

# SUBMARINE DIVISION



## ANSON FORMALLY NAMED

**THE FIFTH** of the Astute-class attack submarines, Anson, was formally named at a virtual ceremony at BAE Systems in Barrow-in-Furness on December 11.

Anson's  
Sponsor  
Julie Weale



Guest of honour was the boat's sponsor, Julie Weale, whose husband, RAdm John Weale, retired as Head of the Submarine Service in 2019.

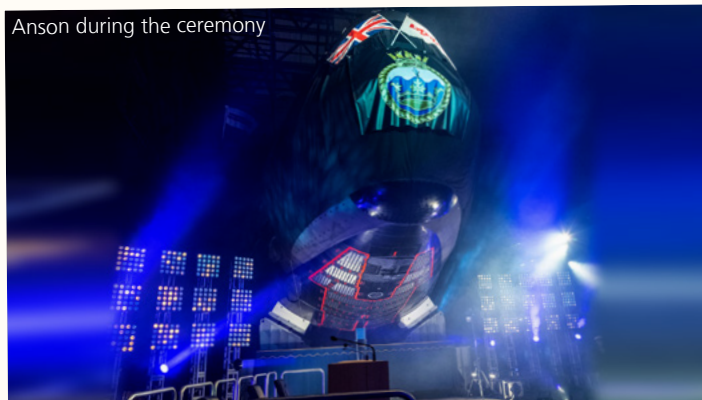
She described the £1.4Bn submarine as "an engineering marvel" and "sleek hunter of the deep", before pushing a lever to send a bottle of cider to smash against the bow and christen the vessel.

Mrs Weale continued: "The work that BAE, Rolls-Royce, other defence industries and the MOD have done together to build such a beautiful, complex hunter of the deep is both amazing and impressive."

"You have designed and built a submarine that with her crew will become the best of her class, the quickest to the frontline and best in the world."

The pandemic severely limited the numbers present to a small number of guests, including the 100-strong crew who will eventually take the Fleet submarine to sea, joining HMS Astute, Ambush, Artful and Audacious.

Anson during the ceremony



## NEW YEAR MESSAGE FROM CDRE JIM PERKS, HEAD OF THE ROYAL NAVY SUBMARINE SERVICE

**LOOKING** forward to 2021, our operational commitments will still challenge and test us, however, again I will seek your support to allow us to meet that challenge. We will continue to deliver CASD, and our SSN operations in the North Atlantic.

2021 will also see, for the first time in many years, an SSN deploy as part of CSG21, showcasing the UK around the world.

We have adapted to the latest challenges of COVID and will

continue to do so whilst we continue to keep ourselves and our families safe.

2021 will be a significant year in establishing a fitting submarine memorial at the National Arboretum in Staffordshire. The Submarine Memorial Appeal, which launched at a difficult time for charities in March 2020, has already raised over £50,000 towards its £300,000 target. We are now looking at all parts of the submarine family to do their part to support the initiative. When life returns to some semblance of normality, we are also looking to enhance our family involvement and support. A new families' guide, catering for our loved ones, will shortly be published and we are hoping to

hold a families' day and BBQ, perhaps in the summer if circumstances allow, as well as re-instating the usual social activities which were curtailed last year. We are also pushing forward in organising how we raise and distribute funds to support our 'submarine family'. In April 2020 the 'Submarine Fund' was established under the auspices of the RNRMC. Its aim was to support the welfare and wellbeing (which includes mental health) of all Submariners, serving and retired, and their families. This Submarine Fund is now evolving into the 'submarine family', still within the auspices of the RNRMC, and will hopefully soon offer real membership benefits incorporating all our support organisations.



Cdre Jim Perks, Head of  
the RN Submarine Service



Capt A.D. Cochrane

# MUSEUM SECURES SUBMARINER'S MEDALS

**THE FRIENDS** of the Royal Navy Submarine Museum recently made a purchase related to one of the legendary submarine actions of the First World War.

Submarine HMS E7 was involved in the historically important actions in the Sea of Marmora during the Gallipoli Campaign. The Commanding Officer, Sir Archibald Douglas Cochrane, received the Distinguished Service Order and Bar for his part and the Museum has recently purchased nine medals awarded to the Captain.

Many believed that Capt Cochrane was deserving of a VC. In 1915 HMS E7 sunk 13 enemy ships and damaging many more. However, during Capt Cochrane's

second patrol, E7 became trapped in defensive nets near Nagara Point. A German submarine CO, whose boat was being refitted nearby, commandeered a rowing boat and dropped a sinker mine right on top of the submarine. Cochrane took the decision to surface to save his crew and was captured by the enemy.

After several years in a PoW Camp, Cochrane was among a group who made a successful escape for which he was awarded a Bar to his DSO.

