



IN DEPTH

Official Newsletter of the Submariners Association

Patron: Admiral Sir James Perowne KCVO, KBE

Vice Patron: John Weale CB, OBE

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Commodore J Le S Perks CB

The Submariner

“Of all the branches of men in the Forces there is none which shows more devotion and faces grimmer perils than the Submariner; great deeds are done in the air and on the land, nevertheless nothing surpasses your exploits.”
Sir Winston Churchill 1943

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THE SUBMARINERS ASSOCIATION EXTEND OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES

In the depths of the sea, submariners find solace, as the sea and oceans are our friends, concealing us from potential adversaries. But today, we are reminded that the sea, can unleash a cruel and violent side that spares no one, turning against us without warning.

With heavy hearts, the Submariners Association extends our deepest condolences to the families and friends of the courageous crew members of SAS MANTHATISI, who tragically lost their lives while selflessly serving their country. Their dedication to duty and unwavering commitment will forever be etched in our hearts.

To those submariners who find themselves in hospital rooms, battling the aftermath of this devastating accident, we send our most heartfelt wishes for a swift and complete recovery.

In times like these, we must come together as a community, offering our unwavering support to our brethren beneath the waves. As submariners, you face the unpredictable nature of the sea with unmatched valour, and we stand beside you, united in strength and solidarity.

Iain Mackenzie MBE

EDITORIAL

Hello Everyone

I must start this Editorial with the very sad news that three South African Submariners (one Lieutenant Commander - the First Lieutenant - and two Warrant Officers) have died in a tragic accident very close of the coast of South Africa after they were washed off the casing whilst engaged in a VERTREP exercise with a South African Air Force Helo. Additionally four other personnel (including the Commanding Officer) ended up in the water. These four

were rescued but were all taken to hospital for treatment and recovery.

Much of the content of this newsletter is about the 'X' and 'XE' craft of WWII and the 1950s. The main reason for this is that September 2023 saw the 80th Anniversary of Operation SOURCE – the 'X-Craft' operation which saw the attack on the German Battle ship TIRPITZ in the Kaa Fjord in Northern Norway and which resulted in serious damage to the TIRPITZ. All six participating 'X-Craft'

were lost or scuttled. Forty two 'X-Craft' personnel took part in Operation Source – eighteen 'Passage Crew' and twenty four 'Operational Crew'. Of these three 'Passage Crew' members were lost as were six 'Operational Crew' Members. Another six 'Operational Crew' Members became Prisoners of War.. Awards for the Operation were two Victoria Crosses, three Distinguished Service Orders, one Conspicuous Gallantry Medal and six Mentions in Despatches. All six of the Towing Submarines returned home safely carrying the balance of the Operational & Passage Crew members.

On the same subject the Submarine Museum with input from 'Friends of the Submarine the Museum' have revamped their 'X-Craft' displays to coincide with the 80th Anniversary, there is a report from Commander Tim Honnor advising plans for a restoration of the 12th Submarine Flotilla (X-Craft) Memorial at Kylesku and information about a timely new book by Keith Hall about the 'X' and 'XE' Class Boats.

There is more news in this newsletter about the 'AUKUS' Submarine Plans with both BAE at Barrow and Babcock being awarded contracts to progress the design of the new Submarines and the support requirements & facilities. Also, on the Australian Navy front there is a report about a recent fire onboard the Collins Class Submarine HMAS FARNCOMB. Additionally there are reports about news

design Submarines for the Dutch Navy and the Taiwanese Navy

I have included several reports from around the Branches including the Gosport Branch, the Scottish Branch and Medway Towns Branch. Dave Smith (Barrow Branch Secretary, has provided a report on the Service of Remembrance for our late Patron – Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Boyce at Westminster Abbey, and a second report on the presentation of a Patron's Commendation to me as your editor, by Admiral Perowne.

Regarding the Patron's Commendation I must thank all involved in arranging this award. I must say I was very proud (and somewhat humbled) to receive such recognition. Luckily I was able to get most of my family and friends along for the ceremony but it was a bit too far for my daughter and family in Adelaide. Thanks again. Hopefully you will all find something of interest in the issue – if I have missed out anyone's contribution I can only apologise!

Please note that 'In Depth' Issue No. 83 will be published on 1st January 2024. Contributions, ideally in Word format are required to be with the Editor by 15th December 2023 - see Contact Details on Page 3. Please make sure I get your contributions in good time!

Regards

Barrie Downer

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I am going to start my Chairman's report by congratulating our editor Barrie Downer on his well-deserved Patron's Commendation, presented to Barrie by our new Patron - Admiral Sir James Perowne KCVO, KBE.

The good news keeps on coming! Rear Admiral John Weale CB, OBE has agreed to be our Vice Patron.

That now gives us Admiral John Weale, and Commodore Jim Perks who were both key players in the conception of TSF on our books.

I know there is a lot of conjecture going around the mess decks about a new SA Crest. To stop the whispers I can tell you that the SAC are discussing the possibility of changing the crest design, a design that will be more appealing to the younger members and yet satisfy the older members.

This project has been taken on by the Vice Chairman Andy Knox, who has been investigating a more 21st century look. Not as simple as one would assume.

The SAC will choose 3 designs then the National Secretary will send out a One Member One Vote form to all members asking you to select your preferred design or to remain with the current design.

I must stress there is no hurry in this project and whatever the choice is no member will be forced to change his blazer badge.

We are coming to the end of the period (Mid-2024) where we ring fenced £60K from our National Funds in case TSF failed. The question has been put to all Branches on ideas for spending this money? Branch secretaries have been requested to forward your ideas to the National Secretary.

More good news, we are buying 3 gazebo's with the SA Crest on them to be made available to all branches for local events - again to promote the Association. Details will be published when known.

Iain Mackenzie

Chairman

DISCLAIMER

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Submariners Association accepts no liability on any issue in _____
this Newsletter.

Cover Picture: A Vanguard Class SSBN arrives at Faslane after her record breaking CASD Patrol!

NEW & RE-JOINING MEMBERS

(202* = Serving Member)

(NO UPDATE AVAILABLE FOR THIS ISSUE)

NAME		RANK/RATE	BRANCH	SM SERVICE	SUBMARINES

SUBMARINE LOSSES OF WWII

JULY 1943

No Submarines were lost in July 1943 and no individual Submariners were reported as being lost!

AUGUST 1943

Two Submarines were lost in August 1943 and one Submarine qualified Engineering Officer is reported to have died.

The first Submarine lost was **HMS PARTHIAN** (with all hands) on 7th August 1943. The Crew was:

Officers:

Lieutenant Cyril Astell Pardoe, RNR
Lieutenant Mark Allen Von-Bergen, RN
Sub Lieutenant John Frederick Goodwin, RNVR
Sub Lieutenant John Timothy Ryder Walker RN

Ratings:

PO Richard Henry Bond P/JX 144731
PO Joseph Rumble P/SSX 16820
PO Eric Denby P/SSX 15134
PO F Dennis DSM TBA
PO Gladwyn Crane C/JX 156254
PO John Charles Goodwin C/JX 164968
L/Sea James Patterson Cleary, MiD P/SSX 26433
L/Sea Laurence Forster C/SSX 27324
L/Sea John Robert Wilson P/SSX 24567
AB Henry Gibson D/SSX 28717
AB Ronald Hetherington, MiD D/JX 257390
AB David Grainger P/SSX 22974
AB Charles Frederick Barnsdale P/JX 203397
AB Bryan David Hill P/JX 146413
AB John Smithson P/JX 235991
AB Edward Thomas (Ashi) Jones P/JX 234590
AB Douglas Imrie P/SSX 20542
AB Thomas Michael Halpin Heenan C/JX 208177
AB Kenneth Henry Parker D/JX 208167
AB Wesley Gibson D/JX 148209
AB Walter Bullen D/SSX 16368
AB James Heaton, DSM, MiD C/JX 223596
AB Albert Herbert Aldred J97729

AB Frederick James Webb P/JX 282232
PO Tel Harold Green C/JX 130775
L/Tel James Collins Weir P/JX 156663
L/Tel Frederick Ethell, MiD C/JX 147570
Tel George Walter Palmer C/JX 162289
Tel Henry George Owen Adamson C/JX 145399
Ord Tel James Edward Starkey C/JX 232123
Yeo of Sigs Peter Ford D/JX 151156
PO Cook Peter Keenan P/MX 49153
L/Stwd James Victor McCaig D/LX 26009
ChEA Roy De La Force Wheble, MiD D/MX 56474
ERA1 Morris Stanley Wallis M38846
ERA3 John Cleveland Sykes D/MX 56722
ERA4 Albert Nunn D/MX 59141
ERA4 George Alex Wolfe, MiD C/MX 76034
ERA4 Lionel Claude Nathaniel Jacob C/SMX 19
ERA4 Ernest Marland Hall P/MX 88746
ERA4 Dennis Walter Potter P/MX 78677
SPO John Chalmers P/KX 79304
A/Sto PO Frank Lightfoot C/KX 80765
A/Sto PO Alfred Kenneth Price, MiD D/KX 85715
A/LSto Albert Lewis Whincup C/KX 94539
A/LSto Reginald George Tallis P/KX 93121
Sto1 Frederick Gilliam P/KX 136124
Sto1 Walter Hanson D/KX 93319
Sto1 Samuel Jones D/KX 130579
Sto1 James Jones D/KX 114496
Sto1 Harold Holman C/KX 134907
Sto1 Henry Clasper C/KX 106419
Sto1 Owen Clement Fay C/KX 134852
Sto1 Ronald Ernest William Currell, DSM C/KX 107159
Sto1 Frederick Arthur John Stewart C/KX 113741
Sto1 Edward Elnor P/KX 134891
Sto1 John William Toogood P/KX 132374
Sto1 Frank Worthington P/KX 111894
Sto1 Walter Sidney Hannah C/KX 136677
Sto2 Frederick Clifford Haywood P/KX 135578

HMS DOLPHIN

One Officer appointed to HMS DOLPHIN died on Friday 13th August 1943. It is understood he was involved with the overseeing the acceptance of 'U'

Class Submarines building in the Vickers Shipyard when he was taken ill and died. He was:

Lt (E) Herbert Henry David Campaign MBE RN
Herbert Campaign was the forty-seven-year-old son of Herbert Henry and Frances Graham Campaign and the husband of Ada Violet Campaign of Portsmouth. He is buried in the Ulverston Cemetery Section L Grave No. 144.

