



SUBMARINERS ASSOCIATION BARROW-IN-FURNESS BRANCH NEWS LETTER



THE OCTOBER WORD



Sometimes I find it is relatively easy to sit at the keyboard and dash off a suitable article or even a sermon, at other times I get completely blanked. Try as I may, I find that no suitable words; thoughts; or phrasing permeates through my dull brain by leaping onto the blank screen before me, and this is another such occasion, as this is now my sixth attempt. The situation is made worse in that Ben Britten is off on his holidays before the end of the month, and quite rightly would like to get the October newsletter done and dusted before he goes. This has exacerbated my writer's cramp and now I am panicking that I shall not be able to produce a suitable contribution in time.

First and foremost I would on a personal basis, like to thank on behalf of my family the branch membership for the flowers card sent to my youngest daughter coupled to the support I have personally felt over this past twelve months. I am now able to report the good news that Nicola after a difficult year of two intensive courses of chemotherapy was, three days after our September branch meeting declared by the Consultant Hematologist to be cancer free. However Nicola is not totally out of the woods as she has still to undergo a stem cell transplant that is not only

unpleasant, but her total immune system will be temporarily knocked out, with all the dangers that entails. This means month long treatment plans involving more chemo; barrier nursing; and total isolation in a Blackpool hospital. So maybe coming down off cloud nine after the good news, and still being concerned about the final part of the treatment has caused my writers hiatus. Knowing that Branch news has been more that adequately covered by others, in namely Barrie our Branch Secretary's article and Colin's Social Secretary article, therefore I shall not attempt to reinvent the wheel.

My thoughts have turned to another matter, namely something special that we may attempt to undertake as part of our Fiftieth Anniversary celebrations, given that we are having the National Draw in Barrow as part of our Forty-Fifth Anniversary. I floated at the last Committee meeting the possibility of holding the Submarine Association Reunion in Barrow. The initial thought was there that there is not within the Barrow area hotels with large enough banqueting space. Since that meeting I have searched the ubiquitous Internet and found Complete Events Marquee Solutions,

www.completeevents.co.uk

and find it has opened up endless possibilities. I therefore invite the branch membership

to access that web page to see if there is any special 50th event that we could undertake by say using a marquee as a solution.

It was my original intention to attend yesterday's The Battle of Britain Parade Service; unfortunately I found myself having to be in two places at once. A large civic parade where there would be many people in attendance, or a small congregation of little over twelve. I attended the small group as I calculated that both services were for different reasons of equal relevance. I would not be missed within the civic parade, and the service in St Perrin's was for someone who had invited both Pat and I to witness her being brought into full membership of the Methodist Church, so it was important to be there.

One final important thought is reserved for Dave Barlow who experienced the joy of becoming a grandfather, and also the shock of bereavement with Dave's father dying on the exact same day, my thoughts and prayers go with him and his family.

Regards Jonsey



Social Scene



Hi Folks. We have a few social notices this month and we have a good programme up to the New Year.

I am organising a Quiz night for **Tuesday October 9th at the Harbour. It will start at 20:00** with the usual format. Bring your friends along.

The next event is being organized by the central Lancashire branch:

RAFA Club Leyland 6th Oct

An evening of dit spinning, lamp Swinging and general enjoyment at the RAFA Club Leyland on Friday 6th October 2007 from 2000.

The evening will include a buffet, Raffle and Quiz. A list was passed round at the September meeting but if you are interested please contact me or one of the Committee ASAP as we have an invitation for seven couples initially.

Ladies night, Lisdoonie 9th November

Don't forget the Ladies night: Friday 9th November Lisdoonie Hotel, Ticket request form and proposed menu was attached to the September news letter, the cost will be £26.00 per head for a 5 course meal and later dancing to Midnight Express. Please get your bids in early and definitely before 1st November when the list will close. If you haven't got a form give me a ring with your requirements and I will put it on a list. If you have preferences on table places and any special dietary requirements please let me know.

Trafalgar night dinner 19th October

I have received details of the Trafalgar night dinner to be held at the Lisdoonie on the 19th October at a cost of £25 per head, this event is organized by the Sea Cadets, I know we have members

who regularly attend this event if you would like tickets they can be obtained by ringing 473554 or 838533 the cut off date is 5th October.

