

PERISCOPE VIEW

The Newsletter of the Barrow-in Furness Branch of

The Submariners Association
Patron: Admiral of the Fleet the Lord Boyce KG GCB OBE DL

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Cover Picture: Scarlett – A Pupil at St Pius Roman Catholic Primary School - lays her Poppy at the AE1/AE2 Memorial on Remembrance Sunday

EDITORIAL

Hello Everybody,

Well, that was a very busy month! To start with - Branch Members provided Stewarding cover for the Town Hall's 'There But Not There' installation. There was a reasonably steady flow of visitors to the installation – not all Barrovians – but all were interested - and some seemed to be quite affected by the display and quite a few wrote messages in the book of remembrance. A big thank you is due to all those Members who gave up their time to provide Stewarding cover.

The Branch was represented at the Embankment Parade on 4th November and the Branch Wreath was laid. Dave Barlow was looking after some of the VIPs and Branch Member Mark Butchart, once again, read out the names of the Submarines lost.

What else happened? Branch Members helped out with the Poppy Collection at the AFC Barrow Match and helped in the collection of over £700 for the Poppy Appeal - and they got to see the match for free! Thanks are due again!

Branch Members attended the Remembrance Service at the Barrow Library on Friday 9th where the guests included Cumbria and Barrow Council officers and the Armed Forces Champion for Cumbria. Alex will tell you about the Dinner Dance – also on Friday 9th November in his report. Then there was the Railway Station Remembrance on Saturday 10th where the overall turnout was smaller than at last year's parade, but the Branch was represented. The Trumpeter played the Last

Post and Reveille and was accompanied someone's young dog who decided to sing along as well.

Sunday 11th November – the 100th Anniversary of the Armistice started with our Service at the AE1 & AE2 Memorial before moving on to the Town Hall Square ready to form up for the Main Parade. It was a bit of a wet Parade but was well attended and the Sea Cadets Band kept everyone in step. I think the crowds in Abbey Road and at the Cenotaph this year must have been in the high hundreds if not thousands and the number of Wreath Layers increases year on year. One new thing noted this year was the number of pebbles painted with Poppies which had been left at the Cenotaph and around the Park. A new and different mark of Remembrance.

The Social at the Legion after the Parade was well attended – as usual - a new addition this year was Branch Member Dave Harwood playing his guitar and singing 'The Green Fields of France' which seemed to go down well followed by our usual Submariners Remembrance and toast to 'Absent Friends'. A number of our Ulverston contingent made it up to the Coronation Hall in the afternoon in time for the Ulverston Remembrance Service and Parade and Wreath Laying at the War Memorial.

Thank you to everyone who turned out at all these events and helped to maintain the high profile of the Barrow Branch in the local community.

On Monday 12th members of the Branch were invited to the Morning Assembly at the St Pius Roman Catholic Primary School at Ormsgill – this followed on from the picture on the front page of Scarlett – one of the pupils – laying her Poppy at the Memorial – which was an unplanned but coincidental event as one of the Officers on AE1 was Lieutenant Scarlett! The Children had all drawn pictures representing Remembrance and the Armistice which were presented to us for passing on to the Legion.



St Pius pupils with their pictures



One sad event this month was the funeral of our late former Member Captain George 'Vic' Buxton at St John's at Osmotherly. Brian Jones conducted the service and there was a full house of Submariners, friends and family including four of us ex-VALIANTs from the Branch to provide a small Guard of Honour.

For those of you who remember our late Member Colin Lee (an HMS SIDON survivor) I was contacted today by Keith Laird from Hayes Garden Centre as they are arranging for a headstone for Colin's Grave and he wanted details of Colin's Submarine Service for the inscription. I have provided this information and hopefully they will be able to incorporate Submarine Dolphins in the design.

Do you remember Branch Member Billy Daniel's Group 'Five O'Clock Shadow'? Billy tells me they have reformed the Group (by popular request) and there will be a Free Entry Concert at the Roose Cons on 28th December to which all are welcome.

Well, now we are on the run up to Christmas – doesn't it seem to have come around so fast this year! In this Newsletter you will find Alex's Flyer for the Branch Christmas Party on 22nd December – Tickets will be available from Alex at the December Meeting but, you can always give him a call to book your tickets – be there or be square as they say (and bring a plate of food) - it's the last Branch Social of the Year and it is always good fun.

I hope you are all managing to avoid that very nasty cough and cold which is going around at present – both Margaret and I have got it and so have one or two others and it is not recommended! So, wrap up warm, stay indoors & keep dry and have another tot or two! Regards, Barrie.

SOCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

Hi Shipmates

Well, we have made it through to the last month of the year and if you haven't already been partying then you should start right now. November saw our Dinner Dance, only attended by just over 60 but I can say without a shadow of a doubt it was one hell of a party. Then we donned our medals and marched to the Cenotaph and paid our respects on this the 100th anniversary of the Armistice - I do enjoy Remembrance Sunday and all it includes. Diary Check:

Friday 14th December is 'our Ladies' Afternoon Tea at the Dunes, remember the timings are 1 to 4 and not 2 to 5. For those of you driving the ladies I will supply pick up points and timings at the Meeting.

The Children's Christmas Party on the 15th December 1300 – 1600 pm, all organised and the elves have sorted out the presents from Santa.

The Christmas party proper is on the 22nd December cost £5 per ticket with bring your own plate. Denis Horan is the live entertainment, disco, big raffle and (depending on support) £100 give away. The tickets for this are now available from me or behind the bar – last Saturday before Christmas and this is going to be the best and cheapest party in town. Other items:

I have booked the coach for the 'First Footing' trip to Morecambe on Friday 1st February. I have increased the price to £10 to reduce the cost burden on the branch, however, it is still fantastic value for money; a good night out with loads of free booze and buffet on offer and of course the chance to dust off your passports if you live on Walney and go abroad!!!! The list is now shut, unless I have any who have signed up drop out.

Digger has managed to get hold of 14 tickets for next year's Army/Navy match at Twickenham. I have not had any interest for a planned trip down south so that has now been shelved, however, if you do want to get hold of tickets for this event then please see me afterwards. They are £26 each and will be on a 'first come - first served' basis.

