



**NOVEMBER 2007
CIRCULAR**

No. 567

Para Contents

- 1 The Royal Diamond Wedding Anniversary
- 2 Field of Remembrance
- 3 Remembrance Day at the Cenotaph
- 4 Out and about with The Deputy National President
- 5 Update on the move to Portsmouth
- 6 Winter Fuel Payment - A reminder
- 7 e-Mail Addresses
- 8 RNA Club Permits for 2008
- 9 The Luton and Dunstable Royal Naval Association Club
- 10 Gift Aid
- 11 Navy News Subscriptions - Special Offer
- 12 Have Bugle - Will Travel
- 13 The National Standard Bearers Competition - 14th June 2008
14. No 4 Area Open Standard Bearers Competition
- 15 Proposed RNA Trip to New Zealand - Feb.March 2009
- 16 RNA Christmas Cards
- 17 Contacting the RNA Book-keeper
- 18 Ceremonial Rum Tubs
- 19 HMS WHIMBREL - Battle of Atlantic Memorial
- 20 Nominations for National Council 2008/2009
- 21 Motions for Annual Conference 2008
- 22 Membership Card Requirements for 2008
- 23 Delegate Nominations for Annual Conference 2008
- 24 The Royal Naval Association Annual Conference 2008
- 25 Chingford & Waltham Forest Branch - Decommissioning
- 26 HMS LOCH FADA Association
- 27 HMS COSSACK Association
- 28 Seasonal Greetings from the Uxbridge Branch
- 29 Miscellaneous
- 30 History Notes

Dear Shipmate Secretary,

60th Wedding Anniversary Greetings to HM The Queen and HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh

1. The following message of greetings was sent to HM The Queen and HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh on the occasion of their 60th Wedding Anniversary :

"The President, Chairman, National Council Members and Members of The Royal Naval Association throughout the world, present their humble duty and loyalty to Her Majesty The Queen as their Patron, and send their heartfelt congratulations to Her Majesty and His Royal Highness on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage".

This response has been received by The National President :

"The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh send their sincere thanks to you, the Chairman, National Council Members and Members of the Royal Naval Association for your kind message of congratulations on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding Anniversary.

Her Majesty, as your Patron, and His Royal Highness much appreciated your thoughtfulness in writing as you did and have asked me to convey their warm good wishes to all concerned".

The Field of Remembrance - Thursday 8th November 2007-11-07

2. There was a good turn out of Royal Naval Association Shipmates and serving naval personnel at the opening of The Field of Remembrance in St Margaret's Church, Westminster which took place at 1100 on Thursday 8th November 2007. The opening ceremony was performed by HRH Prince Philip who toured the Field meeting, among others, the RNA National President (Vice Admiral John McAnally CB LVO), S/M Alma Kent GC and a former National President, Admiral Sir Desmond Cassidi GCB. After the official opening, the Chaplain of the Fleet (The Venerable John Green QHC) led a short service for the benefit of the RNA, which was greatly appreciated by those gathered at the RNA Plot.

Remembrance Day at the Cenotaph - Sunday 11th November 2007

3. The National Chairman (S/M D White MSM) and General Secretary attended the National Act of Remembrance at The Cenotaph in Whitehall where the National Chairman laid a wreath on behalf of the Association. Subsequently, they joined with colleagues from The Royal British Legion and Royal Air Forces Association to witness the march past of veterans. The salute was taken by HRH Prince Philip wearing the uniform of an Admiral of the Fleet. The Royal Naval Association contingent was smaller than usual (some 150 marchers) however they were immaculately turned out and marched very proudly and well. The RNA contingent was joined by a group

of serving Senior and Junior Rates from HMS BULWARK who were present in London on remembrance duties - the combined groups made a fine spectacle and Prince Philip took a keen interest in them as they marched past led by the National President (Vice Admiral John McAnally CB LVO) and under the watchful eye of the National Ceremonial Adviser (S/M Alan Robinson).

Out And About with the Deputy National President

4. It has been a joy to see many of you recently. The 25th anniversary of the Falklands made this a much bigger year for me, almost matching the efforts put into Trafalgar and Remembrance by John McAnally, David White and Paddy. HMS SHEFFIELD's sinking has felt very close, reminding me of what many of you endured in World War Two.

