

**THE DORE & TOTLEY
MINESWEEPING TRAWLERS
COMFORTS FUND**

**1944
CORRESPONDENCE**

H. M. T. Crampin

c/o C. P. O.

London.

Jan 15th,

Dear Mrs Crayson

I have only
just found out who I could
thank for the greatly appreciated
Christmas fare we all had
given by the Dore & Toller Fund.
all the ship's company

wish me to thank you all
and ask me to send all
good wishes for 1944 with
to hope that it may be the
last one of the war.

It is exceedingly good
of you kind people and
thank you again very much
indeed
yrs sincerely
W. H. C. Gibbs
LT COL RNVR.

"Lord Beaconsfield."

January 16th 1944

Dear Madam,

On behalf of myself
and the crew of the "Lord
Beaconsfield", please accept our
best thanks for the generous
supply of Christmas fare
supplied by you this year.
And I take this opportunity
of extending to you the wish
that you will enjoy a happy
prosperous and I hope a
peaceful New Year.

Yours Sincerely,

W. Thompson

Shipper R.N.R.

Huss Jean Edmonds
CPO London.
Sunday 16th Jan. 1944.

Dear Mrs. Gregson,

I wish to thank
you most sincerely on behalf of
myself, my fellow-officers, and my
crew for the very acceptable parcel
of Christmas fare and comforts
which your Fund so kindly sent
us.

It is always pleasant to
know that we men of the mine-
sweepers have not been forgotten
despite the fact that we have
recently been overshadowed by the
brilliant exploits of our "Big Brothers".
Not that we are jealous of them,
for we share in the glory they
bring to the Royal Navy, but
it's only natural to feel rather
bored at times with the most un-
glamorous job of minesweeping.

So when we received
your parcel we were delighted,

and all of us wish you to convey to the Committee and members of your Fund our deep appreciation of your kindness.

It helped to brighten up a Christmas and New Year which would otherwise have been inclined to the miserable side as we were all suffering from that "after leave" feeling.

Thanking you again
I am,

Yours faithfully,

J. W. Hodson

Kipper R.R.R.

H.M.T. VIERGE DE LOURDES.

C/o G.P.O.

LONDON.

JAN. 7.th.

Dear Mrs Gregson,

As commanding officer
of the "Vierge de Lourdes" I feel that it
is my duty to thank you and all
those connected with the "Dore and
Totley Minesweeping Fund". Without your
assistance I am afraid our Xmas
fare would have been rather dull
and I can't tell you how grateful
I am to you all for the way in
which you came to our rescue.

As a result of your generosity
I was able to furnish my crew with
a good old time Xmas dinner, which
everyone thoroughly enjoyed. My men are
very appreciative of the interest which
you showed in them and wish to
thank you. Thanks to your efforts on
our behalf we were all able to
enjoy many of the home comforts
which one, perforce, lacking on board
a warship even at Xmas tide.

In conclusion may I, on
behalf of my ship's Company and
myself, wish you all a very
happy and Prosperous 1944 and
may God bless you all for your

kindness to those whom the fortunes
of war have separated from their
families during the festive season.
Let us hope Next year will bring
peace and prosperity to all.

I am

Yours Sincerely
William Long

Skipper R.N.R.

17th Jan 1944

Lieut. F. B. Hoult R.N.V.R.

H.M.T. Edwina

% G.P.O.
London.

Dear Mrs Gregson,

I am writing on
behalf of my ships company, to
express our appreciation & thanks
to the subscribers of the Dore
& Totley Minceweepering Fund.

Your wonderful efforts
enabled everyone to have a
seasonable Xmas, I am sure
that if you could have joined
us you would have realised
the pleasure you had given.

I am,
yours sincerely,
F. B. Hoult Lieut. R.N.V.R.

Chaplain's Office,
H. M. Naval Base,
NORTH SHIELDS.

Mrs. K.B. Grayson,
"Brook Hall",
Totley Rise,
SHEFFIELD.

Dear Mrs. Grayson,

Probably you are wondering why you have not had any replies to your kind gifts of cigarettes. I only discovered a fortnight ago that they had not been received in the ships so I took the matter up with Messrs. Sinclair's and the enclosed letter is their reply. As they had a month in which to deal with the matter I think they made a poor show, but I suppose one has to accept these things.

All good wishes for 1944.

Yours sincerely,

W. Mandall

CHAPLAIN, R.N.
P.A.L.O.

ROBERT SINCLAIR TOBACCO COMPANY LTD

TOBACCO, CIGARETTE & SNUFF MANUFACTURERS &
WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTORS

TELEGRAMS
TOBACCO, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE (2 WORDS)
FOURSOME, GLASGOW
TOBACCO, YORK
TOBACCO, HARROGATE

BLenheim FACTORY
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, 1.

TELEPHONES
NEWCASTLE 25421 (3 LINES)
GLASGOW BELL 3167 (2 LINES)
YORK 2867
HARROGATE 5854



KCHW/JC

18th January 1944.

