

01 Sept	1801	Admiralty Order; Dockyard Surgeon to examine all workmen and apprentices on entry. Surgeon to keep a Sick Book and to supply trusses to those receiving hernias. Ref; JDC 12-3.
01 Sept.	1870	Joseph Kellaway VC appointed Chief Boatswain of the Dockyard. Won his Victoria Cross when Boatswain of the gunboat WRANGLER in the Crimean war, 31-08-1855. Ref; RDL.
01 Sept	1932	GUARDIAN, netlayer, launched from No2 Dock, being named by Mrs Cloake, wife of the Mayor of Chatham; councillor Henry J Cloake. Ref; RDL.
01 Sept	1944	HURST CASTLE (1944), corvette, sunk by German submarine, NW of Ireland. Chatham manned and recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
01 Sept.	1953	John A. Bess appointed Principal of HM Dockyard Technical College at Chatham, exactly 30 years after first entering as an apprentice ship-fitter. Ref; JDC chpt 4
02 Sept	1779	First occupation of their new Barracks by Royal Marines, Chatham Division. JDC 21-5.
02 Sept	1909	ATLAS and PILOT, both dockyard tugs, launched from No8 Slip. Ref; RDL.
03 Sept.	1912	ST.VINCENT (1908), battleship, is the first ship to use the new Floating Dock, moored in Saltpan Reach of the river Medway. Ref; RDL.
03 Sept	1917	German aircraft bombed Medway Towns; direct hit on Drill Shed of RN Barracks killed about 135 sailors in temporary sleeping quarters. Ref; GC.
03 Sept	1939	War declared with Germany. Ref; RDL.
04 Sept	1908	GRAPPLER, dockyard paddle tug, launched from No8 Slip. Ref; RDL.
04 Sept.	1942	FAME (1934), destroyer, left the Yard after many months in No3 dock having a new fore end fitted (made in No7 slip), the latest radar, close range weapons, and converting from Fleet destroyer to convoy escort destroyer. Ref; RDL.
04 Sept	1961	Production Department formed following reorganisation of Dockyard hierarchy. JDC 2-29.
05 Sept.	1815	HERCULES, 3 <sup>rd</sup> rate, launched
05 Sept	1823	Sheerness Dockyard re-opened by HRH Duke of Clarence. HOWE (1815), 1 <sup>st</sup> rate, floated into No1 Dock as part of ceremonies. Ref; JDC 24-10
05 Sept	1914	E12, submarine, launched from No7 Slip, being named by Miss R. Anson, daughter of the Admiral Superintendent, Rear Admiral Charles E. Anson. MVO. Ref; RDL.
05 Sept	1968	Ceremony to hand over Fire responsibility from Dockyard Constabulary to Kent Fire

		Brigade. Ref; Peri. 4-47 p10.
06 Sept	1854	DEVONSHIRE (1812), 3 <sup>rd</sup> rate, especially fitted out to receive Russian prisoners of war, captured in the Baltic from the Aland Islands. Then to moor off Gillingham. JDC 18-6.
06 Sept.	1864	EURYALUS (1853), frigate, flagship of Allied Fleet contesting rights of passage in Japanese Inland Sea. During the fighting ashore, acts of valour won Victoria Crosses for three men from EURYALUS; Mid. Duncan Boyes, AB Thomas Pride, OS William Seeley. Ref; RDL.
06 Sept.	1976	Miss Sarah Ravensdale became a Dockyard employee. Its first female Joiner apprentice.
06 Sept	1991	OCELOT (1962), submarine, paid off for disposal. Ref; RDL.
07 Sept.	1839	ALECTO, paddle sloop, launched
07 Sept	1866	Metal Mills steam boiler exploded. Two men killed and 50 injured. Ref; JDC 1-90.
08 Sept.	1881	CONQUEROR, battleship, launched from No2 Dock, being named by Lady Clarke, wife of Sir Andrew Clarke, Commandant of the Royal School of Military Engineering. Ref; CO.
08 Sept.	1949	LONDON (1927), cruiser, locked into Chatham for the last time, still showing battle scars from the Yangtze Incident. Sold for scrap 4 months later. Ref; RDL.
08 Sept.	1969	Rear Admiral Frederick Lawson DSC* RN, became Admiral Superintendent at Chatham. The first Engineer specialist officer to hold this post. Ref; RDL.
09 Sept	1861	SALAMIS, paddle despatch vessel, keel laid. Ref; RDL.
09 Sept	1953	Heraldic badge approved for HM Dockyard, Chatham, and the first for an Admiralty Civil Establishment. Ref; RDL.
10 Sept.	1694	WILLIAM & MARY, royal yacht, launched
10 Sept.	1862	ROYAL OAK, ironclad wood battleship, launched from No7 Slip, being named by Miss Fanshawe, daughter of the Captain Superintendent, Captain Edward Fanshawe.RN. Ref; RDL.
11 Sept.	1798	TEMERAIRE, 2 <sup>nd</sup> rate, launched from No2 Slip.
11 Sept.	1832	GRIFFON, brig-sloop, launched
11 Sept.	1920	CHATHAM (1911), cruiser, commissioned at Chatham Dockyard under Captain Alan.G. Hotham CMG RN. To become flagship of the New Zealand Squadron, with Hotham to serve as Commodore while in New Zealand waters. Ref; RDL.

