



PERISCOPE VIEW

The Newsletter of the Barrow-in Furness Branch
of the
Submariners Association

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HMS ARTFUL TAKES TO THE WATER FOR THE FIRST TIME

EDITORIAL

Here we are in June – already - and here is your June edition of Up Periscope. Can I thank all those Branch Members who assisted with the Stewarding for Keswick to Barrow Walk and with the Pearl Izumi Cycle Races and those who took part in the Mayor's Sunday Parade on Sunday 1st June. Attending these events all goes towards raising the Branch profile in the Barrow area. The next event for your diaries is the Tri Service Veterans Day Flag Raising Ceremony at the Town Hall on Monday 23rd June. A good turn out this year is anticipated.

Thanks also to those Members and Friends who supported the Canal Trip so ably organised by Alex Webb.

Can I remind everyone that the June Branch Meeting on Tuesday 3rd June is an Extraordinary General Meeting to ratify the updating of the Branch Rules to ensure that they are in line with various changes to the National Association Rules and Constitution introduced over the last few years. Ron has circulated the new version of the Branch Rules so you should all be up to speed.

Friends will be sad to hear that Chief OEA Jeremy 'Jess' Pyne (TRAFALGAR, SCEPTRE and Ships Manager) has 'Crossed the Bar' at the very early age of 56. Jess was the son of Branch Member Terry Pyne. The funeral will be at the Thorncliffe Crematorium in Barrow in Furness on Friday 6th June at 1130. Friends are welcome to attend. Family flowers only are requested but donations can be made to 'Alice's Escapes' at Thorncliffe or care of Little and Caine, 48, Ulverston Road, Dalton, Cumbria. The Branch sends its sincere condolences to the Pyne family.

I have been receiving more contributions for inclusion in the Newsletter – thanks very much - and I will include them but not all at the same time. Please enjoy your Branch Newsletter and don't forget that you can help by sending in your contributions and any comments you think relevant – polite ones only – of course!

Regards

Barrie Downer

CHAIRMAN'S DIT – JUNE 2014



May has been quite a busy month for me. Just after the May meeting I put on my Scottish Branch hat of which I am now the only surviving founder member and travelled up to Dunoon for the Annual Vandal and Untamed Memorial weekend. This normally consists of a meet and greet on the Friday evening but as it was my

wedding anniversary I took Fiona out for a rather nice slap up meal. Saturday morning is an early breakfast but the hotel is well versed to our requirement and is quite happy to comply. Mustering at Dunoon Pier, heads counted NOK form checked and we embark on one of the Serco operated boats that are normally used to ferry

submariners to and from the boats in the outer reaches of the Clyde rather than having to come in the Faslane. Anyway we set sail in atrocious weather with the Clyde being rather bumpy and although there were a few green gills for the first hour or two before the weather eased up, the sun came out and all the ladies were gossiping again as only they can do. It was good that we had a good number of relatives of those lost with us, as it is they that make this weekend so special. In three hours we arrived at Loch Ranza on the Isle of Arran where there is a Cairn provided by the Scottish Branch in memory of those lost on HMS Vandal which went down with all hands in 1943 about half a mile or so from Loch Ranza. I will write a separate dit some time on her loss. We had a service, laid wreaths and then back on board. We sail over the spot where the submarine lies and CaptFasFlot laid a wreath on the waters. This was the call for 'Up Spirits' the rum quickly dished up and a toast to Absent Friends. The ladies then passed out hot soup, along with various rolls and unlimited tea and coffee. By this time the weather was turning out really good and most spent the time on the quarter deck enjoying the Scottish Scenery that only the bridge watch keepers ever get to see normally. We soon arrived at Rothesay where a chartered bus took us up to the cemetery where we held a short service and laid wreaths on the graves of those lost in XE11. Just time to get an ice cream at the famous Zavaronis, back on board and set sail back to Dunoon where we arrived about 16.00.

In the evening we had a social in the hotel, spun a few dits, drank copious amounts of good single malt and then retired to bed tired, confused but happy.

Sunday was a later start which looking at some of the heads at breakfast was just as well. We walked down to the Castle Gardens, which overlooks the pier, and again held a short service at the stone laid in memory of those lost in Vandal and Untamed and again laid wreaths. On

completion we went to the local church where we were welcomed to join them at the morning service as we have done since we started this memorial weekend back in 1993.

The final act of remembrance was the short journey to Dunoon cemetery where those lost in Vandal are laid to rest. Crosses were laid on each of the 39 graves. The submarine also went down 1943 again with the total loss of the crew. It was actually later salvaged, refitted and renamed Vitality and saw out the rest of the war as a training submarine before being scrapped. It was then time to say our goodbyes until next year, get the ferry across to Gourock and the long drive back home to Barrow.

A week later saw us enjoy one of the best runs ashore we have had for a long time. That is, we took a bus down to near Garstang and had a canal trip. I am sure others will have written up about that evening so I will not repeat except to say, we thoroughly enjoyed it and I hope Alex can slot it in the 2015 social programme because everyone I have spoken to has said what a great time they had.

Today, Sunday 1st June, a number of us attended the Civic Sunday parade. Unfortunately not up to our usual numbers but that may be because of the service last year that left a bad taste. I can confirm that the service this year was very good and non-controversial.

