



# The AnyFace Association Newsletter March 2022

To kick off this month, some fantastic news that our member **Jim Hall**, has been selected for promotion to Captain and will take over as **Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff Aviation (DACOS AV)** in Navy Command HQ in May. BZ Jim!

**Membership 2022.** My last mention of membership for a while (I promise!) but we have had an influx of membership renewals in March and are now up to 172 Full, 5 Associate and 19 Overseas members. Thank you one and all for the support!

**AnyFace 70/Project LAST 40 Reunion.** Following a meeting last week, the Committee have decided that we have received enough interest to proceed with planning. Therefore we are delighted to confirm that the Reunion will take place at **RNAS Yeovilton 16-18 Sep 22**. More details will follow in subsequent Newsletters.



### **Westminster Abbey Field of Remembrance.**

Every November the Poppy Factory charity organise the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey, which is made up of over 300 individual association plots. I'm pleased to confirm that the AnyFace Association has been allocated a plot from 2022 onwards which will provide us the opportunity to plant a symbol for each of those fallen comrades from 849 NAS. The Field of Remembrance will be open from 10 Nov 22 (usually for around 10 days).

The Poppy Factory was opened in 1922 by Major George Howson MC to produce poppies and provide employment for veterans injured during WW1. Today the Poppy Factory still produce wreaths, crosses and symbols for the RBL and also provides support to veterans with health conditions on their journey into civilian employment. You can read more about this fantastic charity [here](#).



### **Remembrance Sunday 2022.**

The RBL have confirmed that the National Service of Remembrance and Veterans Parade will take place on **13 November 22**. They have asked associations to bid for an allocation of tickets by **10 June**. We had 8 veterans parade last year so it would be great to have the same or even more again! If you are interested in being in the contingent, please RSVP at the event link [here](#). Allocated ticket numbers for each association will be confirmed by the RBL in the summer.

**Society of Friends of the Fleet Air Arm Museum (SoFFAAM).** The SoFFAAM meets once a month at the Fleet Air Arm Museum and invite speakers from across Aviation and Defence. They have requested a talk from the AnyFace Association on Helicopter AEW, from the Sea King Mk2 to CN on **23 Feb 23** (so plenty of time to plan...) The society will pay 35p per mile or a rail ticket and provide an overnight hotel stay if required. If anyone would like to get involved in the talk then please drop me a line. The SoFFAAM website can be found [here](#).

**Down Memory Lane.** As we celebrated International Women's Day this month what better newsletter to profile our only WRNS Air Mechanic member. Janet Laycock joined the WRNS in July 62, conducting basic training at HMS Dauntless at Burghfield before going on the Airframes and Engines Training Course at HMS Condor, Arbroath. On completion of training Janet was based at RNAS Culdrose on



Whirlwind SAR helicopters. She was then transferred to 849 NAS late 63/early 64 and moved with the Squadron to RNAS Brawdy in December 64. Janet completed her 4 years in the WRNS and left 849 NAS for civvy street in December 66. Janet has many fond memories of her time on 849 NAS. 'When I think we worked on those aircraft in just overalls and gym shoes, had to stand on chocks when the pilots were winding up the second Double Mamba engine with its contra-rotating propellers. We were literally feet away. Health and Safety non existent then!'



As ever, please do drop me a line if you'd like to contribute to the Newsletter.

Yours aye,

**Admin Director**

