



**SEPTEMBER 2007
CIRCULAR**

No. 565

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Dear Shipmate Secretary,

The Late S/M Alf Woonton OBE, Life Vice President

1. Shipmates will be sad to hear that S/M Alf Woonton OBE LVP Crossed the Bar on Saturday 15th September 2007 in his 94th year. S/M Alf served as a member of National Council for many years and was very active until quite recently. His funeral service will be at 1400 on Friday 28th September in Parndon Wood Crematorium, Harlow, Essex.

The Royal Naval Association Biennial March to the Cenotaph

2. The Royal Naval Association Biennial March to the Cenotaph was held in the forenoon of Sunday 9th September 2007 with some 51 Standards being paraded alongside about 200 marchers. The parade was well led by the Band of HM Royal Marines, Plymouth while the Act of Remembrance was led by The Chaplain of the Fleet and Hon Chaplain of the RNA, Archdeacon The Venerable John Green QHC. The Royal Naval Association National President, Vice Admiral J H S McAnally CB LVO took the salute and the Parade Commander was The National Ceremonial Officer, S/M Alan Robinson. The event attracted considerable public support from spectators.

The Royal Naval Association Website

3. 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 has taken 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. The Royal Charter, Rules and Bye-Laws of the Association are now included on the website for ease of reference as are The Model Club Rules. Other pertinent information will be added as time permits.

Information Technology (Computers) and The Royal Naval Association

4. Over the last two issues I have included an article about Information Technology which is reproduced below. Quite a number of Branches have responded to my request for details of their IT resources, but conversely quite a number have not. If you use IT to help run your Branch and have not responded by filling in the form attached to this Circular, please do so now.

"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".

e-MAIL ADDRESSES

5. 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.

The Royal Naval Benevolent Trust - Improved Website

6. The Royal Naval Benevolent Trust Website has undergone substantial improvement and contains much of interest, especially to Welfare Officers. Visit the site at www.rnbt.org.uk.

Gift Aid

7. 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 - Special Offer for Royal Naval Association New Subscribers

8. 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

9. 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. The type available is:

A. A view of Christmas from the bows of HMS VICTORY and,

The Cards are available at the special price of 10 for £2 (post and packing free). Send your orders to HQ on the attached form for a speedy response.

Contacting the RNA Headquarters Book-keeper

10. 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

11. 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

12. 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.

Looking for a Crucifix

13. The Bourne Branch of the RNA is seeking a Crucifix on which to hang its newly acquired ceremonial lifebelt. Any Branch or Shipmate able to assist in this quest should contact the Hon Secretary (S/M Brenda White) on 01780-753787 or at Brenda.white@tesco.net. Collection or payment for delivery can be arranged.

Battle Class Destroyers

14. We have just seen and read one of the best books of the year! This comprehensive and fascinating history of a famous class of destroyers in which many of us served, is a joy to browse and enjoy. It can be obtained via Maritime Books at Lodge Hill, Liskeard PL14 4EL, Cornwall. Tel: 01579-343663, Fax: 01579-346747, e-mail www.navybooks.com.

EVENTS

15. 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.

Annual National Service for Seafarers - St Paul's Cathedral

16. HQ has a very small number of unallocated tickets for the above event which takes place at 1730 on Wednesday 10th October 2007. These will be distributed on a first come basis - give HQ an early call on 0207-352-6764.

The Orkney Branch of The Royal Naval Association - Commissioning

17. 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,

Knowle Branch of The Royal Naval Association - Dedication of Standard

18. The dedication of the Standard of the recently formed Knowle Branch of The Royal Naval Association will take place on Wednesday 10th October 2007. Details of this important event may be obtained from the Hon Secretary (S/M Dennis Hill) on 0121-7437394.

HMS TARTAR Association (RatRat)

19. All past Ship's Company members of the WW2 Tribal Class Destroyer and the Type 81 Tribal Frigate (F133) are welcome to join. The next re-union weekend will be in The Royal Maritime Club (ex-Royal Sailors Home Club) in Portsmouth from 12th to 14th October 2007. Contact The Chairman (Ken Satterthwaite) on 01923-269714 or on chairman@hmstartar for further details. See also the website www.hmstartar.

