



## The Society Newsletter

# Branch Development and the Engineering Artificer

### Important tasks

For

#### All Members:

- Tell the Managing Secretary of any changes of address and nominee.
- Let the Secretaries know if you have an email address.
- Attend a Section meeting.
- Get another serving engineer to join the Society.

The Royal Naval Engineers' Benevolent Society has been in existence since 1872, for the promotion of the social, intellectual and general welfare of its members, and conforming with the MOD (Navy) Regulations

## Title

# "Engineering Artificer" still under threat.

### What has been done?

The Society has approached the Admiralty and the Ministry of Defence on this issue and received information on the approach and probable future method of development that will have to be completed before complete implementation.

### What must you do?

Attend the Annual General Meeting of the Section nearest to you. Get the information and help us decide on the next step.

### What can you do if you can not attend a meeting?

Contact the General Secretary with your views and for more information. By letter Email or telephone - contact details on the last page of the newsletter.

### What has been said?

In May the Navy board is having a meeting to discuss the changes pro-

posed and whether these changes should be the basis of further development.

Engineering Technician is a recognized level of capability by the Engineering Council. For more information see the Engineering Council's website and material.

Fast track entry - an apprentice style is to be included as a fast track. This should allow entry to a known standard.

Expectation that some entrants will leave before completion of training.

Training will be in three blocks with sea service between blocks.

Uniform may be revised?

Engineering Technician will be the rate from entry regardless of level obtained, however rate obtained will indicate the level of skill.

Consideration is being given to qualifications toward Merchant Marine engineering status.

## Executive Council - Annual Meeting

This year high on the agenda is the Branch development and the way the Society will respond.

Representation and the Law will also form a part of the discussion.

It is essential to the debate that we know your views. Please attend the Annual General meeting in your area.

If you can't attend please write letting the General Secretary know your views on the Society and its role. Or telephone the General Secretary - but let us know.

The EC meeting is to be held on 19 June 2004 in Portsmouth. The Annual General Meetings are held by Sections in the preceding month.

Dates for the meetings are Devonport section - 25 May 2004 at the USC Mount Wise, Faslane section - 1 June 2004 in Link room Warrant Officers and Senior Rates Mess HMS Neptune, Portsmouth section - 11 June 2004 at the Grapevine centre HMS Sultan.

## Portsmouth Section Meeting

The Portsmouth section meetings - at the Grapevine Centre.

The Grapevine centre in HMS Sultan is the point to meet and find out more. The meetings discuss the future of the Artificer and what the Society should do. The next meeting is in June.

The meeting will discuss the issues relating to the Branch Development. It will incorporate the Annual General Meeting. We would like to see you at

the meeting if you are resident in the Portsmouth area. Other items to be discussed is the agenda of the Executive Council Meeting.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on 11 June 2004

Please telephone the General Secretary for information and to be added to the access list if you are no longer serving.

The meeting will start at 8 pm.

The meetings of the Portsmouth section are held every month on the second Friday.

The meeting starts at 20.00 hours. All members are made welcome. Next meeting — 11 June 2004.

## The Naval Engineering Review - 100 years

It is hoped that the Naval Engineering Review will have a special issue this year to help mark its anniversary.

In line with this the Editor is looking for items from members to help show

the work of the Society members now to compare with the work undertaken in the past. Please send articles about your work or requests for areas that should have an article written about to The Editor Naval Engineering Review

Mr Steve Woodford  
24 Brookfield Road  
Churchdown  
Gloucester  
GL3 2NZ

ed.ner@rnebs.co.uk

## Devonport Section Meetings

The Devonport Section meeting is held in the Society Office at 113 North Hill.

The meeting room is located on the top floor of the building.

The meeting will discuss the forthcoming Executive Council Meeting and on that agenda is the Society's way for-

ward on the Branch Development.

The regular meetings of the Devonport Section are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month (No meeting in August or December). The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting to be held on 27 May 2004 at 19.00 hours at the USC Mount Wise.

For further information about any other event or information relating to the Devonport Section contact the Managing Secretary, Chris Heaver 01752 32 [93765] 5060 / chris.c.heaver@devonport.co.uk

## Section Annual General Meetings

Every year the Society hold a number of Section Annual General Meetings to enable the members of the Society to direct their representatives as to the way they wish the Society to proceed on their behalf.

An important part of being a member of the Society is to communicate your views.

This year is an important one as the Engineering Technician is being introduced to the Royal Navy.