Rev. Mandell,
Chaplain Naval Base,
North Shields.

Dear Sir, The Dore & Totley Minesweeping Trawlers

Further to your query concerning the non-delivery of parcels of cigarettes to certain of H.M. Trawlers c/o G.P.O. London, we have been in communication with the Forwarding Agents and learn that our instructions were just about to receive attention when our letter, asking for information, reached them.

They very much regret the delay which has taken place in despatching these which is entirely due to the tremendous number of orders they have to deal with, coupled with the acute difficulties arising out of shortage of staff, and consequently they are somewhat in arrears in dealing with orders.

In view of the steps we have taken they are arranging for priority despatch of your parcels and we trust these will be delivered in the near future.

We appreciate this unfortunate delay may have caused some disappointment but we feel sure you will agree that we on our part gave our usual prompt attention to your instructions and that we much regret you should have been caused so much inconvenience.

Always at your service,
Yours faithfully,

For THE ROBERT SINCLAIR TOBACCO CO. LIMITED.

K. W. Smith
MANAGING DIRECTOR.

Chaplain's Office,
H.M. Naval Base,
NORTH SHIELDS.

12th February 1944,

Mrs. K.B. Grayson,
"Brook Hall",
Totley Rise,
SHEFFIELD.

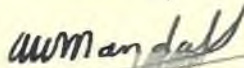
Dear Mrs Grayson,

Thank you very much for the woollens which have arrived safely and I enclose herewith the signed receipts.

I am sorry to hear about your husband's illness, Since Christmas seems an awfully long time and with a few more weeks added on top it must seem an eternity to him. Perhaps a day or so here when he is recovered may help his convalescence, that is, if I am still here for my commission is running to a close. Please give him our best wishes for a rapid and complete recovery and I do hope you have not found the strain too great yourself.

All good wishes.

Yours sincerely,



CHAPLAIN:R.N.

P.S. Tony tried conclusions with a chow and a scottie this week and is now hopping on three legs but his tail is till up.

HMD June Rose
Co/ GPO London.
24/2/44.

Dear Mrs Gregson,

May I thank you
and all concerned for the gift of
cigarettes for the crew, who are very
well pleased about them.

I am writing on behalf of the skipper,
as my ship is the Regent Bird, at and
on the same job to-yether. Wishing
you all the Best of Wishes.

yours sincerely

Skip A Donkin

"Regent Bird"

Wednesday
March 8th
1944

HM Minesweeper RATAIKO
c/o GPO
London

Dear Sirs,

I am writing on behalf of
the CO & ship's company, to thank
you for the kind gift of 1700
players, which has been very
much appreciated.

Yours Sincerely

Midshipman Mark-Wardlaw R.N.

The Dore & Totley Minesweeping Trawler's Comforts Fund.

c/o B.A.T. Co. Ltd.

Bond 173

Liverpool.

49/3



CHAIRMAN :

Mrs. J. D. Duffy

PRESIDENT :

Rear-Admiral Sir Thos. J. Spence Lyne, K.C.V.O., C.B., D.S.O.

SECRETARY :

Mrs. R. B. Grayson

Registered under the
War Charities Act, 1940

- To provide comforts for
the men who keep the
sea lanes open

**THE DORE & TOTLEY
MINESWEEPING TRAWLERS
COMFORTS FUND**

**Brook Hall,
Totley Rise,**

ADMINISTRATIVE
HEADQUARTERS

**FERN GLEN
DORE MOOR
SHEFFIELD**

Your Ref.

Our Ref

March 13th 1944.

Rev. A. W. Randall, Chaplain, R. N.

R. N. Naval Base,

North Shields.

Please receive the following:-

Case No. 1.

40 Blue Jerseys.
19 Oiled Jerseys.
5 Scarves.
5 Helmets.
5 prs Seaboot Stockings.

Case No. 2.

48 Blue Jerseys.
17 Oiled Jerseys.
10 prs Gloves.
5 Scarves.
5 Helmets.

Case No. 3.

20 Blue Jerseys.
29 Oiled Jerseys.
10 prs Gloves.
15 Scarves.
1 pr Socks.
1 pr Seaboot Stockings.

I acknowledge receipt of the above.....

Date

Almondall

25/3/44

J. A. Wood. C P O
N. Y. S 1045
C P O
London.

Dear Madame.

On behalf of the
Petty Officers Mess I wish to
thank you for the kind Gift
of Cigarettes which we were
delighted to receive we
wish you the very best of
luck

Yours Sincerely
J. A. Wood.

Chaplain's Office,
H.M. Naval Base,
North Shields.

25th March 1944,

Mrs. K. Grayson,
Brook Hall,
Totley Rise,
SHEFFIELD.

Dear Mrs. Grayson,

Thank you so much for your letter and the woollens which have arrived. I return here with the completed consignments notes.

