

# HMS DEFENDER D36 NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2011



## A MESSAGE FROM COMMANDER NICHOLAS BOYD SENIOR NAVAL OFFICER



Welcome to the Summer 2011 edition of HMS Defender's newsletter. The main change since the Spring Edition is the growth of my Ship's Company that now stands at 52 (8 officers, 36 senior rates and 8 junior rates). My focus is therefore on developing the military ethos, camaraderie and fighting spirit of the crew.

Our first set of sea trials, when we will prove the power plant, ship's services, gunnery and the initial integration of the weapon systems are rapidly approaching and the concentration of effort is preparing to go to sea for the first time. This has involved a great deal of training and familiarisation of the ship which will continue apace after the summer break to be ready for sea in October.

There has been a lot more activity with our affiliations and as my Ship's Company continues to grow there will be the capacity for far more. I look forward to continuing our partnerships over the months to come.

## BUILD PROGRESS

Since the last newsletter HMS Defender has remained alongside on the Clyde continuing to fit out. For a good proportion of that time she has also had her sister ship HMS DRAGON alongside providing an impressive backdrop of two T45s for Scotstoun.



The last few months have seen BAE complete work in numerous compartments in preparation for sea trials. These areas are then locked and kept safe while work continues elsewhere. The main engines and other systems are all being operated on a monthly basis for training and maintenance purposes.

The final stages of Weapon System installation are coming to an end and the integration of these systems is in full swing. The gunnery systems are ready for their first firing in sea trials and magazines are progressing to allow us to embark explosives for the first time.

## Defender launched on Trafalgar Day 2009 and sails for the first time on Trafalgar Day 2011.

The build is going to plan to sail for sea trials on 21 Oct 11 and HMS Defender therefore continues her connection with this prestigious date.

**Defendendo Vinco**

## **HMS DEFENDER FORGES NEW LINKS WITH THE CITY OF EXETER**

**By Lieutenant Commander Charlie Reeves, Logistics Officer**

**On 18 June 2011, 13 members of the Ship's Company from HMS DEFENDER joined representatives from the Royal Marines, 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion The Rifles and Navy, Army and Air Cadets to celebrate the beginning of the City Of Exeter's Armed Forces Day.**

Despite furious rumours that the event would be met with heavy down pours and clouded skies, the parade was welcomed through Exeter High Street with packed crowds of families, veterans and shoppers a-like. Excellent marshalling skills from Chief Petty Officer (Above Water Warfare) 'Goldie' Horne ensured that Defender kept in step and on track – no small feat when marching behind a Royal Marines Band at full blast! Having paraded through the City Centre and into the square outside the magnificent Cathedral, the parade mixed with the crowds on the Green and enjoyed a series of events and displays culminating in a 'Beat Retreat' by The Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines from HMS RALEIGH.



HMS Defender is proud to be affiliated to both the cities of Exeter and Glasgow, having assumed the mantle from the former Type 42 Destroyers bearing their respective names. As the Ship moves towards her Acceptance-off-Contract, Commissioning Ceremony and In-Service Date, her relationship with her affiliates will become ever more important in providing both the ship and her personnel with the additional experiences that make life in an operational warship so richly rewarding.

The platoon from HMS Defender, led by the Logistics Officer, Lt Cdr Charlie Reeves RN – himself and old Exonian, enjoyed a particularly warm welcome from members of the Exeter Flotilla, and the Exeter White Ensign Association. As the day drew to a close and the heavens opened, the Platoon left the South West looking forward to building on the excellent foundations laid during this first formal meeting of City and Ship, and a prosperous future relationship together.

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## CHARITY CYCLE RIDE

By Lieutenant Darren Minty, Deputy Marine Engineer Officer

Intrepid members of HMS Defender's Ship's Company undertook the 108 mile cycle ride from Glasgow to Edinburgh and back to raise money for Kelbourne School, the ship's Glasgow charity.



On Tue 28 Jun 9, we and the Head Teacher of Kelbourne Park School, Andrea McBeth were hosted by the Rt Hon Lord Provost of Glasgow, Cllr Bob Winter who treated us to breakfast prior to waving us off from George Square. As the support van headed off to the first check point some 10 miles away, we managed just 770 metres before our first mechanical failure. This proved to be the worst of the issues with only a couple of punctures, a snapped chain and a loose seat taking up our time on the trip.

