

the squadron, the traditional survey livery of white with buff funnels will be scrapped, and the new vessels will be warship grey.

The change of colour emphasises the squadron's much closer involvement with warfare and its full integration with the Surface Flotilla. Routine surveying for the making of charts is now a relatively minor part of its business.

No 'civilianisation'

Senior officers are confident that an internal debate on "civilianisation" of the squadron has been won. They have shown that it is cheaper and more effective to have

the ships manned entirely by RN personnel and under the White Ensign, especially as their warfare role has become paramount.

Another factor in the survival of the soundron is the remarkably leaner manning and greater productivity which will be a feature of the new vessels. They will have replaced Herald, Buildog and Beagle by the year 2000, and although they and HMS Scott represent a threefold increase in the tonnage of the squadron, advanced technology will almost halve the number of personnel at sea, and crew rotation will increase productivity by at least 180 days a year.

These are dramatic changes which can be achieved with the proposed new ships," Capt Hugh May, Captain (Hydrography), told Navy News, "Heraid and the coastal

Turn to back page

Flash mes

THIS MESSAGE spelt out by the ship's company of HMS Invincible was timely in more ways than one. Thanks to digital technology, the negative was transmitted from the ship in the Gulf to an image receiver at the Surface Flotilla Photographic Section in Portsmouth, and within hours of being sent was on the front page of Navy News – just in time for our deadline. Photographer was ship's cameraman, LA(PHOT) Colin Burden. • See page 19 for more news from the Gulf.

HONG KONG COUNTDOWN p20-21 NATO'S NAVAL FOCUS p12-13 LETTERS p6-7 RNA p23 SPORT p38-39

SUNSET FOR CLASS APART

Last call for Battleaxe

HMS BATTLEAXE, the last Type 22 Batch 1 frigate in Royal Navy service, will make London her final port of call before entering Devonport on December 12 to begin preparations for sale to Brazil.

. and a first for Montrose HMS MONTROSE has returned from her first operational role – a sixmonth deployment to the South Atlantic.

The Type 23 frigate entered Devonport on November 1 after steaming over 29,000 miles and visiting 11 countries, including Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, the Falklands, South Georgia, Uruguay, Brazil, Bermuda, Madeira and the Bahamas,

In November she completed her last foreign deployment - a seven-week task to provide initial sea training to 55 cadets, the highest number carried since the Dartmouth Training Squadron was disbanded in the carly 1990s.

Med mission

Under her Commanding Officer, Cdr Allan Adair, the frigate deployed to Mediterranean, calling to the frigate. at Guernsey, Oporto, Barcelona, Tunis and Gibraltar.

She was in Guernsey to act as guardship for the Charybdis Memorial weekend, during which she laid claim to being the first modern frigate to berth in the

where the Governor, Admiral Sir Hugo White, presented the ship with the Empress of India Bowl, the Exocet trophy.

HMS Battleaxe prepares to sail into the sunset off the Spanish Mediterranean coast. Putter UkPHOT | Fery Gater

Back in home waters, Battleaue made her farewell visit to her affiliated town, Newport, Gwent, where her ship's company took part in Remembrance Day ceremonies before departing for a last visit to Hull

Before her London visit she was conducting deck landing for recently qualified Lynx pilots and was in Portsmouth and Plymouth areas for the training of prospective navigating officers of frigates

and destroyers. Battleave, the last all-missile frigate in the Fleet, becomes nonoperational at the end of January.

Campaign to save memorials

A CAMPAIGN to preserve Britain's dilapidated and van-dalised war memorials has been launched by a former Royal Marines sergeant, Ian Davidson.

Mr Duvidson (61) has set up the pressure group Friends of War Memorials to seek the support of MPs and to campaign for a nation-al helpline so that the public can report damage or neglect to more than 25,000 memorials.

The group has also written to Chatham town council suggesting that the Friends take charge of the maintenance of a "forgotten" memorial in the town to men from the battleship HMS Barfleur who were killed in action during the Boxer Rising in China in 1900,

16m may be missing out

AS KING George's Fund for Sailors announced that 1997 will be the Year of the Scafarer, The Royal British Legion said that the million young and old ex-Service people may quality for help from The RBL without knowing it.

The Legion's new Secretary General, General Ian Townsend, said recipients did not need to be members. If they had served for a minimum of a week and were suffering as a result, they could turn to The RBL.

Wrens Guard in **Cenotaph debut**

inner harbour - by going astern all

reception, she hosted no fewer than 28 ambassadors and 15

defence attaches. Heading home, she paid a final call on Gibraltar

In Tunis, during an official

the way.

WOMEN SAILORS bore arms alongside their male colleagues for the first time at the Remembrance Day ceremony at the Cenotaph in Whitehall.

A record number of more than 10,000 veterans took part in the parade past the memorial. The Queen laid the first wreath after the Last Post was sounded by Royal Marines

buglers. Corresponding events took place in Portsmouth and Plymouth, and personnel from HMS Collingwood were among those who took part in parades in Hampshire and Dorset as well as London.

'First class'

The First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Jock Slater – who laid a wreath in Whitehall on behalf of the Navy, said the RN and RM personnel on parade had given a first start of the st

a first-class impression' He said in a general signal: "Commitment to and training for extraneous events such as these create a huge burden on our stretched and gapped per-sonnel plot, but I am in absolutely no doubt about the



importance of participating in high-profile national commemorations.

On the following day -Armistice Day, November 11 millions of people observed a second, two-minute silence for which The Royal British Legion had campaigned successfully.

halted broadcasting. Even a jury was reported to have insisted on holding up a court court case for the two-minute tribute.

HMS NOTTINGHAM returned to Portsmouth on November 23 after a trail-blazing visit to the Black Sea port of Poti in the Republic of Georgia. It is believed to be the first time a British warship has visited the port for 75 years. Her homecoming was delayed 24 hours by bad weather Portsmouth in April to take her place in NATO's Standing Naval Force Mediterranean, a task she handed over to HMS Birmingham on November 3. During her deployment, Nottingham had visit-

Nottingham's

got Georgia

ed 11 Med and Adriatic ports -Corfu, Crete, Brindisi, Venice, Naples, Split, Istanbul, Casablanca, Costantia, Malta and Gibraltar.

I HMS Campbeltown has also returned from NATO deployment - as flagship of Standing Naval Force Atlantic with Commodore Andrew Gough embarked. Her activities have included exercises in the Caribbean, and in the Baltic for Co-operative Venture. During the deployment she steamed 28,000 miles, exercised with 14 countries.

Nicola: Man charged with murder

A 23-YEAR-OLD man has been charged with the murder of teenager Nicola Parsons, whose body was found in a disuse THEFT

Schools, shops and transport companies were among organisations which observed the silence, and TV and radio



The Poti visit was timed to coinide with British Week, promoting UK products and culture in the Georgian capital of Thlisi. It also coincided with the England soccer team's match against Georgia on November 9, watched by 100 of Nottingham's sailors.

That was particularly appropri-ate, for in the 1880s, it was the ships' companies of visiting war-ships that taught the Georgians football,

Big welcome

Although urban dereliction is a feature of Poti, the people extend-ed an overwhelming welcome, and the Type 42 destroyer's Comm-anding Officer, Cdr Paul Docherty. was made a Freeman of the city. Earlier, he had been welcomed ashore by the C-in-C of the Georgian Navy, Rear Admiral Vasili Vavakashvili. HMS Nottingham had left

300 years on

Marines given

Rock freedom

THE MAYOR of Gibraltar inspects the Guard of Honour during the ceremony in which he conferred the Freedom of the City on the Royal Marines - almost 300 years after the Corps was instrumental in seizing the Rock

Maj-Gen Simon Pack RM, Commander of British Forces Gibraltar, received the Freedom scroll from the Mayor, the Hon. Judge J. E. Alcantara. The ceremony took place on Grand Parade after which the troops, members of Support Command 40 Cdo, marched along Main Street with swords drawn, bayonets fixed and colours flying. Music was provided by the Band of the Royal Marines Scotland.

Picture: PO(PHOT) Jon Garthwaite



ery in Plymouth in July. The 18 year-old had been raped and strangled.

Last month Navy News carried an appeal by Devon and Cornwall police for information into the killing.

Thi accused man is Andrew McNeill McKinby. Another man, aged 28, was arrested, but was freed on bail pending further inquiries.

Windies dinghies

FAST DINGHY sailing in the Caribbean is in store for the ship's company of HMS Boser - thanks to the loan to the West Indies Guardship of two Laser dinghies by Performance Sailcraft Europe

ANTHEA TO HOST RN XMAS TV SPECIAL



TV golden girl Anthea Turner will present

Tv golden girl Anthea furner will present 'Christmas with the Royal Navy', five live pro-grammes broadcast from HMS Belfast on the River Thames on Christmas Day. Billed as "a non-stop global party" the series aims to reunite RN families around the world with live links to a base in Croatia and ships in the Caribbean and the Editioned blanct. Falkland Islands.

Transmitted on the ITV network throughout Christmas Day, the films will also feature families, veterans and guest celebrities and offer viewers a behind-the scenes look at life in the Senior Service. Falklands hero Simon Weston will return there to pre-

sent live satellite links from Port Stanley and there will be exclusive features from a submarine in a secret location -and from Hong Kong, as families of the British Garrison get ready for their last Christmas in the colony

"The Royal Navy do such a good job and it must be awful being away from loved ones at a time like Christmas," Anthea told Navy News. "I am so delighted to have the chance to bring everyone together for a very special party.

Altogether, the Navy will enjoy 90 minutes airtime on TVs top day of the year

Fleet units deployed at Christmas are:

WARSHIPS: HMS Alderney - on standby for lishery pro-tection duties in northern UK waters: HMS Blackwater - on patrol in Northern Ireland waters; HMS Boxer - West Indies guard ship, stand-off in San Juan, Puerto Rico; HMS Edinburgh - Gulf patrol, stand-off in Durban, South Africa. HMS Endurance - Antarctic patrol, stand-off in Montevideo. Uruguay, HMS Lancaster - Falkland Island patrol, stand-off in

Mare Harbour, East Falkland; HMS Leeds Castle - at sea on Faikland Islands patrol; HMS Roebuck - Indian Ocean and Guilt survey duties, stand-off in Dubai, United Arab Emirates; HMS Shetland - on standby for fishery protection duties in southern LIK waters; HMS Southampton - Guil patrol, standoff in Dubai; HMS Spartan - at sea on patrol; HMS Victorious at sea on patrol

ROYAL FLEET AUXILIARIES: RFA Bayleaf - Gull dubits. stand-off in Dubai: RFA Gold Rover - West Indies tacker, stand-off in Port Canaveral, Florida: RFA Grey Rover, South Atlantic duties, stand off in Montevideo; RFA Oakleaf – stand-off in Gibraltar; RFA Resource – Split, Croatia.

NAVAL AIR SQUADRON: One flight, 845 Naval Air Squadron, Split.

Supplied by Fleet Public Relations, Northwood

Bosnia's squadron wins the Wettern

THE DESMOND Wettern Fleet Award has been won by 845 Naval Air Squadron for its services in the former Yugoslavia.

The award is made annually in memory of the longtimenaval correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, to the unit which "has done most to project a positive image of the Royal Navy,

\$45 was selected for its work in Bosnia on casualty evacuation and support duties.

Individual pilots performed a number of outstanding feats of avi-ation, most often in appalling weather conditions, sometimes at night and frequently in the face of hostile fire. In the past 12 months the

Squadron has flown 107 casualty

and medical evacuation sorties involving 283 injured persons, both military and civilian.

At the same time its air and ground crews have continued to develop strong links with local communities, including supporting an orphanage, aiding with restora-tion of a World War II graveyard and airlifting a steeplejack on to a

rebuilt church. It is one of the longest service British units in the former Yugoslavia

 Mrs Gillian Wettern pre-sents the award to L1 Cdr Michael Abbey, Commanding Officer of 845 Naval Air Squadron at Yeovilton.



has been accepted by the service - after being tested to the extreme in her final trials and

delivery voyage. Type 23 frigate HMS Grafton, e 12th of the Duke class, was lashed by storm-force winds in excess of 70 knots off the west coast of Scotland as she completed final machinery trials, and gales dogged her progress from the Chyde to the Solent.

But it was blue skies, somhine and calm seas as she steamed into her base port of Portsmouth with a combined ship's company of Naval personnel and workers from shipbuilders Yarrow. As the Red Ensign was replaced

the White Ensign, Commander Nick Stanley took command of the frigate, which he said was in "excellent condition - very good both above deck and below deck."

He added: "She came through very bad weather extremely well. These are very good sea boats, and they handle very well in poor sea conditions - although some of the less-experienced people on board did suffer a little from seasick-

Angus Bochanan, Yarrow's project director, spoke of the "heroic feat" of work which had gone into the building of her, and the s of pride in the quality of the finished vessel, which was delivered on time

the Channel and off the Clyde, followed by operational training in the summer.

Meanwhile her sister ship HMS Marlborough ran into the rem-rants of Hurricane Lili when operating in the Channel as trials platform for helicopter recovery and landing equipment developed for the new Merlin helicopter. The ship's three Flight Deck Officers clocked up a total of 216 Wessex and Lynx helicopter land-ings = 31 of them at multiple but

ings - 31 of them at night - but shortly after the above photograph was taken the trial had to be suspended as the worst of the weather came over.

Marlborough then moved on for a visit to London (see next month's INMIC.

Club for all the

RR

AlLORS who served in Malaya and Berneo in the period from World War II to 1970 are invited to join a new Southern Area branch of the National Malaya and Borneo Veterans Association to he based at Southampton. Contact David Smith at Woodglade, Bearlieu Road, Dibden Parlieu, Southampton SO45 4JF for shrtaib.

3 3 3

ILMINSTER firemen were invited to RN Air Station Yeovilton for a familiarisation visit on the eve of November 5 - traditionally their busiest night of the year.

u u u

A FOURTON 25-feet model of HMS Victory built for the 1941 film Lady Hamilton has been unveiled at Chatham Historic Dockyard.

3 3 3

REAR ADMIRAL His Highness Prince Fahad Bin Abdullah, Deputy Commander of the Royal Saudi Naval Force visit-ed HMS Collingwood follow-ing the acceptance ceremony for HMS AI Kharj, the third minehunter built for the RSNF at Vosper Thornycroft.

u u u

A COMBINED RN/USN commu nications unit has been opened at RAF Digby, Lincoln by the Deputy Commander Fleet Vice Admiral Sir Jonathan Tod.

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HMS VENERABLE Association has presented a painting of the ship by Manchester artist George Hinds to the Somerset Hotel, Llandudno, venue of its annual reunion.

0 0 0

HMS DASHER, the patrol craft operated by Bristol University RN Unit, visited Brandy Hole Yacht Club, Hullbridge, marking an association begon during the 1994 Calais Rally of the Little Ships Club,

4 4 4

ANTI-SUBMARINE Universal Attack Trainer at the School of Maritime Operations, HMS Dryad, manufactured by GEC Marconi's (then Ferranti) Simulation and Training factory at Cheadle Heath 21 years ago, received a Long Service and Good Conduct Medal from Commore SMOPS, Cdre R.J.Lippiett.



Helo view of a hooley: HMS Mariborough grapples with Hurricane Lili

Dukes weather the storms THE NAVY'S latest warship

"There is quite a mixture of emotions for us. The ship has belonged to us for nearly four years, and a lot of the team here have worked on her since the very beginning," he said.

The 4,000-tonne ship was launched on November 5, 1994, by Lady Abbott, wife of the current Commander-in-Chief Fleet, and Lady Abbott was in Portsmouth to see her arrive almost exactly two years later.

Grafton will now stay in Portsmouth until January, when some four months of weapons and sensor trials will be carried out in family

MEMBERSHIP of the Royal Sailors Home Club at Portsmouth has been extended to allow wives and children aged over 18 of all serving RN and RM ratings to join in their own right.

Family membership starts from 1 January and will be renewable annually on that date. Membership cards will be issued to enable eligible family members to enter the club unaccompanied. There will be no charge for this facility while the head of the family is serving.

For details contact the Administration Manager on 01705 824231



Edward

opens

school

NEW SCHOOL of Music for the Royal Marines in the former Detention Quarters at HMS Nelson

was opened by Prince

The Prince presented the Imperial Service Medal to Bill Merritt, valet

to officers at the former school at Deal for 47

A memorial stone to the 11 RM bandsmen killed in the IRA bombing

there in 1989 is to be moved to St Ann's Church in Portsmouth

Edward.

years.

the

NEXT year's Royal Tournament will be held at Earl's Court from 15-27 July.

Due to public demand the show has been extended to include an extra matinee performance on the last day.

Tickets will be available from the box office on 0171 244 0244 from January 6.

u u u

A BULLOCK which fell from a steep cliff at Geibbin Head near St Austell was winched to safety by a helicopter from RN Air Station. Cublerse.

...

NEW cast iron penstocks are to be used in refurbishing the Dockyard at Portsmouth, replacing century-old origi4 NAVY NEWS, DECEMBER 1996



Implacable's end in sight

THE STERN of HMS Implacable is to be pieced together and put on display at the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich with the help of an £11.8 million grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The 74-gun vessel, pictured (left) in Portsmouth in the 1930s, lought for France as the Duguay-Trouin at the battle of Trafalgar but managed to escape

But in 1805 the ship was captured, renamed HMS Implacable, and saw action with the Royal Navy in the Baltic and Syria and became a train-ing ship at Devonport in 1855.

By 1908 the ship's future was looking so bleak that King Edward VII personally intervened and Implacable was given to a private collector. In 1932 she came to Portsmouth for restoration and helped train over 1,000 young sailors.

When Implacable was eventually scuttled off the Isle of Wight in 1947, the stern carvings, win-dows and figurehead were saved by the Admiralty and were presented to the museum in 1950 where thay have remained in storage.

Painstaking job

Now the museum has begun the painstaking ob of reassembling the 200-year-old structure on a scaffold frame measuring 11m by 7m.

The stern section will be the centrepiece of 'Neptune Court', an 11-gallery complex sched-uled to open in summer 1999.

A further £4 million must be raised by the Maritime Museum to complete the project and staff at Greenwich are looking for sponsors for each of the new galleries.

Top priority billets must be filled first

THIS YEAR has been an especially difficult one for the continued development of the Warfare Branch and the shortages in that branch must have made themselves felt to nearly all of you in one way or another.

To those of you who have been frustrated because I have not been able to draft you to LOM course, I can only apologise and say that we hope to start to see an improvement in the flow of people into the branch during the year but we are very dependent on our colleagues in the careers service in this respect.

I fear that we shall be managing the growing Warlare Branch with great care for some time yet but we must not underestimate the achievements to date either. To develop a completely new branch



is no mean feat and we would have been naive to think that there would not be some difficulties

Those ships which have imple-mented Warfare Branch are very

its great encouragement for the konger term fature In the meantime, those of you in the OPS and MEM source branches are a terrific asset in supporting the growth of the new branch and we in Naval Drafting are grateful

content with the outcome and give

for your continued support. Another branch where condi-tions have been difficult because of reduced recruiting is in Marine. Engineering

Here the problem is aggravated by a high PVR rate and you will be aware of the recent initiatives where a retention bonas has been offered to eligible able rates in exchange for withdrawal of notice and a waiver of notice giving rights.

By the time you read this, the deadline for applying for the bonus will be upon us and I hope that you will all think very seriously and commit yourselves to another two or three years in response to the offer.

Whilst of course, we hope that ome on notice will actually withdraw, it is just as important that the others who are eligible take the plunge and decide to stay for that id. It gives us in the m

.

girl.

baps.

whilst we recover from the turbulence of the past few years.

Drafty... CND's Christmas Message

are recovering, slowly! We Second Open Engagement is now back to an annual round and we have seen two boards since the reintroduction.

The numbers are relatively small and so have minimal effect on those below, but it is encouraging that we have returned to using 20E as a method of retaining expertise in the Navy which we can ill afford to lose

One benefit of the redundancy ogramme is that rosters are perhaps, moving just that little bit more easily. Again, it is nothing dramatic, but the B13s are being issued and it's good to see that their atrival does persuade some of you to withdraw your notice. That, incidentally, is something which is easier to do now than a year ago. Provided that you have a strong recommendation from your CO there is now a reasonable chance.

Please remember, though, if you think of putting in your notice that I do have to consider the predicted mambers situation in your branch and at your rate very carefully before agreeing to a withdrawal letter. The situation can change very rapidly and it is not a forgone conclusion that you can do so.

Royal Marines

One specific change this year was that Drafty is now responsible for drafting the Royal Marines. The majority of the functions of the former DRORM now come under CND although the Drafting and Promotions Offices situated within the HQRM huilding on Whale Island.

This allows a very close fiaison between the drafters and the corps which is important since the overwhelming majority of Marines are employed by one budget holder, namely, the Commandant namely. General, Whilst there are some differences between drafting the Royals and the "dark blue" (the sea bill has much fess influence, for Ihere ane.

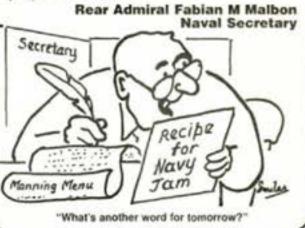


My first year as Naval Secretary has seen some significant changes in the manpower world, the formation of the Naval Manning Agency on July 1 and, unfortunately, a number of continuing difficulties.

In the short term, I hope that none of you, our customers, have noticed the transition to agency status. The new freedoms allowed by this change have given me the ability to manage the planning and novement of the Navy's manpower more efficiently and, consequently, improve our service to you.

I am fully aware of the difficult period we are going through, with shortages in some key areas, but consider that we now have better tools and a tauter organisation which will allow a clearer definition of the way forward. I sincerely believe that we will start to see some real benefits. in the forthcoming year.

I have enjoyed meeting some of you in my travels this year and hearing your views. I hope to meet many more of you in 1997. In the meantime, I thank you for your efforts and wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.



corps, is currently significantly under strength is causing very sini-ilar problems to those in the naval shortage categories and I um sorry to say that the resulting turbulence and out of preference drafts are common to both lovat and dark blue.We are very conscious of this and I can assure you that it is a top priority for Drafty to reduce both. However, do please remember hat whilst we do our u mbas at many similarities. The fact that the you where you want to be, our bot-

torn line has to be to fill the top priority billets, as fairly as we possibly can

As you read this, no doubt Christmas parties will be com-mencing in all the corners of the world that Nety News reaches.

My colleagues, in Centurion and Whale Island join me in wishing you all a very Happy Christmas nd the best of good fortune

ANON



NAVY NEWS

1996 CALENDAR QUIZ

The Navy News monthly guiz has as of this edition come to an end, so please don't forget to submit all twelve original entry forms together in one envelope to arrive at the offices of Navy News not later than 31 March 1997.

Entries can only be accepted on the original monthly coupon taken from the back page of Navy News. If you have missed any months, back issues are available from the Navy News office, whilst stocks last.

Limited supplies of the 1996 Calendar available where all questions and answers can be found

> Telephone Mrs Newman on (01705) 725064 or 826040 for details

world a little more stability to bank.

1997



And Drafty cried out: "Gaps!"

Or Christmas pud 'n cream!

Ships of the Royal Navy

Grey seas rover



Facts and figures -

Class: Small Fleet Tanker Pennant number: A269 Builder: Swan Hunter, Walsend-on-Tyne Launched: April 17, 1969 Commissioned: April 10, 1970 Displacement: 11.485 tonnes fully-laden Length: 140.6m Beam: 19.2m Draught: 7.3m Ship's company: 49 (17 officers) Machinery: Two Pielstick 16 PC 2V diesels: one

shaft. KaMeWa cp prop; bow thruster Speed: 17 knots normal, 19 knots maximum Range: 15,000 miles at 15 knots Cargo capacity: 6,600 tons fuel Guns: Two Oerlikon 20mm. 2-7.62mm MGs Countermeasures: Decoys: two Corvus and two Plessey Shield launchers, one Graseby Type 182: towed torpedo decoy Radars: Navigation: Racal Decca 52690 ARPA; Racal Deoca 1690; I-band Helicopters: Platform for Sea King or Lynx

AIRCRAFT OF THE ROYAL NAVY No 2 Buccaneer S.2 in 1976. 032

Blackburn Buccaneer

ONE of the most popular aircraft to serve in the Fleet Air Arm, the Buccaneer had a prodigious range, an impressive speed at low level, and packed a weighty punch.

The type also served with 700, 736, 800, 803 and 809 squadrons. In 1967 Buccaneers of 800 and 736 Squadrons flew from RN air station Brawdy to carry out the bombing of the GREY Rover - a grey ship sailing grey South Atlantic seas. But life aboard this Royal Fleet

Antiliary tanker has been far from dull in recent times - she twice hit the headlines two years ago with high-profile rescues. Like her two sisters.

Gies Rover's role as a small fleet-support tanker is to supply Navy war-ships with fact oil, aviation fact, lubricants, fresh water and a limit ed amount of dry cargo and refrigcrated stores whilst under way This process is known as RASing Replenishment At Sea.

The Grey Guese, as she is known, is also littled with a large flight deck, served by a stores lift. allowing helicopters to transfer supplies by air, a process known as Vertrep (vertical replenishment).

Too small to support a large task group. Rover-class ships are ideal or supporting individual warships or small groups on deployment. While Grey Rover is usually to

be found in the South Atlantic, supporting RN Falklands activi-ties, Gold Rover tends to support the West Indies Guard Ship in the Caribbean and Black Rover is generally assigned to the Flag Officer

Sea Training at Plymouth. While on the Southlant run in April, 1994, Grey Rover made the ws when she rescued Australian Lisa Gov, who had been attenuting a single-handed non-stop cirmaxigation of Antarctica in her

11-metre yacht Wildtlower. She had taken a battering in storms, and Lisa had been out of radio contact for two months when the Grey Rover found her off Grytviken, South Georgia The following month Grey Rover was again in the headlines

when she took part in the search for missing Chilean fishing vessel. Frio Sur V

NAVY NEWS, DECEMBER 1996 5

No 493

During the search, Grey Rover picked up a faint Mayday, stating that a gas heater had exploded three days earlier, killing two eren-men and injuring two others. The fireball had destroyed the

bridge and accommodation, and the survivors were in poor condition, exposed to the cold weather.

Grey Rover found the boat and Chief Officer Paul Whyte RFA. who won a commendation for his actions, went on board, surreved the situation, and prepared a jury rig to enable him to con the ves

Medical care was provided by the RFA team and, while Grey werstood close by. Chiel Officer Where guided the Fris-Sut V to a safe archorage in Comberhand Bay, South Georgia - a seven-bour passage on top of the burned-out bridge to a wind-chill factor of minter Dik

Once in Comberland Bay the empled boat was seeared to a buoy using Grey Rover's crash beer as a makeshift rag, and Clifet Officer Whyte then supervised the transfer of casualties and the dead creamen to Grey Rover. Chief Officer Whyte's commen-

dation notes how he "demonstrated great initiative, fortitude, sca-manship skills and calminess under pressure during this rescue operation and carried out all his duties during this time in a skilled, professional and nostinting manuer.

To order postcards of the Ships of the Royal Navy' series please see the advertisement on page 37

If You're Buying Don't Sell..

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RFA Grey Rover "down

Royal Navy ships in the

Falklands area.

south" - on station in the South

Atlantic, where she supports



On October 4, 1965 a Buccaneer S.2 strike aircraft, crewed by Cdr G. Higgs and Lt Cdr A. Taylor became the first FAA aircraft to fly the Atlantic non-stop and without in-flight refuelling.

That was just over seven years after the first flight of a Naval pre-production Buccaneer, the first production S.1 - powered by two Bristol Siddeley Gyron Junior turbojets - entering service with 801 Squadron at Lossiemouth in 1962.

Most of the subsequent Buccaneers to serve in the Fleet Air Arm were, however, the more powerful and longer-range Spey-engined S.2 which remained in production until the end of 1968. By that time 84 Buccaneers had been built for the Navy.

The first operational unit to be equipped with the S.2 was again 801 Squadron in 1965, which following year embarked in HMS the Victorious.

With the departure of the Royal Navy's conventional, fleet aircraft carriers, there was no place for the Service's Buccaneers, the last of which were flown by 809 Squadron from Ark Royal in 1978.

The aircraft were transferred to the RAF which continued to operate the type in different capacities until the early 1990s. The Buccaneer's last operational role came in the Gulf War when special laser-equipped versions were used by the RAF to provide target fixes for Tornadoes raiding Iraq. The Buccaneer S.2 was powered by two

Rolls-Royce Spey Mk 101 turbojets each pro-ducing 11,100ib of static thrust. Maximum speed was Mach 0.85 at 200ft and range was 3,000 nautical miles.

Maximum weapon load of 16,000lb could be made up of a variety of armaments, including bombs, rockets or Martel air-to-surface missiles.



6 NAVY NEWS, DECEMBER 1996



I SERVED in HMS Bulwark from her commission in Belfast to my release in 1956. This series of photographs was taken about the previous year. If my memory serves me correctly, the aircraft that ditched was the squadron leader of a flight from the Netherlands.

I don't have any other details – but they may stir up memories for old crew mates. I was then a Leading Steward, mess 26. – R.J.Porter, Ashford, Kent.

DITCHING OF DUTCHMAN







Letters

First bow of battledress No laughing in blue?

REGARDING the recent article on battledress, I was serving in HMS Collingwood at Fareham in the winter of 1940-41 when the Germans started the night blitz on Southampton and Portsmouth.

This meant that on night raids we had to shift our patients from the sick bay into the shelters across the camp road.

These were fitted with crude bunks but were unheated and unsuitable except for the actual time of risk. There was consider-able wear and tear on uniform and as a result we were allowed to wear overalls, which were not ideal

Being fully aware that the art of achieving a comfortable life in the Service is the interpretation of regulations, I drew a length of pussers serge from the stores and went over to the Master Tailor at Eastney Barracks who made me a standard battledress in blue.

When I appeared in the Wardroom in my aquisition a week later there was considerable interest and query. I merely said that the Commodore's order referred to overalls but did not specify the material. There was no further objection. W.S.Parker, Surg Capt (Rei). RNR Brighton

LETTERS to the Editor should always be accom-panied by the correspondent's name and address, not necessarily for publication.

Over to Norfolk

I WROTE to you for help in tracing the owners of a bronze plaque commemorating shipmates lost during 1940-44.

It was discovered in a churchard adjacent to the site of the air field at RNAS Stretton (HMS Blackcap) and was given to members of the Manchester branch of the Fleet Air Arm Association it was thought it referred to HMS Blackcap.

This proved not to be the case and despite searches in records over a considerable period no trace of the rightful owner could be found.

