



# THE ROUNDTHEADS

NEWS LETTER OF THE LFB RETIRED MEMBERS ASSOCIATION  
PRESIDENT RON DOBSON QFSM [WWW.LFBRMA.ORG](http://WWW.LFBRMA.ORG)

**ISSUE No 12  
WINTER 2011**

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
& HAPPY NEW  
2012**



**PHOTOS FROM  
THE 2011 AGM**

photos by keith sefton

**JOIN US NEXT  
YEAR & MEET  
SOME OLD  
FRIENDS**

**BOOK COMPETITION  
ON PAGE 8  
LFBRMA GRAND  
DRAW 2011 RESULTS  
Page 10**

## THE CHAIRMAN WRITES



The Association has been represented at a number of events during the summer, the first of which was a memorial service at the Braidwood Family Memorial in Abney Park Cemetery. This is located behind Stoke Newington Fire Station and the service was held to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the death of James Braidwood, London's first Chief Fire Officer. This was a very moving service conducted by our Chaplain Jeff Potter and with contributions by both the Association and the LFB. Unfortunately it was a very wet day and all those who attended were fairly soaked but were later able to dry out in Stoke Newington Fire Station refreshed with tea and cakes. This was followed a few days later by a service at the Crown Church of Scotland in Covent Garden. James Braidwood had been an elder of the church and there is a plaque at the back of the church dedicated to him. A 1920's vintage fire pump was also in attendance at the church and this interested not only the congregation but also a number of the many tourists that are always in the Covent Garden area. On the 19th July many Association members attended the presentation ceremony held by the Firefighters Memorial Trust at the Honorable Artillery Company in City Road. Her Royal Highness Princess Anne also attended the ceremony at which the Trust formally received its Royal Charter and new standard. Fortunately the weather stayed sunny for the outside formalities but the skies opened up once the guests had entered the headquarters building for the reception. It was a very enjoyable day especially as our members were able to support this very worthwhile charity and also proudly parade our own standard. On 11th September the annual International Service of Remembrance was held in St Paul's Cathedral to jointly recognize the 20th anniversary of the formal formation of the original Firefighters Memorial Charitable Trust Fund (now renamed the Firefighters Memorial Trust following the grant of a Royal Charter in 2010) and the tenth anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the Twin Towers in New York City. Some 330 firefighters were killed in the aftermath of this atrocity. This very moving and poignant service, attended by the American Ambassador, was followed by the associated annual wreath laying ceremony at the National Monument on the south side of St Paul's. A wreath was laid on behalf of the Association and once again our standard was proudly paraded along with those of all the other British Fire Services that took part. I look forward to seeing many of you at the Association's annual dinner and dance in October at the Charing Cross Hotel, which is always a very enjoyable evening, and hope that a number of you will have supported the raffle which, if successful, will help to keep our membership contributions down at the current level. Once again I would like to thank our Secretary Barry Sargent, the Branch Secretaries and the Members of the Committee for all their hard work and support throughout the year. It is a great privilege for me to represent the Association at all these special events and I thank all our members for their continuing support.

## LFBRMA WINE CLUB



The LFBRMA wine club is the website where you will find just great wine, at affordable prices from smaller producers from around the world. You won't find these wines in any large supermarkets or other wine chains. The wines are not mass-produced in a large factory or co-operatives. We have set this up for the benefit of the members where we have negotiated a 5% discount off the normal retail prices for all the wines (the prices shown already take this into account) plus there is a donation to our funds for each sale. So enjoy the wine and benefit us all as well!

**Martin Coffey** Chairman LFBRMA



Visit our wine club at [www.lfburma.org](http://www.lfburma.org) and follow the link

# THE ROUNDTHEADS

## SOME OF THIS YEARS RMA EVENTS

**With** the kind permission of the Commissioner and the Authority the AGM was once again held in the Sir Frederick Delve Suite Southwark. It was well attended and following the meeting Martin Coffey our Chairman together with the Commissioner and Councillor Coleman hosted a small reception for those members who had attended. The RMA thanked both the Commissioner and the Authority for allowing us the use of Southwark and it is hoped that the facility will be available to us for the foreseeable future.

