



# Navy News

www.navynews.co.uk

MAY 2002 £1.20

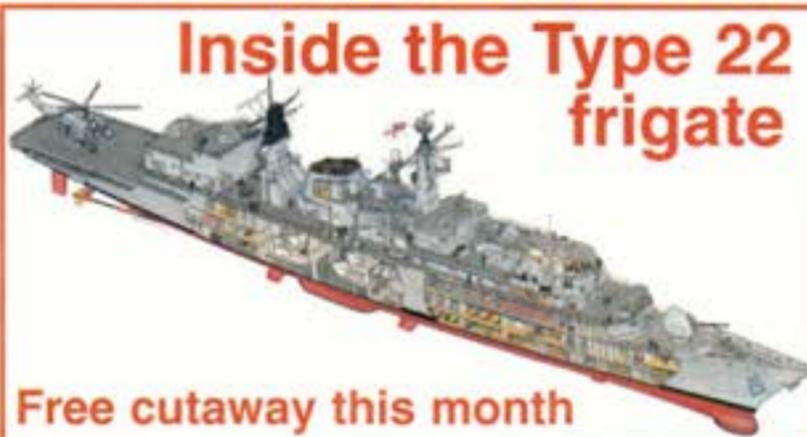


## Last of the Sailor's Queen

Funeral pictures – centre pages

'The precision, smartness and general bearing of personnel from all three Services who took part . . . were impeccable'

– Admiral Sir Michael Boyce, Chief of Defence Staff



## Inside the Type 22 frigate

Free cutaway this month

# MANHUNT IN THE MOUNTAINS

## Afghanistan: Marines go into action at 10,000ft



ROYAL Marines of 45 Commando have returned to their base after a successful seek and destroy mission in the mountains of Afghanistan.

Although they spotted possible enemy forces, the troops were never engaged in fighting.

The five-day Operation Ptarmigan by 3 Commando Brigade was designed to hunt down and destroy any pockets of Al Qaeda and Taliban forces in the mountains of south-east Afghanistan, and to prevent them from using the area to launch further attacks.

Lt Col Paul Harradine, speaking to Navy News from Afghanistan, said: "All the boys are back at Bagram now, and there will now be an operational pause."

"They are back on fresh rations, they can make telephone calls home – there is some down time, and they are cleaning equipment and preparing for their next deployment."

"The operation went very well – we are very pleased."

"They never came into contact with Al Qaeda, but found lots of evidence of them having been there, and some sightings."

He said the Taliban and Al Qaeda had been back to the sites since Operation Anaconda, when

US and Afghan forces fought troops loyal to Osama bin Laden.

Lt Col Harradine said the Royals, who worked with elements of the American and Afghan military, had destroyed a number of caves and bunkers containing quantities of arms and ammunition – weapons dumps which the terrorists would have returned to at some point in the future, and which have now been rendered useless.

"The destruction of these is a step forward," added Lt Col Harradine.

The Royals, who were supported by guns of 7 Battery, a brigade reconnaissance force and other elements, suffered no casualties in the operation beyond a single sprained ankle.

Conditions were said to be very inhospitable – the Commando was operating at heights of 10,000ft and above, with frequent storms and heavy snowfall, sub-zero temperatures at night, and unforgiving, rocky terrain underfoot.

It is exactly the type of scenario for which the Royals have trained over many years, in locations such as the mountains of Norway.

☐ Turn to page 12

● Royal Marine Commandos from 45 Commando man an observation post in the mountains of Afghanistan during Operation Ptarmigan

# Nelson monument is rededicated

THE FIRST major civic monument commemorating Nelson's great victories has been rededicated in Glasgow.

The foundation stone of the 44-metre high monument, in Glasgow Green, was laid on August 1, 1806 – predating the column in Trafalgar Square by 30 years. It cost £2,075 to build.

In 1810 the monument, which commemorates the battles of Aboukir Bay (the Nile), Copenhagen and Trafalgar, was struck by light-

ning and the top six metres was lost.

The current restoration work included the repair and repointing of cracked stones, dismantling and re-erecting the summit pyramid and adding new floodlighting, and was part-funded by Historic Scotland and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The 1805 Club, a society devoted to the restoration of Nelsonian monuments and graves, also provided funding and advice for the project, part of a £14 million Glasgow Green renewal project.

Rear Admiral Derek Anthony, Flag Officer Scotland, Northern England and Northern Ireland was a guest of honour at the rededication, which featured a fly-past and landing by a Sea King of HMS Gannet's Search and Rescue Flight based at Prestwick in Ayrshire.

The Navy also provided a Guard of Honour of submariners from HMS Vengeance and two buglers from the Royal Marines Band, Scotland.

The memorial service was conducted by the Rev Martin Poll, a chaplain from Clyde Naval Base at Faslane.

# Lok Sang box is up for grabs again

SPORTING teams have once again clashed for the honour of lifting the Lok Sang Box – a not-so-old Naval tradition which had almost passed into history.

The box was a gift to a surveying sloop which went to the assistance of a steam ship in 1918, and which became a trophy in Hong Kong.

On December 7, 1918, the British steam ship Lok Sang, owned by the Indo China Steam Navigation Company (a subsidiary of Jardine Matheson and Co) ran aground near what is now Lingao Point at the western Hainan Strait.

The 1,070-ton RN sloop HMS Merlin saw the steamer get into difficulties, and sent a party of divers and sailors across, finally freeing the ship after two days hard graft.

The owners showed their gratitude to HMS Merlin through the gift of a large silver box, on the lid of which was inscribed 'Presented to HMS Merlin by the Indo China Steam Nav. Coy. Lt. in recognition of valuable assistance rendered to SS Loksang, Hainan Island.'

The history of the box thereafter becomes unclear until the mid-1980s, when Cdr Peter Hore, then Base Supply Officer for HMS Tamar in Hong Kong, came across the box in the RN Trophy Centre at HMS Nelson.

The box was brought back to Tamar, and in 1987 Cdr Hore issued a challenge to allow Jardines to win it back.

This became an annual sporting contest between the Navy and Jardines until the handover of Hong Kong to China in 1997, when Jardines found themselves holders of the Lok Sang Box but with no Royal Navy to challenge.

Jardines managing director Percy Weatherall wrote to the British Consul-General, Sir James Hodge, last September, suggesting that the British Consulate-General represent the RN in a resumed annual challenge.

Jardines retained the trophy, winning most of the beach games while the diplomats won the kayaking, and rallied during the evening pursuits, which included pass the orange, the potato and loo-brush relay and spot dancing.

Should a Royal Navy ship call at Hong Kong, Jardines say they would be delighted to raise a team to play them. Contact should be made through the Naval Attaché, British Embassy, Beijing.

If anyone knows how the Lok Sang (later renamed Mei Shan then Yushing) met her fate, sunk in the Yangtse River in 1938, please let the British Consulate-General in Hong Kong know on [information@britishconsulate.org.hk](mailto:information@britishconsulate.org.hk)

# Over and out

## Montrose hands on baton to Newcastle

HMS MONTROSE has returned home to Plymouth after a busy deployment to the South Atlantic.

The Type 23 frigate sailed south at the beginning of October, her departure almost unnoticed in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on the United States and the response from the Coalition forces.

But Montrose, which sailed under one captain and returned under another, had a full schedule to get through, including several weeks off West Africa – with the bonus of a break in Cape Town for Christmas.

The second half of her deployment saw her in the chilly waters around the Falklands, where the ship's diving team placed a White Ensign on the wreck of HMS Antelope, a Type 21 frigate which was sunk in San Carlos Water during the Falklands War.

Montrose has exercised with the navies of France, Ghana, the Ivory Coast, Brazil and Sierra Leone, and visited ports in Morocco, Sierra Leone, the Ivory Coast, Ghana, Senegal, South Africa, the Falklands, El Salvador, Brazil and the Canary Islands.

During such visits the ship's company has been involved in charity projects and sporting contests – for example, they laid a new concrete floor at a school in Sierra Leone, and had a whip-round to



● HMS Newcastle (foreground) and HMS Montrose conduct a handover for Atlantic Patrol Tasking (South).

pay the school's electricity bill as well.

Sailors from Montrose also reconstructed the roof of an orphanage in Sierra Leone.

Capt Tony Johnstone-Burt, who was promoted to the rank of Commodore at the turn of the year, was succeeded during the deployment by Capt Matt Parr.

Capt Parr said: "The deployment has been wide-ranging and varied, and offered the ship's company the opportunity of seeing at first hand the different cultures around the African and South American continents.

"More importantly, it has put them in a position to foster goodwill and develop new friendships amongst many different walks of life on behalf of the Royal Navy

and the UK, and they have achieved this with great success."

A quick check of the Supply Officer's records revealed that the ship's company has eaten its way through a mile of sausages, 1,935 apples, 750kg of carrots, 1,512kg of onions and 22,500 bars of chocolate since October, washed down with 7,200 litres of milk and 36,000 cans of fizzy drink.

The ship has steamed 28,000 miles – and as she steamed them, members of the ship's company spent £4,700 on flowers for loved ones back in the UK.

Her replacement on Atlantic Patrol Tasking (South) is destroyer HMS Newcastle, which left Portsmouth on a miserable day but

was handed the baton by Montrose in the warmer climes off the Canaries.

On her departure, the Commanding Officer of HMS Newcastle, Cdr Steve Pearson, said: "Despite the awful weather, it was a fantastic sight to see so many families braving the cold to wish the ship such a goodbye from the Round Tower."

As his ship relieved the Type 23 frigate, Cdr Pearson said: "This is a very proud day for the ship – the reason the ship's company have worked so hard for so long with sea training and exercises off the coast of Scotland was to prepare for today as we take over the task of patrolling the Atlantic from our Devonport-based colleagues."

● HMS Portland fires a Seawolf missile during a Joint Maritime Course off Scotland.

Picture: OM Zoe Moor.

## Seawolf honour for frigate

HMS PORTLAND rounded off her first year under the White Ensign on a high when she was awarded the prestigious AMS Fleet Seawolf Trophy for 2001.

This coveted prize is awarded annually to the best-maintained Seawolf surface-to-air system in the Fleet – and the news was made all the more pleasing when the trophy reached Portland and it was discovered that the ship was the first Type 23 frigate to add its name to the list of recipients.

The award was made following Portland's successful firing during JMC013 off Scotland last autumn.

The achievement was all the more remarkable as Portland reached full operational status in record time for a Type 23.

The frigate, which achieved full operational status in November, is on Armilla patrol in the Gulf.

● HMS Coventry's Seawolf system has been removed from the ship in what is believed to be a first for Royal Navy personnel.

Devonport's Seawolf Support team, part of the Superintendent Fleet Maintenance department, was tasked to remove the equipment after the Type 22 frigate decommissioned.

Specialist transport needed to be found, and a deck access hole had to be ground out to allow a lifting frame to be used.

The equipment was removed with less than a millimetre to spare.

CPO Tom Rooney said: "The team relished the challenge of this large project, as a change from our usual work. Now we've cut our teeth, more of these sort of jobs are set to land in our in-tray."

# Duke of Argyll spends a day on his frigate

THE DUKE of Argyll has spent a day at sea with his affiliated ship, Type 23 frigate HMS Argyll.

The warship – one of the Duke-class frigates – met the Duke and his fiancée, Miss Eleanor Cadbury, off the coast of Dorset when the visitors made a boat transfer out of Portland.

The VIP guests then spent the day meeting the ship's company and getting an idea of what life is like in the Royal Navy.

The Commanding Officer of the frigate, Cdr John Kingwell, said: "It gave all in HMS Argyll great pleasure to host the Duke and Miss Cadbury at sea."

"The Duke shows a keen interest in the ship and her people, and his support means a great deal to all on board."

The Duke presented the ship with his new coat of arms, and was asked to award CPO Euan Robertson, whose grandmother lives near Lochgilphead, with a Long Service and

Good Conduct Medal for 15 years service in the Royal Navy.

The Duke said: "I am delighted to be able to visit HMS Argyll once again."

"I have very fond memories of my last visit, and so it was a wonderful opportunity to renew old acquaintances and meet the many new members of the ship's company."

"As always, the welcome was second to none, and I am very grateful for the efforts of all those involved."

On completion of the visit, Cdr Kingwell presented the Duke with a framed photograph of the Duke and the ship's company in front of Inverary Castle, which was taken during HMS Argyll's last visit to Argyll and Bute.

HMS Argyll is the current holder of the Desmond Wettern Award, presented to the Royal Navy unit which does most to raise the public profile of the Royal Navy.

The frigate won the award on the back of a tricky but successful deployment to Sierra Leone.



● Red and green berets working together in Northern Ireland – members of Charlie Company, the 3rd Battalion the Parachute Regiment, with a member of Support Company 42 Commando Royal Marines on patrol in South Armagh. The two fighting forces worked side-by-side 20 years ago in the Falklands War, and have been on patrol together in various far-flung countries in the intervening years, including Kosovo, Sierra Leone and Afghanistan. Here they are helping support the police service in the province.

WILKINSON Sword has unveiled a spectacular £50,000 sword to be presented to the Queen later this year to mark her Golden Jubilee.

The company – which each year presents a 'Sword of Peace' to a Royal Navy unit – has had the gold and rock crystal hilt set with diamonds, rubies and lapis lazuli. The blade is engraved with the four national flowers of the British Isles – roses, thistles, daffodils and shamrocks.

Its design was the result of a competition among teaching staff of the Sir John Cass Centre for Silversmithing and Jewellery at the London Guildhall University, won by Robin Kyte. Wilkinson Sword have been the holders of the Royal Warrant as sword and gun manufacturers since 1804 and this is the third sword they have created to mark the reign of the Queen. A collector's version will be available at £1,645.

## £50,000 SWORD TO MARK QUEEN'S JUBILEE



# Warship repair deal set to save £300m

**NEW partnering deals at the three UK Naval bases could see some 3,000 workers transferred from Government employment to the private sector.**

The move, which could save up to £300 million over five years, affects Clyde Naval Base at Faslane, Devonport Naval Base in Plymouth, and Portsmouth Naval Base.

The new partnering deal for the provision of support to Royal Navy ships will see repair and maintenance work opened up to increased competition.

The partnering companies involved are Babcock Naval Services Ltd, Faslane, Devonport Management Ltd and Fleet Support Ltd at Portsmouth.

The contracts are expected to be signed in the next few weeks, with the transition to the new arrangements completed later in the year.

They have been welcomed by the First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Nigel Essenhigh, who said: "I fully support these changes. They will ensure that our ships and submarines continue to be maintained to the highest standards, at lower cost."

Armed Forces Minister Adam Ingram added: "Partnering will bring commercial expertise and improved maintenance techniques into the Naval bases and ensure the continued provision of first

class support to the Fleet.

"Processes will be streamlined, work rationalised between the dockyards and Naval bases, and commercial expertise and best practice introduced.

**"The Royal Navy Commodores at the three bases will remain in direct control and there will be no compromise on safety or security."**

"The reduction in the size of the Fleet in recent years and the consequent reduction in support and refit work meant that changes were needed if we were to continue to deliver this work effectively, efficiently and at best value for the taxpayer.

"Alongside the partnering proposals, we carefully considered proposed internal efficiency improvements and proposals put forward by the MOD trades unions.

"I would like to record my appreciation of the positive and helpful contributions made by the trades unions during this exercise. All options offered significant benefits over the existing arrangements.

"However, the partnering proposals delivered the best overall value for money. They also offer the best potential to deliver further savings and improvements in the long term."

At a later meeting with Mr Ingram the unions voiced their dismay that a public sector alternative had been rejected and fears that job losses would result. They sought, unsuccessfully, to gain a delay in contract signing pending an independent scrutiny of the impact of the decision and on April 12 over 1,000 MOD staff at Coulport and Faslane took part in a one-day strike.

They said they would continue to press for full Parliamentary scrutiny of the decision.



## IAN'S ROYAL INVITATION

HMS ARK Royal's hanger control officer WO (AH) Ian Woodhead received a surprise invitation to the Queen Mother's funeral.

He had a long association with her, dating back to when he was on board the previous Ark Royal. As a young naval airman he drove the aircraft lift bringing the Queen Mother on board.

And at the present Ark's rededication his son Keir, also an aircraft handler, brought her from the flight deck to the hanger for the service.

Said Ian: "When I received the telephone call from Buckingham Palace informing me that I had been invited to attend the funeral I was speechless.

"It took a moment or two to actually comprehend what I'd just heard and for it to sink in.

"The service at Westminster Abbey was magnificent. It was a

very overwhelming occasion for me – I felt so proud and very honoured to be there and to be able to represent my ship. To be part of this historic occasion filled me with a great sense of pride. It was a beautiful day and a fine tribute to a very special lady."

A message of gratitude to all members of the Armed Forces for their role in organising and participating in the ceremonial processions and other duties leading up to and during the lying-in-state and funeral has been sent by the Queen. "The professionalism and excellence of the Services on such occasions is a source of great pride to the whole country and to me personally," she said.

● WOA Woodhead with his invitation from the Palace (see centre pages).  
Picture (POA/PHOT) Dave Coombs

### Concert date

A GOLDEN Jubilee Concert in The Old Royal Naval Chapel, Greenwich, followed by supper in the Painted Hall, will be given in aid of the maritime charities by the Band of HM Royal Marines, Portsmouth and the Band of the Sea Cadet Corps on July 11 at 7p.m.

For tickets at £65 contact George Maskell at KGFS on 020 79320000.



Pictures: LA(PHOT) Darren MacDonald, HMS Drake

● SACRIFICE: The Princess Royal lays a wreath at the Siege Bell monument in Malta, commemorating the 7,000 Service personnel and civilians who died there in 1940-43



● FOR VALOUR: The Princess with members of the George Cross and Victoria Cross Associations at a reception for Maltese and British World War II veterans held on board HMS Norfolk

# Norfolk in salute to Malta's supreme sacrifice

**H**MS NORFOLK was in Malta last month to host a visit by the Princess Royal, marking the 60th anniversary of the award of the George Cross to the island by her grandfather, King George VI.

The Princess came on board the Type 23 frigate alongside in Valetta after attending a Service in memory of the Queen Mother at St John's Cathedral and laying a wreath at the Siege Bell, a monument to the award of the GC to the bravery of the Maltese people in World War II.

Erected in 1992, it honours over 7,000 Service personnel and civilians who gave their lives during the 1940-43 siege. In this period Malta, which had particular strategic importance to the Allies' campaign in North Africa, was heavily bombed by the German and Italian air forces. In April 1942 it endured a higher monthly tonnage of bombs than did the whole of the UK during the Battle of Britain and earned itself the unwelcome title of "the most bombed place on Earth". Nine Allied ships were sunk and the Naval dockyard was practically destroyed.

Three months later the tanker Ohio limped into Grand Harbour with vital supplies at the climax of Operation Pedestal.

The ceremony at the Siege Bell was attended by the President of Malta, Prof Guido de Marco, the president of the George Cross Island Association (Malta) Dr Censu Tabone, and representatives of the Maltese and UK George Cross Association branches.

The Commanding Officer of HMS Norfolk, Cdr Richard Talbot, laid a wreath at the ceremony, at which a memorial plaque was unveiled and which ended with the customary tolling of the bell at noon.

Said Cdr Talbot: "It is a great honour to be able to pay respects to the remarkable bravery and sacrifice made by the people of Malta. The Royal Navy values its longstanding links with them."

A reception on board was attended by the Princess and over 200 people including many GC and Victoria Cross Association veterans. Over the six days of the ship's stay hundreds of visitors came on board, including youngsters from a children's home whose tour ended with a universal favourite - jelly and ice cream.

HMS Norfolk is currently on a six-month deployment with the NATO task force Standing Naval Force Atlantic, ships drawn from the navies of the Netherlands, Portugal, Norway, Spain, Germany and the USA, and is now taking part in patrols and exercises in the Eastern Mediterranean.

**Have You Missed Us?**

Limited stocks of back copies 1985-96  
1997 - Present, all copies  
Ring Anne Young  
PORTSMOUTH 023 9273 4448  
or order online at  
[www.navynews.co.uk](http://www.navynews.co.uk)  
email: [subscriptions@navynews.co.uk](mailto:subscriptions@navynews.co.uk)  
Navy News - The Paper that lives up to its name!

**CREDIT CARD NEWS**

VISA  MASTERCARD  AMERICAN EXPRESS  DISCOVER

My order is attached for: .....

Cardholders Name: .....

Cardholders Address: .....

..... Tel: .....

Card number:

Expiry date     Switch Issue No

Cardholders signature:  Amount (Min £5):



● ROYAL GUEST: The Princess arrives on board HMS Norfolk in Valetta, with the ship's Commanding Officer, Cdr Richard Talbot

# Ships of the Royal Navy No 558



# Special Ark rejoins Fleet

**F**resh out of her two year refit, HMS Ark Royal returned to the Fleet last year in November. This was the final official engagement of the ship's patron, the Queen Mother, who died last month.

The Ark Royal is longer than her two sister Invincible-class ships at 210 metres in length, and as an aircraft carrier has four primary roles within the modern Royal Navy.

She deploys, operates and controls the Sea King Mk7 Airborne Early Warning and the new Merlin helicopters in support of forces at sea, and also deploys Sea Harrier FA2s and RAF GR7 Harriers for air defence, ground attack, and reconnaissance missions.

She plays a vital role as a platform for Command, Control and Communications facilities in maritime, joint and combined operations. Finally, Ark Royal serves as a premier ambassador for Britain's interests around the world.

The current ship is the fifth vessel to carry the name Ark Royal.

The first Ark Royal was built for Sir Walter Raleigh. The 690-ton, 38-gun ship became the flagship of Lord High Admiral Howard of Effingham and saw action in 1588 against the Spanish Armada and eight years later at Cadiz.

The next ship to bear the name was commissioned in December 1914 as a 7,400-ton seaplane carrier. Her aircraft saw action in WWI over the Dardanelles and in the



● A Merlin from 814 Naval Air Squadron carries out a Gemini lift from HMS Ark Royal for the first time

Picture: PO (Phot) Dave Coombs

northern Aegean. She continued to serve after the war and later became a trials ship to test aircraft catapults. In 1934, renamed Pegasus, she began a training role. The third Ark Royal, commissioned in 1938, was Britain's first

'flat-top' carrier. The 23,000 ton Fleet carrier saw service throughout the early stages of the war, including a crippling attack on the Bismarck in May 1941. This incarnation of Ark was lost later the same year after being torpedoed.

Of her crew of almost 1,600, only one man died as a result.

The fourth Ark was promptly ordered in 1942, but not commissioned until 1955 as a 43,000 ton armoured carrier. The first carrier to incorporate British innovations,

including angled deck, steam catapult and mirror landing aid.

The current HMS Ark Royal is planned to remain in active service until 2015, by which time the future generation of aircraft carriers will have joined the Fleet.

## Facts and figures

**Class:** Invincible class aircraft carrier  
**Pennant number:** R07  
**Builder:** Swan Hunters, Wallsend  
**Laid down:** December 14, 1978  
**Launched:** June 2, 1981, by HM The Queen Mother  
**Commissioned:** November 1, 1985  
**Displacement:** 23,000 tonnes  
**Length:** 210 metres  
**Beam:** 36 metres  
**Flight deck:** 168 metres  
**Speed:** over 30 knots  
**Complement:** 650; over 1,000 with aircraft and squadrons embarked  
**Main machinery:** four Olympus gas turbine engines  
**Weapons:** three Signal/General Electric 30mm 7-barrelled Gatling Goalkeeper; two Oerlikon/BMARC 20mm guns  
**Aircraft:** up to 24 aircraft, including Sea Harriers (FA2), RAF Harriers (GR7), Merlin and Sea King MK7 AEW helicopters, can be embarked for specific operations anywhere in the world.

## BATTLE HONOURS

Armada..... 1588  
 Cadiz ..... 1596  
 Dardanelles ..... 1915  
 Norway..... 1940  
 Spartiverrano ..... 1940  
 Mediterraneo ... 1940-41  
 Bismarck..... 1941  
 Malta Convoys ..... 1941

## AIRCRAFT OF THE ROYAL NAVY No 67



● A Curtiss Seamew I identified as FN 475 with its unreliable landplane undercarriage

## Curtiss Seamew

The Curtiss Seamew, built by the US Curtiss-Wright Corporation of Buffalo in 1941-2, proved unpopular with the Royal Navy.

The two-seater reconnaissance Seamews with the Fleet Air Arm saw no operational service, and indeed, from 1943 their only purpose was training.

The Seamews were suitable for catapult launch, and could be provided with either seaplane or land undercarriage. However, due to the lack of strength in the tailwheels, which tended to collapse on landing, and the narrow undercarriage that was so far back that a steep ground angle resulted, the Seamews were generally disliked among aircrews.

The aircraft was the British version of the US Navy's SO3C-2 Seamew, a successor to the Curtiss SOC-1 Seagull biplane of 1935. The Seamews were withdrawn from the US Navy in early 1944, and the original biplane Seagulls outlasted their replacements.

Of the 800 Seamews built between 1941-2, 250 were due to come to the UK under Lend-Lease arrangements. It is known that the first

100 arrived on these shores, but the eventual destination of the final 150 remains unclear.

A later group of 30 aircraft known as Queen Seamews were converted for use as radio-controlled target drone aircraft.

The aircraft worked principally with FAA establishments in Yarmouth, Canada, and at Hampshire's Worthy Down, as part of the Telegraphist Air Gunner Training Squadron within No.1 Air Gunners School.

Among the squadrons in which the Seamew played a role were 744, 745 and 755 Naval Air Squadrons.

The Seamew was powered by one 520hp Ranger SGV-770-6 engine and its wingspan stretched 38ft. As a seaplane the Seamew was 36ft 10in in length with a loaded weight of 5,729lb. In its landplane incarnation, its length was 34ft 2in and loaded weight 5,588lb.

Its performance as a seaplane allowed it an endurance of 8 hours and a top speed of 190mph at 7,500ft.

Its weapons were one fixed machine-gun at the front and another free-mounted aft.

## Pembroke House



*The Royal Naval Benevolent Trust's residential & nursing home*

*A fine, newly modernised home near Chatham for former Sailors, Royal Marines, their wives and widows*

Pembroke House offers the highest standards of care, first class accommodation, an extensive programme of activities and a very friendly atmosphere – all at a competitive cost. For further information please contact the General Manager, Pembroke House.

### PEMBROKE HOUSE

General Manager, Pembroke House, 11 Oxford Road, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 4BS.

Tel: 01634 852431 Fax: 01634 281709  
 e-mail: pembrokehouse@rnb.org.uk  
 web site: www.rnb.org.uk

### RNBT HEADQUARTERS

The Royal Naval Benevolent Trust, Castaway House, 311 Twyford Avenue, Portsmouth, PO2 8PE.

Tel: 023 9266 0296 Fax: 023 92660852  
 e-mail: rnb@rnb.org.uk web site: www.rnb.org.uk

The RNBT also gives financial grants to serving and ex-serving RN ratings, RM other ranks and their dependants (the 'RNBT Family') to help them in a wide variety of circumstances. For advice and assistance please contact the Welfare Controller at RNBT Headquarters.



**THE ROYAL NAVAL BENEVOLENT TRUST**  
 SUPPORTING THE 'RNBT FAMILY'



## Confused over rum

THE PICTURE showing submariners in HMS Sceptre drinking what you say is a tot of rum (March issue) has got me confused.

I have a plaque which I got in Singapore which shows the last day of issue Navy rum was 31 July 1970, when I served in HMS Blake.

With my connection to the HMS Glory Association, I have been to various Naval establishments and so far I haven't seen rum issued. Have they started to issue it again? As far as I can see, there is no one in the Navy now who ever got the tot. - J. Johnson, Bedworth, Warks

Some original Navy rum has been retained for special occasions. There are no plans to reissue the tot on a regular basis, but there must be one or two still serving who remember it. - Ed

## Zuider wider

REGARDING the letters about the White Ensign being flown in the Zuider Zee, I have just confirmed with my then Captain, I having been his Coxain, that we traversed it in our ML in late 1949.

I am led to believe that a vast amount of the Zuider Zee has been reclaimed since then and I seem to recall that the navigation of it was not quite so straightforward as one might have thought.

I think its area was about 80X35 miles then. I remember securing alongside a small underway Dutch coaster-cum-berge and with our additional power assisted its progress, to the delight of the Dutch skipper who, like us, was heading for Lorenz Sluizen and on to Harlingen. - M. S. Austin, Hartwell, Northants

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

# Driving home the point on friendly fire

THE ARTICLE which deals with the introduction of the Mantle Hall Close Range Gunnery simulator at HMS Collingwood (March issue) brings back memories of 58 years ago when a far less sophisticated device was in operation at HMS Glendower.

There was a building known as the Dome Teacher. The interior roof was curved and acted as a screen upon which films of incoming aircraft were shown through a projector operated by a Wren.

Sound effects of gunfire were provided and the accuracy of gunfire was indicated by yellow dots appearing at the appropriate place on the screen.

There was no gun as such, but the shoulder rests and firing mechanism of a 20mm Oerlikon AA were present.

The whole training operation was supervised by a very ancient CPO, one of many recalled from the Reserve for training purposes.

As each trainee prepared to take his turn, the Chief would explain aiming points etc and then take up position behind the individual whilst holding a fairly large screwdriver by its blade.

When an aircraft was projected and came within range the firing would commence, but this was usually accompanied by a gasp of pain as the screwdriver descended on the operator's head for mistakenly firing at an Allied aircraft.

This treatment certainly helped us to improve on our aircraft recognition. - A. R. Salter, Ilkley

I WAS a merchant seaman during the war and until 1950. In 1940 when I was 16 a group of lads in HMS Highlander pulled me out of the Atlantic.

In 1942 I went to HMS Eaglet for my gunnery training at Salthouse Dock. It was called 'The Dome', painted white, and in the centre was a twin machine gun on a pedestal.

Suddenly a voice came on screaming with shouts of 'Stukas!' and battle noises. Planes were coming from all directions. I used this gun a few times and received a gunner's ticket.

The layout now is almost identical to the way I remember it in 1942, yet you say it is a new way of learning. - J. M. Simpson, Prenton, Wirral

## Crossing the Ts

IN THE article '50 not out for 750' (March issue) the information regarding the Jetstream aircraft is not all correct.

Jetstream T1s were never on the 750 roster - XX481 '560' was a T2 and this was the first aircraft to arrive.

Also the T2s have continued to this day, albeit in reduced numbers. The T3 aircraft - four in number - have operated mainly as transports and for years have operated as Heron Flight at Yeovilton. - J. B. Coad, Camborne, Cornwall

FURTHER to Mr Bailey's letter (February issue) about the Gloster Meteor T7, my logbook shows that T7s numbered 415, 418, 428, 429, 430 and 431 (the list may not be exhaustive) were being operated out of RNAS Brawdy in March 1954 by the Jet Conversion Unit.

The JCU appears not to have been part of a squadron, as it was staffed by civilian pilots of Airwork Ltd. Its function was to convert pilots from propellers (in my case the single-engined Sea Fury FBX1) to jets. As the Meteor had two engines its use brought an additional experience to some convertees. - Dick Williamson, Yeovil

# Forerunner of Fearless did sterling service

AT LAST our oldest warship is home and apparently destined for the breaker's yard. HMS Fearless has had a long and distinguished career and I am very proud of her. I am even prouder, however, of having served in the ship that was her forerunner - HMS Eastway, LSD(Landing Ship Dock), the first of her class.

I believe that Sir Rowland Baker claims to have invented the LSD and when the Admiralty showed little interest he took his design to Washington. Following the visit of Winston Churchill in December 1941, the design was adopted by the US Navy.

The first LSD to enter the Royal Navy was originally named Battleaxe but was renamed Eastway and was built at Newport News, Virginia in 1943. She was followed by HMS Highway, Northway and Oceanway.

The LSDs were 457ft long with a beam of 72ft and displaced 7,498 tons. Armed with 16 Oerlikons, four pompons and a 3in gun and with a maximum speed of 17 knots, they could transport 32 LCPVs or three LCTs. HMS Eastway did sterling service in the Atlantic, at Normandy and then in the South of France invasion and was returned to the US in 1947.

Nothing seems to have been written about this class of ship - and yet from it has sprung one of our most formidable, durable and distinguished Naval vessels. - J. D. Eccles, Redhill, Surrey

THE CLOUDS rolled in bringing the rain and from my perch high on Portsdown Hill, with my binoculars I could just see the outline of the grand old lady of the Navy entering Portsmouth Harbour.

My thoughts went back to the time I had spent waiting in the cold on her deck with wind, rain and sleet as we prepared to enter the Russian port of Sevastopol ten years earlier.

But as we crept alongside and heard the band of the Royal Marines (who had been flown in ahead of us) on the jetty and saw the huge crowd of people gathered there to greet us, it didn't matter.

We were overcome with a sense of pride and patriotism - and likewise the last ship's company of HMS Fearless won't have cared whether it was raining or sunny as they came home to their loved ones at last. As I watched, the rain stopped, the clouds parted and the

sun shone through the gap as she came in, her eight landing craft entering ahead of her. I served in her in 1983-84 and 1991-94. Farewell old girl, and thanks for the good times. - S. Bradbury, Southsea, Hants

## Telemachus ends her ten year odyssey

IN the photograph of the Queen's visit to HMAS Penguin in 1954 (March issue) the submarine in the background was HMS Telemachus, which with Thorough and Tactician formed the RN 4th Submarine Squadron.

I can remember the Royal Visit very well as I was one of the crew standing on the casing as the Royal Barge passed. - B. Gerrish, Sussex Inlet, New South Wales

HMS Telemachus is seen here at Aden in November 1959 on her way home after ten years' service in Australia and New Zealand. She had steamed 276,742 miles since her completion in 1943 and had visited most of the ports in the Far East. In 1949 she had been the founder member of the 4th Squadron and was the last of the three T-class submarines to return. In that time she had run for five commissions and completed four major refits at Singapore. - Ed



No. 574 48th year

Editorial & Business address:  
Leviathan Block,  
HMS Nelson, Portsmouth,  
Hants, PO1 3HH

Editor: Jim Allaway  
Deputy Editor: Mike Gray  
Assistant Editor:  
Helen Craven  
Business Manager: Glen Gould

## Editorial Lines...

Telephone: 023 9229 4228  
Telephone: 023 9272 4163  
(M1 24163)  
Telephone: 023 9272 4194  
(M1 24194)  
Fax: 023 9283 8845  
email: edit@navynews.co.uk

## Business Lines...

Switchboard: 023 9282 6040  
Accounts: 023 9282 6040  
Distribution: 023 9272 5136  
Adv: 023 9272 5062 / 9282 6040  
023 9272 4226 / 9275 6951  
Subscriptions: 023 9273 4448  
email: subscriptions@navynews.co.uk  
Fax: 023 9283 0149  
email: enquiries@navynews.co.uk  
web: www.navynews.co.uk



## Singapore gun lore

IN ANSWER to the letter from Dr Kark Hack about the 15in Naval guns mounted on Singapore Island and the myths about them, the most repeated myth is that they could only be fired out to sea.

In his book *Shenton of Singapore*, Brian Montgometry says the civilian Defence Secretary L. A. Vliecland expressed the view that the Japanese would not attempt to capture Singapore by direct sea-borne attack.

Later events proved him right. He did not join in the later accusations that the 15in guns could only be fired out to sea. He knew that they had a 360 degree traverse – the fault lay in the ammunition, which was all armour piercing shell for use against warships and not suitable for the land battle. – **K. E. Boddy**, Scarborough

## Pith-poor discovery

IN N. McCarty's letter regarding HMS Sepoy he refers to the fact that all the men were in tropical rig and even wearing pith helmets.

In 1944, as an air fitter, I was issued with a pith helmet. I never did wear mine. When we were swinging round the buoy at Trincomalee I took it out of its bag and found it brim-full of cockroaches.

I dropped it out of the porthole and it was last seen heading for the open sea. – **D. Silvertown**, Bracknell, Berks.

# Triplane monster was one of a kind



WITH reference to the Caproni Ca4 triplane (Aircraft of the Royal Navy No 62) my uncle Bob Hester was an engine fitter/mechanic in the RNAS in 1918 and I have found this photo of what looks like the float plane conversion of it. – **R. H. Walker**, Swindon.

Of the six Liberty-powered Ca4s bought from Italy for the RNAS, only one was converted as a sea-plane. So far as is known, none of them were ever employed operationally and they were returned to Italy after the war. A 23-passenger civil conversion made a notable flight from Milan to London in 1919. – **Ed**

## Hood's helping hand

THE ENCLOSED post-card may be of interest to some of your older readers. It was bought in Crete on our way to Greece in 1940 before the country was invaded. We, as 'Royal Engineers Kent Corps Troops' were run through the Mediterranean to Greece to carry out demolitions and made our escape in Greek caiques.

Having had two brothers in the Hood I had intended posting the card to them but then she was sunk. – **K. Phillips**, Harrietsham, Kent

## Superb flew flag for future monarch

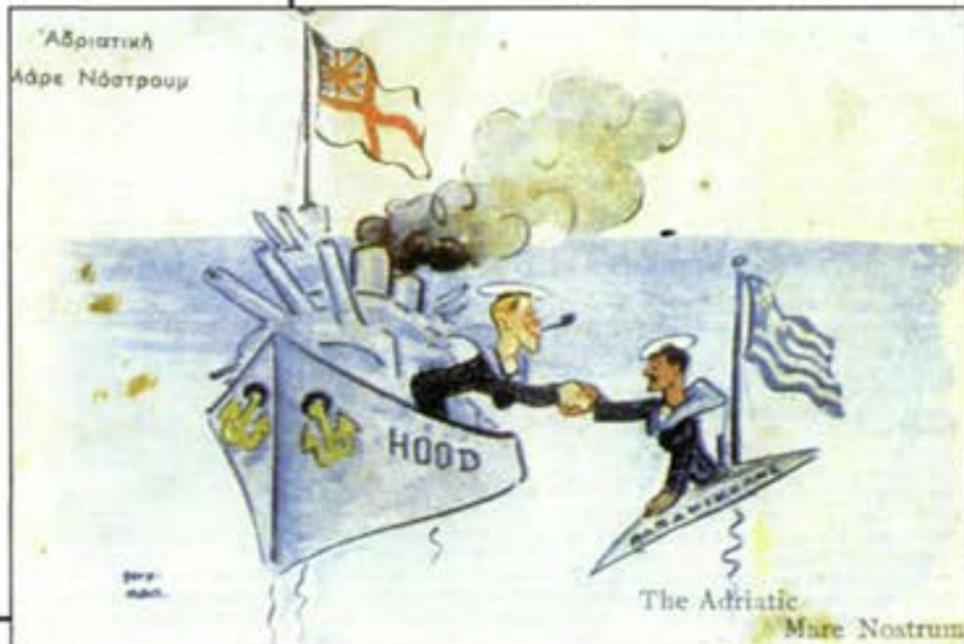
AS WE celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee I am reminded of the time in 1946 when, as Princess Elizabeth, she first flew her personal standard on board one of HM ships.

I was a Chief Stoker serving in the cruiser HMS Superb at anchor just off Greenock on the Clyde when I was sent for by our engineer officer and told we had a VIP on board who would like a walk around the engine room. I had the honour of leading her round the department.

Shortly afterwards we sailed for Belfast where Princess Elizabeth was to launch the aircraft carrier HMS Eagle in the yard of Harland and Wolff.

A few years earlier I was a leading stoker in the destroyer HMS Kipling. In May 1942, during the Battle of Crete, in between German air attacks I was at the starboard waist lending a hand with survivors. One was Lord Louis Mountbatten, Captain 'D', whose ship HMS Kelly had just been sunk. I helped him try to find his Maltese servant among the bodies lying on the upper deck, without success.

Later, as we crawled slowly alongside at Alexandria there was a young Naval lieutenant standing on the jetty with an outfit of clean clothing for his uncle – it was Prince Philip. – **J. B. Sinclair**, Rotherham



## SOME INSURERS ADD

## 11% TO YOUR MONTHLY

## INSTALMENTS. ALL WE

## ADD IS VALUE.

If you pay for motor or home insurance by instalments, you're probably paying for the privilege. Perhaps as much as 11%.

Why? At Affinitas, we don't make a profit out of your monthly instalments. We think it's fairer to make an annual £12 administration fee. It's one of the ways our products put you first.

Others include a Home Contents Insurance that costs less if you live on a patrolled base. And Motor Insurance that lets you switch from Fully Comp to Third Party if you're deployed, leaving your car in a secure area.

So call us for a quote. And see what we can subtract.

0800 316 1 317  
+44 1206 393 777

www.affinitas.com

NAVY



**affinitas**  
looking out for you



## Helping Hands



### All matrons together at RAF Home

THE DIRECTORS of Nursing Services for the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force met together for the first time at Princess Marina House, the residential care and convalescence centre run by the RAF Benevolent Fund.

The purpose of the visit was to meet student nurses from all three Services who are being trained in care of the elderly at the RAF home.

