

The Seven Seas Tattler Issue 5.01 – June 2021



Good Day fellow members

Tattler enters its fifth year! We hope you have enjoyed some of its content over the last 48 editions. As always, feedback of a constructive nature is always appreciated. (jonathanagolding@gmail.com). In this edition I would like to thank the lady who so diligently takes my bits and pieces, adds some of her own and constructs the magazine. Take a bow, Colette Patience, you are doing a great job!

You will have noticed the magnificent new photograph on our masthead. We are indeed fortunate to have the extremely talented Tracy-Lee Wise in our club ranks who permits us to use this splendid picture. Thanks Tracy for this one and its predecessors.

Club members were apprised of our difficult financial status at the recent AGM. The committee continues to seek to replace the downstairs tenants and find ways of improving our cash flow. Initiatives do not always receive the support they deserve though. Quiz and movie nights continue - fun events with no entry fee - reasonably supported but room for more! New golf shirt sales are not going well. We encourage members to make purchases. We intend doing weekly shirt raffles to assist. Lockdown permitting we are considering other events to entertain and raise the odd Rand!

We would like to thank John Lamont and Tim Wilkinson for generously donating their May 100 club winnings.

We are pleased to welcome back our barman, Theo Kent, who has recently returned to work after surgery. May he return to full health speedily.

Tattler – very nice feedback received on the May issue.

“Thank you Jonathan, lovely Tattler. Really enjoyed the lady pirate story, but it was all very interesting and entertaining. You are doing a great job.

Kind regards,
Penny Standley”

The Tattler: Message from our Honorary President

In the first issue of "The Tattler", June 2017, our editor, Jonathan Golding, stated: *"We will attempt to provide you good folk with a lot of useful and some useless information that we hope will entertain and even squeeze a chuckle or two. Our intention is to publish monthly..."*

That first issue consisted of a modest seven pages; subsequent issues soon grew in content and in quality. The Tattler has become an institution, and Club members look forward to the monthly issue.

Bravo Zulu to Jonathan! You have certainly lived up to your opening statement and met all your objectives in full measure. The Tattler has added value to our Club; your tireless efforts to produce an interesting and useful newsletter are much appreciated by us all.

At the start of The Tattler's fifth year we wish you never-ending inspiration and boundless energy to produce many, many more issues.

In closing, a quote from Susan Gabriel's 'Prayers for Writers': "May you be surrounded by people who encourage you in small and large ways."

André Rudman

Ancient Mariners get together

On Thursday 20 May 2021 there was a gathering of the Ancient Mariners at the Seven Seas Club. Andre Rudman tells us "This was our first gathering since 14 November 2019, and was much enjoyed by those present. A happy event indeed, as can be seen on the photograph!"

From Left to Right: Front Row: Capt K Wise (Club Chairman), R Adm (JG) B R Donkin. Second Row: V Adm R C Simpson-Anderson, R Adm (JG) A E Rudman, Cdr P Pysden, Capt I Manning. Back Row: Capt J Lamont, Capt W R Rice, Capt P Barnard, R Adm (JG) A Söderlund, Capt C J Moon, Capt R N Erleigh.



A photo (taken by our Club Manager) of our Chairman handing over an 'Ancient Mariner' certificate to R Adm (JG) Bryan Donkin.

From the Chair

Since the AGM, the Club has had some good responses to functions i.e. quiz and movie evening. The Happy hour has not been as well supported as we are used to.

There have also been some private functions at the club which has kept the till ticking over.

Just a reminder that the Club has acquired new golf shirts in black and powder blue, which are available at R250-00 each. Please approach the Club Manager for one.

See you at the Club

Kevin Wise

From the Treasurer's "Abacus"

The AGM has come and gone and we are already 2 months into the 2021-2022 financial year. In line with the budget approved at the AGM, these first 2 months have delivered the expected operating deficits exacerbated by some unexpected additional expenses including;

- the cost of a "stand in" barkeeper for Theo who underwent a medical procedure – it is great to see him back on duty behind the bar having recovered well;
- the repair of one of the bar fridges (partially offset by an insurance claim that was paid out);
- the "repair" of a leaking/failed urinal tap in the men's heads.

Despite these operating deficits, as at the end of April the Club had experienced a small net cash inflow primarily as a result of the "last minute" surge of membership subscription payments and the receipt of deposits and the first month's rental from our new tenant down below – we welcome Cape Point Sailing Academy and wish them ongoing success in their business activities.

While most of the members have settled their membership subs, as at the end of April (the end of the constitutional "grace period") 30 members still had amounts outstanding. Unlike last year when considerable leeway was granted to members as a result of the pandemic, your committee will be more rigorous in applying the provisions of the constitution this year – it simply is not fair to those that have paid their subs that some of our members continue to enjoy the privilege of membership without paying. Those who have not paid to date will receive a last "polite" reminder before your committee initiates the constitutional forfeiture of membership procedure.

By the time this article appears in the Tattler, all members will have received an email requesting an update of the details currently held in the Club's membership database. Please do let us know if your details in this email are correct and/or provide us with any updated/missing information. The database plays an essential function in communication and in the determination, for example, of "date based" Ancient Mariner status.

Enough of the bean counting – look forward to seeing you in the Club soon!

Doug

Club Managers Report

Birthdays in June

Tattler wishes the following members a fantastic birthday and a very happy year ahead. For fun, note those famous or infamous with whom you share a birthday.

(If you are celebrating a birthday but your name is not present, please accept our apologies and let us know your birthday!)