The enclosed slip came with your letter but as we haven't a pig and still wish to retain Tony, it is no use to me.

There are no signs of any new appointment for me yet but one can only be prepared after two years in a place, of course, it is possible that I may stay on another year. At least I hope I shall receive and acknowledge many more woollens from you yet.

I am so glad to hear the good news about your husband and your son, it must be a great relief to you and I trust all will go well with them.

All good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

W. Mandall

Chaplain, R.N.
P.A.L.O.

Box 46
R.N. Base
Granton
11/4/44

Dear Friends,
Many many thanks
for the wonderful parcel of
games also the cigarettes which
we received safely. We all
appreciate your kindness and
understand the trouble &
expense you have been put
to. The darts & board for one
thing are unobtainable at
private shops. I have had
previous experiences of your
members kindness to us in the
mine-sweepers, first when in H.H.T.
Congre at North Shields and again
on commissioning H.H.T. Sir T. Lister.
I received your letter dated 8 April
the day after the parcel arrived.
You will notice we don't use
our ships number at this Base
only the Box No; it certainly
makes things quicker for our mail.
Well I will conclude thanking
you all once again

Yours sincerely

Shiffers-Lt W. L. Salenius

D.S.G. R.N.R.

CHAIRMAN:

Mrs. J. D. Duffy

PRESIDENT:

Rear-Admiral Sir Thos. G. Spence Lyne, K.C.V.O., C.B., D.S.O.

SECRETARY:

Mrs. R. B. Grayson

Registered under the
War Charities Act, 1940

- To provide comforts for
the men who keep the
sea lanes open

**THE DORE & TOTLEY
MINESWEEPING TRAWLERS
COMFORTS FUND**

Brook Hall,
Totley Rise,

ADMINISTRATIVE
HEADQUARTERS

FERN GLEN
DORE MOOR
SHEFFIELD

Your Ref.

Our Ref

April 29th, 1944.

Rev. A. W. Mandall, Chaplain, R.N.
H.M. Naval Base,
North Shields.

Please receive the following:-

Case No. 1.

39 Blue Jerseys.
16 Oiled Jersey's.
20 Scarves.
10 Helmets.
4 prs String Gloves.

Case No. 2.

43 Blue Jerseys.
12 Oiled Jerseys.
10 Helmets.
10 Scarves.
10 prs Gloves.
10 prs String Gloves.
5 prs Seaboot Stockings.

I acknowledge receipt of the above.....

Date.....



Chaplain's Office,
H.M. Naval Base,
NORTH SHIELDS.

11th May 1944.

Mrs. K.B. Grayson,
Brook Hall,
Totley Rise,
SHEFFIELD.

Dear Mrs. Grayson,

We have today received a consignment of woollen garments from the Dore & Totley Minesweepers Comforts Fund, for which we are most grateful. We have not previously received the consignment notes but presume that they are in the post, in which case we will sign and return them immediately they come to hand.

Again many thanks.

Yours sincerely,

E. H. Pearson W.R.N.S.

FOR CHAPLAIN, R.N.
Port Amenities Liaison Officer.

Chaplain's Office,
H.M. Naval Base,
NORTH SHIELDS.

16th May 1944.

Mrs. K.B. Grayson,
Brook Hall,
Totley Rise,
SHEFFIELD.

Dear Mrs. Grayson,

Very many thanks for the woollens
and the letters and I enclose your receipts duly signed.

I don't think we have any special
requests at the moment. As you can readily guess, everything
is in a state of flux now and we hardly know where we stand
or what the situation is going to be in the succeeding
months. For the moment I am only making absolutely vital
issues - e.g. Russian convoys etc., and our main object is
to conserve supplies and build up a stock for the coming
winter. If anything unexpected arises you may be sure
I shall avail myself of your generosity.

All good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

A.W. Mandall

CHAPLAIN, R.N.

CHAIRMAN:

Mrs. J. D. Duffy

PRESIDENT:

Rear-Admiral Sir Thos. J. Spence Lyne, K.C.V.O., C.B., D.S.O.

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THE DORE & TOTLEY
MINESWEEPING TRAWLERS
COMFORTS FUND

Brook Hall,
Totley Rise,
ADMINISTRATIVE
HEADQUARTERS

FERN GLEN
DORE MOOR
SHEFFIELD

Your Ref.

Our Ref

June 21st, 1944.

Rev. A. W. Mandall, Chaplain, R.N.,
H.M. Naval Base,
North Shields.

Please receive the following woollen goods:-

Case No. 1.

38 Blue Jerseys.
22 Oiled Jerseys.
15 Helmets.
10 Scarves.
15 prs Gloves.

Case No. 2.

54 Blue Jerseys.
16 Oiled Jerseys.
10 Helmets.
5 Scarves.
5 prs Gloves.
3 prs Socks.

I acknowledge receipt of the above...

Signed.....*AWMandall*.....

