



The Semaphore Circular

No 721

The Beating Heart of the RNA

August 2022



RNA National Chairman, Shipmate Keith Ridley proudly holds the Freedom of Portsmouth Certificate awarded to the RNA by Portsmouth City Council at the Falkland 40th Parade in Old Portsmouth.

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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)

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Glossary of terms

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

ind Semaphore Circular On-line

<http://bit.ly/RNADownloads>

or

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

Snail Mail – Postal Address

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

From the General Secretary

Ahoy Shipmates,

What a great month July was for events; we had a cracking Central Office Open Day at the start of the month, Maidstone Branch held their Sunday Sea Service and HMS COLLINGWOOD hosted the Field Gun Competition which this year was won by HMS SEAHAWK. The Field Gun Competition of course has its roots in the relief of the siege of Ladysmith during the Boer War in 1899 when the RN came to the rescue of the army by manhandling over rough terrain, six dismounted naval guns on improvised carriages. It's a lesson which Andy Christie reminds RN Phase 2 trainees every Wednesday during the Culture and Values Sessions the RNA runs with the trainees. The lesson being that although you might be training as a stoker or a jack dusty, you are wearing the Queen's uniform so you might end up doing something for your country which isn't in the brochure.



The Field Gun Trophy

I am writing this on the train returning from HMS Raleigh where I was fortunate enough to witness the 55 new recruits of Hanson Division class 22-05 graduate and pass out earlier today. What an uplifting experience it is, talking to the families of the New Entrants who have come from far and wide to see their loved ones on this special day.



sister and brother in law with new baby niece



Hanson Div Staff being presented at the graduation ceremony. RNA mentor Dave Gregory included.

BZ to Dave Gregory who was RNA mentor to the Division during their time at Raleigh and well done too to NA(AH) O'Rouke who took the RNA prize awarded to the recruit who maintained a noteworthy sense of humour throughout their training and contributed significantly to the overall team spirit.

My visit also gave me the opportunity to say a few words to the families when they were gathered in the Roebuck Theatre and reminded them that it wasn't just the smart young sailors on the parade ground who were joining the Navy today but actually it was them who were joining the naval family too and that membership of the RNA is the vehicle to allow them to be part of our family.



Maidstone Sea Service: conducted by Rev Ruth , flanked by Steve Susans - No2 Area Chairman, Gerry Brown – Maidstone Branch Chair, the local mayor and a rare outing of the Gen Sec in rig (NB. H&S have indicated the need for anyone in the vicinity to wear safety glasses in future!)

On that vein, membership numbers are up to 14.5k now and steadily growing however please remember that as we now operate on a donation based income model and we need those donations to be able to function. Many thanks to those who have already given, especially those who have established a Standing Order. This is by far the easiest way to contribute to the RNA and even an extremely modest Standing Order of £1/month would be great – who can't afford that? Link here <https://royal-naval-association.co.uk/donate/>

In other news, heartiest congrats to Chatham Branch who have been informed that they are to receive the Freedom of Medway from their Borough Council and also, can I give sincere thanks to Les Yeoman who has stood down recently as the mentors co-ordinator at HMS Raleigh after many years of outstanding service in the role. You will be missed.

Finally, some of you may know that our National Chairman, Keith Ridley, has had a tough time of it recently on the health front and was in and out,

and in and out, and in and out again at the local hospital – his wife Maureen had to remind him that you are not supposed to have a season ticket for hospital! Anyway, Keith is now discharged and convalescing. Take it easy Shipmate and get well soon.

Best wishes,

Bill Oliphant

PS. Due to reduced manning in Central office over the holiday period, Semaphore Shorts will be suspended until after leave, however I hope you all enjoy this bumper edition of the Circular which with 60 pages of RNA news (thanks Andy) will keep you entertained over the holidays.

Have a good one exclam!

1. ★ F40 Weekend Portsmouth 17/18/19 June 2022 – In Summary

What a superb and successful weekend, even the weather obliged!

The overall RNA aim for the weekend was to host an inspiring series of Falklands 40th (F40) commemoration events, combined with its 2022 Annual Conference & AGM, to 'reunite, relive, and remember'.

Friday saw RNA Special Interest Groups (SIGs) engaged in a wide range of activities, reports can be found in this edition for Cricket and Golf activities over F40, before reuniting with other Shipmates for a 1900 Beating Retreat at the steps of Portsmouth's Guildhall; this was followed by a civic dinner in the Guildhall for invited Falklands Veterans and spouses, and an evening drinks and Shipmates reception (closing with a ceremonial sunset) on HMS Warrior for the majority of RNA members.



Saturday events were hosted in a marquee in the rear garden of the HMS Nelson Wardroom: following the AGM, we sensitively relived the Campaign for RNA attendees and guests, campaign veterans or otherwise, with a number of lived experience 'Falklands Forum' speakers; the day ended with a RNA buffet dance.

Finally on the Sunday, in Old Portsmouth, those related to the Naval Service were invited to march with their Shipmates with the RNA National, Area and Branch Standards for a 1100 Service of Remembrance at the Falklands monument, followed by the City of Portsmouth unveiling a new memorial, and presenting the RNA, RMA, Falklands Veterans, and AoW with Freedom of the City scrolls. Commemorations concluded in Portsmouth Cathedral with a short service, as well as civic refreshments.

BZ to all the organising 'team', especially S/M Malcolm Little (Central Office) and those who attended to make it such a special occasion.



Shipmate Keith Crawford MBE, NCM 9, explains to his good lady wife S/M Yvonne Crawford how, as a Powder Monkey, he used to fire this cannon during service on his first 'War Canoe'.....

Yvonne managed to stay awake for a couple more minutes!.....

2. ★ Cenotaph Veterans' Parade – Whitehall – Sunday 13 November 2022

This year, the Veterans' Parade will take place in Whitehall on Sunday 13 November 2022. If you would like tickets to march at this event, please email sara@royalnavalassoc.com with the following details:



Names of those wishing to march, postal address, email address and dates and places of birth.

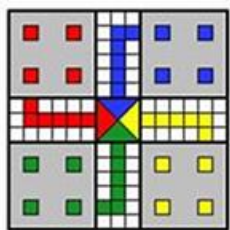
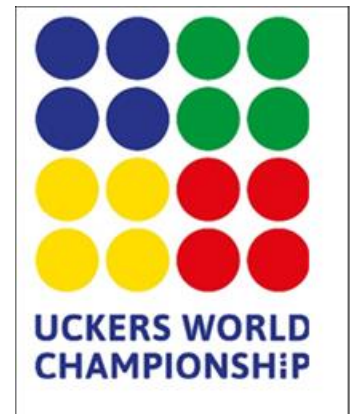
Please email Sara as soon as possible as we are now limited to 100 tickets. Tickets will be allocated on a first come first served basis so please don't delay. The absolute deadline to receive requests is Friday 19 August, as this is the closing date published by the RBL.

We had a relatively small turnout last year so to ensure we maintain our ticket allocation with the RBL at its current level, we appeal to Shipmates to register with us and come along to support this National event. If you have never marched at the Cenotaph in November before, it is well worth it. Any questions, please ring Central Office on 023 92 723747.

3. ★ 2022 World Uckers Championships – Portsmouth - 29 October 2022

Shipmates.... Hot of the Press By popular demand Uckers is back, so get those dice up and loaded you six throwing people!

There are already 22 teams entered and this is the first advertisement! Full details will be contained within the September Semaphore Circular. However, if you want to get your entry in early please email Admin@royalnavalassoc.com Subject is Uckers in upper case please.



The World Champions 'The Ludo Two' are already practising..... And claiming another victory is certain this year!

Snake Eyes All Out

4. ★ Welfare/Wellbeing Workshop – Save the Date

Calling all Branch Welfare Officers and Area Welfare Officers - We are so looking forward to seeing you all at the '**Welfare & Wellbeing Workshop**' – It's been a long time since our last seminar due to the Covid pandemic and there's so much to catch up on and it'll be great to see each other.

So please **Save the Date**

Friday 7th October – arrive for refreshments 1100 followed by day 1 of the workshop

Saturday 8th October – Workshop Day 2 with a social in the evening.

The session will be held in Portsmouth with the exact venue being confirmed in the next couple of days. Specific details will be forwarded to Branch Secretaries and Welfare Officers.

Would Shipmates who are interested in attending kindly email Lynda Pearson email Lynda@royalnavalassoc.com with your expression of interest.

5. ★ 2023 RNA AGM/Conference – Liverpool 26/28 May 2023

The 2023 RNA AGM/Conference will be held in Liverpool over the weekend 26/28 May 2023. The Battle of Atlantic 80th commemorations will be held over the same weekend and Shipmates will be included in the full range of events. Area 10 and Central Office personnel are embedded in the organising committee, which is led by the Naval Regional Commander, Cdre Phil Waterhouse RN to ensure the RNA is fully engaged in this prestigious national event.

Area 10 are putting together a fabulous weekend of entertainment, with bands and singers on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday night. It is hoped that we will have golf, fishing and uckers competitions on the Sunday Afternoon. The gala Dinner will be partly themed around the BOA and will be a black tie event.

Liverpool will be a very busy city over the weekend with a civil reception on the Friday night, a light show on the Saturday night a drumhead service on the Sunday. There will also be a military village on the pier head alongside a number of Warships that will be visiting the city that weekend for the BoA 80.

Area 10 have secured accommodation at two hotels in Liverpool -

- The Adelphi, a 3 star hotel the specialises in events and reunions.
- The Novotel which is about 1/2 kilometre away from the Adelphi and offers a bit more upmarket service, for those that prefer a little luxury.

For information the Gala dinner will be held in the Adelphi Hotel. (Separate Details to follow).

There will be a high demand for hotels over the weekend so **early booking** is strongly recommended as there are limited rooms available (250 at each hotel) and only 600 spaces for the dinner.

The costs, contact numbers and booking forms are available at the rear of this Circular. So get booking and come and join in the fun.....

6. ★ Governance Committee – Charity Commission

Governance Chair, Shipmate Nick Purkis, writes to advice Clubs and Branches on important matters relating to the Charity Commission.

Over the past couple of years, we have seen an increasing number of Branches being late delivering their annual returns to the Charity Commission. The register of charities is available online for members of the public to inspect and so late returns has a negative reputational impact on the Association. Additionally, the Royal Navy regularly carried out checks on the register and view RNA late returns as a negative reputational impact on the RN.

Registration with the Charity Commission is only required, where Branch revenue exceeds GBP5,000. If revenue is below this, then the Branch should seriously consider de-registering from the Commission, to avoid the additional reporting required each year.

The Governance Committee will be reviewing the Charities Commission Register throughout the year and will bring to the attention of National Council, any Branches or Areas, who are registered and whose returns are late or outstanding.

7. ★ Battle of the Atlantic 80th Anniversary (BOA80)

Shipmates Central Office needs your assistance please.....

Next year's RNA Conference, which is being held in Liverpool on 26/28 May 2023, coincides with the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of the Atlantic, also being held in Liverpool.

Central Office would like to include as many WWII Veterans, who were involved in the Battle of the Atlantic, as possible and give them an early 'heads up'. If you have any eligible shipmates in your branch or know of any who took part in the battle please could you contact Central Office by email or phone so that they can begin to formulate a list. Central Office staff will then ensure that the Veterans are accommodation and transported to the anniversary.

8. ★ Photo's for Inclusion in Semaphore Circular - Church Notice

Shipmates a small 'Church Notice'..... We love receiving your photographs sent in for inclusion in the Semaphore Circular, thank you for sending them in. However, please note that when we receive these photographs, we will take it that you have permission from those in the photograph to share the image.

I am sure you will understand that in this day and age life is a little more complicated particularly when it comes to safeguarding so when a photograph includes a minor, we are unable to use it unless express permission has been given from all parents/guardians.

Thank you very much for your assistance. If you need further clarification, please contact Central Office and the RNA Privacy Policy can be found on the website.

9. ★ RNBT – Royal Marine Band Service Charity Concert – New Theatre Royal

The Royal Marine Band Service are holding a charity concert, with all proceeds going to RNBT, on Sunday 11 September at 1500 in The New Theatre Royal Portsmouth.