However, within two days of the ablication of the item in 'Over to You' I received a call from someone who knew every name engraved upon it. It turned out it belonged to HMS Norfolk - most of the men listed lost their lives in the action against the Scharnhorst at North Cape.

The Old Norfolks Association were delighted to learn of the find, especially as this year is their 50th anniversary. - J.M.Buie. Sectiond

Navy News

41st year

matter for Cavalier

THE OBSERVATIONS of M.A.Hollanby in your September issue concerning the condition of HMS Cavalier and the possible salvaging of U-534 do require examination.

His concern for the ship is justified. The reassurances from South Tyneside Council, like the ship now, do not hold water. She has at this time the same buoyancy capability as U-534

The Cavalier was purchased with the intention of making her the first exhibit in a National Shipbuilding Exhibition Centre at the old Hawthorne Leslies yard at Hebburn. She was purchased from Brighton in 1987 for £91,000. Since then a traceable sum of £323,000 has been spent on the project. £28,000 is spent annually on security at the site - all by the local tax-

The years of neglect baving been exposed, the council, on advice, requested the Procurement Executive of the MOD to send structural surveyors to examine the Vennel

In their report they stated that the ship was in reasonable condition considering her age - but put the work required at £400,000 plus £50-100,000 contingencies. That was to make her watertight and her to a reasonable standard The dock gates are unserviceable and operating machinery defunct. Should this problem be resolved a major dredging operation is required just to bring her be brought to an end now, by allowing this vessel, part of our naval heritage, to be transferred to an organisation with proper fund-

ing capable of preserving her for posterity. - Cllr J.L.Capstick, South Tyneside.

When 'Winkle' Brown burned rubber

I HAVE read a lot lately about the first jet landing on HMS Ocean and other exploits of jet air-craft after World War II, but not once have I seen anything about the part played by HMS Warrior. I joined her at Portsmouth in September 1948, taking the ship over from the Canadians. We watched with amazement as the Dockyard maties brought on miles of tubing and sheets of thick includes.

thick rubber. All was revealed when we set sail under the command of Capt P.S.Smith - we had a rubber

carpet stretched over the last third of the flight deck. At Spithead Lt Cdr Eric 'Winkle' Brown appeared flying a Sea Venom and after one pass land-ed on the rubber, picking up one arrester wire – and with no undercarriage down skidded along

the rubber, scorching it slightly. Over the next few months Lt Cdr Brown made 200 takeoffs/landings with three different Mks of aircraft, each one landing faster and faster... – B.J.Davey, Bristol.

HMS Warrior as she appeared in Navy Nows 40 years ago this month, at the end of refit.



Shades of courage

ZN

I HAVE just been reading in an account of the Battle of Jutland the action for which Jack Cornwell was awarded the VC. It featured photographs of a Mention in Despatches, a commemorative stamp and his VC, all of which are to be found in the Imperial War Muscum.

However, the VC has a blue ribbon, not the purple one I understood to be the norm. Are there or were there two ribbons for this decoration, one for the Navy (blue) and one for the Army (pur-ple)? - J.Rutherford, Sorn, Ayrshire.

The ribbon was originally dark red for Army recipients, blue for Navy, On the formation of the RAF in 1918 it was feit there was no suitable colour for yet another ribbon and no real necessity for any distinction anyway. So King George V decided that all VCs would henceforth have the red ribbon. The last Naval VC to have a blue ribbon was CPO George Prowse, of Drake Battalion, Royal Naval Division, for his action in capturing a machine gun strong-point at Pronville on 2 September 1918. 101 He was killed during the Battle of Cambrai later that month. - Ed.

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Notice of cancellation must be received 5 weeks preceding publication

The whole sorry episode should

Raleighites relive their boyhood

ENCLOSED please find my postal order for £17.50 to cover one year's subscription to Navy News which we hope will improve our ourcing for RN news in our quarterly newsletter The Canadian Raleighites.

Our Association was started as a result of 150 young Canadians coming together from across Canada in mid 1940 to join the RCNVR as Ordinary Scamen with the express intent of going on loan to the Royal Navy for training for Commissions from HMS. King Alfred and continuing service with the Royal Navy. We were all together in England by August 1940.

Our initial RN training began at HMS Raleigh - hence our name -and ended at HMS King Alfred after a stint of sea-going service on the Lower Deck.

Eighteen of our members were lost in action and we have suffered all the usual depredations since the war to a point where we now have 62 members.

Our interests are many and our newsletter has played an important role in updating our archives and maintaining our always active interests in the Royal Navy We look forward to whetting those interests via your most informative magazine. - A.A.Macdonald, Willowdale, Ontario.

Watery first for the Wyvern REGARDING the article on the Westland Wyvern

(Aircraft of the Royal Navy No 1'), I was on 813 Sqn in 1954-55 formed at RNAS Ford under Lt Cdr Price, DSC. We embarked in HMS

Albion in August 1954 for the Mediterranean Fleet, Unfortunately, off Gibraltar, we lost an aircraft directly off the Cata., where the pilot, Lt MacFarlane, carried out the first underwater ejection after the aircraft had been sliced in

two by the ship's brow. This incident caused adron to be disembarked to Halfar at Malta awaiting modifications to the engine fuel systems and except for a detachment to Bizerta we remained there until we re-embarked in HMS Albion to return to the UK in April 1955. After leave we embarked in HMS Eagle where one of our aircraft finished up lodged in the funnel

The squadron disembarked and anded in November 1955 Choppington, G.Kirsopp, rland

· HMS Eagle is seen here (right) in June 1955 with Sea Hawks and Gannets embarked.

My tour of **Cook ship**

Ref your article about the repli-ca of Captain Cook's Endeavour (October issue), in 1993 I was in Perth visiting my sister and was lucky enough to visit the ship, then under construction at Fremantle At this time work had ceased due to tack of finance, so I virtual-

ly had the run of the boatyard and spent a couple of hours there. To be able to walk on the ship and enjoy the touch and the smell of the Jarrah wood was quite something. I hope to get up to London next year to see her again when she sails up the Thames B.Snow, Northampton

Random firings

IT WAS with sadness and amaze-ment that I noticed the picture in the June edition of HMS Repulse heading up the Clyde to finish the final Polaris patrol.

The amazement stems from the realisation that it is more than 28 years ago that I sailed in the first SSNs. Valiant British and Warspite, closely followed by the first British SSBN, HMS



Resolution The article by my old friend and colleague Ted Booth brought memories of the era flooding back. The firing of 'sabots' from the SSBNs alongside at Barrow was indeed dramatic.

I recall some of us making bets as to which of the tubes the shot would emerge from, as to us onlookers the pre-firing routine of opening and shutting the missile tube caps in a seemingly random fashion was quite funny. -D.White, Mintagong, NSW.

Tsingtao beers

RN vessels may never have visited Qing Dao before (centre pages, November issue) but they often did prior to the creation of the People's Republic, when we knew it as Tsingtao

During 1934-37 I served at Leading telegraphist in HM Submarine Phoenix; our parent ship was HM5 Medway.

On one of our breaks from pira-cy patrols we spent a few days in Tsingtao and met up with units of the United States Navy (the wives apparently followed the Fleet in those days in USS Augusta).

In one of the Tsingtao bars several of the Americans kept, referring to a very large matelot as 'Chief'. We found out later that he way, in fact, a full-blooded Indian chief of the Sioux.- G.Pickup, Portsmouth.

a telegraphist aboard I WAS HMS Bermuda when she visited Tsingtao not long after the cessation of hostilities against Japan -primarily to ensure the well-being of British ex-pats who had been interned there.

Shore liberty was of a strictly limited order - but I remember drinking the Tsingtao beer you refer to in a local hostelry with some American Marines. W.Silvey, Prestatyn

VCs above reproach

WAS delighted to read Commodore Leonard's letter in the November issue concerning the grave of Edward St John Daniel, VC - and to learn that, as belits a naval hero, it now receives regular maintenance and bears an appropriate inscription.

The Commodore also raises an interesting point concerning Daniel's restoration to the VC Register following the forfeiture of his medal in 1861.

Daniel was the first (and only maval VC) of eight who were struck

off during the period 1856-1919. The original Royal Warrant dated 29 January 1856 outlines the conditions for the award and clearly states that "crassire from the Register would follow any conviction for treason, cowardice, felony or infamous crime." Daniel's desertion in 1861 following a number of serious offences easily satisfied these exacting requirements! There is another clause stating

that the monarch of the day "shall at all times have power to restore such persons as may at any time have been expelled.

Obviously Oucen Victoria did pot feel inclined to invoke this option, but George V had contrasting views on the subject. In 1920 he made his position crystal clear in a letter written by his Private Secretary which reads: "The King feels so strongly that, no matter the crime committed by anyone on whom the VC has been conferred. the decoration should not be forfeited.

"Even were a VC to be sen tenced to be hanged for murder, he should be allowed to wear his VC on the scaffold.

This announcement was deemed sufficient authority to restore to the VC Register all who had previously been erased and subsequent ly no-one has suffered forfe tine of the medal. - CPO R.K.Bradley. Armed Forces Careers Office



Letters

DEVON and Cornwall Constabulary is currently researching the history of its former officers who have won orders, decorations, medals and other honours going back as far as the Great War

We are reasonably confident that the information we have gathered so far is almost complete, but

there is one mystery causing us some difficulty. During a search of material held in our Force museum, we unearthed a Distinguished Service Cross still in its original box but with no information as to who the recipient might have been.

All we know is that it was awarded in 1940. We presume that it belonged to a former officer of one of the four police forces in Devon and Cornwall in the 1940s - Plymouth City,

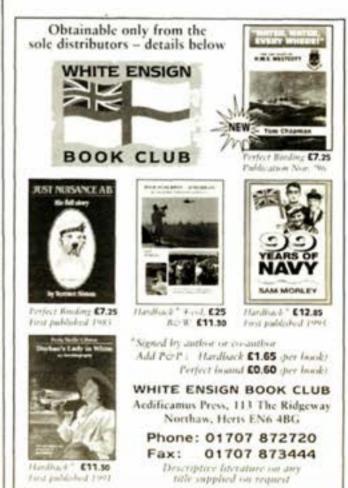
forces in Devon and Cornwall in the 1940s – Plymouth City, Exeter City, Devon County or Cornwall County. We further suspect that the holder is now deceased and that it was presented to the Force by a relative. The holder could have been in the RN before the war and was called up as a reservist in 1939 or he may have joined the Force after 1945. It is unlikely that he joined the RN from the Police Service in the early days of the war as it was a reserved occupation until after 1940 and he could not have been among the later call-ups. I wonder if any of your readers can remember serving with someone who won the DSC and who later joined the police in one of the forces mentioned or who rejoined the RN from the police in the early days of the war?

RN from the police in the early days of the war? If anyone can help, Sgt Roger Campion is heading the special project office on 01392 452820. – Chief Supt D.Webb, Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, Exeter.

Busy time for MacDentist?

I WAS absolutely astouinded by the news of the opening of a branch of MacDonalds in Devonport Dockvard, Did the Commodore, whose brainchild this apparently was, not take advice on this matter from the Dentid and Medical Branches? Did he not know that sugary junk food is bad for leeth"

I cannot believe that the hard work by dental officers and hygienists in trying to prevent dental disease is taken so lightly. The wonderful new mobile dental clinic, pictured in the same issue, in the same dockyard, is likely to become a very busy place indeed. - A.Roele, ex-Surg L1 Cdr. Ludiow



Artist who launched the 'man who never was'

SINCE your printing of my letter regarding the silhouette car-toons drawn by A.M.Hughes (October edition) I have had numer-ous enquirles for information on the cartoonist himself.

Sierra Leone and Palestine. In 1936, as a lieutenant commander on the retired list, he became assistant port surveyor to the Rangoon Port Commissioners.

Cdr Hughes was a hydrographer who before the war carried out survey work in the Caribbean, Borneo, Hong Kong, Singapore,



On the outbreak of war he joined the Naval Control Service at Rangoon and in 1940 came home to command the minesweeper HMS Corfield, engaged in magnetic mine sweeping in the Thames estuary.

From 1941-45 he served as a commander, still on the retired list, attached to the Interservices Topographical Division, first at Oxford and then from 1944 in South East Asia Command at Delhi and Kandy

One of his tasks at Oxford was to work out the tides off Huelva in south west Spain for the dumping of the body of 'the man who never was' (see page 9)

After the war Hughes mostly worked for the Port Emergency Planning Staff at the Ministry of Transport, from which he retired in 1965.

He had a bent for natural history and made several collections for the Natural History Museum and the Hospital for Tropical Diseases. He coupled this with considerable artistic ability, illustrating several books on birds as well as painting his celebrated series of naval cartoons, many reproduced and sold by Gieves Ltd.

With Navy News' help in selling his silhouettes I have so far been able to send £400 to the RNBT. - R.C. Ribbins, Fareham. Detail from 'Defaulters' by A.M.Hughes

ZN

Get Wise on DCIs



New trophy for inputs to fighting instructions

BRITISH Aerospace are offering a new annual award for the best contribution to the Royal Navy's Fighting Instructions.

The BAe Maritime Warfare Trophy will take the form of an engraved ship's decamer and will be awarded by the head of the company's operational analysis department and by the Director of the Naty's Maritime Warfare Centre at HMS Dryad.

Engluing Instructions is in two volumes, the first of which lays down tactical principles. The second – to which ranting contributions are made by statis ashore and afloat – deals with topics for discussion and the results of operational experience.

ational experience. The first award will be announced in April. DCI RN 177/96

Video list on offer

A NEW catalogue of andio-visual tapes and equipment for presentation and training has been produced by the Ministry of Defence. The MOD Information and

The MOD Information and Communications Service Catalogue lists available video equipment, video cassettes, IT presentational equipment, presentational aids and accessories, and sound systems.

Issue of the Li00 copies is controlled by ICS(SP5), Cayta, DGICS, Mineria House, Swindon (tel 5074 Mil or 01793 555074), DCI GEN 253/96

School of recruiting

DIRECTOR Naval Recruiting Training School has moved from HMS Collingwood in Hampshire to Bovington, Dorset, Under the new name of the Royal Naval School of Recruiting, it has been collocated with the Arms School of Recruiting. DCI GEN 265



'I know your right to maternity leave depends on you telling me as soon as you know you're pregnant, Leading Wren, but couldn't it wait till daybreak?"

WEU medal is latest for Bosnia

SERVICE PERSONNEL who have taken part in Western European Union operations in and around former Yugoslavia are eligible for a new medal.

The WEU Mission Service Medal with clasp Tomer Tigoslavia 1992 has been approved by the Oscen for wearing by UK Service personnel.

However, personnel who have the UNPROFOR Medal, the UN Special Service Medal or the NATO Medal are not cligible for the new medal for the same period of service.

To qualify for the WEU award, personnel must have spent 30 days continuous or accumulated service in the theatre of WEU operations in former Yugoslavia or the Adviatic from July 22, 1992. Alternatively, they must have spent 90 days' service in the area of operations outside the immediate theatre from July 1, 1992.

Those cligible are personnel serving under WEU authority in HO Danube Mission, HO NAV-SOUTH and in direct support of WEU operations in former Yegensuria. They are also eligible through service in other installations within the area, and in direct support of WEU operations as designated by the Secretary General. DCI GEN 280-1/96

Weapon

tiffs in



THE ARMED FORCES have published the arrangements under which Service women who become pregnant may choose to continue their careers.

Under the regulations, pregnant Service women may elect retirement or discharge, or to stay on and take a maximum of 34 weeks' leave under the Armed Forces occupational maternity arrangements. The arrangements (OMA) are in addition to the 14 weeks statutory maternity leave to which a woman is entitled whether or not she intends to return to Service.

Service women who choose to leave when they become pregnant are not entitled to full pay during inaternity leave, although those who stay on, and who have served for at least a year, will continue to receive all forms of pay and additional pay plus allowances. From April, a minimum of fear weeks' return to work is required to qualify for receipt of full pay during maternity leave.

DSS payment

Whether they elect to leave or not, women may be entitled to statutory maternity jus from their Service, or maternity allowance from the Department of Social Security Benefity Agency, However, both will be offset against any salary received while on leave on full pay. A Service woman who is not

A Service woman who is not entitled to maternity pay or allowance may be able to claim DSS income support or family credit.

The right to maternity leave and OMA depends on a woman

informing her commanding officer as soon as she knows she is pregnant - and she must state whether she intends to leave or stay. She can, however, change her plans at a later time.

This regular feature gives general information about new Defence Council Instructions affecting conditions of service. If they apply to you, study the full, original text.

She is entitled to reasonable time off, with pay, to keep appointments for ante-natal care. If, before her intended day for finishing work, she is shown to be no longer capable of carrying out her duties, or if continued work would be a contravention of health and safety legislation, she may take leave with full pay if a suitable alternative job cannot be found for ber.

The arrangements state that: "A Service warran is not to be overlooked for promotion because she is pregnant or has recently given birth. Similarly, she should not be selected for redandancy on the grounds of her pregnancy alone." In line with normal practice, the Navy will try to meet a woman's drafting preference on return to duty, but a drafting preference form should be completed at the time the pregnancy is declared.

The Services are pledging to employ those returning on no less favourable terms than if the pregnancy had not occurred.

Single mothers

However, a Service woman who returns after having a baby isresponsible for making arrangements for its care and for meeting the costs involved. If problems with child care arrangements result in her or her Service husband being unable to meet their Forces commitments, either of them may be retined or discharged.

An unmarried woman who becomes pregnant and wishes to stay in the service is entitled to lamiby accommodation from three months before her baby is expected. Unmarried expectant mothers who opt for discharge or retirement have a right to public single accommodation until they leave. DCI JS 114

Navy nurseries blossom – pages 14-15.

good books WEAPON engineer artificers are to be issued with a new record book designed to build

are to be issued with a new record book designed to build a more comprehensive profile of a rating's professional and personal development.

The Professional Development Record (PDR) will be issued in the form of a ring binder with sections for personal details, training record, employment record and personal documents which could record community activities.

The move follows the success of a pilot scheme in which PDRs were issued two years ago to WEAs leaving HMS Collingwood. The record will now be issued to all branch ratings when they complete sea training.

The Navy recognises that most large employers keep the skills and knowledge of their engineers and technicians up to date and in a state of continuing professional development.

Although many of the achievements of RN artificers are recorded in divisional documents, significant details of some courses may have been omitted. That often leaves tatings unable to give enough evidence of responsibility, experience, training and development when applying for membership of professional institutes or for accreditation of prior learning for National Vocational Qualifications. The PDR has been designed to overcome that problem. DCI RN 175/96

WELCOME ASHORE!

The Royal Alfred was established in 1865 to alleviate distress among seafarers, both serving and retired, and their widows.

Today, the Society provides full nursing care, as well as residential and sheltered accommodation, at establishments in rural Surrey and in Eastbourne. Convalescent and respite care is also available.

For further information, including the availability of accommodation, please contact the General Secretary.

Princess meets Naval staff at Haslar

PRINCESS Margaret made a point of meeting the staff of all three Services when she visited the Royal Hospitai nasiar In ner capacity as Colonel-in-Chief of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps. Here, she is with (I-r) Surgeon Cdr Chris Cahill, Senior Medical Officer of the Accident and Emergency Department; Brig Guy Ratcliffe, Commanding Officer of the hospital; Lt Nick Howes purseincharge of the accinurse-in-charge of the acci-dent department; PONN Amanda Anderson; and MA Paul Coleman. Haslar was renamed the Royal Hospital in April when it became the principal tri-Service medical establish-ment. Princess Margaret arrived by a helicopter of the Royal Squadron, landing at HMS Dolphin.

Royal Alfred SEAFARERS' SOCIETY EN JUSS Weston Acros. Wandmansform: Lane, Ramsford Survey SMT 11-18 Bel 01717 (52):01. Roy, Change 201776

We rely heavily upon donations and legacies to achieve our charitable objects. Please help us now with your gift, and remember the Society in your Will.



The ship that had two captains and the body with two names Deception still a mystery

THE ROYAL Navy officer who played a part in the tale of the Man Who Never Was believes the mystery has not yet been solved.

Captain Norman Limbury Auckinleck Jewell - then a lieutenant - was commanding officer of HM Submarine Scraph when one of the most effective wartime deceptions was launched, codenamed Operation Mincemeat.

Intelligence experts were seeking a way of putting Germany off guard as plans were made for Allied landings in Sicily

They decided to put a body into the sea carrying "secret" Allied plans, hoping the information would quickly get back to the Germans.

A suitable "drowned man" had to be found and an identity created to reassure the enemy they had been dealt a genuine piece of good luck.

A body was chosen, and the unnamed man in his mid-30s became Royal Marines Captain (Temporary Major) William Martin, and apart from military identification, some well-thumbed love letters, ghostwritten by an MI5 clerk, and a photo of his "funcee" were placed in his pockets, along with theatre tickets, and letters from his father, his bank manager, and a solicitor

The body was packed in dry see in a canister, and shipped up to Scotland for a rendezvous with the Seraph. The submarine released the body into the sea off Huelva, near

Gibraltar, carly on April 30, 1943. Chained to the wrist was a briefcase containing ficticious plans for

Allied invasions. The crucial document refused a request for a decoy attack on Sicily for the Greek invasion as it was already decoy for Operation Brintstone.

Spanish fishermen spotted the "drowned man" some hours later, the papers were seen by the Germans then passed back to London by the Spanish.

Monitored German Enigma signals confirmed that the papers had been deemed genuine, and "Mincemeat had been swallowed."

Rat poison

As a consequence, German troops moved from Sicily to Sardinia - and many thousands of lives were proba-bly saved in the landings of July 10.

Now, following 16 years of research, London town planner Roger Morgan believes the Man Who Never Was to be Glyndwr Michael, a labourer who killed himself with rat poison in January 1943. and who is still officially Major Martin RM in the Huelva cemetery.

But the theory has its detractors -not least the man who actually placed the body in the sea

Captain Jewell is modest about the role played by his command - and the other tasks the 865-ton boat undertook.

"I think the reason they chose me was because I had already been in the Med," said Captain Jewell (83), who lives in Hampshire,

"We were not doing anything particularly different from any other submarine.

Captain Jewell was with Scraph in Scotland for a brief work-up period when he was summonsed to London. "I met some members of the Twenty Committee because they needed me to know what was happening," he said.

"I was the only one to know until just before the body was put into the water - I couldn't have done that by myself.

"Up until then the crew were told there was a weather buoy in the canister.

'I don't believe the claims about the body's identity - he says the man they chose killed himself with poison. but no one with any sense would use body in which poison could be found.

"It had to look like he had drowned. The people who were thinking these things out weren't fools - people like Sir Bernard Spildbury would only have advised that it should be someone who perhaps died of pneumonia, so that the lungs could be washed out with salt

water to make it seem genuine. "From all the evidence in the press recently it sounds most unlikely he was the man that has been named. Letters - Page 7

SERAPH



 Seraph returns to Fort Blockhouse in December 1943 after patrolling the Mediterranean. Photograph courtery RN Sul

Officer honoured by three nations

CAPTAIN Jewell says he has happy memories of his time in Seraph - but is quick to point out that there were many other submarines carrying out similar tasks.

"Quite a lot of us from Scraph are still around - but we were just the same as any other submarine. Most others had similar jobs to do.

Nevertheless, General Patton praised the conduct of the submarine and her crew, and Lt Jewell, already holder of the British Distinguished Service Cross, sub-

sequently received the Legion of Merit, America's highest honour for a foreigner. as well as French Chevalier of the Legion of Honour and the Croix de Guerre.

"At the end of the war I spent a couple of months driving T-boats to be laid up around the country, then I became cap-tain of a submarine flotilla in Scotland." he said.

Posts as European Chief of Staff for Flag Officer Eastern Atlantic and Director of the Staff College followed before Captain Jewell retired,

Seraph at Fort Blockhouse, Christmas Day 1943, with Ferdinand the Bull painted on the bridge. Officers (left to right) are: Lt F Harris, RNVR, Lt N. Jewell, CO, Warrant Eng M. Stevenson, and Lt W. Scott, First Lieutenant.



HM SUBMARINE Scraph had a long, varied and successful career with the Royal Navy - and the United States Navy,

She finished the task she had started in Operation Mincement by being one of three beacon submarines to guide Allied troops in for the Sicily landings in 1943.

She also landed and recove

enemy ships around Corsica and in the Aegean She finished her active war role

in 1944, by which time Captain Jewell had moved on. The submarine, built by Vickers

Armstrong at Barrow and launched in late 1941, was converted into a high-speed target subma-

rine



h the leading

US General Mark W. Clark and a team which held secret meetings with French leaders near Algiers prior to the Allied landings on the coast of North Africa, in 1942.

Secret mission

She once sailed as the USS Seraph when nominal command of the Scraph passed to US Captain Jerauld Wright in February 1943,

On another occasion the submarine, which had a complement of just under 50, was involved in a secret mission to land arms and sabotage equipment near Genoa.

In addition to her "clouk-anddagger" operations, Seraph manto fit in standard uged Mediterranean patrols, sinking

Disarmed and streamlined Scraph helped with anti-submarine training for escorts during and after the war, continuing in service until December, 1965, when she was scrapped.

But even then she was not forgotten.

Seraph's fore hatch, steering and plane wheels, ship's bell and badge, and her periscope are incorporated into a memorial in the grounds of the Citadel, Charleston, South Carolina - the only memorial specifically dedicated to a foreign warship in the continental USA, and the only place in the world where the White Ensign is hoisted daily on foreign soil to the honours of a foreign military guard and bund.

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Helping Hands

wealth

NAVAL and civilian charities are still reaping rewards from all the hard work put into HMS Sultan's Summer Show.

The event raised a record-breaking amount and the proceeds are still being distributed to worthwhile causes.

Representatives from King George's Fund for Sailors and the SSAFA visited the establishment recently to receive the largest donations so far.

Sultan's Commodore Malcolm Shirley presented a cheque for £5,000 to Capt Chris Walker of KGFS while establishment's XO the Cdr David Pond, handed over £2,000 to Capt Alex Wale for SSAFA.

Local support

Other charities in the South which have benifitted from Sultan's summer success include the RNLI, Gosport and Fareham Inshore Rescue Service, Gosport Accommodation Centre, Felicia Animals Park, youth football teams, and local youth clubs.

And staff at Gosport Victim Support Scheme, who have helped 1,300 victims of crime since the service was launched in January, were able to pur-chase essential office equipment with help from Sultan's charity fund.

Sultan £50,000 beat that!

THE SAILOR'S Fund is £50,000 better off after a huge donation from the proceeds of last summer's Beating Retreat in Horse Guards Parade.

The most successful Beat Retreat ceremony ever held, the performance by the massed bands of the Royal Marines was a virtual sell-out which raised more than £120,000 for charity.

The event, which marked the 75th birthday of Captain General of the Corps, the Duke of Edinburgh, raised more than dou hic the proceeds from the last Beat Retreat in London in 1991.

Secretary of the Sailors' Fund, Cdr Keith Harris, said: "This sub-stantial donation will be used to

Day trip to Pompey full of variety

SECOND Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Michael Boyce, brought history alive for 30 under-privileged youngsters when they visited HMS Victory.

The children were given a tour of the ship and learned about the traditional wreath-laying ceremo-ny at the spot were Lord Nelson fell during the Battle of Trafalgar.

Later, they enjoyed a boat trip around Portsmouth harbour and visited the Submarine Museum at Gosport. The Royal Navy hosted the visitors on behalf of the Variety Club of Great Britain.

improve sporting facilities throughout the Navy for all sailors. Allocation

"The money will be allocated to specific projects at the next meet-ing of the Sailors' Fund Grants umittee later this month.

A cheque for £\$0,000 was pre-sented by Royal Marines Musician Stephanic Pryer from the Royal Marines School of Music to Commodore Bob Turner, Director Naval Service Conditions, Cdr Harris and the Assistant Sailors' Fund Secretary Miss Rosemary Verran.



Admiral Sir Michael Boyce shows Victory's visitors the spot where Admiral Nelson fell during the battle of Tratelgar.



 HMS Drake's PTI team with their passenger Mrs Ursula Burch. wile of the Naval Base Commander

Guzz fund raisers get carried away

THREE Naval teams from Devonport Naval Base took part in a gruelling sedan chair race around Plymouth Hoe to raise cash for St Luke's Hospital.

Teams representing the PTI department, Captain Fleet Maintenance and the Second Submarine Squadron and their pas-sengers battled against 11 other teams in the event and came 3rd, 4th and 6th respectively.

Eastern inspiration

Sedan chair racing originated in Hong Kong and has raised more than £1 million for charity in the last 21 years. And history books show that in the 18th Century the sedan chair

vas a popular mode of transport in Plymouth, with customers being charged 6d for short distance rides.

Organisers hope that the fun event will be become an estab-lished fixture in Plymouth's fund raising calendar.

Survey ship aids poor and needy in SW India

HMS HECLA donated hundreds of items of second-hand clothing and £500 in cash to destitute people in Cochin, SW India, towards the end of her last deployment.

The ship spent four days in port and put into action an ambitious aid programme arranged by Hydrographic Squadron Chaplain, the Revd Simon Stevens, who joined the ship in Dubai.

Hecla played host to 38 children from Cochin's orphanage in a memorably boisterous cake and jelly party in the junior rates mess hall with members of the ship's company, including her Executive Officer, Lt Cdr Richard Labone, dressed up as swashbuckling pirates.

On the final day of the visit, the Chaplain led a 15-strong working party ashore to redecorate the local children's hospice, which provides ter-minal care to both physically and mentally hand-icapped children.

Moving

Under the watchful eye of the hospice's Sister Rity, the children and their beds were carefully carried from their dormitory before it was given a much-needed spring clean and a coat of paint.

The project was particularly moving and the illors finished off the work with a white ensign sailors and a Hecia crest.





0 0

'Ien sailors from the Navy's newest frigate HMS Somerset marched 160 miles from Taunton to Plymouth to top up the ship's charity chest.

The route took them over the Quantock Hills the South West Coast Path and along the entire length of the Two Moors Way, crossing Exmoor and Dartmoor,

The team averaged 20 miles a day and raised over £500 for chatities in the ship's home county.

1 CI -- CA

The RN Motorcycle Team have set off on this year's round-Britain ride to raise cash for the BBC's Children in

Need Appeal. The team chose HMS Victory as the starting point for their epic journey and were sent on their way by Portsmouth Naval Base Commander, Commodore Ian inderson.

a - 0 801 Squadron members from HMS Illustrious took just four days to cycle 300 miles from Boston to New York during Exercise Purple Star and raised £750 for charity. The money was presented to the neo-natal unit at Musgrove Hospital, Taunton. 0 0





 All smiles: 38 Cochin orphans had a wonderful time when HMS Hecla invited them to a party in the junior rates mess hall. They are pictured here with Hecla's XO, Lt Cdr Richard Labone.

