



# Getting Underway

July/August  
2015

Royal Naval Association  
Bridlington Branch Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 4

## Ahoy Shipmates!

Once Navy,  
Always Navy

### POINTS OF INTEREST

- Welcome
- News
- Bridlington AFD
- Great Ships of the RN
- Fundraising
- Meet a Shipmate
- Veterans Breakfast
- Buddies in Boats
- Sudoku

Welcome to this months edition of getting underway.

May and June were very busy months for the branch with VE Day celebrations and preparations for both the Scarborough and Bridlington Armed Forces Day, for both the parades and celebrations.

On the 9th May the 70th Anniversary of VE Day service was attended by several of our members and the branch standard was paraded both at the war memorial and at Barmston village Church. A big thank you to members that attended both of these events. The day proved to be very successful and a large amount of money was raised for the Sea Cadets.

The branch standard was also in attendance at the Air Sea Rescue memorial on Sunday 10th May at the Harbour front, another well attended event.



VE Day service at the war memorial  
Saturday 9th May 2015

### Buddies in Boats At the war memorial



Sixty submariners converged on Bridlington at the end of May for what is set to become an annual “Buddies in Boats” event. The Old Ship was set as the base and the “buddies” raised money for several charities including RNLI, “Riding for

the Disabled Association” and two small donations were also made to Bridlington & Chesterfield Sea Cadets respectively.

The Royal British Legion’s Waterloo Dinner took place on 20th June 2015 at the Ransdale Hotel. There was an open invite to Branch members that several accepted and a good night was had by all.

## Bridlington Armed Forces Day

Bridlington held its Armed Forces Day on Saturday 4th July 2015. There was a march from Station Approach which set off at 1200 hrs and followed a route through town that went past the war memorial where there was a salute, it was then onwards to Alderson House where Lt. Phill Fordham, a member of our branch, and WWII veterans took the salute. A short memorial service followed at which a wreath was laid by our President, Eric Hudson.

Afterwards there was entertainment from a whole host of entertainers in the main building and garden to celebrate Alderson House's Summer fayre. The organisers ensured that there were plenty of attractions including a Parachutist display that landed on the South beach. This was followed by a delayed Air

Sea Rescue demonstration due to a real life emergency call. Finally there was also a display from the RNLI all of which was well received from both the crowd on the sea front and visi-



AFD flag raising



Lt. Phill Forham RN takes the salute along with WWII veterans

## Great Warships of the Royal Navy



### HMS Warspite



HMS Warspite was a Queen Elizabeth-class battleship, the sixth warship of the Royal Navy to carry the name. Her thirty-year career covered both world wars and took her across the Atlantic, Indian, Arctic and Pacific Oceans. She was involved in several major engagements, including battles in the North Sea and Mediterranean, earning her the most battle honours ever awarded to an individual ship in the Royal Navy and the most awarded for actions during the Second World War. For this and other reasons Warspite gained the nickname the "Grand Old Lady" after a comment made by her most famous commander, Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham in 1943.

When she was launched in 1913 the use of oil as fuel and untried 15-inch guns were revolutionary concepts in the naval arms race between Britain and Germany, a considerable risk for Winston Churchill, then First Lord of the Admiralty, and Admiral John Fisher who had advocated the design. However, the new "fast battleships" proved to be an outstanding success during the First World War. Warspite was refitted twice between the wars, but advances in technology and the cumulative effects of battle damage relegated her to the role of shore bombardment towards the end of the Second World War. She was decommissioned in 1945 and wrecked off the Cornish coast on the way to the scrap yard.

## Fundraising

There were two Occasions for raising funds recently and we managed to earn a few more pounds for the cause. The Scarborough Armed Forces Day event on Saturday 27th June saw over 30,000 people attend, the biggest turnout in the seven years that it has been organized. Thanks to sterling work from s/m's Barmby, Jolly and Smith a grand **total of £380.00** was raised, well done guys. S/m's Barmby and Jolly dressed in authentic retro naval attire and entertained the crowds all after day. S/m Smith carried our stand during the AFD march. Bridlington AFD on Saturday 4th of July wasn't as well attended but we still managed to secure donations of **£80.00**



S/m Chairman Martin Jolly and S/m Smudge Smith man the stall at Scarborough AFD

## Meet a Shipmate Leading Cook Roy



Roy Left school in 1961 and went to work at the local butchery department in Brighouse. For the first couple of years he was in the slaughterhouse then shop training. "One of the lads who worked in the joinery department joined the R N" he says. "It was at least a year later when I met him again when he was on leave. After a few beers I thought that's better than freezing in a butchers shop, so off on the bus to Leeds I hopped, thenext stop was Wellington St recruiting of-

fice." That was February 1965. That same year on the 11th May (Smudges birthday) he travelled down to Plymouth and after six weeks basic training at Raleigh he joined HMS Pembroke to learn how to keep the troops well fed. After this he joined a junior training establishment, H M S St Vincent, just before it closed down. Smudge remembers well that he witnessed the last manning of the mast.

