



ROYAL NAVAL PATROL SERVICE ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER No. 69 Winter 2010

POSTAL ADDRESS and HEADQUARTERS

Royal Naval Patrol Service Association
Naval Museum, Sparrows Nest,
Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 1XG

Charity No. 273148

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Greetings to all Shipmates

Editor's log

Date 16/11/2010 Time 23.05hrs Position 52° 29' 50.33" N, 1° 45' 05.14" E. Visibility impaired due to extra tots and late hour, advised by Chief Engineer (wife) to abort operation.

From the Secretary – John Dunn

Well folks, here we go again and the news is not so rosy. As usual we have had a fair number of members crossing the bar, but it is unfortunate that we must expect this as age catches up with us. The number attending the reunion dinner was a surprise as I did not think we would reach the hundred mark but we finished up with 150 sitting down and the new venue turned out very well and everyone said that it was a grand night. The meal was very good and the entertainment was enjoyed by all.

The reunion for 2011 is provisionally booked for the 7th & 8th of October with the meal on the Friday evening and the service of remembrance on the Saturday morning.

I am sorry I cannot say much about the AGM as health reasons stopped me from attending it but I was informed that the Committee were re elected en bloc.

Reunion 2010



Association President, Cdr. Titmus lays the HQ poppy anchor



Guest of Honour, Capt. Durkin and Cdr. Titmus watch the parade assemble



The ship's company march on parade under the watchful eye of CPO Manners

This year was the first of the new 2 day reunions and everyone wondered how it would work out, well the answer is very well – apart from a couple of minor hiccups that we have already put right for next year. The first event this year was the AGM on the Friday afternoon which went off very well and we were very pleased to have our President, Cdr. Garry Titmus, with us. Unfortunately our National Padre, Jim Izzard, was unable to attend this year as he had been rushed into hospital but his place was taken by our local Padre Tim Jenkins. There were no motions to put before the meeting apart from the Treasurer proposing that subs for Associate Members should go up from £8 to £10 which was agreed.

The Friday Social night had been combined with the Annual dinner and the change of venue to the Brown Boat Suite at the Wherry Hotel was met with great approval as we filled the room which gave a better atmosphere. The food was excellent but a minor criticism was the slow service which we have been assured will be addressed next year. After the meal and a very interesting speech by our Guest of Honour Capt. Mark Durkin we danced the night away.

Saturday morning saw the usual parade and service at Belle Vue Park in exactly the same format as previous years complete with good weather. The Standards and those members able to, marched on from the park gate and took their places around the memorial. After the service the parade re formed by the park gate for the march down to the "The Nest" but this year the County Council, in their infinite wisdom, stopped us from marching the 150 yards along the A12 to the Ravine – something we have been doing for over 30 years. This year in order to get to

the gardens for the salute and Sunset we had to come down the up road which did not pose much of a problem for us but some members who were driving down got delayed by the road closure and were directed the long way round. Consequently when they got down and parked and into the Sparrow's Nest Gardens we were half way through Sunset. With this in mind we have already taken steps to rectify this next year and instead of marching down and needing road closures we are going to reform in the Gardens and just march past the saluting base.

After the parade is dismissed the Standard Bearers take on a new lease of life and resemble shoppers on the opening day of the sales, each trying to be first in the line for their tot and then tagging on the back of the queue and making out that it was their first time, luckily the Rum Bosun makes out he doesn't know what is happening. After this the refreshed Standard Bearers stand quietly chatting until the Bosun shouts "Queens!" and then they burst into life again, elbows flying, thrusting their glasses forward eager not to miss a drop.

So ended the first new style reunion and from comments we have received it seems to have met with approval so God willing we will do it all again next year.

From the Treasurer – Ted Thompson

At the AGM it was agreed to increase the subscriptions for **Associate Members to £10** due to the increased costs of postage, printing etc. and general office expenses.

There are a number of members both Full and Associate who have not paid subscriptions for the last three or more years. The committee has decided to take those members off the membership list who are not up to date by the 28th February 2011 – if you are in doubt then please contact us and we will advise you of your membership status.

With reference to the reunion, the applications for the annual dinner must be in by the closing date together with the payment. This year this caused considerable trouble with the organising, with bookings actually arriving the day before the dinner.

