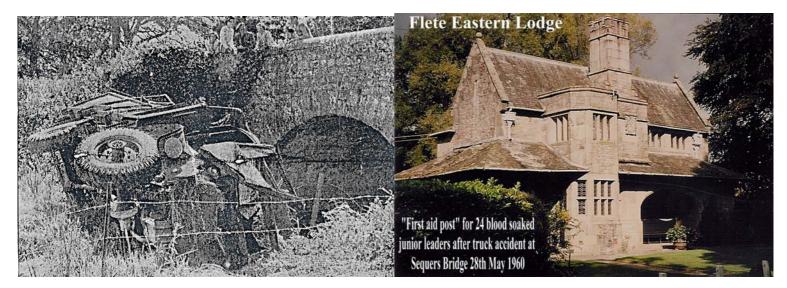


N.B.—The actual colour of the tie is darker than shown here



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From the Junior Mercury - Jul 60

As written by the Commanding Officer Lt Col LHM Gregory MBE and later used in the Recruiting Brochure



The word "recruit" whether it appears in the form of a noun or a verb, is not without just the slightest suggestion of something sinister. And this is not difficult to understand because in the past, recruiting appeared, in some inexplicable way, to be shrouded in a mist of "cunning and trickery"; the recruiter was a fearsome creature with a smooth tongue and the recruit gave the impression of a lost and bewildered victim of fortune.

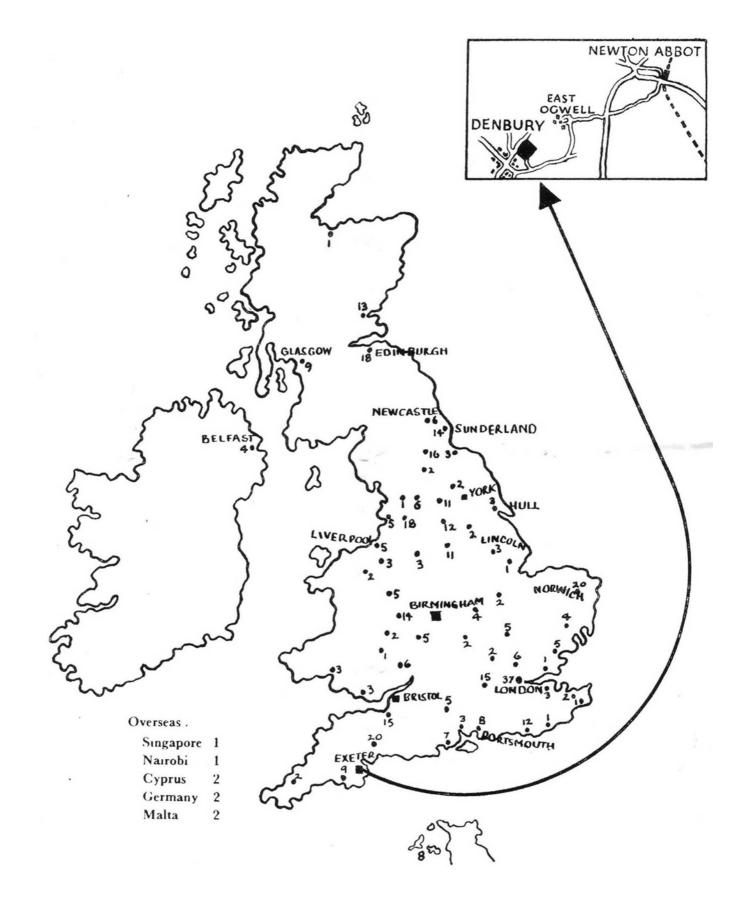
I was thinking about these things the other day when the grocer's assistant asked me: "How is recruiting going on up at Denbury?" A difficult question really, because what is actually happening is so very different from the general picture the majority of the public seem to have in their minds, that a simple answer neither comes readily to the pen nor would it be effective in correcting any wrong thinking in this respect.

