



Merchant Navy Association (Wales)



FALKLANDS 40

On the 2nd. April 1982, Argentine forces invaded the Falkland Islands starting one of the largest major conflicts since World War Two. The conflict lasted 74 days and was the first military action since the Second World War that involved all elements of the Armed Forces. 255 British personnel lost their lives during the conflict, of whom 86 were Royal Navy, 124 Army, 27 Royal Marines, 6 Merchant Navy, 4 Royal Fleet Auxiliary and 8 Hong Kong sailors. Seven ships were lost to enemy action and nine aircraft shot down. Altogether 30,000 sailors, marines, soldiers, airmen, and merchant mariners took part in the conflict.

To commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the conflict, the Royal British Legion organised various events including one at Barry and two at Cardiff. The Barry event was held at the Memorial Hall Cenotaph on Saturday 12th June and was well attended with representatives from Barry Branch and the Standard Bearer Dave Richards and Secretary, Byron Jones of MNA (Wales) together with local dignitaries and associations. Joe Norton, Chairman of Barry Branch and Byron Jones Secretary of MNA (Wales) laid wreaths on behalf of the Merchant Navy.



The first event in Cardiff was held in the morning at the Falklands Memorial, Alexandra Gardens on Thursday 16th June. Byron Jones laid a wreath on behalf of the Merchant Navy with our Standard Bearer Dave Richards in attendance. The event was well attended with wreaths being laid by Representatives from the three armed Forces, HM Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan, the First Minister, Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Falkland Islands Representative, TRBL and veterans from the armed forces. The Service was conducted by the Rev

Canon Stuart Lisk. The second event was a Service of Remembrance held the same day at 1800 in Llandaff Cathedral to which Byron Jones had been invited.



We held our usual Service down Cardiff Bay on Saturday 28th May. This again was well attended with the usual dignitaries and supporters, including the newly elected Lord Mayor of Cardiff Cllr. Graham Hinchey, and our shipmates from Barry and Newport. We were also able to offer refreshments in the Eli Jenkins Pub after the event which we had been unable to do for 2 years due to the Covid restrictions. Our thanks to staff of the Welsh Parliament for their assistance in setting up the event. Our hard worked Standard Bearer

Dave Richards also made the long pilgrimage to attend the Armed Forces Day celebrations at Wrexham on Sunday 19th June where he was asked to lead the parade of Standards.

MEMBERS WHO HAVE CROSSED THE BAR SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER

COMMANDER J. K. COLE

Unfortunately I have no details of his loss other than he died sometime during 2021. Commander Cole joined the Association in April 1995 and transferred to the Barry Branch on it's formation in 1996/1997. If you are aware of the circumstances of his loss please let me know so that I can update the records accordingly.

MR. KARL CLISSETT



Karl crossed the Bar on the 6th May 2022 as a result of a heart attack. He served at sea between 1952 and 1963. His first ship was the S.S. Hartismere which he joined in June 1952 and his last ship was the S.S. Glendoch signing off in August 1963. Karl joined the Association in 1996 and was one of the nicest men you would hope to meet. He lived in Barry but stayed with the National MNA (Wales) when the Barry Branch was formed. He was a regular attendee at our meetings and events. It was Karl's wish that there be no funeral or wake and this was respected by the family and his shipmates. Our

thoughts are with his son Karl and the rest of the family.

BARRY BRANCH - NEW MEMBERS

Four new members have been accepted into the Barry Branch. They are:

JONES, Bradly Graham of Penarth. Bradly went to sea in 2013 and still serves today. He is a Mate with the Bristol Channel Svitzer Harbour tugs.

LOVERING, Richard Huw of Barry. Richard served at sea as a Steward between 1979 and 1990. His first ship being the Queen Elizabeth 2 and his last the Earl Godwin.

SPEAR, Steven Paul of Barry. Steven went to sea with the Geest Line between 1972 and 1994. He started in the Catering Department before becoming a Purser in 1983. His first ship was the Geest Tide and his last the Geest Port.

WEEKLEY, Gary of Barry. Gary served at sea in the Catering Department between 1975 and 2010. His first ship as Assistant Steward was the R.R.S. Discovery and his last the Arco Axe as GP Cook/Steward.

Welcome aboard.

BARRY BRANCH WEB SITE

Mr Keith Greenway of Barry Branch has developed a web site for the Branch. Access to the site can be obtained via www.mnabarrybranch.proboards.com

They are also pursuing the setting up a Facebook page for MNA (Wales).

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Membership Secretary reminds all members that subscriptions for the year 2022/2023 were due on the 1st May 2022. The annual subscription is £10.00. Please advise the Secretary (01443 815013) of any sickness or bereavement which may come to your notice.

Barry Branch Members have all fully paid up in the first month of the new year 2022/2023 and It is worth noting that, as far as I am aware, this is the first time that this has happened. WELL DONE



The following article has been submitted for publication to the Glamorgan Star and Barry and District News by our shipmate Keith Greenway. I have included it in the Newsletter for those members who do not live in the Barry area.

“Calming the storm, at home, in port and at sea’.

SEA SUNDAY, hosted by Barry Churches.

SUNDAY, 10 JULY 2022 AT 14:00

Barry Waterfront.

The Sailors’s Society ask all to join with them this Sea Sunday to remember seafarers and give thanks for the crucial work they do. Your church’s support can make a huge difference to seafarers struggling at this incredibly difficult time. Every year, churches around the world celebrate Sea Sunday: remembering seafarers in prayer, giving thanks for the crucial work they do and supporting them.

The 2020 Sea Sunday theme is: ‘Calming the Storm - at home, in port and at sea. The inspiration is the story of Jesus calming the storm, from Matthew’s Gospel. This reminds us not only of the power of faith but of the unpredictability of life and how storms can beset all of us. As the leading charity for the welfare and well-being of seafarers and their families worldwide, The Sailors’s Society aim to help calm the storms facing seafarers at home, in port and at sea. Storms can be global – Ukraine, record tsunamis and the Covid pandemic or they can be individual - sickness, unemployment, and bereavement.

The local Merchant Navy Association (Wales) Barry branch echo the many thanks expressed to the 11th Barry Sea Scout Group as they undertook their annual check and tidy up at Memorial area ahead of this year’s Sea Sunday Service. It would be great to see our town showing much support for SEA SUNDAY, hosted by our Barry Churches. The annual Sea Sunday Service is held at the Anchor Memorial, Barry Waterfront, near Morrisons.



Barry is noted amongst other things as being a former Merchant Navy Town, An Historic Port "once described by seamen as the Gateway to the World".

Keith Greenway.

