

01 July	1667	VANGUARD (1586), galleon, raised, having been sunk as a blockship, to deny access by the Dutch warships to the upper Medway. Ref; JDC 20-7.
01 July	1702	Admiralty Order; in time of war, the clerks to the principal officers are to be paid overtime, at the same rate as shipwrights. Ref; JDC 13-1.
01 July	1780	LEANDER, 4 <sup>th</sup> rate, launched
01 July	1833	As an economy measure, the Yard's working week was reduced to 5 days. JDC 3-64
01 July	1848	MARS, 2nd rate, launched after nine years on the stocks.
01 July	1913	PEMBROKE, presentation of commemorative medals to sailors of Chatham manned ships, by Italian Government, for their relief work after earthquake at Messina, Sicily, 28-12-1908.
01 July	1941	SPORTSMAN, submarine, laid down on No7 Slip. Ref; RDL.
01 July	1967	Dockyard Chargemen (in charge of a gang of men), became Technical Supervisors; monthly salary instead of weekly wage. Peri 2-21.
01 July	1969	Flag Officer, Medway, became responsible for area North Yorkshire to West Sussex, inclusive; similar to the old Nore Command area. Ref; RDL.
01 July	1977	WRNS personnel became subject to the Naval Discipline Act. Ref; RDL.
02 July	1834	Admiralty Order; when ships are brought forward for sea service, wives and families of Warrant Officers are to no longer reside onboard. Ref; JDC 9-16.
02 July	1844	RETRIBUTION, paddle frigate, launched
02 July	1894	Dockyard standard working week reduced to 49 hours. Ref; JDC 3-99.
02 July	1906	48-hour working week introduced to the Yard. Ref; JDC 3-99.
02 July	1908	Closure of the Gunnery School at Sheerness, except the firing ranges. All courses now run from PEMBROKE. Ref; RDL.
02 July	1943	VESPER (1917), destroyer, taken into No2 dock for conversion to a Long Range Escort; increasing bunkering and improving armament. Task complete in 2 months. Ref; RDL.
02 July	1950	United Nations operations started in Korea. The Chatham built sloop MODESTE was one of the RN warships involved.
03 July	1707	SALISBURY, 4 <sup>th</sup> rate, launched

03 July	1862	Ironworkers, building ACHILLES, went on strike over having to re-train woodworking shipwrights. Ref; JDC 3-100.
03 July	1943	Nore Army Sea Fort completed, 3 miles NE of Isle of Sheppey. Seven towers, anti aircraft guns, 4 officers, 9 sergeants and 120 soldiers. Dismantled 1959-60. Ref; RDL.
03 July	1959	UNICORN (1824), Chatham built frigate, restored as Drill Ship for the Tay Division of Royal Naval Reserves, at Dundee Scotland.
04 July	1787	Contract sent to Chatham for building a new double Rope House. Ref; JDC 1-62.
04 July	1888	SKIPJACK, torpedo gunboat, keel laid. Ref; RDL.
04 July	1888	SHELDRAKE, torpedo gunboat, keel laid. Ref; RDL.
04 July	1966	Rail track steam crane by South Lock exploded, blowing the boiler 150 yards away. No injuries to Dockyard personnel. Ref; report in RDL.
05 July	1649	John Pett, ropemaker of Hoo, was convicted of buying rope stolen from warships. His punishment; return the cordage within 14 days, and have his conviction read out in the Parish churches on the following Sunday. Ref; JDC 15-14.
05 July	1913	ATTENDANT, oil tanker, launched from No8 Slip. Ref; RDL.
05 July	1940	WHIRLWIND (1917), destroyer, sunk by German submarine, off Lands End. Chatham manned and recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
05 July	1941	TORBAY (1940), Chatham built submarine, sank the Italian submarine <i>Jantina</i> , off Iznir, Turkey. Ref; RDL.
05 July	1942	NIGER (1936), minesweeper, sunk by mine off Iceland. Chatham manned and Recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
05 July	1950	VIDAL, survey ship, keel laid on No7 Slip; ceremony performed by Mrs Moore, wife of the C-in-C at The Nore. Ref; RDL.
06 July	1865	Act of Parliament passed for the Regulation of Dockyard Ports. Ref; RDL.
06 July	1940	SHARK (1934), Chatham built submarine, scuttled and crew captured after crippling attacks by German aircraft and warships, off Skudesnaes, Norway.
06 July	1971	CAVALIER (1944), destroyer, took part in a challenge race against RAPID (1942) in the North sea. The last two wartime destroyers. Ref; Peri.6-69p7.
07 July	1690	Resident Commissioner to Navy Board; it was reported earlier today that the French in large