And finally - Ted Budgen is back in hospital again. He was whisked in two weeks ago, spent 5 days in intensive care, pulled through and is now in Ward 5. Saw him tonight Sunday 1st and although he looks a lot better than when I saw him last week it could be another long haul. He did ask to be remembered to you all and sorry he wouldn't be able to attend the June meeting. He is however open to visitors.

Well that's all for now **Dave**

SECRETARY'S REPORT



Hello

A beautiful early summer's day as I write these notes and thoughts start to turn to holidays. So for all of you who are heading for warmer climes I wish you a great holiday. Lyn and I had a great evening cruising the Lancaster canal and look forward to doing it again. Our thanks to Alex for organising the event, he works hard at

organising our social programme so it helps if the Branch supports him. It was good to see the canal cruise was fully booked.

On 23rd June it is Veterans Day at the Town Hall. Details will be passed nearer the date once I have received them.

This month's meeting has been classified as an EGM to ratify the Draft Rules. These have been e-mailed and once ratified I will send out the agreed rules.

With that said I will now go and enjoy the sunshine before it disappears.

Regards **Ron**

SOCIAL SECRETARY



Hi Shipmates,

The luxury canal trip from Barton to Garstang on Saturday 17th May was a huge success, thanks to all who supported it and the fun that was generated. We started off from Barrow at 4pm and as soon as everyone was on board we made good steady progress to Barton. The sun was out, the alcohol was flowing and Ken and Ron were on form taking the mickey out of the social secretary who is a staunch Arsenal fan; however, Alex did have the last laugh after a 3 -2 win to the Gunners.

Arriving at the barge for 6 we immediately went to harbour stations and slipped for Garstang. During the first phase we got comfy, drank some more and had our food. The staff on board; Val, Dale and Nigel, were excellent and made us feel well looked after. We arrived at Garstang at 7:30 and disembarked to go to the Old Tithe Barn for some real ale and the use of a fully functioning set of toilets. By 8:30 we were back on board and made our way back to Barton; this is where the party really got going. Our entertainer; Rae, got the party started and Lillian and Phyllis ensured that everyone was up dancing in the aisles. Before we knew it we were back alongside and getting on the coach for our trip home.

The company was excellent, the views absolutely stunning and the whole trip from beginning to end went smoothly and was thoroughly enjoyable. As the social secretary I would like to thank everyone for supporting this event, but even more I would like to thank everyone for making it such a good day out with lots of laughing, singing and socialising.

Here is a selection of the photos taken on the Canal Trip. As you can see everyone was enjoying themselves!



A special thanks to all who attended. I wanted 50, I got 49 and they all came ready for a party; lots of fun in the sun and I think all had a good time; looking forward to doing that again in the future.

Diary Check:

Next event is the annual Cartmel trip on Saturday 19th July, luxury travel to and from Cartmel at a variety of pick up points. Cost just £12:50 (does not include entry cost). I have already filled up my 37 seater coach so have upgraded to a 53 seater and have only 15 places left. Good day out with the chance of winning big at one of the most picturesque race courses in the UK. Saturday 2nd August is the annual BBQ, to be held at Crofters from 2 – 7. Cost is £5 per person (under 3 years old are free). Standard nosebag with quality

HMS ONYX (Update III)

The wrangling over the fate of HMS ONYX continues. The submarine still lies alongside the jetty at the breakers yard in the Gareloch. As yet no work to remove the batteries has started. The discussions between the current owners and the Greenock Team continue however the current owners have increased the price again. A petition has been set up with a view to ensuring the long term preservation of HMS ONYX. The Greenock Team is looking into the legalities round the ownership of the submarine including whether the Mersey Docks company had the legal right to sell the boat after the Birkenhead museum went into receivership. They are also looking at the possibility of the boat being listed on the Historic Ships Register. The saga continues.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

After a long process in determining the actual Branch Membership, lapsing Non Payers and transferring NMC Standing Order payer to the Dolphin Branch Mick Mailey will soon be sending out the new Membership Cards to those who have not already collected theirs. He

entertainer, music, face painting, ice lollies, raffle, games, prizes and a good laugh to be had by all. The bar (as last year) will be situated outside at cheaper prices to those inside.

As always at the meetings I run a raffle and the members (free) draw which in May was won by Peter Hearn so in June we are back to £5. All you have to do to win is be there, have paid your subs and get your number drawn – easy, ask Kenny, Hugh, Bob or Peter.

All tickets have been sold for the world cup sweepstake and please remember the event for June 14th has been cancelled due to my entertainer being abroad.

Join in and have fun.

Alex Webb - Social Secretary

apologises for the delay and hopes you will all understand the need for him to sort out who is and who is not a 'Paid Up' Member.

The sharp eyed amongst you will notice that the new Membership Cards are plastic cards (Credit Card size) with your new unique 'National Membership Number' printed on it. Please keep your Membership Card safe as it is a permanent card and will not be re-issued each year. In future when you are 'Paid Up' the Treasurer will give you a yearly 'Paid Up' sticker to put on the back of the card.

