



The Pioneer



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ROYAL PIONEER CORPS ASSOCIATION (NORTHAMPTON BRANCH) NEWSLETTER JULY 2001

Editorial

OPENING COMMENTS BY BRANCH CHAIRMAN

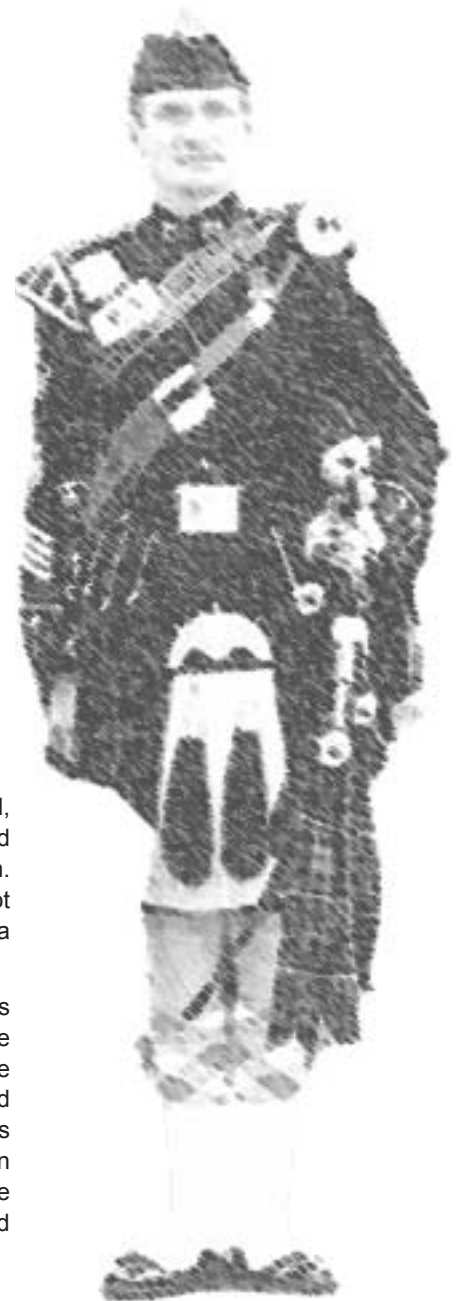
It is with great regret and sadness that I have to report the death of Mr Ron Harrop on 1 June 2001, an obituary to Ron is below.

Since the last Newsletter we have had two successful functions an Auction/Curry Night and a Treasure Hunt/BBQ, both were well attended and our thanks go to the Cadet Instructors of Northants ACF for organising the Treasure Hunt. Unfortunately the Cadet teams came in first and second.

As can be seen from the front cover of this Newsletter the Summer Ball is to

be held on 4 August at the TA Centre, Clare St, full details are shown on the cover and the return for attendance is below, please submit your return by the cut-off date as no late returns can be accepted because of catering numbers.

Finally may I say a big thank you to Mr Roger Kirby for his 8 years work as Branch Treasurer and his assistance in preparing venues over the years to enable us to hold our functions. Roger and Lorna are moving to King's Lynn but we still hope to see them at future events.



MR RON HARROP

From time to time one is privileged to be associated with a man of the calibre of Ron and, there-after, to be influenced wholly for the better by his character and personality. He had great sincerity and integrity but perhaps his abiding quality was a tremendous charm. When allied to a generous sense of humour, kindness and considerable ability, it was not difficult to accept him truly for what he was - a Nottingham born, Lancashire bred but a Scot in heart **Gentleman**.

Although he never served with the Pioneers he became an honorary member of the Sgts Mess in Simpson Barracks, became a member of the old Central Sgts Mess then the Pioneer Reunion Club, then an honorary member of 23 Pnr Regt Mess and finally because he was held in such high esteem a Life Member of 23 Regt Mess. Only the second person to elected as such. At his funeral because he was so well liked the church was packed with people travelling from great distances. In the Great War of 14-18 the 9 Bn Gordon Highlanders were converted to Pioneers in 1915, we can now say Ron was the last Gordon Pioneer! We could always rely on Ron to help organise Branch functions and hope Trish will continue to attend our functions.

To have known him was a privilege to have had him as a friend was an honour.

RPC ASSOCIATION (NORTHAMPTON BRANCH) SUMMER BALL 4th AUGUST 2001

To: Mr P N THOMAS
69 HIGH STREET
ROADE
NORTHAMPTON
NN7 2NW

FROM:

ADDRESS:

.....

I wish to attend the Branch Summer Ball and will be accompanied byguests.

I enclose a cheque to the value of £..... (£12 per head) made payable to RPC Assoc (N'pton Branch)

RETURNS TO BE RECEIVED BY SATURDAY 28 JULY 2001