



**MARCH 2008  
CIRCULAR**

**No. 571**

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Dear Shipmate Secretary,

**AMENDED ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION  
NATIONAL STANDARD BEARERS COMPETITION 2008**

1. Due to circumstances outside our control arrangements for The National Standard Bearers Competition for 2008 have had to be changed. The competition will now take place on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2008 in The Royal Engineers Gymnasium, Chatham** commencing at 1000. The programme will be:

Friday 6 June 2008 PM Competitors arrive King Charles Hotel (KCH).  
2000 Get-together, Pembroke Suite KCH.

Saturday 7 June 2008 1000 (tbc) RE Gym available for practice.  
1300 Competition draw takes place.  
1400 Competition commences.  
2000 (tbc) Social/Dance/Awards Ceremony KCH.

Sunday 8 June 2008 1045 Short parade to Chatham Naval Memorial.  
100 Service.  
O/C Buffet Lunch Gillingham Veterans Club.

Those requiring accommodation should contact King Charles Hotel direct on 01634-830303 FAX 01634-829430 e-mail [enquiries@kingcharleshotel.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@kingcharleshotel.co.uk).  
Room Rates Bed and Breakfast: Double/Twin £56-00, Single 45.00.

For Competition enquires please contact S/M Alan Robinson on 0791-391-0479.

For all other enquires please contact S/M Bill Murray on 01634-304973 or e-mail [bill.murray@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:bill.murray@blueyonder.co.uk).

Those eligible for entry are the winner and runner up from the 2006 Competition, the winners and runners up of Area Competitions and nominated Area and Area Deputy Standard Bearers. The rules for the National Competition are laid down in The RNA Guide to Ceremonial (available in hard copy from RNA HQ or on the RNA Website) Articles 0401 to 0415. Each Competitor is to have an Area or Branch Standard, carrying strap, gauntlets, black beret and drape. Winners and runners up of the 2006 Competition are earnestly requested to ensure that trophies are returned in pristine condition.

Entrants are to complete the following form:

-----  
**ENTRY FORM  
NATIONAL STANDARD BEARERS COMPETITION 2008**

**Name of Competitor.....**

**Home Address.....**

.....

**Telephone Number.....**

**(Signatures) Competitor.....**

**Area Secretary.....**

**SEND THIS FORM BY 10th MAY 2008 TO:**

**S/M A ROBINSON,  
NATIONAL CEREMONIAL ADVISER  
161 WEST END LANE  
HARLINGTON  
MIDDLESEX UB3 5LY**

## **Portman Building Society – Merger with the Nationwide – Cautionary Tale**

2. The Portman Building Society, which had a number of RNA Branches as customers, merged with the Nationwide Building Society in 2007 and declared bonus payments to existing customers. On Branches requesting their bonus payments they were informed by Portman/Nationwide that a consolidated corporate bonus payment would be made to RNA Headquarters in respect of all the accounts held by RNA Branches and wrote to HQ informing the General Secretary of this. The General Secretary responded that RNA HQ had never had an account with The Portman Building Society and that individual bonuses were due to those Branches holding individual accounts – this view was supported by recent guidance from the Charity Commission which stated inter alia “Branches of the Royal Naval Association in England and Wales are self governing; each Branch has a trustee body and produces its own accounts. This qualifies them as charities in their own right and separately registerable”. The Portman/Nationwide were notified of this guidance but refused to accept it, stating that their solicitors took the view that notwithstanding the Association’s Constitution they were treating the many RNA Branch Accounts as one Corporate Account which would be due one bonus.

The Portman/Nationwide have said they will send RNA HQ a cheque for £160-00 (£200 less £40 tax) in final settlement to the Association. The General Secretary has instructed HQ Staff not to accept any cheque from Portman/Nationwide in this regard since the HQ is not and never has been an account holder with them, and the Building Society has been so informed. They have indicated that they intend to continue in their interpretation of the facts as they see it – we appear to have a Mexican standoff. The bonuses due to individual account holders (Branches) are considerably more than the Society has offered and The General Secretary considers that the actions of the Portman/Nationwide are perverse and cynical. The costs of taking legal action against the Portman/Nationwide are likely to be such that the Association will be unable to afford to do so, however efforts continue to break the log jam. In the meanwhile, Branches maintaining accounts with Portman/Nationwide may wish to consider whether they wish to continue their relationship with that organization.

### **e-MAIL ADDRESSES**

3. RNA HQ Staff continue to attempt to build a library of e-mail addresses within the Association. It would be extremely helpful if those Branch Secretaries able to communicate by e-mail would forward a short e-message to HQ on [paddy@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:paddy@royalnavalassoc.com) so that registration can begin

### **Gift Aid**

4. Following the change from covenanting to Gift Aid, we have somehow lost momentum. The number of Gift Aid forms, from a membership of 24,590 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 at Annex B. Once completed, a Gift Aid Declaration lasts until it is rescinded. Thank you.

## **Navy News Subscriptions - Price Increase and Special Offers for New Subscribers**

5. The cover price of The Navy News recently increased to £1-80 per issue which is the first increase for 3 years following a large rise in the cost of printing and distribution. However,. The Navy News is offering a special deal for annual subscribers with a subscription of £18-00 for 12 issues including postage and packing - the Navy News comes though your letterbox at a very reduced rate. The cover price saving is £3-60 before considering postage and packing - for Overseas please phone 02392-734448 for Airmail prices or contact [subscriptions@navynews.co.uk](mailto:subscriptions@navynews.co.uk). See the offer each month in The Navy News.

## **St. George's Day Service and Parade of Standards in Woking**

6. The Woking Branch of The Royal Naval Association is mounting a St George's Day Parade of Standards and a Church Service on Sunday 20th April 2008 in St Peter's Church, Old Woking, Surrey and all Branches are cordially invited to participate. The Church Hall will be available from 1100 for stowage of Standards and equipment and use of toilet facilities. Car parking will be in the car park which is situated off a small roundabout just past the church entrance road, Road Marshals will be in attendance to assist with directions.

