

# ACTION STATIONS



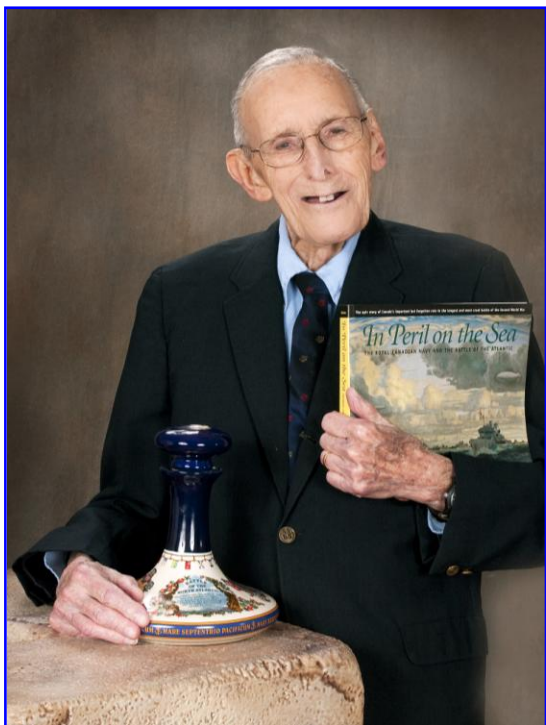
St. John's Newfoundland Remembrance Day Service. Photo: Cdr ret'd Garrett Reddy

Volume 30 Issue 5

HMCS SACKVILLE Newsletter

Fall 2012

In the last issue of *Actions Stations* we celebrated Rose Murray's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and as promised, we would now like to introduce you to Trustee and Surgeon Captain ret'd Robert Hand, RNVR/RCN from Sherborn, Massachusetts who has had a long and distinguished career serving two nations and two navies during his first century.



Dr. Hand grew up in Sheffield England and studied medicine at the University of Glasgow before joining the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve in 1934. He had additional training at the London School of Tropical Medicine which no doubt proved to be very useful later on in his career. When war broke out in 1939, Surgeon Lieutenant Hand was posted to the RN cruiser HMS BERWICK, the flagship of the British North American West Indies Fleet and then to the British Naval Hospital in Bermuda. In 1941 he was appointed Chief Medical Officer in Port of Spain, Trinidad.

In the spring of 1948, Dr. Hand emigrated to Canada with his wife and children and transferred to the Royal Canadian Navy in Halifax where he served until 1963. During this time he studied ophthalmology in the United States and upon retirement went into private practice. Dr. Hand remains associated with many professional organizations on both sides of the border and is a member in good standing with the Nova Scotia Naval Officers' Association.

Among the many gestures of good will marking his birthday was a personal note from Her Majesty the Queen and a Life Membership from the Canadian Naval Memorial Trust Member in

honour of his many years as a Trustee.

Dr. Hand graciously acknowledged the CNMT gift noting that "the Naval Service Act was passed by the Canadian Parliament in 1910", two years before his birth. Remarking that he follows the activities of the Trust in *Action Stations* "with great interest", he was pleased to hear that the province of Nova Scotia had designated a waterfront site to accommodate our Memorial project. "I shall continue to support this important cause," he wrote.

## FROM THE CHAIR

Commodore (ret'd) Calvin Mofford



The warmest holiday wishes to one and all and a special thank you for your continuing interest and support to the Canadian Naval Memorial Trust and HMCS SACKVILLE, the symbol of the incredible sacrifice of Canadians at sea and ashore during the Second World War.

As noted in previous issues of *Action Stations*, the Trust continues to press ahead with plans for putting SACKVILLE under cover and creating a meaningful memorial and interpretive complex. The Memorial Action Committee is just now completing the first phase of creating a project brief which will be used by architectural firms to render a conceptual design for the complex. The next phase is a request for expressions of interest and then proposals for conceptual designs. This will be followed by the selection of a firm to provide more detailed renderings and cost estimates. If all goes to plan we should have a completed conceptual design by next fall.

The conceptual design and its cost estimates are important elements of a larger fundraising activity which the Trust intends to initiate in 2013. There are various phases to such a campaign with much preparatory work to be completed in 2013; hopefully putting us in a position for a public fundraising launch in 2014 and the completion of the project in 2017 to coincide with celebrating Canada's 150th birthday. The challenge to us one and all will be significant, but well within our ability if we all pull together.

I was moved by the number of Trustees and the quality of their participation at the semi-annual general meeting in late November where we passed some small but significant changes to our by-laws that will allow us to more readily use the internet and electronic communications to conduct the Trust's business. In addition, the Trustees were briefed on an initiative to re-invigorate our governance framework so important to assuring potential donors that we are well organized and governed. As well we were given a compelling brief on the memorial and interpretive complex as well as fundraising considerations.

As you may be aware, Vice Admiral (ret'd) Hugh MacNeil stepped down as your Chair in August for personal and family reasons. The Board has elected me as the Acting Chair in the interim. I look to your continuing support in what is truly an exciting time for us all.

*Every best wish to you and your families during this Christmas and holiday season.*

*Pictured: The minesweeper HMCS Border Cities decorated for the festive season and following naval tradition with two Christmas trees in her rigging, 1944, St. John's NL, CWM 20000224-005\_2*

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Doug Thomas

### Next Year

After a busy and productive summer, we are pursuing a number of initiatives for next year. Mark your calendar for the evening of 01 May 2013 – when the next Battle of the Atlantic Concert at Pier 21 is scheduled, headlined by the splendid STADACONA Band of Maritime Forces Atlantic and Friends. This event is sponsored by the Trust, and we anticipate that many of our friends and sponsors will attend – the last concert in April 2012 was a big success, and we are planning an even more enjoyable Concert occasion for next year.

Another initiative we are considering is to offer “experiences,” perhaps with re-enactors, to visitors who would book in advance through one of the local Tour companies. In fact, there are many suggestions of things we should do, but we need people to plan, organize, and bring to reality these and other proposals and projects. If you would like to help with these or other activities, please contact me at 902-721-1206 or by email at [execdir@canadasnavalmemorial.ca](mailto:execdir@canadasnavalmemorial.ca)



I have already received queries about the 2013 AGM. For those of you who plan that far ahead, it will be held 05 July at CFB Halifax. We will start with a fine lunch at the Maritime Command Museum so that attendees can get re-acquainted, and then proceed to the Wardroom Officer's Mess for an afternoon meeting. That evening, the traditional reception will be held onboard SACKVILLE.

### **Go Forth and Multiply**

As we move forward with the Memorial Project - to build a permanent covered berth for the ship in order to preserve her for future generations and also provide an interpretive centre to tell the story of our Navy and all those who have served since 1910 - increasing our membership is essential and something that you can help us accomplish.

Our numbers remain static at about 1000, and it is obvious that we need more Trustees in order to provide financial support for ongoing ship maintenance and operations, and to progress the Memorial Project. We also need more Trustees if we are to demonstrate that there is wide-spread support for our Project to potential donors and political leaders. We will be sending you two copies each of our welcome-aboard pamphlet, our Corporate Fact Sheet, and Statement of Trusteeship. If you could recruit one or two new Trustees from among your family, friends, and contacts, that would be a truly significant contribution to the Trust. Perhaps you could make membership in CNMT a Christmas or birthday present for a younger member of your family? Our youngest Trustee was two weeks old when she became a Life Member last year!"

