



50th Anniversary ■ 1963 - 2013



Barrowsanews@gmail.com

newsletter

Submariners Association ■ Barrow-in-Furness Branch Newsletter ■ Issue 162 ■ December 2013



The December Word

Well, this edition of the Barrow Branch Newsletter is the last one to be edited and produced by Ben Britten. He has done a fantastic job over the years and in my opinion the most professional newsletter in the Association. Well done and thank you Ben. Ben will now



have more time for his fruit and veg at you know where. I have been asking for a volunteer to take over for some time now and finally at the last minute a member has stepped forward. I am not going to say who it is; you can wait for the January edition and he can introduce himself.



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As you will have seen, the function room in the RBL where we meet has had a make over and to make sure that we did not let the side down the crests on the walls are undergoing a make over too. I would like to thank Brigham Young who is doing a couple of crests each month, cleaning and re-painting each one.

At the November meeting it gave me a lot of pleasure to be able to make a number of presentations. We gave the MND £600, the RBL Barrow Branch £500 and the Children's ward in the FGH £100. This clearly shows out charitable work within the community. The only sad part is that the NWEM didn't turn up as promised.

As we had decided to make this meeting one in which the rum was the real Naval Issue rum we invited Mrs Jenkins, David's widow, to join us as she had kindly donated four bottles to the branch. It was a lovely gesture that was much appreciated and I take this opportunity of thanking her most sincerely from all the lads that were present..

What did you think of the Ladies Night this year? I thought it was a great night and one of the best we have had for many a year and that doesn't detract from those that have gone before thanks to Colin H and John H. Alex put on a great show with some things totally new to our functions. I kept clear of the chocolate fountain myself but I think most of the ladies had a nibble or two. All in all a big thank you to Alex. It was nice to see Veronica Pointer there and recovering well from her broken bits and bobs. She still has a stick but I think that is more to do with keeping Bob in check than anything else. Allow me to quote from a letter I subsequently received from Bob Seaward our guest speaker. "Your members are most welcoming and certainly know how to party. I am going to speak about this on Friday evening at our branch meeting and see if I can get the West of Scotland members to consider being a bit more adventurous in planning their social events."

The turn out for Remembrance Sunday was probably a record possibly helped by the weather which although a bit cold was dry and sunny. Our short service at the AE1 Memorial at Cavendish Square followed by a photo shoot prior to the Remembrance Day Parade was also well attended and we had plenty of time to get to the Town Hall to fall in with the main parade. It is a pity that the Artful hierarchy couldn't see their way to allowing the crew to join us but I am indebted to Mark Butchart who came in his uniform and represented the serving submariner community. Finally a big thanks to the Co-operative Funeral Care for laying on two limousines free of charge so that some of our less able members could attend at the Cenotaph.

Yesterday (Sat 30th Nov) five of us mustered at the Town Hall to assist in stewarding for the switching on of the Christmas lights. Standing around for 3½ hours got a bit weary on the legs and a few more to make a watch bill would have been nice. Maybe you can find time next year. There were actually seven submariners present but two were doing their bit for the Rotary. No names no pack drill.

Next Saturday is the Christmas Social and I am sure Alex will excel himself once again and put on a good show. See you there.

Well, that's about all for now so if I don't see you before have a nice Christmas and a Merry (but not too Merry) New Year. Here's a couple of jokes to finish off.

Tiger Woods visits Ireland

During a golf tour to Ireland Tiger Woods drove his Mercedes into a petrol station in a remote part of the Irish countryside. The attendant, who knows absolutely nothing about golf, greets him in a typically friendly Irish manner.. "Top of the mornin' toyer, sir". Tiger nods a quick hello and bends forward to pick up the nozzle. As he does so two tees fall out of his shirt pocket and onto the forecourt. "What are those?" asks the attendant. "They're called tees" replies Tiger. "Well what on Gods earth are dey for?" inquires the Irishman. "They're for resting my balls on when I'm driving" says Tiger. "Fecking Hell" says the Irishman, "Mercedes think of everything don't dey".....

