



S/M2 SUNSHINE SQUADRON 1909 - 2002

2ND SUBMARINE SQUADRON

12th Anniversary

Held on Sat 02nd March 2013.

What an absolute cracking bunch of people you are:- £1,064.82 raised on the day apart from what was given in tips to the bar staff, I've held back £100 back to kick-start next year's reunion off which is scheduled for the first Saturday in March 2014 (01st).

I sent off a cheque to the Trustees of the HMS Affray Memorial Trust Fund in the Channel Islands for £964.82, the cheque has been cashed on the 19th of this month and I requested a receipt for the donation of which I'm still to waiting to receive, once received, I'll have it posted on the website.

Was anyone sober enough to remember who won the main prize in the raffle. The silver platter in the blue silk lined presentation box?????????? My reason for asking is that I still have the highly varnished wooden stand/plinth that goes with the platter Ha! Please come forward with name and postal address and I shall send on said same to whomever you are.

The attendance figures this year was roundabout the same as last year, I had 91 names ticked off in my 'Blue Book' and 58 new comers who filled in chits. I shall be sending out

invitations to yourselves after the turn of the year in readiness for next year's bash, but if you need to get in touch with me for anything meanwhile, you can contact me by telephone 01752 347009 (landline), mobile 07503 025009, e-mail billandden@hotmail.co.uk or go to visit www.sm2sunshinesquadron.co.uk

May I give a big thank you to all who donated raffle prizes, also to all the volunteers who helped me to organise the bash, sit at the entrance checking you all in, ripping you off for the raffle(s), the bar staff, caterers and the Steward for the use of the club, but you that attended from far and wide, I honestly believe that we in the South West (Plymouth) continue to be the centre of submarine social excellence because we also hold our big brother reunion '**The Diesel Boat DTS**' in the Weston Mill Oak Villa Sports & Social Club on the first Saturday of August 2013 (03rd). From the Submariners Association (Plymouth Branch) we also are involved with Tours around the Courageous in the dockyard, piss-ups afterwards are not unheard of, we have an annual pilgrimage to the Embankment Parade the week before the Cenotaph, staying at the UJC over the week-end, we are involved with activities within HMS Raleigh (Submarine School), wreath laying ceremonies the Friday preceding Remembrance Sunday, and also have a body of men attend the Hoe Ceremony for Remembrance Sunday and not forgetting Armed Forces Week, all of which involve a wee drinkee or two.

Since the closure of the London Branch of the S/A, the Plymouth Branch and the Portsmouth Branche are arguably the oldest branches of the National Association, we will be celebrating our 81st birthday this coming May, if you wish to join us, why not visit us at the Crownhill RBL, we muster on the third Friday of every month, 19.15 ish onward, we have a quarterly meeting (shirt & ties with an Agenda) May is the AGM, Aug, Nov, Feb, all the in-between ones are classed as social evenings whereby we sit round in the 'Submariners Corner', spin dits, embellish said dits with lies, very relaxed, win the majority of the meat raffle prizes and at the December social gathering, we raid the funds and splash out a couple of hundred quid on freebie drinks, come along and join us if you're like minded.

A Party of six of us from the Association will be travelling to Portsmouth staying overnight of the 15th April 2013 at the Holiday Inn Express (old HMS Vernon site) to attend the unveiling of the Submarine Affray Memorial Stone commencing at 09.30hrs 16th April 2013. Our Branch Standard will be paraded along with other branches, this will be to commemorate the 62nd anniversary of the sinking of the Affray, this is where your great donation of £964.82 has gone towards, THANK YOU.

Billy Dobson.

