

Summary Of The Annual Reunion For Ex-Members Of The Bands And Bugles Of The Royal Green Jackets

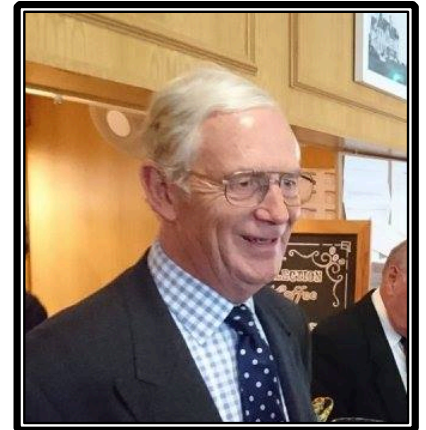
And It's Former Regiments (Ox & Bucks, KRRC, RB's)

Saturday 8th October 2016 saw the gathering of ex-members of the Bands and Bugles of the RGJ and it's former Regiments for their annual reunion. Shortly before 12 noon *The Winchester Club* opened its doors yet again to host our annual event.

Once more we were privileged to have members of *The Rifles Band* in attendance, to whom we are most grateful for providing music stands and the varied program of music and marches for ex-members to perform and enjoy, sending everyone on another trip down memory lane. An increase in ex-buglers this year was down to a few members of *The Buglers Association of The Light Division* and *The Rifles* being invited along.



We've never been short of a conductor or two to take up the baton and put the band & bugles through their paces annually, but this year we were privileged to have, in addition to our regular conductors, ex-DoM Major **Roger Swift** and ex-Senior DoM (Household Division) Lt Col **David Price** OBE. (Right)



The annual 'concert' lasted from 12:30 through till 2:30 and was well represented in all sections of the band. The trombone section in particular, being enhanced with the talents of the Director of Music (The Rifles) sat on 3rd trombone.

Our secretary **Dave Timms** (left) even spent a good hour on stage adding to the rhythm section – or hindering, can't quite fathom which, but he did a good job.



Following the 'Concert' the secretary gave his annual sermon, (*a few prepared words*) which is relayed to you below:

Good afternoon ladies, gentlemen, honorary members, guests and members of the Rifles Band.

Thank you all for attending this year's reunion. Our numbers are slightly higher than last year so somebody is doing something right.

*Before I start - may I ask you to show your appreciation to the members of **The Rifle's Band** that gave up their time today to come and perform with our members this year. Thank you*

*Also a big thanks to **Tony Dowd** for doing the raffle again*

Right.... so far this year, nobody - and I mean nobody - has complained to me about anything, so it looks as though I shall be doing this again next year.

I hope you have all had a chance to read and think about the "Matters Of Importance" ie: Cost of reunion and supply of the Band

Do you wish go back to sandwiches, sausage roll's and crisps – and not have the Band – this will keep the cost to £10 per head or less, OR....

Shall we carry on with a hot meal, I arrange a band and we ALL pay £15 per head

Can I have a show of hands please for:

CHOICE 1 – Sandwiches and no Band @ £10 per head

CHOICE 2 – Hot food and the Band @ £15 per head

[at this point a vote was carried out by the members relating to "Matters Of Importance" which immediately follows this 'Sermon'. Choice 2 overwhelmingly won – see below]

Please be upstanding whilst I read out the names of those Members who have departed from us in the past year to the Band upstairs:

George Beasley

George Washington

Phillip Pether

Dennis White

Paul Mason

Peter Sheil

Please raise your glass in a toast to absent friends – Absent Friends

Thank you all again - please carry on drinking lots and lots...



Upon arrival at the reunion, members were asked to read the following in preparation of a vote being carried out later in the day.

MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE

Future Cost of Reunion and Band

Please read and have a think before the Secretary's Sermon.

Your vote will be required - today

The “Annual Blow” we have come to enjoy each year could be coming to an end...!!

As of next year, to obtain the services of the Band - along with music, music stands, drum kit etc. – we are going to have to pay for the privilege. So far I have managed to secure this part of the reunion for just the cost of meals to the Band members in attendance. This is absorbed into the £10 entry fee that we and our guests pay each year.

I'm not sure if you are aware, but in today's Armed Forces everything - and I mean everything - has to be accounted for - even down to a second-class stamp. So with that in mind I have to ask whether you wish to continue to have (*if I can arrange it*) the Band to perform at future Reunion's, and to continue with the “Annual Blow”.

This I know will incur an additional cost to us. The information I have obtained - from my homework - puts an additional cost to us in the region of £250 - £500.

The Entrance Fee for the reunion has remained at £10 for quite a number of years.