Wreaths

Any wreaths that people wish to be laid at the memorial at the reunion, or at other times, i.e. Remembrance Day, can be obtained via HQ and paid for in advance. The price will be published in the Spring newsletter.

View from the Rocking Chair

I have noticed that often words from a 'boss' are titled – *View from the Boardroom* or, if it is the Royal Navy, *View from the Bridge*. But as I have now fully retired the best I can come up with is a little peep from my *Rocking Chair*. One of the best things about retiring is that you do not have to spend so much time battling the daily challenges of the workplace but can have the luxury of stocktaking those storerooms of memories from the past. And I have realised this year that after over 40 years in uniform I do have a lot of memories. Equally I have realised that although I may have had almost as many good, bad, indifferent or just downright scary moments at sea as any member of Harry Tate's Navy, mine (no pun intended) were inevitably diluted. What an incredibly exciting time most of you will have had with all your experiences crammed into five or six years in the Second World War.



President Garry Titmus

Although I have been with the RNPSA for quarter of a century, I know that not all of you will have much idea about my background. For what it is worth I was a Pompey lad, my father a CPO in the RN and it was almost inevitable that I would choose the sea as my career. I joined as a seaman officer; served in a large number of ships, large and small; travelled widely around the world and, at the mid career point, specialised in warfare and then specialised even deeper in navigation. I have lived abroad in Belgium and Oman; 'sailed' a few desks in Whitehall and NATO; survived three unintentional dunks in the sea; been under fire in Aden; spent a lot of time in the Arctic getting extremely cold and not enough time in the Caribbean topping up the tan.

My best time at sea though was in the small ships. In the Ton Class ship NURTON, I was the minehunting control officer, the gunnery officer, correspondence officer and SLJO (you can probably work out what SLJO stands but if not, watch out for the next newsletter!). I had a fantastic time in that ship, including boarding about 40 ships at sea during the time of the troubles in Northern Ireland. Imagine how pleased I was that later in my career I should be given command of the Second MCM Squadron which included amongst its seven Ton Class MCMVs HMS NURTON. Also in the Squadron was HMS HUBBERSTON whose captain then was a certain Lt Cdr Jon Scoles, who you all know and love as Vice President of the Association.

You will be pleased and relieved to know that I do not have space here to regale you with all my salty stories. I would though like to say a few words about more recent times. On the 12th November this year I was in Boston in Lincolnshire and spent a moment to look at the war memorial there. Leading up to the main memorial there were two rows of individual memorials each dedicated to a branch of the armed forces or other public service. I was delighted to see that one was dedicated to the RNPS but disturbed that the wreath alongside it had blown over in the wind. However, it did give me the unexpected opportunity to replace the wreath and say my own silent words of prayer and respect to those of the Service who are no longer with us.

Memories are so important, although we sometimes need a rocking chair or a memorial to trigger them. In this respect I am so pleased that the RNPSA memorial at the National Arboretum at Alrewas came into being. It was a magnificent effort by all of those involved to produce such a fine memorial and I would urge all of you who have not visited the Arboretum to do so if you can – you can have a fine day out which will be filled with memories. My hat comes off to Shipmate John Hodge for his work in arranging the August event which looks more and more as though it will become an annual feature in the RNPSA calendar.

Finally, the Association continues on as strongly as it has ever done. Yes, we have made a few changes to the annual reunion so that we can all face up to the march of time but they do not change the reasons why we go to Lowestoft each year. I am sure that we will keep on going there for the fun, the companionship, the fellowship and, of course, the memories.

My profound thanks to all of you throughout the country and abroad who continue to work so hard to keep the Association alive and in the true tradition of Harry Tate. I am sure that the two Vice Presidents, David Braybrooke and Jon Scoles, join me when I say that I hope that all of you will not mind if we just add an extra Bravo Zulu to those stalwarts (or should that be bulwarks?!) at the Sparrow's Nest.

Have a wonderful Christmas and an equally wonderful 2011.

Garry Titmus, President RNPSA

Ipswich's ship - HMS Quorn – A day at war!

