

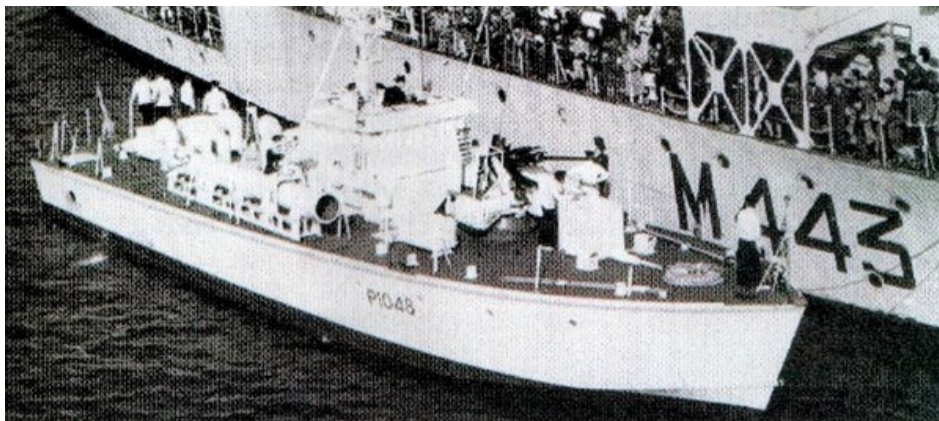
NEW MEMBER, P1048, Joined 16TH Feb 2013

He joined the Royal Navy for his 2-years National Service as an Ordinary Seaman in September 1954, reporting for duty at Victoria Barracks in Southsea.

After Basic Training he was selected to go on the National Service Upper Yardman (NSUY) course and on 14th October, together with 15 others of Class 493, he was posted to the training carrier, HMS THESEUS in Portland.

Surviving the 15-weeks or so of the rigours of the NSUY course, he qualified as a Temporary Acting Sub-Lieutenant in January 1955 and was appointed to his first ship, HMS RELENTLESS on February 13th. Based in Londonderry, the ship was involved in ASW and Convoy training exercises and so the young Sub-Lt had plenty of time to learn the ropes.

Being attracted to even smaller ships, he volunteered for Coastal Forces and upon leaving HMS RELENTLESS was posted to HMS HORNET, the MGB/MTB base in Gosport. Initially appointed as the First Lt of a captured German E-boat he was shortly after given his own command, HM MTB GAY CHARGER. Mainly involved in sea-trials for advanced new equipment, he served as the CO until leaving the Royal Navy in the summer of 1956.



HMS GAY CHARGER alongside HMS LAERTES (date unknown)

After leaving the RN, he took a position as a financial journalist, becoming the City Editor of the Sunday Telegraph in 1961 before moving into politics. In 1974, he became a Conservative MP for the constituency of Blaby in Leicestershire.

His early political career was in opposition but when Margaret Thatcher came into power, he was appointed Financial Secretary to the Treasury. In the Cabinet Reshuffle of 1981 he became Secretary of State for Energy and in 1983 he succeeded Geoffrey Howe as Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Please welcome the newest member of the HMS Relentless Association, Nigel Lawson.

A Life Peer since 1992, Lord Lawson of Blaby spends his time in the House of Lords and commutes to his home in France at the weekends.

So now you know who has the userid **P1048**, and why.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Victoria Barracks - Not Victory Barracks

Mostly demolished in the 60s, the one remaining part of Victoria Barracks was the Duchess of Kent Barracks which was the 'Wrennery' (opposite what used to be the NAAFI Club). The DoK is now the Portsmouth City Museum and the land on which Victoria Barracks stood, has been a housing development for some time now called Pembroke Park.

Now called HMS NELSON (since 1 Aug 74) to stop confusion with Nelson's flagship HMS VICTORY, the Royal Naval Barracks Portsmouth used to be called HMS VICTORY. If you were drafted to HMS Victory it was to RNB, if you were drafted to the ship the draft chit said "HMS Victory (Ship)".

HMS HORNET

HMS HORNET was situated in Haslar Creek in what is now Haslar Marina. Actually, it is where the Joint Services Adventure Sail Training centre now is.

Lord Lawson of Blaby

More information can be found here >

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nigel_Lawson

www.debretts.com/people/biographies/browse/l/.../Nigel+Lawson.asp...

For an excellent insight into National Service as an NSUY candidate I recommend you have a look at this one >
www.wabbrown.co.uk/nationalservicecrowe.pdf

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