



**BARROW SA
BRANCH
OFFICIALS**

July 2011

Issue 133

Submariners Association

newsletter

Barrow-in-Furness Branch

Twinned with SAOC (East)

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HMS Truculent



**CHAIRMAN'S
July Word**
Fellow Submariners

Having done an initial draft of the newsletter introduction I have since received both Colin and Barrie's respective draft reports so I have had to tear mine up and start again because basically it reiterated what they were saying.

I would like to congratulate Ian Walsh for running the quiz at the last meeting. It was a really stiff quiz and even caught out some of our resident quiz experts. The Ambush lads won and donated their prize money back to the branch for which I thank them.

On the social scene, Colin has, this year, booked a new venue for the Ladies Night. See his report for all the details. This is to satisfy those of you who have mentioned that a change is needed and Colin has

listened to you. It only remains for me to ask that you make this a really successful Ladies Night, support Colin and support the branch. Please don't leave it to the last minute as we have to book and pay for the meals in advance. This may well be the last function Colin is arranging as he has repeatedly stated he is to stand down as the Social Sec at the end of the year. To date nobody has come forward to relieve him which is a big disappointment. I can't believe that in a branch about 170 strong there isn't someone out there willing to give it a go. I can assure anyone who is interested they will get the full support and backing from myself and the committee.

Barrie has given a full report on the Armed forces week which culminated in a Service in the Town Hall on Sunday afternoon followed by tea and sticky's (or something stronger) in the Forum 28.

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It was very satisfying to see that the service was totally dominated by the Submariners Association even if our president was down in the programme as an RAF veteran. I expect he will get over it given a bit of time. It was also nice to see Joyce Tull involved by doing a reading.

The tickets are going well for the Rock and Roll evening on Saturday 23 July. If you haven't got your ticket yet give Jan Mead, Jeff Thomas or myself a call and we will be quite happy to relieve you of £3, yes that is all the tickets cost, cheap at twice the price.

This evening is to raise funds for the 50th Anniversary celebrations in 2013. On that point Jan Mead is busy looking at options for us to consider and has a few good ideas being investigated. If you have any thoughts on how we should best celebrate then let's have them. Bear in mind we are not looking at just one 'do' but a series of events throughout the year. We are one of very few branches to have reached this milestone and it cannot be allowed to go un-noticed. When Barrow celebrates the whole Association will know about it.

Don't forget that at the July meeting we have the Morecambe Bay Branch visiting so I would like a good turn out to give them our usual warm Barrow welcome. Unfortunately I will be in London on a course so please accept my apologies. Very remiss to arrange a course on a branch meeting night, whatever is BAE thinking of?

Finally I was with John Houlding last week at a function and he is on the last lap of getting the hearing restored in his right ear. Not long to go now John and you will know what we have been saying about you all this time.

Well that's all for now, see you all on the 23rd.

Dave Barlow

Social Secretary July 2011



At our last monthly meeting in June there was a good turn out from the Ladies who after the meeting participated in the quiz which was gratefully organized by Ian Walsh, who would give Bamber Gasgoine a good run for his money!!

Don't forget that Jan Mead has organized a Rock and Roll night being held at the RBL on 23rd July. Tickets are £3:00 each. The Side Cars are the main event plus Support, I have never seen them before but I have it on good authority that they are very good and a new local band, so come and have a cheap night out and help raise funds for our 50th Birthday celebrations.

Volunteers are still required to assist Jan and his team in organizing events for the 50th Anniversary, so if you are interested in helping out please contact Jan Mead or any of the committee.

I was requested at the last meeting to see if I could find an alternative venue for the Ladies night dinner dance, for a change and to shake it up a bit, I totally agree that a change of venue is needed and hopefully this will generate more interest in the Dinner dances and improve attendances. To that end, and after agreement at committee level I have approached the Abbey House Hotel and they have given us a competitive price for our usual 5 course dinner, Bucks Fizz on arrival and half a bottle of wine and we will be pricing the tickets at £32 per head, this will include of course, Entertainment.

