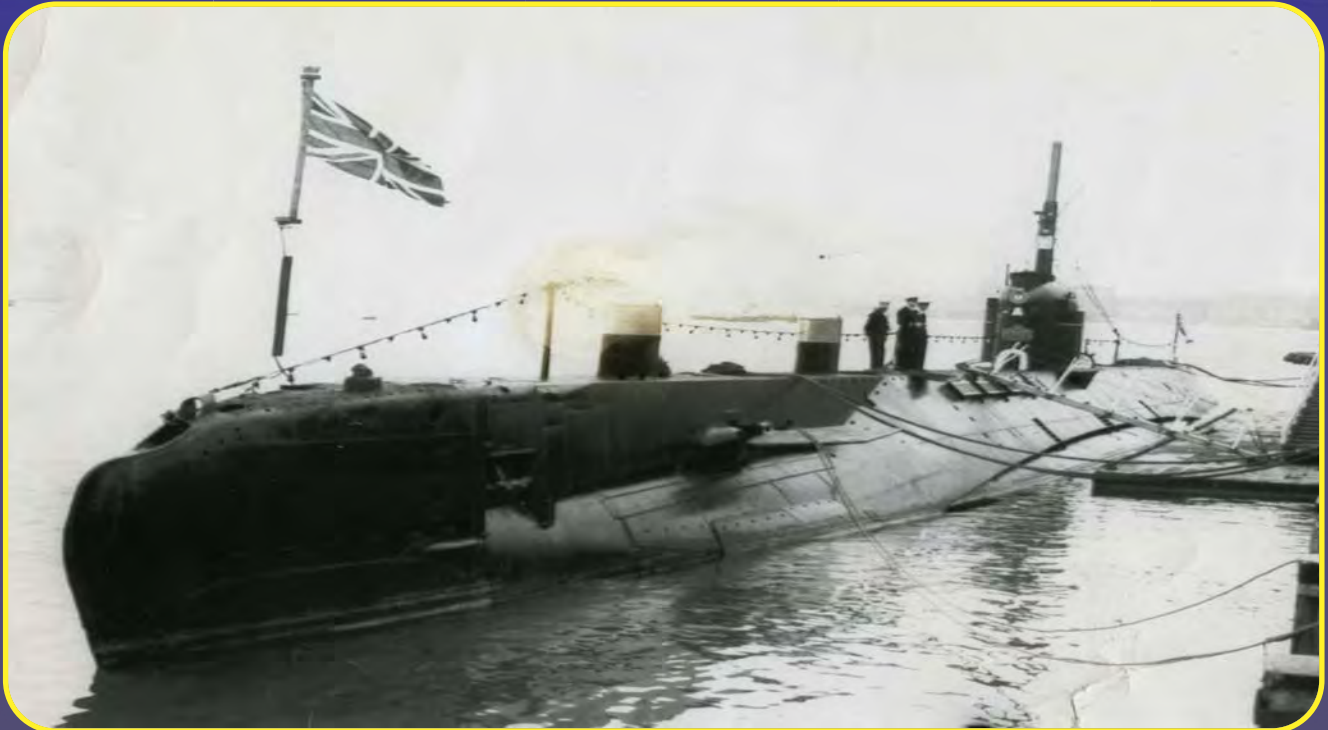


January 2012

# newsletter

Submariners Association ▪ Barrow-in-Furness Branch Newsletter ▪ Issue 139



BarrowSAnews@gmail.com

HMS Seraph



## The Chairmans January Word

I have just surfaced from a very hectic family orientated festive season. All that good dieting during autumn has gone for a ball of chalk I'm afraid. Think my scales need recalibrating though as they are obviously reading high. I hope you all also had a good Christmas, survived the rigours of the New Year celebrations and are looking forward to hopefully a prosperous 2012, although with the current economic situation that may be a bit optimistic.

At the December Branch Meeting we discussed that we should use some cash to give a bit of cheer to our widows. This was agreed unanimously and the committee went ahead to arrange that. We went for a Christmas Hamper from Muncaster Castle which gave it a local theme and probably included items that our widows wouldn't have otherwise bought for themselves. My thanks to Hank Hancox for making the arrangements with Muncaster Castle. I zoomed up to pick them up and between Ben Britten and myself delivered them to those of our widows who we keep in

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touch with through our monthly newsletters seven all told.

I must say it was a most humbling experience and everyone of the recipients were clearly very pleased and overcome with emotion when they answered the door. I have since received letters and notes of thanks and appreciation and they all expressing their thanks to you all and how they feel closer to the branch by receiving the newsletters. On their behalf may I thank you all for this gesture, I can assure you it was well received.

Just a quick appeal that Barrie has now retired and leaves us shortly to return to the Frozen North as his new email address so aptly describes.

What it means to us is that we need a secretary and to date no-one has come forward, to me at least, to take on that challenge. I won't pretend it is an easy job because it can be very challenging and the secretary is the hub of any organisation.

There must be a member out there somewhere who has what it takes, and the enthusiasm to take it on. I have just had a branch that although they had a creditable membership has gone to the wall because nobody would take over from the retiring secretary. Don't let it happen to the Barrow Branch.

