



# Association Newsletter, April/May 2020

## **EDITORIAL**

During this period of lockdown and the enforced cancellation of events, we will endeavour to keep you up to date with the latest information available, as it affects our Association.

You will see from the Chairman's letter below that we are optimistically looking forward to a return to normality as soon as is feasibly possible. In addition to a reconstructed Events Programme, it will be necessary to include an AGM at a suitable opportunity.

In the meanwhile, I have been in contact with members of the EC asking them how they are occupying themselves during this period. I will include an example in this and future Newsletters as long as this crisis goes on. Whatever you do, please 'keep safe.'

## **FROM THE CHAIR**

By the time you read this dit we shall be looking forward to the end of the second three-week lockdown but, for those of us classed as 'vulnerable', then the end of the 13-week 'stay indoors' edict still seems some way off.

Each of you should have been contacted by one or another member of the EC just before Easter. If you were not, then please contact the Secretary/Membership secretary because it means our records were not up to date – stand fast those of you who live outside south east England. The Ring Round served two purposes: one to establish some form of contact now that the Events programme has been suspended and two, to assist in any way should assistance have been needed. It seems that all of you appreciated the call and, happily, only a very few needed any assistance. As a by-product of the Ring Round we discovered that a few of you have health/welfare issues and, where asked, we have taken action as necessary. For the future we are considering contacting those members who do not regularly attend SANO events – possibly on an annual basis. As a reminder, the data/information the EC holds on the SANO membership are for the purpose of administering the Association and are not shared with any outside organisation.

Until such time as things return to normal, whatever that 'normal' looks like, the SANO events programme remains suspended. You have long since received the papers/reports for the AGM whose date has been and gone but, to satisfy the constitution, we will be holding a shortened AGM probably combined with a lecture/lunch later in the year when things have returned to 'normal'. With the date of the MGN (15 May) falling into the 13-week period (never mind a possible third three-week extension) it has been cancelled however, the EC may consider re-instating it (by way of celebration?) – again, if things return to 'normal' sooner rather than later. Above all we hope that 'all this' will be over in good time for us to be able to celebrate our traditional Trafalgar Night dinner.

My message to you at the moment is: Do not hesitate to contact a member of the EC should you think we may be able to help – between us we have sufficient 'CDF' to assist or know where the answer may be found.

Stay safe, stay well!      Yours aye, Richard Stanton, Chairman SANO

## OBITUARY: COMMODORE MURIEL HOCKING RD\* RNR (RIP)



Members of the Royal Naval Reserve will be saddened to learn of the passing of their first female Commodore, Muriel Hocking, after a long illness, on 26 February 2020. Muriel joined the WRNS in 1963 and went into the RNR six years later. I first met Muriel in 1972 and subsequently served with her in the UK and Hong Kong as a PI in Naval Intelligence, as did another of our members Lt Cdr Bill Walker. She will be remembered for her professionalism, dedication and outstanding leadership qualities. In her role as Commodore she also worked alongside Captain John Stoy. (Ed)

## WHAT DID YOU DO DURING ‘LOCKDOWN’?: COMMANDER IAN WRIGHT

Ian turned the clock back some 60 years to his days as a young Biochemist. He decided in his spare time to construct a model of a protein molecule. Judging by its size I shudder to think what the relative size of a Coronavirus would look like with all its associated protein molecules!



## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS 2020

In the light of the current situation, the Programme of Events has been temporarily suspended. As soon as things become clear, we will update you with a new programme.

## TAILPIECE

Trump: *If the boat is sinking why am I 200 ft up in the air?*



Best wishes,  
Bob