The event will be on Friday 11th November 19:00 for 19:30. I will start distributing the list at the August meeting as I will be away on holiday for the July meeting. So get your ticket requests in early, this time the list must close 2 weeks before the date and any cancellations after this date will have to be paid for as the food will have been ordered.

I think this could be one of the best dinners yet, so bring your family and friends for what is the highlight of our social calendar.

The July branch meeting will see the visit of our friends from the Morecambe branch, so put that date in your diary, make no plans for the Wednesday and leave your car at home; it could be a long one.

Colin Hutchinson
Social Secretary

Submariners Welfare

Concerns about crew welfare have begun to surface as Submariners begin to feel the strain. Crew members have to deploy more frequently, because replacements for them are not there.

The navy admit recruiting sailors for the submarine service has always been difficult and in some years, targets have not been reached.

New marketing and recruitment strategy's are now being tried, including an Ipod app stressing the virtues of a life beneath the waves and are starting to make a difference. But from the recruitment of marine engineers or junior officers, it is several years before they can come on stream operationally and go out to sea.

At HMS Sultan in Gosport, highly specialised training for the next generation of submarine engineers is taking place, which is a hopeful sign for the overworked current crews.

There's no doubt with the new generation of Astute class submarines coming on stream, the submarine service will continue to offer a challenging and potentially extremely rewarding career going forward. However, while recruitment targets are now being met, until those recruits are trained, highly skilled submarine crews will continue to be pushed harder and worked longer than liked.

Source www.bfbs.com

Barrow Submarine Series: issue number 32

HMS TRUCULENT



TRAGIC END: *HMS Truculent* had a distinguished war career but sank in a collision in 1950

HMS Truculent was launched at Barrow in September 1942 and had a distinguished Second World War which included the sinking of U308 – but it is not for this that the boat is remembered.

In January 1950 *Truculent* became the first peace-time submarine loss since *Thetis* in 1939.

After a refit at Chatham, *Truculent* left for sea trials on January 12 with a crew of 61, plus 18 dockyard workers.

On the way through the Thames Estuary the submarine collided with the 643-ton Swedish paraffin tanker *Divina* after confusion over the lights shown by the tanker and its distance from *Truculent*.

The force of the impact at 7.15pm was enough to throw five *Truculent* crew members into the sea and the two vessels were locked together in a mass of twisted metal for a few seconds before the submarine sank in around one minute.

A Dutch merchant ship picked up the five from the water a half-hour later and reported the submarine as having sunk.

More than 60 were still alive on *Truculent* and by 8.20pm the men were ready to make their escape to the surface in the mistaken belief that propeller noises above were rescue ships rather than just a passing vessel.

By first light there were more than 40 boats of all shapes and

sizes looking for survivors, but they were too late.

Eight of the escapers managed to reach the *Divina* and all were full of praise for Chief ERA Francis Hine who had organised the men, kept their spirits up and had been the last to escape but did not survive.

He was awarded the Albert Medal along with Lt Frederick Hindes.

The submarine was recovered on March 14 and sold for scrap.

STATS

Type: T class boat built as P315.
Laid down: December 4 in 1941
Launched: September 12 in 1942.

Commissioned: December 31 in 1942

Length 276ft 6in (84.28m)
Propulsion: two diesel engines and two electric motors
Speed: 15.5kn (17.8mph)
Range: 4,500 nautical miles
Test depth: 300ft (91m)

War service: In 1943, operating in home waters, she sank the German submarine *U-308*. She also took part in Operation Source, towing the X-class midget submarine *X-6* to Norway to attack the heavy Kriegsmarine warships *Tirpitz*, *Scharnhorst* and *Lützow*. In the Pacific, she sank the Japanese army cargo ship *Yasushima Maru*, the small Japanese vessel *Mantai*, the Japanese merchant cargo ship, *Harugiku Maru* and five Japanese sailing vessels.



MAJOR SEARCH: More than 40 boats were involved in the search for survivors of *HMS Truculent* in 1950



Barrie Downer Secretary

Half way through the year already! Doesn't time fly!

The highlights of the last month were the events arranged for Armed Forces Week.



