

LESS WE FORGET:

"TO PROMOTE ESPERIT DE CORPS AMONGST ALL  
MEMBERS OF THE ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE  
INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION WHEREVER THEY  
MAY SERVE"

ANON

Nov 83.

# *The Seamaster*



THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE  
ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION

THE ANTI SUBMARINE WARFARE INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION

OFFICIALS: Nov 83

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Vice President: Commander A R PETERS RN (Cdr U Faculty)

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Vice Chairman: FCPO J BENNETT

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Full Membership. Open to all FCPO, CPO and POs of the Sonar Branch of the Royal Navy.

Subscription. £2 per annum.

Honorary Membership. Granted to all ex TASIs, FCPOs, CPOs and POs of the Sonar Branch of the Royal Navy who are members of the Association when leaving the Service.

## CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Dear Members,

As once again we go to print there has been many happenings here in HMS VERNON. Firstly to all of you who were able to attend the Dinner I think you will all agree the Dinner Sub Committee did an excellent job. It was so nice to see so many well-remembered faces from when I was a UC Basic.

You will see from the minutes reproduced elsewhere in the Seamaster that we are still negotiating with the PRIs over the future joint running of an Association's Club when we move to HMS DRYAD in 1985. I hope to be able to recommend a proposal to you early in the New Year. Certainly the way ahead for the ASWI's Association has got to be to look for once again a stable financial position which we enjoyed when we ran the Sonar Club in HMS VERNON.

Lastly may I say how nice it was to receive so many articles from ex-serving members for this edition, come on the serving fraternity where are all your renditions. A very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Yours Aye

Don ANDERSON

## MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

### SERVING:

|              |             |             |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| ANDERSON D - | HAWGOOD     | O'SULLIVAN  |
| ASHTON J -   | HARLING P   | OWEN M      |
| ALLPORT      | HOWES       | PARRY       |
| BACON S -    | HOOD        | PORDAGE T   |
| BENNETT J    | HUTCHINGS   | PARK        |
| BAKER        | HILEY       | PEARCE      |
| BAREFORD     | HARTLEY C   | ROBINSON J  |
| BATES -      | HODSDON     | ROBERTS     |
| BASS         | HAYDON C    | RHODES      |
| BUTLER       | HOBDEN      | REEVE       |
| BARRETT      | INGRAM      | RODAWAY     |
| BEAN -       | JOINER P    | ROBERTS E   |
| BEACHEY C    | KAY         | RODGERS     |
| BODEN        | KENNEDY     | RAMUS P     |
| BROWN S      | KAY         | SWAIN K     |
| CAPEL T      | KINGSFORD K | SHEPHERD J  |
| CHENNEL      | KING T      | SMITH       |
| CARRINGTON   | LAURIE I    | SURTEES     |
| CRAIG        | LAKE K      | SNELLING R  |
| CLEMOV       | LEWIS       | TULLY       |
| CUNNINGHAM   | LOVEDAY A   | TUCKER      |
| CROWHURST    | LEE         | THORPE      |
| CLEMENCE     | LONG        | TRAVIS      |
| COUPE        | LEGG M      | WALTON      |
| CALEY        | LARRATT     | WRATTEN P   |
| DREW         | MAHER       | WRIGHT      |
| DAVIS        | MADGE R     | WILL R S    |
| ENGLISH      | McLACHLAN   | WALSH       |
| EDGE P       | MARSHALL    | WHITEHEAD J |
| FELL J       | MILLETT T   | WILDE       |
| FOWLER       | MILLS       | WEST        |
| FRANKLIN     | MEASEY C    | WAKEFORD    |
| FELLS        | MULGREW     | WYLIE B     |
| FOWLER       | MORRALEE    | WESTBROOK A |
| GREEN        | MOORE       | WRIGHT      |
| GREGORY      | MAKAREWICZ  | WALKER      |
| GOLDING B    | MADDISON    | YOUNG       |
| GASCOIGNE R  | NOBLE A     | WOODHAM     |
| GLEAVE F     | NICHOLS R   | WILLIAMS    |
| GODFREY P    | NEWELL      | WATFORD     |
| GRAHAM       | NIBLETT     | WYNN C      |
| GLEAVE A     | NORTH M     |             |

# EX SERVING

|              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| ADAMS J      | Waterlooville   |
| ALIEN D      | Waterlooville   |
| ALLSOPP J    | Gosport         |
| BEAZLEY P    | Worcester       |
| BATES S      | Gosport         |
| BROMFIELD F  | Fareham         |
| BEKKER D     | Portsmouth      |
| BULL D       | Plymouth        |
| BOWERS E     | Suffolk         |
| BYRNE P      | Scotland        |
| CHERRY R     | Berks           |
| COUNSEL R    | Lovedean        |
| CLEMSON C    | Devon           |
| DENNETT R    | Glanfield       |
| EASTHAM D    | Isle of Wight   |
| FORMOY L     | Gosport         |
| FEAST R      | Dorset          |
| FAIR P       | Gillingham      |
| FIRBANKS C   | Hayling         |
| FORD M       | Portchester     |
| FRANCIS D    | Gosport         |
| GLADWISH P   | Gosport         |
| GREEN J      | Great Yarmouth  |
| GODDARD A    | Southampton     |
| HEPBURN J    | Havant          |
| HEAVER B     | Waterlooville   |
| HUGHES A     | Tunbridge Wells |
| HERBERT P    | Cosham          |
| HARPER I     | Southampton     |
| JAMES J      | Havant          |
| KENNETT C    | Portland        |
| KINCHIN      | Portsmouth      |
| LINN R       | Southsea        |
| LISSAMER W   | Fareham         |
| LEWIS K      | Southsea        |
| MINCHIN H    | Southsea        |
| MACPHERSON D | Gosport         |
| MANDERS D    | Surrey          |
| MACLEOD J    | Gloucester      |

# EX SERVING (CONT)

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| McGEOWN G      | VERNON        |
| MACKINTOSH S   | Surrey        |
| MOULSON J      | Cowplain      |
| MOTT J         | Portsmouth    |
| NEIL W         | Weymouth      |
| O'BRIAN P      | Stockport     |
| PATON R        | Stubbington   |
| PHILIPS E      | Farlington    |
| QUARTERMAINE A | Warwicks      |
| RICHARDSON C   | Portsmouth    |
| ROWE T         | Gosport       |
| REEDY          | Drayton       |
| SOMERTON R     | Denmead       |
| STRINGER R     | Copnor        |
| SNELLING S     | Horndean      |
| SOLE C         | Rowner        |
| SARGEANT M     | Torpoint      |
| SOWDEN P       | Dover         |
| THOMPSON R     | Alverstoke    |
| TAYLOR R       | Gosport       |
| TOWNLEY R      | Cosham        |
| TEMPLETON T    | Manchester    |
| TRENAMAN K     | Horndean      |
| WARD R         | Waterlooville |
| WARD T         | Cumbria       |
| WEEDON G       | Southsea      |
| WALK K         | Paulsgrove    |
| WRAITH R       | Purbrook      |
| WORSEY M       | Trowbridge    |

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP: 191

IN MEMORIUM

Roy CASTLE - Ex FCPO TASI

Killed in a road accident in London  
early October 1983.

Roy LUCAS - Ex PO TASI

Killed in a diving accident in the  
North Sea early November 1983.

Remembered by all your friends and colleagues.

