



CONFERENCE OF NAVAL ASSOCIATIONS



CONA Website <http://cona.org.uk/>

The CONA Newsletter

No 2

Feb 2015



HMS Iron Duke returns to her homeport of Portsmouth from Deployment on a bright cold wintry day.

Dear CONA Colleagues

I hope this finds you all well and in good spirits after the long winter. Once again welcome to the CONA newsletter, which I hope you will find interesting.

Firstly I am sure you would like to hear the brilliant news that we have now become 40 strong in CONA. A very big welcome to all Associations that have recently signed up it is lovely to welcome you onboard and I hope you are enjoying receiving the information concerning a wide range of Veteran Issues.

As you are all aware the Conference meeting took place in Semaphore Tower on the 17th January 2015 with an attendance of over thirty and quite literally we ran out of seats!! (We are now investigating another meeting area in Portsmouth that is large enough to fit us all in). For your information a short precise of the meeting can be found at paragraph 1 and also the Minutes of the meeting are attached at the rear of the Newsletter but in summary it concentrated on how CONA could help smaller Associations.

A very interesting discussion took place on the 'digital space' and revealed that many of our CONA members would benefit from some form of 'IT' training. So in my role as Chairman of the CONA Working Group I volunteered to investigate the possibility of applying for a grant to facilitate the training. Sarah Clewes, representing "All about Admin", also very kindly offered to conduct a 'one-off' teaching, answering queries type session in Portsmouth

The Conference also provided an opportunity for our other commercial partners; CONA Holiday Group, Colemans/ Ansvar Insurance and All about Admin.

Talking of CONA Holiday Group all the latest deals can be later in the Newsletter and it is important that we ensure our members are aware that individuals can also approach as well as groups and get a quote, as CONA holiday Group say "What have you go to loose"! For those of you not aware CONA Holiday Service have agreed to 'donate' 1% of their turn-over with CONA members so the more we spend with them the better off CONA will be. **Importantly** CONA Holiday Service update the CONA Website automatically with the very latest deals so follow this link; <http://cona.org.uk> Use it or Lose it!!

Since the last newsletter Coleman/Ansvr Insurance have introduced a heavily discounted(15%) individual insurance for CONA members. The Home Connect lifestyle Insurance provides cover for a large range of Building/Contents/Legal, specific details can be found at the link below;

<http://thecolemangroup.co.uk/coleman-insurance-brokers/organisation-specific/cona>

The date for the next Conference is still to be decided. The reason for this is that our President, the Second Sea Lord, Vice Admiral Sir David Steel has been relieved by Vice Admiral Jonathon Woodcock and in the process we are still waiting to confirm

whether he would like to attend the July meeting, as soon as there is any news I will invite Andy to let you know.

While I have the opportunity here's a couple of dates for your diaries;

- The Royal Navy organised Gallipoli Parade in Whitehall on Saturday 25th April 2015, specific detail can be found at paragraph 19
- The Naval Associations Biennial Parade in Whitehall on Sunday 6th September 2015 to which you are very much invited to parade your Standards or march as a platoon. For information the VIP this year will be Vice Admiral Philip Jones, The Fleet Commander. If your association is interested in attending please register your interest with Andy who will provide further specific details. These will also appear in the next CONA Newsletter in August.

Finally Aggie Weston's is advertising for a new Director of the Naval Families federation following Kim Richardson's retirement. Please read paragraph 20 for further details

If you have any ideas or comments relating to the Newsletter please contact Andy on 023927 20782 or andy@royalnavalassoc.com

I hope you have a great Summer

Paul

Paul Quinn OBE
CONA Working Group Chair

List of Member Associations

Association of Royal Naval Officers	Merchant Navy Association
Association of WRENS	Chatham Naval Officers
Association	
Britannia Association	2 nd HMS Manchester Association
Federation of Naval Associations	Ton Class Association
Fleet Air Arm Association	HMS Loch Fada F390 Association
Fleet Air Arm Officers Association	HMS Cossack Association
QARNNS Association	HMS Bristol Association
Submariners Association	HMS Tartar Association
HMS Bulwark, Albion and Centaur Association	Type 21 Association
Surface Warfare Officers Association	RN Communicators Association
Bath White Ensign Association	Ganges Association
Royal Fleet Auxiliary Association	HMS Dido Association
Royal Marines Association	Royal Naval Association
HMS Hermione Association	HMS Victorious Association
RN Medical Branch Ratings and Sick Bay Staff Association	
Mine Warfare & Clearance Divers Association	HMS Cleopatra Old Shipmates
Association	
HMS Resolution Association	HMS Newcastle Association
HMS Relentless Association	HMS Llandaff Association
RNRM Widows Association	Type 42 Association

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Diary

Swinging the Lamp

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Website Link

<http://cona.org.uk>

1. CONA Conference Meeting 22 January 2015

The Conference met on Thursday 22nd January at Semaphore Tower Portsmouth. There were 21 representatives from member Associations in attendance and 7 apologies. The Conference was welcomed by Chairman Vice Admiral John McAnally who welcomed everyone and thanked them for travelling from far and wide to attend. The main focus of the agenda was to review the recommendations from the Working Group concerning assistance to smaller Associations. A variety of solutions including;



Short Term Assistance

Advertise for Temporary help from CONA members

CONA Holiday Group be invited to approach 'last hurrah Associations'

CONA to engage a part time employee to provide assistance function.

Provide IT Training

After reviewing the WG proposals Conference concluded that IT training would provide the most benefit to CONA Associations and two solutions were offered;

The Working Group Chairman (Paul Quinn) will approach Maritime Charities Group to discuss feasibility of applying for a grant, so that a training package could be put together. For information co-incidentally the MCG are currently running a project to improve digital skills for Veterans which may have synergy with the CONA requirement. Mrs Sarah Clewes (All About Admin) - if no funding can be attracted has offered to hold a free training course to assist CONA members with their current IT issues.

A round –up of Association Briefs followed, specific details can be found in the Minutes which can be found at the rear of the Newsletter. The Conference was also briefed by three of our CONA partner Companies CONA UK Holiday Group, Coleman/Ansvar Insurance and All about Admin

Stop Press - Paul Quinn has had a first positive indication by SF(UK) and RNRMC

2. Cruise Liner Companies Discount

CONA members would I am sure wish to be aware that P&O Cruises, Cunard, Princess Cruises and Grey Funnel Lines wish to convey - A thank you to the Armed Forces in the form of onboard spend. Please see below;

"To thank the brave men and women of the British Armed Forces for their service, are pleased to offer up to \$250 on board spending money for retired and serving*



members. This extra special benefit is eligible on any cruise, any time of year and can be used to purchase a wide variety of amenities and experiences on board. For more information see [here](#) or call:

Cunard on 0843 374 0000 quoting promotion code HMS

P&O Cruises on 0843 374 0111 quoting promotion code HMS

Princess Cruises on 0843 374 4444 quoting promotion code ZMB".

The process does appear to be really working as Shipmate Brian Thompson from HMS DIDO Association (member of CONA) confirmed as we go to press.

3. Virtual branch – Telephone Conferencing Calls for the House-Bound

The 'Virtual branch' weekly telephone conference call scheme, which is sponsored by Seafarers UK (SFUK), has now been extended to cover all CONA members. The scheme which has been running successfully within the RNA for the last two years enables house bound shipmates to discuss/ spin dits debate issues with like minded people.

The RNA Welfare Advisor Rita Lock explains below how it works.....

Once a group have been formed then the following takes place and only varies over the Christmas period.

Every two weeks at a set time everyone in the group receives a phone call which links them to the others in their group and they have one hour of conversation among themselves **free of charge**.

This is managed by Chris Rankin as a link for all Seafarers. There must be many interesting "Dits" from civilian life as well as the Services.

For anyone who wishes to join **all that** is needed is their name/address/phone number and email if available. It is also a help to know which Branch of the RN they served in to link them with like minded folk and if they have a nickname they prefer to be known by. Then they will receive a phone call to discuss which day/time group they want to be in.



