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Campbeltown face to face

with orphans the East

JULY 2001





rescue from

Biggest RN deployment since Falklands War

SWORD IS POSEDTO

IN THE Royal Navy's deployment biggest since the Falklands War almost 20 years ago, 27 warships and support vessels are leaving Britain in August to take part in a series of exercises west and east of

Climax of their three-month mission will be the first major test of the UK's Joint Rapid Reaction Force. The exercise -Saif Sarcea 2 (Shining Sword 2) - will be based in Oman and conducted jointly with Omani forces during October.

The RN force will comprise air, amphibious and mine countermeasures groups:

An II-ship carrier group will be led by HMS Illustrious with escort and support vessels. Embarked will be a it force of Sea Harrier fighters and RAF Harrier GR7 strike aircraft.

Britain's Amphibious Task Group will be deployed under Commander ATG, Commodore Niall Kilgour, fly-



 HMS Illustrious will play a lead-ing role in Exercise Saif Sareea. She is pictured here during the Queen's visit to Oslo - page 4.

his pennant in the assault ship HMS Fearless. The group will include the helicopter carrier HMS Ocean, RFA landing ships and 3 Commando Brigade Royal Marines.

The third group of seven ships will comprise minchunters with support

In overall command of the three groups will be the newly-designated Commander UK Maritime Force,

Rear Admiral Stephen Meyer. Before embarking on Saif Sarcea, the ships will be involved in Exercise Argonaut in various parts of the Mediterranean. Other elements of Argonaut will be conducted when the Oman exercises end. All the ships are

due to return in time for Christmas. Saif Sarcea 2 (Saif Sarcea 1 was conducted about five years ago) is under the auspices of the Permanent Joint HQ and will include major elements of the Army and RAF.

The Army will deploy a divisional HQ, key elements of an armoured brigade with 500 armoured vehicles including 66 Challenger tanks, and air-eraft from the Joint Helicopter

Thirty fast jets will be deployed by RAF, including the embarked in Illustrious, Also taking part will be 12 combat support aircraft - including the Sentry E-3D early warning aircraft, Nimrod maritime patrol aircraft, VC-10K tankers and C-130 transports.

Vehicles and stores are already arriving in Oman through the coun-try's southern port of Salalah. Involved in the build-up have been the RFA roro ships Crusader and Sea Centurion, as well as a chartered vessel, the my

■ Newsview - page 22.



BLOWN SKY HIGH!

A COLUMN of water shoots 300ft high as a massive mine meets its end 60 years after the Germans dropped it off Southend. The Royal Navy divers (inset) who saved the day are members of a Portsmouth unit which put paid to two other lethal wartime relics in the area. We tell their story in page 36.



French honour memorial campaigner

Naval memorial erected on the D-Day beaches triumphed on June 6 when the monument was unveiled on the Normandy coast - and he received a rare French honour.

David Cottrell, a survivor of the destroyer HMS Swift and a member of Bristol branch of the Royal Naval Association, was present to see the only memorial dedicated to all the Allied Naval participants in 'The Great Enterprise' unveiled by the Commanding Officer of his old ship, Capt

Also among the 500 present were the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth, Clir Elaine Baker, and the Mayor of the French town of Hermanville-sur-Mer, where the memorial

Later, at a reception in the town hall, David was granted the Freedom of Hermanville – the highest honour the town could bestow. He said: "It was the end of a seven-year struggle to get a memorial erected here, and I was overwhelmed with

Adding to the dignity of the ceremony was a flypast by four French military jets, a Guard of Honour provided by the French Navy, and a Royal Marines detachment

including a bugler.
With David was a fellow survivor of the Swift, Frank Batterham, chairman

Newport (Mon.) branch of the RNA, as well as Billy Swift, chairman of the 23rd Destroyer Flotilla Association, who provided the transport to take the memorial stone across the Channel.

There, too, were former sailors of the Norwegian destroyer Svenner who were rescued by HMS Swift before she, herself, was sunk off the Normandy beaches.

David had been prepared to meet the £8,000 cost of the memorial himself, but following an appeal in Navy News all but £400 of the final cost has been donated.

Further donations can be made to him at 9 Tyndale Court, Chertsey Road, Redland, Bristol, BS6 6NF, with any surplus money being earmarked for Naval charities.



unknown **Arctic** wastes

A SIX-MAN Royal Navy team hauling sledges are braving severe Arctic weather in an attempt to become the first to explore an unmapped mountain range in Greenland.

Led by Cdr Brian Pancott of Second Sea Lord's staff, the team left Britain for Iceland on June 1. From there they were flown by ski-fitted aircraft on to a glacier in the Rignys Bjerg mountains. All they have as the nearest things to maps are the only two aerial photographs of the area - taken from 46,000ft 20 years ago.

In perpetual daylight and temperatures as low as minus 25C, they will haul their own food and fuel to last 27 days. They will also be armed with a rifle and 40 rounds of ammunition - protection against marauding polar bears, among the most dangerous animals in the world.

Other members of the team are deputy leader PO Steve Bright of RN air station Youvilton, equipment officer and assistant leader CPO Barrie Whitehead of 848 Naval Air Squadron (Yoovilton), LAEM Tim Brookes of 845 NAS (Yoovilton), Lt Pete Le Gassick RN of 40 Commando (RM Taunton), and NA Craig Dickie of RNAS Culdrose - who joined the Navy only last year.

They are due to return to

Braving Divers to probe mysteries of **Bounty island**

IN A ROYAL Navy-led expedition "fraught with danger" divers from all three Armed Services are planning to survey the wreck of the Bounty as part of the largest underwater scientific expedition ever mounted in the Pitcairn Island area

For five weeks from January 2003, the 20 members of Exercise Bounty Bay will carry out marine archaeological research on the last resting-place of Capt Bligh's ship, and attempt to uncover some of the mysteries surrounding Pitcairn.

They will search for the remains of Polynesian temples thrown into the sea by the mutineers, and carry out scientific research into the marine biology, oceanography and urchaeology of the four islands of

the Pitcairn group.

They will be led by CPOMA Rod Newman on the staff of Flag Officer Sea Training. He is an advanced diving instructor, a military sub-aqua diving supervisor, and a keen wreck diver.

His team will reach the remote islands via the USA, Tahiti and the Gambier Islands, with a plan to arrive at Pitcairn on the 213th anniversary of the landfall of the

Bounty on January 15. Eight days after she dropped anchor, she was set alight by the mutineers - led by Fletcher Christian - to avoid discovery, and her remains sank in about 14 metres of water.

The divers will also descend to another wreck - of the 20th century ship the Cornwallis - and will carry



CPO Rod Newman – to lead Pitcairn expedition.

out the first hydrographic research to be conducted in the area for over 100 years. As well as research for the National Hydrographic Office, they will work on behalf of the National Maritime Museum.

Also on the agenda is a conservation study of coral around the islands, with a view to a return trip in 2005 to assess changes.

Amongst all that, they will find

time to provide support for Pitcairn's community of 46 descendants of the mutineers and their Tahitian wives

Support for the divers will be provided by the appropriately named my Fletcher Christian, a 15.5m charter vessel with a crew of three from New Zealand.

Describing the expedition as the adventure of a life-time, Rod nevertheless is aware that it could be haz-

He said: "The expedition is fraught with danger, the sheer remoteness of the location making evacuation in the event of an emergency virtually impossible within any realistic timescale. So the team have among their number, quali-fied medical personnel including Surgeon Cdr David Lunn. (And Rod himself is a medical rating.) "The South Pacific Seas are

cruel and play host to a variety of dangerous marine life, including a large shark population.

The diving work will be carried out under the fierce surf which breaks on the narrow shelf around

Nevertheless, experienced divers in the Services are clamouring to join. As Navy News went to press, Rod had received 84 applications for six unfilled places, with each member of the expedition contributing £2,000 to the cost of the

"I have a great team around me made up of all ranks and rates from all three Services," said Rod. "They are all specialists in their own right in addition to diving expertise." Help has been provided by the

Navy's adventurous training staff at HMS Temeraire and by the Joint Services Diving Centre. "The interest is truly amazing," said Rod. Now he is keen to enlist the sup-

port of commanding officers and all others involved with the release of exped members.

Financial support is also being sought in the form of grants, dona-tions and commercial sponsorship. Rod can be contacted at work on military number 9375 68311 or 0771 633848 (fax - 0870 163 5574, e-mail rod.newman@zoom.co.uk).

Beagle's hot time on river mission

SEARING heat and high humidity are making things uncomfortable for the ship's company of HMS Beagle, on a three-month deployment to Freetown in Sierra Leone.

With temperatures at 90F in the shade, the survey ship's engine-room watchkeepers are having to endure up to 130F. Although the ship's company have gradually acclimatised, visits to the upper deck have been kept to a minimum but the vessel's Royal Marines detachment continue to train

regardless.

Beagle is surveying the busy river, with her boat being kept constantly in the water to move fishermen out of the way to safety.

Taking a break from her work, she visited Banjul in the Gambia where she delivered 57 boxes of toys to the Methodist Mission Special Needs Centre there. They had been collected before the ship left UK by CPO Geoff Currel and

PO Shaun Hawksby. Also in Banjul, the ship's football team took on a Gambian Army side in a televised match,

Meanwhile, Beagle's sis-ter-ship, HMS Bulldog, is heading home from her last deployment. She left Plymouth in January for surveys in the Mediterranean, Indian Ocean and Gulf.

During a visit to Muscat, her junior rates football side beat a team of officers and senior rates by 3-2. After completing her work in the area, the ship headed for Djibouti on the African coast before beginning the long passage

She is due in Plymouth on July 6.

Squadron is back - with the Merlin

SEVEN months after being disbanded as a Sea King unit, 814 Naval Air Squadron was reforming on June 25 equipped with the new Merlin anti-submarine helicopter.

The squadron's advance party formed as a four-crew element of 824 NAS at RN air station Culdrose on March, but will operate independently after June 26.

Formal rededication takes place on October 5 in this the 62nd year since 814 was first formed, becom-ingt known as "The Tiger Squadron" from its budge which bears a tiger's head.

Germans visit

TWO German frigates arrived in Plymouth in June for a six-week programme with Flag Officer Sea Training's staff, Brandenburgclass warship FGS Mecklenburg-Vorpommern arrived on June 7 followed a week later by the Bremen-class FGS Karlsrube.



Medic staff awarded a mark of distinction

RECEIVING the Navy's newest cap-tally from Capt Atkinson of the Defence Medical Services Training

Capt Reed is Deputy Commander of the tri-Service establishment which, for the past five years has provided medical training to all three Armed

Now approval to wear their own cap-tally has been given to the 23 RN staff at the Centre which deals with 7,300 personnel a year, including all RN medical assistants doing Part 2

NAVY NEWS, JULY 2001 3 www.navynews.co.uk

Survey ship Scott in big demand

URING an official trip to Gibraltar C-in-C Fleet Admiral Sir Alan West took the opportunity to visit the Royal Navy's deep oceanographic survey vessel, HMS Scott.

After a tour of this unique 13,000-tonne vessel and a buffet lunch with the ship's company, he presented Herbert Lott awards to CPOWEA Ritchie Loomes and CPO Caterer John Rolfe – both for exceptional service during Exercise Argonaut 2000 when the ship served as the support vessel for four UK and five Turkish mine countermeasures vessels.

Lt Ken Hume was also presented with the Gulf Medal for pre-vious service in the Northern Arabian Gulf.

HMS Scott was in Gib for an Assisted Maintenance Period and to upgrade her sonar and navigational systems. After completing technical evaluation trials and a short visit to Madeira, she will spend the next three months conducting surveys in the North Atlantic before deploying to the Indian Ocean in October where she will remain before returning to the UK to

start her first major upkeep in April 2002.

During the next eight months she will visit her affiliated town of Swansea (home of Capt Scott the explorer), conduct an AMP in Dubai and visit Mombasa for a well-earned break over the

Christmas/New Year period.

With her special sonar systems HMS Scott can survey huge areas of the ocean bed. She uses a watch rotation manning system that enables her to achieve over 300 days per year on task. She is currently the only operational deep OSV in the western world and so is much in demand.

Admiral West shares a joke with members of HMS Scott's ship's company at Gibraltar.



Freedom fighter Grimsby returns

HMS GRIMSBY is due back in Portsmouth on July 4 after visiting her namesake town to receive the Freedom of the Borough of North East Lincolnshire,

In company with HMS Ledbury, Bangor and Pembroke, the Sandown-class minehunter generally held to be world-leaders in the field – has just completed US BALTOPS 1, a Partnership for

Peace exercise.

She also took part in Exercise Blue Game in Norway, in which 63 NATO ships including mine coun-termeasures vesels and fast patrol boats were involved under the protection of Standing Naval Force

The exercise scenario was based on a NATO maritime force tasked by the UN to ensure freedom of movement of merchant shipping into and out of the Baltic and the safety of offshore oil installations belonging to the friendly fictitious state of "Stensland".

It included a B-52 mine laying demonstration, lead through oper ations, damage control and diving emergency exercises.

Grimsby's ship's company enjoyed the benefits of an opera-tional welfare package offering several facilities for ships deploying from UK waters for a period of more than two months.

Chief of these is the Homelink make 20 minutes of free phone calls a week to family and friends Also available are the exchange of e-mail, Blueys and a selection of papers from the UK.

Marines in concert

THE ROYAL Marines School of Music's annual Open Day Concert and Prize Giving will be held at Portsmouth Guildhall on August 2 at 2p.m. followed by Beating Retreat in Guildhall Square. For tickets at £6 and £7 tel.023 92

'Single focal point' for veterans' issues

WAR PENSIONS **MOVE TO MoD WILL IMPROVE**

THE War Pensions Agency has transferred to the Ministry of Defence as part of the restructur-Government of announced by the Prime Minister the day after the General Election.

Work and Pensions Secretary Alistair Darling said the move would ensure that veterans received "an allround modern service"

It would build on other steps taken to improve the service to them such as the appointment of a Minister of Veterans Affairs earli-

er this year. The Minister's appointment provided a single focal point for all veterams' issues and the WPA would now be ideally placed to play a lead part in providing co-ordinated services.

war veterans made so many sacrifices for their country and for all of us who are privileged to live in a democracy deserve the best service we can provide," said Mr Darling. "The transfer of the WPA to

MOD will streamline and improve the services offered to them.

"As the Agency moves to MOD I would also like to thank the many staff who have been delivering an excellent service to veterans since the Agency was established in

The WPA is responsible for all aspects of the assessment and payment of war disability and war widows' pensions to around 280,000 beneficiaries, 22,000 of whom live outside the United Kingdom

War II veterans, although a small number are World War I veterans ex-National widows, Servicemen and those disabled in recent conflicts such as Northern Ireland, the Falklands, Bosnia and the Gulf War.

The War Pensioners Welfare Service provides a comprehensive advice and support service to all war pensioners and war widows liv-ing in the UK and the Irish

Republic.
The service is delivered from a network of 27 welfare offices, each of which has responsibility for a particular geographical area.

There is also Ilford Park Polish Home - a residential and nursing home at Stover, Devon that provides care for around 100 people who quality for admission under the Polish Resettlement Act because they or their spouses served with British forces during World War II.

The Agency employs just over 1,000 staff, most of whom are employed at the main office head quarters at Norcross on the Fylde

In November 2000, when the first Government Beacon Scheme was launched, the WPA was cited as one of a group of just 23 organisations named as "exemplars of and Investors in People accredita-

The Royal British Legion has welcomed the announcement of the transfer of the WPA to the MOD. It said it hoped and expected that the War Pensions Tribunals Service would retain its indepen-

Silver showed how city took a shine to the **Senior Service**

A SILVER salver from HMS Birmingham has been handed over to the city of Birmingham by Rear Admiral Roy Clare, a former Commanding Officer and now Director of the National Maritime Museum.

and now Director of the National Maritime Museum. The salver was first presented to the cruiser HMS Birmingham, the second ship of the name, in 1937, a gift from the Birmingham Jewellers Association.

Landed to the city for safe-keeping during the war, it was retrieved by Admiral Clare when he visited the Birmingham Assay Office in 1988, when he was CO of the third HMS Birmingham, a Type 42 destroyer.

Kept in the vaults for nearly 50 years, it was found to be in near mint condition. Now the destroyer has paid off to scrap, the salver will remain on loan to her namesake city

scrap, the salver will remain on loan to her namesake city

scrap, the salver will remain on loan to her namesake city until a fourth ship of the name comes into service.

Admiral Clare, who is president of the Midland Naval Officers Association and a vice president of the Birmingham Nautical Club, told Navy News: "I have retained strong ties with the city of Birmingham since my time in command of "their" ship. Despite being as far from the sea as possible in the UK, the city is proud of its links with the Senior Service and the Lord Mayor has written to the First Sea Lord urging the Navy to build another ship of the name. the name.

Meanwhile, the city boasts that it erected the very first statue to Nelson, soon to be re-located in a prime position near the new city centre.

• Rear Admiral Roy Clare hands over the silver salver

from HMS Birmingham to the Lord Mayor, Clir Theresa



Illustrious welcomes the Queen to Norway

MS ILLUSTRIOUS had the honour of welcoming the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh on board the ship during their State visit to Norway.

After steaming up the fjord towards Oslo the aircraft carrier made an impressive arrival in company with the sail training ship Stavross S Marcnos before berthing alongside the city's jetty.

During the five-day visit to the city HMS Illustrious welcomed a multitude of visitors from Oslo, but the highlight of the visit was the arrival of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, who were escorted by the commanding officer of HMS Illustrious, Capt Charles Style.

After the visit to Norway, from May 30 to June 4, the ship set sail for exercises in the Baltic before heading for the West Coast of Scotland to take part in the latest Joint Maritime Coarse.



 ROYAL VISIT: Capt Charles Style, Commanding Officer of HMS Illustrious, welcomes the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh on board the ship during their State visit to Norway.



 The ship's company of HMS Illustrious line up on deck as the aircraft carrier berths at the jetty in Oslo. The highlight of the ship's five-day visit was the chance to welcome on board the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh who were making a State visit to Norway.

Carrier rescues freezing fishermen

ON HER way to the Baltic HMS Illustrious rescued two men who had been drifting in a rowing boat for eight hours in waters north of Denmark.

A sharp-eyed look-out spotted the two men waving frantically from their four-metre open boat which was drifting helplessly far out to see

HMS Illustrious immediately launched her seaboat and brought the men back to the ship where they were treated for exposure.

The men, 56-year-old Dane Paul Otto Kaczmare and 46year-old Swede Johnny Ingvar Wyberghad been on a fishing trip when strong currents

swept them out to sea.

Their engine was not powerful enough to counter the currents and the men drifted dangerously close to shipping
lanes in the middle of the
Kattegat, 12 miles north of
Laeso Island, before they were
snotted.

After treatment, the grateful duo were transferred to the Danish patrol vessel Laxman and they were returned to the mainland a few hours later.

Lt Cdr Steve Tatham said: "When we got them on board, they were so cold they could hardly speak.

"We warmed them up and gave them something to eat before the Danish vessel arrived."

After the rescue, HMS Illustrious resumed her passage to the Baltic, where she took part in a four-day international exercise with ships from several nations, including Poland, Germany, Latvia and Russia.



 RESCUED: Medical staff on board HMS Illustrious take charge of a very relieved Paul Otto Kaczmare.

VC's courage inspires today's gunners



 Princess Anne with Foylebank veterans Doug Bishop (left) and Jack Wheeler. They were accompanied by Mrs Myra Bishop (centre) veteran Ron Walsh, Mrs Jean Walsh and Jack Wheeler's daughter Mrs Ruth Goodenough.

THE COURAGE of a WWII gunner is inspiring a new generation of sailors at HMS Collingwood.

Leading Scaman Jack Mantle was awarded a posthumous Victoria Cross for his defence of the armed merchant cruiser HMS Foylebank during a devastating air attack by German dive bombers at Portland in July 1940.

And his name lives on at the Farcham establishment where a new close-range weapons trainer has been named in his honour.

Jack was due to be mentioned in despatches for an earlier action when he brought down an enemy aircraft with a Lewis gun, but he was mortally wounded during the attack on the Foylebank.

He was wounded many times and had time to reflect on his grievous injuries between bursts of fire, but his courage bore him up until the end of the fight when he

fell by his gan.

During a visit to the new trainer by the Princess Royal, Princess



LS Jack Mantle, VC.

Anne met survivors of the attack on the Foylebank.

Doug Bishop, Chairman of the HMS Foylebank Association, said: "The idea is that people going on the course will be inspired by Jack's example. His courage shows them what they have to live up to."



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Letters





Singapore welcomes

TOGETHER with my mother I have just returned from a visit to Singapore where we visited the Singapore Naval Museum in what used to be HMS Terror, where I served in 1963-67.

Upon arrival we were met by the curator, former SWO Wee Cheng Leong, who personally gave us a complete conducted tour of both the museum and the old Naval Base at Sembawang - for which we were very grateful, especially as my mother is in a wheelchair.

During the visit I learned a lot about my uncles and other forebears of mine who served in the Far East, some of whom had been killed in action or died as prisoners of the Japanese during

Wee Cheng Leong has two requests of Navy News - to make it clear that there is a warm, open invitation to all ex-RN personnel and their families to visit the museum and that he would appreciate any photographs, old ships commissioning books badges etc to put on display.

ridges etc to put on unpray.

The address is Singapore Naval
luseum. Naval Training. Museum, Command, AFPN 6611, 36 Admiralty Road West, 01-01, Sembawang Camp, Singapore 757760. – A. Judd, South

Double blow

TS DUKE of York at Portrush, Northern Ireland has lately been the victim of not one but two break-ins and burglaries and we have lost £4,000 of equipment. The worst part, however, is the

way the unit was trashed.

As you can imagine, the staff, committee and cadets were heartbroken.

The unit has been in existence since 1942 and over the years we have collected a great number of crests, most of which have been broken or stolen.

We were wondering if any of HM ships or readers would like to donate a crest to the unit. We would be most grateful. - Mrs E. Foster, Administrative Officer, Portrush Sea Cadet Unit.

Years of Cold **War patrols** *`unrecognised'*

I NOTED with interest that the MOD had recently authorised the peacekeeping bar "Air Cover Gulf" for award with the 1962 General Service Medal.

As an ex-submariner it would appear that the Royal Navy's Submarine Branch has been omitted from such recognition, despite being at the forefront of our country's deterrent and making a major contribution to post war world stability.

I am of course referring to the unique role of both the conventional and nuclear submarines during that period in our history known as the Cold War.

Our qualifying period was not just a mere 30 days, but years of arduous patrols and covert operations in the pursuit of world

yet to this day we still remain

unrecognised.

As a professional, highly motivated elite branch of the Royal Navy, it is my opinion that recognition should still be given, in the form of a 'Cold War' bar to the 1962 GSM, expecially during this, our centenary year.

That recognition would go a long way in maintaining the pride, high level of morale and esprit de corps that still exists within the ranks of the Submarine ranks of the Submarine Association. - N. R. Simpson, ex-Renown (Stbd), Hull.

It was announced in Defence Council Instruction 160/00 that members of the ship's company of HMS. Invincible who served in her from January 17 to March 19, 1998 can receive the General Service Medal clasp 'Air Operations Iraq'. – Ed.

Grave issues

WATCHING Timewatch on BBC2 concerning the sinking of the Scharnhorst, the divers reported that there was no trace of human remains.

This is hardly surprising as any remains would be dissolved by

seawater or eaten by fishes... Likewise, divers on the wreck of the Titanic stated there were no human remains, only passengers' possessions.

But I agree with previous correspondents that where there are personal possessions of dead sailors, this constitutes a war grave and is entitled to the utmost respect. - H. J. Maggs, Weston Super Mare.

ON A recent pilgrimage of war graves cemeteries in Northern Germany, I came across several graves in Kiel of the ship's company of HMS Esk. I would like to assure all friends and relatives of these gallant lads that the condition of the graves is condition of the graves is immaculate and attended to every T. Robinson, Ellesmere

WHILE serving in HMS Emerald, stationed at Aden, I visited the local museum and, in a tank with a glass front were the mumified preserved bodies of a family brought up from the deep by a Portuguese fishing boat's trawl.

Some years ago, one of the daily newspapers ran an article on the subject - can anyone shed any light on it? - R. W. Rumsey, Ilford,

Letters to the Editor should always accompanied by the correspondent's name and address, not necessarily for publication.email correspondents are requested to provide this information.

Big-hearted Horsforth to mark Enigma breakthrough

AS you will be aware, this year is the 60th anniversary of one of the most significant events in the whole of the campaign against the U-boats, when HMS Aubretia, Bulldog and Broadway attacked U110, severely damaging it and bringing it to the

A boarding party led by SLt David Balme of HMS Bulldog boarded the stricken U-boat and recovered an Enigma coding machine and other secret and important documents.

To mark the anniversary of this event - the first occasion on which an Enigma machine was recovered from a warship - and to acknowledge the endeavours of the people of Horsforth who in one week in 1941 raised the magificent sum of £241,000 (£5 million in today's money) to adopt the corvette HMS Aubretia, we are planning a commemoration and dedication ceremony with a plaque and memorial stone to be placed in the grounds of Horsforth

Sir Barry Sheen, who was HMS Aubretia's First Lieutenant, will attend the ceremony on October 28, together with the Lord Mayor of Leeds, local MPs and members of Service organisations. A fund under the name of HMS Aubretia Fund has been launched with an initial contribution of £500 from

Horsforth Town Council. We would like to hear from any members of HMS Aubretia, Bulldog or Broadway or members of the Corvette Association who would like to attend. Contact me on 0113 2586236 for further details. - Cllr M. Grubb, details. - Cllr Horsforth, Leeds.

Swordfish celebrities

REGARDING the photograph of the crew of a Swordfish aircraft on page 18 of the June issue, captioned "unidentified", I recognised it immediately.

Their names are (left to right) SLt W. P. Laing, SLt P. T. Beresford and LA J. Beech and they are the crew of Swordfish 'B' of 816 Sqn. The picture was taken on board HMS Chaser after they had sunk U472 on March 4, 1944. - G. Burns, Fleet, Hants.

The picture appears in Paul Kemp's Convoy! and in The Navy 1939 to the Present Day by Max Arthur. Chaser's aircraft also accounted for U336 and U973. -

Stitches in time

I WAS intrigued by the picture of the old POs' mess at Whale Island (June issue) and the comment about the embroidered samplers.

Could it be that the sailors made them themselves? Over 50 years ago my uncle showed me a small white pillow case on which he had embroidered his name in red cross stitch for his hammock. There was also a white linen bag embroidered in white silk for his brush and comb.

At the age of 16 I remember being amazed by the fact that he could embroider and also by the fine quality of the stitching. My uncle retired as a CPO some time in the 1920s - just when that picture was taken. - Mrs M. Turner, Cowes, IOW.

Just for show

WITH all the publicity marking the 50th anniversary of the Festival of Britain, I thought you would be interested in this picture of HMS picture of representation of Campania taking part. – G. S. Press, Bristol.

HMS Campania was converted from the hull of a 12,000-ton refrigerated cargo vessel and completed as a escort carrier in 1944. Relitted as a ferry carrier after the war, she was loaned by Admiralty to the Festival of Britain as a travelling exhibition ship, for which she was was completely internally. - Ed. altered



No. 564 48th year

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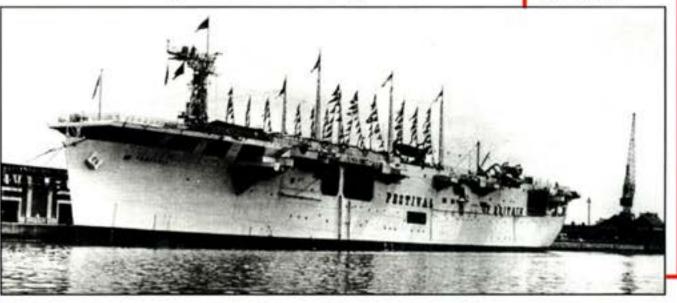
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DARK STUDY OF REVENGE



THIS dramatic photograph of the battleship HMS Revenge was sent to us by Mr Charles Gibbs, of Old Portsmouth, whose father, AB Charles Gibbs, had some connection with her. Does anyone know where and when it was taken?

Built by Vickers Ltd at Barrow and completed in March, 1916, on the outbreak of World War II HMS Revenge was a member of the 3rd Battle Squadron, Home Fleet.

During October 1939, in company with Resolution, Emerald and Enterprise, she left Plymouth carrying gold bullion to Halifax, Nova Scotia. On arrival she

then joined the Halifax Escort Force employed on

Atlantic convoy duty.

During October 1940 she carried out the bombardment of Cherbourg. She remained in home waters until November 1941 when she left for the Indian Ocean, returning to the Clyde in September 1943. She then became an RN training base in the

Gareloch until August 1944 when she was reduced to the reserve.

Her last duties were at Devonport where she formed part of the Imperieuse Training Establishment until towed to Inverkeithing for breaking up in 1948.

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Letters



Guns that fought the Mad Mullah

THE PICTURE of HMS Cardiff firing a 21-gun salute (May issue) brought back memories of the Hotchkiss 3pdr saluting gun, a handsome relic of the Victorian Navy and still in use in the 1950s.

My photograph was taken some-where in the Persian Gulf on board HMS Loch Alvie in 1955. We had four of these guns on the quarter-deck, enabling us to disguise mis-

I believe the Hotchkiss 3pdr was fitted to most pre-Dreadnought battleships, which carried a dozen or more in the fighting tops, and they were also used extensively to

arm their steam picket boats. Early pre-1914 destroyers also carried them, but their days as a surface weapon were numbered by

Every round fired was recorded in the gun memos which had some interesting entries. I particularly recall three: "Warning shots at Dogger Bank", "Action in the Dardanelles" and, my favourite straight from the Boys Own Paper, "Revolt of the Mad Mullah".

They were beautiful pieces of long-lived ordnance, but difficult to keep smart and operational because of our low freeboard and the old Gulf nuisance - sand. - J. Cooper, Fareham, Hants.

REFERENCE 'Last of the gun-fighters' (June issue), I served in HM Submarine Oberon from 1964-66. We left Faslane in February 1965 for Singapore, arriving there in May and we were fitted with an Oerlikon gun made in 1939 - before we left.

The mounting was fixed on the casing but the gun itself was stowed in the conning tower and fitted together on surfacing. We also had a Bren gun each side of the fin. - P. Bradshaw, Grimsby.

REGARDING the removal of the 4in gun from HMS Andrew (June letters), it was removed in Portsmouth Dockyard, not at HMS Dolphin.

the. Gunnery I was Equipment Section (Afloat) and the task came to me as I was the fitter responsible for the HP air

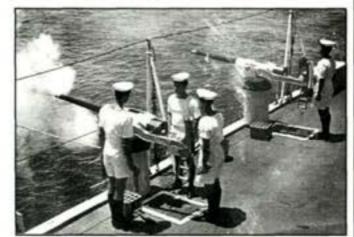
I was assisted by Mr William Hartt, fitter driller, and the slinger was Mr Carter (Taffy). The subma-rine was alongside Boiler Road at the southern end in No 2 Basin.

I remember it well as I knew it was the last boat to carry a gun.

The 'legend' plate on the gun is totally erroneous - I have mentioned it before to the staff at the museum, but I do not think they give much credence to a mere Dockyard matey. – E. C. Broadbridge, Portsmouth.

ORPHEUS was still "fit to receive" a deck gun, a 20mm Ocrlikon if my memory serves me well, following her 1973-75 refit. Whether or not a gun was actu-ally fitted operationally, I do not

Interestingly, 1 believe the Navigator had been the Gunnery Officer in HMS Andrew when she paid off. – R. A. Danns, Buth



GUN SALUTE: HMS Loch Alvie discharges her Hotchkiss 3pdr

INJURED? Compensation?

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(DCI GEN 273)



Fleet's smallest vessel

Class: Gleaner-class motor survey launch Pennant number: H86 Builder: Based on a Halmatic Talisman hull,

fitted out by Emsworth Shipbuilders for survey work

Launched: October 18, 1983

Commissioned: December 5, 1983

Displacement: 26 tons, fully loaded

Length: 16 metres Beam: 4.55 metres Draught: 1.55 metres Speed: 17 knots

Complement: Eight; two officers, one senior rate and five junior rates

Main machinery: Two Volvo Penta TAMD 122D diesel engines

Sensors and surveying Atlas equipment: Fansweep 20 multibeam echo sounder; Atlas Dieso echo sounder 25; Type 2094 towed side scan sonar; Fugro MN8 DGPS; TSS POSMV **GPS**

Radar: Navigation: Raytheon R40SX; I-band

sweeps all before her

more unusual units of the Fleet, as well as being the smallest commissioned vessel at 26 tons.

For a start, she is not an HMS but HMSML - Her Survey Motor Majesty's Launch.

But that apart, she still sails under the White Ensign, and has her own Surveying Squadron pen-nant number, H86 - though it is unlikely she would be confused with any of her bigger squadron

Since a recent facelift, she also features a unique piece of survey-ing equipment in her Atlas Fansweep 20 multibeam echo sounder, which no other Royal Navy vessel carries.

This allows Gleaner to collect soundings from a broad swathe of seabed, instead of the traditional

line of soundings.

Apart from dramatically reducing the time taken to collect data from an area, it also allows the launch to produce accurate 'pictures' of the seabed, such as those of Plymouth Sound shown below

Surveyors now store data on digital tape - gone are the days of the painstaking process of creating a hand-drawn fairsheet.

Her very first deployment set the standard for her unorthodoxy; she headed straight for Earl's Court in London - on the back of a low-loader - in early 1984 to put in an appearance at the International Boat Show.

Tasked to conduct inshore and harbour surveys, her first active service was conducted in the approaches to Portsmouth Harbour, and her first 'overseas' run saw her working two months off Jersey and Alderney.

But perhaps her most unusual



Her Malesty's Motor Survey Launch Gleaner – the smallest unit in the Fleet.

feat was to deploy to Basel in 1988, a journey of 460 miles from the open sea.

Gleaner sailed across the North Sea and off into the Netherlands, exciting interest from the locals as she went

Gleaner's ultimate destination was Basel - 700 miles from Portsmouth - where the launch berthed at the Three Corners, the point at which Germany, France and Switzerland meet.

The launch has a ship's company of eight; the Commanding Officer Executive Officer (currently Lts Gary Hesling and Victoria Gillard), a Petty Officer (Surveyor), two Leading Seamen (Survey Recorders), a Leading Weapon Engineering Mechanic, a Leading Marine Engineering Mechanic and an AB (Survey Recorder) - a junior team to shoulder a high level of responsibility.

Indeed, as Navy News went to press, one of Gleaner's ship's com-puny. PO(SR) Jezz Groves, the Cox'n, was due to receive the Defence Surveyor's Association 2000 Annual Hydrographic Prize at a reception at Woolwich

Barracks in London.

Gleaner will spend the next few months surveying Loch Long, the Kyle of Lochalsh and Lamlash Bay the Isle of Arran in Scotland before heading back south for fur-ther work in Plymouth Sound.

aunch has mixed ancestry.

A MIXED bag of eight vessels have carried the name Gleaner since the first survey ketch was

The first was lost in 1814 after three years as a dockyard lighter, and it was more than 20 years before the next Gleaner appeared, an 1837 pad-dle gunboat rebuild of the GPO's Gulnare (1833).

Next was a wooden gunboat built at Deptford in 1854, mounting howitzers. She won a Battle Honour in the Baltic in 1855, and was sold at Montevideo in 1868.

gunboat built at Sheerness in 1890 and sold 15 years later, while the next two coexisted; number five was a 160-ton tender, formerly the War Department vessel General Stothard, which was transferred in 1906 and sold in 1921, while a trawler of the same name was hired from 1915-16. A drifter named Gleaner of the Sea was sunk by German warships in the Dover Straits in 1916.

The current Gleaner's predecessor, an 835-ton survey vessel was built in 1937 and took up minesweeping duties in 1939. She won four Battle Honours, and was broken up in 1950.

