

ROYAL NAVAL PATROL SERVICE

ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER No. 67

Winter 2009

POSTAL ADDRESS and HEADQUARTERS

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Greetings to all Shipmates

Editor's loa

Date 30/11/2009 Time 20.43hrs Position 52° 29' 50.33" N, 1° 45' 05.14" E. Ops room full manned watching for unidentified contacts appearing from the direction of the North Pole.

Before we go any further, on behalf of the Officers and Committee, I would like to wish all readers of this Newsletter a very merry Christmas and a happy new year and may we be no worse off this time next year.

From the Secretary, John Dunn

Many of you will know, especially if you attended the reunion in October, that our National Secretary John Dunn has not been in the best of health recently but I am pleased to report that he is making slow progress and is managing to drive again and get down to the Nest. The various bits and pieces that he would have included in his report will be covered elsewhere in this Newsletter.

It goes without saying that we wish John continued improvement back to his former self. In the meantime I will continue with a brief report of the recent reunion.

Reunion 2009

This year the weather was very kind to us and those attending had the opportunity to get about without an umbrella. The two social nights at the Beaconsfield club were very low on numbers attending but went off well with music by Harbour Lights and a few games of "play your cards right".

The AGM on the Friday was fairly well attended and the business was conducted with no major items of contention. The main item was the report of the unveiling of our new memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas in August which was attended by a good number of members from all parts of the country. John Hodge, Secretary of the West Midlands Branch and one of the prime movers in this project spoke of the work involved and the events on the day.

All the various officers gave their annual reports and the dates for the 2010 reunion and 2010 Queenborough parade were given (details later in the Newsletter).

It was unanimously agreed that the Committee be re elected en-bloc for the coming year.

The Friday night saw us at the Ocean Room for a social night and raffle and a good night was had with music by K-syl-R and a cabaret provided by a gentleman who, in an act of chivalry, offered to carry a tray of drinks back to the table of a group of ladies and then proceeded to give the tray and drinks a bounce test on the dance floor – the floor won!

The Saturday morning was the service at Belle Vue Park and the local ATC band led in the Standards where the service was conducted by our National Padre Rev Jim Izzard assisted by our local Padre Tim Jenkins. Our Guest



Cdr. Titmus at the memorial

of Honour was Commodore T P D Hennessey Royal Navy, the Naval Regional Commander, Eastern England. After the service those that felt they were able marched down to "The Nest" behind the band and Standards for the salute, words of wisdom from our President and Sunset. Then the best order of the day was given when the standards were marched off to get their tot – how is it that we always seem to get rid of more tots than standards? and then the Chief announced "Queens", I did my best to help him out! It was then time for a quick rest and then off to the Ocean Room again for the annual dinner, presided over by Vice President Cdr. David Braybooke, the annual draw and music and dancing by K-syl-R and ended with our National Standard in the centre of the floor surrounded by all present for the National Anthem, rounding off another good reunion.



CPO Manners at Sunset

Reunion 2010

Although the dates and basic details for the next reunion were given at the AGM it was later decided at a de brief meeting that certain changes had to be made due to our falling numbers and the ever increasing costs. After a very thorough discussion we decided to make some changes and the following is the letter we sent to all Branch Secretaries:-

For some years now we have witnessed the slow decline in numbers attending our annual reunion here in Lowestoft and have adjusted things accordingly such as doing away with the march through the town and also cutting out the evening socials on the Monday and Tuesday.

This year the drop in numbers was quite dramatic and after the reunion the committee sat down to review the event and make suggestions for its future. Apart from the low numbers we also had to consider the ever increasing costs involved in staging such an event which this year were very high compared to those attending.

After very careful consideration and being ever mindful of the age and ability of our members we are making the following suggestions which have the full backing of our President and Vice Presidents.

We are suggesting that we do away with the Wednesday and Thursday evening socials as they are costing the Association a fair amount per night with no income and this year we only had 23 on Wednesday and 28 on Thursday. The AGM will continue on the Friday lunchtime but we are suggesting that the event on the Friday evening be moved to possibly the Wherry Hotel in Oulton Broad (very nice venue overlooking the broads) and double up as the formal evening with our Guests of Honour in attendance and both the raffle and the annual draw also taking place. The Saturday will be more or less the same at the Memorial and then, without a march, gathering again down at the Museum by the flagpole for the address from our President and "Sunset". After the parade is dismissed people can then do their own thing - in effect "Sunset" will be a fitting end to the reunion. We will continue to march on the Standards at both the memorial and back at the "Nest" along with the Cadets and band.