Dorothy and Edna, two 'senior' widows, are talking

Dorothy: "That nice George Johnson asked me out for a date. I know you went out with him last week, and I wanted to talk with you about him before I give him my answer."

Edna: "Well, I'll tell you. He showed up at my flat at 7 pm, immaculately dressed like such a fine gentleman with a bunch of beautiful flowers for me! Then he takes me downstairs where a limousine with uniformed chauffeur is waiting. He takes me out for a fantastic dinner; lobster, champagne, dessert, and after-dinner drinks. He then took me to the theatre to see a show. Let me tell you Dorothy, I enjoyed it so much I could have just died from pleasure! He takes me back to my flat I invite him in for coffee and then.....he turns into an ANIMAL. Completely crazy, he tears off my expensive new dress and has his way with me three times!"

Dorothy: "Goodness gracious!... so you are telling me I shouldn't go out with him?"

Edna: "No, no, no... I'm just saying, wear an old dress."





Barrow Submarine Series: issue number 55

Holland 1



SURVIVOR: The Barrow-built *Holland 1* is now a museum exhibit at the Royal Navy Submarine Museum, Gosport

THE Barrow-built *Holland 1* – or *HM submarine Torpedo Boat No 1* – was the first submarine commissioned by the Royal Navy.

Holland 1 sank in 1913 close to the Eddystone lighthouse while being towed to the scrapyard following decommissioning but was recovered in 1982.

The pioneering vessel is now on display at the Royal Navy Submarine Museum, Gosport.

Holland 1 was ordered from John Philip Holland and the keel was laid down at Barrow on February 4 in 1901.

To keep the new boat's construction a secret, *Holland 1* was assembled in a building called the Yacht Shed using parts marked for "pontoon no 1".

The submarine was launched on October 2 in 1901 and sea trials began in April 1902.

On March 3 in 1903 *Holland 1* suffered an explosion which caused four injuries.

In October 1904, with the rest of the Holland fleet and three A-class boats, *Holland 1* sailed from Portsmouth to attack a Russian fleet that had mistakenly sunk a number of British fishing vessels in the North Sea in the Dogger Bank incident.

The submarines were recalled before any attack could take place.

In 2011 the submarine was given an Engineering Heritage Award by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers

STATS:

Displacement: 705 long tons, submerged

Length: 63ft 10in

Beam: 11ft 9in

Crew: 8

Speed: 7 knots, submerged

Range: 20 nautical miles at 7 knots, submerged

Propulsion: 160hp petrol engine with a 70hp electric motor

Armament: A single 18in torpedo tube with three torpedoes



REMINDERS: A medal made out of the lead from batteries on *Holland 1* and, bottom, a view of the preserved submarine's torpedo tube



Social Secretary Alex Webb



Hi Shipmates,

Firstly, may I thank all 94 who attended the Ladies Night Dinner Dance and made it such a good evening. You just knew when you saw everyone singing whilst trying to eat dessert and drink wine that it was going to get ugly. Denis Horan has never seen such a party and was even videoing it to show other potential clients how it should be done; well done to all of you. Biggest problem for me now is how can I top that next year? But it doesn't stop there, because on the 7th December we are going to have a great Christmas party, if you haven't got your free tickets then it is not too late! We have over a 100 attendees already.

Diary Check:

Saturday 21st December we have our Children's Christmas party. Santa, Food, drink, disco, games and prizes are all on offer for just £5. Santa and his helpers are doing this event voluntarily and all money will be spent on the lucky children. Limited to 50 and they must be under 13 years old.

The first event for 2014 is the 'First Footing' to Morecambe planned for Friday 7th Feb so get your name down. Coach is provisionally booked but if the numbers don't support this event then you may have to travel by train. So please give some thought to this and give me a heads up if you are coming along this time.