Baltic 1855 Atlantic 1940 North Sea 1941 Arctic 1942 Normandy 1944



Douglas Dauntless DB I

ALTHOUGH the Douglas Dauntless played an insignificant part as a Royal Navy aircraft - the Fleet Air Arm did not receive the type until 1944, and then only nine - it had built up a considerable reputation as a war-winning weapon in America's arsenal.

The USA Dauntless SBD-1 two-seat divebomber went into production in 1940 and by 1944, when the last example was made, the USA had rolled out almost 6,000 of various

It was the Dauntless that in 1942 clinched the US Navy's tide-turning victory over the Japanese at Midway. In that battle the type was principally responsible for sinking four of Japan's best carriers, along with the cream of their highly-trained naval air arm.

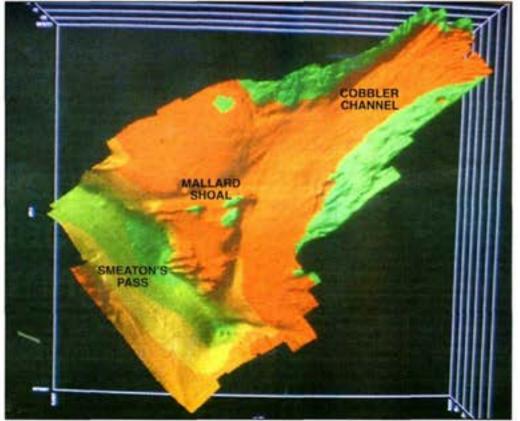
In crucial years of America's island-hopping

campaign in the Pacific, the Dauntless was the their Fleet's standard carrier-borne bomber and accounted for more Japanese vessels sunk than any other type operated by the USA.

None of the Dauntlesses which made their way to Britain were used operationally. They formed part of the equipment of two squadrons - 787 involved in air fighting development in Scotland, and 700, a maintenance test pilot squadron at the time, which operated the type from Middle Wallop until early in 1946.

Designated Dauntless DB Mark Is in FAA service, their Wright-Cyclone radial engines gave them a top speed of 255mph, a climb rate of 1,428ft a minute a range of 773 miles and a service ceiling of 25,200ft.

In US service they could carry a bomb load of up to 2,250lb. Two 0.5in machine-guns fired forwards and two 0.3in guns provided defence



 A three-dimensional representation of the sea bed in the approaches to Devonport. Mallard Shoal the two green blobs to the right of the label, and the Mallard Shoal Beacon, beloved of navigators of ships entering Plymouth, is on the green blob below the 'SH' of 'SHOAL'.

Tartan army visits

Hamburg

MS SUTHERLAND provided an unusual tourist promotion platform for Scotland during British Festival week in Hamburg from June 1 to 4.

With the help of Lord Strathnaver, the owner of Dunrobin Castle in the county of Sutherland, the ship promoted a range of Scottish interests throughout the festival.

More than than 3,500 people visitied the Type 23 frigate in the harbour at Uberseekbrucke near the City Hall and it would seem the Germans were keen to learn as much as possible about the country.

Lord Strathnaver, who has enjoyed close ties with HMS Sutherland since she was com-missioned in 1997 said that the festival had been very well received by the people of Hamburg, and Shona Teller of



 CROWD PLEASER: HMS Sutherland alongside in Hamburg. Despite some wet weather the ship attracted more than 3,500 visitors during her visit to the city.



the Scottish Tourist Board was also delighted.

She said: "Selling Scotland in Germany is the easiest job I have had to do, especially with the Germans' love of dramatic landscapes and the outdoor

The ship's company of HMS Sutherland were warmly welcomed by the City and were invited to a number of events, including a formal lunch in the magnificent City Hall, tours of the tall ship Rickmer Rickmers' and games of football, rugby

Sutherland's Commanding Officer, Cdr Paul Thomas, said it was a useful opportunity to forge further links with an important European ally. He "The City of Hamburg and the UK enjoy a close relation-ship, and this was a great opportunity to celebrate that, both on a formal level and a more relaxed footing.

"The whole ship's company were looked after really well by the people of this maritime city

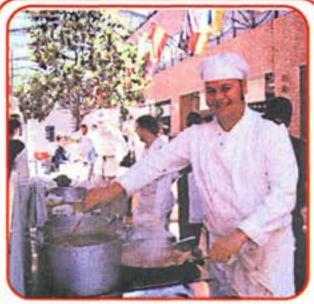
 CPO Fraser Brown, Shona Telfer, Lord Strathnaver, LWEA Neil Smith and German Mid Chris Vehrenkamp with Clansmen Stuart Nicol and Alistair Scoddart.

and it was important to be able to return the compliment by inviting people on board."

The Union Flag was flying from the City Hall over the Rathausmarkt during the festi-val which celebrated the Cultural links between the UK and the German city.

Hamburg residents were treated to a typical UK Street market and the entertainment included daily evening concerts, a stage programme, chil-dren's story telling and a historical market.

The Whitsun festival in the centre of Hamburg is an annual event staged by a European Union country at the invitation of Hamburg's city government. This year it was the UK's turn to entertain the Hamburg resi-



 CHEF Rab Allen from HMS Westminster at work in the specially-constructed kitchen at the Nordsee shopping centre during the NATO squadron's visit to Wilhelmshaven

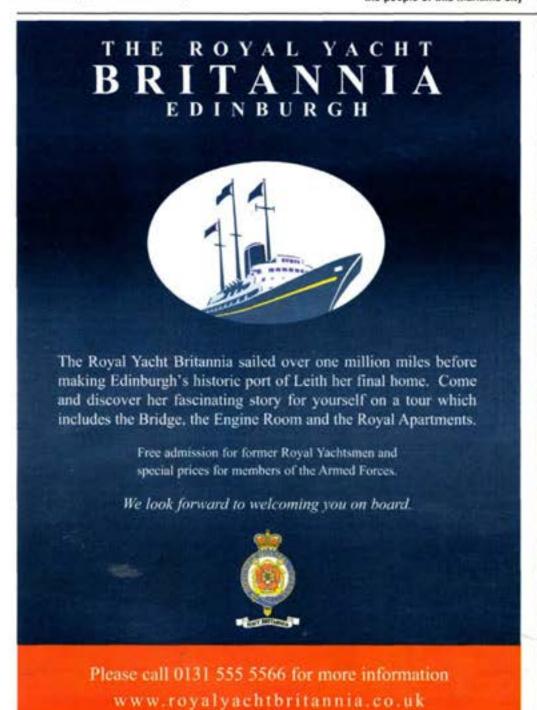
HMS Westminster tickles taste buds in Wilhelmshaven

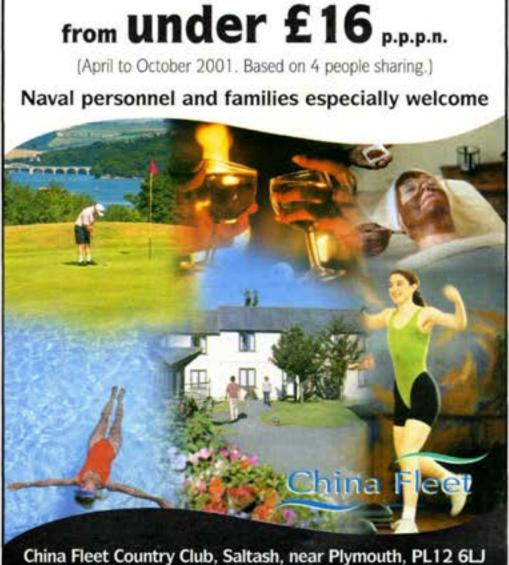
HMS WESTMINSTER tickled the taste buds of shoppers in Wilhelmshaven during a visit to the German Port with NATO's Standing Naval Force Atlantic.

While the Type 23 frigate was alongside a team of chefs from the ship took part in an international cookery event at the Nordsee Shopping Centre.

On each day of the event, two teams from the force cooked lunch for more than 150 shoppers at a specially constructed display kitchen.

Westminster's team of POCA Keith Edwards, LCH Daz Pithers and CH Rab Allen delighted the shoppers by serving-up Mediterranean chicken in basil and tomato sauce, pasta in pesto and garlic bread and they even made the front page of the local





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NAVY NEWS, JULY 2001



GEMMA 18, single, blonde, brown eyes, likes music. WLTM Sailors of similar ages for penpals/relationship. Box July 1

LIZ 21. STUDENT, G.S.O.H. Interests, music, socialising, Looking for pen pal, Box July 2

NICE GIRL, 35. Seeks strong, tall knight in shining armour. Services. Box July 3

REDHEAD, WILD and free, only 23. Would like penpal for friendship/relationship. Box July 4

STUNNING FEMALE, 23, recently moved back to U.K. W.L.T. correspond/meet genuine Naval/Marine Officers. Box July 5

MIDLANDS SINGLE mum, 36. V.G.S.O.H., loving. Seeks genuine Sailor/Marine. Relationship. Photo please. Box July 6

SINGLE FUN LOVING female, Seeks fun loving male penpal, V.G.S.O.H. Box July 7

STUNNING AIR HOSTESS, 35. Tall, slim, G.S.O.H. Seeks Naval male for friendship etc. Box July 8

OLIVE OIL, 30. Seeks Popeye to correspond, maybe share tin of Spinach in time, Box July 9

BEE, 52. W.L.T.M. gent. There is only one life – lets live it together. Photo appreciated. Box July 10

NIKKI PLYMOUTH, attractive blond student. Available for functions in South West. Enquiries. Box July 11

SHONA, 34. Seeks friendship, penpals, enjoys F1 Racing, cinema, travelling. Box July 12

DEBBIE, 33. Seeks fun loving, honest penpal with G.S.O.H. for friendship. Photo appreciated. Box July 13 SHY BUT FRIENDLY Scottish Teacher, 38. Seeks honest, genuine penfriend, Box July 14

Tel. No.:

DIVORCED PROFESSIONAL lady 46, wltm/correspond with Naval officer or serviceman with sense of humour: Box July 15

SANDRA 39. Seeks penpal for friendship/relationship. Photo appreciated a.l.a. Box July 16

SWEDISH AMERICAN, Military Nurse, gsoh, wishes to write marine penfriends. Box July 17

CAROL, 35, good letter writer. Seeks sailor for friendship. Box July 18

PERSONAL

DOUGLAS WOULD LIKE to meet and correspond with senior Naval NCO's and Officers whom are single, (Ladies 29-50 only). My interests include traditional Scottish music and horticulture. Photo please to. NN Box 001

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Please note: We can take no responsibility for the nature or source of the replies received.

You must be over 18 to advertise in this column.



People in the News



Family thanks aircrew for saving baby's life

HE DAY that Madeleine Carter was born is one which her family will never forget.

After their initial joy the infant was found to have a serious heart defect and she would have died if a Royal Navy helicopter hadn't been on standby at RN Air Station Culdrose.

Madeleine's condition was so serious that immediate surgery was needed and a team of specialist doctors and nurses were called to the Royal Cornwall Hospital at Treliske from Bristol.

The specialists began to stabilise the baby's condition for an ambulance journey to Bristol where she was to undergo treatment.

But the baby's condition worsened and a helicopter was needed to save valuable time in getting her to Bristol where the intricate surgery was to take place.

The hospital made an emergency call to 771 Naval Air Squadron at RNAS Culdrose and a Sea King helicopter was airborne in four minutes.

The helicopter picked up the 10hour-old baby and the team of doctors and nurses and the operations needed to save her began at Bristol two hours later.

The stabilising operation and major open-heart surgery which



 Happy family: The RN Search and Rescue helicopter crew, Observer Lt John Bramwell (left) and pliots Lt Cdr Darryl Whitehead and Lt Dave Crimmen pictured with baby Madeleine, her big brother Sam (left) father Paul, mother Sarah and Sam's friend Duke (right).

followed were a great success and Madeleine amazed consultants with the speed of her recovery.

When the baby was well enough, Madeleine's mother Sarah, father Paul, and brother Sam visited RNAS Culdrose, to say thank you to the crew of the rescue helicopter - Lt Cdr Darryl Whitehead, Lt Dave Crimmen, Lt John Bramwell, LA Andy Furness and Flt Sgt Peter Joyce.

During the visit, Madeleine's mother Sarah said: "We will always owe a debt of gratitude to everyone concerned at RN Air Station Culdrose, without whose assistance it is reasonable to assume that Madeleine would not have survived.

"Although she may require some follow-up treatment, she is doing very well and should be able to lead a normal life."

SERVICEMEN 'FALL IN' FOR SKYDIVING EXPED TO SPAIN

THE BEAUTIFUL resort of Empuriabrava on the north-east coast of Spain was the setting for the adventurous training expedition Spanish Freefall 2001.

The exped took 35 Royal Navy and Royal Marines staff to the Centro de Paracaidismo Costa Brava, one of the most picturesque skydiving centres in Europe, where the parachuting instruction ranged from first jump courses to advanced formation coaching.

Freefall skydiving is a fairly difficult and expensive sport to get started in and one of the objectives of the expedition was to get many members of the expedition qualified through Accelerated Freefall (AFF) courses.

The AFF course is an intensive training programme designed to take a complete novice through a series of just eight jumps, up to a standard where they can exit the aircraft and freefall unassisted. Having leapt out of the aircraft at 12,500 feet they reach a terminal velocity of around 120 mph before opening

their parachutes some 60 seconds later at around 4,000 feet.

Once under canopy, the beginners steered themselves back towards the drop zone before descending gently for a perfect tip-toe landing.

The major hazard to avoid on the ground was the beer line – a landing beyond which would prove expensive!

The intermediate skydivers on the expedition continued with consolidation training including formation building. These jumps involved jumping from the aircraft in a linked position with two, three or four skydivers.

In freefall, the jumpers moved rapidly around each other, scoring points as they built different formations before breaking off, tracking away from each other and pulling their parachutes at around 2,500 feet.

Expedition leader Tony De Reya achieved his Category 10 formation skydiving qualification as did Dain Thorne, despite an unauthorised beach landing! Other achievements included a 400th jump for Richard Liddle, a 200th for Trevor Calvert and a 100th for Matt Jackson. The biggest achievement however, was made by the nine brave souls who made their first freefall jump.

High winds curtailed some of the skydiving activity towards the end of the week but by the end of the expedition around 200 jumps had been made and much experienced gained.

Everyone on the expedition benefited hugely from the vast expertise of the AFF instructors, Scotty Milne, Ian Chick and Tim Andrewes. The expedition itself would not have been possible without the generous support provided by the Sports Lottery, the Nutfield Fund, the Sailors' fund and DNPTS, who together with the expedition participants, all belped to ensure a safe and immensely enjoyable expedition.

☑ For more information of services skydiving, log on to the RN & RM Sports Parachuting website www.skydivenany.org.uk



 Dave Paton, Dain Thorne, Richy Liddle and Tom Canty meet up at 13,000ft during operation Spanish Freefall 2001.

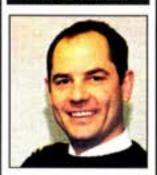


 Expedition leader Tony de Reya and Dave Paton in freefall over the coast at Empuriabrava.





IN BRIEF



THE TOP professional prize for underwater specialist Principle Warfare Officers (PWOs) has been won by Lt Derek Francis.

Derek, who is now PWO of HMS Norfolk, wins the Ogilvy Medal for coming top of his class at the School of Maritime Operations.

The award was presented by his CO, Cdr Laurie Smallman, with two other medals for his part in air operations over Iraq and the Kosovo campaign, when he was serving in HMS Grafton.



HARD work in the junior rates accommodation at HMS Neptune earned a commendation for RNR PO Wren Ann Thompson.

The commendation was presented by Capt Nick Davies, Captain Operations, Personnel and Security.



WHEN the submarine Cox'n of HMS Turbulent broke his wrist LS Dave Cheesman stepped in and saved the day.

Dave learned the job as a volunteer assistant submarine cox'n and was able to fill the gap scamlessly while Turbulent's Cox'n Fred Flint recovered from his injury. Submarine cox'ns are

Submarine cox'ns are always CPOs or WOs and Dave's skill and loyalty was rewarded by the vessel's crew who have voted him Man of the Boat for 2001. The award was presented by Turbulent's sponsor, Lady Cassidi.



ONE OF the most popular and well-known people in Naval Drafting has retired after a career spanning 22 years.

Liz Dean, who has been awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours, served no fewer than 11 Commodores and Captains of Naval Drafting. 'Retirement gifts from CND and his staff included a bouquet of flowers, jewellery and a crystal vase.

Lovers marry 51 years late!

A NAVAL couple who fell in love 51 years ago have finally tied the knot this year – with a little help from Navy News.

Former Submariner Jim Oxlade met his 'first love' Joy Jones at Chatham in 1950 but they were separated by drafts to Portsmouth and Malta and their lives took different paths.

Joy said: "We met in Chatham when we were only 18, fell madly in love and dated for over a year.

"When a proposal was made I said no. I had decided I was a career girl and put in for a draft at Pompey. Jim followed by joining submarines, I retaliated by getting a draft to Malta. This ended in two broken hearts."

When they met briefly nine years later both were married, and Joy was soon to emigrate to Canada where she lived for 34 years – but Joy's affection for the Royal Navy was to bring them together again decades later.

As a reminder of her Service days she chose the Canadian number plate LDG WRN and when her daughter sent Navy News a picture of Joy with her car last year Jim recognised her immediately.

Joy said: "As a result of the article I received a letter from my first love. We were both alone then and the letters and calls started to fly back and forth across the Atlantic. It seems we had both tucked one another into a corner of our hearts for fifty years.

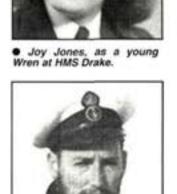
"We decided to meet when I came over to the UK and, to cut a long story short, Jim returned to Canada with me. After a few months we decided to return to the UK to live and we have settled in Plymouth.

"Now we are married, 51 years late, as Jim says, we want to thank Navy News for playing cupid and for ending a lonely life for both of us."

☐ Jim and Joy's heart-warming story is not without precedent and Navy News has a long history of bringing people together.

In the most recent example, MEM Chris Carr from HMS Illustrious wrote to say: "I thought you might like to know that, after meeting my girlfriend through your Penpals column in December 1998, we got married in the church at HMS Sultan on March 31.

"We hope to take our longawaited honeymoon in July when the carrier returns to Portsmouth. Thank you for making my life whole and my dreams come true."



 Jim Oxlade: Married his first love '51 years late.'



 PO Neil Banks: He failed his first RN fitness but passed it with flying colours a month later. Since then he's lost another 42lbs.

Fitness test can be a blessing in disguise

A SENIOR Naval rating who allowed his fitness to slide over the years believes the RN fitness test can be a blessing in disguise.

When POC Neil Banks joined the Navy 12 years ago as a 16-year-old he found sport came naturally and was easy, but a fondness for burgers, chips, lager and the like took its toll.

Neil failed the Royal Navy fitness test and decided that it was a good time to make the most of the Navy's facilities and catering to make a big difference in his life.

Out went his favourite foods and in came salads, jacket potatoes and plenty of water, backed by a fitness regime of at least 20 minutes a day in the fitness suite at HMS Excellent. After a tough start, the training became easier as he regained fitness and started to enjoy it—and a month after failing the test, he passed it with flying colours.

he passed it with flying colours.

Six months later, Neil has lost 42lb, passed his PO leadership course, and he feels that things are definitely moving in the right direction – in no small part due to the jolt of failing the fitness test.



. LONG LOST LOVE: Jim and Joy Oxlade on their wedding day.

Coincidence — or fate?

EX-STOKER Roy Tinsley noticed a curious co-incidence when his grandson Richard Fella passed out of basic training at HMS Raleigh.

Roy, a member of the Glasgow Old Boys Association who served in the Far East, joined the Royal Navy on the same day exactly 57 years earlier!

A few weeks later, HMS Collingwood's Lt Chris Newth had a similar experience when his wife Michelle began her RNR career at HMS Raleigh on May 6, exactly sixteen years after he joined the Torpoint establishment as an artificer apprentice.

And at HMS Sherwood, RNR Commodore Prince Michael of Kent had the strange task of saying farewell to Equerry Lt Cdr Allen, and welcoming another Lt Cdr Allen in his place. Lt Cdr Jane Allen (no relation) is pictured with Lt Cdr Ian Allen and the Prince.





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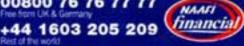
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embers of SIMP operate to a strict code of practice and all are specialists in their own area of expertise.



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Funding for education: start early or lose out

E ALL want the best for our children, especially when it comes to their when it comes to their

There are some that are fortunate to have access to a quality state school, but for many the cost of private education can be a large financial burden on the family

Very few parents have earned income which is large enough to meet the costs of education on a 'pay as you go' basis, even after receipt of the Boarding School Allowance which approximates to just under half the fees.

So if you are determined that your child should receive the best opportunity you can afford, it is very important to start saving early. Even if you have left it a bit late, there are still possible solutions.

How do I get started?

When you are thinking about getting started, there are a number of factors to think about.

- How many children need to be educated?
- How much time is available? ■ Are funds needed for all or part of your
- Is capital available or will funds have to come from income?
- What are the costs?

child's education?

■ Can relatives, perhaps grandparents, help?

Ideally, saving should start as soon as you decide to have children. The earlier you start, the greater your chances of being able to meet the costs. Taking advice on possible funding solutions can help lessen the burden and chances of future disappointments.

Possibly the best position for parents to be in is to have a capital sum available when the buby is born, put towards future education costs. Alternatively, some form of regular saving may be necessary. The best investment option for you will depend largely on your tax situation, attitude to risk and how long you have to invest.

If the fees are required sooner rather than later, then a high interest deposit account or Cash ISA (Individual Savings Account) may be

If the period before the fees are due is reasonably lengthy, then you may wish to con-sider products based on shares, especially those that are tax efficient such as equity-based ISAs.

Life assurance plans have advantages, particularly when using good 'with profits' assurance policies since these should produce an acceptable tax-free return.

They provide a discipline of regular monthly vings and a death benefit which would produce a lump sum on early death sufficient to be invested so that your financial objective should be met. They also have the advantage that they do not fluctuate in value. Although stocks and shares in an ISA or Unit Trust should produce better returns, if the stock market falls severely some 18 months before the fees are required. this could wipe out the value of the portfolio with devastating results.

An increasingly popular solution where no provision has been made is to borrow fees using a mortgage plan. The new breed of flexible mortgages allow you to take advantage of equity in your home with a draw-down facility.

Money being given by family and friends for education costs can also be made to work

is sometimes possible to invest the money under trust but the rules are complex and you will need specialist advice.

As with any financial planning, planning for education funding should include an element of protection. It's always sensible to consider paying a little extra to make sure that payments can be kept up should anything happen to either

Conclusions

Naturally, every parent wants the best for their children, starting with a high quality of education. Estimating future costs is always going to be difficult. To help you, here are the key considerations.

- Affordability: Identify and fund for the most expensive years first.
- Security: Consider the range of products available and their corresponding levels of investment risk.
- Maximise potential savings advantages.
- Flexibility: What if your plans change:
- Continual review: Monitor changing costs against the provision being made.

With so many options and factors to consid-er, taking time to speak to a member of the Services Insurance and Investment Advisory Panel (SHAP) Independent Financial Advisor could be very worthwhile.

SIIAP is an advisory panel of Authorised Insurance and Independent Investment Advisors specialising in offering services to members of the Armed Forces and regulated by the appropriate authority in the UK, ensuring full compensation rights to clients serving over-seas or in the UK. For a list of current member

good for

N THE whole, people in Britain are not very good at saving money and planning for the

And many of us do not save a penny and would rather borrow money when we need to make a big purchase like a car, a computer, or a holiday!

So, why don't we save more? Well, there are a number of reasons. Some people feel they can't afford it. Some may feel it's too complicated. Some say the interest rate is too low

and the taxman will get a share of the interest as well!

NAAFI Financial have taken all of these concerns into account and have joined forces with Family Assurance,

For more information, call NAAFI Financial on 01959 56 8969



Friendly Society, to offer you two new tax-free savings plans: the Family and the Junior Bond. Minimum

amounts start at only £10 per month for a Junior Bond and £15 per month for a Family Bond - so it really is affordable for everyone! And because you won't pay tax on your investment and cash return, it's easy to see how you will get more savings for your

the UK's largest tax-exempt

The other good news is that you don't need to have a family to have a Family Bond - it is available to anyone, whether you are married or single and have children or not.

The Junior Bond is an affordable way to save on behalf of children and has been specially designed to provide them with a lump sum to fund their education, a deposit on their first home - or even a wedding. You can invest any amount between £10 and £25 each month for a minimum period of ten years

For adults, the Family Bond is an excellent opportunity to maximise their tax exempt savings allowance and is available to anyone aged between 16 and 70. Savers can invest between £15 and £25 each month - or a lump sum of between £100 and £270 each year - for periods of 10 to 25 years.

So, you now have the chance to put aside a small,

affordable amount of money each month, that will bring you a lump sum for you or your children in a few years com-pletely free of all income and capital gains taxes.

Just think how much easier it would be to afford that holiday of a lifetime, a new car your child's education fees or deposit for their first home. The list is endless.

NAAFI Financial believe the Junior Bond and Family Bond will benefit many people in the Forces. And they also have the full support of the three main families associations for these new savings plans; the Army Families Federation, Airwaves and the Association for Royal Royal

NAAFI Financial knows the important role that these associations play in the life of many Forces families.

them by including a £10 dona-tion to one of the three families associations as one of the free gift choices for anyone taking out a Junior or Family Bond. Alternatively savers can choose a £10 NAAFI voucher to spend in clubs or stores – or a cuddly teddy bear called

So there really is no time like the present. These new afforde savings plans selected by NAAFI Financial provide an excellent opportunity to start saving for a sounder financial future - for both you and your

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If you're in the Forces there's a fast way to make contact with a solicitor who'll speak your language. The Forces Legal Network is a national group of established, independent solicitors who all provide:

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Good day at **Black Rock**

FRIGATE HMS Sheffield provided a work party for decorating and repair duties at the Black Rock Hostel in Bridgetown, Barbados The hostel provides shelter and support to elderly people who have lost their homes through fire, flood or other natural disasters.

The ship's football team played a match against the British High Commission at the Trinidad national stadium in Port of Spain. and although the sailors lost 3-1, local underprivileged children gained to the tune of \$1,000.

Tall order

ROWERS and exercise bikers from HMS Bridport duplicated the distance their minebunter had covered on her NATO deployment year, and raised more £700 for the Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust in the process.

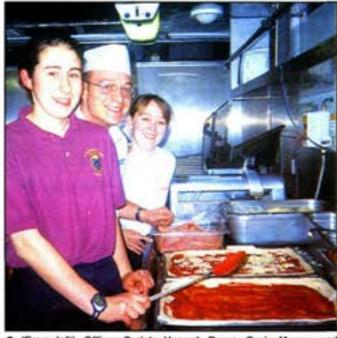
The target of 6,000km was met just one day before the ship returned to the UK, and was reached despite a busy programme and storms. Crew members of the German NATO minehunter Datteln helped reach the target, taking part during one of the 12-hour magathems staged. hour marathons staged.

Marathon row

A CHARITY row of the exact marathon distance - around 26.2 miles - brought £1,500 for the Futcher School in Portsmouth and sore muscles for BC/Sgt Jan Zawada RM.

Jan completed the row in 3h 6m 33s on a Concept II machine – the first time he had done such a distance in one go - and the money will go towards a Dyna Vox device, generates a synthesised voice for children unable to communicate verbally

Mozambique appeal total tops £107,000



 (From left), Officer Cadets Hannah Byers, Greig Murray and Claire Scotter, of Manxman Division at Dartmouth, make pizzas during their initial sea training on board HMS Campbeltown. With ingredients supplied by the ship, the division made £150 from a dial-a-pizza service, and they put the money to good use on their return to Devon; it paid for materials which they used to create a wheelchair path, by-passing a steep slope, and barbecue at Laura House residential home for disabled young adults in Totnes.

£107,000 during their chaplaincies' Millennium Appeal for one of the poorest nations in

The appeal was launched in Advent 1999 with the aim of raising £50,000 for the work of Christian Aid and the Catholic Fund for Overseas Development African state Mozambique.

Briefing leaflets were issued to the Naval Service to raise £15,000 towards the total, with further impetus added through publicity in church services in the naval bases of Faslane, Plymouth and Portsmouth which formed ecumenical acts of worship to mark the Millennium.

Big cat run

TWO Navy officers ran the Moscow Half Marathon to help Siberian tigers and leopards.

Assistant Naval Attache in Moscow, Lt Cdr Beach Seakins was joined by Lt Cdr Dave Ince in a 25-strong team running for AMUR, an Anglo-Russian char-ity founded by Lt Cdr Seakins' wife, Sharon Miller. More than

\$2,000 was raised. The team, led by British Ambassador Sir Roderic Lyne, was dressed in bright orange T-shirts with tiger stripes and leopard spots - a novelty in a country where such races are taken very seriously.

If you would like to help AMUR's conservation work, ring Sharon on 01531 632829.

Basin race

The response from the Naval Service was such that £35,000 was raised, more than twice its target.

In association with Mozambique Council with Churches, the money is being used to rebuild the lives of those maimed and injured during the 16-year civil war that followed the departure of the Portuguese colo-nial power from Zambesia Province.

Former soldiers received resettlement training, and were given basic skills in industrial and building projects.

Weapons were exchanged for aid items - for example, gardeni

tools or a sewing machine could be traded for an AK47 rifle. Wells were sunk and new sources of safe water identified. while Navy money contributed directly to the building of a health clinic in the Regone region, saving sick people a 20km walk to the

next nearest centre.
The Ven Sim-The Ven Simon Golding, Chaplain of the Fleet, said: "The charities also provided training in agriculture, and rebuilt schools, providing the necessary classroom furniture and equipment, as well as

"Above all, the aid effort provided hope for a people enslaved by debt and the pandemic of AIDS.

The country was on the receiv-ng end of more direct help from the UK military when it was struck by flooding early last year. The RFA and Fleet Air Arm were prominent in the rescue efforts.

The closure of the appeal was marked by a special service at the Armed Forces Chaplainey Centre, Amport House.

LT MARK Redgrove completed the Brussels 20K road race in just over 1h 30m, and raised almost £110 for the Women's RN Benevolent Trust.

Mark, who works at NATO HO in Belgium, would have run the course faster, but was delayed by the bottleneck start as the race attracted so many entrants.

FOUR staff from the Armoury at HMS Sultan are seeking sponsors for their Trailwalker UK challenge this month.

The 100km route over the South Downs Way, organised by the Brigade of Gurkhas, must be walked in under 30 hours. Besides the Gurkha Welfare Fund, the Sultan team will also collect money for can-cer research at the Wessex Medical Oncology Unit. If you can help, contact CPO Curtis on 023 9254 2359.

A JUNIOR officer hopes to raise money for charity by compiling an anthology of poetry written by serving and retired Naval personnel, Contributions - not necessari-ly on a nautical theme - should be sent to S/Lt Rick Eling, Tiger Division, BRNC, Dartmouth, Devon TQ6 0HJ, including name and rank/rate (or pseudonym), and an outline of where and why the poem was written.

POWTR Tony Bradman will walk 100km in under 24 hours in Belgium next month to raise money for Futcher's School for children with special needs in Portsmouth.

To support Tony on the Dodentocht van Bornem ('Death March of Bornem'), contact him on Portsmouth Naval Base ext 25548.

TEN CYCLISTS from the CPOs Mess of HMS Cardiff have presented a portable oxymeter to the children's ward at University Hospital, Cardiff, bought with the proceeds of their journey from Portsmouth to the Welsh capital.

EFFORTS by staff at Centurion Building should see Westfield Junior School's special needs unit almost £1,000 better off.

A charity draw, organised by Sgt Andy Travis RM and Martin 'Clubz' Webb brought in £360 towards the purchase of two PCs for the Portsmouth school, while Steve Hunter expects to raise up to £600 after having finished in 2,700th place in the London Marathon.

Let history know you

From D-Day - 6th June 2001 - onwards, if you are a member of the Armed Forces, an ex-Service man or woman, or the relative of someone who has served, you can add your Service experiences to The Odyssey Timeship. This time capsule, created by The Royal Star & Garter Home (in association with Abbey National plc), will give future generations a unique first-hand

account of life in the Armed Forces.

were there.

All it takes to become a part of The Odyssev Timeship is a £10 donation (£5 for those in receipt of a war pension) to The Royal Star & Garter Home. To make your contribution, log on to www.OdysseyTimeship.com and follow the onscreen instructions. Alternatively, if you don't have access to the Internet call Tony Maher, Odyssey Project Manager, on 0208 439 8114

Remember, The Odyssey Timeship is your opportunity to give tomorrow's children something history books can never provide, a personal account of Service life in the 20th and early 21st Centuries. Please, play your part and get involved.





Registered Charity No. 210119





will go to the Rowans Hospice Winner of the men's race was

AROUND 150 runners took part in the resurrected Round the Basin Run in Portsmouth Naval Base.

The 1.7-mile run around No 3 Basin has not been staged since 1994, but it is expected that the

ture again, having been organised and supported by FSL. Proceeds

a success

FSL apprentice Shaun Popham, in just under nine minutes, while the women's race was won by PO Sally

Tourists bring gifts for children

A TRI-SERVICE rugby touring team from Cyprus made a short tour of Bulgaria – and brought some smiles to the faces of children and staff at a home for children with learning disabilities.

The Ay Nik Stags played games against a Students XV and the newly-crowned national champions, Team NSA, finding the opposition quite tough in both cases.

They finished with the Bulgarian Sevens tournament - and luck was against them, as they drew Team NSA in the first round, although later games against less-illustrious opponents proved more to the Stags'

As well as the sport and sightseeing, the tourists had another reason for going to Bulgaria.

They had spent nine months fund-raising, and had a collection of items - including toys, six boxes of clothes, a PC and printer, two washing machines, a wet and dry vacuum cleaner, a TV and video recorder as well as video tapes - which were to be delivered to the Home for Children with Learning Disabilities at the village of Mihaltsi, about three hours drive from Sofia.

The orphanage has 50 children, aged from three to ten, who need round-the-clock care from a staff of 28. The tour was partly supported by the RN Sports

For further details of the Stags, or the day-by-day diary of their tour, see the Stags website at www.StagsRFC.50megs.com

Timeship is launched

THE ODYSSEY Timeship Museum, where it will remain has been launched to give historians not yet born an insight into military life in the 20th century.

The project is being organ-ised by the Royal Star and Garter Home for Disabled Ex-Servicemen and Women in Richmond, Surrey. Based on a website, people

can buy a 'ticket' for the Odyssey Timeship, entitling them to enter details of their service, up to 500 words, and two photos. Relatives can a ticket on behalf of loved ones.

Once the timeship is full, a capsule will be sealed and stored at the Imperial War unopened until 2101.

ries and information gathered will form a useful historical record of the Armed Forces to date.

The official launch was attended by Dame Vera Lynn, General Sir Michael Walker, Chief of General Staff, and Falklands veteran Simon Weston.

Simon said: "My story is well-documented, but there must be many thousands of people whose stories have not been told, and this is their chance to secure their place in history.

"Even those who have not been involved in any conflict can still provide a fascinating

Simon, along with the other VIPs, then pressed the switch which triggered the 100-year countdown until the day in 2101 when the time-

ship will be reopened.
All funds raised will help fund the Home, which opened in January 1916 for soldiers and sailors wounded in the First World War.

Today the Home offers medical and nursing care for up to 185 men and women.

The Timeship website is at www.OdysseyTimeship.com, or call project manager Tony Maher on 020 8439 8114 for more details.



Children have fun on French pilgrimage

barely faded from this year's trip, plans are already being made for next year's Royal Navy HCPT holiday to Lourdes.

2002 will see the 47th HCPT trip to France, and the 23rd year that the Royal Navy has been involved.

Set up as the Handicapped Children's Pilgrimage Trust in the 1950s by Michael Strode, a young doctor who took four children with special needs to the foothills of the Pyrences, the organisation has evolved a great deal in the intervening years.

This year's trip, at Easter, saw a total of 1,388 children and almost 3,600 helpers heading off to Lourdes

Of that total, 23 children went

under the banner of the Royal Nasy, accompanied by 41 helpers. Breaking down the figures fur-ther, 16 children actually came from Royal Navy families - those of serving or ex-serving Royal Navy or Royal Marines personnel - and of the helpers were serving or retired Naval people.