We followed the Forth and Clyde Canal to the Falkirk wheel for lunch; a particularly impressive sight which provided some light relief, particularly for the engineers. From here we joined the Union Canal to Edinburgh and arrived at Rosyth Dockyard at 1700 to enjoy dinner and some light refreshment.

At 0900 Wed 29 Jun we were once again on our way, a nice stretch of road and cycle path which appeased the road bike cyclist within the team. Within a few miles this became canal tow path back to Glasgow, once again via the Falkirk Wheel.

We returned to Scotstoun Dockyard at 1600 both triumphant and a bit sore. Relief was granted when we discovered that our efforts had raised close to £900 for the school which included a generous donation from BAE.

## A BUSMAN'S HOLIDAY AT THE DREAM-A-WAY CHARITY SUMMER BALL

By Lieutenant Commander Charlie Reeves, Logistics Officer

On Saturday 25 June 2011, Lt Cdr Charlie Reeves RN and Lt Darren Minty RN and their wives attended the annual Dream-A-Way Summer Ball. As if by fate, this year, the theme of the Ball was "Cruise Liner", leaving both officers feeling quite at home! Met by the Chairman of the charity, Jeff Merrett MBE, his promise of a fantastic evening ahead was no understatement. We sat down to a particularly enjoyable dinner of fine company, food and wine before the main charity auction began. Defender was able to offer 2 pairs of tickets to our commissioning ceremony in August 2012. One of the highlights of the auction, the tickets raised a fantastic £2450 contributing to the £15,000 raised in total. It was also an appropriate opportunity for Darren and his wife to present the charity with a cheque for £435, raised from their efforts running the Reading Half Marathon back in March.

Based in Exeter, the Dream-a-way Charity was founded in 1993 when a group of ten friends started discussing ways to help others without high administrative costs. The charity provides holidays and day trips for people of all ages with physical and learning difficulties. More than 99% of all money raised goes straight towards providing holidays, nothing is spent on expenses and everyone in Dream-A-Way is a volunteer. HMS Defender chose Dream-a-way to be it's Ship's Charity in Exeter light of the fantastic work undertaken by the team, and it's close ties with the city.



The evening continued into the small hours with a silent auction, disco and live music. A great evening was had by all, with lots of interest shown in HMS Defender and her Ship's Company. HMS Defender is very proud to be associated with our chosen charities and we look forward to long friendships.

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## BAE SYSTEMS OPEN DAY

By Lieutenant Adam Robertson, Deputy Weapon Engineer Officer

On Friday 29 July HMS DEFENDER conducted her first ever Ship Open To Visitors (SOTV) in support of a BAE Open Day at the Scotstoun Yard.

The yard was opened to over 4000 BAE friends and family providing the perfect opportunity for the Ship's companies of Dragon, Defender and Duncan to show off their shiny new ships and bring many of our own families and friends into the yard to experience where we work and live. A total of 20 personnel manned up 1 deck on both Dragon and Defender where an impressive 3200 visitors passed through, gaining an insight into Naval life. BAE also organised various displays around the yard, the highlight of which was a 1/90 scale model of HMS Defender (see picture lower left - an immaculately clean one with some extra weapons!!). The day was a resounding success, the sun shone brightly throughout, and more importantly it provided us with a perfect chance to practice the routine and organisation that will be required for our first SOTV, expected in Portsmouth late next year, where we will expect to see many of you onboard.



### AFFILIATION NEWS

HMS Defender is proud and very honoured to have the following affiliations:

**Sponsor:**

Lady Julie Massey

**Civic:**

City of Exeter

City of Glasgow

**Livery Companies:**

Worshipful Company of Fletchers

The Trades House of Glasgow

The Merchants House of Glasgow

**Charities:**

Kelbourne School - A children's special needs school in Glasgow.

Dream-A-Way - An Exeter based charity that provides holidays and outings for disabled people of all ages throughout South West England.

**Military:**

The Exeter Flotilla - (An association of retired Royal Navy and Royal Marine Officers, and their Reserves, who meet once a month at Lympstone near Exeter.)

12 Regiment Royal Artillery – An air defence regiment based at Thorney Island near Portsmouth and recruiting from Cumbria and Lancashire.

Exeter School CCF

Devon Sea Cadet District - IncTS EXETER - The City of Exeter Sea Cadet Corps

Clyde North Sea Cadet District – Inc TS GALATEA - The City of Glasgow Sea Cadet Corps

13 (City of Exeter) Squadron – Air Training Corps

**Others:**

The Paddle Steamer Waverley - (The last seagoing paddle steamer in the world.)