Margate Branch of The Royal Naval Association - Trafalgar Day Parade and Service of Remembrance - Sunday 21st October 2007

20. The Margate Branch of The Royal Naval Association will hold its Annual Trafalgar Day Parade and Service of Remembrance on Sunday 21st October 2007 assembling at St Paul's Church, Cliftonville from 1015 onwards. The parade will move off at 1040 led by the Band of T/S JAMAICA and proceed to The Trinity Square memorial for the Service and Wreath Laying. After the Service the Parade will march past The Mayor of Margate and local dignitaries before dismissing. Those unable to march will be very welcome to muster at the Memorial by 1040. Branches willing to participate and/or parade Standards should notify The Honorary Secretary of the Margate Branch (S/M M Cox) at 66 Bromstone Road, Broadstairs CT10 2 HT (Tel: 01843-604490). Post Parade Refreshments will be served in the Mountbatten Lounge of The Royal British Legion Club.

The Armed Forces Memorial

21. HQ has been informed (as this Circular is being written) by The Royal British Legion who have in turn been informed by The Department of Culture, Media and Sport that The Armed Forces Memorial at The National Arboretum will be dedicated on Friday 12th October 2007 in the presence of HM The Queen. Tickets to attend this event are restricted to applications from surviving next of kin of those killed in action since the end of the Second World War, and even then there will have to be a ballot. The Royal Naval Association has been invited to parade a small number of Standards but the short notice given has precluded a general invitation to the Association. Consequently, The National Standard Bearer is arranging for this to be done. The total number of Standards permitted is limited to a total of 45 from all Ex-Service Associations. It is understood that The Royal British Legion has made its views known about the short notice given for this important event.

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

22. 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

23. 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

24. Headquarters have been allocated 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 attending who requires a carer should also have applied for a ticket for the carer (one carer per participant). Tickets will be available for dispatch in early October. We ask Shipmates who receive tickets from the RNA to march in the RNA Platoon.

The Destroyer Memorial 1939-1945 - Unveiling and Dedication Ceremony

25. The Royal Navy's last operational Second World War Destroyer, HMS CAVALIER, is now preserved at The Historic Dockyard Chatham. Under restoration since 1999, she is a memorial to the men of The Royal Navy who lost their lives in such ships during that conflict. Mid-morning on 14th November 2007, a specially commissioned monument will be unveiled alongside HMS CAVALIER to commemorate the 142 Royal Naval Destroyers sunk during the Second World War and over 11,000 men who lost their lives as a result. This unique memorial, created by the eminent British Sculptor Kenneth Potts, will mark the very special contribution made by these ships and the men who served in them.

The Trustees of the HMS CAVALIER (Chatham) Trust, who commissioned the memorial, and the trustees of the Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust, invite all those who wish to attend this ceremony to apply for tickets. There will be no charge for attendance. Priority will be given to those who served in Second World War destroyers, particularly anyone who survived their ship being sunk, and family members of those who lost their lives. Some seating will be available. Applications, in writing, to be received by 30th September, should be sent to:

Destroyer Memorial Unveiling and Dedication
c/o Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust, The Old Surgery
The Historic Dockyard, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TZ

Giving details of:

- Any particular link with Second World War Destroyer(s) in which the applicant or a family member served.
- Any relationship to someone lost in Destroyers during the Second World War.
- The number of places required and if any of these are wheelchair users.
- Any other mobility issues.
- Contact details, including a daytime telephone number.

Alternatively, a registration form is available from their website, www.thedockyard.co.uk. Those who register, either by post or through the website, will receive tickets and other information by the end of October. At this stage, it is intended that only Destroyer Association Standards will be paraded at the ceremony.

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. Famil 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.

