# IN OTTER NEWS

### **July 2025**

Issue 7

email: newsletter@tsotter.org

## **Red Hot RNP!**



Royal Naval Parade (RNP) Debrief

On Wednesday, **16th July 2025**, the Area Officer, **Commander Gary Mills (RN)**, accompanied by several members of the District Team and local dignitaries, attended the **Royal Naval Parade** at the Unit. We were delighted to welcome the **Mayor and Mayoress of Tewkesbury**, as well as representatives from the **Masonic Lodge**. All our dignitaries were given tours of the Unit and got to watch our cadets in action. We are delighted to say that we received excellent feedback about our unit, our cadets and our volunteers.

During his RNP address, **Commander Mills** reminded everyone that there are **76 Sea Cadet** units with **3 embryo units** and **27 Royal Marine Detachments** in the **South West**. **TS** *Otter* is at the very top of the list in terms of delivery of the **Sea Cadet Experience** and quality of training. Meeting cadets at an RNP is the Area Officer's favourite part of his role, and he loved the variety of activities displayed during the evening, the confidence with which the cadets spoke and their demeanour when interacting with staff, other cadets and himself.

Since the parade, the Area Officer asked our CO, **S/Lt (SCC) Anderson (RNR)**, to say that he very much enjoyed his visit and to pass on his thanks to all the Volunteers, Cadets, and Parents for their dedication to the **Sea Cadet Corps** and in supporting **TS Otter**. **Commander Mills** confirms that we are a:

"Top Performing Unit in the South West Area".

**BRAVO ZULU TO EVERYONE!** 

Commanding Officer: S/Lt David Anderson email: co@tsotter.org



#### **Random Navy Fact:**

Over **13,000** vessels have served in the **Royal Navy**, with many tales to tell. Arguably, the "luckiest" **Royal Navy** ship was **HMS** *Jervis*, a J-Class Destroyer that served during WW2.

HMS Jervis served for 5 ½ years and in 13 major actions throughout the war without losing a single member of the crew to enemy action. An example of her luck can be seen in her actions at Anzio in 1944. Supporting the landing with gunfire, Jervis and her sister ship, Janus, were attacked by enemy aircraft. Both were hit; Janus' forward magazine exploded, sinking her with the loss of nearly 160 of her crew; Jervis' bow was blown off, but the destroyer was able to return to port safely. Astonishingly, not one of her crew was harmed in this incident, and she was able to rescue over 80 of Janus' crew.

#### **UNIT NEWS!**

At the Royal Naval Parade, Commander Mills made the following awards to the unit:

Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award: **PPO N Anderson** 

Recent Promotion Boards: Able Cadet to Leading Cadet: LC Jack LC Brendan

Commodore's Broad Pennant awarded to: Leading Junior Cadet Nathan

YSS 2 and YSS 3: OC Keira YSS 3: Cadet Louie

YSS 2: Cadet First Class Esme YSS1: Cadet Will

RYA Powerboat 2: OC Emilia RYA Powerboat 1: Cadet Louie

Row 3: OC Izzy Cadet Sophie Row 2: Cadet Adam

Row 1: JC Blake JC Oscar

Go Row 3 Sliding seat: LC Brendan LC Jack OC Izzy Offshore Sail Seaman: LC Jon

#### From the Commanding Officer.

I would like to thank everyone who has welcomed me back as **Commanding Officer** of the unit. Although my tenure is limited while a new OiC is found, I am determined to ensure **TS Otter** continues with its good record and has a steady hand on the tiller until any future transitions of command.

All the Area Regattas have now finished, and I have been most impressed with the effort put in by our Volunteers, Cadets and the support of parents that make the regattas such a success. Successes in the Yole, Rowing, Sailing and Kayaking have heavily contributed to the high standing of **Severn District** within the **South West Area**. Make no mistake, we contribute massively to the inter-district competition and, once again, we did not disappoint. Well done to all involved.

#### **Event Dates Ahead!**

25th August, Bank Holiday, the unit will be closed

29th - 31st August, National Combined Regatta at the Excel Centre, London

19th October Trafalgar Parade, compulsory attendance, Ross-on-Wye