



**ROYAL NAVAL
ASSOCIATION**



The Semaphore Circular

No 682

The Beating Heart of the RNA

August 2018



***The National Standard has pride of place at this years
Armed Forces Day Parade in Llandudno. It was the first
time that our National Standard Bearer, S/M Bob Coburn
had marched with a Gurkha!***

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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Central Office Staff – (L to R) Nigel, Michelle, Paul, Chrissie and Andy

Find Semaphore Circular On-line

<http://bit.ly/RNADownloads>

or

RNA Website / Members Area / Downloads /
Circulars / Code (shipmate)

Snail Trail Mail - Postal Address

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Semaphore Tower,
HM Naval Base,
Portsmouth
Hants PO1 3LT

Dear Shipmates,

Welcome to the August Semaphore Circular. It's 33 degrees today and the MoD has just started the steam heating for Winter (only joking). The HMS QE is giving summer leave at present, ready to deploy at the end of August to Westlant to do the first fixed wing flying trials. It is very noticeable how much busier the Dockyard is when the QE is in, mostly with contractors. Work has now started in earnest on the Victory Jetty which will be the second carrier jetty for when Prince of Wales and QE are in at the same time. Work has been stopped for some eels, but when the jelly arrives they can get on with it. During this work, access by car to Semaphore Tower is more difficult.

Thank you so very much for the marvellous stories from Armed Forces Day, very impressive set-ups and great to see a £250 grant being used to such good effect. A great big Bravo Zulu for those who gave their time.

The Lamp Light of Peace parade is now in an advanced state of planning. Our National Chair, Keith Ridley will speak at Westminster Abbey on an evening of 4 August (1820) with the Chaplain of the Fleet saying the Naval Prayer. Warrant Officer Paul Jackson will accept the LLOP on behalf of the RN and RNA. The LLOP arrives by sea at 1100 at the Historic Dockyard, finger jetty and an honour guard of RNA will accompany it to the Jutland 100 exhibition hall, where there will be a short ceremony. The LLOP will then be taken to the museum and the 4-inch gun of HMS LANCE, that fired the first shot, at sea, of the First World War, 104 years to the day since that fateful shot. Standard bearers, RNA and RN are then invited for tea/coffee/pastries/tot at the Princess Royal Gallery, courtesy of the National Museum of the RN, with complementary day tickets given to those who would like them (doesn't cover Mary Rose).



If you are interested, please give Andy an e-mail – he will be Parade Commander on the day. We'll need to know the numbers, to ensure that the Museum has enough rum!!!

After Portsmouth the LLOP goes to the Chapel at Sandhurst on 29 August.

Bits and pieces:

- There is a very important announcement about tickets for Remembrance Sunday at the Cenotaph – this is the 100th anniversary of the Armistice, so demand will be high, get you bid in asap.
- You might be interested to know that work on the Vets ID card is proceeding apace, happy to brief informally, but we hope for an announcement soon.
- Shipmate Gareth Booth has now started work as the Branch Recruitment and Retention Advisor (BRR), he lives in 7 Area. He will be looking for Area contacts and branches who think they know how good recruiting is done.
- The NC is looking to co-opt a fourth member of the Standing Orders Committee. If you are interested, please contact GS. The SOC are responsible for the Governance issues of Conference and are vital to protect and defend the democratic systems we have.

- We do not, currently, have DNCM for 1, 4 or 5 Areas. The NC is seeking nominations from those Areas by **3 September 18**.
- Our previous General Secretary, Paddy McLurg has agreed to write a history of the RNA. If you have anything that you think might help him, please pass to me and I'll give it to him. He is presently working through the annual conference minutes since 1947!!
- Mike Gray (ex-editor of Navy News) is our Digital Communications Manager. Please pass stories for FB or website etc to him at mike@royalnavalassoc.com
- You may see a new article for 'A thousand good deeds a Day' if you have a candidate for an example that your branch has done please let us have it – we need to blow our trumpet – you are brilliant and the world needs to know!

We are now well into the summer leave period with Nigel off on Cadet leadership training courses all over the country and routine summer leave for the rest of Central Office staff. Please be patient if we are a little slower in answering the phones or getting back to you on your other questions.

Best of wishes from the Central Office Staff

Yours as ever

Paul



STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

**THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT SCORED HIS SECOND HOLE-IN-ONE IN HIS 50 YEARS OF PLAYING GOLF 25 JULY 2018
IF YOU CAN PROVE YOU WERE ON LIPHOOK GOLF COURSE
THAT DAY HE'LL BUY YOU A BEER!**

Chairman's chat

My sincere apologies for missing several editions of the Semaphore Circular but so far 2019 as not been too well on the family and health front. However, I have risen from the depths, albeit, I was never a submariner. Last year ended with the Boss writing off 2 cars within a week. Fortunately, she escaped both incidents unhurt and neither were her fault.

Sadly, in June I attended the funeral of S/M Peter Reed former National Council Member for No 3 Area who Crossed the Bar in late May. It was a good turnout by the RNA to support S/M Peter's daughter Tracey. In attendance were our National President, Vice Admiral John McAnally and our Deputy General Secretary Andy Christie. S/M Peter was a true gentleman which was emphasised in the Eulogy.

Congratulations to S/M Ivan Hunter on being awarded the BEM in the Queen's Birthday Honours. S/M Ivan was for many years the National Council Member of No12 (Ireland) Area, before stepping up to become Chairman of the Association's Standing Orders Committee and NCBA. S/M Ivan spent numerous hours taking a long hard look at the Association's Rules & Bye Laws and making recommendations to the National Council which resulted in significant simplification of the Royal Charter.

Welcome to Mike Gray who was until recently the Editor of Navy News. We have been lucky to recruit Mike to look after our National Website, the RNA Facebook and Media matters. Mike's background more than qualifies him for this role. Whilst mentioning Facebook, I frequently come across members posting negative comments about the Association, some knocking CO staff for not giving financial support to a Branch request/project, others are general drips. I appeal to Shipmates not to discuss these in the public forum but to take such matters up with your Branch/Area Secretary for them to be raised with your National Council Member. Most drips are based on incorrect information. For clarity, the CO Team is the Administrative backbone of the RNA and carry out decisions made by the National Council. This includes decisions on Finance. A successful initiative by Paul Quinn, approved by National Council was the introduction of a Minor Grant Scheme funded from the Branch & Club Support Fund. A budget of £7500 has been allocated to the General Secretary allowing him to make grants of £250 to Branches to assist with, but not restricted to; recruitment publicity, purchase of a Gazebo, Bell repairs, trips out and hosting a 97-year-old Naval Veteran who served on the WWII HMS Prince of Wales just to name a few. The only restriction is that the General Secretary reports back to the National Council on expenditure. Applications & administration of the scheme have been kept to an absolute minimum making the scheme a success with many Branches benefiting.



We look ahead with eagerness to our new General Secretary designate Captain Bill Oliphant RN joining us in November. Captain Oliphant is currently Captain of HM Naval Base Portsmouth and has a tremendous amount of responsibility on his shoulders managing almost everything that moves inside the Base which includes HMS NELSON. We welcome S/M Gareth Booth of No 7 Area who has volunteered to be the Association's Recruitment & Retention Officer. Already he has put out a survey and I would urge all Branches to respond to Gareth's requests as and when he asks for information. Gareth will be reporting to the Association Management Committee. With regards recruitment, and as mentioned at National Conference, if only 25% of the membership recruited just one new member each we would grow the membership by 3500 in a year. There are 1000's of potential recruits out there. Always carry a membership form in your

pocket (obtainable from your Branch Secretary), rather than just direct them to the RNA Website and go grab a new member.

Whilst visiting CO in March the opportunity presented itself of seeing the Royal Navy's two latest warships, Little and Large berthed astern of each other. These were HMS QUEEN ELIZABETH (65000 tons) and HMS FORTH (2000 tons). They were truly an amazing sight. A few weeks later whilst visiting CO I had the opportunity of revisiting HMS MERSEY and meeting up again with AB (Sea) Mel Wrightson who I found as quartermaster and toolled up with an SA80.

Since becoming National Chairman in September, the National Vice Chairman S/M Paul Stephenson and myself have managed to attend several Area Meetings and it has been a pleasure meeting with so many S/MS who made us so welcome. This year visits have been made to: Areas 2, 3, 10 & 11 and we hope to be visiting Areas 1, 4 7, 9 & 12. Unfortunately, progress has been slow due to a number of Areas holding their quarterly meetings on the same dates. Both S/M Paul Stephenson and myself wish to complement the Areas on the way their conduct their meetings. Special thanks goes to No 3 Area from S/M Stephenson where he won a Litre Bottle of Jameson's and my thanks to No 11 Area for allowing me to win a Litre Bottle of Woods.



HMS Forth first entry to Portsmouth

Just a gentle reminder about using the phrase RNA. The phrase RNA means nothing to non-members, so when speaking about our great Association to a non-member, try and remember to refer to it as the Royal Naval Association.

Sarah Clewes continues to be kept busy with Project Semaphore moving around the country setting up workshops for iPad users along with her colleague Julie Royston and they both deserve a big Thank You. When spreading the word about this great project, please remember that non-RNA members may also qualify for an iPad. Candidates simply need to be a naval veteran 65+ who does not have access to a computer and are therefore digitally isolated. If in doubt about someone qualifying, please contact CO.