We hope that you understand the thinking behind our recommendations, which were not arrived at lightly, and we are sure these will be beneficial to those attending, not only practically but financially, and would ask you to commend these to your members.

We have had no adverse comments back from the branches and at our last meeting we made the decision to go ahead with these new moves so for your diaries the dates will be AGM and Evening event at the Wherry on Friday 8th October and service at the Memorial in Belle Vue Park followed by Sunset at the Nest on Saturday 9th October.

Memorial Dedication, National Memorial Arboretum

Sunday 23rd August, 2009 was the day chosen for the unveiling and dedication of our new RNPS memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas in Staffordshire, it was also 70 years to the day that the Sparrows Nest in Lowestoft was requisitioned by the Navy in 1939. The weather was dry but blustery and the

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

John Street, Esq.,
National Chairman,
Royal Naval Patrol Service Association.

Please convey my warm thanks to the Members of the Royal Naval Patrol
Service Association for their message of loyal greetings, sent on the occasion of
the dedication of the memorial to the Royal Naval Patrol Service at the National
Memorial Arboretum which is being held today.

I much appreciate your kind words and, in return, send my best wishes to
all concerned for a most memorable event.

ELIZABETH R.

Letter from Her Majesty The Queen weather was dry but blustery and the crowds started to gather for our event. There was a certain amount of confusion as various internet sites had publicised the event with a variety of different start times most of which were after the official start time – not a good idea but there again we are Harry Tates! Those that were going to march assembled and it was surprising how many we had attracted. The parade formed up behind the 16 standards led by our National Standard and also the West



President and Chairman lead the parade

Midlands Branch Standard and when we marched off behind the piper we had over 100 in the parade. We arrived at the memorial to find an equal number already there. Once in position the welcome was made by the West Midlands Branch, a letter from Her Majesty The Queen was read out by National Chairman John Street and then our National Padre Rev. Jim Izzard conducted the dedication service and our President Cdr. Garry Titmus performed the unveiling. After the service had ended and the parade was dismissed everyone had a chance to admire the magnificent new memorial and also to have a look around the rest of the Arboretum.

A lunch had been arranged for about 100 including representatives of groups, organisations and businesses that helped in the project both financially and practically. After the lunch there were speeches from our



Padre Jim Izzard

President, Cdr. Garry Titmus, Vice President Capt. Jon Scoles and Capt. Peter Lambourn, Captain Mine Warfare and Patrol Vessels, Diving and Fishery Protection. Cdr. Titmus then announced that the Association was bestowing Life Membership on John Hodge, Secretary of the West Midlands Branch for all his work in spearheading the organisation of the project on behalf of the Association which everyone thought was well deserved. Later at our AGM it was unanimously agreed that the two gentlemen from the stonemasons who took charge of our project should be recognised and made Honorary Life Members of our Association as without their help and expertise the project would have cost us considerably more.

Anyone who has not visited the National Memorial Arboretum (01283 792333) should try

and get there not just for our magnificent memorial but for all the other memorials and tributes and of course the new Armed Forces Memorial, which was opened recently by Her Majesty the Queen, it really is quite amazing. Do not expect to see all of the arboretum in a couple of hours, as it covers a huge site but there are road trains to take you around and also electric mobility scooters to borrow and



The principal standards flank the memorial at the dedication

there are eating facilities so you can make a day of it. There is a Premier Travel Inn (0870 990 6438) a couple of minutes down the road and just across the A38 is the Alrewas RBL Club (01283 791183) which is a good watering hole plus they do food as well.

The HMS Wildfire Parade in Queenborough will take place on the 12th September 2010 and it is hoped that more will be able to attend this time. Further details will be published in the Newsletter if we receive them in time. We are very grateful to all those who turned up this year coming from various parts of the country and to all the locals that support us so well.

