

GRAVESEND HMC&E LAUNCHES

A list of Vessels that were once stationed at Gravesend
Compiled by Ivor Davis

HMCL Active (1)

type: Steam launch.
dimensions: L 46' x B 10' x D 6'3"
speed: 8 knots
power: 45hp
nrt: 30 tons
built: 1892/3 - Sandford & Co. Gravesend.

based: London
disposal: Sold 1922 - £52.10.0

HMCL Active (2)

type: Steam launch.
dimensions: L 50' x B 12'6" x D 5'10"
speed: 8 knots
power: 76hp
nrt: 40 tons
built: 1913/14 - Cox & Co., Falmouth.

based: Gravesend
disposal: Damaged by enemy action in 1945 then sold.

HMCL Active (3) (Renamed from Vigilant in 1946)

type: Motor Launch
dimensions: L 54'5" x B 14'6" x D 7'3 1/2"
speed: 9 knots
power: 150hp
nrt: 68 tons
built: 1938 - Richards Ironworks Ltd. Lowestoft.

based: Southampton 1938
Greenock 1942
Southampton 1945
Gravesend 1952
Liverpool 1960

disposal: Sold - 1966.

HMCL Albatross

type: Motor Launch.
 dimensions: L 45' x B 10' x D 5'9"
 speed: 8 knots
 power: 60hp
 nrt: 19 tons
 built: 1921 - Vosper & Co. Ltd. Portsmouth.

based: Gravesend
 sold: 1949.

HMCL Alert

type: Steam Launch converted to Motor Launch - 1928
 dimensions: L 52' x B 11'6" x D 5'6".
 speed: 8.75 knots.
 power: 90hp
 nrt: 27 tons
 built: 1905/6 - Simpson, Strickland & Co. Dartmouth.

based: Portsmouth 1906
 Southampton 1928
 Gravesend ?

HMCL Arrow

type: Motor Launch
 dimensions: L 45' x B 15'6" x D 6'
 speed: 9.75 knots
 power: 115hp
 nrt: 18.5 tons
 built: 1939 - Aldous Inccerson Ltd. Brightlingsea.

based: Gravesend 1939
 Greenock 1942
 Gravesend 1945

disposal: Sold - 1964.

HMCL Cerberus

type: Steam Launch
 dimensions: L 55' x B 12' x D 6'9"
 speed: 9 knots
 power: 70hp
 nrt: 37 tons
 built: 1899/1900 - Edwards & Co. Millwall.
 based: London.
 disposal: Sold - 1931 for £50.

HMCL Dauntless type: Motor Launch
dimensions: L 65' x B 17'6" x D 9'9"
speed: 10.5 knots
power: 337hp
nrt: 108 tons
built: 1960 - White's Shipyard (Southampton) Ltd.

based: Gravesend.
disposal: Sold - c1974.

HMCL Defence type: Motor Launch
dimensions: L 65' x B 17'6" x D 9'8"
speed: 10 knots
power: 337hp
nrt: 103 tons
built: 1963 - Richards Shipbuilders Ltd.

based: Gravesend.
disposal:

HMCL Dolphin type: Steam Launch
dimensions: L 65' x B 17'6" x D 8'9"
speed: 10 knots
power: 281hp
nrt: 118 tons
built: 1937 - Richard Dunstan Ltd. Thorne, Yorks.

based: Gravesend
disposal: Sold - 1963.

HMCL Eagle type: Motor Launch
dimensions: L 50' x B 10' x D 5'9"
speed:
power:
nrt:
built: 1922 - Vosper & Co. Ltd. Portsmouth.

based: Gravesend 1922
Weymouth 1925?
Southampton 1942
Weymouth 1948
Disposal: Sold - 1954.

HMCL Enterprise type: Steam Launch
 dimensions: L 56' x B 12' x D 6'8"
 speed: 8.5 knots
 power: 100hp
 nrt: 50.5 tons
 built: 1951 - Edwards & Co. London E14

based: Gravesend.
 disposal: Sold - 1955.

HMCL Falcon type: Motor Boat
 dimensions: L 30' x B 9' x D 3'
 speed: 7.75 knots
 power: 14hp
 nrt: 30 tons
 built: 1915/16 - Rogers & Co., Plymouth.

based: Dover 1916
 Gravesend 1925
 disposal: Sold - 1939.

