



Royal Naval Association Southern Ontario Branch

AHOY SHIPMATE

Patron – Her Majesty The Queen

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Attention
On Deck!

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TRAFALGAR LUNCHEON

WILL BE HELD AT

TUCKER'S MARKETPLACE

(Eglinton & Warden, Scarborough). @ 1315 hrs on
SATURDAY OCTOBER 24, 2009.

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*Tucker's Marketplace is
a buffet.
Luncheon is reasonably
priced.*

AHOY
SHIPMATE!



EDITORIAL*By Shipmate John Barrett*

Hi Shipmates,

November 11 is Remembrance Day.

The RNA will be running the services for Remembrance Day at the Eagles Club 17 Elm St Toronto, on Wednesday November 11; official programme will start at 1300 (1:00pm), Blues and Greys .

Now I regret to inform everyone that I must submit my resignation from both the editorship of Ahoy Shipmate and as Membership Director effective immediately.

Just after I returned from Montreal, I discovered that my Sympatico server (Bell Canada) had stopped supporting Netscape Communicator, I could no longer access any e-mail files. The next day I could no longer send any e-mails on Hotmail and my C D burner gave up the ghost. I can only read my Hotmail, and use my computer to type letters. I am hoping to have the Ahoy downloaded to a 3.5" Floppy then transferred to a CD then e-mailed out by somebody that can read it. I was explaining the problem to S/M Jack Mac Quarrie and he tried valiantly to get me to stay on but I realized that having spent many hours attempting to recover, my blood pressure was very high my temper was short and I did not wish to have a heart attack or another stroke because of this. I of course will stay on as an Associate member of the RNA, I've been one since November 1983 and I like the association and what it stands for, very much. I am truly sorry to leave the Association in a lurch but my health comes first.

Thank You S/M John Barrett

SCRIBES SCRIBLES*By Shipmate Jack MacQuarrie*

Hi Shipmates;

When the Southern Ontario Branch visited the Buffalo Naval Park in the summer of 2008, I asked our guide if he had any information on paddle wheel aircraft carriers in the U. S. Navy during WWII. Neither he nor his colleagues had any knowledge of such strange vessels. They assured me that no such peculiar anomalies ever existed.

Have there ever been such oddities? If so, why paddle wheels instead of propellers? Where would they have operated and what role might they have played? Can you imagine a paddle wheel ship in a modern navy? Who would be assigned the responsibility for the maintenance of that part of the propulsion system? Interested? Stay tuned.

More to come in the next issue of AHOY.

Dates for your Diary.

October 4th – Veterans parade at Ajax.

October 24th – Battle of Trafalgar lunch at Tuckers Marketplace in Scarborough.

November 5th – Remembrance band concert at Hammerson Hall in Mississauga.

November 8th – Remembrance parade and drum head church service in Cobourg.

November 11th – Remembrance services in Toronto and at the Eagles Club.

November 27th – General meeting – Venue to be announced

December 12th – Christmas lunch - Venue to be announced

March 2010 – First General Meeting of the new year.

Chairman's Chat

By Shipmate David Kemp

Hi Shipmates:

So now you have done your summer traveling and you are getting ready for the winter season. But we haven't finished yet. You will see in Jeans' report a variety of things you could be involved in. One reminder that is missing is our annual visit to Cobourg for our remembrance service and parade with the Royal Marine Association on Sunday November 8th. You don't have to march through the centre of town as your support is what is most important. The parade is followed by the drum head remembrance service in St. Peters' Church just up from the local Cenotaph where we will lay memorial wreaths.

As you all know we lost our home at the Naval Club in Hayden Street when it was sold for redevelopment, and then the plan was to join them at their new home on Danforth Avenue, but unfortunately that fell down and is now a hole in the ground. Now there is a possibility that a vacant restaurant at Gerrard and Woodbine could become the new home of the Naval Club and of course we would join them and make it our home as well. As soon as we know more we will let you know.

With our Battle of Trafalgar lunch just around the corner we are planning to have a guest of honour from the UK. Chris Dovey and his wife Gail are planning to join us for the lunch. Chris is the newly elected National Vice Chairman of the RNA and is looking forward to meeting as many Shipmates as possible. Chris and Gail are visiting their son who lives in Burlington. So please let's have a good show for the National Council representative. Chris last visited us some two years ago when we were at the Naval Club.