Ipswich's Affiliated ship, HMS QUORN is one of 8 Hunt Class Mine Counter Measures Vessels based in Portsmouth in the Second Mine Counter Measures Squadron part of Reunion Guest of Honour, Captain Mark Durkin's organisation. At 60 metres long, the 750 tonne Hunt Class are the largest warships ever constructed from Glass Reinforced Plastic and provide the basis for the UK's Mine Warfare capability both in home waters and in Operational Theatres in the Mediterranean and the Arabian Gulf. Indeed there are 2 Hunts based in Bahrain at all times; a role which HMS QUORN will be fulfilling as of July next year. A deployment East of Suez is no small undertaking and the preparation for this deployment started from the very moment she left dry dock back in April 2010 following a multi million pound refit. Since then there has been a steady progression of operational training, the highlight of which so far was her participation in a 'Thursday War' in the South Coast Exercise Areas off of Plymouth in order to train in a multi threat environment.



*Lt. Cdr. Tim Neild
Commanding Officer HMS
Quorn*

Other than a move from Portland to Plymouth in the mid nineties, the Thursday War hasn't changed much over the years. However, one recent addition has been the inclusion of Small Ships such as QUORN into the large scale, predominantly Frigate and Destroyer based, exercise that takes place every week off the south coast aimed at readying ships for operations proper. Those who have experienced a Weekly War know the sense of anticipation that builds from the moment the ship anchors in Plymouth Sound the night before. Meticulous preparations for action, checking and re-checking kit, last minute cleaning, brushing up on weapon drills and fire fighting. All of this in preparation for the arrival of the Flag Officer Sea Training (FOST) and his Staff to train or inspect the ships with their inevitable barrage of questions and critical eyes.



The pilot's view

An 0500 Call the Hands finds its way into the mess and the day begins for real. A shower, a quick bit of scran and you're ready for the long day ahead of you. Overnight the rest of the task group has anchored in the Sound and as you look out on the upper deck in the misty morning you see for the first time your counterparts for the war. All that remains is the call to action stations. General Alarm. All of a sudden the ship is alive with a sudden rush of activity, hatches closing, the whistle of air from the fire fighting breathing apparatus. Familiar eyes now look out at you from behind Anti-Flash hoods as they scurry from one compartment to another carrying fire fighting equipment and closing the ship down to Damage Control State 1 Condition Zulu in order to maintain the watertight integrity of the ship. It doesn't matter how many times you've done it before, your pulse always quickens

slightly in anticipation of what's to come. In a matter of moments the ship is fully at Action Stations and now merely awaits the arrival of the FOST Staff by boat transfer before you weigh anchor and proceed out to face the enemy in company with the Task Group of Warships ranging from the work horse Type 23 Frigates right up to 18,000 tonnes of amphibious assault capability including the Amphibious flagship HMS ALBION.

Passing Western Breakwater your eyes scour the horizon looking for the inevitable threat that you know is out there, all the while those inside looking up and about and waiting for the Main Broadcast Sitrep and the inevitable Air Raid that follows. Your mind runs over the things you know, the things you think you know and the things you hopefully haven't forgotten. This may be training but the Royal Navy still trains as it means to fight; professionally and with grit and determination. The presence of the FOST staff just adds extra weight to that sentiment. Rounding Rame Head, you soon hear the pipe you knew was coming: "Air, Surface, Sub-Surface Threat Warnings are Red! On Anti-Flash!"

This is where things start to get that little bit more real. As the lookouts eyes strain to tell the difference between a dark spot on the horizon that might just be a sea gull, but then again might not. "Aircraft Inbound! Strength Two! Range 10 Miles! Tracking Left to Right!" The first raid will always set the tone for the day. As the weapon crews' heads automatically turn to look at the threat, everybody on board braces themselves for the first hit. Blanks firing, Miniguns spinning and cries of "Engage!" nearly drown out the sound of the low flying Hawk as it passes directly over the top. Whether you think you got him or not, it doesn't matter to the FOSTies. Within an instant there are alarms everywhere, water rushes from 'Split' pipes and loud vocal alarms emanate from throughout the ship. Fire, Flood, Casualty, Machinery Breakdown, this may be an exercise but it always feels real. It all seems to happen at once and then again several more times throughout a day crammed with Air, Surface and Sub surface engagements, action messing, and pressure from up top and below until finally peace breaks out. Before you know it it's 1800 and you've been on your feet and racing around for 12 hours solid.

