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# AHOY SHIPMATE

## RNA Torbay Newsletter

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### Good old NHS

A Nottingham woman has lost her case at Nottingham magistrates court today, after she tried to sue "NHS Queens Medical Centre" after her husband went in for an operation which left him unable to have sex with her afterwards.

Mrs Minger of Bulwell aged 67 said to reporters outside court this afternoon "Me and me 'usband Fred 'ave 'ad bangin' sex till 'e went ta 'ospital and 'ad 'is operation, now 'e's not interested 'n me and it's all down to them bastards!"

The surgeon who performed the operation and attended court to give evidence said all we did was removed Fred's Cataracts!"

### Editorial

*By Shipmate Norrie Millen*

Hi! Shipmates,

What can I write this issue, been so busy with my masonic duties as Worshipful Master, visiting many other lodges as part of my remit I have hardly had chance to change my clothes or have bath & dhobi!

Once again we are experiencing beautiful sunny weather, I have changed in 10AR's (or whatever they call it now) long may this lovely weather last. It was a bonus for our shipmates manning the stall at Babbacombe; sadly I was unable to attend but did contribute a load of books and CD's for the cause. See pictures on page 2.

If any shipmate is interested in helping me raise money for Rowcroft Hospice, I have an open mike/social night at the lodge refectory (right opposite Teignmouth Railway Station) on Saturday July 7<sup>th</sup>, all welcome, dress smart causal, entrance £10.00 to cover cost of food and bar staff and a contribution to Rowcroft Hospice. I have made over 140 pasties (including a few Gluten Free & Veggie ones) over 200 cocktail sausage rolls, and there will also be a variety of sandwiches available. Also a grand raffle with several bottles of spirits and wine which I am donating to the cause. It will a grand night with several musicians playing for free and a four piece Red Ruby Quartet singing A cappella

Want to hear bureaucracy at its best? My son in Canada mailed me a \$15.00 Canadian Car flag for Father's Day. Yesterday I had a Post Office card in my mail, stating that they had a package but there was a fee of £93.33 to pay before they could release the package. Even when I explained that it was only a \$15.00 flag, they stated nothing they could do; I had to take it up with HMRC. They refused to reconsider the charge and nothing I could say or do would make them admit to an error. Seems the mailing label was damaged in the post and that the value looked like £600 as opposed to £6.00. Obviously they had not opened the package to ascertain its true value. I am fighting this as a matter of principle.

Civil servants and bureaucrats once making a mistake will not back down or admit to their errors.

***The way I see it anyway!***



## Chairman's Corner

*By Shipmate John Soanes*

I understand that the Branch attendance at Babbacombe Fair was a complete success, the weather remained fine and our President S/M Terry Membery and his team sold over £178 worth of donated items, this was commendable especially when considering there were many other similar stalls competing for sales. A well deserved "Bravo Zulu" to Terry and all branch members and wives who donated items and those that helped out on the day.

The coverage of World Cup football which is dominating our TV screens at the present time has so far been first class, there has certainly been some surprise results, which only increases the enjoyment.

I am reminded ("Swing that lamp" ) of my time in *HMS ROTHESAY* during a 12 month commission on the America and West Indies Station during which we did a three to four week tour of South America between 17th June and 12th July 1961.

We visited Rio de Janeiro, Brazil a couple of times, Buenos Aires in Argentina, Montevideo in Uruguay plus other ports in Brazil and Argentina.

During each of the visits the ship was invited to send a football team to play against local teams.

As can be imagined a Type 12 frigate with a complement of just over 150, our team was not actually of a very high standard. However the teams we played against were of a very high standard and at every match there was a massive crowd all eager to see their team beat a "British Navy Team". Our ship's team was soundly thrashed on every occasion. I remember one particular match in Argentina we were playing a team called Estudiantes de La Plata, which unbeknown to us was one of the top clubs in Argentina! I don't think they fielded their top players, but even so at one time they were leading about 20 - 0. It was then agreed that about six of the Argentine team should swap places with six of our team. I seem to remember the final score was about 27 goals to nil. The headlines in the local paper the next day read " Local students football team beat the British Navy".



[Larger images on website](#)

## THE BEGINNING OF THE ROYAL NAVAL ENGINE ROOM ASSOCIATION

*By Bob Styants –Engineer Association*

**Not known by most members now, forgone, by the rest in 1974 a small group of ex-engineer personnel, nautical club members, eight in number decided to start the association**

A committee of Chairman, Vice Chair, Treasurer was elected, all of whom "Crossed the Bar" many years ago, except Gerry Gerhard, No. 1 On our ship's book, now living in Australia who became the first Secretary, followed by Vice Chair and Chairman, and still keeps in touch.



