

The Penguin Post



HMS SCOTT

ISSUE 2

APRIL 2023

HELLO FRIENDS AND FAMILIES!

Welcome to the second issue of the Penguin Post for 2023. Our maintenance period alongside in Gibraltar has been action packed, with work and fun alike! This edition includes what we've been up to while the ship had some TLC, as well as how we enjoyed getting back to sea. Personnel took part in various training, sporting events, and exchanges with other ships as well as interacting with the wonderful wildlife and history of Gibraltar. Remember you can also stay updated via our Twitter page - @HMSScottRN

HELLO GIBRALTAR!

With the exciting news that HMS SCOTT will be extended in service for another 10 years, time has been allocated to complete essential maintenance and much needed repair work. After another busy and productive Military Data Gathering (MDG) patrol in the North Atlantic, SCOTT returned to Gibraltar for a support and docking period, with the clear aim to prepare the ship for her next period of operational tasking.

With the help of the team from GibDock, SCOTT made the move into

dry dock where extensive work took place. The diligence and professionalism of the crew meant that the ship was in an excellent material state and ready to depart on time. The engineering department had completed a sterling job to ensure the ship was safe to sail.

Out in the Mediterranean, several drills, boat transfers, mariner overboard exercises and engineering trials took place, culminating with the Junior Rates Mess hosting a fantastic BBQ on the upper deck.

"The engineering department have worked incredibly hard to return SCOTT to a sound material state. The ship is now ready for operational tasking and will resume her programme as scheduled".

**Cdr Tom Harrison RN,
Commanding Officer**



Saturday at Sea



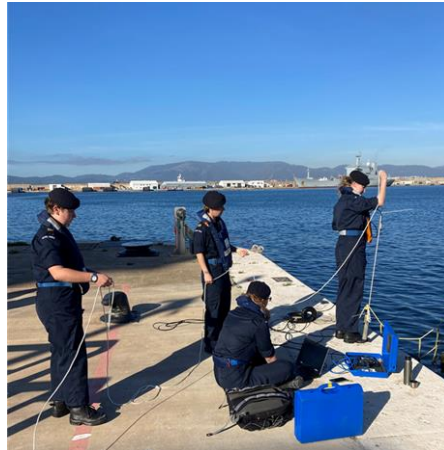
Sunset Alongside

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

SCOTT welcomed onboard several new joiners over the past few months, some of whom have recently completed their Phase 2 Hydrographic training. Time alongside presented several opportunities to complete training serials, and the visit from FOST HM's Petty Officer Sally Owen provided great support to the training programme.

Training serials included levelling, installation of tide poles and gauges, coastlining and sea bed texture analysis.

Tide Pole Installation



"I found the programmed survey training very beneficial towards achieving my AB1's rate. Having recently completed my phase 2 hydrographic course it was enjoyable to apply my skills again in the practical field. I am very much looking forward to conducting survey operations onboard HMS Scott when we return to Sea".

AB(HM) Alarna Endacott

Left: Levelling technique used to determine height above Chart Datum.

TRAINING CONTINUES

Being alongside doesn't stop us learning to be at sea! HMS SCOTT's Bridge Team visited the Bridge Simulator at HMS COLLINGWOOD to conduct pilotage, command and coastal navigation training as well as emergency drills. This was key to maintaining the bridge watchkeeping skills of the Officers of the Watch, while also developing their skills in preparation for future navigation and command courses.

Additionally, two of our Officers of the Watch joined P2000 Ships HMS CHARGER and HMS TRUMPETER for a period of their passage from the UK to the Baltic Region, where they later joined other British Warships for BALTOPS 23. This gave Lt Holman and Lt McManus an invaluable opportunity to stay current in bridge watch keeping at sea, as well as the chance to meet new personnel and enjoy navigating in a different region.



The Bridge Team conducting training serials in the Bridge Simulator



Gaining valuable sea time on board HMS CHARGER

RUN IN THE SUN

Soon after our arrival in Gibraltar the ship's company completed the traditional Rock Run. Organised by Leading Hand Williamson, the crew attempted a slightly longer and harder route due to road closures. Refreshments and ice creams were enjoyed by all on completion.