The timetable will be:

- 1110 Standards to muster on Church path
- 1115 Congregation to be seated in church
- 1120 The Mayor and Mayoress of Woking arrive  
(Councillor Bryan and Mrs Helen Cross)
- 1130 Church Service commences

O/C Standards exit the church and proceed to the church car park where they will be inspected by The Mayor; congregation top proceed to church hall where a light buffet will be available. The area around the Standards should be kept clear while the Mayor's Inspection is in progress.

Rum will be issued from the boot of the Branch Secretary's car in the church car park.

Woking Branch looks forward to seeing as many Standards and representatives as possible on "**ENGLANDS DAY**". The point of contact for any query is S/M Rod Fraser on 01932-349928.

## **Battle of the Atlantic Weekend 2008- Londonderry**

7. The Londonderry Branch of The Royal Naval Association is hosting A Battle of the Atlantic Weekend in Londonderry on 3rd and 4<sup>th</sup> May 2008 and would welcome participation by other RNA Branches. The planned programme is:

### **SATURDAY 3rd MAY**

- 1300 Depart Queens Quay in Toucan One for Wreath Casting Ceremony on Lough Foyle.
- 1700 (approx) Return to Queens Quay.
- 1930 Assemble at White Horse Hotel, Campsie. Battle of the Atlantic Dinner at 2000.

### **SUNDAY 4<sup>th</sup> MAY**

- 1030 Parade musters The Services Club, Spencer Road, Londonderry
- 1045 Parade marches off.
- 1100 Parade arrives All Saints' Church, Clooney (All to be seated by 1115).
- 1230 March off to Services Club, Salute will be taken en route.
- 1315 (Approx) Light refreshments will be served.

THE ABOVE PROGRAMME IS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION SHOULD CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE CHANGE.

Should any Shipmate wish to join us they should contact the Honorary Secretary of the Londonderry Branch:

S/M F J Brown  
4 Myrtlefield Road  
Kilfennan  
Londonderry BT47 5PG

Tel: 02871-291795

**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner of Woking Branch of the Royal Naval Association on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2008 at The Holiday Inn, Victoria Way, Woking : 1830 for 1930**

8. The Shipmates of the Woking Branch would be glad if Shipmates from other branches would join them at their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner to celebration being in commission from 1983 to 2008. The cost is £23-00 per head for a three course dinner, pleasant company, selected bitter beer at £1-80 per pint and a “Splice the Mainbrace” with a double tot of rum. There will be wine on the table and this can be replenished when it runs out with a replenishment discount of 15%.

For those wishing to stay overnight, the Branch have negotiated a special rate with The Holiday Inn of a Double Room with Breakfast for £69-00 – those wishing to stay should make the arrangements direct with the hotel – Telephone 01483-221111 FAX 01483-221038. There is no parking at the hotel, however there is a car park adjacent to the hotel in Victoria Way; this costs £1 but will be validated if presented at Reception and parking thus is free.

The Shipmates of Woking look forward to a splendid evening (speeches will be kept to a minimum) and to welcoming all Shipmates and their partners who are able to attend. **BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.** Contact either:

S/M Ian Fraser - 01932-344501 or  
S/M Rod Fraser - 01932-349928

**SEE MAP OF WOKING AT ANNEX E**

**Normandy RN/RM Memorial - Annual Service of Remembrance**

9. A Service of Remembrance will be held in Ouistreham in France at 1145 on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2008 in honour of the crews of the Landing Vessels (ships, craft and barges) which took part in the D-Day Landings in June 1944 and afterwards, till the end of World War Two in May 1945. The Service will be held opposite the entrance to *la gare maritime* (Portsmouth-Caen Ferries Service) and will be conducted by the Reverend Martin Evans RN; the parade will be under the operational control of 1 Assault Group Royal Marines. All are welcome : groups, individuals, families and friends and especially Standards. Contact Maurice Hillebrandt MBE on 01395-442800 or e-mail: [hillebrandt@btopenworld.com](mailto:hillebrandt@btopenworld.com)

10.

## Annual Conference

28<sup>th</sup> June 2008

# THE CAIRD HALL DUNDEE

### Delegate for the Annual Conference 2008

Name of Delegate.....

Branch.....

Area.....

Name of Branch Secretary.....

Expected number of Observers from this Branch.....

**NB: A Delegate will not be confirmed as such unless or until the Branch Balance Sheet for 2007 and Annual Subscriptions for Branch Members for 2008 have been received in RNA Headquarters (Rule 12©). Should either not have been received in HQ, the Delegate's Status will be deemed to be that of an Observer.**

### **Maidstone Branch of The Royal Naval Association – Annual Sea Service**

11. The Maidstone Branch of the Royal Naval Association will be holding its Annual Sea Service on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2008, celebrating 20 years of this event and also the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its Commissioning. Additionally, the Branch will be laying up its Standard. Details of this event are available from the Honorary Secretary, S/M David Fiander on 01622-202995.

### **Mast for Sale – Lichfield Branch**

12. Regrettably The Lichfield Branch Club will close at the end of March 2008. About two years ago the Club purchased a fibre glass mast 6 metres long with a 1.2 metre yard. This mast is hinged at the base with the lower section being concreted in and is fully rigged. The mast originally cost £700-00 however the Club Committee will take any reasonable offer. Any Branch interested should contact the Honorary Secretary of Lichfield Club, S/M Mike Cockayne at 30 Scotch Orchard, Lichfield WS13 6DE.

### **The Association of Wrens**

13.

## **ASSOCIATION OF WRENS**

### **National Reunion at York**

22-24 August 2008

Friday Evening Welcome Buffet

*Saturday RM Assn. Band Concert & Re-dedication*

**Socialising - goods stalls - photo display**

York visitor trips optional

Good accommodation on campus

Expecting over 1,000 members, why not join us?

