



Welcome to the twenty sixth 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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First an apology from the editor, in the item on Captain Henry VC in the last edition I said that Garth Wright of the RAA was a 94 year old veteran. He pointed out to me at the last meeting that in fact he is **95** so I am afraid I got it wrong. I would be quite happy if someone knocked a couple of years off my age but I suppose when your over 90 every year counts!

## DIARY OF EVENTS FOR 2014

Please bear in mind that we are only publishing the information as we have received it and you should check with the organisers of a particular event to make sure it is taking place on the date we have given. Here are the dates for the coming month and into January. After this there are no planned events for the next couple of months.

### DECEMBER

**Sun 7            1030 Devonport North Corner Commemoration. Organised by the Royal Marines Association**

**STANDARDS REQUESTED: ASSEMBLE 1000**

**Fri 19            1930 The Lord Mayor's Carol Service - Minster Church of St Andrew, Plymouth.**

**STANDARDS REQUESTED: ASSEMBLE 1900**

**Wed 31            1100 Hinkley VC Commemoration Ford Park Cemetery**

**Organised by the Royal Naval Association.**

**STANDARDS REQUESTED: ASSEMBLE 1030**

**JANUARY 2015**

**Sun 25 1000 Laying up of the Standard of the Devon and Cornwall Branch of the British Korean Veterans Association at Minster Church of St Andrew, Plymouth.**

**STANDARDS REQUESTED: ASSEMBLE 0930**

**PAST EVENTS****THE REMEMBRANCE FESTIVAL**

Once again this year we had an excellent Festival in the Pavilions on the 7<sup>th</sup> November organised by our Patron Cdr Charles Crichton OBE RN who was also the presenter of the show.

The Plymouth Youth Concert Band entertained the audience whilst they took their seats and then they were replaced by The Band of Majesty's Royal Marines Plymouth under their Director Major J Bircham RM.

Also taking part were The City of Plymouth Pipe Band, HMS Heroes Children's Military Kids choir, the Plymouth Area Police choir, the Plymouth Military Wives choir and the Theatre Royal Peoples Company.



Graham Fulcher of RNA Plymouth leading in the Veterans Associations



Councillor Chaz Sing and his wife Sara with primary school children carrying the flags of the Commonwealth Nations who fought in World War Two



The Chelsea Pensioners and the War Widow march on



Jerry Josee, the Federation Parade Marshall receives to Union Flag for a member of the Devon and Cornwall Police with David Mallet on the left and Major J Bircham RM on the stage.

This year the Theatre Royal Peoples Company did a tableaux illustrating the joy everyone felt going off at the beginning of the First World War and then at the end the reality of the return of the injured soldiers. There was also some good community singing of the First World War songs which everyone enjoyed. As you can see from the first photograph there was a really good turnout in the Pavilions and the house was almost full.



The Devonport Field Gun Association organised a very good display by children from two Primary schools in Plymouth



Our chaplain the Reverend Peter Warland RN taking the Act of Remembrance with Charles Crichton on the left

The Federation would like to thank all the organisations who have helped with the production of the Remembrance Festival, we were very pleased that we could produce such a good event this year. We would also like to thank Ossie Glover for the photographs in this edition.

## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

About 15 Standards and 30 Veterans assembled at the Citadel in the morning and marched over to the Naval War Memorial for the 1100 service. It was a crisp but fine day with the sun shining and there was a large crowd at the memorial. After the two minutes silence during which Standards were dipped the wreaths were laid by the main part lead by the Lord Mayor of Plymouth councillor Michael Fox. There then follow a service of Remembrance after which the parade marched back to the citadel. Veterans then dispersed to other memorials on the Hoe, at the Belvedere Gardens and on the Barbican to lay wreaths at other memorials.

## HMS GANGES REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Every year the Devonport Division of the Association travel down to Mylor Harbour in Cornwall where the original wooden walled HMS Ganges was berthed following the duties of Flag Ship of the Pacific Fleet stationed in Canada. She was then being used as a training ship for boys joining the Royal Navy at the age of 15. In the Church yard at Mylor is a memorial that was erected in memory of those boys who died on Board the ship. Devonport Division joins up with Cornwall Division members to attend the local service and pay our respects at the local and the HMS Ganges Memorial where Wreaths are laid, the still sounded and Standards Dipped. This year I had the additional honour of being asked to read the Lesson. Following the serious business we all depart to a nearby Hotel for lunch.



*Baz Downing-Waite*

## END PIECE

I would like to thank Graham Fulcher of RNA Plymouth for send me this photo of his Poppies that he took in the Summer, I have been saving it for this month.



I shall be reporting more about the Remembrance Festival in the Next Journal and I hope to have some photos of Remembrance Sunday.

MAY I WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY CHARISTMAS AND  
PROSPORIOUS NEW YEAR FROM THE FEDERATION