



Getting Underway

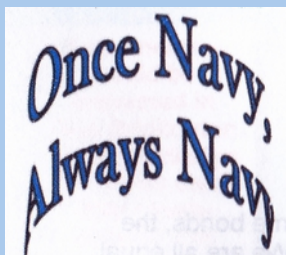


Royal Naval Association
Bridlington Branch
Newsletter
December 2016



Volume 2, issue 6

December
2016



Ahoy Shipmates!

Seasons greetings to you and your loved ones for what looks like being another busy run up to the festive period. At time of writing this we are preparing for several yule time events. The first of which is the Bridlington Town Councils invite for us to attend the official Christmas light switch on. This year the guest of honour will be Lance Bombardier Ben Parkinson MBE of F (Sphinx) Parachute Battery Royal Horse Artillery who was seriously injured in Helmand province, Afghanistan when the vehicle he was traveling in hit a landmine. Ben is one of the most seriously injured soldiers to survive the conflict. The date for your diary is Sunday 4th December on King Street at 11am.

There was a magnificent turn out at the war memorial on 13th November. Veterans and cadet forces were out in numbers and they were supported by an excellent gathering of locals and visitors estimated at nearly two thousand. Prayers were lead by The Reverend Matthew Pollard of the Priory church and wreaths were laid by dignitaries and Associations. Our President, Shipmate Brian Hill laid a wreath on behalf of Bridlington Branch of the RNA whilst several other of our members laid wreaths of remembrance for The Fleet Air Arm, The Submarine Service and Combined Services. Well done to everyone that attended.

On the 18th November several of our members attended the short service at the war memorial to commemorate the end of the Battle of the Somme. Reverend Pollard again lead the prayers whilst RBL Secretary Barry Moody MBE officiated. Again thank you to those members that turned out to represent our branch.



A bugler plays "The Last Post"
At the Service to commemorate the end of the Battle of the Somme

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION BRIDLINGTON BRANCH OFFICIALS



**December
2016**



President	Brian Hill	
Chairman	Martin Jolly	07765 895697
Dpty Chairman	Mike Blake	07836 798083
Secretary	Mike Rubery	07722 362949
Treasurer	Lee Broadbent	07809 458760
Standard Bearer	Martin Barmby	07786 228229
Welfare	Martin Jolly	07765 895697
Slops	Mike Blake	07836 798083
Committee	Vicky Barton	
Committee	John L'Amie	
Public Relations Off.	Mikki Jackson	07860 167342

RNA core values:

Unity

Shared backgrounds and equality in rank. We share the same bonds, the same mindset, and even the same language (Jackspeak!). We are all equal. We are the heart and soul of the RNA.

Loyalty

To each other and our dependents We will always support and look out for each other. Our loyalty is to all our shipmates, our local communities, the personnel and dependents of the Naval Service, along with other charities or organisations with naval connections.

Patriotism

We are proud to serve and proud to represent our country and the Naval Service. Our pride in serving our country never leaves us. Nor do we forget those who have fallen for our country or who fight now. We are deeply honoured to represent them on both a national and international level.

Comradeship

Friends in fun, fellowship and need. Your shipmates will always be here for you, whether it's about a job, ideas for a fun day out or just an arm around the shoulder. We will never leave you or your dependants in despair.

Getting Underway compiled and edited by S/M Mike Rubery

If you have anything you would like entered in Getting Underway please telephone or email on the above number or at secretarybridrna@gmail.com



**December
2016**

**"Our Association
is a big part of
the community"**



Shipmates, well another year has passed. Unaccustomed as I am to public speaking, well I would be if anyone could shut me up! I would just like to say a big thank you to everyone of you who has been a part of our association. There are those that participate in as much as they can and those who wish they could give more to the activities we offer and join in with.



Our association is a big part of the community and this is because you are all so active in one way or another to make each event a success. We as a team are formidable and I would like to thank my team, the committee, for all their hard work and support over the past year. It's more than just a drinking club!

We have had new members joining our group, so keep recruiting and remember, everyone is welcome!

On behalf of myself and your committee, we wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous and healthy new year!

