



IN DEPTH

Official Newsletter of the Submariners Association

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Vice Patron: John Weale CB, OBE

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PRESIDENT
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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EDITORIAL

Hello Everyone

Welcome to 2024. Hopefully you all had a Merry & Peaceful Christmas and are looking to a Happy & Prosperous New Year for your Branch and your Members. You will find all the usual items in this newsletter but now with the inclusion of a list of New and Rejoining Members – courtesy of the new ‘East of Scotland’ Branch and the returning ‘Espana Levante’ Branch. It is always good to see our Membership increasing.

There are News Items from HM Naval Base Clyde, from around the Branches, coverage of last November’s Remembrance Ceremonies and some Branch Social Events.

Further development plans are in place for Faslane to provide more accommodation and facilities for the Dreadnought Boats. Many of you will remember the building work in the 1980s to ready the Base for the Vanguard (Trident) Boats. This time there is also talk of Floating Docks to boost repair and maintenance facilities. Several items are included about the AUKUS Plans including an article by Simon Fell MP (for Barrow & Furness) who is the Co-Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for AUKUS. AUKUS appears to be a fast moving programme and will probably

affect and involve many of our Members over the next few years.

This edition’s ‘Book Review’ is about BP Tankers ‘Golden Years’ (1945 to 1975) and includes many photos, drawings, design details and a summary of the early development of oil tankers.

You will also find an article by Crawford Wright (printed with his permission) about the late Lieutenant Commander Matthew Todd, MBE who was mainly responsible for the development of Submarine Escape Equipment and Escape Techniques in the 1960’s and 1970’s and who became a fixture at the SETT.

I hope you will find something of interest to read in this Issue – if there is anything else you think I should include please let me know.

Please note that In Depth Issue No. 84 will be published on 1st April 2024. Contributions are required to be with the Editor by 15th March 2024 - see Contact Details on Page 3. Please make sure I get your contributions in good time!

Regards

Barrie Downer

CHAIRMANS DIT

Let's start off with some exciting news! We now have two more Branches now. I welcome our newest - the "East of Scotland Branch"- chaired by Del Briton. And Espana Levante - chaired by Malcolm Blenkinsopp, has returned to the fold.

Like all Branches full details of the Branch and where and when they meet are on the website.

Whilst I am on the subject of the SA Website - please visit regularly - thanks to Gary Strange it is continuously updated.

As Gary will tell you this is our Website, your Website and it is only as good and current as the information and photos you send to Gary (webmaster@submarinersassociation.co.uk). If you have a Branch event: inform Gary of the details in advance. Immediately after the event send a dit on how it went. Finally, the most important part - send photographs.

Individual members, I urge you send your dits, embellish them, in 47 years' service I have yet to hear a true dit! But I've heard loads of 😄 dits!

November Ceremonies. In the past all submariners have been made welcome whether you are a member or not. As National Chairman I am concerned that this is a SA run event, the biggest in our calendar. The cost is spiralling and the man standing to the left and right of you should be a member of the SA. It's free to join, but it shows a commitment. It boosts numbers in the Branch you choose to join. Some Branches are ailing due to falling numbers or members who have done their bit as Branch officials. They need new and younger members.

When you join the SA, do it via TSF. This gives you membership to the other Family members - We Remember Submariners, HMS Oardacious and Friends of the Royal Navy Submarine Museum. TSF help fund November Ceremonies and support many submarine events. Also I ask to donate monthly to keep our Family going.

How was your Christmas? It saddens me, like most of you, to think that one of our fellow submariners is cold and lonely over Christmas. Haven't heard from an old pal lately? Give him or her a call. You might be a lifeline.

Iain Mackenzie, Chairman

A Message from your National Chairman



Christmas



is gone!



New Year



is here.



It's a time to celebrate

. What better way than booking that Family Weekend in Belfast!

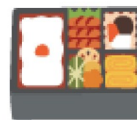
100

Stay in a five-star hotel, meet old shipmates, spin dits the wife has heard a buddies a wet and all at a heavily subsidised price!!



Last chance saloon

. I have to return unused rooms to the hotel so get your booking forms in asap.



Can I also have **ALL** those that have booked and not sent me their menu choice in by Friday 12 January or I will have to choose for you!! Also Jim McMaster has to print the tickets and he does have a busy



schedule

By Editor. Please see the Meal Choices and Booking Forms included in this Newsletter!!!

VETERANS IDENTITY CARDS

Not got your Veterans ID Card yet?

Please see the link below for an update on applying for Veterans ID Cards:

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hm-armed-forces-veteran-cards-will-officially-launch-in-the-new-year-following-a-successful-assessment-from-the-central-digital-and-data-office?fbclid=IwAR0Vp4vH_D7kQUR6N96pgKEz5zZteXeCPgNj2wVHLt8SGEbPqGxjBUcQW8M

DISCLAIMER

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Cover Picture:

HOME, HOME, ON THE CLYDE – THE FASLANE NAVAL BASE – AN AERIAL VIEW

NEW & RE-JOINING MEMBERS 30th September 2023 to 31st December 2023

(20** = Serving Member)

Name	Rank/Rate	Branch	SM Service dates:	Submarines Served in:
Barry Alford	CMEM(L)	Espana Levante (EL)	1966 to 1990	THERMOPYLAE (1967), OLYMPUS (1967 to 1969), ODIN (1972 to 1973), OBERON (1973 to 1975), OLYMPUS (1975 to 1978) & OPPORTUNE (1980 to 1982)
Roy Bayliss	POSA	(EL)	TBA	CONQUEROR & REVENGE
Malcolm Blenkinsopp	WEMN1 (ADC)	(EL)	1979 to 1983	SPLENDID
Alan Booty	CPO ME	(EL)	1962 to 1983	TOTEM, TABARD, TACITURN, OBERON, WARSPITE, CONQUEROR & CHURCHILL
John Alan (Stan) Bowles	POSA	(EL)	TBA	REVENGE, RENOWN, RESOLUTION, OTUS & SWIFTURE
Roger Dawes	CMEA (P)	(EL)	TBA	COURAGEOUS, VALIANT & CHURCHILL
Keith Gane	CPO Coxswain	(EL)	1964 to 1978	AURIGA, ASTUTE (2), DREADNOUGHT, ANDREW & OPPORTUNE
Derek Henderson	CPO WEA	(EL)	October 1973 to May 1993	REPULSE, RESOLUTION, WALRUS & OTUS
Bob Howarth	OEM1	(EL)	TBA	OPOSSUM
Terry Hoyland	RO2	(EL)	January 1959 to August 1965	SPITEFUL, SEA DEVIL, TABARD, ANCHORITE, TAPIR, TRUMP & AUROCHS
Jeff Jeffrey	LS RP	(EL)	TBA	RORQUAL & OSIRIS
Paul Lock	CPO WEA	(EL)	1986 to 2014	REVENGE, VICTORIOUS, VIGILANT & VENGEANCE
Gary Marriott	LS (Sonar)	(EL)	TBA	ODIN, OPPORTUNE, OCELOT, PORPOISE & REPULSE
Robert Marshall	LS TS	(EL)	TBA	SWIFTSURE, TRENCANT, TIRELESS & TURBULENT
John Glen (Dusty) Miller	LOEM	(EL)	TBA	SOVERIGN & FINWHALE
Geoffrey John Mountstephen OBE	CERA/Cdr	(EL)	August 1963 to 1968 & 1968 to July 1993	TABARD, TACITURN, ARTFUL (EO), ONSLAUGHT (EO), CHURCHILL (AMEO), WARSPITE (DMEO), RESOLUTION (SEO) & REVENGE
John Palmer	LSTWD	(EL)	TBA	OPOSSUM, OPPORTUNE, OSIRIS, OCELOT & COURAGEOUS
Martin Parker	LS UC	(EL)	TBA	ALCIDE, REPULSE & OPOSSUM
Roger Parsons	RS	(EL)	April 1964 to October 1973	GRAMPUS, ANCHORITE & WALRUS5
Gary Scoble	PO Caterer	(EL)	TBA	RENOWN (2), REVENGE, REPULSE, OSIRIS & OTTER
Ian Sharpe	POMEM	(EL)	TBA	ODIN, ONYX, OTTER, OPOSSUM & TORBAY
John Smith	AB UC2	(EL)	1967 to 1972	ALLIANCE, TIPTOE, OTUS & OSIRIS
Phil (Tracey) Austin	L/S TSM	East of Scotland (EoS)	1984 to 1997 & 2003 to 2010	RENOWN, SPARTAN, VALIANT, ONYX, VICTORIOUS, SCEPTRE

