

# The Seven Seas Tattler Issue 4.3 – August 2020



Good Day fellow members and welcome to the August edition of Tattler. As always, your comments, contributions and critique are welcome - Send to me at [jonathanagolding@gmail.com](mailto:jonathanagolding@gmail.com)

## **Chairman's Report**

The Committee has not been idle during this lockdown and is managing issues of the Club virtually to determine the way forward when the Club reopens for business.

The Committee is highly appreciative of Ancient Mariners and Honorary members who have forfeited their privilege of no subs, to make a donation for this financial year to assist the Club tackle the financial predicament it finds itself in during this lockdown period. The same appreciation goes towards the 100 club winners who have donated their winnings back to the Club. BZ.

The Club is still fortunate to be able to remunerate its staff during this period with the exception of the Club Manager who has refused to take a salary and donated it back to the Club. This, once again, is highly appreciated.

The good intentions of the above is soured a bit by certain members who have yet to pay their annual subscription. I urge those members to settle their accounts as soon as possible.

Jonathan Golding is putting an auction together during this lockdown period to generate funding for the Club. It would be appreciated if members support this endeavor as much as possible.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Club, sooner rather than later. Be safe.

## **Birthdays in August**

The Club wishes the following members a very happy birthday and hopes that year ahead will be very kind to each of you!

Capt. M.J. Geddes	01 August
Capt. P.R. le Roux	03 August
Ms E. Uys	06 August
Mr S.J. Mc Donnell	06 August
Mr B Duncan	07 August
Mr R Schwendinger	07 August
Mr S.F. Haselum	08 August
Dr. H van Rensberg	08 August
Mrs P Luyt	10 August
Capt. B.L. Morris	12 August
Capt. K.E. Packer	13 August
Lt. Cdr. H.A. Farrow	26 August
Mr E.W. Sedgwick	26 August
Mr J Winter	27 August
Mr M.E. Bagley	28 August

## **The winners of the 100 club winners for July were as follows:**

### **R 300.00**

No. 21 G. J. Kruger

No. 2 F. Jordaan

No. 18 M. Nixon

### **R 1000.00**

No. 52 N. Green

## **Donations**

The club thanks Nikki Green, Gert Kruger, Bill Rice and Shaun Gourley for their generous donations.

## **Fire at the Country Club**

There was a fire at the Simon's Town Golf Club on Saturday morning on 9 July 2020 at approximately 07h00 .

The fire apparently was caused by an electrical problem that started in the bar area and spread to the kitchen next to the bar .

The fire progressed through the roof of the clubhouse and moved toward the entrance before the Fire department arrived to apply water.

Unfortunately it has caused the clubhouse to close but the golf course is open to members and visitors .

We express our sympathies with this "fellow" club and wish their golf committee and members well. We hope their club and all activities are resumed soonest.

## **From the Treasurer**

We approach the end of July, with a financial picture that continues to have many unknowns. In particular, we remain uncertain of when the Club may be allowed to resume operations and, once we are allowed to do so, how many of our members will be willing to take the risk associated with gathering at their favourite local (aka Our beloved Club). In the coming weeks, the Committee will be focussing their efforts on gathering input from the members on this very issue as part of planning the preparation of the Club for a re-opening which we hope is not too far away.

While some success has been achieved in offsetting the costs of the salaries for the Club's employees through the "Temporary Employer/Employee Retention Scheme" (TERS) administered by the Department of Labour and funded by the Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF), progress remain frustratingly slow in finalising this initiative. The battle continues!

In a similar vein, it is disappointing to note that we continue to experience a mixed fortune with respect to membership and the settling of membership accounts. On the one hand we welcome the recent election of 2 new members to the Club. From a financial perspective, their membership subscriptions will be greatly appreciated. On the other hand, sadly I have to report that, despite numerous formal reminders, 32 existing members have not settled their membership accounts for this year. These outstanding accounts (now nearly 4 months overdue) place an additional pressure on the Club's financial position to the prejudice of the other 243 members who are in good standing having paid their dues. Of these 32 outstanding members, only 1 has had the decency to contact the Club to advise of the problem being experienced as a result of being "trapped" overseas by the international Covid-19 lockdown. Recognising the constraints imposed by the virus and lockdown, the committee will continue to try to get these members to settle their accounts for a little while longer as we do not wish to lose this number of members unnecessarily.

At the committee meeting held earlier this week (via Zoom!), the projected cash flow for the Club for the rest of this financial year was reviewed and it was established that, as long as the TERS initiative is successful for the duration of the lockdown period and at least half of the outstanding membership subscription accounts are settled, the Club will not run out of funds before the end of the current Financial Year. The inflow from next year's subscriptions should start to become available at that time.

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## **Submitted by Euan Smith**

Hello Members

As some of you may know your Hon. Sec. is currently in the UK and whilst I have been here I have researched some of the ways bars and pubs have managed to reopen whilst still keeping their staff and customers relatively safe from COVID-19.

I have had to isolate for 14 days so have not been able to see these first hand but It has been very interesting to hear the types of measures that are being put in place to allow pubs to open. I think some of them will work really well for The Seven Seas Club when we are finally allowed to re-open.

They work in a couple of ways in that whilst they do attempt to keep the possibility of transmission down they also give the people using the bar or club the confidence to do so. Here are some of the things we can do:

- Institute a one way system with clear signage to keep people from walking into each other head on. There can be (removable) floor markings to space out the queue.
- We can build a perspex protective screen for the barmen at a single point for drinks serving. this will be at the end of the one way system. In this way we don't need to protect the whole bar, just the serving point
- We will likely remove half of the seating and space out the tables. We can use the dance floor area for tables to maximise the space
- We will have to record names and cell numbers of all patrons. Or at least one per group - this for tracing purposes - membership number would do. In the UK this is compulsory and I expect it to be so in South Africa too.
- We should be able to allow pre-booking of tables online or by phone - we could keep a couple free for the walk ins. the methods for doing this will have to be explained to everyone.
- There will of course be constant cleaning when a group leaves before any re-use of tables
- We can have marked spaces at the bar appropriately spaced out and similarly at the high tables
- There will be safe use of the optics. No used glasses will go near the optics
- There will be no re-using of glasses. Members will receive a clean glass for each order. there will be a single collection point for used glasses.
- Glasses are cleaned after one use. We had thought about members having own glass but this does not work does as those glasses will have to be handled by the bar staff and doing that puts them at risk. If we use a clean glass with every order the flow is from the barmen to the customers and used glasses go directly into a safe cleaning area.
- Unfortunately we only have one way in and out of the club but there are some options we can we look at. All pubs here in the UK have been adapted to one way in, one way out.
- We will have to enforce single use of the bathrooms - one person at a time. there can be marked queuing for the bathrooms appropriately spaced out.

