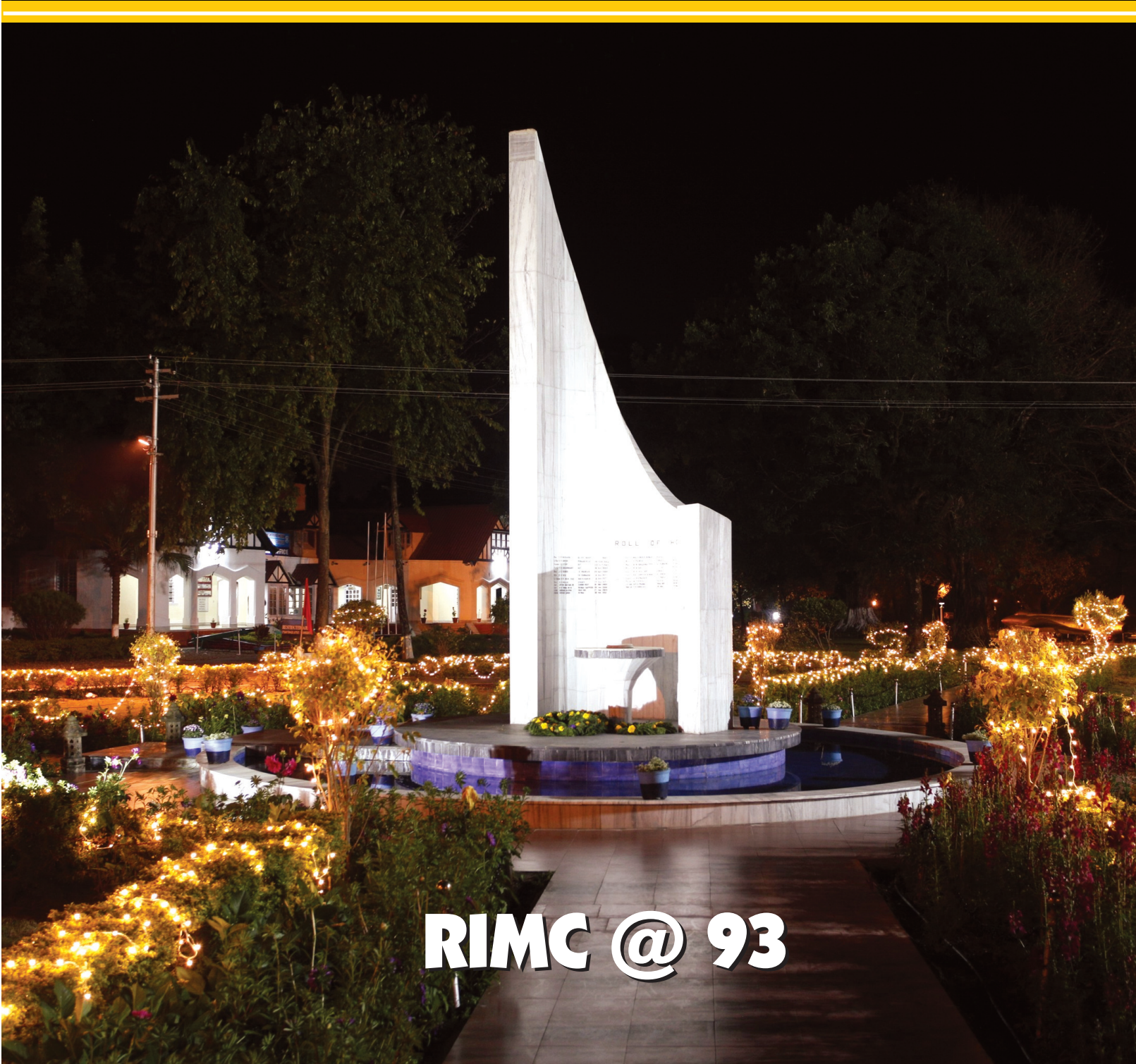


Vol IX, Issue-I (Bi-Annual) | March 2015

# The Rimcollian

(Newsletter of the Old Boys Association of Rashtriya Indian Military College)



**RIMC @ 93**

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**Cover photo**  
RIMC all decked up for the  
annual reunion



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## Chander's Notes

The emphasis of this edition is on the old boys of yesteryears abroad namely at Britain and Pakistan.

Rimcollians in Pakistan have done very well and an interesting article from a very prominent writer Hamid Hussain that is very well researched is presented for your respective reading pleasure. The old boys in England too have been covered in Roving Eye although there are many of the younger generation both in England and America. Another article is on the quarter century of the 136 courses and the ladies too have been doing well, Generals Bhagat's daughter Ashali has presented her inspirational book about her parents at school. Ms. Aman Grewal wife of Col Mandeep Grewal, VSM (Chandragupta 84-90), was declared the winner of 'Haut Monde Mrs India Worldwide 2014'. Ms Kavita Bainsla represents the ladies view. Roving Eye has been curtailed as also the other news on posting and promotions which we have put elsewhere and shall be easily accessible to the old boys. Beyond uniform covers Sidharth Mishra and Rohan and also there is a very special message from the Commandant. I hope you enjoy reading the magazine and most of you do file your respective stories with photographs taken from cameras and annotate the photos and do write about your respective course gathering. Just keep the spirits flowing and may all Rimcollians and their families' soar to greater heights.

ICH Dien

VIVA RIMC  
Dehra Dun

**CS THAPA**  
Brig (Retd)  
Pratap 64-69.



## MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT



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### PRESIDENT'S NOTE

I am truly honoured and privileged on being elected as President of the Rimcollians Old Boys Association (ROBA). I would like to convey my gratitude to one and all on the faith reposed in me. I firmly believe that leadership is not a position or a title, whereas it is about relationships, about credibility and about what one is supposed to do, which will instill confidence and provide inspiration.

We always eagerly listen, when our elders in the Rimcollian family share their memories and reminiscences, which are an emotional reunion for them with the past. I feel we need to harness technology to reach out all Rimcollians and establish a system through e-publications, mobile applications, online user groups to name a few, so that we remain connected. This will not only allow the Association to increase its membership in future, it will also provide a platform to us to express our feelings and provide feedback.

Since RIMC is approaching its Centenary Year (1922-2022), we need to plan a grand celebration, unparalleled and unmatched in the past. I urge all the stakeholders to contribute wholeheartedly through ideas and suggest ways and means to celebrate the occasion with great grandeur.

*The Rimcollian* is a true reflection of the activities, achievements, ethos and traditions of the ROBA. I would like to place on record, my appreciation to the entire editorial team and the office bearers for the great job done. I would also like to convey my sincere gratitude to the members of the Executive Committee, sub committees, trustees and the regional secretaries for their immense contribution towards the smooth functioning of the ROBA. I have no doubt in my mind that the Association will continue to grow and scale new heights and ensure a dazzling future for our Alma Mater. I wish all Rimcollians and their families the very best for their future endeavours.

GOD BLESS RIMCOLLIANS. ICH DIEN !!!

(PP Reddy)  
Air Marshal  
President  
Rimcollian Old Boys Association

Date : 09 Feb 15



# THE COMMANDANT'S DESK

By Col HS Bainsla, SM

Writing for the "Rimcollian" has always been a matter of great pride and pleasure. Through this medium the college gets an opportunity to apprise the old boys fraternity about the good work being done by the "Rimcos". It also gives us an opportunity to share with you our happiness and anxieties in the fascinating process of a cadet's development.

A whole lot of activities, like any other term were organized for the cadets, obviously to ensure a holistic development. All the cadets cleared their Class XII Boards with high percentage. 22 cadets have joined the NDA in January 2015. This figure works out to be 90% of the batch making it to the NDA. I complement the cadets and the entire staff for making us proud.

A workshop on creative writing was organized for the Cadets. It was a two-



day event conducted by prominent personalities. The idea was to initiate the cadets into the world of creativity. Every year a cruise to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands is undertaken, likewise from 05-12 December 2014, 28 cadets visited Vikshapatnam and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Competitions aim to cover every facet of development. The exposure and interaction with other leading institutes is obviously most beneficial to the boys.

Three cadets qualified in the Adventure Training Course held at NIM, Uttarkashi from 26 Jun to 10 Jul 14. Ten cadets attended the Wind Surfing Course at Gopalpur, Odisha from 03 Jun 12 - Jun 2014 and Twenty two cadets participated in White Water Rafting in River Ganga near Rishikesh from 01 Jun - 10 Jun 2014.

Sports have always been an area of strength and it continues to be so. In 13th Uttarakhand State Shooting Championship at RISS Shooting Range, Dehradun in Aug 2014, our cadets won 03 Gold, 01 Silver & 02 Bronze Medals. In the District Athletics at RIMC in Nov 2014, 45 cadets participated and won 34 medals (i.e. 16 Gold, 06 Silver & 12 Bronze) and become the District Champions. In 3rd Doon School

Invitational Swimming Competition at The Doon School in Sep 2014, our cadets won 03 Silver and 01 Bronze medal and were placed in 4th position. In Inter School Swimming Competition at Wynberg Allen School, Mussoorie, RIMC Cadets won 06 Bronze Medals. A large range of coaches for Hockey, Football, Basketball, Shooting, Squash, Swimming, Gymnastics and Boxing from time-to-time made a great difference in fine-tuning the skills of our cadets.

Apart from the sports our cadets enthusiastically and wholeheartedly participated in numerous Inter-School Debate, Quiz, Hindi/English declamations, Drama, Sit-N-Draw competitions and brought laurels to the school. Our team which participated in INTAC Quiz went up to the second last stage and did exceedingly well at the national level.

Educational/ Motivational visits were organised on 30 Jul 2014 to important military/civil establishments located in Dehradun ie IMA, NHO, FRI, National Institute for the Visually Handicapped (NIVH), Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, DEAL, Graphic Era Deemed University, Survey of India, Central Soil & Water Conservation Research Institute, Ramkrishna Mission, IIP Opto Electronics Factory. It was a great learning experience along with a day out for cadets.

The "Education World", a concern, which continuously analyses and grades the education standard in the country, ranked RIMC as the fifth best boarding school for boys in the country for the year 2014.

I would also like to express my heartfelt thanks to the entire Rimcollian fraternity for the support and encouragement received by us from them from time to time. I would specially thank the office bearers of ROBA for continuous and unflinching support to the College.



# Brotherhood of Boyhood - RIMCOLLIANS of Pakistan

By Hamid Hussain



***"What has to be done for the country has to be done".  
Major General Naseerullah Khan Babar.***

In 1922, Prince of Wales' Royal Indian Military College (PW RIMC later Rashtriya Indian Military College, RIMC) was established at Dehra Dun to provide education to Indians mirroring British public schools. RIMC was established to provide education and training to Indian boys to qualify them for further training at Royal Military College at Sandhurst for military career as officers. RIMC was established at the site of old Imperial Cadet Corps (ICC) that was designed to educate scions of princely

families and landed aristocracy therefore it was nick named Rajwara Camp.