Jan Mead came to the last committee meeting and gave us the results of his investigations into the 50th Anniversary celebrations in 2013. He has been around the South Lakes looking at various venues and options but as it was a lot to take in the committee has taken the information away to digest with the target to decide what form our main celebration should take and the venue.

I know that Ben is tearing his hair out waiting for this so I will finish hear and see you all at the New Year meeting.

Dave Barlow  
Chairman

## Social Secretary January 2012



Hi Folks,

I would like to wish all branch members and friends a very happy, prosperous and healthy New Year and hope to see you all at the social functions at sometime throughout the year.

Well it's a New Year and a new Social programme has been produced, which is attached to this newsletter, there are a couple of dates to be fully confirmed yet, namely a Brewery run, a Summer event yet to be decided. Also throughout the year there will be events being run to raise funds to help celebrate our 50th Anniversary in 2013. The first of these will be held on January 20th at the RBL where "Voce" will be performing. Tickets are a very reasonable £5 and can be purchased from Jan Mead.

Don't forget that we will be first footing the Morecambe branch on the 6th January 2012, looks like the usual suspects will be attending!! I still need a volunteer to drive the Mini bus for that night; unfortunately I cannot make it as I am working. Also in January some members will be making the trip north to the annual K13 weekend if you are interested then Barrie is the contact for this.

I have taken onboard comments regarding the Ladies night dinner at the Abbey House and have discussed these with them to ensure that when we go again in 2012 that the hiccups will not occur again.

See you at the January meeting!

Colin Hutchinson

Social Secretary



## More Slightly Senior Moments

Young at Heart slightly older in other places.

When did my wild oats turn to prunes and all-bran?.

I finally got my head together but my body is falling apart.

## Seniors with attitude one liners

Earth is full go home.

Not all people are annoying, some are dead.

Oh, go evolve.

Did the aliens forget to remove your anal probe?.

If I throw a stick will you leave.

## My Mother Taught Me.

My Mother taught me Irony

*"Keep crying and I will give you something to cry about."*

My Mother taught me  
Anticipation

*"Just wait until we get home"*

## In The February issue

*The Final part of u-boats at Lisahally.*

*Book Review. The Barents Incident' by John A C Kiff.*

*A dit from Mary Wetton.*

*The Continuing series of Barrow Built & Quiz.*





# Barrow Submarine Series: issue number 38

## HMS Seraph



**WARTIME SURVIVOR:** *HMS Seraph* adrift off Cape Cornwall on the way from Portsmouth to the breaker's yard

**F**EW Barrow submarines were given so many prominent wartime tasks as *HMS Seraph* – including a star role in a successful project to mislead the Germans with the use of a dead body carrying bogus papers.

As pennant number P219, the boat was an S-class submarine laid down on August 16 in 1940 and launched on October 25 in 1941.

Her first 14-day patrol was off Norway in July 1942 and on the way to the Mediterranean escaped damage when bombed in error by a RAF Whitley bomber.

The next duty was with the 8th Submarine Flotilla in the Mediterranean in 25 August and helped support Operation Torch – the Allied landings in North Africa.

The boat carried out a reconnaissance of the Algerian coast during the last two weeks of September 1942.

*Seraph* was assigned to Operation Flagpole in October 1942 – the carrying of Lt General Mark Clark to North Africa for secret negotiations with Vichy

aboard French General Henri Giraud for a meeting with General Eisenhower in Gibraltar to enlist the support of the pro-Vichy forces at Oran and Casablanca to the Allied cause.

On 2 December 1942 she torpedoed and damaged the Italian merchant ship *Puccini* and on the 23rd rammed and damaged a U-boat, suffering damage which needed repairs and a refit back to England.

*Seraph's* golden hour came in April 1943 when her special passenger on Operation Mincemeat was a corpse in a metal canister dressed in a Royal Marines uniform with a briefcase of faked "secret documents".

The aim was to convince the Germans that the Allies intended to land in Greece and Sardinia and not Sicily.

On April 30 *Seraph* launched the body off the coast of Spain, near the port of Huelva and prompted the Germans to divert forces from the defence of Sicily.

On June 6 in 1944 *Seraph* acted as a guide for the Normandy landings and was later converted as a training and was streamlined for

high speed underwater runs.

*Seraph* remained in active service after the war and in 1955 was fitted with armour plating and used as a torpedo target boat.

When she arrived at Briton Ferry for scrapping, parts from the conning tower were preserved as a memorial at The Citadel, in Charleston, South Carolina.

### STATS:

- Commissioned: June 27 in 1942
- Decommissioned: October 25 in 1962
- Displacement: 990 tons submerged
- Length: 217ft
- Beam: 23ft 6in
- Crew: 44 officers and men
- Speed: 14.75 knots surfaced and 8 knots submerged
- Propulsion: Surface power came from twin diesel engines producing 1,550hp and underwater by twin electric motors.
- Armament: Six forward-firing 21-inch torpedo tubes and one aft with a load of 13 torpedoes. The boat also had a three-inch gun, a 20mm cannon and three .303-in machine guns.



**PRESERVED:** The head of the periscope from *HMS Seraph*

French officers. The operation helped reduce French opposition to the Torch landings.

Next came Operation Kingpin on October 27 where *Seraph* waited for a signal off the coast of southern France to pick up passengers.

