



**JULY 2007
CIRCULAR**

No. 563

Para Contents

- 1 An apology and correction.
- 2 An introduction to Conference 2007.
- 3 The Bidding Prayer.
- 4 The President's Introduction to Conference
- 5 A message from HM The Queen.
- 6 A message from The Royal Air Forces Association.
- 7 An address by Flag Officer Sea Training.
- 8 President's Remarks
- 9 An address by The National President of The Royal Naval Association.
- 10 The National President's Awards for Recruiting.
- 11 Special Occasion Certificates.
- 12 Minutes of the 2006 Conference.
- 13 Matters arising from The 2006 Conference.
- 14 The Honorary Treasurer's Report and Annual Accounts.
- 15 National Council's Report to Conference.
- 16 Election of National Council Members.
- 17 Election of Standing Orders Committee.
- 18 Conference Motions.
- 19 Results of The Conference Raffle.
- 20 Pooled Fares for Conference.
- 21 A Letter of thanks from Flag Officer Sea Training.
- 22 Commissioning of the Orkney Branch of the RNA.
- 23 The Royal Naval Association Website.
- 24 Royal Marines Bands - Bids for Engagements.
- 25 Royal Naval Association Welfare Seminar
- 26 The RNA and IT - A Census.
- 27 The RNA Diary for 2008.
- 28 Gift Aid.
- 29 The RNA Biennial Parade - 9th September 2007.
- 30 Electrically Powered Vehicles (EPV) - Changes to Rules.
- 31 The Portman Building Society.
- 32 Navy News Subscriptions - Special Offer.
- 33 RNA Christmas Cards - Special Offer.
- 34 Contacting the RNA Book-keeper

- 35 Private Medical Insurance - Hospital and Medical Care Association
- 36 Instructional DVD for Standard Bearers.
- 37 The RNA Registered Tartan.
- 38 HMS FEARLESS in The Falklands Campaign - DVD.
- 39 Sod's Operas.
- 40 The Portsmouth Area Talking News (PATN).
- 41 HMS BRIGHTON Association.
- 42 The COVENTRY "82" Association.
- 43 HMS DIANA Re-unions.
- 44 Events.
- 45 National Memorial Arboretum - HMS HERMIONE.
- 46 Leeds No. 1 (Headingley) Branch - Dedication Service.
- 47 849 Naval Air Squadron Re-union.
- 48 HMS MATCHLESS Association.
- 49 RNA Reading Branch 70th Anniversary.
- 50 HMS JAMAICA Association.
- 51 Annual National Service for Seafarers.
- 52 The Armed Forces Memorial.
- 53 HMS DAUNTLESS Association - 90th Anniversary Weekend.
- 54 Field of Remembrance 2007.
- 55 Remembrance Sunday - 11th November 2007.
- 56 BBC TV Programme on The Armed Forces Memorial.
- 57 Changes to the Diary and Year Book.
- 58 Donations.
- 59 History Notes.

Dear Shipmate Secretary,

1. I have to start with an apology - the last Circular had to be with the printer the day after Conference and it was quite literally written at breakneck speed. I should have known better since I am very well aware of the proverb "more haste less speed" because, inevitably error crept in, at least in relation to Motion No. 5 which I reported incorrectly. The motion and two proposed amendments were debated – **the Motion which was actually passed by Conference was:**

Proposed by Southern Ontario Seconded by Perth, Western Australia

Motion 5. That the National Council appoint one of its members to represent the interests of the overseas branches and that the member so appointed hold no other standing appointment within the National Council.

Conference 2007 – The Riviera Conference Centre, Torquay 16th/17th June 2007

2. This Circular will be a lengthy one since I want to include a reasonable synopsis of what occurred at Conference in order to inform those Branches who were not able to be represented at Torquay. The weather was grand and the various speeches were profound – a lot of business was conducted and the general opinion was that the Association had managed to move significantly forward. The Conference facilities in The Torquay Riviera Centre were superb and The Torbay Branch organised the event wonderfully well and great credit is due to them.

Attending Conference were 156 Delegates and some 140 observers together with a large supporting social cast. Fifty-six Standards were paraded to Church on Sunday and the ensuing Service in The Central Church of Torquay was packed to the rafters and the hymns were sung very heartily indeed. Following the Church Service the Association "marched past" behind a very small number of Sea Cadet musicians, certainly a lot less than had been promised or catered for and I was informed that the depleted numbers were due to clashing with "Fathers' Day" – whatever, the reason, the Association has received a fulsome letter of apology from the Sea Cadet Authorities.

Conference

3. Conference commenced with a bidding prayer from The Reverend S/M Colin Noyce (Frinton & Walton) who remembered also S/M Mel Rand (Spennymoor & Ferryhill) who had sadly Crossed the Bar on the previous evening while attending a Conference Social Evening. S/M Noyce substituted (very well) for The Chaplain of the Fleet who was engaged in commemorative events in The Falkland Islands.

The National Standard having been marched in, Conference stood in tribute to Shipmates who had crossed the bar)

The President's Introduction to Conference:

4. Chairman of Torbay Council, Councillor Beryl McPhail, Admiral Ibbotson, Shipmates, ladies and gentlemen, a warm welcome to all three of our principal guests and to all of you, especially those of you who have travelled long distances. I hope that in travelling to Torbay not too many of you have experienced the epic struggles that some of us experienced in travelling to Aberystwyth last year, although I know that at least one of you has: getting here from Essex and parts west of the country is not easy.

We are, however, here now in Torbay: well done to you all and thank you to 4 Area and Torbay Branch for hosting the conference and for the arrangements they made, especially in this splendid hall.

Last year, I span you a dit about Her Majesty's Ship Fife visiting Aberystwyth, and I am afraid that as the last Captain of HMS Torquay I could fill the rest of the morning with dits about Torbay—but I won't: we have more important things to do than that. I shall inflict one brief one on you, because I promised the Chairman I would.

At the end of our final visit to Torbay—a week-long visit in which a Supply Officer not far from me arranged 49 engagements for me—we were sailing at seven o'clock in the morning. At three o'clock I was woken by a young OD who said he was the bosun's mate: "Sir, sir, sir." I wondered what dreadful crisis had arisen that the officer of the day couldn't deal with. He said: "You must read this letter", which he handed to me. It was from the landlord of the ship's company pub—The Shades I think it was called. On page 3, the landlord went on and on about what a wonderful bunch the ship's company of HMS Torquay were. It was notable that he waited until the last moment, just in case, before he wrote the letter. I am sure that I will receive a similar letter about the behaviour of the RNA in Torbay—I just hope that I am not shaken at 3 am to read it!

I now call on the General Secretary to read to us Her Majesty the Queen's response to our message of loyal greeting.

The General Secretary read a message received from HM The Queen:

5. "Please convey my warm thanks to the Officials, Delegates and Observers of The Royal Naval Association for their message of loyal greetings sent on the occasion of their Annual Conference which is being held today at The Riviera Centre in Torquay. As your Patron, I much appreciate your kind words and, in return, send my warm wishes to you all for a memorable and enjoyable gathering. ELIZABETH R".

The General Secretary read a message received from The Royal Air Forces Association:

6. "The President, Chairman, Central Council and Members of the Royal Air Forces Association send fraternal greetings and best wishes to all

Officials, Delegates, Members and Guests attending the Royal Naval Association's Annual Conference in Torquay on 16th June 2007. We are aware of your proud record of achievement and the high regard in which you are held internationally, and hope that your deliberations will continue to take your splendid organisation forward in these somewhat difficult days for our Armed Services and their Associations. We also hope that your Conference will have a memorable and enjoyable social dimension. Every best wish from The Royal Air Forces Association. Air Commodore Edward Jarron, Secretary General".

The Conference was formally opened by The Chairman of Torbay Council (Councillor Mrs Beryl McPhail MBE).

