



HMS ECHO

SUMMER 2021 NEWSLETTER UPDATE



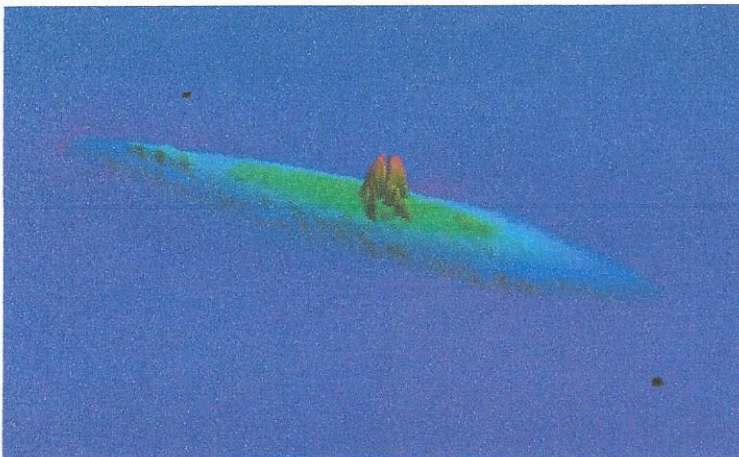
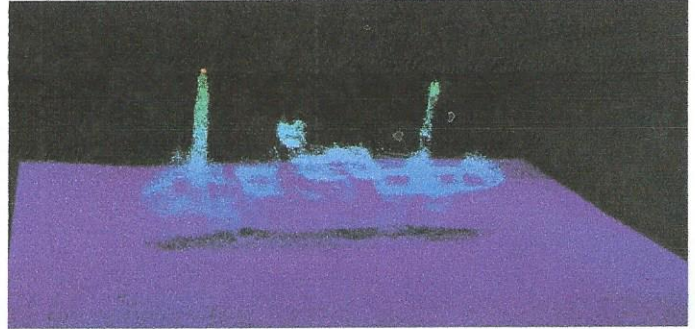
PROTECTING OUR NATION'S INTERESTS

What's New

After retuning from the Baltic HMS ECHO had a period of maintenance where she received some required TLC in Middlesbrough. Since then we have been busy conducting training in preparation for a period of assessed Continuation Operational Sea Training (COST), and carrying out military data gathering (MDG) in the North Atlantic.

Wrecks...

Sometimes the contents of the sea floor serves as a powerful reminder of the ocean's might. When operating ECHO regularly conducts wreck surveys, these are detailed investigations which can be run for training, navigational safety or interest

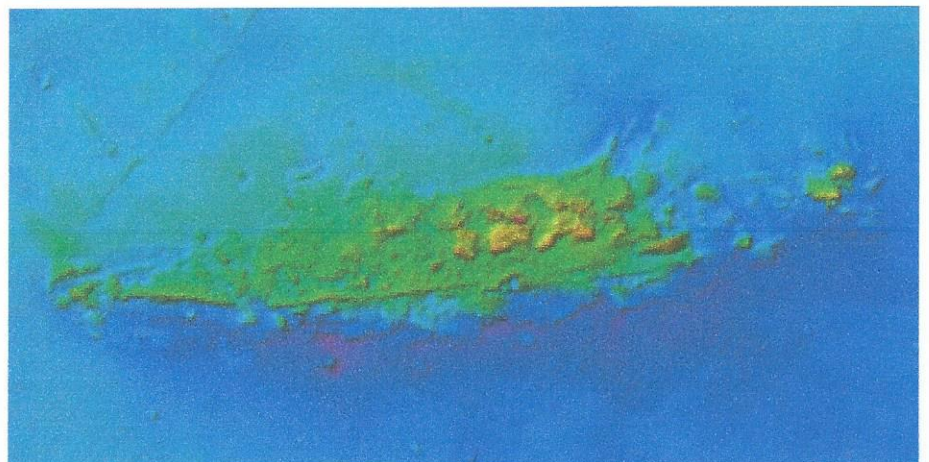


A7

During the spring ECHO used the SMB to survey this submarine in liaison with the Plymouth SHIPS project. The A7 sank with loss of all hands in 1914, and is a protected military grave. ECHO conducted the survey to help determine the state of the wreck, potentially providing evidence to allow a further dive at the site to investigate the state of the vessels superstructure.

HMS Falmouth

Returning to operations post maintenance; ECHO again took the opportunity launch the Survey Motor Boat (SMB) to conduct a survey of a wreck of historic interest. This time it was HMS Falmouth. She was sunk off Flamborough head in 1916, after being torpedoed by German U-boat U66. Her battle honours include the battle of Jutland.



