

Engagements Deaths



KENT-SIMPSON
On Monday 6th July, 1992, at Stoneley Parish Church, Rutherglen, by the Rev. Alastair M. Morrison, assisted by Barrie Robert, elder son of the late Dr. John L. Kent and of Mrs Margaret Kent, East Kilbride, the late Mr Robert Simpson of Mrs Simpson, Rutherglen.

Deaths

Balfour - At the Western General Hospital, Edinburgh, on 8th July, 1992, **JOANNE GALLIE** (nee KATHARINE WARKEN), widow of the late Derek Balfour, dearly loved mother of Michael, Fiona and Angus. Funeral service in Perth Crematorium, 11.30am, at 12.15pm, to which all friends are invited. Family flowers only. Please, otherwise donations to the Red Cross. Bell - At Law Hospital, Perth, on 7th July, 1992, **GEORGE**, husband of the late Jean Suttler and father of Rita Rae. No flowers or letters. Please funeral private.

BURNS - Peacefully, at Beach House Nursing Home, Steilmorrie, on Tuesday, 7th July, 1992 (in the 81st year), **ALAN PERKINS BURNS**, formerly of 36 Koslos Drive, Dennistoun, will be sadly missed by family and friends. Fortified by rites of the Holy Church, he is interred in St Thomas's R.C. Church, Cumbernauld Road, Glasgow, tomorrow, Friday, 10th July, at 10am, with burial in the afternoon. Funeral thereafter to St Peter's Cemetery, Dalbeath, Tolcross, Glasgow, arriving at approximately 11am.

ARGARET GORDON, 81, 1992, a stepmother, will be sadly missed by all her family. Simpson Maternity

MECKAY - Peacefully, at St James's Hospital, on 7th July, 1992, after a long illness, very bravely borne, **MAY (nee PROUDFOOT)**, beloved wife of the late William Proudfoot and the late Elizabeth Proudfoot, and sister of Elizabeth Proudfoot, fortified by rites of Holy Church, Holy Cross R.C. Church, Dixon Avenue, tomorrow, 10th July, at 9.30am. Crematorium, Linn Crematorium, Linnhead, Glasgow, to which all friends are respectfully invited.

MACKINTOSH - Suddenly, at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, on Monday, 6th July, 1992, **ARCHIBALD BRENNER**, beloved husband of the late Rachel Grendase, dearly loved father of David, Andrew, Billy and Russell, a proud great grandfather of Graig and Scott. Funeral of friends' despatch of at Woodside Crematorium, Paisley, at 11.30am. Family flowers only.

MCRAE - Peacefully, at home, on Monday, 6th July, 1992, **DR. D.K. MACRAE** (Kenneth), dearly beloved husband of Diane, much loved father of Kirsty, daughter of Allan, dear son of Farquhar and brother of Mary. Funeral service at St Margaret's Church, Monday, 8th July, at 11.30am, Cambridgehall. Family flowers only.

ROSS - Suddenly, at Dumfries Royal Infirmary, on 7th July, 1992, **JOANNE CATHERINE ROSS**, loving mother of Irene. Funeral service at Dalwood Crematorium (East Chapel), Bromley, on Saturday, 10th July, at 11.30am. Family flowers or letters, please.

ROSS - Peacefully, at Canisburn Hospital, Bearsden, on 7th July, 1992, **ALICE COVENTRY**, beloved wife of the late Alexander, late of Paisley, dear mother of William and Alice, grandmother of Charles. Funeral to be held at Canisburn, on Monday, 8th July, at 11.30am. Friends, please meet at Hawkhead Cemetery, Cottage Airtvina 2.20pm.

Eight lessons learned from tragedy of Antares sinking

Exclusive report
by IAN BRUCE

THE Department of Trade and Industry's report on the sinking of the trawler Antares by a Royal Navy nuclear submarine in the Clyde will today make eight recommendations aimed at avoiding a repeat of the tragedy which cost four fishermen's lives.