		numbers were landed in Romney Marsh, so astonishing our people that they are in great confusion. We have something to do to keep the workmen of the Yard quietly at their business. We have swords, powder and shot, but no firearms. Ref; JDC 15-21.
07 July	1943	AVON VALE (1940), destroyer, towed into Dockyard for major repairs, having been mined in the Mediterranean and lost all her bows and forecastle. Ref; RDL.
07 July	1969	Captain of the Dockyard, title changed to, Captain of the Port. Ref; RDL.
07 July	1972	CAVALIER (1944), destroyer, de-commissioned for the last time, at Chatham; to be prepared for disposal. Ref; RDL.
07 July	1972	Trade Unions officials called for a walk-out today (Friday), as a demonstration against current wages negotiations. Ref; RDL.
07 July	1983	PEMBROKE; final Wardroom Mess Dinner. Ref; RDL.
08 July	1808	OPOSSUM, brig-sloop, launched at Muddle's shipyard, Gillingham; fitted out at HM Dockyard and served until 1819. Ref; RDL.
08 July	1944	DRAGON (1917), cruiser, damaged by German submarine and sunk as a breakwater off Normandy beaches. Chatham manned and recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
08 July	1944	PYLADES (1943), minesweeper, sunk by German midget submarine off Normandy beaches. Chatham manned and recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
08 July	1954	HRH Duke of Gloucester presented Queens Colours to the Nore Command. Ref; RDL.
09 July	1699	Navy Board to Resident Commissioner; no shipwrights or others to be entered in HM Dockyard who are not Protestants. Strict enquiry to be made to find Papists and cause them to be discharged. Ref; JDC 15-17.
09 July	1861	RATTLESNAKE, corvette, launched from No1 Slip.
09 July	1883	MERSEY, cruiser, keel laid on No6 Slip. Ref; RDL.
09 July	1958	Admiral Sir Robin Durnford-Slater KCB appointed as the last Commander-in-Chief, The Nore. He flew his flag at PEMBROKE. Ref; RDL.
09 July	1960	Chatham sailors' final Field Gun Competition runs at a Royal Tournament. Nore Command teams won the Inter Command Challenge Cup six times, 1907- 1960. Ref; RDL.
10 July	1697	FLAMBOROUGH, 5 <sup>th</sup> rate, launched
10 July	1835	WANDERER, brig-sloop, launched

