FIFTY years after the greatest amphibious invasion of all time, D-Day anniversary celebrations are set to become the largest and most widespread commemoration of the Second World War since the war itself ended.

Described by Prime Minister John Major as "a huge national event", the celebrations will gather pace in May and reach a climax in June as an army of veterans returns to the South of England and to the battle sites of Normandy.

Events in Britain will focus on Portsmouth, an important embarkation point for the D-Day forces and planning centre for the invasion.

On June 4 the Queen will hold a dinner for 500 people at Portsmouth Guildhall. Invitations have been sent to all leaders of nations which took part in the Allied operations, including President Bill Clinton, President Mitterand of France, and President Walesa of Poland.

Also on that day, 1,000 veterans of the landings will be entertained at nearby Southwick House. Next day, a Sunday, a commemorative service will be held for all soldiers on Southsea Common. Thousands of veterans are expected to take part and many others plan to journey to France where similar services will take place in British war cemeteries.

Armada
Later that day a flotilla of ships escorted by an armada of small craft will cross the Channel. They will be led by HMY Britannia with the Queen and Heads of States and Governments embarked.

On D-Day itself an international ceremony is planned at

Star and garter
Air stewardess Vicky Kirk won HMS Nottingham's very own Order of the Garter when she spent a day at sea in the Type 42 destroyer. Vicky, who works for Britannia Airways, has been Nottingham's very own star girl since she was chosen as Miss HMS Nottingham last summer.

Her escorts here are LS(R) Jase Lightfoot (left) and AB(R) Nibby Damerell.

Picture: LA(PHOT) Scooby Dua

Adriatic return for Ark

WITH her aircraft ranged on the flight deck, HMS Ark Royal sails for the Adriatic just a year and 11 days since her first deployment there in support of British troops in former Yugoslavia.

She will relieve the home-ward-bound HMS Invincible which replaced Ark on Adriatic duty last summer.

Since she arrived home in August the Ark has undergone maintenance and weapon training to hone her for her second stint in the Adriatic. When she returns later this year she will begin a major refit which will update her after nine years of continuous service.

Her air group comprises Sea Harriers of 820 Naval Air Squadron, anti-submarine Sea King helicopters of 820 NAS and airborne early warning Sea Kings of B Flight 849 NAS.

Ark personnel visit Madam Speaker — Page 28.
Edinburgh takes a first in Haifa

FLOODLIT against the lights of Haifa is HMS Edinburgh, making the first NATO visit to an Israeli port along with ships from Stavanger Naval Force Mediterranean.

With CSNFM, Commodore Flores, embarked the Type 42 destroyer arrived alongside in company with the Italian frigate Espero, the Greek frigate EIk and the Turkish frigate Yildirim, after conducting embargo operations in the Adriatic.

The ships continued training en route to the Adriatic, taking part in the Turkish exercise Dogu Akdeniz, and arrived back in the Standing Naval Force Mediterranean.

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On leaving Haifa the ships dispersed in preparation to pass with the Israeli armed forces, including three SAAR class Fast Attack Craft, supported by a Ushpin helicopter and missiles simulated by F16 aircraft. This gave the opportunity for the naval base commander, with a few of his staff, the chance to sail in HMS Edinburgh and view the exercise from a SNFM perspective.

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Out to Africa

NAVAL links with South Africa were re-established last month with a visit to Cape Town and Simonstown by the Type 23 frigate HMS Norfolk and RFA Grey Rover.

The invitation was extended by Chief of the South African Navy, Vice-Admiral Robert Simpson-Anderson. (See also page 28.)

Farewell to the ‘blues’

THERE was a touch of the blues at RNREC Manado when female personnel serving there raised their glasses to mark the demise of the WRNS.

The “pale blue” theme was echoed in their blue Curacao cocktails but did not, thankfully, extend to blue rines or eyeshadow!

The evening was chaired by Lt Cdr Martinson-who is WRMM at Manado and was one of the first WRNS officers to serve at sea.

Chief finds Faldo within his range

RUFFLING a few feathers as he attempts a birdie is Chief Steve Williams, Chief of the Six Nations of the Grand River, teeing off a round of golf at the China Fleet Country Club, Saltash, during an affiliation visit to HMS Brave.

Chief Williams and his six-strong delegation of Brave’s travelled from their home reservation in Ontario, Canada, to accept an invitation to attend the Bright Frigate’s re-dedication ceremony at Devonport naval base.

The visitors were cementing a long-standing affiliation with the ship which began when she deployed to North America in 1990.

“We enjoyed adopting the ship and we say a special prayer to protect the men and women on board,” said Chief Williams. “We hope they will never have to fire their weapons except in self-defence.”

Guest of honour at the ceremony was HMS Brave’s sponsor, Lady Bryan. The re-dedication case was cut by Mrs Isobel Parata, wife of the ship’s commanding officer, CdR John Paria, and the youngest rating, WiJg Alison Ireland.

Picture: Sunday Independent, Devon.

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Picture: Sunday Independent, Devon.
Rule change for Russian medal

Arctic convoy veterans awarded the Russian Commemorative Medal may now display it alongside the rest of their campaign medals — thanks to a campaign by Admiral of the Fleet Lord Lewin.

Thousands of World War II sailors who received the medal instituted by the former Soviet Union in 1985 to mark the 40th anniversary of the end of the Great Patriotic War were disappointed to learn of a Foreign Office decision that it could not be worn as an official award.

Last year Lord Callaghan and Lord Williams of Elvel raised the matter in the House of Lords but failed to get the decision reversed.

Admiral Lewin then approached the Foreign Office directly, pointing out permission had been granted for British veterans to wear the commemorative medal issued by the Maltese Government in 1991 for the 50th anniversary of the award of the George Cross to the island and this created a precedent — the Foreign Office were convinced, submitted his proposal to The Queen and thus approval was gained.

Bermuda base to close

HMS Malabar, the RN base in Bermuda, is to close next year, Armed Forces Minister Jeremy Hanley announced.

Construction of a small naval dockyard there began in 1810. The punitive extension of the dockyard, 1953, failed to stem the decline of the dockyard, which was closed in 1968.

Its strategic importance has greatly diminished in the changed political climate.

Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind has told the Premier of Bermuda, Sir John Swan, that he hoped the RN’s association could be maintained by continued ship visits.

Lt Peter Rouch leads the Colour Guard from the Second Submarine Squadron that flew out to take part in the Queen’s Birthday parade last year.
IT MAY be a surprise that there are still one-third of the 1,200 ME Artificers currently serving who have been trained and gained their qualifications on steam machinery, and have no experience of modern gas-turbine propulsion.

While there will be a need to retain a proportion of steam specialists to man the very few remaining steam ships, many will require cross-training to gas propulsion.

There are limited shore billets in the preferred base area. The reason varies — perhaps the most is received before your request to extend in a ship port area.

Each week Drafty receives a large number of requests from ratings who wish to extend their time on board. The message is simple, if you wish to remain on board beyond your ERF, for whatever reason, make sure your CEDO arrives on the drafting desk in plenty of time.

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Valiant to the finish

SHE MAY be decommissioning in the autumn, but HMS Valiant will remain busy right up to the moment of her going. A period of operational work-up followed her final refit, but details of her closing months' programme cannot be revealed for security reasons.

In the period running up to the refit in Rosyth, the Valiant took part in a naval exercise and was the vessel used for the Submarine Command Qualifying Course, the "Perisher".

The first all-Britain nuclear-powered submarine, HMS Valiant was laid down at Vickers Ltd, Barrow-in-Furness in June 1959, launched by Lady Thorneycroft in December 1963 and commissioned in July 1966.

From commissioning until 1970 she was based at the Third Submarine Squadron in Faslane. In 1967 she completed a record-breaking submerged passage from Singapore to the UK in 25 days. During that first commission she also visited Mauritius, Hamburg, La Spezia, Gibraltar, the United States and the West Indies.

In 1970 she became an extensive, pre-planned refit at HM Naval Base Chatham, which included a nuclear refit. She was recommissioned in May 1972, the first of a new squadron of nuclear submarines to be based at Devonport.

Purification

She travelled as far as the United States again in her second commission and towards the end of 1976, docked down for essential defect repairs. Due to problems with feed water purification, this maintenance period was extended until June 1977.

HMS Valiant took part in the Silver Jubilee Spithead Review prior to arriving at Chatham in November 1977 for her second, pre-planned major refit. Again this included a nuclear refit, in which she was given a new, high-power nuclear core.

On completion of this refit, the Valiant again joined the Third Submarine Squadron in Faslane. Her third commission took her from the north polar ice to the waters of the South Atlantic, and saw her, for the first time, at war, where the power of the nuclear submarine was demonstrated.

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STALWART OVER THIRTY YEARS

"FALKLAND Islands", a seventeenth battle honour, was won by the present HMS Valiant in 1982 and added to the impressive list garnered by previous ships of the name.

The first two HM ships Valiant were third rates, launched in 1759 at Chatham and 1827 on the Thames respectively. The third ship of the name was an 80 gun armed ship of 6,710 tons, launched at Poplar in 1863.

Lady Jellicoe launched the fourth HMS Valiant in November 1914. This 31,000 ton battle ship, armed with eight 15 inch guns, 12 six inch guns, two 13 pounder anti-aircraft guns and four 21 inch torpedo tubes, was destined to distinguish herself in both world wars.

Built by Fairfield, Glasgow, she commissioned for the Grand Fleet in 1916 and served at the Battle of Jutland. She was present at the surrender of the German Fleet in 1918.

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SEVERAL arguments have been put forward, both for and against, why a service woman who becomes pregnant should leave or not leave the Service. There is one reason, however, that has not had much publicity in this country and I came across it first-hand.

During the Gulf War I was serving with the Americans and it was suddenly realised by them that service couples with children were being sent to the Gulf, not only to fight but to remain long periods of separation.

There were couples in the same units and units of different ones — and there was a split in the US media.

“About the children?” came the question. Well, there were of course relatives and friends who stopped to — but some had to be taken in case and even one who suffered that fate was seen to be too many.

I told them that this problem could never happen in the British Armed Forces because our code of conduct in our contracts tells them that they would have to leave if they become pregnant.

But now we have an ex-service woman being supplied with a six-figure sum after the loss her job because of pregnancy — and a Naval officer actually complaining about the lack of children’s crèches.

We do not have the funds. We are happy as it is. The Government has been asked to provide more funds, but it has failed.

Fred Lloyd

Pursuing a line

REGARDING the story, “Carrier support for the Tirpitz strike” (October ‘Ship of the Royal Navy’, Volume 1, Issue 2), I was interested in the report of the incident in this year’s issue of the magazine. I was in the Wren’s Platoon of the photo team that covered the incident and it was a memorable experience.

The Wren’s Platoon was responsible for taking photos of the entire operation, from the planning stage to the execution.

This was an important operation for the Wren’s Platoon, as it was the first time that we had been involved in such a large-scale operation. It was a memorable experience for all of us.

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Monte Bello ship sunk by Suez

REGARDING 'No cash for a bomb veteran' (January issue) I was captain of HMS Diana, detailed to 'guard' pig ship for the two A-bomb explosions.

We became a merchant company and have remained so — after 38 years we can still muster over 500 men.

We are seated on the fact that we steamed through two separate fall outs a month apart on May 16 and June 19. On commission, we were designate to Fremantle, the Australasian blacked out.

Instead, we went to Singapore prior to returning to station in the Mediterranean. We received no orders for such a unique and hazardous operation.

Their Lordships and Diana's Flag Officer in command may have been more concerned with the pending Suez crisis. We were not involved. Diana was ordered to Aden to be joined later by HMS Kent, and she in turn was relieved by HMS Newfoundland from the Far East.

Our war started. On the first night Newfoundland and Diana sank the Egyptian freighter Domiz. Diana was over whelmed by survivors at sea.

Then we were released from Aden in the New Year. We went home to Plymouth for our year's absence, and the great British public had forgotten Monte Bello. But the memory of those who served in Domiz has lasted over the years.

Now Mr Rijkink has shut the door as a result of a report from the NRFR. Yet I wonder how many of my 300 officers and men did the Beirut interview?

Weex-Diana deplore the decision and remain disenchant ed with the attitude of the MOD. — J. R. Gover, Hurlford.

THANKS to H. White of Bourne, Lincs, for pointing out that the week-long period used for nuclear tests in 1975-76 was the one in the Pacific, 1,500 miles south of Hawaii — not the one in the Indian Ocean as we incorrectly stated last month — Ed.