There are just a few Junior Leaders Regiments in the Army today, and they represent, beyond all doubt, an inspired scheme for which not only the War Office, but the Nation as a whole, can justifiably take the fullest possible credit. It is my belief that, here in Denbury, we will very soon have a waiting list. A waiting list of boys who hope to be considered qualified and suitable for enlisting as Junior Leaders, and after that, to pass the severe probationary stage which circumstances force us to impose in order to maintain the very high standard of Leadership now demanded by the Army.

DENBURY IS AN ACADEMY. The students in this Academy are referred to as Junior Leaders and are, in effect, cadet non-commissioned officers who are being trained to become warrant officers and non-commissioned officers in the all-regular and Royal Corps of Signals. There are few men today who have not served in one or other of the three Services, and all of them will appreciate the fact that, just as officers have always been trained at Sandhurst for the Army, so now the prospective young non-commissioned officer is receiving a very similar training – suited to his special needs. Once this idea is firmly grasped and planted in the mind of the public, then perhaps the grocer's assistant will ask the question repeatedly, but in a different way: "How is Denbury, and are there any vacancies there yet?"

The map of Great Britain you see on the opposite page shows a number of black dots with a figure against each. The dots represent the towns and the figures show the number of present Junior Leaders from each town. It requires a few words of mine to stress the significance of this, and the possible extent of its influence. We can usually accept one intake each term, and a successful Junior Leader who enlists at the age of 15 years remains in Denbury for about two-and-a-half years. There are no restrictions or stupid and unnecessary discipline. The food and accommodation are of a very high standard and better than in most schools in the country. Training is imaginative and embraces a wide field of subjects and activities, including a large number and variety of hobbies. The emphasis is on **LEADERSHIP**, with a broad communications consciousness. Pay, in terms of pocket money, is generous, and the staff who run the organization are a carefully selected body of reasonable and experienced people.

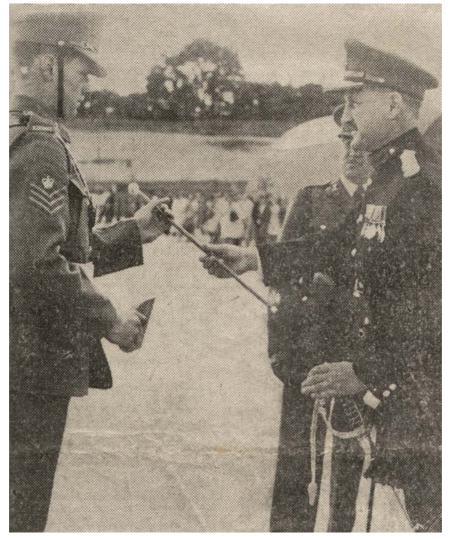
The rules at Denbury are simple: **NO LOSS OF TEMPER; GOOD MANNERS AND CONSIDERATION FOR OTHERS AT ALL TIMES**. Why not come and see the place for yourself!



Extract from the Herald Express 22 July 60 - On parade at Denbury

Brig. W. D. Tarr, Director of Boys' Training, inspecting one of the platoons of the Junior Leaders' Regiment, Royal Signals, Denbury, at to-day's presentation parade and parents' day. Lower picture shows Junior. Staff-Sgt. T. M. Tracey, receiving the Commandant's Trophy and cane as the best boy of the term. The regiment's pipe band was on parade for the first time at the ceremony.







Maj PD Parker - WOI JR Latimer - Maj CO Bound - 2Lt BG Frost - Lt Col LMH Gregory - Brigadier WD Tarr Front rank in view from inspecting officer: M 'Mote' Stone - Harry Beresford - Dudley Kemp - Ernie Barrett - Dave French