The Reunion which followed the AGM, was held this year in the Jerwood Space, an Art Gallery/ meeting place situated in Union Street next to Brigade HQ. Although the Reunion was not as well attended as previous years, and with the failure to hold a Reunion in 2010, members who attended gave a positive feed back and reports suggest that all had an enjoyable afternoon renewing old acquaintances and swinging the lamp, it is hoped that next year's Reunion will grow to become as popular as when the Marquee was erected in the Yard at Southwark. Both cash bars and hot food were organised and managed by the staff of the Jerwood Space, a few problems were encountered during the afternoon, but on the whole as this was their first attempt at organising this type of event we all experienced a pleasant afternoon. It was a pity that heavy rain forced members from the open spaces surrounding the Gallery to go indoors. It is hoped that next years Reunion will again be held again at the same venue; details will be sent out in the New Year. **On** a wet day at the beginning of June, 18 members together with their partners experienced a guided tour of St. Paul's Cathedral. The tour was arranged and given by Donald Bon who is a member of the Worshipful Company of Fire-fighters. Lunch was taken in a restaurant opposite the Cathedral, and following lunch some members returned to the Cathedral for an extended visit.

**In** July thanks to our Membership Secretary Jim Geoghegan, a tour of the House of Commons was arranged for 20 members. Following the tour which lasted 2 hours a welcomed lunch with suitable liquid refreshments was taken in the Civil Service Club. **August** saw 38 members take to the Thames for our annual Lunch Cruise. During cruise which lasts for 1 1/2 hours lunch is taken while cruising to the Thames Barrier returning to Embankment Pier, and then to the Civil Service Club to finish off the afternoon in their bar. **This** years Battlefield Tour took us to Waterloo, where we visited the scene of the Battle and climbed the Lions Mount which is over 100ft high and overlooks the Battlefield. After visiting Napoleons last HQ lunch was taken in Le Bivauoc restaurant which forms part of a complex on the edge of the battlefield, where you can find waxworks a museum and the Lions Mount, Following a day on the Battlefield a pleasant evening was spent in the centre of Waterloo. The following morning on the way back to the UK we stopped to visit Le Blockhouse near Calais. This was the site where the Germans made and launched the V1 and V2 rockets onto the UK towards the end of the 2nd war. **The** last event of the year was our annual dinner/dance which took place once again in the Charing Cross Hotel. Following an excellent 4 course meal the Grand Draw took place, (the results can be found in this issue of the magazine), the business over it was on with the dancing shoes where members and guests danced until midnight to the sounds of the Joel White Band. Now that the events for 2011 have come to a close I should like to thank all members who took time out to support the Association which in turn made all the events a success. I hope that the events that are to be arranged for 2012 will be as successful with more members giving their support.

**Barry Sargent Secretary**

## FIRE BRIGADE MODELS

There are 3 types of 1960's, 1970's style firemen;  
all are 9 inches tall  
& made of cold cast bronze.



1960's style uniform hand painted,  
with black leggings and helmet. £79.00

1970's style uniform hand painted,  
with yellow leggings and helmet. £79.00

Un- Painted £69.00



These prices include vat and posting, there is also a 32 paged catalogue at £6.00  
which has the full range of fire figure's and fire engine model's  
Check out my web site [www.firebrigademodels.net](http://www.firebrigademodels.net)

**PAUL SLADE FIREBRIGADE MODELS**  
**15 GRENNELL CLOSE, SUTTON SURREY, SM1 3LU**  
**0208 644 8730**

# THE ROUNDTHEADS

## DEAR EDITOR

Dear Editor, following the fire at The Leinster Tower Hotel on 6th. June 1969. To commemorate the splendid fire fighting and rescue of at least 50 people, a special Order, the first of its kind, was issued by The Chief Officer. I am trying to trace a copy of that Order for one of those attending the incident. I have tried the usual channels without success, and wonder if you could promulgate a request through "The Round Threads" for a photocopy of the Order. I attach a poor photograph of the incident (sorry) as this may spark some interest.