The training arrangement has proved a great success, popular with residents and staff.

● Group Captain Annie Reid, Colonel Bridget McEvily and Captain Mick Bowen consider a different mode of transport to tour Princess Marina House.



## THE NAVAL CLUB



- Well placed in the heart of Mayfair, the Naval Club provides a comfortable and secure environment where members can feel at home.
- The Club has a range of reasonably priced bedrooms, with special weekend rates. The magnificent Dining Room is open for all meals, and private function and meeting rooms are available.
- It is **NOT** necessary to have been a Naval Officer to become a Member. We welcome all those with an interest in maritime affairs and the sea in general.
- Ladies welcome, both as members and as guests.

For more information visit our website at [www.navalclub.co.uk](http://www.navalclub.co.uk)

or contact

Commander John Prichard, Royal Navy,  
Chief Executive,

on 020 7493 7672,

Fax: 020 7355 2644

email: [cdr@navalclub.co.uk](mailto:cdr@navalclub.co.uk)

### SERVICES TRAVEL CENTRE

At RAF BRAMPTON -

GPTN: 95331 7936 & 7834

Tel: 01480 436655 : Fax: 01480 436653

E-Mail: [travel@servicestravel.co.uk](mailto:travel@servicestravel.co.uk)

Website: [www.servicestravel.co.uk](http://www.servicestravel.co.uk)

### DISCOUNTED PRICES FOR

FLIGHTS - FERRIES - CAR HIRE -  
INSURANCE - AIRPORT PARKING.

ABTA, ATOL & IATA LICENSED

## Little Miss Chatterbox silenced

WITHIN a few short weeks of joining the Royal Navy, Jennifer Conning (17) was nicknamed by her class-mates at HMS Raleigh "Little Miss Chatterbox".

Not down-hearted, this young woman took up the title and turned it into charity cash.

With the support of Raleigh teaching staff, Jennifer sought sponsorship for an uncharacteristic silent spell in aid of Children in Need.

Her mute period lasted for 3 whole days, and bagged a total of £241.20 for Pudsey's charity.

Jennifer is now to be found in Portsmouth in the Second Sea Lord's Administration offices - if you were wondering at the increase in noise level!



● Jennifer Conning.

# Slow road to Stanley

RELIVING the route taken by 45 Commando and 3 Para some 20 years ago, nine men and one woman from HMS Leeds Castle walked and yomped the challenging route from Port San Carlos to Stanley in the Falkland Islands over the course of four days.

Expedition organiser, CWEA Lee Broster, explains: "The initial catalyst for the idea of the expedition was a period of non-habitability on the ship. However, it quickly became a challenging and worthwhile evolution of which I am proud to have been a part."

With lighter packs and better weather, the group were dropped off by British International helicopter to start their expedition.

The first day was a trek across country and through the San Carlos River to Chata Creek, then the next two days covered the distance to the base of Mount Kent.

On the last day, the team climbed Goat Ridge then on to Tumbledown, before the final downhill into Stanley and their ultimate destination, the cheerful and welcoming Globe Tavern.

"I was serving on HMS Broadsword as an Able Seaman Sonar during the Falklands War" recalls one walker, RPO 'Fez' Parker.

"I still have vivid memories of the conflict and wished to take part in the yomp to try to, in a small way, experience something of what the Land Forces went through just in crossing the Falklands on foot."

PO (AH) Mark Smith adds: "The high point, personally and (almost) geographically, was the climb to the peak of Mount Tumbledown and the realisation of the magnitude of individual efforts 20 years ago."

Team members achieved over £1,200 through direct sponsorship and collections during entertainment nights at Mount Pleasant. A night at the Penguin Races made an additional £380 for the chosen charities.

It was agreed by the group that the beneficiaries of this event should be the British Limbless Ex Servicemen's Association and Breakthrough Cancer Research.

The team's Commanding Officer, Lt Cdr Jim Masters said: "I am extremely proud of the members of my ship's company who successfully completed this arduous walk as a tribute to all the men and women who took part in the Falklands Conflict."

The ten walkers were: PO Vic Ree, AB Dinger Bell, PO Mark Smith, Lt Jim Reid, RPO Fez Parker, Lt James Mansfield, OM Sophie Barnwell, PO Kev Whiteley, CPO Lee Broster and PO Nick Kent-Ledger.



● The lonely peak of Mount Tumbledown calls on walkers from HMS Leeds Castle.

## Yo-ho-ho and a barrel of laughs

THERE'S pirate troubles in the Irish seas, but don't worry about their fearsome looks - these pirates are the fine upstanding lads from HMS Bangor: Lt Paul Guiver, MEM 'Spud' Murphy and Diver 'Nobby' Clark.

The ship's company from the Sandown-class minehunter, which will be the Queen's Golden Jubilee ship for this June's military event, have spent the last year gathering together almost £8,000 for the Clifton Special School in Bangor, Northern Ireland.

The cash total was mostly won by a high-speed hike along the notoriously tough West Highland Way in just three days. The walk averaged 32 miles per day through some of the most beautiful scenery of the Scottish highlands.

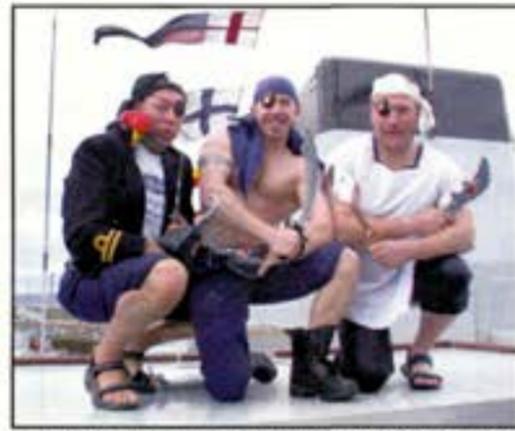
This money has gone into buying specialist equipment to give disabled pupils a chance to be mobile - for one six-year-old Gavin Barton, this is the first time in his life that he has been able to move under his own power.

The children also got to enjoy a pirates' party on board when the ship visited her affiliated port.

Lt Guiver, who started the link between the ship and the school, is leaving HMS Bangor soon, but plans to keep in touch with the children, running the Washington marathon next year to raise money.



● Gavin Barton, aged 6, is now mobile for the first time in his life.



● Hikers posing as pirates: Lt Paul Guiver, MEM 'Spud' Murphy and Diver 'Nobby' Clark.

### News in brief

■ PERHAPS inspired by TV makeovers, Plymouth submariners from HMS Trenchant have transformed Woodlands School in Whittleigh with tidy gardens and a fresh coat of paint.

CPO Ian Larkin suggested the submariners go help out at the school where his four-year-old son is a pupil.

■ THE BRITISH & International Sailors' Society (BISS) is looking for teams of six drivers to compete in a Go-Karting 2½ hour endurance race of 300 laps at a Southampton track.

Registration is £10 and minimum charity sponsorship is £250. Contact: Events 023 8033 7333.

■ THE ROYAL National Institute of the Blind admits it is looking for 300 crazy people - so why's the charity approached the Navy?

Because it wants people to port down the side of Portsmouth Civic Offices in mid-June in a carnival Guildhall Square.

Registration is £10, with minimum charity sponsorship of £75. Contact: 023 8023 5469.

■ THE REVEREND Mike Brotherton of RNAS Culdrose is still ploughing his way through his local waters for the Swim for Life campaign for muscular dystrophy.

So far the total yield is £2,700 - but Mike says he plans to increase that to £3,000.

Good luck to him, and keep the money rolling in.

### BRNC reach out to local elderly

THE RESIDENTS at charity-run Abbeyfield Care Home in Dartmouth witnessed an invasion of Naval officers as 22 Senior Upper Yardmen descended on their home brandishing garden implements - turning a wilderness garden into a pristine paradise.

BRNC was also out at the opening of the Richard Brinsley centre, an addition to the Rowcroft Hospice in Torquay. Naval personnel from the college and HMS Torquay and HMS Torbay have been involved with the hospice since its foundation 20 years ago.



## Glaswegian glory



● Volunteers from HMS Newcastle with the children of Sierra Leone.

### Newcastle's quick fix for medical equipment

DURING their visit to Freetown in Sierra Leone, HMS Newcastle's company took on two local projects.

Following a request from the Surgeon General of the Sierra Leone Army, four Chief Petty Officers went to the local Wilberforce Hospital. The volunteers were shown several pieces of defunct medical gear, including a portable X-ray machine.

Within a few hours, the experts in weapon systems managed to resuscitate most of the items given in to their tender care.

Another group of 15 volunteers went to a local orphanage where they built walls to protect their play-area and roofed an outbuilding to keep rabbits.

### Duke bolsters Scottish hospices

THE CHILDREN'S Hospice Association Scotland was given a total of £218,20 at a presentation on board HMS Iron Duke.

The cash was raised during an afternoon of sporting curling action involving representatives from the Warship Support Agency, HM ships Invincible, Liverpool, Iron Duke, Monmouth, Flag Officer Surface Fleet and HMS Caledonia, as well as Babcock BES employees.

THE CHILDREN of Kelbourne Special Needs School delighted in meeting the lads and lasses of HMS Glasgow when the Royal Navy destroyer visited her namesake city.

Willing volunteers arrived at the school as soon as the Type 42 reached the Scottish city, setting up a working party to decorate and maintain the educational facility and spend time with the children.

In addition to all the hard work, there and then Cdr David Dutton, the Commanding Officer of the Portsmouth-based destroyer, handed over a cheque for £975 to help the children in the future.

The warship's kindly company also made time to visit the children's ward at Glasgow's Yorkhill Hospital.

The Royal Navy's finest spent time talking and laughing with the kids and staff, before leaving behind another cheque for £600 and armfuls of cuddly toys for the youngsters.

The Type 42 received a warm welcome berthed at Yorkhill Quay near the heart of the Scottish city.

Lucky competition winners of the Glasgow "Meet the Navy" charity auction had enjoyed the three-day journey up to Scotland from Glasgow's south coast base- port.

While alongside, school groups and Sea Cadets toured inside the Type 42, and the local careers team



● SA Musa Jatta, SA Andy Barsby, MEM Stuart Tuffin and MEA Terry Whittaker from HMS Glasgow with one of the children from Kelbourne Special Needs School.

hosted a careers forum to promote recruiting.

Sporting fixtures led the ship's teams out in the fields of rugby, football and netball.

And the more ceremonial side

of life was covered with a civic reception at the City Chambers, and a cocktail party on board for local dignitaries and friends.

The ship says the visit was a great success, maintaining impor-

tant links and renewing old friendships with the city: "Glasgow remains a renowned and popular location for sailors and the ship's ties with the city have been greatly strengthened."



● Captain Jerry Betteridge and Dick Shrimpton present the new staff to the Bishop of Portsmouth, the Right Reverend Dr Kenneth Stevenson. Picture: LA Phot Adrian Hughes

## An old crook on the Bishop's new staff

AN EXPERT craftsman at HMS Sultan has presented the Bishop of Portsmouth, The Right Reverend Dr Kenneth Stevenson, with a fine new oak staff for a medieval crook.

The Bishop inherited the historic crook from his old friend Ted Roberts, a former Archdeacon at Portsmouth and later Bishop of Ely.

The crook was mounted on a transparent Perspex staff, that not only did not suit the period of the piece, but also

was too short for the six foot three inch cleric.

When the personnel at HMS Sultan heard about this short staff, they leapt forward with offers to manufacture a more fitting accoutrement.

Dick Shrimpton, the civilian Toolroom instructor in the Craft Training Department, set to work, meeting with the Bishop to discuss design and dimensions.

The new staff is made of English oak and comes in three sections - that screw together like a snooker cue.

A naval crown engraved in blue sits above the upper joint.

Staff and crook are now several inches longer than before, and the crozier sits at the Bishop's eye-level.

Dick Shrimpton spent about a week working on the new staff, fitting in this labour of grace between other projects and his teaching duties.

Dick went to the cathedral with Captain Jerry Betteridge, CO of HMS Sultan, to present the delighted Bishop with the finished item.

**HAVE TO CANCEL YOUR  
HOLIDAY? WE HAVE  
TO GET YOUR  
MONEY BACK.**



You may have to cancel your holiday at a moment's notice. Your travel insurer may be less than sympathetic.

Talk to us. Affinitas Travel Insurance pays out for the insured cost of your holiday if your leave gets cancelled\*.

You'll get some of the most competitive rates available today. And with separate policies for Europe, Worldwide and Winter Sports you only need pay for what you need.

So next time you're planning a holiday, call us. Before duty calls you.

\*Subject to terms and conditions.

**0800 316 1 317**  
**+44 1206 393 777**

[www.affinitas.com](http://www.affinitas.com)

NAVY

**affinitas**  
looking out for you



# People in the News

**NOW**  
**£7.99** Each  
 UK Only

The Navy In The News  
 &  
 More Navy In The News

By Jim Allaway  
 Editor of Navy News

To order tel: 02392 826040  
 or buy online at www.navynews.co.uk

**Penfriends**  
 Don't want to be lonely this year?  
 Find new friends to share  
 life's experiences with!  
 It's so easy! Simply follow  
 the instructions below...

to find new friends all over the world!

**HOW TO ADVERTISE:** Simply write your message (10 for up to 15 words. Each extra word £1 to a maximum of 13 words). Send your cheque or PO payable to 'Navy News' to Penfriends, Navy News, HMS Nelson, Portsmouth PO1 3HC. Replies to your box number will be forwarded on daily (Payment by credit card/which please use coupon on page 4). **HOW TO REPLY:** Any person who writes to an advertiser must use a stamped envelope bearing the advertiser's box number clearly in the bottom left hand corner. The letter should then be enclosed in a second envelope and addressed as above. We cannot guarantee that unstamped letters will be reflected. **Please note... you must be over 18 to advertise in this column.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tel. No.: \_\_\_\_\_

**WIDOWED MOTHER, 28.** Would like to write to anyone with GSOH. To have light hearted conversations with the grown ups! **Box May 1**

**BLONDE, BLUE EYES,** Student Nurse, used to be a dancer at holiday clubs. Varied interests. **Box May 2**

**SINGLE MUM** seeks males, GSOH, easy going with children, like animals. **Box May 3**

**SINGLE FEMALE 32.** Tall, long blonde, fun-loving, outgoing, naughty, caring. **Box May 4**

**HINDU FEMALE, 29.** Seeks sailors for penfriends, relationship, day trips, holidays, music, cinema etc. **Box May 5**

**HI, I'M PAM 47.** Seeks male penpals, similar age. Loves walking, dancing, life in general. **Box May 6**

**TRACY 28** from Yorkshire. Seeks male "penpal" for friendship/relationship. **Box May 7**

**ATTRACTIVE FEMALE** seeks sincere Naval male to write/meet for friendship/relationship. **Box May 8**

**LONELY, SHY,** strawberry blonde. Needs a friend to write to. **Box May 9**

**YOUNG 51,** divorced, brown/blue, GSOH, shy outside, sexy inside. **Box May 10**

**FUNLOVING FEMALE 39,** divorced. Seeks Naval penpal similar age for friendship possible relationship. **Box May 11**

**SINGLE FEMALE 22.** Seeks genuine Servicemen for friendship, possible relationship. **Box May 12**

**MIDLANDS GIRL** needs a few laughs in life. 31 yrs. **Box May 13**

**BLONDE HAIR,** blue eyes, various interests. Fun loving and friendly. **Box May 14**

**PRETTY, TALL,** dark hair, 28 yr old lady with GSOH. Loves fun and loves uniform. **Box May 15**

**SINGLE MUM, 41.** GSOH, varied interests. Seeks male penfriend for friendship etc. **Box May 16**

**RACHEL, SINGLE 23,** likes to live life to the full. Seeks male penfriend with GSOH. **Box May 17**

**LADY 34.** Seeks male penfriends, GSOH. Friendship, maybe more. **Box May 18**

**I'M 46, DIVORCED** with two teenage children. I enjoy music, socialising and theatre. **Box May 19**

## PERSONAL

**-PEN PALS-**  
 LINK LINE is a British Registered Charity committed to bringing people together as pen friends. Get to know a companion or partner, like yourself, before you meet. Just exchange letters until you feel comfortable with your new friend.  
 Details: SAE; Linkline (NN), Box 7358, LONDON N1 5QF.

**CONTACT MAG** for adults only, choose yourself a new friend from over 900 photos. APPROVAL copy from. MATCHMAKER (A.10), Chorley, PR7 4BS.  
 Or ring 01257 - 480155 (24 hours)  
 Email: karen@adultfun.co.uk

**NOTICE**  
 All advertisements submitted for entry into the Navy News Penfriend Column are subjected to copy approval. Navy News reserves the right to make any amendments which it considers necessary or to edit copy which is in excess of the number of words paid for.  
**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.**



On parade at HMS Raleigh, MEMs John and Gerald Ross.

# Double trouble at Raleigh

NAVAL instructors at HMS Raleigh have been seeing double with identical twins passing through the establishment's gates.

Twins John and Gerald Ross from Nairn, Scotland, joined the Royal Navy on the same day to become Marine Engineer Mechanics, and travelled down to Raleigh together.

After completing their eight-week Basic Training Course, the two are now at HMS Sultan in Gosport to continue their specialist training.

For our other pair of identical

twins from Hull, Steven Moore signed up for the Royal Navy first, and six months later his brother Gary also signed up for life in the Senior Service.

So while one brother is working as a steward in the Portsmouth area, Gary has now finished his basic training at Raleigh, and has gone on to HMS Collingwood for his final training as an Operator Maintainer (Communications).

HMS Raleigh is the New Entry Training Establishment at Torpoint, Cornwall. All new entries undergo an intensive eight week course before going on to further specialist training.



Steven and Gary Moore also passed through Raleigh's gates.

# Hood survivor honours class winner

TED Briggs, the last survivor of Hood's loss to the Bismarck in May 1941, visited HMS Collingwood to make a special presentation to a communications student.

Class leader of OMC 118 Course, Operator Maintainer Plessey Black, accepted the print of HMS Hood on behalf of the Communications Warfare department.

Ted Briggs keeps up close links with the Maritime Warfare School and in particular with the Communications department.

Now the President of the Hood Association, Ted Briggs was an Ordinary Signaller aged just 18 when the Hood was lost.

He was one of only three men to survive from a ship's company of 1,421.

In later life, Ted became a Signal Officer and retired from the Royal Navy in 1973.

## John's gem of an idea

JOHN Lawrence, a craft technician from HMS Dryad, has gained £1,000 thanks to his idea to recycle headsets used during training.

It is expected that this suggestion will save the MOD £20,000.

John suggested the measure as part of the MOD's GEMS scheme that is designed to reward both Service and civilian staff for cost-saving ideas.

He's following in his father's footsteps - in 1969 Francis Lawrence received £80 for developing a fault finding trainer.

## Keep it in the family

AIR Engineer Mechanic Richard Collins, aged 17, has followed in his father's footsteps.

The proud dad, Master at Arms Collins who currently serves in HMS Cumberland, was there to witness Richard's Passing Out Parade from HMS Raleigh.

Richard's dad signed up himself 24 years earlier.

Richard is next off to HMS Sultan to go on with the next stage of his training in air engineering.



MAA and AEM Collins, father and son.

## ...and out

CPO(M) Steve Pickup's younger brother, Scott, didn't fancy life in a blue suit, and signed up for the Army instead with the Royal Logistics Corp.

The two met up for the first time in four years when Steve's ship, HMS Campbelltown anchored off Cyprus.



CPO Steve Pickup and Corporal Scott Pickup.

# Spirit of yesteryear



In the spirit of times gone by, CMEA Liam Stanley, PO MEM Quayle, LMEM Spence, LMEM Pearce and MEM Jackson - the diesel engineers of HMS Roebuck.

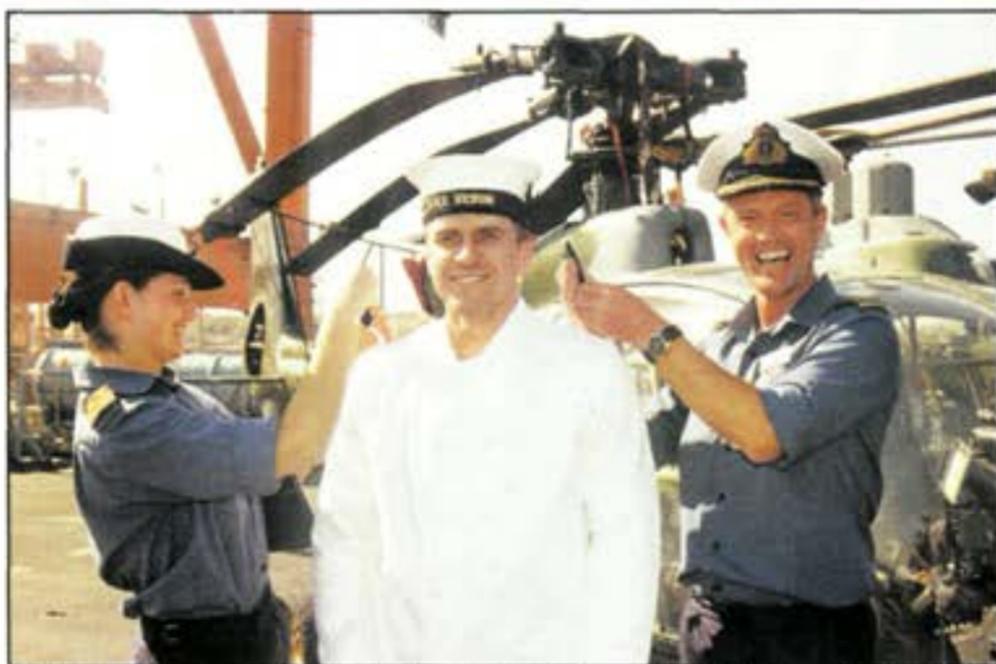
BACK when men were men, ships were ships, and stokers ruled the world...

HMS Roebuck has some of the oldest and longest running diesels in the Royal Navy with over 30,000 hours on each.

The diesel engineers on board specifically asked Navy News to put this picture in "as the old girl is on her last legs being the final coastal currently in service, and this may cheer her up."

So here's their tribute to Roebuck's indomitable spirit!

# People in the News



● Chef Jamie Rowles receiving his Leading Chef insignia from Lt Ruth Fleming and Captain Adrian Johns, Commanding Officer of HMS Ocean.

## Dinner for two hundred? No problem

NAVAL chef Jamie Rowles has received the Navy's Herbert Lott award after an early Christmas surprise, when 200 Royal Marines en route to the Middle East stopped off to use HMS Heron as a staging post.

During a main leave period, single-handedly Jamie had to open up a galley in which he had never worked and set

about preparing a meal for 200 people within two hours.

Then, to make matters that much trickier, he had to bring the mealtime forward by over an hour.

The arrival of the Royal Marines at HMS Heron was both unannounced and unexpected, the night before main Christmas leave when many of the Naval Air Squadrons had departed on leave earlier in the day.

As Duty Caterer, Jamie's normal role was to man the office until completion of supper, issuing any

extra victuals as required, then be on call before opening the Catering Office early the next morning.

The galley was unmanned because no night-flying had been planned, but it was obvious that the new arrivals would need feeding.

So Jamie leapt to work, providing the growing numbers of military personnel with a hot meal.

Jamie's citation reads: "The fact that he not only managed this astonishing feat on time and to a high standard and then unhesitatingly continued to provide hot sustenance... is an accolade to Rowles' dedication, determination and very high levels of professionalism."

"Modest and unassuming he set an exemplary example of operating under pressure achieving laudable results."

Jamie is now serving on HMS Ocean and has since been upgraded to Leading Chef.

## H'Ark back

HMS ARK ROYAL has reunited five men who last met when young officers together at Dartmouth.

The five represent the aviation, marine engineering, fighter control, IS systems, and education and personnel aspects of the busy ship's life.

From left to right: Lt Peter Haywood, a Merlin pilot with 814 Squadron; Lt Carl Blacow, the Marine Engineering department Senior Watchkeeper; Lt Ian Green, fighter controller; Lt Cdr Chris McLarnon, CBO and IS manager, and Lt Keith Stephenson, Education and Resettlement officer.

Ark is in the process of commencing the tactical fixed and rotary wing aspects of BOST Phase II in the North Sea.



● IN THE midst of this throng of light blue and green can be spied LWTR Angus Clarke who received a Chief of Staff's Commendation for outstanding work with his NATO colleagues in International Support Command Headquarters in SHAPE Belgium. Admiral Sir Ian Garnett, the new Chief of Staff to Supreme Allied Commander Europe, gives a bit of serious weight to the 46-strong Royal Naval contingent.

THIS photograph of jovial officers from RNAS Brawdy in the 1960s was sent in by a reader after a discovery when clearing out a relative's attic.

The pictures are clearly marked from Brawdy's photographic section, and she knows her father-in-law Harold 'Andy' Anslow was Chief Engineer for Short Bros who had the MOD maintenance contract.

If any of this motley crew recognise themselves, let us know.



## READY FOR ANYTHING?

## SO'S OUR

## BREAKDOWN

## COVER.



These days, you're everywhere. On deployment, on holiday, or just on the way home. Trouble is, your breakdown company can't keep up.

With Breakdown Plus from Affinitas, it's a different story. We use Europ Assistance, the biggest breakdown support network in Europe. You get everything from roadside repair to a replacement vehicle. Anywhere from Aberdeen to Ankara. And because your call is always taken in the UK, there's never a language problem.

You'll find the rates very competitive, too. So call for a quote now - at least you won't have to go anywhere.

0800 316 1 317

+44 1206 393 777

www.affinitas.com

**affinitas**  
looking out for you

# Manhunt in the mountains

Continued from page 1

The companies which conducted the operation – Whiskey and Zulu – were joined at Bagram by Yankee Co as *Navy News* went to press, and X-ray Co was expected to join them within days, bringing the Commando to full strength.

"Morale is very high – they had a great operation, and it was a good opportunity to shake out and to work together with American and Afghan forces, as well as amongst ourselves," said Lt Col Harradine. "They are looking forward to going again."

Chinooks of 27 Squadron RAF and American aircraft were used to insert the troops into the mountains, and the Americans also provided air cover.

In announcing Operation Ptarmigan, Brigade Commander Brigadier Roger Lane said: "It's clear that the war in Afghanistan is not over. The hunt for Al Qaeda and Taliban goes on."

"From the outset, we said that we were in this for the long haul, and we would stand shoulder to shoulder with the United States of America and the Coalition partners in the global war on terrorism, and that is precisely what we are doing now."

Meanwhile, the search for fleeing Al Qaeda and Taliban leaders continues offshore, where the Coalition maritime force currently stands at about 60 ships.

Ten are from the United Kingdom – task group flagship HMS Ocean, destroyer HMS York, Type 22 frigate HMS Campbelltown, Type 23 frigate HMS Portland (the Armilla patrol ship in the Gulf), and RFA's Fort Austin, Bayleaf, Fort George, Sir Tristram, Sir Percivale and Diligence.



Onlookers crowd the Round Tower as HMS *Illustrious* approaches Portsmouth Harbour.

Picture: LA(PHOT) Burgess

# The war goes on ...



Royal Marines from 45 Commando return to Bagram airfield near Kabul, after a day's training on Operation Jacana. Behind them is a Chinook helicopter of 27 Squadron RAF – the type of aircraft which flew Royal Marines into the mountains to launch Operation Ptarmigan.

Picture: PO(PHOT) Steve Lewis

Gibraltar Camp, situated in Bagram Airbase, Afghanistan. Not quite fully built, it will house most of the British service personnel currently based at Bagram – primarily 45 Commando Royal Marines and their attached supporting units.

Picture: PO(PHOT) Tony Leather

## Illustrious returns as Ocean gets to work

NAVY flagship HMS *Illustrious* and one of her escorts have returned from their extended deployment to the Middle East.

The aircraft carrier left Portsmouth last summer to lead the major maritime exercise Argonaut 2001, of which major wargame Saif Sareea in Oman was the highlight.

But with the attacks on the United States on September 11, the medium-term focus shifted further east, and *Illustrious* underwent a rapid metamorphosis from Harrier carrier to helicopter carrier, supporting the deployment of Royal Marines in the early, crucial days of the interim Afghanistan government.

This allowed the purpose-built ship HMS *Ocean* to return to the UK for planned maintenance, and she is now back on station in the Arabian Sea as the flagship of the British maritime contribution.

*Illustrious*, under Capt Alan

Massey, returned to a huge welcome after almost seven months away – but it was likely to have been her last major appearance before a two-year refit, which is due to begin in the autumn.

Greeting the carrier, Armed Forces minister Adam Ingram said: "I am delighted and honoured to welcome HMS *Illustrious* from her highly-successful deployment, and my congratulations go out to her Commanding Officer and ship's company for a job well done."

"*Illustrious*'s outstanding flexibility in operating in, and moving between, a variety of roles has once again demonstrated the utility of sea-based operations in general and the aircraft carrier in particular."

"Her contribution in the war against terrorism is a source of pride for us all."

Since leaving the UK early in September, the carrier spent all but 34 days at sea.

The same day saw Type 22 frigate HMS *Cornwall* back in her home port in the West Country.

Her deployment mirrored that of the carrier – she sailed for Saif Sareea at the end of the summer, then stayed in the region to fight the war on terror.

She acted as flagship for Commodore Abdullah al Raisi of Oman during Saif Sareea, leading a flotilla which included two RN frigates and seven Omani ships.

On completion of the exercise her main task became intelligence gathering in the Arabian Sea and the Gulf region, often working at some distance from *Illustrious*.

Commanding Officer Capt Steve Kirby said: "We have remained at a high state of operational readiness for almost seven months thanks to a team effort that has included a great deal of excellent support from the UK."

"The real stars are my ship's company and their families who have been magnificent throughout, accepting fully the requirement for the ship to extend over Christmas."



Log on to **Navy News Online** for regular updates on the situation in Afghanistan – and news from the Royal Navy and the Royal Marines around the world

[www.navynews.co.uk](http://www.navynews.co.uk)

## Escorts make the most of proximity

ESCORT ships of the UK maritime task group in Operation Enduring Freedom – the war on terror – are making the most of the proximity of different warships to broaden the understanding of the ship's companies.

Type 42 destroyer HMS York, now a third of the way through her six-month deployment as HMS Ocean's shadow, has had few opportunities to come alongside in the region.

But in between exercises with the rest of the Task Group in the Gulf of Aden and the Gulf of Oman, when personal and team skills were honed through a series of training serials, the ship has managed to get several of her sailors across to HMS Ocean on 24-hour exchanges.

The Commanding Officer of the destroyer, Cdr Richard Powell, hopes to continue and extend the programme to involve ships of other Coalition nations, including the big American carriers such as the USS John F. Kennedy and the USS John C. Stennis.

The primary role of the ship, and others with the group such as Type 22 frigate HMS Campbeltown, is to provide round-the-clock air, surface and sub-surface protection for the entire group.

York relieved sister-ship HMS Southampton of the escort chore, while Campbeltown in turn replaced another Type 22 frigate, HMS Cornwall.

As a break from the hard work, ship's companies on the escorts benefit from daily sports activities and social events.

In York, for example, circuit training and step aerobics allow sailors to stay in top condition, and inter-mess competitions have been held on the flight deck.

The good weather has also allowed a couple of barbecues to be staged, usually followed by an open-air film on the flight deck.

Campbeltown, under the command of Capt Mark Sloan, has been working closely with American ships, and has exchanged sailors with the USS Hue City, a 10,000-ton Ticonderoga-class Aegis cruiser.

The nature of the Coalition operation is also demonstrated by the fact that the frigate has been replenishing at sea with the USS Bridge, refuelling from the 50,000-ton Supply-class support ship.

## Gunners train

GUNNERS from 29 Commando Regt Royal Artillery have been training hard in preparation for their role in the war on terrorism.

Around 180 gunners will provide artillery support to 45 Commando RM, using 105mm light guns which fire a high-explosive shell over ten miles.

The guns, which can be slung beneath a Chinook for transport, can be fired at a rate of six rounds per minute.



● HMS Ocean in the Arabian Sea.

● HMS Campbeltown takes fuel from RFA Diligence "rafted up" together in the Indian Ocean. So far this evolution has been successfully completed on three occasions, with the transfer of fuel, stores, mail and personnel between ships.



# 'General' leads by example

'THE GENERAL' is maintaining a high profile at the head of the British amphibious task group in the Arabian Sea.

And as the various groups work hard to integrate in preparation for the task in hand, Commodore Jamie Miller is leading by example with the personal touch.

Cdre Miller earned the affectionate nickname The General while he was Executive Officer in HMS Ark Royal, supporting operations in Bosnia.

The reasons were his high standards of style and discipline, his Army family background – and his collection of lead soldiers.

Now Cdre Miller is making every effort to keep his men and women at peak efficiency as his original job – Commander of the Amphibious Task Group for Exercise Saif Sareea last year – fades into history as the war on terrorism occupies everyone's attention.

Cdre Miller originally sailed with HMS Fearless as his command platform, but has now transferred to helicopter carrier HMS Ocean, the UK flagship in the region at the head of a flotilla of ten ships and more than 2,000 people.

The main focus for Cdre Miller has been "to deliver 45



● Commodore Jamie Miller

Commando Royal Marines safely into the operational theatre, Afghanistan.

To achieve that, he has been able to call on 12 helicopters and nearly 180 personnel from 845 and 847 Naval Air Squadrons (Sea Kings, Lynx and Gazelles) and the Chinooks of 27 Squadron RAF.

Cdre Miller said he was very pleased to see how the ship's company, Royal Marines and air group had all made very close bonds as the troops were flown into Bagram in support of Operation Jacana.

To achieve the task, there has been an impressive example of logistics – ships completed 34 replenishments at sea in five weeks, the air group flew more than 500 hours to move more than 700 tonnes of ammunition, 900 tonnes of non-explosive stores, 186 vehicles and a battery of 105mm guns.

Cdre Miller is known to like meeting his people and chatting to them, and his personal touch was demonstrated when he visited one of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary ships and spoke to a Naval Airman whose only complaint was that he had had no mail from home.

On returning to Ocean that evening, Cdre Miller wrote a letter to the individual and ensured it was hand-delivered by the Captain of the RFA – prompting a reply from the happy recipient.

Cdre Miller's abiding memory was "the amount of activity on board, covering maritime, flying and military operations."

● An RAF door gunner/aircrewman checks the rear of his aircraft as the Chinook of 27 Squadron RAF lands at Bagram airfield following a training exercise with Royal Marines of 45 Commando

Picture: PO(PHOT) Steve Lewis



## Scott pays a visit to Dubai

OCEAN survey vessel HMS Scott is a familiar sight in the Indian Ocean, now strewn with ships of the Coalition navies.

Scott – which is not part of Operation Enduring Freedom – put into Dubai for an informal four-day visit, allowing the

local Consul General, Simon Collis, to present a General Service Medal (Air Ops over Iraq) to MEM Rory Snell.

The 13,500-ton lean-manned vessel – it has a ship's company of only 44 – managed to field a rugby XV against the Dubai

Hurricanes club, but the ship's team was beaten by the experienced ex-pats side.

Scott was due back in Devonport as Navy News went to press, and she will then sail to Portsmouth for her first major upkeep period.

## NOW WE COVER

## YOUR LITTLE

## SOLDIERS.



Ever phoned for a health or life insurance quote? Tell them you're in the Services and they get jumpy. Or expensive. So covering your family can be tough.

Until now. We've joined up with AFFAS, the Armed Forces Financial Advisory Services, to offer you a wide range of products that'll protect you and your family.

Like us, AFFAS builds policies to suit Services life. Such as private health care that's sensibly priced. And term life assurance that even refunds half your premiums at the policy's end – just when you need it most.

To find out more, or to get a quote, call us now. We'll be looking out for you – and yours.



0800 243 592  
www.affinitas.com

NN10A

**affinitas**  
looking out for you

DESIGNED TO HELP YOU WORK, REST AND PLAY

# Take a look at life in the new Type 45

**R**ATTLER Morgan swings his legs over the side of his bunk and says to Buster Brown, who's sat upright in the bunk below reading a tatty copy of Esquire, "Let's go to the mess and down some wets, eh?"

The only other lad currently in their six-man cabin is plugged into his Gameboy and won't be separated from Lara Croft for any reason.

On the way out the door, they spy Mickey Finn bimbaling round the corner, dressed in towel and flip-flops on his way back from the shower cubicles at the end of the block of cabins.

"Coming for a drink?"  
"Be there in ten."

So our two intrepid heroes head over to the junior rates mess. A score of lads and lasses are watching a James Bond film on the overhead projector in the telly room, so the two scoot through the sliding door to the bar.

Buster sticks his head round the corner of the quiet area to see if Tug's in there getting on with his log-book work, but no luck.

Angie lifts her eyes from her book and suggests: "Down the gym, I reckon..."

This piece of fiction may not be too far from the truth when it comes to life for the 190 crew on board the Navy's future Daring-class destroyer. From the beginning, living conditions have been a focus of the team putting together the next generation of air-defence warships.

**Bigger bunks, large mess areas, a dedicated gym and wide passageways to avoid that Type 42 twist as two adults pass - it's a whole new world. Space for each member of the ship's company has increased considerably compared to existing warships.**

Plans and designs are being decided now for this warship of the future. The Prime Contractor, BAE Systems, is working closely with the Royal Navy and Defence Procurement Agency (DPA) to make sure the ship is both practical and comfortable.

BAE Systems, the design authority, know accommodation is a big priority, particularly in terms of improving crew standards.

The Accommodation Working Group meets regularly to look at every aspect of life on board. It is chaired by the DPA, and made up of a cross-section of Naval ratings and officers - all ranks, both sexes, and every age.



● A concept design for the senior rating's single-berth modular cabin.

**WE KNOW** the names of the future destroyers, we know they carry the equipment of the future, but what will life be like on the next-generation warships? Read on...

Ship designers have also been out and about on all sorts of ships, talking and listening to the people who already live the shipboard life. And this is not just Royal Navy ships, but other navies and commercial vessels - feeding lessons learnt from industry and around the world into Daring, Dauntless and beyond.

**Junior rates will be in six-man cabins, with berths bigger and longer than any currently in service. The bunks will stack two deep, and great attention has gone into the specific arrangement of these two beds.**

The ability to sit up in bed has proved of prime concern to Naval folk. So Human Factors experts were brought in to find the ideal solution. The cabin module is 2.1 metres high - so one of the options was to put the lower bunk practically on floor level, but give both mess-mates plenty of space to sit up.

But the panel of experts and Naval people on the Accommodation Working Group agreed that sleeping with your head on noisy boot level might not go down too well with your average matelot, so an alternative layout was devised.

**S**ailors big and small have been trying out the bunk arrangements in wooden mock-ups at the Institute of Naval Medicine at Averboske, and reporting back their thinking.

The end result is two bunks at least 2.1m in length with 90cm height between the two, enough space for everyone except the very tallest to sit up. The lower bunk is lifted above floor level, with space for separate boot lockers beneath to protect your clothes from that distinctive worn shoe smell.

But the long-bodied among you need not worry, the reclining backrest at the end of the bunk will prop you at a comfortable angle instead.

Another Naval practice came clear at the regular meetings that surprised the BAE designers - the junior rates were very definite that they didn't want ladders for the top bunk, just a grab-handle.

The plans provide an individual locker situated over the leg end of each bunk, a full-length wardrobe to hang your greatcoat, and surfaces specially designed to be easily cleaned.

Each bunk will have its own light, its own 240v power supply, and a privacy curtain to shut out the world. The temperature can be controlled in each individual cabin, so bickering will be limited to among six at most.

Senior rates will be in either one or two-berth cabins, with officers in single berths - except officers under training who'll bunk in two-man cabins. There'll be plenty of storage, and desks for working, with provision for Internet access in some cabins and recreation spaces.

At the end of each block of modular cabins lies a row of cubicles - toilets, basins and showers. No climbing up two decks and padding along passageways with wet feet to and from the showers and heads. And individual doors that shut to allow either gender the luxury of privacy for use.

The plans provide one shower for every nine junior rates, and one for every seven senior rates. The Type 45 designers promise that the ship can cater for a realistic peak load, morning and evening - so no more lukewarm showers!

**F**or the first time on a destroyer, the sleeping area is not doubling as your recreation space as well. Junior ratings, senior rates and officers will all have a dedicated space, with bar facilities, TV and sitting areas.

These spaces can be partitioned to separate TV areas from the bar, or to allow a quiet space for study. The TV will be digital with connectivity to a ship-wide broadcast system.

The junior rates will have three interconnecting spaces to seat up to 86 people and the senior rates will have two connecting compartments for 58. The wardroom will be split with a dining room and anteroom for meetings or socialising.

Each individual ship will decide how to use this space, and individual equipment like stereos, projectors and the seemingly ever-present disco lights can be added at Naval discretion.