It will help if Members use their unique 'Membership Number' when corresponding with the Committee by letter/e mail etc. – particularly if you have a popular nickname – Whisky, Buck, Smudge etc.

If you haven't got your card yet keep an eye out for the post in the near future!!

NEWSLETTER CONTACT INFORMATION

Do you have a story to tell or have information you feel should appear in the Newsletter then ring Barrie Downer on 01229 820963 or if you wish to send me an article my postal address is listed above under Committee Members. You may also send your contribution by e-mail to me barrie@downer55.freeserve.co.uk. Come on – every Submariner has a story to tell – some more than one! Let's see yours in print!

Constructive suggestions about the newsletter are also very welcome. The newsletter will be published in the last week of each month i.e. the last week March for the April 2014 issue. Please ensure you have any information with me by the 15th of each month to ensure its inclusion in the next issue. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this edition – keep them stories coming.

SUBMARINER VICTORIA CROSS HOLDERS OF WWI

This is the sixth article of a series in this, the 100th year since the outbreak of the 1st World War, commemorating those Submariners who were awarded the Victoria Cross during that War (1914 – 1919). The following Officer was not serving as a Submariner but as a Coastal Motor Boat officer when he won his Victoria Cross during the 'Russian Intervention' in 1919.

GORDON CHARLES STEELE, VC

Gordon Steele was born at Exeter in Devon on 1st Nov 1891 and he was the son of Captain H W Steele, Royal Navy. He was a Cadet in the Training Ship HMS WORCESTER and then joined the P & O Line and served as 3rd Mate in the CALEDONIAN. He was appointed as a Probationary Midshipman, RNR on 5th Jan 1912 and an Acting Sub Lieutenant, RNR on 25th Feb 1914. He joined the Royal Navy for 'Extended RNR Training' on 7th Mar 1914 and served in HMS PRINCE GEORGE from 4th Aug 1914.

Gordon Steele was appointed to the Submarine Depot Ship HMS MAIDSTONE (8th Submarine Flotilla) at Harwich 'for Submarines' on 21st Oct 1914. He was then appointed to HMS MAIDSTONE 'for Submarine D8 as Navigating Officer' on 7th Dec 1914. His next appointment was to the 'Q' Ship ANTWERP on 28th Jan 1915 followed by the 'Q' Ship BARALONG (Commander Godfrey Herbert, Royal Navy) 'as First Lieutenant and Gunnery Officer' on 6th Apr 1915. On 19th August 1915 the BARALONG sank the U-Boat U-27. For his part in the action Gordon Steele was transferred to a Permanent Commission in the Royal Navy on 10th Jul 1915 and was promoted to Lieutenant with a Seniority of 19th Nov 1915. His next appointment, on 10th Jul 1915, was to the Submarine Depot Ship HMS MAIDSTONE (8th Submarine Flotilla) at Harwich 'for Submarine E22 as First Lieutenant' with Lieutenant Commander Godfrey Herbert – his Commanding Officer – formerly in BARALONG.



Gordon Charles Steele

Gordon Steele had left Submarine E22 by 1st Apr 1916 and he reverted to General Service on 16th Apr 1916 when he was appointed to the Battle Ship HMS ROYAL OAK (Captain Crawford Maclachlan, Royal Navy) – 3rd Division, Grand Fleet. HMS ROYAL OAK was present at the Battle of Jutland on 31st May/1st Jun 1916. At 1915 on 31st May HMS ROYAL OAK opened fire, at a range of 14,000 yards on the leading vessel of three Enemy Ships taken to be Battle Cruisers and scored hits - causing the enemy to turn away - after which fire was shifted to the second Ship until it was lost sight of in the

mist after only a few rounds. Gordon Steele was next appointed to the Flag Ship of the Grand Fleet – the 25,000 ton Battle Ship HMS IRON DUKE on 14th May 1917. In October 1917 he was appointed to HMS P63. In December 1918 he was serving in the 'FLOWER' Class Fleet-Sweeping Vessel (Sloop) HMS CORNFLOWER to which he had been appointed as 'Lieutenant-in-Command' on 20th Sep 1918. In July 1919 he was sent to the Baltic as 'Second in Command' of CMB No. 3 (CMB No. 88) and took part in the attack on Kronstadt on Monday 18th Aug 1919. During the attack he had to take Command of CMB No. 88 when the Commanding Officer (Archibald Dayrell-Reed – see below) was shot in the head. The attack on the Russian Battleship ANDREI PERVOZVANNI was successful and, on his return to the Depot Ship he was recommended for, and was awarded the Victoria Cross – see London Gazette of 11th Nov 1919.

On 18 August 1919 at Kronstadt, Russia, Lieutenant Steele was second-in-command of Coastal Motor Boat 88. Steele's boat became illuminated by an enemy searchlight. Very heavy machine gun fire followed immediately, the Captain being killed and the boat thrown off course. A British aircraft saw the problem, dived on the searchlight and put it out with gunfire. Lieutenant Steele took the wheel and steadied the boat, lifting the dead officer away from the steering and firing position, and torpedoed the battleship Andrei Pervozanni at 100 yards range. He then manoeuvred the CMB in a very confined space to get a clear shot at the other battleship Petropavlosk before making for the safety of the bay.