31 October 1983

Dear Mr Chairman,

My wife and I would like to thank you, the Committee and members of our Association for the wonderful evening we had at the 'Annual Dinner' last Friday.

It was indeed an honour to me to be your Official Guest and the memory of the occasion will stay with us forever. My wife would like to thank you all for the flowers and I for the Association jumper. As I mentioned on Friday the Association is now once more on the way "UP" may it continue to do so.

Yours Aye

John ASHTON

29 October 1983

Dear Don,

May I on behalf of both Ann and I express our sincere thanks to you and the Association for the superb evening we had in your company last night.

Would you also be so kind as to record a vote of thanks to Paddy and Mrs KENNEDY for looking after us so well and acting as such good hosts, many thanks indeed.

It was a surprise to see so many 'old' (in the nicest possible way) shipmates once again, and this combined with the excellent (GI's word) food, wine and company made the evening one that we will remember for a long time to come.

Once again many thanks and best wishes to the ASWI's Association and all its members.

Yours Most Sincerely

Geoff PALMER  
Vice Chairman PRI's Assoc

30 October 1983

Dear Mr Chairman and Committee Members,

Please accept my wife's and my own congratulations and thanks for a most successful Reunion Dinner.

It was evident that a great deal of organisation and planning had been done and I would like to assure you that as far as Pat and I are concerned your hard work was greatly appreciated. Your successors will be hard pressed also to obtain a better Guest Speaker and one who is held in such great esteem by his past and present contemporaries. Lastly we found the food delicious.

Yours Sincerely

Dave BEKKER

30 October 1983

Dear Don,

My wife and I wish to thank all concerned in the organisation of the Annual Dinner of the TASI's and ASWI's Association. We enjoyed it so very much. It was truly a memorable evening for both of us. Renewing old acquaintances gave me a lot of pleasure and I hope to be there next year. Any old TASI or ASWI who is passing through this area is welcome to call in and will be made welcome. Hoping to see you all next year.

Best Wishes

Clem CLEMSON  
Ex CPO TASI

J C MACLEOD  
Gloucester

THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Sir,

May I take this opportunity to convey to you and your Committee the congratulations and sincere thanks from my wife and myself for the splendid evening afforded us on the occasion of the ASWI's Association Dinner and Dance on 28 October 1983.

It was with a feeling of great pride and nostalgia that I drove through 'VERNON' gates into the familiar area beyond; to be welcomed by yourself into "my" Mess after 20 years. To see those faces I knew so well, yet strived to put names to, and see the look of recognition in those eyes as they saw me.

Those men of merit; Harry MINCHIN, Jock PATON, John GODDARD, Clem CLEMSON, John ASHTON and many more; yet there were many more missing; Teddy ROWE, Chuck MANDERS, Charlie FAIRBANKS, Alan SEAMONS, Jock BLAIR, Jock FRAZER; I could go on and on Mr Chairman as you will know; but to those whom I met on the night I would say (with no apology to Bob HOPE) "Thanks for the Memories".

In conversation with one ex serving member, (who shall remain nameless) he remarked, with dismay, "There is a Chief over there who I took through for his second class rate in TAS". "I must be old". He probably didn't realise that his voice was vibrant with pride; but I did, and I understood for there was the evidence of his ability as an 'Instructor' of yesteryear and the "Pride in the Branch" which shone from every uniformed member present.

May the "ASSOCIATION" go from strength to strength  
in the years ahead and the TAS pride never waver.

Good luck and God bless you all.

John MACLEOD  
(Ex CPO TASI)

ED.

Thank you John for your letter. We are trying to  
obtain the addresses of many ex serving members:  
Alan SEAMANS, Jock BLAIR and Jock FRAZER to name  
but a few. Would any member having the whereabouts  
of any ex member please let us know so we might add  
the name to our mailing list.

#### PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to the following Petty Officer Sonar  
who were selected for promotion to CPO(OPS)(S)  
October 1983 Selection Board:

|               |          |                    |
|---------------|----------|--------------------|
| BEECHEY C D   | DO96378B | ACHILLES (VERNON)  |
| CAPEL T P     | D141242B | CARDIFF            |
| CHARRINGTON L | DO96371M | RALEIGH            |
| SMITH J A     | DO51304J | VERNON (PHOEBE)    |
| BATES M R     | D122081X | GLAMORGAN (AMAZON) |
| PROWSE B J    | DO82297P | TARTAR             |
| SURTEES B J   | D152518U | PHOEBE             |
| ENGLISH T     | D119482E | FOGIB              |
| FLOWER B H    | D117601W | VERNON (DIOMEDE)   |
| RIDDLE B A    | DO80734C | AURORA             |
| WALKER J L    | D107660P | DRYAD (BRISTOL)    |
| RODGERS S P   | D117360E | DRYAD (DANAE)      |
| McLACHLAN J   | DO69745V | HERMES             |
| DAVIS A M     | D118225S | VERNON             |

#### DID YOU KNOW?

In September 1939, Sir Winston CHURCHILL visited  
Portland, in his capacity as First Lord of the  
Admiralty, to witness a demonstration of the ASDIC  
detector. Having successfully pinged a wreck, it  
was duly depth-charged, Sir Winston later related.  
"Believe it or not", he added, "among the debris  
thrown up by the explosion was a complete door  
with the initials on it". (WC).

The Navy always knows how to pay proper marks of  
respect.

25 October 1983

Dear Ed and Old Shipmates,

My apologies for not writing sooner but with the transition from Service to civilian life I've let a lot of letter writing slip. After about a month on the dole I had an interview for a seasonal job with the Dover Harbour Board, then 2 months later I was taken on as a permanent - so regrettably due to shift work I will not be able to attend the Annual Dinner. However, I hope to next year. Many thanks for the Seamaster received some weeks ago - it does make very interesting reading and to an extent does keep me in touch.

My best wishes to you all in the Association especially those I have served with.

Yours Aye

Pete SOWDEN  
(Ex CPO TASI)

# USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

## STAFFS

|                 |                  |                |        |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------|--------|
| CINCFLEET Staff | FCPO BROWN       | Northwood      | 7149   |
| FOF1 Staff      | FCPO JACKSON     | Ports Dkyd     | 23349  |
| FOF2 Staff      | FCPO LEGG        | Devonport Dkyd | 3737   |
| FOF3 Staff      | FCPO HARRISON    | Ports Dkyd     | 823276 |
| FOST Staff      | FCPO NOBLE       | Portland       | 2348   |
| FOST SSO Staff  | FCPO HILL/MILLET | Portland       | 2276   |

## HMS VERNON

Ports Dkyd

|                             |                         |       |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| Chairman ASWI's Association | FCPO ANDERSON           | 24815 |
| PO(S) Course Office         | CPOs LONG/SNELLING/OWEN | 24987 |
| LS(S) Course Officer        | FCPO HILEY              | 24770 |
| SEA(S) Course Officer       | FCPO ROBERTS            | 24770 |
| 2016 Projects Officer       | FCPO CHETWOOD           | 24887 |
| External Feedback           | FCPO ANDERSON           | 24815 |
| U Faculty Admin Officer     | FCPO HARTLEY            | 24811 |
| Chief Instructor (Passive)  | CPO CLIPSTONE           | 24606 |
| Chief Instructor (OG)       | PO(MET) HADLAND         | 24839 |
| WO&CPOs' Mess               |                         | 24884 |
| POs' Mess                   |                         | 24885 |

## HMS DRYAD

|                                  |                    |        |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------|
| DASWC Section ASUATS             | FCPO BENNETT       | 835533 |
| DASWC Section Instructors        |                    | 835583 |
| Training Planning Courses/ASUATs | PO WILLIAMS        | 835303 |
| Task Book Issues                 | (Training Support) | 835496 |

## CODES

|                             |      |
|-----------------------------|------|
| Portland to Portsmouth Dkyd | - 14 |
| Plymouth to Portsmouth Dkyd | - 13 |
| Portsmouth to Plymouth      | - 14 |
| Portsmouth to Portland      | - 15 |
| Portland to Plymouth        | - 13 |

CI(S) IS DEAD! - LONG LIVE UFAO!!!

