



ROYAL NAVAL PATROL SERVICE ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER No. 73 Winter 2012

POSTAL ADDRESS and HEADQUARTERS

Royal Naval Patrol Service Association
Naval Museum, Sparrows Nest,
Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 1XG

Charity No. 273148

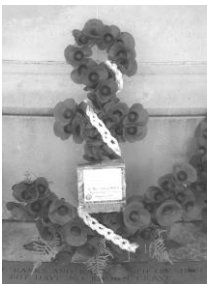
Tel: 01502 586250

E-mail: rnps_hq@lowestoft.org.uk

Well, the 37th annual reunion is now behind us and Christmas is fast approaching. You have to ask yourself where does the time go. The year has seen some highs and lows but in true Harry Tate style we have come out the other end smiling and ready to face whatever the future throws at us.

We hope that the following collection of photographs give you a flavour of the reunion and in some way help those who were unable to attend to still feel part of it.

Reunion 2012



The act of remembrance



Members in reflective mood



*The official party take the salute
at the march past*



*Vice Chairman, Charlie Harris, leads the
Ship's Company at the march past while
CPO Manners barks out the order
"Eyes Right"*



President, Cdr. Garry Titmus, addresses the parade after the march past while our Padre Rev. Jim Izzard watches for those not paying attention.



The young sailors hang on their Captain's every word

Reunion report

The first event, as usual, was the AGM which was held on the Friday afternoon at Trinity Methodist Church. The National Standard was marched in and accepted by the President. The blessing and the exhortation were given. The minutes of the previous AGM were circulated and it was proposed that they be taken as read. With no matters arising the meeting moved on to matters for discussion. John Street talked about the future of the RNPSA and that a note was put into the Newsletter asking for ideas and views and only one reply was received. Leo Whisstock said that he wanted to put an end to any rumours that were going around about the Association closing. He assured everyone that neither the Association or Museum would not be closing and would remain open for as long as the members wanted. The membership of RNPSA members has dropped to about 400 and the number of members able to attend the Reunions is also dropping. Leo also mentioned that the Western Front Association (a First World War Association) still existed but as a Research Tool so that their memory can be kept alive. It is hoped that similarly the RNPSA Association and Museum will remain open so that its memory can be kept alive by being a source of research. Leo asked if anyone had any comments. Leo hoped that members will back the Committee in whatever is decided. The view of everyone attending the AGM seemed to want the Association to carry on. The members also wished the dinner to carry on as the reunion benefited from the dinner and raffle.

Ted Thompson said that no decision had to be made at this AGM but asked everyone to go away and think about the Association and let the Committee have any comments or suggestions. A proposal would be put in the Spring Newsletter which would be put to next year's AGM in the proper manner.

The President, Secretary and Chairman gave their annual reports, all mentioning the sad passing of John Dunn and the void we are still trying to fill. The Treasurer, Ted Thompson, gave the financial report in depth and took questions. The Curator, Standard Bearer and Welfare Officer gave their reports and then the Officers & Committee were re elected en bloc. The meeting was then told of the 2013 reunion being on Friday 4th October for the AGM and dinner and Saturday 5th October for the Service in Belle Vue Park. The Standard was recovered and the meeting was closed.

The Friday evening was the annual dinner which again was held at the Hatfield Hotel which seemed appropriate as the Hotel had been used by the RNPS during the war to billet officers, in fact my father stayed there for a while whilst serving in Lowestoft before being drafted to the Med. This year we did not have a RN guest of honour but decided to keep it "local" with our President Cdr. Garry Titmus and Vice President Cdr. David Braybrooke representing the Association and Deputy Mayor of Lowestoft Cllr. June Ford representing the local area. In one way there was a guest of honour, in all the years I have been associated with our Association (24) John Dunn never sat on the top table saying there were others more important than him. At this year's dinner an extra place was laid on the top table and a framed photograph of John was placed there – we got you there eventually John. A very pleasant meal was enjoyed and afterwards music was provided by Harbour Lights and the annual draw and raffle were drawn.

Saturday morning saw a bright day for the service in Belle Vue Park and just before 11am the Standards and a small marching contingent moved into position by the memorial. National Padre Rev Jim Izzard and local Padre Tim Jenkins took the service and the official party included Cdr. Garry Titmus, Cdr. David Braybrooke, Cllr, June Ford and Vice Chair of Waveney District Council Cllr. Paul Light.