I have finalised the social programme for next year and it is available at the meetings or on request and, of course, will be uploaded to our website; courtesy of Dave Oakes. It is very similar to this year's one with the exception of: no Football, no Cabaret Nights except for St Patrick's night and the Christmas party, no Barbecue (but given support in the first half of 2019 I may look to have an alternative event which doesn't take so much effort for very little support). I have decided that I will do another Canal Trip as it was so much fun last time and places will be offered first to those who attended this year. No Foxfield - except for the Committee Meeting; which gives the Branch the opportunity to buy the hard-working committee a pint and a pasty. The Social Programme needs your support to be viable, the birthday beers, members draw, meeting nibbles and indeed all aspects rely heavily on your support.

The Members Draw was not won in November so stands at £15 for December. Don't forget your birthday beer if you were born in the month of December.

December's food will be Chicken Curry and Mince Pies - don't tell me I don't know how to be festive!!!

See you at the meeting or hopefully the Christmas party or indeed any of the socials next year.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to All

Alex

For those planning to attend the **K13 Weekend 2019** the programme for the Weekend and the Dinner on the Saturday evening will be as listed below. If you are planning to attend please let me know as soon as possible as I will need to pass your details to HM Naval Base Clyde to get Security Clearance to make sure we can all get in!. Barrie.

Timings of Events - K13 2019

Below are the proposed timings of events during the K13 Weekend. As always this may be subject to change without much prior notice!! Stay flexible!

Friday 25/01/2019

1600 - 1630.	Visitors asked	to arrive at South	Gate at this time.
1000 - 1000.	v ishors asked	to arrive at bount	Gaic at uns unic.

Issue Base Access passes Photographic ID Required

Issue Cabin keys.

Branch Meeting - All invited. Move through Business as quickly as possible.

Welcome to Visitors and Safety/Security talk - Jim McMaster

On Completion - "State of the Nation" Address by Commodore Jim Perks OBE DRASM

O/C Retire to Kennedy's Bar

Saturday 26/01/2019

0845	52 seat Coach from	n Super Mess area to	r Memorial Service and	d wreath laying in Eldo	er Park, Govan.
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Order of Service sheets issued by branch

O/C Coach returns to Mess

1400 Visit to Ship Control Trainer - Possible visit to Submarine (Depending on availability)

1745 Punch Reception in Cameron Sports Bar

1830 Call to Dinner.

(Details of procedure at Dinner on second page)

O/C Retire to Kennedy's Bar

Sunday 27/01/2019

1000 -	1020	Sarrica	in Race	Church.
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Order of Service sheets for Church Service & Cemetery Service issued by branch

1035 Mini Bus takes Standard Bearers, Bugler, Chaplain, and K13 Bell to Faslane Cemetery

1035 52 Seat coach takes congregation to Faslane Cemetery for formal Memorial Service & wreath laying.

1045 Commence Memorial Service in Cemetery. This will include marching to grave of Commander

Goodhart. Individual crosses will be available for personal use.

O/C Coach returns to Mess for drinks and buffet.

O/C Return to Mess for farewell drinks etc.

Please note the times etc above are reasonably flexible and will be confirmed nearer the day.

K13 2019 Memorial Weekend Dinner Saturday, 26/01/2019

The following times and sequence of events are based on previous Dinners.

Iain 'Mad Dog' will be Master of Ceremonies.

1745 Punch Reception in Cameron Sports Bar

1830 Call to Dinner. Top Table remain in Cameron Bar. When everyone in their place, Top Table will

enter in correct seating order. Jim McMaster to organise!

1845 All seated.

Chairman welcomes everyone to the Dinner

Introduce Top Table (from left to right) to the members

Light the candle on the table for Absent Friends

Padre (or volunteer) says Grace

Meal commences

O/C Tea/coffee/ mints served

10 MINUTE COMFORT BREAK

On resumption - Port is placed at Stations

Chairman uncorks Port - Pass the Port

Call on Branch President Cdr. Bob Seaward OBE to propose the Loyal Toast - all may remain seated. (Commissioned Base)

Chairman introduces Guest Speaker - Rear Admiral Paul Halton OBE ComOps

Any other Toasts/comments etc.

Extinguish flame to Absent Friends

Retire to Kennedy's Bar.

DECEMBER BRANCH CALENDAR

December Branch Meeting
Children's Xmas Party
Member's Xmas Party
Committee Meeting

Tues 4th Dec
Sat 15th Dec
Sat 22nd Dec
As required

JANUARY BRANCH CALENDAR

Branch Meeting Tues 8th Jan
Committee Meeting As required

FEBRUARY BRANCH CALENDAR

Morecambe First Footing Fri 1st Feb
Branch Meeting Tues 5th Feb
Committee Meeting As required

DECEMBER BRANCH BIRTHDAYS

L.W. (Lindsey) Thwaites	02/12/1965
P.G. (Paul) Douglas	03/12/1965
G.S. (Stan) Livingston	06/12/1947
I. (Ian) MacIntyre	11/12/1964
M. (Mick) Bown	15/12/1945
M.J. (Mike) Dack	17/12/1936
A. (Andrew) Waller	17/12/1972
D. (Darren) Mathieson	24/12/1972
N. (Nigel) Hutchinson	26/12/1975
D. (Dave) Cattroll	28/12/1957
T.D. (Terence) Pyne	31/12/1934

Happy Birthday All!

REMEMBERING FORMER BRANCH MEMBERS 'CROSSED THE BAR' DECEMBER

George Cubiss	1966
Harold McMillan	1972
Laurence Pattison	1967
Norman Tubb	2003
Mick Hulbert	2006
Tim Coop	2008
Keith Myers	2011
Sir Tim Kimber	2012
Tom Kennedy-Wilson	2012
Jan Mead	2014
Brian Wilkie	2014
Ginge Cundell	2015

Carl Moody 2016
David Birkhead 2016

RESURGAM

DISCLAIMER

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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 The Firs, Dundalk Street, Barrow Island, Barrow in Furness, Cumbria LA14 2RZ You may also send your contribution by e-mail to me on frozennorth55@gmail.com. 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 in December for the January 2019 Issue. Please ensure you have any information with me by the 15th of the month to ensure its inclusion in the next issue. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this edition – keep them stories coming!