For as long as I can remember (circa 1959) Room 107 Creasy West, HMS VERNON has been occupied by a harassed looking CPO of various shapes and size, who acted as if the world was about to come to an end (or already had) and took the brickbat for everything that went wrong in the sonar world!

He went by the title of CI(S) - Chief Instructor Sonar. Like everything else in the RN the Sonar Branch has been subject to much change over the past few years, both in branch structure and equipment, particularly since the formation of the Operations Branch - and like Topsy we just grew and grew.

The Underwater Warfare Faculty of SMOPS has many tentacles and because the 'Octopus' has so many diverse interests and a wide scope of training requirements one tentacle has not necessarily known what the others are doing! As many of you will already know VERNON is due for partial closure in 1986 and as part of that closure plan U Faculty living in VERNON will move lock, stock and barrel to SMOPS HMS DRYAD around mid 1985. The exact timing of the move will depend on the completion of the new Training Block and ASUAT Park. Once the move has taken place we shall come into much closer contact with many other 'Octopuses' all writhing about and intent on a wide variety of differing activities. So in order that our particular part of the Ocean doesn't become so clouded with ink that we can't see our objectives it has been decided to re-organise our administration well before the move.

To achieve this the billet of CI(S) is now defunct and a new job has been created for a FCPO(OPS)(S) under the title of UFAO - U Faculty Administration Officer. The "first of the class" is yours truly, FCPO Chris HARTLEY, and I am currently involved in getting the new regime off the ground. We are still in the 'suck it and see' stage at the moment but on the whole things seem to be progressing smoothly.

The new organisation simply consists of a central U Faculty Administration Office (old Active Sonar Office) from where the everyday general administration of the Active Sonar, Passive Sonar, Oceanography and Training Support Sections (and eventually DASWC) is co-ordinated, although the actual training activities of each Section are not affected. It is very much a manpower planning, training equipment and 'trouble shooting' job along the lines of CI(S), but a bit bigger.

Another large part of the job initially is to co-ordinate the move to HMS DRYAD - taking everything with us from pencils to ASUATs and locking the doors and turning out the lights as we leave Creasy West for the last time!!

Many of us will have mixed feelings about leaving VERNON and its familiar surroundings that we have known for many years but I feel sure that we can look forward to a warm welcome in HMS DRYAD in a brand new Training Block and in a way a new beginning for the Sonar Branch.

Meanwhile CI(S) is dead - long live UFAO!

The telephone number for any problems or queries which the U Faculty may be able to help with remains as always - Ext 24811 - and the old TASIs saying is still relevant too - "I may not have the answer to hand - but I'll find out by stand easy!!!".

Regards

Chris HARTLEY

11 August 1983

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed my cheque for £22 to purchase 2 of your new sweaters. It is good to receive my copy of the Seamaster out in 'Sunny Gib' where we tend to feel a little left out of what's happening in VERNON, Seamaster goes a long way to bridge that gap, so thanks for a very interesting and informative journal.

One last dig, after being listed correctly in the last 2 Seamasters I was disappointed to have been left out of 'Where's my Oppo' this time. I will be here working for FOGIB til mid 1984.

Again well done to all for the Seamaster and keep it up. All the best.

Trev ENGLISH  
PO(S)

POTASI W J JUMP  
Sonar School Staff  
HMNZS TAMAKI  
Naval Base  
Auckland  
New Zealand

17 October 1983

Dear Mr Chairman,

Sorry about the delay in writing to your Association. We received a letter from CPO TASI Hill who you will no doubt know is on HMNZS SOUTHLAND.

The reason I am writing to you is to try and get an affiliation between your Association and our 'Gemini Club' which includes all seamen instructors in the RNZN. We received copies of your Seamaster Book which were read with a lot of interest from all those in the School.

Once our next Instructors Magazine has been published copies will be forwarded on to you. We have an order form for your ASWI's jerseys but as yet we have had no takers. At present I am the only one in New Zealand who has one and I can assure you that it is worn with pride. It was bought while I was on PO(S) course earlier this year.

All the staff in the School here hope that both our Schools/Associations can become more involved in sonar matters of both Navies.

Yours

Bill JUMP  
POTASI RNZN

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Reference: The letter overleaf from POTASI JUMP RNZN of the Sonar School HMNZS TAMAKI.

I have replied to Bill saying how delighted we are to renew our links with our Commonwealth allies in New Zealand and will in future include them on our mailing list for the Seamaster.

PO(S) CUNNINGHAM  
HMS ANDROMEDA  
East of Suez

Dear Ed,

At the time of writing we are having to 'rough it' just south of the Equator in hot 'pursuit of coconut pirates' whom I'm sure you've all heard about. I'm writing to thank you for the Seamaster which caught up with me just after a good night stop in Gibraltar. After a very different run ashore in Jeddah we went south and into the Indian Ocean with the Waikato.

If the magazine keeps on growing at the steady rate it appears to be you will soon have to be distributing it in volumes! I hope that the Annual Dinner goes down well as I'm sure it will, but at the time of the dinner Chris BEECHEY has promised to take me ashore in Singapore.

A couple of things I would like to know is how to get certain stores nowadays. I'm not questioning the onboard 'Jack Dusties' capabilities they couldn't have been more helpful, it appears to be the shore side. My predecessor placed an order for Centigrade/Metric XBT paper rolls some 9 months since, all we have received in return have been Fahrenheit/Feet with no explanation. The only way I've been able to obtain C/Metric rolls is to go to the Waikato or write to Oppos around the Fleet. There are so many Feet/F rolls onboard that it is unbelievable but as many of you know 2016 is a metric system and to have to start to convert Imperial to Metric is just making work. Also time consuming.

The other point I would like to make is why can't the 'Pusser' standardise 'bits of Kit'. For instance the Racal Tape Recorder can be ordered under one stock number and lo and behold you receive a Tape Recorder with all the associated pieces of equipment that make it work. But if you order it another number all you receive is a Tape Recorder and when you order the other pieces of kit an answer comes back of not available or not entitled because it is an RAF store and PO(S)s on ships are not entitled to draw them.

I would be very interested if any one has had any similar experiences in obtaining Tape Recording equipment or in my case the lack of equipment.

Many thanks to Kevin HOWES on the BRAZEN for the 'Rabbits'. See you out here before we set off back home for Christmas.

Hope I haven't presented too much of a 'Drip Chit' keep up the good work with the Mag.

YORKIE C

By ED.

Thank you Yorkie for your letter we are always happy to help or lend advise as I hope we have in replying to your letter earlier.

Harry MINCHIN

16 August 1983

Dear Mr Chairman,

My thanks for the excellent (if you'll excuse the use of that word) copy of the Seamaster, once again it makes very good reading. Glad to see that the membership is increasing and trust it goes on doing so.

