

# The Careers Room

The Careers Room, situated in the old Recreation Space, is an attempt to illustrate the everyday life of most of the branches of the Royal Navy. The object of this is to enable boys under training to obtain some idea of the work of the branches which are open to them and also that of their future shipmates in other departments.

The photographs on the East wall, i.e., the wall nearest Benbow Lane, show some of the training of a Boy Seaman, the types of ships to which he may be drafted and the work he may, be called upon to perform. The work of the various specialist branches which he can join, e.g., gunnery, radar plot, etc., is also shown.



East Wall.

Part of the West wall is devoted to the training and work of some of the other branches, including the Supply and Secretariat, Engine Room and Electrical branches. The remainder of this wall is devoted to the Physical Training and Regulating branches, to which a seaman may transfer under certain conditions; also Naval Aviation, which is recruited separately.

The South Wall, not yet complete, will display photographs of the training of junior officers and C.W. candidates.

Also on the South wall are plaques on which is inscribed an outline of the service careers of three Boy Seamen who became Flag Officers: Rear Admiral Sir Thomas J. Spence Lyne, Vice-Admiral Sir Benjamin C. S. Martin and Vice-Admiral Philip K. Enright, at present Admiral Superintendent at Devonport.





## School Notes

17	24	1	8	15
23	5	7	14	16
4	6	13	20	22
10	12	19	21	3
11	18	25	2	9

Most of us are familiar with the magic square. The numbers in it seem to bear no relation to one another nor does their arrangement appear to have any significance and yet, upon closer examination, we find that whether we add the numbers across, or down, or diagonally, we always get the same answer.

The connection between this and the School is, perhaps, hard to see, but there is one common factor which links them together. Just as the numbers are placed in the various sections of the square without any apparent reason, so the hundreds of boys who join H.M.S. "Ganges" every term are, after certain preliminary testing, placed in the sections of the Establishment.

Some go to one Division, some to another, some choose to train as seamen others as communications ratings, some do advanced others general courses and while doing their various courses they will achieve vastly different results in the many sections of their work. Some will prove outstanding at technical work, some at school; others will achieve fame on the games fields, in the gymnasium or on the river, but when, for each, boy, the total of his various attributes is made he result should be, in its two great essentials, the same. Every boy should have become a good Seaman, worthy of his place in the Royal Navy and, in addition, a loyal citizen of Britain.

During this Winter term the results obtained by the Classes which have passed out have been well up to standard and some individual performances have been outstanding. Several boys have made prize winning a speciality and two, J. Guthrie, of 160 Class and H. Ashburner, of 161 Class, have walked off with as many as three out of four possible prizes (i.e., Seamanship, Gunnery, School and Religious Knowledge), a noteworthy achievement; while quite a number have won two of the four offered:

Exceptional interest has been taken in spare-time activities such as Aero-Modelling, Leatherwork, Woodwork and Photography. Sales and attendance in all these activities have increased five-fold over previous terms this year. Especially noteworthy has been the great interest displayed by patients of the R.N. Sick Quarters who have been encouraged by all concerned to devote their spare time to some useful handicraft.

In the course of the term nine Instructor Officers have left and eleven have joined the Establishment. Instructor Lieutenant Commander Hopkinson has left to join H.M.S. "Gamecock," Instructor Lieutenant L. H. Taylor has gone to H.M.S. "Glasgow," Instructor Lieutenant Moore to H.M.S. "Indefatigable" and Instructor Lieutenant E. D. Jewsbury to H.M.S. "Sea Eagle," while Instructor Lieutenant Foster has been released and has now joined the R.A.F. as Flying Officer. Other releases have been Instructor Lieutenants Mellors, Nix, Mayland

and Culver. We wish them all every success in their new spheres and in their places welcome Instructor Lieutenant Commander Frost from H.M.S. "Peregrine," Instructor Lieutenant Commander Hollis from the Reserve Fleet, Harwich, Instructor Lieutenant Roach from the R.M. Commando School, Plymouth, Instructor Lieutenants Mills and Hambling and Instructor Sub-Lieutenants P. H. L. Williams, J. Williams, Keenan and Terry, all from Course, and Instructor Lieutenants Oliver and Richards who have rejoined after a short spell ashore.