Best regards **Ted Harrington**



▲ The Leinster Towers Hotel fire in London's Bayswater from which 45 residents were rescued after fire broke out on the fourth floor soon after dawn. Note the wheeled escapes and hook ladders in use as over 100 firefighters finally get the upper hand. (London Fire Brigade) 6 June 1969

Dear Editor;

Reading Shout Magazine today I was interested to see a few familiar faces getting their 20, 30 and 40 year long service medals. Good Luck and well done to them. At Southwark we were told there were 3 things that we could proudly look forward too during our 30 year Firefighting careers, 1 passing our four yearly qualified firefighters assessment, 2 receiving our Long service medal and 3 being given our mounted axe on retirement. I achieved 2 out of the 3. My axe is hanging pride of place in the hall for people who come round to see. How I wish I could have received my 20 yr service medal in 2002 with my wife and daughters watching and in January 2012 receive my 30 yr medal. Sadly due to an accident whilst taking part in a drill, I have never felt the pride of being presented with these because during this exercise I broke my spine in 2 places. In fact the only proof that I was in the Brigade at all is a letter of commendation (counter signed by ACO Clarkson) from the Chief Officer of The Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue service and of course my Axe. Many of you reading this (if it does indeed get published anywhere!) are probably wondering what am I moaning about, after all I am still alive when other Firefighters have lost their lives whilst on duty. All I am asking is why can't those of us who have been forced to leave the Job, through a Due to Service injury or other medical condition forcing retirement be invited to the medal ceremonies. If not to get a medal then receive some form of official recognition that we had served in The Brigade.

Be safe and best wishes

**Tim Jones ex LFM G31 Northolt G/W**

Dear Editor,

with reference to your request for information of the photo taken at Bishopsgate in 1968, I can identify the person in the front row second from left (wearing glasses) as Maurice Ray (known to colleagues as Dick) who was Station Officer at Bishopsgate in the London Ambulance Service. Sadly he died in 1993 shortly after retiring. I hope this information is useful to you.

Bob Miles

Retired London Fireman



# THE ROUNDTHEADS

## James Braidwood Memorial.

Wednesday the 22nd June saw the 150th anniversary of the death of James Braidwood, Chief Officer of the London Fire Engine Establishment. He was killed at a fire in Tooley Street which was reported at the time to be the largest fire that London had seen since the Great Fire in 1666. He was interred in a family grave in Abney Park cemetery Stoke Newington, many dignitaries of the day attended, and the cortege it is said was over 1 mile long. June the 22nd 2011 was a very wet and windy day and it was with great pleasure that I can report that many people from the Braidwood family, local Council, LFB and the RMA turned out to remember a man who is affectionately known as the father of modern fire fighting. Following the service which was led by our Chaplain Jeff Potter, and wreath laying, light refreshments were served in Stoke Newington Fire Station. Artefacts of Braidwood's from the Brigade museum were on show for the guests to view. On behalf of the RMA who organised the event with the Brigade's Resources section, I should like to offer my thanks to Station Manager Paul Szemerej and the on duty watch for their hospitality and help on the day. [Barry Sargent Secretary](#)

'Photos by Tony Hardiman/FR Pix'



## Request from a serving firemen in Shropshire

I have just bought an 1974 ERF Registration Number VAN 525N which was based at Shooters Hill.  
I would like to speak with anyone who knows about the appliance. The history, stowage and any large fires it attended etc.  
If you can help please phone Keith Robinson on 07713890841

## James Braidwood Commemoration Service

On Sunday 26th June 2011 at the Crown Court Church of Scotland, Russell Street, Covent Garden, London a service was held to remember James Braidwood, father of modern firefighting who was an elder of this church. The service was led by Reverend Philip Majher assisted by Reverend Timothy Fletcher. Mr Martin Coffee, Chairman of the L.F.B.R.M.A. his wife, and Mr. Barry.Sargent and his wife were in the congregation. The standard of the L.F.B.R.M.A was carried by Norman Paulding during the opening hymn and laid upon the communion table. Lessons were read by Councilor Brian Coleman, Chairman of the London Fire and Emergency Planning Committee and Professor David Bland. OBE. Master of the Worshipful Company of Firefighters. After the service, a lot of interest was shown in a 1916 Braidwood fire appliance with a Dennis body and some of those present had rides on it. . Mr Derek Braidwood and his sister, descendants of Sir James attended both services.

