

Hi Everyone

Thanks to all who have responded to my various calls for help this last month - thanks to you this site continues thrive and grow.

I keep an 'eye out' for items of interest on eBay. Some items such as books, Public Notices and equipment, I have occasional bid for - a couple of seals, one an LAP issue, a few publications and some rubber date stamp faces I've not been successful with any of my attempts, the winning bids are usually well out of my price range. The LAP seal went for about £350!

With the 'destruction' of all things Waterguard and Customs & Excise, I am concerned that some important things will be lost forever. Artefacts, some of historical importance, and Coats of Arms are getting scraped and destroyed because they either take up valuable space in HMRC and UKBA buildings, or the buildings themselves are being sold or 'redeveloped'. If you know of any instances of this 'wanton' destruction, or see any of these items being 'binned', please take a photograph of the item and forward it to the site for inclusion.

I have embarked on a rolling update to convert the sites pages to be rendered optimised to be best viewed with a wide screen monitor set to a 32 bit colour display and using the Mozilla Firefox web browser.

I have updated the Waterguard Stationery & Stores-Date Stamps pages to include the Bristol Waterguard Division and I have split the Tools & Equipment page into two - 'Tools & Equipment' for Waterguard items and 'Tools & Equipment - Other' to accommodate items used by the Outdoor Service.

I have constructed two new sub-page - 'HMC&E History-Publications' - accessed from the 'History' page. This page is for the many booklets and the like that were produced, either officially or unofficially, about the origins and history of the various HMC&E Collections. The 'publications' are reproduced there as 'Flip Books' accessed by 'clicking' the image of the front cover or PDFs accessed by 'clicking' the associated PDF logo.

The second new sub-page is 'Fred W Stephen's' Sketches of Vessels' and is accessed from the 'The Work-Smuggling' page. These sketches, made by a former colleague, Fred Stephen, are of vessels that used to ply their trade around the Northern Irish coasts. The original purpose of these sketches was to help the Belfast Division rummage crews identify the vessels as they approached coastal waters.

Don't forget, if you have one of the many booklets and the like that were produced, either officially or unofficially, about the origins and history of the various HMC&E Collections during the post reorganisation period, I would like to borrow them for scanning!

Since the last Waterguard Web Site Newsletter the following pages have received some attention:

Credits Page :: Has been updated

Customs & Excise Signage Page :: additional images :: TJT Edits. The Swansea Waterguard Office Coat of Arms thanks to Peter Hopkins and that for the Sharpness Custom House thanks to Alan Mann. The Waterguard Office sign at Princes Parade, Liverpool thanks to Dave I'Anson.

History-Publications Page :: new page with text, image, PDF & Flip Book :: Curiosities of the Customs in South West England by Mark Bullen.

Offices & Buildings-Coastguard Page :: additional text & images :: Two new Stations in Ireland - Blacksod and East Ferry - thanks to Cliff Davies and the Rocket Life Saving Apparatus Station at Bridlington has been supplied by Brian Gautier.

Offices & Buildings-England Page :: amended & additional text & images :: TJT Edits. The CPM's office at Bridlington now has a photo - thanks to Brian Gautier, the Liverpool Custom House section has been rewritten thanks to Dave I'Anson and there is an additional London Custom House photo taken from the Quay in 1896.

People-Awarded Honours Page :: additional text :: Reginald Trenear has been added to the list thanks to Mark Barnard.

People-Colleagues - CVs (A-D) Page :: additional & removed text, images & PDFs :: A Post Scriptum to Frank Coakers entry and a photo of him thanks to his son Eric. Entries for Percy Victor Wilfred Burgoyne, William Hubert Churcher and Albert Robert Deans thanks to Eric Preedy's research, and Chris Brabham has updated his CV. Bill Blumb has been correctly identified as Bill Plumb! and moved to the CVs (M-P) Page, and the entry for Blackhurst has been deleted as incorrect thanks to Eric Preedy's researches.

People-Colleagues - CVs (E-H) Page :: additional text & image, & amended text :: EP Edits. Entries for Syd Harvey and Jimmy Hogg thanks to research by Eric Preedy and a Post Scriptum to Ken Hencher's entry.

People-Colleagues - CVs (M-P) Page :: additional text & images :: Bill Blumb has been correctly identified as Bill Plumb! and moved to this page thanks to Eric Preedy. Kenny Macdonald's CV has been made available thanks to Eric Preedy, David Bowie and a reference to www.bbc.co.uk/go/em/fr/-/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-14556228. Robert Muirhead's CV has been supplied by his daughter Elaine.

