



**ROYAL NAVAL
ASSOCIATION**



The Semaphore Circular

No 680

The Beating Heart of the RNA

June 2018



Shipmate Richard Shenton – Area 3 competing in the Novice National Standard Bearer's Competition.

He came a creditable 2nd. BZ!

This edition is the on-line version of the Semaphore Circular, unless you have registered with Central Office, it will only be available on the RNA website in the 'Members Area' under 'downloads' at www.royal-naval-association.co.uk and will be emailed to the branch contact, usually the Hon Sec

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Glossary of terms

NCM	National Council Member
NC	National Council
AMC	Association Management Committee
FAC	Finance Administration Committee
NCh	National Chairman
NVCh	National Vice Chairman
NP	National President
DNP	Deputy National President
GS	General Secretary
DGS	Deputy General Secretary
AGS	Assistant General Secretary
CONA	Conference of Naval Associations

Throughout ☆ indicates a new or substantially changed entry

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Snail Trail Mail - Postal Address

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HM Naval Base,
Portsmouth
Hants PO1 3LT

Dear Shipmates,

Welcome to the June Circular. It's been nice to have the better weather – and useful for HMS Queen Elizabeth as she comes to the end of her Capability Insertion Period (CIP) – a vital part of her post-build update programme that has included quite a lot of work on the Flight deck. She is off to sea shortly for 18 days at sea then back for summer leave. She sails in August to cross the pond and meet up with UK F35s and some from the US Marine Corps – bringing fixed wing naval aviation back to the RN after an 8-year break.

A big Bravo Zulu to Mick Kieran and Andy Christie for organising a most successful Standard Bearers' competition. It was great to see the novices competition reinstated and 3 very good novice standard bearers who could certainly have been in the main competition. It turned out to be a very close with the result in doubt until the last moment. S/M Bob Coburn won by a slender 15 points (out of a possible 270), with S/M Dave Corrigan running him very close. Thanks to the raucous spectators, irresponsibly led by Andy!



Conference preparations are now almost complete and I'm really looking forward to meeting up with old friends for a great weekend. We have some very high-level representation with the Chief of the Irish Defence Forces, the British Ambassador and a Senator! See you in Hardy's bar from 2000 at the Royal Marine Hotel – or in Wetherspoons later!

I met up with S/M Chris Dovey, our ex-National Chair, for coffee recently. I am delighted to say that Chris is very much better and was in terrific form. We wanted me to pass on his best wishes to all shipmates.

We have had our first Open Day of the year, being joined by a D-Day veteran under the care of Captain Bill Oliphant (GS(Desig)) and 25 Shipmates. We were invited to do a Replenishment at Sea (Rum) with another boat, full of RAFA. Needless to say, there was a lot of 'Dambusters' singing with ribbing and banter about room service and their boat proceeding sideways. Great fun for all from Eastbourne and Manchester (North) branches.

I have a challenge for branches! We have heard of a member of Dagenham branch who is 107 years old. Is she the oldest RNA member? Please let me know if you can top this! I'm sure we can come up with recognition for that person.



Congratulations to S/M Soapy Watson who picked up his BEM from the Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire recently.

If your branch is closing, or you know of one that is, it is ABSOLUTELY VITAL that closure paperwork for the Charity Commission comes through Central Office. On 2 occasions in the last 2 years the closing branch has used the main RNA charity number 266982 and some numpity in the CC has terminated the RNA as a charity. You can imagine that I have had strong words!

I am very sorry to report that Mrs Sheila Tarabella has crossed the bar, and I attended her funeral last week in Portsmouth. Sheila was briefly the book-keeper and then AGS(Admin) and

organised the Conference in Ouistreham, where Shipmates will recall she was very concerned that our older members were well looked after. She did a full 22-year engagement leaving the Royal Navy as a CPOPT (club swinger).

The RNA is involved in the 'Battles Over' programme – a national programme of commemoration for the Centenary of the Armistice in 1918. We have been given the honour of looking after the Lamplight of Peace from 4 August to 29 August. The 4th of August is 100 days to Remembrance Sunday on 11 November and the lamp will be lit at the tomb of the Unknown Warrior at Westminster Abbey at 1800 that evening. The lamp will then make its way to Portsmouth where it will rest in the Jutland 100 exhibition until 29 August when it is picked up by the Army to go to the Chapel at Sandhurst. Thereafter it goes to the RAF and finally the Merchant Navy before being replaced at the tomb of the Unknown Warrior early on Remembrance Sunday, where it will remain for the day.



I have yet to finalise details of the installation at the National Museum of the Royal Navy on Sunday 5 August, but I hope to get a P2000 to bring it to the historic dockyard pontoon – fingers crossed. **If anyone would be interested in being involved** – for instance in a veterans' honour guard from the pontoon to the Jutland 100 building – or on the Saturday evening, please let me or Nigel know.

See you in Dublin! Best wishes from the Central Office staff

Paul



That sea air brings on a thirst!

STOP PRESS

I have just heard that Shipmate Peter Reed, long-standing National Council Member for 3 Area, Chair and Treasurer of 3 Area has crossed the bar. No details of funeral yet.

STOP PRESS

Peter was a true gentleman and marvellous Shipmate.



Captain Bill and Captain Paul at the recent Open Day, HMS QE in the background

1. ★ National Standard Bearers Competition 2018

The 2018 RNA National Standard Bearers competition, in conjunction with the RNA Novice and Association of Wrens competitions, were held at HMS Collingwood on Saturday 12 May 2018



The competition took place in superb weather conditions, dry and not too warm, in front of a 'sell out' crowd, which included a very loud AoW contingent! This year's competition featured 13 Standard Bearers who had travelled from far and wide to take part. WO1 Mick Turnbull HMS Collingwood's Base Warrant Officer (BWO), was in attendance to witness the competition, with a view to judging in future years.

The competition started with the inspection of the Novices, all three of them; S/M's Alan Oliver (Area 2), Richard Shenton (Area 3) and Mick Gosling (Area 5). They were inspected by the Judges who were:

- S/M Mick Kieran – National Ceremonial Advisor
- S/M Ann Foley – Area 1
- S/M Steve Susans – Area 2

Once inspected, the inaugural Novices competed their parade routines to a very good standard (forgive the pun!) Now it was time for the scrutineers to 'scrutineer' with calculators in hand:



- Shipmate Keith Ridley – RNA National Chairman (Ex Stoker CSE grade 5 maths)
- Vice President Carol Gibbon – Association of Wrens

After a tense wait the verdict was decided in the Officials 'Gazebo' with the pronouncement to be made at the prize giving ceremony later.

Once the crowd had settled down and completed a left to right and right too left 'Mexican Wave' and show of appreciation to their 'Asda Welcomer' Shipmate Soapy Watson (Area 3 Chairman). He ensured a smooth passage through security with his luminous jacket, lifted from Central Office no less! The main competition competitors were marched out for the inspection.

On a serious note the standard of competition, as you would expect, was exemplary. Scores were much higher this year across the board and very tight in the top 5. There was much discussion of 'Stoolgate' where the ceremonial stool was thought to be too low with the perfection-seeking favourites struggling to get their arthritic bones sufficiently low. The duty 'Vicar', S/M Sue Rickard, had to adapt to the many angles and approaches, BZ!

On completion everyone retired to the bar for a well-deserved tot and the prize giving. The RNA National President, Vice Admiral John Mcanally very kindly agreed to attend along with Carol Gibbon to hand out the prizes with 'announcer' Paul Quinn, RNA General Secretary.



So..... in reverse order prizes were awarded to;

Novice Competition

- 3rd - Mick Gosling
- 2nd - Richard Shelton
- Winner - Alan Oliver



Association of Wrens

- 3rd - Val Gleave
- 2nd - Marie Taylor (Deputy National Standard Bearer)
- Winner and AoW National Standard Bearer**
- **Chris Walker**



Senior Competition

- 8th - Alf Snowden
- 7th -Dennis Matthews
- 6th -Marie Taylor
- 5th -Stewart Maclean
- 4th -Colin Rickard



3rd -Steve Champion



Runner Up - David Corrigan
(Deputy National Standard Bearer)

Winner and RNA National Standard Bearer
- **Bob Coburn**



Very sadly Shipmate Ben Cartwright had to pull out at the last minute, due to a bereavement, everyone is looking forward to seeing him compete in 2020.