The Class averages and prize winning boys for the term were:—

#### GENERAL COURSE CLASSES.

<i>Class</i>	<i>Class Average</i>	<i>Prize-winner .</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
84	56.4	Mansfield, W.	70.6
85	48.5	Lynn, H. J.	63.6
86	54.0	England, K.	74.7
87	46.1	Simmons, J.	60.0
270B	57.6	Farley, J.	67.0
280B	60.9	Kitchen, L.	72.7

Classes 88, 89, 90 and 91 have also taken their finals but the results are not known at the time of going to print.

#### ADVANCED CLASSES.

<i>Class</i>	<i>Class Average</i>	<i>Prize-winner</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
160	66.9	Harrison, F. A.	81.8
161.	60.5	Ashburner, H. L.	78.8
230A	60.5	Northard, R. J.	89.2,
240A	60.6	Dickson, P. S.	78.4
250A	61.4	Bentley, N.	81.8
270A	64.0	Jones, W.	87.0

Classes 162, 163, 164, 165 and 260A have also taken their finals but the results are not known at the time of going to print.

The prizes awarded each term by the Royal Society of St. George to the best all-round boys in H.M.S. "Ganges" were won this term by:—

Robinson, T. D.	• • • 1st Prize ...	Grenville, 222 Class
Northard, R. J.	2nd Prize ...	Rodney, 232 Class
Shaw, G. J. A.	3rd Prize ...	Hawke, 154 Class
Ellen, D. J.	• • • 4th Prize ...	Blake, 74 Class

The School Cup for the term was awarded to 340A Class, Blake and Drake Divisions, with a Class average, in the Eighth Week Examination, of 67.4%.

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#### Is it True

That a Boy refused to go "Backward swimming" because he said "he could not swim forwards yet."

## River and Seamanship Notes

The weather this term smiled on the river and outdoor activities, and at the time of going to press (4th December) the Boy Coxswain's Saturday Sailing Races still continue.

### SEAMANSHIP COMPETITIONS.

The first competition was the Style Cutter for which all Seaman Classes entered a crew (37 entries in all). Hawke 3 Class won easily with 80%, the second. crew, Benbow 91 Class collecting 69%. The marks of the remainder varied between 67% and 38%, but the general standard showed an improvement on the recent past.

For Whaler Pulling each Division entered four crews; there were four heats, two semi-finals and a final of eight boats. The competition was a triumph for Benbow, all of whose four crews reached the final, getting first; third and fifth places. Their other crew was unfortunately disqualified for steering across another boat. Collingwood gained second place in the final.

The Piping Competition took place at the end of October, the Silver Call being convincingly won by Boy Morton, Benbow 164 Class.. Benbow also won the Divisional Piping.

The Inter-Class Heaving Line Competition produced a higher standard than usual and great credit is due to Chief Petty Officer Cubitt, whose two Classes Rodney 98 and 169 were first and second with good averages of 17.9 and 17.2 yards. The Individual Heaving Line was won by Boy Wade, Hawke, with the excellent average of 22 yards for three throws, Boy Butcher, Collingwood, being second with 21 yards.

### THE RIVER.

Boy Coxswains' Sailing Races have taken place every Saturday except two, when the weather has not permitted. On one other Saturday, the Spring ebb was so strong and the wind so light that only two boats managed to reach the starting line, and the race had to be abandoned.

The Pin Mill Sailing Club Regatta was held on the first Saturday of the term. "Ganges" entered eight whalers, and Petty Officer Hardy won the race, closely followed by Instructor Boy Smy—a very good performance.

Competition for the Enright Trophy was keen. This trophy is awarded to the Boy Coxswain who does best in the Saturday races, the qualification being not less than five attempts.- Boy Aldridge, the holder, started very well, winning the first two races. Then the- claims of Rugby kept him away from the river for a time. However, he returned and looked a certain winner until he had the misfortune to break his leg before he had completed his five races. Boy Anderson, P., Collingwood, did well in the early races, but was drafted to the Training Flotilla on 16th November. At the time of writing there is one more race and the issue is still in doubt, but Boys Forsyth, Wallis, Flemming, Owen and Sadler have all sailed consistently throughout the term.