RIMC was designed to provide education and prepare young lads for a military career. RIMC produced future generation of Indian and Pakistani armies. Old boys of RIMC are called Rimcollians. In 1931, a ten-year-old Pathan lad walked on crutches as he had broken his leg in a football match in the office of the local district commander for an interview. Two months later, the same lad entered the office of Agent to

Governor General (AGG) for an interview but this time his face was swollen from stings of a swarm of hornets. After clearing these hurdles, he entered RIMC (1932-41, Roberts Section) and excelled in football and boxing. Nine years later, he entered Indian Military Academy (IMA) at Dehra Dun and commissioned in 9th Battalion of 13 Frontier Force Rifles. The lad's name was Gul Hassan who rose to the rank of Lieutenant General and C-in-C of Pakistan army in 1972.

A number of officers of Pakistan army and air force were Rimcollians. They were pioneers of armed forces of newly independent Pakistan. Founding fathers of Pakistan Air Force; Air Marshal Asghar Khan and Air Marshal Malik Nur Khan were Rimcollians. Asghar Khan was commissioned from IMA Dehra Dun and soon joined newly established Royal Indian Air Force (RIAF). In 1947, he came to Pakistan and was instrumental in establishing infrastructure of a modern Pakistan Air Force (PAF). In 1957, at the age of thirty-six, he became the youngest air force chief. In the next eight years, he saw the modernization of air force and when he left, PAF was one of the best air forces of the world. Nur Khan nick named 'Nuru' by his school friends first attended Colonel Brown School in Dehra Dun and later transferred to RIMC (1934-40, Rawlinson). He was Pakistan air force chief from 1965-69. He was administrator par excellence and when given charge, took the organization to new levels of excellence. He was head of Pakistan International Airlines (PIA), Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) and Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF). Air Vice Marshal Sadruddin is a fine officer and gentleman. He was at the forefront of modernization of Pakistan Air Force. He was head of the program for induction of F-104 fighter aircraft and brought first batch of these aircrafts from United States. After 1965 war, when United States stopped supplies of weapon systems, Pakistan approached China for military hardware. In October 1966, then Wing Commander Sadruddin took thirteen PAF pilots to China to train on F-6 fighter aircraft. Two months later, these pilots came back to form the nucleus of No 23 Squadron flying F-6.

Lieutenant General Mohammad Yusuf Afridi nick named 'Joe' was a Rimcollian. He was commissioned from Sandhurst in 1929 and joined 7th Light Cavalry. He served at several important posts in Pakistan army. He raised 12th Division, commanded 14th and 7th Division and 9th Division and served as Chief of General Staff (CGS). He holds

the record of commanding four infantry divisions. In February 1954, he became the founder president of Rimcollian old boys association of Pakistan.

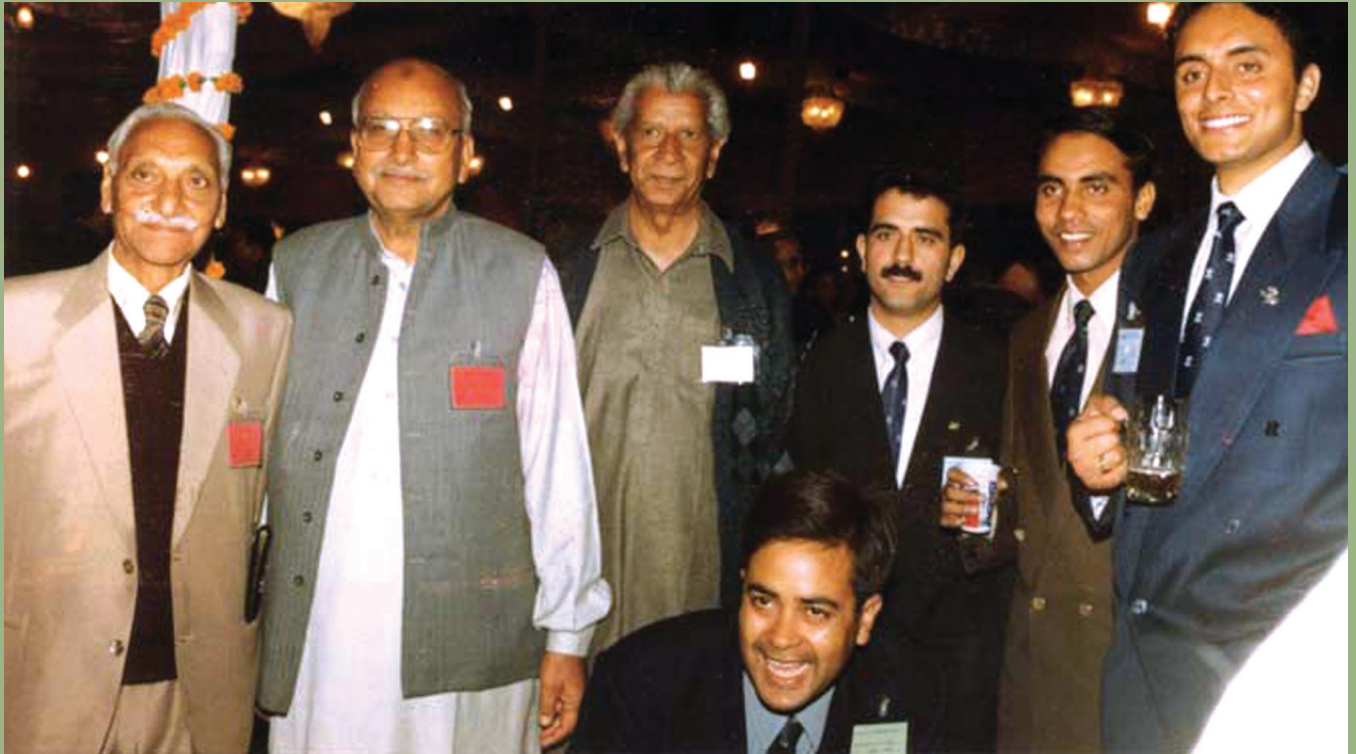
Two brothers Ahmad Jan and Khalid Jan were among the first batch of RIMC. They were grandsons of legendry Colonel Sir Muhammad Aslam Khan of Khyber Rifles fame and sons of Brigadier Sir Hissamuddin Khan. Ahmad Jan was in Roberts section in 1922-23. He was commissioned from Sandhurst in 1927 and joined 7th Light Cavalry. In August 1947, he commanded First Battalion of 14th Punjab Regiment (now 5 Punjab).

TWO BROTHERS; SCIONS OF THE HOUSE OF NAJIBABAD ENTERED THE DOORS OF RIMC NOT KNOWING WHERE THE ROAD OF LIFE WILL TAKE THEM. SAHABZADA MUHAMMAD YAQUB KHAN LEFT THE GATES OF RIMC AND ENTERED IMA NEXT DOOR. HE WAS COMMISSIONED IN 18TH KING EDWARD'S OWN CAVALRY AND JOINED THE PROUD JAT SQUADRON. DURING SECOND WAR, HE WAS PRISONER OF WAR AND DURING CAPTIVITY LEARNED ITALIAN AND GERMAN LANGUAGES OF HIS CAPTORS.

In 1950, he took command of Frontier Corps as first Pakistani Inspector General Frontier Corps (IGFC). He retired as Brigadier in Pakistan army. Khalid Jan was at RIMC from 1922-26. He was commissioned from Sandhurst in 1928 and joined 16th Light Cavalry. In October 1947, he was the first Pakistani to command First Battalion of

12th Frontier Force Regiment (now 3 FF). He retired at the rank of Colonel. Brigadier Mukhtar Karim holds a unique honor of serving in all three services. After graduating from RIMC, he joined Indian Air Force and later joined Indian Navy. His father wanted him to join army therefore he entered IMA Dehra Dun. The passing out parade of Karim's batch was scheduled for December 1947. Partition of India in August 1947 divided everything. In October 1947, Cadet Karim was flown to Pakistan where he was commissioned. He joined artillery but later became the pioneer of Pakistan army aviation. He spent his retired life in hot air balloons.

Two brothers; scions of the house of Najibabad entered the doors of RIMC not knowing where the road of life will take them. Sahabzada Muhammad Yaqub Khan left the gates of RIMC and entered IMA next door. He was commissioned in 18th King Edward's Own Cavalry and joined the proud Jat Squadron. During Second War, he was prisoner of war and during captivity learned Italian and German languages of his captors. Later, he served with many elite regiments including Viceroy's Body Guards, Governor General's Body Guards, 11th Prince Albert Victor's Own (PAVO) Cavalry and First Battalion of 1 Punjab Regiment (now 1 Punjab). He opted for Pakistan and left his mark on Pakistan army. Yaqub is pioneer of starting the intellectual life in Pakistan army. He served as Director General Armored Corps, GOC 6th Armored Division, Commandant of Staff College, Chief of General Staff (CGS) and Corps Commander of East Pakistan. As Commandant of Staff College at Quetta, he introduced Pakistani officers to the higher direction of war. He was also instrumental in establishment of National Defence College (now National Defence University) with its two tiered course. After leaving army, his next reincarnation was a diplomat and as expected he excelled in this filed. He served as ambassador to several important countries and completed his diplomatic career as Foreign Minister of Pakistan.



Yaqub's elder brother Sahabzada Muhammad Yunus Khan was commissioned in Indian army from Officers Training School (OTS) at Bangalore and served with Garhwal Rifles. In 1947, Yunus opted for Indian army. Immediately after independence, India and Pakistan went to war in Kashmir. Pakistan army sent Yaqub while Yunus was sent to the same theatre by Indian army. Later, Yunus served as Deputy Military Secretary to President of India and retired at the rank of Colonel.

Major General Naseerullah Khan Babar was at RIMC at the time of partition in 1947. He joined the first batch of officers trained at newly established Pakistani Military Academy (PMA) at Kakul. He opted for artillery (4th Field Artillery Regiment) after passing out but later joined army aviation. He participated in 1965 and 1971 wars winning a Sitara-e-Jurat (SJ) in 1965 and a Bar to his SJ in 1971. He served as Inspector General of Frontier Corps (IGFC) in early 1970s. He retired in 1976 to become Governor of North West Frontier Province (1976-1977). He later joined Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and served as special advisor

(1988-1990) and Interior Minister (1993-1996) during Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's governments in 1990s.

The list of Rimcollians who opted for Pakistan include Lieutenant General Fazal-e-Haq (Guides Cavalry) who served as Corps Commander and Governor of North West Frontier Province, Major General Anwar Hussain, Major General Naseer Ahmad (served Pakistan's Defence Attaché to New Delhi and in 1965 war commanded First Armored Division), Major General Muhammad Mumtaz Khan, Major General Wisal Muhammad Khan (commissioned in 2/8 Punjab; now 2 Baloch and commanded 5/8 Punjab; now 5 Baloch), Brigadier Khan Ata Muhammad Khan (1/14 Punjab) and Brigadier 'Tommy' Masud Khan (7th Light Cavalry & 11th PAVO Cavalry), Brigadier Hamid Hussain (5/11 Sikh Regiment), Brigadier RiazulKarim (5th Probyn's Horse who won his MC in Burma), Brigadier Faqir Muhammad Khan and Colonel Zarif Khan (commissioned in 3/16 Punjab Regiment and won his MC in Burma). Shayaryar Khan; scion of the princely house of Kurwai was also a Rimcollian. He came

with his mother to Pakistan, joined Foreign Service and retired as Foreign Secretary. He is currently Chairman of Pakistan Cricket Board.

The Rimcollians list includes one of the most decorated Indian officers of British Indian army Taj Muhammad Khanzada. He was commissioned in 5/11 Sikh Regiment and won DSO and MC in Waziristan and Burma. During Japanese captivity, he joined Indian National Army (INA) and put in charge of special service group. After Japanese surrender, he was removed from army when he was Captain.