This started off with the Armed Forces Day Flag presentation to the new Mayor outside the Town Hall on Monday 20th June. There was a larger turn out than the previous two years since the event was instituted.

There were two platoons one for the Submariners Association and the Royal Navy boosted this year by a contingent of ten from the HMS AMBUSH crew. Some of these had recently been away on training exercise and only found out when they got back that they had volunteered. Despite that they were all well turned out for Divisions so a big thank you to them. Branch Member Colin Lee had also managed to get down from Ambleside for the Parade the first event he has been able to attend since the late evening bus service to/from Ambleside was withdrawn.

The second platoon of just about equal size was for the Army and the RAF veterans. After a short service of Remembrance was conducted by Alan Jones the Flag was presented, raised from the Town Hall roof and then we all went into the Town Hall for a cup of tea and some biscuits.

The Main event of the week was an Armed Forces Day service in the Town Hall on Sunday 26th June. This was conducted by



Alan Jones a busy week for him and there were contributions to the Service by John Hart who (owing to a misprint) appears to have served in the RAF, Ginge Cundell who paraded the Standard and from Joyce Tull who gave a reading.

The Town Hall service was a packed out event. This time there were refreshments in the Forum 28 after the service and this was followed by a Concert where the 'New Squadronaires' introduced by Paul Barry entertained a packed theatre with a selection of 1940's WWII and 1950's 'Big Band' music and songs from Glen Miller and other well know Band Leaders.



This month we have received the sad news that our Branch Life Member Coxswain Claude 'Deadlight' Roberts has 'Crossed the Bar' in hospital in Queensland. He was also a Life Member of the Queensland Branch of the Submarines Association of Australia. 'Deadlight' who had been living in a Care Home in Queensland was only recently visited by Branch Member Bob Palmer and Phyllis. A Memorial Service is being held for Deadlight in Queensland on Saturday 2nd July.

Apart from that June has been a bit of a quiet month just the Branch Meeting where we had



visitors from HMS AMBUSH and the Ladies as visitors for a Social Evening and a Quiz Night (hosted by Ian Walsh – with few tricky questions). Another visitor was the former Coxswain of HMS ASTUTE John Hendren now a Member of the Nottingham Branch.

There will be no Barrow Festival of the Sea this year but I hear there will be a big event next year for which planning is already in progress.

So what are the next Submariners Association events to watch out for? Next up is the Mixed Reunion in the Imperial Hotel in Liverpool in September. If you haven't done so already send your Application Form for the option of your choice in as soon as possible or call any Member of the Committee to get your name put down and send your £25.00 per person deposit to me or any member of the Committee and, just in case you haven't made your mind up yet I will still have a list available at the Branch Meeting on Tuesday 5th July. This will be a combined event with the National Draw taking place at the same weekend.

You should all have received your £10.00 worth of National Annual Draw tickets from Mick Mailey. Stubs and cash are trickling back slowly. Please sell your allocation as soon as possible and get the cash and stubs back to me or any member of the Committee as soon as possible. In case of doubt Committee addresses/phone numbers are on the front sheet of this Newsletter. Remember that one third of all sales by the Branch stay with the Branch.

Colin will update you all with all the other upcoming Social Events and the Social Calendar in his report so there is no call for me to steal his thunder.

As ever the usual reminders it is now July and we still have several members outstanding their 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. Mick Mailey will be pleased to take your money and is trying to get rid of those cards! Also, 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.

As another reminder the National Association Subs are increased for next year by £5.00 taking the total Subscription to £15.00 per year from 1st Jan 2012. If you pay by Standing Order please remember to tell your Bank to increase you Standing Order to £15.00 from the next payment. If you currently have a Standing Order payable to the National Association please cancel that one and make out a new one to the Barrow Branch using the Standing Order Form I sent out recently (and will send out again) and a copy of which is attached to this Newsletter. Please send the completed Form direct to your Bank and not back to the Committee.

Northern Ireland Visit

Friday the 27th of May Duddy Davenport and myself took the flight from Blackpool to Belfast. At Blackpool we were held up at the gates to the departure lounge for a further tax of £10 each before we could fly.