The D-Boats Association – A Veterans organisation covering WWII and post war 'D Class' and

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## **SHIP's COMPANY OFFICERS AND SENIOR RATES – HMS DEFENDER**

### **Executive:**

Senior Naval Officer - Cdr Nicholas Boyd RN  
Executive Officer – Lt Cdr Stephen Anderson RN  
Executive Warrant Officer – WO1 Bob Morrison  
RN Police – PO Dean Arnott

### **Warfare:**

Operations Officer – Lt Dave Thompson RN  
Navigating Officer – Lt Olly Craven RN  
Departmental Coordinator – CPO Jamie Hickman  
PAAMS Controller 2 – CPO Steve Horne  
Communications Manager – CPO Paul Oliver  
Communications Director – PO Simon Williams  
Chief Bosun's Mate – CPO Scott Richens

### **Marine Engineering Department:**

Marine Engineer Officer – Cdr Nicholas Boyd RN  
Deputy Marine Engineer Officer – Lt Darren Minty RN  
Warrant Officer 2 – WO2 Dave Barritt  
Departmental Coordinator – CPO Grant Furnival  
Propulsion Group Head – CPO 'Alex' Higgins  
    Generation – PO 'Quaker' Oates  
    Controls – PO Lisa McMahon  
Services Group Head – CPO 'Tug' Wilson  
    Generation – PO Stu Ingham  
    Distribution – PO Andy Thorpe  
Ship Group Head – CPO Paul Line  
    Auxiliaries – PO Ian Atkinson  
    Domestics – PO 'Spud' Spurgeon  
    Hull – PO Paul Devoy

### **Weapon Engineering Department:**

Weapon Engineer Officer – Cdr Pete Walton RN  
Deputy Weapon Engineer Officer – Lt Adam Robertson RN  
Sensors Manager – WO2 Ian Gorman  
    I/C Communications & Information Systems – CPO Stephen Tyrell  
        Communications & Information Systems 1 – PO Mathew Rhodes  
        Communications & Information Systems 2 – PO Alan Vinton  
    I/C Command System – CPO Mark Lehane  
        Command System 1 – PO Lee Agutter  
        Command System 2 – PO Adrian Peele  
Weapons Manager – WO2 John Gibson  
    I/C Ordnance – CPO Juan Lawson  
        Ordnance 1 – PO Brendan Stuart  
        Ordnance 2 – PO Russel McArdle  
    I/C Above Water Warfare – CPO Derek Fraser  
        Above Water Warfare 1 – CPO 'Nobby' Hall  
        Above Water Warfare 2 – PO 'Stretch' McDermott

### **Logistics Department:**

Logistics Officer – Lt Cdr Charlie Reeves RN  
Departmental Coordinator – CPO Kenny Dunlop  
Supply Chain Head – CPO Gavin White  
Petty Officer Writer – POWTR Nicola Wilson

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## USEFUL LINKS

HMS Defender's Website - [www.royalnavy.mod.uk/operations-and-support/surface-fleet/future-ships/air-defence-destroyer-type-45/defender](http://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/operations-and-support/surface-fleet/future-ships/air-defence-destroyer-type-45/defender)

Royal Navy Website – [www.royalnavy.mod.uk](http://www.royalnavy.mod.uk)

City of Glasgow – [www.glasgow.gov.uk](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk)

City of Exeter – [www.exeter.gov.uk](http://www.exeter.gov.uk)

Worshipful Company of Fletchers – [www.fletchers.org.uk](http://www.fletchers.org.uk)

Exeter Flotilla – [www.exeterflotilla.org](http://www.exeterflotilla.org)

Paddle Steamer Waverley – [www.waverleyexcursions.co.uk](http://www.waverleyexcursions.co.uk)

Dream-A-Way Charity - [www.dream-a-way.co.uk](http://www.dream-a-way.co.uk)

12 Regiment Royal Artillery – [www.army.mod.uk/artillery/units/12\\_regt\\_ra](http://www.army.mod.uk/artillery/units/12_regt_ra)

D-Boats Association – [www.d-boats.co.uk](http://www.d-boats.co.uk)

TS EXETER - [www.exeterseacadets.co.uk](http://www.exeterseacadets.co.uk)

TS GALATEA - <http://www.units.ms-sc.org/glasgow/default>

13 (City of Exeter) Squadron – Air Training Corps – [www.13atc.co.uk](http://www.13atc.co.uk)