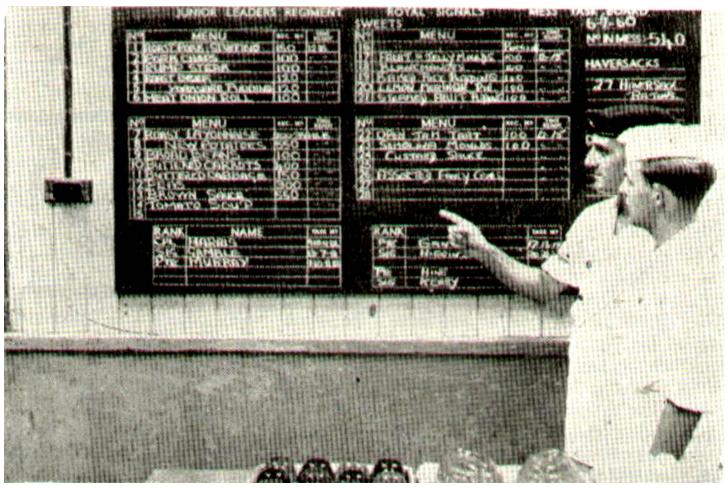
JRSM Frank E Worrall

Victor Ludorum Trophy presented to JLCpl 'Pat' A Garrehy





White Spear Troop Team



From the Junior Mercury - Dec 60



INSIDE THE ALBERT HALL

The Regimental Choir were distinctly nervous when they first appeared in the Royal Albert Hall for rehearsal. The first rehearsal was poor, but by the fourth (and a "pep talk" from Ralph Reader), the choir were used to the microphones, but still nervous. During both the afternoon and evening performances the auditorium was packed to capacity, but in the evening the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, and other members of Royal Family were present.

First came the Muster, led by the Union Jack, with a parade of all the regional British Legion flags, followed by contingents from every branch of the three services. The Romford Boys Brigade Band opened the show, followed by the Navy's contribution. The Navy Flag-Mounting Ceremony and the Royal Marines Band (Portsmouth Division), which included an excellent cornet solo.

The Regimental Choir opened the Army display with "Begone Dull Care" and "Gaudcamus Igitur." then, as they broke into "The Star of the County Down," a member of the Corps of Drums, dressed in scarlet, appeared bearing a three-foot high shield with Ireland's national emblem. The Welsh shield was borne down to "Land Of My Fathers," the Scottish to "Westering Home," and finally the English Rose to "Land of Hope and Glory," which rose to a grand climax when the organ and orchestra joined in. After their performance the choir received a tremendous ovation.

The Scots Guards gave a display of Highland dancing and piping. Royal Air Force Boy Entrants gave a display of elementary Judo throws, and the Royal Air Force gymnastic display team gave an exciting and exhilarating display.

For the community singing and the Service of Remembrance, the Naval colour party and the RAF boys and our own Junior Leaders returned to the arena. During the two minutes silence there was not a sound to be heard save for the falling of poppies from the roof. For those watching and for those taking part, it was an impressionable moment never to be forgotten.

DISCIPLINE & LEADERSHIP

"for natu minimus from nutu maximus" (This article is written by an old and trusted friend who wishes to remain anonymous)

Forty-two years ago the writer learnt from those incomparable teachers, the Warrant Officers of the Brigade of Guards, that Discipline comes from Pride, and Leadership from Humility. The Choir of the Regiment who were at the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall on November 12th, and the Band, who Beat Retreat at the Royal Hospital on November 13th, had three things in common:

Exemplary turn-out and appearance. Considerable skill. Discipline of a very high standard.

The Choir

Split-second timing marked their entrance, it was a scramble; but a disciplined scramble. One boy was noted, the last to arrive in his place. His mouth opened, he hit the first note of music exactly at the moment his heels came together.

The descent of the poppies on the heads of many was not rehearsed, alighting on hair, nose, ears, they must have tickled abominably. But, as 5,000 people noted, not one boy moved. The relief of tension when, without command but as if they had rehearsed for weeks, it was "Caps on, about turn," and then the cheer that cut right through the cheering of the 5,000 and hit the Royal box so that it was almost felt.

The Band

A routine of 40 minutes, with few commands, much intricate manoeuvre, many changes of instrument, of tune, of time, needs much working-up. Undoubtedly the band has perfected the routine over many weeks of practice, including many public performances. On November 13th the ground was, to say the least of it, awkward. The audience was very distinguished and critical. Possibly it was the band's first performance in public in full dress.

The writer watched for lack of concentration. He failed to find any. True, one drummer very nearly made a mistake. He winced; in the audience his Commanding Officer winced. Probably only three people were aware of it.

At the age of those in the band one does not concentrate for 40 minutes or more without conscious effort.