In January 1966 Ck Smith went up to Rosyth to join H M S Cochrane which consisted of H M ships Girdleness, Duncansby head and Hartland point where he became part of the crew. "I think that the Girdleness was the first HM Ship to launch missiles. We took the ship down to Portsmouth on sea trials, eleven knots forward and thirteen knots backwards and only missed one England World Cup game on the TV"

In August 1966 Smudge went down to Plymouth to join HMS Euryalus which was in dry dock having just returned from the far East. After trials, workup and a couple of jollies they sailed to Denmark where she took over from another RN ship on Stanforlant. Norway and into the Artic Circle to Iceland and then on to the U S A. "I remember we then went to Halifax for the

Naval gathering to celebrate Canada's Bi-centennial. Then Quebec, Montreal for British week and Exbo 67" It was whilst on duty here that Smudge has an interesting story to tell.

"I heard people coming into the galley and turned around to see the England World Cup football team! They introduced them selves to us and we served 100% sirloin steaks and chips for tea they loved them." The manager, Alf Ramsey, was apparently in the wardroom. From Canada it was back to Plymouth. On December 4th 1966 Euryalus sailed for the far East getting back almost a year later on December 3rd 1967.

The following year Smudge was back in Rosyth and on to his next draft, HMS Caledonia where he was stationed for a two years before being promoted to Leading Rate. Following that It was off to Chatham next to join HMS Brighton which he states was "A great ship with a great crew" They went back out the far East and to the Caribbean from where he flew home to Rosyth this time to shore establishment HMS Cochrane where he spent a couple of years before joining HMS Hermes in Portsmouth. "At long last I got to go to the Med" Then it was back to Plymouth before setting sail for Florida and visiting Disneyworld. Up to Norfolk naval base where he visited Georgetown where the first British settlers arrived over 200 years before. On arrival in Plymouth he left the ship and went up to join RAF Leuchers in Fife for his final year in the Navy.

Smudge left the RN in January 1979 and joined the Central Region Fire Brigade. After training he was based in Stirling then Bo'ness where he worked until retirement from the Fire Brigade. His next job saw him driving HGV's until retirement a few years ago. He moved to Brid met Andy Pare in Morrisons selling poppies and he says "The rest is history"

**Smudge is a very active member of the RNA and as well as Vice President he holds the position of Deputy Standard bearer.**

**Royal Naval Association  
Bridlington Branch**



**Committee Members**

Chairman: Martin Jolly 07765895697  
 Secretary: Mike Rubery 01262 321938  
 Treasurer: Lee Broadbent 07809 458760  
 Standard Bearer: Martin Barmby 07786228229  
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 Email the secretary at: secretarybridrna@gmail.com

**Once Navy, Always Navy**  
**Unity, Loyalty, Patriotism, Comradeship**

Come and meet us for a social drink, some banter and a few dits. All serving and ex-serving members of the Royal Navy and their families are welcome, as well as our comrades from the Army or RAF.

**We muster on the first Thursday of the month at 19:00**

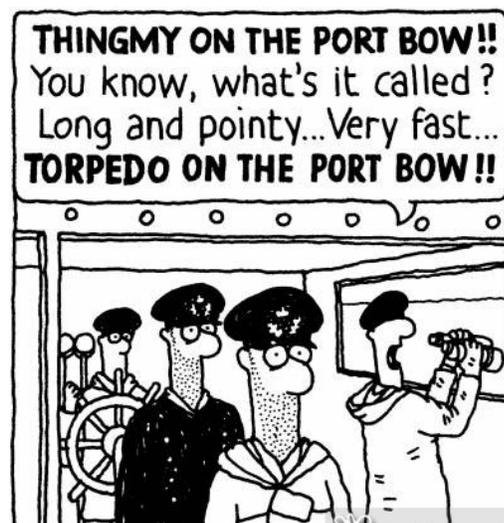
In "The Old Ship" St Johns Street Bridlington

**EVERYBODY WELCOME**

We're on the web at [www.bridlington-rna.co.uk](http://www.bridlington-rna.co.uk)

**TOMBOLA DONATIONS REQUIRED**

Bridlington branch of the RNA have been invited to attend the next 1940's vintage fair at the Spa Bridlington to be held on 30th August 2015 10am -5pm. This event proved to be immensely popular when we attended earlier this year. In preparation for the next stall we need Tombola donations. Think bottles, cans, biscuits, chocolates, unwanted small presents, books, DVDs, etc. Your donations can be made to the secretary or a member of the committee. If you need the items collected please phone, text or email the secretary on the above number or 07722 362949



**VETERANS BREAKFAST CLUB**

**THIRD SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH 10am**



**RICHE'S CAFÉ BAR  
 PRINCESS MARY'S  
 PROMENADE**

All veterans/serving personnel or dependents **WELCOME**

A place to pull up a sandbag and have a brew and some breakfast and spin some dits with like-minded people

3		7	6	
		8		3
	5		1	
5		4	8	
6			9	
7	9	1		6
		6	5	
6		1		4
4	2	3		7

**Sudoku - Easy**