He was the guiding light in charity work: many other good men have filled those positions over the years. He organised trips abroad for club members and others who wanted to go over the years to place like Singapore, Thailand, Penang, Kuala Lumpur, Karachi, and the China Fleet Club in Hong Kong.

Sadly the good work that was originally done petered out over the years, the club did not have accommodation, and due to rising costs of the events, hotel bills etc. it became expensive.

Money had been raised to buy a dog for the Blind Association, also a complete bed for the old Accident Hospital which had a plate over it acknowledging us.

Musical instruments were bought for a Sea Cadet Unit, who also held for us the statue of a dog given us by the Blind association.

There were day trips arranged on the canals for disadvantaged children by member Bob Healey, now long gone. A

Thousand Pounds was given to Cancer Research in two installments.

Fund raising dances had guests such as Roy Hudd who sang "When Father Painted the Parlour" people threw money at him: ex RN rating David Whitfield also came and sang for charity, before leaving a week later for Australia where he eventually died.

Another way to raise money was to put a bottle of Whisky in front of the stage and skim two shilling pieces at it, the nearest to it won the bottle: eighty pounds was raised one evening by this. The Stoker's mess in HMS 'Birmingham' appreciated our support, a large TV set was bought for them before they left for the Falklands War: and on their return we were invited to the mess and treated royally, and not for the last time.

As the City of Birmingham "Chummy" ship and the occasional official visit to the city they would come to the nautical club in uniform to please us old 'vets' before changing later into civvies on the early days we gave them "Up Homers" accommodation far weekend by members: my wife and I took in four Killick stokers, one of whom later married a local girl and we went Havant for the wedding.

Later the crew were put up in local barracks and then hotels.

The ship de-commissioned in 2001 and ended it all.

The closing of the Nautical club after 44 years was a major blow, but we found happy new premises with TS. 'Sherbourne' Sea Cadet in Stirchley, Birmingham B30 3DR.

From a start of eight members the association rose to One Hundred and Eighty, and now it's down to Eighty Three





## Lt Colonel John Malcolm 'Mad Jack' Churchill

*From the Internet*

Churchill is known for his daring exploits, including making the last recorded bow and arrow kill in wartime, saving 500 people in Jerusalem from certain death and capturing German soldiers with the use of his Claybeg sword.

When once asked about the basket-hilted blade, Churchill - who prepared his men for battle by playing bagpipes - said: "In my opinion, any officer who goes into action without his sword is improperly dressed" Churchill regularly brought his trusty basket-hilted Claybeg sword, a set of bagpipes and a longbow into battle.

The Lt. Colonel's son, Malcolm Churchill, 71, from Surrey, explained when these weapons were used. He said: "He would use the bagpipes to rouse the troops before battle and he's the last soldier to be credited with killing somebody with a bow and arrow." Mad Jack made the last ever recorded bow and arrow kill in WW2 when he shot a German officer in 1940 while holding the village of l'Épinette in France. Malcolm added: "He and his section were in a tower and as the Germans approached he said, 'I will shoot that first German with an arrow' and that's exactly what he did and they held the rest off with machine guns."

Churchill used his bagpipes to raise the morale of his troops and lower that of the enemy. He launched into a rousing rendition of the March of the Cameron Men before raiding a German garrison in Operation Archery in Vaagso, Norway in 1941.

After recovering from an injury he sustained in the operation, he further raised his profile by leading troops through Sicily and then the landings in Salerno. It was here that, with the help of a corporal, he captured 42 German troops and a mortar crew with just the use of

his Claybeg.

However on a later assignment in Yugoslavia in 1944, he and his troops were struck by a German attack and Churchill was sent to the notorious Sachsenhausen concentration camp. Malcolm said: "He shouldn't have been captured inasmuch as he was a Colonel and shouldn't have been in the front lines. However he was a fighting soldier and he didn't care much for being at the back filling out paperwork."

True to form, Churchill managed to escape but was recaptured and sent to a PoW camp in Austria. After escaping a second time, Churchill walked 150 miles over to Verona, Italy where he met with an American column who sent him back to England.