Pride

Enough has been written to make it clear that our Junior Leaders are rightly so proud of themselves and their Regiment that discipline is well-nigh perfect.

What of Leadership? After 42 years one judges faces. Seen in twos and threes amid the milling crowds outside the Albert Hall, there was leadership in those determined young faces. They have the Discipline that comes from Pride, the experience of years that will provide in most, if not in all, the Humility that makes the good Leader."

BAND AT CHELSEA

After the disappointment of not appearing at the Royal Albert Hall, the Corps of Drums took up their scarlet and their instruments and adjourned to Chelsea Hospital to Beat Retreat for the Chelsea Pensioners. The performance was the finest the band have put up for many a year. At the conclusion, the Parade Commander congratulated Drum-Major Ramsey, saying: "It's the finest bit of marching and drill that I have seen for quite a while." To be praised by these veterans of so many years army service is praise indeed.

Only the week before the Mace had had a new "Jimmy" attached to it. The Drum-Major's pride and pleasure at this was short-lived, as, having obtained permission to march off, like the old fables the Mercury flew . . . and landed at his feet. Horrible thoughts passed through his mind at the prospect of Staff Yates's reaction, but all was well!

The Corps of Drums, despite the disappointment of not appearing at the Festival of Remembrance Service, had the gratification of entertaining the oldest and grandest soldiers in the army.

Congratulations to J/Sig Hall on his appointment to the coveted post of Drum-Major of the Corps of Drums, replacing J/L/Cpl Ramsey, who has been Drum-Major for a year, and who is now graduating to Man's Service.



THE CHOIR IN LONDON

(By J/Sig Williams 524, Iron Troop)

My impressions of the Royal Albert Hall can best be brought into focus by contrasting my arrival and my last few hours there.

On our arrival there, the vast hall from the outside seemed to create an impression of long-forgotten architecture from another century. Though covered with a thin layer of soot and grime, it seemed to have an ancient glory all of its own.

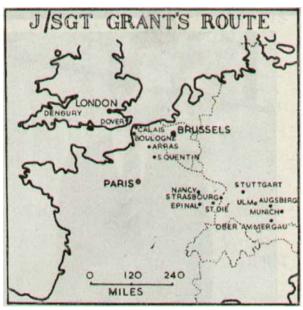
Inside, you felt that if the walls could talk, they would speak of vast splendours of the Victorian era, when Britannia unquestionably ruled the waves. In the mighty arena inside, where the roof seemed to reach to the very heavens, all was quiet; yet it seemed as though it were but sleeping and would soon reawaken to the Fanfare of Trumpets. Below the hall, in the vast labyrinth of corridors and still more corridors, the stairs leading ever downwards, an unmistakable hum of activity could be heard, and from then on until the final performance the humming seemed to increase in volume as if there were a great machine warming up to fulfil its great function.

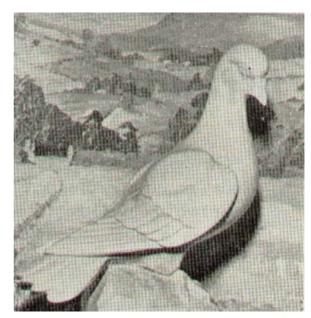
When at last the final performance began with a fanfare of trumpets, the hall seemed to grow hushed – and then the Queen arrived. With the end of the Royal Fanfare, the great organ burst into life with the strains of the National Anthem, and the hall awoke to house again the Royal Festival of Remembrance. To me although I am willing to admit that I am certainly biased – the choir seemed to be the best performance of the evening, especially the last song, "Land of Hope and Glory," which stirred the heart of every true-blooded Briton who was watching or listening.

Then the community singing, led by the Chelsea Pensioners, who have been soldiers of the Queen for more than half a century, singing their own song. The choir here turned round to face the audience, and I was proud to feel that we of the next generation were joined in harmony with those of a past generation to pay homage to Her Majesty.

The Royal Festival of Remembrance, 1960, is over now, but to me it will remain clear in my memory in all its glory and splendour to the day I die.

