

ROYAL NAVAL WRITERS' ASSOCIATION

Newsletter – March 2018

The World's Oldest Military Association – Est. 1887 – www.rnwa.co.uk



Foreword from the President

Dear Members,

What a lovely surprise, to see the sun shining and the temperatures in double figures all be it that the wind has had the tendency to make it appear very cold. It makes me realise that spring is just around the corner, indeed the daffodils are almost ready to burst into bloom and it's time again to think about a little flutter!

The Grand National Draw of course, I'm sure that like me even if I don't draw a horse, most of you will consider placing a bet on a horse that takes your fancy. As always, your support for the Draw is much appreciated. I hope you are all well and have survived the flu and are looking forward to better weather and holidays.

Colin Hughes

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“Crossed the Bar”

It is with sadness that the first member of 2018 to Cross the Bar (hopefully the last!?) is *Gerald Beard MBE* of Monmouth

Funerals

The following information is for the benefit of members and their families, if you or they were not already aware: -

White Ensigns - ARNO* HQ has suitable flags for ceremonial occasions including funerals. These can be provided free (except for postage & packaging) to ARNO members and for a nominal charge to non-members subject to a refundable £50 deposit.

*The Association of Royal Navy Officers – see www.arno.org.uk to join.

Committal of Ashes – Portsmouth, Devonport & Clyde Naval Bases provide this service, subject to weather conditions, on a regular basis. These are provided free of charge except for casks, which must be biodegradable. A limited number of family, friends and

relatives are also able to attend. For full information and details contact: -

Ports'mth 02392 723000
Devo'port 01752 555931
Clyde 01436 674321
Ext.6150

Bugler

Any Veteran, who has served for 22 years or has a Campaign Medal, irrespective of rank or rate, is entitled free of charge to the service of a Bugler, at their funeral. This is of course subject to operational availability and commitments. In the first instance, enquiries are to be directed to The Royal Marines School of Music Tel: 02392 547553 or email: NAVYRMBAND-HQBSRMAENGCORD@MOD.UK

Veterans Gateway

The first point of contact for veterans and their families seeking advice or to be put in contact with the correct organisations.

Call 0808 802 1212
support.veteransgateway.ork.uk

A team of expert advisors are there to help and can be contacted 24 hours a day.

Membership

Facts & Figures 01/03/18

3 Honorary Members
31 Life Members
242 Members
276 *Total Membership*

Committee meetings are every two months at 19:00 (3rd Thursdays bi-monthly) and all are welcome to attend if in the area: -

17th May
19th July
20th September
15th November

Meetings are held at the Gosport & Fareham Royal Naval Association, 66 Fareham Road, Gosport, Hants. PO13 0AG.
Tel: 023 9258 8885



Grand National – Saturday 14th April '18

Enclosed you will find a minimum of two books (5 tickets per book) with the cost of £1.00 per ticket.

Whether you purchase the tickets yourselves or not, please endeavour to sell them all to relatives, friends or colleagues, as it is the net revenue from their sale that keeps the RNWA financially viable to continue for the future

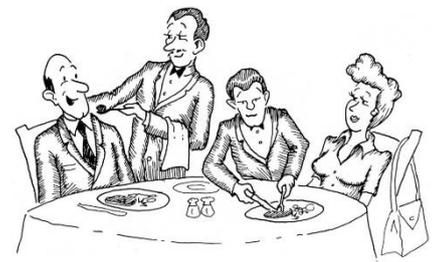
Tuesday 10th April a meeting will be held for the Grand National Draw which will be held at the Secretary's address. All persons drawing a horse will be notified in writing by post / email / 'phone by Friday 13th April 2018. *Note:* Last date to receive draw stubs for entry is Monday 9th April 2018!



Great news! The RNWA has advanced into the 21st Century and joined the age of financial technology by opening a new account (changing from HSBC) to obtain an online business account the details of which are Lloyds Bank (Oldham) sort code 30-96-26 a/c no. 34521468 a/c name RNWA.

When making an online payment please complete the reference box with Surname plus e.g. Din, Mem, GN (Din = Dinner, Mem = membership and GN = Grand National), so the Treasurer & Secretary knows the reason and contents of the payment

As at 25th February 2018 the Lloyds account was £3,300.00 with £20+ in the HSBC account until it is closed in April 2018.



"Great service!"

131st Reunion Dinner The Royal Beach Hotel Friday 12th October 2018

The dinner sees the return to Southsea, having been held at the UJC London for the past two years which also proved popular.

The Second Sea Lord (2SL) & Chief of Naval Personnel & Training newly appointed Vice Admiral Anthony 'Tony' Radakin has been invited to be the Guest of Honour – TBC April 2018

RNWA members Mike Coombes OBE of Blackheath and Andrew Whitfield of Hamble will also be present as complimentary guests to receive their Life Members certificates from the GOH.

Enclosed is an application form to attend. Choices for a three-course menu at a cost of £30 & £40 for members and guests.

Les Heyhoe BCav
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The Secretary & Membership

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