Scions of Chitral's princely family favored RIMC. Colonel Burhanuddin attended RIMC from 1926-33. He was commissioned in 2nd Battalion of 10th Baloch Regiment. He was seconded to Royal Indian Air Force and served with No: 1 Squadron in Razmak and Karachi. There are many interesting stories about this chap. During war, he reverted back to his battalion and captured by Japanese. He joined INA and after Japanese defeat brought to India where disciplinary proceeding of and court martial were conducted. The President of Field General Court Martial was



Pictures of the delegation of Old Boys from Pakistan during the Platinum Jubilee Celebration between 11-14 March, 1997

Brigadier (later General) Cariappa nick named 'Kipper'. After sentencing Burhanuddin to seven years imprisonment, Kipper went over and shook hands with him, which raised many eyebrows. Burhanuddin's three brothers; Colonel Mata ulMulk (15 Punjab Regiment), KhushwaqtulMulk (4/19 Hyderabad Regiment) and KhusroulMulk (11 Punjab) were also Romcollians. In view of long history of fratricide in princely family of Chitral, RIMC probably saved some royal lives.

After gaining independence, the name of college was changed to Rashtriya Indian Military College and the names of three sections; Rawlinson, Roberts and Kitchner changed to Pratap, Ranjit Singh and Shivaji. In India and

Pakistan, institutions and roads named after British personalities have been changed after independence. I'm not in favor of this exercise. Many fine British military and civil officers laid the foundations of some great institutions that trained generations of equally good Indian and Pakistani officers. By honoring and remembering these pioneers, both countries honor themselves. After independence both countries established numerous institutions and they can name these institutions after their historical and contemporary native heroes.

RIMC was one of the first schools established along British public school lines and produced some fine officers and gentlemen of India and Pakistan. A

brotherhood was established in the boyhood among young lads of different ethnicities and religions. They fought as comrades against King's enemies in Second World War. After independence, they were now officers in rival armies and in 1965 and 1971 wars fought against each other as senior officers of their respective armies. At reunions, they crossed the borders to hug each other and reminisce about beautiful days of boyhood. Rimcollians strived to live up to the college's original motto IchDien(I serve) on both sides of the border.

"The day when Rimcollians rule in both countries, the problems between them will disappear". Captain ® Taj Muhammad Khanzada

#### Notes:

1. Bikram Singh & Sidharth Mishra (Ed.). Where Gallantry is Tradition: Saga of RIMC (Delhi: Allied Publishers), 1997
2. Memoirs of Lt. Gen. Gul Hassan (Karachi: Oxford University Press), 1993
3. Wing Commander ® Sardar Ahmad Shah Jan. Saddozai: SaddozaiKings & Vaziers of Afghanistan 1747-1842. Peshawar: Public Art Press, 2007

#### Acknowledgement

Author thanks Brigadier ChandarThapa and Colonel Ali Ahmad Zaki of Indian army, Major General Syed Ali Hamid of Pakistan Army and Air Commodore SajjadHaider and Wing Commander Sardar Ahmad Shah Jan of Pakistan Air Force for providing details about many officers.

—Hamid Hussain

# MERE DO SAU CHAPPAN (256)

By MS KAVITA BAINSLA



I was reluctant to join my husband Hukum at RIMC, Dehradun, when he received his posting orders from Chennai to Dehradun. Not for any reason, but, life was so very comfortable at Indore. I had a good job and schooling of my children was being taken care of in an excellent manner. He said, "Your services are required by the School, and you will be a great help to me in discharging my duties and will love to interact with the boys". I moved lock, stock and barrel. I now, do not wish to be away from these young, smart and lively boys. How drab the campus looks without them when they are away during vacations!!.

Over a period of time I got to know all 256 (do sau chappan) of them. The boys of Class I, IA and II in a little greater measure. It is when I chipped in to teach them gratis that I really understood the boys and their journey of five years. I began to share their joys and sorrows; their anxieties and curiosities; their fears and delights. I simply felt proud and privileged to be in the company of "BOYS"

More than anything, I started looking forward to 'Tea' with the 'First Termers', lunch with 'Cadet appointments', Treat for the stay back batch and dinner at my residence with the passing course. This guest list will make anybody envy me. This would be the time when I would get an opportunity to play host to the young boys. Chowmein, Burgers. Maggi, Pastries and cold coffee - are an all time

favourite. Did they skip their meal prior to the invite! It did appear so. I recollect when one cadet had eleven glasses of cold coffee. Wow, that's what I call a Rimco diet.

"Ma'm, can we come tomorrow evening; Is commandant out of station; Are we inviting girls of XYZ School for the workshop', --- This would be the take of the bold and senior boys. All those who barged in with their requests and demands would get a treat and probably boast of their 'raid-de-delicay', to others. It has always been never a pleasure to treat them. Once during the class hours, I asked cadet Upiti Prakash, 'Do you get to eat dosa sambhar sometimes?' I was very well aware that he was missing his diet of dosas badly. His reply in negative, led him to a treat at the Commandant's House, whereas Ashutosh Mishra's Gulab jamun treat is pending for more than a year now.....

Holi and Diwali see them storming the house in big numbers. Id celebration at home too remains a memorable event. I am amazed and impressed with their dilating appetite for laddos. Well, I better cater for a larger quantity next time as we nearly fell short of them, probably I had underestimated their prowess at devouring the delicacy

Assisting them in their lessons was real satisfaction and enriching. They are indeed all smart and intelligent students. It was a challenging task to keep one step ahead of them. Teaching the younger lot had its advantages and positive spin offs. I would get a first hand feel of the happenings in the College. I would share the same with Hukum and he in turn used it to the benefit of the functioning of the college. I love taking a stroll in the evening during the games period and preps, that's the time I find the cadets happiest and relaxed. Sharing a joke and indulging in light hearted questioning really gets them talking. Invariably the conversation would finally lead to a talk about their girl-friends (quite a few never disclosed if they had any).

The hike to Joshimath in the month of April 2014 is an event I would cherish through out my life. The boys looked so



different in their civvies and I admired their fancy, latest gadgets to no end. (Though to me they appear smarter in their uniforms ). Trekking and skiing with them was not only fun but learning too. Brig Steve Ismail, the Deputy Commander at Joshimath was such a sport. I still wonder at my stamina and will power; I was able to complete the 11 km all uphill trek through the jungles and Steep Mountain slopes from Joshimath to Auli. In reflection, I grant it to the lovely and jovial company of the young lads of Class IIIA.

Watching Captain America" , with them in a multiplex was another cool experience; sharing coke and pop-corns, discussing the dare devil stunts of the protagonist and the evils of the anti-hero gave me an insight into their minds and likes.

The end of term socials with the Unison School Girls is an event looked forward by the senior boys. There is always a Damocles' sword hanging over the event, as the College authorities only permit this to happen if the senior boys have behaved themselves during the term. My importance and Bhaav, amongst the boys is sky high during this time, as they believe that Com's wife can make social happen at any cost!!!!....

I feel at peace with myself having done all this. I know they must have detested me at many a times for my motherly sermons but I am told, "Ma'm, when you tell the cadets, they really listen". Well, that's good input, and I want to believe it for they have become an integral part of our lives.

**Long Live Rimcos. Long live Mere 256**



# LAST POST

With deep regret we inform that the following Rimcollians have left us for heavenly abode

MR REUEL RUSSELL MORDECAI		1995-98	PRA	08-Apr-2014
LT COL SRI KRISHEN DHAR	VSM	1936-44	ROB	21-May-2014
COL PREMVIR SINGH	SM	1960-65	SHI	07-Jul-2014
SQN LDR SHIVA GOPAL TRIVEDI		1944-50	RAW	Jul-2014
COL ANIL KUMAR VASHIST		1961-65	PRA	Jul-2014
LT COL RAMESHWAR S RATRA		1951-55	KIT	16-Aug-2014
MAJ GEN BP WADHERA	AVSM	1933-37	KIT	17-Sep-2014
MR KAILASH NATH PAL		1949-53	RAN	24 Sep 2014
COL RAMESH KUMAR J NAIR		1951-55	SHI	02-Oct-2014
COL PADAMJIT SINGH		1945-48	KIT	28-Nov-2014
MR ARUP K CHAKRAVARTI		1948-50	ROB	05-Dec-2014
LT ANTHONY C JOHNSTONE		1942-44	WAV	06-Dec-2014
COL SUDHIR KUMAR SHARMA		1967-72	PRA	03-Jan-2015
BRIG ASHOK OHRI		1953-56	SHI	05-Jan-2015

**With Best Compliments to my  
alma mater on its**

**93rd Founder's Day**



With best compliments from  
**Sqn Ldr GRS Reddy (Retd)**

Pratap 1975-80  
Whitefield, Bangalore



A beaming Aman, on being crowned Mrs India Worldwide 2014, flanked by the runners-up.

# OF DREAMS, SELF-BELIEF & FILLING THE UNFORGIVING MINUTE WITH SIXTY SECONDS OF DISTANCE RUN

20<sup>th</sup> Oct 2014 was just another innocuous day, placidly attempting to remind us all about the impending onset of winters in North India. It did not, in anyway, give an indication that the steely resolve of a new-age woman, who had been through the grind of clichéd Indian womanhood, was going to culminate in crowning glory. Aman Grewal was declared the winner of 'Haut Monde Mrs India Worldwide 2014' at the turn of midnight. Aman, wife of Col Mandeep Grewal, VSM (Chandragupta 84-90), hails from the royal city of Patiala, and proved her mettle over 31 other contestants to win the title and the crown at New Delhi.

However, what belied the spotlight was an enduring dream, a passion, a desire to achieve something tangible; and months of sustained hard work. It was in every sense a second calling; not the forte of faint-hearted. Having married at 20, deeply involved in bringing up two beautiful children and allowing her personal ambitions to be subservient to frequent transfers of her husband; she dared an audacious course, on the backing of an outstanding academic record, most of which were post-marriage achievements.

It indeed is a first for Army, and a proud moment for Rimcollian fraternity. While we have had a number of army progenies, especially girls, shining in the glamour world; for an Army Lady, to have attained this crowning glory of having become 'Mrs India-Worldwide' is certainly uncharted territory. Astonishingly, Aman is pretty candid about her success. She has no pretensions in sharing her thoughts that a large part of the poise, super-confidence and her glowing stage presence is attributable to the vast experience she has gained in the Army, during the conduct of innumerable precise, clock-work events. In a way, her grind through the years in the Army bylanes, did subconsciously prepare her for the event, by ever so lightly, but continuously, refining her personality.

The press coverage, event offers and limelight has been awe-inspiring. All national newspapers, the vernacular

## Aman Grewal wins Mrs India Worldwide title

NEW DELHI: Aman Grewal, wife of an army officer, was declared the winner of Haut.Monde Mrs India Worldwide 2014 here. Grewal, who hails from Patiala, beat 31 other contestants to win the title on Monday evening. Besides the crown, she even walked off with a cash prize of ₹1,000.

"Everyone in my family was very supportive. My daughter, who is just nine and a half years old, was thrilled. She loves to dress up and when she saw me participating in the pageant, she was very happy for me," the 36-year-old, who also has a son, told IANS. Being an army officer's wife, she frequently travels and wants to work as an event manager or an anchor.