**REUNION HOTLINE 01489 505226**

Not a member? Not a problem, contact 0207 9320111

[wrensassoc@aol.com](mailto:wrensassoc@aol.com) [www.wrens.org.uk](http://www.wrens.org.uk)

**Serving RN Women especially welcome!**

### **Friends of HMS VIDAL**

14. The 2008 reunion of The Friends of HMS VIDAL will be held at The Burlington Palm Hotel, North Drive, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR30 1EG on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2008. Please contact David Parker, 28 The Sanctuary, Green Lane, Morden, Surrey CM4 5NX (Tel : 0208-648-0160) for full details.

## **HMS ULSTER 1958-60 Commission – 50<sup>th</sup> and Final Re-union**

15. The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Final Re-union will take place between 24-27 October 2008 at the Kistor Hotel, Torquay. Booking forms and full details can be obtained from Reg Ralph, 20 Penhale Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN22 7JX (Tel: 01323-725978) e-mail [rejoice@milnet.co.uk](mailto:rejoice@milnet.co.uk).

## **A Proposed RNA Trip to New Zealand - February/March 2009**

16. Attached to this Circular at Annex B are details of the proposed RNA tour to New Zealand in March next year. The minimum group number is 30 and while the current maximum is 45, if there is enough interest shown then it may be possible to organise a second tour. This all-inclusive tour (from Heathrow and return) means that the only additional expense is for your own travel/medical insurance, within NZ departure taxes - International NZ\$25 and Rotorua Domestic NZ\$5, together with items of a personal nature such as beverages, laundry, telephone, personal purchases etc.

This trip is similar to the very successful Association of Wrens 2006 tour and is organised by the same company – C R (Ron) McPhail Ltd, based in New Zealand. Ron has been organising tours to New Zealand for parties from all over the world since 1992, most recently from China, Sweden, Czech Republic and the UK. Ron has lived in NZ all his life and has Royal New Zealand Navy connections in that his father, Surgeon Captain McPhail was Medical Officer on HMNZS LEANDER in World War II and later Director of Naval Medical Services.

The co-organiser is Mrs Christina Edwards, who again organises tours throughout the world for groups from many countries. She is the long-time organiser of the successful Association of Wrens Overseas tours, normally 3 or 4 a year. She and Ron organised the 2006 Association of Wrens tour to NZ. In 2007 the Wrens visited Madeira, Greece and the Greek Islands, and Apulia (Italy); while this year they are off to Tenerife in February, South Africa in March, Sardinia in May, and the South of France in September.

Additional copies of the itinerary and booking form should be produced locally and completed booking forms returned to be received in HQ Offices **no later than Wednesday, 28 May 2008.**

It should be noted that very few single hotel accommodation rooms are available – single room supplement is £500. If you are willing to share a room please indicate this on the booking form and you will be put in touch with another also willing to share. This does not commit you to sharing with that, or another, person, but may increase your chances of being on the tour.

## **Falklands War – Commemorative Covers**

17. An enthusiastic philatelist has manufactured a set of commemorative covers, each one date cancelled 25 years on from the actual date of the event. The series was originally to number 25 but the addition of the Fox Bay surrender made the actual number 26. These covers are available at a cost of £65-00 for the set (including the cost of airmail despatch) from:

Phil Middleton  
Falkland Collectibles  
PO Box 146  
Stanley  
Falkland Islands  
South Atlantic FIQQ 1ZZ

e-mail: [philmiddleton@horizon.co.fk](mailto:philmiddleton@horizon.co.fk)

Website: [www.falklandcollectibles.com](http://www.falklandcollectibles.com)

## **The Royal Naval Benevolent Trust – Pembroke House – A High Quality Care and Nursing Home**

18. Pembroke House is a care home situated in Gillingham, Kent and is run by the Royal Naval Benevolent Trust (RNBT). The home caters for residential and nursing care needs of those who have served as ratings in the Royal Navy or as other ranks in the Royal Marines and their spouses.

The Commission for Social Care Inspectorate has awarded its highest accolade to Pembroke House in recognition of the home setting and maintaining the highest standards of care. The home provides care for the elderly frail but is not registered for the mentally infirm, particular those suffering from dementia.

Pembroke House has 49 beds with 19 allocated for nursing care on a dedicated floor. It stands in fine landscaped grounds with a panoramic view overlooking the River Medway. The home is tastefully decorated on a nautical theme and all rooms are single and have en-suite facilities.

The home has an excellent relationship within the local community and Chatham Historic Dockyard. It also maintains strong ties with the Royal Naval Association, several branches of which regularly visit the home and in turn invite the residents to their meetings and social events that include BBQs in the home's lovely walled garden.

Fees for FY '07/'08 range from £368.00 to £399.00 for residential care and £557.00 to £652.00 for nursing to reflect the level of care required; packages are tailored to each individual and are subject to regular review as needs change. Pembroke House is most definitely not a 'one size fits all' care home! Both self-funding and Social Services funded residents are accommodated provided the fees are topped up where there is a shortfall in local authority funding. The Trust's policy is not to match any shortfalls in

funding on the basis that its charitable funds are utilised to provide the highest standards of care and facility within the home at rates that are below the market average. Fees are revised annually.

The Trust only employs staff with the right combination of skills and caring attitude. The home is equipped to the highest standards and prides itself on its bright and airy environment with a dedicated staff who assist residents in enjoying a full, independent and active life.

For more details contact the Home Manager on 01634 852431 or e-mail to [enquiry@pembrokehouse-rnbt.org.uk](mailto:enquiry@pembrokehouse-rnbt.org.uk) ; further details may also be found on the RNBT's web site [www.rnbt.org.uk](http://www.rnbt.org.uk)

## 19. History Notes

- 1 April 1859 Captain Mansfield Cumming born. Founder and first Director in 1909 of the Secret Service Bureau, later MI6 and the Secret Intelligence Service. His code name C and use of green ink adopted by all later Directors of the Secret Intelligence Service.
- 1 April 1998 The Reverend Dr Charles Edward Stewart, Church of Scotland Minister, appointed first non-Anglican Chaplain of the Fleet.
- 2 April 1931 Appointment of first aviation Flag Officer: Rear Admiral R G H Henderson appointed Rear Admiral Aircraft Carriers.
- 3 April 1919 Admiral Sir John Jellicoe and Admiral Sir David Beatty both promoted Admiral of the Fleet. An Order in Council was made to effect these promotions because there were no vacancies in the authorised establishment of three. Beatty was aged 48 and an Order in Council had been required to secure his promotion to Rear Admiral when he was 38.
- 5 April 1957 CENTURION commissioned at Haslemere as the Central Drafting Authority.
- 7 April 1919 The Grand Fleet paid off, to be replaced by The Home, Atlantic and Mediterranean Fleets.
- 9 April 1982 P&O Liner CANBERRA, taken up from trade, sailed from Southampton, with most of 3 Cdo Bde embarked, for the South Atlantic. Operation Corporate.
- 11 April 1939.....Mrs (later Dame) Vera Laughton Matthews appointed Direct WRNS, which was reconstituted next day. She was the former WRNA Unit Officer at Crystal Palace Training Depot 1918-1919.

