

01 Aug.	1810	IMPREGNABLE, 2 nd rate, launched
01 Aug.	1829	ALGERINE, brig-sloop, launched
01 Aug.	1861	ACHILLES, ironclad, keel laid in No2 Dock. Ref; RDL.
01 Aug.	1891	ALGIERS (1860), 2 nd rate, commissioned this day as flagship of Admiral Supt., Reserve Fleet, and Guardship at Chatham. Ref; RDL.
01 Aug.	1966	YARNTON (1956), minesweeper, floated out from No3 Dock; first minesweeper to have her underwater planking sheathed in nylon. Ref; Peri 1-9.
01 Aug.	1979	Queen Mother installed as Lord Warden and Admiral of Cinque Ports. Unique personal Standards made in the Flag Loft at Chatham Dockyard. Ref; Peri 14-166.
01 Aug.	1983	RN Cookery School transferred to Army Catering School at Aldershot. Ref; RDL.
01 Aug.	1983	RN Supply & Secretariat School transferred to HMS RALEIGH. Ref; RDL.
02 Aug.	1710	VANGUARD (1678), 2 nd rate, re-launched, having been rebuilt and enlarged. She had capsized in the Medway 26-11-1703, raised and brought into dock. Ref; RDL
02 Aug.	1722	PLYMOUTH (1708), 4 th rate, re-launched, having been rebuilt and enlarged.
02 Aug.	1914	War declared against Germany. Ref; RDL.
02 Aug.	1930	Dockyard closed for a week of paid holiday; timed to coincide with Navy Week, setting the pattern for several years. Ref; JDC 3-140.
02 Aug.	1955	CARRON (1944), destroyer, sailed from Chatham after conversion to an anti submarine frigate. Ref; RDL.
03 Aug.	1952	Dockyard School title changed to Dockyard Technical College; teachers became lecturers, the Head became The Principal. Ref; JDC 4-80.
04 Aug.	1783	Navy Board to Commissioner; you are to suffer no person to pass out of the Dockyard Gate with great coats, large trousers, or any other dress that conceals stores. Ref; JDC 5-53.
04 Aug.	1830	JACKDAW, cutter, launched
04 Aug.	1909	APOLLO (1891), cruiser, completed conversion to minelayer. Ref; RDL.
04 Aug.	1926	Sheer legs, south side of No2 basin, brought down by Royal Engineers with explosives, into the basin. Had been erected in 1875, working load 80 tons. Ref; RDL.

05 Aug.	1944	TURPIN, submarine, launched from No7 Slip, being named by Lady Tovey, wife of the c-in-C at The Nore, Admiral of The Fleet Sir John C.Tovey. GCB.KCB.KBE.DSO. Ref; RDL.
05 Aug.	1970	Chatham Town Carnival procession; four floats entered from Naval Base. Two from Naval Stores, one from Sailmakers& colour Loft, one from PEMBROKE sailors. Peri; 5-59.
06 Aug.	1907	IPHIGENIA (1891), cruiser, completed conversion to minelayer. Ref; RDL.
06 Aug.	1918	EXE (1903), destroyer, left No3 dock after being rebuilt, following damage by an enemy mine in the North Sea. Ref; RDL.
06 Aug.	1974	HL 7025, harbour launch, completed; built by apprentices on St Mary's Island over 3 years. 52 feet length, 26 tons, up to 80 passengers. Ref; Peri 9-106 & 111.
07 Aug.	1697	LOWESTOFFE, 5 th rate, launched
07 Aug.	1810	Master Attendant submitted his annual demand for stationery. 700 quill pens and three penknives. Ref; JDC 9-16.
07 Aug.	1974	OPOSSUM (1963), submarine, departs from Chatham, the last conventional submarine to be refitted in this yard. Ref; Peri 9-107p6&7.
07 Aug.	1983	PEMBROKE; final act of worship in St Georges Church. Chatham Port Division Memorial Books and registers taken to the Royal Engineers Garrison Church. Ref; RDL.
08 Aug.	1665	Navy Board ordered Chatham Commissioner to equip Sheerness Yard with men and materials for the cleaning of the hulls of ships. Ref; JDC 24-1.
08 Aug.	1690	Victualling Office established at Chatham, on the border with Rochester. Brewhouse, Bakehouse, and Storehouses, all under the Agent Victualler. Ref; JDC 24-26.
08 Aug.	1750	PRINCE (1698), 2 nd rate, re-launched, having been rebuilt and enlarged. She had been originally named TRIUMPH, but renamed in 1714. Ref; RDL.
08 Aug.	1917	THUNDERBOLT (1856), battery, renamed DAEDALUS, as nominal depot ship of the Royal Naval Air Service. Commissioned until 01/04/1918, when name transferred to the seaplane base at lee-on-Solent. Ref; RDL.
08 Aug.	1969	Massed walkout and strike at the Yard to protest against delayed pay increases. Those that walked lost pay for that day. Ref; JDC 3-127.
09 Aug.	1861	ARETHUSA (1849), 4 th rate, launched from No3 Dock as a frigate, having been enlarged and fitted for steam propulsion. Originally built at Pembroke Dock. She became the Training Ship <i>Arethusa</i> off Greenhithe, 1874 – 1934. Ref; RDL.