On 16th Dec he was reported to be still in Command of HM CMB No. 88. In August 1922 he was listed as 'between appointments'. Gordon Steele was promoted to Lieutenant Commander on 19th Nov 1923 and, on 9th Mar 1925 he was appointed to HMS DOLPHIN 'for the Staff of Rear Admiral (S) and for duty with Submarines'. In June 1927 he was serving in HMS OSPREY 'for the Anti-Submarine School' to which he had been appointed on 9th May 1927. On 1st Jul 1927 he was appointed to the Cruiser HMS CORNWALL (Captain the Hon. W S Leveson-Gower, DSO, Royal Navy) on the China Station 'as the First Lieutenant'. On 18th Jun 1929 Gordon Steele was listed without an appointment and he then became the 'Captain Superintendent' of the Training Ship HMS WORCESTER on 24th Jun 1929. He was transferred to the Retired List 'at his own request' on 1st Nov 1931 with the rank of Commander. He was appointed Hon. Captain, RNR in 1934. On 15th Jun 1938 was on board the CUTTY SARK (which had been

taken over by the WORCESTER) and was in tow of the tug MURIA from Falmouth to Greenhithe, London. He was severely burned on the face and hands (and was temporarily blinded) when several saluting gun charges were accidentally ignited by a smoking charge wrappers caught by the wind. He spent two weeks in hospital. Gordon Steele was recalled for further service in WWII being appointed to HMS BEAVER – the Shore based Headquarters of the Humber Command at Hull- on 26th Aug 1939. He served as the ‘Anti-Submarine Commander, Humber Area’ and then as an ‘Anti-Submarine Specialist and Inspector of A/S Equipment’ at Glasgow. He was demobilised on 9th Jun 1945 and then returned to HMS WORCESTER as Captain Superintendent. His rank of Hon. Captain, RNR was restored on 15th Nov 1949. Gordon Steele retired from his post as Captain Superintendent of the WORCESTER on 26th Jul 1957. It is reported that he qualified as a Russian Interpreter in 1925, that he was a Fellow of the Royal Geographic Society, a Member of the Worshipful Company of Shipwrights, a Fellow of the Institute of Navigators and a fellow of the Royal Meteorological Society. He was also a member of the Central Board for Training Merchant Navy Officers, a Brother of Trinity House and a Freeman of the City of London. He later became a Lay Reader in the diocese of Canterbury. Gordon Steele, who never married, later retired to a Residential Home at Winkleigh in North Devon. He is reported to have died at the age of eighty nine on 4th Jan 1981.

His Victoria Cross is kept in perpetuity for the nation at Trinity House, London

BRANCH BIRTHDAYS JUNE 2014

G.A. (George) Plater	03/06
B.R. (Slosh) Riley	03/06
A.I. (Carl) Haythornthwaite	09/06
R. (Bob) Palmer	17/06
R. (Yorkie) Brailsford	21/06
K.E. (Kevin) Walker	21/06
B.K. (Barrie) Downer	23/06
A. (Alan) Pillifent	25/06
A. (Tony) Griffiths	29/06
D.P. (Derek) Pallister	29/06
D. (Derek) Johns	30/06

Happy Birthday to you all!

CALENDAR

Next Branch Meeting	Tuesday 3 rd June
Veterans Day Flag Raising	Monday 23 rd June
WWI Parade Planning Meeting	To be advised
Committee Meeting	As required

BRANCH VISIT TO FASLANE - 1987

Ian Walsh has sent in the following photo of a Barrow Branch Visit to the Clyde Submarine Base in April 1987. Ian is in the front row and Dave Jenkins is back row left. Can you recognise yourself? Let me know if you were there!



HMCS CHICOUTIMI – BASIN DIVE

Grace Jean, Washington, DC - IHS Jane's Navy International
7th May 2014

A Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) diesel-electric submarine recently completed a harbour dive as part of its overhaul programme and is on track for sea trials and a return to service, officials confirmed to IHS Jane's on 6 May.

Victoria-class boat HMCS CHICOUTIMI (ex HMS UPHOLDER) conducted a basin dive on 17 April 2014, near Esquimalt Harbour on Canada's west coast, to verify the submarine's watertight integrity. The dive also tested the functionality of several systems, including the boat's communications.



HMCS CHICOUTIMI under tow on 16 Apr 2014 to conduct a 'basin' dive.

"After the camber dive, the submarine returned to Esquimalt Harbour where it is progressing through final production activities and further harbour trials, in advance of proceeding on sea trials this summer," Ashley Lemire, a Department of National Defence spokesperson, told IHS Jane's. The submarine is on track to conclude trials by mid-2014 according to the Royal Canadian Navy.

HMS ALLIANCE REDEDICATION

The Rededication of HMS ALLIANCE and the unveiling of the new AE1 & AE1 Memorial at the Submarine Museum took place in the presence of the Duke of Cambridge on Monday 12th May. Three of us –

Terry Spurling, Ken Collins and Barrie Downer were invited to the Ceremonies in recognition of the work done by the Barrow Branch to establish the Memorial to the two Submarines and their Crews in Ramsden Square in May last year. All the great and the good of the Submarine world were there and there was an opportunity to catch up with old friends at lunch time and swing a few lamps over a buffet and glass of wine or two.