'Del' Briton	Leading Seaman	(EoS)	June 1987 to 20**	REPULSE, RENOWN, SPARTAN & SCEPTRE
Glen Bridgeman	WO1MEA	(EoS)	1975 to 2008	OPPORTUNE, RESOLUTION, REVENGE, REPULSE, RENOWN, VANGUARD, VIGILANT, VICTORIOUS, VENGEANCE
Ian Campbell	TBA	(EoS)	TBA	TBA
Ian (Chippy) Cannan	WO1 MEM	(EoS)	1978 to 2010	SMU, SM1, SM10, various P &) BOATS, ORACLE
Steven (Stevie C) Carmichael	CPOMEM(M)	(EoS)	1988 to 2014	REVENGE, REPULSE, RENOWN, SCEPTRE
Jason (Nobby) Clark	PO CS	(EoS)	1988 to 20**	RENOVN, REPULSE, VANGUARD (TWICE), SCEPTRE, VENGEANCE
Alfred J (Alfie) Cumming	PO (CIS) (SM)	(EoS)	1989 to 2014	SWIFTSURE, SCEPTRE, SPARTAN, SUPERB, TRIUMPH, VIGILANT, VENGEANCE, VICTORIOUS
Al Cuneen	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Mick Ellison	WO1 CS	(EoS)	1990 to 2019	REVENGE, VANGUARD, VICTORIOUS, SUPERB
Daniel (Danny) Gallagher	CPO ME	(EoS)	2005 to 2015	VICTORIOUS, VENGEANCE, VIGILANT
Mark Gardner	TBA	(EoS)	TBA	TBA
Chris J Gerrard	Cook	(EoS)	TBA	SCEPTRE (May 1989), RENOWN (S) November 1992 & VALIANT (August 1994)
Robert (Bob) Hazelwood	WO1 MESM	(EoS)	1978 to 2021	REVENGE, RENOWN, REPULSE, VANGUARD, VICTORIOUS, VIGILANT
Sam Hogg	TBA	(EoS)	TBA	TBA
Jim 'Dodger' Long	CPO (SSM)	(EoS)	1988 to 20**	VALIANT, SUPERB, SPLENDID, SCEPTRE – Now running 'SM Attract Team Scotland/Ni'
John (Ginge) Lymburn	PO Cook	(EoS)	1977 to 1994	FINWHALE, ONSLAUGHT, REVENGE (TWICE) RESOLUTION
Pat (Mac) McKay	WO1 RS(SM)	(EoS)	1986 to 2022	TRAFALGAR
Brian Maitland	WO1 (WESM)	(EoS)	1987 to 2020	SPARTAN, COURAGEOUS, SUPERB, SPLENDID, SCEPTRE (TWICE) ASTUTE
Gary Nicholson, MBE	Lieutenant RN	(EoS)	1986 to 20**	VALIANT, COURAGEOUS, VANGUARD, VENGEANCE, VIGILANT, AMBUSH, Flotilla EWO
Andy Prunty	AB (CIS)	(EoS)	TBA	AMBUSH
David (Alf) Ramsey	WO1 Writer (SM)	(EoS)	1997 to 20**	SPARTAN (SMQ), SPLENDID, SCEPTRE, VICTORIOUS (S), VIGILANT (S), SCEPTRE, TRENCHANT, ARTFUL & ANSON
Kieran Russell	TBA	(EoS)	TBA	
Michael (Mick) Scaife	WO1 Writer (SM)	(EoS)	1989 to 20**	SUPERB (TWICE), SPARTAN, VENGEANCE, TORBAY, ASTUTE
John (Iain) Scobie	CPOWEA(SM)	(EoS)	1978 to 2000	REPULSE, REVENGE, CHURCHILL, SCEPTRE, SPLENDID, SPARTAN
Alan Stevenson	TBA	(EoS)	TBA	TBA
Richard (Bungy) Williamson	POET (WE)	(EoS)	1998 to ??	SCEPTRE, SOVEREIGN, SUPERB, TURBULENT, VENGEANCE, VICTORIOUS, VIGILANT, VANGUARD
Andrew (Shiner) Wright	CPOMEA(EL)	(EoS)	1989 to 2011	VIGILANT, VENGEANCE

SUBMARINE & SUBMARINER LOSSES OF WWII

OCTOBER 1943

Two Submarines were 'lost with all hands' in October 1943 and three other Submariners were reported to have died. The first Submarine lost was:

Submarine P56 HMS USURPER

On 24th September 1943 HMS USURPER left Algiers for a patrol off La Spezia, Italy. On 3rd October Lieutenant Mott was ordered to move north to an area in the Gulf of Genoa in an area later identified as containing Italian Minefield QB192. HMS USURPER was patrolling in the Gulf of Genoa when the German anti-submarine vessel UJ-2208 reported that she had been unsuccessfully attacked. In the counterattack which followed UJ-2208 reported sinking a Submarine. It is possible that HMS

USURPER was sunk in this attack but, she might also have been lost in a minefield. HMS USURPER did not respond to any signals and failed to arrive back at Algiers on 12th October 1942 and was reported 'lost with all hands'. The crew of HMS USURPER at the time of her loss were:

Officers:

Lt David Roger Oakley Mott, DSC

Lt John Harold Worth

Lt Sidney Lloyd Jordan

Sub Lt Patrick Anthony Stirling Frost

Sub Lt John David Shanks Anderson

Ratings:

CPO John Charman P/JX 142727

PO Bertie William Fearnley Rayner, DSM C/JX 130051

PO William Plunkett Dunning Johnstone C/JX 151079

L/Sea Michael Higgins Collins P/SSX 22995
 L/Sea Thomas Jack Smallwood C/SSX 32523
 L/Sea Sidney George Cooper C/JX 142915
 AB George H White P/JX 263859
 AB Richard Herbert Rodwell P/JX 235070
 AB Leonard Phillip Jackson J112129
 AB Clifford Taylor O/N P/JX 168050 (Po)
 AB Victor Taylor O/N P/JX 273528 (Po)
 AB Eric Knowles Meaker O/N P/JX 149714 (Po)
 AB George William Baker P/JX 358368
 AB Thomas Barrie Davies P/JX 358192
 AB Frederick William Searle C/SSX 32296
 AB Cedric Ernest William Abraham C/JX 215054
 AB Oswald Render D/JX 287917
 AB William John Bethell D/JX 286982
 AB Robert Edward Wisdom D/JX 293581
 AB Frank Smedley D/JX 237791
 Ord Sea Wilfred Allan D/JX 563155
 Ord Sea Robert Francis Pike D/JX 366699
 L/Sig Francis Arthur Edwin Upex P/JX 148048
 PO Tel Mervyn Ebenezer Davies, DSM P/JX 143196
 L/Tel Thomas William Appleby P/JX 155434
 Tel Hubert Arthur Eldridge C/JX 180661
 Tel William John Griffiths D/JX 269375
 Tel Edward Henry Sidney Carson D/JX 158782
 CERA William Henry Bird P/MX 48306
 ERA4 William Parker Harman P/MX 93368
 ERA4 Arthur Little D/MX 74203
 A/SPO James Ross Ballantyne D/KX 96977
 A/SPO James Reginald Fylan P/KX 82494
 A/SPO Thomas Henry Sutton P/KX 88994
 AL/Sto John Flynn P/KX 95906
 Sto1 William Horsley Quayle P/KX 146834
 Sto1 Geoffrey Taaffe C/KX 152295
 Sto1 James William Roberts C/KX 140723
 Sto1 Joshua Herbert Hilton D/KX 133098
 Sto1 Leslie George Herbert Whitfield D/KX 144682
 Sto1 Maurice Henry Knowles D/KX 159978

Submarine TROOPER

The second Submarine lost was HMS TROOPER which sailed from the Base at Beirut on 28th September 1943 for a patrol off the west of the Dodocanese Islands. The Submarine failed to arrive back as expected on 17th October and was assumed to have been sunk by a mine on 10th October 1943. There were no survivors. The crew consisted of the following personnel:

Officers:

Lt John Somerton Wraith, DSO, DSC
 Lt Leslie Alexander Stewart Grant DSC
 Sub Lt Alexander William Anderson
 Sub Lt Henry Graham Sumner, RNVR
 Sub Lt John Stuart Ryder, RANVR
 Lt (E) Owen Felton Lancaster DSC

Ratings:

CPO James Alexander Watson, DSM*, MiD P/JX 131355
 PO J B Gilbert P/SSX 14641
 PO Ralph Bassett Sleep, DSM D/JX 137048
 L/Sea Benjamin Thomas Rushton, DSM, MiD P/J 114584
 L/Sea Robert Ainslie Yeoman P/SSX 18970
 L/Sea Leonard Williams P/SSX 29544
 L/Sea Frank Charnock D/JX 212858
 AB William Bartholemew Whittle D/JX 215012
 AB O/N D/JX 212892
 AB Ronald Stephen Chivers D/SSX 13575
 AB Douglas Bland Walker P/JX 237396
 AB Richard Jones D/JX 217239
 AB George William Hind P/JX 362387
 AB Frederick Wilfred Tripp P/JX 138428
 AB Henry Roberts Lloyd P/JX 353169
 AB Kenneth Neil Greatwood P/SSX 31640
 AB Francis Edward Fisher J40813
 Able Seaman John Colville C/JX 132734
 Able Seaman Thomas Matthew Carling C/JX 141406
 AB Samuel Fleming C/SSX 27113
 AB John Belton Farnell RNVR/C/LDX/3601
 AB Frederick Arthur Charles Ward C/SSX 17762
 AB Ernest Clifford Furnell C/JX 136210
 AB Emrys Whatley D/SSX 33731
 PO Tel Stuart Ernest Ribbans P/SSX 31787
 L/Tel Leonard Thomson D/JX 152099
 Tel James Stobbie D/JX 156516
 Tel Frank Crossland C/JX 247837
 Sig Henry Charles Cope P/JX 157350
 L/Cook Horace Skinner P/MX 54947
 L/Cook Cecil James Stillwell D/SMX 90
 Std Stanley Mercer D/LX 23181
 EA William Victor Fry, DSM P/MX 49222
 ERA2 William Charles England Fenn, DSM P/MX 51201
 ERA4 John Cornelius C/MX 77556
 ERA4 Maurice Peters C/MX 76497
 ERA4 Edgar Stott D/MX 90221
 ERA4 James Mather D/MX 75747
 ERA4 Michael Forster D/MX 75371
 SPO Jack Bernard Whiting C/KX 88177
 SPO Ivan Donald Bengough D/KX 85248
 SPO Peter Milne Adam D/KX 85676
 L/Sto Ronald Norman Robinson, DSM P/KX 88052
 L/Sto Alfred Frank Legg P/KX 78715
 L/Sto Clement Colbourne Lawson C/KX 133827
 L/Sto Henry Arthur Mott, MiD C/KX 136890
 L/Sto Ronald William Mills C/KX 111697
 L/Sto Harold Graham Horton C/KX 93672
 L/Sto Thomas Arkless Curry C/KX 92887
 Sto1 Glanville Yorweth Davies P/KX 126725
 Sto1 Dennis Seddon D/KX 134176
 Sto1 Allan Brotherson D/KX 144514
 Sto1 Leonard Carrol D/KX 120498

Sto1 Frank Henry Meek D/KX 130584
Sto1 George William Sainsbury D/KX 134416
Sto1 Raymond Edward Taylor D/KX 134309
Sto1 David William Lewis Tame D/KX 136041

The Commanding Officer of the Cruiser **HMS CHARYBDIS** (a qualified Submarine Commanding Officer) died when his ship was sunk off the Channel Islands after striking a mine on Saturday 23rd October 1943. He was:

Captain George Arthur Wallace Voelcker
His body was recovered from the sea, and he is buried in the Dinard English Cemetery, Ille et Vilaine, France.