Martin Jolly
Shipmate Chairman





December
2016



The Jutland Four

Volume 2, issue 6

As I'm sure by now shipmates are all aware that this year marks the centenary of a The battle of Jutland, the biggest naval engagement of the first world war that saw massive losses on both sides. The four men from Bridlington that lost their lives, **Able Seaman Christopher George Edmond**, **Stoker 1st class Edmund Grimshaw**, **Leading Signalmen Thomas Alva Thresh** and **Ordinary Seaman Charles Clifford Roberts** have now been honoured by our branch. Each man has had a tree dedicated to them to be planted in the first World War Centenary Wood at Langley Vale, near Epsom in Surrey. Planting of the trees are due to take place at the beginning of 2017 and the Jutland Wood should be open to visitors early in 2018.



One of the certificates that mark the dedication of trees for the Jutland Four. It is hoped that the certificates can be framed and will go on display in the Old Ship sometime in the near future.



December
2016



Legion D'Honneur News

Congratulations to shipmate Lydia Ellyard on becoming one of only a handful of female recipients that have been awarded the prestigious French award "The National Order of the Legion of Honour" the highest French order for military and civil merits, established in 1802 by Napoléon Bonaparte.

Lydia has been recognised for her help and support during the D-Day invasions. A presentation ceremony is hoped to be held early in the new year when Lydia's family and friends can all be available to share her great day. It is hoped many of our members will also be in attendance to help our shipmate celebrate.

Lydia Ellyard with her medal



Lydia when she was in
the WRNS circa 1944



December
2016



Bridlington Old Town Association

Volume 2, issue 6

Dickensian Festival 2016

On Sunday 27th November we again attended the Bridlington Old Town Dickensian Festival. Our stall was manned by Shipmates Jolly, Jackson, Barton, Edmondson, Taylor and Rubery. A well attended event saw us raise a little over £80.00. Thanks to those that helped.



Bridlington Xmas Light switch on 2016

Our next scheduled event is the Bridlington Christmas Light Switch on. The guest of honour for this event is set to be our friend Lance Bombardier Ben Parkinson MBE.

The switch-on will be held on King Street, and the event begins at 1pm with live music, charity stalls, food stalls and children's rides. The lights will go on at around 4.30pm, with Father Christmas helping Ben to do the honours.



Ben Parkinson MBE



**December
2016**



A Letter from Our President

Volume 2, issue 6

The following letter to the Bridlington Freepress was published on Thursday 25th November 2016. For those of you that missed it here it is below.

Recent weeks in and around Bridlington have seen many acts of remembrance and commemoration. These have always been well supported by the community but this year we have seen a huge and most welcome presence of cadets of all crown forces and many other youth organisations clubs and schools from the very young to late teens. They come from many backgrounds with great personal pride, not only for their disparate groupings but the community as a whole, with an apparent understanding of the history of their nation. Great credit must go to their parents and the adults who freely give of their time, tolerance and different skills to help guide the young people in the right direction for their future life. Congratulations and thanks to all those concerned, you can all stand proud.

Brian E Hill

President of Bridlington branch Royal Naval Association



Bridlington Sea Cadets on parade

Great Warships of The Royal Navy



HMS *Ocean* is an amphibious assault ship, the Royal Navy's sole Landing Platform Helicopter and the fleet flagship of the Royal Navy.^[4] She is designed to support amphibious landing operations and to support the staff of Commander UK Amphibious Force and Commander UK Landing Force. She was constructed in the mid-1990s by Kvaerner Govan on the River Clyde and fitted out by VSEL at Barrow-in-Furness prior to trials and subsequent acceptance in service. She was commissioned in September 1998 at her home port HMNB Devonport, Plymouth.

Ocean was designed to provide the amphibious assault capabilities last offered by Albion and Bulwark whilst in the Commando role. She can deploy an Embarked Military Force (EMF) of a Royal Marines Commando Group from 3 Commando Brigade supported by aviation and landing craft assets. The ship's company includes 9 Assault Squadron (9 ASRM) from 1 Assault Group Royal Marines whose primary role is as an Amphibious Assault Squadron. Secondary tasks include boarding parties, beach reconnaissance and providing amphibious knowledge to the ship's Command. Besides these roles they have responsibilities within the ship which include fire fighting, watch keeping and security. 9 ASRM is divided into a HQ unit, Landing Craft Troop, Signals detachment, Vehicle Deck Party and Assault Supply Team.