**The main passageways through the ship are large, with plenty of headroom and clear of obstructions. Cabling and ship's services run through technical galleries which run the length of the ship on port and starboard sides.**

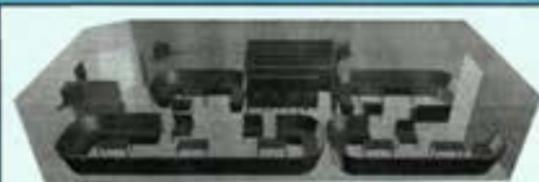
Firefighting and damage control gear is recessed into the passageway or stowed in lockers at regular intervals down the length of the ship.

Most of the doors on the Type 45 will be equipped for single-lever operation for easy opening, and the majority of hatches will have counterbalances and springs to lessen their weight.

The gym will be a dedicated space on board the warship, with the air-conditioning that runs throughout the ship working to whisk away that characteristic atmosphere of stale sweat and pain. And if you don't fancy the gym, 16 laps of the flight deck equals one mile.

Plans for the Type 45 are in hand right now, and the details are being examined and decided. At every stage, the lives of everyone on board are being considered. Designers have kept in mind that this warship is not just a place of work, but also a home.

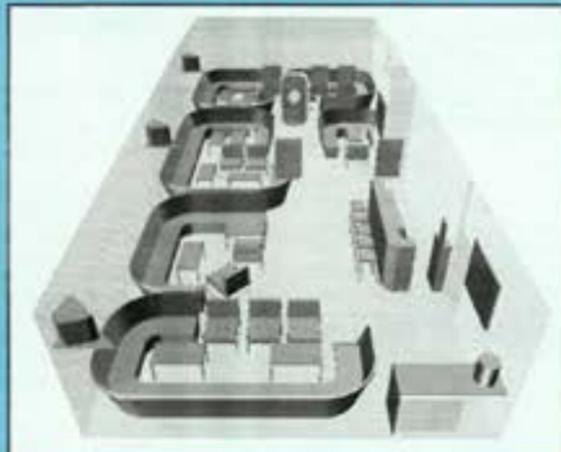
And one thing's for sure, the Type 45 will offer a lifestyle unlike any other Royal Navy destroyer or frigate.



● Above and top: senior rates recreation area concepts.



● A possible interior for the junior rate's bar area.



● Junior rates recreation space design - end-view.



● The junior rates recreation space: on the left, a bar area; middle, TV room; and right, quiet reading room. The exact arrangement of rooms is at the ship's discretion.

● See 'Smiles', page 20



T45

# Farewell to Medical College at Blockhouse

**T**HE ROYAL Defence Medical College has closed the doors of its Fort Blockhouse home for the last time.

Established at the Gosport base in August 1996, the Royal Defence Medical College (RDMC) provided postgraduate training in military surgery, military medicine, army psychiatry, preventative medicine, military entomology and general practice for all three Services.

After a review in 1998, the Ministry of Defence announced that a Centre for Defence Medicine would be created as part of a future strategy for the Defence Medical Services.

This tri-Service centre is hosted by the University Hospital Birmingham NHS Trust and provides a centre of excellence that

will be the main focus for all military medical expertise.

The future for the Fort Blockhouse site remains positive despite the departure of the RDMC.

Twenty-two lodger units remain on the site including the Submarine Escape Training Tank, 33 Field Hospital and the Joint Services Adventurous Sail Training Centre.

In addition, the Centre for Defence Medicine will run a training division to look after student nurses who remain at the University of Portsmouth.

The longer-term future of the Gosport site remains under review.

■ Away from the specific Blockhouse changes, all four MOD Medical Agencies have just been through a five-yearly review.

This has resulted in a decision to focus more specifically on the delivery of two key areas – medical care that can be deployed in operational scenarios, and appropriate healthcare for Service men and women.

As part of this review, it has been decided to restructure the existing agencies to concentrate on these two primary aims.

The Defence Secondary Care Agency will disappear in March 2003, and its training functions will be transferred to an expanded Defence Medical Education and Training Agency.

Healthcare commissioning from this point will be handled by a new group within the Surgeon General's staff.

The Medical Supplies Agency has already become a part of the Defence Logistics Organisation on April 1, 2002.

It is planned to keep the Defence Dental Agency in its present form, with a few minor changes.

Arrangements for healthcare in Germany and Northern Ireland are not expected to be changed, but the provision of all aspects of medical services in Gibraltar and Cyprus will become the responsibility of the local Commands.

The MOD aims to establish a



● The three Services form Ceremonial Divisions to mark the closure of the tri-Service Royal Defence Medical College at Fort Blockhouse before moving to the Centre for Defence Medicine, Birmingham

stronger partnership between the defence medical and the National Health Service, and to draw on lessons learnt from within the NHS and parent Services to strengthen the existing medical role.

This new assessment has given a chance for the MOD to take stock of progress for the medical services since the changes of 1998.

The MOD says of the review: "It is no surprise that it has concluded that while much has been done over the last three years there are further steps to be taken – and changes to be made – that will help the process of restoring the Defence Medical Services capability and ensuring that key defence medical outputs are delivered."

"The Government is committed to achieving these aims and, subject to the normal consultative process, to implementing the outcome of the review."



● Air Chief Marshal Sir Anthony Bagnall, Vice Chief of the Defence Staff, inspects Ceremonial Divisions at Fort Blockhouse



## WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH, THE TOUGH DON'T GO SHOPPING.

You people lead busy lives. You've got important jobs to do. And going shopping is way down your list of priorities. Which is why GORE-TEX® fabric have joined forces with Bell Apparel and launched a website for Armed Forces staff. Just log on, discover some terrific discounts and order. There, now back to work.



[www.bell-apparel.co.uk](http://www.bell-apparel.co.uk)

GORE-TEX, GORE and designs are registered trade marks of W. L. Gore & Associates.

## Helicopter wreck is a reminder

ICE PATROL ship HMS Endurance has completed a two-week visit to the Falklands – and one of her helicopters paid a visit to an old shipmate from more than 30 years ago.

The ship took the Governor of the Falklands, Donald Lamont, and his wife Lynda to visit the remote and stunningly picturesque settlements on the West Falklands.

A survey team from the ship completed the survey for a ferry route across the sound which separates East and West Falklands.

One of the ship's two Lynx helicopter flew into the Salvador Settlement on East Falkland, the home of a Westland Whirlwind.

**XM 666, based on the old Endurance, ran out of fuel while lifting supplies ashore in 1969.**

It was subsequently salvaged, major components removed, and the airframe left in the settlement.

Locals made good use of it. Its front wheels went on a farm trailer, and did sterling service until the bearings wore out. Nuts and bolts were removed to keep vehicles and other machinery running.

The distinctive original red livery can still be discerned on the skeleton of the Whirlwind, which now sits against the hedgerow of Jene and Robin Pitalugar's house.

A small group from the current Endurance enjoyed the Pitalugars' hospitality during the visit.

The team from Endurance comprised Flight Commander Lt Cdr Chris Yelland, pilot Capt Pete Clarke RM, ship's navigator Lt Cdr Jim Buck, SMR CCAEA Steve Wooding, PO(PHOT) Chris Brick and flight winchman AEM Craig Hobson.

Endurance has now finished her work in the Antarctic region, and is sailing north with stops at Tristan de Cunha, Cape Town, Senegal and Madeira before she arrives back in Portsmouth towards the end of this month.

## City honour

**DERBY City Council has granted the Freedom of the City to the Royal Navy Submarine Service.**

The Mayor of Derby, Cllr Janet Till, said that the honour recognised the importance of the Service and its ties with Derby – Rolls-Royce, based in the city, has supplied nuclear reactors for the flotilla since 1959.

The city of Derby also has had an affiliation with hunter-killer submarine HMS Sovereign for 25 years, and the Freedom marks the Service's centenary last year.



● HMS Fearless is nudged alongside at Portsmouth in March on her return from her final deployment.

Picture: Geoff Paralle (DLO).

# Falklands museum plan for Fearless

CAMPAIGNERS have identified HMS Fearless as an ideal home for a Falklands War museum.

The Falklands veteran, which returned home from her final deployment in March, will soon be up for disposal, and a group of supporters is racing against time to put in a bid for the amphibious assault ship.

Colin Waite, who served in Fearless in the Falklands as a Royal Marine, said he understood that the ship's disposal team was talking to other governments, but he believed it is likely that she would eventually be sold for scrap.

He and his fellow campaigners have set themselves an initial target of £400,000 to buy the warship.

"The aim behind this is to preserve Fearless for what she is – an important piece of our maritime history," said Mr Waite.

"She is the first and last of her type, and she did 37 years service, so we want to try to create something a little bit special."

"We would like to see a museum built on Fearless and in Fearless around the major con-

flicts she played a part in, from Aden to the Falklands."

Mr Waite said he and his colleagues were looking into business sponsorship, and were already receiving donations as a result of an appeal on the website [www.hmsfearless.co.uk](http://www.hmsfearless.co.uk)

There is no preferred location if the team was to succeed – Mr Waite has already spoken to officials at Portsmouth City Council, and he said Plymouth and Gosport were other obvious possibilities.

**Mr Waite recognises that buying Fearless would only be the beginning of the hard work.**

"Running costs are going to be a problem, but I have spoken to people at HMS Belfast and the Royal Marines Museum."

"Those costs are going to be a major drain on resources, so it will be down to marketing and getting the people through."

The campaign has lobbied MPs, and is seeking support from a central figure in the Falklands War, Baroness Thatcher. They

already have backing from an unexpected corner – former Defence Secretary John Nott.

■ The bid to buy the former HMS Vengeance back from the Brazilian Navy and put it on show in the UK now has just one serious competitor, according to leading campaigner Martin Hill.

The Minas Gerais is likely to be sold by the summer – but the rival bid is said to be from the city authorities in Rio de Janeiro, who want to turn the aircraft carrier into a floating entertainment complex and conference centre.

The Save the Vengeance campaign can be contacted at 01262 490248.

■ The Historic Warships Preservation Society is calling for a concerted effort to preserve two wartime Royal Navy ships – formerly HMS Whimbrel and HMS Zenith – as sea-going museum pieces, visiting maritime events around the country and abroad.

The two ships are being sold off by the Egyptian Navy, and the Society also suggests the ships, if preserved, should reflect the whole of their service life, not just the Royal Navy element, promoting links between the two navies.

## Leading role for Cumberland

TYPE 22 frigate HMS Cumberland has returned to Devonport after taking a leading role in major NATO exercises in the Baltic.

Exercise Strong Resolve involved 46 ships from 11 nations, and Commodore James Fanshawe, as Commodore of the UK Task Group and Maritime Component Commander, flew his flag in the frigate.

The exercise, which featured maritime and land elements, simulated NATO peacekeeping operations similar to those undertaken for real in the Balkans, East Timor and West Africa.

And at one point Cumberland's Commanding Officer, Capt Ian Corder, led an 11-strong flotilla including ships from France, Germany, the US and Poland, as well as HM ships Edinburgh, Lancaster and Roebuck.

Planning meeting and mock peace talks were also held aboard the frigate.

A visit to Copenhagen rounded off the deployment, and the ship is now undergoing a maintenance period before her next tasking.

■ Type 22 poster – centre pages



● HMS Cumberland in company with American command ship USS Mount Whitney.

## Anniversary sparks slew of conflict exhibitions

THE 20th anniversary of the Falklands War has sparked a slew of exhibitions and events around the country.

Explosion!, the Museum of Naval Firepower in Gosport, opens an exhibition on the conflict on May 4.

Exocet! Naval Action in the Falklands War will feature signed documents from leading players, as well as many of the missiles used during the conflict, including the much-feared Exocet, the Seawolf and the Sea Dart.

Reminiscences of workers at the RN Armaments Depot at Priddy's Hard who prepared many of the ships involved in the conflict are also included. The site is now partly occupied by the museum.

Supporting events such as a talk on ship damage control and a reunion of Priddy's Hard workers are also planned.

For further details, contact the museum on 023 9250 5600 or visit [www.exploration.org.uk](http://www.exploration.org.uk)

The exhibition runs until the end of October.

■ Admiral Sir Michael Layard, who was the Senior Naval Officer on board Atlantic Conveyor when it was hit by an Argentine Exocet, has officially opened the Falklands exhibition at the Fleet Air Arm Museum in Yeovilton.

The FAA provided the majority of aircraft in the campaign, including Sea Harriers and Wessex, Lynx and Sea King helicopters.

Centrepiece of the exhibition is HMS Antrim's Wessex helicopter 'Humphrey', which was involved in the attacks on the Argentine submarine Santa Fe and in rescuing British forces stranded in blizzards on a glacier in South Georgia.

The FAA lost 23 men in the Falklands campaign, 12 from Yeovilton squadrons, and they are commemorated by a dozen beech trees on the Yeovilton sports field.

A short memorial service was held at the line of trees after the exhibition was formally opened.

For more details of the museum or exhibition, telephone 01935 840565 or see [www.fleetairarm.com](http://www.fleetairarm.com)

■ Defence Secretary Geoff Hoon has confirmed that the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire should be the location of the proposed memorial to Service personnel killed since World War II.

In a written answer to Parliament, Mr Hoon said extensive research into buildings in and outside London had resulted in the decision to site the Armed Forces Memorial in the Midlands.

"The names of those commemorated will either be engraved on the memorial or in Rolls of Honour that will be kept close by in the Millennium Chapel at the Arboretum," wrote Mr Hoon.

"The design of the memorial will be decided following an architectural competition that will be held later this year."

Members of the RFA and the Merchant Navy who were killed in conflict zones while in direct support of the Armed Forces will also be included on the memorial.

## Timeship call

A NEW initiative to record memories of the Falklands has been launched by the Royal Star and Garter Home.

The home launched its Odyssey Timeship project on June 6, 2001, and it closes on June 6, 2002.

Before then, Service men and women who served in the South Atlantic, and friends and relatives of those who died, can record their accounts on a historic archive which will chart Service life over the past century.

Entries cost £10, raising funds for the Home, while the Timeship will be stored at the Imperial War Museum until 2101.

See [www.odysseytimeship.com](http://www.odysseytimeship.com) for details, or write to the Home at Richmond, Surrey, TW10 6RR, tel 0208 940 1351.

## Flag leads 'normal life'

THE MISSING flag from HMS Monmouth is alive and well – and enjoying some leisure pursuits while in captivity.

The frigate's black flag was taken from her while the ship was in refit in Rosyth, as reported in last month's Navy News.

Now the paper has received another message from the 'flag-nappers', accompanied by photos of the flag.

The note said that "great lengths had been gone to in order to ensure the flag would continue to lead as normal a life as possible. As such, the flag has been taken clay pigeon shooting and quad-biking. The pictures can be seen on the Navy News website."

With HMS Iron Duke having sailed from Rosyth after refit, the finger of suspicion now points at HM ships Invincible, Liverpool, Spartan and Sceptre.

# TACKLING THE TERRORS OF THE AIB

## Tough challenge for Admiralty Boarding party

**A**S THE classic Monty Python sketch says: "Nobody expects the Spanish inquisition!" But the problem is the candidates do.

You can see it in their eyes, the tension in the clasped hands, the agitated staccato of tapping feet.

And really, the Admiralty Interview Board don't deserve this. Of the four people, three of them have been through the Board themselves and the civilian fourth is there to offer access to the non-military mind. They all want the process to be as pain-free and fair as possible.

No one is pretending this is easy. The Board's remit is to provide a suitable short-list of applicants to be considered for selection as Royal Navy or Royal Marine officers.

**Over 1,400 candidates come through the Admiralty Interview Board every year, and only half will be recommended for commission.**

And it isn't just groups of nervous 18 year olds. Over half of the candidates competing for the board are over 21. On top of that, about 20 per cent of applicants are from within the Navy or trying to join the Reserves.

The Board consists of the president, a service officer and a personnel selection officer - all RN or RM; with an education adviser from the civilian world. The Navy is the only one of the three Services that gives this civilian an equivalent say to his or her military compatriots in the final decision.

Ultimately, the AIB are looking for people with the potential to become good Naval or Marine officers, to survive the rigours of training at Britannia Royal Naval College Dartmouth or the Commando Training Centre Lympstone.

So what does make a good officer? The results of two days of testing are refined to four final categories: effective intellect; leadership potential; character and personality; and Service motivation. Each has a bearing in the final assessment.

Naturally the Commando requirement adds one further element to the mix - physique. Before even setting foot across the front doorstep of the AIB, aspiring Marines must pass the Potential Officers Course, a tough, physical endurance test that looks for drive and determination to match Royal Marine Commandos out fighting in the world today.

Similarly, potential aircrew must pass the demanding Flying Aptitude Tests at Cranwell before attending the AIB.

The tests and challenges of the AIB are a chance to stretch mental and physical muscles and to show who the candidate really is. And it's not a good idea to try to fake a new character for the sake of the

**The connection between aspiring Naval officers and two short planks may not be immediately apparent - but there's a definite knack to crossing a pool of water safely using some bits of wood and swinging ropes. And it's a good judge for the Admiralty Interview Board of teamwork, problem-solving and leadership - essentials for a Royal Navy officer.**

Board - everything encountered is designed to get through to the real you.

"What sort of chap is Mr Smith?", "Tell me about Miss Brown" - these interview questions are a chance to put forward anything that candidates think has been missed, but in all honesty, not much is.

The Board has heard most things in their time. One candidate when asked his inspirational hero cheerfully replied: "Spiderman".

These interviews take place on the final day of the Boarding process, and a range of carefully-monitored written, discussion and physical tests have led up to this point.

Candidates arrive in the early evening of the first day. Welcome briefs and a chance to mingle with fellow candidates are the main opportunity, with a long-detailed questionnaire that allows each applicant to sell himself or herself to the Navy.

The next day is principally taken up with tests in verbal and non-verbal reasoning, numeracy, speed and accuracy, and spatial orientation designed by Human Factor experts from the field of defence science.

These puzzles are accompanied by tasks of essay-writing, and checks on general and Service knowledge.

**T**he reward for a morning with heads buried in written tests is to spend the rest of the day practising hard to be ready for the dreaded gym and discussion tasks the next day. The gym task is a somewhat troubling experience that requires self, team-mates and several bulky bits of kit to be transferred safely across a mocked-up chasm or river.

In the high-roofed, echoing gym hall, the dark reflective surface of the pool is broken up by little waves from the tremors shaking it.

In the middle of the water tank three youths dressed in brightly-coloured jackets and numbered hard-hats stand perilously on a wooden plank balanced on two blocks.

Despite one lad's best efforts to contain his nerves, the shakes are being transferred down through his legs, through his feet to the wood below. And now they're all rocking in time to this internal metronome.

To general amazement, eventually all three return

safely back to their original starting point - nothing achieved but none the wetter.

There's disappointment in their eyes, and a slight sense of confusion as they try to figure out what went wrong. But undaunted they try again. Success in the gym tasks is not about crossing the water, it's about the interaction - the command and control, the teamwork and support, the problem-solving and planning.

**A swift crossing tells little about the social dynamics at play, leadership can be more clearly displayed in the response to adversity - a rush to blame or a quick word of encouragement and advice.**

And if someone dips their head and stops actively helping when not the leader, this is all noted by the circling Board - teamwork means caring about the task even when not the one directing, and the Navy is all about teamwork.

Problem-solving is also tested in the non-physical arena. The discussion exercise sets up a fictitious scenario featuring the likes of broken limbs, lost children and adverse weather.

After brief preparation the team have to discuss the most effective means to resolve the situation - and any suggestion offered is just one of countless solutions, each with its own strengths and weaknesses.

A storm of quick-fire questions buffets the candidates - quick-thinking is needed for the endless list of "who?", "when?", "how far?", "how many?".

A slip of focus, distraction from a companion's questioning, results in a blank. This risk may seem harsh, but in an operational situation, 200 lives may depend on the ability to concentrate.



● Carefully watched by team-mates, an AIB candidate builds a bridge above the pool

Eyes flick left and right as tired brains desperately rattle through their bottom drawers to recall speed-time-distance mathematics; clenched hands move from desk to lap to desk in response to individual successes.

**A**dvice to candidates is very simple - whatever you do, be prepared. Don't go into these interviews - in fact, don't even consider joining the Navy - without fully understanding that you are signing up for the Naval life.

Learn about the Service in full before you even consider applying. Research the different branches and the very specific skills and abilities required for each. Look at where the Navy is based around the UK and around the world, and find out about the ships in which you will serve.

The Navy is not a life to sign up for on a whim, and a half-hearted interest is easily exposed under questioning. The unexpected presence of a "Type 24" frigate can play havoc with the Service motivation score of an unprepared candidate.

Candidates need to appreciate the role of the modern Navy, and that world events impact on everyday Service life. Life in the Royal Navy means that you become part of these global operations - with all the responsibility that entails.

The AIB justly prides itself on the fairness and flexibility of the system. The process is designed to deal with any differences in schooling, cultural or social backgrounds. The lad who lives with his mother in a small farm in the Northern Isles of

Scotland has as much chance to shine as the young lady whose military father has sent her to Cheltenham Ladies College.

It is potential that's needed, and potential that's assessed. The various stresses and tests are designed to get at who the applicants are and could be, rather than who they are taught to be.

In some ways it is hardest for the Upper Yardmen and Corps Commission Candidates - ratings and other ranks who are trying to climb several rungs of the promotion ladder to become officers.

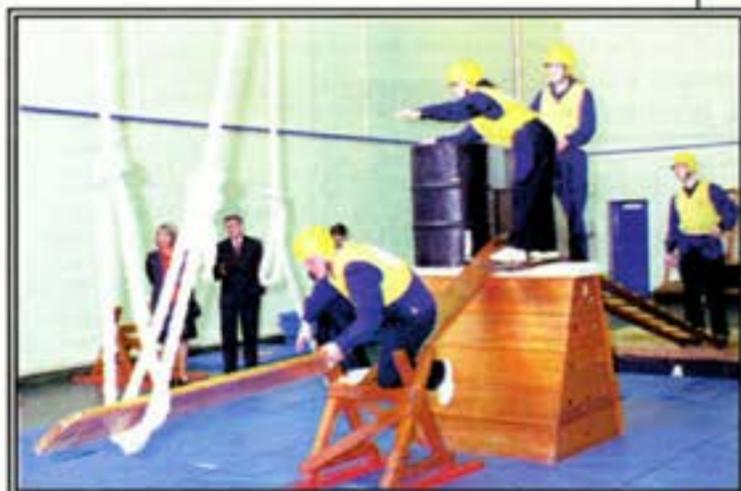
They have spent a number of years within the Service and have to break habits of reticence and authority to push forward to shine before the Captain president.

**Once the AIB has been passed, there is no guarantee of entry to the Service - places in the different branches are demand-led, so limited numbers of places are available for eager candidates.**

Once aspiring officers have reached Britannia Royal Naval College, over 90 per cent stick the course. The rigours of the AIB process ensure that this success rate through BRNC remains high.

Everyone who wishes to become an officer in the Royal Navy is required to attend the AIB. The process has not changed significantly for over 40 years, a testament to its robustness and effectiveness. And this is an authoritative claim - visitors from the commercial world regularly sit in to watch the selection process in action.

The Royal Navy has and continues to set the benchmark for modern management selection techniques.



● The problems of crossing a chasm with an oil drum using only two planks and several swinging ropes



● Candidates tackle the discussion exercise, closely watched by the members of the Admiralty Interview Board

# New IWM planned for north

THE IMPERIAL War Museum opens its first northern branch in Manchester on July 5. The IWM North promises easier access for people living in the north of Britain to its military collections and services.

The new museum will house some of the Imperial War Museum's collection of films, photographs and art at the northern site, along with many objects and documents that chronicle the conflicts in which British forces have fought since 1914.

Among the larger exhibits promised on display are an AV8A Harrier jump-jet, a T34 Russian tank and the artillery piece that fired the first shell from the British side in World War I.

With four branches in the South East, the IWM has long been looking to develop a new site to offer easy access to people living in the north of the country.

Once the new building opens, 15.5 million people will be within two hours drive of this latest branch of the IWM, that promises to tell people's stories and bring to life their experience of war and its impact.

The walls of the main exhibition hall are lined with a 220 metre timeline of objects and pictures that take visitors on a chronologi-

cal journey through events involving British and Commonwealth citizens since 1900.

The museum will also house the largest 360 degree audio-visual experience in the UK in its Big Picture gallery.

For more information, visit the IWM website: [www.iwm.org.uk](http://www.iwm.org.uk) or telephone: 0161 836 4000.

## Bluebottle welcomes back regal owners

THE QUEEN and Duke of Edinburgh start their national Golden Jubilee tour in Falmouth at the new National Maritime Museum, Cornwall, on May 1.

The Royal couple will meet up with an old friend, Bluebottle, a Dragon class keel boat that was given to the then Princess Elizabeth and the Duke as a wedding present by the Island Sailing Club in 1948.

The boat has been on permanent loan to the Cornish museum,



## Raid recalled

THIS STUNNING picture by David Rowlands entitled 'The Raid on St Nazaire' was unveiled at the 60th and last anniversary reunion of the St Nazaire Society at Falmouth in early April.

The painting commemorates the daring raid in 1942 by British Commando and Naval forces to attack the massive 'Normandie' dock in the heavily defended harbour of St Nazaire. The destruction of the dock deprived the German navy of the only repair site on the Atlantic coast big enough for the battleship Tirpitz. This effectively discouraged the Germans from moving her from the North Sea.

The raid resulted in the award of five Victoria Crosses, the largest number ever given for a single action.

The St Nazaire Society was formed by survivors of this campaign, and sadly the number of original members has now shrunk to 77. But the Society has grown with numerous Associate Members, many of whom are related to the men involved in the raid.

## Countrywide Residential Lettings

For a choice of quality properties in the Solent area contact:

Southsea/Old Portsmouth 023 9229 6022  
Portsmouth & Surrounding 023 9265 0101

## SUPPORT YOUR CLUB

All booking requirements in writing only, enclosing £5 deposit on each Family Room. Enclose a S.A.E. for your receipt. ACCOMMODATION: For Service Personnel, their families and dependents plus ex. serving personnel and R.N.A. members who may be visiting the Plymouth area. FUNCTIONS: We cater for all types of functions at very competitive prices. Ships Functions, Mess Parties, Wedding Receptions, Reunions of ships, past and present, we offer an ideal facility.

## Royal Fleet Club

Morice Square, Devonport, Plymouth PL1 4PQ  
Telephone inquiries only Plymouth 01752 562723

ASK FOR QUOTATION, CONTACT THE MANAGER WITHOUT DELAY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT



### ROYAL SAILORS' HOME CLUB

*Exclusive to present and former Ratings of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines*

Accommodation • Leisure Facilities • Bars and Restaurant  
All at attractive prices.

Private functions catered for by professionals  
Hands to dance and skylark to live music most weekends

Family & Associate membership available  
Now licensed for the Marriage Ceremony

Royal Sailors' Home Club, Queen Street, Portsmouth, PO1 3HS  
TEL: 023 9282 4231 FAX: 023 9229 3496  
email: [sailors@homeclub.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:sailors@homeclub.fsnet.co.uk)  
web site: [www.homeclub.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.homeclub.fsnet.co.uk)  
HOME CLUB - HOME COMFORTS - HOME IN!

### Garian House Holiday Flatlets

Self-catering flatlets, near sea and shops. Fully equipped. Colour TV, fridge, cooker, linen, etc. Ideal for a visit by family or girl friend.

**CHARGE PER PERSON - MINIMUM 2 PERSONS**

WEEKLY JULY & AUGUST - £100.00 WEEKLY JUNE & SEPTEMBER - £80.00  
OTHER MONTHS - £70.00 LONG LETS - £60.00  
1st SEPT - 1st JUNE ANY 3 NIGHTS (CONSECUTIVE) - £45.00  
DEPOSIT PER PERSON - £20.00

CHILDREN 12 YEARS OR UNDER HALF PRICE IF SLEEPING IN THE SAME ROOM AS ADULTS.

BOOKINGS ARE SATURDAY TO SATURDAY ONLY DURING MAY - OCTOBER.  
MR CURTIS, 70 FESTING GROVE, SOUTHSEA, PORTSMOUTH, HANTS.  
TELEPHONE: 023 9273 3581 Between 9am - 4pm  
[www.garianhouse.co.uk](http://www.garianhouse.co.uk)

## Hampshire Court Hotel

29/31 Hampshire Terrace, Southsea PO1 2QF

Delightful listed building, 1823. Central for seafront, stations, city centre, ferry ports etc. Private car parking  
Tea/coffee making facilities, colour TVs in all rooms + full English breakfast

Telephone (023) 9282 3522

### PLYMOUTH

Osmond Guest House  
42 Pier Street, West Hoe  
★★★★★ 01752 229705  
Bed and Breakfast from £18-£25.00  
Seafront. Courtesy pick-up from stations. 4 poster bed. All rooms  
CTV. Tea/Coffee making.  
Mostly En-suite. Parking.

### ORLANDO Florida

Close to Disney, 4 Bed Luxury Villa with pool, sleeps 10, New 2001.  
Phone Maria on 023 9263 9638  
[www.sunshine-magic.co.uk](http://www.sunshine-magic.co.uk)

### Stalham-Norfolk

Comfortable Two Bedroom Holiday Chalets On Attractive Site.  
Ideal location for Touring Norfolk Broads and Coast.  
From £85.00 p.w.  
Tel: 01692-581985

### PORTSMOUTH LADY HAMILTON

Closest B+B to Naval Base, 100 yards from main gate, HMS Victory/Mary Rose/HMS Warrior!  
Museums all on doorstep. 22 rooms most en-suite, singles/doubles/twins + family rooms, colour T.V., Tea+Coffee facilities, free house  
Tel: 023 9287 0505

## The King Charles Hotel

### Medway 'Golden Jubilee' Navy Days Break

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June - Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June

3 Nights Dinner, Accommodation & Full English Breakfast  
Free Entrance to Navy Days on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June  
Free Entrance to the Royal Engineers Museum on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June  
Free Day to visit Medway's Dickens Festival in Rochester on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June (Free transport provided to Rochester)

~ £79.00 pp based on two people sharing ~

Telephone 01634 830303

[www.canterburyhotelgroup.com](http://www.canterburyhotelgroup.com)  
CANTERBURY HOTEL SOUTHSEA  
RESERVATIONS 023 9229 3136

**HOTEL RE-OPEN AFTER REFURBISHMENT**

- Book Online - Group Discounts Available
- Modern Comfortable Accommodation
- B+B / Room Only
- Off Road Car Parking
- B+B from £20 per person per night
- 20 En-suite Rooms Available

[www.canterburyhotelgroup.com](http://www.canterburyhotelgroup.com)  
GROSVENOR HOTEL SOUTHSEA  
CALL FOR MORE DETAILS 023 9282 1653

- B+B / Room Only / Evening Meals Available
- Just Off Southsea Seafront
- Off Road Car Park
- B+B from £15 per person per night
- En-suite Rooms Available

### TORQUAY Southbank Hotel

- Licensed Bar ETB♦♦♦♦
- Family rooms available
- Close to seafront + shops
- H/C, Tea+Coffee, TV, All Rooms

Mags (Simon) & Rachel Thacker Both Ex-Navy  
Tel: 01803 296701  
Fax: 01803 292026

### ADJOINING PLYMOUTH HOE AND SEAFRONT

Friendly guest house, CTV's, Tea/Coffee, C.H., mostly en suite, T.V. lounge, parking. From £18 p.p.  
Edgcombe Guest House  
50 Pier Street, West Hoe  
Tel 01752 660675  
E-mail [bawton@clara.co.uk](mailto:bawton@clara.co.uk)

MALTA, MSIDA. Very central Guest room in family house. All rooms self catering with excellent facilities, TV, en suite. Extremely comfortable, Airport transfer, reasonable rates. Tel/Fax 00356 21313797

To Advertise Telephone - 023 9272 5062 NOW!!



# Drafty



'Just keep the coffee coming - we're having a bad air day!'

# Harrier move puts pressure on planners

THE FIRST and most important news from Drafty is the changeover of the man at the top.

Cdre John Musters was relieved by Cdre Duncan Fergusson on Friday, March 15. Cdre Fergusson joins from HMS Nelson, where he was Director Personnel.

In this month's *Drafty's Corner* it is the turn of the Fleet Air Arm, Regulator and PT Branch drafters - the D3 Division.

The last time it was the turn of FAA Drafting Division to give an update of drafting issues we were eagerly anticipating the final confirmation of the move of personnel within the Sea Harrier community to Rutland (RAF Cottesmore/Wittering).

Since then we have, of course, received news of the run-down of the Sea Harrier FA2 and the conversion of two RAF Harrier GR9 Squadrons to Naval manning.

At the time of writing the planners within 3 Group and the new Fleet Headquarters are working feverishly to resolve the many issues surrounding this decision.

All readers will be aware of the well-advertised TOPMAST manning initiative that has been introduced to bring, in the first instance, a much-needed improvement to the drafting cycle of General Service Able Rates.

It is the intention of the Navy Board to bring as much of this initiative as feasible into the other Branches of the Navy and, where necessary and possible, introduce TOPMAST Squad Systems where they give a better deal.

A team led by Commander Chris Alcock from the COMNA Staff has been carrying out considerable consultation work with the Air Stations, the TOPMAST team themselves and also Drafty, in order to develop the manning systems for the FAA of the 21st century.

This FAA Study Team has reached its own conclusion, but at the time of writing the recommendations have not been put before the Navy Board and so we can't expand on them here.

We expect to be able to make an announcement in the very near future.

**The future of the Regulating Branch at sea:** On March 5 the Second Sea Lord announced the introduction of the Executive Warrant Officer (EWO) in DD/FF and above.

In addition, the Commander-in-Chief Fleet has agreed that as a result the MAA billets in FF/DDs will be de-enriched to RPO.

This decision will naturally raise concern within the branch, particularly in respect to short-term issues over 2OE and promotion to MAA.

In the longer term, however, it does represent an excellent opportunity to restore a viable branch structure and improve the balance of sea/shore employment at the Senior Rate level.

At the moment, there are 87 MAAs jobs (36 sea) and 87 RPOs jobs (21 sea); under the proposed changes this becomes 61 MAAs jobs (10 sea including Capital ships) and 113 RPOs jobs (47 sea).

A much better structure and one which means a very much healthier state for the branch as a whole, and which will give a much brighter long-term future.

The timing of these changes is linked to the appointment of EWOs to ships which, in turn, is linked to the introduction of the roll-out programme for the TOPMAST Squad System.

It all happens between September this year and March 2003.

It is intended that an RPO will be introduced at the start-date of the EWO and the estimated relief dates of MAAs currently serving at sea may need to be adjusted in

order to meet this requirement.

Every effort is being made to ensure this process occurs as smoothly as possible, and Drafty will make every effort to keep all concerned informed prior to drafting action being taken.

**Cdr Nigel Cowley** (Warrant Officers): Ext 2125

**Lt Cdr John Beavis** (Aircrewmen, A/C Handlers, A/C Controllers, METOCs, Photographers, SEs, Regulators, PTs): Ext 2049

**Lt Cdr John Phesse** (All FAA Technical Ratings, Small Ships Flights): Ext 2121

**CPOAEM(M) 'Jess' Jessop** (Small Ships Flights, METOCs, Office Manager): Ext 2144

**POWTR Julie Rutherford** (ACs, Senior AHs, Senior SEs): Ext 2134

**POWTR Neil Ingram** (Regulators, PTs, Photographers): Ext 2969

**POWTR Doreen Towers** (FAA Technical S/Rs (L&R Trades)): Ext 2065

**POWTR Clare Harris** (FAA Technical S/Rs (M Trade)): Ext 2124

**LWWTR Tracy Lawes** (FAA Technical Leading Rates): Ext 2358

**LWTR 'Daz' Dinsdale** (FAA Technical and Non-Tech, Able Rates): Ext 2123

**Mrs Karen Stirling** (Office Administration): Ext 2274

## Situations vacant

THE FOLLOWING are details of jobs for which the Naval Drafting Division is seeking volunteers. General rules for volunteering apply.

n A PO (any) is needed immediately at HMS Collingwood in Fareham (PQ no 3210) as an instructor on the Leading Rates Leadership Course. Estimated time in this shore-based job is 24 months.

n A PO (any) is also required immediately at the Outdoor Leadership Training Centre at Tal-y-Bont in Wales (PQ no 10) for another shore job. The job is for leadership training, and applicants must be Mountain Leader trained. Estimated time in job is again 24 months.

# MODELS AND BUSTS

**Simulated Marble**

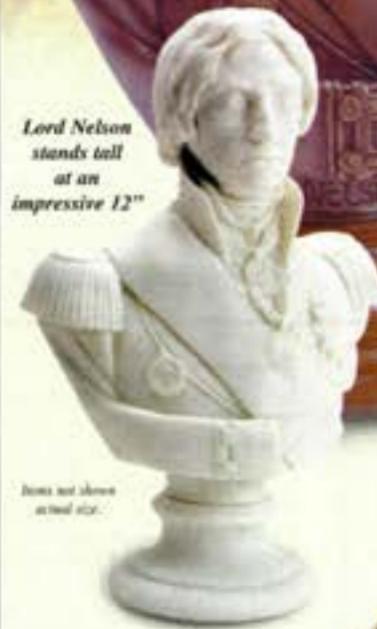
**£80.25** inc P&P UK

**Simulated Bronze on wood base**

**£85.99** inc P&P UK

Please telephone for overseas prices

Lord Nelson stands tall at an impressive 12"



Items not shown actual size.

The Sculptor Anthony Leonard was commissioned in 1997 by the International Nelson Society to create this bust of Lord Nelson. It is an accepted fact that the likeness he achieved is correct in every detail, including his medals and awards. They are the Turkish Order of the Crescent, The Order of St Joachim and The Order of Trinidad. The medals around his neck are of the Cape St Vincent and Nile battles.

Contrary to the belief of many people Lord Nelson did not wear an eye patch as he thought it would detract attention from his good looks. He did however have a special green eyeshade made for his bicorne hat to protect his eye.

This beautiful simulated bronze bust is mounted on a solid wood, hand polished plinth.

The pen tray measures 9.5" x 3.5" x 4.5"



The desk tidy measures 5.5" x 2"

This quality, crafted pen tray depicting Lord Nelson in his bicorne hat. Solid and durable, a useful addition to any desk.

**Simulated Bronze**

**£32.45** inc P&P UK

Please telephone for overseas prices



An extremely tasteful, Ivory effect cameo depicting Lord Nelson in full dress. A well received gift or keepsake of this famous seafaring gentleman.

**Simulated Ivory**

**£16.45** inc P&P UK

Please telephone for overseas prices

The cameo measures 3.5" x 3"

A beautifully sculpted hexagonal desk tidy in bronze effect depicting Lord Nelson in full dress.

**Simulated Bronze**

**£27.45** inc P&P UK

Please telephone for overseas prices

We are extremely excited to be able to present this limited edition bust of Sir Winston Churchill dressed in his Royal Yacht Squadron uniform. The bust is mounted on a polished wood base and stands at 7". A collectors piece.