We arrived in Belfast for a 45 min journey to the centre that took 2 1/2 hours because of bomb threats, at one point the driver got off the bus to talk to a passing mate. We finally arrived in Bangor to stay in a small guesthouse. The night was spent

drinking lots of Guinness in R.N.A. club.

Saturday we took a taxi to the La Mon country club the venue for the dance, After a welcome from Dave George we retired to the bar for more Guinness. The night dinner/dance was well organised and a great success the guest of honour being Lady Silvia Herman M.P a charming and beautiful lady. The food was good the dancing great and of course the Guinness tasty. In the next room an Irish wedding was in full swing. This of course ended in a fight as all Irish wed-



I cannot remember what time we went to bed, it was late. Sunday after breakfast Duds and myself returned to Bangor for an afternoon session in the Jenny Watts pub and more Guinness. We met old and new friends there and had a fantastic afternoon/ evening listening to jazz and you guessed it drinking Guinness. Maggie a really pretty local lass was in our company all the time and sent her love to the lads who were over last time. The dance was also attended by Dave and Fiona Barlow. Bob and Lillian Faragher. Looking forward to the next one.

Regards
Ginge Cundell.

Indian Subs



Navy to train for Scorpene subs

Two Indian naval crews will be going to France to train for

operating the Scorpene killer submarines, six of which are being built at Mazagon Docks (MDL) in Mumbai under the Rs 23,562 crore programme called Project-75. "The Indian crews will begin the training with the French navy after some months. We now hope to get the first Scorpene by August 2015. Each submarine will have just a 36-member crew since automation levels in them are very high," said an official. With India down to just 14 submarines now, the Navy is keen that the Scorpene project, which has been hit by a huge cost escalation and is running three years behind schedule, does not suffer any more slippages. Both MDL as well as French collaborator DCNS, however, are confident that Project-75 is now fully on track. "The first Scorpene will be 'launched' into water in 2013, and will be ready for commissioning by August 2015 after extensive harbour and sea trials," said a top DCNS official. "The target is to deliver the sixth submarine by 2018, one every nine months after the first one in 2015. The third and fourth submarines are already under construction at MDL," the official added. Navy, on its part, is keeping its fingers crossed about the Scorpene project as well as its new programme called "Project-75 India". The government of course is yet to finalize P-75 I, under which six new stealth submarines equipped with both tubelaunched missiles for landattack capabilities as well as AIP (air-independent propulsion) are to be built with foreign collaboration for over Rs 50,000 crore. Projections show the force will have only five of its existing 10 Russian Kiloclass and four German HDW submarines by 2020. Consequently, even with the six Scorpene, India will be far short of the at least 18 conventional submarines required to deter Pakistan and China, both of which are rapidly augmenting their underwater combat arms.





Iranian Bride



Iran sent a Kilo class submarine to the Red Sea last month. Back home, Iran is building a new class of mini-sub. Iran has always had a yearning for subs. Back in the 1970s, the monarchy came very close to acquiring three surplus US-diesels-electric boats as well as a new German Type 209. Iranian crews had been trained in an American submarine school, but the 1979 Islamic revolution prevented these crews from getting their boats. In the late 1980s, the Islamic Republic of Iran Navy acquired a few midget subs from North Korea. These boats were capable of delivering frogmen covertly, or carrying naval mines to attack shipping and harbors.

Iran took the big leap in the early 1990s when they acquired three Kilo Project 877/636 type diesel electric submarines from Russia. The 2300 ton Kilos are long range subs capable of operating throughout the Indian Ocean (from South Africa to Australia). The Kilo's have six 533mm (21 inch) torpedo tubes and 18 torpedoes (including one or more Shkval rocket torpedo), or 24 mines. Very similar to the world-standard diesel submarine, the 1800-ton German Type 209, the Kilo is a formidable foe and can stay at sea for up to 45 days, which makes it capable of long range patrols, like the current one in the Red Sea. This, in fact, is the farthest any of the Iranian Kilos have ever travelled from home.

The last of these three Kilos were delivered in 1996, which gives Iranian crews more than a decade of experience. Google

Earth has often spotted the trio tied up in harbor at Bandar Abbas; however, they have made several training cruises to the Persian Gulf and Arabian Sea. The recent Red Sea operation may be a game changer.

