



THE PLYMOUTH VETERAN

**JOURNAL OF THE FEDERATION OF PLYMOUTH AND
DISTRICT EX-SERVICES ASSOCIATIONS**

Welcome to the 54th edition of the Journal.

The journal is not only for the officers of Associations but also Association members so we ask you to give it as wide a distribution as possible to members and anyone else you think might be interested.

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This is my first production of the Journal following the previous editor Richard Walker standing down due to family and domestic commitments. Richard did a great job in producing 53 editions. He will be a hard act to follow but as Chairman I will do my best until a volunteer steps forward to take on the task. Like Richard I need your support in the submission of material.

PAST EVENTS

Sunshine Squadron Annual Meeting:

On 4th March the Second Submarine Squadron held its 16th annual meeting at Oak Villa Social Club, Weston Mill. We have around 400 members on our books, over 200 attended this meeting. The aim is for all members to get together and enjoy a social day and raise money for local charities. Over £700 was raised this year and the money will go To “Jack & Jill” children’s pre-school and to The Merchant Navy Memorial. The event was organised by Billy Dobson with assistance from the Submariners Association. Next year’s event will take place at the same venue the first Saturday in March. Here’s a couple of groups enjoying themselves





Mrs Jo Jenkins receiving the donation on behalf of “Jack N Jill” from Mr Billy Dobson.

Navy Weekend: Every year the Local HMS Ganges Association have a weekend in Torquay under the title of ‘Guzz Weekend’. It pulls in likeminded ex-service people from across the country to have a good time spinning yarns about old times, enjoying the companionship and some good entertainment provided by professional and the Ships Own Dram Society (Sods Opera) This year it was attended by some Federation Delegates who recently became Associate Members and thoroughly enjoyed the experience especially the traditional RN ‘Up Spirits’ the issue of naval rum.



1917 Death of Russian Sailor: Russian Navy Stoker Petr Orgorelkov from the Battle Cruiser ASKOLD died in Stonehouse Royal Navy Hospital Plymouth and was buried in Ford park cemetery. The Father of Rosemary Southward found the grave some years ago when helping to clear the then neglected grave yard from brambles etc. and took on the task of keeping it tidy. Following the death of Rose’s dad she carried on the good work and this year being the 100th anniversary of Petr’s death organized a special event. There was a good turnout of Federation Standards under the

control of Jerry the Federation Parade Marshall. Plymouths Lord Mayor Councilor Pauline Murphy along with Russian Naval Captain Igor Elgin in attendance.



Mayflower 400 : The Federation was requested by those responsible for organising the Mayflower 400 project, 'Destination Plymouth' to lay on a small ceremony at the American D Day Memorial under the Tamar Bridge in order to give the American Ambassadors representative Mr. Lukens, who was visiting Plymouth in readiness for the event some idea of what can be done at this particular site. In response some Standards were paraded in the company of a few of our veterans and wreaths laid. The organiser kindly arranged for refreshments in the Albert Bridge Inn Pub following the successful event and the Ambassador Representative seem suitably impressed and chatted to many of us during the refreshments. I did buy him an English Beer (Jail Ale) and presented him with a Federation pin badge. Being ever the diplomat he immediately pinned on his lapel and drank the beer.



DIARY OF EVENTS FOR 2017

The **Federation Events Dairy 2017** If you know the details of any event you are planning then please let the Federation know so that it can be included in this document. Here are next two month's events for your information.

Confirmed events are shown in BOLD. Events awaiting information will be shown in normal type and *Completed events are shown in ITALICS*

APRIL

- Thur 6** **1900. Devonport Naval Heritage Centre. Maritime Heritage Talks series. Janice Cawthorn and Barbie Thompson-independent researchers. "Slanguage: the rich heritage of naval slang and language". See Note 1 below.**
- Sat 8** **1845 for 1900 start. RNRM Riding Stables Charity Dinner and Dance in the splendid surroundings of the Wardroom HMS DRAKE. Three course meal with wine at the table. Charity auction and raffle. Tickets £45 each-contact Stables Chairman Cathie Gillespie 01752 727 038 or 07766 073 925**
- Fri 21** **Her Majesty the Queen's Birthday**
- Sun 23** **1000. Lord Mayor's Civic Church Service. St Paul's Church, Efford Lane.**
- Fri 28** **1200. Millbay. Plymouth Merchant Seafarers Association will hold a Commemorative Service marking the 105th Anniversary of the landing of survivors from the TITANIC at Millbay Docks. Merchant Navy Standard on parade.**
- Sun 30** **1430. Annual Memorial Service at the Tank Memorial Site at Torcross, Devon, for those who lost their lives during Exercise Tiger at Slapton Sands on 28 April 1944. See www.Exercisetigermemorial.co.uk STANDARDS REQUESTED: ASSEMBLE 1400**

