



C S FORESTER SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

No. 8 June 2002

A Life Before the Mast

Peter de Loriol delves into Dulwich 'Old Boy', CS Forester's early years

'Cecil Lewis Troughton Smith (1899-1966), the future writer C S Forester of Hornblower fame, was born in Cairo. He was the fifth and last child of an English schoolteacher teaching upper-class Egyptian boys the rudiments of an English education.

Aged three, Cecil, his siblings and their mother, were shipped back to England in the hopes that the children could get a public school education. Their father remained teaching in Egypt only returning one month in the year.

Money was tight, for a teacher's pay was modest, but Mrs Smith found a house on Shenley Street SE5, opposite the South London Gallery on Peckham Road. The area was insalubrious and the neighbours regarded the lone mother and her brood as strange. In turn, the Smiths regarded the neighbours as beneath them, Cecil hoped against hope that he was the product of a secret liaison such was his embarrassment of his family's predicament, especially when his lonely mother took to the bottle.

Cecil was never taught to read but copied his elder siblings, borrowing his brothers' annuals about pirates, treasure and Spaniards, later graduating to *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. His first schooling was at the local council school where their better quality clothes, English and superior intelligence marked out the Smith children for bullying. His elder brothers and sisters gained scholarships to excellent local schools.

Lack of funds meant that only the ground floor rooms could be adequately furnished. The children played Pirates with large cardboard boxes littering the floors, while the local library and Rider Haggard,

Henty and Ballantyne sated his thirst for adventure.

His second school was to be Christ's Hospital, conditional on his receiving a scholarship. His father, however, was deemed to have sufficient funds, despite being the only breadwinner in a comparatively large family. So Cecil, aged 11, was sent to a local school, Alleyn's. Here he learnt that being bright had its drawbacks - he was bullied mercilessly. It stopped after the first year and he settled into the daily routine very happily. He discovered, amongst other pleasures, that smearing a tiny trace of bicycle oil on the blackboard made it impossible to write and secreting a dead fish in the innermost reaches of a pupil's desk was a joy.

In 1915, Cecil Smith was awarded a scholarship to Dulwich College. Here was a different atmosphere, a public school with rules largely dictated by the boys. A school that set standards of behaviour and a dress code involving starched, detachable collars. The Master, as the headmaster was called, issued a request that starched collars were to be worn no longer due to mounting laundry costs. Needless to say, the boys stuck with their starched collars. It was here that Cecil conducted his dalliances with the local girls and it was here that a major scandal blew up, but not of his making!

Two girls at a nearby school were discovered to be pregnant. They were cross-examined by their teachers, parents, the local clergy and the police. They kept stoically quiet until the barrage of questions wore them down. The natural turn of events was that several boys at Dulwich College were asked to see the Master. They were never seen again!

The First World War barely impinged on the school apart from the continuous cavalcade of Old Boys' names recited in Chapel as the latest casualties of the War. The tall, 6'5", 17 year-old gangling youth applied, like his peers, to join the Army but failed his medical examination - Cecil had a heart condition. He dejectedly applied to be a medical student at Guy's Hospital - not out of passion but because his brilliant older brother, a rising star in the firmament of medicine, could assist him financially. His medical studies though, were cut short by his venture into freelance writing and his first successful novel, *Payment Deferred*, later to be a major vehicle for the actor Charles Laughton, was the beginning of his career.

It was only when his first writings were published that Cecil changed his name. Whilst his schoolfriends knew his real name, very few of his later friends found out. His autobiography glossed over his early formative years and one can't help feeling that like his hero, Horatio Hornblower, he was very conscious of his somewhat disadvantaged early life, but also like his hero, his name became synonymous with the most vivid sea adventures ever written.'

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THE AFRICAN QUEEN



C. S. FORESTER

Last year, at a concert, there was a brass band playing a composition called "Mr Midshipman Bassoonblower, Variations on "A Drunken Sailor"

1. Introduction 2 Rum 3 Bourbon 4 Napoleon Brandy 5 Vodka
It was composed by Andrew Skirrow

Was this inspired by our hero? Maybe, although Horry was notoriously careful with liquor.

Jetse Reijenga, The Netherlands



Meeting held on 17 March 2002, Sapperton Tunnel

We met at The Tunnel Inn close by the Sapperton Tunnel. A pub lunch in the Inn was followed by a talk in the Barn from the Cotswold Canal Trust about the Thames and Severn canal, its origins and history. We learnt how the canal had been built in a straight line through the hill, of the privations of the tunnellers working deep underground setting off explosives to create a magnificent engineering feat – still the third longest tunnel in Britain. Unfortunately despite the dank weather there was insufficient water in the canal for us to venture into it by boat.