**Simulated Marble**

**£85.99** inc P&P UK

Please telephone for overseas prices

Sir Winston Churchill measures 7" tall



For information or to order one of these heritage sculptures please phone us on

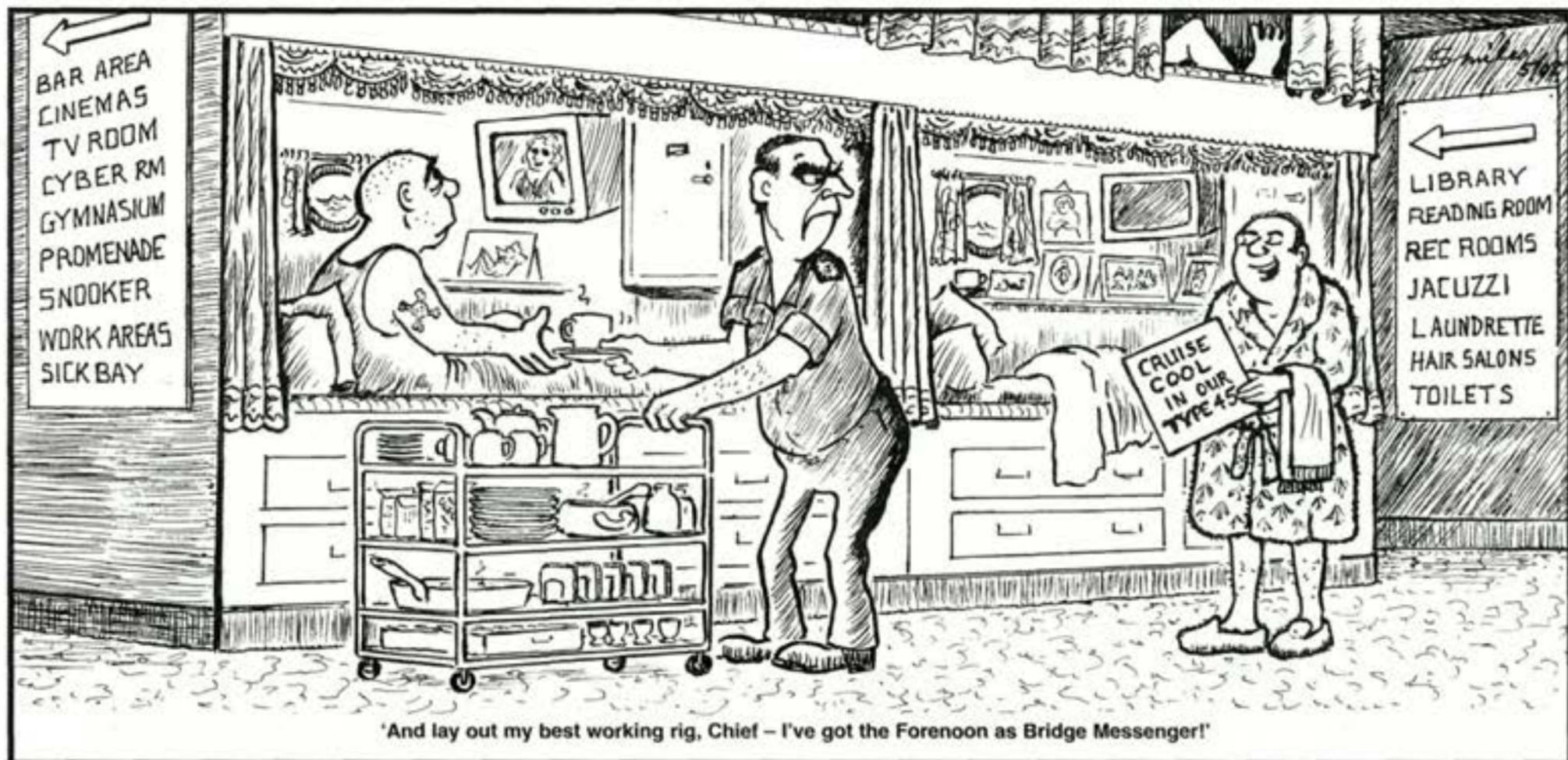
**023 9282 6040**

Or visit our award winning website at [www.navynews.co.uk](http://www.navynews.co.uk)

with your credit card details, or fill out the coupon on page 4. Or send a cheque/Postal Order for the amount shown to:

Please allow 28 days for delivery.

The Business Manager, Navy News, HMS Nelson, Portsmouth PO1 3HH



'And lay out my best working rig, Chief - I've got the Forenoon as Bridge Messenger!'

## NEWSVIEW

### Star turn who kept smiling through

**W**hat a player and "You're a star" are the catch-phrases you often hear these days, when applied by Navy people to someone they feel has done them a good turn.

To no one to they apply more than to the Queen Mother, whose stellar, final public engagement last November was her three-hour visit to HMS Ark Royal - the flagship of the Fleet she launched in 1981.

"Ah, dear Portsmouth!" she was heard to exclaim as she flew in by helicopter to the home of the Royal Navy where she called so many times in the course of her 80 years of public duty.

Her arch aside to the ship's Commanding Officer, inviting him to "Splice the mainbrace", delivered with her trademark mischievous smile, was a supreme example of her sense of fun and unquenchable *joie de vivre* - which also summed up the 'can do' spirit she shared with the Senior Service.

"I am only a Naval officer," her husband famously declared when the burden of kingship was thrust upon him with the abdication of Edward VIII in 1936.

This may have been his best qualification for the role he went on to decorate with fine distinction - thanks in large part, it is universally agreed, to the support and encouragement he received from his wife, who likewise neither expected nor wanted it.

Most of us have choices in life. The sons (and daughters) of kings, mostly, don't. But the Queen Mother was a commoner and could easily have eschewed the path of royal duty, both before her marriage and after her husband's death. Instead, she wound up as the doyenne of a royal family, and of a Naval family, over which she exercised what has been described as a "benevolent dictatorship".

Certainly there was a hard core of steel behind the sweet smile - and it was her fighting spirit that most of all endeared her to the public in general and to the Armed Forces in particular. For this reason Hitler himself described her as "the most dangerous woman in Europe".

As Frances Donaldson observed in her classic biography of Edward VIII: "... the monarchy remains only as strong as its hold on men's imaginations."

The Queen Mother's personal grip on the collective popular imagination, which spread far beyond her homeland, is likely to long outlast her own long life, to the benefit of the monarchy; of the nation whose patriotic pride she epitomised in its darkest hour; and of the Commonwealth of nations.

One of the sailors who lined the streets of London for her funeral, 17-year-old OM John McKenna of HMS Dryad, described the occasion as "a sad but proud landmark in my life."

The fact that his grandfather was involved in the funeral of George VI while his father before him took part in that of George V pointed to the continuing appeal of a character who bridged the generations with ease; who was of her time and yet moved with the times; who had been a fan of Noel Coward and Ivor Novello - and of Elton John and Ali G, as her own great grandsons noted. Her gift for mimicry and love of theatre and music hall-style comedy also struck a chord in a Service with a long tradition of simple home entertainments that resolutely survives into the computer age.

Above all, she was seen as an exemplar of a trait the Royal Navy has always demonstrated to the full - the ability to work hard and to play hard, which she saw as a duty, in good times as well as bad.

Her reluctance to face the more unpleasant facts of life has been described as "ostriching". Yet she knew that self pity is a destructive emotion - and so she simply preferred to get on with the job and keep smiling.

**T**HE FLAG of the Commander-in-Chief Fleet Admiral Sir Alan West was raised for the first time at the new Fleet Headquarters at Whale Island, Portsmouth last month.

At a ceremony to mark the successful updating and re-establishment of the HQ after moving from its previous location at Northwood in north-west London, Admiral West also remarked upon "the most exciting programme of ship building I have seen in my 37 years in the Navy" with a total of 21 ships currently under construction or on order.

The impact of the events of September 11 would go on for many years to come and had showed the Royal Navy to be a force for good in the world, he said. There were currently between 50 and 60 ships at sea around the world and some 7,000 RN personnel on operations away from the UK - many of them in the Middle East.

Meanwhile the Navy's staff structure had had to be updated to create greater efficiency in management and the new HQ drew together the areas previously covered by the separate headquarters of the Surface Flotilla, the Royal Marine, the Royal Fleet Auxiliary and Naval Aviation.

It also allowed for the expansion of the 'Battle Staff' concept to improve the command and control of both national and international operations.

In addition, new Fleet waterfront organisations at Portsmouth, Plymouth and Faslane would enhance the local support of ships. Similar support is now in place for Royal Marines units and Naval Air Squadron.

"The result is a Headquarters better able to react to the needs of the front line, and one which can generate, deploy and sustain our forces much more effectively than before," said Admiral West.

Staff are initially occupying temporary accommodation in existing buildings at Whale Island and within Portsmouth Naval Base, but a new HQ is planned to be operational at HMS Excellent by the end of next year.

A small number of Fleet staff remain at the Northwood site, with others working at Plymouth and Faslane on the Clyde, but the new-style HQ - costing several million pounds - is firmly orientated on Portsmouth, with another 150 uniform personnel and 100 civilians

# Future look of the place that puts Fleet first



● **FUTURE LOOK:** An artist's impression of the new Fleet headquarters at Whale Island, Portsmouth, set to open at the end of next year

arriving in the city.

Existing buildings to be used by some of the Fleet staff have been renamed and honour the late and much loved Admiral of the Fleet Lord Fieldhouse and Maj Gen Sir Jeremy Moore.

Admiral Fieldhouse, who became Chief of Defence Staff in 1985, was himself C-in-C Fleet from 1981-82, including the crucial period of the Falklands conflict.

General Moore, who retired in 1983, was Commander of the British Land Forces in the successful campaign to recapture the islands. Lady Fieldhouse and Lady Moore were with General Moore as principal guests at the ceremony and unveiled a plaque at 'Fieldhouse' and 'Moore' buildings.

Historically, the Royal Navy's links with Whale Island span three

centuries. The size of the original island was much expanded with the spoil removed as a result of the 19th century expansion of Portsmouth Dockyard and for many years it was the home of Naval gunnery.

Only a few years ago the whole establishment was threatened with closure - now its future looks ever more securely assured.

## MOD goes green

THE MINISTRY of Defence has launched a handbook to help MOD planners identify the potential environmental, social and economic impact of proposed programmes, plans or projects.

At the launch of the 'Appraisal Handbook for Sustainability and the Environment', Defence Minister Dr Lewis Moonie said: "We are constantly striving to meet and maintain the highest standards, both for the environment and the challenges of sustainable development."

The launch took place at a conference organised by Defence Estates, an agency of the MOD responsible for strategic issues for the 242,900 hectares of defence land in the UK.

The MOD has actively encouraged access to its land through the publication of 'Walks on Ministry of Defence Land'.

This free booklet illustrates the various opportunities offered for walking, cycling, riding, orienteering and other activities in some of the finest rural landscapes in the UK.

This booklet can be obtained through: [www.defence-estates.mod.uk](http://www.defence-estates.mod.uk), or by calling 0121 311 3850/2043.

# Flagwaving spectacular promised at Chatham

THE ORGANISERS of Chatham Navy Days promise one of the largest and most spectacular celebrations of the Queen's Jubilee Bank Holiday.

Navies from throughout Europe have promised their support to the KM Chatham Navy Days being held over the holiday weekend, June 2-4.

Admiral Sir Nicholas Hunt, chairman of Chatham Historic

Dockyard Trust, said: "We are delighted that the international naval community are supporting us for this unique occasion."

"With the assistance of the armed forces from the UK and overseas as well as many civilian organisations and government agencies, KM Chatham Navy Days will bring together all the traditional pomp, circumstance and flag waving that a Queen's Golden Jubilee deserves and that the public expects."

Warships from six nations will

form part of the military and civilian displays at the Historic Dockyard in Chatham.

The Royal Navy will be there in force with the Type 42 destroyer, HMS Exeter, and the two minicountermeasure vessels HMS Chiddingfold and HMS Inverness.

The navies of Belgium, Ireland, Denmark and Poland will also have their navies represented at the event.

In addition, organisers promise the largest fleet of heritage vessels ever to attend Chatham Navy Days - including The Matthew, a full size replica of John Cabot's ship that crossed the Atlantic in the 16th century.

Admiral Sir Nicholas summed up the organisers' ambitions for the event: "The deepwater basins and historic setting of Chatham will provide a special setting for a



● A Royal Navy ship with flags flying at an earlier celebration

spectacular jubilee celebration that is within easy reach of everyone in London and the South East of England.

"We want KM Chatham Navy Days to be a focal point for people to come and be part of what will be a wonderful event."

The Princess Royal will be guest of honour at the celebrations on the Bank Holiday Monday.

The Navy will not be the only

Service on view at these Chatham celebrations. The British Army will also be playing a key role at the event.

Military bands including the Band of the Royal Marines and the Massed Band of the Sea Cadet Corps will be involved in a major music programme throughout the weekend.

For further information, telephone: 01634 823800.



● A Fairey Gannet AEW.3 of 849 Naval Air Squadron about to launch from HMS Ark Royal in 1978

## Newark aims to safeguard future for rare aircraft

AN URGENT appeal has been launched by Newark Air Museum to guarantee the future of four rare aircraft kept on display at the museum's Winthorpe Showground site in eastern Nottinghamshire.

Trustees from the museum need to raise a total of £125,000 to build a new massive Aircraft Display Hall, in co-ordination with a lottery bid for funding.

One of the four aircraft is a Fairey Gannet AEW.3, an extensive redesign of the early Gannet that was used for Airborne Early Warning.

These aircraft first entered service in 1960, and are distinctive through their large 'guppy' radome.

Forty-four AEW.3 aircraft were built, including the prototype, which operated as part of 849 Naval Air Squadron.

The Gannet was the last of the Fairey aircraft to serve in frontline duties with the Royal Navy.

The three other aircraft to be preserved are: an English Electric Canberra B.2 mod; an Armstrong Whitworth Meteor NF.12; and a De Havilland Heron 1B.

All four are owned by Mich Stevenson, a long-standing supporter of the museum.

He has agreed to hand the aircraft over to the museum's permanent ownership if the appeal and bid for lottery money prove successful.

The museum has already garnered £50,000 towards the overall

target through fund-raising efforts, but more is needed.

The museum is planning a series of special event days and activities over the summer months to bring in visitors.

Museum trustee Howard Healey said: "The museum members and trustees are very excited that Mich Stevenson has made such a generous offer to gift these rare and in two cases unique aircraft to the museum if we are successful in our Heritage Lottery Fund bid."

"We now need the public to play their part in the project by visiting the museum, or by participating in one of our special events."

Contact the museum on 01636 707170 or visit their website at: [www.newarkairmuseum.co.uk](http://www.newarkairmuseum.co.uk).

## Your friendly, affordable London Club



- Close to Marble Arch and Oxford Street
- Affordable room rates
- Choice of restaurants and bars
- Concessionary NCP Car Park rates
- Function rooms for dinners, receptions, reunions and private parties

The Victory Services Club,  
63/79 Seymour Street,  
London W2 2HF

Tel +44 (0)20 7723 4474

Fax: +44 (0)20 7724 1134

e-mail: [info@vsc.co.uk](mailto:info@vsc.co.uk)

# VSC

THE VICTORY SERVICES CLUB

FREE MEMBERSHIP TO SERVING PERSONNEL AND RESERVES

**H**ER husband, her father-in-law, her son-in-law and two of her grandsons all had careers in the Royal Navy. Her granddaughter, too, is married to a Naval officer – and so she was truly 'The Sailor's Queen.'

And fittingly it was in HMS Ark Royal last November that Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother – who was herself Commandant-in-Chief for Women in the Royal Navy – appeared on her last public engagement.

She is seen in the centre of this souvenir of her ceremonial funeral on a 1985 visit to the carrier she launched in 1981, having also launched the earlier ship of the name in 1950.

Apart from the main event in London, memorial services were held in HM ships all around the world – and in Afghanistan, where the Royal Marines were preparing to go into action against the remnants of Taliban and Al Qaeda.

Said the First Sea Lord Admiral Sir Nigel Essenhigh: "The Royal Navy enjoyed a long and very happy relationship with Her Majesty, who always took a very keen interest in all that the Fleet has done, particularly in her personal link with HMS Ark Royal, spanning many decades."

Chief of the Defence Staff Admiral Sir Michael Boyce later sent a personal message to all three Services who took part in the procession and funeral, which ended: "I am sure that Her Majesty the Queen Mother would have been proud of your performance. The nation certainly was. Well done."

**Pictures (clockwise from top left):**

● **NAVAL FAMILY:** The Duke of York, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Edinburgh and the Princess Royal wear the uniform of the Senior Service as they follow the coffin of the Queen Mother

● **PALL BEARER:** Capt David Snelson, Commanding Officer of HMS Ark Royal, follows close behind the gun carriage that bore the body of King George VI 50 years before

● **ON THE STEPS:** OM Richard Davies and OM Steven Watts of HMS Ark Royal lead the party that lined the steps of Westminster Abbey

● **IN THE LEAD:** Royal Marine Bandmen head the Royal Marine and Royal Navy Guards on their way to Westminster

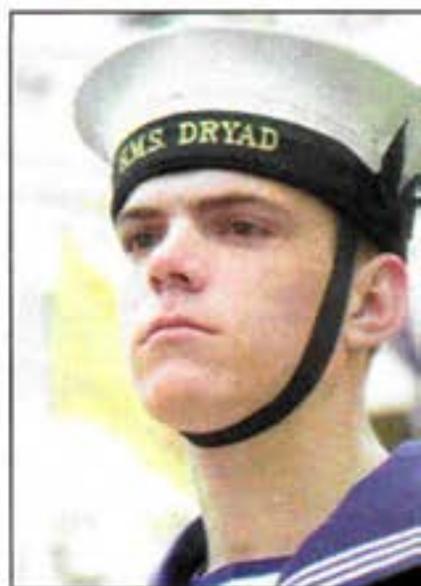
● **STREET LINER:** OM John McKenna (17) of HMS Dryad – his grandfather and great grandfather took part in the funerals of Kings George VI and George V

● **FLAGSHIP:** The Rev Michael Sharky conducts a memorial service on board HMS Ocean, the UK flagship in the Middle East

● **STANDING FORCE:** Another service held on the flight deck of the Type 22 frigate HMS Sheffield, leading the NATO Standing Naval Force Mediterranean

● **NATIONWIDE:** The Naval element in the Funeral Procession was drawn from HMS Collingwood, Nelson, Drake, Dryad, Sultan, Raleigh and Neptune, RN air station Culdrose, the Naval Manning Agency and Fleet HQ (Portsmouth)

# FAREWELL, T



# THE SAILOR'S QUEEN





# Did Prinz Eugen sink the Hood?

COULD it have been the Prinz Eugen, not the Bismarck, that sank the Hood?

In *HMS Hood - Pride of the Royal Navy* (Spellmount £18.99) Andrew Norman says one of Prinz Eugen's 8in high-explosive shells may have gone down her aft funnel and set off a fire in the boiler room that caused the battlecruiser to break in two - which was why there was no sound of an explosion.

Unlike the guns of her larger- than- more- powerful- consort, Prinz Eugen's 8in guns were being fired at over half their maximum range, he says, so her shells would have described a steep trajectory and

fallen down onto their targets more vertically.

"Although Hood was most vulnerable to plunging shells, it is virtually impossible that a shell of only eight inches in calibre could have penetrated through the decks to reach any of the ship's vitals, such as her magazines.

"But there was one part of Hood that was vulnerable to plunging shell fire, and that was her two funnels, the combined area of which, as seen from above, presented a target area of 600 sq ft.

The probability of a shell going down one of Hood's funnels may seem remote, but certain factors



BISMARCK ACTION: 'The Destruction of HMS Hood' as seen from HMS Prince of Wales, by John Hamilton

make this more likely than the other theories. The enemy had an advantage in that the fire on the boat deck illuminated the target

perfectly, and Prinz Eugen was able to fire off salvos from her eight 8in guns at approximately twice the rate of Bismarck, which meant that during the time she was in action, she managed to loose off 179 rounds."

Prinz Eugen is known to have picked up the sound of the British ships at a range of 20 miles and, in the mistaken belief that they were cruisers, had high-explosive shells loaded.

One of these, penetrating a funnel, could have easily broken through the flimsy wire cage that covered its top and dislodged the supports - known to be inadequate - of the grating in the vents at the level of the lower deck that protected the boiler room.

"As observers reported that a huge flame shot upward from between the after funnel and the mainmast, it seems most likely that such a shell went down the after funnel."

Could this have ignited the fuel oil? The author observes that fuel oil will not ignite below a temperature of about 90deg C. Above that, it will only do so in the presence of a flame unless the temperature rises

to 350degC, at which point the oil will self-ignite.

"An explosion in a boiler room would have ruptured the six Yarrow small-tube boilers, which had a working pressure of 235lb per square inch. It would also have ruptured the 19in diameter pipes that carried steam from the boilers to the turbines and, more importantly, have ruptured the fuel-oil heater, which preheated the fuel before it was pumped into the eight fuel-oil sprayers.

"If the preheated fuel oil was being sprayed at high pressure from ruptured pipes into the confined space of a boiler room in the presence of shell flash, the result would have been ignition of the oil and an enormous buildup of heat and pressure.

"This pressure would have been constrained from traveling horizontally by the resistance of the watertight bulkheads fore and aft and of the armoured belt on either side, and from passing vertically downward by Hood's double-skinned hull.

"The pressure would have quickly risen as the gases built up and would have found its release by taking the line of least resistance up through Hood's decks, which had already been weakened to some extent by the boat-deck fire. This might explain why there was no audible bang..."

Sgt Thomas McLaren, of RAF Coastal Command, whose aircraft had escorted Hood on her final voyage, had himself witnessed the sinking of a ship in this way.

He had been part of the crew of a Lockheed Hudson in search of a merchant vessel that the Germans had disguised as a Red Cross ship but in fact was a troop carrier. They found the ship and released a 250lb bomb - which by a thousand-to-one chance went straight down the funnel. A huge black plume of smoke with a small reddish glow in its centre billowed out and as the troops swarmed onto the decks the vessel broke in two.

As with the Hood, there was no audible bang - merely a deep rumbling sound, followed by tremendous vibration in the air that the aircraft's crew felt as they climbed steeply away.

## BEAT THE PRICE INCREASE FROM 1st JUNE 2002 SPECIAL OFFER FOR MAY ONLY

Take out a 3 year subscription and get 6 months extra for FREE!

TO SUBSCRIBE COMPLETE COUPON AND POST TODAY!

YES, I would like to subscribe to Navy News

(please refer to the table opposite for price):  
Send the completed form and payment to:

Navy News Subscriptions,  
Navy News, HMS Nelson,  
Queen Street, Portsmouth,  
Hampshire, PO1 3HH, England  
Telephone +44 023 9282 6040 (24hr)  
+44 023 9273 4448

email: subscriptions@navynews.co.uk

YOUR DETAILS:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel No: \_\_\_\_\_

REGION	YEARS	RATE	TICK
UK	One	£17.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
UK	Two	£31.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
UK	Three	£46.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overseas*	One	£20.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overseas*	Two	£36.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overseas*	Three	£52.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

\*Overseas Surface Mail including Republic of Ireland, Europe, Canada, USA & Australasia (Airmail rates available on request)

I enclose a Cheque/Postal Order/International Money Order made payable to 'Navy News' for:

£ \_\_\_\_\_ (£ Sterling)

or pay by Visa/Mastercard/Delta/Switch using the coupon on page 4.

Credit Card orders cannot be accepted under £5.00

Due to administration costs, a refund cannot be given if the subscription is cancelled during the first four months, and thereafter would be subject to a £5.00 Admin charge.

This is a new subscription

Renewed subscription

Start my subscription from month: \_\_\_\_\_

## Quick paint job

REQUISITIONED for service in the Falklands on April 10, 1982, Uganda is seen leaving Gibraltar nine days later following her conversion as a hospital ship.

- from Uganda: The story of a very special ship, published at £25 plus £2.95 pp from SS Uganda Trust, Tarven, Corfe Lodge Road, Broadstone, Dorset, BH18 9NE. All profits will be used towards the objectives of the Trust, which include sponsorship of disadvantaged children to go to sea.



 **Navy News**  
www.navynews.co.uk



# Boy Cornwell: the making of a hero

**I**N DEATH, Jack Cornwell achieved a kind of fame he could not have dreamt of during his short life – one manufactured by the media that led to what the late John Winton called “a convulsive spasm of collective commemoration”.

The strange and tragic story of Cornwell and his family is told by Stephen Snelling in *VCs of the First World War: The Naval VCs* (Sutton £25).

The Boy Seaman's Service career lasted less than ten months, of which only the final 29 days would be spent in his first and last ship, the light cruiser HMS Chester.

The story of how in a “splendid instance of devotion to duty” he remained, mortally wounded, at his gun is one of the Navy's most famous. Less well-known, as it became buried under the weight of the adulation to which his name was later subjected, is the sorry tale of how his posthumous VC actually came to be awarded.

Cornwell was the only non-officer to be singled out by Admiral Beatty in his account of the Battle of Jutland.

He concluded: “I recommend his case for special recognition in justice to his memory, and as an acknowledgement of the high example set by him.”

Seized upon by the newspapers, the 16-year-old hero instantly became headline news. Unfortunately for the Navy, the story was not simply one of virtuous bravery, but of official neglect. Beneath a front-page photograph showing his grave, marked only by a numbered peg, the *Daily Sketch* declared: “England will be

shocked today to learn... that the boy-hero of the naval victory has been buried in a common grave. The flowers were sent by his schoolmates – they in their humble way paid the honour that the Admiralty failed to give the young hero.”

Cornwell's CO, Capt Robert Lawson, was furious. As relatives and friends posed for what seemed like carefully staged photographs alongside the “still nameless” grave, the man whose own report to Beatty was responsible for his name being brought to public notice complained bitterly: “What was (and is, essentially) a clean, fine, simple story of devotion to duty has been besmirched by the paws of the Press.”

He pointed out that had the boy's mother not elected to have his body moved from the hospital to her own house, there would have been a funeral with full naval honours.

“As it was, she wished to take the body away for a private funeral, and the cost of the journey is paid by the Admiralty, but not, I believe, the cost of the funeral also. Perhaps poor Mrs Cornwell hardly understood all that, but felt she would like to have her neighbours at the funeral; then discovered that she couldn't afford to pay for a separate grave.”

“Meanwhile, the pressmen discover this, and instead of helping quietly, publish half the story far and wide... Many of his shipmates were more fortunate in resting in the North Sea where not even a ghoulish pressman can disturb your mortal remains.”

Fuelled by a display of self-righteous indignation in the Press and cynical political manipulation, the saga of the “boy hero” took on a momentum all of its own. Lord Beresford wanted to know if he was to be awarded a posthumous VC. No recommendation had been

made, was the reply. It was suggested his body be exhumed and reinterred at Devonport. His mother at first refused – but by now Jack Cornwell had become public property and in the end a compromise was reached.

He would be laid to rest again with all the pomp and pageantry associated with a State funeral, but in Manor Park, close to where he grew up.

Shops closed and dense crowds lined the route of the second funeral on July 29, 1916 – an event of its kind unmatched by any other during the war. Six weeks later came the announcement of the VC. Now his face appeared everywhere – in paintings by distinguished artists, on stamps that sold in millions and in a stained glass window thousands of miles away in Kingston, Ontario.

**F**ramed portraits were hung in classrooms all over the country and schools for many years paid homage on September 30 – to be known as Jack Cornwell Day.

Among the more notable posthumous honours were those initiated by the Scout Movement. Awarded the Bronze Cross, the highest award for gallantry, Jack Cornwell had his name perpetuated with the instigation of a new badge, to be awarded to Scouts of high character who have shown devotion to duty, courage and endurance.

His name was exploited for fund-raising campaigns, raising money for a Star and Garter Home at Richmond, naval scholarships and six cottages for retired sailors.

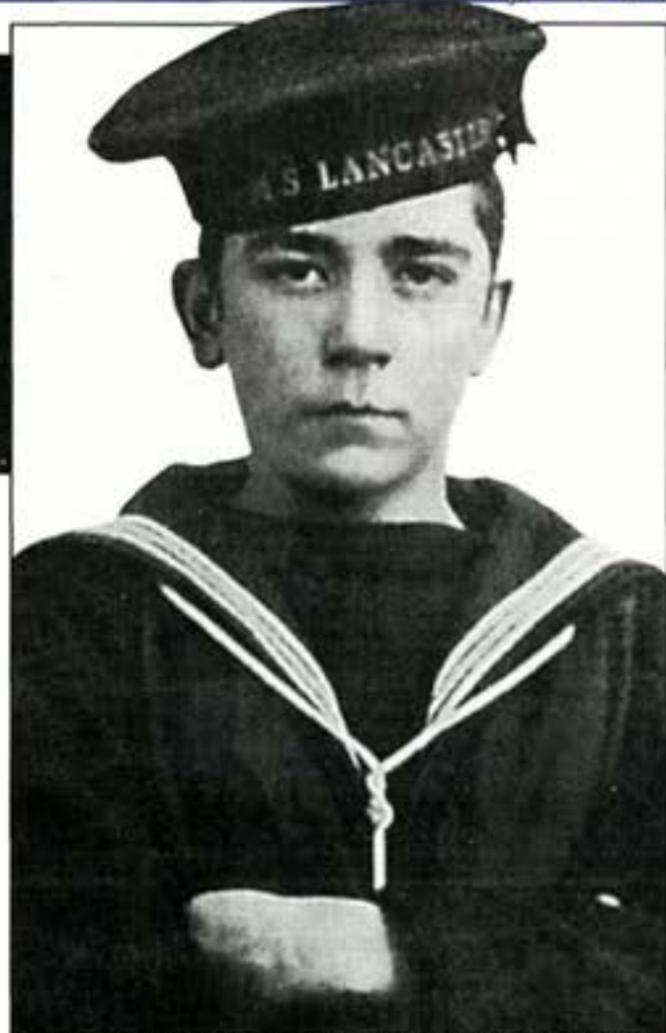
The latter were built at Hornchurch, under the auspices of a memorial committee formed as early as July 1916, and opened on the 13th anniversary of Jutland by

Earl Jellicoe himself.

Meanwhile, Cornwell's family were being quietly forgotten. While his heroic image was raising thousands for all manner of causes, they slipped towards poverty. On October 25 his father Eli succumbed to bronchial catarrh while on active service – aged 63 – with the Royal Defence Corps and was buried in the same grave as his son.

Two years later his stepbrother Arthur was killed in action in France. By the end of the war his widowed mother, with two children under 18 to support, was in dire financial straits and struggling against ill health. With only 6s 6d and 10s a week from the Navy League to sustain her, she was no longer able to pay the rent on her home in East Ham and was forced to take rooms in Stepney.

Not even a public outcry could persuade the Memorial Fund set up in her son's name to help and on October 31, 1919 Lily Cornwell was found dead in her bed, an exhausted woman at 48.



● **BOY HERO:** Three years after losing her son and husband on active service, Jack Cornwell's mother was allowed to die in poverty

## Periscope Publishing Ltd

Producers of the acclaimed video films  
 ‘Wrecks of Operation Deadlight’ NEW  
 ‘The Mystery of HMS Affray’  
 ‘Wrecks of the Battle of Jutland’  
 ‘Titanic's sister, HMHS Britannic’  
 ‘U-Boat Wrecks of WW2’  
 30-minute films combining underwater film and maritime history to tell sea tales of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.  
**Available for £16.80 Each**  
**Tel 01736 330769**  
[www.periscopepublishing.com](http://www.periscopepublishing.com)

## C CLASS DESTROYERS

Handy popular volume. CA's, CH's, CO's, CR's. £10 + £1 Post/Packing (UK). £2 elsewhere. Sterling only. Cheques/PO's with order please to:-  
 Margaret Cox, 98 Bitham Lane, Stretton, Burton on Trent, DE13 0HB

“HMS. GANGES (The final farewell)... video. Ideal birthday/surprise present. Documentary includes all aspects of GANGES before demolition. One tear-jerking hour of nostalgia, produced by JOHN DOUGLAS author H.M.S. GANGES (Roll on my dozen!) & H.M.S. GANGES (Tales of the T.R.O.G.'S.) S.A.E. details Douglas Hse, Penmarth Redruth, Cornwall TR16 6NX



## HMS HERMES 1923 & 1959

By Neil McCart

For the first time in one volume, here are the comprehensive histories of the two aircraft carriers named *Hermes*. The stories take the reader from the 1920s into the Second World War, the late 1950s and 60s, through to the Falklands campaign and into the Indian Navy where the last *Hermes* serves as *INS Virat*. There are 137 photographs, including seven in colour and a foreword by Rear-Admiral K. A. Snow, the *Hermes*' last CO. Hardback with full-colour laminated dust jacket.  
**Price £24 plus p&p. ISBN 1 901225 05 4**

Also Still Available in Hardback:  
 HMS VANGUARD 1944-1960 BRITAINS LAST BATTLESHIP £19.95 + P&P  
 HMS EAGLE 1942-1978 £18.95 + P&P  
 HMS VICTORIOUS 1937-1969 £21.00 + P&P  
 HMS CENTAUR 1943-1972 £16.95 + P&P  
 THREE ARK ROYALS 1938-1999 £23.00 + P&P  
 TIGER, LION & BLAKE 1942-1986 £21.50 + P&P  
 ILLUSTRIOUS & IMPLACABLE AIRCRAFT CARRIERS £23.00 + P&P  
 Please add £2.50 p&p for the UK & £3.00 or £4.00 for worldwide surface mail. Payment by sterling cheque, postal order, or by VISA/MASTERCARD. Telephone/Fax orders welcomed. From PAN PUBLICATIONS, 17 Wynnstay Lane, Cheltenham, Glos GL51 9QA.  
 Tel/Fax 01242 580290, or order from good bookshops.

## DO YOU HAVE A BOOK TO PUBLISH?

We are currently seeking books in all categories. Please write for details quoting reference 'SZF' to:  
**SERENDIPITY**  
 Suite 530, 37 Stone Street, Bloomsbury, London, WC1E 7DF  
 Telephone & Facsimile 0845 130 2434

**HP BOOKFINDERS:** Established professional service locating out of print titles on all subjects. No obligation or SAE required. Contact: Moss Laird, Brig O' Turk, Callander, FK17 8HT Telephone/Fax: (01877) 376377 martin@hp-bookfinders.co.uk

## PUBLISH YOUR BOOK

with **Raby Books**

We are currently seeking books in all categories. Write for details to:  
 Raby Books (UK), The Coach House, Eggleston Hall, Eggleston, Barnard Castle, County Durham, DL12 8AG  
 Tel: 01833 650583 Fax: 01833 650681

**NAVAL AND MARITIME BOOKS BOUGHT AND SOLD**  
 LARGE STOCKS - MONTHLY CATALOGUES  
 SHOP OPEN 10-4 (SATURDAY 10-1)  
**SEND FOR FREE CATALOGUE**  
 Frank Smith Maritime Books,  
 98/100 Heaton Road, Newcastle  
 Upon Tyne, NE6 5HL  
 Telephone: 0191 265 6333

## ScreenScene – by Bob Baker



● **Navy man as RAF legend – Kenneth More plays Douglas Bader**

# Kenneth More: a Navy star to remember

**A** NAME from the past: Kenneth More, who died 20 years ago this summer. In his heyday – which was, at least movie-wise, the 1950s – More was one of the biggest British stars on the scene.

He invariably played the same sort of character – affable, competent, uncomplicated – in a succession of comedies, adventure yarns and war stories. In real life he was a Navy man, and the books of reminiscences he wrote (*Happy Go Lucky, More or Less*) are worth tracking down for their anecdotes about life afloat during World War II.

On screen, however, he was liable to turn up in any of the Services. He played Douglas Bader, the tinlegged, much-decorated RAF ace in *Reach for the Sky*; he was the Army beachmaster for the Normandy landings in *The Longest Day*. And he starred as Director of Naval Operations in *Sink the Bismarck*. His most famous sea-going role, though, was undoubtedly in *A Night to Remember*, in which he played C. H. Lightoller, Second Officer of the ill-fated Titanic.

His appeal seemed to wane as the 1960s progressed, and increasingly he came to be found on the small screen – notably in *The Forsythe Saga* – or on the West End stage. Perhaps the last movie describable as a ‘Kenneth More vehicle’ was *We Joined the Navy*,

released at the beginning of 1963: it was available on video a while back and copies of it may still be found in one place or another. It's a farce, based on a best-seller of the day by John Winton, in which More plays the tactless Lt Cdr Badger, who can never resist telling his superiors when they're in the wrong.

This inevitably results in a rapid series of postings, one of which is as an instructor at Britannia Royal Naval College. Taking up about half an hour of the movie, this section may hold the greatest interest now, at least for former cadets, with its on-the-spot filming of exterior scenes – although what with Carry On veteran Sid James in charge of a class on ballroom dancing, it may be felt that the representation of life at Dartmouth lacks a certain authenticity.

The big part of the film is concerned with Badger's misadventures as liaison officer with the American Mediterranean Fleet. It must be said that audiences today are unlikely to find much amusement in any of this – prompting the thought that the reason More went out of fashion may have been related to the quality of his material, rather than having anything to do with the man himself.

Certainly the sort of breezy, amiable efficiency he personified still seems a pretty admirable model, for Service life and for life in general.

**TASK FORCE**  
DAVID REYNOLDS

THE ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF THE FALKLANDS WAR

FOREWORD BY MAJOR GENERAL JULIAN THORPSON

## TASK FORCE

THE ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF THE FALKLANDS WAR  
 DAVID REYNOLDS

Illustrated with more than 200 action photographs, this is the history of the Falklands War, told in the words and pictures of those who were there.

DAVID REYNOLDS has written several titles on military subjects, including *Paras and Commando* (Sutton).  
**HARDBACK ISBN 0 7509 2845 X**

**SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY PRICE**  
**£20.00**  
 (NORMALLY £25.00)

Sutton Publishing, Phoenix Mill, Thrupp, Stroud, Gloucestershire, GL5 2BU Tel: 01453 731114  
 Fax: 01453 731117 [www.suttonpublishing.co.uk](http://www.suttonpublishing.co.uk)



● THE CONSIDERATIONS of a public consultation process on the future of HMS Cavalier, Britain's last World War II destroyer, have been revealed.

A questionnaire was distributed to naval associations, other ex-Service groups and over the Internet to canvas opinions on the style and location of a national memorial.

Over half of the replies favoured a Roll of Honour. Nearly as many felt that all lost British and Commonwealth destroyers should be commemorated, along with Allied navies and British-built ships.

A significant number of respondents suggested a Chapel of Remembrance, perhaps located in one of the existing Chatham Naval chapels.

Full details are available at: [www.chdt.org.uk](http://www.chdt.org.uk).

# United in memory of Mars

FOR THE first time since the Irish Naval Service formed after World War II, Irish sailors have paraded together with British sailors from HMS Sutherland on Irish soil.

The historic occasion was a Remembrance Service for 12 sailors lost in a gunnery accident in the battleship, HMS Mars, off the southern Irish coast in 1902.

A century after the event, the two platoons paraded together as wreaths were laid at the graves of nine of the victims who are buried in the Clonmel (Old Church) Cemetery, Cobh.

The ceremony was organised by the Cork and County Branch of the Royal Naval Association.

The Commanding Officer of HMS Sutherland, Cdr Paul Thomas said: "We are proud to be involved in this act of remembrance for those that lost their lives in the tragic accident in HMS Mars."

"It is particularly poignant that we parade alongside our Irish naval counterparts - who have been tending the graves - as it reminds us that all sailors face the same dangers, regardless of nationality."

Family members of two of the dead and representatives from Irish RNAs attended the ceremony where all orders for both platoons were given in Gaelic by the Irish Naval Service parade commander.

■ After Sutherland's positive visit to Veracruz in Mexico, the ship received a signal of thanks from the Prince of Wales for their hard work and high standards.

The Prince's final comment was the royal order to "Splice the mainbrace", so on arrival at their next anchor off Belize City, each man duly received his tot of rum to mark the occasion.

## E-campaign to mark Falklands

THE ROYAL British Legion is marking the 20th anniversary of the Falklands by launching an 'e-campaign' to raise awareness of its work with Falklands veterans.

Past donors and e-newsletter subscribers will receive e-mails to direct them to the Legion's new site at: [www.poppo.org.uk](http://www.poppo.org.uk).

## New name on Norwegian reminder

THE NAME of the World War II Town-class cruiser HMS Carlisle has been added to the British war memorial in Namsos, central Norway.

When the memorial was first unveiled in 2000, inscribed on it were the names of the three regiments and ten Royal Navy ships that it was known had suffered casualties when British troops were evacuated from Namsos.

Only last year was it realised that Carlisle had suffered from attacks from dive-bombers and lost four men in the action.

Norwegian stonemasons have now corrected the omission in time for a memorial ceremony on May 17.

## Debate continues on future for redundant boats

THE MINISTRY of Defence has accepted 57 out of 65 recommendations of an independent report into public concerns about future land storage for redundant nuclear submarines.

The report, a public consultation exercise conducted by Lancaster University, contains a further five recommendations which will be considered at a later stage in the project.

Commenting on the recommendations of the report, Defence Minister Dr Lewis Moonie said: "Key among these are the need to continue our policy of openness and trust with the public, and to consider nuclear and environmental safety over cost."

The independent study indicates that the public supports storing the submarines on land rather than afloat.

It seems that the consultation was seen as a positive step but emphasis was placed on the need to continue with this open and honest approach.

Concerns have also been addressed that the involvement of private industry in any arrangement will result in the decision becoming profit-driven.

The MOD asserts that: "There will need to be some form of partnership with industry, but it will not be at the expense of factors such as safety."

Further details of the report and the MOD's response can be found on the Lancaster University website at: [www.nucsubs.org.uk](http://www.nucsubs.org.uk).

## Atlantic conflict marked in music

THE BAND of the Royal Marines Plymouth is playing a concert to mark the Battle of the Atlantic at Liverpool Anglican Cathedral on the evening of Saturday, May 4.

Tickets cost £8 and can be obtained by calling 0151 328 0935.

A commemoration service will be held on the morning of the next day at the cathedral to mark the 59th anniversary of this, the longest single battle of World War II.

At midday there will be a march past including members of the Royal Navy, the Royal Marine Band Plymouth, and a variety of associations and old boys.

If interested in attending the cathedral service on Sunday, May 5, telephone: 0151 707 3344 or 3320.

## MOD website wins award

THE MINISTRY of Defence website "We were there" that pays tribute to the men and women from Africa, the Caribbean and Asia who united in our common defence has won a "Race in the media" award, organised by the Commission for Racial Equality.

The website can be seen at: [www.mod.uk/wewerethere](http://www.mod.uk/wewerethere).

## Fleet club opens doors

THE ROYAL Fleet Club, Devonport, that previously only benefitted RN and RM ratings has extended eligibility for use of its club facilities to officers, members of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary and visiting ships.