I am sure all officials, competitors and supporters would wish to convey our thanks to HMS Collingwood Commanding Officer, Captain Rob Vitalli Royal Navy for allowing the competition to take place and to Warrant Officer 1 Mick Turnbull and his team for allowing RNA and AoW members to use the facilities in the Warrant Officers and Senior Rates Mess and being so hospitable.

Any Shipmates interested in becoming Standard Bearers and one day competing in this superb competition should contact the National Ceremonial Advisor, Shipmate Mick Kieran would be delighted provide guidance and advice. (07593 573301 michaelkieran4369@gmail.com)

2. ★ RNVC Series – Commander Robert Edward Dudley Ryder VC Royal Navy

Robert 'Red' Ryder was born in India on 16 February 1908 and was educated at Hazlehurst School and Cheltenham College prior to joining the Royal Navy in 1926.

Up until WW2 Robert served in a variety of ships and submarines including; HMS Ramillies, HMS Olympus took command of a ketch called Tai-Mo-Shan which he sailed from Hong Kong to Dartmouth a journey of over 16,217 miles.

In the Second World War he had command of a Q-ship HMS Edgehill and sloop HMS Fleetwood. Experienced he was selected to lead the St Nazaire Raid in March 1942 and it was during this action he won the VC.

His citation reads as follows;

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the Victoria Cross for daring and valour in the attack on the German Naval Base at St. Nazaire, to: Commander Robert Edward Dudley Ryder, Royal Navy.

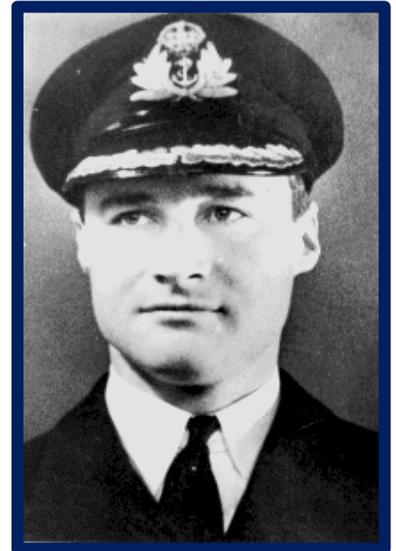


For great gallantry in the attack on St Nazaire. He commanded a force of small unprotected ships in an attack on a heavily defended port and led HMS Campbeltown in under intense fire from short range weapons at point blank range. Though the main object of the expedition had been accomplished in the beaching of Campbeltown, he remained on the spot conducting operations, evacuating men from

Campbeltown and dealing with strong points and close-range weapons while exposed to heavy fire for one hour and sixteen minutes, and did not withdraw till it was certain that his ship could be of no use in rescuing any of the Commando Troops who were still ashore. That his Motor Gun Boat, now full of dead and wounded, should have survived and should have been able to withdraw through an intense barrage of close range fire was almost a miracle.

Cdr Robert also took part in the Dieppe attack in August 1942. He was also Mentioned in Despatches three times. Very sadly he lost both of his brothers; Lisle was murdered in the Le Paradis massacre in Normandy 1940 and Ernie died in captivity at the hands of the Japanese after the fall of Singapore.

After the war Robert was promoted to Captain in 1948 and he commanded the research vessel Penola in the Rymill Expedition in the Antarctic and in Oslo as the NA. He was elected as MP for Merton and Morden in the 1950 General Election and served for five years. He died in 1986 on his yacht 'Watchdog' whilst on a sailing trip to France. His medals are on display in the Imperial War Museum.



3. ★ Joke Time – Another Old Golfing Joke !

A nun walks into Mother Superior's office and plunks down into a chair. She lets out a sigh heavy with frustration.

'What troubles you, Sister?' asked the Mother Superior. 'I thought this was the day you spent with your family.' 'It was,' sighed the Sister. 'And I went to play golf with my brother. We try to play golf as often as we can. You know I was quite a talented golfer before I devoted my life to Christ.'



'I seem to recall that,' the Mother Superior agreed. 'So I take it your day of recreation was not relaxing?'

'Far from it,' snorted the Sister. 'In fact, I even took the Lord's name in vain today!' 'Goodness, Sister!' gasped the Mother Superior, astonished. 'You must tell me all about it!'

'Well, we were on the fifth tee... and this hole is a monster, Mother -540 yard Par 5, with a nasty dogleg right and a hidden green... and I hit the drive of my life. The sweetest swing I ever made.



And it's flying straight and true, right along the line I wanted... and it hits a bird in mid-flight !'

'Oh my!' commiserated the Mother. 'How unfortunate! But surely that didn't make you blaspheme, Sister!' 'No, that wasn't it,' admitted Sister. 'While I was still trying to fathom what had happened, this squirrel runs out of the woods, grabs my ball and ran off down the fairway!'

'Oh, that would have made me blaspheme!' sympathized the Mother.

'But I didn't, Mother!' sobbed the Sister. 'And I was so proud of myself! And while I was pondering whether this was a sign from God, this hawk swoops out of the sky and grabs the squirrel and flies off, with my ball still clutched in his paws!'

'So that's when you cursed,' said the Mother with a knowing smile.

'Nope, that wasn't it either,' cried the Sister, anguished, 'because as the hawk started to fly out of sight, the squirrel started struggling, and the hawk dropped him right there on the green, and the ball popped out of his paws and rolled to about 18 inches from the cup!'

Mother Superior sat back in her chair, folded her arms across her chest, fixed the Sister with a baleful stare and said... Wait for it

'You missed the flipping putt, didn't you?'

4. ★ Charity Donations

Central Charities

RNA – Lee on the Solent and Stubbington	£50.00
RNA – Riyadh	£5,000.00
RNA – Whitstable	£100.00

RNA – Forth Valley	£50.00
M Sheldrake	£25.00
Wrens Benevolent Trust	£50.00

Naval Service Memorial

RNA Area 9	£75.00
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In memory of the late

Don Camp	£25.00
Dennis Adams	£120.00
Robert Ward	£50.00
Reginald William Quilter	£590.00
Dorothy Georgina Cliff	£149.50
Frank Robert Freeman Evans	£56.41

5. ★ Guess Where? An Establishment

This month can you name this establishment? A lot easier this month. Remember no hovering or looking on Google or Wiki!!..... Good Luck this is very difficult ...

The answer will be in next month's edition.

And so, to the May 'Guess the Establishment'..... It is of course HMS Osprey (RNAS Portland). Well done to S/M Alan Biggs and S/M Leo Whisstock, who informs me that the building in the foreground has now been demolished.



As our establishments ninja Admiral Steel got this in 4 minutes flat!

6. ★ RM Band Scotland Charity concert in aid of Seafarers – Belfast

The Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines Scotland will be performing in concert at the Ulster Hall Belfast on Thursday 21st June.

All Monies raised will go to support Seafarers UK's work in support of our maritime communities: Royal Navy, Merchant Navy and our fishing fleets.

Seafarers would be delighted to see members of the RNA from Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland in the audience and can offer reduced ticket prices at £16 and £20 by quoting SEAFARERS when making a booking at the Ulster Hall Box Office.



7. ★ Hospital and Medical Care Association – Health Plans



HMCA are delighted to offer Royal Naval Association members and their families our range of medical health cover and related products. HMCA are specialists in offering voluntary benefits exclusively to members of professional and trade associations and membership groups.

The plans are available exclusively to members of an association and not available to the general public ensuring and maintaining competitive rates for you and your family.

HMCA have over 35 years' experience and members can benefit from the following:-

- Transfer Facility available for members of an existing plan with no break in cover
- Free Medical Helpline available 24/7 to help and support your questions and queries
- Additional range of Benefits available once you subscribe to any of the plans
- Personal service provided by trained Helpline Team
- First class claims handling service providing efficient and prompt settlement of claims
- We offer annual medical cover with up to a 40% discount

You can visit our website on www.hmca.co.uk for further details or simply click www.hmca.co.uk/rna or call us in person on 01423 799949 whereby we will be happy to speak to you and answer your queries.

