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The Chatham Naval Officers' Association Newsletter

Dear Members,

Welcome to John and Serena as new members of the CNOA.

We will soon have our Trafalgar dinner, thank you to the members that have supported it. Those that have not it would be good to get feedback as to anything we can change to encourage more attendance.

Our next event is the President's Christmas social and then Burns Night.

Last month, at our meeting, we were joined by RSME CO Lt Col John Newton RE, he met members in the mess some of whom he had met before at various functions.

Finally, Eastbourne Sea Cadets are in search of a new President if anyone is either interested or has a contact. This is a non-hands on honorary role.



Lt Cdr Jon Vanns RNR

CNOA Burns Night Dinner

If you'd like to attend the 2025 Burns Night event please complete the booking form that you will find on page 4.

The cost is a reasonable £40 and payments need to be made by the 15th December at the latest. Thank you.



CNOA
Chatham Naval Officers' Association



HQS Wellington

HQS Wellington, the large white ship moored on the Thames in central London, is 90 years old this year, and the King has given permission to rename it back to its original name – HMS Wellington.

HMS Wellington, moored at Temple Stairs, Victoria Embankment, has been a part of London's river scene since she was towed there in December 1948 after her career as a Royal Navy warship during World War II.

For most of her time in London, the ship has been the floating Livery Hall for the Honourable Company of Master Mariners known as [HQS Wellington](https://www.hcmm.org.uk/about-us/our-first-livery-hall/hqs-wellington) (<https://www.hcmm.org.uk/about-us/our-first-livery-hall/hqs-wellington>), and on occasions, open to the public.

Last year, the Livery Company moved out, pending repairs to the ship, and as she is no longer a Headquarters Ship, the Trust that owns it petitioned The King to restore its original name of HMS Wellington.

Wellington Trust Chairman Professor Dominic Tweddle commented on His Majesty's approval: "This change of name in her 90th anniversary year is a true testament to her heritage as the sole surviving dedicated Battle of the Atlantic warship in Europe. There is no better day for HMS WELLINGTON (1934) to adopt her new name, on the 85th anniversary of the start of the Battle of the Atlantic."

The ship's owners, the [Wellington Trust](https://www.thewellingtontrust.org/) (<https://www.thewellingtontrust.org/>), are now fundraising to cover the cost of long-term maintenance repairs.





The Association of Royal Navy Officers (ARNO)

Over 100 Years at the Helm of the Naval Officer Family



About ARNO

Founded in 1920, ARNO today is a 5000 strong dynamic membership association which provides a vital network for the serving and retired RN, RM, WRNS, QARNNS and RFA officers, as well as officers from the SCC, VCC, CCF and URNUs.

Membership Benefits

ARNO Discounts

Save hundreds of pounds across 1000's of high street retailers.
"I have saved £5 a month for 2 years on my new BT internet deal"

RAC Breakdown Cover

Cover starting as little as £60 per year.
"I saved over £200 per year by switching to the ARNO deal"

The Army & Navy Club

Enjoy a bespoke package, offered exclusively to ARNO.

And much more!!!

Join us today!

For more information visit: www.arno.org.uk



Supporting the Royal Navy Officers' Charity

Founded in 1739, and awarded Charity of the Year in 2022, RNOC supports a diverse range of beneficiaries and over the last four years has awarded more than £2million in grants to serving and retired officers and their families.

From supporting the needs of children, education grants, disability aids, debt, through to end of life care, or simply advice, RNOC is here for you.

Both ARNO and RNOC are always grateful for donations and legacies to continue their vital work which has a lasting impact.

"It's difficult to ask for help sometimes. It's harder when you are a proud Naval Officer. Thankfully, the RNOC understand this. One email, one call gave me a lifeline that helped steady some very stormy seas"

Need support?

For more information visit: www.rnoc.org.uk



ROYAL NAVY PUTS TECHNOLOGY AND UNCREWED SYSTEMS THROUGH THEIR PACES IN PORTUGAL

An armed autonomous Pacific 24 RHIB, hand-launched mini quadcopters, uncrewed surface vessels and surveillance drones will join specially-designed shipping containers, known as PODS, and experimentation vessel XV Patrick Blackett for NATO's annual uncrewed wargames.

More than 200 UK personnel from the Royal Navy, Ministry of Defence and defence industry along with US personnel are working with 25 other nations for the exercise, known as REPMUS, in Troia, southern Portugal.