11 July	1882	ALEXANDRA (1875), Chatham built battleship, flagship of the Mediterranean Fleet when they bombarded Alexandria, to subdue nationalism in Egypt, which threatened our interests in the Suez Canal.
11 July	1940	ESCORT (1934), destroyer, sank in the Western Mediterranean three days after being torpedoed by enemy submarine. Chatham manned and recorded in St Georges.
12 July	1794	UNICORN, 5 <sup>th</sup> rate, launched
12 July	1966	No2 Slip cover/roof, destroyed by fire, along with the figurehead of Lord Nelson from VANGUARD (1835). Ref; JDC1-83.
12 July	1992	OCELOT (1962), submarine, returned to Chatham to stay. Ref; RDL.
13 July	1711	Navy Board Order; the numbers of apprentices to shipwrights are not to exceed one sixth of the whole number of workmen and apprentices. Ref; JDC 4-4.
13 July	1770	KINGFISHER, sloop, launched
13 July	1900	BARFLEUR (1892), Chatham built battleship, sent sailors to quell Boxer rebels at Tientsin, China. Midshipman Basil Guy of BARFLEUR won the VC that day.
14 July	1813	LIVELY, 5 <sup>th</sup> rate, launched
14 July	1936	STERLET, submarine, laid down on No7 Slip. Ref; RDL.
15 July	1604	King James I visited his ships at Chatham, accompanied by the French Ambassador, the Count de Beaumont. Ref; Harris.
16 July	1703	Admiralty letter; authorising the re-building of Commissioner's House; as requested by Captain George St Lo, Resident Commissioner. Ref; JDC 1-27.
16 July	1795	Shutter telegraph started to carry signals from the Admiralty to Chatham. Time taken fifteen minutes, if the weather was fine. Ref; RDL.
16 July	1825	HARPY, brig-sloop, launched
16 July	1905	RN Hospital, Gillingham, opening ceremony performed by King Edward VII. Ref; JDC 12-9.
16 July	1931	ROCHESTER, sloop, launched from No4 Dock, being named by Mrs Jenner, wife of the Mayor of Rochester. Ref; RDL.
16 July	1940	IMOGEN (1936), destroyer, sunk in collision with the cruiser GLASGOW, in fog off

		Duncansby Head. Chatham manned and recorded in St Georges. Ref; RDL.
17 July	1795	VILLE de PARIS, 1 <sup>st</sup> rate, launched
17 July	1832	ROVER, sloop, launched
18 July	1716	CHATHAM, commissioner's yacht, launched.
18 July	1748	SOMERSET, 3 <sup>rd</sup> rate, launched
18 July	1959	OBERON, submarine, launched from No7 Slip, being named by Princess Marina, Duchess of Kent. Ref; RDL.
19 July	1845	ACTIVE, 5 <sup>th</sup> rate, launched: never commissioned for active service, but spent 20 years as a Drill Ship for Reservists at Sunderland and then Leith. Ref; RDL.
19 July	1919	WRNS disbanded. Ref; RDL.
19 July	1941	UMPIRE (1940), Chatham built submarine, accidentally rammed and sunk by one of our armed trawlers in North Sea; only six months after launching.
20 July	1841	GROWLER, paddle sloop, launched
20 July	1916	MOHAWK (1907), destroyer, completed re-build, mainly in No7 dock for a year, following mine damage in the North Sea. Ref; RDL.
20 July	1968	EXMOUTH (1955), frigate, commissioning ceremony following two-year conversion to gas powered turbine engines, to be followed by extensive trials. Peri 3-34p10.
21 July	1853	CRESSY, screw ship, launched, being named by Miss Percy, daughter of the C-in-C at The Nore. Vice Admiral The Hon. Josceline Percy CB. Ref; RDL.
21 July	1860	ATLAS, 2 <sup>nd</sup> rate, launched from No6 Slip. Never completed or commissioned. Lent instead to Metropolitan Asylum Board, until scrapped. Ref; RDL.
21 July	1948	Visit by King George VI to Dockyard and naval personnel at Chatham. Ref; RDL.
22 July	1616	Enquiry into affairs of the Chatham Chest; finding that great sums of money have been collected and yet many sums of not small amount have been lent out. Ref; JDC 17-2.
22 July	1674	Letter from Admiralty, authorising increase of salary to Phineas Pett, master shipwright, and a grant of £500 in consideration of his extraordinary services in the past. Ref; JDC 5-15.
22 July	1935	SUNFISH, submarine, laid down on No7 Slip. Ref; RDL.