I'll keep my eyes and ears open for any more good tips especially when i get to experience them myself!

If anyone has some more ideas I am sure that Glen and the committee would love to hear them. Don't be shy!

I am told that all this does make the experience a very different one from pre Corona but it is still something that I am sure our members will want to do.

I look forward to the very special day that The Seven Seas Club can open its doors again and welcomes you all back.

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## Navy News

NATO Black Sea exercise kicks off as Moscow puts its regional forces on alert - Geoff Ziezulewicz



A P-8A Poseidon aircraft flies alongside the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Porter (DDG 78) during a photo exercise, March 29, 2020, in the Atlantic Ocean. (MC2 Juan Sua/Navy)

The U.S. warship Porter entered the Black Sea on Sunday to take part in an annual NATO exercise, days after Russia placed its Black Sea forces on alert.

Sea Breeze 2020 is co-hosted by the United States and Ukraine and involves more than 2,000 personnel from Bulgaria, Georgia, Norway, Romania, Spain and Turkey.

It will run through July 26 and focus on warfare areas such as air defence, anti-sub warfare, damage control and search and rescue, according to a Navy release.

A Navy P-8A Poseidon sub hunter aircraft is also participating.

The exercise will take place exclusively at sea to help mitigate COVID-19, according to the release.

Porter's arrival comes after Russia's Black Sea Fleet and units elsewhere conducted a "snap combat readiness check," Russia's state-run news agency TASS reported Friday.

For Moscow's Black Sea-based forces, that check involved warships, combat aircraft and more than 3,000 personnel, according to TASS.

"During the exercise, the ships' crew made their urgent preparation for a battle and practiced withdrawing the main forces from a notional enemy's strike," the fleet's press office told TASS.



The U.S. warship Porter, shown here in an undated photo, steamed into the Black Sea Sunday, July 19, 2020. (Navy)

This will be the third trip into the Black Sea this year for Porter, which is based in Rota, Spain, according to the Navy.

Sea Breeze 2020 comes as conflict between Ukrainian troops and Russia-backed separatists continues in the country's east in a war that has killed more than 14,000 people, according to the Associated Press.

Russian jets have also intercepted U.S. aircraft over the Black Sea and across the region in recent years.

## **Royal Navy: Trident Marines trial 'Throwbot' that gives them combat edge**

### 43 Commando adopt advanced technological techniques

*by Max Channon*

James Bond isn't the only Royal Navy hero with impressive gadgets - Royal Marines who guard the UK's Continuous At Sea Nuclear Deterrent Trident now have a throwable robot.

Dubbed the 'Throwbot', the cutting edge battlefield tech is a small robot that can be hurled into potentially dangerous areas for remote reconnaissance.

It was among the new technologies tested during recent combat training in Scotland.

A Royal Navy spokesperson said: "Royal Marines who guard the UK's nuclear deterrent have been testing drones and robots that could aid their crucial operations during closed-quarters combat training at Jackton Police College in East Kilbride.

"Normally confined to the ammunition depot at Coulport on Loch Long or the berths at nearby Clyde Naval Base used by the Royal Navy's Vanguard-class submarines when not on deterrent patrol or training, 43 Commando Fleet Protection Group Royal Marines are the last line of defence protecting the nation's Trident missiles and the machines which carry them.

"These closed-quarters combat exercises – in the indoor and urban training facilities at Jackton – is part of keeping the commandos razor sharp for their operations, but was also an opportunity to look at the new technology that could give a further edge to their missions.

"As well as drones for battlefield analysis, the commandos used a 'Throwbot', which is a small remotely-operated robot that can be thrown in to a potentially dangerous area and quickly give a picture of what is happening on the other side, so the marines can make a clear decision on the way to tackle the threat.

"The training allows 43 Commando to build on more advanced technological techniques as they move towards the Future Commando Force.

"Future Commando Force is a bold modernisation programme that will overhaul the way world famous Green Berets operate around the globe.

"Under the Future Commando Force programme more Royal Marines will operate from the sea, utilising new and innovative technology as high-readiness troops, forward deployed and ready to react, whether that's war-fighting, specific combat missions such as commando raids, or providing humanitarian assistance."

Captain James Spencer RM, Second-in-Command of P-Squadron, 43 Commando, said: “The facilities at Jackton Police College allowed us to develop a concept for the use of the Remotely Piloted Aerial System and figure out how we would integrate it within an urban environment,” said

“Such technology is a game changer in the face of a threat. It informs commanders and troops on the ground and allows them to make tactical actions swiftly and effectively.”



*Royal Marines from 43 Commando with the Throwbot*

On the ‘Throwbot’, Lieutenant Charles Roberts RM, Commander of Anzio Troop, P-Squadron, said: “It can give the marine and tactical commando on the ground that extra bit of initiative to make decisions quicker and better. It is all about making the marine as operationally effective as can be.

“As members of P-Squadron, 43 Commando, we conduct nuclear security missions. Part of these operations involves working in an urban, maritime and industrial environment. Close-quarters battle and close-quarters marksmanship are the tactics and techniques most suited to the mission.”

43 Commando Fleet Protection Group Royal Marines is a 550-strong unit based at HM Naval Base Clyde in Argyll and Bute.

From snipers who can disable a moving speedboat from a pursuit helicopter, through to close combat and cold-weather warfare specialists, 43 Commando are the elite warriors who protect the UK’s strategic nuclear deterrent.

## **Royal Navy patrol boats visit Wick on summer deployment**

By Alan Hendry

FOUR Royal Navy patrol boats have left Wick after spending time in Caithness and Orkney waters as part of their summer deployment.

The ships – HMS Trumpeter, HMS Archer, HMS Explorer and HMS Example – have been spending a fortnight training on the east coast and in the north of Scotland.

The P2000 Archer-class vessels were in Wick from July 8-10 before continuing to Kirkwall and Stromness. They returned to Wick on Friday and headed off again this morning.

Normally on such a deployment, visits would be arranged for community groups to find out more about the patrol boats and the work of the Royal Navy, but this was not possible due to the present restrictions.

