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General Info

Followed by:-

September Puzzle no 12

Book Review
Warship 2009



**Combined Chairman
and Lay Chaplain Dit**

September 2009.

I apologize for having missed our mid monthly Committee Meeting but priority family commitments had dragged me away. As such I missed the important discussion on the challenging report that for the benefit of this Dit I have called "A Future Social Way Ahead Policy" that was produced by John Houlding our Vice Chairman. There were two reasons for the paper (1): That Colin our Social Secretary had indicated that due to increased work pressures he wished to stand down. (2): John was concerned as to how we were to fill the gap, that the absence of Colin would make whilst maintaining sustainability of a second to none Social Programme. Thankfully Colin has indicated that it is his wish to remain for the time being in the post.

Continued on page 2





That however does not absolve the Committee of its task to constantly seek ways of improving the way we conduct business. Indeed as the Any Other Business (AOB) debate at our last monthly meeting proved. I am led to believe that the Committee was happy that the overall Social Programme was strong but always open to tweaking. An identified weakness was that attendance lists have traditionally been past around during the meeting and money gathering took place at the end. This has always been a difficult for the Social Secretary especially on evenings when the RUM flows freely. To this end, the future agenda will include a suitable break long enough for such business Social Attendance/ Money Lists: Slops: Raffle Tickets: to be conducted. I must add the rider that if anyone has any ideas for items that can be added to our Social Programme the Committee will be happy to investigate the feasibility.

Chaplains Dit September 2009

Wearing my Chaplains hat for a few serious moments let me change direction and share with you the dichotomy of feelings that I currently find myself dealing with. Having spent this past week trawling the Internet to find some military humour that amused me that perhaps Ben could use in our newsletter, I will duly send them off to him. We must have all over time, been the butt of, or perpetrators of, the blackest of black humour, and that was the thing that kept us all going in times long past. The things we now relive in the warm comfort of our reunions and lamp swinging sessions. I have as many of you know been cajoling and guiding my now eighteen year old Grandson along his first two years of Army Training first Army Foundation College in Harrogate and now the REME where he is completing his mechanical training. To be told late last night that his training group are going to Afghanistan in the not too distant future not as Mechanics but front Line Infantry foot soldiers because of Army shortages, and that is really really scary. So our family is now in the same boat or soon will be, the many other families of front line personnel. So should I stop the humorous

article? No!! It's that which separates the military from civilians in times of extreme strife. So what can I do for my grandson now? Nothing more. All I can do is place his life in the hands of the Highest Authority possible. I believe in that Higher Authority totally and utterly, and that is why I do what I do, and as such honoured to be your Chaplain.

Regards Jonsey

Social Scene September 2009



I hope all those that attended the annual BBQ at the Vickerstown institute enjoyed themselves and had a good time, the feedback that I have received has been positive. I would like to thank all those who helped out on the night, Brigham and his team for providing some good scran, Terry Spurling and friends who kindly sold raffle tickets for me and Ginge Cundell for running the Rum Barrel, and of course all who attended for supporting the raffle so generously.

Again a couple of Social notices for this month, firstly a reminder that our next main social will be the Ladies night dinner dance to be held at the Lisdoonie on November 6th, Cost per head will be £27:00, Shindig will be bringing out their Dinner dance act and I have been told they do a very good dinner dance and will play what ever you want, the list will be circulated again at the next meeting so that you can get your names down early, it helps with planning i.e numbers for the hotel and table plans if I get your bids in early and also payment before the event would be appreciated.

We have approximately 11 names for the visit to Faslane on the weekend of 20th to 22nd November, there are plenty of places left so if you would like to go get your names down at the September meeting please see me, there is a deposit of £20 required to show intent and go towards cost of transport, to date I have received two deposits. If there are still places after that then it may be opened up to our friends at Morecambe and Manchester to join us.

The interest list for a visit next year to the Spanish branch Espana Levante is still open and looks like good there is very good interest, will be circulated again in September.

There have been a number of occasions this year and in the past where members have put down for tickets for an event, not paid any money and then pulled out on or close to the night, as you can appreciate when planning events especially where food is budgeted for, the number I give to the caterer is the price we are charged, whether the full number is there or not. It should become the normal practice to pay the Social Secretary for any tickets ordered prior to the event and to give at least a weeks notice if you cannot attend so that numbers can be reduced, any cancellations less than a week before will only be refunded in exceptional circumstances.