Congratulations to all who took part in this year's National Standard Bearer's Competition and the Novices Competition. All were very impressive in their drill and well turned out. Yet again S/M Bob Coburn (Inverness Branch) won the National Competition. I realised just how serious Bob takes carrying our National Standard when he produced an electric buffer from his car to put a sparkle on his belt, shoes and Standard Pole. Well done Bob and to the runner-up S/M David Corrigan from No 6 Area on becoming the Deputy NSB. As an adjudicator responsible for adding up the Judges score sheets it was an eye opener to learn how Logistics Officers and WRENS apply addition, I'm glad I was taught the quick simplistic way as a Stoker!

With summer well underway, it is heartening to see so many Branches Flying the RNA Flag at numerous events whilst enjoying themselves. To our serving Shipmates in the Fleet, which includes the Royal Marines, all Shore Establishments and Naval Units, please let Andy Christie at andy@royalnavalassoc.com Central Office have any dits you have, or better still submit news from your Ship or Establishment for inclusion in the Association's Semaphore Circular as we want to hear from you. To those on Deployment may you have safe passage and a safe return.

*Yours aye
Keith Ridley*

1. ★ Calling Notices for Shipmates to attend the Cenotaph Remembrance Parade

Shipmates wishing to attend the Cenotaph Remembrance Parade on Sunday 11 November 2018 should forward their; Full Name; Current Address; Date and Place of Birth to **Central Office by 17 August.**



This information is required by the Metropolitan Police to enable security checks to take place and ensure the success and more importantly safety of the event.

If you would like to come along and march, there still plenty of spaces available to join the RNA Platoon. However, accommodation this year will be extremely tight as relatives of WW1 Veterans will be parading to commemorate the 100 hundredth anniversary of the Armistice immediately on completion of the normal Remembrance Parade.

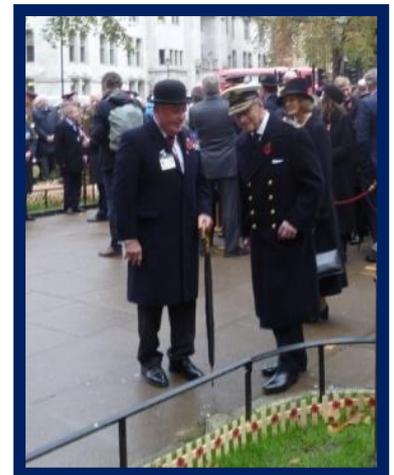
Shipmates may also wish to be aware that Minibuses and Coaches can be driven into London and park just off the Mall if branches wished to attend in addition to individuals. Don't forget the LIBOR buses may be available. We could help with fuel!

2. ★ Field of Remembrance – Thursday 8 November 2018

Any Branches wishing to place a cross in the RNA Garden of Remembrance or Members who want to attend the Field of Remembrance **please forward your details and ticket requirements to Nigel in Central office.**

Crosses can be place in the plot on behalf of a Branch or individual. These can be purchased from Central Office and will be placed on the day by those representing the RNA. Crosses cost £5 each.

Shipmates attending are reminded to bring a form of ID with you, and that you need to be enter the garden gate by 1015 and muster at the RNA plot. The Chaplain of the Fleet will conduct a short memorial service and a potential visit from a VVIP. The National President and General Secretary will be in attendance and he can be contacted on his mobile – 07850 646755 (if required).



3. ★ Early Doors Joke - IT Alert

Please be on the lookout for this Computer Scam. Read on.....

*******Warning*******

If you receive a friend request from the New Zealand All Blacks **DO NOT** under any circumstances Accept it.....

It is more than likely to be another Haka.

Do you get it Boom Boom



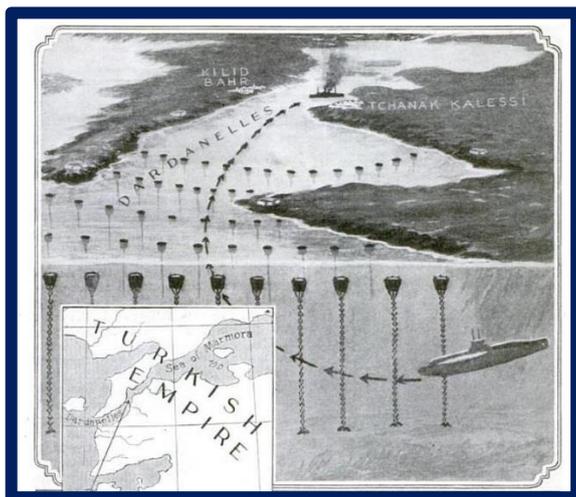
4. ★ RNVC Series – Commander Norman Douglas Holbrook VC Royal Navy

Norman Holbrook was born on 9 July 1888 in Southsea Hampshire. He attended Portsmouth Grammar School before joining BRNC and was appointed a Midshipman in January 1905. He joined the Submarine depot ship HMS Bonaventure and served in HM Submarines F3, V4 and E41 before taking Command of B11 in December 1913.

The boat saw action in the Dardanelles during the Gallipoli campaign on 13 December 1914 which resulted in Lt Holbrook receiving the Victoria Cross.

On 13 December 1914, B11, the Dardanelles and torpedoed the Ottoman Battleship 'Mesûdiye'.

Fitted with a new battery B11 had been selected for the mission over HMS B9 and HMS B10. The French boats at the submarine base had been rejected as it was agreed that they were less suitable than the British submarines. Guards were constructed over the various projections on the submarine's hull to reduce the risk of snagging on mines.



B11 started its journey from Tenedos. Before the submarine reached the first row of mines it was discovered that one of the guards had become damaged making it worse than useless. The guard was removed and the attack continued. B11 then had to pass under five rows of mines through then uncharted currents. Passing through the minefield took about five hours. After B11 hit Mesûdiye it took eight hours for the submarine to escape initially with any attempt to use the periscope resulting in heavy fire.

Holbrook was awarded the Victoria Cross, the first for service in a submarine, his First Lieutenant, Sydney Winn, was awarded the Distinguished

Service Order, and every member of the crew was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal.

On 24 July 1916 the Prize court decided that the submarine's company was entitled to prize money for the sinking of Mesûdiye, and an award of £3,500 was made, of which Holbrook received £601 10s 2d, Win £481 4s 2d, Chief Petty Officers £240 12s 1d, and Seamen £120 6s 1d. This represented three years' pay for a Seaman.

Norman Holbrook died on 3 July 1976 at Midhurst, Sussex. He was buried at St James Old Churchyard, Stedham, West Sussex. He is probably the only VC recipient to have a town and (until May 2004) a local government area named for him. On 24 August 1915, amid a wave of anti-German feeling related to the First World War, the name of the New South Wales Eastern Riverina town of Germanton was changed to Holbrook to honour the recent VC recipient. He subsequently visited the town on three occasions. His widow, Mrs. Gundula Holbrook, donated his medal to the Council of the Shire of Holbrook in 1982. In 1995 she made a substantial

donation towards the establishment of a submariners' memorial in the town, and in 1997 visited the town to unveil it. A bronze statue of Holbrook stands in Germanton Park, Holbrook.

Holbrook's medal was donated to the Council of the Shire of Holbrook, New South Wales in 1982. It subsequently passed to Greater Hume Shire Council upon the amalgamation of several Riverina shires in May 2004. Holbrook's medal group, including his Victoria Cross, went on display at the Australian War Memorial on 11 December 2009. His medals are on loan from the Greater Hume Shire Council. A replica may be seen at the Submarine Museum, Holbrook. Above is a scale model of the B11 in Holbrook.



Holbrook Road in Portsmouth is named after him and a plaque was erected by the Submariners Association in 2014 on the exterior wall of the Junior School facing Cambridge Junction, Portsmouth, UK.

5. ★ Assistance Please – Patricia Jenkins

Central Office received the following request for assistance from Patricia Jenkins.

Dear Shipmates,

I am Patricia Jenkins. I am at present working on a biography of David Mountbatten 3rd Marquess of Milford Haven OBE, DSC. 1919 – 1970. My biography has the blessing of the Mountbatten family. They have kindly co-operated with me. The book will focus mainly on his naval career.

He joined the Royal Navy in 1933 as a cadet at Dartmouth Royal Naval College.

Please see his service record below:



1937 HMS London – Midshipman; 1939 – 1941 HMS Kandahar – Sub Lieutenant

1942 HMS Braham – Lieutenant; 1943 – Signal Course HMS Victory

1944 HMS Quilliam – Flotilla Signal Officer; 1945 – Staff Signal Officer Adm. Comdg Carriers, British Pacific Fleet

1946 – 1947 Naval Air Station – St Merryn; 1948 – Retired List.

I would be very grateful if you could kindly put me in touch with any of his former naval colleagues who served on the ships listed and at the naval bases also listed? Or family members who may have memories of the late Lord Milford Haven?

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

Patricia Jenkins

6. ★ RNRMC New CEO Announced

Adrian Bell succeeds Robert Robson as Chief Executive at the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity is delighted to announce the appointment of Adrian Bell as the new Chief Executive to succeed Robert Robson.



Adrian joins the charity after eight years as Chief Executive of the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance, following a long career with the Royal Navy during which he commanded three warships and concluded with command of British Forces in Gibraltar.