As a local ex serving member I feel I should clear my yard-arm concerning the suggestion of one of us being on the Committee.

I'm a Civil Servant (most of the time) employed in the Naval Base and despite the well known ditty of "Sitting on the Dockyard Wall" I feel that I would not be very popular if I asked for time off during working hours. That's my excuse for gracefully declining and I will stick to it for at least the next couple of years.

Here's strength to your arm.

Harry MINCHIN

By ED.

Thank you for your letter Harry as you probably heard your name had been mentioned and you were about to be approached, however, I quite understand the need to hold Committee meetings during the day is a drawback. Since I have received your letter, however, Sam SNELLING has kindly offered to represent the ex serving members and will be present at the next meeting.

APPLICATION FOR FULL (SERVING) MEMBERSHIP OF THE  
ANTI SUBMARINE WARFARE INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION

FULL MEMBERSHIP Open to all FCPO, CPO and POs  
of the Sonar Branch of the Royal Navy.

SUBSCRIPTION £2 per annum.

I hereby apply for full membership of the  
ASW Instructors Association.

NAME ..... RTG .....

OFFICIAL No .....

SERVICE ADDRESS .....

.....

.....

SIGNED .....

SEND TO: The Treasurer  
The ASWIs' Association  
HMS VERNON  
Portsmouth  
Hants PO1 3ER

ANNUAL DINNER STATEMENT

A breakdown of the expenditure for the Annual Dinner  
is shown below:

OUTGOINGS

|                                           |         |
|-------------------------------------------|---------|
| Catering (101 dinners + VAT + Glass Hire) | £598.75 |
| Disco                                     | 10.00   |
| Messmen (Wages)                           | 10.00   |
| Barmen (Overtime Payment)                 | 6.00    |
| Photographer (Standing Charge)            | 10.00   |
| Postage                                   | 1.50    |
| Flower Arrangements                       | 5.00    |
| Guests Drinks                             | 11.00   |
| Port, Red and White Wines                 | 196.98  |
| Cigars, Sherry, Raffle Prizes and Cigars  | 103.60  |
| Corsages, Bouquets                        | 42.50   |
| Total                                     | 995.33  |

INCOMING

|                                        |        |
|----------------------------------------|--------|
| 103 x £8.50 PH + £5 Donation to Dinner | 875.50 |
|                                        | 875.50 |

Cost to the Association by direct subsidy was £120.17  
plus cost of 6 guests at £8.50 (£51) making a grand  
total of £171.17.

CPO TASI P HILL  
HMNS SOUTHLAND

23 Nov 83

Dear Sir,

I was delighted to receive a copy of your excellent magazine earlier this year and would like to take this opportunity to make a small contribution. I arrived in the UK from New Zealand last July to commence an ADAWS EQ in HMS DRYAD prior to posting to HMNZS SOUTHLAND (Ex DIDO) presently in refit at Vosper Shipbuilders, Southampton.

On completion of the EQ I was invited to join the staff of the U Faculty on temporary attachment where I have remained until this time. Shortly however attachment sadly comes to an end as I am rejoining my ship and putting into practice the many lessons I have learnt over the last few months. I would therefore like to further take this opportunity to thank all the staff of the U Faculty in both HMS VERNON and HMS DRYAD who have unhesitatingly given myself and my crew their assistance and support at all levels. To name everyone would be impossible but I would like to make special mention of the staff of the PO (Sonar) course and DAWSC section HMS DRYAD whose co-operation has smoothed the path for our ongoing training.

INTENTIONALLY BLANK

For those Ex DIDO personnel you might be interested to know that during refit we removed the mortars and fitted torpedo tubes and replaced the 184M with the Graseby 750 sonar, virtually a swept up solid state version of the 184. Taking over an IKARA Leander when you come from an entirely manual 177M fitted Navy is quite daunting; however, the crew is enthusiastic and I am confident we will eventually become an efficient fighting unit.

The ship will be in UK waters until May next year following a Portland work-up and arriving back in New Zealand in July, so your offices are not safe from the occasional 'GIZZIT' raid just yet. I don't know why but recently it seems that whenever we come to pay a purely social visit around the bazaars these days there's a flurry of locking things away and cries of 'We haven't got any!'. Strange that.

In conclusion I would like to say how much my wife and myself enjoyed ourselves at the ASWIs Annual Dinner. An excellent evening, the details of which have been relayed to my parent association in New Zealand, who have informed me that your hospitality will be returned in kind to the Task Force which is due in New Zealand shortly.

If any of my old friends and course mates who I have not yet been able to contact would like to get in touch I would be delighted to hear from you or leave a message for me at the PO (Sonar) course office, HMS VERNON.

Yours sincerely

P HILL  
CPO TASI  
HMNZS SOUTHLAND

#### ED'S NOTE

Thank you 'Pusser' for your very kind words. I'm sure I speak for both the instructional staff in the U Fac and all members of the Association when I say that it has been 'Our Pleasure' in helping your ASW familiar with your new equipment.

We wish you all the best on HMNZS SOUTHLAND for this and future Commissions and look forward to seeing you again.

Yours Aye

ED

#### "SEA TALK"

#### ED'S NOTE

This is a new section added to the Seamaster which has been suggested by FCPO R NICHOLLS who has supplied the first 3 articles. It is hoped that you at sea will contribute in the future any interesting subject which is UNCLASSIFIED and of course of a Naval or ASW nature.

#### SOVIET SUBSUNK CHARLIE CLASS

According to US Officials, a serious submarine accident has occurred in deep water off the Naval Base of "Pelroparlovsk", on the Kamchatka Peninsular.

Soviet salvage and diving vessels successfully raised the wrecked submarine in August. It is thought that the accident occurred during June.

Very few details are known but the loss of life must have been high and the boat was reported as a "CHARLIE CLASS". The Soviet Navy has not forgotten how the CIA project "OPERATION JENNIFER" managed to raise most of a Golf Class submarine in the Pacific in late 1974. This is the second nuclear boat known to have been lost, the other being a November Class in the South Western Approaches in April 1970.

Of course the US Navy has had its accidents too, with the loss of "THRESHER" and "SCORPION" both nuclear attack boats. The first was during trials, the latter in interesting and unexplained circumstances West of the Azores. Both were in deep water and very little was recovered from their hulls, fragments and debris was scattered over a large area.

#### STUFT CONTINUES

The use of merchant shipping from "OPERATION CORPORATE" is still supporting South Atlantic operations. The latest large project is the news of the container ship "ASTRONOMER".

Almost twice the size of Atlantic Conveyor she is being converted using the USN "ARAPHO" system. This comprises a prefabricated helo deck, containerised workshops and hanger area, some 70 containers in all. ASTRONOMER will probably become an RFA on completion. British Aerospace the main contractor has long been promoting what it calls "SCADS", shipborne Containerised Air Defence Systems. This involves fitting point defence missile systems in 'STUFT' vessels. British Aerospace also have a plan for containerised IKARA.

#### SWEDEN CHANGES ASW INTRUDER RULES

After many submarine incidents into her territorial waters Sweden has now changed her rules of engagement to such that weapons may now be accurately used, to force a submarine to surface.

This will be achieved by the introduction of 2 new ASW weapons.

#### THE MARLIN

This is a magnetic limpet bleeper which transmits sonar pulses after attaching itself to the intruder's hull. It was reported to have been used last year in the Harsfgarden incident. It apparently successfully attached itself for about 30 minutes before it was removed by a diver from the submarine.