The Manchester branch has extended an invitation to join them during the Christmas Market, a social programme will be provided soon, I am in touch with Derek Jacobs and I will keep you all informed so watch this space.

One last thing, The Valentines week end at Blackpool was a bit flat last year, not because of our company but because the Hotel entertainment and other guests were not so lively. Do members still want this weekend at Black pool or would you like me to look into other ideas / locations? South port and York has been suggested or maybe a murder mystery week end etc... If you have any good suggestions I would like to hear them. If you are happy with Black pool then I will go ahead and find a livelier venue with good accommodation.

Colin Hutchinson
Social Secretary

RUSSIAN SUB ON WEB

Foreign spies in Russia have been handed an unexpected gift by officials in the town of Sarov who accidentally posted details of a new top secret submarine on the local administration's website.

The embarrassing leak followed what was supposed to be a confidential meeting between the commander of the secret submarine and officials in the closed town, which is home to Russia's main nuclear research facility.

Instead, overly assiduous officials wrote a press release that covered the meeting in minute detail, not only naming the prototype vessel's commander as Capt Sergei Kroshkin but even revealing the project's code number: 20120.

Other technical and tactical specifications were also given, including the submarine's water displacement of 3,950 tonnes.

It was not until the story was dutifully picked up by local newspapers that officials noticed the slip.

The offending press release has now been removed from the website, and Russia's navy, defence ministry and armament manufacturing industry have all denied the existence of project 20120.

Military analysts who have studied the data suggest the new craft, also named the Sarov, is similar in appearance although much larger to the fabled Soviet Kilo Class "Turbot" submarine, acknowledged as one of the quietest vessels in the world.

Leading Russian newspaper Kommersant said the leaked details suggested that the 20120 contained technology radically different from any other submarine in service.

It hypothesised that the Russian navy had revived, perhaps successfully, a Soviet era plan to install a small nuclear reactor on a diesel powered submarine making it capable of patrolling underwater without surfacing for 20 days.

Current Russian submarines have to surface at least once every three or four days.

The revelations are the latest sign of Russia's rapid rearmament.

The country's defence budget has quadrupled since Vladimir Putin, the Russian president, came to power in 2000.

Earlier this year, Russia launched its first new-generation nuclear submarine since the Cold War while yesterday generals said they had successfully tested the world's largest non-nuclear vacuum bomb a device they christened "the Father of all Bombs".



Secretary's Dit



Here we are now three quarters of the way through the year already and starting the rundown to Christmas. I really don't know where the time goes!

The Social Event season will be fully underway shortly with the Reunion, Trafalgar Night, Ladies Night and the Christmas Social and other events showing on the horizon. The details of the Social Calendar are in Colin's Social Report and I hope that you will all be able to support these events. Other events upcoming (as they say) are the Embankment Memorial Parade in London on Sunday 4th November and then the Barrow Remembrance Day Parade on Sunday 11th November. There weren't too many formal events in September though - apart from the Branch Meeting and the RAF Battle of Britain Memorial Parade on Sunday 16th September. I don't expect you all to rush down to London for the Embankment Parade but I will encourage as many of you as possible to fall in for the Barrow Parade. For that one it's back to the RBL afterwards and then to the Harbour for our own Submariners Remembrance Ceremony complete with 'Up Spirits'.

This year once again we have produced a Calendar for the SHC. The 2008 Calendar is now available and includes the new Painting of HMS ASTUTE for the June 2008 page.

This may be the last Calendar of the current series as we have now completed and used all of the individual Submarine 'Class' Paintings of the SHC Paintings Collection over the last four years. We have made a start on the first four 'Decade' Paintings for the Collection but we are still looking for Sponsors for the other eight in the Series.

The 2008 Calendars will make good Christmas presents if you are having trouble thinking of something different this year. If you are feeling flush you might also think about buying a Print of ASTUTE or any other picture of the Collection as a gift - but they do cost a bit more than the Calendars. Don't forget that copies of the Potted History of the

SOCA/SA are still available at a reasonable price.

Don't forget that next year is the 45th Anniversary of the formation of the Barrow Branch on 14th May 1963.