During HMS Berkeley's visit to Portree on the Isle of Skye, five sailors put their backs into a project to clear the coastal footpath. Local children involved in the environmental project, known as the Grizzly Challenge, greatly appreciated the extra hands.

Stubborn streak of Sea Hawk

THE RN Historic Flight's plans to show off their newly restored 1954 Sca Hawk jet fighter with a spectacular air display were shot down when all efforts to start her engine failed.

Minutes after RNAS Yeovilton's Commodore Scott Lidbetter officially received the aircraft from British Aerospace, pilot Lt Cdr Dave Baddams was climbing back out of the cockpit while technicians disappeared under the aircraft's engine cowlings. The Sea Hawk's antiquated car-

tridge firing system was the prime suspect and the display was post-poned, but the event did succeed in bringing together dozens of aviation experts who had worked on the project and many former Sea

Hawk pilots. And the sight of Sea Hawk FGA6 in 806 Squadron's 'Ace of Diamonds' livery brought back many memories, especially for for-mer lieutenant Richard Sheridan who piloted the aircraft on Far East carrier HMS Albion in 1960.

"The Sea Hawk was very easy to fly, it was a good gun platform and good in the ground attack role. It was easy to deck land too. The approach speed was 110 knots and you had a nice view out of the cockpit.

Sea Hawks played a key role during the Suez crisis of 1956 where they pressed home ground attacks against Egyptian shore tur-gets in the face of heavy ground

fire. They were the first really suc-cessful jet aircraft to enter service with the FAA and well over 500

were manufactured. RN Historic Flight Manager Mr Bryan Wood said that many technical difficulties had been over-come with the help of British Aerospace and Rolls Royce to get

the Sea Hawk airborne again. The engine itself was sent to Canada to be overhauled, and the reassembly of the ejection seat and production of new cockpit seals

were particularly problematic. Mr Wood said: "There were 63 modifications in all, mostly to update the electronics. Sadly, one of the things we would liked to have had was an electric start. If we had that we wouldn't be having

this particular problem today!" As a gesture of thanks for British Aerospace's work on the project, Harrier prototype P1127 has been transferred from the FAA Museum to BAe Dunsfold where the late Bill Bedford conducted pioneering trials.

TURNING IN HIS GRAVE?

CONTROVERSY once again attended this year's Trafalgar Day commemorations as a Nelson enthusiast started a campaign to move the hero's remains from St Paul's Cathedral to Burnham Thorpe.

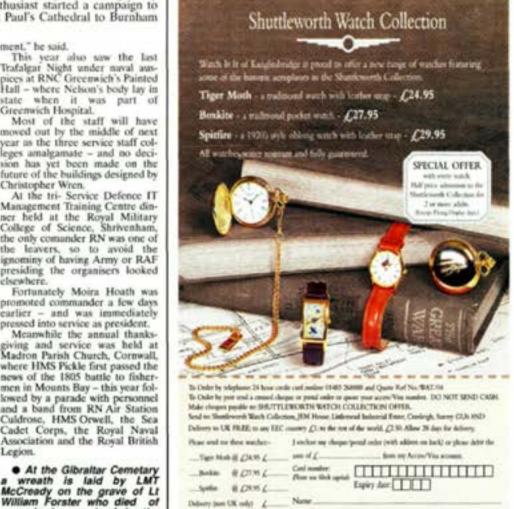
The plan by Alec Hood, former landlord of the Lord Nelson pub in the Norfolk hamlet where Nelson was born, was roundly condemned by RN Museum chief curator by RN Mu Colin White.

He pointed out that in his will Nelson said he wished to be buried at Burnham Thorpe - unless the King had other plans. "Nelson loved bonour and glory

more than Bornham Thorpe and he would have been more than happy with the present arrange-

Christopher Wren. At the tri- Service Defence IT Management Training Centre din-ner held at the Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham, the only comander RN was one of the leavers, so to avoid the ignominy of having Army or RAF residing the organisers looked elsewhere. Fortunately Moira Hoath was promoted commander a few days earlier - and was immediately pressed into service as president. Meanwhile the annual thanksiving and service was held at Madron Parish Church, Cornwall, where HMS Pickle first passed the news of the 1805 battle to fishermen in Mounts Bay - this year fol-lowed by a parade with personnel and a band from RN Air Station

> Cadet Corps, the Royal Naval Association and the Royal British Legion. At the Gibraltar Cemetary a wreath is laid by LMT McCready on the grave of Lt William Forster who died of wounds he received in the Battle of Trafalgar aboard HMS Colossus. WRO1 Lawton looks
> Colossus.



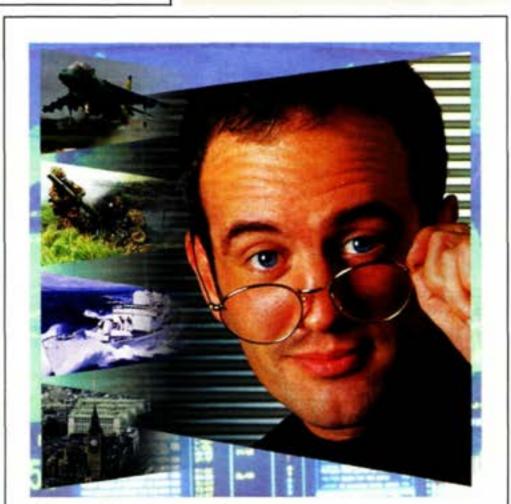
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Beauty and the Brocklesby

FOURTH of the Hunt Class mine countermeasures vessels HMS Brocklesby was rededicated at Rosyth at the end of a 10 month refit.

Special guest was Lord Yarborough, Master of the Brocklesby Hunt – and Lady Yarborough, seen here with the ship's CO Lt Cdr Christopher Thomas and OM(MW) Fox, youngest member of the ship's com-pany, at the cake cutting ceremony.

The first ship to rededicate in what has now become Rosyth Royal Dockyard, HMS Brocklesby joins the On Call force at the beginning of next year.

Picture: HMS Neptune Photographic Section



ment," he said.

This year also saw the last Trafalgar Night under naval avepices at RNC Greenwich's Painted Hall - where Nelson's body lay in state when it was part of Greenwich Hospital. Most of the staff will have

moved out by the middle of next year as the three service staff colleges amalgamate - and no deci-sion has yet been made on the future of the buildings designed by

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12 NAVY NEWS, DECEMBER 1996

NATO's are in

Carrier power harnessed in Mediterranean exercise

While STANAVFORLANT has been looking north to exercise, and the ships of the STANAVFORCHAN are working their way cast, down south in the Mediterranean another force has been testing its mettle.

Nine nations provided 30 ships and submarines for Exercise Dynamic Mix 96, a two-week NATO programme which included elements of the Standing Naval Force Mediterranean.

HM Ships Nottingham and Sheffield exercised alongside ships from Turkey, Greece, France, Italy, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain and the USA, while Vice Admiral John Brigstocke, Flag Officer Surface Flotilla, embarked his Battle Staff in HMS Invincible for the UKled task force.

The 40-atrong team used the carrier as a command platform, running an international task force of 14 ships. RFAs Fort Austin and Oakleaf, and the

RFAs Fort Austin and Oakleaf, and the Netherlands' new HNLMS Amsterdam, provided support.

Carriers

For the first time in years, three European carriers were in harness, coordinated by Invincible, to demonstrate the combined strength of European carrier

Invincible, Principe de Asturias of Spain – recently seen in Portsmouth – and Italy's Garibaldi, met in Palma and sailed for combined training, including air patrols, cross-deck, exchanges and mixed fighter forces.

Invincible's FA2 Sea Harriers also had the opportunity to conduct the first in-service release of the new \$40th bomb on the Telada range in Southern Italy.

Dynamic Mix featured some 17 engagements with the enemy in a week – the enemy in this case being French, Italian and US destroyers and frigates, usually spotted by Invincible's 849 Sqn Sea King helicopters or shore-based maritime patrol aircraft. Teses, Harpoon and Exocet missiles were launched from aircraft, surface craft and submarines, and 800 Sqn's FA2 Sea Harriers conducted long-range Sea Eagle missile attacks.

One unusual feature was the appearance of Italian hydrofoil fast patrol boats, which succumbed to USS Bradley's Sea Hawk helicopter and Sea Skua missiles dispatched by Sheffield and Nottingham's Lynx helicopters.

Another feature was the operation of nuclear submarine USS Grayling in direct support from the flagship, countering both enemy submarines and surface ships using torpedoes and sub-harpoon missiles.

The only ship actually owned by NATO Research Vessel Alliance - provided technical support in spotting submarines with one of the first tactical uses of Low Frequency Active sonar, and Sheffield and Grayling chipped in with passive Towed Arrays, while Fort Austin provided a forward operating plotform for 814 Sqn to attack discovered submarines.

814 Sqn clocked up more than 200 hours in anti-submarine sorties during the exercise, and Alliance achieved her best-ever detections.

Admiral Brigstocke said: "The exercise was a great success and co-operation between the three European STOVL carriers was first-class.

"Escellent training was achieved by all participants, and by my Battle Staff." See King helicopters from 814 Spn embarked in HMS Invincible launch for dawn probes during Exercise Dynamic Mix.

• Command ship HMS Cambeltown, a Type-22 frigate, seen through the hawsepipe of Canadian frigate HMCS Halifax during Exercise Co-operative Venture 96. STANAVFORLANT starburst – warships scatter in te blue waters of the Caribbean, where the force has been involved in anti-narcotics operation and exercises.





standing forces perpetual motion

THE OPENING of a new NATO headquarters at Northwood has set the seal on the first phase of a radical shift in the focus of the alliance – and it reinforces the Royal Navy's position at the cutting edge of multi-national forces.

Atlantic Building, housing 224 men and women from 11 countries, is a direct result of NATO restructuring after the end of the Cold War, and will play a substantial role in the maintenance of transatlantic ties.

Admiral Sir Peter Abbott, the Commanderin-Chief Fleet, also heads the new NATO HQ with the dual role of Commander-in-Chief Eastern Atlantic (CINCEASTLANT) and Commander Naval Forces North Western Europe (COMNAVNW), making Northwood ideally suited to conduct maritime operations in both open ocean and coastal waters.

Northwood NATO maritime HQ is responsible for two of NATO's three standing naval forces – and both are currently under British command.

The Standing Naval Force Channel (STANAVFORCHAN) comprises between six and ten mine warfare ships, under Cdr Colin Welborn on board Hunt-class mine-

hunter HMS Bicester. This force, recently exercising off the Danish coast, is NATO's immediate reaction force when the alliance has to deal with the threat of mines.

STANAVFORLANT is the Standing Naval Force Atlantic, consisting of between five and ten frigates and destroyers, and it is currently under the command of Commodore Andrew Gough, who flics his flag on Type-22 frigate HMS Campbeltown. The group is Supreme Allied

The group is Supreme Allied Command Atlantic (SACLANT's) immediate reaction force in the Atlantic, and has been working hard in recent months.

Ships of STANAVFORLANT, including Campbeltown, have taken part in Operation Sharp Guard, enforcing the arms embargo against the former Yugoslavia in the Adriatic, and on the lifting of that measure the force headed for more familiar waters.

Since the spring, STANAVFOR-LANT has helped with anti-narcotic operations in the Caribbean, and has participated in large exercises with Latin American navies.

Theories

The two standing forces have had to adapt to major strategy changes, and these maritime theories were put into practice during Exercise Northern Lights 96 off locland and the West coast of Scotland.

The exercise, reported in last month's Navy News, was a major test of NATO's ability to deal with a crisis at sea involving NATO allies, and to test the new Combined Joint Task Force concept at sea - sonte 50 warships, including the carrier HMS Invincible, and more than 100 NATO aircraft took part.

Northwood's unique position – falling usder both major NATO commands in both Europe and the USA – makes it the natural focus for maritime activities of the Partnership for Peace (PfP) programme, initiated in 1994 to transform the relationship between NATO nations and Partners, many former Warsaw Pact alliance members.

mer Warsaw Pact alliance members. PfP allows former 'opponents' to work for a common purpose in areas such as peacekeeping operations and humanitarian relief.

Ships of the STANAVFORLANT force have recently completed Esercise Co-operative Venture 96, the largest and most ambitious PIP maritime operation to date, involving 26 ships from 11 NATO and PIP countries, including Poland, Latvia and Lithuania.

Meanwhile the STANAVFORCHAN ships have visited Estonia, and are due to visit Sweden and Finland before the year is out.

 Ships from STANAVFORLANT and PIP during Exercise Cooperative Venture 96, the lost ambitious of its type to date.





 HMS Invincible (right), ITS Garibaldi and SPS Principe de Asturias meet up in Palma before Dynamic Mix, the first NATO exercise in recent years to involve three European carriers.

 Hits invincible relivels from the new 17.040-ton Dutch fast combat supply ship HNLMS Amsterdam during Exercise Dynamic Mix. The Dutch ship was commissioned just over a year and

Bridging the nations - Captain Adrian Johns, Commanding Oficer of HMS campbeltown, passes under the Rialto Bridge on official call during the ship's visit to Venice.



Getting set fo A BABY IGH-QUALITY nurseries are rapidly become

an important feature of RN establishment as Naval bosses respond to a growing need for full-time day care for the children of Service men and women.

During the past two years full-time nurseries have started up at RN air stations Culdrose and Yeovilton, HMS Drake, HMS Collingwood and HMS Sultan, with HMS Nelson at Portsmouth likely to follow suit 5008

At Northwood, the wives of the Help, Information and Volunteer Exchange are contemplating start-ing a full-time nursery but are hampered by the establishment's accommodation shortage. And plans for some form of child care are under discussion at HMS Excellent.

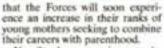
"Child care is not something usually associated with MOD,⁶ says the Ministry of Defence in the second paragraph of Childcare - a Guide, a solid, 124-page document drawn up by MOD to set would-be founders of nurseries, playgroups and creches on the right lines.

Two pages for Families

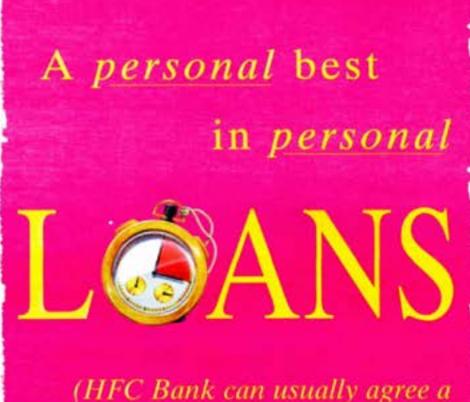
Playgroups and creches – usually sited on married quarters estates – have long been a feature of Service life. But full-time care, five days a week within Naval establishments is a relatively new concept.

Many Service care workers feel that changes inside - and outside the Navy have fuelled the trend. They see as contributory factors the policy of sending women to sea and the more recent ruling that members of the Armed Forces who give birth need not leave. The growth of single parent families also has an impact inside as well as outside the Services.

It is too early to establish whether a Service "baby boom" is under way, but what is certain is



Yeovilton's nursery is up to its capacity of 30 children with a waiting list of 40 - "and those are most-ly babies due to be born," said the manager there. Mrs Hedda Norris At Culdrose a third of the 30 chil-dren in the Helitots nursery are the babies of Naval women who opted to stay on after pregnancy.



Personal Loan in just 15 minutes*.)

Underpinning all this is the MOD's encouragement of child care facilities in keeping with its stated commitment to equal opportunities

"Child care is part of the MOD's general approach to more flexible working patterns," said a spokesperson. "Government policy is to encourage the provision of child care at the workplace, and an increasing number of employers and government departments are setting up child care facilities."

Registration

Certain standards are laid down by the Ministry which has decided that all child care facilities under its auspices must be registered by local authorities. Although regis tration is something from which the Ministry is exempt, there are distinct advantages in "signing up".

Most obvious is that the partner-ship with local authorities helps to maintain recognised standards. But there is another reason: parents may otherwise be taxed on benefits they receive through subsidised child care.

On the mechanics of setting up facilities, the lead from the top is given mainly in the form of advice and options.

"It is very much a needs-led issue as far as MOD is concerned,"

Playgroup directory THIS directory of playgroups and

creches is not exhaustive, but it will provide some guidance to parents on location, hours and cost of facilities in their area. WESTERN AREA

WESTERN AREA Under Filves Co-ordinator: Trish Whitelay, Hei 01752 782521. Explit pre-school centres serve the PLYMOUTH area, each sharping C2.35 per version, with C2.15 for a second child of the family and robbing for a third. A retainer fee of \$1.56 is charged for notified absences. The locations and opening tense are: Chaddlewood, 0815 and 1220-1515. Crownhill, Eggbuckland, Thevorder and St Budewux, all 0915-1200. Lains, 0900-1145. Radford, 0915-1200 and, except Friday, 1216-1500.

Radioro 1215-1500

Tamerton 0000-1145

TWO YEARS ago the Navy's first all-day nursery opened at Culdrose and since then more establishments have followed suit. In this special feature ANTON HANNEY examines the reasons behind the blossoming of the Naval nurseries and why costs to parents seem to vary so widely ...



said Capt Dick Lake, Assistant Director Naval Personal and Family Service. "It is up to individ-uals, groups and establishments rather than the government to pro-vide facilities. It is inappropriate that the Navy organise child care centrally." centrally.

Charges

The result, at least in the case of full-time nurseries, has been a wide variation in how to do it and what to charge. While assessing the tick-lish problem of fees for what in all cases is high-cost care, establish-ments bent on starting a nursery face the possibility of criticism and disappointment being expressed by parents who may expect their service to provide quality facilities that will cost them significantly less than those outside.

"Each establishment is able to make its own deci-sions on parental contribu-tions," says MOD.

"This means that, in theory, a child care scheme could be free to users or that full charges could be evied to cover the costs. In practice, something in between is more desirable.

In the view of the Ministry, establishments need to take account of the local "going rate",

Some of the Helitots Culdrose take a turn at the ball pool, one of the facilities donated by the Nutfield Trust donated by the Nutleid Trust to the air station's nursery. With the children are (I-r) Janice Thirlaway, Lt Cdr lan Stobie, Lt Richard Whalley (nursery business man-ager),Penny Thornewill (wife of the station's CO), and Penny Powell. The children are (I-r) James McDonald, Liam Rooks. James McDonald, Liam Rooks, Thomas Cooper and Charlotte Roberts.

the cost of the scheme, the sum suggested by any parental survey, and salary levels.

A Navy News survey found that costs for full-time care, five days a week, in an establishment nursery ranged from £66 to £95 a week. While the variations may reflect local factors and quality of the facilities, the way in which mars-eries are set up may also influence the cost to parents.

HMS Drake's nursery - Roger's Barrow - was started a year ago through the impetus of two civil servants there, Alison Rogers and Jane Burrow.

The Burrow, like the other nurseries, caters for children aged from three months to five years, providi-

Handway - 0000-1200 Mon-Fit. Rowner - Snipe Group 0000-1200 Mon-Fri and 1300-1455 (under-threes) Tur & Thurs, Skylark Group 0900-1200 Mon-Fri and 1245-1500 Mon-Frium, Spoonbill Group (all under-threes) 0900-1130 Mon-Fri and 1230-1430 Mon-Thurs, Peak Lang, - Mon-Fri and

Peak Lane - 0015-1215 Mon-Fri and 1300-1500 Mon-Thurs.

Drayton - 0915-1215 except Weds when there is a creche for mothers attending a Whes Club meeting; an under-threes play-group is held at 1245-1445 on Weds. Thurs & Fit.

Hises - Puttin Group, 0930-1230 except Tue when there is an under-threes session at

Pre-school gets £40,000 building 0030-1130. Under threes second are also held on Mon, Weds & Fri 1300-1455, with a mothers and toddlers session on Tue and Thurs atternooms: Pintal Group, 0030-1230 Mon-Fri with under-threes sessions at 1300-1455 Weds & Thurs.

Eastney - 0930-1230 Mon-Fit with under wes sessions at 1300-1455 Mon-Thurs.

HMS Dryad runs a creche for Wives Club meetings at no charge.

SCOTLAND

HES Catedonia rums a playproup in the Forth Families Club, Playth each weekday at 0500-1130 and 1300-1530. Capacity is 34, 30 per cent of whom are the childeen of civi-ant. Free is C1.50 per sestion with a four-evening of C1 for standos. A credite is also helit at the centre each day for parents taking part in serobics, and once a week for country disoring and a meet-ing of the Model Ship Club.

Ing of the Moder Ship Cub. At Hell Gaenet a physicsop is held at the MD Contenually Centre for up to 15 children, Mon Fri at 0830-1230. The lee is 12 per se-son, HIVE wives internat to start a creche as long as there are enough paid volunteers to end.



Tarbertan 0000-1148. MMS ODPREY (Portland) playgroups are on married quarters at: Prestee 0900-1200 Mon-Wieds and 0900-1300 on Fn at 62.50 a session. Heytand 0900-1200 Mon-Fri at 61.80. (Tol Opney est S347) Wyke Regist Mon Fri 0915-1215 at 62.10, and for an extra 70p a child can stay for an hour longer at a lanch club. Diprey also nant a cheche at 1000-1200 on fuesday and Friday of each week at the Boscawen Sports Cactries. E aboves mothers hour and 62.50 for the whole period. RMS CHUDROSE where run a play-protect. MMS RALEROM holds a two-hour credite one a tortingit for Wives Club meetings. Fer. C1 a session.

EASTERN AREA

Under Fives Co-ordinator: Carole Eley. tel 01705 5805155.

Bis playproup facilities serve the PORTSAROUTH and GOSPORT area. Fees are C1 an hour, with children accepted from civilian families it vacancies exist. The groups

PURPOSE built accommodation has been opened for the pre-school playgroup on the RN estate at Tamerton Foliot, Plymouth, The building, which replaces an old wooden structure, was funded by a £30,000 grant from King George's Fund for Sailors, and grants from Flag Officer Plymouth's Fund and the area's Naval Community Organisation (NCO).

The NCO manages the Navy's pre-school play-groups in Plymouth, cater-ing for over 300 children.

It is planned to hold sessions of just under two hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays to allow mothers to go shopping. Fee: C1 per session, 75p for a second child and 50p for a thing

Clyde Naval Base has a playgroup at the Drumbok Families Club annexe on the MQ estate at Fastance. It has 48 children on its books and holds sensions each weekday at 0900-1130 and 1300-1500 at a cost of CI-80 for mornings and E1 50 for attenoons.

A crectre is also run on the estate at 0920-1130 on Tues and Thurs, to enable even to use the Families Centre sports facilities. There is also a session at 1300-1430 on Weds to cover a Wives Association meeting. Fees are TSp per child and £1 for more than one.

If any Navy-run playgroups have been omitted from this list, we will be happy to include a reference in a forth-coming Families section.



-ing meals, sappy changing and sleeping facilities, and play areas and equipment. Accommodating almost 30 children, it is open from 0700 to 1800 and charges parents £66 a week or £286 monthly for full-time care. Half-day care is available.

"The ground floor of a block in the establishment was converted to our needs," said Alison. "It has a garden with climbing frames and is ideal for the children."

Qualified staff are paid to run the facility, and the cost of their wages is recovered through fees, while some of the nursery's resources are acquired through charitable events. The base does not charge for rent or power.

At Yeovilton, things are slightly different. Since it started 18 months ago, the Yeovilteenies nursery has been run by Hedda Norris and her qualified staff of nine. Mrs Norris, a professional child carer who also runs a private nursery in Yeovil, has a contractual agreement with Yeovilton to provide ten hours of care per day. However, she says her fees of 108 a week are below the local norm and are kept that way through the Navy not charging her rent for accommodation and in providing some of the equipment.

Value for money

At Collingwood in Gosport, contracting out was taken a step further. There, a substantial amount was spent by the establishment in a two-year project to provide facilities which are acknowledged to be some of the best of their kind in the area.

Professional child care concerns were invited to bid for the running of the nursery for up to 40 children, on the basis that the contractor would pay rent for the accommodation and take the fees as income.

"The invitation to tender was met by five serious bids and we looked at each very hard for value for money," said the establishment's executive officer, Cdr Jeff Blackett. Finally the contract was won by Gary and Gill Darling, professional child carers who run a successful nursery locally. At Collingwood's Woodentots nursery, which opened in September, they charge £85 a week and £95 for younger children. That, says Mrs Darling, is compatible with the area's "going rate". They also offer a 25 per cent discount for holiday periods. In October the Darlings also

In October the Darlings also began operating a similar nursery on a similar basis for HMS Sultan.

No profits

Tendering for a contract could not work at Culdrose. There, the establishment, with a complement of more than 3,000, found that the only registered nursery operator in the area had no interest in contracting to run a Culdrose facility.

So, like Drake, Culdrose decided that they would do it themselves, and two years ago established the Helitots Nursery. Last summer its new premises were officially opened, some of its equipCollingwood's Woodentots nursery – enviable facilities, but the fees are higher than some other Naval nurseries.

ment being acquired through a donation by the Nuffield Trust.

Parents are charged by the hour - £1.75 for a maximum of 11 hours a day, although after five hours the rate reduces.

"It's a non-profit-making organisation," said Helitots business manager Lt Richard Whalley. "The fees are all spent on staff wages, food for the kids and equipment.

"We would not be able to provide a facility by contracting, and if we were able to, the fees would have to go up. The fact is that if an establishment can afford it from its budget, it is allowed to support a nursery.

"We can afford it and we do, because we recognise here that child care provision is very important in encouraging stability in the workforce."

Playgroups 'confident' over Govt vouchers

NAVY CHILD CARE organisers are confident that the Service's large and widespread playgroup network will be able to meet the challenge presented by the proposed nursery voucher scheme.

The scheme, planned by the Government to be introduced in April, would provide all parents of four-year-olds with vouchers worth £1,100 towards a nursery place at private or state schools or playgroups, which cater for children from about three to five.

"If playgroups cannot come up to the standards that will be required by the scheme they would not be able to receive children with the vouchers, and that would put their financial position in jeopardy," said Capt Dick Lake, Assistant Director of the Naval Personal and Family Service.

New curriculum

"However, there is every indication that they will meet the standard and playgroup organisers are very confident about that."

"We have recently produced a new curriculum to use with all four-year-olds in the expectation of being validated for the forthcoming voucher scheme," said Naval under-fives coordinator for the Western area, Trish Whiteley.

Legislation rules that registered groups must have a staff-to-children ratio of at least 1:8. The Western area groups have a ratio of 1:6 and will provide 1:1 when necessary, "All our pre-school learning cen-

tres are self-funding and staffed by paid supervisors and assistants," she said, "We pride ourselves in providing a good quality facility for all our children." Whereas Naval nurseries offer

Whereas Naval nurseries offer full-time care inside an establishment for the workforce, pre-school playgroups accommodate children for two to three hours at a time, usually in a building made available on the "married patch", and usually for Naval wives.

Fewer groups

But while nurseries have sprung up, playgroups which offer child care for no more than two to three hours at a time, have tended to decline in numbers, although they still represent the most common form of child care used by the Service.

Capt Lake said: "The Navy has been running playgroups for a very long time, but these days 70 per cent of personnel live in their own homes and use playgroups in the community, so the need has reduced.

"However there will still be work for a large number of playgroups when you consider that the people who still live in MOs tend to be younger families."



People in the News

Aerial defence wins cheque

A SIMPLE but ingenious solution to a problem yield-ed a £250 prize for a chief petty officer at RNAS Culdrose.

Chief David Onley was aware that the fragile aerials which protrude from the Sea King fuselage could be damaged while on the ground or in a hangar, so he designed a protective cover.

For his contribution to safety and efficiency, he was presented with a cheque from the Herbert Lott Fund.

Golden winner

A FORMER Navy man has been rewarded for his work with

young people. Ronald Moseling (73), of Blackheath, London, is the winner of the Working with Youth category of the Help the Aged Tunstall Golden Awards for his work with the Boys' Brigade. Mr Moseling served with the Navy during the last war.



UNUSUALLY, two squadron commanding officers from the same ship - HMS Invincible - received MBEs from the

the same ship – HMS Invincible – received MBEs from the Queen at the same time. Lt Cdr Rob Drewett (left), currently CO of 814 NAS Sea Kings, was honoured for organising disaster relief while First Lieutenant in HMS Southampton after Hurricane Luis hit the Caribbean Island of Anguilia. He also co-ordi-nated the evacuation of Montserrat when it was threat-ened by a volcano. Lt Cdr Jeremy Milward, CO of 800 NAS Sea Harriers, was honoured for his outstanding skill, courage and inspirational leadership during Operation Deliberate Force, the NATO bombing of Bosnian Serb positions around Sarajevo last year.



Chocolate ship cooks TRAFALGAR Night saw fleets



Management

trailblazers TWO Naval project managers are celebrating success after HMS Temeraire, the Navy's School of Physical Education, became the first MOD establishment to be accredited to run civilian National Vocational Qualification Levels 3 and 4 in Management

for the National Examining Board for Supervisors of Management lead body. The two are Project Officer Lt Cdr Neil Hinch, and Project Leader CPOPT Vic Parsons.

Navy raises the flag

IN WHAT is believed to be a first for RAF Waddington, Royal Navy Warrant Officer Chris Sharp raised and lowered the Royal Air Force Ensign as part of his duties as Orderly Officer.

WO Sharp was posted to RAF Wyton in May last year, and has been at the Lincolnshire station since last June as the Air Warfare Centre Building Manager, which contains elements of all three services.

of chocolate ships weigh anchor once more as the Royal Navy's chefs demonstrated their culinary skills.

The chefs at RNAS Culdrose had special cause to impress, as the Wardroom's Guest of Honour was Rick Stein, the star of BBC's A Taste of the Sea.

As well as delivering the after-

(ieft) CPO Duncan Bullock's work is admired by Rick Stein.
(below) POCH Steve Blaker with the chocolate fleet.



Exchange pair heading south

TWO men are heading back to the sunshine of the southern hemisphere as they complete their fivemonth exchange with their British counterparts from HMS Raleigh.

PO Dental Technician Andrew Carter (36) came from Australia, as part of Exercise Longlook, swop-ping with PO Wren Churchman.

Andrew's wife and young son flew over for six weeks, and Andrew managed to get some golf in around the West Country.