- 15 April 1942 Malta awarded the George Cross. The only award of the GC that was not gazetted, and the first awarded to a body corporate rather than to an individual.
- 16 April 1992 UNICORN launched at Birkenhead, the last diesel submarine built for the RN and the last warship built by Cammell Laird.
- 18 April 1947 RN detonated 7,000 tons of explosives beneath Heligoland to demolish fortifications. "The greatest non-atomic explosion in history" – The Times.
- 20 April 1949 AMETHYST fired on by Communist PLA Batteries in Yangtze River east of Nanking. Opening of the Yangtze Incident.
- 22 April 1966 HM The Queen extended to Chief and Petty Officers the privilege of drinking the Sovereign's health seated.
- 25 April 1945 VENTURER recalled from last submarine patrol in home waters in Second World War.
- 28 April 1789 The Mutiny on the BOUNTY.
- 29 April 1802 Marines styled "Royal Marines" BY George III for meritorious service.
- 30 April 1956 Blue Caps worn for the last time.

## 20. Branch & Miscellaneous Announcements

### Area 1

**Cheshunt** - Change of Secretary to; S/M M Morsley  
4 Danemead  
Hoddesdon  
Herts EN11 9LT  
Tel. 01992-469 006

### Area 2

**Paddock Wood** - Change of Sec. to; S/M Yvonne Broad  
75 Pound Road  
East Peckham  
Tonbridge  
Kent TN12 5AZ  
Tel. 01622-872 281

**Purley** - Change of Secretary to; S/M L Troy  
36 Foresters Drive  
Wallington  
Surrey SM6 9DG  
Tel. 020-8669 5664

### Area 3

**Burgess Hill** – New Venue is; Conservative Club  
Cyprus Road  
Frequency; as before – Not meeting in May

**Uckfield & District** - Change of Sec. to; S/M V White  
5 Jeffreys Way  
Uckfield TN22 1JE  
Tel. 01825-763 716

### Area 4

**Bude** - Change of Secretary to; S/M R I Gelder  
9 Shortlands  
Pyworthy, Holsworthy  
Devon EX22 6SY  
01409-253 791

### Area 5

**City of Ely** - Act. Secretary is; S/M T Mizen  
45 Williams Close  
Ely, Cambs CB7 4FQ  
Tel. 01353-650 474

### Area 7

**Caerphilly** - Change of Secretary to; S/M D J Richards  
15 Craid View  
Machen, Caerphilly  
Gwent CF83 8SD  
Tel. 01633-440 400

Area 10

**Blaenau Ffestiniog** - New Sec. is;

S/M E Williams  
13 Maenofferen Street  
Blaenau Ffestiniog  
Gwnedd LL41 3DH  
Tel. 01766-832 832

**Buxton & High Peak** - New Sec. is;

S/M T Johnson  
25 Birch Close  
Cavendish Fields, Buxton SK17 6FE  
Tel. 01298-212 321

Scottish

**Stirling** - Change of Secretary to;

S/M R Finlay  
18 Cruckburn Wynd, Stirling FK7 9HU  
Tel. 01786-449 135

O/Seas

**Moraira & District** – New Secretary is;

S/M J E Sanderson  
Ptd Barranquets  
Carrer 15 No 21  
03779 Els Poblets (Alacante) Spain  
Tel. 0034-966 474 532

**DONATIONS**

CENTRAL CHARITIES FUND Donations received previously and acknowledged with thanks:- £0.00

Donations since and now acknowledged with thanks;

Chatham	100.00
Dereham	100.00
Greenford	200.00
Littlehampton	125.00
Sherborne	50.00
Southend	100.00
York & Dist.	300.00
F S Tweedy	428.57
J Denney-Finch	100.00
Donations £10 or less	<u>1,972.50</u>
Total	<u>£3,476.07</u>

James McClurg

General Secretary

paddy@royalnavalassoc.com

**ANNEX A**

**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 IR1 13 Gift Aid.

**ITINERARY FOR TOUR OF NEW ZEALAND**

**FOR**

**THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION**

**27 FEBRUARY - 15 MARCH 2009**

**Days 1 and 2 - Friday 27 February and Saturday 28 February 2009**

Depart Heathrow for Air New Zealand flight to Auckland via Hong Kong. There will be a refuelling stop in Hong Kong.

**Day 3 - Sunday 1 March 2009 - Arrive Auckland**

Arrive Auckland late morning. After proceeding through Immigration and Customs meet Ron McPhail and then travel to the top of Mt Eden for a panoramic view of the 'City of Sails' which has more boats per person than any other city in the world. After lunch visit Sky Tower and then check in to your hotel. Remainder of the afternoon at leisure. Dinner in your hotel.

*.Overnight Langham Hotel, Auckland*

L/D

**Day 4 - Monday 2 March 2009 - Auckland**

This morning visit the Naval Museum at Devonport and then HMNZS Philomel for a visit hosted by the Royal New Zealand Navy. This is followed by lunch on the North Shore with members of the Royal New Zealand Naval Association based in Auckland. Return to hotel late afternoon. This evening enjoy the Pride of Auckland sailing cruise and dinner on the Waitemata Harbour.