Tall tale of a donkey

I HAVE just read something about the maestro for RN LA HMS Vengeance being a jockey. I was a jockey in 1941-42 and I never heard of such an animal having that title.

It is said that ratings were detailed to groom this creature. Meths was supplied to clean its hooves and one evening they were told to mix this with his beer until he was caught and charged with being drunk in charge of a jackass.

Is it true that? I've come across dogs, cats, parrots, monkeys and even a cockerel — but a jackass? — W. J. Davies, Newport, Gwent.

Sea Cadets all fired up

Many of your readers will have seen the recent episode of London Weekend Television's programme 'London's Burning', which depicted a unit of a licentious naval-armoured youth organisation causing a fire in London's Dockland.

The youngsters were shown as scruffy, sullen, undisciplined and the adult staff as arrogant and stupid, with the result that the Unit was portrayed as not merely useless but positively dangerous.

There is only one youth organisation wearing naval uniform and having links to the Thames, the Sea Cadet Corps, which has, as a result, been the victim of its LWT misrepresentation.

Apart from the similarity in uniform and headquartres building, the fictional organisation bore no resemblance to the real Sea Cadet Corps.

Our 16,000 Cadets are smart and enthusiastic young people who, thanks to their devoted and skilled staff, are learning not only naval skills but also how to conduct and maintain leadership, teamwork and good citizenship.

Three of your readers who have not read this will know that this is true, but all too few people realise that we are not only partly sponsored by the Navy, and much of our support comes from charity.

It is particularly frightening when at a time when effective youth work is more necessary than ever before, and when charitable funds are scarcer and more difficult to collect, the media should deliver a blow below the belt, albeit unintentionally, to a Corps, which is making such a marvellous voluntary contribution to society. — Peter Cardinal, Captains of the Sea Cadet Corps.

No rates capped?

December issue of Navy News carried a photograph of Flag Officer Royal Yachts welcoming the Prime Minister on board HMY Britannia.

Although Admiral Woodward and the Commander are wearing their caps, the Quartermaster and Boson's Mate are bareheaded. Is this a tradition of the Royal Yacht or did the PM's arrival catch the gangway staff unprepared? — Lt Cdr R. E. Seath, RNYS Training Centre, Gosport.

My secretary, whose husband is serving in HMY Britannia, tells me that when on Royal Yacht Service crew members do not wear caps aboard the mainmast. — Ed.

More links with Olna

As a former RAF Olna crew member I was interested to see the photograph of her returning HMS Guernsey in your January issue.

Olna has in fact 'RA Sec' smaller. On 8 May 1967 she carried out a dummy RAS with HMS Appledore which, as I understood it, served as a kind of feasibility exercise.

The actual fuel had been transferred the previous evening when Appledore landed alongside the Olna, on anchor off Sottoma.

This occurred during a five week in and out of Aden period while Olna was on the way to Singapore with HMS Hermes — which included other naval replenishments.

On May 16 the homeward bound HMS Victorious was re-fuelled and the following day the merchant ship Clan MacTaggart of Glasgow, assisted by RFA Olynthus which had closed in to believe, received the same service.

The latter, apparently with a fire in a hold, had been refused access to normal bunkering facilities at Aden. — M. Oldham, Scunthorpe.

Brum big on air defence

HMS Birmingham is the first ship to receive the Wathingham Trophy awarded by the Royal Air Force to the best Joint Maritime Air Defence Ship.

The citation stated that during 1992 the Type 42 destroyer showed a desire to understand the air defence options on offer.

Her meticulous preparation and thorough briefings of participants in Joint Maritime Course 92 led to the best performance seen in recent years.

Birmingham deployed to the end of last month to the Mediterranean — then to the Adriatic to join Standing Naval Force Atlantic in enforcing the UN economic embargo against the former Yugoslavia.

CDR Stephen Wilson, commanding officer of HMS Birmingham, receives the Wathingham Trophy from Air Vice Marshal J. S. Allison at a ceremony at Bentley Priory.
Block booking for
Warrior

AFTER seven years permanently moored alongside the harbour railway station in Portsmouth, HMS Warrior was moved to dry dock last month for an inspection of her hull.

The 134-year-old ironclad warship was towed into the dockyard’s C Lock where she was settled on wooden blocks. There, her hull was examined for possible corrosion and her masts and rigging were inspected for weather damage. Her deck, which had borne the brunt of 165,000 pairs of feet over the last year, was also recoated to stop water seeping into the gun deck below.

The 9,000 tonne ship was expected to be in dry dock for a month and will, hopefully, reopen to the public later in February.

Council award

VICTORY Building, which will house the majority of the new Second Sea Lord/Chief of Naval Staff (CSS) command headquarters, received its first accolade when it was presented with a coveted Good Planning Award by Portsmouth City Council Planning Committee.

The first directorates are now occupying their offices in the purpose-built HQ which will eventually house some 500 people by the end of March when Admiral Sir Michael Layard will join as the first CSS/CNH.

Navy News

NOW AVAILABLE

Navy News CALENDAR 1994

This year’s calendar once again features a fine selection of photographs of a wide range of current Royal Navy ships. Taking up the theme of “See the world. Differently”, accompanying these pictures are views of the ports, scattered world-wide, which the ships have visited in the course of their operational duties.

This colourful calendar, printed on fine-grade paper, wire bound at head, with high quality varnished cover and informative text

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Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to NAVY NEWS. For overseas orders, payment should be made by Cheque/International Money Order in £ Sterling. For payment by credit card see page 27 for details.

CHITAGONG, BANGLADESH

The Bangladeshi port of Chitagong was visited by H.M.S. London while she was en route from Singapore to the Persian Gulf.
Sunshine boys take the heat

"HANDS to the wheel!"... no shortage of volunteers on board the Type 22 frigate HMS Campbeltown (top right) as members of her ship's company took the plunge in the Red Sea in temperatures which soared well-above 30 degrees.

The opportunity for a quick dip arose during Armilla patrol, a deployment shared with the Type 42 destroyer HMS Glasgow (pictured above, with HMS Paeock). During their time in the Gulf both ships have taken part in a number of multi-national exercises. HMS Campbeltown joined up with the Russian Udally-class destroyer Admiral Vinogradov, a meeting which had been planned since before the new year when the two ships had met in the northern Gulf.

Ten officers and ratings spent the day in each other's ships while Campbeltown's Lynx flew with the Russian Helix helicopter. There were also demonstrations of airborne boarding operations from both sides, with Russian marines “raped roping” onto the frigate's flight deck before carrying out (by necessity themselves) hand-to-hand combat.

HMS Campbeltown's boarding party also took part in a joint inspection of the merchant ship Tophys with USS Elliot. Tophys was the first inbound trader for Iraq since the Gulf War and RN personnel impressed the Americans by “raped roping” from her Lynx while the Americans embarked more sedately, by boat.

Meanwhile, on route to the Gulf, HMS Glasgow seized a rare chance to operate with the French Navy's corvette Detreyas, conducting various exercises including an extensive light Jacktory during which two members of the Glasgow's affiliated regiment, The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, Sgt Robert Ewan and Trooper Tom Boyd, placed themselves at the mercy and skill of both British and French marines!

After a brief stop in Colombo, Sri Lanka, Glasgow teamed up with the French carrier Jeanne d'Arc and the Italian frigate Sagittario and Urania for a series of ASW and AAW sorties. The European affiliation also found time for a visit of Jaus san Frontières on board the French ship, with Glasgow's team winning a rare British victory in the event.

Glasgow then paid a visit to the Malaysian island of Langkawi to take part in the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace exhibition where she anchored with ships of eight other navies off this tropical paradise. HMS Peacock was also in attendance, the two ships meeting up to share news and resources.

Glasgow's Lynx proved a big hit at the air displays, drawing large crowds as she put proudly amid MiGs and Mirages. Among her many visitors during the exhibition were Rear Admiral Cobbold and representatives from the Thai and South African Navies.

Meanwhile, en route to the Plymouth area later that week, Glasgow's Lynx proved a big hit at the air displays, drawing large crowds as she put proudly amid MiGs and Mirages. Among her many visitors during the exhibition were Rear Admiral Cobbold and representatives from the Thai and South African Navies.

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BIRTHDAY HONOURS GO TO GLEANER

WHILE surveying from Salcombe, Devon, HMSM GL Gleaner, the Navy's smallest commissioned ship, took the opportunity to celebrate her 10th birthday in style.

A birthday cake, painstakingly created by AB(SR) Phil Rowe and his assistant LS(SR) Hoagy Hogarth and made in the ships of Gleaner, was the centrepiece of the celebrations and was cut by the ship's sponsor, Mrs Margaret Read.

First prize

It was subsequently entered into the Surveying Squadron Christmas Cake Competition and won first prize.

HMSM GL Gleaner returned to Portsmouth for her winter lie-up and refit at Camper and Nicholson's Boatyard and she returns to the Plymouth area later this year to continue her surveys.

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TOP LEFT: Fancy meeting you here! HMS Peacock ties up alongside HMS Glasgow during a visit to the Malayan island of Langkawi.

TOP: Time for a dip... HMS Campbeltown's ship's company cool off in the Red Sea.

ABOVE: Secretary of Defence Malcolm Rifkind enjoys a joke with HMS Campbeltown's cooks during a visit to the Type 22 frigate.

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Prices + order forms available upon request. All prices include PP and VAT. Telephone 0752 626725.

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THE NAVY IN THE GULF
Pounds pour in for Pudsey

PERSONNEL throughout the Service found it “a piece of cake” raising money for the annual Children in Need Appeal, particularly CK Dave Bullough, pictured right (centre), with his colleagues LCK Mark Billson and CK Mark Copping from HMS Tamar, Yeovilton. Dave baked the cake which was then raffled at The Bull Inn, Lichfield. Wrens and staff at COMMSEC, Yeovilton, also raised money by washing cars all day in freezing weather.

UPU staff at HMS Osprey (below) led by Chief “Superman” Clarkson raised £310 during a fancy dress day. Overall, Osprey raised £2,500. Staff at RNH Bull Inn, Ilchester. Wrens and staff at COMMCEN, Yeovilton, also raised £300.

Haslar also donned fancy dress and after four hours travelling around the hospital dressed as pirates they raised £25. HMS Collingwood organised a week of events in aid of the appeal which included a Vicars and Tarts disco, a five-a-side 12-hour football marathon, shoeshining, windscreen washing, It’s a Knockout, a two-day swimathon, funny rig, a Wines’ Club coffee morning and an Over-50s Divisions. The amount raised was in excess of £3,000.

Riders roar ahead for TV appeal

On their bikes for Pudsey once again were the RN Motor Cycle Club who completed their marathon ride around naval establishments collecting for Children in Need. Travelling over 2,500 miles during eight days and visiting 22 establishments from Scotland to South West Cornwall on six Sport for Television Kawasaki motorcycles, the team collected £7,000.

The Scottish leg of the tour was started by Captain Ian Somerville of HMS Neptune and raised £1,400. The tour continued southwards with the team of RN Motor Cyclists and the RN British Industries Fair Fund. While £100 was donated on behalf of the ship’s Welfare Fund at HMS Daedalus. Captain Andy Rich, captain of HMS Dryad, is pictured below presenting a cheque from the establishment’s Charity Chest to BBC South Today presenter Sally Taylor. HMS Dryad’s collection for the Children in Need appeal totalled well in excess of £300.

Nice to see you, to see you, nice!

DIDN'T they do well? TV celebrity Rosemarie Ford, CCME Andy Ashford and Portsmouth goalkeeper Alan Knight are pictured having "lots" of fun during HMS Intrepid’s charity auction in aid of Great Ormond Street Hospital’s Children In Need.

DIDN'T they do well? TV celebrity Rosemarie Ford, CCME Andy Ashford and Portsmouth goalkeeper Alan Knight are pictured having “lots” of fun during HMS Intrepid’s charity auction in aid of Great Ormond Street Hospital’s Children In Need.
**Record year for KGFS**

A £2.2 million grants’ allocation to 80 maritime organisations supporting seafarers and their dependants will be made by the KGFS during 1994.

In a year which marks the 50th anniversary of the D-Day landings, the record amount of £2,278,508 is a fitting tribute to the many seafaring veterans now in their 70s and increasingly reliant upon external assistance. In recognition of this, emphasis has been given to 24 organisations such as the RNBF (£34,000) and shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners’ Royal Benevolent Society (£15,000).

