



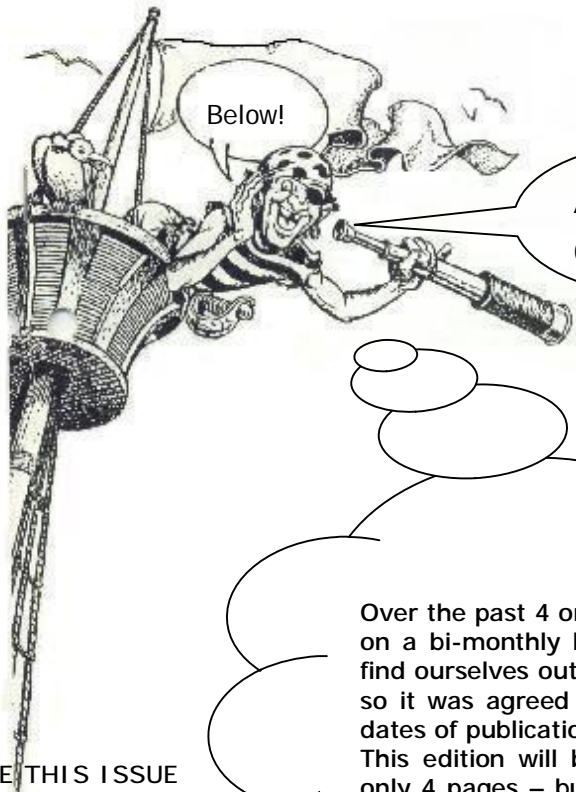
Royal Naval Association Southern Ontario Branch

AHOY SHIPMATE

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SPECIAL EDITION.

Over the past 4 or 5 years, we have been sending out this newsletter on a bi-monthly basis beginning with January & February. We now find ourselves out of sync with the dates of our bi-monthly meetings, so it was agreed at our last Executive meeting that we change the dates of publication to coincide with our meeting dates.

This edition will be a shortened version of our normal publication, only 4 pages – but we will return to the normal 8 pages in the next edition which will come out in August well in time to remind everyone of our meeting that month. In the meantime, have a great summer.

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CONTACT US.

You should already know the telephone numbers of our Executive Members, but just in case...

- David & Jean Kemp 519-927-9859
- Chris & Megs Shellard 905-693-8829
- Don Ashfield 905-373-0879
- Bill Powell 416-463-0780

AHOY SHIPMATE!



EDITORIAL*By S/M Chris Shellard*

Shipmates,

Since we initiated our bi-monthly meetings, it has been pointed out to me that there might be too big a gap between the issue of this newsletter and the holding of our meetings. I have therefore gone ahead and put this four page newsletter together to remind everyone that we will be holding our next General Meeting on June 27th at Branch 345 Royal Canadian Legion, which is located on Peard Rd off Victoria Park Avenue just north of St Clair. The meeting starts at 1930 and we would appreciate it if as many of you as possible show up for this event.

Our next newsletter will be issued in August so that we are in step with the dates of our meetings. So again, I am asking for your input so that our "Ahoy Shipmate" does not become a one man show.

Thanks

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD.

On March 16th, the wreck of HMAS Sydney was located just 12 miles from the wreck of her adversary, HSK Kormoran. Both ships lie approximately 112 miles off the west coast of Australia. There were no survivors from the Sydney's crew of 645, but many of the Kormaran's crew were rescued and interred in a Prisoner of War camp for the duration of hostilities.

If you would like to learn more on this subject you can go to: www.findingsydney.com There are lots of pictures on this site.

Another wreck of another cruiser has also been located, this time the ship is HMS Exeter, which was sunk in the Battle of the Java Sea in March 1942. The wreck was located following a 6 year search. The wreck of her escort, HMS Encounter, which was also sunk in the same battle, was located near by. The USS Pope which was also sunk in that same battle has not been located.

On another subject, the British Minister of Defence, Bill Clark OBE, has given a report on getting the armed forces to be more visible to the general public than they are at present.

