2010 13:15:40 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Cl/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard and all I have just spoken to our dear old friend 'Vic' Sylvester up there in Peterborough and he sounded pretty good though he says he is confined to his house these days and is looked after by care workers who bathe him and prepare his meals. He sends his best wishes to all. I also rang Dennis and Maisie Ovenden the other day. They live in Angus in Scotland and sounded quite happy in their retirement. As many will remember Dennis was principal bass drummer on many massed band gigs and will be remembered for his expert bassoon and piano playing. My best wishes to you Richard and to our family members. Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 794

Date: Thursday June 10 2010 11:24:04 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard. On Tuesday 15th June an old shipmate and good friend (Eddie Pescud) and his wife Barbara are paying a visit to Deal from their west country home. I will be meeting up with them. If there are any other people out there in the local vicinity who would like to come along and meet up with them we will be in the New Inn pub in Deal high street by the traffic lights on the tuesday evening at 19 30 hrs. It would be nice to give Eddie and Barbara a good old Deal welcome so if you are able to attend you would all be most welcome. Many thanks Richard Sid

---

message #: 793

Date: Thursday June 10 2010 09:11:28 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I know this is a bit on the early side but calling all the members of 1/64 new entry squad. Those of us that manage to escape the ravages of the Grim Reaper how about a 50th anniversary re-union in the RMA Deal on the 14th April 2014? Pete Rose Paul Harker and Tony Hunter (Overton) are already on board. Don't rush to answer. Dave Lambert

---

message #: 792

Date: Sunday June 6 2010 05:03:07 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Rich It is my sad duty to inform all that knew Les Wilson (perc) that his wife of 38 years Carol passed away last week. I called on Les the other day to pass on my condolences and he is obviously devastated but bravely trying to come to terms with his loss. I am sure all our thoughts are with Les at this very sad time.  
Pete.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 791

Date: Wednesday June 2 2010 01:58:37 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Bassoonish  
n/a:

Comments:  
I was shocked to hear that good old Shiner wright had passed away. I have known John for a long time and it always appeared to me that he never looked any older!! The world has lost a great character and Spurs Supporter so long Shines. The Chums club are now altogether again. Bob Simmonds Taff Morris Shiner Wright and Taff Thomas - Wot a bunch of characters Roy Jan

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message #: 790

Date: Friday May 28 2010 14:34:47 EST  
Name: Rod Williamson  
Email:

Service Number: QOO 3491S  
Hometown: Whitstable  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dave and I were kind of twins both being born on 28th June 1941. I knew him on an occasional basis but became friends when we worked in the Music Library together circa 1978-1980. I got a move to M Wing and in preparation for the dreaded BFT started training with Dave. We started off walking round South Barracks allotments but eventually worked up to a passable attempt. Of course this was quickly ruined by a few lunchtime sessions but the friendship carried on for a long time. Dave was a real gentleman and I can't imagine anyone having anything but praise and liking for him. Some guys stand out - Dave was one of them! RIP mate and sincere condolences to the family. Rod Williamson

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message #: 789

Date: Friday May 28 2010 09:37:49 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: ALTO /CLART VLN  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to hear of the passing of Dave Mullan. He was my junior room corporal when I first emerged from the recruit squad (wondering what on earth I'd got myself into back in September 1958) I have to admit I was a little in awe of him he was a big man and many of us were how shall I say it quite respectful whenever he was in earshot but having said that and on getting to know him he was a kind man and a friend it was a pleasure to have known. He and Hooky (Alan) Walker were great friends and I'm sure Alan is more than a little melancholy on hearing the sad news Dave was a popular man within the Band Service and an extremely competent bass player but after he passed out of the CG Squad our paths crossed very infrequently nonetheless Dave always had a kind word to offer and always remembered my name I offer my most sincere condolences to his family and many friends and colleagues RIP Dave Jem

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 788

Date: Friday May 28 2010 07:49:51 EST  
Name: Tony Hunter  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3999  
Hometown: Kennethmont Aberdeenshire  
Instrument/s: Cornet / Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just read about Shiner passing. Very sad indeed. I first met this gentleman at HMS St. Vincent which was my first draft from Deal. A great man great trombone player and a great footballer. He will be sadly missed. My thoughts go out to his family and many friends.

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message #: 787

Date: Friday May 28 2010 06:25:03 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rvalentine1951@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston (was) Schenectady NY (now)  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet/Piano/Vibe  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Who could ever forget some of the characters who we young trainees would see during our transition from building to building or barracks to barracks and seeing the staff band going through its paces. Included in the ranks was the un-mistakable Dave Mullan. The guy just stood out a mile and if it's the only real memory of him that I have it's nice to reflect and remember those great days. Some of you will recall the days of the Shipwrecks (a great excuse for Deal and surrounding area ex RMBs to get together at the time) and if you follow the link below: [www.exroyalmarinesbandsmen.net/NOTICEBOARD/shipwrecks.htm](http://www.exroyalmarinesbandsmen.net/NOTICEBOARD/shipwrecks.htm) you will see a lovely photo of Dave with Lew Cooper enjoying a pint! Rest in Peace Dave. I'm sure I speak for all of us ex RMBs that we miss you and that our thoughts and prayers are with your family at this time. Dickie.

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message #: 786

Date: Thursday May 27 2010 14:28:24 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB.x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard. Just to let you know the sad news. Dave Mullan passed away yesterday. Any further information I will let you know. Sid

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 785

Date: Thursday May 27 2010 12:46:56 EST  
Name: M Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Greetings to you all. More bad news I am afraid. Received a phone call from Andy Cunningham today who is now an ex pat living in Spain he informed me that we have lost yet another stalwart to the great massed band of our departed comrades. Dave Mullan BEM. I do not know when or of the cause. Dave was a good Bass player he served in the Staff Band under Paul Neville and as far as I can recall he was one of the first if not the first musician to be awarded the BEM. Dave and I were boys together. He was a big lad then in the late 50s early 60s God help any RM under training in those days if they upset Dave he would scrap with them and sometimes he would hang them on the coat pegs in the galley in North barracks and this was in the days before Jnr Marines. A truly great guy my condolences to all members of his family and to all of you who knew him and had the pleasure to serve with him. DAVE MULLAN BEM. RIP.

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message #: 784

Date: Tuesday May 25 2010 05:52:38 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Rich I have just been informed via face book that Trevor Sharp has passed away. Many ex bandies will have been under his baton at the Silver Jubilee event at Wembley in '77. A 2000 strong massed band awesome!  
Pete.

---

message #: 783

Date: Sunday May 23 2010 23:59:40 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email: anthonyoliver@fsmail.net

Service Number: 3975  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone ( Holder )  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear all I HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SHINER OVER THE LAST YEAR QUITE REGULARLY SINCE HIS DIAGNOSIS WITH PANCREATIC CANCER. HIS TUMOR WAS REMOVED IN SPAIN AND HE DID START A VISIBLE RECOVERY. HE ATTENDED LAST YEARS RE UNION AND THE FUNERAL OF HIS GREAT FRIEND HUW MORRIS IN NOVEMBER HE RANG ME THE WEEK PRIOR TO HIS PASSING TRYING TO ARRANGE A RUN ASHORE ! CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT ? BUT THAT WAS SHINER ALL OVER THINKING ABOUT A GOOD TIME. WHAT A LOVELY MAN AND FINE TROMBONIST. HE ALWAYS HAD THAT BIG GRIN ON HIS FACE. HIS COMPANY WAS GREAT AND HE WILL BE MISSED BY ALL WHO KNEW HIM. OUR CONDOLENCES GO OUT TO BETTY AND HIS FAMILY. ENJOY YOUR PEACE WITH TAFF SHINER AND SAVE ME A PLACE. Tony  
O

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 782

Date: Saturday May 22 2010 10:47:46 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Ctl/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo to you Richard and all. The sad news of Shiner Wright passing on is bad news indeed. I remember him well from "J" Wing days in the early 60's. My sincere condolences to his family. However I have been asked to pass on to you all the best wishes from "Vic" Sylvester; he from Peterborough with a house name "Quavers Rest". He is not able to communicate via the web site and sometimes finds things difficult at home. But his sense of humour is still there. I expect lots of our family remember him with high esteem. Best wishes Mike.

---

message #: 781

Date: Saturday May 22 2010 10:45:02 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: rmb3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Rich Like everyone who knew John Leonard Zoppara Wright to give him is full name or (Chee) as many in our family knew him by. I was truly saddened to hear of his passing. He was a gentleman in every sense of the word and always had a smile on his face to see you no matter how long it was since you had last met. Rest in peace mate Pendles

---

message #: 780

Date: Saturday May 22 2010 10:13:52 EST  
Name: M Hickman  
Email: mike @hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to you all. Just had a call from my contact in Alicante to say that the Celebration of Shiners life was very well attended and how good it was hear that Nick Grace flew down for it complete with a Bugler in tow and he was fully booted. As always Shiner had the last laugh he organised his own service which was conducted under the banner of the SA as this is where he learnt to play all those years ago after the service he requested that people should stay and listen to his the music of his choice. To the end he was joking around he had the Laughing Policeman played. As ever he gave all a good laugh. RIP Shiner you will be missed.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 779

Date: Friday May 21 2010 11:58:29 EST  
Name: Ian Read  
Email: read@fremdheit.fsnet.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
My grandfather Frederick Read (sadly no longer with us) was a bandsman and served on HMS Effingham and HMS Nelson in WW2. I am keen to find his service record but the Royal Marine website is more than confusing in that respect and I have had no joy thus far. I do go and see performances and parades by the Band whenever possible.

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message #: 778

Date: Friday May 21 2010 06:22:17 EST  
Name: Donna Goodman Smith  
Email: sgtgood@hotmail.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: n/a  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi my name is Donna some of you might remember me. I have just found out that my dad John 'Shiner' Wright passed away recently. I was wondering if anybody knew of his whereabouts or how he passed away. I would be very grateful if anybody knows when and where his funeral will take place as I would like to attend. Many thanks Donna.  
[Editor] Please see [www.exroyalmarinesbandsmen.net/Main.htm](http://www.exroyalmarinesbandsmen.net/Main.htm) I am sorry for your/our loss.

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message #: 777

Date: Friday May 21 2010 02:52:25 EST  
Name: Max  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have just received the news of the passing of yet another of our comrades I may be on the underside of the world but the news reached me via the Yottie Web page then the Band Page I am saddened by the news dear ole Shiner I have happy memories not least when he came to our place in Silverdale I have a photo of that event and my family remember it only too well so mate sleep tight you know we all love you and you will be missed to the family we send our deep condolences. Rest in peace Buddy. Max Katherine Julie and Beverley-Anne

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 776

Date: Wednesday May 19 2010 13:13:52 EST  
Name: M. Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.tefonica.net

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:

Just been informed by the RBL in Alicante of the passing of Shiner. I received a phone a few weeks ago at the request of Chi informing of his condition and so fast he is gone. His funeral will take place at the Crematorium in Alicante on Saturday. What a great character he was as I am sure most of you can recall many tales especially during massed bands and his friendship with another trombone player Eddie Gasser. But for all those stories what a wonderful end to a full career with the RMB. He was a very good musician equally as good soccer player he will be sorely missed by us all. My condolences to all of his family both in the UK and here in Spain and to all of you who knew and maybe had the pleasure to serve with him. JOHN(SHINER CHI) WRIGHT RIP

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message #: 775

Date: Wednesday May 19 2010 10:59:17 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: ALTO SAX/CLART/VLN  
n/a:

Comments:

Ive just read the very sad news of the death of Shiner Wright he was a good friend and colleague and an asset to any band who had the pleasure of his company and musical expertise. I spent many happy years in his company from Daedalus to the Yacht and we had many a run ashore together he had an infectious sense of humour was a pleasure to be with and I enjoyed his company immensely. He was totally reliable in any band he performed in and we played many many gigs together he will be sadly missed by all who knew him and I know that will be many such was his popularity. May I send my deepest condolences to his family and all his many friends and colleagues he will be sadly missed but will remain in our hearts Rest in peace Shiner Jem

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message #: 774

Date: Wednesday May 19 2010 08:56:46 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:

I would just like to add my sorrow at the passing of John. He taught me how to be an "inlier" again at Eastney in the 80's. There are many happy memories of John in Eastney and on board HMY. Rest easy chum Dave

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 773

Date: Wednesday May 19 2010 07:12:49 EST  
Name: Paddy Semple  
Email: contact@jackiesemple.com

Service Number: RMB 3868  
Hometown: Carrickfergus  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

**Comments:**

So sad to learn of the passing of John Wright. Ex RMB 3870. We joined up together in 6 / 61 New Entry Squad almost 49 years ago. I did not serve with him after leaving boy service but I did meet up with him again at some of the reunions we both attended. He was an excellent Trombone player and talented footballer. He was also very much liked by all who knew him. My sincere condolences to his Family and Friends. Paddy Semple.

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message #: 772

Date: Wednesday May 19 2010 05:58:03 EST  
Name: &#39;Dickie&#39; Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Schenectady New York  
Instrument/s: Clart Piano  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Having just read the sad news of the passing of our dear friend John (aka Shiner Chee etc) Wright I must say that I count myself very lucky and privileged to have served with John and to have had the fun and experiences that we had. On the Notice Board to the bottom left column you will see some poignant photographs of times I could ever share. So ironic that John's close friend Huw suffered the same early demise. We should be grateful that John has been taken quickly although I know we shall all miss him dearly. My thoughts and prayers go out to Betty and John's family at this time of great sorrow. Good times John! Rest in peace my friend. Dickie V.

---

message #: 771

Date: Wednesday May 19 2010 05:44:40 EST  
Name: Len Lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry@virgin.net

Service Number: 3859C  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: solo clarinet  
n/a:

**Comments:**

With heavy heart and sadness I have to inform his many friends that Shiner (JZL) Wright has passed away during the evening 18/19 May. A good mate sadly missed. RIP John.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 770

Date: Saturday May 15 2010 05:51:25 EST  
Name: Derek Roberts  
Email: derekroberts@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3914  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
In addition to my last entry I am looking for John 'Slim'  
Halliwell? Alto Sax who also was at HMS Drake in the early 1960s Any info please contact me

---

message #: 769

Date: Wednesday May 12 2010 16:45:04 EST  
Name: Derek Roberts  
Email: derekroberts@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3914  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Can any assist in locating the following Ex bandies for a reunion that is being held of old shipmates of HMS ark Royal  
1959-1961 tour. Pony  
Moor - Cello/Guitar Jazzy Jarman-Piano/Flute Whacker Payne-French Horn George Henwood-Cornet Pete Trad  
Lloyd-Clarinet I will then pass on details to Jim Roots DR

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message #: 768

Date: Tuesday May 4 2010 02:40:30 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi everyone.....If you live in or near the West Country don't forget there is a concert next Sunday 9th May by about  
60 ex RM Bandsmen in the Plymouth Guildhall at 2.30pm. Tell all your friends and their friends to come along and enjoy  
the occasion and help make some money for ' Help the Heroes' charity. John Ware is out front and responsible for the  
organization of the show so we look forward to your support. Michael.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 767

Date: Wednesday April 28 2010 10:56:25 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard Just been looking at the photo's of the West Country Reunion !!! You have a picture of Heather and myself !! Requesting a 'caption' Perhaps a good one would be ' Divorce proceedings set in motion ' It isn't Heather with me it is Beth Clark wife of Gordon (Nobby ) Clark !!!! But we thoroughly enjoyed the evening and are looking forward to next years. A round trip of some 660 miles but well worth it. Regards to all.  
Cheers Barry

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message #: 766

Date: Thursday April 22 2010 06:14:39 EST  
Name: Dave Seed  
Email: dseed78739@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 4084  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Flute/Tenor Sax  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just returned from visiting Jim Tombs in hospital he was waiting to go down the theatre for an operation to remove both legs below the knee the hospital have tried to stem the gangarene by doing minor operations but sadly it has not worked hopefully by doing this operation they will manage to clear it up which will allow Jim to have a better quality of life. Will keep you all posted on how the operation goes any messages you can send to my e-mail address and I will pass them on. Dave

---

message #: 765

Date: Wednesday April 21 2010 10:09:45 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: Rmbx 2902  
Hometown: Par  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi everybody just a quick thank you to all who attended the WCR on Saturday. It was a super evening down on numbers which enabled me to get around for chat with everyone. A detailed report will be posted shortly and details for April the 9th 2011 will be published. Once again thanks to all who attended. Cheers Pete.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 764

Date: Tuesday April 20 2010 04:28:49 EST  
Name: Steve Swann  
Email:

Service Number: QOO 4215b  
Hometown: Dorset  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Over the weekend of the 17th April 2010 the West Country Reunion took place in Saltash and for that I would like to thank Pete Westaway and his lovely wife Joan. They once again did a fantastic job. Everyone commented what a super evening it was. It was nice to see familiar and new faces! It was interesting to note that most of the conversations that took place were not about the past but the future. Dave Pratley and I were talking about why the turn out was not as good as it could have been after all there was 6 bands in the West Country. The venue is absolutely fantastic (look at the China Fleet Club website for evidence of that) and it is absolutely brilliant value for money. An apartment that sleeps 6 is only £88.00 per night. In fact it is so good Tony Oliver and I with our much better halves arrived on Friday and had two great nights. Three actually because they stayed with us before driving back on Monday morning. So three days of drinking and laughter is just what we all need. John Ware made a small speech and asked all that attended to rally round and get other bandies and their wives/partners to attend next year. So this is my contribution. The venue has already been booked for next year so please everyone come along and have a really good night out. Be well and all the best to everyone who reads this. Once again thank you Pete & Joan for all the hard work and effort you put in.  
Steve Swann

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message #: 763

Date: Monday April 12 2010 12:23:12 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Dear Richard. I had a phone call yesterday from Jimmy Kay with the sad news that one of our own (Jeff Etteridge) passed away. I have known Jeff for many years and he was a very dear and loyal friend who will be sadly missed but not forgotten. To his Mum and family I pass on my deepest sympathy and condolences. Rest in peace my friend as I know I will meet you again one day. Sid

---

message #: 762

Date: Thursday April 8 2010 16:05:52 EST  
Name: Roy Adrian  
Email: ra.adrian181@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB3647  
Hometown: Carlton-le-Moorland Lincoln  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a:

**Comments:**

To Nobby Clarke - re BBA Showband enquiry This record was made in Singapore by Dave & Syd (with the others) whilst we were all serving with the Commando Brigade Band. We were all out there between 1967 - 1969.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 761

Date: Saturday April 3 2010 06:28:32 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard Heather and I have just returned from attending the funeral for Bob Ellis also there Peter Clark and Bill Harrison representing our family 'Band Service'. Bob was given a great send off and many stories were passed around! I served with Bob as my Bandaster both at HMS Raleigh and 'Chatham Band' in the early 'sixties' so I had a few to relate. Heather served at Raleigh with Marlene who became Bob's Wife so it was really a mini reunion. We will be attending the 'West Country' reunion in a couple of weeks time. See you there. Regards to all Barry Radford

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message #: 760

Date: Friday April 2 2010 23:46:45 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo to you Richard and all. I have just received the sad news that Pete Pullen has died from kidney and heart failure in Southampton General Hospital. He was one of the buglers on HMS Eagle from 1964 - 1966 and had a great sense of humour. Thanks to Keith Deary I received this sad news and was able to talk to Pete's brother Keith yesterday evening. There are no dates for the funeral at the moment. Mike.

---

message #: 759

Date: Friday March 26 2010 19:10:33 EST  
Name: Barry Wright  
Email: barrystrings@talktalk.net

Service Number: RM 20739  
Hometown: Woolwich  
Instrument/s: None  
n/a:

Comments:  
I'd just like to say thank you. I stumbled across the photo of all you lads from the 1968 Royal Tournament. I was one of the drivers [the one on the right hand side in the photo] who towed the three part orchestral platform into the arena. We practice down at Deal for weeks to get the positioning of the platform correct. From what I remember there wasn't any cock ups at the real thing but once again thanks for posting the photo. Good memories. Regards Barry.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 758

Date: Sunday March 7 2010 07:13:01 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hi Richard Just returned home after spending a few days with Merv and Sue Durrant. Merv and I attended the funeral of Chris O'Connor it was like a mini - reunion. Also there Chris Preston John Buberle Mick Blandford Matt (Drum Major Extraordinaire) and Monica Dillon Tony (Wally) and Val Spencer Bob Cummins Albert Hall It was a sad but joyous celebration of Chris's life. The wake was in the Wardroom of 'Whale Island' where there was a pictorial record of Chris's service within the 'Band Service'. We even had a mini recital from Chris's grandchildren performed on Trombone Clarinet and Guitar. It was an amazing day in the memory of a great guy spent with a wonderful close and loving family. It was great to see Matt Dillon although in a wheel chair. Merv and Sue and Heather and I managed to visit him in his nursing home on the Friday for a couple of hours of mind blowing memories of some amazing years spent in 'Whale Island'. Matt is making steady progress in his recovery and he sends regards to all that remember him. We also managed to attend the Mountbatten Festival Concert along with David and Heather Booth. 'WOW' What a concert. Best one ( in my opinion for some years) Congratulations to all concerned. Now home for a few days recovery before we leave for Margate for the 'All Stars Concert'. Which will be my last one!! Regards to all Barry Radford

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message #: 757

Date: Friday March 5 2010 08:16:02 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX2902  
Hometown: Par Cornwall  
Instrument/s: Trombone.  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hello Richard People are e-mailing wanting to know details of the WCR this year. It is being held at the China fleet club Saltash in Cornwall on April the 17th. 2010. Tickets are £12 pounds which includes buffet and raffle. Anyone wishing tickets send a cheque and SAE to P. Westaway. Little Pelean Par Cornwall PL242 RX or ring me on 01726 813939. All serving, ex members and friends welcome. E Mail me to reserve tickets. Come aand enjoy a great evening. Cheers Pete

---

message #: 756

Date: Wednesday March 3 2010 14:01:49 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: solo clarinet  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Rich I have just tuned in to the You Tube link and watched Thunderbirds Are Go! That was the first ever gig I did. Staff Band and Junior Wing Band in 65/66ish. I can't remember how much staff band got but I remember the producer taking us to the NAFFI for a Nelson's square and a glass of orange juice. Nostalgia indeed. See you all in Margate Dave

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 755

Date: Friday February 26 2010 02:42:38 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hullo Richard and all I have just had news from Brian Oates that our esteemed buddy Vic Sylvester is in hospital and feeling 'grumpy' which isn't his character at all. For anyone wanting to send good wishes to him the address is: Edith Cavell Hospital; Ward 6 (Isolation) Bretton Gate Peterborough. PE3 9GZ Mike.

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message #: 754

Date: Monday February 22 2010 10:41:33 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@googlemail.com

Service Number: RMB3645  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Fiddle  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello to all of those who knew Jack Arberry. This is simply to let you know that he had a truly memorable send off that he would have been delighted with. Jack's undoubted popularity was very evident with the chapel bursting at the seams with enough ex "Bandies" there to form a decent sized band including Bandmaster Hutton (who also gave his wife away at their wedding in Plymouth) and Pompey Group Drum Major (Brian Peever!). Simple non religious service no hymns but appropriate music to support some very moving poems and tributes. These were led firstly by the excellent Father conducting the service followed by an emotional eulogy presented by his old friend Roger Hollingsworth. To conclude the service an RM Bugler played a perfect Last Post & Reveille prior to Jack making his way onward to the place where hopefully we'll all meet up again one day! His coffin was then accompanied out to Purcell's Trumpet Voluntary! Hopefully being one of the advance party he'll manage to reserve us all a decent bed & locker for when our time comes to join him again! Many good old faces attended who served with Jack at some point during his career. This afforded us the opportunity for a bit of a mini reunion afterwards as you might imagine & more of the same at the RMA Club for the wake on completion! - RIP Jack. Your good sense of humour & abiding friendship with so many who came into contact with you will stay with us all for ever old chap. Just a pity that you couldn't wait around a few years longer for us to continue enjoying your company that's all. All our love goes to his wife Sandra & loving family.

---

message #: 753

Date: Sunday February 21 2010 08:38:05 EST  
Name: Brian Marfleet  
Email: bmarfleet@hotmail.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sir I am the elder son of a RMBS member who has passed away. I am trying to let someone within the service know this. His name is Claude Denis Marfleet RMB X1401 who served on HMS's Devonshire Euryalus and HMS Unicorn as well as shore based establishments. I wish to post that he passed away on 14/11/2007 at Hahndorf nursing home Hahndorf South Australia. Currently I am sifting through documentation and photographs left by my parents many of which have some relevance to his time in RMBS including his service records. I remember him as a musically minded person (understandably) and from whom I managed to work out middle 'C'. He like many ex servicemen did not talk a great deal about his life in the forces a situation that I can relate to as I am a Vietnam Veteran myself from the Australian Army. It was only within the last 2 years of his life that he managed to talk about some of the things that went on...some of which were quite funny and he had a good laugh about them too. I hope that this post can alert those that may be interested. I also wish to share the documents and photos with RMBS etc so the images will not be lost forever. Thank you for your time Brian Marfleet

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 752

Date: Tuesday February 16 2010 09:21:29 EST  
Name: Herman (Nobby) Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe Lincolnshire.  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello Mates Have found an old E/P record that seems to feature 6 RM Bandsmen 2 of who I remember but 4 others that I do not recall. The record is titled "The B.B.A. Showband" and is in the Dixieland style. Names mentioned are 1.Stan Cutter Tenor/Soprano sax and vocal. 2. Dave Edwards Banjo/Guitar. 3. Ken Williams String Bass. 4. Reg Parfrey Drums. The last 2 listed are chaps that I am sure that I served with at some time or other 5. Sid Pavitt Trombone. 6. Dave Rowland Trumpet. I do not remember where when or why I got this record and nor do I have any idea which band they were serving with when this was recorded. Can anyone out there shed any light? All the best. Nobby.

---

message #: 751

Date: Saturday February 13 2010 16:17:43 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a:

Comments:  
I look forward to seeing some old friends in Margate next month at the All Stars Concert in Margate so do forgive this old duffer if he does not recognise you but say hello and give your full name and regimental number as that may just be sufficient for me to recall you...we may be in time for the Buffet Tea? Yours aye  
Bill Hartland  
Editor www.hmsgambia.com

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message #: 750

Date: Wednesday February 10 2010 00:16:32 EST  
Name: Max  
Email:

Service Number: RMB x 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I'm saddend to read of the passing of Chris O' Connor whilst I have no details I can say we use to communicate but sadly lost touch we were in Burford together and I do have a photo of four of us athletes happy memories indeed. To Chris' family Kath and I send our deep condolences and to the man himself God bless old friend. Rest in Peace Maxie Beare

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 749

Date: Sunday February 7 2010 05:50:42 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Saddened to read of the loss of Chris o'Connor. Spent several years with Chris at 'Whale Island'. He was a super guy always willing to listen and be there for everyone. Haven't seen him for a few years last time at a reunion and Cathedral service in Portsmouth. Condolences to Chris's family. Rest in peace dear Chris. You will be greatly missed. Barry and Heather Radford

---

message #: 748

Date: Saturday February 6 2010 03:52:18 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to read of the passing of Jack always full of fun. Served with him at RNEC Manadon Rest in peace my friend Noel

---

message #: 747

Date: Wednesday February 3 2010 17:30:48 EST  
Name: Bob Chumley  
Email: chummers@optusnet.com.au

Service Number: Rmbx 3195  
Hometown: Adelaide  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I also was at Manadon with Jack and agree with Mick and Jem a great chap and shipmate my condolences to his family Bob

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 746

Date: Monday February 1 2010 16:30:25 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just to add to what Jem has said..Jackson was the life & soul of our band at HMS Thunderer and when married in the Manadon church I was lucky enough to give Sandra the bride away as her parents couldnt come. My thoughts are with the family. Mick Hutton.

---

message #: 745

Date: Monday February 1 2010 09:50:08 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email: jemtugwood@sky.com

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: Alto /clart violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I received a call from Phil Gilbert this morning who informed me of the passing of Jack Arbery on Saturday and I have to say I feel very very sorry at such a sad loss . Jack was a friend of mine and many others (although our paths didn't cross very much in the latter years) we had the pleasure of serving together under the direction of Mick Hutton at Thunderer in Plymouth back in 63/64 (such happy days) Jack and Sandra met in Plymouth and got married in the college church and all the band had the pleasure of attending the Rev Jeff Thornley performed the service I can remember it to this day and the reception was in the Golden Hind our local pub a short distance from the college. Jack was a lovely man to know and the couple of years we served together (apart from boys wing) have reminded me of some wonderful times we had. I send my most sincere condolences to Sandra and family and will remember Jack with many fond memories of which he played a large part Rest in peace Jack Jem

---

message #: 744

Date: Monday February 1 2010 03:25:11 EST  
Name: BARRY PETTITT  
Email: BARRYG1940@GOOGLEMAIL.COM

Service Number: RMBX 3355 U  
Hometown: SEAFORD  
Instrument/s: CORNET/ VIOLIN  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sorry to hear the passing of Jack Arbery a great mate who will be sorely missed by all who new him. My sincere condolences to Sandra and family.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 743

Date: Saturday January 30 2010 16:02:16 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX 2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Sad to hear about dear old Stan. We had our first ship together HMS Glasgow 52/54 and ashore in Manoel Island. A great musician drinking friend trainer of the band football team at HMS Phoenicia. He always insisted we have a couple of bottles of the local wine each before kick off ! As I recall 'we didnt win many matches' ! He was just a great guy and will be missed by all who had the luck to know him. Mick.

---

message #: 742

Date: Saturday January 30 2010 10:05:39 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard. Very sad to hear of the passing Of Stan Wilkinson. To Ben and his family my sincere condolences. You are at peace now with your beloved Lyn. Sleep well my friend. Gone but never forgotten. Sid and Sheila.

---

message #: 741

Date: Friday January 29 2010 06:13:46 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard saddened to hear that Stan Wilkinson has passed away. I served with Stan on my first ever draft in 1959 3rd Cdo Band in Malta. What a fine trombone player he was. A truly great character. Rest in peace Stan you will be sorely missed. Regards to his Family Barry Radford

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 740

Date: Wednesday January 27 2010 05:07:36 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
So very sad to hear of the passing of Stan Wilkinson the last time we met was in 1953-4 in HMS Phoenicia Malta a great character. My condolences to his family. Noel Crook

---

message #: 739

Date: Monday January 25 2010 13:12:43 EST  
Name: Paddy Semple  
Email: contact@jackiesemple.com

Service Number: RMB 3868  
Hometown: Carrickfergus  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sad to learn of the passing of Stan Wilkinson (Trombone extraordinaire). He was a great character and I had a thoroughly enjoyable posting with him to HMS Terror during the sixties. He taught me quite a lot in life and the social side of the Band Service in particular. We had great fun together during my recent visits to Deal when we met up again after such a long time. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him. My sincere condolences to his Family.

---

message #: 738

Date: Saturday January 23 2010 15:57:09 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a:

Comments:  
See entry 732 What did I tell you?  
I just knew my man would pull  
through! Good on yer  
Bernard. Yours aye  
Bill.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 737

Date: Saturday January 23 2010 11:51:07 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Very sad to hear of Shank's passing. Lovely guy full of fun and laughter a fine Clarinet player and someone you would always want to have in your band plus a great run ashore. We shall miss him at the 'All Stars' in March. Lets hope for a good turn out at his funeral to send him to that band in the sky. Mick Hutton.

---

message #: 736

Date: Friday January 22 2010 21:37:17 EST  
Name: Max  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo CORNET  
n/a:

Comments:  
MY DEAR FRIENDS I WRITE TO THANK YOU ALL FOR THE GET WELL CARDS THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS THAT HAVE BEEN SENT MY WAY DURING THE PAST FOUR WEEKS WITH YOUR HELP I HAVE RECOVERED MUCH MORE QUICKLY I WANTED TO WRITE TO EACH INDIVIDUAL BUT PLEASE UNDERSTAND IT WOULD HAVE TAKEN A MONTH OF SUNDAYS GOD BLESS YOU ALL WE ARE THE ROYAL MARINES BAND MAX AND KATHERINE

---

message #: 735

Date: Friday January 22 2010 12:43:07 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It saddens me to hear of the passing of Alan Shankland who was a real character who lived life to the full. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him. To Joan and his family my sincere condolences. Rest in peace Alan.  
Sid

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 734

Date: Thursday January 21 2010 05:45:45 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So very sad to hear of the passing of Alan only last week going thru the pages and seeing his face amongst many old friends. Rest in peace my friend Noel

---

message #: 733

Date: Tuesday January 19 2010 15:46:02 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sad to see yet another solo clarinet join the members who have already crossed the bar. May you rest in peace Shanks.

---

message #: 732

Date: Sunday January 10 2010 16:20:02 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have just been speaking to Kath Beare and she asked me to let everyone know that Bernard is sitting up in an armchair but has been told not to sit around too much but to do some exercise and certainly not to lie in bed! He now awaits X-Rays at hospital but his Iron Levels in his blood are too low so that may be why he is feeling weak. Having been an associate and friend of Max for some fifty four years I think I know him well enough to say that although he is nearly eighty he will get over his present health problems.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 731

Date: Friday January 8 2010 18:15:06 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3242  
Hometown: Tennyson  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi Everyone I just had a look at the site for the first time in 2010 I'm sorry to hear about Joe and we will all miss his smile in Adelaide this March I look forward to seeing all who can make the trip to 'Oz for this years reunion. A message for any who remember Ron Champion many years ago Ron told me to buy Skip Martin "Scheherajazz" I did and now I have been trying to get some info on how I may obtain the Skip Martin Score ? as I have several Musical contacts in Sydney who would be interested in organizing a concert I have been trying to contact the muso's who took part in the recording the latest is Mr Bass Trombone George Roberts via the Allaboutjazz web site if any one has any info please let me know. All the best for 2010 to all.

---

message #: 730

Date: Wednesday January 6 2010 09:21:53 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hullo to everyone and a Happy New Year. I had a telephone conversation with Margaret Sumner the wife of the late Captain Peter and she is now a great great grandma at the age of 83! She sounded very spritely and is doing part time work at a charity shop in the Doncaster area. She asked me to pass on her good wishes to all those who remember her especially during those fine days when she used to be the supervisor at the M2 motorway cafe! Yes we did call in from time to time and got a free coffee!! Best wishes to you all Mike.

---

message #: 729

Date: Saturday January 2 2010 14:32:54 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a:

Comments:

So sorry to read of the demise of my old mate Joe Simm whose face lit up when I visited him and being a little taller than he I was able to remove a dud light bulb and replace it with one that worked! I do hope for the Best for you Joe. Yours aye Bill Hartland.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 728

Date: Friday January 1 2010 12:22:47 EST  
Name: Pete Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX2902  
Hometown: Par.  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi everyone. May I wish everyone a Happy and healthy New Year. The tickets for the 2010 WCR are now available which will be held on April the 17th at the China Fleet club in Saltash. If you think you would like to attend book your ticket now and pay in March. If you are entering the golf tournament please make sure you contact Gary Pumford so he can book greens etc. I would advise you to book your accomodation now because the club is very popular and there is no booking charge. To book tickets ring me on 01726 813939 or E mail me or send a cheque for £12 pounds plus a SAE. I hope we have a good turnout again just like last year. Any suggestions for improvements to the evening will be welcomed. See you in April Cheers Pete.

---

message #: 727

Date: Thursday December 31 2009 13:17:17 EST  
Name: Tony Overton  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3999  
Hometown: Kennethmont  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a:

Comments:

I would like to wish every serving and former serving member of the Royal Marine Band Service all the very best of good health and happiness for the new year and hope to see some of you at the concert in margate. Best wishes and may your god be with you.

---

message #: 726

Date: Wednesday December 30 2009 19:14:19 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now...  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi Richard For those "oldies" who know Joe Simms I'd like you to know that after several strokes his mate Max reports Joe is not in the best of health at present. Joe along with his best mate Maxie Beare have been attending our ex RMB reunions in Adelaide over the last five years but it looks as though Joe won't be able to attend again. Max has had to be Joe's strength while flying to and from NZ and during their stay in Oz a task that is worth a medal but one that Max has gladly undertaken. A friendship born in the RNSM on the Isle of Man has remained unbroken for some 60 plus years. I know I can speak on behalf of all ex RMBs in Oz who would wish Joe all the best.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 725

Date: Saturday December 26 2009 14:18:27 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Compliments of the season to all members in or out of the Band Service....Hope to see many of you at the 'All Stars' on March 14th ...Maureen & I leave for Australia on the 15th for two weeks with all our wonderful friends down under...Eric & Jan Tom & Marge Bob & Carol to name just a few..... Best wishes to all ..Mick Hutton.

---

message #: 724

Date: Saturday December 26 2009 10:14:56 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard A Very Merry Christmas to All. A thank you to all that have been ringing to ask how Heather is and wish us a Merry Christmas. Heather is making steady progress after her heart procedure. Still sore and somewhat bruised but taking things easy. The lads were in charge for cooking Christmas Lunch. (And it was very very good) Have a great 'Festive Season' Regards Barry and Heather Radford

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message #: 723

Date: Wednesday December 23 2009 14:05:45 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend.Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo to you Richard and all. Greetings from Reykjavik Iceland where I will be spending "Jola" and the New Year! I hope all in our great family have an enjoyable Christmas. Best wishes. Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 722

Date: Wednesday December 23 2009 06:12:29 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
To all serving and ex RMBs and their Families. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. Sid and Family.

---

message #: 721

Date: Tuesday December 15 2009 08:09:09 EST  
Name: Ginge Deary  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3806  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I would be grateful for information as to the whereabouts of Hugh Heatherwick (Flute/Piano) and John Dixon (Basses). Both were in the Staff Band in the middle to late sixties.

---

message #: 720

Date: Sunday December 13 2009 16:39:50 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None now...  
n/a:

Comments:  
.....JUST A SHORT NOTE TO WISH YOU ALL THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON AND MAY ALL THAT YOU HAVE PREVIOUSLY WISHED FOR FINALLY ARRIVE IN 2010. And a reminder that on the last weekend in March 2010 a reunion of ex RMBs will be held in Glenelg Adelaide South Australia. Check the notice board for full details.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 719

Date: Sunday December 13 2009 03:22:10 EST  
Name: Max  
Email:

Service Number: RMB x 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Friends have just had a chat with Vic Sylvester who as you may know is house bound and is therefore unable to reply to all the cards and good wishes for the Festive season. He is most grateful and sends Greetings to all that may remember him the same from Katherine and Myself Merry Christmas and Happy new year to you all.

---

message #: 718

Date: Thursday December 10 2009 04:27:09 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto sax/clrt vln.  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sorry to hear that Jack Arbery is in hospital having suffered a stroke last Sunday may I offer my most sincere best wishes for a complete and speedy recovery and that he is able to go home very soon. Best wishes Jack  
Jem

---

message #: 717

Date: Tuesday December 8 2009 04:10:21 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston (was)  
Instrument/s: Clart (solo) Piano Vibe.  
n/a:

Comments:  
May I say how saddened I am to hear of the passing of Bob Loft. I can hear quite vividly in my mind's ear that intoxicating laughter that Bob had and see in my mind's eye the many mannerisms that Bob exuded. Also I have been asked by Brian Peever to offer his own condolences to Bob's family at this time. Brian Bob and myself were on many yacht trips in the early 70's and we all had such great fun. It was a privilege and a source of great pleasure to know Bob and my many memories I hope will never fade away. Sadly I shall not be graveside but I will be saying my prayers for you Bob. RIP dear friend. Dickie & Brian Peever.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 716

Date: Sunday December 6 2009 13:37:47 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Bass Drum (1st Desk) Bassonish  
n/a:

Comments:  
So So Sad to hear of the passing of a great Musician and friend Huw (Taff) Morris. So long chum say hello to your great mate Bob Simmons. You're gonna be missed Your Friend Roy

---

message #: 715

Date: Sunday December 6 2009 10:53:37 EST  
Name: Tony Hunter / Overton  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3999  
Hometown: Kennethmont Aberdeenshire  
Instrument/s: Cornet / Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sad to hear of the passing over of Bob Loft I had the honour and pleasure to serve with Bob at Eastney and had many good times with mess dinners and dance band etc. My deepest condolences go to Bob's family and friends who I know there are many. RIP Bob I'm sure there will be a few old friends on the other side waiting to take you for a run ashore.

---

message #: 714

Date: Thursday December 3 2009 11:01:15 EST  
Name: Irfon Higgins  
Email: ijhiggins@aol.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
I've had some queries in relation to donations for Huw's funeral Huw's chosen charity is: "Amser Just in time" which is a pancreatic cancer charity. Donations can be sent to Huw's sister at 14 New rd. Brynaman Carms. SA181AG. Taff H

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 713

Date: Wednesday December 2 2009 16:41:06 EST  
Name: Irfon Higgins  
Email: ijhiggins@aol.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Huw's funeral will be held at 1100 hrs. on Saturday 5th of December at Gibeau chapel Brynaman SA18 1AG. There will be a gathering at the local rugby club following the service and all are welcome. Be aware that there is a Lower Brynaman and an Upper Brynaman the service is in upper Brynaman.

---

message #: 712

Date: Wednesday December 2 2009 13:40:35 EST  
Name: Dave Seed  
Email: dseed78739@aol.com

Service Number: RMB4084  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Flute/Tenor Sax  
n/a:

Comments:  
I would like to pass my tribute to those already posted on the passing of two of our family firstly Bob Loft I served with him in Portsmouth and did many dance band gigs with him. I always remember my last Horse Guards I was an extra Bob noticed this and very kindly allowed me to take his place on alto sax such a gentleman. Huw Morris how brave he was to attend this years reunion knowing that his illness was terminal it must have been very difficult for him as everyone was wishing him well and hoping to see him next year a true gentleman who will be sorely missed by all those who knew him. RIP Dave

---

message #: 711

Date: Wednesday December 2 2009 08:24:53 EST  
Name: Paddy Semple  
Email: contact@jackiesemple.com

Service Number: RMB 3868  
Hometown: Carrickfergus  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sad to learn of the passing of Huw (Taff) Morris. What a gentleman and such good company to be in. Spoke with him a few weeks ago on the telephone and as usual he talked as if nothing was wrong. He was a very brave man and I am so sad at his passing. I extend my sincere condolences to his family and friends. Peacefully sleeping after a courageous battle. Paddy.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 710

Date: Wednesday December 2 2009 06:57:33 EST  
Name: M Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
With reference to Ginge Deary's comments with regard to the frolics at the Cenotaph I can assure you all that no member of the RMBs that were present were involved in the stupidity as mentioned the people concerned were to our right and may have been at the rear of the Falklands veterans I cannot say whether this was in fact them or not but whoever they were showed a total disregard as to why they were there. As for our lads including me it would be fair to say we enjoyed our time in the time honoured tradition of Remembrance. May I finally say how good it was to have an ex PDM amongst us well done Chris Kings Badge in Beret as well.

---

message #: 709

Date: Wednesday December 2 2009 01:15:09 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: ALTO SAX/CLART VLN  
n/a:

Comments:  
May I send my most sincere condolences to the family and loved ones of Bob Loft it always comes as a shock to hear of old friends passing on. Bob was a friend who I served with on the Yacht for some years and I think some other drafts as well (I apologise for not being able to recall them) I remember he had a great sense of humour and an infectious laugh which I'm sure many who knew him will recall he was a fine alto sax player and all round musician and was well respected and liked by all in the band service. He was a true friend and will be missed very much by all who knew him and had the pleasure of being in his company. RIP Bob Jem

---

message #: 708

Date: Tuesday December 1 2009 16:45:20 EST  
Name: Steve Quirk  
Email:

Service Number: P031369C  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a:

Comments:  
I was saddened to hear the news about Huw (Taff) Morris. My condolences to his family. RIP Chum.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 707

Date: Tuesday December 1 2009 12:24:06 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email: french.horn@btopenworld.com

Service Number: RMB4336  
Hometown: Great Mongeham  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
Huw was a great Musician and a 1st Class Bandsman. I saw him only last month at his home in South Wales. A couple of weeks ago we decided to go to a MFM Concert in March 2010. Sadly Huw won't be there now but we'll be sure to raise a glass or two in his memory. Rest in Peace Chum.

---

message #: 706

Date: Tuesday December 1 2009 11:52:45 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury N. Somerset  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
At this sad time when two of our colleagues have crossed the Bar may I also add that my old friend and shipmate Don Peerless has recently lost his wife Mollie. Should anyone have details of funeral dates I would be most obliged if they would email me the details. Kind regards Bill.

---

message #: 705

Date: Tuesday December 1 2009 05:32:28 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston (was)  
Instrument/s: Clarinet (solo) Piano Vibe.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
To the family of dear Huw Morris. Although I never served with Huw we became good friends directly through my own best mate Tony Oliver. I believe that Huw was 'Best Man' at Tony's wedding. There are many accounts of our meeting and some are posted on my web site attributed to our brethren our brotherhood call it what you may. I am proud to say that in Huw I found a humble man always a pleasure to be with and my last meeting with him on this mortal coil was in Portsmouth at a reunion that surpassed all others particularly so because Huw had made the effort knowing that his time was closing in on him. My life was enriched by my knowing of him and of my enjoying his company. Rest and sleep with no further pain. We will never forget you dear friend. See you in the countermarch! Dickie.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 704

Date: Tuesday December 1 2009 05:17:10 EST  
Name: Irfon Higgins  
Email: ijhiggins@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 4323  
Hometown: Ammanford  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I visited Huw on Friday in hospital and could only hope that his suffering would not last too long Tony Oliver also visited over the weekend and spoke with him he was very upbeat to the end despite his obvious pain. I'll publish the funeral details when they are known in the meantime if anyone would like to pass on condolences to the family send me an e mail and I will ensure they get them. Taff H

---

message #: 703

Date: Tuesday December 1 2009 01:27:35 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: alto/clart/vln  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
May I extend my most sincere condolences to the family and loved ones of Huw Morris. I served with Huw on the Royal Yacht for many years and can say he was a most likable man with a great sense of humour he was well liked and respected and a good friend to all those who had the pleasure of knowing him. He was a fine horn player and a great asset to the band he will be sorely missed. Rest in Peace Huw Jem

---

message #: 702

Date: Monday November 30 2009 11:08:46 EST  
Name: len lewry  
Email: lenny.lewry@virgin.net

Service Number:  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: solo clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I am sad to pass on the news that Huw Morris passed away today 30 november 2009. Sadly missed. RIP.  
Len Lewry

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 701

Date: Sunday November 29 2009 15:41:38 EST  
Name: Ginge Deary  
Email: keith.deary@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMB3806  
Hometown: Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Cenotaph. If I have given the impression that those 'performing' at the Cenotaph were ex RMB's I apologise. I have no idea who was involved. Ginge.

---

message #: 700

Date: Sunday November 29 2009 06:31:02 EST  
Name: Ginge Deary  
Email: ginge.deary @ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMB3806  
Hometown: Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Cenotaph I believe this year was the first time ex RMB's have been invited to take part in the Remembrance Sunday parade. Unable to take part I watched as usual on TV. At one point while an old soldier was being interviewed by a TV presenter some of those taking part in the parade realising they were 'in shot' decided to 'perform' for the cameras. I feel these people were an embarrassment to themselves and their Corps or Regiment. No doubt those involved and many who weren't will disagree with me and try to excuse their behaviour as 'black humour' and say that the fallen would have appreciated it. I wonder how many of the bereaved enjoyed the levity? Call me old fashioned but I believe there is a time and place for everything. This particular time and place requires dignity and solemnity and the humour which I enjoy as much as anyone should be reserved for the bar afterwards. The Remembrance Parade is not a carnival. What next? Cheerleaders as eye candy? Ginge

---

message #: 699

Date: Friday November 27 2009 17:36:54 EST  
Name: Maxie  
Email:

Service Number: RMB X 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear friends I am so saddened to hear of the passing of BoB Loft we served together on the Yot and have many happy memories to Bobs family we send condolences and prayers sadly I will not be at the funeral but our thoughts will be with you all Gold on Blue Max and Katherine

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 698

Date: Thursday November 26 2009 20:04:28 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury N. Somerset  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Absolute shock horror at the news that another one of our small squad has crossed the bar. Only rekindled contact with Bob in 2003 so just gobsmacked that he is no longer with us. Condolences to his family. Will endeavour to attend funeral service if I am back in the UK in time. Bill Hartland

---

message #: 697

Date: Thursday November 26 2009 12:05:35 EST  
Name: Ed McDermott  
Email: edmcdrmtt@sky.com

Service Number: QOO4119X  
Hometown: Gosport  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piccolo/sax  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard. My dear serving and retired members of this great band service it is with a sad heart that I have to inform you all that at 08.00 this morning 26/11/09 Bob Loft passed away to join the ranks of that great Royal Marine Band where one day we will all go and make beautiful music for eternity. When I know more regarding the funeral arrangements I shall keep you all up dated. Ed(paddy)McDermott

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message #: 696

Date: Monday November 23 2009 18:22:18 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury N. Somerset  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just wish to convey my wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving Day seeing as I am in the USA again.... Yours aye Bill Hartland

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 695

Date: Thursday November 12 2009 12:52:24 EST  
Name: Dave Seed  
Email: dseed78739@aol.com

Service Number: RMB4084  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Flute/Sax  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Having not been able to see Jim Tombs for a while I was sad to hear from his son Stephen that he was back in hospital having had his two big toes amputated after they were diagnosed as being gangrenous. I visited him today and found him to be quite well though he admits to feeling tired he was worried that the gangrene would spread to his feet but so far all seems ok. It was his first day out of bed for over 2 weeks and hopefully he will be able to take a few steps over the next couple of days something he will need to do before they will allow him home. I will be visiting again soon and will let you know of any changes. Dave

---

message #: 694

Date: Thursday November 12 2009 05:17:55 EST  
Name: Herman(Nobby)Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford,Lincolnshire  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Hello Again Richard I also watched the Remembrance Service from Westminster Abbey yesterday and thought that the performance of the Sgt.Bugler was fantastic.Seems to me that whenever the powers that be need the services of 1st Class Buglers they always call on the Royal Marines.This is proved by their recent appearances at The Festival of Remembrance at the Albert Hall the Cenotaph Parade on Sunday and on many other recent occasions.The only way that other Regiments seem to be able to match them is by using a cornet player instead of a Bugler.This happens on many occasions and even then fails to match the performance of our lads.Well done to all the Royal Marine Buglers and the staff that train them. Regards to All.Herman(Nobby)Clarke.

---

message #: 693

Date: Wednesday November 11 2009 23:56:09 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Hullo Richard and all Having watched the remembrance service from Westminster Abbey yesterday morning I just wanted to mention the superb playing by the RM Sergeant Bugler;unfortunately I don't know his name or from which band he is serving.With just about the whole world watching he did a splendid performance and I hope someone out there will pass on my best wishes to him. Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 692

Date: Wednesday October 28 2009 05:49:32 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@googlemail.com

Service Number: RMB3645  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Fiddle  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

It's a bit after the event I know but I've been meaning to write here just to concur with Rich/Dickie to acknowledge & say big thanks to Ash' for his organisation of what was arguably the best RMB Reunion ever! If we could also get a message to the school Dir' of Music too that would be good for it was absolutely stunning. I've experienced hairs on the back of my neck before but never quite so much as this performance moved me. It was totally 1st class in all aspects. Musically it couldn't be faulted & as for the precision drill movements "Wiggy" you're a wonder !! Absolutely brilliant. A BIG big thanks & congrats to all involved from us all I'd say. My only criticism was the venue. For if it's to be the forerunner of how our reunions are going to be from now on then we need a much larger venue & certainly more bars & bar staff to cope with thirtsy ex bandy's! - You could barely move for bodies & around the bar it was impossible at times. 20 minutes to order a drink seemed an eternity when you're thirsty! The packed service was as ever yet another uplifting event with the orchestra choir & fanfare team - not forgetting the magnificent organist - all contributing to making it not so much a service but an event that contributed so greatly to the memory of all of those lads who lost their lives at Deal. They would have been proud to have been a part of such a wonderful occasion. - I felt very privileged to be there as an ex RMB I'm sure did many of you.