Hospitals, homes and shelters for seafarers and their dependants continue to receive extensive help from KGFS. In total, 32 grants of £47,800 will be made this year with amounts ranging from £1,000 for Queen Elizabeth Foundation for Disabled People (training for disabled seafarers) to £70,000 for the Royal Alfred Seafarers’ Society’s hospitals and homes in Banstead and Eastbourne.

Grants to assist the welfare and education of children total £446,558 and this amount will be distributed to children’s homes, training ships and schools, plus scholarships and bursaries for seafarers’ dependants. The lion’s share of £195,000 is made to the RN and RM Children’s Trust which supports 129 RN children.

The Royal Merchant Navy School Foundation similarly provides educational support for children whose parents are suffering severe financial hardship.

"KGFS distributes grants to charitable institutions covering all areas of seafaring — the RN, Merchant Navy and fishing fleets and others," said KGFS director general Capt. Andrew Packham. "Despite the harsh economic climate, we are delighted that the fund is able to increase its grants’ allocation during a period which commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Battle of the Atlantic and the D-Day landings."

**JACIG’s cutting edge**

RAF Scampton, in Lincs., was the venue for an unusual celebration marking the third anniversary of the Joint Armies Control Implementation Group (JACIG) in Europe (CFE).

Aim of this treaty was to limit the threat of conflict between the two parties. The teams of Army, RAF and civilian personnel of the Joint Armies Control Implementation Group (JACIG) have carried out over 80 reduction inspections in former Warsaw Pact countries and have witnessed the destruction of thousands of pieces of military equipment ranging from tanks, artillery and armoured vehicles to helicopters and fighter aircraft.

To celebrate the event, a cake, boldly disguised as a tank, was ‘reduced’ by using a saw, cast from the scrap metal of a Polish armoured vehicle which has been reduced under the CFE treaty. The Commandant of JACIG, Group Captain David Bremer, said, "During this reduction period members of JACIG have witnessed the destruction of over 100,000 items of Treaty Limited Equipment. We are proud of this achievement and we mark the occasion we are destroying yet another tank." Pictured at the ceremony are, from left, Cpt. Sir John Fox, Maj. Gen. David Johnson, Maj. Gen. Richard Stanton, Cpt. Richard Moore, by representatives of Rolls Royce during a joint service team, which included Cdr. Robert France, on a CFE inspection to Kaliningrad, a Russian Federation enclave between Poland and Lithuania. This was quite a change for those who, this time last year, was senior British Lead Service Officer, Eastern Caribbean, based in Barbersos.
All Blacks outing

NEW Zealand's All Blacks, the world's most famous rugby team, took time off from their British tour to visit HMS Scylla's last call at Devonport are (1-r) LS Shaun McPherson, ABR) Nicky Stobart, Slipper Capt. Christopher Stanford and his team.

Pictured (above) in the ops room are All Blacks Zinzan Brooke and Jamie Joseph dropping a little more about the work of AB Joby Trew and Althorn Alison Curry.

Salford visit

COMMODORE Ian Pemberton RN called at HMS Salford in Manchester for a prize giving and medal presentation. He congratulated among others PCWES John Hall, winner of the Watters Cup, or being judged to have contributed most to the unit.

As a result of defence cuts, HMS Saldor is facing closure, but many of the ship's company will be transferring to the new Firth Centre in Liverpool.

REMEmBER THE GOOD OLD NAVY

LIMITED EDITION of the "Queen Mary" Nelson Life Mask

The Nelson Society has announced that a limited edition of 350 copies of the Royal Naval Museum's "Queen Mary" Nelson Life Mask will be available.

This reproduction of the "Queen Mary" Nelson Mask is produced with the kind permission of the Royal Naval Museum, Portsmouth, England.

Orders and enquiries to: NEPTUNE TAPES (NN), s 521 Munnwood Road, PORTSMOUTH PO2 3NF.

GREENWICH LIFESAVER

MINISTER for Defence Procurement, Mr Jonathan Aitken MP, visited RNC Greenwich to present the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct to a member of the MOD police based there, Si Gordon Thomas.

The award was presented in recognition of his courageous actions in saving a drowning man from the Thames in 1991. RNC Greenwich has since helped to save another life, this time of someone who was seriously injured.

WARDs OF PORT

SHARKY, Sharky and Sharky Ward met up in Plymouth to catch up on family news and generally enjoy the festive season - witness the mince pies.

The brothers (pictured left to right) are otherwise known as Jake, Ian and Alistair. In fact CPRCM(N) Ian Ward and WEM(R) Jake Ward see each other pretty regularly, as both are members of the ship's company of HMS Monckton. LOK Alistair Ward actually lives in Plymouth, but serves on board HMS Brilliant. He's been in the Royal Navy for 15 years, which makes him one of the oldest members of his unit.
Field work for Pippa

COLOUR Sgt Pip Phillips applies the finishing touches to 13-year-old Pippa Perry’s camouflage.

Pippa sought the advice of an expert in camouflage and concealment to help her with a project for a GCSE examination at Park School, Yeovil.

Pip learned his skills in the Royal Marine Commandos. He is currently serving with 3 Brigade, 706 MAS — where many Wrens are currently serving — and the station cinema, which replaced the original building in 1947.

PUTTING the salt into the Navy ... cooks on board the Duke class frigate HMS Norfolk adjust the seasoning as lunch is about to be served.

LCK Dickie Davis, WCK Emma McBride and CK Topsy Turner seem pleased with the result of their labours.

To everything its season

Making a song and dance!

LUZED by the prospect of showing off at Trafalgar Night dinners, this motley crew assembled under the banner, the Rosia Bay Hornblowers. Now they’ve made their mark as very able singers of sea shanties.

They came together under the guidance of Lt Cdr Tim Appleyard, commanding officer of the Gibraltar Squadron and organist at King’s Chapel on the Rock. He arranged the shanties for three-part male voices and the Hornblowers were away. They’ve performed for children at St Christopher’s School — where two of their number (Gerard Flynn and John Woodcock) are teachers, and for the Governor of Gibraltar, Field Marshal Sir John Chapple. They’ve also given a Royal Command Performance — to Lt Cdr ‘The Duke of York, who was visiting Gibraltar as CO of HMS Cattistock, and stunned Commander British Forces Gibraltar, Rear Admiral Jeremy Sanders, with a shanty written especially for him. The words have already been lost and the lines live on only in the memories of those who heard it performed!

Picture front are Lt Cdr Ian Carlton and Lt Ron Kenny. Back (1-r) Mr Flynn, Lt Cdr Appleyard, Lt Cdr Peter McDonnell, Surgeon Lt Cdr Mike Howell and Mr Woodcock.

Picture: SAC John Pagett

First class care

SNO Shelagh Perch QA(NNS) has been commissioned by NATO’s Commander in Chief Maritime Atlantic Area for the “sensitivity, humanity and tact” with which she has cared for her duties as the Nursing Sister at the CINCBERLANT medical centre.

In her letter of commendation, Vice-admiral Nannino di Carno Durso, paid tribute to Shelagh’s exceptional dedication in caring for expectant mothers, through from early pregnancy to the happy event, and to her ability to forge strong bonds with all the family.

The Ruth Carter Prize for Nurses, awarded to a Nurse Rating who has made a notable contribution to nursing and patient care in the Royal Navy, has gone to CPO(ET) Clifford Taylor.

G’DAY, MOWDAY

SHIPS Porthole CLOCKS

Every clock and barometer in this heavy brass casting that has been cast in solid brass and painstakingly machined and polished to a beautiful finish. All products come with 5mm thick bevelled glass. We can engrave ships name on dial, cost £5.

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3½" Dial Porthole clock Mounted on a mahogany plinth £54
3½" Dial Porthole barometer Mounted on a mahogany plinth £52
2½" Dial Porthole clock Mounted on a mahogany plinth £51
2½" Dial Porthole barometer Mounted on a mahogany plinth £49

3½" Dial Porthole barometer Mounted on a mahogany plinth £53
3½" Dial Porthole clock Mounted on a mahogany plinth £51

Postage and packing, add £3.50 (U.K.) and £20 (overseas) to total. We can engrave ships name on dial, cost £5.

SWORD AWARD ASSURED

AS THE Supply Candidate to have performed best on the SD list officer courses at Britannia and Greenwich Royal Naval Colleges S/Lt John Funnell was presented with a sword.

Such an award is made annually. In the past the sword has been provided by the computer company Digital, but the firm has now withdrawn its sponsorship. Stepping in to fill the breach, however, came Hewlett-Packard.

The new sponsor’s UK Marketing MD, Mr Bill Rush, has invited S/Lt John Funnell to hug Hewlett-Packard at Greenwich to present John with the first Hewlett-Packard Sword.

Since completing his courses at Dartmouth and Greenwich, John has been RNLI’s Catering Officer.

Field work for Pippa

EX-WREN Cinematographer Jo Mowday, who has lived in Australia for over 60 years, made a nostalgic trip back to RNAS Culdrose. She showed the first instructional film there when the air station opened in 1947.

Her tour of the establishment included a female accommodation block, 706 NAS — where many Wrens are currently serving — and the station cinema, which replaced the original building in 1947.

She is pictured with modern day counterpart, Wren(ETS) Mei Thomson, getting into a tangle in the projection room.

12 MONTH GUARANTEE

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jobs briefing

DON’T LET
AGE HOLD
YOU BACK

I LEFT the Navy 11 months ago and entered the civilian service and at the age of 50.

I prepared for Civvy Street by complicating various services in my last two years’ service, including quality control, microelectronics and engineering management which I selected for my resettlement course.

During resettlement leave I started applying for various jobs (which eventually totalled 93 applications) to all parts of the UK and abroad.

QUALITIES

Four months ago I received a call from a water company for an interview for a technician’s job. I did not expect to get it as the company was “target age 25-30.” I was accepted mainly because of my service record and the known qualities of Service personnel.

My advice to leavers is to start resettlement during your last two years or earlier, keep applying for a wide range of jobs, and be flexible.

Do not be put off by age requirements - because at the interview you will have a week of Service-experience that will help you secure the job — J. REVERE

Submariner.

‘Write to Navy News with your concerns about resettlement. Address them to “Going Outside”, Navy News, Bahrain Block, HMS Nelson, Portsmouth, Hants PO1 3HH.

DIARY DATES

JOBS AT ABROAD

Under my own steam abroad

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SAILING INSTRUCTOR

Required from April 1994. The person to be appointed will have experience of working with children (12-18 years) at sea and on inland waters. They will hold a Senior Instructor qualification.

Yachtmaster Off-shore charge certificate and be in date for First Aid.

Previous experience of boat and yacht maintenance would be an advantage.

Accommodation may be available.

Salary based on National Unqualified Teachers’ Scale.

Further details of the post and the School, together with an application form, may be obtained by writing to the Headmaster’s Secretary (0473-283842).

The Royal Hospital School is an equal opportunities employer.

Most Service leavers can identify their skills in civilian terms, according to 80 per cent of the employment officers working for the Regular Forces Employment Association.

And the majority of the RFEA’s 140 employment officers do not believe that ex-regulars are aware of their “employability” and likely salary, nor are they aware of the commercial needs of employers.

The opinions were revealed by a RFEA survey published in the Association’s report to its annual general meeting.

MOD action

Presenting the results of the survey on behalf of the employment officers, Mr Tony Wood said the Ministry of Defence had recognised an urgent need to improve the briefing of Service people on the realities of commercial life.

He added: “We, the employment officers, spend a lot of time helping ex-regulars to appreciate the skills they have and to express them in civilian terms.

Only people with experience of both cultures can do this successfully and I know the Ministry has recognised this point and is presently considering action. NVA’s (National Vocational Qualifications) will go a long way to helping here.

At the meeting, the Association president, General Sir Colin Freeman, said ex-regulars should be encouraged by education, representation and direct employment offices.

There are two main reasons for this: benefits do not cover the financial commitments such as mortgages, and a perception that few jobs result directly from training — at least at the moment during the recession.

He said steps to end the reluctance must “continue at all levels” and attention should be drawn to Government policy and allowances.

In last month’s Navy News the contact number given for the RFEA was the head office FAX number. The correct number for inquiries is 071 637-3118 or Portsmouth (0705) 663991.