Jean and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Vice Chairman's Chat

By Shipmate Don Ashfield

Hi! Shipmates,

Once again our thanks go out to Shipmate Noel McKinstry for another great trip to the Toronto Zoo, with 12 other shipmates we paraded at 0930hrs on Monday 14th Sept. We all had a great time, the weather was fantastic and for those who did not come you missed a great day. Our thanks also go Noel's merry helpers and zoo volunteers Zel Boknek, Helen Hugget, Doug Grigsby and Ken Ardill with the camera, who escorted us on our trip.

After our last general meeting at the Eagles Club I think all of the Executive was disappointed with the attendance. Only 13 shipmates, which included the Executive, attended. With changing the meeting venue we did hope for a better turnout. Maybe we the Executive should look at holding the general meetings on a different day and time. The majority of members are now retired so Friday evenings may not be the best of times to meet. I would appreciate some feedback as to any particular day or time that members think would be better to meet at. We do appreciate that since leaving Branch 345 we are again in limbo as to a meeting venue but we were getting better turnouts at Branch 345 than at the last meeting at the Eagles Club.

Our meeting venue may soon be solved. We have news that the Toronto Naval Club have another place in mind and that they could be up and running, if the place is purchased, by December. We have had great times combining with the Naval Club and I see no reason why this would not continue.

We are canceling the General Meeting on 23rd October due to holding the Trafalgar Lunch the following day 24th October at Tuckers. We had a great lunch at this place for our 25th Anniversary in July and the turnout was great. The cost was very reasonable and the food fantastic and plenty of laughs so let us know that you will be attending.

Once again what do you the members think of a change in the time and day for our General Meetings. Give us some feedback so we can look at all the possibilities and make a decision? We need some input so let's hear from you.

Another General Meeting time, date and place will be circulated once that decision has been made.

Since I'm sleeping with your wife, could we split the costs of our meals? Oh, and I'll need a receipt.

Did you know that Lord Nelson shared the considerable costs of pleasing his mistress, with her husband when the three of them lived together? Newly uncovered documents show. Sir William Hamilton became one of Britain's most famous cuckolds when, he moved with his much younger wife, Lady Emma Hamilton, into the Nelson house in Merton, South London in 1801.

A set of 16 household accounts covering the period of a most unusual domestic arrangement went up for auction in June showing that Lord Nelson and Sir William split many bills evenly.

They paid out the Canadian equivalent of about \$ 280—(about \$19,800 in today's money) to local tradesmen for treats such as fresh meats and oysters to which Lady Hamilton was particularly partial.

The total auction went for an astounding \$3,075,837 Canadian. The name of the buyer was not given

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1 ON THE POP CHARTS IN BRITAIN

At 92, Dame Vera Lynn has beaten the *Arctic Monkeys* and even the *Beatles* to capture the No. 1 record in Britain. The singer became the oldest living artist to have a No. 1 record in Britain yesterday (September 16, 2009) when her album *We'll Meet Again – The Very Best of Vera Lynn* took the top spot.

Toronto Star 09.17.09

♪ Thanks For The Memories ♪

Thanks for the memories
At ten to twelve each noon
Since the Navy first began
Jack drinks the health of Nelson
From England to Japan
Oh, thank you so much.
♪Thanks for the memories.♪

He's always done his duty
To country and the throne
And all he asks in fairness
Is leave his tot alone
Oh, thank you so much.
♪Thanks for the memories.♪

All hands to "splice the main brace" call
But splice it now in sorrow
For the spirit key will be laid away
Forever on the morrow
Oh thank you so much.
♪Thanks for the memories.♪

And now arrives that
Jovial night when Jack carouses
When over the grog, all hands delight
To toast their sweethearts and their
spouse
Oh thank you so much.
♪Thanks for the memories.♪

And so the time has come when old
friends
Come to take a final sip
Our tears are shed, this is the end
Goodbye and bottoms up
Oh thank you so much.
♪Thanks for the memories.♪

"Tally ho, Tally ho"
"Yours wiv respek"

S/M Ron Douglas



WELFARE REPORT.