Leading Steward "Shorty" Sinnott from New Zealand is also returning home after swopping with Leading Steward Cook. dinner speech, Rick was invited to create and cook a fish starter is front of the cameras, and he obliged with Dover sole, lobster and scallops in red wine and port sauce

The traditional Baron of beef was cooked by the Navy team, after which two sculpted chocolate galleons, made by Chief Petty Officer Chef Duncan Bullock, were paraded for all 232 guests. Rick Stein also helps

helped Commodore Simon Thornewill stir this year's Christmas pudding. "I have been really impressed

by how nice everyone is at Culdrose," said Rick.

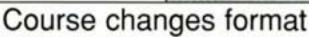
The Trafalgar Night pro-gramme will be broadcast next year.

Meanwhile, another chocolate flotilla was on the move in the **Mediterranean**

HMS Invincible's Trafalgar Night celebrations were held while the carrier was on passage between Greece and Turkey. POCH Steve Blaker had started

work three weeks earlier in order to construct a fleet of ten chocolate ships for the event.

The ships were suitably dressed for the occasion, and their holds filled with after-dinner mints.



MEDICAL Assistants Blake and Emissah are pictured (below) following receipt of their Green Berets after succe fully completing the MA's Commando

Course. MA Emissah was also presented with the Commando Medal, the third MA to win the award for recruits who best _____

demonstrate Commando spirit. The MAs course at present assing through Com mando fraining Centre RM at Lympstone will be the last in its ent format for the foresecable future.

At present, there is an eightweek period of intense physical and military training, after which the MAs join a Recruit troop for

the last nine weeks of training. This culminates in the follow-ing tests: a nine-mile speed 90 minutes; march in an endurance course in 72 minutes; assault an

course in 13 minutes; and a 30-mile load carry across Dartmoor in eight hours. From next February, MAs will complete

cight-week Military Aware course, followed by a Board to decide who will continue on to the 10-week All Arms Commando Course or the nineweek Recruits course,

Any member of the Medical Branch keen to train as a com-mando should see their mando should see their Divisional Officer and forward a C240 to Centurion.





LMA Michael Stokoe.

Accolade for medic

A ROYAL Navy man has been commended for his profes-sionalism by the

commenced for his proces-sionalism by the Commandant General Royal Marines. Leading Medical Assistant Michael Stokoe went into the Medical Branch after joining the Navy, and took the 24-week RM commando training course.

While serving with 42 Commando the most memo-rable operation was on the volcanic Caribbean Island of Montserrat Last summer, when a team of Royal Marines helped police to evacuate the locals.

Part of Michael's task was to assess the medical situa-tion and set up an emergency sick bey.

<u>People in the News</u>

Worshipful day

IT WAS a Worshipful day at HMS Sultan when all four of the

use's affiliated Worshipful Livery

Licerenten from the Worshipful Companies of Plambers, Tarnets, Engineers and Fuellers were wel-

Companies visited.





Graham Pragnell. Lottery double just the ticket for Graham

GRAHAM Pragnell doesn't do things by halves - he won two Sports Lottery prizes with one taket.

CPOWEA Pragnell, who serves with DSWE at Cambridge House. Portsmouth, used the numbers 13-50-51, which equated to Bristol City, Southampton and Crystal Palace, who scored a combined total of 13 goals.

He shared a first prize of £4,000 with three others for the highest number of goals scored.

The same ticket also bagged him £500 for the teams scoring the latest goals in the first half of their respective matches -City and Saints scored in the 45th minute, with Palace in the 44th

Ex-RNR divers transfer to TA

FOUR ex-Royal Naval Reserve divers have qualified as Territorial Army Compressed Air Divers.

SPR Mark Biggs and SSgt Eric Ravilious (formerly with HMS Sussex RNR) and SPR Keith Francis and SSR Andrew Winton (both ex-HMS Wesses RNR) managed to keep diving for two years after the demise of Royal

Search after the definise of Royal Navy port diving. At that point they transferred to 75 Engineer Regiment, based at Millbrook near Southampton, because with resirganisation in the Army a need for TA divers was born

After an 18-month slog under e direction of the Royal the direction of the Royal Engineers Diving Establishment, the four qualified as TACADs in October 1995 – and at present they make up 80 per cent of the UK TACAD complement. Some 40 people volunteered when the Arms entred bedring for

when the Army started looking for divers, but the attrition rate was high because of the Army's needs not only do personnel need to be capable divers to pass, but also must be able to carry out civil engineering tasks underwater.

Hairs and grey faces

PICTURED are the winners of the HMS Invincible Beard Growing Competition, held on the carrier during Exercise Northern Lights.

Captain lan Forbes (second left) is shown with PONEA Dave Allison (left, Best Beard), MEM Nicholson (right, Worst Beard), and Surgeon Commander Mugridge, who won the special Merlin award for Greyest Beard.



New horizons for climbers

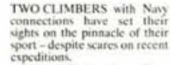


Bradford RNR.

Hard work bears fruit

awarded one of only two Lord Lieutenants' Certificates for Merseyside for her efforts in rganising the 1995 VE Day celebrations in Liverpool

Li Cdr Bradford, of HMS Eaglet, drew on her Experience of arranging the annual Battle of the Atlantic service – but the VE Day plans took more than a year's planning on behalf of all three services



RNR Medical Assistant Drew Dickenson's group successfully climbed an unnamed 20,000ft Himalayan peak on his 34th birth-day, but almost came to grief. About 100 metres from the top

one of the party slipped on ice, but quick reactions from Drew, of TIMS King Alfred. Portsmouth. meant a rope was secured around an ice ave and the the man saved. With the group's success came

the honour of naming the peak. and the name chosen was Salihas, a Hindu: word meaning "start and don't stop" - or persistence.

Danger

But the team was not out of danhad weather tested them as they descended, and while they were helping others cross the Zanskar Valley a flash flood swept away two women from other groups

Drew himself was trying to reach one in the river as the tidal wave of water, mud and debris crashed down the valley, and he harely

escaped with his own life. Now Drew, back home Littlehampton, has been invited by his summit partner, sherpa Koyalu Ramthakar, to join an expedition next May to the base camp of the world's highest mountain -



Highlight – Drew Dickenson (right) with sherpa Koyalu Ramthakur and the HMS King Altred plaque he fixed to the summit.

Everest, his ultimate target Everest is also in the sights of Navy diver Eamon "Ginge" Fullen but a setback on the lower slopes have put the ambition on hold.

Ginge (28), a diver based at Portsmouth, was one of the fittest members of a team tackling Everest in the spring,

But sudden, crippling chest pains and shortage of breath stopped him in his tracks, and he struggled to get back to base camp more than 2,500ft below.

It took six hours of scrambling over crevasses and ice cliffs, but he made it, and a helicopter transfer

was arranged by the Nepulese via a mobile phone link with an expedition member's wife, who worked with British forces in Hong Kong.

Despite a series of tests, doctors have been unable to determine what happened to Ginge, who has already climbed. Kilimanjaro in

Africa and Mt McKinley in Alaska. He has not yet been cleared to return to diving, though there is plenty of work for him to get on with at Horsea Island while he awaits the all-clear he fully expects.

But he is still determined to stand on top of Everest, whether next year or next millennium.

Safety work recognised

A ROYAL Navy officer has won a prestigious award for his work towards helicopter safety.

Lt Cdr Paul Haywood, as Command Survival Officer to Flag Officer Naval Aviation, was given the Sir James Martin Award by the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators for initiatives which improved the safety and sur vivability of aircrew and passengers

Lt Cdr Haywood's responsibili-



For those in peril..

Disaster at sea can strike at any time. But life ashore has its disasters too - when sailors grow old, become disabled, fall on hard times, leave widows to be cared for and children to be educated.

King George's Fund looks after Royal Navy and Royal Marines widows and orphans from two World Wars and the Falklands Campaign to the present day. It is also the vital safety net for the many organisations serving the Merchant and Fishing Fleets. Every year, some 80 or more maritime charities receive over £2m in help from KGFS.

Sadly, the need continues to grow and we need your help to continue caring for the sea's victims in the years ahead. Please support us with your donation now, and please KING remember GEORGE'S KGFS

Will.



comed by Commodore Malcolm Shirley before they toured the training establishment training establishment. During his visit, the Master of the Worshipful Company of Plumbers, John Jeffrey, presented the company's annual award for top Artificer Apprentice in last year's Metaboorkers Final Trade Test to LMEA Lawrence, current-by serving in HMS Montmouth.

NAVAL Reservist Christine Bradford has been

War veterans – Jack Gearing (left), aged 102, and George Finch (103).

Veterans recall the true glory

NAVAL veterans who fought in the First World War met up on Trafalgar Day to mark the launch of a new book on the Royal Navy. Among those who gathered at the Imperial War Muscum in London were Jack Gearing (102), the only RN survivor of the Gailipoli campaign, Colour Sgt George Finch, a former Royal Marine who was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal when he spotted a U-boat about to attack his ship, and Alfred Hutchinson (100), the last survivor of the raid on Zeebrugge.

George, now 103, is the oldest of the veterans, and has been married to Ruby (96) for 74 years.

He joined up as a boy bugler in 1908 at a pay rate shilling and a halfpenny, and retired from the Royal Marines with a pension in 1932. George is also the oldest resident of Pembroke

House, the Royal Navy Benevolent Trust's home in Gillingham, Kent, which looks after some 40 old sailors and Royal Marines.

The gathering was in honour of The True Glory, The Royal New 1914-39, by Max Arthur,

include the maintenance of all Naval Air Command survival costipment, survival training, and tri-ser vice training for underwater escape from helicopters.

In 1992 he assumed responsibility for the introduction of the Short Term Air Supply System, and in the following two years over 2,000 aircrew and passengers received tran-ing in its use. This course is an acknowledged world leader in underwater breathing device training.

In the past two years L1 Cdr Haywood has conducted a complete review of ditchings by British mili-tary helicopters which has in turn led to improvements in underwater escape training and equipment. He has also gaided a project to provide realistic escape modules for train-ing Merlin. Sea King, Poma and Chinook aircrews.

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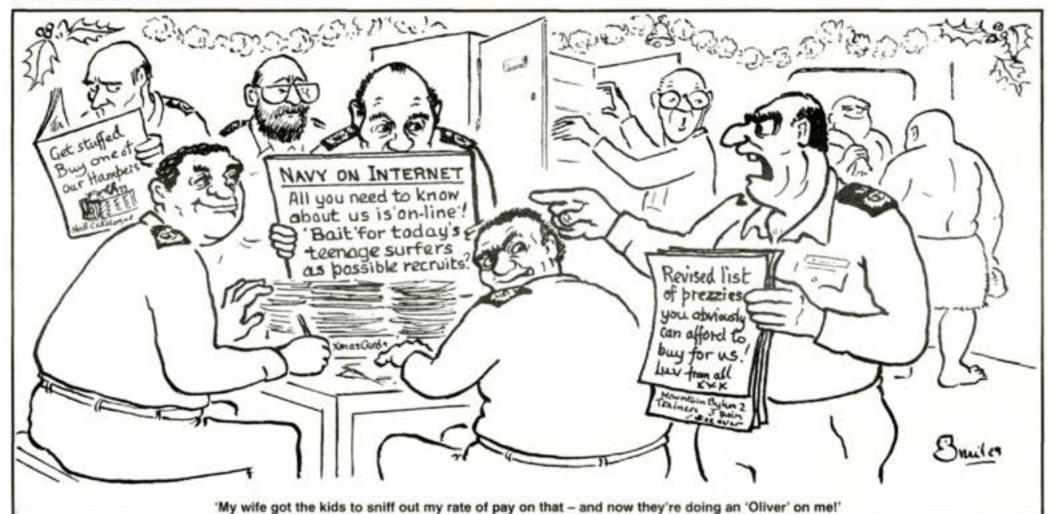
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18 NAVY NEWS, DECEMBER 1996



Waritime super highway goes on-line Web attracts those for whom soccer and surfing rule

IT WAS half term and I had offered my 11-year-old son Andrew and his Southsea Athletic FC team-mate Sean Grady a day out in London, writes Jim Allaway.

This coincided with the Press launch of the Navy on the Internet, so I thought I'd combine the two – hoping they wouldn't get in the way. Inside the Ministry of Defence

Inside the Ministry of Defence and into the conference room. I tacked them into the back row with strict instructions to stay put and keep quiet.

Instead they were pulled up front and met with a warm welcome. Maybe one or two of those assembled recognised a couple of hands more used to moving a mouse around a web site than theirs were...

Anyway, the Director of Communications and Information Systems (Navy) at once ducked away from his group to ply the somewhat bemused pair with biscuits from the hospitality tray. Then a Bill Gates lookalike embarked on an hour-long exposition of the package ("print is dead" he informed the util-living exponents of the printed word) which the boys endured with commendable restraint. prise them away for the promised treat of MacDonalds and the London Dungeon . . .

Ouite fortuitously they had made the point of the exercise, the Director of Navy Public Relations cheerfully admitting that he had gone "on- line" in large part to excite the attention of the nation's youth, who are the most regular users of the Internet.

Of which my two were probably a typical example. Manchester United and Mario Bros being the lodestars of their particular universe.

"Much of the potential audience consists of young people below the age of 20." said Commodore Barry Leighton. "This is an outstanding opportainity to explain to them what we do through a dynamic and

expanding medium."



SURFER GIRL: Lt Hayley Flemwell accesses the latest information on the Senior Service's own Worldwide Web site.

 although if I'd thought about it a bit more it could have been, with even better success.
Like Wallace and Gromit's dis-

times these things happen more by accident than design. The electronic pages display

detailed information on Royal Navy and Royal Marines activities

to catch the brat pack

NEWSVIEW

Set a mouse

 a post originally strictly rotated between the Services – went to an Army man instead of the strongly tipped First Sea Lord Admiral Sir Jock Slater, there was disquiet on two counts among Navy News readers.

First was the resultant perception that the Navy would soon lose the eminently qualified Sir Jock as the Navy's own top man.

Not so, we understand – he will complete the usual full term of three years or so and the decision to hand the CDS role to an Army man in no way diminishes the very high regard in which both he and indeed the Navy itself are held by the powers that be.

More worrying, though is the underlying unease that the decision reflects a more general falling away of the public perception of the importance of the Royal Navy to a nation surrounded by water and so largely dependent — as are, in fact, most nations — on water-borne trade.

fact, most nations – on water-borne trade. This may be partly down to the media, more preoccupied of late with peripheral issues such as Wrens at sea and the question of a successor to HMY Britannia than with, say, the introduction of Tomahawk missiles to the all-nuclear submarine fiotilla – and the order for Batch 2 Trafalgar Class boats, hinted to be close on the horizon – which will massively increase the Navy's hand in its ability to cool down local flashpoints wherever they flare up. As flare up they will, post Cold War experience has shown.

History lesson

It is the lesson of history that is being ignored, perhaps – an accusation usually levelled by the media itself against successive governments from time immemorial. Certainly the book of the current BBC 2 series "1914-18:

Certainly the book of the current BBC 2 series "1914-18: The Great War and the Shaping of the 20th Century' largely ignores it – it carries only one specifically RN image out of several hundred mostly devoted to the war on land and the

Royal Navy does not even merit an entry in the index.

It is a great pity that an otherwise excellent popular history should so drastically marginalise the contribution of a service which famously could have "lost the war in an afternoon" and in the end starved the enemy into submission – as the enemy itself tried to do in the U-Boat campaign in the North Atlantic that came close to achieving the trick 25 years later, producing the only threat that seriously worried Churchill. Education – the popular cause of so many of our ills – is

Education – the popular cause of so many of our ills – is partly to blame, but the ignorance of the educators themselves may be forgiven in view of the fact that few of them today have any direct experience of the Armed Forces.

So the launch of the Navy on the Internet is timely – the medium is already available to 1.5 million Britons and 45 miltion worldwide. And young people, the people who will most of all need to understand the importance of the Navy as the millenium with all its uncertainties approaches, are its chief devotees.

The 'mouse' on the pad in front of the computer screen in a million study bedrooms may also help guide the way for the next generation of recruits.

Comfortable

At the end, when the audience was invited to go surfing the new maritime super highway, they were the only takers – comfortably at ease at the console in the company of a charming young female lieutenant who kicked off her shoes and knelt down on the carpet between them to offer guidance.

As if any were needed. It was finally a bit of a job to



Navy and Royal Marines activities at home and abroad. This will enable the user to discover how the Navy operates and supports its ships and where units are currently deployed around the world.

Hidden pages

By opening hidden pages, you can discover more detailed information on individual ships and their capabilities. There is also a concise history. Oh, and Navy News has its own

On, and Navy News has its ow corner, too,

The site can be found at http://www/royal-navy.mod.ak. Or through any search engine directed at "Royal Navy" or "Royal Marines".

Carrier joins Gulf battle group

FRESH from Exercise Northern Lights in the Skagerrak and Exercise Dynamic Mix in the HMS Mediterranean, Invincible's latest assignment has taken her through the Suez Canal and into the Arabian Gulf.

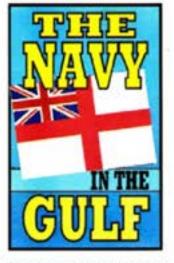
The first British aircraft carrier to visit the region for three years, HMS Invincible and her escort ship HMS Sheffield joined the Armilla Patrol and an American battle group led by the carrier USS Enterprise for a major exercise in the Gulf.

The RFAs Bayleaf Oakleaf and Fort Grange also took part in Gulfex '96 which tackled many aspects of tactical operations. concentrating on surface and air warfare.

Tension

Tension in the Gulf increased dramatically earlier this year after America launched retaliatory cruise missile strikes on Iraqi air defences after Saddam Hussein's attack on Kurds in UN safe havens

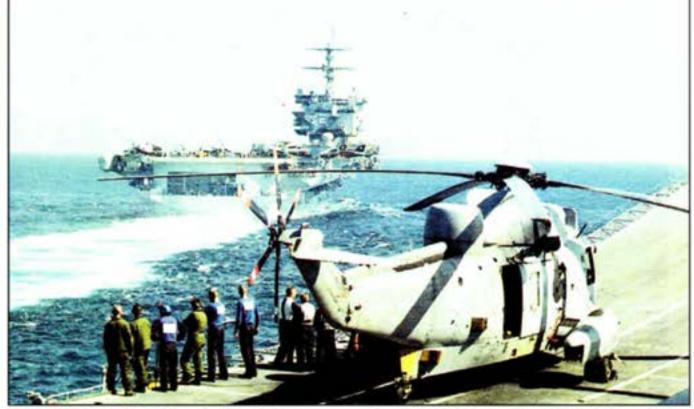
HMS Invincible's presence in the Gulf demonstrates Britain's commitment to maintaining sta-



bility in the region and one of the most important port visits was to Kuwait, recaptured from Iraq in the Gulf War six years ago.

On her way to the Gulf, the carrier group visited Piraeus in Greece and Izmir in Turkey and on her way back there will be visits to Bahrain in Saudi Arabia and to Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates.

HMS Sheffield and HMS Invincible will call in at Gibraltar before the final phase of their journey which brings them home in time for Christmas,



• HMS invincible, the first British carrier in the Gulf for three years, sails past the USS Enterprise at the end of the joint exercise.



Commander Paul Fisher and Defence Secretary Michael Portillo observe a RAS with the USS Supply. The Secretary of State took time out from his diplomatic mission to Qatar.

. .

HMS SOUTHAMPTON has set sail for the Gulf for a seven-month deployment on the Armilla Patrol.

She can expect a varied programme of boarding operations in the Northern Gulf and numerous exercises with friendly Arab navies in the region. The early part of 1997 affords the ship a

two-week stand off and assisted mainte-

nance period in Singapore when many of the ship's company will take the opportu-nity to fly out wives, husbands, girlfriends and boyfriends at the midpoint of the deployment. The ship returns to the UK in huse returns June next year.

Armed Forces Minister Nicholas Soames flew out to the ship in the English Channel to see them off.

He said: "I am delighted to have had this opportunity to meet the ship's company as they prepare to depart on one of the most ding and long standing tasks in the Gulf. "It is a welcome reminder to all of us of

the enormous amount of work the Royal Navy does to protect vital trade around the world.



 HMS Southampton, now on her way to the Gulf. Cdr Duncan Potts and the ship's company of 280 will be away until June 1997.

Edinburgh to the rescue

ARMILLA Patrol ship HMS rescued Edinburgh nine Pakistani sailors from a sinking dhow in stormy conditions in the northern Gulf.

The ship, which has been protecting British entitled ships and and enforcing UN sanctions against Iraq since August, launched her Lynx to assist after receiving the stricken vessel's mayday.

Edinburgh's XO, Lt Cdr Roger Baileff transferred to the dhow to ssess its seaworthiness and was the last to be winched clear before the vessel sank, along with its cargo if rice and sugar.

Meanwhile, HMS Edinburgh has been visited by no less than three Government ministers.

The first to arrive was Jeremy Hanley MP, Secretary of State for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office who called in during the ship's stand off in Doha, Qatar, which coincided with his goodwill visit to the region. Hot on his heels was Armed

Forces Minister Nicholas Soames who was in the Gulf for bilateral defence talks with Bahrain. The visit coincided with Trafalgar Day and the minister was delighted to join the officers in proposing a toast to the 'immortal memory

And last but not least way Defence Secretary Michael Portillo who joined the ship off Qatar to witness a RAS with the USN's latest auxiliary USS Supply, before returning to Doha to continue his mission in Qatar.





 Christmas spirit: The Hon Nicholas Soames MP stirs HMS Southampton's Christmas Pudding.



NAVY NEWS, DECEMBER 1996 20







1 An FPC stands by as Marinea board a Chinese 'green hull' in search of illegal immigrants



COUNTDOWN BEGINS



Include. We have a second of a second secon

> bing as fast as between Brit ese Governmen

mmodore Melson Chinese have a w I view to us. They su or ceremony with juto of the perbringed we see a get

Lack coming down for intrine in eyes of the World will

d I think therewill be capaciacrowland pretty family hoping of reach a log sec-

Royal Yacht

The Royal Yacht Britannia is specied to play a central role in the departure ceremony inite military command will be

Ales Barricks to a former with a LSL for longering support passibly HMSCA former and FA Sir Bedivers Alto with HMSCA stricus

eading a major deployment of ships to the Par East on Ocean Wave 97, there will be plotte of warships in the region of

Uncertainty over the tate of the Hong Kord, squadron ships Pescock, Plover and Starling continues to cause discussion - not least amongst the ships companies thestrelated

World-wide interest has been shown them, particularly in the Philippines where the navy is being upgraded and in several South American countree.

But unless a Government ID Government deal is brokered. Singspore is likely to be the first port of call when they sell out of Hong Kong Harbour for the last liven.

Hong Kong itself becomes a Special Administrative Region of China on July 1 and the People's Liberation Army will set up their HQ in the Prince of Wales Barracks.

The PLA will take over HMS Tamer, the purpose-built navat base on Stone Cutters Island, RAF Sek Kong, Borneo and

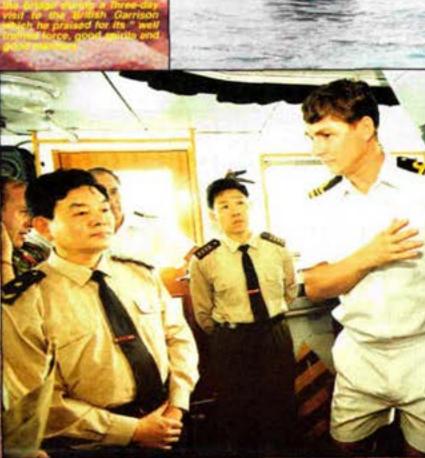
rritories, the former home of b British Bettalion and moveent units al Kai Tak and the w Chek Lap Kok airports. "So Almost 2005 Hong Kong all f

Hong Kong all the time British or there is to a choose is zone to per cent boyond ing prov Hong Kong, fact, it to shi to

International In







Kerny Shakes on his arrival at The Prince of Wales Berracks.

At Your Leisure



We're at the Boat Show

FOLLOWING its spectacular success at the Royal Tournament, the Navy News roadshow will be joining the RN stand at the London International Boat Show at Earls

Court from January 3-12. Awarded pride of place among the exhibitors, the Navy volunteer-manned tableau fea-tures a Royal Marine Rigid Daide on a shinkle based Raider on a shingle beach -reflecting the RN's 1997 amphibious warfare theme. 1997

There will also be a 16-screen video wall, an interactive Frigate Operations Room and a 20mm gun, plus a selection of ship models.

Other attractions at the first big show of the year include a Mediterranean-style marina with more yachts on the water - and around it - than ever before, while much of the second floor is turned into the world's biggest chandlery store. It promises a fun, affordable

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holiday day out for all the family – two children (under 16) admit-ted free for every adult.Tel 01784 473377 for further details. See ad on page 35.

 First Sea Lord Admiral Sir Jock Slater at the Navy News stand at the start of this year's Royal Tournament.



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Long division over decisive war weapons

HE BOOK of the BBC TV series **Decisive Weapons** (BBC Books, £14.99) starts with the longbow and ends with the Sea Harrier. Both were naval weapons, the latter recognised as the essential arm of the Falklands War ("without the Harrier there could have been no Task Force", the then First Sea Lord Admiral Sir Henry Leach comments) while the maritime role of the former is largely ignored.

• UP YOURS: the traditional two-fingered gesture of defiance dates back to the English archers of the 15th century, who heard a rumour that the French planned to cut three fingers from the right hand of every bowman they captured so that they would never shoot again. Henry V may have spread it around deliberately.

Yet it was for long the main item of naval artillery. When Henry VIII's warship Mary Rose was raised from the protective silt of the Solent she yielded up 138 bows and 2,000 arrows - all embarked for a sea

fight. The accuracy of the archers who used them is legendary. A pair of English bowmen at Calais are said to have cut the anchor rope of a captured vessel with four shots at 200 paces - real Robin Hood stuff.

The early muskets of the 16th century took ages to load and were nowhere near as accurate or as reliable. Indeed, nearly 400 years after Agincourt Lt Col Lee of the 44th Regiment could repeat the charge in reference to his own weapon. Also, the muskets used in the

Napoleonic wars threw out a dense screen of smoke which often totally obscured the target while a bar-rage of arrows was clearly visible and all the more territying to an cocn

Effective range of the weapon used at Waterloo was a mere 100-150 yards - half that of the long-DOM:NO.

And an arrow sticking in any part of a man was more disabling than a bullet wound.

The loss of the longbow and the surprisingly fast switch to firearms is the original defence procurement scandal - and it was the nature of the bowman rather than the bow that was the deciding factor. It took years of practice to make an archer, but you could train a musketeer in a few weeks.

So it was that an incomparable national asset was allowed to wither and die - to the consternation of contemporary conservative mili-tary thinkers. In 1590 Sir John Smyth wrote a book condemning the musket. It was quickly and firmly suppressed.

Confidence

Verdict on the Harrier, by way of contrast, is that its virtues remained theoretical for 20 years until finally it was given the chance to prove itself in the South Atlantic in 1982.

"It's future is safe". Yet it was "the product of a unique moment in British military history, borne on a wave of post-war technologica inventiveness, but suffering in an era of shrinking British technolog-ical confidence and confusions about military priorities."

British Aerospace continue to develop new models in conjunction with McDonnell Douglas. There are plans, finally, to take Vertical Take-off and Landing supersonic and even to equip larg er aircraft with VTL capacity - but it has taken a long time to per-

suade everyone of its virtues. Irresistible is the quote from Thomas Edison, who spelled out the winning formula long before the dawn of the jet age: "The Airframe will not amount to a damn until they get a machine that will act like a humming-bird; go

straight up, go forward, come straight down and alight like a humming-bird. It isn't easy but somebody's going to do it." Well, we did we did. - JFA

- JFA Fiscinating statistics abound in another BBC book, 1914-18: The Great War and the Shaping of the 20th Century (BBC Books (25). Long before Jurassic Park or Independence Day, in 1916 the first war documentary film The Battle of the Somme was even be Battle of the Somme was seen by a staggering 20 million people in Britain (see Newsview, page 18).

Book to benefit LEPs

THE ROYAL Noval presence in Hong Kong, lasting more than 150 years, will come to an end when HMS Tamar decommissions in April next year. To mark the final chapter in this long association RN personnel have produced a book chronicling the his-tory of the RN in the Crown Colony to raise money for the Locally Engaged Personnel (LEP) Totat Engaged Personnel (LEP) Trust. The Trust is a charita-

ble foundation set up by the British Garrison to provide funds for Hong Kong Chinese ex-British servicemen who find themselves in need of aid after 1997.

History of the Royal Navy in Hong Kong 1841-1997, edited by Chief of Staff and Senior Naval Officer Commodore Peter Melson, will be available from Maritime Books, Lodge Hill, Liskeard, Cornwall PL14 4EL – and from all good bookshops – from 31 March 1997 at £19.95.

Verse and terse . . .

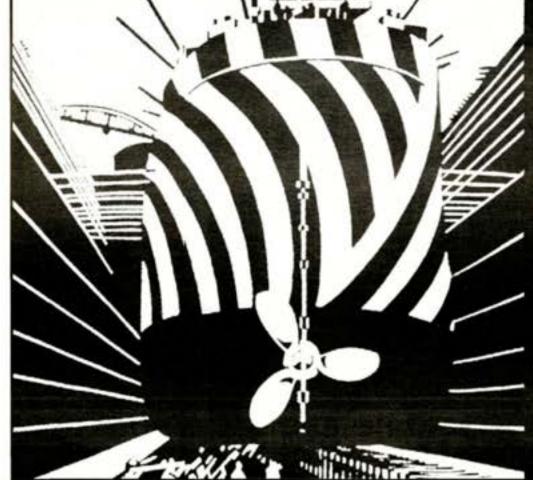
THE FABER Book of War Poetry Faber £20) as edited by Kenneth Baker is oddly short on naval engagements.

Only four examples are given and two, by Andrew Marvell and John Dryden describe actions from the same conflict, the war between England and Spain in 1657

The others are from Michael Thwaites' The Jervis Bay and John Donne's A Burnt Ship.

At Your Leisure

NAVY NEWS, DECEMBER 1996 23



Toys with a deadly purpose

ASSETT-LOWKE Waterline Ship Models (New Cavendish Books, £35) is a labour of love by Capt Derek Head – himself major collector for nearly 60 years - to celebrate one of the most celebrated names in quality toys in the first half of this centu-

Cast in white metal, the models were accurate to a degree that impressed the Admiralty early on and they were used for recog-nition and training purpos-es in both world wars.

Most of the vessels list-ed in Jane's Fighting Ships during World War II were made by the Northampton company - and some were frequently re-issued to incorporate modifications made during the course of hostilitie

In HMS Dolphin they were successfully used in the submarine 'attack teacher'. The 1/600 scale models shown in this photograph are

Bremen/Europa, the Cavour, Fiji, Littorio (heid), King George V, New Orleans, the German paspas-ship senger/cargo cruiser Garibaldi (fore-ground).