Dunkirk

We have received the following request from the BBC and are hoping that some of you will be able to assist, if not directly then perhaps by spreading the word to try and reach as many involved with the Little Ships as possible.

I am working on a documentary that is looking at the 'Miracle of Dunkirk' and the 'Little Ships' who made the crosschannel journey to France- this is the programme that Ian Gilbert is connected with. As part of the research I am trying to find veterans who were on these boats that went over to Dunkirk and I have been given your contact details as someone to contact regarding this. I have already spoken to Nick Clark from your organisation who has put me in touch with Frederick Jenkins but it would be great to have a chat with yourself.

This is for an hour long documentary for BBC 2 to broadcast next May for the 70th anniversary of Dunkirk. This documentary will be anchored by Dan Snow. Below is the topline for the documentary which will give you an idea of what we're up to!

To mark the 70th anniversary of the Miracle of Dunkirk, fifty of the surviving Little Ships which made the original perilous cross-channel voyage, are returning to France. Dan Snow tells the extraordinary story of these Little Ships, their role in the evacuation, the people who struggle to keep them afloat today and of those fateful days in 1940, when the future of Europe hung in the balance.

Thank you so much for your help, all my contact details are below.

Yours sincerely, Anna

Anna Phipps **BBC** Northern Ireland

Broadcasting House, Ormeau Ave, Belfast, BT2 8HQ

T: 028 9033 8066 M: 07875001606 E-mail anna.phipps@bbc.co.uk

<u>Magnetic Mine 70th Anniversary Commemorative Event on board HMS Belfast</u>

On Thursday 26th November our Museum Curator, Alf Muffett, was invited to HMS Belfast in London to attend a lunchtime reception hosted by the Minewarfare & Clearance Diving Officers' Association (MCDOA) to commemorate the defusing of the first discovered Magnetic mine at Shoeburyness in Essex on November 23rd 1939 by Lt. Cdr. John Ouvry.. It was due to the vigilance of a couple of observers who saw two objects leaving a German aircraft and then parachuting down and landing in the sea. Because of their local knowledge they realised that where they landed would be exposed at low tide and so took accurate bearings and reported the incident to the Admiralty who dispatched Lt. Cdr Ouvry and a colleague to drive there from HMS Vernon and investigate. At low tide they ventured out onto the mud flats and realised that it was some sort of mine but of a type unknown to them. They took paper templates of the various fittings and hurriedly had brass tools made to fit the locking rings etc. On his return with these tools he and a CPO approached the mine and removed the fuses and rendered the

mine safe and then had it taken back to HMS Vernon where it was examined and found to be a magnetic mine and therefore the cause of a lot of unexplained ship losses. Measures were put in place to counter this threat starting with degaussing and then later on the LL sweep that you all know about. Their heroic exploits resulted in the awarding of 2 DSOs, a DSC and 2 DSMs which were the first Royal Naval decorations of the war.

It was fitting that the reception was held on HMS Belfast, not only because they have the first mine on display but also because she was put out of action for a very long time just months earlier by one of these devices. Those present included John Ouvry's son and other family members, Lt. Noel Cashford who served with John Ouvry, recent First Sea Lord, Lord West of Spithead and about 80 other serving and ex-serving minewarfare or diving officers. On the after deck of HMS Belfast the Royal Navy Southern Diving Unit had set up a display for the day showing their work and included the second magnetic mine from Shoeburyness.



The first defused Magnetic mine now on HMS Belfast



Cdr John Ouvry DSO RN



Alf Muffett inspects the second defused Magnetic mine

BYMS 1 - post war

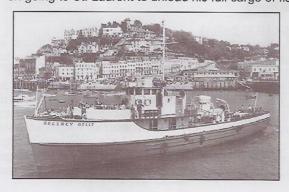
A shipmate has been in correspondence with our Curator and mentioned that he was on BYMS1 and that he came across her again in peace time as a pleasure craft, part of his letter is as follows......

Back to the 1, I was on holiday at Torquay and this Pleasure Boat came in the bay, no doubt in my mind, BYMS, I had to take a trip, she was going up the River Dart, I asked a crew member for details, the engineman had brought her from the States, the gyrocompass room was a Bar, and I had a good shufty round what I knew to be BYMS 1, now "The Regency Belle". I would love to know her history.