Well that's me for this month
See you all next month!!

Colin Hutchinson
Social Secretary

Lawyers and blondes

A lawyer boarded an airplane in New Orleans with a box of frozen crabs and asked a blonde stewardess to take care of them for him. She took the box and promised to put it in the crew's refrigerator.

He advised her that he was holding her personally responsible for them staying frozen, and mentioning in a very haughty manner that he was a lawyer, and proceeded to rant at her about what would happen if she let them thaw out.

Needless to say, she was annoyed by his behavior.

Shortly before landing in New York, she used the intercom to announce to the entire cabin, "Would the gentleman who gave me the crabs in New Orleans, please raise your hand?". Not one hand went up ... so she took them home and ate them.

Two lessons here:

- 1) Lawyers aren't as smart as they think they are.
- 2) Blondes aren't as dumb as most folks think.



Barrow Submarine Series: issue number 5

HMS Astute



NEW ERA: Britain's first new "super-sub" *Astute* was launched by the Duchess of Cornwall on June 8 in 2007

IT must be quite a rarity for a shipyard to have launched two submarines with the same name.

Vickers launched *HMS Astute* (P447) as an Amphion-class submarine in 1944.

And in June 2007 Camilla, Duchess of Wales, launched the new *Astute* – soon to be the trail-blazer of a new generation of nuclear fleet submarines for the Royal Navy.

The first *Astute* was laid down by Vickers at Barrow and was commissioned in 1945.

The Amphion class was one of only two new British submarine designs produced during the Second World War, the other being the X-craft midget submarines.

Astute was scrapped on October 1 in 1970 at Dunston-on-Tyne .

The Amphion, or A-class was ordered by the Admiralty in 1943 to cope with the new challenges posed by war in the new Pacific theatre following the attack on Pearl Harbour.

They had a high, flared bow for excellent sea performance and had effective air conditioning, essential for Far East submarine operations.

They were operated by a crew of between 60 and 68.

Originally, 46 submarines were ordered, but only 18 were launched (10 by Vickers at Barrow) and 16 were commissioned, the other two hulls being used for crush testing.



ON THE MOVE: A giant section of the *Astute* submarine being taken along Bridge Road, Barrow

STATS:

Displacement: 1,385 tons surfaced
Length: 280.5 ft (85.50m)
Beam: 22.3 ft (6.80m)
Draught: 16.8 ft (5.12m)
Speed: 18.5 knots (34.3 km/h) surfaced and eight knots (10 km/h) submerged

Range: 10,500 nautical miles at 11 knots (19,400 km at 20 km/h) surfaced
16 nautical miles at 8 knots (30 km at 10 km/h) submerged

Test depth: 500 ft (150 m)

Armament: six bow and four stern torpedo tubes, one four-inch gun, one Oerlikon 20mm gun and three machine guns.

There is little comparison with the space-age new *Astute* which will set a new standard for the Royal Navy in terms of weapons load, improved communications facilities, stealth and comfort for the crew.

The *Astute*-class boats are being constructed by BAE Systems Submarine Solutions at Barrow.

STATS:

Displacement: 7,800 tonnes submerged

Length: 97 m (323 ft)

Beam: 11.3 m (37 ft)

Draught: 10 m (33 ft)

Propulsion: Rolls-Royce PWR 2 reactor, MAN (Paxman) 1,900 kilowatt diesel generator

Speed: 29 knots (54 km/h) submerged

Range: Only limited by food and maintenance requirements.

Test depth: 300m

Complement: 98 officers and men (capacity of 109)

Armament: six torpedo tubes, 38 Spearfish torpedoes, UGM-84 Harpoon and Tomahawk Block III cruise missiles; naval mines.



Barrie Downer Secretary



I suppose we are just about at the end of the Holiday period with just the August Bank Holiday to come. I'm still trying to get used to the Bank Holiday at the end of August rather than at the beginning as they still have it in Scotland. Still, that's what comes from living 'north of the border' for so long before moving to Barrow! Have you had your holiday this year? I hear that if you have your holiday at home instead of going abroad you are now a 'Staycationer' not sure if that's meant as a term of abuse or not! At least if you stay at home you know what the weather is going to be like - windy and wet with the odd dry and sunny day!