09 Aug.	1902	Coronation of Edward VII, on a Saturday. Dockyard men worked Friday morning then given the afternoon and Saturday off with pay. Ref; JDC 3-103.
10 Aug.	1606	King James I, his Queen, the King of Denmark and many noblemen, visited the ships at Chatham. They dined on one ship, before going ashore at Frindsbury to witness the discharge of the great guns. The ships also provided an evening fireworks display. Ref; Harris.
10 Aug.	1759	VALIANT, 3 rd rate, launched
10 Aug.	1868	GLATTON, coast defence ship, keel laid in No3 Dock. Ref; RDL.
10 Aug.	1872	Admiralty circular; shipwright apprentices no longer have to spend time at sea on HM Ships. Ref; JDC 4-40.
10 Aug.	1892	BARFLEUR, battleship, launched from No7 Slip, being named by lady Hoskins, wife of Admiral Sir A.H.Hoskins. KCB. The First Sea Lord. Ref; RDL.
11 Aug.	1674	Clerk of the Cheque informed Navy Board of numbers of apprentices claimed as servants by Dockyard officers. 32 in total. Ref; JDC 4-3.
11 Aug.	1740	GUERNSEY (1696), 4 th rate, re-launched, having been rebuilt and enlarged. Ref; RDL.
11 Aug.	1876	WARSPITE, training ship, emerged from No5 Dock having been converted from the 1 st rate CONQUEROR, ex WATERLOO of 1833. Now a corvette rigged training ship for boys of the Marine Society. Ref; RDL.
11 Aug.	1888	MEDUSA, cruiser, launched, being named by Mrs. Caroline Hole, wife of the Very Reverend Reynolds Hole DD, Dean of Rochester. Ref; RDL.
11 Aug.	1888	Unveiling of the statue of Lieutenant Thomas Waghorn RN (1800-1850), in Chatham's Gibraltar Hill Gardens. The only public statue to a sailor in the Medway towns. Ref; CO.
11 Aug.	1942	EAGLE (1918), aircraft carrier, sunk by German submarine in western Mediterranean. Chatham manned and recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
12 Aug.	1889	HOOD, battleship, keel laid in No7 Dock. Ref; RDL.
12 Aug.	1941	PICOTEE (1940), corvette, sunk by German submarine off Iceland. Chatham manned and recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
13 Aug.	1829	PENELOPE, 5 th rate, launched
13 Aug.	1858	MERSEY, screw frigate, launched from No7 Slip. 336 feet long between perpendiculars, the longest wooden hull constructed at Chatham. Ref; RDL.

13 Aug.	1904	Contractors complete removal of wood roof and pillars from No2 Dock. Peri 3-33p11.
13 Aug.	1908	C17, submarine, (Chatham's first) launched from No7 Slip, being named by Mrs Giffard, wife of the Admiral Superintendent, Vice Admiral George A. Giffard. CMG. Then towed into No2 dock for fitting out. Ref; RDL.
13 Aug.	1965	WOODLARK (1958) and WATERWITCH (1958), commissioned as inshore survey vessels, and sailed from Chatham. They had arrived earlier in the year as the minesweepers YAXHAM and POWDERHAM. Ref; RDL.
14 Aug.	1550	Lord High Admiral ordered the King's ships to be removed from Portsmouth to Gillingham, that they might be grounded and caulked. Ref; JDC 1-1.
14 Aug.	1890	ANDROMACHE, cruiser, launched from No6 Slip, being named by Lady Graham, wife of Vice Admiral Sir William Graham KCB. President of RN College, Greenwich. Ref; RDL.
14 Aug.	1915	G1, submarine, launched from No7 Slip, being named by Mrs Goode. Ref; RDL.
14 Aug.	1928	Start of the first Navy Week to be held at Chatham; also at Sheerness. The visitors looked over ships in the basins, while employees worked as normal. Ref; JDC 3-140.
15 Aug.	1940	Luftwaffe took reconnaissance photographs over Medway towns, superb detail, noting the Dockyard, the C-in-C's bunker, and munitions bunkers near Upnor. Photographs were taken two days after "Eagle Day", the intended aerial assault on England. Ref; unknown.
16 Aug.	1879	RESOLUTE (1850), exploration ship, breaking up completed this day, at Chatham. Famed for her Arctic voyages and role in British / USA relationships. Ref; JDC 18-10.
16 Aug.	1927	CENTURION (1911), battleship, left the Yard following conversion to radio controlled target ship for gunnery. Last battleship to leave Chatham Dockyard. Ref; RDL.
17 Aug.	1666	Controller of the Navy, went to Upnor Castle to pay £8,000 wages to Dockyard workmen; travelling by water to avoid the plague in Chatham. Ref; JDC 3-13.
17 Aug.	1702	Contract drawn up for sinking warping posts between Chatham Yard and Blackstakes, near Sheerness. Ref; JDC 1-28.
17 Aug.	1843	Act of Parliament; CAP. LVIII. "An Act to enable Her Majesty to acquire Lands for the Enlargement of Her Majesty's Dock Yards and for other Naval Purposes." Thus making far easier the purchase of St Mary's Island. Ref; RDL.
17 Aug.	1867	BEACON, gunboat, launched, being named by Miss Stewart, daughter of the Captain Supt. Captain William Stewart CB. RN. Ref; RDL.

