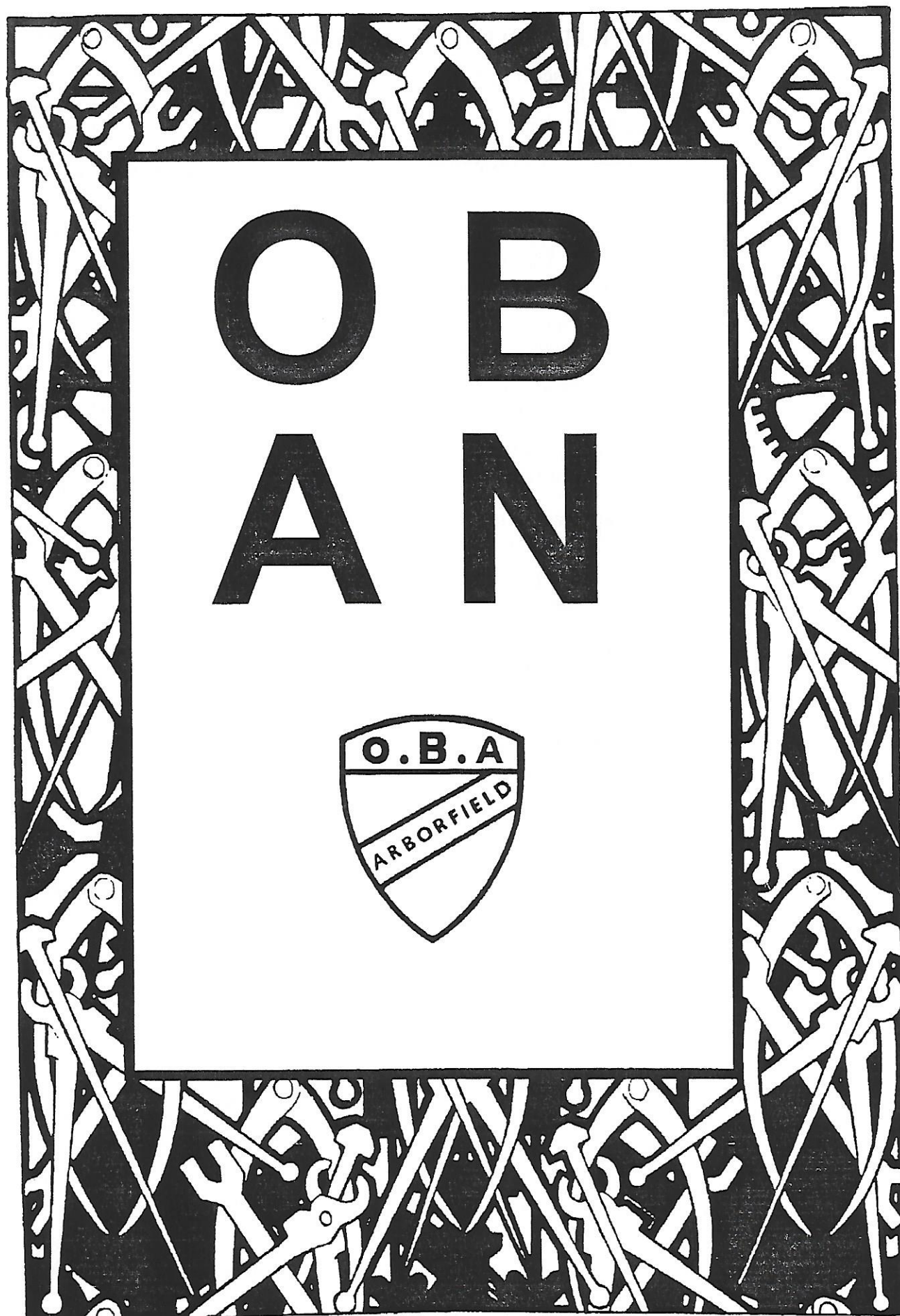




ARBORFIELD OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION NEWS

www.arborfieldoldboys.co.uk

ARBORFIELD OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

President - Brigadier R J Croucher ADC, MA, CEng, FIMechE, DEME(A)

Vice Presidents - Past Commandants

COMMITTEE

Chairman

Lt Colonel D A McAvoy REME BA(Hons) MSc MDA CEng MIEE

Vice Chairman

Lt Colonel T C Knee REME

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Major(Retd) M J Davis MBE (60B)

Honorary Secretary

Lt Colonel(Retd) I W J Cleasby (61C)

Assistant Honorary Secretary

Major D F Vaughan REME

Honorary Membership Secretary

Colonel(Retd) P H Gibson CEng, FIEE, FIMgt

Editor OBAN

Mr B L Hornsey (54A)

Recruitment & Publicity Member

Mr D Schofield DMS MBA (65A)

Members

Captain Eric Warren Adjutant ROYAL SIGNALS

Warrant Officer I (RSM) D G Mullins COLDSTREAM GUARDS

Staff Sergeant S E G Lawton REME

Mr A Hardy (65C)

Mr W E N Pusey (46A)

Committee meetings are held 3-4 times per year. Any member wishing to put forward a motion or item to the Committee for consideration may do so by writing directly to the Honorary Secretary. Additionally, an ad hoc administration committee is convened, usually under the Chairmanship of the College Adjutant and attended by all interested parties, to deal with the details of the reunion weekend.

GENERAL INFORMATION

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Arborfield Old Boys Association News

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FROM THE EDITOR

Brian Hornsey (54A)

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Acknowledgements. Printed by Printing Dept, SEAE Arborfield

Issue 25. Yet again we have a Reunion Issue!

And what about the colour photos of the Reunion then! I am endeavoring to improve the 'design' a little, being somewhat hampered by my ancient software and computer. However, if I make the traumatic jump from Windows 3.1 to Windows 2000 and the laser printout setup that I currently employ without any major problems, I fear that my brain and its ability to produce the OBANs relatively easily will suffer.

When the time comes for someone else to take over the editorship, then I think that will be the time to redesign the layout of the magazine.

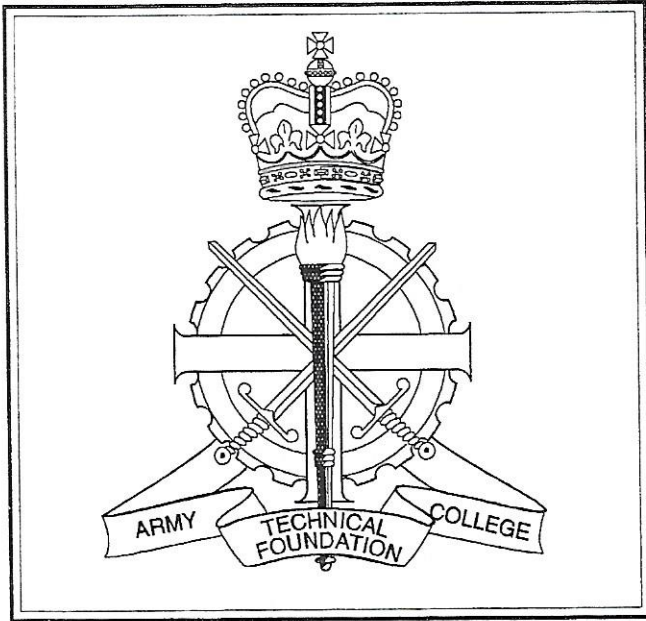
My apologies for the reduced type size used for the Apologies & Attendance List shown on page 24. This list had to be reduced in font size to fill one page only so that I could fill the photographic sequence section of the reunion with larger pictures.

If possible, please continue to send your contributions on disk, preferably Word Perfect 5.1 (DOS version) or MS Word (DOS or Windows Word 6/95 versions). If you are using a later version of Word or whatever, it is usually possible to use the *Save As..* function to also select the type of file in an older format, hopefully Word 6/95.

For those of you who don't have access to a computer, I have had a very generous offer from Frank Fendick (45A) who has agreed to type out any articles (not letters) that have been written in manuscript, then he will e-mail the articles to me. Please send those articles to: 1 West End, Northwold, Thetford, Norfolk, IP26 5LE.

As always, photos for the Pictorial Archives in the REME Museum are always gratefully received either as donations or borrowed for copying. All loaned photos are logged and would be returned to you after copying. As always, many thanks to those of you who have already contributed.

Brian Hornsey (54A)



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

I would like to start this article with a plaudit of thanks to all those people behind the scenes that made the 2002 annual AOBA reunion such a runaway success. Yes we can do better next time around and the committee as elected on your behalf will endeavour to do just that. The reunion was my first and I was particularly impressed with the turnout both in numbers and those that contributed throughout the weekend with bright ideas on how to improve our image overall.

Turning now to some of the issues covered at the AGM for which many of you were unable to attend. Two themes emerged in principle centering on change across the broadest spectrum of the College and Army as a whole coupled with the need to maintain recruiting and the continuing funding stream required to make it all work. In this report I wish to touch upon the element of change and seek your active responses to some thorny questions that face the committee in the next year or so.

Human rights, working time restrictions for those under 18 years of age, the right to appeal and to seek judicial counsel are all in. Out are the days of marching to the glass house for minor misdemeanours, getting up at ridiculously early hours to clean, press and drill the team, along with, and rightly so, codes of conduct for all staff. All of these factors reflect the

changes in society to ensure that there is a scrupulously fair system in place to protect the AT, the staff and the command team. The challenge has always been the same apart from in my days I was blissfully unaware of the restrictions in place and the same is true of today. Things are moving on at an extreme pace. What arrives at the College gate today only left school yesterday that is at least 28 years ago for me. How long was it for you? My point is simple, if the Army has moved on, has the AOBA? Over 120 ATs that leave the College are females and this figure is set to rise. So, is the name Arborfield Old BOYS Association correct in the world of equality?

On the College agenda this term is the internal restructuring to improve efficiency and to reduce costs. Company and Squadron names are set to change along with an ever-increasing possibility of the course length being extended to 42 weeks. All of this is in preparation for the possible creation of an Army Foundation Project (another college) capable of training 2500 recruits. It is highly probable that Arborfield will close in the not too distant future, but nothing is agreed. Ideas, however, have a funny habit of becoming reality in the end. Adventure training continues apace and trips to PERU, MOROCCO, and NEPAL are scheduled along with the stream of applications for Sub Aqua and all the other skills that soldiers really enjoy. You may note the plethora of 'probable and maybe' statements used in this paragraph which simply reflects the air of uncertainty surrounding the future location, structure and timing associated with this area.

Finally the committee and I are looking at new ways of getting the message out to the wider apprentice community. I had a visit from Col(Retd) Holman, ex commandant of Chepstow and he is envious of our support compared to his 200 members. This is simply down to your continued support for which I thank you all.

On a more sombre note, it is with deep sadness that I announce the death of AT Kevin Sharman who died on 22 July 2002 while on adventurous training in Wales. He will be sorely missed.

FROM THE HONORARY SECRETARY

Lt Col(Retd) Bill Cleasby (61C)

From the many phone calls and letters received it is quite clear that the 2002 Reunion has been judged a success. I have written to all those who worked so hard behind the scenes to make it a success and passed on your thanks.

As always, I personally enjoyed the reunion very much and hearing about Ray Jordan's amorous adventures in the 60's kept me laughing for most of the weekend. Poor chap he really was treated quite shabbily by one who shall remain nameless.

I have taken note of the few failures including lack of pillow cases, damp sheets and in one case missing bed springs and will endeavour to make sure that it doesn't happen in 2003. We will also put in place a better system of allocating and identifying your bed spaces.

You will be pleased to hear that it was a record year with 280 old boys attending over the reunion weekend (176 on parade). The number sitting down to dinner was also a record (245) and if it proves as popular next year we will use the same seating arrangement again.

Thank you Ken for providing the PA system, we will beat those gremlins yet. It was very heartening to see so many of the golden and diamond anniversary intakes sitting down to dinner and in such good form.

I thought the speech by John Todd was tremendous and just right for the occasion. So how about it intake 53, is there one amongst you who will speak at the next dinner.

Two last points. The first point is, I have in my possession a gentleman's purse containing a key and some loose change that was handed in during the reunion. Would the owner please make contact.

The other point is the Poperinghe Guardroom, which we hope to erect at the front of the REME museum. We have started to clear the ground for the foundations and any further contributions towards its completion will be most welcome.

warmest regards

Bill Cleasby (61C)

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Col(Retd) Peter Gibson

Membership Secretary activities continue much the same as always. The number of ex-boys joining the association has dropped off considerably since the pre-Reunion peak. I am grateful to existing members who have managed to recruit new members but I would be even more grateful if you could do so well before the Reunion – both Bill Cleasby and I have enough to do in planning and administering the Reunion without having to recruit new members with only days to go!