Despite these amazing feats, however, Mad Jack, who died in 1996 at the age of 89, didn't spend much time boasting. Malcolm added: "He didn't brag about these things at all but he would be happy to talk to anyone who asked, particularly if it was over a couple of nice glasses of wine in the evening. Mother ran the house, not him. Father was quite happy to have things quiet at home."

Mad Jack's civilian efforts were nearly as impressive as his wartime feats as he represented Great Britain in the 1939 World Archery Championships and played roles in films such as *Ivanhoe* and *The Thief of Baghdad*. Malcolm added: "He was slightly eccentric. He had very unusual taste but was happy so long as he was doing his own thing." His feats also include motorcycling across Burma and helping to save 500 Jewish doctors and patients during the Hadassah medical convoy massacre in 1948



## A Simple Mistake Knocked India's Most Powerful Submarine Out of Action for 10 Months

From the internet

**India's first nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine appears to have suffered from an accident that has knocked the boat out of commission for the past 10 months.**

The vessel's propulsion compartments were flooded with seawater due to what appears to have been human error. According to the Indian newspaper *The Hindu*, a hatch on the port side of the vessel was left open by accident while *Arihant* was still in port. Water apparently entered the vessel when it set sail.

As the lead boat of a new class of submarines and as New Delhi's first attempt at building an SSBN, *Arihant* has had its share of problems. Senior Indian Navy sources told *The Hindu* that *Arihant* has faced problems from the beginning partly because of "major differences between the Russian-supplied design and indigenous fabrication are said to have left many issues unaddressed satisfactorily."

However, this latest accident does not have anything to do with design flaws or manufacturing defects. The problem in this case is simple negligence — a hatch being left open.

The Indian submarine fleet has a long history of serious accidents. Indeed, in recent months, *INS Chakra*, Project 971 *Akula*-class nuclear attack submarine leased from the Russian Federation, suffered

damage to its sonar dome in October. Since 2008, the Indian Navy's submarine force has suffered at least three serious accidents, two of which resulted in serious loss of life.

It is not yet clear if the accident onboard *Arihant* will seriously impact the

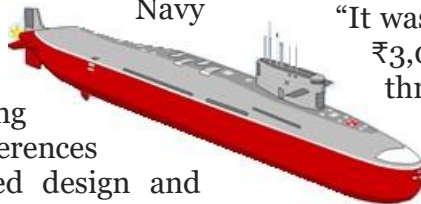
developmental progress of India's submarine-based nuclear deterrent. A second SSBN called *Arighat* was launched on Nov. 19, 2017. That vessel is apparently conducting sea trials according to *The Hindu*.

The Indians plan to build three additional *Arihant*-class vessels for India's retaliatory second-strike capability. However, *Arihant* has apparently proven to be far more expensive than anticipated — and technologically far more troublesome than expected. Indeed, the vessel has been in development for more than 30 years.

"It was initially estimated to cost about ₹3,000 crore [\$470 million] for three boats — now the cost of *Arihant* itself seems to have gone over ₹14,000 crore," a former high-ranking naval officer told *The Hindu*.

The vessels are expensive, but it seems likely that New Delhi will continue on its path to develop a survivable submarine-based deterrent. With hostile nuclear-armed China and Pakistan next door, India has little choice but to persist with the development program despite its exorbitant cost.

**EDs Note: What..., they build a complex nuke sub and don't include a 5 buck "hey I'm still open" switch on a hatch...?**



'Arihant' concept art. Illustration via Wikimedia

## The Canadian Man Who Single-Handedly Liberated the City of Zwolle in the Netherlands from German Occupation

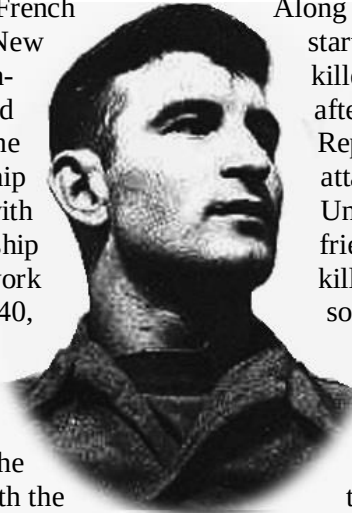
*From the Internet*

**Léo Major** DCM & Bar, was a French Canadian man born in 1921, in New Bedford, Massachusetts, to French-Canadian parents, Léo Major moved with his family to Montreal before he turned one. Due to a poor relationship with his father, he moved to live with an aunt at age 14. This relationship combined with a lack of available work led Major to join the army in 1940, allegedly to prove to his father that he was "somebody to be proud of".