Please see below the link for ticket details.....

<https://www.newtheatreroyal.com/performances/the-royal-naval-benevolent-trust/>

10. ★ 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 01 Aug	Craig Jones	LGBT+ Independent Review
Monday 08 Aug	Bill Oliphant	The Battle of St Julien de Crempse
Monday 22 Aug	Charles Wylie	The Korean War
Monday 29 Aug	Bank Holiday	
Monday 05 Sep	Geoff Parsons	Famous and not so famous naval signals
Monday 12 Sep	Cdre Joll Woodard	Head Combat Aviation Programmes
Monday 19 Sep	Gordon Simmonds	Signalling in Nelson's Navy
Monday 26 Sep	Eilidh MacIntyre	Olympic Gold Medalist Sailor
Monday 03 Oct	Geoff Parsons	Naval heroes and events celebrated and commemorated with sundials
Monday 10 Oct	Angus Konstam	U-47 in Scapa Flow
Monday 17 Oct	TBA	
Monday 24 Oct	David Griggs	SOSUS in the Cold War

* Lecture subjects may change at short notice.

** Shipmates please note that The 'Fireside Chat' commences at **1830**

11. ★ F40 Weekend Loads of Photo's

Shipmates should be aware that there is a huge resource for people to browse and see themselves and shipmates from the F40 weekend at the link below:

<https://royal-naval-association.co.uk/gallery/falklands-40-sunday-no1/>

Our grateful thanks to S/m Nigel Huxtable BEM and S/M Chris Hore BEM for their efforts placing the photos on the website.

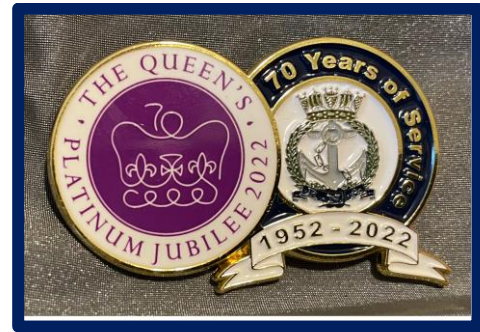
12. ★ Jubilee and F40 Pin Badges

Shipmates, never did we imagine when we shared the Royal Naval Association Jubilee Pin that demand would be greater than the actual Jubilee weekend - but yes after the recent F40 is weekend and RNA Conference, branches have indicated they STILL want MORE. So.....

We have placed an order for a final 600 - on a first come first served basis. The badges will arrive in early August.

To order the badges you will need to fill out the form attached at the end of this Circular. Please be advised that Central Office will also accept orders by email entitled Jubilee / F40 Badges admin@navalassoc.com

Please do not leave messages on the answerphone about badges as it will detract from our normal business. As soon as they are received in Central Office they will be immediately turned around and despatched.



13. ★ Friends of the Royal Naval Benevolent Fund (RNBT) – Update

Our thanks to RNBT CEO Rob Bosshardt update us the latest news from RNBT.

On Saturday 7th May we celebrated the centenary of the signing of our Royal Charter with a moving Thanksgiving Service at Portsmouth Cathedral. The service included readings from the Royal Charter as well as letters received from the RNBT family from 1922 right up to the present day. The readings were a poignant expression the impact that RNBT has made on people's lives.



The service was also a reminder of our commitment to be there for our people as their needs evolve, both in the short term as the cost of living crisis bites as well as in the future.

We have launched an awareness campaign via social media in the North-West of England to try and reach more people in need who may not know that we can help them. We are looking to expand the campaign nationally later in the year. The purpose of the campaign is simple: to encourage people who need help to make direct contact with us via email help@rnb.org.uk by calling a dedicated helpline on [02394 216294](tel:02394216294).

Admiral Jellicoe House is now in operation with practical completion of the construction project, including full internal fit-out, was achieved on 25th April. The building and grounds look superb, and the Home manager Gill Irish and her team moved into the building the same day, ready to start the staff induction and training as well as the myriad of other pre-opening tasks.



We were visited by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspectors on 23rd May, a few weeks earlier than we were expecting, but the team rose to the challenge and we duly received our registration.

We welcomed our first resident on Tuesday 14th June, and will slowly but steadily welcome more residents over the next year. We are keen to hear from anyone interested in a residency: please

contact Lindsay Yendall at scm.ajh@rnbt.org.uk or give the Home a call on [02392 000996](tel:02392000996). We will be steadily increasing our staff at each stage; please contact our Recruitment Team on [0121 713 6958](tel:01217136958) or email rnbt@cohesionrecruitment.com for more information.

The Admiral Jellicoe House project has been completed in three and a half years, comfortably inside the 'industry standard' of four years and to budget, all this despite a longer than expected planning approval phase - and of course a pandemic. We are all so proud of this achievement.

14. ★ Central Office - Certificate of Appreciation



Central Office staff were surprised, thrilled and honoured to have been awarded a National Council Certificate of Appreciation at Conference.

The CoA was presented to the staff in appreciation of their outstanding support and dedication to the Association throughout the Covid-19 period of 2020 & 2021 giving moral, welfare and guidance to the membership beyond their normal duties.

The accompanying photo shows S/M Andy Christie the CO 'House Elder' receiving the certificate on behalf of the staff. It now hangs proudly in Central Office.

15. ★ Humorous Inter Service 'Stuff'

Our thanks to S/M Lester May for spotting this recently at Pangbourne, home of the annual Falklands remembrance service, in the lunch marquee.....

Are they referring to paragraphs 2 + 3 (48 pages) of the BR5 Manual of Naval Cookery or the Army Manual of Infantry??



16. ★ HMS Mars Commemoration – Sunday 24 April 2022

Thanks to S/M Tim McSweeney, Hons Sec, RNA Cork and County Branch.

On the Saturday morning Tommy Steele -Treasurer, Fred Crudge – Chairman and myself, cut the grass and cleaned up the general area around the plot. Early on Sunday morning Hendrick Verwey of Cobh Tidy Towns Committee put the finishing touches to it.



We assembled at the Old Church Cemetery at 14.00 in brilliant sunshine where a large crowd gathered. Among the guests were Commander John Patterson Royal Navy - Senior Naval Officer Northern Ireland; Tadhg Clarke - Assistant Defence Attaché British Embassy Dublin; RNA Branches from Northern Ireland, Dublin and Cork; Cobh Branch Organisation National Ex service personnel and the Military Police Association. The attendance of our local Animation Team added a colourful aspect to the ceremony. Two Irish Government Ministers as well as several local Councillors

attended. Tom McSweeney, well-known Marine journalist recorded the proceedings which was aired the following week on his Radio show 'Seascapes'.

I gave the opening address, followed by a religious ceremony conducted by Rev Fr Liam Kelleher R.C. and Canon Paul Arbutnot C. of Ireland. The poem 'Shipmates' was recited by branch member John Gregory after which 'The Seaman's Prayer' was beautifully recited in that distinctive northern lilt, by Robert Buchanan. The names of the 12 victims were solemnly read out by Michael McCarthy, a member of Cobh Branch O.N.E., after which a minutes silence was observed, timed by the Bosun's Call.



Wreaths were laid by – Cdr John Patterson RN on behalf of the Royal Navy; Tadhg Clarke on behalf of British Ambassador to Ireland; Cork and County Branch RNA and Cobh Branch O.N.E.

'The Fallen' was then read by John Gregory and the Hymn 'Those in Peril on the Sea' was sung by George Jefferies O.N.E. The Last post and Reveille were then played by John Crowley Cobh Band. The ceremony ended with 'Lochaber no more', a piper's lament, played a lot on the Western Front during burials in WW1. Hauntingly played by Patrick Cosgrave on the bagpipes, it brought a tear to many an eye.



In conclusion, I thanked all who donated towards this worthwhile project; especially RNA Aldershot Branch whose extremely generous sponsorship was of enormous benefit to us.

All were thanked for their attendance and were invited to the Water's Edge Hotel in Cobh for light refreshments. All in all, a great day for our Branch and for the RNA in general.

The Old Church Cemetery is where most of the Lusitania victims are buried along with many other victims of naval disasters and is much visited by tourists from all over the world. The 'Mars' plot is only a stone's throw away from the Lusitania plot and since it has been refurbished (all the names on the headstones can be read clearly) it has drawn the attention of many who remark on how young the unfortunate sailors were when they lost their lives.



They will be remembered.

Editors Note – BZ to RNA Cork and County Branch for all their efforts and RNA Aldershot for their generous donation HMS Mars Ships Company would be so thrilled with what you achieved on their Shipmates behalf, as are we all.

17. ★ RBL Remembrance Campaign 2023. Can you help?

Shipmates, Lizzy Shipton a researcher at the RBL have asked for our assistance. As part of the RBL's commemorations for next year, they are looking for individuals who can share their experiences of National Service with the Royal British Legion.



Each case study will be used to teach Remembrance through lesson plans and other learning resources. It is a fantastic opportunity for veterans to share their stories with younger generations. The case studies may also feature on our website.

All it would involve is an interview with Lizzy, which can be conducted via the phone, video call or in person, whichever is most convenient. If the contributor is able to share any photos, that would be wonderful.

If anyone is interested in assisting, they should contact Lizzy directly, her contact details can be found below. Lizzy is keen to conduct interviews between now and early September

So, in summary.....

Did you undertake National Service between 1949 – 1963?

If yes, the Royal British Legion would love to hear from you.

In 2023 we are commemorating the 60th anniversary of the last serviceman completing his national service. As I stated earlier this is a great opportunity to share your stories and experiences with the next generation and help teach them about Remembrance.

Email: eshipton@britishlegion.org.uk

Mobile: 07899 915 784

18. ★ RNRMC Charity Cookbook

The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity (RNRMC) has celebrated the success of its first charity cookbook as well as its new Platinum Partnership with Defence and Government Catering Services ESS.

Galley, which was published last year, highlights the traditions and innovations of the unique culinary world of the Royal Navy. It shines a light on the incredible skill and talent found within this demanding industry, thanks to the contributions of 20 professional chefs with a connection to the Royal Navy, including Michel Roux Jr, who himself served in the French military.



Celebrations took place on the 13th July at the prestigious HMS President in London. The event paid tribute to all those who supported the cookbook project, either through sponsorship or by contributing recipes. Guests also got the opportunity to sample dishes of some of the delicious cookbook recipes.

The RNRMC used the event to especially thank their new Platinum Partner, ESS, for all their support over the duration of their relationship.



Bob Gray, Managing Director at ESS Defence, said:

“We’re delighted to have been recognised as a Platinum Partner of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity (RNRMC). We’ve enjoyed a fabulous relationship with the organisation to date, collaborating on a number of exciting projects including the ‘Galley’ cookbook and selling of RNRMC merchandise in our retail stores, as well as working together to provide essential food boxes to beneficiaries of the RNRMC. The charity does such important work to support serving and former sailors, marines and their families and we are very proud to contribute to this. I look forward to our partnership going from strength to strength.”

Adrian Bell, chief executive at RNRMC, said:

“We are thrilled to welcome ESS into our Platinum Corporate Partnership Tier. ESS has been crucial in aiding our important work helping the Royal Navy community and their families, and we have thoroughly enjoyed working together with them. We are confident that our relationship will continue to flourish as we take these positive next steps.”

The Platinum Tier is the highest Corporate Partnership that the RNRMC offers.

All proceeds generated from sales of Galley go towards supporting the charity’s essential work in helping serving personnel, veterans, and families.

19. ★ VIP at Conference.....

RNA photographer, Shipmate '3 GCB's' Huxtable spotted a very special person hanging about outside the Conference Marquee.....



Psst.... Shipmate have I won anything in the raffle?

Tell Oliphant to shake it up a bit
Its the same old winners!

20. ★ Special Interest Group – Cricket and Golfing Reports

The RNA Golf SIG annual competition was held at Southwick Park Golf Course on Friday 17th June. Met with the most glorious weather atop Portsdown Hill, shipmates new and old joined with our event sponsors Oracle UK, to battle it out for the “McAnally Salver”.

