



**ROYAL NAVAL  
ASSOCIATION**



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Monday of  
the Month

# The Semaphore Circular

**No 719**

*The Beating Heart of the RNA*

**May 2022**



***On display in 'Hall 4' at The Fleet Air Arm Museum at RNAS Yeovilton there are quite literally aircraft everywhere you look. Although wasn't aware Concorde 002 took off from one of the RN's aircraft carriers!***

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*Central Office Staff with the famous Falklands HMS Antrim Flight Wessex 'Humphrey'*

*L to R – Andy Christie, Mike Gray, Mary Prescott, Lynda Pearson, Gemma Swanson, Kathryn Brindley, Sara Field and General Secretary Bill Oliphant. (Missing in action – Malcolm Little, John Scivier and Dave Macaskill)*

## 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

## Find 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*

*Ahoy Shipmates,*

What a fabulous few weeks it's been around the RNA and what a busy few months to come. Well done to those who

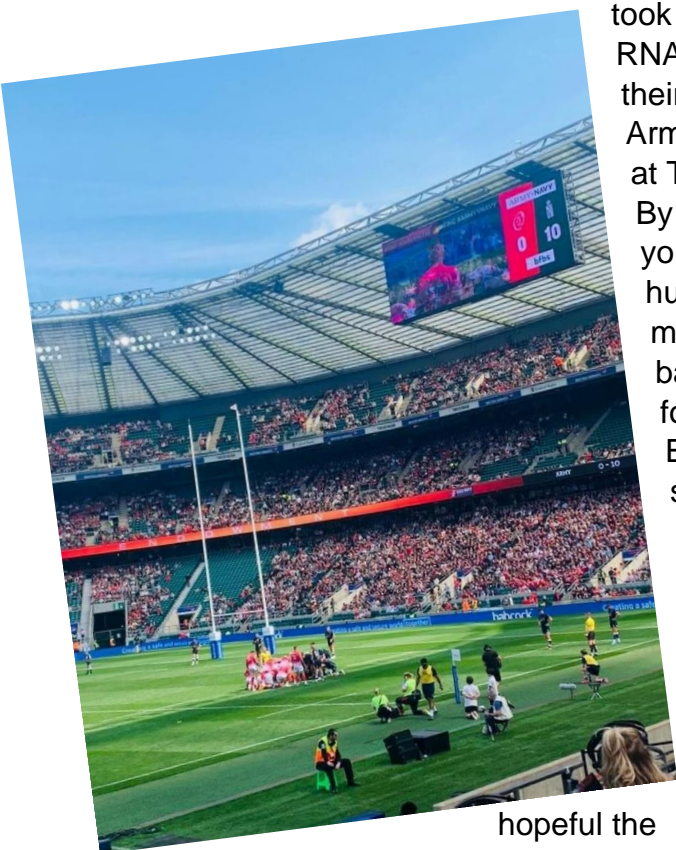
took advantage of the RNA £5 discount on their tickets for the Army v Navy match at Twickenham. By all accounts you witnessed a humdinger of a match of RN



*Emily and Mary rep the RNA Youth Wing(!) at Twickers*

backs flair v strong Army forwards, with the Navy leading until the last 10 minutes. Eventually, we went down gallantly 35-27 with only a last second Army score making the result look comfortable.

I'm keen to make more of this fantastic event in the future for getting our members out so Branch Social secretaries please take note. The Branch and Club Support Fund can help with your transport costs and I'm



hopeful the

National Council will again support a discount on the tickets. I'll confirm dates as soon as it is published but it's usually the w/e of the first Bank Holiday in May.

I didn't make it to the rugby this year as I was in Leith – you can't do everything. Well done to the Saturday night Virtual Totters who organised a magnificent Reunion w/e in Edinburgh which started with a reception on the Friday evening in the royal sitting room in HMY Britannia – an area of this fabulous vessel which is roped off and not normally open to the public. It really was a privilege to be there – thank you for the invitation. Andy Fletcher and Jeffrey Hughes RVM deserve special mention as does Karen Elliott for pulling together a full weekend programme. BZ Wrexham and Edinburgh Branches.



*Robbie Robson, Jeff Hughes and Andy Fletcher  
The Laughing Yachtsmen!*

Thanks also go to Portland Branch who were kind enough to invite me to their dinner night the weekend before – something which has been in the diary for over 2 years and, through the vagaries and uncertainties of Covid, only achievable eventually now. Just great to see people

out and getting together again though after the pandemic although I must confess it was a bit scary going back to Portland again after all these years. For me Portland meant FOST – this was a much more pleasant experience! So, for two weekends on the trot, I've heard people say, "This is what the RNA is all about." It certainly is!



*Nigel Huxtable BEM with wife Pat and daughter*

as our photographer. Heartiest congrats Shipmate.

Thank you too to the Portsmouth Naval Base Commander, Cdre JJ Bailey, who cut the turf on anniversary of the day that the initial ships of Portsmouth element of the Falklands Task sailed in 1982. Along with the Association of we plan to install two memorial benches on the the end of Central Office to commemorate the Portsmouth based ships which didn't return conflict.

That leads me nicely onto Falklands 40 commemorative weekend 17-19 June. Remember, this w/e isn't just for South Atlantic Medal holders but for all. Accom is plentiful and inexpensive as the University has kindly giving access to modern student accom which, I have recently discovered, these days includes double beds! We still want more cyclists, more golfers, more motorcycle riders and more classic cars for their events on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June but I regret the fishing has had to be cancelled due to too few participants. And if none of that appeals, the cricket match against the RMA at Burnaby Rd promises to be a blood sport to rival uckers!

Finally, very best wishes to those participating in the Standard Bearers' competition at COLLINGWOOD this weekend – should be fun! See you there!

*Best wishes,  
Bill Oliphant*

Shipmates will be cheered to know that Nigel picked up his gong last month, or rather the Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire pinned it to Nigel's chest. I believe he didn't flinch! Nigel received national recognition in the NY Honours List with a BEM as our long suffering Membership Secretary for 13 years. He retired late last year although you may still see him at the odd event as he has been kind

enough to offer his services



*NBC Portsmouth, Cdre JJ Bailey, cuts the turf for the Falklands Memorial Benches assisted by our own Andy Christie*

the 40<sup>th</sup> the Group Wrens, grass at two after the



## Chairman's chat

Hello again Shipmates,

A brief Chat this month, so short and sweet, but a few important pointers.

High on the list of S/m's priorities is the Up-and-Coming F40 & National Conference Weekend being held over Friday – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> June with the F40 Commemoration Ceremony on the Sunday. As previously mentioned in the recent Semaphore Circular this will be a major Naval Veterans Event, so please do your utmost to support the weekend.



**Sick Bay Ranger News:** As I mentioned last month, Covid is still prevalent and affecting our families, so please do not be complacent and continue to be alert and take precautions.

**HMS MARS Memorial Restoration Appeal:** My sincere thanks to those Branches and individuals who have so far responded to RNA Cork Branch 's HMS MARS Memorial Restoration Appeal. A special mention and Thank You goes to RNA Aldershot Branch for its most generous donation of £1000. The rededication of the renovated Memorial & Headstones took place at the Cobh Cemetery just outside Cork on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April. My thanks to S/m Robert Buchanan of RNA Londonderry who sent me a video of the very moving ceremony attended by 4 RNA Branch Standards supported by the Irish Naval Association and British Legion Standards. A most unfortunate Naval Gun Explosion on the 14<sup>th</sup> April 1902 killing 11 of the Ship's Company. Although 100 years ago, our Shipmates of RNA Cork have ensured that those killed have not been forgotten – Lest we Forget. BZ to RNA Cork Branch for organising the fund raising and renovation.

**Membership:** Can you believe it? A Branch rejected new members because the existing Branch membership was low! If a Branch is beginning to experience membership problems please alert your Area Secretary, and the National Branch Recruitment & Retention Adviser to enlist support and advice, or at least contact Central Office. DO NOT simply allow your Ship to sink.

**Area & Branch Admin: Read on.....**

**Area & Branch AGMs:** As mentioned last month all Areas & Branches should now have held their AGM's and submitted their Year End Accounts to Central Office by 30<sup>th</sup> April. It is most important with regards Branches if a Branch intended to send a Delegate to National Conference. I have no intention of quoting the Association Bye-Laws to prevent being labelled a Lower Deck Lawyer. If in doubt, settle down for a comfortable evening with a Tot in one hand and a copy of the Royal Charter, Rules and Bye-Laws in the other hand. And by the way, Trustees of individually registered Branch Charity's please remember to ensure you submit your Annual Charity Commission Return.

**Branch Committees:** As a gentle reminder, ideally, 50% of Branch Officers and Committee Members should be elected for a two-year period, and not the entire Committee serving for two and certainly not a THREE Year period. It is all there in the RNA Bible which you should be holding in one hand while drinking your Tot with the other hand.

**National Committee Meeting hits the Deck:** The Association Management Committee, commonly known as the AMC will be holding its quarterly meeting on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May at Gosport

RNA Club with the National Vice Chairman S/m Paul Stephenson at the Helm. This will be the second AMC Meeting held outside CO, the last being at Cleethorpes in November 2021. Those Shipmates, who are in striking distance are invited to attend to see RNA Democracy in action. Next to venture out is my Finance Administration Committee (FAC) who welcomes an invitation from an RNA Club.