He probably didn't think he was going to be more of a hero than the average soldier when he joined up with the Canadian Army at the start of World War II. Supposedly he simply joined up because he wanted to show his father, with whom he had a shaky relationship, that he could do something to be proud of. He was the only Canadian and one of only three soldiers in the British Commonwealth to ever receive the Distinguished Conduct Medal twice in separate wars.

Major started his overseas tour in 1941, serving in Le Regiment de la Chaudiere. On D-Day, he was wounded by a grenade, resulting in the partial loss of vision in his left eye. Major refused to be sent home, arguing that he only needed one good eye to sight a rifle. He was placed in the scout platoon and became handy with his rifle, earning himself a reputation as an excellent sniper.

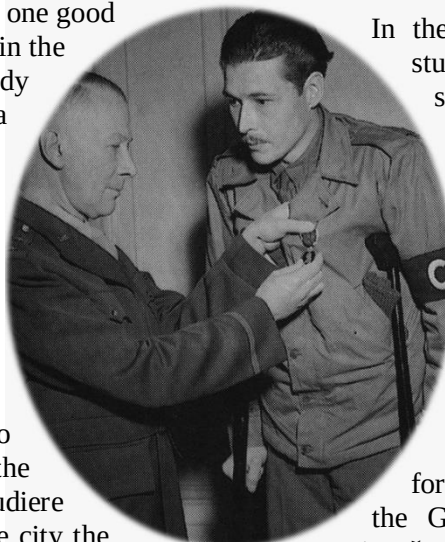
In April 1945, Major's regiment was approaching the city of Zwolle. His commanding officers asked for two volunteers to do a reconnaissance run and report on the number of German troops patrolling the city. If possible, the volunteers were also asked to get in contact with the Dutch resistance as the Chaudiere regiment was to start firing on the city the next day. At the time, Zwolle had a population of around 50,000 people and it was likely that innocent civilians would number among the casualties.



Along with his friend Willy Arseneault, Major started to creep toward the city. Willy was killed by German soldiers around midnight after the pair ran across a roadblock. Reportedly, Willy was able to kill his attacker before dying himself. Understandably angry, Major picked up his friend's machine gun and ran at the enemy, killing two of the remaining German soldiers; the rest fled in a vehicle.

Major continued on and soon ambushed a staff vehicle and captured the German driver who he had lead him to an officer drinking in a nearby tavern. He informed the officer that Canadian forces would begin firing heavy artillery on the city, resulting in the deaths of many German soldiers and Zwolle civilians alike. He didn't mention that he was alone.

Afterwards, Major gave the man his gun back and, with that seed of knowledge soon to be spread throughout the German troops, he immediately began running up and down the streets shooting a machine gun and tossing grenades. The grenades made a lot of noise, but he made sure to place them where they wouldn't cause much damage to the town or its citizens.



In the early hours of the morning, he stumbled upon a group of eight soldiers. Though they pulled a gun on him, he killed four and caused the rest to flee. Major himself escaped the confrontation without injury and only one regret: he later stated he felt he should have killed all of them.

As he continued his campaign of terror throughout the night, the German soldiers began to panic, thinking a large body of Canadian forces were attacking them. By 4 a.m., the Germans had vanished. An entire garrison estimated to have been made up of several hundred soldiers had been made so afraid of nothing more than a single, one-eyed man that they fled the town. The city of Zwolle had been liberated without the need for the death of civilians.



or many of the soldiers on both sides of the lines that would have taken part in the messy battle.

Rather than fall asleep after running around the city in the wee hours of morning avoiding German gunfire and causing all kinds of mayhem, Major enlisted the help of several Dutch civilians to retrieve the body of his friend Willy.

Only after his friend's body had been recovered did Major report to his commanding officer that there was "no enemy" in the city. The Canadian army marched in to the sound of cheers rather than gun shots. For his actions at Zwolle, Major received a Distinguished Conduct Medal.

If this wasn't all enough, perhaps I should mention that in 1944, a year before he liberated Zwolle, at the Battle of Scheldt, Major captured 93 German soldiers by himself and led them to waiting Canadian troops.

