

MERCHANT NAVY ASSOCIATION - NATIONAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST AUGUST 2020

Registered charity number: 1135661

MERCHANT NAVY ASSOCIATION - NATIONAL

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST AUGUST 2020

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MERCHANT NAVY ASSOCIATION - NATIONAL
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF
THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER

1135661

TRUSTEES

Capt. J. M. R. Sail
Capt. M. F. Mathison
Mr. T. Brant
Mr. R. Glencross
Mr. G. Peaston
Mr. P. Rogers
Mr. A. Speight
Mr. M. Wootton
Mr. J. Turner
Mr. T. Hughes
Mr. H. Harding
Mr. A. Murphy
Capt. D. Parsons

ADDRESS

Merchant Navy Association
49 The Park
Yeovil
BA20 1DF

BANKERS

National Westminster Bank
119 High Street
Scunthorpe
DN15 6LT

ACCOUNTANTS

Forrester Boyd Chartered Accountants
26 South St. Mary's Gate
Grimsby
DN31 1LW

Report of the Trustees

GOVERNANCE

Charity name: Merchant Navy Association
Registered Number: 1135661
Charity's principal address: 49 The Park
Yeovil
BA20 1DF
Phone: 01935 414765
Email: secretary@mna.org.uk
Website: www.mna.org.uk

Trustees who manage the Association – the National Councillors:

Executive Committee:

Capt. M Mathison MNI FEI	Chairman (former Vice Chairman until 7 th October 2020)
Capt. J Sail MNM*	Chairman (Resigned 7 th October 2020)
Vacancy	Vice Chairman (w.e.f. 7 th October 2020)
Capt. D Parsons MNM	National Secretary (Elected 26 th October 2019)
T Brant MNM FEI	Events & Welfare Officer & Acting Hon. Treasurer
R Glencross	Membership Secretary

The Executive Committee is responsible for the day to day administration of the Association.

* On 7th October 2020, Capt John Sail MNM announced his resignation both as chairman and from the Council, in order to concentrate on his business interests. This followed a period of 21 years in the chair, during which time he made tireless efforts guide and support the organisation. The Association wishes to formally record its huge debt of gratitude and wish him well for the future.

Other Councillors

Mrs S Broom	Supply Officer
C Edwards	MN Association Boat Club Commodore
H Harding	Bristol Branch
T Hughes FRIN ENI	Webmaster
A Murphy	Dumfries & Galloway Branch
G Peaston	Weymouth & Portland Branch
P Rogers	Blackpool Branch
A Speight	Newport Branch
J Turner	Midlands Branch
M Wootton	Tamworth Branch

Executive Committee members (who are also trustees) and all other trustees are elected, or re-elected, every three years are called National Councillors. The Association does not employ any staff. All trustees may claim reasonable expenses for travel and disbursements.

Meetings

The Council endeavours to meet four times annually. Due to the Covid 19 restrictions, meetings since March have been via video conferencing. In the future at least two, annually, will continue in this format.

Patron

Admiral Lord West of Spithead GCB, DSC, PC, ADC

Presidents & Vice Presidents

Vivian Foster OBE	President
Revd P Auden DL	Vice President
D Hunter	Vice President
M Wootton	Vice President

Bank:
National Westminster Bank
14 Market Place
Brigg
North Lincolnshire
DN20 8EU

Accountants:
Forrester Boyd Chartered Accountants
26 South St Mary's Gate
Grimsby
DN31 1LW

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

Governing Document:	Constitution adopted 11 th June 2009 <i>Note. This will reviewed and where agreed amended in 2020/21.</i>
Constitution:	Unincorporated association
Trustees appointments	The Trustees, by rotation, are elected for a three-year term of office at the Annual General Meeting.
Annual General Meeting 2020	Due to inability to hold meetings during the Covid 19 crises, the 2020 AGM has been cancelled and all trustee elections deferred to 2021.
Policies	The Association has relevant policies in place which includes safeguarding, grievances, data protection, privacy and intellectual rights.
Related parties relationships	The Association is a constituent member of the Merchant Navy Welfare Board and works closely with other maritime charities and veterans' organisations.
Risk Assessment	A Risk Assessment Policy is in place and regularly reviewed

Membership:

Membership is open to individuals over the age of 18 who are resident in the United Kingdom, have UK nationality, or reside in a country where an international branch exists, and are serving, or have served;

- on a merchant ship
- on a fishing vessel
- as an employed crew member aboard a yacht
- as member of a lifeboat crew
- as employee of the Maritime & Coastguard Agency or its equivalent.