We passed a dredger on the Dart, Langmead Bros, and Alf Langmead, Chief Engineman on the 2234 was aboard, Alf, Jack Jones from Cleethorpes, and Skipper Tom Spall, also Cleethorpes, and I were the first to join her at Boothbay Harbor, Maine. I met up with Alf later, good memories.....

A bit of research has produced the following – *Regency Belle* was built as a BYMS (British Yacht Mine Sweeper) in the USA during the war, and served with the Royal Navy as *HMS Radcliffe*. As *Regency Belle*, she ran at Brighton in1951, but moved to Scarborough in 1952. In 1954 the *Regal Lady* had joined the Round's fleet at Scarborough, which then had four excursion ships for this season only. *Regency Belle* moved to Torquay for the 1955 season, leaving three ships *Coronia*, *Yorkshire Lady* and *Regal Lady* at Scarborough. At Torquay she initially ran for the Torbay Cruising Company along with *Pride of the Dart*. Both vessels were acquired by the Western Lady Ferry service, although *Regency Belle* was sold on without being placed in service. She was bought by a Lowestoft company in 1963 for offshore support, and was renamed *Regency*.

In 1967 she was in the Isles of Scilly as a support vessel to one of the several diving teams then working on the celebrated 1707 wreck of *HMS Association*. On the night of 18th September she left Scilly to return to Lowestoft when she caught fire near the Wolf Rock. The fire started in her engine room and soon spread. The crew of five took to an inflatable dinghy. Sennen lifeboat and helicopters from RNAS Culdrose attended and the blaze could reportedly be seen for 13 miles. First boat on the scene was the French trawler *Roi Mage* which took the crew aboard. One man had injured a knee. Although an ambulance was waiting at Newlyn, the French skipper insisted on going to St. Laurent to unload his full cargo of fish.



2 views of BYMS 1 as a pleasure craft



Charlie at Palace

The picture on the right is of our National Vice Chairman Charlie Harris with his daughter at Buckingham Palace and with the following article, appeared in the Lowestoft Journal of August 28th 2009.

A second world war veteran was treated to a royal occasion last month when he was invited to Buckingham Palace.

Royal Naval Patrol Service Association Vice Chairman Charles Alfred Harris enjoyed a day in the palace's grounds, in the presence of the Duke of Kent and the Earl and Countess of Wessex, after being invited by the Federation of Merchant Mariners.

Mr Harris, 88, served in the Merchant Navy during the war, working on mine sweepers as a Chief Petty Officer from 1941 to 1946, but had never been to London before.

"To my joy he was allowed to take a guest and asked me if I would like to accompany him," said his daughter Eileen Welham.

"Words can't really describe the afternoon. The grounds were amazing and the service second to none."

Our congratulations go to Charlie for this special occasion. In addition to his role as Vice Chairman, Charlie also makes the tea at the Museum but I don't think he ventured into the Palace kitchen nor do I think he had to throw the tea bag in the peddle bin!!



Charlie and his daughter at Buckingham Palace

Royal Naval Museum, Portsmouth Historic Dockyard

On a recent visit to Portsmouth I visited the Royal Naval Museum in Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, which is the

part of the dockyard that is open to the public. Whilst wandering around the exhibits I came across a model of a Patrol Service Trawler in a glass case. It is of the Military Class trawler HMT Grenadier and is probably the

Harry Marrington

most detailed model I have seen. The scene depicts the action of 16th March 1945 when the Granadier went to the rescue of seamen from the cargo vessel Inger which was torpedoed on Russian Convoy RU156. The model shows the debris and oil in the sea and the survivors still in the water. The ship has working lights everywhere you would expect to see

working lights everywhere you would expect to see Model of HMT Grenadier lights and the whole diorama is extremely realistic. The model was built by a man who heard about the rescue from one of the survivors of the Inger who was picked up by the Grenadier and who can be seen in the water in this model.

Just opposite the model is a board with photographs of about 6 ex-Royal Navy men from different periods from World War 2 right up to the present time and if you press a button

beneath their photograph you can listen on a set of headphones to them telling about different aspects of their lives whist in the Royal Navy. One of the featured men is "Harry Marrington, Seaman Gunner, Royal Naval Patrol Service 1942 – 1946".