What actually happens is that one of each group is the coordinator, he's the one who keeps the conversation going if there is a lull. Not that you get many silences with 7 or 8 ex RN on line all chatting and time actually passes quickly. The person on the LINK end rings the coordinator first and then in no particular order calls the others in that group. You all chat away and 5 minutes before the end you hear a reminder that there is only 5 minutes to go. If one week you know you cannot be there for the next link due to hospital or whatever then just tell your coordinator. If something crops up and you are out then not to worry, they will

still call you for the next link up in two weeks. Should you need to leave part of the way through your link then just tell your shipmates you have to go, no problem!

Training will be given to those who are able to be the coordinator of their group. This is only 3 one hour sessions by telephone.

Those joining can be in a strictly RN group or if they wish can be in a combination of RN and MN for added interest.

I hope this explains it to your members but any queries then please get back to Chris Rankin or myself. All members may make contact direct or through their Hon Sec we don't mind which.

The person who organises these links is;

Chris Rankin MBE MNM

Projects Manager

Seafarers Link

chris@community-networking.org 01752 812674 07933 153 189

She will be more than happy to answer any queries, fix up a group or a link so please give her a ring or an email and see if this would be suitable for some of your members.

I will also be happy to answer questions or help if I can, so two points of contact there okay.

Yours aye

Rita Lock

Rita Lock MBE

National Vice President,

National Welfare Adviser,

Royal Naval Association,

ritalock@virginmedia.com

02392 642234

4. Discounted Home Insurance for CONA members

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Following on from the success of the CONA Branch Insurance facility, we have negotiated (with our brokers) a 15% home insurance premium discount with Ansvar for all CONA members.



Ansvar's Home Connect Lifestyle Insurance policy is especially designed to appeal to individuals who are closely linked to the not-for-profit sector and provides additional covers not normally found in other home policies:-

- Trustees indemnity up to £10,000 if you are a trustee of a registered or recognised charity

- Accidental loss of charity money up to £1,000 held by you on behalf of a registered or recognised charity
- Personal accident cover of £5,000 for death or permanent total disablement while undertaking voluntary charity work
- Voluntary giving protection up to £1,000 to cover regular charitable donations in the event of unemployment (not for the first 6 months of a new policy)

Ansvar is part of an established UK financial services organisation that has extensive experience of providing highly competitive insurance products for its affinity partners. It is a not-for-profit organisation (Like Tesco and the RNA)

Features of the Home Connect Lifestyle Policy

The policy has been designed for Members who own their homes and have up to 5 bedrooms.

- Buildings cover with a 'blanket' sum insured up to £1,000,000
- Contents cover with sum insured options of £40,000, £50,000, £60,000 or £75,000 (valuables inner limits are £10,000, £12,000, £15,000 and £18,000 respectively with a single item limit of £3,000)
- Legal Expenses Cover, including helplines are included automatically
- Optional Personal Possessions section if Contents insured:
- Sum insured options for specified, or unspecified, items up to a total of £12,000 (maximum item limit of £2,500 for unspecified)
- Buildings section includes (subject to limitations):
- Accidental damage and Property Owners Liability
- Contents section includes (subject to limitations):
- Accidental damage
- Public liability in respect of specific business activities run solely at the home by the insured
- Money, credit cards, debit cards and refrigerated contents
- Belongings of family students at university or college accommodation
- The insured's office contents at the home which are used for business purposes
- Personal effects of visitors, employees and paying guests
- Additional covers available that are not normally found in other home policies for:
- Voluntary giving protection for regular charitable donations in the event of unemployment
- Trustees indemnity if the insured is a trustee of a registered or recognised charity
- Accidental loss of charity money held on behalf of a registered or recognised charity
- Personal accident benefit for death or permanent total disablement while undertaking voluntary charity work

If you would like a quotation please visit the following link

<http://www.thecolemangroup.co.uk/coleman-insurance-brokers/organisation-specific/cona>

If you find the quotation is not competitive against your current Insurers or you have any other queries then please contact Stuart or Jackie at Ansvor on 01323 744149 to discuss further. Please click the 'Get Quote' button to obtain your quotation in under 5 minutes!

5 Cockleshell Heroes Memorial Seat

Shipmates may wish to know that on the 25th April 2015 the Allied Special Forces Association will be dedicating the Cockleshell Heroes Memorial Seat and Plaques commemorating HMS Tuna, the Royal Marines and the French people who helped the Marines during the raid.



The dedication will take place in the Allied Special Forces Memorial Grove at the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas, Staffordshire DE13 7AR. It is an open event and everyone is welcome.

For further information please contact Mike Colton, Project Manager 07929-118598 or mikecolton@hotmail.com

6. Can you assist please.

CONA has received an e-mail from Med Venlig Hilsen which contained three pictures, see below, which were taken on 5th June 2014 between 1159 and 1217 at Arromanches. He asks that if anyone recognises them please would you let him know as he has some prints of the photos that he has taken.

You can contact Med on telephone +45 4040 9652 (Denmark No) or e-mail jpkloekke@gmail.com



7. Preserved Pensions



Shipmates should be aware that Veterans UK (the new name for SPVA), the MOD branch that now deals with Service pensions holds several million pounds worth of unclaimed preserved pensions and is seeking FPS assistance to trace those who may be entitled. The basic entitlement rules are:

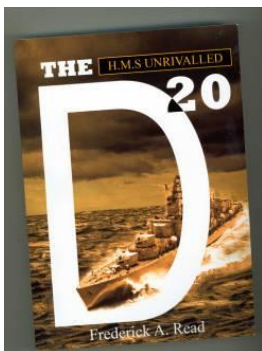
- Left before Apr 75 - no entitlement.
- Left after 1 Apr 75 but before 1 April 78 - entitled if aged 26 or over with 5 years reckonable service.
- Left after 1 Apr 78 and before 6 Apr 88 - entitled if 5 years or more reckonable service.
- Left as OR after 6 Apr 88 - entitled if 2 or more years reckonable service from age 18.
- Left as an officer after 6 Apr 88 - entitled if 2 or more years reckonable service from age 21.
- Left after 6 Apr 05 as a member of a 2005 new scheme - entitlement after 2 years service, no age criteria.

If you know anyone in the categories above who thinks they may be entitled to a pension but has not claimed it they should contact veterans UK. They will need to be armed with their name, Service number, Service and Regiment where appropriate, DOB and discharge date. Please see link to Veterans UK website

<http://www.veterans-uk.info/pensionscompensation.htm>

8. RNA Shipmates Books for sale

S/M Gerald O'Brien Newport RNA Book a Second World War drama 'Dark September' is Published by Tirkearr Publishing ISBN 9781311269966



S/M Fred Read book a WW2 drama 'The HMS Unrivalled D20' Published by Guaranteed Books £11.99. This is the next of Fred's books that feature the names of all the members of RNA Uttoxeter. It opens with the sort of Captain's Table/Court Martial, you might remember (of the march in the guilty bast**d) variety. Great fun and highly recommended. This will be the last of Fred's books. The book from Fred is £12 or £10 at Area 7 quarterly meetings. Give Fred a ring on 07813 287053 if you would like a copy.

A real Jack-me-tickler page turner. Highly recommended!!

9. CONA Holiday Service – Latest deals.....



Exclusive holiday savings for CONA members!

Your **CONA Holiday Service team** will be bringing you an ever growing range of exciting holidays by air, land and sea! Keep a look out for details on your association websites, newsletters and via: www.cona.org.uk

YOU COULD SAVE UP TO 60%!

SIGN UP FOR FUTURE TRAVEL CLUB OFFERS

As a member of **CONA**, you are automatically entitled to join the Travel Club for **FREE** and if you register with us now - if you have not already done so – you will receive priority notification every time a new offer goes on sale!

Simply email us with your full contact details at conatravelclub@theukholidaygroup.com and quote 'CONA'. Alternatively call **0844 264 2120** or write to CONA Travel Club, C/O The UKHG, The Old Bakery, Queens Road, Norwich NR1 3PL.