Some great, and not so great, golf was played – but most importantly some classic dits were dusted off and shared with new shipmates!





The Team Competition and winners of the Oracle Red Bull Racing goodies were shipmates Richard Harris, Roger Bannister and George Mitchell, with Oracle representative Darren Dunmow making up the fourball.

George Mitchell also picked up the Nearest the Pin prize of an RNA Golfers engraved tot glass.

The individual winner, and inaugural holder of the “McAnally Salver” was Richard Harris.

Local course knowledge may have played a part, but an impressive 40 stableford points secured a well-deserved victory. We look forward to challenging him for the prize in next year’s event.

Congratulations to everyone who was able to attend on the day and we look forward to welcoming new Golf SIG members to join us going forward.



Finally, thank you to Oracle UK for fully sponsoring the event this year.

For more details you can contact -

rna.golfers@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/454684612304361>

Match Report - Royal Navy Cricket Association v Royal Marines Cricket Association

Cricket can be unforgiving: lose a game as skipper and you’re a wally, win it and you’re a hero. The RMA & RNA played the inaugural match as part of the ‘*Reunite, Relive and Remember* Falklands 40 commemoration and celebration weekend’ but the key message is a new SIG

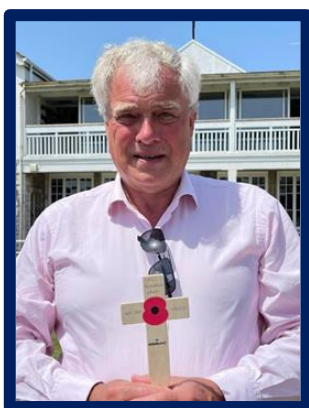
(Cricket) has been launched shipmates, so get involved; via sport long may it continue. Herein follows a short report of the background and a little about the match as sometime there is much more important things in life than winning. Fig 1 shows both teams conducting a 1 min silence.



The Opposition RMACC are like minded aging cricketers, like fine port who never accept they are past it and through great collaboration between SM Mark Smith and Royal Andy Crofts we managed to get the game on and have vowed to make it an annual match playing for a trophy and we were fortunate to also get some sponsorship (Via I Cloud Secure Plus) and with the RNA paying for some lunches we had a game. Long, may it continue (and already planned to do so in Liverpool next year a part of the Battle of the Atlantic celebrations). Fig 2 represent RM lives lost.



The inaugural game of T20 was to be played at the home of Navy Cricket Burnaby Road, Portsmouth on Fri 17 Jun 22, the weather was perfect, and we had some great support from both Associations VIPs, RMACC President Gen Sir Henry Beverley made the trip down from London.



Brig (Retired) Charlie Hobson also made it up from Devon. (It was very significant to Charlie as he buried Cpl Andrew UREN 45 Cdo in the Falklands on 11/6/82). We also were delighted to see our President SM Duncan Potts also pop in to watch the game as did our CEO SM Bill Oliphant as well as other golfers. Fig 4 Charlie holding Andrew UREN cross at the match, so we don't forget Andrew.

We were also delighted to see RNA nonplaying spectators also pop along and watch as well as our RNA Riders who

also popped in to watch the match. Many enjoyed a few free wets, sandwiches, and the sunshine before the weekend festivities.



I suppose you want to know about the game itself – before I do briefly mention that; more importantly the match was also chosen for us to commemorate our fallen SMs as well as those Royal Marines who gave their lives in the Falklands 40 years ago, so the result was really put to the back of our minds as old friendships were forged and new friendships made. Fig 4 sees the team shaking hands at the end of the game.

I was delighted to reunite with CPOMA Les Yeomans (who was by far the oldest player on both sides age 72 – sorry Les for GDPR breach), SM Thomas Oundjian was also mentioned in dispatches as Thomas played with a long-standing injury). BZ Thomas.



Our thanks also go out to the newly appointed and in post Naval Base Commander Cdre John Voyce who owns the ground and kindly allowed us to play our match on it. SM John also presented the medals post the match and stayed for a beer and was also present throughout the weekend supporting the various RNA activities.

In summary, whilst a tad rougher, fitter (Massive) and younger the RMACC are very nice chaps led by the Andy Croft, a decent cricketer too. This is our first and annual fixture and whilst they did bring in some

younger players, (so did we) as our RNA membership offers cradle to grave support, so I expect next year to get the mix better. The Royals had some posh cars (unlike ours) so must be doing very nicely, the RNA batted first, which seemed sensible as we were strong on paper and it was also too hot to field, we allowed a free hit first ball and you had to retire at 25 so all could get a game. The RNA posted a very credible 139 on a hard flat pitch with SM Piers Moore getting 25 retired and our young ringer from the west indies getting his 25 in 7 balls, this simply annoyed the Royals, and we were to pay for this later.

A very enjoyable lunch was taken between innings and the RNA were set to defend 139 and we allowed all bowlers to bowl 2 overs each to allow as many to play as possible. The royals sent in their thugs, (I mean players, who had obviously lifetime gym membership) and proceeded to smash balls as far as they could, ignoring the principal that 6 is the maximum you can get no matter how far the balls get hit. Wickets started to fall and the finish was very tight with the sponsor hitting the winning runs in the final 20th over – he also won the man of the match (Honest !), but deep down he knew this would cost him more in sponsorship next year), this saw the Royals win the trophy and let us off the hook by having to arm wrestle their biggest player for double or quits.



All players were allowed to keep their shirt as a memento by the sponsors and all got a small medallion, and all enjoyed as few wets as the sun set in Portsmouth.

Roll on Liverpool and we very much encourage you all to come and watch the cricket as part of the Battle of the Atlantic celebrations in 2023. Also drop me a line and be part of the RNA SIG (Cricket).

Sponsorship also assists greatly in these events so if you know of anyone or a company or organisation who would like to sponsor the SIG (Cricket) please let me know on markmiff1962@gmail.com

Yours in Cricket, S/M Mark Smith

21. ★ 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 17th 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

Classic Cars – Mike Burnham: hon.secretary@rnarayleigh.org

Cricket – Mark Smith : Markmiff1962@gmail.com

Cycling – Craig Fulton: craig@govguide.co.uk

Decorative Ropework – Bob Jones: oldsalt69@hotmail.co.uk

Divers – Bill Lawless: billylawless40@yahoo.com

Fishing – Gus Honeywood/Selwyn Davies/John Stephenson: rna.fishing.sig@gmail.com

Golf – Colin Dinsdale: rna.golfers@gmail.com

Riders – Dave Ives: secrnariders@gmail.com

Model Makers – Gary Daisley: RNA.Modelmakers@gmail.com

If you are interested in forming a Special Interest Group and joining in the fun please contact admin@royalnavalassoc.com

22. ★ HMS Bronington - Update



Thanks for the keen interest shown by the Royal Naval Association in the historic Ton Class Royal Navy Mine Counter Measure Vessel (MCMV) HMS BRONINGTON and the article published in the Semaphore Circular (April 2022). The Trust and supporters remain fully committed to the restoration of this vessel. (see National Historic Ships UK [here](#)).

Dive Survey - Following a dive survey by the marine specialists Briggs Marine (24 June 22) and with some minor remedial work on the hull watertight integrity, HMS

BRONINGTON is deemed to be in a satisfactory condition to re-float (see attached photos). The Trust will shortly receive an estimate from Briggs Marine to cover the cost of the salvage operation. A second estimate has been received from the salvage consultants ABL, the free use of Maritime and Coastguard Agency salvage equipment (put forward by Ambipar Response) will keep the salvage costs to a minimum. The satisfactory outcome of the dive survey has given the Trust fresh impetus and optimism and will generate a more upbeat response from our supporters.



Next step - Our next milestone is to refloat/stabilise HMS BRONINGTON and prepare her for transit and restoration at a ship yard. To achieve this next step, we estimate somewhere between £50k - £80k will be required. Ideally, we would like to raise £100k which would also help us with the initial stages of restoration.

Fundraising - The satisfactory outcome of the dive survey will now trigger the release of our Charitable Status application and will enable the Trust to apply for grants and sponsorships. Our GoFundMe crowd funding appeal (started 24 Nov 2021) continues to gather momentum and we've already raised over £9,000 and with a generous donation from the Liverpool RNA, we're approaching £10,000. ([visit gofundme here](#))



Restoration - The level of restoration for the vessel will depend on the availability of funding, primarily the Trust would like to see her fully seaworthy. If this is not feasible through lack of funds and/or equipment, it is envisaged that HMS BRONINGTON will become a museum ship alongside or in a dry dock and open to the public at Portsmouth,

Manchester, Liverpool or Chatham, similar to her successful years as a museum ship on the Manchester Ship Canal.

Support - The project to restore HMS BRONINGTON is coming together very successfully, with much media interest and many of those involved giving their services free of charge.



RNA Support - To help us progress with this monumental project to restore HMS BRONINGTON, I'm hoping that a post dive survey update can be published in the RNAs Semaphore Circular. RNA Liverpool were very generous with a financial donation and I'm hoping that other RNAs may be able to help out in a similar way. Any donations would be greatly received and valued.

Remember Give a £TON for TON

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



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.

Hayes Travel - Foreign Exchange Rates

Shipmates will be pleased to know that Hayes Travel are offering all of RNA members special rates on foreign currency at any of the Hays Travel branches nationwide. Your members would simply need to produce membership card for the discount to be applied at the time of transaction.



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: 07983 151011 E Mail: ray@rnaslops.clothing



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

RNA Longcast

06 Aug	Area 5 Meeting – Harwich
06 Aug	Area 3 Quarterly meeting - Portsea (Royal Maritime Club)
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
07 Sep	National Employment Scheme Silver Awards Ceremony
10 Sep	National Council Meeting
30 Sep	Central Office - Open Day
29 Oct	2022 World Uckers Championships – Portsmouth
29 Oct	Area 5 Meeting - Harwich
10 Nov	Garden of Remembrance
11 Nov (pm)	Budget Meeting
13 Nov	Remembrance Sunday
18 Nov	AMC – F2F
19 Nov	Area 3 Quarterly Meeting – RNA Gosport (Committee 17 Nov)
03 Dec	National Council Meeting
21 Dec – 03 Jan	Central Office Closed for Christmas
2023	
26 Feb	Area 3 AGM/Quarterly Meeting – RNA Waterlooville (Committee 24 Feb)
06 May	Area 3 Quarterly Meeting (Committee 04 May)
26 / 28 May	RNA Conference - Liverpool
26 / 28 May	Battle of the Atlantic 80 Commemoration - Liverpool
24 Jun	National Armed Forces Day – Falmouth
05 Aug	Area 3 Quarterly Meeting (Committee 03 Aug)
10 Sep	Naval Associations / RNA Biennial Parade - Whitehall
18 Nov	Area 3 Quarterly Meeting (Committee 16 Nov)

D'ye hear there'.....

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

This Month Featuring.....

[Area 12 \(Ireland\)](#)

[RNA Brixham](#)

[RNA City of Inverness](#)

[RNA Reigate](#)

[RNA St Neots](#)

[RNA Marlborough](#)

[RNA Folkestone](#)

[RNA Rosyth and West Fife](#)

[RNA Torpoint and Rame](#)

[RNA West Bromwich](#)

[RNA Lee on the Solent and Stubbington](#)

[RNA Orkney](#)

[RNA Londonderry](#)

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[RNA Chatham](#)

[RNA Argonaut](#)

[RNA Wansbeck](#)

[RNA Area 3](#)

[RNA Area 2](#)

Area 12 (Ireland)

Our Grateful thanks to Shipmate Robert Buchanan, Chairman Area 12, for forwarding a report on the proceedings at the Area 12 Falklands 40th Commemoration on Sunday 12 June 2022 in Belfast.

Shipmates from branches of No 12 Area (Ireland) mustered in Belfast on Sunday 12th June 2022, to commemorate the service and sacrifice of our forces during the Falkland Campaign. We were pleased to welcome our National Chairman S/m Keith Ridley and National Vice Chairman S/m Paul Stephenson. It was great to have some of our Falklands Veterans on parade, as we were joined by the members of the Royal Marines Association Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Submariners Association. We were also very pleased to welcome a detachment of Sea Cadets to complete our "Naval Family Day" Parade and Service.