Lt Cdr J.S. Meyer (Ret) – 01 June. Shares a birthday with Ron Dennis, English motor racing boss, founded the McLaren (born 1947)

Mr A.R. Bullock – 02 June. Shares a birthday with Elon Musk (born 1971)

Lt Cdr D.J. Janse Van Rensburg – 03 June. Shares a birthday with Donald Trump (born 1946)

Mr R.M. Beal – 03 June. Shares a birthday with King George V, of England (born 1865)

Mrs A. Opperman – 03 June. Shares a birthday with Tony Curtis, actor (born 1925)

Adv E.N. Keeton – 08 June. Shares a birthday with Joan Rivers, comedian (born 1937)

Mr J. Caig – 08 June. Shares a birthday with Barbara Bush, First Lady of the United States (born 1925)

Capt I. Manning (Ret) – 10 June. Shares a birthday with Judy Garland, singer, actress (born 1922)

Mr T. Lutz – 14 June. Shares a birthday with Alois Alzheimer, psychiatrist, pathologist (born 1864)

Mr C.C. Brink – 15 June. Shares a birthday with Erroll Garner, American pianist and composer (born 1921)

Mr L.H.M. Dilley – 16 June. Shares a birthday with Geronimo, Native American Apache leader(1829)

Capt C.J. Moon (Ret) – 18 June. Shares a birthday with Paul McCartney, singer, songwriter, musician (born 1942)

R Adm (JG) A.E. Rudman – 19 June. Shares a birthday with Salman Rushdie, author "The Satanic Verses"(born 1947)

Cdr R. Strydom – 23 June. Shares a birthday with Alfred Kinsey, American entomologist and sexologist(born 1894)

Mr D.J. Pienaar – 23 June. Shares a birthday with Len Hutton, English cricketer (1916)

Lt Cdr J.R. Labuschagne - 27 June. Shares a birthday with Liam Neeson (born 1952)

V Adm P. Van Zyl Loedolff – 29 June. Shares a birthday with John Dawes, Welsh rugby player and coach (born 1940)

100 Club Winners for May 2021

Congratulations to these winners

Mr G. Hammond – R300

R Adm D.R. Faure – R300

Mr T Wilkinson – R300

Capt J. Lamont (Ret) – R1000

Tattler received this tribute via Andre Rudman

Hi Jonathan,

After a long search I finally made contact with the widow of one of our late Ancient Mariners. She is Mrs Jean Smith-Chandler, now residing in the UK. She sent me the following short summary of his life, and a photograph.

“Michael John Smith-Chandler was born in London on 14th April 1928. He served in the Royal Air Force and was a member of the army of occupation sent into Germany at the end of the war. He told wonderful tales of his time (and escapades!) whilst he was there.

At the age of 23 he emigrated to South Africa with £50 in cash and a sea chest, to start a new life. He fell in love with Africa and lived there for over 60 years, proudly acquiring citizenship on 17th February 1972.

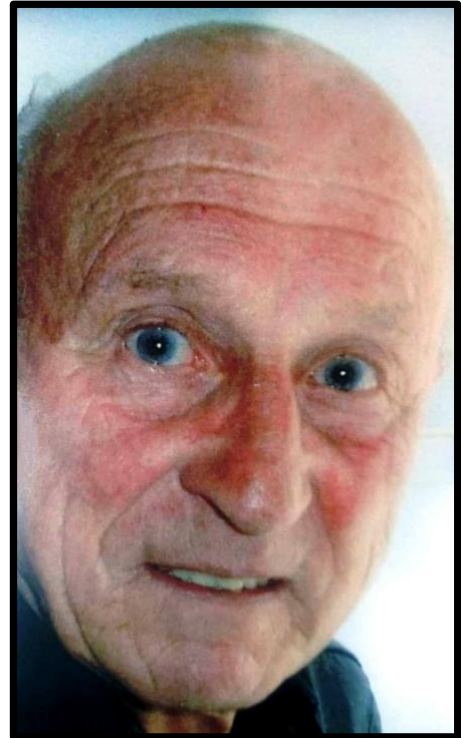
He was passionate about the sea and his happiest times were spent sailing upon it or swimming in it! He enjoyed a very successful business career starting in Durban before moving to Cape Town.

He and his wife Jean moved back to the U.K. after a home attack in 2008. Michael crossed the bar in London on 5th October 2016 after a very brave and uncomplaining two-year battle with a rare Cancer.

He was a proud and committed member of the Seven Seas Club, cherished his membership and particularly his Ancient Mariner status.”

Yours aye

André

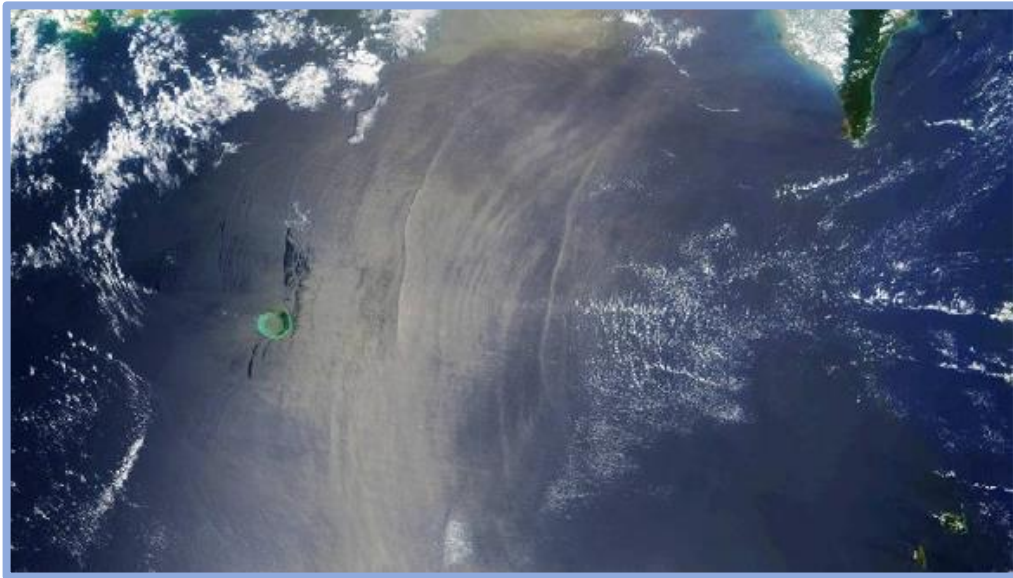


Navy News

“Internal Waves” that may have sunk the sub Nanggala

Maritime News Extra – 10 May 2021 / Source: NASA/Global Ocean Associates

Internal waves in the Luzon Strait, South China Sea (NASA / Global Ocean Associates)



