



Well we have made it to the Twelfth edition of the Journal, I can't believe that I have been doing this for a year. I think we have achieved our aim of report on the activities of the Federation and of the member Associations. I would like to thank all those who have sent me information about various events, I am most grateful. I would ask that if you do send something in you include as much detail as possible and write it up so it is a short but concise statement of what happened. 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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PAST EVENTS

Re-Dedication of the BKVA Memorial.

Today Saturday 27th July saw re-dedication of the British Korean Veterans Associations memorial at the Belvedere Plymouth Hoe in Commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of the ceasefire at the end of the Korean War 1953. The event was very well attended and nine Armed Forces Service Associations Standards were on parade in support. The service was conducted by The Reverend Kevin Bridges Honorary Chaplin to BKVA Devon No. 1 Branch and the event was followed by a buffet lunch at The Raffles Club.

The following message was received by the BKVA Branch after the ceremony.

Dear Comrades , Please accept a Presidential Congratulation on the event today . A highly successful salute, so well conducted by the Reverend Kevin Bridges , graced by the presence of so many standards and representatives of our sister organisations , well done for making it so . Good to have our Founder, Vic Saundercock , present and it was a pleasure to enjoy the support of a Member of Parliament , Oliver Colvile , in whose constituency is the Belvedere Garden . All your efforts and application were a credit to those we remember and continue to support sixty years after the Ceasefire on 27th July 1953, well done indeed , Most sincerely , Sir Robert Gherkin KCB CBE

I understand that Sir Robert served on HMS Consort during the Korean War which was the same ship that John Northcote-Brewer (Jan Brewer to some of us) served on. You may remember that Jan crossed the bar recently.



Standards at the carry during the service



VJ Day 15th August 2013 – Plymouth (FEPOW & COFEPOW)

A small gathering of some forty plus people met at the Rowan Tree adjacent to St Andrews Church today to remember all those, civilian and military, who died in battle against Japan, or as a result of captivity in Japanese prison camps.

The occasion was led by two ex-POW's, Jack Hughieson now in his 90's who was captured at the fall of Hong Kong, and Arie Den Hollander who was imprisoned with his family in Java as a small boy. Sadly our third ex-POW Frank Wyatt was unable to be with us due to failing health. The group was made up of widows, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of those who returned or lost their lives. Friends who have supported us over the years were also present. Arie Den Hollander welcomed the Chairman of the Plymouth Federation of Armed Forces Associations Mr Basil Downing-Waite who said a few words prior to the short service of remembrance.



Arie Den Hollander and Jack Hughieson

After the service the group continued on to the St Elizabeth House Hotel, Plympton for the annual VJ Day lunch where Jack Hughieson was the after lunch speaker and told the very touching story of his release from captivity in Japan and his journey to freedom and home.



Tributes placed at the Tree on behalf of FEPOW/COFEPOW

VJ Day 15th August 2013 – Plymouth (Burma Star)

The Burma Star Association's Men's and Ladies Branches held their annual service to commemorate the 68th anniversary of Victory over Japan. This service was attended by nine Federation Standards with Richard Bendell the Federation's Parade Marshall in charge. The Laira Youth Band also attended to provide the music and the service was taken by the Rev John Richards N V A Vicar.



Some of the member attending the service were, Stan Mullins age 97, Bernard Chapman 89,

Jim Stowet 93, Jim O'Conner 93, John Paul 90 and Gwynne Parsell 88



Bernard Chapman laying the wreath for the men and Irene Pickering laying the wreath for the Ladies



The Last Post



Fred Ford and the Standard with John Richards in front of the Burma Star memorial

FUTURE EVENTS

- Tuesday 3ed Sept 1030 for 1100 Merchant Navy Day - Barbican
Mayflower Steps**
- Thur 12th to Sun 15 Sep Heritage Open Days**
- Sun 15th Sept 1045 for 1115 Battle of Britain Memorial Day - Minster
Church of St Andrew**
- Fri 20th Sept Royal Navy Parade in Plymouth (see below)**

New Fund Raiser Required

Fred and Joan Ford, our long time fund raisers told the last Federation meeting that they are going to give up the job at the end of the year. The Federation now needs to find someone to take over from them in organising the twice yearly collections in the Market and at Sainsbury's. The job entails organising the dates for the collections and then co-ordinating the collectors to help with the collections and supervising the collections. Fred and Joan have set up a very efficient organisation and will help anyone who volunteers to take over. The collections are an essential part of the Federations activities as we need to raise money each year to put on the Remembrance Festival and support our other activities.

Please contact the Chairman Basil or the Secretary Richard if you are interested in taking on this job and we will put you in touch with Fred Ford.

Royal Navy Parading through Plymouth

On Friday 20 September 2013 the Royal Navy in Plymouth will be exercising their right to the Freedom of the City with a Parade from the Royal Citadel to St Andrews Cross, down Royal Parade to Derry's Cross and back up Royal Parade to Armada Way where the Parade will left turn into Armada Way.

The Royal Naval Associations, Royal Marines Association, WRNS Association, HMS GANGES Association and other RN Associations will join the Parade at St Andrews Cross.

Other Veterans Associations are invited to muster at the Guildhall, where the salute will be taken, to dip their Standards as the Parade passes by. It is hoped that as many Association standards as possible will attend for this event.

Royal Navy Association Plymouth remembers the Tot

On Saturday the 3rd August, the RNA Plymouth commemorated the demise of the tot. As well as toasting the tot, we raised a glass and lit a memorial candle for our late Life Vice President Lt. Cdr. Harry Sparks RN Rtd. Most of the branch dressed in the appropriate "rig of the day", a superb buffet was served by Anette and her staff, a tot was served out by our rum Bosun Bob Shaw, many commiserations and memories were shared while drinking it!!! In all a brilliant evening was had by all.



What can only be described as a very piratical crowd