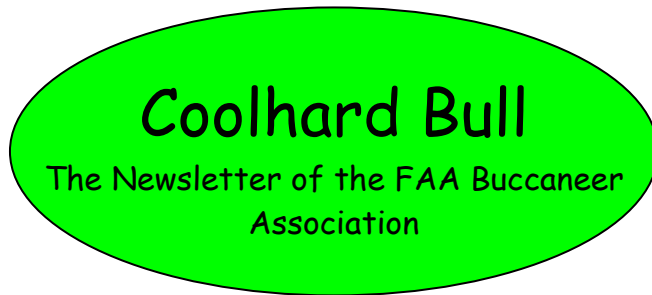




www.faaba.co.uk



Air Power from the Sea

May 2008 Vol 1 Iss 4

Association News

1. Royal Court Hotel 2008. Sales for reunion tickets are going well with nearly 140 people attending so far. The hotel offer closes on the 23rd May so if you are still thinking of going but have not put your name to the list you are advised to do so now. And if you have booked the hotel yourself but not informed myself or Brian Sharrock please contact me urgently. You must be booked through the Association in order to take advantage of the concessionary packaged price. And if you have booked but not send your supplement please do so straight away as we do not confirm your booking until we have received the supplement. The concessionary cost is as follows:

3 Night package inc all evening meals and breakfasts	£123
2 Night package inc all evening meals and breakfasts	£90
1 Night package inc evening meal and breakfast	£53

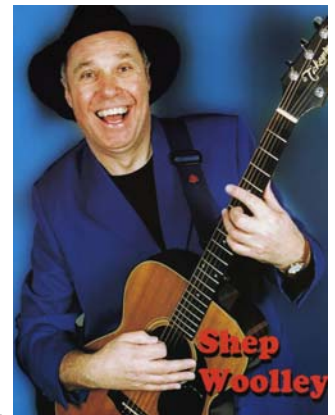
All house lager, bitter, wines and spirits will be charged at £1:50 all weekend in our bar only. The main hotel lounge will charge current hotel prices. The Association supplement is £6 pp (£5 for full members). Please pay the supplement direct to the FAABA now (we need numbers for our catering team, tot and pre drinks etc) and the hotel bill to be paid individually on leaving. The Itinery is as follows:

Friday Meet and Greet Upper Lounge Bar comm. 19:00 Up spirits 19:30.
Carvery in the Britannia room from 2000 to 2130.

Saturday 11am AGM in the Blenheim Suite. Meet in bar after for trip to Bruntingthorpe approx 1pm

Saturday 1900 Pre drinks in the Upper Lounge Bar. 1930 Up spirits and sherry or wine for the Ladies. 2000 Gala dinner in the Britannia Suite with guest entertainer Shep Woolley followed by a disco

Sunday 0800 to 1000 Breakfast in the Windsor Suite. Guests to book own Sunday dinner (not inc in package price). Luchtime drinks in the Windsor bar from 12 noon until late. If there is sufficient interest a quiz will be held



For those of you not attending the reunion there is an event at the FAA Museum which may interest you. A Veterans day entitled "Living Memories Day" will be held on the Sunday 29th June. We will not be manning a stall for obvious reasons but other members of the Fly Navy Federation will be present. The aim of the day is to promote a greater knowledge and awareness of the role played by ex serving members of all services and to highlight their contribution and role in the history of the armed services. There will also be various welfare associations offering help and support to those who need it. The days programme will include access to all the museum exhibitions, a presentation of Veterans badges to ex service personnel and a variety of stands showing the work and roles or organisations involved in the veterans community. The event will start at 10 am.

At the Fly Navy Heritage conference in November we were treated to a very informative and upbeat presentation on the proposed new carriers (CVFs). I have edited a summary of the presentation below with the additional info now made available in the first few paragraphs to bring it up to date.

80,000 tonnes of Steel for Carriers

Contracts for the supply of 65 million pounds worth of steel, for the construction of the Royal Navy's two new aircraft carriers have been announced by Minister for Defence Equipment and Support Baroness Taylor. The supply of over 80,000 tonnes of steel from Corus for the manufacture of the two ships, with an estimated value of £65 million, is the same amount required for Heathrow Airport's Terminal 5 and three times that for Wembley Stadium. Another £8 million worth of contracts for other projects in the CVF are:

The supply of Blown Fibre Optic Cable Plant (BFOCP) technology for the installation of optical cables for data transfer within the ships at a cost in excess of £3 million;
Reverse osmosis equipment which will produce over 500 tonnes of fresh water daily for up to 1,450 personnel onboard the ships, valued at over £1 million; and Aviation fuel systems equipment to allow the fuelling and de-fuelling of embarked aircraft at a contract value of approximately £4 million. Project Team Leader, Rear Admiral Bob Love said: "We are delighted with the reaction we have had from industry in terms of their keenness to support this significant project. These orders take us further along the path to commencing build work within the yards."

The UK is procuring two new Aircraft Carriers for the Royal Navy - HMS Queen Elizabeth and HMS Prince Of Wales. The carriers will be the biggest and most powerful surface warships ever constructed for the Royal Navy and will deliver an increased strategic effect and influence around the world. The ships will be delivered by the Aircraft Carrier Alliance (ACA) - an innovative alliance comprising industry participants and MOD - in which MOD acts as both client and participant. For the manufacture phase the industrial participants will be the BAES/VT planned Joint Venture, Thales, Babcock and BAES (Surface Ships & Insyte).

