



Order of Service for the Dedication of the
Royal Fleet Auxiliary Memorial



Thursday 11th October 2012 at 1.00 pm

The National Memorial Arboretum
Alrewas Staffordshire

The Order of Service for The Dedication of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Memorial

The Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines (Lymington) under the direction of Captain Rich Harvey RM led by Drum Major Gavin Muxworthy, The RFA National Standard, RFA Association National Standard and RFAA Branch Standards March On. *Standard Bearers - Order Standards" Standard Sir"*

Standard Bearers - Carry Standards Bugle - Alert

All Stand

The Arrival of His Royal Highness The Earl of Wessex KG GCVO ADC Commodore in Chief Royal Fleet Auxiliary.
Royal Salute to His Royal Highness (*Six bars of the National Anthem*)

Uniformed personnel - Salute on the first note

Standards are lowered Bugle - Carry-on Uniformed personnel - Return from the Salute on the last note

Standards to the Carry Standard Bearers - Order Standards

Uniformed personnel independently remove headdress

All Sit

THE INVOCATION

The Chaplain to the Royal Fleet Auxiliary, The Reverend James Tabor Royal Navy;

We are come together in the National Arboretum to dedicate this memorial in remembrance and thanksgiving for all those who have served in the Royal Fleet Auxiliary, and who have given their lives in peace and in war. We recall with thanksgiving all who continue to serve upon the waters of the world commending them to the protection and care of Almighty God.

The Chaplain of the Fleet, The Reverend Scott JBrown QHC BD; Let us pray for all whom we remember this day

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise because you have made us in your own image, and have given us gifts in body, mind and spirit. We give you thanks also for the lives of those we remember today and to whose memory we dedicate this Memorial. We honour their sacrifice and their service as we acknowledge that from you comes the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All Stand

HYMN

Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us O'er the world's tempestuous sea; Guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us, For we have no help but thee; Yet possessing every blessing, If our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us; All our weakness thou dost know; Thou didst tread this earth before us; Thou didst feel its keenest woe; Yet unfearing, persevering, To thy passion thou didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending, Fill our hearts with heavenly joy; Love with every passion blending Pleasure that can never cloy; Thus provided, pardoned, guided, Nothing can our peace destroy.

Words: James Edmeston

All Sit

READINGS

Captain John Hood RFA;

Some went down to the sea in ships, doing business on the mighty waters: they saw the deeds of the Lord, his wondrous works in the deep. For he commanded and raised the stormy wind, which lifted up the waves of the sea. They mounted up to heaven, they went down to the depths; their courage melted away in their calamity; they reeled and staggered like drunkards, and were at their wits' end. Then they cried to the Lord in their distress; he made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea were hushed. Then they were glad because they had quiet, and he brought them to their desired haven.

(Psalm 107: 23-30)

Chief Officer Frank Andrews Chairman of the RFA Association;

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.' Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.'

(Matthew 19: 22-28)

THE DEDICATION

Commodore William Walworth OBE addresses the Chaplain of the Fleet;

Chaplain of the Fleet, I ask you to call upon Almighty God to dedicate this Memorial to all those who have given their lives in the service of their country, in peace and in war, in the ships of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary. It is fitting and right that their sacrifice is marked in this place and in this manner and that the families, and the friends of those so remembered have a permanent memorial to them. Let this memorial also be a reminder to us of the ever present dangers for us who now serve, of the trust our nation has placed upon us and of the price we may have to bear for our service.

The Chaplain of the Fleet;

To the glory of Almighty God and in memory of those who have given their lives serving in the Royal Fleet Auxiliary, we dedicate this memorial. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

LAYING OF WREATHS AND FLOWERS

Band - Nimrod: Elgar

Wreaths laid by HRH The Earl of Wessex, Commodore Walworth, Chief Officer Andrews, Chairman of the RFA Association, Mrs lane Walworth on behalf of all RFA Widows and Vice Admiral Richards on behalf of the First Sea Lord.

On completion of the wreath laying, flowers are laid by family members, in memory of a former member of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary. *(flowers to be laid either side the Dedication Stone)*

THE ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Captain Pat Thompson RFA Association;

They shall grow not old as we who are left grow old, Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, We will remember them.

(Laurence Binyon)

All; We will remember them.

The Last Post *(Standards are Lowered)*

HRH The Earl of Wessex, Commodore Walworth and Vice Admiral Richards salute on behalf of all in uniform

Silence (One Minute)

Reveille

(Standards are returned to the Carry) Return from the Salute

First Officer Chris Jordan MBE;

When you go home tell them of us and say, For your tomorrow, we gave our today.

(Kohima Epitaph)

Standard Bearers - Order Standards

All Sit

THE PRAYERS

The Chaplain to the Royal Fleet Auxiliary leads the prayers;

Almighty and Eternal Lord God,
You laid out the heavens above us,
and brought forth the earth from the waters,
filling them with the wonders of your creation;
be pleased to hold in your saving love
all who serve in the Royal Fleet Auxiliary, and their families,
that we may be spared the dangers of the sea, and the violence of the enemy,
to support and supply the Forces of the Crown
in the cause of justice, peace and freedom throughout the world,
and in defence of our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth,
her subjects, and all the people of the Commonwealth;
and help us always to remember that it is by your mercy
that we enjoy your blessings at sea and ashore;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

All;

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Standard Bearers - Carry Standards

All Stand

HYMN

Eternal Father, strong to save, Whose arm doth bound the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep Its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to thee For those in peril on the sea.

O Saviour, whose almighty word The winds and waves submissive heard,
Who walked 'st on the foaming deep, And calm amid its rage didst sleep:
O hear us when we cry to Thee For those in peril on the sea.

O Sacred Spirit, who didst brood Upon the chaos dark and rude,
And bad'st its angry tumult cease, And gavest light and life and peace:
O hear us when we cry to thee For those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power, Our brethren shield in dangers hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe, Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
And ever let there rise to Thee Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

Words William Whiting

THE BLESSING

The Chaplain of the Fleet;

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all people; love and serve the Lord, and rejoice in the power of the Holy Spirit.

May the blessing of Almighty God rest upon you, now and always. **Amen.**

Uniformed personnel - independently Replace Headdress

All Sit

HRH The Earl of Wessex as Commodore in Chief RFA, Addresses the RFA and the RFA Association.

Commodore William Walworth OBE Replies on behalf of the RFA Service and RFA Association.

Standard Bearers - Carry Standards

All Stand

National Anthem

Uniformed personnel Salute on the first note

Standards are Lowered

God save our gracious Queen, Long live our noble Queen, God save the Queen! Send her
victorious, Happy and glorious, Long to reign over us; God save the Queen!

Uniformed personnel - Return from the Salute on the last note

Standards to the Carry

Band - The RFA March: Starr

Band - Life on the Ocean Wave: Russell / Sargent

Band and Standards March Off

HRH The Earl of Wessex takes the Salute

HRH The Earl of Wessex is escorted to the RFA Memorial to meet the key personnel involved in the memorial project

Guests are escorted to the marquee for the reception and buffet lunch