SAVE UP TO £350 PER ROOM - WITH WARNER LEISURE HOTELS

Warner Leisure Hotels Warner have hotels and villages in some of the UK's most picturesque areas with a huge range of activities and live shows every night!
Life begins at Warner

- ✓ Your Travel Club Discount: **SAVE up to £350 per room plus an extra £10 per person!**
- ✓ How to Book: Online at www.warnerhotels.co.uk/PHC or Phone on **0800 1 388 399**
- ✓ Your Discount Code:* **'PHCCONA'** *Always Quote when booking/enquiring
- ✓ Product Information: Call for their brochure or visit the above Warner Leisure Hotels web-link



SAVE 10% - WITH SUPERBREAK MINI HOLIDAYS

SuperBreak Enjoy UK, European and Worldwide city breaks, hotels, theatre breaks, concerts, events and attractions together with rail and flight options.
Make your short break a SuperBreak

- ✓ Your Travel Club Discount: **SAVE 10%** on brochure holidays
- ✓ How to Book: Online at www.superbreak.com/cona or Phone on **01904 436002**
- ✓ Your Discount Code:* **'CONA'** *Always Quote when booking/enquiring
- ✓ Product Information: Call for their brochure or visit the above SuperBreak web-link



SAVE UP TO 10% - WITH SUNSPOT



Great value holidays to Worldwide destinations including Malta, Cyprus, Sri Lanka, Dubai, Maldives, Australia, Vietnam, Bali and other exotic locations.

- ✓ Your Travel Club Discount: **SAVE 10%** on brochure holidays*
- ✓ How to Book: By Phone on **0800 014 2338**
- ✓ Your Discount Code:* **'CONA'** *Always Quote when booking/enquiring
- ✓ Product Information: Call for their brochure or visit www.sunspottours.com



*Added value extra's such as Duty Free Vouchers and Executive Airport Lounge Upgrades may also be included

TAILOR MADE HOLIDAYS FOR GROUPS!

Your **CONA Holiday Service** has a dedicated department which is **just for groups!** If you and your fellow members enjoy travelling as a group then you'll find even more benefits when you book your holiday with **just for groups!** They already handle the arrangements for more than 450 clubs and associations - which include numerous Naval associations - so if you can gather ten or more members together then call your CONA Holiday Service team on **0844 264 2122** (10 or more persons only) for all your group bookings!

Note: Group travel lines are open 9am - 5.30pm weekdays Email: conatravelservices@justforgroups.co.uk



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SAVE UP TO 60% - WITH CRUISE & MARITIME VOYAGES



Ocean and River Cruises sailing from Tilbury, Bristol, Hull, Liverpool, Newcastle and Rosyth throughout Europe and beyond!

- ✓ **Your Travel Club Discount:** Save up to 10% or more on all published prices on their website.*
 - ✓ **How to Book:** By Phone on [0844 264 2120](tel:0844 264 2120)
 - ✓ **Your Discount Code:*** 'CONA' *Remember to Quote when booking/enquiring
 - ✓ **Product Information:** Call for their brochure or visit www.cruiseandmaritime.com
- (*Member benefits may include extra discounts and/or free upgrades, and are subject to the prevailing conditions and the applicable offers at the time of booking your cruise.)



GREAT SAVINGS WITH PREMIER HOLIDAYS



The leading specialist for holidays to the Channel Islands together with Worldwide (bespoke) Holidays and Ocean Cruises providing great savings!

Channel Islands

- ✓ **Your Travel Club Discount:** SAVE 10% on brochure holidays
- ✓ **HOW TO BOOK:** BY PHONE ON [01223 335 343](tel:01223 335 343)

Worldwide (bespoke) Holidays

- ✓ **Your Travel Club Discount:** SAVE Up to 7.5% on tailor made holidays
- ✓ **How to Book:** By Phone on [01223 535 342](tel:01223 535 342) for USA/Canada
By Phone on [01223 535 341](tel:01223 535 341) for all other Worldwide destinations

Ocean Cruises

- ✓ **Your Travel Club Discount:** BEST AVAILABLE SAVINGS for all major cruise lines
- ✓ **How to Book:** By Phone on [08444 937 518](tel:08444 937 518)

For all PREMIER HOLIDAYS.....

- ✓ **Your Discount Code:*** 'CONA' *Remember to Quote when booking/enquiring
- ✓ **Product Information:** Call for their brochure or visit www.premierholidays.co.uk



SAVE UP TO 10% - WITH HOLIDAY EXTRAS



holiday extras....for all your airport/port parking, hotels, airport lounges and much more besides!

- ✓ **Your Travel Club Discount:** SAVE up to 10% with 'holiday extras'
- ✓ **How to Book:** Online at www.holidayextras.co.uk/?agent=CONA1
- ✓ **Your Discount Code:*** 'CONA1' *Always Quote when booking/enquiring
- ✓ **Product Information:** Visit the above Holiday Extras web-link



SAVE 10% WITH GRAND UK

GRAND UK HOLIDAYS For the full range of escorted holidays exclusively for the over 55s, visit www.grandukholidays.com then call Travel Club Hotline: [0844 264 2120](tel:0844 264 2120) and quote 'CONA' to book and get your 10% member discount.

SAVE 10% WITH GLENTON

GLENTON HOLIDAYS For the full Glenton Holidays range of coach, cruise and air holidays from Scotland, visit www.glentonholidays.com then call Travel Club Hotline: [0844 576 6104](tel:0844 576 6104) and quote 'CONA' to book and get your 10% member discount.

SAVE 5% WITH HOSEASONS

Hoseasons For the full Hoseasons range visit www2.hoseasons.co.uk/?pid=7719 or call the Hoseasons 'Travel Club' Hotline: [0844 561 8322](tel:0844 561 8322) and quote 'CONA' to book and get your 5% member discount.

**** Member Benefits and Helping Others** - Every time you make a new booking you will need to use the web-links and/or phone the numbers provided and always quote your source code: CONA to obtain your 'Travel Club' member discount. Unless you 'opt out' you may receive future offers directly from some of the holiday companies featured so it's important to use the correct telephone numbers shown here together with your CONA Holiday Service source code every time you book otherwise you will not receive your member discount and/or benefits.

By always quoting your CONA Holiday Service source code you will also be helping your association help worthwhile causes as your Holiday Service make a donation to your association every time you book a holiday!

The CONA Holiday Service is operated by The UK Holiday Group - UKHG - (www.theukholidaygroup.com) as the appointed partner of CONA and on behalf of its eligible members. Terms and conditions apply and versions of these offers may also be available through other Travel Clubs, operated by the UKHG.

Dates/prices/benefits are subject to availability and change without notice and the relevant Tour Operators Terms and Conditions apply.

CONA Holiday Service, c/o The Old Bakery, Queens Road, Norwich, NR1 3PL E. conatravelclub@theukholidaygroup.com T [0844 264 2120](tel:0844 264 2120)



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10. ITV Documentary on Elderly Drivers

Last year ITV showed a documentary called '100 Year Old Drivers', and they are now making a follow up. They are hoping to re visit some of their drivers from '100 Year Old Drivers' but would also like to include some new faces.



'100 Year Old Drivers' was nominated for an Independent Age Older People in Media award 2014 for 'Best Factual TV Programme about Older People's Issues'. Here is a link to the documentary in case you'd like to see it:

https://vimeo.com/rdf_tv/review/116051318/38612f1f0d The Password is - RDFtv

RDF's latest documentary will again explore Britain's proud and independent older drivers. There are over 70,000 drivers in Britain in their 90s and above and we would love to speak to them, find out what driving means to them and how important it is to them to have independence. They would love to discuss how driving in the United Kingdom has changed over the years and how it compares to driving now. RDF would love to find out what driving was like when cars were filled by garage assistants, roads were policed by 'courtesy police' who encouraged people to be polite, and the M1 didn't even exist!

Founded in 1993, RDF Television has established an outstanding reputation for producing



landmark documentary series' and innovative one-off films for the BBC, ITV, Channel 4 and Channel Five. In particular, they are well-known for their *Secret Millionaire* series and for a series of programmes taking a creative and sensitive look at the very current social issue of child poverty called *How The Other Half Live*, which was nominated for a Rose D'Or award. RDF's most popular programmes on ITV at the moment are *Dickinson's Real Deal*, *Inside the National Trust* and *The Military Awards: A Night for Heroes*.

If Shipmates or their friends would like any further information about this programme or would like to speak to me personally about it then please don't hesitate to get in touch on 0207 013 4180 or by email at Miranda.Tattonbrown@rdftelevision.com

11. Smallie Jokes!

Tombola - My mate's just got back from Africa and can't stop buying raffle tickets. I think he's got tombola. (Boom Boom !!)