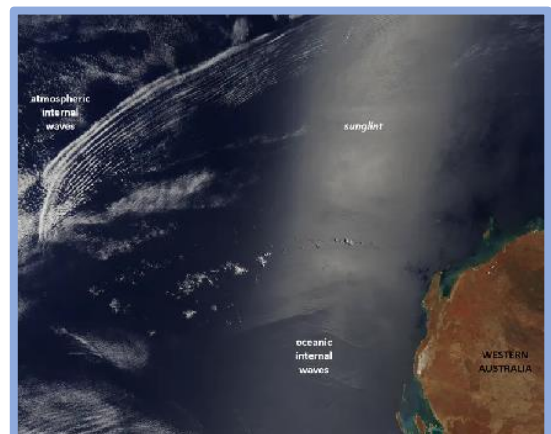
Last week might have been the first time you ever heard of “internal waves” - the phenomenon suspected of causing the tragic sinking of the Indonesian submarine KRI Nanggala the previous week, resulting in the deaths of the 53 crew members.

So it may surprise you to learn that you’ve doubtless encountered internal waves before. They exist all around us in the atmosphere and ocean, although they are usually invisible. If you’ve ever been on an aeroplane experiencing turbulence, you’ve felt their effects.

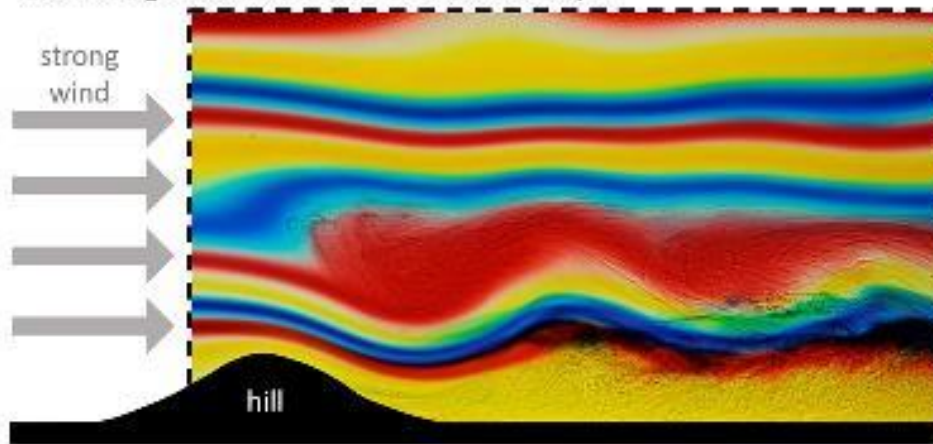
Satellite image of internal waves in the atmosphere and ocean off the northwest coast of Australia. In the atmosphere we see the waves as lines of clouds. In the ocean, the waves appear in reflections of the sun’s rays off the sea surface. NASA

Internal waves are generated when a strong wind passes over a steep hill. Air is lifted up and over the hill against the force of gravity, and then accelerates down the other side as gravity takes over. This up-and-down motion kicks off an oscillation downwind of the hill. The oscillating motion is an internal wave.

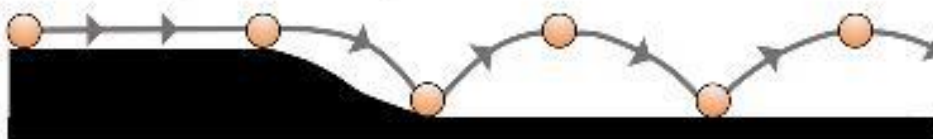
You can visualise this more easily by imagining a bouncy ball rolling off a step on an otherwise level floor. If you roll it fast enough, the ball takes flight at the crest of the step and accelerates downwards under gravity. When the ball hits the ground it starts to bounce with a bounce-length (or wavelength) that depends on how fast you rolled it.



Generating an internal wave in the laboratory...



... is like rolling a ball off a step:



Internal waves are generated by fast flow over a steep hill, much like a ball bounces when rolled at speed off a step (illustration courtesy of the author)

Unsurprisingly, atmospheric internal waves are most often found in mountainous regions. If you've ever looked up at the sky and seen long parallel bands of clouds, particularly near mountains, you've probably seen an internal wave propagating through the atmosphere. The waves propagate upwards at the same time as they are carried downwind of the mountain by the air flow.

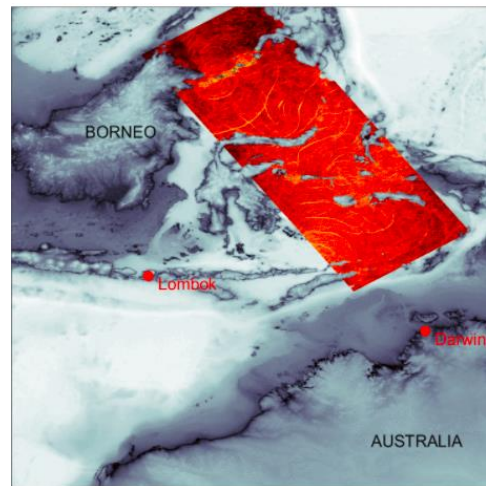
The waves can reach all the way into the stratosphere, which begins roughly six miles above the ground, before changes in the atmospheric structure force the waves to break. Just as waves break on the beach as the water becomes shallower, internal waves break in the atmosphere when the properties of the air (such as flow speed or density) change rapidly with height. Such changes are common in the lower stratosphere (six to nine miles), which is where jet airliners fly.

And just like waves at the beach, this breaking creates a huge amount of chaotic motion - or turbulence - creating an unpleasant jolting motion for any aircraft (and their passengers) that happen to be in the vicinity!