11 Sept	1969	Two red London Transport buses arrived, to start a service of transporting sailors from ships to PEMBROKE, and return. Ref; Peri 4-47p2.
12 Sept	1768	Ropery tar kettle overheated and the ensuing blaze severely damaged the wooden yarn houses. Ref; Coad.
12 Sept	1802	Earl St Vincent, First Sea Lord, arrived at Chatham with an Admiralty Committee, to inspect the books and ledgers. "Sink of Corruption" report. Ref JDC 3-56.
12 Sept.	1837	WIDGEON, paddle packet, launched
12 Sept.	1877	CORMORANT, sloop, launched from No3 Slip, being named by Miss Saunders, daughter of Mr. Robert P.Saunders, Chief Constructor at Chatham. Ref; RDL.
12 Sept	1890	Financial Secretary to Board of Admiralty came to Chatham Dockyard to enquire into demands for more pay. Ref; JDC 3-45.
12 Sept	1966	Technician apprentices started at the Dockyard, replacing student apprentices. Ref; Peri 1-12.
13 Sept	1887	RESEARCH, survey ship, keel laid on No5 Slip. Ref; RDL.
13 Sept	1904	Collapse of Sheer Legs, north of Basin 1. Ref; Peri 2-27.
13 Sept	1909	ANDROMACHE (1890), cruiser, completed conversion to minelayer. Ref; RDL.
14 Sept	1861	Admiralty approval given for workers to leave the Yard at 4pm on Saturdays, without reduction of total hours worked. Ref; JDC 3-98.
14 Sept.	1878	CONSTANCE, corvette, keel laid on No4 Slip.
14 Sept	1931	SEAHORSE, submarine, laid down on No7 Slip. Ref; RDL.
14 Sept	1942	SIKH (1937), destroyer, sunk by enemy shore gun batteries, off Tobruk. Chatham manned and recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
15 Sept	1788	ROYAL GEORGE, 1 <sup>st</sup> rate, launched from No1 Slip, the first of that size to be constructed on a slipway at Chatham. Ref JDC 1-54.
15 Sept.	1899	ALEXANDRA (1875), Chatham built battleship, fitted with experimental wireless telegraphy, for fleet manoeuvres; the first for a battleship. Ref; RDL.