Monkeys -My Girlfriend said she was leaving me due to my obsession with the 60s group The Monkees. I thought she was jokingand then I saw her face!

Finally - Last night I reached for my liquid Viagra and accidentally swigged from a bottle of Tixex. I woke this morning with a huge correction..... Do you get it!!

12. RAC Deal

Shipmates will be very interested to know that ARNO (Association of Retired Naval Officers) has negotiated a super deal with the RAC. This deal has now been offered too CONA (Conference of Naval Associations) of which the RNA is a founder member.

Please see below the details of this superb deal.

PRICE HELD
UNTIL 2016

ARNO ARE PLEASED TO OFFER THIS SERVICE TO CONA MEMBERS



RAC FLEET BREAKDOWN SERVICE

ROADSIDE, AT HOME, RECOVERY, ONWARD TRAVEL &
EUROPEAN COVER - **£70.00**

ROADSIDE, AT HOME, RECOVERY &
EUROPEAN COVER - **£65.00**

Over a thousand vehicles, owned by ARNO members, are covered by our RAC Breakdown Scheme. The scheme offers vehicle-based cover at extremely attractive and competitive prices. Two levels are offered:

Level 1 - Roadside with Recovery, At Home and European cover - £65 per annum.

Level 2 - Roadside with Recover, At Home, Onward Travel and European cover - £70 per annum.

The above rates include an element to cover ARNO administrative costs and VAT. Under the terms of the RAC contract cancellations will not attract a refund.

The scheme is administered by ARNO and runs from 29th April to the 28th April each year. CONA Members should apply as shown below, with the following details:

- Name/CONA Organisation
- Level of cover required

- Vehicle registration number, make and model

RAC cover can begin at anytime after the 29th April however the charge levied will be from the 1st day of the calendar month in question. Members joining after 29th April will be charged a pro-rata amount. Membership will not commence until receipt of fees however credit/debit card payments by phone allow next-day access to the scheme.

A breakdown card will be issued on receipt of payment and vehicle details passed to the RAC. In the event of a breakdown, the RAC can be contacted using the number shown on the card and quoting the vehicle registration number and agreement number.

The scheme is vehicle-based so, unlike personal membership, does not entitle cover in any other vehicle. However members who own more than one vehicle or regularly travel in another vehicle may cover more than one vehicle (to be paid for individually).

Contact: asec@arno.org.uk or call 02074025231

13. China Fleet Club

A £100,000 grant from the RNRMC has ensured the future of one of the busiest communal areas of the China Fleet Club, Saltash, near Plymouth. The grant – which represents the largest ever given by the Charity – will be put

towards refurbishing and renovating the Club’s entire suite of changing room facilities, extending the life of them by at least 15 years.

With more than 15,000 visitor names in its books, and a plethora of fitness and leisure facilities to choose from, it’s little wonder that an often neglected area of clubs as the China Fleet Club are the changing rooms, toilets and showers.



Alex Sharpe MBE, Chief Executive of the China Fleet Trust, said: “The changing rooms are arguably the most utilised area in the Club as they are used by all users to the spa, swimming pool, gym and sports courts.

“Every new recruit to the Naval Service uses these facilities at a very early stage in their training as well; therefore the need to keep the changing room facilities in the best condition possible is a priority”.

The numbers of visitors to the China Fleet Club have increased significantly with the widening of its beneficiary group and membership to include *all former RN and RM personnel*, serving RN and RM officers, RN and RM reservists and other Services attached to or embedded within RN and RM units and their immediate families.

Recent figures, for example, suggest that more than 400 RN or RM veterans have benefitted from the new audience policy, which took effect from summer 2014.

If you fancy a relaxing break this year – and would like to check out our work in person – then get in contact with the China Fleet Club today to make a booking:

W: www.china-fleet.co.uk

T: 01752 848668

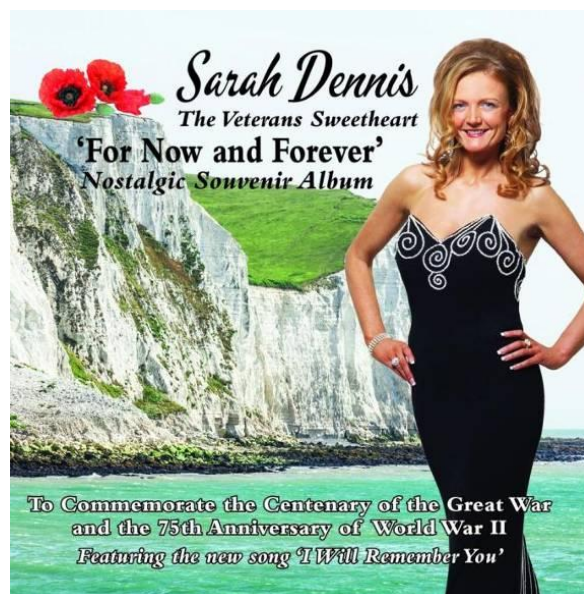
14. Assistance Please

Steve Newton, Secretary of the HMS Relentless Association, would like to request that Shipmates offer their assistance to Sarah Dennis, who is a Cabaret Singer who appeared at the Relentless association re-union recently.

He would like you to purchase Sarah's recently released nostalgia CD (please see link below). One of the songs is called "I Will Remember You" which is a particularly very moving tribute to the fallen.

<http://www.veteranssweetheart.co.uk/>

Sarah has Army, RAF and Royal Navy commendations (HMS Relentless for the RN) and her aim with the CD is to raise £1 million for the Royal British Legion by 11/11/2018.



15. All About Admin - Advert



All About Admin offers ad hoc administration, business and events support as a Virtual Assistant (VA). What is a VA? An experienced professional who works independently, often from home and

provides back office administration support at busy periods, to cover staff gaps and holidays and to support projects and campaigns that are often undertaken on goodwill by volunteers and supporters. All About Admin specialises in supporting clubs, associations and charities; delegate those tasks that never quite make it to the top of your To Do list! Pay by the hour or in packages to suit your needs.

Love it or hate it, administration is the backbone of any organisation, if

- creating and maintaining a members database
- preparing accounts
- creating or improving social media presence
- planning and managing fundraising, social events and reunions
- producing newsletters
- co-ordinating invitations and guest lists doesn't 'float your boat' it makes sense to outsource to a VA!

Sarah Clewes is the face of All About Admin. Proactive and personable, with a great work ethic, Sarah served in the Royal Navy for over 20 years where her love for post-it notes, To Do lists and the need to plan and be organised was borne! Latterly she has worked in the charity sector as an Events, Fundraising and Projects Manager and thrives on the opportunity to support clubs, associations and charities: working with a Virtual Assistant can vastly increase your productivity, contact Sarah at All About Admin to discuss how! See our [website](#) for more details and [Facebook](#) page for news. Contact Sarah to discuss special rates and packages for clubs, associations and charities by email sarah@allaboutadmin.co.uk or phone 07941 750954.

16. HMS M33

HMS M.33 is the sole surviving Royal Navy vessel from the Gallipoli campaign. Over 100,000 personnel from around the world lost their lives during the fierce campaign and the ship will be the backdrop to one of three events being commemorated nationally to mark the centenary when she opens August this year.



HMS M.33 is currently under wraps, as she is protected by tenting to keep her secure while conservation steps up onboard. Conservation specialists and volunteers are involved in stabilisation work on historic corrosion and the fabric of the ship, including her guns.

We are pleased to launch our first ever 'Crowdfunding' page to raise funds for the conservation of HMS M.33. In keeping with the centenary commemorations, we have set a target of £19,150 and with every donation made there is a little perk for you. To learn more please visit our page at indiegogo.com/at/m33

17. Type 21 Association – Memorial



On Saturday 18th April 2015 the Type 21 club will be attending the National Memorial Arboretum to dedicate the newly installed memorial. Everyone is welcome to attend for further information please email Paul Gower, PRO at type21clubpro@gmail.com or via the club website www.type21club.org

18. Can you assist Please – Portsmouth University

A team at the University of Portsmouth have been funded for 2 years by the Forces in Mind Trust to look at the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of Veteran Outreach Support (VOS) based at the Royal Maritime Club in Portsmouth. They are interested in finding out if VOS works, who it works for, and at what cost. The research team are interested in hearing from people who have used this service or thought about using it.