On Bonfire Night she took



## Barrie Downer Secretary

May I wish a Happy and Prosperous New Year to you all! I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and that Santa didn't forget to call on Christmas Eve. December was quite a busy month one way and another. The Branch Meeting on 6th December was well attended Meetings with 42 Members making it along to Holker Street. No new Members or visitors this time but the evening seemed to go well and a big thank you to all Members for making it a very good evening for us all. The raffle was, as usual, well supported and boosted our 50th Anniversary funds with the addition of the 50p collection so thanks very much to all those who contributed.

Having helped out the Royal British Legion with the distribution and collection of the Poppy Boxes in October and November we received a letter from the Legion reporting that over £15,000 had been collected by the Branch Meeting and they were still counting! That was over £1,500 more than in 2010.

Following the Christmas Lights 'Switch On' in Town Hall Square on Saturday 19th November where Members provided a squad to assist in the stewarding of this event the Town Hall sent us a donation of £50 for Branch Funds.

The Keswick to Barrow Awards Evening on Tuesday 29th November boosted our charitable funds in the 'Charity Chest' to the tune of £700 which was a bit of a surprise we hadn't expected quite so much. Members who attended the Branch Meeting voted to spend some of our Charity Chest funds on a Christmas gift for the widows of Branch Members who we are still in touch with. Hank Hancox had seen some Christmas Hampers in the shop at Muncaster Castle and made arrangements to buy some which were collected by Dave Barlow and distributed by him

and Ben Britten thank you all for helping out. I know that the gifts were a great success.

The Christmas Social on 19th December seems to have gone off well and Colin will be reporting on that fully in his Social Secretary's report.

One piece of sad news is that Branch Member Keith Myers who many of you know 'Crossed the Bar' just before Christmas after a long illness. We send our condolences to his family Alan Jones has been in touch to see what the Branch can do. Keith's funeral will be at St Mary's Church on Walney on Tuesday 3rd January at 1345 followed by a short service at Thorncliffe. We hope as many members as possible will be there.

Another piece of sad news received today is that former FOSM (1974 to 1976) Vice Admiral Sir Iwan Raikes has 'Crossed the Bar' at the age of 90 on 27th December. Many Members will have had dealings with the Admiral during their service.

The Admiral's funeral will be at the Church on Langors Lake on Friday 13th January.

Just to remind us of the dangers associated with Submarines news has come through (as I am writing) this of a fire in the Russian Nuclear Submarine YEKATERINBERG at Murmansk. No information is available about any casualties hopefully there are none. It sounds like the Submarine was in maintenance and a welder managed to set fire to wooden scaffolding. Reportedly there were no missiles or torpedoes on board and both reactors were shut down but the Submarine was partly sunk (probably deliberately) to control the fire. Only recently we heard that hot work in HMS OLYMPUS had set fire to wood and other combustibles - burning out the boat.

At the last Committee Meeting Mick Mailey reported that

Branch membership was 179 Members. This results from our new Members recently joining. The corrected list of Members will be used to determine what we are due to pay as our National Subscriptions in the New Year.

Your revised Subs of £12.50 for 2012 become due on 1st January 2012 so if you are not paying by Branch Standing Order please bring you cheque books and purses along to the Branch Meeting on 3rd Jan 2012. Mick Mailey has got your 2012 Membership Cards and your 2011 Card as well if you are out standing the 2011 payment! If you didn't get around to filling in you Standing Order form there is another one attached to this Newsletter!

No items were raised for discussion at the 2012 National Council Conference in Bristol so we guess you are all content with the way the National Committee has been doing things. We should find out what the Agenda for the National Council Conference is shortly after the next National Management Committee meeting on 7th January. At the moment we know that the post of National Chairman is up for election and two Committee Member positions are also up for renewal.

Also if you have any items for the Branch Annual General Meeting in April 2012 and let the Committee know as soon as possible.

As I advised previously we will need a new Branch Secretary from April 2012 as I will be standing down after completing the final year of Ron Hiseman's last term of office followed by two full three year Terms of Office. Remember that Association rules mean that every Branch must have a Secretary!

We also need a new Vice Chairman this year as this post has been vacant for the last year. Have a think about it and decide whether you want to take on a challenge.



You can always put yourself forward for a Secretary position, a Committee post or to help out on the Welfare or Social Teams volunteers (and help) are always welcome

Don't forget the 'First Footing' to Morecambe on Friday 6th January (again see Colin's Report), the 'VOCE' concert on Friday 20th January and the annual West of Scotland Branch 'K13 Weekend' coming up on weekend 27th to 29th January 2012.

A list of names for the K13 weekend has been passed to Jim McMaster.

One additional event to remind you about the Northern Ireland Branch is holding another Magennis Dinner in 2012.

The dinner will be at the Wellington Park Hotel on Saturday 26th May 2012. Details are elsewhere in this Newsletter and you will need to make your own bookings and travel and accommodation arrangements.

Well as usual I think that's about enough from me! Remember if you are unable to attend a Branch Meeting(s) remember to send us your apologies. If you are not keeping too well let us know and we will see if there is anything the Welfare team can help with. Also remember to let us know if there are any Branch Members or former Members that you know (or their wives, girlfriends or partners) who are not too well or are going into hospital – 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 or arrange visits!