One member of the crew of Submarine **HMS UNSPARING** died on Sunday 31st October 1943. The Submarine had been carrying out a Surface Gun Action against a troop carrying Caique. When the Caique returned fire, the Submarine broke off the action. Whilst clearing the decks for diving a shell hit the base of the Conning Tower and an Able Seaman was wounded and lost over the side. The Gunnery Officer and a Petty Officer were wounded. The Able Seaman lost was:

Able Seaman Harry Wilson C/SSX 27724 who is commemorated on the Chatham Naval War Memorial on Panel No. 70 Column No. 1.

One member of the crew of the Submarine Depot Ship **HMS MAIDSTONE** died on Sunday 31st October 1943. He died from injuries sustained in a motor accident in Algiers, North Africa. He was:

CERA Herbert Anslow D/MX 54846

He is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval War Memorial on Panel No. 81 Column No. 2.

NOVEMBER 1943

One Submarine was 'lost with all hands' on 19th November 1943 and one other Submariner was lost.

The Submarine lost was:

Submarine HMS SIMOOM

The crew members were:

Officers:

Lt Geoffrey Deryik Nicholson Milner DSC, RN
Lieutenant Basil Maitland Garbett, Royal Navy
Sub Lieutenant Louis Fleming Jones, RNVR
Sub Lieutenant Charles Michael Cross, RNVR
Sub Lieutenant Thomas Scott Shanks, RNVR
Warrant Engineer L F C Balson

Ratings:

CPO James Alexander Rawe P/JX 136102
PO William Wilson P/SSX 18131
PO Robert John Mortimer-Lamb C/JX145875
PO Ben Griffith J113001
L/Sea Maurice Arthur Bedford D/SSX 27992

AB Ernest Albert Lovell P/SSX 18599
AB Alfred William Salmon P/JX 295724
AB Arthur Saunders P/JX 155201
AB William Gillon Adam P/JX 344969
AB Norman Herstatt P/JX 347783
AB Robert John Johnson C/SSX 26525
Able Seaman Sidney James May C/SSX 30974
AB Bernard Phillip Schofield C/JX 241234
AB Charles William Hatton C/JX 169095
AB Geoffrey Gill C/JX 235129
AB James Henry Hannant D/JX 202875
AB Norman Sharp D/JX 223594
AB William Robert Gowland D/SSX 15958
AB Irvine George Wardale D/JX 303574
O/Sea Robert Elliott P/JX 322974
O/Sea Charles Edmond Herd P/JX 381907
PO Tel Sidney Ellin C/JX 135616
L/Tel Gordon Alexander Kennedy D/JX 154462
L/Tel Harold Benjamin Wilson McLennan C/JX 259236
Tel George Edward Caspell C/JX 163711
Sig Horace Charles Day C/JX 207606
EA4 Michael Thomas O'Leary D/MX 49539
CERA Walter George Olding P/MX 46951
ERA4 Thomas Marsden P/MX 79301
ERA4 David Arthur Kerr P/MX 55013
ERA4 James Taylor C/MX 77617
ERA5 John Anglesea D/MX 102924
APO Edward Cole P/KX 83973
L/Sto John Landing P/KX 84477
L/Sto George Hunter Mason P/KX 90779
L/Sto William Joseph Ronald Seaborne D/KX 94051
Sto1 Roland James Francis D/KX 137871
Sto1 William John Smith D/KX 145306
Sto1 Walter Harris D/KX 134758
Sto1 Thomas James Songhurst C/KX 83463
Sto1 John Vernon Shepherd P/KX 83132
Sto1 Francis William Lillicrop P/KX 145412

HMS TUNA

One member of the crew of Submarine HMS TUNA is reported to have died on in the Cottage Hospital at Dunoon on 21st November 1943. It is understood that he died from a fractured skull - the result of an accident. He was:

L/Tel William Thomas Brown P/SSX 15710

Twenty seven year old William Brown was from Fulham in London

DECEMBER 1943

Three Royal Navy 'Liaison' personnel died when the Free French Submarine **FFS PROTEE** was lost 'with all hands' in the Mediterranean on 18th December 1943. The three Royal Navy Liaison personnel. were:

Officer:

Sub Lieutenant Adrian Norman de Wael, RNVR

Adrian De Wael was the son of Alfred Francois de Wael and Bertha Elizabeth de Wael of Cockfosters, Hertfordshire. He is commemorated on the Portsmouth Naval War Memorial on Panel No. 80 Column No.1

Ratings:

Leading Telegraphist Dennis Raymond Collier O/N C/JX 158361

Twenty-year-old Dennis Collier

He is commemorated on the Chatham Naval War Memorial on Panel No.71 Panel No. 1.

Leading Signalman John J Usherwood O/N C/JX 148824

John Usherwood was the twenty-one-year-old son of John Usherwood (a gardener) and Marian Usherwood of Ramsgate in Kent. He was the twin brother of Marian Alice Usherwood and the husband of Joan Mary Usherwood of Enfield Middlesex. He is commemorated on the Chatham Naval War Memorial on Panel No. 70 Column No. 3

One member of the crew of the Submarine Depot Ship **HMS ADAMANT** died on 20th December 1943. It is understood that he died at sea (presumed to be an accidental drowning) near Trincomalee in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka). He was:

Acting Stoker 1st Class Charles Henry Taylor O/N C/KX 152886 (Ch

Thirty year old Charles Taylor was from Southampton, Hants.

SUBMARINE COMMISSIONING CREW LISTS

I am still looking for Submarine Commissioning, Decommissioning and Re-dedication Crew Lists. These are required for an ongoing 'Chronology of Submariners' Project.

I am 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'.

WEBSITE MANAGER'S UPDATE

Over the recent period, we've witnessed a surge in website traffic and improved search results, indicating a growing interest in our community. This positive momentum is further fuelled by a wave of new members who have successfully joined our Association.

Embracing Branch Engagement for Greater Visibility

November brought a notable increase in website activity, especially driven by the heightened interest in Remembrance Day events.

Currently, less than 15% of branches actively share updates on their events or activities. Assuming the remaining branches are also engaged in social, charitable, remembrance or other events, this presents a massive opportunity to raise the profile of the branch within the association. At the same time, it will also assist in further promoting the Association, so it's a 'win win'.

Website Registration

As our Association evolves, accessing the website will become more critical than ever. We are streamlining membership data updates through the website, making it essential for all members to embrace website registration.

If you haven't yet registered on our website, you are missing out on exclusive content. Many pages are accessible only to registered users.

Active participation is encouraged.

In conclusion, your active participation on our website is not just about staying informed; it's a chance to contribute to the collective growth and visibility of our Association. The website is a hub of valuable information, and you, our members, are key players in shaping its content. Let's make the most of this digital platform to strengthen our community bonds and enhance the overall Association experience.

Regards

Gary

THE ONLINE BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE (OBOR) - AN UPDATE

The Online Book of Remembrance is 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.

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. 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) Website and 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 'Friends' Treasurer (Peter Jeanneret) has been responsible for collating the data that is now contained within OBOR. This started well 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 (Barrow) and Malcolm Blenkinsopp (Espana Levante), both of whom have been researching details of deceased submariners for many years.

From Peter Jeanneret.- OK, here's some numbers: There are currently about 5,955 names in the OBOR for whom 597 stories have been completed. But due an enforced break in the Summer when the site was being updated, and some slowness in getting the team back on the job since, we have a backlog of 126 of completed mini-bios which have not yet been uploaded. So, when they are done. we will have just over 12% complete. Not bad going, but still a way to go.

"The OBOR site, along with the whole TSF site, has undergone a major redevelopment, translating it into a WordPress based environment. This has really just been done to make future upkeep and development easier and cheaper, and from the user's point of view, there should be very little change. You are all encouraged to visit OBOR and post comments or personal tributes on any relatives who may be found therein. If you do happen to spot any issues as a result of the recent redevelopment then the OBOR team would be pleased if you would report them, or submit any general comments about OBOR, to obor@submarinefamily.uk."

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

We hope that work will soon start on the next part of 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 the new Wall.