The corporate footie will be Saturday 22nd Feb and is against Oxford rd; who have lost more than we have. It is a stonking good day. Start is 12 with a complimentary bar, pre match meal and wine, match day programme, talk from Barrow AFC management, reserved seating, half time drink and eats, and a complimentary bar until we get thrown out; approx 6pm. Cost is £35 which the social fund will subsidise down to £30 and if I can get over 25 people coming I will negotiate further reductions. Limited to a maximum of 40 this list is open.

The Members dinner is a 5 course dinner, with reception drink, ½ bottle of wine and copious amounts of port at the Crofters in Holbeck. The entertainment will be speakers, both domestic and foreign (not from our membership) with background music only in between 'dits'. It is not a black tie event and this event is aimed at all but specifically at members who do not want to go to a disco or place where a female guest is perceived as being part of the dress code. It is limited to 50 on a first come basis and is £30. This will be a formal function but not a 'black tie' affair.

I have booked the luxury canal boat party. Which includes transport to and from Barton (near Lancaster), 1 and half hour cruise with food, a one hour stop over at a the Old tithe barn in Garstang and then 1 and half hour cruise back with live entertainment on the way home. I will be supplying alcohol on the coach which (if I get a full coach) will be complimentary; if not then I will charge normal supermarket rates. This is going to be a great afternoon/evening out and is limited to the first 50; cost £35. All events and dates are on the social programme. As always at the meetings I run a raffle and the members (free) draw which in December is £15; all you have to do to win is be there, have paid your subs and get your number drawn – easy, ask Kenny Collins. Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Alex Webb

Branch Secretary Ron Hiseman



As this is the December newsletter let me begin by wishing members and their friends and families a very merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous new year. This is also the last edition of the magazine under Ben editorship. I would like to add my personal thanks to Ben for all the sterling work he has done over the years. The magazine has gone from strength to strength. Our Chairman has volunteered to run the mag for a while until a new editor applies for the post. So if you feel you could spare a few hours a month and wish to add editor to your CV please let Dave know.

Alex has organised a Xmas party for the Branch and the Committee has authorised that each member can have two free tickets. There is also a Xmas party for the kids, see Alex for tickets.

First meeting for the New year is 7th January so plenty of time to recover. As the AGM is getting close please put your thinking hat on if you wish to change any of the Branch rules. Any changes should be with the Committee by March meeting.

Merry Christmas
Ron Hiseman





Chinese Nukes Come Out Of The Shadows

In late October China presented its nuclear subs in the Chinese media for the first time. The theme for this event was that in 42 years of operation no Chinese nuclear sub has ever suffered a nuclear reactor accident. This was an indirect dig at the Russians, who are the only nation with nuclear subs to have suffered nuclear accidents.

In the last 60 years several hundred billion dollars has been spent on developing and building nuclear powered submarines. Some 300 have been built so far, most of them Russian. Nuclear subs have been used in combat only once (in 1982, when a British SSN sank an Argentinean cruiser). When the Cold War ended Russia began scrapping its large nuclear sub fleet, which included dozens of older boats that were more trouble than they were worth to maintain. With the demise of the Russian sub fleet, the U.S. Navy submarine force, which peaked at 100 boats at the end of the Cold War, shrank to under 50 today. China currently has about a dozen nuclear subs in operation (eight SSNs and four SSBNs) and their track record in the last 42 years has been dismal. The Chinese SSNs are noisy (easy for Western sensors to detect) and unreliable. Chinese SSNs rarely go to sea, which is one reason they have had no nuclear accidents. Chinese SSBNs (ballistic missile carrying nuclear subs) are basically enlarged SSNs and have never been on a combat patrol, just brief training missions.

It took nearly a decade of planning, construction, and tinkering to get the first Chinese nuclear sub, the Type 091 Long March No. 1, into service back in 1974. The first SSN was definitely a learning experience, not entering service until the mid-1980s. The Type 091s are small (4,100 tons) as far as SSN's go and have a crew of about 75 sailors. French sonar was installed, and a lot of the other electronics came from foreign suppliers. In the 1980s it was thought the Chinese would just scrap this class but they kept repairing and updating them. The 091s are hopelessly out of date but five were built, however two have been retired and one of those is being turned into a museum ship. The 091s rarely go to sea, although that has changed recently. Apparently the 091s are being used for training crews, despite the inability of these noisy boats to stay hidden when submerged.