Don't forget the January Branch Meeting on Tuesday 3rd January RBL Concert Room at 2000 same time as usual.

See you all there don't be late!

Barrie

## RUSSIAN SUB FIRE



The Yekaterinburg pictured in March 2011

Russia said on Friday 30th Dec it had doused a raging blaze aboard a nuclear submarine after nearly a full day and night, by partially submerging the vessel after battling the flames with water from helicopters and tug boats. There was no radiation leak and crew inside the submarine were monitoring the stricken vessel's nuclear reactors which had been shut down, Russian officials said.

At least nine people were injured fighting the flames which witnesses quoted by local media said rose 10 meters (30 feet) above the Yekaterinburg submarine at the navy ship yard in the Murmansk region of northern Russia. "The fire on the submarine has been totally extinguished," Emergencies Minister Sergei Shoigu told officials leading the firefighting effort, more than twenty hours after the blaze began Thursday afternoon at 1220 GMT

His remarks were reported by Interfax news agency. Emergency officials decided to partially submerge the 18,200 tonne Yekaterinburg submarine at the Roslyakovo dock, one of the main dockyards of Russia's Northern Fleet, 1,500 km (900 miles) north of Moscow, after hours of fighting the fire.

Russia's nuclear submarine fleet, once the pride of the Soviet Union's mighty armed forces, has been involved in a host of disasters including the sinking of the Kursk nuclear submarine in 2000 with the loss of all 118 people on board. Official statements were vague, but the blaze is believed to have

started when wooden scaffolding caught fire during welding repairs to the 167-meter (550 feet) Yekaterinburg submarine, which had been hoisted into a dry dock.

President Dmitry Medvedev ordered an investigation into the incident, the Kremlin said.

The submarine, which launched an intercontinental ballistic missile from the Barents Sea at a firing range as recently as July, can carry 16 ballistic missiles, each with four warheads, and a crew of 140.

A Defense Ministry spokesman said all its weapons had been removed before repairs started and its nuclear reactors were shut down. "Radiation indicators are within normal levels. There is no threat to the local population," the Emergencies Ministry said in a statement. Russian submarines' reactors are built to withstand enormous shocks and high temperatures. Part of the crew was onboard the submarine to check carbon dioxide levels, the temperature and to ensure the safety of the nuclear reactors.

"Part of the crew remains on board and is carrying out regular monitoring every 30 minutes of the situation in the nuclear submarine and around it," Russia's foreign ministry said in a statement.

The Yekaterinburg is a Delta IV class submarine. Russia's Northern Fleet was established under the Soviet Union to watch over European waters and was armed during the Cold War against threats from NATO.

The navy was criticized by Russia's political leaders following the Kursk disaster for failing to give accurate information about the true nature of the disaster.

(Writing by Guy Faulconbridge; Editing by Peter Graff)



## Newer Isn't Always Better



Russia has begun construction of its second "Improved Kilo" class diesel-electric submarine. These are mostly for the export market, although the Russian Navy is buying a few more of this improved model as well. The Kilos weigh 2,300 tons (surface displacement), have six torpedo tubes and a crew of 57. They are quiet, and can travel about 700 kilometers under water at a quiet speed of about five kilometers an hour. Kilos carry 18 torpedoes or SS-N-27 anti-ship missiles (with a range of 300 kilometers and launched underwater from the torpedo tubes.) The combination of quietness and cruise missiles makes Kilo very dangerous to American carriers. But for the Russians, their Kilos are mostly for home defense. Nuclear subs are used for the long distance work. The successor to the Kilo, the Lada, underwent three years of sea trials before they were declared fit for service two years ago. One has been built and another is under construction and eight are planned. The problem with the Lada is that it is not enough of an improvement on the latest Kilo to attract any export orders.

The Kilo class boats entered service in the early 1980s. Russia only bought 24 of them, but exported over 30. It was considered a successful design, especially with export customers. But just before the Cold War ended in 1991, the Soviet Navy began work on the Lada. This project was stalled during most of the 1990s by a lack of money, but was revived in the last decade.

The Ladass have six 533mm

torpedo tubes, with 18 torpedoes and/or missiles carried. The Lada has a surface displacement of 1,750 tons, are 71 meters (220 feet) long and carry a crew of 38. Each crewmember has their own cabin (very small for the junior crew, but still, a big morale boost). When submerged, the submarine can cruise at a top speed of about 39 kilometers an hour (half that on the surface) and can dive to about 250 meters (800 feet). The Lada can stay at sea for as long as 50 days, and the sub can travel as much as 10,000 kilometers using its diesel engine (underwater, via the snorkel). Submerged, using battery power alone, the Lada can travel about 450 kilometers. There is also an electronic periscope (which goes to the surface via a cable), that includes a night vision capability and a laser range finder. The Lada was designed to accept a AIP (air independent propulsion) system. Russia was long a pioneer in AIP design, but in the last decade, Western European nations have taken the lead. Construction on the first Lada began in 1997, but money shortages delayed work for years. The first Lada boat was finally completed in 2005. A less complex version, called the Amur, is being offered for export.

