



June 2021

EDITORIAL

It is to be hoped that there is no further extension to the lockdown after 19 July which would have the effect of setting our AGM back even further. As indicated, it was not possible to hold our Lecture/Lunch/AGM on 5 June due to current regulations.. We now have a revised date for the meeting which will be held on **Saturday 31 July 2021 (1045 for 1100)** at the Hove Club. Our speaker on this occasion will be **Ian Miles**, whose topic will be **'Night Air Warfare over Sussex'**. Please note also the revised dates of events for your diaries.

OBITUARIES

We were sad to note the passing of **Lt Judy Duncan RAN** (Sydney). Judy was originally a member of HMS SUSSEX and then on a move to Australia joined as a permanent officer in the Royal Australian Navy. Our secretary, Ray Wright was fortunate to call on Judy in Sydney during the occasion of a family visit to Sydney in 2018.

We also regret the crossing of the bar of **Cdr Nobby Hall RN**. Whilst not one of our members, Nobby was known to ex members of HMS SUSSEX. He died whilst serving in Mons in Belgium.

HMS SUSSEX members will remember **CPO Richard 'Dickie' Holden** who passed away on 14 June aged 94.

Cdr MARTIN RICHARDS LEGACY

EC reviewed the options recorded at the last meeting and decided:

- a. Donation to sea Cadets towards/for new Zest dinghy-£500.
- b. Donation to Dame Vera Lynn White Cliffs of Dover Memorial- £100 in due course.
- c. Donation to window plaque at Worthing Pier - £100
- d. Visiting lecturers costs-to be covered as required.

THE FIRST WOMAN OFFICER TO BE APPOINTED TO THE RANK OF ADMIRAL

Commodore Jude Terry, who has served her nation and Navy for nearly a quarter of a century, has been selected for promotion to rear admiral – making her the most senior woman in the Royal Navy, past or present.

She will be responsible for sailors and Royal Marines from the moment they are recruited to their final day in Service – spanning their entire careers by overseeing training, welfare and career management



BOOK REVIEW (from Philip Sherwin)

NO EARTHLY POLE; [The Search for the Truth about the Franklin Expedition]

By Ernest Coleman, Lt RN ISBN 978 1 3981 02118

After 36 years in the RN, Coleman found himself i/c the Recruiting office in Lincoln. With a long-term interest in the RN's search for the North West Passage and frustrated by the increasingly hostile treatment of our efforts by academia, 'who had not ventured north of Watford', he persuaded his superiors to sponsor him searching King William Island for facts. On return, he attended a Franklin Conference in Greenwich and challenged the principal speaker's wisdom that Franklin's Expedition had been lost due to the incompetence of his second in command, Captain Crozier. While historians were horrified, explorers were impressed, and he was awarded the Fellowship of the Royal Geographical Society. Two further expeditions followed, one an amazing solo trek. Coleman challenges the perceived wisdom of cannibalism with a well-argued case and some valid new evidence. An interesting book by a junior officer with an impressive CV.

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION OF NAVAL OFFICERS

Programme 2021

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DATE	DAY	EVENT	VENUE	SPEAKER / TIME	TOPIC
31 st July 21	Sat	AGM/Lecture/ Lunch	Hove club	Ian Miles (1045 for 1100)	Night Air War Over Sussex
9 th Sept 21	Thu	Pub lunch		1200	
23 rd Octo- ber	Sat	Trafalgar Night Dinner	Hove Club		
27 th Nov 21	Sat	Lecture/Lunch	Hove Club	Mike Maddox	War in a Stringbag

Key Dates: 30th August Summer Bank Holiday, 25th December Christmas 26th December Boxing Day, 27th 28th December Holidays.

TAILPIECE

There are only two kinds of people who are really fascinating - people who know absolutely everything, and people who know absolutely nothing.

[Oscar Wilde](#)

Best wishes, Bob

Newsletter Editor: Lt Cdr Bob James RD RNR, 2 Harsfold Road, Rustington, BN16 2QE

E-mail: sano.newslet@gmail.com

Tel: 01903 785188

Secretary: Lt Cdr Ray Wright CEng, MIET, RN, Chanctonbury View, Countryman Lane, Shipley, Nr Horsham, RH13 8PZ. E-mail: sano.secretary@googlemail.com Tel: 01403 741986

Temporary Membership Secretary and Treasurer: Cdr Ian Wright RD RNR, 13, Southdown Road, Southwick, West Sussex. BN42 4FT. E-mail: sano.membership@gmail.com Tel: 01273 594697

Webmaster: Lt Cdr Richard Stanton CEng MIET MCIL RN (Details TBA)

2020/21 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The postponed 2020 AGM together with the 2021 AGM of the Association will be held at the Hove Club on **Saturday 31st July 2021** commencing at 10.45, to be followed by a talk given by **Mr Ian Miles** titled **“Seeing in the Dark- Night Fighter Operations over Sussex”**.



Ian recently retired from The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) where he was initially involved in the calibration of civil RADAR and navigation beacons. Latterly he has been in a regularity role with responsibility for the inspection of the UKs two Air Traffic Control Centres at Prestwick and Swanwick and the associated infrastructure.

On the morning of 13th March 1941 the residents of Shipley in West Sussex woke up to find the remains of a Heinkel 111 scattered in fields and gardens. The German Bomber had been shot down at night by a Beau-fighter operating out of RAF Tangmere. Ian has put together the story behind this particular action together with the behind the scenes development of early airborne RADAR.

The talk will be followed by a buffet lunch (Cost £20 a head). A booking form is attached.

AGM/LECTURE/LUNCH SATURDAY 31st JULY 2021

Return to: Ray Wright, Chanctonbury View, Countryman Lane, Shipley, HORSHAM, West Sussex, RH13 8PZ. Email: sano.secretary@googlemail.com

Tel: 01403 741986 by **Monday 26th July 2021**.

From: (block letters please)

I wish to attend the AGM/Lecture/Lunch on Saturday 31st July 2021 commencing 1045

I will be accompanied by (please give details in block letters)

.....
(Note: Guests are welcome, but cannot of course take an active part in the AGM).
Please indicate any special dietary requirements

I enclose a cheque (£20 per head) payable to SANO for

OR I have made a BACS payment of £..... to a/c No. 00751577 at sort code 30-96-83 quoting “AGM21”.

Signed.....Telephone.....Email.....