---

message #: 691

Date: Tuesday October 27 2009 04:16:55 EST  
Name: Tony Hunter (overton)  
Email: tonyhntr@aol.com

Service Number: RMB3999  
Hometown: Kennethmont Aberdeenshire  
Instrument/s: Cornet/violin  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Just read about Terry Freestone and would just like to send my best wishes for a speedy recovery and get well soon. Hope to see him at the Allstars concert in March. Tony.

---

message #: 690

Date: Friday October 23 2009 02:45:40 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: 1st Bass Drum/3rd Cymbal  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Dickie Just attended Dave Buchanans memorial service May I just say well done to Gary Powell for his organisation. I will always remember Daves smile he always appeared a happy chap. So long Drummie. Gary also managed to take a few photies and for all you bandies out there who suffered from the man at the front with the big pole a rare site was seen.....at least 7 former Drum Majors .....SMILING. Cheers Roy

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 689

Date: Wednesday October 14 2009 04:43:00 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@googlemail.com

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Fiddle  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
For everyone who knew him & can make it to his last goodbye this is to advise that George Sketcher's funeral will take place at Southampton Crematorium on Friday 16th October at 1140hrs. Family flowers only but donations can be made to Cancer Research UK via J Lawrence & Co Undertakers phone 023 8055 4801. Cheers all!  
Derek

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message #: 688

Date: Tuesday October 13 2009 10:33:43 EST  
Name: Richard  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet/Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello to all: Just a short note to express a feeling of satisfaction on behalf of many of us who attended the reunion last Saturday. Make no mistake! The whole organisation and combined with a band display that was second to none made for a truly perfect weekend. Record numbers and a huge vote of thanks to Ashley Williams and his team. You did us all very proud! Many of us came from far and wide and I must say that it was the best reunion ever since I realised many years ago just what I had been missing. Well done all those band officers who made it too. Let's keep up the momentum and see each other again next year. Thankyou Ashley and team once again. Dickie Valentine.

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message #: 687

Date: Tuesday October 13 2009 05:31:42 EST  
Name: Ginge Deary  
Email: keith.deary@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMB3806  
Hometown: Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet/Trumpet  
n/a:

Comments:  
In my search for Bob Bottomley I came across his last known address. I wrote to the occupant asking for information and have received this reply: 'After asking around the neighbours a few people have confirmed that Bob passed away a few years ago. His mother passed away about 12 years ago. I am not sure of the whereabouts of his sister Anne. I am sorry for the delay in getting back to you and also sorry I could not be of more help to you.'

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 686

Date: Thursday October 1 2009 16:42:04 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None anymore  
n/a:

Comments:  
May I on behalf of all exRMBs in the Antipodese pass on our best wishes to all those attending the coming reunion in Pompey. Eat drink and be merry etc. Perhaps in your discussions you may find time to mention that we too have a reunion in Adelaide that is well worth contemplating when you consider your next holiday.

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message #: 685

Date: Tuesday September 29 2009 04:30:54 EST  
Name: JEM TUGWOOD  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: ALTO/CLART /VLN.  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sad to hear of the passing of George Sketcher he joined up a little earlier than me but we were in boys wing together for 2 or 3 years. I have to say that although I knew George well (we were both in Neptune House) once I got rated I saw very little of him other than passing each other in the countermarch of massed band rehearsals and gigs. George always had a great sense of humour and together with being a fine instrumentalist on both Alto and Violin he would have been an asset to any band he joined. I offer my deepest condolences to his family friends and acquaintances he will be greatly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him Regards Jem

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message #: 684

Date: Monday September 28 2009 21:30:32 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend Mid Glamorgan  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard and all It is again sad news to hear about the passing on of another member of our family. George Sketcher was a member of the Staff Band at Deal with me in the '70's and he as I remember was a great friend of the late Phil Southwick. These are sad times but we will certainly remember George as another friend with a great sense of humour. He was a great saxophone player and violinist. My condolences to his family. Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 683

Date: Monday September 28 2009 19:11:52 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: marinetrumpet@googlemail.com

Service Number: RMB3645  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Fiddle  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Just heard today via Laurie Loveless the sad passing of yet another of our valued members George Sketcher. It's never easy to take on board such sad news & more particularly when it's someone that you've served with & at the time became very close to. Although I knew George from J Wing I guess I never got to know him properly until we served together for 2 & 1/2 years at Terror -Singapore & we had many a good time out there travelling to places far & wide & playing many a decent Dance Band gig together to supplement the overseas allowance !! However the earnings more often than not were recycled back into the profits of the Tiger brewery (like you did!!) Sadly - as was the case in those days - I never saw George again after that time. However I do know that he went on to become a very valued & fine musician in the Corps. - If I'd only known that he was living just up the road in Southampton I'd definitely have tried to catch up with him. Alas it's all too late now. Others I'm sure would have known him better than I & have stories to tell. Suffice to say we send our very best condolences to all of his family & may he now join the rest of our Massed Bands in perfect peace. RIP George.

---

message #: 682

Date: Monday September 28 2009 13:39:47 EST  
Name: Paul J. Snowball  
Email: Lnpcahouse@hotmail.com

Service Number: D144999S  
Hometown: Portland Dorset  
Instrument/s: Eb Bass  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Firstly allow me to apologise for the sheer barefaced cheek of this entry. I am ex Royal Navy and an Ex Blue Jacket Bandsman on EEb Bass having served under the batons of such venerable BCSGTs as John Odie Ben Robinson Rod Starr and Sid (who's name escapes me). Having left the Navy some 13 years ago I have worked on Cruise ships. Now I have become a landlubber again and joined a very nice local brass band. Now for the bare faced cheek bit! The band Lyme Regis Town Band only has a somewhat inferior Besson Sovereign EE Bass which bears no comparison in playability to the fine B&H Imperials and I was cheekily wondering if anyone here knows of any ex Bandsman who's EEb is gathering dust somewhere and wishes it to be given a good home? Besides apologising for my bare faced cheek I would also like to apologise if this request gives any offence as it is not my intention to do so. Finally I would be very interested to know what the gentlemen I served under are doing these days

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message #: 681

Date: Sunday September 27 2009 11:00:07 EST  
Name: Herman(Nobby)Clarke.  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe Lincolnshire.  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano.  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Hello to all ex RM.Band Members Past and Present I have (via E/emails)been talking to an old mate of mine Rodney Colborne.We joined up together in 1955 and were in the 1/55 Recruit Squad.Sadly neither he or I have a copy of this Squad photo and so we wondered if there is anyone out there who could help us find one.It is a bit of a slim chance I know but worth a try. Regards to all.Nobby.

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 680

Date: Saturday September 26 2009 17:41:33 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: None at this time.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just thought that I would mention the coming reunion of Ex RMBs in ADELAIDE on the last weekend in march 2010

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message #: 679

Date: Thursday September 24 2009 10:30:06 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard Went to hospital yesterday for consultation after my recent surgery. It would appear that the surgery has not bneen successful and there is nothing to be acheived by further surgery. So it is down to 'Pain Management' with regular visits to the pain clinic!! But I will be at the renion in in Portsmouth. So see you there Regards to all Barry

---

message #: 678

Date: Monday September 21 2009 13:29:28 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: rmb 3482  
Hometown: roquetas de mar. Spain  
Instrument/s: bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
It is Twenty Years since the lads marched away. Blown away on that terrible day. They were members of this Royal Corps. Their names will live for ever more. AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN. AND IN THE MORNING. WE WILL REMEMBER THEM. RIP LADS.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 677

Date: Sunday September 20 2009 12:45:31 EST  
Name: Pete Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX2902  
Hometown: Par Cornwall  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Does anyone know the whereabouts of Tony Go Gough or Mac Macdonald oboe player last seen working for wrigleys in Plymouth. Any information would be appreciated Cheers Pete.

---

message #: 676

Date: Friday September 18 2009 11:33:50 EST  
Name: Kevin Vickers  
Email: k.vickers1@sky.com

Service Number: RMB3423  
Hometown: South Brent  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
I am so sorry to hear of the death the Erick Parker. We joined up together on 12 May 1955 and from day one Erick always kept us amused with his sense of humour. After New Entries we stayed together in Gloucester House. It was always a pleasure to meet him later and he will be sadly missed. Please pass our condolences to Erick's family we will keep them in our prayers. Kevin and Penny Vickers

---

message #: 675

Date: Friday September 18 2009 04:42:43 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard Seeing Nobby's photo of No 26 C.G.Squad made me think. I have never seen a photo of mine!!! I was in C.G. Squad No 27. If anyone out there has a copy would it be possible to e mail me a copy. Please. After all these years it would be very interesting. Back to hospital next week for a review after my latest surgery. Saddened to read the news regarding Eek Parker. My memories of him are only good. Yet another great guy joins the 'Big Bandroom in the Sky' . Regards to all Barry

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 674

Date: Tuesday September 15 2009 12:09:45 EST  
Name: Pete Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@ntlworld.com

Service Number: Rmbx 2902  
Hometown: Par Cornwall  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Just like to say how sad I was to hear of the passing of Neff Collins he was best man at my wedding and had many friends in the old Plymouth Band. While in the Plymouth band he used to drive a Triumph TR3 and on more than one occasion was given free petrol because of his remarkable likeness to Stirling Moss. He just smiled and said thank you very much typical bandy. Rest in peace dear friend you will never be forgotten. Cheers Pete Westaway

---

message #: 673

Date: Tuesday September 15 2009 09:55:32 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi Richard. I am saddened to read that EEK (Eric) Parker has passed away. We served together in HQ3rd Commando Band Singapore in the 60s and he was always the life and soul of numerous parties that was part of the social life in Singapore also a great guy to know who will be sadly missed by one and all. Rest in peace Buddy. My Deepest condolences to Erics Family. Fondest regards. Sid

---

message #: 672

Date: Tuesday September 15 2009 08:12:03 EST  
Name: Jim Kay  
Email: hamish.kay@ntlworld.com

Service Number: R.M.B.3467  
Hometown: Nettleham Lincs.  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:

What a shock to log on to the site and read that Eek Parker had passed away. I was talking to him on the telephone only a few weeks ago. He had been so supportive to me in my lowest times since my wife died and I shall be very grateful to him for ever in that regard. Unfortunately I shall be out of the country from 21st. and cannot attend the funeral. But my thoughts and condolences are with his family at this very sad time.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 671

Date: Saturday September 12 2009 13:59:53 EST  
Name: Glyn Oremek  
Email: littlefado@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3416  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Sax/ clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
On behalf of my wife & myself I would like to say how very sorry we are to hear of the passing of an old mate Eric ( Eek ) Parker our deepest condolences to all his love ones. Glyn & Rachael Oremek.

---

message #: 670

Date: Saturday September 12 2009 10:31:10 EST  
Name: Merv Durrant (Bilko)  
Email: mervcd3518@gmail.com

Service Number: QOO3518L  
Hometown: Ropley Hants  
Instrument/s: Pantec/Coach/Broom  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dicky Just to let you know that I have today spoken to Nigel Parker. Erick's funeral will be held at St Mary's Anglican Church Old Town Eastbourne (next door to the Lamb Public House) on Wednesday 23rd September At 12 noon. Anyone who wishes to attend will be most welcome. Regards Merv

---

message #: 669

Date: Friday September 11 2009 14:10:35 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: irrelevant at this time  
Hometown: anywhere  
Instrument/s: oh.....come on!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hullo Richard I have been in touch with Nigel Parker the son of Erick and he rang me last night asking if you could place his telephone number on the guestbook page in case anyone who remembers Erick may want to get in touch by phone. His number in Eastbourne is: 01323 645529 Thanks mate Mike Jones

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 668

Date: Friday September 11 2009 10:46:42 EST  
Name: Herman(Nobby)Clarke.  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk.

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello Richard Was very very shocked to hear of the passing of Eric Parker.I was only reading of his visit to the grave side of Col.Dunn on the site just yesterday and he had recently thanked me for sending in the photo of 28th C.S.Squad of which he and I were members.He was a great help to my wife and I when we arrived in Singapore to join the 3rd Commando Brigade Band at that time the Bandmaster being Pete Laurence.Another great guy who will be sadly missed but never forgotten. Rest in Peace old mate.Nobby.

---

message #: 667

Date: Thursday September 10 2009 18:31:45 EST  
Name: bob Chumley  
Email:

Service Number: Rmbx 3195  
Hometown: Adelaide  
Instrument/s: Euph Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear all Anyone who has had a drink or two or know Dave Mullan might like to contact him as he has been on the sick list for awhile and would like to hear from anyone who knew him e-mail liz@lizmullan.wanadoo.co.uk cheers bob

---

message #: 666

Date: Thursday September 10 2009 06:45:46 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard and all I am so sorry to have heard the news of Erick (Eek) Parker's passing on. He had only recently sent me an email "blonde joke" a day or two before. Erick will be remembered as one with a real sense of humour and especially the days at Deal in the early 70's when when we served together with the RMSM Band. RIP Erick very dear friend. Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 665

Date: Saturday August 29 2009 03:47:07 EST  
Name: Steve Tancock  
Email: ST9024@AOL.COM

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi I am trying to get in touch with Duncan Newman who was injured in the Deal Bombing on behalf of one of the fire fighters who helped in his rescue if anyone knows him could you please either let me know via the e-mail address above or ask Duncan to contact me direct. Thank You Steve Tancock Kent Fire and Rescue Service

---

message #: 664

Date: Saturday August 22 2009 08:49:54 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND  
Instrument/s: Ctl/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard With reference to Keith Deary's request of the whereabouts of an old chum Bob Bottomley I would also like to add again Henry Monaghan and Mick Bonner. It's a little odd that these great friends of ours have not been seen or heard of for years! If you are out there guys.....please get in touch! Mike.

---

message #: 663

Date: Monday August 10 2009 07:06:55 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email: french.horn@btopenworld.com

Service Number: RMB4336  
Hometown: Great Mongeham  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
I am told by Wally Walters that Bob Baker's Funeral Service will be held at 1400 on Tuesday 25th August 2009 at St George's Church Deal followed by Cremation at Barham. I am honoured to have been asked to play the Last Post & Reveille. Whilst writing Bob took a group of us from J/Wing up to Lords to watch England v Australia in the early 1970's. The cricket finished early so Bob encouraged us to spend some time seeing the 'sites' of London. And on that note I'll say no more about what we saw! RIP Bob.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 662

Date: Sunday August 9 2009 13:43:21 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a:

Comments:  
To Rose and her Family. May I offer my deep condolences on hearing the sad news that Bob has passed away. My thoughts and Prayers are with you at this sad time. Sid

---

message #: 661

Date: Sunday August 9 2009 06:24:09 EST  
Name: Ed McDermott  
Email: edmcdermott@sky.com

Service Number: Q004119X  
Hometown: Gosport  
Instrument/s: Flt/Picc/Sax  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sad to hear of the passing of Bob. I was proud and thankful to have served with Bob when FOF3 band was formed at Deal in 1979 and as he had served on board her in the 60s he was able to show the band the right way to do things. As many members will state he was a gentleman of the first order a friend and in bandy language a smashing run ashore. Thank you Bob for all you did for me and the RM Band Service Rest in Peace.

---

message #: 660

Date: Friday August 7 2009 10:05:10 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard Saddened to read the news regarding Bob Baker. Another great guy who has left us prematurely. Bob was in Eagle House same time as I was we played cricket together in the 'Boys Team'. Heather and I pass on our condolences to his family. Bob will be sorely missed. Regards to all Barry

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 659

Date: Friday August 7 2009 06:40:08 EST  
Name: Rod Williamson  
Email: r.williamson500@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3491  
Hometown: Whitstable Kent  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a:

**Comments:**

What sad news to hear about Bob Baker. I knew him from J Wing days where he shone in any sport he took up from rugby cricket snooker etc. an interest he carried on in later life as an excellent golfer and bowls player. He justified the title of 'gentleman' as he was always helpful and I never heard him have a bad word to say about anyone. We were on the same BMs course along with Dave Cole and Dick Waterer et al. and Bob and Rose were so kind to me as I was an inlier for the first part of the course until my family were able to join me. We had some interesting sounding discussions as I never lost my Northern accent and he never lost his West Country accent! My sincere condolences to his wife Rose Christopher and Susan and all the extended family. He will be sorely missed. RIP Bob Rodney

---

message #: 658

Date: Friday August 7 2009 06:12:54 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB(QOO)3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

**Comments:**

So So sad to hear of the passing of my dear friend Bob Baker like Herman Clarke I to was with Bob on the Hermes first commission in 1960. I only spoke to his dear wife at the concert in Deal a couple of weeks ago and she told me of his condition and now he is gone to the ever growing massed band in the sky. My most sincere condolences to his wife and all of his family and to those who had the pleasure of and knowing and serving with him in the great family that is the RMB. BOB BAKER RIP .

---

message #: 657

Date: Friday August 7 2009 05:15:25 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe. Lincolnshire.  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano.  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hello Richard I was informed by Chris the son of my old Hermes shipmate Bob Baker that his father passed away in his sleep at 16.45hrs yesterday (Thursday). All of his immediate family were there with him at the time. As his son said at least all Bob's pain and suffering is now over. I for one have some fond memories of time served on the Hermes with Bob which was I think the first ship we had after being rated from RMSM. Deal. in the late 50's early 60's. My thoughts and prayers go out to the family. Nobby.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 656

Date: Thursday August 6 2009 19:28:03 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Onetime Bassoon Holder  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard Some good news for a change. Please let it be known that Capt Tom Lambert RM MVO LRAM ARCM and his lovely lady wife Marge on the 6th of August 2009 celebrated their DIAMOND Wedding anniversary. I think that congratulations are forthcoming on this momentous occasion.

---

message #: 655

Date: Wednesday August 5 2009 07:02:12 EST  
Name: Ginge Deary  
Email: ginge.deary@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMB3806  
Hometown: Folkestone  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I would be very grateful for any information about an old 'oppo' Bob Bottomley. We lost touch many years ago.

---

message #: 654

Date: Saturday August 1 2009 16:41:39 EST  
Name: Julian Best  
Email: julianbest@btopenworld.com

Service Number: D/SKX903128  
Hometown: Kidwelly  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
I don't know if I am welcome to sign this Guestbook with a question but here goes. I served on H.M.S. Devonshire 1951-53 and remember that the signature tune that the RMB played when entering harbour and I also think it was played on special occasions was "To be a farmers boy" What I would like to know is Was it actually a signature tune for the Devonshire and if so have all ships got their own signature tune. Many thanks. Julian Best.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 653

Date: Saturday July 25 2009 03:19:36 EST  
Name: Irfon Taff Higgins  
Email: ijhiggins@aol.com

Service Number: 4323  
Hometown: Ammanford  
Instrument/s: Alto  
n/a:

Comments:  
If anyone would like to pass on messages of goodwill to Huw you can send them to me and I'll print them off and take them to him as he does not have access to the web. He has this week started his second course of chemo in tablet form and sees the specialist next Friday.

---

message #: 652

Date: Thursday July 23 2009 12:05:00 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Bassoonish/1st Bass Drum/3rd Cymbal  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dickie So sorry to hear about Huw Morris if you're reading this Taff you'll beat it. Good luck Chum Roy

---

message #: 651

Date: Tuesday July 14 2009 14:10:51 EST  
Name: Tony (Ollie ) Oliver  
Email: anthonyoliver@fsmail.net

Service Number: 3975  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Taff (Huw) Morris french horn still serving with Pompey Band but on sick leave has been diagnosed with inoperable Pancreatic Cancer. He is currently with his family in Wales and receiving chemotherapy. He attended the Deal concert this week end being taken there by Irfon (taff) Higgins. Although very ill he was in fine form and determined to carry on the fight. Good luck dear friend.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 650

Date: Sunday July 12 2009 05:31:59 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambfam@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB 3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: solo clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I have just heard on my grapevine that Huw Morris (french horn) is not well. Can anybody help me with contact details for him. Many thanks in advance Dave Lambert

---

message #: 649

Date: Tuesday June 30 2009 23:52:29 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawly2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND  
Instrument/s: Ctl/Vln/Pno  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hullo Richard Re my previous letter and Steve Race I made a slight error in stating the programme was "My Music" when thanks to Michael Hutton's good memory the programme was of course "It Strikes a Chord"! Apologies for the error. Must be an age thing! Mike.

---

message #: 648

Date: Tuesday June 23 2009 03:05:43 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawly2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND  
Instrument/s: Ctl/Vln/Pno  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hullo Richard I have just heard on the radio this morning the sad news that Steve Race has passed away. For many years he chaired the BBC radio programme "My Music"! There was the one occasion when this came from Canada Road Concert Hall Deal I think it was in 1968 during the time I was attending the Band Corporal's Music Course as it was then. The one name on the panel I remember was Earnest Tomlinson. Happy memories! Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 647

Date: Monday June 22 2009 13:39:35 EST  
Name: Dave Seed  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4084  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Flute/Tenor Sax  
n/a:

Comments:  
Went to visit Jim Tombs in hospital this afternoon he has been in for about 4 weeks admitted after a dizzy spell at home. Everthing seems to be on the up and he is walking again just a few steps but good enough for him to be allowed home sometime over the next week any messages I will be glad to pass on when I visit him again. Dave

---

message #: 646

Date: Monday June 22 2009 07:09:48 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard Had a chat with Wendy Hargreaves yesterday under the circumstances she seems to be coping reasonably well. Wendy once again asked me to pass on her thanks for all the cards and messages she has received these past few weeks. They have been a great help to her and she is honestly amazed they have come from far and wide. Anyone still wishing to send a donation to Haylands Home for Retired Gentlemen all amounts will be welcome. I am being admitted to hospital for my operation early tomorrow.(After last weeks blip!!) I will be in touch when I get back home. Regards to all Barry

---

message #: 645

Date: Sunday June 14 2009 12:25:25 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Great Mongeham  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
I have sent Eric's details to David Julian.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 644

Date: Saturday June 13 2009 09:28:38 EST  
Name: David Julian  
Email: sandanrm@hotmail.com

Service Number: PO22311J  
Hometown: Lincolnshire  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Am trying to contact an Musn Eric Austin (French Horn) would appreciate any help. 1966-1975 not seen 34 years. Thankyou

---

message #: 643

Date: Saturday June 13 2009 07:20:58 EST  
Name: Andy Wright  
Email: wright772@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi All please spare a moment to remember my father Richard 'shiner'Wright who passed away one year ago today.  
Fondest regards Andy Wright

---

message #: 642

Date: Friday June 12 2009 13:40:24 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard - Just returned from attending John (Gunner) Hargreaves' funeral. John was given a great send off the family of the 'Royal Marine Band Service' being well represented by Paul Neville Michael and Maureen Hutton George and Marion Simpson Stan Thomas David Hough Merv Durrant and Heather and I. Music was courtesy of 'Festival of the Sea' CD issued 1997 A life on the Ocean Wave Evening Hymn and Sunset H.M. Jollies. George Simpson portrayed his memories of John from 1956 - 2009. Members of Staff and patients from 'Haylands' also attended family and friends. We all moved on to the 'Old Hall' for some liquid refreshment and buffet. Despite the sorrow of losing John it was a happy occasion and as always when 2 or more 'Bandies' are together many recollections and tales were told! Wendy was thrilled and was amazed at the length of journeys people had made to be there. But we are like that. Aren't we? For Heather and I the journey was short. John will missed so very much I had got used to popping over to see him but I have many 'Happy Memories' and John is no longer in pain. Cheers John. "Thanks for the memories". Many thanks for all your messages and cards received by Wendy. Barry and Heather Radford

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 641

Date: Tuesday June 9 2009 09:13:12 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a:

Comments:

Dear Richard To echo some of the comments which Eric Hayward has made about the late Errol Flynn. I too recall him only too well as he was a maestro musician who was the Bain of FVD's life I am sure albeit that Fred gave him some fantastic opportunities to excel on the Piano and Harp. Trouble was Errol along with the likes of Doc Wye used to wind up the D.I.'s something rotten and then we all had it in the neck with extra drill and kit musters flying thick and fast. RSM Franks and Adjutants Blood and Roberts were the most unlikely targets of Errol's wit. Sad that Errol himself didn't maintain contact with many of us underlings but still he was one of us despite all that. Once a Marine? Yes even for Errol.

---

message #: 640

Date: Monday June 8 2009 11:30:47 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX 2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:

Have been away in Cornwall for a week so missed the sad news about 'Gunner' but Barry did ring to let me know. Another of our great family has gone - he loved the Band Service as it was his family till the year he left. He attended many reunions in Deal and some in Portsmouth wearing his medals with pride so was always part of the great RMB. I saw him just a couple of days before he died and although he was very ill he still had a few words of love and friendship before I left him. Our thoughts are with Wendy and I hope there will be many friends at his funeral to give him a good send off. Michael.

---

message #: 639

Date: Sunday June 7 2009 10:18:24 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi Richard Re John (Gunner) Hargreaves. I managed to get over to see Wendy on Friday. She is deeply touched by the many cards she has received to date. Wendy is coping as well as can be expected she has got some excellent neighbours who are guiding her through all the things she has to do. I asked Wendy about flowers and she would prefer just Family Flowers but if anyone would like to send a donation to Haylands Home (who have cared for John these past years) Wendy would be grateful. Postal Address - Haylands Home for Gentleman 93 Crofts Bank Road Urmston M41 0US. Regards to all Barry

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 638

Date: Friday June 5 2009 20:28:18 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi Richard Re your notice headed "Remember Patrick Flynn". Well I suppose that I am at least one of 200 plus band boys at RMSM during the years '51 to '55 who would remember him and many are the stories we could tell . But the saying is that you should not speak ill of the dead. I participated in many hours of extra drill with him and endured many more because of him. He was in his own words the best musician ever heard of and his ego obviously never left him. One thing that he always omitted from his CV was the fact that he was trained at the RMSM where the said Casell prize was in fact awarded. Others may wish to add to this but I somehow think that he was not that popular a chap to warrant the time. I also tried to contact him on several occasions and although the emails to him were not bounced back he never chose to answer. Ego Arrogance or Ignorance you choose.

---

message #: 637

Date: Friday June 5 2009 09:32:35 EST  
Name: Charlie Laws  
Email: charles@charleslaws.wanadoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3057  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Water Polo Ball and Coach  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I am sorry to hear of the passing of John (Gunner) Hargreaves I had the pleasure of serving with him on HMS Lion he was the Band Sergeant and a very good one we had some great times ashore too. My condolences to his family. Rest in Peace.

---

message #: 636

Date: Friday June 5 2009 05:45:29 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hullo Richard and all The arrangements for the funeral of the late Terry Bishopp are as follows:  
Friday 12th June 2009 - firstly at St Margaret's Church Crynant near Neath at 1315hrs. This followed by the cremation at Margam Crematorium at 1430hrs. This is the information I have received from Terry's wife Jeanine this morning Friday 5th June. Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 635

Date: Thursday June 4 2009 14:04:21 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard - Arrangements for the funeral of - John (Gunner)  
Hargreaves will take place at -Altringham Crematorium White House Lane Dunham Massey Altringham Cheshire WA14 5RH.  
Friday June 12th. At 1500 hrs. If anyone will be  
attending would you please let me know numbers for 'Pie and Pint' afterwards!! On behalf of Wendy many thanks  
for all the Emails I have received and passed on they are all greatly appreciated. Kinds regards Barry

---

message #: 634

Date: Wednesday June 3 2009 16:19:45 EST  
Name: Jim Mason  
Email: j.mason30@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2353  
Hometown: Havant  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Sad news about "Gunner" Hargreaves one of the first persons that I met on joining the Band Service. He was my Section  
Leader at Howstrake Camp (98 Squad the last squad to join in the Isle of Man) We learnt a lot from him about the ways  
of the Band Service - and how to avoid the pitfalls! We met up again at various times and places around the world and  
the last time was at a reunion in Portsmouth after retirement. He was always a well respected player and an ideal  
messmate. Condolences to Wendy and all his family and friends. He will be rememberd with affection by a lot of people.

---

message #: 633

Date: Wednesday June 3 2009 09:25:25 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB(QOO3482R)  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Well the day does not get any better my condolences to Jeanine the wife of Terry Bishop and to all other members of  
his family. I had the pleasure of serving with Terry and his brother Geoff during my time at Eastney and at whilst at  
Chatham with the fleet band. Terry met Jeanine whilst we were on trip to Ghent for the massive flower show they have  
there we were on the RFA Engerdine a little story here. One day just after Terry and Jeanine had met she decided that  
she would come on board and ask for Terry there was a large scottish person on the gangway at this time who made the  
pipe would MAGICIAN Bishop please come to the gangway were he has a visitor well we did laugh. Terry and his brother  
were local lads to Deal they used to live in Wingham where their parents had a shop a drapers if I remember correctly  
it was opposite the Black Dog public house. Again my thoughts are with Jeanine and the rest of his family and with you  
all who had the pleasure of knowing and serving with him. TERRY BISHOP RIP.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 632

Date: Wednesday June 3 2009 07:46:49 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB(QOO3482R)  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:

What a sad day. My condolences to Wendy the wife of my great friend John(Gunner) Hargreaves who passed away yesterday. I like many of you had known John man and boy. He was an instructor in the wing when I was there he also ran the boys football teams in fact John seemed to be involved in all things good. He had a deep and undying love for Manchester United and I am sure he shed a tear or to last week when they lost to Barcelona just as he did back in 1958 when I came across him crying as he left what was then the Cpls club next to galley in North barracks he had just heard the news of the aircrash and boy was he crying. Once again my thoughts are with all of his family at this time and with all of you in the RMB who knew and loved John like I did. RIP JOHN.

---

message #: 631

Date: Tuesday June 2 2009 17:12:29 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi Richard Re - John (GUNNER) Hargreaves Sad news I have to give. I had a call from Wendy telling me that John passed away this evening 2nd June at approx 2000 hrs. Soon as I have any further news or details. I will let you know. Kind regards Barry

---

message #: 630

Date: Tuesday June 2 2009 08:30:05 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: CLART/ALTO/VIOLIN  
n/a:

Comments:

It is with great sadnest that I learnt of the death of Terry Bishop it's many years (30 )since we last met and although my memory is rather vague I remember him as being gentle warm always reliable and "really nice bloke" he was I think slightly older than me but a great guy to have as a friend. I served with him at Eastney and recall he had a great sense of humour and was a great run ashore oppo to. He will be sadly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him I send my deepest and sincere condolences to his family and friends at this very sad time Rest in peace Tel Jem

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 629

Date: Monday June 1 2009 06:16:20 EST  
Name: Tommo 2  
Email:

Service Number: RM26593  
Hometown: Melbourne Australia  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sorry to hear about Terry I served with the  
Bishops in Chatham Band. My deepest sympathy to his family. RIP Terry Tommo 2

---

message #: 628

Date: Monday June 1 2009 04:48:42 EST  
Name: Maxie Beare  
Email:

Service Number: RMB x 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I am deeply saddened by the news of Terrys untimely passing my word this is scary it was only last week I wrote as  
Terry being a newcomer to the net just wanted to be one of us. We served in Pompy together and his last wish to me  
that he could meet up with his brother My condolences to the family and Rest in peace old friend you will be  
remembered always Bernard S Maxie Beare

---

message #: 627

Date: Monday June 1 2009 03:48:20 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Such very sad news the death of Terry Bishopp even more so as Sheila and I were down that way last week and forgot  
our address book. Terry and I were on "Tiger" 61-63 and had some great runs ashore in Hong Kong. Our thoughts are with  
Jeanine at this time. Rest in peace my Good Friend.....Noel & Sheila Crook

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 626

Date: Monday June 1 2009 02:12:27 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hullo Richard and all It is with regret and deep sadness that I have to announce the death of Terry Bishopp. On Saturday early morning at about 0620 whilst he was out cycling he was in a head on collision with a BMW at Banwen not far from his home in Crynant Neath. It was as a result of a phone call I made on Saturday morning that Jeanine Terry's wife gave me this news. It has been some years now since the Bishopp's moved out of Kent to south Wales and I have been fortunate to have them visit me and I in return to visit them. May he rest in peace. Mike.

---

message #: 625

Date: Sunday May 31 2009 16:51:55 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX 2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi everyone...Earlier today Sunday I looked in on John Gunner Hargreaves who is quite poorly with throat cancer and resides in Haylands Home for Gentlemen 93 Crofts Bank Road URMSTON. M41 0US. He has been very ill and needs visits from anyone who knows him even if its only for a short time. He is very abrupt when you first get into his room but once you have made yourself known he will be very glad to see any of you. Anyone in the Manchester area would be welcome and if you live further away then please make the effort to pop in and visit him. Best wishes to all past members and serving boys & girls. Michael .

---

message #: 624

Date: Sunday May 31 2009 14:09:29 EST  
Name: westaway  
Email: Peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: Rmbx 2902  
Hometown: Par.  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hello Dickie I was amazed and a little dismayed at the response to Alan Cameron Thompson better known as Ginge. His sister received the only response from me. Ginge was a clarinet player on the Ark Royal when I was the bandmaster. I sent a photo of him when we were guests at the playboy club in Fort Lauderdale which raised a few smiles from his family. He was a great member of the band a good messmate and always had a smile for everyone. Come on Ex Ark Royal band surely I am not the only bandsman to remember such a respected and well loved member of our club? Cheers Pete.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 623

Date: Wednesday May 27 2009 10:41:42 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard Just been reading the tributes to Wally Hibbert. The reason for his moderately junior RMB Number could be due to the fact that he actually left the Band Service and then rejoined at a later date Regards to all Barry

---

message #: 622

Date: Saturday May 23 2009 14:13:12 EST  
Name: Jim Mason  
Email: j.mason30@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2353  
Hometown: Havant  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sorry to hear about Wally Hibbert many memories of Wally as a player a first class pianist and flautist - and very reliable. As well as his expertise as a musician he had other great qualities - when not playing he was often to be found up to the elbows in oil sorting out the workings of a car engine- where he was also an expert and there are many musicians who were grateful for his assistance in helping to maintain there vehicles! Condolences to all his family.

---

message #: 621

Date: Thursday May 21 2009 03:47:34 EST  
Name: JEM TUGWOOD  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: ALTO/CLART/VIOLIN  
n/a:

Comments:  
I'm saddened to hear of the passing of an old friend Wally Hibbert I had the pleasure of serving with him for a number of years on the yacht he was a fine pianist and a great asset to any band let alone the Royal Yacht. He was a musician that could be relied upon at all times especially on the Yacht for the Royal's dinner parties back aft I'm sure Jim Mason and Tom Lambert will have several anecdotes relating to Wally they might want to remember him by he will be greatly missed. I had the pleasure of meeting and talking to him him only last year at the reunion and I send my heartfelt condolences to his family and friends at this sad time Rest in Peace Wally Jem

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 620

Date: Wednesday May 20 2009 21:03:31 EST  
Name: Bernard S Maxie Beare  
Email:

Service Number: RMB x 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I am saddened at the news of the passing of my old gigging mate Wally Hibbert we had many great times together all through MUSIC Katherine and I send condolences to Anne and the Family so dear Friend rest in peace sleep well never to be forgotten Max

---

message #: 619

Date: Wednesday May 20 2009 11:33:45 EST  
Name: lee &#34;scruff&#34; rendell  
Email: leerendell72@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: cant find it ex LI though so not navy sorry  
Hometown: axminster  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
I had the pleasure of working with your chaps from norton manor while i was working for taunton leisure in taunton as a climbing advisor and have recently lost a dear friend of mine to a breakdown he was ex-navy and from what he told me about the way the world is and what is really going on it saddens me greatly to see you chaps been asked to be in harms way in a dusty godforribidden far away place just to protect the intrests of a few elite oil familys i for one am appalled that you should be asked to do this. All of of your chaps I had the pleasure to meet were ultra professional polite and plesant it breaks my heart everytime I hear on the radio you have lost someone else in afghan. there is a guy in the US trying to get the truth out he's called Alex Jones his website is infowars.com hes ex-forces too visit it with an open mind he is very passionate that people are not put in harms way for the wrong reason if you feel you can help in that cause send him an email there are some very sinister forces at work here and i dont belive we should another single person for them. The deepest respect

---

message #: 618

Date: Monday May 18 2009 19:36:44 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon (but not now)  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I note that Alan Thomson has not as yet been included on the Sunset list. Is there a particular reason for this? Also the photo of Ralph Payne's squad on the Notice Board is named as his CG Squad. In 1941 there was no such thing as a CG squad. They only came into being after the RMSM moved to Deal in 1950. Please feel free to correct me if I am wrong.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 617

Date: Saturday May 16 2009 05:00:55 EST  
Name: Dave Seed  
Email: dseed78739@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 4084  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Flute/Tenor Sax  
n/a:

Comments:  
Went to see Jim Tombs again yesterday although bedbound he is in good spirits. Re Jim's photo's I put on the site I have had a reply from Ginge Watts re two of the photo's but still no names for the two main groups the photo's are in the miscellaneous section under "Jim Tomb's memories" if you can put any names to faces Jim would appreciate it.  
Regards Dave

---

message #: 616

Date: Thursday May 14 2009 05:04:28 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard Went to see John Hargreaves again yesterday. Met up with Stan Thomas. (So it was a Euph and Cello mini reunion!!) John was in bed yesterday past few visits he has been in the lounge. He was very low and feeling quite morbid. (Must have been the shock of seeing Stan and I at the same time!!). He really does appreciate people keeping in touch and the visits he has had of late. I try to get over every couple of weeks. Anyone who does live in the area and can get over to Urmston visits would be appreciated. Regards to all Barry

---

message #: 615

Date: Sunday May 10 2009 23:11:41 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND  
Instrument/s: Ctl/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard I spoke to 'Vic' Sylvester on the phone a few days ago and was told that he had suffered a minor stroke and was feeling numb down one side of his body. He still has his sense of humour despite this recent set back and asked me to pass on his best wishes to all who remember him. Regards to you and all. Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 614

Date: Tuesday May 5 2009 17:34:55 EST  
Name: Alan Cameron Thomson  
Email: ee.flynn@hotmail

Service Number:  
Hometown: Bletchley  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Can anyone help my brother Alan Thomson was a Royal Marine Bandsman who served on the Ark Royal dont know much more. Sadly he passed away last thursday April 30th April. We would like to find out more of his time in service. You can contact me on ee.flynn@hotmail.com Sadly i dont know his service number but i do know he recorded an LP with the rest of the band in Deal in 1970 which we have given to his wife. He played the clarinet. Sorry I cant give any more info can i just thank you in advance for any help received thanks Eileen Flynn

---

message #: 613

Date: Monday May 4 2009 09:28:54 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
The date has come around again I will get only one. 60 years ago today that I joined the Royal Naval School of Music at Burford. Great to read the website and all that is going on with so many friends. Best wishes to every one Noel Crook

---

message #: 612

Date: Thursday April 30 2009 14:54:44 EST  
Name: Kelly Moody  
Email: ksryder@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello all It's Paul Moody's daughter here. I've been going through some of dad's old bits and pieces and found his service records he was pension from band in 1981 but the last record was about being a VBI? It said in his records 'posted as a VBI for the first time in his career' could anyone tell me what this means? Could it be a Voluntary Band placement? I have attached a link to my facebook account which has some photo's of dad during his band days if anyone could give me some names to the other men.. it would be great to pass some of these photos on to them. <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#album.php?aid=22510&id=1313397796> Kind regards Kelly

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 611

Date: Wednesday April 29 2009 20:15:25 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aonet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon (but not now)  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard Just to let you know that arrangements are well under way for the next reunion "DOWN UNDER" on the weekend of 26th 27th and 28th March 2010. Accommodation for those who need it is at the Glenelg Motel Tapleys Hill Rd Glenelg Adelaide South Australia. This is also the venue for the Friday night meet and greet and the Sunday BBQ. As this will be a busy time of the year it would be good if those who think of attending could just let me know. Prices will be provided but are the same as '09s. More reminders later. Cheers Eric.

---

message #: 610

Date: Wednesday April 29 2009 12:21:16 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard Popped over to see John (Gunner) Hargreaves today I thought he looked ok and he was quite 'Chirpy' (under the circumstances!!). Michael Hutton had been in to see him on Monday and he was chuffed about that. John sends his regards to all and says "if anyone his in the area he would be pleased to see you". I am due at hospital on 20th May for all pre-op examinations then due in 16th June for surgery!! Regards to all Barry

---

message #: 609

Date: Tuesday April 28 2009 05:40:15 EST  
Name: Bernard S Maxie Beare  
Email:

Service Number: RMB x 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I am saddened to hear of the passing of Dan O'Connell it was only a couple of weeks ago we communicated and I had no idea he was sick in any way if any one has any details please let me know. Burford remains a happy memory for us both. I've written to the family Rest in Peace Dan. Maxie

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 608

Date: Tuesday April 21 2009 15:36:30 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello Richard Just to say thank you for adding all of those pictures to the Adelaide Report by Maxie Beare (didn't he do well?) and for giving due credit to John Meir who captured most of the pictures despite having problems with his hands. I am sure you and any others who care to venture down under next year will be made most welcome and the Motel and other facilities are very good and the Hosts of the Motel really looked after us all in my case even driving me to the airport to collect my hire car for my tour of the Hartland Division.... Thanks again. Kind regards Bill.

---

message #: 607

Date: Tuesday April 21 2009 09:33:45 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard and all It is with deep regret to inform you that Lt General Sir Martin Garrod died on Friday 17th April 2009. I received this info from Keith Deary yesterday. Sir Martin was as a Lieutenant RM our Housemaster in those great days in "J" Wing in the early 60's. I also understand from Keith that a thanksgiving service for Sir Martin will be held at St Mary's Church Walmer on the 30th April. May he rest in peace. Mike.

---

message #: 606

Date: Tuesday April 21 2009 08:47:48 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: CLART/ALTO /VIOLIN  
n/a:

Comments:  
Sorry to hear the sad news about the passing of Lt Gen Garrod if my memory serves me right I believe he was a House Master of Neptune back in the late 50's early 60's or was that Brigadier Thompson of Falklands fame?  
Regards Jem

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 605

Date: Monday April 20 2009 12:45:12 EST  
Name: Pete Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX2902  
Hometown: Par  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hello everyone just a very quick note on the WCR. which took place on Saturday 82 people attended and a full report will be posted shortly. Next year there is to be a mini golf tournament for ex bandsmen run by Gary Pumford. The reason for this short note if you are considering attending book your accommodation now. The venue gets very busy several of those who attended have booked rooms for next year. It costs nothing to book and you can always cancel if you find you can't make it. Don't forget to ask for ex service rates. The small rooms can accommodate three and full cooking facilities. If you can contact someone who attended I am sure you will get a report of a fantastic evening. Cheers Pete. Reunion date April 17th 2010 put it on the calendar now.

---

message #: 604

Date: Saturday April 18 2009 09:32:24 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:

Dear Richard With reference the 1980 Reunion list and the question of the \*. Could it be that all those with the \* wanted or were accomodated in barracks overnight?. Just a thought seeing as I was on the list. Only a guess!!  
Regards to all Barry

---

message #: 603

Date: Wednesday April 15 2009 08:06:38 EST  
Name: BRIAN MANN  
Email: BRIANMANN38@HOTMAIL.CO.UK

Service Number: RMBX3117  
Hometown: PLYMOUTH  
Instrument/s: CLARINET SAX VIOLIN  
n/a:

Comments:

HI JUST THOUGHT I WOULD SEE IF ANY IS OUT THERE WHO KNOWS OR REMEBERS ME AND ERIC GREENLEAF WE WERE AT RMSM DEAL AND THEN WENT ON TO SOUTH AFRICA WOULD LOVE ANYONE TO CONTACT ME ON MY EMAIL ADDRESS I'M GOIN TO A REUINON AT CHINA FLEET CLUB IN CORNWALL ON SATURDAY 18TH APRIL. SO I WOULD LIKE TO SEE ALL MY OLD BAND MATES THERE MANY THANKS  
BRIAN MANN ( JAN MANN )

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 602

Date: Friday April 10 2009 05:52:42 EST  
Name: Pete Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX2902  
Hometown: Par  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Hello Richard I have had a request from RMBX3117 Brian Mann to attend the WCR. Nothing remarkable about that but Brian has just been released from a Plymouth hospital after 15 months. All that time in sick bay and no-one seems to have known. Sadly Brian has had to have both legs amputated due to diabetes and has a few home problems which I have alerted our legion band rep to so thats ok. Brian's telephone number is 01752 360835. His address Flat 1 Drake Park Hornchurch Rd Ernysettle Plymouth. If anyone would like to call or send a card. Better still he will be at the re-union next week so come and see him. He still has a great sense of humour which everyone who knew him remembers. Cheers Pete.

---

message #: 601

Date: Thursday April 2 2009 15:14:32 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Richard through you may I on behalf of all of us ex RMBs out here in Oz pass on to Pete Westaway and all of his guests our hope that the coming WCR will be as great an occasion as our recent reunion was here in Adelaide. We had one hell of a great weekend with everything falling into place and as far as I am aware no complaints from anyone. We now start the process of organizing our next reunion for the last weekend in March 2010.

---

message #: 600

Date: Tuesday March 31 2009 10:44:23 EST  
Name: P Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX2902  
Hometown: Par.  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Just a quick line Richard anyone still requiring tickets for the WCR on April the 18th at the china fleet club contact me now. At present we have 72 coming slightly down on last year but still some new faces. Cheers Pete.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 599

Date: Sunday March 29 2009 09:27:14 EST  
Name: Tony Hill  
Email: hillanthony24@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 4187  
Hometown: Boldon Colliery  
Instrument/s: French Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard having just discovered this website only recently I am still getting to know the ins and outs and who is subscribing. I wish you and all concerned in the new site every success.

---

message #: 598

Date: Sunday March 29 2009 07:16:47 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury N. Somerset  
Instrument/s: Solo Clar  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello  
Rich With due regard to what you have mentioned in you message in regard to Gunner I too have renewed friendships with old shipmates here in Glenelg Adelaide this weekend. No matter when where or how we always managed to look after our own and as you say we may be generations apart but we still have that strong regard for one another. May that long continue. Off now to visit distant relatives in Victoria State before I return to Somerset next month? How time flies? No doubt others will be sending you pictures of the weekend and a report but I have a selection if you would like me to patch them to you in the near future? Kind regards  
Yours aye Bill.

---

message #: 597

Date: Saturday March 28 2009 16:38:13 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston (now living in the USA)  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Piano/Voice/Vibraphone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Re: Barry's message prior to this one: Having had the pleasure of at first seeing the several photographs of Nick Grace on our pages which included a very special one of him with the late Basil Kidd I had the privilege of meeting Nick at the 2008 reunion and felt that in Colonel Nick Grace we have a thoughtful and observant officer colleague and friend. Although era's apart the stepping across a huge divide of history and that which included war years for this gesture to have taken place frankly brings a grateful tear to my eye and that immense warm feeling in my heart. I'm sure that I echo this sentiment on behalf of countless others. I am impressed beyond measure over this wonderful and heartfelt gesture. In Nick Grace we have an example of humility and respect for those of us who are part of this great creation of the family: The Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines. In gratitude and in great spirit Richard Valentine.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 596

Date: Saturday March 28 2009 12:14:54 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard John (Gunner) Hargreaves John had a visit from Col Nick Grace Thursday (kindly organised via Michael Hutton and Major Long) Wendy tells me that he was delighted and he has been playing his cd's kindly donated by Col Grace. (It's great that the modern day band service can find time in their hectic life style to visit older past members),(I feel that this has not always been the case!!) and on behalf of John and Wendy. Many thanks to all concerned. On a personal note I had yet another hospital visit this week and the outcome is yet another operation this time on my spine to try to ease the pain on my dodgy legs!! Waiting list of approx 6 weeks. (Watch this space!) Managed to get to Margate again and as always thoroughly enjoyed the occasion. Was good to have a chat to Andy Wright and also Jenny Biddle who Heather and I have not seen since 1969 - 1970. I will be popping over to see John again this coming week. Kind regards Barry

---

message #: 595

Date: Thursday March 26 2009 16:11:11 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Great Mongeham  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
I've responded to Andy with Joe's details.

---

message #: 594

Date: Thursday March 19 2009 18:43:57 EST  
Name: Andy Wright  
Email: wright772@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard hope you are well I thought I'd just email you to say what a great time I had at the All Stars concert at Margate last weekend although not a band member there are still a lot of faces I knew from past reunions etc. when I used to attend with my father ("Shiner" Wright euph/cello) although very emotional not to see dad sitting on stage playing string bass it was a warming experience never the less and shiner would have been there in spirit bugging about knocking music over or just larking about. Just one last thing I briefly spoke to Joe Baggs while in Margate but I didn't get a chance to see him after the concert and would like to finish off our conversation do you or any members have his details? if so I would be grateful so I could get in touch with him. Kindest regards Andy Wright

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 593

Date: Thursday March 12 2009 15:59:00 EST  
Name: Kevin Vickers  
Email: k.vickers1@sky.com

Service Number: RMB3423  
Hometown: South Brent  
Instrument/s: Cello/Euph  
n/a:

Comments:

Dear Richard May I add a couple of corrections to the picture provided by Maxie Beare of the Band on HMY Britannia in 1957. It was actually 1961 taken on the first part of the Med Trip on route to Naples for the State Visit to Italy by HM The Queen. The guy next to Gerry Castleton in back row was Jerry Ballard who I think left the RMB to join the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. In the middle row next John Thorne is not Carrat Reynolds but myself Kevin Vickers and between me and John Chivers is Terry Gee (Oboe) and not AB Ingram. Also in the middle row the guy between Maxie Beare and Len Spencer is Jeff Carter. Of course memory often get clouded especially after nearly fifty years but I am quite sure about this. It was my first Yacht Trip and we joined the Yacht on my 20th birthday just in time to draw my tot. How is that for timing. best wshes Kevin Vickers

---

message #: 592

Date: Monday March 9 2009 09:17:35 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:

Dear Richard - Re John (Gunner) Hargreaves More bad news . I have just received a call from Wendy telling me that John has once again been rushed into Trafford Hospital. He had enjoyed a few days back in Haylands ( Highlight being a visit from Michael Hutton). I will keep you all up to date as soon as I hear anything else. John really does enjoy messages sent from you all. On his and Wendy's behalf . "Many thanks". Kind regards Barry

---

message #: 591

Date: Saturday March 7 2009 03:47:32 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Bassoonish/1st Bass Drum/3rd Cymbal  
n/a:

Comments:

Dickie Would you believe it there I was sat in a MacDonalds in Portsmouth eating my usual Salad of the day banana and diet coke when I espied Rich Long and family! I was informed by Rich that Chris Davis had just been marched out of the School of Music. I was just sorry I couldn't make it to see the event. Please pass on my congratulations to Chris for doing a great job as PDM. I just can't believe that he supports the Scummers!! Good luck Chris and thank you. C U in October 2009 Roy

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 590

Date: Thursday March 5 2009 15:21:22 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard Just returned from visiting John Hargreaves he is now back at Haylands after being discharged yesterday. Very pleased to say that John looked much better than he did on my last visit. He had a bowl of cereal for breakfast and was due soup for lunch. John was quite chatty and 'chuffed' with all the messages that I have been able to pass on. Wendy is of course pleased to have him back at Haylands where John knows the staff and where they are able to give him more time and care than a busy hospital. I will not be able to get over top see John now for a couple of weeks but I can still pass on any messages to him. Kind regards Barry

---

message #: 589

Date: Monday March 2 2009 15:11:55 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard re - John (Gunner) Hargreaves I have spoken to Wendy daily since John was admitted to hospital it would appear that his condition since he arrived has started to stabilise and Wendy is trying to ensure that John does try to have some food. He is still very weak and fragile. I am hoping to get over to see John on Thursday of this week. Any messages please send them through to me. Kind regards Barry

---

message #: 588

Date: Friday February 27 2009 08:39:50 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard - re - John (Gunner) Hargreaves Just had a call from Wendy telling me that John was rushed into hospital during the night she is with him at this time and I will be speaking to her tonight. John is poorly but it seems they may be able to stabilise him medically but of course there is very little they can do for his tumour. I will keep you all up to date as soon as I hear more. Kind regards Barry Radford

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 587

Date: Thursday February 26 2009 16:22:24 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
To those who are travelling out to Oz for the reunion of ex RMBs on the last weekend in March '09 and there are a few may I take this opportunity to wish you a "SAFE" journey. It promises to be a great weekend.