Date.....*8/7/44*.....

Chaplain's Office,
H.M. Naval Base,
NORTH SHIELDS.

8th July 1944.

Mrs. K.B. Grayson,
The Dore & Totley Minesweepers
Comforts Fund.
Brook Hall.
Totley Rise.
SHEFFIELD.

Dear Mrs. Grayson,

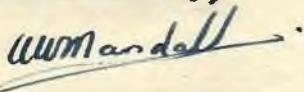
Very many thanks for your
letter of June 21st and the woollens
which have arrived safely. We will
return the cases early next week.

I have just been on leave
and arrived back yesterday, hence the
delay in answering your letter.

Many thanks for the invitation
to the Garden Party but as things stand at
the moment I do not think there will be
very much chance of paying a visit. I hope
it goes well and that you have excellent
weather.

All good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'W Marshall', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

CHAPLAIN, R.N.
Port Amenities, Welfare, Liaison
Officer.

Del
60204

The Laurels

Broomcrose Crescent.

Sheffield July 8th/44

Dear Mr. Grayson.

I received your letter on my
return yesterday with my Daughters from
Scarbro.

I shall be very pleased to help you
in the good cause you have
undertaken.

It would be a help if any of ^{or one} your
friends would sell about forty
Tickets at 1/6 or 2/ each, depends
on the Company, & if they are
charitably disposed. - just to
start with.

If any friend would act as
doorkeeper it's a great help also.

Do I come the same way as
Mr. Haprean, as I don't know
Totter very well - & I like to be
there for the opening.

Phone anytime before 10-30 or after
5, on three days a week I am
at the W.V.S. Ecclesall Rd - & Red
Cross Thursday.

I trust you will have a successful
time, also a fine day.

Yours Sincerely

J. Gray. Asman

P.S.

I have studied Palmistry twenty five years
& still very interested in the science.
Sometimes we call it "Hand Reading"
Some understand that better.

CHAIRMAN:

Mrs. J. D. Duffy

PRESIDENT:

Rear-Admiral Sir Thos. J. Spence Lyne, K.C.V.O., C.B., D.S.O.

SECRETARY:

Mrs. R. B. Graydon

Registered under the
War Charities Act, 1940

- To provide comforts for
the men who keep the
sea lanes open

THE DORE & TOTLEY
MINESWEEPING TRAWLERS
COMFORTS FUND

ADMINISTRATIVE
HEADQUARTERS

FERN GLEN
DORE MOOR
SHEFFIELD

Your Ref.

Our Ref

Aug 4th 1944.

Rev A.W.Mandall, Chaplain R.N.

H. M. Naval Base,

North Shields.

Please receive the following:-

Case No. 1.

42 Blue Jerseys.
18 Oiled Jerseys.
1 pr Seaboot Stockings.
10 Helmets.
10 prs Gloves.
13 Scarves.

Case No. 2

41 Blue Jerseys.
19 Oiled Jerseys.
15 Helmets.
1 pr Gloves.
5 Scarves.
10 prs Seaboot Stockings.

THE DORE & TOTLEY MINESWEEPING TRAWLERS COMFORTS FUND.

GARDEN PARTY - AUGUST 12TH 1944.

| | £ | s | d |
|-----------------------------|-------|----|---|
| Bring and Buy | 18 | 2 | 1 |
| Handicraft | 49 | 0 | 0 |
| Garden Produce | 50 | 8 | 1 |
| Tombola | 39 | 3 | 3 |
| Teas | 26 | 15 | 0 |
| Books | 6 | 6 | 9 |
| White Elephant | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| Wheel of Fortune | 26 | 3 | 4 |
| Punch and Judy | 2 | 0 | 3 |
| Fortune Teller | 5 | 2 | 6 |
| Raffles | 86 | 14 | 5 |
| Donations | 29 | 2 | 0 |
| Puppies | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Bar | 11 | 12 | 6 |
| Games | 6 | 3 | 1 |
| Houp-la | 3 | 1 | 9 |
| | <hr/> | | |
| | 410 | 17 | 0 |
| White Elephant and Donation | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| | <hr/> | | |
| | £411 | 19 | 0 |
| | <hr/> | | |

A great many thanks for all your generous help.

Registered No..47A.....

MINISTRY OF FOOD
NORTH EASTERN DIVISION

Special Permit
(Charitable and other Functions)

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE MINISTER OF FOOD, I hereby grant permission to:

.....DORE & TOTLEY MINE SWEEPING TRAWLERS.....
.....COMFORTS FUND.....

to sell (a) by retail) the foods scheduled below at:
(1) ~~as refreshments~~

.....GARDEN. PARTY. AT. BROOK. HALL..TOTLEY. RISE..
.....SHEFFIELD.....

between the hours of: 3 p.m
.....While open.....
on the12th August, 1944.....

This Permit shall be exhibited in a prominent place at the Function and is only valid for the place and on the dates named, The Maximum Prices fixed by Statutory Orders must be adhered to.