8. Conference 2019 – Wyboston Lakes – St Neots

Shipmates will be interested to know that the General Secretary, Paul Quinn and DGS, Andy Christie, along with the Area 6 organising committee visited the venue for Conference 2019 last week for the initial visit.

Wyboston Lakes is a privately-owned hotel and is extremely

well suited to host an RNA Conference. Along with first class transport links the Conference itself will be held in the hotels Executive Suite. It will be exclusive to Shipmates and contains the Bar, Reception Area, Dining Room, Conference Room, Lounge area and accommodation. There are great options for those needing accessible

rooms, walk-in showers etc.



There is a golf course for the National President. The hotel is just off the A1 for cars and a £5 taxi ride from the station (we will look at a minibus shuttle on Friday afternoon and Sunday morning. We are in the latter stages of negotiating prices (which includes some lower bar prices (we hope) and booking forms will be available in Dublin and shortly afterwards through the Circ or website.



Pictures Clockwise I-r - St Neots Station – Conference room – Servery – Outside Area – Main reception Area – Walk-in Shower.

9. ★ Military Veterans – Burnley FC in The Community

Central Office has received the e-mail below from Burnley FC in the Community concerning Military Veterans.

Good afternoon,

My name is Naomi, I lead on the Military Veterans programme here at Burnley FC in the Community.

We have recently launched Football sessions for Military Veterans to get involved in and would be very grateful if there was a way for this information to be passed on to any leavers who are from/living in Lancashire.

These sessions offer the opportunity to play football, get fit, meet other service leavers but most importantly integrate back in to civilian life.

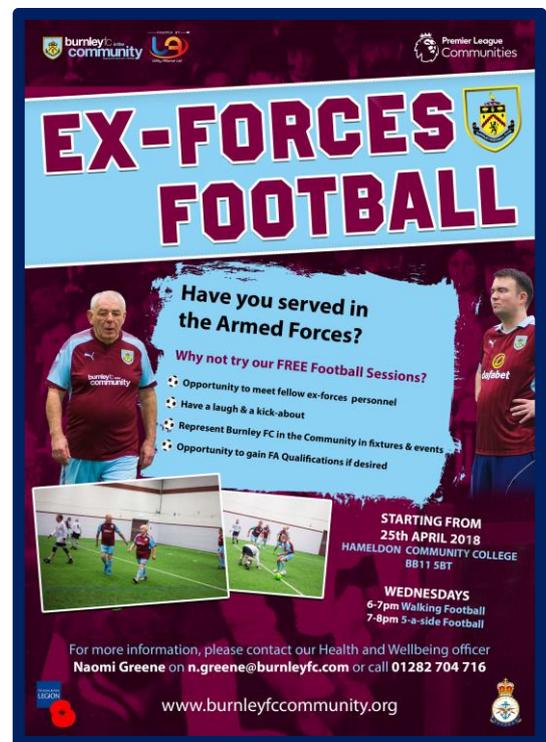
By having this option it can open up opportunities to volunteer, gain qualifications and represent the football club too.

I have attached a flyer for this session to this email.

If you would like any more information or know of other ways for us to provide this information to service leavers I'd be grateful in hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Naomi Greene Health and Welfare Officer n.greene@burnleyfc.com



10. RNAS Yeovilton Air Day

The Royal Naval Air Station Yeovilton International Air Day will open its gates on Saturday 7 July 2018 to 40,000 visitors, just as it did over 70 years ago, in 1947 at its first ever Open Day.

As one of the Southwest's largest one day events, the award-winning Somerset airshow offers an action-packed day out for all the family with thrilling flying displays and amazing ground attractions. Over five hours of incredible flying displays will feature fast jets, historic warbirds,

helicopters and formation display teams. There are already some rare and exciting aircraft confirmed.

The Royal Canadian Air Force's CF-18 Hornet Demonstration Team is making its first UK appearance in ten years and its first Air Day visit in decades. As one of the world's most dynamic and powerful solo fast jet displays, Canada's display Hornet is just part of the substantial international line-up now taking shape.

So far, flown at no other UK airshow, the Rafale pair and it's an award-winning, all-action routine will be in attendance to highlight the French Navy's cutting-edge multirole carrier fighter aircraft. The French Navy is also contributing an exceptionally rare Atlantique 2 to the flying display. This maritime patrol aircraft has not performed in British skies for over 15 years, so will be a major highlight of Air Day's five-plus hour display.

Fittingly, rare naval heritage aircraft like the Swordfish and Sea Fury will take centre stage in the Somerset skies. Their modern-day counterparts will also provide a spectacular sight demonstrating the contribution made by naval aviation to Protect Our Nation's Interests.

Throughout the day, families will have the chance to enjoy plenty of ground entertainment including discounted entry to the Fleet Air Arm Museum, interactive military displays, an engineering fair, performances from military bands, classic and military vehicle exhibitions, funfair, simulators, helicopter pleasure flights, trade stalls and much, much more!



Service Personnel and Veterans are entitled to purchase discounted Adult Tickets at £22 each (normal Advance Price £24 and Gate Price £30). Child Tickets (aged 5-15) are available at £7 each (Gate Price £10).

Please visit the Defence Discount Service website at www.defencediscountservice.co.uk/ to acquire the discount code and book your tickets at www.royalnavy.mod.uk/yeovilton-airday before 2 July 2018.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/yeoviltonairday

Twitter: @YeoviltonAirDay & #Yeovilton18

Instagram: @yeoviltonairday & #Yeovilton18

11. ★ Royal Navy Project – ‘Jules Verne’ Catering Services Recruitment

The RN is currently involved with a project to try and engage with former RN Catering Service, Chefs and Stewards, with a view to asking them to consider joining the service again.

The Project is managed by Commander Peter Viney Royal Navy and he writes below to explain in detail what it is all about. He is hoping that Shipmates may be related to or have contact with recently retired Chefs and Stewards who may be interested.



Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

My name is Cdr Peter Viney and I am leading a small team over a 5-week period to try and engage on a personal 1 to 1 basis all ex RN Junior Rate Catering Service Personnel who have left the RN in the last 5 years (although this can be expanded upon for the right candidate) and see if we can entice them to return. You might be aware, they were all received letters at the end of last year from the Logs(Supply) Branch Manager and whilst this produced some level of interest it is felt that with a more personal touch and stronger engagement we can do a bit better.

My approach is simple. Along with my small team of 3, we will aim to engage on a personal basis with all those personnel identified by the Branch Manager and offer them an opportunity to return to the service. We have created and can offer a fast track approach which could see them back in within a few weeks of making contact with them and they will, if interested, be sponsored by the team until they reach RALEIGH and come back onto the trained strength. I do have some flex on re-entry standards and will be happy to discuss this any interested parties should they wish to re-enter but have doubts about their suitability.

What do I ask of you? Can you please make all your Catering Service Personnel aware of this initiative and ask them to pass the details below to any of their friends or colleagues who have left the RN who might be interested in coming in, or those that have attempted and be thwarted for whatever reason.

The details of the team are below:

Commander Pete Viney 07971 664904 / csreentrycdr@yahoo.com

WO1 John Boreham 07971664352 / csreentrywo1@yahoo.com

PO(CS) Mike Dewing 07971665270 / csreentrypo@yahoo.com

Any member of the team can assist – if they are interested or wish to find more, tell them to email or call and we can discuss the options and also answer any queries they may have. This team is complimentary to the Logs Team in CNR run by WO1 Taff Llewellyn.

*I thank you for your help and support. Peter Viney, Commander Royal Navy
(GS note we have had volunteers already with average age of 75! Recommend you revise the recipe for Cheese Ush and Cheesy Hammy Eggy Topsides before applying)*

12. ★ Can you Assist ?

S/M Tim Jarvis, the Hon Secretary, at RNA Weeley & District has in his possession a Matelot and RNA Crest on a wooden base.

S/M Tim would appreciate any assistance/information that Shipmates could providing as to what they are and what were they originally used for? He is aware of another one owned by a shipmate in Wales.