---

message #: 586

Date: Wednesday February 25 2009 13:53:19 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x 3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Everyone. Hope you are all keeping well. Just wanted to thank you all for your support while I was in Hospital. I am now well on the mend after a successful operation. I have booked my accommodation and sent for my ticket for the reunion in Pompey in Oct and hope to see all my old friends (and new ones) there. My thoughts are with everyone who are in the sick bay and I wish you all a speedy recovery. A special mention to Richard for keeping us all up to date on the Band site. Keep up the good work my friend and look forward to seeing you in Oct. Kind regards to all Sid

---

message #: 585

Date: Thursday February 19 2009 13:43:07 EST  
Name: Michael Bloy  
Email: mbloy@genre.com

Service Number: C991952E (RNR)  
Hometown: Cologne  
Instrument/s: I leave that to my son.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Readers of this website may be interested in hearing the news that Desmond Bloy of Deal (the proud recipient of a Commandant General's Commendation for his efforts in connection with the Memorial Gardens and Annual Service of Remembrance) sadly passed away peacefully - 19th February 2009 aged 86. Yours Aye Michael Bloy (son) Cologne Germany

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 584

Date: Thursday February 19 2009 10:22:51 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: SCUNTHORPE  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello Richard I had news yesterday that my old flute instructor Charlie Lashmar is having a bad time healthwise at the moment. They live in Auckland New Zealand and Charlie has been unwell for some time. Celia his wife is finding it very hard to cope and for this reason Charlie is in a home so that she can have a couple of weeks respite. He will then come home for about 6 weeks during this time Celia will be given help to look after him help which she needs very much. Then it will be back into care. This routine will be carried on as long as it is needed. I feel sure that all past and present members of our RMB family will keep Charlie and his wife Celia in their thoughts and prayers. Nobby.

---

message #: 583

Date: Tuesday February 17 2009 06:44:05 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Managed to get over to see John (Gunner) Hargreaves yesterday prior to his birthday (today). I thought he looked a little better than last week. He has had the 'Stent' fitted so let's hope they can now get some nourishment into him. John is still very frail but it was Wendy's hope that they would manage to get him up for a couple of hours for his 'Special Day'. John has had quite a few messages sent which he is thrilled about. Many Thanks. I'm now away for a few days. (going to 'Mountbatten Festival) but Wendy will keep me informed on any change in John's health. Kind regards Barry

---

message #: 582

Date: Saturday February 14 2009 05:13:14 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: QOO(RMB) 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to read about dear old Gunner those of us that will remember him when we were boys will know that he was one if not the best let's hope he can get something from his next operation to help him along. My thoughts are with him and all of his family which of course includes all of you. I did try to send Barry an E Mail but for some reason it bounced back please Barry when you read this give GUNNER my fondest regards he is in my thoughts.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 581

Date: Tuesday February 10 2009 10:25:55 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Dear Richard I have just returned from visiting John (Gunner) Hargreaves. I was able to spend a couple of hours with him John is not well at all it was saddening to sit with a guy who for these past 50 years I have known to have a wicked sense of humour and was always bubbly in nature. John is very frail and unable to stay awake for any length of time. He is due to go into hospital tomorrow (11th February) for a 'Stent' to be fitted. (which hopefully will help in getting some nourishment into him). I also saw Wendy and she is of course stressed out and very very worried it is now some 4 years since she had John at home. it is John's 80th Birthday next Tuesday when I hope to visit him once again any messages please get in touch and I will be pleased to pass them on. (Thanks to Ray (Lofty) Edwards and Merv Durrant for theirs) John was chuffed to bits to be remembered. Kind regards Barry

---

message #: 580

Date: Monday February 9 2009 07:02:55 EST  
Name: Mark Snell  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Blue Band SNCO  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

The 2009 Royal Marines Band Service Reunion Weekend Commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the Blue Band Magazine 10th - 11th October 2009 The RM Band Service Reunion will take place on Saturday 10th October 2009 in the Warrant Officers Senior Rates and Senior NCOs Mess HMS Nelson 1900 Guests arrive 2000 Ceremonial Marching Display O/C Return to the Upper Bar WOs SRs & SNCOs' Mess for Drinks and Hot Buffet 2359 Bar Closes 0030 All guests clear of the establishment The RM Band Service Memorial Service will take place on Sunday 11th October 2009 in St Thomas of Canterbury (Portsmouth Cathedral) High Street Old Portsmouth 1045 Guests to be seated in the Cathedral 1100 Orchestra commences The cost for the reunion is £20 per person. Please make cheques payable to: Band Service Amenities Fund completing the form below enclosing a stamped addressed envelope and sending to: WO2 Bdmr A Williams RM RMBS Reunion HQBSRM Eastney Block HMS Nelson Portsmouth Hampshire PO1 3HH.

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message #: 579

Date: Friday February 6 2009 06:22:44 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Dear Richard appear to have lost the end of my last email. John Hargreaves's 80th Birthday is on 17th February. I am hoping to get over to see him. If anyone has messages to pass on. Please let me have them and I will do so. Cheers Barry

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 578

Date: Thursday February 5 2009 13:09:33 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Just had a call from John (Gunner) Hargreaves' wife Wendy. Bad news to pass on. John has been diagnosed with cancer of the 'Gullet' (there is a big and unpronouncable medical word for it!) Wendy tells me because John is so weak they can't operate but he is due in hospital next Wednesday to have a 'Sten' fitted in the hope that they will be able to feed John a more fluid diet.

---

message #: 577

Date: Wednesday February 4 2009 11:12:56 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s: Bassoonish/1st Bass Drum/3rd Cymbal  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dickie So very sorry to hear of the death of Algy Guest. I remember whenever you were sick or had dental treatment you were sent to work in the instrument repair shop. I only wish I'd been a bit older and maybe I would have understood all the jokes.....Oh I so wanted to do that job when I retired.....a great enviroment and great people all gone now sadly. Please pass on my sincere condolences to Algy's family. Roy

---

message #: 576

Date: Tuesday January 27 2009 06:04:16 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello Rich SICK  
BAY Noting the message from Barrie (Vic) Sylvesters daughter Claire in the Sick Bay I followed up on it and found out that Vic is no longer in the Respite Home but he is now at Home and has been for some time. Vic tells me that he has received many Get Well cards for which he is very grateful and he apologised for not acknowledging them but I suspect he will get around to it someday... If anyone wishes to call Vic then his telephone number is:- 01733 233886  
For those around the World I suspect that Skype is the best option to use as that inserts the correct dial code for you for which-ever country you are calling from. Hope that helps?  
Yours aye Bill.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 575

Date: Sunday January 25 2009 23:26:18 EST  
Name: Maxie Beare  
Email: maxie2234@xtra.co.nz

Service Number: RMBx 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Really saddened to here of the passing of Joe Guest I remember him so well from the IOM apart from soccer he was a dab hand at Table Tennis and was a relative of a Mr Patterson ex RMB Sleep easy Joe your old buddy Max

---

message #: 574

Date: Friday January 23 2009 05:33:21 EST  
Name: Alick Harwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4012  
Hometown: Chestfield  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
I had an email from Steve Misson on Monday to report that Joe "Algje" Guest had sadly passed away. His funeral is at Barham Crematorium at 0920 on Monday 26th January. I really enjoyed working with him for the seven years I had in the instrument store. Nothing I asked him to do was too much trouble and he helped me out on many occasions whether it was fixing my trombone or the plumbing at home. Pete Worsfold kept a fatherly eye on him over the last few years and brought him along to a BBQ we held at home last May. Unfortunately the last time I saw him. RIP Joe you'll be sadly missed.

---

message #: 573

Date: Monday January 19 2009 11:46:53 EST  
Name: sheila sheard  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: deal  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
i would just like to tell all of sid's (sheard) friends that sid had his operation on saturday (jan 17th) and it went well he is well on the way to recovery and hope to have him home by thursday. fond regards sheila (sheard)

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 572

Date: Monday January 12 2009 13:51:07 EST  
Name: Ian Magill  
Email: thegrangepub@btconnect.com

Service Number: PO30195H  
Hometown: Coventry  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a:

Comments:  
I would just like to take this opportunity to wish all serving and ex's a great New Year. If anyone is passing through Coventry anytime pop in and have a beer. THE GRANGE PUB CV2 3GF. All the very best to you all. Mac Magill

---

message #: 571

Date: Saturday January 10 2009 09:38:01 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambertd50@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Can I take this opportunity to wish all a very happy and peaceful new year. Now the begging bit. I am trying to contact Merve Hyatt I seem to have lost his contact details so if anyone out there can help I would be grateful. I will be joining the allstars for the first time this year so I am looking forward to seeing a lot of "old" faces. See you anon Dave

---

message #: 570

Date: Tuesday January 6 2009 11:20:16 EST  
Name: Pete Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX2902  
Hometown: Par.  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello everyone a very happy New Year. The tickets for the April WCR are now available. E Mail or ring to book better still buy now. Cheers Pete.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 569

Date: Tuesday January 6 2009 03:22:13 EST  
Name: Mark Snell  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
If anyone remembers Kenneth 'Polly' Poulson Bass player 1938 - 1953 would they like to contact him at Erskine Bridge Nursing Home on 0141 8144565. He is suffering from dementure and we have been asked by his daughter if anyone can have a chat with him to keep his spirits up. He remembers the Band Service of old with much fondness and would very much like to hear from old oppos. Please pass this on to anyone who may be able to call him... VMT Deli

---

message #: 568

Date: Wednesday December 31 2008 15:45:35 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a:

Comments:  
A Very Happy New year to all serving or retired. Heres hoping that 2009 will be a good year for you. For those of you who we hope will be joining us here in Oz in March for our coming reunion Safe Travelling. If you would like to join us and have not yet committed details can be obtained from me at the above address. It will of course be held on the last weekend of March '09 in Glenelg Adelaide South Australia as on previous occasions. Accommm is still being held for us so if required contact Bob Chumley on email: chummers@optusnet.com.au ASAP.

---

message #: 567

Date: Wednesday December 31 2008 06:06:39 EST  
Name: Barry Radfordb  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard just a quick line to wish you and all other members of the ' Royal Marine Band service Family' A very Happy New Year and best wishes for 2009. We hope to see many of you at Margate although 2009 is starting in much the same as 2008. I am due to go to hospital again on 7th January for more pain relief treatment. (just hope it works!!). Regards to all Barry and Heather Radford

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 566

Date: Wednesday December 31 2008 03:23:52 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX 2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just a wish all serving and ex RMBs around the world a happy New Year and let us spare a thought for all those families who have lost a loved one during the last year. Hope to see many of you at 'The ALL Stars' .  
Michael.

---

message #: 565

Date: Tuesday December 30 2008 16:12:57 EST  
Name: Tony Hunter (overton)  
Email: tonyhntr@aol.com

Service Number: RMB3999  
Hometown: Kennethmont Aberdeenshire  
Instrument/s: Cornet / Violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just a line to wish all serving members and all former members of the Royal Marine Band Service all the very best for the festive season and hope the new year brings you all you wish and pray for. I hope to see some of you at the Allstars concert in Margate in March and catch up with your news. Until then take care one and all and may your gods be with you. Tony

---

message #: 564

Date: Friday December 26 2008 14:55:19 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3242  
Hometown: Tennyson  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dickie All the best for the new year 2009 I will send you the Mp3's that I did at the Ozzy reunion as soon as I figure out how to compress them? or I could send you a CD with all of them on by snail mail the address I have is The Malta Gardens one? meanwhile I will Attach a Recording of the group called Decizion that I was part of back in the '70's and '80's. The trombone solo I play was taught to me by Lew Shalcross when I was a young 18 year old at Lea on solent and I never forgot it. I believe it was Geoff Love on the Harry Gold Arrangement of the saints! All the best to everyone on the site for 2009 and beyond Bill & Sylvia Matthews

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 563

Date: Tuesday December 23 2008 13:44:37 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Heartsville  
Instrument/s: Voice Piano Clarinet Vibe.  
n/a:

**Comments:**

To all ex serving RMB's and families: A MERRY CHRISTMAS The time of year has come when joy should be in our hearts. It should not be regarded as morbid just to reach out to those families of our dear departed whom we lost over 2008. On behalf of all of us I want to show our compassion and humbly say how much we feel for you at this time of joy and Jesus' birth in the wake of all our losses. To all of you our arms and hearts extend outwardly toward you. In love and brotherhood have a Christmas full of sober reflection over the lives we shared and be sure that those of us who are so fortunate to remain have you all in our thoughts and prayers at this time. I'm privileged to be able to speak to you all in this way. You ALL made it possible. Thank you Dickie Valentine ex RMB website co-creator.

---

message #: 562

Date: Tuesday December 23 2008 13:23:46 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.netq

Service Number: QOO(RMB) 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

**Comments:**

May I extend a very warm seasons greeting to you special people out there who are members of the great family that is the RMB. I wish you and all your family a very happy and peaceful christmas we used to wish people a prosperous new year but that does not seem to be correct in todays world but I do wish you all a Happy New year where ever you may be take great care of yourselves you are very special people. MIKE H.

---

message #: 561

Date: Saturday December 20 2008 20:51:02 EST  
Name: Max Beare  
Email:

Service Number: RMB x 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Greetings to all from Aotearoa New Zealand we wish all serving and past members of our great Band Service a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous 2009 God Bless Max and Katherine

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 560

Date: Saturday December 20 2008 13:34:02 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a:

Comments:  
To all members of the RMB regardless of where you may be may I on behalf of all of us ex RMBs in Australia wish you one and all the compliments of the season and hope that 2009 will be kind to you. Those of you who hope to attend our next reunion in Adelaide in March and have not yet confirmed your booking would you please do so ASAP.

---

message #: 559

Date: Friday December 19 2008 16:35:36 EST  
Name: Michael Thompson  
Email: dommcband@optusnet.com.au

Service Number: RM26593  
Hometown: Melbourne Australia  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a:

Comments:  
I received a note this morning from Ginge Harmon letting me know that Malc had passed away. I can't say how shocked I am. Malcolm and I served together in the Yacht band for five and half years. We were good mate Tommo 1 and Tommo 2. His regimental number was RM25698. Rest in Peace my dear friend you'll be sadly missed by a lot of RMB's. Tommo 2

---

message #: 558

Date: Monday December 15 2008 14:40:47 EST  
Name: Steve Quirk  
Email: stevequirk@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: P031369C  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a:

Comments:  
Shocked and saddened to hear of this. Malc was a nice guy and will be missed.  
Condolences to his family.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 557

Date: Monday December 15 2008 14:16:10 EST  
Name: Pete. Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: Rmbx 2902  
Hometown: Par  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hello everyone just watched my old friend Vic Sylvester on the television with the evacuee programme. I tried to phone and congratulate him only to find that last week he had a fall outside his home and spent the night on the floor in a outhouse. He is at present in some hospital in the Orton area. Could anyone near by pay him a visit and let us know the situation. Mick is a dear friend who looked out for me when I joined O 2 room after the recruit room. With people like W. Hemmings Dimps House. Rothwell to name just a few. I hope someone can contact him and let all know how things are. Cheers Pete.

---

message #: 556

Date: Monday December 15 2008 10:15:18 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND S.Wales  
Instrument/s: CIt/VIn/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hullo again to you Richard and all I have to tell you about a very happy occurrence that happened to me today. I got "Schooley'd"! Let me explain. Last week I got a call from Ken Schooley to say that I should "stand by my phone after noon on Monday 15th December"! Well at 1100hrs I was resting my arthritic ankles on my bed. At 1120hrs I had a phone call from Ken and unknown to me he was on his mobile and on his way up to my bedroom!! My brother Graham had let him in to the house. He had travelled from Yeovil by train and arrived with a M & S bag full of Christmas goodies! I was again gobsmacked and had no idea as to what a surprise was in store for me. Mike

---

message #: 555

Date: Monday December 15 2008 02:10:51 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND S.Wales  
Instrument/s: CIt/VIn/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hullo Richard A week or so ago I had the pleasure of talking on the phone with the one and only 'Vic' Sylvester. He reminded me from a previous conversation that he would be featured on an ITV programme on evacuees from the last war. Well I was completely gobsmacked when I turned to today's TV programmes in my Daily Telegraph weekly listings and there at the top of the page is a photograph of Vic with Michael Aspell!! I have to say that he still has that sense of humour that we have known him to have from years back. "You three march in pairs" as an example. Good old Vic may you continue for many years yet! Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 554

Date: Saturday December 6 2008 07:01:50 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: QOO(RMB) 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
My apologies to you all for being so late on this one I have just returned from the UK having done my pre Xmas family visits PP did send me an EMail on the 19th of Nov but I had already left. So sad to hear of the passing of Keith he and I were in the wing together in the late 50s I am not sure if he joined one or two squads after me he was a great guy and a true gent he will be missed by us all. My belated sincere condolences to his family and to all of those that like me had the pleasure of knowing Keith and serving with him in the great family that is the RMB.  
KEITH WHITTLE RIP.

---

message #: 553

Date: Wednesday November 26 2008 07:41:19 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe North Lincolnshire.  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello Folks Thanks to a lot of help from Richard (to whom I am very grateful) I am now in contact with Roy Nash who I had the privilege of serving with at Whale Island many years ago. As I told both Roy and Richard it was a period of my service in the RMB which I enjoyed very much and of which I have many happy memories. In his recent E/Mail to me Roy wishes to pass on Seasons Greetings and best wishes to any Ex. RMB members who remember him. I expect that there will be many visitors to this site who like me remember Roy Nash with much admiration. Best Wishes to all for Christmas and the New Year. Nobby.

---

message #: 552

Date: Wednesday November 26 2008 05:45:22 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard Managed to get down to Exmouth for Keith Whittall's funeral. Such a great turnout for a simply 'Great Guy'. Church was overflowing and it was a terrific celebration of Keith's life. Proud to have known you Keith. Barry Radford

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 551

Date: Wednesday November 26 2008 03:23:14 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Rich I would like to inform everyone that we who attended his funeral gave our friend Keith Whittall the send off he deserved. The church was full to capacity with ex bandies from almost all the bands he served with and with members of all the bands and music groups he lead after his retirement from the RMB.

---

message #: 550

Date: Thursday November 20 2008 18:02:07 EST  
Name: Steve Quirk  
Email:

Service Number: P031369C  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a:

Comments:  
I was saddened to hear that Keith Whittall had passed away after his brave fight with his illness. You couldn't have wished for a better Bandmaster at CTC when I was there in the early 80's. My condolences to Pam and family. RIP Keith one of the best.

---

message #: 549

Date: Thursday November 20 2008 14:41:22 EST  
Name: Riggo  
Email:

Service Number: Rmb4250p  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Tuba/Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It was with great sadness that I learnt of the passing of Keith Whittle. My wife Carol and I knew Keith for many years when I was in CTC Band also we lived in Exmouth. He was a lovely man with time for everyone I enjoyed all the time I spent with him as bandmaster of the band. Our hearts go out to all of his family at this difficult time. Carol and Riggo

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 548

Date: Thursday November 20 2008 05:00:46 EST  
Name: Emma Whittall  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I'm one of Keith Whittall's daughters and I would just like to say thank you for all of the kind messages my family have recieved throughout his illness and on the sad news on the loss of my Dad. We passed the messages on to him and he was always so pleased to hear them. He always used to say that his time in the Royal Marines was the best of his life and I know he will already be conducting a band up in heaven! I would like to say a particularly big thank you to Pete Pendlebury who has kept everyone informed of Dad's progress it has been much appreciated by us and Dad has always really valued your friendship.

---

message #: 547

Date: Tuesday November 18 2008 07:29:00 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Rich re Keith Whittall his funeral will be held on Monday 24th November at 1430 hrs in St John's Church Wythycombe Village Road Exmouth Devon. With a private family cremation in Exeter. Many thanks Pete.

---

message #: 546

Date: Tuesday November 18 2008 04:31:48 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford North Lincolnshire.  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
As I get older I often think back to times in the RMB and the people who I have known and admired during my service in the Band Service. One such person is Peter Hemming who during my time as a Band Boy at R.M.S.M. Deal was the Boy Sergeant Major. Later on I was fortunate enough to serve with Peter again when I was at Whale Island in the Band under Royston Nash. We all had a very happy time together with Drummy Dillon and my mates the late Geoff Walton and Ginge Hammond (aka Ian Ritsma) who I am still in contact with. I often wonder what happened to Peter Hemming after I left Whale Island to go to Singapore with H/Q 3RD CDO Brigade Band. Can anyone out there help me out with any news on Peter? Best Wishes to all. Nobby Clarke. [Editor] I've just supplied Nobby with an address. Glad to know I have hopefully reunited an old friend.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 545

Date: Monday November 17 2008 12:43:43 EST  
Name: MERV HYATT  
Email: MERVYN.HYATT@sky.com

Service Number: Q004075T  
Hometown: WATCHET  
Instrument/s: CLT/SAX/VLN  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It was with great sadness to receive the news that Keith had departed us. I would like to pass on my sincere condolences to Pam and all the family. I would also like to thank Pete Pendlebury for keeping us all up to date with progress Keith had been making and the sad news. May he rest in peace. Merv H

---

message #: 544

Date: Monday November 17 2008 11:42:32 EST  
Name: Edward McDermott  
Email: mmacdermott@btinternet.com

Service Number: Q004119X  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
How very sad to hear of the passing of Keith may I pass on my warmest condolences to Pam and the family in this time of much sadness. May I also say thank you to Pete for keeping us fully informed. I pray that God will give you the strength and courage you need to help you through this very painful and sorrowful time.

---

message #: 543

Date: Sunday November 16 2008 12:32:18 EST  
Name: Glyn Oremek  
Email: littlefado@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3416  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Sax/Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
My wife and I would like to express our deep sadness at the news of the passing of Keith he put up such a courageous fight. We send our warmest condolences to Pam and the family God bless. Glyn & Rachael.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 542

Date: Saturday November 15 2008 14:14:00 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLART  
n/a:

Comments:  
How very very sad to read of the passing of Keith Whittall who has put up such a valiant fight against ill health. My sincere condolences to his family.

---

message #: 541

Date: Saturday November 15 2008 11:14:21 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Rich It is my sad duty to inform all his freinds that Keith Whittall passed away this morning at 1030hrs in Derriford hospital Plymouth with his family at his bed side. I spoke to Keith's son Gary today and he said after an up and down week he suffered kidney failure. As soon as I know funeral arrangements I will pass them on

---

message #: 540

Date: Wednesday November 12 2008 05:56:23 EST  
Name: Andy Wright  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard A bit of a strange one this but I'm researching my Great grandfather at the moment who was killed in action aboard HMS Defence at the battle of Jutland 1916 he was in the Royal Marine Artillery while looking at the list of names of those who died I was interested and saddened to see the band names also what I did find a bit odd was they appeared to be all Italian "looking" names was this the norm during the first world war to have Italian Royal Marines Bandsmen? Regards Andy Wright

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 539

Date: Monday November 3 2008 23:20:05 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawly2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND S.Wales  
Instrument/s: CtrVln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard With reference to Dan Archer's comments on the You Tube video of HMS Eagle I remember this very well and it was an ITV production. A few years ago whilst visiting Ken Schooley in Yeovil we paid a visit to RNAS Yeovilton and to my delight found the video of "Warship Eagle" was on sale. I think most of us former "Eagleites" have a copy of this by now! Such great memories and a fantastic 2 and a half years from 1964 - 1966! Mike.

---

message #: 538

Date: Monday November 3 2008 01:21:02 EST  
Name: DAN ARCHER  
Email:

Service Number: PO22378C  
Hometown: KERIKERI NZ  
Instrument/s: DRUM MAJOR  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dickie I was trawling Youtube and found this lovely video from 1966 showing the band from HMS Eagle playing during a RAS at sea somewhere tropical there is a great show of Mick Jones and a long bass player who can only be Tony Kellet I think the BM is Dave Elliot...any way is a cracking bit of film taken by the BBC. <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=OOKxBKmxKfc&feature=related> Dan

---

message #: 537

Date: Friday October 31 2008 13:00:15 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Keith Whittall Update 31st Oct Hi Rich Visited Keith today and I am pleased to say he is making steady progress. He is out of bed several times a day and walking with the aid of a frame as part of his physio and eating well. I will be in France to honour the fallen so my next report will be on the 16th Nov.  
Pete.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 536

Date: Tuesday October 28 2008 01:58:59 EST  
Name: Glyn Oremek  
Email: littlefado@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX 3416  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: sax/clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
My wife and I just wanted to say how pleased we are to hear that at long last Keith is now making progress we have been visiting this site regularly to monitor his state of health and thanks to it and of course Pete Pendlebury for keeping us up to date. Keep up the recovery Keith and we wish you and Pam many happy years ahead. Best Wishes Glyn & Rachael Oremek.

---

message #: 535

Date: Sunday October 26 2008 03:48:58 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
Keith Whittall update 25th Oct. Hi Rich visited Keith yesterday and I am pleased to report he is now eating solid food for the first time in three months and his stomach is slowly coming back to normal. It is going to be a long slow process but he is on the mend Pete.

---

message #: 534

Date: Wednesday October 22 2008 01:21:38 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND S.Wales  
Instrument/s: Ctr/Vln/Pno  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hullo Richard Thank you for placing the volunteer band pic on the Notice Board, I should have course stated that this was the RN Volunteer Band of HMS Heron/HMS Osprey!My apologies for this slight error.Must be the age thing! Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 533

Date: Saturday October 18 2008 10:52:23 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
p>Keith Whittall update 18th Oct. Hi Rich Just visited Keith and I am pleased to say he is over the latest setback and taking liquids although his stomach is still not working. The doctor has said if his stomach does not start soon he will have to have an op. He has asked me to thank all those who sent him video greetings from the reunion and to say he hopes to see you all next year

---

message #: 532

Date: Thursday October 16 2008 11:32:23 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Great to read the half page news in the Daily Mail today Thursday 16th Oct 08 About Fernleigh Judge with photo of him and HMS Royal Oak of which he was a survivor when it was torpedoed in Scapa Flow Oct 14th 1939. His dying wish was to have his ashes laid to rest in the hull of the Royal Oak which was carried out on Monday by Royal Navy divers from Faslane in a casket wrapped in a small White Ensign and placed in a porthole. Wonderful. Best Wishes to all ex and serving Noel

---

message #: 531

Date: Wednesday October 15 2008 10:34:08 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Keith Whittall Update 15th Oct Hi Rich I spoke to Pam last night and I am sorry to say Keith has suffered another set back with his stomach. He has been taken off fluids as there is a leak. The plan is to leave it for a time to see if it's own if not he will undergo an op later. The good news is he is no longer in I.C.U for those wishing to visit he is in Stonehouse ward and visiting times are 1400 to 2000 hrs. He really needs some mates popping in to see him as he is quite low.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 530

Date: Monday October 13 2008 05:55:46 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Great to see you at the reunion. (hope you had a good safe flight back) Another great occasion how fantastic to see both Tuula and Andy Wright there in memory of dear Richard. This year was very well attended and so worth the effort of travelling. Back home now tired but happy at seeing so many old and good friends. Regards to all Barry and Heather Radford

---

message #: 529

Date: Monday October 13 2008 01:55:40 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawly2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: BRIDGEND S.Wales  
Instrument/s: Ctl/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard Last Saturday evening there was a programme on BBC2 on the 50 years of Blue Peter. There were many references to programmes during this long time but I was disappointed that the RN Volunteer Band of HMS Heron wasn't featured as we were there in 1979 for a Christmas show and the marching on of a huge Christmas pudding on a gun carriage. But there we are. Good memories of that very special programme. Mike.

---

message #: 528

Date: Friday October 10 2008 07:49:34 EST  
Name: Graham (taph) Ward  
Email: taphward@hotmail.com

Service Number: rmb4149  
Hometown: Folkestone  
Instrument/s: French Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi everyone so sad to hear about Dave Buchanan what a great and fair man he was lovely sense of humour and a good friend even at a distance. He will be sadly missed. Does anyone know of the funeral arrangements  
? Regards Taph

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 527

Date: Friday October 10 2008 04:30:53 EST  
Name: Tom Lambert  
Email: llam5326@bigpond.net.au

Service Number: Somewhat after RMB 1 but not much!  
Hometown: Cant remember that far back  
Instrument/s: Mostly baton  
n/a:

Comments:

My Dear Richard Would it be possible to say how much I regret not being able to be part of the marvellous reunion I know you will all have. Our own similar function is rapidly creeping up on us and anyone that has a few hundred quid to spare in these financially troubled times would be most welcome to join in. Several people have already been three times from the UK New Zealand and all points East West North and West which goes to show how popular it has become. Does it really matter if you know anyone or not. We are all brothers and sisters under the skin. As Kipling said Judy O'Grady and the Colonels lady are sisters under the skin. Make that brothers too.

---

message #: 526

Date: Thursday October 9 2008 11:48:33 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@ticali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Keith Whittall update 9/10/08 Hi Rich I know I may be too late to catch you before the reunion but I had to pass on the good news of Keith. I spoke to Pam today and he is making great progress he had his first cup of tea for almost three months and should be moved to one level down from his present care. (icu) So Things are looking up Cheers Pete.

---

message #: 525

Date: Thursday October 9 2008 03:55:15 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano.  
n/a:

Comments:

Hello To All I would like to wish all those who will be attending the Portsmouth Reunion this coming weekend a really great time. I have attended the last three or four reunions recently but alas will not be there this year for a few reasons not the least of which being the distance to travel from Lincolnshire for a pair of creaky old pensioners and the ever increasing costs involved. Needless to say my wife Sandra and I will be thinking of you all, especially for the Sunday Memorial Service in the Cathedral which is the part that we will miss most of all. HAVE A WONDERFUL TIME ALL OF YOU. Nobby Clarke.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 524

Date: Wednesday October 8 2008 11:46:40 EST  
Name: Jim Mason  
Email: j.mason30@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2353  
Hometown: Havant  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sorry to hear about Dave Buchanan. He was a great Drum Major to work with and kept me on the "straight and narrow" many times. An excellent example from the Buglers Branch.

---

message #: 523

Date: Wednesday October 8 2008 01:36:06 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Solo Bass Drum/2nd Cymbals/Bassoonish  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dickie Just heard the very sad news about Dave Buchanan. I served with Dave in FOSNI in the early seventies and an unusual guy as he was the first Drum Major that I knew that had a sense of humour!!! My condolences to Daves family at this time. Roy

---

message #: 522

Date: Tuesday October 7 2008 16:16:07 EST  
Name: Andy Wright  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
My mother (Tuula) and myself will be attending the RMB reunion this weekend as Shiner had booked accomodation months before he passed away as he fully intended to make his annual visit to see his old buddies alas he cannot so we thought it a fitting tribute to attend in his honour and memory so if any of you recognise my mother or me please come over for a chat and we'll raise a tot to shiner. Fondest regards Andy Wright

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 521

Date: Monday October 6 2008 04:22:59 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: QOO(RMB) 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:

Sad to hear of the passing of yet another of our Band of Brothers. I never had the pleasure of serving with Dave our paths only crossed on massed bands where I always found him to be fair in his judgement a true gent and I am sure he will be missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him. My sincere condolences to all of his family and to all those who are the greater family of the RMB. As usual this Saturday I shall raise my tot glass to absent friends DAVID you will be in my thoughts. RIP old friend. MIK H.

---

message #: 520

Date: Sunday October 5 2008 15:23:33 EST  
Name: Brian K Peever  
Email:

Service Number: Po12284Q  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:

So sorry to hear the sad news of the passing of Dave Buchanan. My sincere sympathy goes to his wife Yvonne and his family . RIP dave you will be long remembered. Brian K Peever.

---

message #: 519

Date: Sunday October 5 2008 03:30:42 EST  
Name: Pete Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: Rmbx 2902  
Hometown: Par  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hello everyone the accommodation at the fleet club is all booked up for 18th of April. However there is a travelodge close by so those who wish to come can book now. I am going to Pompey this weekend so hope to see some old friends. Cheers Pete.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 518

Date: Saturday October 4 2008 09:26:57 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Keith Whittall Update 4th Oct. Hi Rich Just got back from visting Keith and I am pleased to say he is making steady progress. He has had his trachea removed and is now drinking high protein drinks. They had him standing yesterday with help to see if he could walk in his own words "I wanted to do three steps but could only manage two". He has started physio on his legs to build up the muscles and is due a small op tuesday on his stomach hopefully to get it working again Pete

---

message #: 517

Date: Friday October 3 2008 14:10:44 EST  
Name: Rod Williamson  
Email: rodney.williamson@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB3491  
Hometown: Whitstable  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I was very sad to hear of the passing of Dave Buchanan a real character and a gentleman. We 'bookmarked' the boys band for a while and he was always ramrod smart and really 'Corps pissed' - aren't we all really. One memorable thing about him was his love of the West and although I'd seen him often in his cowboy gear I was staggered when I found out he regularly went to America to join a cattle drive! I bumped into him in Folkestone not too long ago and although he was not looking in the best of health he was still very upbeat and happy to share a few jokes. Little did I know he'd leave us so soon. My condolences to Yvonne. Rod Williamson

---

message #: 516

Date: Friday October 3 2008 11:49:27 EST  
Name: Sidney Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It saddens me to hear of the passing of Dave Buchanan (A true Gentlman) a person I had the pleasure of serving with in Singapore. He will be sorely missed. ToYvonne and his family my sincere condolences. RIP Dave.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 515

Date: Friday October 3 2008 10:26:36 EST  
Name: Charlie Laws  
Email: charles@charleslaws.wanadoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3057  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Swimming and Water Polo. Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It is sad to hear of the passing of Dave Buchanan I had the pleasure of serving with him in FOSNI band. Always had a good way with all old and young plus always helpful when needed. My sympathy goes to his family.

---

message #: 514

Date: Thursday October 2 2008 19:24:34 EST  
Name: Steve Quirk  
Email:

Service Number: P031369C  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I was very saddened to hear that Dave Buchanan passed away today after a brave fight with his illness. It was always a pleasure at the channel tunnel when Dave would pop in for a coffee on a quiet night shift and talk about the good old days. He retained that sharp wit that he had in the Corps and was always as smart. My sincere sympathy to Yvonne and his family. RIP Dave.

---

message #: 513

Date: Thursday October 2 2008 17:26:48 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3242  
Hometown: Tennyson  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Thanks to Max in NZ I now have Taffy Clark's address so I can send him his CD. At the moment Sylvia & I are in Canberra visiting my Son Keith and his family until this Sunday when we will drive back home to Tennyson NSW. All the best from Bill & Sylvia in 'Oz.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 512

Date: Monday September 29 2008 05:48:38 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3242  
Hometown: Tennyson  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Can anybody let me know if Taffy Clarke is still around He was at the Adelaide Reunion Last march and I did an interview with him I would like to send him a copy so that I can get all the 6 interviews from last year up on the site I think most people would find them quite interesting. The other interviews were with Jim Mason Mick Hutton Bob Chumley Max Beare John Meir & Ted Clarke. I have sent copies on CD to all but have no address for Taff ?

---

message #: 511

Date: Sunday September 28 2008 09:50:54 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
Keith Whittall update 28th Sept. Hi Rich Just got back from visiting Keith.He was waiting for the Grand Prix to start on tv and wondered if it went down Boogie street!! He was in good spirits considering his problems but frustrated at not improving fast enough.The doctors are still trying to get his stomach working but with no success Pete.

---

message #: 510

Date: Sunday September 28 2008 04:18:51 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX2902  
Hometown: Par  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Has anyone have any idea where I can find Nev Collins (french horn) and Steve Acott Percussionist Heres hoping

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 509

Date: Saturday September 20 2008 04:44:40 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a:

Comments:  
Keith Whittall update 20th Sept. Hi Rich I spoke to Pam this morning and I am pleased to say Keith is making steady improvements although he is still weak and his stomach is still not working. He has been fitted with a voice box so he is able to talk and he is watching tv a lot. For those who wish to visit Keith Pam has said they may but must first contact Derriford Hospital I.C.U. to confirm he is able to accept visitors as he has to undergo more procedures over the next week or so Pete.

---

message #: 508

Date: Thursday September 18 2008 12:32:30 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: Rmb/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard. I am unable to attend the Reunion this year as I am waiting to go into hospital for an operation on my back (Stenosis of the Spine). To everyone that is attending this year may I wish you all a great week-end and I will certainly be with you all in Spirit. I hope you and yours are all well Richard and look forward to seeing you all at a later date. Have a great Reunion and I will raise a glass to one and all. Sid

---

message #: 507

Date: Sunday September 14 2008 16:37:02 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum Oh My Aching back  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi all There are about twenty two weeks to go before we gather once more in the lovely seaside suburb of Glenelg Adelaide South Australia for our 2009 reunion of ex RMBs. Therefore I thought it an opportune time to remind you all that accommodation is still available at the Glenelg Motel 41 Tapleys Hill Road Glenelg South Australia. This is the venue for our first gathering on Friday 27th March 2009 at 1700hrs. A general lamp swinging session will be followed by a three course meal in the Motel dining room with bar service available. Saturday 28th assemble alongside the replica of HMS Buffalo for photos before boarding for the official lunch. We promise not too many speeches but there will be a couple of important 'toasts'. The Buffalo is about three hundred yards from the motel so no driving required between venues. Sunday 29th March at 1200hrs a BBQ lunch beside the Pool at the motel before we disperse to all points of the compass. If more info is required either contact me at the above address or Bob Chumley on email; chummers@optusnet.com.au Hope to see you there.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 506

Date: Sunday September 7 2008 05:50:48 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Keith Whittall Update 6th Sept Hi Rich I visited Keith today thanks to Pam arranging it with the doctors. He is still very ill but stable. He is still unable to speak but by lip reading he said " it's two steps forward one back". He would also like me to thank all those who have sent him best wishes and "sends his love to everyone" in return. Using a video camera I recorded messages from members of Exmouth Town Band Keith is the DoM and filmed one of his favourite marches from their last concert which he really enjoyed.

---

message #: 505

Date: Saturday September 6 2008 04:41:37 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi to all. Got my reunion tickets this morning numbered 63 - 68. Doesn't seem many for this late stage!! Let's hope numbers will flourish in the next few weeks. Really hoping to make it this year health and mobility willing. Regards to all Barry and Heather Radford P.S. Pleased to hear that Keith Whittle appears to be stable at this time. Thinking of you Keith plus Pam and family.

---

message #: 504

Date: Tuesday September 2 2008 08:10:45 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Keith Whittall Update 1st Sept. Hi Rich I spoke to Pam last night and Keith is stable at present. The doctors are still trying to get his stomach back to normal. Pete.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 503

Date: Friday August 22 2008 07:27:45 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Keith Whittall Update 22nd Aug. Hi Rich I spoke with Pam this morning and unfortunately Keith has had another setback. Because his stomach is not working properly the doctors decided to operate last night to see if they can help Keith help himself. I have passed our best wishes to Keith and his family Pete.

---

message #: 502

Date: Wednesday August 20 2008 06:50:33 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Keith Whittall Update 19 August Hi Rich Spoke to Pam last night and Keith is stable and breathing more on his own as the days pass. The doctors are still worried about his stomach as it is still not functioning as they would like. He now has a t.v. so he can watch the Olympics but still has to use a voice box to speak. The plan now for the next stage of his recovery is to get him to put weight on so he can be moved to Exeter. Pete

---

message #: 501

Date: Tuesday August 12 2008 07:29:29 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Keith Whittall Update 12/8/08 Hi Rich I spoke to Keith's wife Pam this morning and I am sorry to have to inform everyone that Keith has had another set back. A feeding tube in his stomach came out and did some damage. He had an op to put things right and doctors are confident he has the strength to get over this latest set back. Doctors have told Pam the next 24 to 48 hours will be crucial. Pete. [Webmaster] On behalf of the vast body of people on this website please pass on our thoughts and prayers to Keith and his family.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 500

Date: Saturday August 9 2008 13:57:25 EST  
Name: Kelly Ryder  
Email: ksryder@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello again. Paul Moody's daughter here again. I've been looking at Pat Hill's Mini Album and no.3 photo Investiture Orchestra 1982... do I believe that the man top left at the back near the curtain is my dad?? It sure does look like him. But I could be wrong. Kelly 03-HMY Britannia - Investiture Orchestra 1982 v03-HMY Britannia - Investiture Orchestra 1982v

---

message #: 499

Date: Friday August 8 2008 04:59:20 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Keith Whittall update 8th August Hi Rich I am sorry to report that Keith has had a relapse. After making good progress to the point where he was sitting up and reading a paper he suffered a heart attack at 0200 on Thursday. I have just spoken to Keith's wife Pam he is stable at the moment but the doctor's have to assess what damage he has suffered our thoughts and good wishes go to Keith and his family Pete.

---

message #: 498

Date: Tuesday August 5 2008 15:12:29 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Rich I have just been informed by Steve Herbert that Ian "mons" North clarinet & violin who we served with at CTCRM in the late 70's & early 80's has had a serious stroke. He was not expected to survive. Unfortunately he has been left speechless and wheelchair bound with virtually no movement at all.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 497

Date: Monday August 4 2008 03:15:55 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Keith Whittall Update 3rd August.0900 Hi Rich I have just spoken to Keith's wife Pam and I am pleased to post some good news about Keith at last. He is breathing more on his own and he has got back his humour. Doctor's have said he should be able start eating and drinking by the end of the week if his progress continues. He has also been fitted with an external voice box to help him speak. The long term forecast for his full recovery is he will be in hospital for another month and back to full health in 3 months excluding any set backs. Pete

---

message #: 496

Date: Saturday August 2 2008 18:23:01 EST  
Name: Richard &#39;Dickie&#39; Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Where ever my heart is  
Instrument/s: Clar/Piano/Vibe/Voice  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Re: Paul Moody: This is Dickie Webmaster of the ex RMB site.  
I served with your Dad and I giggered with him. A great guy! Enthusiastic and a driving force. I can tell you I don't care what make his viola was as good as he was on it he was "THE MAN" on a Sax and Clarinet. But "darling" trust me he is remembered fondly. I'm sorry that I could not tell him so a little later after we both parted at whatever juncture. But.....we had great times together. Sincerely  
Richard.

---

message #: 495

Date: Saturday August 2 2008 18:11:52 EST  
Name: Kelly Ryder  
Email: ksryder@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello all I'm Paul Moody's daughter. Dad died a few years ago now and a good few of you attended his funeral which was very kind. My mum still gets very emotional when I ask her anything about the band and dad. But there is a question which I would like to ask and if anyone know's I would be eternally grateful. Dad used to play the Viola? Or did he play the Violin? I can't remember and don't like to ask. And this question is even harder. Would anyone know what make dad's viola/violin was? Its just that I am friends with someone who is a professional violinist and has asked whether I knew which viola/violin he used. Thanks in advance if anyone can help me. My email address is above or write here and I will look for any answers. Thanks again in advance. Kelly

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 494

Date: Saturday August 2 2008 00:11:40 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawly2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard These days I use public transport as I had decided to give up the car some years ago. Anyway last week I decided to go on the bus to Tonypanyd; not often go that way; but going through the town the bus went past what I had always thought as the chapel where in 1966 Drake Band played for the service at about the same time as the unfortunate Aberfan disaster. Well to my shock this chapel is no more! It is now a Bengali restaurant!! How times have changed in the Valleys! Best wishes to all Mike.

---

message #: 493

Date: Friday August 1 2008 03:57:00 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: pauldel43@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet / Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Now here's a different one. Yesterday I was stood in Cosham High St. in my RMA Concert Band Uni' promoting our forthcoming concert at Ferneham Hall Fareham on Sunday 17th Aug at 3 p.m. (for those nearby & interested!!) I was actually stood there giving out leaflets to likely looking suspects i.e. Zimmer Frames Mobility Carts Silver or White hair were all fair game for our target audience! Suddenly an attractive elderly lady came rushing over to ask if I ever knew a Dave E Brown Bugler/Drummer possibly. (she wasn't sure!?) She met him when he was at Eastney 1961 but he got drafted back to Deal & had a motorbike accident on the way there. That was the last she saw of him her strict 'old man' wouldn't let her write to him or see him again & she still 'hankers' after him to this day & would like to get in touch or know what became of him!? - Over to you chaps. Anyone ever at Eastney at this time that might remember him or better anyone know his whereabouts? Thanks Derek (Your newly found lonely hearts club rep!)

---

message #: 492

Date: Tuesday July 29 2008 07:45:08 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Keith Whittall Update 29th July I spoke with Keith's wife Pam this morning and there is little change in him. He is still not very well and has been suffering vomiting all yesterday and this morning. He is still being assisted with his breathing and therefore unable to speak. An enquiry is being held into what happened either during or after the operation. The doctors are keeping Keith sedated but are reducing the dosage gradually. Until he is fully conscious doctors will not know if there are any lasting complications. Pendles.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 491

Date: Saturday July 26 2008 04:36:19 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Keith Whittall Update 26 July I am pleased to let everyone know the Keith has been transferred to Derriford Hospital Plymouth. He underwent an emergency operation yesterday afternoon at 1530hrs. Unfortunately there were complications during the procedure. Doctors are doing tests but the results will not be known until after the weekend. I will keep everyone posted when the results are known. Pete.

---

message #: 490

Date: Thursday July 24 2008 10:41:32 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Rich I spoke to Keith's wife Pam this morning and have some good news. Keith is now stable although still in ICU. In Pam's words "we have the old Whitts back". He is in good spirits but frustrated at not being able to speak because of the trachotomy and unable to be placed in another ICU for further treatment as Poole hospital are unable to give Keith the specialist treatment he requires. Doctor's planned to move him to Plymouth this week but there were no beds available. Keith and his family would like to thank everyone for all the messages they have received Pendles

---

message #: 489

Date: Friday July 18 2008 16:50:24 EST  
Name: Max  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I am saddened at the passing of my old gigging mate Morrie Colbourne along with Benny Freedman we use to gig regular in Pompy and at Northney Holiday camp on Hayling Island my sincere condolences to the family at 95 you had a good innings Rest in peace old buddy Maxie Beare .

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 488

Date: Wednesday July 16 2008 10:25:55 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Rich Further to my last message I have spoken to Keith Whittall's wife Pam and the main problem with Keith is his breathing. The doctors need to do a scan to find out the problem but cannot make him stable enough to perform the procedure. They were due to move him to Exeter last monday but had to cancel because of his relapse which of course has been a big blow to Keith. I have passed on all our wishes to Pam & Keith. Once again if anyone would like to send him a get well message I will gladly pass it on. Pete

---

message #: 487

Date: Tuesday July 15 2008 11:15:29 EST  
Name: pete pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Rich Just to let everyone know that Keith Whittall has had a relapse. He is in the high dependency unit with a secondary infection and breathing problems and at present the doctors are at a loss what to do. A lot of Keith's friends have been talking of going to see him. Can I please ask all who wish to visit him not to bother as they will not be allowed in. If you would like to send Keith best wishes you can e mail me and I will print them off and give them to his wife Pam to read to Keith. Pete

---

message #: 486

Date: Tuesday July 15 2008 10:21:37 EST  
Name: Sgt M Snell  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: MSD  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Guys Having read Jem's post below I would like to make you all aware that the information about the Band Service Reunion 2008 was published on the inside front cover of the Spring edition of the Blue Band Magazine. The forum has also carried all of the information with a link from the main RMBS website to the forum reunion pages. The advert will be repeated in the next edition of the Blue Band (inside front cover) Summer 2008. If you need to contact WO2 Bdmr Williams his number has now been re-edited to read his new number 023 9272 5313 on the webflyer we produced and is now on the main website on the Band Service Reunion Link found at the bottom of every page. We look forward to meeting you all there and don't forget to bring your money for the Corps Coloured Washbags!!

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 485

Date: Monday July 14 2008 22:19:02 EST  
Name: Janice Jones  
Email: janjones@shaw.ca

Service Number: N/A  
Hometown: Winnipeg Canada  
Instrument/s: N/A  
n/a:

Comments:  
Any Genealogists among the Bandsmen? I am looking for the records of James Howe born in 1864 in East Stonehouse Devon. His father Robert Howe was described on a Census as a Mariner. James Howe was a Sergeant in the Royal Marines when he married Matilda Dunn (nee Haythorn) in 1890. In the Census of 1891 James was a Bugle Major. Matilda's deceased husband Richard Dunn had also been a Bugler. By 1901 James and Matilda Howe were living in the RM Barracks Durnford Street East Stonehouse. Matilda Howe died in 1902 and from then on I have been unable to find James Howe. I am wondering if anyone would have complete records for Marine Bandsmen (or where I could find some) as I would like to establish James' history. He would have been too old for WWI I think (in his 50s) and may have "retired" by then. Any suggestions gratefully received! email: janjones@shaw.ca Janice Jones Winnipeg Canada

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message #: 484

Date: Saturday July 12 2008 02:57:32 EST  
Name: pete pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Rich Just been on the phone with Keith Whittall's daughter Emma and the good news is Keith is out of intensive care & on a normal ward. He has had an up & down week but is improving slowly. His wife Pam is hoping he will be transferred to a local hospital soon. Pam would also like to thank everyone for the get well messages Pete

---

message #: 483

Date: Thursday July 10 2008 10:14:43 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard Some of our family have been asking me about the state of my health so to bring you up to date: I have had checks on the chronic leukaemia and everything is stable so no need at this stage for any more chemo therapy. I had to have a colonoscopy at the hospital last week; this to check if all was clear as two polyps were found during the last inspection whilst I was in Iceland. This was clear and my next check will be in five years time. I'm quite happy the way things are Richard apart from the arthritis and there's nothing that can be done about that except keep taking the tablets! With all good wishes Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 482

Date: Thursday July 10 2008 05:51:14 EST  
Name: JEM TUGWOOD  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: CLART/ALTO/ VIOLIN.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Dickie Just a few lines to enquire if you are aware of the publication of the booking forms for the Reunion to be held HMS Nelson this year. I phoned WO11 Williams but no reply and couldn't leave a message. As we have to submit our names and those of our guests prior to the event I was wondering if you may have heard when the application forms will be published as the time is getting quite close to the event. I wonder if I have might have missed something as they're usually out quite early in the year I hope you and yours are well and look forward to seeing you at the reunion in Oct. Best wishes Jem [Editor] Jem! Your e mail has not been working lately. Please revise if need be and let me know soonest. I'll pursue the reunion business forthwith. Cheers!

---

message #: 481

Date: Sunday July 6 2008 09:04:09 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Clt/VlnPiano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hullo to all. I have just read that Keith Whittal and Dave Buchanan are pretty poorly. Through this page can I ask any of you who will be visiting these two great guys to pass on my best wishes. I haven't seen Keith since my days at Drake and Dave I haven't seen since Deal. I do hope that both will improve soon. I will be thinking of you both. Mike.