Following the official opening, Conference was addressed by Flag Officer Sea Training (Rear Admiral Richard Ibbotson DSC).

7. Flag Officer Sea Training said:

Shipmates,

Madam Chairman, Shipmates, ladies and gentlemen, first, may I say what a privilege it is to address you as you begin your conference in sunny Torquay?

Unlike many of those whose views I heard last night, for once I have not had to travel far. I live this side of Plymouth in a village near Dartmoor. I suppose I am a fairly traditional Admiral in that respect—I even have the obligatory black labrador. I do not shoot, although she is a gundog. One of her brothers belongs to another man in the village who shoots, and he has been doing rather well hiring the dog out. His dog is called Nelson, although when I saw its owner at the weekend he was very upset. Someone to whom he hired it out got confused on Dartmoor and instead of “Nelson” had spent the day calling it “Admiral”. Now, he tells me, it is completely useless and all it does all day is sit on its backside and bark at people!

Torquay, as you have heard, has extensive and historic links with the Royal Navy, not least with HMS Torquay, where your National President was the last Commanding Officer. Your Deputy National President was the Principal Warfare Officer and your General Secretary was, I think, the Ships Supply Officer. If I have this right, his youngest son—now a senior lieutenant and father—was the last child to be christened on the ship. I did my navigation training there, and I remain astonished that she remained afloat during that brief period. Time flies when you are enjoying yourself!

I am not here, however, to reminisce on my own behalf or for others: this conference is far too important for that. There is a time for swinging the lamp and a time for conducting business, and it strikes me that this is the time for conducting business.

I am a straightforward naval officer. Indeed, my reports on occasion have called me a blunt Yorkshireman. As such, I view such comments as

praise, not criticism. I am also fiercely proud of our service and determined to do my level best while Flag Officer Sea Training to get the fighting edge of our people and the ships to the best possible state. The very recent move to a single coherent Naval Training Command that you have heard about, in which I have the individual shore training as well as collective training at sea, can only be a move in the right direction to help achieve this better.

Let me be direct. Our Royal Navy has experienced a difficult period recently. I would be wrong to speculate on the detail of what we need to do in advance of the reports that are about to be published post the HMS Cornwall issues, but it is important that those of us in responsible positions of authority face the issues head on and, to be blunt, accept that we got some things wrong. I am focusing my team on making every effort to learn from this and jolly well get it right in the future, but this is not a task for the active service Royal Navy alone: we need all Royal Navy people to be involved in restoring public confidence in our service. The Royal Naval Association proudly states, "Once Navy Always Navy". I am thrilled to support that sentiment.

In my last appointment as Naval Secretary I developed the view that we needed to strengthen and develop our links between the currently serving and, if I may use the term, veteran community. In my current role with responsibility for youth and recruiting and as the only Flag Officer based in the West Country, I am even clearer that we need to do so. If we are properly to sort out the issues in the Navy at the moment and re-establish confidence in the country, we will be much more successful with the active engagement and support of those of you in the Royal Naval Association.

In my first months in post I have inspected ships from a variety of Navies who have come to us at FOST and who pay a lot of money for operational training—because we provide the best training available. I spent Thursday at sea with Dutch Marines and sailors in HNLMS Rotterdam. They are proud to be trained to FOST standards. Our Navy remains the envy of the world—not because of our ships but because of our people. That has never been in sharper relief than since I started my current appointment. I was asked earlier this week by a civil servant how I knew we were still respected in the naval community and how I could be confident about our training. The answer is easy: I have more foreign Navies wanting to train with us than I can accept, and this statistic continues to increase week on week.

Before embarking in Rotterdam I paid a visit to HMS Raleigh, now one of my establishments in Cornwall. I spent some time with newly joined submariners going through the school there. The previous evening I had been with my Warrant Officer Sea Riders, and one of them was waxing lyrical on the topic that our people aren't what they were when we joined. You may have heard that conversation; it is not a particularly new one. Having talked to those submariners the following day, who were intensely proud, were frighteningly intelligent and were focused on making the best of every opportunity that their career had to offer, I have to agree with my Warrant Officer.

Notwithstanding all that has happened recently, we have much to tell the world about the value of our men and women, and I hope the Royal Naval Association will play its part in contributing to this. I see the Royal Naval Association, with its strength at home and overseas and with its various international linkages, as a valuable part of the Royal Naval community, and I believe we should progress forward together. We have a joint mission, the young and the experienced, and it is clear that the naval message to me belongs to us all.

With this in mind I believe that the closer we are the better we will perform. I know that a Motion of Urgency will be put before you for debate recommending that personnel of the Royal Navy should in future be an integral part of the Royal Naval Association and be afforded access to the facilities of the Association and made welcome across the board. I have to ask, "What is new about this?" I have to say "Nothing very much", since traditionally a warm welcome has been extended to serving personnel by RNA clubs and branches. I have been privileged to enjoy such a welcome in various parts of the country over the years. However, the warmth of your welcome and your open-door policy has not been formalised, but that, I understand, is what your National Council of Wise People now seeks to do.

What do I see as the benefits of these formal linkages, and why are they important from my end of the telescope? Let me take the opportunity to give you an unashamedly parochial perspective, which might help your decision-making process. At a stroke, the motion will double membership of the RNA overnight and treble it over about 10 years. This of course brings great benefit in terms of influence and membership for serving people and might be seen in terms of a seed-corn investment since serving members, as they reach retirement from the Royal Navy, at whatever age, are, because of their habitual membership, more likely to move directly into full and paid membership of the Association than at present, where the average age of recruitment is, I am told, 54. In addition each ship, unit and community would have a RNA liaison officer charged with liaison with the Association, and Commanding Officers would take this remit very seriously. How can I be sure of that? Well, I am Flag Officer Sea Training—remember?

Ship adoptions would be made easier. Ships' programmes would be easier to obtain. I hope that the RN communities computer system could be used to communicate, and it would be possible to have an RN representative on the National Council of the Royal Naval Association, should you so decide. Thus, the Naval continuum concept could be developed to the benefit of all concerned.

I think our Navy has missed huge opportunities in the past. Ceasing active service should not result in cutting links. The links, the experience that the retiring community has, and the respect for you that those coming astern of you have should be encouraged, nurtured and, I have to admit from my current perspective, exploited. Co-operation is the game we should be involved in, with mutual support, respect and values.

As I finish, do I have a message for the Association? I think it is presumptuous to stand before you and offer one, but I have been invited to try. If the Association has a weakness—that may be so; it is your call, not mine—perhaps it is an unwise reliance on what we once achieved rather than on what we can achieve now and in the future. I suspect that this conclave has every sign of being a very lively one. Shipmates have thoughts, opinions and experiences to pass on that are of value to the less experienced, but we must remember to look to the horizon rather than always to focus on our wake. When we remember the ships we have served on we rarely remember the platform but we always remember the people, because the Royal Navy is mainly about our people. Our Government can give us platforms; only we can provide the unique cast of characters that transforms those into fighting ships and in due course into an association of high and like-minded veterans.

My message is simple: your service values the Royal Naval Association hugely. Vote wisely today and look to the future. Thank you for listening to me.

There are some words that my Flag Officer Sea Training staff are trying to ban from my vocabulary. If I ever say "good", there is a sharp intake of breath in my headquarters and an uncomfortable silence. They are happier if I stick to "just satisfactory" or occasionally "below standard". It is therefore with gay abandon that I tell you that this has been a good opportunity for me and I hope you have a very good weekend here.

8. **The President:** Shipmates, I speak for all of you when I thank the Admiral for one of the most relevant addresses ever given to one of our conferences by a Senior Naval Officer. I have also to pass on to you, Shipmates, my delight at the fact that Admiral Ibbotson has said that he wishes to stay and witness the proceedings of Conference until lunch time, when he must leave. It is therefore my intention that we at least initiate the debate on the Motion of Urgency to which he referred.