The Sailing Cup has been closely contested by Collingwood, Drake and Anson and at the time of going to press Collingwood have a commanding lead.

At the request of the Boy Coxswains' Club an attempt has been made lately to vary the course for the weekly races more than heretofore, and something has been achieved in this direction.

C. R. BAX, Lieut.-Cdr.  
*Training Officer.*

# Signal School Notes

At the end of our last notes we said we were preparing for a visit from the Fourth Sea Lord, Vice-Admiral the Earl Mountbatten of Burma. Much to our delight, not only did Admiral Mountbatten spend twenty minutes walking round the Signal School, but he also transmitted part of an S.B.X. to a senior WIT Class. We are still wondering if it was this event that inspired the Class so much that their average marks soared to great heights over the next few weeks.

A spell of fine weather at the beginning of October enabled the painters to give a "New Look" to the outside of the Signal School. The most prominent parts, including the front side, had been completed by the time our Commander-in-Chief arrived to inspect H.M.S. "Ganges" on the 12th October; but an array of ladders and paint pots at the back gave the lie to any casual boast we might have made "such as "Newly painted?" "Oh no, our buildings always look as fresh as this."

The change-over to the 50-week syllabus is proceeding smoothly; in fact all Classes will be working to it in principle by the beginning of next term, though Classes from 281/2/3 to 311/2/3 inclusive, who only changed over at their 31st week, have their sessions re-arranged somewhat to provide for some lectures they missed when on the old syllabus. This term we have adopted for trial a passing-out practical standard of 90% instead of 85%. We have found that the additional five weeks of the course enables boys to reach this standard and so it is intended to make it a permanent requirement, not only for the final examination, but also to pass earlier tests such as the 15th week Badge test.

We have also been making experiments to find out the best stage to start W/T boys morse typing. Should they wait until they can copy type at 26 w.p.m. and take morse by hand at 22 w.p.m. before starting to take it on a typewriter? Should they, on the other hand, progress to only 17 w.p.m. by hand and then start taking it down on a typewriter at a slower speed of say, 14 w.p.m.? The best answer, it appears, is being provided by neither of these, but by the Class that reached 16 w.p.m. manually and then "married" the morse with the typing at that speed, thenceforth, reading morse typing exercises at the same progressive speeds as the manual S.B.X.s are being read; and that is to be our policy in future.

The following prizes and awards have been gained during the term:—

ST. GEORGE'S PRIZE (Summer Term):	1st: Robinson.	
	2nd: Northard.	
V/S EFFICIENCY SHIELD	311 Class Hawke	Yeo. Lucas.
SENIOR W/T EFFICIENCY SHIELD	272 Class Hawke	P.O. Tel. Hagger.
JUNIOR W/T EFFICIENCY CUP	333 Class Blake	C.P.O. Tel. Moir.
EFFICIENCY MEDALS ...	241 Boy Robinson	
	242 Boy Cokes	
	243 Boy Furness	
	251 Boy Duncan	
	252 Boy Duff	
	253 Boy Parker	

Communicators have continued to contribute their share towards keeping up "Ganges" prestige at games.

The usual turn-over of Instructors has continued. Chatham is now unable to meet completely our insistent demands and we welcome to our team several Chief and Petty Officers from the West Country. We are particularly sorry to be saying goodbye at the end of this term to C.P.O. Tel. Willey, who has given us 3+ years' devoted service, first of all as a Class Instructor and for the past 2 years in our Regulating Office, where he has, along with C.Y.S. Piper, wrestled with dilemmas

and metaphorical anagrams that invariably attend our efforts to co-ordinate boys' signal instruction with the many other important activities of their daily lives. In his place we welcome C.P.O. Tel. Ellison, who has had a few months as a Class Instructor before entering the Signal School Regulating Office. We are also sorry to report that C.P.O. Tel. Hayward, our touch-typing expert, is on draft to H.M.S. "Birmingham" in the New Year. His wise council and cheerful countenance will be missed not only in the Signal School but also in the Chief Petty Officers' Mess, over which he has presided for six months. C.P.O. Tel. Elphick becomes our new wizard on the keys.

