



**ROYAL NAVAL  
ASSOCIATION**



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Monday of  
the Month

# **The Semaphore Circular**

**No 716**

*The Beating Heart of the RNA*

**February 2022**



***Shipmates displayed above is the 'Cool' Logo of the RNA Falklands 40<sup>th</sup> Commemoration weekend, which includes the 2022 RNA Conference on 17/18/19 June 2022 with the aim being to:-***

***Reunite.....Relive.....Remember!***

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## Daily Orders (follow each link) Orders [follow each link]

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## Glossary of terms

<b>NCM</b>	National Council Member
<b>NC</b>	National Council
<b>AMC</b>	Association Management Committee
<b>FAC</b>	Finance Administration Committee
<b>NCh</b>	National Chairman
<b>NVCh</b>	National Vice Chairman
<b>NP</b>	National President
<b>DNP</b>	Deputy National President
<b>GS</b>	General Secretary
<b>CONA</b>	Conference of Naval Associations
<b>NCBA</b>	National Charter, Rules and Byelaws Advisor/ Governance Committee

## ind Semaphore Circular On-line

<http://bit.ly/RNADownloads>

or

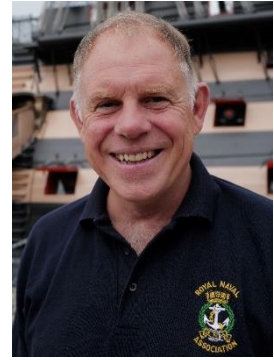
RNA Website / Members Area / Downloads /  
Circulars / Code (shipmate)

## Snail Mail – Postal Address

RNA Central Office,  
Building 1/087,  
Scott Road,  
HM Naval Base,  
Portsmouth  
Hants PO1 3LT

*From the General Secretary*

*Dear Shipmates,*



Is February too late to still be wishing shipmates a happy New Year? Nevertheless, this is the first full Semaphore Circular of 2022 and what a year we have ahead of us. This is of course the 40th anniversary year of the Falklands Conflict which is going to be central to our AGM and Conference over the weekend of 17 - 19 June.

You will see in this issue the array of different activities which are running and available to Shipmates on the Friday, which we are designating our “Reunite” day. Hopefully there is something of interest there for all, even if it is just watching the cricket match at Burnaby Rd between our own Association and the Royal Marines Association which promises to be a keenly fought contest.

This will be the first run out for the new cricket group which we hope will develop into a society which will maybe get two or three fixtures a year and lend its support to senior Navy cricket as they play their matches around the country. I had a great meeting with Mark Smith of the Royal Navy Cricket Association in January and was completely enthused with Mark’s passion to take this forward. Mark is in his final year of service after nearly 40 years and left Central Office as a signed-up shipmate. Born in Bootle, made in the Royal Navy, belonging in our Association. Thank you Mark for taking this on. Players required please.

After the activities in the afternoon, we’ll all get the chance to get together in the evening for a reception in HMS Warrior and, for those who wear the S Atlantic medal, Portsmouth City Council have kindly put on a civic dinner in the Guildhall which will run parallel to our own reception.

Saturday has been designated “Relive” and after the early morning AGM, there will be a Falklands forum with keynote speakers including Lord West who was CO of HMS Ardent when she was sunk in Falklands Sound during the Conflict. There will also be a social opportunity in the evening with a buffet dinner dance.

The weekend will culminate on the Sunday where we will “Remember” with a Parade at the Portsmouth Hot Walls Falklands monument and the Association will be honoured by the City Council with the award of the Freedom of the City.

We are much more switched on to mental health these days and we will be supported by other bodies and charities who are specialists in that field throughout the weekend.

Because of the disparate nature of activities over the weekend, we will break from tradition and ask delegates and shipmates to find their own accommodation in the city that weekend – a range of accom possibilities is published later in the Circular.

Remember, this is a Conference and Reunion w/e for all of our Shipmates not just delegates for the AGM and certainly not just those who served in the South Atlantic so please lean in and come to Portsmouth that weekend to take part in what will undoubtedly be an enjoyable and memorable few days.

In other business, please can Areas/Branches note the important governance issues raised at Item 3.

Finally, I must take the opportunity to welcome two new members of our Central Office Team. Firstly Gemma Swanson from RNRMC, who we've come to know through our close partnership with the Charity. She is supporting Lynda in the Welfare and Wellbeing team and is the go to person for SPARKO and Project Semaphore. She understands the RNRMC grants process inside out and will be a massive force multiplier in Central Office. And, secondly, I am delighted to have been able to offer a position to Mary Prescott as our new Comms Co-ord which is a job central to all we achieve. A very warm welcome to you both.

Very finally, I promised Andy I wouldn't mention the rugby....Oh damn. Sorry Andy. Suffice to say, we Scots ought to be wearing our masks over our eyes never mind our nose and mouth. That was definitely a robbery!

*Best wishes,*

*Bill Oliphant*

Stop Press..... Stop Press.....Stop Press

**\*\*\*\*\*The cost of the functions over the whole weekend (including HMS Warrior reception on Friday evening and the Forum Sandwich lunch and Buffet Dinner on Saturday) is £30 per person \*\*\*\*\***

**Please complete the attendance pro-forma, at the link below and once completed forward to Central Office At [F40bookings@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:F40bookings@royalnavalassoc.com) or print off and post.**



F40 Booking Form  
PDF.pdf

F40 Booking Pro-forma link .....

## 1. ★ F40 Programme

Shipmates the aim of the Falklands 40<sup>th</sup> weekend, which includes the 2022 RNA Conference on 17/18/19 June 2022 is to Reunite, Relive and Remember and just to emphasise this isn't just a weekend for those who took part in the Falklands Conflict; it's an opportunity for our entire membership to pay their respects to those who were lost and who contributed to the effort, whether serving RN, RM, RFA, Merchant Navy, Dockyard workers, spouses, or children of those serving.

Unlike previous recent RNA AGM/ National Conferences, the events of the weekend will not be centred on a single venue.

Delegates and attendees should therefore seek their own accommodation in Portsmouth. To help, a list of accommodation venues and websites is attached.



The RNRMC is supporting this activity and Branches are invited to **apply for grants** for transport for Shipmates to be able to attend the F40 weekend. More details can be found at [Falklands 40 Fund | The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity \(rnrmc.org.uk\)](#)

### REUNITE

On the Friday, our Special Interest Groups will gather in their clusters to take part in activities around the Portsmouth area. All our members are invited to be involved in this, whether they've joined a Special Interest Group yet or not. We're hoping that there will be an activity to interest everyone and plans are still being developed to bring more to the programme over the coming months. If you don't find something that sparks your interest but have an idea for an RNA group/activity you would like to be the Group Leader for then please do get in touch with us and let us know. Email us at: [admin@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:admin@royalnavalassoc.com)

The Special Interest Groups are a new initiative from the RNA, so these events will be an inaugural activity for most, meaning you can be involved right from the start! Each group has its own Group Leader for you to email and express your interest to.

Golf – The RNA Golfers will be gathering at Southwick Park Golf Course on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June for bacon butties and 18-holes across the land that Churchill and Eisenhower plotted the D-Day

landings from. To be involved in this, please express your interest to their Group Leader, Colin Dinsdale - [rna.golfers@gmail.com](mailto:rna.golfers@gmail.com)

Cricket – Are you a cricketer? Would you be keen to join an RNA Cricket team? The Royal Navy's Burnaby Road will be hosting a cricket match for us, against the Royal Marines Association, and we need a team! The match will start at 1300 on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June, with refreshments served at around 1630 on completion. Clearly, this will also be a great spectator event and the bar will be open throughout. To be involved in this, please express your interest to Gordon Williams - [chairman@rna-7area.org](mailto:chairman@rna-7area.org)

Riders – The RNA Riders branch will be gathering in Portsmouth (location TBC) and rallying out to Sammy Miller's vintage bike museum in the New Forest on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June. Whether you've been involved in the group previously or would like to join as a new member, anyone on two wheels is welcome. To be involved in this, please express your interest to Simon Zammit - [rnarbarea3@gmail.com](mailto:rnarbarea3@gmail.com)

Fishing – The RNA Fishing SIG will be hosting a social coarse fishing event on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June at Southwick Park Lake. Whether you're an experienced fishermen or new to the sport, everyone is welcome. It's a beautiful and extremely peaceful place to spend the whole day or just a few hours. To be involved in this, please express your interest with an email to [rna.fishing.sig@gmail.com](mailto:rna.fishing.sig@gmail.com)

Classic Cars – The RNA Classic Car SIG will be meeting at RHS Wisley on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June for a car rally down to Portsmouth, avoiding the A3 by taking A and B roads for a steady amble. All classic cars, their drivers and passengers are welcome to get involved in this. To express your interest in participating in this, would you kindly advise Group Leader, Mike Burnham [m.burnham@btinternet.com](mailto:m.burnham@btinternet.com) by 23:59Hrs 15 March 2022 of your:

- Intention to participate
- Your joining point
- Your Vehicle make, model and Registration Number

Camping & Caravanning –

It has been a challenge to confirm location details, but the RNA Motorhome, Caravan & Camping Group will be hosted at a site in the Portsmouth area. If you would like to become a member of

the group and camp over the weekend, please express your interest to their Group Leader, Ron Shilton - [rna.camping.caravan.motorhome.club@gmail.com](mailto:rna.camping.caravan.motorhome.club@gmail.com)

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On Friday evening, the 17th of June, Shipmates will reunite at 1900 for the Band of the Royal Marines to Beat Retreat at the steps of the Guildhall, followed by evening drinks reception on HMS Warrior\*. Members will be invited to walk to HMS Warrior or call taxis from the Guildhall taxi rank. For those less able, the RNA minibuses will run a shuttle from the Guildhall to Victory Gate.



\* Please note, Portsmouth City Council will run a separate and free Civic Dinner that evening for Falklands Veterans and one guest– Please see the specific details in Paragraph 2.

## RELIVE

Saturday's events will be hosted in a marquee in the rear garden of the HMS Nelson Wardroom. An abbreviated National AGM will take place in the morning, with delegates gathering at 0830 for breakfast rolls with formalities starting at 0900.

This will be followed at 1100 by a 'Falklands Forum' with a panel of Falklands veterans, representing different aspects of the Conflict. Some RMA members will also attend and a sandwich lunch will be provided.



Throughout Saturday afternoon we will have wellbeing support and guidance available for all Shipmates if required. Wellbeing experts will be on hand to give immediate support and signpost to ongoing initiatives. If you have any wellbeing concerns ahead of the event, please get in touch

with our Wellbeing Programme Manager, Lynda Pearson to discuss them in confidence.