---

message #: 480

Date: Friday July 4 2008 08:15:12 EST  
Name: Pete Pendlebury  
Email: prp.pete@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3861  
Hometown: Exmouth  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Rich Just to let everyone who knows him that Keith Whittal is in Poole Hospital with pancreatitis . He was on holiday with his wife Pam when he was struck down. I spoke to his daughter today he is on a ventilator in intensive care. His daughter said he is getting better but recovery will be a long slow process. I am going to speak again with his daughter Emma over the weekend so hope to have more news then. I am sure all who know Keith wish him a speedy recovery

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 479

Date: Thursday July 3 2008 14:46:47 EST  
Name: Rod Williamson  
Email: rodney.williamson@virgin.net

Service Number: Q00 3491S  
Hometown: Whitstable  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
I'm totally shocked to read of the passing of Major John Kelly. I remember him well as such a likeable person as a boy under training and later on in life as a SNCO in the Mess at Deal. I would be most grateful if anyone could let me have any further details. Best wishes to old mates everywhere. Rod (Bungy)

---

message #: 478

Date: Thursday July 3 2008 01:57:35 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: clarinet/violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Ian or Ginge as we all know him was in Neptune House back in 1958 but I don't remember having seen him since I passed out in 1961 what I do remember is that he had an infectious sense of humour which had us in stitches at the Christmas Pantomimes and throughout our time together in boys wing. Please remember me to him and pass on my most sincere best wishes for a very speedy recovery. Regards Jem

---

message #: 477

Date: Wednesday July 2 2008 06:25:07 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Lincolnshire.  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Folks Knowing the care and concern visitors to this site have for RMB's past and present I wish to pass on news of an old mate of mine. Ian Ritsma (aka Ginge Hammond) Clarinet/Violin who lives in Crownhill Plymouth is having a very bad time health wise at the moment. Some weeks ago he was admitted to hospital for a serious operation. During this operation problems occurred which meant the operation had to be stopped. Since then he has been in and out of hospital (more often in than out) much to Ian's disgust. He is back in Derriford hospital at the moment and the plan is to do his operation on Friday and then he hopes to get home again after. I feel sure all his old mates would like to wish him the best of luck for Friday and a speedy recovery afterwards. Nobby.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 476

Date: Tuesday July 1 2008 08:20:07 EST  
Name: Andy Wright  
Email: wright772@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just a quick message to say a big thankyou to all the ex "bandys" and their wives who attended Richard "Shiner" Wright's funeral on 27th June 2008 I think I speak for the whole family when I say that "shiner" had a good send off we were overwhelmed at how many people were there and the distances people travelled. I must say a huge thankyou to the Royal Marines Band service for supplying a first rate bugler (not that any of them aren't first rate !). It was an extremely emotional day but it was made all the easier seeing all those familiar faces there many thanks once again.  
The Wright Family

---

message #: 475

Date: Sunday June 29 2008 03:33:29 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
What a send off for Richard. And to have a Bugler from The Royal Band in attendance was Great. Great also was to meet up with more ex RMBs from the far distant passed all bar one it has been well over 40 years. My Best wishes to you all. Noel

---

message #: 474

Date: Thursday June 26 2008 18:46:19 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3242  
Hometown: Tennyson  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Everyone I have used the Interviews taken at the 'Oz reunion last march and can supply you all with a disk with mp3 files on it for you to listen to. Can the members concerned please let me have their street address.  
Also just a note about Max's report on the event that www.adrianhead web site is no longer working so if you need to contact me this is how:- "Tromberg Two"  
391 Tennyson Rd Tennyson, P NSW 2754 Phone 61 2 4576 7617 or Mb 612 407 216 471 or 612 428 966 991 P E-mail: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com Sorry to hear of so many old mates passing on I look forward to joining them soon. Yours faithfully Bill & Sylvia Matthews.  
P NSW 2754 Phone 612 4576 7617 or Mb 612 407 216 471 or 612 428 966 991 P E-mail; WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 473

Date: Wednesday June 25 2008 19:10:02 EST  
Name: Max  
Email:

Service Number: RMB x 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Oh dear So sad to hear of the passing of Johnny Baulf we served together in St Vincent in the early 50s and happily for us we entertained John and his family here in Silverdale in 1995 our deepest Sympathy goes to Sheila at this very sad time be brave Darling our thoughts are with you all Rest in peace old friend Max and Katherine

---

message #: 472

Date: Sunday June 22 2008 05:08:57 EST  
Name: Frank Coleman  
Email: frajoy@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMBX 1976  
Hometown: Bournemouth  
Instrument/s: Violin/Viola/Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Re Guest Book entry 468 by Wayne Coleman My Daughter Helen traced our family tree back to 1793 starting at Odell Bedfordshire to Daventry. I will provide any info.

---

message #: 471

Date: Tuesday June 17 2008 09:38:34 EST  
Name: Eddie Pescud  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3099  
Hometown: Honiton Devon  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear All Re: Richard (Shiner) Wright Ever since Andy informed us on the RM Band Web Barbara and I have felt a deep sense of loss. Shiner was a great man larger than life and so positive and courageous. Our memories go back to Singapore in the Commando Band and continued through the reunions at Portsmouth where we made a date to meet this year. Alas Shiner my old mate I know you can't be there in person but I'm sure you will be there in spirit. It was a pleasure to have known and served with you. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Tuula and family. Eddie and Barbara

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 470

Date: Tuesday June 17 2008 02:57:53 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: worthing  
Instrument/s: alto/cart violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
I have just heard the sad news that Shiner passed away last Friday he was such a likeable character with a very dry sense of humour and personality to go with it. I had the pleasure of meeting with him at last years reunion and it comes as a great shock to realise he won't be with us this year. I had known Shiner over many years during my time in the band service but our meetings were few and far between however he never forgot a face and always had a kind word to say on every occasion he will be sadly missed I send my sincere condolences to his family friends and the many colleagues he has at this very sad time. Rest in peace Shiner Jem

---

message #: 469

Date: Monday June 16 2008 18:19:31 EST  
Name: Andy Wright  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Re: Richard "shiner" Wright The funeral service for shiner will take place on the 27th June at 13:00 hours to be held at St. Marys Church Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire followed by cremation (family) but all are welcome to come to the Carriage House the market square Higham Ferrers after the church service. The Wright Family

---

message #: 468

Date: Monday June 16 2008 08:53:41 EST  
Name: Wayne Coleman  
Email: Colemanwayned@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: -  
Hometown: Kibworth Harcourt LEICESTER  
Instrument/s: --  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear All Thank you for letting me browse such a wonderful site. Credit should be extended to those involved in its production. I am researching my family tree and am trying to find a way of contacting Ray Woodfield (a distant family member). Any help gratefully appreciated. Keep up the good work with this site. Kind Regards Wayne Coleman (Mr.) RSVP

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 467

Date: Sunday June 15 2008 13:14:04 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe. N/Lincs  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sorry to hear the sad news that Shiner has passed away. Another star who will be greatly missed but never ever forgotten. Will miss seeing him at the Reunions but feel sure he will be with us in spirit. Proud to have known him. Nobby Clarke.

---

message #: 466

Date: Saturday June 14 2008 11:17:19 EST  
Name: Sidney Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal,Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard. I am deeply saddened to hear that Richard (Shiner) Wright has passed away. We served together in Singapore. He was a fine man and I am privileged to have known and served with him. To his wife Tuula and family we send our heartfelt condolences. Rest in peace dear Shiner. Sid and Sheila

---

message #: 465

Date: Saturday June 14 2008 11:00:19 EST  
Name: Jim McCleave  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4291  
Hometown: Scunthorpe  
Instrument/s: Bass/Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi everyone I am posting this message to see if there is anyone around from 1/70 intake. There was only 8 of us but what a laugh we had. I attended a couple of reunions in 2001 and 2004 had a great time but noticed no-one from my intake. Reading the message board i find no service number from near my number which worries me. Am i the only one left? I spoke to some of the lads i knew from Deal at the 2001 reunion like Rod Geary Captain (scouse) Henderson and one or two others as well as lads from Pompey band 72-76 had a great time and was prompted to attend another in 2004. Although i enjoyed it i felt rather out of touch as apart for Mick Scurfield there was hardly anyone there from my era. Where are you all?

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 464

Date: Saturday June 14 2008 10:30:14 EST  
Name: Glyn Oremek  
Email:

Service Number: rmb 3416  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: sax/clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Tuula and family we are very sorry to hear of your sad loss indeed a loss to all who knew him. He was a much loved and respected man and will be sorely missed our thoughts are with you all at this time. God Bless. Glyn & Rachael

---

message #: 463

Date: Saturday June 14 2008 04:58:31 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford2003@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard It is with great sadness we hear the news of Richard Wright. We have sent condolences to Tuula and Family. But what a fantastic man Richard was a true gentleman always there to listen or help anyone. His death is a great great loss. We all know that he has suffered so very much but with such dignity. Dear Richard you will be sorely missed. Heaven will be a better place on your arrival. Tuula Andy and Colin our thoughts are with you all. Barry and Heather Radford

---

message #: 462

Date: Friday June 13 2008 18:48:05 EST  
Name: Max and Katherine  
Email: maxie2234@xtra.co.nz

Service Number: RMBx 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
From us all here in New Zealand we send condolences to Tuula and the family it was only last year we had the pleasure of the family here with us and no doubt we all have very fond memories of our mate Shiner my own personal memory was waking from an induced sleep after my heart attack and seeing them both standing there and insisting I get up you loafer! That sums up our mate so dear friend God Bless safe journey Max and Katherine

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 461

Date: Friday June 13 2008 15:12:06 EST  
Name: Andy Wright  
Email: wright772@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: The Celestial Bandroom  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Re: Richard "shiner" Wright It is with deepest regret that I have to inform all of Shiner's ex band members and friends that Shiner left this world at 17:25 today (13th June). He battled on to the very end Dad didn't want to go anywhere yet and he told us and the doctors several days ago the same. We know he was a well respected musician and friend to a lot of you but alas his life was cut short by a terrible illness that he fought strong and hard to beat. One of Shiner's famous sayings that you will all understand was "see you in the counter march". Once again our thanks go to all those that have sent their good wishes I will post an update about Shiner's funeral when we know more.  
Regards Andy Wright

---

message #: 460

Date: Wednesday June 11 2008 06:22:03 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX2902  
Hometown: Par.  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
H everybody my old chum Russ Thomas has been searching for a Dennis Swan who was a trumpet player. Last seen in the Leicester area. Does anyone know anything about him. E mail me so I can put them in touch. Cheers Pete

---

message #: 459

Date: Tuesday June 10 2008 01:19:37 EST  
Name: Dan Archer  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
The following letter was received by a guy on the Once a Marine site.....can anyone help..... I can relay any info back... Dear Sir is it possible for you to send me details of any websites I can use to get further details of my father Sidney Walkden. His date of birth was 31/07/1918. He joined the Royal Marines Band Service somewhere between 1934 and the outbreak of WWII. Three of the ships he was stationed on were HMS Indomitable HMS Eagle and HMS Naiad. Post war he was stationed in the Isle of Man until he left the service in 1948 I believe he had reached the rank of Bandmaster. Unfortunately Dad passed away on 12/07/2006. Thanking you in anticipation. Phil Walkden Dan

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 458

Date: Monday June 9 2008 17:34:12 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum Oh My Aching back  
n/a:

Comments:  
I think that I speak for all ex RMBs in Australia when I pass on our best wishes to our friend Shiner Wright. My personal thoughts have already been forwarded privately to Tuula and the family

---

message #: 457

Date: Monday June 9 2008 13:34:09 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX 2638  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Our thoughts are with you Shiner from all the Euph & 'Cello club. Mick Hutton.

---

message #: 456

Date: Monday June 9 2008 03:59:35 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: QOO(RMB) 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
May I add to the many wishes that have already been sent to Shiner. I never served with him but he is a good friend. I wish him well for a speedy recovery and would hope to see him and his Carer(son) in Portsmouth this year. God bless Shiner you are in my thoughts please pass on my best to him and all members of his family I will certainly raise a tot to him.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 455

Date: Saturday June 7 2008 14:09:46 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to hear that Richard is in Hospital. We served together in Singapore. I found that nothing was too much trouble for Richard and he would help you in any way he could. From Sheila and myself our thoughts are with you and your Family. Take care Buddy, Sid

---

message #: 454

Date: Friday June 6 2008 17:23:42 EST  
Name: Andy Wright  
Email: wright772@btinternet.com

Service Number: sadly i dint have one  
Hometown: Higham ferrers  
Instrument/s: euph  
n/a:

Comments:  
re: Richard "shiner" Wright previous to my last message as i was rubbish at maths at school i forgot to count 1024 characters anyway i carried on to say on behalf of Shiner Tuula Colin and myself we wholeheartly thank you all for your well wishes and words of kindness after all you are all our extended family please keep praying and keep sending your best regards to shiner i will pass on all your messages to dad fondest regards Andy Wright.

---

message #: 453

Date: Friday June 6 2008 16:44:08 EST  
Name: Rich  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Florianopolis  
Instrument/s: Many  
n/a:

Comments:  
Having just read the previous message and knowing all too briefly the magnificence of the man Richard Wright I hope and pray that the relief and love of human kindness can exude toward him at this intolerable time for us all. To Richard and your family and I was so happy to be in your company at the reunion I can assure MY thoughts are daily with you. You will not be forgotten dearest friend. On behalf of ALL I submit to you that WE LOVE YOU. Richard Valentine and all.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 452

Date: Friday June 6 2008 16:32:09 EST  
Name: Andy Wright  
Email: wright772@btinternet.com

Service Number: sadly i dont have one  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers  
Instrument/s: i used to try and blow a euphonium  
n/a:

Comments:  
p>RE: Richard "shiner" Wright On behalf of my mother brother and myself i thought i would give you all a quick update of "dads" present condition as of today shiner is being made comfortable on a fantastically caring ward at kettering general hospital (KGH) shiners condition worsened several days ago and he was admitted to kgh with shortness of breath and an infection his kidneys started to blow a bum note shortly after this and after much debate between the nhs "gods" it was decided that shiner should be transferred to northampton general hospital for a nephrostomy (tubes into his kidneys) after several hours of being messed about (i won no friends during this period) shiner and "us" were told he couldn't have the operation we were ever so slightly miffed at this point !!! i was informed by my brother that dad needed to be transported back to kgh so a few favours were called in and i tranferred dad back to a nice clean happy comfortable bed at kgh (im a paramedic) i dont want to sound bitter but shiner didnt need to be messed about and i wasnt going to allow it. As ive said shiner is comfortable Willy Wardle is coming to see dad on Saturday and i think he may smuggle in a tot

---

message #: 451

Date: Friday June 6 2008 09:52:52 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Sorry to hear that Shiner Wright is in hospital. Have seen him and his son on a few occasions recently and know he always make a point of being there for others. He is a real fighter so I have no doubt that he will not break the habit this time. I look forward to seeing again at the next reunion. Best wishes to him and his family. Nobby.

---

message #: 450

Date: Friday June 6 2008 08:47:41 EST  
Name: Glyn Oremek  
Email: littlefado@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: Rmb 3416  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Sax / clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
We have just heard the sad news that Shiner Wright is in hospital and my wife and I would like him and his family to know our thoughts and prayers are with them. Glyn & Rachael

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 449

Date: Friday June 6 2008 06:13:51 EST  
Name: Charlie Laws  
Email: charles@charleslaws.wanadoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3057  
Hometown: Deal Kent.  
Instrument/s: Swimming & Water polo Coach Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I am sorry to hear Richard Wright is in hospital I hope he is back on the mend whilst in Singapore with him he always came across as a very cheerful person I've only met him once since then and that was at the reunion were we had a great chat. Get Well Richard.

---

message #: 448

Date: Monday June 2 2008 15:56:05 EST  
Name: Edward McDermott  
Email: mmacdermott@btinternet.com

Service Number: QOO4119X  
Hometown: Belfast  
Instrument/s: FLT/PICC/SAX  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard. Could you please email me your address so I can send my contribution. Regards  
Ed(paddy)McDermott

---

message #: 447

Date: Monday June 2 2008 03:54:55 EST  
Name: Max  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear friends I have just spent a very pleasant hour or so looking at the pictures from the All Stars concert whilst I didn't know many by face I still felt that I knew them all such is the bond between us Ex RMBs thanks for the hard work in compiling the montage..... Well done Bernard S 'Maxie' Beare

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 446

Date: Wednesday May 28 2008 06:16:57 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX2902  
Hometown: Par  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

So sad to see the news of Freddie Flux. He was the Eb clarinet player when I was in the old Plymouth Divi band under Captain Lang. I think he joined us from Drake Band. He was always a very quiet chap and kept to himself a lot. I was in touch with him two years ago when he intended coming to the WCR but sadly illness prevented me seeing him again. I hope the boys in Deal give him a good send off and my condolences go to his wife and family. May their sadness be helped knowing others are thinking of them. Pete.

---

message #: 445

Date: Tuesday May 27 2008 21:40:24 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:

Sorry to see the sad news that yet another of my generation has crossed the Bar not that I have had any contact with Freddie Flux since he rated in around 1954. Still a bitter blow to see one go when others are having a much longer life. Life can be so unfair at times.....

---

message #: 444

Date: Wednesday May 21 2008 12:57:49 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX 2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi everyone... Are there any of you who served in HMS Phoenicia Manoel Island between 1952 and the mid 60's who might have some interesting information and/or pictures? The Glasgow band 52/54 were the first to be based there I was one of them but I do believe there were many more guys after us who might be able to help. My reasons for asking are that the Fort of Manoel Island is being reconstructed and restored to it's former glory and the architects are very interested in any information about the place that the RM Bands who were stationed there could give. If you have any...please get in touch. Many thanks. Michael Hutton.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 443

Date: Friday May 16 2008 00:59:19 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum Oh My Aching back  
n/a:

Comments:  
G/day one and all the next Australasian reunion of ex RMBs in Adelaide will be held on the weekend of 27th 28th and 29th march 2009. Assembly venue and accomodation has been changed to the Glenelg Motel Tapleys Hill Rd. Glenelg South Australia which is still only 300 metres from HMS Buffalo. More details will be published later. If you have not read the reports about the 2008 function on this sites Notice Board or in the most recent Blue Band Magazine I would encourage you to do so. We had a ball. Once again if you intend to join us and would like accommodation arranged Bob Chumley can be contacted by email: chummers@optusnet.com.au Am looking forward to seeing more of you there.

---

message #: 442

Date: Wednesday May 14 2008 21:43:47 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello  
Rich and Members From the Tornado plagued Carolinas I would just like to say that the date of the 2009 WCR as mentioned in my jottings is not correct as the date has been changed again but you will need to wait until Pete Westaway confirms the date later. I regret that this is the case as I had hoped to meet up with an old shipmate for the 2009 reunion but that now looks unlikely as he will be attending the HMS London reunion couldn't we make some effort to collate reunion dates so that this doesn't occur again? Surely we can organise our diaries so that we do not have a clash of dates. Food for thought? Kind regards Yours aye Bill. PS. Have already decided that I will be an attendee at the Adelaide Reunion in 2009.....

---

message #: 441

Date: Tuesday April 22 2008 16:53:42 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum Oh My Aching back  
n/a:

Comments:  
G/day to one and all. We are now giving advance warning that the 2009 reunion of ex RMBs in Australia will be held in Adelaide South Australia as on previous occasions. Dates times and venues will be promulgated ASAP and reminders will be posted. If you think that you may be attending could you inform either myself at above address or Bob Chumley at Email: chummers@optusnet.com.au

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 440

Date: Monday April 21 2008 19:51:41 EST  
Name: Ron McCallum  
Email: ronmccallum@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X 3020  
Hometown: Belfast  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
What a great site! It has inspired me to enlist in ex Rm Band when I return to the USA. At the moment I am visiting my son in Ottawa Ontario. I shall be returning to San Diego the beginning of July. I've felt sadness at seeing names like Rod Farrell and Hedley Lock. There is also joy at recognising names like Graham Hoskins and especially Maxie Beare. I play in a 60 piece community Band in San Diego. I promise to keep in touch. Fantastic work Dickie.

---

message #: 439

Date: Monday April 21 2008 12:25:00 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX 2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
I feel a bit lost for words over the loss of Hedley. I have only just heard the sad news having been off line for some time. The reunion in Australia took it's toll this year when I had to travel on my own without Ken Kelley and it left me very jet-lagged so had not checked the website until today. I'm sorry I was not at his funeral I just wish some one had let me know! Having sat alongside him for the last umpteen 'All Stars' and also a couple of weeks before we were playing together in the RMA Band rehearsal in Pompey. I've known him all his band service career as a member of the 'Euph & Cello' club and my thoughts are with his family friends and anyone who had the luck to know him. Michael Hutton.

---

message #: 438

Date: Saturday April 19 2008 14:02:57 EST  
Name: Brian Thorogood  
Email: Bandy1@thorogo.fsnet.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3456  
Hometown: Romford  
Instrument/s: Clarinet & Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Only found out Hedley passed away and was sent to the great beyond last week I joined up with him as a boy in 655 Squad September 1955 what a guy he was always larking about but still very sincere in every thing he did I feel sure he will be greatly missed his absence from the All Stars band will be a huge loss. God bless you Hedley may your new journey be smooth and steady . Brian T.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 437

Date: Saturday April 19 2008 05:56:48 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford@manx.net

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi to you all, I am now back on line after being off it for some four weeks. I apologise to anyone who has emailed of late. Sorry but I will get back to you all a.s.a.p.. I did manage to get to Hedley's Funeral. WOW! What a day and it was worth all the travelling and discomfort to be there. What a wonderful piece of writing from Derek (Ush the Lush) Usher. Apart from being there to pay respects to Hedley it was great to see other members of our 'Great Family' not seen for years. In particular Eric (Whacker) Payne not seen since 1961! But it was especially heart warming to see Richard Wright there. (What have we Euph and Cello players done to deserve all this pain?). On another note I have recently been to visit John (Gunner) Hargreaves. He was as well as can be expected but the 'Home for Retired Gentlemen' is really good both Heather and I spent a couple of hours with John and Wendy. Visitors are most welcome But please no booze! P.S. Many thanks to Merv and Sue for putting up with me for a couple of nights and Merv for being my carer on the 'Big Day'. Regards to all great to be back. Barry Radford

---

message #: 436

Date: Friday April 18 2008 13:30:11 EST  
Name: Dan Archer  
Email: archer378@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: po22378c  
Hometown: Kerikeri NZ  
Instrument/s: Bugler/Drum Major  
n/a:

Comments:

Well done Derek and Shiner for writing such moving posts about Hedley. I am sorry I was unable to attend it sounds as if the Band Service pulled off another fine performance. Hedley has also gained many accolades on the Once a Marine site from ex Booties who took part in the Corps Golf matches. <http://civvie.street.proboards19.com/index.cgi?board=Obituaries&action=display&thread=10378> Best wishes Dan Archer

---

message #: 435

Date: Thursday April 17 2008 19:21:42 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: pauldel43@ntlworld.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:

Dear colleagues Our webmaster has posted my piece on Hedley on the Notice Board and via a link from the Sunset page. I am sure that I speak on behalf of us all and I urge you to go to the Notice Board or Sunset link for my complete account. Derek Usher.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 434

Date: Wednesday April 16 2008 10:36:54 EST  
Name: Richard Wright.  
Email: rntwright@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3716.  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Euph. &#39;cello & Trombone.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
If it could be described as lovely it was the way that Hedley's funeral went. Standing room only fine music applause laughter blue skies sun warmth & so many old friends. Then I was told that Keith Shipman had left us due to the dreadful C. Thankfully son No. 2 drove; I was too emotionally drained to do so. Wednesday now & I realise how physically exhausted I am. The nasty thing is creeping up on me. We see the Consultant tomorrow & the Councillor. It does not look good. If only they could take my lower half away I'd be a lot better. The WCR is a 'no go' this year I'm sorry to say. There's always next year! Kindest regards & warmest thoughts to you all. I intend to fight every inch of the way so keep on thinking of & for me. Shiner.

---

message #: 433

Date: Saturday April 12 2008 12:28:43 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: QOO(RMB) 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
We have a problem Houston Bob Baker is saying that the late HGBs funeral is at 1045 on the info bar Richard is saying it is at 1000. For those who are attending help! We need clarification. Editor: Be informed that I was given the revised time as 1000 so ensure you note that all of you who will be there. My thoughts and prayers are with Hedley's family and all our collective family. Richard.

---

message #: 432

Date: Friday April 11 2008 09:24:18 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend.Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard I have just had a phone call from Ken Schooley and as he is getting over his return to the UK from a holiday in Dubai he has asked me to convey the sad news that Len F. Lovell RMBx 1173 passed away in Yeovil on the 9th of April. The funeral arrangements are that he will be interned at Yeovil Crematorium on Friday 18th April at 3pm followed by a meeting for all at the Conservative Club. I met Len on just the one occasion during a visit to Ken and Diane about two years ago. It has been a sad week for our family. Best wishes to all. Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 431

Date: Thursday April 10 2008 10:48:35 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard. It is very sad to hear the of the loss of Hedley. We were boys together in Neptune House in the 50s and when he entered a room his smile and personality lit the whole room up. I never saw Hedley for many years until I met him at the Reunion three years ago in Pompey and even then his smile and personality shone through. A Truly remarkable person who will be sadly missed. My heartfelt condolences go to his family and friends. Rest in Peace Hedley. Sid

---

message #: 430

Date: Thursday April 10 2008 02:11:06 EST  
Name: JEM TUGWOOD  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: ALTO/CLART VIOLIN  
n/a:

Comments:  
Many tributes have been sent in for Hedley and I would like to add that we have all lost a true friend a man with an infectious wit a delightful personality and a very fine instrumentalist. Hedley was one of those people who saw the funny side of everything and it was a joy to be in his company. I haven't seen Hedley for some time but I would like to add my most sincere condolences to his family and all his close friends and associates that had the pleasure of knowing him. He will be sadly missed Jem

---

message #: 429

Date: Wednesday April 9 2008 22:14:33 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend.Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
With reference to Ray Lloyd's comments about the Edinburgh Tattoo in '69 this was the one when a certain trombone player from the army band went walk about during one of the massed bands shows!! Nuff said. Does anyone remember the Manchester show and we in Fleet Band were there? During one of the evening rest periods at our hotel and a quiet drink in the bar who should show up but Hank Marvin of "The Shadows" fame! Andy Crofts (our esteemed drum major) was so surprised that he got down and paid homage to Hank's feet!! Such memories! Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 428

Date: Monday April 7 2008 12:01:46 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violan/a:

Comments:

p>How sad to hear of the passing of Hedley I have had the pleasure of knowing him since my first days at Staff Band back in 1969. I went to the Edinburgh Tattoo very wet behind the ears and got pally with Hedley in the NAFFI bar at Redford Barracks. Hedley in his usual way started taking the P\*\*\* out of a huge Scottish Bagpiper I thought my career was just about end when Hedley challenged him to a pint drinking contest. I did not know that he was a master and downed a pint non-stop in seconds needless to say his opponent give in bought us more drinks and we escaped in-tact. I have also had the pleasure of being with him on Euph for the All Stars sadly I was unable to attend this year so missed out on a possible last meeting something I now regret! Dickie/Webmaster is it possible to have a separate Obituary page so we could leave messages of sympathy for families which could then be printed off and given to them to show those of us who are unable to attend a funeral care and can at least be aware of the thoughts we would all love to pass to them it may be a comfort for families to know that people like Hedley were loved & respected by so many and will be greatly missed JUST A

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message #: 427

Date: Monday April 7 2008 09:45:33 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB(QOO3482R)  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:

p>To say that I am saddened to hear of the loss of Hedley GeorgeBelchem Lock would be an understatement I am at a loss for words he seemed to fighting his illness so well. I like others had the pleasure of knowing Hedley for more years than I care to remember we were boys together in the late 50s and we like others have said did the very first commission on HMS HERMES 1960/61 he was always a joker back then nothing seemed to bother him. I also served with him for a while at Eastney it was during this time that the future King of England was learning to play the cello and I think during his time on the Yacht that Hedley had a hand in his lessons it is also rumoured that during these lessons that there was a crate of beer by Hedley' chair true or false I dont know. Those of us that knew will always remember him for his outlook on life always happy and would always give a quick quip for almost any given situation. My heartfelt condolences go to his lovely wife and all members of his family and to those members of his family that is the RMB. I unfortunately will not be able to attend his funeral as that is the day I am flying back to attend the WCR but rest assured I will raise a glass in Ply

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message #: 426

Date: Monday April 7 2008 07:10:25 EST  
Name: Bob Baker  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3533  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:

The arrangements for Hedley's funeral are 1045hrs at Eastbourne Crematorium on April 15th. See you there.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 425

Date: Monday April 7 2008 04:36:06 EST  
Name: Richard Wright.  
Email: rntwright@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3716.  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Euph. &#39;cello & Trombone.  
n/a:

Comments:  
For Tuula & myself Hedley having to leave us is such a bitter blow. We used to gibber to each other every week exchanging & expressing hopes & anything that would detract us away from what we both refused to accept. We both shared the same 'slimming' problem & would say various rude things about it but our last call after the All Stars Concert gave me to think that all was far from well. My next call went unanswered & I assumed that he was on holiday. Whenever wherever & whatever groups meet again Hedley will always be there with us. 'Up top' now with Ken, Kelley so they can both yell "Play Up Pompey!" & talk about Wembly past @ 30/- a gig! If only they could have made this Cup Final! May they in the company of so many other good friends rest in peace free at last from that dreadful gnawing pain. Shiner.

---

message #: 424

Date: Monday April 7 2008 03:25:43 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX3329  
Hometown: Scunthorpe  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
I was very sad to hear of the news regarding Hedley. We both had our first real draft together on H.M.S. Hermes 1st Commission. He was a shipmate and pal that I will never forget and my heart goes out to his family. He will be missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him. Rest in Peace old Pal. Nobby.

---

message #: 423

Date: Sunday April 6 2008 20:25:06 EST  
Name: Max  
Email:

Service Number: RMB x 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I am saddened to hear of the passing of Joker Hedley we had many a laugh mate and at times was the life and soul of the party Hedley you will really be missed and whilst I'm not at the All Stars I'm sure like me they will miss your humour and just being you Rest in peace old friend Maxie Bear

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 422

Date: Sunday April 6 2008 16:50:39 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: pauldel43@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Bude  
Instrument/s: Cornet / Violin  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

As a member of the RMA Concert Band we all received the very sad news from Ted Whealing (our DOM) that Hedley Lock passed away this evening at 20.30p.m. - Hedley was a very active member of the band & in spite of his recent illness & major operations he rarely missed a rehearsal and was with us only a fortnight ago blowing his Euph' as strongly as ever! This news is so hard to believe or take in at present particularly after only seeing him so recently at rehearsal doing his level best (as always) not to let the demon "C" get to him. He so enjoyed his music and loved playing. He just carried on with life as normal always being Hedley always joking always smiling so defiant so stoic in the face of what he was having to live with. Such a great guy loved by all of us. One shining example of how to override adversity by showing an amazing positive attitude to life in general. - In all honesty I don't think any of us knew how ill he really was or felt. He made a point of diverting or hiding that from us all whenever we spoke. - The only possible indicator I guess was his visible weight loss but even that he'd make jokes about! One amazing guy and one that truly will be sorely missed by all who knew him. There will now be one enormous space left behind not only for us but for his nearest & dearest family whom we can only extend our deepest & most heart felt sympathy. But lets assure them that "Hedders" will indeed rest in musical peace from now on and always in the knowledge that at the very least he will soon be surrounded by many of his old comrades who have gone before him including the lovely and most recently departed Ned Kelly eh!? Regards  
Derek

---

message #: 421

Date: Thursday April 3 2008 20:28:31 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum Oh My Aching back  
n/a:

**Comments:**

To Pete Westaway and all attending the WCR on 19 April 08. May I on behalf of all of us Ex RMBs in the Antipodese wish you all success on the occasion of your reunion. If it is half as good as the one that we have just enjoyed in Adelaide then you will all have a ball.

---

message #: 420

Date: Tuesday April 1 2008 16:13:22 EST  
Name: Merv Durrant (Bilko)  
Email: excelmervtheswerv@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB3518  
Hometown: Ropley Hampshire  
Instrument/s: Clarinet & Violin & broom & panttechnicon  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Having seen the photos sent in by Gerry Taylour The Cpl violinist next to Len Spencer is Ken Reuter who i served with in St Vincent band in 1961/62 The B/Mstr at the time was Athur O'Donell hope this is of help Merv Durrant (Bilko)

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 419

Date: Saturday March 29 2008 03:04:01 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I received news from Diana Bull that John is now Home again. I'm sure there are many out there will be wishing him well. Noel

---

message #: 418

Date: Friday March 28 2008 22:47:49 EST  
Name: glyn & rachael oremek  
Email: bluedolphin44@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number: rmbx 3416  
Hometown: plymouth  
Instrument/s: sax / clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
My wife and I would like to say how sorry we were to read about the passing of Ken ( Ned ) Kelly we only met him and Roma for a short while in Singapore but we share other peoples feelings what a lovely couple. Our condolences to Roma and family. Glyn & Rachael.

---

message #: 417

Date: Thursday March 27 2008 04:06:54 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
What a wonderful send off for Ned Kelley. The Church was absolutely packed with Family and Friends. It was nice to meet up with other ex RMBs Merv Durrant Mick Blandford Richard Wright Ken Booth and Colin Bowden. God Bless you Ned.....Noel & Sheila Crook

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 416

Date: Wednesday March 26 2008 09:00:07 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s: Alto/clart and violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I've just read the very sad news of the passing of Ned Kelley I served with him at HMS Thunderer in Plymouth back in 1963/5 and again I had the pleasure of serving with him on the Royal Yacht for several long and memorable years together with Tommy Lambert Jim Mason and lots of other true friends and musicians the RMB is so well known for having. I hadn't seen Ned for many years but was aware that he had achieved his ambition on leaving the Band Service to become a teacher and I'm sure he was an inspiration to all who had the privilege of being taught by him not to mention the great times we had together at Plymouth and on the Yacht. Ned had a great sense of humour and I remember some of his Kelley'isms even now such as his unique "mollyoppenheimerninth" chord. My sincere condolences go out to his family and to all who mourn the passing of a truly great and memorable friend. Rest in Peace Ned Jem

---

message #: 415

Date: Monday March 24 2008 04:21:43 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So very sorry to hear of the passing of Ken. I served with him in Malta 1953 - 55. I saw his name on the All Stars Programme this month and was looking forward to catching up with him. My condolences to his family. Noel & Sheila Crook

---

message #: 414

Date: Friday March 21 2008 14:52:14 EST  
Name: Richard Wright.  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3716.  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Euph. &#39;cello & Trombone.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Tuula & I wish to associate ourselves with the condolences to Ken, Kelly's family at this sad time for them & for all of us. We had the pleasure of serving with Ken, & Roma whilst in the Band of HQ 3 Cdo. Bde. in Singapore 1963-1966. We intend to pay our last respects & say farewell at his funeral. A true gentleman & a brave one; his name appears as a playing member in the All Stars programme this year; he fully intended to play if he could. The £250 donation for Macmillan Nurses granted at the concert at Margate has been sent on. From my own unfortunate circumstances & I am sure from Ken's & Roma's experience it will be well received. May he rest in peace. Shiner.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 413

Date: Friday March 21 2008 06:37:27 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: QOO(RMB) 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

May I add my name to those that have already passed on their condolences to the family of Ken (Ned) Kelley. I had the pleasure to have served with Ken during my time at Eastney under Tom Lambert and Capt Jim as others have already said he was a gent in every way. My condolences go to all members of his family and to members of the RMB that knew and had the pleasure to serve with him. KEN KELLY> R i P

---

message #: 412

Date: Tuesday March 18 2008 15:41:25 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: Rmbx2902  
Hometown: Par Cornwall  
Instrument/s: Trombone.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hello everybody here as promised the list of people attending the WCR on the 19th of April Bart Bartholomew Burt Bath Bob Brown, W Chamberlaine A. Clarkson C. Crossman N. Clark Ted Drake Russ Davies G Feather J Goodluft E Gaze P Harker Phil Hughes M. Hickman M. Hyatt, A Hill W. Hartland J Jones T Kellet T Lambert D C Lambert R. Lloyd M. Logan G Latham G Mann B Mills A. McCarthy G MacGregor C. Meatheringham D. Pullen G Pumford E Pescud D. Paige, D. Prateley, I. Petters T. Ruffie T Richardson P Shell D. Simmonds, D. Scott P. Semple, R Thomas M. Thomas, D Taylor A Telleck R. Waterfield D. White K. White S. Wright W Wardle D Waters G. Watts, P. Westaway Total 54 Plus their guests 26 making a total of 80. If anyone wishes to come I have plenty of tickets to spare E\_mail or phone if you wish to come or wish to pass on a Message to someone attending. The loyal toast will be proposed by Shiner Wright. See you all on the night . Cheers Pete.

---

message #: 411

Date: Monday March 17 2008 15:23:58 EST  
Name: Jim Mason  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:

So sorry to hear the sad news of Ned Kelley who was a guest at my wedding in Malta. He and I were on the Solo Clarinet desk in HMS Glasgow 1952 to 1954 under the baton of "Ernie" Ough. A memorable commission for many reasons Ned and Michael Hutton were on their first ship with a number of other "first timers". We had some great runs ashore together around the Med. Ned will be missed by many people. Jim Mason

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 410

Date: Monday March 17 2008 11:40:37 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX 2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Couple of items to mention. I spelt Ken's wife's name wrong. It is Roma Kelley. The family do not want flowers but if anyone would like to make a donation please send a cheque to Roma Kelley School House Burgclere Nr Newbury. RG20 9HT made out to the 'Cancer Unit Basingstoke Hospital'. Contact me if you need further info; 07831 705589. Michael.

---

message #: 409

Date: Sunday March 16 2008 17:59:55 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX 2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
The funeral for Ken Kelley is 11am Wednesday 26th March. Church of the Ascension Burgclere Newbury. Unfortunately I shall be unable to attend as my flight to Australia for the Adelaide reunion is the day before. I hope therefore that the Band Service may be represented by another of his friends. I do know that Colin Bowden will be there and any of you I'm sure will be welcome. I was with Rhona today and she said the village community are going to hold a party after the service to celebrate Ken's life. Michael.

---

message #: 408

Date: Saturday March 15 2008 21:54:23 EST  
Name: Maxie  
Email: maxie2234@xtra.co.nz

Service Number: RMBx 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo CORNET  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Real sorry to hear of Ken's passing we did serve together in Pompy and on our leaving for NZ in 1972 Ken took responsibility for our Tortoise Rubber Plant and Budgie my two girls will be devastated at the news. To Rhona and family we send our sincere condolences. God Bless Max Katherine Julie and Beverley-Anne

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 407

Date: Saturday March 15 2008 15:28:56 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just heard the news via email from Mick Hutton that our mate Ken (Ned) Kelly MBE has passed on. Ken was a true gentleman of the highest order. I had only spoken to Rona earlier on this week to ask permission of Ken to inform through this site of his illness. He gave that permission but for some reason I held off hoping that things may have turned around but that unfortunately was not to be. Our sincere condolences to all Ken's family. I think I can take the liberty of saying that they come from all of his friends in Australia.

---

message #: 406

Date: Saturday March 15 2008 13:54:54 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard. Just heard the sad news of the loss of Ken (Ned) Kelley. We were in HQ3rd Commando Band in Singapore in 1965. Ken was a true gentleman and will be sadly missed. My condolences go to his family. Sid.

---

message #: 405

Date: Saturday March 15 2008 13:23:44 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX 2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sad news to report. Ken Kelley died in Basingstoke Hospital last evening at 7pm. He had been quite poorly of late with the dreaded cancer but had responded to treatment. Saw him last week when he was very positive and I passed on his best wishes to all the guys in the 'All Stars' last Sunday but unfortunately it wasn't to be and we've lost him. Will be seeing the family tomorrow so will pass on any information about the funeral when known. Michael.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 404

Date: Friday March 14 2008 09:35:35 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329.  
Hometown: Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Folks Does anyone have any contact details for an old mate of mine he joined up with me as a Bandboy in Jan.1955. (1/55 Squad) His name is Rodney Colbourne and like me was Flute and Piano. My Reg.No. was RMBX3329 and his was RMBX3330. He was an expert on anything to do with Gilbert and Sullivan and I think that he married a Deal girl called Beril. I have not heard anything of him since leaving the RMSM, as a boy. He and his family (who I think lived in Gosport) were very kind to me when my parents separated when I was a lad in the School of Music at Deal. It would be nice if anyone out there could give me some news about him. Hope Someone can help.  
Cheers Nobby.

---

message #: 403

Date: Wednesday March 12 2008 15:32:44 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a:

Comments:  
To Pete Westaway Please be so kind as to pass on all the best to all those attending the West Country reunion from all of us in Oz. Our own reunion in Adelaide is only two weeks away 28th 29th 30th March and with 50 attending 30 ex members the remainder are guests. A full list will be published after the event. We hope to have some good reports via the Blue Band Magazine. We will no doubt drink to the health of all past and present members.

---

message #: 402

Date: Wednesday March 12 2008 11:55:47 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX2902  
Hometown: Par Cornwall  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello everyone I will be compiling the list of people attending the WCR in the next few days. If you want to make sure your name is there call or e-mail me or if you wish to see who will be there then apply that's fine also. 77 people are coming so far and of these 49 are bandsmen the others being guests wives sons etc. Check this space to see if your buddy will be attending. Cheers Pete.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 401

Date: Tuesday March 11 2008 09:43:16 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Ctl/Vln/Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard I have just returned from one of my visits to Terry and Jeannine Bishopp in Crynant Neath here in mid Glamorgan. We had for lunch one of my home made chicken and mushroom curry pies with rice. Jeannine provided the soup and dessert. Yum yum! Terry has asked me through the guestbook page to enquire if anyone knows the whereabouts of Eddy (Terry) Toon. I understand he's an old shipmate of Terry Bishopp. An email to me and I can get the message to Terry. Thanks, Mike.

---

message #: 400

Date: Monday March 10 2008 10:48:05 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Have just returned from Margate and the All Stars Concert. What a wonderful programme. A few years now since my last visit David Cole made it an evening to remember never met him as he joined after I had left in 66. To all those who took part Thank you all for a WONDERFUL evening. Noel & Sheila

---

message #: 399

Date: Thursday March 6 2008 13:01:32 EST  
Name: Richard &#39;Dickie&#39; Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston (now living in the USA)  
Instrument/s: Clart/Piano/Vibe/Voice  
n/a:

Comments:  
To all partakers of the acclaimed All Stars Concert Band: Although it is impossible for me to be there on the 9th of March and wishing it to be known that I was one of the many who took part in the very first concert after the atrocity on behalf of all those connected with the website of the ex RMB so devotedly updated designed and maintained by Leila de Araujo Derze and Richard Valentine a very happy memorable and successful concert evening to you all. (could that be the longest sentence ever?) Without question after the evening has taken place and the reports come in all will be added to the web site. With kind good wishes Richard and Leila.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 398

Date: Thursday February 28 2008 16:46:33 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a:

**Comments:**

Winchester as mentioned as Tom's home town must now be a suburb of Adelaide because the last time that I spoke with Tom and that was only last week he was still in the City of Churches here in Oz. However air travel is so much quicker nowadays and I just hope he is back for our reunion in Adelaide on the weekend of 28th 29th and 30th March and maybe he will bring a few more ex RMBs out with him. Incidentally Adelaide was surveyed and set out by Colonel Light RM. In what year I'm not sure but his statue stands above the city. Much looking forward to meeting up with our UK reunion attendees. May I wish those who are coming 'Safe Travelling'.

---

message #: 397

Date: Thursday February 28 2008 04:28:17 EST  
Name: Tom Lambert  
Email: llam5326@bigpond.net.au

Service Number: RMBX1863  
Hometown: Winchester by a very short head.  
Instrument/s: God&#39;s voices Euphonium and Cello.  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

I am going through a delirium of remembrance at this time. Practically everyone that writes mentions someone or another that I have known or remember. What a really lovely bunch of blokes we were and the ladies are now included of course. I hope I live to see the appointment of the first female Director of Music and I hope it will mean as much to her as it did to me. The wonderful eclectivity (is there such a word) of your music and the lush performances you give remind me of the Portsmouth Band in the 60s (said with tongue in cheek well only partly) If it is not a question of keep taking the pills then keep soaking up the Guinness or the Glen Fiddich both will be a great help in your old age. Tom Lambert.

---

message #: 396

Date: Friday February 22 2008 05:33:16 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX 2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Just a quick reminder to those of you still blowing or banging! Rehearsal in Walmer Parish Hall this Sunday come along and say hello even if your not involved in the band. The 'All Stars' concert is on 9th March in Margate. Get there. Michael.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 395

Date: Friday February 22 2008 04:36:54 EST  
Name: Colin bacon  
Email: colinbacon@supanet.com

Service Number: Qoo3939L  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard It is with regret that I have to inform you of the death (in Plymouth) of Bugler Barry Witts.  
His funeral is in Plymouth Weston Mill Chapel 2pm Wednesday 27 Feb. I will be going and will update you after that  
Day. Regards Rasyh

---

message #: 394

Date: Friday February 22 2008 03:27:30 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello Folks I was sorry to hear of the death of Les Humphreys. I remember that even as a Bandboy in the  
Piano Lobbies (O/Block) he was a star pupil of Ernie Stride and much admired by all of us far less talented than  
he. Later while I was serving in H.M.S.Drake under Doug Haigh Les first started playing in local Night Clubs  
and it came as no surprise that he was a HIT from the start. As Merv Durrant said in the previous message he went on to  
form his own group in Germany. THE BOY DONE GOOD another star of ex R.M.Bs who will always be remembered.  
Nobby.

---

message #: 393

Date: Thursday February 21 2008 13:51:29 EST  
Name: Merv Durrant (Bilko)  
Email: excelmervtheswerv@hotmail.com

Service Number: QOO3518L (RMB3518)  
Hometown: Ropley Hampshire  
Instrument/s: Clarinet & Violin & broom & pantehnicon  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi All Whilst reading my local paper today I have to sadly report that Les Humphreys passed way on  
26th December 2007. Regrettably I have no further details but I know a lot of you will remember him from his  
days in the Plymouth Group Band and also Gloucester House whilst under training. Some of you may recall that he  
appeared in the Eurovision Song Contest in Germany with his group The Les Humphreys singers. Regards Merv  
Durrant

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 392

Date: Tuesday February 19 2008 13:47:19 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi All. In response to Mick Hutton's letter regarding the building work that is going on in Deal barracks where the galley used to be? It is going to be the Balmoral Surgery which is moving from Victoria road at the bottom of South street. As regards to the Memorial garden I believe that is staying where it is but as for what is left of the concert hall I am not sure what they are going to do to make it safe as it has still got the scaffolding attached to it. I hope this answers your questions Mick. Best wishes to everyone. Sid. P.S. Keep up the good work Richard.

---

message #: 391

Date: Monday February 18 2008 14:16:28 EST  
Name: Rod Williamson  
Email: rodney.williamson@virgin.net

Service Number: QOO 3491S  
Hometown: Whitstable  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi Baz I will never forget 50 years ago finishing PT in South Barracks Gym and having to go to the New Block to take my gear back on the way to East Barracks for music class. It was whilst in my room that I heard the radio reporting the Munich air crash and I had to give the news to my instructor 'Gunner' Hargreaves when I got to class. I'll never forget the reaction when he heard of this dreadful tragedy but thank God the Reds have given him so very much to cheer about since those black days. Do please pass on my best wishes to John - I owe him a lot and thought of him last week in particular. Naturally I am sad to read that you are also having so many problems as are most of the euph and cello class! I've managed to stay clear of trouble for the time being but am thinking of you all. Best wishes to you all. Rod Williamson (Bungy if you like!)

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message #: 390

Date: Friday February 8 2008 05:25:04 EST  
Name: Richard Wright.  
Email: rntwright@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3716.  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Wheelchair in E# minor.(Compensating system)  
n/a:

Comments:

Tell me your secret Barry. My 'phone didn't ring! The result of my visit to Rushden (nothing posh like Liverpool) was not a joyous occasion. The cancer is on draft & set up a splinter group in the starboard lymph glands causing that leg to swell to grotesque proportions. It has also increased on the port hip joint. The PSA is nowhere near what I would hope for after 5 treatments. But hey nonny noe we are all facing East & employing all the global Gods we can muster with a following wind to resist any travel to follow lymph glands situated around this shambling heap that I fondly call my body. That would put the kaibosh on everything. All those due to go to OZ I can reveal that Maxie is partial to (amongst other things) Thornton's toffee. A couple pf sealed packets each plus a receipt to accommodate those lovely custom officers will bring wreaths of smiles from him. His problem will be can he convince customs in NZ on his way home that they are all for him or will he have to scoff the lot in Oz? On the other hand.....  
Best Wishes to all! Shiner.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 389

Date: Thursday February 7 2008 05:32:43 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford@manx.net

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Visited 'Royal Liverpool' yesterday. Results were as we thought really my condition is degenerative and there is no remedy by me having further operations. All this is due to my long standing orthopaedic problems which have caused problems with my spine. So keep on taking the tablets and smiling! There is a shadow on my latest scan results (which of course is worrying) but they have promised to review this with the radiologist and then let me have news whether it is good or bad! I had a phone call from Richard (Shiner) Wright last night asking me how things had gone. (I think it is incredible that with all his problems that he can do this but I shouldn't really be suprised because that is how this wonderful Band Service Family works!). Also had a call from my mate 'Merv the Swerve' Durrant an Email from John Williams. (thanks guys) Regards to all Barry Radford

---

message #: 388

Date: Wednesday February 6 2008 04:28:16 EST  
Name: Max  
Email: maxie2234@xtra.co.nz

Service Number: RMBx 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Greetings one and all I understand the Plymouth band are touring NZ at the end of February first a Search light Tattoo in Rotorua then a concert in the Bruce Mason Theatre Takapuna. I shall be wearing my new Band tie recently sent out to me by Peter Clark gravy stains and all. Should any of the band require any info or for that matter GRIPPOS don't be shy! ASK till then Haere Mai! Max Beare

---

message #: 387

Date: Monday February 4 2008 12:11:10 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi there all you guys & girls who live in the Deal area. I was there a couple of weeks ago for a brief moment and had a look down by the old concert hall to find it covered by a building site with what looked like terraced houses! Has anyone any got any info as to what is going on there with the memorial garden etc; ? and is what remains of the concert hall to be demolished as well ? Mick.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 386

Date: Monday February 4 2008 10:46:48 EST  
Name: Richard Wright.  
Email: rntwright@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3716.  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Wheelchair in E# minor.(Compensating system)  
n/a:

Comments:  
What a week to be a euph. & 'cellist! Barry is due for his update & I'm up for mine the very next day from my oncologist. Maybe Mik Hickman will start a book on the outcomes excluding Hedley who not only in line for a new mansion seems to ahead of both of us. We'd like to know his secret but on the other hand..... Best wishes! Shiner.

---

message #: 385

Date: Monday February 4 2008 09:05:59 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford@manx.net

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Been out of action for a couple of weeks good to see that Hedley is still being Hedley! I have another hospital appointment on 6th February will be in touch after that with any news! Still hoping to attend both 'Mountbatten Festival' and 'All Stars'. Regards to all Barry Radford

---

message #: 384

Date: Saturday February 2 2008 04:02:56 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: Rmbx 2902  
Hometown: Par  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello everybody. For those intending to come to the WCR. 45 tickets have been sold and tickets have been sent. Anyone thinking of coming ring me E-mail or write and book your ticket and pay in March. Hopefully a list will be published after the all stars concert of those attending. Cheers Pete.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 383

Date: Tuesday January 29 2008 05:08:41 EST  
Name: Charlie Laws  
Email: charles@charleslaws.wanadoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3057  
Hometown: Deal Kent.  
Instrument/s: Swimming & Water polo Coach Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
That is Dave Rowlands I actually played my Cornet along side him once one of the rare times I got it out and dusted the cobwebs off it. Pleased to hear Hedley is getting out and about.

