



The Bulldog Bulletin



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The Newsletter of The Royal British Legion
California Branch No 1

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READING



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SHEFFIELD



PORTSMOUTH



NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE

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BRADFORD

RBL July report,



Ian gave a lifetime of service to British Legion

Tributes have been paid to Royal British Legion stalwart Ian Cannell, who has died.

Mr Cannell, who served as the island's branch president and UK national chairman, was recognised for his dedication to the Legion in 2004 when he was appointed **CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.**



He was known as the voice of Tynwald Day having provided the commentary from the public address system at St John's for 50 years. Mr Cannell was also heavily involved with the Manx Grand Prix. He drove course cars for the TT and MGP for many years and commentated for Manx Radio on the races.

He also commentated on the round-island powerboat races from the battlements of Peel Castle in the 1960s and numerous royal visits. A Peel man through and through having lived there throughout his life, he served as town clerk on Peel Commissioners from 1985 to 1999. The flag at the town hall is flying at half mast as a mark of respect. Brigadier Norman Butler, chairman of the island's Armed Forces Day committee, said: 'I have known and respected Ian Cannell since we first worked together in 1985.' He was a man of considerable intelligence and a dedicated professional with exceptional powers of expression.

'He made an outstanding contribution to the Royal British Legion on the island and was the UK national chairman for five important years. He was the voice of the island every Tynwald Day - and what a voice!' Brigadier Butler worked with Mr Cannell from 2007 to organise Manx National Armed Forces Day.

'He was a tower of strength to me through challenging periods and I cannot speak too highly of his competence and loyalty. I shall miss him deeply as an adviser and even more so as a great friend.'

Major Charles Wilson, vice-chairman of the Royal British Legion Isle of Man, said Mr Cannell 'gave a lifetime of service to the Royal British Legion', travelling world-wide working tirelessly as an ambassador for the charity.' The Legion mourns the loss of a faithful comrade,' he said.

Speaking on behalf of Peel Commissioners, chairman Ian Davison described Mr Cannell as 'an excellent and much-loved clerk. Both myself and my fellow commissioners of Peel would like to send their deepest sympathy to Mr. Cannell's family and friends at this very sad time and all our thoughts are with them.'

Mr. Cannell leaves a long-time companion, Mollie Quirk.

The Royal Navy is monitoring drug smuggling in the Indian Ocean alongside allies to interrupt a major form of terrorist funding.

Royal Navy frigate HMS Monmouth has seized cannabis and heroin from a suspect vessel in the Indian Ocean worth an estimated £65m.

The haul is expected to deal a major blow to the funding of terrorism, which is known to generate cash through black market activities.

HMS Monmouth, nicknamed the Black Duke after James Scott, 1st Duke of Monmouth, is the seventh Royal Navy ship to bear the name, and was launched in 1991.

It is currently patrolling the Indian Ocean as part of an international coalition called Combined Task Force 150, which is seeking to "promote maritime security in order to counter terrorist acts and related illegal activities, which terrorists use to fund or conceal their movements".

Image: HMS Monmouth's team and the recovered drugs haul. Pic: Crown Copyright

Sailors and Royal Marines from the Type 23 frigate destroyed 455kg of cannabis and 266kg of heroin after finding it hidden beneath three tonnes of ice in the freezer of a fishing boat.

The suspicious dhow - a type of vessel common to the Middle East and Indian Ocean - had been spotted by HMS Monmouth in an area which was not normally known for fishing.



Launching into action before the smugglers could destroy any evidence, HMS Monmouth sent two boarding teams in fast rigid inflatable boats to intercept the criminals' vessel.

Image: HMS Monmouth - the Black Duke - with the intercepted fishing dhow. Pic: Crown Copyright
The teams spent 60 hours painstakingly scouring the vessel for narcotics, before eventually finding them hidden in a freezer beneath three tonnes of ice.

The haul means that Combined Task Force 150, which is currently being led by the French Navy, has now scored three major drugs busts in this month alone.

Earlier in May, Australian frigate HMAS Arunta pounced on a dhow and recovered 250kg of heroin.

That drug bust came hot on the heels of a double seizure of heroin by the French frigate Surcouf which brought in 400kg of heroin, worth around £120m on the streets.