It is my duty to bid farewell to the Chairman of Torbay Council. I have a small presentation to make—it is the traditional Royal Naval Association gift, which I hope you and your husband will enjoy: Nelson's blood. **(Presentation made)**

9. **The President's Address**

I have never begun my address in the presence of a serving Admiral before. Let us hope that he does not do too much barking!

Shipmates, is it really a year since I addressed you in Aberystwyth? It seems to have flown by, as Admiral Ibbotson remarked. I get lots of invites from all over the Association, and I try to accept most of them. I am continually impressed by the energy and diversity of our activities and I am extremely grateful for the kindness with which I am everywhere received. I tend to be overwhelmed by gifts that I do not deserve, like this shirt, which I acquired at the laying up of Farnham Branch's standard. That was a great week that included the commissioning of a new branch in Cyprus and the

commissioning of Knowl branch near Birmingham, Area 5's AGM and Clacton Branch's annual dinner. I have written in my notes that I do not want to dwell on any particular occurrence in that year, but I have just done so.

One thing I would like to mention to you—and I think some good evidence of it has been given this morning—is the warmth and respect with which your officers, not just me, are now received by the Navy Board and by the serving Navy generally. One significant contributor to this was the successful conference we hosted for the International Maritime Federation in Portsmouth in September last year.

Like Admiral Ibbotson, I have a serious presidential message for you, and I ask you to give it your most particular consideration.

Shipmates, we are in trouble. The membership is in significant decline. Our numbers are reducing from about 28,000 by about 1,700 per year as Shipmates cross the bar, with many fewer coming in despite all the recruitment efforts made in all directions. You do not need to be a mathematician such as Einstein or have the intellectual qualities of an Archbishop to calculate that, given this current rate of decline, in 10 years our Association will cease to be viable.

We must embark on a survival strategy. There are those—and I do hear it from time to time; indeed, I regard it as a respectable point of view—who are agreeable to putting the lights out when the time comes: *après nous le deluge*. It is a choice that could be made, but it is not one that I choose. I hope and believe that the presence of you all here today signifies that you do not either, so we must give detailed consideration to how we can avoid disaster—because that is how I and a great number of Royal Naval Association and Royal Navy people perceive the future, should we fail to take pro-active steps to save this wonderful Association.

Our membership dilemma is not unique to the Royal Naval Association; I think we heard hints of the issue from the Royal Air Forces Association's kind message earlier. Many other membership organisations such as us suffer from the same difficulties, and that is not a message of comfort because to some extent we are all in competition.

Your National Council, your elected Wise Men and Association representatives, have devised a strategy that we believe will keep the Royal Naval Association ship afloat in the years to come. Some of the ideas being floated will be unpalatable to some, but the demise of the Association ought to be unpalatable to everybody, and desperate conditions necessitate desperate remedies. We do have a number of such remedies to propose and some of you will already have heard about them because the National Council is trying to be as transparent as possible in everything it does, especially in approaching this problem. At our March meeting we all agreed that nothing that happens at National Council is confidential unless National Council agrees at the time that it is. There is no need for anybody to ask whether anything was confidential unless we have agreed it is.

The first remedy we propose is to relocate the Association headquarters to Portsmouth. Existing premises in Chelsea are unfitted for the purpose of managing anything and are inaccessible to the majority of Association members, whereas we believe that Portsmouth offers great opportunities to RNA members and to members of the Royal Navy. Portsmouth is, by and large, where Royal Navy business is conducted, and most of the people whom we in the RNA are seeking to influence are there. Staff costs and overheads are considerably lower than they are in London, and social and business opportunities are easier to come by. Your National Council will, as you know, be asking for your approval to relocate the headquarters unit.

The second remedy is to increase the Association's membership, as you have heard, by extending it to embrace our linkages with serving Navy personnel. While we accept that traditionally our Association has made serving RN personnel welcome, our distinct advantages will come from formalising this situation and agreeing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Navy Board relating to its membership. Such a Memorandum of Understanding will immediately increase the size of the RNA, doubling numbers immediately and potentially trebling them over 10 years. It will increase the size of our influence group. It will ensure that we have improved access to the Navy Board. It will permit the establishment of Royal Naval Association liaison officers in every ship establishment and unit. It will ensure that we as an Association are taken very seriously and consulted on changes pertaining to Naval life. It could give us access to the Royal Navy communities computer system. It will give us easier access to ship programmes. It will make ship adoptions much easier. Now is the time to formalise our arrangements; now is the time to utilise our weight and experience; now is the time to gain access to the counsels of the upper reaches of the Royal Navy; and now is the time to have active service representation on our National Council.

There are other survival measures in the pipeline, but those two are the most radical. Even if we were not recommending a survival strategy, we would still recommend both measures because they will improve everything for us, but as components of a survival strategy your National Council believes them to be essential. We are not over-egging the pudding when we speak of survival. It is apparent that that is the situation we are in. We believe it would be unforgivable not to save the Association. We believe it can be done. We believe that hard work can save the Royal Naval Association, but we must have your approval to discuss, to negotiate, to subsume and to redesignate. We will use any responsibility given to us wisely and with caution.

We do not want to change the world, only to save it as best we can. There is a saying: if the people cannot change, then you have to change the people. We do not want to change the people; we like them the way they are. But we need more of them and, whether we always understand them or not, today's sailors, as you heard from Admiral Ibbotson, are just as talented and

worthy as yesterday's. In my heart of hearts I feel I sometimes have to recognise that, at least as far as I am concerned, they are more talented and more worthy.

I believe that this year's conference has the most meaningful agenda of all the seven I have so far attended and I therefore very much welcome it.

The President's Awards for Recruiting

10. The General Secretary announced the awards, which are as follows:

The Sword of Honour, which is awarded to the Area with the greatest increase of full members during 2006, goes to 3 Area. (Presentation made).

The Briggs Dirk, which is awarded to a Branch with more than 30 Full Members recruiting most Full Members from June to June, goes to Gosport (Presentation Made).

The Briggs Rose Bowl which is awarded to a Branch with fewer than 30 Full Members recruiting most Full Members from June to June goes to Isle of Wight (Presentation Made).

The Overseas Certificate which is awarded to the overseas Branch with more than 30 Full Members recruiting most Full Members from June to June goes to Port Phillip Bay, Australia (Presentation Made).

The Overseas Certificate which is awarded to the overseas Branch with fewer than 30 Full Members recruiting most Full Members from June to June goes to Moraira, Spain (Presentation Made).

Special Occasion Certificates

11. Commissioning Certificates were presented to the Eastern Cyprus Branch and Knowle Branch. Anniversarial Certificates were presented to Bridgewater, Dereham, Mexborough and Chichester. The latter was only ten years late!

Minutes of the 2006 Conference

12. The National President asked if any Shipmate had any difficulty with what is recorded in the Minutes as having been said in 2006? (No Response) The Minutes were adopted on a show of hands.

Matters arising from the Minutes of the 2006 Conference

13. The National President asked if there were any matters arising from the Minutes of the 2006 Conference? (No Response). There were no matters arising.

The Honorary Treasurer's Report and Annual Accounts for 2006

14. The Honorary Treasurer presented his Report and the Annual Accounts. There were no questions on his detailed report which appears in the full Minutes of Conference. The Honorary Treasurer's Report was approved by acclamation.

The National Council's Report to Conference for 2006

15. This Report was accepted by acclamation.

Election of National Council Members

16. National Council Members in Areas 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11 and The Scottish Area were due for election but in each case the only nominee was the serving Member so no election was necessary. The existing National Council Members for these Areas are deemed to be re-elected.