The problem that I have with members moving house and forgetting to tell me continues. Poor memory is not confined to retired members either – even those young guys still serving don't provide details of their new units and the old units invariably refuse to redirect the mail.

Many of you will have seen the redesigned web site, for which Ken Anderson must be congratulated, which now contains an abbreviated Membership Directory. Ken will update the information as often as I am able to send amendments to him. Details of errors found should be sent either to Ken or me but, of course, you can update your own details 'on-site'. A new hard-copy Membership Directory is in preparation but I would not like to give a publication date as yet!

An e-mail from John Dutton (1943 April) appeared in Issue 28 querying the format used to describe the apprentice college, intake and company of members. While I understand the confusion that can arise, the difficulties come partly from my need to have a fixed format for the database. Whether a member is shown as 43A, 43B or 43C depends entirely on what the member tells me on his/her joining proforma. Because the number of intakes in a given year has changed often over the years, and the detailed knowledge of those changes is no longer centrally held, I can sometimes make the wrong interpretation if a member declares himself simply as 1943 April. I am always happy to be corrected. If a members informs me that he was in two companies, then two companies are shown.

And finally, any communication to the Committee concerning payment of subs, donations or any other money matter should be made only to the Honorary Treasurer, Mike Davis, at Rosebank, New Buildings, Sandford, Crediton, Devon. Tel: 01363 84383.

RECRUITMENT AND PUBLICITY REPORT

From Ken Anderson (58A)

Introduction to Our New Webmaster

At the recent Reunion 2002 AGM Ken Anderson was appointed as the new Recruitment and Publicity Member of the Committee. Ken joined the Army Apprentices School as an 'Easter Bunny' with Intake 58A and was in A Company and then the first Senior Company during his apprenticeship. He came back in the late 1960s as a member of the Permanent Staff as Art Radar in the Electronics Wing. Those there at the time will most likely remember him for his involvement with sporting hovercraft and with the conversion of a 3Mk7 radar into a weather satellite tracking station - Ed.

The New Website

As you all know, the original website was designed and developed over a three year by David (Tich) Schofield, 65A. Much of David's work is incorporated in the current website and many thanks are due to him for his sterling and original work. Full acknowledgement is given to his innovative design. With a new hand on the helm the opportunity has been taken take many of the original ideas but to incorporate them into a new design. For the technically minded the authoring tools that will be used in the design and maintenance of the new site will be Macromedia Dreamweaver and Ultradev, Macromedia Fireworks, Freehand 10 and Flash 5. Java scripting and Active Server Pages (ASP) will be used to implement both server side and client functionality. Debabelizer Pro will be used for image editing while Sonic Foundry Sound Forge and Video Factory will be used for sound and video content. It is proposed to implement both sound and video streaming with sound coming first using Real Audio.

Considerable thought has been given to the architecture of the new site and it is hoped that members will find the structure simple to navigate through. There may of course be some changes to the initial structure but it is hoped that this will be more fine tuning than anything else. Your feedback is important and all criticisms both positive and negative are encouraged.

The Membership Database

Access to the Membership Database is now available through the Association Section Members Web Page. Access is strictly restricted to members through the use of a username and password.

The AOBA Forum

We have replaced the original Guest Book with the AOBA Forum. Whilst the Guest Book served a most useful purpose and generated interest in joining the Association from visiting non-members it had a number of limitations, which we seek to overcome with Forum. The AOBA Forum allows the creation of discussion groups where various topics can be discussed rather just having one long list. These groups can be thought of as folders in a filing cabinet. One of the great strengths of the Forum will be the ability to create 'threads' of discussions, for example if a member posted a question relating to 'who was last standing at the bar' the a whole thread of banter could be posted. Members using the Forum will be able to join in and post to discussion groups or initiate their own.

Photo Gallery

An innovative approach has been taken to the display of photographs on the site. It is proposed to produce a number of portfolios of photos with a 'bio' of the contributor and descriptive text for each picture. New photos and stories will be warmly welcomed.

Electronic OBAN

It is hoped that we can post electronic copies of OBAN on the Web. If members were willing to receive their copy of OBAN in this manner it would create great savings to the Association in postage costs. If you would like to receive your copy this way please complete the form on the Web.

Email Addresses

SPAM or unsolicited mail can be a problem. There are search engines out there that trawl through web pages looking for where email addresses may be easily picked up. To prevent this you will find most of the email addresses on the site are modified in the following fashion:

Proper email address

- fred.bloggs@barracks.co.uk

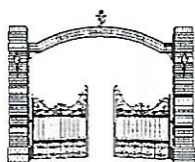
Post as email address

- fred.bloggs@barracksNOSPAM.co.uk

or

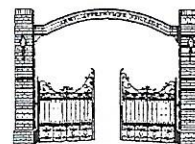
- fred.bloggs@barracksINTHEUK.co.uk

The idea is to modify the address where it is obvious to an intelligent ex-boy what needs to be taken out. When using the Forum or similar Guest Books it is always a good idea to modify your own email addresses in a similar manner to this.



REUNION 2002

As recalled by 'Eggy' Eggleton (52B)



For intake 52B this was our 50th anniversary of joining the Army. This also means that by September 02, the whole intake will be OAPs!

I checked in at the Sergeants Mess and a Sergeant with a lap-top told me my billet number. What happened to the good old list and a pencil to tick off those present? I found my billet – no list of inmates on the door – and inside no bedding. I was informed by members of my intake that the bedding was outside in boxes. We went out and found some dry sheets and blankets, but no pillow. After making my bed I looked around the billet – what a tip! Broken window frames and MFI type furniture all tatty and broken. The old style metal lockers pushed into holes where the MFI lockers had fallen to pieces. I think our old wooden spiders and metal lockers were better than this modern rubbish. The 'bogs' were well below standard, but there was some bog paper this year.

Then down to the old main gate for the Drum Head service (I am excused marching, a dodgy knee – I am in hospital now having it replaced). The band appeared and I was amazed. It was a collection of odds and sods from everywhere. I know the bands are being disbanded and amalgamated, but this was beyond belief.

After the parade, with 52A we had our photo taken outside the Sergeants mess, then just 52B. This took some time and eventually we reached the bar. The talk was of days gone by, lads missing from the reunion and those who had just vanished after boys school. Some had gone to that big drill square in the sky. I saw the following from 52B: Townsend, Skinner, Gilpin, Tyrrell, Mullis, Barnet, Pullen, Worland, Langley, Summerskill, Barlow and Clifford. Our service ranged from 8 years to over 39 years. Some had trouble remembering their trade interview before entering the Companies, then the form they filled in on leaving boys school, which stayed with your records – mine was produced years later when I changed trades.

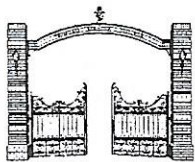
After grub at the Sergeants Mess which was very good, it was up to the Museum by minibus, very well organised. I enjoyed the vehicles, but no petrol Scammel – my favourite vehicle, me being an ex-recovery mechanic. The photo archives were not open. Regarding the apprentices' photos we sent in were displayed very well, but I think they should have been displayed in the camp area – not everybody was able to visit the Museum. The list for Intake 52B was incorrect as several of those listed were from other Divisions and at least one was missing.

At the AGM the Colonel said apprentices get £26.00 per day – we got 2/6d (12.5p) a day. They then gave us 6/- a week over the table to spend.

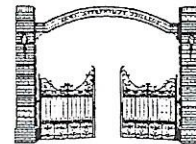
Down to the cookhouse for dinner. I noticed there were many tiles missing from the external cladding. The meal was not as good as previous years. The rendering of 'The Reds' was up to standard. Then it was back to the Mess for more tales of times gone by. In the Mess, the Colonel told me some of the recruits could not even read a clock with hands. In our day many lads had never used a phone or been out of their home county, but at least they could tell the time!

Regarding the Old Boys Association, I think the older generation of intake have a much stronger bond, because we had longer at the School and all wore the same cap badge. Our Corps badge was only worn on passing out parade. Some Arborfield apprentices went into the Royal Engineers. I feel that the spirit of comradeship which developed during our 3 years at the School was not found in REME. Whenever I met ex-boys from any of the three schools, they were always as boys first and Corps men second.

We had a good reunion and I am glad I was there – many did not attend, but they were always in my thoughts.



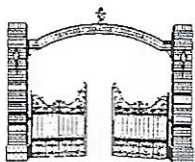
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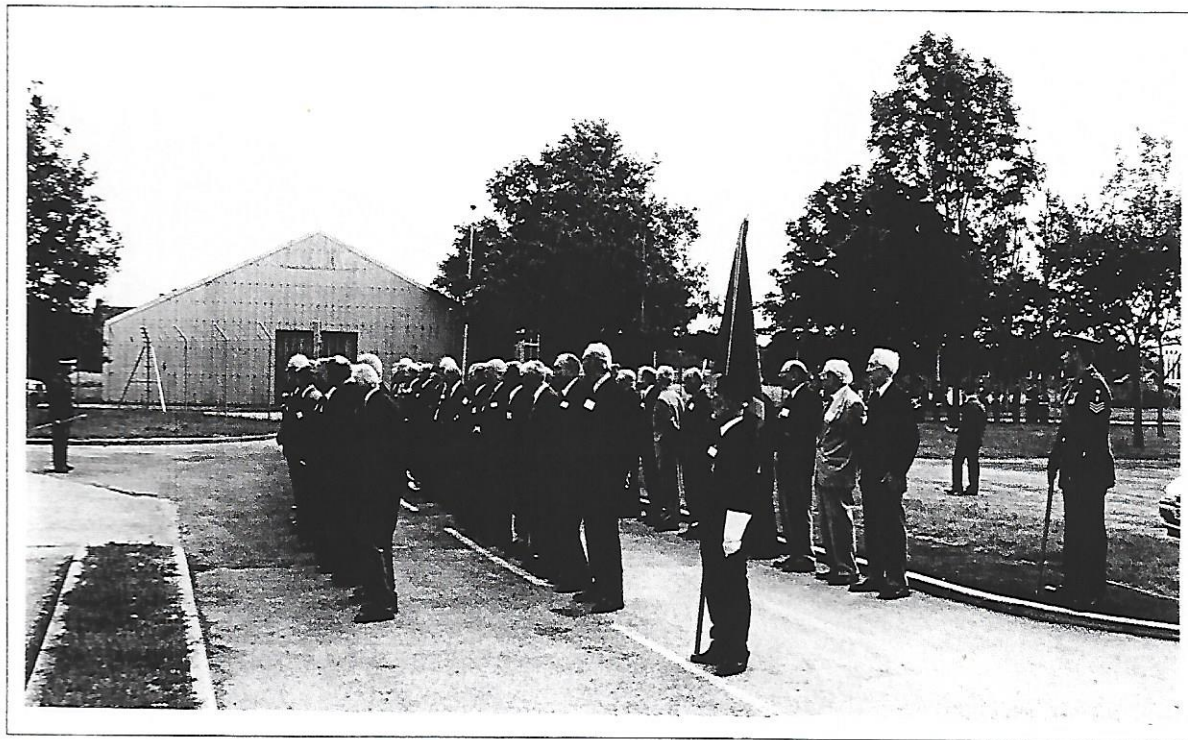
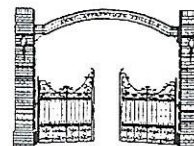
Saturday Morning, Coffee & Biscuits, Photos of Arborfield.



