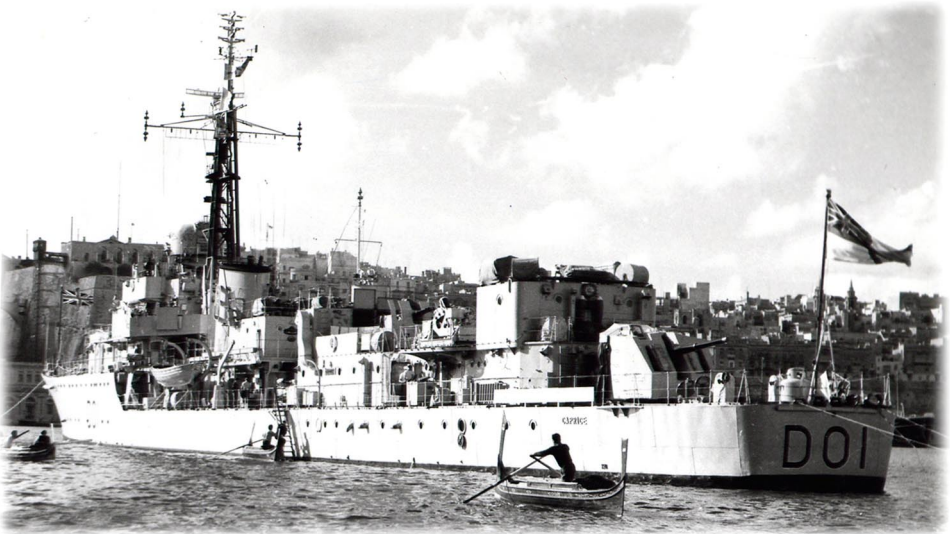




HMS Caprice (World Cruise 1968) Association



Newsletter

August 2008

Issue No 046



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The front cover picture shows the Caprice in Malta in 1959 was sent in by Paul Woodman, an ex matelot who has been to several of our reunions.

We have to sadly report that Connie, wife of Association member Arthur Ginn, died on Monday 21st July after a long illness. They attended many of our Reunions together and are pictured here a few years ago. Our sympathies go out to her family and the Association has sent a message of condolence and a donation to Breast Cancer Care. Arthur wishes to thank all members who sent cards and said that if he feels up to it he may be able to make it to Bristol - it would be nice to see him there.



We also extend our best wishes to Brian Coxhill's wife, Cynthia who seems to be recovering well. Brian is one of our latest members and is really looking forward to the Reunion, having planned to bring his wife and daughter. We are keeping rooms on hold for Brian and Arthur.

Another member, currently having a very stressful time - Slinger Woods, has regretfully had to pull out of the Reunion. I am sure he would be pleased to hear from any ex-shipmates - his e-mail address is on the website or I can provide contact details.

Graham Latter

Caprice Basketball Team 1968

Some more members of the Caprice basketball team featured in the last Newsletter have been identified - all Association members.

Back row No 8 green shirt - Ben Irving, No 7 green shirt - Chris Davis, Mark Ruddle, No 5 green shirt - Gordon Chapman. Anyone recognise numbers 6 & 9 in the front row?





Mail Drop



Have just surfed the net to your website due to a recent re-reading of an extract of the June 1968 Report of Proceedings (ROP) of **HMAS HOBART**. The ROP brought back the memory of **HOBART** meeting **CAPRICE** and **INTREPID** at sea, while in transit from Vietnam waters to Subic Bay for repairs.

ROP - "At 1600 on Tuesday the 18th June, *HMS INTREPID* (Captain J.A.R. Troup, DSC RN), flying the flag of Flag Officer, Second in command Far East Fleet, Rear Admiral E.B. Ashmore CB, DSC, RN with *HMS CAPRICE* (Commander T.M. Bevan, RN) in company, closed from the North. The two ships were manoeuvred across *HOBART*'s bow and down the Starboard side at a close distance from which the ships damage was clearly visible, FO2FEF signalled his sympathy for those killed and wounded before the two ships turned southward enroute to SINGAPORE".