HMCL Humber
 (1) type: Steam Launch
 dimensions: L 70' x B 15'6" x D 8'
 speed: 9.5 – 10.5 knots
 power: 135hp
 nrt: 96 tons
 built: 1893/4 - Amos Smith, Hull.

based: Gravesend
 Cork 1921
 disposal: Irish Free State 1923

HMCL Humber
 (2) type: Steam Launch
 dimensions: L 65' x B 17'6" x D 8'9"
 speed: 10 knots
 power: 281hp
 nrt: 118 tons
 built: 1937 - Richard Dunstan Ltd. Thorne, Yorks.

based: Hull 1937
 Gravesend 1940
 disposal: Sold 1960

HMCL Lively type: Motor Launch
 dimensions: L 47'6" x B 12'5" x D 5'4"
 speed: 8 knots
 power: 70hp
 nrt: 31 tons
 built: 1936 - Richard Ironworks Ltd. Lowestoft.

 purchased: 1944
 based: Gravesend.
 disposal: Sold - 1957.

HMCL Lynx type: Motor Launch
 dimensions: L 55' x B 12' x D 6'4"
 speed: 12 knots
 power: 150hp
 nrt: 17.7 tons
 built: 1933 - Thorneycroft & Co. Ltd.

 based: Gravesend.
 disposal: Sold - 1952.

HMCL Nimble type: Motor Boat
 dimensions: L 23'6" x B 6' x D 2'0"
 speed: 6.5 knots
 power: 7hp
 nrt: 0.75 tons
 built: 1905 - Clare Fallow (Hull), Cowes.

 based: Cowes 1906
 Gravesend 1927
 Southampton 1927
 Gravesend 1927
 disposal: Sold - 1935 for £46.

HMCL Osprey type: Motor Launch
dimensions: L 45' x B 10' x D 5'9"
speed: 8 knots
power: 30hp
nrt: 17 tons
built: 1921 - Vosper & Sons Ltd. Portsmouth

based: Harwich 1921
Gravesend 1923
(62hp engine fitted in 1929)

disposal: Sold – 1940

HMCL Petrel type: Motor Launch
dimensions: L 36' x B 10'7 1/2" x D 4'10"
speed: 9.3 knots
power: 90hp
nrt: 9 tons
built: 1948 - Thorneycroft & Co. Ltd.

based: Gravesend.

disposal: Sold - 1964.

HMCL Pioneer
(1) type: Steam Launch
dimensions: L 37'
speed: 8 knots
power: 30hp
nrt: 20 tons
built: 1891 - Welch & Co. Plymouth.

based: London

disposal: Sold - 1908 - £85.

HMCL Pioneer
(2) type: Steam Launch
dimensions: L 55' x B 15' x D 8'6"
speed: 10 knots
power: 204hp
nrt: 53 tons
built: 1955 - R.S. Hayes (Pembroke Dock) Ltd.

based: Gravesend.

disposal: Sold - c1974.

HMCL Puffin

type: Motor Launch
 dimensions: L 36' x B 10'6" x D 5'3"
 speed: 8.75 knots
 power: 70hp
 nrt: 11 tons
 built: 1938 - Gregson & Co. Ltd. Millwall.

based: Harwich 1938
 Gravesend 1941
 Harwich 1946

disposal: Sold - 1964.

HMCL Ranger
 (1)

type: Steam Launch
 dimensions: L 56' x B 12'3" x D 6'9"
 speed: 9 knots
 power: 100hp
 nrt: 46.5 tons
 built: 1906 - Hawthorn & Co. Ltd. Leith.

based: Weymouth 1906
 Gravesend 1923
 Liverpool 1927

disposal: Sold - 1936 - £260.

HMCL Ranger
 (2)

type: Motor Launch
 dimensions: L 55' x B 15'6" x D 6'7"
 speed: 10.5 knots
 power: 250hp
 nrt: 39 tons
 built: 1940 - Hugh McLean & Sons Ltd. Renfrew.

based: Gravesend 1940
 Greenock 1942
 Gravesend 1946
 Southampton 1952

disposal: Sold - 1958.

