

Getting Underway



Royal Naval Association
Bridlington Branch
Newsletter
February 2017

*"More than Just a
drinking club"*

Volume 3, issue 1

Feb
2017

Once Navy,
Always Navy



Ahoy Shipmates!

A belated Happy New Year to members old and new. Just a few weeks into the new year and we are already thinking and planning coming events at which we will be attending.

So far invites have been received for us to attend the Royal Engineers Dinner to be held at the Ransdale Hotel on Friday 31st March, The Vintage Fair at Bridlington Spa on Sunday 28th May, Old Town 1940's Festival on Sunday 11th June, Scarborough Armed Forces Day on Saturday 24th June and our own AFD the following week. We are also looking at possibly getting permission for a stall at the forthcoming Tour De Yorkshire event on Friday 28th April

These events are usually great fun and If anyone would like to come along and join us in preparing, organising and running them it would be much appreciated. It all helps to get RNA Bridlington branch recognised and supported in the town. If you are interested then please contact a committee member for further details.

This year we are also looking at getting the branch more active socially. We have several invites on the table to join fellow RNA branches at their clubs for meet, greet and socialising. Your committee hope to reinstate the position of Social Secretary for the branch to help us with this quest. As soon as the position is then filled it is hoped to start a social events calendar.

Memorabilia is still required for us to display in The Old Ship Inn. If you have anything that you think may be suitable for display including ships badges, photographs , paintings etc. then please bring them along.

A reminder that annual subs are now due. This year subs have been increased following the National Conference Meeting were it was decided annual fee will be £14.00. Gangway for branch meetings will remain the same at 50p per meeting or £5.00 for the year.

RNA Bridlington remember HMS Falmouth



ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION BRIDLINGTON BRANCH OFFICIALS



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President	Brian Hill	
Chairman	Martin Jolly	07765 895697
Dpty Chairman & Slops	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
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

News

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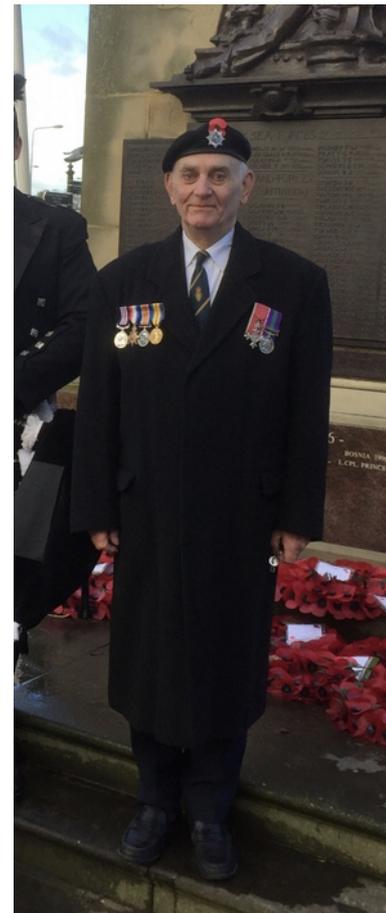


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Subs Increase to £14 from
January 2017



HQ Roll Members please update
your Standing Orders



Last Year Barry was the prime mover in organising the memorial for the Battle of The Somme. He oversaw the two vigils that took place to commemorate the 100th anniversary both for the start and the finish of the battle which had seen him lose a close relative.

In recent years Barry could always be seen in attendance carrying the RBL area standard at the festival of remembrance and cenotaph. His funeral was held at the Priory Church on January 19th with branch standards from around the country gathering in his honour. He will be sadly missed. Fair winds and following seas shipmate. Resurgam

Barry Moody MBE at the end of the Battle of the Somme memorial November 2016

Standards formed for the funeral of Barry Moody MBE at the Priory Church



Cadet of the Year 2016

Following a great year for Bridlington Sea Cadets which has seen them flourish a presentation was made to the cadet of the year 2016. The proud recipient of The Stephen Phelps Memorial Shield was 14 year old Cadet 1st Class Declan Cooper.

Commanding Officer SCC Lt Mikki Jackson said of Cadet Cooper
"Cadet 1st class Cooper has been with us for about a year and a half. He threw himself into cadet life quickly. Always up for a challenge. He was reluctant in some areas but pushed himself. He recently went for beginners piping but showed promise and did his 2nd stage in the same weekend. He would like to join the navy when older so soaks up all he learns. He is always on time, smartly dressed and an inspiration to others this is why he won the award."



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Cadet 1st Class Cooper receiving the Stephen Phelps Memorial Shield



Cadet 1st Class Declan Cooper



Cadet 1st Class Cooper with members of S/m Stephen Phelps family





HMS Bridlington was a Bangor class minesweeper, number J65. She was one of four diesel-engined vessels. She was laid down on 11th September 1939, launched 29th February 1940 and commissioned on 28th September 1940.

The builder was William Denny & Brothers (Dumbarton, Scotland), with machinery built by Harland & Wolff Ltd (Govan, Scotland). She had 2000hp diesel motors driving reciprocating engines (VTE) and geared turbines on two shafts. Her maximum speed was 16 knots, and she weighed 590 tons.

HMS Bridlington was among the first four of her class, the others being Bangor, Blackpool and Bridport). Her displacement was 672 BRT, she was 180 feet long, had a breadth of 28ft, a depth of 15ft 6in, and a draft of 8ft 3in (10ft 6in fully loaded). She had a complement of 60 men.