I thought the above may be of interest to you 68er's. May the beer be warm, and the hangovers slight at the CAPRICE reunion.

Yours Aye - Dave Sutherland

Tactical Operator HMAS HOBART 1967-1968 ex- CPO Signals Yeoman 1965 - 1987

EDITORS NOTE: HMAS Hobart was hit by 2 "Friendly Fire" missiles fired from US aircraft during operations off Vietnam on June 17 1968 and suffered 2 crew killed and several injured.

She was en route to Subic bay when the Caprice encountered her (Mark Ruddle was actually in command on the 18 June). This picture shows part of the damage to the Hobart's after funnel on the starboard side. Does anyone remember the encounter or get any pictures?



Pingat Jasa Medal

The MOD has informed us that applications can still be made for this medal.

We have forwarded to the MOD the following members applications; G. Latter, D. Crowley, G. Farmer, P. Rowe, A. MacFarlane, T. Vanson, R. Pollen and R. Rivett. Anyone else who thinks they might be eligible please contact us.



2008 Reunion

Venue - **Redwood Hotel & Country Club, Failand, Bristol.** The Reunion Dinner will be in the Garden Room, with a private bar and disco, on Sat Oct 4th. Currently 35 members are booked in and we are still hoping for a few more.

There are rooms still available, so if you are not on the list shown here and intend to come along we need a £10 per person deposit with your booking form ASAP (contact us if you have lost your form).



Dinner is included for all nights.

Basic Package for Friday Dinner, Bed & Breakfast, Saturday Reunion Dinner, Bed & Breakfast **£140 per person.**

Saturday Only Package Reunion Dinner, Bed & Sunday Breakfast **£85 per person**

Reunion Dinner Only...£30 per person. Additional nights dinner bed & breakfast £50 per person. Single Room Supplement £35 per person per night

Do not forget to bring along a raffle prize, wrapped in brown paper.

It does not have to be cylindrical and full of liquid - the wackier the better! Fancy dress and head gear have proved popular at recent reunions - and the unfortunate recipient usually feels obliged to try them on!

Members Attending

Graham & Jean Latter
 Brian & Pat Hobbs
 Derek & Sue Crowley
 Keith & Rita Vaughan
 John & Jean Bishop
 Gordon & Linden Chapman
 Dave & Linda Silva
 Mike & Sue Smith
 Alan & Pam Payne
 Lonnie & Shirley Skeet
 Roger & Jennie Rivett
 John & Lynda Kennedy
 Bob & Donna Mason
 Denis & Jackie Cahill
 Greg & Pat Farmer
 Bob & Fran Logan
 Brian Turner
 Dave Jennings

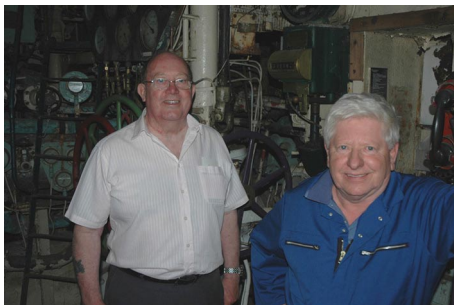
Dave Cromack
 Phil & Pat Briggs
 Colin & Sue Gannaway
 Syd & Ann Pawley
 Ron & Sandra Kirkpatrick
 Phil & Jackie Evans
 Alasdair & Margaret MacFarlane
 Roy Johansen & Lorraine Emerson
 Colin Bond
 Neil & Jayne Smith
 Dave & Diane Hughes
 Roger & Eileen Thompsett
 Bill & Yvonne Proctor
 Larry & Sandy Carroll
 Brian & Eleanor Watson
 Colin Chippendale
 Brian & Cynthia Coxhill



Visit to HMS Cavalier

10 members and their guests enjoyed a very interesting tour around the Cavalier on Sat May 24 to view the ongoing restoration work, which has progressed hugely since our last visit in 2000. Our thanks go to Bill Arbin of the Cavalier Association who gave us special access to areas not open to general public (*Elf & Zafety!* - see page 7).