Phoney playroom for bogeymen

THEN Walt Disney released his first animated feature Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs in 1937 the film's credits included such easy to grasp activities as 'character design', 'background colouring' and so on.

Six decades later, however, we learn via the credits of Toy Story of the existence of a hitherto unsuspected range of job opportu-

nitics Fancy being a 'render wrangler'? A 'digital massage therapist' sounds fun, if borderline legal. And one might aspire to be a 'monitor calibration software' if one could sort out the noun from the verb.

If animation technique now starts with plugging something in rather than sharpening a pencil, the actual stories the cartisons tell have become more sophisticated as well. Toy Story dispenses with princesses and witches and con-centrates on squeezing every ounce of wit and invention out of the commonplace kiddle fantasy that toys are only pretending to be inanimate, and that when no-one's

looking they leap vigorously to life. Considerable thought has gone into devising a toy psychology which, it seems, anxiety is the major mode: the agonising suspense of the birthday party when the new toys are unwrapped, the worry about who might get left behind when the host family moves house

Characters include a dinosaur iat he may be merely a fad; a Mr Potatohead pining for a Mrs Potatohead; and a platoon of



soldiers forever scurrying off on secret missions.

Most of the film's incident (which is, for Disney, quite low-key) centres on Buzz Lightyear, a who can't quite grasp that he isn't really a heroic spaceman. The film's implication - 'accept what you cannot change' - is admirably pragmatic in contrast to the dream the impossible dream' stuff willing aroud in so many Hollywood movies.

Screen Scene

In that sense Toy Story is realistic than, well, than Up Close and Personal, in which Michelle Pfeiffer actually does sing the Impossible Dream song in the tale of a girl from the sticks who rises through the television ranks to become an acc network news reporter, on route enjoying a doomed romance with glamorous veleran Redford. newshound Robert

It's ph ney but fun, the sort of hokum Hollywood has been mar-keting since the place was a bunch of orange groves.

The reporter stands alongside the cop and the doctor in the collective imagination, but over past few years a more sinister fig-ure has sidled up among them: the serial killer.

So far as the movies are concerned this is just a posh name for the bogey man, the monster. In Copycat, a thriller of impressive pedigree, he is played, unpre-dictably, by old-style crooner Connick Jr, while his Harry preynemesis comprises the impressive female combo of Sigourney Weaver and Holly Hunter.

It's an effective, nerve-wracking piece, although if the picture's climax happened to mark the final eradication of the mad axeman character from our screems, then that climas would not be coming a moment too soon.

- Bob Baker

S.A.E. details Douglas Hse. Pen-marth. Redrath. Cornwall TR16 6NX

MAR IN THE RALLEN H

ODERN camouflage began in World War I as a method of disguising ships, aircraft, tanks and artillery. Curiously, given the drab background and static nature of trench warfare, it was not then used in uniforms – except by the Germans who copied the disruptive patterns adopted by their aircraft onto their new style steel helmet in 1916.

New style steel neimet in 1916. On the open sea invisibility was impos-sible to achieve. But something had to be done to mitigate the destruction of Allied supply ships by enemy submarines – and Lt Cdr Norman Wilkinson, an academic marine artist before the war, came up with the Dazzle theory: "a method to produce an effect (by paint) in such a way that all accepted forms of a ship are broken up by masses of strongly contrasted colour, consequently making it a matter of diffi-culty for a submarine to decide on the exact course of the vessel to be attacked."

Bold stripes proved to be the most contusing design – and enjoyed immediate success, so that the Admiralty decided in October 1917 to paint the whole British Mercantile Marine (the effect was held to

do little to protect warships from long dis-tance shelling). Echoing modern ' stealth' ship design practice, Wilkinson later recalled that ver-tical lines were largely avoided. Sloping lines, curves and stripes provided the greater distortion – a colour should also not stop at the edge of a structure but be seen to carry on until it hit the hard edge seen to carry on until it hit the hard edge

of a contrasting colour. The random patterns owed something to the Cubist and abstract art appearing at the same time – as the artists themselves recognised. Picasso, seeing a camou-flaged cannon in Paris, exclaimed:"It is we that have created that!"

flaged cannon in Paris, exclaimed: "It is we that have created that!" Many of the schemes were drawn by women artists working in the Dazzle sec-tion at the Royal Academy of Arts. The artist Edward Wadsworth was recruited by Wilkinson to help oversee the actual painting at Bristol and Liverpool – and was so impressed by the results that he produced a series of woodcuts and paintings which capture perfectly the strange spectacle of Dazzle ships. Brassey's Book of Camouflage by Tim Newark, Quentin Newark and Dr J.F.Borsarello is published by Brassey's at £25.

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Reunions

JANUARY 1997

VM Submarine Truculent: A And additional indextent in the behavior of services for these biols can this substraine on Jacsary 12, 1950 will be held in the 50 Decorpts Centre, Georgnam, an Salantay, Jacsary 11 al 1950. Referencement will be available afterwards. Early replete Dealer to Bill Decoganis, 148, Network Rd, Galorgham ME7 461, tel 01604 850742.

FEBRUARY 1997

HMS Heclar The ship is due to decom-sison on March 21 after 37 years service respond doner will take place in HMT Doale Wardsons to Friday, February 28, 1944 Gilea, Il III Noted al officer who faile served at supported the ship will affect with their partners, Full patian town O Kom Pulari, HMS Heru, BEPO 203

MARCH 1997

HAS Cadix and HMS Waard: Intended learnin fa be help in March at previous sense. Chesteril Orange: Kentinght-raction internation from During 35. Gascadeth Ave Crewe, Otenhies CW2 876. 10 F.M.T

HM Ships Commonwealth. Return will to Luong the 4th reunion at the Burtispon Atter, Earthdoine, hern Martin 14.17, price 156 for Bree regrits. For details, ring 01228

HMS Nated 1948-42: Some monion Mich Name 1940-42, Solor wonder weickend will be March 14-16 at 21e University Arms Hale, Cambridge All er Nalads and thends are invited Futher details free Bid Witz, 6, The Brogen, Duringt Cambrid, CB2 4360 let 012/2

HMS Glory Association 1111 Included of need to March H at the Nautour Out-mogham. Full details all this and atten-sions from Peter Warde, 91. Degledeny, my Bucks Model SEU, tel 21234 711811

Chiney Backs Model SELL bill 21234 711611. HMS When: The hands include will be lead on March 22 23 for all communities, all this Royal Georga Henel. Knutchard, Chentries, For details initiat Las Owen, 15 Field Close, Westbury Wills BA13 3AG, tei 01773 822615 an Roe Young, 4. Hamitten Court, Travellers Lane, Hatheid, Herts, 16 01707 205653, Shige company here destroy ar HMS When 1019 1940 and welcame.

APRIL 1997

HMS Mohawk 1939-41 Luru held in April in Binningham. Contact Imminy ph.01703 243105 Rep Brane

Publishers calling old Comrades

The first edition of a new annual directory of Ex-Service Associations, Clubs and Reunions is being assembled, called Commutes, with a press day of February 14,

Secretaries of any ship's associations, or organisers or reunions who base not yet got in touch with the publishers, should contact George Mann Books at PO Box 22, Maidstone, Kent ME14 IAH, tel 01022 (\$1591). The directory will cost £7.95 when it is published in March. but there is no charge for entries.

Calling old shipmates

HMS Sherwood: A8 Lack Car acult the to know the name of the Sick Bay Titly body injured in a storm when this ex-American bestroper safed from Canada to England in Outsber November 1540. White to denda. New England Lane. Playden Rys. m TNUS 7N7, se 01797 222678.

HMS Whitesand Bay Association II. Seeking anyone who served aboard between 1945-1956. Cantact Geett Nightingues. 258 Gabry HM, Gadebridge, Hensel Hempheid Heins HM1-3LD, sel 81442-63405. JAME 9 Monumi.

Hatts HMT 3LD, Hel (1442 61940) HATS SK Venperd, A meeting was held in October to southink a SK Vincent Association (1927-Hit), Fontier Boy Selamen, Jamér Seamen or other service personnel who served at SK Vincent can get Suther details from John Hollon, Hon Sec. HMS SK Vincent

Hon John Holon Hon Se2, HMS St Vincert Association, 48, Perivate Ganterix, Walder, Herris WOJ OHN, tei UNO2 872987, E-mail pwhilipcia computink cei vA. HMS Brucet: A relation was held in Signification of eculd like to register details, emin to A Manna, 101 Doubge Rd, Endington, Binningham B23 1542, tel U21 362 99327 HMS Censet, Tony Down is teoling for life shipmaker. 1956-58. Contact hen at 7. Factored Rd, Learnington Bpa, 01926

68.2

RAF Change: If you served in the Naval craft Support Unit, or in any ether Lapac-at RAF Chang. Singapore, then the RAF ange Association would live to their from H, at RAF Change Change Association would live to hear you. Send SAE to Membership Secretary Mike James. 12 Steners Errs. Vation. Brotol 8519 48Y.

HMS Whindered 1942-48: Seeking all shortware who are not on George Fancet's list. Phone wher George on 0.181 75: 3917 or Vic Warneright on 0.1474 352540. HMS Antoins: Faurth returnon to be held next October. Anyone interleded in mamber-ship of the HMS Antoin on 0.121 429 2428. HMS Bandaora: Anyone snewing at HMS Bandaora EN Air Station. China Baya. Timoomalee, Ceylon 1947-48, 733 Sign Fleet Requestments. Unit – 4 you would like to attend a reunion being organized by AMAA11 Biumony Taylor. contact him on 0.1203 444397.

46-207 PO Sydney Lee: Sydney s granddaugh ter is seeking a photograph of Sydney, who served in 1455 Fig whee site was such in May 1941. If anyote knew him, peakar regiv to Mrs P Lowe. 28. Taied Rd, Skeimenstale.

Io Mis P. Lowe, 28, Taxed RJ, Skernerschale, Lance WHS EIP ter 01695 720015.
B54 National Bervice Squad, RM: Jerred at Date, January 21, 1547, Gound members, writing to keep in bach te 50th antiversary should contact Hubbert Rudman, 7, Hubbr Obse, Westbury en Tryn, Bristal 859 JPS, tel 0117 568 58, volume to trans 1659 JPS, tel 0117 568 596.
Graban "Shelly" Sheltan, er PO Greenia, served 1988 78, volume to trans frant sheprates e 50, Wonder Califorgerout (Lipcold, Belwark, Refreque, Jackae etc. Cartain any term at 34, Bansen Massi Web Bristae BB17 56, F an 01655 215227.
FINAS Bramole 1947, Anjane etc. (Lipcold, Brancole 1947, Anjane etc.)

RNAS Bramcole 1947; Anjone interest

sticulat contact George Harm on 01453 890/109 or send SAE to Lanes End Bungaloe Bristol Pisad Cumbridge Glass 062 70W

West Sossee: E+ WO Puter Jones wo Next Subset 1: WO rear Joint advantage into to have from any service of rearrest FRZ. RMs and Wrens who would like to attend a Navur Night on the last Monday of each month at the Crabbee Inn. 6. Buckingsett Royal Marines Association, Clactor:

Moves are abolt to form a branch of the Association at Clacton-on-Sea. Any ex or serving Royal Mattes in the Clacton area should cented Mi P. Wye at Pet a Pat. 349 Old Rid. Cladon on-Sea, Essex CO15 3RD, wi 51255 434764.

HMS Collingwood, January 27-28 HMS Collingwood, January 27-28 1959: A search is an ter occupantia of 142 Mess for a reuchon – where are you Stopher. Orant, Bartan, Payre, Dipkaan, Day, Mulch, Hoave, Hargeanes and the rest? Cat in hoate now for a 142 Mesia Nerasheet. Contact Mike Croker, 7. Health Rit Lake. Sanctown, bile of Wight PC06 BPG.

HM Submarine Tabard 1962: Bit Parkar is teologi for Chris Cay (Burn) and John Shaw (Artie WOW) Burton on Trent, Please org 01547 525113 or write to 2. Substree. Ra. Knighten Ponys 1D7 1EA

HMS Fiskerton 1958-68: Fmk have reached the big Four O in June 1998. It is proposed to delebrate the oncasion at the 1998 Ton-class reunion at Babbacombe.

1998 Ton-class resistion at Bubbacombe, Devon. Old hands jet all commissions: inter-ested shauld contact Ray West Commissioning Cox N. Sea Girngse, 83 West Commissioning Cox N. Sea Girngse, 83 West Color Sea (2016) Sea Commission (2016) Boy Searces Class 103/03 HMS 58 George (tater HMS Georges): Sam McNisty and Don Romer washt like to contact and classmates, with a possible get topother later Don is at 27. Park Law, Fareturn, Hants, and Sam at 44. Beech HB Rt Surringstell, Berks. Manine Sam Hollingsworth, close friend of Cp RM Commands David Dison, believed to have married in Langs. Sections in 1941-42. Any information please to Cpl Dixetris tais for Margaret Miss on 01792 814128. HMS Comberland 1956; Shurg' H.A.L. Foster would like to hear fram anyone fram.

Other would like to haar from anyone hum Melsion hials outser HMS Cumberland Contact Shultz on 0181 330 4334 Graham Austin-Sparks served in HMS Bach Phone between 1564-88. His daughter

telen Walker, would like to hear from any of

Halen Walker, would like to hear from any of the shaft company or anyone who knew tim. Plaate get in thurs (Look, Cheat Wakering, Erose, SS3 EAL al 01782 (19862, or tax 01702 217029). HMS Housed 1942-44; Siekeing ex-Agerine impraves from mount, also hMT Fort Robert Toy R Porth—where are you all? Join the Agerines Association, Cyri Sungy Williams, 24, Barryteits, Shaftord, Ruamtwe Essen CAV SHJ, bil 01371 800000 Pertamouth Retired Naval Otticers Association arms, to timp together social

Association lares to bring logether and in a Service atmosphere recred officers of the KNL and RNW and to faster an active interest in and support of Naval matters. There are monitory meetings in the Wandpoint HMS hieroin precedent by a lab form a guest speaker, and there are units and social activities throughout the year. Thereareas Fith are service Content 11 Fith Subscription E10 per annum. Contact L1 Citt Stan Rogers RN (Petit): 24. Madrison Court. East: IR: Fareham: PO16: 0QU, 16: 01329

Z Class Deslroyers Association: E is proposed to hold a reunion in 1997, possibly in me May in Portpinuuth. If you are interied ed. contact Steve Baker, 2: Brantwood Rid.

ed. contact three Baker, 2. Branneood Hic, Inwood, Wentodon, Bridgesten, Somenan TAS 795 tel 01276 est418. HBI 15T 62 throughout the active tervice life and would like to bear from oid shipmates. Contaction at 61, Pulnaer Park, Greenwort, Connectour 06830, USA. He also boarded a cruster (HMS Deventment) in use Marth o early April 1946 from the Far East, stopping al Petr Saak and Gibrater on the way to Protomout. Can anyone confirm the name fortomouth. Can anyone confirm the of the ship, and the doparture and unreal

W.E. Peters (SHPT) or Wiggy Bennett (Junior SHPT): Aryone with any internation about these two from Cuidose, June 1955 Is asket to contact N. Pearson on 01253 344.436

195430 HMS Pieneer: Is there anybody out mere? Reunion or Association, ex POAF(E) would like to know. Contact Laurence West, 286 Harrington Ave. Lowestoft NR32 4JX, tel 01502 518423

Office 518033 Colour Sgt Barnes RM and ex-CCY Teny Humphries: Ex-CRS Chris Webb would like to contact both of the above-named Colour Sig Barnes was as Sig Major RM Detachment HMS Endurance 1972 sea-ter. CCY Humphries was in HME Los 1982 (4. Contact Chris ar PO Box 156: Commal, NITW, Australia, 1987 HMS Hampshire: Shipmates interested

in a reunion should centact John "Breaky" Lowe or Geot "Brum" Clarton at 15. Hawkley Cone, Leigh Park, Haunt, Hans POB 55L. LEM Tam King, HMS Whitesand Bay 1951-53: Den Marshal is trying to trace Tam. Contact Den at 73. Longworth Ave. Takhurch. Reading, Berks R031 5JU, tel 01734 412076

HMS Alert 1961-63: Amone from this nmission interested in a reunion in 1897 suid contect Conswam on 01202 462546 INM Submarine Renown 1969-73, Port and Stateosint; orwn - ex-CERA Laurie Sandh is visiting the UK from RSA to cele-brane his 60th in early January 1997. Old brends and Black Gang contact Rey (Oscar) Wild on 61329 234496 HMS Didu 1978-81 (Burn Aun 1978)

Angene serving RPs with LSrRIHC Chart Chartweet, particularly Johnsthein Scheme Simers, 'Bons: Overall, PO/R; 'Any Shae, Jack Ketty, Simon Leeson PO/R; Muk Chartbers: 'Harry' Worth (NAVS: FEO) (houtt write to 56, Viestfault Art, Hermaenth, Parability, Units, West West, Str. 2014). onternant, West Yorks WFB 4005, or phone 01757 220181 (day) or 01977 617123

M(E) Bryn Jenkins: Dave Whittend would the to make contact with Bryth who berviet with tern abound HMS Ceyton in 1958. Contact was tool in 1960-01 when Bryn was in HMS Drion and HMS Venus. Last inteer address was Sauth Wales. Anyone incerning of his whereadours should contact Dave at the shore-address should contact the shore-address should be the shore-address shore-address should be the shore-address shore-IN CAS MILA phy Sileth C. Cdr Franklin and Cdr P. Campbell

ters anyone know where they are? Got tackin was ex Cot of HM/S Penelope during Betest within May 1956, and Cor Campbell was as Cor of HMS Siss Eagle at the same time Centext B. Ferrir al 27. Balledonagly Rat Orumin, Co. Antren BT199 4ER, or ling

WO James Phair: J. Highfield would like te inace his old shipmase hem PM Ar Station Lee-on-Solerd. Contact Mr Highfield at 18. Bedare Walk, Shahan, in Barroley, South

HMS Morecambe Bay Association 15 TWO Morecamp by Association is still calculate former of focus and crew mam-bers. Anyone who served, or knows of lome-min who served 1946 56 should cantact G. Hartison, 18, Tameta, R.d. Boley, Harts, SIO30 394V tel orianti T87111. HMS Rateigh 1947 Anyon remainder FXI. Drussen, 15 Mass at PMS Rateigh, hom August 19477 M. W. Matter would like to have been server or means that a server

war from you - numers that he natable notude Mick Stevenson, Scotty Macintyre and A. Pemberson, Contact Mr Mather on 2139 (2005) ne possible reunion in Aug.

HMS Burges K347: The Association eculi like to heat hon oils shamater, expe-cably Derby Alen. Checky Chartbers and Jack Bernley Contact Dennis Benson at 213 Divoly Rid. Buckhad, Subke on Trent ST2 Did. Nel 01782 656156. HMS Cumberland Association offers

revolutions, memorabilia, memoral latin and reunions. Details, bors John Draper, Aysgarth Cross Lane, Berley, Kent DAS 19(2, twi.01302 535438

HMS Cossack Association would like to PMRS Costacts Association would live to hear from any that served in the Costact D57 or LO3 for next reunion in 1997 Particularly looking for shipmates Happy Day 5 8 A Galopone. Taylor, Wikinson and MacKay (Stokens) 1947 50 Costract G. Toomey, 184 Bebington Rd, Rock Ferry, Britenhaud, Witral L42 4QE, tel 0151 645 3767

HMS Children: Calling all members of the shars company 1945 December 1947 -a record is being planned for 1997. If you are intereded, contact Jack Shuti (Hed Messbeck) at 21, Fartworth Pd, Longton, Span-co-Trent, Stafts ST3 STR, tel D1762 Uhanik

HMS Amphion 1936-29 (renamed HMAS Perth): Memorabilia, talles etc respired for Royal Australian Nary Mutanin Also any photos to oppy and return. Contact Es-PO(A) Bob Bonifaca amid the

pleaned to hear horn arypre who served with tem 1019 58, Ring 01/97/250453.

Over to you HMS Resolution bosing medal: A boys James Contact Frank Steanson, 1 .enscribed

Hytten Rd. Durhars City DH1 5L5 Frederick William Bartlett, Does anyone recall serving with Frederick Bartiett, lant at sea ph. July 13, 1945? His last ship was HMS Siniter, If anyone knows more about his loss, could they contact his brother, ex RM Brian

Keniatrin Rd. Wallatey Merteynide LH 600, tel 0151 639 8018 HMS Haveo: Mr E. Livin, dr 68, Lutter Rd, Pauligrove: Portuneutti, POE 4AE, tra a durry written in ted ek in an execute boos by a number of Havoc's ships company while element a Lagranuit, Argenia in 1942, 8 you know who kept the dury prease contact Mr. Livet, who was on the cruster FM2 Marcheoler when the was lock of Keldos HMS King George V: Mr.F. Goodern ha

V: Mr F. Goodern has no the KGV. Drie can per particular tent timot at States States early in 1944, along with HBI Ships Annon and Have voting colour coded shellburst. M December require the Control Rever perts of the rangementer and Control Rever Layer

Reserved

re closed - was the Control Tower Laye sight gyroscopically controlled? Also, a KGV toot had an unusual replacement for a rule

HMS Pearl 1935-46 Crew Association

will be holding to 115 receipt at Padinam. or Burliey Lance on April 11 12 Farmer thansame should get in bouth with Good Loncemhre at 1 Resentant Coart South Hill Are, Hansar on the Hill Media HA1 3NR, tel

45 Royal Marines Commando (1942-45) Association: Reunion April 11 14 of CM Tops Homi. Shankin, Island Wight, Any for manimentaris of the unit not yet signed up

muld contact the tacratary. Peter Fisher

ing its 36t rearron on the weekend of April 18-21. All ex-Cumberlanders who pin the association are welcame along with weeks to partners. Details from John Draper, Angulath Crans Lave. Berkey, Kant DAS 1942 tel 01:322 523438.

MCNESS Rende Range Markers reunion will be between April 21-23 in Burlon Delburline Further information from Mrs. Jay Freeman, 14. De Feners Court. Tantworth St. Dullweit, Derbydnie DC56 4HL, Int S1332 sander.

HMS Bulleer rearrant will be hard horn April 25-28 al the 52 Anne's Hotel, AB and come Details herr Stephen Kaeler, Fall A 2 Maits Ave. London W2 117, MI 0171 723

HMS Whitesand Bay Association in

naiting its 9th reumon at the Royal Salers Home Club. Portundulti, on April 29. Details from Geoft Nightingare, 208, Galley Hill, Galebridge, Henal Hempshaad, Herts HP1 In Junior Control Control (1997)

Royal Naval Staff College:

A dinner to mark the end of

training at the Royal Naval

Staff College will be held in

the Painted Hall at Greenwich

on March 14. Attendance will be open to all past Commandants, Directors and

Directing Staff of both cours-

es and support staff. Details

from Staff Officer (Admin)

RNC Greenwich ext 4002.

3LD: IIII 01442 63405

HMS Cumberland Association is held

60 644559

21814

toot had an unusual replacement for a rul-der tes termispheres attached to tiller and wheel controlling direction and speed. What mas this called? Answers to Mc Goodwin at The Mount Astan Munslew Crown Ants. Stroppine SV7 96/H. te 01584 bit1208. HMS Letterston. Mr A. Martin, of 21, Durster Ho, Worsky, Manchester M28 1587, is researching the life and times of M1160 HMS Letterston and would like more infor-mation about his od shue, and to obtain a cap ribbon and any photos. Of particular interest is the fair free weeks and disposal

ter fast fire weeks and disposal HM Submarine B11: Could anyone give Mis C Devel any internation on this safe marine which same Turkish batteship Mestodyah in The Dartantee, December 1914, aeroing the WD for her CO. Li Norman Hotevice, and DSMs to the entire crew Mrc C ponobly and block with the most stored all Decempe Elis. He date Lak much of his war explort, and Mis Dowel doesn't recal see my a DSM amongst his medial. Contact her at 32. Hodson Clock, Ashmore Park

THE ASSOCIATION OF

ROYAL NAVY OFFICERS

Patron Her Majesty The Queen

ARNO, the Officers' Chaestable and Social fellowship, is open to all Serving and

Formed in 1925, ARNO's primery purpose is to assist. Members including

on the proceeds of its assets which exceed \$2 million, wherever there is a need.

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Generoia cash payments with mortgage and with Life Assignable, and competitive

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ance, travel, hotels, clothing and hirewear, car hire, medical, jewellery and many

more. A List of Members and a high quality interesting colour Year Book are

neued, and ARNO organises "Regional Social Functions and Group Holidays"

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Please send me details and a membership application form:

kinetary Members (the widows of former members) with grants and burtaries

Retired Commissioned Officers of the RN, RM, WRNS, QARNNS and their

repton WV11 2PN Dog overboard: James Ferrier, of 3 Drybridge Street, Montrauth, Gwart, NPS SAD, tel 01600 714543, recalts a shory doing the rounds in the Med in 1944-45, which tells hp on passage across the India ich loss her dog sverboard unob Ocean served. Within a day or two another warship

sating in the other direction, spotted and reo curd the dog, still alive. True or fantasy? Sir George Burtlete HCB. Hear Admiral of the White Squadron, Circl East Index was commissioned in 1177, ded in Septence-1815 in Machas. In 1814 his was Colonel of Marines. He had a brother Charles, a less femant in the Navy Parter Burtlen, of 17 Salebury Pid, Entreld, Middle ER3 6H4, has been nying to research för George 1 Hs, bur uan find Ville information. Can vou help? Sir George Burtton KCB. Hear Admiral the White Squadron, CriC East Index was hind tote internation. Can you help? Argylishire and Lord Snowden: Car

Argylishine and Lord Snowden: Can ny reader provide a photograph of either serier, the former tost a Durkwit 1941, the ther surk of Fahrouth tobowing a collision (42, Please write to Graham K, Sait, K, Lawingo Dourt, Familian, Hands PO18-BPO HMS Implacable: Devis Leathert, of Instraad Postcards, 3, Tamar Close, Jonatom Veching, Susses BH13, 332, bel 1903 251080; nai a photo taken on HMS implacable of October 23, 1947 – could you in the polariet?

in the picture? Rohna: Retred San Francisco editor Don

Centure was to per convey KW26 from Oran to inde on the British Inde ship Replat but engine problems delayed ter, and te antoded as attach, etch resulted in the uni-ing of the Roma, with over 1,000 lives ten. He wants details of the attack, and the num De of the convery which Rapita lineally joined Contact Den via Capitan B. MitManus, Elward, St Asagn Ave, Kinnei Bay, Rhyi Denograhwe LL 18 Shik, an 01155 338244. Flat Top Combet: Author David Wragg

whill like to hear how those who eithe crewed ancraft carners or few avcraft of en horn 1939 to the present day Contact n at 54. Stoneyflatts. South Queenstery, 00 SKU, ter 0131 319 2324. HMS Carysfort 1922; P. Hayler has a

Twis Carport 1922, Payler fail incided Afred Watson, HMS Caryston, ontarchapte, it contains tamly photos and chares of Caryster's pet dog and cal, post-work, etc. Any guaries on 01329 332786 solv) or 01329 510290 shomes. George Billery, Cadet David Bilen is any contained and any call the solution.

George Britler, Caber David Brien is seeking doctmictor on this great grantfather. George Bilten, who issue a chief yeoman and lanved in HMS Costach, Stantonys, Eveler and Ajas, Contact David at 154, Banter Rd, Seetlout Marcheolae M32 SAE Stoker G.S. Deaker: F. Deaker wants to

one record of his tate father's 24 vears in the Navy. He was in the 1925 Reyal Tournament Potomouth Command tug of war learn (115 store - HMS Sonid 1, and a second, medial, indicates, another tug of ear learn in Portiano in 1934. All other records of thigs served etc were lost in a house treavence. Any information or photos greatly.

coated: Mr Deaker Ives at 7, R Close, Wardon on Thomes, Survey KTS2 IEE, Adviatic sinkings: The Underwater Group of the Italian Naval Association and the town council of Parto Recards hope to organise a photographic enhibition about the wrecks of the ships which sark on July 24, 1944, hear the town. They would like to hear host survivors of the two shops to order ta-Nom survivors of the two ships to collect teo monies about the incident. Contact Mrs Carta Stela. Via Montarice 36. 62017 Porto Recorati MC, Italy, Isl and Tax 0044 71

J. McNaught MEM2 and T. Rigby AB: Carl anyone advise on which ships these men served? Mr. E. Grillets has campaig and also respectively to Roothern has campaig medials respectively to Roothern housing and former, but no further details, Any informa-an in structed confidence to Mr Giffins, 17, Sandhurzt Close, Preston PRe 23G, tel 11772 671870.

HM3 Jamaica, Far East 1949-51: Carl HMS Jamaica, Far East 1949-51: Can yeu heip replace stalen photos at Singapore isong Konea, Sasetto, Subic Bay Inchan and Konea, Sasetto, Yokahama, Kure Harbour and olty, and on-board anaza. Christmas parto He? Also photo warried at HMS Tertor, Singapore, Contact Maunce Stanley 22, Port Reyai HM, Woocease WRS 187, tel 01905 352810. Cap tailiae: Fastnee Archaft Handler Geof Lonsdates cap tailes from his service in the 1940s and 50e were timpen away, and fee would like tailes from the fallowing 50

fe would like tables from the following to replace them HMS Royal Artrus, implacable, Peregrine and Sickin, He has a tally of the old Victorious, on which he did not serve. which he pould hade. Contact him at 89a Report St. Moulton, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 8NX tel 01606 592180

re onz. to prove such as Tom Weight: Tom's widow Pauline equit to hear faint shipmakes who served with h 1940-45 in the following: rescue top the fr Champion, ministeeper HMS Borde, depot ship Bierneim sicelandi. Ticlass destroye HMS Termagant, HMS Byrsa Naples show base, communications branch, Contac Pauline at 5, Cartoppas Close, Sr Mowgan Comwall THB 4,3H, tel 01637 BIORDS

HMS Dorsetshire: Mile Alsten bought a Here between the Autor bought a silver mediation in Muta showing the ships badge and, on the reverse, the inscription "Aquatic Sports 1935" Can amyone provide cetain? Contact Mike at 6. Beimont Park Rit, Madevhead SL6 6HT, bit 01628 29655.

HMS Stratagent: Mck Mills is seeking atives of R. Howlett, F. Phillips and S.