The Parade marched off from the Belfast RNA Club, led by the Bugles, Pipes & Drums of 2 Royal Irish Regiment, enroute to the Cenotaph at Belfast City Hall. No 12 Area Standard paraded by S/m Jack Garfield, Area Vice Chairman, was pride of place, followed by the RMA NI Standard, NI Submariners Standard and the Northern Ireland District Standard of the Royal British Legion. Branch Standards were also on parade from Belfast, Dublin, Mid Antrim, Limavady &

Londonderry. The parade was under the very capable command of Mr Phil McMullan, Chairman RMA NI.



Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for the County Borough of Belfast, Dame Fionnuala Jay O'Boyle DBE DStJ accompanied by her husband Mr Richard Jay and the Lord Lieutenants Cadet, Able Sea Cadet Alex Sargent, were at the Cenotaph to greet the parade.

Other VIPs included the Senior Naval Officer Northern Ireland, Cdr Rob Milligan, Honorary Air Commodore Alister Finley OBE, our very own National Chairman S/m Keith Ridley, National Vice Chairman S/m Paul Stephenson, No 12 Area (Ireland) President Cdr Tim Chrishop RN (rtd), No 12 Area (Ireland) Chairman S/m Robert Buchanan, Royal Air Force Association NI Chairman Wg Cdr Noel Williams (rtd), RBL NI District President Mr Philip Morrison MBE BEM and RBL NI District Vice Chairman Mr Sam Hudson.



The Service was conducted by the Rev James Burnett, who is associated with HMS Hibernia. Rev James led us in a prayer and a reading and shared some words on the theme, *The Indelible Character of Those who Stand*.

We sang the Naval Hymn, ably led by Mrs Ciara Young and joined in a prayer to remember those who made the great sacrifice during the Falklands Conflict; An Act of Remembrance was performed with Cdr Tim Chrishop reading Binyon's ode and the Kohima Prayer. The last Post and Reveille was played by four Buglers from 2 Royal Irish Regiment. Standards were dipped during the silence.



The Wreath laying was led by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for the County Borough of Belfast, Dame Fionnuala Jay O'Boyle DBE DStJ. The other VIPs' then laid wreath on behalf of their respective organisations. The Service at the Cenotaph was concluded with the National Anthem.

On completion, the parade formed up and Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for the County Borough of Belfast, Dame Fionnuala Jay O'Boyle DBE DStJ took the salute at a march past.



The Parade then made their way back to the Belfast RNA Club, where they were addressed and thanked by No 12 Area (Ireland) President Cdr Tim Chrishop RN (rtd). The National Anthem was played, the Standards marched off and Parade dismissed.

Tots were available for all and refreshments were enjoyed and the serious business of lamp swinging and tall yarns started. As the Lord Lieutenant said afterwards, it was a most dignified and appropriate event to commemorate the service and sacrifice of our forces during the Falklands Conflict.

A very big thank you to all involved and we give a special thank you to the Falklands Veterans who were able to join us for the Commemoration.

It would be remiss of us not to give a mention to Belfast RNA Branch and Club. Their hospitality and comradeship is second to none and we thank them for accommodating the Falklands 40 event.

British Forces Broadcasting Service link; <https://fb.watch/dEzmUltQrl/>

No 12 Area (Ireland) link: [\(20+\) Royal Naval Association Area 12 | Facebook](#)

Photos courtesy of S/m James McCurdy, Secretary Limavady Branch.

RNA Brixham Branch

RNA Brixham Hon Secretary, Shipmate Vic Williscroft reports on proceedings in Brixham.



Shipmates mustered for the towns Platinum Jubilee parade. Members marched (dockyard bumble), to Brixham Town Square where a service of thanksgiving was held, which was attended by other local organisations This was followed up by a lunch and cake (jubilee cake)



Also, at our meeting on Tuesday 7th June we had a tot, to celebrate the Jubilee and to remember the D Day landings.

RNA Reigate Branch

On Tuesday 14th June, members of Reigate Branch manned a British Legion stand in the Belfry Shopping Centre, Redhill, commemorating the 40th anniversary of the end of the Falklands Conflict. £500 was raised for the RBL poppy appeal.

The Shopping Centre Manager, Mr. Andy Nash, stated that the centre was delighted to host the event.

The photo attached is of branch members with Mr. Andy Nash & the Mayor of Reigate & Banstead Cllr. Frank Kelly.



RNA City of Inverness and Beauly Branch

Shipmate Bob Coburn reports from the Highlands that a very successful Jubilee lunch was had with City of Inverness RNA branch members and guests.



RNA St Neots Branch

Thanks to Shipmate Ian Cameron for keeping us briefed on matters St Neots tucked away in middle England!



On Sunday 19 June as part of the Falklands 40th Anniversary Commemorations held in Portsmouth, S/M Keith Ridley, as RNA National Chairman, accepted on behalf of the Royal Naval Association, the Freedom Scroll presented to the RNA by Portsmouth City Council. S/M Keith deemed this a great Honour, having been a member of both the Branch & RNA for 46 years. Since joining the Branch in June 1976, Keith has served as Branch Secretary 9 years, President 6 years and Chairman 20 years. In 2012 he became the National Council Member for No 6 Area before being elected National Chairman in 2016, a position he is most proud to hold.

(Editors Note; BZ to the National Stoker!)

In other St Neots news.....

St Neots had their first collection for good causes at the Bedford Tesco. The public of Bedford responded splendidly, and the collection returned a very respectable increase to branch funding. One of the good causes was for the Bedford Sea Cadets

Doing duty on the stand are (From Left) S/Ms Geoff Patterson, Helen Patterson, and Keith Ridley.



Showing a great sense of public duty S/M Keith Ridley assisted a shopper by baby- sitting her dog. S/M Helen Patterson stands ready to assist. (It just goes to show that even stokers can make friends).

And finally..... The branch Jubilee picnic was held on June 6th and S/Ms were joined by Val and Paul Godfrey, Area 6 Chairman & Peterborough RNA Chairman, and his wife Valerie (Seated centre). The event was enlivened by the arrival of Dean, an ex-Stoker who seems to be saluting S/M Keith Ridley, another of that exalted branch. Dean has been promptly placed on the branch mailing list. S/M John Gibbs, branch President and whose proud boast is that he joined the King's Navy is seen battling with his mobile. Fandangled interweb thing.....



RNA Marlborough Branch

Hon Secretary S/M Clive Bristow would like to inform Shipmates that Marlborough branch will now meet once a month on the 2nd Wednesday of each month with the venue – Marlborough Bowls Club, Salisbury Road, Marlborough SN8 4AE commencing at 1930. The next meeting will be Wednesday 10 August 2022.

RNA Wallasey Branch

S/M John Williams reports that armed forces week has gone along with the British Legion the Wallasey RNA we asked the schools to do a painting and the best one would win a prize and the school that won for the second year running was Liscard Primary.

Along with John Keane RBL and ourselves we were invited to the assembly our Chairman Kevin Cosgrove provided a 'question and answer' session with the pupils, which went down very well and very good questions from the pupils.



Kevin being an 'ex Josman' was in his element. (Editors note – not trooping them I hope !) The school has been invited down to the RNA Wallasey to show the teachers and students what the Royal Naval Association is all about.



Finally, the picture opposite shows S/M Billy Simmons a member at Wallasey who completed the Falklands Forty Challenge walking 60K. He raised £150 and RNA Wallasey donated £150 to make his total £300.

BZ Billy and RNA Wallasey.



Wallasey Branch also invited children from Egremont Primary school to raise the ensigns. This was organised by John Keane who served in the Royal Scots, Royal Engineers, and the Kings Regiment. He is also poppy appeal organiser for Wallasey for three years also doing poppy appeal for over 20 years. In the

photos John Keane,

Lt Cdr Ted Mason SCC Blackcap Royal Naval Veteran and Gerry Morgan observing the pupils from Egremont Primary doing the Ensigns.

Also group pupils and staff from Egremont Primary.

(Parental consent was approved for all attached photos.)



RNA Folkestone Branch

Members of Folkestone Branch attended a Church Service at St Peter's Church Folkestone on Sunday 12th June when the Sunday Mass included a Remembrance for the Falklands War. The Service was attended by the Mayor of Folkestone, Councillor Nikki Keen as well as holders of the South Atlantic Medal.

The Service was led by Father Mark Haldon-Jones, who is also Branch Chaplain, the Branch Standard was in attendance.

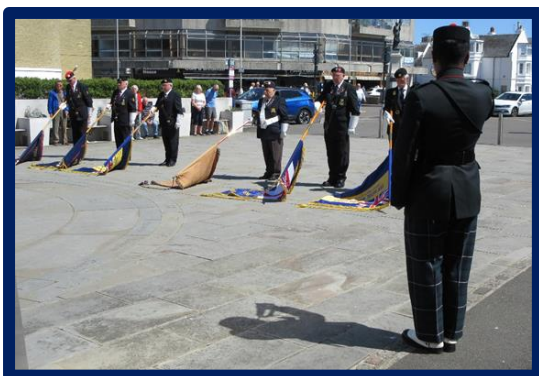
During the Service wreaths were laid at the Altar.

On Tuesday 14th June Branch Members attended a short Service on the Leas at Folkestone to mark "Freedom Day" along

with Civic Dignitaries, local Councillors, members of other Veterans Associations including Gurkhas and members of the public.

On completion, wreaths were laid at the Town's War Memorial.

(Photos courtesy of Mr C Gannon)



RNA Rosyth and West Fife Branch

RNA Rosyth & West Fife Branch celebrated the Platinum Jubilee, of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, with the kind permission of the Hillend Hub and Community, with a Beacon Lighting Ceremony at Hillend Village Park near Dalgety Bay, Fife on the 2nd June 2022.

The occasion was heralded by Mr. David Coleman, Hillend Village, *Town Crier*, delivering the "Proclamation" to the Village at 2pm.

A contingency of Branch Members accompanied by a large number of Villagers and a Troop of the newly formed Fordell Scout Group, led by Mrs. Lianne Miller, assembled at the Village Park, which was magnificently decorated by members of the local community. Our Parade Commander was S/M and Chairman Mr. Richard Wardrope, and the Branch Standard was Paraded by our Standard Bearer Mr. Mark Firth.



At 9.35pm, having formed up, the Parade Commander ordered the Branch Piper and Honorary Branch Member, Brooklyn Morris to pipe '*Diu Regnare*,' written especially for the Jubilee by *Major Stuart Liddle* and played movingly and very professionally by such a young piper (15yrs old).



This was followed at 9.40pm, by our Branch Cornet Player and Honorary Member, Mr. Michael Hunter who, with great aplomb, played the official Bugle Call '*Majesty*,' written for the occasion by *Sjt. A.W. Carlisle*,

The ceremonial lighting of our Beacon was performed at 9.45pm, by Mrs. Evelyn Crombie, former Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Fife. Following the lighting of the Beacon Michael Hunter played and the parade sang, the National Anthem following which the Parade Commander ordered 'Remove Head Gear and the gathered

parade gave '*Three Cheers*' for Her Majesty. The parade was then fallen out and in true Naval tradition, the Chairman ordered a Toast to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and our Rum Bosun Norman Thoroughgood issued a generous Tot of Pussers to all participants, over the age of 18, with the alternative of a Single Malt for those landlubbers present.

At 10.15pm the parade once again formed up and was marched from the park to The Village Pub led by our Standard and Piper to the resounding skirl of the pipes playing 'Black Bear.' Gathering for a Dram in the Hillend Tavern, we were treated to copious slices of delicious 'Jubilee Pie,' generously baked for the occasion by the Village Community and graciously appreciated by Members of Rosyth & West Fife RNA.



This most poignant and historical celebration

has given our Branch of the RNA a marvellous opportunity to reinforce and strengthen our partnership with our local communities and youth organisations.

Our grateful thanks to S/m Jim Stewart (Hon Treasurer) for putting the above article together.