Had rules of engagement at the time allowed explosives to be accurately used, the submarine would in all probability have been forced to the surface.

#### THE ELMA

This is a new depth charge with a hollow charge warhead designed only to punch a small hole in the pressure hull. This can be used instead of full weight action charges which could well destroy the submarine. Presumably one or a number of ELMA charges would overload the damage control pumping systems forcing to surface.

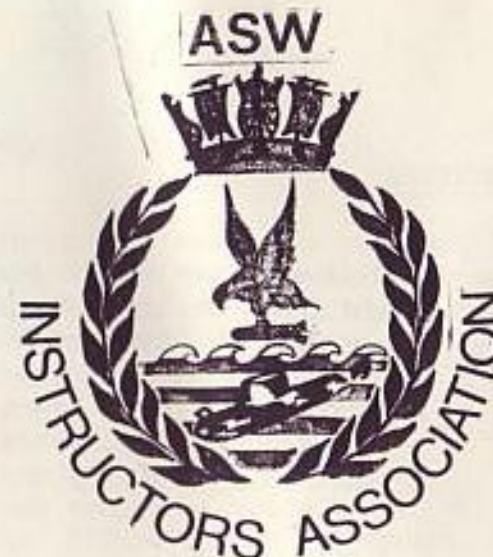
It will be interesting to see if these new weapons and criteria change the advantage the submarine has in these shallow waters within uneven bottoms, granite outcrops and soft silt. The metal debris is also high as locals place old cars and refrigerators etc on the ice in winter and use the frozen ice as a garbage dump. In spring this moves and sinks making any form of MAD equipment virtually useless.

Perhaps a return of the old boom nets and snag lines could be a more effective cheap ASW countermeasure.

#### ED'S NOTE

Thank you Bob for a very interesting start to "Sea Talk". Who is for writing the next one?

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ASWIs' Association sweaters are now available to order. These sweaters are of good quality polyester cotton with the Association crest (shown above) embroidered on the chest and are available in many colours and sizes.

At present the cost is £11 (incl p&p) with 30p of that going to our adopted charity.

To order fill in the form below.

Tear along dotted line -----

ORDER FORM

Name ..... Rate .....

Address .....

I enclose cheque(s) for ..... sweater(s) made payable to: "ASWIs' Association" for £ ..... in the colours and sizes as ticked below.

COLOURS AVAILABLE

Navy/Sky Blue/Red/Bottle Green/Maroon/Grey/Black

SIZES

34/36/38/40/42/44/46/48

SEND TO: The Treasurer, ASWIs' Association, c/o Sonar Section  
HMS VERNON, Portsmouth.

### POSTAL SUGGESTION

If you feel you have a worthwhile suggestion or anything you would like to see in the Seamaster or on the way in which the Association can achieve its prime aim let us have your ideas below.

### POST TO:

The Secretary  
The ASW Instructors' Association  
HMS VERNON  
Portsmouth  
Hants PO1 3ER

### WHERE'S ME OPPO

#### FCPO(OPS) (S)

|              |             |               |            |
|--------------|-------------|---------------|------------|
| D ANDERSON - | HMS VERNON  | R NICHOLS -   | ASWE       |
| J ASHTON -   | HMS VERNON  | J JACKSON -   | FOF1       |
| J BENNETT    | HMS DRYAD   | M LEGG -      | FOF2       |
| R MADGE -    | HMS DRYAD   | C HARTLEY -   | HMS VERNON |
| T MILLETT    | FOST        | P HARRISON -  | FOF3       |
| C HAYDEN -   | HMS RALEIGH | S BROWN -     | CINCFLEET  |
| J CHETWOOD - | HMS VERNON  | W HILL -      | HMS VERNON |
| D HILEY -    | HMS VERNON  | A NOBLE -     | FOST       |
| E ROBERTS -  | HMS VERNON  | K KINGSFORD - | HMS SULTAN |
| A WAKEFORD - | CINCFLEET   | I CAMBURN -   | AUWE       |
| R GREENEY -  | DARTMOUTH   |               |            |
| P WRATTEN -  | HMS ROOKE   |               |            |

#### CPO(OPS) (S)

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| R A EVANS -    | HMS VERNON      |
| J WHITEHEAD -  | HMS VERNON      |
| P GODFREY -    | HMS COLLINGWOOD |
| P EDGE -       | HMS VERNON      |
| G MORRALEE -   | HMS VERNON      |
| W WALTON -     | HMS DRYAD       |
| F FOWLER -     | HMS DRYAD       |
| T WESTBROOKE - | HMS VERNON      |
| R S WILL -     | HMS COCHRANE    |
| B BEAN -       | HMS MERCURY     |
| M NORTH -      | HMS EXCELLENT   |

*2nd away - need work*

#### ED's NOTE

The 'Where's me Oppo' lists have been collected (October 1983) from the latest available information. Apologies to anyone not listed but please inform me if you have been.

## CPO(OPS) (S) (CONT)

|                |                       |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| ARMSTRONG A    | BOXER                 |
| BACON N E      | FOST                  |
| BAREFORD D J   | LOWESTOFT             |
| BARRETT A R    | VERNON                |
| BASS H W       | YARMOUTH              |
| BETTS M        | GALATEA               |
| BIRD S J       | BATTLEAXE             |
| BLACK P        | DANAE                 |
| BLANCHE R      | RALEIGH               |
| BRIERLY P      | FOST                  |
| BRIERS C       | FOSM & SUBELANT       |
| CASS P         | NAIAD                 |
| CHENNELL J     | VERNON                |
| CLARKE A E     | DRAKE                 |
| CLIFFORD A     | ROYAL ARTHUR          |
| CLIPSTONE P    | VERNON                |
| COMLEY P S     | LEANDER               |
| COSTELLO M A   | BROADSWORD            |
| CRAIG T B      | FOSM SUBELANT         |
| DALLEY G E     | ARETHUSA              |
| DAVISON T      | VERNON                |
| DUNCAN R       | VERNON                |
| ENNIS J        | DRYAD                 |
| EVANS W J      | RALEIGH               |
| EVANS R A      | VERNON                |
| FELL J I R     | FOST                  |
| FIELDHOUSE L I | RALEIGH               |
| FOWLER A G     | FO GIB                |
| FOX T L        | CLEOPATRA             |
| GALLIVAN R J   | BRILLIANT             |
| GLEAVE F W     | EXCELLENT NBCD SCHOOL |

## CPO(OPS) (S) (CONT)

|                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| GOLDING B F      | BRAZEN          |
| GORDON P W       | VERNON          |
| GREEN P J        | VERNON          |
| HARLING P M      | VERNON          |
| HEALEY P W       | ROTHESAY        |
| HEDGE-HOLMES P J | BUTEC           |
| HITCHCOCK P J    | FOST            |
| HOBDEN R F       | ILLUSTRIOUS     |
| HODGINS D M      | AMIE TEDDINGTON |
| HOOD R           | ARIADNE         |
| HUDSON B         | AURORA          |
| JOINER P W       | VERNON          |
| KAY J C          | PLYMOUTH        |
| KENNEDY P J      | FOST            |
| KING M J         | FOST            |
| LAKE K O         | PHOEBE          |
| LONG T E K       | VERNON          |
| LOVEDAY A D      | BANDY           |
| MAHER P          | VERNON          |
| MAYSTON J R      | BRISTOL         |
| MEASEY C T       | EURYALUS        |
| MOORE C E        | CWT             |
| NIBLETT          | ROTHESAY        |
| O'SULLIVAN G     | MINERVA         |
| OWEN M           | VERNON          |
| PARK C D         | DRYAD           |
| PATTINSON F      | SIRIUS          |
| PEARCE P M       | VERNON          |
| PICKERSGILL R    | RALEIGH         |
| PLATER D         | FO GIBRALTAR    |
| PORDAGE T        | VERNON          |
| PREECE M         | DRYAD           |
| QUILLER M D      | PENELOPE        |
| RAMUS P          | LOWESTOFT       |
| REEVES P J       | VERNON          |
| RUTTER W         | RALEIGH         |
| RODGERS W        | DRYAD           |
| SHEPHERD J P     | AJAX            |