There are a number of opportunities to get involved in the first stage of this research:



1. One-to-one interviews with people who have used VOS now or in the past. The researchers would like to hear people's experiences of using VOS from the positive to the less positive. This will be on-going until the end of April 2015.
2. Group discussions with people who have used VOS now or in the past, as well as those who have thought about using VOS but have not used it yet. This will take place from March to April 2015.
3. Survey (either online or by post) to explore reasons why people may or may not use services such as VOS. This will be made available between March and June 2015.

This research is being conducted independently of VOS. If anyone would like to take part in any of the studies or knows someone who might want to take part, please feel free to contact **Dr Emina Hadziosmanovic**, School of Health Sciences and Social Work, University of Portsmouth, Portsmouth, PO1 2FR. Telephone: 023 9284 4451 Email: emina.hadziosmanovic@port.ac.uk

19. Royal Naval Benevolent Trust (RNBT)



The origins of the RNBT lay in the Grand Fleet Fund – a fund established by Admiral Sir John Jellicoe in 1916. At that time, Lord Jellicoe (as he later became) was Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Fleet and was concerned that there was insufficient provision for his sailors, marines and their families who were in need or distress. As a consequence, he developed the idea of the Grand Fleet Fund, a benevolent fund, to be administered to a large extent by representatives from the 'lower deck' i.e. naval ratings and Royal Marines other ranks. This was a major departure from the normal

practice whereby the trustees of benevolent funds were generally restricted to the 'great and the good!' Lord Jellicoe put forward his plan at a meeting on board his flagship, HMS IRON DUKE on 1 February 1916 in Scapa Flow.

Those at the meeting included representatives from the lower deck from each ship and not surprisingly, Lord Jellicoe's plan was enthusiastically received. The Grand Fleet Fund was duly formed with the first donation (£50.00) from Lord Jellicoe himself. Six years later, the Grand Fleet Fund's monies were running down and the Admiralty saw that there was a need to expand the Fund to cover the whole Navy and also to provide a secure income stream. The result was the creation of The Royal Naval Benevolent Trust on 2 May 1922 incorporated under Royal Charter, with a steady income provided by a rebate (a percentage) of the money expended in Naval Canteens along with donations and legacies from supporters of the Trust. The new Trust combined the Grand Fleet Fund with a number of other similar Funds and the full title (which remains today) is:

The Royal Naval Benevolent Trust, Grand Fleet and Kindred Funds.

Lord Jellicoe's original idea that the administration of the Grand Fleet Fund should be substantially in the hands of those serving on or had served the 'lower deck' was carried through in the creation of the RNBT and has remained the bedrock of the Trust's governance ever since. The principle of sailors and Royal Marines, serving and retired, helping their peers creates a unique sense of identity within the Trust and provides reassurances that income from whatever source is channelled to those in need, the collective expression for which is:

The RNBT Family

The structure is highly regarded and a visiting senior officer in the 1950's was overheard to say:

"If I were in difficulty, I would rather have my case considered by an RNBT Committee from the lower deck than by any other court in the land."

High praise indeed!

The Trust was originally organised around Area Committees based on the RN's Port Areas with the Trust's work localised to those areas with high-density naval populations. Today's Trust has moved on from the Area structure given the national and indeed worldwide nature of the Trust's work with its headquarters and Grant Committee operating out of Portsmouth. In addition to the headquarters function, the Trust operates its own 'World Class' 55-bed care and nursing home - Pembroke House - at Gillingham, Kent and is also the sole trustee of a 6-unit almshouse – the John Cornwell VC National Memorial at Hornchurch, Essex.



Head Office – Portsmouth



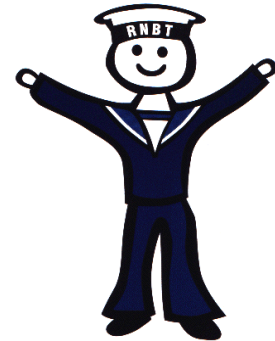
Care & Nursing Home - Gillingham

The Trust employs about 65 full-time equivalent personnel (there are a number of part-time employees); less than 8 full-time equivalents run the head office, grant administration, finance and HR functions with the remainder employed at Pembroke House. There is a healthy 'book' of volunteers, notable the trustees and those who willingly give of their time to serve on the Grant Committee and as Friends of Pembroke House. The Trust's President is Vice Admiral Sir Charles Montgomery KBE, the Vice President is Philip Shuttleworth MBE

and the Chairman to the Board of Trustees is Rear Admiral Tony Rix CB; Commander Stephen Farrington QGM Royal Navy is the Chief Executive.

The Trust dealt with over 3,000 individual requests for assistance in FY 2013/14, many of which were fresh cases. In addition, the Trust continued to administer just over 1200 Regular Charitable Payments (RCPs), the bulk of which are generously funded by Greenwich Hospital. The total sum spent on benevolence through individual grants (including RCPs) was £2.6 million with just shy of £100K expended on 148 cases involving serving personnel and their dependents.

The Trust's expenditure for FY 2013/14 was just under £4.9 million with Pembroke House and the JCVCNM operated as near to cost neutral as possible. The Trust continues to seek opportunities to hone its already efficient, cost-effective and sustainable operation although this is now focused on modest economies because all the savings that can be realised in terms of manning levels and working practices have now been taken without compromise to output or most importantly, staff morale; staffing reductions were achieved through retirements and a limited redundancy programme.



The Trust's head office (Castaway House) accommodates and provides domestic and operational support to 3 other RN/RM Charities - The RN and RM Children's Fund, The WRNS Benevolent Trust and Aggie Weston's alongside the Naval, Military & Air Force Bible Society, the Naval Families Federation, the Portsmouth arm of the Regular Forces Employment Association and the southern area representatives from Seafarers UK. The RN & RM Widows Association also operate from Castaway House so in total, 9 organisations, geared up to help those in need or distress within the serving and retired naval community, are accommodated/operate from the same building without replication or duplication of effort. This co-location of like-minded organisations is an excellent example of the cost-effective delivery of charitable benefit.

More information may be found on the RNBT website www.rnbt.org.uk or follow us on Facebook www.facebook.co/thernbt The Trust is always on the look-out for volunteers to serve on the Grant Committee, interested? Call 02392 690112 and ask to speak to a Grant Administrator for more details.

20. Director NFF Vacancy

Naval Families Federation the independent voice of Royal Naval and Royal Marines families



Applications are invited for the post of Director (formerly Chair) of the Naval Families Federation.

With the departure later this year of Mrs Kim Richardson OBE we are looking for a person with deep understanding of Naval family life, probably supported through extensive first-hand experience of the Naval Service, to lead the Federation's vital work.

This is a full time post based in the NFF's busy head office in Portsmouth and involving some travel and weekend duties.

Salary £38k - £43k depending on experience

Closing date: 22 March 2015 Interview dates: 15 April 2015

Aggie Weston's, a long established Naval charity, provides Executive Management, including recruitment services, for the Naval Families Federation. For a full recruitment pack visit www.aggies.org.uk/vacancies

CONA Diary

Please forward items for the Diary to andy@royalnavalassoc.com

2015	
27/28 Mar	Ganges Association Reunion – Hayling Island
28 Mar	RNA Welfare Seminar – HMS Nelson
10-14 Apr	HMS Loch Fada Reunion - Sheffield
25 April	Gallipoli Parade – Whitehall
01 May	HMS Dido Reunion Liverpool (Further details available on Dido Website)
09 May	Army V Navy rugby match - Twickenham
11 May	Federation of Naval Associations Reunion – Folkestone
31 May	RN Jutland Event – Details to follow
12-14 Jun	2 nd HMS Manchester Reunion – HMS Nelson
20 Jun	RNA Conference 2015 – Grand Burstin Hotel Folkestone
20-27 Jun	Weymouth and Portland Veterans Week
11 Jul	Type 42 Association Reunion 002 – HMS Excellent Sports Field
11 July	Yeovilton Air Day
30 July	Culdrose Air Day
06 Sep	RNA Biennial Parade - Whitehall
06 Sep	Merchant Navy Day Service and Parade Tower Hill London
9-11 Oct	HMS Lowestoft Association Reunion – Royal Beach Hotel Southsea
21 Oct	Trafalgar Day
05 Nov	Field of Remembrance – Westminster Abbey
08 Nov	Remembrance Sunday -Whitehall
11 Nov	Armistice Day