[N.A.Paulding.](#)



'Photos by Tony Hardiman/FR Pix'

# THE ROUNDTHEADS



## CALLING ALL WW 11 VETERANS



I am writing to you on behalf of World War II veterans who, due to a lack of advertising, may not have been aware that in 2010 financial grants, Heroes Return II, were available from the Big Lottery Fund to enable veterans to pay a visit of remembrance to the theatre of war that they were involved in. Veterans and widows of veterans, who served during WWII in any of the British Armed Services, qualify, and the offer extends to the Merchant Navy. In some cases, (WAAF's, ATS, Wren's etc) may also apply if their service was closely linked to active service personnel. It appears that the number of veterans, claiming these grants were far less than anticipated resulting in these grants being extended to December 31st 2011. It would be extremely helpful if you can find space in your newspaper to make these details known so that veterans, who will now be aged 80 and over, may still take advantage of these grants and plan a visit. The grants range from £330 to cover travel, accommodation and insurance for 3 people, veteran, spouse and carer, within the UK, £1,300 to Northern Europe, £2200 to Mediterranean & Nth Africa, £4,250 to Egypt and Middle East and £5.500 to the Far East and the rest of the world. As I have received a grant for a visit I made last December, I would be more than willing to advise any of your members on how and where to claim It would also be most helpful, and if you have time and space, to reproduce this letter on your web edition.

Ted Cachart (Chairman of the 49 Squadron Association)  
4 Cottage Close  
Heage, Belper, Derbyshire. DE 56 2BS  
Tel: 01773 853 181 e mail: [ted@49squadron.co.uk](mailto:ted@49squadron.co.uk)

**This Oaktree is known as the Arnhem Oak.  
It was found in a steel helmet and brought back from Arnhem as a seedling- This Tree was replanted in the Churchyard at Donnington Lincolnshire at that time and in the Church there is a small Chapel Area. Dedicated to the 1 Para Royal Engineers who fought at Oosterbeek Arnhem - we came across this during a short break in Lincolnshire- The Royal Engineers were also known as the 1st Parachute Squadron Royal Engineers – Norman Paulding**



The Service of Remembrance was again held at the LFB Memorial in Highgate Cemetery, the RMA Standard was paraded by Dave Bradbury and a wreath was laid by George and Olive Perren on behalf of the Association. Following the service a reception was held at Kentish Town Fire station, where suitable refreshments were taken by those attending the service. Photos by Tony Hardiman/FR Pix