Advice and guidance to leavers will be available to allcomers when Hampshire Training Enterprise Council’s (HTEC) Information Centre visits HMS Nelson, Portsmouth on March 2. The centre will be parked all day outside the Portsmouth Area Resettlement Centre in Rodney Dock.

Buying a shop?

The first national consumer show designed for people aiming to buy a shop or business is being staged at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, May 6-8.

Dalton’s Weekly, “Buying a Shop” is being organised by Dalton’s Weekly Ltd.

For further information contact Susan Jones (081 302 8083) or Denise Griffiths (01483 577777 ext. 1533).

Franchise show

FOR anyone thinking of starting their own business, the British Franchise Association is sponsoring the National Franchise Exhibition at the NEC in Birmingham, on April 15-17.

The exhibition features more than 100 companies looking for new franchisees in areas as diverse as fast food, retailing, cleaning, food and drink, home improvements and businesses services. There will be seminars on the legal, financial and practical aspects of franchising as well as advice from banks, lawyers and specialist consultants.

Discount tickets at £6 single or £12 for two, and an information pack are available from Ann Rea, City of Birmingham, Events Department, House, 630 W4 5BG (tel. 081-472-2828).

Member of the ship’s company of HMS Ark Royal were offered subsidised tickets to attend the show at Portsmouth before the ship left for Adrasian deployment. Here, workshop presenter Elizabeth Scott advises USA Mark Eddington.

COUNTDOWN TO RELEASE DATE

COUNTDOWN for going outside is suggested in the pamphlet “A New Beginnings, New Preparations for Change.”

Actions should begin up to 30 months before release date (or 18 months if you are giving notice).

At that stage complete MOD Form 155 and attend an initial interview, with your resettlement information officer. You should also attend a Second Career Advice briefing if you are an officer or senior rate, and plan to attend other career, regional and specialist briefings (applying on MOD Form 363).

You should consider familiarisation attachment and undertake further educational or vocational training.

Eight months before release complete Employment Service Form IS 328 and arrange a final interview with your RIO or NRIIO. Apply for the “Applying for a Job” briefing and consider either a pre-release vocational training course or a civilian course.

Two months later you should actively study the jobs market, do your research and start applying for jobs. Attend the “Applying for a Job” briefing and pre-release vocational training either on civilian attachment or on a resettlement course.

One month before release, start your terminal leave.

On release embark upon your new career. Take up employment or pursuit of further educational and vocational training independently or through the Employment Training Scheme.

Through the pamphlet "Applying for a Job" briefing and accompanying information packs you will be given all the information you need to enable you to start looking for jobs immediately.

Skills which can be transferred to civilian life include technical and mechanical skills, computer literacy, business management, engineering, accounts, secretarial and clerical work.

For further information contact your RIO or NRIIO for a free Information Pack (to cover 100 companies looking for new franchisees in areas such as fast food, retailing, cleaning, food and drink, home improvements and businesses services. There will be seminars on the legal, financial and practical aspects of franchising as well as advice from banks, lawyers and specialist consultants.

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Presentations

In February and March the following presentations are planned in HMS Nelson, Portsmouth.

FEBRUARY

8th - Careers with Canadian Life; 8th - Careers in the Assurance Industry; 8th - Careers with Allied Dunbar; 8th - Careers with Acumare Financial Services; 9th - Careers with British Gas; 9th - Careers in the Assurance Industry; 10th - Careers with Allied Dunbar; 10th - Careers in the Assurance Industry; 11th - Careers with British Gas; 11th - Careers with Allied Dunbar; 11th - Careers with Acumare Financial Services; 11th - Careers in the Assurance Industry.

MARCH

1st - Careers with General Electric; 1st - Careers in the Assurance Industry; 1st - Careers with Allied Dunbar; 1st - Careers with Acumare Financial Services; 1st - Careers with British Gas; 1st - Careers in the Assurance Industry; 2nd - Careers with General Electric; 2nd - Careers in the Assurance Industry; 2nd - Careers with Allied Dunbar; 2nd - Careers with Acumare Financial Services; 2nd - Careers with British Gas; 2nd - Careers in the Assurance Industry.

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SAILING INSTRUCTOR

Required from April 1994. The person to be appointed will have experience of working with children (12-18 years) at sea and on inland waters. They will hold a Senior Instructor qualification.

Yachtmaster Off-shore charge certificate and be in date for First Aid.

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Jobsearch for Ark

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Navy LIFEY, Ship Eurydice.
NOT SUCH A TALL ORDER

Glaring error

Laser treatment for short-sightedness may cause disturbance of night vision in some individuals, particularly in the presence of glare. Photorefractive Keratectomy is a bar to entry to the RN and OAEs and personnel who have undergone the treatment are recommended for Permanent Unfit for Naval Service.

Thus serving personnel who are considering private treatment are strongly advised that it may render them unfit for continued service.

— DCI RN 269/93

Five have more hills

A trial of Five Watch Manning in the six remaining Island Class offshore patrol vessels begins this month.

— DCI RN 266/93

Commandos on TV

Following two courses through training at CTCRM, Lympne is "Commando", a series of seven half-hour documentaries made by Wessex Country TV. First shown in the South West, the series is to be screened nationwide by TV on January 2.

Tour dates

Dates for the Royal Navy Forces show are as follows: Southampton — Feb 20; Harwich — Feb 23; Haverton West — Feb 24; Inverness — Mar 24; Chester — Apr 19; Chester — Apr 21; Inverness — Apr 29; Newcastles-upon-Tyne — May 12.

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NOTE: MARY ROSE, VICTORY, WARRIOR and the RN MUSEUM will not be part of the Navy Days package.

Enquiries (0762) 636011

Plymouth Navy Days 1994

Whitsun Bank Holiday 28th, 29th, 30th May 94

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**NEWSVIEW**

**Burning with indignation**

All the World War II anniversaries that have crowded in upon us over the last few years have brought about an enormous increase in Navy News' mailbag — from personal accounts, memories, and research by the readers and readers who simply wish to impart a few lines of reminiscence. Many remarkable recollections of old ships, men, or personal memories out of touch for half a century or more, have been thereby effected — from all points of the compass.

It might be supposed that the annual get-togethers of former ships' companies would fall off as numbers diminish through 'natural wastage'. Some do, of course — but new associations are still being formed by the survivors of communities that were forged in the crucible of the strangely disparate communities that came together through the exigencies of war 50-odd years ago.

Many of these were made up of people who are, after all, still only in their late sixties and early seventies today and their renewed, common bonds of experience and interest have the potential to last into the next millennium.

Their generosity is frequently attested in these pages by the cooperation of local organisations and clubs, ensuring to the survivors a reciprocal regard in the Service in which so many of their comrades lost their lives that will surely outlive them.

They will therefore have been angered by the episode of London Weekend Television's drama series 'London's Burning' which portrayed a woefully inept and bungling Authority of the Inner London Education Authority taking action against the crew of a National Service merchant vessel amidst a blaze in the Docklands — all in the cause of fitness entertainers.

There is not other organisation but the SOC operating in Thameside with which this fictional outfit could be identified — and the insensitive portrayal of the programme's producer in choosing them as a vehicle for this particular storyline was undoubtedly by the decidedly dusty answers that were received as a result of complaints, both directly, from the Captain and President of the Corps, and indirectly, through the various government's Back to Basics drive that has Sea Cadet Corps — which formed its philosophy half a century ago when some of the standards we are now trying to recover were being laid down in such reformist policies as the 1944 Education Act.

The SOC's work — mostly self-funded, unlike that of similar organisations sponsored by the Army and the RAF — in our inner cities, with a view to encouraging good citizenship rather than recruitment only to a very small percentage of Sea Cadets enter the Service (deterred by others)

It gets plenty from the RN — and from the Royal Naval Association, an organisation that grew up in the same era that one might have reasonably expected to show signs of decline already.

In fact the reverse is true — membership has nearly doubled in the last decade, and new branches are being formed at home and overseas, from Wigan to New South Wales.

So don't be too ready to write off this year's crop of D-Day parades as the last befitting the wing of a variety of ships and not the last befitting of the available evidence, it shows no sign of extinction.
Time off for good behaviour

AFTER a six-and-a-half month deployment to the Mediterranean and Adriatic in support of British troops in Bosnia, HMS Invincible returns home to Portsmouth later this month.

During her time away her Sea Harriers flew over 300 sorties as part of the UN operation Deny Flight, working in close co-operation with land and carrier-based aeroplanes of several other Nato nations.

Despite Invincible's highly operational profile in the area there were periods of rest and relaxation when the ship was able to stand down from her duties and visit some of the ports in the region.

Most memorable for some was her visit to Malta (pictured above, in Grand Harbour) which has a long-standing association with the Royal Navy. She proved to be a popular attraction for the people of Valletta and during this visit many of the ship's company took the opportunity to fly out their families before the ship left to resume her patrol of the Adriatic.

A rather different patrol saw Invincible returning to the waters of several other Nato nations. A rather different patrol saw Invincible return to the region.

Back in Portsmouth HMS Invincible play host to a number of VIP visitors, the most important being the leaders of the various factions in Bosnia who attended a peace conference on board.

As Invincible made her way home her sister ship, HMS Ark Royal, returned to the waters which she left last summer.

As part of Invincible's drive to be a healthy ship, a one-mile "fun run" was held on board during a short break from the rigours of work. Over 300 personnel took part with the fastest time of 4 minutes 41 seconds achieved by LTCDT Tim Cordery. Some personnel took the event in a more light-hearted manner with fancy dress teams including Nuns on the Run, Jeeves and Wooster and the Circus Performers (Bolton) namely Lt Mark Scott on the unicycle and Lt Freddie Smith juggling.

A ROUTINE long-range navigation exercise to a military airbase in Italy by two Jetstream aircraft from 756 Sqn at RN air station Culdrose turned into a goodwill mission when the spare capacity in the Observer training aircraft was used to carry vital humanitarian aid and supplies to some of the poorest and most vulnerable families in the neighbouring country of Albania.

The mission, codenamed Operation Good Cheer, was the inspiration of base PRO Lt Jill Price, who, with the assistance of the White Cross, assembled together blankets, children's clothes and basic toiletries which were passed on to the self-help groups in the beleaguered former Communist state.

Many of the families have disabled children for which the State provides no additional help and it was these groups which were targeted by Lt Price and the Culdrose team.

Jill supports Albanian aid
As a full-blown windy winter draws to a close, who better than Tug Wilson to raise a smile from the adventures of Navy life?

And when better than H.M.S Raleigh for Navy News' celebrated 'Jack' cartoonist to visit his muse? Anyone who has experienced basic training—from either side of the fence—will appreciate these postcards by the master RN humourist, from a set of 12 available from the Central Fund Pembroke Shop at HMS Raleigh at £3.10 plus 50p pp.

They are also offered as 14 x 20 prints at £3 each plus £1.50 pp or £2.00 for six or more. Cheques should be made payable to The Central Fund, H.M.S Raleigh.
**Nelson's old-timers**

NAVAL subjects are sadly rare in Osprey Military's superbly illustrated wargamers' series — so Nelson's Navy is a welcome addition to a catalogue which now carries several hundred titles. As ever, details of uniform and weaponry are searched, set alongside biographical snapshot of Nelson himself and other key figures. Occasionally stagger the unusual presence of a cook named Jennings, age 37, having served 79 years in service. Ship's cooks in Nelson's navy were appointed by warrant from the Commissioners of the Navy — all were Greenwich Pensioners, mostly ex-Navy officers who had no link on active service. The position was largely a sinecure, as the only duty entailed was to meet to remove the salt and then boiling it. The lat that floated on the top was regarded as greaves, although its sale was officially forbidden. It was demoted to a spit that appeared in the 1855 version of "Philby's". The caption read: "A rare photograph of a Navy man from the Napoleonic era, Thomas Cochrane, 10th Earl of Dundonald (1775-1860) — the "Sea Wolf" who was one of the most successful of all British frigate captains. Cochrane served in a number of foreign navies after his unjust conviction for complicity in the Great Stock Exchange fraud of 1814. He later proved innocent and his rank in the RN restored. 

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**DON'T SET SAIL WITHOUT THEM**

WEIGHTY both in terms of volume and information contained, the latest Macmillan and Silver Cat Nautical Almanac is well worth stowing aboard small boats sailing in these shores. In its 16 years of publication the Almanac has established a reputation for accuracy and is widely used. Each year it has been improved and updated. The 1994 edition is priced £22.99 runs to over 900 pages.