Submariners Association Diary Orders 2019

As requested, I ordered fifteen of the 2019 Submariners Association Diaries. All fifteen are spoken for – I have your names! Five of you have still to collect your diaries – see me at the December Branch Meeting. Just bring along your £3.00 and I'll hand them over

"BARROW BUILT SUBMARINES"

BARROW BUILT SUBMARINES

This book (a revised and updated version of the 'Dive, Dive, Dive' book) is now available and can be ordered via the NavyBooks Website – go to Navybooks.com. ISBN 9781094459736.

Veterans Will Be Able to Apply for ID Cards from 2019

23rd November 2018

ID cards will be given to Veterans, so they can show they served in the Armed Forces.

The Identity Cards will, initially, be given to all personnel leaving the military, while Veterans who have already made the transition to civilian life, will be able to apply for a Service Leavers ID card from next year.

This initiative is designed to give Veterans easier access to public and charitable support including healthcare and housing.

Veterans are also being asked to identify themselves with their GP as having served, so that they can receive appropriate support.

When the next stage of the ID card scheme was announced, Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson said "It's absolutely vital that we remain resolute in our support for those who have served our country so well. "We must never forget the sacrifices they have made. So, I am determined that the Ministry of Defence does all that we can to ensure those who struggle after serving their country are properly supported."

The plans were first mentioned by Tobias Ellwood, the Minister responsible for Defence Personnel and Veterans, in the Commons in October 2017. He said the ID option was part of Government plans to improve the information it keeps about ex-military personnel.

Mr. Ellwood, who was in the Royal Green Jackets for five years, serving in Northern Ireland, Bosnia and Germany, told 'The Sun' newspaper last year he was "delighted" about the introduction of the initiative.

He said: "As a former soldier, I am aware of the personal attachment with the service ID. "Carried at all times, it becomes symbolic of the responsibility and there is a strange sense of loss when upon departing the Armed Forces, it is taken from you.

"I'm delighted this initiative, which sits in the Armed Forces Covenant, will help us all better recognise our Veterans and their service to our country."

It is reported that the Identity Cards will give Veterans better access to specialist services such as priority healthcare, housing and retail discounts as well as giving a sense of pride for having served their country.

SUBMARINE COMMISSIONING CREW LISTS

Two more lists have been sent to me in November – thanks very much - but, still looking for more 'First Commission' Submarine Crew Lists as follows:

Diesel Boats: PORPOISE, RORQUAL, GRAMPUS, NARWHAL, CACHALOT, WALRUS, OBERON, ONYX, ORPHEUS, ODIN, OTUS & UNICORN

Nuclear Boats: ASTUTE

Also required are copies of any Crew Lists for any Recommissioning and Re-dedications of any Conventional 'A', 'S', 'T', 'O' & 'P' Class and any refitting Nuclear Boat - SSN or SSBN. Have a look through your records and 'Ditty Boxes' and see what you can find. You can contact me by E Mail, Snail Mail or Telephone – see above. Thanks, Barrie Downer

The Armed Forces Covenant 2018 Report

The annual Armed Forces Covenant Report sets out the Government's achievements in fulfilling its duty to ensure the military community is treated fairly, and not disadvantaged by their service.

It also highlights the new commitments made by the UK Government and its partners in the devolved administrations, local government and the charitable sector and how, through collaboration, they are able to deliver effective support.

Key accomplishments include:

- £23 million of Service Pupil Premium payments made to support 76,000 service children in 10,000 primary and secondary schools across England
- The launch of the Armed Forces Flexible Working Act, enhancing service personnel's ability to serve part-time, should personal circumstances change
- Plans to launch the Defence Transition Policy shortly, improving the holistic support available to service personnel and their families when leaving the services and returning to civilian life
- Over 3,000 businesses and organisations have now signed the Armed Forces Covenant, pledging to support and empower former and current service personnel and their families
- The launch of the first UK-wide 'Strategy for our Veterans', to improve the delivery of support to those who have served

Minister for Defence People and Veterans Minister Tobias Ellwood said:

"This year, we have stepped up support across Government for those who have served our country, those who continue to serve, and their loved ones.

"Today's report shows the fantastic progress that has been made, promoting mental fitness across the military community, supporting service families, and reaching the 3,000th signing of the Covenant.

"But it also sets out the work still to be done to ensure our armed forces are given every opportunity to thrive, throughout their careers, and as they transition into civilian life. As we look forward to 2019, we will continue to provide the best care possible for our people."

Further support delivered this year includes: Service families

- The MOD has allocated £5 million to the Education Support Fund, extending it for two years
- £2.5 million was awarded by the Covenant Fund Trust to projects that support military families, under the 'Families in Stress' programme
- £68 million was invested in the improvement of service family accommodation Health and wellbeing
- The MOD increased its spending on mental health for service personnel to £22 million a year
- A new 24-hour mental health helpline for serving personnel, operated by Combat Stress was launched
- £10 million was awarded to the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust, to support mental fitness among veterans
- The launch of NHS England's Veterans' Mental Health Complex Treatment Service

China Is Building More Nuclear-Armed Submarines Beijing believes nukes at sea are safer from surprise attack, but why does it want more of them? By Kyle Mizokami Oct 24, 2018



Getty Images

China is building more nuclear-armed submarines to stay one step ahead of the U.S. and other adversaries. That's the assessment from an arms control think tank which believes China's leaders are leaning toward basing their nuclear weapons at sea to prevent their destruction in a surprise attack. Although China will not likely build more nuclear weapons, it will likely build more submarines to conceal a larger and more effective 'second strike' capability beneath the waves of the Pacific Ocean.

Unlike the United States and Russia, China has a very simple nuclear doctrine: China will not use nuclear weapons first. If you nuke China, China will nuke you back. That's pretty much it.

China doesn't need a whole lot to keep its nuclear policy credible. It has just 250 to 300 nuclear warheads, as opposed to America's 6,450. As long as a handful of these bombs can reach their targets, and could incinerate cities such as Khabarovsk, Los Angeles, St. Petersburg, or Washington D.C., China's adversaries are deterred.