The children have a wide range of special needs, and the object is to give them a holiday where they can have fun and stimulation within a spiritual environment -although there are no Catholic or religious requirements for children

to participate.
The children stay in hotels in the French town, and are thus treated as guests, rather than being placed in a hospital environment.

Lt Gareth Jones, a helper as well as treasurer for the three Naval groups, said there is plenty to keep the children occupied - there is a party and magic show, organised by former RN captain Tony



McEwan in his guise as Mr McMarvo, a candlelit procession, a day in the mountains, with picnics and donkey rides, and cafe and shopping stops for drinks and sou-

wentrs as they travel about th area.

The cost of taking Service children is covered by King George's Fund for Sailors and the Fleet Amenities Fund, which also pay part of the Service helpers' costs.

Non Nevel children and their

Non-Naval children and their helpers go to Lourdes thanks to the generosity of sailors.

Naval participants - the three groups of Portsmouth, Plymouth and Faslane combined to form region of the HCPT two years ago - fund-raise constantly throughout

the year to pay for these trips.

Anyone who can contribute to the costs, or wants to know more about sending a child or joining in as a helper, should contact the Director, HCPT RN, PRCC(N). Room 203, Victory Building, HM Naval Base, Portsmouth PO1 3LS, tel 023 9272 7903.

(Above) Danny King, from Torquay, gets a lift from for-mer RN chef Andy Henworth, who led the Plymouth group

at Lourdes this year.

• (Left) POWEA Andy Laing, (HMS Collingwood) in the candielit parade with Miles Williams, whose father is in the Royal Marines, and Emma Rednap, whose trip was paid for by the Wardroom at HMS Nelson. Behind Miles and Emma are helpers Rachel and Hannah (partly hidden), sixth formers from St Peter's School in Gloucester

Sailors make a Rio difference

THE NAVAL Attache at the British Embassy in Brazil has written to Navy News to express his thanks to the men and women of the RN and RFA who have helped establish the charity Task Brazil Trust.

The Rio-based trust was founded eight years ago to assist very young street children and ado-lescent mothers, and was able to buy a property in 1998 - Casa Jimmy - through the generous sponsorship of Led Zeppelin's Jimmy Page. Since then numerous volunteers from 13 visit-

ing ships have given up time from their run ashore to work at the home, carrying out build-ing and maintenance tasks.

The ships have also carried items collected in the UK, and raised the profile of the trust so that it now attracts support from the local authorities. Since it formally opened in October 1998,

Casa Jimmy has given shelter to more than 200 children, rescued from a lifestyle of drugs, violence, crime or abuse. Many are now integrated back into stable, caring adoptive or related fam-

This has given a childhood back to kids whose futures would otherwise be nothing but bleak," said Capt Roger Turner, who is based in Brasilia.

"There is still much to be done, but the suc-cess looks set to continue and the crews of ships planning to visit are already pledging more of the help that has been such an essential part

of the project's success.
"On behalf of all the children whose futures have been changed so dramatically for the better, I offer my thanks to Jack and Jenny, whose

Chaplain is near target

MIKE Brotherton has got just 60 or so miles to go before complet-Portsmouth". "swim

The Culdrese chaplain is swimming 237 miles in the Cornish air base's swimming pool - the distance by sea from Caldrose to Portsmouth - in aid of the Sharron Davies Swim for Life challenge, a campaign to fight muscular dystro-

phy. £600 has so far been pledged, but he would like to see more financial backing for his efforts.

If you would like to support

him, contact him at the Chaplaincy, RNAS Culdrose, Helston, Cornwall TR12 7RH. Cheques should be made out to 'Swim for Life'.

Sailors march the Ypres battlefields

FIVE sailors have completed a gruelling 100km charity walk around the battlefields of

Lt Cdrs Dave Hubbard, Les Maddock, Bryan Ward, Geoff Pulmer and POWTR Tony Bradman were part of the Wessex March Team, made up of serving and retired regular and TA Servicemen, who participated in the annual Van Ypres March, which is now in its 30th year.

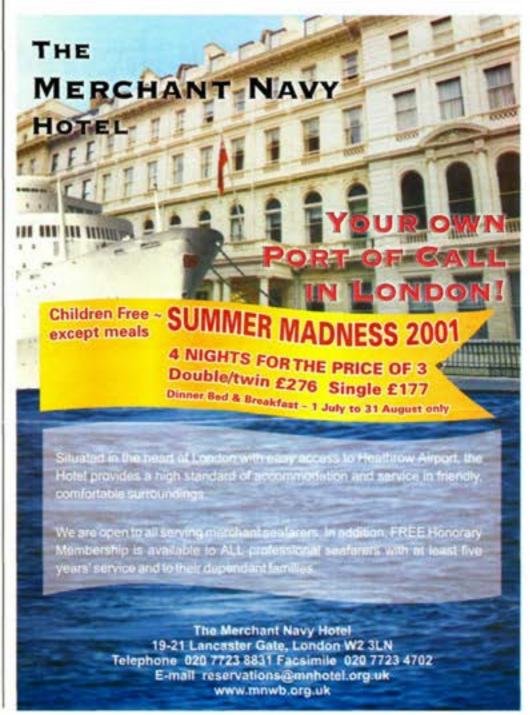
The first highlight of the weekend for the quintet, after a 19-mile walk during the day, was the Friday night parade to the Menin Gate.

the Gate paying homage to the Royal Navy personnel killed in the First World War.

Sleeping under canvas and marching from dawn, the five covered distances of 30km, 40km and 30km on the three days - a total of 65 miles - passing numerous military cemeteries where they paid their respects.

Nursing blistered feet and their celebratory medals, the Wessex March Team hopes to raise more than £2,500 for the Futchers School in Portsmouth for children

with special needs. ■ WWI body mystery – back page



16 NAVY NEWS, JULY 2001



 The Bandmaster of the Royal Marines Band looks on as the Guard from the First Submarine Squadron forms up at the Town Hall in Barrow-in-Furness.

Soft toys are handed over to the crew of the Russian submarine Vologda for transport back to the town of the same name. Cdr Guy Pounder, Commander HMS Neptune, is accompanied by Bobbie Logan and PO Paul Christie, who helped deliver the load.

To Russia with toys

CHILDREN in the town of Vologda in Northern Russia will soon receive a very large delivery of cuddly toys, thanks to a typist at Clyde Naval Base.

The collection was the brainchild of Bobbie Logan, who works in the HMS Neptune registry, and word soon spread beyond the base.

The Russian crew promised to hand the bears on to various children's organisations in the

point for various bears, and so many of the furry beasts arrived that a minibus was needed to carry them to the submarine Vologda, which was visiting Faslane as part of the Submarine Centenary celebrations.

Foreign submarines honour Centenary

CELEBRATIONS marking the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Submarine Service have reached a highpoint with the gathering of 11 boats from ten countries at Clyde Naval Base for a week of events.

And other ports which have enduring links with the Silent Service have also held celebrations to reflect their position in the history of the Royal Navy submarine.

Believed to have been one of the largest gatherings of submarines from different navies, the event at Faslane also attracted senior naval representatives from 16 nations, including the Heads of the Submarine Services of the United States, Sweden and Australia. A major trade fair featured representatives of 47 companies, and the week culminated in a Royal parade in the presence of the Princess Royal.

Funding for the event was underwritten by commercial sponsorship from companies attending the trade fair, and local companies funded many of the visits by foreign submariners to local places of

The Russian Kilo-class boat RFS Vologda proved to be the centre of attention, as her visit was the first by a Russian submarine to Faslane.

So much of an impact did the Russians make on the staff of the Imperial Hotel in Helensburgh that they made a special chocolate cake to take with them – manager Anne McAuley said the visitors had just about cleared Woolworth's out of chocolate, so they felt the cake, which had to be carefully divided to fit in the batch,

was appropriate.

The other foreign submarines in town for the festivities were USS Tennessee (USA), FS Saphir (France), ORP Orzel (Poland), HNLMS Bruinvis (Netherlands).

SPS Tramontana (Spain), NRP Delfim (Portugal), HMSwS Gotland (Sweden), HNOMS Svenner (Norway), U24 and U28 (Germany), and the Swedish diving support ship Belos, with the UK submersible rescue system LRS embarked, also attended (see pages 26-27).

Home-based boats included HM ships Vengeance, Splendid, Superb and Sovereign.

Barrow-in-Furness was the birthplace of the first Royal Navy submarine, Holland I, and is now the only shipyard which builds the modern nuclear boats of the submarine flotilla.

The Cumbrian town held its own centenary celebration, at which submarine veterans paraded and the Royal Navy Submarine Service was awarded the Freedom of the Borough.

Devonport, home of the Second Submarine Squadron, this month welcome retired submariners to an open day at the base as part of their contribution to the celebrations, while Flag Officer Submarines holds a Centenary Ball at the Dorchester Hotel in London towards the end of the month.



 Russian Kilo-class submarine Vologda arrives in the Clyde Estuary for the Submarine Centenary celebrations. (Inset) Dutch and French submarines alongside at Fasiane.

Museum looks to next phase of development

WORK to transform the Royal Navy Submarine Museum at Gosport is gathering pace with the official opening of the Holland I display and plans in train to open a new exhibition hall.

The museum, close to the Submarine Service's spiritual home, the former HMS Dolphin, hopes to build a new exhibition space to display the midget submarine X24, the only craft of its kind which saw action in the Second World War.

If the scheme gets the go-ahead

from local planners, the exhibition will be named after the late Lord Fieldhouse, who lived nearby at Lee-on-Solent.

Holland I, the first submarine built for the Royal Navy, has now gone on public display in its own hall, allowing members of the public a good idea of the conditions in which the Navy's submarine pioneers worked at the turn of the content.

The little boat has undergone extensive restoration and preservation since it was salvaged.

 (Right) Miss UK Michelle Watson meets some worldclass football talent before she kicked off the RN Submarine Service v the Rest of the World football match at Helensburgh, part of the Clyde Centenary celebrations. The World team featured submariners from Holland, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Sweden, Spain and the United States. Watched by 400 spectators, the hosts ran out 6-2 winners, the visitors striking twice in the second half through their secret weapon, Commanding Officer of HMSwS Gotland. Babcock International sponsored the event, and Nike supplied the football kits.



Lynx training is back on line

YNX helicopter training has really taken off at RNAS Yeovilton where 702 Naval Air Squadron has seen the largest number of students graduate to the front-line for 15 years.



Lt Cdr Merveilleux du Vignaux - the first French exchange pilot for some years.

The squadron has put Lynx serviceability problems firmly behind them with the latest course providing six pilots and five observers for the operational flights of 815 Naval Air

At their graduation ceremony, the Commanding Officer of 702 NAS, Lt Cdr Mark Sheehan, said: "We are also very pleased to be graduating the first French navy lot on exchange for some years Lt Cdr Guillaume Merveilleux du Vignaux - who will move on to 815 NAS as a Lynx Flight Commander.

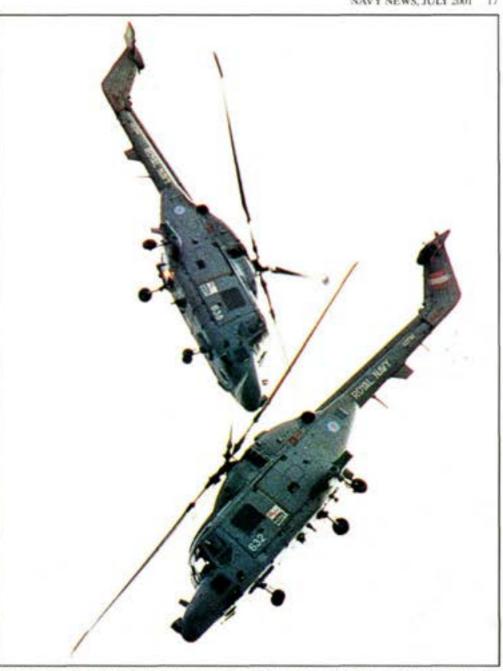
"He has been part of a truly cosmopolitan course which also included Lt Matt Royals, a Scahawk Helicopter Observer from the Royal Australian Navy and Lt Pete 'Nobby' Clarke, the first serving Royal Marine pilot to complete the maritime Lynx conversion course."

As part of the celebrations, the Royal Navy Lynx Pairs Display Team was in action, led by Lt Steve Crockatt and Australian Lt Cdr John May.

They flew their first display of what promises to be a very busy season for them as they appear at airshows throughout Britain and the rest of Europe.

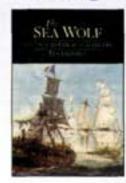


The six Lynx pilots and five observers who graduated from Course 1/00 at 702 Naval Air Squadron at the Royal Navy Air Station at Yeovilton.



Royal Navy Lynx Pairs Display Team in action. The aircraft were flown by Lt Steve Crockatt and Australian pilot Lt Cdr John May.

Turning the pages of maritime history . . .



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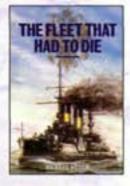
The history of the battleship - the greatest and most awe-impiring class of ship ever built - from its origin in the 1850s to the sinking of the greatest of them all, the Yamato, on 6 April 1945. £9.99 jóà



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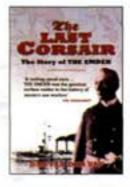
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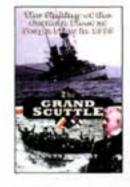


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RN docs ease the

TWO Royal Navy doctors have just completed a tour of duty in Sierra Leone, supporting the Army's 34 Field Hospital Troop.

Anaesthetists Surg Cdr Steve Bree and Surgeon Lt Cdr Dan Connor helped to

provide medical cover to British Service people stationed in the troubled land, and to train the country's own medical

Normally Cdr Bree works at Plymouth's military hospital unit while Lt Cdr Connor is on the staff of the Portsmouth unit. However, deployment of Navy medical staff to support the Army's field hospitals is becoming increasingly common – and another Navy medic, CPO nurse Alison Lawrence, is still in Sierra Leone serving as an accident and emergency sister.

Although the Navy doctors' primary tasks were to give support as anaes thetists, they were also called upon to exercise general skills in diagnosing tropical illness, treating road accident victims and helping at 'sick parade'.

The improvements they wrought included Lt Cdr Connor's training of a Sierra Leone Army medical officer to service anaesthetic equipment enabling it to be used for the first time in seven years.

The SLA operating theatre also bene-fited from repair of the operating table and lights. Cdr Bree, whose wife is expecting their first child, helped with the education of the first group of anaesthetist nurses to be trained since the war started ten years ago.



Making a difference to Sierra Leone's health care – Surg Lt Cdr Dan Connor (left), CPONN Alison Lawrence and Surg Cdr Steve Bree.



Portsmouth sea festival 'biggest in the world'

THE International Festival of the Sea at Porstmouth is being described by the organisers as this year's biggest maritime event in the world.

Among the main spectacles at Portsmouth Naval Base over August Bank Holiday will be a daily display of a combined forces assault involving a Navy

Merlin and Royal Marines. Also on view will be 35 naval ships from ten countries, 650 classic boats and 26 tall ships from 24

The Joint Service rescue of 'UN

hostages' will involve a low fly-past by an RAF Nimrod maritime reconnaissance aircraft escorted by a lornado and Harrier. The Merlin will then sweep for submarines before Royal Marines are dropped into the water from the rear door of a Chinook helicopter, and four other commandos rapid-rope 200h on to a nearby vessel. The final assault on the enemy

stronghold will involve Marines in raiding craft and hovercraft, assisted

raiding craft and hovercraft, assisted by an Apache gurship and Army armoured fighting vehicles deliv-ered by landing craft. Entertainment at the Festival will include singer Jane McDonald and the BBC Concert Orchestra at no extra cost to visitors. Jane, pre-perter of BBC TV's Surface Aliche senter of BBC TV's Star for a Night shot to fame when she was featured as a shipboard entertainer in a television documentary series about a cruise liner.

Information on the festival can be obtained on 08707 50 50 40 or on www.festivaloftheses.co.uk

Marines get down to Earth for Learners' Week events

ROYAL Marines at Poole deployed a landing craft and a special team to support the local charity Earthkind at the organisation's new marine education centre at Poole Quay.

The event, as well as helping to raise awareness of the need for conservation in Poole harbour, raised the profile of National Adult Learners' Week which the new Learning Centre at RM Poole was committed to support.

fractities available to everyone in the establishment - and families included personal development workshops, maths and English GCSE classes, foreign language tuitition, IT courses and resettle-

ment briefings.

The centre also helped to promote external events arranged by colleges, education services and others.

The landing craft which visited the Earthkind centre carried RM Poole's Education Officer, Lt Walker RN: Mark Environmental Officer, Mr Phil Cash; and six members of the Security Troop.

They took part in a 'virtual' beach clean-up, and a 'giant web of biodiversity' display.

NAVY LAUNCHES UNITS' WEBSITE

GOLDEN days in the Pacific beckon HMS Edinburgh as she makes a night transit of the Panama Canal. Her ultimate goal was patrol duty in Falkland Islands waters, and her Panama passage followed visits to the Azores, Puerto Rico and Cartagena in Colombia.

gate to

Pacific

In Cartagena she was able to provide help to a maternity hospital where conditions were primitive – where moth-ers lay up to three in a bed, where plastic bottles served as oxygen masks, beds were draped in plastic sheeting and many basic medicines were lacking.

After the ship's Medical Officer visited the hospital to identify areas of greatest need, a party from the Type 42 destroyer arrived with blankets, pillows, baby clothes, nappies and medical sup-

The Colombians took Edinburgh, under Capt Joe Gass, to their hearts, and the ship was the subject of extensive coverage in the press and on national TV networks.

Bayleaf starts two-year task

RFA Bayleaf left Portsmouth on June 8 for a two-year deployment to the Gulf in support of the Royal Navy's Armilla Patrol.

The Royal Fleet Auxiliary maintains a permanent presence in the Gulf to support both Royal Navy and allied warships which operate in the area. Bayleaf will be taking over from her sister ship RFA Orangeleaf, and like her will be manned on a rotational basis.

A NEW Naval website has been launched which gives RN and RM units and groups the opportunity to input internal reference material on to the Internet.

The site, which was commis-sioned in May, will also carry information about related organisations. So far, interest has been expressed by such groups as the RN and RM Families Association and the Royal Naval Association.

The site will sit alongside the current RN site and will contain unclassified, internal material of particular relevance to Service people and their families. It will be divided into areas consistent with current Intranet facilities.

For example, personnel and training matters are available in the Second Sea Lord area, while will be on the Fleet section.

Lt Cdr Gary Dunn, who currently heads the site's management, told Navy News that authorised publishers will be issued with a hardware token and special software encryption, ensuring that only they will be able to input material on to the site.

He said the site was gaining interest across the Naval Service and was expected to build up con-siderably over the next few months.

Lt Cdr Dunn can be contacted on the military number 9621 80422. However, the site will soon be transferred to the authority of Director Corporate Communica-

tions (Navy) and will be operated by the RN Internet Team under Lt Cdr Phil Nettleton (9621 87957).

Site address is http://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/reference

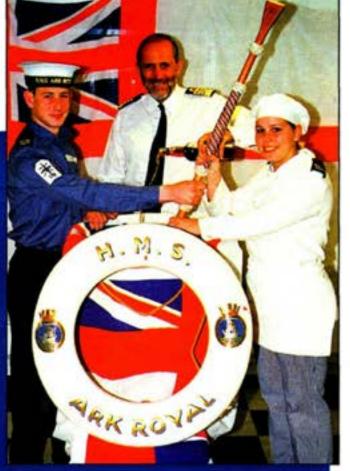
More information is published in RN Defence Council Instruction

Stirring times

HMS Ark Royal's commis-sioning cake mixture got some top-level attention when the First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Nigel Essenhigh, visited the ship as she neared the end of her relit at Rosyth her refit at Rosyth.

Helping him were two of the ship's youngest ratings - OM(UW) Christopher Isbell (16) and WCH Lisa Nicholls (18). Ark is due to be ready

for sea trials on July 13 and will be recommissioned at Portsmouth later this year.



Are you ready for action?

NEW attraction in Portsmouth being billed as the closest you can get to life in a 21st century warship without actually putting to sea!

'Action Stations' is the latest attraction to open inside the Historic Dockyard and it gives a fascinating insight into today's Royal Navy.

Video walls show the Royal Navy and Royal Marines fighting rebels in the jungles of Sierra Leone, exercising in Arctic conditions in Norway, and tracking down drugs smugglers in the

There is some impressive footage of the RN helping the victims of disaster and civil war in Mozambique and East Timor as well as film sent back from Antarctica by the ice patrol ship HMS Endurance.

One of the biggest attractions at Action Stations is a film featuring a



MERLIN: Youngsters flying the Navy's new anti-submarine helicopter in the Merlin simulator.

 Propule LA (PHOT) Paid Purder

frigate's buttle with kidnappers and gold smugglers on one of th largest cinema screens in Britain.

Action Stations has dozens of interactive exhibits for young and old where you can take the controls of a Merlin helicopter and shoot down missiles and helicopter gunships using close range

simulator you can test your aptitude at a range of Royal Navy jobs including Air Controller, Weapons Director and Electronic Warfare Officer as the deck rocks and aircraft rour away from the flight deck above you.

You can even stand on the simulated bridge of a warship as it attempts tricky manoeuvres such as a replenishment at sea.

Action Stations, in Boat House No. 6, costs £6.50 for adults, £5.80 for seniors, £4.80 for children and £21 for a family ticket. Tickets for under 16s, UB40s, registered disabled and their carers are £4.80 and children under five are free.

Groups of 15 or more get a disount and considerable savings can by made if you are visiting other attractions in the Dockyard such as The Mary Rose, HMS Victory and the Royal Navy Museum. For more details, call the visitor centre on 023 9272 2562. The attraction is to be formally opened on July 4 by the Duke of York.



 OPS ROOM: Air Cadets from 864 Sqn at Watton in the Ops room simulator at Action Stations.

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. HARPOON: A scene from the action film 'Command Approved'

Mountain leader sets tough challenge

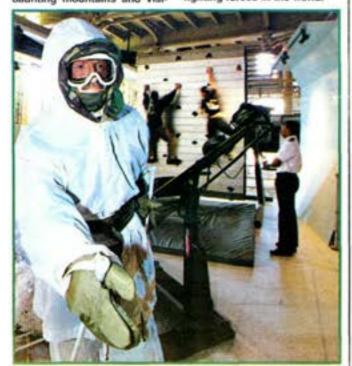
ROYAL MARINES Mountain Leader Paul Hugill has set a tough challenge for Action Stations visitors who want to see how close they are to Commando-level fitness.

WO2 Hugill's help was enlisted by Action Stations to set the challenges on the Royal Marines 'Island' which comprises a climbing wall known as The Rock and the type of cross-country skiing machine used by the Corps to keep in shape for exercises and operations in Norway.

The Rock can be pro-grammed to produce the conditions and contours found on the some of the world's most daunting mountains and visitors will be invited to climb the equivalent of Mount Fuji and

the Eiger! Action Stations Manager Barbara Barnes "Extraordinary levels of physi-cal fitness and endurance are needed to be a Royal Marine.

"And with a Royal Marine setting these tests, we can guarantee that visitors will be amazed at just how tough you have to be. After all, they are one of the most respected fighting forces in the world."



COMMANDO: See how you measure up on the RM climbing wall or cross-country ski trainer.



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How the Tudor Navy rose to power

ONE characteristic of the 117-year Tudor dynasty was the commitment each of the monarchs showed towards their

'Navy Royal'.

It grew from the eight vessels acquired by the parsimonious Henry VII to an impressive sea power, with 54 ships on the offi-

cial list on the accession of James I. In The Tudor Navy (Conway Maritime Press £35) ex CPO Arthur Nelson examines their patronage of the embryo Senior Service, covering the evolution of great ships/carracks, galleons, race

built galleons, galleasses and pinnaces, alongside develop-ments in armament and naval warfare.

Close attention is also paid to the close relationship between the navy and merchants in trading ventures and later in Joint Stock fleet operations, illustrations being drawn from the archives of the National Maritime Museum and, inevitably, the Mary Rose Trust.

 Detail from The Embarkation of Henry VIII at Dover for the Field of the Cloth of Gold by an unknown artist.

'The Strip' laid bare at last

PLYMOUTH's famous Union Street is the subject of a fascinaling survey by Chris Robinson, pub-lished by Pen & Ink at £9.95. Once lined with fine houses

built for the city's wealthier fami-lies, it was originally built in 1813 to connect Devonport and Stonehouse with the then new Theatre Royal.

Eventually "The Strip" became the Serviceman's favourite play-ground - but as such, the author claims, it has been frequently misunderstood and often sadly misjudged.

There has always been controversy about the number of pubs, for instance - for the record, there were never more than 26.

Only a handful of them survive today, and only one goes under its pre-war name. And when the Drake cinema closed in 1999 Union Street was left without a cinema screen for the first time since film came to the city almost a century earlier.

To go down with one's ship who says so?

OR the captain to go down with his ship is perhaps the ultimate demonstration of responsibility - though it no longer seems to be expected as a matter of course and indeed seems to be more of an exception than a rule

In Commanding Officers John Murray £22.50) David Miller says it is impossible to discover how and from where the idea originated - indeed, he has found only one example before about 1850.

This was Capt Archibald Douglas, who commanded HMS

Royal Oak at the time of the Dutch attack on the British fleet in the Medway in 1667.

His ship being set alight, he ordered his crew ashore but, since the last order he had received had been to "maintain his post to the last extremity, declared "it should never be said that a Douglas had quitted his post without orders.

Of course, wooden ships sel-dom did sink – unlike steel ones, the most famous example being the Titanic, whose fate Capt Edward Smith elected to share.

Some of the survivors of the troopship Khedive Ismail told how her Master, Capt Whiteman, calmly stood on the bridge as she capsized – and indeed there are numerous examples from oppo-site sides in World War II includ-ing the COs of both the Bismarck and the Scharnhorst.

Some who fully intended to go down with their ships were not successful in achieving their design. Cdr Usher of HMS Valerian, which foundered in the Caribbean in 1926, was hit on the bead by a falling spar, as a result of which of which he floated back to the surface still unconscious and was pulled on a raft and res-

Aware of such a danger, on several occasions in World War II Japanese cap-tains had themselves tied to the binnacle to ensure they did not accidentally survive.

Miller argues that going down with the ship is in some respects an abandonment of responsibility to do so makes the next surviv-ing officer responsible for assembling survivors and for doing his best to ensure that they remain alive until rescued.

In any case, it's not compulsory

as the author observes, there are
no official regulations containing
even a hint that it is a desirable course of action. And since World War II, there have been no further cases recorded.

UNSUNG BARITONE

HMS BARITONE was a Bar-class boom defence vessel, one of a very large class capable of ocean voyages and deployed worldwide on mainly unsung but important duties in support of the main fleet.

These vessels had a bow lifting capacity of 70 tons and a rounded stern to ease the handling of hawsers and kedge anchor.

Armed with a single 12pdr gun mounted abaft her funnel and a pair of Lewis guns, the 750 ton Baritone was built by Philip and Son of Dartmouth and launched on March 3, 1945. Her coal-fired engines could develop 850 SHP, giving her a top speed of 11.75 knots. She was sold in 1958.

— From RN Minor War Vessels in Focus, by Lt Cdr Ben Warlow (Maritime Books 59.95)

Warlow (Maritime Books £9.95)

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BT gets the message across

LAST year British Telecom provided all three Services for the first time with a completely integrated fixed telecommunications service - the Defence Fixed Telecommunications Service or DFTS.

To mark the launch of the new network BT has commissioned a history of military communica-tions, Call to Arms (Focus Publishing £19.95) which traces the progress from the use of toeches, flags, semaphore and the shut-ter telegraph through the introduction of Morse Code, the telephone and radio to the computer age and the use of satellites.

A precursor of the shutter telegraph was demonstrated as early as 1672, with messages sent between Arundel House and a

boat moored on the Thames. But it was not until 1779 that Vice Admiral Lord Shuldham established a signals code which was to be used from the tower of Maker Church, Plymouth at the time of the Franco-Spanish invasion scare.

These experiments pointed the way to the first serious develop-ment of military communications in the 19th century - one of the most successful early manifesta-tions being the chain of shutter relay stations that could send a message from London to Portsmouth in less than 15 min-

'Half-buried in the snow

An Illustrated History (Helicon £ 25), written by Lloyd Clark of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst concentrates, as studies of this type usually do, almost entirely on the war on land. Here part of the British Grand Fleet steams in



ScreenScene

by Bob Baker

Somme on video, virtually for real

ULY 1, 1916 - a lovely summer's morning, far too lovely to have to fight a war. What happened by the little river Somme is already as much a part of Britain's folklore as of its history.

The men of Kitchener's New Army - which includ-ed the 63rd (Royal Naval) Division - clambering out of their trenches and advancing at walking pace along an 18-mile front towards an enemy supposed to have been pulverised by days of bombardment. And the Germans emerging from their deep dug-outs, dazed but undasinted, dragging their machine guns into posi-

In the course of that one day the British took near-ly 60,000 casualties, including 20,000 dead (in the Ancre offensive the RND's losses alone would approach 3,500),

The lack of imagination, of eleverness on the part of Sir Douglas Haig's command is usually cited as a key element in the catastrophe.

But we can give Haig credit for allowing one innovation. It was decided that the 'Big Push' as it was optimistically labelled, would be the first battle recorded on film, and civilian cameramen Geoffrey Malins and

J. B. McDowell arrived at the front as the build-up

The Battle of the Somme was in the cinemas by August and caused a sensation that can only be under-stood in the light of the romantic mental picture of the war still held by the general public. Seen today (it's distributed on video – silent, of course – by the Imperial War Museum) the film seems quite sanitised, both in general and as regards this specific campaign, which is presented as nothing less than a splendid vic-

The two cameramen filmed the preparations for the offensive in some detail: howitzers firing shell after shell, column upon column of men moving up to the front, the detonating of an enormous mine, one of sev-

eral, just before zero hour.

As to the attack itself, we are shown a "going over the top" scene which, alas, is now known to have been faked, although it is frequently offered as authentic buttle footage in TV programmes about World War I, The couple of shots of men advancing along a dis-

tant ridge are the only motion picture record of the morning's proceedings. They have the same status as a film, if it existed, of the Titanic speeding through the night, minutes before her rendezvous with the iceberg

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NEWSVIEW

Keeping fit to fight

AVY unfit to fight' was the screamer headline in one of our national newspapers last month, run across a report of a leaked document said to show that Treasury cuts had left the Royal Navy incapable of meeting its commitments.

Well, in the past year alone the RN has played a crucial role in no less than 12 operations worldwide – all at short notice – and was also able to carry out many defence diplomacy missions, including a round-the-world deploy-

Its tasks have included rapid deployment of the Amphibious Ready Group led by HMS. Ocean, along with a carrier task group led by HMS. Illustrious to Sierra Leone.

This validated much of the recently introduced Joint Rapid Reaction Force concept, soon to be further demonstrated when the Navy will deploy over 25 ships to take part in Exercise Saif Sareea II in Oman this coming autumn.

Meanwhile the pace and range of RN activity continues unabated. To support it, the defence budget is set to increase by nearly £2 billion by 2003-04. Three new ships were delivered in the past financial year and more are on

their way.

Though the demands on the Navy's operational capability can seldom be predicted, it would be foolbardy not to spend a lot of careful thought on identifying future problem areas that might impact upon that capability wherever and whenever it might be out to the test.

areas that might impact upon that capability wherever and whenever it might be put to the test.

This is routine management business that does not indicate a particular crisis. On the contrary, it is in place to ensure that the Navy remains "fit to fight" at all times.

Who are the real losers?

THE ATTACKS on Sea Cadet units at Portrush and lpswich (see pages 6 and 31) will dismay our readers – especially those in the Royal Naval Association who do so much to support them with cash donations.

But it is not so much the financial loss that excites rage – it is more the frustration and incomprehension at the mindless vandalism that attends these break-ins.

Portrush had its prized collection of ships' badges trashed. These things are of no intrinsic value, but their loss is keenly felt.

Those who destroyed them have lost much more, though. They have lost any sense of value at all, so that they could not begin to appreciate the value of service that Sea Cadet units up and down the country give to their communities, where they have long been the prime representatives of the Royal Navy on the streets of towns that would otherwise never see a Naval uniform.

That is a concept that the vandals, as always, have trouble grasping. But maybe they are simply venting their own frustrations upon those of their contemporaries they suspect may be having a better time than they are.



Recognising the RFA

NEW shoulder badges have been introduced for ratings serving in the Royal Fleet Auxiliary to denote their rank and trade.

RFA chief petty officers' badges will have the trade symbol, within laurel leaves, while petty officers and other ratings will have their trade symbol within a rope circle. Petty officer rank will be denoted by two bars beneath the circle, and leading hands by one bar.

Engineering Branch symbol is a ship's propeller, Deck Branch a shackle and pin, Communications two crossed signal flags. Supply Branch incorporates the letters C and S and Medical Branch the traditional and cross on white background.

S and Medical Branch the traditional red cross on white background.

• LH(STWD) Tina Skilton and SG1A George Clasper display their new badges on board the Fleet Supply ship RFA Fort Austin in Portsmouth.

WOs get a global view

A CONFERENCE organised to keep Royal Navy warrant officers informed of current policy and thinking has been declared a success.

declared a success.

Prompted by WO Mick Cooke, who was on Second Sea Lord's Personnel Liaison Team and with the approval of 2SL, Vice Admiral Sir Peter Spencer, the event brought more than 230 warrant officers to HMS Sultan.

"The rationale was to give war.

"The rationale was to give warrant officers of the Naval Service a
global brief on Ministry of
Defence policy and Navy Board
thinking in order to improve their
corporate knowledge of the running of the Navy generally and the
direction the Navy is taking," said
WO Cooke, currently Drafting
Career Management Liaison
Officer in Portsmouth.

"Every branch of the Navy was-

"Every branch of the Navy was represented, from Scotland to the South of England, and one came from Gibraltar."

Among the subjects discussed were the Warship Support Agency, the Defence Training Review, the Naval Strategic Plan, the Naval Personnel Plan and Fleet First.

The conference was attended by the Commander-in-Chief Fleet, Admiral Sir Alan West, and the Second Sea Lord, as well as eight rear admirals, two commodores and two captains, and several took part in an open forum which concluded the conference.

2SL later met with current and ex-mess presidents for further discussions.

"All the indications are that it

was a success," said WO Cooke,
"We issued questionnaires,
before and after, and the general
consensus of those present was
that they felt they had gained
insights into areas outside their
own particular specialisations.

"These people are deep specialists, and fully understanding the rationale behind things gives you a global view of what is going on."

OPMAST - feedback vital for 'a better deal'

IGH level commitment to TOPMAST – that's 'Tomorrow's Personnel Management System', the Navy's new look at future manning policy – is shown by the arrival of Vice Admiral Sir Fabian Malbon to head the project this month.

TOPMAST was set up in September last year with the twin aims of providing a system better able to deliver operational capability while also meeting more of the Navy's people's professional and personal needs.

The need is evidenced by the gaps at sea and ashore.

The need is evidenced by the gaps at sea and ashore, with overstretch being experienced in a number of operational, support and training areas, and the initiative includes all ranks and rates across all arms, including the Fleet Air Arm, Submarine Service and the Royal

TOPMAST Team Leader Capt Jim Patrick told Navy News: "Having been Director Naval Service Conditions, Naval Secretary and, most recently, Deputy Commander Fleet, Admiral Malbon has both the operational and personnel backgrounds and expertise to see the TOPMAST programme through to fruition.

"We have carefully built a balanced team of men and women, at a variety of ranks and rates from diverse back-

"The team has extensive manpower planning and seagoing experience, which is vital for us to be able to

achieve our aims. I am very keen to encourage people to talk to us. We already have an interactive web site within the Second Sea Lord Intranet and anyone with access to

"We are also happy to receive letters and take phone calls. To help get the messages of TOPMAST across we have been delivering a series of presentations to senior management throughout the UK, and 2SL has issued a signal on TOPMAST which should be on noticeboards throughout the Naval Service. Commanding Officers

have also been giving briefings.