The second spot went to



■ Aman Grewal

Shivangi Maletia from the capital. Delhi's Rashmi Amitabh Shah bagged the third position. They both received gift hampers and coupons for travel to Jammu and Kashmir. The pageant was judged by celebrities Sayali Bhagat, Vanya Mishra and Atul Wassan.

IANS

THE PRESS COVERAGE,  
EVENT OFFERS AND  
LIMELIGHT HAS BEEN  
AWE-INSPIRING. ALL  
NATIONAL  
NEWSPAPERS, THE  
VERNACULAR PRESS IN  
PUNJAB AND HOST OF  
GLAMOUR MAGAZINES  
HAVE COVERED HER  
SUCCESS STORY

press in Punjab and host of glamour magazines have covered her success story. But, grounded as she is, her true calling continues to be her family, not only the immediate ones, but army families, who need continuous support and guidance to unfurl their true potential in our society. Despite the glamour quotient of the crown, she is keen to dabble in event management and show anchoring, especially the ones with a perceptible social message, aimed at helping the women and under-privileged of our society, in their humble life endeavours.



# QUARTER CENTURY FOR THE 136th COURSE

By Col **Shailender Arya**

A quarter-century is no big deal in these days of T-20 cricketing but in terms of life, it nearly represents a generation. This January 2015 marked 25 long years since us, the 136th Course of RIMC, joined the school on nippy Dehradun mornings of January 1990. Many of us came in from civilian backgrounds and had fuzzy ideas about RIMC - except that we had cleared a complex selection process so it must be good and it had something to do with military. The hopes were also varying. The parental hopes were of good schooling with a high likelihood of NDA selection

while our boyish hopes were for becoming the admirable blazer-tie wearing boarding school boys of Dehradun a la characters in films like *Jo Jeeta Wohi Sikandar* based on Dehradun schools (but shot in Kodaikanal). RIMC successfully subsumed these blurry ideas, incredible notions and mixed hopes, far exceeding our expectations. It marked the beginning of a new and indelible chapter of our life, subsequently highlighted by five joyous years in the school. We passed out of its hallowed portals in December 1994, each one of us having grown in his unique teenage identity deeply influenced by RIMC, and looking forward to face the

world - whether in uniform or without it.

The school was under an unstated and positive transition. The first Rimcollian Commandant Col SD Mohanty was already in chair and was endeavouring to take the RIMC forward by taking it back to the good old good public school days and reducing the over-regimentation. Regimentation is a word I picked up after joining the Army; in our parlance we then called it reducing 'juniority-seniority'. He looked beyond the aim of RIMC as a feeder to NDA, as if (in his words) NDA is a demon feeding on boys, and tried to focus on overall development and being 'good boys'. His efforts slowly borne fruits,

though initially it was not liked by the senior classes who had clawed their way to the top and thought it was their time for unfettered enjoyment. His approach also called for more involvement of Masters in the daily lives of the boys, who were earlier focused on the Academic Block.

Many old Masters retired and a new generation of Masters viz; Mr Virender Sharma, Mr SK Tyagi and Mr CS Viswakarma joined in the early 1990s. A few of them are sadly no longer with us. Late Mr SK Tyagi taught us mathematics. Late Mrs Bharti Mohanty taught us Sixteen Tales from Shakespeare, and not many could muster the passing marks. English movies were screened in the Geography Lecture Hall, mostly western classics and the cowboy variety. The school was also in a frenzy preparing for the forthcoming 1990 Reunion. Walls were being scratched and white-washed, boxers were being groomed by the respective sections for do-or-die battles, and we first termers, as our voices had not yet turned hoarse or cracked owing to our younger age, were pooled in a choir. Every evening, under a Sikh civil music teacher, we practiced singing 'Namo hey, Namo hey, Hey nirvikar, Hey sukshmatatv' on the Bhagat Hall stage.

We tried to blend in from our diverse backgrounds into the prevailing school culture, willingly or unwillingly, and learn the new lingua franca. The provincial Sir and Madam prefixes for names of teachers were unacceptable in the frowning Doon Valley; the teachers were Masters and invariably prefixed with Mr and Mrs or Miss. Dorm was short for dormitory and Com was short for Commandant (incidentally, Commandant's wife was Mammadant), fearing was funking, a coward was a sissy, shirking was shamming and bastard was a term used affectionately, never to be taken seriously. If you funk in the boxing ring, you were a bloody sissy, no-good and a dame - derived from the old French word damsel, and inexplicably associated with the phrase 'damsel in distress'. Nishant Ranjan called the Hockey division as hockey dib and Harpreet Singh invented nicknames for everybody in his Punjabi accent. We were also expected to learn the complete

and unabbreviated names our seniors. Towards this, the South Indian names were most dreaded - juniors were often threatened; find out the full name of MP Naveen and ESVSRK Prasad by today evening.

The 1990 Reunion was indeed a big event. A number of Pakistani Rimcollians arrived from across the border, full of nostalgia and affection for their beloved school. We were star-struck, only distracted by the free soft-drink coupons and a brilliant century by Cadet Captain Anuj Kalia in the cricket match with the Old Boys. Our choir went on smoothly, though over-shadowed by the catchier song 'Matilda, she take me money and run a-Venezuela' by Harry Belafonte sung by our seniors. Nobody noticed the out-of-sync voices emanating from Himanshu Choubey and Harpreet Singh in the choir. Many Rimcollians also awed us with the in-my-times talk. It sounded impressive then, but in the later years we took it with a pinch of salt and I drew a cartoon in the school magazine. It had few old Rimcollians indicating to the young boys a point in ground about 25 meters ahead of the swimming pool and boasting; "In our times, we swam till there".

Col Dilip Harishchandra Parab from the Gurkha Rifles joined as the next Commandant in 1991. He stayed on till 1997. In many sense, we are 'his boys', imprinted with his vision for the school and our future. Col DH Parab carried forward the legacy of Col SD Mohanty and further consolidated it. After long hiatus of many decades, many new infrastructure projects; from the indoor basketball court to the new swimming pool and the human resource centre were conceived and planned, though they may have fructified in later years. He insisted on news - national and international, being read in morning assembly and an impromptu lecture by seniors preparing for Services Selection Board (SSB). Amit Jain, the Cadet Captain, was asked to speak on the endangered Pandas. It was the nick-name of the then Administrative Officer and Amit Jain burst out laughing on the stage. He got away, being the Cadet Captain!

Col DH Parab got many senior military officers to visit the school and interact with

the cadets. Many of them were not Rimcollian, but in the introductory speech, he invariably connected them to RIMC. Typically, the speech would commence with saying that 'Well, he is not new to RIMC, when he was in so-and-so appointment, his senior / junior was a Rimcollian, or his niece is married to a Rimcollian' and the likes. We used to look forward to these curious introductions and thereafter a good pep talk by the visiting dignitary. Lt Gen FN Billimoria was regularly one of them, and thereafter we reflectively cheered; 'Three cheers for General Billimoria', and felt immensely happy, imagining the lavish spread laid out for the tea in the lawns opposite the Bhagat Hall.

There were no telephones so letter writing was de rigeur. The postal services were quite reliable, and letters from home (there were no girlfriends) were often given in exchange of dinner puddings. There was some compulsory letter writing as well but often these compulsory letters were shown to the Section Master and returned back by the cadet appointment who was tasked to post them (to minimise his headache of the next letter collection). Sometimes, the Section Master would retain the letters and himself post them. In that eventuality, the parents would receive an undated and uninspiring letter, devoid of any substantial details, merely stating that one is fine and trust things are fine at the other end. It must have disappointed them for the sketchy English and the apparent disinterest in life.

An out-pass on Sundays consisted of a Hindi movie, a meal at 'Treat' in Paltan Bazar or few other moderately priced restaurants, a stroll on Rajpur Road till Astley Hall, maybe picking up a birthday card in few old-fashioned gift shops there and sometimes a pastry at Ellora's Bakery located little up on the Rajpur Road. Early 1990s wasn't a particularly inspiring time for the Hindi movies. There were *Khiladi* series starring Akshay Kumar and the lovable bad boy Sanjay Dutt in *Khalnayak*. But nevertheless they attracted us and had to be watched. After every movie, our course mates K Ranjit and P Shankar Swaroop from Andhra Pradesh would invariably claim that it was a remake of so-

and-so Telegu movie. Their claims were neither examined nor taken seriously.

The Reunions and end-of-the-terms were mostly fun on account of slackened discipline and variety of sporting and cultural activities. In our Class IV, we staged a play on the anticipated admission of the girls in RIMC. In this play, Rajneesh Giri, Shrawan Kapila, Mahipendra Salklan and Saminder Mor acted as girls, cutely dressed with flowing wigs and an overdose of lipstick applied by Mrs Chandra Joshi, our Physics teacher. They constituted the 'Aishwarya Section', which modestly comes to attention on the command of 'Eyes Straight'. On the other hand, I was a poor and hurt cadet, completely bandaged and lugging an IV fluid bottle in hand, aptly named as MH (denoting Military Hospital) Kataria. The girls were skittish, demurely refused drill while the menacing drill instructor Manish Karki incessantly shouted and forced me to march. The play was a hit and some Rimcollian Gentleman Cadets from IMA were noticed discreetly enquiring about the girls. Then there was another play, it was staged in the Doon School. We never saw it but were thankful to it as many of us in Shivaji Section lent our OG dresses for it and wore muftis for the next few months, with our stock reply being "Uniform gone to Doon School, Sir".

In Shivaji Section, particularly in our senior terms, we had a *laissez-faire* atmosphere. It was considered 'Shivajian' to be missing, late and disorganised. Consequently, in our Class V, our senior dormitory under Dormitory Commander Sandeep Sirohi looked like a refugee camp, particularly in summers when beds were shifted to be under the fans. He often used to organise chanting of supposedly Vedic hymns which greatly amused and possibly annoyed our Section Master late Mr Tyagi. In my course, Manish Karki was often out playing games, Himanshu Choubey was in his own complex world and I was the Section Commander with long hair, perpetual grin (some juniors had nicknamed me 'Jaws') and a poor record in games. In the course junior, KK Giri generally kept quiet, Gaurav Hamal was mostly found in his house nearby in Garhi Cantonment, prompting Col DH Parab to name him 'Garhi-man', and Saurabh

Gupta was intellectually inclined till one fine day he ran 100 meters sprint in the ongoing Inter Section Athletics Competition and realised that his awfully thin legs have carried him to the first position.

The years flew and we became senior. A faint moustache and a goat-like wisp beard were noticed in many. Sumit Kochar forced me to buy a razor and shave. Of course, some in the school like Rahul Kumar Pathak, Nirvikar Singh and Somaditya Chakraborty were rumoured to be secretly shaving from their first term onwards. It was not entirely true. Col DH Parab ensured that we were well prepared to face the SSB. Rather than typical coaching, he encouraged original thinking and organised a cooking competition. Irrespective of the quality, the food was devoured by Sharwan Kapila, whose weight was a matter of deep concern for Col Parab. Mrs Geeta Parab retained Sharwan Kapila at their home in vacations and fed him vegetable broth in an unsuccessful attempt to get him in shape. Mrs Parab also possessed a good knowledge of the goings-on among the cadets. Our naïve guess was that she had put bugs in the tie-pins worn by classes V and VA.

