



Following a very successful reunion to celebrate the 35th Anniversary of HMS Fulmar being handed over to the RAF over the weekend of 22/24th June 2007 it was decided that we would proceed with the formation of an independent association away from the Buccaneer association who had organized the 2007 event. This would then open up the membership criteria to anyone who had served at Fulmar in any capacity at any time. As the attendance at the 2007 event was just over 220 it was felt that this was enough of a start to begin to recruit and build up a membership database. With the FAABA members who has served at Lossiemouth included, the membership potential was already in excess of 300 people. At the time of writing we have three people willing to take the idea forward but we are looking for more volunteers to act as committee members and take the Association on to greater times.

Hughie Williams who lives in Elgin will act as Chairman and Treasurer.

Jimmy Gardiner, also in Elgin will act as General Secretary and Social Secretary

Dave Clark of the FAABA has agreed to act as Membership Secretary, FAABA liaison and the FNF Representative. Living in Somerset at present thus ideally situated for the Yeovil based FAABA liaison and FNF Representative

These posts along with all others will be put up for election at the first AGM proper. It is anticipated that this will be held on the Saturday morning of the 2012 reunion weekend, venue and time tba.

It was proposed at the 2007 reunion that another be organised in 2012 which is the 40th anniversary of the station being handed over to the RAF. At that time it also coincided with the date set for a Royal Navy presence to return to the area as part of the JSF Squadrons. This unfortunately has been delayed and no firm date is now available, although 2014 is the current thinking for the advance party. But the 2012 Reunion will take place and dialogue will soon be opened with the WO&SNCO's Mess at Lossiemouth with a view to getting a firm date hopefully in June. It is anticipated that, subject to RAF approval that the format be the same as before with a relaxed casual Meet and Greet on the Friday evening and a more formal Black Tie Dinner on the Saturday evening. The format for the Saturday will be similar to last time with a initial tot and cocktail reception, the main meal then followed by a casino and music. The limit set by the RAF for the function was 240

places and demand is expected to be high - though all committee members and guests are guaranteed a seat!!!

So please register your interest as soon as possible, the total going will, to some degree dictate the price and complimentary drinks. The weekend event cost £40 per place in 2007 so I would anticipate it costing £50 this time around. (This also included a Friday evening meal which was excellent value)

Membership Secretary's Report

The HMS Fulmar membership list currently stands at 240 names although many members of the FAABA who have not specifically asked to be included on the list are eligible to become members. At this time we are not asking for subscriptions as the FAABA have a small amount of money allocated to the organization of the 2012 event and it is planned that the weekend be self financing with any profits being put behind the bar for "Toofers" Thus as things stand we have a potential database of just over 350 names. Add to this the WRNS Association members, (we had about 20 last time) you will all see there is likely to be some competition for places. Places will therefore be allocated on a first come basis from the announcement date which will be advised in the Navy News, Northern Scott, the FAAA and RNA, and to the FNF membership at the same time. Notification of intent will not guarantee a place, receipt of applications with cheque will!

A reserve list will be created as it is anticipated that like the last time some people had to drop out for personal reasons. As long as we can backfill the places all money will be refunded in full. So please can you all rack your brains, look out your old address books, visit Friends Reunited etc etc and find as many of your old shipmates as you can. Give them my Email address and encourage them to contact me.

Lossiemouth today

Most of you will find many changes from the RNAS period of the area. The road system around Elgin has been much altered and many new shopping areas have sprung up. Tesco's



have a superstore in Elgin and there is also a supermarket on the old req opposite Covesea Terrace on the road into the village from the camp. Even the Coulhard has had a face lift and it is now surrounded by houses, The Main Gate as can be seen from the picture opposite has moved a tad nearer inland. This picture was taken from the road going up to the Coulhard. The exit to the left goes to Elgin, the one on the right to the coast. And almost every

accommodation block has been rebuilt - with the exception of the old Chiefs and Petty Officers Mess! The station prides itself on being the largest and busiest fast jet station in the RAF

More information about the station can be found at the base website at <http://www.raf.mod.uk/raflossiemouth/>



The Buccaneer still has a presence in the area. The Petrol Station on the right of the road leaving Elgin for Lossiemouth has a Buccaneer in RAF colours at the side of the forecourt. This is also a good place to buy Squadron Malts and where we obtained our commemorative FAABA Malt whiskies in 2007. And on the whisky theme the Gordon and MacPhail shop in Elgin will certainly have your favourite tippie, it's a Santa's Grotto for adults. There are now more than enough B&Bs and hotels in the area to cover our reunion requirements and some of our

current members do run B&Bs or pubs.

HMS Fulmar Association and the Fly Navy Federation.

When the then Second Sea Lord (and Rear Admiral FAA) Sir Adrian Johns called all the various FAA related associations of the ex serving communities to a meeting at the Fleet Air Arm Museum in 2007 I went along as Secretary of the FAABA. The main agenda for the meeting was to form an "Association of Associations" thus bringing all the various factions under one umbrella whilst still maintaining each associations liberty. It was agreed that this was a good idea with benefits to both the associations and to the serving FAA as well and thus the FNF was evolved. At this inorgural meeting I asked that the HMS Fulmar association be allowed to join as well as the FAABA and this proposal was accepted. I did this with the future in mind, as if and when we get the Fulmar association fully mobile we will have a seat on the FNF Steering Committee and be fully involved in the Federation. The FAABA has already benefited greatly from being a member and the FNF now currently consists of 14 associations and the FNHT. Especially useful to this organization is the proposed moving of the JSF and it's Squadrons up to Lossiemouth and the FNF is briefed and updated with all the latest news and info and I fully intend to ask questions and make the information available on this page. Although the date has slipped from the original 2012 the intent has not changed at the time of writing and it will not be to long before the Dark Blue is back in the area.

More pictures of the 2007 Reunion



Sandy Johnston strutting his stuff!



The Casino



Top Left Meet and Greet "Stovies supper"

Top Right Waiting for the Guest of Honour

Opposite The WRNS contingent

If you have any photographs or articles of the old station we can use on the website please forward them to me with an SAE for their return.

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The Fulmar website is hosted by the FAABA and can be found at www.faaba.co.uk