Apart from the Barbeque and the Branch Meeting what has been going on? Not much at all! It's been pretty quiet all round. Well, there was the monthly Committee Meeting at which a good part of the discussion was about concerns both nationally and locally at Branch level about how to recruit more members, how to keep members and how to organise events so as to keep the membership levels up.

Apparently nationally the Recruitment levels are good and more than match the numbers of those 'Crossing the Bar' the main concern is those members who lapse their Membership usually without telling anyone why they are leaving!. Our Branch is lucky in that we have a large recruiting base locally but other Branches struggle to stay in business. However, in the Barrow area, there are a lot of retired and serving submariners who are not Members so the Branch could be bigger. Any ideas about how to attract new Members and to retain them (and current members) will be welcomed!

What do you think? What are your ideas on how things are organised?

The next Branch Meeting will be slightly different to previously. After the first part of the Meeting which includes up to the Social Secretary's Report there will be a 20 minute break while we top up our glasses and circulate the lists for the forthcoming events and sell you all some Raffle Tickets.

Then we can go through the remainder of the Reports and Any other Business and then have the Raffle and carry on with the social part of the evening.

So what is coming up in the near future. First there is the Battle of Britain Parade on 20th September a Parade up to the Cenotaph for a short Remembrance Service and then back to Holker Street for drinks and a chat. In October the KORBRA have arranged a Coach Trip (there and back!) to the Fleetwood Branch for a Social event and we are invited to attend. There will be the Reunion at Nottingham in October, the Sea Cadets Trafalgar Night Ball also in October and the Ladies Night Dinner Dance in November. Plus now there is also a visit to Faslane arranged for November. I have just been advised that the Derby Branch will be visiting in September or October - dates to be advised they have been invited by HMS AMBUSH (Derby is their adoptive town!) to have a look at the Yard and how AMBUSH is progressing.

We will have to see if we can arrange a Meet & Greet' for them on the Friday or the Saturday!. As ever you can attend any of all of the events - lists for some of these events will be circulated at the next Branch Meeting on 1st September get your names down as soon as possible!

And now the usual boring reminders are you still outstanding your Branch Subs for this year (and even some for last year).

You can pay any member of the Committee and then you will be sent your Membership Card you know the nice Lilac ones (or is it Mauve?). If you have paid up and you haven't yet got your

Membership Card see any Committee Member and we can sort it out! Any way, if you are outstanding, Mick Mailey will only be pleased to take your money and John Houlding is still trying to get rid of those cards!

If you are attending the Annual Reunion in Nottingham in October you must be a 'Paid Up' Member of the Association to attend the Reunion Dinner! And we need any outstanding Balances paid up NOW! Hopefully you brought have brought your cash or cheque books to the September Branch Meeting remembering to make your cheques out to the Barrow Branch! Unless you tell me otherwise I assume you will be requiring transport there and back - details of what we can arrange and times and places of 'pick ups' are still to be finalised!

As ever if you have moved, changed your phone number or your e mail provider please let us know as soon as possible so that we can keep in touch and make sure you get all your Branch information. E Mail Address updates are still coming in slowly - three in the last three weeks and I expect there are a few more I don't yet know about so don't be shy - let me know! We can't keep everyone fully informed if we don't know how to get hold of you! Also if you can't make it to a Branch Meeting remember to send in your apologies partly so we still know you are well. If you are not keeping too well yourself let us know and we will see if there is anything the Welfare team can help with. Remember to let us know if there are any Branch Members that you know (or their wives, girlfriends or partners) who are not too well sometimes they may be too busy or pre-occupied with events to let us know themselves. If we don't know we can't help!

That's about it for now see you all at the Branch Meeting Tuesday 1st September usual time usual place!

Regards
Barrie



Kendal Torchlight Festival

On Friday, 11 September 2009, the annual Kendal Torchlight Festival takes place. As it is the 40th anniversary of the event, it is hoped the festival will be the biggest and best yet.

