



Merchant Navy Association (Wales)



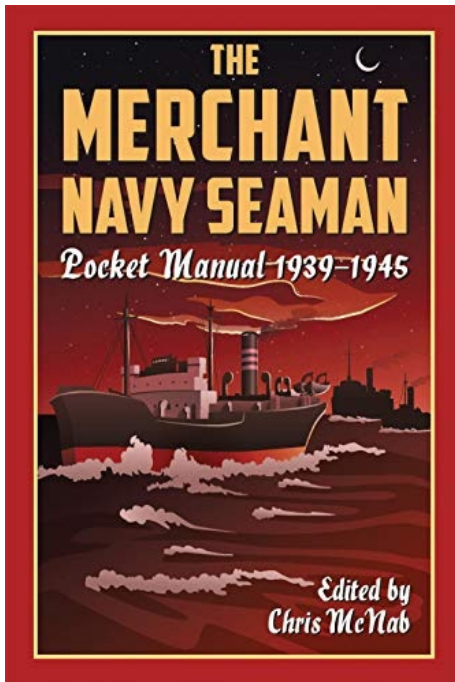
*Happy New Year Shipmates.
Best wishes and plain sailing to you
and yours for 2019*



Another busy year attending events to commemorate RAF100 and the National Thanksgiving to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War along with the Field of Remembrance at Cardiff Castle (above), our services down Cardiff Bay, Newport and Swansea, MN Flag Raising Day at the Mansion House in Cardiff, Festivals of Remembrance at St Davids Hall, Cardiff and the Memo Arts Centre in Barry, and many many more. Our thanks to all those who were able to attend and support these events. We were also invited to two rather different events: The dedication of a Book of Remembrance for World War One casualties from Barry (see page 2) at St. Mary's Church, Barry in September, and a Heroes of the Gulf: Arab Seamen & World War Two Seminar at the Pierhead Building, Cardiff in October which launched databases of Arab, Caribbean and Welsh Merchant Navy Casualties of World War Two. Our Secretary having contributed information on Merchant Navy Casualties to both projects. The projects serve as a source of reference for families wishing to trace relatives lost during WW1 and WW2 respectively. Books of Remembrance for WW1 and WW2 Merchant Navy casualties from Wales compiled by our Secretary are still available at various locations throughout Wales and also in the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich, together with QR plaques on various MN Memorials including Cardiff Bay, Barry, Newport and Swansea. These plaques have recently been updated to include information on casualties that has been discovered since the books were first published in 2013 and 2014.

The Merchant Navy Seaman Pocket Manual 1939 - 1945

The Merchant Navy Seaman Pocket Manual is a concise book that describes the lives of the men and women who served in the Merchant Navy during the Second World War. Collating documents,

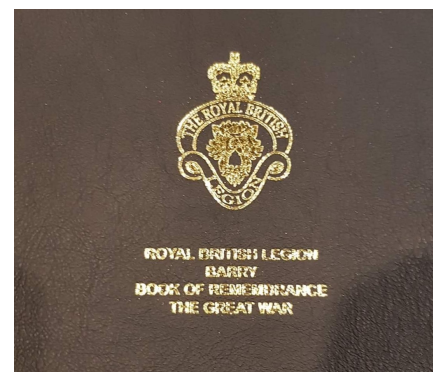


diagrams and illustrations from British and American archives, it combines information on training, gunnery, convoys, and anti-submarine techniques with personal perspectives on combat and survival. It provides an overview of the harsh realities of a life under constant threat as well as the attitudes and values that the sailors of the 1940s bared. Covering the battle of the Atlantic, the Artic Convoys, and the Pacific, this pitches the reader into the heart of this vital but often forgotten arena of World War II. This pocket manual is produced by Casemate Publishers, a global leader in military history books. For a limited time only, the publisher is offering every member of the National Merchant Navy Association an exclusive 20% discount on the book, which brings the price down to £7.19 per book. For further information on the title and to claim your special offer, simply head over to their website at www.casematepublishers.co.uk, add the book to your cart and

input the code **MERCH18** in the discount box provided before checkout. The book is available on www.amazon.co.uk price £8.46 hardback, for those of you who are not members of the National MNA,