Bill Thomas, Chairman, said “The Board are delighted that Adrian will be joining us to lead the RNRMC through the next stage of its development. He brings a deep understanding of our beneficiaries, great experience of operating in the Charity sector and the enthusiasm and leadership to take the charity forwards. He inherits a powerful legacy and a team focused on delivering the very best we can for our sailors, marines and their families. My colleagues and I are really excited about working with Adrian in the years ahead. We would also like to wish Robert all our very best wishes for the future having formed and led the charity through a most successful first decade”.



Commenting on his appointment Adrian Bell said “I have watched the extraordinary growth of the RNRMC from its earliest days and I am honoured and privileged to have been chosen as the Chief Executive. I am very excited to be returning back “home” to lead the Charity that underpins support for the whole naval sector, ready through our grants programme to support sailors and marines wherever they may be and at whatever stage of life they find themselves. I really look forward to working with all the team at the Charity and with colleagues in the military charity community.” Adrian will formally assume the role on the 21st September.

7. ★ Joke Time – Petrol Station

I walked into a petrol station to get lotto tickets and I noticed 2 Policemen watching a woman who was smoking while pumping petrol into her car. I looked at her and thought, Is this woman stupid or crazy? With the Police right there too..!

Anyway, I went inside and as I was paying, I heard someone screaming. I looked out the window, and the woman's arm was on fire! She was swinging her arm, running around going crazy! I ran outside, the Police had put her on the ground and were putting the fire out.

Then they put handcuffs on her, threw her in the police car. I was thinking has she been arrested? She should be in an ambulance, not handcuffed, But being the nosey person that I am, I asked the Police what they were arresting her for ?

The constable looked me square in the eyes, said..... Wait for it.....

" SHE WAS WAVING A FIRE ARM!"

Sorry it's a cracker!

8. ★ Finance Corner

Dear Shipmates,



- *Termly Accounts*

Louise has now completed the Termly accounts, either by emailed or post. Treasurers / Secretaries – if you haven't received your accounts paperwork, please contact either me or Louise:

Email – michelle@royalnavalassoc.com

Louise – accountsadmin@royalnavalassoc.com

Telephone – 023 92 723823

- *BACs*

I have received a few BACs payments, via bank statements, from Branches with no name of who they are from. Therefore, I have to place these transactions into the Suspense Account, until somebody queries a missing transaction from your Branch Customer Activity Summary (termly accounts).

To make my job easier, can I please ask, if you would be so kind when making a payment to Central Office, to place either, your Branch name or Account number in the Bank Reference box.

- *SUBSCRIPTIONS*

I have notice from my Branch Subscription schedule that some Branches have not sent to Central Office Subs paperwork nor payment. Next month, Nigel and I will be chasing all the omitted Subscriptions, to help us eliminate the chasing, can you please check your accounts and if not sent, please organise documentation ASAP.

Your assistance with these issues is very much appreciated by the Finance Team.

Yours Aye

Michelle

9. ★ Charity Donations

Central Charities

Coutts Bank – No Name	£1,000.00
Jacqueline McGeorge	£20.00
Robert Sullivan	£40.00
Stuart Brittan	£25.00
Stephen Perry	£100.00
Anthony Grover	£180.60
Hospital & Medical Care Association	£15.12

Naval Service Memorial

Nil on this occasion

In memory of the late

Frederick Wilfred Sollis

£282.90

Bill Pain

£20.00

10. ★ Guess Where? An Establishment

This month can you name this former establishment? Still quite hard 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, the answer to the July 'Guess the Establishment'..... It is the Main Gate at Chatham Dockyard with the Chapel just inside.

11. ★ Vacancy - RNBT Beneficiary Support Coordinator

Beneficiary Support Coordinator 2 Full-time (Part-time or job share considered) Salary c. £25,000

Starting as soon as available, applicants should have the following attributes:

- Empathy with beneficiaries and desire to help others
- Experienced in welfare administration and social work
- Strong inter-personal skills
- Capable communicator with competent IT and numeracy skills
- Understanding of RN culture
- Flexible and enthusiastic

The right person will be educated to "A" level standard (or equivalent), have Health & Social care or Advice & Guidance qualification at NVQ Level 3 or equivalent, and ideally have voluntary sector experience. The successful candidate will be required to obtain an Enhanced DBS clearance. To request an application pack email: rnbt@rnbt.org.uk (for Chief Executive).

Closing date for applications: **13 August 2018**

Interviews: **30 August 2018**

The Royal Naval Benevolent Trust, Castaway House, Portsmouth PO2 8RN www.rnbt.org.uk
02392 690112 Registered charity number: 206243



12. Joke Time - Haircut

A guy sticks his head into a barber shop and asks "Hey, Buddy! how long before I can get a haircut?"

The barber look around the shop and says "about 2 hours," and the guy leaves.

A few days later the same guy sticks his head in the door and asks..."how long before I can get a haircut?"

Again, the barber looks around at shop full of customers and says "about 2 hours." The guy leaves.

A week later the same guy sticks his head in the shop and asks "how long before I can get a haircut?" The barber looks around the shop and says "about an hour and a half". The guy leaves.

The barber looks over at a friend in the shop and says "Hey, Joey, I'll give you a free cut if you follow that guy and see

where he goes."

In a little while, Joey comes back into the shop laughing hysterically. The barber says, "this must be good, where did he go when he left here?"

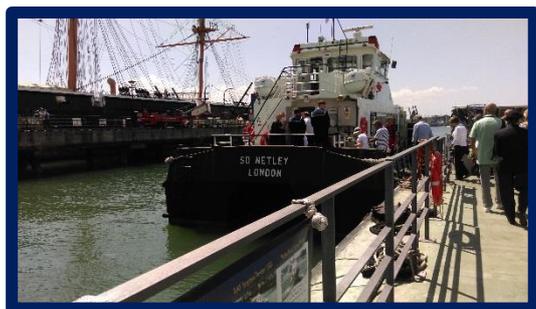
Joey says, "To your house!"

13.★ One of a Thousand good RNA Deeds a day – Christopher Weaver

Shipmate Penny Jervis and Shipmates from Letchworth and Hitchin Branch assisted a homeless RN Veteran, Christopher Weaver. With the help of Shipmates, the Branch organised his 'final deployment', funeral service and cremation with dignity which was attended by Branch and Area Shipmates. Penny along with Shipmates Gus Gudgeon, Brian Pyke and Becky Daniels travelled to Portsmouth for Christopher's committal to the sea, just off Spitbank Fort in the Solent. S/M Gus had also travelled down by train a couple of days earlier with S/M Chris's Ashes where he was met by Andy and Chrissie, from Central Office so that the ashes could be transferred to the Chaplaincy ready for the committal. **BZ**. S/M Penny has written the article below for your information.

Christopher Weaver

I met Chris on Armed Forces Day 2016. My family had noted him living in a bus shelter in Letchworth and found out that he was ex RN. At that time, I had been introduced by the RNA and trained by the RMA as a Veteran Support Officer. This I have found will get me information and open doors to allow me to become involved with veterans in such a way that I can then be of use to them.



Had I made contact with Chris before he was evicted I could have been of more use to have prevented that occurring. Sadly, by the time I met him we now could only help to get him rehomed.

Having contact with the local homelessness officer, the personnel from the homeless shelter and the police, we were able to get him into temporary private accommodation, and at this point I was able to help him to move over a period of months, twice into

private homes and basically keep an eye on him to make sure he was okay, until he eventually moved into the local homeless shelter.

I was able to help when necessary in getting him items he needed and helping with officialdom such as writing letters.

When in late 2017 the homeless shelter managed to get him into a bedsit owned by the Johnny Johnson homes I then approached SSAFA who helped with his move in financial terms.

Sadly, in late 2017 he had a fall which resulted in him having to have his leg amputated and from this he never recovered. Again, through my RMA training I was able to visit the hospital to obtain information not usually given to non-relatives. And at his passing was then able to access everything to do with his personal information and effects.

At this point having contact with the hospital bereavement officer, Council environmental health office (who deal with persons with no known relatives) and the homeless shelter personnel.

This allowed me to deal with the death certificate, empty his bedsit, tie up his finances with his bank, deal with outstanding correspondence and help to arrange the funeral with the funeral directors. Chris was given a full Naval funeral on 23rd February 2018. Since then his ashes have sat on top of my wardrobe whilst arranging for burial at sea. In early June I passed them on to our National Chairman to bring them down to Portsmouth, but sadly that fell through so I picked them up again and passed them onto S/M Gus Gudgeon who handed them over to Chrissie and Andy from CO who kindly went to the station to collect them from Gus. I'm sure Chris would appreciate all that has taken place and it would have appealed to his sense of humour.



Thanks then

To all the officials who helped Chris when he needed it particularly the personnel from the local Shelters. S/M Rev Paul Bennet. For conducting the funeral. My partner S/M Norris for helping to remove furniture.

S/M Daniel (my daughter) for helping with Chris over the two years, putting notices on Facebook and in the local pubs after he died and for reading the eulogy at the funeral

S/M Standard Bearers from several local branches and S/M's who attended the funeral

S/M Karl Webb (Huntingdon Branch) for his write up on the website (this helped to get S/Ms to the funeral from far and wide)

SSAFA who helped Chris with expenses and then through the RNBT helped with my expenses
Andy from CO who got me Chris's service record and together with Chrissie collected the ashes from the station. And made arrangements for us for the day of the committal



S/M Gus Gudgeon for transporting the ashes at 24 hours' notice. 1st Garden City Branch for a donation to Chris of a microwave. The Royal Navy for the

burial at sea

Photos - (Top) SD Netley on way to Committal (Middle) S/M Penny and Gus reflecting on SD Netley (Bottom) S/M Christopher Weaver Committal.