For bookings or enquiries, telephone: 01752 562723.

## New Agency

AS WE announced last month, Dr Lewis Moonie as Minister for Veteran Affairs now presides over the newly renamed Veterans Agency (previously the War Pensions Agency).

In addition to administering the War Pensions Scheme, one of the first tasks for the 'new' agency has been the provision of a single helpline offering advice and information for veterans.

The Veterans Agency has also launched a complementary website to provide information about the agency, the Veterans Advice Unit and ex-Service organisations.

The free helpline number is: 0800 169 22 77 from the UK. For anyone dialling from abroad, the number is +44 1 253 866043.

With Internet access, visit: [www.veteransagency.mod.uk](http://www.veteransagency.mod.uk).

## RANGERS MILITARY SALES



Unbeatable deals for HM Forces serving in the UK and overseas.

For your free information pack on how to purchase a new Peugeot at special tax free or concession tax paid prices.

Click On - [www.peugeotmilitarysales.co.uk](http://www.peugeotmilitarysales.co.uk)

or call UK 01980 653434 to order by telephone

In the Military?  
Looking into a new car?

Tax Free or with UK Military Discount



Look no further than Natocars!

Call 01278 455555 today for your FREE Natocars' Buying Guide with Special Military Prices on over 1500 new cars



UK HQ Wylds Road • Bridgwater • Somerset • TA6 4BH

Tel: 01278 455555 we'll call you back

Fax: 01278 450396 • [www.natocars.co.uk](http://www.natocars.co.uk)

E-mail: [sales@natocars.co.uk](mailto:sales@natocars.co.uk) (Please supply postal address)

# At Your Service



## Reunions

**HMS In Conqueror:** Planning for the forthcoming reunion of all crew members of HMS Conqueror is well under way and new contacts are coming in slowly but surely. Any members of the crew who have not already done so, please contact CRS Roy Dixon by e-mail at [roydixon@bt.com](mailto:roydixon@bt.com) or by phone on 01329 287617. The address to write to is 27, Meadow Walk, Gosport, Hants PO13 0YN.

### June

**Collingwood Memorial service** at the Memorial, one mile north of Penzance, Dorset, on June 7 at 1500. More details from Roy Adam, Carewre House, Portman Rd, Penzance, Blandford, Dorset DT11 8JJ, tel: 01258 453797.

**HMS Mauritius** reunion on June 7-8 at Gateway Hotel, Nuttall Rd, Nottingham NG8 6AZ, tel: 0115 9794 949. Contact the hotel for details, or John Harter on 020 7790 9158.

**HM ships Glorious, Ardent and Acasta:** A reunion of relatives and friends of those lost in these ships will be held on June 9 at St Nicholas Church, HMS Drake, Devonport. Details from David Woodcock, tel: 01229 462414.

**HMS Glamorgan, Falklands** reunion at the Home Club, Portsmouth, June 15. Details from Jim James, 50, Lancaster Way, Northampton NN4 8LX, tel: 01604 660401, or email [jesjames@icw.com](mailto:jesjames@icw.com).

**Royal British Legion (Crews):** Parade of Colours, Service of Remembrance, cabaret, dancing, grand draw. Proceeds to SSAFA & RSL. Admission by programme £1. Takes place at the Crossville Hall, Chester St, Crews, on June 13. Deumhead Service on June 16 at St Peter's Church, Leighton cum Minshall at 1445. Details from Jim Davies, 6, Manor Court, Crews CW1 2BL.

**Sussex Division RNVR and RNIR** will hold a reunion for former members on June 22 at the Adur Indoor Bowls Club. Details from D.I. Colwell on 01273 555964.

**Christchurch Branch of the RMA** are arranging a Service of Dedication at the Purweil Cross War Memorial, Christchurch, for June 23 at 2pm. The service will be held in conjunction with the US Army Air Force to commemorate those killed or wounded from HMS Raven (Christchurch Airfield) in WWII. If any member was serving in that location and would like to attend, please contact the secretary on 01202 388531.

**Northwest Senior Rates WRNS:** Past and present members reunion dinner is on June 26 - a celebration of friendship. For more details, contact Jill on 01923 838582 or George on 01923 838063.

### July

**Wrens Association, West Cornwall** Branch, is celebrating its 21st birthday on July 13, 2002. All ex-members welcome. Contact Joan Kearnsley, tel: 01326 280337 email: [coverack@aol.com](mailto:coverack@aol.com)

**HMS Wensleydale 1942-45** Association reunion and commemorative service followed by buffet, will take place at St Margaret's Church, Hawes, Wensleydale, N. Yorks, on July 14. Please muster at church by 1015. Details from Henry Lehmann, 13, Park Rd, Denmead, Waterlooville, Hants PO7 6NE, tel: 023 9225 5495.

**HMS Isis: Final Survivors** reunion will be on July 21 at Portsmouth Cathedral. Muster at 1100. Details from David Flander on 01622 202995.

### August

**HMS Actaeon, South Atlantic 1945-52:** Reunion at Leicester Senior Service Club, August 9-11. Contact: George (Ginger) Brandon on 0118 267 3755.

**British Pacific/East Indies Fleets** reunion at Mill Rhyll Holiday Village, Hayling Island, from August 31 to September 2. Details from Mike Crain, 3, New Rd, Laks, Sandown, IOW PO36 9JN, tel: 01963 405584.

### September

**HMS Unicorn Association 1942-56** reunion in Liverpool from September 2-6. All new members welcome. Details from Mrs E. Bosworthick, 3, Arundel Close, Hesel Hempstead, Herts HP2 4QR, tel: 01442 255821.

**HMS Kenya Association:** all commissions, AGM and gala dinner at Derby from September 6-9. This is also the 60th anniversary of that city adopting the ship during Warship Week 1942. Details and membership from Chas Atkinson on 023 9229 6404.

**HMS Suffolk Association** reunion at the Falcon Hotel, Stratford-on-Avon (01789 279953) on September 13-15. Send SAE to A.E. Emmanuel, 1, Channon Court, Maple Rd, Surbiton KT6 4RS, tel: 020 8390 5783.

**HMS Renown 1939-48** reunion at the Astor Hotel, Elbow St, The Hoe, Plymouth, September 19-22. Details from John Roche, 71, Glenhol Rd, Plymouth PL6 7JD, tel: 01752 775926.

**Commemoration of Limburg Raid, Brunel, 1962:** A one-off reunion is planned for the ship's companies of HMS Fikerton and Chawton and of Lams Company, 42 Commando, plus associated arms. This will take place on September 21 at the Imperial War Museum, Manchester. For more details contact Peter Down, 3, Shaw Moor Ave, Stalybridge, Cheshire SK15 2RB, or email [AVOCAG@aol.com](mailto:AVOCAG@aol.com).

**Operation Pedestal:** A reunion is planned for the veterans of Operation

Podestal, the relief convoy to Malta of August 1942. This will take place in Malta from September 24 to October 2 this year. The coordinator is Simon Cousins, 18, Ambleside, Triq 8-Ghajn, Sieweg, STJ 04, Malta, email [scousen@technoline-mt.com](mailto:scousen@technoline-mt.com). Any veterans wishing further information should contact the coordinator direct.

### October

**HMS Plymouth Association** reunion will be held on October 5. Lunch-time on board, evening at Police HQ, Liverpool. Further details regarding reunion and membership can be obtained by contacting Martin Slater, 44, Argo Rd, Waterloo, Liverpool L22 0NW, tel: 0151 296 8992, or email: [secretary1250club@nortok44.freemove.co.uk](mailto:secretary1250club@nortok44.freemove.co.uk)

**The reunion of the 50 Commanders' Association** will take place at the RM Museum, Eastney, Portsmouth, on October 5. Details from Col Tony Dyer on 01243 374076 or email: [tonydyer@bt.com](mailto:tonydyer@bt.com)

**HMS Liverpool** ship's company between 1962-65: A reunion is to be held at the HMS Liverpool pub in Liverpool on October 5. Details from Pete Crofts on 07947 799235 or email: [peter@crofts666.freemove.co.uk](mailto:peter@crofts666.freemove.co.uk)

**Royal Naval Patrol Service Association** reunion parade at Lowestoft on October 5 with the Band of HM Royal Marines Portsmouth. All welcome. Details from Leo Woodcock, 133, Cotton Rd, Lowestoft NR32 4PR, tel: 01502 584555, email [whilstock@thet Harbour.fs.business.co.uk](mailto:whilstock@thet Harbour.fs.business.co.uk)

**Reunion in Ocean Rooms, Golestone,** at 2000. Reunion tickets from J. Durne, Sparrows Nest, Lowestoft, tel: 01502 586250.

**London & Medway RN PTIs** annual luncheon in the King Charles Hotel, Gillingham, Kent, on October 6. Details from Orlando Jemmett on 01227 263691.

**Artificer Apprentice (Entry October 1946):** Classmates from Exmouth (Figsford) and Duncan (Caledonia), next reunion at Warners, Cricket St Thomas, Somerset, from October 11-14. Details from Ivor Norsworthy, 22, Thornhill Rd, Marnamstead, Plymouth PL3 5NE, telephone: 01752 663300, or e-mail: [ivor@norsworthyhouse.freemove.co.uk](mailto:ivor@norsworthyhouse.freemove.co.uk)

**HMS Cardigan Bay** reunion at the Rainbow International Hotel, Belgrave Rd, Torquay, from October 11-14. Details from Michael Sokomons on 01977 676072, Donny Gier on 01294 465192, or R. Hackett on 0121 440 5457, or email: [hackett39@yahoo.com](mailto:hackett39@yahoo.com)

**HMS Alert 61-63** Commission reunion at Leamington Spa on October 12. Details from 'Doc' Howard, 33, Seymour Rd, Lee-on-the-Solent, Hants PO13 9EG, or tel: 023 9279 9141.

**HMS Dainty** hold their sixth reunion at the King Charles Hotel, Gillingham, Kent, from October 18-21. New members (with guests) welcome. All commissions. Enquiries to Peter J. Hillman, 15, East Mead, Paghram, Bognor Regis PO21 4QT, tel: 01243 265901, or email: [Peter@bese-wyvern.finet.co.uk](mailto:Peter@bese-wyvern.finet.co.uk)

**HMS St Brides Bay** reunion is being held on October 18-19 at Manchester. Details from secretary Alan H. Mathieson on 01563 572282 or email: [alan.mathieson@teaco.net](mailto:alan.mathieson@teaco.net)

**Christmas Island Reunion Weekend** at Sand Bay Holiday Village, Weston-super-Mare from October 25-28. For further details telephone 01903 232108 or mobile: 07946 335259.

**HMS Caprice (World Cruise 1968)** Association annual reunion at Thames Hotel, Maidenhead, on October 26, 2002. Contact Phil Evans, 58, Leicester Rd, Fallowfield, Manchester M15 6DY, tel: 0161 681 9044, email: [phil.evans@virgin.net](mailto:phil.evans@virgin.net)

**The Hong Kong Fleet** are holding their reunion on October 25 at the Burlington Hotel, Eastbourne, East Sussex. Members requiring booking forms are requested to contact Gordon Cleaver, 'Broadacre', 4, Mayfield Gardens, Mddx TW18 3LG, or by phone 01784 457068.

**Survey Ships Association** reunion on October 25-27 at the Park View Hotel, Kings Lynn. Membership open to crew of any RN survey ship as well as associate and honorary membership. Details of reunion and membership from the Secretary, SSA, The Elms, Guest, Hooon, 48, Victoria Rd, Southsea PO5 2BT (please include an SAE). Tel/fax: 023 9282 3924 or email: [SurShipsAss@aol.com](mailto:SurShipsAss@aol.com)

**Buccaneer** reunions It is intended to hold the second Buccaneer reunion on October 26 in the WO & DFI Mess at RNAS Yeovilton. For details contact Dave Clark, 13, Lyde Rd, Yeovil, Somerset BA21 5AS, tel: 01953 474862 or email: [dac@btclark.finet.co.uk](mailto:dac@btclark.finet.co.uk) or at <http://www.vimart.co.uk/baaba.htm>

### November

**Weapon Mechanicians Association** weekend dinner November 1 to 3 at the Bear Hotel, Havant, Hants. Contact Richard Stoneman, 82, Kings Rd, Cowplain, Waterlooville, Hants PO8 8UT, tel: 023 9225 3685 or email: [richoske29@nortel.net.uk](mailto:richoske29@nortel.net.uk)

**HMS Churchill** reunion is intended to take place in Manchester in November. All old shipmates should contact CCMEA Andy Broadbent, NSI Section, HMNB Clyde, Faslane, Tel: 01436 677205 ext 33576245 or email: [andybroadbent@bt.com](mailto:andybroadbent@bt.com)

**Royal Marines Chefs Branch** reunion is at Daskine Forest Park from November 8-10. All chefs past and present are welcome. Further details available from WO1 Steve Galloway RM on 023 9272 9907 or email: [sgalloway@galloways.freemove.co.uk](mailto:sgalloway@galloways.freemove.co.uk) or

**you served in her or can remember her for whatever reason, please contact John Amess, 5, Headingly Close, Almond Hill, Stevenage SG1 3RU, tel: 01438 351644 or email: [john.d.amess@btinternet.com](mailto:john.d.amess@btinternet.com)**

**HMS Drake:** Seeking information on the history of the British battleship HMS Drake, which was commissioned in 1902 and

sank in 1917 after being torpedoed by the German submarine U-75. If you can help, contact Frank Rogers, 7, Whitehall Close, Ballycastle, Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland BT54 6WR, tel: 028 2076 8850, email: [frankrogers@yahoo.com](mailto:frankrogers@yahoo.com)

**HMS Selkirk, Minesweeper** was adopted by the town of Wetherby, Yorkshire, possibly in Warship Week 1941. For town records Everard Mallinson is seeking information of her wartime service, including Operation Neptune, with names of her COs and of course any photographs of the ship would be appreciated. Contact Everard Mallinson, 7, Langwith Ave, Collingham, Wetherby LS22 5DD.

**HMS Crane** was broken up in 1965. Does anyone know what happened to her Honours Board? The Association has a photograph showing it in place on the quarterdeck, but it does not appear to be in the trophy room at HMS Nelson. If anyone knows the whereabouts of the board, could they contact the secretary, Tony Nuttall, on 0115 952 6363.

**HMS Arlingham M2603:** Does anyone know the whereabouts of the ship's bell? Seeking information on the ship's history. Did

WO2 Dave Shaw at CTCFRM, Lymington, Devon EX8 5AR, tel: 01392 414066.

**HM Ships Hecla, Venomous and Marne (1940-42):** Memorial Service & Reunion, November 8-11 at Solihull. Details from Harry Cliffe, Oaktree Cottage, Post Office Lane, Noddy, Frodsham, Cheshire, WA6 8JJ, tel: 01928 788151.

**The Broadwood Association** reunion will take place at Chester Town Hall on November 15-16. Details and meal order form at <http://www.broadwood2002.co.uk> or from Keith Roberts on 01275 858596.

**HMS Cockade R34/D34** reunion at the Trecam Hotel, Babbacombe, Torquay, on November 15. Details from B. Hudson, 27, Gollands, Bishops, South Devon, TQ5 8JY, tel: 01803 856272.

### December

**HM/Sn Tiptoe, 1966-68:** Twiggy Birch and Neil Gwynn (Stokers) are trying to arrange a reunion of all ex-Tiptoe crew on the last commission at the Home Club on December 7-8. Anyone interested either email Twiggy at [peter@birchhof.finet.co.uk](mailto:peter@birchhof.finet.co.uk) or call on 02476 441307, or simply turn up on that weekend.

### March 2003

**HMS Figgard, Series 17:** On January 5, 1953, the best entry of Artificer Apprentices to ever grace the hallowed grounds of HMS Figgard entered through the establishment gates. It is proposed to mark this momentous occasion by holding a reunion in Portsmouth during March 2003. It is suggested that it would be an advantage to hold the reunion co-incident with the Artificer centenary celebrations scheduled also for March 2003. Contact Hugh (Jack) Simpson, 18, Palmer Circle, Bolton, Ontario, Canada, L7E 5F8, or email: [hugh.simpson2@sympatico.ca](mailto:hugh.simpson2@sympatico.ca)

**HMS Dasher, Archer-class aircraft carrier:** blew up and sank in the Firth of Clyde on March 27, 1943, with the loss of 379 officers and men. To mark the 60th anniversary, the HMS Dasher (1943) Association is planning a commemorative event in Ardrossan, Ayrshire. The Association seeks survivors, and any relatives who do not know of the association, and is also trying to contact any WRNS or any Base staff of HMS Fortitude, the wartime base at Ardrossan who remember the tragedy. Contact Ron Marston on 0118 966 6658 or email: [RonandDorseton@btconnect.finet.co.uk](mailto:RonandDorseton@btconnect.finet.co.uk)

### January 2004

**25 JSTU Seawolf Trials 1974-75 (30 year anniversary):** Seeking expressions of interest in a reunion of personnel, both military and civilian, who took part in Seawolf Trials at Woomera S. Australia. Currently have three definite. The reunion will take place either 2004 or 2005 at Woomera. (There is plenty of accommodation as you will have seen on the news). Contact Richard Bonman, 2, Inlet St, Malabar, NSW 2036 Australia, email: [camck@pentire.com](mailto:camck@pentire.com)

**Seeking anyone who joined HMS Raleigh** on Dec 6, 1971, or anyone who knows the whereabouts of Graham McEvoy, from Birmingham, Jerry Rowett from St. Austell. Also anyone who knows the whereabouts of Johnny Manners and 'Aussie', with whom Duncan Kirkpatrick served in HMS Bacchante, ROs, 1972-4, and anyone in HMS Llandaff 1975-6 World Cruise. Contact Duncan on 01794 340976, e-mail: [duncan@btinternet.com](mailto:duncan@btinternet.com)

**Mick Nolan** would like to make contact with any Stokers from Class 4A who were in training in HMS Raleigh in February, 1954. They were some of the last ratings trained as Stokers there. The change to M(E) was made in January, 1955. Mick would like to meet any old messmates who remember him. Contact him on 028 9036 8150 or email: [laurencenolan@aol.com](mailto:laurencenolan@aol.com)

**HMS Endurance:** Ron 'Lofly' Cook is seeking anyone from HMS Endurance 1968-69. He was killick of seaman's mess those two trips south. Contact Ron at 42, Sydney Road, Walmer, Deal CT14 9JW, tel: 01304 380674, email: [ron@cook44.freemove.co.uk](mailto:ron@cook44.freemove.co.uk)

**Blake 1961-2 D01 Mess:** T. Nicholas (Nick), T. Armstrong (Terry), T. Marshall (Tex) or anyone from the mess - contact Tony Dodd (Ken) at 10, Broadway, Walsley CH45 3NA, tel: 0151 638 1509, email: [tonydodd@btinternet.com](mailto:tonydodd@btinternet.com)

**HMS York:** Phil Peaple is trying to find MEM Steven Barrow (Wheeler), formerly of HMS York (1998) 3H Mess, and then Portsmouth Field Gun Crew. If you're still out there, Phil would like to catch up for a drink or two. Contact Phil at 5, Highgrove Close, Calne, Wiltshire SN11 8NF, tel: 01249 817129, email: [phil.peaple@btinternet.com](mailto:phil.peaple@btinternet.com)

**HMS Crossbow:** Looking for any 'old shipmates' that served at the residence of the Captain of Chatham Dockyard (Vice Admiral Poland) in 1951, or perhaps there might be some old mates from HMS Crossbow 1952-53. Norman Roulston would like to hear from any that may still be around. Contact Norman at 31, High Street, Ebbw Vale, Queensland, 4304, Australia, or email: [norbar@dfil.com.au](mailto:norbar@dfil.com.au)

**HMS Fearless** is due to decommission, and a call has gone out for any old shipmates (Fearless 1963-2001) with any photos of the ship or the crew (group-type ship's company photos etc) which these years for an end of HMS Fearless' book they hope to produce. Also any yams/funny dits about the ship/crews of the same time. Please

don't send any photos on yet - just write to CPO(M) Toms, HMS Fearless, BFPO 283 or tel: 28708a.dl/mod.uk

**HMS Exeter:** Seeking MEM(M) Tony Hancock, who served with Danny Kay on board HMS Exeter in the Falklands in 1982. Contact Danny at 3, Newark Rd, Clifton, Swinton, Manchester M27 8JS, tel: 0161 661 0172, email: [stevekay5762@btinternet.com](mailto:stevekay5762@btinternet.com)

**HMS Ark Royal:** Peter (Les) Dawson served in the Ark Royal between 1977-1979 and would like to hear from anyone who remembers him, especially from mess 6/1. Contact Peter at 15, Scalby Grove, Redcar TS10 2PT, tel: 01642 502784, or email: [peter.dawson15@btworld.com](mailto:peter.dawson15@btworld.com)

**Motor Gunboats, P10 & P12:** Ian Hay would like to contact SAJ G.H. Hopkinson RNVR and Lt T.M. Milne RNVR as well as PO S. Wilkinson and any other crew from the gunboats who escaped from Singapore when it fell to the Japanese in February 1942, escaping to freedom in Fremantle, Australia. Contact Ian Hay, 5, Lylesland North St, Houston, Johnstone PA6 7JA, tel: 01505 614430.

**Ex-POAEM(WL) John Stevenson** seeks friends from his service days 1967-91, particularly Mark Wholley and Dennis (Dave) Holland Block. Contact John at 30, Frinton Rd, Broxtove Estate, Nottingham NG8 6GZ, email: [john.stevenson@btworld.com](mailto:john.stevenson@btworld.com)

**The HMS Ajax Association** is open to anyone who served in either the cruiser or frigate on any commission. To join, contact Andy Laker on 023 9272 2613 or email: [andy.laker76@btinternet.com](mailto:andy.laker76@btinternet.com)

**Chris (Chas) Block, ex POMEH 1960-73,** seeks old friends from HM ships Tyne, Hartland Point, Murray, Sultan, Lochinvar, Eagle and Minerva. Names recalled are Wren Heather Harris, 'Tall' John Berry, Terry O'Connell, George Liddle, Ratter Morgan, Joe Evis, Ed Tulley, Harry Gill, Dolly Gray, Lt Cdr (E) 'Iaxi' Cross (Tyne), Bill Stone (H. Point) and anyone else who knows him. Contact him at 50, Malling Rd, Snodland, Kent ME6 5NA, tel: 01634 244447.

**HMS Salamander 1942-45:** Stoker and Boxer, Clem Stevens is looking for old shipmates, especially 'Blonde' Norton from St Helens. Contact Clem at 27, Lincoln Rd, Hensingham, Whitehaven, Cumbria, tel: 01946 694384 or email via Mickey Finn at [finnpd@aol.co.uk](mailto:finnpd@aol.co.uk)

**HMS Montrose (WWII Leader Class):** TelMdg Tel E. Smith says that they were mainly deployed on Russian Convoys - Iceland to Murmansk/Archangel prior to E-boat patrol in the English Channel. Would like to hear from anyone that was on board under Cdr Phipps. Contact E. Smith at 114, Bloomfield Rd South, Bangor, County Down, Northern Ireland BT19 7HR.

**The Russell Coates Nautical School** is where Tom Davies number 60, last saw his best friend Albert Fellows and would sincerely like to find him. If anyone has any information at all please contact Tom's niece Liz Miles on 01394 283037 or write to 48, Tomline Rd, Felixstowe, Suffolk or email: [Lizmiles@aol.com](mailto:Lizmiles@aol.com)

**Steve Rowbottom** joined the RN in 1973 and left in 1979. He is seeking shipmates who went to his wedding: they were Steve Bowley, Peter Doherty, Steve Whitmore, Alf and Julie. Contact Steve from the Gulch at 10, Ben Johnson Way, Newport, Gwent NP20 3JJ, tel: 01633 663331, or email: [s.rowbottom@btworld.com](mailto:s.rowbottom@btworld.com)

**Clare Lister** is seeking Lt Mark Walker, last known to be in Poole and married to Jeannette. Mark used to work in RNSETT at HMS Nelson. If anyone knows the whereabouts of Mark could they contact Clare at PO Box 3183, Asquith, NSW 2077, Australia or email: [clareharding@hotmail.com](mailto:clareharding@hotmail.com)

Seeking Siobhan Preston (Shivy) who was in HMS London in 1996 for the

## Calling Old Shipmates

Seeking anyone who joined HMS Raleigh on Dec 6, 1971, or anyone who knows the whereabouts of Graham McEvoy, from Birmingham, Jerry Rowett from St. Austell. Also anyone who knows the whereabouts of Johnny Manners and 'Aussie', with whom Duncan Kirkpatrick served in HMS Bacchante, ROs, 1972-4, and anyone in HMS Llandaff 1975-6 World Cruise. Contact Duncan on 01794 340976, e-mail: [duncan@btinternet.com](mailto:duncan@btinternet.com)

**Mick Nolan** would like to make contact with any Stokers from Class 4A who were in training in HMS Raleigh in February, 1954. They were some of the last ratings trained as Stokers there. The change to M(E) was made in January, 1955. Mick would like to meet any old messmates who remember him. Contact him on 028 9036 8150 or email: [laurencenolan@aol.com](mailto:laurencenolan@aol.com)

**HMS Endurance:** Ron 'Lofly' Cook is seeking anyone from HMS Endurance 1968-69. He was killick of seaman's mess those two trips south. Contact Ron at 42, Sydney Road, Walmer, Deal CT14 9JW, tel: 01304 380674, email: [ron@cook44.freemove.co.uk](mailto:ron@cook44.freemove.co.uk)

**Blake 1961-2 D01 Mess:** T. Nicholas (Nick), T. Armstrong (Terry), T. Marshall (Tex) or anyone from the mess - contact Tony Dodd (Ken) at 10, Broadway, Walsley CH45 3NA, tel: 0151 638 1509, email: [tonydodd@btinternet.com](mailto:tonydodd@btinternet.com)

**HMS York:** Phil Peaple is trying to find MEM Steven Barrow (Wheeler), formerly of HMS York (1998) 3H Mess, and then Portsmouth Field Gun Crew. If you're still out there, Phil would like to catch up for a drink or two. Contact Phil at 5, Highgrove Close, Calne, Wiltshire SN11 8NF, tel: 01249 817129, email: [phil.peaple@btinternet.com](mailto:phil.peaple@btinternet.com)

**HMS Crossbow:** Looking for any 'old shipmates' that served at the residence of the Captain of Chatham Dockyard (Vice Admiral Poland) in 1951, or perhaps there might be some old mates from HMS Crossbow 1952-53. Norman Roulston would like to hear from any that may still be around. Contact Norman at 31, High Street, Ebbw Vale, Queensland, 4304, Australia, or email: [norbar@dfil.com.au](mailto:norbar@dfil.com.au)

**HMS Fearless** is due to decommission, and a call has gone out for any old shipmates (Fearless 1963-2001) with any photos of the ship or the crew (group-type ship's company photos etc) which these years for an end of HMS Fearless' book they hope to produce. Also any yams/funny dits about the ship/crews of the same time. Please

don't send any photos on yet - just write to CPO(M) Toms, HMS Fearless, BFPO 283 or tel: 28708a.dl/mod.uk

**HMS Exeter:** Seeking MEM(M) Tony Hancock, who served with Danny Kay on board HMS Exeter in the Falklands in 1982. Contact Danny at 3, Newark Rd, Clifton, Swinton, Manchester M27 8JS, tel: 0161 661 0172, email: [stevekay5762@btinternet.com](mailto:stevekay5762@btinternet.com)

**HMS Ark Royal:** Peter (Les) Dawson served in the Ark Royal between 1977-1979 and would like to hear from anyone who remembers him, especially from mess 6/1. Contact Peter at 15, Scalby Grove, Redcar TS10 2PT, tel: 01642 502784, or email: [peter.dawson15@btworld.com](mailto:peter.dawson15@btworld.com)

**Motor Gunboats, P10 & P12:** Ian Hay would like to contact SAJ G.H. Hopkinson RNVR and Lt T.M. Milne RNVR as well as PO S. Wilkinson and any other crew from the gunboats who escaped from Singapore when it fell to the Japanese in February 1942, escaping to freedom in Fremantle, Australia. Contact Ian Hay, 5, Lylesland North St, Houston, Johnstone PA6 7JA, tel: 01505 614430.

**Ex-POAEM(WL) John Stevenson** seeks friends from his service days 1967-91, particularly Mark Wholley and Dennis (Dave) Holland Block. Contact John at 30, Frinton Rd, Broxtove Estate, Nottingham NG8 6GZ, email: [john.stevenson@btworld.com](mailto:john.stevenson@btworld.com)

**The HMS Ajax Association** is open to anyone who served in either the cruiser or frigate on any commission. To join, contact Andy Laker on 023 9272 2613 or email: [andy.laker76@btinternet.com](mailto:andy.laker76@btinternet.com)

**Chris (Chas) Block, ex POMEH 1960-73,** seeks old friends from HM ships Tyne, Hartland Point, Murray, Sultan, Lochinvar, Eagle and Minerva. Names recalled are Wren Heather Harris, 'Tall' John Berry, Terry O'Connell, George Liddle, Ratter Morgan, Joe Evis, Ed Tulley, Harry Gill, Dolly Gray, Lt Cdr (E) 'Iaxi' Cross (Tyne), Bill Stone (H. Point) and anyone else who knows him. Contact him at 50, Malling Rd, Snodland, Kent ME6 5NA, tel: 01634 244447.

**HMS Salamander 1942-45:** Stoker and Boxer, Clem Stevens is looking for old shipmates, especially 'Blonde' Norton from St Helens. Contact Clem at 27, Lincoln Rd, Hensingham, Whitehaven, Cumbria, tel: 01946 694384 or email via Mickey Finn at [finnpd@aol.co.uk](mailto:finnpd@aol.co.uk)

**HMS Montrose (WWII Leader Class):** TelMdg Tel E. Smith says that they were mainly deployed on Russian Convoys - Iceland to Murmansk/Archangel prior to E-boat patrol in the English Channel. Would like to hear from anyone that was on board under Cdr Phipps. Contact E. Smith at 114, Bloomfield Rd South, Bangor, County Down, Northern Ireland BT19 7HR.

**The Russell Coates Nautical School** is where Tom Davies number 60, last saw his best friend Albert Fellows and would sincerely like to find him. If anyone has any information at all please contact Tom's niece Liz Miles on 01394 283037 or write to 48, Tomline Rd, Felixstowe, Suffolk or email: [Lizmiles@aol.com](mailto:Lizmiles@aol.com)

**Steve Rowbottom** joined the RN in 1973 and left in 1979. He is seeking shipmates who went to his wedding: they were Steve Bowley, Peter Doherty, Steve Whitmore, Alf and Julie. Contact Steve from the Gulch at 10, Ben Johnson Way, Newport, Gwent NP20 3JJ, tel: 01633 663331, or email: [s.rowbottom@btworld.com](mailto:s.rowbottom@btworld.com)

**Clare Lister** is seeking Lt Mark Walker, last known to be in Poole and married to Jeannette. Mark used to work in RNSETT at HMS Nelson. If anyone knows the whereabouts of Mark could they contact Clare at PO Box 3183, Asquith, NSW 2077, Australia or email: [clareharding@hotmail.com](mailto:clareharding@hotmail.com)

Seeking Siobhan Preston (Shivy) who was in HMS London in 1996 for the

reunion of HMS Fearless, Contact Sue (Stevie) Stephenson, 33, Parker Terrace, Ferryhill, County Durham DL17 8JT, or tel: 0775 470 4078.

**TS Arcthusa:** John Henshaw seeks two very special mates from 1958-59, Ray Yeates, from Brighton, and Raymond Burke, from Jersey/Guernsey. Ray Yeates went to HMS Gangster/HMS Mercury with John Henshaw, whereas Ray Burke possibly went into the Merchant Navy. Contact John Henshaw at 5, York Chambers, Long Eaton, Nottingham NG10 1LT, tel: 0115 946 4493, or email: [john@henshaw25.finet.co.uk](mailto:john@henshaw25.finet.co.uk)

**HMS Ark Royal 1973-74:** Gordon 'Jock' Haring is seeking Roger Jones, who served in Ark Royal, last known to be in Stourport-on-Severn. Roger also served in Bulwark. Contact Gordon at 14, Heathhall Terrace, Heathhall, Dumfries DG1 1TU, tel: 01387 240160, or email: [peempsall@btinternet.com](mailto:peempsall@btinternet.com)

Seeking Dave 'Baggy' Baker and Lee 'Scouse' Hillier, both of whom served in Cadet Training Ships HMS Smeater, Biter and Fenicer 1990-92. Roy 'Bod' Sutherland hopes to organise a ten-year reunion. Contact Roy at



# Royal Naval Association

## Legion's bell rings out again

THE SHIP'S bell of HMS Legion rang out six bells, loud and clear, at a ceremony in Cheltenham Town Hall to mark the 60th anniversary of the loss of the town's adopted wartime ship.

The Legion was sunk on March 25-26, 1942, by German dive-bombers at Malta.

The ship's bell, recovered from the sea after the war, was loaned for the occasion by Mrs Peggy Wallford, daughter of the late Cdr R.F. Jessel DSP DFC RN, Commanding Officer of the Legion.

Prior to a service of remembrance, conducted by the Rev Jeremy Whales, a tribute was paid to Cdr Jessel and the ship's company by the Captain's son, Tony Jessel, former MP for Twickenham.

For members of the Cheltenham branch the occasion marked an end to the duties of dedication they have performed for HMS Legion over the years – they have now handed these duties to a younger generation, the Sea Cadet Unit TS Legion.

"We are the past and the cadets are the future," said chairman S/M Jim Swain as he handed over a bosun's call, salvaged from the ship to Sgt Josh Bence, an 18-year-old Marine cadet, who said: "We are proud to be taking it forward. The Legion is something the whole town can be proud of."

The occasion was attended by survivors of the Legion and of HM ships Ark Royal, Rajputana and Cossack, civic dignitaries, members of the RNA and ex-Service associations, with five standards on display.

## Branch honour

THE HONOUR of laying up the Australian Veterans standard in their club was greatly appreciated by the members of Portsmouth RNA.

The British branch thanked the Perth and Rockingham branches and S/M Geoff Purcell for making it possible.



● From left: David Woodcock, Joe Brown, Kenneth Cleave and Leonard Hare.

# Carrier and escorts are not forgotten

ONE of the darkest tragedies of World War II – the loss of the aircraft carrier HMS Glorious and her attendant destroyers HM ships Ardent and Acasta – has been recalled with the presentation of special photo-montages to the survivors.

A total of 1,530 men were lost in the Devonport-based ships, sunk by the German battlecruisers Scharnhorst and Gneisenau in the Norwegian Sea on June 8, 1940.

Hundreds survived the sinking but died in the freezing sea over the next two days.

One survivor's account tells of suicidal attacks on the powerful German warships by the British destroyers, sealing their fate – but a torpedo from Acasta hit the Scharnhorst and forced her to retire from the scene, inadvertent-



● The plaque commemorating the loss of the Glorious, Ardent and Acasta

ly preventing a potential encounter with a near-dilettante convoy of troopships evacuating Norway.

Of the 40 survivors – 38 from the carrier, and one each from the destroyers – only three are still alive.

No official tribute has been made to the ships or the men who served in them. It was left to their relatives to commemorate the loss and keep the memory alive.

They raised enough money for a plaque in St Nicholas' Church at HMS Drake, Devonport Naval Base, which was unveiled last year.

A service of remembrance was also held on Plymouth Hoe, attended by 400 relatives and

friends from as far afield as Canada.

More recently, two of the survivors – Joe Brown (88), of Horrabridge and Kenneth Cleave (82), of Newton Abbott – returned to St Nicholas' Church to be presented with a framed photo-montage.

The third survivor, Fred Thornton (80), of Birkenhead, was presented with his photo-montage at the Town Hall in Bootle in a ceremony attended by Commodore Madgwick.

Mr Brown, a former CPO in the Glorious, said: "It was quite a surprise to receive the montage."

"They have done such a good

job to keep the memory alive.

"I still think about it every day. I can see the faces of the men who lost their lives 62 years ago, whereas I can't remember people I met in the last few months."

"It was horrible. We were sunk about 5pm on the Saturday and we were not picked up until Tuesday morning."

"Of the 40 on our raft, there were only four of us who survived." Mr Dave Woodcock, whose father Jonathan Woodcock was the Master at Arms in the Glorious, and Leonard Hare, who lost his father-in-law AB Fred Oxenham in the Ardent, organised the photo-montage presentation.

Mr Woodcock said: "We have also made the montage as post-cards and sent out 500 of them."

"So many people are interested in what happened. It has been shrouded in mystery for so long."

"We did not even know at first where the ship was sunk. They could have been in the Mediterranean."

Mr Woodcock would now like to hear from relatives of those on the three ships or anyone interested in the tragedy, and can be contacted on 01229 462414.

## Tot concludes service

THE CHURCH of St Nicholas at Heythrop was packed for a commemorative service to mark the 60th anniversary of the loss of the Hunt-class destroyer HMS Heythrop on March 20, 1942.

The service, conducted by the Bishop of Dorchester and the vicar of St Nicholas, was attended by many naval veterans, including six from the original ship's company.

Led by the standard of No 6 Area, 14 standards were paraded,

supported by shipmates from throughout the area.

The Last Post was sounded at the exact time the Heythrop sank stern first 60 years ago to the day.

The branch which organised the event took the unusual step of issuing a ceremonial tot in the church at the end of the service, prompting one church-goer to remark that the aroma which lingered in the air would serve as a reminder of weeks "that the Navy was here."

## Bernard's big day

ONCE a Marine, always a Marine is true of 85-year-old S/M Bernard Hallas, a member of York branch, who joined in the 1930s.

With 350 Royals he attended the RM Association Northern Region biennial reunion in Manchester – a source of great pride for him.

The reunion, he says, was "the finest ever", with great support for what he declared the Americans at last admit to be "the finest Marine Corps in the world".

A highlight for Bernard was the gala dinner at which Maj Gen Whitehead RM was the guest of honour, and to whom Bernard presented a book of his unpublished naval and marine poems.

Bernard's pride in the Corps peaked at the parade on Sunday: "Over 300 of the proudest Marines ever assembled," he said, "displaying ten standards – it was a joy to behold."

Watched by cheering spectators they paraded to music by the Lancashire Artillery (V) Band.

## Service for H5 victims

EXACTLY 84 years to the day, the 27 men lost in the submarine H5 in Caernarvon Bay were honoured at a service in St Cybi's Church, Holyhead, and the unveiling of a plaque in the local maritime museum.

In a tragic wartime accident, the H5 – mistaken for a German submarine – was rammed by the British vessel Rutherglen and went down off Holyhead on March 2, 1918.

Aboard the doomed boat was a United States officer, Lt Earl F. Wayne Childs, Lt Sir John Henry Anson and Lt A.W. Forbes DSO, whose relatives attended the service of remembrance and the unveiling of the Welsh slate plaque.

Sir Peter Anson RN and Mrs Knight (Forbes), with three grandchildren of the Childs family performed the unveiling ceremony, following which they were entertained with guests in the Thetis Bar of the RNA Club Holyhead, which incidentally boasts a painting of the H5 by local artist Desmond Jones.

## Trio honoured

During 2001-2 the following members of the Christchurch branch were honoured with life membership for loyal and outstanding service: Bob Rowe, Barney Burns and Bill Cross.

## Praise for members

THERE was praise from chairman S/M John Utley for members of the Wetherby branch at the branch annual meeting – and a word of thanks for S/M Vince Parks for organising a varied programme of events in the past year.

The following shipmates were elected officers: John Utley (chairman), Alan Kemp (vice chairman), Reg Maycock

(secretary), John Hook (treasurer), Fred Wake (public relations officer).

The branch meets on the second Thursday at 2000 in the Messdeck, the Prison Officers Social Club, HM Prison Wealstun, Thorp Arch, and new members are always welcome.

For details, contact Fred Wake on 0113 281 3297 or John Utley on 01937 844871.

## Looking for someone?



[www.comradesandcolleagues.com](http://www.comradesandcolleagues.com)

The smartest way to keep in touch with former comrades in HM Forces

over 2000 military units... including yours!

## SKYTREX LTD MODELS FOR MEMORIES

Replica model in 1:700th scale, hand cast in white metal, painted, and mounted on a wooden plinth with brass nameplate

WW2		MODERN	
Dido Class Cruisers	@£65.00	Type 23 Frigate	@£55.00
Leander Class Cruisers	@£65.00	Type 21 Frigate	@£49.00
Arctura Class Cruisers	@£65.00	Type 42 Destroyer	@£54.00
County Class Cruisers	@£90.00	Ton Class Minehunter	@£29.95
Colony Class Cruisers	@£75.00		
Town Class Cruisers	@£75.00		

Inc of P&P (UK only)

To order your model, send your name, address and daytime telephone number along with your wish (cheque or credit card details to: Angela Bowler, SKYTREX LTD, Park House, 25 Park Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 2ED Tel: 01509 233298 Fax: 01509 210336

PLEASE ALLOW 21 DAYS DELIVERY

## Naval Quirks

THE BRITISH FLEET BLOCKADING NAPOLEON'S FRENCH PORTS WAS AT SEA CONTINUOUSLY FOR TWO YEARS!