*Overnight Langham hotel, Auckland*

B/L/D

**Day 5 - Tuesday 3 March 2009 - Auckland - Omapere**

The first visit today is to the Kauri museum at Matakoho. After lunch in the Gum diggers café travel on to Dargaville and through the Waipoua Kauri Forest, home of Tane Mahuta (Lord of the Forest, the largest Kauri tree at 52 metres). Take some short walks to see some of these magnificent trees. From here continue to Omapere on the Hokianga harbour.

Dinner in your hotel.

*Overnight Copthorne Hotel & Resort, Hokianga*

B/L/D

**Day 6 - Wednesday 4 March 2009 - Omapere – Waitangi, Bay of Islands**

Travel to Waitangi this morning and visit the Waitangi National Reserve where the Treaty of Waitangi was negotiated with the Maoris by Captain William Hobson representing the British in 1840. Late morning travel by ferry from Paihia to Russell where you can enjoy lunch at the Swordfish Club and explore this town which had a seamy reputation in the 1800's and where the Ngapuhi chief Hone Heke cut down the British flagstaff four times in 1844 and 1845. This afternoon cruise out through the Bay of Islands to Cape Brett and pass through the Hole in the Rock. Return to Paihia and check in to your hotel.

*Overnight Copthorne Hotel & Resort, Waitangi, Bay of Islands*

B/L/D

**Day 7 - Thursday 5 March 2009 - Waitangi - Rotorua**

This morning drive south on State Highway One to Whangarei and then to Auckland. Travel over the Bombay hills with their rich red volcanic soil, through the lush green Waikato to Hamilton and then over the Mamaku range to Rotorua, for a 2 night stay.

This evening travel a short distance from Rotorua for a Maori hangi and cultural experience.

*Overnight Kingsgate Hotel, Rotorua*

B/L/D

### **Day 8 - Friday 6 March 2009 - Rotorua – Tauranga - Rotorua**

Visit Te Puia (the Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve and the Maori Arts and Crafts Institute). See the Maori carvers at work and walk around the thermal reserve where you see boiling mud pools and the spectacular Pohutu geyser. Next the Agrodome for an entertaining farm show. Lunch in the Skyline Restaurant before travelling a short distance to Tauranga via Te Puke (the kiwifruit capital). This was the location for the battle of Gate Pa - an epic battle between the Maoris and men from the Royal Navy and British troops during the New Zealand Wars in the 1860's. A reception in Tauranga early this evening with members of the Ex Navalmen's Association. Return to Rotorua.

*Overnight Kingsgate Hotel, Rotorua*

B/L/D

### **Day 9 - Saturday 7 March 2009 - Rotorua - Queenstown**

This morning fly to Queenstown via Christchurch. Transfer to the Gibbston Valley Winery for lunch. Visit historic Arrowtown which thrived in the gold rush days and explore the area's gold mining history before carrying on to Queenstown situated on the shores of Lake Wakatipu amongst magnificent alpine scenery. This evening ride on the gondola to Bob's Peak where you dine while enjoying the magnificent view of Queenstown and Lake Wakatipu.

*Overnight Kingsgate Hotel Terraces, Queenstown*

B/L/D

### **Day 10 - Sunday 8 March 2009 - Queenstown – Milford Sound – Te Anau**

Travel alongside the shores of Lake Wakatipu to Southland and into the Te Anau basin and then through the spectacular Southern Alps and the Homer tunnel to Milford Sound. Cruise to the mouth of the Sound and enjoy a buffet lunch on board. Dolphins, seals and majestic waterfalls are among the magnificent sights in this part of Fiordland National Park. Return to Te Anau this afternoon. Dinner in your hotel.

*Overnight Kingsgate Hotel Te Anau*

B/L/D

### **Day 11 - Monday 9 March 2009 - Te Anau – Doubtful Sound – Te Anau**

For visitors a highlight of the trip to New Zealand - the hidden treasures of Doubtful Sound. The catamaran cruise from Pearl Harbour on Lake Manapouri takes you to the West Arm. A coach trip over Wilmot Pass, is followed by an unforgettable cruise on Doubtful Sound taking in the beautiful alpine scenery. Picnic lunch on board. On returning to West Arm you have the opportunity to travel by coach down a 2km spiral tunnel to the machine hall of the underground power station. Return across Lake Manapouri. Dinner in your hotel.

*Overnight Kingsgate Hotel Te Anau*

B/L/D

### **Day 12 - Tuesday 10 March 2009 - Te Anau - Dunedin**

Leaving Te Anau visit the Wildlife Centre where the rare Blue Duck and the Takahe may be seen. From here travel via Mossburn, Gore and Balclutha past productive sheep, deer and dairy farms to Dunedin, called the Edinburgh of the South because of its Scottish heritage. The University City of Dunedin has a special place in the beginning of New Zealand's colonial history. A tour of Dunedin offers a

chance to look at some of the city's historic buildings before checking in to your hotel. Reception with members of the Royal New Zealand Naval Association this evening.

*Overnight Dunedin City Hotel*

B/L/D

### **Day 13 - Wednesday 11 March 2009 - Dunedin**

This morning take a tour of the Otago Peninsula which includes the Albatross Colony at Taiaroa Head. This is unique being the only mainland colony of albatross in the world. After lunch at the Royal Albatross Centre return to Dunedin. This afternoon board the Taieri Gorge Train for a spectacular 4 hour trip which follows the Taieri River through rugged scenery. The train will stop 2 or 3 times for you to get off and look around. Dinner in your hotel.

*Overnight Dunedin City Hotel*

B/L/D

### **Day 14 - Thursday 12 March 2009 - Dunedin - Christchurch**

Travel on State Highway 1 this morning to Christchurch. The journey takes you through North Otago hill country and then across the Canterbury Plains. Stop for lunch on a dairy farm near Rakaia. Enjoy a stroll in the beautiful garden and talk to the owners about New Zealand's biggest export industry. Continue to Christchurch and then city sights before checking in to your hotel. A reception this evening with members of the Royal Naval Association at HMNZS Pegazus.