RNA Torpoint and Rame Branch

Chairman, S/M Bob Brotherston forwarded the photo's below featuring Shipmates from RNA Torpoint and Rame branch taking part in the Falklands 40th Anniversary Flag raising ceremony on Plymouth Hoe recently.



RNA West Bromwich Branch

West Bromwich Branch celebrated the Queen's Jubilee with a racing night on Saturday 4th June.



A tasty sauce cooked by one of our committee members was served with crusty bread. The main event was an afternoon of entertainment with a buffet on Sunday 5th. Drinks prices were reduced, unfortunately not to 1952 prices. The treasurer could not be persuaded! One of our favourite vocalists provided an excellent selection of songs while the Jubilee Pageant played silently in the background.

Our eldest shipmate Vic Taylor (101 years old in August) had the honour of cutting the

celebration cake. He was in good spirits having found the medal he mislaid earlier in the day.

Our members and guests from a local charity had a lovely afternoon.

Our thanks go to Hon Sec S/M Jancie Massey for telling us all about the lunch. Sounded like you had a FAB afternoon. Shipmate Vic looked in tremendous form cutting that beautiful cake.

RNA Lee on the Solent and Stubbington Branch

Shipmates at Lee/Stubb celebrate their 10th Birthday at the June meeting. The Guest of Honour Dame Caroline Dineage, the local MP who attended the branches Commissioning ceremony 10 years ago also in attendance was Caroline's husband, Baron Mark Lancaster (Baron Lancaster of Kimbolton).

Shipmate Tony Fenn very kindly donated a bottle of the original genuine Woods Rum 70% proof!!!! Which Shipmates sipped convivially and very much enjoyed despite the strength.....water had to be administered to a number of non-handlers. Branch Secretary, Kate Webb organised a magnificent 10th Birthday Cake which was consumed super quick by all those gathered. You will be please to know that everyone survived!!



The Photos Clockwise..... The magnificent Cake - The very strong Rum – Chairman S/M Andy Christie inviting Dame Caroline Dineage MP to cut the birthday cake and Lee/Stubb Shipmates singing happy birthday to the branch.

Photo's courtesy of S/M Peter Laggan

RNA Orkney Branch

Shipmates from RNA Orkney held a Falklands 40 commemorations along with the RBL Scotland at Kirkwall and Stromness reports S/M Catriona Matheson



RNA Londonderry Branch

Londonderry Branch Battle of the Atlantic Commemoration 13th, 14th & 15th May 2022.

Despite world developments conspiring to derail BoA 2022, the branch committee continued to plan to deliver the annual commemoration. We had overseas visitors and ships coming, then visitors and ships not coming, then potentially ships coming and then no ships coming. As you can imagine, it is somewhat difficult to plan without some clear direction, but the committee stuck with it and deliver a worthwhile event to remember the service and sacrifice of those who served in the Battle of the Atlantic in WWI and WWII. A big thank you to S/m's Frank Brown, Eric Mitchell, Jack Garfield and Arthur Lapsley.

Friday 13th May 2022; Meet & Greet.

We were pleased to welcome back two ladies from Canada, Tammy Bowman and Rhonda Moravec.



Tammy's dad was RCN Veteran Don Bowman and Rhonda's dad is RCN Veteran Jim Robinson. Both Don and Jim had sailed into Londonderry during the BoA many times with the RCN escort ships. Both had actually made the trip in recent years to join our annual commemoration. Sadly, Don has crossed the bar but Jim is still a feisty 97. We also welcomed the Deputy Naval Advisor from the Canadian High Commission in London, Cdr Dale Turetski RCN and shipmates from other branches within No 12 Area (Ireland).

Saturday 14th May 2022; HMS Laurentic WWI Commemoration.

The Ulster Canada Initiative hosted us, our visitors and other organisations in Fort Dunree in Co Donegal.

The VIP was Ms Nancy Smyth, Ambassador of Canada to Ireland, accompanied by Cdr Dale Turetski RCN.



We took part in a service and wreath laying, to remember the casualties of WWI HMS Laurentic, at the new Memorial which overlooks the wreck site. S/m Jack Garfield, Area Vice Chairman, paraded the No 12 Area Standard, S/m Arthur Lapsley paraded the Londonderry Standard, S/m Tom Steele paraded the Cork & County Standard and Boatmate Jim Brydson paraded the Northern Ireland Submariners Standard. Cdr Tim Chrishop RN (rtd), Area President, laid the wreath on behalf of the RNA. Refreshments were enjoyed by everyone after the commemoration service. We would highly recommend a visit to this part of Ireland. Apart from the stunning scenery, the naval history in the area spans centuries. Fort Dunree is one of seven forts guarding entry into Lough Swilly. The Royal Navy's Grand Fleet was based in Lough Swilly for a while during WWI.

Saturday 14th May 2022; Battle of the Atlantic Dinner.

Shipmates and guests mustered at the Waterside Royal British Legion at 19.00 for dinner. VIPs included the Deputy Lord Lieutenant for the City of Londonderry, Mr Alan Moore OBE TD DL, The Mayor of Derry City and Strabane District Council Mr Graham Warke, Lord William Hay, Col James Hawthorne RCAF High Commission in London, Senior Naval Officer Northern Ireland Cdr

John Patterson RN, Cdr Dale Turetski RCN High Commission London. Standards were piped in and received by Area and Branch Chairman S/m Robert Buchanan, who then welcomed everyone.



After dinner Cdr Patterson proposed the toast to our Patron, Her Majesty the Queen. A further toast to the Service and Sacrifice of Veterans of BoA was made by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Mr Alan Moore OBE TD DL. He struck a chord when he said “This legacy is kept alive by our very own Londonderry Branch of the RNA and its outstanding members who have done so much for Naval Veterans since those dark days and continue to play a pivotal role for the care and welfare of those who have since served in the Royal Navy here in this city.” Col Hawthorne RCAF brought greeting from His Excellency, the Honourable Ralph E. Goodale PC, the Canadian High Commissioner in London.



Cdr Patterson was then surprised by a rendition of Happy Birthday, as a specially prepared cake was brought out by S/m Lesley Buchanan. This was not only his birthday, but also his last official event before leaving the post of Senior Naval Officer Northern Ireland (SNO NI) and heading out to Civvy St. We wish him well in his next career. Shipmates continued to party until late.



Sunday 15th May 2022; Commemoration Parade and Service.

The Parade mustered at 10.00 at the RBL Club. RNA members were joined by members of other Veterans Associations and contingents from the Sea Cadets NI and the Naval Section of the local Combined Cadet Force. The parade then marched off, led by the Churchill Flute Band, enroute to All Saints Church of Ireland.

The standards were received and the service was conducted by Rev David McBeth BEM, rector of All Saints and Honorary Chaplain of Londonderry Branch RNA. All the VIPs that graced the dinner the previous evening joined us again. Readings were delivered by Cdr John Patterson RN, Cdr Dale Turetski RCN and S/m Robert Buchanan. An Act of Remembrance was performed. S/m Frank Brown piped the still and wreaths were laid by Col Hawthorne RCAF on behalf of the Government of Canada, Cdr Patterson RN on behalf of the Royal Navy, S/m Buchanan on behalf of the RNA and Mr Ivan Gillespie on behalf of the Merchant Navy. The collection was taken up by members of the Sea Cadets and Combined Cadet Force.

On completion of the service the parade was formed up and the Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Mr Alan Moore OBE TD DL, took the salute as the parade marched past enroute to the RBL Club.

On arrival at the RBL Club, the parade was addressed and thanked by S/m Buchanan, the National Anthem was played, the Standards were marched off and the parade was dismissed. All present were cordially invited to refreshments hosted by the Londonderry Branch RNA.

The Londonderry Branch would like to thank all attendees for their ongoing support, as we endeavour to ensure the service and sacrifice of our predecessors during the Battle of the Atlantic is not forgotten.

Robert Buchanan.

RNA Market Harborough Branch

Market Harborough celebrated Sea Sunday with a Church Service when wreaths and flowers were laid at the Memorial in the churchyard. The Standard was Carried by Shipmate Michael

Petch and the parade commanded by Shipmate Lt. Commander Adam Slonecki R.N.



The Service was attended by Shipmates and Cadets from T.S. Fernie and families of Cadets. Afterwards

refreshments were served to around 80 people who saw the Cadets receive their

awards and certificates. This included the newly formed Royal Marine contingent. In the photographs above we see a group of cadets who have just received their awards, 4 Cadets waiting for their names to be called – Oliver McCarron, Jacob Godawa-Edusel, Shivani and Sachin Crawford. The final



photo is of three Shipmates, Violet Leeder, Phil McKnight and Sheila Nixon who served numerous cups of tea, coffee and juice throughout the evening.

Thanks to S/M Pat Middleton for forwarding this article.

RNA Plymouth Branch

Our grateful thanks to Plymouth Chairman, S/M Des McCarthy MBE for keeping us abreast of happenings down in Plymouth.

A busy month for Plymouth Branch Members, starting on 6th attended and laid a wreath at the two American D Day Memorials adjacent the Tamar River marking the departure point for the V & VII Corp of the US Army (60,000) leaving for OMAHA & UTAH beaches. Branch Standard Bearer Shipmate Jeff Fox.

Rum Tub - The Branch were delighted to be invited to attend HMS DRAKE's presentation of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medals to the ship's company by Commodore Peter Coulson ADC RN. Following on as part of the Jubilee celebration the Commodore, on behalf of the Branch presented custody of the Branch Rum Tub to the Warrant Officer & Senior Rates Mess as a token of gratitude from the Branch Membership who have long enjoyed the use of the Mess for meetings and functions. At the invitation of the Branch, the Commodore went on to read a message received by the Branch from Her Majesty The Queen -



Please convey my warm thanks to the Members of the Plymouth Branch of the Royal Naval Association for their loyal greetings, sent on the occasion of their Rum Tub Ceremony which is held today at HMS Drake to mark the Platinum Jubilee. As your Patron, I much appreciate your kind words on the Seventieth Anniversary of my Accession and, in return send my best wishes to all those who are present for a most memorable and enjoyable gathering.

***ELIZABETH R,
8th June, 2022.***

The afternoon's celebration were rounded off by 'Up Spirits' , (Branch Rum). The toast :- The Queen - God Bless Her replicating tot time on the mess decks of yesteryear. It was enjoyed by Veterans, Mess Members and the Commodore alike. A great Jubilee Celebration.

Branch Members were involved in a number of Falklands 40th Commemorations to mark the 40th Anniversary of the Falkland's War. Starting with a poignant and unforgettable Regimental Dinner held in HMS Drake. On another occasion a Service of Commemoration was held in the City's Minister Church of St Andrew's. Shipmate 'Chris' Jones, trustee of South Atlantic Medal Assoc. 82 led the now Annual Ceremony of Raising the Falklands Flag on Plymouth Hoe. Sixteen Standards representing all Services were displayed, prayers were offered by Shipmate the Rev. Martin Kirkbride in the presence of Plymouth's Lord Mayor Cllr Sue Dann and CO of HMS Raleigh, Captain Suzi Nielson OBE RN.

The Right Honourable Gavin Short Falkland Island's Government Representative to UK gave a personal account of '82' from his perspective as a teenager seeing the events unfold from the horror of invasion to the unbelievable joy of liberation leaving him with a lifelong sense of gratitude to the forces that restored his and his fellow Islander's freedoms. - Standard Bearers:-

SAMA 82: Shipmate Jeff Fox, - Plymouth Branch: Shipmate Kevin Adamson - Submariners Association: Shipmate Grant Fox MSM.

Several Branch Members attended Falkland 40th events further a-field; at the National Arboretum, Paignton, Coventry, Portsmouth, Babbacombe, Weymouth and Teignmouth and a train has been dedicated to the Falkland Veterans at Plymouth.



After a three-year break Armed Forces Day was back and S/M's remembered how to erected our trusty Marquee within the Royal Naval Village section on Plymouth Hoe, for first time displaying Minibus RN10 RNA to great affect alongside our marquee. Thousands were drawn to the Hoe as this year's Armed Forces Day centred on the 40th Anniversary of the Falklands Campaign, and a dedicated parade for Veterans celebrating their Freedom of the City of Plymouth.

