

ROYAL NAVY CLEARANCE DIVERS ASSOCIATION

News Letter
ISSUE 01 | FEBRUARY 2014



Maintaining contact between serving and former members of the Service and providing social gatherings for them; Fostering esprit de corps, comradeship and the welfare of the Service and perpetuating its deeds; Preserving the traditions of the Service including the practice of understatement, humility and modesty; Perpetuating the memory of those members of the Service who have died in the service of their country.

Welcome to the inaugural 'News Letter' of the Royal Navy Clearance Divers Association. Since the formation back in January 2012 the Association has seen its ranks swell to a healthy membership of 230. The Committee has been working hard on your behalf to organise social events and to move the RNCDA forward; in particular I would like to thank WO1 (Diver) Steve 'Scouse' Vernon for his sterling efforts as 'Membership Secretary', which is a time-consuming role. This news letter will act as the primary means to forge better communication with members until a website can be established, which Vic Anderton and Glyn Holgate are currently working on. For the RNCDA to be a success it relies on serving and former members of the Service to join and to fully support the objectives of the Association; I thank those of you that have joined and supported thus far, and ask that you continue to spread the word and encourage others to join. If members have any news or dits for inclusion within future news letters these would be welcomed.

Yours

Steve Fitzjohn
Warrant Officer First Class (Diver)
Chairman



THE DIVING MUSEUM
Saturation Diving Life Support
The Historical Diving Society
Supervisor: Jim Thomson first in
the NAAFI queue!

3/11/2013

ex Royal Marine WO John Dadd BEM
Special Boat Service ex-WO Clearance Diver
Terry Powell DCM

ex-Leading Seaman
Clearance Diver

Graham Piggy Trotter
DSM Falklands War
ex-Chief Clearance Diver

1st. Gulf War

Clearing Suez Canal of explosives
after Yom Kippur War. Falklands
War.

Aden and
Borneo

Phil 'Ozzie' Hammond
CGM ex-Chief Clearance Diver
1st. Gulf War

A motley crew - a visit to the 'The Diving Museum', Alverstoke the day after the 2013 RNCDA Annual Dinner.

'The Diving Museum'

No 2 Battery, Stokes Bay Road, Gosport, Hampshire PO12 2QU

023 9260 2260
divingmuseum.co.uk



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Rugby:

3 May 2014 - Army v Royal Navy at Twickenham Stadium

Royal Navy Clearance Divers Coach

Horsea Island – 07:15

Bacon Sandwich & Champagne, Coach travel, entry fee and Hog Roast

Return to Horsea around 20:00

Fancy Dress is Optional!! Cost £55 pp

**Applications from WO1(D) Steve 'Scouse' Vernon via
E-mail: stevevernon525@hotmail.co.uk**



Rig: Fancy dress is optional, but highly encouraged.....



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The annual RN Divers Golf Championship will take place at Portsmouth Golf course **“Crookhorn” on 25 July 2014**, for all serving and former RN divers plus sponsors.

The format will be 9 holes am and 18 holes pm. The winner will be decided on the **“LOWEST”** gross score over 27 holes. There will also be prizes for division 1 & 2 and duffer of the day which, will be decided on the highest stapleford score over 27 holes.

The cost for the day is £46.00, this will include coffee and bacon sandwich on arrival, lunch and an evening buffet. Buffet for your guest is £5.00 per person.

**Applications from WO1(D) Steve ‘Scouse’ Vernon via
E-mail: stevevernon525@hotmail.co.uk**

Details of the course can be found at the following link:
www.portsmouthgc.co.uk



Portsmouth Golf Club



The Course - Situated on the South Downs above Portsmouth, this Downland course was designed by F G Hawtree and is a true test of golf with sloping fairways and uneven lies. The views from the second and twelfth holes are some of the best in Hampshire golf overlooking Portsmouth, the Isle of Wight and the Solent. There are several outstanding feature holes on the course some of which are dog legs.

The course measures 6,040 yards, par 69 for Men and 5,265 yards, par72 for Ladies.



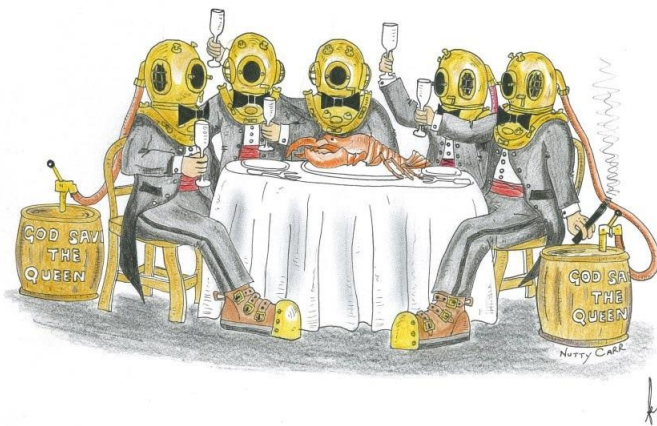
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RNCDA ANNUAL DINNER



The annual RNCDA dinner, this occasion is a good excuse for the gathering of the great and good to spin dits and catch up with colleagues and friends.

The 2014 dinner is open to all serving and retired Royal Naval Clearance Divers, partners and guests; priority will be given to RNCDA members and their guests.

Date: Friday 31st October 2014;

Time: 1700 – 2359;

Venue: Royal Maritime Club, Portsmouth, PO1 3HS;

Dress: Formal Black Tie/Lounge Suit Association Tie;

Cost: Members and their Guests - £37.50 | Non-members and their Guests - £40.50

Pre-dinner drinks from 1700 in Royal Maritime Club Brocks Bar and a 3-Course Meal, Port and Entertainment in the Trafalgar Ballroom, the aim will be to be seated for the meal by NLT 1930.

Accommodation is available in the Royal Maritime Club by direct arrangement:

www.royalmaritimeclub.co.uk

Tel: 02392 824231

E-mail: info@royalmaritimeclub.co.uk

Applications from WO1(D) Steve 'Scouse' Vernon via

E-mail: stevevernon525@hotmail.co.uk

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The RNCDA Committee were approached with a proposal that retired Doctor John Bevan, who greatly assisted the Diving Branch in breaking the Helium barrier in the 1970's be made an 'Associate Member' of the RNCDA; a vote of approval was carried.

A picture of the award of certification and coin issue to John Bevan; taken on 17th December 2013 – Tommo (James Thomson)

The award of 'Associate Membership' to the RNCDA was announced at John's 70th party, he was surprised to say the least, and very pleased. At the time Tommo was dressed as Elvis (below), also John Dadd said a few words, Mike O Meara , and Dusty Miller were also in attendance.



Bigus Hourus Charitus