As part of its ongoing partnership with St Mary's Hospice, the BAE Charity Challenge team and hospice representatives will be joining forces to collect vitally needed hospice funds during the event. In order to do this the team needs your help. It is looking for volunteers to help with the collection during the following hours:

The event is free to watch and promises to offer something for all of the family, including spectacular floats, the Barracudas and various carnival bands. Not only is this a great opportunity to help raise funds for the hospice but also a great night of fun for all of the family.

DUNDEE MEMORIAL UNVEILING

All Members who requested to go to the Dundee Memorial (9th Submarine Flotilla) Unveiling please note that your details have been sent to the Secretary of the Scotland North East Branch. Invitations are being processed by Dundee City Council and will be sent out to you directly. Keep an eye out for the post!

SSAFA Forces Help Lottery

You will all be aware of the continuing need to support our ex-service community when they are in need. SSAFA-Forces Help is the national charity that does just that and here in Cumbria last year we helped over 500 people and raised over £350,000 from a number of sources in the process.

However the availability of the necessary funding is proving to be a continual struggle and so SSAFA Cumbria has now joined

Unity Lottery to help raise funds. Unity run lotteries for a number of charities, both locally and nationally.

Every one of our supporters who joins the scheme, for £1/week, will benefit SSAFA by 50p every week and they will have the chance to win £25,000 or a number of smaller prizes. The odds of winning are better than the National Lottery.

I am the promoter of the lottery and will be delighted to answer any questions that you might have. If you want an entry form then I have some available and can be contacted on 01229 588529. They can also be downloaded from the web site, www.unitylottery.co.uk/ssafa. I will also be bringing some forms to the monthly meetings.

Please think about helping us to help others and join our new lottery.

Thank you on behalf of our clients.

Alan Hoskins

Northrop Partner To Fix USS Toledo Hull Crack

Newport News Daily Press
18 August 2009
By Peter Frost

The Navy will pay \$717,000 to fix a 21-inch crack in the hull of the USS Toledo. Northrop Grumman Corp.'s submarine-building partner, General Dynamics Electric Boat, was awarded the 65-day project, which will be conducted pierside at Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton, Conn.

The project should be completed by early October.

Workers will replace a 29-inch-by-40-inch hull casting on the topside hull of the Los Angeles-class sub and replace it while the Toledo remains waterborne, said Alan Baribeau, a Navy spokesman.

The Navy has requested the entire casting be removed to

allow the sea service to try to determine when and how the crack formed.

The boat's crew found the crack July 17, and the boat was immediately laid up at the pier. Beginning at the trailing edge of the sail and extending across the hull, the crack continues from the outer portion of the hull through to the pressure hull. It is visible overhead in the control room in the forward compartment of the boat, according to the Navy.

If undetected, the crack could have led to water leaks and other problems if the submarine submerged, the Navy said. Northrop's Newport News shipyard in March finished a 27-month maintenance project on the Toledo, where workers blasted, coated and painted its hull - including the area where the crack was found.

Neither the company nor the Navy have connected the problem to its time in Newport

Northrop officials have said it's nearly impossible that the crack existed when it left the yard.

The company also has committed to working with the Navy on its investigation into the cause and a remediation plan for its repair.

A couple is lying in bed. The man says, 'I am going to make you the happiest woman in the world...'
The woman replies, 'I'll miss you.....'





Book Shelf

I take great pleasure in trawling through second hand bookshops looking for hidden gems. So in line with Ben's continual requests for different items of news or activities to keep our newsletter fresh I have taken it on myself to set up a temporary Branch Bookshelf. The idea being that most of us have those (read long ago) marine & submarine genre books tucked away on shelves that are now not opened from one year's end to another. As such we could either donate them to the Branch, or at least allow other members to read them.



A small donation as part of the transaction will allow members to gain access to these books; these donations will go towards upkeep and purchase of future books. All exchange activity could then take place at our monthly meetings. To kick-start the project, I am donating this book bought in a recent second hand book raid. To give a flavour of the book I have copied an extract of the conversation between two former submarine CO's who had moved on to become Captain of Sheffield (Sam Salt) and Commander South Atlantic Task Force (Sandy Woodward).