P. C. [Signature]

Divisional Food Officer.

Schedule of Foods

All foods other than rationed foods.

RRB

SEA CADET CORPS.

(Administered by the Navy League on behalf of the Admiralty.)

43, Dore Road,
Dore, Sheffield.

August 14th, 1944.

Dear Mrs. Grayson,

Thank you very much indeed for your most generous gift of £10.10.0d to the Sea Cadet H.Q. Fund. We are extremely grateful for this, especially as it was a pleasure for the cadets to come to your garden party last Saturday.

It was a pity that they had not more space as they could then have given you a better display.

I am so glad to hear that your Party was so successful: it really is a wonderful effort, and I congratulate you heartily on your success for such a very worthy cause.

I also run a Trawler fund at the Works and we send cigarettes and reading material to some 38 Minesweepers each month, and there is no doubt that they appreciate very much all that is done for them.

Thanking you again very much for your generosity,

Yours sincerely,

Ralph Holmerham

Mrs. K. Grayson,
Brook Hall,
Totley Rise,
Sheffield.

The Sheffield Sea Cadet Corps Memorial Headquarters Fund

103-7, QUEEN STREET, SHEFFIELD.

Trustees :

Sir Allan J. Grant, J.P. (Chairman).
Lady Riverdale
Percy W. Lee, Esq., J.P.
Ashley Ward, Esq.

Telephone
23172-3

Hon. Treasurer :
Councillor P. J. Kirkman.

Bankers :
Barclays Bank, Ltd.,
High Street, Sheffield.

N.11a/4709/PJK/GB.

16th August 1944.

Mrs. Grayson,
Brook Hall,
Mickley Lane,
Totley,
Sheffield.
Dear Mrs. Grayson,

I have pleasure in enclosing herewith
receipt for £10/10/- which Commander Holmstrom has forwarded
on to me from you.

I should like to place on record the sincere
thanks of all concerned, for your generosity in this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Percy Kirkman
Treasurer.



Chaplain's Office.
H.M. Naval Base,
NORTH SHIELDS.

18th August 1944.

Mrs. K.B. Grayson,
Dore & Totley Minesweeper Comforts Fund,
Brook Hall.
Totley Rise,
SHEFFIELD.

Dear Mrs. Grayson,

We have received the two cases of woollens and enclose herewith signed receipts for same. The cases are being returned to you today.

Thank you very much indeed for this further consignment of garments, which are most acceptable, as our annual issue of warm clothing begins next month.

All good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

CHAPLAIN. R.N.
Port Amenities Liaison Officer.

Chaplain's Office,
H.M. Naval Base,
NORTH SHIELDS.

24th August 1944,

Dear Mrs. Grayson,

I have to inform you that
Lieut. G.R. Reid, R.N.V.R. has now
been appointed as P.A.L.O. for the
Tyne Command and I shall be glad if,
in future all communications connected
with P.A.L.O. work are addressed to:-

Lieut. G.R. Reid, R.N.V.R.
Port Amenities Liaison Officer,
H.M. Naval Base,
NORTH SHIELDS.

Yours sincerely,

Al Mandell

CHAPLAIN. R.N.
Family Welfare Officer.

The Dore & Totley Minesweeping Trawlers
"Brook Hall", Comforts Fund,
Totley Rise,
SHEFFIELD.

*I shall drop you a line when the
tumult & the shouting dies.*



H.M. Naval Base.

N. Shields.

4/9/44

Dear Mr Grayson,

you will have
received the official intimation
that I am no longer P.A.O. at
this base.

The move has been
pending for about six months
but nothing came of it, until
quite suddenly a successor
appeared having just arrived
from Trinidad.

The reason for the change
is the growth of Family Welfare
Work. It has always been

considerable & with the opening
of the Naval Legal Aid Scheme,
well as Palo was more than
I could manage. The Admiral
put the matter to the Admiralty
& the upshot was a division
of the two jobs.

I know Lord & Totley will
continue to support Lt Reid & even
if the war does finish it is still
a cold job sweeping thousands
of mines & carrying out patrols.

May I express my thanks
for all you have done for this
Base & for your personal friendship.
I trust all will go well in future.
Kindest regards
Yours sincerely
All Mandall

CHAIRMAN:

Mrs. J. D. Duffy

PRESIDENT:

Rear-Admiral Sir Thos. G. Spence Lyne, K.C.V.O., C.B., D.S.O.

SECRETARY:

Mrs. R. B. Grayson

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War Charities Act, 1940

- To provide comforts for
the men who keep the
sea lanes open

**THE DORE & TOTLEY
MINESWEEPING TRAWLERS
COMFORTS FUND**

Brook Hall
Totley Rise,

ADMINISTRATIVE
HEADQUARTERS

FERN GLEN
DORE MOOR
SHEFFIELD

Your Ref.

Our Ref

September 28th, 1944.