14. ★ Libor MiniBuses

As you can see below the Libor Buses have been out and about all over UK and in Normandy with and without the ever-popular RNA Sailors Hat!



The Northern RNA Minibus sits proudly outside South Lincs Crematorium as a mark of respect to a fine and inspirational Royal Naval veteran, Commander David Shutts OBE RN who sadly passed away on 24 May 2018.

Ere wats goin on ere... It is all fun with the West Country Bus. I hope it's only the Photo upside down, and that St. Austell have not inverted the Bus! It is fully booked for the rest of this month.

****Don't forget to book up for Winter and next year****



15 ★ Free to a Good Home

Mr David Perry from Chelmsford contacted Central Office to enquire whether any Shipmate or Branch would like a partially completed Panart Kit Model of HMS Victory? (Panart No MM738) If you are interested please contact David directly at spargem@hotmail.com or 07710 216140 Please see below;



My father was a firm supporter of the RN (me too), but sadly he passed away a couple of years ago. Amongst his estate he left me a scale model kit of HMS Victory, which he'd only partially started.

Unfortunately, I don't have time myself to complete & was going to sell it as it cost £495 new, but I've had a better thought! - would the RN Association like to have it to raise funds by perhaps raffling or selling it yourselves & keeping the proceeds? So long as it goes to a good home & someone who can build & appreciate it my Dad would have been happy. If it raised funds for the RN Association, all the better. I feel it's very important to celebrate our Navy & it's long service to our country.

Kind Regards, David Perry



16. ★ Assistance Please – Tom Wilkinson VC Statue Appeal

Central Office also recently received the request for assistance below;

Dear RNA Shipmates,

I am hoping you and your members could help in some way in towards getting a statue for Act. Lt. Tom Wilkinson VC. Commander of HMS Li Wo.

This is the third statue appeal I have founded in the Borough of Halton - Runcorn & Widnes. My first statue was for Todger Jones VC DCM in Runcorn, my second statue was for Sgt. Thomas Mottershead VC DCM. in Widnes. Our aim is to raise £65,000, this is for the statue, planning permission and land preparation.

With the previous two statue appeals, we qualified for grants from WREN, we have already been informed we will not be getting a grant from them for this appeal. Halton Borough Council cannot help financially, it has to be at no cost to the rate payers of Halton.

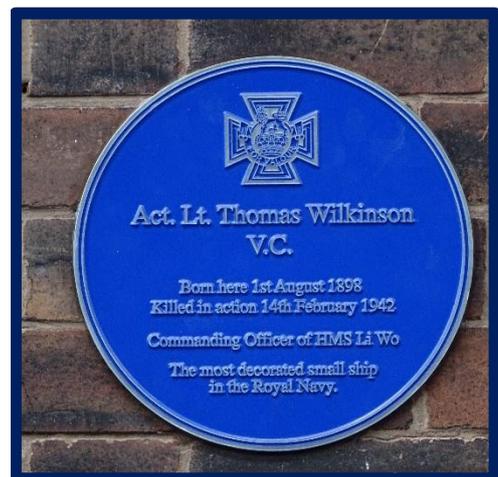
As you can see we are going to have a task in raising this amount, but we will do it. We plan to unveil the statue late August 2021. Could you please pass this on to all your members, someone may wish to donate or help in some-way.

Kind regards, Tony Miller

Secretary & founder of The Tom Wilkinson VC statue appeal.

If anyone wishes to donate to the appeal, you can donate through PayPal, our web page PayPal link and Just giving. Details below. Thank you

<http://www.thetomwilkinsonvcstatueappeal.co.uk> <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/tony-miller-5> You can also donate by sending a cheque (NOT CASH) made out to The Tom Wilkinson VC statue appeal. And send it to Tony Miller 27 Godstow, Sandymoor, Runcorn, WA7 1UE <https://en-gb.facebook.com/The-Tom-Wilkinson-statue-appeal-1334822039949830/>



17. Shipmate Ivan Hunter BEM

Congratulations to Shipmate Ivan Hunter the SOC Chair and National Charter and Bye-Laws advisor on being awarded the BEM.

S/M Ivan was presented the BEM at an investiture ceremony conducted by the Lord Lieutenant of Antrim, Mrs Joan Christie CVO MBE. Ivan was accompanied by his wife Sandra, daughter Julie and shipmates Alex Johnson (aged 97), Graham Latimer and Tommy Finlay. BZ.



18. ★ Joke for the road.....

Courtesy S/M Ivan Hunter BEM - It's Ivan's so blame him!

The Inventor of the Throat lozenge has sadly died.....

Wait for it.....

There will be no coffin at his funeral.....

RNA Longcast

2018	
04 Aug	Area 5 Quarterly – Harwich
05 Aug	Lamplight of Peace in care of the RNA until 29 August. Ceremonial installation in Portsmouth.
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
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. Captain Bill Oliphant assumes duties as GS.
13 Dec	Battle of the River Plate Day
21 Dec	Captain Paul Quinn goes on leave and draft, rest of staff have party!
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
8 Jun	Main Conference Day – Gala Dinner.
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 Sleaford](#)

[RNA Aldershot](#)

[RNA Wansbeck](#)

[RNA Chatham](#)

[RNA St Neots](#)

[RNA Plymouth](#)

[RNA Bury](#)

[RNA City of Edinburgh](#)

[RNA Bognor Regis](#)

[RNA City of Glasgow](#)

[RNA Chard](#)

[RNA Marlborough](#)

[RNA North Manchester](#)

[RNA Wrexham](#)

RNA Sleaford Branch

Shipmate Richard Hughes. Hon Sec Sleaford Branch, forwarded the following despatch.



Saturday the 1st July was Armed Forces Day and Sleaford Branch took their new gazebo, which had been acquired with a grant from the RNA club and branch support fund, to the event organised by the Town Council in Boston Road Recreation Ground.

On a hot sunny day shipmates turned out to put our stall together, many of them contributing items to "dress" the stall. Central to our stall was a cased model of HMS Sheldrake, the ship adopted by the town when during warship week in 1942 Sleaford Town and East

Kesteven collected £134,000 towards her upkeep, an amount in today's prices of just over £6,000,000. The ship was laid down at Woolston by Thornycroft in 1936 as a Kingfisher class patrol vessel specially built for coastal convoy service.

The model was originally presented during the war to Sleaford Town Council by the Crew of HMS Sheldrake and is kept along with other memorabilia in the Sheldrake room at the council offices. It was repaired some years ago by Sleaford Branch RNA after having been used as a battering ram by burglars.



Our President Cdr Garry Titmus, a previous mayor of Sleaford negotiated the loan of the model from the town council helping to keep alive the relationship between the council and Sleaford Branch RNA.

At the end of a very successful day we retired to a local hostelry to reflect on raising £48.20 for RNA funds, recruiting three new members in the process and talking to many local people who did not know about HMS Sheldrake or its connection with Sleaford.

RNA Aldershot Branch

With the 100th anniversary of WW1 Aldershot Shipmate Lewis Trinder has revealed his sad and proud family involvement whilst serving in the RN at the Battle of Jutland.



S/M Lewis' Father Petty Officer Alfred Thomas Trinder served in HMS Garland (H32), Acasta Class destroyer and member of the 4th Flotilla, survived the battle.

However very sadly his Uncle Petty Officer (Telegraphist) Joseph Trinder lost his life in HMS Black Prince. His name is displayed on the Naval Memorial in Southsea. The photo shows HMs Black Prince at anchor. The ship sank within 15 minutes with the loss of her entire Ships' Company all 857.

Shipmates may also like to know that 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 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, Disco 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

RNA Wansbeck Branch

Wansbeck Branch Secretary S/M Derek Wilkinson and his guest were invited to visit HMS Northumberland on Friday 6th July 2018 at North Shields for her rededication ceremony. Here is his report of the proceedings..... It will take you back to your Divisions days!

This was part of a four day home visit to Tyneside having being built at Swan Hunters shipyard 25 years ago at Wallsend. The ship is a Duke Class Type 23 Frigate with a crew of 180, and she was marking her formal return to the Fleet following an extended refit.



The Commanding Officer Commander Alexandra Pollard said “ It was a great honour for us to visit the ships spiritual home, which we had all been looking forward to as it was the first visit to the region in several years”. The ship has been fitted with a sophisticated ‘brains’ in a new command-&-control system, and the Sea-Ceptor Anti-air-missile system, which is a revolutionary and provides a massive leap forward in the capabilities of the ship. Improvements were also made to the Sonar capability for Anti-Submarine defence.



Among the guests at the rededication were the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland, Commodore Robert Bellfield MA, Commander of Devonport Flotilla. Also among the guests were World Cup winner Jack Charlton and his wife, who still live in Ashington, Northumberland, which is where he and his brother Booby were born.

The Ships’ Company were fallen in on the parade ground next to the jetty where the ship was berthed. There was also a Pipe Band in attendance from Morpeth who played at various times during the parade & inspection, there was also representatives

from the SCC ‘ TS Tenacity ‘ in Ashington, which were recently voted as being the 3rd best unit in the country.

Following the ‘March on’ by the Guard the Salute and inspections began. The Rededication Order was read by the Commanding Officer; Head-dress removed, and the parade stood at ease, the Chaplain of the Fleet presided over the service. The Commanding Officer addressed the Ships Company, and asked for God’s blessing on the ship using the ancient call, From the Gaelic Blessing of 1589 ? to which the ships company replied ‘Bless our ship’. This was followed by the Chaplains blessing & the Naval Hymn.

