

India under the command of Capt. J. C. Hunter, a Gravesend man and one of the finest men I ever sailed salt water with. He was an expert wood carver and spent all his time making boat badges, carving the house flag on the badges, and the name of the ship on strips of wood for the sterns of the four lifeboats. They were very beautiful when finished and the lions gilded.

Now, as I saw neither badge nor name plate on any other of the lifeboats on the Clans which I sailed for 32 years, I am of the opinion that the board found on the beach was one of Capt. Hunter's. As you record the age does not fit the facts, but there is more chance of an error in the 75 years mentioned by the Gallagher family. It was a common occurrence for lifeboats to be damaged or lost overboard during heavy weather more especially on the turret steamers.

CAPT. T. FORRETT,  
Redan,  
7 Hamilton Road,  
North Berwick,

Capt. Mitchell replied:

In times gone by, there was a number of ships with hand carved badges, usually in the form of a grummet, surrounding a house flag. *Clan MacIvorraith* was one you will recollect and she was fitted with rather a handsome set of varnished, mahogany lifeboats. I am quite certain of this ship as I spent many hours making these boats

resplendent about 1929/30. I also think *Clan Macraughton* and *Clan Macfarlane* carried these "tiddley" items.

*Editorial footnote:* Capt. Forrett, now aged 94, retired in 1941. Does any reader recall other Clan vessels with fancy lifeboats?

## Pendennis Castle all in green

Sir,

On Saturday May 13, I happened to see *Pendennis Castle* painted green and lined out in orange and black. No! I had not had a drop too much on the Friday evening. The *Pendennis Castle* in question was number 4079 of what used to be the Great Western Railway.

May 13 and 14 this year were open days at Didcot shed. This shed is a preserved steam loco depot belonging to the Great Western Society. Housed there is a good collection of preserved steam locomotives, representatives of several Great Western classes. On the day of my visit, *Pendennis Castle* was hauling a three coach train, giving trips to the public at five pence a time. She was resplendent in her shining livery of Brunswick green. Her coupling rods and copper capped chimney were positively gleaming, and she had a fine head of steam up as she moved her train back-ward and forward along a short length of track. She will not be captive for long, as

it is hoped to run her to Tyseley, just south of Birmingham, for exhibition on their open day in October. Since the "return to steam" on British Rail last year she is one of the locomotives passed for running enthusiasts' specials.

Didcot is well worth a visit, especially on the open days, where locomotives can be seen in steam, as they should be seen, and not as static museum exhibits. Not all the locomotives are steamable at present, but work is progressing in the restoration of these wonderful machines to their former glory. When one considers that *Pendennis Castle* is 48 years old, and she is a youngster compared with some of her stable mates, it speaks much for the craftsmanship of the bygone era of steam on the railway.

J. W. WILCOCK  
300 Myton Road,  
Warwick.

## Flying 32 pipe bands

Doug Geddes writes from Davidson, Park & Speed, Glasgow, about the agency's involvement in the Scottish World Festival, Aug. 17-20, as part of the Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, Aug. 16-Sept. 4. He has sent almost 1,000 people from Scotland, including 32 pipe bands (plus the band of the Scots Guards), officials, supporters and friends. DP&S also handled the VIP party headed by the Duke of Argyll. It all involved six BOAC charters, and we look forward to publishing story and pictures in CLANSMAN No. 16.

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children on Flight UK 148 from Jersey to Southampton. In a letter to the managing director, P. K. Chivers, headmaster of Duxford Primary School said: "I would like you to pass on to Capt. Buxton and his crew (F/O G. Baker, A/H Ruth Allen, A/H Cheryl Clayton) my appreciation of the kindness and consideration shown to the children. The cabin staff went out of their way to be helpful. . . . Such helpfulness is not always found but can do so much to make a journey the more enjoyable. Thank you once again: I look forward to travelling with your company again in future years."

■ *Right: A Jersey honeymoon for Dave Purcell and his wife Carmel following their wedding at St. Joseph's Church, Redhill on May 13. Dave is supplies officer (purchasing) with BIA and was recently transferred from Redhill to Blackpool due to the move of the stationery department. Their new home will be in Marton, Blackpool.*

■ *Flying high: the latest air-to-air shot of the BIA Dart Herald, to be used in current advertising and brochures. See note, page 19.*