17 Aug.	1867	BLANCHE, sloop, launched from No3 Slip, being named by Miss Mary Dickens, eldest daughter of the novelist. Ref; RDL.
18 Aug.	1665	Samuel Pepys diary: "To Sheerness where we walked up and down, laying out the ground to be taken in for a dockyard, a most proper place". Ref; JDC 24-1.
18 Aug.	1798	LEANDER (1780), Chatham built 4 th rate, captured by the French <i>Le Genereux</i> , while taking Admiral Nelson's dispatches to England after the Battle of The Nile.
18 Aug.	1873	TEMERAIRE, battleship, keel laid in No2 Dock. Ref; RDL.
19 Aug	1693	UNITY, dockyard hoy, launched
19 Aug.	1826	CALYPSO, brig-sloop, launched
19 Aug.	1940	No1 Smithery hit by bombs during German air raid. Ref; Peri Sept.77 p8.
19 Aug.	1941	BATH (1918), destroyer, sunk by German submarine, south west of Iceland. Chatham and Norwegian manned and recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
20 Aug.	1642	Parliamentarian Army took possession of Chatham Dockyard, with the agreement of the Resident Commissioner, Phineas Pett. Ref; RDL.
20 Aug.	1777	FORMIDABLE, 2 nd rate, launched
20 Aug.	1804	Workmen to be employed for copper refining at 30/- per week; to be allowed 4quarts of beer daily, of the same good quality as that allowed smiths. Ref; JDC 3-4.
20 Aug.	1934	GRAMPUS, submarine, laid down on No7 Slip. Ref; RDL.
20 Aug.	1944	USS RICHARD MONTGOMERY (1943), munitions ship, stranded on a sandbank off Sheerness, loaded with over 6,000tons of bombs and explosives. Ref; RDL.
21 Aug.	1823	THAMES, 5 th rate, launched
21 Aug.	1969	Pulling whaler race (first ever?) between boys of the T.S.ARETHUSA, and Dockyard apprentices. Result was total victory for boys from Upnor. Peri; 4-46p12.
22 Aug.	1883	Order in Council; to establish the Royal Corps of Naval Constructors. Ref; JDC 4-55.
22 Aug.	1911	Naval and Marine Orphanage, Oxford Street, Gillingham, foundation stone laid by Admiral Sir Charles Drury, C-in-C at The Nore. Later known as Pembroke House. Ref; RDL.
22 Aug.	1967	Sunk Head Towers, Maunsell Forts (1943), demolished by 24 th Field Squadron R.E., assisted by vessels from Chatham Dockyard RMAS. Ref; RDL.