Submarine HMS SARACEN

The second Submarine lost was HMS SARACEN which was sunk after a depth charge attack on 14th August 1943 by the Italian Corvettes MINERVA (Lieutenant Mario Baroglio) and EUTERPE (Lieutenant Antonio March). Two members of the crew were lost in the sinking. The remainder of the crew were taken Prisoner of War. Those lost were:

Ratings:

Able Seaman James W Dowen P/JX 283499

Stoker Petty Officer Ronald G Ward D/KX 85717

SEPTEMBER 1943

Operation SOURCE

In September 1943 six in Number X-Craft - each manned by a Passage Crew of three - were towed by six Submarines each of which carried an X-Craft Operational Crew of four - in addition to their normal crew. The X-Craft were to attack German Capital Ships in the Kaa Fjord in Norway. The Operational Crew were to relieve the Passage Crews when the Submarines and X-Craft reached the area of the Kaa Fjord. In all (apart from the Towing Submarine Crew) forty-two X-Craft personnel took part in Operation Source - eighteen Passage Crew Members and twenty-four Operational Crew Members. Two (possibly three) attacked the TIRPITZ which was badly damaged and out of action for several months. All six of the X-Craft were lost or scuttled. The X-Craft were:

HM Submarine X-5

This submarine participated in the attack on the German Battleship TIRPITZ in Kaa Fjord, Northern Norway on Wednesday 22nd September 1943. Submarine X-5 left Port Bannantyne on 18th September 1943 and was towed to the operational area by HMS THRASHER (Lieutenant A. R. Hezlet, RN). The Operational Crew took over from the Passage Crew for the approach to the target and the attack. Lieutenant Henty-Creer (the CO) is believed to have made his way into the area around the TIRPITZ but was never seen again. The Passage Crew returned home in HMS THRASHER. Submarine X5 was assumed lost with its Operational Crew - who were all awarded Mentions in Dispatches. They were:

Lieutenant Henty Henty-Creer, RNVR
Sub Lieutenant Tom John Nelson, RNVR
Acting Sub Lieutenant Alastair David Malcolm, RNVR

ERA4 Ralph James Mortiboys P/MX79142

Submarine X-6

This submarine participated in the attack on the German Battleship TIRPITZ in Kaa Fjord, Northern Norway on Wednesday 22nd September 1943. Submarine X-6 was towed to the operational area by HMS TRUCULENT (Lieutenant Commander R L Alexander, RN). The Operational Crew took over from the Passage Crew for the approach to the target and the attack. The Passage Crew returned home in HMS TRUCULENT. The attack was successful. All four of the Operational Crew survived, were rescued by the Germans, and become Prisoners of War but Submarine X6 was sunk. Lieutenant Cameron (the CO) was awarded the Victoria Cross, Sub Lieutenants Lorimer and Kendall were each awarded the DSO and ERA Goddard the CGM.

Submarine X-7

This submarine participated in the attack on the German Battleship TIRPITZ in Kaa Fjord, Northern Norway on Wednesday 22nd September 1943. Submarine X7 was towed to the Operational Area by HMS STUBBORN (Lieutenant Arthur Anthony Duff RN). The Operational Crew took over from the Passage Crew for the approach to the target and the attack. The attack was successful, and the TIRPITZ was badly damaged but not sunk. Two of the Operational Crew survived, were rescued by the Germans and become Prisoners of War but the other two of the crew were lost and Submarine X6 was sunk. Lieutenant Place (the CO) was awarded the Victoria Cross, Sub Lieutenant Aitken was awarded the DSO. Those lost (who were both awarded Mentions in Dispatches) were:

Lieutenant Lionel Barnett Whittam, RNVR
ERA4 William Marriner Whitley D/MX 73499

Submarine X8

On 17th September 1943, whilst on passage to Norway for an attack on the German Pocket Battleship LUTZOW, Submarine X8 which was being towed by HMS SEANYMPH (Lieutenant J P H Oakley, DSC, Royal Navy), lost its trim, and became out of control. The Commanding Officer of X8 traced the problem to a flooded Starboard 'Side Charge' and decided to jettison the charge. This exploded about a thousand yards astern of X8 (although the charge was set to 'Safe') and caused no damage to the submarine. The Port 'Side Charge' then began to flood and was also jettisoned. This

exploded some three miles astern of X8, but this time considerable damage was incurred. A decision was taken to scuttle X8, which without its side cargoes, was of no further use in the TIRPITZ attack. Both the Passage and Operational Crews returned home in HMS SEANYMPH

Submarine X-9

Overnight 15th/16th September 1943 Submarine X-9 was being towed by Submarine HMS SYRTIS (Lieutenant M H Jupp, DSC, Royal Navy) en-route to attack the German Pocket Battleship SCHARNHORST. On being ordered to surface on the morning of 16th September X-9 failed to appear and was presumed lost on tow. ERA Vernon Coles, of the Operational Crew, reported that he thought the towing rope probably parted at about 0600 and that the consequent increase in shaft revolutions in SYRTIS (although noted by the ERA of the Watch) was not reported to the Control Room. As a result, SYRTIS did not start a search for X-9 for several more hours. X-9 was never seen again, and the Passage Crew were all assumed to be lost. The Operational Crew returned home in HMS SYRTIS. The lost Passage Crew Members were:

Sub Lieutenant Edward Kearon, RNVR
Able Seaman Harry Albert Harte C/JX 207081
Stoker 1st Class George Henry Hollett D/KX 151674

Submarine X-10

Submarine X-10 was intended (with Submarine X-9) to participate in an attack on the German Pocket Battleship SCHARNHORST in Kaa Fjord in Northern Norway. The submarine was towed to the Operational area by HMS SCEPTRE (Lieutenant I S McIntosh RN). The Passage Crew were then relieved by the Operational Crew for closing to the attack area and for the attack. The approach to the attack area was affected by a number of defects to the submarine systems, which eventually led to the abandonment of the attack. Lieutenant Hudspeth and his crew managed to exit the area safely and to achieve a

rendezvous with Submarine HMS STUBBORN (Lieutenant A A Duff, RN) and hand X-10 over to the Passage Crew for the tow back home. Owing to poor weather conditions the Passage Crew were recovered to HMS STUBBORN and X10 was ordered to be scuttled

SUBMARINE COMMISSIONING CREW LISTS

Still looking for Commissioning and Re-dedication Crew Lists for an ongoing Chronology of Submariners Project. Some are still arriving, thank you very much although not as many as previously. I am still looking for 'First Commission' Crew Lists as follows: PORPOISE, GRAMPUS, CACHALOT, WALRUS, OBERON, ONYX, ORPHEUS, ODIN, OTUS, UNICORN, AUDACIOUS & ANSON

Also looking for copies of Crew Lists for subsequent Commissions of any 'O' Class, 'P' Class or Nuclear Boat – SSN or SSBN. Crew Lists for any Commissioning or Decommissioning of any Diesel 'A', 'S' or 'T' Class Boat refitting in Home Dockyards or in Malta, Singapore or Sydney are also required. Have a look through your records and 'Ditty Boxes' and see what you can find. You can contact me by E Mail, Snail Mail or Telephone.

Thanks, Barrie Downer

DONATIONS & BEQUESTS

For anyone thinking about making a Donation or leaving a Bequest in your Will please remember one of the following:

- (1) The Submariners Association
- (2) The Submarine Fund – part of the Royal Navy & Royal Marines Charity (RNRMC) – details can be found on RNRMC Website.
- (3) The Submarine Family
- (4) The Royal Navy Submarine Museum. Any Donations or Bequests for the Submarine Museum should be directed to either the 'Friends of the Submarine Museum' or to the 'National Museum of the Royal Navy'.

THE ONLINE BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE (OBOR)

The Online Book of Remembrance is now live. It all started with a need for a complete and accurate record of all those who had lost their life during submarine service, which could be easily updated to correct any inaccuracies – which have been found to be all too plentiful on the current Memorial Wall at the Museum.

Each unit page lists those from that unit who died. Any visitor to the OBOR is also able to submit comment and pictures to enhance the entries about an individual submariner or a submarine. Do have a look!

The OBOR is an element of The Submarine Family (TSF)'s Website and is hosted on their Servers. Its development is funded by the 'Friends of the Submarine Museum'. Both the TSF site and OBOR have been created by MindWorks



Marketing and managed by the huge efforts of our Digital Lead, Tom Herman. The OBR site has recently been updated to include more material and to improve access.

You can access the OBOR at submarinefamily.uk/remembrance or by simply pointing your smartphone camera at this QR code. You will then be able to read the story of the development of the OBOR, a short history of the Submarine Service, by Iain Ballantyne, and browse the contents.

The OBOR contains the names of over 5,900 submariners and over 450 units in which they served, including 174 submarines which sank in peace or wartime. Each unit and each submariner has their own page which can contain pictures and stories.

The 'Friends' Treasurer (Peter Jeanneret) has been responsible for collating the data that is now contained within OBOR. This started over a year ago by entering into a database all the names on the Submarine Museum Memorial Wall, assisted by Jock McLees. There has been considerable checking to iron out the many errors, omissions, and duplications. In this work there has been a major contribution by Barrie Downer and Malcolm Blenkinsopp, both of whom have been researching details of deceased submariners for many years plus other volunteers from the Friends.

We think that the data is now close to being as accurate as it could get but please contact us by email to obor@submarinefamily.uk if you can provide any further information, particularly stories and pictures of people and units where we currently don't have them.

We hope that work will soon start on the Project to replace the Submarine Museum Memorial Wall with better quality engraved stone or slate panels, and the effort to get the OBOR data in good shape will allow us to provide an accurate list of names for this new wall.

HM NAVAL BASE, CLYDE & RN SUBMARINE NEWS

Contract for First Phase of AUKUS Submarines build agreed with BAE

Evening Mail 8th August 2023

By Dan Taylor, Chief Reporter

The Government has awarded a design contract to BAE to assemble submarines as part of a major agreement with America and Australia. AUKUS submarines are due to be built in Barrow as part of the agreement which will see Australia work with the two countries to develop new submarines. According to reports, a contract for the 'detailed design and long lead items' was signed with BAE. It represents the first stages of work on the Ship Submersible Nuclear AUKUS, the future class of attack submarines that will replace the Astute class boats. Details of the contract were shared in a Ministry of Defence minute to Parliament.

It said: "The purpose of this Minute is to notify Parliament of reportable contingent liabilities that the Ministry of Defence (MOD) intends to incur as a result of placing the Detailed Design and Long Lead Items contract with BAE Systems for the Ship Submersible Nuclear AUKUS (known as "SSN-A"), the future class of attack submarines to replace the Astute Class.

"Negotiations are ongoing and the contingent liabilities will come into force on signature of the contract." The first phase of the work includes fabrication of steel in Barrow.

As part of the AUKUS pact, the UK's submarines will primarily be constructed in Barrow, while Australia will work on developing its submarine industrial base over the next decade.



Barrow's shipyard from above

(Image:Newsquest)

The Australian submarines are due to be built in Adelaide, South Australia, with some components produced in the UK. BAE will play a key role in the programme and is expanding its workforce by 6,000 staff.

The Government announced British involvement in building submarines as part of the agreement in 2022. The next generation of Barrow-built hunter-killer submarines, SSNR, will be used by both the UK and Australian navies. Until the SSNR submarines are built, President Joe Biden announced that Australia may buy up to five Virginia-class submarines from the US.

£3.95bn of funding awarded to BAE systems for SSN-AUKUS programme

By Bridget Dempsey

@BDempseyNews Chief Reporter

1st October 2023

Almost £4 billion of funding has been awarded to Barrow based BAE systems for the next phase of the SSN-AUKUS programme, it has been announced.

The Ministry of Defence has awarded £3.95 billion of funding to BAE Systems for the next phase of the UK's next-generation nuclear-powered attack submarine programme, known as SSN-AUKUS.

SSN-AUKUS will be the largest, most powerful and advanced attack submarines the Royal Navy has ever operated and will eventually replace the Astute class, which BAE Systems builds at its site in Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria.

The funding follows the AUKUS announcement in March by the leaders of Australia, the UK and the United States. This will eventually see Australia and the UK operate SSN-AUKUS submarines, which will be based on the UK's next generation design, incorporating technology from all three nations, including cutting-edge US submarine technologies.

Having started early design work in 2021, the £3.95bn funding will cover development work to 2028, enabling BAE Systems to move into the detailed design phase of the programme and begin to procure long-lead items. Manufacture will start towards the end of the decade with the first SSN-AUKUS boat due to be delivered in the late 2030s.

The award will also fund significant infrastructure investment at BAE Systems' site in Barrow-in-Furness, investment in its supply chain and recruitment of a more than 5,000 people.

Grant Shapps, Defence Secretary, said: "This multi-billion-pound investment in the AUKUS submarine programme will help deliver the long term hunter-killer submarine capabilities the UK needs to maintain our strategic advantage and secure our leading place in a contested global order.