Russia agreed to shut off the submarine pipeline to Iran in 1996 and since then Iran has been working on their own designs. After ten years of trial and error, they produced the 100 ton Ghadir (Qadir) class vessels in 2005. By 2010, they professed to have a fleet of 11 of these small diesel electric subs in their arsenal and no less than four have been shown together and photographed. These smaller Ghadir-class vessels are squarely between the old midget submarines and the Russian Kilos. The Iranians are not releasing specification sheets to anyone but they look very similar to the Italian made Cosmos SX-506B submarines that Columbia has operated since the 1980s. The 100-ton SX-506Bs are only large enough to carry commandos and mines. However released news footage shows what looks like to be two torpedo tubes on the Iranian craft.

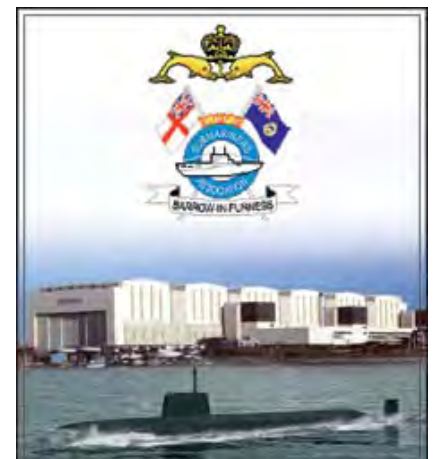


It should be remembered that Cosmos exported a number of larger vessels to Pakistan in the 1990s. Dubbed the SX-756, they may have been the design basis for these Ghadir. It should also be acknowledged that the North Korean Sang-O class submarine closely approximates the Ghadir type. In 2007 North Korea gave Iran outright four of its Yugo-type midget submarines. These Yugos were well worn 90-ton 65-foot craft but Iran accepted them all the same.



A one-off design, dubbed the Nahang, was produced in 2006. At about 500-tons it is the same size as and closely resembled the old German Type-206 class. The Type 206s were produced in the 1960s for operations in the confined shallows of the Baltic. Denmark, Norway, Germany and now Indonesia used variants for forty years. The Type 206's size enabled it to carry eight torpedo tubes with no reloads. The Iranian version does not seem to be a success and little has been seen of this craft.

Under construction is what will be the third indigenous Iranian design. Laid down in 2008, the Qaaem will be a 1000-ton craft and historically should be large enough to handle a full set of torpedo tubes along with a reload. They could be the possible replacement for Iran's Kilos. The Kilo platform has a lifespan of 30-years and they are more than halfway there. But Iran has a mixed record when it comes to warship construction, and the Qadir boats are reported to be troublesome to use and not safe. The Iranians are enthusiastic about having more subs, but developing that capability is very expensive and time consuming.



Chaplains Dit July 2011



Just a brief note to bring you up to speed on your Lay Chaplains activities, when I stood down from Chairman I stupidly thought I would start easing back on some of my commitments, but it was not to be. Firstly it is not in my nature, and secondly my recent health scare has put me in a place none of us really want to be in, I am facing an operation at Preston's Neurological Unit for a Cerebral Aneurysm, and many of you have thought that I was "a no brainer" related to the Wizard of Oz Scarecrow. I can report that Armed Forces Veterans Day 2011 was fully supported by the Branch and it was a great success as reported in the North West Evening Mail.

Now I want us all to turn our minds to the 2012 Armed Forces Veterans Events, where the Steering Committee are hoping to stage a Mini Military Tattoo. The strap line depicted above is from our Web Page www.armedforcesday-barrow.co.uk and it will hopefully give you the flavour of what we are attempting to achieve, and the urge to volunteer your services. Please-Please come on board it should be fun and challenging. Talk to you later as I now have a more personal and pressing challenge to contend with.

Regards

Jonsey

Lay Chaplain

Bulgaria & Sub Budget

Bulgaria needs to spend more on defense, according to President Georgi Parvanov, who was in the Black Sea city of Varna Thursday, the seat of the Bulgarian Navy.