The Civic Service in Plymouth was very well attended by the Westos; the team in Gloucester did the same at their Cathedral and Chatham is now graced by the National Destroyer Memorial – do go and see this tribute to 11,000 destroyer veterans, reflecting the efforts of many, including Chatham Branch and the HMS CAVALIER team. This year I have had the chance to promote the RNA on Radio Kent, on BBC local South Eastern TV and in the local papers in Gloucester and Plymouth. My thanks to the Standard Bearers at all these events, especially Bill Cowling who took charge of the Chatham Standards – he like you all, upheld our standards in more ways than one: My thanks also to Market Harborough Branch for an excellent Trafalgar Night Dinner.

It is a pleasure to represent you at these events and to see your smiling faces and obvious commitment. Thank you for your Branch contributions to the HQ Budget, it funds the travel for these events and thank you most of all for all the unsung representation that you do – day-in day-out in your community. We all, lead by the National President, the National Chairman and our General Secretary, are slowly changing the impression many people have of us; we are not just a beer-swilling bunch (although we all enjoy a good jar). People are starting to see who we really are Loyal, Patriotic, Comradely and United. Keep it up RNA! I am now also the Chief Executive of a Charity – see www.wingslikeeagles.net – and so it will be tougher to do as much next year, but let us see shall we!

Update on the Move to Portsmouth

5. I am grateful to the membership for the support given at Conference for the strategic move to Portsmouth. Five months on, you may ask 'How is it going?' Let me tell you that:

- The Relocation Working Group continues to hunt for the best place for the RNA in Portsmouth.
- We are complying with Charity Commission guidance on handling the property transactions;

- The hunt is driven by two factors:
 - The best location for the RNA HQ is near the historic dockyard and these properties are not common;
 - National Council has decided that the best investment for the RNA is a freehold; these are rare and so require us to be discreet – if we are too eager then we will drive up the price; we will accept a long ground lease (like our Chelsea HQ) on the right terms as an alternative to a freehold.
- Sadly, we had to reject the opportunity of a new-build because it was a poor long term investment for the RNA;
- We are examining how best to handle the VAT which may arise from a purchase and from rent and have commissioned a study that should help us considerably in the long term; (property) to keep looking on our behalf;
- We are using our professional experts (found through the first property) to keep looking on our behalf
 - Because of the above it may not be possible for us to have relocated by the time of Conference in Dundee; but in the meantime:
 - We are resolving how best to leave our property in Chelsea
 - We are keeping a good relationship with our current landlord, and
 - We are slimming down the paperwork of the HQ so that we can use the space of the new HQ most efficiently;
 - We keep looking.
 - We will start recruiting the new staff once we have a clear expectation of an arrival date;
 - We give thanks to our current staff for their continued flexibility whilst we find the new HQ.
 - I thank the Association as a whole for their understanding and the RWG for their work over this matter;

I hope that helps. We will move as soon as we can find the right place geographically and as a strategic investment the future of our Association.

Winter Fuel Payments - A Reminder

6. During November and December, the Government is making Winter Fuel Payments to help with winter heating costs. If you were aged 60 or over on or before 23 September 2007 you could get a payment of up to £200.

You should get a payment automatically if:

- a. during the week of 17-23 September, you were getting a State Pension or social security benefit (apart from Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit or Child Benefit); or
- b. you got a payment last year and your circumstances and contact details have not changed.

In other cases you may need to make a claim for a Winter Fuel Payment. If you think you need to make a claim, please call the helpline on 08459 15 15 15 or visit the website at www.thepensionsservice.gov.uk/winterfuel.

If you have not had a payment by Christmas but think you should have, please call the office that normally pays your benefit or State Pension. If you do not get a social security benefit or State Pension please call the Winter Fuel Helpline on 08459 15 15 15. All claims for Winter Fuel Payments must be received by 28th March 2008.

e-MAIL ADDRESSES

7. RNA HQ Staff are attempting 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 so that registration can begin

RNA Club Permits for 2008 - Form RNA C3

8. Application forms RNA C3 to renew club permits are required to generate an Annual Permit to continue to use the title "Royal Naval Association". These forms require the endorsement of the Area Secretary and should reach RNA Headquarters by 30th November. A fee of £3-00 for the club permit will be debited to the branch account. Rule B62(e) requires that two copies of the audited account should be provided to The General Secretary each year and a number of clubs have yet to forward Club Accounts for 2005 - this should be done now as a matter of urgency, as Forms C3 will not be issued until they are received.