"I'm committed to backing our defence industry, because it's only with the mission critical support of businesses like BAE Systems that the UK can develop the advanced equipment our Armed Forces need to defend the British people in a more dangerous world."

Charles Woodburn, BAE Systems' Chief Executive, said: "We're incredibly proud of our role in the delivery of this vitally important, tri-nation submarine programme.

"This funding reinforces the Government's support to our UK submarine enterprise and allows us to mature the design and invest in critical skills and infrastructure to support our long-term national security."

BAE Systems has already delivered five of seven Astute class submarines to the Royal Navy with the remaining two boats at advanced stages of construction. The Company is also designing and

building the UK's next-generation nuclear deterrent submarines, Dreadnought, with work underway on three of the four new boats.

Delivery of the UK's submarine programmes is a national endeavour between government and industry. BAE Systems' Submarines business plays a vital role in the UK economy, particularly in the north west of England.

By the end of this year, its workforce will grow to 12,500, including around new 900 apprentices and graduates. The business plans to recruit an additional 2,700 people next year, which will include a further 900 apprentices and graduates providing a significant employment boost for the region.

Babcock signs contract to support the next generation of nuclear submarines

1st October 2023

Babcock has signed a five-year contract with the Ministry of Defence to provide input into the detailed design for the new 'Ship Submersible Nuclear AUKUS' (SSN-A) submarines, which will replace the Astute Class from the late 2030s.

This is also the chosen design that Australia will use to build their new fleet, following the announcement from the Australian, United Kingdom and United States Governments regarding the optimal pathway for acquisition of nuclear-powered submarines under the AUKUS pact.

Working alongside the MOD and our Enterprise Partners, Babcock's contract scope includes applying its extensive experience of complex submarine in-service support and maintenance, to build this into the design to maximise the submarines' availability throughout its service life.

This contract award builds on work Babcock has already been delivering during the previous Programme Definition and Design Phase.

Babcock CEO David Lockwood said: "Babcock plays a critical role in submarine programmes, supporting submarine availability in the UK and internationally. The importance of applying our extensive knowledge and long-standing experience is being recognised through this contract award to ensure that the new Class delivers the operational availability through life that the Royal Navy requires. "In addition, we look forward to providing ongoing support to help deliver capability for the Royal Australian Navy under the AUKUS agreement."

Defence Secretary, Grant Shapps said, "This multi-billion-pound investment in the AUKUS submarine programme will help deliver the long term hunter-killer submarine capabilities the UK needs to maintain our strategic advantage and secure our leading place in a contested global order.

“I’m committed to backing our defence industry, because it’s only with the mission critical support of businesses like Babcock that the UK can develop the advanced equipment our Armed Forces need to defend the British people in a more dangerous world.”

Babcock has a proven track record for managing complex assets in highly regulated environments. Owning and operating the UK’s only Nuclear Licensed facility for refitting, refuelling and defueling nuclear submarines, Babcock sustains the entirety of the Royal Navy’s nuclear-powered submarine fleet, including the delivery of through-life support and life extension of the Vanguard, Trafalgar, and Astute Submarine Classes.

As the premier warship sustainment company in Australia and New Zealand, underpinned by our global experience, Babcock stands ready to help grow Australia’s local industrial capability to support the acquisition and operation of their new submarine fleet – helping to make their mission our mission and creating a safe and secure world together.

Barrow MP Meets Australian High Commission

3rd August 2023

Simon Fell, MP for Barrow & Furness, in his role as the Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for AUKUS in Parliament recently spent a long day, spent travelling to and from Furness, to get down to the Australian High Commission in London and meet with the High Commissioner, the Director General of the Australian Submarine Agency, and political and diplomatic leads working on AUKUS.

This unique partnership - tying together the UK, Australia and the USA not just on the SSN-AUKUS submarine programme, but also on a wide range of other areas of interest - is crucial to our shared global interests of defending democracies around the world. Given Barrow’s significant role in designing and delivering that next generation of boats it is also crucial to our local economy too.

As the Chair of the APPG AUKUS in Parliament it was an honour to lead a small cross-party delegation to Australia House to discuss our shared interests and help to build the understanding and relationships that will matter so much to the UK, to the world, and to Furness, for generations to come.



At the Australian High Commission in London
(Simon Fell MP (2nd from the right))

FOST (SM) SUPERCESSION

The Organisation responsible for training Royal Navy Submariners in Scotland – Fleet Operational Standards and Training (Submarines) (FOST (SM)) – has a new Commanding Officer. The current Captain FOST Submarines, Captain Neil Lamont, formally handed over to Captain Justin Codd on Tuesday, 29 August, during the supersession at HM Naval Base Clyde.

Captain Lamont, who has been in the role a little under two years, joining in November 2021, has previously spent three years in command of HMS VIGILANT and HMS VENGEANCE as well as spending a couple of years in the Submarine Flotilla. His friends and colleagues at HMNB Clyde wish him well as he moves on to become the Commanding Officer of HMS VICTORIOUS which is currently undergoing a major refit at Devonport.

Based at HM Naval Base Clyde, FOST SM provides the highest standards of training for Submariners, led by a dedicated team of experts and working under the guidance of Commander Fleet Operational Standards and Training (COM FOST) based in Portsmouth.



Royal Navy nuclear 'bomber' submarine sets the record for longest patrol after more than six months at sea

Covered in slime and encrusted in barnacles, this British nuclear 'bomber' submarine has set a new Royal Navy record for the longest patrol after spending more than six months at sea. The Vanguard-class vessel returned to port earlier this week after loitering in the ocean as she hides from Russian submarines in the North Atlantic. The length of her time at sea has raised further questions about the shortage of UK submarines. With boats currently ashore awaiting refits and maintenance, there is increasing pressure on those fit for operations.

Spending half a year at sea also puts immense strain on the Submarines' crews and their families, who know next to nothing about their activities or whereabouts. Each submarine has a crew of around 130 sailors and officers. Earlier this month, the Mail exclusively revealed how all six of the Navy's Attack Submarines – from the Astute and Triumph classes – were alongside.



Covered in slime and encrusted in barnacles, this British nuclear 'bomber' submarine has set a new Royal Navy record for the longest patrol

The UK has four Vanguard-class submarines which are armed with up to eight Trident nuclear warheads. At least one of this class of submarines, which carry the UK's nuclear deterrent, are at sea at any time. But due to repair works only HMS VIGILANT and HMS VENGEANCE have been active this year. Repairs are taking longer

because the Vanguard submarines are long past their originally planned retirement date. The boats were designed to last 25 years but will have been in service for nearly 40 years before they are replaced.

Last night, the Royal Navy said: 'The service does not discuss the length of patrols. We acknowledge the commitment and dedication of submariners and their loved ones. 'All submariners on Vanguard-class submarines receive an additional payment on completion of an extended period to recognise the increased burden placed upon them and their families.'

Babcock secures contract for HMS VICTORIOUS refit



George Allison July 13, 2023

Babcock has signed an initial contract with the Submarine Delivery Agency (SDA) for the comprehensive refit of HMS VICTORIOUS, the UK's second Vanguard Class nuclear submarine. This preliminary full-cost recovery agreement will be replaced by a full-term contract by year-end, allowing in-depth maintenance work to commence at Babcock's Devonport facility. HMS VICTORIOUS forms a crucial part of the UK's continuous at-sea deterrent strategy. The upcoming refit programme is expected to sustain approximately 1,000 local jobs and further develop Babcock's workforce for future submarine maintenance at Devonport.

Babcock's CEO Nuclear, Dominic Kieran, highlighted the collaborative nature of the project with the SDA, saying, "The work we do to support the Vanguard Class fleet, a vital part of the UK's defence, has never been more important.

The commercial framework we have agreed will ensure the retention of our skilled workforce, support future recruitment and enable us to focus on supporting the SDA in its drive to increase submarine availability." Similarly, SDA CEO Chris Gardner emphasised the strategic importance of the project. "The completion of HMS VICTORIOUS' Deep Maintenance Period is vital to supporting Defence's highest priority. We look forward to working with Babcock to deliver the project on time to enable ongoing submarine availability and to continue to transform Devonport Naval Base into a Centre of Excellence for submarine deep maintenance," he stated.

George Allison has a degree in Cyber Security from Glasgow Caledonian University and has a keen interest in naval and cyber security matters and has appeared on national radio and television to discuss current events. He also works for the NHS. George is on Twitter at @geoallison

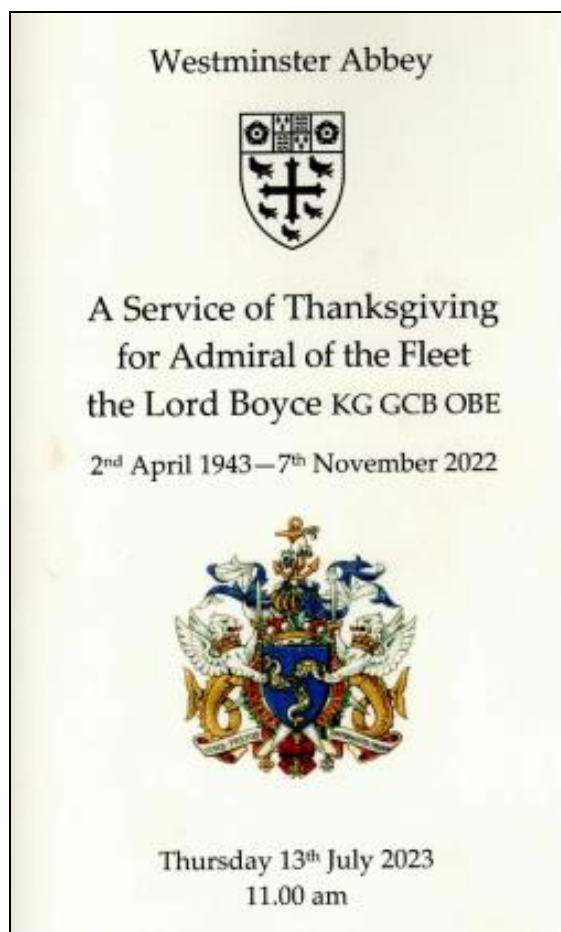
A Service of Thanksgiving for Admiral of the Fleet the Lord Boyce

By Davis A J Smith (Secretary Barrow in Furness)

On Thursday 13th July, with my wife Sue and some 2000+ others, I paid respects to Admiral of the Fleet the Lord Boyce at Westminster Abbey. There were a dozen or so SA members there including our Patron, President, and Vice Chairman. Admiral Sir Anthony Radakin represented the King; Commander Robert Dixon, the Prince of Wales; Vice Admiral Laurence, The Princess Royal; Marshal of the Royal Air Force the Lord Stirrup, The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester. Prince Michael of Kent also attended. These with another host of VIP dignitaries made up an impressive tribute to the man.

Admiral Sir George Zambellas gave a very heartfelt tribute to Lord Boyce. Having served with and worked for Lord Boyce he was able to give a very enlightening insight to how Lord Boyce did his business and his career progression. His thoroughness, attention to detail and ability to accurately assess complex situations were at the forefront of whatever he did. This combined with his compassionate nature for others while challenging them made him a great leader. Of course, his love of the Submarine Service was also mentioned. In fact, it was said that if you cut him in half, he would have Submariner written all the way through. Humour was also part of the

tribute with accounts of taking up the role of a waiter at the last HMS DOLPHIN Dinner and, during a sailing trip, he narrowly avoided calling out the RNLI whilst he was the organisation's Chair!!



Oliver Lee, who as a young RM Officer worked for Lord Boyce gave a tribute that was more personal. Detailing how challenging but rewarding it was to work for him. The workload was relentless, and it often left him wondering if the Admiral ever slept as he never let up. But Oliver was in deep gratitude to the Admiral for what he taught him not just as a military officer but as a person.