Parvanov declared that higher military spending will help provide for better pensions for military veterans.

The President, whose second and last term expires in January 2012, stressed that Bulgaria needs to invest in its navy because the maintenance of the navy does not cost much but at the same time it could help Bulgaria be prepared for new international challenges in the Black Sea region.

He further emphasized that Bulgaria needs to have an underwater navy, after last year the Bulgarian Defense Ministry retired the last operational but vastly outdated submarine of the Bulgarian Navy.

"Any vacuum in the development of the submarine fleet will have serious repercussions with respect to the training of officers," Parvanov declared, as cited by bTV.

Data from 2009 indicate that Bulgaria was one of the few EU member states spending over 2% of its GDP on defense; however, since then, the figure which amounted to about USD 1.1 B in 2009, has declined.



WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Barrow-in-Furness Branch

18th June 2011

C W (Claude) Roberts

Aged 88

Chief Petty Officer Coxswain

P/JX 171844

Submarine Service 1945-1965

Spur, Totem, Tapir(2), Scotsman

Tactician, Seraph, Excalibur

Taciturn

Non Member

1st June 2011

Robert (Bob) Peterfield

WO Marine Engineering Artificer

Aged 63

Submarine Service in

Otter, Odin, Ocelot & Oracle

Non Member

9th June

D R Clarke

Leading Seaman (UC2)

Aged 95

Submarine Service in

Alcide, Totem & Tudor

Gosport Branch

22nd June 2011

Gerald (Soapy) Watson BEM

Chief TASI

P/JX 661951

Aged 81

Submarine Service 1950-1956

Tiptoe, Aurochs, Scythian, Sirdar

Seascout & Subtle

Dorset Branch

26th June 2011

S J (Steve) Watson OBE

Commander

CO10316J

Aged 78

Submarine Service 1966-1983

Repulse

New Zealand Member

22nd May 2011

Joe Peacock

Stoker 1st Class

P/KX 785871

Submarine Service 1946-1948

Sturdy, Spur, Scorcher

Aeneas & Amphion

*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 with-
out 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 their memories
alive.*



Pay Cut

An internal Ministry of Defence document obtained by this newspaper reveals that all specialist pay across the Armed Forces is to undergo a thorough review.

As a result it is possible that fighter pilots earning a maximum extra of £60 a day or £21,900 a year could face having their wages reduced once they finish operational flying. Similarly submariners patrolling off the Libyan coast may face a cut to their maximum £15,000 a year extra that recognises the unique skills and dangers they face. MoD sources said that while it is possible cuts to these supplements could be made it is more likely that servicemen who are being paid to perform tasks that they no longer execute will be the first to see payments axed.

A measure has already been put forward to cut the £2,000 a year 'Para Pay' for members of The Parachute Regiment and airborne forces in a move that has caused uproar after it was disclosed in the Telegraph yesterday.

From a recent article in the telegraph

Slightly Senior Moments

I'd rather be over the hill than under it.

You don't stop laughing because you grow old. You grow old because you stop laughing.

Age doesn't always bring wisdom. Sometime age comes alone.

Any day above ground is a good one.

I have a photographic memory but the lens cap is glued on.

www.astuteclass.com

July 2011

Members Birthdays

M. Kirk	06/07
S. Leach	07/07
G. Anderson	08/07
B. Downie	13/07
J. Davies	20/07
N. Weaver	20/07
C. Hutchinson	22/07
C. James	23/07
D. O'Connell	23/07
R. Faragher	24/07
T. O'Keefe	24/07
J. Costello	24/07
A. Jones	29/07
D. Wilson	29/07



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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 July for the August 2011 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 2011

July

5th July
Monthly Meeting
2000 RBL
15/17 W/e Visit Faslane
19th July
Branch Committee Meeting
1930 RBL

August

2nd August
Monthly meeting
2000 RBL
16th August
Branch Committee meeting
1930 RBL





Solve the submarine wordsquare

We hope you enjoyed last month's wordsquare.

If any of it proved tricky, the solution is at the foot of the page. This month we have a wordsquare based on the names of submarines from the USA.