People-Colleagues - CVs (Q-T) Page :: additional entry & image :: Ernest Edward Towse thanks to Brian Gautier.

People-Colleagues - CVs (U-X) Page :: additional & removed text & images :: EP Edits. Entries for Robert Derek Walmsley, Robert Leslie Walmsley, Gordon Ogilvie Webster and Stanley Webster, and John Alexander Walker has been deleted as incorrect - he was not in fact a Waterguard Surveyor but an Outdoor Surveyor - all thanks to Eric Preedy's researches.

People-Colleagues in Harms Way Page :: additional entry :: William Hubert Churcher and Harold Charles Oak, Preventive Men, who were injured (Churcher later died) by one of the first shells fired by the German battleships during the Bombardment of Hartlepool in WW1 - thanks to Eric Preedy's researches.

People-Obituaries Page :: additional entry & PDF :: Kenneth Sutherland MBE - 1897-1969

People-Sports & Pastimes Page :: additional sections, text & image :: TJT Edits. Three new subsections 'Football - The C&E Knockout Cup' 'Pilling Cup' and 'The Customs Fund Trophy', and the 'Chess' section now includes a photo of the Woodford Cup.

Pictures-Groups-Belfast Page :: additional images :: Mainly ex Newry provide by Eugene Devlin.

Pictures-Groups-Harwich Page :: amended text :: TJT Edits. The person second from left is re-identified as Ernie Haigh PO not Stanley Harriss, thanks to Ray Harbidge.

Pictures-Rummage Crews Page :: additional images :: TJT Edits. Photos of Gordon Webster's c1950s Dock Station Crew and the 1964 Gravesend Baggage and Rummage Crew boarding a newly arrived vessel from the River Launch and thanks to Eric Preedy's research.

Pictures-Sports & Pastimes Page :: additional images :: TJT Edits. The 1968 LAP Cricket Team, the London Port Waterguard Team for either the 1933/1934 or 1934/1935 season and the 197 Newry Football Team and two undated Newry Football Teams thanks to Eric Preedy's research.

Recent Additions Page :: Has been updated.

Recruitment Page :: additional text & PDF :: A list of results for the January 1967 APO Open Competition has been supplied by Russ Ainsley.

Staffing & Promotion Page :: amended text :: EP Edits

Stationery & Stores-Date Stamps - The Outdoor Service Pages :: additional image ::
Cardiff Collection, Burry Port - circa 1931 - thanks to Peter Hopkins.

Stationery & Stores-Date Stamps - The Waterguard Pages :: additional images :: TJT Edits. Cardiff Division, Swansea Waterguard Office, Pier Head, Kings Dock - circa 1969, the PO Port Talbot - circa 1959 - and the Creek of Pembrey and Waterguard Surveyor Swansea rubber stamps, all thanks to Peter Hopkins. Also thanks to Peter, the CPO Methil date stamp has been relocated to the Leith Division - where it always should have been!

The Work-Smuggling Page :: additional link :: TJT Edits. A 'link' to Fred W Stephen's sketches sub-page.

The Work-Smuggling-Sketches-of-Vessel Page :: new page :: A page devoted to Fred W Stephen's sketches of vessels arriving at Belfast ex Foreign.

Tools & Equipment Page :: additional section, text & images :: An extra image of the Sykes Hydrometer, with tables, and a new section - Binoculars - complete with images of a pre 1900 Brass and Leather example.

Tools & Equipment - Other Page :: new page with new images :: A new page devoted to the Outdoor Service incorporating sections from the Tools & Equipment page.

Training-WTC Course & Group Photographs - 1950 Page additional names :: Thanks to Roger Spinks, Jimmy Walker's name can be added to the tutors for the September course.

Training-WTC Course & Group Photographs - 1956 Page :: amended text :: EP Edits

Training-WTC Course & Group Photographs - 1961 Page :: additional & amended images & names :: Course No 50 - Liverpool students and Eddie Curtin's tutor group thanks to Fred Stephen and research by Eric Preedy.

Training-WTC Course & Group Photographs - 1967 Page :: additional names :: EP Edits to the students of Course No 75.

Training - WTC Instructors' & Staff Photographs page :: amended text :: Dennis Morrison corrected to George E B Morrison on several images thanks to Frank Drake.

Training - WTC Students Page :: TJT Edits

Uniform Page :: additional image :: A post 1945 CPOs Cap with white cover.