After the service there was time for everyone to make their way down to the Sparrow's Nest Gardens before the short march past the saluting base. The President then addressed the assembled crowd in his usual style of reflection, wisdom and hope before accepting the Standard of the Midlands Branch which was being laid up and to be housed in our Museum. Sunset was then carried out and the parade dismissed.

After the official party had had their reception and all departed and everyone had made their way from the park I locked up and made my way down towards the car park. It was at this point I noticed a group of about 10 "sparrows" still sitting on the patio outside the new Italian restaurant in the grounds, I stopped for a chat – big mistake – they were just finishing the beer and starting on the rum, well there were tots and hip flasks all over the show. Suffice it to say that my wife, the Welfare Officer, drove me home – I can't wait until next year.

With numbers understandably down I hope this narrative gives those of you unable to attend a feel of the occasion and rest assured you were in our thoughts.

Reflection

Our web master and committee member Mike Sims wrote the following piece following John Dunn's funeral for the benefit of those who were unable to make the journey to Lowestoft

John Dunn's funeral took place on Tuesday, 19th June 2012 at 1.20pm at the Crematorium at Gorleston. It was a warm and sunny day and those attending gathered and reminisced outside and in the ante-room before moving into the chapel. A number of veterans of several services were present particularly those from the RN Patrol Service, other RN branches and the Royal Artillery.

The coffin, draped with the white ensign, was led into the chapel by the standards of the Royal Naval Patrol Service, Beccles Royal Naval Association, Royal British Legion, Sea Cadets Beccles, Royal Artillery and the Fleet Air Arm to the recorded sound of 'Calm is the Sea' by a male voice choir. There was just the one large square white wreath from his family on the coffin bearing the RNPS badge.

The service was led by the Association's Chaplain, Supt. James Izzard. After a brief introduction the 23rd Psalm (Crimond) was sung after which we all sat and the Association's Vice-President, Capt. Jon Scoles, OBE, RN (Rtd) read the lesson. After the lesson the Association's President, Commander Gary Titmus, RN (Rtd) gave his tribute to John, recalling a number of episodes from his personal experiences as well as relating some of the John Dunn folklore.

After prayers for the family came Supt. Jim Izzard's eulogy with an account of John's roots and life, some further recollections of John and a reading of 'A Sailor Died Today', based on A. Lawrence Vaincourt's poem and adapted to suit the occasion. We stood for the sailors hymn 'Eternal Father...' and after the Commendation and Committal came the Last Post and a full two minutes silence. The silence was broken by Reveille and then the Evening Hymn and Sunset.

Following the Grace, Supt. Izzard led the family out past the standards into the adjacent cloister followed by the rest of the congregation where many of the ex-service visitors were introduced to John Dunn's relations. John's relations then went on to hold their own private family wake and the ex-service visitors and friends of RNPSA moved back to Lowestoft and the grounds of Sparrows Nest, where an excellent light buffet and tots were served in the conservatory of Giardino's, a new restaurant there.

It was a moving funeral, a fitting tribute to John for his wartime service as well as for his support of the Association since. For those of us who were too young to have served in WW2 it was an apt reminder of how much we owe to those of his generation who did. Rest in peace, John.



John's resting place in Belle Vue Park

From the Treasurer – Ted Thompson

Shipmates, due to the costs incurred with the circulation of the news letters and general expenses, I have had to sort out the members who have not paid their subscriptions since 2009, if this applies to you please contact us so that we can sort it out. If there is no contact we can only presume that the shipmate has crossed the bar or has moved and can be taken out of the mailing list. Ted Thompson Treasurer.

Dawn will always Break

Many of you will have read this book by Allan Waller, but if not, copies are on sale from the Museum (shameless plug) and enjoyed a thoroughly good read. Allan crossed the bar earlier this year and our President, Cdr Titmus, was asked to speak at his funeral. Below is a synopsis of Allan's life written by Cdr. Titmus.