As you will know we are marking this Anniversary by a number of special events.

The first will be the hosting of the Submariners Association 2008 National Council Conference in the Barrow Town Hall on Saturday 29th March 2008. John Houlding is chairing the Sub Committee organising this event and he will be keeping you all up to date with the progress with this and other supporting events.

We hope for a good turn out for this from other Branches nationwide. Secondly we are holding a Dinner Dance close as to the Foundation Date as possible and Colin has this in hand and also we will be hosting the Submariners Association National Draw at the Vickerstown Institute on Saturday 5th July. The Venue is already booked and Colin has started some planning for the event but some volunteers to give him a hand will not go amiss.

We have a small issue with the dissemination of information (Meeting Minutes, Branch News Letters and the 'In Depth' quarterly News Letter) to you all at the moment. In sending out the August Branch Minutes I found that four 'E' Mails did work. Also 27 Members have only given me work 'E' Mail addresses mainly people from the Yard and these are not always possible to reach. So to make sure it is possible to reach you with all the information can those of you with BAE 'E' Mail addresses advise me of your home 'E' Mail Addresses so we can continue to keep you all fully informed.

Also anyone who has changed your 'E' Mail Provider recently please let me know how to get hold of you!

At the recent National Management Committee Meeting in London the NMC decided to sponsor the production of a DVD detailing the history, background of, and aims of the Submariners Association

This will be a bit of a follow on to the 'Potted History' produced last year for the 50th Anniversary of the SOCA/SA and may be used to

assist in recruiting new Members. A Planning Meeting of a small Sub Committee is booked for late September and filming may include the Reunion, the Embankment Parade, some of the Memorial Events such as K13, Vandal/Untamed, Truculent, May Island, Sidon etc.

Additionally film of such events may be interspersed with archive footage (from the Submarine Museum) and interviews with members of the Association. Further information will be provided on progress with this Project. DVDs will be available to Members in due course.

Well that's all from me for now I better let everyone else get on with their Reports. See you all at the October Branch Meeting on Tuesday 2nd October.

HMCS CORNER BROOK



HMCS CORNER BROOK on arctic patrol during OP Nanook sails past an Iceberg. Operation NANOOK 07 is a Canada Command sovereignty operation taking place in the Baffin Island Coastal and the Hudson Strait areas from 7 to 17 August 2007. During this operation, Joint Task Force (North) is participating in an exercise designed to train the Headquarters in the conduct of domestic operations in support of other government departments in its area of responsibility.

Operation NANOOK 07 is a joint operation involving the deployment of a navy, army and air force personnel and resources, as well as joint support elements. This operation is being conducted in close cooperation with and the participation of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Canadian Coast Guard.



Submarine H29

Part III

CASE FOR THE DEFENCE

Lieut.-Comdr. John Hamilton McNair, HMS DOLPHIN, the first witness for the defence, said that as a submarine officer he did not consider it necessary for the hatches to be closed to bring a submarine to a normal trim. If the other tanks were out of action the main ballast tanks could be used.

The witness, however, said he should have the upper hatches closed when using the main ballast tank.

Leading Stoker Walter E Kemp stated that before the disaster he saw Lieut. Wevell speak to Chief ERA Dalton, one of the victims, and Lieut. Wevell said he was going to trim the boat down a little forward

The Chief ERA said, "Don't take the bows down to far forward, because I am doing trials on the starboard engine this afternoon and that will cause the propeller to come out of the water. The best way is to bring her down bodily."

The witness added that he afterwards saw Stoker Petty Officer Aske open No. 3 vent, but did not hear any definite orders being given.

Lieut. Wevell did not apply to give evidence.

Commander T B Drew addressed the Court on his behalf and read a statement to the effect that after seeing Chief ERA Dalton, Lieut. Wevell spoke to Stoker PO Aske, and said, "I am going to put a drop of water in the No. 2 and 3 main ballasts. I am going on deck." The statement was made to PO Aske with the sole idea of letting him know what was about to take place, and was not intended in any way as a definite order. On going

on deck, Lieut. Wevell heard No. 2 main ballast tank being vented, and observed that the boat was lower in the water. He gave the order "Stop flooding; that will do."