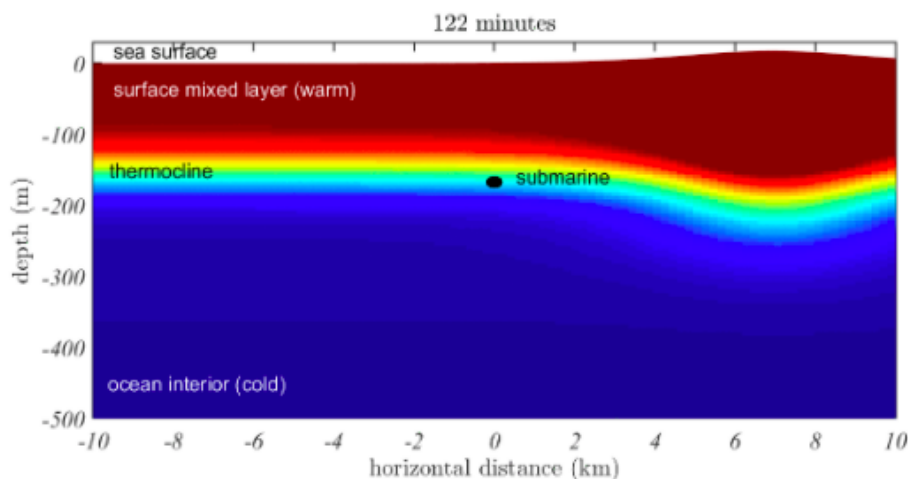
So what about internal waves in the ocean? Just like in the atmosphere, they are generated by strong flows (in this case, ocean currents) over steep hills. But in this case the hills are on the seafloor.

The steeper the hills and the stronger the currents, the bigger the resulting waves. The seas around Indonesia have a perfect combination of these ingredients: a network of deep basins connected by narrow, shallow channels, through which strong tidal currents flow.

These currents are so strong they generate a particularly extreme kind of internal wave known as an “internal solitary wave”, which concentrates the entire wave energy into a single up-and-down motion, rather than many individual oscillations. These waves can be hundreds of feet high, several miles long, and travel at speeds of five knots.



Solitary waves are biggest at depths of around 160-650 feet, where there is a sharp temperature gradient between the warm surface layer and the cool ocean interior — the same depths at which submarines typically operate. If a submarine sitting at this kind of depth were suddenly hit by one of these waves, it would be carried downwards (or upwards, depending on its position relative to the wave) at a rate of perhaps 30 feet per minute for 10 minutes.



Without swift action to counteract the wave motion, a submarine could quickly be carried below its maximum operational depth, leading to hull failure and sinking. An archived US Navy report reveals submarine commanders were aware of the risks of internal waves as long as 1966.

Besides the danger they pose to submarines, internal waves also play an important role in ocean circulation. They carry vast quantities of energy, helping to sustain ocean currents, mixing heat and carbon dioxide through the oceans, and thus influencing our global climate.

So next time you're jolted by turbulence on a plane, or looking up at some strange stripes of cloud in the sky, give some thought to the internal waves propagating all around you. **Source: *The Conversation* - The writer, Callum Shakespeare, is a Senior Lecturer in Climate and Fluid Physics at Australian National University.**

Featured Hero – A war Hero who never fired a shot – Desmond Doss – The Real Story

From: *Wikipedia*

On April 1, 1942, Desmond Doss joined the United States Army. Little did he realize that three and a half years later, he would be standing on the White House lawn, receiving the nation's highest award for his bravery and courage under fire.

Of the 16 million men in uniform during World War II, only 431 received the Congressional Medal of Honor. One of these was placed around the neck of a young Seventh-day Adventist, who during combat had not killed a single enemy soldier. In fact, he refused to carry a gun. His only weapons were his Bible and his faith in God.

President Harry S. Truman warmly shook the hand of Corporal Desmond Thomas Doss, and then held it the entire time his citation was read aloud to those gathered outside the White House on October 12, 1945. "I'm proud of you," Truman said. "You really deserve this. I consider this a greater honor than being president."



The journey that had brought young Desmond to this day had been a challenging one. When Pearl Harbor was attacked, he was working at the Newport News Naval shipyard and could have requested a deferment—but he wanted to do more for his country. He was willing to risk his life on the front lines in order to preserve freedom.

When he joined the Army, Desmond assumed that his classification as a conscientious objector would not require him to carry a weapon. He wanted to be an Army combat medic. As luck would have it, he was assigned to an infantry rifle company. His refusal to carry a gun caused a lot of trouble among his fellow soldiers. They viewed him with disdain and called him a misfit. One man in the barracks warned him, "Doss, as soon as we get into combat, I'll make sure you won't come back alive."

His commanding officers also wanted to get rid of the skinny Virginian who spoke with a gentle southern drawl. They saw him as a liability. Nobody believed a soldier without a weapon was worthwhile. They tried to intimidate him, scold him, assign him extra tough duties, and declared him mentally unfit for the Army. Then they attempted to court martial him for refusing a direct order—to carry a gun. But they failed to find a way to toss him out, and he refused to leave. He believed his duty was to obey God and serve his country. But it had to be in that order. His unwavering convictions were most important.

Desmond had been raised with a fervent belief in the Bible. When it came to the Ten Commandments, he applied them personally. During childhood his father had purchased a large framed picture at an auction. It portrayed the Ten Commandments with colorful illustrations. Next to the words, "Thou shalt not kill" was a drawing of Cain holding a club and standing over

the body of his dead brother Abel. Little Desmond would look at that picture and ask, "Why did Cain kill Abel? How in the world could a brother do such a thing?" In Desmond's mind, God said, "If you love me, you won't kill." With that picture firmly embedded in his mind, he determined that he would never take life.

However, there was another commandment that Desmond took just as seriously as the sixth. It was the fourth commandment. His religious upbringing included weekly church attendance, on the seventh day. The Army was exasperated to discover that he had yet another personal requirement. He asked for a weekly pass so he could attend church every Saturday. This meant two strikes against him. His fellow soldiers saw this Bible reading puritan, as being totally out of sync with the rest of the Army. So they ostracized him, bullied him, called him awful names, and cursed at him. His commanding officers also made his life difficult.

Things began turning around when the men discovered that this quiet unassuming medic had a way to heal the blisters on their march-weary feet. And if someone fainted from heat stroke, this medic was at his side, offering his own canteen. Desmond never held a grudge. With kindness and gentle courtesy, he treated those who had mistreated him. He lived the golden rule, "...do to others what you would have them do to you..." (Matthew 7:12 NIV).

