Hello from Crew 3 in BROCKLESBY!

It was great to host many of you onboard for our families’ day, and thank you to those who were able to give us such a fantastic send-off from Round Tower when we left Portsmouth on the 19th of June. Since leaving the UK we’ve already covered 2800 nm on our way to Bahrain, visiting four different countries and crossing two time zones.

Whilst embarking fuel and stores during each port visit, we’ve also had the opportunity to explore new places. The majority of the Ship’s Company had never been to Porto before, and it proved to be an amazing city. Our time alongside coincided with the São João street festival, with over 200,000 people gathering by the river for live music and fireworks whilst paying tribute to Saint John the Baptist.

From Porto it was then onto Gibraltar, with many junior members of the team achieving a big tick in ‘the Navy task book of life’ – the 2.7 mile ‘Rock Run’! AB Millar made it to the top of the rock first, completing the run in less than 26 minutes.

Whilst at sea we’ve continued with routine training, and on entering the Mediterranean we conducted our first Maritime Security Operation in support of NATO’s Operation SEA GUARDIAN. This involved BROC conducting radar and AIS surveillance, and transmitting regular VHF safety messages to reassure merchant shipping.

Message from the CO:
We’ve had a great transit so far – the weather and sea state were kind as we crossed the Bay of Biscay and we’ve achieved lots of training in company with HMS SHOREHAM... as well as making the most of the opportunities to get ashore in Porto, Gib, Valletta and Souda!

I’m proud to say that BROC and Crew 3 will enter the KIPION area of operations ready for anything!

BROC vs The Rock: 25 members of Crew 3 conquered the Rock of Gibraltar!
Our next stop was Valletta (Malta) which has a beautiful Grand Harbour (you may have seen our video on Twitter) and historic ties with the Royal Navy. Now we’re in Souda (Crete) conducting a final set of equipment trials before proceeding south to the Suez Canal.

We recently started a deployment ‘Biggest Loser’ competition. Crew 3 will be aiming to get fitter throughout the deployment, with a prize for the person who loses the most weight, body fat percentage and metabolic age.

The competition has definitely led to an increase in turnout at the Deputy Weapon Engineering Officer, PO(ET) ‘Shiner’ Wright’s 6am fitness circuits! More updates to follow...

Special congratulations go to our outstanding Marine Engineering Department, who were awarded a Herbett Lott prize for their part in preparing BROC for three years in the Gulf.

Please note that you can post parcels upto 2kg to us for free by Royal Mail from 16 Jul 18 (Name / Service Number / HMS BROCKLESBY / BFPO 241, Op KIPION). And if you’re not doing so already, you can follow our latest updates, pictures and videos on Twitter @HMSBrocklesby!