Bonnie inspects the letters

Another fascinating story to come out of the Dockyard in Portsmouth was as a result of a telephone call our Welfare Officer, Bonnie Whisstock, had from the Royal Naval Historical Branch who had recently acquired a box of about 300 letters that had been sent to a Patrol Service man during the war. The box of letters had been found in a land fill site and rescued by a worker there and sent to the Royal Navy as "possibly of interest." Unfortunately none of the letters are from

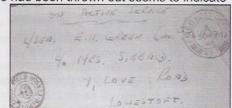


The box of letters

the man, Leading Seaman E H Green, but are from various members of his family etc. so it is not possible to glean any information about his actions etc. What is y where he was at various times by means of the addresses that the letters were sent

possible is to work out roughly where he was at various times by means of the addresses that the letters were sent to, some of which were in Lowestoft at Love Road. The fact that the letters had been thrown out seems to indicate

that Mr. Green had died and that nobody left had any interest in them. Efforts by both the Royal Navy and Bonnie to trace him or his recent whereabouts have drawn a blank. The letters were offered to our Museum but as the only RNPS relevance was his name and service No. on the envelope it was decided they would be better off with the RN or if they felt that they needed to move them on then with the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich. This story of family effects being disposed of must happen on a daily basis. I firmly believe that whatever it is you no longer want there is someone out there who does.



A Letter to Lowestoft

Repeat articles - but still worth a mention!

Membership Renewals - a repeat reminder

The membership rate for this year is £8 and our Treasurer will be overjoyed to receive renewals. This next part is VERY IMPORTANT. Since the changes to the postal system, we have had to collect some member's subscriptions and books from the Post Office and pay an extra £1.06 because they were too thick for the 5mm slot and therefore the ordinary postage did not cover it. We cannot sustain these extra costs. SUGGESTION. When sending in your subs, please remove the plastic cover and open up the insert and lay it flat, then enclose your stamped addressed envelope (61/2" x 41/2") laid flat. Send to HQ in a (71/2" x 5") envelope, or if you have become a European, (190mm x 127mm).

Branch and member information

Following on from the above item, this is a well rehearsed request but nevertheless one that seems to fall by the wayside in a lot of cases. Can you please inform the Secretary at "The Nest" of any changes to your address etc. Each time we do a mailing run we get a lot returned by the Post Office marked "Not at this address". Can we again also remind all Branch Secretaries to keep HQ up to date on their membership records in all classes of membership such as Life. Associate and Widows.

Welfare

We have been able to advise on grants that are available and of other bodies that offer both actual and financial help to ex-service men and women. Bonnie Whisstock is just a phone call or letter away and can offer help in starting the ball rolling. The various funds that are out there are not just there to help out with a few pounds. If, for example, a disability means that alterations have to be made to your house then this is something that some of the charities can assist with.

There is no shame in asking for help and your details and circumstances are strictly confidential and go no further than the case worker dealing with your case.

Bonnie's contact details are - Mrs Bonnie Whisstock, 133 Corton Road. Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 4PR. Tel. 01502 584555 or via e-mail at bonnie@theharbour.fsbusiness.co.uk

Curator

The work that Alf and his helpers are doing in the museum is moving along nicely and the present work is to copy and log all the photographs - this goes into thousands but it will mean that we should be able to preserve the originals and display copies. The Museum and office have been re-carpeted and the office decorated now the leak has at last been fixed and all is looking very smart.

<u>Service Personnel and Veterans Agency (SPVA)</u>
The Veterans Agency is a very useful contact on all aspects of veterans affairs and don't forget that a veteran is anyone who has served in the armed forces, up to the present day, for at least 24 hours and not been dishonourably discharged. Their contact details are as follows:-

Freephone 0800 169 22 77 (UK only) BT Mobile, Orange, Virgin or 3 mobile, Customers will not be charged for the call by their provider. +44 1253 866043 (Overseas). 0800 169 34 58 Textphone facility (UK only)

Telephone lines are open: 8.15am to 5.15pm Monday to Thursday; and 8.15am to 4.30pm Friday.