# THE ROUNDTHEADS

## HELL IN PARADISE

**February 2011 was a month to remember.**

My wife and I travelled to The Seychelles, to celebrate our 30th Wedding Anniversary. Our hotel was set in idyllic surroundings, a small secluded bay and private beach. The weather was superb both day and night. On February 14<sup>th</sup> St Valentines Day, we had a candlelit dinner overlooking the bay, to mark the day when we had married. Little were we to know that our world on a "paradise island" would change so suddenly. It was mid afternoon, two days later; the waters appeared calm and tranquil, perfect for swimming snorkelling and diving. I took to the water with only a snorkel and mask, as no fins were available, but I was assured by the hotel staff that it was a safe to swim without them. Continuously checking my location in relation to the beach, I felt confident and at ease. I turned and commenced my return to the beach, which was now 150 yards away and 50 yards from, and parallel to the raised hotel bar. All was still good and the sea creatures amazing. I had swam approximately 50 yards back toward dry land, when I realised that I was continuing to view the same section of the sea bed, and was making no headway back to the safety of the beach. Abandoning the breast stroke, I adopted the front crawl, only to find I was still being swept out to sea by an undercurrent. My doctor has prescribed to me, two types of tablets for serious back problems. These can cause me breathing problems, when I have reason to exert an excess of energy. Usually, this is easily rectified with a few moments rest. I made a quick judgement that because I could not rest, recover and gain my breath; I was going to be unable to swim back to the beach, so I immediately called for "help". I later became aware that my wife heard my call and raced to the bar area overlooking the sea as I floundered attempting to stay afloat. The wind was against the rescuers and a life belt that was thrown, fell some 30 yards short. I screamed for help to those at the bar area, who appeared to be doing nothing other than throw a life belt. I could not recognise my wife as one of many overlooking faces. I became angry at the thought that I would be left to die, when I, like many in the fire service, had been instrumental in saving the lives of others. Why would they not help me in my moment of need? I floundered and screamed again and again, and went under the surface of the water twice, struggling back to fight for my survival, I didn't want to be watched by a crowd and left to die. Growing weaker by the second and more out of breath, I was convinced that I was about to die and that my loved ones would not hear me say one more time that "I love them all dearly". I floundered in the water for a period of time that seemed to last forever. Suddenly I became aware of movement in the water between me and the bar area. Was rescue was on the way? Several people had swum from the beach, 100 yards away, and out of my line of vision, to save me. I later discovered that these included one Serbian man, a Belgian woman and two Dutch Marines. The Marines were my guardian angels as they were young strong, fast and trained in life saving techniques. They retrieved the life belt from the water, brought it to me and dragged me to the safety of the beach. Having gained a little composure I asked that my wife should not be told. Only to find she was standing in front of me, she herself in a state of shock, having witnessed the whole incident un-fold. She had been calmed and cared for, throughout, by a third Dutch Marine at the bar area. Gaining more composure, I thanked all those who had saved my life. They appeared to take it in their stride. This reminded me of the many occasions I had been thanked by members of the public during my twenty eight years service, when I had been involved in some way, in saving their lives. I had taken their thanks, without much thought of what it had meant to those rescued. Thinking perhaps "it's only my job". But it meant everything to me that my rescuers understood the sentiment behind my thanks. I now understand how rescued persons feel towards the emergency services. We should all be proud to have saved lives. I was rushed to hospital by ambulance, and released later that same evening. Fortunately for me, at the time of incident, the Dutch Marines had been in the hotel bar, close to the water's edge. Their ship was part of a Nato fleet on "anti pirate duties". Somalia, being about 800 miles north of the Seychelles. After my return from hospital that same evening, I received a telephone call from my daughter to tell me that I had become a Grandfather for the fifth time, by virtue of a baby girl Neeve ( an Irish name ) having been born around the same time as I had been fighting for my life. Also, I was met by the Commander of the fleet who invited us to visit his ship the next day, as it was to sail immanently. I accepted the invitation, so I could personally thank those instrumental in saving my life. Escorted to the Officers mess I was presented with a figurine of the renowned Dutchman, Vice Admiral Michiel de Ruyter. The visit included a tour of the ship and a few celebratory drinks. I have also able to "track down" the Belgian woman involved in my rescue, but not the Serbian man. These combined efforts were akin to the United Nations! Since that day, I have forged a personal relationship with some of those involved. Certainly, I will be eternally grateful, as is my wife, for their truly heroic efforts that day.

**Frank Daniell Ex Assistant Divisional Officer London Fire Brigade.**

**Footnote:** - Over a period of some years, I had drafted personal letters to my loved ones, in anticipation of inevitable death. These were written to ensure that those closest to me knew exactly how I felt towards them. All too often we take love for granted and I am sure that many people pass away not having told those around of their true feelings. Although, written, I had not given a letter to my wife, but I had left it in a place where she would find it. Upon our return from the Seychelles, I immediately gave it to her. I recommend the same to others to consider preparing letters as I did.