HM NAVAL BASE, CLYDE & RN SUBMARINE NEWS

ROYAL NAVY MEDIA RELEASE

HMNBC 45/23 Friday, 8 December 2023

CLYDE STAFF COME TOGETHER TO SING CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Military and civilian staff from across HM Naval Base Clyde gathered in St Mungo's church on Thursday, December 7, to spread a bit of Christmas cheer by singing carols and collecting for local charities. After everyone had enjoyed a hot drink and some mince pies, the carol service was led by the Chaplaincy team all looking very seasonal in their Christmas jumpers and Santa hats. The festivities got underway with everyone singing 'O come all ye Faithful' with music provided by the Neptune Volunteer Band. There were readings and prayers from the Chaplaincy team and Base personnel, and to finish off everyone joined in a chorus of Jingle Bells before the prize was awarded for the best Christmas jumper.

More importantly, Clyde staff were invited to bring along donations for the One Clyde Christmas Appeal which is supporting a few local charities.

Kind-hearted staff gave generously and the conservatory in the church was soon filled with boxes of biscuits, sweets, toys, and lots more, ready to be delivered to HomeStart Lomond, Helensburgh and Lomond Foodbank and Helensburgh Community Hub. Yvonne Gilfillan who organised the appeal said: "So many people across the globe are struggling financially and emotionally just now. Christmas can bring particular pressures and exacerbate unpleasant living, housing, economic or health situations."

"With a desire to help bring some comfort wherever possible, the HMNB One Clyde Community came together, to donate much-needed food, personal hygiene products, baby products, children's pyjamas, toys, books and selection boxes to three local organisations."

As well as the collections of food and other items for the local charities, £300 was raised for Save the Children through Base staff making donations for wearing their Christmas Jumpers to work.

Yvonne continued: "I am very grateful and proud to be part of the HMNB One Clyde Community who collaboratively and cohesively make a difference in the lives of those we work with, their families and within our local community. Merry Christmas one and all."

Sent by: Royal Navy, Communications & Influence (RNCI) Regional Press Office (Scotland & Northern Ireland), HM Naval Base Clyde.



The HMNB Clyde Chaplaincy team. L-R: Father Michael Maloney, Rev Mark Dalton RN, Angela Bolton, Rev Mark Allsopp RN, and Rev Mark Street RN, in their Christmas Jumpers.



Some of the donations collected for the local charities.



Staff wearing their Christmas Jumpers.

Faslane Naval Base Prepares For Major Expansion

From the UK Defence Journal

By George Allison - December 15, 2023

Faslane is undergoing a significant expansion, with personnel numbers set to increase by nearly 40%, as revealed in a recent report by The Lochside Press.

This expansion includes plans for new infrastructure to support the forthcoming Dreadnought-class submarines. The base, located on the Gareloch, has seen all its 2,602 cabins built within the last two decades. However, an additional 1,025 cabins are now being planned to accommodate staff relocating to the Clyde for the new Royal Navy Submarine Training Centre, slated to open in 2025.

Commander Peter Noblett, executive officer at HM Naval Base Clyde, shared these updates with the Rhu and Shandon Community Council. He highlighted that many current buildings at the base are “nearing the end of their serviceable life” and will be replaced in the coming years. Commander Noblett also noted the need for “additional infrastructure work around jetties and docking facilities” to support the new Dreadnought submarines. He expressed optimism about local economic benefits, citing “plenty of employment opportunities within the base, ranging from multi-million pound project managers to part-time catering and cleaning staff.”



“HMNB Clyde is looking forward to an extremely busy couple of years in terms of base infrastructure. As most of you will know the modern HMS NEPTUNE was opened in 1968 to base the new RESOLUTION Class Polaris submarines, so consequently a lot of the infrastructure dates from the same period.

Whilst all current accommodation (2602 cabins) has been renewed over the last 20 years or so, there is still the need to build more accommodation to house the additional personnel that the Royal Navy Submarine Training Centre (RNSTC) will bring North from Torpoint in Cornwall when it opens fully towards the end of 2025. New accommodation of 1025 cabins will be built to cater for this increase. There are also many buildings in the working areas of the base which are nearing the end of their serviceable life; consequently there will be a lot of building work over the next few years replacing those buildings.

Finally the introduction of the new DREADNOUGHT class Trident submarines within the next 10 years will require additional infrastructure work around jetties and docking facilities. The good news for the local economy is that there are plenty of employment opportunities within the base, ranging from multi-million pound project managers to part-time catering and cleaning staff. There will undoubtedly be a huge demand for hotel accommodation for all the additional contractors.”

In related news, figures uncovered by Deidre Brock, MP for Edinburgh North and Leith, reveal that over 6,000 people are currently employed at Faslane and Coulport. These figures emerged following a series of questions Brock posed in Parliament about employment at HMNB Clyde.

James Heappey MP, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary for the Ministry of Defence, provided detailed responses, indicating that a significant portion of the personnel at these locations are Scottish taxpayers. Specifically, 38.4% of uniformed Royal Navy Service personnel, 91% of civilian employees who are not contractors at Faslane, and 88% to 89% of uniformed contractors at Faslane and Coulport are Scottish taxpayers.

This data underscores the substantial local employment impact of the naval bases, with a total of 4,583 Scottish taxpayers among the 6,068 civilian and military personnel working at Faslane and Coulport

UK MoD Seeking Two Floating Docks For Clyde Naval Base

HM Naval Base Clyde is home of the UK’s nuclear deterrent fleet, the Vanguard-class ballistic missile submarines. Richard Thomas November 10, 2023

The UK Ministry of Defence (MoD) is looking to obtain two Floating Docks and associated infrastructure to be located at HM Naval Base Clyde, home of the UK’s nuclear deterrent and the Vanguard-class ballistic missile submarines (SSBN).

In a 7th November early engagement notice, the MoD stated that following completion of a period of market engagement with industry, the Authority intends to formally commence a procurement for the Additional Fleet Time Docking Capability (AFTDC) programme.

The MoD stated the purpose of the Prior Information Notice (PIN) “is to invite industry to participate in market engagement events” to be conducted by the AFTDC joint project team, which will “progressively mature in detail”, prior to the commencement of a future procurement.

An MoD spokesperson told Naval Technology that the AFTDC programme was “looking to enhance the out of water submarine maintenance capability and meeting future demand for submarine maintenance at His Majesty’s Naval Base Clyde.”

Market engagement ‘Event 1’ is planned for 7th December this year and will be a virtual briefing to industry participants who have registered to be involved in market engagement, where background on the AFTDC programme will be provided. The event will be followed up with further market engagement events focussing on one-to-one discussions between the MoD and industry.

AGAMEMNON uses the Forge as new Submarine Bonds with the Steel City

1st December 2023

There’s a formal bond between Britain’s newest nuclear submarine and the steel city of Sheffield. HMS AGAMEMNON – No.6 of seven Astute-class hunter-killer boats built for the Royal Navy Submarine Service – has shaken hands with Sheffield Forgemasters, which traces its history back to before Nelson, signing a Bond of Friendship.

The South Yorkshire firm, which was nationalised two years ago, is a heavy engineering specialist, designing and manufacturing high-integrity forgings and castings for the world’s most complex engineering challenges... including Astute-class submarines (which have been compared with the Space Shuttle in terms of complexity). The skills and high-quality workmanship of Sheffield Forgemasters’ workforce are vital to the safety and integrity of our submarines and AGAMEMNON’s crew took the opportunity of the bond signing to explain to employees the role they play and what life aboard the world’s most advanced submarine is like.

In return, the Forgemasters showed the submariners around their works which, among other products, provides critical nuclear components for both military and civilian use (including the Sizewell B power station). They were particularly impressed to see the forgers casting parts which are likely to be installed in the fourth of the next-

generation SSN-AUKUS submarines which are due to begin replacing the ASTUTEs from the late 2030s... and will be in service well into the 2070s.

If you're wondering what a 'bond of friendship' is compared with, say, an affiliation... well, it's an association, typically reviewed (and renewed) annually and generally falls outside the four main categories of affiliation (city or borough, livery company, youth organisation (e.g. Sea Cadets) and military unit). "It was a privilege to tour the Sheffield Forgemasters site and to see at first hand the incredible work that the company delivers on behalf of the UK's defence programme," said AGAMEMNON's Commanding Officer Commander David 'Bing' Crosby... who is a Sheffielder himself and supports Wednesday, whom his daughter plays for at U16 level. "We are totally reliant on the impeccable safety requirements that our suppliers must meet to ensure that our vessels can head out to sea, often for considerable periods of time, and as we work to provide support to the country's Continual At Sea Nuclear Deterrent, a submarine delivered National endeavour.

"The Bond of Friendship means that we will always be linked with this great Sheffield company and we will share news of each other's progress and collaborate on various events when we are back in dock." Richard Bell, Sales and Business Development Director at Sheffield Forgemasters, added: "It is a great honour to have signed The Bond of Friendship with HMS AGAMEMNON and its crew and we look forward to learning much more about the team and their lives at the forefront of our defence strategy."

It's the latest tie with the White Rose county for the new boat which is affiliated with the city of Wakefield – crew have already supported some mayoral events – and Yorkshire University Royal Navy Unit, based in Leeds. Back in Barrow, for the first time crew welcomed the boat's sponsor, Lady Sarah-Jane Sedwill, among several friends and VIPs shown around the hunter-killer as she nears completion in the huge Devonshire Dock Hall at BAE's works.

Lady Sarah-Jane joined the Honourable Mary Montagu-Scott, director of Buckler's Hard Maritime museum, which has also signed a bond of friendship with 'Aggie' and will provide the battle honours board with oak from the same forest as the first AGAMEMNON (Nelson's favourite ship) back in 1781. In company with John Moorby, Astute Programme Director, and Cdr Crosby, they toured the complex, workshops, main assembly hall, and the Submarines Academy for Skills and Knowledge and chatted with BAE employees and AGAMEMNON's crew about bringing the boat to life.



