



Town of Ajax Street Dedication



Street Name: **Blowers Crescent**

Name of Veteran: Hubert Roy Blowers July 16, 1925-Nov. 17, 2017

Rank: Royal Marine

Ship Served: HMS Ajax

Date of Service on Ship: Oct. 1942 to May 1943

Year of Visit/Dedication: 1999

Veteran or Family Visit: Roy Blowers and wife Linda

Veteran of the Battle of the River Plate: No Died at Battle: No

Hubert Roy Blowers was born in Lowestoft, England on July 16, 1925. He joined the Royal Marines on January 21, 1942 at the age of 16 and a half (1 year underage). After training at Chatham he was assigned to his first ship, HMS Ajax. While on the Ajax he traveled to the Mediterranean and the North Atlantic where the ship escorted convoys and guard ships to Mediterranean ports and patrolled for U-boats.



Roy Blowers wrote;

We were put out of action on the 2 January, 1943 by 500lb bomb dropped by a Stuka, dive bomber whilst in harbour in Bone, North Africa. The bomb passed through the deck approximately 10 feet from our gun crew, of which I was one, hitting and killing one of our marines. The bomb went through the deck and exploded in the boiler room blowing a hole in the side of the ship and killing around 18 matelots.

After being towed to Gibraltar, one boiler was repaired and the hole in the side of the ship patched, we sailed to Brooklyn Naval Docks in New York for repairs.



On his return to England Roy volunteered to join the Combined Operation Royal Marines. He then trained for D-Day landings and landed on D-Day, on the first wave on the Normandy beach called Arromanches. He then went through France, Belgium, Holland, crossed the Rhine in Germany and eventually took part in taking over the submarine pens at Wilhelmshaven in Germany.

Roy was then transferred to S.E.A.C. (South East Asia Command) and under the command of Louis Mountbatten sent to Burma. At the end of the Japanese war he was then transferred to Ceylon, now Sri Lanka, to await return to England and finally to be demobbed on May 29, 1946.

Roy married, had one daughter and finished his working days as an area manager. He died on November 17, 2017 at the age of 92.