



OPERATION OVERLORD



D-DAY HERITAGE SHIPS ASSOCIATION

The number of vessels involved in the D-Day Normandy landings are rapidly dwindling. These ships were all involved in Operation Neptune, the maritime codename for Operation Overlord, which was the beginning of the end for the Nazi occupation of Europe.

D-Day Heritage Ships Association President – Dan Snow
D-DHSA Chairman – Terry Yarwood

ALLIED MARITIME FORCES ASSIGNED TO OPERATION NEPTUNE

Naval Combatant Vessels	1,213
Landing Ships and Craft	4,126
Ancillary Ships and Craft	736
Merchant Ships	864
Total	6,939

D-DAY HERITAGE SHIPS ASSOCIATION

The aim of this association is to protect the vessels which served during D-Day operations and have survived since 6th June, 1944. They are unique and represent the thousands of ships that were involved in Operation Neptune.

ALLIED WARSHIPS IN THE NORMANDY LANDINGS

Code for entries -

Black type denotes a ship which has not survived since D-Day.

Blue type denotes a ship which has survived since D-Day and exists today.

BATTLESHIPS

USS Arkansas – Sunk on 25 July 1946 as part of Operation Crossroads.

USS Nevada – Sunk as a target 31 July 1948.

HMS Nelson – Scrapped 1949.

HMS Ramillies – Scrapped 1949.

HMS Rodney – Scrapped 1948

USS Texas – Museum Ship. The first battleship to be a US National Historic Landmark.

HMS Warspite – Scrapped 1950.

HEAVY CRUISERS

USS Augusta – Scrapped 1960

HMS Frobisher – Scrapped 1949.

HMS Hawkins – Scrapped 1947.

USS Quincy – Scrapped 1974.

USS Tuscaloosa - Scrapped 1959.

HMS Argonaut – Scrapped 1995.

HMS Ajax – Scrapped 1949.

HMS Arethusa - Scrapped 1950.

[HMS Belfast – Museum Ship berthed on the River Thames in London. Commissioned in August 1939 shortly before the outbreak of World War II, Belfast was initially part of the British naval blockade against Germany. In June 1944, Belfast took part in Operation Neptune supporting the Normandy landings. In 1967, efforts were initiated to avert Belfast's expected scrapping and preserve her as a museum ship. Opened in October 1971, she is a popular tourist attraction and receives around a quarter of a million visitors per year.](#)

HMS Bellona – Scrapped 1958.

HMS Black Prince – Scrapped 1962.

HMS Capetown – Scrapped 1946.

HMS Ceres – Scrapped 1946.

HMS Danae – Scrapped 1948.

HMS Diadem – Sold to the Pakistan Navy, February 1956.

HMS Dragon – Transferred to Polish Navy in January 1943 as ORP Dragon. Damaged July 1944 and scuttled as part of artificial harbour.

HMS Emerald – Scrapped July 1948.

HMS Enterprise – Scrapped 1946.

Georges Leygues – French light cruiser. Scrapped 1959.

HMS Glasgow – Scrapped 1958.

HMS Mauritius – Scrapped 1965.

Montcalm – French Cruiser, Scrapped 1970.

HMS Orion – Scrapped 1949.

HMS Scylla – Scrapped 1950.

HMS Sirius – Scrapped 1956.

DESTROYERS & ESCORTS

HMCS Algonquin – Scrapped 1971.

USS Amesbury – Scrapped 1962.

USS Baldwin – Scuttled 5 June 1961.

USS Barton – Sunk as a target 8 October 1969.

HMS Bleasdale – Scrapped 1956.

HMS Boadicea – Sunk 13 June 1944.

HMCS Cape Breton – Royal Canadian Navy. Sunk as artificial reef 20 October 2001, near Nanaimo, Vancouver Island.

USS Carmick – Scrapped 1972.

HMS Cattistock – Scrapped 1957.

HMCS Chaudiere – Royal Canadian Navy. Scrapped 1950.

USS Corry – Sunk on D-Day, 6 June 1944.

HMS Cottesmore – Scrapped 1972.

USS Doyle – Scrapped 1972.

HMS Eglinton – Scrapped 1956.

HMS Faulknor – Scrapped 1946.

USS Frankford – Sunk as target off Puerto Rico 4 December 1973.

HMS Fury – Damaged by mine 21 June 1944. Scrapped 18 September 1944.

USS Glennon – Sunk after hitting mine off the Normandy coast 8 June 1944.

HnoMS Glaisdale – Royal Norwegian Navy. Scrapped 1961.

HMS Grenville – Scrapped 1983.

USS Harding – Scrapped 1947.

USS Hobson – Sunk in collision with USS Wasp in the North Atlantic 26 April 1952.

HMS Jervis – Scrapped 1954.

HMS Kelvin – Scrapped 1949.

HMS Kempenfelt – Transferred to Royal Canadian Navy 19 October 1939.
Renamed HMCS Assiniboine. Wrecked en route to breakers November 1945.
Wreck broken up in situ 1952.

