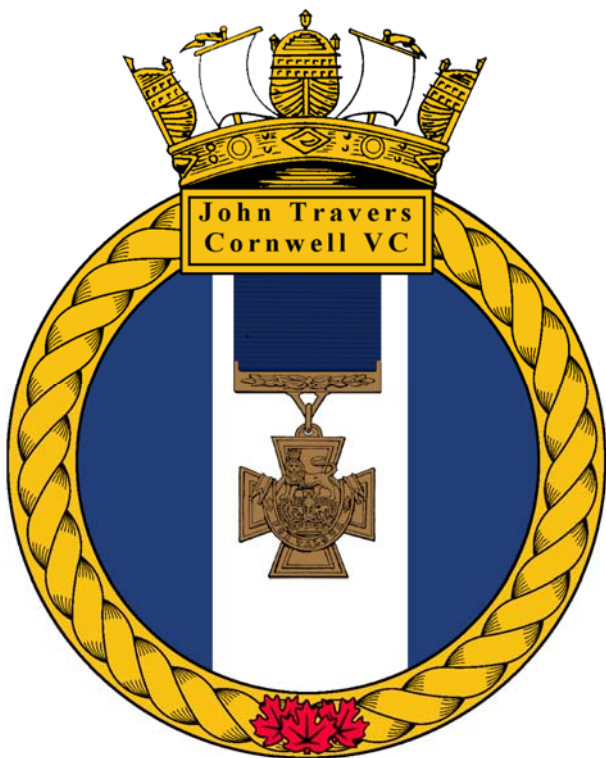
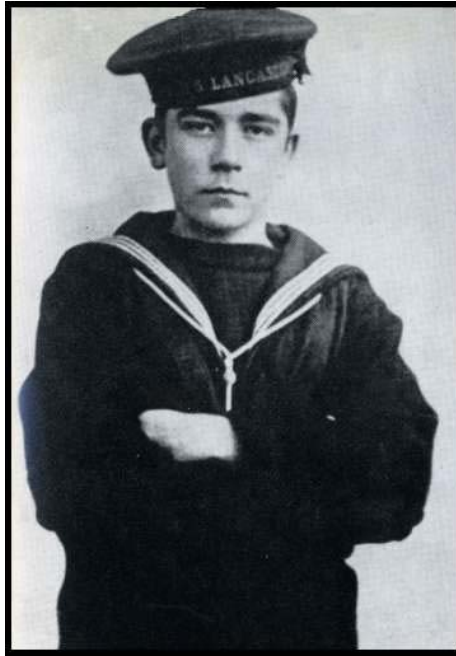


**Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps  
John Travers Cornwell Victoria Cross**



**97th  
Annual Ceremonial Review  
Parade  
May 18th, 2017**

# Boy Seaman 1st Class John Travers Cornwell VC 1900 - 1916



**CORNWELL, JOHN TRAVERS**, Boy, First Class, Royal Navy, was born on 8 Jan. 1900, at Leyton, the son of Eli and Alice Cornwell. He was educated at Walton Road School, Manor Park. He wished to be a sailor when he left school, but his parents could not bear the thought of losing him so soon so he bravely turned to the work that lay to his hand, and became a boy on a Brook Bond's tea van. Jack was also a keen Boy Scout, and held two certificates. When the European War broke out his father promptly joined the Army, and Jack Cornwell was given his chance to join the Navy. He went through preliminary training at Devonport from 27 July, 1915 and became a First Class Boy on HMS Chester for active service in Admiral Beatty's North Sea Squadron. A few months after Jack Cornwell joined his ship, Admiral Beatty came to grips with the German High Seas Fleet near Jutland 31st May 1916. Jack Cornwell was mortally wounded in action, and died two days later in Grimsby hospital. He was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross.

From the *London Gazette*, 15 Sept. 1916: " *John Travers Cornwell, Boy (First Class), O.N. J.42563*: Mortally wounded early in the action, Boy, First Class, John Travers Cornwell remained standing alone at a most exposed post, quietly awaiting orders, until the end of the action, with the gun's crew dead and wounded around him. His age was under sixteen and half years."

# Biography of

## Lieutenant-Commander W. P. Stiff

Lieutenant-Commander William Paul Stiff started his naval career in Kitimat, British Columbia in 1968 with the Royal Canadian Sea Cadets. After a couple of years of riding a motorcycle around western Canada and of working in the Alberta oil patch, he joined the Navy as a MARS officer in Edmonton in 1977.

Basic and initial classification training on the West coast followed over the next two years. Two postings to the Destroyer Escort HMCS RESTIGOUCHE came next where he earned his Bridge watch keeping certificate and certificate of competency. In RESTIGOUCHE he sailed a good part of the Pacific and has fond memories of many port visits to Pearl Harbor and San Diego and especially of the Far East. These were the days of the Cold War and not without interaction with Soviet spy ships, submarines and aircraft to keep things interesting.

A posting to the minesweeper squadron followed and he served as Navigating Officer in THUNDER and FUNDY. These were wonderful days of training young officers on an open bridge in the scenic waters of the Gulf Islands. Salmon fishing in Hakai Pass and dodging BC ferries was part of the deal too. Following his trick in the sweepers he spent two years as a Course Training Officer at VENTURE, the Naval Officer's Training Centre in Esquimalt.