In order to retaliate, however, China's nuclear arsenal must be able to survive a surprise attack. Most of Beijing's nukes are fitted to intercontinental ballistic missiles in protected silos and on mobile launchers. Just 48 of the warheads are fitted to submarine-launched ballistic missiles of the Type 094A or the Jin Class. China has four Jin submarines, each equipped with twelve launch silos for JL-2 ballistic missiles. This ensures that, between refuellings, drydock time, coming or going from patrol areas, the People's Liberation Army Navy can keep at least one submarine on station, nuclear weapons-ready, at all times.

A new report states that Beijing is seeking an unknown number of new nuclear submarines. The exact number is unknown, but the rule of thumb that a nuclear power needs four submarines to keep one on station suggests China would need to double its missile sub fleet from four to eight to see concrete improvements in the number of missiles it keeps at sea.

Where would the new warheads come from? As the article's author Tong Zhao points out, you can't simply take a missile off a DF-31 land-based missile and place it on a JL-2 submarine-based missile. China could remove the warhead and reuse the nuclear material for a new missile, or it may simply decide to process more nuclear material to create more warheads. China voluntarily stopped producing material when it had enough for an estimated 300 warheads and manufacturing more warhead material would be a huge step back for arms control.

Why would China want to put more nukes at sea? That's Something is making China's a good question. policymakers insecure about their nuclear deterrent. China is concerned that U.S. ballistic missile defenses in Alaska, meant to protect the homeland from a handful of launches from countries such as North Korea and Iran, could be scaled up to stop a Chinese counterattack, giving the U.S. a freer hand in threatening China. More Chinese missiles would fend off such an attempt. The U.S. is also on the verge of building a hundred or more B-21 Raider bombers whose mission would be to hunt mobile missile launchers, where a substantial amount of China's nukes reside. While the U.S. may have good reasons to build such systems, it should also be mindful of their second order effects.

Argentine Submarine That Vanished With 44 Aboard Is Found

From the New York Times 17th November 2018 BUENOS AIRES — The Argentine military submarine has been found deep in the Atlantic Ocean almost a year to the day after it disappeared with 44 crew members aboard, the Argentine Navy said early Saturday. The submarine, the San Juan, was located almost 2,600 feet below the ocean's surface by a private company that the government hired after an international search failed to find the vessel, which disappeared on Nov. 15, 2017.

The announcement came in a tweet: "There has been a positive identification of the #AraSanJuan."

A spokesman for the navy, Rodolfo Ramallo, said the discovery of the San Juan "closes one chapter and opens another." "Based on the state of the submarine, we will have to determine what happened," he said.

The submarine disappeared during a routine trip from Ushuaia in the Patagonia region to Mar del Plata in Buenos Aires Province. Eight days later — in the midst of recovery operations that covered 186,000 square miles — the navy announced that an explosion had been recorded near the submarine's last known location, just hours after its final communication with the military. The explosion came to light only after analysts from the United States government and an international nuclear weapons monitor detected it and notified the Argentines. Vessels from Brazil, Britain, Chile, Russia and the United States, among others, combed the seas as part of the search.

Daniel Esteban Polo, 56, whose 32-year-old son Daniel Alejandro Polo had been aboard the San Juan, said early Saturday that he was on his way to join other relatives of the missing sailors. "I'm going to Mar del Plata to be with my wife and everyone else," said Mr. Polo, who lives in the suburbs of Argentina's capital.

Over the past year, the naval base in Mar del Plata has become a gathering point for relatives of the crew, waiting for news about their loved ones. Just two days ago, family members and others gathered there to commemorate the first anniversary of the submarine's disappearance. At that ceremony Thursday, President Mauricio Macri promised the families that the search would continue until the San Juan was found. "I want to tell you that we won't abandon you," he said.

It was unclear on Saturday whether the military would be able to bring the San Juan to the surface. If not, Mr. Ramallo said, the navy may be able to use images to analyze the vessel for answers about its disappearance. "We have to see whether it is whole or whether it is split, and from there we can carry out the necessary analysis," Mr. Ramallo said.

The loss of the San Juan led to a shake-up in the navy, including the dismissal of its top commander, Admiral Marcelo Eduardo Srur. Defense Minister Oscar Aguad has remained in his post. The submarine's disappearance is being investigated both by the courts and by Congress.

The San Juan was located about 250 nautical miles from the port of Comodoro Rivadavia in Chubut Province, according to local news reports. It was found by Ocean Infinity, a Houston-based company known for its work trying to locate Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, which disappeared over the Indian Ocean in 2014. Argentina's government signed a contract with the company in August that guaranteed it \$7.5 million if it found the submarine. The contract was signed after many of the crew members' relatives accused the government of abandoning the search. Dozens of them set up a makeshift camp outside the presidential palace in Buenos Aires for 52 days, demanding that a private company be hired to look for the submarine.

Ocean Infinity began its search on Sept. 7, using a Norwegian-flagged vessel, the Seabed Constructor. Three naval officers and four relatives of crew members accompanied Ocean Infinity personnel aboard the ship. The search involved "technology never before used

The search involved "technology never before used during the localization of a submarine," the navy said at the time. It said the company would deploy autonomous underwater vehicles that could function to a depth of almost 20,000 feet.

The mystery surrounding the fate of the San Juan, a German-made submarine that has been part of Argentina's fleet since 1985, transfixed the nation. "This has turned into one big family, and we are all helping each other get through this difficult time," María Morales, 51, the mother of a crew member, Luís García, said soon after the disappearance.

British help in hunt for missing sub 'invaluable'

Philip Whiteside, international news reporter

Forty-four sailors were in the ARA San Juan when it disappeared in the South Atlantic on 15 November 2017, prompting an international search.

Several nations, including the UK, spent two months helping Argentina look for the vessel before the search was called off.

But now it has emerged that the Royal Navy provided data and analysis that allowed the marine survey firm Ocean Infinity to pinpoint the area where the submarine would be.



The moment of the discovery of the Argentine submarine ARA San Juan

It was found last Friday, 800 metres down, several hundred miles from its last reported position.