HMCS Kitchener - Scrapped 1949 at Hamilton, Ontario

ORP Krakowiak – Reverted to Royal Navy as HMS Silverton. Scrapped 1958.

LA Combattante – Launched as HMS Haldon. Renamed La Combattante in 1942.
Mined she broke in two and sank quickly on 23 February 1945.

[USS Laffey – Museum Ship berthed at Patriots Point, Charleston, South Carolina, United States of America.](#)

USS McCook – Scrapped 1973.

HMS Melbreak – Scrapped 1956.

HMS Middleton – Scrapped 1957.

USS Murphy – Scrapped 1972.

[USS Jeremiah O'Brien – Museum Ship berthed at Fisherman's Wharf, Pier 45, San Francisco, California, United States of America.](#)

HMS Pytchley – Scrapped 1956.

USS Rich – Sunk by mine 8 June 1944.

USS Satterlee – Scrapped 1972.

HMS Saumarez – Scrapped 1950.

HMS Scorpion – Scrapped 1971.

HMS Scourge – Scrapped 1962.

HMS Serapis – Scrapped 1962.

HMCS Sioux – Launched as HMS Vixen. Transferred to Royal Canadian Navy February 1944. Scrapped at La Spezia, Italy, August 1965.

ORP Slazak – Launched as HMS Bedale.

HMS Stevenstone – Scrapped 1959.

HnoMS Stord – Royal Norwegian Navy. Scrapped 1959.

HnoMS Svenner – Royal Norwegian Navy. Svenner was the only allied ship to be sunk by German Naval activity on 6 June 1944.

HMS Swift – Mined and sunk on 24 June 1944.

HMS Talybont – Scrapped 1961.

HMS Tanatside – Scrapped 1964.

USS Thompson – Scrapped 1972.

HMS Ulster – Scrapped 1976.

HMS Ulysses – Scrapped 1970

HMS Undaunted – Sunk as a target by an Exocet missile fired from HMS Norfolk in 1978.

HMS Undine – Scrapped 1965.

HMS Urania – Scrapped 1970.

HMS Urchin – Scrapped 1964.

HMS Ursa – Scrapped 1967.

HMS Venus – Scrapped 1972.

HMS Verulam – Scrapped 1972.

HMS Vigilant – Scrapped 1965.

HMS Virago – Scrapped 1965.

HMS Wanderer – Scrapped 1946.

HMS Whimbrel – Sold to Egyptian Navy in November 1949. Renamed El Malik Farouk. Renamed Tariq in 1954 when King Farouk was deposed.

HMS Wrestler – Scrapped August 1944.

RHN Kriezis – Royal Hellenic Navy. Scrapped 1952.

OTHER WARSHIPS

MGB81 – Royal Navy Motor Gun Boat. On D-Day she provided cover at sea for United States troops landing on Omaha beach in Normandy. In 2009, the Portsmouth Naval Base Property Trust saved MGB81 with the help of a major grant from the National Heritage Memorial Fund.

2561 Blue Leader – RAF Air Sea Rescue Launch. She entered service in February 1943 and was involved in the D-Day landings. Now based at Hayling Island and used as a houseboat.

USS Bayfield – Scrapped 1969.

HMS Bulolo – Headquarters Ship at the ‘G’ for gold area. Scrapped in China 1968.

HMS Calshot – National Historic Ships - National Historic Fleet vessel number 1. Requisitioned by H.M. Government from 16th October, 1940 to 1st September, 1945. On D-Day, 6th June, 1944, she was a Headquarters Ship at the ‘J’ for Juno area. Currently, berthed in her home port of Southampton. After restoration she will be a D-Day heritage tourist attraction and escort for liners arriving and leaving the port.

Challenge – Dunkirk Little Ships Restoration Trust vessel. Challenge was involved in Operation Dynamo in 1940, evacuating servicemen from the Dunkirk beaches. On D-day she towed sections of the Mulberry Harbour across the English Channel to Normandy.

HMS Centurion – King George V class battleship commissioned in May 1913. On 7 June 1944, she was sunk as a D-Day Mulberry harbour blockship.

Courbet – French battleship. Scuttled 9 June 1944 as a breakwater during the Normandy landings.

USS Charles Carroll – Scrapped 1977.

HMCS Cowichan- Transferred to Greece in 1946 and served as Cowichan until 1956.

HMS Dacres – Scrapped 1946.

Devon Belle – Excursion vessel. Built in 1938, she helped to evacuate servicemen from Dunkirk in 1940 during Operation Dynamo. Involved in the construction of D-Day Mulberry Harbours on the south coast, she was a support vessel at Normandy in June 1944. After the war, Devon Belle returned to passenger service and is currently operating on the River Thames.

HMS Durban – Sunk as a D-Day Normandy breakwater 9 June 1944.

HMS Erebus – Scrapped 1947.

HNLMS Flores – Royal Netherlands Navy – Scrapped 1968.