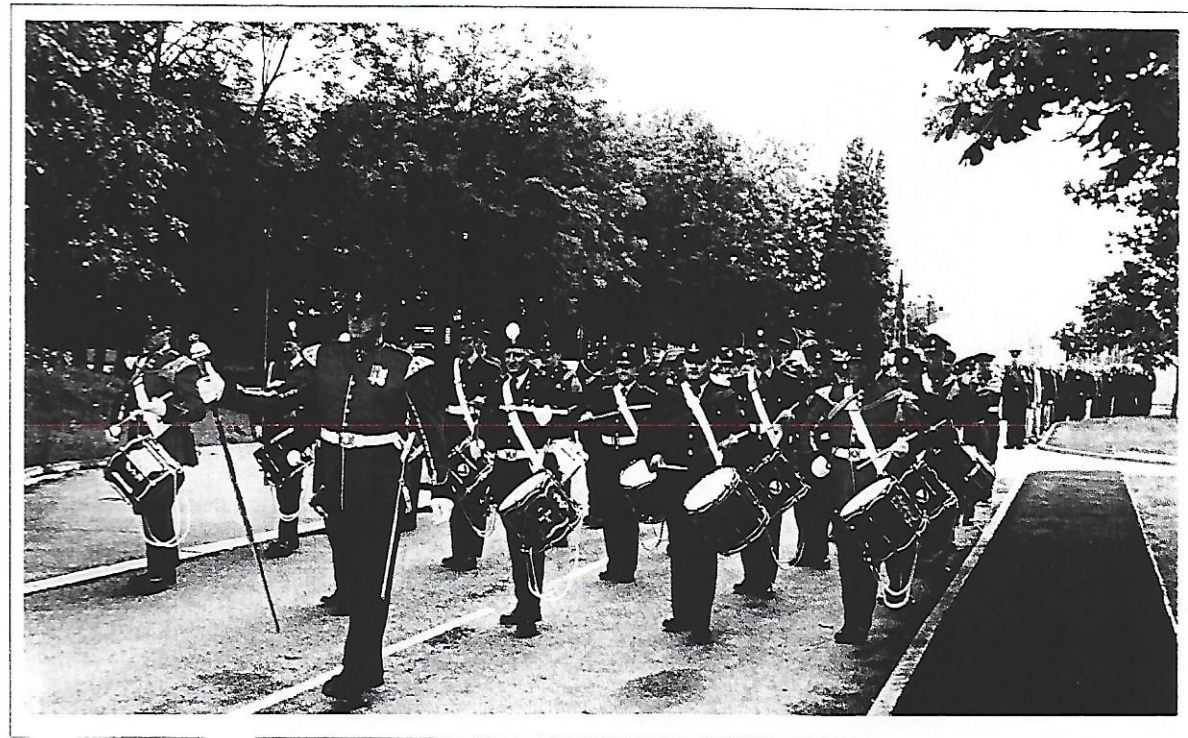
Then on to the parade - the RSM's Headache Starts!



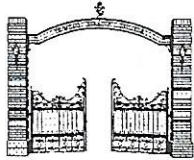
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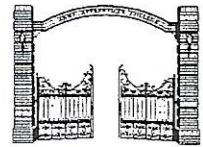
Eventually we formed up, with Mr Guest our Standard Bearer.



We moved off, led by a mixed band, playing well.



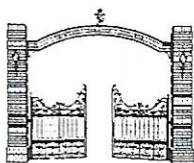
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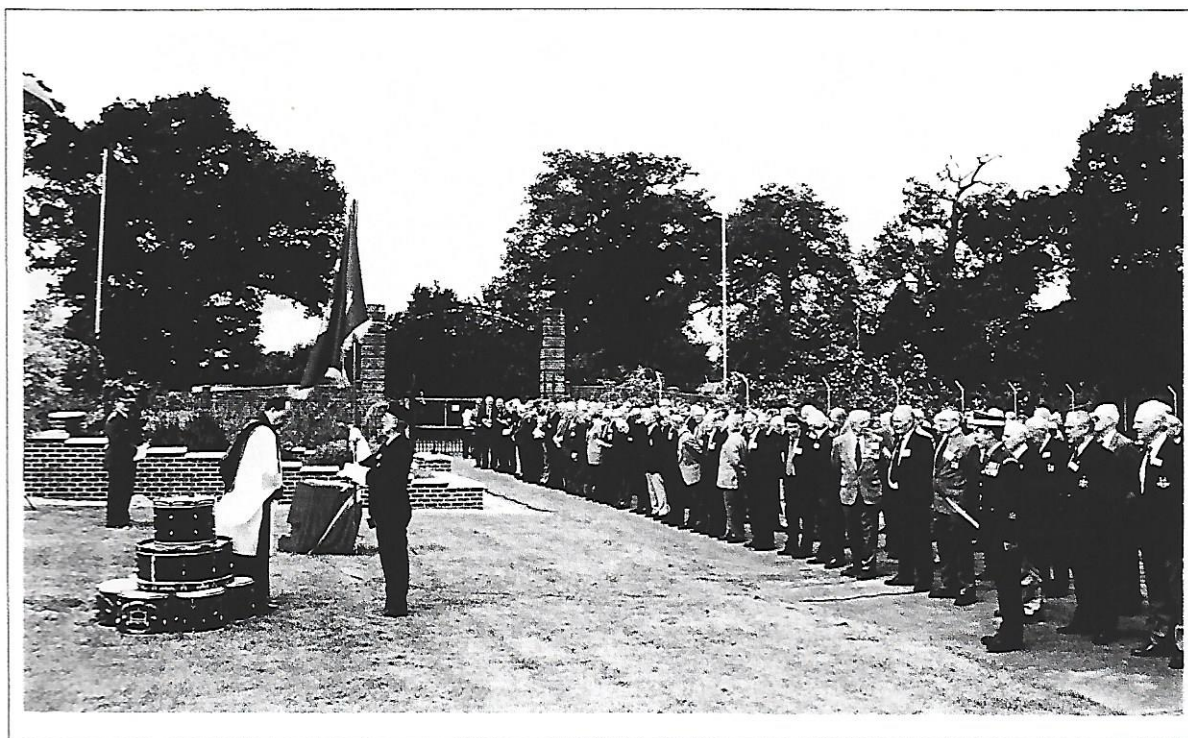
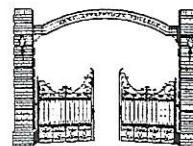
Out onto Sheerlands Road, all 113 of us



.... and left wheel through those well remembered gates.



REUNION 2002



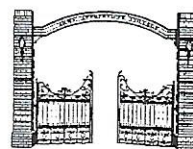
To line up for the Drum Head Service, led by the Padre.



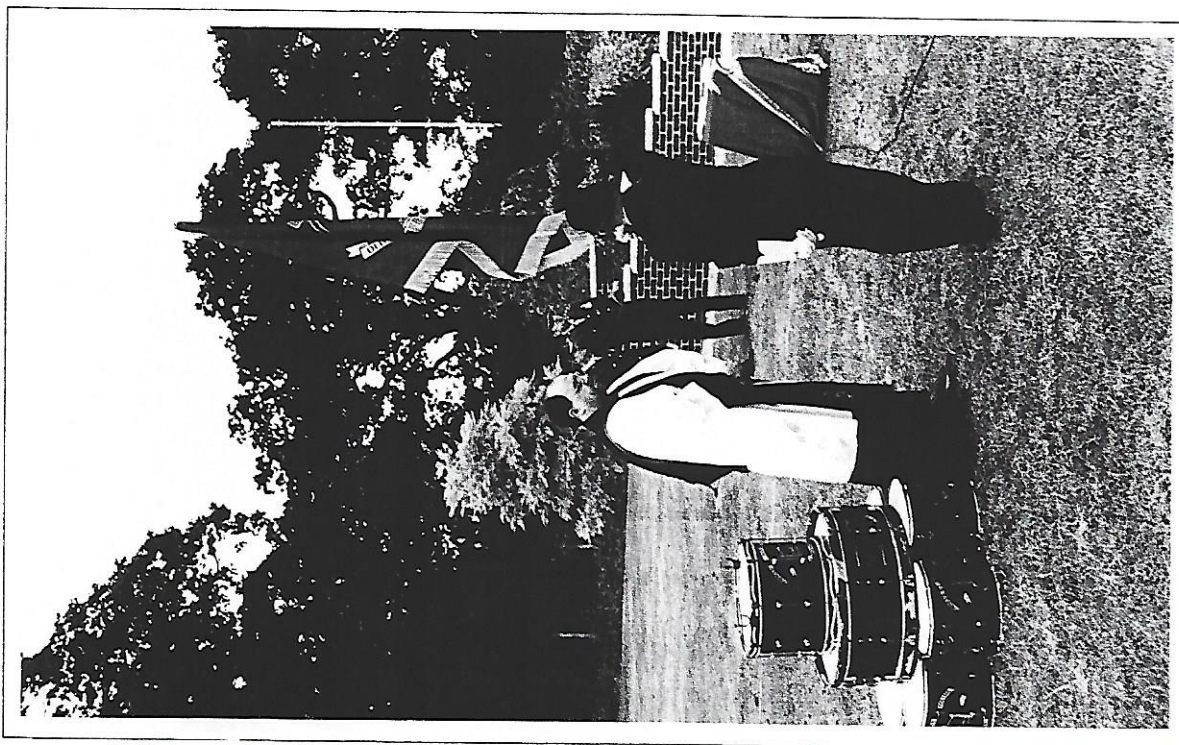
The Bugler played the Last Post, the Piper the Lament.



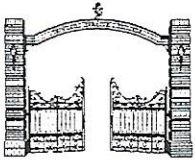
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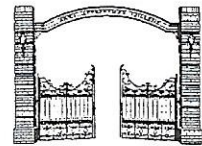
The service ended with prayers for absent friends & comrades.



Mr Guest returns with The Standard.



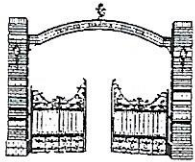
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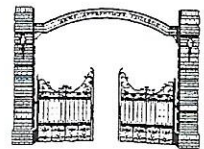
The band leads off to



.... the Parade Square.



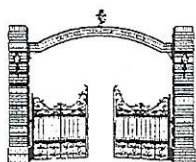
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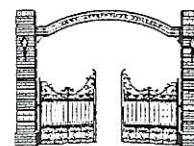
Colonel McCarthy inspects those on parade and



.... chats to some of the older members ...



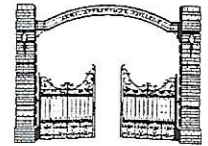
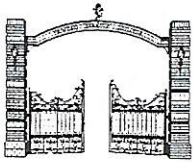
REUNION 2002



.... and some proudly displaying their medals.



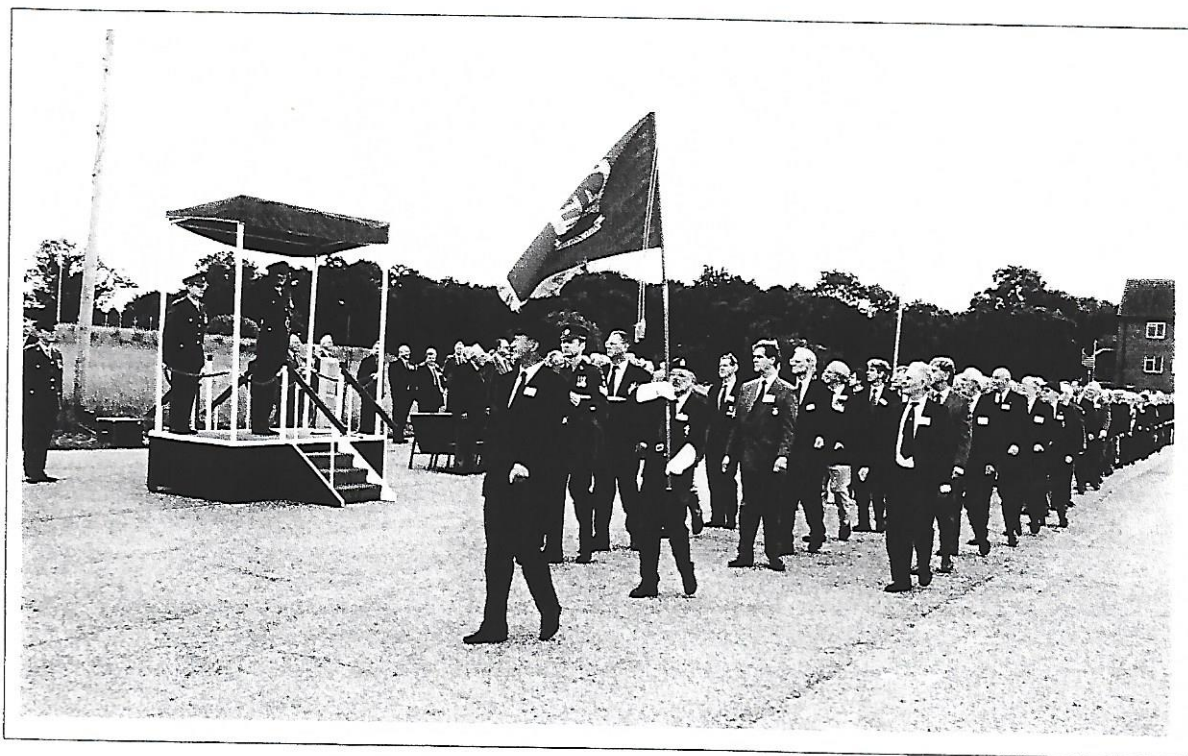
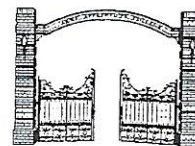
Could this be our youngest member?