Lord Boyce had been appointed to 10 organisations; was Chair, President, Patron, or Executive for 27 others and had Partnerships, Presidencies, and Honorary Membership of another 34 local community groups. Not many people could hold down that amount of work once retired but he did and never let any of them down with his support, guidance, and leadership.

A reception was held in Church House in the grounds of the Abbey.

The mark of the man was level and numbers of people who were they to pay their respects. Westminster Abbey was full, and many fond memories were spoken.

AROUND THE BRANCHES

DUNDEE INTERNATIONAL SUBMARINE MEMORIAL SERVICE 2023

(From Ron Reitvelt - Scottish Branch)

Every year at the beginning of September representatives from Submariners Associations and Navies from various countries come together again at the International Submariners Memorial in Dundee to commemorate the loss of crews of six Submarines that left Dundee during WWII and never returned. This year on 9th September 2023 many representatives gathered again at the Monument in Dundee. Apart from the presence of the local Submariners Association Branches and the International Submariners Association ISA GB, many other dignitaries from the Netherlands, Norway, Poland and France and the Royal Navy Submarine Service attended the Service as

well as the Deputy Provost of Dundee and other local representatives. The local Sea Cadets from HMS DUNCAN provide the band and took care of the seating facilities and other duties at the ceremony. The Service was led by staff from Dundee City Council and Rev. Mark Street from the Clyde Naval Base (Faslane). On conclusion of the Service all guests were invited to a reception at the nearby Apex Hotel.



A Selection of the Dundee Memorial Photos



A Selection of the Dundee Memorial Photos

Background:

Dundee, on the East Coast of Scotland was the home port of the 2nd Submarine Flotilla of the Royal Navy during August, September and October of 1939 and, from April 1940 until the end of WWII, it became the home port from the 9th Submarine Flotilla. A unique International Flotilla that consisted of Submarines from Poland, the Netherlands, France and Norway - all countries under German occupation. Later in 1944 Russian Submarines would also join in.

The tasks for Submarines based in Dundee were, for instance, actions near the coasts of countries in Northern Europe, attacks on enemy ships including the battleships "GNEISENHAU" and "PRINZ EUGEN" and protection of convoy ships in the Northern Ice Sea. The Submarines were also used

for sabotage actions and resistance assistance in Norway etc. Six Submarines failed to return to Dundee from their missions, HMS THAMES, HMS OXLEY, HNLMS 013, HNLMS 022, HNorSM UREDD and V-1 (Ex HMS SUNFISH) with a total loss of 296 Seaman and Commando's

The Dundee Memorial - first unveiled on the 17th September 2009 - is now the annual place used to commemorate the Crew members of those boats "Still on Patrol" and the Memorial can be found between Victoria and Camperdown Docks in Dundee Harbour. The first Memorial Service (held in 2009) was organised by the Dundee City Council with assistance from the Scottish Branch of the Submariners Association. However since this first Memorial Service and, due to the wider International interest for the Service, more organisations are now giving their support including the ISA GB and the Landowners of the site in Dundee, Chroma Developments.

Still on Patrol – Dundee Submarine Memorial

As war clouds gathered in late summer 1939, and the Royal Navy moved to its war stations, Britain's most modern and powerful submarine flotilla in Home Waters, the 2nd Submarine Flotilla, arrived at its war station in the River Tay. Dundee submarines were soon patrolling the North Sea, watching for enemy warships and U boats trying to break out into the North Atlantic and Dundee would remain a vitally important Allied submarine base for six years of global war, the British boats being joined by submarines from Poland, Norway, France and Holland as each of these countries fell under the Nazi heel.

Dundee-based submarines of the 2nd Flotilla and, from April 1940, the 9th Flotilla, played a central role in some of the most daring and significant naval operations of the Second World War. Patrols were maintained perilously close to the enemy-held coastline of Denmark and Norway, in all weathers and in defiance of enemy minefields, aircraft and patrol vessels. Enemy warships were attacked, one Dundee submarine heavily damaging the battle cruiser GNEISENHAU" and another blowing the stern off the cruiser "PRINZ EUGEN". Dundee submarines also patrolled far inside the Arctic Circle to help protect convoys carrying much-needed war supplies to the Soviet Union, their most feared opponent on these perilous missions the mighty German battleship TIRPITZ.

Using intelligence from Enigma code breakers and information from agents hiding in Norwegian caves armed only with a pistol and a wireless set, Dundee submarines harried U boats heading for the North Atlantic convoy routes from bases in occupied Norway. Several were sunk before they could attack

Allied shipping in the critical period around the D-Day landings in Normandy. Along with RAF Coastal Command aircraft, Dundee submarines attacked enemy convoys carrying supplies and minerals vital to the German war effort. And, in support of the resistance in Norway, MI6 agents, teams of Special Operations Executive saboteurs, weapons and supplies were landed under cover of darkness, often deep inside enemy-held fjords.

The Free French submarine RUBIS laid minefields and torpedoed enemy shipping both in Norwegian coastal waters and in the Bay of Biscay. Another Free French submarine, MINERVE, limped back to Dundee badly damaged after being smashed into the seabed by depth charges following an attack on an enemy convoy near Stavanger. The British SATYR's numerous successes included sinking a U-boat outbound for patrol from Norway and the HMS VENTURER, despite what Hollywood would have us believe, remains the only submarine ever to have sunk another while both were submerged. And these are just a very few of the remarkable tales of courage, endurance and sacrifice on the part of the Dundee submariners.

But this success came at a considerable cost. Six submarines, their crews and parties of commandos, some 296 men in all, were lost on operations from Dundee. The Royal Navy's first loss of the Second World War, the submarine HMS OXLEY, sailed from Dundee on 4 September 1939, the day after war broke out, bound for a patrol off south-west Norway. Six days later, on 10 September, OXLEY was sunk in a tragic case of mistaken identity after she strayed into the adjoining patrol area of another Dundee-based submarine, HMS TRITON. All but two of OXLEY's fifty-five crew were lost.

The Dutch submarine O13 was lost with her thirty-four Dutch and British crew, possibly in a German minefield, during a North Sea patrol in June 1940. The large British mine-laying submarine HMS THAMES and her crew of sixty-two suffered a similar fate, also probably in a German minefield, while returning from an unsuccessful attack on the battle cruiser GNEISENHAU in August 1940. Another Dutch submarine, O-22, was lost with her forty-five Dutch and British crew, again possibly to a mine, off south-west Norway in November 1940.

From twelve British and Norwegian commandos landed by the Free-French submarine JUNON for Operation MUSKETOON, a September 1942 raid on a power station near Bodø, one Norwegian commando was killed in a firefight and seven British commandos were captured after the charges had gone off, wrecking the power station. Held briefly at the infamous Colditz Castle, the seven were brutally interrogated by the Gestapo before being taken to

Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp where each man was executed with a single bullet to the head. Their bodies were thrown into the crematorium ovens. The Norwegian UREDD left Dundee in February 1943 to land six Norwegian commandos as part of Operation SEAGULL, a mission to sabotage factories in Norway vital to the German war effort. UREDD was also carrying an agent for the British Secret Intelligence Service ship watching service, Operation UPSILON, which was sending crucial intelligence on enemy shipping movements back to Britain. Sadly, UREDD fell victim to a mine while inbound to the landing point south of Bodø and all seven commandos died along with UREDD's thirty-five Norwegian and British crew.

And the Soviet submarine B-1, the former HMS SUNFISH which had been loaned to the Russian Navy, sailed from Dundee in July 1944 bound for Soviet Northern Fleet base at Polyarnoe. Unfortunately, in another tragic case of mistaken identity, she was sunk in error by RAF Coastal Command off the Norwegian coast and her fifty one Russian and British crew were lost. Perhaps due to wartime secrecy, the extraordinary story of the Dundee submarines' vital contribution to Allied victory in the Second World War has remained largely unknown since 1945. Now, however, Dundee Submarine Memorial will form a permanent tribute honouring the gallantry of all those who went on operations from the Tay and commemorate the sacrifice of 296 sailors and commandos who are 'Still on Patrol'.

Collins-class submarine suffers on-board electrical fire

Exclusive by defence correspondent Andrew Greene and Four Corners Angus Grigg'
Monday 25 Sep 2023 at 8:49pm



The operations of Australia's six Collins-class submarines are shrouded in secrecy

(Defence Department: Petty Officer James Whittle)

One of Australia's oldest submarines has suffered an on-board electrical fire while at sea, with the crew able to continue their mission after managing to extinguish the blaze. The ABC can reveal the

emergency inside HMAS FARNCOMB occurred last month while the Collins-class boat was on deployment in its 25th year of service. Details of the incident, including where the submarine was located at the time, are being tightly held but one figure familiar with the events has described the experience as "concerning".

The operations of Australia's six Collins-class submarines are shrouded in secrecy with Defence declining to confirm where HMAS FARNCOMB currently is or what repairs were required once she returned to Australia. "A Royal Australian Navy Collins-class submarine suffered a small electrical fire while at sea last month," a Defence spokesperson told the ABC. "There were no injuries and the vessel continued its operations," the spokesperson added while refusing to offer any further specifics about the incident."

A serving member of the Navy's so-called "silent service" said fellow submariners had now taken to calling HMAS FARNCOMB the "Farn-kursk", a macabre reference to the doomed Russian submarine Kursk which sank in 2000 killing all on board. Former senator and submariner Rex Patrick says the blaze would have been a frightening experience for the crew. "Fires are very dangerous on a submarine because they let off toxic fumes, you've got to get them under control really, really quickly. "I can remember in my day as a submariner putting out a fire [while] in my underwear because you've just got to get to it really quickly or disaster will occur," he recalled.

HMAS FARNCOMB is the second of the diesel-electric Collins-class fleet to enter service for the Royal Australian Navy after being commissioned in 1998. The Adelaide-built boat is due to begin a life of type extension (LOTE) program in 2026, a process which involves cutting the hull open and replacing its engine, as well as other upgrades. Australia's Collins-class fleet was originally due to start retiring from 2025 but the navy has conceded the boats could be operating for decades as it waits for the arrival of nuclear-powered submarines under the AUKUS partnership.

"Submarines are dangerous places, you often end up with incidents occurring – the problem we've got to watch out for here is the Collins-class submarines are getting old," Rex Patrick warns. "As submarines get older their propensity for things to go wrong increases and we've got to keep our eye out for that". In September last year, the Navy denied reports that HMAS FARNCOMB had been "stranded" in Hawaii while technicians were flown out from Australia to conduct repairs. "[HMAS FARNCOMB] is alongside in Hawaii conducting a period of planned maintenance. Defence does not

comment on specifics of submarine operations," a defence spokesperson was quoted as saying at the time. In December Indonesian military observers noted that HMAS FARNCOMB had remained moored in Surabaya for several days longer than planned, with a Royal Australian Air Force transport plane picking up "spare materials" belonging to the submarine in January.

Saab submits four submarines proposal to Netherlands

Saab's co-operation with Dutch shipbuilder Damen Shipyards Group, bolsters the offer.

By Harry McNeil

July 28, 2023



The C718 is an advanced Expeditionary Submarine that offers endurance. Source: Saab

With the support of Sweden and the United Kingdom, SAAB has presented a proposal to the Netherlands to replace their existing submarines.

The offer includes four Expeditionary Submarines featuring technologies and a partnership with the dutch Shipbuilder Damen Shipyards Group. The proposed solution promises long-term relevance, operational superiority, and cooperation with local industries, strengthening the Royal Netherlands Navy's capabilities for years.

The Royal Netherlands Navy is looking for an upgrade to its current submarine fleet. The Netherlands is in the process of replacing its four Walrus-class submarines and is currently deciding which company will obtain the contract, according to GlobalData's ' Netherlands Defense Market 2023-2028 report.