The order to abandon ship had already been given. So Sam Salt arrived on board Hermes soon afterward. I could see by the way he swallowed that he was close to tears, but he was no less brave for that, on this most terrible day. We did our best to speak in a matter-of-fact tone, to keep hold of the situation, but I fear that in my worry, I was less than sympathetic. (Years later, Sam told me I said flatly: "I suspect someone's been careless.") What I remember is being aware that I could not afford to let this situation get out of hand, any more than he could....

More book reviews next time
Temp Librarian

Make a Long Week in Spain this November.

The "Espana Levante Branch" is holding its next meeting on the weekend Friday 20th November 2009 to Sunday 22nd November 2009

THE BRISTOL PARK HOTEL, Plaza Doctor Fleming.2. 03501, BENIDORM. Discounted prices on this Hotel can be booked using www.alpharooms.com

The following rates have been negotiated with ALPHAROOMS. When making your booking state in the comments field. "Submariners Re-Union". The rates are for the first 10 twin rooms booked, and the first single. These rates are per room and include taxes:

Three Night stay. Half Board 20th,21st and 22nd November 2009

Single room: 127.88 Pounds or 149.62 euros Twin room: 157.12 Pounds or 183.82 euros

Two Night stay. Half Board 20th and 21st November 2009.

Single room: 85.22 Pounds or 99.70 euros Twin room: 104.70 Pounds or 122.49 euros

Note: apparently Half Board costs no more than Bed and Breakfast, and it is possible to trade your Dinner for Lunch.

Visit our web site www.submariners-spain.yolasite.com or contact the Secretary, Bob Head at bobhead737@yahoo.co.uk

A provisional programme to date is still being finalised but is as shown below. Retail therapy is also readily available in Benidorm.

Friday 20th 12:00 Informal meet-up for early arrivals in hotel bar or terrace with TOT at 13:00 followed by lamp swinging.

14:00 Trip (to carpet factory????)

18:00 Get together for drink in hotel than proceed to Beer Barrel.

20:00 Meal in Queens dining room (10€ menu) drinks not included.

Saturday 21st. 12:00 Tot Time, Gather for drinks in hotel

13:00 Meeting of members present to discuss any items for A.G.M. followed by Up spirits

14:00 Trip to (to be confirmed)

19:00 Drinks

20:00 Meal (venue to be confirmed)

22:00 Visit a show bar

Sunday 22nd 12:00 Tot Time, Farewell drink at hotel (for those not staying Sunday night)

13:00 Lunch at hotel

14:00 Trip to (to be confirmed)

In evening visit to the "Chappito" circus at Benidorm palace.



Lord These Departed shipmates with Dolphins on their chest are part of an outfit known as the best. Make them welcome and take them by the hand you'll find without doubt they are the best in the land. So heavenly father add their names to the roll of our departed shipmates still on patrol let them know that we who survive will always keep there memories alive

The names of those members reported in August to have 'Crossed the Bar'



Teeside Branch
August 2009
J(Joe) Charlock
ME (1)
Aged 70
Submarine Service 1963-1968
Excalibar, Amphion
&
Onyx



Non Member
July 2009
D (Dave) Goodwin
Lieutenant Commander

Submarine Service
Resolution & Renown



Former Member Sheffield Branch
August 2009
P(Phil) Norman
Leading Electrical Mechanic
P/SKX 872712
Aged 77
Submarine Service 1952-1957
Sea Scout, Scotsman, Tireless
Amphion



New Zeland Branch
P.(Foo) Fenton
CPO Stwd
Aged 76
Submarine Service 1953-1973
Ambush, Astute, Auriga,
Solent, Explorer, Grampus,
Artful, Trump, Dreadnought,
Valiant, Scotsman
&
Excalibar



Non Member
11th August 2009
T E (Tom) Brinkley MBE
Commander (E)
Submarine Service
Including
Resolution



Bath Branch
11th August
R A (Bob) Tidd
Able Seaman (ST)
D/JX 298512
Aged 84
Submarine Service 1942-1946
Oberon (1) Truculent
Truant
Auriga



Non Member
18th August 2009
J (Jack) Allen
Able Seaman (LTO)
D/JX 610087
Aged 84
Submarine Service 1945-1946

Upshot
Auriga
Tantalus



CAT AND MICE IN HEAVEN

A cat died and went to Heaven. God met her at the gates and said, "You have been a good cat all these years.