It was time to bid adieu. Most of us cleared for NDA, others were to chart their destiny in diverse fields. Sushant Kumar Behera, our Cadet Captain took to sailing (like a fish, can't resist adding as his nickname was 'Macchi') in the Merchant Navy and later settled 'Down Under' in Australia. A similar course was taken was Uday Bikram Choudhary and Satyajeet Kumar Singh, except that they are mostly based in India and in addition Satyajeet has now become a Patna-based realtor. Tarun Messey and K Ranjit joined the NDA initially, but left and are based in Bangalore and Boston respectively in cushy corporate jobs, laughing all the way to the bank. Nishant Ranjan who joined a medical college and is now an orthopedic surgeon also chose a different stream. Most of us who joined the Army are now commanding our units; Manish Karki and Rajneesh Giri in Infantry, Saminder Mor and self in Artillery and Siddarth Chopra in Armoured Corps while Mandeep Singh

Dhillon in IAF and the Naval guys - Mahipendra Salklan and Shrawan Kapila soon likely to follow.

We passed out in December 1994, proud to wear the Rimcollian tie for the very first time. Ours was a generation straddling the pre and post liberalisation era. We saw the black & white TVs as the prized possession of our parents in 1980s; now we see money being squandered on ever-changing but similar looking mobile phones, and have been strangely unconcerned about both dearth and prosperity - treating, in words of Rudyard Kipling, 'those two impostors just the same'. Even in context of RIMC, we saw the school change significantly - from weekly scribing on blue envelopes to once-a-fortnight STD calls home to a tougher examination system and an increased choice and diversity in career options. Maybe we realised that India is changing and it is prudent to make no distinction between fluctuating fortunes, hair density on the head and between friends in uniform and out of uniform.

Teenage friendships are the strongest and we are no exception. Even if you drift in life, you are still part of a 'gang'. Most of us, with exception of Himanshu Chobey who remains untraced, have stayed connected, often meeting individually. Now we endeavour to meet collectively; once at Wellington, Nilgiris in July 2010 and now in school in March 2015. Many of also gathered at Kolkata in December 2008 when Anisha, Tarun Massey's sister got married to Uday Bikram, both Pratapians and hard-core backbenchers. All friends were either Rimcollians or 'shippies', many in fact both, and I received extra sympathy from Uday's mother for being 'poor non fish-eating vegetarian', indeed an unusual character in fish-obsessed Bengal. Ruskin Bond, the Dehradun-loving and Mussorie based author who wrote in 'Delhi is not Far' - 'Absent so long, I may have stopped loving you friends; but I shall never stop loving the days I loved you' may be speaking for us, the 136th Course, except that we still love the friends as well as the days spent together at RIMC and finally the school itself, eternally. Viva RIMC.

## BEYOND UNIFORM

# Flourish of the pen

(Sidharth Mishra, as he puts it, ekes an earning out of writing. He claims he was trained for this at the school. This surprises me as training writers have never been on RIMC's charter. When asked to pen about his life's calling, he forwarded part of his ongoing correspondence with India's most famous historian-author of recent times Ramchandra Guha. It makes an interesting reading. **Editor**)



**Dear Dr Guha,**

Thanks for responding to the mail yesterday. I have of and on written small mails to you, whenever I have felt the urge after reading your works. It's time I must formally introduce myself to you.

I am journalist for past two decades but that's to earn a livelihood. My dream was to be lecturer but ended by not getting enough percentage at Masters level. I do not blame the examination system, the problem was within me. I seldom stuck to curriculum; as readings outside, I always found more interesting.

I had this problem at the school too, incidentally I went to Royal Indian Military College (RIMC), your alma mater's neighbour in Dehradun. There, during my stay between 1979 and 1983, I won accolades in debating, drama and essay writing but was seldom

I HAD THIS PROBLEM AT THE SCHOOL TOO, INCIDENTALLY I WENT TO ROYAL INDIAN MILITARY COLLEGE (RIMC), YOUR ALMA MATER'S NEIGHBOUR IN DEHRADUN. THERE, DURING MY STAY BETWEEN 1979 AND 1983, I WON ACCOLADES IN DEBATING, DRAMA AND ESSAY WRITING BUT WAS SELDOM APPRECIATED ON THE SHOOTING RANGE, DRILL SQUARE OR PT GROUND, WHICH WERE NECESSARY SKILLS FOR A CAREER IN THE ARMED FORCES

appreciated on the shooting range, drill square or PT ground, which were necessary skills for a career in the armed forces.

Since I did not make to the National Defence Academy, I ended up at Kirori Mal College in Delhi University in 1985. I took English honours because Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights* was prescribed in curriculum. But there was trouble ahead, as Sumit Sarkar, EH Carr, RN Sharma and DN Jha, greatly detested by my History honours room-mate, found refuge in me. So did some of the famous authors of Hindi literature, thus ensuring that I got an ordinary second division in BA (Hons) English, just good enough to retain the hostel seat and an admission in masters. What happened at Masters I have already mentioned.

In 1990, VP Singh brought Mandal and I managed to convince my father to

let me not waste time in writing civil service examination and started as a stringer for Hindustan Times from a notoriously famous place called Bhagalpur. I was enjoying my stint as 'English paper reporter' in mouffasil India with a monthly salary of Rs 1100, when my father pushed me back to Delhi, where Vinod Mehta, I don't know why, hired me for *The Pioneer*.

I stayed put in the newspaper for 18 years rising to be its associate editor, before I told my mentor Chandan Mitra that with our difference of opinion getting sharper by day, we should part ways. If for nothing else, I would remain indebted to Chandan to never grudging me for 'reading too much beyond newspapers.' *The Pioneer*, nevertheless, gave me ample opportunity to travel through Indian countryside especially covering the elections. This was first hand opportunity to know India which existed in government statistics and reports.

These 20 years in journalism convinced me for the need to have a forum, where the 'not-much-vouched-for' intellectuals could come forward with the 'inarticulate' ideas, sit together and process it together to develop a more 'truer' opinion than what we see on the TV and read in the newspapers. We at the Centre for Reforms, Development and Justice ([www.crdj.in](http://www.crdj.in)), which functions out of my laptop and hired/borrowed committee rooms in Lutyens' Delhi, have not done badly, which you could find for yourself visiting the site.

This exercise has opened new challenges to me. I am visiting campuses telling stories and encouraging faculty and students to read and write beyond curriculum, which at times invites much derision. But I am undaunted, swimming harder and harder. I have also managed to get some of the top brass and leather from my school to narrate tales which they thought were inspiring but did not fetch them a military medal. We have put all these together, and the third of the series is in the line for printing with the first two being runaway success.

In between my love for reading made me grab an opportunity to go back to the

## Rohan Manhas: Aiming for the birdie

**R**ohan Manhas is an alumni of the RIMC, Dehradun. His first passion was rendering service to the nation by joining the Indian army. Despite having qualified for the NDA he could not join due to certain reasons.

He started playing golf at the age of 10. He was introduced to the game by his father Col. K.S.Manhas. Rohan has played a lot of sub junior, junior and amateur level golf at the national level. GOLF for him is 'Game of Lifestyle and Fitness'. He is the only qualified teaching golf professional by the National Golf Academy of India in the entire state of Uttarakhand. He wants to help nurture talent by sharing his knowledge and helping talented youngsters to compete at the national and international level and also helping fellow golfers enjoy the game.

The game of golf in the city of doon is a privilege to the defence personal only with a spattering of



civilians, with his effort to introduce the game to the mass and schools he along with two of his friends opened the Dehradun Golf Academy. In a span of over an year, there are about 30 individual students and kids of 5 schools and and institution (Welham Boys School, The Doon School, Vantage Hall School, Ecole Global School and Indian Military Academy) all under going training.

He is in the process of expanding his services to other schools in due course of time. Rohan has worked with the leading coaches of the country and has imbibed a lot of knowledge from them. His decision of taking up golf coaching as a profession was after most of his friends who are leading professional golfers of the country suggested him to start coaching as they felt he had a knack of imparting knowledge which he possesses to the finest detail.

He is committed to his profession wholeheartedly and is determined to excel at it and propagate to the deserving and talented kids who can have access to the game and in doing so contribute towards the society and to the game as well.



# REPUBLIC DAY FELICITATIONS



Arvind Moudgil, a Rimcollian (1981-1985), has been given the State Award by Chandigarh Administration on the Republic Day 2015 for distinguished contribution in the field of public service for quick disposal of cases as Member (Law) of the Micro and Small Enterprises Facilitation Council. He is the first advocate in UT Chandigarh to receive this award.

Wing Commander Deepak Ahluwalia an avid sportsman has contributed not only to the Air Force but also to the Services Sports at the national and international levels. For his achievement and contribution, he was Felicitated by the Air Force Chief Air Chief Marshal Arup Raha, PVSM, AVSM, VM, ADC on January 26, 2015



Delhi University campus and serve on the governing body of several colleges. This gave me an opportunity to hone my reading and writing skills further and helped my papers and books published from prestigious publishers like the Oxford University Press, Allied Publishers and the National Book Trust. This has given me confidence to commandeer the publication of an internationally accredited academic journal - The Discussant under the aegis of our think tank.

Dr Guha, I have never met you, heard

you only on TV but have read you at length and happy with your success despite you being a 'misfit' in the system. This mail has got much longer than I had anticipated. Do respond, as your mails too would inspire me as much as your books do.

Sincerely  
**Sidharth Mishra**

**Dear Sidharth,**

Thank you for your mail. It is good to know of things that unite us-- Dehradun, DU, and also Chandan

Mitra, who published some of my first articles in the mainstream press (till we too parted ways). Thank you also for the link to your website-- talks and conversations are indeed often far more effective in conveying ideas than the impersonal medium of web and print. However, they can also be very exhausting! I am, of course, older than you, and find that I no longer have the energy to travel and lecture I once had.

With regards, and all the best with your work,

**Ram**

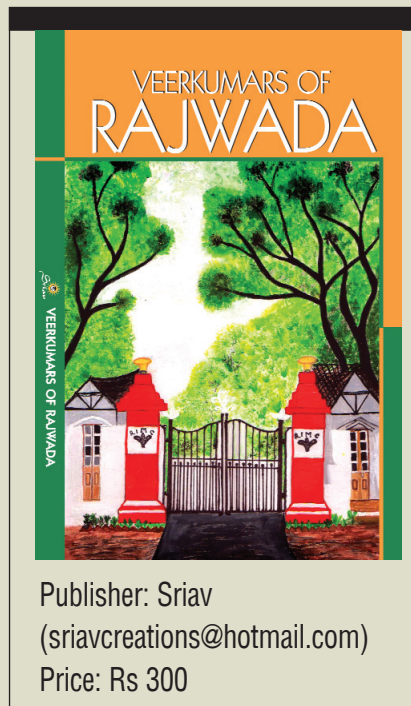
# Knights in shining armour

Veer Kumars of Rajwada takes us deep into the mind and body of soldiers, who nonchalantly and without much fuss recall extraordinary situations which India faced, says **Tania Ameer Khan**

A collection of extraordinary short stories from the alumnus of Rashtriya Indian Military College (RIMC) - Veer Kumars of Rajwada - is a spectacularly engaging book. Right in the beginning, the volume editor Sidharth Mishra, a well-known journalist, gives us a sneak preview of what lies ahead. Elucidating the aptness of the title, Mishra informs that with the Indianisation of the hoary military school in 1960s as a Hindi equivalent the students, who were earlier known as cadets, were rechristened as veer kumars, similar to kumars who were disciples at legendary Guru Dronoacharya's ashram. Also 'to old timers in Dehradun, the campus which hosts RIMC is Rajwada Camp,' writes Mishra.

