

Chairman  
J. R. Williams  
14, Elizabeth Road  
Stubbington  
Fareham Hants  
PO14 2RF  
Tel 01329 667983  
SEPT/OCT 1997

Treasurer  
K. A. Clark  
57, Berewecke Ave  
Winchester  
Hants  
SO22 6BL  
Tel 01962 883159

Shipmates, Ladies & Gentlemen

, Just a short news letter to inform you about the video made by I. T. N. The "MIGHTY HOOD" which runs for 52 minutes. This is an excellent Video, and can be obtained from Ted Briggs. 10 LAMBORNE CLOSE FAREHAM HANTS. PO14 1SL.

I am enclosing a letter from Ted which explains about the video regarding copyright etc. He will give you a copy if you send him £10 to cover postage and packing. As there will be many asking Ted to give them a copy it is advisable to ask him for one as soon as possible.

There is also a beautiful picture in Black and White of "HOOD" signed by Ted Briggs, mounted on card 14"x24" the picture is 7½" x 18½" This one is not to be missed. There is to be a limited numbered edition for sale in America at £40, but the ones we have, which are not numbered, will cost you a bargain price of £3. Yes £3 postage & packing free. If you would like one or more send cheque made out to HMS HOOD ASSOCIATION to our Treasurer, K. A. Clark at the above address.

As there was such a lot to tell you in the last News Letter a most important part was left out. That was the presentation of a Danish Sword. This was presented to Ted Briggs by Svend Erik Madson the Commanding Officer of the Danish ship HDMS TRITON. This was the ship that took four of our members, and kindly did the ceremony over "HOOD" in the Denmark Straits. This was a very moving presentation and a very kind thought by the Danish Navy. As the sword was given to the Association Ted Briggs and the Committee decided that the Sword should be placed in the Royal Navy Museum at Portsmouth. Ted has arranged for this to be done on condition that it can be taken out if and when it is required by the Association. Thank you Ted for arranging this.

I have enclosed a copy of a photo (sent by his sister) of a very young Welsh lad proudly wearing a "HOOD" cap ribbon. He is only five years old. His name is Harold H. Jones AB torpedoman. This same young lad when he was twenty years old sadly lost his life in "HOOD" on the 24th May 1941. I think this very sad.

Thank you all for your letters and I hope to see you all on the 25th April 1998 at the reunion. Don't forget to mark your calenders as I understand that I am to be the Guest of honour.

Your hard working chairman now known as, Geriatric.

J. R. Williams.

PROCESSED BY K. A. CLARK. YOUR TREASURER.

10 Lambourn Close  
Fareham  
Hants  
PO14 1SL

September 1997

Dear Shipmate/Member,

I am happy to inform you that I now have a copy of the documentary video by ITN "The Mighty Hood" which has been shown on the Discovery Channel in the U.S.A. twice and will now, hopefully, be shown in the U.K. towards the end of this year. The video is of 52 mins. duration and covers the life of our lady from her laying down of keel to the visit of our members to the site in March of this year.

Unfortunately, due to copyright restrictions, I cannot officially - get any further copies of the video until after it has been shown in this country. I am, however, allowed to have copies made for personal friends and relatives, subject to a 'Non resale' agreement which would be included with each video.

If you should be interested I could, therefore, arrange for you to receive a copy (from me personally), subject to reimbursement of costs for reproduction, postage and packing, which I envisage to be in the region of £8 - £10 maximum.

In conjunction with all who took part, from the Association, in the making of this documentary I can recommend the contents of the video as an illuminating insight into the life and death of HMS Hood.

Would you like me to include you in the above?

With best wishes

Ted Briggs.

A Letter from our President.

On the 5th November I was invited by the Chairman of the ANGLO-DANISH SOCIETY to attend social evening at the Danish Embassy in London called "UP TOWARDS REMEMBRANCE DAY".

The subject of this particular evening was the video "THE MIGHTY HOOD" and consisted of a lecture by the Naval Historian Dr Eric Grove, Followed by the film.

Guests invited to attend were Rob White. (Producer of the video), and yours truly as your President.

The evening was a great success. I could not have been more Royally treated! Even Dr Groves (The man with a beard in the video) and Rob White insisted that as President of HOOD ASSOCIATION should take precedence.