But that is the idea of Thursday War. Train as you mean to fight. Plan for the worst and step back from there. A ship going through Operational Sea Training can expect to carry this out every day for 6 weeks; longer if need be. Every man on board is expected not to know just his job but also a lot of what the man next to him does. The nature of a modern small ship is such that there always seems to be a shortage of people to do jobs and so you have to work that little bit harder to achieve what a big ship seems to do effortlessly. But it is this "Work Hard, Play Hard" mentality that sets small ships apart from their bigger brethren.

The importance of the task for which QUORN is preparing cannot be underestimated. Indeed, given the current political climate, protecting the UK's interests in a strategically important part of the world such as the Gulf carries a huge responsibility. For this reason the Thursday War is just a small step on the way to declaring QUORN ready for her Operational Deployment. Looking to the foreseeable future, QUORN will be undergoing some essential maintenance to prepare her for the rigours of operations in the desert heat before heading up to Faslane for her own dedicated period of training before one final spot of leave and the long transit across the Mediterranean, through the Suez Canal, Gulf of Aden, then the Straits of Hormuz before finally arriving in Bahrain. Her home for the next 3 years.

Before then, QUORN will pay one final visit to her new affiliated town of Ipswich. Despite this being a new affiliation, inaugurated in April 2009, the strength of friendship between the town, its people and the men of HMS QUORN is already manifest in the display of good will the ship has received on her two previous visits. QUORN is Ipswich's ship and is very proud of that fact. Whilst the next visit in early February 2011 will be the last for a few years the bond that has been formed with the town and the ship is clearly strong enough to endure the separation. QUORN will be opening her gangway to members of the public throughout the weekend to hopefully let the people of Ipswich, and Suffolk, get one final good look at their ship and meet her crew.



HMS Quorn entering Portsmouth Harbour

To that end I would like to extend an invitation to all readers to come down to Orwell Quay at some point over that weekend and take the opportunity to have a look round and spin a few dits with the crew. It would be an absolute delight to have you on board.

Tim Neild
Lieutenant Commander Royal Navy
Commanding Officer HMS QUORN



*Left, Hunt class minesweeper
HMS Belvoir, sister ship to WW1
HMS Quorn*



*Right, WW2 Hunt class
Destroyer HMS Quorn*



August 22nd was the 1st anniversary of the unveiling of our memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas in Staffordshire and the event was organised by our good friends from the West Midlands Branch. I would urge as many of you as possible to try and visit the Arboretum, not just to see our magnificent memorial but to experience the whole place, you will not fail to be moved. There are over 160 memorials set in 150 acres. To find out more about the National Memorial Arboretum go to <http://www.thenma.org.uk>

Branch and member information

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

Our National Welfare Officer is there to try and help you, she cannot perform miracles but will do her best to address any problems. 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

If you are sending anything for the Museum can you please make sure you state if it is on loan or a gift and with photographs please give descriptions as it helps with the cataloguing.

Service Personnel and Veterans Agency (SPVA)

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. 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.

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"?

Keep the odds and ends coming, they all make interesting reading. 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**

REMINDER – ALL SUBS IN BY THE END OF FEBRUARY

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 have been trying unsuccessfully, to locate a copy of a book on the BYMS - two ships my late father Patrick Robbins JX241172RN was on are mentioned in this book - BYMS 2204 and 2008 in the Far East - Burma. The book is "The Coast Is Clear - The Story Of The BYMS" published by the Author Eric Minett in 2005. If you can please put a request in your next newsletter to purchase a copy of the book or can suggest somewhere I could try for this book, I would be very grateful. John Robbins. Editors Note – This book is now out of print.