By S/M Zara Cumming

Hi Shipmates,

If you know of anyone under the weather give S/M Zara a call

S/M Bill Powell is not well with recurring problems with his ankle. He has a nurse coming in to his home twice a week.

S/M Ray Gibson has moved from Oshawa Hospital to a nursing home in Burlington.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

By S/M John Barrett

There are no changes from last report. We still show-

Life 5
Full 42
Associates 15
Fraternal 6
Delinquent 14

Remember, unpaid members will be carried on the books until March 31, 2010 at which time they will be permanently removed from file.

If you would like a prompt reply and receipt with your subscription, please include a SASE (self addressed stamped envelope with your dues.

THIS WILL CUT OUR COSTS CONSIDERABLY

STOP PRESS

Welcome to S/M Bill Murray, Member of National Council and Honourable Secretary of the Chatham branch, as the new overseas representative. We shall certainly maintain contact with him via e-mail.

SOCIAL REPORT

By Shipmate Jean Kemp

Hi Shipmates

Our trip on **September 14th** to the Toronto Zoo we all met at 9.30am and Noel McKinstry was waiting for us with our volunteer guides, they were great and full of knowledge. It was a great day.

The Polar Bears are back two females and one male. The area they were in has been enlarged which is great, and you can still go and see them swimming under the water and they come right up to you. The Arctic Wolves also have a new home, right across from the Polar Bears – I counted six of the beautiful animals. The Stingrays were back again and this time were accompanied by five sharks.

Sunday October 4th – We have been invited by the Town of Ajax & the Legion – to participate in the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of the River Plate, with other veterans. The route is about a block – down to Veteran Point Garden where they will unveil an Obelisk. You are all welcome to go to Ajax. Hope to see you.

Saturday October 24th – Trafalgar Lunch will be at the Tuckers Marketplace – on the corner of Eglinton & Warden, first entrance on West side of Warden, 880 Warden Ave. Time 1.15, cost \$13.99 plus tax. The manager has told us that we could take a couple of flags.

Please contact either Zara (416-449-1961) or me (519-927-9859) before October 20th as the restaurant needs the numbers. We have 27 so far, hope you can make it.

Thursday November 5th – Remembrance & Support For Our Armed Forces @ Hammerson Hall, Living Arts Centre Mississauga. The Windjammers, a 40 piece wind ensemble conducted by Retired Colonel Harry Currie, presents a moving Remembrance Day tribute. A Variety of musical selections from Glen Miller, Duke Ellington, to the film score Saving Private Ryan along with songs and medleys from World War 1, this concert Will truly honour our Canadian Armed Forces. A portion of the proceeds from this concert will be donated to the Military Families Fund. (Orchestra \$30 – Dress Circle \$20 – Balcony \$10)

Wednesday November 11th – Remembrance at the Eagles Club of Toronto for the Remembrance Service with the Naval Club. 12 noon for 1pm Service.

Hope you enjoyed your summer, too much rain for me. Hope to see you all soon.

JOHN RADFORD M.M.
ROYAL MARINE



ADMIRALTY

Whitehall, London S.W.I.
 20th December 1963.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards for gallant and distinguished services in operations in Borneo Territories during the period 24th December 1962 to 23rd June 1963:

The Military Medal

Marine (Acting Lance Corporal)
 Douglas John Radford, R. M. 19037,
 Royal Marines.

Marine (Acting Lance Corporal)
 Radford was on active service with
 40

Commando Royal Marines in
 Sarawak from March to May 1963.
 On 23rd April he was in charge of a
 Surveillance Patrol of Five men and
 a policeman in a school hut just
 outside Kampong Gumbang, close to
 the Indonesian border.

In the early hours of the morning,
 in particularly dark and misty

conditions, his outpost was attacked
 by about eight men using grenades,
 shotguns and automatic weapons,
 backed up by a further thirty armed
 men.

Although surrounded and in a
 position difficult to defend, Marine
 Radford rallied his men, one of
 whom was wounded. By his
 coolness and determination he drove
 the enemy back, inflicted several
 casualties and prevented his small
 force from being over-run by
 superior numbers. Subsequent
 intelligence revealed they the enemy
 suffered five casualties, two of whom
 died.