Lt. G.R. Reid, R.N.V.R.,

R. N. Naval Base.

North Shields.

Please receive the following woollen goods:-

Case No. 1.

37 Blue Jerseys.
18 Oiled Jerseys.
10 Scarves.
5 prs Gloves.
5 prs Seaboot Stockings.

Case No. 2.

40 Blue Jerseys.
16 Oiled Jerseys.
15 Scarves.
10 prs Gloves.
2 prs Seaboot Stockings.
5 Helmets.
1 pr Socks.

I acknowledge receipt of the above

Signed.....

Date..... P.A.O.

NAVAL BASE,
NORTH SHIELDS



P. A. L. O.
NAVAL BASE,
NORTH SHIELDS

27
x
44

Dear Mrs Grayson.

Many thanks to your kind circle for their kindness in keeping up this supply of comforts. I return the two advice notes signed, but I was not in time to investigate the state of the boxes before they went off, however our P.O. who looks after the store says he did do a bit of cobbling to them before they went.

As to making suggestions, fools rush in where angels fear to tread, but I do find that there is a much greater demand for socks and s.b. stockings than for helmets, but I expect it takes an expert knitter to do the turn at the heels as I see in some bed socks my daughter did for me (coming from 30 years in the tropics to this arctic climate) that she has not even attempted a right angled bend but leaves me or nature to make the turn.

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely

George R. Reis
to RNVN



From

P. A. L. O.

NAVAL BASE,
NORTH SHIELDS

2. 11. 44

To Mrs Grayson
Brook Hall.

Dear Mrs Grayson

Thanks for yours of 28th -
It is all right about socks
as they can get some at
N.A.A.H.

We have a few Carl-
Boards but have not had
cards for months in fact
I thought of putting up a notice
as the pubs do "NO BEER"

If you can spare a few
sets I can pass them
out at once...

All your cases have
gone back

Yours sincerely

George A. Reis



P. A. L. O.

NAVAL BASE,
NORTH SHIELDS

2nd December 1944

Dear Mrs Grayson,

I received your letter a few days ago but had to enquire into the position before replying. I find there are a few more ships engaged on mine-sweeping than this time last year, but the number of hands is not very much larger so if you will be good enough to do what you did then we shall all be extremely grateful to your Committee and helpers. The expenditure on Christmas fare is rather limited by the possibility of buying things like oranges and apples than by the kindness of our friends, however Pay Lt Cox has already made most of the arrangements and the Ratings are sure to have a good time.

Kindest regards

George R. Rees

to Mrs Grayson
RECEIVED
DEC 2 1944

Sea. T. J. Hill "JX403294
H.M.S. Louise-et-Marie
c/o G.P.O.
London.

Dear Friends

I expect you will be wondering what has happened to the Louise-et-Marie; and all so the gift cigarettes which you so kindly sent.

The "lads" have asked me to write and thank you very much for such a lovely gift, which I can assure you have been thoroughly enjoyed by the whole crew. I am speaking for each and everyone of us and we all wish you the very best of everything in the future. Good luck & happier times to come, when our country is at peace once again. Until that day we are proud to salute you; - the backbone of our country. I Remain

Yours Very Sincerely
(For the lads of the "Loui Marie") Thos. J. Hill.

P. A. L. O.
NAVAL BASE,
NORTH SHIELDS

14.12.44

Dear Mrs Grayson,

Your letter of 5th Decr with cheque £200 reached me a few days after that date, also note of comforts sent off at the same time. The latter have not yet arrived and I expect this is due to Xmas Traffic on the line, but I was awaiting them to send off both acknowledgments together. However I must not hold up the receipt for the cheque which you probably require for auditing. Please pass to your Committee my own and the Canteen Committee's grateful thanks for your efforts on behalf of the Trawlers and Mine-Sweepers here. Personally I have applied for discharge on personal grounds so I shall probably be leaving the service in the New Year, but the work of your Committee has been one of the bright spots in this job.

Yours sincerely,

Joseph R. Reid

P. A. L. O. & Hon. Sec Canteen Comtee.

*that I am over
68 & my wife
not in good
health.*

CHAIRMAN:

Mrs. J. D. Duffy

PRESIDENT:

Rear-Admiral Sir Thos. J. Spence Lyne, K.C.V.O., C.B., D.S.O.

SECRETARY:

Mrs. R. B. Grayson

Brook Hall,
Totley Rise.

Registered under the
War Charities Act, 1940

- To provide comforts for
the men who keep the
sea lanes open

THE DORE & TOTLEY
MINESWEEPING TRAWLERS
COMFORTS FUND

ADMINISTRATIVE
HEADQUARTERS

FERN GLEN
~~DORE MOOR~~
SHEFFIELD

Your Ref.

Our Ref

Received cheque £200, for Christmas Fare.

Signed.....

George R. Reid
to R.N.V.R.

Date.....