The Ladass are designed to be fast attack and scouting boats. They are intended for anti-surface and anti-submarine operations as well as naval reconnaissance. These boats are said to be eight times quieter than the Kilos. This was accomplished by using anechoic (sound absorbing) tile coatings on the exterior, and a very quiet (skewed) propeller. All interior machinery was designed with silence in mind. The sensors include active and passive sonars, including towed passive sonar.

Russia has 17 Kilos in service (and six in reserve) and six Improved Kilos on order. More than that is on order from foreign customers, and efforts to sell the Lada continue.

## The U-Boats that Surrendered

U-Boats at Lisahally in Lough Foyle, near Londonderry, N. Ireland.  
1945 to 1949

By  
Derek Waller  
PART 5

U-Boat Activity at Lisahally between May 1945 and February 1946

### The Russian Connection

47) Lisahally played host to Russian naval officers on two occasions during 1945. The first was in August when the Russian delegation from the TNC arrived to inspect the surrendered U-Boats prior to decisions about their ultimate fate. The second was in November when a party of Russians arrived to assist with the transfer of 10 of the U-Boats to Russia in Operation Cabal. However, whilst personal relations between the naval officers of the three Allies in the TNC were surprisingly cordial, the same cannot be said of the experiences at Lisahally.

48) By the time the war in Europe ended, the Royal Navy's First Sea Lord, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Andrew Cunningham, and the other members of the Navy Board had become very suspicious of the Russians. Indeed, this attitude was illustrated in the Admiralty's Directive to the British Representatives on the TNC, which included such unequivocal statements as:

"It is, generally speaking, HMG's policy not to give the Russians technical or other information except on the basis of strict reciprocity, owing to the almost complete failure of the Russians heretofore to make information available to the UK".

"You are accordingly to interpret narrowly the rights of inspection when applying it to the USSR".



"In general, you should be aware that the Admiralty and other Departments of HMG have learnt by bitter experience that it is useless to negotiate with the Russians in a spirit of reasonable compromise".

49) It was therefore hardly surprising that the visits by Russian naval officers to Lisahally in August and November 1945 did not go as smoothly as might have been wished. It was clear before the TNC visit to Lisahally, which was scheduled to take place between 29 August and 3 September that, whereas the Russians desired to make a slow, thorough and meticulous inspection of each U-Boat, the Royal Navy preferred to see short and quick inspections. There were some 150 German naval vessels, including U-Boats, in the UK and the RN wished to see the whole inspection exercise completed in 11 days, whereas the Russian proposals could take several months. In the end, the Lisahally inspection did not exceed its planned 6 days, but there were some tense moments, particularly as Captain Roberts was not a man to be crossed. Nevertheless, after the inspection there were formal complaints by the Admiral who headed the Russian delegation to the TNC, including complaints about the hotel accommodation in Lisahally, the rudeness of certain Royal Navy officers, and the fact that much of the radio and radar equipment had been removed from a number of the U-Boats. Needless to say, these complaints were given short shift by the Admirals who were in the British delegation to the TNC

50) Similar problems arose in relation to the arrival in Lisahally of the Russian naval officers who were to accompany the 10 U-Boats to Libau. The Russians were determined to insist on a meticulous examination of each U-Boat, and proposed that all defects, however small, should be made good before sailing, even if this required any U-Boat to be docked. Again, however, these difficulties and delaying tactics, which included two requests for

the transfer to be delayed, were given no credence by Captain Roberts, who also refused to delay the sailings. This resulted in a formal complaint from the Russian Naval Attaché in London, but again to no avail. The Royal Navy was not inclined to take instructions from the Russians.

#### The German Connection

51) There is no doubt that the U-Boat-related activities at Lisahally could not have been completed without the support and active participation of the German Navy POWs, most of whom co-operated actively, though there were some who were not so keen to assist. Almost all the U-Boats which arrived at Lisahally had some German crew members on board, both officers and other ranks, and to illustrate the size of the German POW contingent, the minutes of a meeting held in London on 25 June 1945, chaired by Admiral (Submarines), includes the statement that:

"Rear Admiral Creasy emphasised that ...at the moment [June 1945] there were between 400 and 500 [Royal Navy] officers and men employed in looking after and maintaining the U-Boats [in Loch Ryan and Lisahally], together with about 1,200 German personnel".

52) The prime task of the German POWs at Lisahally was the maintenance of the surrendered U-Boats pending decisions about their disposal or retention, and the Monthly Reports written by Captain (Submarines), Lisahally between June and December 1945 invariably included comments about the POWs. Each group of five U-Boats had a German maintenance party comprising an Executive Officer, and Engineering Officer and about 30 men, and these lived in one of the U-Boats in each group. The Captain's June Report, for instance, records that:

"So far the German maintenance crews have behaved

reasonably well, though there are signs at times that they are getting somewhat restive, especially being cooped up in such a confined space".

53) In July, he reported that:

"The German crews continue to behave reasonably well although there have been one or two cases of German officers being unable to maintain proper discipline amongst their men. It is expected to move the German crews into camp accommodation early in August. While this should improve the cleanliness, it may react unfavourably on discipline when the ratings are accommodated together".