Allan Waller

Lieutenant Commander Allan Lansley Waller VRD* RNR, who has died aged 91, had the distinction and good fortune of surviving the sinking of most of the warships he served in with the Royal Navy and Royal Naval Patrol Service during World War 2. Mentioned in Dispatches and wounded twice, he was also the sole survivor of one of the most memorable actions of the little ships of the Royal Naval Patrol Service – the sinking of U-111 by the trawler LADY SHIRLEY. So many of the ships that he served in met with disaster that, at his principal base at Harwich, he was known as “the Jonah of Parkeston Quay” and even his best friends were reluctant to serve on the same ship with him. Perhaps those who gained most from his naval career were his naval tailors, who frequently and happily supplied him with replacement uniforms.

He was the Navigating Officer of HMT LADY SHIRLEY on 4th October 1941 whilst it was engaged on an antisubmarine patrol off the Canaries. Following a fleeting glimpse of a disappearing surface contact, the armed trawler closed the position and gained asdic contact. Waller's action station was at the depth charge station and a pattern was dropped, followed shortly after by the surfacing the U-boat 111. The captain of the LADY SHIRLEY set course to ram and a short but intense gun action took place that ended with the U-boat crew abandoning their vessel and the submarine sinking. To their consternation, the armed trawler's crew found that they were outnumbered by the German submariners they had rescued from the water. Sadly there were casualties on both sides resulting in burials at sea, before the LADY SHIRLEY returned to her home base at Gibraltar; to land her prisoners, carry out repairs resulting from the action and to send Sub Lieutenant Waller to hospital to treat his injuries from a previous



action. The success of LADY SHIRLEY's action was a rare bright spot in a generally dismal year for Great Britain in the Second World War.

Although born in Croydon to parents from Suffolk, Waller was, as he described in his book 'Dawn Will Always Break', almost brought up by longshore fishermen at Southwold. These early experiences engendered a life-long affinity with the sea. Joining the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve as a signalman in 1938, Waller was soon selected for a commission. He served in a host of ships, of which the following are notable: HMT AMETHYST which sank in ten minutes having struck a mine in November 1940; the Flower Class corvette HMS PRIMULA which was severely damaged following a collision during convoy duties; HMT TOURMALINE in action with E boats in January 1942 (for which Waller was mentioned in dispatches) and then wounded only two weeks later when the same ship was sunk by dive bombing; he was in hospital receiving treatment for damaged ear drums when his next ship the LADY SHIRLEY was torpedoed and sunk with all hands in November 1942 and later he survived the loss by grounding of the HMS SOUTHERN PRIDE off the coast of Liberia. He completed his active service in 1946, navigating LSTs in the Far East.

After the war he continued in the RNVR and Supplementary Reserve and, on amalgamation, the Royal Naval Reserve. Retiring at 60, he carried on in the Royal Naval Auxiliary Service, finally retiring at 65. Concurrently he also served as an Auxiliary Coastguard for 16 years at Lowestoft and Southwold. He died peacefully in Bury St Edmonds in his beloved Suffolk. He never married. Allan Lansley Waller born 19 November 1920, died 02 August 2012.

First visit – a letter received after the reunion

Dear Leo,

I am back home in Florida. I wanted to let you and your colleagues (June, Alf, your wife Bonnie and others) know how much Jeff Palmer (STOKER BYMS 2047), Leslie (his daughter) and I enjoyed ourselves at the Hatfield dinner on Friday night. We sat with a fantastic group of people, of which three were WW 2 veterans. Each of these 'Ironmen' had a story or two to tell (no bragging), all in a very modest way. Which I think is/was typical of the men of the RNPS. After dinner, during the singing of 'God save the Queen' I was sure Bonnie was singing 'My country ti's of thee'..(a reference to Bonnie being American and 'My country ti's of thee' being sung to the same tune as God Save the Queen, Ed) Please pass along my thanks to her. She was generous and gracious with her time and efforts over the weekend.

The following morning at the memorial service was no less enjoyable, a beautiful morning service and an early afternoon wandering around the museum. June signed me up as an associate member. Please give her my thanks for taking time out of her very busy day in order to dig up information on the BYMS 2047. She is a walking encyclopaedia for the RNPSA. I will send her some photographs that I have on a disc, passed onto me by Jeff Palmer and Syd Fenwick (both still with us and served on the BYMS 2047 in N. America).

Many thanks again for a wonderful weekend (we will try to make it back next year).
Richard Eagles, Florida, USA.