Anything you want is yours for the asking." The cat thought for a minute and then said, "All my life I lived on a farm and slept on hard wooden floors. I would like a real fluffy pillow to sleep on." God said, "Say no more." Instantly the cat had a huge fluffy pillow.

A few days later, six mice were killed in an accident and they went to Heaven together. God met the mice at the gates with the same offer that he made to the cat.

The mice said, "Well, we have had to run all of our lives: from cats, dogs, and even people with brooms! If we could just have some little roller skates, we would not have to run again." God answered, "It is done." All the mice had beautiful little roller skates.

About a week later, God decided to check on the cat. He found her fast asleep on her fluffy pillow. God gently awakened the cat and asked, "Is everything alright?"

Are you happy?" The cat replied, "Oh, it is Wonderful. I have never been so happy in my life. The pillow is so fluffy, and those little Meals on Wheels you have been sending over are delicious!"





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THE GYNAECOLOGIST

A gynaecologist had become fed up with malpractice insurance and NHS paperwork and was burned out. Hoping to try another career where skilful hands would be beneficial, he decided to become a garage mechanic. He went to the local technical college, signed up for evening classes, attended diligently, and learned all he could. When the time for the practical exam approached, the gynaecologist prepared carefully for weeks and completed the exam with tremendous skill.

When the results came back, he was surprised to find that he had obtained a score of 150%. Fearing an error, he called the instructor, saying: "I don't want to appear ungrateful for such an outstanding result, but I wonder if there is an error in the grade."

The instructor said, "During the exam, you took the engine apart perfectly, which was worth 50% of the total mark. You put the engine back together again perfectly, which is also worth 50% of the mark."

After a pause, the instructor added, "I gave you an extra 50% because you did it all through the exhaust pipe, which I've never seen done in my entire career."

September 2009
Members Birthdays

R. Watling	05/09
P. Dismore	06/09
R. Hayes	09/09
D. Oakes	09/09
G. Stevens	10/09
K. Myers	17/09
T. Wilson	23/09
F. Pretty	24/09
D. Smith	25/09
R. Fry	28/09

www.hmsresolution.org.uk

News Letter Contact Information

Do you have a story to tell or have information you feel should appear in the news letter then ring Ben Britten on 01229 820265 (evenings) or if you wish to send me an article please ring for postal address. or send your contribution by e-mail to:

Rwbritten1@msn.com

Constructive suggestions about the news letter are very welcome. The news letter will be published in the last week of each month IE last week of September for the October 2009 issue please try and have any information with me by the **15th of each month.** Thank you to everyone who contributed to this edition.



SOCIAL CALENDAR 2009 - LOOK AHEAD

September	October	November
1st Monthly Meeting (Social Ladies)	6th Monthly meeting	1st Embankment
15th Branch Committee Meeting	9/11 SA Reunion w/e	3rd Monthly Meeting
	17th Trafalgar Ball	6th Ladies Night
	20th Branch committee meeting	8th Remembrance parade
		17th Committee meeting



New Branch Members.

Tom Rawbone

Willie Russan

A warm welcome to you





Solve the submarine wordsquare

We hope you enjoyed last month's submarine crossword.

If any of it proved tricky, the solution is at the foot of the page. This month we return to a wordsquare with the names of 12 submarines from the US Ohio-Class to find.

If you have any comments or suggestions on how our puzzles can be improved or developed, drop an email to Bill Myers at bill.myers@nwemail.co.uk