The current charge of £10 per head (members and guests) regardless of whether you book a meal or not, has worked well over the years. That is until last year, when we took a loss of over £300 due to people booking meals and then not attending or sending payment. I have managed to recover a small amount of that money but not all of it. I will not allow that situation to happen again – hence this year's message of **“No Pre-Payment = No Meal”** unless permission has been obtained and granted from myself, or Tony, to pay on the door.

And a reminder to you all... the £10 per head entrance fee is for ALL MEMBERS and GUESTS whether he/she orders a meal or not. There are one or two members currently abusing this accepted system, and it is becoming an unnecessary annual embarrassment for myself, and Tony, having to enforce it. If you don't want to pay – please stay away.

CHOICE 1

Go back to Sandwiches, Sausage-Roll's and Crisp's – and NOT have a Band - this will keep the cost to £10 per head OR LESS

CHOICE 2

We carry on with a hot meal. I arrange a band and we **ALL** pay £15 per head from next year

IT IS UP TO YOU AS MEMBERS

I WILL ASK YOU TO VOTE ON THIS JUST BEFORE LUNCH IS SERVED

ENJOY THE REUNION

Band & Bugles Reunion Secretary

The outcome of the vote was as follows:

100% of members present voted for CHOICE 2.

Therefore I am pleased to announce that next years reunion will take the same format - and until further notice - as the previous ones, but sadly with the exception of not being able to secure the band/music stands/music etc without additional costs.

Accordingly, the cost per head for attendees will rise from £10 to £15 per head to help offset the anticipated additional cost of staging the reunion, but allowing us to continue to have our "Annual Blow".



Following the vote, Tony drew the raffle. Multitudes on offer this year, and a very big thank you to those members that kindly donated raffle prizes. Forty raffle tickets for a fiver this year – what a bargain.

Lunch was then served. The Winchester Club's chef really excelled himself with the food. Piping hot and plenty of it.

The homemade steak & kidney pie was 'to die for' with succulent chunks of prime beef and a pastry topping made in heaven.



The chicken curry – so I heard – was just as chunky and HOT – as in HOT HOT, perhaps a little too hot for some of our senior members.



In attendance for 2016 were the following:

1RGJ

Bowen	John
Browne	Stephen
Buckland	John
Callaghan	Dave
Chester	Dave
Cowan	John
Dennis	Norman
Dowd	Tony
Elliott	John
Grey	Fred
Grey	Don
Hall	Charles
Horne	Douglas
Kavanagh	Steve
Mann	Clifford
Mitchell	John
Morey	John
Peet	Dave
Pysh	Roman
Roach	Les
Salsbury	Graham
Sheil	Darryl
Slinn	Ray
Smith	John (Bugle)
Thompson	Jack
Timms	Dave
Wearing	Dave
Wilson	Rod (Willy)
Windeatt	Jon

(29)

2 RGJ

Ahmet	Mitch
Bond	Kevin
Bumstead	Tony
Burden	Paul
Burton	Chuck
Cannon	Dave
Clarke	James
Cutler	Tony
Dorey	Les
Duncan	Ken
East	George
Goodwin	Gary
Hinde	Ian
Hodgson	Les
Jones	Steve
Kent	Mike
Kerley	Michael
Salmon	Laurence
Marsh	Tim
Marsh	Chris
Martin	Kevin
Murphy	Michael
Noble	Pete
Patrick	John
Platt	Jeff
Price	David

(26)

3 RGJ

Arney	Paul
Bishop	Anthony
Caldwell	George
Cull	Tim
De La Rue	Richard
Dikomite	Mike
Ellison	Terry
Gledhill	William
Hookings	Henry
Leeming	Jack
Mathieson	Bill
Newman	Nick
Passel	Peter
Rodgers	Fred
Sanger	Mike
Sims	Bryan
Storey	Albert
Strange	Roy
Swann	Ken
Tresadern	Peter
Tresadern	Michael
Tyler	John
Wallis	Alan
West	Ken

(24)

Non-Battalion Bands (Depot & Waterloo and The Light Division)

Betts	Roger
Connibear	Peter
Costella	Sara
Mann	Jackie
Salsbury	Rachael
Scott	Stanley
Sturdy	Kevin
Swift	Roger