By post:- Service Personnel and Veterans Agency

FREEPOST NAT18006

Norcross

Thornton Cleveleys

FY5 3ZA (1st Class) or FY5 3ZZ (2nd Class)

Website www.veterans-uk.info

Heroes Return 2

The Big Lottery Fund has announced the opening of its funding initiative, Heroes Return 2, pledging funding for veterans, spouses, widows and carers wishing to mark overseas anniversaries throughout 2009 and 2010. Second World War veterans across the country can sign up for a new multi-million pound commemorative funding scheme that will provide Lottery support for anniversary trips to the places where they saw action. The Fund has opened up a Heroes Return 2 hotline for all veterans to ring for further information: Heroes Return 2 Helpline: 0845 00 00 121.

Further Information: Public Enquiries Line: 08454 102030 Textphone: 0845 6021 659

Full details of the Big Lottery Fund programmes and grant awards are on the website: www.biglotteryfund.org.uk

Museum visits

For information, the Museum and office are open Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings until about 11.30 (ish). What we do recommend is that if you are travelling some distance that you telephone a few days beforehand to either the office on 01502 586250 or my home on 01502 584555 or 07966879106 and we can arrange, if necessary, to open up for you at a suitable time. When you do arrive at the top room of the Museum please turn to your right and wave!! as you will be on CCTV. This new "toy" helps us when we are busy in the office as we can see when someone comes in and we can then go out to them and offer them assistance and our extensive wealth of knowledge.

Web sites

Don't forget, if you have access to a computer, to keep checking the 2 web sites connected to our Association which are: www.rnps.lowestoft.org.uk run by Mike Sims and www.harry-tates.org.uk run by Nick Clark. Both offer a wealth of information. There are also plenty of other sites where you can search for old oppos or look for things to do with the war and the Royal Navy. Nick is looking for anyone who can supply a story for his "Veterans Stories" section. Take a look at some of the photos, how did they get their hats to stay on "flat aback"?

If you have any items for inclusion in the next Newsletter or comments on this one, please send them to me at , Leo Whisstock, 133 Corton Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 4PR. Tel. 01502 584555 or via e-mail at rnpsa@theharbour.fsbusiness.co.uk

Yours Aye, The Duty Watch

Shipmates Corner

If you do not have access to e-mail or you have information on any of the following enquiries that do not have contact details, then you can pass the information to me (Leo) at the address above **or** to Nick Clark, 174 Manton Crescent, Beeston, Nottingham NG9 2GA Tel: 07841 107641 or by E-mail at nickclark1961@googlemail.com or info@rnpatrolservice.org.uk

I am doing some research into the loss of the Steam Trawler "Robert Limbrick", which foundered off the Isle of Mull in 1957 with the loss of all hands. I have found that she was built as a Round Table Class minesweeping trawler for the admiralty in 1942. She was at that time named "Sir Galahad" (Pennant No T226). I would be grateful of any information on the ship, and her service and crew during her war years, as well as what her duties may have been. Essentially, any information you have would be of great interest to me.

Byron Griffiths byron.griffiths@sky.com

Hello, where can I find info on the **Inkpen's** crew and things she did? My grandfather, James Alexander Robertson was on submarine detection. Any info would be very interesting, as he sadly has passed on and I was really too young to speak about much of it. Peter Robertson <u>cbroscar@hotmail.co.uk</u>

Looking for anyone who remembers Signalman Donald Royal Holland on trawler **Ascona** and **BYMS 2047** March '41 to July '43. Charles Cook chgcook@gmail.com

I am looking for old shipmates of Alfred or probably known as "Alfie" Dickey who was a Stoker 1st class on board HMS Foxglove when she was bombed on Jul 9th 1940, he was subsequently killed during this action. He originated from Chicken Road, Wallsend Upon Tyne and I am keen to find any photos of him or any of the Ships Company from around that period. I am currently serving as a Petty Officer in HMS Collingwood. Julian lee julianislush@msn.com

As part of my family history, I am researching the sinking of **HMT Northern Princess** in March 1942. My interest is Leading Cook **Frank Espin Wright**. I would be grateful for any information regarding this. Brian A Hill mbone2008@msn.com