54) In contrast to the very "proper" attitude that the Royal Navy adopted in relation to its German POWs, the US Navy SubMisEu took a slightly more relaxed approach. It was clear from the start that the US Navy would need assistance to ensure that their two Type XXI U-boats were fit for their Atlantic crossing, and the Mission wished to include German crew members for the crossing itself. To help with the task of getting all the U-Boat systems' working, the Intelligence staff at Lisahally therefore selected a group of non-Nazi prisoners who were willing to co-operate with the Americans. The group comprised four officers and about 25 petty officers, all of whom have served in Type VII or Type IX U-Boats, although only a few had served any time in the Type XXIs. However, as reported by Lt Cdr Ira Dye, USN, who would become the CO of U-2513 for its Atlantic crossing:

"They proved useful to the point of being indispensable. A couple of the cleaner Type VII U-Boats were moved to our pier near U-2513 and U-3008 to serve as living quarters for them, and everyone, American and German, pitched in to get the two Type XXIs ready for their trip to New London".

Continues with Part 6 in  
February Issue



**WE WILL REMEMBER THEM**

**Barrow Branch**  
1st January 2012  
Leslie Willcox  
Able Seaman (TD3)  
C/JX712816  
Aged 83  
Submarine Service 1948-1954  
Truculent, Selene, Artful,  
Tally Ho, Amphion & Talent

**Barrow Branch**  
December 2011  
Keith Myers  
Charge Chief MEA  
Aged 63  
Submarine Service 1970-1988  
Resolution & Trafalgar

**Formerly Australia Branch**  
December 2011  
A (Andrew) Brown  
Chief Marine Engineering  
Artificer  
Aged 77  
Submarine Service 1963  
onward  
Alaric, Aeneas, Orpheus

**Gosport Branch**  
December 2011  
E(Dickie) Dawson, BEM  
Chief Petty Officer Coxswain  
Aged 74  
Submarine Service 1958  
onward  
Tactician, Seascout, Andrew,  
Onslaught, Opportune,  
Finwhale, Otus & Sealion

**Derbyshire Branch**  
December 2011  
Colin Fairbrother  
Leading Ordnance Electrical  
Machanic  
Aged 73  
Submarine Service 1958-1968  
Trenchant, Solent, Aurochs  
Astute, Alderney & Valiant

**Exeter Branch**  
December 2011  
RJ (Nobby) Clarke  
Petty Officer Electrician  
Aged 90  
Submarine Service 1943-1953  
H32, Strongbow, Tabard  
Amphion

**Welsh Branch**  
December 2011  
Sir Iwan Raikes, KCB, CBE,  
DSC  
Vice Admiral  
Aged 90  
Submarine Service  
Sealion, Saracen, H43(CO),  
Varne(CO), Virtue(CO),  
Talent(CO), Aeneas(CO)  
FOSM 1974-1976

**Australia Branch**  
December 2011  
A (Tony) Shipp  
Able Seaman(TD3)  
Aged 78  
Submarine Service 1955-1965  
Artful, Thule, Trespasser,  
Anchorite, Telemachus,  
Orpheus, Seraph & Alliance

*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 there memories  
alive.*

**New Years Honours**

Vice Admiral Sir Paul Lambert, KCB. He was awarded a Knighthood. He was RASM from 2004 to 2006 and the last commanding officer of Onyx as well as CO of Tireless.

Captain Paul Abraham who was CO of Talent and Vanguard gets a CBE.

Commander Simon Asquith how was also CO of Talent gets an OBE.

CPO Coxswain Martin Farr gets a MBE.

Philip Burns from BAE working on the successor project and a Barrow SeaCadet officer gets an MBE.



**French Sub**

On February 18, 1942, the cruiser French submarine Surcouf, who had joined in August 1940 the Free French Naval Forces, disappeared after a collision with the U.S. Thomson Lykes cargo in the Gulf of Mexico, as he made in operations in the Pacific waters.

This tragedy has caused the deaths of all crew members, 129 sailors, including three British sailors.

The names of these three sailors are:

Temporary Sub Lieutenant  
Roger JG Burney RNVR,

Telegraphist Bernard Cough,  
RNVR,

Petty Officer (telegraphist)  
George Mitchell.

On May 18, 2012, the association "For Sailors," will pay tribute to those lost sailors with a ceremony of an official nature with the participation of a few families of French sailors who see the photos of their children found affixed to the walls of the cenotaph point St. Mathieu (in Plougonvelin Brittany / Bretagne).

We hope that on this occasion, the association meet in this tribute, the three English sailors, with the agreement of the British authorities and that of their families. To this end, we would like to know some biographical elements of these sailors and receive pictures on them, assuming that this idea was adopted.

Contact M Georges Kevorkian at:-

georges.kevorkian@wanadoo.fr  
and the website at

<http://www.auxmarins.net> or  
the blog at

<http://www.amedenosmarins.fr>



## Letters

I just want to take this opportunity in January's News Letter to thank everyone for the lovely Christmas Hamper I received from you all.

It really was a lovely surprise and much appreciated, Brian would have been very pleased.

I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and I wish you all the Best in the New Year.

Denise Kerr

## Editor

May I take the opportunity to wish all our members & readers a happy new year.

You will have noticed a number of changes to the newsletter I welcome any comments on them and any other changes you wish to see.

