

Herald

Vignette: HMS Herald
August 1975



Contents

HMS Herald	1
August 1975	1
Dad's last night at sea... (August 1975).....	1
Comment on Photographs –	1
Photographs of HMS Herald, August 1975	2
Photographs of HMS Herald, August 1975 (continued)	3
Photographs of HMS Herald, August 1975 (continued)	4
Photographs of HMS Herald, August 1975 (continued)	5

HMS Herald

August 1975

My diary written a couple of years later records:

Tremendous to be with Dad on his last sea-going visit as Hydrographer – to be present at his last mess dinner. Insights into naval life.

Dad's last night at sea... (August 1975)

Excerpt from Sailor's Luck: At Sea & Ashore in Peace and War, autobiography by Rear Admiral Geoffrey Hall, 1999 (pp 234-235):

With all our ships working hard that summer, I made a particular point of visiting all those within reach, and giving a farewell address to their ships' companies, in which I was able to outline recent developments 'in high places' and stress the greatly improved prospects for the Surveying Service arising from them. The last of these visits, in August, was to our new ship *Herald*, then working off the Outer Hebrides. After a big welcome from her Captain, I received lavish hospitality and spent my last night on board. Next day, before being landed by boat, I made my final farewell address to the ship's company on the Flight Deck, and as we drew away from the gangway, to the last shrill notes of the piping party, I watched, with a twinge of pride and sadness, my flag being slowly lowered from *Herald's* masthead...

Though not stated in the book, I accompanied Dad during this last visit to HMS Herald in August 1975, and so witnessed the above events.

Comment on Photographs –

The photographs that follow were compiled in January 2019, over 43 years after the photographs were taken! Many of the details are forgotten, but the photos themselves have stimulated memories...

I remember looking at the two Forth bridges – the newer Forth Road Bridge (suspension bridge built in the 1960s), and the Forth Railway Bridge, built in the nineteenth century.

I also remember Dad looking at the statue which was a war memorial near Fort William, and mountains near Ben Nevis.

There's a really nice picture of Mother and Father beside a Scottish loch. My father is sitting on a rock, and my mother is standing. My father is holding a red plastic mug and smoking a cigarette, mother is holding a green plastic mug, and in the foreground I can just see a brown plastic mug and a picnic basket – tell-tale evidence of the ubiquitous thermos of coffee!

I remember the four-propeller Britannia Airways plane, and the flight across the Coigeach Peninsula and Summer Isles to Stornoway.

The pictures of HMS Herald bring back some wonderful memories of life at sea, the survey ship with Lewis in the background, and the kind and capable crew assembled on the flight deck, after formally 'farewell-ing' my father at the end of his long seagoing career...

Photographs of HMS Herald, August 1975



Above: Forth Road Bridge



Above: Forth Road and Railway Bridges



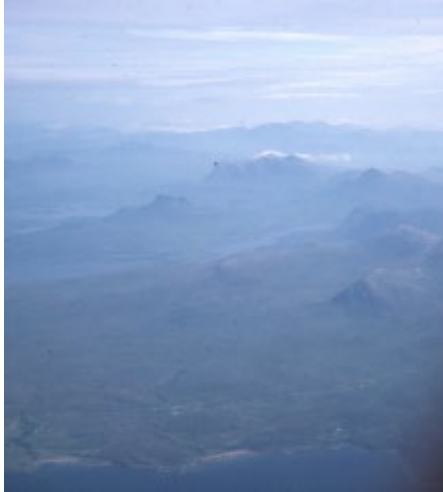
Below: War memorial statue near Fort William



Below: Mother and Father beside a Scottish loch



Photographs of HMS Herald, August 1975 (continued)



Above left: over the Coigeach mountains



Below: near Ben Nevis



Above: Summer Isles (Tanera Mhor) Below: Flight from Inverness to Stornoway



Photographs of HMS Herald, August 1975 (continued)



Above: Dawn at sea Below: Anchor away!

Above left: Admiral's flag from masthead Above right: Foredeck and Lewis Below: Ship's Company on Flight Deck



Photographs of HMS Herald, August 1975 (continued)



Above and below: HMS Herald



Above and below: Leaving HMS Herald