SAAB's proposal's cornerstone lies in delivering four advanced Expeditionary Submarines, incorporating the latest innovations and technologies to meet the Royal Netherlands Navy's needs for long-distance operations, crew comfort, accommodation, and enhanced weapon payload capability.

The proposed C718 Expeditionary Submarine promises endurance, ensuring the Royal Netherlands Navy can undertake extended missions.

An aspect of Saab's offer is the collaboration with Dutch shipbuilder

Haikun: Taiwan unveils new submarine to fend off China



By Tessa Wong

Asia Digital Reporter, BBC News

Taiwan has unveiled its first domestically-made submarine as it bolsters its defences against a possible Chinese attack.

President Tsai Ing-wen presided over the launch ceremony in the port city of Kaohsiung on Thursday.

US officials have warned that China could be militarily capable of mounting an invasion within the next few years. Taiwan is a self-governing island which China regards as a renegade province and has vowed to reclaim one day. Most observers believe China will not attack the island imminently, and Beijing has said it seeks peaceful "reunification" with Taiwan. But at the same time it has warned against Taiwan formally declaring independence and any foreign support. It has increasingly sought to put pressure on the island with its military drills in the Taiwan Strait, including several conducted this month.

"History will forever remember this day," said Ms Tsai as she stood in front of the towering submarine draped in the emblem of Taiwan's flag. She added that the idea of a domestically made submarine had previously been considered "an impossible task... but we did it".

The \$1.54bn (£1.27bn) diesel-electric powered submarine will undergo several tests and will be delivered to the navy by the end of 2024, according to military officials.

President Tsai Ing-wen has made submarine development a priority during her time in office

It has been named the Haikun after a mythical massive fish that can also fly, which appears in classic Chinese literature. Another one is currently in production. Taiwan aims to eventually operate a fleet of 10 submarines - including two older Dutch-made boats - and equip them with missiles.



President Tsai Ing-wen

IMAGE SOURCE, REUTERS

The head of the domestic submarine programme Admiral Huang Shu-kuang told reporters last week that the goal was to fend off any attempt from China to encircle Taiwan for an invasion or impose a naval blockade. It would also buy time until US and Japan forces arrive to aid Taiwan's defence, he added. Building their own submarines has long been a key priority for Taiwan's leaders, but the programme accelerated under Ms Tsai who has revved up military spending to nearly double its budget during her tenure.

China has yet to respond officially. But in a piece published earlier this week, state media outlet Global Times said Taiwan was "Daydreaming" and the plan was "just an illusion". It also claimed China's military "has already constructed a multidimensional anti-submarine network all around the island".

Observers agree that the new submarines could help boost Taiwan's defence. Taiwan's 10-submarine fleet would pale in comparison to China's, said to currently comprise more than 60 boats including nuclear-powered attack submarines, with more on the way. But the island has long pursued an asymmetric warfare strategy where it aims to build a more agile defence force to face down a larger and well-resourced enemy. The submarines could "aid Taiwan's relatively small navy in taking initiative against China's mighty navy" by conducting "guerrilla style warfare with their stealth, lethality and surprise capabilities", noted William Chung, a military researcher with the Institute for National Defense and Security Research in Taiwan.

GOSPORT BRANCH SUMMER BALL

By Ron Gordon (Gosport Branch)

"Forty nine members, wives, partners and friends of the Gosport Branch enjoyed their Summer Ball at the Fareham Masonic hall on Saturday 22nd July. The food was delicious, the table settings were stylish, the service was friendly and attentive and the DJ kept everyone entertained. An impromptu cabaret was provided by four sprightly members dancing to "In the Navy" and Cox'n Gordon Blackmore gave a rendition of "Honey".

An excellent evening was had by all.

"



THE DINNER



IN THE NAVY

GOSPORT BRANCH VISIT TO ANDY BURNS AT ADMIRAL JELlicoe HOUSE

Four members of the Gosport Branch recently visited one of their members, Andy Burns, who resides at the Admiral Jellicoe House in Southsea. The Admiral Jellicoe House has now been open for a year and Andy was one of the first to call it home. The house is for ex Royal Navy and Royal Marines, both male and female who served as a Warrant Officer and below and they cater mainly for those suffering from dementia. The House staff invited the members to join Andy and other residents for lunch which was much appreciated by all concerned.



Andy was in the Medical Branch and served 22 years in the Submarine Service, served on six nuclear boats, and left as a CPO MA. During his career Andy ran for the Devonport Field Gun Crew on three occasions, played rugby for United Services Portsmouth and was a member of the tank staff for several years. He was also an active member of the Gosport Branch of the Submariners Association as Treasurer.

As can be seen from the photos, Andy absolutely loves to have visitors. If you would like to visit Andy please call the House on 02392000996.

Patron's Commendation to Barrow Branch President

Friday 28 July 2023.

By David A J Smith

Thanks to everyone who made it a great turnout for Barrie Downer's Patron's Commendation. Barrie's family, Morecambe Bay Branch members, the National Treasurer, and others joined Branch Members and Associates for this prestigious occasion. Admiral Sir James Perowne, the SA Patron, gave a short introduction before the Secretary summarised Barrie's career, achievements, and contribution to the submarine community. Sir James read out the wording of the commendation and presented Barrie with a framed copy.

Submariners Association Patron's Commendation

Barrie Downer served as a nuclear submariner, both as an Artificer and later as a Special Duties Weapons Engineering Officer. On retirement from the Service, he transferred to a Civil Service post in the Defence Procurement Agency that established him in the Astute program at Barrow in Furness.

He joined the Barrow in Furness Branch of the Submariners Association in 2003 and within 18 months, became their Branch Secretary. He later joined the National Management Committee, was elected as 'Branch Vice Chairman' and is currently Barrow Branch President.

Barrie is a noted submarine 'historian' whose services have been much welcomed over the years. He produces the Association's 'In Depth' quarterly newsletter that has a wide distribution, now boosted by internet channels. Additionally, he produces the Barrow Branch monthly newsletter 'Periscope View' and is the first point of contact for Submarine Veterans requiring information on submarine related issues. Barrie is a member of the 'Friends of the Submarine Museum Committee and is currently researching the stories of submariners 'lost on duty' for incorporation into the On-Line Book of Remembrance (OBOR). He was also the editor of their yearbook 'All Round Look'.

Barrie was elected to be the Submarine Association Chairman to fill a sudden vacancy. This was a busy and complex period of change as the Association members were introduced to the formation of the Submarine Family and other measures under consideration to modernise the conduct of the Association business. After two years, the main objectives were achieved, and the remainder are 'work in progress'. A long-term health issue now has required Barrie to step down from the Chairmanship. We all wish him well.

I wholeheartedly commend him for his dedication and total commitment to the Submariners Association. He has given exceptional service over so many years.

Admiral Sir James Perowne KCVO KBE.



Sir James presents the Patron's Commendation



The Group Photo



The Family Photo

Despite his health issues Barrie managed to stay the pace and enjoy the afternoon with all those assembled. Margaret, Barrie's wife, was presented with a gift in thanks for her support to Barrie enabling him to continue with his relentless pursuit of all things submarines.

Sir James was wished happy birthday as his birthday was on the following day and presented with a token gift to help celebrate it. After the Loyal and Absent Friends toasts, group photos were taken, and a light buffet lunch was enjoyed by all.

From Sir James:

Thanks for organising the presentation so well and getting so many attendees there. Barrie seemed to enjoy it and by the end, he was looking almost his old self and forgetting his awful medical problems.

It was good to meet so many old friends and I am looking forward to the Morecambe Branch Trafalgar night next year. I have loosely pencilled in 18-20 Oct 2024 awaiting firmer dates from the branch.

Many thanks again to you for all you did to make it such a successful event and serve a perfect light lunch.

Very best wishes, James

From Morecambe Bay Branch:

I echo Sir James' comments regarding the presentation, BZ all round.

What an accolade for Barrie to receive from the Submariners Association, delivered by the Patron himself, surrounded by his family and friends from the club and beyond must have been a real treat and tonic at this most difficult of times. Thank you for inviting us to join you and for sending the Admiral's comments, it really does seem that he has accepted the offer for our next Trafalgar Night, I will have to get on with the invitation pronto.

Thank you again for including us in Barrie's Presentation and refreshments afterwards.

Yours Aye

Mark Lister

CEREMONY AT KYLESKU ON 23RD SEPTEMBER 2023, ON THE EIGHTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF OPERATION SOURCE

Author: Tim Honnor, Commander Royal Navy



Kylesku XII Submarine Flotilla Cairn

This is being organised by HM Lord-Lieutenant of Sutherland, Major General Patrick Marriott, CB, CBE, assisted by Mr. Jonathan Brett-Young, DL, who served in the Royal Australian Navy.

Whilst I have been involved in the preparations, the arrangements are totally those of General Marriott. He has kindly taken on this remit, to act as a catalyst to the refurbishment of the cairn, with the addition of some information boards understanding the great importance of this site to the submarine service and WWII history.

Commander Ray Hunter, who will be attending the ceremony on behalf of all retired submariners, has kindly agreed to write up a 'Patrol Report' for subsequent promulgation. I will promulgate the Anniversary Wreath-laying programme as soon as it is finalised.

INITIATIVE TO REFURBISH MEMORIAL CAIRN AND PROVIDE INFORMATION BOARDS

I have been heartened and delighted by the general positive response to my proposal to refurbish the memorial cairn and provide two information boards on the site.

THE PROPOSALS

- One large board specifically for **Operation SOURCE**, perhaps showing the tracks of the X Craft to TIRPITZ in the north of Norway. In this I believe the Submarine Museum should lead on content and design.
- One board of a more general nature, depicting the world-wide operations of X Craft. Submarine Museum to again lead on detail.
- Refurbishment of the cairn, including the wording on the bronze face, some of which has been almost completely obliterated by wind and weather. I am still trying to find out who, if anyone, has ownership of the cairn and is responsible for its upkeep. It is sited on land belonging to the Duke of Westminster.
- Possible provision of two additional seating all weather benches; maybe dedicated to Donald Cameron VC, and Godfrey Place VC.
- The custody and responsibility for the new boards and the refurbished cairn must be clearly laid down. 'Submarine family' to decide who.

FUNDING

It has been suggested to me that a ballpark figure of £12k will be needed to complete the work detailed in the paragraph above.

I have already had offers of financial help by both Submarine Associations and the Submarine Family, as well as from industry and private persons. To this end Commander Peter Jeanneret has set up a ring-fenced blank account within the Submarine Memorial Fund, in which donations to this cause can be deposited. Peter has sent me the following details, that will be printed on the final programme for the 23rd September ceremony.

The best way to donate to our appeal is to make a BACS payment to "Submariner Memorial Appeal"

RBS Business Account Sort Code 15-80-00 A/C 11690028

This account is administered by the Society of Friends of the Royal Navy Submarine Museum. This account is ring-fenced for funds in support of the Kylesku Memorial.

Once the ceremony is over, I will be the liaison with the local authorities, including the Duke of Westminster Estates, as to planning permissions and sitings of the information boards at Kylesku, including the necessary repairs to the cairn.

The Route N500, around the north of Scotland is much promulgated, and as a result, a greatly increased number of visitors now pass by the cairn. I therefore that hope that these proposals can be achieved by May of next year, so that next season's influx of visitors will be better informed of the brave deeds that were mounted by submariners, from this beautiful place. I will also try to publicise the site so that information can appear in tourist literature on the north of Scotland.

I am most grateful to the support and enthusiasm that there has been to these proposals, and request that this brief edited or otherwise is given general promulgation within the 'submarine family', including those serving.