# THE ROUNDTHEADS

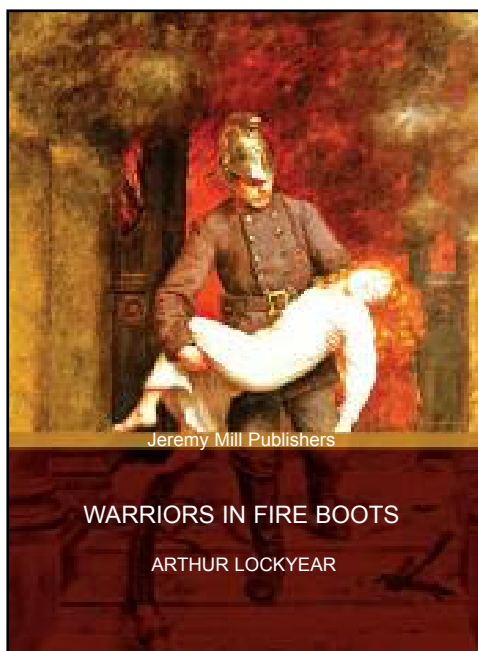
## RETIREMENT OF BOB SMITH

Enfield Fire Station Watch manager Bob Smith bode farewell to the Fire Brigade & was given a rousing send off by friends & colleagues. The popular firefighter from Bullsmoor lane enfield had served the public of London for 30 years at stations including Enfield, Edmonton, Tottenham & Wembley. Bob attended many memorable incidents including the train crash in Wembley, the 1980 Alexandra Palace fire as well as thousands of other non descript incidents. He has been commended twice for his efforts in saving lives. Pictured with his wife Sue & his Mother Joan. Bob with his Traditional fireman's axe & a caricature of himself, by a colleague.



Photo by Ronnie Stevenson FR Pix  
Further details contact Paul Wood 07958382323

## PRIZE DRAW



WARRIORS IN FIRE BOOTS

ARTHUR LOCKYEAR

You may recall in the last issue, we advertised Arthur's book "WARRIORS in FIREBOOTS" Well one lucky person can now win their own copy that arthur has kindly donated..

All you have to do is answer this simple question. On the front cover of the book is a famous picture

**Q. Name the picture**

**Send your answer to**

**LFBRMA**

**5 Elm Road**

**South Woodham Ferrers**

**essex CM3 5QE**

**Please include your name, address and RMA number.**

**Good Luck**

Dear Editor,

My name is Mick Pinchen

First may say well done in producing 'The Roundthreads'; I always enjoy it.

For many years I served at Euston, over 3 watches and from Fm up to and including Stn O on two of them. I suppose you could call it a 'love-hate' relationship, as at times the place would drive me crackers, and at others I wouldn't have been anywhere else! Anyway I became the unofficial station historian, and as such I accumulated quite a lot of information about the place. So now that I have been retired from the job some 6 years now, I am finally starting to put it all together, with the aim of publishing it some time in the future. So this is where 'Roundthreads' comes in. Could you please place a request in a future publication asking for information about Euston, no matter how incidental, that could be send to me at:

[albion.marine@ntlworld.com](mailto:albion.marine@ntlworld.com)

As part of this project I am compiling a list of station officers who served at Euston, 1902-2010, so if anyone can furnish me with any names & dates I would be most grateful. All contributions will of course be acknowledged.

Kinds Regards

Mick Pinchen

Ps. Thank you for your positive comments. (I don't get many). Your wish is my command (editor)



# THE ROUNDTHEADS

## A day at the races, with Blue Watch.

**Venue:** J21 Edmonton. 1971

**Distance:** round the block approx 500yds.

**Going:** Very hard.

**Runners:** Varied from 20 to 28. **Time:** 11am.

Whilst sitting in the quiet room one evening chatting, it was decided that we would all take part in a race around the block one Sunday in June when B/W would be on duty. The race would be called THE CHURCH STREET ST LEDGER. Race cards were printed giving everyone a fancy name and a write up of their character. My name was Steptoe, very apt because I was in charge of the scrap metal for the Christmas parties. On the day of the race, a stand-by machine was ordered in to cover us. Around 10am the crowds and children started arriving and all gathered in the yard. Small bets, large bets were laid by the punters with the bookies. Lean, Mean, Trappy, Boney, Confused, even Obese horses "French for fit"

I was told the parade was over, now down to business. The horses made their way to the front of the fire station and took up their positions in church st. Some horses had starts of 100yds, 80yds, 60yds and so on back to the start. Once all the horses had calmed down, the D.O would stand in the road with a starting pistol; ( I remember one time the D.O "Bob Mills" ( rings a bell) was arrested by two policemen for firing a gun in the street. All this was planned). Bang were off, down to latymer rd at full gallop, down to Cyprus rd pushing, slapping & biting was all going on; down to the bottom of Cyprus rd and into the yard. The cheers went up, legs going up & down like well oiled pistons, the smell of burning rubber from the old black plimmies. Up to the covered wash & over the winning line. As all the horses finished laughing, gasping & sweating; They gathered under the covered wash for the presentation. The Church Street St Ledger Trophy ( A Poe) & as always the washing down of the horses outside then inside. The Church Street St Ledger continued for six years. Well done to all who took part in the races, sadly some have gone to new pastures, gone but not forgotten.