We were included in the official 'Australian Group' to meet the Duke when he unveiled the Gosport Memorial which is an engraved blue glass design by Frank Grenier – a former FOSM. The Australian Group included the members of the AE1 & AE2 descendant families – some of whom had travelled from Australia. Two of these were Peter and Vera Ryan who Ken met in Sydney last year. Peter and Vera later travelled to Barrow to see the Ramsden Square Memorial where we all met up again on Sunday 18th May.



At Gosport – in front of Alliance



At the Barrow Memorial -Peter and Vera Ryan between Ken and Lilian

PRINCE WILLIAM AT THE MUSEUM

The Duke of Cambridge downed a tot of rum in a ritual for newly qualified submariners as he attended the rededication ceremony of the only surviving British Second World War-era submarine.

In his role as Commodore-in-Chief, Submarines, William visited HMS ALLIANCE at the Royal Navy Submarine Museum in Gosport, Hampshire, which has been restored at a cost of £7 million. The Prince is the royal patron of the conservation appeal which enabled the repairs and refurbishment of the submarine, which

reopened to the public last month. William arrived by Lynx helicopter and was greeted by the cheers of local schoolchildren waving Union flags.



The Duke of Cambridge with Submariners at a reception in the Submarine Museum in Gosport

He then attended a service led by Royal Navy chaplain Reverend Ernie Grimshaw to rededicate the submarine, as well as to remember two Australian First World War-era submarines, one of which, AE1, sank in 1914 off Papua New Guinea and the other, AE2, was scuttled off Turkey and the crew seized.

Mr Grimshaw said: "I have served on submarines and to see the commitment, dedication and professionalism of submariners is something to behold and it's right to remember them today."

When asked by guide Terry Fearnley, a former stoker on ALLIANCE, if he would be bringing son George to see the submarine, William replied: "It's great that younger generations can really see and feel what it is like to be a submariner. I wouldn't let George in here. A nightmare George is - too many things for him to pull and hit."

Mr Fearnley said he should not worry, to which the Prince replied jokingly: "You say that."

Vice Admiral Sir Tim McClement, chairman of the museum, said: "Your Royal Highness, thank you very much for helping us by coming back to the Royal Navy Submarine Museum. Since your last visit five years ago, I think you will have noticed some changes. "She is the only World War Two-era UK ocean-going submarine open to visitors. Laid down in 1944, she completed 26 years operational service in the Far East and Cold War and for the last 30 years she has been the centrepiece of our museum, but she has suffered terribly from a lot of corrosion.

MAD WIFE DISEASE

A guy was sitting quietly reading his paper when his wife walked up behind him and whacked him on the head with a magazine.

What was that for?' he asked.

'That was for the piece of paper in your trouser pocket with the name Laura Lou written on it,' she replied.

'Two weeks ago when I went to the races, Laura Lou was the name of one of the horses I bet on, I bought you those flowers with the winnings,' he explained.

'Oh darling, I'm sorry,' she said. 'I should have known there was a good explanation.'

Three days later he was watching TV when she walked up and hit him in the head again, this time with a frying pan, which knocked him out cold.

When he came to, he asked, 'What was that for?' 'Your horse phoned'

(thanks to Ian Walsh)

WOMEN IN SUBMARINES?

There has always been concern about whether women should serve in Submarines - and Submariners to a man, have always said 'No Way'. However it seems that without us realising it (women serving in Submarines) has been going on for years! George Meadows (a Barrow Branch Member - since Crossed the Bar) highlighted a case that he knew of!

George's Story

In June 1969 George was serving in HMS Osiris (SM3 at Faslane). On Sunday 1st June 1969 Osiris was at Great Harbour, Greenock for degaussing. It being a Sunday and George being duty (and the PO Steward) he decided to invite Mrs Meadows down the boat for lunch. Anyway a storm was brewing up and a Signal was received recalling Osiris to Faslane. By this time it was not possible to get Mrs Meadows off the boat - or anyone else on board.

A quick count of heads showed that the Duty Watch was one short of a crew for a trot move - except that Mrs M was still on board! No problem - a quick brief on how to use the intercom and to give a shout if anything untoward was seen or heard and Mrs M suddenly became the Duty Fore Endy for the trip back to Faslane. No problem here then, a full crew was available. Only snag was, on arriving back at Faslane a berth was allocated in the 'Red Area' - Polaris berths 1 & 2. Now try explaining to the Police Guards at Faslane why there was a lady on board on arrival in Faslane, in the Red Area, on a Sunday and without a Pass!

George had proof that this story is a true dit. He had a copy of the Trot Move Signal dated 1st June 1969 listing the Trot Move Crew - Fore Ends..... Mrs Meadows! She thinks she should have got the OBE for this but was more likely to receive the BEM (Bathrooms Etc. & Mess Decks!). The Message read as follows:

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

(NO UNCLASSIFIED REFERENCE OR REPLY)

S. 1320 i (Rev. July 1963)

H.M.S. OSIRIS. Trot Movement, 1 June 1969

Control Room

Helm P.O.R.El. Orpen

Echo Sounder R.E.A Dicker

Panel E.R.A. Danks

Log Cook Cox

Accom Space

P.O. Stwd Meadows

Fore Ends Mrs. Meadows

Motor Room

L.E.M. Beadle, E.M. O'Hara

After Ends M.E. McCubbin, M.E. Terry

Engine Room L.M.E. McNab

Casing

A/B Able, A/B Douggan, E.M. Johnson, M.E. Eker,

M.E. Hemmingway

AND ANOTHER INSTANCE!