Their first generation SSBN, the 6,500 ton 092 entered service in the early 1980s, as a stretched version of the 091 class SSNs. The 091s were more dangerous to their crews than to any enemy. Radiation leaks and general unreliability made these boats, which entered service in the 1970s, much feared by Chinese sailors.

The 092 SSBNs had only four missile tubes and rarely went to sea. The Chinese spent a lot of time developing solutions to all these problems, before building the following 093 and 094 classes.

The 093 class SSNs begin to appear in 2002. This class was also obsolete at birth, and the first of the new Type 095 class was launched in 2010 and is expected to enter service in 2015. The lone 095 has been undergoing sea trials but there is little known about how it has performed.

The Type 093s look a lot like the three decade old Russian Victor III class SSN design. And the subsequent Type 94 SSBN (ballistic missile carrying nuclear powered boat) looks like a Victor III with a missile compartment added. Taking a SSN design and adding extra compartments to hold the ballistic missiles is an old trick, pioneered by the United States in the 1950s to produce the first SSBNs. The Chinese appear to have done the same thing with their new SSN, creating a larger SSBN boat of 9,000 tons displacement. Priority was apparently given to construction of the 094, as having nuclear missiles able to reach the United States gives China more diplomatic clout than some new SSNs.

After the 7,000 ton, 093 class SSNs went to sea, China was apparently underwhelmed by their performance. Not much more is expected from the 094 SSBNs. The 093s are too noisy and have a long list of more minor defects as well. The Chinese have had a hard time building reliable nuclear subs, but they are determined to acquire the needed skills. You do that by doing it and eating your mistakes. China appears to have built five Type 094s and a sixth may be on the way.

While China has 094 class SSBNs in service, they have still not performed any combat patrols (gone to sea for 30 days or more with nuclear missiles ready for use). These boats have been in development for over a decade now. The first one was launched in 2004 and was thought to be ready for service in 2007. The 094 is similar to the 093 class SSN. These SSBNs are armed with twelve JL-2 ballistic missiles and six torpedo tubes. Priority was apparently given to construction of the 094, as having nuclear missiles able to reach the United States gives China more diplomatic clout than some new SSNs. But mastering all the technologies required for a successful SSBN has proved daunting. The Chinese are not in a rush to put a problem ridden boat in service and are working out all the problems first. The current plan is to finally begin combat patrols in 2014. That depends on getting the problem-prone JL-2 ballistic missile to perform reliably.





RUN ASHORE IN FLEETWOOD

It has been the practice for some years now for the KOBRA to invite us to their club in Fleetwood for a 'DO'. It has always been very different and entertaining. This year was no exception.

There were five of us this year. Myself, Dudley, Ginge, Hutch, and Dave Oakes. Quite brave of me I thought, going ashore with two chief stokers and two Tiffies. Dudley and I set off at 0930 from his cave. Hutch and Dave set off a bit later and Ginge came later by train. We booked in to the New Boston Hotel on Fleetwood front. Not posh but very reasonable room prices.

Dudley and I repaired immediately to the Mount Hotel next door for a couple of Guinness. After this we made our way in the direction of the Old Comrades club. We stopped on the way at the Prince Albert, locally known as 'The Bug' anyone who has ever been in there would immediately realise why it is known by such a delicate name. Having sampled a couple in there, we proceeded to the Old Comrades club.

We were made very welcome as always in the Pongo's club. The beer is very cheap, and the company excellent. Duds and I got stuck into the booze, met some interesting people and told lies to each other as one does on these occasions. The club had laid on sarnies for us during the afternoon this helped to soak up the booze to some degree. By this time Hutch and Dave had arrived and joined the drinking fest, we did not want to be shown up by the Pongo's. Eventually, I realise I would need to recharge batteries for an hour, and so I returned to the Hotel for a swift hour. On arrival, I met Ginge who had just arrived and had a jar with him.