While the report confirms that the Navy was responsible for the tragedy, it also says it is "essential" to ensure that all fishing vessels are equipped with VHF radio equipment, and that crews maintain a continuous listening watch in the interests of their own safety.

The findings of the independent inquiry by the DTI's Marine Accident Investigation Branch largely mirror those already reached by both the Navy's own internal inquiry, and the fatal accident inquiry at Paisley which followed the sinking in November, 1990.

All three blame human error aboard HMS Trenchant, a hunter-killer submarine which was being used to test a potential nuclear boat commander when the accident occurred. The DTI describes this as "a partial breakdown in both the structure and standards of watchkeeping" following the completion of a command course.

Most of the report's recommendations have already been implemented in full or in part by the Navy, although three are still under discussion.

The recommendations are:
 Extending the notification scheme already in force in the Clyde to warn fishermen of the areas and times of planned submarine activity to all UK submarine exercise grounds;
 Policing exercise areas with naval surface vessels to ensure adequate warning for fishing boats which have not heard or heeded warnings;
 Compelling submarines not on exercise to travel on the surface in known fishing grounds;
 Extending the minimum safety distance between submarines and other vessels to 4000 yards, allowing for the safety of navigation of the submarine and the extent of towed fishing gear;

Impressing on submarine commanders the need to stick to reporting facts and not inferences when incidents occur;
 That the Defence Ministry should carry out a thorough review of its instructions for commanders to ensure that the lessons of the Antares incident are known to all submariners;
 That submarine exercise areas should be reduced to the minimum consistent with training needs;
 And that fishermen should be made aware of the consequences of not maintaining a continuous VHF radio watch as recommended by the Admiralty.

The Navy's main reservations are understood to be the need for submarines, for operational reasons, to retain the right to exit their bases submerged in certain circumstances, and the

fact that concentrating all submarine exercises in fewer areas might actually increase the risk of collisions.

The report says HMS Trenchant was to blame for compiling an inaccurate picture of the Antares's position and course in the Sound of Bute, and is critical of "inadequate" attempts to contact other fishing vessels in the area after the incident.

It also highlights the fact that the relay of "inaccurate information" to the Faslane base operations room led to a delay of more than eight hours in mounting a search and rescue operation and "could have contributed to the loss of life", although there is no evidence that any of the trawler's crew reached the surface alive.

It goes on to recommend that fishing vessels be compelled to slow lifesaving equipment properly, and to ensure that it is maintained "in good order" and ready for release in the event of a collision leading to the sinking of the vessel.

The Defence Ministry has already earmarked £500,000 to provide acoustic "pingers" to be fitted to fishing nets in the Clyde from next year as part of an 18-month experiment to find ways of improving safety.

But neither the Navy nor the fishermen are convinced that the scheme is practical or of any value. A concentration of trawlers equipped with the devices would be likely to create "a wall of noise" which might confuse sonar operators on a submerged submarine and make it impos-

ble to distinguish one contact from another.

The report welcomes the fact that the Navy has already undertaken a review of its own command and control arrangements during submarine courses, and therefore makes no recommendations on that issue. Since the Antares incident, submarine exercises have been reduced by about one-third at times when fishing is permitted, and all potential nuclear submarine commanders must spend a day at sea in a fishing vessel to improve their knowledge of the fishermen's problems.

A Clyde "hotline" has also been established to give fishermen a direct link with submarine operations staff at Faslane, and there are regular consultations between the Navy and trawlermen.

Advance warning of submerged submarine activity is already being given, and now covers all of the exercise areas in the Clyde within the UK 12-mile limit. A further expansion of the scheme is under discussion.

French skipper fined £1500

A French trawler skipper was yesterday fined £1500 for illegally fishing in the Bristol Channel with undersized nets.

Jean Valliant, 41, appeared in court after his 53ft boat Astree was detained by a boarding party from the minesweeper HMS Sheraton on Tuesday.