"What an absolute pleasure it was to see everyone working together and having such pride in their critical part that they play in this national endeavour," said Lady Sedwill. "It was very apparent that everyone involved in her creation not only works together as a team but are also immensely proud of what they do. It was fantastic to visit the Devonshire Dock Hall and see HMS AGAMEMNON midway through build which has helped me visualise her completion and how awesome she will be. "I am very excited to be planning another visit to see her progress and have more opportunities to meet up with crew members and the BAE team, learning more about life on a nuclear submarine and how, as Sponsor, I can fulfil my role to the best of my ability throughout HMS AGAMEMNON's life into the Submarine Service."

She is due to return later this year for the boat's naming ceremony, after which the submarine – named for the legendary leader of Greek forces in the Trojan Wars and the sixth Royal Navy vessel to carry the name – will enter the water to begin trials (including a practice dive) so she can depart the yard and join her operational sisters in Faslane. "This first visit of our sponsor is another key step as we push Aggie towards naming and then launch," said Commander Crosby. "The visit enabled Lady Sedwill to learn and see first-hand the progress of the submarine and the sheer volume of endeavour across the yard to meet the Royal Navy's demands."

HMNBC 41/23 Monday, 6 November 2023

ROYAL NAVY MEDIA RELEASE

SUBMARINERS GATHER IN LONDON FOR ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Serving and Veteran Royal Navy Submariners travelled to London at the weekend to remember those submariners who have gone on “eternal patrol”. Hundreds of members of the Silent Service attended events at Westminster Abbey on Saturday, and at Middle Temple Gardens on Sunday, to pay their respects to those who made the ultimate sacrifice. This year marks the centenary of the first ever Submariners Memorial Service held in 1923 following the establishment of the National Submarine War Memorial in 1922. Ever since, the Submariners’ Remembrance has been held the week before the nation’s main Remembrance commemorations to allow Submariners to attend both.

Events are held over two days with serving submariners and veterans gathering for the Dedication of the Poppy Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey on Saturday. The main event is the Remembrance Parade the following day and is attended by members of the Submariners’ Association, serving and veteran submariners and Commodore (Cdre) Paul Dunn, Commodore of the Submarine Service. Cdre Dunn is the Commanding Officer of the Submarine Flotilla, based at HMNB Clyde. The Naval Base is the home of the UK Submarine Service and as well as the four Vanguard-class and five Astute-class Royal Navy submarines currently based there, it will be the homeport for the new Dreadnought Class of submarine, expected to be in service in the early 2030s.

“Once again the annual Submarine Remembrance Service brought together all generations of The Submarine Family.” Said Cdre Dunn. “From our youngest 17-year-old submarine trainee to a war veteran now aged 100, the weekend celebrated those submariners who continue to deliver our enduring mission whilst remembering those who have gone before us.”

Following the Parade at Middle Temple Gardens, a Service was led by the Reverend Steven Dray, the Submarine Association Chaplain, with prayers read by the Reverend Mark Street, Chaplain for the Submarine Flotilla. During the ceremony there was a two-minute silence, wreath laying, and the reading of the roll call of submarines lost. One of the youngest members of the Silent Service, Engineering Technician Rhys Tiffany (aged 17) laid a wreath on behalf of HMS Sultan, the Navy’s training establishment in Gosport for all engineers – above and below the waves. “I have always taken a great interest in the act of Remembrance; it is important we recognise the sacrifices made by those gone before us. As someone who is just starting my military career, they are a huge inspiration,” said Rhys. “It is a massive honour to represent HMS Sultan and the Submarine Service in laying a wreath. It is something I didn’t expected to do, and I am immensely proud.”

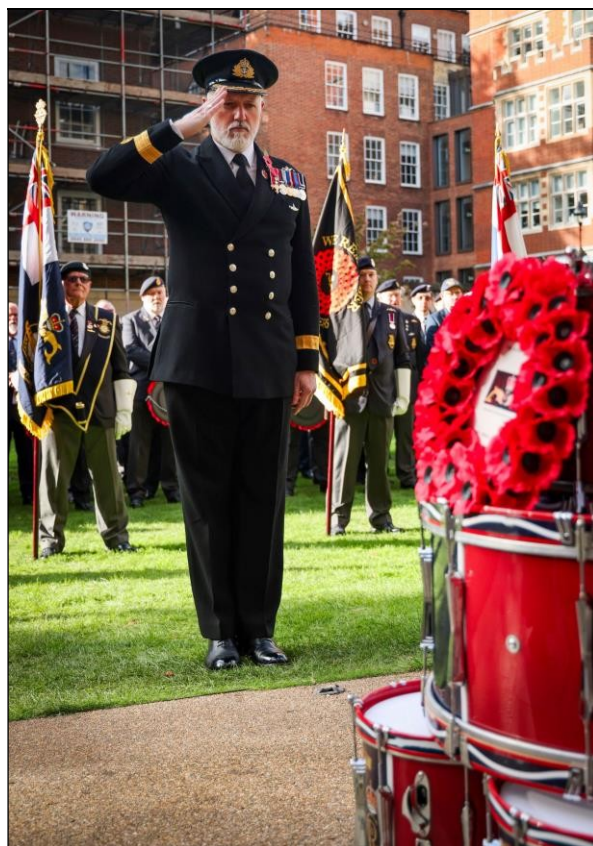
At the start of World War 1, the Royal Navy had fifty seven operational submarines which expanded to one hundred and thirty seven vessels by the time the war ended in 1918, with another seventy eight under construction. During the war, fifty four of its submarines were sunk, and over thirteen hundred Royal Navy submariners were killed.



Veterans and members of the Submarine Association pay their respects.



Royal Navy Submariners gather at the Poppy Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey.



Commodore Paul Dunn laying a wreath during the service.



ET Rhys Tiffany salutes during the Memorial Service.



100-year-old Veteran, Alec Alfred 'Maxey' Maxim laying a wreath at the drumhead.



Serving Submariners and veterans gather in West Cloisters at the Submariner Statue.



Submariners, veterans, and family members gather at the Poppy field of Remembrance

AROUND THE BRANCHES



On Wednesday December 13, the Gosport Branch of the Submariners Association held its annual Widows Christmas Lunch.

At the lunch the widows of past branch members were wined and dined at no expense to themselves. This is funded entirely by the branch members who raise funds throughout the year by donations, raffles, and auctions of submarine memorabilia. The widows are chauffeured to and from the lunch by volunteer branch members. This year 13 widows and 30 branch members, their wives and guests attended the lunch at The Crofton pub, Stubbington.

Pre Lunch drinks were enjoyed before sitting down to an excellent 3 Course Meal with wine plus coffee/tea and mince pies.



The food and wine was expertly served up by two of Santa's Elves in the guise of Lesley Ure and her colleague Claire Rutherford from the Gosport Community Hub.

The Elf service was at its finest and were ably assisted by branch members Midge Ure and Charlie McKee who were probably the best paid waiters in the kingdom!

The branch Vice Chairman, Pony Moore, said grace, introduced the top table and toasted "absent friends". There then followed a short speech by the Branch President, Captain Chris Groves, who thanked all for attending and their help in supporting the event, especially Bertie Brothers and his wife Sue who both contributed enormously to the success of the day. He also thanked the Elves, the waiters and all the staff at the Crofton pub for hosting the event in such a grand manner.

On completion of the meal and speeches it was 'Caroloke' time, with a singalong of traditional Christmas Carols and songs from "yesteryear", the highlight of which were the double act of Les Catlin and Jim Fisher. Les serenaded the assembly with help from Jim who was also the DJ and sound engineer extraordinaire.



The lunch was a huge success and was enjoyed by all. Every year it is a joy to see our widows having a wonderful afternoon at a time which may well be difficult for some of them. It's the look on their faces and the thanks that

they give to the branch members that ensures the Gosport Branch will continue to provide the lunch for our widows.

Barrow Branch

Members of the Barrow Branch attended the Barrow Dock Museum (close to the BAE Shipyard) for the Annual BAE Crane Memorial Service to remember two Vickers Shipyard employees (Thomas Martin Cooke and Christopher Fieldhouse) who were killed in May 1941 during the Barrow Blitz in WWII. They were 'fire watching' from the top of one of the Shipyard Cranes when it received a direct hit from a German bomb. The photo below shows Alex Webb (the Barrow Standard Bearer) and Des Murphy (the RAF Association Standard Bearer & Barrow Branch Associate Member) with the Padre at the Service. Branch Members attending the Crane Memorial Service had the opportunity to have their Photos taken by the BAE Photographer and, in the Group photo below you will see them together with Commander Chris Evans - the Senior Officer of the new HMS DREADNOUGHT (building) who also attended the Service.



L to R: Alex Webb, Des Murphy & Padre at the Service



Relaxing after the Crane Memorial Service with a cup of tea and a cake (courtesy of BAE)

L to R: Barrie Downer, Dave Smith, Cdr Chris Evans, Richard Cambridge, Les Hambling & Alex Webb

Medway Towns Branch

THE HMS TRUCULENT MEMORIAL SERVICE 2024

From Derek Grant, Medway Towns Branch

Dear Friends and Shipmates,

The Medway Towns Branch of the Submariners Association are holding their Annual Memorial Service for those who lost their lives when HMS/M TRUCULENT was sunk following a collision in the Thames 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

East of Scotland Branch

The First Submariners Association East of Scotland Branch Meeting



The first face to face meeting of the newest Branch of the Submarine Association has taken place. The Branch has been formerly named the East of Scotland Branch and the meeting took place at the WOs & SRs Mess of HMS CALEDONIA on Friday 1st December 2023. Thirteen personnel attended (twelve in attendance and one remotely via Skype).