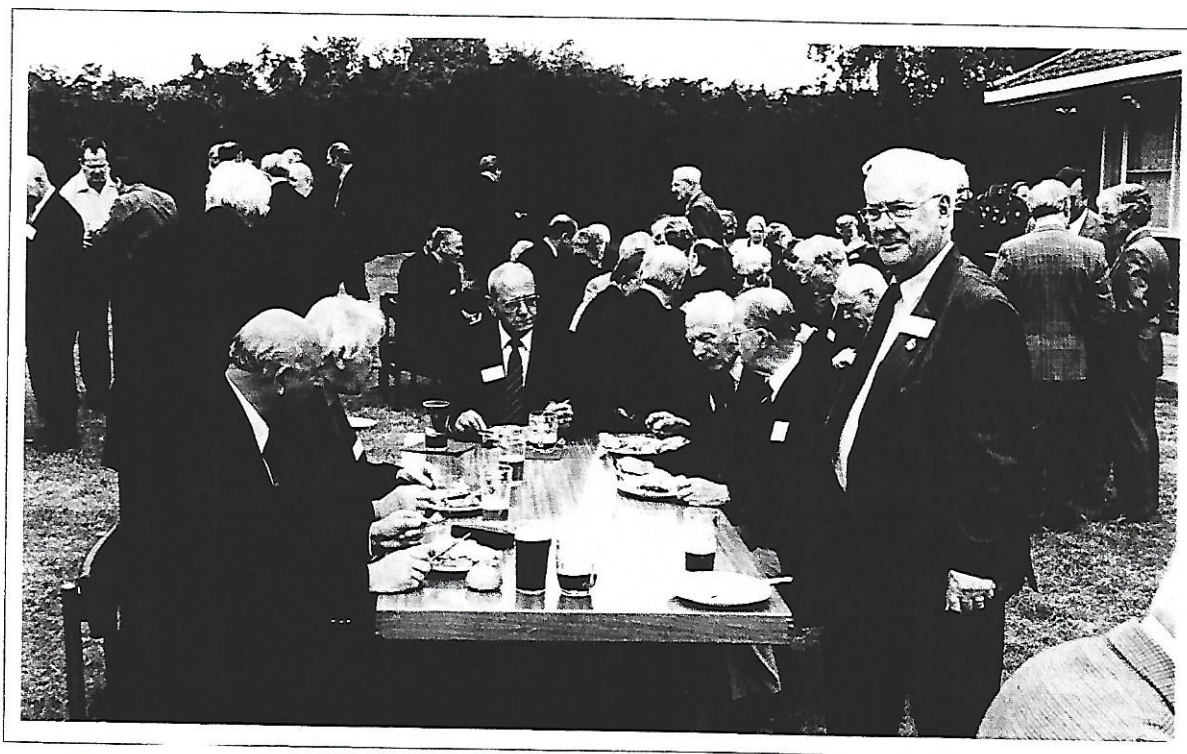
A Minister of Religion & our outgoing Webmaster!



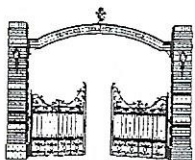
The colonel then makes his speech



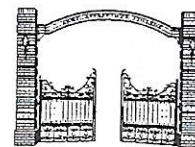
.... and takes the salute as members march past.



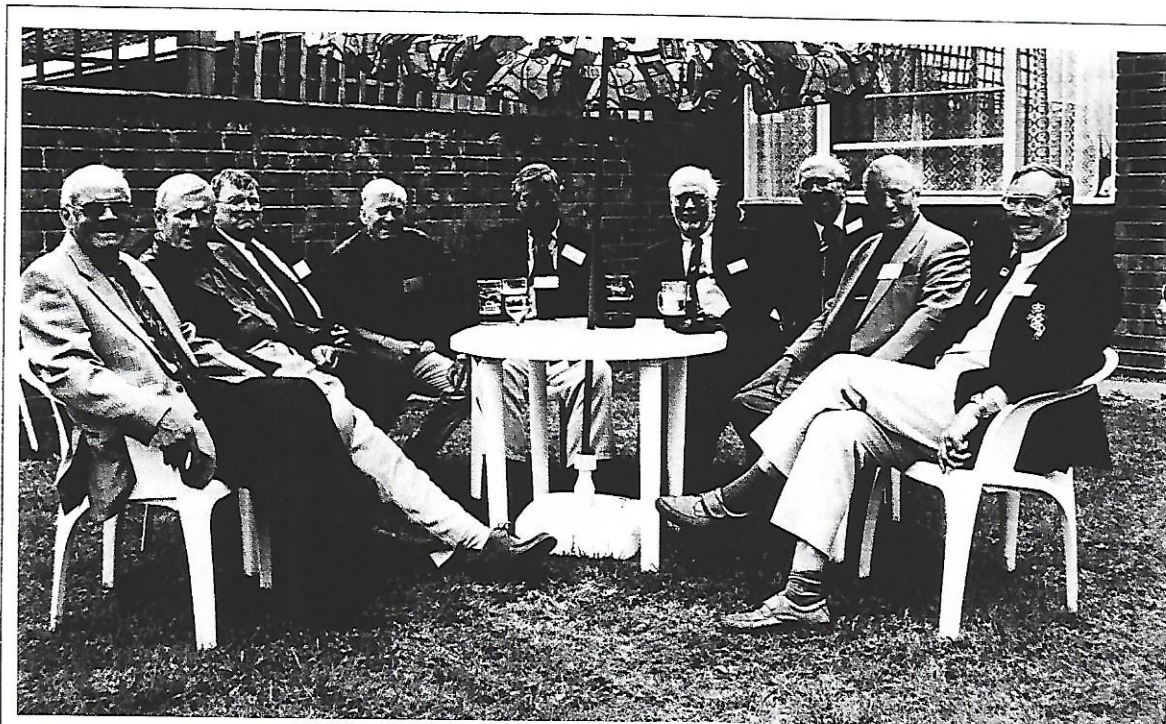
Lunch in the Sgts Mess - some got the tables & chairs!



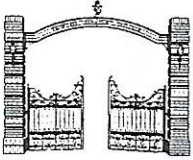
REUNION 2002



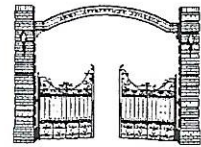
One intake settles in the bar



.... Another intake lubricates outside



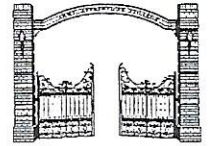
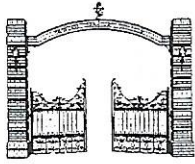
REUNION 2002



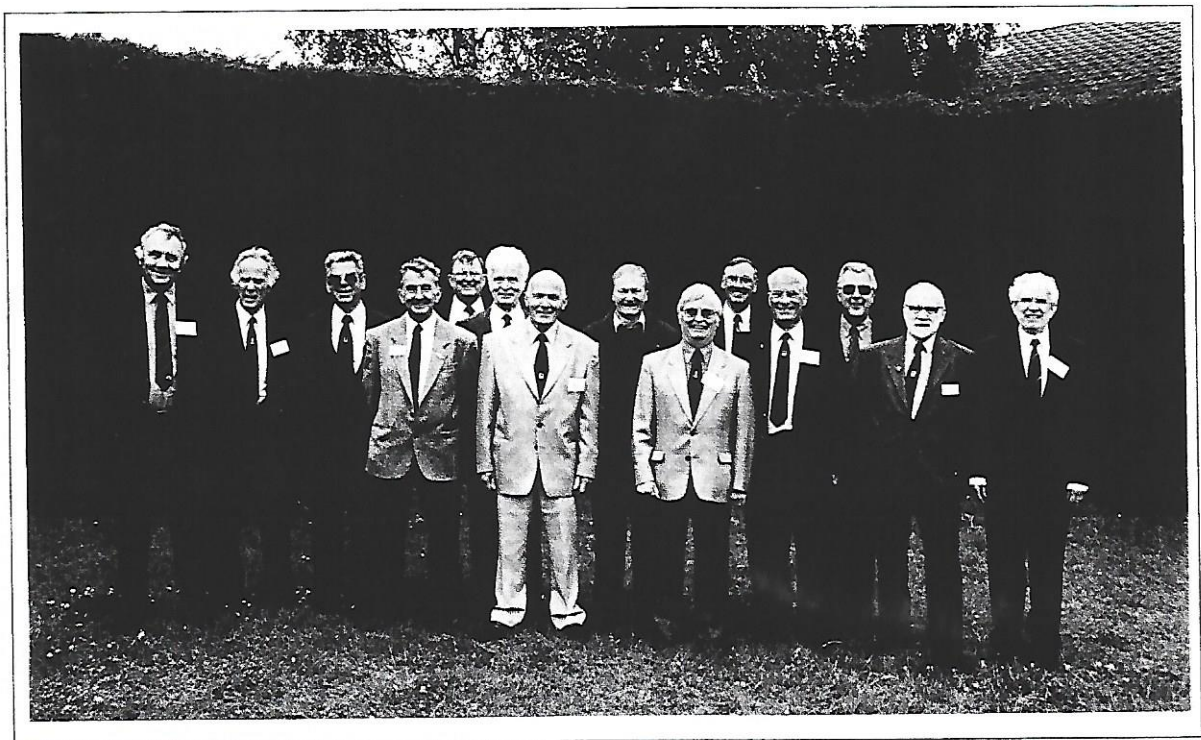
.... While others made the best of the Bar-B-Que



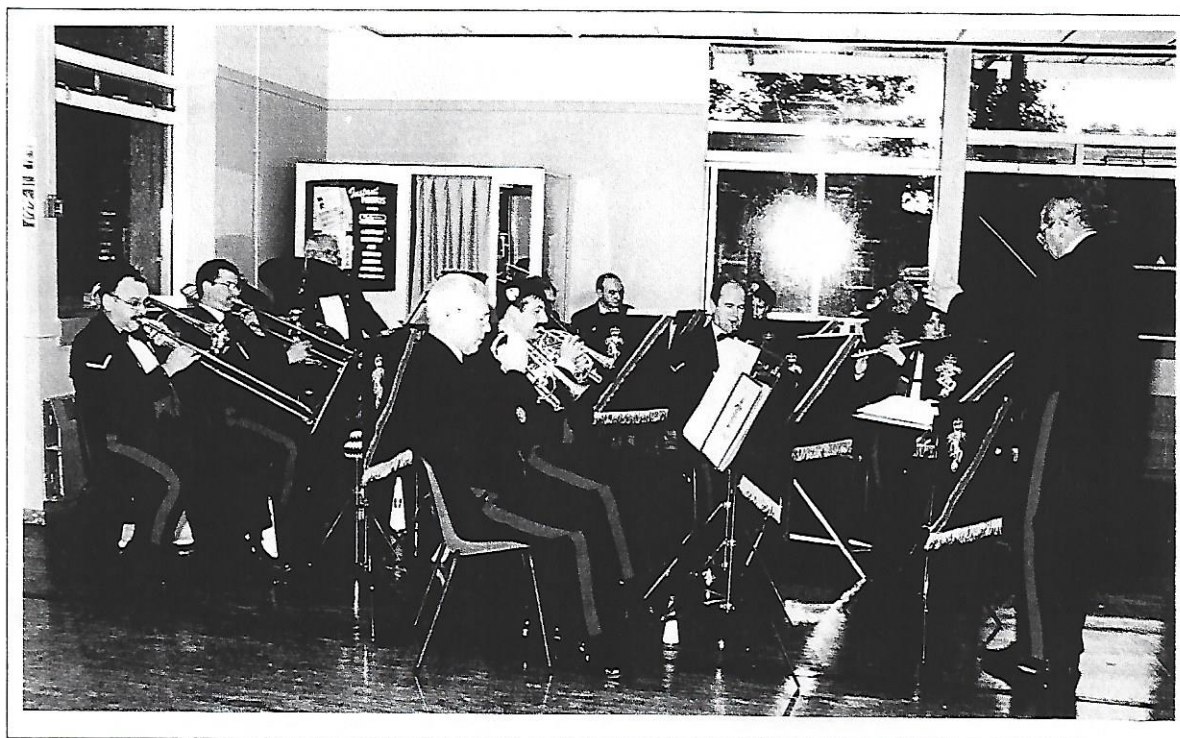
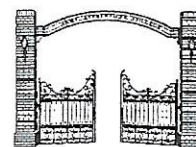
.... and others sunk to their knees on the grass!