## **RAPPORT DU DIRECTEUR DU COMITÉ EXÉCUTIF**

*Doug Thomas*

### **L'Année prochaine**

Pour faire suite à un été très occupé et très productif, nous nous proposons de nouvelles initiatives pour l'année prochaine. Annotez votre calendrier pour la soirée du 1er mai 2013 au cours de laquelle aura lieu le gala musical de la bataille de l'Atlantique au quai 21. Cet événement, qui met en vedette l'excellente Musique Stadacona des Forces maritimes de l'Atlantique et Amis, est parrainé par le Fonds commémoratif et nous espérons qu'un bon nombre de nos membres, ainsi que nos commanditaires y assisteront. Le dernier concert, en avril 2012, a connu un immense succès et nous planifions un gala encore plus grandiose l'année prochaine.

Une autre proposition consiste à offrir, à bord, des "expériences", possiblement avec des acteurs de reconstitution historique. Les visiteurs viendraient sur le navire par l'entremise de compagnies d'excursion locales. En fait, nous avons reçu de nombreuses suggestions inspirantes d'activités que l'on pourrait accomplir, mais il nous faut des bénévoles afin de planifier et d'organiser de tels événements. Si vous désirez nous venir en aide, vous n'avez qu'à m'appeler au 902-721-1206 ou par courriel à : [execdir@canadasnavalmemorial.ca](mailto:execdir@canadasnavalmemorial.ca)

J'ai déjà reçu beaucoup de questions à propos de la réunion générale annuelle de 2013. Pour ceux et celles qui ont l'intention d'y assister, prenez note qu'elle aura lieu le 5 juillet à la BFC Halifax. La rencontre débutera avec un déjeuner au Musée du Commandement maritime pour que les participants aient l'occasion de faire ou de refaire connaissance. La réunion aura ensuite lieu en après-midi au mess des officiers. En soirée, nous tiendrons notre réception traditionnelle à bord du SACKVILLE.

### **Prenons de l'envergure**

La création du "Projet Mémorial", qui consiste à ériger un abri pour le navire enfin de le préserver pour les générations à venir et aussi à construire un centre d'interprétation, qui expliquera l'histoire de notre marine et de ceux qui ont servis depuis 1910, nécessite une augmentation de nos membres, et nous espérons que vous pourriez nous venir en aide.

Le nombre de nos membres demeure à 1,000 depuis un bon bout de temps. Il est évident qu'on a besoin d'un plus grand nombre de membres enfin de soutenir le support financier nécessaire au soutien et aux activités du navire ainsi qu'au cheminement du Projet Mémorial. Il est aussi nécessaire d'augmenter le nombre de membres si ce n'est que pour démontrer l'intérêt universel et le support du projet aux donateurs et aux politiciens. Nous vous adresserons deux copies de notre brochure de bienvenue à bord, la fiche de renseignements généraux et la déclaration des administrateurs. Si vous pourriez recruter un ou deux membres de votre famille, amis ou connaissance, ce serait une contribution significative au Trust. La possibilité existe de donner un cadeau de fête ou Noël comme membre. Notre plus jeune membre n'avait que deux semaines quand ses parents l'ont mise membre à vie l'année dernière.

## CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Lieutenant-Commander ret'd Jim Reddy



The ship was successfully shifted to her regular Dockyard berth on Monday 22 Oct with the help of ATHABASKANS's Deck Dept. These operations make an ideal opportunity to acquaint serving sailors with the ship. The Friday lunch before our downtown departure was quite a social occasion where we invited our waterfront partners to join us to mark the end of the season. We were presented with \$5000. From the Legion Poppy Fund and a unique brass bell from Col Bill MacDonald and Trustee Fred Mailman that now adorns the table in our renovated Conference Room.

Our 2012 summer operation was similar to the previous year with over 6000, regular, paid visitors. There was a short term peak in visitor numbers during the July Tall Ships event and also during the new (for us) October *Nocturne* event. In both cases we hosted thousands aboard but did not apply regular admission. Another new event, *Word on the Street* provided the ship with a special opportunity to take part in a popular literary event with people onboard that we would not normally see.

We are now well into winter maintenance and we expect planned Fleet Maintenance Facility (FMF) work to commence as follows:

- Removal of the windlass for replacement of deteriorated wood underneath;
- Simultaneous repair to the corroded naval pipes below;
- Finish of the asbestos removal critical to 2013 docking; and the
- Repair of the leaking starboard scuttle outside the galley.

On our own, we cover the bridge and weapons for the winter and put out extra lines. On that note, I commend that as you cross the brow, you admire the slider plate under our gangway that has been in place for a few years and has eliminated winter movement damage to our brow hardware. This clever, practical device was the brainchild of Wendall Brown and fabricated by the Dockyard Plate Shop. At the same time, the pro bono installation of the "backbone" internal data network is proceeding as resources are available. Much of the wiring is in place and now the antenna needs to be installed on the mast.

Most importantly, Don Lowther, our Engineering Officer (EO), is leading the planning for our docking which we expect in September 2013. We need to finalize critical sequence planning for work in the tanks and bilges as well as start any preparatory work we can beforehand so that premium time on the synchrolift can be used to best advantage. To make all this happen, some major forces have to be aligned including synchrolift availability, Navy/FMF work plan agreement and Navy budget resource support.

We receive ongoing support from Navy sources. One of the frigates in her upgrade work period, has loaned us skilled stokers and electricians who are carrying out important small jobs, coordinated by the EO.



The Naval Engineering School has also sent us electronics technicians to repair the video on our 271 radar simulator as well as the engine room audio interpretation. It is worth noting that these efforts are all made willingly by the working Navy that recognizes the significance of our ship.

Secure for the winter in the Dockyard, we still handle visitor requests by appointment but the increasing interest over the cold months points to the long-term importance of having our ship in a year-round, downtown facility.

On a closing note we were deeply saddened by the loss in Hurricane Sandy of HMS BOUNTY, her captain and one member of the crew. As the picture shows, we were neighbours during Tall Ships and we made many connections and acquaintances.

## MEMORIAL PROJECT UPDATE

*Ted Kelly – Memorial Action Committee Chair*

In the spring edition of *Action Stations*, I reviewed the “Why, What, Where and When” aspects of the Memorial Project in an attempt to give members the full background on how the project had taken form to that point.

We have continued to ‘make way’. In April the Trust retained the services of Catalyst Engineering Consultants to provide project management services. Working with Andrew Amos a Senior Partner of that firm, we have been busy in preparing the Project Brief. This document, which is the size of a small telephone book is almost complete.

We have also defined our method of selecting the Design Architect. This will be accomplished by two-stage process. The first will be a general call by way of a Request for Proposals from architects across the country. Judging from the inquiries we have had, there is already a great deal of interest in the profession. We expect to receive 20 -25 responses from which a jury will select a short list of 3 to 5 proponents. Those selected will be asked for some preliminary design work, which will be funded by the Trust. The jury will then make the selection of the Design Architect from the full submissions by that short list of proponents.

We intend to stage a public launch event to mark the release of the RFP in the early weeks of January. In the meantime we are engaging in a program of awareness by giving a presentation on “Battle of Atlantic Place” (which is the working name we have given the project) to local stakeholder groups and prominent individuals.