All branch members are also regarded as members of the National Association. All pay an annual subscription.

Membership, as at 31st August 2020, totalled 1,622 (2019 – 1,574). During the year 84 new members were welcomed but, very sadly, 36 died. Some local branch members are not registered with the National.

Branches:

The Association has branches in the United Kingdom in the following locations:

Aberystwyth	Immingham	Salford
Axe Vale	Ipswich	Scarborough
Belfast	Kent	Solent
Blackpool	Liverpool	Tamworth
Boston & South Lines	London & Greater London	Taunton
Bristol	Mansfield & Ashfield	Tilbury
Caithness	Medway	Torbay
Durmanstown & Redear	Midlands	Weymouth & Portland
Dumfries	Morecombe Bay	Walton & District
East Lothian	Newport	West Norfolk
Exeter	Pill & North Somerset	Western Isles
Felixstowe	Plymouth & Southwest	Wirral
Harrogate	Ribble Valley	

Overseas: Singapore

Branches are affiliated to and uphold the principles set out by the National Association. They do, however, operate autonomously and are responsible for their own governance and finances.

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

Summary of the objects set out in its Constitution

- To foster comradeship and consideration to all those in the community of the sea.
- To relieve and assist all serving and retired seafarers and their dependants who are in hardship or distress by reason of poverty, disability, sickness, infirmity or otherwise; to support the families of seafarers who have lost their lives in service or retirement.
- To educate the wider public on the role, purpose and history of the merchant navy and fishing fleets and to support those interested in a career at sea.

Public Benefit

The Objects of the Charity are for public benefit, to provide charitable support and services to the Association's members, other connected persons, or associations, societies or other bodies whose objects are similar.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to the objects

The achievements and performance of the Association were seriously constrained from March 2020 with advent of the Covid national crises, although it continued to support its members. At the time of this report this impact continues.

mn100

2019 marked the centenary of His Majesty King George V conferring the name Merchant Navy on the *merchant service* of British & Commonwealth countries in recognition of their efforts and sacrifices in the Great War. Chairman, Capt John Sail MNM, together with Pageant Master, Bruno Peake, organised a celebration dinner in the Painted Hall, Greenwich on 19th September. The guest speaker was Patron, Admiral Lord West of Spithead. This was attended by almost 400 Guests. Whilst a number of veteran places were sponsored by the MNA, most guests paid for their tickets and the event showed a small surplus of £4,189. The Association is particularly indebted to Captain Sail for all his hard work that led to the huge success of this event.

Merchant Navy Day Commemorative Service (MNDCS)

This is an annual event, organised by the Association, at the Merchant Navy War Memorial, Tower Hill, London on the Sunday closest to Merchant Navy Day (3rd September). The 2019 event took place on 6th September and was well attended by members, including those from branches, organisations and the public.

Remembrance Sunday

The Association attended the 2019 Remembrance Sunday events in London and around the country, where wreaths were laid at many memorials. The Cenotaph marchpast consisting of 37 veterans was led by MNA President, Vivian Foster OBE. There was also a good MNA attendance for the service at the MN War Memorial.

Branch Activities

All branches, whilst remaining autonomous, work closely with the National, which provides them with advice, guidance and support if needed. Until March 2020, branches continued to meet regularly, normally on a monthly basis and arrange local events. Covid 19 restrictions forced the abandonment of face-to-face meetings and some branches resorted to cloud-based video meetings, which continue at the time of this report. Others continued to keep in regular touch with their members, endeavouring to ensure their wellbeing. The National Association continues to work closely with its branches and recognises the support and hard work of branch committees in supporting the ethos of the Association. It is hoped that face-to-face meetings will be able to resume at some point in 2021.

Working with related charities and organisations

The Association works with other related parties. It is a Constituent of the Merchant Navy Welfare Board and regularly attends various appropriate meetings of their members. It is also a member of several, or works closely with, several veterans' organisations to lobby for and improve entitlements for MN veterans.