Tim Honnor

Commander Royal Navy, Westhill House, Inverness IV2 5BP

By Editor It is believed that the KYLESU Memorial may have been established by the now defunct 12th Submarine Flotilla Association which was run by the late Lieutenant Commander Keith Hornby-Priestnall – an X-Craft Submariner.

HMS TRUCULENT MEMORIAL SERVICE

From Derek Grant, Medway Towns Branch

Dear Friends and Shipmates,

The Medway Towns Branch of the Submariners Association are holding the Annual Memorial Service for those who lost their lives when HMS/M TRUCULENT was sunk following a collision on 12th. January 1950. Sixty-four Naval and Dockyard personnel lost their lives - the dockyard personnel were onboard for Post Refit sea trials. The crew of five of an Avro Lancaster from RAF Kinross were also lost when their plane crashed when it was taking off to search for survivors.

The service will be held on Saturday 13th. January 2024 in the St. Georges Centre, Chatham, Kent ME4 4UH on the University Campus at the bottom of Dock Road.(Used to be HMS PEMBROKE – Chatham Navy Barracks).

The Service will start at 1050 hrs. followed by a buffet/tots/wine/coffee/tea etc.

Any questions, please contact Derek Grant by Email d.grant384@btinternet.com or 'phone 01634 717384

THE NAVAL ASSOCIATIONS BIENNIAL PARADE

Sailors past and present parade through London in National Service

On 12th September 2023 more than 400 members of the Naval Family – serving personnel and veterans including members of the Submariners Association – marched past the Cenotaph on Whitehall at the Royal Naval Association's Biennial Parade.

Serving sailors from HMS COLLINGWOOD and HMS SULTAN, the Royal Fleet Auxiliary and London Reservist Unit - HMS PRESIDENT - joined veterans from a dozen Naval Associations including Association of Wrens, Association of Royal Yachtsmen, Submariners Association and the Merchant Navy Association, plus members of the Belgian Naval Association, parading through the capital. HMS COLLINGWOOD and HMS SULTAN each provided marching platoons of 65 sailors, plus Senior Ratings and Commanding Officers (Captains Tim Davey and Jo Deakin, respectively).

Second Sea Lord Vice Admiral Martin Connell took the salute, the Royal Naval Volunteer Band Association provided the music and the Chaplain of the Fleet, the Venerable Andrew Hillier KHC, conducted the service. In addition, Admiral Connell signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the Royal Navy and the Royal Naval Association.



“The RNA is committed to supporting, implementing and promoting the ethos of and values of the Royal Navy.

“I was delighted to sign a Memorandum of Understanding which recognises the special relationship between the Association and the Royal Navy that significantly supports many serving and former serving sailors and their families.”

The RNA is the largest collective group of Royal Naval veterans, serving personnel and their families, with more than 18,000 members spread around nearly 250 branches in the UK and overseas. It provides people with a link to the Royal Navy access to a life-long community of like-minded and supportive individuals.

“The Parade is an important opportunity for the Royal Naval Family; serving, veterans and families from across the country and across the RN disciplines to pay their respects both to each other and those who made the ultimate sacrifice,” said Captain Bill Oliphant, RNA Chief Executive. “Once you join the Navy you join a life-long community of like-minded and supportive Shipmates. ‘Once Navy Always Navy’.”

For more information on the RNA, visit linktr.ee/rnassociation

BOOKS

Timed for the 80th anniversary of the first deployment of the X Class subs, **X3 to X54** reveals the Midget Class Submarines from X-Class to Stickleback

X3 to X54

The History of the British Midget Submarine

Keith Hall

ISBN 9781803991993

Paperback (Published 7 September 2023)

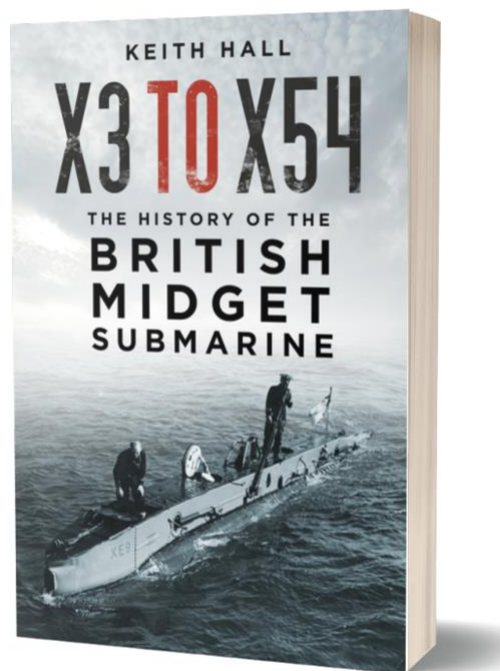
RRP £17.99

The **X-** and **XE-Class** submarines were conceived during the **Second World War**: around 51ft (16m) long, they were designed to be towed by a 'mother' submarine and use their small size to complete stealth missions, such as attacking harbours and performing reconnaissance. Although they would not begin active service until 1942, the submarine crews achieved quite the record, racking up 167 honours between them, including four **Victoria Crosses**.

Written by ex-submariner **Keith Hall**, **X3 to X54** is a look at the entire life and evolution of the British midget submarine, from its early prototypes to its final journeys. With a wealth of imagery, including archive X-craft photographs as well as up-to-date views of the **X51 (HMS Stickleback)** from the **Scottish Submarine Centre**, this is the fascinating, yet little-known, story of Britain's midget submarines.

KEITH HALL was born in Leeds. After leaving school at 18 years old, he joined the **Royal Navy** and spent thirty-three years in the medical branch; the majority of this time was spent on nuclear submarines or in shore billets in support of the **Nuclear Propulsion Programme**. After leaving the Navy in 2003, he worked as a health physicist at **HM Naval Base Clyde**. He retired in 2015.

An avid collector of old photographs and postcards, Keith Hall writes about local and naval history, particularly focusing on submarines. He is currently working on a book about the Navy's **Trident** submarines, a follow-on to his work about the history of the Royal Navy's **Polaris** programme.



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NO OCCUPATION FOR A GENTLEMAN

I obtained your email address from the "In Depth" newsletters that I access via my Submarine Family membership and noticed that book details are sometimes published. I hope you don't mind me contacting you but thought it would be worth sending you some details about my late father Roy Broome's wartime submarine memoirs "No Occupation for a Gentleman".

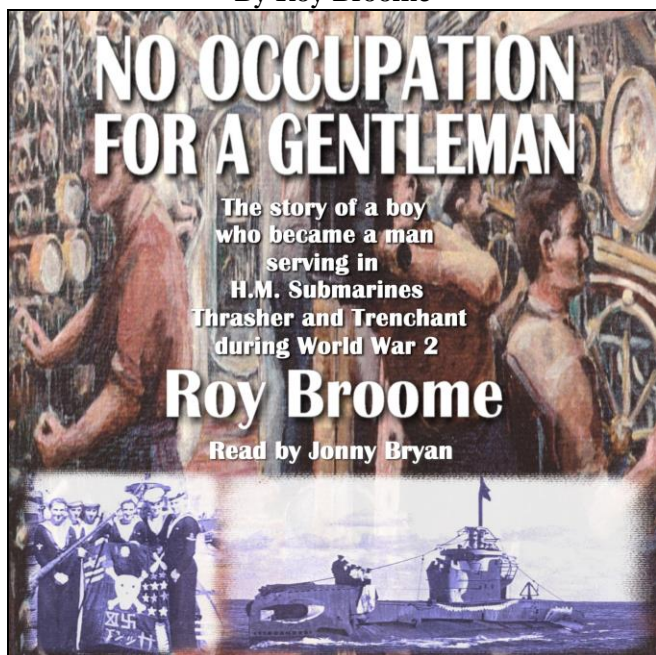
Since self-publishing "No Occupation for a Gentleman" as an eBook, paperback and hardback on Amazon, I have now recently produced an audiobook version of the memoirs, narrated by a former BBC broadcaster, which I hope will provide an opportunity for anyone who may prefer to listen to an audiobook rather than read a book. The audiobook is now available on Amazon, Audible and iTunes.

I have been touched by the many positive reviews that readers have kindly provided, and other readers have remarked about the importance of publishing memoirs of this type before the stories are lost forever when the authors pass away.

Some of the memoirs cover HMS TRENCHANT's time based in Fremantle and I wonder whether there may be interest in the book from Australian Submarine Association members, and I would be more than happy for you to send the details to any contacts if you think this would be worthwhile.

No Occupation for a Gentleman

By Roy Broome



"The story of a boy who became a man serving in H.M. Submarines THRASHER and TRENCHANT during World War Two. This gripping personal account of life as a young World War Two submariner on two famous Royal Navy submarines, THRASHER and TRENCHANT, gives vivid detail of depth charging, gun actions and other operations including sinking the Japanese cruiser IJN ASHIGARA, the largest enemy warship sunk by a British submarine during the war, sinking the U-boat U-859 with its secret cargo, towing a

midget submarine to attack the German battleship Tirpitz in the Norwegian Fjords and taking a group of SBS soldiers to carry out a daring raid in Sumatra. Leading Stoker Roy Broome's riveting recollections clearly demonstrate the bravery and camaraderie of WW2 submariners and other Allied forces at a crucial time in our history."

Royal Navy's £169m Dreadnought contract awarded to Scotland's Thales Glasgow

Alex Candlin (Navynet)

13th July 2023



Thales Glasgow will build the optronic combat system mast for the Dreadnought vessels (Picture: MOD).

A £169m contract to help build the new class of Royal Navy submarines has been awarded to Thales Glasgow.

The company will build the optronic combat system mast for the Dreadnought vessels, which is also known as the 'above water eyes'.

The masts are an update on the traditional periscope that provides improved electronic, stabilised, quality visuals for the crew - providing clearer images of activity and enabling them to detect enemy movements more quickly. Minister for Defence Procurement James Cartlidge said: "This is a clear investment in maintaining the United Kingdom's nuclear deterrent. "By providing the 'eyes' of the new Dreadnought Class Submarine, this technology will play a key role in keeping the country safe. "The Dreadnought programme will support tens of thousands of UK jobs, boosting the economy and defending our nation."



Dreadnought-class submarines are the Royal Navy's Vanguard-class vessels (Picture: Royal Navy).

Every Royal Navy submarine in service since 1917 has been fitted with a periscope or optronics mast manufactured by Thales at its site on the Clyde.

The masts will be fitted to the new Dreadnought-class boats currently being built to replace the Vanguard-class vessels that are in service.

The announcement comes as companies hold talks with the UK Government and the Armed Forces in Edinburgh about plans to maximise the economic impact of the defence sector.



The Dreadnought contract has been awarded to Thales Glasgow

(Picture: MOD).

CEO of Thales UK Alex Cresswell said: "We are proud to say that our combat system mast and sonar will be providing the eyes and ears capabilities of the new Dreadnought Class.

"The boat build, led by BAE Systems and partners, will be another milestone showcase of UK engineering skills and innovation.

"It is an incredibly exciting time for the Submarine Service and its contribution to global security with the build of the Dreadnought class and as we look to the development of the AUKUS submarine programme that will deliver a future capability for Australia and the UK."

First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Ben Key, Keynote Speech to DSEI 2023. 14 September 2023

Ladies and Gentlemen, good afternoon. I'm delighted to be back at DSEI and ExCeL, with so many friends and colleagues from defence and industry, both national and international. This week I sense "pace of change" is a phrase that will be repeated often from this podium and others, together with superlative adjectives like "unprecedented" or "relentless". Because where once the next change meant waiting a generation, we are now seeing several iterations of change within a generation. And as the world changes so we find ourselves in a race to stay ahead. It's not only an academic or technical argument, it is very real, very current and the only outcome can be winning.