Type 42 Association - Reunion 002 15 July 2015

TYPE 42 ASSOCIATION
Reunion 002

Saturday 11th July 2015, 1400 – 2000 @ HMS Excellent (Sports Field)
BGM – 1230 – 1345 @ WOs, SRs & SNCOs Mess, HMS Excellent

Cost:- Full Members & 1 Guest = £10 each
Non Members £20.00 each

All Day Disc Jockey Nigel Davis

Tug's Stuff on Sale

BAR

Raffle

Julia Pankhurst Paintings on sale

Live Music With Joe Truscott & The Jackstays

Tickets required For entry

Raffle Prizes

ABS Embroidery T42 Merchandise on sale

BGM Before Event

SLOPS On SALE Victory Trophies In Attendance

On Site

Please make your payments (cheques/postal orders) out to "Type 42 Association" and send to:- Membership Sec, T42 Office, 30 Hayling Av. Portsmouth, PO36EA
Please include a SAE (A6 size)
You can also pay via bank transfer or PayPal

Please include a SAE (A6 size)
You can also pay via bank transfer or PayPal

Shortcast (Run in date order)

2015

HMS Campbeltown Reunion – 03 April 2015

First mini reunion to be held April 3-6 in Guzz. Contact Florrie Ford at cf002e5349@blueyonder.co.uk

HMS Loch Fada F390 Reunion – 10-13 April 2015

HMS Loch Fada F390 18th Annual Reunion & AGM will be held at the Mercure

Sheffield Parkway Hotel from 10th to 13th April 2015. Business will commence at 1030 on the Saturday with TOT time at 1200 and Reunion Dinner at 1900. Rounding off the weekend with a Coach outing to The Royal Armouries in Leeds on Sunday 13th. For further info & booking forms contact IOW Tours on 01983 405116 or call F390 Sec Frenchy on 01252 310767/email Frenchy.delahaye@ntlworld.com/ 91 Ayling Lane, Aldershot,Hants.GU11 3ND

Captain Class Frigates Association – 10 April 2015

To mark the 70th Anniversary of the end of WWII, the Captain Class Frigate Association will hold a Final Reunion at the Warwick Hilton Hotel, Stratford Road, Warwick from 10 to 12 April 2015. The guest speaker will be a distinguished Naval Personality. This will be our member's last chance to meet with former shipmates. Book direct on 01926 499555.

HMS Dunkirk Association – 17 April 2015

Annual reunion from April 17 and 18 at the Royal Maritime Club (Home Club), Portsmouth. For more information contact John Carroll at jcarroll@jandecarroll.plus.com

HMS Glasgow (C21 Or D88) Association – 17/20th April 2105

HMS Glasgow (C21 & D88). Reunion to be held at the Queens Hotel, Paignton over the weekend April 17-20. Further details from Gary Eaton at Geaton8@aol.com

HMS Protector Association – 24/27th April 2015

HMS Protector Association is calling on all members plus ex ships company who served onboard between 3rd October 1955 to October 1968 to join us at a commemorative 60th anniversary reunion of the first sailing to the Antarctic and the Falkland Islands. The reunion will take place in the Aztec Hotel, Bristol over the weekend 24th-27 April 2015. Members of the 1965 commission are not forgotten as we will be also celebrating the 50th anniversary. It is also the Association's 16th reunion and AGM. Reunion booking forms and membership application forms can be downloaded from www.hmsprotector-association.co.uk and further details can be obtained from the reunion organiser Doug Harris (01495 718870) at Dougatspindrifft@aol.com or PRO Pete Latham (0161 7248164) at peterlatham49@yahoo.co.uk

HMS Euryalus Association – 24 April 2015

HMS Euryalus Association: In Bury, Lancashire, the centenary of the Gallipoli landing in which HMS Euryalus was involved, is being commemorated from April 24 to 26, and all who have been associated with the WW2 cruiser or frigate are warmly welcomed.

Programme include Black tie dinner, Royal Marine Band Concert and a Parade, Church Service and march past. Any queries to me J Lean at jblean@btinternet.com or Florrie Ford at charlesford1@blueyonder.co.uk or tel: 0191 423 4186. Details can be found on Lancs Fusiliers website at <http://www.lancs->

fusiliers.co.uk/news/newsevents.htm and updates on the Euryalus website at <http://www.euryalus.org.uk/home.htm>

Royal Naval Hospital Haslar Reunion – 01/03 May 2015

There will be a reunion weekend from Friday 01 May until Sunday 03 May 2015 in the Thorngate Halls, Gosport for all personnel who served at RNH Haslar. For further details please e-mail haslarreunion@virginmedia.com

HMS Phoebe Association – 01 May 2015

HMS Phoebe Association, Cruiser (C43) & Frigate (F42): Have their annual reunion from May 1 to 4 at the Chatsworth Hotel, Grand Parade, Eastbourne. All ex crew are welcome to join us. Please contact the secretary, Roy Pavely at roy.pavely@virginmedia.com

Federation of Naval Associations - 08 May 2015

The FNA AGM and reunion will be held at Grand Burstin Hotel, Folkestone from May 8 to 11. All Associations and former RN/RM/WRNS/QARNNS/RFA/MN etc are most welcome. Details and booking forms available from Robbie Robson at robbie.fna@virgin.net

HMS Wizard and Cadiz Association - 08 May 2015-02-17

Reunion at the Inglewood Palm Hotel, Torquay from May 8 to 11. Membership is open to all who have served in Battleclass V & W Destroyers and Type 15 Frigates. For more details contact Jim Watkins at jimandleah@hotmail.co.uk

HMS Bulwark, Albion, Centaur Association – 09 May 2015

2015 AGM/Reunion will be held at the Royal Beach Hotel, Southsea and will take place on May 9.

Did you serve on any of these light fleet carriers? Our association is open to anyone who served at any time on these ships. We send a magazine three times per year and run events including AGM/Social, sea trips with our current ships Albion & Bulwark and anniversary commemorations at home and abroad. We also sponsor sea cadets from our affiliated SCCs on one sail and two motor Training Ships. Membership is all of £8 per annum.

Enquiries to Leigh Easton at ngsfo@tiscali.co.uk or the website at <http://www.bulwarkassoc.co.uk> or write to Glenmoary, Hayford Place, Cambusbarron, Stirling FK7 9JX.

HMS Hermione Association – 22 May 2015

HMS Hermione Association will hold it's annual reunion from May 22 to 24 at the Best Western, Marks Tey Hotel, London Road, Colchester, Essex. Anyone wishing to join us will be made most welcome that also includes families of those lost onboard. For more details contact Cheryl, ref: Hermione Weekend at info@marksteyhotel.co.uk or tel: 01206 210001

HMS Opossum Association – 29 May 2015

Reunion will be held at Red Lea Hotel, Scarborough from May 29 to June 1.

All Opossum's from the ships five commissions 1945-1960 as well as the submarine (S19) 1963-1990 and their wives/partners are most welcome.

Contact IOW Tours, 3 New Road, Sandown, Isle of Wight PO36 9JN or email: enquiries@iowtours.com tel: 01983 405116 or contact Eddie Summerfold at robopovan@btinternet.com

HMS Glorious, Ardent & Acasta Association (GLARACs) – 5/6/7th June 2015

The 75th Anniversary of the sinking of HM Ships Glorious, Ardent & Acasta will be commemorated over the weekend 5/6/7th June 2015 in Plymouth.

Friends & Relatives of those lost on the 3 ships are invited to a Memorial weekend in Plymouth, starting Friday 5th June 2015, culminating with a Sunday Church Service and Buffet lunch in HMS Drake, Devonport.

Unfortunately due to current security entry into the Naval Base is by prior arrangement only and so families and relatives who wish to attend will need to contact either David Emery or David Woodcock (contact details below). They are also the main point of contact should anyone require any further details.

