



Don't forget
raffle prizes
for August
Quiz night

AHOY SHIPMATE

RNA Torbay Newsletter

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Deep Thoughts

**I live in my own little world
but it's OK; everyone
knows me here.**

**I don't do drugs 'cause I find I
get the same effect just by
standing up really fast.**

**I saw a rather large woman
wearing a sweatshirt with
"Guess" on it. I said,
"Thyroid problem?"**

**Money can't buy happiness
but it sure makes misery
easier to live with.**

**I don't approve of political
jokes. I've seen too many of
them get elected.**

**No one ever says, "It's only
a game!" when their team
is winning.**



Editorial

By Shipmate Norrie Millen

Hi! Shipmates,

How are you guys enjoying the heat wave? I said in last issue looks like summer is here, well it certainly is and with a vengeance. I emailed my brother in Canada about extreme temperatures and he replied that he had not had to run his central house air conditioning so far this year as the temperatures were untraditionally low; 61°F (16.1°C) in daytime and 42°F (5.5° C) at night.

I do not ever remember temperatures that low in the normally very hot and extremely humid Canadian summers. Which begs the question "Why, in winter, do we try to keep the house as warm as it was in summer when we complain about the heat in the summer?"

Once again I have included in this issue another article from "Trident" dated January 1946. This will be of particular interest to our two 'Hairy Fairy's' and indeed others interested in aircraft carriers.

The article entitled "*Technique of deck landing*" explains what a pilot has to go through before he is allowed to land on a carrier.

I wore my tropical (summer RNA) rig to the dedication of the Torbay Civic Society plaque. Buy some epaulettes from our 'slop chest' and you can be smart as a guardsman too!

Remember communication is a two-way medium, think about it!

The way I see it anyway!



Chairman's Corner

By Shipmate John Soanes

I am sure all members were shocked when they learned the sad news that S/M Mike Seaward's son Tim had suddenly passed away at the very young age of 48 while on holiday with his wife Kirsten in Turkey. Our thoughts are with Mike, Irene and family at this very sad time.

The Branch is very grateful and thanks to Mike's daughter-in-law Kirsten, for helping Irene with re-painting the inscription on the memorial at Roundham Head, Paignton. The memorial was erected as our Millennium project in 2000 to the memory of Lt.Cdr. Arthur Leyland Harrison VC. RN, who lost his life at Zeebrugge

As you can see from the photograph the memorial is 'looking good'

After the Branch meeting on Thursday 28th August we will be holding our next Quiz. It will follow the usual format namely Quiz with cash prizes, 1 to 100 draw for a bottle of Pusser's Rum plus our usual raffle, for which donated prizes will be most welcome.

This should be a good evening especially if the weather stays tropical! Some events from July 1964 some fifty years ago:

- 1 -Radio Caroline the first national pirate station started broadcasting.
- 2- In Liverpool over a hundred people were injured as 150,000 people welcomed the Beatles back to the city.
- 3- NASA tested its first successful rocket engine.
- And, 4 - Yours truly, was pottering about up the rivers of Borneo in a Mirrlees powered, open bridge coastal

minesweeper with no air-conditioning carrying out confrontation patrols. It doesn't seem like 50 years ago!

With all the terrible plane disasters of late, I thought this comical anecdote would be appropriate. Not that I take the terrible disasters lightly.

The Sniffer Dog

A man had just boarded and settled into his seat next to the window on the plane when another man sat down in the aisle seat and put his Black Labrador in the middle seat next to the man.

The first man looked very quizzically at the dog and asked why the dog was allowed on the plane.

The second man explained that he was from the Police Drugs Enforcement Agency and that the dog was a 'sniffing dog'.

'His name is Sniffer and he's the best there is. I'll show you once we get airborne, when I put him to work.'

The plane took off, and once it has levelled out, the Policeman said, 'Watch this.'

He told Sniffer to 'Search'.

Sniffer jumped down, walked along the aisle, and finally sat very purposefully next to a woman for several seconds.

Sniffer then returned to his seat and put one paw on the policeman's arm.