PLUS

The Rifles Band x 8

And invited guests and spouses of members

APOLOGIES RECEIVED FOR 2016

1 RGJ		2 RGJ		3 RGJ	
Ayres	Alan	Basset	Chris (Fred)	Atherton	Malcolm
Ball	John	Cook	Ken	Bailey	Terry
Briggs	Malcolm	Curry	John	Bainbridge	Tony
Brockman	John	Dawkins	Jim	Barwise	Mal
Christie	Sam	Donaldson	Chris (Don)	Chapman	Keith
Clifford	Chris	Dulson	Greg	Cooke	David
Downton	Roger	Duncan	Roy	Crehan	Eric
Eagle	Derek	Halford	Bret	Doughty	Edward
Evans	Bob (Ernie)	Keighly	Vernon	Farrall	Paul
Farndell	Brian	Kelly	Brian (Nifty)	Freemantle	Kevin
Flower	Ivor	Lyons	Seamus	Goudie	Tom
Hale	Jim	Maher	Jim	Harding	Ian
King	Roger	Marshall	Leigh	Lymer	Tony
Lawrence	Paul (Syd)	McMahon	Jimmy	Napier	John
Lynch	Ian	Nicol	Adrian	Needham	Brian (Bob)
Pearce	Jim	O'Shea	David	Portman	Malcolm
Pentith	John	Pawson	Chris	Roberts	Larry
Prime	Martin	Randall	Derek (John)	Shaw	Bryan
Selley	Chris	Spicer	Tom	Tresadern	Stuart
Slack	Andy	Thrower	John	Turner	Paul
Sumner	Mike			Vipond	Phil
Weston	Mick				
Wolfendale	Colin				

OTHERS

Atchison	Mark
Boardman	Gary
Phillips	Craig
Roberts	Martin
Rogers-Davis	John
Stimpson	Matthew
Willey	Philip
Younger-Sword	Craig

We were blessed with some more “new faces” again this year, both from the Bands and the Bugles.

Notably, first timers were **Chuck Burton** (2 RGJ), **Dave Price** (2 RGJ), **Willy Wilson** (1 RGJ) and all the way from Australia we had **Mike and Ann Kent** (2 RGJ) who were just about at the end of their four-month UK and European holiday.

Nice to see you all.



The secretary officially thanked the Band of **The Rifles** (after the event) for their selfless contribution to the day, and also sent a letter thanking **The Winchester Club** for hosting the reunion along with a request to hold the reunion there again in 2017.

TO THE RIFLES BAND

To all that attended the RGJ Band & Bugles Reunion this year to assist us in our "Annual Blow" we thank you very much

Without your help we would not have been able to have such an enjoyable afternoon making music together

We also hope that those of you that stayed on - enjoyed your meal/afternoon

We also hope, now you have had - we hope - an enjoyable experience with us, that you will pass it on to others so that next year - maybe - we will have an even better time making music together, thus adding to the success of our annual event

On behalf of all members and their guests

A very big thank you again

Dave Timms
Hon Secretary for the
Bands & Bugles Branch
of the RGJ Association



THE ROYAL GREEN JACKETS **BANDS & BUGLES REUNION**

Secretary
D Timms, 5 Alison Close, Whitfield, Kent CT16 3LW
01304-820910 – Email – secretary@rgjband.com

The Secretary
The Winchester Club

Dear Sir/Madam

BANDS & BUGLES REUNION 8TH OCTOBER 2016

I would like to thank you and your staff especially the Chef, on behalf of all our members for allowing us the use of your facilities on the above date. Once again we were made very welcome and all had a good time, so much so, that we would like to book your club again if possible for our annual reunion next year.

Saturday 14TH October 2017

If this is possible, please send acknowledgement to the above address or email to - secretary@rgjband.com - thank you again.

Yours faithfully,

D Timms

D J Timms



When we receive confirmation from The Winchester Club regarding the requested date for 2017 we will let you all know – via the website, email, Facebook and/or letter.

But for now, you can provisionally put the date in your diary and stick a Post-It on the fridge door

Saturday 14th October 2017 @ 12 noon



REGENTS PARK MEMORIAL SERVICE 2016



Wednesday 20th July 2016 we saw the 34th Memorial Service take place at the Bandstand; the weather was good to us again this year - warm and dry.

Ex-members of 1 RGJ Band and their families, representatives from the Regiment's along with a few civilians, met at the inner circle café from 10:30 for the 11:30 start.

There were some 30 people in attendance this year including Mrs. Mason (*Paul Mason's widow*) and family, and also Trudy McKnight (*John McKnight's daughter*) albeit she was slightly late due to heavy traffic. Captain Richard Frost led the short, yet swift service and proceedings.

Order of Service; Prayers, Laying of wreaths. The Last Post was sounded followed by the Act of Remembrance. Reveille broke the 2-minute silence, which was then followed by the Regimental Collect.

Following the service - some said their farewells and headed for home. Others ambled along to The Volunteer PH for heavy refreshments. A good turn out yet again, and a good day overall. Thank you to all those who made it, and a BIG thank you to Richard Frost, and also to Bugler Peter Tresadern of The Buglers Association for sounding the calls.

The next Memorial gathering will be on Thursday 20th July 2017. Also, on Sunday 23rd July 2017 representatives from Davies Street (London Branch) hold a short service. For the Sunday contact Gary Driscoll - London Branch) and on both days meet at the café 10:30 for 11:30 start.