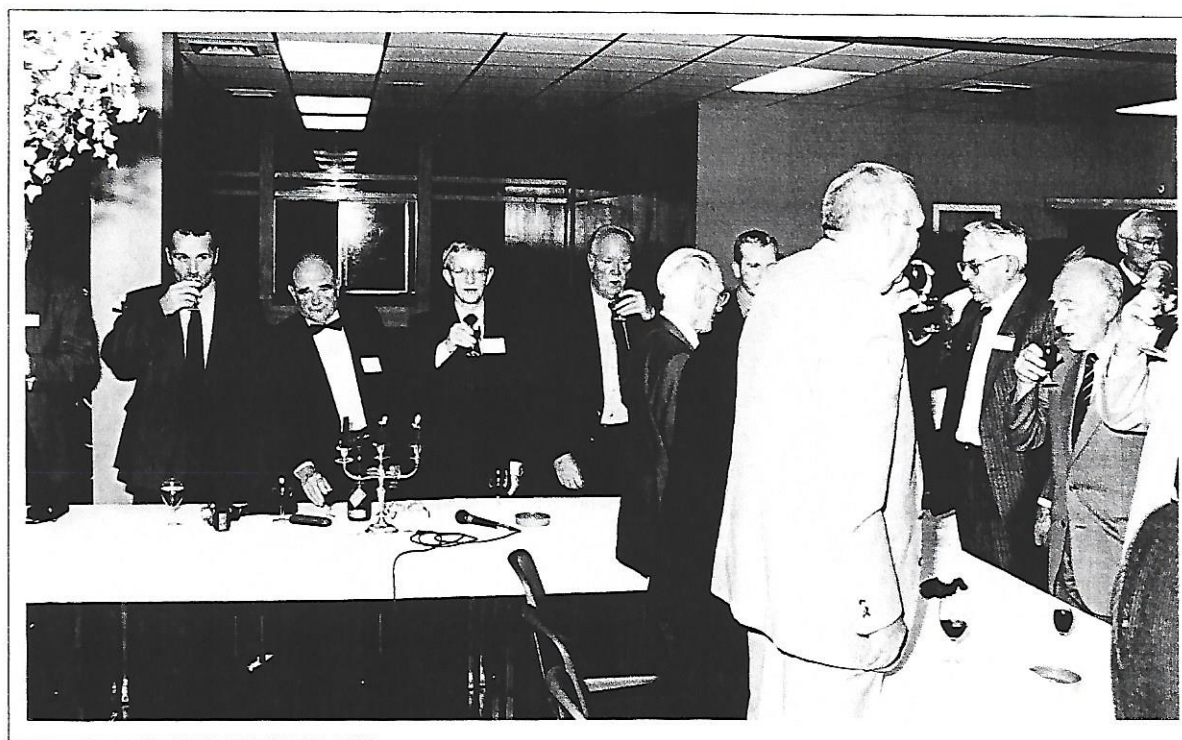
50th Anniversary Intake 52A



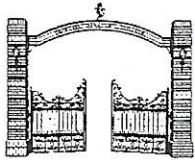
50th Anniversary Intake 52B



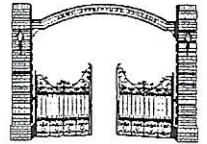
The Dinner. A REME band section serenades the diners.



After dinner, toasts were made to the Queen, and . . .



REUNION 2002



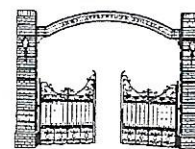
.... to absent friends.



The paper played



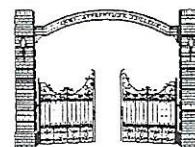
REUNION 2002



.... and was presented with his traditional reward.



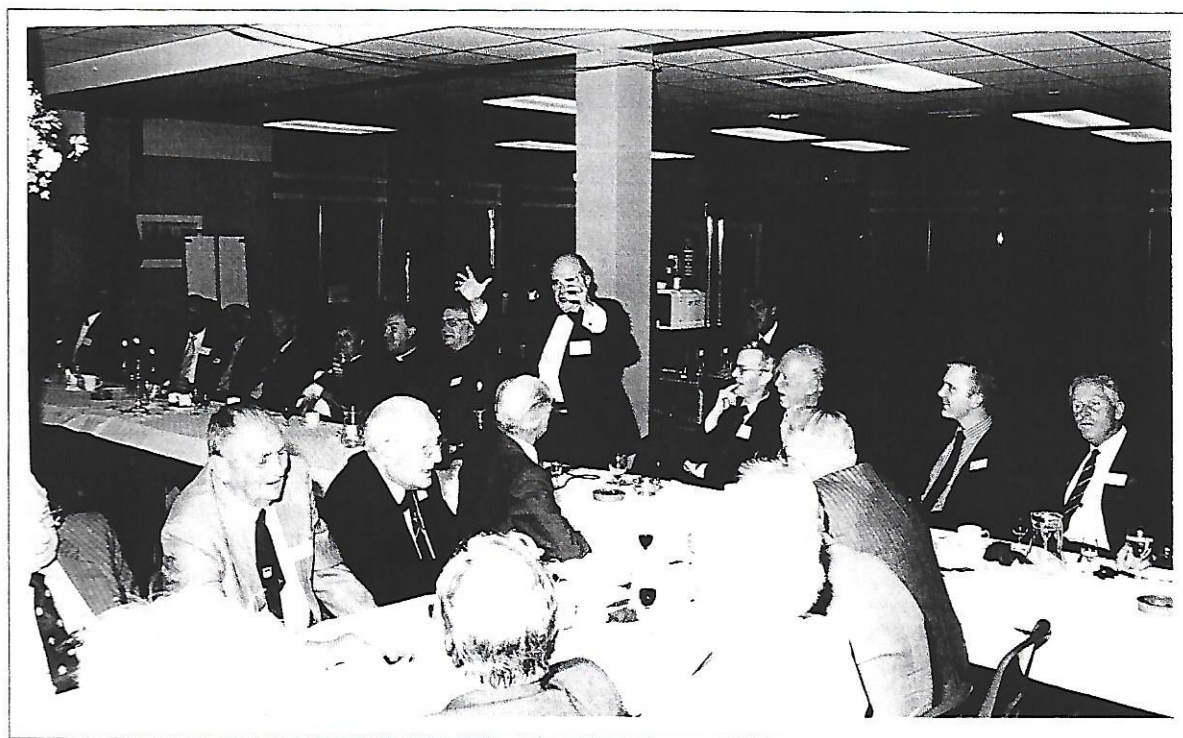
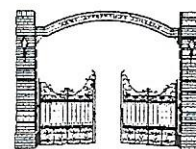
The Commanding Officer gave his speech



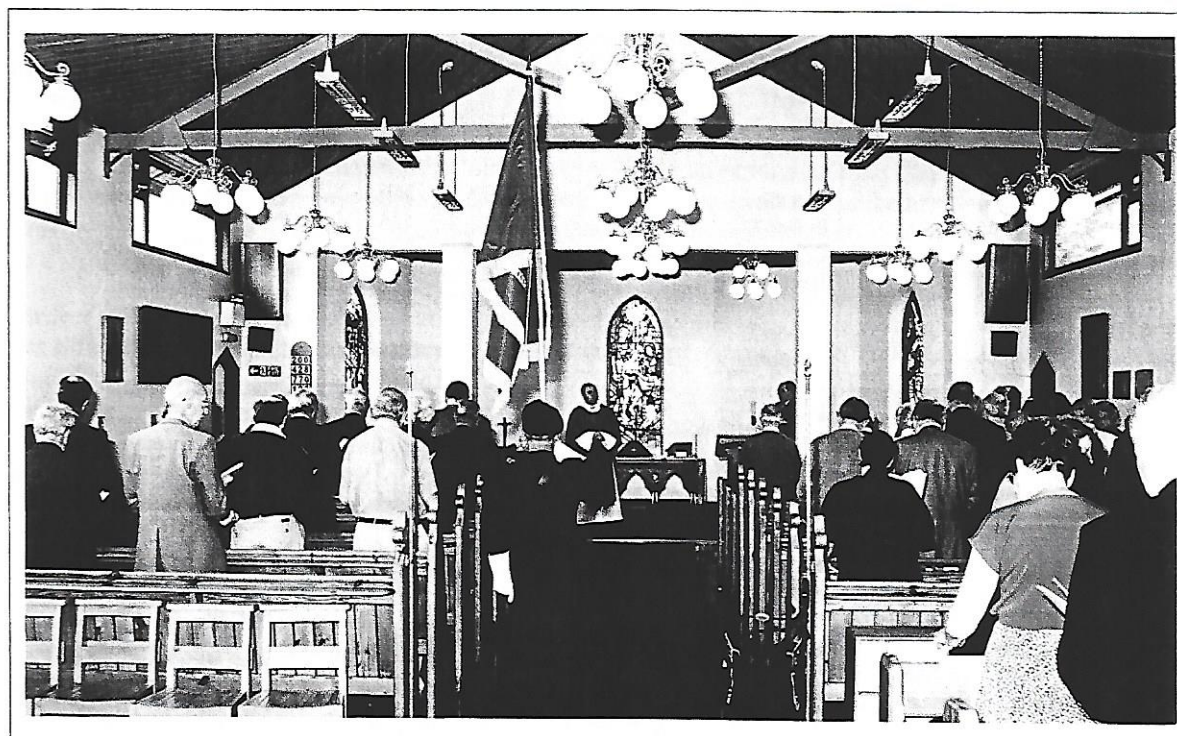
and proposed a round of applause for those who served us.



John Todd (52A) made a return speech



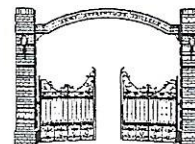
.... and conducted the assembly singing 'The Reds'.



Sunday morning service in the Garrison Church.



REUNION 2002



APOLOGIES

Wood F	37B
Green K	37X
Furnell J	41A
Cook E	42A
WilsonTug	42A
Loftus A	42A
Gilbert B	42A
Brunger F	42C
Cross D	42C
McGuire M	42C
Peers G	44A
Liddell H	46B
Tozer A	47B
Tozer E	48A
Comrie M	48A
Guscin S	48B
West R	50B
Ayre C	50B
Demoney A	56B
Traves R	57A
Wiggins P	58A
Chance C	58B
Charman M	62C
Canning N	77C
Kinson J	PS
Woodfield R	PS

ATTENDANCE LIST

Fale IH	38B
Silby J	38B
Johnson GG	39A
Packman JT	39A
O'Brien PD	39A
Smith WP	39A
Stephenson W	39A
Kelly HW	39A
Footner W	39A
Savage RC	39A
Spick EA	39A
Sainsbury A	39B
Barker K	39B
Styles PH	39B
Streeter GF	39B
Roberts EL	39B
Cross G	39B
Blackman RN	39B
Tucker AW	39B
Wintle MJ	39C
Dangerfield LJ	39C
Coultas V	41A
Wenborn WG	41A
Langley P	41A
NixonL A	42A
Wilson P	42A
Mardon AS	42A
Baldwin PA	42A
Giles KB	42B

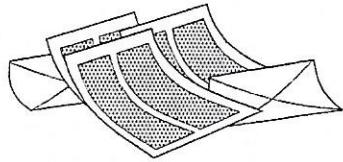
Bradley RO	42B
Funnell MG	42B
Frazer FH	42C
Larby MB	42C
Ward RH	42C
Allcock M	42C
Cross DW	42C
Bentley LW	42C
Adams JB	42C
Hadaway KA	42C
Boucher DW	43A
Macdonald JE	43A
Bates SH	43A
Dutton EJ	43A
Guy AS	43A
Baxter WN	43A
Easter E	43A
Mitchell KJ	43A
Pepper CE	43B
Horwood J	43C
Williams C	44A
Poulton LH	44A
Patterson DF	44A
Caine P	44A
Bax AG	44A
Jenner KD	44A
Crowder R	44A
Richardson A	44A
Shinn PH	44A
Roche PF	44A
Maddox J	44B
Ferns DR	44B
Rush GL	44B
Baker W	44B
Kite CE	44B
Tate W	44B
Tivy IW	44B
Jelley WH	44B
Brown JW	44C
Timmins JH	45A
Adams DF	45A
Bradshaw JW	45A
Oliver G	45A
Hipkin DF	45A
Kew DR	45A
Walker D	45A
Broomfield E	45A
Sands FW	45B
Hughes R	45B
Harold GA	46A
Millard R	46A
Horwood PW	46A
Wright NC	46A
McGrillen RW	46B
Edwards EJ	46B
Marshall GN	46B
Smithson J	46B
Hodson FT	46B
KayNP	46B
BakerJE	46B
CordeuxGB	47A
LackeyWT	47B
RodenJS	47B
CarewRA	47B