The Policeman said, 'Good boy', and he turned to the man and said, 'That woman is in possession of marijuana, I'm making a note of her seat number and the authorities will apprehend her when we land.'

'Gee, that's pretty good,' replied the first man. Once again, the Policeman sent Sniffer to search the aisles.

The Lab sniffed about, sat down beside a man for a few seconds, returned to its seat, and this time he placed two paws on the agent's arm.



The Policeman said, 'Two paws mean that man is carrying cocaine, so again, I'm making a note of his seat number for the police.'

'I like it!' said his seat mate.

The Policeman then told Sniffer to 'Search' again.

Sniffer walked up and down the aisles for a little while, sat down for a moment, and then came racing back to the agent, jumped into the middle seat and proceeded to poop all over the place.

The first man was really disgusted by this behaviour and couldn't figure out how or why a well-trained dog would behave like that

So he asked the Policeman, 'What's going on?'

The Policeman nervously replied, 'He's just found a bomb.'



Cooks to the Galley Coconut Macaroons

Delicious coconut macaroons with a chocolate bottom.

Ingredients:

2egg whites
125g/4½ozof sugar
125g/4½ozdesiccated coconut
Couverture chocolate

(Couverture chocolate is a very high quality chocolate that contains extra cocoa butter (32-39%). The higher percentage of cocoa butter, combined with proper tempering, gives the chocolate more sheen, firmer "snap" when broken, and a creamy mellow flavour.)

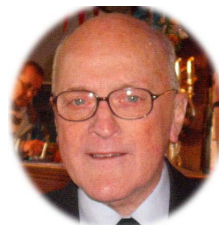
Method:

Desiccated coconut, sugar and egg whites are mixed and heated in a pan stirring now and then. If the dough is too moist then add some more coconut. The dough is should be quite dry.

The dough is shaped with floury fingers to small peaks and place on a baking sheet

lined with greaseproof paper. Bake them in the oven at 180°C for 10-15 minutes until they have gone golden.

When the macaroons have cooled, you can dip the bottoms in melted chocolate - but they also taste great without it.



President's Patter

By S/M Peter Brown

D-Day

Commemoration 2014

Torquay had a spectacular weekend on 6th, 7th and 8th June with events taking place across the Bay. As a mark of respect for past and present serving military personnel, they had a number of ceremonies and fitting events which will appeal to all ages.

All residents and visitors were made welcome and to participate and make the memorable anniversary particularly for the Normandy Veterans Association who will be disbanded later in the year. It is only right that we recognised those, who have given so much in a marked and respectful way.



Royal Navy warships HMS *Pembroke*, *Exploit* and *Dasher* arrived in Torbay on Friday June 6 to support the 70th Anniversary of D-Day

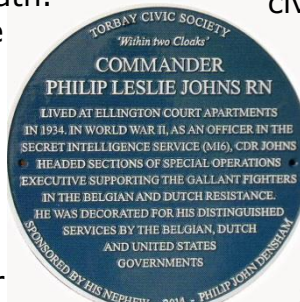
The Normandy Veterans Parade, led by The Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines Plymouth on Saturday June 7th began at Haldon Pier and finished at Beacon Quay. (Cont./...Page 6)



Commander Philip Leslie Johns RN, who played a prominent role in both the SOE and SIS (Later MI6) against Nazism in WW2.

A new Blue Plaque has been unveiled in Torquay to honour a WWII secret service hero.

He was born 18 Jan 1900 in Exeter and lived at Ebrington Terrace, St Thomas. His parents were Philip Charles (clerk and later a director in Tremletts Tannery at Exeter) and Mary Mabel Johns. Philip, known in the Coldridge family as Leslie, had joined the Royal Navy on 17 July 1917 aged 17 and at his own request would retire as a Paymaster Lieutenant in 1922. In 1923 at St Jude's church, Kensington, he married Amelia (known as Millie) Sarah Coldridge of Teignmouth. After only 5 years of marriage they separated in 1928 and later were divorced in 1931. Later he married Canadian born Dorothy Elliott in Paris and they had two children Angela and Michael both born in Torquay. 5 years after



The Plaque

Dorothy's death in 1962 Philip would marry again, to Sussex born Veronica Anderson in San Francisco, and she died in Alicante, Spain in 1976. He died on 9 Mar 1993 in Hillsborough, Florida, USA.