By his gallant and distinguished
 service in the face of an enemy attack
 in superior numbers Marine Radford
 set a fine example. It was largely
 due to the steadiness and confidence
 of this young non-commissioned
 officer that the people in the area
 hold the British soldier in such
 regard as a fighting man.

Mention in Dispatches

Second Lieutenant (Acting
 Lieutenant) James Nigel Best, Royal
 Marines.

Sergeant Dennis Smith, R.M
 7626 Royal Marines.

& & & & & & & & & &

Do you have any memories or stories you'd
 like to see in Ahoy? Want to swing the
 lamp in print?
 Send them to the editor, try to put them in a
 file, OR print neatly.



"COOKS TO
THE
GALLEY"

Corn Bread

- ¾ Cup - Corn Meal
- 4 Tbsp - Sugar
- ½ Tsp - Salt (or less)
- 1¼ Cups - Flour
- 3 Tsp - Baking Powder

Sift together dry ingredients

- 2 - Eggs
- 1 Cup - Milk
- 2 Tbsp - Melted Butter

Beat these ingredients, then add to dry mixture and further beat all ingredients.

Grease a small pan with shortening or PAM, pour in batter into a loaf tin and bake in a pre heated oven, 350° for 15 min. Stick a wooden toothpick into the Corn Bread to check if done.

From the kitchen of:
S/M Zara Cumming

We have tentative plans for Christmas Luncheon on December 12.

Venue is yet to be decided on.

(Maybe the new Naval Club will be up and running)

News from the UK. (News from Old Montreal)

Donna and I took a little trip to Montreal after Labour Day when the crowds would be gone and I confirmed something I've been aware of all my life but just took for granted. I thought you might like to know what we found.

In the old part of Montreal, in the solid French core, directly across the street from City Hall (*Hotel de Ville*), kitty corner from the *Palais du Justice*, is Jacques Cartier Square. An old cobble stoned area of very narrow streets crammed with small and quaint French restaurants and art galleries. At the top of this square overlooking the harbour and maintaining the peace and serenity of the heart of French Montreal is a Statue of Lord Nelson, commemorating his victory at Trafalgar. I kid you not.



On the base is carved the following.

On the 21st Oct. 1806 the British fleet of sail of the line commanded by The Right Honourable Admiral Lord Viscount Nelson, Duke of Bronte attacked off Trafalgar the combined fleet of France and Spain. Sail of the line commanded by Admirals Villeneuve and Cravina. When the latter were defeated with the loss of 19 sail of the line captured and destroyed in this memorable action his country has to lament the loss of her greatest naval hero but not a single ship.



**BIRTHDAY BOYS & GIRLS
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
TO YOU ALL!**

October: *John Barrett, Al Corry,
Hugh Davies, Terry Heaps, Ed Hughes.*

November: *Oral England, Dorothy
Jones, Jack Mayes,*



My Worst Day at Sea

One of my naval appointments was involved with all the submarines refitting in the UK. At the end of a refit the boats would have about three separate days at sea to check that all systems were satisfactory. I would join the boats to do the acceptance of electrical systems. The ship's company would be on board along with some dockyard mateys, me, and my marine engineer oppo.

The boat was not fully equipped for sea at this stage. For example, only a few sailors spent the night on board. The sailors actually did not live in the barracks. They lived in Aggie Weston's, the Sailors rest etc. So when it came to going to sea after a year's refit and modification, conditions in the boat were most sparse. No bunks, no food, rum yes. Food was arranged some how for the ships company; and the mateys brought their own. In other words all needs had to be organized by someone in order that all could survive each of the three days of trials.

The system worked well in all the boats in which I did the trials. The problem boat, in this refit, was in Plymouth, but please forgive me, after thirty eight years of retirement I can not remember the boat's name. It was an "A" class.

We slipped at about 0800 and all surface related systems were checked. After all, a year had passed since decommissioning. All was well and the boat dived. That too went well. But, a BIG BUT, a sailor came to the Control Room and asked where the TOILET PAPER was? It had been forgotten in the whole context of short periods at sea!! We had none!!!!

What an uncomfortable day. You readers can guess the problems it created. A couple of newspapers, a signal pad or two, underwear etc. etc. Yes, my worst day at sea. The next day one could not find toilet paper in Plymouth; the population was hurting

I won't continue because I need to rush to the Heads!

Memories From S/M Terry Sullivan

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