CPO(OPS)(S) (CONT)

|              |                     |
|--------------|---------------------|
| SIMPSON A J  | RALEIGH             |
| SNELLING R   | VERNON              |
| STOKES G L   | PORT ADMIRAL ROSYTH |
| SWAIN K      | NALAD               |
| THORPE F     | DRYAD               |
| TRAVIS M J W | ROOKE               |
| WATFORD P L  | HERMES              |
| WEST B K     | FALMOUTH            |
| WRIGHT M     | LEANDER             |
| WRIGHT M A H | VERNON              |
| WRIGHT P J   | DRYAD               |

PO(S)

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| AINSCOUGH J     | CLEOPATRA       |
| ASHTON G        | VERNON          |
| ASTLEY A J      | VERNON          |
| AYLING R J      | LOWESTOFT       |
| BAILEY K P      | ARETHUSA        |
| BAKER R F       | AMAZON          |
| BARKER D A      | AVENGER         |
| BARLEY A A      | ARROW           |
| BARTLETT C E J  | DRAKE           |
| BATES M R       | GLAMORGAN       |
| BEECHEY C D     | ACHILLES        |
| BODEN S W       | VERNON          |
| BRAY            | VERNON          |
| BROTHERWOOD D C | FIFE            |
| BRETT           | RALEIGH         |
| BROWN T C       | VERNON          |
| BROMLEY         | VERNON          |
| BUCKERFIELD R P | MANCHESTER      |
| BUTLER J P      | VERNON          |
| CALEY H A       | ANDROMEDA       |
| CAMBURN N       | MANLY           |
| CAPEL T P       | CARDIFF         |
| CARRINGTON S K  | AMTE TEDDINGTON |

PO(S) (CONT)

|                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| CHARRINGTON L J | RALEIGH    |
| CLEMENTS A J    | BOXER      |
| CLEMON C H C    | GLAMORGAN  |
| COUPE T R       | AMBUSCADE  |
| COWAN D P       | VERNON     |
| COWLEY M J      | LIVERPOOL  |
| CROSBY R        | BRISTOL    |
| CUNNINGHAM P    | ANDROMEDA  |
| DAVIS A M       | VERNON     |
| DOOLER R        | BRILLIANT  |
| DOUGALL A       | NEPTUNE    |
| DOYLE J         | NOTTINGHAM |
| DREW R J        | PHOEBE     |
| EDWARDS R P     | BERWICK    |
| ELLIOTT R E     | ACHILLES   |
| ENGLISH         | FO GIB     |
| ENVY M          | JUPITER    |
| FELLS C T       | DRYAD      |
| FIRTH D J F     | NOTTINGHAM |
| FISHER R        | VERNON     |
| FLOWER B H      | VERNON     |
| FOSTER J        | EXETER     |
| FRANKLING W B   | ACTIVE     |
| FURLONG P K     | INVINCIBLE |
| GARCIA N        | ALACRITY   |
| GEMMILL         | DANAE      |
| GIBBS A A       | INVINCIBLE |
| GIBSON A D      | NEPTUNE ND |
| GILMORE         | VERNON     |
| GLEAVE A E      | GLAMORGAN  |
| GOODFELLOW      | FIFE       |
| GORRINGE J      | RALEIGH    |
| GRAHAM R        | ALACRITY   |
| GRANT M P       | ZULU       |
| GRAY G A I      | LIVERPOOL  |
| GREGORY S R     | PHOEBE     |
| HAWGOOD R P     | CHARYBDIS  |

PO(S) (CONT)

|               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| HODSON K L    | HERMIONE      |
| HOULT D       | VERNON        |
| HOWELLS S J P | CARDIFF       |
| HOWES K L     | BRAZEN        |
| HUDSON A S    | AVENGER       |
| HUTCHINGS M   | SIRIUS        |
| HUTCHISON J   | GLASGOW       |
| INGRAM A      | NAIAD         |
| JERROMES      | VERNON        |
| JONES C       | VERNON        |
| JONES R       | DRYAD         |
| KAY D B       | APOLLO        |
| KILROY J      | MANCHESTER    |
| LARRATT R     | JUPITER       |
| LAURIE I      | RALEIGH       |
| LAVERY A      | ACHILLES      |
| LE-MAGE T     | DIOMEDE       |
| LEE K W       | BIRMINGHAM    |
| LENTHALL P    | EXETER        |
| LEWIS T R     | VERNON        |
| LIGHT T G     | SOUTHAMPTON   |
| LINGER N P    | ILLUSTRIOUS   |
| LOMAS         | BATTLEAXE     |
| MAKAREWICZ    | RALEIGH       |
| MADDISON      | AMBUSCADE     |
| MARDON K      | ARROW         |
| MARSHALL D    | YARMOUTH      |
| MARSHALL K    | GLASGOW       |
| McCREADY R    | VERNON        |
| McLEOD        | VERNON        |
| McLACHLAN J   | HERMES        |
| MIDDLETON P   | FO PORTSMOUTH |
| MILEY M       | CLEOPATRA     |
| MILLS M       | CHARYBDIS     |
| MITCHELL A J  | RHYL          |
| MULGREW D     | VERNON        |
| MOORE         | BROADSWORD    |
| MORRIS D G    | MINERVA       |

PO(S) (CONT)

|                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| MORRISON D     | CALEDONIA   |
| NASH K J       | HERMES      |
| NEEDHAM S      | SOUTHAMPTON |
| NEESON E       | LOWESTOFT   |
| NEWELL R       | NEWCASTLE   |
| NICHOLSON      | VERNON      |
| NICOL R M      | DRAKE       |
| NIXON P H      | SIRIUS      |
| O'BYRNE P H    | EXETER      |
| OLDREY B W     | RALEIGH     |
| PARRY G R      | VERNON      |
| PEARCE S S     | PENELOPE    |
| PEGDEN P       | WARRIOR     |
| PRESTWICH J    | TARTAR      |
| PRICE B V      | GLAMORGAN   |
| PRICE D        | RALEIGH     |
| PROWSE B       | TARTAR      |
| QUINTRELL C T  | ARGONAUT    |
| RAW A          | LOWESTOFT   |
| READ P J       | DRYAD       |
| REEVE M R      | DIOMEDE     |
| RIODES P       | GURKHA      |
| RICHARDSON M E | ANTRIM      |
| RICHARDSON G   | ARIADNE     |
| RIDDLE B A     | AURORA      |
| RIGBY J W      | ANTRIM      |
| ROBERTS T G    | SIRIUS      |
| ROOKE J W      | ACTIVE      |
| RUSHBROOK      | DRYAD       |
| SEXTON M K     | HERMES      |
| SHAW D G       | ARGONAUT    |
| SHOTTON F      | VERNON      |
| SLOCOMBE D     | BRISTOL     |
| SKIPPER S      | VERNON      |
| SMITH J A      | VERNON      |
| SMITH R J      | RALEIGH     |
| STEADMAN H     | ZULU        |