I THOUGHT IT WAS THE FRENCH FLEET THAT WAS ALWAYS "AT SEA" IN THOSE WARS...



YET MY BROTHER IS VERY MUCH A LAND-LUBBER..



WELL, A LANDLUBBER IS -



# Royal Naval Association



## Editor is needed

NO 3 AREA is looking for a new Public Relations Officer – and an editor for their magazine.

The second edition of *Navy Daze* has just been published, and its existence is entirely down to NCM Rita Lock and PRO Eric Hartley, of Liss and District RNA.

However, Eric has had to resign from the area committee because of ill-health and has thus had to give up the role of PRO and editor.

Although Eric has agreed to edit the magazine for another issue, Southern Flotilla chairman S/M Fred Flood is seeking a member of the area who could either take up the role of PRO and edit the magazine, or two people to share the jobs.

"The willing person(s) will not necessarily have to be a full time Association member," said Fred.

Anyone interested in either or both positions should contact Fred at 34, Park Lane, Selsey, Chichester, West Sussex PO20 0HE, tel 01243 603186.

## Rum do

THE SEA Cadet training ship TS Shikari benefited by £150 thanks to a mock auction at the Redruth and Camborne branch dance of a bottle of Pusser's Rum, donated by the Warrant Officers and Senior Rates Mess at RN air station Culdrose.

## Life member

SURV LT Ken Elder has retired as president of Henlow branch, to be replaced by S/M Tom Vincent.

For outstanding service, S/M Alan Smillie, treasurer, was awarded life membership.

# Dorsetshire is remembered

SURVIVORS of the sinking of HMS Dorsetshire attended a reunion over Easter weekend at the Royal Fleet Club in Plymouth.

The heavy cruiser, along with HMS Cornwall (see below), was sunk by the Japanese in the Indian Ocean on Easter Day, April 5, in 1942.

Nearly 80 survivors – including at least one who had travelled from Canada – and members of the Association visited the Eden Project on Good Friday, then attended a commemorative service in St Nicholas' Church at HMS Drake.

Capt David Larmour, Base Commander Personnel at Devonport, took the salute in the Drill Shed of HMS Drake at a march-past by survivors, led by the standards of branches of the RNA, the RFA, the Royal Marines Association, Merchant Navy Association and the Royal British Legion.

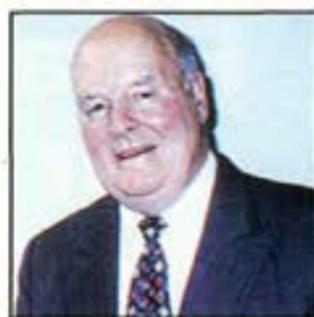
At a reunion dinner, a cheque was presented to retiring secretary Bert Gollop in recognition of his unstinting service to the Association over the years.

In his final report, Mr Gollop expressed his

sorrow that the Association had not seen a replacement for the Dorsetshire, but that he was encouraged by the growth of the Association and the interest shown in the ship.

Mr Gollop, who was also presented with an engraved ship's decanter, remains as chairman of the Association.

Members also attended an Easter Day service at St Nicholas' Church, after which a cheque was presented to Capt Larmour for Alexandra House, a temporary home for Naval children.



● S/M Roy Tinsley.

## Ex-Stoker is now a Sin Bosun

HAVING gone from coal-burning stoker to Methodist preacher, S/M Roy Tinsley was not offended when his fellow shipmates of Leeds branch appointed him their 'sin bosun'.

After five years of intensive study he was recently accredited local Methodist preacher, and 35 members of the branch with 16 of his family attended the ceremony in the Methodist church.

Roy – one of the branch's welfare officers – joined the Navy in 1944 and saw service in the Far East in the coal-burning minesweeper HMS Brushwood.

On the homeward journey, in HMS Glasgow, in 1947 he was selected to play for the ship's cricket team – and wonders if any of that team are still around?

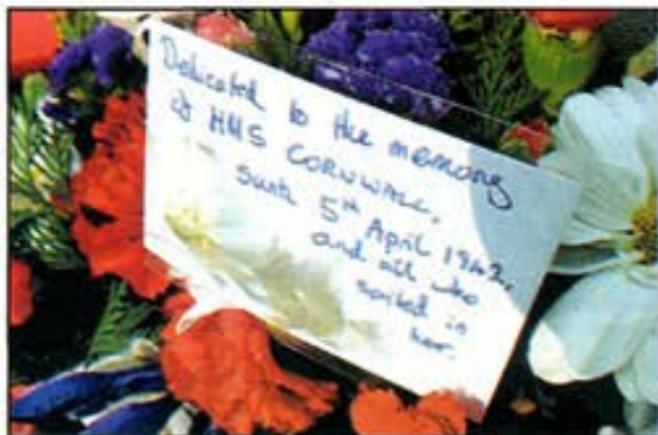
## In the swim

THE FOLLOWING members of Hanworth branch completed 137 lengths of a local swimming pool to raise money for Macmillan nurses: Jean O'Brien, Jeff Robson, Arthur Ansell and Ben Emmins.

## Big welcome

THE GENERAL Secretary of the RNA, Capt Bob McQueen, was warmly welcomed on attending the annual No 7 Area annual general and first quarterly meeting at Brecon, Powys.

# Veterans gather to honour Cornwall



ALMOST 60 people – including 16 survivors – gathered at the Naval Memorial on Southsea Common in memory of the loss of County-class cruiser HMS Cornwall.

The ship was lost, along with HMS Dorsetshire, in a Japanese air raid in the Indian Ocean on Easter Day, April 5, in 1942.

HMS Cornwall Association chairman John Fuller recalls being at action stations in the aft magazine when the first air strike hit the ship: "There was a loud bang, and I thought we had just opened fire, but I was wrong."

"We took a lot of hits, starting at about twenty to two, and the whole thing was over by about 2pm."

Mr Fuller said the evacuation of the ship was achieved in a calm fashion, and he then spent almost 30 hours in the water before being picked up by a cruiser.

Of her ship's company of around 730, 179 men died.

The Commanding Officer of the current Type 22 frigate HMS Cornwall, Capt Steve Kirby, and Rear Admirals Anthony Dymock, and James Rapp, former COs of the ship, were present, laying wreaths at the memorial.

Association president Roger Collett also laid a wreath – he was in an 8in gun turret when the ship was hit, and kept afloat with just a lifejacket an aircraft wheel which drifted by.

Mr Collett had the dubious distinction of seeing the Dorsetshire launched in Portsmouth, and seeing her sink close to his own ship.

The service was taken by the Rev Garth Petzer, a Naval padre who hails from South Africa, and who served in the current Cornwall. A sizeable number of the men in HMS Cornwall when she sank were South Africans.



● Lt David Hessey (ret'd) of the HMS Nelson RN Volunteer Band plays the cornet at the ceremony on Southsea Common.



● S/M Dougie Lohead receives his certificate from Cdr Smalley.

## Dougie clocks up 60 years

IT IS no small achievement to be a member of an RNA branch for 60 years.

In fact, the Herts branch was so pleased when S/M Dougie Lohead achieved this record that they held a special Messdeck sup-

per in his honour.

The President, Cdr B.G. Smalley RN, presented him with a certificate prepared by the branch, and he received many other gifts from his fellow shipmates.

## £50 PRIZE PUZZLE



The unnamed submarine in our March edition was HMS Sturdy.

The winner of the £50 prize for identifying her was Tony Portage, of Faversham in Kent.

This month's mystery ship is pictured in the mid-1970s. Can you name her – and one of her three older sisters?

The correct answer wins another £50.

Complete the coupon and send it to Mystery Picture, Navy News, HMS Nelson, Portsmouth PO1 2HH. Coupons giving correct answers will go into a prize draw to establish a winner.

Closing date for entries is June 14, 2002. More than one entry can be submitted, but photocopies cannot be accepted. Do not include anything else in your envelope: no correspondence can be entered into and no entry returned.

The winner will be announced in our July edition. The competition is not open to Navy News employees or their families.

### MYSTERY PICTURE 87

Name .....

Address .....

My answer .....

**THE TRECARN HOTEL**  
Babbacombe, Torquay  
The Naval Reunion Specialist

2 days DBB £63.50 pp . 3 days DBB £83.50 pp  
(prices include Banquet meal)

We have over many years been associated with the Royal Navy, holding Reunions for: HMS EXETER, HMS SHEFFIELD, HMS NEWFOUNDLAND, HMS TENBY, HMS ARETHUSA, HMS CUMBERLAND, TON CLASS ASSOCIATION, CASTLE CLASS CORVETTE ASSOCIATION and the PLYMOUTH RNA.

The Trecarn has 136 En-Suite bedrooms with colour TV, tea making facilities, and can accommodate up to 250 Guests. The hotel has a large Dining Room that can hold up to 300 Guests, as well as two spacious Ballrooms and Bar areas, ideal for any association regardless of its membership size.

For information please contact:  
BRYAN PITMAN - GENERAL MANAGER TEL: 01803 329292

**THREE NEW BOOKS IN MAY...**

We have two new editions of our very popular series TO SAIL NO MORE. An amazing photo record of warships at the end of their days. Laid up, broken or even blown up.

To Sail No More Part 6 (Madsen) Covers ex ships of the US Navy. £15.95  
To Sail No More Part 7 (Bueh) Ships of the Royal Navy end their days. £15.95  
The Royal Fleet Auxiliary in Focus (Wise) A fine pictorial history of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary - the Merchant ships that supply the essential fuel and food to ships of the Royal Navy on the high seas. £10.95

Maritime Books, Lodge Hill, Liskeard, PL14 4EL  
Tel: 01579 343663 Fax: 01579 346747  
e-mail: orders.marbooks@virgin.net  
Our prices include UK p&p.  
See our full range at www.navybooks.com



## Financial survival guide for Forces leavers

THE INDEPENDENT financial watchdog, the Financial Services Authority (FSA), has published a Financial Survival Pack designed to help members of the Armed Forces plan for the next stage of their personal finances after leaving the Services.

The pack is full of easy to understand and impartial information to guide military personnel through the potential minefield of the financial world.

The FSA believes that for many Service men and women who have spent their lives working in a highly-supportive environment, having to find their own home for the first time can be a daunting prospect.

Careful planning can help them take control of their finances and prepare for life after the Forces.

The FSA information pack consists of a number of elements: top tips to make money stretch further; do's and don'ts for buying a home and mortgage repayment; ways to increase retirement income once outside the Services; a useful directory of key contacts in the financial realm; and an interactive CD-ROM called 'FSA Financial Planning' that lets users carry out their own financial healthcheck.

The FSA says: "For people coming out of the Armed Forces, retirement could last up to 30 years - or even longer if they choose early retirement."

"This pack is tailored to their particular needs and will help people in the Armed Forces plan and review their personal finances."

The FSA stresses: "Because we're the independent financial watchdog, all the information is impartial. We do not promote individual firms or products."

The FSA aims to promote better public understanding of the financial system, and this new Financial Survival Pack forms part of that commitment.

The pack also includes details on the FSA's Comparative Tables. These enable would-be investors to compare easily the features of

various products - as well as any charges. The tables are designed to facilitate shopping around for financial products.

Featured in the tables are more than 400 Unit Trust ISAs as well as personal pensions, stakeholder pensions, investment bonds and mortgage and savings endowments.

These comparative tables can be found on the Internet at: [www.fsa.gov.uk/tables](http://www.fsa.gov.uk/tables).

Free copies of the Financial Survival Pack can be obtained through the FSA Consumer Helpline on 0845 606 1234.

Other information and fact-sheets on a wide range of personal finance topics are available from the same helpline number, or found on the FSA website at: [www.fsa.gov.uk/consumer](http://www.fsa.gov.uk/consumer).

The FSA's role is to regulate the financial services industry, and has four objectives under the Financial and Services Act 2000: to maintain market confidence; to promote public understanding of the financial system; to guarantee an appropriate level of protection for consumers; and to fight financial crime. This code aims to maintain efficient, orderly and clean financial markets.

# Ten simple ways to beat the taxman

NAAFI Financial Services has launched a simple guide designed to stop people paying more tax than they need to.

It seems that on average people pay £140 in tax unnecessarily each year.

The guide also includes ten top tips, all designed to increase awareness of possible tax-saving techniques.

These are simple ways to limit any tax overspend by checking the tax code which has been supplied and making the most of ISAs, to transferring assets between partners according to individual tax rates.

"£1.128 million was wasted last

year in fines by people not completing their self-assessment tax returns on time," says NAAFI Financial.

"By spending a small amount of time looking at our top tips and the guide, Forces personnel and their families could reduce the tax they pay."

"We want to make everyone more aware of what they should and shouldn't be paying. This is another initiative in our 20th anniversary year that demonstrates our long-term commitment to the Armed Forces market."

NAAFI Financial's 'Tax Free Zone' offers various tax-free products and services, including tax-free savings, tax-free car sales in Germany and insurance premium tax refunds.

The campaign also gives customers the chance to win a DVD player by answering ten multiple choice questions on "things you didn't know about tax".

The new guide goes over the basic allowances available in any given tax year and a basic explanation of key taxes - including capital gains, inheritance and income tax.

NAAFI Financial expects that

the guide will help customers maximise their tax efficiency by checking the tax they currently pay and provide an insight into how they might save money in the future.

Copies of the new tax guide, the top ten tips and the DVD player competition are all available from NAAFI branches in the UK, Germany or Cyprus, or from their website: [www.naafi-financial.com](http://www.naafi-financial.com).

### SEPARATING OR DIVORCE PENSION ADVICE

Specialist legal advice to Naval Personnel for:

- CONVEYANCING
- WILLS, PROBATE & TRUST
- MATRIMONIAL & FAMILY
- CHILD CARE
- PERSONAL INJURY
- CLINICAL NEGLIGENCE
- OCCUPATIONAL ILLNESS
- MENTAL HEALTH
- CRIME

For more details call one of our offices, or email via our website  
[www.coffinmew.co.uk](http://www.coffinmew.co.uk)

FREE INITIAL ADVICE IN MANY CASES

Call 01329 825617 or 023 8033 4661

### Don't Waste Money on separate Motor Breakdown Cover

## Save Money

our competitive Motor Insurance Rates automatically include Motor Breakdown assistance!!!

### FORCES DIRECT Motor Insurance

The Specialist for H.M. Forces and M.O.D. Personnel

- Motor Insurance (including Northern Ireland and Turkey)
- Travel Insurance
- Home, Contents & Military Kit Insurance
- Life Insurance

Tel: 0800 074 9402

Open 365 days a year

Bar 11 10pm Monday - Friday Bar 11 9pm Saturday & Sunday

The Manor House, 10 St. Margaret's Green, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 2BB

Tel: (01473) 211051 Fax: (01473) 213808

E-mail: [sales@forcesdirect.co.uk](mailto:sales@forcesdirect.co.uk) [www.forcesdirect.co.uk](http://www.forcesdirect.co.uk)

### Employment Problems / Redress by Complaint?

### Need Help and Legal Advice?

Contact: **0845 601 1260**  
[www.forceslaw.com](http://www.forceslaw.com)

**FORCES LAW**

The Forces Legal Network

For a free 30 minute initial diagnostic interview with Lawyers experienced in the Armed Forces who speak your language

### Some companies offer 10% off their motor insurance

If you have their kit & contents insurance too

### To really save money try TF Insurance Services

Our mystery shopping reveals that we can save an average of 30% when we compare the total cost for the car and kit!

We can't guarantee to be 30% cheaper every time (sometimes we may save you even more!)

To find out how much we can save you call The Free Number below, or email us at: [SaveEvenMoreMoney@tfinsuranceservices.co.uk](mailto:SaveEvenMoreMoney@tfinsuranceservices.co.uk)

Or you can visit our website at: [www.tfinsuranceservices.co.uk](http://www.tfinsuranceservices.co.uk)

### The Free Number 0800 389 1798

(Mon-Fri 9-5 Sat 9-4)

For training purposes your call may be recorded

Member of General Insurance Standards Council

### WORRIED ABOUT DEBT?

- Are you constantly worrying about DEBT?
- Is DEBT affecting your performance at work?
- Is your family under pressure through DEBT while you are away?
- Worried about Commanding Officer involvement?

If you can answer YES to any of the above, then please read on...

### IF YOU'RE IN DEBT

If you are paying £500 per month on your credit cards, store cards, unsecured loans etc.

We will reduce this to less than £200 per month.

**PLUS YOU WILL BE DEBT FREE WITHIN 5 YEARS GUARANTEED WITHOUT TAKING MORE LOANS**

Strict confidentiality assured - No employer contact - We employ EX-Armed Forces personnel as counsellors, who understand through personal experience the stress of the job with DEBT!

**DCM 0845 1200 662**

National calls at LOCAL RATE

DEBT COUNSELLORS AND MANAGEMENT

[www.apex-debt-help.co.uk](http://www.apex-debt-help.co.uk)

### FORCES, EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL

### WOUNDS? DISEASES? INJURIES? CAUSED BY SERVICE?

also

### ALL PERSONAL INJURIES CLAIMS

You may be entitled to

## COMPENSATION

### CALL THE CLAIMS SPECIALISTS!!!

### CALL FREEPHONE 0500 22 20 22 NOW!!!

THORN COMPENSATION SERVICES LTD • MARSH HOUSE  
92A MARSHLAND ROAD • MOORENDS • DONCASTER DN8 4SZ

### Motor Insurance with that Bit Extra

## 0800 207 800

8.00am-8.00pm Mon-Fri, 9.00am-5.00pm Sat

**TOUCHLINE**

Subject to status and current acceptance criteria. Touchline may record telephone calls. Touchline is a member of the General Insurance Standards Council.

Call us for Van Insurance too

Call us for a  
free quote today -  
and get a FREE Clip-on  
Scan Radio when you take  
out your policy with us\*

# MY CAR ROLLED OFF THE END OF A 'TRANSPORT VESSEL

## What other motor insurance company would believe you?

Most 'high street' insurers don't really understand what you do for a living. So in the event of a claim there may be instances where you might not be covered.

NAAFI Financial knows exactly what you do for a living, and our motor insurance is designed especially for people like you. You'll find our cover automatically includes benefits most insurers would charge you extra for or fail to cover, making our motor insurance a lot cheaper than you think. So if the unthinkable happened to your car, you can be assured your claim will be sorted out quickly and efficiently.

Call us now for a free no-obligation quote. We are now open 7 days a week. Or pop into your local NAAFI Financial branch.

### Save more money with our multi-policy discounts

Kit + car insurance	2 or more cars
10% discount on your car insurance	10% discount on your main car insurance

For your free radio call us now, quoting reference: N14 A\*

**00800 76 76 77 77** (free from the UK & Germany)

**+44 1603 205 209** (from rest of the world)

**www.naafi-financial.com**



NOBODY KNOWS YOU BETTER

Calls may be monitored and/or recorded. NAAFI Financial is the trading style of Warrior Group Ltd. Insurance is underwritten by Norwich Union, a member of the General Insurance Standards Council. Subject to status.

\*For policies due to be renewed with another company within one month of your quote request. Offer available while stocks last. Limited to one free Clip-on Scan Radio per person when taking out a NAAFI Financial Motor Insurance policy. Please allow 28 days for delivery.



# NoticeBoard

## THE TIME OF YOUR LIVES

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

### 40 years ago

**Able Seaman 'Butch' Munro's** adventures featured in the *Navy News*.

Butch, of HMS Malcolm, had been enjoying a pleasant evening ashore in Stornoway. He'd drunk in a local hostelry, danced until midnight, then after saying goodnight to his sweetheart for several hours, was wending his weary way back to his ship, when the night was lit up by a distress rocket in the early hours of the morning. Not the sort to miss out on

an adventure, Butch volunteered his services to the Stornoway lifeboat who were, in fact, short of men due to a flu epidemic.

In his new company, Butch set off to the rescue of the Swedish coaster *Ofeles*.

After Butch and his team rescued all but four of the crew from a nearby island on which they'd taken refuge, his mates on HMS Malcolm appeared to save the day and retrieve the remaining four from their desolate situation.

### 30 years ago

The Secretary of State for Education and Science, a certain Margaret Thatcher, met HMS Reclaim's chief diver, CPO 'Nobby' Clark in the ship's compression chamber.

The Royal Navy's 2,050 tonne deep diving ship was

visiting Shoreham as part of a waterborne display featuring British, Dutch and Russian ships as part of Oceanology International 1972.

Her time in the chamber obviously did nothing to cramp the style of Mrs T.

### 20 years ago

The front page headline reads: "A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH".

The Falkland Islands Task Force had set off on the long journey to the far-flung British islands of the South Atlantic.

Amid a massive show of patriotism, the carriers *Hermes* and *Invincible* sailed out of Portsmouth, as did the assault ship, HMS *Fearless*. Her sister ship *Intrepid* would soon be setting out in her turn.

Destroyers *Sheffield*, *Glasgow*, *Coventry*, *Antrim* and *Glamorgan* formed part of the force, and frigate support came from *Arrow*, *Alacrity*, *Antelope*, *Broadsword*, *Brilliant*, *Plymouth* and *Yarmouth*.

Due to the vast distances involved, the Royal Fleet Auxiliary ships had a key role. These included: *Fort Austin*, *Appleleaf*, *Tidespring*, *Pearleaf*,

*Brambleleaf*, *Olmeda*, *Resource* and *Stromness*, together with the landing ships *Sir Galahad*, *Sir Geraint*, *Sir Lancelot*, *Sir Percival* and *Sir Tristram*.

By late April, a further 35 civilian ships had been chartered or requisitioned for military use including the *Canberra* and *Uganda*.

The Royal Navy also recognised the great efforts made by the many civilian and Service personnel in the Naval bases, dockyards, stores and offices. Activity at the naval bases continued round the clock.

In the first ten days of the emergency, the supplies organisation at Portsmouth loaded a total of 3,000 tonnes of stores, excluding armaments, to the various ships.

● *K Company*, 42 *Commando* Royal Marines return to HMS *Fearless*. Picture: Peter Holdgate



## Deaths

**Cdr Jonathan 'Johnnie' M. Maughan**, Queen's Harbour Master, Portsmouth Naval Base. Joined RN in 1971. Served as NO on HMV *Britannia* for three years, including commemorations of 50th anniversary of D-Day. Last Cdr of RN College Greenwich. Also worked with NATO in Norfolk, Virginia USA. Aged 50, April 9.

**Capt 'Jock' Cyril John Cunningham** DSC MID. Joined as cadet in 1939 and saw action during WWII mostly in the Mediterranean. Ships include *Warspite*, *Cleopatra* and *Outram*. Took part in Salerno landings and then trained as a pilot to fly *Seafires*. Became CO of 805 Naval Air Squadron, later loaned to Royal Australian

Navy to become frontline Sea Fury squadron on Sydney in the Korean War. Last appointment was Commodore and Chief of Staff to the Flag Officer Naval Air Command. Aged 81.

**Capt David Bromley-Martin**, Wartime signals officer and former Director of the Salt Training Association. Saw service in WWII in northern waters, the Mediterranean and the Far East. Ships and establishments include: *Devonshire*, *Capetown*, *Eagle*, *Hood*, *Renown* (Mentioned in Despatches for restoring crucial aerial during attack on Scherhorn and Greisenau). *Warspite* (2nd Battle of Narvik), *Badger*, *London*, *Glory* and command of the Amphibious Warfare Squadron in Malta and HMS *Mercury*. Aged 87, March 2.

**Cdr Guy Clarabut** DSO DSC. Wartime

submarine captain. Served 1938-53. Ships and submarines include: *Royal Oak*, *256*, *Thrasher*, *Trooper*, *Rougal*, *Stygan*. Awarded DSO as CO of *Trooper* for sinking the Italian submarine *Pietro Micca*, 1943, and DSC as CO of *Stygan* for patrols in the Far East, 1944-45. Aged 82, March 9.

**Lt H.L.A. Foy**, *Louis* served 1943-54. ND Specialist. Served *Anson*, *King George V*, *Ulchin*, *Widemouth Bay*, *Glory* (2), *Hamier*, *Dryad*. Involved, joined *Decca Radar* then *Racal-Decca* 1950-90. Inventor of the first true motion radar 1956. Aged 76, March 4.

**Frederick Charles Elson**, *Guldford*. Far East, Atlantic and Russian Convoys, Pacific and with HMS *Indomitable*. Aged 78.

**William 'Wilf' Thornington**, ex SPO. Served in *Zulu*. Aged 83.

**James McFarlane**, HMS *Comus* Comrades. A Bruce boy, served in *Zest*, *Wharfedale*, *Boxer* and *Chaplet*. Aged 69, March 17.

**T.J. Copping**, *Algernes* Association. Served in *Courier*. January 21.

**Leonard A.J. Dunlop**, *Algernes* Association. Served in *Pincher*. February 8.

**Ken Sheffield**, *Algernes* Association. Served in *Plucky*. February 13.

**Jim Hayter**, *Algernes* Association. Served in *Cockatrice*. February 20.

**Peter Lemon**, *Algernes* Association. Served in *Flattenake*. March 3.

**Alan C. Green**, *Algernes* Association, HMS *Bruce* Association. Served in *Jaseur*, *Maenad*, *Pincher*, *Solebay*, *Warrior*, *Gabbar*, *Wharfedale*, *Obdurate*, *Delight*. Aged 70, March 10.

**Ed Findlay**, ex CEFA. Served 1946-64. Served in *Caledonia*, *Magpie*, *Glasgow*, *Marwell*, *Pickle*, *Simbang*, *Ark Royal*, *Sultan* and *Yarmouth*. Aged 71, March 17.

**David Hicks**, ex *Stoker*, HMS *Unicorn* Association. Served 1949-50. December 2000.

**Lt Cdr E. Plattford**, HMS *Unicorn* Association. Served 1945-46. December 2000.

**Eddie Wells**, ex *Stoker*, HMS *Unicorn* Association. Served 1949-51. December 2000.

**David Smith**, ex *Stoker*, HMS *Unicorn* Association. Served 1951-54. March 2001.

**Phillip Jennings**, ex *PO/CR*, HMS *Unicorn* Association. Served 1943-46. March 2001.

**Dick Drew**, ex *LAF/E*, HMS *Unicorn* Association. Served 1943-46. April 2001.

**Ernie Wilkins**, ex *Boy/OB*, HMS *Unicorn* Association. Served 1949-51. May 2001.

**Bill Riley**, ex *PO AF/E*, HMS *Unicorn* Association. Served 1945-46. June 2001.

**Vic Meyer**, ex *LSA/V*, HMS *Unicorn* Association. Served 1942-45. July 2001.

**Lt Cdr R. Coldrey**, HMS *Unicorn* Association. Served 1942-43. September 2001.

**Alistair Wheway**, RM, HMS *Unicorn* Association. Served 1950-52. November 2001.

**Ben Newman**, ex ERA, HMS *Unicorn* Association. Served 1952-53. December 2001.

**Harold Love**, ex *Ch ERA*, HMS *Unicorn* Association. Served 1951-53. January 2002.

**Roy Heald**, ex *AB/Radar*, HMS *Unicorn* Association. Served 1942-45. February 2002.

**Joe Tuff**, ex *AMEJ*, HMS *Unicorn* Association. Served 1943-46. March 2002.

**Ian Bubbins**, ex *POEL*, (SM). Ships include: *Hydra*, *Odin* and *Otis*. Died in *Christchurch*, New Zealand. Aged 47.

**George William Carnell**, ex *Steward*. Served 1956-66. Ships include: *Puma*, *Victorious* and various shore establishments. March 25.

**Les Hambleton**, ex *Signal/M*, HMS *Serene* Association. Served in *Serene* 1946. March.

**Hugh Barton**, *Majestic Caledonia* 1937-39 *Boy's Association*, *PO Elec* HMS *Punjab*. Aged 79.

**Sidney 'Red' Lister**, ex *CPO* (Aircraft Handler). Fleet Air Arm Field Gun Association, 1st Trainer Fleet Air Arm Field Gun Crew 1954 & 59. "Captain of the Deck" HMS *Bulwark* 1960-62. Joined RN Careers Service 1962. Aged 79, January 22.

**Henry Ernest Churchman**, ex *CPO*. Served in HMS *Warspite*. Noted boxer and gymnast. Attended Royal Hospital, Holbrook, HMS *Ganges*. Also *Greenwich College*. Aged 80, February 10.

**William L. 'Len' Douglas**, ex *Chief Aircraft Handler*. After leaving Service became Factor of an estate near Edinburgh. March 31.

**Archie Bishop**, CYS. Joined St Vincent 1933. Ships include: *Queen Elizabeth*, *Active*, *Hunter*, *Fame*, *Exeter*, *POW Nagasaki*, *Zephyr*, *Tyne*, *Ranpara* and *Diana* (Atom Bomb tests Australia 1956-57. Always proud of his Service. Aged 84, March 30.

**David Hutchings**, ex *CPO Shipwright*. Apprenticed at *Fisgard* in 1953. Ships include: *Caledonia*, *Owen*, *Hermes* and *Fearless*. Served over 22 years. Aged 64, March 20.

**Kenneth Richard Booton**, joined at Devonport, served 1950-57. Served in submarines: *Amphion*, *Auriga* and *Selene*.

**Lt Harry Howling**, joined *Ganges* 1932. Last survivor of HMS *Boadicea*. Aged 85, February 21.

**Len Costen**, ex *PO Cook* (D). Served 1940-62. Ships include: *Tenby*, *Hedpole*, *Woodcock*, *Cowdry*, *Holham*, *Glory* and *Danville*. HMS *Tenby* Association. March 13.

**R.R. 'Reg' Atkin**, ex *PO Stoker*. Served 1947-61. Ships include: *Belfast*, *Croyton*, *Theseus*, *Armad*, *Sultan*. Long term (39 years) and loyal member of the Royal Naval Old Comrades Club Eastbourne. Aged 72, February 21.

**Frank 'Geordie' Bruce**, ex SPO. Served in *Thorough*, *Tabard*, *Tanby*, *Solent*, *Statesman*, *Token*, *Trenchant*, *Tactum* and *Aurochs*. Submariners Association, Australian Branch. Aged 74, April 5.

**Alan Hale**, *Aircraft Handlers Association*. April 7.

**Donald Wright**, served 1946-71. *Aircraft Handlers Association*. March 24.

**Peter John Wooding**, ex *LS Survey Recorder*. Served 1958-65. Ships include: *Trowbridge*, *Cavalier*, *Dalrymple*, *Dampier*, *Fox*, and *Hydra* for 15 years. Awarded *Burma Star* (1942) and *Falklands* (1982) Medals. March 30.

**John Baker**, *Loch Fada* Association. Ships include: *Diamond*, *Venus*, *Loch Fada*, *Abdel*, *Hermes*, *Yarmouth*, *Markon*, *Intrepid*, *Ledbury*. March 17 at *Cedeira* Spain.

**Francis Brown**, ex *CPO*. Oldest survivor of HMS *Hood*. Joined RN in 1924. Also served in submarines.

**Len 'Robbie' Roberts**, ex *MEMN(P)*. Ships include: *Bulwark*, *Salisbury*, *Penelope*, *HMV Britannia*. Aged 80, April 7.

**Ron Linsforth**, HMS *Cheviot* Association. April 13.

**Roy Middleton Ayrce DSM**, ex *Acting Petty Officer (Dermis)*. Served 1940-46. Distinguished Service Medal 1945. Served *Raleigh*, *Drake*, *President* 3, wartime service. Aged 82, March 25.

**Roland Smith**, ex *Leading Telegraphist*. Served 1945-48, and maintained great interest in RN. Produced great collection of RN film and video archive. March.

**Tom Annandale**, ex *CPO Chief*. Served 1928-52. Aged 92, April 3.

**Pat Hayes**, ex *PO PTE*. Member of the *London* and *Motley* RN PTEs. Also TS *Exmouth* boy. Aged 77.

**ASSOCIATION OF RN OFFICERS**

**Wardmaster Lt E.V. Bishop**. Served: *Naval Hospital Haster*.

**Capt J.W. Boughey**. Served: *Caledonia*, *Newcastle*, *Centaur*, *Kent*, *Saker*, *Heron*, *Seshawk* and *HM Dockyard Gibraltar*.

**Lt F. Craig RNRV**. Served: *Dundonald*.

**Lt W. Hay**. Served: *King George V*, *Turpin* and *Dolphin*.

**Chaplain C. Hughes**. Served: *Ocean*, *Fisgard*, *Raleigh*, *Collingwood*, *RN Base Chatham* and *RN Air Station Broadthorpe*.

**Lt Cdr R.V.E. Hutton**. Served: *Duke* of *York*, *Aeneas*, *Thorough*, *Turpin*, *Kullabine*.

**Chaplain R.J. Lowe**. Served: *Valley* 11, *Impregnable*, and *Malabale*.

**Lt Cdr J.S. Manaton**. Served: *Fearless*, *Fisgard*, *Ark Royal*, *Ganges*, *Heron*, *Warrior*.

**Major K.I. Morrison RM**. Served: *Rodney*, *Mauritius*, *Ajax*, *Euryalus*, *Superb* and *RM Lynnhaven* and *Eastney*.

**Lt Cdr C.A. O'Brien**. Served: *Retenless*, *Plover*, *Tamar*, *Heron*, *Mercury* and *NATO*.

**Capt G.A. Plumer**. Served: *Cockade*, *Rattlesnake*, *Hornet*, *Venduruthy*, *Thankerton*, *President*, *Diamond*, *Ganges*, *Falmouth*, *Dolphin*, *Mercury* and *NATO*.

**Cdr A.T. Rees**. Served: *Copra*, *President*, *Sekin*, *St Angelo* and *Ceres*.

**Second Officer M.C.P. Turner WRNS**.

**Lt Cdr J.A.L. Wilkinson DSC**. Served: *Barham*, *Warspite*, *Sickle*, *Upright*, *Astute*, *Crispin*, *Scottsman*, *Managa* and *Dolphin*.

**ROYAL NAVY ASSOCIATION**

**Kenneth Edward Collison**, ex *PO Air*

*Fillet*, *Cromer*. Served 1943-46. Ships include: *Daedalus*, *Goosling*, *Raven*, *Flycatcher*, *Hornbill*. Aged 79, March 24.

**Irene 'Midge' O'Connor nee Berry**, ex *WRN*. President *Halifax* Branch and Life Member. Served BRNC in 1945, then *Sandhurst* *Stranraer* in *Signals*. *Bradford* Branch *WRNS* Association. Aged 74, March 17.

**Keith Morling**, ex *ChOA*. President *Lewis* Branch. Served in WWII. Ships include: *Ganges*, *Adventure* and *Glory*. March 21.

**C. Pearce**, *Pendleton*. One of few survivors of HMS *Isis* lost during D-Day. Later served in *Russian Convoys*. Aged 75, March 12.

**George Courtneff**, *Waltasey*. *Welfare* Officer and chairman of the *Royal Naval Patrol Association*. March 25.

**John Denyer**, ex *PO Stoker Mech*. *Eastbourne*. Served in *Victorious*, *Adamant*, *Zephyr*, *Newcastle*, *Charity* and *Village*. Injured in *Korean War*. Aged 69, March 11.

**Ron Scraffle**, ex *Navy Commando*. *Peel*. February 22.

**John Kelly**. *Peel*. Ships include *Quality* and *Isbitious*. March 18.

**Reginald 'Reg' Sherar**, ex *Leading*

*Seaman*. *Kingston upon Thames*. Served 1940-48 (RN), 1948-57 (RFR). Ships include: *Collingwood*, *Pembroke*, *Eaglet*, *Anson*, *LST 320*, *Golden Hind*, *BYMS 3026*, *Widemouth Bay*, *St Angelo*. Aged 79, March 15.

**William 'Bill' Walker**, *Wigton*. February 25.

**Wally Tranter**, *Wigton*. March 12.

**Henry Hodgkin**, *Wigton*. Life vice-president and former chairman. March 16.

**T.R.E. 'Robin' Turner**, ex *Petty Officer Seaman*. *Harrogate* and *District*. Aerved 1936-49. Ships include: *Pembroke*, *Osprey*, *Intrepid*, *Vivian*, *Kittiwake* and *Tasman* (RNZN 1944-48). Aged 83, March 26.

**Ken Ferris**, ex *Chief GI*. *Uxbridge*. Served 1935-57. Ships include: *Amazon*, *Broadsword*, *Comorant*, *Kingston*, *Chrysolite*, *Excellent*, *Mull of Galloway*, *Hex*, *Indomitable*, *Oxip*, *Somali*, *Trowbridge*.

**Douglas John Gudger**, ex *Stoker Mechanic*. *Nuneaton*. Aged 75, March 12.

**Reginald Gordon Clare**, *Norwich*. Served 1934-45. Aged 90, March 19.

**James 'Jimmy' Hand**, *Scarborough*. Aged 81, April.

**John Matthews**, ex *AB*. *Lichfield*. Ships include: *Ganges*, *Gambia*, *Eagle*, *Osprey*. Aged 66, February 9.

## Appointments

**Admiral Sir Alan West KCB** DSC to be First Sea Lord and Chief of Naval Staff on 17 Sep 02. This appointment carries with it membership of the Defence Council and the Admiralty Board of the Defence Council.

**Vice Admiral Sir Jonathon Band KCB** to be promoted Admiral and appointed as Commander-in-Chief Fleet, Commander-in-Chief East Atlantic and Commander Allied Naval Forces North on 2 Aug 02. This appointment carries with it membership of the Admiralty Board of the Defence Council.

**Rear Admiral R.G. Lockwood** to be Senior Naval Member of the Directing Staff, Royal College of Defence Studies on 11 Sep 02.

**Cdre P.J. Kidner** to be promoted Rear Admiral and to be Chief Executive Defence Medical Training Organisation on 2 Apr 02.

**Cdre R.F. Cheadle ADC** to be promoted Rear Admiral and to be Chief of Staff to Second Sea Lord and Commander-in-Chief Naval Home Command on 3 Sep 02.

**Capt M. Anderson** HMS *Marlborough* as CO on 28 Aug 02.

**Capt A.M. Massey** to HMS *Ark Royal* as CO on 9 Jul 02.

**Capt A.D.H. Mathews** HMS *Drake* as Naval Base Commander and *Cdre HMS Drake* and to serve in rank of *Commodore* on 2 Sep 02.

**Surg Capt The Rev Professor C.P.G. Barker** to the Centre for Defence Medicine as Professor of Military Surgery on 1 Dec 02.

**Maj Gen D. Wilson** to be Senior British Military Advisor US Central Command from 17 May 02.

**Cdr The Hon Michael Cochrane** to HMS *Chatham* as CO on 31 Jul 02.

**A/Cdr D.B. Turner** to HMS *Scott* as CO on 24 Sep 02.

**Maj G.A. Armour** to 45 *Cdo RM* as *Y Company* Commandant on 6 Aug 02.

**Lt Cdr M.D. Kent** to HMS *Bristol* as CO on 9 Jul 02.

**Lt Cdr J.A. Gray** to HMS *Perth* as CO on 14 Jul 02.

**Lt Cdr A.A. Jordan** to HMS *Ramsey* as CO on 2 Sep 02.

# Education



## Pupils will have the world at their feet

Portsmouth High School is delighted to announce the creation of a second reception class for September 2002.

Now the only independent single-sex school in Portsmouth, the school has seen a significant increase in demand for places and, as a result, would be very interested in hearing from parents who would like to consider entering their daughters for September 2002 at 4+.

Based in Thomas Ellis Owen's large family home and beautiful grounds in the centre of Southsea, the closely-knit community believes that all activities, whether academic or social, should be fun, stimulating and vibrant.

In the Junior School all the girls across the year groups learn to work and play together as one community, creating an atmosphere of a large family at home.

Small class sizes ensure that pupils receive excellent individual care and attention whilst participating in a broad and stimulating education programme.

Single-sex education is best for girls and is proven time and time again, according to the school.

Research has found that girls in girls' schools:

- See themselves as being in charge of their own choices, values and quality of life
- Hold more positive attitudes about school



■ Achieve at significantly higher levels at reading and science

■ Overcome traditional sex-role stereotypes

Comfortable in an environment without stereotypes, pupils become self-confident and develop to their full potential. On leaving the school they have the world at their feet – they will know who they are and where they are going.

Call now on 023 9282 6714 to find out more.

Please note: the Mayville High School website is at [www.mayvillehighschool.com](http://www.mayvillehighschool.com)

## Portsmouth High School

*'We offer a safe, structured and vibrant environment in which each member of our community can flourish and develop.'*  
Peg Hulse, Headteacher

### THE LEADING INDEPENDENT SCHOOL FOR GIRLS (4-18)

#### New Reception Class

Portsmouth High School is now the only independent girls' single sex school in Portsmouth and as a result we have seen a significant increase in demand for places.