Commander Ian Feasey, HMS Monmouth's commanding officer, said: "Such a substantial seizure of drugs will deal a significant blow to the international narcotics trade which is known to provide funding for terrorist organisations.

"I am extremely proud of the professionalism, diligence and perseverance of my boarding team to achieve a result in such arduous conditions.

"This has been an effort by the whole ship's company and their efforts speak volumes about the Royal Navy's ability and commitment to preventing illegal activity on the high seas."

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Audie Leon Murphy (20 June 1925 – 28 May 1971) was one of the most decorated [American](#) combat

soldiers of [World War II](#), receiving every military combat award for valor available from the [U.S. Army](#), as well as French and Belgian awards for heroism. Murphy received the [Medal of Honor](#) for valor demonstrated at the age of 19 for single-handedly holding off an entire company of German soldiers for an hour at the [Colmar Pocket](#) in France in January 1945, then leading a successful counterattack while wounded and out of ammunition.

Murphy was born into a large [sharecropper](#) family in [Hunt County, Texas](#). His father abandoned them, and his mother died when he was a teenager. Murphy left school in fifth grade to pick [cotton](#) and find other work to help support his family; his skill with a hunting rifle was a necessity for putting food on the table.

After the [attack on Pearl Harbor](#), Murphy's older sister helped him to falsify documentation about his birthdate to meet the minimum-age requirement for enlisting in the military. Turned down by

the [Navy](#) and the [Marine Corps](#), he enlisted in the Army. He first saw action in the [Allied invasion of Sicily](#) and the [Battle of Anzio](#), and in 1944 participated in the [liberation of Rome](#) and [invasion of southern France](#). Murphy fought at [Montélimar](#), and led his men on a successful assault at the L'Omet quarry near [Cleurie](#) in northeastern France in October.

After the war, Murphy enjoyed a 21-year acting career. He played himself in the 1955 autobiographical film [To Hell and Back](#), based on his 1949 memoirs of the same name, but most of his roles were in [westerns](#). He made guest appearances on celebrity television shows and starred in the series [Whispering Smith](#). Murphy was a fairly accomplished songwriter, and bred [quarter horses](#) in California and Arizona, becoming a regular participant in horse racing.

Suffering from what would today be termed [posttraumatic stress disorder](#) (PTSD), he slept with a loaded handgun under his pillow and looked for solace in addictive sleeping pills. In his last few years, he was plagued by money problems, but refused offers to appear in alcohol and cigarette commercials because he did not want to set a bad example.

Murphy died in a plane crash in Virginia in 1971 shortly before his 46th birthday, and was interred with full military honors at [Arlington National Cemetery](#).

\$37 billion of treasure hidden around Germany

AS Nazi Germany began to fall in 1945 its leaders set about hiding the treasures they looted for the previous six years.

Priceless art and silver, some of it stolen from the Jewish people they sent to the gas chambers, artefacts taken from museums and tonnes of gold — all stashed in mines or sunk in lakes as defeat in World War Two loomed, [The Sun](#) reported.

While some of these cultural treasures were saved by Allied units, around \$37 billion of loot is still missing. And the hunt for it is still on.

Last year, locals in the Polish town of Walbrzych claimed to have found evidence of secret railway tunnels where, legend has it, Third Reich generals hid a train loaded with gold and jewellery

In 2012 a \$1.8b horde of art, some of it stolen by the Nazis, was uncovered in a Munich flat. Treasure hunters have also focused on various lakes where billions in Reichsbank gold was thought to have been dumped.

Here, we pick out what is still missing — and where it might be.

1. WEWELSBURG, HIMMLER'S \$93 MILLION IN SILVER

IN the hills surrounding the castle of Wewelsburg, northeast Germany, the hunt is on for an SS jewellery haul worth around \$93m.

SS overlord Heinrich Himmler bought the castle before the war and used it to plot his death squad raids.

As the Reich crumbled, he abandoned Wewelsburg and is thought to have stashed more than 9200 silver rings he awarded to members of the SS — which he ordered be returned to the castle after their deaths — in a cave.

Konrad Kienast, 44, a gas company worker, said: “I have been looking for five years. I guess the odds can't be any longer than playing the lotto. Besides, you get a lot of fresh air and there's really no danger involved. One day I might get lucky.”

