

R.A.F.A. Bexhill on Sea Branch & Club

Bexhill on Sea Branch
The Albatross Club
15 Marina Arcade

Branch Office 01424 220114
Cub Bar 01424 212916

Charity no 262348



Aims of R.A.F.A.

The object for which the Association is established is to promote, through the comradeship engendered by its members, the welfare by charitable means of all serving and former members of Her Majesty's Air Forces, their spouses and dependants, together with the widows and widowers and dependants of those who died whilst serving or subsequently. This is funded by the Wings Appeal events, which includes Spring/ Summer/ Autumn and Winter fairs. Street collections, Tesco and Sainsbury collections and other special events. As members you are asked to support these functions and if able, to assist where possible. So please, we need all your help to carry out our tasks. We were the first Branch to raise over £500,000 for Wings and that was in 2001. Ken Igglesden MBE President.

Can't Do It Yourself? Having P.C. Trouble?

Then ring Graham Beale on:- 219824 or Mob: 07896361087 Painting & Decoration plus. No job too small. Free Estimates.

Mothers day Lunch 18th March

Choice of Roast Pork or Roast Beef Fresh roast potatoes & Vegetables. Sweet and Tea included £5 95 bookable in advance. See Beverley or Paola to order your meals.

Don't know what to do?

Need Advice?

Need help installing Hard / Software?

Call Steve on 211999 or email - steve.bridges@yahoo.co.uk

Copy for the next issue to reach me by 16th May 2007

John Leahy (editor)



The Albatross

Issue No 80
Mar / Apr /May
2007

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A Message from the Branch Chairman

The AGM will be held on 28th March in the Ops room at 19.30. All members are invited to attend. Nominations for the Branch and Club Committees should be in by 12th March. Please do not nominate someone without their permission. The positions of Branch Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Treasurer must be full members i.e. Ex RAF. A great deal of work has been carried out, not all of it immediately visible and some anonymous donors have very kindly paid for various materials and tasks for which we are most grateful. The windows are to be covered with an obscure material with the RAFA logo on each one and the net curtains are to be dumped. The front of the premises are to be painted which should make a great deal to improve the appearance of our building. If anyone would like to assist in funding this project it would save us spending our hard earned money. Or if there is anyone who would like to participate in the actual painting, again it would save us the cost of wages. Thank you. *David Stevens Chairman*



Special points of interest:

- St Patrick's Day
- St Georges Day
- Manor Barn Dance
- Holiday at PMH
- Cribbage Evening
- Amended Opening Times

Inside this issue:

Membership of RAFA Branch and Club

There appears to be some confusion over membership. All members must belong to the Branch, and ALL who physically use the Club or ANY of its facilities must become Club members. Wives/ Friends of members may be "signed in" no more than twice a month, therefore, if they wish to use the Club more often, they must also become members. The Constitution of the Branch states that anyone who resigns, or lapses their membership is no longer entitled to enter the Branch/Club, until they renew full membership. May I also remind those members who have not yet renewed their membership for this year that it was due on the 1st January 2007, and you had until the end of January to renew. As it is now March, please rejoin, we need all of you to make the Branch and Club an enjoyable and thriving place to be. Thank you. *Elizabeth Leahy Membership Secretary*

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Regular Events New Club Opening Times

2nd Mon - Aircrew Association	11 00	Monday to Saturday Morning and
Every Mon - Keep fit	14 30	Lunch Time.
Tuesday - Table Tennis	11 00	11 00 to 14 30.
Friday - " "	11 00	" Evenings 19 00 to 23 00*
1st Wed - Coffee Morning	10 30	Sunday PM 12 00 to 14 00
2nd Wed - Welcome Group	10 30	*Closed Thursday and Sunday
4th Thur - Welcome Walk	09 30	Evenings.
Meet outside the Club, drive to start of walk, lifts can be arranged.		Meat Raffles are held Friday Lunch-time. Buy tickets at the bar throughout the week. Weekly Raffles and 150 Club draw are held Lunchtime between 12 00 - 13 45 on Sunday. Coffee is served during opening hours. Lunch is available every day except Sunday. Fresh Fish & Chips available on Fridays.
1st & 3rd Thur WAAF/WRAF	10 30	
1st Friday - Quiz Night	19 45	
1st & 3rd Sat - (Usually Bingo)	20 00	
4th Tue - Swing Night	20 00	

Check Notice Board for Variations & details of other Activities.

Forthcoming Events & Annual Lunch

There will be a St Patrick's night event on 17th March. A (nearly) St Georges night on 21st April. Dance (Black Tie) is being held at Manor Barn Old Town on 30th March Tickets £10.00 includes buffet. Dancing to the music of a Swing band. Lounge suits or Blazers. The Easter Fair for Wings will be held on 24th March. Spring fair for the Club on 28th April. A Cribbage Night for non-dancers will be held on 30th March. It is hoped to reintroduce the cribbage night as a regular event if it proves popular. A Caravan Holiday raffle. One week at

Rye Bay Caravan Park is being offered to the Club by Tony Bastin, proceeds to go to the Club. Tickets £1.00 per strip. The prize also includes a Club Pass for 1 week. The annual lunch will be on the 8th May at the Cooden Beach Golf Club. More details, the price and the list for those who wish to attend will be posted on the notice board. A further visit by the Goodall Bros is in the pipeline and other events such as a Shepherd's Pie evening are planned. Watch the notice boards for other fixtures.

Lorraine Streeter & The Activities Team

Play Table Tennis Tuesdays & Fridays

Several sports and pastimes are particularly good for the brain. Table Tennis is one of the best because it improves hand and eye co-ordination. It uses both upper and lower body and makes you use both sides of the brain. It will not make you more intelligent but come and join us anyway. It's fun and a chance to meet other members. We had our TT Annual lunch at the Di Paolo's Restaurant and 23 members had a very nice meal which was not expensive. We meet every Tuesday and Friday at 11.00 and if you wish you can have lunch afterwards. *Geoff Brown & Myrtle Bennett Organisers*

Keep Fit Class Mondays

We have had a good year for members joining the class in 2006. There are usually 12 -15 who regularly attend and I hope this continues. The classes are held on a Monday at 2.30 -3.30 at the cost of £1. The money that is raised goes to the Club. We were able to donate £420 for this last year. We had our Annual lunch in the Wheatsheaf in February and 15 ladies attended, so in the coming few weeks we will have to work that meal off, at keep fit. All are welcome hope to see you. *Maureen Greenhough Organiser*

Planning your Holiday??? Try PMH

(For ex RAF personnel, their wives & families only.) When planning your next holiday do not forget Princess Marina House at Rustington. Nr Littlehampton. It is a lovely, well appointed place right on the sea front. It is owned, and operated by the (RAFBF) The tariff for full board and lodgings is very reasonable, and help with paying the cost of the holiday is available if needed. An

added free bonus is an outings programme that goes with each and every holiday. For further information leave a message in the Welfare Book behind the bar in the club. Or ring me on 843008. **Most importantly bear in mind:-** That the Welfare Team will arrange door to door transportation for your holiday.

Pat O'Brien Welfare Officer