The Luton and Dunstable Royal Naval Association Club

9. The Chairman and Committee of the Luton and Dunstable RNA Club regret to report that the Club will cease trading as from 31st December 2007 consequent upon an unacceptable increase in the rent of their premises. The Luton and Dunstable Branch of the Royal Naval Association will continue as at present but will meet in a different venue, details of which will be notified when they are received.

Gift Aid

10. 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.

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

11. The cover price of The Navy News will soon increase 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. See the offer each month in The Navy News.

Have Bugle - Will Travel

12. Regular attenders at RNA Conferences will know of the excellent bugling skills of S/M Tony Crisp who is a member of the Waterlooville Branch and a Life Member of the Association. Tony has now retired and is happy to assist at any ceremonial event where bugling is required. He does not charge for his services being entirely happy if his travelling expenses are covered. S/M Tony can be contacted on 02392-711058 or 07950-406712. He is well recommended.

**The Royal Naval Association National Standard Bearers Competition -
14th June 2008**

13. The National Standard Bearers Competition for 2008 will be held in HMS FORWARD (Birmingham RNR Training Centre), 42 Tilton Road, Birmingham B9 4PP on Saturday 14th June 2008 commencing at 1400. The Draw for placing will take place at 1300.

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 17th MAY 2008 TO :

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

No. 4 Area - Open Standard Bearers Competition - 1st March 2008

14. No 4 Area will be holding an OPEN Standard Bearers Competition on 1st March 2008 in the Falklands Hall, CTCRM Lympstone at 1100. Any Standard Bearer wishing to compete, and any Shipmate wishing to spectate is requested to contact S/m J R PATERSON, Area 4 Ceremonial Adviser, 14 Sunnyside Road, St Judes, PLYMOUTH PL4 9LE, Tel: 01752 261646, E-mail jim@paterson1513.fsnet.co.uk. On completion there will be a buffet in the W O's and Sgts Mess, cost £5.00 per head.

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

15. Following a recent successful tour of New Zealand by the Association of Wrens, S/M Vice President Stuart Thorn (a New Zealand resident) would be keen to have expressions of interest for a possible RNA tour of New Zealand in February/March 2009. It has been suggested that such a tour could be organised by Ron McPhail of McPhail Business Tours and a proposed 14 day itinerary could comprise :

Arriving in Auckland, visiting the Naval Base at Devonport with a reception there, a visit to Rotorua, Tauranga with the Ex-Navalmen's Association who would lay on a reception, fly to Christchurch where the RNZN Association would probably offer a reception, a stay in Queenstown and Dunedin, a visit to Nelson where there could be a reception by the local RNA Branch, fly from Nelson to Auckland for the return flight to UK.

Costs have yet to be calculated and would depend largely on the size of the party. Those interested can contact S/M Thorn direct on sbthorn@xtra.co.nz (copy to RNA HQ please) or for those who are not connected to e-mail, RNA Headquarters will be very happy to relay your expression of interest to S/M Thorn.

Royal Naval Association Christmas Cards

16. Regrettably, or thankfully depending on your viewpoint, the Royal Naval Association Christmas Cards are sold out for this year. A new Christmas Card will be produced for 2008. Many thanks to all our customers.

Contacting the RNA Headquarters Book-keeper

17. 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**.

Ceremonial Rum Tubs

18. The Selsey Branch are fortunate in having a Member who can make Rum Tubs and a few Branches have expressed an interest in having one also. If there is sufficient support the Selsey Shipmate may be able to undertake this task. Any Branch interested should write to The Hon Secretary, Selsey Branch at: 39 Hillfield Road, Selsey, West Sussex PO20 OLB. Costing details will be calculated once the level of interest is established.