Desmond served in combat on the islands of Guam, Leyte, and Okinawa. In each military operation he exhibited extraordinary dedication to his fellow men. While others were taking life, he was busy saving life. When the cry, "medic" rang out on the battlefield, he never considered his own safety. He repeatedly ran into the heat of battle to treat a fallen comrade and carry him back to safety. All this, while enemy bullets whizzed past and mortar shells exploded around him. Several times, while treating a wounded soldier, Desmond was so close to enemy lines, he could hear the whispering of Japanese voices.

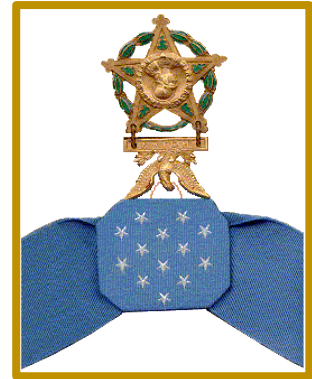
In May, 1945, as German troops were surrendering on the other side of the world, Japanese troops were fiercely defending, to their last man, the only remaining barrier (Okinawa and the Maeda Escarpment) to an allied invasion of their homeland. The men in Desmond's division were repeatedly trying to capture the Maeda Escarpment, an imposing rock face the soldiers called Hacksaw Ridge. After the company had secured the top of the cliff, the Americans were stunned when suddenly enemy forces rushed them in a vicious counterattack. Officers ordered an immediate retreat. Soldiers rushed to climb back down the steep cliff. All the soldiers except one.

Less than one third of the men made it back down. The rest lay wounded, scattered across enemy soil—abandoned and left for dead, if they weren't already. One lone soldier disobeyed orders and charged back into the firefight to rescue as many of his men as he could, before he either collapsed or died trying. His iron determination and unflagging courage resulted in at least 75 lives saved that day, May 5, 1945, his Sabbath.

Eventually, the Americans took Hacksaw Ridge. Okinawa was captured inch by bloody inch. Several days later, during an unsuccessful night raid, Desmond was severely wounded. Hiding in a shell hole with two riflemen, a Japanese grenade landed at his feet. The explosion sent him flying. The shrapnel tore into his leg and up to his hip. He treated his own wounds as best he could. While attempting to reach safety, he was hit by a sniper's bullet that shattered his arm. His brave actions as a combat medic were done. But not before insisting that his litter-bearers

take another man first before rescuing him. Wounded, in pain, and losing blood, he still put others ahead of his own safety. He would choose to die so another could live. After all, that's what he read in his Bible. Such was the character demonstrated by Jesus Christ.

In addition to his Medal of Honor, Desmond Doss received a Bronze Star for valor with one Oak Leaf cluster (signifying he received 2 Bronze Stars); a Purple Heart with two Oak Leaf clusters (signifying he received 3 Purple Hearts); the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with three Bronze Stars, and beachhead arrowhead (signifying he served in 4 combat campaigns including an amphibious landing under combat conditions); the Good Conduct Medal; the American Defense Campaign; and the not so common, Presidential Unit Citation given to the 1st Battalion, 307Inf, 77th Infantry Division for securing the Maeda Escarpment.



The Medal of Honor was established during the Civil War under President Abraham Lincoln in 1862. At the one hundredth anniversary in 1962, the other recipients of that award selected Desmond Doss to represent them at a White House ceremony. He had a pleasant chat with President John F. Kennedy.

Before being discharged from the Army in 1946, Desmond developed tuberculosis. He would spend most of the next six years in hospitals. Cold, wet, sleepless nights, shivering in a muddy foxhole on the islands of the Pacific, had taken their toll. As the illness progressed his left lung had to be surgically removed along with five ribs. For the rest of his life, he survived on a single lung, until it too failed. At the age of 87, Corporal Desmond Thomas Doss died on March 23, 2006, after being hospitalized with difficulty breathing. He is buried in the National Cemetery, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Featured Ship – USS California (BB-44)

From: Wikipedia

USS California (BB-44) was the second of two Tennessee-class battleships built for the United States Navy between her keel laying in October 1916 and her commissioning in August 1921. The Tennessee class was part of the standard series of twelve battleships built in the 1910s and 1920s, and were developments of the preceding New Mexico class.



They were armed with a battery of twelve 14-inch (356 mm) guns in four three-gun turrets. California served as the flagship of the Battle Fleet in the Pacific Ocean for duration of her peacetime career. She spent the 1920s and 1930s participating in routine fleet training exercises, including the annual Fleet Problems, and cruises around the Americas and further abroad, such as a goodwill visit to Australia and New Zealand in 1925. California was moored in Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941 when the Japanese attacked the port, bringing the United States into World War II. The ship was moderately damaged by a pair

of torpedoes and a bomb, but a fire disabled the ship's electrical system, preventing the pumps from being used to keep the ship afloat. California slowly filled with water over the following three days and eventually sank. Her crew suffered heavy casualties in the attack and four men were awarded the Medal of Honor for their actions during the attack. She was raised in April 1942, repaired and heavily rebuilt, and returned to service in January 1944.



USS California (BB-44) sinking after being torpedoed at Pearl Harbor. National Archives and Records Administration

The ship thereafter supported the amphibious operations conducted during the Pacific War, including the Mariana and Palau Islands campaign (though she was damaged in a collision with Tennessee and thus missed the Battle of Peleliu) and the Philippines campaign, during which she took part in the Battle of Surigao Strait. She was hit by a kamikaze during the invasion of Lingayen Gulf in January 1945, after repairs, joined the fleet supporting troops fighting on Okinawa during the Battle of Okinawa. Her crew took part in the occupation of Japan after the end of the war, and after returning to the United States via the Indian and Atlantic Oceans, was laid up in Philadelphia in 1946. She remained in the fleet's inventory until 1959, when she was broken up for scrap

Pirates – 12 of History’s most notorious

Compiled by Colette Patience / Sources – History of Yesterday/Irish Post/The Way of the Pirates.