Horne SC	47B
Wood DM	47B
Hoare A	47B
Loader RJ	47B
Drew JJ	47B
Tozer AC	47B
Tozer ES	48A
Byrne GV	48A
Sobolewski SJ	48A
Temple RR	48A
Maryan B	48B
Jenkinson RS	48B
Derrick RJ	48B
Young JH	48B
Bust MN	49A
Henry PE	49B
Perrott DJ	49B
Bonner GG	49B
Cassells J	49B
Warwick RM	49B
Walker JEL	50B
Webb-Morris MA	50B
Ward AP	50B
Lennox TE	50B
Robertson WT	50B
Hague RJ	50B
Webb A	51B
Fleck G	51B
Butler GW	51B
Mills FK	51B
Goodwin GF	51B
Morton AJ	51B
Fenlon A	51B
Wakeham EF	52A
Plant J	52A
Gordon A	52A
Todd J	52A
Pobjoy M	52A
Yule AFJ	52A
Lenihan CF	52A
Trill TR	52A
Byford KC	52A
Gibson WJ	52A
Hind E	52A
Robinson WA	52A
Reddin T	52A
Higgins J	52A
Pywell N	52A
Eden ME	52A
Stubberfield TC	52A
Pickworth D	52A
Hassell P	52A
Williams JC	52A
Horn ER	52A
Bass F	52A
Pullen DN	52B
Barnett RH	52B
Deane J	52B
Egleton B	52B
Summersgill WJ	52B
Langley R	52B
Mullis PJ	52B
Skinner DF	52B
Townsend FW	52B

Clifford JA	52B
Gilpin K	52B
Barlow SC	52B
Worland JL	52B
Tyrrell RP	52B
Hayhurst CG	53A
Higman D	53A
Scanlon DJ	53A
Elshaw D	53B
Harold MT	53B
Hodgkins AA	53B
Wales RM	54A
Rainey JW	54A
Hornsey BL	54A
Delbridge AJ	54A
Pennington JE	54A
Stone BW	54A
Hebden JW	54A
Trill H	54A
Wells BG	54A
Bailey RF	54A
Smith JA	54B
Toogood MJ	54B
Lee JM	55A
Dickson JR	55A
Naylor DC	55A
Hill KG	55A
Church AG	55A
Shaw SJ	55B
Harte J	55B
Knox GF	55B
Reynolds JW	55B
Haben MJ	55B
Howorth CR	55B
Beatson BB	55B
Howes JA	55B
Bradley IG	56B
Houghton JM	56B
Urvinn SM	56B
Jarvis L	56B
Gripton PD	56B
Gardner J	57A
Cockwell B	57A
Vince GE	57A
Wheatland DC	57B
Wilson KJ	57B
Anderson LK	58A
Wayland DW	58A
Lucas-Carter B	58A
Hudson P	58A
Harris AJ	59C
Middleton GE	60A
Guest T	60A
Davis MJ	60B
Taylor TJ	60C
Hill B	60C
Thrower KL	60C
White AJ	61A
Rhodes CJ	61A
Shephard RJ	61B
Dyer R	61B
Ainslie J	61B
Doughty RW	61B
James GC	61B

Hutchins BG	61B
Blakley L	61B
Jordan R	61B
Cleasby IW	61C
Brickley D	61C
Swarbrick JA	62A
Tilson IL	62A
Cooper BP	62A
Smith RC	62B
Tryhorn RD	62B
Pilkington DJ	62B
Cheeseman MG	62C
Murray R	62C
Webber DC	63B
Rose D	63C
Whitbread BD	63C
Mussel R	63C
Knee TC	63C
Wilson RJ	63C
Franks MJ	63C
Hayles W	63C
Bendall JP	64A
Castell RS	64A
Hatt GE	64A
House AG	64A
Cooper RS	64B
Powell AR	64C
Newby CJ	65A
Schofield DJ	65A
Austin AH	65A
Mason DA	65A
Brock DL	65B
Forrest W	65C
Younger RK	66B
Shore LR	66C
Taska E	66C
Everett W	66C
Wickenden NF	67A
Shram J	67C
Vaughan D	68A
Skinner PA	68B
Lavis RJ	68B
McMonies RK	68B
Bastow R	68C
Massey CI	69B
Walker W	69C
Wherton MJ	69C
Aikman AB	72C
Thornes SA	77C
Pullen KD	77C
Mansfield B	77C
Merrick DW	77C
Brock BI	80C
Cooper GP	85A
Cooper W	87B
Murray D	PS
Gibson PH	PS
Woodfield R	PS
McCutcheon H	PS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



 *K.J Mitchell (43A) writes*

It's that time of year with Spring upon us and thoughts turn to love. . . of a new car and of course the Reunion, where and when, so very important for forward planning to accommodate the busy lives of the retired. No doubt, all is in the pipeline so we can relax (or not) and make arrangements accordingly. *(This letter was received too late for OBAN 24 - Ed).*

The Reunion lamp swinging sessions so enjoyable after the odd tipple unlocks the door of memory, especially when reference is made to the exotic and mysterious East's fragrant delights of storybook oriental living – in reality less romantic. Indeed, East and West do meet despite Kipling. LADs adjacent to dubious kampongs where even summer sloughing off to little to quell the aroma of unbelievable stench that wander the air like violent crazed animals – incense, latrines, spices and monsoon rains – the night smelling like a gigantic rotten fruit. *(What a quaint turn of phrase you have, Sir - Ed).*

RAR leave – viewing botanical gardens, historical temples and hysterical brothels – staring with lumpen disgust at the MP, his eyes lit with wild delight, teeth like smashed bottles open in beatitude. Leaden summer rain from big from big bulging skies, turning the air into thick soup as it hits the ground with a mechanical hiss.

The 'Do you remember?' sessions at reunion time, away from barking TVs are an enlightenment of year after year, but do we fabricate the past to suit? There must be quite a few who suffer from the affliction of the 'old boy syndrome' - can't stop after so many years and the syndrome seems to pass from one to another, regardless of intake, like a virulent virus.

How fact and Arborfield myth can be lumped in the same mess tin is a mystery, but the longer they do, so the two ferment into something very close to the truth. Most of it is fact, some of it Arborfield folklore - all of it true? Boy soldiers we were on the fringe of adulthood, subjected to shock values, no counselling! Time, of course, stands still in our mind's eye, but reality moves on.

Memories of years of learning, a fervour of intellectual masturbation, shunted from unit to unit with always the same barbers in residence bent on lowering our ears. Shuttled to and fro in transport that groaned like camels – FSMO packhorse laden, feeling like muscle-bound Scammels - off to learn some new craft - were we an insufferable pack - loved and hated.

The next issue of OBAN is awaited in anticipation of

frothy comments since the Cyprus sparkle has ceased. Maybe a few of the 42/43ers could dig into their memory pockets and produce some hither known gems that have been swept under the carpet of time. I was reminded of such when talking to Stan Bates – what of the 'Arborfield Flash' which refused to start up in answer to a fire call. Likewise, the fire in MT1 and Colonel White's staff car in great peril. The poignant gathering of boys and civilian instructors, mothballing of equipments before D Day and the School scattered about the country.

Such letters and comments are the In Touch and Sense of Belonging for those many members who, for various reasons, are unable to attend reunions, especially those in far flung 'forrin' parts. And finally, would I be forgiven for signing off with a little ode as follows?

Apologies

Didn't want to be a poet
Didn't want to write no verse
Didn't need them fancy phrases
Couldn't think of nothing worse.

But now you find me trying
To make up a line or two
And must say there's no denying
That it's catching – just like 'flu

So I'll keep up with my rhyming
Just to prove it can be done
It's the rhythm and the timing
And it's really rather fun.

And it's sometimes rather easy
But it's often very hard
In the main, I hope it's pleas-y
Signing off – reluctant hard.

 *Molly Pewsey (Nee Cook) writes*

As an ex teacher, I am rather concerned to see one or two typing errors transcribed from my last letter, among them the misspelling of Colonel Hilborne (not Hilbourne) – we have a lovely clock presented to my father with an engraved plaque which reads:

L.T. H.E. COOK
4 YEARS LOYAL FRIENDSHIP
1939 - 1943. F.A. HILBORNE

I am enclosing a few copied photos so you may keep them, that I thought may be of interest, for the museum.

Having read Les Wiffen & Joe Griffith's accounts of the German plane causing a stir early in the war, I felt I had to tell you how the Cook family also experienced the event.

It was early one Sunday morning. My brother Clifford was very young and could just about talk. Leaning out of the bedroom window we realized he was saying, "pretty aeroplane, pretty aeroplane". We looked out and saw that

the pretty aeroplane was a German aeroplane with machine guns firing very rapidly. It was very low, so no doubt we could see red as the bullets left the plane, hence "pretty aeroplane". We all scrambled away from the window. We were living in the first tin hut in a line of just four, just up from the camp.

My father, who was shaving, rushed outside with shaving soap on his chin and his braces hanging down. (My sister and I can see this to this day!) He came indoors and said that if he had had his rifle he could have shot the plane down, it was so low. We were very impressed, but then he had been a Battalion sniper when in the Third Battalion, Grenadier Guards.

Needless to say there are a good many of us who have that dramatic event etched in our memories.

(Molly, thank you for the photos, I have passed them onto the Archivist in the Museum as suggested - Ed. P.S. I am not a typist by profession!))

Ron Jones (Oct42) writes

Early in 1953, PATHE NEWS was showing a magazine program in British cinemas. The banner was:

Front Line Workshop in Korea

At 16 Infantry Workshop, the same program had been seen at its Asian premier, a preview really, before its cast of tens. T set the scene:

The hills south of and defining the course of the river Imjin give way to a narrow plain stretching from Seoul. The plain then carries the Main Supply Route and the railway, north to south. It does not carry any trains. The hills taper to a ridge about 70 metres high running roughly east to west. Spurs from the ridge run to the south for about 200 metres. The western spurs house respectively the admin and workshops of 16 Inf. The boundaries run south for another 150 metres to the main road for the Commonwealth Division. Across the road is the orchard, the previous Workshop site, plagued by permafrost - the sanitary soak-a-ways didn't and the generator cables, buried at each noon thaw were continually broken in the morning traffic. Hard standing in the orchard used to be an ideal workshop location in corp.org. lectures.

Back to the film; there is light snow, a Ward La France or Mack recovery with a QL on suspended tow turns left off the road past a sentry stamping his feet, slapping his shoulders and releasing great plumes of condensed breath.

The vehicles are followed north through the vehicle parks' peculiar diversity of specimens. None of them were up-to-date - some of the Australian Chevrolets belonged in a museum. Dusted with snow, they offered a sorry sight. The camera pans over the right hand spur of the larger eastern re-entry, the Ors olive green American 'squad'

tents, black against the white surround, above the Alder-shot shelters and a smaller, fully zipped U.S. equivalent. The cameras searches among the diverse bodies (no offence, Wally) in the vehicle repair area to find some accompanying drivers from the RAR battalions with their bush hats singled out from the tank suits, British, Canadian and American parkas, fur hat fur collars, leather waist-coats and all the gear unique to the Korean winter.

There are various activities in and around the shelter - a gloved Craftsman working on a Scammel cylinder head offers a frozen spanner for size before warming it over a brazier, the cameraman explains, "It's a movie camera, it must have movement", and cuts to the Lister generator, the Workshop's most pandered bit of kit. The cables are followed to the machinery wagons, their bonnets dug into the foot of the spur, their side shelters confusing their shape. Everybody is very busy - heeding the cameraman's call for movement. Electricians come and go via their wagon steps - attending the battery charging shelters, flashes and sparks illuminate the welder's open canvas shelter and someone can be seen working at the lathe through the open door of the light machinery wagon; past the gun fitters working on RNZA 25 pounders under their shelter; past the carpenters', the fitters', the textile workers' and the painters' shelters.

From the foot of the central spur, the left side of the workshop re-entry, the camera climbs past the RAOC store wagons to the instrument wagon lifted above the alluvial sand and dust of the 'valley' floor. The cameraman joins the snuggle in the wagon and realizes he has come to the wrong place for movement, however, from the wagon steps he gets a comprehensive panorama of the busy working area below. That sequence ends with a shot across the valley to the workshops latest acquisition, Bristow's armourers' shop, further up the flank of the spur above the gunfitters

Something offering needed security and desirable room like this had been wanted since the workshop started to grow roots. This was an unpainted, galvanised, windowless, corrugated iron hut. The armourers were working in their shirtsleeves in the light from a couple of lamps and the rosy glow of the carburettor drip fed American heater, acquired since the time of Joe Adey's shellcase heaters. The armourers were dark-adapted - it took about 2 minutes for a newcomer to anything except light bulbs and the stove. The camera could see nothing. The cameraman asked the armourers to work outside. The filming ended with a view up the spur slope to a mounted Vickers gun being sight tested and a mounted 3.5-inch mortar being painted.