13. ★ OAP (most Shipmates) Alphabet

A's for arthrtis;
B's the bad back,
C's the chest pains, perhaps cardiac?
D is for dental decay and decline, E is for eyesight, can't read the top line!
F is for farting and fluid retention, G is for gut rot, which I'd rather not mention.
H is high blood pressure, why's it not low, I for incisions with scars you can show.
J is for joints, aching and won't mend, K is for knees that crack when they bend.
L's for libido, what happened to sex? M is for memory, I forget what comes next.
N is neuralgia, nerves make you lame; O is for osteo, bones that cause pain!
P for prescriptions, I have quite a few, just give me a pill and I'll be good as new!
Q is for queasy, is it a cold or the flu? R is for reflux, turns one meal into two.
S is for sleepless nights, counting my fears, T is for tinnitus ringing in my ears!
U is for urethra; troubles with flow, V is for vertigo, that's "dizzy, you know...
W for worry, now what's going 'round? X is for x-ray, and what might be found,
Y is for yeast, thrush is a bother, Z is for zest, I'll have some tomorrow!

I've had all the symptoms, I'm so overjoyed that I'm keeping the doctors fully employed!

14. ★ RN Shipmates Information

The information regarding RN Shipmates below was forward by Shipmate Mike Crow (IOW Branch)

Greetings Shipmates,

Well after another computer glitch, coupled to the latest Data Protection requirements or something, I have decided to do away with the monthly, that's a laugh, postings of notices sent to me and reunions listed, and sent to HM Ships Associations, RNA Branches and HQ. Also Royal British Legions where I do have an email address, along with other like-minded people. Nearly 600 postings each 'month'.

But it's not the end of RN Shipmates and the Reunion notifications. I will continue to keep <http://www.rnshipmates.co.uk/reunions.php> up to date, where at present there are 65 reunions listed. So either email me your reunion details or list it yourself on the website.

Can I ask secretaries and newsletter editors to copy this notice to their members pointing out that the reunions listings are there for the taking and who knows, they may find a Ship's Association of one of their old ships and there waiting, is an old shipmate. Can I also ask them to check the list themselves, is Their reunion listed?? <http://www.rnshipmates.co.uk/reunions.php>

Very many thanks to those who have supported and subscribed to RN Shipmates with its ups and downs over the last 25 years, this is another chapter in its history! Not gone, still here but a bit of finger work to call the reunions up. <http://www.rnshipmates.co.uk/reunions.php>

Best wishes and thanks again for your support.

Not gone away, but stepping back a bit!

Mike

RNA Longcast

2018	
08 Jun	NC/AMC/FAC/SOC Meetings
8/9/10 June	RNA Conference - Dublin
29 Jun	Open Day
30 June	Armed Forces Day – Llandudno (North Wales)
04 Aug	Area 5 Quarterly – Harwich
05 Aug	Lamplight of Peace in care of the RNA until 29 August
10 Aug	Open Day
17 Aug	FAC
18 Aug	AMC
07 Sept	CONA 'Clear Lower Deck' - Annual Conference event, Royal Maritime Club
08 Sep	National Council Meeting
10 Sep	General Secretary – Hand Over
15 Sep	Area 4 Meeting - Dorchester
05 Oct	Open Day
21 Oct	Trafalgar Day
03 Nov	Area 5 Quarterly – Rayleigh
07 Nov	Captain Bill Oliphant arrives for handover as GS
08 Nov	Field of Remembrance – Westminster Abbey – Sunday rehearsal
11 Nov	Remembrance Sunday – NCh to lay wreath DGS as wreath bearer 100th anniversary of the Armistice for 1WW Battles Over commemorations nationally – many RNA taking part
16 Nov	FAC
17 Nov	AMC
23 Nov	IMC Executive Council Portsmouth and WW1 commemoration
08 Dec	National Council Meeting
13 Dec	Battle of the River Plate Day
21 Dec	Captain Paul Quinn goes on leave and draft
22 Dec to 2 Jan 19	Central Office Christmas closed period
2019	
02 Feb	Area 5 AGM & Quarterly - Harwich
15 Feb	FAC
16 Feb	AMC
16 Mar	National Council Meeting
04 May	Area 5 Quarterly - Norwich
7-9 Jun	Conference – Wyboston Lakes (Area 6)
7 Jun	National Council / AMC/ FAC / SOC Meetings
03 Aug	Area 5 Quarterly - Rayleigh
16 Aug	FAC
17 Aug	AMC
07 Sep	National Council Meeting
08 Sep	Biennial Parade - Whitehall
02 Nov	Area 5 Quarterly - Harwich
07 Dec	National Council Meeting

D'ye hear there'.....

News from around the Areas and Branches.....

This Month Featuring.....

[RNA Huntingdon & District](#)

[Area 11 & RNA Tyne](#)

[Area 3](#)

[RNA Bude](#)

[RNA City of Inverness](#)

[RNA Liskeard](#)

[RNA Lincoln](#)

[RNA St Neots](#)

[RNA Aldershot](#)

RNA Huntingdon & District Branch

Shipmates from Huntingdon Branch have had a busy Spring, on the 28th April a charity and PR stall was manned at the newly opened Morrisons superstore in St Ives. On the 3rd May, whilst shipmate Karl Webb was waiting to see if anyone would vote for him in the Local Government elections, a funeral for an ex RN veteran took place at Cambridge Crematorium, shipmates Karl Webb, Pete Aston and Victor Lucas represented Huntingdon Branch, and also had a chance to meet up with fellow veterans such as Karin Bailey.



On the 5th May, twenty shipmates (including some former army and friends) attended the annual Army v Navy match at Twickenham. A great day out, especially for s/m Karl Webb who had won his election and is now Councillor Webb, as for the match, we didn't care about the score, we all had a great time.

On the 21st

May, shipmates will attend a Freedom parade for the Princess of Wales' Regiment, the annual Huntingdon Gala, National Conference, and of course take part in the numerous Armed Forces Day services.

Photographs show shipmates Graham Murray and Pete Aston at Morrisons charity stall; shipmates Karl Webb and Pete Aston with Karin Bailey at the funeral of John Baldwin; and shipmates enjoying a pint or two at the Union Jack Club for the Army v Navy rugby.



Area 11 and RNA Tyne

RNA Tyne represented Area 11 at the unveiling of a Stone at Witton Park, Co. Durham, to commemorate the centenary of the death of Lieutenant-Commander George Nicholson Bradford who won the Victoria Cross 100 years ago on St George's Day, which was also his 31st birthday.

S/M Chris Rich laid a wreath on behalf of Area 11 and S/M Ian Proud carried the RNA Tyne Standard. The Area 11 Standard also attended and was carried by S/M Marie Wilson BEM from RNA York. Commander Catherine Jordan Royal Navy was joined by Sea Cadets and reservists from HMS Calliope as well as a delegation from HMS Bulwark. RMA veterans and their Standard and veterans from the Durham Light Infantry were also present. The Stone was unveiled by the Lord Lieutenant of Durham, Sue Snowdon.

Bradford commanded one of the ships involved in a raid on Zeebrugge to block the harbour and prevent its use by enemy submarines. The bad weather and sea conditions, along with the enemy gunfire, were preventing the men landing from the ships. Bradford climbed to the top of the ship's derrick with a parapet anchor and taking his chance as the ship pitched and rolled, jumped onto the top of the harbour wall, to secure the anchor.



During the ceremony, part of the Citation was read out for Bradford's VC which said that his action was "one of absolute self-sacrifice, without a moment's hesitation he went to certain death".

George was one of the four Bradford brothers, two of whom were awarded the Victoria Cross (the only brothers to receive this award in WW1) and one who received the Military Cross. Only one of the four brothers survived the war. Roland, who won his VC for his bravery and leadership on the Somme, had his award commemorated on his anniversary in 2016 and the

plaques are now alongside each other.

Area 3

Area 3 held their annual reunion in April which was held over a weekend at the Channel View Hotel on the Isle of Wight in Shanklin. It was attended by 90 Shipmates from Branches in 3 Area. 5 members from the Isle of Wight Branch who joined us for the Gala Dinner on the Saturday night.