This presentation explains why HMCS SACKVILLE is such an important part of our national heritage and what we hope to achieve.

The response to date has been most encouraging. If all goes well we can expect to have a Design Concept by October 2013. This will not only give us a visual picture of what the structure will look like, but it will provide answers to the various engineering questions, but also a good idea of the cost to build and operate.

If we achieve this milestone, we will be in excellent position to offer Battle of Atlantic Place as a fitting legacy project for the 150th anniversary of Confederation.

## CURATOR's CORNER

*Jennifer Gamble – A/Curator*



The RCN has a rich and diverse history from people, to objects, to documents and stories. HMCS SACKVILLE actively collects historical information and objects that help tell the story of the Royal Canadian Fleet. Over the course of the summer the museum has received several donations that have enhanced the collection. One of these donations was a compass from HMCS SOREL, K153, a flower class corvette, donated by Donald Andrew MacDonald.

In October SACKVILLE also received another special donation from Trustee Fred Mailman (left) and Colonel *ret'd* William MacDonald and in the form of a beautifully restored and mounted brass bell which is now a centerpiece in our new boardroom. The bell was formally presented to the ship on October 19th.

Both the compass and the bell will be on display on the ship for the summer 2013. Currently the museum has over 1000 identified artefacts and over 600 in an online database called Collections Access. Over the course of the winter a curatorial storage action plan is being initiated to help better organize and preserve the collection.





## CROSSED THE BAR



Lieutenant Commander Boley Hubert Bak (ret'd) RCN  
Lawrence "Larry" James Boner, ONS  
Chief Petty Officer Ernest Brown, RCN – HMCS KOOTENAY  
Chief Petty Officer George Ching, RCN – HMCS KOOTENAY  
Petty Officer Roger Desmeules, RCN  
Chief Petty Officer Second Class James Clarke, RCN  
Margaret G. (Peggy) Dixon (nee Sauriol), WRCNS  
Dorothy Florence Garnham  
Stephen Anthony Gomes, Canadian Coast Guard  
Able Seaman Dan Gregoroschuk, RCNVR, HMCS SACKVILLE (wartime)  
Able Seaman William Alvin (Al) Lake, RCNVR, HMCS SKEENA  
William "Bill" Mosley, RCNVR, Lindsay Police Force  
Commander Angus Burnett Black Orchard, RCN  
Commander Evan Petley-Jones, RCN  
Leading Seaman Lindy "Len" Merlin Plourd, RCN – HMCS KOOTENAY  
Captain (Navy) Bernard C. Thillaye, French Navy, RN, RCN, MID  
Lieutenant Commander Al Walzak, RCN

## MEMORIAL RIBBON



On 6 November, the Government announced the creation of the Memorial Ribbon, a memento of personal loss and sacrifice, to be offered to close family and friends of military personnel who passed away while in the service of Canada and whose death is attributed to injury or illness sustained on or after October 1, 1947, due to their military service. "The Memorial Ribbon is a profound demonstration of our care and concern for Canada's military families – not just the men and women who bravely serve our country, but their families and other loved ones who have sacrificed so much for us," said Steven Blaney, Minister of Veterans Affairs Canada....It reflects how deeply loved and dearly missed our fallen heroes are."



*On 23 October 1969 HMCS KOOTENAY suffered the worst peacetime accident in the history of the Royal Canadian Navy when one of her gearboxes exploded. The explosion and subsequent fire killed 9 crew members and injured at least 53 others. On the 43<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the tragedy, surviving crewmembers gathered at the Damage Control School, in Halifax named after their ship, to attend annual commemorative ceremonies. Since the ceremony, two more of the original KOOTENAY crew have passed away.*

## SENIOR WREN COMMEMORATED IN STONE



During the Second World War close to 7,000 women served in the naval service. Founded in 1942, the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service (WRCNS), affectionately called the "Wrens", performed a wide variety non-combatant roles ashore, both in Canada and abroad. At a recent ceremony at Admiralty House – home of the Maritime Command Museum at CFB Halifax – and in concert with the opening of an exhibit to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the WRCNS, a sculpture of Captain Adelaide Sinclair, OBE, CM, the first Director of the WRCNS was unveiled. Although pictured in her Commander's uniform, Sinclair was the first Canadian woman to wear the four stripes of a captain in the Royal Canadian Navy. Appointed director of the WRCNS in September 1943, Sinclair held the position until the service was disbanded in 1946. In 1945 she was named an Officer of the Order of the British Empire in King George VI's New Year Honours List for her "untiring zeal and outstanding ability, tact and judgment in organizing the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service into a most efficient and well-disciplined unit". After the war Captain Sinclair went on to several high-ranking public service positions, including serving as executive assistant to the Deputy Minister of National Health and Welfare and Canadian representative to UNICEF, followed by a 10-year stint as Deputy Director of UNICEF until her retirement in 1967. She passed away in 1982, aged 82.

The likeness of Captain Sinclair was created by sculptor Christian Corbet who at the same ceremony was named Honourary Sculptor-In-Residence of the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN). RCN Command historian Dr. Richard Gimblett described the appointment as an opportunity to further engage the artistic community in documenting military historical figures and activities. Corbet has already sculpted Admiral Sir Charles Kingsmill, first Director of the Royal Canadian Navy and CPO Max Bernays, recipient of the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal for his actions aboard HMCS ASSINIBOINE during enemy action against U-210 on 6 August, 1942.




Christian Corbet sculpting bust of Sir Admiral Edmund Charles Kingsmill. Credit: Benjamin Trickett Mercer



Rear Admiral David Gardam, Commander, Maritime Forces Atlantic presents a scroll on behalf of Vice Admiral Paul Maddison, Commander RCN naming Christian Corbet as sculptor-in-residence.



Captain Adelaide Sinclair sculpted from an image in her later years by Christian Corbet.

 **Friends of H.M.C.S. HAIDA** Friends of HAIDA, 658 Catharine St. N., Hamilton, ON, L8L 4V7 assists Parks Canada in the preservation and maintenance of HAIDA as a historic ship, naval memorial and National Historic site. For further information visit: [www.hmcsaida.ca](http://www.hmcsaida.ca)



## MEMORIAL REMEMBERS CREW OF ARGUS 20727

Len Canfield



The close working relationship that has developed between ship and maritime air crews over the years can bring back a host of memories for serving and retired members, most pleasant but some less so.

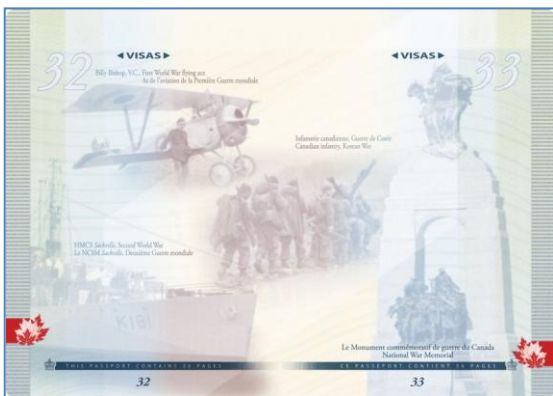
On 23 March 1965 while deployed on exercise 60 miles north of Puerto Rico, 404 Maritime Patrol and Training Squadron Argus 20727 plunged into the ocean claiming the entire crew of 15 and a government scientist. A memorial stone in remembrance of those who lost their lives occupies a prominent place on the Memorial Walkway next to the Greenwood Military Aviation Museum at 14 Wing Greenwood.

