



HMS HURWORTH

September 2015



September has been another busy month both at sea and alongside with the ship clocking up over 800 nautical miles conducting Mine Counter Measure (MCM) training, a visit to London and a transit north to HMNB Faslane in sunny Scotland where we will be conducting our pre deployment training throughout October and November.

'Prior Planning & Preparation Prevents Poor Performance'

After enjoying Summer Leave, Crew 5 returned to the 'Happy H' and proceeded to sea to conduct internal training in preparation for the rigours of Operational Sea Training (OST). Focussing on mine warfare and diving, our core role, we tested the reactions of the crew and the equipment in various different scenarios and everyone performed exceptionally well in some very unpleasant weather which separated the men from the boys! As the weather improved, we concentrated on more whole ship training and enjoyed a night transit up the River Thames into London.



Defence Security Exhibition International (DSEI) London

Joining HM Ships IRON DUKE, TYNE and HURWORTH at DSEI were the Belgian Naval Ship BNS CASTOR, Canadian Naval Ship HMCS WINNIPEG, German Naval Ship FGS LUDWIGSHAFEN AM RHEIN, Indian Naval Ship INS TRIKAND and the French Naval Training Ship VN PARTISAN. Berthed at London's ExCel in Royal Victoria Docks, this was the largest naval participation ever at the event and all the ships attracted huge crowds of visitors with particular interest in our Seafox Mine Disposal System (MDS).

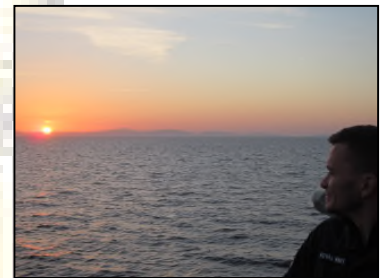
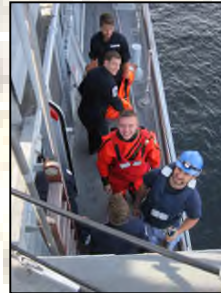
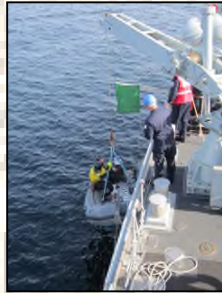


This was the first time a Hunt Class MCMV had participated in the event and it proved to be a great success. We hosted over 500 guests including the Fleet Commander, Vice Admiral Sir Philip Jones KCB, Penny Mordaunt MP (Minister for Armed Forces) and members of the Armed Forces Parliamentary Scheme as well as military and industry delegations. We also hosted a dinner for members of the Merchant Taylors' Company, affiliated with MCM2 Squadron, who recently admitted the First Sea Lord and Sir Ben Ainslie as Honorary Freeman of the Company.



Fàilte gu Alba - Welcome to Scotland

A short 4 day Self Maintenance Period alongside in our base port allowed us to conduct some routine maintenance and 'tender loving care' on our 30 year young hull and ensure we were in the best material condition possible for OST. Sailing from Portsmouth on a sunny Fri afternoon, we enjoyed fantastic autumnal weather on our transit north to Faslane, the home of the RN's Vanguard and Astute Class submarines and Sandown Class Minehunters.



En route, we conducted further internal training serials in order to test the reactions of the crew to various incidents such as fires, and floods onboard and man-overboard procedures. Everyone then enjoyed Saturday night at sea with steak night and the Rugby World Cup on the TV however we will not mention the score! With the Church Pennant hauled up and fluttering in the wind, Crew 5 enjoyed a Church Service on the upper deck conducted by the Revd David Simpson, our PORFLOT MFP Chaplain, with tea and cakes afterwards.



BRAVO ZULU

We have welcomed several new faces to Crew 5: PO(MW) Osborne, LS(MW) Jacobs, AB Chef Llewellyn, ET(CIS)2 Carroll, AB(D)2 Jenkins, Lt Stone-Ward and Lt Henrickson.

Good luck to those sailors who have recently departed Crew 5. Lt Ben Brown, our Operations Officer, has departed but will be back onboard soon as he returns to HURWORTH in December as the Executive Officer of Crew 3 when they take over from us, so there will be a recognisable friendly face when you next come to visit.

PO(MW) Clarke who had been with the crew for over 2 years joins HMS VICTORY so if you visit for a tour you may see a familiar face.

And good luck to our sailors who have been selected for promotion and leave to commence their various professional and leadership courses, and new jobs.