The reunion was held at The Channel View Hotel, a family run hotel, which overlooks the shipping approaches to Southampton & Portsmouth, so shipmates had great views of all in bound and out bound traffic going past the bar! The rooms are





light and well decorated, the staff are first class, the food plentiful, and entertainment on the 3 nights range from Vera Lynn to the Back Street Boys which was suitable for all age groups and especially Shipmate Jack Kerr who wanted to shake his tail feathers!!

Shipmates had a busy a day out round the Island on the Saturday, and on Sunday after Church Parade had lunch in the Busy Bee Garden Centre, followed by a steam train ride on the Isle of Wight Steam Railway. (Apparently S/M Stewart Maclean was the Fat Controller for the day!!)

On Sunday the Church Service would normally be held in the Hotel and officiated by our much-loved Area Padre Rev'd

David Farrant. However very sadly he 'crossed the bar' in February and has not been replaced.

Luckily for the congregation Isle of Wight Branch has a Padre, Revd Tony Richards (an ex PO Stoker would you believe), who said he would be happy to lead the Church Service and invited everyone to join him for the morning service at his Parish Church, St Blasius Old Parish Church Shanklin. So, Shipmates were coached to the



Church on the Sunday morning, along with 3 Standards, the Area Standard, Isle of Wight Branch Standard and the Lee On the Solent and Stubbington Standard.



On behalf of all Shipmates who attended the Church service, Area 3 Chairman, S/M Soapy Watson BEM wanted to say a huge thank you to S/M Rev'd Tony and his congregation for allowing them us to use the church.

However Area 3 still have a problem, They would like to find a new Padre for the Area..... Any applicants please?

RNA Bude

Shipmate and Bude Hon Secretary Bob Gelder has forwarded this dispatch from Deepest Kernow.....

The May Meeting was enhanced by the very welcome attendance of North Cornwall M.P. Scott Dann who opened the evening with a very illuminating address of his recent history in attaining the seat for N. Cornwall. He has some serious ambitions for the residents of this area and also hopes to be influential in the naming of a future Frigate as another HMS Cornwall. His natural sense of humour and ability to relate to an audience was easy to listen to. Whether his wife has forgiven him for not getting home until 7.00am after his election victory is another matter! Scott was invited to speak before the Meeting in order to get back his home and some supper - not before, however, he toasted The Queen and the Duke of Cornwall with a free tot.

Following Scott's departure, the Meeting opened in the customary manner. Nothing untoward and the Branch's recent "Fun Quiz Night" had been a resounding success for both the Branch

and Cornwall Palliative Care. A new Full Member signed up, boosting the Branch strength to 49 overall. We anticipate our first "Sunday Lunchie" on 20th May and a "Psychic Evening" on 13th July. August will see us "Greeting, Meeting & Recruiting" at Morrisons, hopefully a "Race Night" will be programmed in and then October the "Trafalgar Night Dinner".

'Volunteers' for June Raffle are s/ms Paul Sampson, Tanky Williams, Dave Worth, Steve Adams, Alan Bicker.

Following the Loyal Toast, kindly sponsored by s/ms Steve Cowling and Colin Hainsworth in honour of their birthdays, both on 6th May (but different fathers apparently!), the Chairman closed the Meeting at 20.45. Subsequent Raffle and Auction was very well supported.

RNA Liskeard Branch

Branch Shipmates continue to volunteer and provide Mentoring for new entry trainees at HMS Raleigh.

On Friday 30th of March Fisher 17/30 class passed out of HMS Raleigh and phase one training. During the morning ceremony and presentation, a special award was presented for the very first time to AET Bethany Potter. This award named, the John Bartlett mentors trophy is awarded to the recruit who has interacted the most with the mentors, also the recruit who has impressed the mentors most over the 10 weeks phase one training.



John Bartlett was one of the original mentors from the Liskeard Royal Naval association who started the veteran mentors in HMS Raleigh over 10 years ago, sadly John passed away in December last year, but his memory will live on in Fisher division, and HMS Raleigh.

AET. Bethany Potter received the trophy and certificate from the captain of HMS Raleigh Ellie Ablett MBE, AND Mrs Barbara Bartlett. The Fisher mentors from Liskeard Branch are S/M's Terry Whitty and Jerry Fleming, who mentor the recruits during the ten weeks of phase one training.

RNA City Of Inverness Branch



On Monday 23 April 2018, a cold and wet morning, various VIPs and dignitaries, including six members of the City of Inverness Branch, who mustered at 0800 to commemorate the Battle of Zeebrugge at the Cenotaph, Cavell Gardens, Inverness.

The Zeebrugge Raid occurred on 23 April 1918 and was an attempt by the Royal Navy to block the Belgian port of Bruges-Zeebrugge. The intention was to sink obsolete ships in the canal entrance and prevent German shipping from leaving port

Four Standards were paraded – 2 x RNA, 1 x RBLS, 1 x Sea Cadets. The RNA Standards were carried by S/Ms Bob Coburn and Gordon Ross. The wreaths were laid by Vice-Lord Lieutenant of Inverness Douglas Young, Provost Helen Carmichael, Chairman of the RBLS Inverness Branch and Trevor Carnall Vice Chairman RNA Inverness Branch. The service was conducted by Canon John Cuthbert. The tree other RNA Members were: S/Ms Elizabeth Ross, John Gordon and Aulay MacLeod.



Everyone was invited back to the TA Centre for breakfast bacon 'butties', tea/coffee. The RNA contingent shared their table with Douglas Young, the Vice-Lord Lieutenant – with lots of "lamp swinging"!

(Editors Note; What no Tot!)

RNA Lincoln Branch

Vice Chairman of Lincoln branch Shipmate Mike Williams very kindly forwarded a couple of articles letting us all know what Lincoln branch has been up too!

In March, Lincoln Branch took charge of a model of HMS EXETER, the cruiser that leapt to fame with her participation in the Battle of the River Plate and which resulted in the scuttling of the German battleship, GRAF SPEE.

The model was constructed by Mr Pat Constance in 1938 when he was a 15 year old boy. Pat saw the plans in a magazine and had to source all the materials to complete the model - none of your Airfix or Revel kits back then! Pat painstakingly created each and every part for the ship from whatever bits of wood and metal he could gather. The result is an outstanding re-creation of the cruiser complete with her aircraft.



When he was old enough, Pat endeavoured to join the Royal Navy but ended up joining the Royal Corps of Signals. He fought in several theatres and, last year, received the Legion d'honneur for his presence on the beaches of Normandy during the D-Day landings.

The handover of the model was attended by Pat's wife, Hazel, members of the Royal Navy and Royal Corps of Signals elements from the Joint EW Operational Support Centre (JEWOSC), RAF Waddington, as well as members of the Lincoln Branches of the RNA and Royal Signals Association. Cdr David Hewitt, MBE, OC Ops Wg (JEWOSC) accepted the model from Pat on behalf of the Lincoln Branch and Club. The acceptance by Cdr Hewitt was very fitting as he had been, at one time, the First Lt of the Type 42 Destroyer, HMS EXETER. Along with Cdr David, there were three other former crew of the last EXETER in attendance.

On handing over the model, Pat said that he had been looking at the EXETER for the last 80 years and he felt it was time that, at the age of 95, he handed her over to an organisation where

others could appreciate her and keep her safe for future generations to view.

The photo above shows Cdr Hewitt, MBE, thanking Mr Pat Constance for the generous donation of his fine model of the 1938 cruiser, HMS EXETER. (Photo - Ben Revel, Royal Signals Association (Lincoln Branch)).

The City of Lincoln Council re-affirmed its commitment to the Armed Forces Community Covenant by re-signing the Covenant last September. In an effort to show its support, the Veteran, Reservist and Cadet communities from the City mustered for a photo shoot which will go out in the County Newsletter in June.



The shoot was organised by Cllr Jackie Kirk, an Associate Member of the Lincoln Branch of the RNA and the Armed Forces Champion for the City of Lincoln. Rather than invite all members of the above communities to attend, Shipmate Jackie asked the officials of the various associations to come along. Being as the shoot was held at the Army Reserve Centre, Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln, it is extremely unlikely that the Centre would've been able to cope with the number of vehicles which would inevitably have turned up had everyone been invited!