HMS *Ocean* is also capable of limited anti-submarine warfare activities, supporting air bat training and acting as a base facility for other embarked forces including counter-terrorism units.

The air group of up to six Sea King HC4 medium-lift helicopters and six Lynx AH7 light-lift/anti-tank helicopters are provided by the Commando Helicopter Force, four-six Apache AH1 operated by the Army Air Corps and helicopters of the Royal Air Force, including the Chinook. Prior to their retirement, *Ocean* could transport up to 15 fixed wing Harrier aircraft of Joint Force Harrier in the ferry role, but was unable to operate as a fixed wing aircraft carrier due to her lack of the 'ski jump' that is needed to launch a fully loaded Harrier.

For the 2012 London Olympics, she carried an air arm of eight Army Air Corps and Fleet Air Arm Super Lynx helicopters, four from each service, to deploy special forces and conduct other missions in relation to her security role.

Four Landing Craft Vehicle and Personnel (LCVPs) are permanently embarked and manned by 9 Assault Squadron Royal Marines.



**December
2016**



RBL Alderson House 'Poppy Club' every Tuesday 2pm - 4pm is a club for people who are service or ex-service personnel, their partners and families and who live locally in Bridlington. The club meet for social afternoons of chat and laughter with free tea, coffee and biscuits provided by the friendly, welcoming staff. Activities include: guest speakers, crafts, card playing, quizzes, "Play your cards right", Uckers, Bingo with Mike (Mike Adams) mild keep fit, free trips, movies and much more. Bridlington RNA have several members that attend regularly and you and your family would be made most welcome.

Alderson House also offer free breaks to service and ex service personnel, including family breaks for families and children of those serving or whom served in Afghanistan or Iraq.

Guests at Alderson House are of all ages from a few months to 102! And may stay for a week or fortnight. The breaks are full board and include entertainment most nights and trips to local places of interest.

If you know of someone who may benefit from a free holiday and be eligible should contact Alderson House directly or ask our secretary for further details.

**ALDERSON HOUSE
CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

**SATURDAY
3rd December
2.00 – 4.00 pm**

Tea/coffee, mince pies, cake & craft stalls,
Souvenirs, tombola and Grand Raffle

Music from
COASTAL VOICES
and
**SANTA WILL BE
IN HIS GROTTTO FROM
2.30 pm**

70 SOUTH MARINE DRIVE, BRIDLINGTON
YO15 3NS
01262 408010

Find us on:
facebook

The Blond Welshman

An Irishman, an Englishman and a Welsh Blonde Guy were doing building work on scaffolding on the 20th floor of a building.

They were eating lunch and the Irishman said, 'Corned beef and cabbage! If I get corned beef and cabbage one more time for lunch, I'm going to jump off this building.'

The Englishman opened his lunch box and exclaimed, 'Cheese again! If I get cheese one more time I'm going to jump off, too.'

The Welsh blonde fella opened his lunch and said, 'lamb again! If I get a lamb sandwich one more time, I'm jumping too.'

The next day, the Irishman opened his lunch box, saw corned beef and cabbage, and jumped to his death.

The Englishman opened his lunch, saw cheese and jumped, too.

The blonde guy opened his lunch, saw the lamb and jumped to his death as well.

At the funeral, the Irishman's wife was weeping. She said, 'If I'd known how really tired he was of corned beef and cabbage, I never would have given it to him again!'

The Englishman's wife also wept and said, 'I could have given him tuna, I just didn't realise he hated cheese so much.'

Wait for it.....(Oh this is GOOD!!!)?

Everyone turned and stared at the blonde chap's wife. She said....., 'Don't look at me. He makes his own lunch ...'

