## TRENTHAM WAR MEMORIAL 1939-1945





Name ERIC HEATH HUGHES

DOB 10/1/1913

Place of birth Stoke on Trent

Lived at 48 Boma Road in 1939
Occupation Sanitary inspector

Family Father Harry Charles (married 1907, died in action

in 1917); Mother Annie Venetta [Nettie] Heath Mother lived at Garden Place, Hartshill in1939. He

had two older brothers, Cecil and Bentley.

Marital Status Married

Wife Ethel Tart married between July and Sept 1939
Children Son Edward Heath Hughes born July 1944

Age enlisted
Date enlisted
Place enlisted

information

Service Royal Naval Canteen Service

Reg number C/NX 704643

Rank Canteen Manager/Petty Officer

Date of death Died Tuesday, March 20, 1945

Age at death Age 32

Place of death At sea, north of Murmansk, Russia

Cause of death His ship, HMS Lapwing, was torpedoed and sunk

Grave or CHATHAM NAVAL MEMORIAL 82, 1

Memorial Commemorated on a family memorial at Hartshill Cemetery

Medals Arctic Cross – applied for by his son

Other A memorial service was held at Trentham Church on 28 April 1945Probate:

£1192 16s 3d to his widow Ethel Hughes

Ethel re-married Robert Pringle, a civil engineer, in 1955. Robert joined the Air Ministry and Ethel and Edward accompanied him on postings at home and abroad. Edward joined the Merchant Navy retiring as a Master in 2004.







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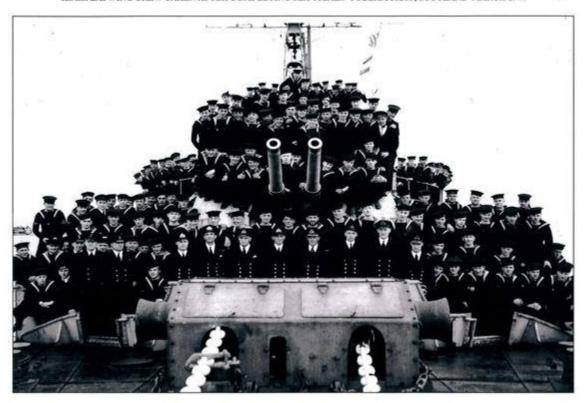


The Sinking of HMS Lapwing

## HMS Lapwing (U 62) British Sloop



H.M.S. LAPWING CREW TAKEN AFTER COMPLETING SEA TRIALS TOBERMORAY, SCOTLAND MARCH 1944



HMS Lapwing was sunk in the Arctic off Northern Russia north of Murmansk. In the afternoon of 20 March 1945, a German U-boat, U-968 attacked convoy JW65 and the Lapwing of the 7th Escort Group was hit amidships by a T5 homing torpedo at 13:25. It broke in two and sank 20 minutes later.

There were 61 survivors, but 158 men died, including Eric Heath Hughes.