I don't have much of a memory of when I surfaced. However, I was able to navigate my way back to the Old Comrades which was still full of festive people. We were fed on Pie and peas (I think) which fortified us somewhat. I had to consult Dave Oakes as to what happened after this as I have somewhat hazy recollection of it!

As I am informed, sometime after the witching hour, the Chief Stokers retired to the hotel. However, the Tiffies and I repaired to the Strawberry for more bunkers. This I believe went on until around two or three in the morning. I have no recollection of returning to base, however, two of us could not find our keys. Dudley therefore had to be roused to allow yours truly to get in. On the plus side, none of us fell over!!

Needless to say I missed breakfast, but the nice land lady produced excellent coffee for me. We all took off in our various transport. Dudley and I had our final pint in the Red Nose club in Ulverston.

An excellent run ashore!!!

Visit to Northern Ireland

On the 11th October, my wife and I went to Londonderry on a family visit. We intended to stay in the Province for 10 days, then joining the Northern Ireland Branch for their dinner at the Wellington Park Hotel in Belfast. Londonderry came as a bit of a shock. I realised the last time I was in Londonderry, was 53 years ago in HMSM Cachalot. I didn't recognise a thing. They have made a lovely job of the waterfront. For those of us who remember Daltons bar, I'm afraid it has long gone. I couldn't even find an Irishman who could remember it!

Having spent a weekend in Londonderry, we then travelled to Carrick Fergus this being my comfort zone. Whilst there, Jerry Haigh came to see us. I'm please to say, he looks well after his illness, although he does have some restrictions in the alcohol intake area, which is unfortunate. However he appears to be on the mend, and his wife Sadie has also recovered from her injuries caused by falling over their dog!

We enjoyed our stay in Carrick very much. On the Friday Gerry kindly drove us to the Wellington Park hotel where we joined the rest of the squad. Principal guests were Lady Herman M.P. Major S. Murphy BEM, and J. McMaster Nat. Chairman. There followed a number of speeches as we have come to expect. However the dinner was excellent and each speech was followed by a toast. As a result, much rum had been consumed before we got to the Guinness! The entertainment was provided by an exceptional ladies choir. When they sang "Danny Boy" it would have brought a tear to a glass eye, they were followed by a very good female singer. The remainder of the weekend was taken up by consumption of the usual. Saturday night was also a good night, the main entertainment being provided by Storming Norman, dancing with one of the girls from the group entertaining us and also dancing with Tracy Erskine.

It was a great weekend, and good to meet the old crowd again. Davy George and the squad all send their regard to the Branch.

Bob Faragher





WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Non Member
5th November 2013
John Godkin
CCMEA
D074332D
Aged 69

Submarine Service
Anchorite, Tiptoe, Churchill
Valiant Courageous

Australia Branch
15th November 2013
Jeffery G Westwood
CERA
P/M928875
Aged 76

Submarine Service
Scotsman, Narwhal, Oracle
Taciturn & Tabard

Non Member
7th May 2013
Olly Sharp
LTCDR
Aged 84

Submarine Service
Tactician, Astute, Thorough
Solent, Thule, Tiptoe, Walrus
Seneschal, Aurochs & Ocelot

Non Member
4th July 2013
Martin "Doc" Dolly Dalton
MEM(M)1
Aged 53
Submarine Service in Repulse

Dolphin Branch
15th November 2013
Sydney Hill
LSEA
D/SSX78899
Aged 84

Submarine Service
Amphion, Sturdy

Australia Branch
20th November 2013
Collin Richard Cooper
Cdr WE
Aged 63
Submarine Service
Repulse, Revenge & Churchill

Royal Berkshire Branch
19th November 2013
Chris Hazell
AB ST
C/JX553420
Aged 93

Submarine Service
P555 & Truncheon

Non Member
1st December 2013
Stanley Fredrick Warner
Able Seaman
Submarine Service 1947-1952
Thorough, Alcide & Trespasser

