



Exeter Flotilla Newsletter December 2024



Committee Members

Chairman:	Col Ian Moore RM
Treasurer	Mr Ian Yule FRICS
General Secretary	Capt James Luard RN
Membership Secretary	Capt David Goodall RN
Lecture Secretary	2/O Dita Dixon WRNS
Visits Secretary	Capt. M.Croxford RN
Trafalgar Secretary	Cdr Trevor Waddington OBE RN
Golf Secretary	Surgeon Cdre Robert Harland RN
Newsletter Editor	Surgeon Cdr Mike Wilson RD RNR
CTCRM Liaison Secretary	Maj Ralph Howard-Williams RM
Website Manager	Cdr Trevor Waddington OBE RN

128 Members

For a membership application:

exeterflotilla.org.uk/membership-application.html

The King's Visit To CTCRM

as

Captain General RM

15th November 2024





The Captain General is the Ceremonial head of the Royal Marines. Previously it was the Colonel in Chief until 1948. The first Captain General was King George VI.

The Professional head of the Royal Marines is General Gwyn Jenkins RM

For more information see [Wikipedia.org/wiki//Captain General Royal Marines](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Captain_General_Royal_Marines)

50th Trafalgar Day Service



HMS Exeter Bell

Official Guests

Cdre Jake Moores RN
Cllr Kevin Mitchell
Admiral Sir James Burnell-Nugent
Lady Mary Burnell-Nugent DL
Rear Admiral Rob Pedre
Commander Anthony Tipping RN
Commander Andrew Loring RN
The Revd Stephen Ashley-Emery KHC RN
Lt Cdr Caroline Woods RNR
Lt Cdr James Phillips RNR

High Sheriff of Devon
Lord Mayor of Exeter

COMUKSF and Flotilla Patron
Training Commander HMS Raleigh
Commander BRNC Dartmouth
Deputy Chaplain of the Fleet
HMS Pegasus
HMS Vivid

The Service was well attended despite it being such a wet and windy day.

The Sermon was delivered by
The Revd Stephen Ashley-Emery KHC RN
Deputy Chaplain of the Fleet



The Devon and Exeter Fire and Rescue Service Concert Band

Traditionally we would have had a Royal Marines Band but the charge would now be close to £500. For the future however, the justification for a Veterans' organisation such as the Exeter Flotilla having to pay for the services of a military band, has been raised by Cdr Waddington with former Royal Marine David Reed, Member of Parliament for Exmouth and Exeter East, who has passed this on to the Veterans' Minister.

Golf Club Dinner



The Annual Golf and Summer Dinner was held as usual at the East Devon Golf Club Budleigh Salterton on the 18th July 2024 in glorious weather and surroundings.

Seven golfers competed for the Exeter Flotilla Trophy which was won by Lt Cdr William Lines with a magnificent 41 Stableford points, including an unusual 2 on the 4th hole - closely followed by Mark Smith RM a guest of Ian Corner.

The trophy and golf balls were presented by Captain David Goodall, acting Flotilla Chairman, during the course of the meal.

Due to cancellations for various health problems a total of 28 members and guests greatly enjoyed an absolutely delicious three course meal followed by coffee, mints and port.

The usual Naval Traditions were observed and the Health of King Charles was toasted under the watchful eye of Cdr Trevor Waddington as Mr. Vice.

Entertainment was provided with several appropriate jokes and stories interspersed throughout the meal to accompany the Port. Kathleen Harland, a Naval Historian, provided the background and details of the execution of Admiral Byng in 1757 for not obeying Admiralty Orders - a lesson to us all.

Overall a most happy and jolly time was experienced and it is hoped that even more members will be able to attend in 2025 - on Thursday 24th July.

See you all there.

Robert Harland.



Lectures

January	Logistics in the Age of Fighting Sail	Rear Admiral Bob Mark
February	Soldier in the Sand	Gen Sir Simon Mayall
March	Flying from Ships	Graham Mottram
May	D-Day Landings and UK Hydrographic Office Archives	Dr Andrew Leitch
June	Patron's Address	Rear Admiral Rob Pedre
July	Fenix Carriages	Mark Broadbent
September	The Future of Navigation	Mark Casey
October	Trafalgar the Leeward Column	Jan Pentreath
November	Life in Wellington's Army - a Re-appraisal	Gareth Glover
December	Smugglers and the South West Coastal Path	Rear Admiral Bob Mark

Unfortunately the Mess Dining Room has often not been available, so many members have chosen to dine at the nearby Toby Grill.

Our Chairman, Col Moore, has recently given us the good news that we have now established a proper return to the Commando Training Centre Officers' Mess for our talk evenings which takes us back to a more straightforward event - as in the past. He is told that the food will be improved if simpler.

Annual General Meeting 2024

Held at CTCRM before the Lecture on 14 May 2024

1. Welcome and Remembrance

The Chairman opened the meeting at 1940 by welcoming all attendees. He then invited all to stand for one minute in memory of Captain Richard Stenlake Royal Navy who has crossed the bar since our last AGM.

