



European Area Conference 2017 in Dublin

The Republic of Ireland Branch is delighted to announce that it will be hosting the 2017 European Area Conference.

DATE: Friday, 6 October 2017 to Sunday, 8 October 2017

VENUE: The Marine Hotel, Sutton Cross, Co. Dublin.

MARINE HOTEL: The Marine is a hotel of great warmth and character with its lawn rolling down to the shore of Dublin Bay. As well as meeting rooms and banquet facilities, there is a swimming pool and sauna.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT: There are regular busses and DART (light railway commuter train) connections to Dublin city centre in walking distance.

AIRPORT: Dublin Airport is approximately 20 minutes by road.

In all our 70 years since our foundation, we have never hosted this conference, so we are very pleased. It is a fantastic opportunity for our members and supporters to meet our friends from all across the European Area and to discuss the special issues that affect all the RAF Association branches based outside the United Kingdom.

We are looking for maximum support from all our members. Please try your very best to attend the conference. Even if you can't attend the whole event, please try to attend one element of it such as the Gala Dinner. There are three packages specifically designed to make it as affordable as possible and allow as many of our members as possible to attend:

- * Residents' Conference Package
- * Saturday (only) Day-Pass Package
- * Gala Dinner (only) Package

Please see under the Costs of Conference Packages heading below for full details of what is included and the costs of these packages.

Please make your booking for any of the three packages detailed below DIRECTLY with PAB Tours and Travel and NOT with the Branch. The contact at PAB is:

**Steven Furey, PAB Travel & Tours, 53 Middle Abbey Street, Dublin 1, Ireland
Email: steve@pabtours.com Tel: 00353 1 871 9800 Ext 2142**

Conference Programme

Friday, 6 October - Welcome and European Area Council Meeting

- Check-in at Marine Hotel, Sutton Cross, Dublin 13
- European Area Council meeting
- Pre-Dinner Prosecco Reception
- Irish night to welcome everyone - Irish dancing school display by the Cooke school of Irish Dancing; may encourage a few of the guests to try a step or two!
- Dinner
 - ❖ Smoked Salmon & Guinness Brown Bread
 - ❖ Beef & Guinness Casserole
 - ❖ Dessert / Tea / Coffee

Saturday, 7 October - European Area Conference

- Conference Room open at 08:30hrs with tea/coffee break
- Morning local sight-seeing tour for those not participating in the Conference
- Buffet lunch in the Cucino's Restaurant:

Main courses:

- ❖ Rosemary marinated chicken breast
- ❖ Poached salmon fillet, baby prawn and chive cream

Salads:

- ❖ Pasta with sun-dried tomato, black olives, and parmesan shavings
- ❖ New potato, red onion and chive
- ❖ Broccoli, feta and hazelnut
- ❖ Dressed leaves with grated carrot

- Afternoon tour for Residents' Package participants (only) to **Malahide Castle & Gardens** (www.malahidecastleandgardens.ie). Malahide Castle is one of the highlights to any visit to Dublin. Located by the seaside village of Malahide, the castle is steeped in Medieval Irish history. The refurbished castle features an engaging castle tour, exhibition of Irish and local history, a botanical interpretive centre, a museum, secret walled gardens and an expansive West Lawns Walk, as well as local craft and souvenir shops. Lovely coastal drive back towards the hotel.
- Prosecco Pre-Dinner Reception:
 - ❖ Chicken Satay Skewers / Mini-Quiche / Filo Prawns / Spring Rolls
- Gala Dinner:
 - Starters
 - ❖ Chef's soup of the evening
 - ❖ Grand Marnier melon infusion plate
 - Main Courses
 - ❖ Roast prime sirloin of Irish beef
 - ❖ Duo of poached salmon and hake fillets
 - ❖ Dessert & Tea/Coffee
 - ❖ A super four-piece band
 - ❖ Half a bottle of house wine per person

Sunday, 8th October – End of Conference Service at Glasnevin Cemetery

The commemoration will be held at **Glasnevin Cemetery**
(<https://www.glasnevinmuseum.ie>)

The commemoration will start at 10:30 a.m. with a short ecumenical service in the Church in the cemetery.

The ecumenical service will be followed by a parade at the **Cross of Sacrifice** near the church in the cemetery. Standards will be paraded and Last Post and Reveille will be sounded.

It is expected that the duration of the service and parade will be 30 to 45 minutes.

Refreshments will be available at the café in the cemetery.

We hope very much that the 10:30 a.m. start will allow as many as possible to attend and still allow time to travel to the airport for those leaving in the early afternoon. The “estimated” travel time by road from Glasnevin to Dublin Airport is 20 to 30 minutes. On Sunday morning, traffic should be fairly light. For those where the time is tight, it will be possible to put your luggage etc on the coach when you leave the hotel for the ceremony and then carry on from the ceremony to the airport without having to return to the hotel.

Other veterans’ organisations such as the Royal British Legion, Royal Naval Association, Irish Defence Forces personnel and ONE members (Irish Defence Forces veterans’ organisation) are very welcome to attend. It would be a fitting end to the conference if there were a large attendance.

Costs of Conference Packages

NOTES:

For full and accurate details of packages, please contact PAB Travel and Tours
 Please make enquiries and bookings directly to: Steven Furey, PAB Travel & Tours, 53 Middle Abbey Street, Dublin 1, Ireland
 Email: steve@pabtours.com Tel: 00353 1 871 9800 Ext 2142

Date:	6 th -8 th October 2017
Venue:	Marine Hotel Sutton Cross Dublin 13 Website: http://marinehotel.ie
Residents' Package (per person): This package includes the Conference, two nights' accommodation, two breakfasts, two prosecco receptions, one buffet lunch and two dinners (including the Gala Dinner).	Total cost per person sharing €468 Total cost per person (single) €597 * * There is a limited number of single rooms
Saturday (only) Day-Pass (per person): This package is ideal for those who wish to attend the full conference but who do not need overnight accommodation. This package can be booked separately.	Total cost per person €159
Gala Dinner Package (per person): This package includes the food, half bottle of house wine per person and live entertainment. This package can be booked separately from the other packages.	Total cost per person €99
Additional nights on B&B basis (per person, per night):	€109 per person sharing €178 per person (single) * * There is a limited number of single rooms
A minimum deposit of €100 per person is payable upon confirmation.	