The Government is to encourage all service personnel to wear their uniforms to the fullest extent allowed by current service rules.

They are thinking about bringing back The Royal Tournament, and of holding more parades in public places, rather than in service depots. They are also looking at service personnel having their campaign medals presented to them by Members of the Royal Family, or by the Lord Lieutenant.

Finally, there are over 5 million people who are eligible to wear the Veteran's Badge, but only 500,000 have been issued so far.

Submitted by S/M Chris Shellard.

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT.*By S/M David Kemp*

Hi Shipmates

So close to mid year and the start of summer, makes a change from being wrapped up in warm clothes. It gets light at a silly hour of the morning and it is still light when it is time to go to bed. There's no being satisfied and the year just keeps rolling on.

We have decided to issue this news sheet so that you won't forget that there is a General meeting on Friday June 27th at Branch 345. As we are having meetings every two months now it is easier to remind you closer to the date. Doing this means that we have to get the issuing of AHOY into a new pattern so please bear with us.

I am told that our last home at Hayden Street has started to be demolished and the whole corner is to be known as 1 Bloor. There was a big article in the Toronto Star on Saturday June 7th giving details of the new 80 storey building that will dominate the corner of Yonge and Bloor. Sad to see the old place go!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT*By S/M Megs Shellard*

Hi Shipmates,

Our membership is still healthy with 6 Life Members, 57 Full and 19 Associate Members. This gives us a total of 82 Shipmates on our books.

We also have 16 Fraternal Members. Perhaps I should explain just what is meant by Fraternal Membership.

When a Shipmate crosses the bar, we like to stay in touch with the spouse of that Shipmate, so we came up with the name 'Fraternal'.

It means that they receive our newsletter every time it is published, and they may attend our meetings, if they so desire, but they have no voting rights.

It is our way of keeping in touch with those who are left behind, and who may need our help sometime in the future

VICE CHAIRMANS REPORT.*By S/M Don Ashfield*

Shipmates.

Our second meeting at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 345 is fast approaching and the Executive look forward to you visiting this legion and checking it out.

We have been made very welcome there by the Branch President and they are going out of their way to see us settled and comfortable.

On another note, as I live in Cobourg very close to Highway 401, also known as the Highway of Heroes, I am able to go and stand on the bridge over that highway and watch the repatriation of the bodies of our fallen soldiers as they are returned to Canada. For those of you who are not in the position to view this scene, I think I can say that it is a very moving experience. The numbers of people who come out to watch this is beyond belief. We here in Canada have shown the world just how this sort of procedure should be done by providing escorts to the processions along that Highway. If anyone is able to get out to a bridge over the Highway of Heroes that runs from Trenton to downtown Toronto, I urge you to go and see it, it is a very moving experience.

On Branch matters, I have been busy assisting our Social Director, S/M Jean Kemp in organising some events for the late summer. I know she will be advising you of what is to come and I hope you will think about attending some of these events and supporting our Association. A lot of hard work goes into organising these events so I hope you come out and support them.

In closing have a great summer wherever you are, or go and I hope to see you at some of our meetings.

WHEELCHAIRS*By S/M Chris Shellard.*

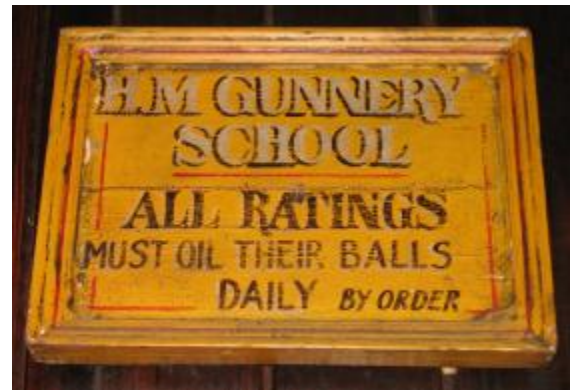
Recently Megs and I had to take her mother, who is rapidly approaching her 100th Birthday, to the dentist. As that dentist's office is quite some distance from the parking lot, we asked to borrow one of the two wheelchairs that the RNA own. It made the trip so much easier than it would have been without it.