Richard Eagles and Jeff Palmer on their first visit

PS. If I can get up to Ocracoke Island I will let you know and would be honoured to represent the RNPSA at the memorial. (*This should please Patrick Griffiths – Ed*)

RNPS Memorial, National Memorial Arboretum

In August a service was held at the National Memorial Arboretum around our RNPS Memorial. Our President and Padre were in attendance and as in previous years the sun was out and it got quite hot. The Midlands branch again did all the organising for the occasion. It was pleasing to see John Hodge there which is proof that he is getting over his stroke quite well. S/M Arthur Ferris' family had bought a bench that was dedicated to his memory by Jim Izzard. It is a fine bench with an attractive RNPS plaque on it and sited ideally overlooking the river. With the Midlands Branch having now laid up their standard we will have to wait and see if a service will be held again in 2013. Hopefully the next newsletter will give us the answer.

Queenborough – HMS Wildfire III

At the beginning of September the annual parade and service took place in Queenborough to commemorate the wartime base of HMS Wildfire III. A small contingent from Lowestoft made the journey to Kent and our National Standard and the National Standard of the Ton Class Association led the parade. On this occasion our Standard was carried by my Assistant Standard Bearer, Alf Muffett, this was following advice from our Welfare Officer who advised me not to attend on health grounds – to explain, what she meant was that as it was our 40th wedding anniversary, if I attended she would give me a severe ear bashing! (bless her) so, taking her advice, on the Isle of Man at 2pm as the Queenborough service was due to start, we raised a glass in salute.

There is something about the combination of our Standard and Alf Muffett as on the few occasions he has stood in for me he always seems to attract the photographers, a fact he enjoys telling me. Those of you who are in the Royal Naval Association or have access to the internet, have a look at their publicity and also their web site www.royal-naval-association.co.uk/ and you will see photographs of both Alf Muffett and our parade marshal Len Manners as "the face of the RNA".



Alf in RNA publicity shot

RNPS / Silver badge files come to light – Part 4 - an expansion by G. A. Michael Sims

On delving deeper into the file about the Royal Naval Patrol Service silver badge copied from the National Archives we find it lays to rest some of the traditional folklore about the reason for the change of design of the badge, from the original pin type to the later four-eye type, with a rather more mundane account.

Traditionally the reason for the change was that badges of the original pin type were too easily detached from clothing. So many were being reported lost or stolen, when in fact many were probably being given away as sweetheart brooches, that the design was changed to make them more securely attached. The facts are a little different.

The initial production run in 1940 had been of 20,000 badges and by late September 1941 Commander of the Patrol Service Central Depot, Commodore Daniel de Pass, anticipated that the supply would be exhausted by the end of the month and he requested the Admiral Commanding Reserves for the supply of a further 10,000. He also noted that it was possible that there was 'a certain amount of trafficking in these badges' and suggested that future replacements, which could be obtained for sixpence, should be noted in the rating's pay book with the date of issue, date of replacement and issuing signature.

Certain minutes seeking Treasury approval then follow until a letter from the Royal Mint on 31st October, which states that while there is no problem with producing the badges, the contractors who supply the pins and catches are having difficulties in obtaining them. The reason for this is not given but it can only be assumed that the steel for pins is of a high quality, and it is known from other sources that high quality steel was in short supply and probably reserved for more warlike purposes.

Before the difficulty in the supply of pins and catches was resolved the Commander Minesweeping - Peterhead, Cdr. J. P. Dobson, submitted a suggestion, on 20th March 1942, that because of damage to clothing the Badge be remodelled with two eyes so that it could be sewn to the sleeve. This was amended to 'four small loops' by the Flag Officer-in-Charge - Aberdeen, so that the Badge would lie flatter, and submitted through the Commander-in-Chief - Rosyth to the Secretary of the Admiralty and recommended for the concurrence of Their Lordships, a copy being received by the Silver Badge Office at Lowestoft on 30th March 1942. There is also a copy of the concurrence of Commodore Daniel de Pass with this proposal.

Not surprisingly with such support subsequent badges were produced to this new pattern with four eyes which overcame the problem of the shortage of pins and helped to prevent damage to ratings' clothing. By 25th August 1942 there is a note that an initial supply of the new style badges has been received at Lowestoft.

There is correspondence in the file between the Naval Branch at the Admiralty and The Treasury about the recall of old style badges for exchange for the new, which was eventually agreed but only on a voluntary basis. Also in the file is a new Admiralty Fleet Order dated 3rd September 1942 amending the description of the Badge and specifying that it is to be sewn onto the sleeve, and on 4th March 1943 a new AFO incorporating the old Orders specifying the qualification for receipt of the badge as well as the new description.