HMS WHIMBREL - Battle of the Atlantic Memorial

19. An Association has been formed to attempt to bring HMS WHIMBREL back to the United Kingdom where it is hoped the ship will form a Battle of the Atlantic Memorial. A fund raising team has been established and His Grace The Duke of Westminster has agreed to be Patron. Vice Admiral Michael Gretton CB CVO MA FNI (a distinguished son of a distinguished Battle of the Atlantic Father, Vice Admiral Sir Peter Gretton) has agreed to be Chairman. Clare Beavan has been appointed as the Project Fund Raiser and is developing a strategy to raise the Memorial Project's profile within the Merseyside Area and beyond, Demonstrate the benefits WHIMBREL could bring to Liverpool's tourist and leisure sector, Identify major potential donors and increase public support for WHIMBREL's return - if you are able to help the project's aims in any way, please contact Clare at The HMS WHIMBREL Project, RN Headquarters Northern England, East Brunswick Dock, Sefton Street, Liverpool L3 4DZ or on clare@mersinet.co.uk.

Nominations for National Council 2008 / 2009

20. **For the attention of All Branch Secretaries in Area No's 1, 3, 4, 5, 10 and 12.**

Nomination Forms

The envelope containing the completed form should be marked NOMINATIONS FOR NATIONAL COUNCIL and must reach RNA HQ no later than 22nd February 2008.

Each Branch is allowed to nominate ONE MEMBER from any Branch within its own Area, as a Candidate for election to the National Council, Subject to the approval of the Branch to which he belongs. (See Note Below)

NAME OF NOMINEE

PROPOSED BYBRANCH

ADDRESS OF NOMINEE

CHAIRMAN SECRETARY

BRIEF HISTORY OF NOMINEE (in the Association)

.....
.....
.....

If the Candidate put up by the proposing Branch is NOT a member of that Branch, this section must be completed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Candidate's own Branch, and their signature implies Branch acceptance of the Nomination.

Candidate's Branch

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

I undertake to attend as many National Council Meetings as is possible and to sit on any Committees to which I may be elected.

Signature of Candidate

This form must be returned even if no nomination is made. It must be, despatched to be received at HQ no later than **22nd February 2008.** Nominations received after this date cannot be included in the Ballot.

NOTE: Only one nomination is needed for a candidate to be included in the ballot

Conference 2008 - Motions and Amendments

21. **PROPOSED MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS**
FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2008

(Proposals must reach The General Secretary by 22nd February 2008)

Name of Proposing Branch:.....

MOTION / AMENDMENT

EXPLANATION OF THE MOTION / AMENDMENT (Note d)

This Motion / Amendment is put forward as representing the views of the Members of this Branch. If accepted it will be proposed to the Annual Conference.

Date: Hon. Secretary:

Seconded By:

.....Branch

Notes

- (a) A separate form is required for each Motion /Amendment
- (b) A manuscript copy is acceptable for additional Motions /Amendments if the printed form is not available.
- (c) The Motion /Amendment should be as short and precise as possible avoiding ambiguity. A Motion should normally start with the word `THAT'
- (d) The explanation is to assist the Standing Orders Committee in understanding the intention behind the Motion so that they may be able to consider acceptance and the wording under **Rule 15**.
- (e) Motions may be submitted at any time but must reach the General Secretary by **22nd February 2008**.
- (f) Motions of Extreme Urgency should reach the General Secretary not less than 48 hours before Conference. (In accordance with Standing Orders **S8(7)** as amended at 1996 Conference.)
- (g) Amendments to Motions should also normally reach the General Secretary not less than 7 days before Conference. However they can be submitted in writing direct to the Standing Orders Committee during Conference.
- (h) Bye-Laws - Under **Rule 19** only the National Council may make a Bye-Law. A Motion to Conference may propose that a Bye-Law be set aside or it may ask the Council to consider making or amending a Bye-Law.
- (i) The Branch Proposing a Motion must have it Seconded by another Branch before forwarding it to the General Secretary (as carried at item 4 of 1995 Conference.)

24.

THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION

Annual Conference

28th 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.