With effect from September 2002, we will be opening an additional Reception class. We would be very interested in hearing from parents who would like to consider the possibility of entering their daughters for September 2002 at 4+.

• Our excellent nursery inspection report is available on request

• The large garden offers a safe, imaginative environment for creative play.

For further information and a school prospectus, please contact the Admissions Secretary: ☎ 023 9282 6714 ☎ 023 9281 4814  
✉ [admissions@por.gdst.net](mailto:admissions@por.gdst.net) 🌐 [www.gdst.net/portsmouthhigh](http://www.gdst.net/portsmouthhigh)  
Financial assistance available in the senior school.

GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST  
Reg. Charity No. 1020007



## Vocational Education Training Programme



### HNC in Leisure Management, Sport and Recreation

An exciting new course being offered in conjunction with our Sports and Leisure department to enable you to study towards a BTEC / Edexcel award in the above discipline. The course will be delivered by a combination of distance learning and short intensive courses. You may also be able to use some of your prior learning and experience gained in HM Forces / Industry / Public Services. Using the accreditation of prior learning / experience (APL / E) process

The V.E.T. programme is an initiative by Blackburn College to assist serving and former members of HM Forces, Public Services and Industry to attain recognised civilian qualifications

#### For more information contact:

Vocational Education Training Programme, Blackburn College,  
East Lancashire Centre of Excellence, Saturn Centre,  
Challenge Way, BLACKBURN, Lancashire BB1 5QB

Telephone: 01254-694441

Fax: 01254-679647

Email: [vets@blackburn.ac.uk](mailto:vets@blackburn.ac.uk)



EUROPEAN COMMUNITY  
European Social Fund

### A PREFERRED SUPPLIER TO

CAREER TRANSITION PARTNERSHIP

The Ministry of Defence working with Courts Consulting Group plc

Blackburn College exists to serve the educational & cultural needs of the local, national and international community

## SERVICE children's education

Moving back to the UK? Moving Overseas?  
Has your child special educational needs?  
Considering Boarding School education?  
Know about educational changes in the UK?

SCE(UK) for FREE advice and support:  
Tel: 01900 618244 Mtl: 94344 8244  
Fax: 01900 618245 Mtl: 94344 8245  
email: [wd.sce.uk@gtaet.gov.uk](mailto:wd.sce.uk@gtaet.gov.uk)



## UK LEADING INDEPENDENT SCHOOL OFFERING 20% REMISSION

OFF BOARDING FEES FOR HM FORCES,  
CHILDREN & GRANDCHILDREN OF SEAFARERS  
Co-ed Boarding & Day 3-19 years (Boarding 6+ years)  
A TOP UK SCHOOL FOR GCSE & A-LEVEL RESULTS



We think there are 3 important points, above all others, that make Queen Ethelburga's your ideal choice as the boarding school for your child.

Firstly, we understand the needs of service families and seafarers as we have been serving their needs for over 80 years. We have experience in ensuring your child will settle well, be confident and successful. Our campus is safe and away from city centre problems. Secondly, our boarding facilities are the best in Europe. Every bedroom has direct dial in/out telephone, voice mail, TV/Video (on timer), music centre, hot drink facilities and much more. Many bedrooms are ensuite. Our house parents are friendly and caring. Thirdly we are a Sunday Times

Top UK Senior School for GCSE and A-Level results  
UK Top 100 Preparatory School for Academic Results

We have invested over £17m in new facilities and offer a huge range of sports, music, equestrian, and recreational facilities. Over 95% of our A-Level students go on to University. Telephone for a prospectus, video and details of special 20% Remission. (Email: [remember@compuserve.com](mailto:remember@compuserve.com))



QUEEN ETHELBURGA'S COLLEGE  
Thorpe Underwood Hall, York, England.  
Tel: 08707 42 33 30  
Web: [www.queenethelburgas.edu](http://www.queenethelburgas.edu)

Easy to get to by road, rail & air. 10 minutes from A1M

Degree Course Offers



## You already know what powers us, now tell us what drives you.

**Marine Engineering Officers.** In the Irish Naval Service Marine Engineering Officers (MEOs) play a vital role in maintaining the status of our flotilla as a rapid reaction and multi-capable force. From managing a Technical Staff, which can be up to a third of the ship's crew, to planning and executing refit and repair programmes. The importance of this role is reflected in the remuneration package on offer. A qualified person can look forward to up to €56,587 in year 1 and year 2, rising to €62,937 in year 3.

You will need to be 36 years of age or under and hold one of the following professional qualifications. But most importantly, you will need the drive and ambition to do something extraordinary with your career.

- A Department of Marine Class 1 or 2 (Motor) Certificate of Competency
- OR
- Royal Navy (British) Marine Engineering Officers Charge Certificate Qualification (MCQ)
- OR
- A Marine Qualification that is deemed by the Minister for Defence to be at least equivalent to the qualifications outlined above.

For application forms and further information contact: Defence Forces Competitions, Personnel Section, DFHQ, Parkgate Street, Dublin 8, Republic of Ireland.

Tel 00 353-1-8042149, 8042144 Fax 8042412.



### A life less ordinary

  
THE DEFENCE FORCES

Tel 00 353-1-8042149, 8042144 [military.ie/careers](http://military.ie/careers)



## Duke unveils plaque to 24 cadets killed in collision

# BUS TRAGEDY RECALLED 50 YEARS ON

THE DUKE of Edinburgh has unveiled a memorial plaque at Chatham on the 50th anniversary of a tragedy in which 24 Royal Marines cadets were killed.

On Tuesday, December 4, 1951 a double decker bus ran into the back of a column of 52 cadets who were marching down Dock Road on their way to a boxing tournament in Pembroke Royal Naval Barracks.

It was a dark and dismal evening. The column was made up of three platoons marching close to the kerb near the old Chatham Dockyard Wall. Street lighting was minimal. Each lamp was fitted with a single domestic

type bulb (at that time, Dock Road was regarded as a side road). The bus had only its sidelights on, all that was required in those days.

The cadets, all aged between nine and 13 years, were within five minutes of the safety of Pembroke Gate when the bus struck the rear of the column. When it finally came to rest, 24 boys were dead or dying and 18 were injured, many seriously.

Only ten were free from physical injury, but the grief and emotional scars of that evening remain to this day with the survivors and relatives of those lost.

Picture: Sandra Rouse



## Ship of the Month

All NEW subscribers will receive 6 FREE postcard size pictures to kickstart an exciting and interesting collection of ships of the Royal Navy

ONLY £10.50 FOR 12 MONTHS

The featured ship for February is RFA Sir Geraint. To receive a postcard size picture of her and of the next eleven featured ships, simply phone 023 9282 6040 or send your cheque/PO for £10.50 UK price, £12.50 O/S price to the address below.

Each month you will receive a postcard size picture helping you to build a comprehensive and interesting collection.

Orders To:  
The Business Manager,  
Navy News, HMS Nelson,  
Queen Street,  
Portsmouth, PO1 3HH

Cheques payable to Navy News to accompany orders. For orders outside UK payment can be made by Cheque/International Money Order in £ Sterling and drawn on a UK bank. Payment by Credit Card/switch, UK & Abroad, please see the coupon on page 4. Credit Card orders not accepted under £5



Postcard size pictures from 1956 to present date. There are over 500 black and white glossy postcards available on request at a cost of 65p each (min order £1.95). To receive a free list simply write to the Merchandising Department or phone 023 9282 6040

Or buy online at [www.navynews.co.uk](http://www.navynews.co.uk)

## Silver award for Anita



PPO Anita Heron received her Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award from Lt Cdr Peter Gooding at Worthing Unit's annual Royal Navy Inspection.

Lt Cdr Gooding was invited to watch three well-rehearsed displays on 'Survival in the Woods' making a knot board and a drill team presentation in which parents were able to take part.

He also presented Junior Cadets K. Kitchener, A. Brownell, C. Searle, A. Kurpa and Cadet Coles with their basic Expedition Training badges.



# Sea Cadets



**CORPORAL** Dominic Mee, one of two Royal Marines who rowed across the North Pacific last year, visited HMS Raleigh to talk to South West Area Sea Cadets about his experiences.

## Oar-some experience



CADETS from all over the south of England gathered for the annual drill and piping competitions at HMS Raleigh (South West Area, above) and HMS Excellent (South East Area, below).

The contestants represented their local Districts having won the first stage in the cycle of competitions which lead up to the National Championships, being first subjected to a detailed inspection before carrying out their manoeuvres.

# DRILL SKILL



## ANTARCTIC and ARCTIC Bone China Mug Set

**By** the end of the 15th Century, adventurers and merchants suspected the Earth was not round and were starting to discover lands afar. In 1795 the UK Hydrographic Office was formed to develop much needed charts for the areas the Royal Navy sailed in. For over 200 years, the UK Hydrographic Office has built up a collection of over three million documents relating to the sea. Amongst these archives are the charts featured on these exceptional bone china mugs. Elegantly decorated with either Polic Arctic or Polos Antarctic maps. To make these mugs unique, each features either a Polar Bear or Penguin which is relevant to their destination. Both are finished with a real gold trim and fine detail.

**£12.99**  
Per Set  
inc P&P UK price

**£15.99**  
Per Set  
inc P&P O/S price

*Items not shown actual size.  
Please allow 28 days for delivery.*

To order this Bone China Mug Set please phone us on  
**023 9282 6040**  
 Or visit our award winning website at [www.navynews.co.uk](http://www.navynews.co.uk)  
 with your credit card details, or fill out the coupon on page 4. Cheques payable to Navy News to accompany orders. For orders outside UK payment can be made by Cheque/International Money Order in £ Sterling and drawn on a UK bank for the amount shown.  
 The Business Manager, Navy News, HMS Nelson, Portsmouth PO1 3HH

## 'Come to the cookhouse door, boys'

THIS evocative photo of Stoke-on-Trent Sea Cadets rushing to collect their rations at their summer camp at Heswall on the River Dee in 1938 was sent to us by J. A. Morgan – still living at Trentham, Stoke. If you can spot him, he says he is the one wearing spectacles . . . Does anyone else out there have any old pics of Sea Cadet activities? If so, we'd like to see them.





# Joint centre a first for Scotland

A UNIQUE Combined Cadet Forces Centre has been opened at Fort William by one of the town's most famous sons, Liberal Democrat leader Charles Kennedy.



The £250,000 purpose-built premises are designed to provide joint facilities for Lochaber Sea Cadet Unit, TS St Christopher, and the local Army Cadet Force and Air Training Corps.

With all three now being housed under one roof, this represents an entirely new concept for the Cadet Forces in Scotland.

After inspecting a Guard of Honour of representatives of all three units, Mr Kennedy said: "It is good to see young people from Lochaber involved in the esprit de corps which flows from the Services."

He then unveiled a dedication plaque and expressed his good wishes for the future of the building and its continuing success as "a centre of learning, adventure, comradeship and endeavour".

Chairman of TS St Christopher Derrick Warner said: "We are delighted to be part of this project as it gives us a really good start for our future growth."

"Getting the three Cadet Forces to work together is going to be great fun and offers us some tremendous opportunities for joint initiatives."

**JOINT EFFORT:** Liberal Democrat leader Charles Kennedy inspects the Lochaber cadets of all three Services at the new centre they will share at Fort William.

## Shipshape and Bristol fashion!

WHEN the Lord Mayor of Bristol was invited to visit HMS Bristol at Portsmouth, her own local Sea Cadets were on hand to make sure the Type 12 destroyer, now used for training, was cleaned up specially for the occasion.

Pictured with Cllr Brenda Huggill are (L-R) AC Luke Geach, LC Colleen Dunne, Cadet Michelle Brewer and LCpl Bradley Pope of Bristol Adventure and Avonmouth units.



## Week at sea for City pair

TWO Cadets from the City of London Unit enjoyed a week at sea in their affiliated ship, the Type 23 frigate HMS Argyll.

LC Duncan McDougall and OC George Guenigault joined for a period at sea in the English Channel. George, currently in year nine at London Nautical School, hopes to join the Navy as an MEM straight after his GCSEs.

Duncan, who is studying A levels in Information Technology, plans to join the Navy as a Warfare Officer and hopes one day to command his own ship.

They quickly integrated into the ship's company, working alongside personnel from every department and performing a variety of tasks on board.

They particularly enjoyed the opportunity to take the helm, under the watchful eye of Commanding Officer Cdr John Kingwell.

Cdr Kingwell is himself an ex-City cadet. Originally from the Elephant and Castle, he joined the Royal Navy in 1984 and took over as CO of the Argyll in January 2001.

He said: "Argyll is always pleased to take its Sea Cadets to sea since the Corps offers fantastic opportunities to young people."



## New Colour for Steadfast at 90

TO CELEBRATE its 90th anniversary, TS Steadfast has been presented with a new Colour, handed over by Vice Admiral Sir Jonathan Tod at the Kingston unit's headquarters.

## THE WHITE ENSIGN ASSOCIATION

### A FREE SERVICE



- A Naval Charity for all ranks and rates in the Royal Navy or Royal Marines.
- A source of sound advice and sane comment on most matters.
- Provides help on personal finance, resettlement and employment on leaving.

If you ever thought:  
'If only I could talk to someone!'  
and you can't find the right someone, then talk to the White Ensign Association

#### Contact:

The White Ensign Association,  
HMS BELFAST, Tooley St, London SE1 2JH  
Phone 020 7407 8658 Fax 020 7357 6298  
office@whiteensign.co.uk  
www.whiteensign.co.uk



# YOUNG READERS CLUB

## The GANG PLANK Club

# WIZARD MERLIN ON THE MOVE!



Lots of Young Readers have written to us to tell us they love the new Merlin Helicopter!

Well, just recently the new Merlin has been put through its paces, ready to go into service with the Royal Navy.

This awesome looking helicopter's full title is Merlin HM Mk1 and it replaces the anti-submarine Sea King HAS Mk6.

The Merlin carries three people - a pilot, observer and aircrewman. They are 22.9m long and capable of a speed of 167 knots.

Their power comes from 3 Rolls Royce

Turbomeca freepower turbines.

We'll bring you lots more news on the Merlin as it enters service.

## SEA READ

Paul Kitchin wrote to tell us that he's reading the book "The Cruel Sea" at the moment.

That set us thinking!

Do you have a favourite book or tale about the sea? We're going to run a Top 10 poll for the

best books. So write or e-mail now and you could be in with a chance of a lucky dip prize!

Write to:

Young Readers Club,  
Navy News, HMS  
Nelson, Queen Street,  
Portsmouth, PO1 3HH

## Is the Search Light on You??

We think our members are all brilliant but we don't get to see you enough!

So, we're going to be turning the Search Light on one member every month!

If we put your name in the Search Light then all you have to do is send us a photo of yourself and two or three interesting facts about you!

When you do we will send you a great prize - cool eh? Look out for the Search Light every month!



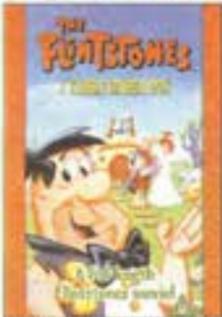
## WATCH THE BIRDIE!

Are you keen on watching the wildlife in the garden? Are you getting a bit fed up with next door's cat making a bit of a mess of your lawn?

Well, the Cat Protection charity has come up with some nifty ways to stop cats making themselves a nuisance. Here's some natural things that put them off:

- Orange Peel - scatter it in your flower beds, cats hate the smell!
- Used tea bags that have been soaked in eucalyptus oil (adults can get it from chemists) makes a good pong to stop cats entering precious bits of your garden.
- You can spray your fences with diluted surgical spirit (again adults can buy this and dilute it for you). Use a flower sprayer to do the spraying but don't forget to mark on it what it's been used for!
- Crush eggshells and put them on your flower beds, they keep the cats away and slugs don't like them either.
- Plant some prickly plants, roses and shrubs. Cats don't like the prickles.

**WIN A VIDEO**  
Warner Home Videos  
**WE HAVE 10 TO GIVE AWAY!**



On general release 22nd April 2002 - The Flintstones: 'YABBA DABBA DO!' Join Fred and Barney in this comic adventure.  
To enter this draw send your name, address and membership number on a postcard to:  
Flintstone Video,  
Young Readers Club,  
Navy News, HMS Nelson,  
Queen Street, Portsmouth PO1 3HH  
**Closing Date For Entries: 24th May 2002**

## 3 GREAT NEW ADVENTURES AT CHESSINGTON FOR 2002

### FAMILY TICKETS TO BE WON



The World First Fangtastic Coaster Family Flight that everyone will be 'Batty' about.  
The new VAMPIRE



Expect mischief galore at BEANOLAND



Take on the quickfire challenge of TOMB BLASTER in an action packed interactive adventure ride

**NOW ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTION CORRECTLY AND YOU COULD BE A LUCKY WINNER**

Get 'Up Close and Personal' with one of Europe's biggest Gorilla families in the 'TRAIL OF THE KINGS' jungle theme experience



**Question:** What is the 'Batty' new ride at Chessington World of Adventures? Put your answer on a postcard with your name, age and address and send it to:

**Chessington Competition, Navy News Young Readers, HMS Nelson, Queen Street, Portsmouth, Hants PO1 3HH**

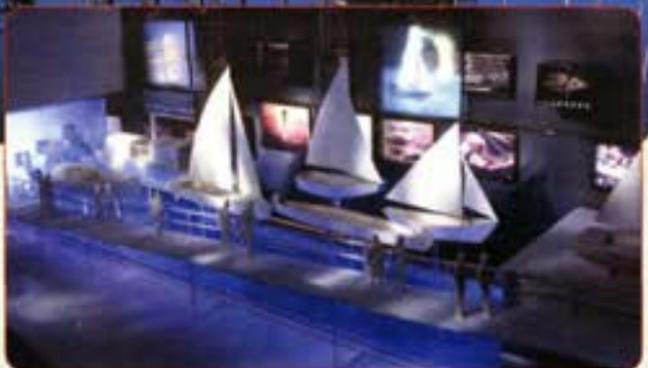
Chessington World of Adventures open 22nd March - 3rd November 2002  
Advance Booking Line 0870 444 7777

or [www.chessington.com](http://www.chessington.com)

**Closing date for entries - 7th June 2002**

The Editors' decision is final. Employees and relatives of Navy News are ineligible to enter.

# FIRST EDEN, THEN PARADISE FOR CORNWALL!



Well, it is paradise if you love boats! In September a very special museum will be opening in the west - it's the National Maritime Museum, Cornwall.

The museum was due to open this month but, as you can see from the blueprints, the building is so amazing it's taking a little time to finish. The official opening is now in the autumn.

So, what's so special about the museum? Well, first it's in Falmouth and the town not only has a long maritime history it's also the third largest natural deep-water harbour in the world.

Then we're told the museum is not just another place for adults to learn dry facts. This museum is aimed at all the family and promises

to have loads of hands-on activities to find out more about boats and how they work.

There'll even be the chance to sail a boat. Visitors can steer 39cm long model boats in a specially designed Waterfront gallery pool. If you want to learn more about the weather, about navigation and about the tides then there'll be masses of info for you at the museum. You'll even be able to watch the tides ebb and flow from the building.



And, of course, there'll be plenty of boats, from the oldest - a dugout canoe dating from 1850's - to the longest, a 20 metre Eton 10 rowing boat.

The crew at Young Reader's will definitely be heading west in September to see the Museum - hope to see you there!

**Pictures: Top Left - The view of the site. Top Right - Model of the inside galleries. Bottom Right - Aerial view showing model of the finished museum.**

## National Maritime Museum, Cornwall THE FACTS:

- The museum will cost 22 million pounds to build and fit out
- The incredible building sits on nearly 400 reinforced concrete pilings that took over a year to put into the sea bed.
- There are 52251 slates on the roof
- 4000 tonnes of concrete and 250 tonnes of steel went into the building.
- Over 16.6 kilometres of green oak planking covers the building - enough to make a walkway up to Mount Everest and back!
- The new sea wall will withstand 100 years of salt water corrosion and even the possible effects of global warming.
- Trays of water on the roof will reflect the sunlight to create a ripple effect across the ceiling of the building.

## CALLING ALL TALL SHIP'S CREW!

Are you planning to take part in the 2002 Cutty Sark Tall Ships race? If so we'd love to hear from you.

This famous race sets sail in July. On board Tall Ships from all over the world will be crews of young people between the ages of 16 to 25. The event starts in Alicante in Spain with a cruise, then the real racing begins from Malaga to La Coruna in Spain. Race 2 takes the crews from Brest in France to Santander in Spain, and then the final Race 3 is from Spain to Portsmouth in the UK. We want to follow the race every wave of the way so if you're going to be part of a crew on board one of the awesome ships let us know as quickly as possible.

Write to:  
Navy News Young Readers,  
HMS Nelson,  
Queen Street,  
Portsmouth PO1 3HH

## YOUR CHANCE TO WIN THE OFFICIAL FA PREMIER LEAGUE TICKET COLLECTION ALBUM



**Plus... A complete set of 80 mini Merlin stickers**

**Plus... A box of Quavers**

To Enter: Send your name, address and membership number on a postcard to:  
**'Walkers Mini Merlin Competition',  
Young Readers Club, Navy News,  
HMS Nelson, Queen Street,  
Portsmouth, Hants PO1 3HH**  
**Closing Date: 24th May 2002**

The Editors' decision is final. Employees and relatives of Navy News are ineligible to enter.

## Birthday Congratulations!

Gareth	Williams	Tamar	Elderton	Jamie	Freeborn
Scott	Sutton	Callum	George	Jack	Moor
Jessica	Desmond	Gareth	Irwin	Grace	Anderson
Keith	Higman	Andrew	Shorter	Katie	Owen
Rebecca	Farress	Richard	Mitchell	Kira	Williams
Kirsty	Morgan	Cheryl-May	Buque	Joshua	Child
Benjamin	Riddleston	Sarah	Green	Stephen	Turnbull
Polly	Welch	Aybie-Mai	Reader	Nicholas	Brazier
Johan	Rietveld	Katie	Archer	Alex	Moffatt
Nathan	Phillips	Matthew	Simmance	Danielle	Wilson
Victoria	Martin	Lucy	Hayward	Amy	Howard
James	Warren	Tanya	Ridge	Harry	Litherland
Zara	Dulling	James	Overend	Joseph	Almond
Daniel	Woo	Jaymes	Goldsmith	Alexander	Smith
Zoe Ann	Hall	Simon	Humphreys	Ashley	Marsh
Zoe	O'Grady	Jack	Stephenson	Jamie	Grant
Robert	Orme	Christopher	Woods	Jack	Olley
Adam	Carter	Andrew	Bignell	Freddie	Collins
Emma	Batchelor	Adam	Willson	James	Woolley
Charlotte	Nevitt	Alexander	Drake	Peter	Liddington
Sophie	Kirby				Mullen

## YOUNG READERS CLUB

All new members enrolled in both Clubs will now have Membership that lasts until their 16th Birthday.

Members of the club will be able to use their membership cards to obtain discounts on entry to many local attractions and events throughout the Year, both in their own locality and nationwide. Our new style coupon reflects these changes - see below

Please enroll me as a member of The Young Readers Club. I enclose a PO/cheque (payable to Navy News) for:

**£17.50 - Life Membership (until 16th Birthday) (Includes a copy of Navy News for 12 months)**

Name .....  
Address .....  
Postcode ..... D.O.B ..... Tel No .....  
E-mail address .....  
School attended .....  
Joined by: Parent  Grandparent  Other   
Do you have any Brothers  Sisters  Ages   
Special Interests: Sport  Music  Film/TV   
Friends  Reading

Send your completed form, together with a postal order/cheque for £17.50 to:

**'Young Readers Club'**  
**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, Solo or Switch on orders of £5.00 or over



# Miscellaneous

## WALL SHIELDS OF ROYAL NAVY SHIPS



Hand painted on wooden base 6in x 7in  
**£28.10 + £1.40 UK Postage.**  
 REDUCED PRICES given for orders of 6 or more  
 SPECIAL PRICES given for 10, 25, 50 and 100  
 CRESTED TIES TO YOUR OWN SPECIAL DESIGN  
 (minimum 36)  
 specialist experience over 85 years  
**C.H.MUNDAY LTD**  
 Oxford House, 8 St Johns Road  
 St Johns, Woking, Surrey GU21 7SE  
 Telephone: 01483 771588 Fax: 01483 756627  
 email: enquiries@chmunday.co.uk

## Reynolds Sports

EMBROIDERED Sweaters, Sweatshirts, Polo Shirts, Caps & Badges  
 PRINTED T-Shirts, Sweatshirts, Jackets, Caps & Badges  
 and lots more - all from one supplier! MINIMUM QUANTITY ONLY 12  
 BFPO Tax Free Service - send for our full price list  
 12-13 Crofton Close, Allenby Business Village, Lincoln LN3 4NT  
 Tel: 01522 513333 Fax: 01522 530383  
 enquiries@reynolds-sports.co.uk www.reynolds-sports.co.uk



**LOST MEDALS**  
 REPLACED IN RECORD TIME  
 FULL SIZE & MINIATURE  
 3 DAY MOUNTING SERVICE  
 WRITE OR PHONE FOR QUOTATION  
**RAYMOND D. HOLDICH**  
 Trafalgar Square Collectors Centre  
 7 Whitcomb Street  
 London WC2H 7HA  
 TEL: 020 7930 1979 FAX: 020 7930 1152  
 e-mail: rdhmedals@aol.com  
 www.rdhmedals.com

**GOLDEN JUBILEE**  
 COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL  
 Contributions to SSAFA  
 CALL FOR DETAILS:  
 Bigbury Mint  
 01548 830717  
 www.bigburymint.com

**FLAGS & FLAGPOLES**  
 QUALITY HAND SEWN NATIONAL  
 FLAGS & ENSIGNS.  
 Also Bunting, Handwaving & Table Flags.  
 And Economy 5ft x 3ft Flags £7.99  
 FREE COLOUR BROCHURE  
 + JUBILEE OFFERS  
**FLAGS GLOBAL**  
 Unit C6 Laser Quay, Midway City Est.  
 Rochester, Kent ME2 4HU  
 Tel: 01634 297708 Fax: 01634 297709  
 www.flagsglobal.co.uk

**FRAMED COLOUR PRINTS**  
 From own original paintings  
  
 Over 400 available  
 Print laminated with canvas texture film  
 to resemble an original oil painting  
 size 8"x10" for £35 plus P&P  
 For list please send SAE to:  
 SEART, 5 THE CHASE, GOSPORT,  
 HANTS PO12 3TD

**THE EASTERN SERVICE MEDAL**  
 This superb die-struck commemorative medal is available in Full Size & Miniature to all who served in the Near Middle & Far East.  
 Send SAE for your application form today.  
**DPS Awards, P.O. Box 6961**  
 Bromsgrove, B61 8LA

**EMBROIDERED LEISUREWEAR**  
 Wide range of quality garments.  
 Low minimum order.  
 Full colour brochure.  
 Caps & Printed garments supplied.  
 Free embroidery proof. No origination charge.  
 Embroidered Polo from £8.99, Sweats £8.99, T-shirts £5.99.  
**BANANA MOON WORKSHOP**  
 48, Old Lane, Birkenshaw, Bradford, BD11 2JX  
 Tel: 01274 688103 Fax: 01274 652524  
 www.bananamoon.co.uk

REGIMENTAL TIES, blazer Badges, Cuff-Links, Buttons, Medals, Cap Badges, Militaria.  
 £2.00 for list. Cairncross (Dep. NN), 31, Belle Vue St., Filey, N. Yorks YO14 9HU.  
 www.cairncross.freemove.co.uk

**Navy News Own Products**  
 If you are not satisfied with one of our own products sold through this paper, simply return it to us unused within 14 days and we will replace it free of charge or issue a full refund (including postage).  
 This guarantee does not affect your statutory rights

**!WANTED!**  
**H.M.S. Bell's**  
 Name Boards & Crests, Tread Plates  
**Thomas Kerrigan,**  
 12 Summerhill North,  
 St Lukes, Cork IRL.  
**00 353 214501573**  
 Collector in UK monthly

**TIES, BADGES & PLAQUES**  
 By Mail Order  
 SHIPS/SQUADRONS/REGIMENTS/CLUB  
 HM Services and custom-made for Clubs, Bands, Choirs, etc. Blazer buttons, medals, ribbons & sundries.  
 Please send SAE for lists  
**THE HERALDIC CO. (GB) NN**  
 Over Briar, Beech Well Lane,  
 Edge End, Coleford, Glos. GL16 7HA  
 Tel/Fax: 01594 832200  
 email: pam.lewis@totalise.co.uk  
 www.theheraldiccompany.co.uk

**!WANTED!**  
**Iron Cannon**  
**Thomas Kerrigan,**  
 12 Summerhill North,  
 St Lukes, Cork IRL.  
**00 353 214501573**  
 Collector in UK monthly

**EMBROIDERED BADGES**  
**CUMMERBUNDS, TIES**  
 Cummerbunds - Silk £25, Polyester £17.50  
 Cap Ties, and Baseball Caps  
 All made to order.  
**Ross Art Embroidery**  
 7 Wall Road, Gwinwar,  
 Hayle, Cornwall TR27 5HA.  
 Tel/Fax: 01736 850724

**Navy News Notice To Readers**  
 The publishers of Navy News cannot accept responsibility for the accuracy of any advertisement or for any losses suffered by any readers as a result. Readers are strongly recommended to make their own enquiries and seek appropriate commercial, legal and financial advice before sending any money or entering into any legally binding agreement.

## LOST YOUR MEDALS?

**WE CAN REPLACE THEM NOW - WW1 TO PRESENT DAY**  
 IN FULL SIZE AND MINIATURE  
**WE MOUNT MEDALS TO WEAR - COURT OR SWING STYLE**  
**PROFESSIONALLY SEWN**  
 AVAILABLE NOW THE GENERAL SERVICE CROSS,  
**VOLUNTARY SERVICE AND MARITIME SERVICE MEDAL**  
 SAE FOR DETAILS & REPLACEMENT MEDALS LIST  
**TOAD HALL MEDALS**  
 NEWTON FERRERS, Nr PLYMOUTH, DEVON, PL8 1DH.  
 Tel 01752 872672. Fax 01752 872723.  
 e-mail: chrissy@toadhallmedals.com www.toadhallmedals.com

**WORCESTERSHIRE MEDAL SERVICE LTD**  
 Specialists in Medals and Medal Mounting.  
 56 Broad Street, Sidenmoor, Bromsgrove, Wores B61 8LL.  
 Tel: 01527 835375 Fax: 01527 576798  
 MEDALS PROFESSIONALLY MOUNTED COURT OR ORDINARY STYLE.  
 FULL SIZE REPLACEMENT AND MINIATURE MEDALS SUPPLIED.  
 MEDALS DISPLAYED, RIBBONS AND ACCESSORIES ALSO AVAILABLE.  
 SEND SAE FOR LATEST CATALOGUE.  
 Order online using our secure website www.worcmedals.com  
 E-mail us at wms@worcmedals.com

**The Gift Shop**  
**BRITANNIA ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE**  
 ROYAL NAVY TIE SPECIAL PRICE..... £ 8.50  
 BOSUNS CALL: Brass & Copper with chain ..... only £ 6.95  
 CUFF LINKS: RN Crown, White Ensign, RM, BRNC ..... pair £ 7.95  
 POLO SHIRT: RN Badge S,M,L,XL..... £ 15.95 Submariners gift brooch..... £ 9.95  
 EMBROIDERED BADGES: White Ensign, Royal Navy, Union Jack..... ea £ 2.95  
 LAPEL BADGES: White Ensign, Navy Crown, Royal Marines, BRNC, Sailor, Britannia, Submariner, RN Anchor, WRNS, and many others..... £ 1.75  
 TIES: RN, MN ..... £ 9.00 FAA, Submariners and others..... £ 11.50  
 Prices include P&P. Cheques payable to "SODDEXHO LTD". Send SAE for more detailed list.  
**COLLEGE SHOP, BRNC, DARTMOUTH, DEVON, TQ6 0HJ.**  
 TEL: 01803 677118 FAX: 01803 834797 (Credit Cards Welcome)

**THE GOLD WIRE BADGE Co - Military Badge Specialist**  

GOLD WIRE BADGES-ALL SHIPS ETC	£11.00	RN BUTTONS LARGE	£1.80	SMALL	£1.50
WHITE LEATHER GANTLETS	£24.00	RN, RM, RFA WALL PLAQUES 7"X"			£18.00
STANDARD CARRIERS	£26.00	FACE STICKS			£60.00
STANDARD CARRIERS MADE TO ORDER	£36.00	WALKER STYLE HATS			£23.00
GOLD COINS 5FT FOR STD	£26.00	FRIDGE MAGNETS MOST SHIPS			£2.00
STANDARD CARRYING CASE	£32.00	KEY RINGS MOST SHIPS			£1.00
BRASS INSERTS	£12.00	STANDARD POLE SPARS FINALS, RMA, RM			£24.00
WHITE COTTON GLOVES	£4.00	MOIST ASSOCIATION STANDARDS + P&P			£205.00
WHITE COTTON MASONIC GLOVES	£5.00	BRASS CAR GRILLE BADGE RMA			£10.00
NAVY / BLACK BERETS 6" - 7 1/2"	£7.00	EMBROIDERED GARMENTS			
ANY ASSN BERET BADGE	£5.00	WINTER BLOUSERS, BLACK, RMA, RM			£22.00
R.N. & N.A.S. DIVISION TIES	£16.00	NAVY BLUE V-NECK JUMPERS: RMA, RM			£12.00
RN BOW TIES	£16.00	WHITE PILOT SHIRTS RMA, RM			£12.25
BLACK CLIP-ON TIES	£5.00	SWEATSHIRTS RMA, RM, NAVY GREY			£15.00

SEND FOR FREE LIST  
 all prices include P&P  
 11, Dalehead Drive, Shaw, Lancs, OL2 8JT  
 Tel/Fax: 01706 846648  
 www.thegoldwirebadge.co.uk  
 E-mail: sales@thegoldwirebadge.co.uk

**We're back**  
  
**Ships Photographs**  
**Wright & Logan** Est. 1922  
 Royal Naval Museum Trading  
 Co Ltd, No 10 Store,  
 HM Naval Base, Portsmouth  
 PO1 3PY  
 Tel. 023 9282 6682  
 karen@bosunsbooks.com

**Click on Click on**  
**www.forcesdiscount.com**  
 Discounts on Services & Products  
 For HM Forces + Attached Civilians  
 A partnership with you in mind  
**www.forcesreunited.org.uk**  
**www.forcesdiscount.com**

WANTED Officers Mess Undress  
 to fit: 42 Chest 38 Waist 29 Inside  
 leg. Tel 01942 876583

To advertise your business call  
**023 9272 5062**  
 Sarah Jacobs  
**023 9272 4226**  
 Lyn Hodge  
**023 9275 6951**  
 Sheila Thompson

**ADVERTISING RATES**  
 (excl. VAT) as effective from 1st April 2000

**DISPLAY**

Full Page	£2,180
Half Page	£1,204
Quarter Page	£680
S.c.c.	£13.50

**CLASSIFIED**

Lineage	90p per word
Trade minimum	30wds.
For Sale, Minimum	10wds.
Box number	£3

**PENFRIENDS**  
 See details on ..... page10

**Discounts, Colour Rates, Technical Details available on request.**  
**Tel: 023 927 25062 for a full Media Pack**

**Wentworth the Pewterers**  
 High quality pewter tankards, hip flasks, goblets, plates and much more. Engraved with Ship's Crests, Badges and Logo's to your own designs.  
 Full colour brochure.  
**A R WENTWORTH (SHEFFIELD) LTD**  
 Tankard House, 25 Leadmill Road, Sheffield S1 3JA  
 Tel: 0114 272 5676 Fax: 0114 272 6651  
 email: sales@wentworth-pewter.com  
 website: www.wentworth-pewter.com

**SKYDIVING COURSES IN FLORIDA**  
 Freefall Adventures, Florida are happy to offer Military Discounted Skydiving Courses for beginner to advanced students in beautiful Sebastian, Florida. Our Skydiving School is British owned and operated. Located on the east coast of Florida, this tropical paradise is a great place for your skydiving vacation. Come join us for extreme fun in the sun. Contact us for further details  
**Freefall Adventures, Florida**  
 48 W. Anson Drive, Sebastian, Florida 32962, USA  
 Tel: (772) 388 9556 Fax: (772) 931 4488  
 Email: skydiveMik@aol.com  
 www.fladventures.com

**No Waffle!**  
 Quality Clothing at the Right Price.  
 Embroidered or Printed, Polo's, T-shirts, Sweatshirts, Baseball Caps, Sports Clothing, Motorsport Jackets, Stippo Lighters, Glassware, Silverware, Mugs, ID Badges etc.  
 We're your "One Stop Shop!"  
**Im-Press Promotions Plymouth**  
**01752-316914**  
 im-pressplymouth@btconnect.com  
 www.im-pressplymouth.com  
 "Use us; the rest of the Fleet does!"

**Designer Sunstrings, thongs, swimslips for him/her in de-luxe fabrics and prints.**  
 Send £2 in stamps (credited) for our 35th edition colour catalogue illustrating over 50 items to:  
**INTERSPARTIA**  
 150B Gloucester Road, Bristol BS7 8NT

**Military Matters**  
 HAND EMBROIDERED GOLD WIRE BLAZER BADGES & HAND PAINTED WALL PLAQUES  
 (Select any ship or F.A.A. Squadron etc.)  
 CAP BADGES, SWORD KNOTS, SWORD BAGS AND BELTS, EPAULETTE SLIDES AND BOARDS, TIES (RN, F.A.A. OR ASSOCIATION) AND BERETS.  
 Should there be any item you require which is not shown, please contact us, and we will endeavour to help, as we are able to list all the products in our portfolio.  
 Whether you are buying for yourself, or a loved one, we will be happy to give you prices and quantity discounts upon application.  
**Burn Bank Lodge, Burn Bank, Greenfield, Saddleworth, Oldham OL3 7LT**  
 Tel: 01457 879818 Fax: 01457 878499 e-mail:boughton.balby@btinternet.com

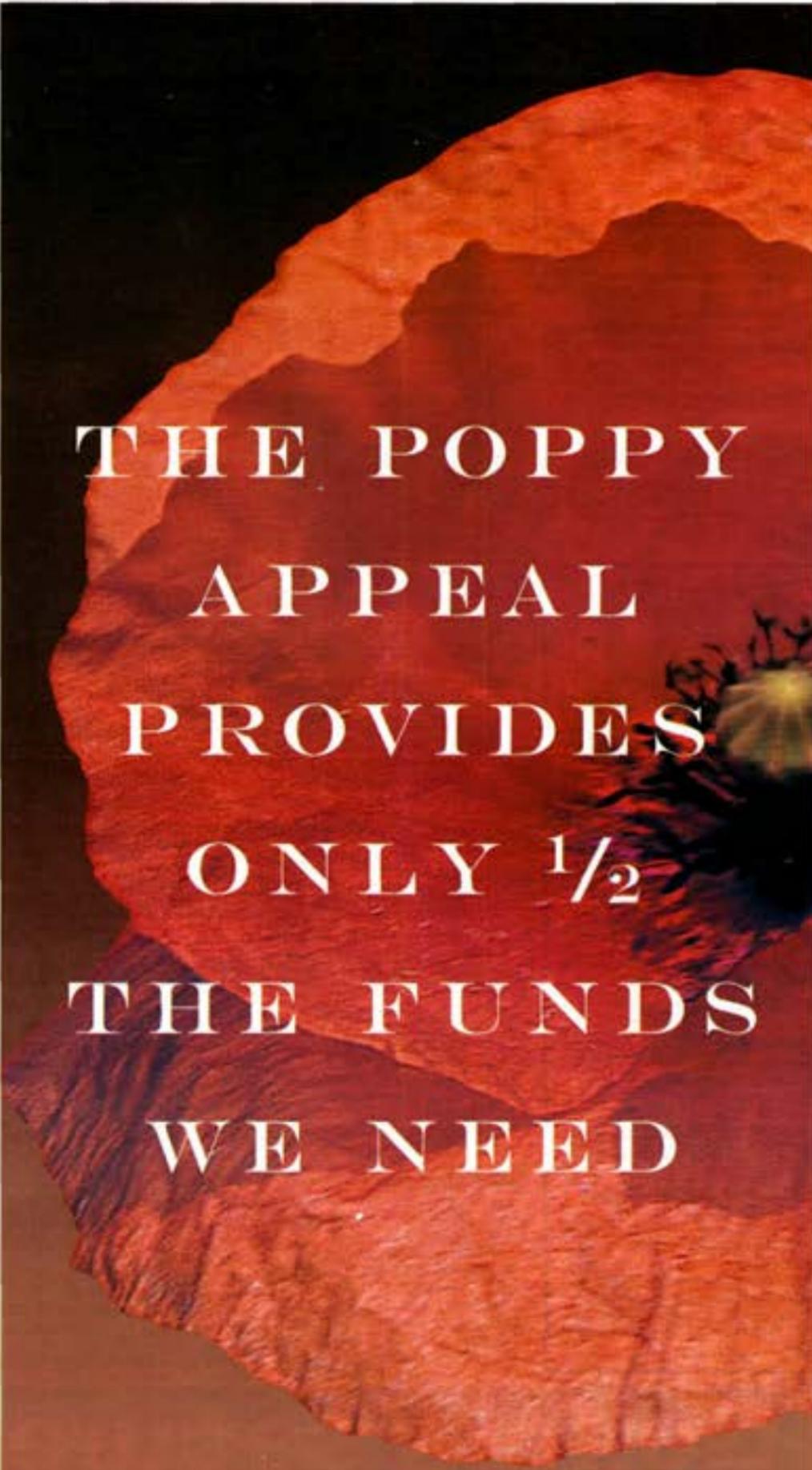
**The Ex-Forces' on-line club**  
**www.20thCenturyComrades.com**  
 ...more than just a reunion site

**Heaven & Earth Crafts**  
 Be different and send your loved one a gift from our exclusive range of Candles, Glassware, Soft Toys and Beauty Products.  
 CD rom and Catalogue available on request, or just phone and we'll do the rest.  
**Tel 01505 706430 or 01505 350416**  
**mobile 07950 007122**  
 Party Planners required.