15 Sept.	1940	DUNDEE (1932), Chatham built sloop, torpedoed and sunk by German submarine in the North Atlantic. Ref; RDL.
15 Sept	1971	Admiral Superintendent; title change to, Port Admiral, Chatham, and Flag Officer Medway. Ref; RDL.
15 Sept	1972	Visit by Lord Mountbatten, to open the new accommodation block named after him, in PEMBROKE, Fleet Accommodation Centre. Ref; Peri, 7-84p7.
15 Sept.	1974	Hosemakers reached agreement with management and unions, to allow dilutees into their trade, owing to lack of apprentices. Ref; Peri.9-108.
16 Sept.	1695	SWIFT, brigantine, launched
16 Sept.	1904	Completion of St Georges French Cemetery. The relocation of 520 skulls from the St Mary's Island site to the RN Barracks Church gardens. Ref; Peri 16-190 p8.
16 Sept	1929	Start of first Dockyard holiday with pay, introduced by Labour Government; though only Established men were actually paid this first year. Ref; JDC 3-139.
16 Sept.	1974	ROBERT MIDDLETON (1938), store carrier, started a scheduled refit at Chatham, the first RFA ship to have a planned refit in HM Dockyard. Ref; Peri 9-108p1.
17 Sept	1879	AGAMEMNON, battleship, launched from No7 Slip, being named by Mrs W H Smith, wife of the bookseller and First Lord of the Admiralty. Ref; RDL.
17 Sept	1896	ILLUSTRIOUS, battleship, launched from No6 Dock, being named by Lady Bedford, wife of Rear Admiral Sir Frederick Bedford. KCB. Second Sea Lord at the Admiralty. Music provided by Band of Chatham Dockyard Division of Metropolitan Police. Ref; RDL.
17 Sept.	1908	AGINCOURT (1865), battleship, arrived at Chatham for conversion to a coal hulk; 100 extra labourers taken on to help clear the ship. As a coal hulk she was named C109, and moored off Sheerness until Trafalgar Day 1960. Ref; RDL.
17 Sept.	1920	HUMBER (1913), monitor, sold to F. Rijdsdijk, ship breakers of Upnor, for use as a crane ship; also used machinery from German warships. Ref; RDL.
17 Sept	1960	ONSLAUGHT, submarine, launched from No7 Slip, being named by Mrs Pelly, wife of Rear Admiral Peter D.H.R.Pelly. CB.DSO, Director General of Dockyards & Maintenance. Ref; RDL.
17 Sept	1966	OKANAGAN, submarine, launched from No7 Slip, being named for the RCN by Madame Cadieux, wife of the Associate Minister of National Defence, Canada. Ref; RDL.

18 Sept	1912	Opening of Pembroke House Girls Orphanage in Oxford Road, Gillingham. Financed and managed by Chatham sailors. Ref; RDL.
18 Sept	1933	SNAPPER, submarine, laid down on No7 Slip. Ref; RDL.
18 Sept.	1955	VIDAL (1951), survey ship, officially annexed the island of Rockall for Great Britain, 300 miles west of the Hebrides. First surveyed in 1831 by Captain Vidal RN. The last territorial expansion of the British Empire. Ref; BBC.
19 Sept.	1711	BONAVENTURE, 4 <sup>th</sup> rate, launched
19 Sept.	1723	LENNOX (1678), 3 <sup>rd</sup> rate, re-launched, having been rebuilt and enlarged twice.
19 Sept	1739	Commissioner Matthews declares 1739 to be a year of strikes and that “insolence is then in fashion”. Ref; JDC 3-33.
19 Sept	1874	Regulations against Dockyard workmen keeping public houses, beer houses, marine stores, and tool shops, are to be firmly enforced. Ref; JDC 3-53.
20 Sept	1844	Royal Naval Reserves formed with ex – sailors, still liable to serve at sea, but given jobs as labourers in Dockyards, to save on hired men. Ref; JDC 3-70.
20 Sept	1906	SHANNON, cruiser, launched from No7 Slip, named by Countess Carrington, wife of the President of the Board of Trade. Ref; RDL.
20 Sept	1932	DUNDEE, sloop, launched from No4 Dock, being named by Mrs Round-Turner, wife of the Admiral Superintendent, Rear Admiral Charles W. Round-Turner. CMG. Ref; RDL.
20 Sept	1942	LEDA (1937), minesweeper, sunk by German submarine in Greenland sea. Chatham manned and recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
21 Sept.	1705	STIRLING CASTLE, 3 <sup>rd</sup> rate, launched
21 Sept	1739	Resident Commissioner ordered the dismissal of three shipwright apprentices, for causing a disturbance at elections for Mayor of Rochester. Ref; JDC 4-5.
21 Sept	1878	POLYTHEMUS, torpedo ram, keel laid on No5 Slip. Ref; RDL.
21 Sept	1891	FORTE, cruiser, keel laid on No6 Slip, the last surface ship on this Slip. Ref; RDL.
21 Sept.	1915	LEVEN (1898), destroyer, entered No4 dock, with extensive bow damage following a collision at sea. She undocked 23-11-1915. Ref; RDL.