The Salute was taken by Major General J Thompson CBE OBE RM. This in addition to

the usual Standards & Veterans Parade which follows the RAF & Allied Air Forces Memorial Service. By the afternoon the Hoe was awash with children modelling the ever popular RNA sailors hats. We enjoyed a constant flow of visitors to the RNA Stand included an old friend to the Branch, Rear Admiral Will Wanander CBE RN and wife Jo who took the opportunity of sharing an RNA Tot of Rum with their son S/LT Henry Warrander RN one of the organisers of the RN Village.

As always we took the opportunity to recruit with a degree of success. A great day for the Falkland veterans, the visitors and the Branch.

RNA Folkestone Branch

Thanks to S/M Tim Geere for forwarding the report below.....



Members of Folkestone Branch and their Standard attended the Canada Day Service along with other Veteran's Associations at Shorncliffe Military Cemetery in Folkestone on Friday 1st July.

The 1st of July is the National Day of Canada and celebrates the anniversary of the [Canadian Confederation](#) which occurred on July 1, 1867, Canada Day celebrations take place throughout the country, as well as in various locations around the world attended by [Canadians living abroad](#)

During 1915 over 40,000 Canadian servicemen arrived in Folkestone before going over to France to fight, Hospitals were built in Folkestone to

care for those wounded. Many didn't survive their injuries and were buried in the Military Cemetery which lies in a quiet and beautiful hollow close to Shorncliffe Camp overlooking Hythe Bay

By the end of the First World War, a total of 305 Canadians had been buried at the Cemetery. In 1917 local dignitaries and schoolchildren were invited to attend a ceremony to honour the fallen Canadians. As part of the service, the children were asked to place flowers on each of the graves. The tradition has continued in the same format ever since except for the war years and during the Covid pandemic.



RNA Portland Branch

Portland Branch are extremely saddened to report, writes S/M Pete Shoemith, that the Branch have lost two stalwarts, Shipmate Annie Robbins, ex secretary and Shipmate Dick Barton, ex-president and social secretary who crossed the bar recently. Calm Seas and a Fair wind Shipmates.....

RNA Chatham Branch

Shipmates from Chatham Branch attended the first Chatham Town Carnival in twenty years and linked up with the community, the picture show...

S/M's with Canterbury Christ Church University, Campus Director and Shipmate far right Dr Susan Plummer, Michael Stephens (Senior Lecturer in Paramedic Scientific Studies) who trains tomorrow's Paramedics.

And the Worshipful Mayor of Medway Councillor Jan Aldous, Chatham Town Football Club Chairman Kevin Hake and S/M Dennis Potter.





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The other photos Right side- S/M's Christine Sandman and Secretary S/M Christine Stout, Left Top- S/M Gerry Hines with Medway Campus Chaplain Lynne Martin. Left bottom - With M&J Praise Mayowa and Husband who are public performers.

RNA Argonaut Branch

The RNA Argonaut Branch (HMS Argonaut Association) held a memorial service on Sunday 22nd May at the National Memorial Arboretum. Circa 80 shipmates attended to remember those lost on the three warships (WWI Diadem class cruiser; WWII Dido class cruiser, Leander class frigate F56).



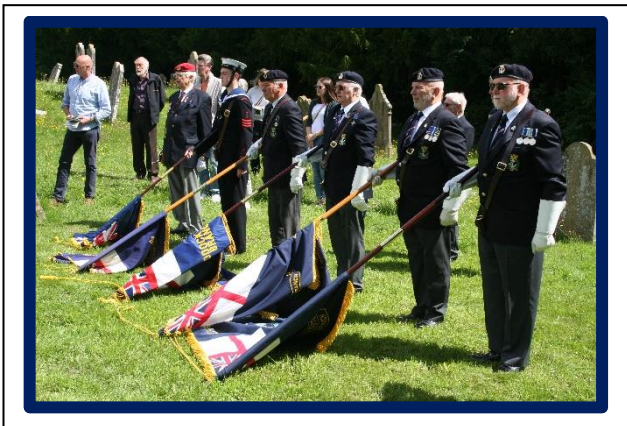
In particular, we remembered those lost in the Falklands Conflict; S(M) Matt Stuart and AB(R) Iain Boldy. Refreshments were served in the Oak Building after the service.

The branch would like to thank the RNA for its financial support for the event.

RNA Area 2

On Sunday 26 June 2022 branch members from Area 2 namely Paddock Wood, Maidstone, Chatham and Ashford attended [St Lawrence's Church](#), Mereworth (pronounced Merryworth) in Kent for the annual pilgrimage to pay homage to the first recipient of the Victoria Cross, Vice Admiral Charles Davis Lucas. Charles was born in County Armagh, Northern Ireland on 19 February 1834.

During the [Battle of Bomarsund](#) of the [Crimean War](#), he was awarded the Victoria Cross for the following deed:



On 21 June 1854 in the [Baltic](#), [HMS Hecla](#), with two other ships, was bombarding [Bomarsund](#), a fort in [Åland](#) off [Finland](#). The fire was returned from the fort, and at the height of the action a live shell landed on Hecla's upper deck, with its fuse still hissing.

All hands were ordered to fling themselves flat on the deck, but Lucas with great presence of mind ran forward and hurled the shell into the sea, where it exploded with a tremendous roar before

it hit the water. Thanks to Lucas's action his ship was saved and no one on board was killed or seriously wounded by the shell, and accordingly he was immediately promoted to lieutenant by his commanding officer

A short service was held in the church conducted by the Reverend Ruth Peet of Aylesford church and local parishioners and sea cadets were also in attendance. After the service all attended the graveside of Admiral Lucas and due homage and respects were duly paid.



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

RNA Wansbeck Branch

Shipmates celebrated RNA Wansbeck & District 40th Birthday party where they enjoyed a meal and super fun filled evening at the Half Moon pub at Stakeford Nr. Ashington on Saturday 23rd



July 2022. There were 25 Shipmates in attendance, 15 raffle prizes, good food, and good company, plus a couple of Tots!

The branch was founded on 5th July 1982 by a few from ex fellowship members and it continued from there. Membership currently is 30 strong, including some veterans from various ex forces, and some serving members,

including some associate members. We are looking forward to the next 40 years!

CROSSING THE BAR – Celebrating a life well lived

[*Chevalier Robert Barnett*](#)

[*Lewis Trinder*](#)

[*Vera Trinder*](#)

[*Peter Skelton*](#)

[*Richard Keith Boughey*](#)

[*David Ernie Ford*](#)

'Bob' Chevalier Robert Barnet - Ferndown Branch

Ferndown Branch are saddened to report that their President Shipmate Chevalier 'Bob' Robert Barnett crossed the bar on 12 May 2022 aged 97.

When S/m 'Bob' Barnett transferred into Ferndown Branch of the RNA, he immediately became involved in supporting the branch and it's members. When new members joined the mess, it was always Bob who was first to welcome them on board by inviting them to join him at his table and making them 'Feel at Home', amongst new friends.

He was always the first to put himself forward for any branch events be it fundraising or commemorative and also representation for the RNA in general. He was extremely proud to march at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday with the RNA contingent albeit in a wheelchair, but an ambition achieved, as was visiting the RBL National Arboretum as a member of the Branch expedition.

He also assisted another shipmate with his youth work by visiting young people, talking to them, answering questions and explaining the origins of not just the RNA but also the Royal British Legion and importantly, the Poppy Appeal.

In recognition of his war service, whilst attending the Not Forgotten Association annual Garden Party at Buckingham Palace, he was presented to Her Majesty the Queen, an occasion which he considers to be such a tremendous honour and an extremely emotional experience.

He was awarded the 'Legion d'honneur' by the French Government for his part in the 'D Day', landings, the presentation being made by a former First Sea Lord aboard HMS Victory, proudly accepted whilst wearing his RNA blazer and tie.

On 'VJ Day' 75th anniversary in 2020, whilst representing the RNA, he was interviewed by BBC Television on his experiences when his ship HMS Redpole arrived in Hong Kong to assist with the repatriation of PoW's, an experience of such emotion, it was the first time he'd spoken of it in any detail in all those 75 years.

Shipmate 'Sir' Bob, truly missed.

Lewis and Vera Trinder - Aldershot Branch

Lewis Trinder 13/9/24 – 24/5/22 and Vera Trinder 23/6/27 – 15/6/22

The Aldershot Branch of the Royal Naval Association are sad to announce that two stalwarts of the Branch have passed away in the last month.

Lewis Trinder, Legion D'honneur and his wife Vera passed within three weeks of each other.

At the age of 16, Lewis joined the Local Defence Force (or the Home Guard as we all know it), where he served until September 1942, when, on his 18th birthday, he joined the Royal Navy. He said that "Dads Army" was almost like a documentary relating closely to his time in the Home Guard.

He served as a Navigators' Yeoman during the war onboard HMS Fleetwood, HMS Magpie and HMS Opposum. By the time he left he was a Leading Hand passed for P.O. and had taken part in the Arctic Convoys (Convoy JW58), Atlantic Convoys under the command of Capt. Johnnie Walker and was present on D-day off the coast of Arromanches. He was also out in the Far East when the war against the Japanese ended.



Lew was one of the original founders of the Aldershot Branch and a Life Member of the RNA. At the time he crossed the Bar he held the position of Branch President and prior to that had held the position of Treasurer for over 30 years, before his eyesight failed him.

He was also a great supporter of the Royal British Legion and the Poppy Appeal, collecting for over 30 years in Aldershot Town Centre. He would collect every morning for two weeks but always made sure he was home at 1pm. A great creature of habit you may think but in truth, that's when Vera would have dinner on the table.

He also held the rank of Lt in the Sea Cadet Corps and was the C.O. of TS Swiftsure and TS Diadem for many years.

He was a great character with an array of terrible jokes and a few songs that made the coach journeys home from a run ashore fly past.

His wife Vera passed shortly after Lew's Funeral. She was the powerhouse behind Lew and was happy to take a back seat. Vera was an Associate Member of the RNA who supported as many events as she could. She also helped with the Poppy Appeal for over 15 years; keeping the accounts and manually counting the donations. They celebrated their 73rd wedding anniversary on 14th February. A magnificent achievement.

They will both be greatly missed not only by all members of the Aldershot RNA and RBL but also by all of their many friends in the community.

David Ernie Ford - RNA Haverhill Branch

Shipmate David Ernie Ford crossed the bar on 9th May 2022.

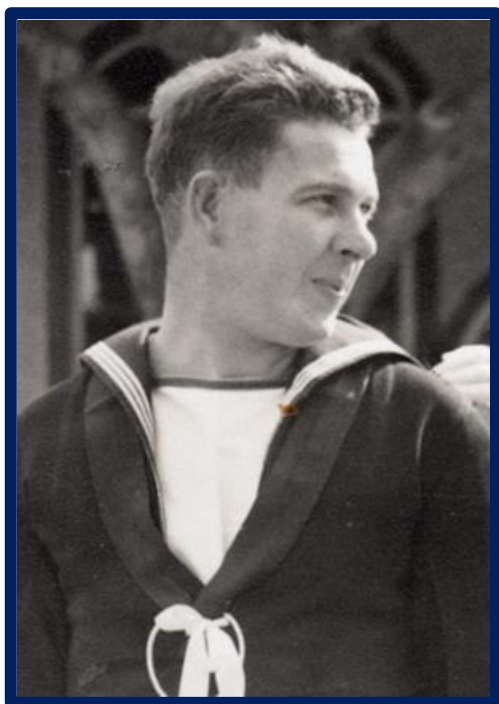
He had served for 20 years in the Royal Navy rising to Chief Petty Officer.

He served on HMS Eagle and was also heavily involved in the Buccaneer Aircraft Squadron.

In the last few year's he had been a member of Haverhill RNA and he will be sadly missed.

Peter Skelton - Spalding Branch

Shipmate Peter John Skelton crossed the bar in Pilgrim Hospital on 30 May 2022 at the age of 88.