Election of Standing Order Committee Members

17. Two positions were due for election to The Standing Orders Committee and S/Ms Alan Peatling and Eric Baker were re-elected to serve. S/M Rita Lock came 3rd in the ballot with S/M Tony Avery coming 4th. S/M Stan Horner tendered his resignation from The Standing Orders Committee with effect from the conclusion of Conference 2007. National Council will be requested to fill this vacancy at their September 2007 meeting.

Conference Motions

18. The Chairman of the Standing Orders Committee (S/M J Owens) briefed Conference on procedures.

The following motions were debated and voted upon during the Conference Plenary Session on Saturday 16th June 2007:

MOTION OF URGENCY

Proposed by The National Council Seconded by Beccles

That National Council negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding between the Royal Naval Association and the Royal Navy, setting out the principles and obligations of the relationship between them, including the offer of free membership of the Association to such classes of serving members of our Naval Forces as are deemed appropriate.

PASSED

BRANCH MOTIONS

The Deputy National President, in his role as Chairman of The Relocation Working Group, addressed Conference and commended Motion 1 recommending approval.

Motion 1.

Proposed by Norton Fitzwarren

Seconded by Exeter

That:

- a. the decision of the National Council to investigate the relocation of Headquarters to a more suitable area be endorsed,
- b. any relocation of Headquarters be carried out on a cost neutral basis,
- c. Portsmouth is the most suitable location for Headquarters, and
- d. the National Council proceed with the relocation of Headquarters to the most suitable location as soon as practicable.

PASSED

Motion 2.

Proposed by Isle of Sheppey

Seconded by Chelmsford

That the Association withdraw from membership of the International Maritime Confederation.

FAILED

Motion 3.

Proposed by Woking

Seconded by Dorking

That Bye-Law 5e be amended to read:

“The nominating authority shall pay a fee to Headquarters equal to ten times the annual rate of subscription, *subject to a maximum of £100*, for each nomination that is approved. A certificate Headquarters”

NB. The amendment is shown in *italics*

PASSED

Motion 4.

Proposed by Londonderry

Seconded by East Antrim

That Londonderry Branch host the 2009 National Conference.

PASSED

Motion 5.

**Proposed by Southern Ontario
Australia**

Seconded by Perth, Western

That the National Council appoint one of its members to represent the interests of the overseas branches and that the member so appointed hold no other standing appointment within the National Council.

PASSED

Proposed Amendment to Motion No. 5

**Proposed by Southern Ontario
Australia**

Seconded by Perth, Western

**(S/M Hunter 12 Area, Locum Tenens) (S/M Gorridge, Woking Branch,
Locum Tenens)**

That the National Council appoint, from its elected members, a person to represent the interests of the overseas branches by input and regular communication.

FAILED

National Council proposed Amendment to Motion No. 5

That National Council investigate and make proposals to Conference for full representation of Overseas Branches on National Council.

FAILED

Motion 6.

Proposed by Liskeard

Seconded by Portland

That the Association make representation to Her Majesty's Government that recipients of the Pingat Jasa Malaysian medal be given permission to wear it with other medals.

PASSED

Motion 7.

Proposed by Cork and County

Seconded by East Antrim

That, noting the decline in the size of the Royal Navy, Branches of the Association must diversify their activities in order to meet the objects of the Association in the future.

FAILED

Motion 8.

Proposed by Chatham

Seconded by Isle of Sheppey

That the Association hold a biennial national seminar on Welfare.

MOTION WITHDRAWN BY PROPOSER

Motion 9.

Proposed by Chatham

Seconded by Isle of Sheppey

That the National Council provide a comprehensive summary of the proceedings of their meetings to Area Secretaries within 21 days of each meeting.

FAILED

Motion 10.

Proposed by Bletchley

Seconded by Peterborough

That Conference recognise, applaud and confirm its support for the excellent work and leadership of the National Council in promoting the objects of the Association and in reviewing and developing governance, structure and activities with a view to maintaining a thriving Association for the foreseeable future.

PASSED

The Conference Raffle - Results

19. The results of the Conference Raffle (organised and directed by Shipmate Tony Sattin) are as follows:

First Prize of £400 - D G Cooper, Havant, Hants

Second Prize of £300 - T Robinson - Rosyth, Fife

Third Prize of £200 - J Hawkins, Ryde, IoW

Fourth Prize of £100 - Mrs J Bridge, Leicester

20. Conference 2007 - Pooled Fares (Bye Law 3 amended by National Council)

TRAVELLING EXPENSES TO AND FROM NATIONAL CONFERENCES

- a. Delegates are to report their reasonable travelling expenses to and from National Conferences in the manner prescribed by the General Secretary. These sums will be pooled and the liability will be equally divided among ALL Branches of the Association, in the United Kingdom and Eire.
- b. The difference between the pool share and the travelling expenses for the delegate will be adjusted. Branches whose delegate's travelling expenses exceed the pool share will receive the difference from Headquarters, and those whose delegate's travelling expenses are less than the pool share will be called upon to pay the difference into Headquarters, subject to a subsidy from Headquarters for small branches.
- c. The subsidies shall be 50% of the pool share for branches with 15 or less full life and full members and 25% of the pool share for branches with 16-30 full life and full members. Branches with 31 or more full life members shall pay the full pool share. The number of full life and full members for each branch as calculated by headquarters for the previous year.
- d. Branches in the UK and Eire who do not send a delegate to conference shall pay the pool share, subject to any subsidy as appropriate.
- (i) The total fares shown by delegates was £11719.52
 - (ii) There are 397 Branches in the UK and Eire liable to pay **Pooled Fares**
 - (iii) £11719.52 divided by 397 is £29.52 (Branches 31+).
 - (iv) 25% off Pooled Fare is £22.14 (Branches 16-30).
 - (v) 50% off Pooled Fare is £14.76 (Branches 15 or less).

EXAMPLES:

- (i) Hanworth (212 F/L & F members) sent a delegate. His fare was £75.00. They will be credited £45.48.
 - (ii) Edmonton (9 F/L & F members) did not send a delegate. They will be debited £14.76.
 - (iii) Enfield (18 F/L & F members) did not send a delegate. They will be debited £22.14.
- e. Any query should be directed to the Assistant Secretary. Delegates who **DID NOT** fill out fare on cards will have, as in previous years, been charged the **standard Pool Fare Rate**.

21. **Text of a Letter dated 17th June 2007 from Rear Admiral R J Ibbotson DSC to Vice Admiral J H S McAnally CB LVO**

Dear John,

Marie joins me in thanking you and the Association for such a delightful evening on Friday. Good food, great company and convivial surroundings made for a memorable evening.

Subsequently I much valued the honour of addressing the Association yesterday. It was a privilege for me, and I will brief both Sea Lords on the very positive and constructive feel from the Conference. Your thoughtful and generous presentation of Pusser's Rum was most kind, and very timely; as an ex CBF Falklands I found the events of yesterday most moving. Marie (who came south with me for a year) equally has huge affection for the place, so we toasted the islands with a small tot last night.

Thank you again. I hope the rest of the Conference went well and look forward to speaking with you soon.

Yours ever,

Richard

The Orkney Branch of The Royal Naval Association - Commissioning

22. The Orkney Branch of The Royal Naval Association commissions on Saturday 6th October 2007. This promises to be quite a special event in view of The Royal Navy's long association with Scapa Flow and it is hoped that Branches will wish to be represented on this historic occasion. The travel involved will complicate logistics and so early booking and arrangements are essential, but the beauty of the location makes the trip worthwhile. Branches wishing to find out more about this event should telephone S/M David Hughes on 01856-873492,

The Royal Naval Association Website

23. The Royal Naval Association website has now been uploaded to <http://www.royal-naval-association.co.uk>. The Association has a new webmaster (S/M Chris Hore - chris@delabole.com) who takes over from S/M Stuart Thorn who gave long and valuable service in this specialist area, and to whom National Council send their sincere thanks.