Richers, ex-Stratagen submariners wh deal in captivity in Singapore in December 1944 Please phone Mos on 01723 571997 Lt Cdr Wainwright: Sant to Ab ninesweeping base early in 1940 as GMSO and boma in HMT Gunner until she was altoand bond in Androssan in December 1940. Can anyone tell Test Lamont of L1 Cat Warwight's movements after the traver left Accement? Contact 014 J 27 2000 cell fair. HMS Hurst Castle: tan Winan is ial for Donegal shipwrecks and is keen to locate anyone aboard the

on-effer when she was surill off inerand in optember 1944. Contact trim at 30 Endmit Rd. Bangor Co Down

Mich SPO Walter James Ward: Walter's represe is hoping to tack relatives of his uncle, who dawd in August 1943 when his sloop, HMS Egnet, was such of Span. Contact John Ward at 73. Cambody Read East, Ramegate, Keit CT11 0LA.

HMS Royal Arbitrar and HMS President V Can anyone supply Bob Hardingham with relevant group class numbers and or photos in which the featured? Bob joined Royal Arbur at Skepness on April 1 1942, destined to become a Source Asserbant. After Initial training the joined President V al Highgate London, the Supply and Secretarial School on May 7 1943, completing the cause on June 30. Contact Biole at 27. Kinghts Rd, Bournemouth, Donaet BH11 957, tel 01202 576646

Leading Stoker Arthur Dyaph: Arthurs Leading societ writing bybot: Arthur bybot: Arthur s son would like information about this tatives, and served it submarrives. He was in HMS Regent 1038-41, and was limit in PEIS, to-pedded by a U boat of West Ahica in April 1943. It anyonis kines Arthur, or has protect of the boats' crews, contact Mr Dyson at 6. Kentrives Drive, Paristly, Winal, Marseyside 1841.00

HMS Spartam: The mece of late Place Mechanic William Bernard Smith would like to hear from anyone who served with him during this career, or has details of the tuss of the cruster Spartan of Ance in January 1944, Please contact Pat Smith, co 27, General Crescent, Brentwood, Essee CM14 411 bit 6727 202020 wi 01277 225342. 430

Rescue Tug Turmoil: Are there any map naccer seg turnes, we need any ong inal creat internation about its waiting and might have information about its waiting movements with stragging? Contact Wilam Parker at Flart 42, hamble R4, Cospon Hams PO12 3R3, tel 01705 588782

Hannis PO12 3RJ, tel 61705 568782 AB David Kiny, Last heard of in 1571, aged 28, all Fic w Gusniery Range, Fostemouth, and used to live at Chichester Hause, West Leigh, Haward, If anyone knows of his whereaboutic contact Richard Bignedi at 23, Fane Way, Raintein, Kant ME6 9TD, HMS Bitmingham 1947; Does anyone have photos of the vint of the Vicency of India to the ship's company in Mabias, 19477 It is please contact Mir L. Axtord at 28, Medine Ave, Neesport, telle of Wight.

Ave, Newport, Ne of Wight, Battle of Crete 1941: Ken (Jan) Other is writing a book about the pruser HMS Disconter, sum on May 22 1941 during the Battle of Crete, and he is anxious to interview any writestas from other ships in the vicinity, particularly anyone serving in the Greyhound, Kandahar, Kingston or Fyl. Central Ken at 21 Dens shill Dive. Batter Centact Ken at 21, Denn Hall Drive, Bishop Auckland, Co Durtism DL14 6UF, or tel 51386 607308, revenung chargen 8 desired. Stoker Kenneth Price: Calin Price is

information about this brothe Heking-Kenneth's tate - he was polled missing, premeet killed on HMC Tronstat in May 1642 Write to Colin at 32. Greenfinch Rd.

Claude

Shouth day, West Midtards Ding 2447 Cyril George Winght was hold with HMS. Nepture in the Med in 1541, and at a memo-rial ceremony in 1991 his next of kin was given as a daughter. The was unknown to one of Cyrils relatives, Graham Carkeek, et 38. Batter Grove, Moera, Lower Hut, New Zealand – Iair number 4-515-0157 (office froum - N2 is roughty 12 hours atlead) – who multi like throughter woman. would like to made this woman Philip Sampson: Michael

amption has no memories of his late father, member of the Royal Corps of Naval onsituctors, who deel in an air raid of Matta

on April 25, 1942, Could anyone who remains tern: Claude contact Michael at School House, Little Torrington, Torrington, Devon EXX8 6P5, bil 01805 623445, at he would

C.E.Cowcher, HMS Ariadhe 1946

Anyone with information about Mr Cowcher, or 16 Mess HMS Anadre, or his lamity is

of 16 Mess MMS Anadrik, or his lamity is asked to contact Mrs F Seckold, 48 Angle Place, Missis Point, NSW 2000, Australia, She was tomorely Farence Baland, daughter of Thomas Baland of Weshich, London Durged RAF planes: Del you serve an the tipp ench, at the end of the Second World Witz left Alexandria loaded with sur-pus RAF ancrait and durged them in the MedT Drivere you involved in the shore based appents of this specificanth - con-cold help Raft Sangaard's measure.

could help Kart Klanigaard's research - on

lact him at the Halifax Avcraft Associat 659 Thicket Way, Orleans, Ontario K4A 383, Canada, tel and fax 613 800 5856.

CONTRIBUTORS to the free At

ddress their letters specifically to

the Editor, Navy News, and write as briefly as possible.

leaders who wish to have notices

ubmit their entries at least two

Navy News regrets that it cannot accept more than one insertion for

each reunion - so please do not

send in your item too far in

the event

advance. Likewise, we cannot

publish reports of reunions after

Our Over to You section is greatly over-subscribed, and though every effort is made to place sub-

nissions as early as possible,

delays of up to four months are

of Reunions published should

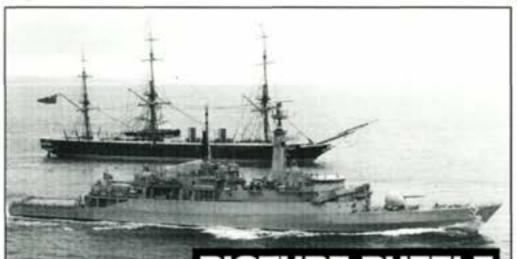
months before the date of the event. Due to pressure on space

Advice

pa. West Midlands DVS 2HV



Royal Naval Association



Door is open to the hall of fame

ATLASTA Hall, headquarters Mitcham, Morden, of Wimbledon and Richmond branch, is a popular port of call for shipmates of No. 1

Area and visiting branches. A lively spot on Saturday nights, it offers "big cats", a sods opera and music for all tastes with Dorothy on piano and Ron on

The branch, formed in 1975, opened its club premises eight years ago. Its success is due to a hard-working committee and the

Branch of the month

distinctive naval atmosphere of its interior

Port, starboard and musthcad lights reveal a fine collection of naval memorabilia and displays, including three hammocks kept permanently slung beneath a huge battle ensign.

The main deck boasts 153 plaques, 16 penisants, umpteen group photographs, rope work and 18 models of ships from Tudor times to the present. They include a German U-boat which can dive to 20ft.

Members are justly proud of their clubhouse and its welcoming atmosphere. Nor have they forgotten those who helped make it possible and have since crossed the bar. Their memory is honoured by way of a large oak anchor bearing their name

Atlasta Hall welcomes visitors, especially on Saturday nights. To book a date, ring Fred on 0181 241 0030 on Wednesday, Friday or Saturday at 1900-2000.

In Brief

SHIPMATE Ian Twilley of Long Beach (California) branch, on hol-iday in the UK and Scotland with his wife, was delighted to meet his old Commanding Officer in HMS Ajax, Capt Brian De Courcy-Ireland, aged 96 and still fit.

LUTON & Dunstable branch enjoys entertaining shipmates, and has had many visitors in the past months. The HQ makes an ideal stop-off for travellers on the M1 and is easily located from Junction 10.

VENUE for Torbay's monthly meetings has been changed to the Trecarn Hotel, Palermo Road, Babbacombe, Torquay, on the last Thursday of the month at 1945. The Christmas party will be held on December 10 at 1930.

TO MARK their retirement, Leicester shipmates Ken Steele (chairman) and E. Brick (secretary) were presented with cut-glass tankards by vice president, Shipmate A. Plant.

PICTURE PUZZLE WINNER of the Navy occasion. As a clue, the year News Picture Puzzle

competition in our October issue is Mr George R. Dart of Northolt. His entry was drawn from replies which identified the mystery ship as HMS Colombo (pictured in 1927). She served from 1919-48, spending much of her early

years on the China Station. Mr Dart receives our cash

prize of £25. A further prize is offered for a correct solution to this month's puzzle. Name the ships and the

was 1987, although the pen-nant and squadron numbers of the modern ship have

of the modern ship have been disguised. Complete the coupon and send it to Mystery Picture, Navy News, HMS Nelson, Partsmouth PCI 2014. Coupons giving correct answers will go into a prize draw to establish a single wirner. Closing date for entries is January 15. More than one entry can be submit-ted, but photocopies cannot be accepted. Do not include anything des in your enveloper no correspon-dence can be entered into and no entry returned. The winner will be announced in our February dettion. The competition is not open to Navy News employees or their tamilies.

MYSTERY PICTURE 22

Name..... Address My answer

Branch News

Hereford

With over 48 members attending meetings, the branch continues to flourish. Members held a successful Trafalgar dance and travelled to Llanelli for No. 7 Area Trafalgar parade.

A visit was arranged to HMS Gloucester, and it was hoped that another could be made to HMS Fearless. Donations of £100 were made to the Central Charities Fund and Hereford Sea Cadet

unit. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at the Railway Club,

Thurrock

Fifty-two shipmates and wives from Walton-on-Naze, and guests from Pembroke House attended a branch social at which Shipmates Joe Ashbolt and Len Howe received life membership present-ed by the chairman, Shipmate Charlie Mercer.

Swindon

A sponsored canoe dash down the Thames by Shipmates Tony (Tug) Wilson and Chris Hedges, taised over £700 for the LS Paul Wilson appeal. The canocists covered the 125 miles from Lechlade to Teddington Lock in three days. Shipmate Mick Gazzard provided back-up for overnight stay Clifton Hampden and Hurley. back-up stays at

Cheshunt

Prayers and hymns marked Trafalgar Day at a Sunday service in Christ Church, Waltham Cross, The Rev. Martin Banister, branch chaplain, conducted the service at which the standard was displayed. Later 40 shipmates and wives including the branch president, Shipmate Harold Chalkley, and the chairman, Shipmate Ron Joy joined parishioners for coffee.

Leyland

Members who attended both the VE and VJ Day parades last year have received a scroll bearing a verse quoted from The Epic of Jurland by Sir Shane Lewis (1885-1971)

Headingley No.1

The branch's links with HM submarine Vanguard were renewed when 12 members were invited on board. They included Shipmate Bill Russell whose son, Capt David Russell, was, as a Commander, CO of Vanguard's port crew. On this occasion the visitors

Looe

IN MEMORY of their late secretary and founder member, Shipmate Richard Coulson, Leyland branch has commissioned a large, impressive plaque showing the badge of Richard's wartime ship, HMS Croome.

Richard's brother Joseph, an amputee who served in the old HMS Illustrious, is pictured being shown the plaque by the branch's welfare officer, Shipmate Joseph Wharton.

Richard, who died early this year, was serving in Croome when she sank an Italian submarine in 1941 and when, in the following

year she assisted in the sinking of two U-boats. The plaque was dedicated by the Area padre, the Rev Peter Aisley RN retd, at Leyland RNA Club.



DID YOU KNOW that the sailors of Nelson's day sometimes used eel skin as a "heart" when plaiting their hair into pigtails? . . . Or that banyan days once referred to Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays when no meat was issued?

If you didn't know that the first "Tug" Wilson was Admiral of the Fleet Sir Arthur Knyvet Wilson VC, or that the bitter end derives from the better, inboard end of the hemp cable secured to the bitts, then The Real Royal Navy - A Handbook of Customs, Superstitions & Traditions may be just the book you need.

Compiled by an anonymous, retired RN captain in the 1920s, it has been reprinted by Vancouver Island branch of the RNA. Their 100-page volume has been produced from a tattered copy of the original, found in London by a member of the Royal Canadian Navy while serving with the RN Submarine Service.

were welcomed on board by the

current CO of the port crew, Cdr

Information imparted includes an item on the custom of wearing paying-off pennants. They are alleged to have originated in the 19th century when all cleaning rags were put together and hoisted as a sign that they were finished with.

Tit-bits

Length of the pennant is gov-erned by the length of the ship, provided she pays off on the prop-er date and at the proper time, plus one-twelfth of her length for each period of a commission stretching from two years to two years two months,

Among the wealth of tit-bits about the Navy's past is this tale from HMS Melpomone under the command of Charles Edward Ewart in 1859-62:

Nobby Ewart was the famous captain who was so keen on spir d polith that he was displeased because his private stock of pool-try was not fallen in and cleaned for Sunday rounds.

The person in charge had been severely punished on one occasion for neighboring this divit; and on a future occusion hit on the expedient of painting the birds and falling them in on a plank by means of a tin tack through the webs of the ducks and a stople over the toes of the chickens!

Capt Ewart's reaction to such a riposte is not recorded.

☐ The Real Royal Nevy may be obtained from RNA Vancouver Island Branch, c/o RCL Branch 53 575 Trank Road, Duncan BC, V9L 2R2, Cost: £10 plus VAT.

Members have spent a lot of time on the road, visiting Stratford, Royal Learnington Spa and

Newark branches, where they were

Grantham for a buffet lunch before Christmus.

Though the branch has raised over £3,500 for equipment for the care of Shaun Tuplin, a young sulfer injured in a car crash, the

items will have to be replaced in

time, so donations will be welcome.

The branch has celebrated its

50th anniversary, the 50-years certilicate being presented by the vice president of No.11 Area, Shipmate

Ray Berry, to one of the founder members, Shipmate Edgar Pypus, Four other founder members

were present - Shipmates Sonny

🛠 Jeep

The American Legend.

SCE

JEEPLINE DIRECT

UK: 01367 244344

Derek Gunnell, Vera

Jones, Derek Gunnel Rowell and Dusty Miller.

They look forward to visiting

Wigston

Old Clee

Darlington

royally entertained.

Bexhill-on-Sea

Maj-Gen R. D. Houghton RM was guest of honour at the branch's Tradulgar Night dinner at the branch's Tradulgar Night dinner at which the toast to the Immortal Memory was proposed by Shipmate Jack Clarke who emphasised that the qualities

of Nelson were still needed. The Loyal Toast was proposed by Shipmate Lenn Murphy, and Shipmate Sheila Black read the Naval Prayer. An oration was given by Shipmate David Higgins.

Peel

Sixty shipmates from Liverpool, Pendleton and Kirkby spent a weekend in the Isle of Man. They displayed their standards at a service of dedication and remembrance at Peel cathedral and at a parade which followed.

The service was conducted the Bishop of Sodar and Man and Chaplain of the Association, the Rt Rev Noel Jones

Derby

Growth in strength of the branch is being helped by its colourful display van which hisattracted enquiries at Derby Show and other local events,

The branch also provides members with a good social life including weekend trips to ships and submarines and, more recently, to the Sam Smith brewery:

Members meet on the third Tuesday of the month at Chaddesden Park social club.

THE ROYAL NAVY OF WWII ON VIDEO

Part 10 ... EJNDIES/BRITISH PACIFIC FLEETS (Ist Phase)

Part 10...Lineurosaterintari PACIPIC FLEETS (Ist Phase) Trinco, Sydney, Marus, Sakishima etc. Making maximum use of all surviving RN archive lim this first of two projected videos is the most definitive story possible in cames form. All other episodes still available, Part 9 Op.Neptune (D-Ob-period) Part 8 Op.Tonch. Part 7 Hazards of Russian Convoys. Part 6 Periloud Waters (action in the Allantic). Part 5 Tragedy & Triumph (Bat. of N. Cape) down to and incl. Part 1 Battlephipe at War. Each is 60 mins. Price UK (21:80 post paki, Elsewhere, add (21:05, For multiple orders large discount available. Full details of this & all programmes send SAE.

N.V.T.C. BECK HOUSE, ESCRICK, N.YORKS YO4 6JH (01904) 728239

Tain Arthur, and they were treated to a tour of the boat by Lt Andrew Warneken and CPO A. Powell. In glorious weather, 55 ship-

mates set off down the River Dart for a memorable outing as guests of Dartmouth branch. They toured Britannia RN College and were treated to cream tea in the Gunroom, Darmouth

chairman, Shipmate Bill Turner, presented a framed picture of the chain of command and an emroidered badge of the Association.



AN

NoticeBoard



Appointments

Rear Admiral P. K. Haddacks to be promoted Vice Admiral and to be UK Military Representative in NATO HQ, Brussels, Feb. 24. Capt H. J. Critchley to be Commodore Naval Drafting. April

Cdr R. A. Mark to be CO HMS

Bulldog, Feb. 14

Honours

HE FOLLOWING awards for galaxies are shed service have be

NORTHEIN IRELAND GOM - Sgi lan Andres Hanis RM. GCB - Sgi Sinon Mchael Wigts RM. GCVS -WC2 Preer Richard Cooke RM. PO Ian Nathan Drakeley, MAA Kenneth William Rodgers.

OCV5 - OCAEA(E) Keith William Fred

Scott, April 8 Lt Cdr D. S. J. Tilley to be CO HMS

Lt C. K. Groves to be CO HMS Pursuer and OIC Sussex University RN Unit. Feb. 2.

FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

Points

THE following list shows the total points of the men and women at the top of each advancement roster for petty efficer and lead-ing rates as at December.

ing nates as at December. Internetatives Infi indicates that person-nel can be advanced before they are eligible to receive ment points or before the stater can be adjusted to take account of them. This resears that personnel are advanced in basic date: onder shown against 'int', resters are the basic dates of the top eligible restational.

International and the basic dates of the top eligible personnel.
The number following the points for basic dates is the number of men who were advanced during filowember.
CCMEARML - Nr (A.10.95), NR: CCMEARL: Dry, NR: CCMEARLESM - Dry, NR: CCMEAADCSM - Dry, NR: CCMEARDCSM - DR, NR: DROSEAR - 452 (24.9.91), 4. LRO(T) - 473 (45.91), 1. PORS - 452 (24.9.91), 4. LRO(T) - 473 (45.91), 1. PORS - 452 (24.9.91), 4. LRO(T) - 473 (45.91), 1. PORS - 452 (24.9.91), 4. LRO(T) - 473 (45.91), 1. PORS - 452 (24.9.91), 4. LRO(T) - 473 (45.91), 1. PORS - 452 (24.9.91), 4. LRO(T) - 473 (45.91), 1. PORS - 452 (24.9.91), 4. LRO(T) - 473 (45.91), 1. PORS - 452 (24.9.91), 4. LRO(T) - 473 (45.91), 1. PROS - 452 (24.9.91), 4. LRO(T) - 473 (45.91), 1. LRO(T)



263.361 Nil. POWIRG - 257 (14.11.91), 1; LW(R) - Dry. NIL: POWIRGS - 638 (25.8.95), NIL: LW(R) - Dry. NIL: POWIRGS - 638 (25.8.95), NIL: LW(R) - Org. PPOW - 397 (10.3.92), NIL: POWCA - NIL POWSTD - 687 (16.7.90), NIL: LW(STD - 385 (20.2.92), NIL: POWSTA - 101 (8.3.94), NIL: LW(SA - 94 (30.3.94), NIL: POWWTR - 253

Deaths

IG & protein

ick pape

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Promotions to Chief AUTHORETY was issued by Commodore liaval Manning Agency in November for the following ratings to be promoted to Chief Petry Oficer: ing Officers

To CPOCT - J M Gallagher (JSSU Alleyt, R A Jackson (SCU Laydene). Cash

To CPOMEA - S L Carson (Richmond), P J J Godfrey (Lancaster), S R Madeed (Tarbutent), N A Rowland (Drake CFM), K Spence (Drake CFM), R P Thrush (Exelec).

Spence (Date CPM), H P Thrush (Ester), To ACPOMEA - P II Benwell (Batteaue), G Currell (Acyri), C Cevans (Statism), G W J Findlay (Heptune SMD), D Fisher (Marborough), S M Fint (Talen), S Gilless (Clyde Mamand), B Jewell (Date: CFM, G Martin (Sultan), M D Rousset (CFM Partsmooth), M R Spootner (Sultan), N J Sammers (Interpid), P Walker (Sultan)

To CPOAEA H R Shinner (Sultan), A R Stevens (RNAS Culdrose), P R Childs

The CPOWEA - D J Aspey (Beaver), P W Bass (Trakigar), J Brady (CM Portsmouth), C A Dutkin (Collingenood), C L Durntleton (York), N A Fawcet (Trakigar), T A Obtion (Westerinstein, G K Nernedy (Duston), P O Lavender (DG Shop Cain Hise), S P Leeming (Lancastev), S Milward (Drake CFM), J S Ramsey (Drake CFM), P B Roberts (Westerinstein), R E Stannisord (CFM Portsmouth). fortamouth)

To ACPOWEA - M J Davey (More J Griffiths (Corrival), M J

To ACPOMT - A M Roy (RN Gibraltar).

4 LSTD(GS) - 163 (21.10.83), NH, POSA(GS) - 484 (15.11.91), NH, LSA(GS) -195 (17.6.93), NH, POWTR(GS) - 299 (14.12.80), NH, LWTR(GS) - 205 (22.5.83), 4 POMA - 115 (11.1.94), 1, LMA - VH (9.5.95),

POMA - 115 (11, 11-44, 11, 11, MA, - 147 (93, 563), Nil. PO(53) (584) (C) - 488 (31, 16, 871, Nil. LS(5) (584) - 614 (9, 16, 860, Nil. PO(75) (584), 466 (25, 3, 92), Nil. LS(75) (584), 302 (27, 7, 92), Nil. PO(853), 514 (12, 3, 91), Nil. LR(5) (584) - 546 (53, 52), 2 PO(864), 112, 3, 91, Nil. LR(5) (584), 346 (58, 52), 2 PO(864), 112, 3, 91, Nil. LR(5) (584), Nil. PO(864), 100 (10, 3, 94), 28, 554), Nil. PO(864), 100 (10, 3, 94), 29, 014, 11, LAMEMINJ(584), 100 (10, 3, 94), 20, 014, 11, LAMEMINJ(584), 100 (10, 3, 94), 20, 014, 11, 12, 20, Nil. LSA(584), 247 (11, 3, 93), Nil. LWTR(584), 545 (2, 11, 92), Nil. LWEAR(75), S45 (10, 2, 11), Nil. LSA(584), 20, 118, 2, 300, 11, POWTR(584), 545 (2, 12, 20), Nil. LSTD(584), 1, 205 (10, 2, 17), Nil. PO(4, 10, 1, 11), (13, 3, 10), Nil. LSA(584), 20, 118, 2, 300, Nil. LWTR(584), 545 (2, 12, 20), Nil. LSTD(584), 1, 2245 (10, 2, 17), Nil. PO(4, 10, 1, 11), (13, 3, 10), Nil. PO(4, 10, 11), (11, 12), Nil. PO(4, 10, 11), (11, 2, 11), Nil. PO(4, 10), Nil. PO(4, 10, 11), (11, 2, 17), Nil. PO(4, 10), Nil. PO(4, 10, 1, 11), (11, 10), Nil. PO(4, 10), Nil. PO(4, 10, 11), (11, 2, 11), 11, PO(4, 10), 123 (27, 3, 20), Nil. LAMERIM), 440 (7, 5, 32), 4, PO(4, 10), Nil. LAMERIM), 410 (7, 5, 32), 4, PO(4, 10), Nil. LAMERIM, 410 (7, 5, 32), 4, PO(4, 10), Nil. LAMERIM, 410 (7, 5, 32), 4, PO(4, 10), Nil. LAMERIM, 410 (7, 5, 32), 4, PO(4, 10), Nil. LAMERIM, 410 (7, 5, 32), 4, PO(4, 10), Nil. LAMERIM, 410 (7, 5, 32), 4, PO(4, 10), Nil. LAMERIM, 410 (7, 5, 32), 4, PO(4, 10), Nil. LAMERIM, 410 (7, 5, 32), 4, PO(4, 10), Nil. LAMERIM, 410 (7, 5, 32), 4, PO(4, 10), Nil. LAMERIM, 410 (7, 5, 32), 4, PO(4, 10), Nil. LAMERIM, 410 (7, 5, 32), 4, PO(4, 10), Nil. LAMERIM, 410 (7, 5, 32), 4, PO(4, 10), Nil. LAMERIM, 410 (7, 5, 32), 4, PO(4, 10), Nil. LAMERIM, 410 (7, 5, 32), 4, PO(4, 10), Nil. LAMERIM, 410 (7, 5, 32), 4, PO(4, 10), Nil. LAMERIM, 410 (7, 5, 32), 4, PO(4, 10), Nil. LAMERIM, 410 (7, 5, 32), 4, PO(4, 10), Nil. PO(4, 11), 11, 11, 11, 11), 11, PO(4, 10), N

OPERATIONS BRANCH (SEAMAN GROUP)

To CPO(D) - R H T Richard (DEF Diving

Nool) Te CPO(5) - M J Loynes (Richmond), N R derdown (Raleigh),

(COMMUNICATIONS) REGULATING AND PT

To MAA - D R P Bennett (CFPS Seal

FLEET AIR ARM

ACTING CHARGE CHIEF

Authority was issued by Commodore Nawai Manning Agency in November for the tablewing ratings to be advanced to ACCA. To ACCMEA - 5 J Matcalmson (Sultan).

CHEF PETTY OFFICER ARTIFICER

Commodore Naval Manning Agency has en notified of the following advancements Chief Petty Officer Artificer which were

To CPOAEM(M) - M J Burton (896 Sentor), C J Ritchie (RNAS Culdrose).

E Ryle (Graftor

MARINE ENGINEERING MECHANICS To CPOMEM(M) - A C Cuthai (Exostere).

Capt Roger William Lockyer RN, for rily of Second Sea Lord's staff. Nov. 15 Mil

25.3.03) NR LWWTR - 176 (18.10.83) NE POWWTR(0) Nr (15.2.86) NR POW (METOC) Ory, NR (15.2.86) NR POW (METOC) Ory, NR (14.86) Org. 25.2.80) NR POWAEBING OV NR (14.86) Org. NR POWAEBING OV NR (14.86) OF 53.80 NR (14.12.89) NR (14.12.89) NR POWAEBING OV NR (14.12.89) NR POWAEBING OV NR (14.12.89) NR POWAEBING OV NR (14.12.89) NR POWETS 539 (15.12.89) NR (14.12.89) NR (14.12.80) NR (14.12.89) NR (14.12.89)

CON LCC.3.00), NR. LWTEL - 410 (4.6.91), 1; POWWA - 256 (10.3.91), NR: LWWA - 405 (20.10.91), NR: POWDNIYG - Int (7.11.94), NR: POWDSA Int (8.8.96), NR: LWDSA - Int (20.5.96), 1; POENGO - Dry, NR: LENGO - Dry, NR: POSM - 145 (9.11.92), 2; POMA(0) - 79 (10.5.94), NR: LMA(0) - 138 (9.11.93), 2; POAMUS - Dru (8.11.93), 2; POAMUS - Dru (9.11.93), 3; POAMUS -

NE LMA(0) - 138 (0,11.50), 2 PO(AWW) - Dry, NE LOM(AWW) - Int (12.3.96), NE: PO(AWT) - Dry, NE LOM(AWT) - Int (21.10.56), NE: PO(UW) -Dry, NE: LOM(UW) - Int (13.10.56), 8: PO(UW) -Dry, NE: LOM(UW) - Int (13.11.56), 6: PO(MW) - Dry, NE: LOM(MW) - Int (13.2.36), NE PO(MW) - Dry, NE: LOM(MW) - Int (13.2.36), NE LOM(SIBM) - Dry, NE: LOM(SM) - 273 (13.12.36), NE LOM(SIBM) - Dry, NE: LOM(SM) - 273 (13.2.36), NE LOM(SIBM) - NE (25.156), 8: PO(TIM) - 133 IE.6.360, NE: LOM(TIM) - Int (23.6.36), NE PO(CIM) - 550 (13.12.30), NE, LOM(CSM) -HI - S.6.360, 4: PO(WSM) - 367 (7.1.32), NE LOM(WIM) - 560 (13.12.30), NE LOM(WIM) - 560 (13.12.30), NE LOM(WIM) - 560 (13.12.30), NE

The basic dates quoted for the female rat-legs in the following categories, which have no examination for the next higher rate in accordance with BR1086 Chapter 22:

POWDA - 509 (13.2.92), NJ: POWTEL -530 (28.4.53), NJ.

armed merchant crusser Jervis Bay and sur-vived her action with the Gamtan pocket bat-fleship Adminal Scheen. Jervis, Bay's CO, Capt Fogsrty Fegen, was killed in the action and awarded a postrumous VC. Cde Buller later servest in Boadces, Active and intrepol (as punnery officer. Survived her sething in 1943 and made POV. Escapeet and made gumenty officer of IMAS apolio for Normandy landings. Before retirement in 1967 was inspecting Offician in Navia Ordinance Dept. Appd 75.

Aged 75." Cdr Martin Ernest (Tony) Lashenore DSO, OBE, OSC. Served 1904-83. Was senior observer and then CO of 828 Squadron Rying Abacores in strikes from Mata againet Axis tripping. Ships: Ark Royal, Abatrosa, Whitesand Bay (CO). Served in Naval Intelligence Division. Aged 64.

R should be noted that the number of 012% issued in the female categories are hose advanced from the female Shore Roster.

NAVY NEWS looks back through its pages to recall some of the December headlines of past decades . .



The minesweeper HMS Invermoriston leaves Singapore – one of the force of small ships returning home at the end of 1966 after bearing the brunt of the Indonesian con-frontation at sea. As a result of one of her actions against infiltrating sampans, her Commanding Officer LI Cdr H. A. A. Twiddy received the DSC and Mid R. O'Driscoll, who was killed in the action, was mentioned in despatches together with AB Pawlett.