---

message #: 382

Date: Sunday January 27 2008 14:26:21 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: QOO(RMB) 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just a quick reply to Glyn Oremek's photo's. I think the one he needs a name for in the coloured one may be Dave Rowlands Solo Cornet came from Margate I think when he left like many others he worked on the cross channel route. I may be wrong but it may jog a memory some where.

---

message #: 381

Date: Sunday January 27 2008 04:07:09 EST  
Name: bart bartholomew  
Email:

Service Number: rmb3871  
Hometown: dartmouth  
Instrument/s: solo clarinet / tenor sax  
n/a:

Comments:  
re Glyn Oremek's black and white photo . The chap in question looks very much like Dave Stonebridge so if the photo was taken after 1965 it could well be. regards Bart

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 380

Date: Saturday January 26 2008 11:04:24 EST  
Name: Richard Wright.  
Email: rntwright@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3716.  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Wheelchair in E# minor.(Compensating system)  
n/a:

Comments:  
Grand stuff this morphine. It takes away all cares plus the ability to get the basic things in life to gell. I should naturally have promalgated my new e-mail address in my last electronic gibber on this excellent site. It is rntwright@gmail.com . Clever? Not me; not entitled. Our IT boffin from College did it all for a 6 pack of 'Tiger' as well as clearing out all those nasties that clog up the internal gubbins. It now only needs to be seen if morphine helps sort out 'orrible key signatures at Margate. Blow Oz; those in the know realise that there is nothing to beat a Margate meal. I feel sorry for those going out there. Sun? Warmth? Prawns? Tooheys? Who needs that? On the other hand..... Shiner.

---

message #: 379

Date: Tuesday January 22 2008 05:39:22 EST  
Name: Richard Wright.  
Email: rntwright@gmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3716.  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Wheelchair in E# minor. (Compensating system)  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
For those of you who have a better use for your hand I have changed our e-mail address. Too many complaints of repetitive strain injuries due to its excessive length leaving those so inclined to employ it otherwise precipitated this move. Fear not; those using the old one will still be able to be in touch loosely speaking. Having girded my loins & oiled my wheels I think I may be in with a chance of a lolly at least in Mik Hickman's book so long as I keep an eye out for Barry & Hedley zooming by in the counter march. It is orchestral isn't it? Shiner.

---

message #: 378

Date: Tuesday January 15 2008 16:01:59 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to you all from sunny Victoria 40 plus degrees celcius This is a reminder to all those intending to join us in Adelaide in March of 2008 for the ex RMBs reunion. The dates once again are : 28th 29th and 30th March 2008 Venue and times: 1700hrs Fri 28th Watermark Hotel Glenelg Adelaide 1200hrs Sat 29th Replica of HMS Buffalo Glenelg for 1300 Lunch. 1200 hrs Sun 30th BBQ Lunch at Buffalo Motor Inn Glenelg If you have not yet advised of your attendance could you please do so by 01 March 2008. Numbers are essential for booking purposes. Cheers to you all past and present members of this our extended family.  
Eric

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 377

Date: Tuesday January 8 2008 17:29:07 EST  
Name: andy seddon  
Email: andrewsologuitar@hotmail.com

Service Number: P033327P  
Hometown: batley  
Instrument/s: corps of drums  
n/a:

Comments:  
hi tommo got ur msge but not ur number ! txt it back to me or call me..its on my web-site at [www.andrewsologuitar.co.uk](http://www.andrewsologuitar.co.uk) ope u r well..heard that tommy lawton is still going strong! if anyone knows contact for russ sykes let me know ! ciao 4 now ! andy sedd

---

message #: 376

Date: Tuesday January 8 2008 12:01:08 EST  
Name: Malcolm (Tommo) Thomas  
Email: harleydavidson@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: P025697K  
Hometown: Peacehaven  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi to all - A Happy New Year (sorry a bit late - bin busy)

---

message #: 375

Date: Saturday January 5 2008 09:59:03 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo again Richard! My apologies; the DVD of Vaughan Williams was "O Thou Ascendent"! Trouble was writing the original at 0430hrs! Must be mad! Sorry about that. Best wishes and again apologies. Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 374

Date: Friday January 4 2008 23:06:17 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Ctl/Vln/Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard and a happy new year to all. Actually having viewed a certain amount of TV over the new year I was amazed at the musical nostalgia! There were the films "Sink the Bismark" and "The Yangtse Incident"; music of these films we recorded all those years ago. Then to cap it all on channel 5 there was the programme on Vaughan Williams "O Thou Descendent" which was on from 0900 - 1200!! Featured was some of his most beautiful music including his 5th symphony which we played at one of the Thursday night concerts in Deal...a long time ago! Apparently this programme is available on DVD! Finally to let you know that I am in possession of a three wheeled walker - this one in the key of F double flat major!! It helps to ease the osteoporosis pain in the lower back!! Best wishes. Mike.

---

message #: 373

Date: Sunday December 30 2007 14:36:48 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard and to all who are now reading this wonderful means of communication I'm sure that I can speak for all Ex RMBs in the Antipodies in wishing all past and present RMBs wherever they may be a HAPPY and Prosperous NEW YEAR.

---

message #: 372

Date: Sunday December 30 2007 07:14:14 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard and Friends. May I take this opportunity of wishing all serving and ex serving RMBs where ever you may be a very prosperous and Happy New Year. Sid and Family.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 371

Date: Wednesday December 26 2007 11:04:12 EST  
Name: andy seddon  
Email: andrewsologuitar@hotmail.com

Service Number: po33327p  
Hometown: batley  
Instrument/s: bugler  
n/a:

Comments:  
not been in touch with any members for 25 years ! am pro guitarist now [www.andrewsologuitar.co.uk](http://www.andrewsologuitar.co.uk) nice to hear from anybody out there !

---

message #: 370

Date: Tuesday December 25 2007 15:52:17 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3242  
Hometown: Tennyson NSW Australia  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to all you Ex RMB'ers. Thank you for all the good wishes for the new year we had a very good Christmas the weather was good for the traditional food I will be seeing some old RMB's at the Adelaide Reunion in late March 2008 we hope to be in Adelaide on the 25th as I have a friend who will be visiting at that time I think he said he used to be Tom's clerk? Barney Foulger. See you in the counter march yours faithfully Bill Matthews.

---

message #: 369

Date: Tuesday December 25 2007 04:32:45 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB(QOO3482R)  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Along with all others that have served or are still serving in the Great family that is the Royal Marine Band Service may I wish you all young and old a very merry Christmas and a very happy new year. To those of you are not so well I wish you well and hope to see you all this coming year at Portsmouth I am sure someone would run a book on a Scooter Race get well chaps and please come back to us you are very special people. Once again a very merry Christmas to you and all your families. You all take care. Regards and best wishes to you all. Mike H

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 368

Date: Saturday December 22 2007 08:57:56 EST  
Name: Richard Wright.  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3716.  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Now Wheelchair in e# minor.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
In the August company of Barry Radford & Hedley Lock we would advise that we have condemned 2007 to the place where all years of ill repute are dispatched. We further state that you would be not advised to visit it or poke it with a stick because it will turn very nasty. Tuula & I send to all our friends & musicians everywhere the very best wishes for 2008 which cannot possibly be any worse than this. A peaceful & happy Christmas to proceed this should round things off beautifully. Shiner.

---

message #: 367

Date: Friday December 21 2007 07:42:33 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: 2902  
Hometown: Par  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just a quick note to everyone wishing you a Merry Xmas and a prosperous and healthy New Year. Many thanks to those who have pre-booked their tickets for the WCR. in April. Cheers Pete.

---

message #: 366

Date: Friday December 21 2007 06:55:05 EST  
Name: JEM TUGWOOD  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: CLART /ALTO ETC  
n/a:

Comments:  
May I wish all my friends and acquaintances that I have had the priviledge of meeting and serving with in ships and shore establishments over the years in the RMB service a very happy Christmas and an even better New Year and to all those friends that are not in good health at this time may I offer you my very best wishes for all that you wish yourselves and that you get well very very soon Best wishes Jem

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 365

Date: Friday December 21 2007 06:33:10 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford@manx.net

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard Heather and I would like to send good wishes for the Festive Season to all our many friends who we are still in touch with from my great years serving in the best Corps in the world. Also greetings to all serving Bandsmen (sorry Musicians) and all ex Royal Marine Musicians. Have a great Christmas and a peaceful and Happy 2008. (Let us hope that it is better than 2007 which has been for us) Kind regards Barry and Heather Radford

---

message #: 364

Date: Wednesday December 19 2007 00:41:29 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi to you all Firstly regarding the message I posted on 20th November regarding the survivors of HMS Exeter. Ex musician A.T. King now aged 86 was finally located not far from Deal by Capt. Tom Lambert with assistance of the powers that be in the UK and now Alfred King and ex musician Ted Jones 85 yrs. have now been reunited after 62 years by Phone hookup between UK and Oz arranged by Bob Chumley in Adelaide. It is rather ironic that Ted Jones lives only a few miles from where we ex RMBs in Australia hold our reunion. Ted has signed up to attend the coming reunion in March 2008. What a coup for the corps if the two surviving musicians from the sinking of HMS Exeter could be reunited face to face at that function. Wishful thinking I know. OR IS IT ??? We that is my better half and I wish you all the very best for the Festive Season and may 2008 be what you would wish it to be.

---

message #: 363

Date: Tuesday December 18 2007 13:19:33 EST  
Name: Paul Harker  
Email: paulharker1@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3995  
Hometown: Norwich  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard It has been almost a year now since finding this wonderful website. It has put me intouch with some great people from my Band Service day's. I also was lucky enough to be part of the Allstars band 2007 in Paul Nevilles last concert waving the baton. I hope to take part in the 2008 concert next year which will be Dave Coles first year out front. I also attended both reunions Portsmouth and WCR 2007. Where I saw people I hadn't seen in nearly 40 years and it was marvelous speaking to them all again. I will close now before this message turns into War and Peace. The real purpose of which is to wish all ex bandies and serving bandies a very happy healthy Christmas and New year. All the very best Paul Harker

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 362

Date: Sunday December 16 2007 03:58:47 EST  
Name: Charlie Laws  
Email: charles@charleslaws.wanadoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3057  
Hometown: Deal Kent.  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet when not Swimming  
n/a:

Comments:  
I'd like to wish one and all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year I would also like to thank Richard for the wonderful site that keeps us in touch with past friends. I hope to make the reunion this year as I will have finished with Channel swimming by then.

---

message #: 361

Date: Friday December 14 2007 08:47:26 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Firstly to you all retired and serving Sheila and I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year. Secondly I have lost the address of Ivan Petters' Snail Mail. If anyone out there does have it please can you send it on. Also Johnny Bull and Nev Reaey. Last met them in Auckland New Zealand when the TIGER berthed in Devonport Naval Base. I know that John was living in Whangarei a few years back. Again if any one has an answer please contact me. Noel

---

message #: 360

Date: Wednesday December 12 2007 05:17:22 EST  
Name: Gareth Davies  
Email:

Service Number: Q004101A  
Hometown: Petersfield  
Instrument/s: Tenor/violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello Richard I notice Mike Jones is looking for Mick Bonner. I beleive he is living in the Guildford area. He has retired from the Met Police, and is now a Driving Instructor. Kind Regards Gareth

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 359

Date: Sunday December 9 2007 14:53:23 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3242  
Hometown: Tennyson NSW Australia  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi to all of you this year has been very fruitful for Sylvia & I we have a new grand son Keiran now about 3 months and growing fast I hope to attend the Adelaide Reunion in March hope to see some of you there. Sorry I can not understand the link thing when I wanted to send a Photo of the Family ? Wishing you all a very merry Christmas yours Faithfully Bill & Sylvia Matthews and Family in 'Oz.

---

message #: 358

Date: Friday November 23 2007 03:43:13 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMBX2902  
Hometown: Par.  
Instrument/s: Trombone.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello everybody Details of the 2008 West Country reunion are on the notice board. Book now pay later. I have just received my first booking for Paul and Sandra Harker. Don't be disappointed book early. All those Xmas calendars you get just write in the date. APRIL 19th. Cheers Pete.

---

message #: 357

Date: Wednesday November 21 2007 09:41:32 EST  
Name: Alan & Fred; Forshaw  
Email: charlieboris@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 4160  
Hometown: Salisbury Wiltshire  
Instrument/s: French Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
Greetings to all. Having returned from the US in 2005 I recently decided to unpack some of the boxes I put in storage back in 2001! Amongst other 'treasures' I rediscovered my medal collection which includes many groups etc to RM bandmen. It is my intention to one day donate the RM medals to the museum but I would like to collate more knowledge about the recipients. Some of them are long gone but if anyone has any information (full name instrument(s) played photos etc) about the following I would be extremely grateful. PLY2238 B/Bug Ronald HILL (KIA at the Battle of the River Plate HMS Exeter); RMB 306 Musn John EVANS; CH20985 Bug H. T. BARLOW; Depot 256 Musn E. H. TAYLOR; PLY 22751 O. F. H. BUDINA; PLY 4894 A. J. DALLING; RMB 314 Musn William WRIGHT; RMB 2912 S. H. TAYLOR (formerly Boy/AB RN); RMBX1001 Musn Samuel MERRIFIED (KIA 18/11/1942 HMS Arethusa); RMB 2035 Musn/B/Cpl A. H. GREENLESS; RMB 2832 Bm2 C. F. SMITH; PLY 18181 Musn T. J. BOMYER; RMB 2955 Musn W. B. SHARPE; RMB 2553 Musn R. C. BURTON; RMB 2901 Bm2 G. D. MORTIMORE; RMBX 284 Bm2 P. L. TAYLOR; Depot 544 Musn J. H. J. FOLEY. Many thanks. I hope to see many of you at the 2008 reunion.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 356

Date: Tuesday November 20 2007 15:20:05 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a:

Comments:  
G/day all We here in Oz have recently received information that a long lost RMB survivor from the sinking of HMS Exeter in the Battle of the Java Sea in 1942 is alive and well. He is Ted Jones now 85 years old. He was taken prisoner by the Japanese and remained a POW until 1945. Now in residence in an aged care home in Norwood South Australia. He is hoping to be able to contact a fellow shipmate AT King who was the author of an article from the Blue Band online:see [http://www.royalmarinesbands.co.uk/history/HMS\\_Exeter.htm](http://www.royalmarinesbands.co.uk/history/HMS_Exeter.htm). If anyone knows A T King could you please pass on this info and ask him to contact either myself at the above address or Bob Chumley email: chummers@optusnet.com.au Can we try and make an elderly member of our extended family happy. I hope so.

---

message #: 355

Date: Wednesday November 14 2007 04:58:06 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Scunthorpe N/Lincs  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Yesterday my wife and I paid a visit to the Armed Forces Memorial in Staffordshire. On this Memorial are the names of the 11 musicians who died as a result of the terrorist bomb at Deal in 1989. We left a small tribute to these members of the R.M.B. family and laid it at the base of the panel on which their names are listed. If any other members of ex.R.M.B S wish to visit to pay their respects the names can be found on A.F. Memorial Panel Number 198 (Top) We found it a very moving experience. Nobby.

---

message #: 354

Date: Wednesday November 7 2007 23:21:00 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard With the ongoing search for Henry Monaghan has anybody got any idea of the whereabouts of Mick Bonner? The last I had heard of Mick was that he had joined the Police and was based at Hendon. I served with him at Fleet Band and he was without a doubt a very talented musician. Best wishes to all. Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 353

Date: Sunday November 4 2007 15:03:32 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aonet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a:

Comments:  
Shiner The email address that I supplied is the one we regularly use to contact Tony Oberdries. You may like to check with Bob Chumley on chummers@optusnet.com.au to confirm. Tony and Pat have been stalwart attendees at the reunion of antipodion exRMBs along with several others from NZ. I will be contacting you more privately shortly

---

message #: 352

Date: Sunday November 4 2007 08:52:18 EST  
Name: Richard Wright  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3716  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Used to be seen sitting behind a metal thing or piece of wood.  
n/a:

Comments:  
re Tony Oberdries e-mail address. I was in South Island NZ earlier this year & tried so often to get any joy from that source. Having spent some time in his & Pats. company I can furnish you with his snail mail address if all else fails. Having son no. 1 & family on North Island it was a simple matter to get them to look it up in their telephone directory! Vee haf vays! Shiner.

---

message #: 351

Date: Thursday November 1 2007 15:40:36 EST  
Name: irfon &#34;taff&#34; higgins  
Email:

Service Number: Rmb 4323  
Hometown: Ammanford  
Instrument/s: Alto and ?  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Belated thanks to Tommy and co. for a great reunion Today I happened upon a film on tv called "innocents in Paris" a proper film featuring the Plymouth Group Band with an actor playing an RM Musician having a run ashore in Paris The band was shown marching down the Champs Elysee. I was just wondering if anyone out there starred in the film which was filmed in 1953. I hope it brings back some memories. Taff H

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 350

Date: Wednesday October 31 2007 15:24:22 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aonet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon /Bass Drum  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Dave Jennings Tony Oberdries can be contacted on email: piddinghoe@xtra.co.nz We will be seeing him in March 2008 in Adelaide South Australia when we gather for our next reunion of exRMBs in the Antipodies. Why not join us. Details can be found in previous correspondence.

---

message #: 349

Date: Tuesday October 30 2007 13:58:55 EST  
Name: David Jennings  
Email: d.jennings.e@gmail.com

Service Number: RMBX2595  
Hometown: Brynmawr  
Instrument/s: clarinet violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Not actually Dave Jennings yet but for now his son Mark. Dave is just getting set up with a computer and until he can use it I will monitor his email and let him know if anyone wants to make contact. I know he would particularly like to hear from Tony Oberdries. Anyone else remember my dad in the RMB from 1949 to 1974? Cheers for now Mark.

---

message #: 348

Date: Tuesday October 30 2007 10:37:14 EST  
Name: Richard Wright  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3716  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Used to be seen sitting behind a metal thing or piece of wood.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Further to the letter I posted today here is the one that needs to go in the Sick Bay section. As many of you who were serving in 1967 will remember I was involved in the horrific car crash that claimed the lives of Jock Ferguson Reg. Russell & Roy Wade as we went on weekend leave from the JNCO course. I was very seriously modified & extremely lucky to survive. There was so many injuries to contend with that it isn't too much of a wonder that not all were picked up. If wasn't until 1999 that I had a funny turn as I left home for school. I went in anyway & on my return went sick. I had umpteen tests & was diagnosed with transverse myelitis; a disease of the nervous system caused by damage to the blood supply at T5 in the spine. This causes leg weakness loss of sensation & the feeling that your leg has had a 12hr. dose of lying in the sun without any suncream on. This year I found that the same leg was getting rather more painful but in true RMB fashion still kept going. "It'll be fine when they ask me in to teach" was followed by ditto but ending in holiday. Driving across Denmark

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 347

Date: Tuesday October 30 2007 09:13:50 EST  
Name: Richard Wright  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3716  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Used to be seen sitting behind a metal thing or piece of wood.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard Now that the bruises are fading & the dressings are removed may I sound a note of regret for all the injuries inflicted on sundry ankles by my chariot at the reunion. It was a dockyard job getting there but where there's a will there's a way. I must thank Stan, Thomas for getting mine for me (& not seeing it off) because unlike the normal crowd I had to be brought in & out via the gash chute. Ditto to Sid's & Mik's letters below; especially good to see George Fenlon again as well as Sam, Goldsworthy & eternal gratitude to Jim, Dale who I had not seen for 47 years & who actually recognised me! I have become an expert on waist belt recognition from my new view on life. I sent my enquiry re the Sick Bay site to see if you thought it was needed. I was somewhat surprised to see it printed! I will send another giving fuller details of my demise but if nobody is going to read it let me just say that if you are 50 over & get a prostate cancer check done now don't leave it. I had no symptoms at all & mine has gone mad.

---

message #: 346

Date: Sunday October 21 2007 14:40:18 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX 3050  
Hometown: CONGRESBURY  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLARINET  
n/a:

Comments:  
I recall someone who was missing from the list compiled by Mal Cawthorne and that is Peter J. Lawrence who came from East Studdal. So on this our fifty fifth anniversary I wonder where he is now?

---

message #: 345

Date: Sunday October 21 2007 06:11:39 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: QOO(RMB) 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
May I just add to the many comments that have already been said regarding this year's reunion. As we all know it was once again a successful weekend and my thanks to Tommy and Mark for making it so. Let us hope that Tommy's relief has as much success if not more? It was good to see some new faces amongst the usual suspects like my old sparring partner at the bar George Fenlon who I hadn't seen for many a year and Tom(jock) Gallagher whom I hadn't seen for more years than I care to remember maybe next year we will see some more new faces and those that were unable to be there this year for one reason or another I wish you a speedy recovery and hope to see you in the future. Many thanks to those that were there your company was great and your friendship is deeply valued you all take care of you and yours you are all special people. Till the next time my regards to you all and once again thank you to everyone who was there for making it a special weekend I love you all. Mike H.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 344

Date: Thursday October 18 2007 16:41:19 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard. Sadly it is all over again for another year but what a great week-end I am sure was enjoyed by all who attended. If you didn't attend then you will never know. To Tommy Lawton all I can say is. Many Many thanks for all the hard work you have put in in getting us all together in Pompey. Have a very long and happy retirement Tom. What you all did for me on the saturday evening will remain in my memory for a long time and I thank you all from the bottom of my heart. My thanks also to Tony Oliver for getting me to and from Portsmouth and being great company during the week-end. Meeting up again with Mick Hickman Glyn and Rachel Eddie and Barbara Ken and Joan Shiner and his son Andy and George and his wife and everyone else who I had the pleasure of meeting including Ivor and Lisa. I thank you all for making an enjoyable week-end. Last but not least a special thanks to Bill Callow and the RMA for making us all welcome on the sunday morning. Look forward to meeting up with you all again

---

message #: 343

Date: Thursday October 18 2007 11:03:12 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barryradford@manx.net

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to all Had great reports with reference this years reunion only sorry to have missed it due to ill health. Please note as of today new Email address is -

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message #: 342

Date: Thursday October 18 2007 06:16:46 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX 3050  
Hometown: CONGRESBURY  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLARINET  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
The previous entry has some text missing so the entry eludes to those who joined on October 21st 1952 and the fact that it will be fifty five years since we entered the portal of the back gate of East Barracks! The list was recalled by George (Mal) Cawthorne so are there any others out there who need reminding of that auspicious date? And my kind thanks to Mal for his recalling all those listed.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 341

Date: Thursday October 18 2007 05:42:17 EST  
Name: Merv Durrant (Bilko)  
Email: excelmervtheswerv@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB3518  
Hometown: Ropley Hampshire  
Instrument/s: Clarinet & Violin & broom & pantehnicon  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi all I'm an RMB guestbook virgin ..... Sorry I couldn't attend the reunion but I was away in Italy and Austria touring with the coach! Hope to make it next year. Keep in touch warm regards Merv :-)

---

message #: 340

Date: Thursday October 18 2007 02:40:21 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
G/day one and all Bill Hartland has come up with the full roll of the 21Oct '52 intake [Trafalgar Day] I know that he has a good memory but methinks he has cheated on this one and found some records somewhere. Does he have the photo as well. If so please copy would be much appreciated. The "Big Do" in Pompey sounded great. The coming one in the antipodies will be great too. Not as well attended but we are working on it. Once again you are all welcome. We will have at least one ex PDofM and an ex Dof M attending.

---

message #: 339

Date: Wednesday October 17 2007 15:18:59 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX 3050  
Hometown: CONGRESBURY  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLARINET  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Can you remember this motley crew? Austin Beer Bright Burgess Busby Cassidy Chambers Chapman Cawthorne Chivers Curtis Dallaway Forbes Gough Griffin Hartland Hayward Heath Hughes Hunter Johnson Laws Loft Mackay Martin Milton Oates Potter Powell Rolph Shawcross Shucksmith Sciviter Skidmore Stringer Thomas Thompson Waites Wilkinson Wilson Higginson G. Wood.  
There must have been more than this who joined in October 21 st 1952 so can anyone add any other names to the above? I knows one didn't last out the first week but all names would be of interest for the exercise of where are

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 338

Date: Wednesday October 17 2007 05:01:47 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: pauldel43@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Wafer with a stick!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello Richard & all. Our grateful thanks to Tommy Lawton for organising another brilliant "Old Farts" do again! - Thanks for all you've done Tom' & all good luck for the future. Whoever reads this and has yet to attend our annual "lamp swing" I can only say PLEASE do so in 2008 before it's too late! (Jimmy Mann was likely to attend this year for the first time but left it just a week too late God rest him!) If we ALL put the "buzz" around & get just one extra Bandy then that would be fantastic. It's such a night to remember each time & a joy to see new (old) faces at the bar & surrounding tables. You'd be surprised who you bump into! When you do it sometimes becomes a bit of a guessing game I know. You frantically try to turn the clock back desparately attempt to block out their wrinkles of time & the silver top they're sporting and their extended good living figure - all of this whilst engaging conversation with someone who actually isn't a complete stranger. Then magically after delving a bit more we discover that we're two old old run ashore oppo's of 1960 vintage who served together on HMS Something.

---

message #: 337

Date: Tuesday October 16 2007 13:54:18 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bass Drum  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dickie Another brilliant night on Saturday and another great speech from PDM Chris Davis! I agree entirely with his sentiments regarding former DOM's they are the ones losing out - not us! Anyway it was fantastic to see so many old friends again especially Tom Gallagher Rab Thompson who made it all the way from Scotland (see you in March for FOSNI re-union) Once again the Junior Band excelled well done you did us proud. See you in 2008 Roy

---

message #: 336

Date: Saturday October 13 2007 16:50:42 EST  
Name: Bill Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3242  
Hometown: Tennyson NSW Australia  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
I have a suggestion for the 'Oz 2008 Reunion and that is that we take our Instruments with us if we are still musicaly active ? then on the Friday night at the Pub we could maybe have a bit of fun e-mail me if you will be able to this includes our better halves if they play any. Just a suggestion Eric. Love to all Bill & Sylvia.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 335

Date: Friday October 12 2007 19:07:34 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a:

Comments:  
G/day all I trust the Pompey reunion was all that was expected of it. Now to the all important coming reunion in Adelaide to which you are all invited. We just need numbers confirmed for venue/events. No tickets required. There are now only three rooms left vacant at the Buffalo Motor Inn so be quick and let Bob Chumley know at chummers@optusnet.co m.au . if you require accom to be booked. Go on come for a great weekend. 28th 29th 30th March 2008.

---

message #: 334

Date: Friday October 12 2007 10:29:56 EST  
Name: Charlie Laws  
Email: charles@charleslaws.wanadoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3057  
Hometown: Deal Kent.  
Instrument/s: Swimming &Water polo Coach Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just like to say I hope you all who are attending a great re-union this weekend sorry not able but I'm in London sorting out some Channel swimming for next year. Oh yes Look after Sid Richard. Good Luck.

---

message #: 333

Date: Wednesday October 10 2007 06:32:21 EST  
Name: Derek Roberts  
Email: derekroberts@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
For anyone attending the Reunion this weekend in Portsmouth and especially those taking their wives girlfriends etc. I have negotiated an extra 10% off the sale price of all items in "Christy's" linen and towels store at Gunwarf Quays over the reunion weekend. If you wish to purchase then just say you are attending the RMB reunion to get the 10% discount. Best wishes DR

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 332

Date: Sunday October 7 2007 09:40:36 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barry.radford@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sad to read the news on Jimmy Mann. He was a true gentleman always there for you and willing to help. I first met Jimmy in 'Vicky Barracks' on my first draft when being rated in 1958. I played cricket many a time with Jimmy (a great fast bowler). He will be sorely missed. My sincere condolences to Jimmy's wife and family. Reunion 2007. Although I have my tickets sorry to say that Heather and I will not be attending. I have spent this past couple of weeks in bed (and I am still spending most of my time there) and I have been advised not to travel. So to all of you making the journey to Portsmouth have a great weekend you will be in our thoughts. See you all next year. (God willing). [Editor] You will be in our thoughts Barry. Please feel better soon. Cheers Barry  
Radford

---

message #: 331

Date: Saturday October 6 2007 03:26:52 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X3329  
Hometown: Scunthorpe.  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Have recently got back home after attending the funeral of Geoff Walton ex Bd/Sgt.Trombone. A few ex RMB s were there including Terry Freestone and Graham Hoskins. Pleased to say that Geoff was given the sort of send off that he truly deserved. Nobby.

---

message #: 330

Date: Friday October 5 2007 14:47:21 EST  
Name: Richard Wright  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3716  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Used to be seen sitting behind a metal thing or piece of wood.  
n/a:

Comments:  
The NHS having gone full steam has had an attack of the clinkers. I was told to expect the results in 2-3 days but after a week have been told that it is NOT lymphoma but that there is a very serious problem down there. Tumours are eating into my pelvic bone ( & hurting) & they have no idea why my leg spasms at the touch of bedding or my wife dressing me or the feel of a shower especially when I lift my left arm. Now I can't dress myself or even walk. Somehow I shall be at Pompey so now you all know what's wrong with me we can look at the piccy of 'J'Wing Orch. C1959 & not waste valuable drinking time! Thanks for your goog wishes Mic.. See you there.  
Shiner.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 329

Date: Friday October 5 2007 07:11:35 EST  
Name: Martin Jackson (Jacko)  
Email: martin.jackson@dcha.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4207  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard Recently joined the site nice to see so many old faces and names what a great site and a powerful communication tool for so many. Look forward to being reunited with some old friends at the reunion. Take care all Martin

---

message #: 328

Date: Friday October 5 2007 07:02:49 EST  
Name: Bob Cummins  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
An update for Jimmy's funeral It will be held at the Portchester Crematorium on Monday 15th October at 11.30 Bob

---

message #: 327

Date: Thursday October 4 2007 11:18:56 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Ctr/Vln/Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hullo Richard & nbsp; I have recently read in The Times newspaper that HMS Fearless is to go to the knackers yard for scrap after all these years. I was on this lovely ship in the 70's as certain members of Fleet Band will recall. Our old friend Mike Hickman will remember the time that he 'led me astray' in Barbados at The Office bar during a run ashore!! still have some photos of that trip somewhere!! Best wishes Mike.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 326

Date: Thursday October 4 2007 05:53:42 EST  
Name: Bob Cummins  
Email: bobcummins@blendworth-windows.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3840  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Cornet / Violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
It is with deep sadness that I have to inform you of the death of Jimmy Mann Jimmy I am sure will be greatly missed especially by the members of the RMA Band to which Jimmy was Librarian. I will let you all know the funeral arrangements when they become known. A sad day for all. Regards Bob Cummins

---

message #: 325

Date: Tuesday October 2 2007 20:58:10 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi to you all Would anyone have any contact details for The Rev. John Watson ex RMB Euph and Cello (I believe). He has appeared on our list of ex members to be contacted for our coming reunion in Adelaide.( I won't mention when that is or I'll be accused of over stating) but details can be found on earlier messages if you are interested. Cheers from Australia. Eric

---

message #: 324

Date: Tuesday October 2 2007 13:33:22 EST  
Name: Martin Jackson  
Email: martin.jackson@dcha.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 4207  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Piano/cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Got access today from Dickie nice to read so many messages from names remebered but faces not seen in a long time.Hoipe to get to the reunion and see some friendly faces. wish you all well and good health. Martin (Jacko)

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 323

Date: Tuesday October 2 2007 13:04:11 EST  
Name: Dusty  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: None any more  
n/a:

Comments:  
Gents nice to see so many names I recognise. I'll see many of you in Pompey for the reunion I hope.

---

message #: 322

Date: Friday September 28 2007 15:24:30 EST  
Name: Richard Wright  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3716  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Used to be seen sitting behind a metal thing or piece of wood.  
n/a:

Comments:  
p>Once again I've been trawling through my drawers & found a couple of weirdies. Who would keep their flight plan from Singapore to UK on repat. printed by British Eagle? Flight number meals et al. I mean how sad is that? Of a lot more interest is a photograph of 'J' wing orchestra rigged up in the Concert Hall C1959. I can name most of them but it really gives me the pip to have others on the tip of my tongue & get no further. Does anyone else have this &/or is on this site already? Anyone at the reunion (why are you not coming?) around the 1958-60 mark who wishes to gather round my wheelchair can help me to identify all I hope. I will then forward it on to Dickie (thanks for everything) to put up on the site. As well as why I'm in a wheelchair I shall know more on the night. I've never known the NHS move so fast in the past two weeks. It is not good news I fear. Son no. 2 will be driving my chair ( I'm working on the handbrake skids & wheelies also I do not give lifts!) so please don't feed him too much of the product of the newt as I don't fancy walking mainly because I can't! Looking forward to s

---

message #: 321

Date: Saturday September 22 2007 18:05:12 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon /Bass Drum  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
G/Day from Down Under Would be great if more of my squad mates from 21oct52 ie: Charlie Laws Dougie Powell and others would keepin touch. We are all putting on the years and I imagineweight. Would be good to hear what they have been upto. As for us in Australia we are once again remindingall ex members that our next re union will be held inAdelaide on the weekend of 28th 29th and 30th of March 2008 If at all interested please contact either myself on theabove address or Bob Chumley on

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 320

Date: Monday September 17 2007 09:03:46 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke.  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Scunthorpe N/Lincs  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I was very upset to hear that my old mate Geoff Walton passed away last week. Geoff myself and Ian Ritsma (known to many as Ginge Hammond) had some very happy times together whilst serving at Whale Island at Portsmouth times that will never be forgotten. Maybe as we get older sad news like this hits us very hard and I for one get very emotional. His daughter Linda contacted me and passed on funeral details which I thought I would pass on to any other person who was fortunate enough to have known Geoff. His funeral will be at 10.40 am on Monday the 24th of September at Barham Crematorium (near Canterbury Kent) Another old pal passed away who will never be forgotten. Nobby Clarke.

---

message #: 319

Date: Saturday September 15 2007 07:15:33 EST  
Name: Charlie Laws  
Email: charles@charleslaws.wanadoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3057  
Hometown: Deal Kent.  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet?Water-polo Ball  
n/a:

Comments:  
I'm sorry to say that Jeff Walton Sargent Trombone player passed away during the week. I don't know much more as I got it from his sister in-law as she didn't know when his funeral is.

---

message #: 318

Date: Tuesday September 11 2007 17:11:21 EST  
Name: William (Bill) J C Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3242  
Hometown: Tennyson Sydney NSW  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Folks ! I have just managed to log in to the site after the recent problems will try again later as I have some info for some members and enjoy reading all your news and views. Yours Faithfully Bill Matthews.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 317

Date: Monday August 27 2007 06:09:50 EST  
Name: Bob Baker  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hedley has had his op to remove the tumour and his kidney. It was a more difficult and longer procedure than anticipated due to the size of the tumour. Jenny says that he is ok but quite heavily sedated to control the pain and he had to have a blood transfusion yesterday Sunday as he is anaemic. His stay in hospital will be longer now which won't please Hedley at all but he is a fighter so let us hope he gets well soon. I have passed on all messages I have received via email or read on these pages and when I was able to speak to him directly he was truly pleased and a bit surprised I think by the concern and best wishes of everyone. Perhaps he will be able to reply in due course.

---

message #: 316

Date: Saturday August 25 2007 09:26:51 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: pauldel43@ntlworld.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
The band sends all of their very best to you Hedders & shake it up & get back to us asap. That's an order!! Thank you! Also Hi! to Mike Hickman. Look forward to meeting up at Torre Vieja next week for a wee San Mig' or two perhaps!!! All the very best Derek Usher

---

message #: 315

Date: Saturday August 25 2007 09:20:17 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: pauldel43@ntlworld.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
He's on Oxygen 8 hours a day & bouyed up with strong steroids & heavy doses of ant-biotics right now. He is the RMA Band's Librarian & top class CD seller at front of house at all our gigs. But he will not let that go in a hurry! He even made the effort to come to our rehearsal last Thursday to give us all an update with an inspirational speech bless him!  
He's also been in touch with Hedder's (the Lock!) following his kidney removal yesterday & they spent the phone call winding each other up which sounded hilarious. Hedley won't let go too easily either! (They were apparently comparing their respective Nurses & as Jim told Hedley he'd do anything to get into !!...)  
We missed Hedley's Euphonium playing on Thursday night & particularly his well known "Flannelled Notations" when the going get's tough! We'll certainly all miss him in Spain too. (We were all looking forward to a few beers with the great man down there). Now we'll have to drink to him only with our "arms"!

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 314

Date: Saturday August 25 2007 09:11:50 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: pauldel43@ntlworld.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Rich Hi ya! & trust your still in the finest of fettle? I've just been around to see another of our sick listed family Jimmy Mann. Jim's address is

---

message #: 313

Date: Tuesday August 21 2007 01:11:31 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: Worthing  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
I read the news about Hedley yesterday and have sent him a message via Bob Baker and may I echo the sentiments of all who have sent in e mails - Hedley is and always has been fighter and I'm sure he will take this to the wire with his good humour and cheerfulness may I offer my sincere best wishes to his family who have to find the strength to give Hedley the support he needs at this most difficult time. Regards Jem

---

message #: 312

Date: Monday August 20 2007 16:13:17 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@ukonline.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Have just heard the sad news of Hedley and have sent him a message via Bob. We all hope for the best and wish him well and every 'All Star' needs to see him next March at Margate. Mick Hutton.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 311

Date: Monday August 20 2007 14:01:31 EST  
Name: Rod Williamson  
Email: rodney.williamson@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB3491  
Hometown: Whitstable  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Can I join with all the others who are wishing all the best for Hedley. It doesn't sound good at the moment but one never knows. He's one of those unforgettable characters that always had an answer for everything - maybe he'll have an answer for this. We had many a laugh in the Euph lobbies and his humour was always up to date and never boring. I'm sure those that went to the Reunion will remember the time he went round cutting people's ties off! Just one of his many crazy stunts. Keep fighting Hedley George Belsham we're all praying for you I'm sure Rod Williamson

---

message #: 310

Date: Monday August 20 2007 07:50:29 EST  
Name: Richard Wright  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3716  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Euph. &#39;cello & Trombone.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Somehow please pass on my sincere good wishes to Hedley & family. There are SO many times that his cheerful ways made our lives that much richer; spare bells falling off his euph. & the only person to hold the conductor at Margate & ramson & get away with it. I suspect that his nurses are on the end of some pretty good ribbing! Again a shock but the fervent hope the something good will happen. He of all people deserves it. Shiner.

---

message #: 309

Date: Sunday August 19 2007 04:56:45 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB(QOO3482R)  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I feel that like many others before me that I must say how sorry I am to get Bob's information about dear Hedley. As it has been said before we were all young lads together on the first Commission of the Hermes way back in 59/61. Hedley was always keeping us amused as he still did at the many reunions and other functions he was present at. My thoughts are with him and his family at this difficult time. You all take care and hopefully I will be seeing some of you in Portsmouth in a few weeks time. My regards to you all. Mike H.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 308

Date: Friday August 17 2007 14:39:03 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barry.radford@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard Terrible news regarding Hedley Lock. Heart felt wishes to Hedley Jenny and family.What can one say. "except that they are all in our thoughts at this moment in time". Barry & Heather & Spenser Radford

---

message #: 307

Date: Friday August 17 2007 08:58:18 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke.  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Scunthorpe.North Links.  
Instrument/s: Flute/Piano.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Richard &n bsp; I had an E/Mail from Bob Baker yesterday informing me of the news about Hedley Lock.Hedley Bob Baker Mick Hickman and myself were all together on the 1st Commission of H.M.S.Hermes.many years ago and Hedley was one of the stars of that very young group of lads most of us on our very first draft.I met and spoke to him at the last Portsmouth Reunion and he seemed to be in Tip Top condition. &n bsp; Knowing the Hedley of old I am sure he will remain the same happy cheerful person that we had the privilege to serve with and will fight and win the battle before him. &n bsp; Best wishes to all.Nobby.

---

message #: 306

Date: Thursday August 16 2007 15:30:34 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard. I have emailed Bob Baker passing on my heart felt regards to Hedley but through the Guest book I would like to wish and hope that Hedley is not suffering too much and my thoughts are with him and his family. When one of our own falls ill it hits everyone very hard as we all grew up together and served together. It is true that what so many of us say that we ARE one big family so it hurts us all when any sad news is passed on through the Guest book. Take care Richard and looking forward to meeting up with you all once again in October. Sid

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 305

Date: Thursday August 16 2007 05:48:39 EST  
Name: Bob Baker  
Email: bobbaker74@aol.com

Service Number: RMB3533  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Cnt/Vln  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi everyone to all who know Hedley Lock I have some news. I have been in regular touch with him and I must report he is very unwell. He told me and gave permission for me to pass it on that he has been diagnosed with cancer in both lungs and has a tumour in his kidneys. He has returned to hospital again today for a further assessment and expects to have the tumour removed soon possibly next Friday. As you would expect Hedley tries to make light of the situation but in truth the prognosis is not good. I will e mail Dickie Valentine with any further news for inclusion in his Sick Bay reports. All the best to you Bob

---

message #: 304

Date: Thursday August 9 2007 10:20:46 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Ctl/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hullo to you Richard and all. This is just to let you know that today I had visits from Bob Gill and his wife Megan; they were on their way to west Wales. Also Terry Bishopp and Jeanine. They were well fed and watered at lunchtime before leaving mid afternoon!! Best wishes to all Mike.

---

message #: 303

Date: Tuesday August 7 2007 07:28:31 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambfam@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB 3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Rich Re. Steve Chatham Band pics. The one of the band in Rosyth could it be from when we were sent to play out the "last tot" in Sept. 1970. I seem to recognise one or two faces in the line up. I will have a think and get back with some names. Dave

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 302

Date: Monday August 6 2007 15:34:45 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email: ken.tyler1@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMBx1883  
Hometown: Halifax  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard thanks for the info re: signing in to the Web site etc. It seems a very good idea to me. Keep up the good work. I would love to attend the annual reunion but old age and not so good health prevents it but like Bill Hartland I feel that going back to the old days of a dinner etc. would be a good thing. The first reunion I went to (wayback) I knew most people (and all the officers were in attendance) and at the last one I attended I hardly knew anyone. Time marches on. My best wishes to all and thanks once again Richard. Ken

---

message #: 301

Date: Monday August 6 2007 12:26:48 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barry.radford@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi In answer to Bill Hartland Everyone remembers you Bill. And you sound as though you are still a miserable of B\*\*\*\*D. ( But we all love you). Why Pompey? Because that is where the School of Music is!! Not got my tickets yet but we will be there. Regards to all. Keep up the good work Richard. Cheers Barry Radford

---

message #: 300

Date: Monday August 6 2007 06:32:52 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX 3050  
Hometown: CONGRESBURY  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLART  
n/a:

Comments:  
Signing In. Hello Richard Well done on the provision of a signing in format which may cause some of those who are out of compliance to dig in the back pocket if they have any interest in your Site. Sorry that I am unable to share the enthusiasm for the Annual Reunion which some appear to have. I am more of an armchair fan and would like to see a return to the old days of a sit down Dinner which is more appealing to me than a Pint Pot and a load of Lantern Swinging. Besides who remembers me anyhow? And just to be a little contentious why Portsmouth? Never could stand the place even when it was my Home Port in the Home Fleet..... Take care everyone and I do expect some comment from some of you... Yours aye Bill Hartland Editor [www.hmsgambia.com](http://www.hmsgambia.com)

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 299

Date: Tuesday July 31 2007 10:20:21 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: QOO(RMB) 3482  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Another message for Phil(Spud) Taylor where the devil are you at least three people that I know of have tried to contact you and all messages have bounced back exactly as they did a couple of years ago when you awoke from your slumber and came back to the real world you also said all those years ago that you were going to attend Portsmouth as you have again this year will you turn up???????? It is a painless weekend nobody bites all debts will be called in and that includes mine so come on Spud give your proper E mail address and we can contact you and get yer backside into gear and be on parade 13th October 2007 HMS Nelson Portsmouth pre Reunion drinks in a local Public House yet to be determined as I understand the 3 Crowns is no more(tears tears and more tears).Hoping to see you there as I sure many others are as well. Till that day Adios. Hasta Octubre.

---

message #: 298

Date: Monday July 30 2007 18:15:35 EST  
Name: Dickie  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: dah dah dah dah dah dah dah  
Hometown: Where ever I find myself  
Instrument/s: Many.....Benny.  
n/a:

Comments:  
I love you guys! Spontaneity is a wonderful thing.....and we ALL have that gift. Come on.....to the reunion.....it will be a greater event with YOU a part of it. Dickie Valentine. PS: See the pressurizing yet gentle tact of Derek Usher merely cajoling a friend.....JUST GET IT ON BOYS! YOU HAVE NO EXCUSE. I MEAN IT.

---

message #: 297

Date: Monday July 30 2007 17:31:34 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: pauldel43@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Wafer with a stick!  
n/a:

Comments:  
Message for Phil "Spud" Taylor. - So where are you then? - I made a major effort to send you a lengthy 40 year catch up email from the days when we last served together at "Terror" (some when between 65-68) but your Hotmail address immediately bounced straight back to me!! - Not good enough old chum. You got all the old "blast from the past" juices flowing again only to bow out of any future correspondence! So unless you still owe me a few old Singapore Dollars and are using aviodance tactics please let us ALL know that you're still out there and correct your "#!???" new email address just in case anyone else is owed money or favours!!? Cheers! see you at the reunion anyway. - I've kept the copy of my email to you so as soon as you let me know I'll re-send it to you. - (Mine's a Pint of bitter and I'm not fussed what make!) Derek "Ush" Usher

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 296

Date: Saturday July 28 2007 09:57:19 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: Rmbx 2902  
Hometown: Par.  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Just thought I would let everyone know George Pawlby RMB 1197 has just got a computer aged 80. That's George not the computer!!! I am sure he will try and get in touch with some old comrades. Anyone who has a message it can be passed by me until he gets his fingers sorted. Cheers Pete

---

message #: 295

Date: Monday July 23 2007 10:37:03 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambfam@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:

Can Anybody help? I was approached the other day by a lady trying to find information about her grandfather. He was Samuel Taylor and was a bandmaster in the 1920s probably in the Plymouth area. I know its a long shot but its worth a try. many thanks Dave

---

message #: 294

Date: Tuesday July 17 2007 08:30:42 EST  
Name: jem tugwood  
Email: JEREMY.TUGWOOD@SUSSEX.PNN.POLICE.UK

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: CLART/ALTO SAX VIOLIN  
n/a:

Comments:

Just seen Spud Taylor's message and thought I 'd drop a line to let you know that I will be attending the reunion again this year with my wife Pam. We're both looking forward to meeting old friends and some new ones too especially Spud who I haven't seen since long long ago. Best wishes to everone see you at the reunion.  
Jem

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 293

Date: Tuesday July 17 2007 07:27:54 EST  
Name: Diane Thorne  
Email: WiltshireNutty@AOL.COM

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi one and all We spent a very interesting afternoon on Sunday looking at my father in law's photos from his time in the Royal Marines Band service and particularly in the Royal Yacht Band. We are hoping to bring him along to the reunion in Portsmouth in October so all those of you who remember RMB/X2466 John William Thorne Cornet and Violin better brace yourselves (cos he hasn't changed much!) If anyone wants to contact him please do so at Cornetfiddle@aol.com All the best Diane Thorne

---

message #: 292

Date: Sunday July 15 2007 15:17:56 EST  
Name: Bill Callow  
Email: bill.callow@ntlworld.com

Service Number: Q3979F  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Dickie Further to my earlier email I have now received a scanned copy of the front cover of the programme in question and this has been passed on to Carl Busby. After advertising on the world-wide web someone (Tom Mailey) who lives just a couple of roads away had a programme. Carl was over the moon and we are just glad we could help. Regards Bill

---

message #: 291

Date: Saturday July 14 2007 17:34:04 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a:

Comments:  
Shiner what on earth did you do to upset our border protection officers. (they may be different in Adelaide) I would find it very difficult to find anything suspicious about such a fine upstanding example of humanity as yourselves. The HP Sauce has been spoken of many times( which means that your ears would have been burning) but no one would believe that I would be so cruel. I also seem to remember a rather large spider decending in your close proximity. My fond regards to Tuula and enjoy the darkness of the North. I have Maureen Starlings address and have written on a few occasions without responce. Also spoke to her on hearing of Trevors passing. Eric.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 290

Date: Saturday July 14 2007 05:46:16 EST  
Name: Richard Wright  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3716  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Euph. &#39;cello & Trombone.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Eric! You remember Tuula. She hasn't changed I assure you! The HP sauce drink at yours in Singapore in HQ 3 Cdo. Bde. days should confirm it. If you REALLY want your Customs Officers torn limb from limb then an invitation to the Oz reunion is injudicious especially after the way we were treated by them last time we were there in 2005. We are away to darkest Finland tomorrow (stop drooling you lot: I'll give your love to Helsinki) so will get back to you when we return. I can tell you that Trevor Starling died of bone cancer very soon after he retired in Cape Town & can supply you with Maureen's address on your private site. I did have it but this box of electric string seems to have lost it. OK I'm a plonker & have in all probability done it myself. 13 weeks until Pompey. Come no; we can't let Oz beat us! Pausing only to remove tongue firmly rammed into cheek..... Shiner.

---

message #: 289

Date: Friday July 13 2007 16:52:06 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi Shiner & nbsp; You say you are no 46 on the Pompey list. As they say out this way 'Good On You'. Now you 'could' be no 22 on the Adelaide list. We are growing stronger every day with 21 confirmed and 14 possibles. & nbsp; Go on Make my day. We'd all love to see you and your better half. & nbsp; Cheers to you all in Blighty & nbsp; & nbsp; Eric.

---

message #: 288

Date: Friday July 13 2007 03:53:04 EST  
Name: Richard Wright  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3716  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Euph. &#39;cello & Trombone.  
n/a:

Comments:  
I've just obtained my Portsmouth reunion ticket. I'm number 46. Only 13 weeks to go. Sid, Mick & Dickie plus old friends are there already. That leaves plenty of room for all the others. I would say that it's my round but there again I have been known to tell porkies! See you there! Shiner.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 287

Date: Tuesday July 10 2007 15:34:25 EST  
Name: &#34;Spike&#34;, Ingham  
Email: rob1234@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB 3785  
Hometown: Birmingham  
Instrument/s: Flt/Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Nice to read that Spud Taylor is still around and living in Stratford on Avon. Please get in touch Spud (or anyone else that remembers me) my email address is rob1234@btinternet.com  
Cheers Spike

---

message #: 286

Date: Monday July 9 2007 16:10:57 EST  
Name: Phil [spud]Taylor  
Email: philtaylor46@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB3837  
Hometown: Stratford on avon  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have just found this page where are you? Jem Tugwood Paddy Semple Dick Granger and Mick Hickman and anyone else who knew me at Deal Terror Whale Island and Eastney barracks in the 60's and 70's. Hope to come to reunion this year.  
All the best Spud!