We congratulate A/P.O. Tel. Mathewson on being selected to represent the Nore Command at Hockey.

We have only time left to say that we are about to have a visit from Captain J. C. I. Inglis, **O.O.B.E.**, Commanding Officer of H.M.S. "Mercury," who was Signal Officer here in 1937. We hope he finds that the standard of the boys and of their instruction compares favourably with the high standards of those pre-war days.

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The story goes that Spurgeon, the famous preacher, was once approached by a young man preparing for the Ministry. The student was impatient with the long hours of study he was obliged to put in. "I am sure God does not want all this studying," he complained. "Neither does God want your ignorance," was the preacher's reply.

Spurgeon obviously established his point against wilful ignorance; but we think even he would have shared our amusement at the following selection of answers to a religious instruction examination paper set in "Ganges."

*Q.* Who were the four Evangelists ?

*A.* Gold; Frankin; Sense; and Mur. (270 B Class).

*Q.* What happened on Palm Sunday ?

*A.* On Palm Sunday the Jews always wore palm leaves.

*Q.* What happened on Whitsunday ?

*A.* The Apostles saw the Holy Ghost.

*Q.* Write out the Lord's Prayer.

*A.* (i) Our Father, we charged into Heaven . . . (270 B. Class).

(ii) Our Father, with chart in heaven. . . Our Lord be thy name. . . .

(iii) How father, we chart in heaven, Alo be thy name; thou shalt be done. . . .

*Q.* What is a parable ?

*A.* A parable is a heavenly meaning put into a way so that people will understand, such as comparing it with a *sewer*: this they would all know about.

*Q.* In Confirmation what is (a) Your part? (b) the Bishop's part ?

*A.* (a) My part is to get the Bishop to Confirm me.

(b) The Bishop places his hands on your head and asks if you are ready, and you arise and go back to your seat.

*Q.* Name some of the people to whom St. Paul wrote. *A.*

Pontius Pirate.

*Q.* What did the writer intend us to believe by the words "in six days the Lord made heaven and earth"?

*A.* He intended us to believe God does not do everything at the rush.

*Q.* What is the point of the story of the Garden of Eden ?

*A.* Adam and Eve were told never to eat from a certain pear tree, but in time Adam was tempted to eat one of these pears and was turned into a serpent.



## Field Gun Competition

After three weeks of hard training we were fortunate in having reasonable weather for the Competition, which took place on Monday, 1st and Tuesday, 2nd October.

Congratulations to the Benbow crew and to Petty Officer Cannon, their Instructor, for winning both cups and maintaining a high standard throughout their runs.

At the end of the first day, Benbow led Grenville by  $2/5$  second in the aggregate and had the fastest time to date of 3 min.  $0.2/5$  sec. It was evident that it was going to be a close fight between Benbow and Grenville, and in the third run Grenville, achieved the very good time of 2 min. 56 sec., setting up a new fastest time and leading 10 seconds on the aggregate from Benbow. In the final heat, however,



Field Gun Crew in action.

Benbow went ahead with an excellent run of 2 min. 45 secs. and left Grenville with 2 min. 55 secs. to retain the trophy. Grenville ran last and so maintained the interest of the competition to the end. A good time of 3 min.  $2 \frac{4}{5}$  secs. was put up but not sufficient to prevent Benbow taking ownership of both cups.

All crews ran well and it was good to see a lot of effort being put into manoeuvring the guns about. Penalties were much better than last year and Benbow, Drake and Blake carried out two clean runs, Grenville, Anson and Hawke one clean run each.

The equipment held up well, and our thanks are due to the Barrackmaster and his staff for their prompt assistance in keeping us topped up with limberpoles and slats. At no time was training stopped because of breakages.

Perhaps the best feature of the competition this year was that the crews knew their drill better and we did not therefore have so many casualties. Last year in three successive runs we had to watch a gun and limber bump over some unfortunate member of the crew who had not held on to the dragropes, and the Sick

Quartets were kept quite busy. This year, therefore, we were glad that even the S. B.A. on the track had nothing to do.