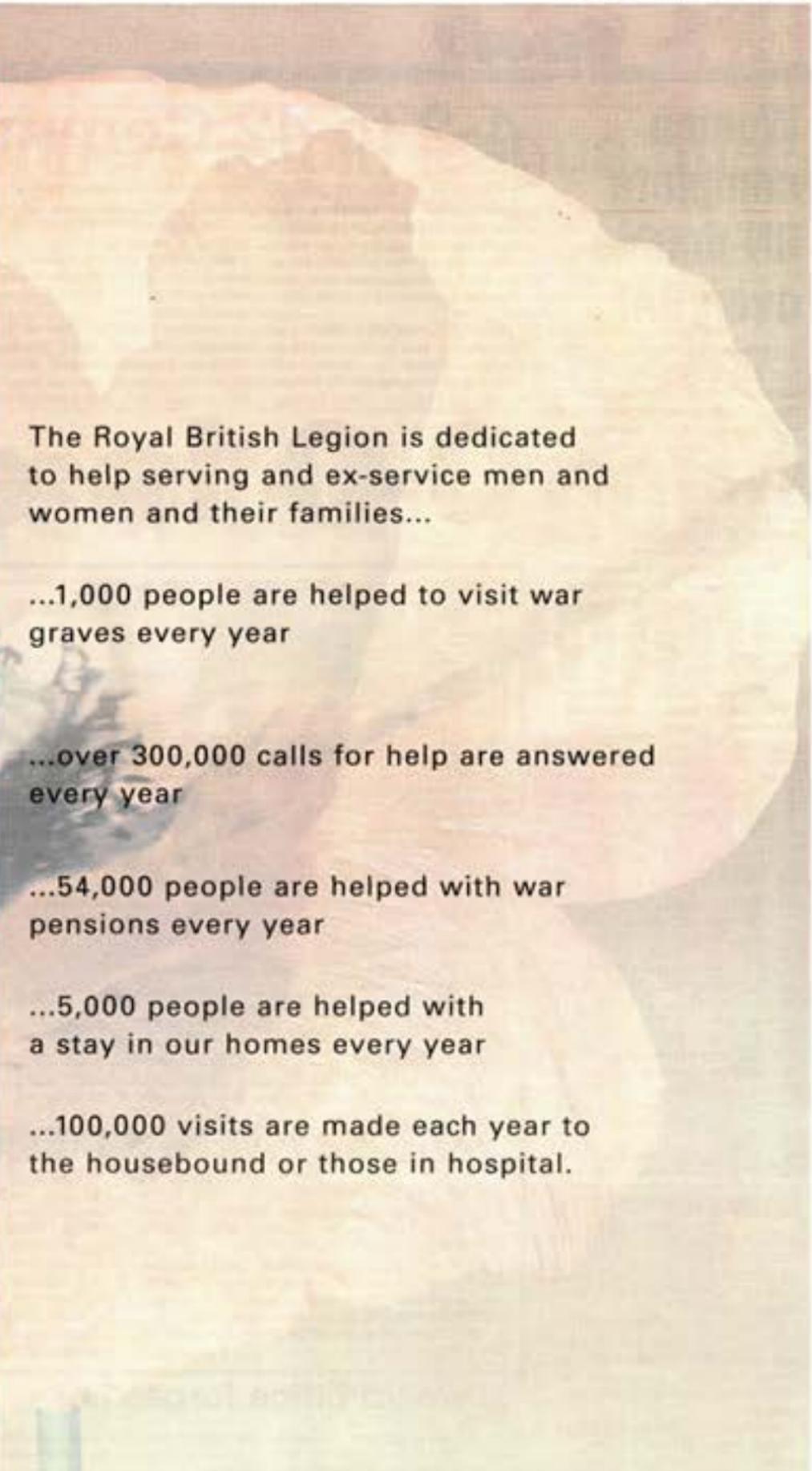
**Joys Roses & Flowers**  
 For all occasions / Births / Birthdays / Anniversaries  
 To say I love you / Get Well Soon - Sent Daily to UK & NI

12 Roses Red/Yellow/White or Mixed	£14.00
24 Roses Red/Yellow/White or Mixed	£19.00
Mixed Bouquet no Roses	£12.00 - £20.00
40 Freesia & Ferns	£15.00
Mixed Bouquets including Roses	£20.00
Mixed Bouquets including Roses	£18.00

Hot Line Number Tel:01481 246708 Fax:01481 243406  
 All C/Cs Accepted / Postal Orders / Cheques / Euro Cheques Made Payable To:  
 JOYS ROSES & FLOWERS, Flamingo, St. Sampsons, Guernsey, C.I. GY2 4WB



THE POPPY  
APPEAL  
PROVIDES  
ONLY 1/2  
THE FUNDS  
WE NEED



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

...over 300,000 calls for help are answered every year

...54,000 people are helped with war pensions every year

...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.

If you are interested in joining The Royal British Legion, would like to make a donation or require further information, please call **08457 725 725**. Alternatively, visit our website @ **www.britishlegion.org.uk**

Reg. Charity No. 219 279





# Sport

## Women complete RN double over RAF

THE ROYAL Navy women's football team followed the mens example by outplaying their RAF counterparts and running out 4-2 winners at Victory Stadium.

The Navy had the lions share of the early possession, and it took just ten minutes for them to open their account through Navy woman of the match WOM Julie Hewitt (Northumberland).

Hewitt hit the post two minutes later, but after 22 minutes the Navy doubled their lead with a superb finish from 12 yards by WSTD Carla Oliva (Nelson), who converted a cross from POWPT Michelle Bowen (Temeraire).

Within three minutes WMEM Sian Blundell (Sultan) had charged through the middle, brushing off three defenders before shooting calmly into the corner of the net.

The first RAF chance of any note came in the 29th minute, but it simply spurred the Navy into a fourth strike when a well-worked corner led to POAEA Becky Webb (846 Sqn) scoring at the near post.

The Air Force scored straight after the break, and for the first time the RAF matched their hosts.

Both teams created plenty of chances, but by the time the RAF netted their second in 83 minutes after a defensive blunder it was too late to save the game.

As the final whistle went the RN Women were jumping for joy, but calmed down enough to collect the Simon Appleton trophy from Capt Caroline Stait RN (DDNM).

## Army oarsmen issue challenge

ROYAL Navy and Royal Marines oarsmen and women are invited to try their luck at the Army Indoor Rowing Championships near Windsor on May 15.

Rowers will use Concept II indoor rowing machines to compete over 2,000 metres in the age group individual event, and for 1,000 metres each in the four-seat team event.

All entrants will receive a T-shirt to commemorate their efforts.

Application forms and results of previous events can be found at [www.gunnerrrowing.cwc.net](http://www.gunnerrrowing.cwc.net), or by writing to Army Indoor Rowing Championships, c/o Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, Camberley, Surrey GU15 4NB.

## 4-2 to 42 Commando in cup final

A DEBUT in the Navy Cup Final failed to overawe 42 Commando RM, who defeated HMS Heron 4-2.

Heron took the initiative from the start and spent the first ten minutes camped in the Royals' half.

But in the eighth minute the Commando broke out and Mne Darren Timbers converted a defence-splitting long ball, Heron keeper AEM Gary Hewitt getting

his fingertips to the shot but failing to keep it out.

The Royals doubled their score after 13 minutes, when poor marking at a corner allowed man of the match Mne Mark Fisher to volley home from the penalty spot unchallenged.

Another defensive error on 21 minutes allowed Mne Jamie Michaels to tuck the ball home from close range, and although Heron came close with a couple of

free kicks, they went into the break 3-0 down.

But the air station came out with all guns blazing, and a burst of slick passing set up AEM Deane Hollingsworth, his goal-bound shot being cleared from the line by Mne Brian Ward.

Another golden opportunity was lost when a header went over the bar, but Heron pulled a goal back just before the hour when Hollingsworth followed up an

AEM John McCaffery header which was tipped on to the bar.

Play went from end to end, though there were few chances until 76 minutes, when Hollingsworth beat two defenders and fired home.

The Royals were now in danger of letting the trophy slip from their grasp - and they left it late to secure the win, substitute Mne Jeremy Coburn drilling the ball home in the final minute to wrap up a 4-2 win for the Commando.

## Paul is king of the skeletons

LA PLAGNE in France hosted this year's RN skeleton bobsleigh championships, in conjunction with the British championships and the inter-Services Cup.

The overall Navy championship was won by Lt Paul McAulay (HMS Sandown), closely followed by Lt Cdr Eric Coomber (HMS Yeovilton), who had held the title since its inception three years ago.

In third place was Mne Lee Gavins (HMNB Faslane), who did particularly well as it is his first year at the sport, and fourth was Lt Neil Gordon (HMS Invincible), who was also in his novice year.

The Navy entered the inter-Services tournament with a view to building on last year's success, where the squad achieved its best overall results.

With only two of last year's team available, the Navy performed with credit, running the RAF close for second place - though they were just edged out by a team which featured Eric's wife Flt Lt Alex Coomber, who later won bronze in the Winter Olympics.

Predictably, the Army - who had three members of the GB World Cup team representing them - won the event.

In the British championships, Paul McAulay retained his overall ninth ranking, while Eric Coomber slipped to 11th from sixth.

If you are interested in taking up the sport, contact Lt Cdr Coomber, Chief Fighter Control Instructor, HMAS Yeovilton. Novice courses are run every October/November.

## TV beckons

THE TV company behind *Big Brother* is running a sports event this summer - and is looking for men to compete in front of the cameras.

Endemol Entertainment's International King of Sports features "a range of unusual and alternative sporting events from around the world" - a sense of humour is required for events such as 100m running backwards and downhill running slalom.

Entries are requested as soon as possible, and further details are available on 020 7603 4969, or email [kingofsports@endemoluk.com](mailto:kingofsports@endemoluk.com)

# 0-0 is enough



From left, Lt Cdr Don Crosbie, LS Murray Anderson and Lt Cdr Matt Offord, who all travelled down from Faslane to run in the London Marathon.

## Scottish runners conquer London

THREE runners from the Clyde Naval Base ran in last month's London Marathon, proving something to themselves and raising £10,000 between them for charity.

Lt Cdr Don Crosbie raised £3,000 for his four-year-old niece Phoebe, seriously injured in a hit-and-run accident in Spain last year and now needing round-the-clock care.

Don finished in 13,687th place in a time of 4h 17m.

Lt Cdr Matt Offord ran for the National Asthma Campaign, raising about £1,000.

Matt, whose wife, Virginia, suffers from severe brittle asthma, clocked a time of 3h 56m and came in 9,701st.

LS Murray Anderson chose the Interlink Day Services, and in a joint effort with former PO Chris Weight, he raised around £5,000.

Murray finished the race in 3h 20m and was placed 3,062nd.

## Careers office forges links

THE ARMED Forces Careers Office (AFCO) in Edinburgh has been forging links with Livingston FC.

The Scottish side's under 18s squad took a special two-day fitness and assessment programme at HMS Caledonia, and the AFCO

has taken publicity space on the squad minibus and on a pitch-side board.

The Livingston youth players also took on HMS Edinburgh in a friendly, which the youths won 3-0. A party from Livingston was then entertained on board the warship.

# Golfers secure sponsorship

THE ROYAL Navy Golf Association has secured a lucrative and generous sponsorship deal with Fleet Support Limited, the Portsmouth-based ship repair company, writes Cdr Gary Skinnis.

FSL began its sponsorship of Navy golf in the latter half of last season and the company has now agreed to increased support for the current year with a view to continuing into 2003.

RNGA President Rear Admiral Jonathon Reeve said: "I am delighted that FSL are continuing their support of Navy golf and the Association looks forward to working with the company to our mutual advantage."

The 2002 season got under way with the men playing the traditional opener against Cornwall at Tehidy Park near Camborne.

For once the fixture was blessed with good weather and conditions were very good.

Sixteen players (all the available squad players) took part in an enjoyable weekend, which included a Saturday warm-up against the club before the main event.

The county side were again managed by ten-times Navy champion Malcolm Edmunds, who nowadays is plying his trade on the

PGA European Seniors Tour.

As usual the opposition were a good mixture of experience and youth, many of who were aiming to impress the county selectors who were out in force.

The county's strength in depth proved the key factor in an overall loss for the RN by 7 points to 14.

The match served as a welcome back to one or two Navy players, returning to competition after at least one year away for operational reasons.

In the foursomes Lt Cdr Kevin Seymour (899 Sqn) marked his return from over two years exchange duties in the USA by teaming up for a win with Lt Cdr Peter Smith (Boscombe Down).

CWEA Steve King (HMS Gloucester) missed all of last year through deployment, and he took up where he left off with a creditable half, partnered by POWEA Al Shearer (CSST).

A second halved match came from LMA Scott Gilbert (RDMC), missing for much of last season, and Lt Cdr Mark Taylor (CINCFLFLEET).

The pick of the singles featured three-time Navy champion Lt Terry

Taylor (NAS Culdrose) against the county team manager's son.

Edmunds junior is 14, and plays to a handicap of 2.4, clearly a case of following in father's footsteps.

The match was always tight and it was to both players' credit that the outcome, a win for Taylor, was not decided until the final green.

Gilbert produced the performance of the day in beating a very strong and experienced opponent by a stunning 6/4 margin.

Other wins were recorded by Shearer, Adam Hawkins (HMS Cumberland) and Mark Taylor.

Overall, there are encouraging signs for the season ahead.

The squad has been strengthened by the return of key players and there are signs of new young blood on the horizon.

The ladies' season gets under way on June 1 with a match against SPNRC at Southwick Park.

Key dates are June 14: ladies championship, Cumberwell Park; June 19: Navy Cup final, China Fleet Club; July 15-19: men's championships, Woodhall Spa; and September 9-12: inter-Service championships, Celtic Manor.

Information on any of the above is available from the Secretary RNGA on Temeraire 27880.

## traser ... worn by Special Forces the world over!

traser watches are unlike anything available on the market today, there are no less than 16 tiny glass vials fitted to each watch which are guaranteed to glow for 10 years without the use of batteries. They don't require light to recharge and you won't have to press any buttons - just a quick glance will give you the correct time, anytime day or night leaving you free to concentrate on whatever you're doing.

To view and order the complete range of traser watches and products visit:

[www.traser.com/navy](http://www.traser.com/navy)

or call us on

+44(0)1202 48 77 57



Navy News offer price

(offer closes 31st July 2002)

£159.90

Normal RRP £204.90

Model shown S31015 (Actual size)

- Stainless steel case
- Carbon bezel
- Stainless steel strap
- 42-month battery
- 200m water resistant
- traser lights to all hands
- hour markings and bezel



● HMS Kent returned from her record-breaking Armilla patrol with another first in the bag – the first ship of the Fleet to hit the coveted target of 100 per cent Sports Lottery membership. As the first ship's company to achieve the feat, each sailor on board was presented with a Sports Lottery coffee mug emblazoned with the lottery logo and the HMS Kent crest. Pictured is OM Dave Kahwati receiving his mug from Cdr Mike Barge, Assistant Director of Naval Sports and Recreation.

## Rowers prepare for ocean crossing

THREE men with a Naval background are part of a team which will attempt to break the record for the fastest unsupported eastbound Atlantic crossing.

The Ocean Row project aims to set out from Newfoundland in Canada next month and reach Falmouth 33 days later – a distance of 2,100 miles.

Team leader Mark Stubbs, a firefighter in Poole, served in the Royal Marines and was involved in the Falklands War.

Teesside chargehand dock operator Nigel Morris joined the Navy at 16 and was a member of the Portsmouth Field Gun team, leaving the Service in 1990.

George Rock, a BT engineer from Teesside, also joined the Navy on leaving school, served in the Devonport Field Gun team and went into Civvy Street in 1986.

They are joined in the rowing attempt by Robert Munslow, from Slough.

They will use a 10m boat, Atlantic Spirit, which weighs just 220kg – only half the weight of the crew – and can be propelled at up to ten knots.

The watertight self-righting hull provides protected accommoda-

tion for the crew in poor weather conditions.

The team is seeking sponsorship for their epic attempt – see [www.OceanRow.com](http://www.OceanRow.com) for more details.

## Navy rugby link launched

THE ROYAL Navy is sponsoring the Eastern Counties Youth Rugby Academy to the tune of £5,000 over the next two years.

Funding will enable the academy to develop and extend their work with 15 to 18-year-old players in East Anglia.

The deal was launched at a rugby match between an Academy side and Bury St Edmunds U16s, which the Academy won 15-7.

The partnership between the Academy and the Navy, pioneered by Cpl Phil Weedon RM at the Naval Careers Office in Ipswich, extends beyond the direct funding – Royal Marines PYTs have provided fitness and skills sessions, and a team-building weekend is to be arranged in the summer at the Royals' training base at Lymington.

## Anglers head south for new challenges

A GROUP of Royal Navy and Royal Marines anglers have tried their hand at fishing the rivers of the Falklands.

The RN/RM Anglers Association (Game Section) tour, supported by the Sports Lottery and the Nuffield Trust, made full use of the extensive military facilities to fish the rivers and estuaries of both East and West Falkland.

The best fish of the trip, and also the heaviest fish from Warrah River so far this season, was a 14lb 6oz sea trout, caught by S/Lt Ed Smith of HMS Dulverton, while CPOMEA Nick Tompkins of HMS Raleigh also captured a river record, a 5lb 10oz sea trout, this time from San Carlos River on East Falkland.

Lt Cdr Tony Wilkinson, of RN air station Yeovilton, managed a personal record when he caught an

11lb sea trout in the Warrah River – one of more than 250 sea trout caught by the nine members of the touring party.

Further details of RNRMAA (Game Section) activities can be obtained from the Game Secretary, Capt Stu Ellins, on Portsmouth Naval Base ext 22667.

## In the swim

TWO swimmers whose club is sponsored by the Navy have been selected to swim for Scotland.

Byron Pace and Bobby Scott are members of the Arbroath St Thomas Amateur Swimming Club, and swam in a competition against England.

Both swimmers have shown an interest in the Royal Navy and the range of opportunities it provides – both as a career, and for dedicated sports men and women.

## Navy runners retain league title

ROYAL Navy runners defied the elements to win the final race of the Westward League cross country season, and with it secure the league title or the second year in succession.

After ten years without a trophy, the club has, at last, got into the winning habit.

With nine runners in the top 20, the RN Athletics Club were convincing winners in the mud of Exmouth, and even

the B team managed a top three finish.

POAEM Al Jones (RNAS Yeovilton) needed a win to secure the individual title, but had to settle for second place in the race and second place overall as his main rival found the muddy conditions more to his liking.

POPT Sean Childs (BRNC) has performed consistently well throughout the season, and a third place at the Exmouth race gave him fourth place

individually in the league.

The ladies team has struggled to field a team throughout the season but came good in the final race with a third place.

Lt Do Drummond (BRNC) was first home in sixth, with Lt Wendy Scott (HMS Raleigh) eighth and Lt Linda Lawrence (RNAS Culdrose) in 18th.

This trio certainly have the potential to challenge for higher honours next year.

# RAF sorted – now bring on the Army

THE NAVY shot down the RAF on the rugby field to retain the Willis Hibernia Cup – and set up title-decider against the Army at Twickenham.

In front of a partisan crowd of around 1,000 at Burnaby Road in Portsmouth, the RAF came out at supersonic speed, and the Navy withstood early pressure, but early penalties went the way of the RAF, who took a 9-3 lead, and hoped to emulate the successes of the women and veterans earlier in the afternoon.

A try by left winger Surg Lt James Philips, converted by scrum half AEM Dave Pascoe, put the Dark Blues in the driving seat, and another exchange of penalties put the half-time score at 13-12 to the hosts.

The Navy applied all the pressure after the break, and two penalties and a try by right winger LAEM Simon Channing put the Navy into a 24-12 lead, and although a kick was charged down to give the RAF a try under the posts, the match ended in a 24-19 win for the Navy.

The Navy veterans – the Ancient Mariners – allowed handling errors to undermine the good work of the team, and went down 11-3 to the RAF Vultures.

The Navy women fared no better, coming up against a stand-off whose tactical kicking was spot-on, and in a match of fierce tackles and fine skills, the RAF won 18-5.

The senior team went on to play a final warm-up before Twickenham when they took on Hampshire for the Wightlink Bowl.

The civilians raced to a two-try advantage after only six minutes, but Lt Matt Parker, fed by L/Cpl James 'Bubba' Williams, replied with a storming try down the centre, again converted by Pascoe.

By half-time the country were 23-13 ahead, but a period of sustained pressure by the Navy team early in the second half led to



another converted Parker try.

On 70 minutes, after another try for each side, the Navy took the lead for the first time, S/Lt Andy Crompton edging his side 30-28 ahead, and with penalties swinging the balance back and forth, the Navy was still hanging on in the 89th minute when, with winger Channing lying injured with a broken collarbone, Hampshire broke through to nick a 36-33 win.

■ The winner of the competition to be the Navy mascot at Twickenham was Christopher Philpot, of Plymouth.

■ HMS Sultan won the Portsmouth Area rugby cup, beating HMS Heron 37-6 in the final, Sultan also provided the plate winners in the Portsmouth Area 7s, the main prize going to HMS Collingwood and the Bowl going to the Defence Diving School.

The Division 1 league title went to SEME Bordon, who also won the Division 1/2 Cup; the other divisional winners were Heron (Div 2), Marchwood (Div 3) and Sultan 2nds (Div 4).

Full report and pictures will be posted on the Navy News website at [www.navynews.co.uk](http://www.navynews.co.uk)



● Action from the Royal Navy v RAF match at Portsmouth

Picture: LA(PHOTO) Adrian Hughes (HMS Sultan)

## Almost a clean sweep

A FAST and physical CTCRM side prevented the Britannia Royal Naval College side from making the perfect end to the rugby season, pipping both the Dartmouth A and B sides in the Devonport 7s.

But the students had the last laugh, with strong performances in other sports ensuring they won the overall Brickfields Trophy.

The 7s losses were just a blip on what has been the college's most successful season ever, winning both the Navy and Plymouth Area cups, and beating RAF College Cranwell.

Only a narrow defeat by a strong RMC Sandhurst side early in the season prevented the Navy team achieving all their targets.

The team won many friends with their attractive style of play, capitalizing on their speed and mobility.

Several members of the team have been selected at U-20, U-21 and Navy A level, while MID Hucker was selected for the Combined Services U-21s – thanks in no small part to the support staff, headed by Lt Cdr Carlos Edwards and Lt Dave Jones.

## Chiefs thrive on Alpine slopes

TWO CPOs provided the Royal Navy element of a joint Services skiing expedition to Zell am Zee in the Austrian Alps.

CPOWEA Nobby Hall and CPO Dem Bones were placed in the least-experienced group, known affectionately as the Alpine Ninjas, and were swiftly put through their paces by their RAF Regiment instructor Sgt Steve Hills.

The pair skied through the day, with a break for lunch, and new skills were painfully learned and then polished until, by the end of

the day, four of the Ninjas were promoted to the Trailblazers group.

Under the guidance of the leading ski instructor, Staff Sgt Jonathan Driver, Royal Signals Regt, the whole group was tested to the limit, with rapid runs from the top of the mountain followed by slower but more problematical formation skiing.

The two navy men, along with the rest of the group, were indebted to Staff Sgt Driver for his expert tuition, and to Lt Col Sharp, Commanding Officer JSSU (AN) for allowing and releasing personnel to take part in the venture.

## SEPTEMBER'S CHILD

**B**ACK home at last, HMS Cornwall's LS Gary Dewick hugs baby Catherine who was born on September 11 – other events on that date having kept the Type 22 frigate away fighting the war against terrorism over Christmas and the New Year.

Five hundred relatives and friends lined the jetty at Devonport with banners to welcome the Type 22 frigate back after a seven month deployment.

She left Plymouth in early September for the Gulf of Oman to take part in the major exercise Saif Sareea with the Royal Navy of Oman, during which she played a unique role as flagship for Commodore Abdullah al Raisi, who embarked for a month to command a group of ships that included Cornwall and HMS Monmouth and seven Omani vessels.

The terrorist attacks on the United States extended her deployment by three months.

Reunited with Catherine and his wife Claire, Gary said: "It really is very emotional seeing my family. I have a lot of

catching up to do with my little girl."

HMS Cornwall carried out vital intelligence gathering to assist the Coalition forces. Christmas and the New Year were spent at sea, with 2002 being ushered in off Pakistan.

Said Commanding Officer Capt Steve Kirby: "This has been a long and immensely successful deployment. We have for the most part been engaged in gathering vital intelligence throughout the region, but the real stars have been my Ship's Company and their families.

"They have been magnificent throughout, accepting fully the requirement for the ship to extend over Christmas."

On her return to Devonport Cornwall was led up the Hamoaze by her Sea King helicopter 'Red Bull' and escorted from the breakwater to Devil's Point by craft from 539 Assault Squadron Royal Marines based at Turnchapel.

She will visit Falmouth this month for the Queen's Jubilee Tour of the UK, when she will be open to the public.

□ Free Type 22 frigate cutaway inside.

# Board invites ex-sailors to take up arms

**T**HE NAVY Board has agreed that the Army's new Military Provost Guard Service (MPGS) will provide armed guards for Naval shore establishments from October this year – and ex-Navy personnel are welcome to join.

The MPGS at present provides nearly 600 armed guards for Army establishments all over the country. Opportunities already exist for ex-Navy personnel to serve in this capacity on Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS) at Naval establishments and this need will continue to remain for some time until MPGS personnel are trained up.

Eventually MPGS will become the main professional armed guarding service for all naval shore establishments, but existing FTRS armed guards should stand an excellent chance of being recruited by virtue of their experience.

Maj Pat Farelly, of MPGS Headquarters, who has been responsible for overseeing the implementation of MPGS in the Army, said that although the scheme had only been running for a short time it had proved very popular among personnel leaving all three Services.

"We now have 20 ex-RN/RM personnel guarding Army establishments around the country and we continue to receive a large number of enquiries from other ex-sailors and marines.

"The news that the Navy Board has endorsed the scheme will be very welcome, particularly for those who wish to live and work on the south coast."

Ex-ratings and Royal Marines who join MPGS will enlist into the regular Army on a Military Local Service Engagement for a three-year renewable contract and can serve up to the age of 55 in an establishment within 21 miles of their chosen area of service.

MPGS personnel will therefore enjoy many of the positive benefits of Service life, but with the added bonus that it will offer them a chance to embark on their second career with domestic stability.

It is considered that many ex-Navy and Marines personnel who joined the Service from parts of the country where the Navy is not widely represented, such as the north of England, Wales and the Midlands, may welcome the chance to move closer to home working at an Army or RAF base in these areas.

MPGS members will also be entitled to take up Service Families Accommodation in Married Quarters or Single Living Accommodation, if appropriate, in the location of their choosing.

MPGS personnel will carry out the full range of security duties to the highest professional standards along with civilian security personnel. However, unlike other security organisations, they are armed.

Those wishing to join must be under age 49 on enlistment and have served at least three years in the RN, RM, Army, RAF or TAVR with a discharge assessment of either Exemplary or Very Good.

There must be a less than six year gap between previous service and re-enlistment (unless enhanced by other forms of com-

parable service, such as TAVR, Police, Prison Service or other security agencies.

In order to join MPGS it will be necessary to enlist into the Regular Army. The only commitment required is to serve one year, following which time 90 days notice to discharge may be given.

Personnel will receive the same rates of pay as a regular soldier, but will receive a reduced X-factor to take account of their limited deployability.

MPGS can serve at their chosen site for the duration of their careers or can change location to take advantage of promotion opportunities or for personal reasons.

MPGS personnel will be trained at Worthy Down in Winchester. The course lasts for one week and will provide all the knowledge and understanding required for a professional armed security guard, including powers of arrest and search, use of force, patrolling techniques and incident handling.

All MPGS units will be formed under the command of their respective unit Commanding Officer on the site where they are

## New faces at the top

**A**DMIRAL Sir Alan West, the Commander-in-Chief Fleet, is to take over from Admiral Sir Nigel Essenhigh as First Sea Lord and Chief of Naval Staff on September 17.

Vice Admiral Sir Jonathon Band is to be promoted Admiral and becomes C-in-C Fleet on August 2.

Admiral West joined the Navy in 1965 and specialised as a Principal Warfare Officer. In 1980 he took command of



● Admiral Sir Alan West

HMS Ardent, which was later sunk in the Falklands War.

Promoted Captain in 1985 he commanded HMS Bristol from 1987-88 before first heading the study into women's integration and service at sea and then becoming Head of Maritime Intelligence.

He was promoted Rear Admiral in 1994 and was Naval Secretary and Commander UK Task Group before becoming Chief of Defence Intelligence as Vice Admiral in 1997. On promotion to Admiral in November, 2000 he was appointed C-in-C Fleet.

His successor Admiral Band joined the Navy in 1967 and completed his own PWO training in 1997. He commanded the minesweeper HMS Soberton before serving as Flag Lieutenant to C-in-C Fleet during the Falklands War, afterwards becoming CO of HMS Phoebe. Promoted Captain in



deployed. There is a structured rank system within each MPGS unit offering the opportunity for promotion up to SNCO and Warrant rank.

Personnel will be given the chance to work towards the security, safety and loss prevention level 2 NVQ Award. SNCOs and WOs will be offered, once fully developed, the Security Management Level 3 & 4 Award respectively, along with qualifying as NVQ assessors and internal verifiers.

□ Further details from Lt Cdr Jonathan Worthington on 023 92 727345.



● Vice Admiral Band

**TOTAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**ALL THIS FOR JUST OVER A FIVER A WEEK!**

**FREE** 600 mins of off-peak calls every month

**FREE** 100 text messages every month

**FREE** 100 Mobile Internet minutes every month

**FREE** connection - worth £35

**FREE** hands-free kit

**FREE** leather case

**FREE** in-car charger

**AUTOMATIC ACCEPTANCE FOR HM FORCES PERSONNEL**

Surf the net, send text messages, play games, have fun - and above all, keep in touch!

**CALL FREE ON 0800 731 7811**

Subject to terms and conditions.

**FREE NOKIA 3330 PHONE**



**CALLS FROM 2p A MINUTE**

**BT cellnet**

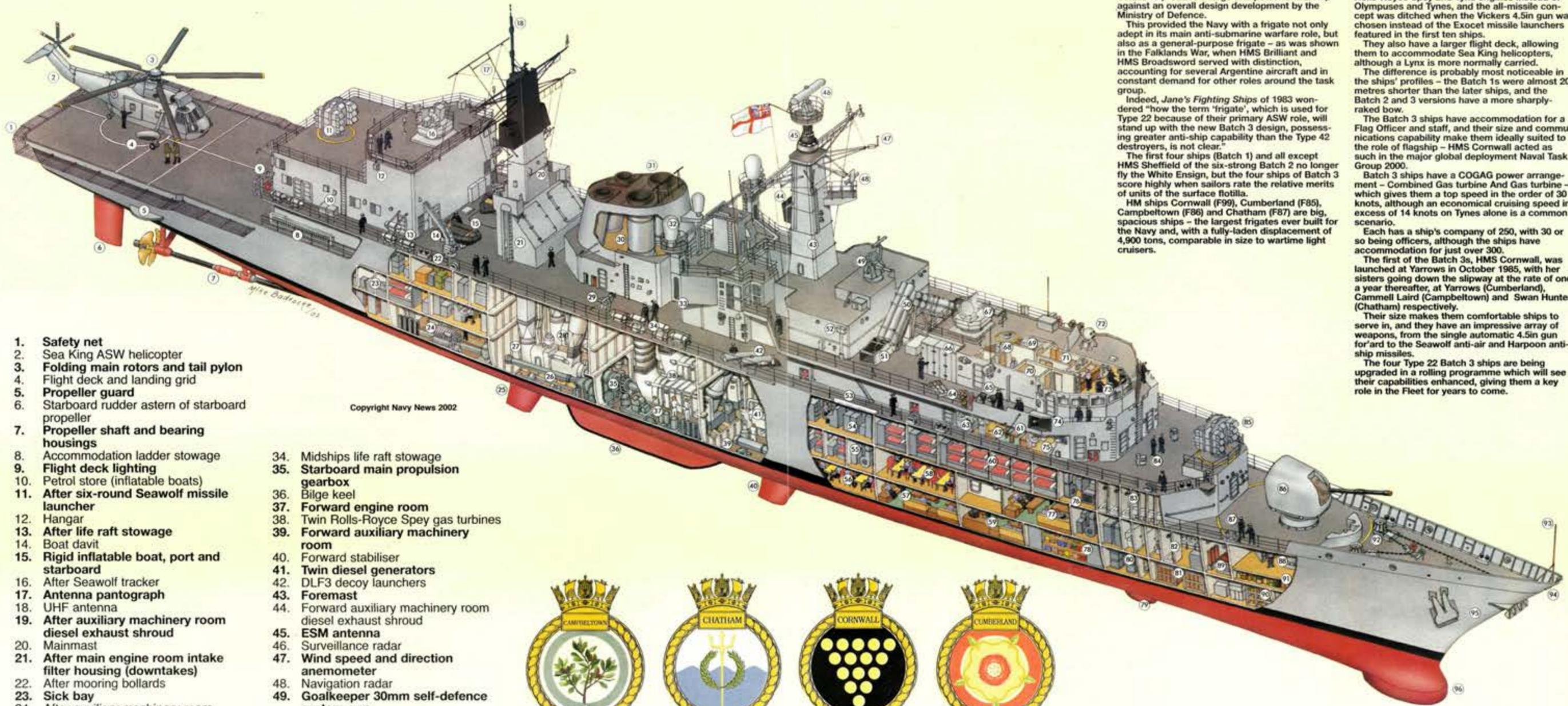


*This is a spacer page to allow the following cutaways to appear correctly, just click on to the next page*



# INSIDE THE TYPE 22

## The Batch 3 Type 22 frigate



Copyright Navy News 2002

1. Safety net
2. Sea King ASW helicopter
3. Folding main rotors and tail pylon
4. Flight deck and landing grid
5. Propeller guard
6. Starboard rudder astern of starboard propeller
7. Propeller shaft and bearing housings
8. Accommodation ladder stowage
9. Flight deck lighting
10. Petrol store (inflatable boats)
11. After six-round Seawolf missile launcher
12. Hangar
13. After life raft stowage
14. Boat davit
15. Rigid inflatable boat, port and starboard
16. After Seawolf tracker
17. Antenna pantograph
18. UHF antenna
19. After auxiliary machinery room diesel exhaust shroud
20. Mainmast
21. After main engine room intake filter housing (downtakes)
22. After mooring bollards
23. Sick bay
24. After auxiliary machinery room (AAMR)
25. After stabiliser
26. Propeller shaft
27. After main engine room
28. Twin Rolls-Royce Tyne gas turbines
29. BMARC 20mm cannon
30. Tyne gas turbine exhaust ducts (uptakes)
31. Spey gas turbine exhaust ducts (uptakes)
32. SCOT antennae, port and starboard
33. Forward engine room GT air intake filter housing (downtakes)

34. Midships life raft stowage
35. Starboard main propulsion gearbox
36. Bilge keel
37. Forward engine room
38. Twin Rolls-Royce Spey gas turbines
39. Forward auxiliary machinery room
40. Forward stabiliser
41. Twin diesel generators
42. DLF3 decoy launchers
43. Foremast
44. Forward auxiliary machinery room diesel exhaust shroud
45. ESM antenna
46. Surveillance radar
47. Wind speed and direction anemometer
48. Navigation radar
49. Goalkeeper 30mm self-defence system gun
50. Surface-to-surface missile launchers; eight missiles
51. Missile efflux shrouds
52. Electrical power room
53. Scrambling net
54. Office
55. Air treatment unit
56. Junior ratings mess
57. Junior ratings recreation space
58. Senior ratings dining hall
59. CPOs recreation space
60. Crew cabins
61. Swimmer of the Watch hoist, port



62. First Officer's day cabin and dining room
63. Pantry
64. Seagnat decoy launchers
65. Signal projectors, port and starboard
66. Seagnat lockers
67. Forward Seawolf tracker
68. Office
69. Navigation Officer's cabin

70. Chart Room
71. Commanding Officer's cabin and bathroom
72. Electro-optical scanner, port and starboard
73. Bridge
74. Starboard main and emergency lights
75. First Officer's bathroom
76. Forward air treatment units
77. CPOs recreation space

78. Provision room cold store
79. Keel sonar housing
80. Sonar equipment room
81. Gunner's store
82. Crew bathrooms, NAAFI store to port
83. Officers' bathrooms
84. Refuelling at sea winches, port and starboard
85. Forward six-round Seawolf missile launcher
86. Vickers 4.5in gun

87. Forward mooring bollard
88. Gun mounting
89. Hydraulic equipment room
90. Store room
91. Ratings baggage store
92. Anchor winches
93. Jackstaff with forward mooring light
94. Towing cable eye
95. Twin anchors
96. Bow sonar housing

The generic Type 22 frigate was originally intended to replace the successful Leander-class ship. Yarrow was given the job of working out the details to produce a large and powerful warship against an overall design development by the Ministry of Defence.

This provided the Navy with a frigate not only adept in its main anti-submarine warfare role, but also as a general-purpose frigate – as was shown in the Falklands War, when HMS Brilliant and HMS Broadsword served with distinction, accounting for several Argentine aircraft and in constant demand for other roles around the task group.

Indeed, Jane's Fighting Ships of 1983 wondered "how the term 'frigate', which is used for Type 22 because of their primary ASW role, will stand up with the new Batch 3 design, possessing greater anti-ship capability than the Type 42 destroyers, is not clear."

The first four ships (Batch 1) and all except HMS Sheffield of the six-strong Batch 2 no longer fly the White Ensign, but the four ships of Batch 3 score highly when sailors rate the relative merits of units of the surface flotilla.

HM ships Cornwall (F99), Cumberland (F85), Campbeltown (F86) and Chatham (F87) are big, spacious ships – the largest frigates ever built for the Navy and, with a fully-laden displacement of 4,900 tons, comparable in size to wartime light cruisers.

These four ships are very different to their Batch 1 sisters.

For example, they are powered by pairs of Rolls-Royce Spey and Tyne engines instead of Olympuses and Tynes, and the all-missile concept was ditched when the Vickers 4.5in gun was chosen instead of the Exocet missile launchers featured in the first ten ships.

They also have a larger flight deck, allowing them to accommodate Sea King helicopters, although a Lynx is more normally carried.

The difference is probably most noticeable in the ships' profiles – the Batch 1s were almost 20 metres shorter than the later ships, and the Batch 2 and 3 versions have a more sharply-raked bow.

The Batch 3 ships have accommodation for a Flag Officer and staff, and their size and communications capability make them ideally suited to the role of flagship – HMS Cornwall acted as such in the major global deployment Naval Task Group 2000.

Batch 3 ships have a COGAG power arrangement – Combined Gas turbine And Gas turbine – which gives them a top speed in the order of 30 knots, although an economical cruising speed in excess of 14 knots on Tynes alone is a common scenario.

Each has a ship's company of 250, with 30 or so being officers, although the ships have accommodation for just over 300.

The first of the Batch 3s, HMS Cornwall, was launched at Yarrow in October 1985, with her sisters going down the slipway at the rate of one a year thereafter, at Yarrow (Cumberland), Cammell Laird (Campbeltown) and Swan Hunter (Chatham) respectively.

Their size makes them comfortable ships to serve in, and they have an impressive array of weapons, from the single automatic 4.5in gun for'ard to the Seawolf anti-air and Harpoon anti-ship missiles.

The four Type 22 Batch 3 ships are being upgraded in a rolling programme which will see their capabilities enhanced, giving them a key role in the Fleet for years to come.