

T.A.T. Winsborough

Terry (Terence Ashman Talbot) Winsborough, who went aloft on 15th August, joined the Club on 10th March 1965, proposed by C. Granger and seconded by A. Nichols of the School of Navigation renown. (Captain Nichols was Captain of this Club in '55 and Boatsteerer from '75-'82.) At that time Terry was recorded as a Third Officer with Cunard.

He had attended the School of Navigation in 1951, a time of strict discipline and a fairly brutal regime, according to fellow cadet at that time, Ian Stirling, and then served his time with Blue Star Line, where he also served most of his sea going career. By the early 70's Terry was working ashore with the fledgling Southampton Container Terminal, in the operations department and as a Safety Manager.

Terry recalled his days as a very junior Cachalot in an hilarious account, "A Cachalot Outing - 1969", printed here in edition 31, March '09.

He was from Watchet, in Somerset, and had previously contributed details of the largest vessel to enter that port, in "The Last Voyage of the Cruiser HMS Fox", Cachalot 16, June 2005.

He served on various committees, including the Church and Entertainments Committees, where he is remembered for listening quietly to the business and making sensible suggestions in a positive way.

Terry was also, for many years, a very loyal volunteer on the s.s. Shieldhall until health problems with his legs precluded further participation. One role that he fulfilled there was that of Safety Officer and he is remembered for his pragmatic approach to what can be a thorny subject, particularly with seafarers and specifically, volunteers. Also for his professionalism, rarely flustered and always ready to give advice, which was recognised and appreciated when the ship was under maintenance, alongside.

Terry, a very kindly man and a 'gentle'man in every respect, will be remembered with admiration and affection by his fellow Cachalots.

Our sincere condolences go to his wife Barbara, his daughters Penny and Helen and their five grand children.

The above obituary was prepared in some haste for publication in Cachalot 57.

The Eulogy, below, was given by one of Terry's lifetime friends, John Meredith, at the Service in Celebration of Terry's Life on 1st September, and may correct any errors above.

Terence Ashman Talbot Winsborough was born in Minehead, Somerset on 24 May 1934. He was the only son of Frank, who was a Master Plumber and Elsie who was a teacher before their marriage. He also had a half brother and sister, Hugh and Betty, who were teenagers when he was born.

Terry was educated at the local Infants' School and Minehead Boys' School until he took the 11 + and gained a place at Minehead Grammar School. He was always interested in nature and spent many hours up on the hills with friends or down on the marshes fishing or bird watching - but only of the feathered variety at this stage !

It was at the age of 11 that he met John and Bill Meredith when he joined the 1st St Michael's Scout Troop. Many happy camping trips and adventures followed and Terry eventually became an Assistant Scout Master. In 1953 John and Terry were the first scouts in Somerset to become Queen's Scouts following her accession to the throne. John and he were also members of St Michael's Church and appeared angelic in their surpluses, even when jumping out from behind the tombstones and frightening elderly ladies on their way into Church!

In 1945 Terry entered Minehead Grammar School and discovered even more interests. He joined the Printing Club where his finger had an accident with the guillotine; he was also a keen member of the Gardening Club, where one after-school session ended with a scuffle and his broken nose. It was at school that he met Michael Low, another lifelong friend and together with John and Bill they made an 'interesting quartet'. They shared escapades - particularly in Michael's sports car, kept in touch with one another from all parts of the world and met together on special occasions throughout their lives.

During the school holidays, Terry enjoyed fishing as well as helping his father with plumbing jobs, but decided that this was not the path he wanted to follow. So in January 1951 he gained a place at Southampton University, School of Navigation at Warsash and began his studies towards becoming a Navigating Officer. It was here he met Lionel Hall and Ian Stirling who are still friends today. The following year he joined 'Blue Star Line' and sailed on the "Tasmania Star" to Australia and New Zealand. Many more trips ensued where he visited South Africa and the east coast of South America. During these trips he took time out to

study at Warsash for his various tickets eventually gaining a Master's Ticket and becoming a Master Mariner in 1959. One summer while at home on leave, he joined Minehead Sailing Club and bought a sailing dinghy.

By now Terry was watching birds of the non-feathered variety and asked a certain young lady out to dinner. His invitation was accepted and a friendship was formed. In 1961 he left 'Blue Star Line' and joined 'Gulf Oil' whose ships ran from Rotterdam to the Persian Gulf. These were long trips, mostly eight months at a time, with three months on leave. One Sunday afternoon in the summer of 1962, Terry re-acquainted himself with the certain young lady. She was not looking her best and wearing dark glasses after a party the night before. However, this did not deter him and together with friends Audrey and Denis, they spent a very pleasant evening at a pub in the country.

While on leave in May 1963 Terry and Barbara became engaged and Terry returned to sea for his final voyage with 'Gulf Oil'. They were married in September 1964 at St George's Church, Dunster in Somerset and made their home in Southampton, where Barbara had a job with the Midland Bank and Terry joined Cunard. He did several voyages on the 'Queen Mary' across the Atlantic to Canada and the east coast of the States, and latterly he sailed on the 'Carmania'. He became a member of the 'Southampton Master Mariners' Club' in 1965 and remained a lifetime member, sitting on various committees over the years. Remembering his educational roots, he also became a member of 'The Warsash Association'.

In 1966 Terry left Cunard, came ashore and joined 'Smith Coggins', a small shipping company in the Eastern Docks in Southampton. It was this year that his first daughter Penny was born. His second daughter, Helen was born in 1969 and three years later he joined the newly formed company - Southampton Container Services - which operated in the Western Docks. He was with the company for 25 years and early on in this period he met another good friend, Henry Forse. Terry retired as Health and Safety Manager in 1997.

Terry enjoyed his hobbies, and having been left a Minehead Token by his father and a few Roman Coins by his father-in-law, Terry decided to add coin collecting to his hobbies and joined the Southampton Numismatic Society in 1973.

He was always interested in history and started to research various coins he came across. Terry wrote and illustrated a comprehensive paper on the 'Watchet Mint'. He was assisted by his friend from Somerset, John Williams, who did the photography. The Mint was founded in the 10th Century in the small seaside town of Watchet in Somerset, not far from where Terry spent his childhood. He found the area of coins and tokens fascinating and followed this with many other papers and articles. He was a member of the Romsey Numismatic Society, attended meetings at the Wessex Society and was also a member of the Token Corresponding Society. In 2013 he spent a very enjoyable year volunteering at Salisbury Museum updating their Somerset Token Collection, and also the Pitt-Rivers Token Collection, which is extensive and was in its original state.

Terry also took an active part in restoring the old 1955 steam ship "ss Shieldhall", of which he was a life member and made several voyages assisting on the bridge. He was Health & Safety Officer for the ship for ten years and always enjoyed a trip out to sea during the sailing season with Barbara and friends.

He was also a keen member of the Southampton East Probus Club where he met some old friends and made some new ones. He loved his garden and enjoyed growing a variety of fruit and vegetables every year. Terry never lost touch with his roots in Somerset and spent time every year looking up old friends and revisiting old haunts. During family holidays to Minehead, he always found time to go fishing from the harbour with his friend Graham Bodley.

Terry was a gentle, generous person and gave of his time freely to his chosen activities. He and Barbara also supported each other in their various pursuits. Recently the 'interesting quartet' became a 'trio' and he has kept in touch with John and Bill and their families regularly. Terry was a loving and devoted husband, a dear father and grandfather, and we will remember him for his cheeky smile, gentle nature and his very witty one-liners!