The TOPMAST programme – hailed by Second Sea Lord Vice Admiral Peter Spencer as heralding "a new approach and a better deal for men and women in the Naval Service" – involved everyone in shaping the Navy of the future, said Capt Patrick.

"The team needs feedback from all those who have views or questions. This is important to us because much of the work is in the development stage and we cannot operate in isolation from the views of those that it will affect. We really do welcome constructive input from outside the immediate team."

□ To find the TOPMAST website within 2SL Intranet, click on '2SL's Key Issues', then click on 'Project TOPMAST'



"We cannot operate in isolation from the views of those that it will affect" – TOPMAST Team Leader Capt Jim Patrick.

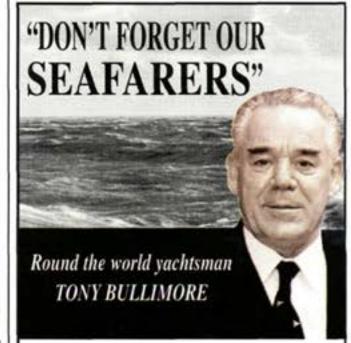


 HAPPY RETURN: HMS Bangor berths at Bangor marina's North Pier at the start of her second call at her County Down namesake town.

Queen's birthday bash in Kosovo

THE ROYAL Navy pitched in to serve gin and tonic and Pimms to over 100 guests at a typically British cocktail party to mark the Queen's official birthday – held at KFOR headquarters in

The party, hosted by Maj Gen David Wilson, was attended by all senior military national repre-sentatives and local United Nations directors who watched a sunset ceremony performed by soldiers from the Duke of Wellington Regiment.



ony, who survived five days in the southern ocean in an upturned hull during January 1997 said "I love the ocean but it can be horrendously dangerous. Every day of our lives our seafarers ensure our survival by risking their lives to provide our defence, our daily food and goods and our leisure."

A Time to Remember?

One chance we have to remember the debt we owe to our seafarers is with a legacy. For many of us making a Will is a daunting prospect and often a task that is left "until tomorrow". KGFS can help - we have a free guidance booklet entitled "Your Will". Free copies are available by completing

the coupon below or by telephone 020 7932 0000, fax 020 7932 0095 or e-mail: seafarers@kgfs.org.uk

KGFS The Seafarers Charity

King George's Fund for Sailors is the central fund making grants to nautical charities which look after the welfare needs of seafarers and their dependants in the Royal Navy, Merchant Navy and Fishing Fleets. Visit our web site: www.kgfs.org.uk



rlease send me a copy of the "Yor Will" booklet.

Please register my name on your supporter database and send

WANT (MILMS MA)



mplete and return to Wilma Fogg KGFS 8 Hatherley Street, London SW1P 2YY Tel: 020 7932 0900

The day we went back to Bangor

COUNTY Down's Naval namesake HMS Bangor came 'home' for the first time since June 2000 to enjoy a wellearned rest after mine clearance operations in the Baltic.

Her visit coincided with the Traditional Sail Weekend when the harbour opened its sheltered waters to a wide range of vessels from all over the UK - and abroad.

The ship was open to visitors on the Saturday and also hosted representatives of a number of local schools, youth organisations, community groups and associations.

Said Commanding Officer Lt Cdr Paul Raisbeck: "We are cur-

rently the only RN ship to have a civic association with Northern Ireland. It's a very special link for us and one we are extremely proud

HMS Bangor, ninth of the Sandown-class minehunters, into operational service in March

Three months later, her welcome in Bangor was so warm that her ship's company specifically requested to return for this partic ular rest and recreation period.

'I see no chimney

FIRST step in making way for the new Junior Rates Single Living Accommodation at HMS Nelson was the demolition of the old diesel-powered boilerhouse – and the removal of its tall chimney made an immediate change to the skyline over the establishmen, at Portsmouth.

Individual gas boilers will be installed in each new block. resulting in improved environmental performance with a major reduction in sulphur emission.





Kursk rescue bid leader awarded OBE

THE MAN who headed the Royal Navy's attempt to rescue the crew of the sunken Russian submarine Kursk has been appointed an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Cdr Alan Hoskins, a submariner, received the honour in recognition of his leadership during the operation. As soon as the Russians asked for help he deployed with his team and the LR5 rescue submersible with remarkable speed

Although the rescue efforts in the Barents Sea were in vain, Cdr Hoskins and his colleagues "displayed unmatched professional-ism and commitment during this difficult time under the gaze of the world media".

The Honours List also names the Second Sea Lord, Vice Admiral Peter Spencer as a Knight Commander of the Bath, and two Rear Admirals become Commanders of the Bath. They are the Naval Secretary, Rear Admiral Jeremy de Halpert, and Flag Officer Maritime Aviation, Rear Admiral Jain Henderson.

Submarine escape exercise - pages 26-27.

Anti-fraud

offensive

by MOD

IN A drive to prevent fraud in

the Ministry of Defence, more

than 100 presentations have

been delivered to staff at home and overseas during the past

Plastic-card fraud losses in

Britain last year rose by over half to £292.6 million. As the

to £292.6 million. As the Government's aim is to use elec-

tronic means to procure goods, it is seen as being more important than ever to be alert to possible

The anti-fraud presentations

have been given by the Ministry of

Defence Police Fraud Squad and

the Defence Fraud Analysis Unit (DFAU). The Fraud Squad is also working closely with the military

police of all three Services - and a

joint working group has been set up to address the issue.

DS Mike Betts of the MDP

Fraud Squad said that MOD fraud prevention could save lives if it stopped Service people being issued with sub-standard equip-

'We don't want anyone injured because of faulty equipment, he

said. "We would ask everyone to

However small suspicions may

be, those who have them are asked to contact the MDP Fraud Squad

on 01371 854000, the DFAU on

0207 807 8043, or their local posice

be vigilant."

12 months.

 Cdr Alan Hoskins – headed the UK Submarine Escape

Queen's Birthday Honours

WAL recipients of awards in the Queen's thday Honours List: KCB - Vice Admiral Peter Spencer, Second

Sea Lord:
CB — Roor Admiral Joremy Michael de Holpert, Neval Secretary, Rear Admiral Isle Robert Henderson CBE, Flag Officer Maritime

Audition Commodore Bairry Andrew Louis Coldman, former Commodore Mine Warfare and Flatney Protection, Commodore Mine Warfare and Flatney Protection, Commodore Fabian Fenny Historic Coldman Amthors Barge, staff of Cell-C Fleet.

OBE — Col Michael Anthors Barge, staff of Flag Differ Training and Peccuating, Dot David Maurice Bernard RD, PRR, HMS Flying Fox Breach, Cdr Atan Bucas Hossims, Will A Foshit, Days Bernard RD, PRR, HMS Flying Fox Boscon, LC of Alexander Composed Roy PRI, staff of Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic, Lt. Col Martin Kenneth Taylor FRI, MOD, Cit tam Turner, MOD IMS Brussels. Cdr Stars Howard Namen, HMS Fearless. Cdr Charles Dominick Wilson, HMS Dryed.

MBE - Li Ian Austin, Maj James Michael Black FM, CCPO Stephen Bridgman HMS Imbe (Captain Fleet Mannenance), 1/O bristopher Graham Glarke RFA, staff of Commander UK Martime Force. WO Blane Michael Cook, NMA Gosport WO Frank John Jooger, CDS/VCDS/CDSSEC, C/Sig Gesham Milliam Frankaw FM, FMS Temperane, 1/Cds John Thomae Kennieth Gibert RNR, Eastern Ness Sea Cadet Corps. WO Alan Matchina FM, HGMM, Illand C/Sig Hussell Scott retaind FM, FM Norton Mance, Cdr Paul Desent Jesen, FMS Neptune DLO. Sig Lee John Laveling FM, HGMM, Illand C/Sig Hussell Scott retaind FM, FM Norton Mance, Cdr Paul Desent Jesen, FMS FM, FM, FM, Morton March Cdr Paul Desent Jesen, FMS FM, FM, CRIST Scotterd, Vorthern England and Northern Instand. WOI lobort Mercall FM. Lf Cdr Michael John Netheram, FMS Dysad, WO Septime Dividigher Spackman, FMS Dysad, WO Septime Dividigher Spackman, FMS Dysad, WO Septime Dividigher Spackman, FMS Dysad, WO Septime Dividigher Wood, Li Rekold.

GVRM - WCD Michael Melville Bernard Icrymgeour PMR, RMR, PMR, FMR.

THE TIME OF YOUR LIV

NAVY NEWS looks back through its pages to recall some of the July headlines of past decades . . .

40 years ago

A SQUADRON of four frigates were to be established at Londonderry to concentrate on training with and evaluation of anti-submarine warfare equipment. The four were HM ships Undaunted, Falmouth, Rothesay and Blackwood.

It was decided to re-form 43 Commando at Plymouth following restructuring of the Royal Marines. It would not entail manpower increases above the total complement of the four existing commandos - 40, 41, 42 and 45.

30 years ago

FIRST of the Type 42 destroyers, HMS Sheffield, was launched by the Queen at Vickers shipyard at Barrow-in-Furness.

An opinion poll established that two-thirds of those serving in the Navy believed that longer careers would be good for the Service, and a third would want to take advantage of such opportuni-

20 years ago

CHATHAM Naval Base was to close, Portsmouth was to be reduced to a maintenance base, and, under the provisions of the Defence White Paper, an unannounced number of shore estabishments were to close. The number of frigates and destroy-ers was to be cut from 59 to 50 and manpower was to be reduced by up to 10,000 by the end of

With the arrival of HMS Plymouth at Rosyth, the Scottish base was once more the home of Royal



• 1971 - and the Queen launches HMS Sheffield at Barrow-In-Furness.

Deaths

Lt Cdr Alastair Malooim Stewart, HMS plant, May 11. CPOWRS(U) Florie McLellen Hillis, JSU

CPOWEM(0) Barry Rollo, HMS

plurie, May 27. POAC Alan David Hollow Cowan, RNAS cyliten, June 10.

Veocvition, June 10.

Lt Cdr John Richard Ahared (Dick)
Denne DSC, WW2 escort CO, Served 193361. Appointments pre-war F-Poblate, Hood,
Renown, Nortolk, Electra, Keitt, WW2 —
Polish destroyer Prorun (Raison officer,
awarded Koryc Walecznych), Express (escort
to Prince of Wales and Repulse in Far East
1941), Redmill (CO, 21st Escord Group,
Western Approaches — DSC, Sark U-722,
Redmill forpedoed and sunk April 1943),
Vindas (British Pacific Fleet); post-war —
Roebuck (CO), Llysses (CO), Staff Officer
(Intelligence) at Gloridata's Nisural Attache at
Risbat, Morocco, CO Naval base Farragusta
1958-61, as retired officer worked in Naval
rechardment 1961-70. Aged 65.

Cdr Walter C. (Jamery) Braddock, president Majestic & Caledonia 1937-39 Boys
Association, Served 1940-81. Service.
Newcastle, Excellent, Saintes, Chevool,
Chevron, St Kits, Venus, Undire, Diarrood,
Royal Oxforance Inspector for atomic warhead development.

Lt Cdr Michael Casserly, served from

head development.
Lt Cdr Michael Casserly, served from 1800s to 1972. Appointments included submarines and as CO of minesweeper during indunesia Confrontation. Chinese interpreter for RN. After leaving Newy served as skipper for tall ships of London Sailing Project. June, aced 86.

aged 66.
Sir Toby Weaver Cll. civil servant and educational who served briefly as FIN rating before being conscripted to work in Admiratly and then War Office. Worked on development of Army education acheme, June 19, aged

Bill Prosser, served WW2. Ships included HMS Manufeld Joined RM police, serving at Priddy's Hard munificine depot, Gosport in later the gaive voluntary help to tamilies moving into Romer Navel estatus. Appd 81.

James (Jim) Richards, WW2 ex-LToi submariner. Boats: H.50, H.44, Unreen (N. Ahros and Sicily landings, Matts), Life member London branch of Submariners Association, May 8, aged 87.

John Langdon, served 1954-78, Member

Association, May 6. aged 67.
Johe Langdon, served 1954-78, Member of Aircraft Handlers Association, May 14.
Harry Praff, ex-All, Ships included HMS Manneman 1942-43. Member of Fast Minelayers Association and Cosstal Fonces

sociation. Aged 60. Jilm Stamper, ex-CPO Sto. strips includ-

and Newfoundland, Victorious, Triumph, April, Boo, C. (Topsyl) Tunner, en-POSTD sub-manner, Boats: Token, Tiptoe, Acheron, Alderney, Reputse, Renown, Courageous, Member of Gosport branch of Submanners Association, May 17, aged 59.

Peter Dymond, served from 1940s. Service: Arethusia (as boy); King George V, Duke of York, FAA (1948); serving at RN air stations until HMS Glory (1950), Gemecock, Ax Roya (ROD) 1956, Retried 1958, April 2, Raymond Cave Wells, ex-CPOMA in ed Newfoundland, Victorious, Triumph. April

Ark Royal (ROS) 1956. Retired 1958. April 2.

Raymond Cave Wells, ex-CPCMA in RCN, Served WW2 in FRV rising to POMA Emigrated to Canada and served in HMCS floosuch. Awarded Canada: Order of Military Mont. Member of Royal Canadian Naval Association and involved in organising annual Battle of Allantic parades. May 29 in Edmonton, Alberta.

William Adams, ex-AS, member of HMS Penistope Association (served in her 1943), Alec (Allie) Heard, ex-EAREA, served 1952-95. Ships: Frisgard, Collingwood, Superts, Cavaline, Osprey, Tamar, Lion. Landlond of Ship Inn. Stimpbourne and nemed Britains Dricks Personality of Year by Good Pub Guide 1991. May 18, aged 64.

A. D. (Nobby) Hawis BEM, ex-CPO Moch, served 1952-74. Ships: Sultan, Albion, minesweepers, destroyers, frigatos as well as

Mech, served 1945-74, Shipe: Sultan, Abbon, mineswelpers, destroyers, frigates as well as Bahrain and Mataya, May 25, aged 75, Joseph Henry Johns, ex-PO WW2. Ships included Spowing (FAA, W. Absoc), Edinburgh Casalle, Member RN Services Association, Swansess, May 4, aged 84, T. W. Maughan, ex-CPO Weapons Mech, served 1948-73, Ships: St Vincent, Jamasca, Seahawa, Glasgow, Unicom, Penseus, Sofebay, Albion, Caledonia, Member of Vincent Motorcycle Owners Club, April 4, aged 68.

Vincent Motorcycle Owners Club. April 4, aged 68.

A. Henning, ex-POCK, served 12 years. Battle of River Plate veteran (Achilles). Other ships: Tedworth, Eribus, Jonqui, Formidable, May, aged 84.

Geoffrey Brian (Lefty) Heath, served 1947-71. Ships Included Ariel, Peregrine, Theseus, Daedalus, Eagle (827 NAS), Goldcrest, Falcon, Contaur (8498 NAS). Member of Bluejacket Band.

ASSOCIATION OF RN OFFICERS

ASSOCIATION OF IN OFFICERS

LI Cdr (E) M. F. J. Ashford. Served:
erpsichord, Theseus, President.
Cdr (E) A. J. Chapple. Served:
erpseance, Mecoury II, Pernbroke, Abice,
error, Collingwood, Osprey.
Cdr R. S. S. Ingham OSE, DSC, Served:
int Castle, London, Surprise, Tamar,
jaylon, Lonedale, Drake.
LL Cdr D. R. Lambert-Humble PD, 2009.
LL Cdr D. R. Lambert-Humble PD, 2009.

LI Cdr D. R. Lambert-Humble RD, RNR.

Lt Cdr K, G. W. Lord Served: Vongeance, King George V, Belfast, Homet, Ark Royal, Bermuda. Lt Cdr C, A. H. Owen DSC. Served: Barham, Westcott, Oblumite. Stevenstone. Lt Cdr (E) P. L. Westcott. Served: Omyx.

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION

Jack Debnam, vice chairman, ille and lounder member and former wettare officer Christichurch. Member of George Cross Island Association, Feb.
Caron Bill Codrington, Leominster, WW2 Naval chaptain.

Carrion sim Codrington, Leominister, WW2 Navel chaptain, Peter Shilvock, Stourbridge, Arthur Kent, Ferndown, May 13, Jim Middleton, Ferndown, May 23, David Efflott, associate member Chorley, Ex Call Engineer Officer MN (Usige Gorm, N. Sea), May 23, aged 49. Fred T. Osborne, Siddup, Ex-L/Sto, Served 1942-46 including HMS Howe, Pussian conveys veteran and member of Burna Star Association, Aged 79. Edward (Eddie) Sweenery, the member and former secretary, chairman and president Bradford, Shipe included Recruit (sank U-boat Feb. 1945) and my Warwick Casille (survivor when ship, carrying landing craft, sunk ty U-boat Nov. 1942), Member of Algennes Association.

Association.

Patrick C. Enly, Darford. Ex-CPO(E), served 1939-61. Valeran of Atlantic convoys. Burna, Korea. Aged 80.

Jack R. F. Gibson, Weston-super-Mare. Ex-APO MecbyO, FAA, served 1941-65. Shighs: Royal Arthur, Medina. Jacksiae, Daedabas. B. Meriti, Henon, Sparrowhawk, Landrali, Indomitable. Comorant II, Hunter, Cannet, Nitedow, Gadwall, May 7, aged 80. Robert (Bob) Collins. High Wycombo. Ex-Sorpedoman. HMS Frobinher. Aged 80. Ernle Wilkins. vico chainnuar, life member and former standard bosner Sweinversible.

and former standard bearer Skeimersdale. Member of HMS Ganges Association, May

26.
Laura Normadale, Scarborough, Es-Willis, served 1942-45, in Spain on holiday, May, aged 76.
Li Cdr J. Scott DSC and Bur, Londonderny CO of HMS Nyasaland (Battle of Allactic), June 10.

Bobert Whitlock, Portsmouth, Ex-Soo Mach, served 1952-57, Ships included HMS Newcastle, May 22.

Simon (Curly), Corker, on CS-st. BM.

Simon (Curly) Corker, ex-C/Sgt RM, served 1965-94, including Felkland Islands 1970-71, HMS Endurance 1964-85, Navel Career Service 1969-94.

Promotions to Commander

THE SECOND Sea Lord's letter of March 15 stated that in future promotions to Commander and Lieutenant Colonel RM would be announced sep-arately on May 17 and June 28 now that the promotion boards for those ranks had been brought forward to March/April to provide greater adminis-trative separation. The letter also announced that all selections would be effective from June 30 of the year fol-lowing the board. The benefits are greater flexibility in appointing, and administrative simplicity. Pension enti-tlements are not affected.

TO COMMANDER WARFARE BRANCH

WARFARE BRANCH

S.M. Barrand, D.J. Bewick, M.S.
Blackmore, P.D. Burke, S.M. Cuerl-Green,
G.J. Davies, T.G. Eastaugh, W.N. Erhansle,
W.G.F. Evanu, B.H.G. Falk, L.S.T. Fither, J.B.
Getting, C.J.M. Gilmout, S.R. Gordon, L.C.
Hardy, N.J. Hare, G. Haywood, J.M.
Hodgkens, C.B. Hodkinson, A.Cde G.K.
Jackson, E. Kelbie, R.W. King, S.P. Lacey, S.
Layland, B. Mair, M.J. Petheram, A.D.
Radakin, D.P. Reindurp, I.T. Roberts, G.A.
Robinson, A.Cde P.M.G. Schwarz, M.R.
Skeer MBE, A.Cde A.M. O'Sulfivan, D.J.
Swannick, R.A.A. Thomas MBE, R.K.
Thomas, B.D. Thompson, N.H.C. Tridsl,
G.D. Turribul, S.J.L. Turribul, D.B. Turnet,
M.J. Wairrbouse, A.Cde A.J. Walles

ENGINEERING BRANCH

ENGINEERING BRANCH

ENGINEERING BRANCH

A.M. Adams, I.G. Arnsett, G.W. Archer,
S.J. Birchart, A.Cor, C.J. Cheesman, D.G.
Childs, J.J. Chulch, T.J. Cillord, A.J. Course
MBE, P.T. Crago, A.Cdr G.L. Dabell, A.Cor
S.L. Dawson, A.J. Dorncott, P. Dumbell, R.A.
Floot, J.T. French, A.J. Gray, D.J.S. Grindel,
S.A. Haywood, L.P. Jannis, R.W. Jones, C.R.
Mackay, M.J.C. Magain, N.R. Moffalt, A.C.K.
Naden, A.G. Rhodes, M.P. Robinson, D.G.
Ryan, N.L.J. Scott, D.J.T. Sharman, A.Cor
K.N.G. Shaw, G.M. Steetler, M. Sykins, B.S.
Tarr, A. Thompson, R.C. Thompson, J.
Waddington, J.M. Wander, G.J. Wise.

SUPPLY BRANCH

SUPPLY BRANCH

H.A. Anderson, A.T. Apile MBE, C.E. Bostock, D.J. Fasilis, ACdr N. Garland, E.C. Hall, ACdr P.E.A. Laws, J.M. Lines, A.M. Lustron, ACdr D.F. Randall, J. Renwick, A.D. Warts.

MEDICAL BRANCH

D.J. Campbell, J.M. Clarke, M.C. Evershed S.W.S. Millar, S.J. Parker, A/Sung

DENTAL BRANCH T.B. Einer, A/Surg. Cdr D.K. Riden MEDICAL SERVICES BRANCH

A. Murphy.

QARNINS A/Cdr J.M. Onions ARRIC

TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL RM

P.S. Cameron, R.S. Copinger-Symes, B.R. Curry MRE, C.J. Davis, M.N. Gray, P.A. Hamadine, J.D. Hudson, M.J. Maddick, G.S.C. Manger, J. Marok, A.T.W. Maynard, J.A. McCardie, J.H. Ross.

Promotion Selection Boards took account reserved rights promulgated in BF8073

Officers selected are to note BR 6373 for rules concerning return of service and other promotion regulations.

Swop drafts

OM(AW)1 N. R Stephens, HMS Ocean, PO 350 for 07799 374597), will swop for any Type 42 deploying or not.
OM(C)1 Wilcock, LOMC 48 C Faculty.

HMS Collingwood, drafted HMS Lancaster as LOM(C), Oct. Will swop for any Plymouth

POSA C. Clewes, HMNB Portamouth out 27546/25791, drufted RNAS Culdrose, July 31. Will consider any Portamouth shore disti. WCH Chapman (SPO trained, small arms), HMS Alderney, BFPO 203 until April 2003, Will swep for any Type 42/23 deploying or not.

or not. WCH1 Wist, Wrene Mess, HMS Roebuck, BFPO 376 until September 2002, will swop for any Type 23 deploying or not (any base cost).

LSA Bilton, HMS Montrose, BFPO 339 (HMMS Devanport ext 55000), deploying Oct. Will swap for any Devanport ship not deploy-

Ratings seeking to swop drafts must meet the requirements of BR14, article 0506. In particular, they should be on or due the same kind of service – sea or shore, have time to serve in their current draft; be the same rate; and be of similar experience. All applications must be made on Form C240 to NDO, Centurion Building.



NAVY NEWS, JULY 2001 25

Bargain Hunters...

which one would you choose?



Nissan Micras from £3,700!



Nissan Almeras from £3,995!



Citroen Xsaras from £4,300! Plus many, many more!



Trafalgar Class Submarine from £667 Million

Hundreds of ex- private lease cars.

Finance may be arranged.

- All fully maintained from new, many with very low mileage.
- 3 months mechanical breakdown warranty.
- Many makes and models are available and all are at highly competitive prices.





Ontions

NAVY NEWS, JULY 2001

'Stricker a tough

our hundred feet below the surface of the Sound of Raasay in north-west Scotland, the crew of a disabled submarine waits anxiously on the seabed as a manned rescue submersible hovers above the casing.

Then the simple statement "LR5 has mated" breaks the tension. Even if the boat is stuck irretrievably on the bottom, the

crew have a route to the surfact safety - and life itself.

In this case, it was an exercise with the Royal Swedish Navy' HMSwS Gotland playing the pur of the distressed submarine (DIS-SUB), and with both the British submersible LRS and the American Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle Mystic proving the viability of a multi-national rescue operation. A one stage of Exercise Sedgemon 2001, a total of 129 personnel were rescued' from the Gotland in just

Less than a year ago, the loss of the Russian submarine Kursi focused world attention on the potential plight of submariners is distress. On that occasion, LR5 was deployed but the Russian announced that the crew of the Kursk had perished before the rescue mission arrived on station.

Exercise Sedgemoor - the fifth it the series - was designed to furthe the UK/US Deep Submergeno Rescue Programme and the Memorandum of Understanding between Britain and Swedens. LR: was operated from the Swedish submarine rescue ship HMSwS Belos and the Mystic - flown in to Prestwick Airport by CS Galaxy transport and taken by road to the Clyde Naval Base - was operated from a cradle on Trident submarine HMS Vanguard. For the exercise Belos was designated 'mother ship'-MOSHIP - and Vanguard 'mothe submarine' - MOSUB.

As the vessels involved made

As the vessels involved made their way to the Sound of Rassay action started with the release of a exercise submarine indicator buoy is the position where Gotland was to act as the distressed boat.

act as the distressed boat.

Signals from the buoy were quickly detected by satellite and then by an RAF Nimrod maritime patrol aircraft, which took over the role of On Scene Commander until the arrival of the frigate HM: Monmouth. The frigate also acted as escape gear ship with first reaction stores embarked – the first



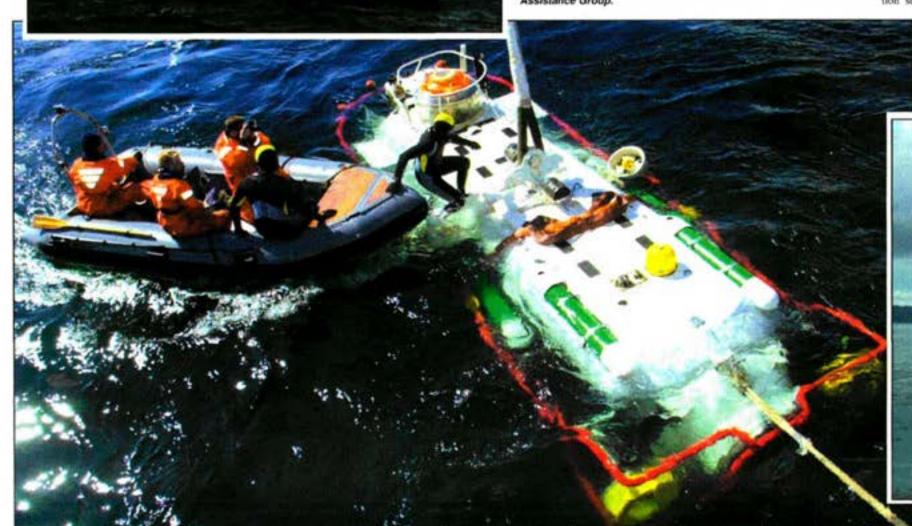
 (Above) A sallor acting as a submarine escapee is hauled to safety

by members of the Submarine

Parachute Assistance Group.

 (Above) Cdr Phil Buckley, Co-ordinator of Rescue Forces during Exercise Sedgemoor.

 (Left) A Sea King of 819 Naval Air Squadron hovers over liferafts dropped from an RAF Hercules along with the Submarine Parachute



 (Left) Divers prepare to release the British submersible LRS for a voyage to the depths after the craft was launched from the Swedish navy ship Belos.



n' boat is challenge

by David Healy

time that a Type 23 has been exercised in the role.

Early to arrive at the scene was the UK Submarine Parachute Assistance Group. Diving and medevac evacuation specialists purachuted into the sea from RAF C130 Hercules aircraft flying at 1,200ft, together with specialist equipment including liferafts and rigid inflatables. They were swiftly involved in an exercise to deal with 'casualties' deemed to have escaped from a stricken submarine – although for safety the latter were placed by surface vessel.

a Sedgemoor progressed, over twenty mating operations were carried out
involving LR5. Mystic, Belos and
Vanguard. Both submersibles also
practised the transfer of personnel
under pressure – a necessary procedure to avoid possible medical
pressurisation problems in circumstances where a submarine has
been damaged.

Inside LR5, those transferred had no illusions about spaciousness or comfort. Although the submersible can evacuate up to 15 submarine personnel to either a MOSHIP or MOSUB, the interior is cramped despite a recent relit and major upgrades. But it does offer the chance of survival – and the relative importance of comfort fades into insignificance at the thought of the alternative.

Whilst the manned submersible transfers involved the Gotland, Belos and Vanguard, the RMAS salvage and mooring vessel Salmoor was also involved in the exercise, using remotely operated vehicles and the UK Distressed Submarine Decompression System

Submarine Decompression System.

The exercise was also attended by observers from NATO and Partnership for Peace countries which operate submarines, and by representatives of the media. Some of them were able to undertake a 'flight' in LR5 themselves.

Cdr Phillip Buckley of the staff of Flag Officer Submarines, who was Co-ordinator of Rescue Forces for the exercise, said: "Sedgemoor has been a challenging and successful demonstration of submarine rescue operations in UK waters. A significant multi-national effort has proved an ability to co-operate closely in this important area of



 Blue Peter presenter Simon Thomas with LR5 on board the Swedish submarine rescue ship Belos. Simon and the Blue Peter team were filming during Exercise Sedgemoor for a programme about submarine rescue.



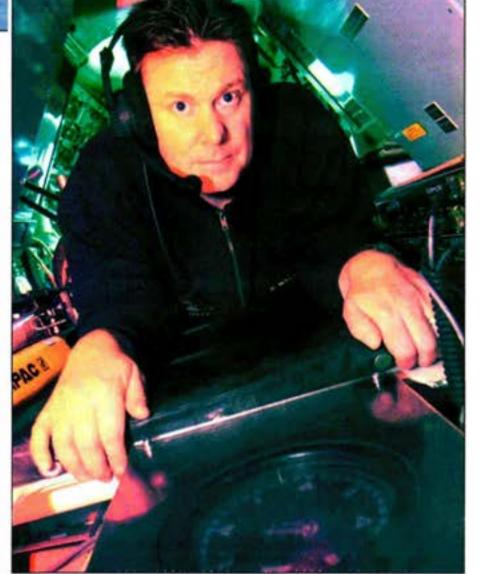
 (Above) British submersible LR5 is hoisted back on board Swedish navy submarine rescue ship Belos after successfully linking with Swedish submarine Gotland almost 400ft deep in the Sound of Raasay, Western Scotland.

 (Right) Pilot Richard Watt at the controls of submersible LR5 during the nineday Exercise Sedgemoor.

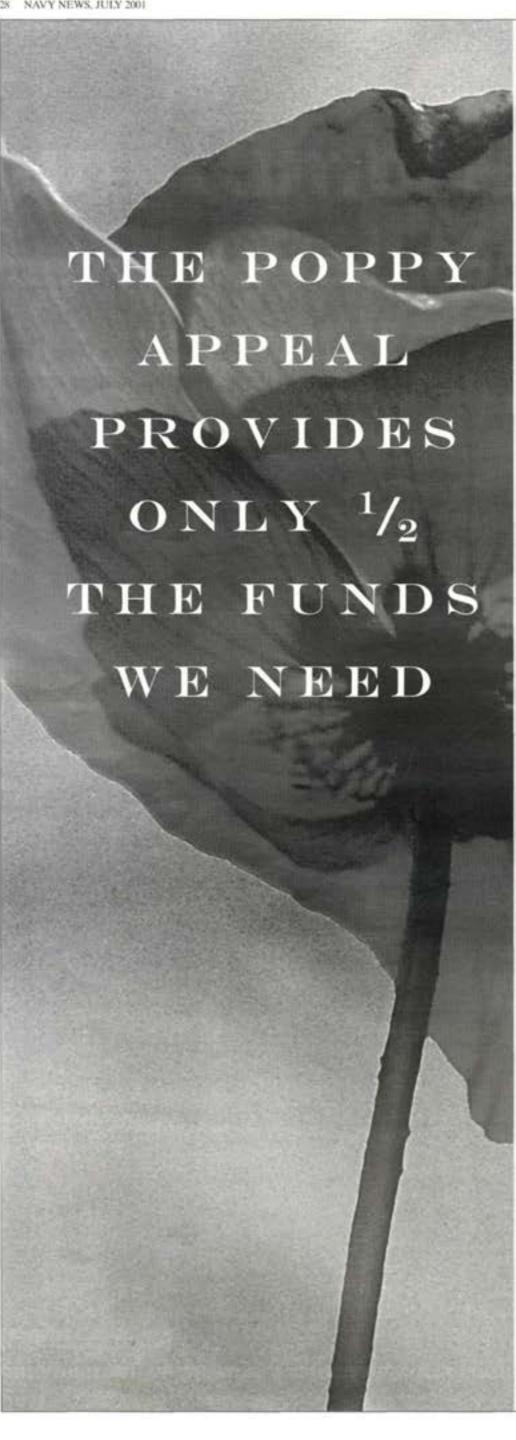


narine rescue ship Belos in the Sound of Raasay, Western Scotland, during Exercise Sedgemoor.





NAVY NEWS, JULY 2001



The Royal British Legion is dedicated to help serving and ex-service men and women and their families...

...1,000 people are helped to visit war graves every year

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...5,000 people are helped with a stay in our homes every year

...100,000 visits are made each year to the housebound or those in hospital.

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Reg. Charity No. 219 279





At Your Service



Reunions

July

HMS Kale (K241) 1942-46 reunion at Southdene Hotel, Bridlington, North-Yorkshire from July 6. Contact Diox Clay. Madgewood, 31. Cuckinere Way, Brighton, Sesses Sh1 8GA, lei 01273 550075.

Junglie Cocktell Party at Sharborne Caotin, July 20. Officers and spousesjustivers of Commando Helicopter Force are invited. Cost on straight share basis. Plequelist with meets number and address to 345 Squadon.

mess number and address to 648 Squadron, 194AS Yeovition, tel. 01535 456715.

August

HMS Newcastle Association: First reunion for all ships of that name at the Horne Club, Proteinsuth, from August 10-12. Contact Ray Young, 109. Westerminou, Washington, Tyne & Waar NE37 1LT, Mil. 0191 4167959 or e-mail:

0191 A16-959
Honoyeung Mics Joan
Royal Belink Legion Crewe branch's
Drain Head Service and paradio of Colours
on August 19 at 3pm, 32 Petro, Charch, Legiston-Curn-Minshul-Vermon, or Crewe.
Standards and Colours, frembers and triands are invited. Mono details from J.
Davies on 01270 252092.

September

September

Minewarters sourcer at the US Ground, Burnaby Road, Portemouth, on September 7. Open to all serving and ex-officers and assecrations. Contact WO Pale Whitehead or CPO Tolf Reader on 1023 9228 4749 or 4790.

HMS Pheasant reunion at Alveston Hall-Hotel, Nambach, Chestine, from September 7-9. Contact 8. Dowding, 1, Opencharth Classe, Claytari, Bland, Eases 955 0.8.

HMS Gamelia Association reunion at the RNA Club, Learnington Spa from September 7-9. Details from Les Newman, 3, Coppios Rd, Whitash, Learnington Spa CV31 2/E, bit 01505 831599.

HMS Bildesten utilization commonly and Navel collection on Sunday September 16, 2/Sign. at Bildesten utilization commonly and Navel collection on Sunday September 16, 2/Sign. at Bildesten, near playarch, Suffoliation of an previously stated. All members and non-members of the TCA welcome, Details from Allen Citalian for Citalian for Allen Citalian for Citalian fo

not as previously stated. All members and on-members of the TCA selcome. Distalls from Allen CTRellly, let: 0.1728 602767 or e-nal AFCRS936@aol.com

HMS Comes Portsmouth reunion September 21-23; Friday, 1930 at RNOC Club, Lake Rd. Salunday 1930 at Victory Club, 1945 Nelson, Sueday 1900; church service St Anne's, Dockyant, Old and new mbers and quests welcome. Contact of Harper on 91302 708135.

nor Happer on 01302 708136.
HMB Forentiable Association reunion Domington Thistie Hotel, East Midlands port, September 21-23. Contact Betty eth. Avebaria, 78 Fosseway, Systos, icoster LE7 1NE.

control LET TIME.