**Out and about:** As I write this, 78 Shipmates countrywide (Tot Timers) and their partners of the renowned Saturday evenings Tot Time Zoom Meetings will, on the evening of Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April will descend on Leith to visit HMY Britannia, to participate in refreshments and hopefully, a brief tour of this famous Ship. This will be followed on the Saturday by an evening of entertainment in the Edinburgh Taxi Drivers Club, Rig of the Day being Banyan Rig. The weekend will be completed with a Sunday morning Kirk Service in the Kirk of Canongate, Edinburgh City Centre. On behalf of all those who will and have attended I would like to thank S/m's Geoffrey Hughes & Andy Fletcher - both ex-Yachties - for organising this event, and S/m Karen Elliot supported by her husband Stephen of RNA Edinburgh for organising the Saturday evening Social and the Kirk Service. This is an exemplary example of bringing S/m's together, many of whom have never met each other had it not been for Tot time. It should be and will have been a great weekend Run Ashore. For those of you who have never dared to join in the Tot Time evenings, please see the Semaphore Short for the Zoom sign in details. Be warned, Banter is plentiful. I very much look forward to my visit north of the border.

Finally, we have the National Standard & Novices Competition on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May @ HMS COLLINGWOOD. I think S/m Andy Christie is pulling my leg saying as an Adjudicator, I must report at 0830. Come on Andy, we all know Greenies do not rise from their Pits until at least 1000. With that I shall say cheerio Shipmates.

To all our serving Shipmates including reservists maintaining the peace, and keeping the sea lanes open, keep up the good work, we are thinking of you. To all Shipmates and your families in the UK and throughout the world keep safe. For those at sea, a safe return.

Stay safe everyone.

*Yours aye*

*Keith Ridley*

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

## 1. ★ Falklands Campaign Day by Day – RNA Website

Shipmates may wish to be aware that a Day by Day history of events during the 1982 Falklands Campaign is being produced on the RNA Website at this link –

[29 April: Iris sets out to join the fray | Royal Naval Association \(royal-naval-association.co.uk\)](https://www.royal-naval-association.co.uk)

It is also a great opportunity to have a shuftly around in the Website. Check out the FAQ's.....

## 2. ★ CONA Conference Meeting 08 April 2022 – Royal Maritime Club Portsmouth.

After a two-year absence representatives from 27 Naval Associations gathered for the first time, since the pandemic, at the annual Conference of Naval Associations (CONA) spring meeting held in the Royal Maritime Club in Portsmouth on Friday 08 April 2022.

CONA provides a direct platform to connect with the Navy Board, as the President is the Naval Secretary, Rear Admiral Jude Terry OBE. It also provides a communications platform to connect like-minded organisations. CONA normally meets twice a year in the Spring and Autumn meeting, with the spring meeting in Portsmouth and the Autumn meeting this year in the West Country.

During the meeting delegates heard from Cdre David Joyce RN, Deputy Director People and Training Strategy, who very kindly represented Rear Admiral Jude Terry OBE Royal Navy, the CONA President who was unavailable on this occasion. Vice Admiral Duncan Potts, RNA National President, Adrian Bell, CEO of RNRMC and Bill Oliphant, RNA General Secretary.

Admiral Duncan welcomed the delegates to the meeting and highlighted how important this gathering of like-minded Associations could assist each other in so many ways. He asked those attending to spread the word and not to keep CONA a secret!

Cdre David provided an extremely interesting brief concerning how the RN organised itself, whilst dealing with the Covid pandemic, to ensure the Navy was able to conduct continuous and seamless operations.

He described how the RN planned to divide personnel serving ashore into three Naval Battalions to allow for a range of civil and military tasking, reminiscent of the First World War Naval Battalions. He also explained that a number of change initiatives had been introduced as the RN adapts to a more agile way of operating. One of the success's during the last couple of years was by means of direct communication to our Sailors using social media, particularly the RN App.

He stated that there was an improving 'Lived Experience' which will encourage retention, an example was basing Ships 'up stream in theatre' and manned with a two crew system so people can better plan and have better control over their lives. In conjunction with the 'Lived Experience' strategy is the new 'Well' strategy which effects - Joining Well, Living Well and Leaving Well. Finally there is an ongoing Branch specialisation study which will look at the structure and establish what branches are viable in the new agile RN.

Cdre David was followed by Adrian Bell the CEO of RNRMC who explained the role of the RNRMC particularly with the aim of ensuring veterans 'well-being' and the RNRMC continued themes of;



- Support Serving and their families
- Veterans Combating Loneliness -isolation and befriending
- Support Networks

Adrian reiterated that RNRMC was here to assist the Navy wide community and he reminded delegates that they could apply for a grant towards any Falklands 40<sup>th</sup> evolution.

Finally, Bill Oliphant update the attendees on RNA matters including that membership was just short of 14,000 since membership became free. Bill stated that a number of new initiatives had been introduced;

- ❖ A joint initiative with RNRMC to open an Office hub in HMS Drake manned by a full time employee and assisted by volunteers. The office would be open during working hours and the full-time employee would act as the poc for the 'West Country' including for the first time a connection with Culdrose, Chivenor, Yeovilton, Plymouth establishments and ships. A huge task but a first step which has been required for some time.
- ❖ Lynda Pearson the RNA Well-Being manager introduced the 'SPARKO' Project which has been introduced in conjunction with RNRMC looking for isolated Veterans and using a set top box to connect them with other lonely veterans. She also explained that Project Semaphore the iPad to isolated veterans was still running and she had purchased another 30 iPads. She asked delegates to contact her directly at [lynda@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:lynda@royalnavalassoc.com) for any further information.

Finally, Bill asked all delegates to invite their members to consider joining the RNA as it was now free to join so that there was better communication across the naval family. This was not meant to be "instead of" but rather "complimentary to" their own Associations.

For more information please contact the CONA Secretary Andy Christie at [andy@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:andy@royalnavalassoc.com)

### 3. ★ Heads Up F40 Weekend Programme

To ensure Shipmates are well informed specific information, as there have been a number of minor but important changes, will appear featuring a range of FAQ's section in the June edition of the Semaphore Circular.

Once again, all recent articles concerning RNA/RBL F40 Events can be found on Page 32 in the F40 Supplement later in this edition. Shipmates are reminded that RBL events registration has now closed.

Please see below latest details for this important landmark weekend. Apologies for not sending everything out sooner, but Portsmouth City Council are hosting the 'civic' events on the Friday and Sunday, and other Associations are involved at various points. Some changes may be necessary so do please look out for further updates.



Time	Event	Location	Rig /Comment
<b>Friday - Reunite (17 June 2022)</b>			
All Day	Special Interest Groups	Portsmouth Area	As per SIG Leader instructions
1900	Beat the Retreat RM Band	Guildhall Square	RNA Rig or Lounge Suit equivalent or Black Tie (wearing miniatures if attending PCC Civic Dinner)
1900 - 2115	Drinks Reception and Ceremonial Sunset	HMS Warrior	Suit/equivalent (no Stilettoes or narrow heel shoes); miniatures optional
1930 - 2300	PCC Civic Dinner (Invited Falklands Veterans – Card no cash Bar)	Portsmouth Guildhall	Black Tie with Medals
<b>Saturday - Relive (18 June 2022)</b>			
0830-1100	AGM (Including Bacon Butties)	HMS Nelson - Wardroom	RNA Rig
1100-1600	Falklands Forum and Q & A (Including S/W Lunch)	HMS Nelson - Wardroom	Informal
1930-2300	Buffet Dance (70/80's themed)	HMS Nelson - Wardroom	Informal
<b>Sunday – Remember (19 June 2022)</b>			
0930	Veterans , Band and Standard Bearers - Muster	Broad Street Car Park	RNA Rig with Medals
1040	F40 Commemorative Parade and Freedom of Portsmouth Ceremony	Hot Walls, Old Portsmouth	Rna Rig with Medals – No 1 Serving negative Swords
1140	Veterans March Past	Battery Row	
1145	Memorial Service and Civic Refreshments	Portsmouth Cathedral	Note; There is no alternative wet weather routine.

Do remember to bring an ID card (e.g. Driver's Licence) for use at security gates, as well as apply to the RNRMC for branch travel costs, and the University for inexpensive B&B

accommodation, if necessary.

**As things stand in early May this is the latest outline plan for the F40 Conference:**

#### **4. ★ Conference Raffle Tickets – Now on Sale**

Hot off the press.....Tickets are on sale for the 2022 Conference Raffle, with a top prize of £500. If you would like to buy tickets, please call Sara on 023 92 723747 or email [sara@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:sara@royalnavalassoc.com)

## 5. ★ Royal Marines Beat the Retreat 2022 Horse Guards 25/26 May

Shipmates may be interested to know that the Massed Bands of Her Majesty's Royal Marines, in conjunction with the RNRMC, will be 'Beating Retreat' in Horse Guards Parade on 25/26 May 2022, Drum off 1845 with ticket prices ranging from £8 - £25.