KNOCKED OFF HIS FEET

Commander Drew related how on finding alarm among the men Lieut. Wevell went on deck again and noticed that the boat was much lower in the water and heard No. 3 main ballast being vented. At practically the same time Lieut. Skryme, who was on deck, gave an order to shut water-tight doors. Lieut. Wevell repeated the order and gave another to blow No. 3 tank. He made his way to Stoker PO Aske and said, "You haven't flooded No. 3?" to which Aske replied "Yes." Lieut. Wevell then attempted to shut the water-tight door between the motor room and the engine room, but was prevented by Leading Stoker Kemp, being swept through the door. In the confusion and the flood of water he was knocked off his feet.

With regard to the hatches Commander Drew stated that the operation of flooding No. 2 main ballast tank was commenced without the usual routine orders having been given, and that Lieut. Wevell was ignorant that the operation had even been started until he heard the tank being vented. Asking for an honourable acquittal, he submitted that the opportunity to carry out the usual submarine practice was taken out of Lieut. Wevell's hands by the precipitate action of Stoker PO Aske.

Captain J B Glen cross contended that whatever might have been the accused's intention Stoker PO Aske interpreted his statement as an order to flood the tank.

The accused, having found that No. 2 main tank was venting, it was his duty. Had he wished to stop an action which he had not authorised, to take decisive steps, and his mere order to shut off was not sufficient. Captain Glencross submitted that the accused had been proved guilty of negligence.

THE COURT'S DECISION

The Court found the charge proved, in that the hazarding of the vessel was due to the accused omitted to give orders for trimming the H29 in a definite manner, not immediately investigating the flooding of No. 2 main ballast tank, and having omitted to ensure that the engine room hatch and the fore-hatch were closed before the main ballast tanks were flooded.

The sentence of the Court was that Lieutenant Wevell be dismissed from HM Ship MAIDSTONE and be severely reprimanded.

The Sinking of Submarine H29 By Barrie Downer

Over the last few months we reported on the sinking of Submarine H29 in Devonport Dockyard in 1926 with several fatalities, on the causes of the accident and the subsequent Courts Martial of the Commanding Officer and the First Lieutenant where both were found guilty of the charges and the First Lieutenant was 'dismissed his ship'

The following are brief descriptions of the Service Careers of both Officers. On the whole it seems that the accident did not destroy their careers they both ended up as Commanders. On the whole the First Lieutenant seems to have done better than his Commanding Officer following the Court Martial but it can only be conjecture whether both would have gone further had events been handled differently.



Frank Harold Elcho Skryme, Royal Navy

Frank Skryme joined the Royal Navy on DTBR and was promoted to Acting Lieutenant on 15th May 1918. He was appointed to HMS PRESIDENT 'for course of instruction at Cambridge University' to date 15th Jan 1919.

This was followed by an appointment to the Cruiser HMS DELHI (1st Light Cruiser Squadron) on 9th Dec 1919. On 4th Mar 1921 he was appointed to the Submarine Flotilla Leader HMS INCONSTANT 'for Submarine Duties' and, on 29th Sep 1921 he was appointed to the Submarine Flotilla Leader HM CONQUEST (1st Submarine Flotilla) 'for Submarine K6 as Third Hand and for Navigational Duties'. His next appointments are not yet established but he was appointed to the Submarine Depot Ship HMS MAIDSTONE (3rd Submarine Flotillas) at Devonport 'for Submarine H29 in Command' on 2nd Feb 1926.

After the sinking of H29 Frank Skryme was tried at Court Martial on 15th Sep 1926 'for negligence for omitting to take charge of the submarine and for failing to have a clear understanding with his First Lieutenant as to what that officers intentions were as regards to trim'. He was found guilty of the charges.

This did not adversely affect his Naval Career and he was promoted Lieutenant Commander on 15th Oct 1926.

On 31st Dec 1926 he was appointed to the Flotilla Leader of the First Destroyer Flotilla, Mediterranean Fleet, HMS MONTROSE. On 2nd Jan 1929 he was appointed to the Trawler HMS OUSE (Tender to HMS EGMONT at Malta 'in Command'. This was followed by an appointment to HMS PEMBROKE at Chatham 'for Submarine HMS PARTHIAN - standing by whilst completing' at HM Dockyard Chatham. Submarine HMS PARTHIAN commissioned at Chatham on 6th October 1930. Following commissioning Submarine HMS PARTHIAN was sent to the Far East to join the 3rd Submarine Flotilla based on the Submarine Depot Ship HMS MEDWAY at Hong Kong.