David Emery MBE, Tel. 01782 397746, or email dq.david@hotmail.co.uk or David Woodcock, Tel 01229 462414,

HMS Liverpool Association – 13 Jun 2015

Reunion takes place on June 13 at the GIs Association, Whale Island, mustering at 1200. Our association is made up of those who served on the Cruiser and the Type 42 Destroyer and new members are always welcome. For more information and membership details contact John Parker at info@hmsliverpoolassociation.org.uk

11th MCM Squadron – 13 June 2015

A reunion is being planned for the 5 requisitioned trawlers, Cordella, Junella, Farnella, Northella and Pict that became mine sweepers.

The reunion will take place on June 13 at the New Clarence Pub, Hull. A commemorative service will take place on June 14 at 1400 in Holy Trinity Church, Hull in the presence of the Lord Lieutenant of East Riding of Yorkshire and the Lord Mayor of Kingston upon Hull. The ships bell of HMS Northella is currently behind the bar of the 'Admiralty Tavern', Trafalgar Square and they have kindly accepted to loan the bell for the service. Full details can be found on the 11th MCM Squadron Facebook page [https://www.facebook.com/groups/2567254 ... 1/?fref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/groups/2567254...1/?fref=ts)
More details from Jon Major at major_jon@hotmail.com

HMS Jamaica Association - 18-21 September 2015

HMS Jamaica Association AGM and Reunion will be held at the Burlington Hotel Eastbourne over the weekend 18-21 September 2015. Please contact Mac Wilkinson (Hon Sec/Treasurer) on tel no 01843 582283 or e-mail mgwilkinson22@talktalk.net.

HMS Arethusa Association - 03 October 2015

The 27th and final Reunion at the Melbourne Ardenlea Hotel, Shanklin, Isle of Wight from October 2 to 5. All former serving members of this ship and Association and families/guests welcome.

For further information contact Tom Sawyer at rolandsawyer3@sky.com

HMS Ulster Association – 02/05 October 2015

There will be a reunion weekend from October 2nd, 2015 to October 5th, 2015 at Smiths Hotel, Weston-Super-Mare. Further details and to download booking forms see www.candoo.com/ulsternorrie/reunions.html - or please e-mail ulster@candoo.com Not internet friendly? Call Norrie Millen at 01626 779409 and leave message if no answer. The re-union is for all commissions 1943-1980.

HMS Tartar Association - 03 October 2015

Annual reunion at the Red Lea Hotel, Scarborough from October 3 to 5. All ex-Tartar's and wives are welcome, come and meet up with old shipmates. Bookings to be arranged by IOW Tours on 01983 405116

HMS Lowestoft Reunion – 9 October 2015

The 5th annual reunion of the HMS Lowestoft Association will take place at the Royal Beach Hotel, St Helens Parade, Southsea PO4 0NR from October 9th to 11th 2015. All ex-Lowie's 1961-1985 and guests are welcome. For booking & more info contact IOW Tours on 01983 405116 or email enquiries@iowtours.com or email: ian@hmslowestoft.co.uk or visit <http://www.hmslowestoft.co.uk>

For information, the HMS Lowestoft Association held their 4th Annual Reunion at the Royal Beach Hotel, Southsea over the weekend 17-19 October, celebrating 53 years since the ship first commissioned. The successful and memorable event was attended by 150 ex Lowie's, partners and guests, including 3 former Commanding Officers, Admiral Sir John Treacher, Captain Jimmy Chestnutt and Captain Charles Buckle. Vice Admiral Sir John Webster the Navigating Officer from the first commission and Vice Admiral Sir Nicholas Hill-Norton the First Lieutenant from 1971-73 were also present.



Type 21 Association - 9-10th October 2015

The Type 21 Association reunion will be held on Friday 9th and Sat 10th October 2015. Attendees should travel down the 'pointy head Highway and muster in the St Levans Inn. The programme for Saturday is - AM - AGM, PM Evening Events to be confirmed. for more information please contact ; Paul Gower PRO & Events
Organiser Type 21 Club 07446196733 www.type21club.org
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/type21club/>

HMS Naiad Association - 16-18th October 2015

HMS Naiad Association reunion will take place at the Liner Hotel Liverpool over the weekend 16- 18th October 2015. For further please see the website or e-mail
antony1960@hotmail.com

HMS Fife Reunion – 17 October 2015

The HMS Fife reunion will take place at HMS Nelson Warrant Officers and Senior Rates Mess on 17 October 2015, 1900-2359. For information about this reunion or to register your interest in attending please contact Warrant Officer 1, Darren Emmerton at darren.emerton459@mod.uk

Survey Ships Association – 24 – 27th October 2015

The Survey Ships Association will be holding its twenty-first reunion at the 4* Menzies Mickleover Court Hotel, Derby, on the w/e of 24th – 27th October. For information on membership and reunion please send a SAE to: The Secretary SSA, 17 Eliza Mackenzie Court, Lindisfarne Close, Cosham, Portsmouth, PO6 2SB, e-mail: secretary@surveyships.org.uk, or telephone 023 9232 4795.

HMS Relentless Reunion – 27 November 2015

The 3rd annual Reunion of the HMS Relentless Association will take place at the Royal Beach Hotel, St Helens Parade, Southsea, PO4 0NR from October 27th to 30th 2015.

All ex-Rusty R's 1942-1968 and their guests are welcome. For booking & more info contact IOW Tours on 01983 405116 or email enquiries@iowtours.com. Or contact Association Secretary on 02392 599640, email secretary@hmsrelentless.co.uk.

Draft Minutes of the Conference of Naval Associations Meeting – 22nd January 2015

3rd Floor Conference Room - Semaphore Tower

Associations Representatives Present

Chairman	-	John McAnally (RNA)
RNA	-	Paul Quinn (Working Group Chairman)
FNA	-	Peter Webster
Submariners	-	Jim McMaster
		Chris Freeth
MNA	-	Gareth Peaston
ARNO	-	Simon Goddard
Ton Class	-	Charlie Farnes
AOWrens	-	Julia Clark
QARNNS	-	Marilyn Jones
Bulwark, Albion		
Centaur Assoc	-	Mike Noonan
RMA	-	Mike Ellis
F390 Loch Fada	-	Frenchy (Roy) De La Haye
Chatham Officers'	-	Ken Sproule
Ganges	-	Robbie Robson
Communicators Assoc	-	Carl Beeson
HMS Relentless Assoc	-	Steve Newton
HMS Dido Association	-	Brian Thompson
HMS Lowestoft Assoc	-	Steven Foster
Widows Association	-	Sarah Clewes
HMS Resolution Assoc	-	Terry Nowell
Britannia Association	-	Graham Roberston
Type 42 Association	-	Chris Smith

Secretary - Andy Christie

In Attendance

3rd Sector - Liz Douglas

Apologies

- RFA Association
- 2nd HMS Manchester Association
- FAA Officer Association
- FAA Association
- Surface Warfare Officers
- HMS Llandaff Association
- Type 21 Association

Attending Briefers;

Coleman/Ansvar Insurance	Mr Spencer Coughlin
	Ms Dee Baron
UK Holiday Group	Mrs Maureen Quinn
All about Admin	Mrs Sarah Clewes

No	Item	Discussion and Decision
1	Chairman Opening Remarks	Welcomed Associations to the meeting particularly those new members attending for the first time. He also thanked Jim McMaster, Submariners Association, who will be standing down as the Submariners CONA representative on completion of this meeting, for his valued contribution and wise counsel during his time on the Working Group and at Conference.
2	Minutes of the last meeting	The minutes of the last meeting were accepted unanimously.
3	Matters Arising	There were no matters arising.
4	Report by WG Chairman	<p>Andy Christie, acted as 'local acting' Chairman Working Group in Pauls absence at the October WG. He briefed the Conference on the Working Group meeting of 23 October in which there was one single item on the agenda;</p> <p><i>Conference agreed that the Working Group should investigate this piece of work and propose a future Template, in particular looking at the informal group model and whether there is scope for back office facilities to be offered by a larger Association or commercially. They are to report back at the January Conference meeting.</i></p> <p>After much discussion the WG agreed that solutions below be forwarded to Conference for their consideration;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short Term Assistance <p>FNA has provided assistance to ten of their Associations to enable them time to recruit a new secretary/treasurer and in one case HMS Peacock Association became part of RNA Leamington Spa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertise for Temporary help from CONA members • CONA Holiday Group be invited to approach 'last hurrah Associations' <p>Loch Fada commented that all too often in NN we see ships associations quoting that it will be the last ever reunion surely UK Holiday group could help there?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CONA Engage part time employee to provide this function. <p>WG noted and agreed that this solution would require financing from either a grant or a change in how income received from our commercial partners is disaggregated. (Currently any financial receipts are divided up per –capita i.e. how much business each association has transacted with the company)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide IT Training. <p>Smaller Associations would benefit from the introduction of IT training packages which amongst other benefits could result in lower postal costs and receipt of relevant and up to date</p>

