



Capt George E Hunt DSO* DSC* MD**RN (30-32)

George was born in Scotland and brought up in Uganda before, aged 7, being sent to boarding school in Scotland. He graduated from Conway with nomination Midshipman RNR, before gaining valuable experience serving 4 years with Henderson Line, then Blue Funnel Line. He completed his Midshipman RNR training on HMS *Achilles* whose captain influenced George to volunteer for submarines. The Admiralty accepted 100 RNRs, known as the 'Hungry Hundred', including George, who accepted a commission in 1938. After a spell on HMS *Foxhound*, he volunteered for submarines. The same year, he met Phoebe and they married in 1939 as George joined his first submarine.

In 1940, following the sinking of HMS *Unity*, he was Mentioned in Dispatches, before being appointed to HMS *Proteus*, based in the Mediterranean where she sank 17 Axis ships. Following *Proteus*' collision with the Italian destroyer *Sagittario*, George was awarded the DSC. In 1942, he was appointed to his first command, later taking command of HMS *Ultror*. After initial patrols off Norway, *Ultror* was sent to Malta where she completed 16 Mediterranean patrols. Her 15th patrol in June 1944 proved to be the most successful and was complimented by Admiral Cunningham's signals:

Great Credit is due to the CO HM Submarine Ultror, Lieutenant G E Hunt DSC RN for this most satisfactory Patrol during which one F-Lighter, one 3,000t Motor Ship and one Tanker were sunk. HM Submarine Ultror's actions on the 27th June rank with some of the most outstanding of the War. The success achieved by Ultror has been most outstanding and is due to the consistently conspicuous daring of her Commanding Officer.

In recognition of *Ultror*'s achievements, George gained a second DSC, two DSOs and another Mentioned in Dispatches. But typically modest, George said, at the recent launch of his book: 'It is my crew who deserve the accolades, not me, they volunteered and they were good people.'

After teaching at the Submarine Commanding Officers Qualifying Course, then as Operations Officer to Flag Officer Submarines, in 1953 George commanded the Underwater Detection Establishment. Three years later, he was appointed Senior Officer West Indies with the rank of Commodore. He returned to the UK in 1958 as Chief of Staff to Flag Officer Submarines, retiring in 1963.

He and his family settled in Brisbane, where George joined Evans Deacon's Shipyard, later joining the staff of the British High Commission and transferring to the RAN Emergency List, before finally retiring in 1976. During his lengthy retirement, he became involved in many local and State Associations. His book *Diving Stations* was published last year.

George was a person of exceptional qualities, who set the example for all, a great leader of men. He leaves behind his daughter Susan Howard and her two children Sarah and Alastair.