The Special Operations Executive (SOE), in which Philip was to play a significant covert role, had been formed in mid-1940, a secret organisation concerned with espionage, sabotage, etc. in Axis dominated



countries. Prime Minister Churchill had ordered the SOE to

"set Europe ablaze" and this newly formed group was regarded by SIS

Phillip Densham, Councillor Jane Barnaby, & Civic Society President Peter Brown

colleagues as something of a troublesome upstart. The organisation was disbanded in early 1946. The Secret Intelligence Service formed in 1909 became the organisation for foreign intelligence gathering activities and later was to be known as MI6. Its function continues to gather foreign intelligence.

Philip's fascinating published memoir "Within Two Cloaks: Missions with SIS and SOE" recounts how his intelligence mission started in April 1939. While serving in Naval Control Operations in Antwerp, Philip was recruited by a civilian from the Passport Control Office (i.e. British Secret Intelligence) of the British Embassy in Brussels in neutral Belgium.

Shortly after September, Philip became an officer in Military Intelligence 6 (MI6) Secret Intelligence Service

(SIS). He was to retain his cover as a Naval Control officer while maintaining a watch on known German agents and any contacts with the Belgian pro-Nazi party. He built up a clandestine network for coastal and port watching covering enemy shipping movements and especially submarines operating in the North Sea and North Atlantic. Through close friendly contact with the Head of Police Judicaire in Antwerp - responsible for registration and issue of identity papers - many

suspected agents of the German SD (Sicherheitsdienst) and collaborators were identified. In 1939-40 he set up sleeper agents to provide

intelligence by radio if and when Belgium was invaded which soon after, it was. In early 1941 Philip took over as Head of Station, Lisbon for 2 years, followed by a spell in Argentina. On being recalled to London he was appointed Head of the Belgian and Dutch Sections of SOE during the final 18 months of the war. In this period he served in those countries arranging the supply of arms and materials to the various Resistance groups for sabotage and harassment of the Nazi enemy and for the final armed rising of the underground units. In his memoir he comments and seeks to do justice, to the courageous exploits of the thousands of men and women of these two countries which have been much overlooked in English books published since. Philip's WW2 RN service record reads:

- 1939 -1940 - served with MI6 [the (SIS)] in the Brussels Station (Belgium)
- 19.05.1940 - (02.)1941 - Naval Intelligence Division, Admiralty [HMS President: a stone frigate] (serving in Section III
- (Naval) of the SIS)
- (04.1941) - (07.1945) - Naval Intelligence Division, Admiralty [HMS President] * (serving from the spring of 1941 with MI6 (SIS) as Head of Station in Lisbon, Portugal
- Dec. 1942 as Head of Station in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and from late 1943 in charge of Dutch & Belgian sections of the SOE
- Nov. 1943 - New York, USA Head of Belgian Section SOE
- 1943 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil Head of Station



Ellington Court as it is today. One time home of Cdr. P.L. Johns RN

- July 1945 - He retired with the rank of Acting Commander (S).

In recognition of his services in World War 1 Philip was awarded the British War Medal and Victory Cross in 1919.

Then after World War 2, in 1946 he was awarded the Officer Order of Orange-Nassau (for services to the Netherlands); and in 1947 was awarded the Legion of Merit (USA).

In 1948 he was awarded the Croix de Guerre (Belgium) the latter being re-established in 1940 by the Belgian

Government in exile in London in recognition of bravery and military virtue during WW2. The Order of the Crown was bestowed to military and diplomatic personnel of other countries stationed in (or providing support to) Belgium, and were bestowed on him by HRH Charles, the Prince Regent. During World War 2, the Order of the Crown was extensively authorized for award to Allied military personnel who had helped to liberate Belgium from the occupation forces of Nazi Germany. Finally, he was further honoured when it was gazetted by order of King George VI that he may wear all his foreign decorations on all occasions when in uniform.