Well done, Jackie, for managing the logistics as we know these events can be akin to herding cats!!!

The RNA contingent consisted of (l-r) S/Ms Chris Buckley (Chair, Lincoln), Yvonne Crawford (Treasurer, No9 Area), Keith Crawford, MBE (NCM, 9 Area), Mike Williams (Lincoln), Morag Robinson (Lincoln), , David Willcock (Submariners Assoc., Lincoln), CPOWEA Steph La Bianca (JEWOSC Waddington) and Frank 'Sandy Powell (Chair, SA Lincoln).



Phot credits - The Muster - Jackie Kirk, Lincoln RNA

RNA Contingent - CPOWEA Steph La Bianca, JEWOSC Waddington

Scottish Area / Riders Branch

Thanks to Shipmate Bernie McPhillips for forwarding the article below:

Over the weekend of 7-8th April 2018, the Scottish Area Stall was in attendance at the MCN Motorbike (with S/m Roslyn Hastie-Murray, Tyne Branch & S/m Bernie McPhillips, Rosyth & West Fife Branch) for the first time to promote the RNA and the newly formed RNA Riders' Branch.

This event turned out to be very beneficial for the RNA with interest from all corners of the UK, from Glasgow, Dunfermline, Aberdeen, Edinburgh, all the way south to Portsmouth and Plymouth and other areas. Quite a few of those visiting the Area Stall were unaware that the RNA existed, let alone that the RNA now has a Riders' Branch.

Leo the Lion was perched on my bike with his RNA cap on along with his Donation tub, proving to be very popular with the kids for photo opportunities. A tot of Pusser's Rum was offered for a donation, also proving to be very popular and evoking memories from the veterans who visited the Stand.



We also had a request from Erskine Glasgow who this year, to commemorate 100 years since the end of WW1, are parading 100 Flags representing the Veterans and families of Veterans cared for by Erskine over the years. They have requested one of the Riders Branch to carry one of these flags on behalf of one of the RN Veterans families. (Further details to follow from Erskine).

One visitor to the stall supplied information that in 1968, HMS Caledonia along with Forth Valley Motorcycle club, hosted a rally in Scotland together. I wonder how many other RN Motorcycle clubs were around during that time?

City of Glasgow Branch

On Friday 27 April Glasgow Branch held an RNA awareness day in the Morrisons store at Auchenlea where they raised the princely sum of £416.06 for our funds. The Branch wish to thank our volunteers Kenn McKinnon, Brian MacKenzie, Anne McKinnon and Anne Cox for their efforts on the day.

The branch also made contact with a number of Veterans who displayed an interest in the RNA and, fingers crossed, hope they will attend the next meeting. The photo above shows S/Ms Kenn and Brian with the Auchenlea Morrisons Stores Community Champion, Joanna.



RNA Norwich Branch

On Saturday 19 May 2018, 33 members of the Norwich Branch visited HMS Queen Elizabeth alongside in Portsmouth. We were met at the gate by our host for the visit, CPO 'Nev' Southall and LS 'Bungy' Williams to ensure we were all in possession of security and car passes; before being chaperoned to the Princess Royal Jetty.

It was the first visit to the dockyard for a good number of years for many of our members, and a vast amount of changes were noticeable, especially the facility that has been built to accommodate HMS Queen Elizabeth. Once through the security cordon we made our way up the gangway and were escorted to the hangar. To say that everyone's mouth was wide open, and chins were dragging along the deck wouldn't be too much of an exaggeration.



Once in the hangar the Officer of the Day, Lt Matthew Williams, gave us a brief welcome to the ship before we were given a short talk on the hangar itself, explaining the layout and the facilities that have been included in the design of the area. The group was then split into two with one group, escorted by CPO 'Nev' Southall and AB Elizabeth "Beth" Ray, heading forward to the foc'sle and bridge, and the other group heading aft, being escorted by Lt Mathew "Artie" Shaw, LS Joe "Bungy" Williams and AB Rachel Quanbrough. The tours

lasted approximately an hour and a half and took in the Bridge, the FLYCO (Flight Control), some of the FRPP's (Fire Repair Party Post), and numerous other locations around the ship.

Meeting back up on the flight deck, the size of which is the same as 4 football pitches, and before leaving the ship a photo opportunity was taken with members of the Branch and our hosts. It is believed that Norwich are the first RNA Branch to visit the ship; and everyone present was extremely impressed with one of the latest additions to the Royal Navy.

RNA St Neots



The St Neots RNA Branch attended the Eaton Socon May Day during the Bank Holiday Monday.

Present at the stand were –from Left to right S/Ms, Keith Ridley RNA National Chairman, Geoff Patterson, Mike Noble, Tony Selby, (Branch Secretary), Helen Patterson and Yvonne Selby.

President and Vice Chairman John Gibbs were also present. (Pictures by Maureen Ridley). Tombola and the Battleship games were on offer, and despite heavy opposition from other stands, the group posted a very useful profit. The kiddies' tombola was particularly popular, with each young contestant being



given, win or lose, a RNA head band. Great publicity as they walked around the display areas, as other children also wanted one!

Some members relaxed in the sun, acting as advertising bill boards and getting some much needed vitamin D . Can't think why, but there have been some less than complimentary comments about this particular picture. (There is just no pleasing some people!)

RNA Alresford Branch

Please see the article below sent in by S/M David Ottley , Chairman of Alresford Branch.

On the 14th April 2018 Alresford Royal Naval Association celebrated the twenty-fifth since its formation. However, the town's links to the Navy go back many years, with probably its most famous inhabitant being Admiral George Rodney (1718 – 1792) who had a most distinguished naval career but was best known for his commands during the American War of Independence. Between 1749 and 1751 he had Old Alresford House and the park constructed just north of New Alresford. This accounts for the fact that he was laid to rest in St. Mary's church in Old Alresford.

Apart from hills outside the town being utilised for an early rudimentary semaphore system for transmitting signals between London and Portsmouth during the Napoleonic Wars the naval association with the town was fairly dormant until a ship bearing the town's name was laid down on the Clyde on the 30th April 1918.

HMS Alresford was a coal burning Hunt class minesweeper, otherwise known as a “smokey Joe”, and one of the last of the coal burners ordered for the Royal Navy How did it happen that a small market town in the north of Hampshire was accorded the honour of giving its name to a warship? Nobody can be absolutely sure, but there are several facts which in all probability are very pertinent. Viscount Jellicoe was born and bred in Southampton and was promoted to Admiral of the Fleet in 1919, in which year his brother the Reverend Frederick Jellicoe became rector of Alresford and since HMS Alresford was also launched in the same year. Surely this is no coincidence?



Because WW1 hostilities had ceased before HMS Alresford was completed, modifications were made to her design which enabled her to go into service as a tender to the Navigation School in Portsmouth. For the next twenty years she steamed daily round the Isle of Wight carrying onboard young sub – lieutenants who were learning the arts of navigation. One of her more notable trainees was a very young future Duke of Edinburgh. During this between the wars period strong links were forged with the town with many social and sporting events took place which were much appreciated by both the town and the ship's company.

In 1939, under the threat of war, HMS Alresford was converted back to a warship enabling her to undertake the minesweeping duties that she was originally designed for. She sailed out of Portsmouth keeping Solent waters swept clear and safe for use by other shipping and living up to her motto, “Safe taking care”. The ship took part in the Dunkirk landings and the raid on Dieppe. During the Dieppe raid she survived considerable enemy fire, but throughout WW2 she still had a role to perform for the Navigation School. This meant that the links with town of Alresford were maintained and strengthened during those very difficult times.. Food hampers,

including watercress, were supplied for the ship's company and whenever possible social and sporting events were organised.

The gratitude of the captain and crew for support that they received from the town can still be seen today in St. John's Church in New Alresford. Mounted on the south wall adjacent to the area of remembrance are mounted a brass plaque thanking the town for its support plus a ship's photo together with the ship's crest which incorporates the town's colours and lion rampant as advised by the town clerk back in 1919. The RNA branch standard is also proudly displayed along with the standards of the British Legion and the Royal Airforce Association.

