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DEEPS of DERBYSHIRE

Submariners Association (Derbyshire)

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Freedom of the City of Derby to RN Submarine Service Granted 28 April 2002

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Guide Dog Puppy 'Derby' Born 22 March 2009

POSITIVE THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Some days I wake up grumpy. And on some days I let her sleep in.

BIRTHDAYS 2011

05 Feb	Tony Greaves
18 Feb	Jerry Hall
25 Feb	Michael Sharratt
27 Mar	Jack Winstanley
30 Mar	Peter Johnson
01 Apr	Jim Hunt

EDITORIAL



What a roller coaster month January was. On the good news side we started receiving wonderful photographs of Ambush Naming and then the reports she had exited the shed and got her bottom wet. We were then very lucky after a major

search able to get hold of one of the Photos of John Sayers and I making the presentation to Lady Anne Soar of one of the Derby Branch

Submariners Mugs* with Ambush, Derby SA & SM1 Crests as well as Rolls Royce and the Derby City Freedom. We



acknowledge our thanks to Bill Cullen of BAE Systems for this picture of our presentation, and all the people at Barrow, Ambush, BAE and the Barrow NW News for their support on our visit, and putting up with our enthusiasm for 'our City affiliated boat'. (* <http://www.badgesonmugs.co.uk/>)

Too late for the last Newsletter we heard of the passing of **Dorothy Griffin** who was an Associate Member of the branch after her husband Ken passed away some years ago. We have just completed the Project in **Tom Smith's** Memory who we lost just before Christmas. We now have an 18" Submariner Staff Trophy, and Four Guards Trophies for the Cadets who are selected annually to man Derby Cenotaph. The Branch also has a



Submariner for a use to be decided. The wording says it all, "In Memory of Tom Smith, A WWII Submariner and True Gentleman". It is hoped the family will be presenting the trophies to TS Kenya, with those who donated in Tom's Memory. As I type this we have just lost another 'Founder Member' of Derby SOCA, **Roy Thurston**, which is indeed very sad. More news on Page 18 with regards Roy.

Terry Hall, Derbyshire Newsletter Editor
Hon Secretary, Submariners Assn (Derbyshire)

DERBYSHIRE BRANCH DIARY



2011



JANUARY



- 26 Jan SA Luncheon Club – Bartlewood Lodge, Spondon
Jan28-30 KI13 Memorial Weekend Faslane

FEBRUARY



- 03 Feb SA Branch Meeting 'Winter Routine Lunch Meet' Jubilee Club, Chaddesden 11:305 Start
23 Feb SA Luncheon Club, The Paddock, Derby
23 Feb War Widows Aff'n Tea. Contact Irene Shiels Direct
25 Feb Coffee Morning Fair Trade Cathedral Tea Rooms

MARCH



- 03 Mar SA Branch AGM. TS Kenya 7pm
12 Mar Ton Class Meet Pompey. Lift available for Jolly
18 Mar Coffee Morning RMA Cathedral Tea Rooms
19-21 Mar SA Nat AGM W/E. Imperial Hotel, Blackpool. Joint Weekend of AGM & Full Members only
30 Mar SA Luncheon Club, Cat & Fiddle PH, Kirk Hallam



APRIL

- 07 Apr SA Branch Meeting. TS Kenya 7:15pm
14 Apr RMA Trip Albert Hall RM Concert £23/£115 Accom
18 Apr D&D Meeting Venue T.B.A.
27 Apr SA Luncheon Club, Kings Corner, Oakwood



- 03 May SA Branch Meeting. TS Kenya 7:15pm
08 May Dreadnought Dedication NMA 12am Chapel
25 May SA Luncheon Club – T.B.A.



- 02 June SA Branch Meeting. TS Kenya 7:15pm
08 Jun SA Annual Coach Trip NMA Alrewas
24 Jun British Armed Forces Day
29 Jun SA Luncheon Club – T.B.A

July

- 07 July SA Branch Meeting. TS Kenya 7:15pm
09 July W5795 Bomber Memorial Stanley Village 11:30
09 July Buxton Military Tattoo
27 July SA Luncheon Club – T.B.A.

AUGUST



- 04 Aug SA Branch Meeting. TS Kenya 7:15pm
05 Aug Coffee Morning TS Kenya Cathedral Tea Rooms
06 Aug **Dieso Boat Reunion Saturday** Plymouth
14 Aug Coffee Morning RMP Cathedral Tea Rooms
31 Aug SA Luncheon Club – T.B.A.

SEPTEMBER



- 01 Sept SA Branch Meeting. TS Kenya 7:15pm
16 Sept SA Mixed Families Weekend At Adelphi Hotel Liverpool
19 Sept D&D Meeting Venue T.B.A.
28 Sept SA Luncheon Club – T.B.A.



- 06 Oct SA Branch Meeting. TS Kenya 7:15pm
T.B.A. Branch Trafalgar Dinner
21 Oct Trafalgar Day (Friday)
26 Oct SA Luncheon Club – T.B.A.



DECEMBER



- 03 Nov SA Branch Meeting. Jubilee Club Noon
10 Nov 10am Thurs Chaddesden Park Children's Service
11 Nov 10am Friday SA WWI Graves Services
11 Nov 11am Friday Armistice Day Soldiers Corner
12 Nov Concert of Remembrance Derby Cathedral 19:30
13 Nov Remembrance Sunday
30 Nov SA Luncheon Club – T.B.A.

Maritime Club Portsmouth SA Ref 2075
75-80 Queen St, Portsmouth, PO1 3HS
Telephone: 023 92824231

THE UN-PC PAGES

A LITTLE KNOWN CRICKET FACT



The first abdominal (testicular) guard was used in cricket in 1874

And the first helmet was used in 1974



The conclusion by certain ladies on this fact is that it took men a hundred years to learn that their brains were more important.

DEFINITIONS

Committee: Individuals who can do nothing individually and sit to decide that nothing can be done together

Committee Meeting: Where Minutes are taken and Hours are Lost.

Conference - The confusion of one human being multiplied by the number present

Dictionary - The only place where success comes before work

Experience - The name men give to their mistakes

Politician One who shakes your hand before elections and your Confidence After?

Yawn - The only time some married men ever get to open their mouth (Sounds like the Oak & Acorn!)

WHY GOLF IS BETTER THAN SEX

- 10 A below par performance is considered damn good.
- 09 You can stop in the middle and have a cheeseburger and a couple of beers
- 08 It's much easier to find the sweet spot
- 07 Foursomes are encouraged.
- 06 You can still make money doing it as a senior
- 05 Three times a day is possible.
- 04 Your partner doesn't hire a lawyer if you play with someone else
- 03 If you live in Spain, you can do it almost every day.
- 02 You don't have to cuddle with your partner when you're finished
- 01 When your equipment gets old you can replace it!

LITTLE JOHNNY

Teacher: If I gave you two cats and another 2 cats, then another two cats, how many will you have? Johnny replied, Seven Sir. Teacher: No, listen carefully. If I gave you 2 cats, and another 2 cats and another 2,



how many will you have? Johnny: Seven. Teacher: Let me put it to you differently. If I gave you 2 apples, and another 2 apples and another 2, how many will you have? Johnny responded Six. Teacher: Good. Now if I gave you 2 cats, and another 2 cats

and another 2, how many will you have? Johnny: Seven!!! Very angry Teacher: Where do you get seven from? Johnny: is confused by the teachers obvious anger and replied "because I've already got a cat at home Sir"

WHY SOME MEN HAVE DOGS & NOT WIVES

1. The later you are, the more excited your dogs are to see you.
2. Dogs don't notice if you call them by another dog's name.
3. Dogs like it if you leave a lot of things on the floor.
4. A dog's parents never visit
5. Dogs agree that you have to raise your voice to get your point across
6. You never have to wait for a dog; they're ready to go 24 hours a day.
7. Dogs find you amusing when you're drunk.
8. Dogs like to go hunting and fishing.
9. A dog will not wake you up at night to ask, "If I died, would you get another dog?"
10. If a dog has babies, you can put an ad in the paper and give them away.
11. A dog will let you put a studded collar on it without calling you a pervert.
12. If a dog smells another dog on you, they don't get mad. They just think it's interesting.
13. Dogs like to ride in the back of a pickup truck
And last, but not least:
14. If a dog leaves, it won't take half of your stuff.

To test this theory:

Lock your wife and your dog in the garage for an hour. Then open it and see who's happy to see you

HITS OF THE 1960'S

Some of the artists of the 60's are revising their hits with new lyrics to accommodate aging baby boomers who can remember doing the "Limbo" as if it were yesterday.

They include:

Bobby Darin; Splish, Splash, I Was Havin' A Flash
Herman's Hermits; Mrs. Brown, You've Got a Lovely Walker
Ringo Starr; I Get By With A Little Help From Depends
The Bee Gees; How Can You Mend A Broken Hip?
Roberta Flack; The First Time Ever I Forgot Your Face
Johnny Nash; I Can't See Clearly Now
Paul Simon; Fifty Ways To Lose Your Liver
The Commodores; Once, Twice, Three Times To The Bathroom
Procol Harem; A Whiter Shade Of Hair
Leo Sayer; You Make Me Feel Like Napping
The Temptations; Papa's Got A Kidney Stone
Abba; Denture Queen
Tony Orlando; Knock 3 Times On The Ceiling If You Hear Me Fall
Helen Reddy; I Am Woman, Hear Me Snore
Leslie Gore; It's My Procedure, and I'll Cry If I Want To
And Last but NOT least.
Willie Nelson; On the Commode Again

CUTTING LAWN

Two Paddies were waiting at the bus stop when a lorry went past loaded up with rolls of turf. Jimmy said, "I'm gonna do dat when I win da lottery. "What's dat den?" asks Mikey. "Send me lawn away to be cut"



PC PACKAGING INSTRUCTIONS

In case you needed further proof that the EU & PC Brigade are stupid, here are some actual label instructions on consumer goods.

On Tesco's Tiramisu dessert (printed on bottom):

Do not turn upside down.

On Sainsbury's peanuts

Warning: contains nuts (Written by more like)

On Boot's Children Cough Medicine; *Do not drive a car or operate machinery after taking this medication*

On Marks & Spencer Bread Pudding

Product will be hot after heating

On a Sears hairdryer

Do not use while sleeping.

On a bag of Fritos

You could be a winner! No purchase necessary. Details inside. (the shoplifter special?)

On a bar of soap:

Directions: Use like regular soap.

On some frozen dinners

Serving suggestion: Defrost (just a suggestion?)

On packaging for a Rowenta iron

Do not iron clothes on body. (Now I think about it, who hasn't ironed the top bit of a white front before divisions)

On Nytol Sleep Aid: *Warning: May cause drowsiness.*

On most brands of Christmas lights

For indoor or outdoor use only (as opposed to what?)

On a Japanese food processor

Not to be used for the other use. (The mind boggles)

On an American Airlines packet of nuts

Instructions: Open packet, eat nuts.

On a child's Superman costume

Wearing of this garment does not enable you to fly.

On a Swedish Chainsaw:

Do not attempt to stop chain with your hands or genitals. (I have no idea, must be for MP's benefit)

Chinese Menu's: *Dish does not include chips*

(How do you chip a plastic or tin foil container?)

WORLD SURVEY BY PHONE

Last month a world-wide survey was conducted by the UN. The only question asked was: "Could you please give your honest opinion about solutions to the food shortage in the rest of the world?" The survey was a massive failure because of the following:

In Eastern Europe they didn't know what "honest" meant; In Western Europe they didn't know what "shortage" meant. In Africa they didn't know what "food" meant. In China they didn't know what "opinion" meant. In the Middle East they didn't know what "solution" meant. In South America they didn't know what "please" meant. In the USA they didn't know what "the rest of the world" meant. In the UK they hung up as soon as they heard the Indian accent.

Fact. One of our Derbyshire members ordered a couple of personalised mug for Christmas. To cut a long story short the telephone order was very protracted. However, eventually using a very un Naval phonetic alphabet, both the operator and the customer were happy they had got the order right to both parties satisfaction with His & Hers names. ***Jahn was very disappointed with their order, and I understand Moreen was not too impressed either!!!***

DIVORCE VS. MURDER

A nice, calm and respectable lady went into the pharmacy, walked up to the Pharmacist, looked straight into his eyes, and said, "I would like to buy some Cyanide." The pharmacist asked, "Why in the world do you need cyanide?" The lady replied, "I need it to poison my husband." The pharmacist's eyes got big and he exclaimed, "Lord have mercy! I can't give you cyanide to kill your husband. That's against the law! I'll lose my license! They'll throw both of us in jail! All kinds of bad things will happen. Absolutely not! You Cannot have any cyanide!" The lady reached into her purse and pulled out a picture of her husband in bed with the pharmacist's wife. The pharmacist looked at the picture and replied, "Well now, that's different. You didn't tell me you had a prescription."

AUSTRALIAN INPUT

An Australian guy is travelling around the Greek Islands. He walks into a bar and, by chance, is served by an Australian barmaid. As she takes his order, a Foster's, she notices his accent. Over the course of the evening they get chatting. At the end of her shift he asks if she wants to come back to his place. Although she is attracted to him she says no. He then offers to pay her \$200 to sleep with him. As she is travelling around the world, and is short of funds, she agrees. The next night the guy turns up again. Again he orders Fosters and after showing her plenty of attention, asks if she will sleep with him again for \$200. She remembers the payout from night before and is only too happy to agree. This goes on for 5 nights. On the 6th night the guy comes in again, orders Fosters but goes and sits in the corner. The barmaid thinks that if she pays him more attention then, maybe she can shake some more cash out of him. So she goes over and sits next to him. She asks him where he's from in Australia. 'Melbourne', he tells her. 'So am I. What suburb?' she enquires. 'Glen Iris' he replies. 'That's amazing,' she says excitedly, 'so am I, what street?' 'Cameo Street' he replies. 'This is unbelievable, she says, her voice quavering; 'What number?' 'Number 20', he replies. She is totally astonished. 'You are NOT going to believe this,' she screams, 'but I'm from number 22! My parents still live there!' 'I know, 'he says, 'Your Dad gave me \$1,000 to give to you'

THE TOP TEN REASONS MEN PREFER RIFLES OVER WOMEN

10. You can trade an old 44 for a new 22.
9. You can keep one Rifle at home and have another for when you're on the road.
8. If you admire a friend's Rifle and tell him so, he will probably let you try it out a few times.
7. Your primary Rifle doesn't mind if you keep another Rifle for a backup.
6. Your Rifle will stay with you even if you run out of ammo.
5. A Rifle doesn't take up a lot of closet space.
4. Rifles function normally every day of the month.
3. A Rifle doesn't ask, "Do these new grips make me look fat?"
2. A Rifle doesn't mind if you go to sleep after you use it. And the number one reason a Rifle is favoured over a woman: YOU CAN BUY A SILENCER FOR A RIFLE

RULES OF THE ROAD

Lines you can and cannot park on

Finding a space in a town centre is a job in itself, and avoiding rip-off multi-storey car parks is a must if you want to save cash. But where you can leave your car and for how long can be confusing, and cheeky traffic wardens dine out on your bewilderment. The Government has announced that new legislation will come into force in November to ban clamping on private land, so drivers can breathe a small sigh of relief, but there's still plenty of ambiguity about parking in public areas. Just how long can you leave your car on a single yellow line for, and what does a red route really mean? We've scoured the Highway Code to reveal the facts so you don't have to find out the hard way.

Yellow lines It's common knowledge that **Double yellow lines** alongside a kerb mean no waiting at any time, but in some cases there are signs nearby indicating that you can park there at certain times of the day or year, so it's worth a look if you're desperate. **Single yellow lines** are where the biggest source of ambiguity lies. According to the Highway Code, single yellows should be accompanied by a sign that displays when you can and can't park there. It's usually a case of no parking at peak times (i.e. between 8am and 6pm), but check the sign to be sure.

Red routes Double and single red lines are a common sight on local hospitals & London's congested roads. Parking, unloading or even stopping for a second to let a passenger out are all strictly prohibited on roads with these along the side. In a similar vein to a single yellow, a single red line will have a nearby sign that shows the times when the enforcements are more relaxed. Double reds should be avoided at all costs and at all times. The only exceptions to the rules are for licensed taxis and blue badge holders.

Loading If you need to park for a short period of time to load or unload the boot then look for yellow marks on the kerb. Two yellow marks mean no loading at any time, while one yellow mark means that you can load at certain times. Both markings should also have nearby signs that tell you whether and when you can stop to load there. Specific loading bays are marked in white with the words **LOADING ONLY** displayed on the ground alongside the bay, so parking and walking away is not allowed. A white sign with a blue 'loading only' symbol will also be displayed nearby. Do not think this only applies to commercial vehicles – It does not. Some will remember the stern warning of the dreaded man in the green cap in Derby when I authorised the coach to drop off one of our top end of the eighties passengers when she spotted her taxi outside the Council House! I had to keep him talking whilst the poor lady was trying to get off the bus and all the time he was telling the driver to pull off now!

Other road markings

White zigzag lines mean you're near a zebra crossing and stopping on them is out of the question as you may obstruct the view of pedestrians crossing the road. The same goes for yellow zigzag lines outside a school, which are usually accompanied by the words **SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR** in yellow. **Bus lanes** and bus stops should be avoided for obvious reasons, and cameras to keep them free of anything but buses and taxis are now widespread, particularly in cities.

A criss-cross yellow box means that you can't stop for any reason as you may obstruct other traffic and yellow box cameras are now very popular with city councils. The favourite one's for revenue (as divulged by our members) are the bottom of Nottingham Road near Wazygoose Drive where the harvest is very favourable for the coffers of wherever the money goes to! I also understand the one at Chaddesden near the junction of the Chaddesden Social Club is a rich harvest though why anyone would want to specifically join this bus lane that automatically switches all traffic lights to red from every other direction is totally beyond me!! The bottom line is can you afford to take the risk and with the fixed penalty fines and the possibility of a £15 victims surcharge on top of the fine; I personally think not. If you're still unsure then check out the Government's motoring guidelines on: www.direct.gov.uk/en/Motoring OR consult your highway code. Of course the majority of Derbyshire members can, and do use their bus passes, and this obviously alleviates the problem. However, to attend our December meeting I too used the very cramped and full bus due to the exceptionally severe weather. Yes it was the safer option, but as far as I could tell; only two passengers including me paid; and at £1 a mile for a three mile trip I will in future endeavour to use my car, and at least Ron and I would not have got very cold and wet waiting at the bus stop for fifteen minutes waiting for our bus in a snow blizzard with no bus shelter!!

MAKING SAVINGS

The recession has forced many of us to think twice about buying things we don't really need, and that's probably no bad thing. Wartime austerity is back in fashion, and the more ways you can use a single product, the better, both for your pocket and for the environment. Here rounded up are some of the best, multi-functional, everyday household items you can use to save money around the home.

1. White vinegar When it comes to multi-use products, white vinegar is king. Here are just some of the ways vinegar can be used: Make up a 25% vinegar with 75% water mixture and use it to clean windows; To remove lime scale, wrap a paper towel soaked in hot vinegar around the base of taps, leave for an hour, then remove and rinse. (This should *not* be done to plated fixings, as it will ruin the finish.) Strong vinegar also makes a good natural spray-on weed killer.

2. Bicarbonate of soda. The queen to vinegar's king, bicarbonate of soda is another must-have household item. Here are some of its very many uses: Wash your hands with bicarbonate of soda instead of soap to remove stubborn smells such as onion. Mix it with water and use it to dissolve really stubborn muck and grease. Freshen-up smelly shoes (sprinkle it in dry and leave overnight). A close relative of bicarbonate of soda, soda water can also be used to get red wine out of carpets. Just pour it over the stain, then absorb with layers of paper towel. Repeat until the stain has disappeared! (**Editor:** *I thought you had to have a swig of wine between attempts to deaden the ear ache when the missus got home and found what you had done!*)

3. Lemons Lemon juice works particularly well as a natural bleaching agent and stain remover. For example: Whiten your nails by soaking them in a mix of water and lemon juice for five minutes. Leave half a lemon in your fridge to get rid of nasty whiffs. Mix lemon juice with salt to clean copper.

4. Bananas Staying on the fruity theme, bananas have a couple of tricks up their sleeve as well. As well as making an excellent food for babies, peeled bananas can be wrapped in cling-film, frozen, then eaten a bit like ice cream! On a non-edible note - you can also use banana skin to give brown leather footwear an extra shine. Just rub the inside of the banana skin over the shoe, then polish as usual (removing any rogue fruity bits!).

5. Oats Oat's are cheap to buy and enormously versatile; both inside and outside the kitchen. As well as being a cheap and healthy ingredient for muesli, crumble and many other recipes, oats can be used as part of homemade health and beauty treatments; like an exfoliating facial scrub. And they can be also used as the stuffing for various non-edible homemade items. For example, fill a cotton bag with rolled oats and sew it shut. Heated in the microwave, it becomes a cosy hand or foot warmer. Just remember; do not heat it for more than a minute or two, and be certain the heat is evenly distributed before placing on your skin. Overheating the bag could result in serious burns.

6. Teabags Do you use teabags more than once? The humble teabag has more uses than you can shake a stick at. For example: Two teabags (lukewarm, not hot!) can be applied to refresh tired eyes. A few teabags dug into the soil around rose bushes will nourish them and encourage growth. Scratches in wooden furniture can be disguised by wiping them with a soft cloth dipped in freshly-made tea. A wet tea bag wiped over razor burn can help reduce the sting.

7. Aqueous cream And finally... aqueous cream is a non-perfumed emollient cream which is perfect for moisturising dry skin on any part of the body. It's available over the counter at pharmacies (which is probably why many people still don't know about it) and it's a heck of a lot cheaper than most 'big brand' equivalent products. Aqueous cream also can be used instead of soap; and as an alternative to shaving foam for both men and women. And it's worth remembering that it's available on prescription. That means if you're entitled to free prescriptions, you'll be able to get it for nothing!

Do not forget to set your alarm clock to get up at 03:00 so you can look under the bed in case you have lost any sleep!! My all time favourite money saving tip is to ensure you turn the gas off when you turn over the Toast. I remember up at Whaley Bridge in Derbyshire when visiting my Grandmother that all toast was cooked on a long fork over the fire in the kitchen next to the range (lucky we never had cheesy toasties). The pantry was twice the size of the kitchen, and took up a quarter of the floor space of the whole downstairs. I suppose us children were sent in there to play as we did not feel the cold? Of course there was the pleasure of playing in the coal house, and running to wave to the steam trains at the bottom of the garden. They waved back too!!

2011 H4Heroes NEWSLETTER

Bryn Parry, CEO and Co Founder H4H

Dear H4H Supporter, As we come towards Christmas and struggle to send out cards, buy presents, decorate the tree and generally end 2010, I thought I would send a quick email to summarise what we have done and where we are going. Firstly, we have **raised around £44m** since this time last year. That is truly extraordinary and you have been a part of that, so thank you so much. Every penny raised has been spent or allocated and we have an increasingly long list of projects we want to fund, so please enjoy your break over Christmas and come back bursting with energy and ready to raise more next year! But, in the meantime feel proud of being a part of something wonderful; thank you. During 2010 we established funds to support individuals in need, the £6m Quick Reaction Fund and to support those moving on, the £15m Individual Recovery Programme fund. We supported Battle Back, Skill Force and projects with The Princes Trust that all enable 'the blokes' to learn new skills and develop their potential for successful futures. We opened our £8m complex at Headley Court and our £3.5m centre at Combat Stress with a commitment to fund a further £3m on their outreach programme. In short, we provided a range of support from facilities to services to enable our wounded to launch back into the next stage of their lives.

In 2011 we will see our Recovery Centres in Colchester, Catterick and Plymouth being built as well as our very special centre at Tedworth House opening for business in June. Our total commitment to these projects is huge and we still need £millions to make them as good as we envisage so keep going on the fundraising please! So, as you wade through the snow or queue for your turkey, allow yourself a small pat on your back. You have played a part in a wonderful national effort to support our wounded and they are feeling better as a result. We have not solved all the problems certainly but we are working hard to do our bit and they know and appreciate that. Have a very Merry Christmas and then come back in the New Year and let's raise another fortune to ensure our blokes get all the support they deserve. Or as Theodore Roosevelt said in 1903: "A man who is good enough to shed his blood for his country is good enough to be given a square deal afterwards. More than that no man is entitled to, and less than that no man shall have." Hear hear! Onwards and Upwards. Bryn

Faith, Hope and Charity

By Bryn Parry, CEO and Co-founder of H4H



Faith In the summer of 2007, Emma and I were invited to visit ward S4 at Selly Oak Hospital in Birmingham. We had no idea what to expect, we had never been to a ward with military casualties before, our experience of hospitals was based on visiting Granny; this was different. Ideas of seeing plucky soldiers in rows, tucked up under blankets with hospital corners, an image formed from countless movies, was replaced with reality. Bays of blokes, wearing T shirts, some supporting the favourite football team, balloons, mums, dads and girlfriends, terrible injuries, shock, anger, determination. We met many that day, all have their story, all equally important.

One was Derek, a rugby player who has lost his legs, a big Fijian, legs off above the knee, neck in a brace, only able to move his eyes, his wife Anna beside the bed, holding his hand. Derek was in a vehicle that backed onto an IED. The blast took one leg, leaving the other to be amputated. On the operating table, Derek died. Someone was sent to tell his commanding officer that the OR team had done all they could. Derek remembers leaving his body and praying to God, saying that if there was something he could do, let him live, if not, let him go on. The OR team found a pulse as they were putting Derek in a body bag. Derek lives and is the top sitting shot putter in the UK, fifth in the world, with his sights set on the 2012 Para Olympics; he has faith.

Hope I was with a Mum last year, her son had lost his legs. I asked how she was, she said she was fine. You are not fine, I replied, your son has lost his legs; you are not fine. The next day, feeling helpless and inadequate, I wrote to her. You are not fine, your son has lost his legs; life is grim. Life is grim, he is not going to get his legs back, but, this time next year, I wrote, he will be skiing, sailing, rebuilding. This time next year he will be smiling, looking forward, he might even be laughing. Life will not be what it was but it will be better; there is hope. **Charity** Hundreds of thousands of people in this country have decided to do something to support those wounded while serving. People have decided to do their bit, to commit to doing something to support the blokes. Some contributions are small, some massive, all equally important. We all feel inadequate, helpless, but we are doing what we can and we are making a difference. Over £80m has been raised to date, raised by ordinary decent people, to support some ordinary decent blokes who just want a chance at a normal life. That is wonderful and inspirational. We may not have Derek's faith, that's not the point, but there is hope and together we have created an amazing charity; thank you. Thanks everyone and keep going. Bryn

TELEVISION CENTRAL TV TRANSMITTERS

Hopefully all Derbyshire Members are aware of the forthcoming Digital switchover affecting our area. The big switch off in the Central TV region is at different times and if you get confused ring Freephone 0800 4085912 to clarify your own situation. Most members in Derby will be on the Sutton Coldfield (Some call this Birmingham!) aerial which is South of Derby and this changes over on **7 September**. Ilkeston based members will normally be on Kimberley, Nottingham or Waltham (I have one TV on each) and the change over day here is **30 March** for Kimberley and **17 August** for Waltham. I do not have the information for our Northern Members but several of my friends do not get Channel 5 let alone freeview in Matlock area now and the prospect is that with digital you will get now!!

Truth and Myth. Digital Television reception I have been advised will improve when the analogue transmitters are turned off! The change over office also advise the myth that the digital changeover will mean FM and other radio services go off at the same time is just that; A Myth, and the radio will not be affected by the TV digital changeover. All households should have a free booklet on the change but if not ring the Freephone number 0800 4085912 to clarify your individual situation and there are schemes depending on circumstances to have any work required carried out free.

FOR THE 1960's SPARKERS

Where was the 'Spell Check' on the old Imperial typewriters we learnt to type on up in 'North Camp' or 'Dreadnought Block' in HMS Mercury? Just think. Do your TPX, press spell check, 100%. Everyone passes. By the way there are stacks of nostalgic photos on Google of HMS Mercury that was! By the way 'Kelly' Squadron was new entries in Mercury in honour of Lord Mountbatten.



TEX GOLDING

I can understand Tex's reasons for standing down from the post of Membership Secretary of the Association as announced in In Depth; but what a loss. We know no one is irreplaceable but Tex has appeared as so much part of the SA for as long as I can remember. He has beavered away in the background and been a 'Rock' of the Submariners Association. I hope his unstinting service to the Association is rewarded by the NMC with consideration being given to him being made a Vice President of the Association in recognition of the sterling service he has given over many, many years.

NATIONAL NEWS - UK SNOWSTORMS

I've just heard from a friend in the north of England. He says it has been snowing heavily for three days now. His wife has done nothing but stare through the window. He says if it doesn't stop soon he'll probably have to let her in!

IN DEPTH NO 031 DECEMBER 2010

17/1 The latest copy of In Depth was received and as normal passed out to all members on Internet. Those members who have paid £5 to the Treasurer will have received a hard copy in the post, or by hand as it can be arranged. A copy of the In Depth is also available in the Branch Library through the Branch Librarian, Ron Slater, or can be viewed at the Library online Free of Charge. You will note that the final sentence of In Depth page 2 states that National cannot send out a hard copy to every member due to the high cost; and this applies to the branch as well. Thus the first paragraph on page 3 where it is suggested you chivvy your secretary for a copy is covered by our branch infrastructure. When SOCA news and latterly SA news ceased publication it was replaced by In Depth. This was approx 2001 or 2002. The branch was about the same size as now and printed a copy for every member which at a print shop cost over about £23 and thence we had to post them. SOCA News was purchased individually by member at £1.25 and thus to cover the cost of In Depth we suggested £5 per year donation from members to cover some of the cost. In Depth is now an average of 20 pages and experience has shown it generally needs a C5 envelope and large stamp which before the forthcoming rise is 51p per mailing. (Going up to 58p 2nd Class and to 75p 1st Class) Thus even producing the copies now locally for members we are not covering the true cost. So few members now take up this option I see no problem keeping the status quo.

PART FOUR -DIESEL SUBMARINES 1948 – 1958

PART FOUR OF SIX

by Peter D. Hulme with Acknowledgements to
Barrow Submariners at www.rnsubs.co.uk

The authoritative Hackmann in his book 'Seek and Strike' HMSO. states that in 1953 *Thermopylae* was fitted with an experimental 'Four Square' set (171) and 718 hydrophone combination that was planned to become operational in 1959, but after review the Navy Staff could not envisage a clear role for this set and decided it was only useful for mine detection. The type 171 was cancelled. Hackmann also states that *Aurochs* in 1950, tested the 169 set that was to replace the wartime 129 attack set. A 168 set was also fitted to replace the 138 listening set. They were the last of the 'Searchlight' sets developed before the war. At some point in the period, 169A/168 sets were fitted in all these submarines, the modernised 'T' and later the modernised 'A' classes submarines. In the author's limited experience, Underwater Telephones were not a widespread fit at the beginning of the period and recalls a temporary fitting of a US set for trial about 1950.

Hackmann tells of the future beyond the period the large split beam 718 hydro phone was given a mine detection capability and reclassified as the 187 set It was 5 feet wide using magnetostrictive principles and rotated in a large streamlined dome (A/S 79). Later it seems Barium Titanate was used in this set. It should be noted that the forward ASDIC dome in 1953 (*Totem* - Commander Coote) is quite small compared to those fitted to these submarines in the sixties. This was followed by the first British hydrophone array, Type 167. A development of German GHG wartime technology that the US had utilised more quickly, installing sets in submarines in 1949/50. But now back to the period. Obtaining information on the various marks of T.C.S. has proven difficult but here are a few notes about the latest mark appearing in the PoWV 1959, thus at the end of the period. The Torpedo Control System was a further development of the ISWAS or 'Fruit Machine' fitted earlier in the period. In essence a mechanical analogue computer, a simple version of the Fire Control found on surface ships. The basic purpose was to take all the data on target course and range from the periscope and manually feed it into the machine. The course and the speed of the submarine was also fed in. The output was to the torpedo operators who adjusted angle of the torpedo in the tube as instructed. Running depth could also be adjusted. Usually a manual plot was kept during the action. All fairly basic.

Apparently the T.C.S (S) 3 was an improved version with a direct feed from the gyro compass and manually set inputs from the ASDIC, Radar and visual from the periscope or from the Time Bearing Plot. Torpedo angle output and depths could be set. It could only produce one firing solution at a time. Apparently it was first fitted to *Thermopylae* for trials in 1954 but the first operational fit was *Tabard* in May 1955. The limitations of the mechanical operation were not removed until the arrival of semiconductor kit in the sixties and of course the wire guided torpedo. The American equivalent is logged and it seems to be more advanced than were the Royal Navy units of that time. PoWV 1959 states all eight submarines were fitted with T.C.S, (S) Mk 3, mod 1. 169A and 168 ASDIC sets. U.T./E (X) Underwater Telephone sets. 1000 type radar sets

These submarines by name and number

Taciturn P334 (S34) Completed 1944. Vickers Armstrong. Conversion November 1948 to March 1951. 23-Jul-1971 sold for scrap to T.W. Ward, Briton Ferry.

Turpin P354 (S54) Completed 1944 HM Dockyard Chatham. Conversion June 1949 to September 1951. To Israel 19-May-1967 as *Leviathan*

Totem P352 (S52) Completed 1945 HM Dockyard Devonport Conversion May 1951 to May 1953. To Israel 1964, as *Dakar*. Loss on the trip to Israel in Mediterranean remains largely unexplained, 25/1/68 *Totem* mystery solved - by Titanic hunters

Thermopylae P355 (S55) Completed 1945 HM Dockyard Chatham. Conversion September 1951 to September 1953. 03-Jul-1970 arrived West of Scotland Ship breaking, Troon for scrapping.

Truncheon P353 (S33) Completed 1945 Devonport RDY. Converted September 1951 to December 1953. To Israel 9 Jan,1968 as *Dolphin*. Note. A photograph shows fin converted in Israeli service to con' atop the fin. Prior to conversion she took part in submarine vs. submarine trials with *Alcide*. More detail about this trial in references in A Fresh Look at the Five streamlined 'T' class Submarine of



the 1950's. HMS Truncheon in 1951, prior to her conversion to an extended T boat, with minor structural modifications and a US Navy JT type sonar (tee shaped device on forward casing).

Tiptoe P332 (S32) Completed 1944 Vickers Armstrong. Converted July 1952 to September 1954. 29-Aug-1969 decommissioned 16-Apr-1971 Sold to H.G. Pounds at Portsmouth for scrapping The last 'T' class in sea service. Her anchor is at Blyth, commemorating Blyth's links with submarines.

Tabard P342, (S42) Completed Scotts 1946 Conversion March 1953 to May 1955. 02-Jan-1974 sold 14-Mar-1974 arrived J Cashmore Newport for scrapping

Trump P333 (S33) (S21) Completed 1944 Vickers Armstrong. Conversion February 1954 to June 1956. 23-Jul-1971 sold for scrap to J Cashmore Newport.

Section 4d: Five - Streamlined 'T' class submarines

PoWV 1959 description - Submersible (Snort fitted) Streamlined. 1573 tons sm. These submarines are discussed in detail in A Fresh Look at the Five streamlined 'T' class Submarine of the 1950's

Notes. The gun and all external tubes removed on all five submarines leaving 6 only forward internal tubes, 12 Mk 8** torpedoes plus option of mines. No stern shots. Considered a disadvantage without the modern wire guided torpedoes that were yet to come. The PoWV dates for streamlining are confusing and I suggest the explanation is that stated in the *Tireless* entry and in all cases the earlier date is correct for the original streamlining. The collecting of the detail for 'Particulars of War Vessels' each year must have been a monumental effort relying on many other people; the odd error has been noted.



PoWV 1959 states all fitted with ASDIC 169A and 168 sets. U.T./E (X). T.C.S. (S) Mk 3 Mod 1. 267 PW radar. The PoWV 1959 states the depths, the statements about welding are from other sources though the 2 depths of 300 and 350 feet are related to the welding. Later photographs of *Tireless* (see above left) seem to show a simple modern induction mast that does not combine with an exhaust mast as it did prior to modernisation.

It is possible that during modernisation, the exhaust was arranged in the after fin as in the streamlined 'A' class. HMS Tireless streamlined with snort mast raised.

The submarines by name and number

Tireless P327 (S27?) (S77) Completed 1945 HM Dockyard Portsmouth. Streamlining conversion 10-Jul-1951 to 11-Aug-1952. (probably Chatham). 20-Sept-1968 sold for scrap to J Cashmore Newport. PoWV 1959. Modernised 1958. Part welded 300ft max. (There is little doubt that the original modification was completed in 1952 and that 1958 likely refers to modifications to upgrades. The listed photographs of the later bow shape tend to confirm this, as does a more modern snort mast.)



The later HMS Tireless. One of the five group three 'T' class streamlined in the early fifties. The bow shape is similar to later members of the five. Earlier it was a more conventional 'S' class shape. photographed at the end of her life as the school submarine at HMS Dolphin. (Photo: Dorset SA)

Tapir P335 (S35) Completed 1944 Vickers Armstrong. 18-Jun-1948 loaned to Dutch Navy renamed "Zeehond" 16-Jul-1953, returned. Streamlining conversion. 16-Dec-1953 to Sept-1954 HM Dockyard Chatham 14-Dec-1966, arrived for scrap Ship breaking Industries, Faslane PoWV 1959. Modernised 1958. All welded 350 ft.

Token P328 (S28) Completed 1945 HM Dockyard Portsmouth. Streamlining conversion Apr-1954 to Jan-1956. (probably Chatham) Kemp in his book "The 'T' Class Submarine" has a photograph of a streamlined 'T', said to be Token 6-1-56, following streamlining showing forward, a deck level railed platform for a gun. Shot is from the stern but a gun is apparently not fitted. Later pictures show no gun. Last dive at Portland 8 Sep 67. 18-Feb-1970 sold for scrap



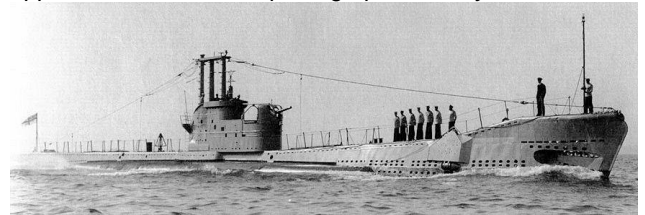
HG Pounds Portsmouth. PoWV 1959. Modernised 1958. Part welded 300ft max. Note. Here is a photograph before streamlining, with a substantial strange boxlike structure where the gun and gun access hatch would be on a standard 'T' class submarine? This photograph shows a strange box with large apertures built in front of the fin. It has the early white standard paint scheme indicating a date of about 1946/47 yet has no large 'P' pennant number on the fin. Significantly, snort is fitted. Other points are that the DF Christmas Tree is still fitted as is the older style 138 Asdic cover (snort head aft) The photograph is said to be HMS Token. (Photo: M Teadham)

Talent P337 (S37) was Tasman. Completed 1945 Vickers Armstrong. Streamlining conversion 11-Jun-1954 to 13-Feb-1956 HM Dockyard Chatham. 28-Feb-1970 arrived West of Scotland Ship breaking, Troon for scrapping. PoWV 1959. Modernised 1956. All welded 350 ft..

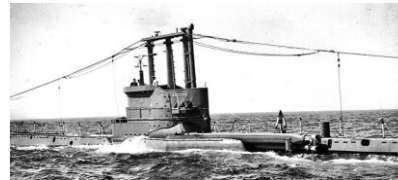
Teredo P338,S38. Completed 1946 Vickers Armstrong. Streamlining conversion 09-Jun-1955 to Mar-1957 HM Dockyard Chatham 05-Jun-1965 arrived T.W. Ward, Briton Ferry for scrapping. PoWV 1959. Modernised 1957. All welded 350 ft. G Chalcraft -.Gravity test for Royal Society 1950 prior to modernisation, laying the foundations for the Ships Inertial Navigation System (SINS) used in later nuclear boats. Visited by 33,000 people during a month long publicity trip around the south and east coasts of England, October 1960

Section 5: Sixteen 'A' class submarines 1620 tons sm

Affray lost 1951 leaving 15 vessels in service for the rest of the period. **Notes:** Prior to the period of interest 1948 to 1958, the majority of the submarines of this class would be appear as shown in this photograph of Affray.



HMS Affray as she was completed with Oerlikon 'bandstand' seen aft of the fin. Snort has yet to be fitted. The guard rails & stanchions are interesting, the authors failing memory recalls that the stanchions were left in place while at sea to provide identification during the Summer Wars where the fleet was divided into two opposing sides. Each submarine had a pair of external torpedo tubes forward and aft. The whole class would progressively have the 'Bandstand' Oerlikon gun removed and a snort system fitted as shown below. HMS Artemis in 1950 taking part in a media exercise with a carrier. Demonstrations of snort



etc. The largely redundant gun access tower hatch can be seen as can the folded snort mast with the camouflaged float valve head and

exhaust pipe fixed to the aft standards. in a bow angle shot taken at the same time the external bow tube apertures are still there. The 'dustbin' cover near the Christmas Tree DF antenna belongs to the 138 ASDIC. The mounted guard rail stanchions were part of the 'Summer War' identity. This is Artemis in 1950 when the author was serving aboard her, it is notable the 4" gun is not fitted, she still had her forward external tubes and likely the pair in the stern but memory fades. Some 'A' class submarines would retain their original 4" guns until the later streamlining programme that commenced in 1955 while the external torpedo tubes would be progressively removed and apertures blanked off in each submarine. PoWV 1959 shows all vessels have the external tubes removed. Only the four forward and the two after re-loadable tubes remain - 16 Mk 8** torpedoes. Though the author recalls electric torpedo charging units in



the fore ends of Artemis in 1950. Reviewing the history, these would be Mk 11. Alternative mine

load - 26 Mk 5 mines or 16 S Mk 6 mines. From about 1955 individual submarines were progressively streamlined complete with a fin and the old prominent bow buoyancy tank removed giving the submarine a very modern appearance. HMS Artemis modernised and photographed in the sixties, but unlike some of the class retained the fold down snort mast. the gun is quite different from the more elaborate original and has been added some time after modernisation. (Photo: Dorset SA) The conversion programme seems to have applied to all the class by early 1960 apart from Aurochs, being considered in too poor a condition, but notably continued in service well into the Sixties - see entry item comments. PoWV 1959 shows an increase in maximum submerged speed from 8 knots at 1250shp to 10 knots at 1600 shp. No known alterations were made to the electric motors. The cells were changed to higher capacity types. **To be Continued**

DEFENCE NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Courtesy of Canadian Office Asia-Pacific Advisor

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PORTUGAL TAKES DELIVERY OF SECOND SUB

UPI, 29 December 2010

The Portuguese Navy took delivery of *NRP Arpao*, its second 209PN-class diesel submarine, in Kiel, Germany last week. *Arpao* and her sister boat *Tridente*, delivered in August, are part of a 2004 USD \$1 billion contract with the German submarine consortium Howaldtswerke-Deutsche Werft. The 223-foot vessels are equipped with air-independent fuel-cell propulsion systems, have a displacement of 1,840 tons, and a crew complement of 32.

STRATEGIC SUBMARINE RECALLED/RUSSIAN NAVY PLANS FOR BULAVA MISSILE TESTS

Barents Observer, 21 December 2010 & Voice of Russia, 24 December 2010

Russia's embattled Bulava sub-launched ballistic missile program suffered yet another setback last week when it was announced that the submarine for which the missile was designed would be recalled from sea trials to undergo at least six months of refits and repairs. The lead submarine of the new *Borei*-class SSBN, *RFS Yuri Dolgoruky*, was launched in early 2008 and was set to perform its first test launch of the Bulava this year, though Navy officials now say that testing of the system will be pushed back to later in 2011, when four or five tests will take place. To date, 14 Bulava test launches have taken place, with only seven deemed successful, though many naval observers have said there were performance issues with those seven successful tests as well. Officials at the Sevmash shipyard which built *Yuri Dolgoruky* would not comment on what issues had arisen with the sub during sea trials, though in November Sevmash boss Nikolai Kalistratov said in reference to the sea trials, "not all is going as smoothly as one would like."

SUBMARINE TO JOIN BANGLADESH NAVY BY 2019

Sify News, 31 December 2010

During the christening of the Navy's new hydrographic survey ship *Anusandhan*, PM Sheikh Hasina announced that Dhaka will field its first modern submarine by 2019 as part of its plans to build an effective deterrent force. Few details on the boat were made available, though analysts say Dhaka may eventually deploy three subs, likely to be purchased from Turkey, South Korea, or Germany. Hasina cited Bangladesh's large maritime interests and the fact that over 90 percent of trade occurs by sea as the main drivers of the country's naval modernization program, and downplayed maritime border disputes with neighbouring India and Burma as the reason for the announcement.

GOVERNMENT PRESSED OVER TRIDENT COSTS

Saturday, 15 January 2011 The Guardian

The government has been accused of keeping vital information about the cost and contracts for a new Trident nuclear missile system secret despite promises that it would be open and disciplined over spending on defence. David Cameron and the chancellor, George Osborne, have pledged greater transparency and the MoD's recently published business plan included a commitment to release "new data relating to tender documents for contracts over £10,000, new items of central government spending over £25,000, [and] new central government contracts over £10,000". But officials are declining to publish figures and there are concerns that by the time a formal decision on how to replace the existing Trident fleet is announced, after the 2015 general election, at the Liberal Democrats' insistence; so much will have been spent already and the contracts will have been drawn up so tightly that the outcome will be a foregone conclusion. The government decided at the end of last year to go ahead with two aircraft carriers for the navy on the grounds that it would be cheaper than cancelling the contract for the unwanted second one. The withholding of key data would make a mockery, critics say, of the value-for-money study into the Trident project, also a concession to the Lib Dems. Both the carriers and Britain's nuclear missile submarines are built by BAE Systems. Trident was described this week at a conference attended by senior military officers as the "elephant in the room". One highly placed defence official referred to it as a "giant Mars Bar-fed cuckoo". The Labour MP Paul Flynn said that "because of the classified nature of much of the supporting paperwork there are no plans to publish anything further". "There's a long history of governments spending hundreds of millions of pounds without officially coming to any decision." The government's strategic security and defence review, published in October, said that by delaying a final decision on how to replace the existing Trident system, delivering the first new submarine in 2028 rather than 2024, £3bn would be "saved or deferred over the next 10 years". The National Audit Office has said it is far from clear what the final sums will be. If official estimates of running costs are taken into account, as well as nuclear decommissioning liabilities, a new Trident system could cost £100bn over a 30-year lifetime, according to critical analysts. Louise Edge Greenpeace said: "We are told that Trident replacement is on hold until after the 2016 election. Yet by the time 2016 comes around the MoD will have already bought most of the first replacement submarine. The government needs to explain why, when key services face cuts, billions are set to be spent on a submarine that isn't due to begin service for another 17 years." Sir Menzies Campbell, the Lib Dems' longtime spokesman on defence and foreign affairs, said: "The government is committed to a value-for-money review of Trident by the coalition agreement. How can a judgment be made about the outcome of such a review if the relevant information is concealed within the MoD? "When the chancellor of the exchequer insisted that the cost of Trident had to come from the core defence budget it was obvious this was bound to have a severe impact on other defence decisions. The present reticence of the MoD does not allow an informed judgment to be made about the extent of that impact."

THE POPPY FACTORY, 'A LIVING MEMORIAL'

© by Ian Tyson; from his *Poppy Factory Tour Guide notes. (2010).*

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Over those first ten years the factory had provided a livelihood for many war disabled some of whom would not have found any employment at all if it had not been for the Poppy Factory. It had become truly a Factory of Remembrance and was described by a former Minister of State as "a truly human War Memorial". And what had George written to his parents ten years previously? *'I do not think it will be a great success but it is worth trying'* The success was indeed due to him and the inspiration and hope he gave to all who worked with him at the factory. During the Second World War, the factory played its part in the National effort by manufacturing electrical condensers for the Ministry of Supply and, although the factory was considered a fairly safe area, this was one of the areas where V1 rockets ran out of fuel. The Factory did not escape. A direct hit on an air raid shelter on the Factory's estate possibly by one of these rockets, killed eight people. All were wives and children of the factory employees.

RECENT TIMES

In 1972, The Poppy Factory's Golden Jubilee, Her Majesty the Queen visited the Factory and bestowed her Royal Patronage on the Poppy Factory. The Factory was further extended and modernised in 1975 when Her Majesty the Queen Mother visited to open the new area. As the Factory came into the 1990s more and more of the veterans of the Second World War came up to retiring age therefore creating a possible problem of staffing the factory to cope with the increasing demand each year for wreaths and poppies. The Factory has to keep to the employment principles of providing a good living under sheltered workshop conditions for ex servicemen and women and their dependants who, in a lot of cases, would be unable to work under a normal factory environment. Our Charter of Incorporation had, until 1975, stated that we would employ ex servicemen preference being given to the disabled. This was then extended to include ex service women, the widows and disabled dependants of ex servicemen. This ensured the continuity of the main work of the factory, the manufacture of wreaths and poppies which are the means by which the RBL raises most of its money to further its benevolent and its many other forms of charitable work.

PRODUCTION FACTS.

Each year, once the remembrance period is over, the Factory has to gear itself up to start production for the following year. This calls for detailed planning, production control and careful buying of materials etc both at the Poppy Factory in Richmond and at the Poppy Village in Aylesbury. And it is necessary to ensure that the Factory is able at all times to meet the demands of the Poppy Day collectors who all give their services voluntarily. Production levels required for this year were met in October when work then commenced on the order for 2011.

It soon became obvious that orders were increasing, fast. What had been produced for 2011 very soon had to go out to meet the increase in demand for this year and in 2010. 46 million poppies were made and one hundred and ten thousand wreaths, mainly type B and C. (Wreaths range from A to L). Those who served in the last World War are becoming fewer each year. Only ten percent of those who served remain with us and the demand for poppies, poppy wreaths and poppy crosses increases. For each remembrance period the Factory has to make approximately 40 to 45 million remembrance poppies, one million other poppies such as poppy 2 (the larger button hole or ladies poppies) and altar poppies. And there are about 300 special wreaths some of which can take up to 200 poppies in each. Who remembers the 167 poppy wreaths? For our Submarine Centenary in 2001, I ordered two wreaths with exactly 167 poppies in each wreath. One was laid on the Cenotaph, the other in Blockhouse where it remains in the church in a glass case.

The Factory manufactures almost a million small wooden remembrance crosses along with 5000 or so special large crosses like those for the Field of Remembrance. The Factory holds over 1000 different badges for Ships, Regiments, RAF Squadrons and a multitude of Associations. These badges are mounted on plastic discs and are used to provide either a wreath centre (type C) or to be mounted on the large Field of Remembrance plot crosses. In addition, the Factory makes over 5 million remembrance poppy petals. A question for you. What is that after 1 million of them have been discarded down The Mall, magically disappear with no need to sweep them up after the event? Answer - those poppies that fall from the RAF WW II Bomber. The crowd pick them all up as they do in the Albert Hall.

THE FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

This annual event is planned, organised and staffed by members of the Poppy Factory and takes place in front of St. Margaret's Church and is set within the grounds of Westminster Abbey. The Royal British Legion Garden of Remembrance service takes place and is set in the grounds of St. Paul's Cathedral. The Field of Remembrance began at Westminster Abbey on the 11 November 1928 when George Howson, together with a number of disabled ex servicemen from the Factory, grouped around a battlefield wooden cross marked 'An Unknown Soldier' only too familiar to those men who had served on the Western Front of the Great War. One man held a tray of poppies and a collecting tin and others were planting clusters of poppies in the grass around the cross. This aroused much interest from passers by and that year, over a few days almost £100 was raised. That cross is on display at the Poppy Factory. This emotive and visible sign of the sacrifices of the war soon caught on with the general public. Poppy Crosses were substituted for the poppies and the idea quickly spread from Westminster throughout the country with Remembrance Crosses being placed or set at War Memorials and in Churchyards everywhere. Even today, people are still placing crosses for those ancestors they lost in the Great War.

This reverent and personal act enables all those who had lost a loved one or a comrade, an opportunity to express their loss by marking and placing a cross in their memory and as their personal act of homage, whether at Westminster or in their own home town or village. These days at Westminster, the Field of Remembrance is laid out in individual Regimental, Royal Naval or Royal Air Force plots as well as for civilian and other organisations. The number of plots changes each year. In previous years there have been around 280 but this year (2010) as disbanded regiments strive to maintain their heritage and 'regroup' to remember their fallen, there are over 350. They are all well sign posted and mapped out. The setting out and manning of the Field is done voluntarily by the Poppy Factory so that all monies collected can go to the RBL Poppy Appeal. In 2009, the Factory was able to pass on to the Poppy Appeal donations received at the Field totalling almost £40,000. This effort by the Factory has been greatly encouraged by the fact that for many years on the Thursday before Remembrance Sunday, the Field had been opened by HM Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

In 2001 when for the first time I set the plot out with 167 crosses, each bearing the name of the RN Submarine lost and the date it was lost or reported missing, HM The Queen Mother, in her buggy, came



to a stop by our plot. I was invited to explain to her about the plot, our centenary and the significance of the 167 crosses. "Yes" she said. "Do you know that I was one year old before the

Royal Navy got its first submarine". There was no answer to that. She then proceeded into St Margaret's Church; the submariners plot being the last plot HM The Queen Mother ever visited. She crossed the bar that winter.

The following year, 2002, HM The Queen opened the plot for the first time. After placing her personal cross, she turned and immediately walked directly towards me. None of her party had seen her go. Her eyes fixed on me so naturally, with years of experience of such expressions from Master at Arms and Submarine Coxswains; I wondered what I had done wrong. As she got closer, I thought think Tyson! What are you going to do? What would any matelot have done, salute, bow, and say good morning your Majesty. It seemed to work and we had a chat about the previous year. The point being that our plot was the first plot that Her Majesty the Queen ever visited. Now that! - is Heritage.

The Queen opened the plot again in 2003 but since then it has been His Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, wearing the original, very threadbare overcoat bearing the epaulettes of HM King George V. The plot has been visited by countless thousands. Tourists, serving Armed Forces personnel, the general public, schools, local workers and veterans from many other countries. Including on one occasion when I was approached while laying out the plot, by the skipper of a Russian Typhoon class who proudly showed me his International Submariners medal. He helped me place the cross I had prepared for the Kursk.

In recent years since close ties were made between the London Submariners and the Submarine School, every Saturday before the Embankment Parade, serving and trainee submarines attend Westminster Abbey for a service and wreath laying by the Submarines Memorial in the cloisters. This has developed in to quite a major event. This year there were 62 serving submariners in attendance including many Officers, Warrant Officers and Senior Rates from many establishments and from operational submarines. This simple but reverent and dignified service is conducted by the duty Cannon and is followed by a visit to the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior which is explained to them by a World War Two London submariner, Stan Hancox.

And you may already be aware that the Unknown Warrior could well be a Matelot or Royal Marine from the Royal Naval 63rd Division. In World War One, Churchill decided that there were too many sailors and not enough ships so these guys got a pier head jump from Gallipoli to the Trenches. And you think you've had some green rubs. We then all proceeded to the submariners plot which, by special permission, I am allowed to set up early. (Plots are not generally allowed to be set up until the Monday prior to the Thursday opening). We fall in and I pipe the still which gains the attention of countless tourists and other visitors. The submariners then set their personal crosses in our plot, I say the exhortation - a moments silence followed by my piping the carry on. Short but very dignified, and impressive. All are welcome. Muster at the Abbey no later than 1230. Parade rig with medals. On completion, "refreshments" in the nearest local.

Three years ago, I was asked if I wouldn't mind giving up some of our plot space to the Royal Marines, our next door neighbours at the Field. Sadly, their need is greater than ours these days and there was no hesitation in doing so. This year, there was still not enough room in their plot for the number of crosses placed. Some had been placed along the path outside their plot. (I am not a Tour Guide at the Poppy Factory for nothing and I will see what can be done for next year). You may have noticed that, although very popular with the many thousands of people who attend the Field, it does not receive the same high profile of publicity as the Cenotaph.

FACTORY WORKERS

Approximately 85% are disabled in one way or another and without their enthusiasm and dedication, production targets and requirements would not be met. Some are the descendants of ex service personnel. At present there are about 45 employed staff at the Factory including one ex submariner who I knew up at the Submarine School - Dolphin version - Barry Oldfield ex UC. It is a small world. Barry sends his regards to all those who know him. There are another 38 employees but who, because of age, severe disability or chronic ill health are provided with the poppy assembly work in their homes. The component parts for the assembly of poppies are delivered to these mainly house bound people by the Factory's transport and the completed work collected when ready. This not only provides the worker with a wage, but an interest therapy as well.

© Ian Tyson

They feel needed and look forward to a visit from the Factory's driver, an ex FAA matelot - Buster Brown, who always has a friendly chat if there is time. In 1991 the Factory appointed a Welfare Officer who works hard to ensure that the support for all factory employees covers vital areas not only with their health requirements. Wendy provides advice and help on pensions, allowances, personal problems and in gaining help and support from various statutory and voluntary sources including hospitals. This support is always forthcoming when and where ever possible.

VISITS TO THE POPPY FACTORY AND THE FUTURE.

One question I am always asked is "when do we stop wearing our poppies"? It is a personal choice but the Royal British Legion has a guide line that it should be the day after Remembrance Sunday. For myself I continue to wear mine until I have dismantled the Field of Remembrance Submariners Plot a week later. I then remove it from my blazer and place it on the ground where the plot had been. And for the bereaved? Who would mind if they wore it all year.

The Factory receives some 6 or 7 thousand visitors each year. These visits are arranged in parties of not more than 40 and usually comprise RBL Branches, Women's Guilds, Associations or Institutes and other groups of ex service personnel. My first tour was provided for the wives of the various Military Attaches from all the Embassies in London. The Chilean Military Attache's wife arrived early and while waiting and having recognised my 'Dolphin's, she explained that some of the rescuers during the mining accident rescue operations were Chilean submariners. The last one out was a Chilean submariner doctor who had insisted that he came out last; it was what he had been trained for. I certainly have an interesting hobby job. And I am soon to be joined by another local submariner - Chris Dawson, Secretary of the Middlesex Branch.

Other visitors are schools, students, scouts and guides who always show a special interest in the work and can't wait to get stuck in to making up some wreaths and poppies. A Factory Tour Guide shows all visitors around and tends to give their own personal input to the common theme of our presentations. For myself, I spend some time on Submarines but not for any submariners that may arrive, they would get something else - "The Unknown Warrior" for example. And I spend a little longer on the Field of Remembrance.

This then is the Poppy Factory. There are some eight million ex servicemen and women, many now in their eighties and nineties who need help. All of them are eligible for the Legion's and the Factory's assistance as will be all those who are sadly but surely yet to come. Since 1945 we have had Palestine, Korea, Moue Moue, Aden, Cyprus, Suez, Kosovo, Malaya, Borneo, Hong Kong, Kuwait, South Georgia and The Falklands, Lebanon, Sierra Leone, Congo, Belize, Afghanistan, Iraq, Northern Ireland, The Gulf War and of course, the Cold War.

And those of us who have served over past decades probably served at one or more of the above times when expressions were used such as "Conflict, Crisis, Infiltration, Hostilities, Uprisings, Insurgency, Troubles, Emergency, Confrontation, Resistance, Police Action or Incursion". I am sure there are have been many more expressions used but in recent years, we seem to go straight to WAR. But then there is Civil war, all out war, war of attrition, war footing, total war, holy war et al.

It is also worth Remembering, there has been only one year since 1945 in which a British Service man or woman has not been killed on active service. That was 1968. But whatever the wording, whatever the statistics, what ever the conflict, it is certain that our Armed Forces will be called upon in the future. It follows that the Poppy Factory will also be called upon.

We Will Remember Them.

Should anyone wish to organise a visit to the Poppy Factory, then please call Wendy on 0208940 3305. There are two tours a day (not Fridays) starting at 1030 and 1430 lasting up to two hours but tours can be tailored to meet requirements. Lunch (Canteen style) can be provided for around £3.00p.per person depending on whether or not you want duff. Tea and Coffee is provided with donations welcome. Sadly- there is no bar. I shall look forward to your visit.



Ian Tyson MSM.
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SAM SALT'S OBITORY FROM HIS WIFE

Jeff Tall has sent Penny Salt's touching description of Sam's committal.

Sam wanted his ashes scattered over HMS Sheffield, so last week our three sons (George, Charlie and Tom) and I carried out his wishes with the help of HMS Clyde, the Falkland Island's protection vessel. Atrocious weather delayed our plans but we finally went to sea on Thursday 16th December and at 2045 on a calm, clear night we scattered his ashes, dropped the casket and laid a wreath over the place where Sheffield lies. It is good to know Sam is finally with his beloved ship and with the men who gave their lives in 1982. In his jottings he wrote:

"My three months in command of *Sheffield* were amongst the happiest and most rewarding time of my naval career. We were a team in a ship that had a marvellous personality and was well received wherever she went. The ship and her men had a great affinity for each other and the whole company had a fine spirit and an individual proud identity. *Sheffield* was our ship, our home, our life." We are so grateful that our trip to the Falkland Islands was possible and are indebted to those who helped us to undertake Sam's request. May he now rest in peace.

AMBUSH LEAVES DEVONSHIRE DOCK HALL

Barrow North West Evening News 07 January 11

THE second Astute-class submarine made its open air debut in Barrow yesterday, without an audience to appreciate it. Only the occasional person stopped on Michaelson Road Bridge to admire Ambush as she emerged. Ambush could not leave its shed on its official naming and launch day on December 16, which 2,000 people attended, due to technical problems with the moving gear. Among those having a look yesterday was former shipyard quality assurance manager Brian Turton, 71, of Ancaster Street, Barrow Island. He and his wife were pointing out the sub to their three-year-old grandson, Jamie Calvert. Their son-in-law, Martin Calvert, works in the yard and had asked the couple to show Jamie the billion-pound boat produced by Barrow's shipyard craftsmen and technicians, including his dad. Mr Turton said: "It's a pity it could not come out on its launch day. There would have been people lining this bridge. "It's just one of those things. It was nothing to do with the submarine, it was the gear that moves it."

Another person showing the slowly-emerging boat to the future generation was Debbie Hunt, of Napier Street, Barrow. The 23-year-old watched Ambush with her three-year-old son, Keiron. She said: "His granddad, Keith Muldoon, is a shipwright in the yard. "We just noticed it as we were coming over the bridge. I would have thought there would be more people here. "It is good to see it, because the shipyard gives a lot of people work." And Keiron's verdict? "It's big!" he said. The sub began to roll at 8.55am, emerging at a metre-a-minute on a cradle moved by rail cars. It moved on to the yard's big shiplift, ready to be lowered into the water for the first time. Today, Ambush was due to be moved, with the help of small tugs, across Devonshire Dock to the mooring space. There it will be tethered for the next nine or so months while undergoing a series of tests leading up to the switch-on of its nuclear power source. The submarine will also do its first dive, while tethered, in the middle of Devonshire Dock.

SUBMARINE AMBUSH'S MAIDEN VOYAGE

Friday, 07 January 2011 Barrow North West News

BAE Systems Barrow's latest £1.2bn submarine, **Ambush**, made its first voyage, from one side of a dock to the other. The second Astute class, nuclear-powered submarine was yesterday gently nudged, manoeuvred and towed across Devonshire Dock from the Devonshire Dock Hall shiplift to its long stay mooring on the west side of the dock. It means two Astute boats are now afloat, the other HMS Astute at the Faslane naval base near Glasgow, to which **Ambush** is expected to sail at the end of this year. The roll out and launch of **Ambush**, which will undergo a long series of tests including turning on its nuclear reactor in the autumn, has created space in the DDH for the follow-on boats, which include Artful, Audacious and Agamemnon. **Ambush** does not yet have any power but is packed with expensive hi-tech equipment. **Ambush** was moved using small tugs and shipyard 'pushycat' boats. The move was supervised by BAE, Royal Navy officials and Barrow Harbourmaster Captain David Carpenter. The boat will be guarded and checked for water tightness every day and night by watch patrols from its RN crew.

PICTURES COURTESY OF BARROW IN FURNESS NW MAIL NEWSPAPER



MESSAGE FROM SA DERBYSHIRE TO THE CO OF HMS AMBUSH, CDR PETER GREEN

Sir, May I on behalf of the Submariners Association (Derbyshire) offer our congratulations on the 'Christening' of HMS Ambush or in submariners parlance; *'It is really great that our boat has got her bottom wet'* Regards **SA (Derbyshire)**

BARROW IN FURNESS QUIPS AND QUOTES

The atrocious snowy weather prompted some interesting comments back at the 'Joke & Acorn'. These included gems such as:-

It's the *Argonaught's* you have to watch out for on the motorways! I confess I did not see any Leander Class frigates on the M6 unless it was the name of one of the many snow ploughs? I hope that '*hijacked*' lorry blocking the road isn't a problem. We will never know, but neither was the jack knifed lorry a problem either despite being on Radio 2 warning of problems. And if all else fails the best course of action we were advised by a young lady was in an emergency to pull over onto the '*cold*' shoulder and wait it out.