There is also a belief that Dronacharya had an ashram in Doon valley somewhere near where Rajwada is located. The tales encapsulate outstanding bravado in line of duty by the alumni - the veer kumars - from RIMC. The cover of the book beautifully captures the hallowed portals through which the students reared at Royal (now Rashtriya) Indian Military College emerge as soldiers.

I must confess, being an Air Force brat I have always been very excited to pick such books as I compare them



with the tales of gut and gumption, the ones my father Group Captain (rtd) Ali Ameer had narrated to me as a child. Each of these stories was a heart-wrenching tale of courage and valour from all the three arms of the military - army, navy and air force as well as other security forces. Every time I started reading a new story in the book I recounted my dad - a fighter and transport pilot - smoothly walking out of his hanger in Kanpur, looking smashingly stunning after he had completed his sortie for the day.

One of the stories which I particularly liked is 'Salaam Mumbai' written by Major General Abhaya Kumar Gupta. In this he presents a thrilling real-life account of how the National Security Guard (NSG) managed to intervene and take under control the situation during the Mumbai attack in 26/11. In 2008, Gupta was on the verge of retirement as the Inspector General of Operations (IG OPS) of NSG, when the call of duty came. He recounts the role the NSG courageously essayed during these attacks. Interestingly, despite the chaotic and terrorising situation which was prevalent, Gupta writes when he met the Mumbai police officials, they didn't come out as being very supportive even during the hours of peak crisis. Gupta describes the tragic situation and how it was brought under control by the NSG working in tandem with other security forces. The helicopter drop at Nariman House and Operations at Taj and Oberoi Hotel offer a chilling account of the horrifying day that went down in India's history as one of the worst terror strikes.

In a beautifully written emotive tale - 'When Yusuf crossed the line', Brigadier Jasbir Singh narrates the story of a young Pakistani lad who had unknowingly crossed the border into the Indian territory. The entire idea of a waging war between India and

Pakistan is questioned, at a time when a young innocent boy crosses over and how his fate shapes up finally. This story is a must-read for all as it questions the insanity of war through the metaphor of Yusuf. Following next is Commodore UN Chitnavis intriguing story - Diving Deep to escape fireworks about a submarine on a stealth mission.

After this the book goes on a roll, Brigadier CS Thapa in 'The Lone, Unknown Tamil in Sri Lanka' has woven intricately the tale of Indian army's intervention during crisis struck Sri Lanka in 1986-87. Thapa writes emotively engaging the reader with facts and events, which are interestingly interspersed. Captivatingly penned this story leaves one stunned at the extent of risk a soldier takes while performing his duties on the field. Again a must-read in this collection. Another well-written piece is the next story in line - 'Kartoos..., let's go save the PM', written by Wing Commander UG Kartha who gives a thrilling account of the crash of then prime minister Morarji Desai's plane in November 1977 and the rescue done by IAF pilots. Beautifully presented this story intermixes the challenges a pilot faces in a tricky terrain and adverse weather conditions. The collection is lastly sealed by the 'Worshipping Kedarnath at 0.8 March'

The narrative technique adopted by each writer is in first person, which makes the reader experience and feel each of the adverse situations in varied terrains the writers have encountered in their career. I must laud the effort of these contributors, as each of their stories offer a unique tale of real-life tumultuous situations and how each of them managed to conquer it. Lucidly and beautifully interspersing the human angle in each of these stories makes them both illuminating and highly enjoyable.

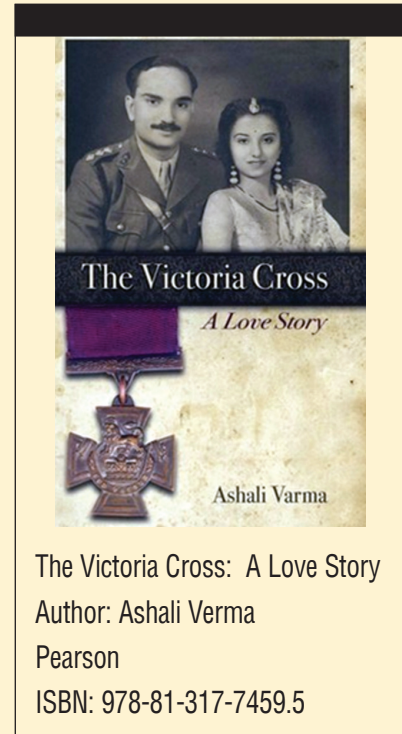
# A TALE OF VALOUR AND CHIVALRY

Major General **Shashikant Pitre (Retd)**

**T**he Victoria Cross - A Love Story' is an ennobling account of the life and times of an iconic General of the Indian Army revered for his resplendent leadership qualities and a gripping tale of his charming wife's fight against Cancer who, in the words of Dylan Thomas 'rages against the dying of the light', told lovingly by their daughter, Ashali Varma.

Lieutenant General Premindra Singh Bhagat was the first Indian recipient of the Victoria Cross (VC) of the Second World War. An epitome of military leadership, he shaped the lives of many of us and through his shining example gave us far more than a military career, he gave us a calling. I dare say that the Indian Army is yet to witness a General more coveted by the officers and men alike than Prem Bhagat. We the young officers were dismayed and disillusioned when he was denied his rightful claim to be the Chief of the Army Staff in 1972, which even prompted Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw to remark that "the Army had missed a First Rate Chief".

Second Lieutenant Bhagat commissioned into the Royal Bombay Sappers on 15 July 1939 went to war in September 1940. Prem's '96 hours with Death' as described by the Time Magazine began on the night of 31st January '41 when during the pursuit of the enemy following the capture of Mehtemma in Ethiopia, he worked for four days over 55 miles to detect and supervise 15 minefields. On two occasions his carrier was blown up and on the third, he was ambushed



The Victoria Cross: A Love Story

Author: Ashali Varma

Pearson

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and came under close enemy fire. He carried on with his task, refused relief when worn out, on the grounds that he was now better qualified to continue his task. He had perforated his eardrums, was bleeding but for 96 long hours he continued to work without any rest or break for food. For his coolness under fire, dogged persistence and valour of the most extraordinary order, he was awarded the highest gallantry medal, the Victoria Cross. His characteristic modesty, when he quipped, 'it was nothing much. I was just doing my job and there were many who died- they should have got the medal' prompted the Times of India to remark, 'Indeed he might have been playing golf instead of exploding landmines'.

However the young subaltern's best reward came when he took his pretty wife, Mohini, for dinner at the Taj and the menu had Prem's picture with his VC pinned on him. The author deftly sketches the vivid war events.

According to Field Marshal Montgomery, military leadership is the will to dominate together with character that inspires confidence; the character being an amalgam of courage to decide, willpower to persist and initiative to be self-starter. General Bhagat fitted this bill in full measure. To recount few of his numerous achievements during his chequered military career, he was the Director of Military Intelligence (DMI) where in 1959-60 he wrote a 31 page Intelligence Appreciation pointing out the gaps in the defensive posture against the Chinese which was not pursued to its logical conclusion by the Government with disastrous consequences; was the Commandant of the prestigious Alma Mater of all budding officers, the Indian Military Academy (IMA); was the co-author of the famed top secret Henderson Brooks-Bhagat Report on the 1962 debacle, which still lies in tight wraps; assiduously raised the 9 Mountain Division, one of the finest fighting formation of the Indian Army (which I, also a Bombay Sapper, had the rare fortune to command three decades after Bhagat did) and was the Army Commander of the Northern Army in 1972 when he ably discharged the intricate mandate of delineating the Line of Control (LOC) after the 1971 War along with Lieutenant General Abdul Hamid Khan of the Pakistan Army.

But more than his exceptional fortitude and outstanding professional acumen, Prem Bhagat's most sterling quality was his genuine and transparent empathy for the led. General Omar Bradley once said that far from being a handicap in command, compassion is the measure of it. Prem valued the lives of his soldiers and was tormented by their ordeal in war and peace. When it came to the elan, comfort and well being of his officers and men, nothing deterred him from doing everything for his men,

whether within or outside his sphere of authority unmindful of the consequences. Ashali, who had the ringside view of her father's extraordinary ability to touch lives of everyone who came across and make them feel that they mattered, comes into her elements when she repeatedly punctuates the narrative with numerous instances of this incandescence of Bhagat's adorable persona. In essence, this is the underlying timbre of the script, which makes it eminently readable and reaches the heart. For this trait for his, Prem was literally worshipped by his officers and men. He was downright honest, candid and brusque with people in power. Probably it was this fibre coupled with his popularity with men that worried the

**COMMANDER OF THE  
NORTHERN ARMY IN 1972  
WHEN HE ABLY DISCHARGED  
THE INTRICATE MANDATE OF  
DELINEATING THE LINE OF  
CONTROL (LOC) AFTER THE  
1971 WAR ALONG WITH  
LIEUTENANT GENERAL  
ABDUL HAMID KHAN OF THE  
PAKISTAN ARMY**

politicians. Nehru once asked him, "So Bhagat, when are you and Thimayya planning to take over the country?" And ostensibly it was a similar apprehension, totally unfounded if it really was so, that prompted Nehru's daughter to deny Bhagat the top notch in the Indian Army.

General Bhagat was a soldier-scholar. His two books, 'Forging the Shield' and 'Wielding Authority in Emerging Countries', are ample proof of his vision beyond his times. Military leaders come in all hues and shapes- the flamboyant, the scholarly, the artistic, the gregarious and the serious professional. Prem was all these rolled into one and the author brings out each vein with immense skill.

Ashali's chronicle becomes more intense and engrossing after Prem finally hangs his sword and is persuaded by Indira Gandhi to take over as the Chairman of the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), a sinking Public Sector monolith. The General turned the fortunes of the DVC in a matter of ten short months with his sound engineering knowledge, innate higher management acumen and 'out of the box' human resource technique. If the figures can speak for themselves, from an output of 45 megawatts the supply increased to 85 megawatts within a month, by October 1974 it had crossed 700 megawatts and by December all restrictions in the consumption of power in West Bengal were lifted. If it sounds like a fairy tale, then it is Prem who possessed the magic wand. Here again he led from the front and was loved by everyone under him. He achieved the seemingly impossible feat because he truly believed that, like the soldier behind the weapon, here too the man was more important than the machine. However, when he was just ten months into this challenging assignment, he fell prey to a wrong medical treatment and died after a brief illness. Ashali eloquently conveys Prem's impact on the DVC in the words of a Durwan who said to the soldiers trying to move people during the funeral march: 'Don't hurry us. He was your General, but for us he was God'.