Lieutenant Commander (ret'd) Jim Bond was XO of HMCS GATINEAU which was participating in the exercise and recalls, "The crash occurred just after midnight but we (GATINEAU) could only get to the scene just before dawn. Once it was light, we realized that this would be a 'recovery operation' only. We spent the next eight to 10 hours recovering parts of the aircraft but no crew members." Also participating in the recovery was HMCS ANNAPOLIS.

Jim, a former CO of HMCS SACKVILLE and fellow CNMT Trustee LCdr (ret'd) Sherry Richardson attended an Argus 20727 remembrance event in Greenwood in September.

## HMCS SACKVILLE INCLUDED IN NEW EPASSPORT

Len Canfield



HMCS SACKVILLE, Canada's Naval Memorial is included in a selection of iconic Canadian images for the new ePassport that will be introduced in 2013.

Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird, in unveiling the electronic passport Oct 26 at the newly renamed Canadian Museum of History in Gatineau, QC said, "these images showcase Canada's history and the building of our great nation while adding essential new (passport) security features for the 21st century...we urge all Canadians to learn more about the events and people that shaped Canada and the great sacrifices made to secure our freedom."

HMCS SACKVILLE is part of a photo montage in the 'Canadians in War' section in the 36 page passport, along with Billy Bishop, VC, First World War; Canadian infantry in the Korean War and the National War Memorial, Ottawa. Ship photographer Ian Urquhart provided the photo of SACKVILLE that was used in the passport.

Background information in the 'Canadians in War' section refers to "Canada's long and proud military tradition...and these images depict some of the epic contributions that continue to define our country and Canadians." SACKVILLE is described as the last remaining Flower Class corvette of 122 built in Canada; by war's end the Royal Canadian Navy was one of the largest Allied navies.

Vice Admiral Hugh MacNeil (ret'd), Past Chair of the Canadian Naval Memorial Trust commented: "HMCS SACKVILLE, commissioned in 1941, has honourably served Canada in war and peace: as an ocean escort during the Battle of the Atlantic and an oceanographic research vessel until retirement in 1982. Officially designated Canada's Naval Memorial in 1985, SACKVILLE honours all those who have served in our Naval Service since 1910, including those who made the supreme sacrifice. This venerable ship represents the achievements of all the Canadians who created the RCN, who served in both world wars, the Korean War, during the Cold War and who continue to serve Canada's maritime interests. Trustees of the volunteer Canadian Naval Memorial Trust, which owns and operates the ship, commend the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Department for selecting SACKVILLE for this significant recognition."



## NAVAL MONUMENT PLANNED FOR REGINA

*From the files of Will Chabun, Leader-Post, Regina*



Far from salt water, plans are going ahead in the province for a new monument saluting wartime sailors who came from Saskatchewan. When completed, it will be installed, appropriately, on Navy Way - a short street adjacent to the flagpole outside The Queen Building on Broad Street in Regina, which is the home of HMCS QUEEN, the longstanding naval reserve unit in the city. Behind this memorial project is a volunteer group called Friends of the Navy, which grew out of the group set up several years ago to link Regina with the modern warship HMCS REGINA.

Spokesman Steve Smedley said the monument will salute all Saskatchewan sailors of the Royal Canadian Navy" and, particularly, the sacrifice of the men who perished during the Second World War. If fundraising is successful, the group hopes to have

the monument finished and dedicated by next spring's Battle of the Atlantic Sunday.

Though wartime RCN ships bore the names of over a dozen Saskatchewan communities from WASKESIU to ESTEVAN, only two were lost in action. The first was HMCS WEYBURN, sunk in early 1943 by a mine laid by a German U-boat in the Mediterranean near Gibraltar. Twelve men died, including her captain. The second, HMCS REGINA was torpedoed off the coast of Cornwall in the autumn of 1944 with a loss of thirty sailors.

Exactly how many Saskatchewanians served in the RCN during the war is hard to estimate as many volunteered at recruiting offices outside the province - and vice-versa. And due to wartime staffing pressures, sailors from a particular city or town rarely served on the ship bearing its name - though one veteran of the wartime HMCS REGINA lives in Saskatoon



*Pictured left: HMCS WEYBURN*

*Pictured top: HMCS REGINA sailors enjoying a day alongside in Halifax, May 1943. (L-R): Petty Officer W. Cramp, Able Seaman R. Leblanc, Stoker E.W. Barclay, Petty Officer J. Yankoshi, Leading Seaman, B.J. Jenkin, T.N. Jackson. Library and Archives Canada*

*More information, including an artist's rendering and a way to contribute online to this project, is available at Facebook group "Saskatchewan Naval Monument" or [www.friendsofthenavy.ca](http://www.friendsofthenavy.ca).*



Sailors onboard HMCS VILLE DE QUÉBEC, currently under refit, are thinking ahead to when she can rejoin the Fleet with a tribute to RCN and RCNVR sailors from the Second World War. The project, initiated by our Cox'n PO1 Craig McFadgen, who serves in the VdQ, is to honour sailors from WW2 with a Battle of the Atlantic display. If you have anything at home that you would like to share (i.e. caps, bags, photos) from this time in our historical past please let us know.

*Frank Arsenault aboard HMCS VILLE DE QUÉBEC - 1942*

## SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS and VISITORS



In conjunction with Battle of the Atlantic commemorations during the month of May, Maritime Forces Atlantic shore units on Dress-With-A-Difference (DWAD) Fridays raised funds in support of HMCS SACKVILLE. On a recent visit to the ship, Chief of Staff, Captain (N) Darren Garnier (left), presented Commodore *ret'd* Cal Mofford, A/Chair of the Canadian Naval Memorial Trust with a generous donation of \$7,120 raised during the DWAD campaign. HMCS SACKVILLE is grateful for this ongoing gesture of support from the men and women currently serving in our navy. We also never miss a chance to thank the Canadian Forces Naval Engineering School for their outstanding technical and personnel contribution throughout the year.

Similarly, representatives from the Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command of The Royal Canadian Legion presented a cheque to our ship for \$5000 from the annual Poppy Fund and the 2012 The Royal Canadian Legion--Dominion Command Convention held in Halifax. HMCS SACKVILLE moved downtown early in support of the convention and welcomed aboard several hundred delegates during the event. Pictured with the Commanding Officer, from l-r, are long-time supporters of our ship: Sgt-at-arms Tom Cane, Audrey McNeil, Barb Foster and Tom Waters. Tom, the face of the Legion in the Halifax Regional Municipality and Executive Director of Walter Callow Wheelchair Buses, is an avid proponent of the Canadian Naval Memorial Trust and he cannot be thanked enough for his dedication to our ship and to our veterans.



In mid-October, Brigadier-General *ret'd* The Honourable J.J. Grant, CMM, ONS, CD, the 32nd Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia joined us for chowder. While His Honour has been onboard on previous occasions this was his first official visit as the Queen's representative. Upon completion of formalities, A/Chair noting that the LGov was out of the rig-of-the-day presented him with an official SACKVILLE tie as well as a copy of Dr. Marc Milner's book on the ship (available online). LGov Grant assured the gathering that he would wear the tie with pride and display the book in a prominent location in Government House.

