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The Monthly Royal Signals Newsletter

To Unite, Trigger Old Memories, and Record Personal History for Posterity

February 2004

Welcome to the February 2004 edition of the Royal Signals Newsletter,

Readers can now get this newsletter in two ways, either by collection (as a pdf version for off-line reading/printing) from the newsletter distribution service, and from there they will get regular notification of the same by a brief e-mail, http://groups.yahoo.com/group/royal_signals or now thanks to the efforts of Keith Drummond this newsletter has also been made available on-line within the main RSO site. Look for the respective drop-down menu's.

We still need your participation submissions and feedback, so please send us your stories, concerns and wishes, and please recommend us to your friends and enemies ;-)

This Month's Contents

- Recent death of Ex-R.Sigs, W.O.1 Ronald Scrafton
- Looking for Wartime friends of Harold Walter Woodrow Brown (K.I.A. Feb 1945)
- Looking for Info about the location and movements of the ASTRID trophy
- Correction: regarding death of Major George James Whyman
- Reunion Info for the Junior Leaders Regt. Denbury
- Reunion Info for the 60s-16ers Association meeting
- New web-site: Link received from Edgar Weekley for the new 208 Sig. Sqn. web-site
- Correction/Apology "The "Technology" Volunteer Support Project"

I want to say thank you to our readers and our contributors, also in the name of Brian Streetly and Keith Drummond

Mrs. Petra Henderson
(Royal Signals 1971-1976)

The Website and Database Site

<http://www.royal-signals.org.uk>

Please visit and check/update your data regularly

The Distribution and Archive Site

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/royal_signals/

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Recent death: of (Ex R.Sigs.) W.O.1 Ronald Scrafton

Dear Sir,

I Regret to inform you of the peaceful death on 11/02/04 after long illness of my father, ex-Royal Signals W.O.1 Ronald Scrafton.

He served with the Corps approx. 1958 - 1970 at Lincoln, Singapore (18 Sigs), Germany (attached 4th Guards Bgde.), Catterick, Denbury and Malaysia (KL).

He became a civvy instructor at The Army Apprentices College in Harrogate from 1970 to his retirement in 1987.

Prior to joining the Signals he had served with 42 Commando for 10 years, achieving the rank of Colour Sergeant.

He will be sadly missed,

Regards,

Roy Scrafton (Son).

e-mail: jr.scrafton@ntlworld.com

Looking For: Info about Harold Walter Woodrow Brown (R.S. Killed in action, Holland, Feb, 1945)

From: Jan Marchant

Location: Sydney, Australia

e-Mail: marchantjejf@optusnet.com.au

Message: Dear Petra

ref my father.

His name was Harold Walter Woodrow Brown and he died in Holland on 23rd of February 1945 in Holland.

He had to have a leg amputated due to a land mine and died nine days later from shock.

He is buried at Neder Weert, near Eindhoven. I have so far found out the following about his movements prior to his death.

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I have a letter he sent to me in January 1945 and the address has been deciphered as:

"ATT TO HQ COMPANY, 8th RB, B.L.A."

I have made enquiries to the WWII list on Rootsweb and received the following explanation:

"10576685 Signalman H W W Brown appears to have been: Attached to HQ Company, 8th Rifle Brigade, 11th Armoured Division, Second British Army, 21st Army Group, British Liberation Army.

The Rifle Brigade were part of the lorried Infantry support in the Division.

In January 1945 they were involved in reducing the Roer pocket in the Limberg area of Holland in preparation for Operation Veritable, the Rhine Crossing."

I remember my mother telling me (I was four years old) that my Daddy was in France and then that he was in Belgium, then Holland. Only vague memories, of course.

I also very vaguely remember parts of when we (my mother, grandfather and myself) went, from our home in Leicester, to Cowdenbeath, Fife, Scotland where he was doing the course for the Royal Signals, staying at the house where he was billeted.