HMS Collingwood Association mini-prion at Sandown, tale of Wight from pleniber 28 to October 1. Oetals from te Crowe, 7. Health Rd. Lake, Sandown, W PONS APP. IOW POSS 8PG. HMS Indomitable

Over to You

PO Stanley Watter Dowsey: J. Caims seeks

PO Stanley Water Dowsey: J. Caims seeks into or his will'is uncle, who was serving in 16kS Liverpool when she was lost in October 1960. Contact J. Caims, 26, Poeran Willy, St. Margarets at Ciffe, Dover CTTS 6AH.

HMS Butwerk 1960 Commission: Can anyone self or loan Pice Whitham a copy of the book. Sire was a commando carrier with 42 Commando, tear pointed by 22 Curihas. Contact fron at 11, Ashderie Grove, Newton, Postefract, West Yorkstine WFB 2PW, lot 01877 797569.

HMS Jervis Bay: Charles Woodward is trying to obtain a copy of a book called The Jervis Bay, Written by George Pollock, it was published by Kimber (London) in 1958. He

has been Captain of a container ship called Jervis Bay for the last tive years, hence his

dudno, trom September 28 to October 1. slis. from Nevidle Slattery, 6, Dorotyn-nue, Umsuton, M41 98F, or set. 0161 748

October

HMS Ulster, 1928-60 West Indies Commission revision in October at Warnham, Dorset Contact Find Bright on 01749 679036.
HMS Norfolk resision, October 13 at Plymouth. Details from Kein Minth, 28, Generacide Drive, Costoc Green, Northarks CWD 75R, let 01616 46228.

Bombardment Units Association AGM and Resision Luncheon at the Union Jack Cub. Waterloo, on October 13 at noon Contact G. Gregolt The Lodge, Vinchall Rd. Robertsbridge, E. Sussex TM32 Sulk.

December

North West Federation of Naval Associations alle having a Turkey & Turkel weekend at Tithieys Hohd, North Prost, Blackbool horn December 14-16, 572 Contect F. Cox, 5, Endskigh Gardens, Leigh, Wigan WNB TLP, let; 01942 517839.

March 2002

Elizabeth College CCF Cerden-ary: All Old Elizabethams who are serving/have served in HM Forces are invited to attend the Cerdenary Parade in Guerraely on March 18. Cortact the O.C. Strabeth College CCF. The Grange, St Pyter Port. Guerraely GY1 29°C. Int. 01481 726544 evt 212, flux 01481 714838.

April 2002

HM Captain-class Frigates: It is now seek 60 years (1942-2007) since the first aptain-class Frigate was launched (DE No A special reprinor will be held in Warreck on April 5-7. Details from Harry Fine on from April 5-7. Details from Harry Fine on 000 5455 9400 or Dave Lingard on 01925 497514.

June 2002

598 Squad PMI: June 1952: A reunion dinner etc. Is being contemplated in June 2002 to calabrate the past 50 years. Any squad members or instructors informated should contact Tuny Pilits. 47. Shorts Gardens, Halloham, East Sussex 8N27 3AZ, act 01323 844122.

May 2003

Artificer Apprentices, May 1953 Entry, ne Flotby Flobson wishes to contact all the Apprentices and Applications and Applica Dave Trobby Robson wishes in contact off who specialised as Arcraft Artifices and served at RNAS Arbroath 1954-57 with a view to a 50th nourison in 2003. Contact him at 9. Littlemoor R4. Prester. Weymouth 1973 BLA. Tel: 01305 782271 (day), 01305 835117 (evit).

Contact Charles at 225, Highlands Rd, Fareham PO15 5BQ, tel: 01329 846113.

Some time ago Michael Cross heard an appeal for an Hoyal Navy personnel who were involved in the setting up or minesweapers at the start of WWII. For

rsonal ressons his father did not want to involved at the time, but has now intimat-

ed that he would like to pass on any into that would be of interest. Michael believes there is a minesweeper museum, but does not

now if they were making the enquiry, Contact tichael on 01785 514900, e-mail

cross Winetcentral.co.uk Ex RO Jeff (Taff) Thomas is in need of a photo of HMS Danae and its ship's company from July 1975 to July 1977. Contact hen at 38. Hancourt St. Estre Valle, Gesent NP23 6EN, tel: 01495-350915, or 07896-014536

MOD VETERANS' ADVICE UNIT HOTLINE:

08456 02 03 02

Monday to Friday 09.00-17.00 Answer phone service out of hours. Calls charged at local call rates.

Calling Old Shipmates

White HMS Ugands was in the USA for repairs, a number of her crew were drafted to a newly-correspondence of her crew were drafted to a newly-correspondence Gaptain-class legate, HMS Coeby (KSS9). The Captain-class Fegula Association is holding a special reunion from April 5-7, 2002, and would be to hear from any of Casby's crew. Contact Harry Fine on 000 8455 5400.

5th Escort Group (Bickerlon, Aylmer, Bigh, Goodson, Kests and Kempthorn); As ranks from this group are requested to pen the Captain-class Frigate Association with a view to a reunion in Warnick next April Desials from Harry Fine on 020 8455 9400.

HMS Bonaventure (1944-46); AS Len Hardingham seeks the whersboots of old shipmales, including Atta Johnsy Water, Dase Dugger, Sewager Smith, Black Taylor, Jock Forgeth and Vic North, Contact him at 17, Abbotts Drive, Watharn Abboty, Essen ENG 3-84, or eng 01992 610900.

HMS St Vincent, Blake 22 Din, 1956-57. R. Descon would like to hear from anybody who entired the St Vincent gables with him. Contact him at 13. Crusch Larse, Kingdon, Lewes, East Susses DNT SIA.

HMS Londonderry 1941; Deve Wickham seeks ships company who served August 3, 1941, when company who served August 3, 1941, when survivors of SS Macon was reclaim. Contact Drive at 12, Fosglove Close, Ringmer, Susses, or let 01273 fizzle42.

Ex-WOSA Peter Carter and Ex-CPOSA Bax Amips seek POSA Wyrne Tropgy French, Isa heard of serving at 19th Hospital Disnate in 1985, Call 023 10272 3000 and speak to Pater or leaves as no but from the Medical Model and the foreign of the foreign While HMS Uganda was in the USA for

Baz Amps seek POSA Wayne Troggy Prench, last heard of serving at 199 Hospital Disnahler in 1985. Call 1923 1927 3/800 and speak to Pieter or leave a contact number. HMS Loch Fadil 1955-56 Commission, Persian Guit. Where are the toots from the Seament's meast, in particular Arthur Batchetic, last known to be in Gesport? Hing Ken Hibberd on 1923 1929 3/300.

Seeking Brian Hildrew, who in 1942 took passage on the old City of Banda, passeg brough Cape Town where he was entertained by John Holmey's lastly He believes he had some contact with a college in Sunderland and served in the 194 as a subsectionard and served in the 194 as a subsectionard. Contact Dr. John Holmeyr, 11 Hospital Hilbs Invincible: Paul Keates wants to hear from any stokers from the first crew of hear from any stokers from the first crew of hearing the count from in. Contact him at 79, Coalport Close, Dishards Langley, Hartow, Esseking Coored Williams. Kent Ward last saw him is about 1990, and he was possibly slutianed at Pontanouth and was an engance on histopless. Her die 195 has how, and has possibly slutianed at Pontanouth and was an engance on histopless. Her the 195 has hoped to contact shipmants from HM ships Raiseigh 1992. Birmingham 1990 and Combertand 1994-6. E-mail althorigan By John Hopping Hospital Collingwood Anyone who joined on November 2, 1942, and mas sent to 1985 296028 or e-mail: 202112-8 and com. HMS Cellingwood Anyone who joined on November 2, 1942, and mas sent to 1985 2960298 or e-mail: 202112-8 and com. HMS Plagand, Series 20 Entry Artificer Appendixon. Stant Ward 1964, the has set up as independent was an observed with joined in Shouling Court MMS Plagand, Series 20 Entry Artificer Appendixon. Stant Ward 1964, the has set up as independent was not one of the top the series and to hear from any 5-20 Art App. and see any photos from that time, if you cannot e-mail them, send there to me as Shaat Wingel, 607 - 5 Fordware Court, Brandord, ON.

Canada NST SW3. Any photos sent by mail it will soan and return. My Web Page is:

Namight Biggard feet HMS Uras 1955-57: Owen Carlille would like to hear from Hony Alweght, Chiefy Selwood, Peter Firmaton, and any others who shared the reightfille in Gib on his delayed homeymoon, as it will soon be his Golden Wiedding and he wants to make con-tact before then. Alto 1.1 Frank Calibrath, Contact Owen Carlinis, 132, East Drive, Oaktree Park, St Leonards, nr Ringwood, Hants BH24 2HS, let 01202 BID-446, e-mail: overs contilled filingone, and

ower.cardie-ifflineone.net Ex-POWEM (R) Stewart (Andy) Anderson seeks triends from Service days (1971-62), particularly Paul Shooter, Mick. Págrin and Bis (Paddy) Cree, He now Inves in the USA and misses old times and motes. Write to 583, Califore Crest Partison, Altumente Springs, Fl. 32714, sci 407-669-5675, e-nal Saecur Anderson@inume.com Alten (Ginnet Elli-

the USA and mission ald ferres and motes. Write to S83, Califore Creat Parkway, Altamorte Springs, Fl. 32714, sel 407-869-5673, e-mail Stewart Anderson-thiname.com. Altern (Gange) Elliorit served in the PN from June 1971 to January 1980. He left as LMEARL, He poined at PMS Ganges, served in FMS ships Agonaut, Hismos, Ajex, Natural and Didds and wishes to confact as collesques Write to 17, Yew Tree Detve, Barston, Northwich CWS 6694, felt. 01406 793312, e-mail. effort-affect (Sampare Loren HMS Brilliant: Sam Junes to trying to trace old shipmake LS Steve Hanston (e-MAS Brilliant) or any 3-P mess 1987-90 Rpi's on the same step. E-mail bits at same-power@acl.com or at 4, Stonebroom Wals, Shelton Lock, Derty DE24 9GS.

Mac Washins joined the RN as an RO in May 1981. He would like to swap memories with anyone who trained at HMS Raleigh May(June 1981, HMS Mercay) during the second half of 1981, particularly TR, T10, T11 classes; served in NP 2056 aboard MV Contender Becard during Operation Gargonatic worked in the Comers department and enjoyed the Windses tour in Investigate and serviced Becard during Operation Gargonatic worked in the Comers department and enjoyed the Windses tour in Investigate and serviced Becard during Operation Gargonatic worked in the Comers department and enjoyed the Windses tour in Investigation of those drays - Copenhagen, Falktands, at banyons in the Windses, Ex RO1(T) Mark Walkers Scrown as Maci, Its Ampletothe Rd, Benesick Hits, McKellestandy, Tocation and even to be decided Contact Cit Peter Mosse or Ray Taylor (1570) on 029 8907 8717 or e-mail: well as a falk of the Peter Mosse or Ray Taylor (1570) on 029 8907 8717 or e-mail: well-in-collectand fine one and the Cobh of Core emit Operation and even to be decided. Contact Cit Peter Mosse or Ray Taylor (1570) on 029 8907 8717 or e-mail: observed with him in Holds from 1965, He would also be some of the same his produced fine one net Section of Fort and Mosth had dejoinated decided or files or the SAR Hoyal (1964-43) Chris (Notly) Hubman wo

HMS Ark Royal (1961-63) Chris (Nuts) Halman would like to hear from old friends of the SAN Flight, and SQD Moss. Tal 01600 440300, e-mait chalmand filhad.com HMS Penelope Association: Anyone who served in the Phoologie is wellcome to join the association. Contact the Sec. Mike Bee, 1, Oddhelloses St. Mirfeldt WF14 9AB, e-mait: mike.bee@rifleoritz.com Kennith Muchaed is trying to contact Leighton Nicholla, an AEM from whom he hassn't heart since 1995. They served in

hasn't heard since 1995. They served in HMS Cardiff and at RNAS Portland. Contact Kenneth at 5, Fullarion Court, Kilmarmock,

HMS Candif and at RHAS Proteind. Contact Kenneth at 5, Fullarfon Court, Kilmarmok, Ayrshive KA1 200, telt 01563 544775, or mobile 07754 764602. Alan Chifon is tooking for stokers who did basic training at HMS Rakeligh between March and May 1975. Alan has lots of pessing-out photos he would love to pass on to any shipmates. They were the test class of stokers or MEMs to train in the old wooden hats, and he believes the latter part of training block. Contact Alan at 8895 Morley Place. Maineville. Ohio 45039, USA, e-mail oponee Rack.com

income. Packcom prese Packcom HMS St Brides Bay: Enc Wyott, ex-HMS St Brides Bay: Enc Wyott, ex-

HMS-St Brides Bay: Enc Wyult, ex-LSBA, seeks anyone from last commission 1960-01. Whete to 48. Furzehit Rd, Mubley, Pyrnouth PL4 TLA, let 01752 224752, e-mail: sys0ffmuthyplymouth.hersonvo.co.uk HMS-Collingwood - Class date May 31 1955: Found Colin Spellman, Jim Randall, Gerry Humthey, Ray Marshall and Gordon Christis seeking N.C. Lee, B.C. Lambert-Williams, Brian House, J.J.T. Evans (Ireland), T. Ashtoy, Colin Health, W. Geetnwell, Sid Peny, John Peet, J. Spender, G. Thomson, instructors J.W. Furness and C. James for class reunion early in 2002, Tel. Gordon on 0151 336 3577 or Colin on 01525 718140, e-

sending your notice in via email, please include your full address

Please send in Reunions at

■ There may be a detay before items appear, due to the volume of

The Editor reserves the right to edit or refuse publication of submitted notices.

accept more than one free insert. Any subsequent notice will have to be paid for at advertising rates.

mail geral p humbray Wamserve net er gordononell Writhsonts com.

HMS Hampshire Ray Clawford seeks George Goringe, last seen after the Hampshire was scrapped in 1978. He was Ray's best man at his first time around. Ray has tried to contact him botone – there was mini reunion of some from 36 mess and some are still in touch – Eddle Seabourne, Flash Hales etc. If you know George of any-one from the last commission, email ray rouwfund Hampson, let 07971 563603. If explosive who served in HMS Wictorious between 1960-64 and has a copy of the commissioning books and any photos please contact. AX, Graver on 000 8755 1956 or email, keithamylokeithad com Also cary Numr seeks or Navy maters, somewho will have left, others will be in their final years. He served 1977-65, and his ships were laywincible and Blastrious. Shore based mainly at Portland on 703 NAS and

Would anybody who has information

on the where abouts of HADYN HUGHES

Served HMS Albion 1958-65

Service No. PJ926352

Please contact: Hadyn Hughes,

is last known address was Don

AED workshops. He can be contacted at 6, Oak Terrace. Spennymost. Co Durhain, Dt.10 7LT, lat 07974 871342. HMS Soberton (minesweeper): Colin Massey soeks anyone who served from 1073 to 1974, to contact him at 12A, Mattavd Drive, Hartisyvolis, Phymouth, Devon PL3 SRU, tel: 01752 777783, or email: onthe@colinmassey.co.uk

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TO: LT COR I M F COOMBES RN. AANO, 70 PORCHESTER Tor. LONDON W2 3TP Please send me details and a membership application flores

Search for hotel guests

A SOUTH African boy who during World War II made friends with many of the hundreds of sailors welcomed at an hotel run by his parents has for many years been try-ing to trace the naval men.

Jack Clinton has asked Navy News to help him in his quest, and has given us a list of ships - not all Royal Navy vessels - in which the sailors

he remembers served. He said: "My mother was a keen worker for the Navy League, and we had between 350-400 sallors to live with us during their short leaves when their ships docked in Cape Town or Durban.

From there they were flown to the hotel at Hamberg near Johannesburg, or went by train to inland resorts for about two weeks. The hotel was known as

Willie Smith's Richmond Hotel as it was owned by former boxing champion Willie Smith. "During those years I was still a schoolboy," said Jack.

"But many was the time that I assisted sailors, somewhat under the weather, on to the train at the old Johannesburg station, as they were usually loath to depart from the entertainment break they used to have with us."

The ships remembered by Caradoc Cevion, Corfu. Colossus, Eskimo, Ethiopian, Ferndale, Gnu, Gorleston, Glasgow, Howe, Illustrious, Jasmine, Jamaica, Lanca, HMAS Maryborough, Mayina (or Magina), Manchester City, HMAS Napier, Newcastle, Pursuer, Frobisher, Queen Elizabeth, HMAS Quickmatch, Renown, Resource, Resolution, Ramillies, Rapid, Revenge, Rotherham, Seruwa, Shiel, Suffolk, Unicorn, Sussex,

Anyone who remembers him is asked to contact him at PO Box 1913, Florida Hills. 1716, South Africa (tel and fax 00 27 11 679 1604).

Volage, Warspite.

(mob); e-mail ,IEFF@thomas-1.fonet.co.uk proteit; e-mail JEFF-diffhorms-1, fined.co.uk Peter Eslick has a silver our which belonged to his uncle, Eric Warley, who was silbed when HMS Glorhous was total in WWII. It is 17cm long, and has their Cup 1937 reportbed on it. He presumes it was awarded as a prize for a bost race, protably in the Pymouth area, but would appreciate any into about the oar or the race. Contact Peter by e-mail at preside disahara comes or at 1 Haijrani St., British Aerospace, PO Box 2, Tabul, Saudi Arabia, or fax at 00 905 4 4222708 set 110.

mail at glesispic d'saharac.com.so or al 1
Nagarri Sc. British Aerragace, PO Box 2.
Tabuk. Saudi Arabia. or fax at 00 906 4
4222708 set 110

HMS Royal Cak: A. Justice is trying to find out about his great urcle who, he beteven, served and sted in the Royal Cas. His name was PO Charle Aguis, and he was Mailston. Contact A. Justice. S. Balmoral Road, Bangor. Co Down BT19 7XA, e-mail: ndownglassibioti finetscapporinte.co.ul Mailtyn Cappiello recently discovered her grandfather's giarre in Newharven, Bussees. He was a PO in the Nany and served in both wars, dying in 1947. She would appreciate any info available on the base at Newharven. She is also looking for anything on her uncle. Cyril Aloxander, known to have been in the Merchart Navy before and during the last war. He was born around 1913 or 1914 and joined at the age of 14 or 15. He Swed in Southampton bost at least 1937, his son Lenwas born in 1838, and is thought to have joined the Navy, Does anyone know of a Len Akusander born 1938 from Southampton. Inter Cyril and mother either Ada or Ida? Costact Martlyn. Cappiello nee Colvetti, 28, Carton Croscurt, Cheam, Surrily 19M3 915, or email: mocappiello d'abusyonder.co.uk

*Hopfielder' Ristri Taylor is anxious to get into on the Royal Naval and Royal Martness Orginanage which was based at Hopfielder', Statis Taylor is anxious to the state of the Royal Australan Navy, served under the Sotiath Army, on the ship Edizabethwile and them HMS Hysicetti in 1941-42. He kept a diary which is being transcribed into a book to be presented to him on the not have her hot Shapine and her had Shapine and herman schools to which the last happen and he had shapine and herman schools to which the last happen and her had Shapine and herman schools or shapine and herman schools or which the last happen and herman schools or which the last happen and herman schools or which th

At your Service entries Notices for this page should be brief, clearly written or typed and addressed to The Editor, Navy News, HMS Nelson, Portsmouth.

and telephone number. ■ Reunions appear in date order particular edition cannot be guar-

least three months (preferably four) before the month of the

Entries are free to non-commer-clal organisations. Items pertain-ing to commercial work, books and publications for profit can only appear as paid-for advertis-

PICTURE PUZZLE



FIRST £50 winner in this competition is Peter Nash of Ellesmere Port, Cheshire.

He identified the frigate HMS Malcolm (1955-73) in our May Malcolm (1955-73) in our May edition. She was named after Capt Sir Pulteney Malcolm, and our clue referred to Malcolm III of Scotland, whose father, Duncan, was killed by Macbeth. This month's mystery picture is of a very special vessel used by the Royal Navy in the 1980s. For £50, name her and her purpose.

COSE. Complete the coupon and send it to flystery Picture. Navy News, IMSS Nelson, hortsmouth. POT 38Hs. Coupons giving correct enseems will go into a prize draw to establish a winner. Closing date for entries is August 15. hore than one entry can be submitted, but shortscopies cannot be accepted. Do not notuced entyring date in your envelope: no correspondence can be entered into and to entry returned. The winner will be amnounced in our leptember edition. The competition is not spen to Navy News employees or their amilies.

		MYSTERY	PICTURE 77	
Name				
Address				+

My ansv	ver			•

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War's biggest minesweeper base to get new recognition

THE 2,385 men of the Royal Naval Patrol Service who died during both world wars are to be commemorated by the first memorial of its kind to be unveiled in Grimsby - Britain's largest wartime minesweeping base.

During World War II 39 vessels of the RNPS were sunk through enemy action, with one man in four being lost at

Now the RNPS Association at Grimsby has arranged for a memorial stone to be unveiled in honour of the men who died sweeping the River Humber and its adjacent coast clear of mines.

The stone will be unveiled by Director Dennis Dunn, Associated British Ports Grimsby and Immingham, at 1330 on

The stone will be sited at Queen's Steps, Grimsby Royal Dock next to the Royal Dock

As it is a working site, atten-dance will be by ticket only and will be limited to 150 wives, families and widows of veterans.

A Sptifire flypast is planned, with the Salvation Army providing the music and Grimsby and Cleethorpes Sea Cadets providing the Honour Guard and gun salute. Enquiries about tickets should

be addressed to the RNPSA chairman in Grimsby, Shipmate Tom Walkley on 01472 852283,

Heart-and-soul

SHIPMATE Eric Hartley, PRO of No 3 Area, is not one to let a midnight heart attack interfere with the recruiting drive. As he awaited the arrival of the ambulance, he spent his time persuading the ex-RN doctor attending him to join the RNA. Eric recovered - and so did the doc.

Around the Branches

Eastbourne

The laying up of the branch's old standard and dedication of the new was supported by branches throughout Sussex, Surrey and Kent, and by ex-Service associa-tions, including those of the Royal Marines, the Fleet Air Arm and the WRNS.

The service was conducted by Fr Neil Chatfield, branch chaplain and Vicar of Christ Church, assisted by Canon Bob Butler. The lesson was read by the branch chairman and president of No 2 Area, Commodore Derek Patterson. He also took the salute accompanied by the Mayor.

Sixteen standards were paraded to music by the Army Cadet Force band, after which shipmates and guests - including the Mayor and Mayoress and Nigel Waterson MP attended a reception

The new standard was dedicated in memory of Lt Cdr S. G. Bradford RNVR, former president of the branch

Swindon

A double silver jubilee celebra-tion is coming up for the branch secretary, ex-Wren Shipmate Frankie Fowler. On September 17, he date the branch commissioned 25 years ago, she will have served 25 years in office.

She and her shipmates will take part in the anniversary parade on September 23.

Waterlooville

Branch fund-raisers scored a bit with their production of Cinderella, which made £1,220 towards three nebulisers for children suffering from cystic fibrosis in a special unit of St Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth.

They are hoping for another suc cess as they rehearse for their next performance - Alice in Wonderland. An Easter egg raffle raised £204

and 86 chocolate eggs for children's homes and hospitals.

Wigston & District

To the music of the Forties, 150 shipmates and guests danced the night away. Guests included ship-mates of Market Harborough and members of Leicestershire branch of the RMA, Submariners Association and RAF Association.

A buffet was laid-on by the ladies, and senior-citizen members of the club had a lunchtime run ashore with a buffet courtesy of the

Aberdeen

On her way to Finland and exer-cises with the Russian Navy, HMS Campbeltown visited Aberdeen where a warm welcome was given by branch members. In return, the members were entertained royally on board.

Portsmouth

After half a century as secretary of the RN Old Comrades Club, Shipmate John (Knocker) White

has decided to stand down. Knocker (79) is a veteran of such artime ships as HMS Hood and HMS Glasgow, and he leaves in his wake a unique collection of naval memorabilia which he has gathered lovingly over the years.

His office is overflowing with items - many of them rare - from binnacles and compasses to paint-

ings of long-forgotten ships. His many treasures include an identity card issued to Lord Mountbatter as Commanding Officer of HMS

At a big send-off for Knocker, be was presented with a cut-glass decanter.

Cambridge

Over 100 shipmates helped the branch to celebrate its 25th anniversary at a dinner dance. The chairman, Shipmate Harry Sheldrick, proposed the Loyal

Redruth & Camborne

The branch president, Shipmate Ron Williams, stood in at a meetng for the chairman, Shipmate John Bennetts, on holiday in India with the treasurer, Shipmate Bob Lewrey, and their wives



THANKS to Shipmate Paul Watson, PRO of No 4 Area, his family were able to continue what has become a tradition of christening their new arrivals using a ship's bell.

Paul, of Bristol branch, arranged for his four-month-old grand-daughter Jessica to be christened in the bell of the city's RNR establishment, HMS Flying Fox, with the establishment's chaplain, the Rev Peter Crick RNR, officiating.

Jessica is pictured before the event with mum Pauline and

Paul's wife, Ann

Paul's three daughters have been christened in ship's belis, including Pauline. She and her neuro-surgeon husband, Damrong Xupravati, travelled from their Thailand home to allow Jessica's extended family to meet her.





Subs pegged a £6 for the fifth

ear in a row

income from investments and bequests had resulted in an

out-turn which was £40,054 better than expected. And this

year's predicted deficit of £17,000 may also be controlled

into surplus, as had been the case over the past five years.

but has since dropped off steadily.

an Area PRO network.

Central Charities Fund.

Greatest problem faced by the Association is falling membership, mainly due to deaths. Over the past 20 years the RNA's strength reached a peak of near 50,000 in 1991,

However, the conference was told that the decline

seemed to be easing. Initiatives by HQ, in co-operation with the Second Sea Lord's department, were bringing the

Association closer to the serving Navy, with a potentially

rich source of younger recruits. More young people were

Among the initiatives were nomination of RNA liaison

officers in ships and establishments, and the setting up of

The Chairman concluded by paying tribute to the RNA's charity work, branches and individuals having raising

£126,276 last year, with a further £13,888 coming from the

joining the RNA, and more were being retained.

DESPITE a continuing fall in membership, delegates at the annual conference of the Royal Naval Association will not be asked to vote for a rise in subscriptions this year.

It is the fifth year in a row that annual fees have been pegged at £6. A rise, of £1, was last made in 1996.

Presenting the National Council's report at the conference at Clacton-on-Sea on June 23, the Chairman, Shipmate Fred Chambers, said a fall in membership by 939 to 35,903 in the past 12 months had cut last year's inci-£205,000 by £7,000. income of

Navy News went to press as the conference began. A report on its decisions will appear in our August edition.

RNA identity card scheme

INTRODUCTION of an RNA 'Proof of Service' card to help in recruiting Navy people entering civilian life is beginning to pay off, the National Council has told annual conference delegates.

The cards are offered to leavers when they hand in their RN or RM identification cards, and give a post-Naval service identity tied to four-year full membership of the Association.

Those taking up the scheme pay a membership subscription of £24 to Headquarters for the four years, and can join the branch of their choice to find comradeship that will ease them into their new lives out of uniform.

NO RISE in subs – and a brand new standard – is bound to bring out the smiles, especially for Shipmate Don Stacey, Liskeard's bearer, as he shows off the branch's newly dedicated standard.

The ceremony, on Liskeard's 15th birthday, was performed at St Martin's Church by the Rev Martin Sellix.

All set to take the salute at the parade was Vice Admiral Sir Robert Gerken, but the rain was so heavy that the parade members – including 40 standard bear-ers from all parts of the country – were forced to retreat to a planned buffet lunch and tot of rum.

Keasons cheerful

Ipswich helps replace stolen cash

WHEN the local Sea Cadets were left struggling after £600 of their funds were stolen, Ipswich branch of the RNA rallied round and donated

The money was taken when thieves ransacked TS Orwell, the cadets' floating HQ, and gained access to a

The RNA gift represented half the missing money, without which the 65-year-old unit would have been

Branch vice-chairman Shipmate Peter Thomps said members, several of whom were pre-World War II cadets, were very upset at hearing of the loss. They made an immediate decision to donate the money "The cadets have been struggling for years and rely on the subscriptions the lads pay," said Peter.

Thanking the branch for its help, the Commanding Officer of the unit, Lt Cdr John Downie (SCC), said the loss would have forced the unit to reduce its activities.

The gift avoided that. "It certainly saved our bucon as without the money we couldn't provide some of the training we give," he said.

As well as making the donation, Ipswich branch is sponsoring three of the cadets at summer camp.

Harvey gets six more medals -56 years late

of gongs on his already bemedalled chest, Shipmate Harvey Blackburn of Durham City branch has reason to thank a fellow veteran from Australia for making his set of campaign awards com-

plete.
During a reunion at Newcastle of the King George V Association, Harvey – who served in the battleship during World War II – was told that he was entitled to six awards from foreign governments.

foreign governments.

His Australian shipmate took his service details, but Harvey thought no more about it until he got the surprise of his life when the medals turned up in the

They included the Royal Yugoslav Cross and awards from the USA, Greece and Nationalist China.

A former gunner, Harvey took part in campaigns against the Germans and panese. He was wounded at Dunkirk and survived the destruction of the destroyer



HMS Berkeley at Dieppe. He was be able to wear his chestful of medals when his branch celebrated its 50th anniversary with a parade on June 17 through the streets of Durham.

The parade included other branches from No 11 area as well as a contingent of serving Royal Navy person-nel from the aircraft carrier HMS Invincible.

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- Commodore Julian Williams, Director of Naval Recruiting

FRESH ACTION TO FIND THE BEST — AND KEEP THEM

'The effort we make to look after our people is paying off.'

s the new Action Stations attraction - widely billed as a major draw for potential recruits -opened in Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, Director of Naval Recruiting Commodore Julian Williams told Jim Allaway the current drive had produced big dividends - but the way ahead was still strewn with problems.

"Certainly for officers we've got the highest intake for ten years. The Royal Marines have got 97 per cent of the General Duties recruits they wanted last year and in other categories we're well

into 90 per cent plus," he said.
"But that still leaves some gaps in the Fleet which are the Recruiter's job to fill, so we are going all out to do even better next year. It is the Second Sea Lord's number one priority to achieve full manning by then.

"It's not just a matter of the money on offer. We all know how well the economy is doing, how low the unemployment figures are, how many unfilled job vacancies there are and how many young people are tending to go on to further education at 16 or 17 rather than into jobs straightaway.

"Those three factors together, plus the high and ever-increasing cost of advertising, give me a particular challenge.

There was also the problem that potential recruits no longer looked

to stay with any single employer for a long period
"We are recruiting about 5,000 people a year – about ten per cent
of the Navy which needs to be replaced every year. Young people
today don't want to commit themselves to lifelong careers. I was told
the other day that something like ten per cent of all people starting a new job leave in the first week. And nearly a third quit in the first

So in that situation, to attract people who are willing to stay for

just a few years is fine - and to see so many stay for longer periods is even better.

In recent years there had been a marked concentration on targeting the minorities - and here it was the parents who needed convinc-

ing as much as their sons and daughters.

"We have to remember that in some cases they came to this country to escape societies in which the military did not have the high reputation they do here. So it is difficult sometimes to convince them that we offer a fair and respectable career, that we offer breadth of oppor-

tunity to meet the aspirations of their children.

"The Diversity Action Teams we have set up aim to convince parents and opinion formers – teachers and so on. If one man talks to ten teachers, then those ten teachers will maybe talk to a hundred kids and that's hopefully how we can help get the message across.

"On the plus side, I've heard it said by young people who come to us from different cultural backgrounds in the cities of the UK, that they feel happier in the Service and with their mates in the Service than sometimes they do out on the streets at home.

"They say they feel well bound into the Naval community, better than they do outside - and I think that shows that the effort we make to look after our people is paying off."

There was another, much more alarming barrier of ignorance to

overcome, though.

"It is now over 40 years since National Service finished and there aren't many adults left who are either still working or who are parents

of recruitable children who have direct experience of the Services.

"This is a problem for all the Services, but it is a particular problem for us in that in many minds Defence has come to mean Army. We are working hard to make it clear to the population at large that the Navy has a number of diverse capabilities on, above and under the water and that we are a Service on our own with very rewarding prospects.

n the age of the sound bite and the quick burst of news film on TV where a Marine is seen in a camouflage jacket ashore in Africa somewhere, you've got to be pretty quick to realise he is a Royal Marine Commando and not a soldier in the Army—the pace of news gathering and dissemination can actually work against us in this way.

"Also, a very large part of what the Fleet is actually involved in is over the horizon and far away from the UK. And of course unless you live along the south coast of England or in the west of Scotland, you

are unlikely to see anyone in Naval uniform."

There was also a shortage of recruiting stations.

"The situation is particularly poor in London, of all places. I've got a good team there, but the facilities they work in are poor. And they are pretty well off the beaten track, so they are out of sight and out of mind so far as young people are concerned.

"We certainly aim to improve our footprint in the capital over the next 18 months – it is an area which has a large proportion of young people in its population, especially from the minority communities. and we must do more to recruit from there."

There was also the prospect of using much more sophisticated recruiting techniques, making full use of the Internet.

"A 'virtual' recruiting office is not far away, I think. The Internet is particularly popular among young people and we are getting as many responses to our advertising by e-mail as we do by telephone -- and that proportion is increasing rapidly."

Leaving quantity aside, the quality of the young people the Navy was attraction was as good as ever.

is attracting was as good as ever.

We have not had to drop our academic standards to get the people we need. But so far as officers are concerned, there is a need to

"Over the years, we have increasingly recruited graduates. But take, for instance, the man who might aspire to be a Sea Harrier pilot. If we don't recruit him until he is 23, then he won't join the front line strength until he's 28. We might then get ten years useful flying from

"I want to find ways to attract him to join at 18, then perhaps have some assistance from us to take an Open University degree in the course of his service - but to join the strength at 23 and have a longer career with more varied career opportunities, with better prospects of getting ship command and getting as far as he - or she - can in the



 FELLOW FEELING: Some recruits from minorities say they feel more at home in the Naval community than they do outside it. Pictured- LREG Pat Mathlot



Miscellaneous



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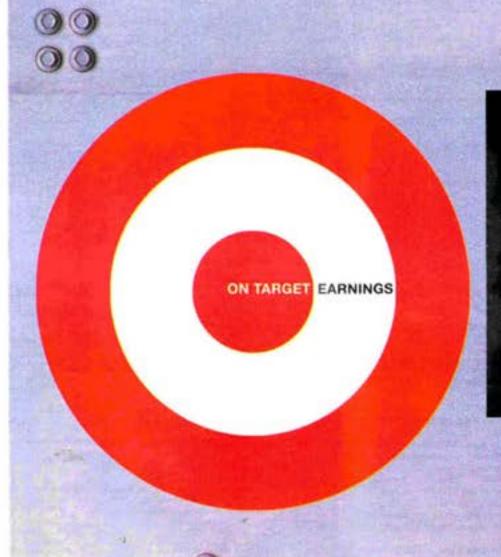
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CRETE: HMS Richmond in Souda Bay, seen from the Commonwealth War Graves Ceremony. The Type 23 frigate fired a 21-gun salute and provided a guard and colour party for the commemoration.

Richmond joins tribute to the fallen at Crete

played a key role in the final official commemoration of the Battle of Crete on its 60th anniversary.

As the ship entered Souda Bay he fired a 21-gun salute and her ship's company went on to provide a guard and a colour party for the service in the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery which overlooks the harbour.

The CO of HMS Richmond, Cdr Alistair Adams, read the Act of Remembrance at the ceremony before hosting a reception for 120 veterans from Crete, Britain, Australia and New Zealand who took part in the fierce fighting which led to the fall of the island in

Britain was represented by The Duke of Kent and Chief of Defence Staff, Admiral Sir Michael Boyce and other VIPs included the Prime Minister of New Zealand, the President of Greece and the Australian Minister for Veteran's Affairs.