*Overnight Copthorne Durham Street, Christchurch*

B/L/D

### **Day 15 - Friday 13 March 2009 - Christchurch - Nelson**

Today travel to Nelson via Kaikoura and Blenheim. Kaikoura is well known for crayfish (rock lobster), watching and seals. You will see Southern Fur Seals basking on the rocks.

Late afternoon arrive in Nelson and check in to your hotel and a chance to freshen up before a reception with members of the Royal Naval Association.

*Overnight Trailways Hotel, Nelson*

B/L/D

### **Day 16 - Saturday 14 March - Nelson – Auckland**

Morning at leisure before transferring to the airport to catch your flight to Auckland where you board your Air New Zealand flight for return to Heathrow via Los Angeles. There will be a refuelling stop at Los Angeles airport.

B

### **Day 17 – Sunday 15 March – Heathrow**

Arrive Heathrow Airport.

### **Included**

Transport in air conditioned coach  
Share twin accommodation in good quality hotels ranging from 3 to 5 star  
All breakfasts, dinners and lunches as indicated in the itinerary.  
Sky Tower, Pride of Auckland dinner cruise, Matakohē Kauri Museum, Waitangi National Reserve, Cape Brett cruise, Agrodome Farm Show, Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve and Maori Arts and Crafts Institute, Maori hangi and concert, gondola rides in Rotorua and Queenstown, Milford Sound cruise, Doubtful Sound cruise, Taieri Gorge Railway, Royal Albatross Colony.  
New Zealand guide. New Zealand Government Goods and Services Tax at 12.5%

### **Not Included**

Travel/Medical insurance.  
Departure taxes UK, NZ International (NZ\$25), Rotorua Domestic (NZ\$5)  
Items of a personal nature such as beverages, laundry, telephone

*COST: £2999-00 (excluding airport taxes) per person sharing a twin/double room.*

**- Single Room Supplement is £500.**

**A £150 per person non-refundable deposit is required at time of booking.**

**RNA NEW ZEALAND TOUR**  
**27 FEBRUARY – 15 MARCH 2009**  
**BOOKING FORM**  
**(CLOSING DATE WEDNESDAY, 28 MAY 2008)**

NAME.....

ADDRESS:.....

.....

POST CODE: .....

Telephone Number: .....

E-Mail Address: .....

**Important: Name Must be Exactly as per Passport**

Title	Forename	Surname	Room Type - Twin/Double/Single (Single Room Supplement £500)

**Group Member Emergency Contact:**

Please provide a contact name & phone number of a relative/friend  
 In case of emergency,  
 who **will not be travelling with you.** .....

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms (Delete as appropriate)

Forename.....

Surname.....

Phone Number (Day).....

Phone Number (Night).....

Relationship.....

**Payment Details:**

.....deposits @ £150 per person (**non-refundable**) = £.....

(Cheques payable to: The Royal Naval Association)

**Final Balance is due by Wednesday 10 December 2008.**

Travel and Medical Insurance is **NOT INCLUDED** in the price. Please make your own comprehensive insurance arrangements. This should include for the reimbursement of the cost of the tour should you cancel after the final *balance has been paid.*

Bookings accepted on a first come first served basis  
(Note: Limited Single Room availability).

Please enclose SAE for booking confirmation

Signed..... Date.....

**SEND COMPLETED FORM TO: RNA HEADQUARTERS (NEW ZEALAND TOUR),  
82 CHELSEA MANOR STREET, LONDON SW3 5QJ**

Further information can be obtained by contacting Jill Stellingworth – Tel: 01932 840208/Mobile – 07742 921910 or e-mail – [jill.stellingworth@virgin.net](mailto:jill.stellingworth@virgin.net)

## Annex C

### An interesting paper by the Confederation of British Service and ex-Service Organisations (COBSEO) which RNA Members may find of interest :

## The Unique Nature of Military Service

This statement represents the collective view of COBSEO

### Introduction

1. The Armed Forces exist to engage in war, which means using military force to achieve a political objective. **It is that function which distinguishes them from all other occupations.** This places extraordinary demands on Service personnel and requires an organisation unlike any other, which must be able to compel its members to put their own lives at risk, and to take the lives of others as the military situation requires. This demands a **unique liability and sacrifice** and it means that Armed Forces personnel necessarily forego some of the rights and freedoms enjoyed as a matter of course by all others in civilian society.
2. In return for this unique liability, it is the duty of Government to provide the Armed Forces with the equipment, manpower and training they require to carry out their tasks, **and** to give them terms and conditions of service that are demonstrably fair and appropriate to their special status. **This is a mutual obligation and it forms the basis of the military covenant**, which is an unbreakable bond of identity, loyalty and responsibility between the nation and its government and those serving in the Armed Forces. It is a psychological contract which must not be breached if mutual trust is to be maintained.
3. Because of the unique nature of military service, the covenant must extend to the families of Service personnel, for so often it is they who suffer the consequences when a Service man or woman is killed, injured or mentally damaged in support of government objectives. For that reason the covenant must be binding even beyond death, where dependants are involved (widows, widowers partners or other dependant relatives). In short, the ability to order people to put their lives at risk carries with it the responsibility to ensure the dependants of those people are properly looked after should the ultimate price be paid.
4. The Armed Forces are frequently described as "special", not least by Ministers and the media. The Armed Forces Pay Review Body report of 2007 mentions "the unique nature of our remit group". Nevertheless, when it comes to negotiating pay, pensions, medical care or terms & conditions the words 'special', 'unique' or 'military covenant' carry no formal weight because the military covenant specifies no enforceable rights or privileges, and relies on a moral contract rather than a legal one.

## **Aim**

5. The aim of this paper is to provide the background for informed discussion with the MoD and Senior Commanders on the unique nature of military service.

## **Legal and Political Aspects**

6. There are a number of specific legal provisions, underpinned by the Service Discipline Acts (see Note), which affect military personnel, who are subject to Service law in addition to civilian law (other differences also exist which are cultural and historical). They include:

- Liability to implement Government policy anywhere, at any time, at no notice regardless of personal circumstances or individual wishes

- The possibility of being sentenced to military detention or prison for refusing to obey a lawful order.