---

message #: 285

Date: Saturday July 7 2007 03:39:42 EST  
Name: Bill Callow  
Email: bill.callow@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMB(QOO3979F)  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet (Bass)/Viola  
n/a:

Comments:  
I am looking for any member of the Band that was on the America Tour in 1965 in the hope that they have a spare programme featuring Bill Busby on the front cover. My reason for asking is that his son Karl Busby would like to either scan it and have it framed or have an original framed and present it to his dad on his next birthday. Jack Arbery showed me a copy a few years ago but has since mislaid it!!! If anyone can help please contact me it would be appreciated.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 284

Date: Monday July 2 2007 04:31:37 EST  
Name: Tony Overton  
Email: tonyhntr@aol.com

Service Number: RMB3999  
Hometown: Kennethmont  
Instrument/s: Cornet/violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
Very sad to hear of the passing of Tom Tucker. He took me under his wing when I first arrived at Whale Island in 1968 A great Clarinet player and a great friend. And a bloody good mechanic. He will be sorely missed. My thoughts go out to Toms family.

---

message #: 283

Date: Friday June 29 2007 17:43:59 EST  
Name: bart bartholomew  
Email: bart.fatknacker@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: rmb3871  
Hometown: dartmouth  
Instrument/s: solo clar/ tenor sax  
n/a:

Comments:  
sorry to hear about tom tucker as he was my first daddy at BRNC dartmouth being a solo clarinet with jim robinson as b/m .Glad i was able to give him a photo of the pair of us giging at the Torrington may fair in 1965 which we both had a laugh about. Another fine bandie for that massed bands beyond the pearly gates.

---

message #: 282

Date: Thursday June 28 2007 00:45:48 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aonet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon /Bass Drum  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Update for Adelaide reunion Those requiring accommodation for Adelaide reunion 28th 29th 30th March 2008  
BobChumley

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 281

Date: Monday June 25 2007 10:34:12 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barry.radford@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
We are both saddened to read the news of Tom Tucker. I spent numerous years with him in 'Whaley'. Our thoughts are with Shirley and family. For some reason I can not access 'Sunset Page' so if anyone knows details etc for funeral arrangements we would appreciate having them. What a great loss 'Old Tom' was a true gent. Regards to all Barry and Heather Radford

---

message #: 280

Date: Saturday June 16 2007 12:03:08 EST  
Name: Graham Davies  
Email: geedee137@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4129  
Hometown: Aberdeen  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello everyone - I have just relocated this site having had a brief look a few years back just prior to my computer blowing up. Having browsed my way through the various pages it seems unlikely that anyone will remember me having spent only a short time at Deal - April '67 - Aug '68 although I did manage to make contact with 3 of my squad mates and a couple of others I befriended in my all too short stay. However if anyone recalls "Jock" Davies from Neptune House - please feel free to get in touch. Wonderful site - I ought to contribute something towards it - let me know where to send the money too. Kind regards Graham Davies

---

message #: 279

Date: Friday June 15 2007 08:47:55 EST  
Name: Steve Mayall  
Email: stevemayall@fastmail.fm

Service Number:  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear All The old officer's buildings at North Barracks Deal have been converted to domestic dwellings and our family lives in what I believe is the Single Officer's quarters. We are attached to our neighbour's house which I believe was the Quartermasters and our neighbours the other side live in what was the married officers quarters. You may be interested to know that the road outside the four existing buildings will remain private. I had this renamed by the council to 'North Barracks'. We live in what was Block F and I found the old plaque in the basement refurbished it and it's on display outside. I have no attachments with the marines and have the musical skills of an ant but am interested in the history of our house which is around 200 years old and in particular the people who lived here. If anyone has any old photos documents or letters they would be happy for me to copy then I'd be very grateful. I would like to stress this is for personal interest and nothing would be passed on without your permission. Kind Regards Steve Mayall

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 278

Date: Friday June 8 2007 15:34:48 EST  
Name: Dan Archer  
Email:

Service Number: RM22378  
Hometown: Bay of Islands New Zealand  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Taff Higgins...great pics of your wedding and reunions...Andy Clarkson looks well!!When next you see Al White ask him about the meal in Panama and what goes with steak!! Good to see you looking so well Dan

---

message #: 277

Date: Thursday June 7 2007 14:48:07 EST  
Name: Anita Phillips nee Barnbrook  
Email: sounds@out1.wanadoo.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hello I am a writing hoping this will reach a few of my Dad's old friends. Ray Barnbrook use to be a regular in the Telegraph in Deal and was friends with many bandsmen. Unfortunately my father died last May quite suddenly. It has been lovely reading your website and remembering names from my youth. I hope someone can let me know if Dave Stonebridge is doing okay I have fond memories of him working as a window cleaner with my dad. Dave would never go up a ladder. One Christmas after having a few in the pub the 2 of them were cleaning windows in the flats in Freemans Way. Dave went up the ladder and forgot he was not on the ground floor stepped back to admire his work and ended as a heap on the floor. Luckily no bones broken. Well hope you all stay well Anita

---

message #: 276

Date: Tuesday June 5 2007 13:57:00 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambfam@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB 3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Alick Sorry I got the spelling wrong in my last message.How about putting yourself on the "buddy list" so that I can drop you a line to catch up. All the best Dave

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 275

Date: Tuesday May 29 2007 01:26:12 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aonet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon /Bass Drum  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
G/day from down under A big thankyou to Nobby Clark and Nobby Clarke. They will know what for. I have had returned to me snail mail for two ex members Terry Lambert and Glyn Clarke as unknown at the address I had been given for them. Anyone out there able to help please. Also why do people write in asking to be remembered and then fail to answer when written to.

---

message #: 274

Date: Thursday May 24 2007 14:40:36 EST  
Name: David Lambert  
Email: lambfam@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB 3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
How good to see a message from "Grimsby". The deployment of musicians as armed guards is a sinister step. I thought gate duty at BRNC with a gun was bad enough. It makes me glad I'm on the outside looking in. All the best  
Alek Dave

---

message #: 273

Date: Thursday May 24 2007 05:02:15 EST  
Name: Norma Hand (Lock)  
Email: hands75@aapt.net.au

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I am searching for Terry Gee who played Oboe with the R.M. Band during 1963-1964 and was stationed at Eastney Barracks Portsmouth. I am in Australia knew the person for the time stated and he also played with the band aboard the Britannia. Please contact me.  
Norma

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 272

Date: Monday May 21 2007 08:19:38 EST  
Name: Alick Harwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4012  
Hometown: Whitstable  
Instrument/s: Trom  
n/a:

Comments:  
In regard to Mike Jones post the RMBS have already been involved. See the two links below for informed RMB comment and extreme whingeing by th'army aided and abetted by some subtle winding up as only 'bandy' knows how. <http://royalmarinesbands.myfreeforum.org/ftopic1873-0-asc-0.php> <http://www.arrse.co.uk/cpgn2/Forums/viewtopic?t=66307/postdays=0/postorder=asc/start=0.html>

---

message #: 271

Date: Sunday May 20 2007 05:23:02 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawly2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Ctl/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo to everyone! I don't know if any of our readers of this excellent web site are aware of news that I read in Saturday's Daily Telegraph of the fact that our colleagues in the Army Bands are to be deployed as soldiers in Cyprus! Apparently 50 musicians of the Welsh Guards Band will be the first to go followed by the Grenadier Guards and the Rifles. It must beg the question that are our Bands going to be considered next? Mike Jones

---

message #: 270

Date: Saturday May 19 2007 09:07:24 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke.  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/X3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Lincolnshire.  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello Folks I would just like to say to Eric Hayward who posted a recent message on your site don't give up mate. After I sent a message to this Guest Book I got quite a few messages from old mates the result of which enabled me to contact lots of old pals I had not heard from for many years. So keep on trying. It looks as though he and I joined up around the same time and his name does ring a bell. I would gladly pass on any information on to Eric if he contacts me. Cheers Nobby Clarke.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 269

Date: Friday May 18 2007 16:20:35 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi all from "Down Under" Is there no one out there? I have recently emailed Robert (Bob) Sanders Jim Mason and one or two others on what I thought was a friendly basis. Disappointed to have received no acknowledgement whatsoever. Was I that unpopular? We are all getting a bit long in the tooth but memories shared are treasured even if for some they were not always that pleasant. Richard this is a tremendous site. It is a pity that it is not being used more. Enough said I think.

---

message #: 268

Date: Thursday May 10 2007 08:07:52 EST  
Name: Lynda Johnson  
Email: lynda@pro-digital.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Wellingborough  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi there. Just a visitor (not RMB) browsing through your guestbook and noticed that Richard Wright lives not far from me. I play for Raunds Temperance Band and would like to get in touch with him. Do you still play Richard? We are always on the lookout for players either to join Raunds or help out when short.(for instance this sunday at Raunds Football Club-1st trombone short) I came across this website cos Arthur Deakin e-mailed me looking for a colleague who lives in Raunds so trying to help to trace him. If you would like to get in touch Richard my e-mail is lynda@pro-digital.co. uk . Look forward to hearing from you.

---

message #: 267

Date: Tuesday May 1 2007 17:08:25 EST  
Name: Les Sheppard  
Email: sheppard\_home@btinternet.com

Service Number: Q004417V  
Hometown: Stoke Fleming Nr Dartmouth  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi to everyone out there. I've finally come to join the ranks of the memories brigade. 34 years 10 months man and boy and I enjoyed every moment of it. I'm currently working in BRNC in the International Liaison Office just don't seem to be able to leave the College (see the Savage Report - BRNC Band Sec (that's me!)). Not surprising really as I spent a total of 22 years in BRNC. A Big Hello to all who remember me and hopefully I'll see you at a reunion in the future. Cheers!! Les

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 266

Date: Monday April 30 2007 13:33:47 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambfam@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Thanks to Pete for the WCR. A good night I was sorry to be late arriving but managed to see quite a few old friends. I would like to go to Adelaide for one so I will have to start buying lottery tickets. See you all at the nrxt one Dave

---

message #: 265

Date: Saturday April 28 2007 23:29:41 EST  
Name: eric hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon /Bass Drum  
n/a:

Comments:  
p> Hi there Pete &nb p; &nb sp; I concur entirely with your comments. We out here are trying hard to foster the spirit of the Corps Re-union and some may feel that I am "pushing the boat" a little too hard. However if it is not done now by us "OLDIES" the history will most certainly die out. You only have to read the Blue Band to see that there are not many contributions from our era and it would seem to me to be more focused on the Volunteer Bands these days. Perhaps the modern corps has no reason to remember us which is a pity. &nb p; &nb sp; When I joined in 1952 I remember yourself and people like Stan Hacking Vic Sylvester and a few others who we new members looked up too. &nb p; &nb sp; As they say out here "Good On You" for organizing t

---

message #: 264

Date: Saturday April 28 2007 18:06:54 EST  
Name: Taff Higgins  
Email: ijhiggins@aol.com

Service Number: RMB4323  
Hometown: Ammanford  
Instrument/s: alto and that thing under my chin  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just a quick note of thanks to Pete Westaway for organising the WCR great to see old friends and make new ones.I've got a photo of the ex Canberra band members and will submit photo as soon as i've been trained. Unfortunately the breakfast was too heavy and i failed to meet up with Jan Dale at lunchtime so my apologies to him in public.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 263

Date: Saturday April 28 2007 06:36:02 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a:

Comments:

To all My sincere apologies if my E mail upset anyone but that was certainly not my intention. I will go anywhere to attend re-unions (Australia exepcted due to funds!). I had a fantastic weekend at Plymouth for the WC reunion and will certainly attend next year Pete and his wife did a brilliant job and I loved every minute. The opinion I expressed was my own so once again many apologies if anyone took offence. Roy

---

message #: 262

Date: Friday April 27 2007 08:49:32 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number: Rmbx2902  
Hometown: Par Cornwall  
Instrument/s: Trombone.  
n/a:

Comments:

nbsp; Sorry about all the fuss about re-unions. Having done a short survey perhaps I can shed some light on the matter. First Margate is not a reunion members go there to play in the concert there is not enough time to meet everyone. The home of the school of music is Portsmouth so that is where the official re-union is held, and so it should be. Unfortunately th e people who have left the band service for the last 50 years all joined at Dealorserved there at some time. If only one re-union was allowed the obvious place would be Deal that at present is still the spiritual home of the school of musicandeveryone would make the effort at some time to get there. In the past Pompey had to few bands in comparison to the west country who at one time had 6 very close together.. Most people did a spell in the plymouth area. so they like to re-visit.. Given time and Portsmouth will have discharged 100 bandsmen and they will wish to go back to the place they joined. In the time we have left I hope all bandsmen will find time to get together wherever they may be. As for Australia wellmaybe sometime Eric. As long as I could get some fishing in. PS WCR next year on 19th of April

---

message #: 261

Date: Friday April 27 2007 06:44:52 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB(QOO3482R)  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:

I can't see any problem with the venue for the Band Service Reunion. When our home was at Deal once we had dispensed with the Duke of Yorks in London the greater majority of Reunions were held in Deal the home of the Royal Marines School of Music. As we all know this has now changed and our HQ is now Portsmouth so surely we should remain in Portsmouth. This arguement over venues has rumbled on for years long before some of the people who attend reunions were in long trousers that alone in the Band Service keep it at the home of the Band Service if others want to organize and attend other functions then so be it but we all should at some point start singing from the same song sheet after all we were all members of the same band service no matter were you served there was only ever one Royal Marine Band Service and there will for ever be only one.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 260

Date: Friday April 27 2007 05:14:12 EST  
Name: eric hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon/Bassdrum  
n/a:

Comments:  
My appologies for miss spelling your name Roy. Put it down to age and not having my glasses on.

---

message #: 259

Date: Thursday April 26 2007 17:38:46 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a:

Comments:  
To Roy Hamblin and Pete Westaway with a little tongue in cheek Re suggested venue for future re-unions. To settle all disputes as to where they should be held why not join us in Adelaide. The Australasion Ex members of the RMBS will be holding our next re-union on the weekend of 28th 29th and 30th March 2008 I'm sure that after just one visit there would be no more problems for you. Details will be gladly forwarded for all those interested.

---

message #: 258

Date: Wednesday April 25 2007 13:19:47 EST  
Name: Geoff McGarr  
Email: macg51@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4137  
Hometown: Ruislip  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi All Just a quick line to say thanks to Pete Westaway for organising another splendid WCR. Its always good to catch up with old friends. Cheers Pete. See you at the next one. Geoff McGarr

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 257

Date: Wednesday April 25 2007 06:19:51 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Bassoonostics  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dickie I attended the West Country re-union last weekend and had as usual a great time meeting up with more silly old F\*\*\*'s just like me again. After talking to several ex Bandies about the Pompey (Band Service) re-union there appeared to be some hostility toward the fact that it is held in Pompey! Maybe it would be an idea to perhaps carry out a survey and try to determine where Ex Band members would prefer to hold the BAND SERVICE re-union! It appears at the moment that we have three.....Margate Plymouth and Pompey. Lets not fragment our traditions lets all get together and have a good one what do you think? Cheers Roy

---

message #: 256

Date: Wednesday April 25 2007 04:05:52 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number:  
Hometown: Par.  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
The pingat Jasa Malaysia medal This medal is entitled by all servicemen who served in malaysia for a period of 90 days between 31st of August 1957 and 12 August 1966 Or Singapore during 31st of August 1957 and 9th of August 1965. application forms can be obtained from National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association Mr Fred Burden, National Membership Secretary, 44 Meadgate Avenue, Great Baddow, Chelmsford. C M2 7LQ Hope this helps all who have been looking for the address. Cheers Pete

---

message #: 255

Date: Monday April 23 2007 04:32:27 EST  
Name: Pete Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@talktalk.net

Service Number:  
Hometown: Par.  
Instrument/s: Trombone.  
n/a:

Comments:  
Just back from the WCR. 70 ex bandsmen attended plus wives etc which made 128. It was amazing to meet so many old friends, and people who were in my squad when I joined. The oldest person was Jan Greenleaf aged 87 who had a fabulous night. A full report plus photos will be on the board soon. There will be a re-union next year on 19th of April. Anyone who attended and has any suggestions to improve the evening please drop me a line. Thank you to all those whom came. Cheers Pete.2

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 254

Date: Friday April 20 2007 17:51:04 EST  
Name: Eric Hayward  
Email: jananderic@aanet.com.au

Service Number: RMB/X3051  
Hometown: Bendigo Victoria Australia  
Instrument/s: Bassoon /Bass Drum  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to all from Down Under or as they say out here "G/day". Reading through the back pages of the Guest book many names spring forward with memories of the days in "J" Wing and "M" company Staff band Chatham (Nore Command) and 3rd. Cdo Bde. Much is written about the Re-unions in Pompey but it is not only in the UK that we are being re-united with "old ships". Here in Oz Bob Chumley who you may remember and I for the last four years have organized very successfull gatherings in Adelaide. Ex members of the RMB have travelled from as far as the UK and New Zealand to attend and we all had a ball and agreed to do it all again so our next re-union will be held in Adelaide on the weekend of 28th 29th and30th March 2008. You are all invited to attend with of course your wives sweethearts (or Both). Bob who lives in Adelaide can assist with info re accommodation venues functions etc. He can be reached on Email

---

message #: 253

Date: Friday April 20 2007 10:36:18 EST  
Name: Taph Ward  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4149  
Hometown: Folkestone  
Instrument/s: F Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
To all those that remember Henry Monaghan 69I spoke today to the local Northants Newspaper and they are going to run an ad in their lost friends column for me indeed they were very helpful. I have rung the Monaghans listed in the phone book but to no avail. If any one has any other bright ideas please let me know -taphward@hotmail.com Billy Walker and I are considering driving up to Raunds to do a bit of snooping but of course with all the confidentiality laws now it may be difficult but we'll keep trying. Regards Graham Ward (taph)

---

message #: 252

Date: Tuesday April 17 2007 05:13:21 EST  
Name: Roger Manning  
Email: intercomms@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s:  
n/a:

Comments:  
Dear Richard I work in the NAAFI club in Plymouth which is a university. We are having a farewell dance in the old ballroom at the end of May and want to put on display any memories of service men and friends using it for dances in the 50/60's can you post a request for any bandsmen at that time to contact me so I can add it to our display of the history I believe Princess Margaret opened it and inspected Royal Marines outside on the notte street. Thanks that would be great. Roger Manning

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 251

Date: Monday April 16 2007 13:32:41 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Long wooden thingy  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi to all who remember me! Hope to see many "old" faces at the West Country re-union this weekend  
Oggy Busby.....I think you still owe me a drink!!!! Roy

---

message #: 250

Date: Friday April 13 2007 13:52:31 EST  
Name: Richard Wright  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3716  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Euph Cello & Trombone.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
In reference to Mike's letter Vic, Sylvester can be seen in his full glory (complete with hat-bowler for the wearing of) at the East of England Country Show at the Peterborough Showground this year from Friday 15 to Sunday 17 June inclusive. Come to the Main Stage where I the Chief Steward will find him for you. He will inevitably be on Stand Easy in the coffee tent. His Stand Easy's come at any time so long as they don't get in the way of luncheon so be prepared for a wait! He really is a great chap to have on the team & can defuse any problem (even if there isn't one!). Peter Clark is also on the team so you can see my task is keeping the lamps not just from swinging but actually crashing down. Good value as the International Orchid Show moves to Peterborough this year. You may see Vic. in there but only if it has a coffee tent attached! Shiner. (see you at the WCR).

---

message #: 249

Date: Wednesday April 11 2007 05:30:03 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a:

Comments:  
I was looking through the guestbook archives yesterday and came across the address of one 'Vic' Sylvester who is living in Peterborough. I sent him a card and blow me down if he didn't ring me this morning!!! Yes he did and it was great talking to this 'auld stalwart' who is still doing the odd marathon these days! I remember during the days he was stationed at Deal and he was always writing the odd ode for which he became quite good at! His humour is still the same. Mike.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 248

Date: Monday April 9 2007 15:02:29 EST  
Name: GRAHAM WARD (TAPH)  
Email: taphward@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 4149  
Hometown: FOLKESTONE  
Instrument/s: F/ HORN  
n/a:

Comments:  
WHOOPS RICHARD MANY SORRY'S PLEASE SEND ME YOU ADDRESS SO I CAN SEND YOU SOME FUNDS I CANT APOLOGISE ENOUGH FOR MY BAD MEMORY REGARDS GRAHAM

---

message #: 247

Date: Thursday April 5 2007 03:23:14 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend.Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a:

Comments:  
Reading the kind letters of condolence for Chick Hitchcock,I too have some fond of memories of my time with the Staff Band at Deal especially on certain trips away.I wonder if anyone can remember the songs we used to sing on the bus under the superb direction of one Benny Goodman.For example " A is for A"!Also "The Redis Cap-eye".Can anyone remember the text to the latter? Mike.

---

message #: 246

Date: Wednesday April 4 2007 08:08:50 EST  
Name: Taph Ward  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4149  
Hometown: Folkestone  
Instrument/s: F Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi all Just read about the demise of another of the 'characters' of the Band service I was in the Staff band with Chick and have memories of his always helpfulness and smiling face. Unfortunately I am at sea so wont be able to attend the Funeral Condolences to all. Regards Taph..

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 245

Date: Wednesday March 28 2007 04:39:07 EST  
Name: Herman(Nobby)Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe North Lincs  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello Folks I have been trying to find contact details for an old mate that I served with in HMS Pembroke band Chatham under the late Peter Sumner. Bob Gill and myself both lived on the married quarters estate in Chatham and I have fond memories of being given lifts into barracks by Bob as a passenger in his motorbike and sidecar a sight not often seen these days. I saw a Photo of Bob (with his new camera) on the All Stars Band Portal and wondered if anyone out there could give me any contact details for Bob. Hope someone out there may be able to help. Cheers Nobby Clarke.

---

message #: 244

Date: Tuesday March 27 2007 18:21:41 EST  
Name: Bridgette Goold  
Email: brassedoff@aol.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I can now confirm that my Uncle Mick (Chick) Hitchcock's funeral will be on Wednesday 4th April at BARHAM CRÉMATORIUM

---

message #: 243

Date: Monday March 26 2007 13:25:54 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Glad to hear that your still around Phil. Just to see your name there brings back images of the Floating Bridge and The Ship in Dock. Have a good one on Saturday. All the Best Dave

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 242

Date: Monday March 26 2007 11:39:26 EST  
Name: Bridgette Goold  
Email: brassedoff@aol.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I've just received confirmation that my Uncle Mick (Chick) Hitchcock funeral will be on Wednesday 4th April p.m. As soon as I receive more details I will post back to this site. Kind Regards Bridgette Goold

---

message #: 241

Date: Monday March 26 2007 06:43:13 EST  
Name: Charlie Laws  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/x3057  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet? Water Polo Ball  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I'm sorry to hear of the loss of Chick Hitchcock always had a smile on his face we lived next door to one another in Freemans Way. We also played water polo in the "all musicians" team at the Corps championship's. Mine and Val's condolences to Barbara and family.

---

message #: 240

Date: Monday March 26 2007 06:39:30 EST  
Name: Phil Smith  
Email: storm44uk88@hotmail.com

Service Number: PO32059Y  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to all who remember me (or choose not to) Looks like I will make 50 :-O. having a bash in the ladmark centre (Deal) at 19.00 Saturday 18 August. All cordially invited to re-live some memories  
Phil

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 239

Date: Saturday March 24 2007 13:07:21 EST  
Name: Bridgette Goold  
Email: brassedoff@cantiumbrass.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
I would just like to thank everyone for their kind messages of condolence regarding the sudden and unexpected loss of my Uncle Mike. I will ensure that Barbara Karen & Trevor have a copy of all the messages posted on this site as I know they will find comfort in your memories of Mick. Kind Regards Bridgette Goold brassedoff@cantiumbrass.co.uk

---

message #: 238

Date: Thursday March 22 2007 14:29:39 EST  
Name: Rod Williamson  
Email: rodney.williamson@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB 3491  
Hometown: Whitstable  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Very sad to read of the death of Mick Hitchcock. We worked together in the Music Library in the late 70s and he was always a good guy to be around. Known for his sense of humour he was also dedicated at his job and loved the challenge of finding an obscure piece of music etc. My condolences go to his wife Barabara. Rest in peace mate.

---

message #: 237

Date: Thursday March 22 2007 13:22:08 EST  
Name: John Williams  
Email: johnwilliams2@onetel.com

Service Number: RMBX3273 or QOO3273D  
Hometown: East Wittering Chichester  
Instrument/s: French Horn  
n/a:

Comments:  
I am greatly saddend to hear of the death of 'Chick' Hitchcock. We were in the same french horn class with Joe Rees as instructor - 1954 - and served together as boys for about three years he was rated before me and joined the Staff Band. I well remember we were told to spin a coin to see which one of us would be in the band for the trip to Canada in 1958 he won but brought me a lovely pair of cuff links back just the sort of guy he was. He always was ready to help anybody his smile was very infectious and I was proud to have known him. Please pass on my condolences to Babs and the family they are in my thoughts at this sad time. John Williams

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 236

Date: Wednesday March 21 2007 14:41:01 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Dear Richard, I have just received the sad news of the untimely death of Mick (Chick) Hitchcock. We were Band Boys together in Boy's Wing in the fifties and he was someone that lit up a room when he entered always with a smile on his face. He will be sorely missed and my condolences go out to his wife Barbara and his Family. Rest in Peace Mick. Sid.

---

message #: 235

Date: Wednesday March 21 2007 07:22:52 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: QOO(RMB) 3482  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:

More bad news. I am sorry to say that I received an E mail yesterday from Dave Varlow(Percussion) to say that Chick Hitchcock(French Horn) has passed on to the great and good Massed Band in the sky. Chick was in the RMA looking apparently as fit as a fiddle he went home and was gone. He was a great guy we had some great times together we shared a room on the very first tour of the States in 1965 and boy did we have some fun. My sincere condolences to his dear wife Barbara and his family and all members of the RMB that knew Chick in some way or another. I will miss you old buddy Rest in Peace. Mik H.

---

message #: 234

Date: Monday March 19 2007 11:25:42 EST  
Name: Tony Hunter (overtone)  
Email: tonyhntr@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 3999  
Hometown: Kennethmont Aberdeenshire.  
Instrument/s: Cornet / Violin  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi Richard Just returned from the concert at the winter gardens in Margate. WOW....I should have done this years ago. So many old friends and so many memories. I would like to say a very big thank you to Stephen and his wife form Cinqueport music for not only getting us tickets but for inviting me to play as well. I had a fabulous time and was also able to get across to see Dave Stonebridge. An emotional reunion and I hope he continues to stay in the best of health. At one stage when he remembered who I was he started going into things and stories that I had forgotten. My wife Norma was with me and they got on great as well. I hope next year if he is not too bad health wise to take him along to the concert and let him relive some old memories him self. Once again Richard a brilliant website and glad I came across it. To all those folk that made the concert so good and made me so welcome. Thank you take care my friends and will see you all again soon. Tony

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 233

Date: Monday March 5 2007 00:37:55 EST  
Name: Max  
Email: naxie2234@xtra.co.nz

Service Number: x2234  
Hometown: Silverdale NZ  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:

Greetings from Aotearoa just to let you know that Dan Archer and his wife have made contact and will stay with us for a while and then move to their new house up in Kerikeri more on that later plenty of room here in NZ for visitors and immigrants Kia Ora Max

---

message #: 232

Date: Tuesday February 27 2007 11:31:15 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@ukonline.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Just a quick reminder that the 'All Stars' are performing in Margate on Sunday 11 March. We don't quite match the RAH but it's a great day out and of course a bit of a reunion....If your not still blowing then you can still come and watch. If you can't get a ticket come to the afternoon rehearsal and have a chat in the interval. See you there.  
Mick Hutton.

---

message #: 231

Date: Monday February 26 2007 05:01:52 EST  
Name: Pete Westaway  
Email:

Service Number: Rmbx 2902  
Hometown: Par Cornwall  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:

Just a quick note to tell you the tele no for my address in the blue band is incorrect it should read 01726 813939. The re\_union tickets are going well 78 tickets sold another 20 pledged awaiting payment. Tickets still available. If you have doubts about coming then read message 194 from Bill Hartland. Think about it then send for ticket. Cheers Pete. PS We have two ex DOM's so far.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 230

Date: Monday February 19 2007 01:48:22 EST  
Name: JEM TUGWOOD  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: CLART/ALTO SAX AND VIOLIN  
n/a:

Comments:  
On Friday (16th ) I had the pleasure of taking my wife and inlaws to the RAH to see the Mountbatten Festival of Music concert and what a spectacular event it was. The musical expertise was outstanding and the soloists were none other than fantastic. I seem to remember Phil Watson as the oboe player in FONAC band when I was in it at Yeovilton may years ago and now he's a Major and about to retire how time flies. We also had the pleasure of meeting Merv Durrant and Barry Radford in the bar prior to the performance. May I say a big thank you to all the musicians directors of music the Corps of Drums (who performed such difficult routines without a hitch) and not forgetting the back of house staff who gave all of us a performance to remember it was indeed a memorable occasion. Best wishes to all  
Jem

---

message #: 229

Date: Thursday February 8 2007 14:21:55 EST  
Name: Rod Williamson  
Email: rodney.williamson@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB 3491  
Hometown: Whitstable Kent  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a:

Comments:  
Have just come across the photograph of the 1968 Royal Tournament on the notice board very kindly supplied by Mick Hutton. If you haven't seen it go there now - it isn't something to be missed. I've identified over 70 musicians and above at the moment and have still got some more sleuthing to do. When I discovered it almost by accident I couldn't stop looking and it brought back the most amazing memories. I had so much pleasure putting names to faces and all of them conjured up stories from the past. I think the pleasure was heightened because as musicians we got around so much and made friends in every band we went to and looking at a picture like this doesn't limit it things the way an ordinary band photograph might. Thanks a lot Mick for putting the photo on the notice board. I know I'll continue to look at it for a long time to come trying to recognise another face and another memory. Best wishes to all especially those in the photograph. Rodney Williamson - or 'Rod' or 'Bungy'

---

message #: 228

Date: Monday February 5 2007 15:02:34 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Bassoonish  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dickie It was sad news that another Bandy has passed over (J D Place) I served with him in HMS Drake I remember when he retired and went to work for a circus....but I believe he was made redundant before he even took up the job!! how true this is I don't know perhaps some old Bandy from that band (and believe me that band was full of old codgers) can shed light on this. Does anyone remember the dead dog in the RA's locker room? or the marrow rum in the drying room...?

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 227

Date: Saturday February 3 2007 23:34:30 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Ctl/Vln/Piano  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hullo Richard, Sad news that Dick Place has passed on. I remember him well during my time at HMS Drake in the late 60's and I was studying for the LRAM diploma. Dick and the band were very helpful in every way to this (then) young musician with the conducting practice; something I have always appreciated after all these years. My condolences to his family. Mike.

---

message #: 226

Date: Friday February 2 2007 14:27:09 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email: ken.tyler 1@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMBx1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd, West Yorkshire  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
To those who remember Dick Place I have just returned from Cumbria after attending his Cremation. He had a marvellous send off attended by family and friends. The Crematorium was packed and we all attended a superb meal afterwards. Our family will miss him and as the vicar said we shall all miss his phone calls with his slightly dubious jokes! God bless from us all Dick Ken

---

message #: 225

Date: Wednesday January 31 2007 16:33:20 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury North Somerset.  
Instrument/s: Solo clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
So sorry to be advised of the passing of an old shipmate by another old shipmate so thanks Cliff Meatheringham for the telephone call to advise me that Dick Plaice had crossed the Bar. Sorry that I am unable to attend the funeral due to prior commitments but will be thinking of him and his family.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 224

Date: Monday January 29 2007 09:35:42 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barry.radford@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a:

Comments:

Hi to all Just returned from a long weekend down in Exmouth. It was my pleasure to attend the 'Top Table' for W01 Steve Savage. What a celebration.(And it wasn't because Steve was leaving the band service after 28 years) It was because he is a great guy and people were there to pay their respects to a guy who will be sorely missed. Just one problem though made me feel quite old. I knew Steve and taught him along with Maurice Keat before he joined the band service!! Both Heather and I had a great time revisiting the area I left C.T.C.R.M on discharge (Medically) in June 1974! My How the place has changed. I was pleased to meet up once more with John Dunn (Ex/Band.Col.Sgt.) who served with me at Lympstone John is now working in the Sgts's Mess. Also spent a lot of time talking to Roger Holdsworth who was also one of Steve's guests. Looking forward to Margate and the 'All Stars' and meeting more 'golden oldies' Will not be at the 'West Country Gathering' this year but look forward to 'Pompey' in October. Regards to all Barry Radford

---

message #: 223

Date: Thursday January 25 2007 09:21:27 EST  
Name: George Malcolm Cawthorne  
Email: malcolm\_cawthorne@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3044  
Hometown: HULL  
Instrument/s: TROMBONE  
n/a:

Comments:

Hello to everyone.An excellent site of ex bandsmen.Surely there are a lot more of us out there.All the very best to one and all.

---

message #: 222

Date: Thursday January 18 2007 05:16:21 EST  
Name: Nobby Clarke  
Email: sannob@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX/3329  
Hometown: Bottesford Scunthorpe N/Lincs  
Instrument/s: Flute /Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Folks Just wanted to wish all ex bandies a very happyNew Year and hope to be seeing many of you at the Band Reunion again in 2007 CheersNobby and Sandra Clarke.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 221

Date: Tuesday January 16 2007 17:46:46 EST  
Name: Jim Mason  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX2353  
Hometown: Havant  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a:

Comments:  
Greetings to 4007 Bill Matthews from 3416 Jim Mason. Talking of "old ships" there cannot be many around who served in a ship built in 1850. Jim

---

message #: 220

Date: Tuesday January 16 2007 04:50:45 EST  
Name: William (Bill) J C Matthews  
Email: WilliamJCM@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMBX3242  
Hometown: Tennyson Sydney NSW  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi everyone! Art Deakin asked me if I had seen this site and I told him no but now I have and would very much like to be part of this so that I can keep in touch with all my old "Ships". so could Dickie send me the info I need to join and make payment over the net? Yours Faithfully Bill Matthews.

---

message #: 219

Date: Sunday January 14 2007 13:49:52 EST  
Name: Bert Parton  
Email: Bertparton21@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 3976  
Hometown: Barnstaple  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
At last I've got in contact. It was good to see names from the Eagle(Upton..etc) and Torpoint(Robbie Coleman..Bushy etc) and I look forward to hearing from many other past friends in the future. I hope everyone is well.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 218

Date: Saturday January 6 2007 08:56:24 EST  
Name: JAN BETTINSON  
Email: john.bettinson@btconnect.com

Service Number: rm23715  
Hometown: plymouth  
Instrument/s: bugle/drum  
n/a:

Comments:  
To all ex HMS EAGLE 69/72 trust all keeping well Special message to BERT PARTON / RICHARD VALENTINE/BIG HARRY MARTINSON  
AND AL UPTON Just to say my parents are still alive awaiting your next visit as the last one was in 1971 Hey what a RUN  
in the FAR EAST Best to you all JAN BETTINSON

---

message #: 217

Date: Wednesday January 3 2007 15:06:43 EST  
Name: Geoff McGarr  
Email: macg51@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4137  
Hometown: Ruislip  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Hi I have sadly lost my passing out squad photo. If anyone from 2/67 new entry squad can help please contact  
me or upload the photo to Dickle. Eternaly grateful Geoff Mcgarr

---

message #: 216

Date: Wednesday January 3 2007 12:36:10 EST  
Name: JAN BETTINSON  
Email: john.bettinson@btconnect.com

Service Number: rm23715  
Hometown: plymouth  
Instrument/s: bugle/drum  
n/a:

Comments:  
hi richard a golden oldie for you : best bugler HMS EAGLE 69/72

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 215

Date: Tuesday January 2 2007 09:16:34 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard. Wishing all serving and ex serving RMBs a Very Happy and Prosperous 2007 and looking forward to seeing you all again in Pompey. Sid

---

message #: 214

Date: Tuesday January 2 2007 05:58:11 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: Peter2902@ntlworld.com

Service Number: 2902  
Hometown: Par  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Happy New Year to all and a note to say Tickets for the WCR are on sale now. Details for WCR in message 195. Thank you to the 30 people who have already secured a ticket. Just send your money and a SAE. Cheers Pete.

---

message #: 213

Date: Sunday December 31 2006 11:22:31 EST  
Name: Arthur Deakin  
Email: a.deakin@tesco.net

Service Number: RMBx 3113  
Hometown: Hartlepool  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a:

Comments:  
To all Bandies past and present A very prosperous healthy and happy New Year. Cheers to many more. Arthur Deakin

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 212

Date: Sunday December 31 2006 09:42:02 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE

---

message #: 211

Date: Thursday December 28 2006 21:11:13 EST  
Name: bob chumley  
Email: bob.chumley@familycourt.gov.au

Service Number: rmbx3195  
Hometown: Adelaide  
Instrument/s: euph & cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Happy new year to all from us in the 'antipidies' If anyone has any contacts in South Africa could you please let me know bob

---

message #: 210

Date: Sunday December 24 2006 12:06:25 EST  
Name: Paul Harker  
Email: paulharker1@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: 3995  
Hometown: Norwich  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a:

Comments:  
I would just like to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy and healthy New Year. Since coming upon Richards excellent website this year. I have found lots of old friends and lots of old friends have found me. More importantly I hope to see quite a few old friends at the Alstars concert and WCR reunion this coming Year 2007 and fill in some of the gaps over the last 40 some years of our lives. All the very Best Paul Harker

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 209

Date: Saturday December 23 2006 06:03:33 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: Q003482R  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a:

Comments:  
Like many others may I take this opportunity to wish All ex and present Members of our beloved family that is The Royal Marine Band Service a very Happy Crhstmas and a Safe and a good New year.Hope to see many of you at Portsmouth in 2007. & nbsp; FELIZ NAVIDAD PARA TODO AMIGOS. & nbsp; & nbsp; FELIZ ANO NUEVE.

---

message #: 208

Date: Friday December 22 2006 15:36:10 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barry.radford@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to everyone. Both Heather and I wish you all 'A Very Merry Christmas' and a Peaceful and Contented 2007. We will be at Margate Every Good wish to you all Barry and Heather Radford

---

message #: 207

Date: Friday December 22 2006 10:54:29 EST  
Name: Stuart Henderson  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX 2280  
Hometown: Chassenon France  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
A very Happy Christmas and a really great New Year to all. Bon chance//

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 206

Date: Wednesday December 20 2006 16:26:45 EST  
Name: Roger walker  
Email: roger.walker1948@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB3903  
Hometown: Sydney  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Seasons greetings to all and a very happy new year. Sorry I can never arange a trip back to match one of the reunions that I keep reading about. Cheers Roger W

---

message #: 205

Date: Tuesday December 19 2006 04:46:52 EST  
Name: Charlie Laws  
Email: charles@charleslaws.wanadoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB/x3057  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet when not Swimming  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi I'd just like to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a Great New Year

---

message #: 204

Date: Tuesday December 19 2006 03:19:30 EST  
Name: Tony Hunter  
Email: tonyhntr@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 3999  
Hometown: Kennethmont Aberdeenshire  
Instrument/s: Cornet / Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I would like to wish everybody a very happy Xmas and a very prosperous new year. Hope to see you at the concert in Margate and look forward to 2007 reunion which I will be attending ill health or not. Well done again Richard on a very good website. I have touched base with a lot more old friends this year and would like to thank every one who has been in touch for their good wishes and support. It's not going to beat me and as I say will see you in the new year. Take care every one and may your God be with you. Tony Hunter (Overton)

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 203

Date: Monday December 18 2006 14:38:46 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Malta New York USA  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart Keyboards Vibe Voice.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Dear Roy (Hallin) and all our RMB family Let me thank you heartily for your sentiment and although leading a life of solitude (by consequence and reluctant choice ) I shall surely endeavor to try to enjoy this festive time. This time of year is for family and of course the children are our focus very much so. Being a new grandfather I will enjoy being with grandson at some point during the holiday. To all our subscribers visitors and the extended family that make the unique Royal Marine Band Service what it is have a peaceful healthy and happy Christmas. Thank you all for your friendship and your continued support. Richard (Dickie) Valentine.

---

message #: 202

Date: Monday December 18 2006 14:21:44 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ERICFAN@HOTMAIL.CO.UK

Service Number: RMB 4079  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: BASSOON  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Richard May I take this opportunity to wish you and your family plus all ex Bandies throughout the world a Very Merry Christmas and a very very prosperous New Year. All the Best Roy and Family

---

message #: 201

Date: Wednesday December 13 2006 22:23:51 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend.Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hullo again Richard Further to my previous letter of thanks I should also havementioned Ray (Taff) Taylor (ex Pencoed - near Bridgend) .Sorryfor leaving you out Ray. Mike.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 200

Date: Wednesday December 13 2006 07:08:49 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard May I through this guestbook page thank all those that signed and sent me a special birthday card from the Band Service Re-union held in Adelaide. I was so gobsmacked with this surprise that the tears welled up as you can imagine. Bob Chumley sent it in the post (his name and address on the envelope). But others who signed - Eric Hayward Allan Bulley Joe Simms Maxie Beare Pat trevis Joy Henshaw (late Harry Henshaw) Ken (Ned) Kelley Mick Hutton Barrie Baker Bill Matthews Tony Oberdries Ralph Payne Ted Drake Vince Harris Bill Billent and Michael Thompson. With five 'Drums Major' on the front cover this was the nicest surprise I could've received and I would like to thank all of you for your kindness. A Merry Christmas to you all.

---

message #: 199

Date: Saturday December 9 2006 12:47:26 EST  
Name: Brian Starr  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4358  
Hometown: Alvertsoke  
Instrument/s: Alto Sax Clarinet & Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just to answer your question Mick Hickman Yes I will be going to both reunions next year cheque and instructions in the post already for both reunions. Hope to see you there where I will be expecting a pint of cold San Miguel.

---

message #: 198

Date: Saturday December 9 2006 08:55:43 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambfam@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I would like to echo the sentiments of our last correspondent. I think that a reunion in Deal would be a great idea. It would give yours truly an excuse to see the place again. To re-visit those memories. Days in the stone gym nights in the Lord Clyde you get the gist. Anyway Seasons greetings to all our readers and for those it may concern See you at the WCR

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 197

Date: Friday December 8 2006 11:00:08 EST  
Name: Richard Wright  
Email: richardanduula@wwright1962.freemove.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3716.  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Euph. &#39;cello & Trombone.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
There is something out in the pond that really is not too fond of me! Once again I was cut off in full flow (so to speak). My contribution ended at n. The rest will be found in the depths of the Atlantic but as it's the season of Goodwill I will finish it just for you. ...ext reunion that hasn't been seen for umpteen years. May I wish all oppos & fellow bandsmen everywhere all the Very Best for 2007 as well as a Christmas to remember for a long time to come. Shiner. P.S. At least I think it was something like that. I'll send it now;  
Atlantic-do your worst!

---

message #: 196

Date: Thursday December 7 2006 10:29:18 EST  
Name: Richard Wright.R  
Email: richardanduula@wwright1962.freemove.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3716.  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Euph. &#39;cello & Trombone.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
p>I'm beginning to warm to the idea of multi reunions. I shall always be at Portsmouth every year Deo volente & have also just sent off my application for the West Country variety NOT just because Mrs. Wife wishes to see the Eden Project. If anyone is disturbed by this I could always manage three if the Deal contingent feel like arranging one down there. Maybe another centrally in London? It was with regret that I had to miss the Australian & New Zealand reunion recently but due to the cricket situation I feel that crying into my beer was not a thing to look forward to. However I shall be revenged upon them. Early next year I shall be visiting both New Zealand islands where I hope to see Maxie Beare Tony Oberdries & anyone else who fancies holding a mismuster. Seriously people Mik is quite right. These are special occasions & due note & thought ought to be made of Bill's excellent verses to be found a few entries below. It is always sad to hear of friends who never made it to the coda. I'm so glad ( & lucky ) to have made it thus far & hope that at the n

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message #: 195

Date: Monday December 4 2006 11:02:53 EST  
Name: Westaway  
Email: peter2902@ntlworld.com

Service Number: Rmbx 2902  
Hometown: Par Cornwall  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

How apt ode to a vanished friend is submitted by an old shipmate Bill Hartland But you all have the solution in your own hands. Attend a re-union some people think the WCR detracts from the official meeting in October. Be fair we have only had three so far. I remember people bemoaning the fact that so few attended and it is frustrating to organize a meeting for Joe Blogs to say he cannot be bothered. You all have the solution go and see your old mates and honour the memory of those who would love to attend but have been called to that big band in the sky. I hope those of you who can will attend the WCR re-union. No more moans here are the details A re-union has been arranged for all serving ex Royal Marine bandsmen Buglers their wives and families and friends in Plymouth on Saturday the 21st of April 2007. The venue is the Royal Fleet club in Morice Square Devonport. Time 7pm till late dress casual. Tickets are £10 per head which includes buffet and raffle. Accommodation is available at the fleet club. Double room £68 single room £34 this includes breakfast. Please book your own accommodation from. The Royal Fleet Club 9-12 Morice Square Plymouth. Devon. PL1 4PQ Tele 01762 5622723 Web. 111.royalfleetclub.com Tickets from P. Westaway, Little Pelean House Par Cornwall. PL24 2RX. Tele 01726 813939 E Mail peter2902@ntlworld.com When requesting tickets please send SAE. Please come and see your friends before they too vanish Cheers Pete.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 194

Date: Saturday December 2 2006 13:58:17 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMB/X3050  
Hometown: Congresbury North Somerset.  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
In view of the melancholy being generated in several pleas for ex bandies to attend the reunions may I offer this ode. A VANISHED FRIEND Around the corner I have a friend. In this great city that has no end: Yet days go by and weeks rush on And before I know it a year has gone. I never see my old friends face For life is a swift and terrible race. He knows I like him just as well As in the days when I rang his bell And he rang mine. We were younger then And now we are busy tired men. Tired of playing a foolish game Tired of trying to make a name. Tomorrow I say I will call on him Just to show that I think of him. But tomorrow comes and tomorrow goes And the distance between us grows and grows. Around the corner yet miles away Heres a telegram; He died today. And thats what we get and deserve in the end Around the corner - a vanished friend.

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message #: 193

Date: Thursday November 30 2006 15:44:25 EST  
Name: Mik Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: RMB3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de mar  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I didn't have the pleasure of knowing young Keith (taff)Thomas RIP young man you are in good company. I would like to echo the words of Twink about the importance of attending the REUNION at Portsmouth his words are the same as mine how many times do we lose someone to the Great Band Service in the sky and then we hear those words I didn't know he was a great buddy I remember when we were in/at and so the story goes on. Get yourselves in gear and attend this years bash it doesn't hurt honestly well maybe in the pocket a little but it is good fun and you do learn about what has happened to many of our dear friends I like Billy Walkers idea as well with regard to the 25th Falklands anniversary I had just left when that occured but I am sure there will be some interesting tales to be told so come on lads make the effort by all means attend other reunions but do try and remember you were a member of the ROYAL MARINES BAND SERVICE it was your family for many a year and I am sure you haven't deserted our own family. The dates are out for next year already so how about it lads let's try and make it a bumper year. Will you be there TWINK? Let's rally around the flag.

---

message #: 192

Date: Wednesday November 29 2006 07:46:57 EST  
Name: Pete Westaway  
Email: peter2902@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMB x2902  
Hometown: Par  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sad to hear of Taff Thomas ex Plymouth band who did the America tour with me. I was pleased to see him at the WCR two years ago. Enquires are flooding in about WCR in 2007 April 21st Saturday. It looks like being a good turnout. Lots of old veterans from the Falklands war. Details are in the Dec Blue Band and will appear on the web shortly. But you can still Email me and book a ticket. Come and meet your friends while you have a chance to talk over old ships. Cheers Pete.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 191

Date: Tuesday November 28 2006 08:30:01 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4336  
Hometown: Great Mongeham  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Never were truer words spoken than those by Brian Starr below.

It was a hectic few days for me. I attended a 'Top-Table' at CTCRM on the Friday and Keith's Funeral on the Saturday before having to head off back to Deal via Cardiff and a drink and a chat with Irfon Higgins. Taff and I joined the RMBS 36 years ago and although we live some distance apart we still keep in touch via an occasional visit or a phone-call or maybe an e-mail. At Keith's funeral we all spoke about the various ways of communication and agreed that we are all better served by technology today thus making it so much easier to keep in touch. Some 10-15 years ago none of us had computers. The only mobile phone was the 'house-brick' at the front of the bus on a gig! Next year sees the 25th anniversary of the Falklands War and I know that there is some discussion as to what will take place to mark the commemoration. For my part I hope that the two RM Bands that served in the South Atlantic may get together for a reunion probably at the RMBS Annual Reunion. Taff said to me on Saturday, "I never miss the Police but I do miss the RMBS!" He's right because whatever you do in civvie-street you never get the same camaraderie that you got in the RMBS. You joined up as boys together. You grew up together. You travelled the world together and you saw many good times and sadly some bad times..... together. It's what makes the RMBS unique. Are you going to the reunion next year? I know that I am.

---

message #: 190

Date: Monday November 27 2006 14:35:47 EST  
Name: Brian Starr  
Email: brian.starr@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB 4358  
Hometown: Alverstoke  
Instrument/s: Alto Sax/Clt/Vln  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Just to reiterate what Billy Walker has said on a previous post. A Great turn-out for the wee man. There was also a good turn-out at the Wake afterwards at a lovely Hotel on the banks of the River where George Tate Gaz Davies Huw Morris Dave Boorer Phil Gilbert and myself went. Unfortunately due to the time and distance we had to travel it was not possible to stay longer to speak to other friends and relatives of Keith. He received a good send off from the people that knew him in the RMB. Special mention must go to John Griffiths for what must have been an incredible journey from Sandwich to Narberth. It just makes you realise that life can be so short and time on this earth is so precious. If I had to make one resolution it would be to attend more reunions and see the people that you grew up with and lived with for many years. Friendships that have been formed in the RMB are invariably far stronger than family ties. Don't ever be left with the thought "I wished I'd gone to the last reunion and spoken to.....before he left. Make sure you attend the Band Service reunion or the West Country reunion before you ever get that thought. As of next year I know I will....."

