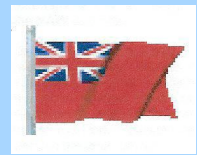




Merchant Navy Association (Wales)

# Newsletter



January 2009

Volume 1, Issue 15

## Dates for your Diary

2009

### Wednesday Feb 11<sup>h</sup>

Regular meeting at the RAFA Club, Ely at 2.30.p.m.

### March

St. Davids Day Service.  
Details to be announced.

### March

Seafarers UK Annual concert.  
Details to be announced

### Wednesday March 11<sup>th</sup>

Regular meeting at the RAFA Club, Ely at 2.30 p.m.

### Wednesday April 8<sup>th</sup>

Regular meeting at the RAFA Club, Ely at 2.30 p.m.

### Wednesday May 13<sup>th</sup>

**Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the RAFA Club, Ely at 2.30 p.m.**

### Wednesday June 10<sup>th</sup>

Regular meeting at the RAFA Club, Ely at 2.30 p.m.

### Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup>

Veterans Day at Coopers Field Cardiff.

### July

Sea Sunday down Cardiff Bay.  
Details to be announced.

### Wednesday July 8<sup>th</sup>

Regular meeting at the RAFA Club, Ely at 2.30 p.m.

### Wednesday Aug 12<sup>th</sup>

Regular meeting at the RAFA Club, Ely at 2.30 p.m.



*Happy New Year Shipmates.*

*Best wishes and plain sailing to you  
and yours for 2009*

## **Some of the Events at which our Standard was Paraded during 2008**

Our Annual Parade and Service in May, was attended by H.M. Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan Captain Sir Norman Lloyd-Edward, who later retired in June. We wish him well and offer our sincere thanks for his support during his time in office. We also welcomed the new Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Councillor Kate Lloyd and look forward to supporting her during her year in office.

September saw us supporting our shipmates at Remembrance Services in Swansea and Barry.

In October we attended the very moving service for the laying up of the Russian Convoy Club Standard at St Mary's Church, Butetown, and the Seafarers Service in Llandaff Cathedral, Cardiff.

November was an extremely busy month. John Mumford carried the Standard at the Annual Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance held at St Davids Hall, Cardiff on the 1<sup>st</sup> November and our thanks go to Brian Hammett and John Priddle for taking part in the muster. This was preceded by the Laying of Crosses at St John's Church. We also attended the Garden of Remembrance at Cathays Park Cardiff on the 5<sup>th</sup> November for the annual laying of Crosses and of course our own Remembrance Service on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> followed by the Civic Service on the Sunday.

## List of Ships

When you applied to join the Association, full members were asked to supply us with a list of the ships sailed in and the dates. Many of you did this but not all. As a result we now have a list of over 900 ships ranging from the Second World War to the present day. Information provided indicates that some of you have sailed in the same ship albeit perhaps not at the same time as we do not have all the dates. For instance four members have sailed in Houlder Bros. **Oredian** shown here entering Port Talbot in 1966,



Brian Hammett, 1952-1961,

G. Sellick, 1952-1961

K.R. Armstrong, 1956-1994,

D.Owen, 1958-1982.

Whilst four members of the Barry Branch have sailed in **Baron Elgin** (re-named Spidola in 1958)

C. Anderson, 1941-1945,

Joe Norton, 1943-1951,

D Collins, 1955-1975

P. Collins, 25 Nov 55 - 1 Jan 56



As you can see the dates (apart from P. Collins) indicate the period spent at sea by each member and not the actual dates they served in the ships. If you could supply us with the actual dates you sailed in each of your ships we can check to see if any of you served in the same ship at the same time. Perhaps you knew each other, or maybe not, but it may be an opportunity for you to meet old shipmates and swing the lantern for a while. Just by chance one of our members Brian Hammett recently discovered that he and David Thompson-Jones, Secretary of the Swansea MNA, were shipmates in British Duke back in 1952 and they were busy reminiscing during our visit to Swansea, so it's a small world out there.

I've enclosed a form which can be use by those of you who have not provided details of your ships. So drag out your old Discharge Books and if you are happy to do so please complete the form and return it to the Secretary.

Thanks to Roger Wincer for the picture of Oredian and Trenor for Baron Elgin.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Members are reminded that the AGM will be held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at 2.30 pm at the RAFA Club, Riverside, Ely, Cardiff. This is an opportunity for those wishing to serve on the Committee or as an office holder to put their names forward. Nominations should reach the Secretary on or before April 22<sup>nd</sup> - 3 weeks prior to the AGM.

## INTERNET WEB SITE

<http://beehive.thisissouthwales.co.uk/mnawales>

Unfortunately we have had to scale down the use of this site and our Merchant Navy Association (Wales) Archives web site. This is due to technical problems with the uploading of photographs.

However, we are developing another site using our own domain name and it can be found under

[www.mnawales.org.uk](http://www.mnawales.org.uk)

This site is much more flexible than the original site and easier to use. Take a look and let us know what you think. Send your comments to the Secretary.

## CROSSED THE BAR

Sadly the following members have crossed the bar since the last Newsletter.

**Mr. V.G. Harrison of Cardiff - July**

**Mr. J. Taylor of Barry - July**

**Mr. Norman Neill of Barry - November**

**Mr R Cook of Barry - December**

**Mr F.J. Bennett of Cardiff - December**

Their sailing hath ended

## PIER HEAD BUILDING, CARDIFF BAY

The Pierhead Building is a Grade 1 listed building of the National Assembly for Wales (NAW) and is adjacent to the Senedd building in Cardiff Bay. It stands as one of the city of Cardiff's most familiar landmarks. It was built in 1897 as a replacement for the headquarters of the Bute Dock Company which burnt down in 1892. In 1897 the firm was renamed Cardiff Railway Company, and in 1947 the building became the administrative office of the Port of Cardiff. The National Assembly for Wales acquired the long term lease in 2002 and until recently it was the location of "The Assembly at the Pierhead", the Visitor and Education Centre for the NAW. Now the building is closed whilst designs are prepared and works carried out for the development of the building as an Exhibition and Function Centre. MNA (Wales), along with Associated British Ports and Butetown History and Arts Centre, have been invited to provide input into the future use of the building. So far members of the Committee have attended two meetings with the NAW and the Designers where our suggestions for the use of the building have been discussed. Further meetings are being arranged. It is expected the building will re-open in September 2009 on completion of the alterations.



### MEMBERSHIP

The following new member signed on during 2008:

Mr D.B. Evans of Barry joined in August- Welcome aboard.

The Membership Secretary reminds all those members who have not yet paid that subscriptions for this year should be paid before 31 March 2009, the end of our financial year. Under the Articles of Association any member who is three years in arrears will be informed of their arrears in writing and given the option of paying the outstanding fees or resigning from the Association. Failure to reply to the letter will result in the member being removed from the membership list. If there are any members who through illness or hard times are unable to attend meetings or pay their subscriptions then please inform the Membership Secretary as we may be able to help. We do not want to lose members.

Please advise the Secretary of any sickness or bereavement which may come to your notice.

**Remember the annual subscription for 2009/10 will be £8**