HMCL Scout	type: Motor Launch dimensions: L 55' x B 15' x D 8'2" speed: 10.4 knots power: 204hp nrt: 53 tons built: 1956 - R.S. Hayes (Pembroke Dock) Ltd. based: Gravesend. disposal: Sold ?
HMCL Sealark	type: Motor Boat dimensions: L 26' x B 6' x D 3' speed: 8 knots power: 14 hp nrt: 15 tons built: 1907/8 - Gill & Sons. based: Rochester 1908 Gravesend 1927 disposal: Sold - 1936 - £51.
HMCL Sirdar	type: Steam Launch dimensions: L 55' x B 12' x D 6'9" speed: 9 knots power: 70hp nrt: 37 tons built: 1899/1900 - Edwards & Co. Millwall. based: London 1900 Liverpool 1923 Gravesend 1927 disposal: Sold - 1931.
HMCL Solent	type: Steam Launch dimensions: L 50' x B 10' x D 6'3" speed: 9 knots. power: 45hp nrt: 32 tons built: 1893/4 - Simpson, Strickland & Co. Dartmouth. based: Gravesend. disposal: Sold - 1931 - £40.

HMCL Starling type: Motor Launch
 dimensions: L 25' x B 7' x B 4'
 speed: 15 knots
 power: 65hp
 nrt: 3 tons
 built: 1945 - I. Walton Yacht Works Ltd.
 purchased: 1946.

based: Gravesend 1946
 Poole 1948

disposal: Sold - 1968.

HMCL St. George type: Steam Launch
 dimensions: L 71'8" x B 15' x D 8'4"
 speed: 10.5 knots.
 power: 230hp
 nrt: 82 tons
 built: 1903/4 - Cox & Co., Falmouth.

based: Liverpool 1904
 Gravesend 1927

disposal: Sold - 1940 - £305.

HMCL Tartar
 (1) type: Steam Launch
 dimensions: L 68' x B 12' x D 6'6"
 speed: 10 knots
 power: 110hp
 nrt: 110 tons
 built: 1904 - Simpson, Strickland, Dartmouth.

based: Gravesend 1914

disposal: Sold - 1920.

HMCL Tartar
 (2) type: Motor Launch
 dimensions: L 48'6" x B 12'6" x D 5'9"
 speed: 10 knots
 power: 120hp
 nrt: 18.5 tons.
 built: 1940 - James M. Millers & Sons Ltd. Fife.

based: Gravesend 1940
 Greenock 1941

disposal: Sold - 1964.

HMCL Vigilant
(1) 1853/67

type: Steam Cruiser
dimensions: D 10'2"
speed:
power:
nrt: 115 tons
built: 1853.
accommodation: 2 State Rooms & 1 Bathroom.

based: Gravesend – commander Richard Gowland.
Repaired for £367.2.8d. 3.5.1861
Ordered for sale - G.O.29/1867
disposal: Transferred to the Board of Fisheries B.M.

HMCL Vigilant
(2) 1867/1902

type: Steam Cruiser.
dimensions: L 80' x B 15' x D 8'
speed: 10.7 knots
power: 30hp - 2 engines
nrt: 82 tons
built: 1865 - J. & W. Dudgeon, Poplar. Cost £3,260.

based: Gravesend - commenced duty 1.1.1867.
disposal: Sold - 1902.

HMCL Vigilant
(3) 1902/20

type: Steam Cruiser
dimensions: L 100' x B 16' x D 10'2"
speed: 11 knots
power:
nrt: 140 tons
built: Cox & Co. Falmouth. Cost £5,588

based: Gravesend.
disposal: Sold - 1920 - £1,850.

HMCL Vigilant
(4) 1919/28

type: Steam Cruiser
dimensions: L 125' x B 22'6" x D 13'
speed:
power: 500hp
nrt: 248.14 tons
built: Duthie, Torrie & Co. Aberdeen.
purchased: 1919

based: Gravesend.
disposal: Sold - 1928 - £2,200.

HMCL Watchful

type: Motor Launch
dimensions: L 55' x B 14'6" x D 8'6"
speed: 9.77 knots
power: 180hp
nrt: 54.5 tons
built: Richard Dunstan Ltd. Thorne, Yorkshire.

based: Gravesend.
disposal: Sold - c1969.

HMCL White Rose

type: Steam Launch
dimensions: L 41' x B 8'6" x D 5'1"
speed: 8.5 knots.
power: 30hp
nrt: 12 tons
built: 1902 - I.T. Crampton, Portsmouth
purchased: 1911

based: Gravesend.
disposal: Sold - 1918.