21 Sept.	1927	M2 (1918), submarine, left Chatham for trials, having completed three-year refit and conversion to submersible aircraft carrier. Ref; RDL.
22 Sept.	1668	Board of Ordnance, ordered the building of defensive forts at Gillingham and Cockham Wood. Ref; Peri 16-186 p6.
22 Sept.	1827	ROYAL GEORGE, 1 <sup>st</sup> rate, launched
22 Sept	1888	An apprentice from Luton Road received a silver watch for coming first in Civil Service exams for entry to Chatham Dockyard. Donated by a watchmaker of New Road. JDC 4-46
22 Sept	1914	ABOUKIR (1900), CRESSY (1899), & HOGUE (1900), all three cruisers, sunk by German submarine U9 in the North Sea. Chatham manned and recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
22 Sept	1914	E13, submarine, launched from No7 Slip, being named by Mrs Gaunt, wife of Captain Ernest. F.Gaunt. CMG. ADC. RN. Commodore of RN Barracks, Chatham. Ref; RDL.
22 Sept	1937	STERLET, Submarine, launched from No7 Slip, being named by Mrs Talbot, wife of Vice Admiral Cecil P. Talbot. CB. DSO. Director of Dockyards. Ref; RDL.
23 Sept	1563	Daily rate of pay for a shipwright; 12pence with victuals, 17 pence without. Ref; JDC 3-3.
23 Sept	1745	Court Martial at Chatham onboard HMS LONDON (1766). Trial of Admiral Thomas Matthews, former Commissioner at Chatham Yard, following naval actions off Toulon. 2-17.
23 Sept.	1835	SPIDER, schooner, launched
23 Sept	1895	MINERVA, cruiser, launched from No2 Dock, being named by Miss Wells, daughter of Vice Admiral Sir Richard Wells. KCB. C-in-C at The Nore. Ref; RDL.
23 Sept	1911	D8, submarine, launched from No7 Slip, being named by Lady Barker, wife of Major General Sir George Barker KCB, Officer Commanding East Coast Defences. Ref; RDL.
23 Sept.	1916	VIKING (1909), destroyer, completed repairs mainly in No2 dock, following extensive mine damage in the North Sea. Ref; RDL.
23 Sept.	1949	THURSO BAY (1945), frigate, completed conversion to become a Survey Ship, and commissioned this day as HMS OWEN.
23 Sept.	1965	OJIBWA (1964), submarine, first commissioned at Chatham into Royal Canadian Navy. RDL.

24 Sept.	1564	Will Adams, baptised in Gillingham Parish Church. Ref; GC.
24 Sept.	1872	READY, gun vessel, launched, being named by Mrs Morgan.
24 Sept	1926	OBERON, submarine, launched from No7 Slip, being named by Mrs Pownall, wife of the Admiral Superintendent, Rear Admiral Charles P.Beaty-Pownall. CMG. Ref; RDL.
24 Sept	1940	WELLESLEY (1815), 3 <sup>rd</sup> rate, sunk by German bombers off Gravesend. Later brought to Chatham Dockyard to be broken up and figurehead erected near Main Gate. Ref; JDC 18-6.
25 Sept.	1756	UNION, 2 <sup>nd</sup> rate, launched
25 Sept	1771	Dockyard pension scheme extended to all trades, Shipwrights £20, labourers £10. JDC 3-46.
25 Sept	1832	PHOENIX, paddle sloop, launched, the first vessel constructed at Chatham designed for steam propulsion. Converted for screw propulsion in 1845. Ref; RDL.
25 Sept	1965	ONONDAGA, submarine, launched from No7 Slip, being named by Mrs Hellyer, wife of Paul Hellyer, Minister of National Defence, Canada. Ref; RDL.
26 Sept.	1827	Presentation of The Kings Colours to Chatham Division of The Royal Marines; ceremony led by HRH the Duke of Clarence. Ref; RDL.
26 Sept	1885	Opening ceremony at Bulls Nose, for Victorian extensions to Dockyard. £3m over period of 20 years to complete. Ref; JDC 1-104.
26 Sept	1885	MONARCH (1868), battleship, first ship to leave through the Locks, on opening day. Chief Constructor Warren in charge of caisson operations. Ref; JDC 1-104.
26 Sept	1931	STARFISH, submarine, laid down on No7 Slip. Ref; RDL.
26 Sept	1942	VETERAN (1919), destroyer, sunk by German submarine in North Atlantic. Chatham manned and recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
27 Sept.	1847	HERON, brig-sloop, launched
27 Sept.	1847	ELK, brig-sloop, launched
27 Sept	1849	Admiralty Orders for the day are to be read out, at 0930, to the principal officers, in the presence of the Captain Supt. Ref; JDC 3-94.
27 Sept.	1855	CHESAPEAKE, screw frigate, launched.