From VENTURE he was selected for the Combat Control Officer's Course in Halifax. 12 gruelling months of classroom, weapons trainer and ops room simulation training later he was posted as Weapons Officer to the Destroyer HURON. Here he spent a hectic year or so sailing both sides of the Atlantic before taking HURON through the Panama Canal and up the west coast to her new home in Esquimalt. Then it was right back to the East Coast and a tour as combat officer of HMCS SAGUENAY.

The HALIFAX class frigate project was in full swing then and LCdr Stiff was posted to the project detachment in Montreal to train the initial crews on the new combat systems. It was in Montreal too that he met and married Jayne, the love of his life. In 1990 he was posted to the year-long French course in Valcartier followed by postings to NAVRESHQ and to Fleet School Quebec as its first Commandant.

In 1993 his life changed forever with the arrival of the twins, Jim and Clayton originally referred to as "double trouble," and in 1995 the family, now seven in number, moved to Winnipeg first to instruct at the Canadian Forces School of Aerospace Studies, and then to command the Language Training Centre and the Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre. Like all come-from-aways, his first thoughts were of blizzards and mosquitos, but soon enough Manitoba became home.

LCdr Stiff came to CHIPPAWA in 2005 when still a member of the Regular Force and served as Training Officer. He transferred to the primary reserve in 2008 and assumed command in 2011. LCdr Stiff retired from the primary reserve in 2015 after 5 years in command of CHIPPAWA and joined the staff of the Regional Cadet Support Unit North-west where he now serves part-time.

**RCSCC John Travers Cornwell VC  
Annual Ceremonial Review Parade  
18 May 2017**

Ship's Company Marches On  
Colours

Arrival of Official Party and Reviewing Officer

Inspection of the Ship's Company

March Past

Ship's Company Marches Off

Drummer's Call

Drill Team Display

Static Displays

Stand Easy

Ship's Company Marches On For Evening Quarters

Awards and Presentations

Sunset

Official Party and Reviewing Officer Depart

Liberty Boats

## Corps Officers and Volunteers

|                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Commanding Officer     | Lt(N) K. Daeninck CD       |
| Executive Officer      | Lt(N) L. Palmquist CD      |
| Supply Officer         | Lt(N) S. Chadwick CD       |
| Training Officer       | Lt(N) A. Norquay           |
| Administration Officer | Lt(N) S. Pelland CD        |
| Band Officer           | SLt M. Charriere           |
| Instructor             | Capt N. Dionne-St. Vincent |
| Instructor             | NCdt S. Le                 |
| Instructor             | Miss K. Bruce              |

## Senior Cadets

|                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Coxswain                 | C1 R. Howells  |
| Regulating Petty Officer | C2 J.P. Ruiz   |
| Buffer                   | C2 A. Bernardo |
| Yeoman                   | C2 R. Bluebird |
| Chief of Training        | C2 J.P. Ruiz   |
| Chief of the Band        | C2 R. Fajardo  |

*The Cadets and Officers of RCSCC John Travers Cornwell VC would like to acknowledge and extend our appreciation to the members of the Cornwell (Winnipeg) Branch for all of their time, effort and support of the Corps. We would also like to take this time to also acknowledge the support the Corps has received from the National and Provincial Divisions of the Navy League of Canada. Without your support, Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps John Travers Cornwell VC would not be where it is today. Thank you and Bravo Zulu for all that you do for us.*

## Important Dates to Remember

|                         |                               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Thursday, June 8, 2017  | Corps Photo                   |
| Thursday, June 15, 2017 | Corps BBQ                     |
| 9 - 11 June 2017        | Sail Weekend                  |
| Thursday, 29 June 2017  | Last day for camp info/Supply |

## **The Navy League of Canada Cornwell (Winnipeg) Branch**

## **The Navy League of Canada Cornwell (Winnipeg) Branch**

Welcome everyone to Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps John Travers Cornwell Victoria Cross 97<sup>th</sup> Annual Ceremonial Review.

I would like to congratulate the Corps Commanding Officer, Lt(N) Kevin Daeninck, his Officers, the Chief's and Petty Officer's Mess and the Cadets, for achieving another successful cadet year. They have worked very hard to reach this point and continue to show the Cornwell pride. With only three more years to go, until we reach our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. I would like to encourage all the Officers and Cadets and Alumni to keep working hard for the Corps.

The cadets parading before you tonight are part of the Canadian National Cadet Program. The partnership between the Navy League of Canada Cornwell Branch and the Department of National Defence sponsor RCSCC John Travers Cornwell VC. There are many people who work s behind the scenes who support our program and I would like to acknowledge just a few here at our local level:

- The staff at the Regional Cadet Support Unit (Northwest);
- The Commanding Officer of HMCS Chippawa, LCdr C. Stewart;
- Mr. Brian Hawkeye, President Manitoba Division Navy League of Canada;
- The Executive and Members of the Cornwell Branch Navy League of Canada;
- Mr. John Chapman, President Manitoba Rifle Association; and
- Mr. Bob Watling, President West Kildonan Legion #30
- Mr. John Jamieson, Alumni Committee Chair.

Most important, I would like to thank the parents and their families. Without your support and encouragement, our cadets would not be able to achieve the success they share with you tonight.

Stand Your Station,

Larry Schenkeveld  
President  
Cornwell (Winnipeg) Branch