[lynda@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:lynda@royalnavalassoc.com)



Model Making – The RNA Model Makers group will be displaying their crafts in HMS Nelson’s Wardroom during the AGM and the Falklands Forum. If you’d like to join their group and display a model of your own, please express your interest to their Group Leader, Gary Daisley - [rna.modelmakers@gmail.com](mailto:rna.modelmakers@gmail.com)

After a short break (time for a siesta/LLD and a dhobi), members and guests will be invited back to the marquee at HMS Nelson Wardroom at 1930 for an 80s themed dance and buffet dinner. With a live band and 80s tunes playing late into the night, this is an event not to be missed!

## REMEMBER

On the Sunday, in Old Portsmouth, those connected to the Naval Service under the leadership of Portsmouth City Council, are invited to march with their Shipmates with the RNA National, Area and Branch Standards for a 1100 Service of Remembrance at the Falklands memorial in the Hot Walls. This will be followed by the City of Portsmouth unveiling a new memorial and presenting the RNA, RMA, and Falklands Veterans with Freedom of the City scrolls. Commemorations will conclude in Portsmouth Cathedral with a short service, , as well as civic refreshments. Final timings and instructions for this element of the weekend will be published over the coming months, but those Shipmates marching will form up at the Ben Ainsley Building (Before Broad Street is closed to traffic)  
List of Hotels to assist.



**\*\*\*\*\*The cost of the functions over the whole weekend (including HMS Warrior reception on Friday evening and Forum sandwich lunch and Buffet Dinner on Saturday) is £30 per person\*\*\*\*\***



F40 Booking Form  
PDF.pdf

**The link to the attendance pro-forma is here**

Hotel	Location	Postcode
<a href="#">Premier Inn Portsmouth Dockyard</a>	Queen St, Portsea	PO1 3EE
<a href="#">Premier Inn Portsmouth City Centre</a>	Brunel Road, Portsmouth	PO1 2TR
<a href="#">Queen's Hotel Portsmouth</a>	Clarence Parade, Southsea	PO5 3LJ
<a href="#">Holiday Inn Express Portsmouth, Gunwharf Quays</a>	The Plaza, Portsmouth	PO1 3FD

<a href="#">Ibis Portsmouth</a>	Winston Churchill Ave, Southsea	PO1 2LX
<a href="#">Travelodge Portsmouth City Centre</a>	Stanhope Rd	PO1 1FB
<a href="#">Travelodge Portsmouth</a>	North End	PO2 8AB
<a href="#">Holiday Inn Portsmouth</a>	Pembroke Rd	PO1 2TA
<a href="#">The Duke Of Buckingham</a>	High St, Portsmouth	PO1 2HW
<a href="#">The Ship Leopard Boutique Hotel</a>	Portsea, Portsmouth	PO1 3DT
<a href="#">Hotel Ibis Budget Portsmouth</a>	Fratton Way, Southsea	PO4 8SL
<a href="#">Somerset House Boutique Hotel</a>	Florence Road, Southsea	PO5 2NE
<a href="#">Premier Inn Southsea Hotel</a>	Long Curtain Rd, Southsea	PO5 3XX
<a href="#">Becketts</a>	Bellevue Terrace, Southsea	PO5 3AT
<a href="#">Seacrest Hotel</a>	Southsea	PO5 2JB
<a href="#">Portsmouth Marriott Hotel</a>	Cosham, Portsmouth	PO6 4SH
<a href="#">Village Hotel</a>	Lakeshore Drive, Portsmouth	PO6 3FR
<a href="#">Premier Inn Portsmouth North Harbour</a>	Cosham, Portsmouth	PO6 4SA
<a href="#">Royal Maritime Club (Home Club)</a>	Queen St, Portsea	PO1 3HS
<a href="#">Royal Beach Hotel</a>	St Helen's Parade, Southsea	PO4 0RN
<a href="#">Also, the University have B&amp;B rooms available with city centre &amp; Southsea options (costing around £52 per night)</a>	Email <a href="mailto:david.goodwin@port.ac.uk">david.goodwin@port.ac.uk</a> or call him on 02392 844567	
Also, check accom at the following sites:		
<a href="http://www.airbnb.co.uk">www.airbnb.co.uk</a>		
<a href="https://www.trivago.co.uk/">https://www.trivago.co.uk/</a>		
<a href="https://uk.hotels.com/">https://uk.hotels.com/</a>		
<a href="https://www.booking.com/">https://www.booking.com/</a>		

## 2. ★ F40 Civic Reception for RNA South Atlantic Medal Holders

Dear Shipmates,

As part of the commemorations of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Falklands Campaign, Portsmouth City Council (PCC) will be holding a Civic Reception and Dinner for South Atlantic Medal (SAM) holders in Portsmouth Guildhall on the evening of Friday 17 June 2022.

The RNA has been allocated 130 tickets to this event, and we are inviting SAM holders to register their interest in attending. When registering your interest, please indicate if you would be accompanied to this event, as one additional guest may also attend.



As tickets are limited, in the event of being oversubscribed, a ballot will be held, where names will be chosen at random.

This a free event, sponsored by PCC and the RNRMC. If your bid for this event is unsuccessful, the RNA are hosting a number of fun events for you to attend, as you can see above.

To register your interest for this event, please email [F40bookings@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:F40bookings@royalnavalassoc.com) with the following information, no later than **25 February 2022** – shortly after this date the ballot will be held if necessary, and both successful and unsuccessful applicants will be informed :

SAM Holder Name:

Ship / Unit Served:

Guest Name (if applicable):

### **3. ★ Governance Notes – S/M Nick Purkis**

Please see below from Governance Committee Chairman, S/M Nick Purkis concerning the Area National Council Members.

All Branch Secretaries in Areas;

1,2,3,4,5,10,12

should be aware that the Nomination Forms for the election of members and deputy members of the National Council 2022 (revised rna bye-law 7) are located at the rear of this edition and should arrive at Central Office by 1600 on the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022. (Due to tight timescale please advise [sara@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:sara@royalnavalassoc.com) to apply for extension of deadline)

Proposed Motions and Amendments for annual Conference should reach the General Secretary by 1600 on 14 February 2022. (Again, due to tight timescale please advise [sara@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:sara@royalnavalassoc.com) to apply for extension of deadline)

Finally this month .....

The 'Delegates' form for Conference 2022 in Portsmouth can be found at the rear of this Circular. Each Branch can nominate a delegate up to one week prior to the Conference. Specific details are provided in the Delegates form.

### **4. ★ RBL F40 Commemoration Service NMA 14 June 2022**

Shipmates may be aware that the Royal British Legion are hold a Falklands Campaign 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary commemoration service at the National Memorial Arboretum on 14 June 2022.

The programme for the day will feature Associations holding their own commemoration at their individual memorials and in the afternoon join together for a secular service and interactive ceremony featuring Falkland Campaign veterans both military and civilian at the National Memorial in the centre of the NMA. The ceremony at 1400 will also feature a direct link-up with Port Stanley. The event will be hosted by Max Hastings. There will also be an exhibition hall for attendees to visit and reminisce

The day is aimed primarily at Veterans and their spouses and bereaved families, not Senior Government and Service VIPs, obviously some senior figures will attend in their own right as a Falklands veteran.

It is estimated some 10,000 tickets will be available and details will be released early in the new year. The RBL are currently negotiating with Network Rail to investigate the possibility of free travel, fingers crossed!

Finally, as stated previously the service will feature Veterans and their families telling their stories of the campaign. It does not need historical factual descriptions, although are definitely welcome but some of the lighter personal relocations. Please forward your stories to [admin@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:admin@royalnavalassoc.com) we would be delighted to receive them and with your permission forward them to the RBL.

If you would like to attend the event you will need to register with the RNA at [admin@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:admin@royalnavalassoc.com) where you will need to supply the following information;

Forename/s Surname

Full Address (including Post Code)

Place of Birth – City

Country of Birth

Will you be bringing a Guest

If so... All of above information Please

Accessibility requirements and Do you possess a Blue Badge

Service Number

Details of your service in the Falklands Task Force.

Thank you for your assistance with this information. Specific details on the event can be found on the RBL F40 Website at [Falklands 40 | Remembrance | Royal British Legion](#)

## **5. ★ Invitation to Bereaved Family Members to attend the RBL Falklands Conflict 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the National Memorial Arboretum 14 June 2022**

### ***Commemoration of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Falkland's Conflict at the National Memorial Arboretum***

*The 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of the Falklands Conflict will no doubt be time of great personal reflection for all those connected with the military and civilian effort to liberate the Falkland Islands and, most especially, for those whose loved ones paid the ultimate price.*

*In recognition of this sacrifice, I am writing on behalf of the Royal British Legion to extend a warm invitation to you and a companion to join the RBL and veterans of the conflict in remembering the anniversary at the National Memorial Arboretum on Tuesday 14 June 2022.*

*On the morning of the event, there will be an opportunity for unit Associations to conduct intimate commemorations at their respective memorials within the Arboretum. In the afternoon, there will be a tri-service commemorative event, culminating in an Act of Remembrance, based around the Armed Forces Memorial. This will feature veteran testimony from key moments in the conflict.*

*Should you require it, accommodation will be provided at a local hotel for you and your companion on the night of Monday 13 June 2022. Transport will be provided to take you to and from the Arboretum.*

It would be a privilege to have you join us on 14 June 2022. If you would like to accept this invitation, please email [falklands@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:falklands@britishlegion.org.uk) with your name and contact details as well as those of your chosen companion. We will be in touch to discuss the finer details of the event in early March.

For further information on the Falklands 40 Commemorative Event, please visit our [website](#).

I hope very much to welcome you to the Arboretum in June.

Kind Regards,

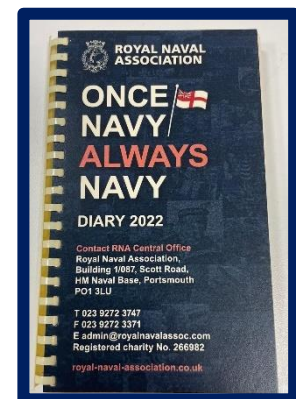
**Catherine Parums**  
**Head of Commemorative Events**

## 6. ★ RNA Diaries - Last Shout !

Shipmates are reminded that Central Office are still selling the last few remaining 2022 RNA Diaries. – **Now discounted by 50% to £2.50**

So now Spring is fast approaching and more Branch/Club social functions are being organised as we slowly emerging from the pandemic.

And don't forget the Falklands 40 commemorations and Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum celebrations so there are plenty of dates for you to annotate into it, so get yours now before we are sold out !



## 7. ★ Specialist Interest Groups – Contact details

Shipmates will be interested to know how popular and successful the Specialist Interest Groups have become. There has been huge interest from Shipmates across the UK and to kick start our F40 weekend a selection of SIG's have created a fun filled day of activities for you to get involved with on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June, our Reunion day!

Whether you are already a part of a group or are yet to join one we highly recommend you get involved and see what it's all about.