June Feature – Grace O’Malley / Pirate Queen of Ireland

From her earliest days, Gráinne Ní Mháille rejected the role of the 16th century woman, instead embracing life on the sea along the rugged West Coast of Ireland – where she ruled the waves for decades.

Ambitious and fiercely independent, her exploits eventually became known through Ireland and England – leading to a meeting with Queen Elizabeth I herself.

Irish chieftain Grace O’Malley is today remembered as one of the most important characters during the most turbulent times of Irish history and a fierce pirate who used her naval fleet to protect the Irish and secure large wealth.



There is a bronze statue of O’Malley crafted by her direct descendants in the grounds of Westport House in Mayo, which also contains a comprehensive exhibition on her life. (Picture: Westport House)

Noble Beginnings - Gráinne Ní Mháille was born into the great seafaring family Clan O’Malley around 1530, while the notorious Henry VIII was King of England and held the title Lord of Ireland.

Clan O’Malley rose to power in the West of Ireland during the 1300s – ruling the southern shore of Clew Bay, Achill Island and most of the barony of Murrisk for over 300 years.

They were ruthless pirates and terrorised ships trading in Galway Bay, taxing all those who fished off their coasts. They traded with some coastal areas of France and Spain and built a row of castles facing the sea to protect their territory.

Grace grew up in an Irish speaking world, with her chieftain father Eoghan Dubhdara Ó Máille largely left to his own devices by the English government. However, this was to change over the course of Grace’s life as the Tudor conquest of Ireland gathered pace.

As a child she lived on Clare Island off the coast of Mayo, and she was probably educated to a high standard for the time – since she spoke in Latin with Queen Elizabeth in 1593.

Because of her extensive travels and trade, she likely spoke some English, Spanish, Scottish Gaelic, and French as well. She was probably at least reasonably proficient in Scots, as she was particularly keen on recruiting Scottish sailors into her ranks.

Local folklore has it that as a young girl O’Malley wished to go on a trading expedition to Spain with her father. Upon being told she could not because her long hair would catch in the ship’s ropes, she cut off most of her hair to embarrass her father into taking her. This earned her the nickname "Gráinne Mhaol" (from ‘maol’ meaning bald or having cropped hair), usually anglicised as Granuaile.

When she was around 17 years of age in 1546, O'Malley married the Dónal a Chogaidh Ó Flaithbheartaigh also known as "Donal of the Battle", heir of the O'Flaherty clan and holder of large land in Iar Connacht. She had three children with him - two sons (Owen and Murrough) and daughter Margaret.

One story claims that she gave birth to her third child on the high seas during a trading expedition to the Mediterranean.

Only a few hours after the birth of her baby, Grace picked up her gun and joined a fight on deck with a group of attacking Algerian corsairs – who were all either slaughtered or retreated to their ships.

Bunowen Castle, where she lived with her first husband, Dónal an-Chogaidh O'Flaherty, was likely the first base for her shipping and trade activities.

By the time of her husband's death in battle in the early 1560s, Grace commanded the loyalty of so many of his men that many of them followed her to Clare Island, where she moved her headquarters.

After her husband's death, Grace allegedly took the shipwrecked son of a Wexford sailor as her lover. Tragically, the relationship was a brief one after Hugh de Lacy was killed by the MacMahons of Ballyvoy.

Seeking vengeance, Grace attacked the MacMahon castle of Doona in Blacksod Bay and ruthlessly killed Hugh's murderers on Cahir Island. Her attack on Doona Castle earned her the nickname, 'Dark Lady of Doona'.

In 1566 O'Malley married again, this time to Ríseárd an Iarainn Bourke, also known as "Iron Richard". The marriage was a political one and ensured that the O'Malley family could increase their land, and also grow their naval fleet whilst taking advantage of the many ports Bourke controlled.

The political nature of this marriage was clear when one year after the wedding, O'Malley divorced Bourke and took with her the castle of Rockfleet. She bore one son for Bourke named Tiobóid, who would eventually be given the title of 1st Viscount Mayo in 1626 by Charles I of England.

As her influence rose as an international trader, owner of large land in Ireland and a pirate who harassed English holdings and traders, she became involved in several political struggles. Grace did not have much love for the English crown and in the years that followed, she entered into open rebellion against England. She several times offered her fighting men to the Lord Deputy of Ireland who protected Irish and Scottish interests against England.

Her exploits at sea created several folk tales and legendary exploits that are still told today in Ireland. In 1576 it is said that during a trip to Dublin, O'Malley attempted a visit to Howth Castle – home of Lord Howth. However, she was informed that the family was at dinner and the castle gates were closed against her.

In retaliation, she abducted the Earl's grandson and heir, Christopher St Lawrence. He was eventually released when a promise was given to keep the gates open to unexpected visitors and to set an extra place at every meal.

Lord Howth gave her a ring as pledge on the agreement. The ring remains in the possession of a descendant of O'Malley and, at Howth Castle today, this agreement is still honoured by the descendants of the Baron – with a street in Howth named 'Grace O'Malley Road'.

By 1593 Grace O'Malley was in conflict not only with England but also with those in Ireland, who she believed were trying to limit her influence over the large land she owned. She was even attacked several times by her fellow Irishmen from other clans, but all those attacks came to nothing as she and her men fought from the walls of her strong castles.

During that same year, English governor of Connacht, Sir Richard Bingham, managed to capture her two sons Tibbot Burke and Murrough O'Flaherty and her half-brother Dónal na Píopa. O'Malley promptly sailed for London to personally speak to Elizabeth I, Queen of England and secure their release. It was reported that she appeared in front of the queen in a fine gown, did not bow to her because she felt that she was not a rightful ruler of Ireland, and talked with her with Latin.

After the long talks were concluded, the Queen and O'Malley came to an agreement in which the English would remove Sir Richard Bingham from Ireland, while O'Malley would stop supporting Irish lords who fought for the independence of their lands. Upon returning to Ireland, Grace O'Malley saw not all demands met (Bingham was gone, but the castles and lands he took from the O'Malley family were never returned). Grace therefore continued backing Irish independence throughout the entirety of the bloody Nine Years' War between 1594 to 1603, the largest open conflict against English rule in Ireland during Elizabethan era.