The filming occurred on a significant date I can't remember - perhaps it was Christmas eve. The cameraman was accompanied by a PR sergeant who took the details of the film stars for dissemination, with film clips, to the appropriate local newspapers. No comments were heard about the continuity gaff - the frozen sentry to the shirt-sleeved

and woolly-jumpered armourers. There were quite enough comments among the audience about people doing daft things.

A couple of spurs to the east, the Sergeants Mess of 10 Infantry Workshop, newly arrived on site, offered to send food parcels. They were not sincere. They reconciled themselves that – had they a full vehicle park and some bush hats – it could have been so different. The film was silent, black & white, with an OTT voice-over, typical of Pathe News at that time.

 *Ron Janes (Oct42) writes*

A Memory of Room A2, Early in 1943

FFIs were carried out in the barrack room. Boys would stand in pairs in their window bed space, dressed in gym shorts and plimsolls. In A2 we could hear the inspection party leave A3, the Company Sergeant clomping about to warn ahead. The medical Officer led the procession into A2 as A3 were heard standing at ease. Ron Soames, our room NCO, called us to attention and went into the display routine in the doorway of his bunk – the inspection party telescoping into the space behind the mirror.

Immediately before the MO had arrived in A Block, 'Bluey' Freston had managed to break the elastic in his gym shorts. He had hooked pout the elastic and tied it around his waist over the shorts. The elastic was so exhausted, he had had to tie it loosely to effect a smart 'shorts down, routine.

As we sprang to attention, Bluey's knot loosened completely and the elastic catapulted lazily onto the middle of the deck. The voluminous shorts started to fall... The MO looked up from his inspection of Ron's tackle, raising a hand to restrain the Company Sergeant from getting among the miscreants and gave us a schoolmasterly reprimand about laughing at the body of a fellow soldier.

We told Ron what it was all about afterwards. There was no point in explaining it to the embarrassed MO or the fuming Company Sergeant – they were there, they hear what happened!

It was a gasp and a choked chuckle that was heard. It would have been funny at any time, but with the tension of the moment, it was extremely funny.

Tribute: Ron Soames was a good Boy NCO. He took all his work seriously. While most of the promotions from his 42A intake were from among sportsmen, Ron came to notice with his prowess in the initial fitting shop. Half the exhibits in the shop showcase were his work.

 *Peter Langley (Intake41) writes*

Thanks for another good OBAN and for printing my 'memoirs' – that produced several calls – and wait for it –

by the time this letter is published I will have attended the reunion!

I enclose a picture of Harry Warburton that I hope you will find room for. I would like to contact him. Here's another, Kieth Clements, circa 1949. I believe he was a member



but his address is unknown to me. He's the guy who tangled with a train on a level-crossing in Germany. Does anyone know where either of them is?

 *C E Pepper (43B) writes*

A couple of points which aroused my interest in the last issue of OBAN.

There are many references to Ben Cook and his eccentricities, but none to his 'similar', known as Bomber, a corruption of the Royal Artillery rank of Bombardier. Bomber was the driver, to use the RA term, of Gilbert the horse and the agricultural wagon which he drove wearing SD, displaying a whole row of pre-1939 ribbons. There was a running war between Ben and Bomber and rumour had it that Bomber had two Jackets, one with one stripe and one with two, which he wore depended upon Ben's feelings towards him at any given time.

I spent some time shovelling boiler house ashes into that wagon with Bomber yelling, "That's not the way to use a shovel!" I think he pulled a classic by leading Gilbert along the edge of the square during an RSM's parade, on the flag pole side, and allowing big Gilbert to empty his huge bladder, producing a steaming stream of horsey-smelling urine to trickle towards the astonished ranks.

I also have a question. Does anyone recall a German single-engine fighter flying from the top of the square and over the HQ offices which caused the Adjutant to rush out and defend the camp by firing his pistol in the air, thus scattering a squad marching up the main drag? The Adjutant was a man from the Indian Army regiment

Skinner's Horse, complete with moustache and an odd green uniform, an exotic sight in Arborfield. This occurred in about 1944, I think.

 David (Ben) Barrett (52B) writes

I would be grateful if you could somehow get the following message to somebody - anybody in 52B that is attending the reunion dinner and ask them if they would read it out. Ta! we are still sweating it out in this dreadfully hard place hope you and yours are enjoying the English summer!! (*Sorry David, I didn't intercept your message until too late, so I am including it here - Ed*). The 'edited' message now reads as follows:

'I wish I could have made time (and money) enough to be in Arborfield for the weekend. There were many weekends 47 to 50 years ago when I had wished myself a great many miles from there. Apart from the softening effect that time and distance have, this was the reunion I wanted to attend. Out of the 150 approx entrants of September 1952 how many does one meet after leaving? The names of close friends remain, the remainder only now come back to mind, in some cases too damned late. I would be very pleased to hear from any of you.

Hope you had enormous well earned hangovers in the morning. To absent friends. Please don't forget me !'

 Pete Gripton (56B) requests

As you all know I am writing a history of the college and have come to a gap in school magazines, particularly those between 1959 to 1966 inclusive. If any members are able to assist in lending me copies, I can be contacted on 01420 538265 or on pete_gripton@hotmail.com.

 Mitch Mitchell (43A) writes again!

In a state of desperation trying to regain an even keel after a nostalgic wallow in a splendid Reunion weekend, I would like to express my thanks to all persons concerned for such effort in making it so. Even the weather being disciplined.

Others, especially those of my intake would, I'm sure, echo these these sentiments. One could nit-pick, but without doubt in the main was excellent. Well, maybe one meal was a little disappointing but the red indigestion machine served at the end settled things!

Barrack room accommodation a hoot with nocturnal symphonies abundant, akin to being among the 'living dead' as one Old Boy aptly remarked. To be awakened to the jolly sound of a bugle too raised a laugh!

I wasn't the only one by any means who trod the hallowed ground, hours before cookhouse breakfast call, viewing life through the inverted telescope of time and stumbling

over ghosts that refuse to be laid. The area emits an air of despairing delapidation, increased since last June, a slow retreat from treasury politicians attack, trembling on the abyss of indecision whilst Messrs Barrett and Wilson lurk wolfwise. Even our Memorial Garden looked resigned - I did pull a few errant weeds and closed the little gate.

Interesting to talk to a few 'new' ex ATs (good to know that at least that name remains despite talk of other changes) during their mess duties. Soldier/Craftsman keenness and pride is much in evidence so College grounding and training is working.

The AGM's remarks of a dearth of VMs within the Army jogged my memory of such with 47 GW Regiment RA(FD) Wksp - February to November 1959, the 350 odd vehicles, many specialised, overwhelming the 7 VMs. Things don't change! At a later discussion someone said, "Well, its not our worry" - or is it?

Here's to the next reunion and hopefully the 43 'ers can muster a goodly number to fully justify our Daimond Sixtieth! As always, I would like to finish with a little poem, entitled 'Conscience':

Did you come to our Reunion?
You did, I'm glad you were there,
Did you ponder the word spoken?
You did, tell me - did you care?

Did you share our regimental dinner?
You did and enjoyed the fare?
Did you think of comrades not so lucky?
You did, what is more, do you care?

Did you think of the men who went serving?
Their skills good or bad everywhere.
Is the skill of yours good or stony?
You know? If you know - do you care?

Did you think of those who taught us
And those of lesser learning everywhere?
Did you think of those that died before us?
You did, tell me true - do you care?

 Dave (The Suit) Perrott writes

I wish to thank all who in any way, however small helped to make the reunion so successful, and enjoyable for me personally. It was my first attendance and after the initial shock of the sleeping quarters which was if anything worse than the shock on my debut in 1949 the business of enjoying oneself took over and laughter was never far away. The food was excellent, the alcohol flowed freely, stories abounded and a great time was had.

Naturally 49B was by far the most superior intake in attendance, not even upstaged by 52A&B What we lacked in quantity we more than made up for in quality.

Due to my relatively early retreat from the army, I did nine years, I lacked the depth of soldiering of many present and

this was my first real contact with the army since 1960, but it soon felt like only yesterday. Once I came to terms with the other 49B riff-raff available in the form of John (the legs) Cassells, Max (the dog-collar) Warwick, Pete (the helmet-your guess is as good as mine) Henry, Gordon (the cravat) Bonner. I was at home.

Whilst writing this I am reflecting on the fact that Arborfield taught me a lot in the past and is still teaching me now. all those years ago I never realized how many young lads came from family backgrounds less fortunate than mine. I needed no support in that area and was too young to understand the huge asset the Boys School environment gave to those less fortunate than myself, belonging somewhere is important to most of us. We live and if we so desire we learn. Now, for what it's worth a small poem, entitled, 'Where Is My Past':

I came to Arborfield again,
and saw where once it stood,
The area looked so very small
as I suppose it would,

The place that helped to shape me,
appeared before my eyes,
I thought about the people,
the memories, the ties,

I wondered where they all were now,
and just how they were rated,
Would they be pleased to meet me,
or strangely disappointed,

I did not know, I could not say,
I could only stand and stare,
Across the barren open space
and recall what had been there.

 *Pete Gripton, (56B) writes again!*

More 56B Get-Togethers. The untimely deaths of two old comrades late in 2000 gave rise to a feeling of obvious regret, but also one of looking to the future once again. Having retired myself in August 2000, I had thought that it was probable that another 56B reunion would not take place. We had been fortunate as an intake in that so many of us had been able to meet up again at the Sergeant's Mess at Arborfield in 1996 and 1999, the fortieth anniversaries of both our 'joining up' and 'passing out'. The bonus of another get-together later in 1999, courtesy of old pal Rodney Smith, had been the icing on the cake and so I thought it time that John Houghton and I bowed out from making the arrangements for such festivities. John's pending retirement gave added weight to the thought.

But, as I say, the departures of Norman Dewdney and Pete Johnson gave rise to another thought, that perhaps we should really 'do it again'. I had a chat with Dave Howlett and we decided that, if rooms at a hotel in the Reading area could be provisionally booked for a night, then we could send out letters to all 56B contacts and let them make their own arrangements to attend. Obviously there were a num-

ber of apologies received in advance from those who couldn't make it, but it was also nice to make contact with other guys who had not been to one of our previous soirees, namely Brian Brooker, Roger Clarkson and Dick Morris.

Thankfully, this ad hoc arrangement proved a successful exercise and, on the evening of Saturday 7th July 2001, a party of 22, including old friends and their ladies, sat down to a pleasant meal together. Sorry about the sausage and fried bread, Brian, try ordering the beef next time! This was followed by a session at the bar, then bed and breakfast. Due to quite a storm in the area, the bit between bed and breakfast was interrupted by a fault that caused the fire alarm to go off, at around 0315 hours! Russell Dodds said that he was glad when it went off, if you get what I mean!

It's pretty amazing how the years fall away at a function like that, almost as though we had left 'Boys School' only the other day. Over the years, with the kind offerings from the many comrades who I have been able to contact, I have collected together a whole album full of photographs. These provide an endless source of conversation of course, as faces are recognised and the usual comments are made: "I wonder what happened to old so-and-so?" and "The last time I saw him was at such-and-such a place". Thanks on this occasion to Dick Morris, who has added a few more to the collection. Also to Johnny Johnson, who was able to pass on a few more via John Houghton, who had recently been on holiday in South Africa and able to meet up for a short time. It must be added that Johnny has recently provided a series of articles on his life at Arborfield, in the pages of 'The Craftsman' magazine.

And so another memorable occasion went into history. We were hoping that Roger Clarkson would be able to organise another get-together at some future date, at a venue 'oop north', where it would be more convenient for some of those who didn't make it that time. For the record, those who did make it in 2001 were Brian Brooker, Roger Clarkson, Russell 'Jock' Dodds, John Dunn, Pete 'Scouse' Gripton, John 'Doc' Houghton, Dave Howlett, Brian Mockford, Dick Morris, Keith 'Hank' Smith, Tony Strong and Pete Swanston.

Having now attended the official Old Boys' Reunion at Rowcroft on June 22nd 2002, it was great to meet up again with John 'Doc' Houghton, Sid Urwin, Ian 'Tex' Bradley and - a first for him - Larry Jarvis. The weekend was a great success, with 250 sat down to dinner and Bill Cleasby and the College staff are to be congratulated on an excellent Reunion. We 56B boys now look forward to another meeting, as Roger came good on his promise and has arranged a weekend at a nice hotel in York on July 5/6th. Cheers, cheers, the Reds are here!

ATTENTION ALL DUKIES!

I am searching for all who have fallen by the wayside and either do not pay their subs (£10.00) or do not attend the annual functions, Luncheon in London, Grand day and The November Reunion. Please contact me, The Hon Sec, Ray (Chas) Howorth - I can be reached by Email on: Chas@Howorth.totalserve.co.uk or by phone on 01656667440.