Veterans

The Association recognises the significance of all MN seafarers and fishers who have worked in support of the armed service in war and peace times. It continues to lobby government and other organisations to ensure that these men and women enjoy the benefits given to ex-military personnel.

With the agreement of the MoD, the Association takes responsibility for authenticating and issuing badges for MN veterans.

Full Ahead

The Association produces and distributes, to its members, a quarterly magazine - *Full Ahead* - which includes news about the Association, its branches, events and articles of general interest. The editor was, until Autumn 2020, Capt. John Sail and the Association would like to record its thanks to him for this excellent journal. From the winter 2020 edition, the new editor will be Council members Mrs Sandra Turner assisted by Clive Edwards.

The Pulse

The Association produces and distributes, to its members who are on-line, a twice monthly on-line newsletter - *The Pulse* - which includes articles and news about the Association and a wide range of maritime affairs. This is also placed on the Association's website. The editor is Capt. Malcolm Mathison and the Association would like to record its thanks to him for this excellent newsletter.

Website

The Association maintains a website: www.mna.org.uk. This includes details about its structure, objectives, branches and services. It enjoys around 5,000 visits, from around the world, each month. The contents of another website owned by the Association - The Red Duster - was reduced, in August, to simply provide a link to the main site. The webmaster is Capt. Terry Hughes FRIN FNI and the Association would like to record its thanks to him for maintaining this excellent site.

Memorials

Whilst it did not directly involve the Association, President Vivian Foster OBE chaired a committee that was responsible for the Merchant Navy Monument on Plymouth Hoe. This was unveiled by HRH The Princess Royal on Merchant Navy Day, 3rd September 2019 and well attended by MNA members. The Association donated £250 towards this monument.

Merchant Navy Day and Red Ensign

In collaboration with Seafarers UK, the Association, has succeeded in arranging for local councils and other institutions around the UK to fly Red Ensigns on Merchant Navy Day each year. The numbers continue to increase.

MNA Shop

The MNA shop continues to make sales of various items. Unfortunately, due to the Covid 19 restrictions, there have been no events and this has reduced demand considerably. The income for 2019/20 amounted to £6,085 (2018/19 - £8,151), whilst expenditure amounted to £251 (2018/19 - £7,566)

Members' Benefits

Members benefit from a number of discounted retail services.

Merchant Navy Medal for Meritorious Service

The Association is an active member of this committee which reviews nominations and, when appropriate, recommends them for an award of the National Honour. When appropriate members are nominated through the system. The Association pays an annual subscription of £100.

Grants

The Association is empowered to award "one-off" grants to help both working age and retired seafarers and their dependent families. Whilst beneficiaries are primarily members, it can also help others who meet the criteria. These grants can be used for the purchase of capital items or towards support. In some cases it will signpost applicants to other sources of help. Importantly it will also work with other organisations, in some cases to share the costs and in others to help with advice such as obtaining benefits or debt counselling. In 2019/20 the total awarded in grants, for a variety of purposes, amounted to £925 (2018/19 - £1,400)

Archives

The Association's archivist Ben Stock continues to provide advice and information to the Association and its members in regard to MN History. In June 2016 the Association purchased, for £2,000, copyright of *The Ian Stockbridge Compendium of 20th Century Merchant Navy & Fishing Fleet Wartime Casualties*. The late Ian Stockbridge MNM, had brought together, in a database, most of the names MN casualties, from two World Wars, with the vessels upon which they died. This was an enormous achievement. The data has been transferred to Ben Stokes who is co-ordinating the remaining records and those who sacrificed their lives in other wars, such as the Falklands, will also be added. The Association has allocated a further £1,000 to cover the costs of utilising a database expert.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy	Funds are held to cover at least 12 months of operational costs.
Cash held	Cash at hand, in the bank on 31 st August 2020 was £67,721 (£110,284 - 2018/19) in unrestricted funds. The main financial risk of the charity is a reduction in annual subscriptions.
Primary funding:	The regular sources of annual funding are from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Membership subscription which, in 2019/20 amounted to £12,373 (2018/19 - £13,673)• Donations - the Association receives a number of donations annually. In 2019/20 these amounted to £15,861 (2018/19 - £23,650). All donors are asked to aid Gift Aid where possible and this money is reclaimed annually. Legacies are also welcome.