After receiving the above request I contacted our Web Site manager, Mike Sims, who also is a book dealer and he has replied as follows - I see that John Robbins has been in touch with you about Eric Minett's 'The Coast is Clear' and I have copied my reply to him to you. A possible newsletter item: There are several titles on RNPS subjects that are quite scarce, including Eric's. If anyone is thinking of disposing of any of their RNPS (or other military and naval history) books I am always very willing to make an offer. Regards, Mike Sims 01502 581011

My Name Jay Hemmings I am a Petty Officer in the Royal Navy working at HMS Cambria a reserve unit as an instructor. I am currently researching my Great Grandfather **CPO Pugh** or Ted the B*****D as he was know at the Sparrow nest I was wondering whether there is anyone in the RNPSA that remembers him. Many thanks, Yours Aye, Jay Hemmings PO(AWT), RC3, HMS Cambria, 01446 744044 EXT 2202

My father Charles Beamish served on the **Hawthorn** the **Ayreshire** as a stoker he was on convoy PQ17 in 1942. Apart from the commander Lt Gradwell and Lt Elsdon I know no other names of the crew. Does anyone know? I have a photo of the crew of the Hawthorn taken c1944, when Dad was a CPO, as well as a photo of the vessel. Does anyone know any names of those serving about that time? Also, does anyone have any information on Arthur Beamish, my uncle? Any assistance would be much appreciated. C/O Nick Clark

I am trying to find a photo or information of **LT/JX 211292 Harold Williams** (my Grandma's brother), he was killed in 1942 aged 37 whilst on **H.M Trawler Notts County** south of Iceland on the 8th March. His trawler was torpedoed by U-701, all crew were lost and are named on the Memorial at Lowestoft. I am trying to trace his previous history or photo's. Thank you. Natasha Taylor C/O Nick Clark

My name is Tor Rune Sandvik, living in Norway. I'm looking for information about my uncle **Sigfred Sandvik**, who left Norway in a little vessel called "**Livlig**" May 28-1940. arrived Lerwick on the Shetlands May 30th. We know that Sigfred went to sea, and he was on board **HMS Sotra**, a minesweeper, as a "stoker" HMS Sotra was on duty in the Med and Jan 29-1942 the boat was hit by a torpedo from a German uboat U-431. All crew lost. So far ok, but there is a lot we don't know. What happened to him after arriving Lerwick? Why is he registered as a British sailor and not a Norwegian? Is there any possibilities to get his Personnel records? Did he get any medals etc.? I know that his family did not get anything or information from the Royal Navy about those questions. Best wishes Tor Rune Sandvik rasa-sa@online.no or C/O Nick Clark

My name is Dan Biggs and I am trying to research My granddad we know a few things about him, His name was **Herbert Biggs** C/O Nick Clark

My father was at or on **HMS Lanka** in 1943. His name was **Hugh Teeven Gracie**. He died in 1961 due to war injuries suffered the day Japan surrendered by a Kamakazi pilot, he was a wonderful father and I still miss him terribly, especially around this time, Remembrance Sunday. If anyone out there knew him, would love to hear from you. Helen Clark thistleint@aol.com C/O Nick Clark

My father served in the RN from 1939 to 1946 on Minesweepers and (I think) Corvettes. He was from Norway originally, his name was **Fred Schumann**. I have very limited information about his wartime experience and wonder if anyone would have any knowledge of him. He passed away with cancer in 1994 in Canada. He served on Sweepers off the coast of Italy and spent time in Lowestoft. Don't know any ship names he sailed on. nschc535@rogers.com or C/O Nick Clark

My father who is now deceased served on **HMS Wilton** (L128) during 1940-45. I would be interested to hear from anyone who's family or friends were on the Wilton at that time. This would be of great value to my family. Thanks Colin Hall col2951@yahoo.com.au or C/O Nick Clark

My name is Sam Killen and my great grandfather was **George Alexander Thompson** who was the skipper of **HMS Loch Doon** from Lowestoft this trawler was lost in 1939 on the 25th December which all crew were lost. I was wondering if anyone had a picture of this trawler as it seems nearly impossible to find one any help would be very much appreciated many thanks Sam sam.killen@yahoo.co.uk or C/O Nick Clark