Nevertheless the boats attracted much interest. Explorer was berthed in Wick Bay for a spell on Friday, just off the Proudfoot area.

At just over 20 metres long, the P2000s are some of the smallest ships in the fleet and are regarded as ideal for navigation and seamanship training.



The patrol boat HMS Explorer in Wick Bay with the Oban-registered fishing vessel Star of Annan passing alongside. Picture: Alan Hendry

Speaking ahead of the visit, Captain Chris Smith, naval regional commander for Scotland and Northern Ireland, said: "It is great to be able to bring the Royal Navy near to some of our smaller communities which, because of harbour size, don't usually get a visit from our ships.

"The P2000s may be small but they pack a punch, and regularly exercise around the UK and Europe as well as supporting the fleet.

"Usually we would be hosting visits from local groups and organisations while alongside, but with the current situation this is unfortunately not possible. We hope to engage with local organisations across social media and using technology."

Each of the vessels is affiliated to universities around the country and has a core crew of full-time Royal Navy sailors which in normal times would be augmented by members of University Royal Naval Units.



## The Curious Tale of an Extremely Jinxed Ship – The USS William D. Porter (DD-579)

By Shahan Russell



During WWII, the Allies had a ship so jinxed, it destroyed itself by nearly destroying something else. And yes, you read that correctly.

The USS *William D. Porter* (DD-579) was a Fletcher-class destroyer named in honor of Commodore William D. Porter – a Union officer. Most just called it the “*Willie Dee*” – which wasn't meant to be endearing.

Though typical of its class, it had a fierce reputation. Wherever its crew went, people squealed, “Don’t shoot! We’re Republicans!” Which wasn't meant to be funny.

It all started in November 1943. The USS *Iowa* was headed to North Africa, carrying a precious cargo – President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. He was to attend the Cairo and Teheran Conferences with Joseph Stalin and Winston Churchill to discuss a second front against Germany and Japan.



*The USS William D. Porter*

But it might never have happened because of the *William D. Porter* (WDP), captained by Lieutenant Commander Wilfred Aves Walter. On November 12, she sailed out of Norfolk to meet up with the *Iowa* and two other ships. Unfortunately, her sailors failed to properly raise the anchor. Which was why it tore into a docked destroyer. Railings, lifeboat mounts, the captain’s gig (a small taxi boat), and other equipment were ripped off the other ship. Thankfully, no one was hurt or killed.

As for the WDP, she didn't even suffer a scratch. Except for minor ones to her anchor, that is. But it was an omen of things to come... the very next day, in fact.

For on November 13, the convoy of four ships sailed under strict orders to maintain radio silence. With German and Japanese U-boats about, the last thing anyone wanted was to give their position away, when...

BOOM! They were under attack! The convoy began their anti-submarine manoeuvres, zigging and zagging as best they could while trying to scope out the dreaded... umm... Germans? Japanese? (Gasp!) *Both!?*

Nope. Americans. The *WDP*, to be precise. A depth charge had fallen off her stern and detonated in the rough seas below. But what about the safety mechanism? Ah yes, that... it hadn't been set. Then a freak wave slammed into the *WDP*, washing off everything that wasn't lashed down – including a sailor who was never found. The engine room flooded, ruining a boiler and forcing the ship to fall out of formation till another was activated. Walter had to spend the next several hours giving updates on the repairs... over the radio.

Fortunately, lightning doesn't strike twice in the same place, right? Wrong. Because on November 14, Roosevelt asked to see some of the *Iowa's* might.

So they released balloons in the air for target practice. Most were shot down by the *Iowa*, but not all. Some drifted over to the *WDP*... what could *possibly* go wrong?

Those on deck conducted themselves well by shooting down the balloons. Down below, however, it was another matter entirely.

To further impress the president, the flotilla also did torpedo drills. Lawton Dawson and Tony Fazio were responsible for the *WDP's* torpedoes, and since it was a drill, they were *supposed* to remove the primers (explosive charges). They did so for torpedoes 1 and 2. Dawson, however, forgot torpedo 3 – which fired at 2:36 PM.

Want to guess which ship they were targeting?

“Captain?” asked Lieutenant H. Seward Lewis. “Did you give permission to fire a torpedo?”

All hell broke loose. Lewis wanted to warn the *Iowa* over the radio, but Walter, already in disgrace, refused. His solution was to use signal lamps to warn the *Iowa*, but the signaller relayed the wrong message: THE *WDP* IS BACKING UP.

“Huh?” was the *Iowa's* reply.

The *WDP's* signaller finally got it right, “MISSILE! TURN RIGHT!”

The *Iowa* still didn't get it, so Walter finally broke radio silence... again.

Except that the operator aboard the *Iowa* was a stickler for protocol, “Why are you breaking radio silence!? Identify yourself!”

Up on deck, Roosevelt asked to have his wheelchair moved closer to the railing so he could better see the torpedo. According to eyewitnesses, the Secret Service actually drew their guns and aimed at it.

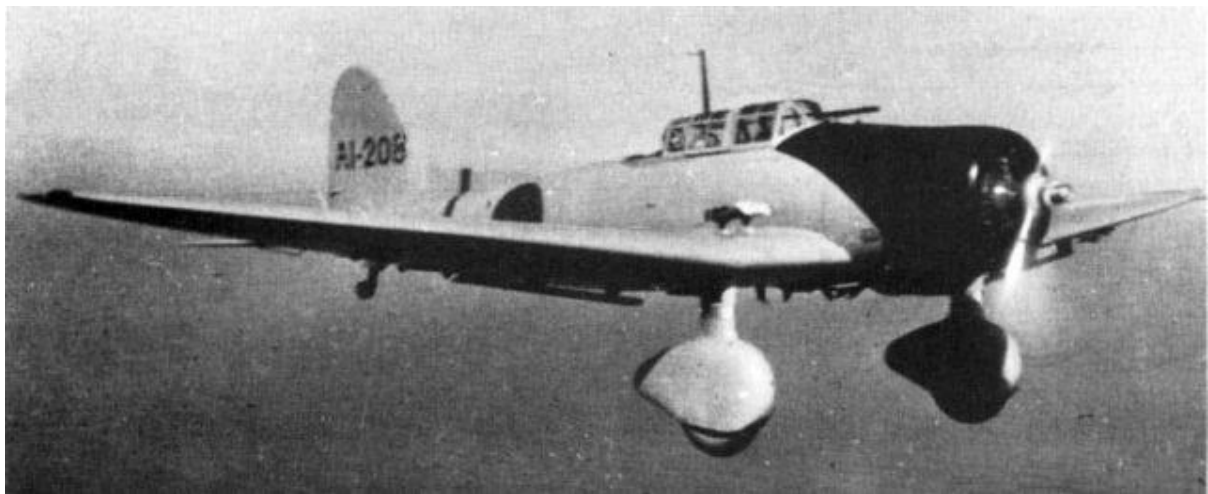
Fortunately, the operator wasn't alone and more pragmatic heads prevailed. The explosion hit at 2:40 PM... missing the *Iowa*. So now *all* guns were aimed at the *WDP*.