The British co-operation to find an Argentinian navy ship comes after years of frosty relations following the 1982 war between the two countries over the Falkland Islands

Ocean Infinity chief executive Oliver Plunkett told Sky News how difficult it was to find the sub, even with the help from the UK military.

He said: "When we start... we have to understand where is the right place to look.

"The Royal Navy, through the British ambassador in Buenos Aires, were incredibly helpful in facilitating us obtaining information, providing their insights from the search work they had done. "We got help with understanding how submarines work, how they are likely to behave, they really gave an incredible amount of time and insight to help us structure our search.

"It was extremely valuable. If you imagine, we were looking for an object approximately 60 metres long, lying on the ocean floor, that had suffered a catastrophic event.

"So, to be able to find it needed a huge amount of input and support. Their help was truly invaluable."

He said the Navy told them to zero in on an area of about 3,000 sq. km, which they then surveyed using underwater remotely-operated vehicles which map the sea bed using sonar. It gave them 24 'targets' to look at in more detail - features on the ocean floor that could be a submarine or could turn out to be rocks or other geological features.

The survey ship, Seabed Constructor, was just hours from giving up and going home when the 24th feature turned out to be the sub they were looking for.

Mr Plunkett, who is from Tunbridge Wells, Kent, said: "I was quietly at home.

"We have a protocol of communication. The first message goes to the Argentine naval admiral, who told the commander of the navy, who told the minister of defence, who told the president. While that was going on, I got the second phone call.

"It was a complete mix of emotions, from excitement to relief to thinking about what to do next.

"Because the careful management of that information ultimately so that families of the crew members get to find out directly rather than seeing it on Twitter - is the single most important thing, to make sure they are treated in the most appropriate way."

He said the finding of the sub is up there with the rediscovery of the Titanic, as a technical achievement, because of its size and position.

"Not to devalue the finding of the Titanic, but the Titanic was nearly 300 metres long - five times the size of the submarine and sitting almost proud on the sea bed," he said.

"If I compare that to finding something that is one fifth the size, that looks like rocks surrounded by rocks, I think this is a tremendous achievement. And while people have found things on the sea bed before, the depth of this adds to that challenge."

The firm, which is Anglo-American with mostly British senior management and shareholders, is going on to hunt for a ship, not far from where it found the San Juan, called the Stellar Daisy, which went down in 2017 carrying iron ore while on a voyage from Brazil to China with the loss of 24 lives.

But Mr Plunkett says he also hasn't given up hope that one of the firm's other previous missions will one day be completed - Ocean Infinity was involved in the unsuccessful hunt for missing passenger jet MH370.

"We covered an area of 120,000 sq. km, five times the area we have covered in this latest search, and that followed on the back of (another) search that covered 120,000 sq. km," he said. "It must be in that area of the

southern Indian Ocean somewhere," he added. If people keep looking for it, "logically," he said, they will one day find it.

Duke of Cambridge Pays Tribute to Submariners

His Royal Highness Prince William has attended a ceremony paying tribute to submariners who fought for Britain. (4th November 2018)



Prince William lays wreath for Submariners who sacrificed their lives for Britain

(Picture: Kensington Palace)

The Duke of Cambridge has paid tribute to fallen submariners, a week before the centenary of Armistice Day. Prince William was joined by hundreds of current and former submariners who also attended a wreath-laying ceremony in central London.

Among those present at the ceremony in Middle Temple was Jim Booth, a 97-year-old D-Day veteran who survived an attack at his home last year.

Chaplain to the Submariners Association, the Reverend Paul Jupp, who led the ceremony, urged those in attendance not to forget the sacrifice made by submariners: "History and remembrance are merged by the coming together of us old shipmates and those who are actually doing the job now - a job that we were so proud to be part of in days gone by. "A few of us will remember the submarines that were lost and a few of us will remember people who served on them. "May all of us make a real effort to learn the story of their service and to carry them on into the future."

The Royal Mariners Band played the national anthem and hymns during the memorial ceremony and the submariners drank a toast from hip flasks to "absent friends".

Gillian Molyneux, whose husband was killed on board HMS ASTUTE in Southampton in 2011, laid a wreath on behalf of the submariners' widows.

This ceremony this year had added poignancy because of it being 100 years since the end of the First World War, she said. "I think remembrance is not just about remembering those who lost their lives, but also remembering those who are still serving," she added. "It is definitely a time to say thank you."

The service was the culmination of two days of events, beginning with the dedication of the Submarine Service Poppy Field of Remembrance in the grounds of Westminster Abbey on November 3. Members of the

Royal Navy Submarine Service from the length and breadth of the country gathered in the capital to pay their respects including a wreath laying within the Abbey at the Combined Services Memorial.

Rear Admiral John Weale OBE, Rear Admiral Submarines, said: "This is an important event in submariners' calendars and one which takes on extra significance during the centenary of the end of the First World War.

"Submarines and submariners played a vital and often unsung part in the war effort. Indeed, submarine operations have been a decisive element of almost every conflict since then – gathering intelligence, deploying special forces and tackling enemy warships and submarines.

"The bravery and sacrifice shown by submariners means that it is right that they are honoured with their own Remembrance event. We were delighted that His Royal Highness as Commodore-in-Chief Submarines could join us to pay his respects."

Situated between Waterloo and Blackfriars bridges, the National Submarine War Memorial features the names of all the British submarines lost during both World Wars. Submariners from HM Naval Base Clyde – today's home of the UK Submarine Service – joined veterans from the Submariners Association, family members and friends at the poignant memorial service.

The annual ceremony, which is held every year a week before Remembrance Sunday, was first held in 1923 after the National Submarine Memorial was unveiled on the nearby Victoria Embankment in 1922.

THE UNDERWATER ANZACS

© Barrie Downer 1985

The Passage through the Straits'

The story continued from Issue 221:

At Mudros several hours were required to repair the defect but at 0200 on 25th April Stoker left to attempt the passage again. As AE2 passed Suan Dere again (at about 0430) the submarine was sighted by the shore batteries - these opened fire! Stoker estimated the range at about one and a half miles. For safety Stoker dived the submarine to between seventy and eighty feet. Shortly after diving the submarine entered the main mine field. Stoker reported that:

During the ensuing half hour or so the scraping of wires along the vessels sides was almost continuous, and on two occasions, something caught up forward and continued to knock for some considerable time before breaking loose and scraping away aft'.