For many years afterwards, my mother corresponded with the lady in whose house we had stayed. I also have some photographs of us there.

My father is recorded on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website.

Keith suggests some of my father's colleagues on the website, many of whom would be younger than him, might remember him.

Regards

Jan Marchant

Sydney, Australia

Looking For: Info about movements and location of the ASTRID Trophy.

Name: Dennis

Email: velma.parkinson@btinternet.com

Location: Worksop, UK

Message: Hi everyone, I have tried to find out if anyone knows the whereabouts of the ASTRID trophy.

I had had this made after my first wife died and presented it to the regiment. I was told it had moved from Germany to Catterick but no-one seems to know.

So if any of you ever had the trophy or know of its current whereabouts (or any info on where it has been seen over the years) it would be great.

My wife found the site and we both it is great, we have tried some of the other sites, but the way you can look through to try and find old friends is so much easier. Keep up the good work.

Correction: Regarding Maj. George James Whyman

My name is LCpl Andrew Whyman (25068259 AGC (SPS)) I am currently serving with 2 Sig Regt in Imphal Bks, York as 214 Sig Sqn Clk.

I am writing to inform you that the information on Maj George James Whyman (503968) R. Signals is not accurate. He did not die in April but in fact died on 06 Jun 01.

If you would like any more information please do not hesitate to call me on 01904 66 5707 or York Mil (94777) 5707.

Regards

A H Whyman
LCpl

e-mail: [Linda Whyman \[lwhyman@lineone.net\]](mailto:Linda.Whyman@lineone.net)

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New Site Info: Link to the new 208 Sig. Sqn. Web-site

(Edgar Weekley wrote:)

Hello Petra.

Sorry to trouble you but do you think there would be any objection's to posting this URL on the Sigs sites, it's a newish site set up for the 208 Signal Squadron lads,

A site for ex-members of the 208 Signal Squadron attached to 28 Commonwealth Infantry Brigade, Terendak Camp, Malacca,

the URL is: <http://www.marsden.me.uk>

Regards Edgar

e-mail: edgar.weekley@ntlworld.com

Reunion Info: Junior Leaders Regt. Denbury, Reunion

Hello Petra,

here's another reunion for you to advertise (for about the next 15 months please)

Junior Leaders Regiment Royal Signals Denbury are having a major reunion in **Sep 2005** (we do have minor ones all the time) but hopefully this will draw all the ex JLR's from all over the world to Newton Abbot South Devon, for details please contact Keith Greenhalgh at theredcoat2@yahoo.com or jlrdenbury@yahoo.com

Many thanks Keith

Reunion Info: 60s-16ers. Scottish Reunion

From Lorraine Moore, Membership Secretary of the above assc., This years 60S-16ERS Association reunion is at Loch Lomond, Scotland, from Friday 29 October to Monday 1 November 2004.

To join the Assoc., in the first instance, contact Lorraine at Lorrainew@28fs.fsnet.co.uk

To enquire about the Hotel cost and/or to book, contact Trevor Davies at Trevd Davies@ka13qr.freemove.co.uk

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If you are planning a reunion, please tell us “who, where, when and the relevant contact info”. or tell us if you have other inputs such as “help finding” or details of any R. Sigs relevant Groups or websites, etc.

Correction to Your RSO and Ex-Signallers needs you! The “Technology” Volunteer Support Project...

In January I reported about the above project, but over-estimated the scope of the planned activities and accidentally stepped on some toes, including upsetting some of the RSA branches that already provide such assistance.

My apologies to everyone., anyone still interested please contact Brian Streetly,

Regards Petra

Contact Us

If you have any comments, inputs or events for this Newsletter, please Contact Brian, Keith or myself via the respective royal-signals.org.uk email addresses below.

Brian Streetly Brian@royal-signals.org.uk

Keith Drummond Keith@royal-signals.org.uk

Petra Henderson Petra@royal-signals.org.uk

Thank you (also to all our content contributors) , and until till next Month.

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