Names to find

1: OHIO

2: WYOMING

3: LOUISIANA

4: MICHIGAN

5: FLORIDA

6: GEORGIA

7: ALABAMA

8: ALASKA

9: NEVADA

10: TENNESSEE

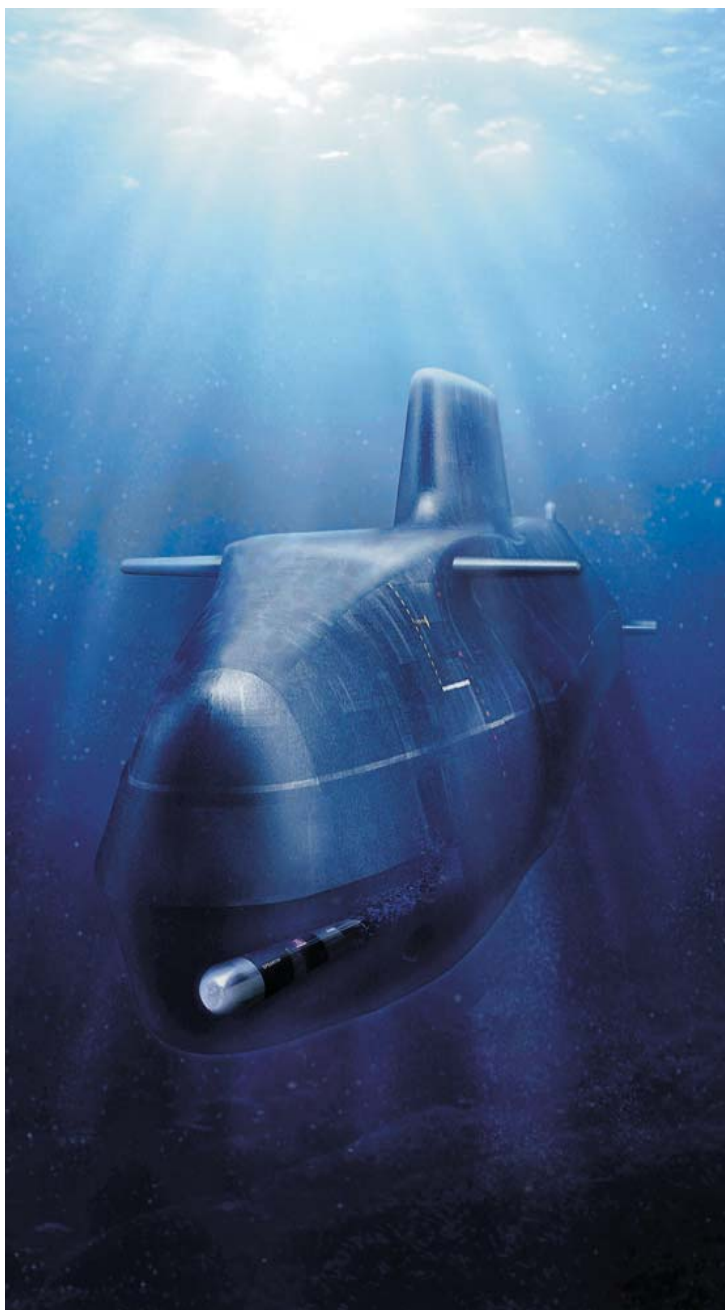
11: KENTUCKY

12: MARYLAND

R	E	C	I	F	A	M	A	B	A	L	A
E	E	O	W	Y	O	M	I	N	G	E	P
P	M	I	C	H	I	G	A	N	C	Y	A
F	C	A	N	I	H	T	P	A	O	K	I
L	C	O	R	M	O	N	D	E	S	C	G
O	C	D	X	Y	A	N	D	A	P	U	R
R	C	O	X	S	L	N	L	E	O	T	O
I	C	R	X	S	W	A	D	E	R	N	E
D	G	A	D	A	V	E	N	E	A	E	G
A	G	E	N	E	R	A	I	D	L	K	L
N	T	E	N	N	E	S	S	E	E	A	B
G	G	A	N	A	I	S	I	U	O	L	A

Last month's crossword solution

1	T	U	R	N								
U				9	P					12	H	
B			2	P	R	O	T	O	T	Y	13	E
E		8	H	O								N
	3	G	O	S	P	O	R	10	T			D
7	V	L	U				A					U
I	L	L				4	R	A	11	D	A	R
C	A	S					G	E				A
K	N	I					E	S				N
E	D	O					T	I				C
R			N						G			E
5	S	L	O	W	6	S	T	E	R	N		



ARTIST'S IMPRESSION: How the Barrow-built *Astute* might look in action



Warship 2009

This Month's Book review looks at 'Warships 2009' by Conway ISBN No. 978-1-84486-089-0 priced at £30.00.

The reviewer this month is
Barrie Downer.

When I was first asked to review this book I thought that it would be a reasonably easy task! That proved not to be the case.