RECENT RESIGNATIONS

The following members have resigned from the Association in recent months:

Name	Member No	Intake	Date
M J (Mike) Anderson	2105	A-51A-B	15/06/200
D M (David) Braithwaite	1774	A-56B-X	18/05/200
A W (Art) Cockerill	1310	A-43B-X	13/05/200
E (Eric) Corscadden	1791	A-42A-C	26/04/200
F J (Ricky) Cotsford	1724	A-46B-A	01/04/200
E (Eric) Edwards	1755	A-45A-D	18/04/200
G W (Graham) Fletcher	2113	A-PS	01/06/200
B K (Brian) Fortune	665	A-56B-A	02/12/200
P R (Peter) Goad	1278	A-46A-X	07/06/200
P E C (Peter) Harrison	2073	A-50B-C	01/06/200
B D (Brian) Hoskins	1033	A-52B-X	26/04/200
D J (Bill) Kehoe	398	A-42B-A	07/06/200
A (Allan) Rolling	205	A-45B-C	01/06/200
S L (Sidney) Squibb	1070	J-38C-A	01/06/200
J L (Joe) Surtees	1781	A-PS	26/07/200
A (Ian) Swinton	2139	C-62C-C	18/04/200
A G (Anthony) Thomson	1753	A-PS	15/06/200
T E (Tom) Whiteaway	2081	A-50B-A	15/06/200

DECEASED

It is with deep regret that the Association reports the deaths of the following since OBAN 24: When members contact the Membership Secretary to notify him of the death of other members, they are requested to make the contact in writing.

Name	AT Details	Member No	Date of Death
B W E (Bertie) Austen	A-42A-D	2020	8 May 2002
E T (Edward) Doherty	A-39B-X	1623	13 Jan 02
N D (Norman) Gill	J-38C-X	2115	14 Mar 2002
R F (Roy) Miller	A-41A-B	1800	Summer 2002
W H (Bill) Page	A-43A-E	2038	18 Jan 2002
L (Laurie) Pearson	A-39B-X	1486	26 Mar 2002
P (Peter) Simmonds	A-45B-C	1834	Summer 2002
E J (Edward) Tanner	A-42B-X	1533	20 Dec 2001

DONATIONS

Donations received from 24 June 2002 to 21 May 2002

Member No.	Name	Donation	Member No.	Name	Donation
Intake 65A		£25.00	1852	C Harvey	£5.00
1903	KJ Burren	£5.00	0191	RF Bailey	£5.00
1412	D Tilt	£20.00	2168	RJ Wilson	£5.00
1269	AG Bax	£5.00	2207	S Lord	£5.00
0013	GW Butler	£10.00	1597	JL Netherwood	£10.00
2130	W Parker	£20.00	0557	GF Knox	£5.00
1040	MB Larby	£30.00	1934	WG Wenborn	£5.00
1472	WA Cross	£5.00	1029	KA Hadaway	£5.00
1103	WSR Footner	£5.00	1931	GM Knight	£5.00
1321	AS Guy	£22.20	1157	LJ Dangerfield	£5.00
1900	EF Brigham	£5.00	1873	BAR Sullivan	£10.00
1063	JE Silby	£10.00	1633	GA Harold	£5.00

NEW MEMBERS

Note: AT Detail signifies: College-Intake Year-1st/2nd/3rd Intake of Year-Company

Name	AT Detail	Living In	Date Joined
R F (Robert) Bishop	A-39B-C	WARMINSTER	22/05/2002
E T (Ted) Blowers	A-PS	LITTLE SMOKY	06/04/2002
B I (Badger) Brock	A-80C-A	SWINDON	18/06/2002
M (Michael) Brown	A-62A-C	BARROW IN FURNESS	04/08/2002
B P (Bryan) Cooper	A-62A-A	WELLINGBOROUGH	17/03/2002
J R (Bob) Driscoll	A-53B-D	STAFFORD	04/08/2002
M E (Michael) Eden	A-52A-A	29348 ESCHADE	17/03/2002
W (Bill) Everett	A-66C-C	BARRY	13/03/2002
M G (Mike) Gloster	A-60B-A	EXETER	13/03/2002
A T (Alan) Gordon	A-52A-A	DRENTE	16/05/2002
P P (Phil) Guy	A-39A-B	LINCOLN	06/05/2002
A H (Tony) Hodges	A-48A-C	BRISTOL	03/08/2002
A G (Graham) Howland	A-70C-C	BRECON	17/03/2002
S F (Stuart) Hughes	A-62C-C	MILTON KEYNES	15/04/2002
L (Larry) Jarvis	A-56B-B	WISBECH	17/03/2002
F P (Colin) Lenihan	A-52A-C	WHITBY	14/03/2002
W (Walter) Lopack	A-71C-D	LITTLEBOROUGH	15/04/2002
R M (Mike) Loveridge	A-52A-C	WHITSTABLE	07/03/2002
D () Morby	A-71B-C	HALIFAX	06/05/2002
A G (Anthony) Muise	A-63B-B	HOOK	06/04/2002
P J (Peter) Mullis	A-52B-C	YORK	16/05/2002
P C (Phil) Pepperrell	A-68C-D	WORCESTER PARK	03/04/2002
M A (Mike) Pobjoy	A-52A-C	WODONGA	14/04/2002
D (Dave) Porter	A-73C-C	POOLE	17/03/2002
D (Don) Rose	C-63C-A	WEST DRAYTON	22/05/2002
L R (Lyle) Shore	A-66C-C	GLENAGEARY	16/05/2002
J (Jack) Shram	A-67C-A	EAST GRINSTEAD	17/03/2002
K N (Ken) Stone	A-43B-C	CANTERBURY	16/04/2002
J A (John) Swarbrick	A-62A-A	PRESTON	13/03/2002
E (Egon) Taska	A-66C-C	CHESTER	17/03/2002
E H (Eric) Toombs	A-52A-A	OVERTON	06/04/2002
C M (Carl) Valentine	A-86B-B	PETERBOROUGH	14/03/2002
R W (Robert) Ward	A-44B-B	MALTON	04/08/2002
P R (Philip) Warrington	A-68C-A	MANCHESTER	15/04/2002
A J (Alistair) White	A-61A-A	TOTTEN	17/03/2002

ASSOCIATION ITEMS FOR SALE.

Video Cassette: entitled, 'Army Apprentice' - running time 54 minutes - contents: *Reunion Parade 1997 + Old Boys Reminiscences + 'Soldier Apprentice' 1951 + 'Apprenticed to Adventure' 1962.*
Contact John Smithson (46B) on Tel. No: 01494 534971.

By post to members: £11.50
By post to non-members: £14.00

AOBA ties: including the new yellow (D Company ?) colour, are available from the REME Association at the REME Museum (or the Hon. Sec.) (Tel. No: 0118 9763223 for ordering information).

CD: of the REDS School song, recorded during Reunion 2001 is now available.

A 24 page history of the Princess Marina College/Army Apprentices College is available from the Membership Secretary, as are back numbers of the OBAN.

History: No charge, but 50p postage & packing to UK and BFPO addresses and £1.00 for overseas.

OBANs: £1.00 each including postage & packing. 5 Issues for £4.00 including postage & packing. (Orders from members overseas will attract considerably higher postage charges - overall cost will be £2.50 per issue).

For a copy of the History, UK based members should send postage stamps. Payment for a single copy of OBAN may be made with postage stamps (5 x 20p). Requests for more than one copy should be accompanied by a cheque.

Cheques for ALL the above items should be made payable to: **Arborfield Old Boys Association.**

Army Apprentices School Blazer Badges: The Membership Secretary was told of the availability of these during the Reunion 98, not officially available from the AOBA, but from Badges of Pride, PO Box 94, Sarisbury Green, Southampton, S031 1ZE. Tel No. 01489 885389.

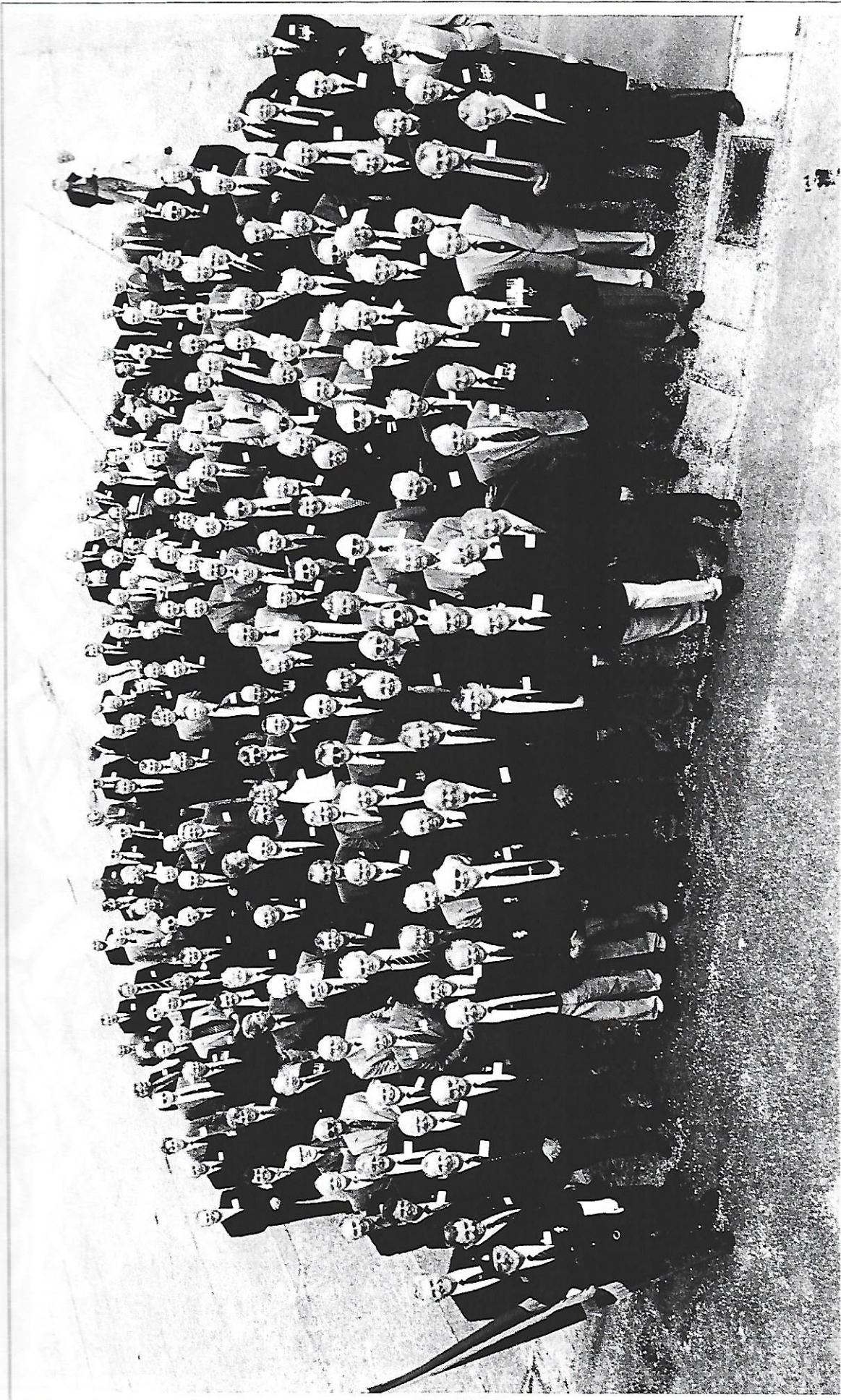
Cartoon Sheets: Copies of the cartoon shown in OBAN 17 (or any others drawn for articles by David Barrett) can be ordered from 74 Cedar Road, Hythe, Southampton, SO4 53PZ. They are in black & white on original size on 80gsm paper, each individually signed in red (to avoid any accidental copying). Where smaller cartoons on sheets of different sizes and paper/card thickness are required, the price will differ. For each sheet sold, £1.00 will be donated to the AOBA. Copies in colour could also be produced to special order. (*Since the original advert, David and his wife have emigrated to Malaya, but before leaving he produced a second cartoon which will be published - Ed*)

THE CRAFTSMAN

Subscription Rates:	Single Copy:	80p.
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	Air Mail Rates:	On application.

Cheques should be made payable to REME Corps Account No. 2 and crossed. All correspondence should be sent to:

The Editor,
THE CRAFTSMAN,
Isaac Newton Road,
Arborfield, Reading,
Berkshire, RG2 9NJ.



REUNION 2002 - GROUP PHOTOGRAPH