Facts and Figures:

The carrier will be similar size and weight as the ocean liner the QE2

The CVF weighs more than 32,500 average family cars.

Diesel generators that provide electricity and propulsion to CVF weigh up to 220 tonnes apiece, producing a total power output of 108MW - the equivalent of the power needed to run a town the size of Swindon.

CVF will carry over 8,600 tonnes of fuel to support the Ship and her aircraft - enough for the average family car to travel to the moon and back twelve times.

The ships can carry more than 1,000 tonnes of food - enough to feed the crew for six weeks.

The flight deck area is nearly 13,000m² - the equivalent of 49 tennis courts or three football pitches.

The hangar is 29,000m³ - equivalent to 12 Olympic swimming pools.

The crew will have a range of recreational activities, when not on duty, such as film shows, fitness training, weight training and gym work, available 24-hours-a-day. As is currently the case

in the fleet, all personnel have access to e-mail and the Internet, subject to satellite communications equipment not being used for operational purposes.

CVF will produce over 150 tonnes of fresh water daily.

Designing and building the ships is expected to sustain and create some 10,000 jobs across the UK throughout its design and manufacture. At the peak of assembly, over a thousand personnel are expected to be engaged on CVF at each of the yards at Govan, Barrow, Rosyth and Portsmouth.

The CVF dimensions are:

65,000 tonnes at full displacement

284m (931ft) length x 73m (239ft) width at flight deck level.

56m from keel to masthead - 6m taller than Nelson's Column.

11m max draft (keel to waterline)

Nine decks deep + Flight Deck with 40 aircraft

WIT AND WISDOM - FROM THE MILITARY MANUAL

Any ship can be a minesweeper. Once.

"You've never been lost until you've been lost at Mach 3." - Paul F. Crickmore (test pilot)

"The only time you have too much fuel is when you're on fire."

"Blue water Navy truism: There are more planes in the ocean than submarines in the sky." -
From an old carrier sailor

"If the wings are travelling faster than the fuselage, it's probably a helicopter -- and therefore, unsafe."

"When one engine fails on a twin-engine airplane you always have enough power left to get you to the scene of the crash."

"Without ammunition, the RAF would be just another expensive flying club."

"I remember when sex was safe and flying was dangerous."

"Mankind has a perfect record in aviation; we never left one up there!"

"The Piper Cub is the safest airplane in the world; it can just barely kill you." - Attributed to Max Stanley (Northrop test pilot)

"Never fly in the same cockpit with someone braver than you."

Basic Flying Rules: "Try to stay in the middle of the air. Do not go near the edges of it. The edges of the air can be recognized by the appearance of ground, buildings, sea, trees and interstellar space. It is much more difficult to fly there."

The RN Historic Flight

In the last magazine I gave out contact details which were out of date. The new details are as follows:

Lucy O'Flaherty
FNHT
RNAS Yeovilton
Ilchester BA22 8HT

E mail: office@flynavymail.com Web site: www.royalnavyhistoricflight.org.uk

HMS Fulmar Association

Those of you who went to the Lossiemouth reunion last year will know that the long-term intention was to form a stand-alone Fulmar Association run by and funded independently from the FAABA although members may wish to belong to and join both Associations. Hughie Williams has agreed to organize this but if anyone wishes to help he does need help with the formation of the committee. Hughie has just purchased a laptop, however as we go to press it has no internet connection. You can contact him direct on 01343 541767 or you can still Email myself and I will pass the message on via a third party Email address we have set up.

FAABA Whisky

Anyone attending the RCH2008 reunion and wants a bottle of whisky (approx cost £25) it would help if you pre-ordered and paid for it in advance. This applies to all other merchandising as well. For a full list contact H Williams on 01935 840177 or hedwinwilliams@btinternet.com

Membership

We have over 600 names on the nominal list of which just over 100 have elected to become full members (thanks to them all) May I please ask you all to consider becoming a full member. It's only £5 a year and it will ensure the continued existence of the Association. Whilst none of the committee are paid for anything other than genuine expenses, stationary, stamps etc it is getting increasingly expensive to run and fund advance payments for all the extras provided at the reunions. So please join and commit a fiver.

The Fly Navy Federation

The FAABA were tasked to design and publish a recruiting leaflet for all ex FAA personnel to join their respective association(s). This has now been finished and will be back from the printers by the end of May. If anyone would like copies please contact me and help spread the word of the FNF and the FAABA in particular.

Cdr Geoff Bowker and the Fly Navy 100 team are making great progress with the preparations for next year. Cdr Bowker will be at the next Fly Navy Federation meeting to give a full update and an office is now established at Yeovilton, staffed by Cdr Sue Eagles and Lt Carolyn Jones; the direct telephone number is 01935 456530. A logo has also been finalised and will be available for use on promotional material within a couple of weeks. The FAAOA also have funds to install a FAAOA memorial at the National Arboretum, but wish to see the level of support from Federation members and FN 100 for a full FAA memorial before proceeding. There is also a possibility of an all ranks garden party at Buckingham Palace. So comments please and advise of your interest.

Secretary Dave Clark 1 Hampton Close Stoford Somerset BA22 9UN Tel 01935 474862

Email: faaba@tiscali.co.uk We site: www.faaba.co.uk