Swop drafts

OM15(c) M. Holland, 3HZ Mess, HMS Justham, BFPO 253, deploying March, Will and the any Physicals or Partsmouth ship for any Plymo deploying (preferably Plymouth). POMEM(L) L. G. Smith, POs Mess, HMS nchester, ext. 22772/22537, not deploy-Will swop for any Plymouth ship deploy-

OM/AN/1 Grey, 25 Mar Mess, HMS menset, BFPO 395. Will swop for any ship

not deploying next year. MEM Fagen (Scale A), HMS Illustrious, IFPO 205, deploying Jan, Will swop for any Plymouth ship deploying or not. LWEM(O) Villa, 4.5 Team W7, CFM Devonport, drafted HMS Cardill (settling

Liverskip) viris, k.p. term for the second period of the second se

Herbert Robinson Wright, Fleets Oct. 6. LI Cdr Graham Cross, member of Algerines Association (Lioness and Rosamund 1965-46). Oct. 18. B. G. (Joe) Davis, as So, member of Algerines Association (Weitare 1946-47). Oct. 27. Name Davis 1.

Algenines Association (Weitare 1946-47). Oct. 27. Harry Pugh, L.Winn 1942-44. Secretary of Penelogie Association. Jemes Gleni Watmore, ex-Citigt FM, served 1936-71. Member of NM detachement fait escoried King and Crown Prince of Norwsy to HMS Glasgow for evacuation in 1940. Shore: Glasgow for evacuation in 1940. Shore: Glasgow, King George V, Victorious. Served in E. Indies: Malta, and Arctic convers. Member of King George V. Association. Nev 2, aged 80. Michael (Mick) Symoods, ex-LSA, served 1936-77. Shigs: Victorizus, Hermas, Nortok. Oct. 28, aged 48. J. 6. (Mick) Clarter, ex-LSMW). Sinps: Ark. Royal (1963), Howercraft Trails Unit Deschard, NF 1860 (HMS) Interplet during Fabilands War, Erdurance (1965-87). Sept. 12, aged 50. Stan Sadleist, ex-RM. Ships included HMS King George V. Oct. 31. George F. Todds, served 1933-45. Tem Livesey, served 1947-56. Sinps: Taking States, end HMS Costack (DST) 1950-51. Member of HMS Costack (DST) 1950-51. Member of HMS Costack, (DST) 1945-51. Ships: Veryan Bay, Daw, Tamat.

ulticar (E) J. V. Brothers, Shipe: Tribune, nd, Onelow, Windsor, Whitesand Bay, Lt. Cdr. S. C. Carr-Smith, Shipe:

Kent, Creative, Windson, Winesand bay, Li Cefr S. C. Cerr-Smith, Shipe: Bocawen, Ceylon, Prengme, Bellerophon, Li Cefr (E) W. H. Ellie, Shipe: Whithy, Tamar, Yamputh, Fearless, Collimpedod,

Tamar, Yarnouth, Fearless, Collingwood, Defance FMD. Li Cdr P. R. Fletcher DSC. Ships:

Revenge, Aurora, Willon, Jervis, Vernon, Piover, Deflance, Mermaid, Albion, HMR25

Bona, LJ (B) J. Horley, Ships: Centaux, resident, Simbang, Davetaita, Li Cof J. C. Olsen, Ships: Buchan Ness, Jaham Castle, Rocke, Li J. P. L. Thomson, Ships: Dauritess, fin, MD2.

Cdr A. W. Tupper. Ships: Mull of albeay. Tyre. Surprise. Lyre. Li Cdr J. R. Venables. Ships: Hows, smus. Tzee, Tetterare, Dossamer, Terror.

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION

shipmane: T. Jaggel, Barnaley, member of cryw of Hd submistrie Republic ti frst commission. Bimpson Mackutt, Fleetwood. Ships included HMS Hotspur. Sept.

The deaths are reported of the following

64. Mugh Papham, es FAA plot, poet, novel-tal and military historian. Flew Sea Humoanes of 880 Sepadron. Ships: Illustious, Campania, Sinker, Eonived these crashes including one during Operation Pedestal. Book of poems. Against the Lightning published 1944. His other works included a biography of Hear Adminal for Home Ropham, a history of Britsh Naval fly-ing, a history of the Women's Transport Service and the novel Sea Beggars. His own wattine experiences apposited in Sea Flight. Aged 78. Major John Autory Smith FM. Nov. 11, Major John Aubrey Smith RM. Nov. 11, ed 72. Canges Association. Jimmey (Herby) Herbart, ex-AB, sarved 1945-57, Shipe: Veryan Bay, Drake, Tamar, Bi Vincers, Wakets, Oson, Dagvey, Harrier, Mal of Galoway, Nov. 15, aged 64. Bert McNulty, ex-Chief Air Fitter AE, served 1942-87, Manber of Angus branch of FAA Association. Oct. 29.

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Ga

Cochrane.

aged 72. William John Ross GPM, former leu-tenant FM (1942-46) and former Assistant then Deputy Chief Constable of Suffak 1960-70. Served with 537 LCA Flottin operating from HMS Empire Buttleaue for Normandy landings. Oct. 4, aged 78. Collin G. Avia, member of RNA and LST and Landing Craft Association (served in LST 3043). ASSOCIATION OF BN OFFICERS Lt (E) M. J. K. Bowden, Ships: Berwick, Ark Royal, Abdiel, Victory, Collingwood, File,

K. Tallis, ex-Sto1, member of SOCA. Imarines: Satacen, Sybil, Safari, Aged 73.

ade

Submarines: Seracen, Sybil, Safari Aged 73. Charles (Wally) Hammond, member of HMS Sish Veterans Association. Also served in Redmit. POW in Italy, Oct., aged 80. John Howe, ex-AB, member of HMS Cavalier Association. Oct 16. aged 75.

Causer Association, Oct 16, aged 75, Frederick Bathe, member of HMS Argonaut Association, Also served in Malaya, Courseous, Oct, aged 80, James Briggs BEM, es CPCME, served 1946-76, Ships: Eagle, Anthin, Sultan, Oct, 11

Michael A. West, ex-FAA observer 1958-

R. W. Lee, Ships: Striker, Plucky, Ness, Sursay, Oct

Robert Ainsworth, ex-ERA, member of Algerines Association (Acute 1945-46). Oct.

Roy Harby, ep.PO, member of Algerines isociation (Acute 1942-43). Oct. 9. Len Veisy, ex-L/Winn, member of gerines Association (HMS Brave 1943-45). Ast

Eric Torbell, ex-AVeo, member of prives Association (Rifleman 1945-46)

W. R. (Bill) Webb, sx-LSBA, member of Agerines Association (HMS Cadmus 1942) 45: Oct 17

Oct. 6. R. A. Black, Portsmouth, Ex-RM musi-can. Oct. 25. aged 54. R. Kingswood, Paddock Wood, Ex-PO, Shipa incuded Anterbyst, Shiopahee, Served on Russian conveys (surk herce): sub-maines, Combined Ops. Joned RAF after war. Oct. 18, aged 78. Brian Wibitaker, Stockton-on-Tees, for mer member Birmingham, Aged 58. Bill Gibson, Stockton-on-Tees, Aged 63. Ron Ingram, Stockton-on-Tees, Aged 53. Bornie Williams, Ukbridge, Ex-Ab, served 1943-48. Terry Gammon, Swanses, Ex-Ste. Ships

C

Terry Gammon, Swanasa, Ex-Still, Ships san, Protector, Also member of RM rvices Association and RBL. Oct. 22, aged Ocean

Graham New, Swindon, Ex-AB, Shipe: Revenge, Vaneta (survivor), Mallard, Parstörio-Aged 78.
Stan Sorrell, Swindon, Aged 70. John McMillian, Iounder member Southempton, Ex-CPO FAA, Shipe Included HMS Indestigable. Oct. 23. aged 75. Tony Bradford, Wear (Sunderland), Oct. 21. aged 71.

21, aged 71. Thomas Haden Weatherer, Utuveter & District Served during WWIII in HMS Trent, Far East. Oct. 6.

Far East, Oct. 6. Ron Steers, Kingston upon Thams, served 1914-80. Steps: Kindscriey, inshore minenweepers and corvettes. Aged 71. Iver John Davy, Ustridge, Ex. CPO REA. served 1950-72. Ships: Phoenicia, Dryad. Aphrodite, Cootrame, Lachievar, Pambroke, Terror.

W. J. (BIR) Ford, Cheinsteit, served 1940-46. Shigs: Faulters on Russian col-voys. Held Burna Star, one of first into Singapore after Japanese surrender. Nov. 8, aged 70. Vernon (Tubby) Beven, chairman third. Oct. 10.

Jen (Polity) Perkins, Rombard, Ex-LCK, served 1941-65 a 7 in MN 1945-51, Ships: Valant, Poory, M. way (surviver), Medway R, Demetrica, Perseus, Fossbeck, Wctory, Nov 12, aped 78.

Nov. 12, aged 78. John O'Mahoney, es-LSA. Ships: Neptures, Ameer. HMAS Sydney, HMAS Altaboss. Aged 77. John Witred Ward, secretary Nuneation, an member Hindley, Ex-LSB, sovied 1949-56. Ships: Bermuda, Eagle, Goldcrest, Oct. 29, aged 65. Fred Talbot, Ille member Deputchidge & District, Oct. 27. Albert (Deev) Smith, Thursock, Ex-MN

Albert (Tony) Smith, Thursock, Ex-MN and Trinity House, Nov. 3. Arthur Brown, Thursock, Ex-L/Winn, Nov 12 Frank Dawson, Thursok and Basidon, w. 10.

No

Nos 10, J. Woodcock, Fleetwood. Ex-submarine: Boats: Froteus. Vox. Oldest mamber of Blackpool and Fystle branch of SOCANex. 10, aged 81. Adrian Stokes, Wilesden, Ex-All gunner. Snips: Indetallgable. Inclonitable, Montchine Delight. Member of Ton-class Association and HMS Indomitable Association. Aug. 4, aged 45.

40 years ago

The Suez operation was largely Naval, Parliament was told by the First Lord of the Admiralty, Viscount Hailsham. The aircraft were largely Naval aircraft the land forces were largely Marines, and, of course, the carriage was largely by sea". He said the work was carried out "with faultless efficiency and absolutely unswerving devotion to duty."

30 years ago

The Navy had been over-extended as a result of the Indonesian confrontation and the Beira patrol to enforce sanctions on Rhodesia, said the Second Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Desmond Dreyer Speaking at the annual meeting of the Royal Naval Benevolent Trust, he said there had been too much family separation - which had to be reduced. While there was no question of giving up commitments, he pledged that separation would be cut from 18 months to 15 as a first step.

20 years ago

internouth or Phymouth ship not deploying

RO1(Q) M. Noonan (small ships trained) hery Protection Squadron, HMNB ramouth ext 26385. Will swop for any

Intal step. OMAW1 Martin, 3H2 Mess, HMS Boover, BIPO 255, deploying Jan, Will swop for any Portsmouth or Devonport Type 22/23 not

deploying, WOM(C11 Cumming, HMS Collingwood ext 2044, drafted HMS Cumberland, March 5, Will swop for any Portsmouth ship deploying

WOMAWI Knight, SDP Mess, HMS strieus, BFPO 305, Will swop for any Type

Buthous, BFPO 305, Will swop tor any Type 42 or CVS not deploying. WEM(R) Walsh, FOSF Rocych est 64375, drufted HMS Warker, March, Will consider anything in Flymouth area. POMELMUID, Rich, 6P POs Mess, HMS Bustrious, BFPO 305, Will swop for any Portsmouth) not deploying or on short deployment.

POCH Thomas, POs Mess, HMS Comeus, BFPO 256, will consider anything. AB(5) Milibum (2016 trained), HMS Beagle, BFPO 224, will consider any dtaff,

deploying or not. OM(UW)1 Jackson, HMS London, BFPO 329 (extended draft), deploying mid 97. Will

Wreckage believed to be parts of a Cuban airliner which crashed into the sea after blowing up were found by the frigate HMS Tartar after a six-hour search off Barbados. The ship was in Chaguaramas when she was asked by the British High Commission in Barbados to look for the airliner, a DC-8.

> swop for any Portamouth or Plymouth si Incl deploying, LS(M) Gurney, SD Part Mess, HMS Invincible, BFPO 308, deploying Sept. Will seep for any Pyrnouth ship deploying or not. Also any base ship except CV3. LSA(G) Davison, 814 NAS, 2H Mess, HMS Invincible, Will seep for any Portamouth who devlowed or not.

No.5 eventues in each of the second secon

Itamouth ship. LWWTH Jehnson, UPO, HMS Ruleigh, alted UPO, HMS Drake, March. Will swop any UPO in Portsmouth.

for any UPO in Portamouth. LWWTR Hartley, UPO, BPNC Damnouth exit 7548, oracled Fakland Is., April for Soar months. Will consider any shore base. LS(M) Harriyn (GWS 25 Mod 4 and visu-at trained; HMWB Portsmouth ext. 23647), drafted HMB Edeburgh, Maron, as GEA1 gun controller. Will consider any other draft, preferably in Plymouth area. WEM(R1) Therepaon (TON trained), 4 Mesa, HME Herald, BFPO 296, will seep for any Plymouth ship not deploying in Jan.

AWIRD Gartand, HMS Nation ext 23679, Itled HMS Fearless. April, Will swop for y Portamouth ship not deploying.

LRO(T) Barnard, 6G1 Moss. HMS Bustrious, BFPO 305, drafted COMUNTG staff (sea draft, Jan. Wil consider any draft.

Award for

maintainer

THE SENIOR rating who

directed the maintenance of

Sea Harriers in action over

Bosnia has been awarded the Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service.

CCAEA(E) Keith Greenway sined 801 Naval Air Squadron

when the unit was embarked in HMS Illustrious during her Adriatic deployment early in 1994.

Charge Chief Greenway is praised for his highly skilled man-

agement during a period of ten

sion, and "his deft control and clear direction represented crucial

elements in the squadron's com-

pletion of 772 operational missions over Bosnia without loss of

£25,300 for Graf

Spee binoculars

BINOCULARS used by Capt

Langsdorff of the German pocket

battleship Graf Spee during the Battle of the River Plate have been

sold for £25,300 at a Christie's auc-

binoculars to a local electrician in

exchange for his services when the

Graf Spee put into Montevideo for

repairs after the battle.

Capt Langsdorff, gave the

tion.

aircraft due to unserviceability

ch chront

Bosnia

Harrier





facility.

•....•

RN POSTERS



RN SHIPS, AIRCRAFT AND THE ROYAL MARINES IN ACTION EACH POSTER IS APPROX 1112" X 1612" AND IS PRINTED

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Veterans at Corfu remember

a tragic incident

HE CORFU Incident of 50 years ago was remem-bered at the British Cemetary there by 130 vet-erans of the mining of HMS Saumarez and HMS Volage. Most of them had been teenagers at the time. Shielded from the glare of by the graves of 12 of their the sun by a grove of comrades who were among Cypress trees, they stood the 44 sailors who died

 THE CORFU INCIDENT: HMS Volage takes HMS Saumarez in tow. Watercolour by Isle of Wight artist M.G.Pearson. the ships struck when mines in the Corfu Channel.The finger of blame pointed to Albania, Orion and HMS HMS Superb having earlier been fired upon by Albanian

First Sea Lord Admiral Sir Jock Slater casts a wreath from the flight deck of HMS Sheffield in memof those who died in the Corfu Channel in 1945, the Greek frigate Epirus in the background



THE CORFU INCIDENT Now reprinted - The complete story of the tragedy off Corfu in 1947. £16.50 inc UK & BFPO post

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BELFAST BEAT

BAND of the Royal Marines (Scotland) beat retreat at Moscow Camp.

They were flown in for a reception hosted by Flag Officer Scotland, Northern England and Northern Ireland, Rear Admiral John Tolhurst, in the province for brief-ings with Chief Constable Sir Hugh Annesley and General Officer Commanding, Lt Gen Sir Rupert Smith.

batteries shore (see October issue).

The Remembrance Service was led by the Rev. Canon Roger Royle, Chaplain to the Corfu Channel Naval Association and the Chaplain of the 1st Frigate Squadron, the Rev. Alison Norman.

Also in the congregation were members of the families of those who died. Sir Michael Llewellyn Smith,

Britain's Ambassador to Greece, laid the first wreath, followed by First Sea Lord Admiral Sir Jock Stater.

President of the CCNA Doug Francies, a survivor from HMS Saumarez, described the events of 22 October 1946: "It began as an ordinary day

 just a bit rough and choppy as we sailed up the Channel.
We had been told there might be trouble from the Albanians but no-one had anticipated that mines would have been laid. The Albanians stood in the hills and watched us sail over

them. I changed watch with a sailor who was behind me and he died and I lived. The mine hit on the starboard side below the bridge and caved in the number one boiler room where I

many deaths and so many injuries was that when the mine blew it lifted the starboard side and twisted the ship so that all the watertight doors were jammed in their housings and

The fires below in the oil

would have been. "The thing that caused so

we couldn't get them open.

tanks burned underneath the



Veterans remember their lost shipmates at a ceremony at Corfu's British Cemetary.



LE PEAKEN!

deck and it actually glowed.

At another ceremony wreaths were laid in the Channel where the incident occurred from the Type 22 frigate HMS Sheffield which had provided a guard and route liners ashore.

Others were laid at sea by the veterans, from a vessel chartered by Sir Donald Gosling.



System clothing is tested at the DuPont laboratories

Buckets of water prove their worth in firefighting **Burning questions**

HEN tackling a blaze aboard a warship, Navy personnel for many years have had to don a Fearnaught suit, adding a heavy extra protective layer to those already worn.

Research physiologist Jim House told how he and Environmental Medicine Unit colleagues at the Institute of Naval Medicine studied two particular problems with fighting fires - the need to pro-tect people from flames and explosions, and to allow them to work in a bot, con-fined space without suffering incopacitating heat strain.

Measurements taken using realistic cenarios showed that because corrent clothing limited evaporation of sweat and increased risk of heat strain as firefighters' bodies were unable to cool down, people could work no longer than 20 mi

Overheat

In the tropics or the Gulf, when a ship's air-conditioning would be shut off, firefighters would overheat and be sle to recover quickly - yet a fire could burn for hours

Using that simple recipe for successstart at the beginning - the Institute first examined the nature of the fires and the way in which the Navy tackles them.

Temperatures in a burning compart-ent can rise to around 180 degrees Celsius - human skin starts to burn at 43C. The Navy uses a waterwall, spraying a thin vertical sheet of water to protect

firefighters, using another hose through the middle to fight the fire. The temperature behind the waterwall is around 30C - so protective clothing would only be needed if the waterwall failed or there was an explosion. Experiments proved that even at a ompartment temperature of 180C,

wing the deliberate removal of the waterwall, Action Coveralls made of fire-resistant cotton and Fearmaughts both kept temperatures around the

Firefighting at sea, often battling searing heat in a confined space, can take a tremendous toll on sailors' strength. The Institute of Naval Medicine, at Alverstoke in Gosport, has been looking at two aspects of this struggle – assess-ing the degree of protection offered by clothing, and search-ing for the most effective ways of actively cooling people. In both instances, as Mike Gray discovered, the INM's findings resulted in some surprises.

Coveralls to firefighting clothing and a range of prototypes," said Mr House. "ht provided excellent protection

against fire and flash. The only time they fail would be during whole-body flame engultment, when fatal burn

injuries to the head would be sustained

before flames penetrated the 8s. This is

why the anti-flash hood was designed, to protect the whole body.

exposure.

"Even up to ten seconds

sposure, previously hought by civilian fire ser-

vices to be not survivable.

Fearnaughts and Action

Coveralls were great, with predicted borns of only

seven and 17 per cent respectively - fantastic. 'And when wet - and

with a waterwall that is

the usual state of the clothing - that prediction

fell to nought and three

per cent burns, so the gat

liantly under these very

ments are working bril-

body below 40C for at least ten minutes, providing adequate escape time. Scientists noted that on the failure of the waterwall temperature rose rapidly. As breathing apparatus uses a metal cylinder there was a possibility that the breathing air would beat up, causing a risk of mouth and lung burns. Advice on this was given by the INM, and updated Navy breathing apparatus

currently being procured will use non-metallic composite cylinders with no burns risk.

A second risk is explosion or fireballs, producing tem-peratures of 800-1,500C. In clothing tests conducted with industrial giant DuPont in Geneva, a 'Thermoman' mannequin dotted with 122 sensors was engalfed in fire for up to ten

seconds - most fireballs last no more than three seconds, and the flash of an explosion less than is second. We tried everything from Number 8s through Action



· A volunteer

cools down.

FIRESHIP - the Shadwell (left), the US Navy's fire training and research vessel. The blackened ship is used by US Coastguards.

The research really has changed peple's perception - some people tend to think if it's Navy kit it's no good, but in fact it is very good indeed." As a result of experiments, wearing

of the Action Coverall when supporting ship's firefighters has recently been approved by the Navy. This should reduce dressing time and improve speed of reaction to a large fire.

The other major need - to carry on working - led to the investigation of active cooling systems, said Mr House. Ice vests - cotion wintcoats with icepacks - were tried, but increased

weight of up to 6kg was a drawback. Vests were tested at the INM's environmental chamber and on the Shadwell, a US Navy fire and damage control research ship in Alabama, which is wired with sensors to study ship fires.

Comfortable

Initial results looked promising - they were comfortable, and they reduced heat strain, allowing people to work longer. But again, the simple approach proved unbeatable - and you can't get

such simpler than a bucket of water. "We found when bands were dipped in a backet of water between ten and 20C, personnel were cooled more efficiently than with ice-vests," said Mr House,

"This uses the body's own physiolog-ical control mechanisms which try to lose heat by increasing blood flow to extremities - which is why it feels good to dip your feet in a pool on a hot day. "This technique of dipping hands in cool water has now been recommended

as an easy and effective method of com-bating heat strain in the Navy."

The findings of these studies are of wide benefit. The US Navy is looking at the waterwall, and hand-immession cooling has sparked interest at the Honte Office fire research and development group, the Health and Safety Executive and several fire brigades.

The offshore industry and a number of large industrial organisations have also beaten a path to the Institute's door.



TEL: 01705 826040 FAX: 01705 830149







A healthy regard for Navy's fitness

Physical fitjust happen and neither do football matches, athletmeetings OF ics. swimming galas.

And the people to whom the Navy looks for fitness and sport are seeking new reenaits.

Lt Cdr Neil Hinch, Staff Officer Physical Training at HMS Temeratre, Portsmouth "To to be a PTI with you do not have to be an outstanding sports man or WAYNES, and

Wie are looking for people who have gener-al ability and good leadership qualities. and they must like to

"be among people. In order to be accepted for the six-month Physical Training course. applicants go through an aptitude test spread over nearly three days.

We look at their general fitness, their ability to take charge, give snap talks and lectures, and their general swimming ability - PTb most have the aptitude in the swim-ming pool because they must pass a lifeguard test to be on poolside.

LPT Jules Werner in flight

uid Lt Cdr Hinch. They will not be expected to specialise in any one particular sport. Before candidates take the aptitude test they would approach the ship or establishment PTI, who will help prepare them.

The new test is scheduled for HMS Temeraire on January 13-15.

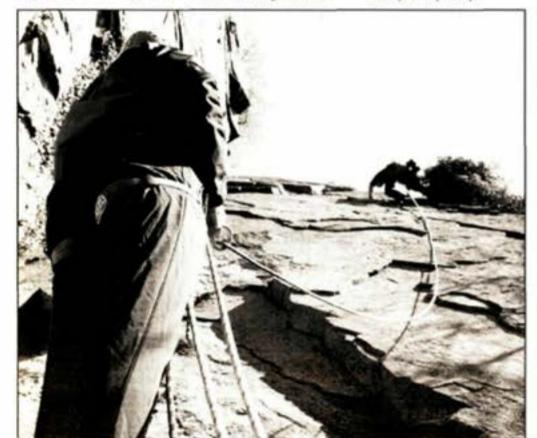
The need for PTIs goes back more a century, to the days when steam was finally superseding sail.

In Nelson's navy, sailors had or acquired a high level of physical fit-ness – working aloft, haoling on ropes, rowing boats and turning capstans all developed strength. agility, courage and self-confidence, as well as fostering tearnwork.

But as sailors spent more time below decks in steamships, lack of fresh air and exercise started to take its toll, and in 1888 volunteers were invited to become "Gymnastic Instructors" - the beginnings of the

RN Physical Training Branch. The PTI's tasks today are widely regarded as being of vital importance to morale as well as fitness -but the chief catalyst is goodwill.

He or she will be expected to per-suade, encourage and assist people to participate in sport, and above all to organise a wide variety of sports and physical recreation opportunities which are approved and recog-nised by the Royal Navy.



 Further on up the line – LPT Jonathan Kind watches Lt Cdr Chris Bate, Staff Officer Adventurous Training, climbing a rock face in North Wales



To quality for the PTI course, you must:

 Be recommended by Commanding Officer as Leading Rate potential Have a minimum of 12 months seniority as Able Rate (any branch) at start of LPT Qualifying Course Have six months VG Conduct Have NAMET 5/5 Re medicate its and charactering of Be medically fit and physically suit-

Have two years left to serve on start of PT Qualifying Course Have 12 months sea time from the age of 17 and a half Be a volunteer for sea service, if you are female Pass the aptitude test

One part of the course gives trainees a chance to organise a mini-competition amongst themselves, from arranging the venue to actually running the event. "Every major vessel has a PTL and every establishment has PTI

stiaff," said Lt Cdr Hinch are "There 222 people in the branch at the

moment, though this will fall to around 215.

"On a ship, PTIs get involved in all kinds of things. Some may be routine office writers, for example it very much depends upon each individual ship. Sometimes they are used as a sort of troubleshooter, the First Licutenant's right-hand man

"Basically their main task is keeping the ship's company fit, which keeps the motale of the ship's company up, giving them outlets for things to do. "On deployments, the PTI would go ashore with the liaison officer

and organise all the sports events against local teams - when you go into a port, one of the major things is that the ship's company wants to play sport.

In an establishment, it is mainly taking trainees and organising recreation, part of RN general training. If it is not a training establishment, a main task is getting teams together to represent the establishment.

"The PTI is the focal point for all sports."

Another aspect of the PTT's remit is adventurous training, and again the Branch is looking for people interested in outdoor pursuits.

"Once they come across, particularly on the adventurous training side, they tend to stay because it is quite difficult to get the qualifica-tions," said Lt Cdr Hinch.





 Gripping stuff – LPT Alan Nekrews searches for a firm hold on the practice rock wall.

"From the adventurous training course they will come out with Unit Expedition Leader Summer quali-fications for leading walking groups in familiar areas. Rock Leader training skills for use on rock faces, and become a British Canoe Union structor

"They also get a chance on cours-es to try out these different things, and a chance to expand their abilities. The course gives them the grounding to follow whichever avenues they would like to take."

Much adventurous training is done at a centre in Llanrwst in North Wales, which has a practice rock-climbing wall, and climbing and canoeing can be taught nearby. The Royal Navy is proud of its

sports and recreation facilities - and proud of the fact sailors can com pete with the Army and RAF despite the obvious drawbacks.

"The Navy still holds its own on the sports ground, although we are



the smallest of the three services, and we are disadvantaged by the fact that people are at sea where it is difficult to keep at the peak of fit-ness to compete," said Lt Cdr Hinch.

"The Navy's facilities are superb across the board now." Even at sea fitness can be main-

tained - each major warship has a designated fitness area, with a modern rowing machine and exercise bike sapplied by the Navy.

Places are still available on the April PTI course, and potential recruits should contact their Divisional Senior Rate/Officer to apply for a place on an aptitude test.

Following successful completion of the course, newly-trained LPTs consolidate their class-taking, administration and organisational skills by completing a 12-month probationary period in an establishment's PT office.



• Leading hand – instructor POPT Ian Hardcastle demonstrates how to get out of trouble in a capsized canoe during adventurous training in Wales.

 A question of balance – -14 Alan Holl is supported by a colleague.

 Oarsome – LPT Carl Moore (front) and LPT Geotf Clayton work hard on their technique during an adventurous training session.

Raleigh sub school move is confirmed

THE ROYAL Navy's Submarine School will be relocating to Cornwall, the MOD has confirmed.

The school, currently at HMS Dolphin in Gosport, Hampshire, will transfer to HMS Raleigh at Torpoint over the next few years, with full training unlikely to start before the next millennium

The Dolphin site will then become the new home for the Royal Defence Medical College, which is currently at Millbank in London.

The newly-established Submarine School will benefit from its close proximity to the fleet submarine squadron at Devonport, while the medical college will be adjacent to the Royal Hospital at Haslar, which has been the main hospital for the Armed Forces since April.

New base for ships

The Marine Society's training ships Jonas Hanway and the Earl of Romney are to use the Historic Dockyard at Chatham as their operational base - though the head office will remain in London.



 Prince Michael of Kent with the tree he planted.

Hail the new Caledonia

FOR THE first time in a quarter of a century a new shore establishment has been commissioned in Scotland.

The Royal Naval Support Establishment at Rosyth, commanded by Commander Quentin Banting, was commissioned as HMS Caledonia at a ceremonial was commissioned as parade held in the presence of the Countess of Elgin and Kincardine. the ship's patron, and Rear

the 250 Reservists on the books. and staff also coordinate recruitment to the unit in liaison with the Edinburgh Careers Information Office.

Most of the company live in the area between Edinburgh and Dundee, and in the last year mem bers have been as far afseld as the Far East, the Caribbean and the

Med on Navy ships and exercises. One officer, Lt Nick Dorman, an executive with a towing company. spent two weeks on eschange with the US Navy in Texas, learning about their new mine countermea-sures vessel the USS Avenger. Chief Wren Colette Wenyss

Chief Wren Colette Wemyss spent a month of HMS Fearless in the Caribbean, while LS Gavin Watt spent two weeks on mine-hunter HMS Walney on exercise in the Mediterranean.

Tolhurst, Flag Officer Scotland, Northern England and Northern Ireland. The parade featured the first

performance, by the Royal Marines Band (Scotland), of The Lady Elgin Air while she inspected the guard of honour. The music was specially com-

ned by the Director of Music, Lt Chris Davis RM, and the framed musical score was presented to Lady

Elgin at a reception. The new HMS Caledonia is the sixth to bear the name, and by adopting the same name as the previous establishment it is noped she will pre-serve the strong links between the Navy and hoped she will Fife which were forged at the begin-

ning of the century. Caledonia will provide support for ships and submarines in refit in Rosyth, including accommodation,

Although some original build-

ings, including the gym and swim-ming pool, are still in use, the establishment has been redevel-

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A number of lodger units at Caledonia were also represented at the parade, including the Royal Marines Band (Scotland), the Royal Naval Careers Headquarters orth) and the Sea Cadet Corps TS Cochrane, which provided the ceremony guard.

Autonomous lodg units include RNR unit HMS Scotia and the Naval Regional Officer Scotland and orthern Ireland.