The book is crammed with well researched articles, photographs and drawings on a wide range of Naval and Maritime subjects. As it was it was far too easy to get side tracked into the details many of which were fascinating. The Articles range from an amazing description of how the Royal Navy (in Victorian times) managed to provide coal to power its Warships (Fuelling the Victorian Steam Navy) where ever they were in the world to the horrific accident in Japan in June 1943 in which the giant Battle Ship MUTSU accidentally blew up at anchor in a safe harbour some 25 miles from Hiroshima with the loss of some 1,121 personnel (MUTSU: An Exploration of the Circum-

stances surrounding her Loss). This accident was initially thought to be the work of an American or a Royal Navy Submarine but when it dawned on the authorities that it was an accident their reaction was a 'cover up'.

On the journey through the 208 pages we find an article about the Ships and Submarines built at the John Brown Shipyard on the Clyde during the First World War (A Shipyard at War: John Brown & Co. Ltd, Clydebank, 1914-18).

As well as Battle Ships and Destroyers we learn that they built the engines and machinery for Submarines K1 and K2 and three 'E' Class Submarines and that, although the Yard 'laid down' the Australian Submarine Depot Ship HMAS PLATYPUS on 6th April 1915 construction was suspended the same month so the Yard could concentrate efforts on completing the Battle Ship HMS BARHAM! But perhaps that didn't matter too much as, by that time, both of the Australian Submarines AE1 and AE2 had both been lost AE1 in a mysterious accident in the Pacific in September 1914 and AE2 in the Dardanelles Campaign in April 1915. Possibly the main interest

to the Submarine aficionado is found in the Article 'The Royal Navy and the Evolution of the 'True Submarine' 1945 - 1963'. This well researched Article discusses the streamlining modifications and battery experiments with 'S' & 'T' Class Submarines, the trials with captured and surrendered U-Boats, from the refitted HMS METEORITE through the development and trials of Submarines E14 and E15 better known as HMS EXPLORER and EXCALIBUR also known by their crews as 'EXPLODER' and 'EXCRUCIATOR'.

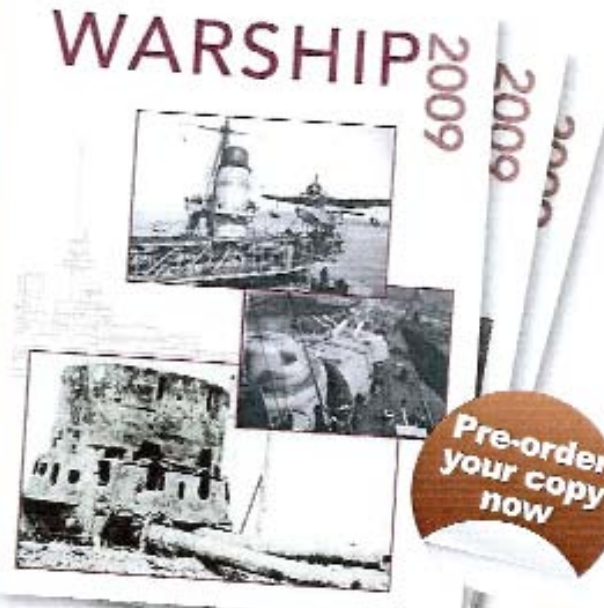
The article also refers back to the World War I 'R' Class Submarines developed as high speed underwater anti-submarine Submarines capable of 15 knots dived with a bow salvo of six twenty one inch torpedoes.

Other articles cover the Japanese Hybrid Battle Ship/Carriers of WWII, Italian Fast Coastal Forces 1914 1986, the Russian KIROV Class Cruisers and Royal Navy 'Turret' Battle Ships in Victorian times. One Section reviews Naval Books of the Year and others have notes on Warships and Warship design detail and a review of World Navies.

The book opens with tributes to David Brown who died in April 2008. He was a renowned Naval Architect and a prolific author of books on Naval and Maritime matters. For all those interested in the detail of the design and development of Warships and Submarines his passing is a great loss.

All considered Conway's 'Warship 2009' is well worth the £30.00 price tag and will be a welcome and essential addition to any book collection.

WARSHIP 2009



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Pre-order your copy now

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