Now that we have shifted to our winter berth in HMC Dockyard and the cruise ships and tourists have left for the year, we are enjoying a quiet sojourn as we regroup for the

2013 season. Visitors are always welcome and we were especially pleased during a recent Friday lunch to host Megan Leslie, Member of Parliament, Halifax and CFB HALIFAX's new Base Commander, Captain(N) Angus Topshee seen pictured alongside our CO, Jim Reddy. Megan, a Trustee, is our advocate in Parliament and will distributing this issue of *Action Stations* to her fellow colleagues in Ottawa on our behalf.





## SPECIAL EVENTS

Pat Jessup – Chair, Community Relations

As mentioned previously, HMCS SACKVILLE participated in two new events this summer with the view to generate more interest in our ship as a waterfront destination. Little did we know how successful our first adventures into the world of cultural-community-events would be. The first in September was *Word On the*



*Street*, where we hosted readings by local Nova Scotian authors under our colourful canopy on the upper deck. Included in the line-up was our own Brian Whitehouse reading to a captivated audience from his recent book, *A Sense of the Sea*, reviewed in this issue.

The second event was the increasingly popular local presentation of *Nocturne* – an evening of illuminated art experiences around and about the Halifax Regional Municipality. In keeping with the theme of the event and in partnership with Argyle Art Gallery, HMCS SACKVILLE hosted several paintings, by prominent Nova Scotian artists, onboard depicting our ship and the Halifax Harbour at nighttime. We also took the opportunity to

show paintings from our own wartime-themed collection which were very well received by the public. The art work could be found throughout the ship including in the wheelhouse and machinery spaces. Who would have thought that our boiler room would be a platform for fine art?

It was a remarkable evening much to the credit to several of our Trustees and their wives who braved the unseasonable cold and welcomed over 2300 visitors aboard in a five hour period. We had unforeseen line-ups on the jetty and traffic control onboard was tight as indicated in the photo below. At any given moment we had up to 200 waiting on the jetty to come aboard! Surprisingly, social media played



a significant role in the large turnout in that Halifax "Tweeters" were promoting our event as a "must see" during the festival.

Plans are already in the works for next summer and *Nocturne* 2013 with a sound and light show projected off of our bow of Second World War movies and onboard animation.



Pictured above greeting local university students to the ship is Jack Kelly, one of our many hard-working volunteers.

## LONDONDERRY UPDATE



Halifax sculptor Peter Bustin has completed the Commonwealth Sailor's Monument and by the time you receive this newsletter it will be well on its way to Wales where it will be cast in bronze before being installed on the banks of the Foyle Estuary. The monument will be formally dedicated during the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of the Atlantic ceremonies in Londonderry, Northern Ireland when 45 of us from Canada will be in attendance.

Subsequent to the Londonderry events, the Royal Navy will be hosting ceremonies in Liverpool, UK starting on Friday 24 May. A partial slate of these activities can be found at: <http://www.rfaa-london.org.uk/#/battle-of-the-atlantic-70/4568129153>

## TRUSTEE NEWS

Congratulations to three of our Trustees who have recently been recognized for their accomplishments.

Rear Admiral ret'd Bryn Weadon, Former Assistant Deputy Minister Finance and Corporate Services, Department of National Defence, has been awarded the highest designation of the Certified Management Accountants, the prestigious Fellow of the Society of Management Accountants of Canada.

Debbie Findlay, a newcomer to politics, is now the councillor representing her riding of Sherbrooke in the Municipality of St. Mary's, Nova Scotia. Debbie handily defeated her two opponents taking 41% of the vote in the municipal elections held last month.

And, SACKVILLE's former Commanding Officer Sherry Richardson, has been recognized by her alma mater, the Trafalgar School for Girls in Montreal, during its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for her "service, exceptional performance and community service – local, national and international".



It is always a pleasure to meet Trustees from away, especially when they cross the country to visit our good ship. Pictured is Peter Richards hailing from West Vancouver and en route to Quebec City with his wife Barbara. Peter, a long-time member of HMCS SACKVILLE was in the graduating class of '47 from Royal Roads, and enjoyed a west coast career in the RCN. Peter is Past President of the NOABC, the oldest branch of the association in Canada.

A few issues back we put out a call for a RCN life jacket to fill a gap in our collection. John Hare from Oro Station – near Orillia, Ontario - stepped up and sent us a gently-used artefact from his time aboard the River-class frigate, HMCS CHEBOGUE and during which time the ship's stern was blown off by an acoustic torpedo fired from U-1227, 4 October 1944. While John was unscathed and made it safely into a life raft without getting wet, CHEBOGUE was badly damaged. The explosion folded 30 feet of her stern up and over the ship and although still afloat CHEBOGUE had to be towed to Port Talbot, Wales, over 900 miles away. En route she was further damaged when her towline separated in gale force winds as she was driven ashore in Swansea Bay. *Pictured without his life jacket in the back yard of his home in Port Credit. John was 19 when he joined the Royal Canadian Navy and 20 when tragedy struck HMCS CHEBOGUE.*



*Once enemies now friends.....* On the evening of 16 April 1945, the Bangor minesweepers HMC Ships SARNIA and ESQUIMALT were conducting anti-submarine patrols in the Harbour approaches off Halifax. Unknown to the two ships the German submarine U190 – was in the vicinity. While the story of the subsequent torpedoing of HMCS ESQUIMALT and the recovery of survivors and the dead by the SARNIA is well known, what is not well known is the close and longstanding relationship between Werner Hirschmann (left), U190's Engineering Officer and Lou Howard (right), SARNIA's Navigating / Asdic Officer. The two met years ago and have been friends ever since. This November the two had a mini-reunion in Ottawa along with family and friends, including Sarnia-reunion organizer extraordinaire, Peter Holmes, RCAF of Carleton Place.



### SAVE A TREE

Action Stations is available online and by email the moment it is sent to the printer for publishing. If you would prefer to receive it while it is hot off the press, instead of by snail mail, please let our membership Chair, Debbie Findlay know at:

[membership@canadasnavalmemorial.ca](mailto:membership@canadasnavalmemorial.ca)





Trust Director Bill Gard and Blanche Lund, WRCNS, at the unveiling of the Captain Adelaide Sinclair sculpture ceremony. Many of you will remember Blanche as a popular dancer with the wartime Meet the Navy Show.



Meet the Navy cast members met the Royal Family after a command performance in London 1945. L-R, Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret, Canadian High Commissioner Vincent Massey, HM King George VI, HM Queen Elizabeth, John Pratt, Blanche Lund, Alan Lund, Cameron Grant and other cast members.

## NATASHA'S WOOD ART CONTEST FOR CHILDREN



Fay Maddison, philanthropist, playwright, author, artist, mother and navy wife has embarked on a journey to bring awareness to the challenges facing military personnel and their loved ones. "I know personally what it is to live with a dad that needs help - deserves help," she said. "The family must carry on - but they too deserve our love and support especially the mothers and the children".

Under the umbrella of *Natasha's Wood*™, Fay has written a series of picture books including 'Twiglet's First Birthday' ©™, for early readers and a larger selection of 'tween' novels called - 'Natasha's Wood and the Legend of Fairyland'©™. To illustrate the books, youth, in particular children of military families up to age 18 were invited to submit art work in accordance to the 'Twiglet's First Birthday' storyline. Art work selected for publication will appear with the name and age of each winner.