Another case of women at sea in Submarines occurred during 'Trial Caraway 1986' on the AUTEK Range in the Bahamas. During this trial there was a Tigerfish Torpedo firing exercise with HMS TURBULENT, HMS CONQUEROR (the firing Submarines) and HMS AVENGER (the target).

A team of WRNS Weapons Analysts from the Submarine Tactics and Weapons Group (STWG) at Faslane was based on Andros Island. During one of the Firing Phases the 2nd Officer WRNS in charge of the team (2nd Officer Trish Bramhill) and one of her Leading WRENS (Sue Woods) briefly joined CONQUEROR to observe the firings and to take the records back ashore at the end of the day for analysis.

For various reasons they both had to remain on board over-night (the transfer off had been cancelled) and had to sleep on camp beds in the Sonar Cab Space - with a sentry posted - to make sure they were safe! All was well and they were transferred off the following day - Submariners obviously aren't what they used to be!

BUT NOW IT'S OFFICIAL!

ROYAL NAVY GETS IT'S FIRST FEMALE SUBMARINERS!



Left to Right: **Lieutenants Maxine Stiles, Alexandra Olsson and Penny Thackray**

Three women have become the first female submariners in the 110-year history of the Submarine Service. Lieutenants Maxine Stiles, Alexandra Olsson and Penny Thackray earned their "Dolphins" after months of training, including operations on HMS VIGILANT.

Defence Secretary Philip Hammond hailed their "huge personal achievement" and said it was "an historic moment for the Royal Navy and our armed forces". A ban on women submariners based on health fears was lifted in 2011.

A review of concerns that submarines' higher levels of carbon dioxide could carry risks to female health decided the fears were unfounded.

Lt Olsson, 26, from Tranmere, the Wirral, described joining the 165 male fellow crew members of HMS

VIGILANT' as like living "as a very strange family". "I felt like a little sister to 165 brothers," she said. "At the end of the day manpower is a big thing for the navy - as long as you can do the job, it doesn't matter."

She added: "Of course it's been challenging, but women are absolutely capable of doing this job. I think that change can always be a bit of a shock, but I look forward to seeing more and more women getting on board."

'Whole new world'

Lt Stiles, 29, from Ashton-under-Lyne, Greater Manchester, said: "As long as you can do your job and you're good at what you do, I don't think they [the crew] cared whether you were male or female."



HMS VIGILANT

Describing the experience of being away at sea on a submarine, Lt Thackray said: "You limit your horizons. I found I just forgot about the existence of some things. "Someone asked me if I missed bananas, I hadn't even noticed until they mentioned it. "I just forgot the outside world - you get a whole new world," said the 39-year-old from Hightown in West Yorkshire.

The women joined operations on nuclear-powered Vanguard-class submarine HMS VIGILANT. Lt Stiles will continue as a logistics officer on board HMS Vigilant, while Lt Olsson is undertaking deputy weapons engineering officer training. Lt Thackray is due to become an education officer.

HMS VIGILANT's Commanding Officer, Cdr Matt Dennis, said: "I was impressed with how seamlessly the three women integrated on board." He added that they had "really paved the way for women on submarines to be business as usual from now on".

Second Sea Lord Vice Admiral David Steel said: "Women have been serving in ships at sea with the Royal Navy for more than 20 years and integrating them into the Submarine Service completes their inclusion into all seagoing branches." The Royal Navy first allowed women to go to sea in 1990.

HMS TIRELESS RETURNS TO PLYMOUTH FOR FINAL TIME BEFORE BEING DE-COMMISSIONED

Plymouth Herald - June 02, 2014

By William Telford - Herald Reporter @WTelfordHerald
Nuclear-powered Royal Navy Submarine HMS TIRELESS has returned home to Plymouth for the last time.

The Royal Navy's longest serving nuclear-powered hunter killer submarine is due to be decommissioned after nearly 30 years of service.



Picture by Helen Pearse

HMS TIRELESS, base ported in Devonport, operated as one of the Cold War "warriors", a Navy spokesman said.

"Out of sight and mind, she deployed for long, secret and often dangerous missions out into the Atlantic," he added. "She patrolled for months at a time searching for and stalking her enemies.

"Renowned for her stealth and many successes she enjoys a strong reputation to this day."

The submarine returned home last night after completing the first deployment by a Royal Navy nuclear-powered submarine to Australia in seven years.

HMS TIRELESS had also been assisting in the search for missing Malaysian Airlines flight MH370.

HMS TIRELESS was launched in Barrow in Furness in 1984 and was commissioned a year later.

The Submarine surfaced at the North Pole in 1991, 2004 and 2006, and between 2010 and 2011 took part in a 10-month deployment, the longest continuous deployment by a UK nuclear-powered submarine up to that date.