Who aboard it was a German or Japanese agent!? The *WDP's* entire crew was placed under arrest (a first in US history) and were grilled for days till Dawson finally broke. They sentenced him to 14 years of hard labour till Roosevelt intervened and set him free.

Since the affair was deemed an accident, the *WDP* was sent to the Aleutian Islands. She was assigned to Task Force 94 in Unalaska at the Dutch Harbour Naval Operating Base and Fort Mears where she could do no harm. Or so the thinking went.

It worked. Until December 31, that is, when the base commandant hosted a party for officers and their families. The *WDP* was also partying – which was how a drunk sailor got it into his head to fire one of the ship’s 5” guns. The shell landed on the commandant’s front yard, taking out his flower garden, and mercifully, nothing and no one else.

They finally replaced Walter with Commander Charles M. Keyes on May 30, 1944. Which is probably why the *WDP* was allowed to participate in the Battle of Okinawa... where she *accidentally* strafed the *USS Luce*. Fortunately, she made up for it by shooting down five Japanese planes. Karma finally struck in the most unusual way on June 10, 1945. At 8:15 AM, an Aichi D3A dive bomber zoomed toward the ship. The *WDP* aimed, fired, and missed – obviously because they weren't firing at an American target.



*An Aichi D3A1 “Val dive bomber from the Akagi carrier*

Fortunately, she evaded the kamikaze and her crew heaved a sigh of relief as they watched it slam into the water and vanish. Unfortunately, the plane kept going underwater till it reached the bottom of the ship and exploded.

The *WDP* lifted out of the water, whammed back down, and lost power as fires broke out. The men spent three hours trying to put them out when the *Willie Dee* began to keel over, forcing the crew to abandon ship.

Amazingly, no one was seriously hurt or killed. They even gave the *WDP* four battle stars!

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***Tattler does not wish to frighten anybody - This article and headline are copied!***

**World War 3 panic: Russia reveals TERRIFYING new military weapon as global tensions rise**  
**Russia has revealed a terrifying new military weapon as global tensions continue to rise**

By STEVEN BROWN

The Khabarovsk, also known as Project 09582, is the second submarine to serve as a carrier of Russia's underwater nuclear drones after the first floated out back in April. The new Poseidon drone will be out in late June.

According to Russian News Agency, TASS, the first special-purpose nuclear submarine, the Belgorod, is expected to enter service with the Russian Navy this September.

Both the Belgorod and the Khabarovsk are capable of carrying six Poseidon drones each. Back in 2018, Russian President Vladimir Putin addressed the country's development of a nuclear-powered, unmanned underwater vehicle which can carry both conventional and nuclear warheads. The military weapons have the capability to destroy enemy infrastructure, aircraft carrier groups and other targets.



Russian President Vladimir Putin reveals new terrifying military weapon (Image: Getty•Russian Defence Military)



The new Poseidon drone will be out in late June (Image: Russian Defence Military)

A source in the defence industry told state-run news agency TASS the Poseidon drone is capable of carrying a nuclear warhead with up to 2 megatons of power. New data reports the Poseidon will have an intercontinental range capability and can operate in depths of more than 1km. World War 3 fears were ignited across the globe just days into 2020 and as tensions continue to rise between world leaders, fears of war outbreak continue. Concerns were first triggered around the globe following the death of Iranian Major General Qassem Soleimani in a US airstrike in January.

## Featured (Deadly warship) - Russian battlecruiser *Pyotr Velikiy*

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopaedia



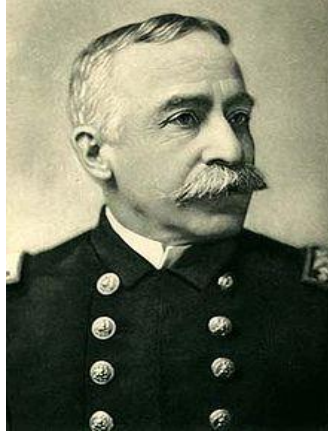
*Pyotr Velikiy* (Russian: *Пётр Великий*) is the fourth *Kirov*-class battlecruiser of the Russian Navy. It was initially named *Yuri Andropov* (Russian: *Юрий Андропов*) for Yuri Andropov, the former General Secretary of the Communist Party, but the ship's name was changed after the fall of the Soviet Union. The Russian designation for the type is "heavy nuclear missile cruiser", but Western defense commentators have resurrected the term "battlecruiser" to describe them, as they are the largest surface combatant warships in the world. *Pyotr Velikiy* is the flagship of the Northern Fleet.

Construction of the ship was delayed by lack of funding due to the national economic problems before and after the fall of the Soviet Union. It was not completed and commissioned until 1998, twelve years after work had started. By then it had been renamed *Pyotr Velikiy*, Russian for Peter the Great. *Pyotr Velikiy* has been known to carry two pennant numbers during its service: "183" and currently "099".

Armament:	20 <a href="#">P-700 Granit (SS-N-19 Shipwreck)</a> anti-ship missiles 16x8 (128) <a href="#">3K95 "Kinzhal" (SA-N-9)</a> surface-to-air missiles 12x8 (96) <a href="#">S-300PMU Favorit (SA-N-6 Grumble)</a> surface-to-air missiles 44 <a href="#">OSA-MA (SA-N-4 Gecko)</a> PD SAM 2x <a href="#">RBU-1000</a> (Smerch-3) 305 mm ASW rocket launchers 2x <a href="#">RBU-12000 (Udav-1)</a> 254 mm ASW rocket launchers 1 twin <a href="#">AK-130</a> 130 mm/L70 dual purpose gun 10 533 mm ASW/ASuW <a href="#">torpedo</a> tubes, Type 53 torpedo or <a href="#">SS-N-15</a> ASW missile 6x <a href="#">Kashtan</a> (CADS-N-1) point defense gun/missile system
Armour:	76 mm plating around reactor compartment, light splinter protection

Aircraft carried:	3 <a href="#">Kamov Ka-27 "Helix"</a> or <a href="#">Ka-25 "Hormone"</a>
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## Featured Naval Officer ("6 star Admiral") - George Dewey, 1837-1917



The hero of The Battle of Manila Bay, Dewey destroyed the Spanish fleet in an epic one sided battle, earning him fame and accolades in the US, while also earning him the rank of Admiral of the Navy, the equivalent of a 6 star rank, never held by any US Navy officer before or since. Dewey was also a battle tested veteran of the US Civil War.