Since then we have taken her out to Square One Shopping Mall, which she really enjoyed, and Meg's sister has taken her out to a nearby park so that she could get some fresh air.

We did have to purchase a set of foot rests for the chair, and it is now complete.

We do have a walker, which is currently on loan to S/M Judy Barber, and we also have a walking cane with four feet.

If you find yourself in need of any of these items, please call S/M Alex Kerr at 416-431-4922.

RECENTLY SEEN IN THE PUSSEY'S
RUM PUB IN TORTOLA

This notice was one of many that adorned the walls of the Pub that is located in front of the building that houses the Pussey's Rum Store.

S/M's Don and Annette Ashfield and Megs and I enjoyed a meal there, as well as a couple of Pussey's "Pain Killers" when the ship we were on paid a visit to Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands back in April.

I am pleased to report that our Branch Plaque is firmly attached to the wall alongside many others that were presented by various ships when they visited this part of the world.

Submitted by S/M Chris Shellard

SOCIAL REPORT*By Shipmate Jean Kemp*

Hi Shipmates

Well summer seems to have come with a vengeance or has it?

Knowing how much you have been looking forward to it – you are no doubt out there training for summer sports!

The Canadian Military Tattoo at the Copp's Coliseum will take place on June 14th at 7.30 pm and on June 15th at 2.30pm. Both performances are approximately 2 1/2 hours long. Price of Tickets – Special Pricing for Veterans \$12.50, Seniors \$25, Adults \$30. Tickets from Ticketmaster or the Coliseum. Special needs & Wheelchair Handicapped Provisions on Main Concourse Level.

Also in June "The Last Night of the Proms" Concerts. Evening of 17th – 8pm, and 18th 2pm & 8pm. At Roy Thomson Hall 416-593-3375.

In September last year, S/M Noel McKinstry arranged for a number of our members to have a day at the Toronto Zoo. It seems as though everyone enjoyed themselves, so Noel is trying to arrange something similar for this year – stay tuned.

We are still in the planning stage for a trip to the 1000 Islands area. Thoughts were to go there and stay for two nights with a boat cruise visiting Bolte Island and Castle in September. However, having contacted some local hotels, indications are that the cost would be very expensive for that time of year. We are now considering early October as the costs are not as expensive. This would take place mid-week hopefully taking in the good weather.

Early planning for Trafalgar Night has shown that most Shipmates prefer an evening dinner at Branch 345. We need to let the Legion Ladies know so that they can do their planning. More details will be in the next AHOY.

Have a great summer and let me know of any other events that might be of interest to us all.

Dates for your Diary.
2008.

June 27 – 1930. General Meeting at Branch 345, RCL.

There will be no general meeting in July.

August 16 – Warriors Day Parade at the CNE
We have been informed that the Band of the Royal Marines Association will not be attending this year.

August 22 – 1930 General Meeting at RCL Branch 345.

There will be no general meeting in September.

October 25 – Battle of Trafalgar Dinner at RCL Branch 345.

December 13 – 1200 Christmas Lunch at RCL Branch 345.

RMA PLANNED TRIP TO VIRGINIA
IN 2009.

The Royal Marines Association are planning a trip in April of next year, to visit the United States Marine Corp's New Museum in Quantico. The trip would last for a week and would cost around \$1200.00 per person.

The trip would cover the Norfolk Virginia Military Tattoo, a tour of the Navy Yards in Norfolk and also a visit to Annapolis before returning home.

They have sent us an invitation for anyone of our Association who would like to go along.

The coach would hold 50 people, so if you are interested in this trip, please call either Neil Pennington at 905-827-0226 – after July 10th

Or Jim Bristow at 416-236-1931 after June 27th.

First come- first served!