During the day there was then an opportunity to purchase books from the considerable collection of the late John Perrott.

5. The original wood-fired engine has been replaced by a conventional diesel

Minutes of AGM held on 17 March 2002

- ❖ Minutes of the last meeting had been published in the Society's newsletter and were agreed.
- ❖ 16 members (including a member from USA) were present.
- ❖ Those present were content with the way the Society was run. Membership remains stable at around 80 worldwide.
- ❖ Active recruitment of members would involve effort and expense beyond our current resources.
- ❖ Finances were in good order though to save Committee members from subsidising the Society, subscriptions would be raised to £10 or \$15 per year to be collected annually at the time of the AGM for administrative ease.
- ❖ The Chairman reported slow progress in tracking down unpublished short stories, most of which are in the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center in Austin. Since each has to be read, often in manuscript and may be difficult to obtain as a legible copy, the process is slow.

- ❖ The newsletter – to spread the load, David Stead was volunteered, in his absence, to take over the literary supplement, and subsequently agreed.
- ❖ John Norman was retained on the Committee, Colin Blogg remains as Chairman with Pat Millard continuing as Treasurer/Secretary.
- ❖ John Roberts not only volunteered to join the Committee, bringing much naval expertise, but undertook (with Don Beadle) to organise a meeting in Portsmouth*.
- ❖ Laurie Brewer's idea of applying for a blue plaque was pre-empted by a previous request made in 1989 when a plaque was placed on 58 Underhill Road.
- ❖ Laurie Brewer also brought along a completed canon ball paperweight which was a cannon ball turned in ancient wood opening up to reveal a miniature naval cutter*. He is hoping to produce a limited number for purchase.
- ❖ John Forester had suggested a meeting in the USA to be held in October 2002 in Arizona.

- ❖ Proposed next meeting of the Society – September 2002 – visit to Portsmouth* postponed because of clash with similar meeting of Patrick O'Brian fans. Alternative not yet arranged – ideas please
- ❖ *Changes after the meeting* – Ray Wright offered to assist Pat with the website and Ray Bergen offered to reproduce and mail the newsletter to members in the USA.

t. c) 1935



From **Bowsprit** – the newsletter of Tall Ships Books, PO Box 188, Monticello, Iowa 52310, USA

George Jepson interviews with;

Richard Woodman, "Just because someone at an editorial desk thinks it makes good, commercial sense (to write 'more-of-the-same'). On the other hand, writing Hornblower did not deter Forester from writing *Death to the French*, *The Gun* or *The Captain from Connecticut*. The idea of writing one-off stories appeals."

Stephen Maffeo, Naval Historian, "...my mother bought me a very nice hardbound copy of C S Forester's *Captain Horatio Hornblower*, with a gorgeous N C Wyeth jacket. I think somewhere about then I also tried Nordhoff and Hall's *The Bounty Trilogy* (also with wonderful Wyeth plates), From then on I read many, many books nautical..."

Rifeman Dodd (New hard copy edition)

Man-alone Dodd left behind enemy lines organises Portuguese peasants into a guerrilla unit to disrupt the French and escape having done his duty.

The full series of Hornblower novles are now available – please contact Tall Ships Books

(tallshipsbooks@jemm.com) www.tallshipsbooks.com
Companion volume – *The Gun* Trade paperback edition
Spanish partisan, donkeys and oxen haul a huge cannon to batter French fortifications during the Peninsular War. It then becomes a symbol of the partisans struggle for freedom.

The Illustrated Companion to Nelson's Navy by Nicholas Blake and Richard Lawrence

"A mine of information – from a recipe for Spotted Dog to reef the main topsail. Fighting tactics to seamanship and ship handling. Broadships by Nathan Miller

An historical review of the forty year period from 1775 to 1815 covering the naval war between Britain and America as well as the combat in Europe against the French. Broadships clearly reconstructs the naval battles of the era and explores the careers of many famous fighting sailors."

3. CSF went to a reception given by Heinemann and was not recognised by the Chairman, Charles Evans, and felt snubbed Michael Joseph was just setting up his new publishing house and invited CSF to join him – and CSF stayed with him from then on.



QUESTIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

> I was wondering if any of the members of the society knew what C S Forester's favourite food was? Jeff (answer - John Forester wrote: "Ah, well, CSF's favourite food? I cannot say that he exhibited any particular favoritism about food. Kitty did not cook in the traditional English style; she cooked her vegetables lightly, instead of boiling them to death. On the other hand, she made steak and kidney pudding, and roly-poly pudding, both modern domestic versions of some of the naval recipes in Lobscouse and Spotted Dog, and probably to be abhorred by today's Berkeley chefs de cuisine. CSF liked café au lait in the morning, as part of breakfast in bed, but coffee with a little cream after dinner. On the occasions when we went to good restaurants, CSF was likely to order some of the more Continental offerings, curry or sweetbreads, for example in contrast to plain fare. And, when in California, he kept a case or two of wine at home, it was likely to be selections from Louis Martini's California winery (one of the earliest to recover from the problems of American Prohibition), although he introduced me to Chateau Yquem as well.

However, I will retell the only CSF story I know about him and food favoritism. About 1938, the air service between London's Croydon aerodrome, just a few miles south of our house, and Paris, improved so much, together with the easing of travel formalities, that CSF found that he could decide, at teatime, that he wanted to dine at the Tour d'Argent in Paris, and satisfy that desire. I take it that this story (I don't know how frequently CSF managed to satisfy that desire; he remarked that it was as well that the war started soon after) indicates that CSF really appreciated magnificent French cooking. But, on the other hand, who wouldn't?

There's another CSF food story, one of theft. When I was served a dinner, some parts of which I didn't like, I took to eating the parts I disliked first, when I was hungriest, and when I could finish the meal with the taste that I did like. Naturally, some of the parts I liked best, and reserved for last, were the roast meat. CSF must have noticed that, and disapproved. So, when I got down to the point where the only things that remained were those that I really liked, CSF reached his fork over and stole them, remarking that it was impolite to leave any part until last."

Response to Review 1 (letters) Andy Hooker – Newsletter No 7

In response to Andy Hooker's comments about CSF and John Forester's feelings. I agree that John is not very distant in his writing. However, for much of his early life, he believed everything CSF said was true. CSF did some remarkably cruel things to his family members, and seemed to relish the effects. John has been terrible hurt and has taken many years to get as clear sighted as he is today, but the pain and passion have been hard for him to diminish. In many ways, I was relatively lucky, 'cause I split from him when 16, left home at 18, and was not allowed in his presence for 10 years, even though his influence continued to plague me. I saw through him as a human, he was not only weak but cruel, yet with a warm heart for the underdog; but I always thought he was a great writer, and I still reread his books with great pleasure today. I don't think we should excuse him as a human being because he was a great writer.

Even the Congress of the USA thought too many artists and authors abandoned their wives and children (it was common I understand for artists and authors not to leave anything to their children), that they included in the copyright laws of USA a clause which gives wives and children all the royalty renewals from the author's work after the author's death. So in some ways Andy Hooker's comments about other writers is true. George Forester, son of CSF

4. The board covers have an embossed design of jungle leaves and tropical leaves – apparently unique in the history of Little, Brown's publishing.

THE BLUE PLAQUE STORY

Extracts from the English Heritage, London Advisory Committee Meeting on the Commemorative Plaques: C S Forester (1899-1966) 9 June 1989

Summary: proposing the erection of a blue plaque at 58 Underhill Road, LB of Southwark.

Suggestions for the erection of a commemorative plaque on one of the former residences of C S Forester have been made by Joanna Cann (1979), Lewisham Local History Society (1979), C R Phillips (1984) and David Blunt (1984). Lewisham Local History Society and David Blunt mention 7 Longton Avenue, Upper Sydenham, as an appropriate house, the other two suggestions were not so specific. These suggestions were deferred until 1986, the required twenty years after Forester's death, and were short-listed by the Committee on 27 January 1988.

When Forester's family moved back to London in 1903, they took a house in Camberwell (37 Shenley Road) and lived there until 1915. In that year they moved to 58 Underhill Road, East Dulwich, and this was the family home until well into the 1930's. Cecil Lewis Troughton Smith is recorded as living at 58

Underhill Road in the Register of Electors from 1920 to 1927 inclusive; the Register for 1928 does not give his name, but that for 1929 does, as well as that of Kathleen Smith, his wife.