Published by Pan Macmillan, 9 St John's Wood Sq, London W1, 2ED, and distributed by Collins, 24 Soho Sq, London W1. The new edition of the Macmillan and Silver Cat Nautical Almanac is well worth stowing aboard small boats sailing in these shores. It is a comprehensive guide to the technical data which the yachtsmen need to know when planning a cruise. The Almanac covers all aspects of navigation, including charts, tides, currents, and celestial navigation. It is an essential guide for any yachtsman planning a cruise, whether it be in the UK or abroad. The Almanac is published annually by Pan Macmillan and is available from all good bookshops.

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**Leased remembered?**

THE TEN ex-American Coast Guard cutters offered to Britain under the Lease-Loan Agreement are among the least-remembered warships of World War II. The 10 ex-USCG cutters, which had been leased to Britain under the Lease-Loan Agreement, were among the least-remembered warships of World War II. They were leased to Britain in 1945 and were used for a variety of roles, including patrolling the Atlantic and Mediterranean, and providing assistance to Allied forces. The cutters were named after cities in the United States, and they were among the most modern warships of their time. Despite their importance, little is known about their service in World War II, and they have been largely forgotten by history. The cutters were named after cities in the United States, and they were among the most modern warships of their time. Despite their importance, little is known about their service in World War II, and they have been largely forgotten by history.

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**MUTATIONS OF THE NUCLEAR GENERATION**

SEVENTH in Conway Maritime's magisterial 12 volume History of the Ship series, the new edition of Naves in the Nuclear Age (£28) clearly demonstrates that the post-1945 revolution in warships and the navies they served was at least as basic as that imposed by the combination of armour and steam power a century or so earlier.

Not only was most existing warships suddenly made obsolete, but even the categories they had served in ceased to have their earlier meanings. Today, though words like cruiser, destroyer and frigate are still widely used, it is now almost impossible to make firm distinctions. These are easier with the Royal Navy than with the US Navy — but in a ship like the Type 21 frigate and Type 42 destroyers are much the same size. For about two decades after 1945 navies combined earlier hulls with new kinds of weapons and sensors. Now virtually all the older ships are gone — and the dimensions of the revolution are all the more obvious. In this period the active life of a warship has anyway become less defined by the durability of the hull than by the effectiveness of its weapon systems. At one time the Royal Navy, like many another, carried out mid-life refits that often cost more than the original build. The basic idea was to extend the life of the ship, with new radars, electronics and armament added, and to remove some of the original systems.

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**At Malta**

NELSON'S INvolvement in liberating the island of Malta after Napoleon had seized it is from one Order to another. His crew of St John in 1798 is the subject of a new booklet by Brian N. Tapsley. Journal entries, letters and other contemporary references are quoted throughout, as are naval histories of the time that bring the subject alive. The booklet is available from Brim's Associates, 12 Coweskill Place, Bradwell Common, Milton Keynes, MK13 5DU at £3.90 per copy and £6 per case for postage and packaging.

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**Mutations of the Nuclear Generation**

This three-year refit was intended to last for at least ten years, but in 1981 it was clear that modernisation was abandoned and the programme curtailed. The result was that individual ships are becoming far more expensive, and power still has to be added to a number of vessels, in part because of the restrictions.

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**The Ten ex-American Coast Guard cutters**

Here is a new history of the cutters, written by an American naval historian, that brings the subject alive. The Ten ex-American Coast Guard cutters offered to Britain under the Lease-Loan Agreement are among the least-remembered warships of World War II. They were named after cities in the United States, and they were among the most modern warships of their time. Despite their importance, little is known about their service in World War II, and they have been largely forgotten by history.

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ILL-FATED END FOR UNFETED ADMIRAL

IN THE battle of the books, the invasion of Europe is already suffering from overspill. Latest of the hefty tomes, supporting the definitive portrait of the events surrounding 6 June 1944 is The D-Day Encyclopedia (Helicon £40) — which, conveniently, is offered at £35 until 31 July.

On the public's plate is the reading public, which by then will surely be satiated with the events of 40 years ago, to want more alter the pageant of commentary and perspective passed.

In their decocation to explore every facet of the biggest watershed in recent history, the compilers have included a mass of detail that is sometimes peripheral, to say the least.

The principal personalities are treated in extensive biographical essays — but, surely, in this context, the details of Hitler's early career are less relevant than the factors that drove through the invasion (the staff were too scared to waken him with the news) and, in the end, allowed a state visit by the British. This marks a formal rupture from the Horstys of being more pressing concern.

By the time Keitel and Jodl managed to pass Hitler's request for mobile reserves in Normandy to be allowed to him too late — the Allies were firmly established on the Rhine — this had been managed in large measure thanks to the efforts of Admiral Sir Dudley Pound, who was, in fact, a naval officer, serving in the Royal Navy.

The point is made that some US officers continue to detailed planning exercises — but it stood the truth, and, in addition, was, above all, flexible.

He himself was generally most grateful to "Providence" for the operation's ultimate outcome — though he had already made allowances for the handling of fate.

The war was, anyway, to kind to Ramsay, who was killed in an air crash on 2 January 1943. Thus "one of the great admirals" missed his chance to stand head and shoulders above the war as a member of the triumvirate of D-Day.

— JFA

AMONG the fiction releases which may be of interest to naval readers is Flatter's Glorious 1st of June, which carries on the adventures of Bob Fletcher, first met in Flatter's Fortune.

HIS guide to Weapons and Military Technology, the latest Penguin Encyclopedia (Viking £20), Kenneth Macksey has given us a wide brief.

Thus we find developments in hardware set alongside progress in "Food, military" — from which the RN was perhaps the first to take advantage early as 1942 by a polar expedition, able to make use of bottled, heat-stabilised preserved foods.

And under "Clothing, military" it is noted that men have traditionally worn more casual and practical dress than women — who are still in search of a thoroughly satisfactory style.

People are always more interested in the weapons of course — and the most successful commanders have usually been, of necessity, innovators in their chosen profession.

A fresh attitude of mind counts as much as novel tactics in this respect and here Macksey's summation of Nelson is masterly. "At the root of Nelson's greatness in battle was, as in science, by innumerable toms, upon concentration of maximum firepower against successive parts of the enemy's line before he could counter-attack.

"But his genius lay in a vigorous offensives spirit, in humanitv and in the fervent desire to subdue by encouraging them to use their initiative with confidence." Basic principles led hand in hand as long as at 50 BC by Sun Tzu: "All men can see the tactics whereby I conquer, but what none can see is the strategy of which victory is evolved" — remain true today despite all the advances of modern technology.

And, Macksey notes: "The unshakable research in modern knowledge through the extraordinary sourcebooks and developments have produced confusion, and also obscured the identification to essentials, in addition to wastage, energy, time and money. A good battle plan is one of the best weapons that always attracts detailed publics.

"This is undoubtedly true as is his following statement: "Setting aside the possibility of mutual destruction through loss of control of technology, it is not to be expected that the progressive urge will be abandoned."

— JFA

CONSIDERING its high quotient of blood, bullets and lollo, however, the title True Romance might be regarded as a touch ironical. But not so, Christian Slater plays a tenant farmer in a comic book store who owns a bedraggled answer man (Patricia Arquette). Two of life's losers they may be, but they do indeed find true romance together.

"The only way is to suit-case full of drugs which the couple inadvertently ac- 

The film is directed by Brit Tom Selleck, and stars Rene Russo, a fellow eye for flashy visuals that he earlier displayed in Top Gun. The intriguing supporting cast includes Christopher Walken as a dangerously attractive Mafia enforcer, Dennis Hopper, uncharacteristically good-natured but in his life-long suffering father and Gary Oldman as a Rasta-fied Secret Service chief.

The month's second film release, The Boy's Life offers evidence of yet another facet to the screen persona of Michael Caine—John. It is an adaptation of Tobias Wolff's story of small-town life in late-1950s small-town Florida. It is a story of the verge of juvenile delinquency, a boy who discovers meets the apparently good-hearted Dwight (Robert De Niro), a likely prospect, he imagines, to help the boy settle down. She makes him and the family set up house in the unprepossessingly-named town of Concrethe, Washington State.

Screen

What follows is a Dickensian tale of heartbreak, confusion and copper, as Dwight is introduced to the method of the Mafia and a tyrant, it's an absorb- 

WALKER JEAN STRUCTURAL CLIMATE

IT IS love in a structural climate — the besieged city of Dougla's Reeman) is planning. Two of life's losers may be, but they do indeed find true romance together.

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— JFA

Above: Clareence (Christian Slater) and Liberty (Patricia Arquette) get to grips with a True Romance.
Two take the high road to £2,500

FORMER Navy nurse Shipmate Tom Vincent is not one to sit around when money is needed for hospital equipment. He put on his boots, took to the road, and raised £2,500 for Northampton General Hospital.

Accompanied by fellow shipmate Graham Allister, a former Merchant Navy radio officer, Tom — Herfordshire branch chairman — set off from Milngavie, Scotland, and headed north for Fort William.

Taking high roads and low they completed the 153km West Highland Way in eight days, celebrating Tom’s 65th birthday en route. Their Scottish yomp so impressed Royal Marines members of Herts branch they awarded their intrepid chairman the coveted Commando green beret on his return.

His pride know no bounds on the occasion of the presentation of the £2,500 cheque to Talbot Ward of Northampton Hospital where his daughter, Sue, works as a staff nurse.

The money has helped provide a therapy bath for patients in need of deep immersion treatment.

Douglas keeps the children spellbound

SHIPMATE Douglas Fielding of Huddersfield branch discovered how much children enjoy history when it is brought to life when he gave a talk and film show to pupils of Kirkburton Middle School on life on board ship during the Second World War.

Shipmate Fielding, who joined the Navy in 1939 and left at the end of the 1940s, served on Atlantic, Russian and Malta convoys. As he talked about those grim wartime days he had his audience of 150 boys and girls spellbound.

His presentation, supported by archive photographs and war medals, aroused such interest that he had many questions to answer before leaving the classroom to rousing applause.

A cold night did not deter 145 members of Chestnut branch from arriving in happy mood for their fourth annual dinner. Mr Peter Rooke, a local farmer and historian, and his wife, were guests of honour.

Shipmate Jack Adams, branch president, proposed the loyal toast. He toasts to the RNA and Shipmate Ron Joy, chairman, replied. He thanked Doreen (Babs) the children spellbound

Branch News

Chalkley for organising the event and congratulated the branch on a growth in strength to more than 100 members.

Thelma Drew and Vernon Elphick were elected Shipmaid and Shipmate of the Year respectively.

The ninth annual dinner of Heron Bay branch was attended by 12 residents of Pembroke House, one of whom celebrated his 94th birthday by having a dance.

Members of the local Sea Cadet unit, TS Triumph, who had been a great help during the evening received a Scroll of Honour award of £5.

Cleethorpes branch is now open for business after a complete refit. It boasts an enlarged clubhouse with dance floor and stage and a refrigerated bar.

The club extends a warm welcome to visiting shipmates.

Members of Parley branch mourn the loss of their loyal and dedicated secretary of 25 years, Shipmate George Cross, who died suddenly. He was No. 1 Area delegate for 15 years and was a life member of the branch in 1983 on the occasion of Parley’s golden jubilee.

Members of Redruth and Camborne were pleased to welcome back their chairman.

Shipmate John Bennetts, after a long illness. He heard good news this recent from former Shipmate Bob Lewry reported a healthy financial situation. There was also good news, too, for Shipmate Ron Stokes. For his dedicated service at standard bearer he was awarded a statuette by the branch.

A wide range of garments, accessories. The commissioning of Lannister branch brings the grand total of branches in the south-west to 50. Shipmate David White, National Council member for No. 4 Area present at the commissioning which was attended by a strong representation of branches in the area.

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ROYAL Navy expeditions have been reaching the heights and plumbings the depths from Ascension Island to the Pyrenees.

Nine members of the RN and RM Sub Aqua Association returned from a three-week exercise to Ascension Island. Entitled Hammer Hawk 93, the expedition was planned to train expedition leaders and to gain higher British Sub Aqua Club qualifications for the divers.

Divers from HMS Seafarer, Sultan and Iceni took part alongside those from TE Preston and RNH Haslar. The leader was CPO Steve Houghton of RN air station Culdrose.

Meanwhile HMS Drake and Portsmouth Command were undertaking separate expeds to the Pyrenees. A group of 12 from Drake and accommodational ships spent a week hill walking in the Pyrenees. A group of 12 from Portsmouth and erecting a berland to pothole for their course outside the Mendip Hills.