The Parade was then called to attention for the Reviewing Officer and Guests of Honour to leave the Parade. The Band and Guard marched off and the Parade was dismissed back on board. The guests were then invited on board for light refreshments.

A special cake had been made for the occasion and there was also a presentation to the youngest recruit and the newest Officer on board. The weather had been kind to us on the Friday all day, and on the Saturday and Sunday the ship was open to the public.



RNA Chatham Branch

Chatham Branch had a very successful Armed Forces Day at the Great Lines, Chatham engaging with many of the local community enjoying the sun and obtaining many of the gizzit's that Shipmates handed out,

Shipmates attending were Joe Fenton, Tony Wilders , Treasurer Roger Ide, SLt (Scc) Gary Hammell RNR, (who is also Vice Chairman of Gravesend Branch RNA) Dennis Potter (Chatham Welfare Officer)



Photo on the left show, Chairman Tim Stopford and Treasurer Roger Ide,

Photo on the right, Shipmate Jim Stout enjoying his well-earned lunch,



RNA St Neots Branch

The St Neots branch held the first of the annual two-day collection for good causes at the Tesco St Neots on Thursday 14th and Friday 15th June,



As an added service to the community, they also handed out programmes for the Armed Forces Day in the town. The show is the biggest such event in Cambridgeshire, and, as the branch exhibit there, there was also a double benefit of handing out the programmes

Such was the zeal of our volunteers that a programme was enthusiastically handed to the main sponsor of the Armed Forces Day!

"I'm telling you he ran off with the Tot Barrel!"

From left to right: Shipmates: - Roy Lodge, Keith Ridley (Nat Chairman), Mike Noble and Maureen Ridley.

As always, the people of the town were generous and notes were seen several times being placed in the collection buckets. It is also amazing to see how respectable so many disreputable ex matelots can look in number ones! The funds collected will greatly assist in reaching the branches target for the year. (It makes all those sore feet and aching backs worthwhile)

A second collection took place at Morrisons in Cambourne (Cambridgeshire) on Friday 29th June. The people of Cambourne have traditionally been very generous and this day was no exception. Starting at 9 am and working in 3 hour shifts until 6 pm, the group was frequently amazed by the generosity shown by shoppers in the store.



For example: - An ex-marine walked past, apologised for not having any change, (that's the last we'll see of him we thought), but then went to the cash machine, returned, and deposited £10 in the collection bucket!



There were also many examples of people saying, "I'll see you on the way out" and actually honouring their promise plus making the odd note donation as well.

The children's RNA Sailors hats were, as always, very popular and are a good draw to attract other children (and mothers) to the stand. The Branch strongly recommended as a best practice!

The photo - shows SM Jim Lawson taking a well earned rest. (Those badges get awfully heavy!)

St Neots have been extremely busy but still found time to attend St Neots Armed Forces day on Saturday the 23rd June. All branches of the Armed Forces were represented, and the RNA St Neots Branch Stand was fully manned all day. As this is the biggest show of its kind in Cambridgeshire, it was important that the branch put their best foot forward.

Judging from the amount of traffic to the stand, despite competition from others on display, they certainly achieved that aim. The stand tombola for adults and children proved to be very popular, particularly when the kids were each given an RNA sailors hat. Many youngsters saw themselves as budding Admirals by playing the 'Sink a Battleship' game.



Significantly it was also amazing how many dignitaries appeared when the bell was rung to "Splice the mainbrace!"

RNA Plymouth Branch

Shipmate Arthur Gutteridge forwarded the report below of happenings in the 'largest and best' branch in Plymouth.

The funeral service for S/M Joe Guy was attended by an overwhelming number of Branch members, Korean Vets (including Vice Admiral Sir Robert Gerken KCB CBE) and Mess members.

Joe will be remembered for his tireless work with the Joint Services Hosanna House Trust – Group 507. Joe served on Implacable, Ocean, Bermuda, Vanguard, Diana and ashore at Collingwood and Tamar.



Branch Shipmate Richard Tipping served as Leader of Group HCPT 507 for the last twelve years. On his most recent trip to Lourdes with the Joint Services Pilgrimage Trust (his last), Richard's dedication was recognised with the award of the Bishopric Medal presented by the Bishop of the Armed Forces.

A few comings and goings –

The Naval Base Commander, Commodore Ian Shipperley CBE ADC RN, attended the June meeting to say farewell after three and a half years as Branch President and the Lord Mayor of the City Cllr. Sam Davey was honoured to accept the position of Branch Patron and will be attending the Annual Dinner & Dance in November.



S/M Colin Jones who attended National Conference in Dublin volunteered and was elected unanimously as Branch Delegate. This the first occasion in 21 years a new Delegate for Plymouth Branch as S/m Arthur Gutteridge BEM (Hon. Secretary) was elected NCM for No.4 Area .

The Social programme for the remainder of the year features: The Summer Ball, Tot Night,

Trafalgar Night at RNA Bude, Skittles, Annual Dinner & Dance in November and Xmas Social ensures members have a full diary.

Most recently the Branch escaped for a long weekend and migrated up to the North West to the City of Chester for sightseeing, Chester Museum and for a few down to the Race Course to witness slightly adorned fillies and very high-speed horses.

On Saturday evening a visit to RNA Runcorn to spend a few hours enjoying their warm hospitality and visit their outstanding Museum. S/M David 'Shiner' Wright welcoming Plymouth Vice Chairman John Whiteman to the RNA Runcorn Museum.

On the Sunday to Liverpool, primarily to visit the Terracotta Warriors who had obviously gone on the Trot from China.



The Branch were out in force for the annual ARMED FORCES DAY bash in Plymouth. With an estimated attendance, in excess of 50,000 with every opportunity for visitors to visit the RNA Plymouth 'Viagra Blue' Self erecting Gazebo.

Chairman Des McCarthy MBE and Secretary Arthur Gutteridge BEM attended the RAF Memorial Service which commenced the day's proceedings. Ship photographs, 'Gizzets' and a display of Branch activities created great interest on the Stand, perhaps encouraged by the 'Up Spirits' corner ably dispensed by the Branch Vice Chairman. An excellent day and the Branch once again ensuring that our Association was well publicised in one of Britain's Premier Naval Ports.



S/M Ted King who served on Defensively Equipped Merchant Ships (DEMS) during WW2 as a Gunner, our Branch's most senior member, a young 94 years, is seen opposite in conversation with Surgeon Commander Richard Heames Royal Navy, CO MDHU Derriford.

RNA Bury Branch

Friday 6th July saw members of Bury Branch take on the "Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge", the actual challenge is to cover the 25 mile course, over 5,200 feet of ascent, taking in the three peaks of Pen-y-Ghent, Ingleborough and the highest peak in Yorkshire, Whernside, in under 12 hours. This trial of stamina was accepted to raise money for Bury Hospice in memory of one on our members Neville Burrows whose last few weeks were made as comfortable as possible by the team at Bury. Neville an ex Master at Arms with over 25 years service in the RN was a remarkable man respected by all who knew him.

The team lead by ex-gunner Gary Simmons along with husband and wife Terry (bunting) and Jackie (jenny wren) White were joined by three Pongo



members of the Borough of Bury Veterans Association to make up a team of 6 to attempt the challenge. On a blazing hot day and with plenty of water the stopwatch was started at 0800.



Meeting the tired walkers on route was RNA member Shirley Simmons with the support vehicle to replenish liquids without which the challenge would not have been possible. The views from the peaks on such a glorious day were something to behold. Passing beneath the colossal Ribbleshead viaduct on the Settle to Carlisle railway on route to the final peak of Whernside and back to the

starting point. Stop the watch, 11 hours 15 mins later challenge complete. Weary but elated, would we do it again....NOOOO.

RNA City of Edinburgh Branch

Members of the branch joined other service organisations and Veterans at the Annual Armed Forces Day Parade on Saturday 30th June 2018. Members formed up in Charlotte Square, Edinburgh and under the watchful eyes of GSM WO1 McBroom, who had been given the arduous task of organising the veterans into a presentable parade. At 1100 the parade set off with the Royal Navy Veterans and Association of Wrens leading the Veterans Section behind the British Legion and Royal Naval Association Standards.



The parade set off along George Street with the Salute being taken half way along by Major General Mike Riddel-Webster, Governor of Edinburgh Castle. The parade then continued along George Street to St Andrews Square Gardens, where we were addressed by Frank Ross, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh and representatives from the Armed Forces and Veterans Organisations.



On completion the parade dismissed to enjoy the entertainment and to visit the various Association stalls that had been set up for the day including our own Scottish Area Royal Naval Association stall which was combined with the City of Edinburgh Wrens Association.

We had lots of interest shown in the Association, helped no doubt with the fact that our stall was in a Pussers Rum Gazebo! with the possibility of adding three new members to our Branch



Presentation of Life Membership -



At the Branch Meeting on Thursday 14th of June, the Chairman invited along our old Branch President Admiral Douglas DOW CB DL to make a Life Membership award, unbeknown to her, to Shipmate Kathleen Taylor. Kath joined the Wrens in 1964 as a member of the S&S Specialisation, and after being selected for Officer Training went to HMS Pembroke for the Long Secretarial Course, Kath retired as a Second Officer Wrens in 1981.