Exceptional Transactions

mn 100	The mn100 was an exceptional event for 2019 only. Income from this was £49,053 (2018/19 - £39,077), whilst expenditure amounted to £78,077 (2018/19 - £8,352)
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Future Plans

The activities of the Association are set to continue largely as above and it will also explore means of trying to increase membership. Much will depend on restrictions imposed on the movement of people caused by the Covid 19 Crises.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustee's annual report above.

Signed on behalf of the trustees

Signature



Full name

Captain Malcolm Mathison

Position

Chairman

Date

25-11-2020

**MERCHANT NAVY ASSOCIATION - NATIONAL
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2020**

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Merchant Navy Association - National

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the period ended 31st August 2020 which are set out on pages 3 to 6.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Carrie Anne Jensen ACA
Forrester Boyd
26 South St Mary's Gate
Grimsby
DN31 1LW

25 October 2020

**MERCHANT NAVY ASSOCIATION - NATIONAL
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2020**

	Unrestricted General funds 2020 £	Unrestricted General funds 2019 £
RECEIPTS		
Activities for Generating Funds		
Membership Subscriptions	12,373	13,673
Slop Chest	6,085	8,151
Charitable Activities		
Research	-	310
Ministry of Defence – Merchant Seafarers Veteran’s Badge	20	151
Raffle	-	500
Gala Dinner	-	39,077
MN100 Event	49,053	-
Voluntary Income		
Donations	10,861	23,650
Investment Income - Bank Interest		
	2	2
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>78,394</u>	<u>85,514</u>
PAYMENTS		
Costs of Generating Funds		
Telephone	371	496
Postage	2,760	1,456
Stationery and Printing	1,095	894
Advertising and Marketing	3,802	1,605
Website Expenses	8	1,102
Travel and Accommodation	7,625	8,077
Meeting Expenses	263	330
Insurance	843	845
Slop Chest	251	7566
Newsletter – Full Ahead	6,374	9,013
Independent Examiner Fees	1,200	780
Costs of Charitable Activities		
Welfare Payments	925	1,400
Research	1,522	848
Merchant Navy Day Commemorative Service	191	-
Merchant Seafarers Veteran’s Badge	-	1,140
MN100 Event	78,076	-
Memberships and Subscriptions	-	360
Software Support	254	2,577
Donations	-	2,620
Gala Dinner	-	8,352
Sundry Expenses	15,397	1,791
	<u>120,957</u>	<u>51,252</u>
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR YEAR	<u>(42,563)</u>	<u>34,262</u>

MERCHANT NAVY ASSOCIATION - NATIONAL

STATEMENT OF FUNDS

AT 31ST AUGUST 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
Current Assets		
Bank Current Account	59,147	100,882
Bank Fundraising Bonus Saver Account	1,266	1,264
Welfare Support Fund	7,308	8,138
	<u>67,721</u>	<u>110,284</u>
Net Assets	<u>67,721</u>	<u>110,284</u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
Accumulated Surplus brought forward	110,284	76,022
Surplus / (Deficit) for year	(42,563)	34,262
	<u>67,721</u>	<u>110,284</u>

MERCHANT NAVY ASSOCIATION - NATIONAL
STATEMENT OF FUNDS
AT 31ST AUGUST 2020

Notes:

STOCK

Slop Chest Stock as at 01 September 2019	£11,834
Slop Chest Stock as at 31 August 2020	£9,954

TRUSTEE'S EXPENSES

Trustee's expenses incurred in the year to 31 August 2020 by the Merchant Navy Association were £10,346 relation to expenses incurred by J Sail, M Mathison, T Brant, R Glencross, G Peaston and A Murphy (2019: £4,198) – of which £8,283 were unclaimed expenses which were given back to the charity as donations (2019: £3,538).


ASSETS RETAINED FOR THE CHARITY'S OWN USE

Radios and Camera (approximate values)	£0
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Approved by the trustees on 25th October 2020 and signed by



Capt. M.F. Mathison
(Acting Chairman)



Mr T. Brant
(Treasurer)