How is the Society to react?

The Society has represented the views of the Artificer to the top brass of the Royal Navy from its start in 1872.

Is the Society to evolve and accept all Engineering Technicians as equals or should we set the standard the Admiralty looks set to abandon?

Devonport held its section on the 25 May 2004.

Faslane Section is holding an Annual General Meeting in the Warrant Officers and Senior Rates mess HMS Neptune on 1 June 2004 starting at 20:00.

Portsmouth Section will hold its annual meeting at the Grapevine Centre HMS Sultan. The meeting will take place on Tuesday 11 June 2004 starting its agenda of business at 20:00.

The main business of the meeting will be a discussion on the Society's approach to the future and election of the section Officers and representatives on the Executive Council.

The General Secretary of the Society Mr Les Dancy will be present.

We look forward to seeing you at one of these meetings.

## Christmas

The Sections are considering another meeting.

This is expected to be a dinner at Christmas venue yet to be decided.

To help decide on the location the Sections needs to know how many of you wish to attend?

You need to let Chris Heaver know if

you are available.

The event may be either a simple dinner or a more grand dinner and dance depending on the general consensus.

Email [christmas2004@rnebs.co.uk](mailto:christmas2004@rnebs.co.uk) or write to Christmas 2004, Mr Dancy, 30 Holbrook Road, Fareham, PO16 0TL

For further information about any

other event or information contact the General Secretary, Les Dancy  
07816787745

## Scotland Section Annual General Meeting

Scotland Section - Annual General Meeting. An Important meeting to be at.

It will be held in the Faslane area. The first meeting will be in the Warrant Officer's and Senior Rates Mess HMS Neptune on 1 June 2004. This meeting will start at 20:00 in the Link room All members are welcome to attend.

There will be a presentation and discussion on the Royal Naval Branch Development from the Society's point of view.

An election of Section officers and representatives to attend the Executive

Council meeting will be considered.

Other agenda items will be the introduction of the Engineering Technician and its effects on the structure of the Society and the agenda of the Executive Council meeting to be held in Portsmouth on 19 June 2004.

Due to the security restrictions that apply in HMS Neptune entry is not a right and the meeting may have to be moved at short notice. If you are no longer a serving member of the Royal Navy please contact the General Secretary Mr Les Dancy before the meeting to allow him to arrange access as needed.

For more information please telephone: 07816787745 or Email: [Faslane.sec@rnebs.co.uk](mailto:Faslane.sec@rnebs.co.uk)

### Rosyth Area

A second meeting will be in October in the Rosyth area. More details of this meeting will be published in a later newsletter.

## The Society and You - News

### **Changes to Communication with the Officers of the Society.**

**The Managing Secretary** is on the move, his home not his job. Therefore all communication with him will need to be sent via The RNEBS offices in North Hill Plymouth and mobile telephone number: 07989263304.

**The General Secretary** has a new telephone and number: 07816787745

The number published in the Review is in use but you are more likely to get an answer on the new number. Both numbers are mobile telephones and if you wish I will ring you back reducing your telephone charge.

### **Buzzbuster**

If you hear a buzz that you would like more information on you should forward the buzz to the Buzzbuster. This presents itself to a team headed by a Captain on the Staff of the Second Sea Lord.

This team will then reply giving an

honest answer as to whether the buzz has any truth or not.

As your General Secretary I would like to know if you have any information as to the buzzbuster and if it works for you? If you have used it please let me know your opinion.

### **Representation of a complaint.**

The General Secretary has been informed that the present system of complaint is working and working well.

Complaints are forwarded in accordance with QRRN 4204.

Again if you have had experience of this system how did it work for you? The General Secretary wants to know.

Both Buzzbuster and Complaint information will be

## Royal Naval Engineers' Benevolent Society

### Useful RNEBS Addresses and telephone numbers

The RNEBS Offices  
Devonport Section  
Top Floor  
113 North Hill  
Plymouth  
PL4 8JY

General Secretary  
Mr Les Dancy

07816787745  
gen.sec@rnebs.co.uk

Managing Secretary  
Mr Chris Heaver  
The RNEBS Offices  
Top Floor  
113 North Hill  
Plymouth  
PL4 8JY  
man.sec@rnebs.co.uk

Editor Naval Engineers Review  
Mr Steve Woodford

ed.ner@rnebs.co.uk



We're on the web  
[www.rnebs.co.uk](http://www.rnebs.co.uk)