

SUBMARINE DIVISION



PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM REAR ADMIRAL SUBMARINES (RASM)

Welcome to the Submarine Service's first monthly newsletter which is intended to keep you updated on developments in the Service and keep you informed about upcoming events.

As Rear Admiral Submarines, I would like to open by saying a big thank you to you all – our current service personnel, the families with their unwavering support and the veteran community for your service and continued commitment.

I am always filled with pride as I attend the events to represent the Service and hear of all the hard work and (sometimes) unbelievable achievements that you manage to accomplish – often unsung and unheralded.

During this past year, you have once again risen to the challenges that our Service

dictates from the continuing deployments of our SSBN crews, the unwavering tasking of our attack boats and the re-invigoration of our part in Ice Exercise 18 (ICEX 18) – as always supported by friends and family.

The Submarine Oscars on Saturday, 29 September 2018, will give us the opportunity to formally recognise this and is where we will rightfully celebrate this hard work and recognise those who have made significant contributions towards it. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at this event.

Finally, I hope that you will find this newsletter informative and engaging and I look forward to keeping you updated on all aspects of the Silent Service.



Rear Admiral
John Weale OBE
RASM / ACNS(SM)
/ FOSNI



HMNB Clyde

SINGLE INTEGRATED OPERATING BASE

The Single Integrated Operating Base (SIOB) exists to bring together the significant work which has been ongoing for the last few years to improve the working and lived experience of all personnel at HMNB Clyde.

This includes projects that will deliver a purpose-built Submarine School,

relocating elements of HMS Raleigh, a brand-new Submarine Escape and Rescue Centre with state of the art training facilities and enhancement of current waterfront facilities.

Additionally, work is ongoing with various teams on base including Flag Officer Sea Training (FOST) and the Flotilla, to make

the provision of services and support more streamlined.

As people are at the heart of SIOB workstreams, not only will we see new training facilities but by spring 19 the second tranche of Single Living Accommodation will be completed.



RASM ADVOCATES – AN INTRODUCTION

RASM Advocates were created in 2016 to allow for two-way communications between RASM and the Submarine Service. Members include Junior Rates, Senior Rates and Junior Officers; they act as a conduit of information between RASM and serving submariners, delivering key messages and ensuring that RASM remains in touch with the views and opinions of his people at the grass-roots level. Their current focus is on manpower, alerting RASM to

the issues affecting recruitment and retention but also helping to publicise and promote initiatives which seek to improve manpower and availability.

They are selected to cover a specific geographical area to cover the establishments and locations where Submariners are based. Get in touch with your advocates – tell them what you want to know more about or submit articles for the newsletter!

WO1 Blaney
HMS Anson (Barrow)

LMA France
HMS Astute

LT L Mullin
Abbeywood

WO1 COXN Brown
RNSMS

WO1 Golby
NCHQ

LT Ramsay
Washington DC

LMA Campbell
HMS Artful

WO1 Lennox
Abbeywood

WO2 Smith
HMS Sultan

WO1 Crawford
SMQ(S) Devonport

LT Linden
Abbeywood

Lt Williams
BRNC Dartmouth

WO1 Evans
HMS Collingwood

WO1 McKay
SUBFLOT

LT T Wilson
Northwood

SUBMARINE AVAILABILITY IMPROVEMENT (SAI) PROGRAMME

One of the most significant factors in delivering the UK submarine capability is the availability of our submarines to undertake operations of strategic national importance - all of which are paramount to our ongoing security in a world of global threats and uncertainty.

The Submarine Availability Improvement (SAI) Programme was launched following a joint agreement between

the Submarine Delivery Agency (SDA) and Navy Command. The SAI team has been set up to provide dedicated people, money and spares focussed on maximising availability of submarines to meet our operational requirements.

Over the last 6 months, the programme has been delivering against their key objectives to sustain the Continuous

At Sea Deterrent by maximising SSBN availability and ensuring SSNs are ready to meet operational requirements. Responding to key waterfront issues, SAI have delivered increased spares availability, better access to the boats for contractors and are addressing obsolescence issues which are all having a positive impact.