Six bottles of Rum have been kindly donated by Steve Dingley who is the International Brand Manager at 'PUSSERS RUM' with one bottle being opened for Up Spirits and to toast 'Absent Friends'.

Once the formal meeting completed, a great evening was had by all with many dits being spun between old shipmates and new friends. Members from other branches of the Submarine Association are more than welcome to attend if visiting the area.

The Branch was formed on Tuesday 24th October 2023 (utilising MS TEAMS) by seven serving members* of the Submarine Service who all live on the East Coast of Scotland. The Branch is also on the lookout for new members. We have a Facebook page and a Whatsapp Group for getting the key details and news out. Email to the Branch Secretary (Alf Ramsey) SMAEOSB.SEC@EMAIL.COM who can arrange to have you added to the Whatsapp group to keep you updated with our meetings and news.

With the kind permission of the CO and Mess President, all future meetings will take place on the 1st Friday of the month at HMS CALEDONIA WOs & SRs Mess. The next meeting will take place on Fri 5th January 2024.

The Branch Officials are:

*Del Briton – Chairperson

*Dodger Long – Treasurer

*Alf Ramsey – Secretary

Alfie Cummings – Standard Bearer (yet to be purchased)

Richard Williamson – Digital and Social Media Rep

Phil Austin – Membership Secretary

Chris Gerrard – Social Secretary

Other attendees at the first Meeting were:

Ian Campbell, Andy Prunty, *Jason Clark., Mark Gardner, Al Cuneen & Alan Stevenson

Apologies received from the following personnel who were absent on duty:

*Gary Nicholson, *Mick Scaife, *Kieran Russell & Sam Hogg *Founding members.

Espana Levante Branch

By Malcolm Blenkinsopp

We are the "Fun in The Sun" team where the bi-annual meetings have grown from the one day (Saturday) to at least a four day fiesta. Our brethren from UK and many Spanish domiciles spend four to seven days catching up on yesteryear in the company of other like minded ex-submariners and the many partners.

The weekend starts on a Thursday evening in the hotel lounge, Friday is the informal meet and greet (normally fancy dress) the dinner in the hotel who always have a special Friday "Surf & Turf". Saturday 13:00 hrs AGM (April) and Meeting (Oct) with afternoon buffet on the sunny terrace. Saturday evening as is normal different groups select different venues but normally meet up back at the hotel for night cap.

Sunday now designated as "Survivors Day" generally meeting on the sun terrace before moving off for tapas in the old town then raucous music in one of the live music bars along the strip. There is something for everybody and it seems most stick together 50 year olds up 82 year olds with the well known motto 'look after each other'. I am hoping somebody from the SAC will be here for the Spring AGM on the 20th April where I am sure they will have a warm welcome and a great weekend.

Morecambe Bay Branch

By Mark Lister

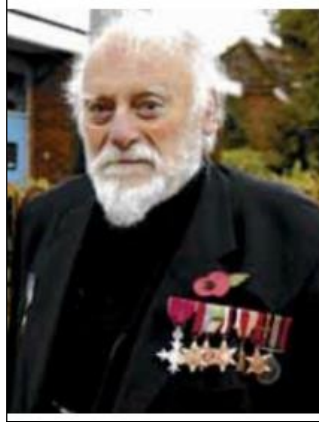


The Morecambe Bay Submariners Association held their annual Christmas Dinner on 9th December 2023 at the Morecambe Golf Club, quickly becoming our favourite venue. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the dinner and thanked those that have put a great deal of energy into preparing for the event. The 'Absent Friends' were toasted at the start of the dinner to commemorate those lost from the Branch this year, Royal Marine 'Ted' Tandy SBS, and the scattering of the ashes of Brian Hope, who we lost last year, with his family at Easter. The Secretary taxed the minds of the assembly with a festive Quiz during the intervals of what was an excellent meal. After the meal we were able to mingle with our members before heading home in quite atrocious weather. Another successful social event for our growing membership and their partners. The next event is our 'First Footing' with the Barrow Branch on 2nd February. If you happen to be in the area then contact the Secretary and he will get you an invitation. As a Branch we would like to wish a Merry Christmas to the SAC and the whole Submariners Association. We hope that you all have a peaceful festive season and a Healthy 2024.

MATTHEW TODD MBE

The Swanmore Link

"This article first appeared in 'The Swanmore Link, October/November 2023, and is reproduced with the kind permission of the author, Crawford Wright, and the editor, Penny Clive".



UNDER THE WAVES

Crawford Wright looks back on the life of Swanmore Resident Matthew Todd

Many people in Swanmore will remember Matthew Todd, who spent his entire career in the Royal Navy before coming to live in Swanmore. He was a regular village "Father Christmas", arriving at the village hall in his sleigh and was a driver for the Lunch Club. On Sundays he attended St Barnabas, sitting in his regular place towards the back of the church in the north side pews. He also made several pieces of furniture for the church that are still in daily use. Matthew was born at Soham in Cambridgeshire in 1924 and attended Hillbrow School in Rugby; the books about submarines he enjoyed as a child made him determined to make his career in them.

He was admitted to the Royal Naval College Dartmouth in January 1938, completing his course in July 1941, and joining the battle cruiser HMS Renown the following month as a Midshipman. He soon put himself down for the submarine course at HMS Elfin at Blyth, and qualified as a submarine officer in November 1943, joining the submarine HMS Thule at Devonport, under the command of the "difficult and unpleasant" Lt Cdr Alistair Mars. After working up on the Clyde they sailed via the Suez Canal to Trincomalee, the naval base in what was then Ceylon. Their main tasks were to sink enemy shipping, lay mines, put Royal Marines ashore and collect them from behind enemy lines. With a crew of 64, plus 29 Marines, petrol, boats, engines and extra rations things were rather crowded. No water could be spared for washing, since these patrols lasted weeks making voyages of some 3,600 miles. It was not surprising that there was an infestation of cockroaches but the problem was solved when a small number of black rats came aboard and ate the insects. Thule did three patrols in the Malacca Straits (between Java and Sumatra). Some of these patrols covered more than 7,000 miles with the crew on a limited diet of frozen meat and fish, powdered eggs, baked beans, spam, tinned ham & sausages.

Many of these young men in the crew were in their early 20s when they experienced enemy action, including being depth charged and attacked by aircraft, as well as often working in shallow waters. If they were to stay alive and fulfil their mission then vigilance was required every minute of the day and night together with accurate navigation. After the atomic bombs were dropped on Japan, effectively ending the second World War the Submarine returned to UK and Matthew was promoted to Lieutenant at the age of 21. He had a large frame and weighed around 15 stone with a strong physique making him ideal for certain sports and he boxed at heavyweight level and played rugby. After time at Chatham, where he won the heavyweight boxing title in the Navy command championships, he was transferred to Portsmouth where his next appointment was in HMS Seraph, first of the new streamlined S class submarines. Later he joined HMS Astute, an Amphion class submarine. It was while on this boat making a voyage around Scotland to Rotterdam that a certain naval commander from the Intelligence branch was aboard – it was Ian Fleming, author of the James Bond novels.

Heading to command

Matthew then spent time in midget submarines before attending the Commanding Officers Qualifying Course in August 1951, which he successfully passed. His next appointment was as the commanding officer of HMS Sleuth, a fast S class boat for sea exercises, before becoming commanding officer of HMS Narwhal where he was involved in successful trials of a new type of sonar system. His extensive experience in submarines made him an ideal candidate to join the Submarine Escape Training Tank (SETT) at Haslar, initially as Deputy in Command before commanding the unit from 1963 to 1974 during which time around 5,000 men from many nations were

trained and he pioneered the replacement of the 50-year old, shallow-water Davis Submerged Escape Apparatus with a hood and suit capable of effecting escape from depth. He was recognised by many in the international submarine world for this work.

Pioneering escape work

Until then it had been accepted that the crew could escape from a maximum depth of 300 feet, but Matthew worked on a redesign of diving suits helping to develop a system that enabled submariners to escape from far greater depths. This work was extremely dangerous carrying great personal risk and illustrates the initiative that was such a feature of his character. After work in the SETT and trials off Malta, he and his team successfully demonstrated escapes from 500 feet. Matthews own personal best was 525 feet.

For this work he was congratulated by the Naval Committee but forbidden to do more research. He was awarded the MBE for his work in escape techniques.

This successful escape system was quickly recognised by the navies of other countries who came to see it demonstrated and adopted it for their submarines. These included the US, Dutch, French, Greek and Israeli navies. Future UK submarines were fitted with the new system and escape Suits.

During this time he lived in Titchfield and played an active role in the community- including as Churchwarden, editor of the parish magazine and president of the Boxing Club. After retirement from the Navy in 1972, and a move to Swanmore, he worked for a commercial diving company before being invited back to command SETT. Matthew was by nature an achiever, he liked practical challenges and to prove what could be done where others doubted. He reflected that if he had been promoted then he would have occupied a desk rather than achieved a practical breakthrough advancing submarine escape which would in future save many lives. Having spent 35 years in the Royal Navy, even in retirement submarines were still in his blood and, as a great raconteur, he much enjoyed entertaining others by talking about them.



Skilled woodworker

In addition to his regular contributions to life in Swanmore, Matthew was a highly skilled wood worker and made the vestment chest, altar frontal chest and communion table for St Barnabas, which are still in regular use today. Matthew Todd died in 2020 aged 95. He was an interesting and brave man who made significant contributions to the submarine world, especially improving the means of escape from much greater depths than previously thought possible as well as contributing much to village life in Swanmore.