This year she has been on East of Suez deployment, which included her assisting in searching for Flight MH370.

JAPAN & AUSTRALIA CONSIDER SUBMARINE DEAL THAT COULD RATTLE CHINA

Reuters: Wed, May 28 22:22 PM BST

By Tim Kelly and Matt Siegel

TOKYO/SYDNEY (Reuters) - Japan will get the chance to pursue an unprecedented military export deal when its defence and foreign ministers meet their Australian counterparts in Tokyo next month.

Japan is considering selling submarine technology to Australia – perhaps even a fleet of fully engineered, stealthy vessels, according to Japanese officials. Sources on both sides say the discussions so far have encouraged a willingness to speed up talks.

Any agreement would take months to negotiate and remains far from certain, but even a deal for Japan to supply technology would likely run to billions of dollars and represent a major portion of Australia's overall \$37 billion (22.14 billion pounds) submarine program.

It would also be bound to turn heads in China.

Experts say a Japan-Australia deal would send a signal to Asia's emerging superpower of Japan's willingness, under

nationalist Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, to export arms to a region wary of China's growing naval strength, especially its pursuit of territorial claims in the East and South China seas.

A deal would also help connect Japanese arms-makers like Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and Kawasaki Heavy Industries to the world market for big, sophisticated weaponry, a goal Abe sees as consistent with Japanese security.

Abe has eased decades-old restrictions on Japan's military exports and is looking to give its military a freer hand in conflicts by changing the interpretation of a pacifist constitution that dates back to Japan's defeat in World War Two.

"There's a clear danger that aligning ourselves closely with Japan on a technology as sensitive as submarine technology would be read in China as a significant tightening in what they fear is a drift towards a Japan-Australia alliance," said Hugh White, a professor of strategic studies at the Australian National University. "It would be a gamble by Australia on where Japan is going to be 30 years from now."

Australia's proposed fleet of submarines is at the core of its long-term defence strategy. Although Canberra will not begin replacing its Collins-class vessels until the 2030s, the design work could take a decade or more and each submarine could take about five years to build, according to industry analysts.

A final decision on the type and number of submarines Australia will build is expected to be made after a review due in March 2015.

Australian officials have expressed an interest in the silent-running diesel-electric propulsion systems used in Japan's Soryu diesel submarines, built by Mitsubishi Heavy and Kawasaki Heavy. Those vessels would give Australia a naval force that could reach deep into the Indian Ocean.

More recently, Japanese military officials and lawmakers with an interest in defence policy have signalled a willingness to consider supplying a full version of the highly regarded Soryu to Australia if certain conditions can be met. These would include concluding a framework agreement on security policy with Canberra that would lock future Australian governments into an alliance with Japan, the officials said.

Mitsubishi Heavy had no comment. Kawasaki Heavy said it had not been approached about any proposal regarding the Soryu and could not comment.

Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott has said he favours boosting strategic cooperation with Japan. For their part, Australia's military planners are similarly enthusiastic about cooperation as a means of hedging against an over-reliance on the United States, people with knowledge of their thinking said.

ULTRA-QUIET

The Soryu's ultra-quiet drivetrain could avoid a problem that makes Australia's six current submarines prone to detection, said sources with knowledge of the discussions in Australia.

The Australian government has committed to building the A\$40 billion (\$37 billion) replacement for its Collins-class submarines at home. However, a government-commissioned report from U.S.-based think-tank Rand Corp found that Australia lacked enough engineers to design and build a vessel it said would be as complex as a space shuttle.

"The likely practical approach is that Australia would partner with a foreign partner company and government," the report published last year said.

Australian Defence Minister David Johnston met his Japanese counterpart, Itsunori Onodera, in Perth recently and the pair meet again in June in Tokyo along with foreign ministers. Abe will follow up with a trip to Australia in July, one of the sources in Tokyo said.

Johnston said this month he believed the Soryu was the best conventional submarine in the world. He has also said he expects Japan and Australia will work together on research in marine hydrodynamics as an initial area of cooperation while working towards a "framework agreement" on military technology.

It is possible that Australia could purchase submarine hulls from Germany or Sweden and then opt to buy Japanese drivetrains for the vessels, although that would add a layer of complexity and additional cost, officials said.

Participants in a joint-development deal could also include Britain's BAE Systems and state-owned Australian Submarine Corp, which maintains the nation's current fleet.

Australian Submarine Corp's head of strategy and communications, Sean Costello, said the ship-builder had hosted Japanese government officials at its shipyards in March 2013 but no technical discussions had yet taken place.

BAE spokesman Mark Ritson said the British firm was keen to play a major role in Australia's submarine program and was in regular contact with the Australian government.

In Japan, any submarine supply deal could face roadblocks.

Some senior officials in Japan's maritime self-defence forces are wary of any joint development that could risk a leak of sensitive information about the identifying "signature" of Japanese submarines, one official in Tokyo said.

However, exports would enable Japanese arms-makers to spread their costs over a bigger production base, making them more efficient. At the same time, Abe has pressed for a loosening of legal limits on Japan's military, including an end to a ban on helping allies under attack - though opinion polls show the Japanese public is divided on Abe's security policies.