Philip and his first wife Millie started their early married life in Antwerp, Belgium. His cover was as London company director of the Fisk Tire Export Company (New York) (1923-1945), manufacturers of automobile tyres.

Millie, who died in 1972, never knew anything of his undercover activities but was reportedly suspicious when she became aware that he was meeting a number of 'strange people'. This led to the subsequent breakdown of their marriage resulting in divorce.



Phillip Densham, Councillor Jane Barnaby,
& Civic Society President Peter Brown

Philip's second child Michael Philip (1934-2009) from his second marriage was born at the then next door Mount Stuart Maternity Home * on St Lukes Road South, while the family was residing at Ellington Court apartments in St Luke's Rd South, Torquay, Devon.

With war imminent, and at age 4 years, Michael was sent to the USA to stay with the Fenton family with whom his father Philip was well acquainted through the Fisk Tire company, of which Mr Fenton was President. David, the Fenton's son and Michael Johns became very close friends. Michael's older sister Angela (born January 1933) at Mount Stuart, went to Canada together with her mother Dorothy where they lived with Dorothy's sister.

This publication was written for Torbay Civic Society by Philip Densham, nephew of the Commander

***Editor's Notes:**

Original Mount Stuart is building before Ellington Court.

Attended by Shipmate Peter Brown and wife Pat (President of Civic Society) and Shipmate John Soanes & Norrie Millen (representing RNA Torbay.)

Was astounded when member of Civic Society and I think he was guide at Dartmouth Naval College asked if there were any RNA Branches in area.



(Continued from Page 3)

The programme for the D-Day Week-end was in brief follows:-

Friday, 6th June: - A few Normandy Veterans held a quiet memorial service and laid a wreath at the wall memorial at Beacon Quay, Torquay at 11 am. In the evening instead of a visit to HMS Pembroke, as there was a sea running, the Normandy Veterans and VIPs met with members from BRNC Dartmouth and HMS Pembroke at the Royal Torbay Yacht Club.

Saturday, 7th June: - A parade lead by the Royal Marine Band from Plymouth, marched along Beacon Quay to the memorial by the slipways, where the Service was conducted by Father Haydyn Jones (Padre of the NVA Torbay) and wreaths were laid commemorating the 70th anniversary of D-Day.

Meanwhile a marquee had been erected at Princess Gardens with stalls and DVDs were shown of the Normandy landings and the advance to Paris. These were also being shown in Paignton at the Vue Cinema and at the Batteries, Brixham.



After the Torquay parade, all those who had participated were invited back to the Livermead House Hotel where 208 enjoyed an excellent lunch!

Sunday, 8th June: - The Sail Past took place in Torbay at 2 pm, when HMS Pembroke escorted by two fast WW2 motor launches lead up to 100 craft from all the Yacht and Sailing Clubs around Torbay, supported by others from Teignmouth and Dartmouth, past the Fairmile WW2 Admiralty launch to salute the Normandy Veterans on board. Everyone entered into the spirit of the occasion and had decorated their craft with flags and bunting.



(More pictures on page 8)

The Technique of Deck Landing

An article from 1946 Trident

THE A.D.D.L. (or Aerodrome Dummy Deck Landing) has been worked out so carefully that if a pilot can go through the prescribed course of land instruction he will have no difficulty when he comes to land on a real deck for the first time. The average pilot needs about 120 A.D.D.L.'s on a fighter before going to the ship. Some aircraft are easier than others; the Barracuda is one of the easier types, whereas the Seafire is rated as being among the hardest. This is because the long nose restricts the view and also the undercarriage is narrow and not very strong.

Here is a description of a naval circuit comprising take off, fly round and land. The correct A.D.D.L. should take about four minutes—that is, roughly the time

needed to read this article.