George Dewey (December 26, 1837 – January 16, 1917) was Admiral of the Navy, the only person in United States history to have attained the rank. He is best known for his victory at the Battle of Manila Bay during the Spanish–American War, with the loss of only a single crewman on the American side.

Dewey was born in Montpelier, Vermont. At age 15, Dewey's father enrolled him at Norwich University, Northfield, Vermont. Two years later Norwich expelled him for drunkenness and herding sheep into the barracks. Summarily, he entered the United States Naval Academy in 1854. He graduated from the academy in 1858 and was assigned as the executive lieutenant of the USS *Mississippi* at the beginning of the Civil War. He participated in the capture of New Orleans and the Siege of Port Hudson, helping the Union take control of the Mississippi River. By the end of the war, Dewey reached the rank of lieutenant commander.

After the Civil War, Dewey undertook a variety of assignments, serving on multiple ships and as an instructor at the Naval Academy. He also served on the United States Lighthouse Board and the Board of Inspection and Survey. He was promoted to Commodore in 1896 and assigned to the Asiatic Squadron the following year. After that appointment, he began preparations for a potential war with Spain, which broke out in April 1898. Immediately after the beginning of the war, Dewey led an attack on Manila Bay, sinking the entire Spanish Pacific fleet while suffering only minor casualties. After the battle, his fleet assisted in the capture of Manila. Dewey's victory at Manila Bay was widely lauded in the United States, and he was promoted to Admiral of the Navy in 1903.

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## 50 years ago - August 1970

General

**3 August 1970** - The United States Navy submarine USS *James Madison* made the first successful underwater test of the multi-warhead Poseidon C3 nuclear missile. *Madison* launched the unarmed missile skyward from a depth of 120 feet (37 m) and the rocket travelled 2,880 miles (4,630 km) to its intended target in the South Atlantic Ocean. Another U.S. Navy ship, the destroyer escort USS *Calcaterra*, positioned itself between the launch site and a Soviet surveillance trawler, the *Leptev*, to prevent close observation or the retrieval of debris from the launch. The Poseidon C3 missile was cleared by the Navy on March 31, 1971, for deployment aboard all ten of the James Madison-class submarines and the nine of the Lafayette-class submarines.

**12 August 1970** - West Germany and the Soviet Union signed a nonaggression pact that relinquished further claims of former German territory east of the Oder–Neisse line. East Germany had previously agreed that most of the former German territories of Pomerania, Brandenburg, Silesia, Danzig and East Prussia were ceded to Poland, with the exception of the a portion of East Prussia ceded to the Soviet Union. West Germany, however, did not agree to recognition of East Germany as a separate nation. The ceremony took place in Moscow, with Chancellor Willy Brandt and Foreign Minister Walter Scheel signing for West Germany.

**18 August 1970** - The United States disposed of 418 containers of nerve gas by loading it onto the retired U.S. Navy ship SS *LeBaron Russell Briggs*, then sinking the ship in Atlantic Ocean waters 3 miles (4.8 km) deep at an American munitions dump 283 miles (455 km) east of Florida. The total cargo of the 418 drums was 12,540 rockets of Sarin (GB nerve gas) and a single canister of the more potent VX nerve gas.

**20 August 1970** - Six sailors on the French Navy submarine *Galatée* were killed when their vessel collided with the South African Navy's recently commissioned submarine, the *Maria van Riebeeck* off the coast of France at Toulon. South Africa had purchased the sub from France on July 24, and the *Riebeeck* was sailing toward Toulon after sea trials, while *Galatée* heading out to sea for naval exercises. Both vehicles were on the surface at the time; *Galatée* had a 40 feet (12 m) wide hole in its side following the collision. One of the French Navy's officers, identified as Lieutenant Lauga, ordered the ship to run aground on the reefs of Cape Cépet to prevent *Galatée* from sinking.

**22 August 1970** - Five days after sending Venera 7 toward a planned landing on the planet Venus, the Soviet Union launched Kosmos 359 into Earth orbit, with the statement that it was intended for "space research", not otherwise specified. Speculation that 359 was a second probe to Venus would be confirmed by the Russian government after the 1991 breakup of the USSR. The fourth stage of the rocket "ignited later than planned" and ceased operating after 25 seconds, rather than the planned four minutes. Rather than sending what would have been "Venera 8" toward Venus, the rocket misfire stranded the satellite in an elliptical Earth orbit varying from 129 miles (208 km) to 553 miles (890 km), and the spacecraft re-entered the atmosphere on November 6

## Music

Album	Artist
Future Blues	Canned Heat
A Question of Balance	The Moody Blues
Signed, Sealed and Delivered	Stevie Wonder
Weasels Ripped my Flesh	The Mothers of Invention
Chapter Two	Roberta Flack
Metamorphosis	Iron Butterfly
Hawkwind	Hawkwind
Eric Clapton	Eric Clapton

Stage Fright	The Band
Close to You	Carpenters
Spirit in the Dark	Aretha Franklin
Sunflower	The Beach Boys
Come Saturday Morning	The Sandpipers
Easy Does It	Al Kooper
From Home to Home	Fairfield Parlour
Hank Williams the Roy Orbison Way	Roy Orbison
Just for Love	Quicksilver Messenger Service
Mad Dogs & Englishman	Joe Cocker
Ma Kelly's Greasy Spoon	Status Quo
Mongrel	The Bob Seger System
The Rill Thing	Little Richard
Something	Shirley Bassey

## Movies

3 August	Ann och Eve – de Erotika	Drama
12 August	Lovers and Other Strangers	Drama
17 August	Bloody Mama	Romantic Comedy
19 August	WUSA	Drama
28 August	Un Tranquillo Posto di Campagna	Drama

## Sport

### 2 August German F1 Grand Prix

The 1970 German Grand Prix was a Formula One motor race held at Hockenheimring on 2 August 1970. It was race 8 of 13 in both the 1970 World Championship of Drivers and the 1970 International Cup for Formula One Manufacturers.<sup>[1]</sup> The 50-lap race was won by Lotus driver Jochen Rindt after he started from second position. Jacky Ickx finished second for the Ferrari team and McLaren driver Denny Hulme came in third.