After Commanding HMS PARTHIAN he was appointed ashore to HMS TAMAR (the

Receiving Ship) at Hong Kong 'and for duty with Submarines' on 8th Dec 1933.

The Navy List of January 1935 lists Frank Skryme as a Retired Lieutenant Commander although the date of his retirement is not yet established.

He was recalled for further duty during WWII and was promoted to Acting Commander although details of his WWII appointments are not yet established. He was still included in the Navy List of Retired Officers as a Commander in June 1957. Frank Skryme is reported to have died on 28th Nov 1975.



Malcolm Edgar Wevell, Royal Navy

It is not clear when Malcolm Wevell joined the Royal Navy but he was promoted to Sub Lieutenant on 15th Sep 1921 and to Lieutenant on 15th June 1923. His date of joining Submarines is not yet established but he was appointed to the Submarine Depot Ship HMS MAIDSTONE (3rd Submarine Flotilla) at Devonport 'for Submarines' on 24th Mar 1924. Six months later he was appointed to the Submarine Depot Ship HMS VULCAN (Reserve Fleet) at Portland 'for Group M Submarines in Reserve' to date 2nd Sep 1924. He then moved to Portsmouth when he was appointed to HMS DOLPHIN 'for Group D Submarines in Reserve' on 18th Sep 1925.

This was followed by a return to Devonport with an appointment to HMS MAIDSTONE 'for Submarines' on 28th Nov 1925 and then 'for Submarine H29 as First Lieutenant' on 1st Jan 1926. After the sinking of Submarine H29 Malcolm Wevell was tried by Court Martial 'for negligently or by default hazarding H29'. On 15th Sep 1926 he was found guilty of the charge, was dismissed from HMS MAIDSTONE and was severely reprimanded.

On 22nd February 1927 he was appointed to the Battleship HMS RAMILLIES. He had left HMS RAMILLIES by June 1929 and was between appointments. His next appointment is not yet established but Malcolm Wevell returned to Submarines on 12th May 1930 with an appointment to the Submarine Depot Ship HMS ALECTO (Training Half Flotilla) 'and for duty with Submarines'.

He was promoted Lieutenant Commander on 15th June 1931. An appointment to the Submarine Depot Ship HMS ADAMANT (6th Submarine Flotilla) refitting at Devonport 'as Senior Officer' followed on 17th May 1932. On 11th Aug 1932 he was sent to the New Zealand Station with an appointment to the Sloop HMS VERONICA 'as Executive Officer'. On his return home he was appointed to HMS PEMBROKE (the Royal Naval Barracks) at Chatham on 17th December 1934. He returned to sea on 15th Feb 1936 when he joined the 42,100 ton Battle Cruiser HMS HOOD for a two and a half year commission before joining HMS PRESIDENT II 'for HMS SATELLITE' the Reserve Fleet Depot Ship at South Shields. Malcolm Wevell saw service during WWII, was promoted to Acting Commander and was appointed to the Submarine Depot Ship of the 3rd Submarine Flotilla HMS FORTH at the Holy Loch 'in Command' on 28th Jul 1942. He was still serving there in late 1944. No further information is available.



Viscount Horatio Nelson (1758 – 1805)



From his humble birth in the village of Barnham Thorpe, Norfolk, Horatio Nelson rose to the highest ranks in the Royal Navy and became a national hero in his own lifetime.

Nelson joined the Royal Navy at the age of 12 and became a captain at the age of 20. He served in the Baltic, the West Indies and Canada before marrying in 1787 and returning to England to spend the next five years in shore posts.

In 1793 Britain entered the French Revolutionary Wars and Nelson was given command of the *Agamemnon*. He helped to capture Corsica and whilst engaging in battle at Calvi he lost the sight in his right eye. Later, in 1797, he lost his right arm at the Battle of Santa Cruz de Tenerife. 1797 also brought victory against the Spanish off Cape Vincent and the following year, Nelson defeated Napoleon's fleet at the Battle of the Nile.