He and Willy were teamed up again on a reconnaissance mission to find out what had happened to a company of men that had seemingly disappeared. Willy was sick, so Major went alone. He soon found that the company he was looking for had all managed to get themselves captured. Rather than go back and report immediately, Major was cold, so went into a nearby house to warm up. At this point, he saw a couple German soldiers through a window and decided to capture them, which he did. With them presumably helping him lug his balls of solid steel along the way, he had them take him to their commanding officer, who was among about 100 other German soldiers at the time.

His offer was basically-surrender or you die. Of course, he'd then die too, but this plan miraculously worked. Why? Because some nearby SS troops observed the exchange and misinterpreted, thinking the commanding officer and his men were surrendering. Thus, the SS opened fire on both Major and the German soldiers around him. The Germans being fired upon

decided surrendering to Major was better than being killed by the SS, so they went with him, with the SS hot in pursuit, killing some of them along the way. All total, 93 German soldiers made it back with him and became POWs.

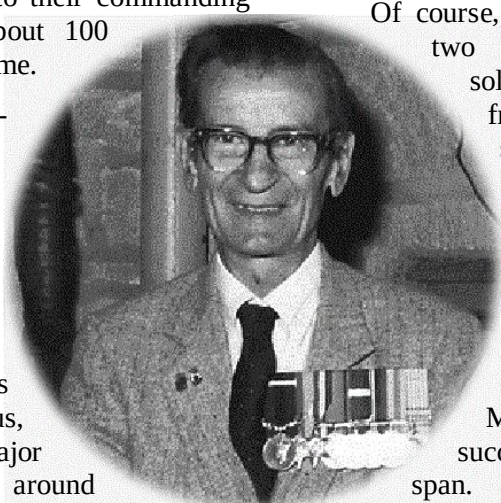
For this amazing feat, Major was offered a Distinguished Conduct Medal, but refused it because he felt his commanding officer, Field Marshall Montgomery, was "incompetent" and that, "He had made an awful mistake. I didn't like him at all." Thus, he didn't want to receive an award from the Field Marshall's hand.

Still not impressed? How about how he won his second Distinguished Conduct Medal, besides the one earned liberating Zwolle, which would have been his second, had he accepted the 1944 one. The second one he chose to accept didn't come in WWII. Rather, it was achieved during the Korean War where he managed, in a lot of ways, to top the other two, though this time with the help of just under a couple dozen other people. But I think you'd soon agree, it was still ridiculously amazing.

Around 40,000 Chinese soldiers had successfully dislodged a large body of U.S. soldiers from a key hill (Hill 335 to be exact). Unable to retake the hill, Major and a small group of other snipers were sent in. Their job was to sneak up onto the hill, in the midst of all those Chinese soldiers, and then open fire. After doing this and throwing the Chinese soldiers into a panic, rather than retreat, Major had his men continue firing and managed to do what thousands of U.S. troops had been unable to do, retake the hill.

Of course, the Chinese soon regrouped and two divisions, totalling over 14,000 soldiers, were sent to retake the hill from Major and his tiny band of snipers (20 men total). Again, rather than retreat as ordered, Major and his band decided to hold the hill. After three days of repeated attacks from over ten thousand soldiers using every manner of weaponry, reinforcements arrived and relieved Major and his men, who had successfully held the hill during that span.