In the UK, members of LS(MW) qualifying course opted to pothole for their course. They explored the mysteries of Swindon 1 cave in the Mendip Hills.

MAJOR developments for the benefit of visitors are taking place in Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, home of HMS Victory, the Tudor warship Mary Rose, the Victorian ironclad battleship HMS Warrior and the Royal Naval Museum.

The Portsmouth Naval Base Property Trust, which is responsible for the restoration and new use of the dockyard’s many historical buildings, including the Victoria listed buildings, is laying out more than £2.5 million on improvements for the 750,000 tourists who visit the maritime heritage centre every year.

At an overall cost of £2 million, a large Victorian wooden bathouse is being restored and fitted out to house a 350-seat restaurant, a dockyard exhibition area, education centre and retail outlet.

The trust is also spending £650,000 on building a visitor reception centre providing computerised ticketing and an introduction to the attractions. Both facilities are expected to be ready for visitors in May.

You’ve defended your country. Could you serve your community?

There are many similarities between the Police Service and the Armed Forces. Both are based on discipline and teamwork – like the Forces, the Police Service demands coolness and calmness under pressure. Both require the ability to get along with people – the public and your colleagues – and earn their respect. Also you’ll be used to working in uniform, and upholding the traditions and values it represents.

In short, you may already have much of what it takes to carry out the duties of a Police Officer.

We’re looking for mature, responsible and reliable men and women, but we’re also looking for something extra. Outgoing and personable, you’ll want to play an active part in community life. Even more than in the Armed Forces, you’ll find yourself constantly in the public eye. You’ll be used to facing some tricky situations, but now tact and courtesy will prove to be your most effective weapons.

Like all Police Officers, you’ll be joining as a Police Constable. There’s no comparison with the ranks you’re used to – this is a historic title for an independent officer of the law.

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Dramatis personae put MTB 71 centrestage

IT IS a story full of drama and characters — from the motor torpedo boat that ran aground to France to the racing driver who undertook the journey for the Navy, writes Chris Horrocks.

Add a few more ingredients — the ex-Wren mother of a famous tycoon, the coastal florist who made big money for his services to the brewing industry, the howling dog, and the war widow who received her husband’s medals 52 years after his death — and you have a rich pageant.

It was in the early hours of June 22, 1941 that MTB 71, a Vosper 60-footer on a dangerous mission to the French coast, suffered engine failure in the Channel and was straddled by a German E-boat.

Acting Stoker PO Peter Marchant was killed by shrapnel as he dashed across the deck to repair one of the two engines. At that very moment at the Marchant home in Bognor Regis, Sussex, ship’s dog Pluto ordered ashore because he kept falling overboard, began howling eerily — and Peter’s wife knew what had happened to her husband.

War widow

Fifty-two years later, that war widow, now Mrs Joan Horrocks, whose second husband, a former Chief ERA, died in 1977, was astonished to discover that MTB 71 was still afloat on the Chichester Canal just along the coast from her Southsea home.

The only surviving 60ft MTB, the boat had been home to Cyril Pudney for many years. On his death David Watson, former racing driver and one-time stuntman in James Bond films, began fulfilling a pledge he had made to Cyril to restore the vessel and preserve it as an example of the nation’s maritime tradition.

A £500,000 project was launched in partnership with Hampshire County Council with the eventual aim of including MTB 71 in the Portsmouth Naval Heritage Area.

Meanwhile, contact was being made with key participants in the MTB 71 drama, including surviving officers and shipmates from June 1941, some now living abroad. Three of them were reunited at Chichester Yacht Basin, where they sailed Stoker PO Marchant’s war medals in Sir Derrick Holdon-Brown, former Coastal Forces Flotilla commanding officer, and Kenneth Marchant, his brother. Mrs Horrocks had never received the original 1939-45 Star, Atlantic Star and Defence of the Realm Medal due to her husband’s service. A duplicate set was obtained from HMS Centurion with the help of Len Reynolds, Coastal Forces historian.

Shipmates

The three surviving shipmates who joined other Coastal Forces veterans at the ceremony were torpedoed Dennis Burridge, of Worthing, engineer Eric Ashton, of Llandudno, and telegraphist David Alderade, of Midhurst. Also present were tycoon Richard Branson’s parents, Ted and Eve. Mrs Branson, a wartime wrench attached to the Coastal Forces Flotilla, presented Mr Watson with an Aldis lamp for MTB 71’s “refit”.

There too was Edwin Houghton, who helped build the boat for Vosper in Portsmouth in the 1930s, and Peter Marchant’s brother, Ken, from Portsmouth. Falmouth’s Simonstown Division has undertaken the restoration project, with the help of the Marine Heritage Trust, and the PORAS coastal heritage group.

Top dogs

KING George’s Fund for Sailors has appointed Capt Martin Appleton as its new director general. He succeeds Lord Burnham.

Capt Appleton joins KGF after three years’ Royal Navy service. His most recent naval appointment was as Commodore HMS Centurion.

During 1994 he will oversee King George’s Fund for Sailors’ increased distribution of up to £2.4m in grants to more than 85 maritime organisations. The Fund covers all areas of seafaring — the Royal and Merchant Navies, fishing fleets and others.

Capt Appleton, who now lives in the Cape, that, “Following a visit to South Africa last year by Capt. Murray Dunlop, President, HMS Gan-ger, the Simonstown Division has undertaken the refurbishment of the grave of Jost Naisen. This was set up by the late Mr. John Davis and Mr. Francis Gardiner, who originally dug the grave.

The South African Navy has also agreed to sign an easement deed and a member of RNA Cape Town has donated 30 kg of marble chips. Once the scrub has been cleared, suitable planting will take place to mark this area worthy of this much-loved AB.”

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Above: David Watson beside MTB 71 on Chichester Canal. He is trying to trace men who served in the motor torpedo boat, which is in the process of restoring.
**Points**

The following list shows the total points of the first twenty-five ships ordered in the second advance committee meeting on 12th October 1993. Total points are calculated by adding the points for each category: Design, Performance, and Maintenance. Points for each category are assigned based on specific criteria, such as cost, speed, and fuel efficiency. The points range from 0 to 100, with higher points indicating a better performance in that category.

**Deaths**

BELIEVED to be the Royal Navy's oldest surviving Royal Navy veteran, 100-year-old Harry Chesterton, of Portland, Dorset, who served during the Second World War, has died.

The death of Harry Chesterton, who fought in the Battle of the Atlantic, was confirmed by the Royal Navy in a statement released today.

Born on 21 June 1920, Harry Chesterton was a Merchant Navy seaman who served in the Royal Navy from 1939 to 1945.

He was a gunner on board HMS Audacious, a cruiser, and later served on board HMS Victory, a battleship, during the Battle of the Atlantic.

Harry Chesterton lived in Portland, Dorset, for most of his life and died peacefully at home on 20 July 2020.

**Appointments**

CDRE J. A. Trewby, to be promoted Rear Admiral and to be Asst Chief of Naval Staff (Warfighting Systems) in March.

A. W. J. West, to be promoted Rear Admiral and to be Naval Secretary in August

Capt. G. B. D. Lane, Marlborough in command, 22 Feb.

Capt. T. R. Phillips, Britannia in command, 17 Dec and AOC to HM Thtc to the Lt-Cdr (2D). Deacon.


Cdr M. G. Ker, Chatham in command, 7 June.

Cdr A. B. S. Smith, into command during August.

Cdr W. H. D. Westmore, LCPL FLMR Ltd in Commanding Officer. 24 July.

Cdr C. F. Dougall, 820 sqn in command, 17 June.

**Officer Promotions**

**Awards**

ROYAL NAVAL ACADEMY

The following members of the Royal Navy will be awarded the following medals:

- **BAR**
  - Capt. G. E. W. Grimwood
  - Lt Cdr J. H. M. Symonds
  - Lt Cdr J. F. N. Tingle
- **D.S.C.**
  - Cdr J. F. S. Taylor
  - Lt Cdr J. H. H. Taylor
- **M.B.E.**
  - Lt Cdr R. J. A. Whittleton
  - Lt Cdr M. R. D'Cruz
  - WO J. F. Earle
  - Mne. M. J. C. Johnson
  - **C.B.E.**
  - Capt. P. J. Melson
  - Brigadier S. J. Morton
  - **C.B.**
  - Admiral Sir Kenneth (John) Eaton
  - Rear-Admiral R. F. Cobbold
  - Rear-Admiral W. W. Turner

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  - Lt Cdr J. H. H. Taylor
- **M.B.E.**
  - Lt Cdr R. J. A. Whittleton
  - Lt Cdr M. R. D'Cruz
  - WO J. F. Earle
  - Mne. M. J. C. Johnson
  - **C.B.E.**
  - Capt. P. J. Melson
  - Brigadier S. J. Morton
  - **C.B.**
  - Admiral Sir Kenneth (John) Eaton
  - Rear-Admiral R. F. Cobbold
  - Rear-Admiral W. W. Turner

**Swop Duals**

**Promotions to Chief**

**Pen Friends**

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A system of Pen Friends is in place to ensure that those who have received the benefits of this scheme will continue to do so. These Pen Friends are drawn from the Association's Membership of over 1,500 members worldwide. They are selected to provide a means of support, practical assistance, and companionship to the families of those who have passed away or who are no longer able to receive that support.

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ORLANDO, FLORIDA — Luxury 3 bed/bath townhouse for rental. Fully furnished, pool and garden. Contact information: Phone 0752 236041 for details.
FOR the first time all eight Type 23 ships of the Sixth Frigate Squadron are pictured together, alongside Western Mill jetties, Devonport.

The opportunity was snapped up by Drake Photographic Section while the ships' companies were on Christmas leave. The Duke-class ships have now returned to sea duties across the globe and may never again be together in one place.

Latest of the class is HMS Westminster, the first Type 23 to have a functioning command and control system which enables all the frigate's weapons – including Harpoon anti-shipping missiles and vertically-launched SeaWolf anti-aircraft missiles – to be engaged from the Operations Room.

Other ships in the picture are HMS Montrose, Argyll, Marlborough, Iron Duke, Monmouth, Lancaster and Norfolk under the command of Capt James Perowne, Captain of the Sixth Frigate Squadron.

Cardiff drinks-in media successes

FOR THEIR efforts in projecting a positive public image, HMS Cardiff has been presented with the Desmond Wettern Fleet Award.

Cardiff is the first winner of the trophy which takes the form of a decanter mounted on a plinth of wood from HMS Victory. It was presented by Flag Officer Surface Flotilla, Rear Admiral Mike Boyce, at a ceremony on board the destroyer at Portsmouth Naval Base.

The award was commissioned by Mrs Gillian Wettern, widow of Desmond Wettern who for many years was naval correspondent of the Daily Telegraph and a lieutenant in the RNR.

One stipulation of which Desmond would approve is that the decanter must be kept full.

It will be awarded annually to the ship or naval air squadron which has worked hardest and most effectively to project a positive public image of the Royal Navy.

Cardiff, a Type 42 destroyer, gained success for her sustained efforts including her excellent national and regional media coverage during her relief work in the Caribbean in the wake of Hurricane Andrew.

She has also won praise for keeping up strong links with her affiliated city of Cardiff.

Runner-up

Also attending the presentation ceremony were representatives from HMS Brecon, the runners-up, and HMS Ark Royal and 845 Naval Air Squadron which shared third place.

Brecon won second place for her media relations during the dispute involving French and English trawlers off the Scilly Isles and during actions in providing aid when fire broke out on the Plymouth-Roscoff ferry.

Ark Royal was commended for her work during Operation Shop Window, a public relations exercise during which she circumnavigated mainland Britain. She was also praised for her media efforts on Operation Grapple off the coast of former Yugoslavia.

Meanwhile 845 NAS were, and still are, operating ashore in Bosnia and Croatia in support of the United Nations relief effort.

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Frigate shares warm welcome with Lord Callaghan

Brilliant visit to Swansea!

RATING her visit to Swansea as "brilliant", Type 22 frigate HMS Brilliant found by coincidence that she was sharing the South Wales city's warm welcome with another celebrity — former Prime Minister Lord Callaghan.

Portsmouth-born Lord Callaghan was in Swansea to receive the Freedom of the City, a ceremony to which the Lord Mayor invited Brilliant's commanding officer, Cdr James Rapp.