The response so far has been very positive including the production of an online Youtube video titled: *Natasha's Wood Video Competition\_01*. "The MFRC in Europe has submitted one of the very best collections so far," Fay remarked. There are some really talented military youth out there, whose art work will become part of this legacy." The illustration above, for instance, was submitted by a young artist from an American naval family.

The central figure in the Natasha's Wood story is a vivacious 10 year-old who escapes to a fantasy world full of delightful creatures. Her father is in the Navy, away from home for months at a time, but he always sends back incredible fairy dolls or figurine creatures like dragons and unicorns; they become the characters in the stories of Natasha's Wood.

Fay is in the process of establishing the Natasha's Wood Foundation (NWF) to raise funds for charities that support the military families and first responders, particularly in the area of mental health and the Arts. "I saw the "power" of story-telling to be a unique and brave new way of fundraising," Fay explains. "The Foundation will story-tell through art and literacy, and give back to other charities that support the military family."

In addition to writing the books, Fay has developed an impressive marketing scheme based on the story with a matching children's clothing line. Proceeds from the sale of this clothing line and Twiglet and Natasha's Woods books will go back to military families. Already on board as sponsors for this very worthwhile project are Porter Airlines and Shaw Communications.

For more information on this very worthwhile project and NWF see: [www.natashaswood-foundation.com](http://www.natashaswood-foundation.com). A passage from Twiglet's First Birthday and further information on the art contest can be found at: <http://www.familyforce.ca/sites/ncr/en/newsevents/Pages/default.aspx>

## REMEMBERING THE CARIBOU AND HER GALLANT CREW

Pat Jessup

The Thanksgiving dishes were barely put away on Tuesday, 13 October, 1942 when the 2222 tonne Newfoundland car ferry SS CARIBOU, departed North Sydney on a scheduled trip to her home port of Port aux Basques, Newfoundland. "The night was dark with no moon" recorded the Officer of the Watch in the log of CARIBOU's Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) escort, the "one-stacker" Bangor-class minesweeper HMCS GRANDMÈRE.



CARIBOU was carrying 237 that night. 191 passengers and a crew of 46 as well as a belly-full of live-stock, cargo and rail cars for her owners the Newfoundland Railway. 118 of the passengers were Canadian, American and British military personnel making their way to bases in Stephenville, Argentia/Marquise, Torbay, Gander and St. John's on the island to Happy Valley - Goose Bay in Labrador. Among this group was Nursing Sister Agnes Wilkie, RCNVR returning for duty in St.

John's. A quiet transit was expected and passengers settled in for the night in their bunks and cabins below decks.

Lurking in the vicinity was the Nazi submarine U-69, nicknamed the laughing cow by her crew. With 16 kills - totaling 69,000 tonnes, Kapitän-Leutnant Ulrich Gräf was anxious for one more hit before U-69 finished its patrol and headed home to Lorient, France. Shortly before midnight, the submarine spotted two ships travelling at 10.5 knots on the horizon. Despite the darkness, visibility was clear. To Gräf, the CARIBOU - "belching black smoke," looked like a 6,500 tonne - freighter and her escort a "two-stack destroyer". As described by historian Michael Hadley in *U-Boats against Canada*, the misidentification of the size and type of both ships was a problem systemic in the Kriegsmarine. It cost the Newfoundland ferry her life.

At 03:21 am the ferry was ripped by a torpedo fired by U-69. Hit in the engine room where the boilers also immediately exploded, the CARIBOU began sinking fast. Despite the heroic efforts on the part of the crew and passengers, only one lifeboat could be launched, and the rest of the survivors fell into the frigid water, clinging to overturned lifeboats and bits of wreckage. In less than five minutes CARIBOU slipped beneath waves.

GRANDMÈRE carried out a quick depth-charge attack against the submarine, which attempted to escape under the sinking ferry, but an exhaustive search for U-69 proved fruitless. It was nearly three hours before the minesweeper could return to look for survivors. For many it was too late. By then, of the 237 passengers and crew of the CARIBOU, only 101 could be recovered - 136 men, women and children were lost in the most devastating attack in Canadian waters in the Second World War.

CARIBOU's Master Ben Taverner, and his sons Harold and Stanley perished as did several other father-son teams working as crew onboard. Agnes Wilkie drifted away in the night to become the only Canadian nurse casualty of enemy action during the Second World War. Similarly, fellow traveler Bride Fitzpatrick of the Newfoundland Merchant Navy was the only female of her service to die during the war. Howard Cutler with the Royal Newfoundland Regiment at Gallipoli and Beaumont Hamel during the First World War, was killed working in the ferry's mailroom.

Eric Andrews, Royal Navy, was one of the lucky ones. Andrews not only survived the sinking of the CARIBOU, but six previous submarine attacks during the war. Afterwards he said: "I want to forget the Caribou. The screaming of the women and children was awful. It was the worst experience I ever went through." Left behind were twenty-one widows and 51 children from the tight-knit coastal communities, including Howard Cutler's young son Robert. Only 34 bodies were ever found and brought ashore in Port aux Basques for identification. Suddenly the war was on our doorstep.

In the days to follow Angus L. Macdonald, the Minister of National Defence for Naval Services on behalf of Canadians issued the following: "The sinking of the SS CARIBOU brings to war to Canada with tragic emphasis. We deplore the loss of officers and men of our fighting forces...Yet those for whom our hearts bleed



most are the ...women and children. If there were any Canadians who did not realize that we were up against a ruthless and remorseless enemy, there can be no such Canadians now. If anything were needed to prove the hideousness of Nazi warfare, surely this is it. Canada can never forget the CARIBOU."

And Canada has not forgotten. Seventy years later an at-sea ceremony commemorated the tragedy onboard the ATLANTIC VISION - the modern day version of the ferry service connecting Newfoundland with Nova Scotia. The ceremony also included the committal to the sea of the ashes of Robert Cutler and Eric Andrews whose ties to the tragedy are clear. Robert's wishes were that his ashes be scattered over CARIBOU's last known coordinates, so that he could be with his father Howard - the mailroom clerk. Eric Andrews' last wishes were to return to the CARIBOU where so many of his "mates" died that fateful day.

Representatives from CFS St John's, NDHQ and Marine Atlantic took part along with the Cutler and Andrew families and 129 Royal Canadian Sea Cadets from North Sydney. Dr. Richard Gimblett, the RCN Command Historian provided introductory remarks and Lieutenant (Navy) Padre Jack Barrett officiated over the wreath laying and committal ceremonies. PO2 Kasandra Kennedy, Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps Admiral Mountbatten, Sudbury, Ontario played the Last Post in memory of her great-grandfather Eric Andrews. "The seas were rolling fairly heavily and everyone at the ceremony had some indication of what the conditions were like for the crew and passengers 70 years ago" remarked Commander Larry Trim, Commanding Officer of CFS St. John's.

Rear-Admiral David Gardam, Royal Canadian Navy Commander of Maritime Forces Atlantic added: "The loss of the SS Caribou in 1942 by a German U-boat is a tragedy beyond words that is still felt today by the family and friends of those lost and by Marine Atlantic. I am thankful that Canadians continue to show respect to all members of the Canadian Forces, and especially to our veterans who paid the ultimate sacrifice for their country."