During their stay in Crete, the sailors from HMS Richmond took part in six other commemorative events including a multi-national ceremony in Souda's village square where Forces chaplains joined by clergy from the Greek Orthodox church, local veterans and their families.



 REMEMBRANCE: Cdr Alistair Adams who read the act of remembrance in the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery.

Pictures: LW(PHOT) **Penny Taylor**

Richmond's WEO, Lt Cdr Steve Sugden, said: "All of this proved to be extremely demanding with day-time temperatures reaching 34

"However, our extensive preparation paid off and the whole occasion turned out to be a fitting tribute to those who lost their lives and those still alive, who were able to recount some amazing tales to those members of the ship's company who were lucky enough to

meet them. Many of us were touched by the emotion of the occasion which made this the best and most worthwhile visit of the deployment so far.'

The Richmond is a member of Standing Naval Mediterranean and when the commemoration at Crete was over, the Type 23 frigate set sail for an exercise with 50 vessels, including air craft carriers, submarines, putrol boats and amphibious ships.

Her next task was a passage to the Black Sea where the ship is due to take part in Naval exercises with the navies of several former Eastern-Block countries.



VETERANS: Chief of Defence Staff, Admiral Sir Michael Boyce, who heard many remarkable tales
of courage from veterans of the Battle of Crete in 1941.

bers from the White Ensign Association, one of the leading charities, toured HMS Dryad and its training facilities in June.

The guests, including former First Sea Lord Admiral Sir Jock Slater and Association President, Capt Sir Donald Gosling, were hugely impressed, particular-ly with the Amethyst Bridge Simulator and the Cook Ops Room trainers.

Lunch with with all ranks, students and staff in HMS Dryad's Sports Club was followed by a briefing from Sir Michael Bett, author of the Bett report on the Royal Navy, who gave details of the charity's work and asked for help in spreading the word.

NAVAL staff joined Army, Air Force and civilian person nel in a ceremony to mark the closure of the Tri-Service unit at RAF Thatcham.

PO Dez O'Connor was-joined by Sgt Roy Collins (Royal Signals) Sgt Mick Faulkner (RAF) storekeeper Chalky White and Constable Malcolm Bull (MOD Police) as the RAF ensign was lowered and Tucanos made a final flypast.

Kent calls at Chatham and Dover

HMS KENT enjoyed a warm welcome and a packed programme of events during visits to Chatham and Dover in

her namesake county.

The busy schedule began with VIPs, including the Leader of Kent County Council, arriving by boat transfer, and at Sheerness they were joined by eight-year-old George Glover who was invited on board to make up for the disappointment of being too young to join his local Sea Cadet unit. After his visit to the ship, which

ended with him sitting in the Captain's chair as it made its way into Chatham, George said: "It's been the best day of my life!"

As the ship came alongside, she was met by a team of cyclists led by WTR Simon Hargreaves who raised almost £1,800 for the House Children's Demelza Hospice in Sittingborne by pedalling all the way from Portsmouth.

The frigate's visit coincided with the busiest Navy Days that Chatham had ever seen and HMS Kent gave guided tours to 9,000 visitors during her stay with the help of her affiliated Sea Cadet and CCF units.

The local TV station broadcast live from the ship and the pro-gramme included a weekend veather forecast from Flt Obs Lt Matt Tazewell who acts as the ship's METOC.

The visit to Chatham also gave the Type 23 frigate the chance to welcome members of the RNA,



WHITE CLIFFS: HMS Kent passes the most famous Kent landmark.

sailors from the twelfth HMS Kent and men who fought in WWII on board the tenth Kent.

After sailing from Chatham, the Kent spent a night at sea and her arrival at Dover the next morning was announced live to a million listeners on four different radio stations.

Messes on board HMS Kent are named after Margate, Sandwich, Sevenoaks and Royal Tunbridge Wells, and the five-day visit to Description of the invited Dover allowed many of the junior rates to visit their 'home towns' where they started mini-associa-tions. Highlights of Kent's visit to Dover included a reception and magnificent sunset ceremony with the Corps of Drums from the Band

of the Royal Marines Portsmouth. Guests came from the County Council, the Association of Men of Kent and Kentish Men, Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry, the Shepherd Neame Brewery and the

local Gurkha regiment. Over 3,000 local people toured the ship and Dover celebrated the visit with a fireworks display at the Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club.

HMS Kent's CO, Cdr John Clink, said: "We received a fantas-tic welcome from everyone that we have met. My ship's company and 1

were made to feel like we belonged to the county wherever we went.

The strong ties that we have with the County have been further strengthened through all the activities we have undertaken over the past ten days and we have made many new friends."

After the visit the ship set sail for Scotland for Naval Gunfire Support drills at Cape Wrath and took part in deck landing drills with an Army Lynx Mk 7 on pas-sage. Her next assignment was a role in the Berisher' course and role in the 'Perisher' course and she is now engaged in the latest Joint Maritime Course off the West Coast of Scotland (see P42).

AN ENCOUNTER with the Trinidad and Tobago ship TTS Nelson brought a wave of nos-talgia to the Commanding Officer of HMS Sheffield, Cdr Simon Williams.

For the Nelson was none other than the former HMS Orkney of which Cdr Williams was Executive Officer in 1989,

During her guardship duties in the West Indies, Sheffield built up a strong liaison with the Nelson, taking nine of the vessel's ship's company to sea for a day in the Type 22 frigate, accompanied by the tanker RFA Gold Rover.

Sheffield played an inte-gral part in Caribbean Exercise Tradewinds which with local coastguards and Drug Enforcement Agency.

During the exercise the ship provided engineering support and conducted a wide range of training evolutions, including flood-control and firefighting drills in other

The ship's Lynx provided search and rescue cover and other assis-tance. The frigate has also been on anti-drug trafficking patrol in league with the US Coast Guard and the French, Dutch and Venezuelan navies.

(For a special report on HMS Sheffield see the August issue.)

Divers destroy deadly haul



 DELICATE OPERATION: CPO(D) Cliff Richardson (left) AB(D) Dave Eccles and LS(D) Doug Taylor attaching a 4lb pack of plastic explosives to a WWII American air-drop bomb on the deck of fishing vessel Nicola Anne.

NAVY DIVERS from Portsmouth were called to the rescue when three massive World War II bombs were discovered off Southern England in the space of two weeks.

Two German parachute mines and an air-dropped bomb weighing 2,000lbs each were trawled-up by fishing boats in a 20mile stretch of water from Clacton to Southend between the end of May and early June.

Explosives of this size - each one weighed more than the average car - are extremely rare so the diving team was amazed to identify so many in such a short time.

In the most spectacular opera-tion on June 9, thousands of holidaymakers at Southend crowded on to the beach and the pier as the divers made their way out to the fishing vessel Freya, half a mile from shore.

The Freya had a bomb caught in her nets and the crew had lowered it carefully back to the sea bed before marking it and calling in the Navy's explosive ordnance disposal experts

When the team from Southern Diving Unit 2 arrived, CPO Cliff Richardson, LS Doug Taylor, AB John Stewart and AB Dave Eccles launched their Gemini inflatable and went straight out to the trawler.

After almost 60 years on the sea floor the bomb was still shiny, and LS Taylor quickly identified it as a Type C German anti-shipping

by Dominic Blake

parachute mine made of highgrade Rhine metal.

An air and sea safety cordon was established around the bomb and on his next dive LD Taylor attached a 4lb pack of plastic explosives to the fuze.

When the mine detonated there was a huge cheer from the crowd as the explosion sent a plume of water more than 300ft into

Incredibly, both of the other 2,000lb bombs dealt with by the divers from Portsmouth were hauled up by the same vessel, MV Nicola Anne.

On May 30, the SDU2's PO Jessie Owen, and ABs Jimmy Bond, Frank Spencer and Doc Halliday were called out by the trawler which caught another 2,000lb German mine in its nets off Harwich.

The vessel brought the mine into shallower water at Bradwell near Clacton-on-Sea where it was destroyed with a controlled explosion at a depth of seven metres.

A few days later, on June 6, the Nicola Anne was in trouble again after it brought up a 2,000lb American air-drop bomb off

The bomb had a damaged fure and CPO Richardson and his team had a delicate task to hoist it clear of the deck before lowering it to the sea floor where it could be blown up safely.

CPO Richardson said: "With the help of the Thames Coastguard and the Police launch Sir John Nightingale, we created an air and sea safety cordon of

"With the damaged fuze, we had to be extremely careful. If we'd knocked it on the deck or side of the vessel it is possible that it could have exploded."



DANGER: CPO Richardson inspects a 2,000lb German Type C ground mine caught in the nets of the fishing vessel Nicola

Bradwell was used by almost 100 times in the last six American airmen during WWII months, dealing with a range of and the divers believe the bomb was dropped into the sea after an aborted mission.

CPO Richardson said: "It's been a long time since we have to had to deal with a 2,000lb bomb so to find two such massive bombs in one week - and another in the week before that - is very, very

"The fishermen have started to trawl for bottom-feeding fish such as plaice and Dover sole, and that could be why they have trawledup the ground mines."

The Southern Diving Unit based at HMS Excellent on Horsea Island has been called out

threats from bombs, mines, mortars and hand grenades to depth charges, high explosive shells and pyrotechnics. Last year they were eeded at 228 separate incidents.

"It's all part of a silent war that the Royal Navy's minehunters and clearance diving units have been waging to clear the coasts of Britain since World War II" said CPO Richardson.

"The Service has dealt with thousands of bombs and mines since then but a few have slipped through the net. Unfortunately, they didn't slip through the nets of these particular fishermen!"



LEADING FROM THE FRONT: Cdr David Hilton prepares for his 81-metre Hilton plunge at DERA Alverstoke.

Hilton hangs up fins and mask

is hanging up his wet suit and fins after a career spanning more than 37 years.

Superintendent of Diving, Cdr David Hilton, ensured his last dive was both memorable and meaningful by volunteering for an 81-metre plunge at the Deep Diving Trials Unit at Alverstoke.

The deep dive was part of a series of trials which will assist with the introduction of safer and more efficient Royal Navy decompression tables.

Cdr Hilton joined the Navy as a rating in 1964 and specialised as a Clearance Diver three years later.

After commission, he undertook a variety of diving and explosive ordnance dis-posal (EOD) appointments and one of his most satisfying challenges was command of minehunter Cottesmore in 1991.

In his final post of Superintendent of Diving, the pinnacle of the MCD Branch, he oversaw the introduction of new diving gear, EOD equipment and associated training, and helped to maintain the highest standards throughout the Fleet.

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THAT'S the name the Royal Marines have chosen for their rugged new combat vehicle – picked from the hundreds of entries in the competition in our April issue.

"We'd like to thank everyone for their ideas – the response has been brilliant," said Royal Marines spokesman Lt Col Kevin de Val.

In fact three entrants came up with "Viking" – and they will each have the chance to drive the All Terrain Vehicle (Protected) during a day out with the Royal Marines Trials Unit.

The lucky winners are Eric Willcock from Plymouth, C. G. Harrison from Edinburgh and John Speight from Peterborough.

Speight from Peterborough.

Mr Speight wrote: "The Vikings were the original amphibious raiders, fearsome light infantry units striking unexpectedly from the sea – and the word Viking is evocative of the martial and maritime skills which make the Royal Marines equally feared by their enemies."

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Drug busting with **Shiny** Sheff'

IN 1999 the Royal Navy helped seize drugs with a street value of over £1 bil-

HMS Sheffield is current-ly on Atlantic Patrol Tasking (North) in the West Indies – on counter Drug Operations in co-operation with the Governments of the United States. Venezuela, Holland and France.

In March this year she assisted the Dutch frigate Jan Van Brakel in catching a group of South American smugglers with 750 kilos of cocaine.

Trying to evade capture, they dumped the cocaine overboard, but the US Coast Guard retrieved the haul.

The smuglers then tried to escape in their "go-fast" boat – but were chased and caught by HMS Sheffield.

Next month Navy News will feature a special report by Lorraine Coulton direct from the "Shiny Sheff"and her drug busting team in action.

WARM WELCOME NORTH OF THE BORDER

Freedom at last for first timer Argyll

THE FREEDOM of Argyll and Bute has finally been bestowed upon HMS Argyll after the original ceremony was postponed following a fire in the frigate.

The event was scheduled for April, but an electrical switch-board fire while the ship was exercising in the Bay of Biscay forced a rethink. The fire was put out in 25 minutes by the

ship's damage control team.

The delay did nothing to dampen the hospitality shown at en the hospitality shown at Lochgilphead, the administrative centre of the region.

ceremony included a march-past featuring the Royal Marines Band, Scotland.

A reception was held for the ship's company at the Lochgilphead Sports Centre, attended by the new Convenor, Mr Billy Petrie, Flag Officer Scotland, Northern England and Northern



 DUKES TOGETHER: The Duke of Argyll is welcomed on board the Duke-class frigate HMS Argyll by her Commanding Officer, Cdr John Kingwell

Ireland, Rear Admiral Derek Anthony, and the Duke and

Duchess of Argdl.

The Type 23 frigate's short stay presented the opportunity for groups to tour the ship and there was a short cruise up Loch Fyne to Inverary with guests on board.

Communities Officer Cele John

Commanding Officer Cdr John Kingwell suid: "It is an enormous honour for HMS Argyll to be bestowed the Freedom of Argyll and Bute, particularly since this is the first time that the council has made such an award to a ship.

The ship's company has thoroughly enjoyed their visit, and thisis very much down to the warmth deploy to the West Indies.

of the hospitality and the consider-able efforts of the council, for which we are grateful."

At Inversey the ship's company visited the ancestral home of the

bake of Argyll and a Mess Dinner was held on board for the Duke and Duchess, reaffirming the links with the new Duke, who was undertaking his first official function after the unexpected death of his father in April his father in April.

Argyll is now continuing a programme of visits and exercises prior to operational sea training in the autumn. Next year will see her



CROWN PRINCE: Deputy Ruler of Sharjah His Highness Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammed bin Sultan Al Qasimi is welcomed on board

Crown Prince lunches in ancaster

THE CROWN Prince and Deputy Ruler of Sharjah was welcomed on board HMS Lancaster when the Type 23 frigate paid her first visit to the country of this year's Armilla Patrol in the Gulf.

After inspecting the Guard of Honour, His Highness toured the ship and had lunch on board before departing.

Lancaster was there to refuel, restock with food and enjoy some much-needed time ashore before her next intensive persons of operary.

her next intensive period of opera-

She is in the Gulf to support the United Nations sanctions against Iraq and the Oil for Food pro-gramme and has already visited most ports in the region and taken part in a number of exercises with

other friendly navies.

Her Commanding Officer, Cdr
Ben Key told Navy News: "We
are all looking forward to our visit
to Sharjah and the chance to develop our friendships in this part of the world.

"Sharjah provides an excellent operational tasking at sea as part of the coalition forces enforcing the sanctions against Saddam

One of three ships in the Fleet sporsored by the Queen – one of whose titles is Duke of Lancaster— HMS Lancaster underwent a long refit in 1999 and spent most of 2000 on trials and training. During an earlier visit to Duhai.

HMS Lineaster took the unusual step of allowing the Junior Ratings on board to bost a cocktail party so they could thank the local popula-tion for the generous hospitality they had received there on an ear-

Outcome of the CTP was that the Duty Watch consisted of offi-cers and Senior Rates. It is not every day that you find the MAA as the Bosun's Mate, the POCA as Duty Chef and the Supply Officer is Duty Leading Chef. all respects for a return to our CO standing by to be DCO in the



Crowds enjoy all the fun of the fairs

CROWDS flocked to the annual Faslane Fair in Helensburgh and were treated to an event which provided thrills on land, sea and in the air.

The fair is a chance for the Navy to show some of what they do at Faslane and Coulport and is a moneyspinner for charity.

Good weather brought up to 8,000 through the gates of the fairground, set up on the Helensburgh Pier car park, with dis-

plays from the MOD Police Dogs Display Team from RNAD Coulport, an air-sea rescue demonstration with an RNLI lifeboat and a Sea King from 819 Naval Air Squadron, and a demonstra-

tion of combat skills from the Royal Marines Combat Team. One of the highlights was a display by an RAF GR7 Harrier. Tours of the Clyde Naval Base were available, to view submarines from around the world gathered for the RN Submarine Service

 Meanwhile, at the other end of the country HMS Sultan's Summer Show was an equally popular draw - with Navy News own Captain Plank and his gang of pirates among the attractions (see left).





New Trajet is super smooth

ULTI-PURPOSE vehicles 'MPVs' come in many shapes and sizes with varying levels of sophistication and a broad range of prices generally reflecting the fact that they are much bigger than the average hatchback.

Yet one of the most recent additions to the competitive market, the seven-seater Hyundai Trajet designed at Hyundai's Frankfurt studio, is amazingly competitive on pricing despite an impressively high specification.

Prices start at £15,499 for the two-litre petrol injection GSi, with a two-litre turbo diesel costing £1,000 more and the flagship 2.7-litre V6 at £19,999 on the road.

All have air conditioning with pollen filter, dual front airbags, anti-lock brakes, remote central locking with alarm, electric windows and mirrors, stereo with CD player, swivelling front seats and five removable individual seats in the back, plus three power outlets - handy when on business or camping.

The model tested was the which has four-speed adaptive electronic transmission with cruise control and traction control, rain sensor for the wipers, front side airbags, an electric tilt and slide sunroof, alloy wheels and the luxury of leather uphoistery ry of lea throughout.

The cabin is uncluttered, with a column shift change and Mercedes-style parking brake, engaged with a left pedal and released with a dash-mounted pull lever, which makes for effortless

With 168bhp on tap, the V6 Trajet has a lusty but super smooth response, with the 0-60mph sprint in just over 11 seconds, and 120mph top speed.



 LUSTY: With 168bhp on tap, the Hyundai Trajet 2.7 V6 has a lusty but super smooth response, with the 0-60mph sprint in just over 11 seconds, and a potential 120mph top speed.

The penalty is that it is a lit-tle thirstier than the average hatchback, with a return of 31.7 miles per gallon on the extra urban cycle plummeting to 17mpg around town bringing the combined cycle to 24.1mpg.

The solution to this is to stay out of town traffic!

Although it is not intended as a sports machine, the Trajet's handling is firm without giving a harsh ride, and the good all-round visibility adds to the feeling of roominess which makes it such a pleasure to drive or ride in.

CAR FACTS

MODEL: Hyundai Trajet 2.7 V6. PRICE ON ROAD: £19,999.

ENGINE: 2,656cc 24-valve six-cylinder petrol

producing 168bhp.

TRANSMISSION: Four-speed adaptive automatic. PERFORMANCE: 0-62mph in 11.5secs; top speed 120mph.

ECONOMY: 24.1mpg (combined cycle).

INSURANCE: Group 12D.

WARRANTY: Three years unlimited mileage; six

years against rust-through.



Motoring



To advertise on our Motoring pages

Tel: 023 9272 5062 or 023 9272 4226

INTERIOR: The Trajet's cabin is uncluttered, with a column shift

change and Mercedes-style parking brake, engaged with a left pedal and released with a dash-mounted pull lever.

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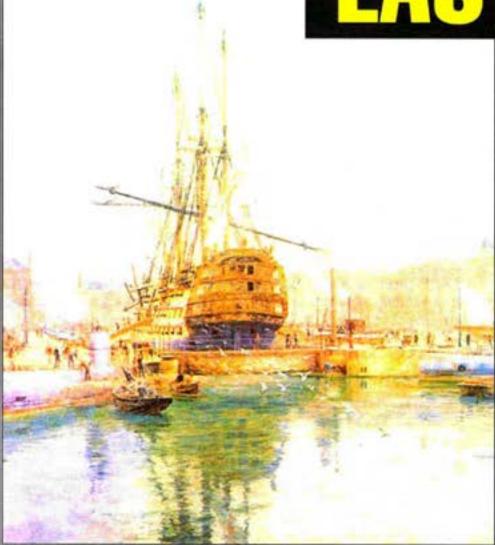
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RESTORATION: Crossing the Yardarm (1928) was painted to maintain public interest in HMS Victory. It is on permanent display at the Royal Naval Museum in Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, created in 1938 and now spread into the buildings on the right of the picture.

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N his day William Lionel Wyllie was Britain's foremost and best-loved marine artist and his work - particularly his etchings, of which he produced a great number - remains highly sought after.

His standing was such that on his death in 1931 the Daily Mirror devoted both its front and back pages to his funeral obsequies. King George V sent a message to his family: "His name will be handed down to posterity as a great Marine Artist."

Much of Wyllie's appeal, then and now, lies in his eye for detail and the meticulousness of his style. To research his masterpiese the

style. To research his masterpiece, the Panorama of Trafalgar - which took him nine months to complete the year before he died – the artist took passage to Cape Trafalgar so he could check on the colours of sea and sky. The Panarama can still be seen where it was

ainted. In 1929 an annexe was built at the back of two rigging sheds opposite HMS Victory in Portsmouth Dockyard – Wyllie was a key figure in the original plan to preserve and restore the ship and in founding the Society for Nautical Research - to house the huge 42ft X 12ft can-

He painted it as his own personal bequest to the nation and to help raise money for a new museum dedicated to HMS Victory. This was achieved in 1938 when the rigging sheds were demolished and the Victory Museum constructed on the front of the Pandrama annexe. This is now the Victory Gallery of the Royal Naval

In 1999 the Panorama was restored at a cost of over £100,000. This involved carefully rolling the painting around a drum and taking it to Bristol, where the International Fine Art Conservation Studios Ltd were judged to be the only firm with the facilities and experience to manage such a large project. A new steel frame was built in the annexe to support it on its return.

The newly restored Panorama can now be seen as the last section of The Trafalgar Experience, part of the award-winning exhibi-tion created under Phase I of the Museum's Development Plan.

And to mark the 150th anniversary of Wyllie's birth, on July 5 1851, the Museum has set up a programme of events (see opposite).

A small permanent exhibition in the Victory

Gallery reconstructs Wyllie's Tower House studio overlooking the mouth of Portsmouth Harbour, with his brushes and tubes of paint. It shows examples of the range of media Wyllie worked in, including oils, watercolours and etchings. It also has preparatory sketches for the Panorama and photographs of Wyllie at work on it, aided by his daughter Aileen.

Two major oil paintings, Crossing the Yardarm and The Meleon Touch are also on permanent.

and The Nelson Touch, are also on permanent exhibition in the Museum. Both depict the restoration of HMS Victory and were painted by Wyllie to keep the project in the public eye.

W.L.', as he came to be known, was born in London. He was the son of a painter, whose skill he inherited, and showed his first painting at the Royal Academy when he was only 17.

Shortly afterr his marriage in 1879 he moved with his wife Marion to Rochester in Kent and painted industrial shipping on the Thames and Medway. In 1906 he moved again to Portsmouth. He bought Tower House, a water-front property in Old Portsmouth which was to be his home and studio for the last 25 years of his life.

ere he bgan to paint the Royal Navy at a watershed in its history; the launch of HMS Dreadnought in 1906 marked the beginning of a new era in warship design and Wyllie recorded this, and the advent of submarines and aircraft, in his work.

Wyllie was a highly respected member of the community in Portsmouth, a keen sailor and founder of the Portsmouth Sea Scouts. He was awarded full Naval honours at his funeral, which the local Portsmouth newspaper described as the finest in the city's annals.

With echoes of Nelson's funeral procession along the Thames 125 years before, his body was rowed from Old Portsmouth by the Sea Scouts in the cutter of HMS Nelson, flagship of the Atlantic Fleet, to the Priory Church of St Mary at Porchester Castle at the head of Portsmouth Harbour, while crowds lined every vantage point.

His memorial displays scenes from the Panorama.

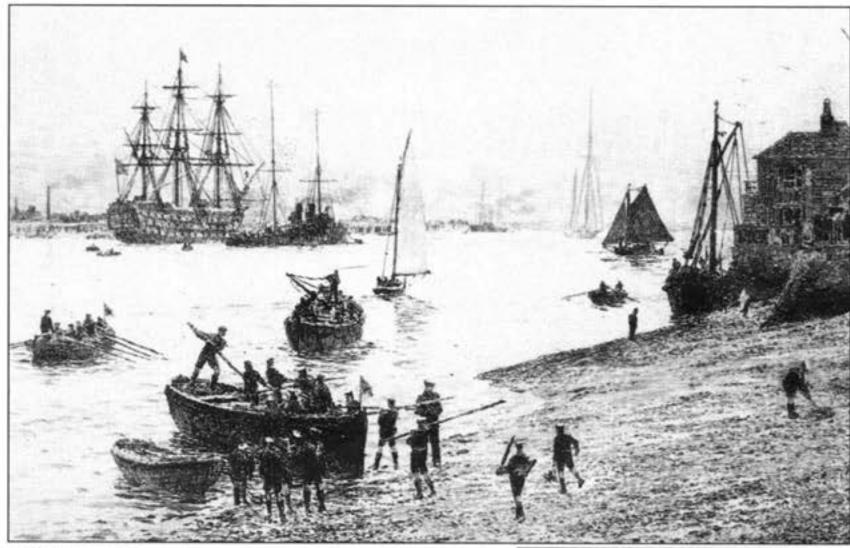


 MASTERWORK: Wyllie, assisted by his daughter Aileen, at work on his Panorama of Trafaigar. shown in its entirety below. In the year before he died at 79, it took him nine months to complete the huge 42ft X 12ft canvas, now fully restored and still on display where he painted it in Portsmouth Historic Dockyard.

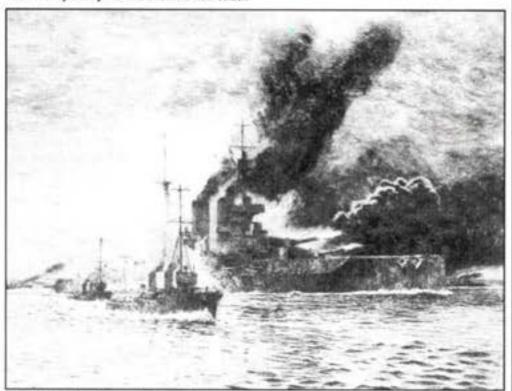


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WYLLIE'S EYE FOR DETAIL



• HARBOUR VIEW: Sea Scouts on the Beach by Tower House (1916). This was Wyllie's home at the entrance to Portsmouth Harbour for 25 years. One of his best-known etchings, it was produced to raise money to buy the Sea Scouts a new cutter.



FULL SALVO: Trial proof of an etching of an Iron Duke-class battleship, c 1913



Oils and etchings by W. L. Wyllie belonging to the RN Museum at Portsmouth in a special display from July 5. Children's painting competition from July 5-8. More painting activities in the

Wyllie show

dates

- 'Is it a Wyllie?' On Sunday, July 15 the public are invited to bring in their own pictures to be identified by Wyllie expert Richard Martin.
- Wyllie Day, Saturday November
 Lectures and talks.

The Royal Naval Museum can be contacted on 023 92 727582.

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Race to save engine with **Naval links**

port in the fight to save a railway locomotive with a strong Naval

Diesel loco 50029 Renown was built in 1967 - the same year as her namesake, the Polaris submarine, was launched - and was one of a class of technologically-advanced British Rail engines.

Operating out of a Plymouth depot, the locomotives were given names of famous warships, such as Repulse and Dreadnought.

As the engines were deemed surplus to requirements by BR, enthusiasts stepped in to save some of their number - and one innovative scheme. Operation Collingwood, looked further into

the future than just preservation.
Set up by Robert Hurst in the early 1990s, and taking its name from Admiral Collingwood, who planted acous in symbolic gestures to the future of the Navy, the plan was to take six Class 50s and allow apprentices to work on

Thus engineering exper-tise would be developed and honed, with experienced staff passing on their skills to younger workers, while the 117-tonne engines, built to operate at over 100mph, would earn funds by hauling freight on the railways again. the railways again.

However, the owners of Renown, currently at Blaenavon, have put her up for disposal by closed tender, with a deadline of the end of this month - and Mr Hurst wants to hear from anyone who can lend their support and endorsement to prevent Renown being stripped for spares and cut

Repulse and Dreadnought are also up for disposal, and Mr Hurst likened them to "three 117-tonne Meccano sets

Anyone with any connections to these ships, or who would like to get involved in preserving any of these engines, should contact Mr Hurst at 32, Burchetts Close, Haywards Heath, Sussex RH16 4RL, email oxrom@lineouc.com, or telephone/fax 01444 458329.

Hip, Hind and **Helix for RFA**

ROYAL Fleet Auxiliary ships rou-tinely operate UK helicopters from their flight decks – but have been handling a more exotic flock of muchines in recent weeks.

RFA Sir Tristram, in Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone, welcomed a Hip belicopter of local company Diamond Airways, pilot-ed by a Ukrainian, and the following day a Sierra Leone Government Hind gunship,flown by a South African, also dropped

Meanwhile in the cooler waters of the Baltic, RFA Fort Victoria, participating in Exercise Baltops 2001, hosted a variety of aircraft, including a third Russian model, a Helix of the Russian navy.

Astute agreement

BAE SYSTEMS and Clyde Naval Base have signed a partnership agreement for the provision of support services for the new Astute-class submarines.

The agreement is part of a created by a joint team - including personnel from the Defence Procurement Agency - which will smooth the way for the arrival and support of the 7,200-ton boats

Thorney show time

A MILITARY show of interest to all three Services is being staged at Thorney Island on the Hampshire-Sussex border on July 14-15.

The event, organised by 47 Rgt RA, is open to the public and includes military vehicle displays, funfair and car boot sale. Entry is £2 for adults, £1 for under tens, and the show is signposted from the A259 east of Emsworth.

Americans honour frigate

AMERICAN war veterans have paid official tribute to the Royal Navy frigate which came to their rescue in the Mediterranean almost 60 years ago.

Members of the 2nd Battalion of the 39th Infantry Regiment were 150 miles out to sea in their transport ship, the USS Thomas Stone, when it was struck by a torpedo early on November 7, 1942. As the rest of their convoy continued

towards Algiers, most of the American soldiers transferred to their landing craft, watched over by the frigate HMS

Spey despite the threat of further sub-marine attacks.

But the choppy sea proved too much for the little craft, and one by one their crews transferred to the RN warship, commanded by Cdr H.G. Boys-Smith and the troops were delivered to Algiers on schedule the following day without the loss of any personnel.

Veterans of the Ninth Infantry Division passed a resolution at their most recent convention, expressing their thanks to the men of the Spey.

Meanwhile two more RN vessels, HM ships Wishart and Velox, arrived on the night of November 7 to attempt to take the Thomas Stone in tow - the American ship's rudder and propeller had been badly damaged and the propeller shaft broken, while a hole had also been blown in the hull.

With the assistance of the rescue tug HMS St Day, the crippled troopship was nursed into Algiers on November 11, and her remaining troops and equipment were safely brought ashore.

Nottingham fetes its

warship

FRIENDSHIPS were renewed and new ones forged when the ship's company of HMS Nottingham made their first affiliation to the Midlands city for three years.

The destroyer's Lynx made the first moves of the visit, dropping in on Woodlands School in Nottingham and Stamford School, Lincoln, as the ship made her way from Portsmouth to Hull.

Youngsters from the two schools were welcomed on board the ship for a guided tour the following day, and around 700 people from Nottingham made the two-hour trip to the East Coast for Ship Open to Visitors. The highlight of the affiliation visit came when sailors

exercised their privilege as Honorary Freemen of the City by marching from the Castle to the Old Market Square, where they were inspected by the Lord Mayor, Cllr Roy

Other tasks saw sailors getting involved in a painting pro ject at an adventure playground, while Lt Cdr Rob Knill organised a visit to the children's ward at Nottingham City

Lt Cdr Knill said: "Seeing these youngsters on dialysis machines was very humbling. We are going to keep in touch with the children and keep them informed of our progress

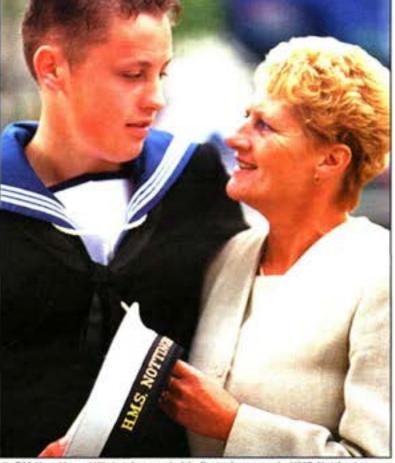
LCHs Bob Brown and Nick Hunter dazzled catering students at New College, Nottingham, with a display of their culinary skills during a cookery demonstration. And the visit was particularly special for 17-year-old OM Kurt Vann, who was raised in nearby Mansfield, and was

wisiting his home territory and taking part in the parade just two weeks after joining the warship.

The Commanding Officer of HMS Nottingham, Cdr Richard Farrington, said: "The affiliation between the city and the ship is legendary in Nasy circles.

"The people of Nottingham visited the ship in large numbers, even though it was two hours away. They have been very enthysissic, and from every contention."

very enthusiastic, and from every generation.



 OM Kurt Vann (17), having made his first trip to sea in HMS Nottingham on her passage to Hull, meets up with his mother, Mrs Jane Roberts, of Mansfield, at the parade in Nottingham.

US carrier involved in RN exercise off Scotland

ONE OF the largest warships in the world has paid a visit to Portsmouth, and as Navy News went to press was involved in major exercises off the coast of Scotland.

93,000-ton The Enterprise was the first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier in the world at the time of her commissioning in November 1961 - she was also the first nuclear-powered ship to engage in combat, in the Vietnam War – and although nearly 40 years old she is still providing sterling service to the US Navy.

Big E, as the ship is known, has eight reactors, which can drive the behemoth at well over 30 knots.

Her 4.5 acre flight-deck, with steam catapults and arrester wires, forms a mobile airfield for Carrier Air Wing Eight, a potent force which includes F-14 Tomcat and F/A-18 Hornet fighters, E-2C Hawkeye airborne radar aircraft, S-3B Viking sea control planes, EA-



USS Enterprise arrives off Stokes Bay for her visit to Portsmouth. Picture Geoff Parasile (OLO Protography)

6B Prowlers, jamming enemy communications and radar, and C-2 Greyhound transfer aircraft, as well as SH-60F Seahawk ASW helicopters.

Enterprise can carry and

operate up to 70 aircraft. She dropped anchor in the Solent off Stokes Bay for a fiveday visit to Portsmouth, having

sailed from the Mediterranean on her way north to Scotland for a Joint Maritime Course, which was being run from the Maritime Operations Centre at Faslane as Navy News went to

The JMC is one of the largest in recent years, with RN carrier HMS Illustrious leading the home contingent.

More than 50 naval vessels and 100 aircraft, from NATO and 'Partners for Peace' countries, will take part, involving 14,000 Servicemen and women from 12 nations.

The RN element involves at least ten surface ships and a submarine.

Fireschool is officially opened

THE ROYAL Navy's new firefighting training unit at HMS Excellent has been officially opened by the First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Nigel Essenhigh.

The unit, at the Nuclear, iological and Chemical Defence (NBCD) School, has replaced the outdated, smoky metal boxes at Horsea Island with new, state-ofthe-art computer-controlled units which can be brought up to heat within minutes and shut down completely within seconds. Conditions are much more real-

istic than the old facilities, and the blocks of wood and billowing oily smoke have been replaced by environmentally-friendly propane gas burners which are vented through catalytic exidisers, which clean exhaust gases and recycle the heat.

The school is a partnership between the Navy, whose staff put students through the courses, and Flagship Training, which is the

training provider, Guests at the ceremony were given a tour of one of the eight hot training units' and a display in the 50-seat demonstration area

Similar facilities, on a smaller scale, have been built at HMS Raleigh in Cornwall, and the Strathelyde Fire Brigade training centre in Scotland, which is used

Plaque is unveiled

OVER 1,500 men who died when the German battlecruisers Scharnhorst and Gneisenau sunk the carrier HMS Glorious and her escorts are now commemorated by a plaque dedicated at St Nicholas Church, HMS Drake, on June 10.

Few British sailors survived the attack on the carrier and the destroyers Acasta and Ardent an they were returning to the UK at the end of the Norwegian cam-paign on June 8, 1940.