Chingford and Waltham Forest Branch - Decommissioning

25. Sadly, the Chingford and Waltham Forest Branch has decided to decommission. The followings is the text of a letter recently received from the Chairman :

"Dear Shipmates,

Due to circumstances beyond our control it is my sad duty as the Branch Chairman to inform you that the Chingford & Waltham Forest Branch will decommission as a Branch of the RNA on 20th January 2008. We will hold our laying up service at St Edmunds Church, Chingford on that Sunday at 4pm and will return to Chingford RBL, Hall Lane, Chingford on completion of the service to celebrate our 21 years as an active and loyal Branch of the RNA. Any Branches that would like to join us, please be so kind as to write to myself at the address below with names and numbers for catering purposes by 10th January 2008.

God Bless the Queen,

Yours aye,

Jeff Button
Chairman
3 The Retreat
Brook Road
Buckhurst Hill
Essex IG9 5TT"

The HMS LOCH FADA Association

26. The 11th HMS LOCH FADA re-union will take place at Mill Rythe Holiday Resort from 7th to 10th March 2008. For details and booking forms contact Bob Harris on 02380-391848 or e-mail bobharrisf390@supanet.com. Details of the HMS LOCH FADA Association can be found at www.hms-lochfada.org.uk.

HMS COSSACK Association

27. All past Ship's Company members of the famous WW2 Destroyer (L03) and the C Class Destroyer (D57) are welcome to join. The next re-union weekend will be in The Chatsworth Hotel, Worthing from 11th-13th April 2008. Family members of those who served on either of the ships are welcome as Associate Members. Contact the Membership Secretary (Doug Parkinson) on 01420-83521 or on dougirene@onetel.com. See also the website www.hmscossackassociation. The 70th anniversary of the "Altmark Incident" falls in 2010 and plans are already underway to mark the event.

Seasonal Greeting from the Uxbridge Branch of the Royal Naval Association

28. The Uxbridge Branch will not be sending Christmas Cards this year because of the high cost of postage. However all Uxbridge Shipmates send warm greetings for a Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year. The Branch will be making a donation to a local charity in lieu of cards.

29. BRANCH & MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Changes to; Diary & Year Book.

Area 3

Lancing – sec's. new Address is; 97a South Street
Lancing
West Sussex BN15 8AS
Tel. 07931-887 727

Worthing - Acting Branch Sec. is; S/M B Scott
44 Bolsover Road
Worthing
West Sussex BN13 1NT

Area 5

Aldeburgh & District –Act. Sec. is; S/M G Woodcock
Belle Vue House, Sandy Lane
SNAPE
Suffolk IP17 15D

Kings Lynn - New Branch Sec. is; - S/M W Guyan
98 Columbia Way
Kings Lynn PE30 2LF
Tel. 01553-762 628

March – Acting Secretary is; S/M W Barry
14 Wherry Close
March
Cambs PE15 8BX

Area 6

Swindon - New Branch Sec. is; - S/M Bill Simpson
C/o The RNA Club
Tel. 01793-791 488 (H)
E-Mail; simpwil@aol.com

Area 7

Abergavenny – Change of Venue; The Conservative Club
Park Road
Abergavenny

South Gloucester – Frequency; 4th Wednesday (Except Dec.)
E-Mail; margaretsingleton@blueyonder.co.uk

Area 10

Ellesmere Port - Act. Secretary; S/M(Mrs) J Webber
5 Woodvale Road
Little Sutton
Ellesmere Port CH66 3QJ
Tel. 051-339 1397

Macclesfield – New Tel. for Sec. is; Daytime - 0774-853 396
Evening- 01625-261 657

Rochdale – Change of Venue to; Spread Eagle
Cheetham Street
Rochdale

Area 11

Driffield - Secretary's new E-Mail; ceden52@tiscali.co.uk

Area 12

Belfast – Secretary's home number is; 028-90 246 6632

Ulster South – New Area code should read; **028-38**
(incorrect in 2008 Diary)

Scottish Area

NCM & Stirling Sec. – New address is; 35 Grange Road
Alloa
FK10 1LR

Orkney – Change of Sec. to; - S/M J Edwards
3 Lynnside
Deerness Road
Kirkwall KW15 1SR
Tel. 01856-871 663
E-Mail; john@edwards1961.plus.com

Grantown-on-Spey – Will not be hold a December Meeting Christmas break.