PO(S) (CONT)

|               |                    |
|---------------|--------------------|
| STEVENS C T C | VERNON             |
| SURTEES B     | PHOEBE             |
| THOMAS A      | VERNON             |
| TAYLOR D      | APOLLO             |
| THOMAS J      | LEYDENE            |
| TOPHAM W      | FALMOUTH           |
| TREGALE A     | EURYALUS           |
| TUCKER P      | ARIADNE            |
| TUTTY P J     | NEWCASTLE          |
| WALKER J L    | DRYAD              |
| WALSH B D     | HERMIONE           |
| WARDLE D      | PLYMOUTH           |
| WATSON C H    | SCU LEYDENE        |
| WATSON D N    | CLEOPATRA          |
| WHALLEY G     | VERNON             |
| WILDE J M A   | BIRMINGHAM         |
| WILL S C      | DRYAD              |
| WILLIAMS D P  | TORQUAY            |
| WILLIAMS J    | GLASCOW            |
| WILLIAMS R    | VERNON             |
| WOOD P        | FLT ENG PORTSMOUTH |
| WOODHAM G     | VERNON             |
| WORTHINGTON G | LEANDER            |
| WRIGHT C      | VERNON             |
| WYLIE B J     | GURKHA             |
| WYNN C S      | VERNON             |
| YOUNG R C     | AMBUSCADE          |

Dear Don,

Myra and I would be most grateful if you would convey our thanks to the Organising Committee for the most excellent Dinner/Disco which we attended on Friday 28 October 1983 being the Annual ASWI's Dinner and Dance.

Our thanks must also go to the President and members of the WO&CPOs' Mess both for allowing the Dinner to be held in the Mess and for making us so welcome when we returned for a 'Pick-me-up' on the Saturday Lunchtime (the Power Cut probably made us look more presentable after the Night Before).

Our thanks to you 'Don' for taking the Helm and making the journey from Great Yarmouth so worthwhile.

As promised please find enclosed a Prize for any Draw that you may consider to be worthwhile - you will notice that it is for 2 adults for 3 nights Bed, Breakfast and Evening Meal at the Guest House we run in Norfolk besides the Ambulance Work of course - perhaps the winner could liaise with us direct as to the actual date etc.

Once again our most grateful thanks to you and your Committee 'Don' and we can only hope that there will be another Annual Dinner and Dance of the ASWI's Association next year - if bookings are being taken now please let us know the date - Ha Ha. It was great to meet ones old colleagues and make new friends.

Our very best wishes to the Association and many friends.

Yours

Myra and Jim GREEN  
(Ex CPO TASI)

ED.

Very many thanks to you both Jim it really was a superb gift which will be the prize in our XMAS Draw. We look forward to seeing you both next year. DON

STOP PRESS ... CPO(OPS)(S) FRED THORPE WON THE ABOVE PRIZE WHICH WAS DRAWN BY LT CDR STRAIN TDO(U) U FAC 21 NOV 83. CONGRATULATIONS FRED.

J C MACLEOD

Gentlemen,

I thank you for sending me a copy of the 'Seamaster' which had arrived at my home while my wife and I were in Norway at our son's wedding. It was a wonderful surprise and I have read it cover to cover, 3 times; savouring with a twinge of nostalgia; every word printed therein.

Congratulations to the editor for a well assembled and interesting journal; a great improvement on the 'Seamaster' of yesteryear which emerged from a dingy little office in 21 Building (HMS VERNON) when the Association was in its infancy. I well remember those stalwart Committee members striving to launch the idea of an Instructors Association; Charlie FIRBANKS, Dodo WATTS, Peter FAIR, Teddy ROWE, R FRASER, Alan SEAMONS and many more. As I studied the list of ex serving members; each name I recognised and visualised the face; fitted into the overall picture of my life in the Service.

I joined the Asdic branch in 1940 on return to UK from the Far East onboard the 'County' Class destroyer "DORSETSHIRE" after a 3 year commission (extended due to the war). I qualified SD3 between "OSPREY" (Dunoon) and "NIMROD" (Cambernethorpe) and PO SD1 Jan MILLMEN was my instructor. Tense, turbulent, sometimes frightening days/years followed, to the end of the hostilities, but I would not exchange the experience of those eventful years and the privilege of having served with the men of the Asdic Branch, a few of whom I have mentioned above.

It has always been my opinion that the TAS Branch always achieved a very high standard of skill and pride in their ability and operations to pit their intelligence against the unseen enemy. The instructors responsible for instilling that skill and pride; surely deserve a strong Association of which they themselves can be proud.

After I retired in 1963 I continued my service in the RNR for 8 years during which time I was Chief i/c of the Wireless Training Centre here in Gloucester. Each year, the Navy Days Officer sends me posters, handbills and car stickers advertising Navy Days at Portsmouth. There I put into the most important buildings ie Town Hall, Schools, Clubs, reputable pubs, coach companies etc. So you see, I am partly to blame for all those visitors who scramble all over your 'tiddly' ships causing all the 'Capt's of Tops' to tear their hair and the matelots to say under their breath "Bless their civilian hearts", when they are cleaning up afterwards.

My wife and I are both CB enthusiasts and have the respective 'handles' of 'GREEN BERET' (ex WRAC) and 'PING BOSUN' for obvious reasons, once a Ping rating; always a Ping rating.

I have enclosed "Booking Form" for the ASWI Dinner together with cheque. I am looking forward to that event with excitement at the prospect of meeting old friends and shipmates once again. If the Secretary has the telephone number of Harry MINCHIN who lives in Southsea, I would be very grateful as I promised to stay with him when next I was in Pompey.

Best wishes to the Chairman and the Committee in their endeavours to raise the standard and strength of the ASWI's Association to its deserved level. Thanks again for the 'Seamaster'.

Yours with pride

John MACLEOD  
(Ex CPO TASI)

ED's NOTE.

Thank you John, your other letter at the beginning of this issue was also read with great interest.

PO(S) WOODHAM  
HMS SOUTHAMPTON

Dear Mr Chairman,

Thanks for the 'Seamaster' which arrived today, it's refreshing to see life being restored in the Association. When I left HMS VERNON in 1981 it appeared to be dying a natural death. I must apologise for being late with my f2 membership but I was unaware of the deadline. But rest assured you have my full support in the future and I enclose the membership form and fee.

HMS SOUTHAMPTON returns to the UK on 20 September for a spot of R and R after our tour of duty in the South Atlantic. Just as a matter of interest amongst our readers, HMS SOUTHAMPTON since commissioning 2 years ago, has clocked up some 81,000 miles, can anyone 'Black Cat' that. In response to your article on Feedback reference 1077 SOC's. The following routine seems adequate and we have few problems. (1) The maintainer carries out a full SOC on 1077 and associated equipment once per week. (2) Use 1077 for procedures, drills etc for up to one hour after daily SOC's. We look forward to seeing you in HMS VERNON in the Autumn, my relief is Ned NEEDHAM and most of my sonar crew have qualifying courses. Keep up the good work, lets hope it encourages more membership and support to what appears to be a worthwhile Association. I look forward to the next edition.