There is no room for second place, and as General Sir Jim Hockenhull described yesterday, rules and conventions won't protect us either. Now, in the first frigate I commanded in 2000, which is berthed just outside here, computers with less processing power than a smart phone took up entire rooms and ran only parts of the ship. Today, our most modern ships are digital

with a beating heart of silicon, so embracing change is a natural part of our DNA. Whether in sail, to coal, to oil, to high voltage electrical propulsion, or in cannon, to rifled guns, to missiles, or canvas covered floatplanes, to jet engines, to uncrewed air systems, across our many centuries of history, we have anticipated, adapted to that relentless pace of change and always striven to be at its vanguard. Like our forebears who struck out into the unknown to chart the world's oceans, it feels to me that we are once again facing something completely new - a paradigm shift, dare I say it, a Dreadnought moment.

And that future is arriving now. It is with us, uncrewed, automated, it is digital, it is intelligent, blended, hybrid. It offers to fundamentally reshape the way the Royal Navy goes about securing our trade, energy and data for the nation. And it comes at a time when the world we live in is changing too. The geopolitical challenge and technological race unfolding in Europe and in the Indo-Asia Pacific is unlike anything in memory. Now more than ever is the time for strong deterrence and defence.

The Royal Navy has a history of doing this for centuries and our core missions are no different today, to protect our island nation and to help it prosper by deterring and, if necessary, defeating our adversaries whilst projecting national influence and power globally alongside our allies and partners. But if we're to maintain that mission, we must continue to accelerate the evolution that has been one of the hallmarks of our history. It is why we are undertaking a huge capital procurement programme, growing the Navy for the first time since the end of the Second World War with 16 ships and six submarines on order or in build. And they will be in large part, if not entirely, platforms oriented around a digital framework, allowing a fundamental shift in the way we crew and operate them. And in recognising the need to continue to develop the technology that is the heart of all we are doing, we have established teams to focus on innovation, explore quantum technologies to understand edge computing and trial what AI may mean for us.

In her first 12 months, XV Patrick Blackett, our dedicated trials platform has tested equipment such as a quantum accelerometer and future radars. This week she is in Portugal at REPMUS, an international exercise testing and integrating the next generation of autonomous systems alongside our allies and partners. In CETUS, we are developing the largest and most complex crewless submersible ever operated by a European Navy and we have deployed to the Gulf our uncrewed minesweeping capability, fielding some seriously novel technology to counter the rapidly evolving threat of sea mines. And just last week, we flew an uncrewed and autopiloted fixed-wing aircraft to and from HMS Prince of Wales at sea off Cornwall, in a first for the Royal Navy. When Nelson sent his iconic 'England expects...' message at Trafalgar it required 32 flags for 9 words. Today, communication is as vital as ever but the volume and complexity of data, the extent of the messages we are trying to send, and the methods we have available to us would be incomprehensible

almost just a generation ago, let alone in Nelson's age. We will only be able to exploit and capitalise on this by becoming fully digital, and operating a Navy fit for the information age. This means being able to collect, analyse and fuse data about the operational theatre and battlespace, to generate genuine multi-domain, multi-dimensional situational awareness. It means being able to do it at the front-line and being able to do it on time. This year we are partnering with Microsoft to deliver Storm Cloud 2.0, a research and development project which is building a prototype edge-compute platform. And we will use it over the next 12 months to accelerate our digitisation of the maritime battlespace by charting a viable course to exploit edge cloud in the deployed environment. And it is designed to be 'AI-ready'. AI has exploded into common consciousness this year and is likely to reimagine our approach to warfare, creating dynamic new benchmarks for accuracy, efficiency and lethality. So in it, we are deliberately being ambitious, because we have to be. Falling behind risks being left behind.

So, we are committed to understanding what it means for us to become an 'AI ready' organisation, enabled to achieve consistent military advantage and effective deterrence. It's going to be hard work, and our success will fundamentally depend on our ability to integrate AI into all aspects of our capabilities – from the tip of the spear to our background business. But AI is not the answer to it all, our environment is too complex for that. On the Royal Navy stand in Hall 5 you will find a focus on our Future Air Defence Dominance System, or 'FADS'. The replacement to our Type 45 Destroyer, but so much more than just about ships. A system of systems designed to be completely dominant. Dominant in air defence, dominant in long range precision strike, blending existing ships and aircraft with cutting edge sensors, weapons, digital enablement, to ensure that we can do what we need to do faster, quicker, more, more lethally, and more accurate than those who would oppose us. And through all of this, the common theme has to be our people. And so we want to become the employer of choice for school leavers that wish to develop and then use their digital skills.

And hence we are undertaking perhaps the most significant review of our workforce in a century. It is designed to ensure that we can compete to attract the best and brightest talent to the Royal Navy and provide the sort of career the next generation seek to have. Zigzag in shape, lean-crewing, different remuneration, incentivisation packages, maximising our operational effectiveness. Inclusive, modern, forward-facing and diverse. And they expect us also not just to embrace these opportunities, but to fulfil our obligations as members of the planet on which we live. If we do not adapt and mitigate our climate impact, they will not stay with us. We will face physical and human risks to our assets, transitional risks to our Operational Capability, and our people will leave. So our approach has to be broad and sustainably focussed, understanding how

climate change will shape future operations, and for us to understand how we must shape ourselves for the operating environment we would wish our planet to be. Lower emission fuels are certain to be part of this, and we do not underestimate the challenge around their use in the maritime environment. They offer real opportunity but are so novel that global production and availability are key limiting factors. To ensure we are ready, and to drive development, we are planning with industry partners to conduct a shipboard demonstration of sustainable fuel. This is something we seek to develop alongside our allies too, as a multinational endeavour; like so many of the challenges we face today, this is one we must seek to overcome collectively.

The Royal Navy is a service with a long and proud history and tradition. But it is not shackled by it. For a good deal of that history, the Admiralty cohered and led our national maritime sector, achieving collectively more than the sum of its parts. Today our interest in the whole maritime domain remains as keen as ever, for those working across the sector from business to industry, government and the third sector, and around the world. All of us engaged in the maritime domain understand the importance of the sea for trade and economic prosperity and it is reflected in the national investment underway, from shipbuilding to freeports. I recognise, and sense that others do too, that as an enterprise we have to take the opportunity to advocate more strongly for our sector, essential as it is for our prosperity, our way of life, and our place in this rapidly changing world. It is ever more connected, we are bringing to bear the deep tissue of connectivity we have, right across maritime business, industry, shipbuilding, charity, science, technology and academia. engaging across the length and breadth of this island nation – and with our allies and partners, both to explain what we're about, to describe the obligations we need to meet, and to be sure that people can be confident in what we do, as part of our part of this great island nation. I am confident we are playing our part in charting what tomorrow's maritime world will look like, ensuring that the technological and environmental journey we are on is coherent with the work being done across the sector.

In the first speech I gave as First Sea Lord last Spring, I issued a call to arms to you, our industrial partners to work with us in the delivery and evolution of our service through the next decade and beyond. Thank you for the way you have responded and the foundations being laid but there is no room for complacency. Every day counts. We are not setting the pace, our adversaries are doing that, we just need to work out how to move faster, more athletically, more fitter than they are. And in doing so we will deliver a truly transformed Navy, one able to operate in the digital age, but more importantly, to fulfil the role we must play in protecting our island nation and helping it prosper.

Thank you.

AGM/FAMILY WEEKEND 2024

The Family Weekend including the AGM for 2024 will be held at the Stormont Hotel Belfast. Thursday 21st to Monday 25th March 2024. The AGM will be on Saturday 23 March.

General

The address of the hotel is the Stormont Hotel Belfast, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3LP.

BLUE LIGHT CARD

A card with a massive network with discounts for Serving Personnel and Veterans. I believe that Stena Line Ferries have a substantial discount on ferries between Cairn Ryan and Belfast. The cost of the card is £5 for 3 years. If you go to the website below then you will find details on how to obtain a card www.bluelightcard.co.uk

BELFAST GLIDER

The hotel is located minutes from Belfast City Centre. Use the “Belfast Glider”. The service runs typically from 0530hrs until midnight, with a bus every eight minutes during peak times. Dedicated bus lanes operate from 0700hrs until 1900hrs, Monday to Saturday. Standard singles cost £2.10 and returns £3.50. After that, every other journey on the Glider/Metro network is effectively free. Free Car Parking is available within the grounds.

Accommodation

I have reserved Doubles/Twins/Singles to accommodate 180. All rooms are of the highest quality. I cannot stress the point too much to **BOOK EARLY!** Bedrooms are accessed by lifts that are well maintained. I viewed a selection of rooms and found them all to be clean, spacious and all had TV, Free Internet with Tea and Coffee making facilities.

Meals

The Thursday/Friday/Sunday/Monday evening meal will be from the “Set Menu” from their Banqueting menu.

Note: No Carvery on the Friday night. Saturday afternoon sandwiches and will be at reduced rate of £12 pp between 13:00 – 16:00. Order through the restaurant

The Saturday evening **Reunion Dinner** will be a 3 course dinner. The Choices Are:

Starters:

- S1 Ham Hock Terrine
- S2 Chicken Liver Pate
- S3 Comber Potato and Leek soup

Mains:

- M1 Slow Braised Blade of Beef
- M2 Roast Duck Breast
- M3 Roast Cod Fillet
- V Caramelised Leek & Celeriac Parcel

Sweets:

- D1 Sticky Toffee Pudding
- D2 Lemon Meringue Tart
- D3 Armagh Apple Creme Brûlée

All the above with 1/2 bottle of Wine per person and Port for the toast.

The Bar

I am still trying to negotiate a discount, but will not know until January 2024

Room Rates

Note all rates are per person

Make a long weekend off it with this discounted offer!

2 night package with discounts

Fri 22/Sat 23 Double/Twin DBB £88 per person

Fri 22/Sat 23 Single DBB £178 per person

Other nights without discount

Thu 21 Double/Twin £75 per person

Thu 21 Single £120 per person

Sun 24 Double/Twin £75 per person

Sun 24 Single £120 per person

Mon 25 Double/Twin £75 per person

Mo 25 Single £120 per person

Saturday night (Non Resident) Dinner

Sat 23 Dinner only £55 per person

All packages including Non-Resident Saturday Dinner includes your tot, 1/2 bottle of wine and port for the toast.

Entertainment

Irish Dancers

Disco

2 x 16 seater minibus available everyday between 09:00-17:00. To take guests to points of interests. A booking form will be held at reception.

SECURITY: NORTHERN IRELAND

Ladies and Gentlemen it would be remiss of me not to bring to your attention that the current threat level is set at "Severe".

Having logged in to GOV.UK an answer to the question is it safe to visit Northern Ireland: "Northern Ireland is extremely safe for tourists to visit. In fact, it has one of the lowest crime rates among industrialised countries. According to statistics from the U.N. International Crime Victimization Survey, Northern Ireland has one of the lowest crime rates in Europe."

However, Serving Members should check with their security departments on restrictions.