He then read an extract from a letter from the Master of the King's Household, thanking the Flotilla for their letter wishing HM the King a speedy recovery from his cancer.

2. Apologies

The Chairman noted the apologies received from Bob Dean, David Elkington, Mike Wilson and Mike Croxford who rang this afternoon to say that he had at last managed to make contact with the Captain's Secretary of HMS Prince of Wales to press our case for a visit. He then passed on best wishes to all from Bob Symonds who now lives in Daventry which is a bit too far for evening meetings.

3. Minutes of last AGM

a. The Chairman noted that the minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting held on 9th May 2023 had been distributed to all last May and since no comment had been received, invited all to accept them as a true and correct record.

Accepted unanimously.

b. Matters arising from the minutes:- Nil.

4. Accounts

The Chairman noted that the Certified Balance Sheet had been sent to all in the middle of last month and asked if there were any questions on it. In the absence of questions, he invited our Treasurer, Ian Yule, to pass on our recorded vote of thanks to the Financial Examiner (Mr Adrian Ford) who has kindly audited our accounts.

5. Chairman's Report

The Chairman noted that his annual report had been distributed to all in early April and highlighted various aspects from it. He hoped our first Yachtie, Tim Baker, would be able to add to our membership by inviting fellow Yachties to join the Flotilla. He praised the lecture programme and Dita's efforts to achieve it but noted that we needed more members attending these excellent evenings He highlighted the shortage of member's memoirs and invited more to complete theirs. He then went on to remind attendees that the lack of food in the mess this evening was as a direct result of the MoD changing the catering rules but that he hoped to be able to establish a way ahead, aiming to continuing to eat in or near the mess in the future, at a meeting with the catering Contract Manager tomorrow morning.

6. Election of Flotilla Officers

a. The Chairman noted that Captain David Goodall volunteered to take over as Membership Secretary from Surg Cdr Mike Wilson and invited Members to approve this change.

Approved unanimously.

b. He then observed that all the current Committee Members have volunteered to continue in post and invited Members to approve these extensions for another year:-

2/O Dita Dixon – Lecture Secretary. Captain Mike Croxford – Visits Secretary, SurgCdre Robert Harland – Golf Secretary. Cdr Trevor Waddington – Trafalgar Day Coordinator, Sea Cadet Liaison and Website Secretary, Major Ralph Howard Williams - CTCRM Camp Liaison, Mr Ian Yule – Treasurer, Surg Cdr Mike Wilson – Newsletter Secretary, Lt Cdr David Scott - Zoom Secretary and Daily Telegraph Liaison and Capt James Luard – General Secretary.

Approved unanimously

The Chairman then thanked all the Committee members for the support provided.

7. Appointment of New Chairman

The Chairman noted that as he has now completed his second year in post he will be looking for a successor in twelve months time.

8. Annual subscription increase.

The Chairman reminded Members of the cost of living increases and that our current subscription of £25 a year has not changed for the last six years. Sadly, all our costs have gone up so we need to increase the annual subscription by £5.00 to £30.00 per annum from May 2024.

9. Any Other Business

The Chairman reminded attendees that the Trafalgar Day Service in the Cathedral on Sunday 20th October would be the fiftieth we had organised and asked for maximum participation.

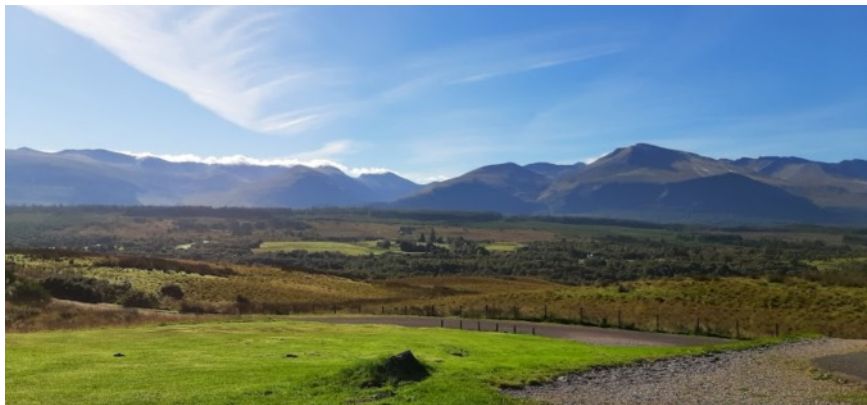
The Chairman closed the AGM at 2000 by thanking our Guest Speaker, Dr Andrew Leitch for his forbearance and introducing him to his audience.

Exeter Sea Cadets

Cdr Waddington presented a cheque for £100 to Exmouth Sea Cadets on behalf of the Flotilla at their annual Parade when the SCC unit is inspected by the area officer.

Commando Memorial

Spean Bridge



The Commando Memorial at Spean Beige in Scotland.

The monument stands as a memorial to the British Commandos who trained all around the Lochaber region which the monument overlooks, while they were based at the Achnacarry Commando Centre established in 1942.

For more information:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commando_Memorial

Photos Margaret Wilson 18.9.24