He joined the Royal Navy in May 1952 at 17 years of age and served on the following ships.

HMS Superb (25) – 1952/53 America & West Indies Cruise, Able Seaman in F.X. Division arriving in Bermuda the day after his 18th birthday. Returned to the UK for fleet review at Spithead in June 1953 for the Queen's Coronation

HMS Delight (D119) – 1954 home fleet, passed Leading Seaman in 1956

HMS Agincourt (D86) – 1957 home fleet

HMS Adamant (A164) – 1959 Faslane, Scotland 3rd Submarine Squadron

HMS Dartington M1203 – 1961 104th Mine Sweeping Squadron, Far East

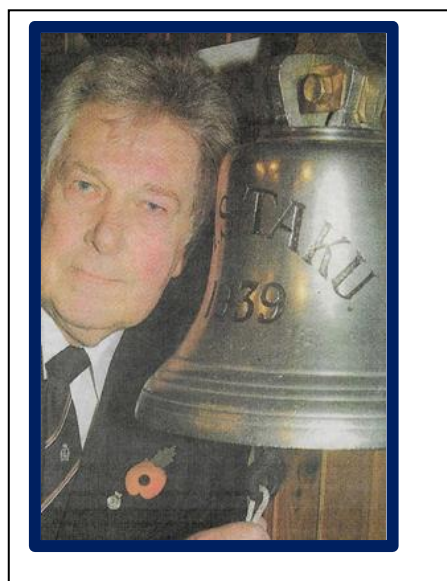
HMS Highburton M1130 – 1963 Portland and Scotland
He was awarded the Pingat Jasa Malaysia medal in 2005 for serving in the conflict in Malaya.

(The picture shows S/M Peter in September 1964)

His service expired on the 14th November 1963 and he moved to Spalding in 1968. He was awarded life membership of the Royal Naval Association in 2012 as he retired from many years of service including acting as the branch secretary and area delegate.

Peter was branch secretary when the bell from submarine Taku was found after being lost for 50 years and restored (pictured with the bell). Spalding adopted the Taku in 1942 during National Warship Week.

A celebration of life took place at South Lincolnshire crematorium on 11th July where branch members formed a guard of honor, and the Branch Standard was paraded. Afterwards glasses were raised at the Cley Hall Hotel in Spalding.



Reverend Richard Boughey – RNA Uttoxeter and District Branch

On Friday 17th June 2022 Members of the Uttoxeter and District Branch led by their Chairman S/M David Emery MBE attended the Service and Interment of The Reverend S/M Richard Keith Boughey at his former parish of St. Mary's and All Saints' Church, Checkley.

RNA Members formed a Guard of Honour and the funeral entourage was led into Church by S/M

Phil Davis with the Branch Standard. The "Last Post" was sounded by S/M Malcolm Knight and a salute with the Standard made by S/M Phil Davis.



S/M Keith Boughey was the Branch President and Padre until Keith's daughter, Ruth, had to be moved from her care home. Ruth suffered from Motor Neurone Disease and needed a great deal of care, the home she was in advised Keith that the home was closing down and Ruth had to be moved ASAP. The Branch contacted SSAFA and they

went into action and got Ruth moved and a couple of ladies went round to calm Keith's anxieties. The outcome of all this activity meant that Keith had to move to Nantwich and so we lost our well thought of Padre and President.

S/M Keith Boughey volunteered for the Royal Navy in May 1944, joined HMS "Royal Arthur" then onto basic training at HMS "Duke" then to HMS "Demetrius" for trade training (Writer). A draft chit followed for Naval Party 2424 bound ostensibly for Port Swettenham, embarked on River Class Frigate HMS "Waveney" as embarked Staff. "Waveney" covered the D-Day landings, chased "U" boats in the North Atlantic then on to Gib. Port Said, Suez, Bombay, arriving in Akyab April 1945.

Back to Cochin to join the Staff of Capt. Garth Henry Owls. Contracted dengue fever and spent time at Ootie (Nigri Hills) recovering. Back to Cochin for VE Day. Back to Singapore and observed the terrible conditions at Changi Jail and the awful condition of British POW's.

He then joined LST3035 working alongside the Dutch in the Dutch East Indies Rebellion Ferrying The Ghurkas to Palamburg, Sumatra with onshore accommodation in RAF barracks in Sumatra. Sailed home on HMS "Formidable" arriving in UK November 1946. Keith will be sorely missed by Family, Friends and Shipmates.

SHIPMATE JOHN SHERWOOD MEMORIAL SERVICE
KINGHORN PROMENADE 23rd JUNE 2022



On the 23rd June 2022 Rosyth & West Fife Branch of the RNA held a memorial service in honour of our Shipmate and Branch Secretary, CMEM Rtd. John Sherwood. Born on 24th April 1947, John suddenly and unexpectedly Crossed the Bar on the 12th March 2022. The venue for the service was at the end of the promenade at Kinghorn, Fife. The service was led by the Branch's Honorary Chaplain, Reverend Colin Alston. Branch Chairman, shipmate Richard Wardrope, conducted the order of service. Attending the ceremony were five former

members of HMS Plymouth "**Crew of 82**", whom John had served with in the South Atlantic in 1982, two Royal Marine Buglers, Sgt. Bugler Jamie Ritchie and Bugler Jess Brock, Branch Piper and Honorary Branch Member s/m Brooklyn Morris, Branch ceremonial Cornet player and Honorary Branch Member s/m Michael Hunter, Branch Standard Bearer s/m Mark Firth, s/m's Jim Stewart, Kevin Reynolds, Mike Firth, Barbara Firth, Maureen Firth, Dennis Christie, David Blackburn, Myrna Venters, Norman Thoroughgood and Jeanette Thoroughgood, along with John's partner Barbara McCausland and John's former wife Linda.

Rev. Colin Alston opened the service with a prayer and eulogy in remembrance of John's life. This was followed by the assembled congregation singing the Naval Hymn "Eternal Father Strong to Save," with the musical accompaniment of Michael Hunter and his Cornet. "**The Last Post**" was movingly played by the Buglers from Her Majesty's Royal Marine Band, HMS Caledonia and we observed a 2 min silence.



On completion Barbara McCausland cast a bouquet of yellow and white roses, and Linda cast a bunch of Yellow roses, into the Forth Estuary. As the flowers drifted away on an ebbing tide, Branch Piper Brooklyn Morris played the ancient and haunting Scottish lament, "**The Fowers 'O The Forest**," originally a traditional piping tribute to those Scotsmen who died on Flodden's Field on September 9th 1513.



John was very proud of the commitment to our Branch by honorary shipmate and Branch Piper, 15 year old Brooklyn Morris, for which he bequeathed to him a silver pocket watch, engraved with the Crest of HMS Ganges and originally given to John on his passing out of training. This and an honorary member, RNA blazer badge were presented to Brooklyn by s/m Jim Stewart. Jim then read the moving poem by Eileen Mahoney, "In Ocean Wastes No Poppies Grow."

POEM by EILEEN MAHONEY
"In Waters Deep"

In Ocean wastes no Poppies blow,
No crosses stand in ordered row,
There young hearts sleep ...beneath the wave,
The spirited, the good, the brave.

But stars a constant vigil keep,
For them who lie beneath the deep.
'Tis true you cannot kneel in prayer
On certain spot and think."He's there."

But you can to the Ocean go,
See whitecaps marching row on row;
Know one for him will always ride,
In and out...with every tide.

And when your span of life is passed,
He'll meet you at the "Captains Mast."
And they who mourn on distant shore,
For sailors who'll come home no more,

Can dry their tears and pray for these,
Who rest beneath the heaving seas,
For stars that shine and winds that blow,
And whitecaps marching row on row,

And they can never lonely be,
For when he lived.....he chose the sea.

In celebration of John's life, Shipmate Norman Thoroughgood then charged some pre-arranged glasses with traditional Pussers Rum, kindly donated by Barbara McCausland, and Chairman Richard Wardrope proposed a toast in John's memory and honour.



One of John's shipmates who served with him, in 1982 on HMS Plymouth during the Falklands Campaign stepped forward, out of the blue, to announce that he had a letter written by John in 1982, and still in the original sealed envelope, something all the Senior Rates on Plymouth serving in the South Atlantic in 1982 had done, only to be opened when the author had crossed the bar, and presented it to John's partner and soul mate, Barbara McCausland.

The memorial service was brought to a close with a Blessing and moving closing prayers by Colin Alston. The congregation subsequently dispersed and most retired to the Kingswood hotel for a light buffet, liquid refreshment and the opportunity to reflect on John's bountiful life as a mariner and much loved shipmate.

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

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 0800 827168

Breakdown Service



- RAC Breakdown and recovery service
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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.
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The 'Shortcast' Editors Note

Please forward any reunions for 2022/2023 to andy@royalnavalassoc.com 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>
2022	
07 Oct	<p>Loch Class Frigates Association: Annual Reunion takes place at The Sketchley Grange Hotel, Hinckley, Leics October 7 - 9 2022. All Members of the Association welcome. For details please contact Andrew Nunn Hon. Sec. LCFA Email: andrew.nunn@blueyonder.co.uk Tel: 0117-9505835</p> <p>Membership is open to all who served on any of the Loch Class ships or their variants (Bay Class, Admirals Yachts, survey ships and repair ships). Some of these types of ships have their own 'Associations' but you can always join both.</p>
07/10 Oct	<p>HMS RELENTLESS 80th Anniversary Reunion</p> <p>To be held at the Cambridge Bar Hill Hotel, Cambridge</p> <p>Friday 7th - Monday 10th October 2022</p> <p>All ex-Rusty Rs from any commission are most welcome to attend</p> <p>Contact SFEVENTS - sarah@sarahfletcerevents.co.uk</p> <p>or the Association Secretary - contact@hmsrelentless.org</p>

Swinging the Lamp – Aug 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
1 st	1983	RN Supply School moved from Chatham, mainly to <i>Raleigh</i> at Torpoint but Cookery School to Aldershot.
2 nd	1999	Final performance of the Royal Tournament at Earl's Court, in which the Royal Navy had participated since 1887. The centrepiece since 1907 was the annual naval field gun competition, a relic of the Naval Brigades in the Boer War, between the Home Ports, later joined by the Fleet Air Arm. Devonport was the last winner.
3 rd	2005	<i>Invincible</i> , Capt Neil Morisetti RN, (the fourteenth commanding officer since Capt M.H. Livesay RN commissioned her on 11 July 1980), paid off at Portsmouth after twenty five years' service. She was the adopted ship of the city of Durham and had visited forty countries and steamed 850,000 miles. One of three RN ships with Falklands battle honours from 1914 and 1982 (<i>Bristol</i> and <i>Glasgow</i>).
4 th	1967	Helicopters from the carrier <i>Hermes</i> landed Royal Hong Kong Police on top of skyscrapers in anti-communist raids. Carrier <i>Bulwark</i> stood by with 40 Cdo embarked during riots 30 May to 12 June.
5 th	1583	First settlers arrived in Newfoundland. Golden Hind, Delight, Squirrel and Swallow.
6 th	1915	First flight of a seaplane from a ship using take off trolleys; a Sopwith Schneider single-seat floatplane piloted by Ft-Lt (later Air Marshal Sir) William Welsh took off from the converted Cunarder <i>Campania</i> . Seaplanes were hydrodynamically inefficient because fixed floats degraded flying performance; deployed over the North Sea they could not match the Zeppelin in speed, altitude or rate of climb, much to Jellicoe's regret. The little aircraft also could not cope with any sea state and the floats frequently broke off under stress of taking-off and landing. One part solution was to launch seaplanes directly from a ship. Welsh's flight was the first to employ wheeled trolleys or dollies attached to the floats which permitted operations in a rougher sea state than hitherto. Landing retained its character-forming qualities. <i>Campania</i> was the first ship to be termed a 'fleet carrier' – a title given her by the CO, Wing Captain (later AVM Sir) Oliver Schwann RN.
7 th	1815	Napoleon sailed from Plymouth in Northumberland to exile in St Helena.
8 th	1968	Leander-class frigate <i>Scylla</i> launched at Plymouth, the last ship to be built in a Royal Yard.
9 th	1946	The new battleship <i>Vanguard</i> , Capt W.G. Agnew RN, entered Portsmouth for the first time and secured alongside South Railway Jetty. She had been accepted from John Brown's on 9 August while at anchor at Spithead.