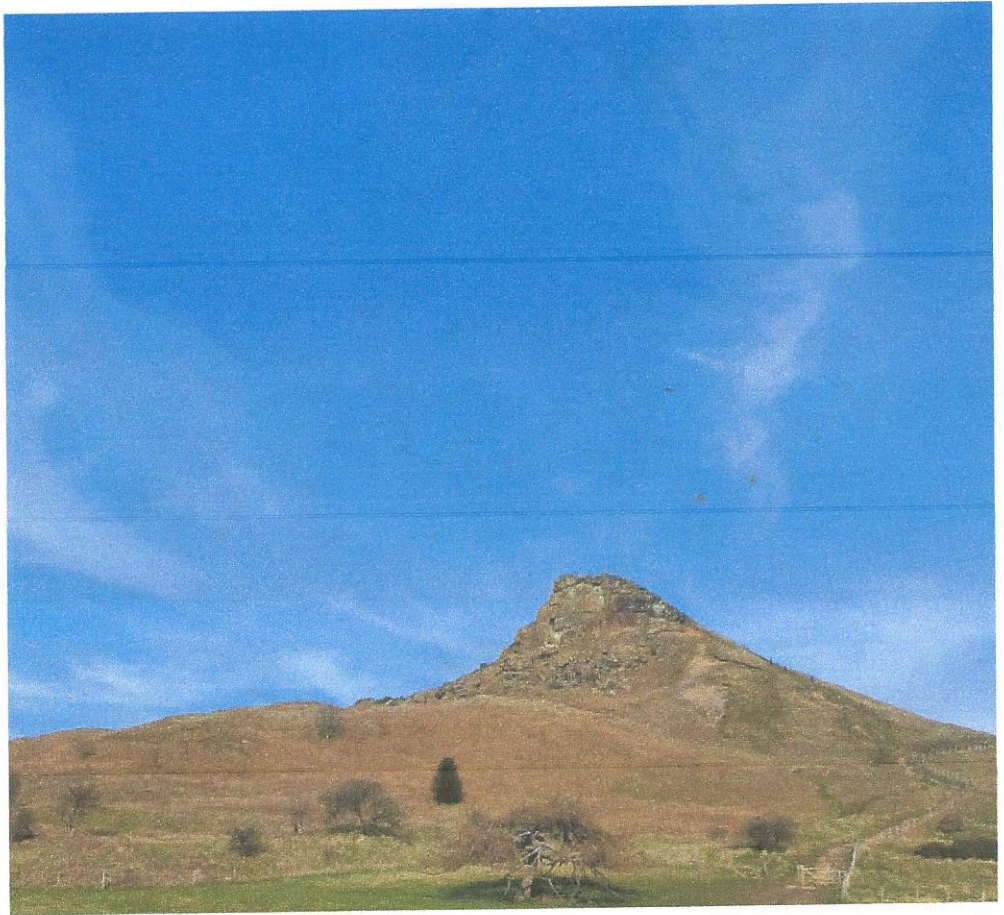
Life up North

ECHO conducts maintenance in Middlesbrough where Ship's Co. have been exploring the local area, and helping out local organisations.

Activities have included hill walking, such as up Roseberry Top, and gardening for charities such as Mens Shed and FRADE.

Easter alongside allowed for an egg drop, where personnel got to demonstrate their engineering skills to drop a fresh egg from height without it smashing, and make use of all the hiding spots onboard during an Easter egg hunt.

Eggcellent fun, smashing...(sorry)



Afternoon Tea For All

The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity (RNRMC) does excellent work to support the RN, and instigated a COVID support fund to help vessels who were having to quarantine or remain onboard without Leave.

ECHO was awarded money to hold an afternoon tea onboard at the start of the maintenance period. We decided to use a local catering service, providing support to the local economy. The tea, cake, scones and sandwiches were fabulous and it provided a welcome period of down time for all.





Wild-life on the Ocean Wave

Operating off the north west of mainland Britain gave ECHO Ship's Company plenty of time to become accomplished wildlife spotters. From mammals such as Orcas and several species of Dolphins, to some lost land birds needing a rest. All wildlife sightings are recorded and reported back to the UKHO, helping form a record of ocean habitat.



Coastguard SAREX

We always enjoy working with additional assets, both civilian and military. Returning to sea gave us the opportunity to work with a coastguard helicopter conducting winching training as part of a Search and Rescue Exercise (SAREX). This provided good practice for the ship in working with aircraft; but also helps the coastguard train for casualty extraction from a ship.



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