

BRIDGEND TOWN COUNCIL
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NEWS RELEASE

27th April 2020

REMEMBERING THOSE THAT LOST THEIR LIVES ON HMS URGE

On 27th April 1942, HMS Urge, a submarine adopted by the people of Bridgend, left the island of Malta on what was to be her final mission. On board HMS Urge that day were 32 crew, 11 Royal Navy passengers and a war correspondent. Shortly after leaving Malta, HMS Urge was declared missing.

In October 2019, the wreck of HMS Urge was discovered off the coast of Malta. The Ministry of Defence said it recognised the wreck site "as the last resting place of HMS Urge and those who lost their lives in service of their country".

Following the discovery of the wreck and its recognition as a war grave, arrangements were made for family, friends and supporters of the submarine and its crew and passengers to commemorate HMS Urge in Malta on the anniversary of her departure. Sadly, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this event has been postponed.

To mark this poignant anniversary today, The Mayor of Bridgend Town Council, Cllr Alan Wathan, will remotely join the family of crew members, friends and supporters of HMS Urge for a two minute silence at 11am. Members of the public are also encouraged to observe the two minute silence from the safety of their own homes.

Cllr Wathan said "With my Royal Naval Background I consider it an honour and a privilege to be representing the people of Bridgend, so that we may pay our final respects to the courageous and heroic people who were lost that day while serving their country. We will Remember Them".

The Armed Forces Chaplain for Bridgend, The Reverend Rachel Wheeler has recorded a very moving Service of Remembrance for this anniversary. The service includes a roll call of the manifest. This service can be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/K0aABWMxKCw>

Today, on 27th April 2020, we remember:

David Allen

Harold Ashford

William Ashford

Robert Attewell

Leslie Baxter

Henry Botting

Cyril Brown

Albert Bryant

Sidney Chamberlain

Robert Davison

Frederick Day

Ronald Goss

Bernard Gray

Laurence Groves

Stanley Harman

Reginald Hellyer

Charley Jackman

James Lamb

Eric Law

Ronald Leeke

Brian Lloyd

John Maidment

Frederick McDiarmid

Joseph Mcmillan

Frederick Morris

Jesse Norris

John O'Neill

Herbert Osborn

John Parkinson

James Poole

John Ransome

Ray Rogers

John Rowley

Ronald Rutter

Marcus Stanger

Edward Tomkinson

Charles Toms

Henry Twist

Eric Varley

Henry Watts

William White

Richard Wildman

Samuel Wilkes

Peter Wiseman

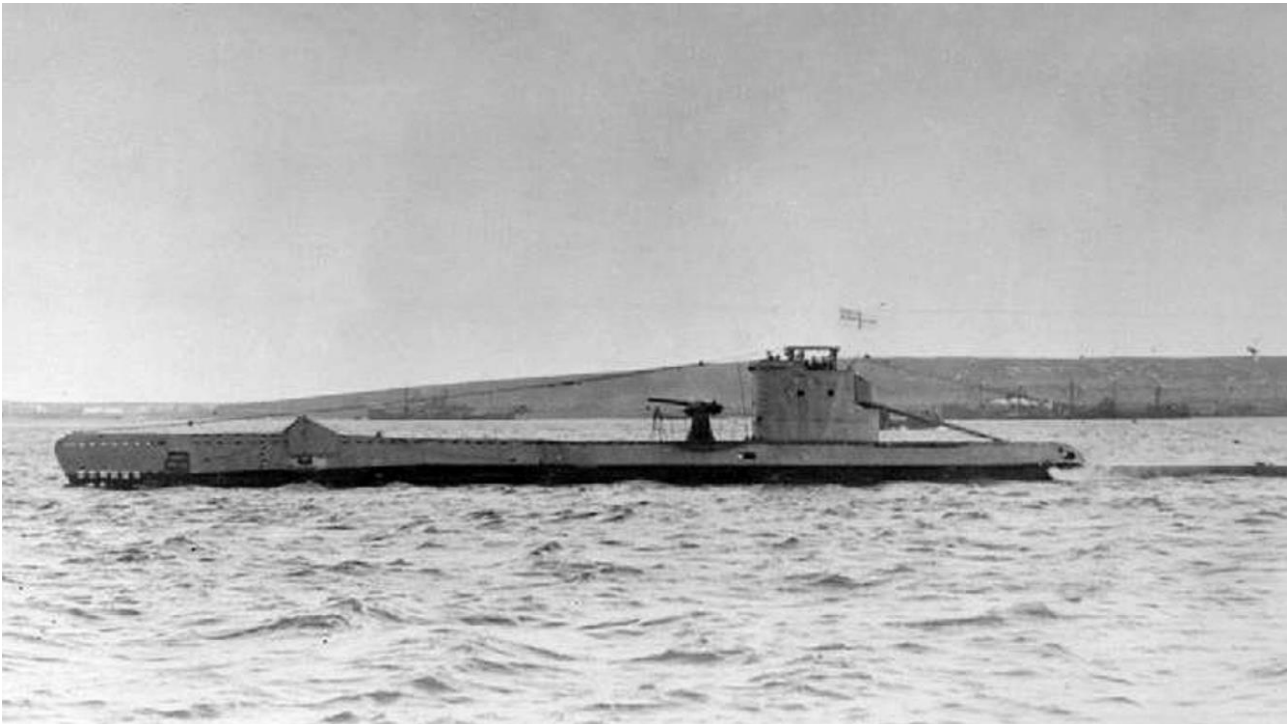
John Woolrich

ENDS

All enquires to The Town Clerk:

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HMS Urge



Lieutenant-Commander Tomkinson and Mrs. Tomkinson (Image credit: Francis Dickinson)



Chief Petty Officer Charley Jackman (Image: Jackman family/NMRN)



Sub Lieutenant Brian Lloyd, a member of a Bridgend family (Image credit: Chris Lloyd)



Leading Signaller Eric Law (Image credit: Andy Law/Law family)