10 th	1866	Second Naval Discipline Act passed: brought the system of naval justice more closely into line with the English criminal law.
11 th	1415	Henry V sailed from Southampton: 'fair stood the wind for France'.
12 th	1940	German air raid damaged RN Barracks, Portsmouth, Whale Island and HMS <i>Hornet</i> , the coastal forces base.
13 th	1934	Metropolitan Police, hitherto responsible for establishment security, withdrawn at midnight from Devonport Dockyard.
14 th	1981	Closure of <i>Dauntless</i> at Burghfield. WRNS training moved to <i>Raleigh</i> at Torpoint.
15 th	1944	Landing of US and French troops in southern France begins. Operation Dragoon. Battle Honour: South France 1944. Convoys were sailed from Naples, Taranto, Brindisi, Malta, Palermo and Oran. A total of 86,575 men, 12,520 vehicles and 46,140 tons of stores were landed over the beachhead in the sixty-four hours following the first landing. The Navy was called upon to provide gunfire support, and much ammunition was used, the cruiser <i>Argonaut</i> firing 394 5.25-in shells, and <i>Aurora</i> 316 6-in shells.
16 th	1956	Frigate <i>Loch Killisport</i> , Cdr G.C. Hathaway RN, left Portsmouth for the Gulf and the East Indies Station with a Royal Marines detachment of twenty men embarked as part of the ship's company. The Royals had hitherto served only in warships of cruiser size and above.
17 th	1962	'There is evidence that unsatisfactory results are being obtained when painting HM Ships because the paint is not being adequately stirred beforehand . . . the hand stirrers shown in AFO Diagram 14/62 should be made by ships, depot ships staff or bases as appropriate.' – AFO 1573/62.
18 th	1919	VC: Cdr Claude Congreve Dobson RN, Lt Gordon Charles Steele RN. CMB raid on the Russian Baltic fleet base at Kronstadt on Kotlin Island, Gulf of Finland. Change of ROE allowed Rear-Admiral Sir Walter Cowan, hitherto restricted to blockading the Russian fleet to prevent Bolshevik aggression against the newly independent Baltic littoral states, to take offensive action. Lt Augustus Agar had demonstrated the capability of operating fast, shallow-draught CMBs in heavily-mined enemy waters when he torpedoed the Russian heavy cruiser <i>Oleg</i> on 17 June. The Kronstadt attack (Operation RK – Roger Keyes), with seven CMBs was led by Cdr C.C. Dobson RN and supported by diversionary bombing by RAF aircraft operating from HMS <i>Vindictive</i> . Lt Steele took command of CMB 88 when his CO, Lt Dayrell-Reed was mortally wounded. They sank the battleships <i>Petropavlovsk</i> and <i>Andrei Pervozvanni</i> , and the submarine depot ship <i>Pamyat Azova</i> for the loss four naval officers and four men, four RAF officers and one airman, three CMBs and aircraft. A brilliant action which thrilled the RN but embarrassed the British government which was then in sensitive negotiations with the Bolshevik authorities. Shades of Navarino. Dobson and Steele gazetted on 11 November 1919, the first anniversary of Armistice Day.
19 th	1971	Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service Reserve established. First Sister enrolled, at Severn Division, 15 December 1971.
20 th	1970	A three-day court martial ended at <i>Cochrane</i> with five ABs from minehunter <i>Iveston</i> being found guilty of mutiny when the ship was

		lying at Ullapool on 5 and 6 July. The sentences 'to be Dismissed with Disgrace' were reduced on review by the Admiralty Board to 'to be Dismissed from Her Majesty's Service'. On the day of the mutiny a man described as a 'tramp' had been entertained in the Wardroom and, although irrelevant to the case, this provided the press with a focus for wide publicity and ridicule of naval administration.
21 st	1990	HM ships authorised to enforce UN embargo on ships trading with Iraq. Operation Granby.
22 nd	1918	<i>Hood</i> launched at John Brown's, Clydebank, by Lady Hood, widow of Rear-Admiral Hon. Horace Hood, who had been killed in <i>Invincible</i> at Jutland, 31 May 1916, the day <i>Hood</i> was originally laid down. At 860ft 7in overall, the longest warship ever built for the RN, and the heaviest warship at that time to hoist the White Ensign.
23 rd	1956	Light cruiser <i>Newfoundland</i> bombarded CT targets in the Kota Tinggi district of Johore, Malaya, with 101 6-in shells.
24 th	1935	The Royal Marines for the first time in their history provided the Royal Guard at Buckingham Palace, St James's Palace, the Bank of England and 'for the Hyde Park magazines'. The specially formed battalion of sixteen officers, 349 rank and file and 110 band and drums under Lt-Col T.L. Hunton, were quartered with the Cold stream Guards at Chelsea Barracks. The visit to London ended on 19 September with the battalion exercising the privilege of the Royal Marines of marching through the City of London with colours flying, drums beating and bayonets fixed.
25 th	1972	RN Museum, Portsmouth, established.
26 th	1904	Russia, at war with Japan, sent cruisers <i>Petersburg</i> and <i>Smolensk</i> to the Red Sea to intercept war contraband sailing under neutral flags to Japan. Britain, neutral but pro-Japan, banned combatant ships from British and Empire ports. The Cape Station cruisers, <i>Crescent</i> , <i>Pearl</i> , <i>Brilliant</i> , <i>St George</i> and <i>Forte</i> began a search for the Russian ships On 26 August and they were found by <i>Forte</i> on 6 September at Zanzibar.
27 th	2010	Submarine <i>Astute</i> , first of class, commissioned at Faslane.
28 th	1595	Drake and Hawkins left Plymouth on what turned out to be their last voyage, since neither returned. Drake died of yellow fever and Hawkins of dysentery.
29 th	1957	Light cruiser <i>Nigeria</i> , launched 1939, transferred to the Indian Navy, after a major refit at Cammell Laird, Birkenhead, and commissioned as INS <i>Mysore</i> . She relieved light cruiser <i>Delhi</i> (ex-HMS <i>Achilles</i>) as flagship of the Indian Navy. Paid off 1985.
30 th	1985	'The Admiralty Board have decided that from the date of this DCI, the individual title "Fleet Chief Petty Officer" is to be abolished and "Warrant Officer" used instead for all purposes . . . The change will acknowledge the fact that Warrant Officers receive a Warrant of Appointment like Warrant Officers in the Army and RAF and thus emphasise their equivalent status and position. It neither entails nor heralds the granting of additional privileges.' – DCI(RN) 339/85.
31 st	1992	First women join Royal Marines, as musicians.

DEMAND EXCEEDED SUPPLY

Never did we imagine when we shared the Royal Naval Association Jubilee Pin that demand would be greater than the actual Jubilee weekend - but yes after this weekend's conference, branches have indicated they STILL want MORE.

We have placed an order for a final 600 - on a first come first served basis.

They WILL take approximately 4/5 weeks. Roughly speaking end of July 2022.

We are ONLY going to take orders with details on this form - please ONLY email Central Office - titled

JUBILEE BADGES

Please do not leave messages on the answerphone about badges as it will detract from our normal business. We really will send out as soon as possible upon our receipt.

BRANCH:

NAME:..... PLEASE WRITE IN

BLOCK CAPITALS

Mailing Address:.....

.....

.....

.....Postcode.....



Telephone QUANTITY REQUIRED

AND

if you like pin badges for special occasions

BRANCH:

..... QUANTITY REQUIRED



and you didn't make it to the conference weekend we have a limited number available - again first come first served These will NEVER be made again.

PLEASE EXPRESS INTEREST EARLY to avoid disappointment

Prices are £5 individual or £4 each for 10 or more

ADELPHI HOTEL LIVERPOOL

Royal Naval Association Annual Conference 2023

Room Rates 25th - 28th May 2023 For those not attending the Gala Dinner

Rates per room (2 Nights minimum stay)			
		B&B	H/B
2 Nights (Fri & sat)	Single	£205	£212.50
	Double/Twin	£320	£335
3 Nights (Fri to Sun)	Single	£299.50	£314.50
	Double/Twin	£377	£407
4 Nights (Thurs to Sun)	Single	£370	£392.50
	Double/Twin	£476	£521

Afternoon Tea/ Coffee & Cakes on arrival in the grand lounge area.

Dinner in restaurant

Breakfast served in the Pearce Suite.

Live entertainment Friday and Sunday

Happy hour in the Wave Bar between 11am - 5pm each day .

Car Parking £15.00 per car for duration of weekend.

Accommodation can be booked on

0151 709 7200 Ex 2 or 3

ADELPHI HOTEL LIVERPOOL

Royal Naval Association Annual Conference 2023

Room Rates 25th - 28th May 2023

250 Rooms available for the Gala Dinner

Rates per room (2 Nights minimum stay)			CODE
2 Nights (Fri & Sat)	Single	£240.00	RNA2
	Double/Twin	£390.00	
3 Nights (Fri to Sun)	Single	£342.00	RNA3
	Double/Twin	£462.00	
4 Nights (Thurs to Sun)	Single	£420.00	RNA4
	Double/Twin	£576.00	

Afternoon Tea/ Coffee & Cakes on arrival in the grand lounge area.

Dinner in restaurant on Friday and Sunday.

Breakfast served in the Pearce Suite.

Saturday Gala Dinner in the Banqueting Hall.

(Wrist bands will be given to you on arrival and must be worn to gain entry to the Gala Dinner).

Live entertainment Friday, Saturday and Sunday Evenings

Happy hour in the Wave Bar between 11am - 5pm each day

Car Parking £15 per car for duration of weekend.

Accommodation will be booked centrally on 0161 923 9170 (Using the code)

Or on the electronic booking form on

<https://forms.gle/9HEhMk9iUDVtJSNe9>

NOVOTEL HOTEL LIVERPOOL CENTRE

(4 Star Hotel)

Royal Naval Association Annual Conference 2023

Room Rates 25th - 29th May 2023

Rates per room (2 Nights minimum stay)		
2 Nights (Fri & Sat)	Single	£350
	Double/Twin	£370
3 Nights (Fri to Sun)	Single	£450
	Double/Twin	£480
4 Nights (Thurs to Sun)	Single	£525
	Double/Twin	£565

Rate inclusive of - Breakfast, guest Wi-Fi,
use of leisure facilities [pool, gym, Sauna] and VAT

Guests to pay in full 28 days prior to arrival

The Gala Dinner (£27.50 pre-paid) can be booked
directly with the Adelphi on 0151 709 7200 ext. 2 or 3

Those staying at the Adelphi have the dinner included with their
package so additional places will be limited. For those who are able
to book, wrist bands will be available at the Adelphi reception from
Friday evening and must be worn to gain entry to the Gala Dinner.

You are welcome to attend the live entertainment
at the Adelphi on Friday and Sunday nights.

The hotel does not have car parking. They advise their guests to use
Q park Hanover Street, just opposite to the hotel, postcode L1 4AF.
They provide 30% discount at the reception which only needs to be
obtained when taking the car out of the car park

To book email the booking form to H6495-sb@accor.com

Hotel contact details

40 Hanover Street, Liverpool, L1 4LN

Tel: 0151 702 5100



Booking and Payment Form for

Royal Naval Association Annual Conference 2023

26th -28th May 2023, 2 nights minimum, Bed and Breakfast

GUEST DETAILS

Main occupant name:

Occupant name:

Nights per stay:

Room Type required:

Date of check in:

Email:

Contact number:

Additional comments:

PAYMENT DETAILS

Total Rate of Stay: £

Name of the Cardholder [as it appears on the card]:

Full Address of Cardholder:

Credit card type and number:

Card expiry date:

Name of the bank that issued the card:

I authorise Novotel Liverpool to debit my credit card as per the above details, payment is due 28 days prior to the arrival date of this booking only.

Name:

Signature: