



SOUVENIR EDITION

Newsletter Volume 5 - No. 8- October- 2017

Opening Comment

It is now time for me to get the newsletter together, hope you are all well and looking forward to the crisp winter days, this will be the very **Very Last Newsletter** you will receive, so I wish you all well and hope to see some of you at the reunion of the four cruisers next year. I was on the HMS Newfoundland in January/February 1950 and came across her in the Far East in the mid-fifties in Singapore Dockyard. We have had some sad news in that Terry Randall has crossed the bar, more about that below. The Chairman has written a nice piece for us, see below

I have had email from a lady named Judy Belcher whose late father served aboard the Ceylon, he served aboard during the 2nd World War on the Bofor guns. His grandson is doing a school project and has chosen him as one of his relatives in a presentation, his mother Judy has some photographs which she thought we might like, I have contacted our Webmaster -Brian Smith - if he would like to deal with it.

I have also had an e mail from John Ling -50- 52 commission- saying that while we were having our reunion this year, on the Saturday evening he was in a village pub opposite Jane Austin's cottage at Chawton, he was with his wife Marie and John Wyeth and wife Rosemary, they were celebrating the reunion with us and raised the glasses to the 'Ceylon Association'

Alan

Crossed the Bar ;

William Rice [Bill] on Friday 8th September 2017, aged 93 years. Signalman.

Bill was on the Ceylon during World War 2 with the Pacific Fleet, his daughter said he often spoke of the times aboard Ceylon, after he left the Royal Navy he worked for Cable and Wireless in London, he had a long and happy retirement and enjoyed a game of golf which he was still playing aged 90. Perhaps some of the 1st commission, maybe some members can remember him., he was in the signals department.

Chairman's Chat ;

It is with a great deal of sadness that I write my final piece for the H.M.S. Ceylon Newsletter although it was inevitable that we could no longer continue because of falling numbers and ageing membership.

As a founder member I am proud to have been your Vice President for a number of years and your Chairman on two occasions which covered several years. Looking back I remember the very happy times we have spent together and the many treasured friends we have made.

Thinking about the years that have passed I remember the many members, a number of whom have crossed the bar who have worked so hard for our Association as Officers and Committee members and I am extremely grateful for all their efforts. There are also many while not in an official capacity who have helped and I thank them all.

Terry has been a great servant to our Association for many years and a very good friend of mine. He was also the Editor of the Newsletter for many years and had been a good servant of our Association, he will be greatly missed by myself and his many friends.

Those who attended our last reunion will remember that one of our shipmates agreed to take the Ceylon Plaque up to the Argyle museum in Perth but when he rang them to arrange this it was obvious that they had a lot of artefacts from the Korean conflict and we're not really interested in the plaque. The plaque is going to be brought to Bristol in April 2018 and if any member would like to give it a good home they will be welcome to keep it.

Andrea our Treasurer has finalised the accounts and a substantial amount of money is to be forwarded to the two Charities which were nominated at our last AGM, Angela will explain it all to you.

Looking to the future a number of us have booked to attend the reunion of the 4 Colony Class Cruisers, Newfoundland, Kenya, Gambia and Ceylon at the four star Aztec Hotel, Bristol and this is a way we can keep on meeting for a few more years. If you have not already booked I would urge you to do so as soon as possible, and if you require any more information please contact me or ring Isle of Wight Tours on 01983405116.

I look forward to seeing you all there.

I hope you all have good festive season and a very healthy 2018

Brien

Crossed the Bar; Terence Henry Randall 15th April 1931 - 23rd August 2017

Terry served aboard HMS Ceylon from 1950 - 1952, Leaving the Ceylon Terry served aboard the Carrier, **Ark Royal**, the Cruiser **Glasgow** and was loaned to the Destroyers, **Finnisterre** and the **Sluys.**, which were the 'live firing ' ships for HMS Excellent's men under training.

Leaving the service Terry joined, as a policeman, the Southampton City Police, during this time he was awarded a medal for saving a man from drowning, the man's car had gone into the water in Mayflower Park, Terry dived and brought the man to the shore.

Leaving the Police, Terry had a job in London working with Teleprinters which meant commuting to and from London each day., Leaving that job he worked at Standard Cables in Southampton, much nearer to home, finally he worked for the Ford Van works in Southampton on the Security staff.

The funeral took place at the Wessex Vale Crematorium, West End, Southampton, on Tuesday 12th September 2017. There were many attending, some from the many Associations of which Terry was a member, namely the Royal Naval Association, Korean War Veterans, HMS Ceylon Association and an Honorary member of the Normandy Veterans Association , the place was full with many standing. The Normandy Veterans Flag, and , the Koreans Veterans Flag were in attendance.

A Memorial Service was held on ;

Saturday 16th September 2017 at the Bitterne Spiritualist Church, which was also well attended, although many could'nt make it in time due to traffic hold ups, even though the Service was delayed for 30 minutes. The family provided excellent refreshments after the Service, in the lobby, which was much appreciated by all.

Treasure's Report ;.

I have closed the books with the help of **John Wyeth who countersigns the cheques with me.**The total amount in our accounts is **£5972.35** which is to be divided between the **Royal Naval Benevolent Trust and the Royal Marines Charity**, as proposed at our last Annual General Meeting.

Andrea



This a picture of the Greek Cruiser '**Georgios Averof**'

It is still in commission and can be seen at Palaio Faliro in Athens, Greece. The ship was fitted with British guns, so needed British ammunition, later when the guns were located ashore they could still get ammunition from Great Britain. During World War 11, she was stationed in Bombay and then at Port Said. When it was first commissioned it came to Portsmouth to load up with ammunition, while they were here the crew threatened to mutiny over the 'blue cheese' they had been issued with., once it had been explained how the blue appeared in the cheese they went back to work. More information can be found on Wikipedia.

Written and produced by Alan Hadley

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