23 Aug.	1660	Phineas Pett, assistant master shipwright, suspended by Navy Board, for having in his youth spoken disrespectfully of King Charles II and his mother. Ref; JDC 5-30.
23 Aug.	1694	Navy Board Order; Porter of the Yard is prohibited from selling alcohol from his house near the Gate; making workmen dozy and unfit for their labours. Ref; JDC 3-104.
23 Aug.	1827	CHILDERS, brig-sloop, launched
23 Aug.	1890	New class of dockyard employee introduced; Measurer's Recorder, on 5/-6d per day. To be appointed from the shipwright and engine fitter trades. Ref; JDC 14-10.
23 Aug.	1910	FIRM, dockyard paddle tug, launched from No8 Slip. Ref; RDL.
23 Aug.	1910	ALLIANCE, dockyard tug, launched from No8 Slip. Ref; RDL.
23 Aug.	1910	NAIAD (1890), cruiser, completed conversion to minelayer. Ref; RDL.
23 Aug.	1940	HOSTILE (1936), destroyer, sunk by mine off Cape Bon, Tunisia. Chatham manned and recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
23 Aug.	1941	ZINNIA (1940), corvette, sunk by German submarine, west of Portugal. Chatham manned and recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
23 Aug.	1947	Last tug-of-war competition between Dockyard departments, for the Lord Rochester Challenge Shield. Ref; Peri 9-102p12.
24 Aug.	1661	Navy Board Order; Crown cordage in future to have a white thread running through the middle, as proof of embezzlement. Timber felled for the Navy to be marked at both ends. Ref; JDC 15-14.
24 Aug.	1831	HORNET, schooner, launched
24 Aug.	1940	PENZANCE (1930), sloop, sunk by German submarine, south of Greenland. Chatham manned and recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
25 Aug.	1732	SPY, sloop, launched
25 Aug.	1834	Admiralty Circular; reminding HM Dockyards that it is prohibited for their employees to keep public houses. Ref; JDC 3-53.
25Aug.	1870	SNAKE & SCOURGE, two iron gunboats, keels laid on No6 Slip. Ref; RDL.
25 Aug.	1887	MEDUSA, cruiser, keel laid. Ref; RDL.

26 Aug.	1708	Work in hand at Chatham: VANGUARD 2 nd rate, rebuilding. PRINCE GEORGE 2 nd rate, being repaired. LION 3 rd rate now building. CHESTER 4 th rate near completion. JDC 1-48.
26 Aug.	1924	L 23 (1919), submarine, having been built by Vickers at Barrow, was brought to Chatham to be fitted out for sea service. She commissioned here on this day. Ref; RDL.
26 Aug.	1944	ACHERON, submarine, laid down on No7 Slip. Ref; RDL.
27 Aug.	1677	Letter from Resident Commissioner to Navy Board; detailing monies due to workmen for rowing guard-boat by night for 88 nights, total charge £77-10/-. Ref; JDC 15-20.
27 Aug.	1747	NEWARK (1695), 2 nd rate, re-launched, having been rebuilt and enlarged for the second time.
27 Aug.	1908	Torpedo Boat No9 (1885) entered for refitting; her turbine engines being taken into the factory for reblading. The first of such skilled work at Chatham. Ref; RDL.
28 Aug.	1638	SOVEREIGN OF THE SEAS (1637), ship of 100guns, following advice of Trinity House, arrived off Gillingham. That part of river became known as Sovereigns Reach. Ref; GC.
28 Aug.	1663	Officers of Royal Dockyards were to be exempt from holding office in their respective Parishes as Constables, Churchwardens, and from attending Assizes and Sessions JDC 3-23.
28 Aug.	1739	NASSAU (1707) 3 rd rate, being rebuilt ready for war with Spain; 222 shipwrights went on strike claiming excessive harassment. Ref; JDC 3-33.
28 Aug.	1779	MONTAGUE, 3 rd rate, launched
28 Aug.	1832	FORRESTER, brig-sloop, launched
28 Aug.	1940	DUNVEGAN CASTLE (1936), armed merchant cruiser, sunk by German submarine, west of Ireland. Chatham manned and recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
29 Aug.	1914	LAUREL (1913), destroyer, taken into No6 dock for repairs to gunfire damage, following the sea battle off Heligoland; completed 12-09-14. Ref; RDL
29 Aug.	1940	Princess Marina, Duchess of Kent, visited WRNS at Chatham. Ref; RDL.
29 Aug.	1950	Admiralty letter; apprentices should be allowed to change their trade at end of 2 nd year. Ref; RDL.
30 Aug.	1940	Local Defence Volunteers title changed to Home Guard; Chatham Dockyard was the 14 th Battalion. In 1942 it became the 31 st Battalion, Kent Home Guard. Ref; JDC 15-25.
31 Aug.	1772	PRINCE GEORGE, 2 nd rate, launched

31 Aug.	1852	KANGAROO, brig-sloop, launched
31 Aug.	1914	LIBERTY (1913), destroyer, taken into No6 dock for repairs following damage in the sea battle off Heligoland; completed 12-09-14. Ref; RDL.
31 Aug.	1940	IVANHOE (1937), destroyer, sunk by mine off the Texel. Chatham manned and recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
31 Aug.	1950	Closure of the Chatham Division, Royal Marines, and their Barracks.
Aug.	1860	Act of Parliament; placing all HM Dockyards under supervision of the Metropolitan Police for security. Ref; JDC 15-8.
Aug.	1876	CORMORANT, sloop, keel laid. Ref; RDL.
Aug.	1902	The Imperial Service Order, inaugurated by King Edward VII, to reward Civil Service officers for at least 25 years of meritorious and loyal service. Affiliated to the Order was the Imperial Service Medal, for lesser grades, the majority of Dockyard employees. Ref; RDL.