

## **The HARROGATE Army Apprentice - OUR STORY and how I came to write it by : Fred Carslake**

I was sitting at home one Sunday afternoon in 1997 watching the television, when my telephone rang and the caller after asking for me personally introduced himself as Colonel Cliff Walters a Royal Signals officer.

He said that he was the last commandant at the Army Apprentice College in Harrogate, and that he was writing a book about the 50 odd year history of the Army Apprentices there. It had come to his attention that I had been running a number of ex-boy reunions and he asked me if I had any stories, which I would like to contribute to his book.

I put my thinking cap on and sat down to put my memories on paper for him, only to find that once I started I got carried away and before I knew it, I had the makings of -

## **THE HARROGATE ARMY APPRENTICE - OUR STORY**

It is an excellent sequel to Cliff's book but where his covers the history of the School / College, this is a combination of stories written by the lads who actually served there and shows the impact it had on their future lives.

### **Part One**

Tells the story of what we actually did and got up to while we were there, the Army Apprentice School at Harrogate turned raw young boys many from broken homes into very skilled tradesmen. The skills instilled in them during their apprenticeships made the modern army what it is today.

### **Part Two**

Covers the time from when we left Harrogate and served in the regular army showing how far up the military ladder we went, it also shows a copy of a Roll of Honour and Honours write-ups. Returning to Civvy Street and the bearing our army lives had on our civilian careers, is also shown in this section. The success stories of these ex Harrogate apprentices are what this book is all about, it will certainly give a great deal of inspiration to every one reading it, whatever their age group .....

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**The HARROGATE Army Apprentice – OUR STORY** can be purchased from Fred Carslake for £15 plus £2 postage at 29 Coopers Drive, Yate, Bristol BS37 7XZ.