For more information regarding the day's activities for each group please contact the designated leaders, listed in no particular order:

**Camping and Caravanning** – Ron Shilton: [rna.camping.caravan.motorhome.club@gmail.com](mailto:rna.camping.caravan.motorhome.club@gmail.com)

**Classic Cars** – Mike Burnham: [hon.secretary@rnarayleigh.org](mailto:hon.secretary@rnarayleigh.org)

**Cricket** – Mark Smith : [Markmiff1962@gmail.com](mailto:Markmiff1962@gmail.com)

**Cycling** – Craig Fulton: [craig@govguide.co.uk](mailto:craig@govguide.co.uk)

**Divers** – Bill Lawless: [billylawless40@yahoo.com](mailto:billylawless40@yahoo.com)

**Fishing** – Gus Honeywood/Selwyn Davies/John Stephenson: [rna.fishing.sig@gmail.com](mailto:rna.fishing.sig@gmail.com)

**Golf** – Colin Dinsdale: [rna.golfers@gmail.com](mailto:rna.golfers@gmail.com)

**Riders** – Dave Ives: [secrnariders@gmail.com](mailto:secrnariders@gmail.com)

If you are interested in forming a Special Interest Group and joining in the fun please contact [admin@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:admin@royalnavalassoc.com)

### 8. ★ Monday Evening Fireside Chats

For Shipmates who are unaware, a series of 'Fireside Chats' featuring some fascinating subjects including; Battle of Jutland, Operation Paraquet (Re-capture of South Georgia 1982), Naval Recruiting in 2020 to name but a few. The presentations are held on Monday evenings commencing at 1800 using 'Zoom'. All are welcome.

Meeting ID – 288 830 5105 Password – Shipmate (case sensitive) Or, click on the link [here](#)

Date	Presenter	Subject
Monday 14 Feb	Simon Hail	Costal Forces Heritage Trust and Museum
Monday 21 Feb	Sir Ian McGeechan	Rugby Chat
Monday 28 Feb	Capt Rich Harris	Training the next generation of Shipmates
Monday 07 Mar	Mike Bullock	The Northern lighthouse Board (More than Lighthouses)
Monday 14 Mar	TBC	
Monday 21 Mar	Cdr Richard Sturman	CO 845 NAS
Monday 28 Mar	Adm Roy Clare	Gale Warning! Sea Area 'Fitzroy'

### 9. ★ A Plea from the Membership Support Officer - Contact with Central Office

Membership Support Officer, S/M Sara Field, would like to gently remind Shipmates that if the phone in Central Office (02392 723747) goes unanswered, please leave a message to ensure you receive a reply to your enquiry.

Alternatively, there are a number of phone numbers where you can talk to individual members of the Central Office staff, during office hours please!

Thank you very much for your forbearance and continued support - *Sara*

	Central Office Contacts	
Admin	023 9272 3747	<a href="mailto:Admin@royalnavalassoc.com">Admin@royalnavalassoc.com</a>
CEO/General Secretary	023 9272 2983	<a href="mailto:Bill@royalnavalassoc.com">Bill@royalnavalassoc.com</a>
Operations	07889 761934	<a href="mailto:Andy@royalnavalassoc.com">Andy@royalnavalassoc.com</a>
Finance	023 9272 3823	<a href="mailto:Kathryn@royalnavalassoc.com">Kathryn@royalnavalassoc.com</a>
Communications	07860 705712	<a href="mailto:comms@royalnavalassoc.com">comms@royalnavalassoc.com</a>
Digital Communications		<a href="mailto:Mike@royalnavalassoc.com">Mike@royalnavalassoc.com</a>

Fundraising – Special Events	07926 128754	<a href="mailto:Malcolm@royalnavalassoc.com">Malcolm@royalnavalassoc.com</a>
Membership Support	023 92723747	<a href="mailto:Sara@royalnavalassoc.com">Sara@royalnavalassoc.com</a>
Welfare Programmes	07591 829416 07542 680082	<a href="mailto:Lynda@royalnavalassoc.com">Lynda@royalnavalassoc.com</a>
Project Semaphore		<a href="mailto:Lynda@royalnavalassoc.com">Lynda@royalnavalassoc.com</a>
Well-Being Programme Assistant		<a href="mailto:Gemma@royalnavalassoc.com">Gemma@royalnavalassoc.com</a>
National Advisors		
National Branch Retention and Recruiting Advisor		<a href="mailto:Rna.brra@outlook.com">Rna.brra@outlook.com</a>
National Welfare Advisor		<a href="mailto:Geoff@royalnavalassoc.com">Geoff@royalnavalassoc.com</a>
National Rules and Bye-Laws Advisor		<a href="mailto:nipurkis@hotmail.com">nipurkis@hotmail.com</a>
National Ceremonial Advisor		<a href="mailto:Robertcoburn001@btinternet.com">Robertcoburn001@btinternet.com</a>

## 10. ★ F40 Model Making Group Build

Following the modest but successful first outing of the RNA (SIG) for Model Making and Model Makers at the 2021 Conference in Nottingham, the first anniversary of the Special Interest Group has presented an opportunity to create a Group Build to commemorate the Falklands 40th Anniversary at the 2022 RNA Conference in Portsmouth later this year. Timed to coincide with the 'official' Falklands 40th Anniversary commemoration events to **Reunite, Relive and Remember**, the SIG has again been invited to showcase its wares at this year's premier event in Portsmouth over the weekend of 17-19 June.



Eligible for the build is anything that took part in the conflict itself, from either side, whether directly involved in the military campaign or indirectly in a supporting role. Any scale, British or Argentinian, on air, land or sea. As well as forces engaged on, over and around the Falklands. Also included are forces engaged on South Georgia, the South Sandwich Islands and those stationed on Ascension.

Plenty of progress photos are encouraged on the SIG Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/groups/434544820928061](https://www.facebook.com/groups/434544820928061) or search for **RNA(SIG) – Model Making**.

The Group Build will run until 14 June 2022, 40 years after the conflict ended. There is lots of info out there for subjects that were involved, but if you are unsure, please just ask.

## 11. ★ Central Office – Two new members of staff Introduce themselves.....

### Our brand spanking new Communications Coordinator and Well-Being Programme Assistant introduce themselves to Shipmates.

Hello everyone! My name is Mary Prescott and I am beyond excited to be joining the RNA as your new Communications Coordinator. I can't wait to meet you all in person at future events. Just to introduce myself a little, I am originally from Surrey and studied Drama for my Bachelor's and then went on to do a Masters in Strategic Communication, both at Loughborough University.



I am particularly tickled pink at landing this job as my Father is a member of the RNA, having served in the RFA in the 70s (hi Dad). My Grandfather was also in the Navy and served on HMS Belfast during the Korean War. A cherished memory I have is from my Primary School years when I was lucky enough to stay overnight onboard HMS Belfast during a school trip. If anyone reading this remembers the name Tony Prescott please get in touch, I would love to hear your memories of him.

Thank you all for being so kind and welcoming this week, now lets get down to work.

Mary can be contacted at [Comms@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:Comms@royalnavalassoc.com) or 07860 705712

### And.....

Hello, my name is Gemma Swanson and I have joined the RNA as the Well-Being Programme Assistant. I am the daughter and granddaughter of RN veterans, so the Royal Navy holds a very close place in my heart. My grandad served on the Royal Yacht Britannia as man and Boy and started the Association of Royal Yachtsman. I previously worked at the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity as a Grants Officer, distributing funds to Veteran charities to support in a wide variety of areas and now, I am very excited to be directly supporting beneficiaries in my new role through my work on Project Semaphore and Sparko.



Personally, I am married with a 3 year old daughter and an ageing and lazy pooch, at the weekends you would find me out having adventures with my family, baking or watching movies.

I have very few regrets in life (so far) however one deep regret of mine was never actually joining the Royal Navy, so I see this new role as me 'joining up' at the spring chicken age of... anyway that's enough about me, I very much look forward to meeting and working with each and every one of you over time. Gemma can be contacted at [gemma@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:gemma@royalnavalassoc.com)



## 12. ★ Assistance Please - Shipmate Bob Gelder (Bude Branch)

Shipmate may I request your assistance please.

It is relatively simple, repetitive, cost-free (almost) and can unite the whole of the RNA to support a very genuine cause. Might I suggest the title: MISSION MACMILLAN.

Simply, I ask all Branches of the RNA to get their individual members to save all the postage stamps that come through their doors throughout the year. Bring them into the Branch Secretary at each Meeting and he then puts them all into a large (hopefully) envelope and sends them to me.



I will then trim them, collate them and when the next box is full, forward them (my expense) to Macmillan Cancer Research. The Branch postage cost can be written off under Branch Administration - but that Branch may well contribute to Cancer Research in order to save a life! Possibly one of their own members, who knows?

Please email S/M Bob at [bobgelder1@gmail.com](mailto:bobgelder1@gmail.com) or contact Central office for his postal details.

## 13. ★ One Hundred Club – Shipmate Wilfred George Osborne

Dorchester Branch Hon Secretary Roy Dean has informed central Office that the Dorchester Branch President S/M George Osborne celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday on 28 January 2022. The branch will be holding a messdeck lunch on his birthday and a few of us been asked to join a family celebration lunch on Sunday 20 January 2022.

George is in reasonably good health but his eyesight is poor. However, 'Blind Veterans UK' has provided him with a machine that scans newsletters, newspapers etc and "reads" the text and 'speaks' to him through a pair of headphones.

BZ and very many Congratulations S/M George a bottle of 'Pussers' is on route to Dorchester for you to enjoy and have a celebratory tot or two!

Shipmate Roy forwarded a summary of George's naval service during the Second World War which is below and is incredibly interesting.

*George was born in Goudhurst in January 1922 and attended the local C of E School until he was 14. His first job was as a garden boy in Goudhurst. He worked for the gardener of a retired Surgeon Commander RN.*

*George joined the RN on 28 March 1938 at HMS GANGES. He completed training in June 1939 having been back-classed due to a serious illness. If he had not been ill he would have completed training in December 1938. He could have served on other Chatham based ships and had a completely different career. He was based at the RN Barracks Chatham until joining the heavy cruiser HMS SHEFFIELD in August 1939.*

*The SHEFFIELD sailed for Invergordon and joined up with the Home Fleet for autumn manoeuvres. War was declared on 3 September 1939. SHEFFIELD was at sea and was tasked to carry out northern patrols between Iceland and Greenland until March 1940 when the ship was*

deployed to escort convoys to and from Norway. In April 1940 the ship embarked troops and equipment and transported them to Northern Norway. The ship patrolled the fjords until the end of April and then evacuated the troops from Andalsnes and returned to the UK.

George became an AB in the summer of 1940. The SHEFFIELD sailed from Plymouth in September 1940, supposedly for the Far East but joined up with Force H under the command of Admiral Sir James Somerville. The ship spent the next 8 months in the Mediterranean on Malta Convoys. In May 1941 SHEFFIELD was tasked to join the Home Fleet in the hunt for the BISMARCK in the north Atlantic. George was then 19 years old.