27 Sept	1910	INTREPID (1891), cruiser, completed conversion to minelayer. Ref; RDL.
27 Sept	1916	War bonuses paid to non-industrial workers; 14/- per week to men, 9/- to women. Ref; JDC 13-11.
27 Sept	1938	SEAL, submarine, launched from No7 Slip, being named by Miss Danby, sister of the Admiral Superintendent. Ref; RDL.
27 Sept	1943	INTREPID (1936), destroyer, sunk by German aircraft off Leros, Aegean. Chatham manned and recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
27 Sept	1962	OJIBWA, submarine, laid down on No7 Slip. Ref; RDL.
28 Sept	1658	HAPPY ENTRANCE (1619), 30gun ship, burnt by accident at Chatham; set alight by pitch-boat caulkers. Master caulker dismissed for neglect. Ref; JDC 5-37.
28 Sept.	1728	ROYAL SOVEREIGN (1701), 1 <sup>st</sup> rate, re-launched, having been rebuilt and enlarged.
28 Sept.	1840	POLYPHEMUS, paddle sloop, launched
28 Sept.	1840	LONDON, 2 <sup>nd</sup> rate, launched
28 Sept.	1850	WIDGEON (1837), paddle packet, steamed out of Dover to mark the route of the first successful telegraph cable between England and France (Calais). Ref; ILN.
29 Sept	1681	Two workmen convicted of stealing brass fittings. They were returned to the Dockyard to be publicly flogged until they bleed, at the Resident Commissioner's pleasure. JDC 15-14.
29 Sept.	1699	TILBURY, 4 <sup>th</sup> rate, launched
29 Sept	1885	SEVERN, cruiser, launched from No7 Slip, being named by Miss Daisy Watson, daughter of Rear Admiral George Watson, the Admiral Superintendent. Ref; RDL.
29 Sept.	1915	MENTOR (1914), destroyer, completed repairs in No4 dock, her bows having been blown off by an enemy torpedo. Ref; RDL.
29 Sept.	1953	DIAMOND (1950), destroyer, in the North Atlantic, rammed SWIFTSURE (1943), cruiser, both Chatham manned. Temporary repairs at Iceland then back to Chatham. Ref; RDL.
29 Sept	1955	HMS PEMBROKE, RN Barracks, granted Freedom of Borough of Chatham. Ref; RDL.
29 Sept.	1968	UNICORN (1824), Chatham built frigate, handed over from Ministry of Defence to Unicorn Preservation Society, at Dundee, Scotland. Ref; RDL.



30 Sept.	1699	SWALLOW, sloop, launched
30 Sept.	1699	MERLIN, sloop, launched
30 Sept.	1757	ACTAEON, 6 <sup>th</sup> rate, launched
30 Sept.	1833	GULNARE, paddle vessel, launched
30 Sept.	1930	Last tram service to Pembroke Gate, HM Dockyard. Ref; GC.
30 Sept	1936	SUNFISH, submarine, launched from No7 Slip, being named by Mrs Skipwith, wife of Vice Admiral Harry L. Skipwith. CMG. (Former Commodore of RNB). Ref; RDL.
30 Sept.	1950	Chatham Division, Royal Marine Barracks closed this day.
30 Sept	1966	“Design a Poster” competition, to promote Quality and Reliability Year. £10 first prize. Ref; Peri. 1-12.
30 Sept	1983	Haul Down ceremony for flag of Flag Officer Medway. Ref; RDL.
Sept	1871	FIDGET, iron gunboat, keel laid in No2 Dock, whilst RUPERT was building there. Both were launched on 12 <sup>th</sup> March 1872. Ref; RDL.