

THE FIGHTING 45

HAPPY NEW YEAR from HMS DEFENDER!!

Issue 08 | The New Year Edition



DEFENDER ENTERS THE NEXT PHASE OF HER LIFE

Following a demanding nine month deployment to the Middle East region, which saw DEFENDER support the frontline operations of both the French and United States Navies, it is now time to conduct a maintenance package in order to ensure that she remains the most advanced warship in the Royal Navy's armoury.

DEFENDER prides herself of reliability so it is therefore essential that she receives to care and attention she deserves after sailing over 45,000 miles in a nine month period. She now sits in HMNB Portsmouth in dry dock, undergoing a yearlong package to refit her with the latest equipment.

DEFENDER REMAINS IN THE LIMELIGHT

Whilst DEFENDER may have completed her work in the Middle East region, her legacy has not been forgotten. The work that your Ship conducted has laid many of the foundations for future operations. This hard work did not go unnoticed. Thanks to the outstanding efforts of every member of DEFENDER's Ship's Company, she has been awarded the Fleet Efficiency Pennant for 2017. Senior Naval Officer Lt Cdr Sean Trevethan explains that, "this award not only recognises the hard work of the men and women in DEFENDER, but also their support networks at home".

Following the refit period, DEFENDER will proudly sail flying a unique pennant from her yardarm, which will mark her out as the most proficient destroyer in the squadron.

Charity Total

DEFENDER deployed with the aim of raising money for the RNRMC, a charity which we have all directly benefited from. The Ship's Company completed fundraising events including, Row the Suez, the Road to Twickenham Challenge, and a beard growing contest.

We are proud to announce that thanks to everyone's efforts, a cheque totalling,

£9087.56

WELL DONE!



DEFENDER DISPLAYS SPORTING TALENT

DEFENDER may no longer be floating but her sailors have certainly not lost their competitive edge! The Ship entered the Royal Navy Indoor Hockey Cup and performed outstandingly well despite little team training prior to the event. Faced with opposition from across the country, the team was undaunted and successfully defeated all but one of the opposition. This is once again a credit to the determination and character of all those who serve in DEFENDER.



Awards and Recognition

Following such a successful deployment, a number of DEFENDER's Ship's Company were recognised both internally and externally.

Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire & The Worshipful Company of Engineers RN Operational Engineer of the Year - **Lt Cdr Victoria Percival RN (Marine Engineering Officer)**

Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service - **Lt Thomas Thicknesse RN (Fighter Controller 1)**

Joint Commander's Commendation - **WO1 Donbavand**

Fleet Commander's Commendation - **CPO Wells**

Chief Naval Engineer Officer's Commendation - **DEFENDER Engineering Team**

The Desmond Wettern Media Award - **DEFENDER Media Team**

ACNS(Ships) Safe Guardian Award - **SLt Maxwell Randles RN (Officer of the Watch 1)**

The Worshipful Company of Farmers Leadership Award - **LET(ME) Jack Mleczek**

The City of Exeter Logistics Cup - **LCh Mark Penlington**

The Merchants House of Glasgow Award for Charitable Endeavour - **LWtr Julie Riley**

The Lady Massey Award for Outstanding Endeavour - **CPOET(WE) Lee Carrington & LET(WE) James Chapman**

The Incorporation of Hammermen of Glasgow Award for Excellence in Engineering - **ET(WE) James Jarvie & ET(ME) Alan McAllister**

