

# H.M.S. HOOD ASSOCIATION

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August 1994

Ahoy There Shipmates, Ladies and Gentlemen!!

This year has been a very busy one. The Standard has been paraded at most D/Day events that had taken place around this area. This has kept young Dennis Finden and of course Ken Clark, who provides the transport very busy. I do thank them both and all the members who were able to get to these events (and got soaking wet doing so). The "HOOD" is still well remembered in these parts, as I hope this is so everywhere else.

I received no complaints with regards the Reunion, so I presume everyone enjoyed themselves. The Dinners at the Club are a lot better now that they have those heaters on the tables, and you don't have cold meals like we used to get. There is always something of course that is the price we have to pay. The Club of course, not being as it use to be in our time, but is now a first class Hotel. No HOOTER sounding of in the morning to get Jack back to his ship, no fish and chips in the cabins, and no "see you in the morning Nobby". Those days have gone, but what good days they were when you could tell a Matelot from a civvy.

Our members are getting a little thin on the ground owing to age and sickness, but I do wish all of you who are sick and infirm my kindest regards. I wonder how many of us would get along without our tablets, eye drops, hearing aids, ointments and all those other bits and bobs, probably be very happy. Perhaps the old chap on the Main Gate in Pompey with his ACID DROPS and PAREGORIC would do us more good? Mind you we do have quite a few very fit members, one in particular who is now at the great age of 102. That is Mrs Hurst the wife of Commander Hurst who was lost in the HOOD.

As our Vice Chairman Tom Hooper had to attend a family wedding on Reunion day, and as you know he generally runs the raffle, his Sister and Husband stepped in the breach and did a very good job for us. Thank you both Mr and Mrs Moulden.

At the A.G.M. a letter was read from Mr Warrand from N.S.W. stating that he would donate £100 towards a shield of some description for the best Cadet of the year from T.S.HOOD ST Austell, Cornwall, and also T.S.HOOD, Coboconk, Ontario, Canada. Of course on hearing this and up to his usual standard young Albert R.N. as he known to us all, but normally Mr A.E. Burton (the knot man) took up the challenge and stated he would take this on. Albert does a great deal for the association although he never wants to be in the limelight. I do thank you Albert.

P.T.O.

I hope when these shields are completed that we can have them photographed before sending them off, and the photo's displayed at our next Reunion. Thank you Shipmate Warrand for your very fine gesture in memory of your Father who was the Navigating Officer of HOOD and lost with her.

At the A.G.M. it was proposed that the next 'Get Together' take place on the 5th Nov 1994, but sad to say this was not possible when I went to book this event so we have had to revert to the 12th Nov 1994. When these matters are brought up at the A.G.M. it must be remembered that they can only be provisional as the bookings has to take place afterwards. This is the same as the date for the Reunion which was the 21st May 1995 but is now 27th May 1995. I do try to get this information out to you as soon as I can.

Our Padre The Rev Ron Patterson has been doing a number of walks to various Cathedrals in aid of the RON PATTERSON MEMORIAL HALL at Swanmore near Bishops Waltham, Hants. Swanmore was his Parish before he retired. One of these walks was to GUILDFORD Cathedral and was in remembrance of the Naval Associations Ron belonged to, especially "HOOD" and all those lost in her. Dennis was there with our Standard, Ted Briggs and myself started off with Ron and his fellow walkers, and proceeded as far as the old Vicarage where we were welcomed and given a nice glass of wine in case we collapsed. Ron and his walkers then proceeded on their way to GUILDFORD cathedral. Well done Ron and I hope you made lots of money for your cause.

I give my thanks to Mrs Gladys Clark for allowing us to have our Committee Meetings at her house, and always being so kind to us and providing us with refreshments. Also thank you to the Committee for helping me through the year, and to Arthur Ayling for his help.

Please remember the Get Together which is being held in ST GEORGES CHURCH HALL, The Hard, Pompey, on the 12th Nov at 1930hrs. Come and swing the lamp with your old Shipmates and friends. The Reunion on the 27th May 1995 1800hrs for 1900hrs in the ROYAL SAILORS HOME CLUB, QUEENS STREET, POMPEY. Boldre on the 28th May 1995 at 1000hrs. A coach will be laid on for Boldre, cost £3.00 per head return from the Royal Sailors Home Club.

Now all those who hav'nt paid their subscriptions for 1994 should remember they are due by the 1st of MAY each year. Also remember to enclose your membership card and a SAE each time as this is costing us money for new cards when it's not necessary.

As some of you might know two children from Dumess Primary School in Lairg, Sutherland, Scotland has been keeping us informed about the Stones on the hillside there at Loch Eriboll. They have been doing a very good job. The latest news is that they have painted the stones which spell out the name "HOOD" white so they can be seen now very clearly from the road. So if any of you get up that way on your holiday you will be able to see them. If any of you know any thing about these stones please let me know. The children at this school are taking great pride in these stones, and are very interested in HOOD.

When you look at the Account sheet it does look very healthy but since then the dinner has been paid, which made a big hole in it. The last statement shows that we have just under £624.00 and we have the news letters postage to pay for, so don't forget your subs.

Cheerio for now. God bless you all.

J.R. Williams, Chairman

PS. The Association Subscription is £3.00 per Member. Due by 1st MAY each year.