On short notice following the drivers' demand for improved safety at the Nürburgring, the race was moved to Hockenheim for the first time in the history of the German Grand Prix as this track already had been fitted with Armco. F1 returned to an updated Nürburgring in 1971.



Pos	No	Driver	Constructor	Laps	Time/Retired	Grid	Points
1	2	 Jochen Rindt	Lotus-Ford	50	1:42:00.3	2	9
2	10	 Jacky Ickx	Ferrari	50	+ 0.7	1	6
3	4	 Denny Hulme	McLaren-Ford	50	+ 1:21.8	16	4
4	17	 Emerson Fittipaldi	Lotus-Ford	50	+ 1:55.1	13	3
5	21	 Rolf Stommelen	Brabham-Ford	49	+ 1 Lap	11	2
6	14	 Henri Pescarolo	Matra	49	+ 1 Lap	5	1
7	23	 François Cevert	March-Ford	49	+ 1 Lap	14	
8	12	 Jo Siffert	March-Ford	47	Ignition	4	
9	7	 John Surtees	Surtees-Ford	46	Engine	15	
Ret	9	 Graham Hill	Lotus-Ford	37	Engine	20	
Ret	5	 Chris Amon	March-Ford	34	Engine	6	
Ret	15	 Clay Regazzoni	Ferrari	30	Engine	3	
Ret	16	 John Miles	Lotus-Ford	24	Engine	10	
Ret	1	 Jackie Stewart	March-Ford	20	Engine	7	
Ret	11	 Mario Andretti	March-Ford	15	Gearbox	9	
Ret	22	 Ronnie Peterson	March-Ford	11	Engine	19	
Ret	6	 Pedro Rodriguez	BRM	7	Ignition	8	
Ret	18	 Jackie Oliver	BRM	5	Engine	18	
Ret	3	 Jack Brabham	Brabham-Ford	4	Oil Leak	12	
Ret	8	 Jean-Pierre Beltoise	Matra	4	Suspension	21	
Ret	24	 Peter Gethin	McLaren-Ford	3			

## 16 August Austrian F1 Grand Prix

The 1970 Austrian Grand Prix was a Formula One motor race held at the Österreichring on 16 August 1970. It was race 9 of 13 in both the 1970 World Championship of Drivers and the 1970 International Cup for Formula One Manufacturers.<sup>[1]</sup> This was the third Austrian Grand Prix, the second as part of the World Championship, and the first at the scenic Österreichring, built to replace the bumpy and bland Zeltweg Airfield circuit.

The 60-lap race was won by Jacky Ickx, driving a Ferrari, after he started from third position. Teammate Clay Regazzoni achieved his first podium finish by coming second, while Rolf Stommelen achieved his only podium finish, coming third in a Brabham-Ford. Local driver and championship leader Jochen Rindt started from pole position in his Lotus-Ford, but retired with an engine failure.

## Classification

Pos	No	Driver	Constructor	Laps	Time/Retired	Grid	Points
1	12	 <b>Jacky Ickx</b>	<b>Ferrari</b>	60	1:42:17.3	3	<b>9</b>
2	27	 <b>Clay Regazzoni</b>	<b>Ferrari</b>	60	+ 0.61	2	<b>6</b>
3	11	 <b>Rolf Stommelen</b>	<b>Brabham-Ford</b>	60	+ 1:27.88	17	<b>4</b>
4	17	 <b>Pedro Rodriguez</b>	<b>BRM</b>	59	+ 1 Lap	22	<b>3</b>
5	16	 <b>Jackie Oliver</b>	<b>BRM</b>	59	+ 1 Lap	14	<b>2</b>
6	19	 <b>Jean-Pierre Beltoise</b>	<b>Matra</b>	59	+ 1 Lap	7	<b>1</b>
7	14	 Ignazio Giunti	Ferrari	59	+ 1 Lap	5	
8	4	 Chris Amon	March-Ford	59	+ 1 Lap	6	
9	3	 Jo Siffert	March-Ford	59	+ 1 Lap	20	
10	23	 Peter Gethin	McLaren-Ford	59	+ 1 Lap	21	
11	18	 George Eaton	BRM	58	+ 2 Laps	23	
12	22	 Andrea de Adamich	McLaren-Alfa Romeo	57	+ 3 Laps	15	
13	10	 Jack Brabham	Brabham-Ford	56	+ 4 Laps	8	
14	20	 Henri Pescarolo	Matra	56	+ 4 Laps	13	
15	8	 Emerson Fittipaldi	Lotus-Ford	55	+ 5 Laps	16	
Ret	21	 Denny Hulme	McLaren-Ford	30	Engine	11	
Ret	15	 John Surtees	Surtees-Ford	27	Engine	12	
Ret	26	 Tim Schenken	De Tomaso-Ford	25	Engine	19	
Ret	6	 Jochen Rindt	Lotus-Ford	21	Engine	1	
Ret	5	 Mario Andretti	March-Ford	13	Accident	18	
Ret	24	 Silvio Moser	Bellasi-Ford	13	Radiator	24	
Ret	1	 Jackie Stewart	March-Ford	7	Fuel Pipe	4	
Ret	7	 John Miles	Lotus-Ford	4	Brakes	10	
Ret	2	 François Cevert	March-Ford	0	Engine	9	

## Springboks versus All Blacks, August 1970

Courtesy of The McLook rugby collection

### Second test - Newlands - August 8, 1970

Subtle, yet intense the pressure mounted in the All Black camp. Winston McCarthy - a former New Zealand rugby commentator- responsible for the mounting pressure in the AB camp with his weekly newspaper report, published in New Zealand; his information was that there were dissatisfaction in the AB camp with coach Ivan Vodanovich. The players "Were getting on top of their coach" he wrote in classical New-Zealand cut-down-the-tall-poppy style.

