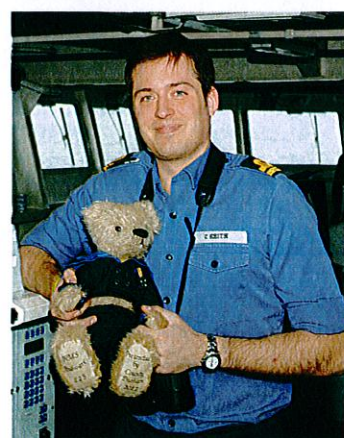


PRINCE BISHOP BEAR'S BLOG...

I am Prince Bishop Bear but you can call me PB. I was lucky enough to start life in Durham, way up in the north east of England. I was made by a company called Cassop Vale Bears. I was first looked after by Chairman Dennis and the head teacher from Durham Trinity School called Julie (Picture Right). They presented me to a great big Royal Navy Warship called HMS Bulwark. Bulwark is our nation's flagship and the man you see here on the right in the smart uniform is Captain Alex. Captain Alex is in charge of HMS Bulwark and the 340 people that live in it. Captain Alex has introduced me to Lieutenant Mark who looks after the helicopters on the ship. Lieutenant Mark will be my new friend and he has promised to take me everywhere the ship goes and lets me write back to Durham with news of my daring adventures ...



I went to the ship's driving room. They call it a bridge (not sure why - it doesn't look much like a bridge) and from here they can steer, speed up and stop this big ship whenever they want. They have an important person called the Officer of the Watch in charge. In the picture you can see "Officer of the Watch Charlie" he looks happy to see me and has a very impressive set of binoculars! It is his job to keep us all safe whilst we sail about and he has to try not to crash the ship into anything. Sometimes Captain Alex gets to sit up here to keep his beady eye on what's going on. Officer of the Watch Charlie does not get to steer the ship himself though because he has a chap called the Quarter Master. They let me have a little drive when nobody was looking. I thought his wheel was a bit small though for a ship this big?



The ship also has a doctor and a dentist. I had to go and get my teeth checked by "Dento" the dentist to make sure that my smile is white enough for the Royal Navy. Luckily I brush my teeth twice a day and don't eat many sweets so the dentist told me that I have lovely teeth and I got a certificate. I also had to have an injection to make sure I don't get sick when we visit places. They are called inoculations and I got a lollipop for being brave (don't tell the dentist).



Here I am in a town called Kiel which is in a country called Germany. It is up in the north of the country and whilst I was here it got very cold and it snowed. Kiel is a very lovely place it has a university and an opera house and I got to eat some Bratwurst (fried sausage) which was pretty yummy but I got sauce in my fur! The man you can see here is a German sailor called Karsten Blech. He was kind enough to help me find my way back to the ship in the really big port. I am going to Poland now to visit a port called Gdynia and will send an update when I arrive.