There is then a gap of two years where there is no trace of C S Forester and his wife. From September 1932 until August 1936, they were living in the upper flat at 36 Longton Avenue, Upper Sydenham, listed as C S and Kathleen Forester; from August 1936 until July 1939 they were at 7 Longton Avenue, and in July 1939 the household moved to 28 Longton Avenue, though it is not certain that Forester lived there, since the rate books for 1939-40 and 1940-41 both give his wife Kathleen as the occupant. After the war he went to live in the United States.

Among Forester's five known south London addresses, there are only two candidates for a blue

plaque, 58 Underhill Road or 7 Longton Avenue, since 37 Shenley Road comes too early in his life, and 36 and 28 Longton Avenue have both been demolished.

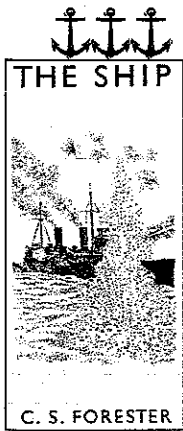
Forester lived at 58 Underhill Road from 1915 until 1927, or until 1929 if the omission from the 1928 Register of Electors is misleading. During these fourteen or so years he was a schoolboy, a medical student—and then a novice and budding writer. His nephew, Stephen Troughton-Smith, recalling how Forester's father, not sympathetic to his ambitions, gave him the attic and a year in which to prove himself, has written: "However, of all the houses that Cecil occupied, 58 Underhill Road was where he lived for most of his young life, and it was there that his literary capabilities were hammered out. The attic at No 58 was a claustrophobic and gloomy place with narrow windows and steep narrow staircase with a rope hand 'rail'. Having learned there the discipline of deliberate purposive writing to a rigid timetable, he was able subsequently to write anywhere!"

58 Underhill Road is a semi-detached brick house dating from the 1880's or thereabout and it has not been significantly altered. The house is suitable for commemoration and the occupants have indicated that they would approve of the erection of a plaque.

Forester lived at 7 Longton Avenue from 1936 until 1939; during these years he published *The General* and the first three volumes in the *Hornblower* series. Thus the argument in favour of a plaque on 7 Longton Avenue rests on the importance of the titles published during his residence there and not, as at 58 Underhill Road, on his length of stay or the importance of a particular stage of his career.

7 Longton Avenue is a detached villa built of brick in about the 1890s. It looks as if the street front is all of one date, and the rest of the house has not been significantly altered. The owners of the house would be glad to see a plaque to Forester put up.

There is very little to choose in this case between the claims of the two houses for commemoration. No 58 Underhill Road has been strongly recommended by Stephen Troughton-Smith, a member of Forester's family, and Forester lived there during thirteen formative years; on the other hand two of the four recommendations from the general public specifically mention No 7 Longton Avenue, where Forester lived at a particularly significant period of his career. No 58 Underhill Road is perhaps marginally preferable as Forester lived there longer.



In response to Newsletter No 7 Letter regarding John Dale Hodapp, CSF and *The Good Shepherd*. George Forester (son of CSF) comments: I would like to correct a small statement made on Lawrie Brewer's

review. In the last paragraph it says, whether or not this is Hodapp's statement I don't know: "Hodapp was appointed Conservator of CSF's affairs and was included in CSF's will." Being the second son and not considered important in the family, it came to my attention, I believe only because a court of law contacted me regarding the court's investigation, that Hodapp was attempting to become CSF's conservator after CSF's first stroke. I immediately went to CSF, who though unable to speak, could understand, and asked him if he wanted Hodapp to be his conservator, and he shook his head NO very violently. I asked him a number of times, interspersing other questions, and whenever I asked about Hodapp, he nodded very strongly NO, No. Neither CSF's wife Dorothy nor my brother John had any idea of what conservatorship implied, so it was up to me to protect my father. I was able to hire the most prominent attorney in San Francisco for this kind of matter after the attorney had vetted me and determined that I was concerned only for CSF's interests and had no personal motive other than protecting my father from a person I considered extremely unscrupulous. My brother did not at first go in with me on the attorney fee, saying I was a meddling in things I didn't understand, and I just said, "I'm not going to let this conservatorship happen." My brother did finally get the picture. The attorney was so prominent, that all it took was his phone call to squash the application from Hodapp. When this was finished I have never heard nor seen Hodapp again. I believe he was included in CSF's will with a small sum as one of 20 or so people CSF left small amounts too (me and John included).