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

CLUES

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| 1. HOLLAND | 7. COD |
| 2. MINGO | 8. CUSK |
| 3. PIKE | 9. DOLPHIN |
| 4. ALBUQUERQUE | 10. DUNGONG |
| 5. LAFAYETTE | 11. GATO |
| 6. JAMES MADISON | 12. GROWLER |

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

Last month's wordsquare solution (below)

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



MAKING WAVES: The USA submarine *Albuquerque*. Can you find its name in the wordsquare?



CHRONICLE OF COLD WAR COURAGEOUS

The story of a Cold war nuclear submarine with over 21 years of service, is told through the recollections and experiences of her Ship's Company in **'Submarine Courageous Cold War Warrior'**, which is subtitled 'The Life and Times of a Nuclear Submarine' (£30.00, hardback).

The many and varied individual accounts brought together in the book are the result of many years hard work by Michael Pitkeathly, who served in HMS Courageous' on her first commission and who has also been a key architect of the boat's current 'preservation in Devonport Dockyard, Plymouth. Published by The Courageous Society, the book is edited by Captain David Wixon RN, who was one of the boat's engineer officers. 'Submarine Courageous' has an introductory portrait of each contributor, the book using an innovative system of graphics throughout to identify individual recollections, with logos representing name, rank and branch of naval service.

The Dolphin badge is used to indicate you are reading the narrative and not another personal account.

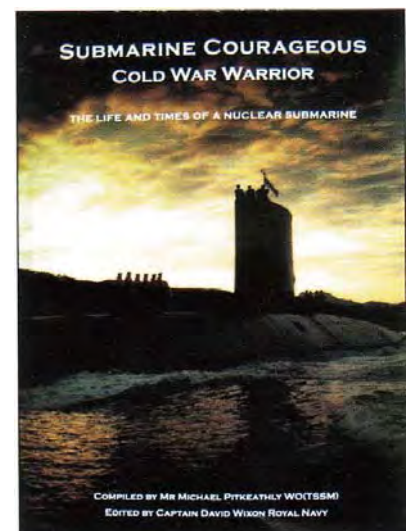
www.hmscourageous.co.uk

The story begins with the building process at Barrow-in-Furness in 1967, which also saw the construction of a full size, wooden mock-up of the submarine for training the new crew. Judging by the anecdotes of the attack boat's first crew, the wooden replica was a favourite place for sailors to hide away in some obscure corner for an afternoon nap, often following a liquid lunch. Subsequent recollections succeed brilliantly in providing a real flavour of life in a nuclear-powered submarine of the Cold War era. They cover a wide range of events, from underwater intelligence gathering missions on Soviet warships and trailing Russian submarines, to the sheer drama of accidentally snaring a helicopter's dipping sonar during an exercise when the boat was submerged. The 'hooked' aircraft came to within inches of being dragged under the surface. 'Submarine Courageous' also provides an insight into the complexities of maintaining a submarine's trim and we read, too, of the drama of running in heavy weather on the



surface. On one occasion this resulted in the loss of a man overboard, the tragic incident vividly described by the man the unfortunate sailor was supposed to relieve on watch in the fin. Across the book, the various submariners' observations, many of them humorous and often 'warts and all', cover every aspect of Courageous' existence, including dockyard refits and her patrol in the Falklands War. There is much to read about and absorb (and be absorbed by) in a well-presented book that is truly a magnificent achievement, involving several years research across the UK. There can be no finer profile of a British Cold War submarine, from the point of view of the men who served in her and as such this book makes an invaluable contribution to naval literature. It is well illustrated, with some excellent photographs, the story continuing past Courageous' life of active duty to her present day status as an exhibit at Plymouth.

- 'Submarine Courageous' was nominated for the UK's maritime Media Awards 2010. The book can be obtained through the web site: www.hmscourageous.co.uk or by sending a cheque made payable to hms Courageous Association to Courageous Volunteer Development Manager, Flotilla House, (S059), HM Naval Base Devonport, Plymouth, PL2 2BG, UK, Cost including P&P is £36.00. EU is £42. 00 and the rest of the world is £50.00 (by air mail)



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