23 July	1757	HUSSAR, 6 <sup>th</sup> rate, launched
23 July	1759	VICTORY, 1 <sup>st</sup> rate, keel laid in old single dock. Ref; JDC 1-53.
23 July	1888	BLAKE, cruiser, keel laid on No7 Slip. Ref; RDL.
23 July	1959	Oak tree planted near Admiral's flagstaff; a direct descendant of one of Admiral Collingswood's acorns. Tree planted by Admiral of The Fleet Sir George Creasy GCB CBE DSO MVO on 200 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of Victory's keel lay. Ref; JDC 1-56.
24 July	1685	Clerk of the Chest's reply to Pepys with rates of relief. £6 for an arm or leg lost, plus annual pension of £15. £13 for both limbs plus pension. £4 per year pension for each eye. All to be assessed at the surgeon's discretion. Ref; JDC 17-10.
24 July	1735	STRAFFORD, 4 <sup>th</sup> rate, launched
24 July	1929	RAINBOW, submarine, laid down on No7 Slip. Ref; RDL.
24 July	1944	MOORSMAN, mooring vessel, launched from No2 Dock. Ref; RDL.
24 July	1944	MOORSPOUT, mooring vessel, launched from No2 Dock. Ref; RDL.
25 July	1842	GOLIATH, 3 <sup>rd</sup> rate, launched from No1 Slip, being named by the Duchess of Buccleuch, wife of the Lord Privy Seal. Ref; RDL.
25 July	1842	VIRAGO, paddle sloop, launched from No4 Slip, being named by the Hon. Mrs. Grey.
26 July	1820	TRAFALGAR, 1 <sup>st</sup> rate, launched from No1 Slip, after 7 years of building. Ref; RDL.
26 July	1875	CORMORANT, sloop, keel laid on No3 Slip. Ref; RDL.
26 July	1906	Horse drawn vehicle left Dockyard with apparently empty barrels. When stopped it was found to contain 1.5tons of metal. Two guilty policemen and the receiver jailed. Ref; JDC 15-19.
27 July	1906	Statement in House of Commons by Parliamentary Secretary to Admiralty; "In the new shipbuilding programme, that includes 8 submarines, the Admiralty will build some of them in their own Dockyards, and they will have to go to Chatham. Ref; Hansard.
27 July	1944	SUNFISH (1936), Chatham built submarine, sunk off Norway in error by an RAF Liberator, whilst on loan passage to Russia. Ref; RDL.
27 July	1981	Royal Wedding cake left PEMBROKE Cookery School by car for Buckingham Palace. The work of Chief Cook David Avery RN. The wedding of HRH Charles, Prince of Wales, to Lady Diana Spencer, was two days later. Ref; RDL.

28 July	1942	TORBAY (1940), submarine, unique ceremony at Buckingham Palace of decorations to captain, officers and ratings. Ref; RDL.
29 July	1717	NEWARK (1695), 2 <sup>nd</sup> rate, re-launched, having been rebuilt and enlarged.
29 July	1803	Parliamentary Bill passed, ordering the removal of the Chatham Chest, and its administration, from Chatham Dockyard to Greenwich Hospital. Ref; JDC 17-18.
29 July	1871	RIFLEMAN, gun vessel, keel laid on No3 Slip.
29 July	1912	LOWESTOFT, cruiser, keel laid on No8 Slip. Ref; RDL.
30 July	1715	Navy Board circular; deploring the acceptance of defective timber, so that it could be used for fires in officers houses. Ref; JDC 3-27.
30 July	1768	BARFLEUR, 2 <sup>nd</sup> rate, launched from No2 Slip. Ref; RDL.
30 July	1808	First Service in Dockyard Church. Ref; Peri 5-52p11.
30 July	1825	MERMAID, 5 <sup>th</sup> rate, launched
30 July	1891	HOOD, battleship, launched from No7 Dock, being named by Viscountess Hood, wife of Francis 4 <sup>th</sup> Viscount Hood. Ref; RDL.
30 July	1951	HMS XE12 (1945), midget submarine, visiting Chatham Dockyard for one week. Ref; RDL
30 July	1970	Last issue of daily rum ration to sailors, ashore and afloat. Sunk with due ceremony in PEMBROKE and ships in commission in Yard. Ref; RDL.
31 July	1951	VIDAL, survey vessel, launched from No7 Slip, being named by Mrs Poland, wife of the Admiral Superintendent, Rear Admiral Albert Poland. CB.DSO*.DSC. Ref; RDL.
31 July	1971	Closure of Chatham Dockyard Technical College; student education transferred to Local Authority Colleges. Ref; JDC 4-90.