Whilst I put our take-aways in the haversack my Oppo picked up a takeaway menu. We were neither of us to impressed later to study this to find roots regrowth £15, Dry cut £10, curling £10 – He'd only picked up a Hair Studio Hairdressers price list in error. I agree with him though; silly place to have them in a Chinese take-away.

In the Bar of the Victoria Park Hotel in Barrow Ron pulled a massive very old 'brick' of a mobile phone to answer a call. One of our members very innocently commented "No wonder you have difficulty walking with the size of that in your trouser pocket. A very youngish 80 odd year old burst out in uncontrollable laughing. Our member and the males with us were totally baffled by what was humorous! And they say men have funny one track minds!! When we got the joke we all thought it a wonderful sense of humour.

The car park of the Victoria is around the back of this imposing Victorian Hotel where the tennis courts and Croquet lawn used to be, and to access the hotel entails a walk around to the front of the building. One of our group made the logical enquiry as to whether there was a quicker way from the car park to the reception? The submariner humour cut in with an immediate response of; "Yes, run".

Back at the Oak; Two Army veteran's were in discussion with one saying he was in the Royal Engineers, Korea. His mate replied "I was in Korea". You were, what as. "An Alarm Engineer" was the response!! (They were mate's!)

Derby & District Ex Services Association
AGM Report Monday 10 Jan 2011 10:30am The Spot

My first surprise was on getting to the meeting and being issued with agenda, accounts and list of memberships, voting slip for committee etc, was that I had been nominated for the committee! Now whilst honoured that someone should think me worthy of such a nomination, it would have been nice to have known! Still as it turned out thankfully, not a problem!

The Act of Homage was read by the Chair of the Derbyshire RBL, Bernie Page and the Kohima Epitaph by the Friends of the Burma Star Assn. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologised on his voice due to an operation for cancer of the oesophagus. He then introduced us to the new Assn President, Brigadier Edward Wilkinson who had taken over from General Cavendish as discussed at the September meeting. The minutes of the meeting Mon 20 September 2010 were proposed as a true record by Harry Mycroft and seconded by the submariner's representative, Terry Hall. There were no matters arising and the Treasurer thence gave his report with a bottom line balance of £983.92. It was advised that the Royal Tank Corps and the Merchant Navy Assn had both folded and lapsed membership being two years in arrears. As with all member associations concern was expressed at the loss of the Council House Coffee Mornings due to renovations of the council house. The accounts were prop by Ian Sutton and seconded and carried as a true record.

The Chair advised that Rob James allowed the Spot Gratis for this meeting but future meetings would require a payment of £60 per meeting. The next two meetings of Mondays 18/4 and 19/9 were discussed with regards venue. The TA Centres were offered on both Kingsway or Sinfyn Lane but concern was expressed on the access with bus services. The Chaddesden Fire station social room was deemed too small and the President suggested both the Cathedral and Derby Cricket Club; but cost was a concern. The RBL offered Allenton RBL or Mickleover RBL and it was suggested by the chair the committee sort it out. A proposal was given that if a problem that the meeting again be held at the Spot and bite the bullet and pay the £60 – Carried.

The Suez Vets had submitted the only proposal to the meeting that the Chair, Sec, Treasurer and Challis, Hall and Sutton as Committee. As the committee consists of two, my name added to this list & obviously forced a vote. Voting slips were collected by an auditor and taken from the room to be counted and returned with the result the incumbents would remain in office. Whilst I feel it would not be in the best interest of myself/submariners; or the D&DExSvc to serve on this committee, I should have been advised prior to the meeting of the proposal by the committee and if I had agreed thence the number of votes cast should have been announced openly! Item 8 was a proposal by the Chair to appoint Bas Bowyer BEM as the Association Standard Bearer after he had volunteered his services. The appointment for the Honorary Auditor was Bernard Page. Both these motions were passed.

Item 10 The review of Affiliation Fees for 2012 was led by the Treasurer who outlined the difficulties ahead in the current economic climate and the worry over coffee morning income. He did however recommend the association with £983.92 in the bank would not go bust, and that we stay at £10 per assn. Given this report on behalf of the Submariners I recommended annual subs remain at £10 and this was seconded by Ian Sutton of the Guards. Bas Bowyer asked the treasurer when the last increase in subs was and was advised that it was 5/6 years ago when it increased from £5 to the present £10.

Bas stated with inflation, he proposed we increase the subscription. It was queried by how much and the response was the same as last time, e.g. Increase by 50% or £5 total £15. Bas also stated if we do not increase we are burying our head in the sand. A vote was taken but I can only assume it was an equal vote as no numbers were decreed, and the Chairman had the casting vote to have the subscriptions remain as they are at £10. Whilst the result was what our Assn wished, I feel the way this decision was arrived at was not satisfactory or democratic and the number of votes both for and against should have been declared.

Wing Cdr Giles of the Reserve Forces Assn asked the question on how the RFA could join and would they be eligible? This was confirmed as affirmative, and a written application needed to be made to the Assn Secretary, Collette. Item 11 the Associations Website. This item was at the behest of the submariners held over until the AGM as proposed by the Submariners. Bernard Page gave a presentation on the offer of the RBL to host the site piggy backing on the Derbyshire RBL site. Chris Drury the RBL Derbyshire Webmaster gave an excellent presentation of a suggested web page covering all associations. He demonstrated examples stressing the information for each assn site needed to be passed into him as to WHAT WE WANTED. The Web manager would update the pages to the requirement of individual associations and the D&D diary as a whole. I personally think this is a grand idea and proposed on behalf of the submariners that we go with the RBL option rather than a fully paid up site which was seconded by the Guards Assn; Or as Ian Sutton stated, "How can we not accept sommit' for nowt, lets go for it!" A donation for the web page service was discussed with a proposal of £25 to the RBL in thanks passed and carried. Paul Mulganni the RBL Derbyshire County Manager made a very generous offer that he would personally cover this donation, and a vote of thanks was given. Details of the site will be advised.

Derby Civilian War Memorial. The Secretary, Collette advised the War Memorial to the civilian population of Derby killed in the bombings in WWII would be restored to its rightful place in the Guildhall, and should be up shortly. The secretary also advised on the alternative to Coffee Mornings in the council house could be the Sir Richard Morris Room. Attendees would be requested to pay £1 to the Cathedral for their coffee which would be via machine, and the Association running the coffee morning would have to man this machine but could make funds for their own charity in the normal manner with raffles, blackouts, cake stalls etc. Book direct with the Cathedral and the Mayor would have to be booked separately through Collette on 01332 255483.

The War Widows advised they had booked 23 Feb at the Cathedral Tea Rooms for Afternoon Tea with the Mayor and in October they had booked the Age UK Rooms in Eagle Centre for Coffee at 75p per person and the room is FOC but with a maximum of 20 but it was advise the room is like a 'Goldfish Bowl' due to the open aspect.

AOB Harry Mycroft Burma Star thanked everyone involved with the Children's service at Chaddesden in 2010. Over 300 Children were involved and the 2011 service will be held on the Thursday 10/11 with Armistice Day at Soldiers Corner the following day 11/11 and Harry gave his thanks to the Co-Operative Funeral Services who had offered to print the order of services with their compliments in honour of the Armed Forces.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 11:50 with the next meeting to be held on the 18 April 2011 at a venue to be decided by the committee.

NEW BRANCH MEMBERS

The Derbyshire Branch welcomes **John (Max) Horton** an ex Chief Mech who served in boat 1952-56 on Sleuth, Acheron, Seraph and Amphion and then he served 1960-70 serving on Revenge and thence Swiftsure. Max lives in Marlpool, Heaner, with his wife Sue and we look forward to meeting them both at future luncheon clubs and functions, and Max at the branch meetings.

We also have another new member who is an Oppo of Albert Birchnall's as they both served on the Scotsman, who some with good memories may remember some of the articles and discussions of the submarine with a window to watch the cavitations of propellers by the boffin's up in the Scots Lochs? Anyway **Bill Ponter** and ex Telegraphist asked to join as a member to support the SA as an email member. Bill now lives in Thailand and we did try to suggest he hosts us for a Luncheon Club Meeting but then we thought of the cost, and it went out of the window. Anyway welcome to Bill who served on Vulpine, Telemachus and Scotsman and we look forward to possibly seeing and meeting if he gets back on a visit to the United Kingdom.

TWO FAT SUBMARINERS

This intrepid duo are still busy fundraising and though no response from Branch members to their last Golf Fund Raising Epic details are on line. If anyone is interested please contact me and I will print and post or if you are online, and interested then have a gander at www.twofatsubmariners.com/golfday.html.



NI BRANCH DINNER 28 MAY 2011 LA MON HOTEL

We will be holding a formal dinner now instead of a Magennis Dinner (Branch decision), and we are hoping to hold it in the La Mon Hotel, which is situated in the countryside between Belfast and Bangor. No final arrangements are as yet in place; a lot of bargaining is going on regarding prices etc. At this stage I am interested to know how many members would like to attend as numbers will be limited as regards hotel accommodation; therefore it will be on a first come first served basis. Obviously, if we are over subscribed, we can look at other hotels in the area, but cannot make any promises on rates. I have started a list of members/wives/partners who have indicated they would like to visit us again. I would be grateful if you could circulate the above to all branches. Thanking you for your co-operation. Yours aye, Davy George. The Magennis Dinner was in a previous issue and I had no return. If anyone is now interested please advise and I will contact Davy George on your behalf.

POLICE REF D29 SUSPICIOUS INCIDENTS

During the last couple of days we have had suspicious incidents reported in Oakwood, Allestree & Chellaston, that have been reported. 'Cold Callers' are knocking on the doors of people stating that they are from the Council or Government and conducting a survey on home insulation. Our members have been affected if you are unsure, ring the Police Immediately and **do not let them in**.

MEDICAL NOTE

For those who worry, there is a little story with a very good moral. The local rural vicar had a very large Manse and field called a garden. He decided to put some animals on this field including an Ass. At the Village fete they had donkey races so the vicar entered his donkey in the race, and it Won! The local paper had the headline 'Vicar's Ass Out Front' which upset the vicar's Bishop who ordered him not to enter the donkey in anymore races. The next day the headlines in the local paper read 'Bishop Scratches Vicars Ass'. Understandably this really upset the Bishop, who instructed the vicar to get rid of his donkey and so the vicar gave the donkey to a nun in the local convent. On hearing the news the local paper headlines next day read 'Nun Has Best Ass In Town'. The Bishop Fainted. On recovery he phoned the Mother Superior and said for the donkey to be sold immediately. So the Nun sold the donkey to a local farmer for £10 and the next day the headlines read 'Nun Sells Ass for £10'. This was too much for the bishop, so he ordered the nun to buy back the donkey and take it to the Peak Park where it could run wild. The next day the headlines read: 'Nun Announces Her Ass Is Wild and Free'. The Bishop was buried the next day! The moral of the story is; being concerned about public opinion and other peoples business can bring you much grief, and misery, and even shorten your life. So be yourself and enjoy life, and stop worrying about everyone else's ass and you'll be a lot happier and live longer.