Captain Cochrane's medals will form part of a new display at the Royal Navy Submarine Museum in Gosport. Visit: <https://www.nmrn.org.uk/submarine-museum> to find out more.



The medals secured by the Friends of the Museum

## NEW YEAR'S HONOURS

**NEARLY** two dozen Royal Navy personnel have been recognised for their unwavering duty in the New Year's Honours list.

Among them were two familiar names from HM Naval Base Clyde. Naval Base Commander Clyde, Commodore Donald

Doull, was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE), while Commanding Officer of HMS Vengeance (Port), Commander Darren Mason, was made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE).

Congratulations to both.



# FAREWELL TO PERRY AFTER OVER HALF-A-CENTURY OF SERVICE

**THE SUBMARINE** Service bid a fond farewell to WO2 Allan "Perry" Mason recently following his retirement after what is thought to be one of the longest periods of Royal Navy service in modern times.

Perry notched-up a staggering 52-and-a-half years in regular service, serving 40 of them onboard or in support of submarines.

On February 18, the Marine Engineer finally hung up his overalls, but before then there was a poignant farewell to submarines as he stepped off a boat alongside HMNB Clyde for the final time.

"What I will miss the most is the everyday challenge and the people," said Perry. "It has been a genuine privilege to serve on submarines and to work with a tight-knit team who are focussed on the same goals – getting boats to sea."

During his service Perry served with submarines HMS Valiant, Sceptre, Sovereign, Splendid and Torbay. He started his career in 1968 aged 15-and-a-half as a Junior Engineer Mechanic (Stoker) with his first draft to the WW2-era ship HMS Ulster, followed by HMS Leopard and HMS Llandaff.

He later spent time at HMS Sultan, where he was awarded the Institute of Nuclear Engineers' HMS Sultan Prize,



WO2 Mason is congratulated by staff from Subflot.

and then joined HMS Dolphin in 1981 for initial submarine training. This was followed by nuclear training and assignment to the Third Submarine Squadron and HMS Valiant. After further sea time he qualified as a Category A2 Nuclear Watchkeeper before serving on Swiftsure class vessels and HMS Torbay.

Perry also spent a considerable time at HMNB Clyde and was a familiar site, usually to be found in overalls down a reactor compartment, in a bilge, or heading to his next job within the Naval Base.

The depth of Perry's knowledge and experience will be sorely missed.



Perry Mason's final time on a RN submarine.

# LOCAL SCHOOLS PICK-UP STEM AWARDS

STUDENT teams from Hermitage Academy and Kilpatrick School celebrate winning awards in STEM initiative SUBS in Schools recently.



Launched in 2019 in 15 Scottish schools, SUBS in schools used underwater technology and marine engineering to inspire and engage with students, showcasing the exciting opportunities of a STEM career.

Students were challenged to build their own mini submersible as well as producing portfolios of their work and developing a verbal presentation of their competition journey.

The results were judged by an expert panel of engineers, including members of the Royal Navy STEM team at HM Naval Base Clyde.

Cdr Dave Pindar, the Royal Navy's STEM lead for Scotland, said: "We were incredibly impressed with all of the school teams that took part in SUBS in Schools and, in particular, the winners Hermitage Academy and Kilpatrick School. Our RN STEM representatives had the opportunity to spend time with some of the students prior to COVID-19 and to review their work and give pointers. Their enthusiasm and hard work was evident in their designs, presentations and portfolios.

"We hope that the competition has inspired the students to think about a future in a STEM-related field and that they build on the skills that they have gained during SUBS in Schools."

Hermitage Academy won the Verbal Presentation Award and Kilpatrick School the Portfolio Award. Both schools were presented with a specially commissioned coin by the Royal Navy, certificates and £500 worth of STEM equipment gift vouchers.



# SUBMARINERS RAISE CASH FOR CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

SUBMARINERS from HMS Ambush have recently raised £1,200 for the Dolphin Ward at Derbyshire Children's Hospital.

The group of ten Submariners were keen to do something to help others in these challenging times, and with the current coronavirus restrictions it was difficult to organise a fundraiser that would fit the bill.

Rising to the challenge, the team, who are all keen runners, decided to use the wide-open spaces around HMNB Clyde and came up with the idea of running the equivalent height of Mount Everest – 8,848 metres.

The team ran six shuttles each of Glen Fruin Hill, climbing an elevation of 900 metres and spanning a total distance of 22km. The ten runners finished well under the allotted time of four hours, with Leading Hand Rowe crossing the finish line first in two-hours, 50 seconds.



# RNTMS / DINS OF INTEREST

**2021DIN01-016** – Further instructions for the 2021 Round of RN / RM Officers' Promotion Selection Boards & Command Selection Boards.

**2021DIN07-008** – Defence Chemical Biological Radiological & Nuclear Centre (DCBRNC) Course Schedule Training Year (TY) 2021 to 2022.

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