Following the service Gwendolyn Andrews, daughter of Eric Andrews wrote: "It was very important to our father that the lives lost when the Caribou was torpedoed never be forgotten. He certainly never forgot...the commitment of dad's ashes to the deep at the 70th anniversary of the sinking of the CARIBOU has meant a great deal not only to our immediate family but to all the extended family and friends who loved and honoured him throughout his life. Thank you for allowing dad's ashes to be cast as he wished. He was a hero in the eyes of everyone but himself... My father, Eric Andrews can now finally rest in peace. And we have can peace also knowing that his wishes were carried out". *Lest we forget the CARIBOU!*

## **WORLD WAR II NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT DONATED BY NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP**

During the Canadian Defence Security and Aerospace Exhibition Atlantic held this past September in Halifax, Northrop Grumman Corporation's Sperry Marine Canadian business unit presented a Sperry MK 14 Gyro Compass (circa 1943) and a leather-bound operators manual to the Trust for installation in HMCS SACKVILLE. "The Mk 14 Gyro was originally fitted to SACKVILLE during her 1944 refit in Galveston, Texas, and was a vital part of a huge increase in SACKVILLE's anti-submarine capability..." remarked Douglas Thomas, Executive Director, Canadian Naval Memorial Trust, and we are very pleased to receive it".

Northrop Grumman's Sperry Marine business unit produced the Sperry Mk 14 from 1934 until the mid-1950s, and it was the most widely manufactured gyrocompass of World War II, used by several allied navies. It played a vital role in greatly increasing the antisubmarine capability of the SACKVILLE and other Canadian naval vessels during the war at sea.

"Northrop Grumman Sperry Marine is proud to donate this Mk 14 to HMCS SACKVILLE, Canada's Naval Memorial," said Alan Dix, managing director of Northrop Grumman Sperry Marine. "Our work over the years with the Canadian navy was instrumental in Sperry Marine's emergence as a world leader in marine navigation, and we look forward to continuing that support to Canada's shipbuilding industry in the future."

The donated Mk 14 was found in storage at Georgian College in Owen Sound, Ontario, after a nearly two-year search. Captain Peter Buell, director of the Great Lakes International Marine Training Center at Georgian College, was instrumental in arranging for the donation. Sperry Marine handled the transportation to Halifax and will assist the trust in installing the Mk 14 aboard the SACKVILLE at a later date.

See Trustee Hugh MacPherson's remarks at the ceremony at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y8aUBEcuyR4>

## THE MAILBAG

*Dear Editor,*

Neighbours of mine, Finbar and Deirdre Drinan visited your memorial HMCS 'SACKVILLE' recently. A volunteer member of staff gave them a copy of your newsletter 'Action Stations' which he passed on to me, as he knew I had a particular interest as I am the officer who saved the a.m. weapon from the scrapheap.

At the time I held the appointment of 'Base Gunnery Officer' at the naval base on Haulbowline Island, Cork, Ireland about 1975. One day the commanding officer called me and said that the 2 pounder in the



gunnery school was to be disposed of to make way for a more modern weapon, of the type fitted in the current fleet. When I asked what to do with the gun, I was told to "board it" which meant putting it in the scrap-yard where in due course it would be sold off. Also, at the time weapons sold for scrap had to be effectively destroyed to ensure they were unusable, even if they were of an obsolete type. I protested, saying that the gun was a collectors' item, and that we should keep it, to which he replied 'We've enough old junk cluttering up the place'. However, he said that if I could find a suitable place for it (in the base), I could keep it.

With great work and persuasion, and diplomacy between the different offices in the base and dockyard, I got a site in the gunnery school and had it mounted there.

I duly left the navy to take up a lecturing appointment in the Mercantile Marine college, but remained on the naval reserve. I must admit to being somewhat annoyed when I heard that 'my' gun had been given away, and that we (the Irish Navy) appeared, at that time, to have such little regard for our own heritage. Thankfully this has changed. Also, at the time, units of the ASDIC trainer, an early type of simulator, were donated for your memorial I understand.

I am consoled however that the gun has found a good home. I knew the 'Flower' class corvettes quite well, as a teenager my family lived in the naval base, and I spent a lot of time aboard and several day trips to sea. They were gone by the time I entered the navy, on a direct entry scheme from the mercantile marine.

May I take this opportunity to commend your work in maintaining such a worthwhile memorial. Its significance extends beyond Canada. All of Europe, including Ireland have an outstanding debt to those who kept the seas open and the convoys sailing in the dark days of the Second World War.

*Daire Brunicardi, Lt. Cdr. Irish Naval Service ret'd*

Dear Sir,

Please accept the enclosed as my personal commitment to become a Trustee of HMCS SACKVILLE and the Canadian Memorial Trust. I have read your brochure and I would like to know more about your endeavors. I released from the Royal Canadian Navy in 1953 (31433-H) and my true heart will always be there. I am 82 and may never be able to come aboard, but this is close.

Thanking you for all you do.

*William Dave McClean*



We are looking for former members of HMCS SACKVILLE's wartime ship's company. If you know of anyone that served onboard during that time please contact us at: [pr@canadasnavalmemorial.ca](mailto:pr@canadasnavalmemorial.ca) or call: 902-462-3089.



*Dear Commanding Officer,*

On behalf of the Canadian Merchant Navy Veterans Association (CMNVA) members, please accept our sincere thank you for all your support for our September 3, 2012 Canadian Merchant Navy Veterans Day memorial service at SACKVILLE Landing and others over the years.



Your crew did a superb job providing refreshments and taking care of those tasks essential to feed and care for a group of elderly veterans, family and friends. Our eleven veterans, who were very honoured to be awarded the QE II Diamond Jubilee medal aboard SACKVILLE. The favourable comments from those attending, the different flags displayed, the media response and fine weather made it an event to remember. I would especially like to mention Graham McBride who did such a good job as flag officer.

This annual Memorial Day service, decreed by the Government of Canada, over the past ten years is much appreciated by the MN veterans, who were forgotten for over half a century. For some of our veterans this will be their last National service celebration, because of aging.

We wish you, your officers and crew and the Naval Trust our best wishes for continued success in the future and in the naval tradition of serving Canada.

*Sincerely yours,*

*Captain Earle Wagner*

*Chairman and Past National Chairman CMNVA Memorial Fund*

*Dear Sirs,*



I have recently returned to Australia after a wonderful Canadian holiday. A real highlight of my trip was visiting Halifax and in particular the SACKVILLE. The ship looks in great shape and after reading the book very kindly given to me by your CO I have some appreciation of how impressive both the ship and Trust truly are.

Thanks again for making me so welcome and in particular to Jack Kelly for looking after me so well.

*Kind regards from us all at the Queensland Maritime Museum in Brisbane.*

*Mike Todd*

*Pictured is the former HMAS Diamantina a River-Class frigate and one of eight built in Australia in WW II. After the war, she was employed as a Survey and Oceanographic Research vessel, and presented to the Queensland Maritime Museum in 1980.*

*Greetings from England,*

It would be remiss of us not to thank you for your hospitality whilst we were over in Halifax. We did appreciate your kindness and the welcome aboard your fine memorial to the Canadian Navy. It does you credit.