As a matter of interest the initial production of 20,000 Badges had been achieved at a total cost of £569.00, of which £329.00 had been for the silver bullion and 50 guineas (1 guinea = £1.05) the design cost paid to Kruger Gray. There is no record of whether the cost of silver bullion had risen by the time the new style Badge was produced.

The pin that caused the problem

Lowestoft Bases

This may sound like a strange request but we need your help in trying to locate the war time bases in Lowestoft. We thought we knew but if you look through various books different locations are given. It may be that various buildings were used all under the umbrella name of the base or it could be that the base HQ moved.

For example, one book records HMS Minos as being 'in offices overlooking the trawl basin, near the Salvation Army Citadel' in Battery Green Road. Whereas another records HMS Minos as being in Waveney Road. It is thought that HMS Minos II was the original name of HMS Mantis so this may be part of the confusion. So if you served at HMS Minos, Minos II, Mantis, Myloden or Martello then we would like to hear from you and the buildings you remember so we can build up a better picture. We have had a couple of separate enquiries from people wishing to visit relatives former wartime locations.

How many of these did you take to a dance?

A shipmate sent me this photograph taken from a 2008 edition of "The Wren" magazine and shows a bevy of beauties (not the 4 men) at HMS Europa in 1945. I bet they could tell some stories and I bet some of you could as well but in the interests of marital harmony I think we will leave it there!! – but – if there is a story to tell then I am all ears – you can't beat a bit of gossip.



New Book

A new booklet about the RNPS has been published called "A brief history of the Royal Naval Patrol Service", it is by a local amateur publisher, John Holmes and is drawn from material from other publications plus personal conversations, recollections and photographs. It makes a good read and serves as a good overall introduction and over view to the work of the RNPS and the Association. The book is available from the Museum and is on the slops list in this newsletter priced £4.00.

? Is this the most westerly RNPS wreath ?

I pose this question because I found this photograph on the internet of Judith Richards, widow of S/M Jack Richards, laying a wreath on behalf of the RNPSA at Porthleven in Cornwall. The picture appeared in her local press although it was only described as "a wreath" rather than referring to the RNPS. Those of you who attend the annual reunions will know Judith as she is a regular attendee. She is a quietly spoken lady but easily recognised as she always proudly waves the distinctive Cornish flag at the end of the evening festivities. It is very heart warming to know that up and down the country individuals are prepared to pay their respects to our unique branch of the Royal Navy which all too often is not known about.



Corton Camp

S/M Derek Filer has sent me some information about one of our local Lowestoft holiday camps, namely Warners at Corton, part of the Bourne Leisure Group. It started life in 1924 as the Civil Service Clerical Association holiday camp and it would appear that during the war it was used by the RNPS and also possibly the army. I have to confess that this is news to me and so I am very keen to learn more especially as my son works there. So, if you were there or know any more about its war time use please get in touch with me.

Derek also posed a few other questions which may be of interest to those who spent some time in Lowestoft.

Q. Was the Eagle Brewery in Rant Score A. Yes it was

Q. What happened to Lowestoft North Station A. It went, along with the line from Lowestoft to Yarmouth, in the Beeching cuts

Q. Where does Lowestoft Town Football Club play A. Crown Meadow in Love Road.

Draw books

Thank you to all who purchased or sold the annual reunion draw tickets this year. It is the sale of these tickets that finance the reunion as it has always been the policy that the reunion should not draw on the Association's financial resources and again this year you have helped us maintain that situation.

This year is the first time that I can remember where 2 separate winners from last year's draw won again this year – can they make it a hat-trick next time?