Much to the delight of Graham Latter and Alasdair Macfarlane, we even got down one Boiler Room and the Engine Room as the picture shows.



We took the opportunity to re-assess the King Charles Hotel, where we had our Reunion in 2000. The hotel has improved considerably since then and we have booked it for next year's reunion as detailed below.

2009 Reunion in Chatham

We have booked **The King Charles Hotel in Chatham** for next year's reunion on **Saturday 26 September 2009**. The Hotel has put together a very good value weekend package for us. The booking arrangements will be somewhat different from the past as members will need to complete a hotel booking form (which we will provide) and guarantee the booking at a later date with a credit card. The hotel will also ensure that you are completely in the picture regarding cancellation liabilities.

We will be arranging a group visit to the Cavalier and the Dockyard on the Saturday at discounted entrance rates with, hopefully, the assistance again of the Cavalier Association. Full details will be in the next Newsletter.

Save HMS Stalker

The Maritime Steam Restoration Trust is trying to save the last steam driven Landing Ship Tank (LST) and restore it to full working order. It could then be used for transporting emergency aid supplies, vehicles and personnel to almost anywhere in the world.



Because of its unique design, this ship does not need docks or docking facilities, just sand, pebble beach or hard land-fall. The Association has made a modest donation to this project. For more information see...

www.maritimesteamrestorationtrust.co.uk/poster.html



2008 - 40 years on! July - November Diary

In **July** the Ship's company had returned onboard from the **Singapore maintenance period**. A new Captain arrived - **Chatterton Dixon**, and on Monday 8th we departed Singapore for **Hong Kong**, arriving on Friday 12th to take up one month's guard ship duties and hurricane patrol (remember our anchor on the jetty?).

In **August** we had departed **Hong Kong** on Wednesday 7th followed by an **all-day sea inspection** on Monday 12th and arrived back in Singapore on Tuesday 13th for an **all-day harbour inspection**.

From the 17th to the 30th the Ship's company to was in **HMS Terror** with some leave granted.

By the time you read this Newsletter it will be just 40 years since **HMS Caprice** then left **Singapore** on Tuesday 3rd **September** and was en route to Australia through the Great Barrier Reef arriving in **Sydney** on Friday Sept 13th.

On Monday 23rd we departed **Sydney** for exercise with Far East Fleets off the **Solomon Islands**

More of the 1968 Calendar with the Pacific voyage in the next Newsletter.

Then (1968)...



... & Now



Commemorative Book

Partly due to my work load and partly because I have had a huge amount of information and photos from people who served on Caprice at various times during her 35 years the book is running a bit behind schedule but it will be well worth waiting for. Progress report in next Newsletter. - **Graham L**

From Phil Rowe - If you had been around early last century and came upon the following poster. . .



I mean, seriously, would you quit drinking?

Not like this delectable bunch of Caprice Ladies at the 2005 Reunion (flattery will get you everywhere, or in my case probably nowhere!) ED.





IN Politically CORRECT Page

The Compensation Culture has been the inevitable follow up to political correctness. Where peoples 'politically correct' rights are infringed then it is only 'right' that they can claim compensation, most of it seems to be enshrined within the Human Rights Act.

It now seems to be established that whatever happens to you in life must be someone else's fault - the natural risk of living is a thing of the past. Even if you are doing something illegal at the time don't worry, the PC Brigade has arranged it so you can still get your compensation. So if you are burgling someone's house and they get quite angry when they catch you - you may be better off to provoke them a bit more and have them attack you than you would be if you just stole their video. £20 for the flogging the video down the pub or £10,000 in compensation for taking a beating - it's your choice. (this strategy can have a downside though - best avoid any houses occupied by anyone with the surname of Martin!) This article was seen on the website www.politicallyincorrect.me.uk

Treasurer's Report

We have adequate funds to pay all hotel extras this year including the Disco.



Outlook for 2009 is much brighter for Chatham reunion as costs are predicted to be far less than at Bristol. We are not in the business to make a profit and we are hoping to produce a little something extra than normal at the next reunion.

Print costs have risen sharply over the past year and each newsletter costs us in excess of £100 to produce and distribute.