Royal Marines Band Service – Bids for Engagements

24. All bids for Royal Marines Bands Engagements for the period April 2008 to March 2009 must reach HQRM by 1 October 2007. Those Branches seeking a Royal Marine Band should request an application form from RNA HQ which should be returned to HQ not later than Friday 21st September. Priority will be given to Branches holding Standard Dedications.

Royal Naval Association Welfare Seminar

25. A Royal Naval Association Welfare Seminar is planned for Saturday 6th October 2007 commencing at 1030 and finishing by about 1600. The venue will be HMS NELSON in Portsmouth. The seminar aims to update those doing welfare work within the Association and there will be presentations from Naval Social Workers and SSAFA on relevant topics. There will also be an opportunity to discuss current RNA Welfare issues with The Association Welfare Adviser and the General Secretary. The seminar is primarily aimed at Area Welfare Officers however Branch Welfare Officers may also attend if they so wish. Accommodation and meals can be provided in the Senior Ratings' Mess, HMS NELSON by arrangement. Those interested should complete the application form attached to this Circular and return it to RNA HQ by 31st August 2007.

Information Technology (Computers) and The Royal Naval Association

26. Much of our communication within the Association is carried out by "snail mail" but this is becoming increasingly expensive as postage prices increase and is slow, cumbersome and labour intensive. Electronic communication within the Association is increasing although there is undoubtedly much more that could be done. Clearly, many branches have

purchased computer equipment to help officials to carry out their duties, while in some branches officials use their personally owned computer equipment. The Royal Naval Association needs to develop an Information Technology Strategy to assist its members but it is difficult to know where to start because we are unsighted as to what is currently being used in the Branches. The National Council and Headquarters Staff would be exceedingly grateful if Branch Secretaries would take a few moments to complete the Questionnaire attached to this Circular and return it to HQ. We need to get a view of the size of the problem.

The 2008 Royal Naval Association Diary

27. Please see the Diary Order Form attached to this Circular.

Gift Aid

28. Following the change from covenanting to Gift Aid, we have somehow lost momentum. The number of Gift Aid forms, from a membership of 27,680 stands at a modest 3,500. May we remind you that this is free money, which has helped us to maintain our annual subscription at £10.00. A blank Gift Aid form is included with this Newsletter. Once completed, a Gift Aid Declaration lasts until it is rescinded. Thank you.

RNA Biennial Parade - Sunday 9th September 2007-07-10

29. The Royal Naval Association will be holding its Biennial Parade in Whitehall on Sunday 9th September 2007. The Chaplain of the Fleet and RNA Honorary Chaplain, The Venerable John Green QHC has agreed to officiate at the Service of Remembrance. We hope to have a serving Senior Officer present to take the Salute, accompanied by our National President and he will also say a few words at the conclusion of the parade. The Parade will muster at 1030 in Whitehall Place, and will also return there under the guidance and direction of the RNA National Ceremonial Adviser, S/M Alan Robinson.

It is of crucial importance to the RNA reputation and public profile that the members continue to present themselves as a smart and well turned out body of people. Accordingly members should read The Guide to Ceremonial paragraphs 105 and 105A. Marchers should conform to the Association's rig of black or navy blue blazers with Association Badge, grey trousers, white shirt and Association tie. The correct head dress with this rig is a Service type beret. An alternative rig is a dark lounge suit with a white shirt and Association tie. A bowler hat may be worn with this rig but not with the blazer rig. Parade Marshals may request any member whose dress, bearing or conduct is likely to bring discredit on the Association to leave the parade.

Coaches Branches travelling to the event by coach will need to display a placard marked RNA-2007 (available from RNA HQ on request) to be able to drop passengers in Whitehall Place and to park the coach there.

Arrangements have been made with The Civil Service Club in Great Scotland Yard (adjacent to Whitehall Place) for the bar to be open to RNA members in need of refreshment following the parade. The parade will conclude at about 1145.

It is hoped that the RNA will turn out in force for this prestigious and moving event.

Royal Naval Association
Parade and Service of Remembrance
Sunday 9th September 2007

Parade Orders

10:40

Parade will form up in 2 Columns in Whitehall Place

No. 1. Column

Band, National Standard, National Council, Standard Bearers from 1,3,5,7,9,11 and Scottish Areas, followed by marchers from same areas.

No. 2. Column

Deputy National Standard, Standards from Areas 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 followed by marchers from same areas.

11:00

The Royal Naval Association will advance, Parade by the left, quick march.

Parade will advance South past the Cenotaph, right wheel around Cenotaph,

National Standard Bearer will take post.
National Council will wheel and form single line.
Odd Area Standards will wheel right into open order.
Band will continue North past first bollard, counter march halting at bollard, cease playing.

11:10

No. 2. Column. the Royal Naval Association will advance by the left, quick march. No.2 Column will advance South,

Deputy National Standard Bearer will take post.
Even Area Standards will wheel right into open order.

PC Parade Commander (S/M A Robinson)

PC Wreath Layers, Attention, Take Post (see plan.)

Even Number Areas will position themselves 2 paces from plinth, E side of Cenotaph.

Odd Number Areas will position themselves 2 paces from plinth, W side of Cenotaph.

11.20

PC Parade, Attention.

PC Standard Bearers, Carry Standards.

Official Party arrives.

PC Standard Bearers, Order Standards.

PC Parade will Off Caps, Standfast The Band and Standard Bearers, Parade Off Caps.

PC Parade, Stand at Ease.

Chaplain of the Fleet arrives at Cenotaph with President and Chairman.

11.23 Service commences.

PC Before wreath laying, Parade Attention, Standard Bearers, Carry Standards.

President will lay Association Wreath.

PC Wreath Layers, Lay your Wreaths. 2 paces forward, pause 2.3. Lay Wreath 2.3. Straighten Up 2.3. 2 Paces Back. Remain there until Service is over.

Bugler will sound last post.
2 minutes silence.
Reveille.

PC Standard Bearers, Order Standards.
Parade, Stand at Ease.
Service continues until conclusion of Blessing.

PC Parade, Attention.
Parade, On Caps.
Standard Bearers, Carry Standards.
Band plays National Anthem (1 verse)

PC Standard Bearers, Order Standards.

Chaplain of the Fleet leaves followed by President and National Council. March to Saluting Base led by National and Deputy National Standards, who will position themselves either side of Saluting Base. The National Chairman will give the necessary orders on approach of parade. The National President will take the Salute.

CC Order their Columns into position.
Stand at Ease, facing North.

Band into position ready for march off.

National and Deputy National Standards to their respective positions. National Council 10 paces to the rear of the National Standard.

PC Parade, Attention.

DM Band, Attention.

PC Standard Bearers, Carry Standards.

PC The Royal Naval Association will march past. Band by the centre, Parade by the Left, Quick March.

After the Salute, wheel right into Whitehall Place halting well down.

Clew up along side No. 1 Column.

After the National President has addressed the Parade, the PC will march off the Standards and dismiss the parade. Shipmates should clear Whitehall Place as quickly as possible to permit the Police to open the road to traffic.

In case of query, contact the Parade Commander
(S/M Alan Robinson) on 0208-7590444.

RM BAND

TRAFFIC ISLAND

Nos 1 AND 2 COLUMNS STANDARDS
3 OR 6 DEEP IN OPEN ORDER
AREA STANDARDS IN FRONT

NATIONAL COUNCIL ONE SINGLE LINE

PC

WREATH CARRIER

PRESIDENT O OO O CHAIRMAN NC

SEA CADETS

COLUMN 3

ODD X
AREA X
WREATH X
LAYERS X
2 PACES X
FROM X
PLINTH X

N
W E
S

X EVEN
X AREA
X WREATH
X LAYERS
X 2 PACES
X FROM
X PLINTH

COLUMN 8

COLUMN 7

XXXX
FCO SEA
DOOR CADETS
XXXX

COLUMN 4

Nos 5 AND 6 COLUMNS
3 OR 6 DEEP IN OPEN ORDER
AREA STANDARDS IN FRONT

Electrically Powered Vehicles (EPV) - Changes in The Highway Code

30. S/M Rita Lock, an expert on Welfare, Benevolence and Mobility reports that various important changes are taking place in regard to the use of Electronically Propelled Vehicles (EPV) which are in daily use by many of our less able Shipmates. The next edition of The Highway Code, due to be published this Autumn, is expected to rule that these vehicles may only travel at a maximum of 4 mph on the pavement or 8 mph on the road. The new Code is also expected to include rules governing the safe use of EPV and a revised section of the Code will require drivers of the vehicles to give way to pedestrians and "show consideration for other pavement-users".