14 Decr 1944

Passed to

PAYMASTER LIEUT-COMDR.
FOR PAYMASTER CAPTAIN.

for banking
[Signature]

P. A. L. O.

NAVAL BASE,
NORTH SHIELDS

AB3

Step A Donkin.
HMMB. Valda.

C/o G.P.O.
London.
14/- 1/44.

Mrs K Gregson,

Dear Madam,
May I send my many
thanks for your contribution of our
Xmas fare, which we all thoroughly
enjoyed, also our Best Wishes to you
all at Totley & Sheffield,

Yours Gratefully
Arthur Donkin

(P.S. I am a Yorkshireman.
of Scarborough.) C.O.

H.M.S. Southern Field,
C/o. G.P.O.
London.

Mrs. K. Gregson,
Brook Hall,
Totley Rise,
Sheffield.

Madam,

On behalf of my Officers and Men, I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the magnanimous gift of Xmas fare provided by the Dore and Totley Minesweeping fund.

I can assure you that the thought behind the gift was just as thoroughly appreciated as the gift itself.

Your generous action helped greatly to alleviate the lot of my crew, who were away from family and friends by reminding them that they were not forgotten.

Officers and crew of H.M.S. Southern Field extend to you all their very best wishes for 1944 and may we all have Xmas at home next year.

Yours Very Sincerely,



Lieut. R.N.R.

Commanding Officer,
H.M.S. "SOUTHERN FIELD"

Mr. S. Ben Deang,
c/o G.P.O.,
London.

16th January, 1944.

Dear Mr. Gregson,

The crew of the Ben Deang
and myself wish to thank you for the
generous and timely gift from the 'Done &
'Tatley Minesweeping Fund, which made
our Christmas so enjoyable.

We shall always remember such
acts of kindness, and hope that the
coming year will see us marching
to Victory and Peace.

Yours sincerely
H. J. Barnard

Mr. H. Gregson
Brook Hall,
'Tatley Rise,
Sheffield.

C.O.

H.M. Motor Minesweeper 280,

% G.P.O.

London.

January 15th 1944.

Dear Madam,

I have just learned that the Christmas fare enjoyed by my ship was provided through the generosity of the Dove & Totley Minesweeping Fund.

May I express on behalf of the entire ship's company our grateful thanks for this very practical gesture, which helped, in no small measure, to make Christmas more reminiscent of those we spent in happier times.

Wishing your organisation every success,

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

R. Barney.

Lieutenant R.N.V.R.

Commanding Officer.

Mrs. K. Gregory,
Brook Hall,
Totley Rise,
Sheffield.



Lieut. S. Maimon an R.N.V.R.

H.M. N. N. 5 1045.

To J. P. O London

23rd February 1944.

Dear Mrs Ferguson,

On behalf of myself, fellow officers and crew I would like to express our appreciation of the most generous gift of cigarettes received on board yesterday.

Your gift came as a complete surprise, and also at just the right time, for we had just returned from leave the day before, consequently every one was more or less broke, and a few wine of fags most welcome.

Being fully appreciative of the good work you are doing on our behalf, we would be glad to establish a closer contact between you, or any members of your organisation who would care to exchange letters with us.



Thanking you once again for your kind gift
I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Stewart Macdonald
Lieut. R.N.V.R.

C/MX96782.

L/W M. K. R. Jammons

HM/MMS 1045

C/O GPO

London.

Feb 24TH 1944,

Dear Mrs. Gregson,

I am writing on behalf of myself and the other members of the first mess, to thank you and all those concerned for the parcel of cigarettes we received. They were very much appreciated especially as they came at a time when we had just returned off leave and every one was feeling rather shocked and a trifle fed up with things in general, so they certainly helped to break the monotony, as there are times when

we cannot do ² much else except smoke
and amuse ourselves as best we can.

We have a grand crew including
officers and men and being a small
ship you will no doubt appreciate the
fact that this is a great asset, and
helps us to work more as a team
than a ship's company.

I would personally like to thank
all concerned but I am afraid that
is an impossibility, but apart from
that the thoughts which go with this
letter are never the less sincere. And so
to wish you all from us all
smooth sailing for the future and best
of luck.

Yours very sincerely
H. R. Gammons

H.M.S. "BOY ALEX"
c/o G.P.O. LONDON.

28th February, 1944.

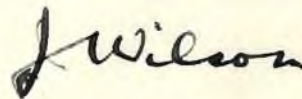
The Secretary,
The Dore & Totley Minesweeping
Trawlers Comforts Fund.

Dear Sir,

We have recently been in receipt of a parcel of
cigarettes provided by your organisation.

Will you please accept, and convey to all
concerned, the gratitude of the ships company at this
tangible, and welcome, expression of your interest in the
welfare of the men of H.M. Minesweepers.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Wilson'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Skipper.

OTEL. 15/5X 3X17/45.

H. of S. Regent Lord.

W. of S. London.

19th Feb. 1944.