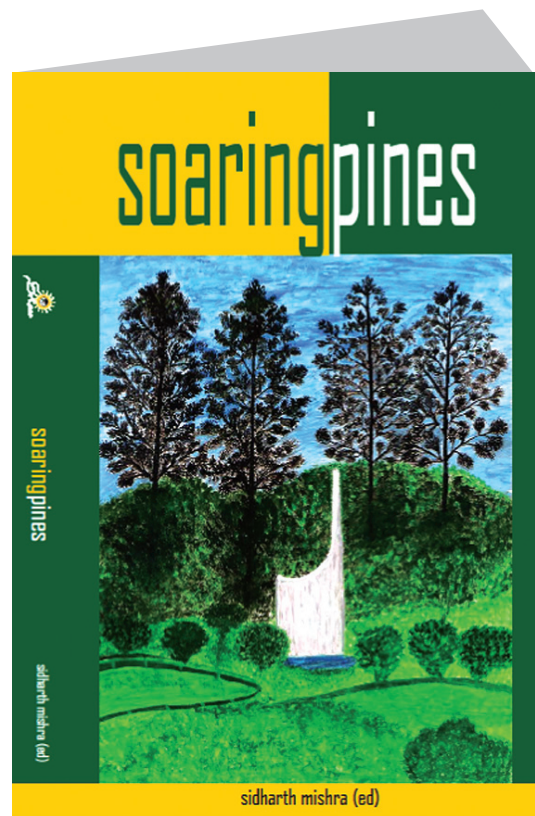
An equally impassioned part of this lofty 'love story' is Mohini's tryst with Cancer and the adorable zest for life that she displays, which runs as a sub-script throughout the narrative. It bestows a rare dimension to the story of the only VC winner who rose to the highest rank.

Churchill once said, 'Often a biography suffers from wrong choice of the subject matter'. This biography doesn't. The title 'The Victoria Cross: a Love Story' sounds quaint, but its import engorges the reader as he reaches its closing pages. Ashali has penned a moving account of a remarkable couple. It is truly an inspiring guide to the art of living.

Releasing on 13 March 2015 at School On

# 93rd Founder's Day

Rashtriya Indian Military College (RMC) in 2022 celebrates its centenary. In the 100 years of its existence, through the body of its alumni and illustrious faculty, the school has been witness to momentous changes in our society. To commemorate the centenary a few old boys of the school have come together to retrace school's journey bringing out a volume each year of collection of essays and/or short stories. These volumes are evolving into what historians describe as sub-altern writing. Never before has any institution in this nation made such attempt at history writing. The first two of the series — *Camphor Avenue* and *Veer Kumar of Rajwada* — were runaway success, with some of the essays being prescribed in a training module at the prestigious IIM-Bangalore.



## Authors

- Brigadier Jasbir Singh ● Brigadier CS Thapa
- Commodore NAJ Joseph ● Colonel Ali Ahmed
- Colonel Kaushik Sircar ● Colonel Shailendra Arya
- Colonel Sanjay Kanoth ● Squadron Leader Mayank Kanungo
- Sidharth Mishra (Editor)

Price: ₹300

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# Roving Eye

## RIMCOLLIANS GET TOGETHER AT WELLINGTON

By Col Vijay Gidh, VSM (Retd), Shivaji 1967-72



It was a wonderful experience visiting Wellington after almost 25 years when we were fortunate to make a trip to the Nilgiris in October last year. Most of us carry very nostalgic memories of our one year stay in Wellington while attending the Defence Services Staff College Course in spite of the hectic and busy schedule during the Course. In addition, meeting the Rimcollian Student Officers attending the Staff Course gives a real sense of excitement.

Attending a Rimcollians Get Together anywhere and anytime has always been a pleasure. Imagine catching up with 24 young smart Rimcollian Student officers in the midst of the

salubrious climate of the Blue Mountains, specially when one has had the privilege of being their Instructor some 15-20 years back in our Alma Mater! The DSSC Staff Course Serial 70 which commenced in June 2014 has broken all past records established by Rimcollians in Wellington, with 17 officers from the Army, 2 from the Air Force and 5 from Navy attending. There are 5 Rimcollian officers presently posted as DS in DSSC, which also seems to be a record. Most of us remember only 10-12 Rimcollian Student Officers attending anytime with 3-4 officers posted as Instructors.

The Rimcollian Student officers kind-

ly organized a Get Together for us in the beautiful surroundings of the Wellington Lake, which is well maintained by The Madras Regimental Centre. It was a lovely evening meeting these young budding officers and their better halves. Fortunately I was able to recognize almost all of them even though it was 15-20 years since one had the privilege of seeing them as young cadets in RIMC when posted as Adm Officer in 1994-95. Some of the junior ones had also been cadets in NDA during my tenure as BnCDr in early 2000s.

The Get Together was good. It was nice to catch up with news in Wellington. Rimcollians are doing well

in the Course and have had two Get Togethers earlier in Ooty and Coonor. During the Industrial & Demonstration Tours (IDT) organized in January every year to Army, Naval or Air Force institutes or locations and defence industries in Mumbai, Pune, Nashik and Ahmednagar, the student officers travel by air and stay in 5-star hotels like

Hotel Trident (Oberoi Continental), Mumbai or Sun-n-Sand, Pune. What a welcome change from the Military Ambulance special trains we were so used to for travel or staying during our times! The Air Force and Naval officers were looking forward to their Forward Area Tour (FAT) to remote Army formations on our Northern or North Eastern

borders in mid October. When I learnt that some of them would be visiting my unit location in remote Arunachal Pradesh, they kindly agreed to carry a small gift packet of Nilgiri tea for my unit officers posted there. I was overwhelmed to get a Thank You message from our unit Commanding Officer later.

## BANGALORE RIMCOLLIAN GET TOGETHER ON 28 NOV 14

By Wg Cdr KA Cariappa (1981-85, Pratap)

The Bangalore Rimcollians get together was held at the MEG Mess at 1930h on 28th Nov. The evening had a slight nip in the air and thirty-two heads made it due to a last minute change of date. We all were amazed at Lt Col TP Sharma's organizing abilities. He had roped in the MEG Band and we had live music. The band belted out some lovely music across generations. Liquor flowed as usual and

the ladies had access to some lovely mocktails. The continental spread inclusive of Topsy Pudding and the mandatory Scotch Eggs was exceptionally good.

Bonhomie is the hallmark whenever Rimcollians get together and this evening was no different. There were some who were making an appearance after a long hiatus. A movie on RIMC was screened and the crowd became

nostalgic and ideas to sponsor an edition of 'The Rimcollian' and also contribute towards the Centenary celebrations at RIMC came up. CB and Grass volunteered contributions towards the magazine and others joined in. Rajesh Parmar and Mrs Anjana Parmar joined the band and rendered a few songs to enthral everyone and make the evening a memorable one.



Photo Courtesy: Col Rajesh Parmar (Not in Pic)

**Standing L to R:** Col Girish Gujjala, Cdr Sunny Verghese, Wg Cdr K A Cariappa, Col Salam K Singh, Mr Chiranjit Banerjee, Col Swapan Bhadra, Brig Vijay Kumar, Mr Ranjit George, Col Dilip Kumar, Lt Col Ravi Bangari, Col Rajeev Bhatia, Mr Tarun Massey, Mr Mushtaq Ahmed, Sqn Ldr GRS Reddy, Fg Offr Prashant Verma & Ms Meghali Bhatia

**Seated L to R:** Mrs Uday Bir Singh, Mrs Reshma Cariappa, Mrs Anjana Parmar, Mrs Shirin Banerjee, Mrs Sudha Bhatia, Mrs Vijay Kumar, Mrs Geetu Salam Singh, Mrs Vandana Bangari & Mrs Ritu Bhatia

**Kneeling in front:** Sqn Ldr Akshay BS Sangma, Lt Col TP Sharma, Lt Col Lalit Bhatia and Uday Bir Singh

# RIMCOLLIANS : UK & EU CHAPTER

22nd June 2014 @ Hilton, Mayfair, London, UK

By Dr Deepak Narwal, Chandragupta, 1981-86



**L to R standing:** Mrs Margaret Singh, Alisha N, Daljit Singh, Deepak Narwal, Jasleen Arora, Mrs Narwal, Mrs Suri (in blue sari), Saranjit Arora, Viscountess Slim, Viscount John Slim, Vice Admiral Harinder Singh, Mrs Ashali Varma (guest of honour and Gen. Prem Bhagat's daughter), Ajay Mehta, Mrs Mehta, Mrs (Harinder) Singh, Mrs Sood, Mrs (Jeetesh) Singh, Vivek Sood, Kanika Kankan (Cdr Abhishek Kankan's sister) and Priya N.

**Front row:** Priyank Nandan (Gen Rakesh Nandan's son), Marcus Pradhan, Air Chief Marshall NC Suri, Brajendu Bhaskar, Jeetesh Singh, Dr Sanjay Mehta, Sanjaya Varma

Following the success of last summer's reunion, we had another brilliant reunion at the Hilton Green Park in Mayfair, London on the 22nd June 2014. One of the leading authors, Stephen Covey once said, "To class any event as 'a successful event', one needs to do follow three essential steps - PLANNING, EXECUTION and FEED-BACK.

That's exactly what I did with help of my wife, Sonja, Rimcollians -Marcus

Pradhan, Saranjit Arora, Jeetesh Singh and above all under the guidance of ACM Suri.

The venue was chosen as the Hilton Hotel in Mayfair not only because of its close proximity to Green Park near Buckingham Palace, but mainly because the Food and Beverage Manager, Mr Raj Puranik was from Dehradun itself and knew exactly who we Rimcollians are and our close knit bond. He mentioned that it would be an honour to serve our

fraternity. We sat down with the chef and created a special menu including 'scotch eggs'.

The first Rimcollian to arrive at the venue was Mr Daljit Singh with his wife, Margaret. They are now retired and came all the way from Barnstaple in Devon. Amongst our senior Rimcollians, we had the privilege of having the company of Viscount John D Slim and Air Chief Marshall NC Suri along with their wives. Vice Admiral



Harinder Singh and his wife also attended as they were visiting the country from India. I thank Cdr Inderjit Singh for informing me about their visit. I also took the privilege of inviting Kanika Kankan, (sister of Cdr Abhishek Kankan) and Priyank Nandan (son of Lt Gen Rakesh Nandan) to share our 'Rimcollian bond'. The following Rimcollians attended the reunion:-

1. VISCOUNT JOHN D SLIM
2. VISCOUNTESS SLIM
3. ACM NC SURI (Retd)
4. MRS SURI
5. MS ASHALI VARMA - guest of honour
6. MR VARMA
7. VICE ADMIRAL HARINDER SINGH (Retd)
8. WIFE
9. VIVEK SOOD
10. MRS SOOD
11. DALJIT SINGH
12. MRS MARGARET SINGH
13. PRIYANK NANDAN
14. DR D NARWAL + 2 children
15. MRS NARWAL

16. AJAY MEHTA
17. MRS MEHTA
18. SANJAY MEHTA
19. SARANJIT ARORA
20. MISS JASLEEN ARORA
21. JEETESH SINGH
22. MRS SINGH
23. KANIKA KANKAN
24. MARCUS PRADHAN
25. BRAJENDU BHASKAR

Viscount John D Slim spoke about the Second World War and his father's (Gen. Slim) role in Burma. As always, he spent most of his time motivating the young Rimcollians and sharing their experiences. Ms Ashali Varma who has written an amazing book (The Victoria Cross- A Love Story) about her father, General Prem Bhagat, presented copies to Viscount Slim, ACM Suri and myself.