Any Information on Stoker **Arthur A Mussett** I am trying to find anything about my father's WWII service. I know he served aboard the **Goatfell** and the **Waverley**, saw action on the River Scheldt and at Omaha beach. I know he had an operation at Osbourne House at one point and recollect him telling me as a child that he saw the gold fittings being removed from Dorothy Paget's yacht, presumably under requisitioned service of some sort. Margaret Ashworth margaret_ashworth2@hotmail.com or C/O Nick Clark



Has anyone got any information on crew members of **HMS Sukha** FY1767, between July 1940 until April 1942, she was a whaling ship hired by the navy for minesweeping duties, I believe she was based at Scapa Flow during this time, I am researching my late fathers service record, it seems he was a stoker 1st class on this ship and several others, his name was **William Carmichael**, originally from Liverpool, moved to **HMS Europa**, Lowestoft, then seems to have spent his time up north. He went ashore to **HMS Fortitude** in June 1942, then the next date I have that he was invalided out in November 1942, I am trying to find out if he was injured or ill, I would be grateful for any information please. Thank you, Jan. johnsillett@hotmail.com or C/O Nick Clark

Coincidence! – We have another query about the **Sukha**, this one relates to the Christmas card shown here a copy of which was sent to us at the Museum. Does anyone recognise this card? We believe that it was a stock item as the name of the ship has been hand written in the white banner on the top right of the card. Does anyone remember this card used on their ship? Was it specific to a Base or a flotilla? If you can add anything to this then please contact our Curator, Alf Muffett.

HMS Badger - I am looking for anyone that can help me try and find out any information about my Grandfather, his name was **John Cecil Jarvis** known as Jack or Jackie boy! HMS Badger was one of his ships he served on in WW2, based at Sparrows Nest, Lowestoft, he was an electrician, while on minesweeping duty he was washed over board and rescued, then served as an officers chef at **HMS Chatham** till the end of his service. jaxs1969@hotmail.co.uk or C/O Nick Clark

I am seeking more information about the action the motor gun boat **MGB 612** that my Uncle George was on when he died. My Uncle, **Able Seaman George H Harvey**, died at 19, on 19 or 20 September 1943. He was apparently a gunner and was shot by enemy planes. Another shipmate was apparently shot but only wounded. Would be very grateful for any further information. Many thanks Seonaid seonaid.lewis@gmail.com or C/O Nick Clark

Sid Rhodes has asked me to “sound the bell” to see if there are any members of the crew of **HMT Coventry City** still propping up the bar rather than crossing it! Contact Sid at Maryland, 19 Woodhall Road, Penn, Wolverhampton WV4 4DL

My Father, **L/Stoker Bert Allen** served on **BYMS 2258** from 1941 to 1943 based in Trinidad. If there is anyone who served with him on that sweeper he would love to hear from you. Please contact Pat Masters 01277 218218

The following poem was written by **S/M Roland Moufarege** who served on **HMS Kimberley** during the war and now lives in Florida. Roland contacted **S/M Peter Lock** in Worthing through the BBC WW2 War Search. If you were on the Kimberley then you can contact Peter at 47 Cotswold Road, Worthing, Sussex BN13 2LB.

JUST A COUPLE OF MINUTES

Every year we give them a couple of minutes of our time,
to honour those who gave us so much more
They gave us their lives, that we and the world may live free
to practice our religion, raise our families and establish our laws.

How many of us use these two minutes to think of the lives cut short and that,
for every life lost, a family grieved and the pain changed their lives forever.

When the minutes are over, we go back to our daily occupations,
but we should never forget that some lie in France midst the hills and the trees
and some on islands far across the seas.

Many are buried in foreign lands in sun bleached graves in desert sands,
below the sea, some have no grave save the foaming crest on an ocean wave

To those at home and the “Magnificent few” no finer tribute can be due
Their courage and their valour shone those days when England stood alone