I invite all members and our lady readers to continue to support the newsletter by sending in pictures and stories for future publication. I look forward to reading them.

Regards

Ben Britten




The Submariners Association Presents

# Voce

Live at the 'Legion'  
Royal British Legion  
Holker St, Barrow-in-Furness

Friday 20th January 2012 8:00pm  
Tickets £5.00 - Available from the Royal British Legion.  
or 01229 470954 & 07988849700

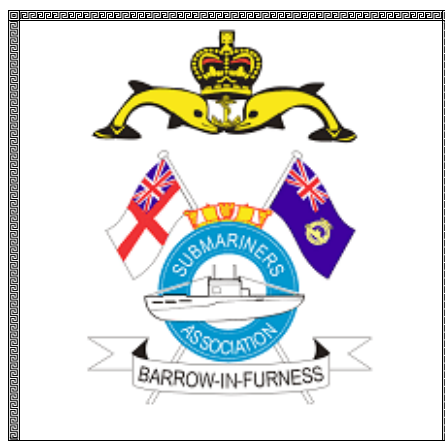
Popular Music With A Classical Twist



January 2012 Members Birthdays	
S. Cook	02/01
H. Cable	02/01
S. Appleyard	04/01
A. Cundell	08/01
D. Burnside	09/01
R. Sherriff	10/01
P. McGovern	11/01
P. Cambell	12/01
H. Sibbett	21/01
J. Oldfield	22/01
P. Hearn	22/01
R. Dixon	25/01
B. Reed	27/01
I. Moore	29/01
S. Campbell	30/01

### DISCLAIMER

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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:

**BarrowSAnews@gmail.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 January for the February 2012 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 2012

### January

**Tues 3rd Monthly meeting  
2000 RBL**

**Wed 18th Branch committee  
meeting 1930 RBL**

**Friday 20th,  
50th Anniversary funding  
event RBL**

**W/E 27-29th K13 Memorial  
weekend HMNB Clyde**

### February

**Tues 7th Monthly Meeting  
(social ladies) quiz RBL 2000  
Tues 21st Branch Committee  
meeting 1930 RBL**

**www.astuteclass.com**



# 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's wordsquare is based on hidden words with a nautical theme. See if you can find all 12.

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@cnmedia.co.uk](mailto:bill.myers@cnmedia.co.uk)

## CLUES

1. GAFF RIGGED
2. GALLEY
3. HELMSMAN
4. JETSAM
5. KILLICK
6. LANYARD

7. SONAR
8. LEEWARD
9. MAE WEST
10. MAIN SHEET
11. REEFER
12. RIGGING

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

Last month's wordsquare solution (below)

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



CLUES: Sonar is one of the 12 hidden words with a nautical theme in this month's wordsquare. This picture is taken inside the control room on a Canadian Victoria-class long-range patrol submarine which was converted from a Royal Navy Upholder-class boat

# **Barrow - in - Furness**

## **Submariners Association**

### **Social Calendar 2012**



Jan	3	Tue	Monthly Meeting	2000	RBL
	6	Fri	First footing Morecambe branch		Morecambe
	18	Tue	Branch Committee Meeting	1930	RBL
	20	Fri	50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary funding event - Voce		RBL
	27 - 29	W/E	K13 memorial Weekend		HMNB Clyde
Feb	7	Tue	Monthly Meeting (Social Ladies) Quiz	2000	RBL
	21	Tue	Branch Committee Meeting	1930	RBL
Mar	6	Tue	Monthly Meeting	2000	RBL
	20	Tue	Branch Committee Meeting	1930	RBL
	30	W/E	National Conference & Members only reunion		St Johns Hotel Solihull
Apr	3	Tue	Annual General Meeting	1930	RBL
	17	Tue	Branch Committee Meeting	1930	RBL
	21	Sat	Annual Dinner Dance	1900	Lisdoonie
	22	Sun	St Georges day Parade		Barrow
May	1	Tue	Monthly Meeting	2000	RBL
	15	Tue	Branch Committee Meeting	1930	RBL
	26	W/E	Magennis memorial dinner		Belfast NI Branch
Jun	5	Tue	Monthly Meeting	2000	RBL
	TBC	Fri	Brewery Run		TBC
	19	Tue	Branch Committee Meeting	1930	RBL
Jul	3	Tue	Monthly Meeting (Social Ladies) Bingo	2000	RBL
	7	Sat	Summer Event - TBC		TBC
	17	Tue	Branch Committee Meeting	1930	RBL
Aug	7	Tue	Monthly Meeting	2000	RBL
	21	Tue	Branch Committee Meeting	1930	RBL
Sep	4	Tue	Monthly Meeting	2000	RBL
	18	Tue	Branch Committee Meeting	1930	RBL
	TBC	W/E	SA Reunion Mixed reunion		Solihull
Oct	2	Tue	Monthly Meeting (Social Ladies) Quiz	2000	RBL
	16	Tue	Branch Committee Meeting	1930	RBL
	19	Fri	Trafalgar Ball	1930	Lisdoonie
Nov	6	Tue	Monthly Meeting	2000	RBL
	4	Sun	Embankment Parade		London
	9	Fri	Ladies Night D/D (Black Tie)	1900	Abbey House
	11	Sun	Remembrance Parade	1015	Barrow
	20	Tue	Branch Committee Meeting	1930	RBL
Dec	4	Tue	Monthly Meeting	2000	RBL
	8	Sat	Christmas Social	1930	RBL - TBC
	18	Tue	Branch Committee Meeting	1930	RBL