Non Member
25th November 2013
Jack Feherty MBE
LT(E)
Submarine Service

Australia Branch
28th November
Malcom 'MAX' Hardy
WO Coxn
Aged 70
Submarine Service
Oxley & Onslow

Non Member
17th November 2013
David Castley
LTCDR (SD) (WESM)
Aged 77
Submarine Service as CREA
1959-1968
Porpoise, Artful, Rorqual,
Orpheus & Dreadnought
Warspite as WEO

*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.*

K13 Weekend in Faslane is
24th to 26th Jan 2014. Anyone
who wishes to attend please
pass names to Barrie Downer
as soon as possible to arrange
security clearance at the
Faslane Naval Base.

Cold War

Can I please make you aware
BBC Television is screening a
two part documentary called
"The Silent War" in which
British, American and Russian
Submariners talk openly about
their experiences during the
"Cold War". The first episode is
on BBC2 at 21:00 on Thursday
5th December



Sale of an unique and
prestigious oil painting on
behalf of the HMS Alliance
appeal by open tender



"Fleet Submarine off Holy
Island – 1984"

Vice Admiral Sir Roderick
(Roddy) MacDonald KBE
(1921-2001)

Oil on canvas 20" x 16" framed

The painting above is one of the
best paintings by Admiral
Roderick MacDonald and it was
given by him to Commander
Tim Honnor (1st Lt of HMS
Alliance 1970/71), as a 'thank-
you' to Tim, for mounting an
exhibition of his pictures at
Tim's Piccolo Press gallery in
Nairn.

Tim has very kindly donated it
for sale within the submarine
community and for the proceeds
to be donated to the HMS
Alliance Appeal Fund. There is a
reserve of £1000 on the sale; if
the reserve is not reached the
painting will be offered for sale
on the open market.

Roddy MacDonald painted
throughout his time in the Royal
Navy, his style was firmly
impressionist and he created
works with atmosphere and
movement.

"Fleet Submarine off Holy
Island - 1984" captures the
special light of West Scotland
with the movement and bulk of
a contrasting man-of-war" and
can be viewed in the John
Fieldhouse building at the Royal
Navy Submarine Museum from
the 29th November until 12th
December (Christmas Carol
Concert).

Bids should be emailed to
supportus@submarine-
museum.co.uk
or call 023 9254 5030

SLOPS

The criteria for SLOPS charges is that items costing less than £10 I add 50p to the price and for items greater than £10 I add £1. This is to realise a modest profit for the branch.

In order to keep costs down I have an agreement with the West of Scotland branch to share orders to minimise outlay. The response since I took over has been very positive and we have already made in excess of £100 profit for the branch.

If you require any goods I am happy to get quotes in advance or order as required.

Note we do intend to get more Poppy Brooches in the near future.

Your Naval Tailor

Jan Mead

Signing Off

It's now 12 months since I gave notice to end my 13.5 year stint as your newsletter editor, doesn't time fly.

I am informed that the news letter will continue under a new editor with a new format and that you will receive a January edition as normal.


It only remains for me to thank all our members and readers for their continued support and contributions over the years. I also thank Bill Myers for his page 3 subs and the Quiz page - sadly these features are also coming to an end.

Please continue to support the Newsletter and the new editor I wish the newsletter every success in the future and look forward to reading the next Edition.

Ben Britten

Do You Remember

ELWE's
Loading Beer
SETT



December 2013

Members Birthdays

L. Thwaites	02/12
D. Rogers	04/12
P. Douglas	03/12
G. Livingston	06/12
M. Bown	15/12
M. Dack	17/12
K. Collins	19/12
C. Lee	21/12
D. Taylor	23/12
N. Morrison	27/12
K. Cattroll	28/12
S. Doughty	28/12
T. Pyne	31/12
D. Thompson	31/12

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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 November for the December 2013 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 2013

December

Branch Meeting

in the

RBL

Tuesday 3rd at 2000

FIRST & LAST

Dutchman Dr Cornelius Van Drebbel built and demonstrated the world's first practical submarine in front of King James the 1 on the Thames in 1620.