She then joined the Lothian and Borders Police serving as a civilian in their headquarters in Fettes Avenue and she also joined S.A.A.F.A. as a case worker, a role She continues to fulfil. In 1982 Kath joined HMS Scotia as a Lieutenant WRNR serving as the Captains Secretary eventually retiring from that in 1991. Not one for sitting around she then joined the Edinburgh Branch of the Royal Naval Association taking on the role of Branch Treasurer in 2005 which she

held for the next 12 years. She has also been a member of the Edinburgh Branch of the Association of Wrens for over 20 years and held every committee position, although not all at the same time. Admiral Dow presented Shipmate Taylor with her Membership card, Badge and Life membership Certificate thanking her for the service that she has given, not only the City of Edinburgh Branch of the Royal Naval Association but to other worthwhile service organisations.



The photo above show - Admiral Dow, Shipmate Taylor and Branch President Shipmate James Martin

RNA Bognor Regis Branch

Bognor Regis Branch organised and attended a Re-Dedication Service for HMS St Barbara on 16 June 2018.

HMS St Barbara was commissioned on the Bognor Regis Pier as an anti-aircraft Firing Range and Gunnery Training School for Royal and Merchant Naval personnel in the use of the 20mm Bofors, two pounder Pom-Pom, 20mm Oerlikon cannon etc. These guns were being used on board small naval craft such as converted trawlers etc. of the Royal Naval Patrol Service and various merchant vessels. HMS St. Barbara was attached to HMS Excellent.

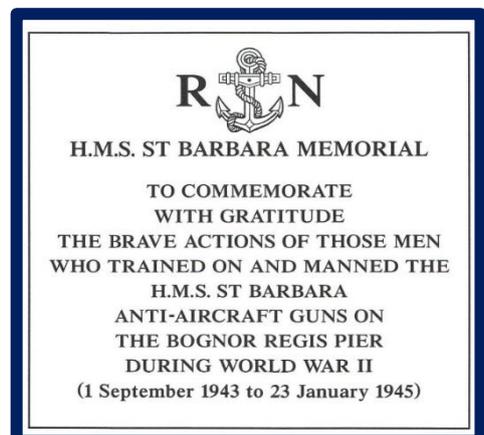


The training took place on that part of Bognor's pier which was actually destroyed in the mid-sixties by severe storms. At the outbreak of WWII, a portion of the centre structure was taken away to prevent a German invasion force using the pier to land stores and equipment. A removable gang plank was installed between the two sections of the Pier,

so all training equipment, stores and personnel could be conveyed between the two sections. There is one Bognor Regis resident who was a Leading Wren serving on board HMS St Barbara as their cook who had to carry their dinners across this plank.

One claim to fame was that on the 10th Feb 1943 the Pier's guns actually shot down a German Dornier Do 217 bomber aircraft which happened to stray within their sights after a raid on nearby Chichester.

A local business has very kindly donated this inscribed stone which is installed in September 2017 in front of the Pier as a memorial to those who served and trained here on the Pier. The Service of Re-Dedication on Saturday 16th June 2018 was conducted by the Reverend Alison Green who is the Chaplain of Chichester University, Bognor Regis Branch of the RNA and the Bognor Regis Sea Cadets - T/S Sir Alec Rose. The Commanding Officer of HMS Excellent,



Commander Michael Dreelan RN was in attendance to lay a wreath on behalf of all Seafarers. Also, in attendance were national, area and local dignitaries along with shipmates from the Bognor Regis Branch of the R.N.A. and the Bognor Regis Sea Cadets.

The Service was in conjunction with the Town's Annual Armed Forces Day and was organised by the Chairman of the Bognor Regis Branch - Shipmate Ron Hargest

RNA City of Glasgow Branch

Glasgow Branch was recently invited by BAE Systems to be affiliated with the new type 26 frigate HMS Glasgow being built at Govan. On Thursday 28th ten of our members were invited to go to BAE Systems in Govan for an introduction to the new build and to view the work carried out so far on HMS Glasgow.

We were given a talk and virtual walk through of the ship by the senior production manager Dave Skinner.



We were then taken to the construction section to see how they cut the steel and form it to the various shapes required. We will be invited back to view the different stages of the build. Our Chairman Kenn McKinnon presented Nicola Woolfries, Communications Advisor with a plaque from the City of Glasgow RNA and pointed out that the crest design was the same used in all ships named Glasgow.

RNA Dublin Branch

Shipmate and NVCh Paul Stephenson forwarded this very interesting article recently.

Dublin Branch held a unique and special 'Lord Collingwood' evening at Beaulieu House, Drogheda, in the home of Lord Cuthbert Collingwood's family on 21st June.

Mrs Cara Konig opened her family home for the first time for an evening of Battle of Trafalgar lectures, historical talks, surrounded by items from the Battle of Trafalgar, and its era including 100 gun ship logbooks, admiralty swords, books, and even paintings belonging to the celebrated commander and hero of Trafalgar.

Guests were in awe standing at the family dinner table with the Lord's personal Admiralty dinner plates placed on the table as if awaiting the good Lord's return at any moment – keeping everyone on their shipshape toes with blazers buttoned, waiting for him to appear in the door any moment as Lord Nelson's portrait hung above us. The house is a treasure trove of maritime antiquities and antiques from swords, medals, knighthood brooches all casually on display in occasional tables in various rooms, it is like time had stood still since 1815.

The Collingwood family portrait paintings are everywhere, and the occasional cannonball was casually found sitting on mantelpieces, carelessly placed there by the grandchildren, as they do. Well they are young and his closest descendants – it's allowed.

Trafalgar Spanish Captains hand signed books were there to pick up and peer at their military notes and hand-written formations. One off never seen before items.

The dreamlike visit was interrupted when a bosun's call sounded calling us all to attention as the Lady of House, Cara Konig, Lord Collingwood's great great granddaughter cut the air as she entered the spacious hall, and on being formally introduced she enthralled all with her ladylike charm as she welcomed us to her most historical home and recounted its naval history.



She told us how Beaulieu house has produced several admirals including Thomas Charles Wright the ex Royal Navy founder of the Ecuadorian Navy who was born there amongst others.

The lectures began with Desmond Grant a naval historian and newspaper editor who opened proceedings with a talk on 'The Irish at Trafalgar' that was warmly received. He added a sprinkle of local naval history including the history of local admiral, Sir Francis Beaufort of the 'Beaufort Windscale' renown. Special Guest Speaker on the night, Captain Peter Hore RN provided a riveting 40-minute unscripted lecture on Lord Collingwood. Captain Hore a renowned author and historian made the history simple to understand even for those unfamiliar with it, yet also full of golden nuggets of information to satisfy the most expert of historians present.

With the lectures over all too soon, the guest speakers were thanked and heartedly applauded before being presented with an original artwork oil painting in Golden gilt frame of HMS Pickle at Trafalgar, and a rare first edition book of Lord Collingwood's letters. The Lady of the House also graciously received a presentation of a Royal Naval plaque from Paul Stephenson representing the RNA's Dublin branch.



The guests were given a tour of the house, and canopies and fine wines were served under the watchful observation of the vineyard's owner mingling amongst the guests. It was more than enchanting to be looking at paintings of Lord Collingwood and his parents and his children, while holding the esteemed Admiral's personal belongings in ones hands and all of this whilst surrounded by his great grand descendants in such a grand house, one of Ireland's finest it is said. A 'Carmichael' painting of warships at Portsmouth hangs over the main fireplace, almost certainly from the Admiral's personal

collection given its date.

The evening went by in a flash and all too soon at was time to go. As we departed through the grand front door the portraits of Lord Nelson and Lord Collingwood watched us observingly from above, just as they always watched over us their sailors and everything else onboard their ships, we were welcome but we were also in the Great Commander's home, and one could never forget

oneself while there, even on departure. The guests all retired to their carriages parked on the manicured lawn outside and we took in the last of the evening sun and watched as the sun dipped below the River Boyne and the horizon of the nearby town of Drogheda.

The old house, still in the same family since the 1600s bade goodbye to us all, and one guest quietly said. "This is as close as you will every get to being in the presence of Admiral Collingwood or perhaps Lord Nelson, it was if we were honoured guests in their homes with them. A handful of classic Jaguar cars from the 1960s slowly filed out the gates over the defensive water-filled moat and we waved goodbye to a night of deep emotions of history.

The Dublin branch of the RNA is active and lively, and we have got to admit, blast them, but they have that little touch of old Irish class, long may they sail.

Area 12

Shipmates from Area 12 took part in the annual Armed Forces Day celebrations in Coleraine.



RNA Chard Branch

Four Shipmates from Chard branch visited HMS Somerset on Wednesday 4th July 2018 after an invitation was received from the ships Commanding Officer, Commander Tim Berry Royal Navy.

The group of four travelled by car to the HMNB Devonport and were met by the ships Logistics officer Lt Cdr Andy Parker RN who escorted the group to the ship having first given them a tour of the dockyard. After a comfort break the Captain greeted them and took them to his table (*No not that table On Caps.....*) An excellent meal was provided by the Captains Chef and presented by his Stewards to the seven diners.

A presentation of 6 boxed Chard 30th Anniversary slate coasters were presented to Cdr Berry on behalf of all Chard members in thanks for the ships ongoing support and affiliation to the branch.

After lunch the members were shown around the ship by Sub Lt Johnathon Miller with the tour rounding off on the bridge where they were joined by Cdr Berry for a farewell photo before leaving for the return journey to Chard.