The service, conducted by Naval chaplain the Rev Rodney Baxendale, was attended by 250 members of the HMS Glorious, Acasta and Ardent Association, Also present was Devenport Naval Commander, Commodore Ric Cheadle.

The day before the dedication, act of remembrance and an act of remembrance and wreath-laying was held at the war memorial on Plymouth Hoe, the Navy being represented by Flag Officer Sea Training, Rear Admiral Sandy Backus. As some of the personnel in Glorious came from Malta, both services were attended by the High

services were attended by the High Commissioner of Malta, Dr George Bonello du Puis.

Auxiliaries on stamps

the Falklands War are included in a set of four postage stamps dedi-cated to vessels of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary, The four stamps issued by the

authorities of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands picture RFAs Tidespring, Sir Percivale, Diligence and Gold

Fleet tanker Tidespring, which has now gone out of service, played a major role in the recapture of South Georgia from the Argentinians in 1982, and then returned to Ascension island with 185 Argentinian POWs.

Forward support ship Diligence earlier this year returned to Portsmouth after supporting the Army withdrawal from South Georgia. The landing ship Sir Percivale led the UK amphibious assault force into San Carlos and was the first ship into Port Stanley

after the Argentinian surrender.
The fourth ship, RFA Gold Rover, depicted at anchor off the site of Shackleton's grave, is often deployed as South Atlantic support tanker and has visited South Georgia many times.

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Drafty: The Royal Marines



Take command of your career

AREER Management is a co-ordinated approach to individual training and deployment. Although it is just one part of overall personnel management, the consequences of ignoring it are all too evident when examining premature voluntary release statistics!

Royal Marines Career Management involves a free flow of information between an individual and his deployer/promoter which affords the man a realistic and informed choice and the deployer a clear idea of his preferences and aspirations.

It is centrally controlled and applied Corps-wide via a co-ordinated strategy that gives direction and fully integrates the Chain of Command in the long term management of the man.

It is designed to meet the needs of the Service whilst incorporating the professional development, aspirations and preferences of the individual.

The focal point for Royal Marines Career Management is the Career Management Warrant Officer (CMWO) – WOI Tim Salmon.

He is a Naval Manning Agency (Whale Island) Royal Marines Warrant Officer responsible to the Corps Drafting Officer (CDO) for career management matters concerning all Royal Marines other ranks (RMORs).

The primary purpose of CMWO is to assist the chain of command in the production of a cohesive personnel management plan including career management advice briefings to all RM units, establishments and individuals.

CMWO's primary task is evident. Additionally, every individual who submits his 12 months notice, as of right, receives a personal letter from him approximately six months prior to TX giving options and explaining the system for withdrawal if desired or indeed the opportunities for extensions of active service if, for example, employment has not been secured.

Similarly, every individual who withdraws his notice will receive a letter and an ad hoc 'Withdrawal of Notice Survey'.

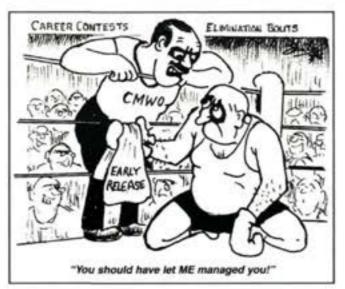
CMWO is also under remit to provide draft career forecasts for CDO. Career forecasts are detailed responses to lawyers' enquiries regarding career and promotion prospects of those taking legal action against the MOD and provide a written witness statement used in arbitration.

CMWO is available primarily for advice for Marines in the early part of their careers. However, all RMORs are advised that he is an impartial and unbiased source of advice beyond their own specialisation advisors, drafting desks and chain of command.

By providing such advice, which is also available via a careers helpline, an individual is better able to make an informed decision regarding his options which more accurately reflect his personal and professional aspira-

By continued fulfilment of expectation, a more efficient and progressive career path is established that is not only transparent, but achievable and retention positive.

Each enquirer is given the option of receiving a written



summary of that conversation although most decline at the

The aim is to ensure that this service is used by the more senior ranks to best effect in the near future.

It has been agreed in principle that a second Career Manager should be established, based at the Commando Training Centre at Lympstone.

This position would be designated Career Management Warrant Officer (2) and be scaled as a RM Warrant Officer Second Class.

He will be expected to carry out the CTCRM-based command course briefings, act as the general duties (GD) specialisation advisor and as a RM drafting and career management liaison officer (DCMLO) for the South West.

This will free the CMWO to

attend to his primary duties of informing and assisting the entire RMC on a regular basis.

He will also have access to the planned NMMIS terminal at CTCRM for use by specialisation advisors and visiting NMA(WI) staff and will thus be able to discharge his DCMLO and GD specialisation duties in a timely and efficient manner.

As a result, CMWO will then be available to visit all RM Units/Establishments twice per term.

Additionally, he will co-ordinate the ongoing training programme for Specialist Advisors, including participation in combined roadshows, form part of the NMA(WI) presentation team and, where appropriate, represent the RM on the Second Sea Lord's Personnel Liaison Team.

He will also be available for timely advice regarding manpower restructuring and deploy-

Situations vacant

CPOAEA(M) For Falg Officer Sea Training (Sea). This is a sea-going billet with FOST Staff (Sea Rider) based at Devonport Naval Base. Required from April 2002 for 27 months.

LAEM(M) A sea-going billet based at Wattisham, Ipswich. The job holder will be on exchange with the Army – attached to 73 Company, 7 Air Assault Battery. Required from May 2002 for 27 months.

ment in accordance with Fleet First, Commodore Naval Drafting's DCMLO waterfront initiative and TOPMAST directives.

The role of RM CMWO is proving successful, and will be even more so with establishment of CMWO(2). It is intended to both focus and progress this vital initiative so important to individuals and the system alike to ensure continued harmony and best practice.

It does not, however, remove the necessity for the individual to think for and help himself. Ultimately it is your career and your responsibility. Only by your own performance will you succeed!

WO1 Tim Salmon is available via the Careers Helpline from Monday to Thursday (0830 to 1630) and on Friday (0830 to 1500) Telephone 02392 547534 or Military number 93832 7534.



Sea Cadets





CONTACT AT TOP LEVEL

Brig A. E. Hutchinson receives a General Salute from TS Otter's Guard of Honour as he arrives at the Tewkesbury Unit to open the new communications training facility.



POWER SURGE FOR

NE OF the best communications training facilities in the Corps has been opened at T.S. Otter by Brig A.

E. Hutchinson.

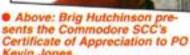
After many years in the doldrums, the
Tewkesbury unit is finally powering ahead –
thanks largely to PO Kevin Jones, who has
built the new comms suite almost singlehandedly, says the CO, Lt Ron Matthews.

Using equipment donated by GCHQ at Cheltenham and gifts of transmitters from RACAL and aerials from Vosper-ManTech, the facility provides training in all aspects of the communications specialisation, including computer-aided Morse and flag signalling and voice training using an internal system.

"PÓ Jones has also kindly supplied six hand-held VHF short range radios at his own expense – which not only help in training but are very useful at Unit and District events, particularly on the water," Lt Matthews told Navy News.

The Comcen was opened at a special parade night attended by Cadets and Staff from a number of units in Severn District, at which Brig Hutchinson expressed his delight at a display tracing the history of communications from the Stone Age to the present day.

He later presented a Certificate of Appreciation to PO Jones from the Commodore of the Sea Cadet Corps, Cdre Roger Parker.



 Right: The Brigadier is met at TS Otter by the Unit's CO, Lt Ron Matthews.

Below: PO Cadet Jones makes contact. The range of equipment has allowed contact with ships at sea and the near continent of Europe. Inset: Part of the computer-aided training section assisting in flag and Morse signalling and radio procedure.











They're skippers in theory, says the **RYA test**

DAY Skipper Theory Awards have been presented to four Weymouth Cadets - some of the youngest to pass the course run by the Royal Yachting Association.

Chris Stevens, Keith Thompson, Alex Darby and Chris Paul (pictured here) spent a week under intensive training, during which they were tested in boat navigation skills, including measurement of sea depth, tides, wind speeds and navigating coastal waters.

Weymouth Unit is also celebrating after being awarded an efficiency pennant by the

Picture: Dorset Echo



Two come back in style – as student sailors

TWO former Kirkudbright cadets returned to the Dumfries and Galloway town for the opening of a new £100,000 marina extension- as crew of a Royal Navy ship.

Roddie Sword for Bill

THE RODDIE Casement Sword, awarded annually to the Unit Commanding Officer who has con-tributed most to the aims of the Corps, this year goes to Swansea's Lt Bill Davies.

Given by the family of the late Capt Roddie Casement, Captain of the SCC 1959-67, the sword was presented by the Commodore SCC Cdre Roger Parker who said numbers had increased significantly during the three years Lt Davies had been in command. He had started a Junior Section and formed a parents and supporters association - and despite having three changes of chairmen successfully negotiated leasing the unit to HMS Cambria's satellite New Entry Training Division.

Honorary Midshipmen Susan Sellars and Stuart Midshipmen Armstrong are now both members of the Glasgow and Strathelyde Universities Royal Navy Unit.

They helped plan the event, highlight of which was the visit by the URNU's own Archerclass patrol craft HMS Smiter.

Commanding

Officer, Lt Charles Maynard was piped ashore by TS John Paul Jones cadets and later presented them with a regional from Dumfries and Galloway Council to mark the occasion

In return he was given a special message in a bottle for HMS Smiter to launch once

Turbulent team surfaces in Warrington

FOUR of the nuclear-powered submarine HMS Turbulent's ship's company delighted Warrington Unit with a visit, giving the Cadets fascinating accounts of life beneath the waves.

Lt Simon Bembridge opened with a slide show featuring the boat at

ome of her many ports of call.

Chef Mark Hamilton detailed the buge amounts of food and drink carried on a long patrol while PO Phil Gavin and LOM Mike Nicholl spoke of the great comradeship – and forebearance – experienced by men forced to live together in confined spaces for months at a time.

Later a party from TS Obdurate was able to tour the submarine at Plymouth where they also enjoyed visiting the "vertical swimming pool" – a customised tank used for survival training.



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/Y NEWS, JULY 2001

Options

(Above) HMS Campbeltown floodlit during her visit to Riga, capital of the Battic state of Latvia.

- (Right) An orphan in Riga cuddles a soft toy she received in the 'Boxes for Baltops' scheme.
- (Below) HMS Campbeitown arrives in Riga with HM ships Bangor and Grimsby for the start of British Week.
- (Bottom of page) Members of the ship's company of HMS Campbeltown and Russian sallors gather on the gangway of the cruiser Nastolchivy in Baltiysk. The Sovremenny-class ship acted as host for the British frigate's brief visit.
- (Bottom right) OM(UW) Chris Emmott stands in Palace Square, in front of the Winter Palace in St Petersburg. The poster on the palace facade heralds the city's 300th anniversary in 2003.

HMS Campbeltown flies

A warm

EVONPORT frigate HMS Campbeltown has been flying the flag and making friends in Russia and the Baltic.

The Type 22 frigate sailed at the beginning of May for a deployment based on Baltops 2001, a Partnerships for Peace (PFP) exercise featuring 41 ships and submarines from a number of nations, helping bridge the gap between former

Warsaw Pact countries and NATO members.

The first leg of her journey took her from Devon to Scotland, carrying relatives of the ship's company to Aberdeen. The frigate staged the

The frigate staged the first of numerous Ship Open to Visitors in the Scottish port, drawing more than 3,000 people.

Campbeltown then headed across the North Sea and into the Baltic, where her first port of call was the old Finnish capital, Turku, reached by a transit through a scenic archipelago.

The Campbeltown

football team was challenged by a teenage girls' team, and the plucky sailors won a hard-fought match 10-1, with no quarter given by either side. Many of the crew took

Many of the crew took the chance to try out a genuine Finnish sauna, and the Finnish navy laid on a number of receptions for Campbeltown, including a tour of local historic fortifications and a fish barbecue – the journey being taken at more than 30 knots in a command motorboat.

THE THEFT WAS



The British warship then sailed for an exercise with the Finnish navy before making her way to the

Latvian capital, Rigs.

Campbeltown had two pipers embarked who played on the bridge roof for the entry to Riga, while the Latvian navy band played a welcome on the jetty.

The frigate was berthed next to Sandown-class minehanters HM ships Grimsby and Bangor, forming the centrepiece of British Week, which promoted British interests in the Baltic state.

The minehunters had spent several weeks clearing unexploded weapons, including mines, from the approaches to the port.

approaches to the port.
While alongside, Campbeltown hosted a presentation by Admiral Sir Jock Slater, a former First Sea Lord, on the British influences in the Baltic.

Despite heavy rain over the two days the three ships were open to visitors, more than 3,000 locals were welcomed on board.

Members of the ship's company were invited ashore to see a performance of the opera La Boheme, and a fashion show was held on the flight deck for local firms who export to the UK, with models showing party and eveningwear.

showing purty and eveningwear.

A team of volunteers from the frigate visited a primary school and over a two-day period constructed a children's adventure playeround.

over a two-day period constructed a children's adventure playground.

Lt Nigel Lee, the ship's Principal Warfare Officer (Air), also organised a visit to an orphanage to donate gifts collected by the ship's company prior to sailing through their 'Boxes for Baltops' scheme, in which clothes, toys and games were given by family members, by Woolworths and Mackays.

he team visited two further orphanages during the warship's next stop, a high-profile visit to St Petersburg in Russia.

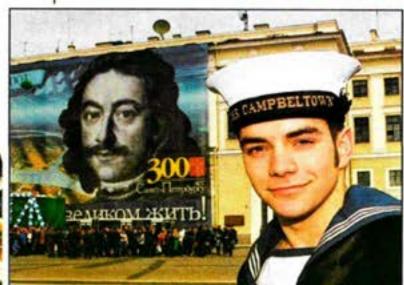
With the two pipers again playing on board, the ship made a ceremonial entrance to the former Leningrad, and as she came alongside Lt Schmidt Jetty she was accompanied by the band of the Russian navy.

The ship's Commanding

The ship's Commanding Officer, Capt Alistair Halliday, and 40 of the ship's company laid a wreath at the Piskaryovskoye Memorial Cemetery, which contains the graves of almost half a million people who were killed during the 900-day siege of Leningrad by the Nazis in the Second World War.

Pictures by LA(PHOT) ANGIE PEARCE.





the flag on visits to Russia and Latvia

welcome in the opportunity to accompany the band on stage with his accordion. Full tours of Campbeltown's host ship, the Sovremenny-class cruiser Nastoichivy, were organ-ised, with the British offering the **Baltic**

There were also opportunities to see some of the cultural and historical attractions the city has to offer, including the performing arts, and the cruiser Aurora, whose guns signalled the start of the 1917 October Revolution.

A graduation ceremony was held on the flight deck, with the British Ambassador presenting English language certificates to

Russian ex-military personnel. More than 6,000 Russians turned up over the two days the ship was opened to visitors, with some having to be turned away.

Also in town was the Royal Marines Band from Plymouth, who played for guests at an official reception and performed at the

city's Concert Hall.
The band also took part in a large military parade to celebrate the city's 298th birthday, watched by thousands along the Nevsky Prospekt and in Palace Square. ship linked up to the British Embassy in Moscow, which in turn had a live video link with the Russian Kilo-class submarine Vologda, alongside in Faslane at the Royal Navy Submarine

next destination was Baltiysk, the military port of Kaliningrad, and home to the Russian Baltic Fleet.

Centenary celebrations.

Although just 24 hours long, the visit saw a large number of Russian officers, including senior Russian

admirals, touring the frigate. Captain of the Sixth Frigate Squadron, Capt Charles Johnstone-Burt, joined the ship for the visit -the Russian D12 Squadron is affil-iated to the RN squadron.

The ship's company was invited to a performance by the Baltic Fleet Music and Dance Ensemble, during which Capt Halliday took

same facility. Gdynia, in Poland, was the next destination, to prepare for Baltops 2001, featuring vessels and aircraft from the USA, Russia, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Lithuania, France, Poland, Latvia, Estonia and Finland.

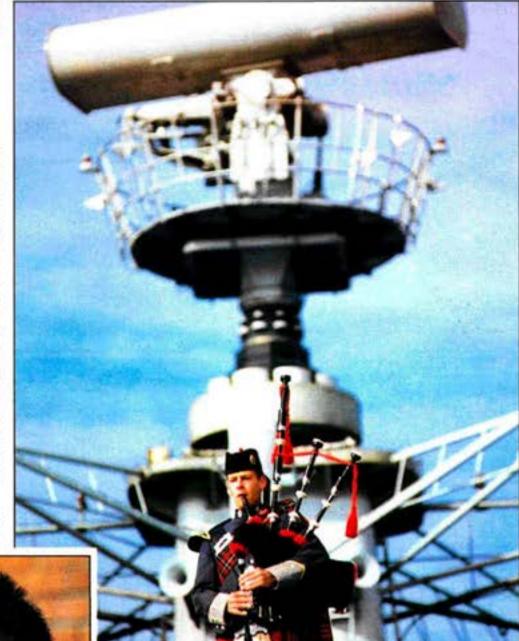
The annual exercise tests personnel in scenarios from anti-submarine warfare to disaster relief.

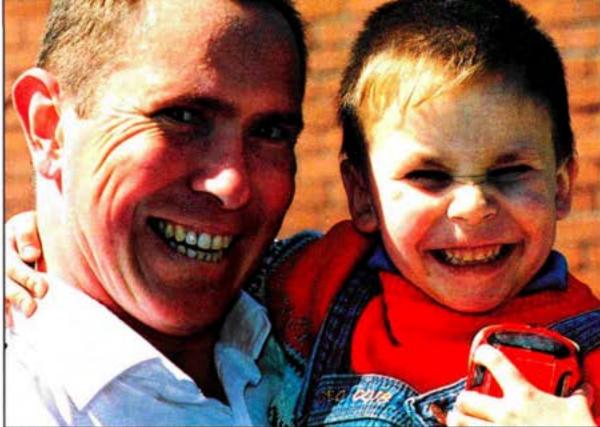
Campbeltown is scheduled to have a Swedish boarding team on board, along with a 120th Alsatian

dog trained to sniff out explosives.
The British frigate is also expected to host a German Sea King helicopter and its crew, a Polish and an American officer.

On completion of Baltops 2001, as Navy News went to press, Campbeltown was due to berth in Kiel, Germany, for the Kiele Woche maritime festival, before returning to Gdynia for her final port visit, then transitting the Kiel Canal on her way home.

(Right) Piper Cpl Chris Jones (RAF) stands on the bridge roof to accompany the ship's entry to St Petersburg.





Lt Nigel Lee with an orphan in Riga. Lt Lee organised the visit to donate some of the gifts collected by the ship for the Boxes for Baltops scheme.



(Above) Members of the ship's company of HMS Campbellow build a children's play area in a park in the Latvian capital Riga.

(Left) OM(UW) Chris Emmott meets members of a band taking part in the military parade in St Petersburg.

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Chance to play on hallowed courts

WIMBLEDON was gearing up for the All-England championships as Navy News went to press - but Navy players could get the chance to play on its hallowed turf later this

The RN Open Championships at the Tennis Centre in Portsmouth on July 14-17 will be used to select the Navy team for the annual inter-Services competition, played at Wimbledon.

To take your chance, contact Clive Lambshead for an entry form for the RN competition on 9380 24193.

The inter-Command championships brought together some new faces as well as the stalwarts.

Home advantage proved fruitful to both men's and women's squads from Portsmouth Command, winning both their

competitions on the grass courts. Jeannie Bone, Jo Cooke, Dawn Brown and Charlotte Bull were the victorious ladies, with David Marsh, Chris Slinger, Mike Wojick and Sean Winkle representing the

High-quality tennis was played on excellent courts, although the turnout was disappointing - play-ers are encouraged to talk to their Area Recreation Officer about future fixtures.

The next event, the RN championships, has singles, doubles, mixed doubles and veterans com-

Sports day runs like clockwork

THE SPORTS day at Rhu Primary School in Scotland ran with mili tary precision this year - thanks to physical training staff from HMS Neptune.

The Faslane PT team were there at the invitation of the deputy head teacher, Anne Milne, and as many of the children are from Navy or civilian staff at Clyde Naval Base, they were happy to

help.
Anne Milne said: "With parents helping out as well, the sports day feeling of community

Tourists prove tough

A VISIT by HMS Westminster to Wilhelmshaven in Germany gave the frigate's rugby team a chance to take a short tour to Amsterdam, where they entered the Dutch Services Rugby 10s competition -the Warrior Cup - played at the National Stadium.

Despite being underdogs, the men from Westminster managed to get fourth place out of 11 teams, competing against sides from the Dutch police, Paras, Commandos, Marines, Air Force and Arms

The overall winners were the Commandos - and Westminster was the only team they failed to beat, scraping a last-minute 7-7 draw against the British sailors.

Final victory

A SENIOR rate who works for Commodore Naval Aviation has couched his local hockey side to the English Hockey Men's Vase

WO Tam McHale saw his team Weymouth beat Tring 3-0 in a live-

ly game at Milton Keynes. Tam also umpires Hampshire and the Combined



Competitors at the Spring Surf Classic at Sennen Cove.

Not so swell for surfers

DISAPPOINTING sea conditions meant that the annual Spring Classic surfing competition – the RN and RM surf championships – at Sennen Cove was reduced to a longboard competition only.

With a 1-2ft swell, there was no power-surfing - it was a question of trying to pick up a wave and impress the judges, even if that meant the occasional headstand

riding the wave to the beach. From an initial 20 surfers, the final was dominated by Royal

L/Cpl Dave Ryan (CDOLOG) made it a hat-trick of titles, impressing judges with his agility

and fancy footwork.

Lt Pete McLelland RM (Culdrose) was second, with PO George Besford (Culdrose) beat-

(CDOLOGS) for third place.
For further details on the sport, contact Lt Cdr Colin Pryde (Culdrose ext 7109). PO Shay Bowen (Culdrose ext 7661) or Cpl Warren Keays-Smith on Chivenor

Conditions challenge university teams

TEN OF the 14 University Royal Navy Units took part in a sailing regatta in Portsmouth, with the nearby Southampton unit taking the

Based at the RN Sailing Centre and using accommodation on HMS Bristol, at Whale Island, the event got off to a slow start - plenty of sunshine but very little wind.

By lunch-time of the first day of competition the 17 URNU Bosun dinghies had only managed one slow race.

But the afternoon brought some cloud cover and, crucially, a few more knots of wind, and that was enough to get a further four races

Crews and organisers relaxed during the evening with a barbe

Cue.

The following day saw even more sunshine – but even less wind than the previous morning.

Summoning all their light wind sailing skills, the URNU teams managed to squeeze two further races out of the unfavourable conditions, the second attended by the C-in-C Fleet, Admiral Sir Alan West, who is also the Commodore of the RN Sailing Association.

Northumbria came second, with Birmingham coming third. The fastest helm and crew went to MIDs Helen and Emma Dawes.

RNR golf proves a hit

THE POPULARITY of the Royal Naval Reserve golf championships was demonstrated by the fact that the event has doubled in size since last year.

Hosted by HMS Cambria at the China Fleet Club, 52 Reservists and associated members of the RNR represented their establish-

ments in competition for prizes sponsored by Wilson Hogg Robinson Insurance.

The host pairing of Cdr Bob Reid RNR and Lt Cdr Tom Suddes RN were just pushed into second place in the team competition by CPOs Martin Sharpe and Don Philpot of Air Branch. Third place went to Sue Murch

and Commodore Muriel Hocking RNR of HMS Vivid.

The best individual player was CPO Martin Keen, giving Air Branch another success. Sue Murch of HMS Vivid was runnerup, with CPO Martin Sharpe third and Cdr Bob Reid fourth

Drake record hockey win

A HOCKEY team from HMS Drake has become the first team from the Royal Navy to record a victory in the five-year history of the inter-Service Unit Cup.

Despite being under-strength, the team from Drake beat RAF Brampton and Wyton 4-1, and then went on to face the Army representatives.

42 Survey Regiment were the strong favourites, and in a tough encounter, the Navy side missed a vital penalty flick and lost the

game by the only goal.

Drake had qualified as the RN representative following their first Navy Cup victory since 1957. The team also won the area cup final, beating HMS Raleigh.

Team captain and coach Lt Cdr David Ward said: "I've been extremely pleased with the team's spirits and overall performance throughout the the season.

"Much credit must go to LPT Daz Blythin for managing the



A DOZEN ships gathered at Clyde Naval Base presented an ideal opportunity for the first RN Fleet

Assembly for many years. The 12 ships - including a destroyer, two frigates and an RFA - were alongside ready to take part in the forthcoming Joint Maritime Exercise off the West Coast of Scotland.

C-in-C Fleet Admiral Sir Alan West, in Faslanc for the event, said that "today's high pace of opera-tions and training allow few opportunities where the different arms of the Fleet Command can come together to foster mutual understanding and professional knowledge, and where time can be taken out to by the men and women of the Fleet to enjoy inter-unit competitive sport and social activities.

"In initiating the Fleet Assembly for 2001 in Faslane, I hope that everyone can be involved and have an enjoyable and memorable day

A total of 17 units took part in the two-day Assembly, and a comprehensive programme of activities included six competitive sports - golf, hockey, football, squash, ten-pin bowling and volleyball, as well as alternative activities such as a day walk, offshore sailing, fishing and dinghy sailing instruction from the Navy's sailing coach.

Duy I provided the heats and knockout period of the competi-tion, but the stunning weather of the opening shots was followed by rain for Finals Day as the heavens opened. Conditions failed to depress the competitive instinct of those competing for honours, and everyone took heed of CINCFLEET's message to "go out

In the destroyer/frigates event the honours were shared, with HMS Montrose winning the bowl-ing and hockey, HMS Monmouth taking the squash and football titles and HMS Nottingham pre-vailing in the golf and volleyball. Once the points had been added together the final results for the division were

1st: HMS Montrose, 37 pts; 2nd: HMS Nottingham 33pts; 3rd: HMS Monmouth 28 pts

In the Submarine division, HMS Splendid showed good form from the start, winning the hockey, squash and bowling, with HMS Vengeance winning the golf and football and HMS Sovereign taking the volleyball. Results were:

1st: HMS Splendid 19pts; 2nd: HMS Vengeance 17 pts; 3rd: HMS Sovereign 10pts

In the Mine Countermeasures division a total of 11 minor units competed, including representa-tives from RNAS Prestwick, RFA Diligence, Senior Naval Officer Northern Ireland (SNONI) and the newly-formed Fleet Protection Group Royal Marines (FPG RM), now based at Faslanc.

Competition was particularly fierce in this section, and the winners were spread throughout the units. FPG RM dominated the hockey, soccer and squash, HMS Inverness won the golf and HMS Hurworth took the bowling. Only four points separated the top three

teams, with the Royal Marines just pipping HMS Inverness. 1st: FPG RM, 24pts; 2nd: HMS Inverness, 23pts; 3rd: SNONI, 20pts

Trophies for winners and runners-up were supplied by the spon-sor, Mr Brian Chaplin of Chaplin's Trophy Company

Closing the Assembly, Admiral West told the gathered ship's com-panies that he remembered his first Fleet Assembly in 1966, and spoke



HMS Monmouth (red and blue) put up a brave fight against HMS Montrose, who went on to win the event and the Division Trophy.

Picture: LA(PHOT) Mez Merrit (FOSNNI).

of his sadness that after many years they had dwindled away. He said he had reinstated the

Assembly to show all those who serve in and support the Fleet that the Royal Navy is not just about working hard, but that it is impor-

tant to play hard too - something that is all too often overlooked with current operational demands.

In his experience, those who knew how to enjoy themselves fought well too.

Neptune fall to Buccaneers



 Lt 'Blood' Read and PO 'Apples' Applegarth in the new Plymouth Command kit, provided by the RN Sports Lottery Fund at the inter-Command championship.

NINE teams competed in this year's Navy rugby league 9s competition Collingwood, with conditions perfect for fast, open games.

Teams from HM ships Fearless and Exeter represented the Fleet, but it was the team from Yeovilton which took the honours, with HMS Heron beating Fearless in the final of the event, sponsored by Naafi Financial Services. CTC Lympstone

won the Plate.
Work commitments prevented HMS Neptune's squad travelling to Hampshire, so a friendly was arranged against Scotland Conference side Clyde Buccaneers.

Despite their relative inex-perience, the Faslane team competed well, with the sailors scoring tries from all

positions on the field. It was only the introduction of three substitutes, all with

ence, which Buccaneers to a 36-30 win. HMS Dryad hosted the inter-Command champion-

amateur international experi-

ships in a league format. The Royal Marines stood up to the heat best, winning all four of their matches, with Fleet runners-up.

Plymouth, in their new kit, provided the Player of the Competition in MEM Scott Witt (HMS Cornwall).

Anyone with an interest in Navy rugby league should contact Lt Nick Young (Portsmouth) on 023 9254 7335, PO Clive Mason (Scotland) on 93231 4384, or Lt Read (Plymouth) on 9375



Sport



Steady start for cricket squad

THE NAVY'S cricket season has got off to an encouraging start with three wins in the first five matches.

The opener, against the Free Foresters, saw the RN reach a modest 147 thanks to a patient 50 from Lt Paul Snelling (Abbey Wood) and a rapid 24 (two 6s and three 4s) from Lt Dave Pinder (Nelson).

The visitors knocked off the runs for the loss of six wickets, with newcomer Mne Stuart Phelps (42 Cdo) taking 3-38 and Pinder 2-30.

The first RN victory came over the English Universities, when 4-35 from Pinder helped limit the students to 201-5.

After slumping to 69-6, Phelps (73) helped guide the Navy to victory by one wicket with barely an over to spare.

The first away match saw the Navy take on Hampshire 2nd XI at the county's new ground.

The visiting bowlers toiled against good batting, and after an opening stand of 125 the county went on to 318-5.

The sailors never got going. Only four reached double figures and the Navy were dismissed for 138 to lose by 180 runs.

Middlesex U19s proved more equal opposition, and the youngsters were restricted to 168-9, with Chris Slocombe taking 4-29 and Phelps 1-12 in ten overs.

The Navy struggled to 55-4, but a stand of 105 between Burt (61) and Phelps (62*) saw their side home with 14 overs left and four wickets in hand.

English Fire Service posted 234-6 at Burnaby Road against tight bowling by Phelps and Smiler Miles (Victorious).

LPT Mark Toogood (Sultan), with 47 and Burt (37) made a positive start, and Phelps (48*), with Justin Matthews of Culdrose (31), saw the RN home by two wickets in the final over.

The traditional two-day opening 'club' fixture against the Incogniti ended in a draw at Burnaby Road, with Burt (128) prominent.

For details of results and fixtures see the Navy News website.



The entire entry of 87 gigs line up at the start line of the men's two nautical mile race at the World Championships.

Gig team makes a splash in big race

GIG RACERS from RN air station Culdrose achieved their best result yet in this year's world championships.

The crew of the racing gig Scahawk, which takes the air station's name, got off to a disappointing start in the initial race, of two nautical miles along a course off the Isles of Scilly.

They were up against stiff competition, with a total of 78 boats competing.

competing.

But the enthusiastic Culdrose crew, led by experienced team captain CPO Steve Cass, recovered well by winning their heat of the one nautical mile race, beating the much-fancied crew from the Faroe Islands.

The other members of the crew were S/Lt Adam Seaborn, CPO Mike Hill, CPO Ady Kirk, PO Paul Bardsley, PO Rich Woolliscroft and Cox'n Ray Froggat, a civilian working at the Royal Naval School of Flight Deck Operations.

For them, the intensive training continues, as the Cornish gig season reaches its climax with the county championships in September.

Culdrose has traditionally put up a good showing at this event, as



The Culdrose crew in Seahawk take a breather at the start line, having rowed out for the beginning
of the cace.

the crews compete in six gigs selected by the sport's governing

body.

With these vessels all being the same age and weight, the Culdrose crew – whose own boat is an older, heavier gig – can compete on a much fairer basis with crews who normally race a more modern, lighter craft.

This is the sixth year that

Culdrose has entered the increasingly-popular world championships, and the club has ambitious plans to replace Seahawk with a new, lighter, purpose-built boat - if sponsorship can be found; a new craft can cost in the region of

Scahawk would then be used for training purposes only, and the newer, lighter gig could be kept in top condition for racing

Cornish pilot gigs are traditional vessels built using Cornish elm and oak, powered by a crew of six oarsmen and one cox'n.

The sport evolved from a serious

The sport evolved from a serious business in the days of sailing ships – the crews competed against each other to be the first to take a pilot to the ship, thereby receiving a share of his purse.

Battle for the skies

THE inter-Services hang-gliding and paragliding championships both take place this month at the Joint Services Hang Gliding and Paragliding Centre at Crickhowell.

Hang gliders are up first from July 8-14, with a training and familiarisation course to be run the week before.

Then it is the turn of the paragliders, from July 22-28, with another training and familiarisation course beginning on July 15.

Further details are available by telephoning 01873 810386 (mil 94354 3260) or by email to JSHPC@DRA.HMG.GB

Close contest

THE RUGBY Union team of HMS Campbeltown took on a tough opposition during the ship's deployment to the Baltic, taking to the field with the Latvian national champions Miesinski.

despite the hosts' fearsome reputation, the men from the frigate put up stout resistance, only losing to 5-0 to a disputed try.

Summer snow

THE RN/RM Artificial Slope ski and snowboard championships will take place at the Snozone in Milton Keynes on Thursday, July 12, five minutes from Junction 14 on the M1.

Open to any serving member of the Royal Navy or Royal Marines, th event starts at 0900 and ends 1800 at a cost of £15, including lunch.

Further details from Lt Jeff Choat on 01326 557482.

Off to the Lions

THIS year's Tri-Service Rugby Union draw, sponsored by BAE Systems, was won by Bdr Lainingham, of 19 Regt RA, who will this month jet off to Australia to watch the British Lions.

The winning tickets were drawn by Chief of the Defence Staff, Admiral Sir Michael Boyce, at the Tower of London.

The draw raised £9,000 for rugby in all three Services.

RNA golfers aim high

GOLFING fundraisers hope to match last year's £2,000 when the accounts are finalised for this year's Rayleigh RNA charity tournament.

The event, at the South Essex Golf and Country Club at Brentwood, had been postponed from early May because a lastminute downpour made the courser unfit, but organisers were able to rearrange for just a few weeks later.

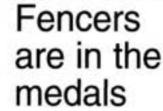
Money raised goes to SSAFA Forces Help. Among the winners on the day was Don Oliver, a former Royal Marine from Ipswich branch RNA, who arrived back from holiday early that morning to take the Navy

News trophy.

■ Around 90 people were due to compete in the Submarine Flotilla golf championships at St Mellion as Navy News went to press.

This year's event has ben

This year's event has ben extended to two days as part of the Royal Navy Submarine Centenary celebrations, and is being hosted by Devonport.



A ROYAL Navy fencing team brought a haul of medals back from an international competition in

The three-day competition, at Mtarfa, involved up to 14 hours hours fencing a day, and had team events in each weapon plus individual competitions in all three weapons foil ence and salve.

foil, epee and sabre.
 There was a separate ladies competition in foil and epee.
 More than 100 entrants battled for the honours, including.

The navy entered two teams, each consisting of two men and one lady in each of the weapon events.

The RN first team gained silver in the sabre (the team was Lt Cdr Maggie Myers RNR, HMS Vivid, Lt Cdr Adrian Olliver, HMS Northumberland and LAEM Mark Needham, Culdrose) and lost both other weapons to the team which eventually won.

eventually won. Individually, LAEM Mark Needham took silver in the sabre, Lt Cdr Mark Barton (HMS Sultan) taking bronze.

Lt Cdr Myers won silver in the foil, and followed that with a bronze in her age group in the epee in the World Veteran Championships, also coming 12th in the foil.



Marty Hallett goes for the top in pursuit of a third title.

Marty goes up the wall

MORE than 60 competitors powered up the steep and sometimes overhanging climbing walls of the Warehouse centre at Gloucester in the RN/RM championships.