There are still a few members with outstanding subs for this year. As always, we can only reiterate that if everyone paid by **standing order** they would not forget and we would not have to chase them!

Spirit Room Report

Enough for bubbly 2008 and 2009 Reunions (as long as I can keep G.L.'s hands tied behind his back).



Health & Safety ?



&



"It's Elf & Zafety mate innit?" How many times have we heard that to justify idiotic actions ranging from stopping kids playing conkers to a town that cannot hold a Christmas lights 'switch-on' because it is too popular. *More in the next newsletter.*



Member's Profiles

An illustration of five sailors in white uniforms walking in a line from left to right. They are wearing white caps and have dark neckerchiefs. The background is a light blue sky and a dark blue sea.

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Slops

All profits go to Association funds
Please make out cheques to **HMS Caprice 1968 Association**

Lapel Badges & Brooches

£5 each inc postage within the UK



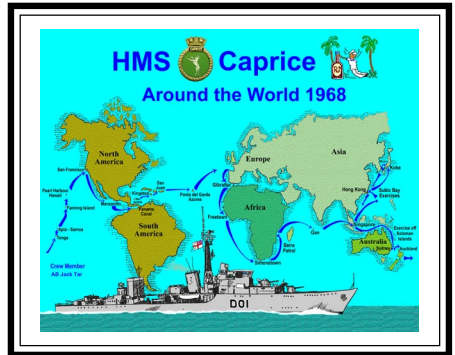
Tie

Only 1 left! at £9.50 inc. postage.



Framed Wall Charts

Coloured map depicting the 1968 World Cruise and personalised with member's name £16 each inc postage within the UK. (£8 - unframed). Frames are as shown or in a curved perspex desk mount.



	H.M.S. Caprice (World Cruiser 1968) Association	
	HMS Caprice	
	World Cruise 1968	
	Members	
	Reunion News	
	News Letters	
	Picture Archive	
	Links	
<p>HMS Caprice CA Class Destroyer D01 <small>© HMS Caprice 1968 Association</small></p>		
<p>The Association was formed in 1995. Full membership is restricted to ex-officers and ratings, who served on HMS Caprice during her worldwide 11 month World Cruise of 1968.</p> <p>Reunions are held annually and regular newsletters are published. 40 members' post addresses, number 10, which after 20 years from a ship's crew of approximately 250, is an indication of what an unforgettable year 1968 was for those onboard. Please contact caprice@hmscaprice.org.uk if you were onboard then and wish to rejoin us.</p> <p><small>Copyright © HMS Caprice 1968 Association and is the Newsletter Website Editor. All Rights Reserved. Website Editor: Gary Colvillan M.A. 2007. First published 2007. 2007/8</small></p> <p>WEB </p> <p><small>Visitors to this site since May 2006: 325</small></p> <p>Printer: Blue Media Blue Media, New Street, Acton, North, M4 1 3SE, Tel: 0203 791660.</p>		

Association Website

www.hmscaprice1968.org.uk

Our website is kept fully up to date and you can view newsletters online in colour. It has had nearly 3000 hits to date

There is also a very good picture archive of the Caprice from 1944 until she was scrapped in 1979 and up to date Association & Reunion News.



HMS Caprice (World Cruise 1968) Association

www.hmscaprice1968.org.uk

The Association, founded in 1995, is open to all crew members who served on HMS Caprice at any time during her memorable 11 month World Cruise in 1968. An annual subscription of £12 is payable in January.

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The 2008 Annual Reunion Dinner is on October 4th

Redwood Hotel and Country Club

Beggar Bush Lane, Failand, Bristol, BS8 3TG.

Absent shipmates who have crossed the bar:

Ex Association Members

AB (QA2) John Dunn RO2(T) Dave Windsor

ME1 Bob Harris LS Mick Walsh

Ex Crew Members

LRO(G) Ali Dow RO2(G) Dave Matthews ChME Nick Carter

CEA Don Farrow CERA Paul Hockey PO Writer Dave Walters

Lt. Peter Higgs



*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,
We will remember them*