FUN SECTION

Quiz 8 AQ = African Queen

1. In which year was the AQ first published in the UK?
a. 1916 b. 1934 c. 1935 d. 1951
2. The AQ first appeared as a five-part serial in a daily newspaper. Which one?
3. The AQ was the last book published for CSF by Heinemann of London. Who subsequently published for him in Britain. And why?
4. What was unusual about the binding of the first American edition of the AQ?
5. The boat used in the film is still in use in Key Largo, Florida. How is it powered now?
6. What were the original and subsequent names used for the German gunboat?
7. Who was nominated for Oscars for the film of the AQ? And who was awarded one?
8. How much did the original Little, Brown edition of the AQ cost?
9. What would the same book in mint condition, in a dust jacket fetch today?
10. How many Robin Jacques covers did Penguin use for the AQ?

Roald Dahl and CS Forester
John Davies

G. Originally 'Dortmund' in the News Chronicle but 'Konigen Luise' in book form

Having a diverse and somewhat eclectic interest in books, I found myself reading a volume of short stories by Roald Dahl recently. (Yes, I do read books by authors other than CSF). Consider my surprise then when the name of C S Forester cropped up in Dahl's story titled *Lucky Break*.

Dahl was a RAF pilot in WW2 but had been invalided from active service. He was given the position of Air Attaché in the British Embassy in Washington, USA in 1942 at the age of 26. Up until this time he had never even thought of becoming a writer.

Shortly after his arrival in Washington, there was a knock at his office door and "a very small man with thick steel-rimmed spectacles shuffled shyly into the room" (Dahl's words). He introduced himself as C S Forester, much to Dahl's shock and delight.

Forester was contracted to write for the Saturday Evening Post and hoped that Dahl would relate to him some of his war experiences. He would then write them up for the Post.

After lunching together, it was decided that Dahl would send Forester a letter with details of his life as a pilot. Forester would then rewrite it properly for the Post.

That night Dahl wrote down the story of crash landing his Gladiator in the Lybian desert and posted it off to Forester. Two weeks later he received a reply from Forester with a cheque for \$900 enclosed. He had been very impressed by Dahl's story and had sent it to the Post unaltered with his own personal recommendation and it had been published under Dahl's name.

Forester wrote in his letter "The Post is asking if you will write more stories for them. I do hope you will. Did you know you were a writer?"

To quote a cliché – the rest is history. Dahl went on to become a very successful author and all because of his lucky break in meeting our Society's very own C S Forester.

Dahl, Roald (1977) *The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar*. London: Jonathan Cape

Editor's note: - I have looked for years for the original article in the Saturday Evening Post, but without success. Has anyone come across it? If so, please send me a copy!

It is curious too, given CSF's liking to be linked with the famous, that this story did not pass into general public knowledge nor into the folk-lore of the Forester family.

Curiouser and curiouser. Was CSF on a diet of war-time 'shrinking mushrooms'? Peter de Loria describes CSF as 6'5" and 'gangling'; whereas Roald Dahl's recollection is of 'a very small man'. Who was correct?

8. \$2.00

NAVAL CUTTERS OF THE LATE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

John Roberts

A number of questions were raised at the recent AGM about the '*Witch of Endor*'¹ and naval cutters of the late eighteenth century. Namely, were cutters that big, could they really mount ten guns and what sort of rig did they have. As I said at the meeting, CSF was a master of detail and I would have been very surprised had he not been totally accurate in his descriptions.

A cutter was simply a single masted vessel with a bowsprit and two foresails or headsails. The mainsail, normally fore and aft rigged, was gaff rigged and Faberge style model²). could carry square topsails above the gaff (as in the

FLYING COLOURS



C.S. FORESTER

revenue cutters were in service during the period and many guns (twelve pounder carronades, 'W of E' only had six would not have required that many hands they would still crew of fifty (CSF quotes sixty) to man the guns. So cutters the period indicate the range of rigs and sizes.

with the fleet cutters were general-purpose small vessels range of tasks. They were well suited to coastal and privateers, and anti smuggling patrols.

Hornblower to make his escape with just Brown and Bush enough to make the crossing whatever the weather and single mast and simple rig she did not require many men to

sail her. Carrying guns she was able to defend herself against anything smaller as indeed she did when becalmed off Noirmoutier.