Gralian – Motor cruiser built in 1937. During World War II she was a patrol vessel serving on the East Coast. Gralian was involved in the D-Day landings in June 1944.

HMS Hilary – Scrapped 1959.

Hyperion –Fast seagoing motor boat built in 1943. She became part of the War Department fleet and was used to carry agents to occupied France, On D-Day she was the smallest craft to reach Normandy under her own power. His Majesty King George VI and the Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, were VIP passengers when she was used as a floating ‘taxi’ transferring them ashore.

HMS Kingsmill – Scrapped 1947.

Landfall – Landing Craft Tank built 1944. An amphibious assault ship for landing tanks on beaches. The backbone of the invasion fleet, LCTs could carry up to 11 Sherman tanks. The LCTs were manned mainly by British crews and transported almost all the tanks, heavy artillery and armoured vehicles landed in Normandy. Landfall is the only surviving LCT which participated in Operation Neptune on D-Day.

HMS Largs – Scrapped 1968.

HMS Medusa – Built in 1943. On D-Day she served as a Navigation Leader marking the approach channels through minefields at Omaha beach. Medusa is the last Harbour Defence Motor Launch in original seagoing condition. A rededication ceremony of Medusa was held in Portsmouth Naval Base in October 2010 to mark the completion of the vessel's refit. The Guest of Honour was HRH The Princess Royal.

Morning Wings – Harbour Defence Launch built 1944. She first operated as naval vessel HDML1309 and is said to have taken part in the D-Day landings in World War II. Sold out of service in 1948, she was used as a smuggling boat in Gibraltar in the 1950s/1960s. Undergoing restoration at Upton upon Severn.

MTB102 – Motor Torpedo Boat. Built in 1937 she became the smallest and fastest warship of the Royal Navy. In 1940, during Operation Dynamo, she evacuated several hundred soldiers who escaped from Dunkirk. In 1944, MTB102 carried Winston Churchill and General Eisenhower on a secret outing in the Solent to view the armada of ships for the D-Day landings.

Paddle Steamer Ryde. Renamed HMS Ryde in 1939, she was initially used as a minesweeper in the Dover Straits. After two years she was converted to an anti-aircraft ship and served on the Thames Estuary. On 6th June 1944 she was part of the component of Operation Neptune. Reverting to her pre-war name Paddle Steamer Ryde after the war, she resumed her role as a passenger ferry between Portsmouth and Ryde. She retired in 1969 and since then has been a nightclub which eventually closed. She has been gradually deteriorating and in August 2006 her funnel collapsed. In 2012 the ship's bridge collapsed. PS Ryde is in very poor condition and is being closely monitored by National Historic Ships.

HNLMS Soemba – Royal Netherlands Navy - Scrapped 1985.

HMS Lawford – Sunk by aerial attack during Normandy landings 8 June 1944.

HnoMS Nordkapp – Royal Norwegian Navy. Sold to civilian owners in 1956. Sank off West Africa 1972

HMS Roberts – Scrapped 1965.

HNLMS Sumatra – Royal Netherlands Navy. Scuttled off the coast of Normandy on 9 June 1944 as part of a Gooseberry pier to protect the artificial Mulberry Harbour.

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Terry Yarwood, Chairman of the Tug Tender Calshot Trust, is a former television producer – director. In 2010, he produced a ‘Help For Heroes’ Charity Concert at the Queen Elizabeth II Terminal in the Port of Southampton. Our Guest of Honour was the Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire, Dame Mary Fagan. The Band of the Royal Corps of Signals performed a ‘Last Night of the Proms Concert’. Our guest speaker was Dan Snow, whose television programmes have featured the complexity and horrors of the D-Day invasion of Normandy. Port Director Doug Morrison, described the H4H concert as ‘fantastic’. A second ‘Help For Heroes’ Charity Concert was held in 2011. On this occasion the Band of the Royal Logistic Corps performed a concert of ‘Music from the Movies, Theatre and the Proms’. Dame Mary Fagan, Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire was our Guest of Honour. Terry was also responsible for the production of the ‘Titanic 100 - Concert of Commemoration’ event, marking the 100th anniversary departure of the ill-fated liner from the Port of Southampton on 10th April, 1912. Tug Tender Calshot, which was built in the same era, re-enacted the departure of RMS Titanic at 12 noon. Dame Mary Fagan, Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire, was our Guest of Honour and the Royal Marines Association Concert Band and Southampton Choral Society performed a concert of music.

In addition to promoting the surviving D-Day ships, we are committed to helping servicemen who have served our country. The charitable aim of the D-Day Heritage Ships Association is to support Help For Heroes.





COMBINED OPERATIONS BADGE DESIGN

The badge of Combined Operations consists of a 'Tommy' gun, an eagle, and a stockless anchor, representing the Army, the Royal Air Force and the Royal Navy.

THIS DOCUMENT IS 'WORK IN PROGRESS' AND WILL BE REVISED WHEN NEW INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE.

REVISED 2.

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