( Photo courtesy @IWM A 6741 HMS Sheffield entering Scapa Flow 20 Dec 1941)



The SHEFFIELD was soon in the thick of it and nearly sunk by both sides; George was actually an eyewitness to the attacks made on it. He saw the Bismarck fire on his ship and if the trajectory had been a bit different he would have been a goner. He can still recall the shells going across the stern. During the hunt the SHEFFIELD was mistaken for the BISMARCK and attacked by SWORDFISH from ARK ROYAL. George was on the upper deck when the aircraft approached. Fortunately, the torpedo pistols malfunctioned and the torpedoes did not hit the SHEFFIELD. The Swordfish eventually realised their mistake.

George told this story at a presentation given by Commander Graham Rhys-Jones RN in Dorchester Town Hall on the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the sinking of the BISMARCK. By a remarkable coincidence, in the audience was the widow of the Swordfish pilot who identified the SHEFFIELD and called off the attack.

In the engagement with the BISMARCK, the SHEFFIELD suffered structural damage to the upper deck and the radar equipment was disabled. Twelve crew were wounded and three seamen died from their injuries. The SHEFFIELD returned to Gibraltar with FORCE H and sailed to England in summer 1941 for a refit.

The SHEFFIELD undertook escort duties for military convoy WS1 in the Atlantic at the end of August before returning to Gibraltar for Malta convoy escort duties. In November the ship deployed with the 18<sup>th</sup> Cruiser Squadron for the defence of Russian Convoys. SHEFFIELD's first Russian convoy was PQ5 in December 1941. On the journey to Murmansk PQ5 nearly ran into a homeward bound convoy. On arrival at Murmansk the temperature was down to 50° F (-45° C), the weather was freezing fog and it was dark. It was a week before the ship could sail and the temperature was never above - 30° F (-34° C). On leaving Murmansk the ship deployed with the cruisers KENYA and SUFFOLK in search of the German battleship TIRPITZ that was reported to be breaking out into the Atlantic but contact was not made.



*For the rest of the winter the ship the ship was deployed on Northern Patrol between Iceland and the Faeroes covering inbound and outbound convoys. For George a typical patrol was being on watch, working part of ship or sleeping close to his action station. He slept on the deck close to his action station as all hammocks were secured for action stations.*

*(Photo Courtesy IWM @ A14891)*

*The ship refuelled and stored in Iceland on 3 March 1942 and on 4 March detonated a mine off NE Iceland when on passage to provide cover for Russian Convoy PQ12. George was just about to*

*go on watch and was in the bathroom going through his normal pre-watch routine – washing his feet and putting on a new pair of socks. He quickly departed the bathroom and headed for his action station, gashing his leg on the hatch coaming and drawing blood as he did so. Major damage was sustained aft and a RM keyboard sentry was killed. The damage was between X and Y turrets and, escorted by destroyers FAULKNER and ESKIMO, the ship struggled into Seidisfiord in Iceland at 6 knots. The ship's staff completed temporary repairs by the end of the month and after sea trials proceeded to a dry dock in Hebburn on Tyne via Scapa Flow arriving on 2 April. The ship was under repair and refit until June and after post refit trials rejoined the 18<sup>th</sup> cruiser squadron at Scapa Flow.*

*George joined RN Barracks Chatham for sentry duty. The ship continued covering Russian convoys and then escorted a military convoy taking troops for landings in North Africa. George rejoined the SHEFFIELD in January 1943. The ship was back on Arctic convoy duties. In February the ship sustained extensive structural damage in appalling weather during passage - the top of "A" Turret was completely removed – and spent most of the next 4 months in dock in a Clyde shipyard under repair and refit.*

*In June the ship sailed for the Mediterranean to escort a troopship convoy to Algeria for landings and was damaged in collision with a minesweeper. It was then deployed in SW approaches to cover the passage of convoys to Gibraltar for military operations in Sicily and was also deployed in the Mediterranean on a number of operations. At the end of November the ship returned to the UK, hopefully for Christmas; but was diverted to Scapa Flow and rejoined the Home Fleet for Russian Convoy duties. By now George was a gun-layer in A Turret.*

*On 23 December the ship sailed from Kola Inlet to provide cruiser cover for incoming convoy JW55A and return Convoy RA55A and on 26 December was ordered by CinC Home Fleet to close convoy JW55A that was under imminent threat of attack. SHEFFIELD obtained a radar detection of German battleship SCHARNHORST. SHEFFIELD was soon in action with BELFAST and NORFOLK against the SCHARNHORST and obtained hits with the second salvo but had to disengage when bearings of the port inner shaft were damaged, reducing the maximum speed to 22 knots. The ship returned to Birkenhead in January 1944 for repairs and then rejoined the Home Fleet in 10th Cruiser Squadron for Fleet duties on interception and patrol duty in North Sea and NW Approaches.*

*At the end of March SHEFFIELD sailed from Scapa Flow with the aircraft carrier FURIOUS, cruiser JAMAICA Escort aircraft carriers EMPEROR, FENCER, PURSUER and SEARCHER with destroyer screen to provide cover for passage of outward Russian Convoy JW58 and return Convoy RA58 before detaching for air attacks on German battleship TIRPITZ on 3 April. In mid-*

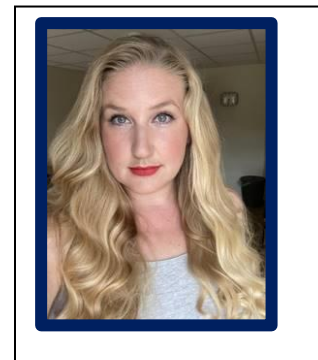
April SHEFFIELD escorted Escort Type aircraft carriers during A/S operations in North West Approaches before undergoing refit at Greenock.

SHEFFIELD spent some time on operations off Norway including bombarding German airfields in Norway before taking passage to the USA for a refit in Boston. By then George was a Leading seaman and he was drafted back to the RN Barracks at Chatham.

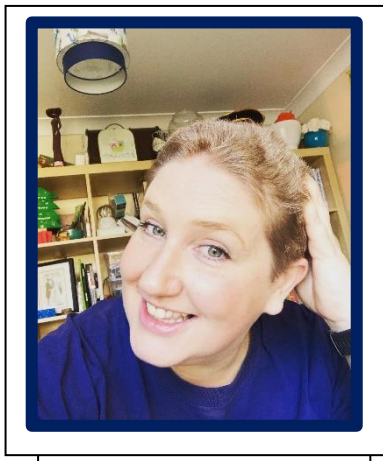
George completed a 2<sup>nd</sup> class gunnery course in November 1944. He then went to France and attended the Victory parade in Paris on Armistice Day. He joined Arethusa, a light cruiser, in 1945 and later served on minesweepers.

#### 14. ★ Assistance Please - Lt Kate Wooles RN Charity Appeal

I'm very attached to my hair and I'm very lucky to have long thick hair, but as a mum of 3 children under 6 I don't have time to do anything with it and had decided that it would be better put to use some other way. The Little Princess Trust, who make wigs for children and young people suffering from hair loss due to cancer treatments, is based in my hometown of Hereford and I decided that it would be a great cause to donate my hair to. It's very difficult for them to make wigs with shorter length hair so I decided to shave it to give as much to them as possible.



Added to this, I thought it would be a great fundraising opportunity – my friends and family know how much I love my hair and so it seemed like a good reason to get some donations out of them, and to hold me accountable! I decided to raise money for SANDs, the Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Charity. In 2017 one of my best friend's daughters was still born at full term; it was such an awful thing to happen and so unexpected. It opened my eyes to how common stillbirth is in the UK, and SANDs helped the family out so much during such a terrible time, as well as conducting research into why this happens and how it can be stopped.



My Chain of Command agreed to the shave (as it conflicts with personal appearance regulations) and on Wednesday I braved the shave! To date we have raised circa £1800 through generous donations from friends, family and colleagues

Donations can be made via Facebook or just giving.

[https://www.facebook.com/donate/466311224884780/?fundraiser\\_source=external\\_url](https://www.facebook.com/donate/466311224884780/?fundraiser_source=external_url)

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/kates-shaving-her-head>

(Editor Note - What a brave Lady and for such a good cause. BZ Kate )

## 15. ★ Assistance Please – HMS Yorkshire Bell Memorial

The Editor received the appeal below for assistance from PO Richard 'Jonah' Jones. If you can help, please contact him at [shipwreckdata@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:shipwreckdata@yahoo.co.uk)

As a kid, and even as an adult, I have enjoyed many summer cruises on board the pleasure boat *Yorkshire Belle*. This 1947 built vessel has operated out of Bridlington year after year, her upper deck structure has changed slightly but she has always been recognisable and popular with the tourists. But what many people don't know is that she is the second boat of that name.



The first *Yorkshire Belle* actually looked and was designed in exactly the same way (all but a few slight differences) and was built in 1938, running out of Bridlington for the summer seasons until war broke out. Like many vessels of that period she was requisitioned by the Royal Navy for service to her country and took up a new role of patrol vessel. On 11<sup>th</sup> April 1941 she was in the River Humber off Haile Sand Fort

when she struck a mine and sank, all 9 of her crew went down with her. Four bodies were recovered.

Fast forward to 2022 and I am now hoping to put a memorial up for the crew who died in the memorial garden at Bridlington cenotaph, but at the moment my research is still in its early stages. I am looking for relatives of the nine crew and possibly anybody who may have served on board her. There are a few questions I would love to know the answer to –

- Was she HMS or HMT *Yorkshire Belle*? I have seen both versions.
- Has the wreck been found and dived?
- Are you related to one of the crew?
- Did she have an official ship's crest now she was RN?

Any information on this would be very much appreciated. After a memorial is put up I would very much like to tell the story of this forgotten shipwreck in a book which will look into the life of the vessel as well as tell the stories of her crew. The nine who died are -

JOHNSON	ERNEST WALTER	Petty Officer
BUTTRISS	GEORGE WORTHINGTON	Able Seaman
FAGG	JAMES STEPHEN RICHARD	Cook (S)
HARRISON	WILLIAM HERBERT	Stoker 1st Class
McILVAR	ROBERT	Rigger
THOMPSON	ALBERT	Able Seaman
BENNETT	WILLIAM HENRY	Rigger's Mate
GIBSON	DANIEL	Rigger's Mate
Edworthy	ERNEST J	CPO Stoker

## 16. ★ Volunteers Needed – F40 Memorial Field Gun Walk

As part of the Falklands 40 weekend it is intended to conduct a Field Gun memorial walk from HMS Nelson Wardroom to Sally Port Old Portsmouth. A union draped limber will be used to transport the memorial reef and symbolise the hand over from “Relive” to “Remember”. Once at Sally Port an overnight vigil will begin (separate event by Pompey Pals). If there are any Shipmates wishing to ‘man the loops’ and take part in this special event please send your details to the contact below.