28. BRANCH & MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Changes to; Diary & Year Book.

Area 5

New Area Secretary is; S/M S Mills
'Estuary View'
Harwich Road
Beaumont-Cum-Moze
Essex CO16 0AS
Tel. 01255-860 492

Soham & District – Sec's new add. is; - 75 Ash Grove
Burwell
Cambridge CB25 0DS

Area 6

Biggleswade - Sec's new add. is; 25 Churchill Way
Sandy
Bedfordshire SG19 1LP

Peterborough – New Venue & date; - Post Office Club
Bourges Boulevard
Frequency; 1st Tuesday

Area 8

Bloxwich - New Branch Sec. is; - S/M L Wood
Flat 6, Straight Road
Willenhall WV12 5RE
Tel. 01922-494 492

Venue & frequency; Colebatch's Club
Bloxwich Rd., Leamore
11am 3rd Sunday

Area 10

Blackpool & Flyde – Sec's Add. is;- 23 Westgate Road
Lytham St. Anne's FY8 2SG
Frequency for meetings; Every Wednesday

Fleetwood - New Branch Sec. is; - S/M L P Wright
51 Mount Road
Fleetwood
Lancashire FY7 6QZ
Tel. 01253-875 944

Peel (IOM) - New Branch Sec. is; - S/M D Harrocks
"Keppel Gate"
No 7, 1st Avenue
Onchan
Isle of Man IM3 4LB
Tel. 01624-625 574

Rochdale - New Branch Sec. is; - S/M Steve Law
30 West Hill
Castle Avenue
Rochdale OL11 4LP

Area 11

Bridlington - Act. Secretary is;- S/M Mike Adams
5 Calderdale Close
Bridlington
East Yorkshire YO16 6FR

O/Seas

Moraira & District – Acting Sec. is; - S/M P R Hall, MBE
Buzon 40
Aldea De Las Cuevas
Benidoleig 03795
Alacante, Spain

DONATIONS

CENTRAL CHARITIES FUND Donations received previously and
acknowledged with thanks:- £ 7,620.24

Donations since and now
acknowledged with thanks;

DR B Monk	36.00
KM & SA Napier	29.52
D Jackson	12.00
JW Dixon	1,579.18
Donations under £10 or less	41.00
	<u>£ 9,317.94</u>

History Notes

29.

1st October 1919 WRNS disbanded after World War I.

1st October 1967 The last CinC Home Fleet (Admiral Sir John Frewen) was succeeded by the first CinC Western Fleet (Admiral Sir John Bush).

2nd October 1941 HMS VANGUARD (Britain's last battleship) laid down.

4th October 1905 HMS GANGES commissioned at Shotley.

5th October 1993 HM Ships SHERATON & BRINTON (last of 118 Ton Class) paid off in Portsmouth.

8th October 1998 Admiral Sir Jock Slater completed his appointment as First Sea Lord and remained on the Active List.

9th October 1903 Basins, plates and cutlery introduced for Seamen and a superior scale of issues for Chief Petty Officers.

13th October 1850 Contract approved for new pattern black cap, first normally to bear ship's name.

15th October 1965 Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Oliver died aged 101. He apologised to Admiral Sir David Luce (First Sea Lord) who called to offer the Board's congratulations on his centenary, for not receiving him in uniform.

16th October 1998 Statue of Captain Frederick John Walker (and dedicated to all who fought in the Battle of the Atlantic) unveiled at Liverpool Pier Head by HRH the Duke of Edinburgh.

17th October 1884 Sick Berth Branch formed by Order in Council.

18th October 1909 Warrant rank opened to Writers, Cooks and Stewards.

19th October 1939 Supply of Dentures to serving ratings provided "the supply is essential to render the man dentally fit for general service.....and the need for the supply had not arisen through the man's imprudence or fault".

20th October 1997 HMY Britannia sailed from Portsmouth on her last cruise, a clockwork circumnavigation visiting seven UK ports.

21st October 1805 A Memorable Day.

23rd October 1753 RNH Haslar admitted first patients.

- 23rd October 1918 Dame Agnes Weston died aged 78, still at work in Devonport.
- 25th October 1979 Diving trials ship, HMS RECLAIM, paid off after 30 years continuous service. The only ship present at both the 1953 and 1977 Fleet Reviews. Probably the last HM Ship with a Sail Outfit.
- 26th October 1944 Introduction of Supply and Secretariat Branch. Prefix "Paymaster" abolished.
- 28th October 1664 King Charles II sanctioned the formation of the Duke of York and Albany's Maritime Regiment of Foot, the first regiment to be specially formed for service afloat, and precursor of the Royal Marines.
- 31st October 1971 The Far East Fleet, established 1946, disbanded.

James McClurg
General Secretary
Paddy@royalnavalassoc.com

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?.

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)**

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		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 on at 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.....

....

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