I presented a copy of the print of Hood and the Prince of Wales. signed by Rob, Dr Groves and myself which was very much appreciated. I also took the opportunity of expressing the thanks of our association to the Royal Danish Navy, and in particular the Commanding Officer of HDMS TRITON, CAPTAIN SVEND MADSEN. RDN, his Officers and ships company for their consideration, help and hospitality to our members who went with them to the site of HOODS war grave, and who were so very well looked after throughout the trip.

To quote the Chairman of the ANGLO-DANISH SOCIETY, HOLGER CASTEN SKIOLD, and his wife, GURLI, "At the end of the video there was hardly a dry eye in the hall".

On return home I sent a signed copy of "FLAGSHIP HOOD" to HOLGER and GURLI as a token of our appreciation. I wish you could all have been there.

TED.

CHAIRMAN H. M. S. HOOD ASSOCIATION.  
J. R. WILLIAMS  
14, ELIZABETH ROAD  
STUBBINGTON  
FAREHAM  
HANTS PO14 2RF  
TEL. 01329 667983

TREASURER.  
K. A. CLARK  
57, BEREWEEKE AVENUE  
WINCHESTER  
HANTS. SO22 6BL  
TEL. 01962 883159

Shipmates, Ladies, and Gentlemen, of the Association,

Just a Christmas letter to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year. I do hope that you are all in the best of health as possible. It is I find a bit of a problem sorting out which pills to take next. However they seem to go down OK with a nice tot of rum. Thank you all for the letters I have received from you over the months.

Our President and Treasurer have had a very busy time sending out Video's and the Wonderful prints of our Great Ship "HOOD" for which I thank them. There are still some prints left should any one require them, They are great value for just £3 pounds, post paid. Write to the Treasurer at the above address, and make the cheque payable to H, M, S, HOOD ASSOCIATION please. Our Treasurer also takes our Standard Bearer Den Finden to many functions to parade our Standard with pride. Thankyou Dennis for a good job done.

The President, myself, treasurer, and the Standard bearer, and a number of our shipmates attended the Royal Naval Memorial on Southsea Common on the 11th November where our president on the 11th hour laid a wreath in honour of our lost shipmates.

Should any members when visiting Portsmouth like to call at the Royal Sailors Hone Club they are entitled to do so on showing their membership card as we pay a fee of £30 Country membership fee.

I extend on behalf of our association my deepest sympathy to all those who have suffered bereavement of their loved ones, and those who are suffering illness. Get well soon.

Once again a reminder for the calender. Reunion dinner is on 25th April 1998. Church Service at ST Georges Church on 26th April 1998. Boldre Church Service is on the 24th MAY 1998. The Reunion dinner will take place in The Royal Sailors Home Club Queens Street Portsmouth 1800hrs for 1900hrs ST Georges Church parade will muster at 1100hrs service at 1130hrs. Boldre church service will be at 1100hrs 24th May 1998. The A. G. M. will be in the board room at the Club at 1700hrs 25th April 1998.

Thank you all for keeping our Great Ship, and the men lost in her, in your memories. God bless you all.

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Yours sincerely

J. R. Williams. Chairman.

I have in my possession nine postcards which have been given to me by a friend who is an enthusiastic collector. an extract from his letter says, Of particular interest to me the 'Life and Times of H. M. S. HOOD' cards. The numbers 19-26 refer to the cards in the series total. Only 100 sets were produced with the Plymouth postmark, and the 50th Anniversary cachet. If you have the cards already perhaps you could use them to generate funds for the HOOD Association.

The cards are as follows all ?????? 500 series: -

1/BBC News report 9pm 24th May 1941.

19/ J. Browns slip at Glasgow 22/?/18

20/ Launched 22nd August 1918.

21/ Off at last 16th January 1920

22/Showing the flag 27th Nov 1923 to 29th Sept 1924

23/ Still on tour passing through the Panama canal 23rd July 1924

24/On parade at Spithead 1937 Coronation Review

25/The Bridge. Some the ships company & the Bull terrier

26/The end. Last photograph taken from Prince of Wales 24th May 1941

I have suggested to the Chairman and the committee that the above be Auctioned at the Reunion Dinner on the 25th April 1998. Should any member not attending wish to make a bid, I would be very happy to make sure his/her bid is taken into account.

Please send NO MONEY until you hear that you have been successful with your bid. I will most certainly obtain the lowest bid I can for you.

TED BRIGGS      President.