The Navy has occuied the site next to lowyth Dockyard Rosyth Dockya ance 1939 when Rowth training facility for engineering appren-tices was built to replace the previous (RMS aledonia Majestic, the former Hamburg America liner Bismark.) It commissioned in 1940 as the RN Artificer Training Establishment and later became the fifth +

and Eastbourne, trained thousands of artificer apprentices before its closure in 1985.

Naval party unites the nations

A ROYAL Navy survey team started to resemble the United Nations when two students joined up earlier this year.

Devonport-based Naval Party 1008, operated by the Hydrographic Surveying Squadron, is embarked in a German-built former trawler, the 2,200-tonne Marine Explorer, owned by a Norwegian firm.

Among members of the party were Executive Officer Lt Tony Withers, of the Royal Australian

Navy, Mr Ping Wang, an International Maritime Academy student from China, correspondence offi-Victor Ross III of the US Navy and Lt cer Lt Vinliyak Apte, an IMA student from India. Naval Party 1008, a team of 12, offers excellent

Long Service and Good

training, puy, travel and records for

training opportunities for British and foreign students, has been surveying the Southern Irish Sea, updating areas which have not been covered since the Admiralty lead-line surveys of the 1860s.

Under 12 Readers' Club o

The July edition of Navy News next year will, we hope, see the launch of a Junior Readers' Club. Aimed at the under-12s, the Club will have its own dedicated section in Navy News and will be packed with news, competitions, offers and ideas.

Membership will cost just £2.50 per year, and all new members will receive a welcome certificate, membership card, badge and poster. Parental consent will be needed.

Make your birthday special

Navy News will help celebrate birthdays, too. If members give their date of birth on joining the Club, Navy News will make the day extra special by printing a greeting in the Junior section, space permitting

Free entry for members

Membership cards should be kept in a safe place. Navy News hopes to be giving members the chance of free entry to some exciting events and places.

Navy News Junior Readers' Club

1

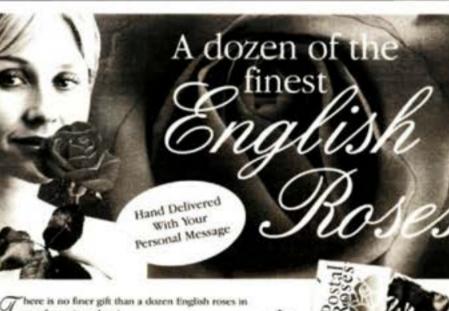


Exciting prize

To start our special Club for the Under 12s we want the help of all our junior readers. We need a name for the Club. We already have some suggestions from children, shown left, so you can choose one of these or think of one yourself. If your suggested name is chosen for the Club there's a prize to be won. Details will be published early next year.

But hurry! We need a name by March 1, 1997, so that we can start the very first section of this paper that will belong to the Under 12s.

Fill in the form (left) and return it to: Under 12s Readership Club, Navy News, HMS Nelson, Portsmouth PO1 3HH, or tele-phone Portsmouth (01705) 826040 for further details.



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Active volcano sets agenda for frigate

HMS BOXER has taken up the role of West Indies Guard Ship - and a rumbling volceno will shape the progress of her deployment. The Devonport-based Type 22 frigate took over from HMS Argys last month, and has been ordered to remain within easy reach of Montserrat, where the troublesome Chances Peak volcano is threatening the Island's principal town, island's

Plymouth. The need to be on hand in case of emergency relief means Boxer has had to forego the pleasures of Florida at Christmas, where families were planning to meet up with the

ship's company, and will instead spend Christmas Day alongaide in Puerto Rico. As well as defending British dependencies in the Caribbean, the ship will also help US Coastguards in stopping drug-

runners. Boxer is due to return to

home waters next summer.

catering, stores, chap-laincy, medical needs, and recreation. The admin block seen from the quarterdeck. Ship to bear the name Caledonia. The estab-lishment, with harbour training ships HMS Duncan



PLYMOUTH STRIKERS



In brief

THREE Service glider pilots

represented Royal Navy gliding at this year's Regional Interservice

Championships at RAF

Bicester. Lt Ken Stevenson (Centurion) flew the Navy's top glider (Discus CS) in the Standard Class whilst Lt Richard Croker (Sultan) and WO John Bradbury (Gibraltar) both flew in the Club Class Competition. They are all mem-bers of Portsmouth Naval Gliding Club.

Bicester.

High flyers



CSgt Vic Johnston near the end of the 55-mile London to Brighton

NAVY RUNNERS PUT SHOW ON THE ROAD

NAVY runner CSgt Vic Johnston (CTCRM) ran a superb race to finish fourth in the 55-mile London to Brighton road race, putting him amongst Britain's top ultra distance athletes.

He's hoping to make the British team in 1997 and compete at International level and is keen to hear from any Navy runners who would like to form a team for next year's London to Brighton.

So, if there are any budding 55milers out there, contact him at Lympstone on extension 4495.

Meanwhile, RNAC runners turned out in in strength in the Hampshire Cross Country League. In the second race at Prospect Park, Reading, there were 13 in the

Athletics

men's race, in a field of nearly 300, and the team finished 6th.

Leading Club performers were Lt Jim Donnelly (36th), a fast fin-ishing CH John Potts (38th) and CRS Taff John (39th.) And in the prestigious Mike Scully Cross Country at Bristol, LCK George Roper (Heron) came an excellent 19th.

The race incorporates an inter-national race as well as an interclub

and George did very well to beat some national representatives.

The RNAC Ladies distance runners are going from strength to

strength on the roads in the south.

Osprey's LWTR Vicki Norton set a course record to win the Weymouth 10-miler with LWPT Janet Coomer and POWTR Ali Wall well placed to ensure that the RNAC women's team were second.

In the men's race the RNAC was third with Sgn Cdr Simon Sheard (CINC FLEET) 5th, PO Jim Young (on leave from Hong Kong) 9th and POAEM John Avery (Osprey) third scorer.

Cdr Al Rich (Osprey) running for Egdon Heath finished first M45 in 8th overall.

Claire Norsworthy (CINCFLEET) won the Marlowe half marathon in 1hr 24m the day after finishing 13th in the 2nd Cross Country League Race at Prospect Park.

Gliding Club. The RAF fielded a very strong team and dominated the championships. In the Club Class, with 32 aircraft entered, L1 Croker achieved a well deserved 5th place overall hav-ing come 1st, 5th and 11th on individual flying days and won

Records set

the Navy Cup.

SEVEN weightlifting records were set by CPO Simon Mansell in his first year as a Master in the Cornwall County Championships.

He managed a snatch of 75kg ind then went on to clean and jerk 105kg giving him a personal best total of 180kg. And in the front squat he established a new record of 135kg.

Simon, who is on the staff of 2SL/CNH but works from home as a Cadet Instructor, now holds eight county records in all. He has qualified for the region

al championships which will be held next Spring where he hopes to qualify for the British National Championships.

Shaky start

WITH 16 new players to try out in their first two games **RN Youth Football** the team made a shaky start to the season.

the season. They lost 2-1 to the Sussex County Youth team and 3-0 to Kent, but team manager Sgt Trevor Ford (HORM) is not downhearted: "We've used the first two matches to trial 16 new players and it has been very difficult to play as a team as most of them only joined the Navy six months ago. Team chairman, Lt Cdr Tony West joke: "Trevor has my complete confidence, the squad is still still at a formative stage.

stage. The team is still looking for new players born after August 1, 1977 for both league matches and the team's immi-nent tour of Texas. Contact Sgt Trevor Ford at HQRM (92932) extension 7683.

Lusty honour

ENGLAND rugby Jeremy Guscott, Mike Catt and Jonathon Callard were on hand when Bath RFC honoured HMS Illustrious by naming their new hospitality suite after the ship.

Illustrious's Rugby Club Chairman, Cdr Tim Harris presented a framed photograph of the ship to Bath President Mr Brendan Perry, Illustrious's links with Bath RFC were established by Rear Admiral Phillips, Commanding Officer in 1994.

Winter sport

THE RNWSA Skiing Championships will be held in Skiing France from January 11 to 18, with a learn to ski week from January 4 to 11. The cost is about £300 for one week and £437 for both.

Contact official tour operators Skiworld for details on 0171 602 0772.

back to END TROPHY FAMIN fitness the

GARY Gerrard led the RN Cross Country Team to a medal winning position at Oxford, having fought his way back to fitness after a year out of the sport through illness.

Gerrard

fights

Gerrard finished fastest in a field of 50 runners in a time of 30 mins 24 and is looking in good shape to challenge for major honours at the Navy and Interservice champiomhips

The hosts, Oxford University, ran out victors in the team race and the RAF managed to hold on to second place leaving Bronze for to the RN, but with several key runners unavailable to the Army and Air Force will be expecting the Navy to challenge their domintation scon.

Gerrard quickly made his pres-ence felt on the tough two-lap course on Shotover Hill, pulling away on a sharp downhill during the first lap, only to be caught after loosing his footing.

But in the second he opened a 100 yard gap over the chasing pack while Dai Roberts battled hard to make it a Navy one-two.

But Oxford's Dave Kirk got the better of him on the final hill and held the advantage over the long run in

Results: OU 52, RAF A 72, Royal Navy 103, RAF B 181.

PLYMOUTH and Ports mouth won through to final of the Intercommand Football Championships setting the stage for a re-run of the 1982 decider, writes Lt Cdr Jim Danks.

But this time Plymouth took the lead in the 14th minute and went on to win the match 3-1 to earn their first Command title for twenty years.

The early goal came from Plymouth's SAC Adam Holt with a great shot from the edge of the area. POPT Nick Haigh nearly increased their lead but saw his free kick hit the cross bar and go over for a goal kick.

Equaliser

Following a good passing move-ment between WOPT Tommy Johnson and LPT Lee Strange, CPO Bob Evans equalised for Portsmouth in the 28th minute.

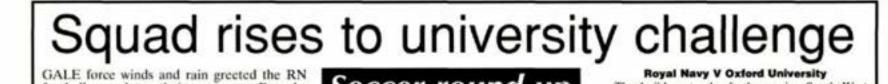
Both teams continued to play attractive football as they sought a winning goal but it was presure from the Plymouth players that evenually paid off.

In the 75th minute, MEM Andrew Evans scored after a free kick by LMEM Steve Brooks and

just two minutes later Haigh scored with a long range shot to make it 3-1, putting the match beyond Portsmouth's reach. The competition was sponsored

by NAAFI and Captain Graham Robinson, DNPTS and Chairman of the RNFA, presented the Cup to a delighted POPT Ian Smith.

Plymouth goal-scorers Nick Haigh (centre) and Andrew Evans take on Portsmouth's Al Holi at RM Poole. Picture: PO PHOT Phil Ball



football squad on their return to Burnaby Road for their first match of the season against Sussex, writes WO Frank Cooper.

Coach Tommy Johnson was keen to maintain last season's form when they became interservice cham-pions and won the South West Counties Cup, but it was Sussex who took the initiative with a goal in the 25th minute after a poor clearance from the normally assured POPT Steve Riley (DNPTS.)

The Navy were soon back on level terms. Three minutes later, after a corner by AB David Wilson (Nelson), Riley made anunends for his previous lapse by shooting through a crowded penalty area to score.

Sussex were now having difficulty coping with the atro-cious conditions and the Navy took advantage to score another three goals before half time through POAEM Nigel Thwaites (Sultan, 35th minute) Riley (37th minute penalty) and Thwaites again (40th minute.)

The second half became a battle against ever worsening conditions and the Navy adapted well, but despite some attractive football they were unable to extend their lead and Sussex scored in the last minute after a defensive mix up in the Navy's penalty area.

Final score RN 4 Sussex 2.

Soccer round-up **Royal Navy V Cambridge University**

Now established as an annual focture, Coach Tommy nson took the opportunity to try the RN's match against Cambridge University at Fenners.

The first half saw the Navy dominate play with Cambridge defending desperately. But the Navy were unable to convert their midfield chances and the first half remained goaless.

The Navy's first breakthrough came with a goal in the 46th minute when POPT Nick Haigh (SM2) scored from close range. POPT Ian Smith (BRNC) extended the RN's lead in the 60th when he finished off a slick passing move by shooting low into the net.

Almost straight from the kick off, Smith scored again. By now the Navy had almost all of the play and the differnce in class between the two sides was emphasised by CPO Will Flint (RNAY Fleetlands) who neatly lobbed the keeper and Haigh who scored his second with a 22 yard volley to put the Navy five ahead.

Cambridge grabbed a consolation goal in the 85th minute after a free kick.

Final score: RN 5 Cambridge University 1.

The build-up to the forthcomming South West Counties cup matches continued with a friendly against Oxford University at Burnaby Rd.

Despite having the bulk of play during the first half play-ing some neat possession football, the Navy lacked pene-tration and neither goalkeeper was unduly troubled during an unimpressive first half.

Manager, Lt Cdr Neil Hinch, made several changes to the line-up for the second half, and one of them paid immediate dividends when CPO Bob Evans (Collinewood) collected the ball wide on the right, evaded two tackles and drove accurately past the keeper for the first goal.

From then on the Navy's superior strength began to tell and Dave Wilson put the Navy further ahead in the 65th minute with a close range shot.

Veteran POPT Eric Barrett (Neptune) scored directly from a corner when the Oxford keeper completely missed an attempted purch clearance. POPT Nick Haigh rounded off a much improved second half when he footed home a simple chance.

Final score RN 4 Oxford University.

Fixtures: Dec 3rd RN play the Army at Aldershot Military Stadium,1930 kick off.



Hot shots burn up US Marines

US MARINES were no match for the RN/RM Marathon team who battled through for a fine victory in the Corp's own annual event in Washington.

The USMC marathon is now a highly competitive international event with more than 18,000 runners taking part, and the RN/RM result was achieved in spite of hot and humid conditions which resulted in nearly all runners recording slower times than expected.

Mark Croasdale Marine (CTCRM) produced an outstanding run to come home in third place behind two of the top Mexican runners in just 2 hours 25, four minutes ahead of the first USMC runner.

Lt Ginge Gough (Collingwood) maintained his usual high standard finishing as our second man home 2 hours 35 and team captain, Cdr Simon Sheard Surg

gotsy run to complete the scoring team in 2 hours 40, The team's two triathletes. Peter Williams (RM Poole) and

(CINCFLEET) produced another

Cpl Chris Ray (CTCRM) overcame the increasing heat in the latter stages of the race to ensure another fine victory over the Marine Corps, enabling the RN/RM team to retain the Victory Trophy for the 12th time.

Golden girls HMS NORTHUMBERLAND'S women's hockey and netball

teams took the top spots in three recent competitions.

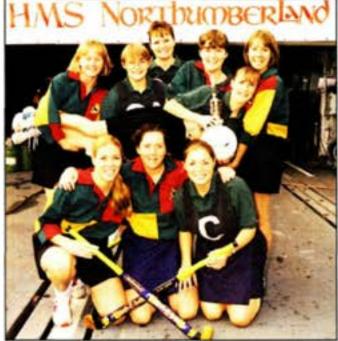
First, the women's hockey team played in the West Country Hockey by league held at HMS Raleigh and beat teams from Drake, Raleigh, SeaHawk, Cornwall and Heron to take the title.

Then the netball team took on the might of HMS Illustrious, Manchester, Raleigh, Drake, Nelson, Sultan, Osprey, Heron, Warrior, Collingwood and others to take the RN Fleet Winners '96 title at HMS Raleigh

Revenge

When the Hockey Fleet winners '96 competition was held at HMS Temeraire, many ships and establishments who were beaten by HMS Northumberland turned up hoping for revenge, but the team swept the board again, taking home a third trophy.

Two members of the team, LMEA Vicky Metcalfe and STD Ursula Ball, play at Command level for hockey and nerball respectively, and Vicky has recently been selected for the Royal Navy Hockey Team.



 Winning combination: LPT Brenda Fear supported by RO Becky Thompson, STD Ursula Ball, OM Julia Goode, OM Jenny Scrivener and AB Nikki Hollis with by CH Clare Fox (front left), RO Michelle Waters and LMEA Vicky Metcalle, Pourse HMS Drake Protographic

Seasonal high' for Navy golfers

THE ROYAL Navy golf team ended the 1996 season with one of their most convincing wins for many years, writes Cdr Gary Skins.

On a wet and blustery late October weekend at the China Fleet Country Club, opposition was provided by a strong team from the Royal Jersey Club, and the Navy's win was the first in the fixture's ten-year history.

The event is unique in the RN's fixture list as it the only home' match and the format is a modified Ryder Cup arrangement where fourball, foursomes and singles play is incorporated

The first morning fourball matches were all tight affairs with three of four matches going to the final green.

Being Trafalgar weekend, the Nebon spirit dowed in the Navy team and all but one of the matches ended in a dark blue success. Wins were recorded by the partnerships of L1 Mark Taylor (FOST) and Cpl Nigel Small Commachio Gp RM), WEM(R) Alistair **Royal Navy V Royal Jersey Club at** the China Fleet Country Club

Westbury (COMCEN Whitehall) and Lt Peter Smith (DRA Malvern) and by CPL Joe Sharp (CTCRM) and Sgt Mark Whitehouse (40 Cdo RM.)

On the adage of not changing a winning team, the same pairings were sent out for the afternoon foursomes, and although the same level of success couldn't be repeated, the session was halved at two points all, giving the Navy a 5-3 lead after the first day. Afternoon points came from the lead pair of Art Apprentice Terry Taylor (Sultan) and CPO Taff James (Portland) and Westbury Smith.

Admirable response

With eight points still at stake and the weather deteriorating rapidly, the onus was on swift singles play and positive results on the Sunday morning. The team duly obliged, raising their games admirably to allow the

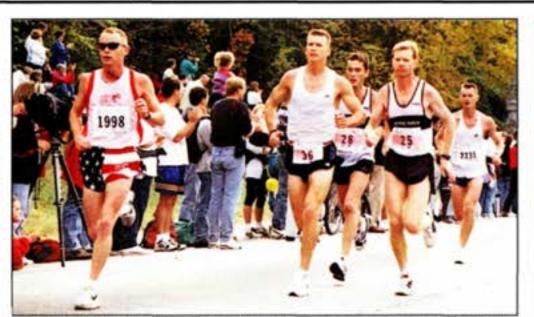
opposition only 1 % points and recorded and overall win of 11 % points to 4%.

All the layers deserved great praise for an excellent team performance with the return to form of Mark Taylor and Nigel Small particularly encouraging. But pride of place must again go to Alistair Westbury who finished the weekend with a 100% record, the first Navy golfer to achieve this for some considcrable time.

Westbury was particularly impressive in the singles where he stood four shots under par when his match ended on the 12th green.

The match marked the end of a successful season which saw not only this win, but a rare success against a country side (Cornwall) and excellent foursomes performance at the Interservices and a superb showing in the Cornish Piskey.

The generous sponsorship of WA Consultants has allowed the RNGA to bring on young players and develop them, and with the prom se of more potential next year, the future of Navy golf is very healthy.



Lt Ginge Gough and Cpl Chris Ray running shoulder to shoulder with the US Marine Corps Team Captain Alex Hetherington at the seven mile point.

Few fireworks at Brecon Park

ON A NIGHT when there were more fireworks off the field than on, the Navy rugby team opened their new season with a scrappy and frustrating encounter at Brecon Park against a strong and determined Devon side, writes Lt Cdr Colin Bostock.

After a sunny afternoon, the West Country weather did an about turn and the Navy kicked off in the teeth of a gale, and the wet and windy conditions did not help the team which selector Major Steve Hughes called: "A development XV designed to give exposure to some new faces.

Despite the conditions the Navy got off to a good start and for the first 20 minutes played some strong rugby, keeping Devon under pressure.

They should have scored again after winning excellent rucked ball and driving into the opposition, but the Devon defence held and the Navy never quite dominated again

A well-worked try from Devon full back Mayne converted by Clarke and two earlier penalties rought the score to 13-0 on the half hour, and a penalty to Devon on the stroke of half-time made the score 16-0 at the break.

Relentless

With the wind and rain showing no signs of relenting and the ball like a bar of soap, it was not sur-prising that both sides made some wful handling errors.

During the interval the Navy reshuffled the side, moving AEM Greening to full back and Mne Gore to stand off.

Once Greening had settled down he showed that he was a

player to watch for the future as he kicked the Navy's only points with two penalties in the 43rd and 52nd minutes.

Devon scored two more tries in the second half with a drive up the centre and a lovely score from a rolling moul which then released the backs to score in the corner.

Despite Devon now being 28-6 in front, the Navy continued to battle away and threw some blistering attacks at the Devon line only to to stopped yards short by a solid defence. Another late penal-ty made the final score 31-6 to Devon.

Both sides had tried to play

Calling all marathon runners

CALLING all Royal Navy and Royal Marine Marathon runners!

If you were unlucky in the draw for London Marathon entries on April 13 or if you are an elite runner looking for a good start position, contact Cdr Al Rich at Portland (ext 5449) who may be able to get you in! As the London Marathon is also the interservices championship each Service receives 20 entries. Cdr Rich will use these for RN team runners first but at least ten will be available to other RN/RM oom runners

Boxers leave no room for doubt

ANY DOUBTS about the potential of this season's boxing squad were quickly dispelled during their opening fixture against Western Counties.

Newcomer MEM Andy Carron (Marlborough) started the ball rolling in his youth bout (16-16) against N.Wyatt (Viking).

After falling behind in the first round he came back very strongly in the second and third to take a close decision against a far more experienced opponent.

Sparkling

LMEM Brum Hubbard (Argyli) gave a sparkling display of boxing skills in his debut in Navy colours to out point Weymouth ABS's M. Pickard.

Mne Kevin McCormack (45 Cdo) was never in trouble during his superheavy-weight bout with Apollo ABC's N. Kendall and after forcing him to take a compulsory count in the first, cruised to an easy victory.

But the best perfor-mance of the night came from the reigning CSBA heavyweight champion Mne Arron Walton (Com Gp RM) who had to work at the maximum of his capacity to out point last year's ABA finalist P Lewis (Taunton ABC.)

Best yet

Working continually on the body and pushing Lewis backwards, Walton gave his finest performance yet in RN colours.

Mne Steve Whyte (HQRM) continued to impress with his workmanlike performance against A Derek (Taunton ABC).

Whyte's recent visit to an England squad training session gave him new con-fidence and his long range punching dominated the outcome.

The squad put up a fine performance, especially considering some had only seven days to train, and the Navy squad are looking forward to a successful season.

Dryad hosts a new event

ROYAL Marines dominated the men's events at the first RN/RM Gymnasium Cross Training Challenge which was held at HMS Dryad.

Competitors raced through a circuit of ten tasks, including weight and floor exercises, cycling, running and rowing.

The fastest finisher in the men's open category was Cpl Robson (CTCRM) with an incredible time of 16 minutes **AB** Paton with (Collingwood) finishing

strongly in second place. Sgt Reed (CTCRM) paced himself well to take control of the men's Masters title (39 plus) in the middle stages of the event and went on to win comfortably with 23 minutes

55 The women's title was keenly contested and the lead changed several times during the race but LWRN Butterworth (Sultan) managed to hold off a determined Cpl Jones (RM Poole) to win the title.

Event organisers were pleased with the high standard of the 26 competitors - the four fastest times would have ranked in the top ten at the 1996 British National Championships.

The event will be staged again next year. Details are available from CPOPT Band on HMS Dryad extension 4327.

open rugby despite the conditions but in the end the Devon side were just too strong for the Navy team, despite some good performances. LS Sibson and LPT Moore were excellent in defence and the sec ond row of Milne and Parnell did well Rugby fans should not mise

the big game at the Rectory on Wednesday, December 4, kick off 1800, when the Combined Services take on Argentina.

FORCE

From front page ships are very manpower intensive. There are 114 people in an H-class ship at under 3,000 tons, and here we are proposing that Scott - at 13,500 tons and at sea for three times as long - has a ship's compa-

ny of 42 at any one time. "We are now honing our skills for the contigency roles, some of which we undertook in 1991 with mine clearance support in the Oulf, and now amphibious warfare is an area in which we are playing a very, very large part.

"You can put forces on to a beach, but if you don't know what the beach gradient is like you can become horribly unstuck."

The amalgamation of the Navy's meteorology and oceanography officers with the Survey branch, enhances the squadron's capability in what Capt May terms "tactical exploitation of the environment.

'Broader scheme'

He said: We are going into a much broader scheme of things. From way up in the atmosphere to way down to the bottom of the sea we can provide the information that the warfare commander must use to fire his missiles, hunt submarines and find mines. Unless you know what environment you are working in, and its vagaries, your effectiveness will be greatly reduced.

On the plan to change the colour of the ships, he is unrepentant. "It has been traditional for many years that survey vessels have been white, but Scott and the next three are all going to be grey for the simple reason that time has moved on and and there is no reason for them to be white when they are increasingly taking part in warfare roles.

However, there are no plans for HMS Endurance to go grey. The red of her hull is a useful marker amid the ice floes of the Antarctic.

The 31-year-old survey ship HMS Hecia paid off on November 11 after she returned from a nine-month deployment which took her to the Indian Ocean.

Vigilant in commission

HMS VIGILANT, third of the Royal Navy's Trident strategic missioned at VSEL, Barrow-in-Furness in the presence of her sponsor, Lady Jane Frere. sile submarines, was commis-

She was presented with a cross stitch tapestry of the Vigilant's battle honours made by Christine Vinnicombe, wife of a member of the ship's company. In return she presented a silver salver to commemorate the day.

HMS Vigilant received much assistance from Sea Cadets of TS Vigilant and TS Sovereign, the local unit.

Joint strike fighter boost

THE FLEET Air Arm's hopes of acquiring a supersonic replace-ment for the Sea Harrier have been boosted with the award of contracts worth £2.2 billion by the US Government. The Pentagon have chosen

Lockheed Martin and Boeing Aerospace to build prototypes of the Anglo-US collaborative Joint Strike Fighter.

British companies are closely ed in the short take off vertical landing variant which could be in service as early as 2012. Defence Minister James James

Arbuthnot said: "This is particularly good news for the Royal Navy. The UK will contribute about \$200m to this phase...and we expect a significant share of the work to be carried by British industry.





Oldest RN officer dies aged 103

OLDEST surviving THE. Royal Navy officer has died at the age of 103.

the age of 103. Capt Harry Hodgson became an RN cadet in 1906 – the year that HMS Dreadhought, the first modern battleship, was launched. Capt Hodgson's first ship was the battleship HMS Temeraire, and during World War I he served is generated officient of the emiser as gunnery officer of the cruiser HMS Forward and the battlecruis-er HMS Indomitable.

After the war he qualified as a torpedo specialist and joined the depot ship HMS Titania in the Far East, and was in HMS Renown for the royal tour of Australia in 1927. On leaving the Navy, Capt Hogdson worked as a Naval experimental officer at the biological warfare establishment at Porton Down

NOT ONE, but two "letters of intent" were signed on board HMS Liverpool when the Type 42 destroyer hosted talks between Prime Minister John Major and President Chirac at Bordeaux.

The Anglo-French summit had defence high on the agen-Secretary as Defence Michael Portillo and his French opposite number Charles Millon put pen to number paper for the first of these - to allow greater co-operation and expansion of areas of mutual interest in maritime defence between the two countries.

STACK C

Points covered included: Planning of naval operations and examining the practicalities of

combined deployments. Q Combined operations, setting up where possible a combined

val force for training, exercises and operations. Procurement programmes -

of complete combat units. European security – trans-posing bilateral naval co-opera-

tion, whenever possible, to a wider European context to strengthen European security and 'defence identity' within NATO and the A steering committee will have responsibility for developing all aspects of these.

Second of the letters was signed in the Liverpool's Ops Room by First Sea Lord Admiral Sir Jock Slater and his own French counterpart, Chef d'etat-major de la Marine Amiral Jean-Charles Amiral Jean-Charles Lefebyre.

This one, Navy News can exclusively reveal, concerned assistance to submariners at sea.

Submarines

The RN has always supported and acted upon the principle that help for vessels in distress and the rescue of mariners in jeopardy of whatever nationality is the shared responsibility of any vessel or air-

In the specialist area of aid to submarines, particular espertise has long been developed and demonstrated in national and multinational submarine escape

to increase the understanding of the two major submarine operating countries in Europe, to maximise chances of success .Future discussions will cover problems of towing stricken submarines, search and rescue training, medical assistance and possible collaborative projects to develop rescue facilities. HMS Liverpool

was Bordeaux in company with the French frigate FS Latouche Treville. The following morning a working breakfast was held on board the latter at which black pudding was provided from Liverpool's galley - the French chefs unsure whether to serve it raw or cooked ...

Later Admiral Slater toured the Liverpool answering questions from the ship's company - whom he praised for the key role they played in ensuring the success of the occasion.

From Bordeaux she moved directly to Newcastle for a flag visit with the Flag Officer Scotland, Northern England and Northern Ireland Rear Admiral John Tolhurst embarked (story and pictures to follow)

· BIG GUNS: (Left to right) French defence minister Charles Millon, Admirals Slater and Lefebvre and Michael Portillo share an entente cor-diale on board HMS Liverpool at Bordeaux.

Argus grounded in the gales

FIERCE gales which swept the country on November 19 caused RFA Argus to go aground when she broke free from her moorings. in Portsmouth harbour.

When a violent gust hit the 28,000-ton ship from the southwest, she ripped the bollards from the oil fuel jetty at Royal Clarence Yard, Gosport and her bows grounded on shingle.

Tiags held her in place until the weather abated, and then transferred her to another berth. No. one was injured and damage was confined to paintwork.



A specially devised Navy News Monthly Quiz is featured in the 1996 Navy News Calendar. Readers of Navy News and users of the 1996 'Power of the Sea' Calendar are invited to take part in the Quiz with the winners receiving prizes donated by Navy News.

Each monthly leaf of the 1996 Calendar poses a question, the answer to which is revealed by possessing a knowledge of naval matters or careful reading of the Navy News 1996 Calendar. Test yourself and pay careful attention to each calendar leaf! The questions will be reprinted in Navy News for the appropriate month (December question shown here).

Each monthly issue of Navy News throughout 1996 will contain an entry form for that month's question.

NOW SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY FORMS

Question

Which Tribal

When all twelve original entry forms have been completed. contestants should submit them together in one envelope to arrive at the offices of Navy News not later than 31 March 1997

Entries with all twelve correct answers will be entered in a prize draw conducted at Navy News offices in April 1997, Winners will be announced in the May 1997 issue of Navy News. The first name drawn will receive a prize of £300. There will be a prize of £100 for the second name drawn and eight

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* N	matters	and	win	yourself	f a prize.		

Write your answer here

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strengthening co-operation in research and development and in the development and production craft

and rescue exercises. Here the two admirals intended

Western European Union.