We will owe our freedom to them forever
I ask that you never forget them - Never

Reunion 2010 – Reunion Draw Results

| | Ticket | Winner | | Ticket | Winner |
|---|--------|-------------------------------------|---|--------|--|
| 1 | 18552 | J Pickering, Barnsley, Yorkshire | 8 | 19145 | G Durrant, Lowestoft, Suffolk |
| 2 | 04258 | J C Kerby, Banbury, Oxford | 9 | 00611 | R Duke, Braintree, Essex |
| 3 | 12074 | D E Clayton, Hurstpierpoint, Sussex | 10 | 03506 | J C Kerby, Banbury, Oxford |
| 4 | 18909 | Mrs M Thompson, Dagety Bay, Fife | 11 | 14098 | J A Hunter, Cambridge |
| 5 | 14779 | D Harrison, Bromsgrove, Worcs | 12 | 13545 | M Fee, Blackburn, Lancashire |
| 6 | 03097 | Mrs V S Whitewick, Andover, Hants | 13 | 06165 | P Griffiths, Canada – donated to RNPSA |
| 7 | 00952 | E Soar, Woodford Green, Essex | Congratulations to all the winners | | |

Obituary for Winter 2010

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|-----------------|-------------|-----------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| S/M L Airbight | Edinburgh | Scotland | S/M D Marshall | Chingford | Essex |
| S/M L Axford | Chard | Somerset | S/M T Read | Walton on the Naze | Essex |
| S/M B Beakhouse | Reading | Berkshire | S/M J Ritchie | Peterhead | Scotland |
| S/M H Blackie | Bradford | Yorkshire | S/M E Smith | Loughton | Essex |
| S/M L Caswell | Prestatyn | Wales | S/M D Tite | Wigston | Leicestershire |
| S/M I Clinch | Nova Scotia | Canada | S/M E Ward | Long Watton | Leicestershire |
| S/M D Craig | Aberdeen | Scotland | S/M I Wallace | Gloucester | Gloucestershire |
| S/M R Gorman | Bournemouth | Dorset | S/M G Wilson | South Milford | Yorkshire |
| S/M G Harvey | Yeovil | Somerset | S/M S Wratten | Dover | Kent |
| S/M R Huckle | Leeds | Yorkshire | S/M T Watson | Ascot | Berkshire |

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

Cut ✂

| Slops Items for Sale from HQ (Winter 2010) | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-----|---|---------------------------------|-------|-----|---|--|
| Item / Title | £ | Qty | £ | Item / Title | £ | Qty | £ | |
| Europa Plaque | 27.00 | | | Sparrows Nest Post Card | 0.10 | | | |
| Lg. Blazer Badge, Gold wire | 9.00 | | | RNPSA Colouring Poster | 0.30 | | | |
| Lg. Blazer Badge, Woven | 6.50 | | | RNPSA Multi Tool Key Ring | 2.95 | | | |
| Small Blazer Badge, Gold wire | 6.50 | | | RNPSA Epaulettes (pair) | 6.00 | | | |
| Jumper / Cap Badges, Woven | 4.00 | | | Trafalgar Board Game | 10.00 | | | |
| Tie Tack, Chrome crested | 6.00 | | | | | | | |
| V.J. Ties | 2.00 | | | Publications | | | | |
| Lapel Badge, Blue enamel | 7.00 | | | Christmas cards - original | 0.50 | | | |
| White Ensign Badge | 3.50 | | | Christmas cards – clean sweep | 0.50 | | | |
| White Ensign Car Sticker | 0.50 | | | HMS Europa Booklet | 1.00 | | | |
| RNPSA Car Sticker | 0.60 | | | Dawn Always Breaks | 5.00 | | | |
| RNPSA Ladies head square | 10.00 | | | Churchill's Pirates Pt.1 | 5.25 | | | |
| RNPSA Bookmark | 0.75 | | | Churchill's Pirates Pt.2 | 4.50 | | | |
| RNPSA Coin purse | 1.00 | | | Blue Mariners CD | 4.00 | | | |
| RNPSA Pocket address book | 1.00 | | | The Story of the RNPS, 2 CD set | 5.00 | | | |
| RNPSA Stamped pen | 0.20 | | | Total | | | | |
| RNPSA Hologram pen | 0.75 | | | P & P Small items | 1.00 | | | |
| RNPS Memorial Post Card | 0.10 | | | P & P Large / Heavy items | 2.00 | | | |

Amount Submitted £

Name _____ Membership No. _____

Address _____

_____ Post Code _____ Tel. No. _____

Please send payment and completed order form to:-

Royal Naval Patrol Service Association, Naval Museum, Sparrows Nest, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 1XG