Lord Callaghan completed his wartime naval service as a lieutenant, and Lady Callaghan launched Brilliant's sister ship HMS Battleaxe. Memories were rekindled for both of them when they attended a cocktail party in Brilliant and met members of the ship's company.

Arethusa

The Lord Mayor returned the hospitality with a reception for the Brilliant visitors.

It was the first visit to Swansea by a major warship for over a year, a reflection on the heavy demands on ships' programmes. Nevertheless, the city's welcome was typically warm, and Swansea is keen to maintain ties with the Royal Navy even though her previously affiliated ship, HMS Arethusa, is now out of commission.

Fighting to save Navy's first sub

HOLLAND 1, the Royal Navy's first submarine, has been covered by a huge tarpaulin while work is carried out in an attempt to stop the boat's disintegration.

The submarine was recovered from the seabed in a remarkable state of preservation in 1941 and has been on display at the Royal Navy Submarine Museum at Gosport. However, the problems of preserving iron and steel that has long been submerged in salt water have only recently been understood, and they are much more serious than those of ordinary rust.

Protection

Salt in the seawater has penetrated every part of the boat's iron construction and now that it is exposed to oxygen in the atmosphere, chemical reactions are splitting the iron at its heart.

Under the 60ft by 70ft canvas marquee made by sailmakers at HMS Sultan, Holland's hull, stripped of paint during recent investigations, will be protected from the weather.

In October she will be immersed in a specially constructed tank of sodium carbonate solution which will wash out the salts and stabilise the situation.

The pioneering conservation work will take four years after which her tank will be converted into an air and temperature controlled building to preserve her for future visitors and historians.

The Royal Naval Sailing Association is to stand down from its 20-year-old task as the organising authority of the Whitbread Round the World Race when the current race finishes in June.

The Association's annual meeting was told that the RNSA would concentrate on events more appropriate to the needs of its members.

When the RNSA organised the first Round the World Race in 1973 which was the first fully-crewed circumnavigation race. The Navy's yacht Adventure won three of the four legs. Since then the Association has led the field in the development of rules for major transoceanic racing.

"Proud"

However over the two decades in which the RNSA has organised all six of the races, the event has developed from one in which amateur crews competed in standard production boats into a major international media event with enormous commercial sponsorship, ship's company and sponsored yachts. The Commodore of the RNSA, Admiral Sir John Keer, said today that the Association remained committed to its support of the current race. "We remain proud of what we have achieved but it is now time to move on to a new challenge."

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"SERVICE WITH A SMILE"

"STAFF" at one of the last 24-hour service stations for several thousands of miles are pictured on this team photograph on the Aft Bridge of RFA Diligence.

Naval Party 2010, currently embarked in the forward repair ship in the Falkland Islands, spent Christmas and New Year away from home providing support to RN and RFA ships in the South Atlantic.

Despite a steady stream of customers, most of the naval party have been able to take a few days off to explore the islands and see the abundance of wildlife during their four-month tour.

Who's a pretty boy?

WEST Indies Guardship HMS Active, home later this month, has no Wrens amongst her ship's company but she does have a Jenny — a four-year-old African grey parrot, renowned throughout the ship (and, more recently, throughout the Caribbean!) for her very loud voice and extensive repertoire of tunes and sayings.

Jenny was presented to the ship's rugby team after a match in the Gambia, West Africa, three years ago, and since then she has thrived on her shipborne life. She originally resided in the Stokers' Mess, but eventually the watchkeepers there decided that her extremely loud rendition of "Call the Hands" and the same opening bars of "The Sting", whistled repeatedly throughout the day, were too much, and that she had to go.

She has now taken up residence in the Wardroom, adding to her already wide-ranging vocabulary, most of which is not suitable for publication in a family paper such as Navy News! She is pictured here enjoying a change of scenery on the bridge of HMS Active with her "minder" LME Glen Jones.

Photo: LA(Phot) Gary Davies

Busy time for RNLI

FIGURES issued by the Royal National Lifeboat Institution show that they had another busy year in 1993, almost equalling the 1992 record number of launches.

They were called out 4,935 times during 1993 and 1,155 people were saved by RNLI lifeboatmen and women.

The RNLI operates a fleet of 272 lifeboats at 210 stations throughout the British Isles, with just over 100 lifeboats in the relief fleet. Since the RNLI was founded in 1824, more than 125,000 lives have been saved.

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A really wide-ranging curriculum is on offer from swimming to C.D.T. to French.
Parents receive written reports every three weeks.
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"St Petroc's accepts the full Services Boarding School Allowance as payment of fees (B.S.A. £1,145 and parents' contribution £183 per term).

Indefatigable School
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"Our aim is to provide an education for boys from 11-18 yrs of age.
Are you considering independent education but are put off by the cost?
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- Service families pay the maximum contribution required under R.S.A. regulations.
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Indefatigable is ideal for a boy who likes to play hard as well as work hard. If you think your son or daughter would benefit from coming to us then contact Mr F. D. White, Headmaster, Indefatigable School, Plas Llanfair, Llandafawr, Anglesey LL54 4NT
Tel: 01248 714338 Fax: 01248 715076
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Termly fees (+B.S.A): Prep: £192 Senior: £240

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Preparatory: 8-11 Senior: 11-18
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Termly fees (+B.S.A): Prep: £192 Senior: £240

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10 to 18 years
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Douai has strong links with Royal Navy families.
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(Tel: 0734 715200 Fax: 0734 715241)
Registered Charity Founded to provide Education

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ISIS, the Independent Schools Information Service offers FREE book of junior/senior boarding & day schools in the South & West.
Please send two 1st class stamps to
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Burton Bradstock, Dorset DT6 4NQ
Tel: 0308 898045

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Headteacher: Miss J. P. Harper
Independent Boarding School for Children with learning difficulties and related medical problems.
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Entry requirements by interview.
Moderate fees (only just above National allowance)

Telephone 0256 1900

NAVY NEWS, FEBRUARY 1994
Education

An atmosphere that encourages development
West Buckland School

Preferential terms for members of H.M. Forces.
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A registered charity run, 306718 educating boys and girls from 5 to 18
ADVICE ON BOARDING EDUCATION

Choosing a boarding school is one of the most crucial decisions you make as a parent. It is therefore important to undertake careful research and take good advice to ensure that the school will be suitable for your child. You are strongly advised to talk matters over with your Education Officer. Most Education Centres also have a range of helpful publications, and some are now equipped with a sophisticated computer programme which is a valuable aid to shortlisting. More specialist advice and comment on shorts can be obtained from the Service Children’s Education Authority. Services Advice Section, which maintains a comprehensive bank of information on boarding schools.

Write to SCEA, HQ DGASC, Worthy Down, Winchester SO21 2RD, or telephone Winchester Military 2033 (0962 68793).
Blackett’s Experiment Justified

At last, after the previous two fixtures had to be cancelled due to adverse weather conditions, Navy selector Jeff Blackett was able to pick an experimental side for the match against Oxford University at Leprecan. The match was open, fast and very exciting with the Navy losing by 36–13 to a spirited Oxford University side containing four of the players who beat Cambridge at Twickenham in December. Although this was Jeff’s last match picking the side for the US Navy team over in the UK, there was much to be pleased about because he and his staff believed they had assembled a number of very talented players, including several first class rugby internationals.

The first 20 minutes Oxford were undoubtedly sharper in every department of the game and they quickly rattled up 18 points without scoring a try against some poor midfield tackling. The Navy started slowly as new players tried to fit into the team but their efforts gradually started to gel towards half-time.

In the second half the Navy immediately responded with outstanding performances from a number of players including Tom Hough (blind side) and Redwin (lock) who ran some great lines from broken play. Hough scored a try after a powerful drive from the back of a scrum and Redwin made a one-man break involving four of the forwards, and the overall Navy performance was upped by an 80-metre try from Redwin who caused his defender to miss his tackle and then went on to score a try.

The team (picture above) showed that they still possess many skills and a healthy appetite for this sort of rugby.

Meanwhile, Rob Nairn tells Leprecan that Devonport Services have had an eventful year so far, having taken part in the Courage Western Counties League. Success against southern mouth Old Boys, Bideford and CIWEM led to the Services winning the league and filling the gaps in their squad through a number of.excellent performers.

帥 Hermans (6), POPT Ian Sink (8) (Vanguard) 3-1; and Lt Stuart James (2) (RM Poole) at Capt Brian Allan (7) (46 Cdo) 3-1.

The top two seeds, Young and James comfortably won their semi’s 3-0 against Binks and Yolke respectively. The final saw last year’s winner, Young and James, win the five previous winner, James, 3-0.

The veterans’ event was won for the second year running by Lt Cdr Johnstone, who beat the new chairman, Capt Richard Perry (MDO 3) 3-0 in the final. While in the Under 25s final it was the familiar faces of Jason Youdale taking on Mne Simon Price (46 Cdo), Youdale won the match 3-1 to take his third title, but Simon played well and is a good rugby player.

For the third year running, the Under 25s final was contested by Lt Cdr’s (RN) Red with representatives from the Royal SLB and the White with representatives from the Royal Navy. Red won the final 3-0 with a try in the opening minute.

This year’s final of the plate competition for first round losers in the open was contested by POPT Joe Keay, Milton, Portsmouth, POPT Eoin O’Donovan, LAEM Nigel Thwaite, POPT Steve Riley and POPT Ian Wilson (46 Cdo). Keay won the closely-fought match 3-0.

HMS Nelson was the winner for the RN Under 23 Basketball Championships, which were contested by three RN teams — Portsmouth, Royal Marines and Naval Air.

The competition was close, with Naval Air proving to be the strongest of the three teams. The Navy team was composed of Portsmouth, Royal Marine and Naval Air.

As the Royal Marines were so strong, it was decided to amalgamate the naval commands against each other, so making a straightforward RN v VM game. This final was contested by POPT Joe Keay, Milton, Portsmouth, POPT Eoin O’Donovan, LAEM Nigel Thwaite, POPT Steve Riley and POPT Ian Wilson (46 Cdo). Keay won the closely-fought match 3-0.

**Playing With Styles**

Minories beaten by Combined RN team

Held over two days at HMS Drake, the Royal Naval Open and Intermediate Boxing Championships consisted of 20 bouts, with all boxers showing some very strong performances. As First crew over the line — a handicapping system was in operation — the Sutton pair, Cdr Bob Hamilton and Lt John Warren, won the Plumm Pudding, in the RN and RM Amateur Boxing Association’s Christmas regatta.

They are pictured receiving their prize from Mrs Walmsey, wife of Rear-Admiral Robert Walmsey, president of PAPA-MARA.

A dozen crews participated in the fun event, which covered a two mile course on the River Dart. Winners of the Plumm Pudding Blade, for the fastest time, were the RN team — PAPA-MARA.

A number of the best rugby players in the world who were representing their countries in the tournament were watching the final of the plate competition for first round losers in the open.

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Navy News, February 1994

While on Armitia and Far East deployment, HMS Conway sent out her appointees to compete regularly at rugby, hockey, football and hand-house hunting, and occasionally at squash, basketball, golf and cricket.

Just as Conway is a strong county for rugby, the Type 22 frigate is a strong rugby ship. Of nine games, played in heat and high humidity, the ship’s team won six.

The hockey squad won five matches and lost three; highlight was a 2-1 victory against the strong Shahjah Wanderers in the UAE. For the soccer squad there were six matches and four victories. The highlight of the football season was pitting the Peril Cup at Pulau Toman, in Malaysia. Naval teams from the host country, Australia, New Zealand and Singapore also took part.

A further high point for the squad was a game in the 1994 Colombo — victory. Their game was of team spirit paid dividends for the ship’s hand-house runners. They regularly finished in high positions individually and often won team events.

Lucky for Some?

Lt Cdr Chris Robison (819 Naval Air Squadron) is enjoying some fine early season cross country in equal times. He has raced three times in recent major international events, saving his best form for the future.

Following a tenth at the Gateshead International and fifth at the top class UK inter-service event in November, Lt Cdr Chris Robison was a five-time international in Turin, where the world meet was only 2 minutes from 27 minutes 33 seconds to make the time 2km. After 11 seconds behind the Italian winner, he was the first British runner home.

Chris intends to compete in a series of indoor races through the winter, who was to witness his performance. He is training hard for the RNRAA Championships in February, where he hopes to achieve his ambitions and finally take his unbeaten string of 13 victories. His attention will then be focused on the Olympic Games where he hopes to re-establish the quality for the Commonwealth Games in the summer.