		<p>information. The WG acknowledged that funding would be an issue but considered that this could be achieved by approaching RNRMC / Seafarers UK for a grant.</p> <p>After reviewing the WG proposals Conference concluded that IT training would provide the most benefit to CONA Associations and two solutions were offered;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WGCh will approach Maritime Charities Group to discuss feasibility of applying for a grant. Co-incidentally MCG are currently running a project to improve digital skills for Veterans which may have synergy with the CONA requirement. <p>(Action – WGCh (Paul Quinn))</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs Sarah Clewes (All About Admin) - if no funding can be attracted she would be willing to hold a free training course to assist CONA members with their current IT issues. <p>The proposal to engage a part time employee would obviously require funding and as CONA has no income stream it would inevitably prove difficult to endorse this option. However, F390 Loch Fada highlighted that currently any financial receipts are divided up per –capita i.e. how much business each association has transacted with each individual partner company and proposed that any monies received in future should be held centrally by CONA so that a central fund available which could be used for the benefit of CONA.</p> <p>(P Loch Fada –S T42 Carried unanimously)</p>
5	Action Grid	Jan 14/3 – Open - Smaller Associations assistance agenda item 4
6	Individual Associations Briefs/Updates	<p>Ganges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reunion at Hayling 27 Mar 15. • All ex Ganges personnel are invited to join <p>2nd HMS Manchester</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reunion ‘14’ 12-14 June 2015 • Concern about difficulties of Security clearance getting harder for Mess functions. (All agreed need for Security but it is getting the balance right) <p>(Action – WGCh to investigate with 2SL staff and report back)</p> <p>BAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35 years young with 650 Members • Navy News Issue article sent to NN but has not appeared to date. • Next reunion Royal Beach with RMA Concert Band <p>(Action - WGCh requested article forwarded to him so it can be investigated with Edit NN)</p> <p>(Action – CONA Secretary invite Mike Gray (Edit NN) to next Conference meeting)</p>

MNA

- Membership sadly 4 smaller branches closing but conversely 5 new branches opened
- Merchant Navy Day Service and Parade will be held at the Tower Hill Memorial on 6th Sep 2015
- The Weymouth & Portland Veterans Week 20-27th June. CONA members should be aware that during that week the Royal Dorset Yacht Club situated right in the Harbour will be very pleased to welcome all veterans.

F390 Loch Fada

- Next reunion planned for Sheffield 10/14 April
- Membership up from 78 to 98
- Last year Reunion featuring the 70th Anniversary attracted 100 members and their guests.

Ton Class

- 1300 Members Patron HRH Prince of Wales
- Website updated regularly

AOW

- Reunion organised for August in Warwick (250 attended)
- M/Ship increasing since more effective use made of Facebook and refreshed Website

QARNNS

- 765 strong Reunion rotates between Portsmouth – Plymouth – London
- Main Issue – lack of funds to refurbish Memorial at Arboretum

Submariners

- 2,000 Members and 57 Branches..
- Next Reunion scheduled for March 2015 including Lady Submariners and more family oriented.

Chatham Naval Officers

- 65 Members (Membership increasing)
- Meet at Brompton Army Barracks

FNA

- Reunion 11th May in Grand Burstin Hotel Folkestone
- 6 Associations are planning to 'decommision' this year.

ARNO

- Spike in Membership enhance by 'Door Stepping technique' at Mess Dinners etc.
- Benefits to Membership essential as younger Officers want something from membership.
- Admiral Sir Mark Stanhope has agreed to be the new

President

RNA

- Shipmates programme is going to be financed by Greenwich Hospital for a further 5 years. Re-launch plan still being finalised.
- Naval service Memorial is the most visited site at the National Arboretum.
- Gallipoli Parade in Whitehall 25th April RNA and RMA supplying 1 platoon each. CONA Associations are very welcome to march/attend. If you are interested please contact Andy andy@royalnavalassoc.com All are invited
- Biennial Parade in Whitehall Sunday 13th September 2015

RMA

- Current challenge is to double membership
- Target 1,000 this year

RNRM Widows

- 75 strong Membership
- Please visit the Facebook page.

Comms Association

- 400 members
- Reunion in March
- Recruitment difficult now that Comms ratings are Warfare

Type 42 Association

- Reunion 12 Jul 15 Whale Island
- T42 looking at amalgamation to increase longevity of the Association in the long term.
- Now represented with three Standards

HMS Dido Association

- Reunion 01 May in Liverpool (details on Website)
- Membership now at 330 members

HMS Lowestoft Association

- The October 14 reunion attended by 150 with this years at the Royal Beach Hotel Southsea on 9/11 Oct 15
- Monthly Newsletter and website

HMS Relentless Association

- Ship scrapped in 1971 but Association formed 2 years ago
- 100 Members
- Looking to merge with other Type 15 Frigates to increase longevity

3rd Sector

- No link on RN Intranet. Medium term project commenced to

		<p>link CONA Associations with RN Intranet.</p> <p>Britannia Association</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,400 Alumni • Britannia Association reinvesting in college by providing funds where public funding not available i.e 2 Hawk Day boats • Over 5,000 members of public visited BRNC last year. <p>HMS Resolution Association</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created in 2010 - 500 members, world-wide • Website –Monthly newsletter • Looking into feasibility of aligning with other SM10 Boats Associations
7	Assistance to 'smaller' Associations	Covered in Para 4 above.
8	RAC Discount - ARNO	ARNO has negotiated a super discount deal with the RAC and have very kindly included CONA Associations as well. In summary, Roadside, At Home, Recovery, Onward Travel and European Cover is £70 and Roadside, At Home, Recovery and European Cover is £60. Further details are available on the CONA website or calling ARNO on 0207 4025231 email asec@arno.org.uk
9	Individual Guests Updates and Presentations	<p><i>UK Holiday Group – Mrs Maureen Quinn</i> Average savings of 10% and 60% on Cruises Many more products coming on line keep your eye on the Website Delighted to provide quotes for reunions no matter the size! Please keep getting the message down to individual members (Remember the more 'we' as CONA spend the more CONA get back)</p> <p><i>Coleman/ Ansvar - Mr Spencer Coughlin and Ms Dee Barron</i> Introduction of new discounted household Insurance specifically for CONA Members. (Specific details available on the CONA Website)</p> <p><i>All About Admin – Mrs Sarah Clewes</i> Admin Service Company now available Sarah completed 20 year RN career (including Ships – Wtr to LT) And she loves Stationery! The business provides a Virtual Assistant who understands your language and operation Negotiate a price per project All Assistance considered including Website and Facebook.</p> <p>Contact details for all our Guests will be available on the CONA Website and Newsletter</p>
12	AOB	<i>Britannia</i> – Graham Wilkinson wanted to remind CONA Members that tickets are now available from Lords Cricket Ground for the

		Inter-Services 20-20 Cricket Competition being held there on 11 June
	DONM	Conference – July 2015 – (Date and Venue dependant on new Presidents diary) Working Group – 23 April 2015 – Semaphore Tower

Action Grid for CONA Conference and Working Group

Meeting/ Serial Number	Action	Responsible Person	Update	Current Standing
Jan 14/3	Agenda item for spring Working Group – Smaller Association website assistance. July 14 – Working Group tasked see Minutes item 8.	WGCh	On Going	Open
	Jan 15 - WGCh to approach Maritime Charities Group to discuss feasibility of applying	WGCh	On Going	

	for a grant. Co-incidentally MCG are currently running a project to improve digital skills for Veterans which may have synergy with the CONA requirement.			
Jan 14/2	FNA have submitted a Crest design for consideration which will be discussed at the next Working Group meeting.	WGCh	On Going	CLOSED
Apr 08/1	Navy News Article Article placed in NN May edition	WGCh		CLOSED
Apr 08/2	SCC Membership	WGCh		CLOSED