Welcome to the first newsletter of HMS Quorn’s deployment to the Baltic as part of the NATO Standing Mine Counter Measures Group One (SNMCMG1). Over the next 12 weeks, the Ship will be sending out regular newsletters to update affiliates, families and friends on our progress and general goings on.

Sailing
After a morale rousing speech form Commodore P A McAlpine CBE, Commander Portsmouth Flotilla, QUORN set sail to Glasgow bathed in glorious sunshine to meet her NATO Taskgroup. Making her way around the Cornish Peninsula and up the West Coast of the UK, she was greeted by uncharacteristically glass-like seas and calm winds.

Gunnery
Before heading up towards Scotland, QUORN was first required to carry out several trials to her weapons systems and sensors. With continued good weather and clear of shipping, the air was soon filled with the smell of cordite and the booming sound of the 30mm functioning.

On completion, members of the Ship’s Company were given the opportunity to brush up on their Gunnery skills firing the Assault Rifle and Minigun Force Protection Weapons.

Joining NATO
After 3 days of sailing up the coast of the UK, QUORN made her way through the Cumbrae Gap towards Rosneath Patch to await the arrival of the NATO Taskgroup. With the backdrop of the sun rising, QUORN rendezvoused with the SNMCMG1 Task Group and conducted her first courtesy salute to her new Operational Commander embarked on the Flagship, FGS Donau before proceeding up the Clyde to Glasgow.

Next stop the Baltic………..

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