BRANCH CONSTITUTION

At the AGM in 2010 several proposals were passed including the recommendation of an overall of the Branch Constitution. This has been done by the Executive Committee and will shortly be distributed for consultation before the branch AGM for ratification. It has been streamlined to four pages from six and the font increased to make it easier reading!

PROPOSALS FOR BRANCH AGM 2010

There are two proposals for our branch AGM; The meeting venue has been put on the Agenda for discussion. Ron feels the Winter Routine has been a success and needs discussion. For those who are unaware we actioned a proposal from Tom Smith to the AGM in 2009 to hold the Dec-Feb meetings in the Jubilee Club at a lunchtime instead of the evening. Two of the three meetings took place (one cancelled due to inclement snow) but they were deemed successful even by those members turning up for the cancelled meeting!! This year it was voted to extend the Winter meetings from Nov-Feb but sadly Tom never saw the benefit. All these meetings have been well attended, but it has been noted that the working members have been penalised, and unable to attend! The second proposal is regards support for the National Raffle. Both are to be discussed at the AGM. Unfortunately there have been no proposals for Branch Officers but please be aware, unlike some committees, all our officers in situ are willing to give a comprehensive turnover if anyone is willing to give something a go. There are time scales implemented as with President and Chairman to give incumbents a fair chance, but no one should feel intimidated to want to give a position in the branch a go and do it your way.

ANNUAL K13 TRIP

We started off with eight members wanting to partake of this Annual Homage to the K13 Crew who tragically lost their lives. I would point out that the Derbyshire Branch has as long as I can remember way back into the early 1990's always paid homage on our visits to Faslane. It was on one of these trips when we were hosted by HMS/M Sovereign we were taken aback by the number of wreaths on site and enquiries resulted in we found out about the WoS Branches annual pilgrimage, and we have enjoyed many visit up for this excellent event since. However, old age, and in some cases difficulty making ends meet has resulted in the numbers declining over the years, and the difficulties of the modern navy and accommodation has resulted in a decline of numbers. We started out with eight volunteers and two cars, but gradually reduced to one driver and eventually due to a change of circumstances through no fault of the excellent organisation of the West of Scotland Branch the trip became none viable. Very reluctantly we had to hit the trip on the head.

BRANCH BANK MANDATE

As brought up at our last meeting I was requested to upgrade our Bank Mandate and as there are at present no nominations for Officers at present I have started raising the paperwork to incorporate the change of Chairman from last year. Those named are requested to carefully complete the required details on both forms, and ensure it is in black ink, printed, and no joined up writing, and things are all in there proper boxes with no crossing out or errors. I am trying for the impossible to get this difficult form accepted by the bank first time!! One can but be optimistic.

CHEQUES PAID INTO THE BRANCH

Just a reminder for those that pay by Cheque. Since the branch has operated on line banking it is no longer important to have one cheque for each item being paid for as it is easy for me as treasurer to transfer money between accounts whereas in the old days I had to write a cheque to pay money from one account to another and to achieve free banking we are limited to the number of cheques we are allowed before charges. As long as the cheque has on the back what you are paying e.g. Subs £15, Trip £8 etc it is fine. However, I know some prefer for tracking purposes to do separate cheques, and that is fine by me as the bank will accept unlimited cheques without charge.



It is not just on line banking that allows members to pay into the branch, and all members should have the circular on how to pay direct into the branch from your bank. The account we use is the defunct Guide Dog Derby Current Account for deposits, and I thence transfer to the relevant account from there on-line. Obviously the option is post the cheques to me, or pass in at the branch meetings, and if you can avoid social events (especially towards the end of the event) it would be appreciated.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2011

The Agenda for the 2011 Conference and Minutes of 2010 Conference have been issued and distributed to all our on line members and will be discussed at our February meeting when an indication of how you the members wish me to vote as your representative is decided. As last year I am concerned that there are so few 'Proposals' from Member Branches. The NMC cannot make proposals, but can make recommendations (4 last year and two this year) which are then turned into proposals at the conference by the representatives. Personally I feel this is the 'tail wagging the dog', especially when last year one rep declared for a recommendation, 'My branch won't like this but I propose it!' It was also raised by an NMC Member to me that as a delegate like an MP I should be making decisions for members, but Derbyshire members have traditionally indicated a democratic decision on voting at National which I agree with. As instructed by branch we voted AGAINST all four NMC recommendations last year and I seek your guidance and instruction this year.

As prophesied I am not surprised to see that the National want to **raise the subscriptions** which failed last year, but not by many votes. I am deeply concerned that unlike last year the recommendation is wide open as to a figure to raise the subscriptions; thus it can only appeal that you the member advise if you are for this, or against, and if for; what is the figure you would accept. The present National levy is £5 but last year the attempt was to get it into double figures in one go. Proposals have only been received from Derbyshire and there are two recommendations from the NMC which will be discussed at the February meeting. Due to a family funeral I have given my apologies for the next meeting but will be compiling the Agenda for John Sayers to Chair as Steve is working that day, so if you have any input let me know soonest please. Some of our older members I know are alarmed, and wondering if it is worth the extra money even staying in the SA. I accept inflation and costs are rising but do not accept Association needs such a large increase in one go requested last year. A £5 rise incremented over 5 years could be absorbed to achieve a total of £10, but with a large reserve the Association is not going to go broke. It's your branch, your Association; please give your views into the branch so my instructions represent as many of the branch as possible. I also find it very sad that we have over the last three years had a minimum of 15 Derbyshire Members attend the AGM weekend as a branch run ashore and this year we have none due to the changes at the 2010 conference.

TRAFALGAR DINNER 2011

No decisions have been taken by branch except the preference by some for the actual date of 21/10 and the overwhelming backing to return to the Spot except by one member. He stated he preferred the event to be held in 'Jamaica', and though I agree with him, he failed to offer to pay for the branch to achieve this ambition! I however, appreciated the submariners humour of the quip. We have some ideas similar to last year to make an exciting event so again it is for you the branch members to indicate your preferences and the dates can be flexible.

BRANCH FUNERAL PLAN

It is a fact that sadly we lose Members on their last patrol. Over the year we have sadly lost Alan Fitton, Tom Smith and now Roy Thurston the latter two being founder members of the SOCA Derby Branch way back in 1980. Most of our members have lost loved ones, dear friends, relatives and acquaintances over the year, thus most members have unfortunately had more trips to the Crematorium than they would have wished or desired. As a branch we support each other and wish to pay our respects. However, sight cannot be lost that the funeral is a family affair, and though we consider the Submariners Association as a family, our input is at the behest of the family. Though every funeral is 'Individual' per the wishes of the family, we have evolved a suggested participation plan, which is none invasive on the time of the religious service and family mourning, but still allows us to pay our respects if the permission of the family is given. The other options can be undertaken on request by the family, and even the basic plan can have parts omitted as the family desires. It is therefore tailored to what the family want, and not what some perceive as what they should want. As one of the branch Welfare Officers I have committed this plan to paper, and all on line members have been sent a copy, and the opportunity will be given for the remainder of members to sight the three page document on request. It is hoped that we can adopt this as a general suggestion document, which is based on the last three funerals organised by the branch which have differed in each case, but every one has been organised with the complete wishes of the family respected. It is appreciated that in some cases it is requested no military presence, and that is fine too; the bottom line being the family preference must and will always be respected and come first.

TOM SMITH MEMORIALS

The Branch has now taken delivery of the Tom Smith Memorials. The Memorial Statues for TS Kenya have been viewed by the Family, TS Kenya Management Committee and a good number of members. Tom's two daughters both reside abroad; one in Australia and one in Portugal and it was a large bequest to the Branch from Tom's daughter in Portugal that enabled this wonderful project in Tom's memory. The family have been invited to see if it is feasible or possible to be able to make the presentation to TS Kenya on a visit to UK and we are awaiting a response. Depending on the event organised it is hoped those friends who made generous donation will also be able to attend. I will keep you advised. A picture of one of the two Submariner Statues is on Page one and the picture above is the four smaller Guard of Honour Trophies. These are North, East, South and West to represent the four points of Derby Cenotaph that are manned by TS Kenya Guard of Honour on Remembrance Sunday each year. The Cadets compete for a place for this honour and the drill and discipline has long been much admired, thus for a cadet to have the recognition of one of these trophies for a year is not only remembering Tom's memory, but also recognising the Cadets duty and dedication to remembrance they have so smartly carried out. The TS Kenya Submariner will be awarded to a member of Staff of TS Kenya in recognition of someone who has gone the extra mile for the benefit of the cadets. Website for Sculptures: <http://www.ballantynes-walkerburn.com/>



This will not just be restricted to the Instructional Staff but ALL those adults who give their time and effort to help the unit in whatever capacity. The final Statuette is The Submariners Association (Derbyshire) award and this is open discussion with branch full members at present as to a criteria of award and purpose and will be an agenda item for the AGM in March so if you have any suggestions please pass them into any of the Executive Members if you cannot get to the AGM. For those not aware the Executive Members are, President Ken Holtham, Chair Steve Tyler, Vice Chair John Sayers, Secretary/Treasurer Terry Hall. Under our branch constitution ALL full submariners are on the Committee with equal voice for everyone in the running of the branch. It's your call gentlemen.

ROY THURSTON FUNERAL 1 FEB 2011

All members should be aware of the format and the details at Markeaton Crematorium where we will meet at 13:00 for the 13:20 Service. I will be looking after the Standards, and John Sayers the submariners outside the main doors.

Roy was a founding member and has been a keen supporter of the branch, and even when he lost his leg he still managed to be active within the branch. Five



years ago he lost his beloved wife, Pansy and this was a severe blow to him, and one he never really recovered from. In the last couple of years he became a reclusive not wanting to leave his house but always appeared to welcome his submariner Oppo's, and thanks go to Ken, Jim, John Hadfield and all other members who used to drop in regularly to visit. A visit to Roy's left no one in any doubt where you had been, and the smell of the cigars he so loved; was to be polite; one heck of a pungent smell. Roy

on many occasions has backed Branch projects always insisting that I did not divulge the source or cost; a request I respected, and this included our auditors, and he on occasions got 'shirty' with me when I showed him the proof of entries on the accounts! It was as our members know, Roy's idea to have a living memorial to the City of Derby affiliation with Ambush, and he kick started the 'Derby GD' fund and supported it to its conclusion. It was very pleasing that he did attend the £5k Cheque Presentation in the Council House in February 2009 and that was the last branch event we managed to get him to. Roy as with the others we have lost this year will be deeply missed. God Bless them All.



Newsletter Online

If you need to refer to a back issue please refer to: http://www.godfreydykes.info/DERBYSHIRE_SUBMARINERS_ASSOCIATION_PAGE.htm

Views and comments of this newsletter do not always reflect the official policy, or decisions of neither the Derby Branch nor, the Submariners Association



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