Date: Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

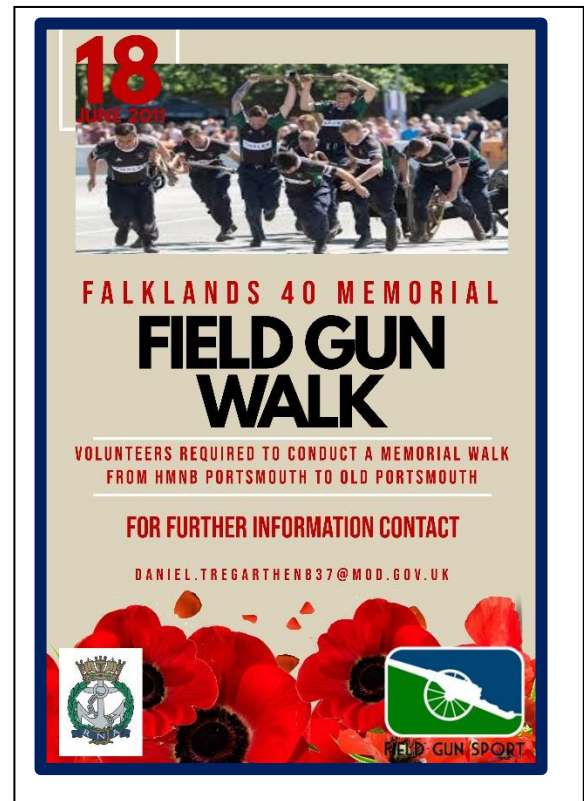
Time: O/C of RNA AGM/Falklands forum, for approx. 2 hours.

Rig: Black Trousers, Black Boots (steel Cap), RNA T-Shirt (Provided)

### Volunteers required:

18 x Gun crew.

6 x Marshals.



If you would like to volunteer for any of the above positions, please email:

[Daniel.Tregarthen837@mod.gov.uk](mailto:Daniel.Tregarthen837@mod.gov.uk) with Your name, Contact number, Email address, position applied for and T-Shirt size.

Many thanks

S/M Danny Tregarthen

**17. ★ RN Barracks Portsmouth General Mess Menu -**

I am sure Shipmates will be very interested to view the 'Truly Top Tucker' on the menu available in the RN Barracks Portsmouth for the week Monday 8 Jan 40 to Sunday 14 Jan 1940. Note..... Four meals a day! Fantastic FBD and Sunday was my favourite..... And no Cheesy Hammy Egg! Or Babies Heads..... or Shit on a raft!!

R.N. BARRACKS, PORTSMOUTH.		GENERAL MESS MENU For Week ending Sunday, 14th Jan.		
DATE	BREAKFAST	DINNER	TEA	SUPPER
<b>Mon.</b> 8th January.	Cold Ham Marmalade	Pea Soup Brown Stew Potatoes Swedes Suet Pudding & Syrup	Jam	Rissoles and Marrowfat Peas
<b>Tues.</b> 9th	Smoked Fillet	Cosmopolitan Soup Roast Beef Potatoes Cabbage Steamed Bread Pudding	Currant Buns	Hampshire Hot Pot
<b>Wed.</b> 10th	Bacon & Beans	Vegetable Soup Steak Pies Potatoes Savoy Prunes & Rice	Jam	Soup Cheese Pickles Beetroot
<b>Thurs.</b> 11th	Sausages & Tomato Roux	Lentil Soup Roast Mutton Potatoes Brussel Sprouts Apple Pudding & Custard	Watercress	Fish and Chips
<b>Fri.</b> 12th	Scrambled Egg on Fried Bread	Broth Braised Beef Potatoes Carrots Baked Jam Tarts	Swiss Roll	Bacon Roll and Mashed Potatoes
<b>Sat.</b> 13th	Fried Fillet of Cod	Pea Soup Layer Pies Potatoes <del>Marrowfat Peas</del> <small>CABBAGE</small> Sultana Roll	Mustard and Cress	Sausages and Mashed Potatoes
<b>Sun.</b> 14th	Bacon & Egg	Tomato Soup Roast Pork Potatoes Cauliflower Fruit Salad & Custard	Apple Sauce Fruit Cake	Soup Cold Roast Beef and Pickles Potatoes-in-jackets

MENU IS LIABLE TO ALTERATION AT SHORT NOTICE.

(Sgd.) **A. M. ACKERY,**  
COMMANDER, (S) (G.M.)

R.N.B. 291-44

## Gin Lovers.....

**Ideal Gift** for GIN LOVERS! Read On.....

We gave you the opportunity to buy your warming "1921 Reserve" Gin in April which many of you did and it proved very popular, but now it is time to top up your drinks cabinet (or garden bar) with the refreshing summer "1921 Reserve" Gin.

You may have spotted that this is just a marketing ploy - it is of course, the same Gin but we are sure you have run out and your visitors would appreciate the special qualities that go to make this a Gin to remember as well as a very useful Birthday present for any upcoming birthdays.

Now on sale at £35 plus £4.50 P&P but if you buy 2 or more, the Postage is free! What an incentive! Please also remember that the RNA receives 10% for each bottle sold, so apart from drinking a very smooth Gin, you are helping the Association! Don't forget to click the button for RNA when you are on the gin website.  
[Sea Urchins Navy Strength Gin - Mygin](#)



## Branch Insurance

Now that Lockdown has eased, and Clubs and Branches are starting to meet again now might be the right time for Shipmates to review their Club/Branch Insurance.

Military and Mutual Insurance are offering Basic PLI (Public Liability Insurance for £105, which includes;

- £5,000,000 Public and Products Liability
- **£10,000,000** Employers Liability
- **£1,000** Money
- Member to Member Liability
- Excess- £250 (Property Damage and Money)

Or PLI Plus

- **£5,000,000** Public & Products Liability
- **£10,000,000** Employers Liability
- **£1,000** Money
- **£250,000** Trustees Liability (Committee Member)
- Member to Member Liability

For details contact [business@military-mutual.co.uk](mailto:business@military-mutual.co.uk) or 0204 526 8672





## Pussers

Calling all 'Rum Rats' .....

Shipmates may wish to know that 'Pussers' is now available from the very new online 'Navy Shop' with all profits from Rum going back to the charity.

Please follow the link ..... <https://royalnavyshop.co.uk/collections/rum>

[www.pussersrum.com](http://www.pussersrum.com)



## Forces Cars Direct

Veteran-owned Forces Cars Direct is celebrating 20 years of service to the military community and we're delighted to welcome them to the Royal Naval Association and our members in an exclusive partnership.

Offering unique new car discounts with savings up to 35% on a full range of makes and models, you can be sure to find the right car for you! Forces Cars Direct is endorsed with 5-star TrustPilot ratings from its customers, was named Veteran

Business of the Year in the English Veterans Awards, and has support from the Chairman of the Defence Select Committee, so you not only save thousands, but can be assured of the highest level of service too.

With Forces Cars Direct you will also benefit from:

- UK nationwide, Covid-safe delivery
- Cash purchase and full finance options available
- Leasing service available
- All part exchange vehicles welcome
- Serving and veterans

Find out more about the service and savings available at <https://www.forcescarsdirect.com/rna> where you can browse and make your enquiry.



## RNA Slops – RLP Embroidery

**WWW.RNASLOPS.CLOTHING**

*The RNA Officially Licensed supplier of embroidered garments.*

*Polo Shirts, Hoodies, Sweatshirts, Fleece, Jackets, Knitwear, Blouses, Pilot Shirts, Softshell, Headwear,*

*The RNA Logo is included in your garment price. All you have to do is select New or Blazer Style badge and add your Branch Name, of which is optional.*

*RNA Slops is owned by RLP Embroidery and we pay Royalties to the RNA*

*Tel: 07988 151011 E Mail: ray@rnaslops.clothing*



## Just for Groups

**Shipmates should be aware that just For Groups, which is a part of the UK Holiday Group return 5% of turnover to the RNA to reinvest in CONA and other programmes.**



### 'Tailor Made' Holidays – for the RNA

Please find below a couple of proposals for your consideration one for a possible self-drive stay in Leatherhead with coach transfers to Chessington World of Adventures and the other for Hampton Court Palace. Alternative attractions which we could look at with this particular hotel which also might be suitable are RHS Gardens Wisley, Denbies Wine Estate and Thorpe Park



### **Federation House, Leatherhead**

Federation House is located just a short stroll from Leatherhead Town Centre and its train station. The hotel hosts 55 en-suite rooms all with hairdryer, TV, tea/coffee making facilities, safe and a fridge. There are 90 on-site complimentary car parking spaces.

### **Option 1**

Location: Leatherhead

Hotel: Federation House

Date: 23rd– 25th September 2022 (Friday – Sunday)

Price: £199 per adult sharing (or first two occupants of a room)

£149 per child under 16 sharing with 2 adults

Basis: 2 nights' Dinner, bed & breakfast

Supplements: £25 per person per night (£50 total) on single occupancy rooms within allocation below

Excursions: Coach Travel and admission fee for Chessington World of Adventures

Insurance: £25 per person optional extra

Proposed allocation: 5 twin rooms, 5 double rooms, 10 family rooms & 5 single rooms, Total 49 places

## **Option 2**

Location: Leatherhead

Hotel: Federation House

Date: 23rd– 25th September 2022 (Friday – Sunday)

Price: £185 per adult sharing (or first two occupants of a room)

£125 per child under 16 sharing with 2 adults

Basis: 2 nights' Dinner, bed & breakfast

Supplements: £25 per person per night (£50 total) on single occupancy rooms within allocation below

Excursions: Coach Travel and admission fee for Hampton Court Palace

Insurance: £25 per person optional extra

Proposed allocation: 5 twin rooms, 5 double rooms, 10 family rooms & 5 single rooms, Total 49 places

For further information please contact [Cheryl.barnard@justforgroups.com](mailto:Cheryl.barnard@justforgroups.com) or check out [www.justforgroups.com](http://www.justforgroups.com) or call 01603 886740

## RNA Longcast

2022	
05 Feb	Area 5 Meeting - Harwich
11 Feb	AMC – Zoom (0900)
25 Feb	FAC - Zoom
04 Mar	National Council Meeting - Zoom
15 Apr	Easter Monday
23 Apr	HMS Mars 120 years Commemoration, RNA Cork & County Branch.
30 Apr	Navy v Army Rugby Match – Twickenham
07 May	National Standard Bearers' Competition (Collingwood)
May	AMC/FAC (Collingwood)
07 May	Area 5 Meeting – Stowmarket
09 May	HMS Royal Arthur Memorial Rededication - Skegness
14/15 May	Battle of the Atlantic Commemoration, Londonderry Branch.
20 May	Central Office - Open Day
27 May	RNA Christchurch – Standard Dedication Service Christchurch Priory 1100
17 Jun	NC meetings
12 Jun	No 12 Area - Falklands 40 Commemoration, , Belfast Branch
18 Jun	AGM/National Conference
19 Jun	Falklands 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Parade
02 Jul	HMS Collingwood Open/Field Gun Day
08 Jul	Central Office - Open Day
Jul – tbc	Covid Commemoration Service - NMA
29 Jul	AMC / FAC – Zoom
06 Aug	Area 5 Meeting – To be advised
12 Aug	Central Office - Open Day
01-04 Sep	Bournemouth Air Days (Christchurch Branch)
10 Sep	National Council Meeting
30 Sep	Central Office - Open Day
29 October	Area 5 Meeting - Harwich
10 Nov	Garden of Remembrance
11 Nov (pm)	Budget Meeting
13 Nov	Remembrance Sunday
19 Nov	AMC / FAC – Zoom
03 Dec	National Council Meeting
21 Dec – 03 Jan	Central Office Closed for Christmas

*D'ye hear there'.....*

*News from around the Areas, Branches and SIGs.....*

*This Month Featuring.....*

[RNA Plymouth](#)

[RNA Rosyth and West Fife](#)

[RNA Bracknell](#)

[RNA Torrevieja](#)

## RNA Plymouth Branch

The Lord Mayor of Plymouth, Councillor Terri Beer accompanied members of the Plymouth Branch of the Royal Naval Association at their annual Memorial Service and Wreath Laying Ceremony at the grave of Quartermaster George Hinckley, Victoria Cross, Royal Navy, at Ford Park Cemetery on the anniversary of his death, 31<sup>st</sup> December 1904, the service being



conducted by the Branch Chaplain Revd. Martin Kirkbride. Able Seaman Hinckley was awarded his V.C. for rescuing wounded comrades whilst under fire at Fung Wah, China and was gazetted on 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 1863.

