



## British Officers Club Washington DC

### Newsletter May 2024

#### My Best Friend

I see her beside me as I walk the street  
Nose to the ground looking for food  
But she is gone.

I feel her sharing our warmth in the bed  
Pressing into the small of my back  
But she is gone.

In the corner of my eye I see her on the sofa  
Curled up in my favourite spot  
Daring me to put her lead on for a walk  
But she is gone.

And then I feel her eyes boring into my head  
Telling me it is time for a walk  
But, yes, no, she is gone.

I remember dancing with her in the kitchen  
Twirling and turning to the beat of the rock  
But no more, she is gone.

That look of mischief as she stole somebody else's ball  
Or slid under a fence to get at the grass that was always better.  
How she came to a raised hand, settled to a flicked finger  
But, oh no, no more - she is gone.

How she weaved between my legs, or played dead  
Because she was having too much fun and didn't want to leave.

The barely felt weight of her head on my knee  
As we watched Benji running through the streets - free  
A feeling that has not gone – but she is gone.

That last look as we parted, she off to her death.  
That trusting loving look.

No, she is never gone, never forgotten  
I weep, I remember.

## 1. Picnic Cancelled

Only two people responded to the question – Would you Attend a Picnic in June ? – and so clearly it is not viable. The Club would have to pay a hire fee for the site and, if wine is to be consumed, an ABC Fee. With a vast crowd of three, the project has been shelved.

## 2. Trip to the Patuxent River Air Museum

Now is the chance to redeem yourself.

There will be a guided tour of the Patuxent Naval Air Museum on Saturday **May 18<sup>th</sup>**. We shall meet in the car park at 1100 and, after the tour led by the museum's President, we shall have lunch over the road.

Please book (no fee until at the Museum where we will have a group booking) so that we have an idea of numbers –

<https://bit.ly/3Q7nfYG>

## 3. D-Day Celebration

Market Square, Alexandria 1300-1600 **June 2<sup>nd</sup>** organised by the Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee.

## 4. Battle of Midway Dinner

A consortium of just about all the US naval associations in the area are arranging a dinner for **June 3<sup>rd</sup>** at the Army and Navy Country Club Arlington to remember the Battle of Midway. This battle, like Trafalgar for the Napoleonic War, was a turning point in the Pacific War. Although not realized at the time, it was the beginning of the end.

Tickets are \$100 for this cracking black tie event:

<https://bit.ly/43XVI7c>

## 5. Hampton Roads Maritime Museum

The 1805 Club is going to visit the Maritime Museum on **June 29<sup>th</sup>**. It's a great visit and we are promised artefacts not normally on view. Contact me if you are interested – I will have spare seats in Jeeves, my car.

## **6. Liberation of Paris Garden Party.**

Plans are well underway to hold a Garden Party at Lloyd House to celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Liberation of Paris on **September 14<sup>th</sup>** starting at 1800. Come dressed for the era and dance to the music of the times. We will have a marquee so the weather will not be a problem. Booking will be through the City of Alexandria web site in due course as this will be a joint effort with the Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee.

## **7. Trafalgar Night**

Sunday **October 20<sup>th</sup>** at the Country Club of Fairfax

All events appear on the web page [bocwashdc.org](http://bocwashdc.org) as they are firmed up.

If you do not wish to receive any more newsletters, then just let me know.

Keep safe

Peter Pennington

President British Officers Club Washington D