Under current legislation, mobility vehicles capable of travelling faster than 4 mph must be registered with the DVLA as a Class 3 Invalid Carriage and it is suspected that very few are. Insurance for these vehicles is voluntary which means that anyone uninsured, either driver or pedestrian, who is hurt in an accident, has little chance of winning financial compensation.

The Portman Building Society

31. The Portman Building Society plans to declare a Bonus Payment to customers in the near future and some disagreement has arisen as to the form of payment in respect of charitable accounts. Any Branch with a Portman Building Society Account is invited to contact The Honorary Treasurer of the Kingston Upon Thames Branch of the RNA (S/M Bernard Hutchins) on 0208-942-0568.

Navy News Subscriptions - Special Offer for Royal Naval Association New Subscribers

32. The Navy News is offering a specially reduced subscription to all Royal Naval Association new subscribers. This splendid monthly publication featuring all that is of interest in The Royal Navy and The Royal Naval Association can now be delivered to your door each month at a specially reduced price of £17-50 per year in The United Kingdom or £21-50 Overseas (please phone 02392-734448 for Airmail prices or contact subscriptions@navynews.co.uk). This special offer represents a saving of £3-00 per annum on the normal subscription price. See the offer each month in The Navy News.

Royal Naval Association Christmas Cards

33. Royal Naval Association Christmas Cards do not appear to be as popular as they once were. This may be due to the easy access to computers and the ability of Branches to produce their own individualised cards, however the result is that HQ has a sizeable stock of unsold but undated cards, which are now being offered for sale at special rates. Two types are available:

- A. A view of Christmas from the bows of HMS VICTORY and,
- B. HMS ARK ROYAL at sea.

Both are available at the special price of 10 for £2 (post and packing free). Send your orders to HQ on the attached form (indicating whether you want Card A or B and how many), for a speedy response.

Contacting the RNA Headquarters Book-keeper

34. The Royal Naval Association's Book-keeper (Miss Vicki Egerton) is employed in a part-time capacity and works from home. From time to time, Shipmates have observed that contacting her to resolve queries was a difficult task because of her other commitments. To improve communication, we have installed a combined Telephone/FAX/Answerphone in Miss Egerton's home and believe that this will help overcome the problem. The number of this combined instrument is **01795-530534**.

Private Medical Insurance - Hospital and Medical Care Association

35. The Royal Naval Association is seeking to improve the benefit available to members and have arranged for The Hospital and Medical Care Association (HCMA), a not for profit mutualised organisation, to offer private medical insurance to RNA Members. Please see the flyer attached to this Circular. In common with all such offers, the Royal Naval Association does not endorse or recommend this product which should be compared with either existing medical cover or compared with other offers, however we are assured that as a mutualised organisation it offers significant benefit for our membership

DVD - Instructional DVD for Standard Bearers

36. Plymouth Branch of the Association have produced an excellent Instructional DVD on the Ceremonial associated with Standard Bearing. Copies are available (Price £2.50) from S/M J Paterson, 14 Sunnyside Road, St Judes, Plymouth PL4 9LE (e-mail jim@paterson1513.fsnet.co.uk) (Tel: 01752-261646).

The Royal Naval Association Registered Tartan

37. It may not be well known that The Royal Naval Association has a registered tartan unique to the Association. Custodian of the tartan and the various pieces of apparel made from it is S/M Fred Cooper, a Life Vice President and DNCM for the Scottish Area. Fred is able to supply the following:

- Neck Ties @ £12 each
- Cummerbunds @ £35 each (2 only in stock)
- Waistcoat @ £55 each (1 only left in stock – size: large)

Tartan Material @ £38 per metre (very cheap – new stock will be much more expensive)
Bow Ties (on order and prices not yet available)

To order any of these items, please contact S/M Fred Cooper at :

Muirhead Cottage
Montquhir
Carmyllie
Arbroath
Angus DD11 2QS

HMS FEARLESS - DVD/CD ROM - The Journey

38. This splendid DVD/CD ROM has been produced by members of HMS FEARLESS'S Ship's company and graphically tells the story of the journey to and from the Falkland's Campaign of 1982. It is well worth watching and listening to, and details can be obtained from www.hmsfearless.com or from keithbroome04@aol.com.

Sod's Operas

39. A few months ago we published details of a project to record details of Sod's Operas which was being undertaken by S/M George Eley, and asked Shipmates to get in touch with him to ensure that these traditional naval entertainments are recorded for posterity. George has been inundated with material and is hugely pleased with the results so far. He has now established a website at www.sodsopera.co.uk and plans to produce a newsletter. He would be pleased if Shipmates make full use of the website. Regrettably many of those who contacted George did not include their names or addresses, so he has missed the opportunity to say thank you in a number of cases. Shipmate George can be contacted at 28 Holmfield Avenue, Fareham, Hants PO14 1EE of:

Telephone 01329-281584
FAX 01329-281584
Mobile 07799-113654
E-Mail input@sodsopera.co.uk
Website www.sodsopera.co.uk

Portsmouth Area Talking News

40. The Portsmouth Area Talking News (PATN) is a free service for the blind or partially sighted and produces audio tapes with readings from about five different newspapers and magazines each month. Of particular interest to Royal Naval Association members is a monthly reading covering extracts from The Navy News. These 90 minutes tapes are sent out to users at home and abroad free of charge and also post free. They are a particularly appropriate way for some of our sight disabled members to keep in touch with current naval events and we commend the service to all who may care to use it. Tapes are despatched in black plastic envelope packs with reversible labels

and delivered free by the Post Office. Once listened to, the client reverses the address label and drops the package into a post box for return to PATN - again, no postage cost is involved. Use one of the following 3 methods to obtain the tape service: (please tell PATN your name, address and telephone number in all options):

Telephone PATN on 02392 753433 or,

Write to P.A.T.N., 48 Stubbington Avenue, North End, Portsmouth,
Hants. PO2 0HY or,

e-mail PATN at: "thepatn@ntlworld.com".

HMS BRIGHTON Association

41. An HMS BRIGHTON Association has been formed recently. Any Shipmate interested in joining this Association should contact Jeff Warr at 79 Wykebeck Avenue, Leeds LS9 OJG or via e-mail at brightonf106@yahoo.co.uk.

The COVENTRY "82" Association

42. An Association is being formed for those who served in either of the two HMS COVENTRY's between 1978 and 2001. This Association will also offer life membership to all the families of those who lost their lives in the ship in 1982. A weekend visit to the city of Coventry is planned for 23rd-25th May 2008. Anyone wishing to join the Association or learning more about it should contact the Chairman, Brian Savage at brian_savage69@hotmail.com or visit the website on www.hmscoventry.co.uk.

HMS DIANA RE-UNIONS

43. Former members of HMS DIANA's Ship Companies meet twice a year to foster comradeship and meet old friends. Re-union is held in March of each year in or around Blackpool while a second is held in Birmingham in September. All ex-DIANAITes are very welcome. Contact The Secretary (J Fisher) on 01530242850 or 07789597890 or via Johnjackie.fisher@virgin.net.