I presume after being relieved and having the

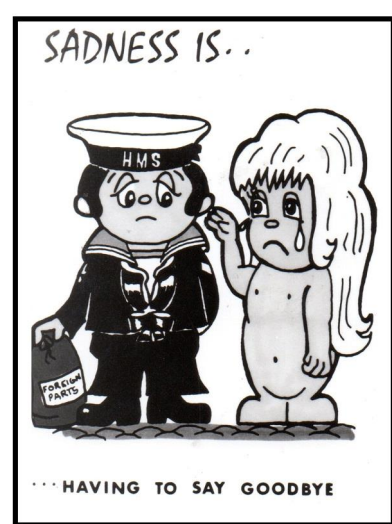
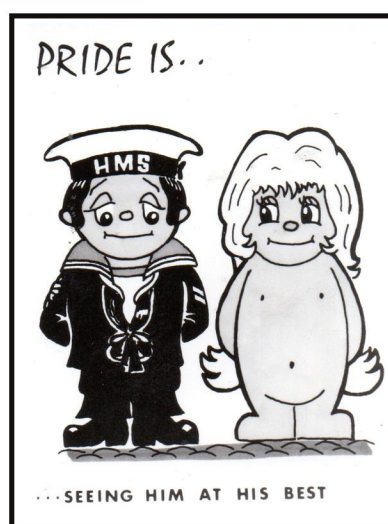
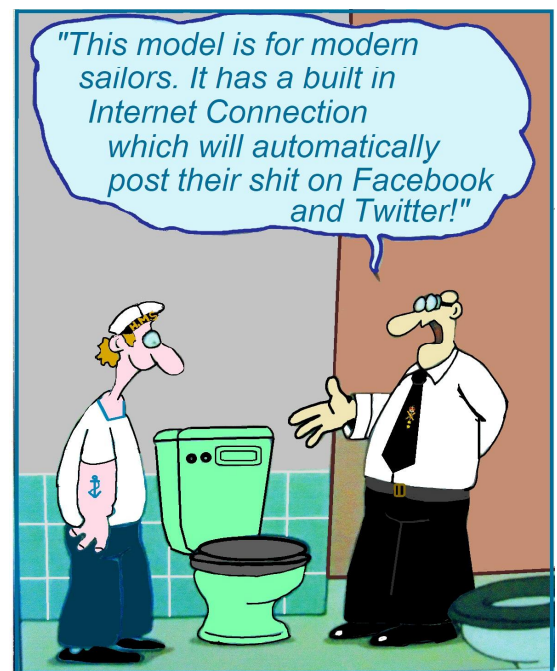
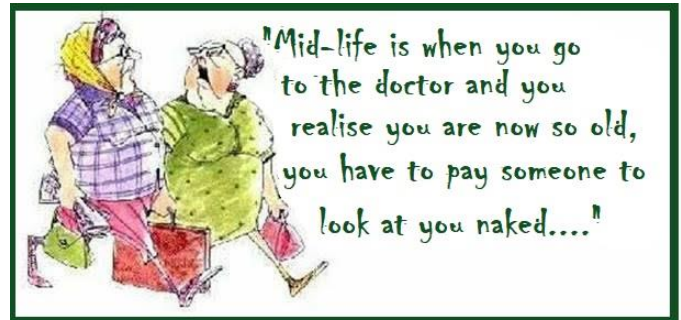
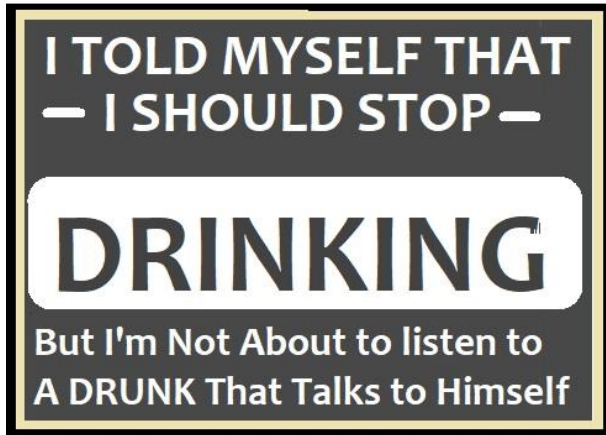


relieving commanding officer perhaps tell him it was madness to try and hold the hill with so few men, Major most likely responded with ñMadness? Bonus Fact:

- You might think such a bold style of waging

war combined with being a long time soldier would inevitably have gotten Major killed, but he actually ended up living to the ripe old age of 87, dying in 2008.

- Besides the aforementioned awards, Major's regiment during WWII later created a trophy which was presented at competitions to the company that performed the best. It was named in his honour.





## Nicknames – Part III

*(I will run this article over several issues)*

**The Royal Navy takes nicknames to an entirely different level. Yes, it has the obvious ones “Ali” Barber, “Mini” Cooper and “Albert” Hall.**

**London Smokey** - The City of London is known as the ñBig Smoken

**Long Dodger** - Play on words ñ dodge along in the sense of run along

**Lowe Arthur** - Actor famously associated with playing Captain Mainwaring in the 1970s TV comedy ñDad’s Army.

**Marsh Swampy** - Play on words ñ in the sense of boggy ground

**Marshall Scrumpy**

**Martin Pincher** - Nickname of Admiral Sir W F Martin (1801-95), renowned for being a strict disciplinarian who did not hesitate to ñpinch ratings for minor offences.