Her armament included one 3in. anti-aircraft gun, and varied anti-aircraft armament. Two captains recorded are Lt. Charles Wickham Malins, R.N., who commanded her from 12th July 1940, and Lt. Peter John Baye, from 24th February 1942 until August 1942. On 2nd October, 1941, HMS Bridlington sailed from Harwich and joined HMS Eastbourne in the English Channel for minesweeping duties.

During the period December 1942 to January 1943, Petty Officer Arthur Ernest Brown was mentioned in dispatches for "bravery and skill while employed on the hazardous duties of keeping the seas clear of mines."

HMS Bridlington played her part in Operation Overlord, the D-Day landings. As one of nine ships of the 9th minesweeping flotilla, she sailed from the Solent at 12.55 hours on 5th June 1944 heading for Juno beach.

In St Clement Danes Church, in central London, this plaque engraved in the floor of the central aisle commemorates HMAFV Bridlington.

All that is left of HMAFV Bridlington are the ship's bell, nameplate, two name plaques, two tankards and a notice of the ship's service.

The original plaque showing the adoption by HMS Bridlington by the town also exists. These items have been transferred on loan by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council to Bridlington Harbour Heritage Museum for display each season

MEET A SHIPMATE: Able Seaman Brian Hill



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I was born in Bristol in 1936 in the Docklands. The Blitz hit us hard and we were bombed out of three houses in a week. My mother and stepfather were not exactly very caring or interested so soon I became self sufficient. In 1945, aged eight, I found out my biological father had been lost in the Russian convoys.

Having had enough I left home at age 13 and was taken in by my best pals grandparents. For the first time I realised what family was all about. The old fellow was a tug master working out of Avonmouth. I worked for him all the spare time that I had, he was a great sea captain. I quit school at age 15 and got an apprenticeship with engineering subsidiaries of Imperial Tobacco.

In 1954 I was called up for National Service and as I had earned a deck hands ticket I was sent to Portsmouth to join the Royal Navy. They decided Basic training would be a waste of time and within eight days I was on HMS Theseus heading for Mediterranean exercises. In January 1955 I was drafted to fast minelayer HMS Apollo flagship to the new C in C home Fleet and NATO Mediterranean Squadron CEO. Admiral Sir Michael Denny. This was a great year for me from the Middle East to the Arctic, into Russia the first UK visit to Leningrad after the end of the Cold War.

We paid off in Plymouth January 1956 and I was drafted to another flat top HMS Glory to finish national service as an A/B. It was during my time on Glory that I met my wife, Grace and we were married in the January of 1957.

I returned to Bristol but in 1960 I was offered a job at Riggs in Bridlington, in those days one of the largest employers on Bessingby Estate. Somebody must have been looking out for me by 1962 I was promoted to sales office and then to export sales manager in 1964 travelling all over Europe.

In 1969 I was approached by a German consortium to take the sales agency in competition to Riggs and other machine agents in the UK. Leaving Riggs I set up Savecrest machines in Bridlington Old Town and by mid 70s had established sales places in the USA and Brazil.

The early 80's saw me concentrate and expand my UK business and my son Colin joined me, we also set up a very demanding spare parts business importing from Germany and Italy.

I started to enjoy public life in Bridlington at that time and 1982 to 1986 I was chair of governors at the Burlington school. From 1989 to 2003 I was also Senior Adult Court magistrate for Bridlington and East Riding.

In 1985 I was appointed President of Bridlington Art Society and was one of the founder members, chair and life member Bridlington and District Civic Society. I was on Harbour commissioners 2004/05. I was also Chair of Finance and Renumeration Hull College group until 2015. I was Chair at Hull Ferens Art Gallery and was appointed President there in 2015 for Hull City of Culture year 2017. Meantime I retired from the business in 2001.

Brian has two children, a daughter Julie who lives in the USA and a son Colin. He also has two granddaughters Sarah (also in the USA) and Rebecca and a great granddaughter, Margo aged 5.

He says **"I've seen so many good RNA friends "Cross the Bar" over the years but now you have given me my proudest draft - President of Bridlington Royal Naval Association in 2016"**.

Brian has been a member of the Bridlington branch of the RNA since the mid 1980's and has held many positions on the committee. He is a big supporter of the RNA and can always be seen at our functions and branch meetings. On behalf of the committee and members I would like to thank him for all his efforts past, present and future!





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Our president for 2016, Brian Hill meets his friend the artist David Hockney in his role as Chairman of the Friends of Ferens Art Gallery in Hull.

This picture was taken in 2011 when Mr Hockney's work was on show at the Ferens.

Photograph courtesy of Chrys Bavey (friends of Feens)

SLOPS

A reminder that s/m Mike Blake has RNA or forces veteran beanies and wooly 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! "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.



Bridlington Veterans Breakfast

Every 2nd Sunday and 4th Saturday at Richie's Cafe on the South Promenade veteran servicemen meet for a breakfast club. Serving members and veterans and their families gather for light refreshments and a chat. The bar opens at lunchtime for those who fancy something a little stronger. Please come along and support the club, a discount will be given on production of your veterans badge.



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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 19:30 hrs**

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

**CONTACT
RNA HQ**

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Portsmouth
PO1 3LT**

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.

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.



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