Amongst the attendees were members of the Hinkley family with the oldest member wearing a duplicate of the V.C., presented to the family by the Plymouth RNA. It sports a blue ribbon, as prior to 1918, VC,s were Blue for the Royal Navy and Maroon for the Army, this was amended in 1918 with the formation of the RAF.

## RNA Rosyth and West Fife Branch

*Branch Hon Sec S/M John Sherwood reports on events in Rosyth and West Fife Branch.*

We managed to resume normal meetings in September where we had a Branch Photograph followed by a short meeting then on to a social gathering in Caledonia WO's and SR's Mess.

October's meeting was a very successful social evening combined with the WO's & SR's Mess Caledonia.

November 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> we had a memorial Service with laying of wreaths at Pattismuir cemetery and then the full Remembrance Day Parade in Inverkeithing.

We wound up the year with our annual Carol Service in Caledonia Wardroom.

January 2022; Sadly we have had to revert to ZOOM meetings this month, due to the recent developments of the Covid Pandemic. Our thanks to Shipmate Mark Firth for once again organising the event.



## RNA Bracknell Branch

*Bracknell Hon Sec S/M June Bodrell reports in with all the 'happenings' from deepest Berkshire!*

The Branch Trafalgar Dinner on 23<sup>rd</sup> October was a great success with excellent food enjoyed by twenty-five Shipmates. The Branch Standard was paraded on both Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November at local Remembrance Services.

On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November, four Shipmates attended a “Veterans’ Hub” at the newly built Crowthorne Fire Station. The Armed Forces Veterans’ Hub is designed to offer a place for veterans to come together, listen to speakers and meet organisations who can provide them with advice and support while acting as a meeting place. The Veterans’ Hub forms part of Royal Berkshire Fire Authority’s commitment to supporting members of the Armed Forces. It was launched in Royal Berkshire on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November, following receipt of the Gold Award in the Ministry of Defence’s Employer Recognition Scheme in 2020. As well as the Bracknell RNA there were displays set up by local SSAFA, “Veterans & Families – Listening Project”,



The Veterans Directory, NHS Veterans’ Mental Health Transition, Intervention and Liaison Service and The Royal British Legion.

Shipmates held their usual three days of charity-collecting at a local Tesco Store for both the Branch and other Naval charities . Seventeen Shipmates were involved over three weeks in December and the sum of £1,364-92 was raised, of which £770 has already been donated. As well as a lovely blue



collecting bucket (rather than the usual hand-held collecting tins), the Branch had invested in two SumUp Card Readers, which successfully brought in around 20% of the donations – recognising the fact that many people no longer carry cash to the supermarkets, only their credit/debit cards.



The Branch meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> December took the form of the usual tasty Christmas Buffet and Annual Skittles Competition, where Shipmates competed for

the coveted silver Trophy. An excellent evening was enjoyed by all - and the new holder of the Trophy was S/M Anthony Boddrell (now finally “evens” with “better half” S/M June who won it first in 2018!!).



Coming right up-to-date, the Branch held its monthly meeting and AGM on the 5<sup>th</sup> January with twenty-four Shipmates present. In his Chairman’s Report, S/M Nigel Carpenter invited S/M Mike Daley to come forward and presented him with his “Certificate of Appreciation”. Although this had been handed over previously during lockdown, it was felt appropriate to do it again in front of fellow Shipmates. S/M Mike had twice held the office of Branch Chairman, both for 5-year periods. At a time in late 2015 it was thought that the Branch would have to dissolve and return funds to Central Office, as there were not enough volunteers to hold the main positions.

However, thanks to S/M Mike's enthusiasm and encouragement, various S/Ms came forward for these positions and a new Committee was formed from January 2016. He was also instrumental in increasing the membership, which has now more than doubled. Happily, this trend continues as, during 2021, we have welcomed seven new members to the Branch (4 Full and 3 Associates).

***(General Secretary Note - That, is worth a BZ Shipmates well done.)***

## RNA Torrevieja Branch

*Our grateful thanks to RNA Torrevieja's 'Roving Reporter' and Branch Chairman S/M Tony Jenkins for keeping us briefed.*

The invaluable assistance of Jean Paul Mulero, the Director of OARI Ayuntamiento de Torrevieja and all the staff enabled shipmates and guests of the Royal Naval Association Torrevieja Branch (RNATB) to partake in an outstanding adventure and set sail for a three-hour sea trip on board the recently refurbished Pascual Flores for what they unanimously could only described as a ***"once in a lifetime opportunity"***.

The 36 seagoers, who included shipmates from the RNATB & Royal Marines Torrevieja Branch (RMATB) and guests from The Maritime Association (TMA) and Royal British Legion Orihuela Costa Branch (RBLOCB), could not have picked a better day as the Pascual Flores left harbour with a clear blue sky, light breeze and calm sea; it was nothing but picturesque.



After clearing the breakwater on leaving harbour under power and heading North East towards Guardamar, the call to hoist the mainsail was made, together with a couple of foresails and then the throb of the engine was lost to the sound of the wind through the rigging and in the sails.

It was riveting and all the seagoers were captivated while the crew mastered the art of raising only a small part of the 10 traditional styled sails, with over a total of 400m<sup>2</sup> of sail on three masts, by hulling away totally by hand as there are no powered winches, windlasses or manual capstans aboard to assist them.

Just prior to going-about at Guardamar and head South West back towards Torrevieja the seagoing group found out through the 'messdeck buzz' that it was also a special day for two of the seagoers aboard, Pam & Vic, both of whom are Ex-Royal Navy (RN) 'matelots', as it was the actual day of their 44<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary, therefore, it will not surprise you that the shipmates aboard toasted them with a TOT in true matelot style to congratulate them and wish them many more years of happiness together. Pam & Vic were also presented with two 'special impromptu decorated hearts made from cardboard', thanks to the quick thinking and dexterity of Polina, who then presented them while the rest of the 'motley seagoers' gave them a resounding round of applause.



The 'motley seagoing group' then went on to continue with the RN Sailor's (Jack) tradition of having their TOT and making toasts to the "Ship and all who sail in her", then the "Captain, for his expertise and safe sure hands" and last but not least the "Crew, for their extraordinarily courteous and engaging service while carrying out their duties".



Then, like a dream come true for Jack – it was scran time ('Spanish term' tapa); where totally unexpectedly the Crew came around with a selection of cheeses, meats and soft drinks; which the seagoers were completely 'blown away'

by and what seems like a small touch but was felt to be 'immensely courteous' and cannot praise highly enough the Capitan and his Crew for the thought and attention to service they provided during the whole trip.

On our approach to the Torrevieja harbour breakwater the order was given to strike sails and once again the seagoers aboard were spellbound by the sceptical of the crew furling the sails by hand and then the starting of the engine meant giving way to the sound of the wind to the throbbing of the engine while we entered harbour.

The Captain and crew expertly navigated the ninety degree starboard manoeuvre (turning on a sixpence is an expression that comes to mind) to come along side and berth safely for the seagoers disembarkation and once again be on 'terra firma', but not before giving the Captain and crew an resounding three cheers.



The seagoers unequivocally believe that the Capitan should be hugely proud of himself and his crew for expertly handling the ship and being extraordinarily courteous and engaging while going about their duties.

The famous **Pascual Flores** built in 1917 is called a '*Pailebote*' and as explained on their website <https://www.pascualflores.org> is Spanish from the English "pilot's boat", but it could also be known as a *goleta* (from the French *goélette* and from the Breton *gouelan*, which means seagull), since both definitions were valid for this same type of ship.

The website goes on to explain that this original ship, quite unlike those that sail our waters today and was built in 1917 on the beaches of Torrevieja. After many years of service in the Mediterranean she moved across to England with a variety of roles; then in 1999 while lying in the port of Milford Haven in very poor condition, the Torrevieja City Council purchased her in order to honour the memory of this type of thriving seamanship and with the goal of converting it into a symbol of Torrevieja's seafaring character and the flagship of the city. After several years of inactivity and a certain amount of deterioration, the Torrevieja City Council and the Nao Victoria Foundation signed a collaboration agreement on 30 October 2020 for the transfer, repair and fine-tuning of the *pailebote*. For more information or the experience to visit the ship, then sail over to their website.

***The seagoers enthusiastically look forward to their next adventure.***

The Branch started off the year of their monthly Menu del Dia's by docking at the Sunrise Restaurant at Playa Flamenca in January for some scran (food) and messdeck buss (local gossip) while observing all the current COVID regulations .

The gally 'knocked up some awesome scran' (As we have come to expect from the Sunrise), which went down a treat and afterwards as you can see from the photos (courtesy of Margaret Forshaw), the shipmates were "biting at the bit" while waiting for their traditional raffle to start.

It was BZ (Bravo Zulu – NATO Signal meaning 'Well Done') to the 27 shipmates who were on good behaviour while on their 'run ashore' and no one got 'howling or minging' (drunk), so there was no need to "call out the Reggies" (Regulating Branch, the Navy's policemen) during their soiree or while they slipped berth and sailed towards their individual home port's where they tie up alongside and batten down until their next run ashore

Finally, Shipmate Tony also advised of two Branch Members being awarded Certificate's of Appreciation and special status as Honorary Members.

The RNA Torrevieja Branch shipmates afforded a special honour to two long standing branch shipmates that have served the branch over and beyond what would have been normally expected during their time as Officers of the Branch and helped steer the branch over many years.

The first recipient was:

***Margaret Forshaw.***

She has been a branch member since 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2004 and served until recently as the Branch Secretary since March 2011. In recognition of her unwavering support during this time, the Torrevieja Branch formally recognise this by bestowing on her two awards; one was to award her the Special Branch Status of ***Honorary Member*** and the other is by arranging for RNA HQ to award her a ***Certificate of Appreciation***, which was inclusive of a special Membership Card and Lapel Badge.



The Honorary Membership Citation read,

***Margaret Forshaw, Is awarded this unique branch membership status in recognition of the many years of exemplary support, guidance, and service provided to the branch over and above what would normally be expected.***

And the Certificate of Appreciation Citation read,

***Margaret Forshaw, In recognition of many years diligent work for the Torrevieja Branch and her generous support to the Members.***

The second recipient was:

***Danny Kay***



He has been a branch member since July 2007 and a Member of the RNA since 1991 and has previously been awarded the special RNA status of Life Member in November 2016.

He continued providing an exemplary level of support to the Branch and Members in the capacity of Vice Chairman since 2011, alongside additional capacities as Membership Secretary, Standard Bearer and as lead role in organising Social Events; consequently, the Torrevieja

Branch wish to formally recognise this by bestowing on him two awards; one is to award him the Special Branch Status of **Honorary Member** and the other is by arranging for RNA HQ to award him a **Certificate of Appreciation**, which was inclusive of a special Membership Card and Lapel Badge.

The Honorary Membership Citation read,

***Gerald Gordon Kay, Is awarded this unique branch membership status in recognition of the many years of exemplary support, guidance, and service provided to the branch over and above what would normally be expected.***

And the Certificate of Appreciation Citation read,

***Gerald Gordon Kay, In recognition of many years unstinting dedication to the Torrevieja Branch and his diligent and generous support to the Members.***



Through streaming sunlight, the 54 branch Shipmates showed their resounding approval with a 'ginormous chuck-up' and followed this with the traditional Jack salute of a 'Toast with Rum'.

They all then spent some time creating some 'messdeck-buz' and giving both Margaret and Danny a **'Bravo Zulu**

***and a slap on the back for their exemplary achievements'*** and all while 'noshing down with some scran'.

***It was a very convivial ceremony and well deserved of both recipients.***

[William Holt](#)  
[Reg McGuire](#)  
[Robert Liddle](#)  
[Jim Thompson](#)

**William Edward Holt - Preston Branch**

Shipmates and Friends,

It is with the greatest sadness that I have to inform you that one of our longest serving RNA Preston Branch members, Shipmate William Edward Holt aka 'Little Billy' crossed the bar today. He was found by his carers at home this morning and had been suffering from bowel cancer.

Billy was born in November 1934 and brought up in St. Vincent's Orphanage in Preston. He joined the Royal Navy in 1952 when just 17 and readily took to naval life finding the discipline easy compared to the Orphanage regime operated by the Nuns.

His first ship was a coal fired Bar Class boom defence vessel, however, he was soon drafted as he was not strong enough to lift a No.9 Poker due to his diminutive stature. He went on to serve in Type 15 frigates in the Mediterranean and the Far East being awarded the General Service and United Nations Medals. Billy left the RN in 1959 as a Leading Stoker Mechanic and joined the RNA Preston Branch in 1988. He was awarded Life Membership of the RNA in 2000.

I will miss Billy Holt; he was always good company, a great raconteur and he liked his Tot.

God bless you Billy, may you sail through tranquil water, Dave.

*Thanks to S/M Dave Banks ( Hon Sec Preston Branch)*

**Reg McGuire - Norwich Branch**

Norwich Branch are sad to announce that Shipmate Reg McGuire crossed the bar on 12 January 2022 aged 73.

Reg McGuire left the Royal Navy as a WO1; having served between 1964 - 1989 onboard HMS Wizard, HMS Tyne, HMS Torquay, HMS Glamorgan, HMS Achilles, HMS Arethusa, HMS Euryalus, HMS Fife, HMS Galatea, HMS Ajax and HMS Nottingham, and shore establishments HMS Ganges, HMS Raleigh, HMS Cambridge, HMS Excellent, HMS Nelson, RNAS Portland, HMS Dryad, HMS Fisgard, BRNC and HMS Heron.

Reg joined the RNA in 1996 and subsequently served twice as Norwich Branch Chairman. Reg was made a Life Member in 2014.

## **Robert 'Bob' Liddle - Rosyth and West Fife Branch**

Shipmate Bob (Robert) Liddle crossed the Bar peacefully on July 6<sup>th</sup> 2021 in hospital, with family at his bedside.

Bob was a stalwart member of the branch with a Naval Career worthy of note. On completing his training at HMS Raleigh, he was drafted to HMS Pembroke, then to HMS Ark Royal, Osprey, Dundas, and Hampshire, finally ending up in HMS Caledonia.

After leaving the RN Bob became involved in many charities and organisations including the position of District Commissioner of the Rosyth District Scouts.

Funds were raised for a Memorial Bench to be placed in Pittencrieff Park in Dunfermline.

Unfortunately, due to the Covid Pandemic attendance at Bob's funeral was limited to family only, however he will be greatly missed and always fondly remembered.

## **Jim Thompson – Rosyth and West Fife Branch**

Shipmate Jim Thompson crossed the bar 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021 Peacefully in his sleep.

Jim's Funeral took place with full honours at Dunfermline Crematorium on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Jim was a life member of the Association and probably one of the last surviving veterans of WW II. He was a very active member of the branch, always ready to lend a hand with activities and functional organisations, he will be greatly missed.

## RNA Members Benefits

### UK Holiday Group /Just for Groups

Variety of special deals for both Groups and Individuals. 5% of turnover returned to RNA to reinvest in CONA and other programmes.

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**The 'Shortcast' Editors Note**

**Please forward any reunions for 2022 and I will publish them here**

	Please check go to link for RN Shipmates.co.uk for a comprehensive list of further reunions. www.rnshipmates.co.uk
<b>2022</b>	
11/13 Mar	R.N. Communications Association - AGM/Dinner Dance Royal Beach Hotel Southsea - For further details contact C Beeson07807347509 or <a href="mailto:noseeb@sky.com">noseeb@sky.com</a>
12/13 Apr	The 10 <sup>th</sup> HMS Lowestoft Association reunion will take place on Tues/Wed 12/13 April 2022 at the Royal Beach Hotel Southsea. For details and a booking form please email: <a href="mailto:admin@hmslowestoft.uk">admin@hmslowestoft.uk</a>
07 May	HMS Nottingham (D91) – Liverpool (HMS Eaglet) Reunion (incorporating 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Wolff Rock) For booking details please contact Alan Murrell at brown_pyjamas@hotmail.com
13 May	HMS Bulwark, Albion and Centaur Association – Red Lee Hotel, Scarborough
21 May	HMS Broadsword Association - HMS Drake
28/29 May	<p>HMS Fearless 1982 Crew Royal Maritime Club (Home Club) Portsmouth To attend the gala dinner evening at The Royal Maritime Club, Portsmouth, you will need to book your dinner tickets in advance. Please use the link to make your booking. Cost £60.00 per head.</p> <p><a href="https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hms-fearless-82-40th-anniversary-reunion-tickets-189862392527">https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hms-fearless-82-40th-anniversary-reunion-tickets-189862392527</a></p> <p>Please note that accommodation at the hotel is not an option, as the hotel is already fully booked. If you plan to stay overnight in the local area, you will need to book alternative accommodation as soon as possible as availability will be limited, as there are many Falkland Reunions taking place the same weekend.</p> <p>Your Dinner Ticket includes a welcome drink, three course dinner, a cheese course and Port. Wine will be included on the table. Menu choices will be provided at a later date. We have a great toastmaster to smooth things along.</p> <p>Plus-ones are encouraged and there will be a DJ for the those that wish to boogie, while the rest of the salts mingle by the bar swapping sea dits about our time down south.</p> <p>Dress Code for the Dinner is black tie or lounge suit plus mini medals for men &amp; evening gowns or cocktail dresses for the ladies. Mini medals may be worn in honour of those no longer with us.</p>

	<p><b>Sun 29 May</b></p> <p>0945 Muster at the Gosport Bus Station (be warned - the last ferry across is 1030)</p> <p>1100 Service. Dress of the day. Jacket/Tie with Medals</p> <p>1140 Gosport Parade via High Street to Reception at Walpole Park Gosport.</p> <p>On completion Disperse and safe journey home</p>
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## Swinging the Lamp – February 2022

*The RNA is grateful to the Author, Lt Cdr Lawrie Phillips TD, RD, RNR for allowing us to publish a selection from the RN Day by Day. If you would like to read more it can be purchased from - The History Press and is priced £60 ISBN 978 0 7509 8266 5*



Date	Year	Entry
1st	1942	Fourth wheel added to U-boat Enigma. Vital U-boat key Triton lost to Bletchley Park until December after addition of a fifth wheel to the German Enigma machine.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	1842	'The rating of "Leading Stoker", having been added to the establishments of her Majesty's steam-vessels, by Order in Council of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> of February, 1842; the commanding officers off all such vessels are hereby acquainted, that the object of this rating is to improve the practice of "stoking", to which too little importance has hitherto been attached . . . By Command of their Lordships.' ( <i>Especially for Shipmates Ridley and Tollerton</i> )
3rd	2009	Trident submarine <i>Vanguard</i> and French SSBN <i>Le Triomphant</i> , 'while on separate routine patrols', collided under the Atlantic. No casualties. Boats returned to their respective bases at Faslane and Brest.
4 <sup>th</sup>	1997	Able Seaman Jack Gearing, the then oldest surviving naval rating and the last survivor of naval operations in the 1915 Gallipoli campaign (cruiser <i>Theseus</i> ), died aged 102. Left the Service in 1919. Trained as a lighterman in the family sailing barge <i>Mayflower</i> on the Thames, Gearing was turned down by the RN in 1939 due to age but accepted by the Royal Engineers. Sgt Gearing, aged nearly 50, towed a crane to Normandy in 1944 with the orders 'follow that destroyer'.