Three times Stoker brought the submarine to periscope depth to take visual bearings to establish his position. On the third occasion the submarine was well clear of the mine-field and about three hundred yards from the Narrows between Chanak (on the Asia Minor shore) and Kalid Bahr (on the Dardanelles Peninsula). However, AE2 was again spotted by the gunners ashore and the Forts and shore batteries on both sides opened fire on the submarine without success.

At about 0600 Stoker sighted an old warship hulk anchored off Chanak on the starboard side of the Narrows. He also sighted several destroyers and some small craft moving in the higher reaches. He then sighted a small cruiser as it appeared from behind the hulk. He judged the vessel to be the PEIK I SHEVKET. The target was, in fact the BERK I SATVET – a sister ship. It was a Torpedo Gunboat of 1,014 tons. This ship had been built at the Germania Yard of the German Ship Builders – Krupps.

Stoker continued: 'At a range of three to four hundred yards I fired the bow torpedo (at a range of three to four hundred yards), at the same moment ordering 70 feet in order to avoid a destroyer which was attempting to ram on the port side.

As the submarine descended, the destroyer passed over head and the torpedo was heard to hit. As the submarine was rising, she hit bottom and slid up the bank to a depth of 10 feet, at which depth a considerable portion of the conning tower was above the water.

Through the periscope I observed that the position was immediately under Fort Anatoli Medjidieh. As I looked one of the guns fired and the flash of the gun almost reached the top of the periscope which I immediately lowered.'

AE2 did not remain aground - and Stoker went on to say:

'I proceeded at 90 feet on (the) port motor with (the) helm hard a'port to turn up the Straits. When two points off the correct course, with (the) head swinging rapidly, I went ahead on the starboard motor. The vessel immediately struck bottom on the Gallipoli shore and slid up the bank to a depth of 8 feet.'

Again, Stoker found himself under the guns of a Fort – this time assessed to be Fort Derina Burnu. Stoker then: 'further observed two Destroyers, a Gunboat, and several small craft standing off in the Straits firing heavily and a cluster of small boats which I judged to be picking up survivors of the Cruiser. In this position we remained for five minutes. As the vessel was lying with inclination down by the bows I went full speed ahead. Shortly afterwards she commenced to move down the bank, gave a slight bump, gathered way and then bumped heavily. She, however, continued to descend and, at 80 feet, I dived off the bank'.

In his 'Report of Proceedings' (written after the War) Stoker paid tribute to his crew as follows: 'In connection with these two groundings I have to report that the behaviour of the crew was exemplary. In these two

highly dangerous situations it was only the cool and intelligent performance of their duties which enabled the vessel to be refloated'.

In his diary entry for that day Stoker Albert Knaggs states that:

'6 a.m. The Captain informed us we were through the worst part of the Narrows and he came up to twenty feet to have a look round and saw a Turkish Battleship at Chanak. The bow tube was loaded and we made to attack her when a minelayer steamed across our bows. The Captain immediately fired a torpedo at her as she was apparently dropping mines for us to run into. The torpedo hit its mark and sank her (Feihh I Shevist).'

Following all this excitement and considering the number of enemy ships and craft in the Straits Stoker decided to attempt to round the Nagara Point without any taking any further periscope observations. This he chose to do at a depth of 90 feet. Having made all the necessary alterations of course he came back to 20 feet depth some time later took a periscope 'look' and found himself in the centre of the Channel heading in the right direction for the Sea of Marmora with Nagara Point abaft the beam. As the surface of the water was flat calm his periscope was quickly sighted by the pursuing Turkish ships and they immediately re-opened fire. Stoker took the submarine back down to 90 feet and continued at that depth for half an hour.

When he came back up to periscope depth again the pursuers were still with him and, just ahead, he saw two tugs with wires suspended between them. He again dived to 90 feet. Stoker reports that:

'Considering the situation, it seemed possible that our position was marked through catching in a drift net, or by some other means, and I decided to run in on the Asiatic shore and await developments - as our battery power remaining was not sufficient to get far out into (the) Sea of Marmora and thereby gain a fair chance of shaking off pursuit. I therefore altered course eight points to starboard and ran aground at 0830 lying at a depth of 80 feet.'

As it was clear that the grounding had caused some damage and that his diving trim was altered Stoker had decided to 'bottom' the submarine and, whilst sat on the bottom sort out himself, his crew and his submarine before continuing the patrol. This required several hours, and it took until 2045 that evening before everything was back in order and he was ready to continue. The first priority was to charge up the main batteries as, by that time the submarine had been dived for a total of sixteen hours. During the time on the bottom Stoker reported that vessels continued to pass and re-pass overhead.

In his book Stoker recorded that after surfacing at 2100 he allowed four hours to re-charge the batteries and took the opportunity to rig his wireless aerials to send a signal to Mudros to report his progress to date. No reply was received to his signal but, it had been received - and at a critical point in the Dardanelles landings, which were taking place. During the four-hour period a heavy rainstorm developed, and Stoker took the opportunity to remain on the surface charging the batteries until 0330 next day. At 0400 he proceeded further up the Straits on the surface until diving just before dawn on 26 Apr.

Shortly after diving two Turkish warships were sighted and Stoker set up for an attack on the target he assessed as being the larger of the two. Stokers report continues:

'as soon as the light permitted I observed, through the periscope, two men o' war approaching. The sea was glassy calm and I approached with periscope down. On hoisting the periscope (trained on the port beam) I observed a ship on line with the sight of the port (beam) tube. I immediately fired but the ship altered course and the torpedo missed.'

The torpedo had, apparently been sighted - and avoided. The range of the target at the time of firing is not stated. Stoker then realised that he had attacked the cruiser escort of a battleship - possibly the ex-German BARBARROSA (9,900 tons) or possibly its sister ship TURGOOD REIS. Stoker attributed the failed attack as follows:

I then discovered (that) I had fired at the leading ship and found it impossible to bring another tube to bear on the second ship (a battleship of the BARBARROSE Class) with reasonable chance of success. I therefore did not fire. I attribute this failure to the state of the sea and my personal error in overdoing an unseen attack.'