Brian Lochore strongly denied these allegations indicating that the players -as on any other stage on tour- were willing to die for the coach. "There is no truth whatsoever in the allegations that we are getting on top Ivan", said Lochore. Ron Burk - AB-team manager- saw it for what it was and noted that the article isn't worth replying to.

Kiwi supporters were everywhere to be seen in Cape Town and there were reports of incidents where some were attacked and robbed, and word was out that tourists should move around in groups. The mental games was in full swing; the Springboks again had their training sessions within a

high security area, namely the Pollsmoor prison. There were rumours that Lofty Nel was brought in to replace Piet Greyling. NZ issued confusing media statements regarding when and where the All Black team is going to prepare for the test.

The Springbok team for the second test was unchanged while NZ made five changes, namely Sutherland (No. 5), Wylie (No. 4) and Thimbleby (No. 1), Kirton (10 to replace Cottrell) and Davis at centre in place Thorne which were moved to the wing in place of Malcolm Dick. There were concerns over the fitness of Thimbleby, Sutherland and Wylie and Muller; all struggling with soft tissue injuries (muscle injuries). Thimbleby were not able to recover in time and did not play. South African sport journalists generally predicted a win for the Springboks if they were able to repeat their performance of the first test.

New Zealand 9 / South Africa 8

### **29 Aug 1970 - Critical third test**

The tension was unbearable, and both teams surprised with unexpected and daring team selections in an attempt to achieve some sort of strategic advantage.

The New Zealand coach made the following remarks towards Gabriel David:

Coach Ivan Vodanovich told me in his blunt manner that tomorrow third test was the most tremendously important rugby match of his life. He was cautiously confident and extremely hopeful of a New Zealand victory but expressed one or two private doubts.

The All Black manager Mr. Burk had no similar qualifications about a New Zealand victory. "We won't just win, we will win easily," he told one New Zealand journalist. "We will do them over big time".

Colin Meads requested that should not be considered for the third test because he felt he was not 100% ready for the intensity of test rugby. The New Zealand selectors decided however to include him in the AB team for the third test. This decision and the positional shift of Bryan Williams to centre were according to Gabriel David's errors that contributed to NZ's poor performance in the 3<sup>rd</sup> test. "New Zealand selectors made serious selection blunders and South Africa got it right". The article below explains the tension in the All Black camp at announcement of the 3<sup>rd</sup> test team. See also the article at the end; the All Blacks on post mortem realised they got it all wrong in the team selection department for the third test of the 1970 series.



*A meeting of greats . . . Colin Meads charges upfield clutching the ball under his broken arm, while Frik du Preez moves in for the tackle.*

Mof Myburg and Loft Nel were selected for the Springbok team under great criticism (of the South Afrikaans media) for the third test. Loft Nel who made his debut against the 1960 All Blacks was at thirty-six the oldest man to have represented South Africa. Mof and Loft's inclusions in the Springbok team were clearly a strategic move and part of a game plan as the following paragraph in David's book indicates:

The Springbok coach Johan Claassen announces that he has special plans for the two replacements, Loft Nel and Mof Myburg, and if they succeed, then South Africa will win the test. After the test David writes as follows about this tactical manoeuvre by the Springbok coach: The astute Springbok coach Johan Claassen obviously gambled on the All Blacks picking Meads for this test. He decided to explore a restricted tight core in the New Zealand side by strengthening his own. So he recalled Myburg and decided to use Nel as a loose-tight man. It worked splendidly. Personally I think the decision was based on the fact that the Springboks came second in both the previous tests in the lineout and in the scrums. The Mof and Frik combination play in the lineout was well known and Loft was not just a lineout option but added greater weight and stability in the scrums. It would simply not have made sense to replace the mobile Tiny Neethling on prop with a heavier scrum worker and then undo the move by selecting a small and mobile No8 like Tommy Bedford. Claassen has, I think, decided on Mof and Loft for tactical reasons and because of the Springboks inability to hold their own in the tight phase play during the previous two tests. His decision was made independent of whether Meads were going to be selected or not. The Springboks came off second best in both the previous tests -especially in the second test- in the scrums and lineouts and there was really no other choice than to bulk-up in the pack.

The fascinating fact about Mof Myburg is that he played in 18 tests for South Africa and was only twice on the losing side. He was also involved in four tests that ended in a draw, the rest the Springboks have all won; maybe an indication of the importance of weight up front. Mof was often criticized for being too heavy and not mobile enough and was left out a few times for exactly that reason.

The Springbok team for this test was: Ian McCallum; Gert Muller; Joggie Jansen; Mannetjies Roux; Sid Nomis; Piet Visagie; Dawie de Villiers (Capt); Lofty Nel; Piet Greyling; Frik du Preez; Johan Spies; Jan Ellis; Mof Myburg; Piston van Wyk; Hannes Marais.

New Zealand 3 / South Africa 14

## 100 years ago - August 1820

Whilst doing a little bit of research Tattler stumbled upon a list of ships wrecked in August 1920. It was a torrid month which saw no fewer than 57 ships lost. The list is too extensive, but on one particular day, the 19th, thirteen ships succumbed. They are listed here:

### 19 August

Ship	Country	Description
<i>Achilles</i>	 United Kingdom	The ship was wrecked in the River Plate at Buenos Aires, Argentina.
<i>Adonia</i>	 Argentina	The brig was wrecked in the River Plate at Buenos Aires.
<i>Ann</i>	 United Kingdom	The schooner was wrecked in the River Plate at Buenos Aires.
<i>Argo</i>	 United States	The brig sank in the River Plate at Buenos Aires.
<i>Despatch</i>	 Argentina	The brig was wrecked in the River Plate at Buenos Aires.
<i>Fly</i>	 Jamaica	The ship was wrecked on the Guinea Reef.
<i>Hercules</i>	 Russia	The ship was wrecked in the River Plate at Buenos Aires.
<i>Mary Ann</i>	 United Kingdom	The ship was wrecked on Cape Gomett, Jamaica. She was on a voyage from Bermuda to Jamaica.
<i>Navarrois</i>	 France	The brig was wrecked in the River Plate at Buenos Aires.
<i>Peru</i>	 United Kingdom	The brig ran aground in the River Plate at Buenos Aires.
<i>San Juan Nepomacia</i>	 Argentina	The polacca was wrecked in the River Plate at Buenos Aires.
<i>Trafalgar</i>	 United Kingdom	The ship was wrecked in the River Plate at Buenos Aires.
<i>Twey Gesusters</i>	 Netherlands	The ship ran aground near Sandhamn, Sweden. She was on a voyage from Danzig to Amsterdam, North Holland.