MAY

- Sat 6 May** **PLYMOUTH HISTORY FESTIVAL 2017**
- Sun 4 June **An annual celebration of the Plymouth great heritage. The Festival programme includes a range of exhibitions, displays, special events and family activities. It also features guided walks, illustrated talks and behind-the-scenes tours. Venues range from libraries, community halls and churches to country houses and historic landmarks. For full information on this impressive History festival see: www.plymhistoryfest.wordpress.com**
- Thur 11** **1900. Devonport Naval Heritage Centre. Maritime Heritage Talks series. Paul Burkhalter-independent researcher. "Devonport Dockyard Railway" See Note 1 below.**

- Fri 19** **1030. Lord Mayor of Plymouth Choosing. Plymouth Guildhall**
STANDARDS REQUESTED: ASEMBLE 1000
- Fri 19** **1930 for 2000. Lord Mayor of Plymouth Choosing Dinner, Holiday Inn,**
Plymouth.
- Sun 21** **1030. Lord Mayor of Plymouth Civic Church Service, Minster Church of**
St Andrew, Plymouth.
STANDARDS REQUESTED. ASSEMBLE AT 1000
- Fri 26** **1200 Memorial Service at the US Naval Memorial Tamar Bridge, Car**
Park.
STANDARDS REQUESTED; ASSEMBLE 1130
- Sat 27** **1200. Plymouth Lord Mayor's Festival. Plymouth City Centre.**

JUNE

- Sat 3** **SSAFA Ball, Royal Marine Barracks, Stonehouse. Details 01752 553 414**
or Plymouth@ssafa.org.uk
- Tue 6** **1100. Commemoration at the Normandy Veterans Memorial, Belvedere**
Gardens,
The Hoe, Plymouth.
STANDARDS REQUESTED 1030
- Thur 8** **Devonport Naval Heritage Centre. Maritime Heritage talks series.**
Professor Bob Stone-Director, Human Interface Technology Team,
University of Birmingham. "Exploring Naval Heritage with Virtual
Reality".
See note 1 below.
- Sat 10** **Her Majesty the Queen's Official Birthday. Birthday of Prince Philip**
Duke of Edinburgh
- Door of Unity Service, Minster Church of St Andrew, Plymouth.
RN, RM & MN STANDARDS REQUESTED. Details to be announced
- Royal Navy Mass with the RC Bishop of the Armed Forces. Roman Catholic
Cathedral, Plymouth. Details to be announced.
- Wed 14** **1930. South Atlantic Medal Association (1982) SAMA 82 Charity Band**
Concert at the Minster Church of St Andrew, Plymouth featuring the
Band of HM Royal Marines. The concert will be followed by a Drumhead
Service.
Tickets at £15 from www.theticketstore.co.uk
STANDARDS REQUESTED: ASSEMBLE 1900
- Sat 17** **Armed Forces Day Exeter.**
- Mon 19** **1000. Plymouth Armed Forces Day Flag Raising Ceremony, Guildhall**
Flag Poles.
STANDARDS REQUESTED. ASSEMBLE 0930

Wed 21 **1930. A concert by Plymouth Sound House Brass in aid of the Poppy Appeal at St Mary's Church, Market Road, Plympton. Doors open 1900. Tickets £6 available from the Plympton Royal British Legion Club from 1 May. Contact 01752 343771**

Sat 24 **The National Armed Forces Day at Liverpool.**

Sat 24 **PLYMOUTH ARMED FORCES DAY-PLYMOUTH HOE**
A big thank you to the Armed Forces, their families and our veterans. Raise awareness of and support for our Armed Forces community and celebrate the outstanding contribution it makes to our country.
Armed Forces Day Full details to be announced and will include:
The RAF and Allied Air Forces Monument Service.
Devonport Field Gun Association Junior Field Gun Tournament.
STANDARDS REQUESTED. DETAILS & ASSEMBLY TIME TO BE ANNOUNCED.

Sat 24 **SEAFARERS AWARENESS WEEK. Themes - "Maritime jobs at Sea and**
-Fri 30 **Ashore" and "Sea Ports for prosperity". The focus will be on promoting maritime and marine employment opportunities including the UK's thriving ports industry.**
The week will also mark the 100th Anniversary of Seafarers UK (King George V Fund for Sailors) See WWW.seafarersawarenessweek.org

July onwards will be published in next issue. If you need full year it is on the web site.

THE FEDERATION WEBSITE

The Federation website is worth checking out, here is the web address www.fedexservicesassoc.co.uk. We now have lots of photos and other information on the website including the Diary of events.