---

message #: 189

Date: Monday November 27 2006 13:21:30 EST  
Name: Bert Parton  
Email: Bertparton21@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 3976  
Hometown: Stafford..now Barnstaple  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Dear Dickie It's me..Bert Parton. Just looked in on the site for the first time for a long time and it was so good to see pics of Bill Callow Tony Oliver (tiger!!!!. 4/63 squad) and loads of others. Could you tell Stewart Elms that the other blokes in the Eagle pic were..from left to right..Shiner Wright (euph). Jesse Horword (bugler) and Bill Hadshead (cornet/piano). I hope you are well and please give my regards to everyone. All the best. Bert Parton

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 188

Date: Sunday November 26 2006 05:42:47 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 4336  
Hometown: Great Mongeham  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Excellent gathering for 'Taff's' funeral yesterday. Nice to see: Taff Higgins George Tate Gaz Davies Huw Morris Bootybandy Taff Ingram Dave Boorer John Griffiths Phil 'Gilly' Gilbert Steve Swann Dik Grainger & last but not least Taff Morgans WNB. It was nice to see his wife Andy who I had met for the first time back in August this year. It was also especially nice to meet up again with Keith's Mum & Dad whom most of us had met at one time or another during his time with the RMBS. His son Mark was also there along with other members of his family and many friends and neighbours from Llansteffan. Being in Wales the singing at the service was awesome except for one chap who's voice was like all of the Morrision Orpheus Male Voice Choir put together! It was a case of..."bugger the organ follow me!" A special mention must go to the two Buglers from CTCRM Band who played the Last Post. A sad day for all of us but we have so many fond memories of our time shared with Keith... RIP

---

message #: 187

Date: Friday November 24 2006 14:16:01 EST  
Name: Dave Lambert  
Email: lambfam@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB3997  
Hometown: Plymouth  
Instrument/s: solo clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have just been browsing and read about lots of "old" friends. When time permits I might ad an anecdote or two of my own. Meanwhile best wishes to all where so ever you might be. Dave

---

message #: 186

Date: Friday November 24 2006 05:11:17 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ERICFAN@HOTMAIL.CO.UK

Service Number: RMB 4079  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: BASSOON (ish)  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dickie I'm trying to get hold of a couple of tickets for 2007 West Country re-union but am not having a lot of luck -Pete Westaways E Mail keeps failing! If there is any one out their in ex Bandyland who knows where Bob Scarrett and I can obtain said tickets I may even buy them a wet! Some Good news and bad news Dickie as of 5 January 2007 I am retiring from Bacardi UK the bad news is I am putting together some pieces of wood and taking up the ol' bassoon again and joining Ted Whealings band.....if he'll have me musicians of the world "watch out" Aunt Lucy is back! Cheers Roy H

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 185

Date: Wednesday November 22 2006 18:20:10 EST  
Name: Steve(Sid)Tanner  
Email: swta@madasafish.com

Service Number: Qoo4175M  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Flute/Sax  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to here about the passing of Keith (Taff)Thomas although I've not seen him for a number of years I still have fond memories of the times we served together in Plymouth & Portsmouth . Ann my wife is away for a couple of days and I know she will be very upset when I tell her. Rest in peace Taff. Condolences to his family.  
Sid

---

message #: 184

Date: Wednesday November 22 2006 12:08:18 EST  
Name: Ed(Paddy)McDermott  
Email: mmacdermott@btinternet.com

Service Number: Q004119X  
Hometown: Gosport  
Instrument/s: Flute Sax  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
How very sad to read of the passing of another one of our Band of Brothers. It would seem that the grim reaper is working overtime this year. I had as with many others served with Taff on board the Yacht good musician great run ashore and a really nice person I am sure that he will be sadly missed by all who knew him and served with him. My condolences go to all his family and all his friends and to everyone who knew him. My he rest in peace and will be a great asset to the Great Band In The Sky. Yours Ed (Paddy) McDermott

---

message #: 183

Date: Wednesday November 22 2006 06:42:20 EST  
Name: irfon h  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
sorry forgot to mention funeral is at 1215 hrs.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 182

Date: Tuesday November 21 2006 13:59:23 EST  
Name: irfon higgins  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I've had some requests in relation to Keith's funeral arrangements so if anyone is thinking of travelling the funeral arrangements are as follows; Saturday 25th November at Narbeth crematorium Pembs. the post code for people with sat nav is SA678OD (please check in case) Narbeth is about 20 minutes west of Carmarthen and is easy to find as it is not far off the main road and quite well signposted. There is a bit of a function that has been arranged by Keith's wife Andi and all would be welcome. If anyone requires further details then drop me an e mail.  
irfon

---

message #: 181

Date: Tuesday November 21 2006 09:41:35 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ericfan@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Another great character has passed away. So sorry to hear of "Taff" Thomas (Keith) I served in with Taff in Pompey band a great character always with a smile on his face nothing seemed to get him down and he never seemed to have a care in the world . My condolences to Keiths wife and his family. Goodbye Mate Roy

---

message #: 180

Date: Tuesday November 21 2006 05:21:20 EST  
Name: Michael Thompson  
Email: delboy01@optusnet.com.au

Service Number: RM26593  
Hometown: Melbourne Australia  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So very sad to hear of the passing of Taff Thomas. My memories are and will always be fond. We grew up together in the wing where we did get up to some pranks especially on tour. Taff my dear friend you'll be in good company above as all your cobbers will be awaiting you. God Bless Tommo

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 179

Date: Monday November 20 2006 16:41:39 EST  
Name: Brian Starr  
Email: brian.starr@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB4358  
Hometown: Alverstoke  
Instrument/s: Alto Sax/Clt/Vln  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to hear of the passing of a fellow Welshman compatriot friend and a great man. After many years of meeting Keith on various gigs I had the good fortune of being on the Royal Yacht with him in the late 80's and early 90's. He was always a happy man with a great sense of honour. For a wee man he has left a big hole in the heart of many people. Take care Keith and God Bless. Bri.....

---

message #: 178

Date: Monday November 20 2006 14:28:36 EST  
Name: Al White  
Email: alwhite52@talktalk.net

Service Number: RMB4396  
Hometown: .....now Plymouth  
Instrument/s: Flute  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dickie So sorry to hear about Taff Thomas. I last saw him at the West Country reunion in Plymouth a couple of years ago.....I hadnt seen him for over 20 years....and he hadnt changed a bit!! I have an everlasting memory of him doing a little dance/jig at the very end of the beat retreat on the flight deck of the Canberra the day before we sailed into Southampton in 1982. Spirits were high and Taff was on form. The band was great. My thoughts are with his family Al White

---

message #: 177

Date: Monday November 20 2006 13:23:04 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4336  
Hometown: Great Mongeham  
Instrument/s: French Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sad to hear of the passing of Taff Thomas. We had some brilliant times together in Plymouth Band. I'm so pleased that I saw him back in August this year when I stayed for a few days with Taff Higgins. We recalled lots of memories from the past. Malta USA Tour 1976 Falklands War the watercress bed at RAF Benson (Don't ask!) the dance band TAMBO-URINE and even the Black Hole of Calcutta! RIP Taff. Condolences to his wife Andi and son Mark.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 176

Date: Monday November 20 2006 12:07:00 EST  
Name: irfon higgins  
Email: ijhiggins@aol.com

Service Number: RMB4323  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I'm sorry to say that Keith passed away peacefully this morning having not regained consciousness. I personally met Keith when i joined in 1970 and he was the Gloucester house captain he was an outstanding sportsman in those days and represented the Navy youth as a goalkeeper as well as playing rugby. I then had the honour of serving with him for several years at Commando Forces Band Plymouth before he left to join the Royal Yacht Band. He was an excellent musician on both cornet/trumpet and violin and a bonus to whichever Band he served. I believe he served a total of 25 years although i don't have an exact date and stand to be corrected. Many many happy memories . Keith's funeral will be held at Narbeth crematorium on Saturday the 25th of Nov. at 1215. If anyone requires any details please don't hesitate to contact me.

---

message #: 175

Date: Wednesday November 15 2006 13:55:15 EST  
Name: irfon higgins  
Email: ijhiggins@aol.com

Service Number: RMB4323  
Hometown: Ammanford  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I sat with Keith yesterday but he remains unconscious and gratefully not suffering His wife Andi has just phoned and he now has an oxygen mask to help him breathe.I've left a card with him with all best wishes from the Band service which Andi will show him should he improve.

---

message #: 174

Date: Monday November 13 2006 14:08:58 EST  
Name: irfon &#34;taff&#34; higgins  
Email: ijhiggins@aol.com

Service Number: rmb4323  
Hometown: Ammanford  
Instrument/s: alto and (violin?)  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Some bad news from Wales i'm afraid Keith "taff" Thomas has been rushed into hospital and according to his wife Andi he is not very well at all i'm hoping to visit him tomorrow and will keep you updated He is at Glangwili hospital Carmarthen.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 173

Date: Wednesday October 25 2006 08:47:46 EST  
Name: Pete Westaway  
Email:

Service Number: Rmbx 2902  
Hometown: Par  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I am sorry you guys miss your DoM's. At the WCR we always have a couple. Over the three years we have had at least eight this year we are looking for Burt Farlow! Come to the WCR in April 2007 and you may see a brace of DoM's. Come anyway and see your mates while they are here. Cheers Pete.

---

message #: 172

Date: Sunday October 22 2006 05:14:59 EST  
Name: Richard Wright  
Email: richardandtuula@wwright1962.freerve.co.ukR

Service Number: RMB 3716.  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Euph. &#39;cello & Trombone.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Richard thank you for letting me know that my last epistle was cut in half by some vagary in mid Atlantic. It got as far as ha. It went on.....hairs-on-the-back-of-the-neck piccolo solo during the Beat Retreat at the Reunion. I was lucky enough to meet the young lady soloist at the reception afterwards & congratulate her. She told me that she had been petrified but I was able to reassure her that not one person present would have been critical even if she had made a faux pas. I have shares in that department & I imagine that most of us have a small investment. It struck me that if we offered free wets to the missing DOMs they may turn up? After all they were bandmen at some stage! See what you have done to me Mik? I think I'll go for a long walk a lie down & a pint but not necessarily in that order! OK Richard. I'll try again! I did all this once today already & promptly lost the lot! I think I'll make that two pints. Quick! Push the 'Send' before it's too late! Shiner.

---

message #: 171

Date: Saturday October 21 2006 08:03:55 EST  
Name: Blue Band  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

RM Band Service Reunion/Memorial weekend is now confirmed as the weekend 13-14th October 2007 Further details and information will appear HERE when known. At the moment the format will remain the same as the previous years. We look forward to seeing more new and old faces at the reunion. It is your reunion and we do hope that those who have stayed away in the past will make the effort to try and make it to Portsmouth for this annual event. Remember to join in the banter and discussion on the forum where you can discuss and chat all manner of topics with former and still serving members of the Royal Marines Band Service and fans of our music. [Click here to visit the Royal Marines Bands chat forum](#)

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 170

Date: Saturday October 21 2006 04:59:44 EST  
Name: Richard Wright  
Email: richardanduula@wwright1962.freemove.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3716.  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Euph. &#39;cello & Trombone.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

p>I would so agree with all that Mik has to say. I have just this minute put the dates for 2007 in my diary; thanks for putting on site. Can you remember some years ago in the Corporal's Club in Deal? I do. Colonel Dunn Ernie Ough Dougie Haigh Graham Hoskins Pete. Sumner et al were always in attendance. Does the new breed of DOMs think themselves a cut above them? Yes there is a difference as the PDM said at the Beat Retreat but even so we are all out of the same mould & share so many things in common. Yes the ship's bands have gone but us older ones can tell those that follow us what it was like having to leave home on a pier head jump to sail to the Far East eight months after getting married leaving your wife pregnant at home! There are three things that stick in my mind. Before the reunion it was two a huge goffer in the Bay of Biscay that reared above HMS 'Apollo' looking like a beautiful piece of cut glass (that was before it crashed down on us!) & the beautiful reds yellows & blacks on the hills of Afghanistan as I flew over it at dawn. The third added a couple of weeks ago was that ha

---

message #: 169

Date: Friday October 20 2006 08:56:46 EST  
Name: Mik Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: QOO3482R  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I am sorry that it has taken me so long to get to this point with regard to this years Reunion now that all my visitors have returned to the UK and I have my home back I can do things I have neglected. Once again what a superb weekend and very well organised by Tommy and his team as usual just a shame that more members see fit not to attend but that is their loss not ours we all know how good it is to see some of the smiling faces we knew and loved when we were younger. Once again though as in previous years no ex DoMs what is the problem with them do they think that bad times will be recalled I don't think so perhaps someone should send them a memo and remind them of the lads who put them there and kept them in a bloody good job. Enough moaning it was really great to see all of you who were in attendance again this year and hopefully you will come next year again God willing and for those that are non Reunionists no excuse for next year saying it is not advertised early enough the 2007 dates are already out. 13th/14th October 2007 so please try and get to dear old Pompey I am sure you will be surprised who will be there you never know you (will) may enjoy it. My best regards to all Mik

---

message #: 168

Date: Thursday October 19 2006 11:38:12 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barry.radford@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Great to see all the photo's of this years reunion on the web page and to read the report by 'Ush the Lush' (Well done Derek it made excellent reading). Sadly couldn't be there but it makes me even more determined to be there in 2007 (By the way Sid. Merv Durrant has know had his pockets sewn up so the same thing will not happen next year. In fact he has promised to go on the Saturday Evening IF I BUY HIM A TICKET!!) . ((Sorry to have missed seeing Gly Oremek we were both in the same CG Squad. Derek was spot on Richard. Where would we be without your great website. Regards to all Barry Radford

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 167

Date: Wednesday October 18 2006 12:24:14 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard. Once again a great week-end which sadly went by far too quickly but I am sure that everyone who attended had a great time. For me personally it was good to see another friend and his wife: Glyn and Rachel Oremek from my Singapore days back in the sixties. My thanks also to Eddie and Barbara Pescud Ken and Joan White and Richard and Tuula Wright also Singapore veterans for making it a memorable week-end. To Mick Hickman Stan Puttrel Tony Oliver (great ride home.Thanks Tony) Jam Tugwood Fishy Salmon Shiner Wright and everyone else I had the pleasure of meeting thanks Guys. Last but not least a big thank you to Dave Seed for making sure that I got back to the Home Club for a good night sleep. Also to your good ladies for putting up with my rabbiting in the RMA on the Sunday. A Special thanks must go to Tommy Lawton and his team for putting on yet again an evening to remember. Long may it continue. Sunday mornings service was as usual to a very high standard yet again.Well done Guys and Gals. I met Dave Varlow and Merv Durrant on the Sunday morning for the first time in many a year. The news on the grape vine is that Merv was seen handing out money. Now there's a first! Great to see you guys again. Hope to see you both next year on the saturday evening. Charlie Laws was unable to attend this year due to other commitments but has asked me to send his regards and best wishes to all who remembered him and hopes to be there next year. Many Thanks to you Richard for all your help to us all over the years. Without your wonderful web-site none of us would be able to keep in contact with each other. Cheers Buddy. Once again thank you all for making it a First Class week-end. Wherever you are regards to you and your families. Hope to see you all next year or even sooner.  
Sid.

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message #: 166

Date: Thursday October 12 2006 18:30:05 EST  
Name: Derek Usher  
Email: pauldel43@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMB 3645  
Hometown: Was Bude Cornwall but adopted Pompey  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Wood box thing with strings & scraper!  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello folks! Just felt moved to add my tribute & heartfelt thanks to Tom Lawton et al for yet another superbly organised reunion last weekend. Nothing but praise all round I'd say.Thanks so much chaps we ALL of us appreciate the preparation that it requires to putting on such an event. Hopefully you manage to gain at least some satisfaction on seeing so many old but happy faces on the night greeting each other as long lost rele's. (Even if they're not sure who they're talking to!!) On that one I'm still in favour of some form of small name tag labels to stick on our jackets just to save any form of embarrassment when a "wet's" being bought you by a long lost oppo' who you know you should know but you're not 100% sure!! I'm sure that we've all experienced the ex Bandy who insists on coming in disguise! You know what I mean the guy with the grey beard no hair & a very roundish figure to totally throw you! Only after some serious probing with relevant questions back & forth do you discover that this same guy was actually your best "run ashore oppo'" for many a commission in the early 60's or whenever!! Read my full account on the Notice Board.

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message #: 165

Date: Tuesday October 10 2006 12:41:32 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard. Once again what a great week-end which sadly went by far too quickly. But I am sure that everyone who attended had a good time. For me personally it was great to see another friend and his wife who were in Singapore with me back in the Sixties. Glyn and Rachel Oremek also a thank you to Eddie and Barbara Pescud Ken and Joan White Richard and Tuula Wright all who were out in Singapore at the same time. To them and everyone else who made the trip to Pompey to name but a few Mick Dave S Jam T Fishy S Richard H Stan P Tony O and of course yourself Dickie and everyone else I had the privilege to meet over the week-end a Big Big thank you. A special thanks must go to Tommy Lawton and his team for putting on yet again an evening to remember. (Long may it continue). Charlie Laws couldn't make it this year due to other commitments and he sends his regards to all his friends and is looking forward to seeing you all again possibly next year. [Editor:- Sorry this message was cut short Sid]

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 164

Date: Monday October 9 2006 08:28:24 EST  
Name: Stewart Elms  
Email: stewartelms@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3906  
Hometown: Petts Wood Kent  
Instrument/s: Trombone/Guitar  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

This is my first entry and after last weekend's Memorial at HMS Nelson I was inspired to put pen to paper (so to speak). This was my 2nd memorial and seeing so many 'old' faces (most were recognisable even after 30-45 years) was surely an emotional moment for me. There are still many I would like to meet - Psycho & Fogg members - someone said Russco was living and gigging around Paignton Phil Fryer? - RussDavies? - Tufty Bryant? - Les Hough? - and so many more. I'm still gigging - trombone Fender Bass and guitar with the T.A - The Band of the Honourable Artillery Company based in the City EC1. We could well do with more trombone players if anyone is up for it (and get paid for it) Dickie Valentine deserves a medal - I owe him so much for his friendship from the Deal days to re-introducing me back into the band family. What a guy! I aim to make the Margate gig in March - so if I don't hear from you before then - I sure hope to down a pint or two after the blow.  
Yours aye.....Stewart

---

message #: 163

Date: Friday October 6 2006 03:47:54 EST  
Name: Blue Band  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

table cellpadding="0" border="0"> Dedication of Church Bells The service will take place at All saints Church in Alton on the evening of Sunday 8th October at 6pm. It will last approx 30mins. There are 6 bells and the large Tenor bell is to be dedicated to the Memory of the 11 Royal Marines Musicians who died as a result of the bombing in Deal on the 22nd September 1989. The Bishop of Basingstoke will give the blessing and Jane Walker Bob Simmons' Sister will give the address. Jane has raised the money to purchase the bells through fund raising. There will be a champagne celebration after the short service. Alton church is in the centre of the Town easily found opposite the BP garage. There is parking in the car park at the church hall.

---

message #: 162

Date: Monday September 25 2006 11:06:39 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal,Kent.  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Richard. The Memorial Service for Pete Selby went well with a great turnout of ex RMBs and afterwards a toast was raised to Pete in the Alma.Long may he live on in our memories. Look forward to meeting up with you all on the 7th. ; ; Sid

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 161

Date: Sunday September 24 2006 22:24:11 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend.Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Ctl/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard & nbsp; & nbsp; I am sending this for the second time as I think that the first attempt failed!However I was shocked yesterday to hear on BBC News that Sir Malcolm Arnold had died.He was well known in the Band Service.His music was really special.I wonder how many remember playing his "Grand Grand Overture" at a concert in Deal in the early 60's?This was written for full orchestra vacuum cleaner floor polisher and rifle!Other works come to mind such as "Homage to the Queen" and we used to play quite regularly his "March"from "The Little Suite"! May he rest in peace. Mike Jones.

---

message #: 160

Date: Friday September 22 2006 13:02:25 EST  
Name: pete pendlebury  
Email: pete.prp@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: Q003861P  
Hometown: exmouth  
Instrument/s: basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
hi rich & nbsp; ; sorry to say i am unable to attend this years reunion family celebrations on the same day.i am sure all attending will have a great time.see you all next year in pompey & the west country reunion & nbsp; ; & nbsp; ; & nbsp; ; ; & nbsp; p; cheers pendles

---

message #: 159

Date: Friday September 22 2006 11:12:47 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ERICFAN@HOTMAIL.CO.UK

Service Number: RMB 4079  
Hometown: FAREHAM  
Instrument/s: LONG WOODEN TUBEY THINGY  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dickie What a small world it is I have been working in the Docks at Southampton for 10 years now and I was driving out on Monday when I saw this old Dockyard Security Guy.....and Lo and behold it was Archie "Dobbin" Moore ex Clarinet and viola didn't have much chance to chat as he was busy "doin his thing" I'll get him to one side and give him a verbal bollicking for not subscribing to your website! Cheers Roy  
NB see you in the 3 Crowns very soon

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 158

Date: Friday September 22 2006 08:24:41 EST  
Name: Ginny Kempton  
Email: virginia.king@btinternet.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: ballater scotland  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Can anyone help me i am trying to trace David Clements he played the flute served with my father Ron Kempton but that was a long time ago last i saw him was in the last 1980's in Deal.if anyone is in touch please pass on this message. thankyou Ginny.

---

message #: 157

Date: Tuesday September 19 2006 04:20:02 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barry.radford@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and &#39;Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to All Sorry to say because of family celebrations I will not be at this years's reunion. All the more reason to look forward to next years. Regards to all you will be in my thoughts especially Sunday Morning so many good people have left us this year. (There must now be A band and B band in the great bandroom in the sky!!). Regards to. Keep in good health. Barry Radford

---

message #: 156

Date: Wednesday September 13 2006 14:24:39 EST  
Name: jock lyall  
Email: trishandalan@hotmail.com

Service Number: (RMB)Q004414W  
Hometown: SAN ANTONIO IBIZA  
Instrument/s: SOLO CORNET  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
. Sorry to here about Tims tragic accident my condolenses to his family.I served with Tim in FOSNI band and we used to train together he will be sadly missed.Anybody visiting Ibiza please drop me a line on my email trishandalan@hotmail.com ; Regards to all ex bandies alan...

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 155

Date: Monday September 11 2006 14:32:26 EST  
Name: Ken Tyler  
Email: ken.tyler1@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMBx1883  
Hometown: Mytholmroyd Nr. Halifax  
Instrument/s: Cornet/violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So pleased to have joined this excellent web site A superb way of keeping in touch with the old school and hearing the latest news. Some of course very sad but others most interesting. Keep up the good work every one and best wishes to all.

---

message #: 154

Date: Monday September 11 2006 06:47:49 EST  
Name: Tony Hunter (Overton)  
Email: tonyhntr@aol.com

Service Number: RMB3999  
Hometown: Kennethmont Aberdeenshire  
Instrument/s: Cornet / Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sad to here of the passing of Tim Smy-rumsby. I had the pleasure of serving with Tim in J wing and remember fondly his great sense of humour his friendship and his great musicianship. I also remember the fun we had when taking part in xmas pantos at the globe theater. The man was a natural actor and had great flare for the stage be it acting or performing on flute. I know he will be sadly missed by his family and all the friends both serving and ex members of the band service. Somebody has already said a small chap but a big man. Well i can only agree. My thoughts go to his family. Reagrds Tony

---

message #: 153

Date: Saturday September 9 2006 21:47:47 EST  
Name: Paul (Chalky) Castledine  
Email: paul.castledine@homecall.co.uk

Service Number: PO37012N  
Hometown: DALGETY BAY FIFE  
Instrument/s: BASSES  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
STANDING ROOM ONLY: Just returned home from Tim's funeral. The Church was bursting at the seams and his coffin lay with a flute and shinny white helmit on top. 2 x RM buglers in full ceremonials stood to attention at the main entrance. The service was as you would expect a sad affair and there was not a dry eye in the house. Afterwards at the Glen Pavilion a band of some 20 musicians young and old serving and ex took to the stage and played music whilst being plied with drinks by Tim's accommodating son (like father like son). It was a marvelous event that went on for hours. Laughing and crying with stories that would make you cringe. What a loss what a send off.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 152

Date: Saturday September 9 2006 14:19:29 EST  
Name: Geoff McGarr  
Email: macg51@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number: RMB4137  
Hometown: Ruislip  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to hear about the passing of Tim Smye-Rumsby I served with Tim in J wing in 1967 and was a frequent visitor to his parents home whilst under training. Unfortunately I never served with him again after being drafted although we met up on massed band gigs occasionally. Not a tall man but a big man RIP mate  
Geoff

---

message #: 151

Date: Wednesday September 6 2006 00:58:03 EST  
Name: Paul (Chalky) Castledine  
Email: paul.castledine@homecall.co.uk

Service Number: PO37012N  
Hometown: DALGETY BAY FIFE  
Instrument/s: BASSES  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Tim Smye Rumsby's funeral details are as follows: The service will take place at 12 midday at St. Margarets Church Dunfermline (opposite the Carnegie Hall). There will be a wind ensemble (none pussers) in the church for the hymns etc. Afterwards all are invited to the Glen Pavilion (opposite Nissan garage) for drinks and a small Military (pussers) band will play marches etc. If you can bring an instrument and join in. If you require any other details do not hesitate to contact me at above address. Chalky

---

message #: 150

Date: Tuesday September 5 2006 08:57:14 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email:

Service Number: QOO4336V  
Hometown: Great Mongeham  
Instrument/s: French Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Further to my posting about Henry. I have found a Henry Monaghan on the Electoral Roll for Wellingborough for 2004 & 2005 so things are looking up!

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 149

Date: Tuesday September 5 2006 05:54:43 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown: Great Mongeham  
Instrument/s: French Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I concur with all the other comments. It's sad to hear of the passing of Tim Smye-Rumsby along with Pete Selby and Ginge Southwick. RIP I've been scouring Ancestry.co.uk and found out a bit about Henry Monaghan. (The mystery of his whereabouts linger on and I know that there are a lot of people who would like to know what become of him) He was born in Wellingborough in 1946 which makes him aged 60 this year. His surname is spelt MONAGHAN and his mothers maiden name was RUDD. Without being morbid at this current time. He is not on the Death Register up to 2004 so let's keep our fingers crossed and hope that he is still out there somewhere. Any other information will be gratefully received.

---

message #: 148

Date: Tuesday September 5 2006 05:01:46 EST  
Name: pete pendlebury  
Email: pete.prp@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: Q003861P  
Hometown: exmouth  
Instrument/s: basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
hi rich &nb sp; just heard the sad news of the death of tim smye - rumsby.i had the pleasure to serve with tim at cctrm.he was so full of life & had the knack to cheer up all he met cheers pete.

---

message #: 147

Date: Monday September 4 2006 20:17:25 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ERICFAN@HOTMAIL.CO.UK

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dickie So So sad to hear of the death of another friend Tim Smye Rumsby. I was in the wing with Tim and had the pleasure to have served with him in ITC in 1969 and FOSNI from 1973-75. Such a waste a lovely man and a great musician. He also made you welcome at his parents home in Dover during those dark days of training at Deal. My condolences to Tims' family at this sad time. Roy

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 143

Date: Sunday September 3 2006 21:17:11 EST  
Name: Roger Walker  
Email: rwalker@email.com

Service Number: RMB3903  
Hometown: Sydney  
Instrument/s: Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to hear of the passing of Peter Selby. We did one of those recuting tours in the 60's A very funny Bloke. Please pass my thought on to his family. Cheers RW

---

message #: 142

Date: Sunday September 3 2006 15:24:04 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email: aliandraylloyd@hotmail.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Exeter  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hello All Just received a shock email from Steve Misson informing me of the shoch death of Timothy Smye-Rumsby he was only 55. We were boys together in J wing in the 1960s then served together again at Lypstone a lovely man who was often the butt of some joke or prank but he often gave as good as he got and appeared to enjoy the attention. He was an accomplished musician and will be missed. My sincere condolences to his family  
Per Mare Per Terram Ray

---

message #: 141

Date: Sunday September 3 2006 07:56:35 EST  
Name: Brtan Hobbs  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3884  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Great sadness at the passing of dear Peter Selby. One of those great pals joining the increasing band in the sky. Many great runs ashore with Peter remembered and trust his family and friends are comforted by the may messages of fond memories. No doubt he his now on a good run ashore with the likes of Mike Bromley to name but a few. Egg

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 140

Date: Friday September 1 2006 12:58:20 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@onetel.com

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Beds  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sad to here of the passing of Peter Selby.3 years together on the Tiger great sense of humour and always laughing.  
My condolences to his Family. Noel

---

message #: 139

Date: Friday September 1 2006 07:56:45 EST  
Name: Mik Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: QOO3482R  
Hometown: Roquetas de mar  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
My condolences to the family of Pete Selby and to his many friends from the RMB. I will always remember Pete he was great guy usually quiet and jovial we shared many an hour or two together over a pint or more. Rest in peace Peter I shall certainly raise a glass to you this evening.

---

message #: 138

Date: Friday September 1 2006 01:41:02 EST  
Name: Bob Chumley  
Email:

Service Number: RMBX3195  
Hometown: Adelaide  
Instrument/s: Euph &Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sorry to hear of the passing of Pete Selby like Sid we were boys of the mid 5 condolences to his family  
bob

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 137

Date: Friday September 1 2006 01:19:26 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend.Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard & n bsp; & nbsp; Very sad news once again and Pete Selby's passing.He was a character with a fantastic sense of humour and a good friend.One memory that many of us will never forget was during the Royal Tournament of 1968 and he was a member of the 'fatigues party'.The massed bands were waiting to form up and on this occasion he was seen standing in the back of a pussers Landrover being driven through the massed bands doing one of his famous and hilarious 'salutes'!! & n bsp; & nbsp; My sincere wishes to his family at this sad time. & n bsp; & nbsp; Mike.

---

message #: 136

Date: Thursday August 31 2006 11:26:25 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury N. Somerset  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sad to be advised of the passing of Pete Selby with who I only rekindled our 'Band Boy' friendship last year at the All Stars Concert. My sincere condolences to his family and immediate friends.

---

message #: 135

Date: Thursday August 31 2006 05:05:51 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3701R  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: ALO SAX/CLART /VIOLIN  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to hear of the sad loss of Pete Selby. My memory isn't that good but I do recall having several runs ashore with Pete many years ago and knowing him as a good friend. He was a lovely man with a geat sense of humour and will be sadly missed by all who knew him. I send my condolences to his loved ones and all his many friends  
Jem

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 134

Date: Thursday August 31 2006 02:31:30 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard. & nbsp; & nbsp;Just heard the sad news regarding the loss of Pete Selby.We were Band Boys together in the Fifties.He was a very quiet and kind person and will be sorely missed around Deal..My Sincere Condolences go out to his Friends and Family. Rest in Peace Pete. Sid

---

message #: 133

Date: Monday August 28 2006 06:33:59 EST  
Name: mark  
Email: mark.iss.mrb@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number: n.a  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
hi guys i am looking for your help my friend cheryl is looking for photos and information on her late father chris kelly bandmaster 1970's if and one has any please forward them to the above address. esp to nobby and dickie as i believe you knew this man. many thanks mark casey ibn nbn

---

message #: 132

Date: Tuesday August 22 2006 12:51:10 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@ukonline.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just a quick report on the funeral of Michael Hurd held today at the Chichester Crematorium. The church was packed and many of us had to stand for the service. There were of course many of Michael's friends there from Petersfield where he has lived and worked for the last 40 years but it was nice to see his older friends from RMSM days in Deal. He was only there for about 6 years but left many memories for a few of us. It was lovely to see Barney Wilson Jim Mason Bert Farlow and Bob Rawson there along with some of the civy musicians who had played for me when I was directing the Southampton Music Society in the 90s and had also played many times for Michael in his musical activities in the Hampshire area. God speed Michael we will remember you. Michael Hutton.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 131

Date: Thursday August 17 2006 08:52:55 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend.Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I understand from Michael Eastbrook that the funeral of our dear friend Phil Southwick will take place on Friday 18th August at Barham Crematorium at 1330. Mike.

---

message #: 130

Date: Tuesday August 15 2006 05:00:30 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend.Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo to all Very sad news about the passing on of Phil(Ginge)Southwick.Like many others I have good memories of those busy times we had with the RMSM at Deal in the early 70's.The humour was unbelievable as were the 'characters'in those days.May he rest in peace. Mike.

---

message #: 129

Date: Tuesday August 15 2006 03:16:51 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: Q00 3701 R  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: ALTO SAX /CLART  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I've just seen on the sunset page the name of Phil Southwick is this Ginge Southwick who was in the Yacht band back in the 70's can't quite remember what he played but think it was cornet and violin and I'm sure his christian name was Phil If it is Ginge it will come as a shock for many of his friends and colleagues and I for one would like to send my condolences to his family and friends. I also note that Michael Hurd has passed away and I send my condoleneces to his family and friends also. Regards Jem

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 128

Date: Tuesday August 15 2006 00:50:16 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ERICFAN@HOTMAIL.CO.UK

Service Number: RMB 4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Long wooden thing with some metal bits  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dickie Thanks to your brilliant web site I have been in contact with Dave Fitzgerald. Unfortunately he can't make this years re-union but hopes to attend one in the not too distant future. Thanks again Dickie see you in the Three Crowns in October! Roy

---

message #: 127

Date: Monday August 14 2006 12:52:56 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@ukonline.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi everyone...Some sad news for those of you who remember Michael Hurd. He's gone to the theory rooms in the sky. Many of us had the enjoyment of his knowledge and wit for many months in the Cpls Sgts & B/Ms classes all those years ago in the 50s & 60s. His funeral is Tuesday 22nd August 11.30 at the Chichester Crematorium. No flowers. Hope to see some of you there. Mick Hutton.

---

message #: 126

Date: Tuesday August 8 2006 10:56:38 EST  
Name: Tony Oliver  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3975  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Swanny. I was that good squash player and i m fat too !!!!

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 125

Date: Wednesday August 2 2006 12:07:49 EST  
Name: Blue Band  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
div align="center"> John O'Groats to Land's End sponsored walk. Shuggie pictured during one of his training walks prior to setting off Band Corporal Shuggie McGleish is doing a 1200 miles John O'Groats to Land's End partially supported Sponsored walk in aid of the Dame Hannah Rogers School and the Royal Navy Benevolent Trust on Friday 4th August and finishing on 1st of October 2006 at Land's End. He will be covering 25 miles per day for six days a week with one rest day. He will be carrying all of his own kit on his back (this weighs 25Kg or 4 stone in old money) throughout the duration of this walk. He will be sleeping wherever he ends up and not lording it in some hotel... wherever he ends the 25 miles will be home for the night!

---

message #: 124

Date: Monday July 24 2006 09:45:49 EST  
Name: Richard Wright.  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3716.  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Euph. cello & Trombone.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
In reference to the Monaghan enquiry I live only 3 miles from Raunds & have checked our local telephone directory to try to trace him. There are 5 listed; D.L J. J.J S.A. & V. Sadly not the one you want. Any more help I can give please let me know. Shiner.

---

message #: 123

Date: Monday July 24 2006 06:52:48 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Ctl/Vln/Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo to all. With reference to Graham(Taph) Ward's letter concerning Henry Monaghan I can remember that he came from the Raunds area of Northampton. Whether anyone can remember this and knows of his family history would of course be a great help. With all good wishes Mike Jones.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 122

Date: Thursday July 13 2006 09:41:50 EST  
Name: Steve Swann  
Email:

Service Number: QOO4215B  
Hometown: Dorset  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Rod Sorry that I do not remember you. I hope you had a good birthday! Here's wishing you a speedy recovery and all the best. You are right I won't be on the squash court for a while yet. Taph (Ward) Good to see you at the re-union and you are right there are lots of people who would like to know where and how Henry is. If anyone has his full name and address perhaps a search can be done on the registry for Births Marriages and Deaths to at least establish that he is still with us and let's hope he is. Or perhaps the Electoral role. Hope this helps and best wishes and good health to all.

---

message #: 121

Date: Tuesday July 11 2006 14:06:10 EST  
Name: Graham (Taph) Ward  
Email: taphward@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB4149  
Hometown: Folkestone  
Instrument/s: French Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi everyone I attended the WCR earlier this year and what a splendid 'do' it was. Quite a few people in attendance were all asking about dear old Henry Monaghan I spoke at some length to Martin (Jan) Dale and he amongst others said they would try and find out if Henry was still around. As yet I don't think anyone has heard anything. It is such a shame that we have lost touch with this man whose whole life revolved around the Band Service somebody somewhere must know of a way to find out where Henry is or sadly if he has passed away. Bruno Brown and I talk quite often about the times we spent in the West country with Henry in various 'pop' groups and what a talented musician he was. Regardless of the reasons he left the Band Service we should try and establish his whereabouts I know myself and a few others have tried various avenues but to no avail. So any ideas chaps?? Best Regards  
Taph.

---

message #: 120

Date: Tuesday July 4 2006 08:12:26 EST  
Name: John Bower  
Email: bert.bower74@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMBX2345  
Hometown: Loughborough  
Instrument/s: Flute and Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Is there anyone out there who knows of the whereabouts or what happened to Tom Hooper. He was a Trombone player and a shipmate of many years ago. There is more information but I will save that in anticipation of a reply.  
Thanks John (Bert) Bower

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 119

Date: Tuesday June 27 2006 16:10:49 EST  
Name: Rod Williamson  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3491  
Hometown: Whitstable Kent  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Steve You  
probably won't remember me but we do have something in common. I've just got out of hospital having had my ruptured achilles tendon repaired! Good luck mate you won't be playing squash for some while. My was damaged in a much more prosaic way - tripping over a kerb. At least it had an athletic connection - I was visiting my son in Edinburgh and fell when I looked over my shoulder to see the scoreboard at Meadowbank stadium! Out of interest my consultant called it the middle-aged athletes complaint. As it's my 65th birthday tomorrow I don't mind that description. Take it easy don't rush things and I hope it won't be too long before you're back on court. Best wishes to all who remember me. Rod (or Bungy)

---

message #: 118

Date: Tuesday June 27 2006 05:12:59 EST  
Name: Stephen Misson  
Email: sim@cinqueportmusic.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3800  
Hometown: Walmer/Deal  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet -- Chief Librarian  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I have had a request from Taff Pearce's daughter for any recordings that he may have been involved with. Taff was a fine cornet/trumpet player who spent most of his time in the West Country bands. If you ever heard a RM band on the march with one trumpet screaming an octave above everyone else that was Taff! When I was at Lymptone he rang me to ask if I could do a dep. for him in the Duke of Cornwall Plymouth as he had got himself double booked. "Taff " I said "You're not double booked you are treble booked as I am already doing a dep. for you in Tiffany's in Exeter!". His daughter francesca.wheeler@mclelland.co.uk has never heard her father play and now would like to know if anyone has details of anything he may have been involved with. If you can help this lady please either contact her or me at stephen@cinqueportmusic.co.uk

---

message #: 117

Date: Monday June 26 2006 04:18:20 EST  
Name: Steve Swann  
Email:

Service Number: QOO4215B  
Hometown: Dorset  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

p> Dear All I am going into hospital this week to have my ruptured Achillees Tendon repaired which got damaged whilst playing squash. This reminded me of a Massed Bands rehearsal during the early 70's under the direction of Lt Col Paul Neville. I had played squash during lunch time with a rather good squash player whose name I sadly cannot remember. As a result when I went back to rehearsals the PSDM noticed I was red and sweaty. He asked what I had been doing and I told him I had been playing squash. He replied to everyone's amusement that " Fat lads shouldn't play squash" All I can say to that 30 odd years later is " It seems you were right Sir " but I will still be getting back on court all being well. I still play 2 or 3 times a week and compete in teh Dorset Leagues.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 116

Date: Monday June 26 2006 03:28:02 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email:

Service Number: RMB(QOO3482R)  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
May I add my condolences to those that have already been passed to the late Sam Dyer. like many of us I had the pleasure of talking having a drink and sharing the odd tale or two as one does at Reunions. David when you read this please pass my thoughts to his family and my thoughts are with you and your wife. Thank you for bringing Sam to meet us all I am sure he will be at Portsmouth this year in spirit and now of course he will have his own Reunion with the good and the great that he has now joined. Thanks again David till October. Regards Mik H

---

message #: 115

Date: Sunday June 25 2006 13:51:37 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x 3211  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Kent  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Richard, &n bsp; So sorry to hear of the passing of Sam Dyer. To his Family and Friends I offer my Sincere Condolences. I had the Privilege of meeting Sam at last years Reunion and he came across as a very Genuine and Friendly Character and to Dave and Joan Seed a Big Big Thankyou for introducing Sam to me. An experience that will stay with me for a very long time. We were talking in the RMA in Pompey at last years reunion and before we all left to go our seperate ways he said he was hoping to see us all again at this years Reunion. Sadly that will not happen. REST IN PEACE DEAR SAM. Sid

---

message #: 114

Date: Sunday June 25 2006 06:07:48 EST  
Name: Dave Seed  
Email: dseed78739@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 4084  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Flute / Tenor Sax  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear All It is with deep sadness that I inform all serving and retired members of the Band Service of the death of RMBX 899 Sam Dyer. I was fortunate to have met Sam a few years ago having seen his name on Dickie's web site and since we met have been good friends. Sam attended his first reunion last year (at the age of 84) and had a great time; for months afterwards he would still talk about all the new friends he had made and was over the moon when Dickie asked him to write something for the web site and although he had been diagnosed with terminal cancer he was hoping to attend this years reunion. I was fortunate to have spent some time with him yesterday and although he was slipping away he could still manage one of his great smiles thankfully he passed away without pain he will be sadly missed.  
Dave

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 113

Date: Friday June 23 2006 09:41:48 EST  
Name: Francesca Pearce  
Email: bridgetjones31475@hotmail.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Can any one help? Re: Bernard "Taff" Pearce. Royal Marines Band I am looking for anyone that knew Bernard "Taff" Pearce. I am looking for stories (I'm sure they will all be good) photos etc from any one that knew him. (I am his daughter) I would be very grateful.

---

message #: 112

Date: Saturday June 10 2006 14:19:30 EST  
Name: Bill Callow  
Email: Bill.callow@ntlworld.com

Service Number: Q003979F  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Viola/clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just out of hospital after having a secondary hernia repair. It was a bit more difficult this time and recovery means I have to be housebound. Still I will be able to watch all the matches in the World Cup. Alright for some eh! Best wishes to all. Bill

---

message #: 111

Date: Tuesday May 16 2006 07:19:57 EST  
Name: Pete Westaway  
Email: peter2902@ntlworld.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Par  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dickie At last I have my computer back thanks largely to my clever son. The WCR was a brilliant evening by far the best so far . Everyone seemed to have had a great night and I received many complements. 110 tickets were sold and 106 people attended The absentees were people who had a family bereavement and emergency hospital appointments. I have several photos which will be sent shortly. The toast to absent friends was proposed by Pat Trevis who was a boy in the early fifties he was visiting for the all stars and stayed on for the re-union. There will be a re-union next year by request on the Saturday 21st of April. It was nice to see several people who had never been to a re-union Dave Allen Charlie Fleming to name just two. I would like to thank everyone who attended and hope they can make it next year. Cheers Pete.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 110

Date: Sunday May 14 2006 12:24:44 EST  
Name: Bob Baker  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3533  
Hometown: DEAL  
Instrument/s: Cornet/violin  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

I came across this little report from 50 years ago recently regarding the legendary B/Sgt Jan Lyle. Two boy musicians left the Royal Marines Barracks at Deal and went absent without leave. They reached Canterbury and in Wincheap tried to thumb a lift. Eventually a car pulled up beside them and they stepped forward to enter. But they had a shock when the driver said "So it's you two is it?" It was Band Sergeant Lyle on his way to referee the Canterbury reserves match! He called the police and later two discomfited lads returned to barracks under escort. Always one to stick to the letter of the law was the "man in black" at least when on the football pitch.

---

message #: 109

Date: Saturday May 13 2006 13:32:22 EST  
Name: Percy Abeyasinghe  
Email: percy.abeyasinghe@ntlworld.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Can you help please. A batch mate of mine George Vancuylenburg who was trained by Bugle Major Eric Close RM and under the baton of Band Master Reynolds RM in the year 1956 who created the First Royal Ceylon Navy Band (are proud of ) wishes to hear from anyone who remembers him and served at any time with him. He has taken a leading part in participating as the first drum major in the Royal Ceylon Navy Band in JET exercise in Trinco with The RM Band of HMS Gambia in in 1957 . George would very much like to meet the bandsmen/women who participated during 1956 to 1983. I will forward any messages via my e mail per the link above. Percy

---

message #: 108

Date: Thursday May 11 2006 03:49:37 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: noel.crook@onetel.com

Service Number: RMBx2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Have just had a reminder that it was 57 years ago that we met.May 1949 113/114 squad. Are there anymore of us out there. Best Wishes ti you all past and present. Noel

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 107

Date: Tuesday May 9 2006 15:42:03 EST  
Name: riggo richardson  
Email:

Service Number: Q004250P  
Hometown: deal  
Instrument/s: tuba/cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have just read the mail from roy hallen reference his and bob scarretts visit to deal. Sorry chaps just missed you on sunday by a few minutes i found out when i popped into the RMA for a quick pint. See you next time riggo

---

message #: 106

Date: Monday May 8 2006 02:53:00 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ERICFAN@HOTMAIL.CO.UK

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Is that a bassoon I see before me?  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dickie Bob Scarrett and I were in Deal Sat-Sun last week as Bob was due to play a concert with The Hampshire Police Band at the Memorial Bandstand but due to the inclement weather the concert was cancelled. Bob and I decided we would visit the Memorial Garden to pay our respects and lay some flowers However when we arrived we found that the gates were locked and that no access could be gained! After a few frantic phone calls we managed with the help of Tommy Lawton and Tony Higgins to gain entry. We also managed to enter the old NAAFI block/Shop and Galley now unfortunately covered in graffiti and used as a tipping area and general rubbish dump! I understand from the locals that the "developer" (a popular chap by all accounts) is going to demolish the galley and NAAFI area and build a Doctors surgery and yet more flats! I see no real problem with this but please leave the memorial garden as it is a place of "pilgrimage" for all serving and ex serving members to pay their respects and to remember. If there are any Bandies out there who have difficulty gaining entry then please call in to the RMA during normal bar hours and they will give you a key or call in at Deal Town Hall and contact Tony Higgins (The Town Sergeant) who will also be pleased to give you a key . Whilst in the RMA on Saturday night we were entertained by an ex Bandy by the name of Howie (I did not get his Surname sorry) who had a fantastic voice and should be given a chance at the big time unfortunately only 8 people were in there on Saturday night this was probably due to the inclement weather!

---

message #: 105

Date: Sunday May 7 2006 08:05:04 EST  
Name: GEORGE DESMOND FRANCIS  
Email: Hafod@hafod-house.co.uk

Service Number:  
Hometown: WREXHAM  
Instrument/s: Saxophone and violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
In residential care but would like to hear from any friends who know him. Apparently David Jeffreys is searching for him

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 104

Date: Friday May 5 2006 00:15:28 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ERICFAN@HOTMAIL.CO.UK

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: I've seen a bassoon  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
To anyone who remembers me or Bob Scarrett Bob and I  
are visiting Deal this weekend (6/5/6 - 7/5/6) and would like to meet up with any ex bandies who remember us!!!  
We intend to be in the RMA at 1930ish on Saturday night - so anyone who wants to buy us a drink see you  
there. Roy/Bob

---

message #: 103

Date: Tuesday May 2 2006 14:50:25 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: CONGRESBURY  
Instrument/s: SOLO CLARINET (Retired)  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Lt Cdr Donald Carpenter MBE I was privileged to  
attend the Memorial Tree Planting Service on the 11th April 2006 for Chippy Carpenter where tributes were made in his  
memory notably by Kath Beare. A 'Rimu' Tree was planted in his memory by his grandchildren in the Chelsea  
Refinery Park Estate Birkenhead Auckland. Many ex RMB's attended and a number of ex RNZN Bandsmen with Last Post  
and Reveille being played by a Serving Member of the RNZN Band.

---

message #: 102

Date: Sunday April 23 2006 11:38:30 EST  
Name: Russell Rogers  
Email: icycle65@ntlworld.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Mid Glamorgan South Wales  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
font face="Arial" size="4"> Hi Everyone You may have known my father you may have not but it was worth contacting you nonetheless.  
His name was Peter John Rogers RM14414 who served with the 3rd Royal Marine Commando  
in the mid 50's and early 60's(1954-63). He was based at Deal from  
1954-56. He served in "40" "41" "42" and "43" commando  
He was affectionately known as "Sticks" I guess that was due to him being a  
bugler/drummer. He also made a journey on H.M.T. Dunera of which I have  
one photo of with a line up of him and several of his colleagues. He has  
sadly recently passed away (Jan 26th 2006) through ill health but I am in the quest for photos stories and basically  
anything to do with my father. There is also a wonderful photo Richard has on this site of the 1956  
Edinburgh Tattoo line-up on which I found

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 101

Date: Wednesday April 12 2006 01:50:54 EST  
Name: Steve Mayall  
Email: stevemayall@fastmail.fm

Service Number: None  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: None  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sirs I live in the former Royal Marine Barracks (North Barracks off North Barracks Road Walmer Deal Kent UK) and am trying to research the history of our house but can find little on the Internet or through dealers. I'm interested in any information about the site and our house which I think is around 200 years old. If anyone has any documents letters or pictures I would be happy to pay for a copy or scan and return them myself. This is for personal use only and I wouldn't pass anything on to anyone else without the owners explicit permission. For my part I would be happy to take pictures of the area and pass them on if anyone is interested. Thanks for reading this! Kind Regards Steve Mayall

---

message #: 100

Date: Wednesday April 5 2006 14:50:03 EST  
Name: leo.h.butler  
Email: leo.butler@xtra.co.nz

Service Number: nz7753  
Hometown: Mangawhai Northland N.Z.  
Instrument/s: friendship  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
as a crew member of the 'Duke of York ' from 43/45 I was always appreciative of the 'Royal Marine Band on board and their music on entering and leaving harbour was splendid .

---

message #: 99

Date: Wednesday April 5 2006 07:02:33 EST  
Name: Shiner Wright.  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3716.  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers, Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Euph. cello & Trombone.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
re Message 98 I was rather upset & forgot to say that I was refering to the passing of Chippy Carpenter. I've spoken to Joy who said that he had been ill for a couple of years but mercifully had had only dicomfort not serious pain. He passed on in his sleep with his family around him. Just like Chippy he managed his illness just as he wanted even to the extent of sorting out the situation after he had gone. A fine musician gentleman & friend. Shiner.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 98

Date: Tuesday April 4 2006 14:02:01 EST  
Name: Tuula & Shiner Wright.  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3716.  
Hometown: Higham Ferrers, Northamptonshire.  
Instrument/s: Euph. cello & Trombone.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
We send our heartfelt sympathy to Joy, Like Sid, he was our Bandmaster in Cdo. Bde. Band back in 1964: a true gentleman & a fine musician. There are many times that we remember with happiness the fine concerts & happy social occasions shared with us stuck out in the Far East. We followed him in Borneo (did we have a choice?) & during the alluring days in the Pussers jobs in that area. The panto, in the Victoria Theatre in which he composed all of or arranged the music for it will live with me forever. As I said a fine musician & a good friend. Remember us as we will remember you. Have quite a few bars rest. See you in the coda. Shiner.

---

message #: 97

Date: Tuesday April 4 2006 13:36:45 EST  
Name: taff higgins  
Email: ijhiggins@aol.com

Service Number: RMB4323  
Hometown: AMMANFORD  
Instrument/s: ALTO AND ???VIOLIN  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Many congratulations to the Dover Town Sgt. Billy Walker on becoming a grandfather

---

message #: 96

Date: Tuesday April 4 2006 00:17:40 EST  
Name: bob chumley  
Email: chummers@senet.com.au

Service Number: RMBX 3195  
Hometown: Adelaide  
Instrument/s: Euph & cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi all If any one is interested in details of the reunion being held in Adelaide in December please let me know regards to all BOB

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 95

Date: Monday April 3 2006 09:00:09 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard. & n bsp; & nbsp; So sorry to hear of the passing of Chippy Carpenter.He was our Bandmaster in Singapore with HQ3rd Commando Brigade in 1965.A true Gentleman who will be sorely missed.My sincere condolences to his Family. & n bsp; & nbsp; ; & nbs p; Sid

---

message #: 94

Date: Saturday April 1 2006 08:03:40 EST  
Name: Brian Short  
Email: meuy17@dsl.pipex.com

Service Number: Q004468Y [nozzer]  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: concussion and banging things  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi all I have a restaurant in Deal and one of my regulars is looking to pass on his regards and fond memories to a former bandy. The customer is called Keith Fouy and the bandy Hugh Heatherwick and they were friends from the Pelican pub in Deal. Does anyone know where hugh might be and can pass on keith's best wishes? regards to all Brian Short [alleycatz]

---

message #: 93

Date: Tuesday March 28 2006 17:42:11 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Rab Life is too short. The Yorkshireman merely was uttering the sentiment that it was on a Forum not anything more prolific or pronounced like on a site official or otherwise. Of course I will perhaps get this information (voluntarily) on OUR site very soon. Perhaps before the Blue Bland or not. I do recognise that we are NOT the official site. Thank you for making it clear. Everyone else please do continue to drop in for as much "voluntary" information as I can portray. Dickie Valentine. PS: Oops did I make a spelling error in a title?