Ashali Varma was accompanied by her husband. Her father, Gen Prem Bhagat, was one of the greatest 'officer and a gentleman' and has been one of the most influential generals in the Indian Army. Ashali has dedicated her memories of her father in form of a best seller, 'The

Victoria Cross- A Love Story'.

Air Chief Marshall NC Suri welcomed Mrs Ashali Varma and her husband, Mr Sanjaya Varma in his speech and spoke briefly about the secularism and religious harmony and how important it is in this day and age.

Another joshy Rimcollian, Ajay Mehta, who I met in London last year, attended along with his better half and son. Vivek Sood and his wife joined us after a couple of years and it was indeed a great pleasure to meet them. Amongst the young Rimcollians, newly married Jeetesh Singh joined us accompanied with his wife. Another young Rimcollian, Brajendu Bhaskar, a Cambridge graduate joined us. He is now working in London with a law firm. According to my wife, Sonja, who always keeps away from the lime light, "it was a day filled vibrant atmosphere with good food and great company".

We hope to have many more get together in the years to come and share our experiences with all Rimcollians.

ICH DIEN I

RIMCOLLIAN OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION		BALANCE SHEET AS AT		31.03.2014
PARTICULARS		AMOUNT RS.		
<b>A LIABILITIES</b>				
<b>1 CORPUS FUND</b>				
Balance brought forward		23,54,837		
Received during the year		6,36,244		
Surplus during the year		(18,355)		29,72,726
<b>2 MEDIA &amp; PUBLIC FUND</b>				
Balance brought forward		-		
Received during the year		4,97,771		
Surplus during the year		15,592		5,13,363
<b>3 CENTENARY FUND</b>				
Balance brought forward		-		
Received during the year		500		
Surplus during the year		-		500
<b>4 CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
a ROBA Trust		3,03,302		
b Advance from Treasurer		6,220		
c Expenses Payable		3,53,360		6,62,882
<b>Total</b>				<b>41,49,471</b>



Hony Treasurer  
Rimcollian Old  
Boys Association

B ASSETS			
<b>1 INVESTMENTS</b>			
<b>Fixed Deposits with Companies (including accrued interest)</b>			
a LIC Housing Finance Ltd.		9,00,000	
b ICICI Housing Finance Ltd.		2,00,000	
c PNB Housing Finance Ltd.		1,75,000	
d Housing & Urban Development Corporation Ltd.		5,00,000	
e HDFC Ltd.		8,75,000	26,50,000
<b>2 CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
<b>a Interest Accrued But Not Due</b>			
Balance brought forward		32,563	
Add : Accrued During The Year		2,17,043	
Less : Received During The Year		(1,91,005)	58,601
b Stock of Souvenirs			88,250
c Tax Deducted At Source			36,480
d Income Tax Refund Due			40,753
			2,24,089
<b>3 CASH &amp; BANK BALANCES</b>			
a Balance at Bank		12,75,382	12,75,382
			<b>41,49,471</b>

Place : New Delhi  
Dated : September 16, 2014

**AUDITORS' REPORT**

"As per our separate report of even date  
for A.K.Sethi & Co.  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Regn. No.: 004656N

(A.K.Sethi)  
Partner  
Mem.No.: 083795



(Treasurer)  
Hony Treasurer  
Rimcollian Old  
Boys Association

RIMCOLLIAN OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION		INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT		31.03.2014
PARTICULARS		AMOUNT RS.		
<b>1 SALES</b>				
Sale of Souvenirs				
<b>2 DIRECT EXPENSES</b>				
a Opening Stock of Souvenirs		88,250		
b Purchases		-		
		88,250		
c Less : Closing Stock of Souvenirs		88,250		
<b>3 OTHER INCOMES</b>				
a Interest on Company Deposits		2,17,043		
b Donations		28,730		
c Interest on Income Tax Refund		1,155		
d Bank interest		11,567		2,58,495
<b>4 EXPENDITURES</b>				
a Bank Charges		521		
b Honorarium		1,62,000		
c RIMC Staff Incentive		45,200		
c Conveyance		1,315		
d Postage & Stamps		4,335		
e Printing & Stationery		1,750		
g Newsletter Publication Expenses		10,000		
h Audit Fee		16,854		
i Telephone/ Website Expenses		19,283		2,61,258
<b>5 Surplus/ (Deficit) during the year</b>				<b>(2,763)</b>

Place : New Delhi  
Dated : September 16, 2014

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for A.K.Sethi & Co.  
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(A.K.Sethi)  
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(Treasurer)  
Hony Treasurer  
Rimcollian Old  
Boys Association

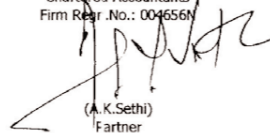
BALANCE SHEET ROBA

RIMCOLLIAN OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION TRUST BALANCE SHEET AS AT		31.03.2014
PARTICULARS	AMOUNT RS.	
<b>A SOURCES OF FUNDS</b>		
<b>1 CORPUS FUND:</b>		
Balance brought forward	2,17,74,350	
Received during the year	11,23,825	
Surplus during the year	8,91,251	<b>2,37,89,426</b>
<b>2 CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
a Honorarium Payable	18,500	
b RIMC	51,200	
c Expenses Payable	33,708	<b>1,03,408</b>
<b>Total Sources</b>		<b>2,38,92,834</b>
<b>B APPLICATION OF FUNDS</b>		
<b>1 INVESTMENTS</b>		
<u>Fixed Deposits:</u>		
a LIC Housing Finance Ltd.	66,00,000	
b Housing & Urban Development Corporation Ltd.	5,50,000	
c PNB Housing Finance Ltd.	36,07,224	
d HDFC Ltd.	53,50,000	
e ICICI Housing Finance Ltd.	21,50,000	
f Canfin Homes Ltd.	3,50,000	
g Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.	23,00,000	<b>2,09,07,224</b>
<b>2 CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
a <u>Interest Accrued But Not Due</u>		
Balance brought forward	3,66,275	
Add : Accrued During The Year	19,30,687	
Less : Received During The Year	(18,84,777)	4,12,185
b Interest Receivable	4,51,672	
c Sundry Receivables	3,03,302	
d Income Tax Refund Due	2,66,621	
e Tax Deducted At Source	1,26,091	<b>15,59,870</b>
<b>3 CASH &amp; BANK BALANCES</b>		
a Balance at Bank	14,25,740	<b>14,25,740</b>
		<b>2,38,92,834</b>

**AUDITORS' REPORT**

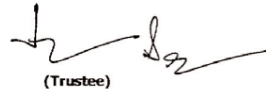
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for **A.K.Sethi & Co.**  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Reg. No.: 0046568

  
(A.K.Sethi)  
Partner

Mem. No.: 083795

Place : New Delhi  
Dated : September 16, 2014

  
(Trustee)

TRUSTEE  
RIMCOLLIAN OLD BOYS  
ASSOCIATION (ROBA) TRUST

**RIMCOLLIAN OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION TRUST INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31.03.2014**

PARTICULARS	AMOUNT RS.	
<b>1 INCOMES</b>		
a Interest/ Dividends on Deposits/ Unit:	19,30,687	
b Donations	59,521	
c Interest Or Income Tax Refund	7,310	
d Bank interest	2,59,087	<b>22,56,605</b>
<b>2 EXPENDITURES</b>		
a Scholarships	91,500	
b Bank Charges	807	
c Honorarium	11,53,092	
d Audit Fee	33,708	
e Conveyance	1,315	
f Internet/ Website Charges	15,725	
g Postage & Courier	4,335	
h Printing & Stationery	1,750	
i Telephone Expenses	3,558	
j RIMC Cadets Welfare	59,564	<b>13,65,354</b>
<b>3 Surplus/ (Deficit) during the year</b>		<b>8,91,251</b>

**AUDITORS' REPORT**

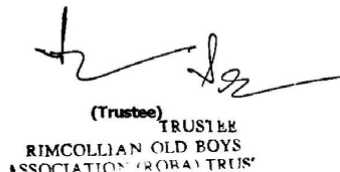
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(A.K.Sethi)  
Partner

Mem. No.: 083795

Place : New Delhi  
Dated : September 16, 2014

  
(Trustee)  
TRUSTEE  
RIMCOLLIAN OLD BOYS  
ASSOCIATION (ROBA) TRUST

**PROGRAMME OF EVENTS**  
**93<sup>rd</sup> REUNION**  
**12 MAR - 14 MAR 2015**

<b>12 MAR 2015</b>			
1.	FN	Arr Rimcollians	
2.	1330h– 1430h	ROBA Trust Meeting	Main Office
3.	1515h– 1615h	Hockey Match : Old Boys Vs Cadets	Pavilion
4.	1630 h	Tea with Cadets	Pavilion
5.	1800h	Boxing	Open Air Auditorium
6.	2000h	Comdt's Dinner	Cadets' Mess Lawns
<b>13 MAR 2015</b>			
7.	0745h– 0855h	Breakfast	Cadets' Mess
8.	0900h– 0910h	Wreath Laying / Fly Past	War Memorial
9.	0915h– 1015h	- General Body Meeting – Old Boys - Coffee Morning for Ladies	- Bhagat Hall - Comdt Residence
10.	1015h– 1045h	Gp Photographs	Education Block
11.	1100h –1400h	- Horse Show - Cricket Match : Old Boys Vs Cadets	Pavilion
12.	1400h– 1500h	Lunch	Cadet Captain's Lawn
13.	1530h– 1615h	Visit Archives & Library	Edn Block
14.	1800h– 1830h	View Hobby Display	Multipurpose Hall
15.	1830h– 1845h	Address by Comdt	Thimayya Auditorium
16.	1845h– 1900h	Presentation of Awards	Thimayya Auditorium
17.	1900h– 1920h	Address by Chief Guest	Thimayya Auditorium
18.	1920h– 2015h	Cultural Pgme	Thimayya Auditorium
19.	2030h	Old Boys Dinner	Cadets' Mess Lawns
<b>14 MAR 2015</b>			
20.	0730h– 0930h	Breakfast	Cadets' Mess
21.	0930h onwards	Departure	Cadets' Mess

P P C

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*On its 93rd Anniversary*

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indigenisation journey  
accomplished under  
the guidance of  
Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.

MFDs BY  
SAMTEL-HAL JV  
INDUCTED ON  
SU-30 MKI



Technology developed under the  
aegis of **DARE (DRDO)**.

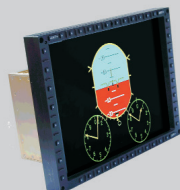
Qualification and flight testing  
of MFD done under aegis of **HAL**  
and **CEMILAC**.

Product perfected through  
extensive flight testing by **IAF**.

MFD Production in full swing for  
Su-30 MKI Block-III & Block-IV  
production aircraft at our  
**DGAQA** qualified manufacturing  
facilities.

**ROAD AHEAD:** Indigenous  
avionics displays and systems  
on all HAL star platforms.

**SHDS**  
SAMTEL HAL  
DISPLAY SYSTEMS



Next-generation  
Large size MFDs



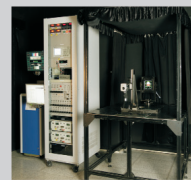
Multifunction Indicators  
3ATI & 4ATI

Helmet Mounted  
Sight Displays  
(HMSDs)



Head Up  
Displays (HUDs)

Automated Test  
Equipment (ATEs)



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