As there was no opportunity for a second attack - and with some considerable disappointment - there was little option but to press on into the Sea of Marmora. By 0700 on 26th April AE2 was off the town of Gallipoli on the European side at the entrance to the Marmora. Here he came across a small flotilla of fishing vessels and he was obliged to dive to seventy feet to pass clear under them. In reaching Gallipoli Stoker had achieved his ambition of being the first submariner to enter into the backyard of the Turkish Navy.

Having made it into the Sea of Marmora it was necessary to consider his next action. No detailed orders had been issued on what to do if he reached the Marmora. Possibly no one had actually considered that he might make the passage successfully! He knew that it would be necessary to prevent troop reinforcements and supplies from reaching the defending forces on the peninsula. To do that he had only his torpedoes - and he had already used two. He had no deck gun to use - AE2 had not been fitted with one at build - and his only options were to sink targets with the torpedoes or by stopping, boarding and scuttling targets. The latter option was extremely risky without a deck gun.

Stoker decided to conserve his torpedoes for 'high value' targets and to scare as much shipping as possible by showing his periscope as many smaller ships as he might encounter - as long as they did not pose too much of a threat to him. A short while later a convoy of four ships was sighted. These were zigzagging - presumably as a defence against submarine attack! Stoker took a close look at the largest ship and apparently deduced that it was not a troopship and decided against making an attack. He noted in his record that these ships flew no flags. He then moved on to the next largest but, having altered away from the first ship it ran up colours and opened up rifle fire from the stern – aiming at his

periscope. This record is at variance with his book where Stoker recalled that the firing was from a deck gun not previously observed. Having examined the second ship a single torpedo was fired from the starboard beam tube at a range of about 400 yards and from periscope depth. Stoker took the submarine deep after firing and, having heard no explosion, was uncertain whether the torpedo had been avoided by the target or had failed to run properly. A further attack not being possible the rest of the day was spent in battery charging, frightening fishing boats and in sending a further progress signal to Mudros.

The process of sending the signal was disturbed by a steam launch which made as if to attack. Stoker was forced to dive to avoid the attacker but, the captain of the launch was persistent and, during the night as Stoker attempted to slip away on the surface he was again forced deep. He reports that, during one hurried dive the conning tower hatch was jammed, and his coxswain had to make use of a bright light whilst trying to clear the obstruction. Whilst this was being done AE2 was under fire from the launch but, luckily, all the shells missed. Eventually the obstruction was cleared, and Stoker regained the safety of depth without further excitement.

By dawn on 27th April his persistent opponent had vanished, and Stoker was free to surface and continue to recharge his depleted batteries. However, as he surfaced he sighted a small ship (estimated at some 1,500 tons) silhouetted against the morning sun. Diving again to close for an attack Stoker found that it was difficult to get near to the target as the surface of the water was as calm as a millpond and he was concerned about the visibility of - and the disturbance caused - by the tip of his periscope.

After closing the range to about 3,000 yards he decided to stay deep until he had reached firing range of about 300 yards. It seems that Stoker had some second thoughts as to whether the target was worth a torpedo, but these thoughts were dispelled when two escorting destroyers appeared. One of these escorts was slightly ahead of the target and the other on its starboard beam. To press home his attack, it was necessary to dive under the starboard escort. Raising his periscope for a final 'target look' the range was down to approximately 300 yards but, by the time that he fired, the range had reduced to nearer 200 yards. After all this, on firing the bow tube the torpedo bobbed to the surface close in front of the submarine. Air bubbles were coming from the exhaust and it was clear that, for some reason, the engine had failed to start. Upset by his bad luck Stoker now had to go deep in a hurry to avoid counterattack by a charging escort however the counterattack was not pressed home with any conviction and the destroyer soon left to resume his escort duties.

No further ships were sighted by AE2 that day and, as everyone onboard had been without sleep for the best part of two days and two nights some rest was needed. Stoker decided to head for the north shore of the Marmora. When it got dark a further attempt was made to signal Mudros with a progress report but, again no acknowledgement was received.

After diving Stoker set the submarine on the bottom of Artaki Bay and, leaving one watchkeeper to keep an eye on the depth gauge the rest of the crew were allowed six hours much needed sleep.

To be continued in Periscope View Issue No. 223 with 'Further Adventures in the Sea of Marmora, the Sinking of AE2 and Prisoners of War of the Turks.'

THE BRITISH SUBMARINES

Some talk of Lewis Bayly, and some of Charlie B, Of Admirals who daily, command our fleets at sea; But Dreadnoughts and destroyers are not our only means, We've got a fleet that none can beat, The British Submarines.

Now when they are commanded to go and fight their foe, They fill up all main ballasts and quickly dive below, And fire both torpedoes and give their foemen "beans"; They give them fits with double hits, In the British Submarines.

So, let us fill our glasses, and drink the health of those, Who wield such mighty spanners, and wear such dirty clothes, On them and their flotillas, the hope of England leans, So hip hurrah for the I.C.S.,

And the British Submarines.

This Poem is believed to have been written by Lieutenant Gordon E E Gray whilst serving onboard the Submarine Depot Ship HMS THAMES in January 1910. Gordon Evelyn Elliott Gray served in Submarines from 15th August 1908 to 10th August 1912. Gordon Gray was killed whilst serving in HMS GOOD HOPE at the Battle of Coronel off the coast of Chile on 1st November 1914.