The results were as follows:-

Order of Merit	Division	Run 1	Run 2	Run 3	Run 4	Total Aggregate
1	Benbow	... 3.0 2/5 E	3.7 4/5 (5)	3.6 2/5 (7)	2.45 (-)	11.59 3/5
2	Grenville	... 3.6 1/5 (2)	3.2 2/5 (7)	2.56 (5)	3.2 4/5 (2)	12.7 2/5
3	Rodney	... 3.2 9 (12)	3.18 4/5 (5)	(7/8) (5)	3.5 4/5 (6)	13.2 3/5
4	Anson	... 3.23 4/5 (-)	3.23 (2)	3.17 3/5 (11)	1.9 (5)	13.13 2/5
5	Hawke	3.25 2/5 (1)	4.4 1/5 (2)	3.8 (11)	3.6 4/5 (2)	13.44 2/5
6	Collingwood	3.27 <sup>0</sup> 23,9 (10)	3.49 4/5 (22)	3.28 (10)	1.27 2/5 (7)	14.12 4/5
7	Drake	•• 4.28 (29)	3.21 2/5 (10)	3.31 1/5 (-)	2.57 (-)	14.17 3/5
8	Blake	3.41 4/5 (-)	4.12 (17)	3.45 (-)	4.6 3/5 (14)	15.45 2/5

Aggregate-FIELD GUN TROPHY won by BENBOW-11 min. 59. 3/5 secs.

Fastest Time-FIELD GUN CUP won by BENBOW-4th run: 2 min. 45 secs.

R. P. D.



Captain R. Gotto, C.B.E., D.S.O., R.N., inspects the Guard at Sunday Divisions prior to taking the salute.

## Range Notes

The shooting throughout the Winter term has remained at a fairly high standard.

At the time of going to press no fewer than 90 Boys have qualified for the Admiralty Range Practice Grant of 2/6d. this term. Of these 20 have also qualified for marksmen badges.

**RANGE PRACTICE TROPHY.** This trophy is awarded to the Class which attains the highest Class average throughout the term, judged during the .22 firings carried out in the Range instructional week.

176 Class of Drake Division has been awarded the trophy for this term with an average of 76.4%.

**BUZZARD TROPHY.** This trophy is awarded to the best Boy all round shot of the term, and this term it was awarded to Boy J. S. Allen of No. 9 Class, Rodney Division. During his instructional shoots Allen scored 277 points out of a possible 280 in .22 shooting and in the resultant shoot off for marksmen badge he scored 96 out of possible 100 on the .303 range. This was an excellent performance.

**INTER-DIVISIONAL .22 AND .303 COMPETITION.** Anson Division were the winners of the .22 competition with a score of 1,022 points out of a possible 1,200. Grenville carried away the .303 trophy with a score of 479 points out of a possible

600. Well done both Anson and Grenville. Here is the final table of this competition.

		.22.			.303.
1.	Anson ...	1,022		1. Grenville	479
2.	Drake ...	984		2. Collingwood	442
3.	Rodney ...	973		3. Hawke ...	440
	4. Grenville	923		4. Benbow ...	435
	5. Benbow ...	910		5. Drake	427
	6. Collingwood	879		6. Anson	393
7.	Hawke ...	877		7. Blake ...	344
8.	Blake ...	840		8. Rodney ...	343

**NORE COMMAND POSTAL LEAGUE.** This competition which is for .22 shooting commenced on October 1st and will continue until the last week in March, 1952.

"Ganges" has six teams entered in the competition, two of which are Boys' teams. The position at the time of going to press is shown in the following League Table to date, 15th November.

<i>Team.</i>	<i>S.</i>	<i>W.</i>	<i>D.</i>	<i>L.</i>	<i>Pts.</i>
Pay and Records R.M.	8	8	—	—	16
R.N.A.A. Range ...	8	7		1	14
Pembroke "C" ...	8	7	—	1	14
"Ganges" Officers ...	8	6		2	12
"Ganges" Instructors	8	5	—	3	10
"Ganges" R.M. ...	8	4	—	4	8
"Ganges" Boys "A"	8	3		5	6
"Ganges" Boys "B"	8	3		5	6
"Ganges" Supply and Secretariat	8	2		6	4
Jupiter "A"	8	2	—	6	4
Jupiter "B"	7	—	—	7	0
Jupiter "C"	7	—	—	7	0

L.A.V.