All in all, a most fantastic day was spent in the company of the Officers and Ships Company of one of Britain's Naval workhorses. Thank you HMS Somerset.

RNA Marlborough Branch

I am sure Shipmates would be very interested to know that the Marlborough branch under the Chairmanship of Shipmate David Hicks, made their annual visit to West Overton Church, three miles from Marlborough.

They visited to pay respects, tidy the grave and raise a toast to John Chivers who served alongside Admiral Nelson in HMS Victory at the battle of Trafalgar.



His grave stone reads as follows;

In Memory of John Chivers 1784 – 1850

A son of Overton,

who served on HMS Victory at the Battle of Trafalgar 1805

Remembered by his Descendants and by the 1805 Club

RNA Portland Branch

S/M Len Christopher and his daughter Tracey Parkes (a former Second Officer in the WRNS) recently took on a challenge to raise funds for the Charity INSPIRE which aims to improve quality of life and independence of those living with Spinal Chord Injuries.



Len chose this charity in memory of his late son Alan who suffered spinal injuries during his RN service.



The challenge involved walking the entire length of Hadrian's Wall from East to West, a total of 86 miles. The sum raised was over £800 including a £100 donation from RNA Portland Branch, of which Len is a Member. BZ and Well done to Len and Tracey."

RNA North Manchester Branch

Shipmate Glenise Jones Hon Sec at North Manchester branch wrote to the Central Office Staff thanking them for a great Open Day in May and celebrating her parents service during WW2.

Hello Andy, Thanks for the general info to all on the Open Day in August. Don't think our shipmates at North Manchester will be able to get there, but I do want to take the opportunity of thanking you for the brilliant day we had back in May, when I was able to attend the Open Day, with John.

It was lucky we were down in Pompey, for my dear Dad Albert's warship re-union, which is an annual trip every May. Its the HMS Faulknor, Destroyer Leader Association. Dad (crossed the bar 31 years ago now) served on Faulknor during WW2, as other members of the association's husbands and dads did too. Sadly, we have lost our last original Faulknor shipmate, so it's just the families that will keep the association going. I am the furthest away in Manchester, but it's always worth the drive down once a year.

Dad was on the Arctic Convoys, Malta, Convoys, Battle of the Atlantic, North Africa, all on Faulknor, and later on served in the Pacific, in the Philippines, in the RN and alongside the Australian Navy.



We normally have the re-union the week before, it was put back a week this year as a few were on holiday.

I didn't realise there was an Open Day in that week, as I had emailed Nigel and very cheekily enquired if we could possibly have a visit on board of our new Carrier Queen Elizabeth II. He heh, obviously not, but Nigel mentioned Open Day on the Friday. Most of our association members are travelling home on that day but myself and other member John, delayed our travel home to visit Semaphore Tower. I was of course also representing RNA North Manchester.

what a fabulous day, lovely to meet staff at Central Office, who I deal with occasionally, and to meet the other visitors there too, RNA Eastbourne, and the lovely Normandy Veteran.

The buffet was great, and the boat trip round the dockyard was fantastic. What a laugh meeting up with the RAF (Fleet Arm?) on their boat. Hope they enjoyed the last dregs of rum we handed over to them! Playing the Dambusters music was hilarious, it was very funny, and I'm sure they appreciated it all.

Actually it was also a bit emotional for me, my dear late Mum Sue (Rosie the Riveter) worked on the Lancaster Bomber, at Avros during the war. We were members of the BBMF, and attended members day at RAF Coningsby every year.



Sorry to ramble on but have to say this, if you have ever seen the docu "Bomber Boys" about Bomber Command and the Dambusters, with Ewan McGregor and his brother Colin, 20 minutes into the docu, little silver haired 90 year old walks into the RAF Coningsby hangar, under the Lanc Bomber, and teaches him to do a bit of rivetting...that is my dear Mum.

She got to do that as my partner Ken and myself are wartime re-enactors and attend wartime weekends and events all over the country. Mum came with us to many of these events, dressed in her bib and braces overalls, and turban...she was known as Rosie the Riveter.

Heheh, as said, sorry to ramble on, so proud of my Mum and Dad's effort for wartime.

Thanks again for a brilliant Open Day in May, I related the day back to our shipmates at North Manchester.

Glenise Jones Secretary - RNA North Manchester

RNA Wrexham Branch

Central Office received this lovely story from S/M Eric Holmwood of Wrexham Branch.

A presentation took place on Wednesday 11th July 2018 at the meeting place of the Branch. SSAFA had been contacted to visit an elderly sailor, sadly suffering from dementia, and who remembers very little about his Royal Navy Service, he could not remember his Official Number, but could remember his D.O.B.

87-year-old, Eric Winter's family had contacted SSAFA Wrexham in the hope that help could be given to Eric in remembering his Official Number and a record of his Naval Service. Up stepped the Secretary of SSAFA Wrexham, who also happens to be a member of the RNA Wrexham Branch. He approached Navy records who forwarded him to the Navy Command Secretariat, Navy Search, Restore Records Management in Derbyshire. Within a week, Navy Records had replied and issue a "Statement of Service in the Royal Navy" sadly copies of his Naval Service Records were not available. Eric had joined the RN on 14th December 1948 and left on the 7th May 1956. He had also served in HMS Welcome and HMS Peacock and left the Navy as a Stoker Mechanic.



Armed with this information, and a SSAFA Authorisation Form, SSAFA then applied for Eric's Veteran's Badge to the MOD. This would normally take a number of weeks to arrive, armed with a covering letter from SSAFA, the MOD turned the application around in 5 days. Eric Winter and his family were then invited to RNA Wrexham for a presentation and of course the obligatory Tot of Rum. This took place at the Wrexham War Memorial Club, in the present of Eric's Family and visitors from RNA Market Drayton Branch.

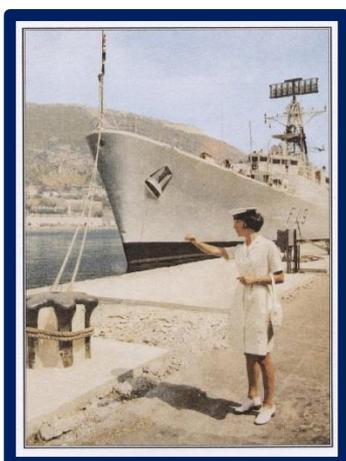
CROSSED THE BAR – Celebrating a life well lived

Margaret (Mags) Asprey

Margaret (Mags) Asprey – Chard Branch

Margaret (Mags) Asprey (nee Kay) crossed the Bar on the 14th June 2018 aged 71years.

Margaret joined the WRNS as a Wren Writer (General) in 1967 serving 3 years before leaving the WRNS as a Leading Wren Writer (General) on marriage to Leading Fleet Air Engineering Mechanic David Asprey in 1970. During her service Margaret served at HMS Seahawk, HMS Rooke, HMS Goldcrest and RNAS Brawdy.



Margaret leaves her husband David, two sons (Andrew and Phillip), daughter-in-law (Hannah) and more poignantly her first grandchild (Joshua) of just 13 months of age. Margaret was an active member of Chard RNA, and David continues to be an active member.

Very sadly her passing came after a 4 year battle with cancer and she will be sorely missed by, not only her family, but by Chard Branch members and friends and acquaintances in the communities of Ilminster and Chard.

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.

Algerines Reunion 3-10 September 2018

The Algerines Summer Reunion is arranged at Mill Rythe Holiday Village, Hayling Island from Monday 3rd to Monday 10th September for an amazing £235. Tasty and varied food menus each day, excellent Entertainment from the new team and a chance to meet up with familiar faces.

For those interested in a weekend break from Friday 7th to Monday 10th September, the price is £123. Please call George Patience, Reunion Organiser on 01456 450659 to book or get more detail.

AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED

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.

ASWI Association – 29 September 2018

ASWI will be holding dinner on Saturday 29 September 2018 at the Royal Beach Hotel in Southsea PO4 0QJ. Accommodation is at a special rate. Please contact the hotel direct for your room booking. The dress code is; Gents: Black Tie, Mess undress, NO1's (Medals as appropriate) Ladies: Long ball gown or a knee length dress

Weekend package, Friday & Saturday bed & breakfast	£160.00 per twin/double room (two sharing)
Saturday only bed & breakfast	£90.00 per twin/double room
Saturday only bed & breakfast	£70.00 per single room
Gala Dinner	£40.pp Inc. Wine and Port

Programme / Time table

Friday evening

Arrival as required
Informal evening meal
Lantern swinging in the bar

Saturday

Day at leisure

AGM

1845 Reception Members and guests arrive

1920 Hands to Dinner.

2130 Raffle.

2359 Finex

For full menu and booking form please see ASWI website. Payment to be made to the association treasurer.

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

GOH for 2017 was 1SL – 2018 GOH TBA.



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

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).

HMS Trafalgar - (November 2018)

TRAFALGAR REUNION (TRAF BASH) - 9th NOVEMBER at the PLYMOUTH HOE CLUB

Russ Morris and myself (Pitt.k) would like to invite you to a one-off reunion of the **TRAFALGAR SHIPS COMPANY** (STAG ONLY) who served on board from build to the DED or thereabouts. There are plenty of very nice hotels and some not so very nice hotels very close to the venue and I leave that for you individually to sort out please.