**Mason Perry** - Name of a defence lawyer who featured in the American 1960s TV series of the same name

**Matthews Stanley** - 1940s/50s Stoke City, Blackpool & England footballer.

**May Daisy** - ñDaisy May was the ventriloquist’s dummy (a little schoolgirl puppet) used by Albert Saveen. He became the first ventriloquist to have his own radio series, with a post-war BBC Light Programme show called Midday with Daisy May. A Cockney printer, Saveen developed the info on Daisy May Children’s character voice by learning to use one lung at a time whilst recovering in hospital after being blown up by a bomb during the war. Alternative explanation in the sense of raising doubts about a young lady’s virtue ñ Daisy may; or alternatively, she may not.

**May Piggy**

**McRae George** - 1970s soul singer

**Meadows Grassy** - Play on meadows being grassy places

**Metcalf Fruity**

**Miller/Millar Dusty** - Play on a miller being covered in dust

**Mills Bomber** - WW1 hand grenades were known as Mills Bombs

**Moore Pony** - After George Washington ñPony Moore (1820-1909) who ran the Magpie Music Hall, Battersea and later formed the Moore and Burgess Minstrels (an offshoot of the Christy Minstrels and very famous in the mid-19th century) He was a well known sporting character who allegedly always bet in ñponies (betting slang for a sum of £25).

**Morgan Rattler** - After Sir Henry Morgan (circa 1635-88) buccaneer and Lieutenant Governor of Jamaica. Rattle is the naval slang for prison and Morgan is reputed to have always carried a large bunch of keys.

**Murphy Spud** - Play on Murphy being a common Irish surname and association with the Irish Potato Famine

**Murray Ruby** - Popular 1950s female singer

**Nelson Sandy** - Renowned American session drummer of the 1950s/60s, much in demand and amongst others played with The Coasters, Gene Vincent, Phil Spector and Duane Eddy.

**New Knocky**

**Newman Alfie**

**Nicholson Jack** - 1970s ñ present day; American film star

**Oakley Annie** - Legendary female American Wild West markswomen ñ subject of famous musical ñAnnie Go and Get Your Gun.

**Palmer Pedlar**

**Parker Fez** - ñFez is a shortened version of Fess Parker who was a 1950s/60s screen/TV actor who starred in Westerns

**Parker Nosey** - Self-evident ñ someone who is very nosey

**Payne/Paine Whacker**

**Perkins Polly** - Title of a traditional mid-19th Century folk-song ñ ñPretty Polly Perkins of Paddington Green

**Phillipotts Putty**

**Poole Cess** - As in cesspool which collects sewage and waste water.

**Potter Harry** - Schoolboy wizard from the series of books by J K Rowling.

**Potter Gillie** - 1940s/50s radio comic who delivered talks with a mock superior air. Catch phrase ñGood evening, England, this is Gillie Potter speaking to you, in English.

**Potter Pansy** - Beano comic strip character ñPansy Potter, the Strong Mans Daughter, first started in 1938.

**Powell Cozy** - 1970s/80s drummer, played with heavy rock bands Black Sabbath, Rainbow and Whitesnake

**Powell Sandy** - ñSandy Powell was a Rotherham born pre- and post-war comedian (1898-1983) with the famous catch phrase- ñCan you hear me Mother? which in 1932-33 is reputed to be the first to catch on with a radio listening audience.

**Price Pricky**

**Ramsay Alf** - Football manager who guided England to victory in the World Cup in 1966

**Reed/Reid Blood**

**Reynolds Burt** - Male American cinema/TV star who has been appearing on the screen since the 1950s

**Reynolds Debbie** - Female singer, cinema and TV star

**Rhodes Dusty** - Play on roads being dusty places

**Rider Easy** - Cult 1970s biker film of the same name.

**Ridd Jan** - Character in novel ñLorna Doone by R D Blackmore

**Riddle Jimmy** - Rude ñ slang phrase to urinate; originating from Cockney rhyming slang where ñjimmy riddle = piddle.

**Rogers Buck** - 1930s American comic strip space hero, reappeared in cinema serials and TV during 1950s and late 1970s/80s.

**Ross Albert** - ñAlbatross allegedly a joke played on university students in the early 1970s, who were told to go to

the senior common room/refectory and announce ñTelephone call for Albert Rossò.....