Hms/m Trumps target was the last ship to be sunk by any British warship in WWII



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 submarines which were built at Barrow.

See if you can find all 12 names hidden within this wordsquare grid

CLUES

1. VICTORIOUS

2. VIGILANT

3. RORQUAL

4. SUPERB

5. GAL

6. PORPOISE

7. VALIANT

8. ANDREW

9. TIPTOE

10. SPENDID

11. TANIN

12. RAHAV

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

Last month's wordsquare solution (below)

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



MAKING WAVES: The Barrow-built submarine *HMS Superb* shown at sea on November 13 in 1976. Can you find its name in the wordsquare?

Submariners Association

Recognised by the Ministry of Defence
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Honorary Chaplain to the Association:
Reverend Paul Jupp

ANNUAL CONFERENCE/ REUNION 2014

The annual Full Members Reunion for 2014 will be held at the Holiday Inn Maidstone-Sevenoaks in Kent over the weekend of 21st to 23rd March. The conference itself will be on Saturday 22nd March. The address of the hotel is London Road, Wrotham Heath, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 7RS.

Location

The hotel is located just off Jct 2a of the M26 which is a relatively short motorway linking the M25 and the M20, is on the outskirts of the small village of Wrotham Heath (pronounced Rootam) and is a short walk from a Premier Inn and the Royal Oak pub. It is less than walking from Dolphin Senior Rates Mess to Alecto Colonnade. The large village of Borough Green is 2 miles away and boasts a railway station with a very regular train service to and from London Victoria, every 30 minutes during the week, every hour on a Sunday with a 45 minute journey time. I have checked the trains from various parts of the country and examples are just over 6 hours from Glasgow, 4½ hours from Newcastle with the return 5 hours on the Sunday and even Plymouth is just less than 6 hours. Pompei is just 3 hours via London as is Birmingham. A taxi from the station is about £7 but we are hoping to get the use of a mini bus to do a shuttle on Friday PM and Sunday during the peak arrival and departure times. Gatwick Airport is 32 miles away. A train into London and then out to Borough Green is probably the best bet from the airport.

It is 15 miles to Rochester and the Medway towns. Maidstone is 10 miles away and the historic market town of West Malling is just 4 miles away.

There is ample free parking on site for cars and coaches.

There is a leisure centre with a swimming pool, Sauna, Jacuzzi and Exercise Machines and whilst open there is a full time pool attendant. Bring your own cossy

Accommodation

The accommodation is over two floors but unfortunately there are no lifts. There are 6 rooms on the ground floor, and a further 12 up one flight of 10 stairs. Of the ground floor rooms 2 are classed as easy accessible with low entry baths rather than being fully disabled. These will be kept for the genuine needy. None of the rooms have a walk in shower but are the over the bath type. There is an outside walkway which although having some small steps would be easier for those with walking difficulties giving easy access to further bedrooms, weather permitting.

We viewed a selection of rooms and found them all to be clean, reasonably spacious and all had TV, Tea and Coffee making facilities and a fridge.

Meals

The Friday evening meal will be a 3 course buffet style meal with a waiter served 2 choice starter, a 3 choice buffet main course and a 3 choice buffet desert.

The Saturday Reunion Dinner will be a 4 course dinner with a 2 choice starter, an intermediate soup course, a 2 choice Main and a 2 choice desert with ½ bottle of wine per person and Port for the toast.

Rates

Note all rates are per person

The rates are only slightly higher than last year but that's inflation and the southerly location.

Friday & Saturday nights	Dinner, Bed & Breakfast (Sharing Twin)	£125
Friday & Saturday nights	Dinner, Bed & Breakfast (Single)	£145
Friday Night Only	Dinner, Bed & Breakfast (Sharing Twin)	£65
Friday Night Only	Dinner, Bed & Breakfast (Single)	£85
Saturday Night Only	Dinner, Bed & Breakfast (Sharing Twin)	£75
Saturday Night Only	Dinner, Bed & Breakfast (Single)	£95
Additional night Thursday or Sunday	Bed & Breakfast (Sharing Twin)	£35
Additional night Thursday or Sunday	Bed & Breakfast (Single)	£60
Non Resident Saturday Reunion Dinner		£37
Non Resident Friday Buffet Dinner		£23

The two night rates, the Saturday only rate and the Non Resident Saturday Dinner includes your Tot, ½ bottle of wine and Port for the toast.

