

The HMS Ark Royal Association Constitution

1. Aims

The aims of this Association are:

- i. To bring together in a social setting, those who served as officers, ratings or civilian staff on Her Majesty's Ships Ark Royal.
- ii. To re-establish and maintain links to organisations previously affiliated to HMS Ark Royal.

2. Membership

Full and Life Membership of the HMS Ark Royal Association is open to all serving or former naval, military, NAAFI or laundry staff, including attached squadrons, who served a period of at least four weeks aboard:

- a) HMS Ark Royal V (R07) at any time between 1st July 1985 and 11th March 2011
- b) HMS Ark Royal IV (R09) at any time between 25th February 1955 and 14th February 1979

Associate Membership is available to any close relative of a deceased former member of the crew of HMS Ark Royal. Associate members may attend any of the Association's social functions, but do not have a vote and may not serve on Committee.

Honorary membership may be awarded to an individual who otherwise may not qualify for membership at the discretion of The Committee. Honorary members pay no subscription but they may attend any of the Association's social functions, they do not have a vote and may not serve on Committee.

If the behaviour of any member of the HMS Ark Royal Association brings The Association into disrepute or they act in a manner contrary to the aims of The Association, then The Committee shall have the right (based on a full committee vote) to terminate or suspend the membership of that individual with immediate effect.

3. Organisation

The general running of the Association shall be carried out by a committee of at least five full members including a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. Committee members will be elected at an Annual General Meeting (AGM). In the event of a committee post becoming vacant between AGMs, the Committee may co-opt a full member to fill the position until the next AGM. Additional Committee members may be co-opted to assist in the running of the Association as necessary.

A non-executive President may, on proposal by The Committee, be elected by the members at an AGM to act as a figurehead for the Association. The President is not a voting member of The Committee but may attend meetings in an advisory capacity.

4. Responsibilities of Officials

The Chairman shall be responsible for the overall running of The Committee; he will chair all committee meetings and the AGM. The Treasurer shall be responsible for seeing that all monies, whether received by himself or any other member of The Committee shall be paid into The Association's bank account regularly. He shall also ensure that all debts of The Association are paid as directed by The Committee. He shall see that accounts, documents and other papers relating to the finances of The Association are kept. He shall prepare a Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Reports in time for the AGM.

5. Finance

The Association is a non-profit making organisation and all Committee posts are unpaid. The annual subscription for Full and Associate Members, proposed by The Committee and agreed by the AGM, is due annually on the anniversary of first payment.

6. Changes to the Constitution

Changes to the Constitution of The HMS Ark Royal Association may be made only by a resolution moved at an Annual General Meeting. Any proposed amendments to the Constitution must be notified to the Secretary in good time for inclusion in the agenda for the AGM.

7. Termination

In the event of a closing of The HMS Ark Royal Association, an Extraordinary General Meeting will decide on the disposal of residual funds.