EVENTS

44. The year 2007 is an extremely busy year with a great number of events, many of which commemorate the 25th Anniversary of The Falklands Campaign. The events below are listed chronologically and not by perceived importance. It is our intention to keep the list as up to date as possible and we are happy to hear of local initiatives so that we can keep Branches in the picture.

National Memorial Arboretum - HMS HERMIONE

45. The HMS HERMIONE Association is dedicating a tree at The National Memorial Arboretum on Tuesday 7th August 2007 in memory of those lost on 16th June 1942 when the ship struck a mine east of Grand Harbour, Malta. Anyone who served in any HMS HERMIONE or who was a relative or friend of a member of the 1942 Ship's Company are welcome to attend. Contact S/M Steve Brotherton on 01925-824504 or via stevebrotherton@yahoo.co.uk for further details.

Leeds No. 1 (Headingley) Branch

46. The Leeds No. 1 (Headingley) Branch of the Royal Naval Association will lay up their Standard and dedicate a new one in St Michael's Church, Headingley, Leeds at 1400 on Sunday 12th August 2007. Branches wishing to participate should contact S/M John Rance at 29 Allenby Road, Upper Beeston LS11 5RN or on 0113-2263677.

849 Naval Air Squadron

47. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Sea King helicopter operating in the Airborne Early Warning role. It is also the 55th anniversary of 849 becoming an Airborne Early Warning Squadron. To commemorate these milestones, 849 NAS, based at RNAS Culdrose, is holding a re-union for all serving and ex-serving aircrew and air engineering officers who have served in the squadron during the last 55 years. The event will take place over the weekend of 7-9th September 2007 at RNAS Culdrose, culminating in a Black Tie Dinner in the Wardroom. Any ex-serving aircrew or air engineering officers who served in 849 whether with the "Bag", "Gannet" or "Skyraider" who wish to participate should contact Lieutenant James Stone RN, 849 NAS, RNAS Culdrose, Helston, Cornwall TR12 7RH or call on 01326-557525.

Further information may also be obtained from Emma Relton (Public Relations Officer) on 01326-552461 or Ian Mackay (Community Relations Officer) on 01326-552460.

HMS MATCHLESS Association 1942-1946 (includes HM Ships MAHRATTA, MARNE, METEOR, MILNE, MUSKETEER and ORP ORKAN (Formerly HMS MYRIMDON)

48. Shipmates from the 1st and 2nd Commission of the above are welcome to attend the 21st Annual Re-union of the Association which will be held on 15th September 2007 in The Union Jack Club, London. Contact J Horton, 10 Finch Court, Coles Close, Ongar, Essex CM5 OAY (Tel: 01277-366617).

Reading Branch of The Royal Naval Association

49. The Reading Branch of The Royal Naval Association plans to celebrate its 70th Anniversary by holding a parade and rededicating its Standard, on Sunday 16th September 2007 at 1230 at The Dragon Club, Brock Barracks, Oxford Road, Reading. Branches are invited to send Standard Bearers and up to four Shipmates so as to make the day memorable for the Reading Branch and the Association. Branches wishing to participate should provide the following information to The Hon Secretary (S/M Daphne Wyatt) at 16/38 Granville Road, Southcote, Reading RG30 3QA (Tel: 0118-957-5725) :

Branch.....We will be attending

Name of Standard
Bearer.....

Numbers from Branch
Attending.....

Contact Telephone Number.....

HMS JAMAICA Association

50. The 22nd annual re-union of the HMS JAMAICA Association will take place in Gillingham, Kent from 21st to 23rd September 2007. Anyone who wishes to attend or seek information should contact the Hon Secretary (Bill Dancey) on 01558-685386.

Annual National Service for Seafarers –St Paul’s Cathedral

51. This year’s Service will be held on Wednesday 10th October at 1730. As usual, RNA HQ will co-ordinate applications for seats which should reach us by 3rd September.

Applications should contain a stamped addressed envelope (size to fit order) for the despatch of the tickets, which will be sent out about two weeks before the Service.

The Armed Forces Memorial

52. 2007 is of course the 25th Anniversary of the Falklands Campaign and the Armed Forces Memorial is due for completion in October of this year. The Armed Forces Memorial Project provides a National Memorial dedicated to the men and women of the United Kingdom Armed Forces (Regular and Reserve) killed on duty or as a result of terrorist action since the Second World War. It will commemorate some 16,000 members of our Armed Forces. Construction began on 24 July 2006 at the National Memorial Arboretum and a ceremony to mark the cutting of the first turf was held on 4 August. The main contractor on site is Geoffrey Osborne Limited and construction of the 6 metre high mound on which the Memorial will stand is on schedule. The Trustees need to raise £7million to complete the whole Project which includes the Memorial in Staffordshire, Rolls of Honour for the Royal Navy and the Army similar to those which already exist for the RAF, recording the names of those who have died in Service, and a Memorial in Westminster Abbey, without names, to those killed in conflict. £5 Million has been raised so far including a grant from the Treasury of £1.5 Million from the sale of the Trafalgar coin and a pledge of £2million from the Millennium Commission. Further information about how to support the appeal can be found at: www.forcesmemorial.org.uk.

HMS DAUNTLESS Association - WRNS 90th Anniversary Weekend - 2-5 November 2007 in Blackpool

53. The HMS DAUNTLESS Association is organising a fun filled weekend in Pontins, Blackpool between 2nd to 5th November 2007 to mark the 90th Anniversary of the formation of The Women's Royal Naval Service. Details may be obtained from wrens90@ntlworld.com or send a SAE to 1 The Rocks, Tansley, Matlock, Derby DE4 5ES.

Field of Remembrance – Opening Thursday 8th November 2007

54. The 2007 Field of Remembrance will, by kind permission of The Dean and Chapter of Westminster, open at 1120 on Thursday 8th November when a short Service will be held. The Royal Naval Association, together with other organisations, is invited to attend and those attending should be in position by 1100. A senior member of the Royal Family has kindly agreed to attend and inspect the plots. We have been allocated Plot 227. The system whereby Branches order their crosses direct from The Royal British Legion Poppy Factory works well so we have included the order form with this circular. Please note that Badge Crosses must be ordered by the end of September.

Remembrance Sunday - 11 November 2007

55. Headquarters will have a limited number of tickets for the Cenotaph Parade and Service on Sunday 11th November 2007. Shipmates are reminded of the physical demands of standing in Whitehall for at least one hour and then marching for a distance of at least one and a half miles, possibly in inclement weather. Any Shipmate planning to attend who requires

a carer should also apply for a ticket for the carer (one carer per participant). Please apply to HQ 28th September at the latest enclosing a stamped addressed envelope. Tickets will be available for dispatch in early October. We ask Shipmates who receive tickets from the RNA to march in the RNA Platoon.

BBC Television Programme on The Armed Forces Memorial

56. The BBC will be airing an hour-long documentary in November, charting the construction process and exploring some of the personal stories of the individuals it remembers. If you would like to share the story of a friend or loved one killed in the line of duty in the last 60 years, the producers would like to hear from you. Send an account of their story in a short letter, including a telephone number you can be contacted on, to *In Living Memory*, Reef Television, 8 Upper St Martin's Lane, London WC2H, or e-mail inlivingmemory@reeftv.com.