Co-hosted by the Portuguese, it focuses on cutting-edge uncrewed systems and looks to take technology from test phases to integration into operations and task groups.

The Royal Navy is also testing uncrewed aerial vehicle Peregrine; surveillance drones Puma and Ebee Vision; uncrewed aerial systems Rotron and a remote-piloted seaboot.



CNOA Burns Night Dinner

Venue: *Three Daws, Town Pier, Gravesend, DA11 0BJ*

Date: *Friday 24th January 2025*

Dress: *Gentlemen 2B or Black Tie & Dinner Suit, or Lounge Suit, miniature medals and neck decorations*

Ladies 2B or evening dress or cocktail dress, miniature medals

Please Print	Initial	Rank/Title	(A) Vegetarian (B) Celiac (C) Lactose Intolerant (D) Soft Drinks
Member's Name:			
Guest Name(s):			

Dinner Cost per Head: £40

Application

Send to Lt Cdr Andy Nailor RN at andyandchrisn@gmail.com, or by post to:

Lt Cdr A Nailor RN
 1 Farmcroft, Woodland Park
 GRAVESEND, Kent, DA11 7LT

NO LATER THAN 15 December 2024.

Send via BACS/electronic transfer to: Sort Number 23 05 80 Account 50484076, marked with surname and Burns, for the Treasurer's attention.



CNOA Burns Night Dinner

Programme

19.00 muster pre dinner drinks
19.15 Scottish Dancers
19.30 Drummer leads us into dinner
First Grace
Starter
Piper and Ceremony of the Haggis
Main course
Sweet
Second Grace
Loyal Toast
Scottish talk

Menu

Traditional Burns night menu:

Starter: Choice of two

Main Course: Haggis, Neeps and Tatties, or
Vegetarian Haggis, Neeps and Tatties, or
Other (tbd).

Sweet: (tbd)

Anyone with dietary needs please mark clearly on the booking form above; we will then to provide an alternative. Dairy free options can be provided for those who are lactose intolerant.

Drink: please ensure your consumption allows you to always be responsible. Do not drink and drive.

PARKING

Parking at nearby public car parks.

RN Hunts Down Narco-Sub

Royal Navy patrol ship HMS Trent seized £160m of cocaine from a 'narco-sub' in the Caribbean Sea.

In eight drugs busts in seven months, the Portsmouth-based patrol ship has stopped nearly £750m of narcotics reaching the streets of the UK – or anywhere else.

Trent's latest operation, alongside the US Coast Guard and a US Maritime Patrol Aircraft, was the first 'narco-sub' the Royal Navy has ever intercepted.

The ship's boarding team – comprising US Coast Guard personnel, Royal Marines from 47 Commando and specialist sailors – clambered aboard the semi-submersed vessel in waters 190 nautical miles south of the Dominican Republic.

The team seized 2,000kg of cocaine with a street value of £160m, striking yet another blow to the drugs trade.

HMS Trent's Commanding Officer, Commander Tim Langford, said: "It has been a busy yet rewarding eight months for Trent whilst deployed to the Caribbean, and this latest seizure reinforces the utility of Royal Navy's Offshore Patrol Vessels in the delivery of this vital tasking.

"My skilled team and our embarked USCG Law Enforcement Detachment fought challenging conditions to interdict this semi-submersible – rarely seen in the Caribbean – and were rewarded with another record haul.

"These operations are a team effort, and require involvement from every single member of my crew irrespective of their usual role – they can be extremely proud of what they have achieved."

This eighth drugs bust took place on August 26, just 72 hours after Trent's last successful interdiction in which 462kg of cocaine worth £37m was seized.

About 90 nautical miles north of where they stopped the narco-sub, a high-speed night-time pursuit by Trent's sea boats saw two suspects and 12 bales of drugs seized, ready to be handed over to US authorities.

Having seized 9,459kg of drugs – worth nearly £750m – Trent surpasses HMS Argyll as the best hunter of smugglers in the Royal Navy this century, smashing the frigate's £620m running total (including busts in the Caribbean during patrols in 2014).

These successful interceptions disrupt Transnational Criminal Organisations (TCO), and underscore the Navy's vital role in maintaining maritime security and upholding international law.