Note: Army Act 1955, Air Force Act 1955, Naval Discipline Act 1957 and the new Armed Forces Act 2006 - which is being phased in and will be enacted fully by 2009 to replace the three original Acts.

- The possibility of being sentenced to military detention for not turning up for work (AWOL)

- The liability of being recalled to military service (and sent to war) even after formal retirement from the Armed Forces and transfer to civilian status

- Certain limited exemptions from working time directive legislation, and no right to overtime pay

- Exemptions from certain aspects of equal opportunities legislation (particular examples being age and disability discrimination)

- Exemption from certain aspects of health & safety legislation

- Exemption from minimum wage legislation

- No right of access to an employment tribunal on grounds of unfair or constructive dismissal or breach of contract generally

- No right to have a formally constituted independent professional association (trade union or federation) to safeguard individuals' interests, thus requiring Service men and women to rely wholly on their chain of command (the MoD) to represent all welfare and employment matters

- No right to take an active part in the affairs of any political organisation, party or movement. Specifically no right to take part in political marches or demonstrations. If a Service person wishes to stand for Parliament he or she must leave the Services beforehand

- Royal Prerogative - the authority and employment of members of the Armed Forces derives directly from the Sovereign

- Engagements in military service are voluntary but only on the part of the Crown and give no occasion for action in respect of any alleged contract

### **Case Studies**

7. Perhaps the most obvious example of not treating the Armed Forces as a unique group is the automatic read-across principle which applies within the public sector. This means that, in general terms, when a request for an improvement to terms and conditions is raised on behalf of the Armed Forces, it will not usually be enacted if similar improvements are not available to the rest of the public sector. A particular case in point is the refusal to address the post retirement widows' pensions issue because of read-across. The no-retrospection ruling is another example where improvements for the Armed Forces are constrained by guidelines applied across the public sector. Specific instances can be highlighted for each of these principles.

### **Realistic Goals**

8. The Armed Forces do not demand privileged status but merely to be treated as a unique group and a special case within the public sector. This would enable negotiations on pay and conditions of service, and the treatment of retired and dependant persons, to be conducted on their individual merits. If this were so there would be no further automatic read-across to the rest of the public sector, and no automatic imposition of the no-retrospection ruling when negotiating these matters. These are realistic goals, which must apply similarly to serving persons and to those retired and their dependants.

COBSEO  
February 2008

For further information contact the Secretary of COBSEO at  
[sec.cobseo@btconnect.com](mailto:sec.cobseo@btconnect.com)

## **ANNEX D**

### **THE ROCK OF AGES CAMPAIGN**

**THIS NOTICE IS PUBLISHED AT THE REQUEST OF THE BISHOP OF GIBRALTAR IN THE DIOCESE IN EUROPE, THE DEAN AND CLERGY OF HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL IN GIBRALTAR, THE GOVERNOR OF GIBRALTAR (HE LIEUTENANT GENERAL SIR ROBERT FULTON KBE RM) AND EIGHT FORMER GOVERNORS INCLUDING THREE ADMIRALS NAMELY ADMIRAL SIR DEREK REFFELL KCB, ADMIRAL SIR HUGO WHITE GCB CBE DL AND ADMIRAL SIR DAVID WILLIAMS GCB DL.**

### **CONSERVATION OF THE CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY TRINITY, GIBRALTAR**

THE CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY TRINITY HAS BEEN A CENTRE OF BOTH CHRISTIAN WORSHIP AND COMMUNITY LIFE IN GIBRALTAR SINCE 1832. IN 1980 IT BECAME THE MOTHER CHURCH OF THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE IN EUROPE. ALTHOUGH CONSECRATED ONE YEAR AFTER QUEEN VICTORIA ASCENDED THE THRONE, THE CATHEDRAL'S ARCHITECTURE IS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM THE TYPICAL 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY CHURCH DESIGNS SEEN IN THE UK AND IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD. COMBINING BOTH CLASSICAL AND MOORISH FEATURES, IT IS A UNIQUE CHURCH IN BOTH ITS INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR ASPECTS.

DURING THE LATTER HALF OF THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY, THE CATHEDRAL HAS SUFFERED FROM THE EFFECTS OF GIBRALTAR'S VARIABLE WEATHER AND THE SEVERE DAMAGE CAUSED WHEN THE AMMUNITION SHIP RFA BEDENHAM BLEW UP IN THE HARBOUR IN 1951. SINCE 1945, THE CONGREGATION HAS HAD TO RAISE MONEY FOR REPAIRS AND REFURBISHMENT ON NO LESS THAN 7 OCCASIONS. TODAY THE CATHEDRAL NEEDS YOUR HELP. IF WE DO NOT CARRY OUT VITAL CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION WORK SOON, THE BUILDING WILL CEASE TO BE SAFE EITHER FOR DAILY WORSHIP OR FOR CONCERTS, PLAYS AND OTHER PUBLIC EVENTS. MORE THAN THIS, A VITAL PART OF GIBRALTAR'S HERITAGE WILL BE LOST. THE CONGREGATION AND DIOCESE HAVE DUG DEEP INTO THEIR POCKETS ONCE MORE, AND HAVE RAISED A SUBSTANTIAL SUM TOWARDS THE WORK NEEDED.

**BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP IF WE ARE TO ACHIEVE OUR £850,000 TARGET.**

**YES – I WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT THE ROCK OF AGES CAMPAIGN IN GIBRALTAR**

PLEASE TICK IF YOU ARE A UK TAXPAYER AND WISH **THE ROCK OF AGES CAMPAIGN** TO CLAIM THE TAX PAID ON YOUR DONATION.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....POST CODE.....

TEL :.....E-MAIL.....

HERE IS MY DONATION OF £.....

I ENCLOSE A CHEQUE/POSTAL ORDER/CAF VOUCHER MADE PAYABLE TO **ROCK OF AGES** CAMPAIGN.

