

September

EDITORIAL

We are now approaching the end of our SANO year and looking to the highlight of our activities, which is our Trafalgar Night Dinner. As you will note, our Principal Guest on this occasion is **Commodore Eric Thompson RN**. (see below).

As mentioned on previous occasions this function is most popular and members are advised to make bookings ASAP in order to avoid being disappointed.

Shortly, your Executive Committee is to convene to map out our programme for 2020. We have a blank canvas at the moment and would very much welcome your input regarding speakers/lectures for next year.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHANGES

Members please note that the following change has taken place in the EC. **Cdr Neville Dutton** has decided to stand down as Membership Secretary citing health reasons and in the meantime this duty has been taken on by **Lt Joe Kirk**, who is also the Webmaster. Any queries regarding membership should now be directed to Joe. (Details on website, [Contact](#) page).

TRAFALGAR NIGHT

Our Trafalgar Night Dinner will take place this year on **SATURDAY 26 OCTOBER**

(1830 for 1900) when our Principal guest will be **Commodore Eric Thompson RN MBE MSc CEng RN (Rtd) DL**, born in Scotland during the Second World War in which his father served in the Royal Navy. He won a scholarship to Dartmouth and was streamed as an Engineer Officer. Eric volunteered for submarines and thirty seven years later retired as Commodore of Britain's principal submarine base at



at Faslane. He took a Masters degree in Acoustics and became lead officer in the ultra-secret world of underwater warfare and stealth technology. His MBE was awarded for leadership during a submarine emergency on deterrent patrol. In February last year (2018) he published his best selling autobiography, '*On Her Majesty's Nuclear Service*' which was runner up in the 2018 Mountbatten Best Maritime Book Award.

WEBSITE

The program supporting the website has recently changed and members are encouraged to give their views on the new arrangements. [Contact](#) Webmaster.

MEMBERSHIP

The Association has pleasure in welcoming **Rear Admiral Mike Kimmons CB**. Mike was Chief of Staff Personnel and Support to CINCFLEET and Chief Naval Logistics

Officer. Among his other appointments included Logs Cdr HMS ILLUSTRIOUS, Sec ACNS and Sec/DCF.

NEVILLE’S QUIZ July/ August

Q: The French call it “The Battle of Dominica”. What do the British call it and who were the senior officers of the opposing fleets?

Ans: The Battle of the Saintes: Admiral Sir George Rodney and Comte de Grasse.

POOLEY SWORDS

Ian Wright was talking to Roger Felgate at the Pub Lunch who told him about Pooley Sword <https://pooleysword.com/>. They are a firm based at Shoreham Airport (not sure why they are there, but never mind) who sell and refurbish swords.

PUB LUNCH



A most enjoyable occasion took place on 15 August. Twenty eight members and guests gathered at the ‘Swiss Cottage’ in Shoreham for the annual pub lunch. We were blest with fine weather and this enabled us to gather for a pre-lunch drink in the garden adjacent to a charming lake. This probably goes down as the best attended pub lunch for some time! It is not always easy to select venues but all credit



this time must go to Richard and Christina Stanton for ferreting out such a good location! The food was typical pub grub and excellent value. Well worth considering for the future.

PROGRAMME 2019

DATE	DAY	EVENT	SPEAKER	TOPIC
26 Oct 19	Sat	Trafalgar Night Dinner	Cdre Eric Thompson MBE RN	--
16 Nov 19	Sat	Lecture/Lunch	Capt Chris Page RN	Operation Sea Lion’ would it have worked?

TAILPIECE

Robert Benchley’s message to his editor at the New Yorker on arrival in Venice: *‘Streets full of water. Please advise’* Best wishes, Bob