

Her Name Was SS.

On This Day

17 September 1940

On this day we remember the loss of our relatives Thomas David Newberry and James Greenway fellow crew members and Captain William Thomas Care of the SS.Tregenna.

We further remember: Ships of The British Merchant Navy Captains, Crew and loved ones. Including the lesser well known, yet not forgotten.

Her name was SS: She was a lady of the waves, named **Daybreak, Tregenna, Dudley Rose, City of Beneras, Crown Arun** etc, whatever her title she was not designed intentionally to face enemy action. She was generally a Steamship born or rather built to serve her masters, carry safely her crew, passengers and cargo and supply a Nation. Those who sailed upon her, leaving families and loved ones ashore, at home, behind them and often during conflict alone and forever. Many that promised to remember them, are here no more, re-united possibly as time has gone by. The ships, travelers and crews, sail on in a different world now and loved ones hopefully passage eternally with those brave men and voyagers once more.

It was a hard way to earn a crust, especially during Wartime, with so many vessels seeking safe haven. With often her journeys end, not reached and a final resting place, the Ocean bed and no known grave but the sea, for the men, women and boys or children that sailed these graceful steel ladies. "We must remember them all". The many that survived attacks by those that would do them harm, haunted forever by the sights and sounds of ships and fellow men of the sea becoming extinct in such a horrible way and those that escaped the hunters time and time again, with no thought of giving in will always remember "These men that died to save us all".

We, as an island race, are steeped in Maritime history and owe so much to so many, the Merchant Navy have until recently seemed to be the forgotten service, the backbone of our country's Navy, yet a distant relative when the honours are bestowed. These good men worked for a living, for bread and butter and maybe a love of the sea, others just to work, as times were hard. Whatever reason seamen sail, they expect at some time to go home. Faced with the hardships of life at sea, many would be deterred from such a life. To sail knowing that any voyage could be the last, facing war time dangers and a watery grave, did not deter these brave men and our Maritime life line was kept open by these sailors from many homes and ports.

Many sail what can be a "Cruel Sea", not always in times of conflict, we ask that our God will "Bless this Ship and all who Sail In Her" at a launch and many pray for a safe voyage and early return for vessels leaving harbour. All ships and crew from liners to fishing vessels, rowing boat to super tanker, require safe passage, a flag to fly under and protection from danger. Safe harbour to rest in and when tragedy occurs a lifeboat to help them. We pray for the safety, support those that may rescue and ask our god to guide and protect. But we must also remember, LEST WE FORGET.

In Memory of :

Those Good Men and the women and children, still not Home From The Sea and those of all lost from this world with "No Known Grave but the Sea". We shall Remember Them.

“WE REMEMBER THEM”



On This Day : 17 September 1940

Her Name Was “City of Benares”, “Tregenna”, “Crown Arun”.

ATLANTIC OCEAN: U-boat [U-48](#) torpedoes and sinks the SS City of Benares, killing 77 British children and 248 crew en-route to Canada. The ship, part of convoy OB-213, had departed Liverpool, England, for Montreal and Quebec City, Canada, on 13 September carrying 199 passengers, 90 of which were children. The children are being transported to Canada as part of a government program. A few hours after the [RN](#) escort had withdrawn, the ship is torpedoed at 56.48N, 21.15W. The torpedo hits the ship on the port side and she sinks after a short time. Only 57 passengers, including 13 children, are rescued. Immediately after the sinking, the British government ceases the transportation of children to Canada and South Africa.

[U-65](#) sank SS Tregenna in Convoy HX-71.

[U-99](#) sank SS Crown Arun.

“They Have No Grave Above The Waves”.

17th September 1940 (World War II) saw the sinking a British passenger liner, Her Name Was “S.S. *City of Benares*”, by a German submarine. 90 children on board were being carried to safety in Canada. The S.S. *City of Benares*, with 406 crew and passengers aboard, was 630 miles out in the North Atlantic on September 17, 1940, when it was torpedoed by a German U-boat. As the *Benares* sank, passengers and crew abandoned ship in the stormy waters. Those who made it into lifeboats faced gale-force winds and icy waters—a “recipe for hypothermia.” With the nearest help 300 miles away, the survivors faced long odds. Despite frequent heroism, many drowned or died of overexposure before the HMS *Hurricane* arrived and rescued 108 survivors. In its search, the *Hurricane* missed Lifeboat 12, and its passengers endured eight more harrowing days on the open sea before being rescued. In all, only 13 of the 90 children survived.

We further remember CHARNOCK, Ernest, Ordinary Signalman, C/JX 171107, (Eaglet, O/P), MPK and MARSHALL, George, Petty Officer Telegraphist, D/JX 132113, (Eaglet, O/P), MPK Previously recorded as perishing on board “Tregenna” have now been correctly remembered with “Benares”

'SS Crown Arun' (2,372t) cargo ship, from Gaspe, Quebec, Canada to Hull with a cargo of pit props, was sunk by U 99 in the North-western Approaches. No Casualties. * TREGENNA WAS SUNK BY U 65 ON SEPT. 17-1940 WITH THE LOSS OF 33 LIVES.

“We Shall Remember Them”