# **NORTHERN IRELAND SUBMARINERS' ASSOCIATION**

## **J.J. MAGENNIS VC DINNER**

**26<sup>th</sup> MAY 2012**

### **VENUE:**

Wellington Park Hotel  
21 Malone Road  
Belfast  
BT9 6RU

Contact Reservations – 02890 385050 – email - [crooney@mooneyhotelgroup.com](mailto:crooney@mooneyhotelgroup.com)

We have now finalised the arrangements for the dinner and have chosen a very suitable venue, which is right in the heart of the city; very convenient for all sightseers, retail therapists etc. Anyone who wishes to attend is more than welcome to share the evening with the Northern Ireland Branch. We look forward to your presence.

### **HOTEL ACCOMMODATION:**

Rates: Double/twin room - £80.00 per night – B/B  
Single room - £65.00 per night – B/B  
Weekend - £59.00 per person per night (2 nights B/B + one dinner, to be taken Friday/ Sunday).

### **MEAL:**

You have a choice of menu, either Roast Beef, or Chicken, with a vegetarian option also being available; the cost is £30.00 per person. If you would like to join us please forward payment of £30.00 per person, with full name please (this is to ensure you get the meal of your choice); cheques should be made payable to N.I. Branch Submariners' Association.

### **DRESS:**

Formal or Association uniform is acceptable; ladies smart evening wear; serving members, uniform.

Bar will be open until 1am.

### **CAR PARKING:**

Entry is by ticket, but you will not be charged for parking if you produce the ticket when you pay your hotel bill on departure.

### **BOOKING:**

You are asked to book your own accommodation (Hotel policy). Please contact reservations on 02890 385050 and quote “**Submariners' Dinner – 26<sup>th</sup> May 2012**”, to avail of the negotiated rates. There will be entertainment on the night. A drinks reception is available upon your arrival, from 19.00hrs; seated for dinner at 20.00hrs.

We are looking forward to hosting this event, and will endeavour to make your visit an enjoyable one.

If there are any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me by email – [yvonnegeorge2002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:yvonnegeorge2002@yahoo.co.uk), or telephone – 0891 862111. An early reply would be appreciated from those of you who would like to attend as numbers are limited, first come first served.

**IMPORTANT:**

1. If for any reason you need to cancel your room, please inform the Hotel no later than 48hrs prior to the event, in order to avoid incurring any charges.
2. If you wish to cancel your Dinner, please inform me no later than three days prior to the event in order to receive a full refund.

**A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ONE AND ALL**

Thanking you in anticipation.

Davy George  
Secretary  
N.I. Branch  
2 Rocky Ridge  
Carrowdore  
BT22 2SX.



Wellington Park Hotel  
AT THE HEART OF THE CITY

## Wellington Park Hotel – 26<sup>th</sup> May 2012

### Menu 1

Cream of vegetable soup  
served with crunchy herb croutons & a freshly baked bread roll

~

Pan fried supreme of stuffed chicken  
with a savoury apricot, smoked bacon & a rich tarragon jus

*A panache of buttered market fresh vegetables,  
traditional champ & Chateau potatoes*

~

Fresh fruit pavlova  
topped with fresh seasonal berries, fresh cream & served with a fruit coulis

~

Tea/ Coffee & mints

### Menu 2

Cream of vegetable soup  
served with crunchy herb croutons & a freshly baked bread roll

~

Roast sirloin of succulent prime, dry-aged Irish beef  
accompanied by Yorkshire pudding & a shallot & merlot sauce

*Chef's panache of buttered market fresh vegetables,  
traditional champ & Chateau potatoes*

~

Fresh fruit pavlova  
topped with fresh seasonal berries, fresh cream & served with a fruit coulis

~

Tea/ Coffee & mints

There is a vegetarian option if required.

# Submariners Association - Standing Order Mandate

Please make the payments detailed below and debit my/our account

Name of A/c to be debited \_\_\_\_\_  
(Your name as shown on your Bank Account)

A/c No. \_\_\_\_\_

Sort Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Payee: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Own Bank)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Payee \_\_\_\_\_  
(Address of own Bank)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Bank & Branch to which payment is to be made

Barclays Bank

A/c Name; Submariners Association Barrow Branch

A/c No 10609536

Code No. 20-04-68

86-90 Dalton Road

Barrow-in-Furness

Cumbria

LA14 1JH

Amount (in words) Twelve Pounds and Fifty Pence only

£12.50

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Date of Payments 31<sup>st</sup> December Annually  
(Input date in December you wish payment to be made)

Date of First payment \_\_\_\_\_  
(Usually Now)

Special Instructions (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

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\* Payments are to continue until \_\_\_\_\_  
(date of last payment inclusive)

\* Payments are to continue until you receive further notice in writing

This instruction cancels any previous order in favour of the Payee named above under this reference

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\* **Delete as necessary**

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