



Welcome to the nineteenth edition of the Journal. I hope you enjoy this edition. The journal is not only for the officers of Associations but also Association members so we ask you to give it as wide a distribution as possible to members and anyone else you think might be interested.

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## FEDERATION PARADE MARSHAL

First an apology to our new parade Marshall Jerry, in the last issue of the Journal I spelt his name wrong, it should be **Josee** and not Joess. I hope you will all note my mistake and my sincere apologies again to Jerry.

## DIARY OF EVENTS FOR 2014

The Diary for 2014 will be issued shortly to Federation Delegates and then I will put in the Journal the events for the Forthcoming Month. Here are the dates for the coming month.

### APRIL

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>Sat 19</b> | <b>St George's Day Celebration-Plymouth City Centre</b>  |
| <b>Sun 20</b> | <b>1500 St George's Day Scout's Day-Minster Church of St Andrew</b>  |
| <b>Mon 28</b> | <b>Commemoration of Op Tiger at Slapton Sands. This will be the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary so as many Standard as possible are asked to attend. Time to be confirmed.</b> |

## PRESENTATION TO GARTH WRIGHT

Before we all marched over to the War Memorial on the Hoe to attend the Remembrance Sunday service on the 10<sup>th</sup> November 2013 there was a short ceremony in the WO and Sergeants mess when Garth was presented with a certificate for his service to Royal Artillery Association. Garth, who is 94 years old, stood down as the RAA Plymouth Branch Standard Bearer and he is probably the oldest person in the regiment serving in this role.

He was formally the Standard Bearer for the Dunkirk Veterans Association, Plymouth Branch from 1985 until the National Association closed in the year 2000 when the Dunkirk Veterans Association Standard was laid up in St Katherine's Chapel in the Royal Citadel. After that Garth continued as Standard Bearer for the RAA. The presentation of the certificate was made by Lt Colonel Edward Dawes RA.



Lt Colonel Edward Dawes RA presenting the certificate to Garth

## PHYSIONET

Basil has asked me to bring this organisation to your attention which he has become involved with as it helps disabled people overseas. They are not asking for money but for donations of redundant paediatric physiotherapy equipment, they are OK for most things but desperately need wheelchairs so if there is anyone out there that has spare/redundant wheelchairs they will be delighted to collect it. The local coordinator is Harry Franks 07826586807 or Basil Downing-Waite 07816645716

## CLARION CHOIR

**Plymouth Clarion Choir for Male Voices** extends a warm welcome to members of the Federation and all servicemen serving or otherwise to come along and join us as we prepare to celebrate our centenary year in 2015.

The choir was founded in the HM Dockyard in 1914 and was for many years Plymouth's premier choir, winning festivals throughout the South West and beyond and making appearances on the BBC. Like many such choirs numbers have dwindled. We hope to address this by appealing to all the servicemen and Veterans in the city to get along and swell our numbers once again. At the same time we hope to give the armed forces a singing branch hitherto missing in Plymouth which has such a long and proud association with the military.

A recent talk to the Federation indicated some interest and four new members have since joined to swell our ranks. There is no formal audition or need to read music. At this stage a simple delight in singing is the main ingredient to what is a pleasurable and fulfilling pastime which will last well into your senior years when all else starts to creak and groan!

We rehearse on Tuesdays in the church rooms of Crownhill Methodist Church at 7.30pm. Access is from the car park at the rear of the building.

**Pop in, listen. Join in, stay! Just come along, you'll make our day !**

The choir would be happy to come along and sing at one of your meetings to help raise funds or simply entertain. Contacts are as follows:

Bill Ryan : email : [william.ryan621@btinternet.com](mailto:william.ryan621@btinternet.com) tel 01752 843565

Telephone : Darrell Jago 01752 266434

**ANSWER THE CLARION CALL!**

## RFA ASSOCIATION LUNCH

The RFA Association, Plymouth and District Branch, held one of their regular lunches at the Lavender House Hotel near Ashburton on Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2014 and it was very much enjoyed by all. They try to have about 4 lunches a year so that

members from Devon and Cornwall can get together and talk about old times. There were about 35 at the last lunch. The Branch also meets every other month at Raffles of Mutley Plain. Below are the participants enjoying their lunch.



On the right is Ray Jago the Branch Standard Bearer