Considering we are in the expensive South the bar tariff negotiated is, I believe, very good.

Draught Beer, Lager, Cider and Guinness	£ 2.80 per pint
Regular Spirits including Woods rum	£ 3.00 per 35ml
Mixers by the pump dash	£ 0.40
Mixers by the bottle	£ 1.00
House Red or White Wine (bottle)	£14.00
House Red or White Wine (175ml glass)	£ 3.50

All other drinks will be at the normal hotel price.

The hotel is also looking at the possibility of providing a guest real ale.

At the moment I have got a hold on every room but I have to release what I haven't sold at the end of January. If your application arrives later than that you take the risk that the rooms have been lost. I therefore urge you all to submit your applications in **as soon as possible**.

Enclosed with this letter are two applications, one for your accommodation requirement(s) and the other for the Saturday Reunion Dinner meal choices. Whilst applications via your secretary are welcome I am happy to accept applications from individual members, indeed that is the preferred method so that I can quickly ascertain the room requirements.

I would prefer full payment up front, but a £50 deposit for packages greater than that will be accepted but I do need the **FULL BALANCE** by **Friday 31st January 2014**.

Please remember to include your contact details including your postal address so that I can send your tickets or contact you if there is a query. Although this circular and application form will be sent to all those members on email I would ask all branch secretaries to get it out to your members as quickly as you can.

Please send your applications and cheques to Dave Barlow at 84 Holbeck Park Ave, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria LA13 0SB. Tel 01229 831196. Email dave@davebarlow.plus.com. Please make your cheques payable to the "Submariners Association" and NOT me. This causes a delay while I clear the cheque through my own bank before I pay the treasurer.

If you wish to attend the conference but not stay at the hotel there is a Premier Inn in Wrotham Heath, which is a short walk away. You must make your own arrangements if you are doing this.

Best Regards

Dave Barlow

SUBMARINERS ASSOCIATION FULL MEMBERS ONLY REUNION APPLICATION
FRIDAY 21st MARCH - SUNDAY 23rd MARCH 2014

BRANCH:

Packages	A	£125	Frid & Sat Dinner B&B (SHARING TWIN) - PER PERSON	H	£60	Additional Night Thursday B&B (SINGLE)
	B	£145	Frid & Sat Dinner B&B (SINGLE)	I	£35	Additional Night Sunday B&B (SHARING TWIN) Per Person
	C	£65	Frid Night Only Dinner B&B (SHARING TWIN) - PER PERSON	J	£60	Additional Night Sunday B&B (SINGLE)
	D	£85	Frid Night Only Dinner B&B (SINGLE)	K	£37	Non Resident Saturday Reunion Dinner
	E	£75	Sat Night Only Dinner B&B (SHARING TWIN) - PER PERSON	L	£23	Non Resident Friday Buffet Dinner
	F	£95	Sat Night Only Dinner B&B (SINGLE)	M	£3	Non Resident entry fee - includes Tot
	G	£35	Additional Night Thursday B&B (SHARING TWIN) Per Person			

[illegible]

All hotel cancellations must be made to the Dave Barlow as soon as possible and not direct to the hotel
Add any other supporting information or requirements on a separate sheet if necessary
Submit applications to Dave Barlow, 84 Holbeck Park Ave, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria. LA13 0SB. Tel 01229 831196
Make Cheques Payable to "Submariners Association" and NOT me please.

BRANCH:

Please enter your selection with a 'Y' in the appropriate boxes

Please note that this is a 4 course meal with an intermediate Seasonal Soup Course between the Starter and Main Courses