9,200 silver rings ... treasure was supposedly stashed at Himmler's castle in Wewelsburg. *Source: AP*

JONAS VALLEY, HITLER'S UFOS AND THE TSAR'S AMBER ROOM

Jonas Valley, in central Germany, is said to have it all. Its centre, the town of Ohrdruf, was home to the S-III Führer HQ.

Treasure hunters believe Adolf Hitler's atom bomb, the Tsarist Amber Room stolen from a Russian palace, numerous lost art masterpieces and tonnes of Reichsbank gold are waiting to be unearthed in a tunnel system dug into the surrounding mountains.

Americans liberated Ohrdruf and US authorities have since classified all 1945 documents relating to it.

Above and below ground the area is littered with unexploded shells and at weekends authorities play cat-and-mouse with treasure hunters who enter the sealed-off area illegally.

Fortune hunter Martin Stade believes Hitler had UFO-like flying saucers developed in bunkers at the site.



This Angry Pedestrian Got A Hilarious Dose Of Instant Karma When He Yelled At A Driver For No Reason.

<http://www.trendingly.com/instant-karma> Click Full Screen

One of last remaining World War II Falmouth Home Guard bikes restored by Devoran man goes on sale.

You can own a piece of Falmouth World War II history after what is probably the only surviving home guard bicycle of its kind went on sale.

Ben Evans rescued the bike from a scrap dealer and carefully reassembled it using original parts as far as possible over 12 months.



The 24-year-old from Devoran said he had spoken to Raleigh, who bought the Humber brand in 1938, and said as far as they know no other example survived the 21st Century

"It is almost certain she is the very last of her kind anywhere in the world. She is absolutely kitted out and finished to the last degree, so much so that she has been used for a number of professional period drama and museum productions in the time I've had her back on the road."

He said it was "with much regret" that he was selling the bike as he does not have space in his new house and unable to look after it as much as he would like.

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He said: "I did this as a pet project that got very detailed very quickly.

"I've always fancied something a bit different and I love working with heritage vehicles, so when I saw it for sale I thought it would be a great chance to own a piece of history as well as being able to own a totally unique vintage vehicle."

When Falmouth was bombed in 1940 thousands of young men joined the local defence volunteers and, led by the vicar of Penwerris, carried out bike patrols of the area.

Their lamps were blacked-out and they would ensure others did not have lights on in the dark.

Meet the Goughs: The extraordinary family who were awarded a record-breaking **THREE** Victoria Cross Medals in just two generations



A family has been named the most courageous in Britain after being awarded a record breaking three Victoria Cross Medals for acts of bravery in battle.

In just two generations of the Gough family, three male members were awarded the VCs for acts of 'extreme gallantry and devotion to duty in the face of the enemy'.

The heroic exploits of the Gough family are detailed in a new guide, which lists all 1,353 recipients of the country's highest military honour for the first time.

The online database, by family history website ancestry.co.uk, contains a detailed description of their heroic acts and where they are buried.

It also includes photographs of every recipient, their gravesite and their medal - from the first in 1857 to the last in 2007.

General Sir Charles Gough was the first in his family to be awarded the VC for numerous acts of bravery from the age of 25.

One of these acts was saving his brother, General Sir Hugh Gough, at the 1857 Siege of Lucknow during the Indian Mutiny while a major in the 5th Bengal European Cavalry.

In another, he is said to have had a 'desperate' hand to hand combat, while in a third he: 'Attacked one of the enemy's leaders and pierced him with his sword, which was carried out of his hand in the melee. He defended himself with his revolver and shot two of the Enemy.' His brother General Sir Hugh Gough went on to win a VC himself in the same year - also during the Indian Mutiny.

He 'particularly distinguished himself' as a 23-year-old lieutenant of the 1st Bengal European Light Cavalry.

His citation says he: 'Charged across a swamp, and captured two guns, although defended by a vastly superior body of the enemy.'

'On this occasion he had his horse wounded in two places, and his turban cut through by sword cuts, whilst engaged in combat with three Sepoys.'

In another battle he showed a 'brilliant example to his regiment' and 'engaged himself in a series of single combats, until at length he was disabled by a musketball through the leg'.

Runs in the family: Sir Hugh Gough, left, and his nephew Sir John Edmond Gough, right, were both awarded VCs

Read

more: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2121419/Britains-bravest-family-awarded-record-breaking-Victoria-Cross-Medals-just-generations.html#ixzz4jpZsD1Rl>

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