The venue is a small club on the Hoe and very informal, but I would ask if you could please be smartly dressed. The address is Plymouth Hoe Club, 1-2 Osbourne Place, The Hoe, Plymouth, PL1 2PU. And this is on the west side of the Hoe.



Commodore Martin Macpherson OBE (ret) has indicated that he would be delighted to attend and meet up with some of his old ships company.

The Club will be open from 1300 ish, but I would suggest coming along between 1800 to 1900. A wholesome buffet will be provided at 2000 and at a very reasonable price of only £8.00. An early response would be appreciated so that we have an idea of numbers attending.

Cheques can be made out to MW PITKEATHLY and posted to Mr MW PITKEATHLY, HMS COURAGEOUS EXHIBIT OFFICE, N193, DEVONPORT NAVAL BASE, PLYMOUTH, PL2 2BG. Or bank transfer the £8.00 to MW PITKEATHLY Sort Code 56 00 63 Account 02946750. If you use a bank transfer, ensure that I am aware who is crediting the account please.

If you wish to participate, please complete the form below and post to the above address or email to me pittkskimmerkiller@blueyonder.co.uk

If you are still in touch with others of that period who served on board TRAFALGAR can you get the word out to them, please.

As and add on, if you are interested in a tour of Courageous which is berthed inside the Naval Base, please indicate on slip below. Tours will be PM on the 9th and AM on the 10th. Details to follow and you will be given separate instructions for those interested. Also trying to get a tour of HMS Bulwark which is berthed alongside for a year or two.

Application Form below;

Detach.....

FIRST NAME.....LAST
NAME.....

NICK NAME.....

DATE YOU JOINED H.M.S TRAFALGARAND
DRAFTED.....

RATE OR TRADE ON
BOARD.....

I AM / NOT INTERESTED IN A VISIT TO HMS COURAGEOUS AND HMS BULWARK. If interested, please take some sort of photographic I.D with you such as a passport or driving license please. Please remember that you need to be relatively fit and agile to negotiate the ladders and hatches on board.

MY DOB(required for security on entry to the dockyard)

Enclose a cheque for £8.00 for the big eats and entry please.

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	Dougatspindrift@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	andywalmsley_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 – August 2018



Date	Year	Entry
1st	1998	Frigate <i>Somerset</i> sailed into Aboukir Bay to mark the 200th anniversary of the Battle of the Nile. An ecumenical service honoured the casualties in the British and French fleets.
2 nd	1511	Lord Thomas Howard and Sir Edward Howard killed Scottish pirate Andrew Barton and captured his two vessels – <i>Lion</i> and <i>Jannet Perwyn</i> . Howard adopted the bosun's call in silver as the symbolic badge of office of the Lord High Admiral
3rd	1918	Russian cruiser ASKOLD, of 5-funnel fame, taken over at Murmansk, as <i>Glory IV</i> .
4 th	1804	Adam, Admiral Viscount Duncan, victor of Camperdown, died meeting the stroke of Death with the dignity of a hero and the resignation of a true and sincere Christian. Nelson said, 'The name of Duncan will never be forgot by Britain and particularly by its navy'.
5 th	1914	HMS LANCE, destroyer, fired the first naval shot in anger in the First World War, in sinking the German auxiliary minelayer, KONIGIN-LUISE, off the Suffolk coast.
6 th	1826	<i>Hope</i> captured the Brazilian slaver <i>Prince of Guinea</i> off Wyhdah, Dahomey
7th	1980	<i>Scylla</i> began five days of hurricane relief work in Cayman Islands. Hurricane Allen.

8th	1979	Lt -Cdr Nicholas Monsarrat RNVR, ('Montserrat' on birth certificate) author of <i>The Cruel Sea</i> (1951), 'one of the greatest triumphs of fiction in the English language' (DNB), died. His ashes were scattered at sea by the Royal Navy
9th	1856	<i>Cambridge</i> , commissioned as Plymouth gunnery training ship. Ashore in 1907.
10th	1965	Submarine <i>Opossum</i> represented the RN at the seventy-fifth anniversary celebrations at Heligoland of the handing over of the island to Germany in 1890 in exchange for the German possession of Zanzibar in East Africa.
11 th	1850	Well done, <i>Phaeton</i> ': a BZ to Capt George Elliot for the smart rescue of a man overboard, due to provision of a lifeboat sentry and a boat's crew closed up in rough weather in his fourth rate <i>Phaeton</i> (50). The signal from Cdre Martin rang round the Navy
12th	1917	Destroyer <i>Oracle</i> rammed and sank U-44 12 miles W.of Stavanger. (58.51N, 04.20E.)
13 th	1965	The Admiralty Board appointed full-time Public Relations Officers to some commands at home and abroad. DPR(N) succeeded CNI. DCI(RN) 1196/65
14 th	1782	David Tyrwhitt (Navy Office spy) executed on Southsea Common.
15 th	1545	The English navy fired its first broadside in anger at sea. Henry VIII's ships under John Dudley, Lord Lisle, engaged French galleys under the Admiral of France, Claude d'Annebault off Shoreham, Sussex: 'the <i>Mistress</i> and the <i>Anne Gallant</i> did so handle the galleys, as well with their sides as with their prows . . .' An indecisive action after which the English returned to Portsmouth and the French to Le Havre.
16 th	1950	Formation of 41 Independent Cdo RM at Bickleigh for Korean service with USMC.
17th	1798	<i>Leander</i> (52) carrying Nelson's Nile despatches taken and plundered by <i>Généreux</i> (74) 6 miles W. of Gavdos Island, S.W. of Crete. She was restored in 1799 after the capture of Corfu. Nelson took the <i>Généreux</i> on 18 February 1800
18th	1919	Cruiser <i>Kent</i> 's detachment reached Vladivostok, from service in the Urals 4,500 miles west.
19th	1971	Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service Reserve established. First Sister enrolled, at Severn Division, 15 December 1971
20th	1864	Conversion completed of <i>Royal Sovereign</i> , only turret-ship built of wood and first ship in RN to carry her main armament outside her hull.
21st	1944	Corvette <i>Alberni</i> (RCN) torpedoed by U-480. Sank in half a minute, S.E. of St Catherine's Point (50.18N, 00.51W). Operation Neptune. <i>Orchis</i> , mined and beached off Normandy, her bow blown off: CTL.
22 nd	1918	<i>Hood</i> launched at John Brown's, Clydebank, by Lady Hood, widow of Rear-Admiral Hon. Horace Hood, who had been killed in <i>Invincible</i>
23 rd	1993	<i>Opossum</i> , Lt-Cdr J.R.G. Drummond RN, last of the Royal Navy's thirteen Oberon-class diesel-electric submarines, paid off at Gosport. Earlier that month the thirty-year-old boat was the first Western submarine since the Second World War to visit Severomorsk, the Russian Northern Fleet base
24 th	1806	Boats of <i>Alexandria</i> and <i>Gracieuse</i> destroyed two Spanish vessels at La Hacha, Colombia.
25 th	1707	<i>Nightingale</i> , escorting a convoy of thirty-six sail, taken by six French galleys off Harwich The convoy escaped.
26 th	1914	Cruiser <i>Highflyer</i> sank the German armed merchant cruiser <i>Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse</i> off Rio de Oro, Spanish West Africa, only ten days out from Bremen.

27 th	1809	Boats of <i>Amphion</i> cut out six Venetian gunboats and destroyed a fort at Cortellazzo
28 th	1969	Fleet submarine <i>Conqueror</i> launched at Birkenhead, by Lady McGeoch, wife of Vice- Admiral Sir Ian McGeoch, FOSNI. The last nuclear submarine built at Cammell Laird.
29 th	1350	Battle of L'Espagnols sur Mer. Edward III (<i>Thomas</i>) defeated the Spanish fleet under Don Carlos de la Cerda off Winchelsea. First battle in which cannon were used at sea.
30 th	1914	Occupation of German Samoa. <i>Australia</i> (flag) and <i>Melbourne</i> (RAN), <i>Philomel</i> (NZ), <i>Montcalm</i> (French), <i>Psyche</i> and <i>Pyramus</i>
31 st	1591	<i>Revenge</i> taken by a Spanish fleet under Don Alonzo de Bazan off the Azores. Battle Honour: Azores 1591. The <i>Revenge</i> , under Sir Richard Grenville, was at Flores in the Azores with other British ships when a superior force of Spanish ships was sighted. The <i>Revenge</i> stayed to recover sick men on shore and was engaged by the Spanish when she sailed. She fought for fifteen hours against no fewer than fifty-three enemy ships, and was boarded fifteen times, repulsing each attack. Finally, she was forced to surrender after sinking four enemy ships, and with Sir Richard Grenville mortally wounded: sink me the ship Master Gunner: sink her, split her in twain . . .'

Aldershot Royal Naval Association

Proudly Presents



The 2018 BANYAN Party

(Bar-B-Que, Entertainment and a TOT)

At the Aldershot Conservative Club, GU11 1PE

On Friday August 31st

Tickets for the event are only £6

Bar B Que from 6pm, Entertainment from 8pm

Tickets available from Les, behind the Conservative Club Bar, or by contacting
Eddie Toyne 01252 657573 or Caroline Mills 01252 325558 (millsbomber@hotmail.com)

BANYAN RIG is encouraged – Loud shirts, Shorts and flipflops

The evening will feature

SHEP WOOLLEY

A Maritime

Entertainment Specialist,

folk singer and Stand-up

Comedian

.... A lot more than just a

Shanty Singer

