

H.M.S. BRISTOL ASSOCIATION



REUNION

Now that the sunny weather has broken and the rain begins to fall I finally have a chance to get this latest newsletter out, apologies for the inconsistency but she that must be obeyed has other ideas on how to use my spare time. Hopefully after this one I will be publishing a monthly newsletter so if you want to have your say please let me know.

The first reunion was held on Saturday 24th May in the upstairs room of the Victory. Being the first official get together and being hastily convened it was well attended with about 60 ex-crew members and guests. The beer flowed well (even though I kept loosing mine) and it was great to see everyone catching up and swinging the lamp. I didn't get to talk to as many people as I wished to and for this I apologise, hopefully next time. Ideas for next year have already been mentioned (including Wilmington) so if you have any thoughts on this please let me know. There was a small amount of money left over from the reunion and this will be used to open an account for the Association. Once this has been completed I will get an application form together and hopefully placed on the web site for either downloading or sending electronically.



COMMITTEE

Since the last newsletter three more people have volunteered their time to sit on the committee, these are Pete Barling, Rob Lunt and Bill Whaley who has kindly volunteered to act as Treasurer. Thank you all for your time. I will try and arrange a committee meeting for either Oct or Nov depending on member's availability.



SEA STORIES

As no one has yet come forward with any ditz I thought I would get the ball rolling and remind some of you of an incident that happened whilst on passage up the Thames to Greenwich in 83. It was early in the morning, about 0430, special sea duty men closed up and the ship in 2 Yankee when the navigator phoned down from the Bridge asking for two cups of coffee and two rounds of bacon butties for the OOW and himself. This request was dutifully carried out and a young STWD was sent to the Bridge with the afore mentioned victuals. 10 or 15 mins later he returns to the Wardroom with a full tray!! Puzzled, I asked the young lad if the Navigator had changed his mind, "no" he said, "so why do you still have a full tray" I asked, "there is no body up there" he replied, "what do mean there is nobody up there" I asked, his reply almost brought me to tears, "ALL THE LIGHTS ARE OFF, THERE IS NO ONE UP THERE". Nice one.

There must be lots of little stories like this, so if you have one you would like to share just tell me and I will include it in the next newsletter.



May I take this opportunity on behalf of all the committee members to say "thankyou" to all those that made the reunion and gave their support. I for one am looking forward to next years.

Yours Aye

Jim Bellew

NOTICE

By the time this letter reaches the web site and other places HMS BRISTOL'S refit should be over. If any one wants to visit the ship for a trip down memory lane please contact me and I will give you the phone number. For obvious reasons I will not promulgate it on the web site