Overseas

Eastern Cyprus - Change of Sec. to; - S/M R F King
Alastasia Flat 5
Athineon 7041
Oroklini, Larnaca
Cyprus
Tel.00 357-2464 4363
E-Mail; king.bob@cytanet.com.cy

Rockingham & Dist. – Next meet on; 14th January 2008 (not 10th Dec.)

30. History Notes

- 1st Dec 1977 Meritorious Service Medal introduced specifically for Senior Ratings.
- 1st Dec 1990 WRNS Officers adopted RN Ranks.
- 3rd Dec 1945 First deck-landing of a jet aircraft, a de Havilland Sea Vampire by Lt Cdr (later Captain) E M Brown onto HMS OCEAN, off the Isle of Wight.
- 4th Dec 1812 HMS VICTORY entered Portsmouth for the last time.
- 4th Dec 1967 HMS PLOVER paid off after a continuous commission of 30 years and 68 days.
- 7th Dec 1776 James Aitken, known as Jack the Painter, set fire to the Rope House in Portsmouth Dockyard. Later hanged for Arson in the Royal Dockyard.
- 7th Dec 1941 Japanese naval air attack on US Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbour, Hawaii and British Naval Base at Hong Kong.
- 8th Dec 1778 Horatio Nelson promoted Master and Commander.
- 9th Dec 2003 First female Naval Officer to command Minehunter appointed to HMS BRECON.
- 10th Dec 1941 HM Ships PRINCE OF WALES & REPULSE sunk off the East Coast of Malaya.
- 11 Dec 1953 WRNS New-Entry Training Establishment which had been operating since July 1945 formally commissioned as HMS DAUNTLESS.
- 11 Dec 1997 HMY BRITANNIA paid off at Portsmouth.
- 15 Dec 1978 Last conventional fixed-wing squadron (892 NAS) decommissioned.
- 18 Dec 1941 First VC for a Submariner in The Second World War - Lt Cdr M D Wanklyn
- 22 Dec 1956 Last British and French troops withdrawn from Suez.

26th Dec 1943 SCHARNHORST sunk.

31st Dec 1959 Flag of Commander in Chief, Home Fleet shifted ashore to Northwood.

Heart of Oak

"Come cheer up my lads, 'tis to Glory we steer, to add something more to this wonderful Year" --- but which year, and why?

1759, three years into the Seven Years'War, probably the first ever true World War, saw three important victories, Quebec, Quiberon Bay and Lagos (Portugal). The Fleet under Admiral Saunders carried out a perfect Combined Operation with the Army under Wolfe, in extremely difficult navigational circumstances, and under bombardment from the citadel - the St Lawrence is less than a mile wide here. Wolfe's army was succesfully landed, and Quebec taken.

In Europe, France was threatening Britain with invasion, to be covered by two Fleets - Toulon and Brest (not too dissimilar to 1805). The Toulon Fleet was shattered by Admiral Boscawen off Gibraltar and Lagos, in Portugal. This left the Brest fleet to Admiral Hawke, who had been blockading Brest for months. Admiral Hawke's victory at Quiberon Bay was fought in the most difficult possible situation, a lee shore, with numerous rocks and shoals, in a full gale. Hawke's signal "General Chase" was dramatic in the circumstances. Setting every sail the ships could carry, oblivious of the gale, rain squalls, and the dangerous rock strewn waters, a series of individual actions followed inside Quiberon Bay and the French Fleet shattered. French naval power had been swept away, all the French possessions around the world were totally vulnerable, and the threat of invasion was eliminated.

David Garrick wrote his dramatic and stirring verse "Heart of Oak" for "Harlequin's Invasion", to be set to music by William Boyce, in celebration of the wonderful year.

James McClurg
General Secretary
Paddy@royalnavalassoc.com

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:-

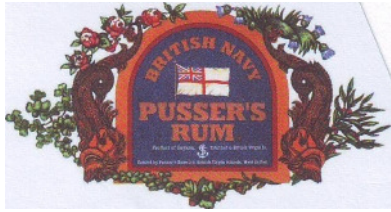
Notes

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.