As his son Mark puts it: "...he was fun. Let loose in a social gathering he'd be at the centre of it - he loved chat and found the last couple of years when his poor mobility prevented him moving round a room very frustrating.

He was a fine man, with a life's record of important work, but he was also rather entertaining".

Sociable and fun loving, he will be remembered with respect and affection by family and friends.

Cranford Wright

NOTE: Matthew Todd wrote his autobiography '**A Long Time Underwater**' which he privately published in 2014. He describes in detail his life and career in the Navy and Submarines and the people he met along the way. Not a man to suffer fools gladly he was quite forthright in his opinions as many of our older Members may recall from his time at the 'SETT'. For those interested his book has been digitised - with the kind permission of his son - and is available to read on the 'Friends of the Submarine' Website in the Members Section.

AUKUS

By Simon Fell

Member of Parliament for Barrow & Furness & Co Chair - AUKUS All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG)

The rationale for the AUKUS partnership between Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States is a simple one: it adds resilience to what is the relatively fragile business of submarine manufacture; it enables and supports a tilt towards the Pacific for Britain and the US while bolstering Australia, and it offers a force multiplier on emerging military technologies such as hypersonics, AI, cyber and quantum.

It also, for Barrow & Furness, the constituency I have been fortunate to represent since 2019, presents both opportunities and risks.

The opportunities are obvious and were heralded when the announcement of AUKUS was made in September 2021. Pillar 1 of the programme - submarine manufacture - is leading, alongside the requirements of the Dreadnought programme, to an increase of 7,000 jobs in Barrow and a significant increase in defence spending.

The steady drumbeat of work in the submarine programme as the shipyard closes on delivery of the final two Astute boats, continues Dreadnought, and now pivots to SSN-AUKUS, has marked a turnaround in outlook and activism by BAE in Furness.

After a period of introspection, there is now a very clear direction at BAE from the top down that the quality of the work in the shipyard rises and falls with the fortunes of the town. The shipyard now sponsors schools, sports teams, and local charities. And in a move that symbolises its new outlook perhaps more than anything else, is creating its new training facility in Barrow's struggling town centre.

Gone - or going - is the fortress mentality where you are either in or out, and employee or not, and in has swept a view that the shipyard is the town, and the town is the shipyard.

Of course, the two are intrinsically linked - indeed, Barrow's beating heart since it was formed some 180 years ago has always been its industrial base. From the export of iron ore to the production of steel, railways, and latterly shipbuilding, Barrow's growth comes from that industry - its population growing from 143 people to over 47,000 in under 40 years.

That initial growth saw the creation of much of the iconic civic centre of Barrow that we know today - the long boulevard of Abbey Road, the public baths, schools, town hall, civic buildings, and the company housing on Barrow Island - built at breakneck pace through the paternalistic tendencies of the captains of industry who profited from the labours of this new town's citizens. Many of those buildings are still in place and are much loved.

The new era of prosperity that Barrow is leaning into offers a similar opportunity for civic renewal. As the local MP I have been pestering anyone who would listen for much of the last three-and-a-bit years, and plenty who didn't want to, that Furness was badly in need of an industrial strategy to support the submarine programme.

My logic went thus: Dreadnought (this was pre-AUKUS) will result in thousands more jobs being created; Barrow does not have the homes to support that influx; if those homes were to be created and each were to have two cars, our roads would become a car park; we have neither enough school nor hospital and GP capacity for numbers of that scale; significantly increasing the size of the shipyard will require moving considerable amounts of freight on those same roads so we need to electrify our railways... and looming on the horizon is the very real (likely, I believe) chance that we will soon see new nuclear at Sellafield. Should this happen, we will face those same challenges and pressures only a few miles away, making delivery of the national endeavour even harder.

Essentially, if the Government wants us to be able to maintain CASD, and build good products to time, and to budget, then it needs to roll the pitch so that Furness is in a position to deliver, rather than attempting to do so with one arm tied behind its back.

Just as I felt I was gaining traction with the Prime Minister and the Defence Secretary, the AUKUS partnership was announced. With that announcement, the pressures I mentioned above increased several fold. Dreadnought is a national endeavour. SSN-AUKUS is an international one that we cannot allow to fail. As a result, Team Barrow was born.

Launched at the behest of the Prime Minister and led by the Cabinet Secretary (the most senior civil servant in the country), Team Barrow brings together some of the most senior civil servants from across Government, the local council, BAE (and me!) to plot what needs to be delivered and who will be accountable for doing so to deliver on these two huge projects.

Nowhere else in the UK has this kind of attention - and it is a huge opportunity for Furness that we do. As ever, the devil will be in the details, but I am in the fortunate position to prod, jostle and nudge Ministers between meetings and, so far, things are progressing well.

In Parliament I co-chair the AUKUS All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG). APPGs are essentially coalitions of the interested and must be cross-party to exist. John Spellar (a former Labour defence Minister) and I are building up a group that currently consists of the MPs of Devonport, Barrow, and Derby, and a few significant interested others, to include those who have major supply chain or skills interests. Our job is to educate parliamentarians on the task ahead of us, to improve our challenge, ensure a deep knowledge regardless of what happens in upcoming elections, and to build links with our counterparts in the US and Australia.

AUKUS, of course, is not just about boats, but a long-lasting tilt towards the Pacific and the deep integration of the defence and intelligence infrastructure of three nations. Pillar 1 is of huge interest to Barrow, Devonport and Derby, but it is Pillar 2 where some of the longest-lasting impacts will be felt. As an APPG, we need to understand this, challenge it, and ensure that we are holding the executive to account, and providing a degree of stability in a three-way relationship buffeted by challenging electoral cycles.

As part of this, in Westminster I spend a good deal of my time meeting defence companies, ministers and government officials, technology firms, educational establishments, and a plethora of think tanks, to gain knowledge and to begin to draw together a coalition of interested parties. It is early days but we are making good progress. For a project that will last decades in delivery and run far longer in operation, it is essential that we understand the scale of opportunity, and the risks inherent in AUKUS.

Which neatly brings me to my current assessment. In late October I visited Washington DC to discuss aid, diplomacy, migration, and defence with Congressmen, Senators, and the US civil service. Earlier in the year I was in New York with the Home Affairs Committee to explore issues pertaining to policing and law enforcement.

In both cases I left with a very clear view: the special relationship, as we like to call it, now has a third partner. This is no bad thing, and we should embrace the opportunities that come with it.

The other message I left with is that our friends and partners in the US are firmly of the view that after a Cold War dividend which we all enjoyed, we are now in a space dominated by conflict and competition - a rising China that seeks to expand its influence territorially, technologically, and through trade; a destructive Russia; instability in the Middle East; overarching issues that transcend borders like climate change, pandemics and migration; and technological advancements which will impact the daily lives and work of citizens as well as democratic systems and warfare.

Geopolitical volatility that may seem far away threatens our national security, prosperity, and way of life at home. New alliances such as AUKUS and GCAP (the new air platform shared between the UK, Japan and Italy) enable us to far more aggressively lean into those threats and make the structural changes in our defence and foreign policy establishments required to do so.

Australia, the US and the UK are old friends, bound by their liberal democracies, shared language, values and cultures. But we are also starting out on a new relationship, and so these early months and years are delicate and fragile.

The work being undertaken in Barrow through AUKUS should serve not only to make us all a bit more secure, but also to provide resilience to a fragile submarine programme, cement trust amongst partners that the other strands of the partnership will reap rewards and enable a transformation for the wider community in Barrow & Furness. It is a bold, innovative programme, and one that rises up to the unprecedented challenges that we face in the world today.

BOOK REVIEWS

BP SHIPPING PICTORIAL

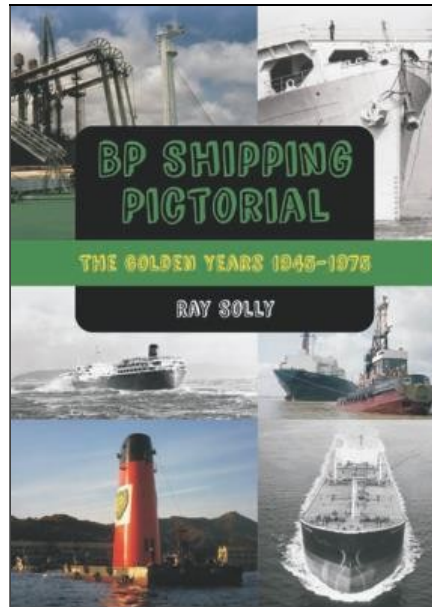
The Golden Years 1945 -1975

Ray Solly

An authoritative examination of the 30-year period that covered significant changes in the history of British Petroleum Tanker Company.

Features an exciting and major period of prosperity prior to the development of the company's fleet into VLCC class ships.

Profusely illustrated with images of ships and ship plans.



This is an in-depth appraisal of the 30-year post Second World War period that covered significant changes in the history of British Petroleum Shipping. These major changes were vital to the development of the company's fleet from modest 12,000 summer deadweight tonnage vessels to the Very Large Crude Oil (VLCC) class ships which ranged up to British Respect with her capacity of 277,746 sdwt.