CNOA Events Programme

Year: 2025

DATE	SPEAKER/ACTIVITY	SUBJECT	COMMENT
10 January	Martin Watts	Gallipoli 1915	Virtual meeting
14 February	AGM		
14 March	Derek Goodwin	LNG Bunkers, Cold Ironing and Scrubbers	
11 April	Social Evening		
9 May	Nick Ball	Navy Board Ship Models	Nick is the Collection Curator at Chatham Historic Dockyard
13 June	Mark Gambell	Seamanship	
11 July	Summer Social Evening		
August	No meeting. Summer Leave.		
12 September	Peter Gilbert	tbd	
October	Trafalgar Dinner tbc		
14 November	Mark Bathurst	The History and Restoration of Paddle Steamer Medway Queen	
12 December	President's Christmas Social		

TRAFALGAR DINNER PORT

Special thanks go to Natalie Bywaters and the Royal Navy Officers' Charity & Association of Royal Navy Officers for their generous sponsorship of the port for the CNOA Trafalgar dinner.



CHATHAM NAVAL OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS



Joining Fee and Annual Subscription

With effect from 20th March 2023, new members will be required to pay a joining fee of £30 by cheque or transfer to CNOA at the following bank:

Metro Bank Sort code 23 05 80 Account 50484076

Cost £20 PA payable to Chatham Naval Officers Association

Address if required 2 Calverly Road, Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2TB

On receipt of the joining fee new members will receive an Association tie or scarf and lapel badge. The Annual Subscription of £20 applies from the date of joining if this occurs before 1st July, and then will be renewed by Standing Order from the following 1st January.

New members who join after 1st July will be required to submit a Standing order from the following 1st January.

Annual Subscription – Current members

The annual subscription remains at £20 and, with effect from 1 January 2024, the subscription will be payable annually on that date. In the first instance, and to allow members time to alter their current standing order dates, a transition period of 3 months, to 31st March 2024 will be in place, after which an audit and follow up process will be undertaken.

CHATHAM NAVAL OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL STANDING ORDER FORM

Please complete this form and return it to the Hon Treasurer: Lieutenant Jan Dean RNR, 79A Cherry Avenue, Swanley, Kent, BR8 7OU, or, if you prefer, you can scan a copy and email it to cnoauk@gmail.com. You can arrange a standing order electronically via your bank and, for those using traditional banking methods this form can be used to inform your bank of your instructions as below.

I wish to make my annual subscription payments by standing order to the Chatham Naval Officers' Association.

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Name of your Bank: _____

Address of your Bank: _____

Your Bank Sort Code: ____/____/____

Your Account Number: _____

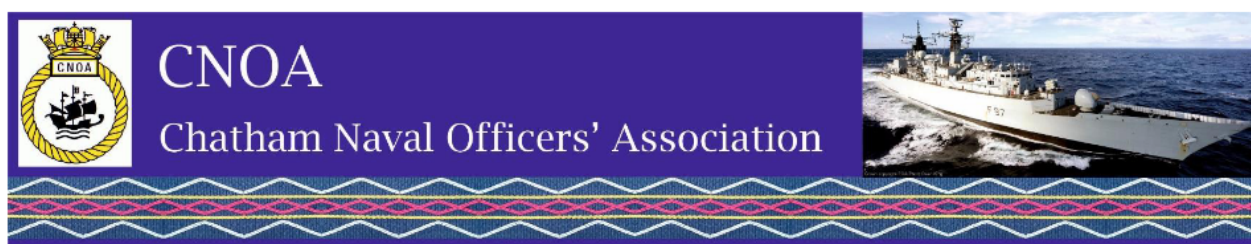
To my bank:

I request you to pay the regular sum of: £20 PA

Metro Bank sort code 23 05 80 account 50484076

Payable to Chatham Naval Officers Association

Address if required 2 Calverly Road, Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2TB



If you enjoy the CNOA activities, why not extend an invitation to a like-minded serving or retired officer? Or ask them to look at cnoa.org.uk



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

SURNAME		FORENAMES		DATE
HOME ADDRESS Tel. No: E Mail Address:			BUSINESS ADDRESS Tel. No: E Mail Address:	
RANK	TYPE OF COMMISSION	SPECIALISATION / AWARDS & QUALIFICATIONS		
BRIEF CAREER DETAILS				
<p>General Data Protection Regulation: I agree that all the above details may be maintained and kept by the CNOA and RSME for the purposes of membership records and security. I agree / do not agree (delete as applicable) to my details being published in a membership booklet.</p> <p>SIGNED.....</p>				
PRESENT OCCUPATION				
PROPOSER'S NAME	PROPOSER'S SIGNATURE	HOW LONG KNOWN		
SECONDER'S NAME	SECONDER'S SIGNATURE	HOW LONG KNOWN		