

Shipmates,

For those of you who knew Len Sturdy, 'Killick of the bosun's party on our particular pleasure cruise; I have to report he 'crossed the bar' on Saturday a.m. May 14th.

I did mention him in a news letter a few months ago, don't know if it was printed out, so will forgo a report of his problems. Suffice it to say he was a true 'Heart afloat', stoical to the Nth degree.

I am pleased to think he looked on me as a friend. It was he who twisted my arm to join 'Superb Old Boys' - never regretted a moment of it! He was industrious, eventually a self-employed draughtsman - 'who'd a thought it'.

It was he who made me save every possible 'kopek' on that cruise to purchase a motor bike on the return to the U.K.. We both bought Triumphs. The blue scars I could discern on his face years later, resulted from running up the back of a truck on the way home with the new purchase.

The memories don't fade; we once bought tickets 'Vancouver Island' back to Vancouver by Dakota for eight dollars return, still come across the ticket in an old book now and again. Cannot go to the next village by 'British Rail' for that these days.

No desire to bore by reminiscing - the upside, and there's always an upside, is that he still lives in the dark recesses of my grey matter.

I say, with no attempt at levity, 'Rest in Peace, darling boy'.