At the Battle of Copenhagen in 1801, Nelson famously disregarded a direct order to cease action '...I have only one eye. I have a right to be blind sometimes', and, raising his telescope to his blind eye, 'I really do not see the signal'. He never actually said I see no ships. . 1801 also saw the birth of Nelson's only child, his daughter with Emma Hamilton, Horatia.

The 21st October 1805 saw the signal England expects that every man will do his duty raised on HMS *Victory*, before engaging with the French fleet at Cape Trafalgar. At about a quarter past one that afternoon, the Captain of the *Victory*, Hardy turned and saw Nelson on his knees on the quarterdeck. Nelson fell onto his left side and as a sergeant-major of marines and two seamen lifted his shoulders Hardy knelt beside him.

They have done for me at last, Hardy Nelson told him My back bone is shot through.

The Admiral had been hit in the shoulder by a sniper's bullet from the *Redoubtable*. Nelson was carried down to *Victory's* lower deck where he told the surgeon that there was nothing that he could do for him. When Nelson died at 4:30 that afternoon the English victory at Trafalgar was assured and Britain was saved from threat of invasion by Napoleon.

Good food

In the beginning God covered the earth with broccoli, cauliflower and spinach, with green, yellow and red vegetables of all kinds so Man and Woman would live long and healthy lives.

Then using God's bountiful gifts, Satan created Dairy Ice Cream and Magnums. And Satan said "You want hot fudge with that?" and Man said "Yes!" And Woman said "I'll have one too with chocolate chips". And they gained 10 pounds.

And God created the healthy yoghurt that woman might keep the figure that man found so fair.

And Satan brought forth white flour from the wheat and sugar from the cane and combined them. And Woman went from size 12 to size 14.

So God said "Try my fresh green salad". And Satan presented Blue Cheese dressing and garlic croutons on the side. And Man and Woman unfastened their belts following the repast.

God then said "I have sent you healthy vegetables and olive oil in which to cook them". And Satan brought forth deep fried coconut king prawns, butter-dipped lobster chunks and chicken fried steak, so big it needed its own platter, and Man's cholesterol went through the roof.

Then God brought forth the potato, naturally low in fat and

brimming with potassium and good nutrition.

Then Satan peeled off the healthy skin and sliced the starchy centre into chips and deep fried them in animal fats adding copious quantities of salt. And Man put on more pounds. God then brought forth running shoes so that his Children might lose those extra pounds.

And Satan came forth with a cable TV with remote control so Man would not have to toil changing the channels. And Man and Woman laughed and cried before the flickering light and started wearing stretch jogging suits.

Then God gave lean beef so that Man might consume fewer calories and still satisfy his appetite.

And Satan created McDonalds and the 99p double cheeseburger. Then Satan said "You want fries with that?" and Man replied "Yes, And super size 'em". And Satan said "It is good." And Man and Woman went into cardiac arrest.

God sighed and created quadruple by-pass surgery. And then Satan chuckled and created the National Health Service.

THE FINAL WORD ON NUTRITION

After an exhaustive review of the research literature, here's the final word on nutrition and health.:

1. Japanese eat very little fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.
2. Mexicans eat a lot of fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.
3. Chinese drink very little red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.
4. Italians drink excessive amounts of red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.
5. Germans drink beer and eat lots of sausages and fats and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.

CONCLUSION: Eat and drink what you like. Speaking English is apparently what kills you.

The names of those members reported in September to have 'Crossed the Bar'



Dolphin Branch

June 2007

B H (Bernard) Drewry

Stoker Mechanic

Aged 77

Submarine service

1948 - 1954

Tireless, Talent, Sturdy

Taciturn and Artemis



West Riding Branch

(Founder member)

John Langford

8th Sept 2007

Able Seaman (UW3)

P/JX 758587 Aged 79

Submarine service

1946 - 1958

Sentinel, Trump, Alaric

Talent, Taciturn, Toledo

Alderney



Gosport Branch

18th Sept 2007

N E (Norman) Powlesand

Petty Officer (ME)

D/KX 840664

Aged 77

Submarine service

1959 - 1970

Sanguine, Solent, Amphion

Trenchant, Tiptoe

Opossum



Sam Stinson DSM

L/Sig

Boats

Severn, Thames & Clyde

After a long illness Sam was laid to rest on the 20th Sept at

Waitara, New Plymouth

New Zealand

Battle of Britain Parade 2007



The Battle of Britain Parade for 2007 took place on Sunday 16th September.