During the entire 70 years of her life, Grace O'Malley managed to retain the reputation of fierce leader and smart politician. She successfully protected the independence of her lands during the time when much of Ireland fell under the English rule. She finally died in Rockfleet Castle in 1603, the same year as the Queen of England, Elizabeth I. To this day, Grace O'Malley is used as a personification of Ireland and an inspiration for many modern songs, theater productions, books, and a name for a wide variety of sea vessels and public objects and places.

Rockfleet Castle in Mayo is arguably Granuaile's most famous haunt (Picture: Failte Ireland)

Despite her life full of adventures, Granuaile lived to an old age. She died of natural causes in 1603 at Rockfleet Castle and was 72 or 73 at the time of her passing.

She was buried in the Cistercian Abbey on Clare Island and very soon after her death, became an Irish folk hero of almost legendary status.



Two decades after her death, in 1623, the English Lord Deputy of Ireland recalled Grace O'Malley's ability as a leader of fighting men – noting the fame she still had among the Irish people.

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Editorial

Tattler – you are probably familiar with Time Magazines Person of the Year choice annually. This individual/group always grace the December edition cover. Here they are from 2016 to 2020.



2016 – Trump wins The US Presidential election.



2017 – #ME TOO – the group that turned this hashtag into a rally cry.



2018 – A group of journalists who have been targeted for their work as "Guardians of the Truth".



2019 – Greta Thunberg climate change activist.



2020 – Joe Biden and Kamala Harris win the US Election.

Tattler – in our July edition we will recap some of the major events of the past 5 years @home and further afield

Unusual musical instruments - the Mellotron

The Mellotron is an electro-mechanical musical instrument developed in Birmingham, England, in 1963. It evolved from the similar Chamberlin, but could be mass-produced more efficiently. The instrument is played by pressing its keys, each of which pushes a length of magnetic tape against a capstan, which pulls it across a playback head. Then as the key is released, the tape is



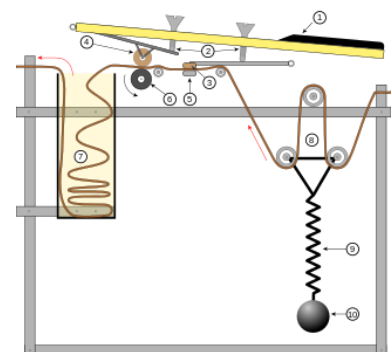
retracted by a spring to its initial position. Different portions of the tape can be played to access different sounds.

I first heard of this instrument almost 50 years ago when a friend of mine who played the drums in a band that was playing at the Clifton Hotel (all sorts of memories there!) spoke of their keyboard player using one.

The instrument began to be used by rock and pop groups in the mid to late 1960s. The Moody Blues's keyboardist Mike Pinder used it extensively on the band's 1967 orchestral collaboration *Days of Future Passed*. The Beatles used the instrument on several tracks, including the hit single "Strawberry Fields Forever". The Mellotron was subsequently used by groups like King Crimson and Genesis, becoming a common instrument in progressive rock.

The Mellotron uses the same concept as a sampler, but generates its sound using analogue samples recorded on audio tape rather than digital samples. When a key is pressed, a tape connected to it is pushed against a playback head, as in a tape deck. While the key remains depressed, the tape is drawn over the head, and a sound is played. When the key is released, a spring pulls the tape back to its original position. A variety of sounds are available on the instrument. On earlier models, the instrument is split into "lead" and "rhythm" sections. There is a choice of six "stations" of rhythm sounds, each containing three rhythm tracks and three fill tracks. The fill tracks can also be mixed together. Similarly, there is a choice of six lead stations, each containing three lead instruments which can be mixed. In the centre of the Mellotron, there is a tuning button that allows a variation in both pitch and tempo.

The internal operations of a Mellotron. Pressing a key (1), causes two screws (2) to connect a pressure pad (3) with the tape head (5), and the pinch wheel (4) with the continuously rotating capstan (6). Tape is pulled at a gradual speed, counterbalanced by a tension spring (8–10) and stored temporarily in a storage bin (7) until the key is released.



Rick Wakeman played Mellotron on David Bowie's 1969 hit song "Space Oddity". Having previously found it difficult to keep in tune, Wakeman had discovered a way to do so using a special fingering technique. Rick Wakeman is best known as a member of the band Yes which also included South African Trevor Rabin.

[Watch and listen to the instrument being played right here in your Tattler.](#)



50 years ago - June 1971

General History - June 1971

6 June - Soyuz 11, with cosmonauts Vladislav Volkov, Georgi Dobrovolski and Viktor Patsayev, was launched from Baikonur Cosmodrome at 10:55 in the morning local time (0455 UTC) for rendezvous with the Salyut-1 space station.

7 June - The three Soyuz 11 cosmonauts become the first humans in history to step aboard an orbiting space station after their capsule successfully docked with Salyut 1.

14 June - Norway began oil production in the North Sea as the Ekofisk oil field pumped its first petroleum from a rig of the Phillips Petroleum Company. At the rate of 1,000 barrels per day, the oil was pumped into the oil tanker Theotokos for delivery to a Norwegian refinery.

15 June - The first KH-9 Hexagon U.S. spy satellite was launched into orbit, from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California.

23 June - "Inhibition of Prostaglandin Synthesis as a Mechanism of Action for Aspirin-like Drugs", a paper by University of London pharmacologist John R. Vane, was published in the scientific journal *Nature New Biology*, providing his findings that would later earn him the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, that aspirin and similar pain relievers work by inhibiting the release of prostaglandin. (Prostaglandins are unique hormones in that unlike most other hormones they are not secreted by a gland but are created at the time they are needed directly where the problem exists.)

26 June - In Paris, French tightrope walker Philippe Petit gained worldwide fame after stringing a 100 pounds (45 kg) steel cable between the two towers of the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris and then spent the next few hours walking back and forth across the wire without a safety net or a balancing pole, juggling balls and laying down, all 225 feet (69 m) above the ground.

28 June - By a vote of 8 to 0, the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously reversed the conviction of heavyweight boxer Muhammad Ali, four years after he had been found guilty of refusing induction into the U.S. Army, and after Ali's world championships had been revoked by boxing commissions.