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 92

Date: Tuesday March 28 2006 16:27:39 EST  
Name: Rab(Jock)Thoson  
Email: berybob4200@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 4200  
Hometown: Perthshire  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Mick I am glad to hear you picked up the date for the reunion from the Forum. Correct me if I'm wrong but isn't the Forum the official site for Ex and Serving RMB's and is sponsored and administered from within the service? I would have been quite surprised to find the date posted any earlier on any other site. I try to keep up with what's happening on all the related sites and hope that through te Forum the numbers swell at this year's reunion compared to the disappointing turnout last year. I for one wouldn't miss it irrespective of "where I heard it first". All the best Rab Thomson

---

message #: 91

Date: Saturday March 25 2006 05:37:56 EST  
Name: MikeHickman  
Email:

Service Number: RMB3482  
Hometown: Roquetas de mar  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Richard Have just been into the forum and picked up that the Reunion 2006 is now confirmed for the weekend 7th/8th of October. I have asked why only on the forum surely it would be better use on this site and the other band Service site how ever we now know its official. For now Adios mi Amigo.

---

message #: 90

Date: Friday March 24 2006 04:10:13 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ERICFAN@HOTMAIL.CO.UK

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Bassoon  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi Dickie Just a word of thanx that with your fantastic Web Site I have been in Touch with several ex Bandies that I havn't seen or spoken to in years. (Especially Dave Fitzgerald) I was also shocked at the picture of Flag Officer Plymouth Band submitted by Oggie Busby that I was once so young and good looking!!! Oh for those innocent days. Splice it Roy

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 89

Date: Tuesday March 14 2006 16:51:52 EST  
Name: Jason (woody) Wood  
Email: Cpt-pugwash@msn.com

Service Number: PO37194D  
Hometown: Guernsey  
Instrument/s: ctt/viola/piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
hello all that remember the good old quiet shy me would be nice to hear from a few old shipmates etc i'm sure word gets around with what i am doing with myself unfortunately health isn't looking too good these days so not too many visitors when i go back to southampton! splice the main brace.

---

message #: 88

Date: Saturday March 11 2006 08:37:47 EST  
Name: Dave Seed  
Email: dseed78739@aol.com

Service Number: RMB4084  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Flute/Tenor Sax  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have just returned from visiting Sam Dyer who I am sad to say is very poorly. Last year at the age of 84 Sam attended his first reunion and still talks about it he was overwhelmed how even though he left the service in 1952 everyone made him welcome that is the family we belong to. Sam would love to hear from those he met and possible anyone he served with unfortunately he presently has no access to e-mail so anyone who would like a message passing on if they could send it to me and I will print it out and take it over to him. Thanks Dave

---

message #: 87

Date: Friday March 10 2006 07:22:16 EST  
Name: Tony Hunter (Overton)  
Email: tonyhntr@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 3999  
Hometown: Kennethomont  
Instrument/s: Cornet / Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I was in touch with an old pal from J/Wing by the name of Paul Harker and he sent me this photo of the J/Wing hockey team circa 1965/66. I can remember some of the names of the guys pictured but not all. Perhaps some one can fill in the blanks. top row is Jay John O'Neil ?? Smithy Smithson not sure about the others but the gent in the civvies is or was then Major Campbell O/C J Wing. bottom row myself Tony Overton Paul Harker Roger Waterfield Paul Welstead and Dave Barton. A grand bunch of lads and always as you would expect great team work. If anyone knows the other names or if you would like to get in touch please do. Best wishes to all members of the RM Band service past and present. Tony.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 86

Date: Friday March 3 2006 02:59:45 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend.Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard This is to let you know that two famous "blasts from the past" have emailed me!  
Firstly Pat Butterly -Tuba and String Bass and Ian Witcher - Percussion. After so many years they have decided to get up to date with the human race!! Thank goodness. What a surprise and I am completely gobsmacked to say the least! With best wishes Mike Jones.

---

message #: 85

Date: Monday February 27 2006 13:36:51 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It seems I put the 3rd April instead of 3rd March on my last email for David Elliott's funeral. Sorry about that. It is this coming Friday 3rd March at Hosham Parish Church St Mary's at 1.30. Mick Hutton.

---

message #: 84

Date: Friday February 24 2006 11:33:56 EST  
Name: Pete Westaway  
Email: peter2902@ntlworld.com

Service Number:  
Hometown: Par Cornwall  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
To all plymothians any one who knows the whereabouts of Martin Jackson please tell him Steve Swann will be at the West country re-union in April Cheers Lads

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 83

Date: Thursday February 23 2006 12:11:29 EST  
Name: Bob Taylor  
Email: taylor.robert2311@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMB4121  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Viola  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dickie I have just been going through my late fathers pussers suitcase he served in the RN for 32 years and came across some interesting items. I have several photos of the Junior orchestra from circa 69 which show several well known faces. You are sitting alongside Andy Cunningham and RayHallam is on Basson to your left. I am playing viola next to Ray Lloyd. Roy Khagin is on Piano. There are several other names Pat Hill Dick Clarke Dave Seed Geordie Ham. I shall try and scan the photos to you asap. Also in the case was my fathers copy of HMS Bulwarks commissioning book from 1961/2. My father was a keen member of the volunteer bands in the ships he served and I noticed in the book that the VBI was B/Sgt J. Tomlin who I noticed sadly passed away last year. I also have pictures of my father conducting the volunteer band on HMS Devonshire prior to a VBI being drafted. I remember going on board with Bugler George Phillips to take some instruments for the band. Could I also in finishing passing on my condolences for the sad passing of Richard Waterer. He was the Neptune House double diamond when I joined in Jan 67.

---

message #: 82

Date: Thursday February 23 2006 03:02:57 EST  
Name: Paul (Chalky) Castledine  
Email: paul.castledine@homecall.co.uk

Service Number: PO37012N  
Hometown: DALGETY BAY  
Instrument/s: BASSES  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dave Elliott was the reason I joined the Royal Marines. He was Bandmaster at Christ Hospital boarding school in Horsham were I attended from 1975 onwards. He filled me with stories about his travels and recommened that I apply. He was a true gent and an excellent musician who will be sorely missed. I hope to be attending the funeral on the 3rd. Thoughts go out to his wife and children.

---

message #: 81

Date: Thursday February 23 2006 02:38:18 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3701  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: ALTO SAX /CLART/ VIOLIN  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Dickie It is so sad to hear of the passing of Dave Elliott I remember Dave from long ago for his great sense of humour and terrific talent as an Alto and Violin player he gave tremendous inspiration to me and all who those had the pleasure to know him and hear him play. He also excelled on the Rugby pitch and in short was a great all rounder and a really nice man to share a drink and a joke with he will be sadly missed. Regards Jem

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 80

Date: Wednesday February 22 2006 11:52:55 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@ukonline.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX 2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
For those of you who knew Dave Elliott his funeral is Friday 3rd April at St Mary's Church Horsham, Sussex. David's wife and two daughters would love to meet any of his old mates from RMB days as they were married after David left the service. I hope to be able to say a few words about David at the service so if any of you have any information about your time with him please give me a ring on 01635-248987 if you would like to pass it on to me. Best wishes to all. Mick Hutton.

---

message #: 79

Date: Friday February 17 2006 16:41:04 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear friends Just to let you know that I'm having a great time in the southern Brazil and refurbishing that old tan from last summer in New York. I'll be back online soon and meantime have updated the guestbook. Not able to update the site until the 24th and on. Thanks for your patience. Richard Valentine

---

message #: 78

Date: Thursday February 16 2006 18:04:11 EST  
Name: Paul Harker  
Email: paulharker1@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: 3995  
Hometown: Norwich  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I found this great Website as a result of the sad passing of Dick Waterer. I have surfed the site several times and seen plenty of people I remember very well. It has brought back some great memories for me. I have also managed to contact a few lads that I served with via e-mail and to my great delight they remembered me too. I will have to dig out some pictures Richard and perhaps you could put a few on the site. Keep up the good work I'm sure its given a lot of the lads that served a great lift. I know it has for me. I hope the reunions will keep going as I hope to make one in 2007. All the best to everybody

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 77

Date: Wednesday February 15 2006 03:40:17 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawly2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB 3808  
Hometown: Bridgend.South Wales  
Instrument/s: Clt/Vln/Pno  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard & nbsp; I have just received sad news from Keith(Ginge)Deary that Dave Elliott passed away at 6am 14th February.He was my Bandmaster during the '64 - '66 commission on HMS Eagle and the one who encouraged me to start on the ladder for promotion.My condolences to his family;he was a very kind and generous person. Mike Jones. ; & nbsp;

---

message #: 76

Date: Tuesday February 14 2006 10:58:38 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barry.radford@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to all It was 50 years today that I joined the 'Royal Marines Band Service' There was snow on the ground when we arrived at East Barracks. I was with Ray Grant John Cowdrey Mike Tellick John Standen to name a few but sadly there are to many of my 2/56 Squad mates no longer with us. Just a thought anyone from the 1956 era fancy a 'mini reunion' at the RMA in Deal on Saturday 11th March prior to the 'All Stars Concert' on the Sunday please give me a rind a.s.a.p. on 07976800827. Regards to you all Barry Radford

---

message #: 75

Date: Friday February 10 2006 16:31:37 EST  
Name: Ron McCallum  
Email: ronmccallum@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/X3020  
Hometown: San Diego  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It was with deep regret that I learned of Richard Waterer's death. We met when he brought the RM Band to the Nova Scotia Tattoo. It was at this time that I also met his lovely wife. We again met at one of the Band Service reunions. We found out that he relieved me as trombone player with the Portsmouth Group Band when I left for Canada in 1966. Richard was a gentleman who made a great impression wherever he went. He did much for the Band service. My thoughts and prayers are with his family. Lt.Cdr (retd.)Ron McCallum CD RCN

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 74

Date: Wednesday February 1 2006 17:34:36 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Re Henry Monaghan, Billy Walker and many others I know have been trying to find out the whereabouts of Henry for a long time I last saw him the day we went outside approx 20 years ago but I did hear of him from time to time like many others I am concerned for him he wasn't in the best of health then I'm afraid his drinking was taking toll before I retired from the Police Force I did try through several colleagues in other constabularies to try to locate him but sadly with no success I do believe he went back home to where his mother lived but I would dearly love to hear that he is alive and well hopefully someone will find out for us. Per Mare Per Terram Ray

---

message #: 73

Date: Wednesday February 1 2006 05:29:00 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston [now in USA] no.....in Lancs  
Instrument/s: Solo Clart Piano Vibraphone & Voice  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Alan & Readers The stories that I had heard over the years about Dave (Stonebridge) are a sad tale indeed. My early years as a new draftee to the Portsmouth area were surely embellished by the character and warmth of human spirit that was Dave's. His charm and wit were just two of the many special gifts he possessed and surely I truly think that with more visits from old friends we could bring back some of that which seems to have been lost through the passage of time and with Dave's sadly deteriorating condition. What Alan Webb suggests is yet another open hearted gesture from a colleague and friend of a family we are all a part of. The photo of Dave shocked me a little at first but you can see it in his eyes the life that still exists and he deserves our attention. Please anyone who could think where a member of his family (particularly his daughters) are I'm sure that just making the effort will be a reward in itself. Thank you Alan for your kindness and your comradeship.  
Dickie Valentine.

---

message #: 72

Date: Tuesday January 31 2006 22:28:33 EST  
Name: Alan Webb  
Email: alanatsea@yahoo.com

Service Number: QOO3948M  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Dickie & Readers. I have just read the "Sick Bay" page again and it so good to know that we make such an effort to keep everyone on this site updated about our RMB family. I was struck especially by the report by Bob Baker on Dave Stonebridge and in particular the reference to Dave's family. I used to see Dave frequently when he was still in Deal he led a very sad and lonely life before going into hospital. I sat and had coffee with him on many occasions and tried to get him to talk about his family although he was married twice it seems so sad that now when he needs them most they are not there for him. Dave and Pat (his first wife) and 2 daughters lived very close to me in Freemans Way when they separated I believe she went back to Portsmouth with the 2 girls. Wouldn't it be a wonderful humanitarian gesture if someone in the Portsmouth area could try to track down his former wife and daughters it may prove to be futile in the end but it would also be great if Dave got to see his off springs again. I will certainly be going to see him on my next visit home to Deal. I hope someone out there feels the same as I do isn't that what families are for?

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 71

Date: Tuesday January 31 2006 21:59:20 EST  
Name: Alan Webb  
Email: alanatsea@yahoo.com

Service Number: QOO3948M  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Roy Pedro Hewitt attended the All Stars concert at Margate 4 or 5 years ago I believe he lived in Manchester at the time and had his own business. If you drop Steve Misson a line he should have a record of his address. Good Luck Alan

---

message #: 70

Date: Tuesday January 31 2006 03:53:16 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email: french.horn@btopenworld.com

Service Number: RMB4336  
Hometown: Great Mongeham  
Instrument/s: French Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi there Roy I did put an appeal out for info about Henry Monaghan on the RMB Forum and to date there have been no replies. Henry had so much talent and a life devoted to the RMB. It is odd that there is no knowledge of his whereabouts. The last time I saw him personally was at the RMB Reunion at Deal in 1989. His mum (should she still be alive) lived at Raunds Northants as did his sister. Perhaps he settled up that way? I would be interested to know if you do make contact with him. As for Pedro Hewitt I will make a few enquiries. Bruno Brown or Taph Ward may be able to resolve that one. By the way the band in Stonehouse was called 'Tambourine' (I was the roadie!) We had a black van and painted Tambourine on the back doors. The only trouble was that when the doors were open it said TAMBO on one side and URINE on the other! Billy W.

---

message #: 69

Date: Monday January 30 2006 14:44:44 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ERICFAN@HOTMAIL&gt;CO&gt;UK

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham  
Instrument/s: Long wooden thing  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Is there anyone out there in the great Bandland know the whereabouts of either HENRY MONAGHAN or PEDRO HEWITT? I was a bass guitar player with FEUDAL SYSTEM in 1969 at ITCRM (as it was then) Other former members of the group were Syd Tanner (Roadie) Gaz Davies John Beddow and Mick Spiller and I do believe at one time Timothy Felix Peter Smye Rumsby had a sit in on keyboards. I have some extraordinary 8mm footage of us in Belfast in 70" entertaining the troops". Cheers Roy

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 68

Date: Monday January 30 2006 07:23:58 EST  
Name: Mike Jones  
Email: basilfawlty2001@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB3808  
Hometown: Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.  
Instrument/s: Ctl/Vln/Piano  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hullo Richard. Some memories of Plymouth came flooding back to me recently. The combined orchestral concerts in the Guildhall with the Plymouth Ladies Choir under Dorothy Blagden. I wonder if anybody remembers when under the direction of Lt Dickson Place we all sang "Die Liechensteine Polka" in German!! Best regards  
Mike Jones

---

message #: 67

Date: Saturday January 28 2006 08:02:46 EST  
Name: Paul (riggo) Richardson  
Email:

Service Number: Q004250P  
Hometown: DEAL  
Instrument/s: CELLO/TUBA  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I was stunned when I received the phone call from Trevor Attwood informing me of the sad death of Richard Waterer. Although I did not serve in a band with Richard I knew him as a true gent in every respect throughout my time in the band service. At present I am visiting Alan Dickens in Colchester due to work commitments I was not able to attend the funeral. Both myself and Alan would like to send our condolences to Sue and her family.  
Riggo

---

message #: 66

Date: Thursday January 26 2006 15:10:05 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barry.radford@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just returned from a 600mile return journey to attend the funeral service and Celebration of the Life of Richard waterer. Portsmouth Cathedral was packed to overflowing. What a moving experience. A truly great tribute to a great man. An honour to be part of this unique occasion. Also great to see so many familiar faces. Barry Radford

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 65

Date: Tuesday January 24 2006 16:27:02 EST  
Name: Derrick Clark  
Email: dek109@derrickclark.freemove.co.uk

Service Number: Q004428E  
Hometown: Mansfield Notts  
Instrument/s: Clarinet/Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So sorry to hear of the passing away  
of Richard Waterer I served with Dick when he was a B/SGT on HMS Ark Royal in 1976 and I will always remember him as  
true 'Gent'. See you in Margate for my 1st Allstars Concert.  
Dek.

---

message #: 64

Date: Monday January 23 2006 18:07:55 EST  
Name: Blue Band  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Richard Waterer Trust Fund Sue  
Waterer has requested that instead of flowers a donation be made. A trust fund in memory of Richard to help  
advance the musical education of Royal Marines Musicians has been set up. Any donations should be made payable  
to: 'BSAF' and posted to The Corps Bandmaster HQBSRM Eastney Block HMS Nelson Queen  
Street Portsmouth PO1 3HH Funeral details can be found  
here: [http://royalmarinesbands.myfreeforum.org/f/topic333.php&highlight =](http://royalmarinesbands.myfreeforum.org/f/topic333.php&highlight=)

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message #: 63

Date: Friday January 20 2006 16:57:34 EST  
Name: Pip Fairchild  
Email: pipfairchild@yahoo.co.uk

Service Number: RMB3691  
Hometown: Minster Ramsgate Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Nice to drop into the website from time to time and catch up on some info regarding old friends. Will be in  
Margate for the concert in March hope to see some of you then please say hello.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 62

Date: Wednesday January 18 2006 15:52:56 EST  
Name: Paul Harker  
Email: paulharker1@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3995  
Hometown: Norwich  
Instrument/s: Cornet/Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard I came to find this website via the very sad news of Dick Waterers passing in an e-mail I received. I too joined with Dick on April 14th 1964 1/64 New Entry Squad. I never served with Dick after we passed out But what I can say is in the short time I spent with him he is one of the nicest men I have ever met or indeed ever likely to meet. My condolences to his family.

---

message #: 61

Date: Wednesday January 18 2006 10:30:28 EST  
Name: Bill Edgson  
Email: bill@wedgson.freemove.co.uk

Service Number: RM7524  
Hometown: Coventry.  
Instrument/s: Sniper.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sorry I only marched with the band 45CDO 1948-52 HMS Superb 52-54.

---

message #: 60

Date: Wednesday January 18 2006 10:08:28 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard. My only contact with Richard Waterer was when I was 'M'Company Storeman in the late 60's and early 70's and the pleasing thing I noticed about him was his warm smile and pleasant nature. I know I speak for all who knew him we have lost a good friend and a warm person. To his wife and family I send my heart felt condolences.  
Sid

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 59

Date: Monday January 16 2006 06:00:43 EST  
Name: Bill Callow  
Email: bill.callow@ntlworld.com

Service Number: Q003979F  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Viola/Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear All Very sad news about Richard and condolences to his family. My wife Carol works at University of Portsmouth and has received an email regarding Richard's passing and funeral arrangements as follows: I am sorry to tell you that Lt Col Richard Waterer died suddenly in America last week. Many people worked with Richard when he was Principal Director of Music at RMSM or in other capacities. Richard was very influential in building the partnership between RMSM and the University. He received an Honorary Doctorate of Music from us in 2002. I understand that the funeral service will be held on Thursday 26th January at 10:00am at St Thomas' Cathedral Old Portsmouth. John John Craven Vice-Chancellor  
University of Portsmouth

---

message #: 58

Date: Sunday January 15 2006 17:03:30 EST  
Name: Tony Hunter (Overton)  
Email: tonyhntr@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 3999  
Hometown: Kennethmont Aberdeenshire  
Instrument/s: Cornet / Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard Just a quick line to say a big thank you for a fab website. It was gut wrenching to see the death of Richard Waterer as I joined with Richard with 1/64 new entry squad on the 14th of April 1964. He was a great pal in Jr wing and always a good laugh. I really regret not getting down to reunions and seeing old friends again but will be making more effort this year. Have been in touch with several old friends and anyone who remembers me from 1/64 please get in touch so we can catch up. All the very best to all RM Bandsmen because as far as I am concerned there is no such thing as an ex Royal Marine so take care out there and may your Gods be with you. Very best wishes... Tony

---

message #: 57

Date: Sunday January 15 2006 14:31:41 EST  
Name: Ed McDermott  
Email: mmacdermott@btinternet.com

Service Number: Q004119X  
Hometown: Gosport  
Instrument/s: Flute Sax  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
So very sad to hear of the passing of Richard (Dick)Waterer another excellent musician gone to the great band in the sky. I served with Richard at Deal from 71-75 what great music making years they were under Paul N and what a trombone section Mick Eastbrook Dick Waterer and of course on the bass trombone Frank Wildbore great music great times and great mates. May I add my condolences to the growing list of musicians and ex musicians who had the pleasure to serve with Richard in the best band service in the world. Rest in Peace Richard. You will not be forgotten.  
Ed (Paddy) McDermott

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 56

Date: Friday January 13 2006 15:37:24 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet Piano Vibraphone  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

To all I first recall Richard Waterer from my days in boys wing when it was made very clear that amongst us we had a talent and to add to that a nice man with a personality that shone. The news of this loss of ours is a shock that surely is reverberating throughout the heavens. The angels are just as surprised as we are but just imagine how all those we knew and loved are welcoming home to rest in peace a person who on earth commanded the greatest respect was innovative in change that many were at odds with yet he carried through his commitment with the professionalism and dedication we all knew him so well for. Always a gentleman and apart from any massed band gigs I did not serve with him but whenever there was any correspondence (myself as webmaster of a site dedicated to the preservation of such camaraderie enriched by his existence) he was honest and frank in the most respectful way. His smile with that amazing hint of expectancy the warmth reached out to you. We will miss you We are looking out for your family. Richard Valentine webmaster ex RMB web site.

---

message #: 55

Date: Friday January 13 2006 14:56:14 EST  
Name: Brian Thorogood  
Email: Brian@thorogo.fsnet.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3456  
Hometown: Romford  
Instrument/s: Violin & Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

If there are any ex RM Bandmasters living in the Chelmsford- Colchester area in Essex and fancy taking up the baton again the band I play for The Essex Yeomanry Band has a vacancy for a bandmaster our current bandmaster is returning to Scotland after conducting the band for 15 years we perform up to 11 times a year mainly as a concert band we are quite well known in the Essex area if there is anyone interested please contact me on 01708769093 email :-

---

message #: 54

Date: Friday January 13 2006 04:00:53 EST  
Name: Bob Cummins  
Email: bobcummins@blendworth-windows.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3840  
Hometown: Portsmouth  
Instrument/s: Cornet & Violin  
n/a: n/a

**Comments:**

Just heard the tragic news about Dick. I served with Dick in boy's wing and saw him often whilst playing with Nelson Volunteer band. He will be greatly missed My condolences to Sue and family Bob

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 53

Date: Friday January 13 2006 03:06:38 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ERICFAN@HOTMAIL.CO.UK

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham Hants  
Instrument/s: Bassoon holder  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Rich Came into work today received a phone call from Bob Scarrett with the shock news of the death of Col Richard Waterer. I never actually served with Dick but I do remember him Graham Harvey and a few others playing Hearts and Flowers from their rooms in J Wing as we in 2/66 squad signed on the bottom line. My condolences to Richards family at this time. Roy

---

message #: 52

Date: Thursday January 12 2006 14:34:36 EST  
Name: Rod Williamson  
Email: rodney.williamson@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB 3491  
Hometown: Whitstable  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It's particularly sad to lose such a fine gentleman and old friend as Richard in the prime of his life. Though he had done and achieved so much there must surely have been much more for him to look forward to. So cruel! Everyone has remarked on what a gentleman he was and how helpful he was. I can also testify to that but also remember his great sense of humour and almost mischievous smile. I didn't serve with him for as long as I would have wished but look back with really fond memories to the B/Ms Course and the fun we all had there. He was a pleasure to be around and will be so sorely missed. Our thoughts are with you Sue  
Rodney

---

message #: 51

Date: Thursday January 12 2006 09:50:49 EST  
Name: Bob Baker  
Email: bobbaker74@aol.com

Service Number: RMB3533  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Cornet/violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I would like to add my condolences to those expressed by others at the loss of a very good friend and colleague. Although we met rather infrequently in recent years Richard always gave of his time to remember old friends and will surely be missed by us all

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 50

Date: Thursday January 12 2006 09:10:42 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barry.radford@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Shocked and saddened to hear the news of the sad loss to us all of Richard Waterer. Richard was a true gentleman always able to listen and offer help and advice.I had quite a lot of contact with him whilst organising the 'Reunions'. To Sue and Family our thoughts are with you all. Dear Richard you will be greatly missed. Barry radford

---

message #: 49

Date: Thursday January 12 2006 08:56:24 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email:

Service Number: QOO3482R  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
All I can say is that I am deeply shocked to hear of the passing of Richard my condolences go out to his family and the many friends he has left behind.God bless you Richard you will be sorely missed by all who knew you and were touched by your warmth all through your illustrious career in the Royal Marines Band Service. Like many others I can remember him as a young Trombone player at the start of his life in the Band Service which he served so well and loved. Condolences again to all of his family and to all the many members of the family that is and always will be The Band Service of the Royal Marines.Rest in peace my friend. Mik H.

---

message #: 48

Date: Thursday January 12 2006 06:08:52 EST  
Name: Ray Lloyd  
Email:

Service Number: RMB4067  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Like everyone else who knew him I am very saddened by the news of the Passing of Richard 'Dick' Waterer he was one of life's gentlemen which is why he was liked by so many my thoughts go to his family at this difficult time.  
Per Mare Per Terram

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 47

Date: Thursday January 12 2006 04:00:30 EST  
Name: pete pendlebury  
Email: pete.prp@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: rmb3861  
Hometown: exmouth  
Instrument/s: basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
hi rich i just received the sad news of richard waterer s death.like many i new richard from j wing.room 108 also as director of music at cctrm.a fine musician and a true gentleman.he will be sadly missed & nbsp; & nbsp; ; &nbs p; pete.

---

message #: 46

Date: Wednesday January 11 2006 21:01:53 EST  
Name: Alan Webb  
Email: alanatsea@yahoo.com

Service Number: QOO3948M  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I was truly devastated to receive an e mail a few moments ago from Mick Eastbrook telling me of the very tragic death of my good friend Richard Waterer. It will take some time for this news to sink in unbelievable. Richard and I were bandboys together and shared the same room we spent many years together in the Staff Band and he accorded me a great honour by agreeing to be best man at my wedding. Even after I left the RMB my wife Barbara and I spent some very happy times with Richard and Sue and his 2 children Simon and Jane. Sadly I will not be able to attend the funeral as I am myself in the USA and will not be back until mid February. My heart goes out to Sue Simon and Jane. God Bless my friend and rest in peace you deserve it.

---

message #: 45

Date: Wednesday January 11 2006 19:53:03 EST  
Name: Steve Quirk  
Email: stevequirk@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: PO31369C  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I just heard the sad news that Lt Col Richard Waterer has passed away. I can only reiterate the aforementioned comments. He will be missed as a fine musician inspirational leader valuable colleague and friend. My heart goes out to Sue and her family at this sad time. Steve Quirk

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 44

Date: Wednesday January 11 2006 16:37:53 EST  
Name: Brian Starr  
Email: brian.starr@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB4358  
Hometown: Alverstoke  
Instrument/s: Alto Sax/Clt/Vln  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just to reiterate what Billy Walker has just posted. Richard Waterer was a superb Musician both in the Band and in front of it. Nothing ever seemed to fluster him. He was a true professional. Sadly missed by all that knew him or met him. The mould has been broken...God Bless....Brian Starr.

---

message #: 43

Date: Wednesday January 11 2006 16:24:53 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email: french.horn@btopenworld.com

Service Number: RMB4336  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I am saddened to hear of the sudden death of Richard Waterer. He was an excellent boss and PDM...a real gentleman. A brilliant composer of some amazing marches. (Royal Salute Gibraltar HMS Ocean etc etc.) My condolences go to Sue at this sad time.... Rest in Peace. Billy W

---

message #: 42

Date: Wednesday January 11 2006 15:36:57 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@ukonline.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph&Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Very sad news today. The death of Richard Waterer. Yet another of our great family of Royal Marines musicians has left us and at such a young age. He never had any time to enjoy his well deserved retirement. My memories of him go right back to the mid 60s when as B/M of the Staff Band he was one of the young up and coming stars of the Trombone section. A great player and a gentleman. I was fortunate to spend a day with him at the RMSM in 2002 just before his retirement as PDM and he gave me a tour of the school and all the offices of the HMS Nelson music scene which was very impressive. It was he who had planned the move from Deal to Portsmouth and I'm sure he will always be remembered for that as well as being a fine PDM and wonderful example to all in the Royal Marines Band Service. Our thoughts are with his family at this time. Maureen & Michael Hutton.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 41

Date: Wednesday January 11 2006 15:35:21 EST  
Name: Blue Band  
Email:

Service Number:  
Hometown:  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It is with deep regret that I inform the RM Band community that the former PDM  
Lt Col Dr. Richard Waterer OBE MVO Royal Marines (Ret.) passed away Monday night 09 Jan / Tuesday morning 10 Jan 2006  
at his residence on the Valley Forge campus. Our thoughts are with Sue and the family at this very  
difficult time. Funeral arrangements will be announced as soon as they are known. Rest in peace  
Sir... [http://www.vfmac.edu/admin\\_commandant.asp](http://www.vfmac.edu/admin_commandant.asp) <http://royalmarinesbands.myfreeforum.org/topic310.php>

---

message #: 40

Date: Sunday January 8 2006 06:03:14 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: [barry.radford@virgin.net](mailto:barry.radford@virgin.net)

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
It's a small world Travelled to Manchester to watch Scunthorpe United play  
Manchester City in the FA Cup yesterday sat there before the match heard a voice which sounded familiar turned around  
and saw Alan (tich) Richardson and his two sons (one of them is currently serving in the Lymington Band).  
Great to see you Alan and have a chat. Truly is a small world. (only downer of the day was  
that Scunthorpe lost!!!) Still it was great day. Cheers to all  
BarryRadford

---

message #: 39

Date: Saturday December 31 2005 04:12:16 EST  
Name: Billy Walker  
Email: [french.horn@btopenworld.com](mailto:french.horn@btopenworld.com)

Service Number: RMB4336  
Hometown: Great Mongeham Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: French Horn  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Congratulations to Ian 'Taff' Davies MBE. Happy New Year!

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 38

Date: Friday December 30 2005 08:43:41 EST  
Name: Les Weddell  
Email: weddesteph@aol.com

Service Number: RMBX 2874  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard There is a chance some of my old friends I served with in the RMB will remember me. Maxie Beare recently got in touch with me and directed me to your website. If anyone would like to say 'hello' they can visit my website and contact me via the email address there or as given to you on this message. Best regards to everyone! Les Weddell <http://www.freewebs.com/authorlesiejweddell/>

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message #: 37

Date: Saturday December 24 2005 17:57:31 EST  
Name: Michael Thompson  
Email: mcband@optusnet.com.au

Service Number: RM26593  
Hometown: Melbourne Australia  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just a few lines to all Ex and Serving RMB's. May the Joy and Peace of Christmas be with you all throughout 2006. Regards and best wishes Michael (Tommo2) Thompson

---

message #: 36

Date: Saturday December 24 2005 17:51:17 EST  
Name: Keith Busby [oggie]  
Email:

Service Number: RMB 3784  
Hometown: Helston  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Christmas greetings to all present and past members. Remember all those Basil Kidd photos of each room at this time of the year. I have several of 101 room in Neptune House from the early 1960s that bring back many memories. Best wishes to all for 2006. OGGIE

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 35

Date: Friday December 23 2005 09:31:00 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email:

Service Number: RMB(QOO3482R)  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just a short message to wish all past and present members of the Band Service a very Happy Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year. Maybe see you in October at THE REUNION till that day you all take care and should be unfortunately not well then I wish you a speedy recovery. Regards to one and all. Mik H.

---

message #: 34

Date: Thursday December 22 2005 10:28:02 EST  
Name: Jem Tugwood  
Email:

Service Number: QOO 3701R  
Hometown: WORTHING  
Instrument/s: ALTO/CLART VIOLIN  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
To all my friends near and far may I wish you all a very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year and to all of you that might be experiencing ill health may you get well very soon Best wishes Jem

---

message #: 33

Date: Thursday December 22 2005 09:18:26 EST  
Name: John Buberle  
Email: j.buberle@ntlworld.com

Service Number: RMB 3605  
Hometown: Gosport  
Instrument/s: Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dick Wishing you and all Past and Present members of the RM Band Service a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for 2006. Best Wishes Jill & John Buberle(Bubs)

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# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 32

Date: Wednesday December 21 2005 22:10:44 EST  
Name: Roy Hallin  
Email: ERICFAN@HOTMAIL&gt;CO&gt;UK

Service Number: RMB4079  
Hometown: Fareham Hants  
Instrument/s: Ive seen a bassoon  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dickie and all who know me Have a very happy Christmas and a very prosperous 2006. Where are you Merv Durrant? Cheers Roy

---

message #: 31

Date: Wednesday December 21 2005 18:14:00 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barry.radford@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Best wishes to all. Have a great 'Festive season' This week I have spoken to Ray Woodfield Matt Dillon Maurice Keat Merv Durrant Terry Puttrell John Alford 'Hooky Walker'. All friends of many years standing Just proves friends made in the 'Band Service' are friends for life. Regards to all Barry and Heather Radford

---

message #: 30

Date: Monday December 19 2005 13:54:50 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Wishing all Serving and ex Serving members a Very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year and looking forward to meeting you all again at next years Reunion. Sid

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 29

Date: Sunday December 18 2005 20:05:38 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@ukonline.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Everyone. It's Christmas again and we're all another year older. Best wishes to all ex and serving members of the RM Band Service for the festive season. Sad to hear of the loss of Taff Milliken and Norman Noddy Taylor. Remember all you 'All Stars' members and anyone who thinks they can still perform who hasnt joined yet. Contact Steve Misson and get yourselves to Margate on the 12 March 06 to celebrate yet another year of music making for various charities but mostly to enjoy each others company. Mick Hutton.

---

message #: 28

Date: Sunday December 18 2005 20:05:35 EST  
Name: Ray (Lofty) Edwards  
Email: britrm@aol.com

Service Number: RMB3621  
Hometown: Yeovil Somerset / South Carolina USA  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Happy Christmas and a safe healthy and prosperous New Year to all Serving and Ex Bandies and Buglers everywhere. Planning to attend the reunion in 2006 and collect a few owed wets (you know who you are) bring your wallets!!! Best Wishes Always. Ray and Bev Edwards

---

message #: 27

Date: Saturday December 17 2005 06:26:48 EST  
Name: Malcolm (Tommo) Thomas  
Email: harleydavidson@hotmail.co.uk

Service Number: PO25697K  
Hometown: Peacehaven East Sussex  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi to one and all A very Merry Christmas and a fruitful prosperous NewYear Sandy bottoms (Hic!!)  
Malcolm (Tommo) Thomas

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 26

Date: Friday December 16 2005 05:13:49 EST  
Name: Knocker White  
Email: kwhite719@btinternet.com

Service Number: RMB/X3272  
Hometown: Doncaster  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
To all who remember me from HMS Drake Royal Yacht HMS Ganges & Scotland. May I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Hope to hear from some one soon. The reunion this year was good but hopefully a few more may come next year. Regards Knocker

---

message #: 25

Date: Thursday December 15 2005 03:39:20 EST  
Name: Ed McDermott  
Email: mmacdermott@btinternet.com

Service Number: Q004119X  
Hometown: Gosport  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard. Ref Pat Hill's photo of the orchestra on board the Yacht. Names missing are Andy (Brick)Wall on bass Chris Davis (PDM) leader Jules Ludbrook. Hope this helps. Cheers Ed McD

---

message #: 24

Date: Wednesday December 7 2005 17:32:53 EST  
Name: Vic (Snowy) Penn  
Email: vic@digitraxstudio.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 3418  
Hometown: Harrow  
Instrument/s: Pno Clar.  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Out of curiosity...does anybody remember my two step brothers Pete & John Medcalf? Any information would be very welcome. Thanks Vic

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 23

Date: Monday December 5 2005 15:31:10 EST  
Name: Rodney Williamson  
Email: rodney.williamson@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB 3491  
Hometown: Whitstable  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I imagine there must be a few out there that will remember Norman Gullick RAN. Sadly I have to report that I have just heard from his son that he passed away a couple of months ago. I first met him as a neighbour in Freeman's Way in the mid-sixties when he was over here on the B/M's course and it was a friendship that was to last a long time with Mary and I often enjoying the company of Norm and his wife Margaret (a great cook). We were fortunate enough to go spend a few days with them at their home in Sydney leaving their house to fly to Maxie and Kath in NZ at the very moment the planes flew into the Twin Towers!! Norman was a fine musician ending up I believe as PDM of the Royal Australian Navy or at least Head of the School of Music. On his retirement he got involved in schools music and fashioned a nice career for himself. He never had a bad word to say about anyone and was a really lovely guy liked by all. Okay he wasn't a RM Bandy but he treasured the time he spent with us and was always proud of this connection so I wanted to refer to his passing on this site. I hope a few others will remember him.

---

message #: 22

Date: Saturday November 26 2005 05:14:22 EST  
Name: Tom Lambert  
Email: overture1@bigpond.com

Service Number: RMBX1863  
Hometown: Adelaide (Australia)  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello (Gods voices)  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

VG, Superior which is as high as it gets for a computer eejyut like me I would like it to be easier to find stuff but I do sooner or later. On behalf of all many thanks.Tom.  
L.

---

message #: 21

Date: Wednesday November 23 2005 19:13:17 EST  
Name: EEK Parker  
Email: Ekparker1@aol.com

Service Number: RMBX 3417  
Hometown: Eastbourne  
Instrument/s: Violin Clarinet & Sax  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I went to hear the "Pompey" Band in Eastbourne tonight they where really super. It is good to see the Band Service's tradition is still being kept up by these great youngsters well some are young. Well done chaps.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 20

Date: Tuesday November 22 2005 11:48:51 EST  
Name: Tom Lambert  
Email:

Service Number: RMBx 1863  
Hometown: Adelaide  
Instrument/s:  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Frank Coleman's 26

drafts: What a very good story that was of Frank Coleman's. I read it with great interest; having been there a little before and in fact a couple of my shipmates from the Gambia had moved sideways to the London before we left to come home. What a great institution the China Fleet Club was they don't build them like that any more. Yep that sure was Frank Hester alright that is in the last couple of piccies the one of the Whalers crew and it was nice to see my old sparring partner literally Johnny (CPG) Bull looking as fit as usual. Also my cello playing colleague in the same whaler's team oh dear I know his name so well but it looks as if I will have to get the photo up no Jack Doyle a very good player of both the euph and the cello.

I remember the symphony orchestra concert we gave in the UJC Shanghai when for the first time I played Beethoven's fifth symphony and how terrified I was of the variations in the 2nd Movt. Jack Gale was the conductor and didn't inspire confidence in this young player though I had every admiration for him subsequently. I'm trying very hard to remember the other place that we used to visit in Northern China alongside Tsing Tao; it was not Mao Tze Tung! I'll remember at four o'clock tomorrow morning. We the Gambia used to tie up alongside there and the Chinese peddlars used to sell us whisky b ports on the 2 tiered pier. It was called King George and his 5 Sons which should have made us somewhat suspicious. Johnny and I used to go for a long run along the beach each morning we were in port. Anyway it is a great pity we don't have a few more of those factual reports from the distant past whilst we are still around to enjoy them particularly when they are accompanied by some piccies. Thanks a great deal both of you for that.

Kindest Regards Ever Tom

PS. The funny thing

is that (shame on me) I don't think I can remember Frank Coleman at all; we just never came into contact very much. Wei hai Wei was the name of the American Naval port but I just cannot remember the name of the other British traditional port.

---

message #: 19

Date: Thursday November 10 2005 08:34:01 EST  
Name: Noel Crook  
Email: akaroa1@telco4u.net

Service Number: RMBx 2664  
Hometown: Clifton, Bedfordshire  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

So sorry to read Terry Parker's story on George Ayress. Not seen or heard of George since leaving boys wing in 53. Often thought of him thro time and of course Tubby Meteyeer and Prof Thatcher. Rest in peace George. Noel Crook

---

message #: 18

Date: Monday November 7 2005 14:41:56 EST  
Name: Brian Starr  
Email: brian.starr@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB4358  
Hometown: Alverstoke  
Instrument/s: Eb Alto Sax/Clt/Violin  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Dickie. I was fortunate enough to attend Martin & Dave Sharp's Top Table at CTCRM Lymptone on Friday 4th November 2005. Martin and Dave are just completing their 34th year in the Band Service having joined on the 27th April 1971 (1/71). There were two other members from the Squad that attended on that day Ian Naylor Phil Gilbert and myself. The Top Table was surely the largest one to be held in the Band Service with over ninety guests dining (and drinking of course). The proceedings were conducted by the Corps RSM (Eric) and what a superb job he did. His Powerpoint presentation of the life and times of Dave and Martin was an excellent tribute to perhaps two of the finest sportsmen the Band Service have ever produced. Guests included Sir Henry Beverley Drum Majors John Porter Dave Buchanan Dave Dawson Gary Powell and John O'Connell et al. Other names from the past that either Martin or Dave have served with included Colin "Rasher" Bacon (The Original) Mac McDermott Alan Ham Pip Shell Roger Waterfield Bob Graham Dee Lindars and Brian Short. The list is far too numerous for me to mention them all or even remember them! This was also a special day for me too as it was my 50th birthday.

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 17

Date: Thursday November 3 2005 03:12:52 EST  
Name: Paul (Chalky) Castledine  
Email: paul.castledine@homecall.co.uk

Service Number: PO37012N  
Hometown: FIFE  
Instrument/s: BASSES  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Attended the Corps Birthday celebrations last week with another 8 ex Bandies thanks to an invite from FOSNI Band. We consumed a large amount of port then along with the band marched up town wearing our Corps ties. Great night and thanks again to FOSNI band for inviting us.

---

message #: 16

Date: Wednesday November 2 2005 14:36:05 EST  
Name: Barry Radford  
Email: barry.radford@virgin.net

Service Number: RMB 3507  
Hometown: Meols Wirral  
Instrument/s: Euph and Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Richard  
Sad news has just reached me via 'Tommy' Tucker (Solo Clarinet ) of the death of Tony (Wiggy) Bennett (Cpl. Solo Cornet). Tragic accident whilst helping a friend prune a tree on 17th October. Will pass on any further details if and when I get them. I served with Tony in 'Whale Island' he was a great guy and was known endearingly as 'Cpl of the Horse Bennett'. Condolences to Nita and Family. Barry Radford

---

message #: 15

Date: Wednesday November 2 2005 07:04:00 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email: mike@hickmans.e.telefonica.net

Service Number: Q003482R  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
I have done this one for Sid previously but now with the help of my old squad buddy Rodney I can fill in the rest of the names except for one. Back Row. Chas Pelling Eddie Claxton Charlie Shires Ken Sharp Brian Smith Taff Pierce Derek Holder Bill Pugh Pete Hemming Vic Judd Howard Syviter. Front Row. Ian Shawcross Graham Salthouse (?) Wally Hart Jumbo Legge Joni (Ginge) Couch Alan Meyer John Buberle Les Jordan Mick Hayward. At the time this photo was taken Les Jordan was M Company Sgt Major Les Shires was his assistant he was from the GD side. Perhaps somewhere out there someone can remember the one name we cannot recall. Come on chaps I know we are all ageing a little but dig deep in the memory bank and help us out. As Rodney quite rightly mentioned several of these are no longer with us. To those that are left (not just the football team) all ex members take good care of yourselves and your families till we meet again as I hope some of us will my fondest regards to you all. Mik H.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 14

Date: Tuesday November 1 2005 14:10:57 EST  
Name: Rod Williamson  
Email: rodney.williamson@virgin.net

Service Number: QOO 3491S  
Hometown: Whitstable  
Instrument/s: Euph/Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Just taking a stab at the football team names:- Back Row (l-r) Chas Pelling Eddie Claxton (?) ? Keith Sharpe Brian Smith Taff Pierce Derek Holder Bill Pugh Peter Hemming Vic Judd ? Front Row (l-r) Ian Shawcross Graham Salthouse (?) ? Wally Hart Jumbo Legge Ginge Couch ? John Buberle B/M Jordan (or Diamond) Mick Hayward. Sad to note that a number are no longer with us but on the other hand good to know that so many are going strong. Rod Williamson

---

message #: 13

Date: Monday October 31 2005 11:18:47 EST  
Name: Sid Sheard  
Email:

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Richard. Like the new Guestbook Richard and thankyou for posting the Staff Band Football Teams.  
Sid

---

message #: 12

Date: Sunday October 30 2005 18:56:47 EST  
Name: Michael Hutton  
Email: michaelhuttonxrm@ukonline.co.uk

Service Number: RMBX 2638  
Hometown: Newbury  
Instrument/s: Euph & Cello  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Dickie..Like the new format. I have been trying to obtain a copy of the Trafalgar programme on the BBC TV on Friday 21 Oct. The Queen etc with the RM Band doing the usual by the Victory. Would like to send it to the reunion in OZ which is in a couple of weekends time. Can anyone help? Best wishes to all. Mick.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 11

Date: Sunday October 30 2005 06:02:39 EST  
Name: Mike Hickman  
Email:

Service Number: Q003482R  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hello to all fellow readers of this wonderful version of the guest book well done to Richard and all who help to make this sort of thing happen. I was one of the few fortunate enough to attend THE REUNION at Portsmouth at the beginning of October what a pity so many decided to be absent again this year it was truly great to see so many old faces again this year even if most of them were there last year. After the awful events that happened in Deal in the late eighties the Reunion went ahead as planned how many people attended that one I didn't count but an awful lot of ex and serving people were in attendance. Why were they there because of what had happened or because it was THE REUNION I fear it was the first after the church service and as we did in those days gather in the old drill shed I made a comment to the then editor of the Blue Band John Perkins how nice it was to see so many people here and that I felt that they were here for the right reason but at the same time the wrong reason. The same goes for the 100th Reunion a couple of years ago every body came out of the woodwork do we have to wait for another tragedy or another 100 years?

---

message #: 10

Date: Sunday October 30 2005 01:02:06 EST  
Name: Geoff Hart  
Email: ghart@blueyonder.co.uk

Service Number: RMB 4402  
Hometown: North Cheam / Muscat - Oman  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

I was shocked to read the passing of Clive Sproston my condolences to all the family.

---

message #: 9

Date: Saturday October 29 2005 11:35:14 EST  
Name: Sidney George Sheard  
Email: sidsrmbx3211@hotmail.com

Service Number: RMB/x3211  
Hometown: Deal Kent  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Once again we hear of the passing on of two more of our Colleagues. My condolences go out to their families. Their presence will be sorely missed.

---



# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 8

Date: Friday October 28 2005 14:30:26 EST  
Name: Ian (Mac) Magill  
Email: ianmagill@tiscali.co.uk

Service Number: PO30195H  
Hometown: Penkridge  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

So sad to hear of the passing of a good old DOG END Sproz. I spent many a good time with Clive and Sharon in the old Chatham era. Clive will be sadly missed by all those who were fortunate enough to know him. My sincere condolences go out to his wife Sharon and the rest of the Sproston family. Another good life taken much too early. I shall be raising a glass or few to Sproz a true Chatham Dog End. God Bless. I apologise for not being able to attend Clive's funeral I am away on holiday but my thoughts will be with Sharon and her family on Wednesday 2nd. Mac

---

message #: 7

Date: Friday October 28 2005 11:56:52 EST  
Name: Rab (Jock) Thomson  
Email: berybob4200@aol.com

Service Number: RMB 4200  
Hometown: Perthshire  
Instrument/s: Basses  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Hi all So sad to hear of the passing of an old colleague Sproz and my former mentor Jack Tomlin. The last time I spoke to Jack he offered to take me round the world but I chose to go to Arbroath instead. What a wallie!!! Deepest sympathy to both families...

---

message #: 6

Date: Friday October 28 2005 07:56:19 EST  
Name: Mik Hickman  
Email:

Service Number: QOO3482R  
Hometown: Roquetas De Mar Spain  
Instrument/s: Bass Trombone  
n/a: n/a

Comments:

Very sad to read of the passing of Clive Sproston and Jack Tomlin. I like MickThomson served with Sproz at Chatham he was a good dogend. My condolences go to his brother Michael and the rest of his family if any who are going to his funeral please pass these on to all. I have some very fond memories of Clive at social occassions and gigs. Jack I remember more of an acquaintance we never served together but he was always chatty whenever our paths crossed once again my condolences to all of his family. My best regards to you all in these sad times. Take care everybody. Mik H.

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 5

Date: Friday October 28 2005 05:18:42 EST  
Name: Michael Thompson  
Email: mcband@optusnet.com.au

Service Number: RM26593  
Hometown: Melbourne Australia  
Instrument/s: Corps of Drums  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear Dickie Sorry to hear of the sudden passing of Clive "Sproz" Sproston I served with Clive in the Chatham "Dog Ends" Band. My condolences to his family and our thoughts from down under will be with them on the 2nd. I am looking forward to meeting a few ex RMB's at the reunion in South Australia. I'm sure there will be lots to talk about and the pics will be on their way to you as soon as I get back to Melbourne. Also looking forward to spending a few relaxing days in NZ with Max & Kath I'll be there on a business trip and I'm sure I'll need a little time out before flying back to Aus. Regards to all  
Michael (Tommo) Thompson

---

message #: 4

Date: Thursday October 27 2005 17:57:27 EST  
Name: Brian Short  
Email: meuy17@dsl.pipex.com

Service Number: Q004468Y  
Hometown: Deal  
Instrument/s: Percussion  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Sadly following the sudden death of Clive Sproston [49 years] former Bandmaster and percussionist: The funeral will take place at 10.30 on Wednesday 2nd November 2005 in Paignton Devon. Should anyone need more information then please contact me for directions etc. Anyone not attending but who would like me to pass on condolences then also contact me. Regards Brian Short

---

message #: 3

Date: Thursday October 27 2005 16:24:39 EST  
Name: Bill Hartland  
Email: editorbill@hmsgambia.com

Service Number: RMBX3050  
Hometown: Congresbury North Somerset  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Hi Rich pleased to see that you have got everything under control now.... Yours  
aye. Bill

---

# RishalieL Guestbook

message #: 2

Date: Thursday October 27 2005 15:06:11 EST  
Name: Bernard Maxie Beare  
Email: maxie2234@xtra.co.nz

Service Number: RMB X 2234  
Hometown: Silverdale NZ  
Instrument/s: Solo Cornet  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Greetings and to you Richard many thanks for setting up the web site and this impressive Guest Book. I was about No 5 in the original Guest book so feel I should do better this time? Wonderful for us to entertain so many of the Band Service over the years appears there are more to come with Mike Thompson-Smith in November and Bill Hartland booked in again in April 06. For now good wishes all round Max and Katherine

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message #: 1

Date: Thursday October 27 2005 08:48:15 EST  
Name: Richard Valentine  
Email: rich@richvalentine.com

Service Number: RMB 4069  
Hometown: Preston  
Instrument/s: Solo Clarinet/Pianoforte/Vibe/Voice  
n/a: n/a

Comments:  
Dear friends and visitors Although 400 entries have appeared in the most recent guest book prior this new one I have felt it necessary to undergo yet another change in the hope that we speed things up a little more and enhance the pages with something more dependable. It's a hope and time will only tell how reliable this invaluable enhancement is to the website. Thank you all for your patience during a time when we have undergone a subtle but necessary domain change . It would help me immensely if you could spread the word as to the new address [URL] and meanwhile I have been e-mailing to all contacts sporadically when time permits. <http://www.exroyalmarinesbandsmen.net> With all good wishes Richard [Dickie] Valentine

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