Dear madam,

The consignment of
cigarettes which you have so
generously, forwarded to our ship, have
been received, and on behalf of the
crew, I wish to thank you most
sincerely, as they are much a very
welcome gift.

Thanking you once again and
wishing you all the best of luck.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

J. Cash.

Write
across

To Officer in Charge.

of the Dove-Tolley

minesweepers Fund.

Dear Friends.

Today I am in Receipt of a Parcel of 1,000 Bigarettes
 From the Minesweepers Fund and these Will Be Distributed
 to my crew to morrow. 41 Bigarettes to Each Member.
 I should like to thank the officers and the kind
 Patrons of this Fund for thinking of the Minesweepers
 and that they could not have thought of a better
 gift to us.

Also I would like to add a word of thanks to you
 from our Officer in Charge Commander Tandon. R.N.R.
 So Please convey our Best Wishes to all and that we
 thank them

I Remain yours Sincerely

Chief Skipper R.N.R.

James M. Wink.

c/o H.M.D. Regent Bird

c/o L.P.O. London

P.S. i wrote a Word of Thanks to one of your Patrons only

130

yesterday to Miss Ken. Powell Titley Rise Sheffield

135

For a Pair of gloves We Received

140

many thanks and Best Wishes to all.

145

150

S. 1320b.

NAVAL MESSAGE.

For use in
Signal
Department
only

Originators Instructions:
(Indication of Priority,
Intercept Group, etc.)

Codress/Plaindress

No. of
Groups:

TO:

Mrs. K. Gregson, Brook Hall,
Totley Rise, Sheffield

FROM:

C.O.

Angele Marie

Write
Across

Dear Madam,

5

Many thanks from the
ships company & myself, for the
very generous gift, from the
Dore & Totley Minesweeping Fund,
which enabled us to enjoy such
very good Christmas fare.

10

15

20

25

30

35

Please convey my thanks to all

40

concerned.

Yours sincerely

45

J. C. O. Ford. 16.1.44

System

P/L Code or Cypher

Time of

Receipt

Despatch

Operator

P.O.O.W.

Date

16.1.44

Wm. Lums 263,
c/o B.P.O., London.
14th March 1944.

Dear Mrs. Lums,

We all had a most pleasant surprise the other day when a parcel of cigarettes arrived from the Dons and Telling Fund.

I wish, on behalf of all the members of my crew, to say that we thank you sincerely for this most generous gift and that we really do appreciate your kindness to us now and in the past.

When a fellow is away from home (some of my lads are a long way from home) and in a strange place with few friends, or maybe none, it is a wonderful thing to receive a gift such as you have just sent us and to feel, "Well - someone is thinking of us!"

So, you see, we do mean it when we say "Thank you very much."

Yours sincerely
John King
Lieut. R.N.R.

DORE AND TOTLEY MINESWEEPING TRAWLER COMFORTS FUND

| <u>Receipts and Payments Account</u> | | <u>for the year ended</u> | <u>30th June 1944.</u> |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| <u>Receipts</u> | | | <u>Payments</u> |
| Film Show & Grand Draw | 184. 8. -- | Wool | 258. 8. -- |
| Bring & Buy Sale, <i>in English, Dore Group.</i> | 62. 10. -- | Donations to Free Wool Fund. | 80. -- -- |
| Tea Collections & Raffles | 27. 8. 3. | Donation to W.R.N.S. Band | |
| <u>Sunshine Trawlers</u> | | Instrument Fund | 50. -- -- |
| Receipts less Expenses | 206. 8. -- | Contribution to Christmas | |
| <u>Donations</u> | | Dinners | 200. -- -- |
| S.W.C.T.A. per Mrs. Cooper | 15. -- -- | Games etc. | 5. 10. 5. |
| Other | 24. 17. 6. | Cigarettes | 77. 7. 3. |
| Annual Subscriptions | 1. 12. -- | Carriage | 2. 5. 6. |
| Bank Interest | 1. 7. 2. | Cheque Book | 4. 2. -- |
| | | Bank Charges | 17. -- -- |
| | <u>523. 10. 11</u> | | <u>674. 12. 7.</u> |
| Balance at Bank and in Hand | | <u>Balance at 30th June 1944.</u> | |
| at 30th June 1943 | 480. 16. $\frac{1}{2}$. | At Bank | 314. 18. 6. |
| | | In Hand | <u>14. 15. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$.</u> |
| | <u>1,004. 6. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$.</u> | | <u>329. 14. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$.</u> |
| | | | <u>1,004. 6. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$.</u> |

I certify that I have examined the Books, Accounts and vouchers of the Dore and Totley Minesweeping Trawler Comforts Fund for the year ended 30th June 1944, and that the above Receipts and Payments Account is in accordance with the Books and Vouchers produced, and explanations and information received.

Sheffield.
23rd October 1944.

A. G. Seadingfield F. C. A.
Hon. Auditor.