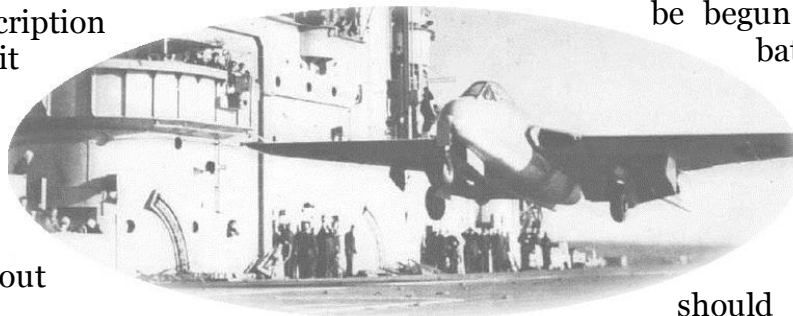
Take off from the ground requires about three-quarters throttle; on a deck the maximum should be used and the aircraft held on the brakes as far as possible. Once in the air the undercarriage should be raised quickly as the wheels block the radiator cooling and a gentle turn should be started to the left. The throttle can be eased and the airscrew pitch should be coarsened during the climb.

At 300 feet the climb should be checked but the turn continued until the aircraft has completed 180 degrees and is facing downwind. The throttle may have to be well closed as the Seafire is a clean aircraft and will soon accelerate to 180 knots unless it is prevented, whereas the speed should never exceed 130 knots.

The aircraft should never be more than a mile away from the start and the greatest height should be 300 feet.

The ship will be seen on the left and as soon as the aircraft is level with the mid-point of the carrier a gentle turn to the left should be started and the wheels lowered; they will give a bump as they lock down. The pilot should check the green lights and reduce speed to 95 knots. The flaps should then be lowered; they operate quickly and pneumatically and the nose will drop a bit but can be re trimmed up.

A descent of 300 ft. /min. should be begun and now the batsman should be visible on the port side of the stern of the ship and the approach should be regulated



The jet-propelled de Havilland Sea Vampire, piloted by Lieut.-Commander E. M. Brown, R.N.V.R., takes off for the first time from the flight deck of H.M.S. "Ocean," The plane became airborne in less than half the length of the deck and was several feet up when passing the "Island."

according to his instructions. The speed should be reduced to about 70-75 knots, arrester hook lowered, and the airscrew pitch fined so that full power can be applied if necessary in case of a mislanding.

The final turn into wind should be very gradual and to see the batsman it is necessary to lean right out into the wind. Although the aircraft is flying near its stalling speed it is not hard to keep the feel. The batsman continues to guide the aircraft down and, when it is at a safe height, he will close his arms, indicating CUT, which is where the pilot closes the throttle and the aircraft should pick up a wire and be brought to a standstill quickly.

It is easy enough to describe an A.D.D.L. or deck landing, but it is harder

to give an idea of the degree of skill required. This is definitely a piece of precision flying demanding a nicety of touch only acquired by experience. In addition the pilot must learn to have confidence in the batsman; he can see far better than the pilot how the landing is going.

To help the batsman it is necessary for the pilot to work with him and obey his signals promptly. The batsman should try to think one jump ahead of the pilot and thus make his signals more emphatic by being anticipatory. His signals (sometimes in no mean fashion!) indicate *what the pilot should do if he gets into the wrong position*. In other words, if the pilot gets the aircraft too low the batsman will raise his bats to tell the pilot to get higher.

This point must be emphasised, because the American method is the reverse of this: if the pilot gets too low the batsman shows he is too low by *lowering* his bats. The flying technique also in the U.S. Navy is different, the aircraft lands flatter and the whole circuit is more crabbed, particularly the final approach, which is done at almost deck level and the aircraft sort of skidded on to the deck. There are points for and against each.

At night a light comes on when the arrester hook is lowered and the batsman has a tougher job altogether. He uses illuminated bats. There have been experiments with fluorescent lighting, but details are not available. Greater care than ever is needed by the pilots when the carriers go on the night shift.

Today's Short Reading from the Bible... from Genesis: "And God promised men that good and obedient wives would be found in all corners of the earth." Then He made the earth round...and He laughed and laughed and laughed!

Ever notice that people who spend money on beer, cigarettes and lottery tickets are always complaining about being broke and not feeling well?

(Pictures from article on page 6)



Seems we constantly hear about how State Pensions (OAP) is going to run out of money. How come we never hear about Welfare (Benefits) running out of money? What's interesting is the first group "worked for" their money, but the second didn't.