Conversation in Heaven

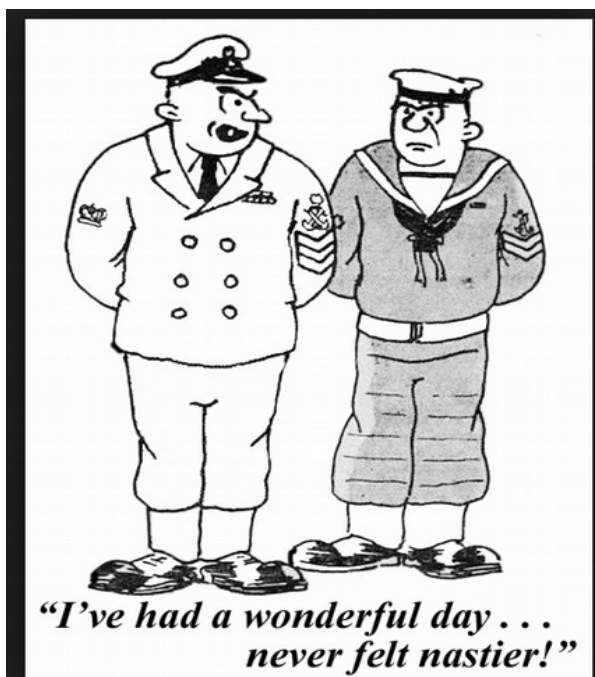
Betty Hi! Wanda. Wanda: Hi! Betty. How'd you die? Betty: I froze to death. Wanda: How horrible! Betty: It wasn't so bad. After I quit shaking from the cold, I began to get warm & sleepy and finally died a peaceful death. What about you?

Wanda: I died of a massive heart attack. I suspected that my husband was cheating, so I came home early to catch him in the act. But instead, I found him all by himself watching TV.

Betty: So, what happened?

Wanda: I was so sure there was another woman there somewhere that I started running all over the house looking. I ran up into the attic and searched, and down into the basement. Then I went through every closet and checked under all the beds. I kept this up until I had looked everywhere, and finally I became so exhausted that I just keeled over with a heart attack and died.

Betty: Too bad you didn't look in the freezer we'd both be still be alive!





**For all of
your slops
needs
contact
shipmate
Mike Blake
our slops co-
ordinator**

**December
2016**



Slops

Our slops co-ordinator s/m Mike Blake has been working very hard on our behalf to acquire new gizzits for us to sell at our coming events. We still have RNA or forces veteran beanies and woolly hats priced at £7.00 and £20.00 for jumpers. Also still available are bespoke coaster and key-rings with a picture of your ship and crest. Coasters at £1.50 each key-rings £1.00 each. Also available at £1.00 each are RNA toffees, RNA Milk Chocolate and RNA notebooks with a free retracting pencil! New items are "Zippo" style lighters at £10.00 each, White Ensign pin badges £3.00 each Veterans – RN decal car stickers £2.50 each and veteran – RN fridge magnets at £3.00 each

Please contact shipmate Blake to purchase these items or S/M Mike Rubery for bespoke orders of coasters and key rings



Car decal stickers



Zippo style lighters



White Ensign Pins



Fridge Magnets



**December
2016**

BRIDLINGTON BRANCH MEETINGS

Come and join us for a social drink, some banter and a few dits. All serving and ex-serving members of the Royal Navy, Royal Marines and their families are welcome as well as our comrades from all other branches of the Armed Forces

**We muster on the first Thursday
Of the month 19:00 hrs**

The Old Ship Inn, St. John's Street, Bridlington

The Royal Naval Association has over 20,000 members across 370 branches in the UK and overseas, we are a family of current and former Naval Service personnel, relatives and supporters of our country's Royal Navy.

CONTACT RNA HQ

**RNAHQ
Room 209
Semaphour
Tower
HM Naval Base
Portsmouth
PO1 3LT**

Whether we are catching up with friends at our regular social events; fundraising; advising on welfare and employment matters, or just providing an arm around the shoulder, our natural willingness to help others stems from the tradition and camaraderie that only Naval Service life can instil. Everything we do is inextricably linked to our core values: Unity, Loyalty, Patriotism and comradeship.



ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION



HQ Website: www.royal-naval-association.co.uk

Branch Website: www.bridlington-rna.co.uk

Facebook: Royal Naval Association – Bridlington

Twitter: @RNA_Bridlington