The Soryu submarines have a range of more than 11,000 km (6,800 miles) and come armed with Harpoon missiles designed to hit enemy ships operating over the horizon. The export or transfer of such lethal technology would be a first in Japan and could face political opposition.

"It's impossible for us to move quickly on this. It has to be a gradual cooperation," one Japanese official with knowledge of the discussions said.

SUBMARINERS ASSOCIATION - MEMBERS CROSSED THE BAR – MAY 2014
RESURGAM

Branch	Date	Name	Rank/Rating	O/N	Age	Submarine Service
Australia Branch	5 th May 2014	Arthur Henry Elliott Cook,	Commander, RN & RAN	N/A	91	Submarine Service from Oct 1944 to Jun 1959 in P614, SANGUINE (TO), SPITEFUL (TO), SOLENT (NO), STATESMAN (IL), TACTICIAN (IL), TALLY HO (IL), SCYTHIAN (CO), SEASCOUT (CO) & ALARIC (CO)
Non Member	7 th May 2014	William Campbell Bradley	ME1	K982069	73	Submarine Service from 5 th Apr 1962 to 6 th Sep 1967 in WALRUS (6 th Nov 62), AMBROSE (SC), MAIDSTONE (SC), NARWHAL (22 nd Sep 1966 & on re-commissioning at Rosyth) on 5 th Apr 1967)
Blackpool & Fylde Branch	12 th May 2014	Ernest (Ernie) Wilde, DSM, MiD	Petty Officer (TGM)	P/SSX 17850	95	Submarine Service from 1941 to 1945 in TORBAY
Non Member	14 th May 2014	Peter Derek Johnstone-Hall	Lieutenant Commander, RN & RAN	N/A	86	Sub Lieutenant to Commander from Nov 1958 in ANCHORITE (Jul 59), EXCALIBUR (Jan 62), PORPOISE (Feb 63), TACITURN (IL Nov 64), ALARIC (CO 67), OXLEY (RAN) (CO Jul 72-Jul 74) & OIC SETF (RAN)
Dolphin Branch	17 th May 2014	Michael Forder	Lieutenant Commander	N/A	TBA	Submarine Service from 1954 to 1960 in ANCHORITE, TACTICIAN, THOROUGH, TELEMACHUS, SLEUTH & THULE
Submarine Officers Association	26 th May 2014	Peter Minet Staveley	Lieutenant Commander	N/A	96	Submarine Service from 30 th Jun 1941 in THORN, OSIRIS, PROTEUS, ROVER, TAURUS, H43, VOTARY (CO), THERMOPYLAE (CO) & TEREDO (CO)
Submarine Officers Association	29 th May 2014	Peter Corderoy	Lieutenant Commander	N/A	73	Submarine Service from 1969 to 1987 in ANDREW RENOWN, CACHALOT & SUPERB
Former Member Scottish Branch	May 2014	Alex Menzies	Radio Supervisor	N/A	70	Submarine Service from 1962 to 1979 in ODIN (63-67), VALIANT (68), WARSPITE (69-74), ORPHEUS (74-75), OSIRIS (75-76) & OBERON (77-78)
Royal Berkshire Branch	May 2014	Nigel John Gilbert	Lieutenant Commander	N/A	86	Submarine Service from Oct 1948 to Jan 1968 in TRUNCHEON, THERMOPYLE, AUROCHS, SIRDAR, ARTEMIS, SELENE (IL), SENTINEL (IL), SANGUINE (IL), SENTINEL (IL), SEA DEVIL (CO), TACITURN (CO) & OTTER (CO)
Submarines Association of Australia	May 2014	Eric John Briggs	Petty Officer (REL)	N/A	TBA	Submarine Service from Jan 1967 in OPPORTUNE (Jan 67), RESOLUTION (S) (Feb 67 to Jan 70 - 1 st Commission Crew) on 3 rd Oct 1967 & REVENGE (S) (May 71 to Oct 72)
Non Member	May 2014	Dennis Arthur Probee	Chief Electrical Artificer/ Lieutenant Commander (SD) (WESM)	N/A	89	Submarine Service as EA from Feb 1946 to Sep 55 in TRUCULENT (Apr 46), SPIRIT (Jul 46), TELEMACHUS (Jul 46), AENEAS (Oct 46), Attack Teacher (Sep 49), ALCIDE (Dec 49), Attack Teacher (Jun 51), AMBUSH (Jun 54), DOLPHIN (SC) (Nov 54) & as SD (WESM) from Sep 1955
Non Member	28 th May 2014	Jeremy (Jess) Pyne	Chief Ordnance Electrical Artificer	N/A	56	Submarine Service in TRAFALGAR (1 st Commission Crew) on 27 th May 1983 & SCEPTRE
Submarine Officers Association	May 2014	Hugo Moresby White, GCB, CBE, DL	Admiral	N/A	75	Submarine Service in ORACLE (CO)
Non Member (Australia)	May 2014	Robert Bobilak	CPO (ETP) (SM)	N/A	TBA	Petty Officer ETP to from 1967 in GRAMPUS & OVENS (1 st Commission) on 15 th Apr 1969 Died 31 st May 2014