Yours

G WOODHAM  
PO(S)

## A LESSON IN DIPLOMACY

A certain TASI who will remain nameless required a chamois leather for his car. As you all know to get one through stores was worse than getting gold out of 'Fort Knox'. An explanation of what it was required for had to go on the requisition, also an Officer's signature was required.

So the TASI went up to his Officer and requested for 2 not one. The Officer asked why are they required? So the TASI, we are in dry dock and I have to clean the windows of the Hull Outfit Dome.

Now any TASI or ASWI will know that windows of domes are cleaned with soft wood wedges, but not this Officer, who signed at once. On return to the ship from leave the Captain sent for the TASI and asked him to explain why 2 chamois leather were required, the TASI then said "One for your car and one for mine Sir!" So endeth the first lesson.

CLEM

Mr H MINCHIN

Dear Mr Chairman,

We would like to thank you and all concerned for the really enjoyable evening of the Annual Dinner - what a smashing atmosphere there was, to see so many 'old' mates and hear so many quips kept me almost sober (despite the 8 or 9 bottles of wine I seemed to drink). Here's to the next one and may it be as good as the "83 Spree".

HAPPY DAZE  
CIS and  
Harry MINCHIN

## BITS AND PIECES

1. The introduction of the rewritten Task Book 2 and 3 Series is laid down in DCI 249/83. You should remember that PEs on the content of the new Task Books will commence 1 May 1984 after which ratings who have worked through the old books will not be prepared for the examination. NB: All tasks in the old book can be transferred to the new.

2. SMOPS has stated the intention that as from 1 January 1985 all PEs in the Operations group will be centralised by SMOPS. This will probably mean that from that date PEs will be sent out and marked by individual Faculties, thus standardising the quality of pass being achieved.

3. The new I Sonar is Lt Cdr CANTELO whose previous job was at FOST. He relieved Lt Cdr CHANDLER who has moved upstairs to become PSPO.

4. Those of you based in Devonport ships/establishments will be invited to have a beer on the Association some time in the near future.

5. Watch out for amendment number 2 to BR 4023 which will be issued shortly.

6. Are all YOUR ASW related bridge cards up to date?

M P FORD  
Portchester

Dear Sir,

I wish to express my sincere thanks for my copy of the Seamaster which arrived today. I may be one of the more fortunate ex members, with my contacts at Southwick Park and with the ex members with whom I work; I find that I am able to keep abreast of some of the changes that take place.

I think that the devoted members who have "Reincarnated" the Association deserve not only success but the total support of the serving and ex serving members, my congratulations to them. It was nice to see Alan QUARTERMAINE's letter on the "Corfu Incident", this was brought vividly back to mind some 3 or 4 years ago when the M275 was opened. The new route into Portsmouth revealed long forgotten corners of the dockyard. Down behind Tipner, there sat HMS VOLAGE it had probably there since her duty in the Londonderry Squadron in the mid fifties (well done 006½).

Talking to Ted ROBERTS this morning and being asked what we do, rather woke me up to the fact that we do carry out a task which largely is shrouded in mystery. "Work at Ultra" seems to be the only clue, I will try to clear up the picture.

Ray "Lofty" HEARN has been here, in security, for the last 15 years, Colin GRIEF works in production contro, Bob ROUTLEY, Dave FRANCIS and I work in material control. Ultra is an anachronism, in fact we are Thorn EMI (Ferguson) our sole purpose in life is to produce TV sets currently with a labour force of 2100 we are making 14,500 colour sets and 6,500 monochrome per week.

Quite an achievement, and we are the leading TV manufacturer in Europe as well as being the best. Material control function is to identify the set content, purchase the material, get it into the factory, at the right time, in the right quantity of the right pride. This involvement means that I have to control a material budget in excess of £80 million pounds per annum. This carries quite a responsibility and precludes such things as putting the S/M at 300 feet at 15 knots circling continuously, while we finish doing the Telegraph Crossword and ring the brewers for 6 more bottles of 'Woods' to be delivered to the club by lunchtime. The above precis, I hope, encourages people to believe that there "Is a life after the RN".

Enough for now if the job permits, I will make every effort to attend the Dinner on 28 October. Once again my sincere thanks.

Yours sincerely

Ben FORD

E DENNETT  
Clanfield

Dear Ed,

Many thanks for the Seamaster I received today. I still keep contact with the RN through the Royal Naval Amateur Radio Society whose HQ are in HMS MERCURY. I met Teddy ROWE at HMS MERCURY on Saturday 30 July when Countess MOUNTBATTEN took the salute at the Kelly Squadron passing out parade, at the end of which the survivors of HMS KELLY marched pass. I helped to run an amateur radio station at the Kelly Open Day activities in the afternoon. Looking forward to seeing you at the Dinner in October.

Yours faithfully

E DENNETT  
(Ex CPOTASI)

MINUTES OF THE PRI/GI/ASWI ASSOCIATION'S MEETING HELD  
IN HMS VERNON 16 NOVEMBER 1983

Present:

|                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| FCPO(OPS) (S) ANDERSON | ASWI's Association |
| FCPO(OPS) (S) HARTLEY  | ASWI's Association |
| FCPO(OPS) (R) NEWING   | PRI's Association  |
| Lt G PALMER            | PRI's Association  |
| CPO(OPS) (M) PEARCE    | GI's Association   |

1. The meeting was opened at 1020 by Don ANDERSON who welcomed the members of the other 2 associations and thanked them for attending.

2. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 May 1983 were read, discussed and accepted.

3. Sports Day.

a. Bob PEARCE for the GIs expressed regret that the 1983 Sports Day, for which they were sponsors, did not take place. However, the GIs are more than happy to sponsor the event in 1984.

b. After discussion it was agreed that Sunday 29 July be tentatively pencilled in.

4. Three Monkeys Trophy. This is competed for in a Social Indoor Games Competition evening. Don ANDERSON promised that the ASWI's would challenge the PRI's, the current holders, early in 1984.

5. Amalgamation of the Social Aspects of the PRI's/ASWI's.

a. John NEWING began by giving the meeting the latest update on the planned rebuild of the SRs Mess in HMS DRYAD. The current completion date is May 1986, but it is hoped that varying stages of the rebuild will be ready for occupation during 1985. The move of the U Faculty to HMS DRYAD will take place about mid 1985 and therefore an early decision on the proposed social merger of the PRI/ASWI Associations is desirable.

b. Eligibility for membership of the ASWI (and GIs) Association is extended to qualified POs and above. This continues to be the major stumbling block in the proposed merger as the PRI's remain adamant that their membership should remain as it is. Much discussion ensued as to the respective advantages or disadvantages of various proposals but no agreement could be reached.

It was therefore decided that John NEWING would discuss the problem with his President (Captain CMOPS) and his membership to see if a more flexible system of membership could be adopted in order that PO members of the ASWI Association be allowed to use club facilities.

c. John NEWING undertook to give an answer as soon as possible in order that a firm proposal may be put to the ASWI's Association members by postal ballot. Whatever the outcome Don ANDERSON promised to give a final decision on the matter to the PRI's Association by 1 June 1984.

6. There being no further business the meeting was closed at 1120.

By Ed,

As you can see above negotiations on the possible joint running of the club facilities at present enjoyed by the PRI's in HMS DRYAD are still going on. It is hoped a formal proposal will be ready for consideration by the ASWI's Association.