SUBMARINE FLOTILLA UPDATE

As you may (or may not!) be aware, all submarines are now overseen by a single Flotilla following the amalgamation of the submarine elements of DEVFLOT and FASFLot. The rebadged SUBFLot based in Belmore House has now stood up and taken responsibility for all in service submarines.

Although we still have a sizable footprint in Devonport to support the three remaining T Boats and VANGUARD in refit, HMS TALENT will be the first to move to Faslane next summer which will eventually lead to all operational boats based in Faslane.

HMS TRIUMPH will follow in due course as Devonport becomes a Submarine Refit Facility only. The Astute class continue to develop with an increasing knowledge base of how they perform on operations. We have clearly demonstrated their value to wider stakeholders and Ministers and now need to reap the rewards of these impressive platforms.

By the end of this year we will have all three operational A Boats at sea and looking forward to accepting HMS AUDACIOUS into service early next year. As ever, the SSBNs continue to deliver with ageing platforms and challenges across all 4 Manpower, Equipment, Training, Sustainably (METS) pillars. Next year heralds the 50th anniversary of Continuous At Sea Deterrence which will see a number of high profile events to celebrate the longest running Military operation ever – wear your bomber pins with pride! Continuing operational success with SSBNs and SSNs is a veritable challenge in the current financial climate and we could not do this without our people and the amazing support of their families.

Engineering challenges with ageing platforms coupled with constantly

shifting programmes takes its toll and we recognise this as one of our biggest risks to future success. Our Ship's Companies today are working as hard as ever and Flotilla continues to fight their corner to gain a balance between work, rest and play. Finally, SUBFLot is constantly changing to remain current in a Safety-led environment: and rightly so.

As the Delivery Duty Holder we are responsible for ensuring our submarines are safe to operate and that they can operate safely. A small sentence that has a big impact on how we do our business safely. SUBFLot and our submarines remain at the very heart of the maritime case delivering operational effect across the globe – a substantial player in a world Navy ready to fight and win!.



WHAT IS THE SUBMARINE DIVISION (SM DIVISION)

The SM Division is the collective name which embodies all associated with our service be they military or civilian. It includes all who help sustain and maintain our service from current submariners, their friends and families, veterans, the Submariners Association and Friends of the Royal Navy Submarine Museums.





THE SCOTTISH SUBMARINE CENTRE

Six miles from Faslane, the Scottish Submarine Centre is ideally situated as an educational and cultural hub for West Scotland.

Founded in 2014 by Brian Keating, the Centre has hosted diverse private functions as a service to the community as well as offering an educational glimpse into the necessarily private lives of serving and veteran submariners from Helensburgh and beyond.



Everything in the centre is the result of the dedicated work of a small team and as a charity, it is hoped that the centre will grow and develop even more links with the local community

Most of the information has been donated by family members of submariners and those interested in Royal Naval history.

For further information, please visit www.scottishsubmarine.com

SUBMARINE CALENDAR – WHAT'S ON – GET INVOLVED

Submarine Service Oscars – 29 Sept 2018, Glasgow

November Ceremonies – 3 November, London

THE SUBMARINERS ASSOCIATION

– is **YOUR** Association and includes both serving and non-serving Submariners of all ranks and rates. With 53 branches throughout the United Kingdom, all are welcome.

For details, locations and Application Forms check our website at; www.submarinersassociation.co.uk or contact Jim McMaster on chairman@submarinersassociation.co.uk

FRIENDS OF THE ROYAL NAVY SUBMARINE MUSEUM

The Society of Friends are an active, involved society working to preserve the heritage of the Submarine Service through its museum.

Founded with charitable status in 1995, the Friends has over 700 committed to an ongoing programme to finance the conservation of photographs and other archive material, with specific projects to improve the Museum and its collection.

For further information, please check our website at www.rnsubmusfriends.org.uk

or email the membership secretary at: memsec@rnsubmusfriends.org.uk

WHAT'S IN NEXT MONTH....

AWARDS FROM THE OSCARS

50 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS AT SEA DETERRENT

KEEP UP TO DATE
FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Twitter
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'hmnbclyde'



Instagram
submarineservice