SUBMARINERS ASSOCIATION FAMILY WEEKEND 2024
21 March - 25 March 2024 Stormont Hotel Belfast

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	
1	BRANCH:																						
2																							
3	Packages	A £88 Per Person	2 Nt Package - Fri 22/ Sat 23 DOUBLE/ TWIN DBB																				
4		B £178 Per Person	2 Nt Package - Frid 22/ Sat 23 SINGLE DBB																				
5		C £75 Per Person	Thu 21 DOUBLE/TWIN DBB																				
6		D £120 Per Person	Thu 21 SINGLE DBB																				
7		E £75 Per Person	Sun 24 DOUBLE/TWIN DBB																				
8		F £120 Per Person	Sun 24 SINGLE DBB																				
9		G £75 Per Person	Mon 25 DOUBLE/ TWIN DBB																				
10		H £120 Per Person	Mon 25 SINGLE DBB																				
11		I £55 Per Person	Sat 23 Gala Dinner only Non Resident																				
12	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	SELECT PACKAGE(s)																	Special requirements			
13			A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I								Total	Deposit	Balance	Disabled or Who to share with in Double/ Twin	
14			£88	£178	£75	£120	£75	£120	£75	£120	£55								Cost	Paid	Paid	Use extra sheet if required	
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30		TOTALS																				Cheque amount:	
31	All hotel cancellations , must be made to Iain Mackenzie as soon as possible and not direct to the hotel																						
32	Add any other supporting information or requirements on a separate sheet if necessary																						
33	Submit applications to Iain Mackenzie, Dolphin Cottage, 41 Grafton Road, Worthing, BN11 1QY. Telephone number 07403 433178																						
34	It is recommended that you pay by electronic/BACS: Sort code 60-13-15 Account No.52930645 put your membership number and 'BELFAST 2024 as a reference																						
35	PLEASE DONOT SEND CHEQUES UNLESS YOU HAVE TO - Make cheques payable to 'Submariners Association Reunion' and NOT to me																						

SUBMARINERS 'CROSSED THE BAR' Reported 1st July 2023 to 30th September 2023 (*) WWII Service)**

(Please note that in future there will be only one list for 'Submariners Crossed the Bar' and will be compiled from CTBs reported from all available sources)

NAME	DATE/AGE	RANK/RATE	BRANCH	SERVICE	SUBMARINES
Eric Herron, BEM D057088A	30 th June 2023 aged 80	Chief Petty Officer WEM (R)	Ex Barrow Branch	1963 to 1983	SEALION (1963 to 1964), OSIRIS (1964 to 1967), OTTER (1967 to 1968), RORQUAL (1970 to 1973) & OTTER (1974 to 1977)
Ernest Anthony (Jack) Bradley C/SKX 907564	5th July 2023 aged 88	ME1	Middlesex Branch	1957 to 1960	SCORCHER, STURDY, SUBTLE & TALENT
Anthony (Tony) Linden Kidd M974321V	7th July 2023 aged 82	Charge Chief Weapons Engineering Artificer	Royal Berkshire	1967 to May 1985	VALIANT, DEFIANCE, TURBULENT & CACHALOT
Gary John Arsenault	17th July 2023 aged 76	RCN	SAOC	1971 to 1974	HMCS RAINBOW (27th March 1971 to 16th April 1972), (29th April 1972 to 14th May 1972) & (25th August 1972 to 31st Dec 1974)
Christopher R Bent D102570Q	18th July 2023 aged 70	Leading Seaman (S)	Dolphin Branch	1970 to 1975	NARWHAL (1971), REVENGE (1971 to 1972) & RESOLUTION (1972 to 1975)
Andy Blackwill	18th July 2023	Able Seaman (S) (SM)	We Remember Submariners	Not Given	WARSPITE & CHURCHILL
Robert (Bob) McMichael D143925L	19th July 2023 aged 65	Petty Officer Marine Engineering Mechanic (L)	Bath Branch	July 1976 to 23rd September 1997	CONQUEROR (1978 to 1979), TRAFALGAR (1982 & 1st Commission Crew on 27th May 1983 to 1985), TRENCHANT (1986 & 1st Commission Crew) on 14th January 1989 to 1990), TRAFALGAR (1992 to 1994) & TORBAY (1994 to 1996)
Dion Smith	19th July 2023	Engineering Technician	We Remember Submariners	Not Given	AUDACIOUS & ASTUTE (Serving Submariner)
Roy D Binet P/KX 849921	19th July 2023 aged 92	Chief Petty Officer M(E)	Ex Norfolk Branch	1950 to 1970	ALCIDE, THULE, SIRDAR, TALLY HO, TUDOR, TRENCHANT, TEREDO & OPPORTUNE on commissioning 29th December 1964
Ian (Jock) Tait	26th July 2023	Not Given	We Remember Submariners	Not Given	VALIANT, CHURCHILL & SOVEREIGN
Geoffrey R Meek	28th July 2023 aged 92	Lieutenant Commander RCN	SAOC	1955 to 1970	AMPHION, SPRINGER, ALLIANCE, TOTEM, PORPOISE, NARWHAL (IL), ARTFUL (CO), ONONDAGA (CO 22nd June 1967 to 1968), OKANAGAN (CO 18th August 1969 to 1969, 5th November 1969 to December 1969 & 29th January 1970 to 31st July 1970)
Brian James Scott	July 2023	Chief Petty Officer Weapons Electrical Artificer	We Remember Submariners	Not Given	VALIANT on recommissioning on 19th November 1988
Simon Martin Walkington Holland	30th July 2023	Lieutenant Commander (E) (TM)	We Remember Submariners	Not given	PJHQ Northwood (2001 & 2003 NL), FOST Faslane (2003 to 2005 NL), NEPTUNE 2SL (2006 NL) & HMNB Clyde (2007 & 2008 NL)
Peter Rawson P/SSX 89022	2nd August 2023 aged 88	Able Seaman (Underwater Weapons 3)	We Remember Submariners	1954 to 1960	TOTEM (1954 to 1955), ALCIDE (1955 to 1956), TACTICIAN (1956), TIPTOE (1957), ASTUTE (1957 to 1959) & EXCALIBUR (1959 to 1960)
Christopher J (Chris) Williams	4th August 2023	Not Given	We Remember Submariners	Not Given	RESOLUTION (1st Commission & RESOLUTION (P) 2nd Commission
John William (Bill) Beatty	6th August 2023 aged 83	Commander WESM	Dolphin Branch	May 1968 to November 1993	AMPHION (1968), PORPOISE (1968 to 1970), VALIANT (1971 to 1973), DREADNOUGHT (1973 to 1977), & SPLENDID, WARSPITE,

CO14292S					CONQUEROR, COURAGEOUS & TRAFALGAR (1990 to 1993)
Donald Lemuel Brown	8th August 2023 aged 88	Chief Petty Officer Coxswain RCN	SAOC	29th November 1954 to October 1974	DOLPHIN, MAIDSTONE, SOLENT, UNTIRING, SCORCHER, AMPHION & GRILSE (RCN) & RAINBOW (RCN)
Michael Ayles D074964Y	10th August 2023	Leading Seaman (UC2)	We Remember Submariners	1967 to 1972	OLYMPUS & PORPOISE
Henry (Harry) Lionel Brazier	12th August 2023 aged 82	Lieutenant Commander (X) (SM)	Friends of SM Museum	Not Given	GRAMPUS (Autumn 1964 NL), VALIANT (1966 & 1967 NL), PRESIDENT (1968 & 1969 NL), WALRUS (1970 NL), COQC (1970), AENEAS (CO - 1972 NL), RNC Greenwich (1973 NL), DIS (1974 to 1976 NL), Asst Naval Attache Moscow & Warsaw (1977 to 1979 NL)
Michael Timothy Hickie DSC	19th August 2023 aged 100	Lieutenant Commander	Australia Branch	From May 1942	P222 (5th Hand Oct 1942), URSULA (NO Dec 1942), TRUANT (NO Apr 1943 & IL), TACITURN (IL Jun 1944), TRUNCHEON (IL Oct 1945), TAURUS (IL Jun 1946), THERMOPYLAE (IL Feb 1947), ANCHORITE (IL May 1947 to Aug 1948), SIRDAR (CO Mar 1949 to Aug 1950), AMPHION (CO Jan 1952 to Sep 1953), TALLY HO (CO Mar 1955 to Apr 1959) & PLATYPUS (XO)
Kenneth Hughes D09432275	23rd August 2023	Able Seaman (UC2)	Manchester Branch	October 1967 to 1974	ODIN, SEALION & OCELOT
Dan Gardyne	August 2023	Not Given	We Remembers Submariners	Not Given	TURBULENT from 2006
James Hawton Leatherby	27th August 2023 aged 79	Commander (S) (SM)	Friends of SM Museum	From 1978	RENOWN (1978 to 1982), RALEIGH (1987 & 1988), FOSM Northwood (1993 to 1996), NEPTUNE BSO (1997 & 1998), NEPTUNE DLO (2001 to 2005)
Kevin Doidge	27th August 2023	Leading Stores Assistant (SM)	We Remembers Submariners	From 1999	TRAFALGAR
Timothy Howey Morton Strouts	28th August 2023 aged 75	Lieutenant	Friends of SM Museum & Dolphin Branch	May 1969 to April 1977	DOLPHIN, OCELOT (1970), OTUS (1971), OJIBWA (1972 & 1973), RESOLUTION (1974 & 1975) & WARSPITE (1976 to 1977)
Sam Price D129916L	29 th August 2023 aged 68	Petty Officer Cook	Merseyside Branch	1977 to 1990	WALRUS (1978 to 1980 & 1983 to 1985), RESOLUTION (1986 to 1987) & WARSPITE (1988 to 1990)
Allan D Ward P/JX916672	28 th August 2023 aged 89	Petty Officer (UW1)	Australia Branch	October 1954 to May 1974	TURPIN, TACITURN (twice), TEREDO, CACHALOT, TAPIR (1961 to 1963), TABARD, ONSLAUGHT & AURIGA
Neil Baxter Shacklock	31st August 2023 aged 89	Commander (X) (SM)	Friend of SM Museum	195* to 1989	SCORCHER (IL 23rd November 1959), TRUMP (IL 23rd January 1961), TABARD (CO on commissioning in Sydney in 1967 to 1968 NL), ALARIC (CO), NEPTUNE (1969 NL), REVENGE (S) (IL 3rd March 1969 to 1971 NL), WARRIOR 1972 to 1973 NL), REPULSE (CO 1974 to 1975 NL), C of S Secretariat (1978 to 1980 NL), CINC Fleet Staff (1981 to 1982 NL), CSSE Staff (1983 to 1984 NL) & MoD London (1985 to 1989 NL)
Paul Gordon Segrott	3rd September 2023	LMEM	We Remember Submariners	Not Given	SOVEREIGN (1981)
John Victor Hart P/MX 889176	4th September 2023 aged 89	Fleet Chief Control Electrical Artificer	Barrow in Furness Branch	February 1960 to May 1974	AMPHION (1960 to 1961), ALARIC & ALCIDE (1961), GRAMPUS (1962 to 1964) (on 'Commissioning' on 11th May 1962), WARSPITE (1965 to 1966), RESOLUTION & REPULSE (1966 to 1971) (1st Commission Crew) on 28th September 1968, SOVEREIGN (1971 to 1973) & SUPERB (1974).

Karl Stephen Hartley	8th September 2023 aged 59	LMEM	We Remember Submariners	April 1982 to December 1990	RESOLUTION (S)
Paul Stanley Lake	17th September 2023	Leading Seaman (S) (SM)	We Remember Submariners	1964 to 1977	RENOWN (S) (1st Commission Crew) on 15th November 1968
Gillian Malouw Hector	20th September 2023 aged 32	Lt Commander, SANDF	Face to Face Africa	Not given	SAS MANTHATISI
William Masela Mathipa	20th September 2023	Master Warrant Officer, SANDF	Face to Face Africa	Not given	SAS MANTHATISI
Mmokwapa Lucas Mojela	20th September 2023	Warrant Officer, SANDF	Face to Face Africa	Not given	SAS MANTHATISI
David Jon Parsons D064108R	23rd September 2023 aged 77	Charge Chief Marine Engineering Artifice (P)	Barrow in Furness Branch	October 1965 to February 1987	TALENT, THERMOPYLAE, REPULSE, CHURCHILL, WALRUS, NARWHAL & OBERON