¹The cutter used by Hornblower in his escape from Nantes in *Flying Colours*. ² Lawrie Brewer



OLYMPIAN BOOK FAIR (6-9 June 2002, Olympia, London)

In a way, the first week of June in London is the World Cup of book fairs. Major sellers of antiquarian and rare books compete in London for an international market of buyers. The Book Fairs crop up all over central London – at hotels (Russell, Royal National, Bonnington and Olympia Hilton), the Commonwealth Institute and at Olympia.

Cost of admission is £15.00 and that waived on production of the current copy of *Book and Magazine Collector*.

At Olympia 121 bays were filled with books, prints, engravings, and an air of urgency as dealers sold to other dealers.

Dealers such as **Ulysses, Blackwells, Nigel Williams, Lam Duck and Peter Stern** whom one had come to rely upon for good stock, had none. Instead there were some extremely rare (and expensive) volumes for sale by **Jonkers** (*Two-and-Twenty* in a near perfect dj £1800; an equally fine, and rare *Payment Deferred*, a snip at £3000

whereas a *Ship of the Line*: costs only £1750. The only other books by CSF were offered by the **Harrington** brothers **Adrian and Peter**. **Adrian** had a fine copy of *The Happy Return*, but lacking the Book Society slip for £1375. The only others by CSF on show by **Peter Harrington**, were *The Commodore* £120, *Lieutenant Hornblower* £65, *Horatio Hornblower* £65, *Midshipman Hornblower* £120, *Capt. Hornblower R.N.*, £60, *Lord Hornblower* £65.

I had been working on an article about *The African Queen* and had realised that I had never seen a copy of the 1935 1st edition version published by Michael Joseph. That particular volume is extremely rare. My search for *The African Queen* had been fruitless, yielding only ten volumes by CSF. The author and books that made most impact were the James Bond novels, of which a complete set of first editions was available at **Nigel Williams** for only £32,000.

I stopped to see the end of the first half of England's World Cup match against Argentina on the solitary TV set, on **Peter Harrington's** display. As the other onlookers rushed off to the bar at half time, a shelf previously obscured was revealed, and sitting there was *The African Queen* 1935, London, Heinemann. A fine copy without dust jacket (and a price to match), but that was incidental given the serendipitous pleasures of Beckham's goal and finding the right book.

Colin Blogg, Oxford, 7/6/02
9. \$3000-\$5000 if you can find a copy

Wanted by Jetse Reijenga
- Robin Jacques cover illustrations on covers of Penguin editions of any except: *Flying Colours*, *The Commodore*, *Mr Midshipman Hornblower*, *The Happy Return*, *Death to the French*, *Lord Hornblower*, *The Ship*, *The African Queen*.

7. Katherine Hepburn and Humphrey Bogart, both for best actor, James Agee for screenplay, John Huston for director. Bogart was awarded an Oscar.

More information on the *Witch of Endor* cannon ball paperweight produced by Lawrie Brewer: The cannon balls are hand-turned in English oak. The oak base is mounted with a sterling silver collar. Open the top, and you are surprised and delighted by the revelation of a vermeil *Witch of Endor*, sailing on waves of cobalt-blue guilloche enamel. A further surprise – look within the base for the mariner's barometer to warn you of weather conditions as you join the crew on their escape home to England.

The oak cannon ball is of the exact size of a six-pounder of the time. The oak is French polished to a high sheen, and mounted on a silver-gilt rope coil.

Correspondence (cont)

➤ Someone was writing to ask how he could learn about the wooden ships-of-the-line. There are lots, but outstanding, gripping and simple is Stephen Biesty's thirty page book of coloured illustrations (based on HMS Victory) called *Man-of-War*. It is one of his great cross-section series covering a range of subjects "city, skyscraper", etc, all of which are extremely informative and a lot of fun. It's a large book, about 11x14 but thin. Look in the kids' section of your library. Publisher: Dorling Kindersley, London (1993) ISBN 0-59074-10-3. HJBoyd

Two stars for movie – Brown on Resolution

Eagle-eyed HJ Boyd wrote to point out that Jeffrey Hunter starred in *Brown on Resolution* where as he had credited John Mills. In fact we were both right. John Mills played Albert Brown in not one but three versions *Brown on Resolution* 1935 UK; *Born for Glory* 1935 USA; *Forever England* 1935 UK reissue, Director Michael Balcon starred John Mills, Betty Balfour, Barry Mackay, Jimmy Hanley, Howard Marion Crawford, HG Stoker *Sailor of the King* USA 1953 director Roy Boulting starred Jeffrey Hunter, Wendy Hiller, Bernard Lee, Michael Rennie and Victor Maddern.