Reunion 2012 – Reunion Draw Results

	Ticket	Winner		Ticket	Winner
1	16732	L Goodall, Dover, Kent	8	1619	Mrs p Kearney, Reading, Berks
2	0004	Mrs J Shirron, Aberdeen	9	0064	T Simcock, Havant, Hants
3	12440	S Parker	10	5317	Newport, Bath, Somerset
4	0123	Mr & Mrs M Smith, Northants	11	11459	J Dewell, Lowestoft, Suffolk
5	16926	E Allen, Liverpool, Merseyside	12	4753	J Goodwin, Leigh on Sea, Essex
6	8427	Mrs A Gibb, Oban	13	5103	A Goodwin, Leigh on Sea, Essex
7	0134	Mr & Mrs Smith, Glasgow	Congratulations to all the winners		

REMINDERS

Branch and member information

This is a well rehearsed request but nevertheless one that seems to fall by the wayside in a lot of cases. Can you please inform the Secretary at "The Nest" of any changes to your address etc. Each time we do a mailing run we get a lot returned by the Post Office marked "Not at this address". Can we again also remind all Branch Secretaries to keep HQ up to date on their membership records in all classes of membership such as Life, Associate and Widows.

Welfare

Our National Welfare Officer is there to try and help you, she cannot perform miracles but will do her best to address any problems. Bonnie's contact details are - Mrs Bonnie Whisstock, 133 Corton Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 4PR. Tel. 01502 584555 or via e-mail at bonnie@theharbour.fsbusiness.co.uk

Curator

If you are sending anything to the Museum can you please make sure you state if it is on loan or a gift as it helps with the cataloguing and any future claims to ownership and with photographs please give descriptions. Our pool of volunteers are gradually making headway with restoring, copying and documenting all the photographs which will hopefully make locating them in the museum much easier.

Museum visits

For information, the Museum and office are open Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings until about 11.30 (ish). What we do recommend is that if you are travelling some distance that you telephone a few days beforehand to either the office on 01502 586250 or my home on 01502 584555 or 07975623651 (**new No.**) and we can arrange, if necessary, to open up for you at a suitable time. When you do arrive at the top room of the Museum please turn to your right and wave!! as you will be on CCTV and those in the office can do with a laugh..

Service Personnel and Veterans Agency (SPVA)

The Veterans Agency is a very useful contact on all aspects of veterans affairs and don't forget that a veteran is anyone who has served in the armed forces, up to the present day, for at least 24 hours and not been dishonourably discharged. Their contact details are as follows:-

Freephone 0800 169 22 77 (UK only) BT Mobile, Orange, Virgin or 3 mobile, Customers will not be charged for the call by their provider. +44 1253 866043 (Overseas). 0800 169 34 58 Textphone facility (UK only)
Telephone lines are open: 8.15am to 5.15pm Monday to Thursday; and 8.15am to 4.30pm Friday.

By post:- Service Personnel and Veterans Agency

FREEPOST NAT18006

Norcross

Thornton Cleveleys

FY5 3ZA (1st Class) or FY5 3ZZ (2nd Class)

Website www.veterans-uk.info

Web sites

Don't forget, if you have access to a computer, to keep checking the 2 web sites connected to our Association which are: www.rnps.lowestoft.org.uk run by Mike Sims and www.harry-tates.org.uk run by Nick Clark. Both offer a wealth of information. There are also plenty of other sites where you can search for old oppos or look for things to do with the war and the Royal Navy. Nick is looking for anyone who can supply a story for his "Veterans Stories" section. Take a look at some of the photos, how did they get their hats to stay on "flat aback"?

Keep the odds and ends coming, they all make interesting reading. If you have any items for inclusion in the next Newsletter or comments on this one, please send them to me at , Leo Whisstock, 133 Corton Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 4PR. Tel. 01502 584555 or via e-mail at rnpsa@theharbour.fsbusiness.co.uk

We, here at "The Nest", wish every one of you out there the best Christmas and New Year possible and hope that we can remain in contact for many years to come.

Yours Aye, **The Duty Watch**

Shipmates Corner

If you do not have access to e-mail or you have information on any of the following enquiries that do not have contact details, then you can pass the information to me (Leo) at the address above **or** to Nick Clark, 174 Manton Crescent, Beeston, Nottingham NG9 2GA Tel: 077124 59257 (new number) or by E-mail at nickclark1961@googlemail.com or info@rnpatrolservice.org.uk

These requests are all from the Harry Tates web site so only an email is given for a contact. This means the individual who submitted the original request has to reply via email with further contact details, such as address and telephone number etc. Thought I best point this out for all the non silver surfers out there who don't have access to a computer! Of course they can contact me and I'll try and help'

Facebook and Twitter

Nick Clark has asked me to inform members that the Harry Tates Navy web site is now at last on twitter at: www.twitter.com/harrytatesnavy and that he has also created a brand new page on the popular facebook! www.facebook.com/RN.Patrol.Service All good exposure for the RNPS!