I WOULD LIKE TO PLEDGE TO GIVE REGULARLY – PLEASE SEND ME DETAILS

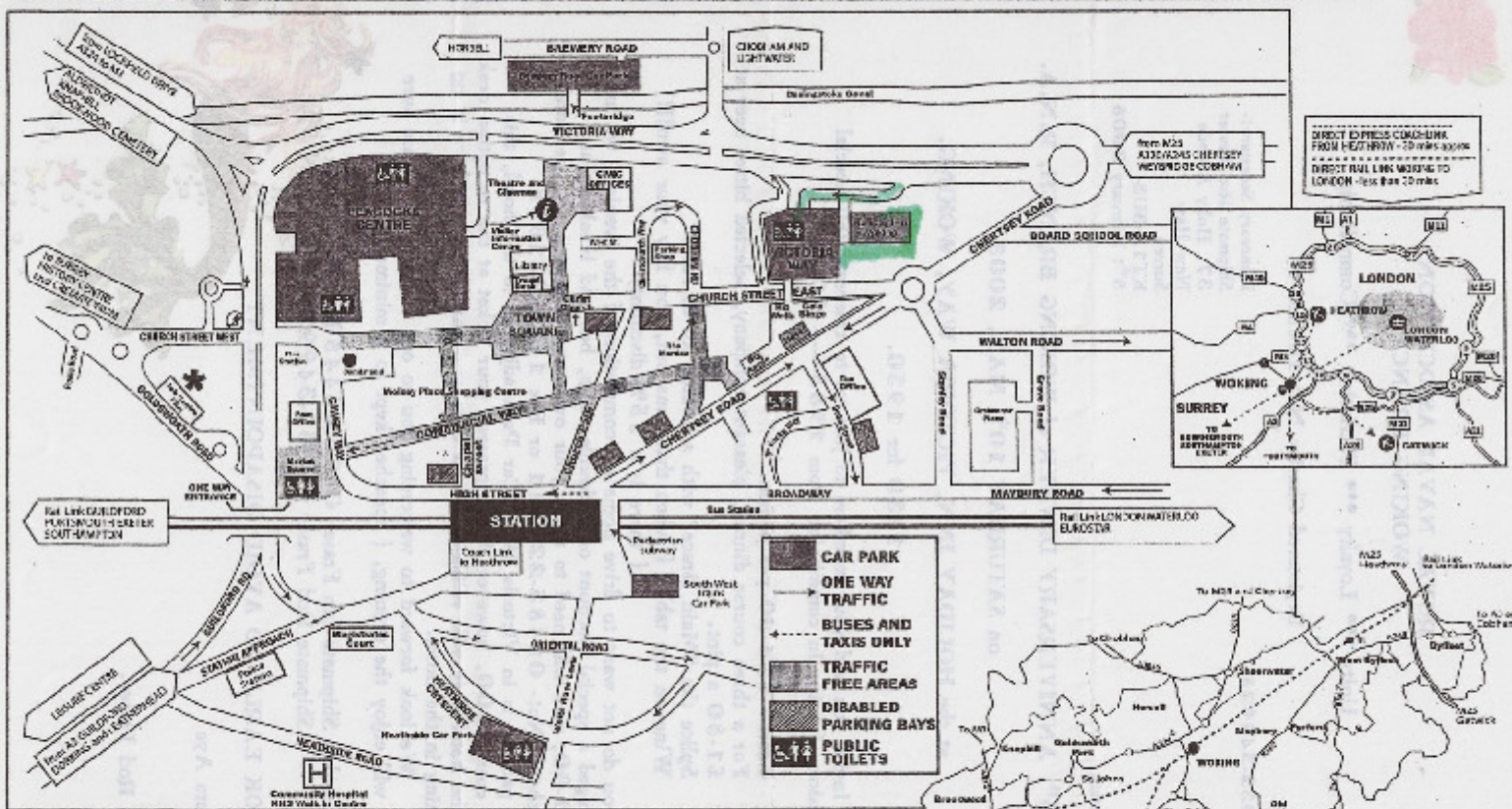
- PLEASE SEND ME INFORMATION ABOUT OTHER WAYS IN WHICH I CAN MAKE A GIFT TO SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN

I WOULD LIKE DETAILS OF HOW TO BECOME INVOLVED IN FUNDRAISING FOR THE CAMPAIGN IN UK.

**PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO :**

**THE CAMPAIGN SECRETARY  
THE ROCK OF AGES CAMPAIGN  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR  
ARUNDEL GREAT COURT  
178-179 STRAND  
LONDON WC2R 1EL**

# WOKING TOWN CENTRE **EVENING CHARGES APPLY IN CAR PARKS**



## HOW TO GET TO WOKING:

- By Car (M25 exit junction 11). Take the A320 (signed Chertsey and Woking). Journey time from M25 junction 11 is 15 minutes.
- By Train There is a direct rail link from London Waterloo station to Woking. Journey time is 25 minutes. For information telephone National Rail Enquiries on 08457 484950.
- By Bus There are regular bus services linking local village centres and beyond to Woking. For information contact the Bus Enquiries Desk in Woking. Jersey or telephone 01483 750525.
- Relief Coach Link A direct express coach service runs between Heathrow Airport and Woking Tulse Station. The coach leaves every half hour for most of the day. Journey time from Heathrow is 35 minutes. From the other direction during peak times, the journey takes a little longer. For more information telephone National Rail Enquiries on 08457 484950.

- Jobcentre Plus**  
15-29 Goldworth Road, Woking, GU21 6TZ.  
Important: Please make sure you arrive on time to your appointment as unfortunately your meeting may have to be cancelled if you are late. If you cannot attend an appointment, please telephone 01483 706821 or 01483 706820 so that your scheduled time can be given to someone else and you can be given another date.
- Woking Visitor Information Centre**  
The Ambassadors, Peace Centre, Woking GU21 69Q  
Telephone: 01483 720103 Email: tourist@woking.gov.uk  
Open 11am to 5pm, Monday to Saturday.  
A range of free brochures and local newspapers are available together with information on events, facilities (including accommodation and restaurants), souvenirs and services in the Borough.