The Parade led by a Pipe Band, marched off from the Town Hall Square at 1130 under the orders of Parade Marshall Paul Rose.

The route was, as usual, via Duke Street and Abbey Road to the War Memorial in the Park.

The parade was smaller than usual this year with platoons from the KORBRA, the RAFA, the Submariners Association and the RAF Cadets.

The SA Platoon was enough for the Standard Bearer - Ginge Gundell, Escorts Alan West and Barrie Downer and Wreath Bearer John Hart. Several of our usual attendees were away on leave and other duties.

After a short service and the 'Wreath Laying' the 'Last Post' and 'Reveille' were played very well by Members of the Barrow Sea Cadets.

Afterwards it was a short march down hill to the Royal British Legion in Holker Street for a well earned Tot, a thank you to the marchers from the RAFA President, a few beers and a few dits.



Raising a Glass

DRESSED in period naval attire, Astute's crew honoured an age-old ceremony in raising their glasses for a tot yesterday. But in a break with tradition the 120 crew and shore crew enjoyed a dram of whisky instead of rum.

The ceremonial toast saw the crew acting on the Duchess of Cornwall's orders to "splice the mainbrace". Camilla issued the traditional naval instruction for the crew to enjoy a drink in recognition of their professionalism when she launched the nuclear submarine in June.

Astute's captain, Commander Mike Walliker, officiated at yesterday's ceremony which took place in the crew's block alongside the Devonshire Dock Hall. The captain pointed out that naval officers can go through their whole career without ever splicing the mainbrace.



It is quite a rare event and an honour for the crew involved.

In a nod to an age when a daily tot was part of a sailor's rations the command allows an extra shot for toasting special occasions.

Although the crew principally enjoyed whisky there was rum available to toast if people preferred. The choice of Famous Grouse continues an association which began with the sub's launch in June. Famous Grouse agreed to provide miniatures for VIP guests in recognition of the sub's Scottish connections.

Astute will be based in Scotland when it's commissioned and the MD of BAE Submarine Solutions, Murray Easton, is also Scottish.



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News Letter

Contact Information

Do you have a story to tell or have information you feel should appear in the news letter then ring Ben Britten on 01229 820265 (evenings) or if you wish to send me an article please ring for postal address. or send your contribution by e-mail to:

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Constructive suggestions about the news letter are very welcome. The news letter will be published in the last week of each month IE last week of October for the November 2007 issue please try and have any information with me by the **15th of each month**. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this edition.



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Members Birthdays

October 2007

M. Mailey	02/10
D. Young	14/10
M. Willey	16/10
C. Taylor	17/10
A. Stevens	18/10
P. Weeks	24/10
L. Carr	25/10
T. Coop	27/10
E. Skelton	30/10
J. Byrth	31/10



A court in Nebraska

True Dit

State lawmaker Ernie Chambers filed a lawsuit Friday against the Almighty acknowledging he/she goes by numerous aliases for causing "fearsome floods, egregious earthquakes, horrendous hurricanes, terrifying tornadoes, pestilential plagues" and other alliterative catastrophes. The suit, Chambers vs God, asks the court for a "permanent injunction ordering defendant (God) to cease certain harmful activities and the making of terrorist threats" which affect innumerable persons, including Chambers's constituents.

It asserts that God is "the admitted perpetrator" of such acts and said that God's omnipresence gives the local Douglas County District Court jurisdiction in the suit, adding that God's omniscience eliminates the need to issue a formal notice of the lawsuit.

Chambers told local media he filed the suit to make a point about frivolous lawsuits frequently seen in US courts, citing a recent one against a judge.

He asked the court to award him an unspecified summary judgment against God, or, in the alternative, issue a permanent injunction against God engaging in the damaging acts cited in the filing. Neither God nor his/her spokespersons could be contacted for comment