My wife and myself visited the RNPS museum recently and in conversation mentioned that my dad had been in digs at 66 Park Road with a family called **Sharman** who had a daughter called **Barbara** who was a wren. Apparently up to recently she came to the reunions. She probably got married and her surname changed. She and my dad were both stationed at the Sparrows Nest and I was hoping that she would have memories and maybe even photos of them. Dad was **Sidney Frank Lewis (Ginger)**, a wireman. Any information would be great.
Terry lou135@btinternet.com 0118 9326442

I am researching the war service of my late father-in-law, **Albert Edward Newby**, whose father was born in Benhall. Albert joined the Royal Navy as a volunteer early in WW2 and did his initial training at HMS Ganges, Shotley. He then went to HMS Pembroke in Chatham to learn his trade of writer. On completion he was posted to

HMS Minos in Lowestoft where he joined the Accountancy Branch, working in the Ledger Section of the Pay Office. (This is one of the "where is it" queries mentioned earlier – Ed).

I am trying to find some information about my father, **Frederick Ernest May** who was in the Royal Navy Patrol Service stationed at Lowestoft. He lived in Southwold, he joined on the 24th June 1940 and received the distinguished service medal that has been handed down to me and I would like to know what act of bravery he did to receive the medal. He was a very private man and never talked much on war matters. I would very much appreciate any information. Philp May. Paceleson@aol.com

Obituary for Winter 2012

S/M C S Barnes	Fulwood	Lancashire	S/M E W Munday	South Colney	Hertfordshire
S/M R H Couzens	Collyweston	Lincolnshire	S/M H Nixey	Port Colborn	Canada
S/M P R Ellis	Swinton	Yorkshire	S/M G B Stone	Perton	West Midlands
S/M R Ennals	Slough	Bucks	S/M D Tough	Newcastle	Tyne & Wear
S/M F J Evans	Weymouth	Dorset	S/M C G Vincent	Innisfil, Ontario	Canada
S/M N Langsdale	Ilkeston	Derbyshire	S/M A Waller	Bury St Edmunds	Suffolk
S/M J G Lichters	Cheltenham	Gloucestershire	(Author of Dawn Always Breaks)		

At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them



Cut ✂ -----

Slops Items for Sale from HQ (Winter 2012)

Item / Title	£	Qty	£	Item / Title	£	Qty	£
Europa Plaque	27.00			RNPSA Key rings	1.00		
Lg. Blazer Badge, Gold wire	12.00			Fridge Magnet	1.00		
Lg. Blazer Badge, Woven	6.50			RNPS Memorial Post Card	0.10		
Small Blazer Badge, Gold wire	8.00			Sparrows Nest Post Card	0.20		
Jumper / Cap Badges, Woven	4.00			RNPSA Colouring Poster	0.30		
Tie Tack, Chrome crested	6.00			RNPSA Multi Tool Key Ring	2.75		
Association Crested Tie	11.00			RNPSA Epaulettes (pair)	6.00		
V.J. Ties	2.00			Publications			
RNPSA 2013 Diary	1.00			Christmas cards - original	0.50		
Lapel Badge, Blue enamel	7.00			Christmas cards – clean sweep	0.50		
White Ensign Badge	3.50			HMS Europa Booklet	2.00		
White Ensign Car Sticker	0.50			Dawn Always Breaks	5.00		
RNPSA Car sticker, coloured	2.00			Churchill's Pirates Pt.1	5.25		
RNPSA Ladies head square	7.50			Churchill's Pirates Pt.2	4.50		
RNPSA Bookmark	0.75			A Brief History of the RNPS	4.00		
RNPSA Coin purse	1.00			Blue Mariners CD	4.00		
RNPSA Jubilee Mug	7.50			The Story of the RNPS, 2 CD set	5.00		
RNPSA Pocket address book	1.00						
RNPSA Museum pen	1.50			Total			
RNPSA Mug	4.00			P & P Small items	1.25		
RNPSA Coaster	1.50			P & P Large / Heavy items	2.50		

Amount Submitted £

Name _____ Membership No. _____
 Address _____
 _____ Post Code _____ Tel. No. _____

Please send payment and completed order form to:-
 Royal Naval Patrol Service Association, Naval Museum, Sparrows Nest, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 1XG