In order to, raise local awareness of the town's naval connections there will be a display of naval memorabilia in the town library window during the last two weeks of April. The Royal Naval Association meets in the Swan Hotel at 1930 on the second Tuesday of each month and welcomes new members and associate members. The latter do not have to have served in the Royal Navy.

RNA Aldershot Branch

Aldershot Branch are holding several events this year at the Aldershot Conservative Club, Little Wellington Street Aldershot GU11 1PE for which they would very much like to invite shipmates from other Branches to attend;

The Death of the Tot - Friday 27 July 2018

- Doors Open 1900 – Cadet Band 2000- Ceremony 2030 – Bar until 2359 - Free Entry & Free TOT

The 2018 Banyan Party - Friday 31 August 2018

- BBQ, Entertainment and a free TOT – Bring your loudest shirt, shorts and Flip Flops
Tickets £6
- Top of the Bill is the Unashamedly brilliant Shep Woolley (Still sounds good for 80!)

Flight Deck – Horse Racing Night - Friday 23 November 2018

- Doors Open 1900 First Race 2030 - Free Entry & Free TOT, Disoc and Bar open until 2359

For further details of any of the above events please contact Eddie Toyne 07986 691060 or Mick Mills on 07956 078671

CROSSED THE BAR – Celebrating a life well lived

William 'Bill' Clodd – Norwich Branch

Norwich Branch are very sad to announce that Shipmate William 'Bill' Clodd crossed the bar on 2nd May 2018 aged 94

Bill served in the Royal Navy and Royal Armoured Corp; serving in the RN between 1943 – 1944 on HMS Gosling, HMS Duke, HMS Drake, Boscawen and HMS Blackwood as a Stoker 1st Class; During his time in HMS Blackwood he survived after the ship was torpedoed and sunk by U674 (captained by Peter von Bremman) on 15th June 1944.

Bill received a compulsory transfer to the Army on the 17th June 1944, serving with Duke of Wellingtons in India, Dutch East Indies and Sumatra; and with the 25th Dragoons in Calcutta Bill was Branch Chairman of Norwich Branch in 1988.

He will be much missed by Norwich Branch.

RNA Members Benefits

UK Holiday Group /CONA Holiday Service

- Variety of special deals for both Groups and Individuals. 1% of turnover thorough CONA Holiday Service is returned to the RNA. <http://www.royal-naval-association.co.uk/news/323/members-holidays-service>

Coleman/Ansvar Insurance

- Discounted Branch and House hold Insurance - 01323 744149
<http://bit.ly/RNACona>

Funeral Service

- Significant discount form Co-op Funeral Service – contact Central Office.

Portsmouth Historic Dockyard



- RNA member entry just £10 plus four guest at £10 each provides access to the all attractions including the Submarine Museum, RM Museum and Explosion!.

Legal Services



Free 30 minute legal advice with Coffin Mew.
armedforces@coffinmew.co.uk 0800 827168

Breakdown Service



- RAC Breakdown and recovery service
asec@arno.org.uk or 0207 4025231



Organisers of Reunions should be aware the CONA Travel will match or better any other 'like for like' Reunion/Group Trips bookings so why not give them an opportunity to impress you. 0844 264 2122

conatravelservices@justforgroups.co.uk



- Discounts on a large range of new Cars www.motorfinity.uk/rna

Note from the CONA (Conference of Naval Associations) Secretary -

I would be very grateful if organisers of reunions would oblige me by obtaining a quote from the CONA Travel Service, who will not be beaten on like for like price. CONA Travel Service donate 1% of their CONA business back into the Conference totalling to date £2,400 which provides funds to assist members Associations. Oh and by the way their service is first class as well.

Lascaris Malta Association – September 2018

Lascaris Malta Association visited SS. Great Britain during their annual reunion visit to Bristol in September. If you would like more details of this association contact Pat Middleton at patriciamiddleton@hotmail.com



Semaphore Circular is extremely grateful to Mike Crowe of RN Shipmates who has forwarded the RN Shipmates 'Reunions' section from their website <http://www.rnshipmates.co.uk/reunions.php> where you will find specific contact details.

Royal Naval Writers Association – 12 October 2018

131st Reunion Dinner will be held at The Royal Beach Hotel Southsea on Friday 12th October 2018; see www.rnwa.co.uk. All serving and ex-serving 'Scribes' (member of the RNWA or not) together with 'oppos & guests' welcome. For further information or details contact the RNWA Secretary, Les Heyhoe, email: les@heyhoe.com / Mob: 07950 934888 or 023 9235 7181



Admiral Sir Philip Jones KCB ADC
First Sea Lord & Chief of Naval Staff
with Les Heyhoe OBE RNWA Secretary & Membership
RNWA Reunion Dinner 13/10/2017 UJC London

GOH for 2017 was 1SL – 2018 GOH TBA.

Type 21 Club Reunion – 12/13 October 2018

The Type 21 Club reunion will be held over the weekend 12/13 October 2018. Friday night meet and greet - Saturday at the Royal British Legion Crownhill PL6 5DH. Cost £22 subject to final confirmation.

Full Details will be confirmed in due course or on the web site at www.type21club.org or Contact Paul Gower PRO Type 21 Club, email type21clubpro@gmail.com

Survey Ships Association – 26-29 October 2018

The Survey Ships Association will be holding its twenty-fourth reunion at the Holiday Inn, Hull Marina on the w/e of 26th to 29th October. For information on membership and reunion please send a SAE to: The Secretary SSA, 17 Eliza Mackenzie Court, Lindisfarne Close, Cosham, Portsmouth, PO6 2SB, e-mail: secretary@surveyships.org.uk, or telephone 023 9232 4795.

HMS Mohawk Association – 2 November 2018

HMS Mohawk Association will be holding a reunion in Plymouth on the weekend of 2nd November. Please contact IOW tours for information. We would also welcome anyone

who served on any Tribal Class Frigate.

HMS Relentless Association – 2-5 November 2018

The annual Reunion of the HMS Relentless Association will take place over the weekend of Friday 2nd – Monday 5th November 2018 at the Aztec & Spa, Bristol. All ex-Rusty Rs welcome. To book, or for further information, please contact IOW Tours (info@iowtours.com - Tel: 01983 405 116). Alternatively, contact the Association Secretary (Secretary@hmsrelentless.co.uk - Tel 02392 599 640).

June 1st - 4th	H.M.S. Londonderry Association	enquiries@iowtours.com	The Country Hotel Basingstoke
June 6th	Fleet Air Arm Buccaneer Association	robinH49@btinternet.com	Royal Court Hotel Coventry
June 9th	H.M.S. Liverpool Association	info@hmsliverpoolassociation.org.uk	GI's Club Whale Island
June 9th	2 nd HMS Manchester Association	iantids@ntlworld.com	Senior Rates Mess HMS Nelson
June 9th	HMS Ark Royal Association	https://www.hmsarkroyalassociation.org/	Still and West Old Portsmouth
July 14th	H.M.S. Daring Association (Fifth & Final Commission)	hmsdaring_d05@yahoo.co.uk	The Bell Hose Hotel Chippenham
August 17th	WRNS 1966	barbaracotton46@btinternet.com	RMC Portsmouth
August 31st - Sept 3rd	H.M.S. Diana Association	kendavies131@yahoo.co.uk	Grantham
September 8th	The Fisgard Association	https://www.thefisgardassociation.org/	Royal Beach Southsea
September 15th	HMS Ark Royal Association	https://www.hmsarkroyalassociation.org/	Still and West Old Portsmouth
September 21st - 23rd	H.M.S. Protector Association	Dougatspindrif@aol.com	Hadleigh Hotel Eastbourne
Sept, 21st - 24th	H.M.S. Ulster Association	ulster@candoo.com	Hallmark Midlands Hotel Derby
September 21st	RNCCA	honsec@rncca.com	Rob Roy Hotel Aberfoyle
September 21st	H.M.S. Tiger association	turbine52@gmail.com	Tillington Hall Hotel Staffs
Sept 28th - Oct 1st	R.N.E.W.E.B. Association	enquiries@iowtours.com	Hallmark Hotel Preston
Sept 28th / 29th	H.M.S Caprice 1968 Association World Cruise	gl@hmscaprice1968.org.uk	RMC Portsmouth
September 29th	Royal Navy Stewards Past and Present	shugstero1@yahoo.co.uk	Plymouth
September 29th	BRNC Dartmouth September 1978 Entry	brncclassof78@gmail.com	BRNC Dartmouth
October 5th	H.M.S. Lowestoft Association	ian@hmslowestoft.co.uk	Royal Beach Hotel Southsea
October 5th	H.M.S. Troubridge Final Commission	Romft1@gmail.com	Royal Beach Hotel Southsea
October 6th	Royal Naval Patrol Service Association	hq@rnpsa.co.uk	Lowestoft