Branch and Miscellaneous Announcements

57. Changes to; Diary & Year Book.

Area 10

Salford – New Branch Sec. is;

S/M J Tunnicliff
81 Gerald Road
Salford M6 6DH
Tel. 0161-736 7017

O/Seas

Rockingham & Dist. – New Sec. is;

S/M P Barsch
43 Baskerville Crescent
Baldivis
Western Australia 6171
Tel. (08) 9524 2673
Email: pkbarsch@bigpond.net.au

58. **Donations - Central Charities Fund**

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Donations received previously in 2007: - | £6,714.14 |
| Donations since and now acknowledged with thanks: - | |
| Brighton & Hove & others-In Memory of Jack Bewley | 230.00 |
| West Lothian – In Memory of Members X- the-Bar | 100.00 |
| DL Lockton – In Memory of PJP Lockton | 20.00 |
| RBL Fortrose & Rosemarkie-In Memory of K Bisset | 100.00 |
| G Cooper – Tartan Royalties | 25.00 |
| B Barton | 15.00 |
| CL & FA Williams | 35.00 |
| I Caig | 15.00 |
| MJ & JE Worthington | 20.00 |
| Donations received £10 or less | <u>346.10</u> |
| Total | <u>£7,620.24</u> |

59. **History Notes**

- 1st August 1740 First performance of “Rule Britannia”.
- 2nd August 1950 Bombardment of Inchon.
- 3rd August 1953 HMS DAUNTLESS commissioned at Burghfield.
- 5th August 1864 White Ensign reserved to HM Ships.
- 7th August 1657 Admiral Robert Blake died at sea, one hour short of Plymouth – “at the entering of the Sound, Death seized him”.
- 9th August 1956 Plymouth Gunnery Range at Wembury commissioned as HMS CAMBRIDGE.
- 11TH August 1942 HMS EAGLE sunk by U73 sixty-five miles south of Majorca.
- 14th August 1990 Ships of Armilla Patrol, BATTLEAXE from Penang, YORK and JUPITER concentrated at Mombasa for Operation GRANBY.
- 15th August 1945 Japanese surrender – end of World War II
- 16th August 1941 Signal School moved from Portsmouth to Leydene House, East Meon – commissioned as HMS MERCURY.
- 20th August 1901 Captain R H S Bacon appointed first Inspecting Captain of Submarine Boats.
- 27th August 1979 Murder of Admiral of the Fleet the Earl Mountbatten of Burma.
- 29th August 1939 Admiralty ordered mobilisation of the Fleet.

James McClurg
General Secretary
Paddy@royalnavalassoc.com

WELFARE SEMINAR
SATURDAY 6TH OCTOBER 2007
HMS NELSON

I wish to attend the Welfare Seminar in HMS NELSON on Saturday 6th October 2007.

Name.....

Area/Branch.....

Home Address.....

.....

.....

POST CODE.....

Telephone No.....

e-mail.....

Duties in Area/Branch.....

I REQUIRE/DO NOT REQUIRE Accommodation in HMS NELSON for the
night of Friday 5th October 2007.

PLEASE RETURN THIS APPLICATION TO RNA HQ, 82 CHELSEA MANOR
STREET, LONDON SW3 5QJ BY 31ST AUGUST 2007

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION IT CENSUS

Name of Branch.....

Do you currently have access to a computer that is available for RNA use?

YES/NO

If **NO**

- a. Do you have a space where a PC and printer could be located near an existing phone line?
- b. If you have your own computer, would you be prepared to use it for RNA business?

If **YES**

- a How old is your PC?
- b. Does it have internet access?
- c. If so is it dial up, broadband or other? (please state)
- d. Who is the Internet Service Provider? (please state)
- e. How long have you had the connection?
- f. How much is it costing per month?
- g. What Operating System is your computer running?
Win 98, Win 2000, XP, XP Pro, Vista or other (please state)
- h. Do you have a printer?
- i. If so, what is the make & model and are you happy with it?
- j. If not please state why.
- k Are you or an associate happy dealing with routine PC housekeeping tasks (folder & mailbox management, updating anti-virus, taking back ups etc)?
- l. Have you started to accrue email addresses of your branch members (where appropriate)?
- m. If the RNA was to provide support for your Association linked IT activities, what would be the approximate monthly costs?.

Diary Orders - 2008

Diaries for the next year will only be available in a **Blue** hard cover and will feature a clearer and bigger font which will be easier to read. The cost per Diary will be £4-00 (including postage and packing). Orders should arrive by **31st August 2007** and be accompanied by a cheque for the total value.

To: The Assistant General Secretary
Royal Naval Association
82 Chelsea Manor Street
London SW3 5QJ

From: **Branch**

Please provide **2008 Diaries @ £4.00**

Send to:

.....

Post Code.....

Cheque for £.....is enclosed

GIFT AID DECLARATION

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION

Title Forename(s) Surname

.....

Address (Area no; -----)

.....

..... Post Code

I want the charity to treat all donations I have made from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise as Gift Aid Donations

Signature:-

Date:-

Notes

1. If your declaration covers donations you may make in the future:
 - Please notify the charity if you change your name or address while the declaration is still in force.
 - You can cancel the declaration at any time by notifying the charity - it will then not apply to donations you make on or after the date of cancellation or such later date as you specify.
2. You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on your donations in the tax year (currently 25p for each £1 you give).
3. If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax on your income and capital gains equal to the tax that the charity reclaims, you can cancel your declaration (see note 1).
4. If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self Assessment tax return.
5. If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for Gift Aid tax relief, ask the charity. Or you can ask you local tax office for leaflet IR113 Gift Aid.

CHRISTMAS CARD ORDER FORM

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Please send me :

.....Packs of Card A (Christmas from VICTORY)

.....Packs of Card B (HMS ARK ROYAL)

at £2-00 per pack. I enclose a cheque to the value of

OR

Please charge my Credit Card. The details are :

Type : Visa, Mastercard etc

Account No.....

Start Date.....Expiry Date.....

Security Code (if applicable).....

FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE 2007

20 Petersham Road, Richmond, Surrey TW10 6UR

**THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
POPPY FACTORY LTD**

Tel: 020 8939 1867/1820

Fax: 020 8332 1205

PAYMENT WITH ORDER and cheques to be made payable to:

[E-mail: admin@poppyfactory.org](mailto:admin@poppyfactory.org)

Field of Remembrance items are produced at The Royal British Legion Poppy Factory, which employs ex-service personnel (particularly disabled) their widows and disabled dependants. The production costs of Field of Remembrance items are shown below. We hope that you will consider giving a donation of at least the stated amount for each item. All proceeds from the Field of Remembrance are passed to the Poppy Appeal and put towards the Legion's work among the ex-service community.

Order No. FORO Date:.....

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION BRANCH:

Plot No: 227

Please enter contact details relating to this order below.Tel

| Please enter details of the badge crosses that you | Production Cost | Donation Enclosed | |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | Badge Crosses | £ 7.60 | Total |
| Field Crosses | £ 7.80 | Each | |
| Poppy Crosses | £ 6.20 | Each | |
| Leaf Crosses | £ 4.60 | Each | |
| Remembrance Crosses | £ 0.75 | Each | |
| Star Of David | £ 0.75 | Each | |
| Crescent Moon | £ 0.75 | Each | |
| Post / Packing | £ 4.90 | Total | |
| | Additional Donation | | |
| | Total Donation Enclosed | £ | |

Instructions. Please tick the options you require:

- I would like a receipt to be sent (**please enclose an SAE for this purpose**)
- Crosses to be collected from the Organisers at the Field of Remembrance onat..... am/pm
- Crosses to be planted on our behalf by the Organisers.
- Order to be despatched by post.

Please Note: For items despatched by post there is a charge of £4.90 per consignment.

Office use only: Items despatched on Via.....

STOP PRESS

RNAS Culdrose has commissioned a 60th anniversary painting depicting many of the aircraft that have served there since 1947.

High quality, full colour laser prints (approx size 57cm x 40cm) of the painting are now offered for sale for £10 each

These would make an ideal gift for anyone with an interest or affiliation with the Fleet Air Arm or RNAS Culdrose

*Prints are available from Glyn Timmins, the Central Amenities Fund Treasurer, on :
01326 552283*

e-mail : aocash@culdrose.mod.uk

Make cheques payable to “Central Fund RNAS Culdrose”

Postal sales welcome just add £2.50 postage and packing