Please go to [tickets.rnrmc.org.uk](https://tickets.rnrmc.org.uk)



## 6. ★ Black Tot 52<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary – 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022 HQS Wellington

Calling all Shipmates.....Calling all Shipmates.....Calling all Shipmates

31<sup>st</sup> July 2022 is the 52<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the horrible day that Rum was stolen from Jack (and not forgetting Jenny) So why not come and join us on the oldest but still afloat Atlantic Convoy survivor HQS Wellington (formerly HMS Wellington).

It is '**Tot Time Tigers**' with an added '**Snorker**' or two (Good Oh!) and some Pussers Rum by kind permission of the Worshipful Company of Master Mariners and supported by Pussers Rum. So why not come and join us on the Thames by Blackfriars Bridge. '**Up Spirits**' at 1100 for an issue (maybe a sandy bottom or two) accompanied with some rousing or rowdy drinking songs provided by the Royal Marines Association Band and the magnificence that is the Young Shep Wooley, all washed down with a '**Snorker**'. This promises to be a great day with views of the Thames and London Eye in touching distance with a private bar remaining open following the tot tasting so there will be plenty of time to spin quite a few dits!





Due to the location being afloat (Sea Dodgers very much welcome from the WAFU family) we are limited to 200 spaces and unfortunately there is no wheelchair access. There is an early bird discount of £30 per head until the end of June and then the price will increase to £35, with our charity RNRMC being well supported. All remaining funds are paying the Band ,catering etc will go to RNRMC.

Shipmates who wish to attend should contact Dave Parry (RNA Bromley) at [dparryparry@btinternet.com](mailto:dparryparry@btinternet.com) or the Honourable Company of Master Mariners quoting 'Black Tot Day 2022' on 0207 7836 8179 [info@hcmm.org.uk](mailto:info@hcmm.org.uk)

## 7. ★ RNA Cricket V RMA - T20 Match Friday 17 Jun 2020

The RNA Cricket Team will take on the RMA at Burnaby Road in a T20 Match on Friday 17 Jun 22 by kind permission of the Naval Base Commander.

F40 spectators are most welcome, so bring a deck chair and enjoy a refreshment or two!

The match will commence at 1300 and will be followed by post-match drinks at RMA Eastney. So, Shipmates come and supporter our Team.

For further information contact S/M Mark Smith – [markmiff1962@gmail.com](mailto:markmiff1962@gmail.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 09 May	Jonty Powis	HMS Conqueror
Monday 16 May	Dr Gordon Brooks	Atlantic Conveyor (The Forgotten Ship)
Monday 23 May	Angus Konstam	Bismarck
Monday 30 May	John Bolt	American Battle Monuments Commission (US version of CWGC)
Monday 06 Jun	TBA	
Monday 13 Jun	Geoff Parsons	HMY Britannia and other naval 'dits'

Monday 20 Jun	Post Conference Break	
Monday 27 Jun	Ken Holberg	The return of Naval Shipbuilding to the Solent – a National Shipbuilding Strategy success.
Monday 04 Jul	Mike Milne	Admiral Byng

\* Lecture subjects may change at short notice.

## 9. ★ Did You Join 1952 - Jubilee Shipmates

Did you join the RN / WRNS / QARNNS in 1952? The Royal Naval Engagements team are looking for Veterans who joined up in 1952 so that they can reach out to them with information regarding The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations.



The exact details of the festivities are not yet known. However, if you joined up in 1952 (or know anyone who did) and would like to be contacted with further information, please call Sara in Central Office – 023 92723747 or email [sara@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:sara@royalnavalassoc.com)

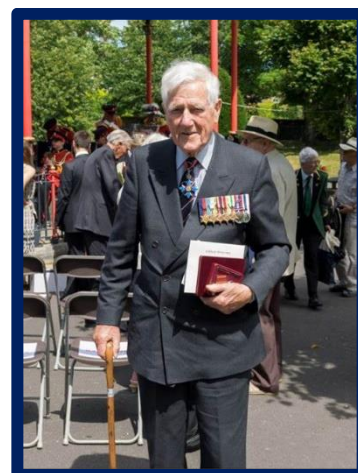
## 10. ★ Vice Admiral Sir James Jungius – Memorial Service

Shipmates have been invited to attend the Memorial Service for the late Vice Admiral Sir James Jungius KBE DL.

The service will be held on Friday 05 August 2022 at Sherborne Abbey, Sherborne Dorset DT9 3LQ and afterwards at Digby Hall for refreshments.

Collections on the day or donations via 'justgiving' to the Marine Society and Sea Cadets [www.justgiving.com/JimJungius](http://www.justgiving.com/JimJungius)

To assist with numbers please RSVP [ianjungius@gmail.com](mailto:ianjungius@gmail.com)



## 11. ★ Shipmates Covid Booster Warning

This happened very recently and is important information for our age group - especially those Shipmates over 70.

S/M Whisky Walker had his 4th dose of the vaccine - a "booster" - at a chemist recently.

On his way home afterwards, he noticed that his vision seemed to be blurred.

He continued to make his way home and when he arrived, he immediately called the chemist for advice about seeing a doctor, or whether he should go straight to A&E.

He was told **NOT** to go to a doctor or a hospital, but to return immediately to the chemist and Wait for it .....pick up his glasses.

## 12. ★ RNA Platinum Jubilee Pin Badge

Stop Press.....

**Still awaiting delivery of the Pin Badge as soon as it arrives an all points NSEW bulletin will be sent out to let you know we have received them at Central Office.**

Central Office has commissioned an RNA Platinum Jubilee Pin Badge. Individual Badges will cost £5 each including post and packaging. Branches can order quantities of ten or more with the cost being reduced to £4. This will enable the badge to be sold for a modest profit, which can be recouped by the Branch/Club.



Please forward your orders for the pin to [admin@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:admin@royalnavalassoc.com)

For further information contact Central Office

## 13. ★ Armed Forces Cricket

Shipmates will be interested to know that Armed Forces Cricket is back after the pandemic!

Armed Forces Cricket are holding a T20, Men's and Women's, tournament at Lords cricket Club in London on Thursday 16 June 2022. Tickets are now available at:

<https://tickets.lords.org/en-GB/categories/all%20fixtures>

Tickets cost - Adults £20 – Over 65's £10 - Under 16's £5

For further information [interservices20.co.uk](http://interservices20.co.uk) or Fb [Facebook.com/InterServicesT20](https://www.facebook.com/InterServicesT20) or Twitter [@UKAFCricket](https://twitter.com/UKAFCricket)

## 14. ★ Cold War 1 Warriors Challenge Cricket Match

The 'Cold War 1 Warriors' Challenge Charity Cricket Match between two teams of Navy and Army Veterans on 25th June 2022 at Ramsgate, Kent. The match will commence at 1300 at the Chatham House School Cricket pitch.

*Welcome - Chatham & Clarendon Grammar School - CCGS ([ccgrammarschool.co.uk](http://ccgrammarschool.co.uk))*



The match will be between Brigadier Bullshots First Afoot and Commander Gruntfutlocks Pressed Men! Refreshments at the Cricket match will be available. On completion all players will then return to RNA Ramsgate [Branch Detail | Royal Naval Association \(royal-naval-association.co.uk\)](#)

The match will raise funds for Ramsgate Sea Scouts new training building  
[6th Ramsgate Royal Harbour Sea Scouts – The official site for Royal Harbour Sea Scouts, Ramsgate \(6thramsgateseascouts.org.uk\)](#)

On Sunday 26th May, there will be a RN Submariners themed beer tent (The Dive) at the Staple Country Fayre. All those attending the cricket match are invited to come along and have a nice afternoon in the lovely Kent village of Staple Website: [staplecountryfayre](#).

If you have any questions, or would like more details, please contact me – Russ aka Spike Timpson Email: [russ.timpson@crisisboardroom.com](mailto:russ.timpson@crisisboardroom.com)

## 15. ★ Specialist Interest Groups – Contact details

Shipmates will be interested to know how popular and successful the Specialist Interest Groups has 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)

**Decorative Ropework** – Bob Jones: [oldsalt69@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:oldsalt69@hotmail.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: [secnariders@gmail.com](mailto:secnariders@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)

## 16. ★ Quick Joke for the Road

Absolutely devastated.

A very sad day today. After 7 years of medical training and hard work, a very good friend of mine has been struck off after one minor indiscretion and why during this terrible time?

Tragically, he slept with one of his patients (they were good friends) He can now no longer work in the profession he loves. What a waste of time, effort, training and money. A genuinely nice guy and a brilliant vet.

## 17. ★ Restoration of HMS Bronington

### ***HMS BRONINGTON - the historic former Royal Navy Mine Hunter once commanded by our future King, desperately needs help***

The Mine Hunter, which was commanded by the-then Lieutenant Wales in 1976, sank at her moorings on Merseyside six years ago. The volunteers of the recently-formed HMS BRONINGTON Preservation Trust (formed 3 September 2021) believes there is a final chance to save the ship – now nearly 70 years old – before the elements finally take their toll (visit [Royal Navy](#) website for further information).

With the exception of HMS VICTORY, HMS BRONINGTON is the UK's last surviving wooden hulled RN vessel to be constructed (built as HMS HUMBER in 1953 at Beverley, East Yorkshire). Her final base port was Portsmouth (HMS VERNON followed by HMNB Portsmouth (MCM2 Squadron)) until she was decommissioned in 1988. She was converted to a Mine Hunter during a refit at Rosyth Royal Dockyard (1963 – 1965); alterations included the fitting of an enclosed bridge, a tripod mast and the Type 193 mine hunting SONAR.



HMS BRONINGTON is one of around 120 Ton-class minesweepers built in the 1950s. With hulls of mahogany, the TONs were the last wooden warships built for the Royal Navy before it switched to today's plastic-hulled Mine Hunters (HUNTS and SANDOWNS) in the 1970s. (More ship details, [here](#)).



HMS BRONINGTON is registered with National Historic Ships UK (NHS UK). NHS UK is the official voice for our historic vessels and contains a significant sub-group of around 200 elite vessels (including HMS BRONINGTON) deemed the National Historic Fleet (NHF) due to her "exceptional historical interest". Sadly, membership of the NHF will not prevent her from being scrapped. (Visit [NHSUK](http://NHSUK) website for further information).

The Mine Hunter served for nearly 35 years, finally decommissioning in 1988 after which she became a museum ship firstly in Manchester, then on the Wirral Peninsula. The trust looking after her – and other vessels, including Falklands veteran HMS PLYMOUTH – folded in 2006, since when she has been neglected, eventually sinking at her moorings in 2016.

Firstly, a dive survey is required to assess the state of the hull and whether there is any significant damage which may result in the project having to be abandoned. In June this year it is planned that the MOD (Navy) Salvage and Marine Operations (SALMO) will conduct a comprehensive underwater survey using ROVs and drones. Pending the outcome of the dive survey (and integrity of her hull) it is then planned to pump her out, re-float and stabilise her using the services of a commercial salvage company with MOD (Navy) support.

The nearby, world-famous Merseyside shipbuilder Cammell Laird has agreed to take HMS BRONINGTON onto a slipway for restoration under their apprenticeship scheme if it is feasible to save her and the funding can be found.

The trustees want to see the wooden-hulled ship used to deliver yachting and diving courses, teach navigation, be hired for fishing/diving trips, filming, and used by Sea Cadets. If those goals prove too much due to cost and unavailability of equipment, then HMS BRONINGTON would revert to becoming a static display alongside or in a dry dock, open to the public, similar to her successful years as a museum ship on the Manchester Ship Canal.

Recent correspondence to HRH the Prince of Wales had an encouraging response. A letter received from Clarence House states that His Royal Highness takes a keen interest in all matters to do with his former ship and is humbled by the recovery efforts for this historical naval vessel. This project also has the support of my local MPs, Penny Mordaunt MP (a RN reservist) and Flick Drummond MP. The MOD (Navy) and United Kingdom Naval Engineering Science and Technology (UKNEST) have offered help with the dive survey, recovery, technical guidance and fund raising.



The trustees are very grateful for the generous donation already received from the Liverpool RNA and are hoping that the other RNAs may also be able to help. Any donation – large or small – will be gratefully received.



Should the project be abandoned, all donations received for this project will be donated to a Forces Charities. So far, the trust has raised over £6,500 towards its target. Further donations can be made via [www.gofundme.com/f/help-restore-hms-bronington](http://www.gofundme.com/f/help-restore-hms-bronington)

For further details please contact Mike McBride, who is a Trustee of HMS Bronington Preservation Trust Limited on 07712 769411 or [mike.mcbride@ntlworld.com](mailto:mike.mcbride@ntlworld.com)

## 18. ★ Naval Children's Charity



These past few weeks have been a brilliant reminder of the pride and spirit of the military child. We've seen so many wonderful Month of the Military Child celebrations from schools, community groups and individual families.

Just down the road from us in Portsmouth, Crofton Hammond Infant School's military children's club (The Musketeers!) ran a lovely Easter event. Armed Forces parents were invited in for the afternoon, and shared a range of activities, including an Easter Egg hunt, with the children. We're so pleased to be affiliated with this school, and have previously funded a sensory room, helping SEND children feel calm and improve concentration.

Providing these additional grants to support Naval children and their peers, through our community projects fund, are a growing part of what we do. We also offer resources and experiences that bring our community joy in other ways.

If you have recently had a child, or are expecting, we're offering your #NavyBaby a free bib! Email [NCC@navalchildrenscharity.org.uk](mailto:NCC@navalchildrenscharity.org.uk) with some information about your growing family, as well as your address and service number, and we'll arrange a special delivery. This offer is open to both serving and veteran parents.



We're also extremely excited to announce a once in a lifetime opportunity for our older children. This summer, in collaboration with the Tall Ships Youth Trust, we're organising two special voyages around the coast of the UK. Onboard iconic 72ft Challenger yachts, young people aged 12-25 will become vital members of the crew and get involved in all aspects of sailing, from ropework and sail handling to helming.

Subsidised by the NCC to cost just £75, this experience will teach the adventurers of the future the self-reliance, teamwork, communication and leadership skills they'll need to thrive in their future careers.

Keep an eye out for future communications on availability and participation criteria! Until then...

*Clare Fisher*

Bon voyage!

## 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](#)



## 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.*

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



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

## RNA Longcast

06 May	AMC
07 May	National Standard Bearers' Competition (Collingwood)
07 May	Area 5 Meeting – Stowmarket
09 May	HMS Royal Arthur Memorial Rededication - Skegness
13 May	FAC
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
12 Jun	No 12 Area - Falklands 40 Commemoration, , Belfast Branch
14 Jun	Opening of HMS Sheffield and HMS Coventry Memorial Benches and Naming of Central Office Building by Naval Base Commander Portsmouth Cdre JJ Bailey RN
16 Jun	Armed Forces Cricket - T20 Mens and Womens – Lords Cricket Ground
17 Jun	NC meetings
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 – Harwich
12 Aug	Central Office - Open Day
01-04 Sep	Bournemouth Air Days (Christchurch Branch)
04 Sep	Merchant Navy Day Commemorative Service Navy War Memorial Tower Hill
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 France Nord](#)

[RNA Falmouth](#)

[RNA Scottish Area](#)

[RNA Christchurch](#)

[RNA Wallasey](#)

[RNA Portland](#)

[RNA Forth Valley](#)

[RNA Uttoxeter](#)

[RNA Wansbeck](#)

[RNA St Neots](#)

[RNA Bognor Regis](#)

**RNA France Nord Branch**

Nine members of the branch attended the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary organised by the Operation Chariot Society.

Commencing with a reception meal on Sunday evening everyone mustered bright and breezy for an early start on the quayside at Saint Nazaire close to HMS Shoreham who provided the UK Naval contingent and 28 Command RA.



The RNA France Nord branch paraded a 'colour party' consisting of David Fletcher and Mel Barr seen here with Chairman Derek Powell. The French were represented by the Army Navy and a military band

Others in attendance were the Military and Naval attaches from the British Embassy in Paris and The mayor of Falmouth the Prefect, Mayor and Members of Parliament for the St. Nazaire region.

Wreaths were laid by the Branch chairman on behalf of the RNA, S/M Rodney Curtiss on behalf of the RBL, Steve Eva Mayor of Falmouth on behalf of the town (he is incidentally a member of Falmouth Branch), the town will have their own ceremony next weekend 3<sup>rd</sup> April followed by members of the Op Chariot Association, who organised the ceremony and Civil Dignitaries.

On completion the participants, led by the French military Band marched off to the Town hall for a

Vin D'honneur.



## RNA Falmouth Branch

Shipmates from Falmouth and St Austell branch attended the annual St Nazaire Parade recently. The raid in March 1942 on St Nazaire was probably one of the bravest naval operations raids in the history of the Royal Navy. The dry dock in St Nazaire, on the North West French coast, was the only dock capable of docking the remaining German Battleships. Churchill authorised Operation Chariot and 26 March 1942 HMS Campbeltown, packed with explosives,



Three old destroyers and 18 MTGB along with 612 Sailors, Commandos and Royal Marines sailed for St Nazaire.

Their bravery resulted in a successful raid at a significant cost with 169 paying the ultimate sacrifice, 215 captured and 228 returning to Blighty. In all 89 Decorations were made including 5 Victoria Crosses.



*Our thanks to Shipmate Stephen Elliot, NCM Scottish Area, for the article below.*



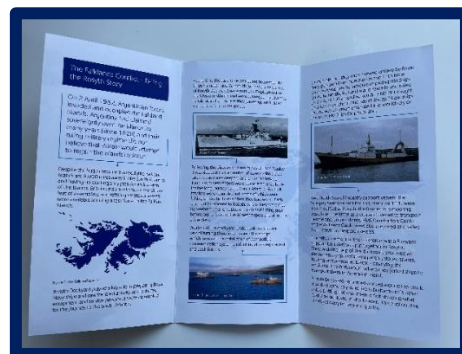
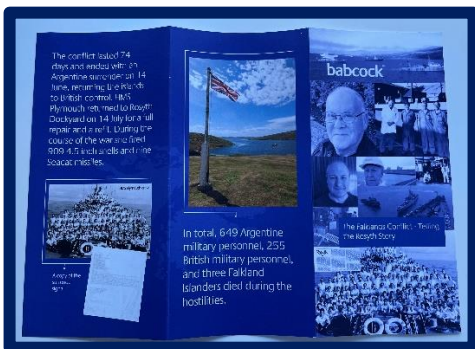
On Saturday 2nd April, I as National Council Member for Scottish Area attended the event to mark the key role that Rosyth Royal Dockyard played in preparing our ships for the Falklands Conflict. I was joined by our Area President, Shipmate Chris Smith and Area Secretary, Shipmate Karen Elliot BEM.

The setting and welcome from Babcock was just perfect and people travelled from all over Scotland to be there. The stories were intriguing, the bond between

those who went was remarkable and the appreciation of the efforts of those who prepared our ships for the long journey south was very clear.

Spending time with fellow veterans, especially Shipmates from our association is always special and I am grateful to everyone who was involved.

Shipmates Andy Sears (HMS Exeter) and Craig McDermott (HMS Antrim) can be seen in the photographs along with Commodore Eric Fraser.



**RNA Christchurch Branch**

Well done to our Christchurch Branch Member S/M Lynn Squibb on her achievements at the recent 'Senior Triple Crown' tenpin bowling tournament held in Dublin over weekend 8-10 April.

Lynn represented England Ladies Seniors Team achieving a silver medal in the mixed doubles and Bronze in the ladies' trios. The England Team Men & Women won the Triple Crown over Ireland, Northern Ireland, Wales & Scotland. BZ Shipmate Lyn



## RNA Wallasey Branch

Wallasey RNA have recently had a few events which you may be interested in three of the members slept outside the club through the night to highlight and make people aware about are homeless veterans the temperature dropped to minus 3 degrees but they completed the task.

In the photo Gary Pink ex Chief RN Michael Rowlands ex RN and Steve Wilson ex Para not in photo think Steve went and crashed out early.

The photo below shows Shipmates at the 'blessing of the stone' in Wallasey. RNA Wallasey Shipmates remembering all those Shipmates who have crossed the bar.



They may have gone but they will never be forgotten RIP.



Finally .....BZ to our u12s football team, who RNA Wallasey sponsor, won there Semi-final 3-0.

*(Our thanks go to S/M John Williams (RNA Wallasey POR) for keep us informed on matters Wallasey)*

And finally.....

Wallasey RNA got all the members involved donating easter eggs for children who were less fortunate to receive an easter egg and put a smile on the face.

Before the pandemic we managed to receive 300 Easter eggs this time we managed to get 175 Easter eggs which we passed on to two local food banks Egremont and Charlotte Brightside who distributed them to Children who didn't receive one.



Shipmate John would also like to thank -



- Billy Simmo one of our full members who got the ball rolling visiting the local Tesco Express who donated a full box of Easter eggs,
- Ruth Gibson Community Champion Morrisons who donated Easter eggs,
- Debbie Layfield Community Champion Tesco's Supermarket Bidston who donated Easter eggs plus diet coke and coke zero.

Last but not least, I would like to thank all the members Full and Associate who donated Easter eggs and there family and friends who helped RNA Wallasey to do there bit in the Community.

**(Editor's Note; BZ to everyone involved at RNA Wallasey, very well done.)**

## RNA Portland Branch



Portland Branch held their Annual Dinner on 23rd April 2022 after an absence of three years due to Covid. An enjoyable evening was spent by 50 Branch members and their Guest of Honour Captain Bill Oliphant RN, General Secretary/CEO Royal Naval Association.

The attached photographs show the top table from left to right ,Sm Pete Shoemith( Treasurer), S/m`s Lynn and Nige Rimell (Vice

Chairman), S/m Karen Miller (Membership Secretary) and husband Dusty Miller (Branch Chairman), Captain Bill Oliphant, S/m`s Monica and David White( No4 Area President).

The photo on the rights shows Bill Oliphant being presented with a framed photograph of 'The Isle of Portland' inscribed with details of the dinner event as a memento of a super evening.



## RNA Forth Valley Branch

Members of Forth Valley Branch gathered in Stirling to remember and commemorate Anzac Day at the Stirling Cenotaph.



## RNA Uttoxeter Branch

Thanks to Uttoxeter Secretary, S/M Mike Bell for keeping us informed about Branch happenings.

In 2020 Charlie Darlington, the RNA Communications Manager, contacted a friend of hers who was the PR rep at Nelson's Gin and persuaded her to have the Uttoxeter Branch of the RNA on a PR visit with a view to having a write-up in the "Semaphore". Everything was arranged for us to visit in March 2021 then the dreaded Covid hit everything and of course, the visit was cancelled.

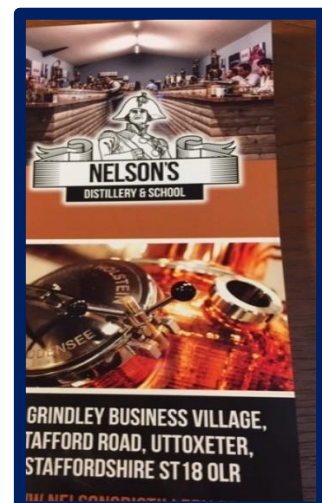


Then in early 2022 Members started asking about the visit to the "The Gin Palace", so the Secretary contacted Charlie Darlington again only to learn that she had just a few days to do then she was off to Botswana. Nelson's Gin was contacted by both the Comms officer and Branch Sec and the outcome was that the Branch was invited to attend a tour and tasting evening at the

distillery.

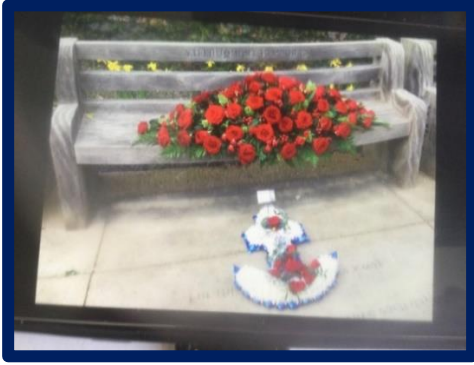
So, a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by RNA Uttoxeter Branch Members led by Chairman S/M David Emery MBE, Judith Leedham, the area Poppy Appeal organizer and her volunteers, families, and friends.

A tour of the establishment, a photoshoot, a talk on how gin is made, then, down to the real thing the tasting and description of each sample, the Rhubarb and Custard one, highly recommended which liked by all.



A pleasant evening, well worth waiting for, and highly recommended. Thank you Charlie!

## RNA Wansbeck Branch



The funeral of the late Shipmate Len Dyer took place on 26 April 2022 at Blyth Crematorium.

The funeral well attended by family, friends, masonic and Branch Shipmates from Wansbeck Branch.

Calm seas Shipmate

## RNA St Neots Branch

The branch held their well-attended AGM on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March.

S/M Maureen Ridley was made Shipmate of the year, an award doubly deserved as she has been conducting her tasks as Welfare Officer and Social Secretary while in a lot of pain and discomfort from a foot injury.

Two new members, S/Ms Simon Stearman and Paul Main were elected to the committee and S/M Mike Milne was congratulated on being voted S/M of the year for Area 6



The branch held another of their popular Breakfasts on the 28<sup>th</sup> March and here S/Ms (from L) Geoff Patterson, Yvonne Webley and Helen Patterson await the very generous helpings provided by the Three Horseshoe Pub at Gravelly. S/Ms from the RNA Riders are in the background.

The breakfast was, as always, enlivened by the presence of the RNA Riders who invariably add colour to any gathering of S/Ms due to their colourful riding jackets proclaiming their RN branch allegiances. To top it off they are also good company! (Highly



recommended to be on your guest list!)



## RNA Bognor Regis

Members of the local Sea Cadet Unit, T.S. Sir Alec Rose, made an excellent rendition of the pipe "Hands to dinner" informing shipmates and guests to take their places for a celebratory lunch to mark the 36<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the forming of the Bognor Regis Branch, held at the Bognor Regis Golf Club.



Over the convening years, the branch has been based at three locations in the Bognor Regis area, the Terminus Hotel, the British Legion Club and is now located at the Royal Air Force Association Club. Meetings are held

twice a month at 1230 on the first Tuesday and the third Saturday. The Saturday meetings enable those Shipmates who work during the week to attend.



It also gives those Shipmates who attend the Tuesday meetings an excuse to come along on Saturdays to swing the lamp again and enjoy a further tot. Another popular occasion is the Tri-Services Veterans breakfast held every month on the third Thursday at 0930 at the RAFA Club. All the profits go to assist ex-service personnel and their families living in the Bognor Regis area, who may have fallen on hard times or just require a little financial assistance. Over the year the branch is

actively involved in several other formal and informal occasions within the Bognor Regis area.

The photo above shows Members of the Bognor Regis Branch Committee, L to R Vice - Chairman Hugh Diaper, President John Haste and Chairman Ron Hargest.

*(Editor's Note - BZ and congratulations on your 36<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)*

## RNA Falmouth Branch



Shipmates are cordially invited to join Falmouth Shipmates at the 'Sea Sunday Falmouth' event.

Sea Sunday Falmouth 2022 will be held on Sunday 17 July with the **Parade forming on the Moor at 1020**. The church service will be held in the King Charles the Martyr Church, which will be followed by a reception in the Civic Office Reception Suite

*All are welcome to attend Branch/Club members and Standards.*



## RNA Area 3

Area 3 Southern Flotilla Reunion weekend will be held on the weekend 14-17 October 2022 in the Holiday Inn Sittingbourne.

The package includes:

- Half Board Ensuite accommodation
- Wine reception
- Up Spirits Gala Dinner and two nights live entertainment
- Coach trips to Chatham Dockyard and Greenwich Maritime Museum

The total cost for a three-night package is £275pp For further information please contact S/M Ken Chandler 07970 686301 or [kencathcpa@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kencathcpa@hotmail.co.uk)

## CROSSING THE BAR – Celebrating a life well lived

[Norman Hillier](#)

[Arthur Castle](#)

## Norman Hillier - Anglesey Branch

Anglesey Branch are sad to announce that Shipmate Norman Hillier crossed the bar on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March 2022 aged 98.

Norman was a Life Member of the Branch and was probably the last Royal Naval Veteran of WW2 in Holyhead.

During the war he served on HMS Goathland and HMS Belfast.

S/M Norman's funeral took place at Amlwch Cemetery with the Branch Standard being paraded, and the Last Post being played by Shipmate Sue Williams, with family and friends, and also the Branch Chairman Shipmate John Edwards and members of the Branch paying their respects.

May he find fair winds and calm waters.



## Arthur Castle - Hunstanton Branch



Shipmate Arthur Castle crossed the bar in Kings Lynn Hospital on 13 March 2022 at the age of 90. He lived in Hunstanton Norfolk with his wife since leaving Plymouth in 1988. Once in Hunstanton, he and his wife joined the local branch of the RNA.

S/M Arthur had a long service career joining the RN as a Cook in 1949 and leaving in 1986 as a FCPO after 37 Years. He served in many Ships and Establishments including -

*HMS Vanguard (Cook) 1949, HMS Implacable (Leading Cook), HMS Crane (L/Ck)*

*HMS Tiree (L/Ck), HMS Scarborough (Petty Officer Ck),*

*HMS Leopard (POCK),*

*HMS Maidstone (POCK), HMS Forth (Chief Petty Officer Cook), HMS Triumph (CPO/Ck)*

*HMS Tiger (Fleet Chief Petty Officer Ck), HMS Drake (FCPO Ck), HMS Ark Royal (FCPO Ck)*

*HMS Hermes (FCPO Ck).*

During that time, he was injured in an attack on his ship, HMS Crane, by Israeli war planes. This attack took place on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1956 in the Gulf of Aquaba when the Israelis mistook the Crane for an Egyptian warship. Arthur was in the kitchens at the time and hot fat was spilled over his feet and legs when a missile struck the ship.



He was also serving in HMS Hermes as the Fleet Chief Chef when at age of 50 the ship took part in the Falklands war. He was awarded; LSGC, MSM, South Atlantic Medal (with Rosette), Near East Medal, Korea Medal and the United Nations Korea Medal.

The photo to the left shows Petty Officer Arthur with Mrs Castle in South Africa in 1961.

(Our thanks to S/M Arthur's son, David Castle, for forwarding the above article.)

*(Editor's Note - You must be very proud of your Fathers service, please accept Central Office staff condolences and BZ S/M Arthur)*

# F40 WEEKEND EVENTS - SUPPLEMENT

*Dear Shipmates,*

*Please find below a number of articles relating to events and activities relating to the Falkland 40<sup>th</sup> commemorations.*

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)

**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)

- 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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="#"><u>Somerset House Boutique Hotel</u></a>	Florence Road, Southsea	PO5 2NE
<a href="#"><u>Premier Inn Southsea Hotel</u></a>	Long Curtain Rd, Southsea	PO5 3XX
<a href="#"><u>Becketts</u></a>	Bellevue Terrace, Southsea	PO5 3AT
<a href="#"><u>Seacrest Hotel</u></a>	Southsea	PO5 2JB
<a href="#"><u>Portsmouth Marriott Hotel</u></a>	Cosham, Portsmouth	PO6 4SH
<a href="#"><u>Village Hotel</u></a>	Lakeshore Drive, Portsmouth	PO6 3FR
<a href="#"><u>Premier Inn Portsmouth North Harbour</u></a>	Cosham, Portsmouth	PO6 4SA
<a href="#"><u>Royal Maritime Club (Home Club)</u></a>	Queen St, Portsea	PO1 3HS
<a href="#"><u>Royal Beach Hotel</u></a>	St Helen's Parade, Southsea	PO4 0RN
<a href="#"><u>Also, the University have B&amp;B rooms available with city centre &amp; Southsea options (costing around £52 per night)</u></a>	Email <a href="mailto:david.goodwin@port.ac.uk"><u>david.goodwin@port.ac.uk</u></a> or call him on 02392 844567	
Also, check accom at the following sites:		
<a href="http://www.airbnb.co.uk"><u>www.airbnb.co.uk</u></a>		
<a href="https://www.trivago.co.uk/"><u>https://www.trivago.co.uk/</u></a>		
<a href="https://uk.hotels.com/"><u>https://uk.hotels.com/</u></a>		
<a href="https://www.booking.com/"><u>https://www.booking.com/</u></a>		



## 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.

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

### Portsmouth Historic Dockyard



- RNA member - Day Ticket Offer just £20 plus 3 guests at £20 each provides access to the all attractions including the Submarine Museum, RM Museum and Explosion!.
- RNA Member – 30% discount on Annual Ultimate Explorer Ticket (featuring all attraction's)

### Legal Services



Free 30 minute legal advice with Coffin Mew.  
[armedforces@coffinmew.co.uk](mailto:armedforces@coffinmew.co.uk) 0800 827168

### Breakdown Service



- RAC Breakdown and recovery service  
[asec@arno.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:conatravelservices@justforgroups.co.uk)



- Discounts on a large range of new cars  
<https://www.forcescarsdirect.com/rna>

The 'Shortcast' Editors Note

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

	<p>Please check go to link for RN Shipmates.co.uk for a comprehensive list of further reunions. www.rnshipmates.co.uk</p>
<b>2022</b>	
07 May	<p>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</p>
13 May	<p>HMS Bulwark, Albion and Centaur Association – Red Lee Hotel, Scarborough</p>
21 May	<p>HMS Broadsword Association - HMS Drake</p>
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>

	On completion Disperse and safe journey home
23 July	<p>The 21<sup>st</sup> Reunion of the Second Manchester Association will take place in Southsea on Saturday 23 July 2022.</p> <p>For full details please contact Ian Tidbury on 07710 282633</p>



## Swinging the Lamp – May 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	1759	<i>Grafton (70)</i> and <i>Hampton Court (70)</i> , with twenty-two out of a convoy of forty-five sail, taken by nine sail of the line under Cdre Comte de Forbin ( <i>Mars</i> ) 20 miles off Beachy Head. <i>Royal Oak (70)</i> escaped.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	1932	Publication of BR.224. <i>The Gunnery Pocket Book</i> . 'Having been approved by My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty is hereby promulgated . . . By Command of Their Lordships . . .' Chapter XXVI. Bugle Calls. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VII. Bathers to enter the water, or Stations for anchoring.</li> <li>• VIII. Bathers to come out of the water, or Light</li> <li>• guns' crews take cover.</li> <li>• XXIV. Man ship, or Lull in the action, collect wounded.</li> <li>• XXV. Close aft for prayers, everybody aft, or Action about to commence.</li> <li>• XXVII. Repel aircraft</li> </ul>
3rd	2008	The RN Hospital Gibraltar paid off. The gates were closed by the youngest member of staff, MA Kirsty Taylor, watched by the last CO, Surg-Cdr Martin Randle RN. Task transferred to the Princess Royal Medical Centre at Devil's Tower Camp.
4 <sup>th</sup>	1941	First successful trial of Leigh Light when the inventor himself with prototype in Wellington P 2521 from Limavady succeeded in illuminating H 31.
5 <sup>th</sup>	1917	Sloop <i>Lavender</i> sunk by UC-75 22 miles S.W. of Waterford harbour.
6 <sup>th</sup>	1770	Cook discovered Port Jackson (Sydney).
7th	1941	<i>München</i> , German weather ship, 'pinched' off Iceland. Operation EB. A capture of great significance to Ultra intelligence since it gave the keys for June.

8th	1861	Royal Marines Depot opened at Deal.
9th	1975	<i>Ardent</i> , Type 21 frigate, launched at Yarrow. Lost to Argentine air attack 21 May 1982. DSC: Cdr A.W.J. West, RN. Operation Corporate. The third successive <i>Ardent</i> sunk in action.
10th	1945	First U-boat surrendered – U-1009. Some 156 were received in all, of which 110 were sunk; 221 had been scuttled to avoid surrender. Operation Pledge.
11 <sup>th</sup>	1961	Frigate <i>Plymouth</i> , Capt J.C. Cartwright DSC, RN, commissioned at Plymouth.
12th	1918	AMC <i>Olympic</i> , carrying 9,000 US soldiers to France and in a new camouflage of yellow, red and blue by war artist Norman Wilkinson, rammed and sank U-103 off the Lizard
13 <sup>th</sup>	1943	Corvette <i>Drumheller</i> (RCN), frigate <i>Lagan</i> and Sunderland G/423 (RCAF) sank U-753 in Atlantic (48.37N, 22.39W). Convoy HX 237.
14 <sup>th</sup>	1982	SAS landed by Sea Kings from <i>Hermes</i> to destroy eleven enemy aircraft on Pebble Island. <i>Glasgow</i> provided NGS. Active service declared for all units between 7° and 60°S, initially for three months. Everyone in the Task Force became subject to the Naval Discipline Act, with several interesting consequences, many fortunately putative. NAAFI personnel serving in HM ships though not elsewhere might enlist in the RN and enjoy all the benefits. Thus a canteen manager in <i>Ardent</i> remustered as a PO on 15 May and was awarded DSM for gallantry in manning a gun on the 21st. Everyone was also protected by the Geneva Convention 'and if the worst happened was assured that his estate would be free of death duties'.
15 <sup>th</sup>	1797	Capt Henry Allen of the sloop <i>Rattler</i> hanged at the starboard foreyard arm of the frigate <i>Adventure</i> 'for the detestable sin of sodomy'.
16 <sup>th</sup>	1956	<i>Diana</i> , Daring-class destroyer, steamed through nuclear fallout following the second atomic test explosion at Monte Bello Islands in the Pacific. Serial repeated after second explosion on 19 June 1956. 'The Chiefs of Staff wanted to know how the ship and men would stand up to such an ordeal' – Capt J.R. Gower DSC, RN, HMS <i>Diana</i> .
17th	1968	MOD(N) announced that the Scheme of Complement for Polaris submarines would in future 'provide for a Supply Officer with the rank of Lieutenant of the Supply and Secretariat specialisation of the General List'. DCIs(N) 611/68; 298/69.
18th	1942	Fleet Air Arm occupied Wingfield near Cape Town as RNAS Wingfield
19th	1847	Gunboat tender of <i>Calliope</i> , with a detachment of the 58th Regiment, repulsed a Maori attack on Wanganui. Last naval commitment in first New Zealand war. Battle Honour: New Zealand 1845–7.
20th	1954	HRH Princess Margaret unveiled a memorial on The Hoe to 15,600 souls lost at sea in the Second World War and have no grave but the sea.
21st	1982	The Battle of Falkland Sound. 3 Cdo Bde began the landings at San Carlos Bay. Men of 40 and 45 Cdos RM and 2 and 3 Para were put ashore by landing craft from <i>Fearless</i> and <i>Intrepid</i> . The logistic and transport shipping within San Carlos Water was protected by the thin grey line of escort vessels in adjoining Falkland Sound: destroyer <i>Antrim</i> ; frigates <i>Argonaut</i> , <i>Broadsword</i> , <i>Brilliant</i> , <i>Plymouth</i> , <i>Yarmouth</i> and <i>Ardent</i> , supported by FAA Sea Harriers of 800 NAS and 801 NAS. Sustained fighter-bomber attacks by over forty enemy aircraft brought a day of intense naval warfare. Ten aircraft destroyed by Sea Harriers and by Sea Wolf and Seacat SAMs and many more damaged. <i>Ardent</i> hit by several bombs and fought to a standstill. Her blazing wreck was finally abandoned and she sank early on 22 May. <i>Argonaut</i> , seriously damaged, remained at anchor for the next eight days as a static AA platform. A UXB in flooded magazine was defused and removed by an officer of exceptional gallantry, Lt-Cdr Brian Dutton DSO, QGM, RN. First DSC to a



		fleet chief petty officer, FCPO M.G. Fellowes, for defusing UXB in <i>Antrim</i> . Most other warships damaged and all their captains decorated. By nightfall, 42 Cdo and supporting artillery and logistics were ashore without loss to themselves and a secure bridgehead established. This was the aim of the operation; a splendid achievement.
22 <sup>nd</sup>	1917	Submarine E 11 sank Turkish <i>Pelenk-i-Deria</i> off Seraglio Point, Constantinople.
23 <sup>rd</sup>	1941	Destroyers <i>Kashmir</i> and <i>Kelly</i> sunk by German aircraft 13 miles S. of Gavdo (34.41N, 24.15E), during the Battle of Crete.
24 <sup>th</sup>	1941	First investiture of the George Cross at Buckingham Palace; first naval direct recipient Lt-Cdr Robert Selby Armitage RNVR, awarded for bomb disposal work – <i>London Gazette</i> , 27 December 1940. GM 15 February 1944, presented 21 November 1944; <i>London Gazette</i>
25 <sup>th</sup>	1982	Destroyer <i>Coventry</i> sunk and frigate <i>Broadsword</i> damaged N. of Falkland Sound by air attacks. <i>Atlantic Conveyor</i> , carrying important helicopter reinforcements, damaged by two air-launched Exocets while in company with carrier battle group 85 miles N.E. of Cape Pembroke, and sank later. Capt Ian North DSC one of twelve men lost. This was Argentina's national day but there was no sign of the eponymous carrier ( <i>25 De Mayo</i> , originally HMS <i>Venerable</i> and then the Dutch <i>Karel Doorman</i> ). Operation Corporate.
26 <sup>th</sup>	1954	Light fleet carrier <i>Albion</i> completed at Swan Hunters, Walsend-on-Tyne.
27 <sup>th</sup>	1915	Battleship <i>Majestic</i> sank in seven minutes, torpedoed by U-21 outside the Dardanelles, off Cape Helles.
28 <sup>th</sup>	1891	<i>Hearty</i> sailed from Kinsale for her first fishery protection patrol. First RN ship dedicated to fishery protection work. Her blue and yellow pennant had been authorised for signatories to the 1883 North Europe Maritime Powers Sea Fisheries convention.
29 <sup>th</sup>	1940	Destroyer <i>Wakeful</i> , Cdr R.L. Fisher RN, torpedoed by German E-boat S-30 close to the Kwint Whistle Buoy off the Belgian coast after lifting hundreds of men of the British Expeditionary Force from Bray Dunes outside Dunkirk. The ship broke in two and sank quickly in 57ft of water with the loss of 690 men. Destroyer <i>Grafton</i> sunk by U-62 nearby. Destroyer <i>Grenade</i> and AA ship <i>Crested Eagle</i> sunk by German aircraft at Dunkirk. Operation Dynamo.
30 <sup>th</sup>	1997	Hydrographic (H) and Meteorology and Oceanography (METOC) specialisations amalgamated to form a new X (HM) specialisation, reflecting the need to present unified environmental advice to the Command, embracing the atmosphere of the seabed. DCI(RN) 81/97.
31 <sup>st</sup>	1520	Henry VIII embarked in <i>Henry Grace à Dieu</i> en route for the Field of the Cloth of Gold.

## Delegate to Annual Conference 2022 Portsmouth

Branch secretaries should note the following before submitting their application.

- (a) **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 Branch Annual Report 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.
- (a) 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 2021 and Branch Annual Report for 2021 have 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.**

A letter confirming a delegate's attendance will be sent prior to Conference. This letter should be brought to Conference to confirm eligibility to be a Delegate. There will be NO additions to the delegate list on the day.

**If you have not received confirmation one month before Conference please call Sara on 023 9272 3747**



# **ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION**

## **2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**On Saturday 18 June 2022**

*to be held in*

**The Wardroom, HMS NELSON  
Portsmouth**

*Patron:*

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

# AGENDA

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Central Office

Building 1/87, Scott Road, HM Naval Base, Portsmouth PO1 3LU

*Registered Charity 266982*



# Annual General Meeting for 2022

0900-1045

*Health and Safety brief by Nelson Staff/GS*

1. March on: The National Standard
2. Opening Prayers – The Venerable Andrew Hillier QHC, Chaplain of the Fleet and Archdeacon for the Royal Navy
3. Silent tribute in memory of Shipmates who have crossed the Bar
4. Opening remarks: National President
5. Patronal message: General Secretary
6. Conference Standing Orders (S1-S13) as circulated; and proposed and seconded by Delegates present, will be adopted subject to any amendments approved by the Delegates.
7. The National President's Address: Vice Admiral Duncan Potts CB
8. President's Awards
9. Standing Orders Committee:
  - a. Report by Chair SOC
  - b. National Council Elections – (NCM & DNCM)
  - c. Election of Members of the Standing Orders Committee
10. Minutes of the 2021 AGM
  - a. Acceptance
  - b. Matters Arising
11. Annual Accounts for Financial Year 2021 - Honorary Treasurer.
12. The National Council's Annual Report - National Chairman – S/M Keith Ridley

13. Motions of Urgency

14. National Council Motions:

#### **National Council Motion One**

- 1. That Number 7 Area hold the 2024 National Conference and Annual General Meeting of the Association in Cardiff.**

#### **Reasoning:**

Area 7 last held Conference in 2006 in Aberystwyth. Having enjoyed Conferences and hospitality around the UK, we feel that Shipmates would enjoy a weekend in the Welsh Capital and take the opportunity to explore the City of Cardiff and surrounding area, from Tiger Bay to the Mumbles and beyond.

15. Branch Motions:

No branch motions have been submitted for consideration.

16. RNA Central Charities Fund Conference Raffle Draw.

17. Closure of AGM:

- a. National Anthem
  - b. March off the National Standard
-

## PROPOSED STANDING ORDERS FOR CONFERENCE 2022

In these Orders use of the suffixes [L] means this item is a Statutory Requirement, [F] means this item is Fixed in the Agenda order, and [A] means this is an AGM compliance item. The paragraph numbers are pre-fixed by the letter "S".

- S1 These Standing Orders for the conduct of a National Conference of the Royal Naval Association are issued in accordance with Article 14 and Rule 18.
- S2 Prior to proceeding to its business Conference shall:
- (a) Receive a public safety announcement [L][F]
  - (b) Receive the Platform Party [F]
  - (c) March on the National Standard (Heart of Oak) [F]
  - (d) Transfer of National Standard to new Standard bearer (if required) [F]
  - (e) Conduct Opening Prayers [F]
  - (f) Remember those Shipmates who, since our last Conference, have 'Crossed the Bar' [F]

### S3 ANNUAL CONFERENCE BUSINESS

The business to be transacted at the Annual Conference shall include the following:

- (a) To receive a welcome address from The National President [F]
- (b) Opening of the Conference by a Civic Dignitary [F]
- (c) To receive a topical address from a Guest Speaker [F]
- (d) To receive a proposal duly seconded that Standing Orders be adopted or amended as per S5 and/or to consider any amendment to Standing Orders [F]
  
- (e) To receive a State of the Association Address (President's Address)
- (f) President's Awards for Recruiting
- (g) To receive the report of the Standing Orders Committee on the business of the Conference and the motions to be discussed.
  
- (h) To receive the report of the votes cast for the election of Council Members, Deputy Council Members and to confirm the results.
  
- (i) Under the scrutiny of three NCMs, to announce the nominations for election of Members to the SOC and if required, to hold elections.
  
- (j) To receive the minutes of the previous Conference for ratification and any necessary consideration of matters arising [A]
- (k) To receive the Annual Accounts of the Association for the previous financial year, together with the Honorary Treasurer's Report on them for consideration and ratification [A]
- (l) To receive and consider the Annual Report of the Council [A]
- (m) Motions shall be presented to Conference as follows: See Articles 19 & 16 (2)
  - i. A Council Motion of urgency.
  - ii. A Branch Motion of urgency.

- iii. A Council Motion about an Article.
- iv. A Council Motion about a Rule
- v. A Branch Motion about an Article.
- vi. A Branch Motion about a Rule.
- (n) Conference Raffle
- (o) National President's closing remarks [F]
- (p) March of the National Standard (Heart of Oak) [F]

#### S4 **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The Conference Chairman may recommend to a Conference a variation of the order of business as shown in the Agenda, except for those items marked [F]

#### S5 **AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS**

Standing Orders shall be presented to Conference by the Standing Orders Committee. They may be adopted by a majority vote of Conference Delegates on the proposal of The Council or a Delegate duly seconded, however amendments to them require the approval of at least two-thirds  $\frac{2}{3}$  of those present and entitled to vote.

#### S6 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

A motion to suspend a specific part or parts of these Standing Orders or C Bye-laws for a specific period may be proposed. If seconded the Conference chairman will study the proposal carefully and shall, if he deems it to refer to some matter of urgency or importance, put such a motion to Conference Delegates for a decision. The suspension of a Standing Order or C Bye-Law shall require two-thirds  $\frac{2}{3}$  of those present and entitled to vote to be in favour. Standing Orders marked [L] cannot be suspended [L]

#### S7 **GENERAL PROCEDURES**

- (a) Unless prevented by physical disability, delegates shall stand when speaking and shall address the Chair. They shall speak from the appropriate rostrum and shall preface their statement by announcing their name and Branch.
- (b) Whenever the Conference Chairman rises during a debate, any delegate speaking or offering to speak shall remain silent until given permission to speak by the Conference Chairman [L]
- (c) All speeches shall be directly relevant to the motion or amendment under discussion [L]
- (d) The proposer of a motion or amendment shall be allowed to speak for up to 5 minutes. The seconder and succeeding speakers and the proposer in his reply shall each be allowed to speak for up to 3 minutes.
- (e) A delegate, at any time, may move either:
  - i. "That the Conference proceeds to the next business". If seconded, and if the Conference Chairman considers sufficient debate has taken place, this motion shall be put without further discussion and if carried, the motion or amendment under discussion shall be considered dropped; or
  - ii. "That the question be now put". If seconded and the Conference Chairman considers sufficient debate has taken place the question shall be put without further discussion and the motion or amendment shall be decided.



- (f) The motions in (e) above shall not be moved or seconded by a delegate who has spoken in the debate [L]
- (g) Any delegate, whether he has spoken or not on the matter under discussion, may rise to a point of order. The delegate so rising shall be heard forthwith. The ruling of the Chairman of the Conference on a point of order shall be final and not open to discussion. A point of order must deal with the conduct or procedure of the debate. [L]

## S8 PROCEDURES FOR DISCUSSION OF MOTIONS

- (a) The Chairman of the Conference shall introduce each motion and call for the relevant Delegates to propose and second "the motion as printed on the agenda". It is only after this formality that the subject may be debated. The proposer shall be the first to speak [L]
- (b) A motion from a Branch shall be proposed and seconded by Delegates present. A motion from the Council shall be proposed and seconded by Council Members present.
- (c) A motion may not be withdrawn after it has been seconded without the consent of Conference. Such consent shall be ascertained without debate and no delegate shall speak upon it after consent for withdrawal has been given.
- (d) An amendment shall not be put to Conference for discussion until it has been seconded [L]
- (e) When an amendment to a motion is moved and seconded, no further amendment to the motion shall be moved until it (the amendment) is disposed of, although it will be in order for an amendment to the amendment then under discussion to be moved and, if seconded, discussed. No Delegate shall propose or second more than one amendment to any one motion.
- (f) A vote on the substantive motion shall not take place until all amendments have been voted on. (L)
- (g) An amendment replaces the motion as the subject of debate until it is decided. If it is defeated the debate returns to the original motion; if it is approved the amended motion will become the substantive motion and put to a further vote; it may be subjected to further amendment.
- (h) No Delegate except the proposer shall speak more than once on the same motion or amendment. The proposer may exercise a right to reply confining the reply to answering previous speakers and not introducing any new matter. He may exercise the right either before the first amendment is put to a vote, or before the final motion is put to a vote.
- (i) Should a motion or motions not be debated because of shortage of time, the Conference Chairman may determine if it is the will of Conference to vote on any such motions without debate. Any motions not dealt with in this way will be placed on the agenda for the next regular Conference. They may also be considered by the Council for possible interim action.

## S9 VOTING

- (a) Shall be as prescribed in Rule 20 [L]

- (b) Each Delegate shall be entitled to one vote at each division [L]
- (c) Voting shall normally be by showing a hand and need not be counted if the Conference Chairman rules that there is an overwhelming vote “for” or “against”. However, any Delegate may ask that the votes shall be counted, and such action shall then be taken.
- (d) It is permissible to abstain from voting. Delegates should be aware that an abstention does not indemnify the abstainer from any penalty caused by an unsound decision. In weighted votes an abstention will have the same effect as a vote against the proposal.
- (e) The Scrutineers shall record those votes cast “for” and “against” and the number “abstaining”.
- (f) If there are two or more conflicting proposals on the same subject (e.g. “Where to hold an Annual Conference” but not one that will create or amend an Article or Rule) and none can achieve a 2/3 vote in favour, the simple majority voting system may be used; the Conference Chairman shall have a casting vote.

**S10 DUTIES OF THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE AT CONFERENCE**

- (a) To provide advice to the Conference Chairman on procedural matters pertaining to the Conference business.
- (b) To organise and control entry to the Conference
- (c) To monitor the distribution and collection of ballot papers.
- (d) To be the scrutineers for the counting of ballots or votes, except those for the election of the Committee for which the Council will appoint three of its members.
- (e) To scrutinise and announce the result of election of NCMs and DNCMs.
- (f) To provide, through its Chairman, advice to the Conference Chairman on procedural matters pertaining to the Conference business

**S11 NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Members of the Council may:

- (a) Attend Conferences and speak with the permission of the Conference Chairman.
- (b) Propose or second a Council motion to Conference
- (c) Not be a Delegate to, or vote at, a Conference.

**S12 DISORDER**

Any person disregarding the ruling of the Conference Chairman may be suspended for the remainder of the Conference upon the ruling of the Chairman or on the motion of two Delegates put without debate and carried. His conduct may be reported to his Branch [L]

**S13 CHAIRMAN, RULING AUTHORITY**

The decision of the Conference Chairman shall be final upon any point as to the interpretation placed upon any Standing Order or upon the point whether a motion has been carried or not [L]