This prepared SCOTT's runners for the Gibraltar half marathon which took place in April. Eight personnel completed the race, in

sunny and warm conditions. Well done Team!

The running didn't stop there! A big congratulations to our Operations Officer, Lt Cdr Phil Boak for coming 150th in this year's London Marathon.

Running alongside approximately 50,000 participants, Lt Cdr Boak beat his previous personal best by 5 minutes, coming in at 2hrs, 30 minutes and 40 seconds. Congratulations to him for this amazing achievement.

As if one marathon wasn't enough! SCOTT's Leading Hand 'Bill' Bailey completed a whopping 33 miles whilst participating in an

Ultra Marathon while on Leave. Taking place on a challenging coastal path in Wales, it took him 6 hours and 44 minutes to cross the finish line. Well done Leader Bailey!



Leading Hand Bailey



HMS SCOTT Rock Run



Gibraltar Half Marathon



Lt Cdr Boak
London
Marathon

"It was great to get involved in a locally organised event, involving ship's company. We have enjoyed training regularly up and around the Rock as a newly formed SCOTT running team. The group have a vast range of abilities and everyone significantly improved during the run up to the half marathon". **Leading Hand 'Bungy' Williamson**

STRIKE!

Time alongside presented valuable opportunities for ship's company to enjoy some well-deserved downtime. Upon arrival into Gibraltar they enjoyed some healthy competition at Gibraltar's bowling alley! We are grateful to the Royal Navy Royal Marines Charity for kindly supporting this event.

ON TOUR

Ship's company didn't just run up and around the Rock, they also ventured within! Enjoying a military led tunnel tour, organised by Leading Hand Stolton, personnel were able to learn about the Rock's unique history and uses throughout World War II.



Bowling in Gibraltar

SANCTUARY AWARDS

On 21 March 2023 Lt Cdr Phil Boak, Operations Officer on HMS SCOTT, attended the prestigious Sanctuary Awards at the Churchill War Rooms in London. The Sanctuary Awards have been recognising outstanding sustainability and conservation efforts across the MOD since 1991. The awards celebrate and encourage group and individual efforts that benefit sustainable development; environmental and heritage conservation; utilities and resource saving measures; sustainable construction and procurement; or community engagement.

BIRD WATCH

Whilst alongside Gibraltar, several members of the crew took the opportunity to visit the GONHS bird observatory half-way up the rock of Gibraltar. The bird observatory runs a committed bird-ringing project, where small migratory birds are carefully trapped in mist-nets, before being ringed, recorded and released by trained professionals. The ringing project provides vital data on bird distribution and migratory patterns. Many of the birds which are recorded in Gibraltar are later discovered as far afield as the UK and Norway. It was great to see so

Lt Cdr Boak accepted the *Highly Commended* award in the *Heritage Category* on behalf of the crew of HMS ECHO (his former ship, now decommissioned), for a series of wreck investigations that took place in the Baltic, Barents and Bristol Channel over the course of 2021-2022. These wreck investigations were in addition to ECHO's core tasking of military data gathering and maritime security operations. Such wreck investigations are important in their own right, as wrecks can pose a hazard to both surface and sub-surface navigation. Culturally, they are also significant, particularly as they are often the resting place of many sailors. Wrecks investigated by ECHO included HMS Cassandra, HMS Edinburgh, USCGC Tampa,

Wilhelm Gustloff and the Goya.

"It was great to be able to accept the award in person on behalf of the crew of my former ship. The award helped recognise the work of HMS ECHO, but more importantly, helped commemorate and remember the ships and their crew, and the circumstances behind their loss".

Lt Cdr Phil Boak

Read more at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1144003/Sanctuary_magazine_2022.pdf

many species of birds close-up, including the stunning Hoopoe.

"It was interesting to see how the birds were weighed and tagged, especially as they are different breeds to those we find in the U.K.

I really enjoyed exploring Gibraltar and making the most of the opportunities we had while alongside".

AB(HM) Rosie Ratcliffe



The team at the observatory

GET IN TOUCH!

To receive updates, events, news and family support offers, you can also join our HMS SCOTT Community as part of the Royal Navy Family and People Support page on Facebook. Follow us on Twitter @HMSScottRN.

If you'd like to get in touch with a query or comment you can contact our Families Officer:

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