5 <sup>th</sup>	1836	<i>Pike</i> , schooner, wrecked on the Pelican reef off Jamaica through the negligence of the Commanding Officer. But her Mate was also dismissed the Service for having torn a page from her log, which earned him three months in the Marshalsea Prison.
6 <sup>th</sup>	1912	Submarine A 3 lost in collision with <i>Hazard</i> off Bembridge, IoW.
7 <sup>th</sup>	1941	W. Approaches command shifted from Plymouth to Liverpool.
8 <sup>th</sup>	1919	All cruisers on East Indies station to be painted white.
9 <sup>th</sup>	1825	First operational use of steam vessel: <i>Diana</i> , built at Kidderpore Dockyard, 1823, and bought into the Service on advice of Capt F. Marryat in 1824, engaged a 36-gun stockade with her rockets, receiving 160 shots. First Burmese War.
10 <sup>th</sup>	1947	Battleship <i>Vanguard</i> , carrying the King, Queen and two Princesses to South Africa, crossed the line. 'The King had begun the proceedings by halting between two ends of a massive 28-in hawser on the foredeck which Capt W.G. Agnew told him was the main-brace. "Well, it's in a sorry state. You had better splice it", said the King, and all hands cheered when the bo'sun, obeying the royal orders, piped "Splice the main-brace", meaning a double issue of rum for all on board as a celebration tonight'
11 <sup>th</sup>	1964	GC: CPO Jonathan Rogers DSM, RAN, posthumously, for gallantry in the sinking of the Daring-class destroyer HMAS <i>Voyager</i> in collision with the carrier HMAS <i>Melbourne</i> , 11 February 1964. He helped fifty to sixty men escape from the ship's sinking forward section and stayed below leading trapped men in prayer. CPO Rogers, an ex-RN PO, won his DSM when Coxswain of MTB 698 in action in May 1944. He joined the RAN in 1950.
12 <sup>th</sup>	1942	Unsuccessful attack on the German <i>Gneisenau</i> , <i>Scharnhorst</i> and <i>Prinz Eugen</i> during their escape up-Channel. Ships: <i>Campbell</i> (D 21), <i>Vivacious</i> , <i>Worcester</i> , <i>Mackay</i> (D 16), <i>Whitshed</i> . MGB: 41, 43. MTB: 32, 44, 45, 48, 71, 219, 221. FAA: 825 Sqn – Swordfish V4523, W5907, W5978, W5983, W5984, W5985 (all lost). RAF: Twenty-eight Beaufort aircraft of 42, 86 and 217 Squadrons, one of which, from 42 Squadron, dropped a torpedo which missed <i>Campbell</i> , standing by <i>Worcester</i> , which had been damaged. VC: Lt-Cdr (A) Eugene Esmonde (W5984/825). Posthumous. 'A mothball attack by a handful of ancient planes, piloted by men whose bravery surpassed any other action by either side that day' – a tribute from the German Foreign Office. 'If ever a failure can be glorious, then this must have been the most glorious failure in all British naval history.'
13 <sup>th</sup>	1940	The Admiralty appealed for the services of 10,000 fishermen for minesweeping.
14 <sup>th</sup>	1979	<i>Ark Royal</i> , fourth of the name, paid off at Plymouth, twenty-four years to the day after her first ship's company embarked at Cammell Laird, Birkenhead.
15 <sup>th</sup>	1968	First British Polaris missile fired, by <i>Resolution</i> , Port Crew, Cdr M.C. Henry RN, at 1115 EST submerged 30 miles off Cape Kennedy. The second firing made by Starboard Crew, Cdr F. Frewer RN, on 4 March 1968.
16 <sup>th</sup>	1762	The French island of Martinique finally taken after a well-planned amphibious operation led by Maj-Gen the Hon. Robert Monkton, who

		had been Wolfe's second-in-command at Quebec in 1759, and the Leeward Islands squadron commanded by Rear-Admiral George Rodney. The Seven Years War. Battle Honour: Martinique 1762.
17th	1992	Admiral of the Fleet Lord Fieldhouse of Gosport died at Southampton. His ashes were scattered at sea on 28 February. The first five star submariner.
18th	1940	Destroyer <i>Daring</i> , Cdr S.A. Cooper RN, escorting Convoy HN12, torpedoed and sunk by U-23, Kapitänleutnant Otto Kretschmer, 40 miles E. of Duncansby Head, S.E. of the Shetlands (58.38N, 0.40E). Captain, eight officers and ten men lost. The first British destroyer lost to submarine attack in the Second World War.
19th	2010	Landing Ship Dock RFA <i>Largs Bay</i> , Capt Ian Johnson, arrived at Port au Prince, Haiti, with disaster relief supplies following an earthquake. Food was also landed from the ship by mexeflote at Gonaives and Anse a Veau. Operation Panlake.
20th	1945	<i>Vervain</i> , corvette, sunk by U-1208 20 miles S. of Waterford, Ireland. Last of twenty-eight corvettes lost in the Second World War. <i>Amethyst</i> , 2nd Escort Group, sank U-1208 in S.W. Approaches, S. of Wolf Rock, 27 February 1945.
21st	1861	Naval Brigade from <i>Arrogant</i> , <i>Falcon</i> and <i>Torch</i> with the 1st and 2nd West India Regiments, destroyed the stockades at Saba, Gambia River.
22 <sup>nd</sup>	1940	RM Depot at Lympstone opened. Now Commando Training Centre, Royal Marines
23 <sup>rd</sup>	1979	Former commando carrier <i>Bulwark</i> recommissioned at Portsmouth. She had been brought out of reserve and converted into an anti-submarine warfare carrier to fill the gap between paying-off of <i>Ark Royal</i> and completion of the Invincible-class carriers. A gallant old ship but her electrics were not up to it.
24 <sup>th</sup>	1944	First U-boat detected by MAD (Magnetic Anomaly Detection); two USN Catalinas detected U-761 off Gibraltar (35.05N, 05.45W). Catalinas attacked with retro-bombs, destroyers <i>Anthony</i> and <i>Wishart</i> with depth charges and with further contributions from a RAF 202 Sqn Catalina and a USN Ventura. Submarine's Captain and fortyseven crew rescued by the destroyers.
25 <sup>th</sup>	1991	Destroyer <i>Gloucester</i> destroyed Iraqi Silkworm missile with her Sea Dart just short of USS <i>Missouri</i> . Operation Granby.
26 <sup>th</sup>	1948	GC (ex-AM): CPO J. Lynch ( <i>Nigeria</i> ) for saving life of rating lost overboard in gale at Port Stanley, Falkland Islands.
27 <sup>th</sup>	1966	Frigate <i>Lowestoft</i> first ship on Beira Patrol off Mozambique, establishing oil embargo on Rhodesia after UDI.
28 <sup>th</sup>	1996	Service at St Paul's Cathedral in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen to dedicate a memorial to the forty-seven British servicemen who died in the Gulf War August 1990 to July 1991

## Delegate to Annual Conference 2022 Portsmouth

Branch secretaries should note the following before submitting their application.

**Each Branch which has complied with Rule 16(c)**, (*No Branch shall be permitted to send a delegate to the Conference unless it has observed the regulations of the Association in regard to the return of balance sheets, the payment of subscriptions and the formation of Branches. This provision has no application to the right of, and expectation for, ships and establishments to send a delegate to the Conference.*) but subject to Rule 10(c), (*Associate members are eligible to act as a Branch Delegate at Area meetings and Conferences, provided that they have completed three years continuous membership of the Association immediately prior to election as Delegate*) and has been in commission for at least three months by the date of a Conference shall be entitled to nominate one eligible Association Member as its Delegate to attend a Conference.

Each Branch nominating a Delegate shall send details to the Council **to arrive not less than one week before the date of Conference**. A Branch may change its nominated Delegate provided the Council is notified not less than twenty four hours before the Conference.

<b>Branch</b>		<b>Area</b>	
<b>Name of Delegate</b>			
<b>Car registration</b>		<b>Passenger Name</b>	
Delegate's Address			
	<b>Telephone No</b>	<b>Post Code</b>	
<b>e-mail</b>			
<b>Number of Observers</b>			
Name of Branch Hon Secretary			
Contact telephone No: (if not branch Hon Sec)			
Contact e-mail address			
<b>Name and Address for correspondence</b> (if not branch Hon Sec)			

**NB: A Delegate will not be confirmed as such unless or until the Branch Balance Sheet for has been received in RNA Headquarters (Rule 12 C). Should either not have been received in HQ, the Delegate's Status will be deemed to be that of an Observer.**

Please note. Conference packs are NOT sent out before Conference but collected on the day by each delegate. A full set of background paperwork will be sent to each Branch before Conference. Having sent in your application by mail or e mail you may wish to phone Central Office on 023 9272 3747 to confirm receipt of your application.

**NOMINATION FORM**  
**ELECTION OF MEMBERS AND DEPUTY MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL 2022**  
**(Revised RNA Bye-Law 7)**

For the attention of All Branch Secretaries in Areas. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 12.

Each Branch may nominate **one full or life member** from any Branch within its own Area, as a Candidate for election to the National Council, and **one full or life member** for election as the Deputy National Council Member **subject to the approval of the Branch to which both persons belong.** (See Note Below)

**Names of Nominees**

NCM ..... DNCM .....

Proposed by ..... Branch ..... Area

Address of Nominee NCM.....

..... e mail .....

DNCM.....

..... e mail .....

**Brief history of nominees in the Association.** (Continue on separate sheet if necessary)

NCM

DNCM

Chairman ..... (signed) .....(dated).....

Secretary..... (signed) .....(dated).....

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If the Candidate is **not** a member the proposing Branch, this section is to be completed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Candidate's **own** Branch.

Candidate's Branch .....

We are aware of the above nomination.

Signature of Chairman (Candidate's Branch) .....

Signature of Secretary (Candidate's Branch) .....

**Candidate**

**I accept the nomination and promise to attend as many National Council Meetings as is possible and to sit on any Committees to which I may be elected.**

Signature of Candidate ..... Dated .....

The envelope containing this completed form should be marked **NOMINATIONS FOR NATIONAL COUNCIL** and must reach RNA HQ no later than **1600 14th February 2022.**

Alternatively, you can scan the fully signed form and email it to [sara@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:sara@royalnavalassoc.com)

**PROPOSED MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2022**

Proposals must reach The General Secretary by **1600 14 February 2022**

Name of Proposing Branch: .....

**Motion / amendment**

**Explanation of the Motion / Amendment** (To be included in the notes for Conference)

Hon Secretary .....(signed).....(dated)

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Name of Seconding Branch: .....

Hon Secretary .....(signed).....(dated)

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**Notes**

- a. A motion is submitted in the name of a Branch. Secretaries of proposing and seconding Branches are **certifying** that the motion or amendment reflects the view of the Branch meeting (not a committee); and that voting was conducted in accordance with Rule 20.
- b. A separate form is required for each Motion or Amendment
- c. A manuscript copy is acceptable for additional Motions or Amendments if the printed form is not available.
- d. The Motion or Amendment should be as short and precise as possible avoiding ambiguity. A Motion should normally start with the word `THAT'
- e. The explanation is to assist the scrutiny of the Standing Orders Committee in understanding the intention behind the Motion so that they may be able to consider its presentation so it can be improved and implemented as soon as possible (Conference Bye Law C4)
- f. Motions may be submitted at any time but must reach the General Secretary by **14 February 2022**.
- g. Motions of Urgency should reach the General Secretary not less than 48 hours before Conference. (In accordance with Conference Bye Law C6.) and include an explanation about the urgency.
- h. Amendments to Motions should also normally reach the General Secretary not less than 7 days before Conference. The provision for the submission of amendments during Conference is in the Conference Bye-Laws.
- i. Bye-Laws. A Motion to Conference may propose that a Bye-Law be set aside or it may ask the Council to consider making or amending a Bye-Law.
- j. The Branch Proposing a Motion **must** have it Seconded by another Branch before forwarding it to the General Secretary. (Conference Bye Law C3a)