DIVING STATIONS

By Mick Jones

The silence of the boat is rent By the Klaxon's raucous, strident note The 'Outside Tiff', opens vents To flood the tanks and dive the boat Foreplanes put at 'Hard to Dive' Telegraphs both 'Half Ahead'' LTO's at breakers strive Take her down the Klaxon said The Jimmy pumps from aft to for ard Does his best to catch the trim Skipper mutters something horrid Implies that the Jimmy's bloody dim Trim is caught and hearts stop pounding All is once again serene Such is life at Klaxon's sounding On board a British Submarine

This Poem was printed in 'Under the Jolly Roger – British Submarines at War 1939 – 1945' collated by Dave J Quigley. Portsmouth Publishing and Printing 1988. ISBN 1871182034

BARROW BRANCH SOCIAL PROGRAMME 2019

<u>Date</u>	Day	<u>Event</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Date</u>	Day	<u>Event</u>	Venue
		January				<u>July</u>	
25-27th Jan	W/E	K13 Memorial Weekend	Faslane	20th Jul	Sat	Cartmel Races	Cartmel
		<u>February</u>				<u>September</u>	
1st Feb	Fri	First Footing	Morecambe	7-9 Sep	W/E	Dundee Memorial	Dundee
				13th Sep	Fri	Race Night	RBL
		March				November	
2nd Mar	Sat	Branch Dinner	TBC	1st Nov	W/E	SMA Embankment Parade	London
16th Mar	Sat	St Patrick's Night Party	RBL	8th Nov	Fri	Dinner Dance	Chequers
22-24th Mar	W/E	Annual Reunion (& Conf.)	Leicester	10th Nov	Sun	Remembrance Sunday	Cenotaph
		<u>April</u>				<u>December</u>	
2nd Apr	Tue	AGM	RBL	14th Dec	Sat	Christmas Party - Children	RBL
25-27 Apr	W/E	Spanish SMA Weekend	Benidorm	21st Dec	Sat	Christmas Party - Adult	RBL
		May					
3-5th May	W/E	Army Vs Navy	Twickenham				
11th May	Sat	Keswick to Barrow	Barrow				
		<u>June</u>					
22 nd June	Sat	Armed Forces Day Parade	Barrow				
29th June	Sat	Canal Trip	Bilsborrow				
NOTES	 Monthly Meeting 1st Tuesday of Month at 7:30pm Monthly Meetings include: Rum Issue, Raffle, Members Draw, Birthday Drink & Snacks. Prices of Events & Dress Code TBC. 4. Quiz Nights TBC Prior to Event. 						

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Annual Christmas Party

7:30pm Saturday 22nd Dec 2018

Royal British Legion – Holker Street
Party with Family, Friends or Office
Colleagues - best party in town

Cost £5

(Ticket Only Entry)

<u>Denis Horan – Will Bring the Party to Life</u>

<u>Disco 'till Late</u>

(Food is Bring A Plate)

<u>Special Christmas Raffle</u>

4 x £25 Lucky Ticket Draw Winners





Tickets on sale from: Alex Webb (839551) or Behind the RBL Bar



		SUBMARINE	RS 'CROSSED TH	E BAR' REI	PORTED	IN NOVEMBER 2018
Branch	Date	Name	Rank/Rate	O/N	Age	Submarine Service
SAOC	2 nd Nov 2018	Samuel Alfred Jennings, CD	Chief Petty Officer 1st Class	N/K	92	Submarine Service from 1954 to 19** in SIDON, 'S' Class, 'T' Class, OJIBWA & OKANAGAN Survivor from SIDON on 16th June 1955
Non-member	5th Nov 2018	George Reilly	TBA	TBA	TBA	Submarine Service in TIRELESS
Non-member	6th Nov 2018	Richard Lyndon	MEM	TBA	60	Submarine Service TBA
Non-member	12th Nov 2018	Terrence (Terry) Gibson	MEM	TBA	TBA	Submarine Service from 19** to 19** in SPLENDID & SUPERB in the 1980s
Non-member	12th Nov 2018	Terry Anderson	TBA	TBA	TBA	Submarine Service in RESOLUTION & SPLENDID
Dolphin Branch	12 th Nov 2018	Alec Wood	Chief Petty Officer Radio Electrician	P/MX 834591	89	Submarine Service from February 1955 to March 1963 including TALLY HO (1956), TRENCHANT (1956 to 1958), SENTINEL (1958 to 1960) & TOTEM (1960 to 1963)
Submarine Officers Association	14 th Nov 2018	Roderick Temple McLeod Innes	Lieutenant Commander	N/A	80	Submarine Service to 1970 including AMPHION, ODIN & PORPOISE (IL 20th March 1967)
Submarine Officers Association	24 th Nov 2018	Maurice Edwin White	Commander (X) (SM)	N/A	TBA	Submarine Service including FINWHALE (on Commissioning on 27th January 1964), ASTUTE (CO), RESOLUTION (S) (IL 10th March 1975), SPLENDID (CO), SWIFTSURE, SPARTAN (CO 7th October 1986 & SOSM (R) Devonport), SOVEREIGN (CO) (Refit)
Non-member	27th Nov 2018	David A McGregor	Able Seaman (UC)	TBA	TBA	Submarine Service including SWIFTSURE (1st Commission Crew) & VALIANT
Non-member	Nov 2018	Donald (Don) Street	2nd Coxswain	TBA	TBA	Submarine Service in ALLIANCE (in early 1950s)
Portsmouth Branch	Nov 2018	L F (Dick) Darby	Radio Superviser	P/JX 905259	82	Submarine Service from 1954 to 1963 in TACITURN, AUROCHS, THOROUGH, SENTINEL & TEREDO
Dolphin Branch (former Member)	Nov 2018	Patrick L Nash	Able Seaman (UW)	P/JX 163053	95	Submarine Service from 1944 to 1948 in SIRDAR & AMBUSH
Gosport Branch	Nov 2018	William Seager	Chief Petty Officer Coxswain	P/JX 843685	85	Submarine Service from January 1955 to January 1973 in ARTEMIS, EXCALIBUR, TACTICIAN, AENEAS, OPPORTUNE, WARSPITE & TOTEM
Submarine Officers Association	Nov 2018	Jeremy Nash, OBE, DSC	Commander	N/A	98	Submarine Service from 3 rd May 1941 in PROTEUS (3rd Hand) & (IL), P555 (CO), VARANGIAN (CO), TRADEWIND (CO 7th January 1945), TEREDO (CO 18th October 1950)
Ex Manchester Branch	Nov 2018	Eric Henshaw	Stoker 1st Class		93	Submarine Service from June 1944 to May 1947 in TUNA, VOX, SPITEFUL, TORBAY & SANGUINE
Non-member	Nov 2018	Keith Faulkner	TBA	TBA	TBA	Submarine Service not reported



ONE OF THE REMEMBRANCE PICTURES BY THE ST PIUS ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS Page 16 of 16