Good luck with the 'laying up' and winter maintenance. Best wishes and kind regards,

*Robert and Celia Reid*

## WEBSITES OF INTEREST



[www.submarine-museum.co.uk/home/blog/category/blog](http://www.submarine-museum.co.uk/home/blog/category/blog)

Excellent website on the ongoing restoration of HMS Alliance and very much in line with our own conservation efforts for HMCS SACKVILLE. Alliance is one of fourteen 'A' class submarines built for service in the Far East during the Second World War and is the centrepiece of the Submarine Museum in Gosport, UK - the official memorial to the courageous men who fought in similar boats for the freedom we enjoy today. The submarine experience is brought to life by a guided tour enhanced

by the first hand experiences of retired submariners, many of whom served in this class of boat.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0DsJ8lhWO7w&feature=share>

CBC's Rick Mercer commentary on recent changes to service delivery to our veterans.

<http://www.cbrnp.com/RNP/Flower/ARTICLES/SACKVILLE.htm>

Excellent overview of HMCS SACKVILLE's history

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xl6TRTBZUMM>

Moving Maori farewell to New Zealand soldiers killed in Afghanistan.

[http://alberniproject.org/HMCS\\_ALBERNI.html](http://alberniproject.org/HMCS_ALBERNI.html)

An online tribute to the men who served in HMCS ALBERNI 1941-1944

<http://www.cmp-cpm.forces.gc.ca/dhr-ddhr/chc-tdh/chart-tableau-eng.asp?ref=MemR>.

Information on the eligibility criteria and application process of the new Memorial Ribbon.

## BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC CONCERT



**Just in time for Christmas!**  
**Tickets are on sale now for the**  
**15<sup>th</sup> Annual Battle of the Atlantic Concert**  
**1 May, 2013 at 1900**  
**at Pier 21**  
**featuring the Stadacona Band**  
**\$15.00**

## RESTORATION PROJECT - UPDATES OJIBWA MAKES IT HOME TO PORT BURWELL



After several months undergoing preliminary restoration in Hamilton and a lengthy transit through the Welland Canal, HMCS OJIBWA has finally reached her final resting place in Port Burwell, Ontario. OJIBWA is the last of Canada's Oberon-class submarines and a veteran of the Cold War.

"Canada had obligations in the international community and the main one was to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Our job was to help keep the sea lines of communication open in the event of the Cold War breaking into any kind of hot war" said Rear-Admiral Dan McNeil

(pictured), project co-ordinator of Project OJIBWA. To commemorate this role, OJIBWA will become the centrepiece of the new Elgin Military Museum of Naval History scheduled to open in 2013.

Follow the OJIBWA project at: <http://www.projectojibwa.ca/project/getting-there.aspx>

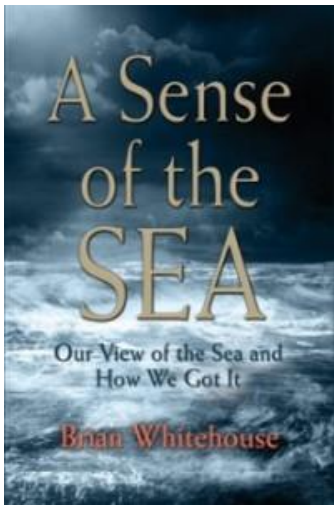


## BOOK REVIEW

### A Sense of the Sea

Author: Canadian Naval Memorial Trustee Brian Whitehouse

Reviewer: Lieutenant Commander ret'd Darryl Williams



As a former naval officer with an oceanographic pedigree, I really enjoyed “A Sense of the Sea”. Dr. Brian Whitehouse uses his scientific background to explain some basic concepts of oceanography in layman’s terms and how the state of ocean knowledge has developed over the last five decades and evolved to where it is today. Despite his Phd in Oceanography from Dalhousie, there are no scientific formulas or equations in the book. Instead, he takes the reader on a journey to discover how public perception of the marine environment has been shaped by books, movies, television, and well known early pioneers such as Rachel Carson, Jacques Cousteau, and Ian Fleming.

The book is divided into two parts, beginning with a descriptive summary of ocean science progress and understanding since World War II. Dr. Whitehouse gives a good explanation of how ocean observing systems, satellite sensors, and ocean modelling have morphed into the concept of ocean intelligence and operational oceanography. He also touches on the early establishment of oceanographic institutions, both US and Canadian, and the importance of US Navy funding for ocean research during the Cold War.

The second part of the book is a more personal reflection of the author’s family influences, education, and work experiences that shaped his own sense of the sea. Both his grandfather and father served in the Royal Navy, with his father transferring to the RCN in the early 1950’s. Early influences while he was growing up included Rachel Carson, who up until the release of Silent Spring, was best known for a best-selling book “The Sea Around Us”. Others were Jacques Cousteau, who helped invent SCUBA diving, and the James Bond movie franchise. The author’s reflections on his father’s naval service and influence were especially poignant and would be of interest to any sailor in today’s navy. The book ends with some thoughts on future developments in ocean science and who may be the next Jacques Cousteau or Rachel Carson for the next generation.

Overall, Dr. Whitehouse succeeds providing the key to enable the reader to unlock their own sense of the sea. This book covers a niche that effectively combines ocean science with a personal view that will resonate with anyone who has spent time on or in the ocean.

A Sense of the Sea and a large variety of other naval history books can be purchased online: [http://www.hmcsSACKVILLE.ca/gift\\_shop/](http://www.hmcsSACKVILLE.ca/gift_shop/).



The Canadian Coastal Forces Trust

[www.CanadianCoastalForcesTrust.com](http://www.CanadianCoastalForcesTrust.com) has launched a campaign to save Motor Torpedo Boat 486 currently a converted houseboat in the UK. MTB 486 was once commanded by Lieutenant Commander Anthony Law, RCNVR as part of the 29<sup>th</sup> Flotilla in the English Channel. Watch an impressive video on the project at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=moUhOP8T1c>

MTB 486 from ML 304, 1 November 1944 during the Battle for Walcheren, Operation Infatuate. Photo Credit: Ernest Quinn.

## WELCOME ABOARD!

### NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Bruce Maclean	Wayne Maddever
Peter Corkum	Gary Medford
Philip Reid	Angus Topshee
Natasha Smith	Ronald Godden

### NEW TRUSTEES

Robert Sykes	Brian Stewart
Will Garnett	Robert Shore
John Hollis	Stephanie Murray
Terence Powell	Charlotte Farish
Michael Peterson	Mary McDonald
Richard Rudnicki	Tony Wheeler

### UPCOMING SHIP'S PROGRAM AND TRUSTEE EVENTS

12 December, 1830-2030 - Trustee Christmas Reception onboard.  
 21 December. Last lunch of 2012.  
 1 January, 2013, 1130-1330: New Year's Day Levee.  
 4 January 2013. First lunch of 2013.

#### Other events:

1 May, 2013 - Battle of the Atlantic Concert, Pier 21  
 5 May, 2013 - Battle of the Atlantic Sunday  
 8 May 2013 - Battle of the Atlantic Pilgrimage, Londonderry NI

### LAST WORD



*HMCS ASSINIBOINE  
 cooks McLean and Patterson  
 ensure that all the right  
 ingredients are in the  
 Christmas rum pudding,  
 December 1940.*

### ACTION STATIONS

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HMCS SACKVILLE1



<http://canadasnavalmemorial.ca/>

### Thinking ahead:

If you are planning to come to the AGM in June, you might also want to see the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo. Please note the new schedule for 2013 as follows.

#### MATINEES:

JUNE 30  
 JULY 1  
 JULY 6  
 JULY 7

#### EVENING SHOWS:

JULY 2-5

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