Did anyone know Stoker Petty Officer **Dick Brichard**, 1939-1945. My father in law, Dick, served mainly in Boom Defence. His service number was KX 112873 Via Nick Clark RNPS web site Forum

Can anyone please help, my wife's late father, **David Boll**, from Glasgow, served on board **HMS Watchful (Ouzel)** according to his service records, does anyone remember either this ship or him?. We would be happy to exchange any information, pre war he was RNVR and according to family stories served on HMS Argus. C/O Nick Clark

My father, William Henry Neill, joined up on 5 August 1940. He was a Stoker 2nd Class and joined HMS Caswell on 21 September 1940. On Monday 19th May 1941, HMS Caswell got a mention in the newspapers, the Admiralty statement reads "On Monday night a Heinkel 111 was engaged and shot down off the East Coast by H.M. Trawlers Tranio (Lieutenant A. L. G. Gillies, R.N.R.), Caswell (Skipper J. W. V. Jobson, R.N.R.), Thomas Leeds (Temporary Skipper R. A. Cook, R.N.R.), and Stella Leonis (Acting Skipper Lieutenant W. Perritt, R.D., R.N.R.)." He joined HMS Othello on 16 December 1941 at Scapa Flow. He transferred to HMS Ythan Braes on 26 February 1943. I would be very grateful for any pictures or information about my father, his shipmates, or of the ships they served in. I have a few photographs and my father's yarns which I will willingly share. David Neill dwneill@hotmail.com

Alan Frederick Peal served on HMS Celia 22/10/1942 – 27/10/1942 and again in 4/11/1943. Also served on HMS Stella Pegasi. Does anyone remember him? Roger Peal - C/O Nick Clark.

Joe Steele is looking for Walter Ross Signalman RNVR from Merseyside called up in 1939 who went to Dunkirk on the drifter Boy (something?) previously on the trawler Dalmatia. Telegraphist George Begley from Belfast was on trawlers Dalmatia and Dartheme

Keep the odds and ends coming, they all make interesting reading – I already have a couple of items for the next Newsletter as space was tight in this one.

Obituary for Winter 2009

S/M E Murphy	Llanelli	South Wales	S/M W Hewson	Pevensey	East Sussex
S/M K Bale	Kettering	Northants	S/M P Horne	Wareham	Dorset
S/M B Branch	Brandon	Suffolk	S/M R Jone	Tenbury Wells	Worcester
S/M D Charlett	Yarnton	Oxford	S/M C Lusher	Norwich	Norfolk
S/M W Cooper	Lightwater	Surrey	S/M W Phillip	Leigh on Sea	Essex
S/M L Dalley	Pakefield	Suffolk	S/M A Prettyman	Lowestoft	Suffolk
S/M E Escker	Sebriing	Florida USA	S/M L Ward	Horndean	Hampshire
S/M J Foster	Banbury	Oxford	S/M D Williams	Saltburn	Cleveland
S/M N Gardiner	Mansfield	Nottingham	S/M R Young	Ramsgate	Kent
S/M J Gribben	Douglas	Isle of Man		SHIPMAN Alan ar	

At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them

Reunion 2009 - Reunion Draw Results

	Ticket	Winner		Ticket	Winner
1	14108	D Isley, Colchester, Essex		12753	D Maslen, Bedford
2	10623	Mr & Mrs Johnston, Rowlands Castle		11961	B Wilkinson, Blackburn, Lancs
3	16403	A Turner, Blackburn, Lancs	10	11510	D Blackburn, Bradford, Yorkshire
4	16357	M Fee, Blackburn, Lancs		12933	A Brierley, Bolton, Lancs
5	05055	R Seaman, Harrow, Middlesex		01646	H Gilchrist, Wallesey, Merseyside
6	13150	D Newson, Lowestoft, Suffolk	13	13474	M Scrivener, Goodmanchester, Huntingdon
7	17355	B Hughes, Lowestoft, Suffolk	Congratulations to all our winners		

Cut >

Item / Title	£	ms for Qty	£	Item / Title	£	Qty	£
Europa Plaque	27.00			RNPSA Multi Tool Key Ring	2.95	Walanta A	
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