Royle **Joe** - 1970s Everton centre forward

Ryan **Buck**

Saunders **Sandy**

Shackleton **Bomber** - 1950s RAF bomber, later long-range airborne early warning aircraft

Sharpe **Razor** - Razors need to be sharp to give a good shave

Shaw **Artie** - 1930s/40 American big band leader

Shepherd **Jack**

Short **Jumper**

Slaughter **Tod** - 1930s/40s British screen actor who invariably played the part of the villain

Sloan **Tod** - American jockey (career 1893-1900) who became famous in Britain after 1897 for his unusual riding style and won several Classics

Smith/Smyth **Smudge**

Smith/Smyth **Smudger**

Snow **Frosty** - Association with snow falling in winter when it is frosty

Steel/Steele **Rusty** - Play on steel becoming rusty in a moist atmosphere

Stephens **Stainless** - ñStainless Stephensò was the stage name of a wartime/mid 20th century (radio) comedian who was known for giving apparently serious monologues on spurious subjects.

Stone **Rocky** - Play on the words rock and stone

Stone **Jed**

Tanner **Elsie** - Personality from ITV soap ñCoronation Streetñ

Taylor **Buck** - American TV actor starred in 1950s Western series ñGunsmokeñ

Taylor **Snip**

Thatcher **Maggie** - 1970s/80s Britainòs first female Prime Minister

Thomas **Tommy** - Tommy is the diminutive form of Thomas

Thompson **Tommo**

Tickle **Tess**

Todd **Sweeney** - Notorious 19th Century murderer who worked as a barber in Fleet Street and killed his victims while they were sitting in the chair

Trueman **Ben**

Trueman **Fred** - Fast bowler who played for the England cricket team in the 1960s

Tucker **Tommy** - Nursery rhyme character

Turner **Topsy** - Possibly related to the saying ñto turn topsy turvyò when upsetting something or falling over.

Tyler **Bonny** - 1970s/80s British female singer ñ biggest hits ñLost in Franceò and ñItòs a Heartacheò

Walker **Hooky** - Circa 1800: Hookey Walker is probably derived from Mr. John Walker, an outdoor clerk of Messrs. Longman Clementini & Co, formerly of Cheapside and noted his

hook nose, disliked because in order to keep his workmen up to their work he frequently invented unfavourable reports in order to keep himself in office

Walker **Whisky** - After Johnny Walker whiskey

Wallace **Nelly**

Ward **Sharkey** - After the nickname of John Ward (Yusuf Rais) (c. 1553 ñ 1622) an English sea captain turned Barbary Corsair, Ward was based in Tunis, where he died of plague. Precise origin of nickname sharkey unknown.

Wardle **Sharkey**

Warner **Plum** - After Sir Pelham (Plum) Warner ñ famous England test cricketer at beginning of 20th century

Warren **Bunny** - Bunny rabbits live in warrens

Waters **Stormy** - Play on words ñ rough seas

Watson **Soapy** - A brand of soap issued to the Fleet was reputed to have been produced by a company called ñWatsonsñ

Web(b) **Spider** - Self evident ñ spiders make webs

Welch **Racquel** -1960s screen goddess

Wellington **Duke** - Duke of Wellington, victor of Battle of Waterloo 1815

Wellington **Boots** - Item of footwear named after Duke of Wellington

Wells **Bomber** - After Bomber or more correctly ñBombardierñ, or ñBattlingò Billy Wells (1889-1967) ñ British heavyweight boxing champion (1911-19). So well known that a big gun in the 1914-18 war was nicknamed after him.

Wells **Kitty**

West **Banjo**

West **Fred** - Builder from Gloucester ñ 1980s notorious mass murderer

Weston **Aggie** - After the former Royal Sailors Rest in Devonport, always known as ñAggie Westonòs after its founder Dame Agnes Weston

Wheatley **Dennis** - Popular British thriller writer 1930s to 60s

White **Knocker**

White **Chalky** - Chalk is white

White **Nobby**

Williams **Bungy**

Wilson **Tug** - Derived from the nickname of a former First Sea Lord (1909-11) Admiral of the Fleet Sir Arthur Kynvet Wilson, also awarded the VC when fighting with the Naval Brigade at the Battle of El Teb in 1884 in the Sudan during the Mahdi rebellion. Admiral Wilsonòs nickname reputedly comes from an incident when he repeatedly ordered a battleship to try and come alongside and in exasperation offered her Captain a tug to assist.

Withers **Googie** - British female cinema and TV actress since the 1930s

Wood **Timber** - Lumberjacks shout timber when they chop down wood.

Wood/Woods **Slinger**

Woods **Choppy**

Wright **Shiner**

Young **Brigham** - Mormon leader who led Mormon migration to Utah.