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Swimming that the A-Team of 5,571 points. In the men's 6,942 points. WTR Ian Boon (Drake) and WREN Allie Devlin (Portland) and LWP T Trudyish second to the Army team, which included two internationals. Final positions — RN Women: 13, Norton 1606; 15, Lambert 1367 and 24, Devlin 908. The Italian Cricket Association generously sponsored a reception and dinner for the tourists and club guests. AEM John Mann conceded 50 not out. CP O Stuart Adams and Banks Brewery fast bowler and wicket-taker, including three in one over against the Banks. Left arm spinner AEM John Mann conceded just over three runs an over from 39 overs. MEA David Garbutt enjoyed the experience of bouncing a few batmen when the pitch suited his pace bowling. And there were good all-round performances from Lt Mike Bath and Mme Andy Proctor.

Other touring sides would be made most welcome in Italy. Anyone interested should contact Cd r Pickering, HQ COMNAVSOUTH BFPO 8, who can put them in touch with the Italian Association.

**In the swim**

EXERCISE Perhampursuit, the Army-hosted Inter-Service Mountain Bike Race, took place on Salisbury Plain and provided keen competition in arduous conditions. First place went to the Army (Cpl Fielder), but Royal Navy and Royal Marines riders took the next two dozen places — 2, Sgt Kim Abbott (RM Poole); 3, PO Andy Gale (Cardiff); 4, CPO Chris Turvey (Collingwood); 5, Cpl Dave Dummett (Essex/Dover); 6, Cpl Lee Kubat (Cambridgeshire); and 7, LWEA Paul Roberts (North Corner Group, Nelson). The muddy trio above are (l-r) Jim Oakley, Chris Turvey and Andy Gale.

The side lost to Pickwick (9 wks), BET (96 runs) and the Wanderers (7 runs). The match against Pickwick was played at the Kensington Oval, the Bridgetown Test Match ground. Daily temperatures of 29 degrees C. meant the 35 overs per side games were tiring and only twice did the Navy bat first, but the players learnt a lot from playing in a new country. Their victory over the Police saw the constabulary losing to a touring side for the first time in seven years.

**President**

**Course for cricket umpires and scorers, leading to membership of the official association, will be held in HMS Sultan on March 7 and finishing at 1600 on March 9. Details of both courses are available from CCMAEA P. Beard, Nuclear Training Group, Rutherford Block, HMS Sultan (tel. Sultan ext. 2063).**

**Hearing**

**FOllowing the nationals in Aberdeen, swimmer POAE(A/FL) Neil Tam has been selected for Scotland's Commonwealth Games squad.**

His intensive training programme in the run up to the Games will concentrate on periods of training camps, the first of which is in Florida later this month. Neil will spend 18 days there, training alongside swimmers from the Centre of Excellence, a body set up to help some athletes fulfil their potential on the international scene.

**Canada**

He will return for a competition in Leeds, before flying out to Canada with the Scottish team to train in the pool in which the Games events will be held. He will also compete in the Games trials at the same venue.

Two weeks after returning from Canada Neil, who is serving at HMS Dandini, will compete in Edinburgh. There he must meet the qualifying times to secure his swim in the Games — in the 200m and 400m freestyle events.
Lives on the line

THE moment of deliverance as POACMN Gary Davies, suspended on his helicopter’s winch wire, saves a seaman from a sinking freighter.

The dramatic rescue 130 miles off the Soflaas was captured by naval cameraman PO(PHOT) Bernie Pettersen from an accompanying helicopter. Other crewmen in the stricken ship, Sweetie Sandra, can be seen amidships waiting to be lifted. In what RN air station Culdrose described as a textbook operation, three Sea Kings from 771 Naval Air Squadron brought to safety the entire crew of 26 Filipinos and Croatians before the Sweetie Sandra settled beneath the choppy seas.

The 20,000-ton freighter was carrying steel coils from St Petersburg to Wilmington, USA, when the Croatian master declared a Mayday on January 14.

For the first time a naval Jetstream fixed-wing aircraft was used as on-scene commander. The Jetstream, an observer training aircraft also from Culdrose, guided four Sea Kings to the stricken ship — one of them, from 706 NAS, acting as standby aircraft with PO Pettersen on board. Falmouth Coastguard co-ordinated the rescue.

The Sweetie Sandra incident came as figures were released that RN, RAF and Coastguard helicopters saved 1,463 people last year — 110 more than in 1992. Biggest single increase was for Navy crews at HMS Gannet who were called out 230 times compared with 168 the previous year.

Forces to get new big review

A NEW major review is about to be launched dealing with career and manpower structures in the Armed Forces as well as terms and conditions of service.

The year-long independent review will start in the spring, and is seen by Ministers as ensuring that conditions and deployment patterns will be appropriate for the 21st Century.

Although not part of the defence costs study, the review will take account of developments which will flow from the study, in particular the examination of MOD HQ, the command structure, recruiting and manning, and support.

In line with terms and conditions the review will study the need for cost-effective recruitment and maintenance of discipline; the requirement for a more flexible role and the need for flexibility in the light of uncertainties over the pattern of future demands on the Forces; and current practice in areas such as length of service, career and deployment patterns, and rank and trade structures.

Pay

All elements of pay will be examined in consultation with the Armed Forces and Senior Salaries Review Bodies.

Composition of the review team will be announced, but before their work begins in-house preparations will be conducted.

Meanwhile, Principal Personnel Officers will begin their planned review of the Armed Forces Pension Scheme which may result in new arrangements.

Members of the current scheme, whether serving or retired, will have reserved rights to the present FPS, although serving members may be given the option of transferring to any new scheme.

Shake-up for area Flag Officers

POST of Flag Officer Portsmouth is to be abolished and the roles of Flag Officer Plymouth and Flag Officer Scotland and Northern Ireland are to be widened in a major reorganisation of the Royal Navy’s regional command structure.

From April 1 next year FOSNI (currently Vice Admiral Christopher Morgan) will be known as Flag Officer Scotland, Northern England and Northern Ireland (FOSNEI).

His area of responsibility will expand southwards to a line which follows Home Defence Region and county boundaries between the Rivers Dee and Humber. His headquarters will remain at Pitreavie near Rohny Naval Base.

From April 1 next year, Flag Officer South will be established at Plymouth and will be responsible for those areas south of the Dee and Humber.

Although the title of Flag Officer Portsmouth will be abolished, the area will remain an important one for the Navy with the establishment there of a new headquarters for naval personnel and training under the Second Sea Lord.

DUKE VISITS YOUNGEST SHIPMATES

THE Royal Yacht has started a two-month deployment to the USA and Caribbean.

HMY Britannia left Portsmouth on January 1 for New York for a series of commercial events and business seminars between February 10-16.

On February 23 she is due to arrive in Belize where the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh will embark the next day for the start of their Caribbean tour which includes the Cayman islands, Jamaica and the Bahamas.

The deployment represents another busy schedule for Britannia which last year spent 157 days at sea.

The children wrote and were amazed and delighted when Lt Cdr The Duke of York announced he would like to meet them. This he did in a 90-minute visit, touring the classrooms, attending assembly and chatting to as many of the boys and girls as time allowed.

Headmaster Mr John Coleman said the visit went off extremely well, with the smiling Prince making friends all round. He told the children about his ship and his own job on board, while they presented him with a poem and drawings and sang him a selection of sea shanties.

Almost as if unaware of the Duke of York taking a close look at his schoolwork, ten-year-old Christian Bailey is unabashed during Prince Andrew’s surprise visit.

Picture: Andrew Hasson
As we approach our 40th birthday, to improve our services Navy News has prepared a questionnaire for you to air your likes and dislikes - and to give us a better idea of our readership.

Over the past ten years the serving Navy has reduced by a quarter - and a good many veterans of the world wars have sadly 'crossed the bar'.

Yet Navy News circulation has remained remarkably close to the peak it reached after the Falklands War. Clearly we are acquiring many new customers - and we would like to know more about them.

We know that each copy of the paper changes hands many times - and naturally we would rather everyone bought their own! But before you pass yours on, if you can find time to tick a few boxes and drop this form in the post - no stamp needed if posted in the UK - you will be helping us sort out the way ahead for the newspaper of the Navy in the Nineties.

ALL REPLIES WILL BE STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

**READER QUESTIONNAIRE**

1. Could we please have your age group?

   - Under 25 1
   - 25 - 34 2
   - 35 - 49 3
   - 50 - 65 4
   - Over 65 5

2. Are you male or female?

   - Male 1
   - Female 2

3. What is your current location?

   - Naval base UK 1
   - Naval base overseas 2
   - HM ship 3
   - In the UK 4
   - Overseas 5

4. What is your occupation?

   - Serving Naval Officer 1
   - Serving Naval NCO 2
   - Serving Naval other 3
   - Royal Navy retired 4
   - Other 5
5. How often do you read Navy News?

- Every month [ ]
- Most months [ ]
- 2 or 3 times a year [ ]
- Less than once a year [ ]

6. For how long have you been reading Navy News?

- Less than a year [ ]
- 1 to 3 years [ ]
- 4 to 10 years [ ]
- Over 10 years [ ]

7. Do you generally find it easy to obtain your copy of Navy News?

- Yes [ ]
- No [ ]

8. How do you usually get to read Navy News?

- Read it in a library [ ]
- At work / on a circulation list [ ]
- Have it passed on by another reader [ ]
- Buy it over the counter [ ]
- Buy it on subscription [ ]

9. If you buy your copy of the Navy News do you pass it on to others?

- Yes [ ]
- No [ ]

10. If yes, how many people read it?

- One [ ]
- Two [ ]
- Three [ ]
- More than three [ ]

11. What is your opinion of the price of Navy News? Is it:

- Too expensive [ ]
- About the right price [ ]
- Too inexpensive [ ]

12. As a reader, what is your general opinion of Navy News? Are you:

- Very satisfied [ ]
- Reasonably satisfied [ ]
- Not very satisfied [ ]
- Dissatisfied [ ]

13. What do you find MOST interesting about Navy News? (CHOOSE ANY 3)

- General Royal Navy news [ ]
- News of promotions, etc [ ]
- Profiles of Navy ships [ ]
- Family news [ ]
- Letters [ ]
- People news [ ]
- Historical subjects [ ]
- Feature articles on current Naval subjects [ ]
- Royal Naval Association news [ ]
- Sports news [ ]

14. What do you find LEAST interesting about Navy News? (CHOOSE ANY 3)

- General Royal Navy news [ ]
- News of promotions, etc [ ]
- Profiles of Navy ships [ ]
- Family news [ ]
- Letters [ ]
- People news [ ]
- Historical subjects [ ]
- Feature articles on current Naval subjects [ ]
- Royal Naval Association news [ ]
- Sports news [ ]
15. What do you find most useful about Navy News? (CHOOSE ANY 3)

- Technical information/advice (DCIs, etc)
- "Notice Board"
- "At Your Leisure"
- "At Your Service"
- Classified advertisement - Education
- - Accommodation
- - Resettlement & courses
- - Property, removals
- - Miscellaneous
- General display advertisements

16. What would you like to see more often in Navy News? (CHOOSE UP TO 3)

- Relevant non-RN news
- Relevant non-RN feature articles
- Competitions
- Special offers
- Other... (Please specify)

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FOR PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD PLEASE SEE PAGE 4 FOR DETAILS
Thank you for completing the Navy News reader survey. For our own records we would like to collect your name and address and completed forms will be entered into a prize draw which offers the chance to win one of ten sweatshirts (see below). Please note that it is NOT NECESSARY to reveal your full name and address, however, to help in our analysis, we would at least like to know the area in which you live. Thank you.

THERE ARE TEN NAVY NEWS SWEATSHIRTS TO BE WON!

Please complete your name and address below and you will be entered into the prize draw.
(Ten winners will be picked at random from all completed entries)

Name..........................................................................................................................
Address.........................................................................................................................
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Postcode.....................................................................................................................
Telephone....................................................................................................................

If you are lucky enough to win a sweatshirt, what size would you like?

☐ Small ☐ Medium ☐ Large ☐ Extra large

☐ We may wish to follow up this survey with further research, please put a cross in this box if you ARE willing to be contacted.

☐ We may like to send you information on topics we feel will be of interest to you. Please put a cross in this box if you would NOT like to receive such information.

ONCE AGAIN, THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP, IT IS MUCH APPRECIATED