### Results over the six years (Winners only)

1971 Pellet (Dave Pell)

1972 Prince Pittuck (Keith Pittuck)

1973 Perry Girl (Paul Perry)

1974 Steptoe (Ken Rodgers)

1975 Corporal Caton (Roy Caton) later disqualified for cheating.

1975 Bondage (Bob Bond)

1976 Le Amoose (John Amos)

### My Favourite Moments Overall

- 1 So Solly (Solly Laurenson) running into the yard his body overtook his legs & fell spread eagle onto the ground gasping for air & spitting stones. Anyone remember the Queen Mothers horse Devon Loch, this was true grit.
- 2 Corporal Caton being piggy backed by Perchlator (Jack Perkins) No, not mating, another sprained fetlock.
- 3 The D.O being arrested, the look on his face when the two police officers told him to drop the gun.
- 4 The row when Corporal Caton was disqualified for starting before the gun.



Good memories  
Ken Rodgers  
B/W J21 Edmonton.

Photos copyright  
Tony Hardiman  
FR.Pix

# THE ROUNDTHEADS

## FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL TRUST, ANNUAL SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING AT THE NATIONAL ARBORETUM

On May 8th 2011 representatives of many associations concerned with fire service personnel serving and retired gathered at the Firefighters Monument. Commencing with a selection of music, played by the wind section of the West Midland fire service,



under their director of music Patrick Ryan. And the Pipe Band of West Midland fire service with Pipe Major Robert Gardiner. During this interlude Norman Paulding LFBRMA Standard bearer with twenty seven other Standards marched on accompanied by wreath bearers. The Service was led by the Chaplin of the trust, The Reverend canon Peter Mortimer MBE, Chaplain to the Suffolk Fire & Rescue Services. After a hymn and the Lord's Prayer, the reading was given by Cadet Sam Dowling, Staffordshire fire & Rescue Service of Lichfield. Following the act of Remembrance the Jewish Memorial prayer was read and floral tributes were laid, by Colin Livett, Deputy Chair of the trust, For HRH The Princess Anne. Bob Neill MP, Minister for the Fire Service, For the Government, Mike Curtis a trustee, for FMT, DCFO Martin Clark West Midlands, for CFOA Peter Holland, President CFOA, P. Cowland Upper warden; now Master Worshipful. Co of FIREFIGHTERS. Steve Lloyd Police roll of Honor. Trust Hymns & Prayers followed & the service ended with the national Anthem.

### N. PAULDING.

### LFBRMA STANDARD BEARER



As I look out the window and see a beautiful, crisp, sunny autumn day I wonder...where, did that year go! It seems like last week that the summer edition of Roundthreads was coming out; the year was young and a whole summer lie ahead. Round where we live at the moment the fireworks have started and we look forward in the next couple of weeks to being politely mugged for a treat on our doorsteps (or threatened with a trick, whatever that means) by youngsters dressed up as witches etc. Christmas is around the corner and then another year, the year of the Olympics rushes in and no doubt flies by also. I've just got back from taking the dogs for a walk and on part of the walk we pass along a hedge-row that we're told has existed since Saxon times! Many Oak trees grow in the grounds, their life-span usually measured in hundreds of years. I suppose that makes me think how transient our lives are, here for a fleeting instant and then on our way. Then I remember the words from Psalm 8 which I read for my morning reading a couple of days ago. Verse four "what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him" and see in later verses that the creator of all that diverse and beautiful forest that I've just passed through, takes a real interest in each individual that He has made and deeply cares for each of us and has all eternity to listen to our needs and give help. A year of ups and downs, as ever, is drawing to its end. I've taken part in memorial services, visited some who are unwell and been to a couple of funerals and heard of the birth of grandchildren. Life in all it's richness, dark and light paints to build a beautiful portrait. I finish by wishing you all a lovely end of year and Christmas and assurance of the care of "those everlasting arms" for those that seek it.