From the Junior Mercury - Dec 60

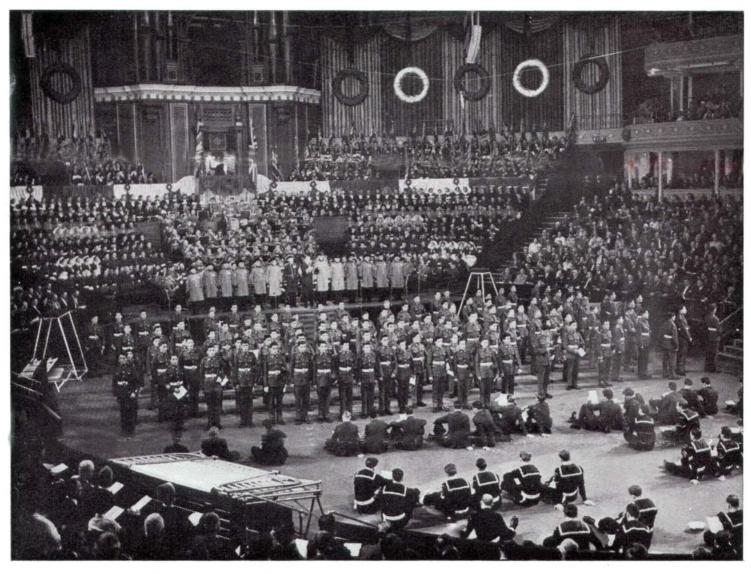






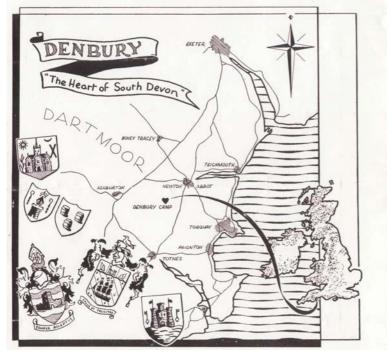
THE CHOIR

JUNIOR LEADERS' REGIMENT ROYAL SIGNALS



British Legiou Festival of Remembrance, Royal Albert Hall, November 1960,





8-Apr-13

The Choir was formed in October, 1959, and sang before HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN at the Albert Hall, in November, 1960, in the British Legion Festival of Remembrance. In the Christmas of 1960, they made a Broadcast to British Troops throughout the world.

The Choir consists of one hundred and twenty young regular soldiers who are being trained as cadet non-commissioned officers for the Royal Corps of Signals.

The Choir is an adventure both Outward and Inward Bound with a limited aim : that of singing folk and traditional songs anywhere and everywhere, in the belief that men who sing are happier than those who do not. It is hoped that much goodwill and many friendships may spring from the old and universal custom of singing together a merry song, and that during the course of its career, all who listen to the choir will encourage and support its aims and continuance.

Graduation Parade – Wednesday 14th December 1960

WAR OFFICE,

4th November, 1960

THE QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the undermentioned award :-

QUEEN'S COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

23537010 Junior Squadron Sergeant-Major Ronald John Butcher, Junior Leaders Regiment, now Signalman, Royal Corps of Signals.

On the evening of the 28th May, 1960, Junior Squadron Sergeant-Major Butcher was one of a party of Junior Leaders in a truck which left the road, fell over a fifteen foot bank and ended partly immersed in a stream. Half of the twenty-two Junior Leaders were injured. Due to the suddenness of the accident and the darkness there was a risk of dangerous confusion but Butcher took control, maintained order and then helped to organise relief. This he did in spite of the fact that he himself had received injuries to his face which subsequently required one hundred and twenty stitches. At an age of less than eighteen years he displayed inspiring courage and fortitude.



By the QUEEN'S Order the name of 25557010 Januar Squadion Sergeant Major R. J. Barcher Januer Leaders Reconcus now Sanatman Royal Corps of Suprate was published in the London Gazette on -1 Neuroper 1900 as commended for brave conduct. I am charged to record Her Majests's high appreciation of the service rendered.

Vola Popar

Secretary of State for War

The Queen's Commendation-a photostat copy



J/RSM Butcher receives his Commendation from Maj.-Gen. A. E. Morrison, C.B.E., O.B.E.

Can you help with more photos?