30 June - After a successful mission aboard Salyut 1, the world's first manned space station, the crew of the Soyuz 11 spacecraft were killed during their return to Earth after 24 days on the orbiting station. When the recovery team reached the capsule after its landing, they opened the hatch and found the bodies of all three cosmonauts.

Sport - June 1971

2 June - Ajax Amsterdam of the Netherlands defeated Panathinaikos FC of Athens in Greece, 2 to 0, to win soccer football's European Cup Final, held at Wembley Stadium in England before a crowd of 83,179.

3 June (to 8 June) - England and Pakistan draw the 1st test. Notable were Zaheer Abbas' 274, Asif Masood's 5/111.

5 June - French Open Women's Tennis: Evonne Goolagong wins her first career Grand Slam singles title; beats fellow Australian Helen Gourlay 6-3, 7-5.

6 June - French Open Men's Tennis final: Jan Kodeš defeated Ilie Năstase, 8–6, 6–2, 2–6, 7–5.

20 June - Jacky Ickx of Belgium won the 1971 Dutch Grand Prix auto race at Zandvoort, held in a pouring rain and on a slick race track, finishing four seconds ahead of Pedro Rodríguez of Mexico.

21 June - Golfer Lee Trevino won the U.S. Open in an 18-hole playoff against Jack Nicklaus, after both players had identical scores of 280 the day before. Trevino had 68 and Nicklaus 71 in the 3-stroke win

26 June - The Lions won the first Test in Dunedin 9–3, with a penalty goal to the All Blacks, and two penalties and a try, (scored by Ian McLauchlan) to the Lions.

Music - June 1971

Top 20 Hits of June 1971		
1	Middle Of The Road	Chirpy Chirpy Cheep Cheep
2	Dawn	Knock Three Times
3	Tony Christie	I Did What I Did For Maria
4	Blue Mink	Banner Man
5	Tami Lynn	I'm Gonna Run Away From You
6	Mungo Jerry	Lady Rose
7	John Kongos	He's Gonna Step On You Again
8	Hurricane Smith	Don't Let It Die
9	Neil Diamond	I Am ... I Said
10	Elgins	Heaven Must Have Sent You
11	R Dean Taylor	Indiana Wants Me
12	Sweet	Co-Co
13	Peter Noone	Oh You Pretty Thing
14	Free	My Brother Jake
15	Elvis Presley	Rags To Riches
16	Temptations	Just My Imagination
17	Rolling Stones	Brown Sugar / Bitch / Let It Rock
18	McGuinness Flint	Malt And Barley Blues
19	Smokey Robinson & The Miracles	I Don't Blame You At All
20	Perry Como	I Think Of You

Movies June 1971





Klute

The movie Klute is about a skilled, intelligent, cynical, and personally troubled New York call girl who does not, for once, have a heart of gold. She never feels anything when she's with a man, she tells her shrink, but she does experience a sense of professional pride when she's able to satisfy a client.

The girl's name is Bree, and the Fonda character is at the center. John Klute (played by Donald Sutherland) is a policeman who has come to New York, freelance, to try to settle a missing persons case. It appears that the missing man may still be alive, and may be the source of obscene letters and telephone calls Bree has been receiving. Bree initially refuses to talk to Klute, but she eventually does confide in him, mostly because she's frightened by midnight prowlers and wants his protection. The film examines their somewhat strange relationship, and at the same time functions on another level as a somewhat awkward thriller.

The scenes between Fonda and Sutherland are very good, then, and Bree is further developed in scenes showing her trying to get out of the trade and into something straight. She takes acting lessons, she auditions to model for cosmetics ads. She talks to her shrink (in scenes that sound improvised and exhibit Fonda's undeniable intelligence).

Intelligence. I suppose that's the word. In "Klute" you don't have two attractive acting vacuums reciting speeches at each other. With Fonda and Sutherland, you have actors who understand and sympathize with their characters, and you have a vehicle worthy of that sort of intelligence. So the fact that the thriller stuff doesn't always work isn't so important.

And a hundred years back - June 1921

4 June - At the Leipzig War Crimes Trials, a German court acquitted Karl Neumann, the U-boat commander who had torpedoed and sunk the British hospital ship HMHS Dover Castle, accepting his defense that he was just following orders.

8 June - U.S. Army Air Service test pilot Harold R. Harris became the first pilot to fly a pressurized aircraft, when he successfully took a Dayton-Wright USD-9A aloft with an experimental pressurized cockpit.

15 June - The SS Paris, the biggest ocean liner of its time, began its maiden voyage, from Le Havre in France to New York City in the United States.

21 June - The U.S. Navy and U.S. Army made a joint demonstration of American air power by dropping 12 bombs from an altitude of 1,100 feet (340 m) and sank the former German submarine U-117 within 16 minutes. The operation took place 75 miles (121 km) off the coast of Norfolk, Virginia from Hampton Roads Naval Station

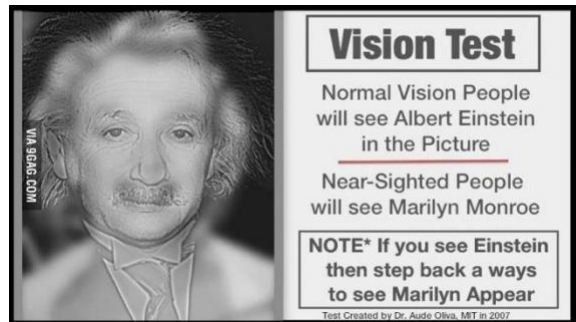
U-117 before the bombing





MY WIFE MADE ME
COFFEE THIS MORNING AND
WINKED AT ME WHEN SHE
HANDED ME THE CUP.

I'VE NEVER BEEN MORE
SCARED OF A DRINK IN ALL
OF MY LIFE.



You see me
once in June
twice in November
but not at all in May

What am I?

Riddlester.co

The answer to our
riddle is on page 15

Tattler - That's it for June folks. We hope you found some items of interest. Keep safe, keep well and keep warm!