

MARSHALL, JOHN

RANK: MARINE

DECORATIONS:

YEARS OF SERVICE:

SHIPS:

OPERATIONAL SERVICE:

UNITS:

A Boy Bugler who saw action in WW2 aged 15 in the Atlantic convoys. Survived a sinking. Transferred to GD, saw action in ships detachments at D Day, and subsequently in the Pacific.

John Marshall was the abandoned son of a Captain RM, fostered by aunt: RM Cadet at Stonehouse aged 10. Joined as boy bugler, aged 14 on outbreak of war. Served in HMS Bonaventure in Atlantic Convoys, sounding action stations on open bridge. Sunk by torpedo in Mediterranean; learnt to swim.

In Transit camp Alexandria, John arranged draft to HMS Gloucester, but fortunately for him missed sailing, as ship sunk with all hands. In the Flag Ship was orderly to Admiral Vian at the Battle of Sirte.

Retrained as GD in 1943. In HMS Rodney provided NGS at D Day. In two Aircraft Carriers (HMS Formidable and Venerable) saw action in Pacific, including Kamikaze strike. Wonderful family welcome in Australia, and 21st Birthday Party.