There must have been some scary weather around Buenos Aires!

There must have been some scary weather around Buenos Aires!

Or maybe it had something to do with what occurred the previous day? The 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution granted American women the right to vote, a right known as women's suffrage, and was ratified on **August 18, 1920**, ending almost a century of protest.

Submitted by Bill Rice

Back in the late nineteen seventies, when I was Club Secretary, we had an evening barman named Eddie Abrahams. During the day Eddie worked as a messenger for Bruce Galvin in the Dockyard Planning Office. At that time everybody was watching the American T V series Rich Man, Poor Man, in which the "baddie" was one Anthony Falconetti.

Soon people in the Planning Office were referring to Eddie as "Falconetti," the reason being that whenever Bruce Galvin wanted his messenger he would yell something that sounded very like : "Where's that Falconetti?"

*Thanks Bill. Did "Falcon" Eddie like it? Falconetti was my favourite!*

**Something a little different! WG Grace - a fine cricketer and gentleman?**

We have all heard of Doctor W. G. Grace, still today recorded as one of the finest cricketer’s ever produced. A medical doctor, and therefore an amateur who should not accept fees for playing the game, but he considered himself above the laws that existed in playing the game? Consequently he bullied everyone involved, including the umpires and bent the rules to his own needs. Telling one umpire who had the audacity to give him out that ‘they have come to see me bat, not you umpiring’. With that he calmly replaced the bails and continued batting. Another trick of his was to use a wider bat than the regulations allowed and was often found out. As mentioned earlier as an amateur, Grace, whose first class cricket career lasted from 1865 until 1908 with captaining England for well over a decade, was not allowed to receive money out of the game but he demanded a match fee of one-hundred pounds, which was happily paid in the days when the professionals in that era received five pounds a match. He had another trick or two that he was known for, including starting play an hour earlier on the final day of a match, with the umpires being bullied into giving their permission, when large sums of money had been laid out on the match, in order to get a result. When batting and was about to be caught out W. G. Grace was known to declare the innings closed forcing the umpires to give him not out, for he had been caught after the declaration was made, thereby protecting his own batting average.

**Check your Boet**

Time for the brothers Wise. The two captains are being good sports and have answered the questions put to them about their brother as follows:

QUESTIONS	KRISTIAN (KEVIN)	KRISTIAN (SELF)	KEVIN (KRISTIAN)	KEVIN (SELF)
What you hated most about school	Homework	Travelling to school	Hair regulations	Hair regulations
What you enjoyed most at school	Socializing	Sport	Sport	Sport
Your best friend in primary school	Jeremy Hare	Digby Thompson	Corne Niewoudt	Andre van Breda
Your last girlfriend prior to getting married (not your wife!)	Sharon	Wife was his only girlfriend!	Elaine Thomas	Jenny
How old were you when you had your first complete beer?	16	16	15	15
What was your favourite beer when you were 21?	Castle	Lion	Ohlssons	Castle
Which was your favourite car you owned?	Rover	Morris Minor	Morris Minor	Toyota Corolla
What is your favourite meal?	Roast	Steak	Steak	Peas!
Rock music or Jazz	Rock	Rock	Rock	Rock
A holiday in South America or Europe?	Europe	Europe	Europe	Europe
Aston Martin or Maserati?	Maserati	Aston Martin	Aston Martin	Aston Martin
Sophia Loren or Marilyn Monroe?	Marilyn	Sophia	Marilyn	Sophia
Rolling Stones or Beatles?	Stones	Beatles	Stones	Stones
War movie or Western?	Western	War	Western	War

Would you prefer to command a nuclear sub or an aircraft carrier?	Submarine	Submarine	Submarine	Submarine
You take (more) after your mom or dad?	Mom	Mom	Dad	Dad
You would rather watch SA beat England at Lords, Springboks beat the All Blacks at Eden Park or the Grand Prix at Monaco?	Springboks	Springboks	Proteas	Springboks
You would take who to the above?	Glen Marlow	Sharon	Digby	Glen Marlow
Rate yourself (out of 10, 10 being the best) as a dancer	4	2	3	7
Your most (well-known) embarrassing moment	Drove car into sand	Dragged off karaoke stage	None recalled	None recalled

*By Tattlers reckoning Kevin gets 8 in his knowledge of his boet whilst Kristian edges the contest with 9!*

*We do wonder about the peas and the 7 for dancing! Also quite curious about Elaine and Jenny!*

*Thanks guys. Next time you are having a wet you can discuss this!*

### **Snow in Ireland**

On a bitterly cold winters morning a husband and wife in Dublin were listening to the radio during breakfast. They heard the announcer say, "We are going to have 8 to 10 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the even-numbered side of the street, so the snowploughs can get through." So the good wife went out and moved her car.

A week or so later while they are eating breakfast again, the radio announcer said, "We are expecting 10 to 12 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the odd-numbered side of the street, so the snowploughs can get through." The good wife went out and moved her car again.

A few days later they were again having breakfast, when the radio announcer says, "We are expecting 12 to 14 inches of snow today. You must park...." Then the electric power went out. The good wife was very upset, and with a worried look on her face she said, "I don't know what to do. Which side of the street do I need to park on so the snow ploughs can get through?"

Then with the love and understanding that all long-married husbands possess, he replied:

"Why don't you just leave the f\*\*\* car in the garage this time?"

***Guy calls the doctor, says the wife's contractions are five minutes apart.  
Doctor says, Is this her first child?  
guy says, No, it's her husband.***

The lowest form of accommodation in Victorian England was access to bend over a rope for the night at the price of a penny. Usually used by drunken sailors who had spent all their money drinking. It's said to be the origin of the term "Hungover". 🍷 🍺 🍷





# JAPANESE SEX

A Japanese couple is arguing about how to perform highly erotic sex.

Husband: "Sukitaki. Mojitaka!"

Wife replies: "Kowanini! Mowi janakpa!"

Husband says angrily: "Toka a anji rodi rouni yakoo!"

Wife, on her knees, literally begging:

"Mimi Nakoundinda tinkouji!"

Husband shouts angrily: "Na miaou kina Tim kouji

I can't believe you just sat there trying to read this!

You don't know any Japanese!

You'll read anything as long as it's about sex....

Sometimes I worry about you.

*Well, this was a bumper edition - hope you enjoyed it. Stay Safe!*