October 8th	Bay Class Frigates Association	Doug Turk	Royal Beach Hotel Southsea
October 12th - 15th	Royal Naval Writers' Association (RNWA)	les@heyhoe.com	Royal Beach Hotel Southsea
October 12th - 15th	Royal Navy Photographers Association	http://www.rnpa.org.uk/	Plymouth
October 13th	Type 21 Club Association	davidwoollard813@btinternet.com	Crownhill RBL Plymouth
October 14th	H.M.S. Neptune Association	www.hmsneptune.com	National Arboretum Alrewas
October 20th	H.M.S Nubian	robertholland54@btinternet.com	Caledonian Hotel Rosyth
October 26th - 29th	HMS Eagle / HMS Yarmouth / HMS Undaunted but open to all	alan666@blueyonder.co.uk	Tillington Hall Hotel Staffs
November 9th	H.M.S. Intrepid Association	andywalmesley_uk@yahoo.co.uk	Liverpool
October or November	H.M.S. Endurance Association First Commission 1968 - 69	jansbolt@btinternet.com	TBA
2019			
April 26th - 28th	Royal Navy Safety Equipment & Survival Association	gordon.parkes7@btinternet.com	Aztec Hotel Bristol
Sept. 7th - 10th 2019	847 NAS H.M.S. Simbang 69 -71	cliff.jones1948@gmail.com	Aztec Hotel Bristol
December 2019.	H.M.S. Ajax & River Plate Veterans	malcolm.collis@gmail.com	Trip to South America

Swinging the Lamp – June 2018



Date	Year	Entry
1st	1360	Establishment of Court of Admiralty
2 nd	1666	The second day of the 'Four Days' Battle English – forty-four ships; Dutch – eighty ships. Captured: <i>Black Spread-Eagle</i> , <i>Convertine</i> , <i>Essex</i> , <i>Swiftsure</i> .
3rd	1747	Captains who were not to be employed again were automatically promoted to flag rank and became 'Superannuated Rear-Admirals'. Nicknamed the Yellow Squadron.
1794 th	1742	<i>Rose</i> captured a Spanish snow (and her three prizes on the following day) in Exuma Sound, Bahama Islands.
5 th	1807	Boats of <i>Pomone</i> captured thirteen vessels of a convoy of twenty-seven sail and one of the escorting brigs off Sables d'Olonne and St Gilles-sur-Vie. Three more of the convoy were driven ashore.
6 th	1800	Boats of <i>Impetueux</i> , <i>Thames</i> , <i>Amethyst</i> , <i>Amelia</i> , <i>Cynthia</i> and 300 of the 2nd Foot burned the French <i>Insolente</i> and several smaller vessels. Also captured five brigs, two sloops and two gun vessels in the Morbihan, France.
7th	1854	Boats of <i>Vulture</i> and <i>Odin</i> repulsed in an attack on Gambia Karleby, now Kokkola, Gulf of Bothnia
8th	1794	<i>Crescent</i> , <i>Druid</i> , <i>Eurydice</i> , <i>Valiant</i> and three others fought the French <i>Brutus</i> , <i>Scevola</i> and four others off Guernsey
9th	1796	<i>Southampton</i> (32) captured the French <i>Utilé</i> (24) in Hyeres Road, Sir John Jervis having pointed her out as an eyesore to Captain Macnamara.
10th	1694	<i>Portsmouth</i> captured a French 30-gun privateer about 120 miles S. of Ushant. <i>Canterbury</i> came up just before the end of the action.
11 th	1779	Horatio Nelson 'made' – promoted post-captain – by appointment to <i>Hinchinbrook</i> (28) in command, three months before his 21st birthday.
12th	1652	Captain Sir George Ayscue (<i>Rainbow</i>) with a squadron of four men-of-war and seven hired merchantmen, captured six ships of the Dutch outward-bound Portuguese trade off Lizard Head
13 th	1673	Order-in-Council required 'that the Lord High Admiral be ready at all times to give his Majesty a perfect account of the state of his Navy relating to the condition both of his ships and yards, with the stores remaining, persons employed and services to be performed therein'.
14 th	1789	Captain William Bligh arrived at Kupang, Timor, after his 3,618-mile voyage in an open boat following the mutiny in <i>Bounty</i> .
15 th	1845	Landing parties from <i>Conway</i> and the French <i>Berceau</i> and <i>Zelée</i> repulsed in an attack on the forts at Tamatave, Madagascar

16 th	1842	Landing parties from <i>Conway</i> and the French <i>Berceau</i> and <i>Zelée</i> repulsed in an attack on the forts at Tamatave, Madagascar
17 th	1855	Fourth bombardment of Sevastopol, Crimea. Naval Brigade and Royal Artillery. Sea bombardment by <i>Princess Royal</i> , <i>Highflyer</i> , <i>Miranda</i> , <i>Sidon</i> , <i>Snake</i> , <i>Viper</i> , launches of <i>Royal Albert</i> , and French steamers. Battle Honour: Crimea 1854–5.
18 th	1864	American Civil War. CSS <i>Alabama</i> sunk by USS <i>Kearsarge</i> off Cherbourg. Last naval action in home waters in war in which UK not involved
19 th	1917	CMB 1 sunk by German destroyers off Ostend
20 th	1921	Seagoing elements of NZ naval forces became the New Zealand Division of the RN, by Order in Council
21 st	1942	Submarine P 514 (ex-USS R 19) sunk in collision with Minesweeper <i>Georgian</i> (RCN), escort to convoy CL 43, off Cape Race (46.33N, 53.39W)
22 nd	1948	Light fleet carrier <i>Bulwark</i> launched at Harland and Wolf f, Belfast. Named by Countess Granville, wife of the Governor of Northern Ireland, sister of HM Queen Elizabeth The late Queen Mother. The tenth carrier built at the yard since 1935.
23 rd	1940	Destroyers <i>Kandahar</i> and <i>Kingston</i> and sloop <i>Shoreham</i> sank the Italian S/M <i>Torricelli</i> off Perim, Red Sea (12.34N, 43.16E). Destroyer <i>Khartoum</i> was damaged by unrelated explosion of torpedo air vessel, caught fire and was beached on Perim Island (12.38N, 43.42E).
24 th	1941	Sloop <i>Auckland</i> sunk by German dive-bombers 20 miles E. of Tobruk (32.15N, 24.30E). One hundred and sixty-two survivors rescued by sloop <i>Parramatta</i> (RAN).
25 th	1950	The start of the Korean War. North Korean troops crossed the 38th parallel and went on to capture the South Korean capital, Seoul, and much of South Korea
26 th	1958	Light cruiser <i>Birmingham</i> , Captain T.D. Ross RN, arrived in Quebec for the 350th anniversary of the founding of the city
27 th	1942	Convoy PQ 17 sailed for Russia. Eleven of thirty-six merchant ships arrived.
28 th	1976	First Supply Officer promotion to admiral – Sir Peter White, CFS, already the first ‘Pusser’ to sit on the Board.
29 th	1962	Lord Carrington, First Lord of the Admiralty, unveiled a plaque on the west wall of the RN Hospital, Stonehouse, to mark the bicentenary of its foundation. The hospital closed on 31 March 1995 when services were transferred to Derriford.
30 th	1961	Closure of Royal Victoria Yard, Deptford. Opened in 1742 and responsible for storing and blending the Navy’s rum