After a demonstration by two 11-year-old girls, the competition proper got under way. Fine displays of climbing, and

dramatic falls as muscles gave out
– expert belaying by Lt Cdr Neil
Hicking, assisted by Lt Dave
Cummings and C/Sgt Larry Foden
prevented injury – made for a

great viewing spectacle.

The tough E2 contest was a close affair, but Mne Marty Hallett took the honours for the third year in succession, being the only

climber to top out. He also won the bouldering event.

Other winners were Cdr Dave Issitt (up to VS), Sgt Gary Francis (HVS to E1), LWPT Lisa Farthing (best female) and Lt Mick Cooke (veteran). Best team was HO & Sigs (RM Stonehouse), Marty Hallett was best climber, and best full was by POPT Rob Lowe.

Competition sponsors were Cotswold Essential Outdoors, High Places, HB, realscared.com and Experimental and Applied Sciences.

For further details on climbing and mountaincering, contact Lt Dave Mackie on 9621 85558, or email rnrmmc@hotmail.com



• Anyone for tennis, boxing, rugby, football, cricket... a challenge from recently-appointed DNPTS Capt Hugh Daglish has received a reply – from his old ship, HMS Newcastle. The destroyer has been very active on the sporting front, and can boast 17 RN representatives covering 14 different sports, with notable recent success in small arms and boxing. The ship also provided four players to the RN football team. The full list is: Commanding Officer Cdr Steve Pearson (tennis), Lt Simon Kelly (rowing/swimming), Lt Neil Benstead (shooting), CCMEA Walter (athletics), CCWEA Kerr (volleyball), CMEM Dowbakin (cycling), CPO Lewis (sailing), CY Westlake (fishing), LPT Murray (rugby league/boxing), OMs McGali, Garrett, Reeves, Preston and MEM Beattle (soccer), OM Slatter (rugby union), OM Riley (rugby league) and OM Morgan (cricket).





Royals lose their crown

IT IS a number of years since the Royal Marines have finished anything other than first at the RN athletics championships, writes Lt Graeme Riley. But this year they had to settle for second behind an

enthusiastic and competitive Plymouth and Scotland team.

The outcome was not settled until the very last event, the 4x400m, where the Plymouth and Scotland team won the race. Team manager LPT Gary Ibbotson (HMS Raleigh) con-

tributed a fair number of points to the Plymouth score, with a convincing win in the 400m, a crucial leg in the 4x400m relay and a surprising pole-vault win.

The track events got under way with the 400m hurdles, and with Navy No. LPT Brum Edwards at sea, Cpl Simon Wilson (CDOLOG) took his chance to establish himself with an easy win over 800m specialist Lt Cdr Ken Houlberg (BRNC).

A double champion last year, Mne Wayne Dashper repeated his 1,500m and 3,000m steeplechase wins with something to

Under the guidance of coach Colin Goater, Wayne has looked impressive this season, particularly in the chase, and he will be looking to go one better than last year's sil-ver at the inter-Services.

A new name in Navy athletics OC Weston (BRNC), who

looks set for a bright future.

A haul of five gold medals was an impressive debut for the Durtmouth cadet, and with wins in the 110m hurdles, long and triple jumps and a leg of both relays, he looks to have the poten-tial to be a superb decathlete.

After sitting out last year's

championships with an Achilles injury, LPT Mick Breed was back to his best in the 800m, running close to his personal best time. He was pushed hard by MEA Dave Kemp (HMS Sultan).

Cpl Gary Gerrard (CDOLOG) retained his 5,000m Gerrard title, though Cpl Mark Goodridge (JHQ Northwood) pressed throughout the race to take second ahead of LWTR Paul Levick (RNAS Yeovilton).

LPT Topsey Turner (HMS Ark Royal) and CPOWEA Rupert Williams (HMS Victorious) renewed their longstanding rivalry in the sprints with Topsey winning both 100 and 200 metres. In the throws, Lt Jamie

Summers recorded yet another hammer title. CPO Veitch (Naval Air) is another who has won a number of Navy medals and he bagged another two with wins in the javelin and discus.



Action from the men's steeplechase and the women's sprint relay at the Royal Navy athletics championships.

Pictures: LA(PHOT) Angle Pearce (SFPU).

Rivalry sparks classic 800m

CHARMAINE (RMH Haslar) inspired Portsmouth to the team title by a comfortable margin in the women's athletics competition.

One of the best races came in the 800m, with Lt Linda Lawrence (RNAS Culdrose) and POWSTD Heidi Martin (HMS Nelson) look-

ng to renew their rivalry. Heidi was determined to reverse the recent run of results and kicked hard with 400m to go, opening up a 10-metre lead. inda hung on and closed the gap before sprinting up the home straight to take her first Navy title.

Heidi had some consolation with an impressive win in the 1,500m over Lt Do Ahern, who had earlier recorded a runaway win in the 5,000m.

Defending women's 400m champion LWEA Nicky Stopforth (HMS Illustrious) had a comprehensive victory in the one-lap event and played a key role in the 4x400 relay, taking the long-jump

4x400 relay, taking the long-jump title for good measure.

Now shore-based and getting back to her best, LWPT Zoe Hambly (HMS Neptune) won both the short sprints and ran a tremendous final leg in the 4x400m relay, taking over 50 metres adrift but only just failing to close on the Portsmouth team. to close on the Portsmouth team.

The Navy squad now faces the challenge of Army and RAF at the inter-Services Championships at RAF Cosford on July 4.

Lady golfers off

ROYAL Navy lady golfers got off to a flying start to the season in their match against Southwick Park, writes Navy golf secretary Cdr Gary Skinns. The six-a-side match was played

in perfect weather over the everimproving Southwick Park layout. A notable inclusion for her first

was Lt Charlotte Bull (NMA Gosport), a multi-talented sportswoman, excelling in both hockey and tennis. She was 'discovered' at the beginners proficiency day at Chichester Golf Centre. Paired with the Navy's top

golfer, LWPT Wendy Briggs (HMS narrow win in the first match.

RN ladies captain Cdr Moira Hoath (AFPAA Centurion) teamed up with PO Jo Marshall (810 NAS) for a comfortable win in the second match, putting the

result beyond doubt.
The final pairing of CPO Carol McMurtry (RNAS Culdrose) and PO Wally Dommershuizen (MCTC Colchester) held on well against a very strong pair and gained a creditable halved game.

The 2% to % win gives the team a great start to a season which sees the Navy hosting the inter-Services

championships in September.

A total of 11 lady golfers took part in the annual Cumberwell Park weekend - the course is this

year's inter-Services venue - which incorporated the RN championship, a coaching day with the head professional and a Sunday match against the club ladies team.

The championship was a close affair with reigning champion Moira Hoath just holding off the challenge of Wendy Briggs to retain the title by one stroke – the same result as last year.

The best part price went to

The best nett prize went to Wally Dommershuizen, and Charlotte Bull confirmed her potential by easily winning the best beginner prize.

Sunday's match was a tight battle, with local knowledge paying off in the end as the home team won by three matches to two.

Briggs partnered PO Lorna Morgan (NMA Gosport) to a final-green win in the top match, but Hoath and Dommershuizen lost to strong opponents. Ladies secretary CPO Pam Jack

partnered Bull to a comfortable victory in the third string, but Jo Marshall and Capt Angela Musworthy (DLO HQ), and Carol McMurtry and PO Helen Wright (NMA Gosport), lost narrowly. Wright's performance was par-

ticularly encouraging as the weekend represented only her second and third rounds of golf ever. The men's team has had a less-

successful month. In the encounter against Leeds and District, played at the Scarcroft Golf Club, there was a disappointing loss by 13-5. With one or two new stars

included, hopes were high of suc-cess against a traditionally strong However, most performances did not match expectations, and it was left to some of the experienced players to show the way.

In the morning foursomes, there was an excellent win in the top match from Lt Cdr Daryll Whitchead (771 NAS) and MEA Adam Hawkins (HMS Sultan).

The only other pre-lunch point came from the long-standing pairing of Lt Guy Norris (819 NAS) and Lt Terry Taylor (RNAS Culdrose), current RN champion. Stamina seemed to desert the

Navy team after lunch and while singles wins were recorded by both Norris and Taylor, only one further point came the way of the visitors.

This arrived courtesy of CPO
McEvoy (HMS Neptune) with a
resounding 6 and 5 victory, in only
his second full appearance.

Three weeks later, a small team
of four participated in the prestigious Graham Butler Trophy at
Ferndown — with even less success.

Ferndown – with even less success. In an event of high standards, the RN players were unable to do them-selves credit, and their 15th position from 16 teams means being dropped from next year's event.

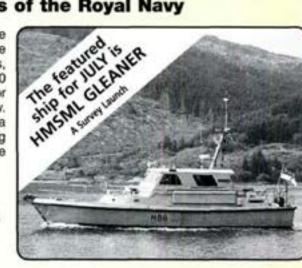


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Or buy online at www.navynews.co.uk

Officer with passion for climbing dies in fall from 700ft

A SUBMARINE officer who had a passion for mountaineering was killed when he fell 700ft in Glencoe.

Lt Cdr Alastair Stewart (31) was an engineer officer in HM submarine Vigilant. He was an experi-enced climber and held Joint Service qualifications as a moun-

taineering leader. It is believed he was climbing alone when he fell on May 11. The accident was spotted by a local resident who raised the alarm. Lt Cdr Stewart's body was recovered after a joint search by the Navy rescue helicopter from HMS Gannet and a mountain rescue team on foot. Lt Cdr Stewart was single.

Heart attack kills Navy doctor (28)

NAVAL doctor Damian Kershaw has died of a heart attack at the age of 28.

Surg Lt Kershaw had served as medical officer on board the submarine Trident Vanguard, but at the time of his death was undergoing consultant anaesthetist training at South-

ampton General Hospital. He was pronounced dead at the hospital after collapsing outside a sports centre in the city.

Degree course in disaster management

FOR what is believed to be the first time anywhere, a British university has launched an MSc degree course in trauma and disaster management studies.

The course at the University of Lincolnshire and Humberside is aimed at a wide range of senior and middle managers, including those in the Armed Forces.

The degree is offered by Lincolnshire Institute for Health. and can be studied part-time or full-time. Candidates must have a first degree or equivalent, and two years' practical experience.

The course will bring together academics and professionals in a teaching programme which will also lead to cutting-edge research. For details contact Martin Page on 01522 882000 or e-mail:

mpage@fincoln.ac.uk

Museum chief is now OBE

DIRECTOR of the Royal Naval Museum, Campbell McMurray, has been appointed OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Mr McMurray has been director of the museum at Portsmouth since 1989 and has led it through a £5.4 million expansion pro-

Fresh set-up for acceptance

THE function of Captain Naval Ship Acceptance will be taken over on July 30 by a new body Director Equipment Capability (DEC). The change is in line with the Ministry of Defence's 'Smart Acceptance' policy.



Naval body mystery in Arras burials find

THE MYSTERY of how the body of a member of a Royal Navy Division came to be lying in a grave in France with 23 men of the Lincolnshire Regiment may never

The 24 skeletons from World War I were discovered in Arras in June by archaeologists searching for Roman remains on the site of a proposed fac-

tory. Badges identified most of the bodies as members of the 10th Battalion the Lincolnshires, who fought at Arras in April 1917. But also found was one shoulder flash of the 63rd (Royal Naval) Division.

Hundreds of thousands of sallors and Royal Marines were drafted in to serve as soldiers on the Western Front with the result that the Navy suffered heavier casualties on land than they

did at sea. A year before the Arras engagement the 63rd had fought on

Roger Dalley, Deputy Director of the ommonwealth War Graves Commremains of the men, found with their arms linked, would be examined by a Ministry of Defence pathologist, but it was very unlikely that their names would ever be known, or why an RND

said. "The bodies were hastily buried in a battlefield cemetery and if the grave was marked at all it would only have had temporary wooden crosses."

He said the bodies would now be interred in one of the Commission's war cemeteries in France, if possible being laid to rest among other graves. being laid to rest among other of the Lincolnshire Regiment.

Miracle needed to save D-Day ship

ONLY a miracle can now save one of the last D-Day ships from ultimate destruction, says the co-ordinator of a campaign to save her.

The Yarmouth Navigator known in wartime as HM Motor Fishing Vessel 1502 - is one of the last surviving war vessels that took part in the Normandy landings

She was threatened with scrapping when her Plymouth berth was armarked for development earlier this year, but the vessel was reprieved by a small group of enthusiasts co-ordinated Portsmouth defence employee Dave Fricker.

They managed to get the 97ft-long Navigator seawor-thy enough to be brought to Portsmouth, but when she reached Pompey harbour on June 13 it was to go to a berth that she could only occupy for three months.

Dave told Navy News: "We have an anonymous backer who is paying £30 a day for her berth near a ferry terminal, but that can continue only until mid-September. After that she will have to go to a moor-ing offered at a local breakers, but that would signal the beginning of the end for her."

Provided that a suitable, permanent berth or mooring - free or inexpensive - can be found. Dave



Yarmouth Navigator reaches Portsmouth. But what fate awaits the old war veteran now?

and the others involved in the project believe that funds could be raised to return the Navigator to her wartime condition.

"There's still a glimmer of hope," he said, "but berths are expensive and really few and far between. What we need is a miracle and a miracle-worker.

The Yarmouth Navigator's career spanned almost half a cen-

tury, and she is the last of a class of Naval maids-of all-work still in Ministry of Defence condition.

Built in 1943, she was based at HMS Vernon in Portsmouth during the war, later moving to a MOD establishment, since closed, at Yarmouth - hence her latter-day

She took part in the Coronation

Day anniversary review in 1994. When she was retired ten years ago she was the oldest sea-going vessel in MOD service, and last year was listed by the National Historic Ships Committee.

Anyone who wishes to become involved with the Navigator project team or can offer a suitable berth or mooring should call Dave Fricker on 023 92 722715.

Portland proves a big hit in

THE NAVY's newest wurship. HMS Portland, was given a big welcome when she made a weekend visit to the town of Portland where 500 people called on her while she was open to visitors.

The stop-over in June also featured a lunch party for civic digni-taries, including the Mayors of Portland and Weymouth, resp-ectively Clrs Chris McGowan and Joy Stanley; the Chairman of Dorset County Council, Clr Patricia Homers and the End of Patricia Hymers; and the Earl of Portland.

PO Nick Addison, had a surprise when a group of eight children visiting the ship from Westfield College included his

nephew, Matthew (13).
When the Type 23 frigate left on
June 11 she took with her for a day at sea guests from affiliated organisations, including Dorset Yeomanry, as well as local councillors.

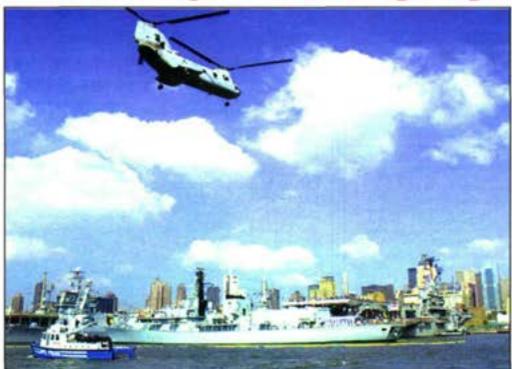
HMS Portland is continuing sea trials and is on schedule for her first major deployment early next

Prizes for top RN students

AN OFFICER who was serving in HMS Grafton has won the Wilkinson Sword of Honour as the best student on the principal warfare officers' course last year. He is Lt Cdr Andrew Bretton.

Meanwhile, the top prize given annually by the RN Supply School, the Gedge Medal, has been awarded to Lt Fiona Shepherd of HMS Illustrious.

Marlborough at US Navy Days



AGAINST the familiar skyline of New York, HMS Marlborough takes a starring role in the US

Navy's Fleet Week.

The Type 23 frigate took part in the celebra-tions at the invitation of the USN. Here the ship is in the centre of the action of a SEAL - USN special forces - display. Interest in the British

visitor was high, with 2,500 citizens of the Big Apple being welcomed on board the ship each

day.

Members of the ship's company also took part in many other goodwill events, including a social many other goodwill events, including a social contains competition. cer match, tug 'o war, and cooking competition. Picture: LA/PHOT) Mark Hipkin

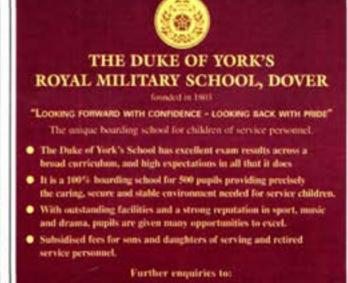
New rubber boat on show

THE NAVY's new rubber inflat-able boat - the Pacific 22 - is due to be unveiled at Bristol docks on July

Powered by a new water-jet system, the craft has greater boarding capabilities with sophisticated

radios and navigation systems. Among those involved in the launch will be Surface Flotilla staff, cox'ns from HMS Raleigh and RNR personnel from HMS Plying

Fox, the Bristol Reserve establish-



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Published by Navy News, HMS Nelson, Portsmouth, and printed by Portsmouth Publishing and Printing Ltd. The News Centre, Hilsea, Portsmouth, PO2 9SX





CHANCE TO VOTE!!!!

The General Election is all over! But, you didn't get a chance to vote. Well, Captain Plank has decided to hold a special election of his own.

The Crew is building a new ship. Now, as you know, every ship needs a good Captain.

Captain Plank wants to know who you would vote for as Captain of our new ship. It can be someone famous or someone you know. Who do think would be able to take charge of the ship and the crew?

The crew have their ideas

Technocat thinks BILL GATES, the big boss of Microsoft should be the Captain - then the ship could be run by computer!

Susie thinks ELLEN
MCARTHUR should be
Captain - she was the
brave girl who sailed her
yacht round the world
single handed in the
Vendee Globe race.

Jack thinks DAVID BECKHAM would make a great Captain - he's already good at Captaining England

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

 We've got a great prize for the best suggestion.

Just send us your
suggestions on a
post card to
Captain Plank,
Navy News,
HMS Nelson,
Portsmouth PO1 3HH.
Don't forget to give us
your name and address.

IT'S SUMMER... TIME TO GET ON THE WATER!

THERE'S NO BETTER TIME TO SHUT DOWN THOSE COMPUTERS, CLOSE YOUR BOOKS, TURN OFF THE GAME BOYS AND HEAD DOWN TO THE WATER.

You might not live by the sea but there's water everywhere you can go on lakes, rivers, canals, boating parks and reservoirs.

Before you go afloat you must make sure you are dressed properly, have the right safety equipment and know what you're up tol Even on a boating lakel

Once you're set to go it really is fun - and the great thing about the water is that it's always different!

If you fancy a day out on the water there's loads of information available,

- you can log on to www.rya.org.uk or www.bigblue.org.uk
- or call the RYA on 023 80 627400 or Boatline 01784 472222.

... HAVE FUN!

Your chance to Win a "Getting Afloat" book!

You can win a great book on starting to sail small boats. It has a cool introduction by gold Medallist Ben Ainslie!

To win one of 10 books just give us the answer to this question:—

In which country did Ben Ainslie win his Olympic sailing medal last year?

Send your answer to Captain Plank, GangPlank Club, Navy News, HMS Nelson, Portsmouth PO1 3HH

The first 10 correct answers will win a book!
"Getting Allost" is written by Basil-Mosenthal and published by
Adlard Coles Nautical, Price £8.99

STOP PRESS

Catch our first Press Gang report - Special reporter Thomas Martin visits Chatham Navy Days - It's all on page 3 of our super summer special!!

Push the Boat Out -International Festival of the Sea coming soon, win a Family ticket to a fantastic day out!!!

Herbert Higgins's Guide to Smart chat on holiday!

Herbert Higgins is Captain Plank's trusted navigator. He steers the ship and plots the course. He's travelled all around the world and knows lots of languages!

Some of you will be off to foreign countries on your holidays soon. Captain Plank thinks everyone should be able to say a few words in the language of the country you visit.

So, here's Herbert's Smart guide for your holidays.



ALL THE CREW SAY HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY -PLEASE (S'il Te Plait - Bitte - Por Favorill)



CHANGE YOUR ROOM!

We've all seen those programmes on TV about changing the way everything looks, well, why not use the summer holidays to give your room a quick make-over.

FIRST you need to give it a bit of a clear up - it sounds a bit like hard work, but if you invite friends over to help, and you get a good supply of drinks and snacks, you could turn it into a clear-up party!

If you're going to change your room, you'll need a bit of space so clear as many things away into cupboards that you can. Perhaps it's time to clear out those old games, books and pictures that you don't want anymore.

THEN, the easiest and most effective things to change are the pictures on your walls. Sit and have a good look at them and see how you can

brighten things up. Perhaps you just need some new posters. If you've got some really precious pics why not buy some new frames most of the high street shops do some really funky frames now!

WHY NOT paint your own pictures, or snap a really

great photo and frame it? If you go on holiday don't forget to collect some things as memories and then do a collage. (check out Susie's Beach Art featurel)

PUFF IT UP If you've got some pocket money or birthday money splash out on some new curtains or duvet or buy some really loud cushions to brighten up your bed and make it more like a sofal

BOX IT If you've got loads of toys or CDs or games, make them really look good by making or buying some top storage boxes. You can easily decorate ordinary supermarket boxes by wrapping them in the latest gift paper or painting them bright neon colours.

FINALLY LIGHTEN UP

To give your room a really different look at night buy a coloured bulb to go in your bedside lamp or the main light. It can look really cool - but don't forget to get an adult to put it in for you. Oh and take it out when you're doing your homework!!!!



HOT SUN. DRINK LOTS!

We all know that in the summer we must drink lots to keep us going, but it needn't be boring! Susie knows how to make drinks fun, so why not try some of Susie's Summer recipes:

Mum's old fashioned lemonade

Lemonade tastes good anytime but this homemade version tastes fabl You need some fresh lemons; to make a big jug of drink you'll need about 4. Get an adult to help you grate the rind off the lemon. Put it in a large heatproof jug. Then measure out 75g of caster sugar and add that to the lemon rind. Pour over 1.5 litres of boiling water, (ask someone to help you if you are not used to boiling the kettle), then squeeze all the juice out of the lemons and put in the jug. Put the jug in the fridge and chill until you're ready to serve it. To

make drinking it fun, decorate your glass by wetting the rim and then dipping it into sugar! You could even freeze some pieces of lemon and put them in - and have a competition for the person who can bear to suck the lemon!!!



When your mum and dad were young they probably had a Soda Stream that made them fizzy drinks well the Soda Stream has been made really funky now - it's called Fizz Online! There are all sorts of new flavours so you can make some wacky drinks. If you've got a Soda Stream here's some new recipes to try.

Paradise Punch

Use a smart wine type glass (if your mum will let youl). Crush some ice, mix together 125ml of Sodastream grapefruit, 125ml of pineapple juice and a measure of coconut cream (you can get this in the supermarkets). Pour it all in the glass and put some slices of orange round the glass - very grown up and very tastyll

St Clements

Put some ice cubes in a tall drinking glass; mix together 125ml of Sodastream Bitter Lemon, and 125ml of orange juice. Now's the clever bit, slowly pour about two tablespoons of cranberry juice down the side of the glass so it sits on top. Looks amazing and yummy to drink!

CORR -Colal

To make cola, or your favourite fizzy drink, even better why not add a really cool

ingredient! Pour out the cola, then put in a big scoop of your favourite ice cream. It looks like heaven floating on top, drink it

all through a straw -

WHERE ON EARTH??

If you're feeling a bit bored today why not try our quiz?

All you have to do is guess where these famous landmarks are in the world. (answers on the back page)

- Sydney Harbour Bridge
- 2. Buckingham Palace
- 3. Empire State building 4. Eiffel Tower
- 5. Table Mountain
- 6. Niagara Falls
- 7. Taj Mahal
- 8. Pyramids
- Leaning Tower of Pisa
- 10. Edinburgh Castle

TOP READING AND MOVIES FOR SUMMER

It's a long summer holiday so be sure you stack up lots to dol

TOP READS

If you're looking for some fun books Technocat has just been sent two nifty books.

The Little Book of the Pocket Magician - this is a neat little introduction on how to do magic, it's got some good tips and it fits into your pocket so you can take it with you wherever you go and practise

THE LITTLE BOOK OF SECRET CODES -

Technocat really liked this book, it's got lots of ways to send secret messages so you can be like a real spyl

TOP MOVIE

Are you a big fan of Eddie Murphy? Did you see him in Dr Doolittle? Well, he's back in Dr Doolittle 2. It's out on July 27. Look out for Archie the big-hearted, vain, loveable performing bearl

TOP GAME

"Little" book

If you enjoyed The Spice Girls computer game then you'll love the new Playstation 2 game featuring Britney Spears! It's all a bit secret at the moment but looks like fun. Your chance to win a

The first 10 people to write to Captain Plank will receive one of the Little Books don't forget to say which "Little" book you would like.

The Little Book of the Pocket Magician and The Little Book of Secret Codes are from Buster Books Order price £1.99 each. Order Hotline 020 8324 5652

JACK RECKONS FOOD ALWAYS TASTES BETTER WHEN YOU EAT IT OUTSIDE!!

He and Bert love picnics. Here are some of their favourite recipes for you to try out - and don't forget picnics can happen anywhere, even on your bedroom floor if it's raining.

Bert thinks the most important thing about a picnic is that all the food is gathered together before you start eating. So, even if you are having a picnic at home make sure you put all the food in a basket or on a tray before you start.

Jack loves sandwiches here's his favourite fillings:

Marmite Cheese and pickle, Banana and peanut butter! Apple slices and jam

Bert Likes:

Cream cheese mixed with lots of fresh herbs all chopped up Ham and pineapple slices Hard boiled eggs and salad cream

Other picnics MUSTS!

Sausages - little baby ones, Susie loves it when Bert mixes in a teaspoon of honey when the sausages are nearly cooked, they go all gooeyl

Fruit - Jack thinks it's much nicer when fruit is all cut up ready to eat, but it goes a bit mushy and black if you use apples or bananas. Best to use oranges, kiwi fruit, grapes and

Carrot sticks are good especially when mixed with sticks of cheese.



Birthday Congratulations!

Craig Fisher Michiglas Gazzard Alex Gina Richard Griffith

It looks just like a Quartz

activated, this transmits a

signal that can be detected

by a vessel or helicopter

receiver/direction finder

It may sound a bit like a

in September, It's not

really a pocket money

gadget though, it costs

James Bond gadget but it

goes on sale in this country

multi-function working

wrist watch but it also

contains a small radio

transmitter. When

fitted with a

device.

£249.99.



READ ON FOR THE FIRST OF OUR SPECIAL PRESS GANG REPORTS...

The very first member of our Press Gang is Thomas Martin from Istead in Kent. We gave Thomas a special assignment - to be our reporter at the Chatham Navy Days.

Thomas was an extremely keen reporter and headed off early to Chatham Here's Thomas' special report...

The crew thinks Thomas did a splendid job as a reporter! He is now member NUMBER ONE of our Press Gang!

ATTENTION

We are looking for two more members to report on very special events.

Would you like to be one of our Press Gang?

Write Captain Plank a report about one of your favourite subjects.

Your report must be no longer than 200 words.

Write your name and address on the back of the paper and send it to The Press Gang at the Gang Plank club, Navy News, HMS Nelson, Portsmouth, PO1 3HH

Your report must reach us by 17th August.

Press Gang members must be under 14.

A special panel of judges, including our very own Navy News Editor will judge your reports and then choose two lucky members to go on special assignments.



On Sunday, 27th of May I was sent on a special mission by Navy News - to report on the Chatham Navy Days.

We left home at 9.30 and whilst on the bus at the park and ride. I received a phone call from Mr Ivatt at Chatham Dockyards to tell me that I was going on a V.I.P trip around H.M.S. Kent later on that day, I was really excited. We arrived at the ship basin, where the weather was really good, and looked around several ships including H.M.S. Cromer and three different minesweepers. We also looked around the Army and Navy exhibits and went on the submarine and patrol boat simulators. We then sat down to have our picnic, listening to the band.

After eating we walked back to the main area and looked at all the brilliant displays, such as the WW2 25 pounder gun which is really LOUD and the planes flying over were really funtastic. We also said "hello" to the ladies on the Navy. News stand. Then on our way to the Army Expo, that was really good I particularly enjoyed the bridge laying demonstration, getting in a tank and firing some guns.

At 4.30 we went to see Mr Ivatt to go and see H.M.S. Kent. Once we got on board we were introduced to Chief Petty Officer Frisby who showed us around. First, he showed us all of the weapons systems and then took us to the hanger to see the Lynx helicopter, which was amazing. He then took us below to show us all the of the ship's facilities, including the mess and the laundry. The ship is so well equipped that it even has it's own gym! Then, the best bit, he took us to the bridge where he showed us around and I even sat in the Captains chair! Then, on the way out, he gave me some special photos of the ship that he had taken.

I had a brilliant day, and the best bit was definitely going around H.M.S. Kent, I would recommend the day to anyone.

By Thomas Martin

Susie's Summer Nature Quiz

- What does RSPB stand for?
- What do you call a young hare?
- What is unusual about Manx cats? What tree is the national emblem of Canada?
- What kinds of trees have the largest of all leaves?
- How many legs has a Daddy-Long-Legs?
- What sort of animal is a natterjack?
- What is the fastest animal on four legs?
- What colour is a skunk?

TECHNOCAT

INVESTIGATES!

Technocat loves new

gadgets! He's been

How about a watch that

tells everyone where you

The new Wrist Watch

MOB System is a watch

a boat. It's going to be

particularly useful for

people who work at sea.

which will send out an alert

if you fall overboard from

new one -

are

investigating a brilliant

Do tarantula spiders spin webs?

NO NEED TO ON THIS PICTURE!!

Susie loves going to the beach, and she often brings back shells and little tiny stones.

Captain Plank has a good idea for keeping them safe and looking good. To make Captain Plank's Beach Art you'll need:

A good selection of shells, Some small, light stones

Seaweed

Perhaps some sand

A cheap plastic tray with a rim round the edge Some strong, clear glue.

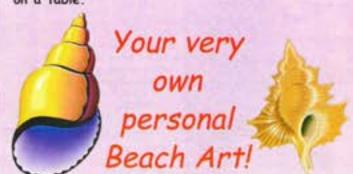
Wipe the tray to ensure there's no grease or dust on it.

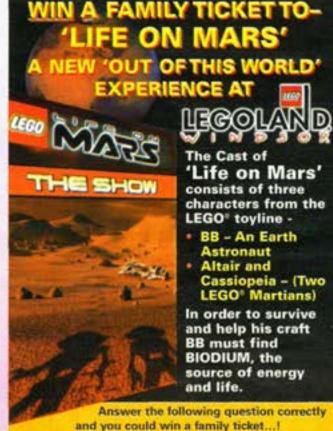
Wash and dry all the shells and stones.

If you want to use sand as a background trail a thin layer of glue over the tray, pour on a layer of sand, leave on the tray until the glue has set and then shake off the loose sand.

Then, arrange your shells, stones and seaweed in a pattern and carefully stick them on. Wait for it all to dry.

You can then hang the tray on the wall with some wall fixings from a DIY shop, or you can attach a piece of wood at the back so that it can stand on a table





QUESTION: What must BB

find to survive and help his craft?

Send your answers on a postcard with your name, address and age to:

'Life on Mars Competition' Navy News, HMS Nelson,

Queen Street, Portsmouth, Hants PO1 3HH CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES: 17th AUGUST 2001

The Editor's decision is final. Relatives and employees of Navy News are ineligible.

MATCH!

Whoops! Someone has muddled up Gloria Greenfingers' list of things that go together in the gardenl

Can you help her match them up again?

Petal Sun Flower Wheel Branch Beak Bird Handle Tree Spade Wheelbarrow Spout Watering Can Sky

May 27, 1941: The Bismarck, her rudder jammed, has no chance of BISMARCK escape. But she will fight to the end . . .



MAY 27, 1941, OB45: AT A RANGE OF NINE MILES, THE BATTLESHIPS RODNEY AND KING GEORGE V OPEN FIRE - AND SOON THE DISMARCK IS STRUCK BY A SHOWER OF 14IN AND 16IN SHELLS.



1020: HMS DORSETSHIRE MOVES IN TO DELIVER THE FINAL BLOW - THE BISMARCK IS ABLAZE FROM END TO END, BUT HER FLAG STILL FLIES DEFIANTLY.



AT A RANGE OF 3,000 YARDS, RODNEY FIRES HER LAST TWO TORPEDOES. ONE HITS THE TARGET - THE FIRST TIME A BATTLESHIP HAS EVER TORPEDOED ANOTHER.



1040: FINALLY HMS DORSETSHIRE FIRES TWO MORE TORPEDOES AND THE BISMARCK ROLLS OVER ON TO HER PORT SIDE AND SINKS - STILL WITH HER FLAG FLYING.



DORSETSHIRE AND THE DESTROYER MAORI MOVE IN TO RESCUE SURVIVORS - BUT WARNING OF AN APPROACHING U-BOAT CAUSES THEM TO LEAVE THE SCENE. ONLY 118 OF THE BISMARCK'S 2,400 MEN SURVIVE. CHURCHILL CABLES ROOSEVELT: "SHE WAS A TERRIFIC SHIP AND A MASTERPIECE OF NAVAL CONSTRUCTION".

Did you catch the International Festival of the Sea in Portsmouth in 1998?

Well, it was an amazing event and it's happening again this year!

Twenty seven giant Tall Ships will sail to Portsmouth in August for the biggest gathering of Tall Ships to be seen in Britain for

Portsmouth's Historic Dockyard will be brimming full of activity and boats of all shapes and sizes.

Ten overseas Navies will be sending warships to the Festival including the new American Destroyer USS WINSTON CHURCHILL. The British Navy fleet will include an aircraft carrier, four type 42 destroyers, five type 23

Endurance, three Island Class Fisheries Protection Patrol ships, four Hunt Class mine countermeasures vessel and three Minehunters.

New for this year will be a Georgian Street market and a huge Nautical parade every evening.

Captain Plank and his crew will be there so don't miss the

HELLO FROM THE CREW!

Hope you're all having a great holiday!

Thanks to everyone who writes to us - we love your letters! If you are going away on holiday this year don't forget to send us a postcard!

Warner Home

Pokémon Videos' to:

Queen Street,

Closing Date For Entries:

17st August 2001

We like to hear all about where you have been!

The Crew would like to say a very special GET WELL to Ashley Cole. Hope you are feeling much better!

Where on Earth?? Answers

1. Australia; 2.England; 3.USA; 4. France: 5. South Africa: 6. Canada/USA; 7 India; 8. Egypt; 9. Italy, 10. Scotland

Susie's Summer Nature Quiz Answers.

1. Royal Society for the Protection of Birds; 2. Leveret; 3. No tails; 4. Maple ; 5. Palm; 6. 6; 7. Toad; 8. Cheetah - runs at 112 kilometres per hour for short distances!; 9. Black and White; 10. No, they go hunting rather than wait for their

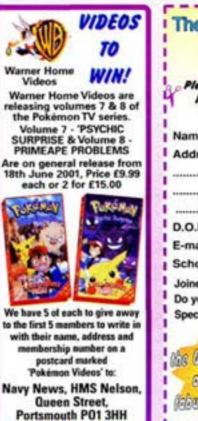


Closing Date 30th July 2001

Send your answer on a postcard to;

'IFOS COMP', GangPlank Club, Navy News, HMS

Nelson, Queen Street, Portsmouth PO1 3HH



Please enroll me as a member of The Gang Plank Club. I enclose a PO/cheque (payable to Navy News) for: £4.25 1 year UK - £7.50 2 year UK (saving £1) Address Postcode D.O.B E-mail address School attended Joined by: Parent | Grandparent | Do you have any Brothers I Sisters T Ages 🗆 Sport | Special Interests: Music ☐ Film/TV ☐ Friends T Reading 7 Join (Con Florit (Send your completed form, together with a postal order/cheque for £4.25 or £7.50 to: and reseme a 'The Gang Plank Club' labulous (roody Basil Navy News, HMS Nelson, Portsmouth PO1 3HH

call 023 9273 3558 or 023 9282 6040 (24 hr Answerphone) We will also accept payment by:- Visa, Delta, Access, Mastercard or Switch on orders of CS.00 or over