BOOKS

Swan Hunter Built Warships The Swan Hunter shipyards have been one of the main builders of British naval vessels for over 100 years, having completed over 200 ships. Starting off before WW1 building destroyers, it expanded into cruisers, submarines and sloops. From WW2, aircraft carriers and one battleship were built. This book catalogues the building of ships on Tyneside and the different companies which bore the Swan Hunter name. Photographs of all the larger Swan Hunter warships appear in the book plus a selection of destroyers, frigates and landing ships. A very interesting and well produced book which will appeal to all who have served on the Tyne or in a Swan Hunter ship. It is available from Maritime Books, Lodge Hill, Liskeard PL14 4EL (01579-343663) (www.navybooks.com) at £17-99

A History of Seafaring - Navigating the World's Oceans This is the best naval book by a long way that I have seen and read in 2007. It is a definitive volume on navigation and exploration as it pieces together the advances of astronomy, navigation, ship building and cartography through the ages - the book covers a 2,500 year spectrum, is lavishly illustrated with rare maps, manuscripts, maritime paintings and photographs and the text is impressive. The authors, Donald Johnson and Juha Nurminen are both well known trans-Atlantic sailors and the text is both erudite and elegant. At £40-00 it is not cheap but neither is an Audi - the book may be obtained from Conway Books, 10 Southcombe Street, London W14 0RA (0207-605-1466) (e-mail kpatel@anovabooks.com).



PUSSEY'S

**Pusser's Rum 15 year
old is released in UK**

*One of the 'Ten Great Rums of the
World'*

Pusser's Navy Rum 15 year old 40% abv sipping rum from the West Indies has been aged in wood for 15 years, and is also distilled in wood. Its production is similar to that used for single malt whiskies and the finest brandies, to impart a fuller, richer flavour. It is best served slightly chilled at 13 to 16 degrees C. Retail guide price is £40 plus for 70cl bottle.

Pusser's Rum's historic connection with the Royal Navy proudly features on the bottle label with the words 'Nelson's Blood' - reflecting naval legends. Forbes Magazine, the international financial publication, also known as an arbiter of luxury and good taste for world business leaders, selected Pusser's 15 Year Old as one of the Ten Great Rums of the World (2005). It states that Pusser's 'still uses the traditional Royal Navy formula and is still made the same way it was at the time of Trafalgar - in wooden-pot stills, as opposed to modern industrial-column stills. This results in the most full-flavored, intense rum available anywhere.'

Pusser's is indeed the only rum that is distilled in the same original wooden pot stills of the Admiralty. There are only two production-capacity wooden pot stills remaining in the world, and these are both dedicated to producing Pusser's. Other rums today are distilled in the modern continuous stills that are very efficient, stripping out about 98.5% of the alcohol from the mash. Pusser's old wooden stills are not at all efficient. They operate at about 67%, which greatly increases the cost of distillation. But nothing can touch the flavour that the wood imparts to the spirits when distilled in this way. It's a flavour that can be produced only in these old, inefficient pot stills.

The Pusser's range also includes:

Pusser's Blue Label Rum (54.5% abv) is the same rum at the original strength (95.5° proof Sykes) that was served on board Royal Navy ships for over 330 years. 70cl, £22 to £25. Stockists include www.nauticalia.com, National Maritime Museum shop Greenwich, Royal Naval Museum Shop in Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, and Speciality Drinks Ltd, www.specialitydrinks.com tel 0208 606 9388, www.thedrinkshop.com 0800 169 6760. Plus many independent specialists **Pusser's Red Label Rum** has the same full flavour as the Blue label but at a lower strength (42% abv) making it ideal for cocktail mixing. 70cl, £19 to £20.

For enquiries please contact Cellar Trends Ltd: 01283 217703.

Terry Barker, Marketing Director at Cellar Trends, comments, "Over the past year, Pusser's Rum has been actively promoted and sold at regattas and Naval events around the UK. This has certainly helped to extend awareness of Pusser's beyond traditional Royal Naval circles, and the prestige of the brand's authentic connections have encouraged a lot of trial".

Cellar Trends have been staunch supporters of RNA activities with generous donations of Pusser's Rum at various events, notably the Annual Conference 2007 hel in Torquay.

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