Ramblings of a Retired Mind

I was thinking about how a status symbol of today is those cell phones that everyone has clipped onto their belt or purse. I can't afford one. So, I'm wearing my garage door opener.

I also made a cover for my hearing aid and now I have what they call blue teeth, I think.

You know, I spent a fortune on deodorant before I realized that people didn't like me anyway.

I was thinking that women should put pictures of missing husbands on beer cans!

I was thinking about old age and decided that old age is 'when you still have something on the ball, but you are just too tired to bounce it.'

I thought about making a fitness movie for folks my age, and call it 'Pumping Rust'.

I've gotten that dreaded furniture disease. That's when your chest is falling into your drawers!

When people see a cat's litter box, they always say, 'Oh, have you got a cat?' Just once I want to say, 'No, it's for company!'

Employment application blanks always ask who is to be notified in case of an emergency. I think you should write, 'A Good Doctor'!

I was thinking about how people seem to read the Bible a whole lot more as they get older. Then, it dawned on me. They were cramming for their finals.

Gentle Thoughts for Today - Birds of a feather flock together and then poop on your car.

A penny saved is a government oversight.

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight, because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.

The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.

Did you ever notice: The Roman Numerals for forty (40) are XL.

If you can smile when things go wrong, you have someone in mind to blame.

The sole purpose of a child's middle name is so he can tell when he's really in trouble.

Did you ever notice: When you put the 2 words 'The' and 'IRS' together it spells 'Theirs...'

Ageing:

Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people to know 'why' I look this way.

I've travelled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.

When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to your youth, think of Algebra.

You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.

One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young.

Ah, being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.

Snowmen fall from Heaven unassembled.

Every time I walk into a singles bar I can hear Mom's wise words: Don't pick that up, you don't know where it's been!

I have questions

Why isn't the number 11 pronounced onety-one?

If 4 out of 5 people SUFFER from diarrhea...does that mean that one out of five enjoys it?

Why do croutons come in airtight packages? Aren't they just stale bread to begin with?

If people from Poland are called Poles, then why aren't people from Holland called Holes?

If a pig loses its voice, is it disgruntled?

Why is a person who plays the piano called a pianist, but a person who drives a race car is not called a racist?

If it's true that we are here to help others, then what exactly are the others here for?

If lawyers are disbarred and clergymen defrocked, then doesn't it follow that electricians can be delighted, musicians denoted, cowboys deranged, models deposed, tree surgeons debarked, and dry cleaners depressed?

Do Lipton Tea employees take 'coffee breaks'?

What hair color do they put on the driver's licenses of bald men?

I thought about how mothers feed their babies with tiny little spoons and forks, so I wondered what do Chinese mothers use, Toothpicks?

Is it true that you never really learn to swear until you learn to drive?

If a cow laughed, would milk come out of her nose?

Whatever happened to Preparations A through G?

Why, Why, Why do we press harder on the remote control when we know the batteries are getting weak?

Why do banks charge a fee due to insufficient funds; when they already know you're broke?

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?

Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?

Why did Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?

Whose cruel idea was it to put an "s" in the word "lisp"?

If people evolved from apes, why are there still apes?

Is there ever a day that mattresses are not on sale?

Why do people constantly return to the refrigerator with hopes that something new to eat will have materialized?

Why do people run over a string a dozen times with their vacuum cleaner, then reach down, pick it up, examine it and then put it down to give the vacuum one more chance?

How do those dead bugs get into the enclosed light fixtures?

Why is it that whenever you attempt to catch something that's falling off the table you always manage to knock something else over?

Why, in winter, do we try to keep the house as warm as it was in summer when we complained about the heat?

Do you ever wonder why you gave me your e-mail address in the first place?

And my favourite: The statistics on sanity say that one out of every four persons is suffering from some sort of mental illness. Think of your three best friends. If they're OK..? (then it's you!)

REMEMBER, A day without a smile is like a day without sunshine!

And a day without sunshine is, like.....night!

How long a minute is, depends on what side of the bathroom door you're on.

Isn't having a smoking section in a restaurant like having a peeing section in a swimming pool?