



ASWI ASSOCIATION CHAIRMAN NEWS LETTER 2012

20 September 2012

Dear Members

I thought I'd send out this year's news letter before we hold our annual Dinner and Dance on Sat 13th Oct at the Portland Heights Hotel in the attempt to convince those who have pledged and those who have still to make the plunge to come along to what is billing to be yet another successful and enjoyable weekend of reunion and celebration on Portland.

I look forward to greeting all who are attending the D&D and am pleased to announce that this year we will be hosting our new 'Association President', Captain Hugh Beard RN and his wife Jenny. Capt Beard is the current Commanding Officer of HMS Westminster, the RN's lead Fleet ASW unit, who has kindly agreed to act primarily as the associations' figure head and to promote our historic association.

We will also have one of our 'Boys in Blue' attending the function; CPO (UW) Gary Crouchman and his wife Gill. Gary, who is also serving on the Westminster, has been instrumental in rekindling a direct line of communication with the serving and ex-serving members of the association and the current serving members of the UW branch. Gary has also volunteered to take an active part in the association business and is now the Serving Members representative. (to be ratified at the AGM in Oct).

We have enjoyed another successful year's social programme (to date) holding 6 x monthly American Supper and Raffle evenings, which not only gathers the regular supportive members and their wife's for an evening of chat and reminiscence, but also raises a significant amount of money on the raffles which goes towards extraordinary social functions.

We held a well supported and enjoyable Valentines Supper evening in February and have a Christmas Supper planned for Friday 14th December in the club house.

As I write this, I've literally just been informed by Pete Hill our Vice Chairman and the current Fleet ASW author that the ASW (UW) department within HMS Collingwood are on the move internally within the camp and have little or no room, in their new location, for the ASWI memorabilia which adorns the offices and passageways of Marlborough building.

Rest assured I will be taking an active interest in making sure that any unwanted historic and relevant memorabilia is relocated to a suitable location (our club house, Whale Island) to ensure yesteryear is not forgotten; again.



Some interesting news from Buzz Central (via Facebook) indicates there is keen interest within the Serving UW branch, to initiate an association for all UW rates within the branch. Gary Crouchman and Bob Burton are investigating this new initiative which can only be another positive step forward in maintaining a strong TASI/ASWI/UW branch identity.

I'd like once again like to say a particular thanks to the association committee members who have supported me and the members throughout another year of service, namely Pete Hill, Bob Burton, Andy Gleave and Bill Bailey for their continued efforts in our endeavours to provide the service that our members are accustomed too.

Very special thanks must again go to our members Wife's, Ladies and Partners, who support us at all our social functions in particular in their attempts to expand our girths with the excellent food that is always supplied at our supper evenings.

I thank all association members, those who regularly support the social events and in particular those whom live further afield but remain strong and positive towards the association and our main aim to promote 'Esprit De Corps' amongst members so as to enhance prestige within service.

Acquirat qui tuetur!

Yours Aye

Peter