The author starts with a concise history of BP from its beginnings around 1915, including early developments in the design and construction of tankers. Losses during the Second World War were countered by developments in conversion of vessels for wartime duty and the ongoing construction of new vessels. Post-war, and after considerable losses, the drive to repair vessels and build new tankers was paramount and led to the growth of the 1950s

In many areas, BP was instrumental in designing and implementing safety rules long before they became international law and the effects of these changes are considered in detail. Also featured is the recovery of the fleet following the ravages of the Second World War which was influenced by an unprecedented international demand for oil. There were also numerous political upheavals that had a direct influence on ship routing and fluctuations in the growth of the parent company, BP International, which affected the shipping arm, BPTC. This was a period of serious oil pollution that caused worldwide consternation. This concern led to the formation of the International Maritime Consultative Organisation (IMCO) which was ratified in 1948 and renamed the IMO in 1982. This organisation became a major innovator of a raft of consultative documents which eventually led to numerous protocols and conventions, leading the marine transport industry and the tanker industry in particular to becoming the most widely-regulated form of transport in the world. This brief was extended to encompass professional certification across all ranks of seafarers, helping to correct numerous problems which affected crews during this 30-year period. Tank construction and ship stability problems are discussed along with a major overhaul of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea. Other issues confronted during this period include preliminary work which would later be extended to include ballast water transference worldwide and air pollution, etc.

Readership: This will be of major interest to everyone with an interest in ships and shipping, international maritime history and the merchant marine, and specifically BP

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SUBMARINERS ASSOCIATION

AGM & FAMILY WEEKEND 2024

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

S1 Ham Hock Terrine

S2 Chicken Liver Pate

S3 Comber Potato and Leek soup

M1 Slow Braised Blade of Beef

M2 Roast Duck Breast

M3 Roast Cod Fillet

V Caramelised Leek & Celeriac Parcel

D1 Sticky Toffee Pudding

D2 Lemon Meringue Tart

D3 Armagh Apple Creme Brûlée
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."

Serving members should check with their security departments on restrictions.

[illegible]

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

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31		TOTALS																										
32	All hotel cancellations , must be made to Iain Mackenzie as soon as possible and not direct to the hotel																											
33	Add any other supporting information or requirements on a separate sheet if necessary																											
34	Submit applications to Iain Mackenzie, Dolphin Cottage, 41 Grafton Road, Worthing, BN11 1QY. Telephone number 07403 433178																											
35	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																											
	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 October 2023 to 31st December 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
John Francis Austin	15th September 2023 aged 80	Engine Room Artificer 1st Class	Fisgard Association	Not given	GRAMPUS, OLYMPUS, OSIRIS & DOLPHIN
Brian S Johnston P/M 933391	20th September 2023 aged 87	Petty Officer Radio Electrician	Manchester Branch	1963 to 1966	TIPTOE
John A Cumberpatch P/JX 921795	October 2023 aged 86	Leading Seaman (Underwater Weapons)	Ex Dolphin & SOCA Northants	April 1955 to April 1964	SEA SCOUT, TAPIR, THULE, TRUNCHEON on 'Commissioning' at Devonport in February 1960 & AURIGA on 'Commissioning' at Devonport on 31st May 1962
Simon Phillip Bromiley	10th October 2023	Chief Petty Officer Marine Engineering Artificer	We Remember Submariners	Not given	Including CONQUEROR
Raymond 'Joe' Cornelius D0769148	12th October 2023 aged 76	Chief Petty Officer Marine Engineering Artificer (P)	Barrow in Furness Branch	1974 to 1987	OPOSSUM (1974 to 1977), REPULSE (S) (1978 to 1980), WALRUS (1980 to 1985) & FINNWHALE (1985 to 1987)
Stephen P Shirras D169202G	13th October 2023 aged 64	Radio Operator	Blackpool & Fylde Branch	Not given	RESOLUTION & REPULSE
Andrew Philip Johnson	17th October 2023	Commander (X) (SM)	Friend of Submarine Museum	1971 to 1988	DOLPHIN (1971), ARTEMIS (1971 to 1973), SUPERB (1977 to 1979), NEPTUNE (1980), ONYX (CO 1981 to 1983), SWIFTSURE (IL 1984 to 1985), USN Exchange (1986 to 1987) & FOSM Subelant (1988)
Eamon Doyle P/K970467	23rd October 2023 aged 85	Petty Officer (ME)	Northern Ireland Branch	November 1958 to June 1962	TOKEN, TRUNCHEON on 'Commissioning' at Devonport in February 1960 & AUROCHS
Roger Malcolm Venables	31st October 2023 aged 88	Captain (X) (SM)	Friend of Submarine Museum	195* to 1989	ANCHORITE (IL 1st November 1961 & on commissioning on 11th October 1962), ORPHEUS (IL 16th December 1963), AURIGA (CO 5th December 1966 to 1968), OPPORTUNE CO 15th October 1970 to 1971), DIS (1972 to 1973), RALEIGH (1974 to 1975), DOLPHIN (1976 to 1978), RESOLUTION (CO 1979 to 1980), DWCA (1981), MoD Central Staff (1982), NA Bonn (1983 to 1985), SULTAN (1986) & DOLPHIN (1987 to 1989)
'Brum' Newbold	October 2023	Not given	We Remember Submariners	Not given	Not given
Douglas Lawrence Gilling	15th July 2023 aged 101	Lieutenant, RANVR	Telegraph Obituaries	WWII service	Chariots & X Craft
Alan MacLellan	1st November 2023	Chief Petty Officer WEM (R)	We Remember Submariners	Not given	OBERON & other boats
John E Grisman P/SSX 926142	4th November 2023 aged 85	Radio Operator 2nd Class	Dolphin Branch	1958 to 1962	TIPTOE (1959), TALENT (1960), SENTINEL (1960 to 1961) & SERAPH (1961 to 1962)
Gordon Whadcock	8th November 2023 aged 92	Asdic Rating	We Remember Submariners	late 1940s/early 1950s	AMPHION, AUROCHS & ALARIC
Henry Anthony (Tony) Edwards	8th November 2023	Petty Officer Radio Supervisor	We Remember Submariners	Not given	Not reported
John Patrick Speller, OBE	19th November 2023 aged 86	Captain (X) (SM)	Ex Dolphin Branch & Friend	1958 to 1984	DOLPHIN, RORQUAL, AUROCHS (3rd Hand), ALLIANCE (NO), OLYMPUS (IL), MAIDSTONE, AMBUSH (CO), CHURCHILL (IL),

CO09162Y				of SM Museum			DOLPHIN, SWIFTSURE (CO), Northwood, NEPTUNE & MoD London
Richard Hamilton Charles Simpson	20th November 2023	Commander (E) (WESM)	Friend of SM Museum	1969 to 1996			DOLPHIN, OLYMPUS, NEPTUNE, RESOLUTION, SUPERB, Greenwich, FOSM Northwood, CSST, DNOR, MoD London, MoD Bath, AUTEC & WEO SM2
Michael G Hudson P083260	26th November 2023	Leading Marine Engineering Mechanic	Navy News	1967 to 1973			OTUS (1967 to 1970) & RENOWN (1970 to 1972)
Philip Boland	28th November 2023	Chief Petty Officer Marine Engineering Artificer	We Remember Submariners	1963 to 1987			Including SEALION & SWIFTSURE
Richard John Campbell, OBE	29th November 2023 aged 90	Captain (Hon)	Friend of SM Museum	1954 to 1956			ACHERON
Philip Ainsley- Shaw D132469N	November 2023 aged 67	Petty Officer Marine Engineering Mechanic (SM)	Sunderland Branch	1974 to 1982			SWIFTSURE (1974 to 1977) & SUPERB (1978 to 1982)
Tony (Bruce) McCallum	November 2023	Chief Petty Officer Marine Engineering Mechanic	We Remember Submariners	Not given			Not reported
Albert Victor Pitt, MBE, MSM	1st December 2023 aged 87	Fleet Chief Petty Officer	We Remember Submariners	Not given			Including TRUMP & COURAGEOUS
Peter 'Rattler' (Mav) Morgan	9th December 2023	UC	We Remember Submariners	To 1998			SPARTAN, SUPERB, SPLENDID & TIRELESS
David William (George) Cree	December 2023	Chief Petty Officer Marine Engineering Mechanic	We Remember Submariners	Not given			RESOLUTION (S) (on recommissioning on 1st October 1984), RENOWN (P) on rededication on 21st November 1992 & VANGUARD
Mark (Paddy) Patterson	22nd December 2023	Not given	We Remember Submariners	Not given			Submarine Service not reported
Charles Frederick Thornton Poynder	27th December 2023 aged 99	Lieutenant Commander	Dolphin Branch	September 1943 to April 1952 *****			UNBENDING (TO), SERAPH (3rd Hand), SCOTSMAN (3rd Hand), SCOTSMAN (IL), STATESMAN (IL 23rd June 1947), SENTINEL, SENESCHAL, SUBTLE, TEMPLAR & TOKEN
Robert M Fleming M972122L	27th December 2023 aged 82	Petty Officer Cook (O)	East Kent Branch	1968 to 1981			ACHERON (1969 to 1970), OCELOT (1971 to 1972), OTTER (1972 to 1973) & REPULSE (1979 to 1980)
Michael Gerald Jones CO 14627B	28th December 2023	Commander (X) (SM)	Non -member	July 1968 to May 1991			TIPTOE, ALCIDE (1968 to 1969), WARSPITE (1970), REPULSE (1971 to 1973), OLYMPUS (1974 to 1975), COQC (1976), WALRUS (CO 1977), REPULSE (IL 1978 to 1980) & RENOWN (CO 1983 to 1985)
Douglas C (Dougy) Stewart D086013P	31st December 2023 aged 75	Chief Petty Officer Marine Engineering Artificer	Plymouth Branch	January 1972 to October 1984			SUPERB (1st Commission Crew on 13th November 1976), SCEPTRE, TIRELESS & TRENCHANT
Michael (Mick) Chapman	December 2023	Petty Officer (TS)	We Remember Submariners	Not given			ORACLE in 1990