**Jeff Potter LFBRMA Chaplain**

**Tel 079 4332 1919**

**email [jeff@lcmchaplains.org.uk](mailto:jeff@lcmchaplains.org.uk)**

## LFBRMA GRAND DRAW 2011 RESULTS

- |           |                                  |   |
|-----------|----------------------------------|---|
| 1st Prize | Mr R. Lambell Ticket No 10481    | 1 nights B&B in a top hotel Plus 2 West End Theatre Tickets |
| 2nd Prize | Mr A. Goodfellow Ticket No 19333 | 1 Night B&B in a Top Hotel                                  |
| 3rd Prize | Mr M. Rollings Ticket No 19360   | 2 Tickets for a lunch & Cruise on the Thames                |
| 4th Prize | Mr P. Bainbridge Ticket No 16332 | A Box of Mixed Wines  |
| 5th Prize | Mr T.O'leary Ticket No 5495      | 1 years Membership to the RMA                               |

I should like to thank Harry Paviour who donated an addition prize on the night. It consisted of a tour of the Historical Docks and boat trip around Portsmouth Harbour this was won by:-M. Doherty Ticket No 5811.

## St Pauls 9 - 11

On September 11th 2011 Norman Paulding and David Bradbury joined about fifty Standard Bearers to line the steps of St.Paul's Cathedral as dignitaries and other members of the congregation entered for the service to mark the tenth anniversary of the destruction of the Twin Towers in New York. A marching band with pipers, from the North of England, added to the mood after the service as people assembled around the Firemen's Statue, opposite the Cathedral, for the annual remembrance during which all the standards present were rededicated. The Last Post sounded and the service concluded with the National Anthem. Early members of the LFBMA, chiefly George Perren J.P, were instrumental in ensuring, that this striking piece of sculpture, was created and placed in such a suitable position. George has held several posts in the association over many years and when he was General Secretary in 1988 he suggested the idea of a 'Blitz' memorial service and march through the City of London, to a statue and wreath laying. Later he thought of having an LFBMA Standard which, is now paraded at this and other services. When people with an interest in the Fire and Rescue services, gather around the statue for the annual remembrance, they should be glad of the foresight of these early plans. The sculptor was John W.Mills, son-in law of the well known Cyril Demarne OBE, who was a junior fire officer during WW11 at West Ham. John had served his own National Service in the RASC, so was ideal to artistically portray the bravery and sacrifice of those who worked to save London and her people during the Blitz. One of his most recent works, also with a wartime theme, is the piece dedicated to the Contribution made by women in WW11 now situated next to the Cenotaph in Whitehall.



### POST SCRIPT

DURING THE PROCEEDINGS THE SPIKE FROM THE TOP OF THE LFBMA STANDARD CARRIED BY NORMAN PAULDING CAME LOOSE AND FELL TO THE GROUND, HE QUICKLY RECOVERED IT; TO THE AMUSEMENT OF OTHERS NEARBY. BUT THANKS TO BAE SYSTEMS, GREAT BADDOW; IT WAS SECURELY REPLACED. FOR THEM NO JOB IS TOO GREAT OR TOO SMALL IT SEEMS, FROM MISSILES TO STANDARD SPIKES, ALL GET THE BEST ATTENTION.

[Brenda and Norman Paulding.](#)

2012	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
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### \*NEW Wine for Seniors

A single glass at night could mean a peaceful, uninterrupted night sleep. I kid you not... California vintners in the Napa Valley area, which primarily produce Pinot Blanc, Pinot Noir, and Pinot Grigio wines, have developed a new hybrid grape that acts as an anti-diuretic. It is expected to reduce the number of trips older people have to make to the bathroom during the night. The new wine will be marketed as PINOMORE. I HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE\* I just could not help it. \*Sorry!\* Merry Christmas

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