BARRY'S ROLL OF HONOUR OF THE GREAT WAR

A definitive Roll of Honour of the local casualties has been compiled by military historian Dr Jonathan Hicks. During his extensive research, it became apparent that the existing Roll of Honour in Barry Memorial Hall is not complete and the Roll has a number of errors and duplications on it. Besides the many names that are missing, there are still a number of names on the Roll of Honour which cannot be traced, so this memorial book now contains as accurate a list of the fallen as it is possible to ascertain at this moment in time. The project, which was initiated and funded by the Royal British Legion, has been an opportunity to produce a definitive Barry Book of Remembrance for the Great War and it includes men from all the services, including the Merchant Navy. It is a single copy book which was used during the Drumhead Service at the Barry Festival of Remembrance on 22 September 2018 and was then donated to the Town and will be kept in St Mary's Church, Barry for safekeeping and reference. Viewings will be by appointment with the Royal British Legion.



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FOUNDATION

MILITARY VETERANS' 'ONE STOP SHOP'

For more information or to book a stand contact:
e. Finola.pickwell@cardiffcitycfoundation.org.uk | t. 07495 485053

CARDIFF CITY FC STADIUM

- Wednesday 6th February 2019
- 11:00 - 15:00hrs

Open to ALL retired & ex-armed services to 'drop in' and meet the various organisations, charities and regimental associations that are there for YOUR benefit!



There are so many veteran associated charities it can be confusing for veterans to know where to turn for the support and advice they are looking for, because of this a 'One Stop Shop' networking and information event will be held in Cardiff City FC Stadium during the day on Wednesday 6th February 2019, thanks to the generous sponsorship of Hugh James solicitors.

The idea of the event is to invite reputable charities and organisations that support military veterans, including Merchant Navy veterans, to come along and set up a stall, who can network with each other, as well as sending out invites to veterans throughout South Wales via various means to come along and talk to the charities and organisations on the day.

This will be an informal 'Drop In' event over four or five hours with refreshments.

We will be sharing a stall with our shipmates from MNA Newport on the day.

NEW MEMBER

The first six months of 2018 saw 6 of our members Cross the Bar and their loss was recorded in the July 2018 issue of the Newsletter. We were however fortunate in signing on new blood when Ross Cleland join us in June. Ross is currently serving at sea as a Third Officer with the U.K. Border Agency.



Dates for your Diary

Regular meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month at the Canton Liberal Club, Cowbridge Road East, Cardiff, commencing at 14.30.

Holocaust Memorial Day, City Hall, Cardiff on Friday 25th January 2019 at 1100.

Our Service down Cardiff Bay is scheduled for Saturday 25th May 2019 at 1100.

National Armed Forces Day is scheduled for Saturday 29th June 2019 at Salisbury. No details of local events at this time.

You will be notified of events as dates and times become available. Notification will be provide at our regular meetings and via email and our web site below if you are on line. Those of you who can't make the meetings or are not on line and would like to be kept up to date, please contact the Secretary and he will make sure you are notified.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th May 2019 at the Canton Liberal Club, Cardiff, commencing at 14.30. This is an opportunity for those wishing to serve on the Committee, to put their names forward. Nominations should reach the Secretary on or before the 17th April, 3 weeks prior to the AGM.

Dave Smith is on his death bed and knows the end is near.

His nurse, his wife, his daughter and 2 sons are with him at his home in London.

He asks for 2 independent witnesses to be present and a camcorder be in place to record his last wishes.

When all is ready he begins to speak:

"My son, Bernie, I want you to take the Mayfair houses."

"My daughter, Sybil, you take the apartments over in the East end."

"My son, Jamie, I want you to take the offices over in the City."

"Sarah, my dear wife, please take all the residential buildings on the banks of the Thames ."

The nurse and witnesses are blown away. They did not realize the extent of his holdings.

As Dave slips away, the nurse says to his wife, "Mrs. Smith, my deepest condolences. Your husband must have been such a hard-working and wonderful man to have accumulated all this property....."

"Property?", Sarah Smith replies. "The bugger had a window cleaning round."