

NATIONAL MUSEUMS **LIVERPOOL**

**MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

**INDEFATIGABLE AND NATIONAL**  
**SEA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

**Reference Code: D/IND**  
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**Listed by**  
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**January 2004**  
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**April 2005**

## MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY

### INDEFATIGABLE AND NATIONAL SEA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS

#### Introduction

In 1864 John Clint (d.1868), a Liverpool seaman and shipowner, founded a charitable institution to provide a secure environment in which to train the sons of sailors, destitute and orphaned boys, to become merchant seamen. The original definition was that it would cater "for the sons and orphans of sailors who are without means, preference being given to those whose fathers had been connected with the Port of Liverpool".

The first *Indefatigable*, a 4<sup>th</sup> rate 50 gun frigate launched in 1849, was loaned by the Admiralty and moored off New Ferry in the River Mersey in 1864. Mr. James Bibby contributed £5,000 to transform her from a fighting ship into a training ship, and this was to be the start of a long association between the Bibby family and the school.

The ship remained there for over 50 years until 1912, when it was declared unfit for further service. The 2<sup>nd</sup> class protected cruiser, HMS *Phaeton*, was purchased by the Admiralty in 1913 and renamed the *Indefatigable*. In 1941 the war forced the establishment onto land, first at temporary accommodation in North Wales, and later in 1944 at Plas Llanfair, Anglesey.

1944 saw an amalgamation with the Lancashire National Sea Training Homes for Boys and a renaming to the "*Indefatigable* and National Sea Training School for Boys". Many of the boys who trained on the *Indefatigable* went on to have long and successful careers in the Merchant or Royal Navy. The school closed in 1995. There is an Old Boys Association for ex-pupils.

The collection is available to any reader within the Searchroom of the Maritime Archives & Library, Merseyside Maritime Museum. Some records are subject to closure periods under the Data Protection Act, 1998.

The collection has arrived at the Maritime Archives & Library in a number of deposits. Items reference D/IND/1/1-3, part of D/IND/1/4/1, D/IND/2 (except 2/4/2-3), and newsletters for 1989-1991 were found in the Liverpool office of the *Indefatigable* in 1976 and donated at that time. In 1997 item reference D/IND/1/4/2 was transferred from the Education Library of the University of Liverpool. Items reference D/IND/1/4/1 (part of), D/IND/2/4/2-3 and the majority of the newsletters were received from Mr. J. Harrison, on behalf of the Old Boys Association on 2 May 2001.

The remainder, and majority of the collection, comprising minute books (1864-1984), register books (1865-1995), visitor report books (1865-1978), punishment books (1951-1995), boys' discharge book (1953-1986), medical and dental registers (1937-1980), statistics (1865-1949) and photographs (c.1980-1990) were transferred to the Liverpool Record Office, Liverpool Central Library, after the closure of the school in 1995. These records were transferred to the Maritime Archives & Library by the *Indefatigable* Old Boys Association in September 2004.

The records relating to the *Indefatigable* Old Boys Association (IOBA) were deposited by the Association in March 2005 and are catalogued at reference D/IND/6.

The newsletters of the IOBA are held in the Library journal collection.

Related material at the Maritime Archives & Library, Merseyside Maritime Museum, includes the Bryson Collection: bound volume of annual reports 1<sup>st</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, 1865-1881. Microfiche copy available. List of boys sent to join ships includes name of vessel, company and date joined, 1949-1963, reference D/B 115N.

Further related material may be found in records presented by the Charity Commissioner. Annual reports, 1902, 1905-1909, 1920, 1924-1925, 1927-1934, reference P/CC/IND.

Miscellaneous items are a watercolour of *Indefatigable* boys at Deganwy summer camp and a colour postcard of *Indefatigable*, 1888, reference DX/1516.

Letters, receipts and accounts, re the King George's Fund for Sailors Grants to the *Indefatigable* and National Sea Training School for Boys, 1930-1969, reference SAS/23E/4. The Centenary brochure of 1864 may be found at reference SAS/23E/4. The McRoberts collection has photographs of TS *Indefatigable*, reference MCR 90/10-11, 13.

The Lancashire and National Sea Training Homes for Boys collection, reference D/NL, contains minutes (1896-1937), subscription records (1898-1945), treasury books (1905-1945), sea registers (1903-1945), miscellaneous financial records (1913, 1938-1945).

Reference books in the Library include, *Centenary of the Indefatigable, 1864-1964; National Sea Training for Boys, Liverpool, 1964; The Training Ships of Liverpool*, Bob Evans, 2002 and *The Indefatigable*, Bob Evans, 2005.

A terracotta bust of a boy sailor of the TS *Indefatigable*, a school uniform jacket and a figurehead from the TS *Indefatigable*, are held in the Merseyside Maritime Museum's collections.

**MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

**INDEFATIGABLE AND NATIONAL  
SEA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

**Contents**

1/1 - 4	Administration	1906 - 1993
2/1 - 4	Legal	1901 - 1952
3/1 - 7	Operational	1865 - 1995
1/1 - 6	Daily Log Books	1964 - 1980
2/1 - 41	Register Books and Entry Books	1865 - 1995
3/1 - 6	Discharge Books	1865 - 1986
4/1	Punishment Book	1951 - 1995
5/1 - 3	Medical Records	1937 - 1980
6/1 - 4	Visitor Records	1865 - 1978
7/1	Prize Day Programmes	1976 - 1994
4/1 - 28	Photographs	1895 - 1995
5/1 - 6	Publications	c.1960 - 1993
6/1 - 6	<i>Indefatigable</i> Old Boys Association (IOBA)	1864 - 2004
7/1 - 5	Miscellaneous	1866 - 1989

**MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

Title of Deposit: **INDEFATIGABLE AND NATIONAL SEA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

Item No.	Description	Date(s)
D/IND/1/1 - 4	<b><u>ADMINISTRATION</u></b>	<b><u>1906 - 1993</u></b>
1/1	<u>Minute Books, Phaeton Limited</u>	<u>1913 - 1917</u>
1	Minute Books, Phaeton Ltd.	7 Sept 1913 - 6 Nov 1917
2/1 - 4	<u>Executive Committee Minute Books</u>	<u>1913 - 1960</u>
	Gives general details on the running of the ship and some details of applications.	
1	Minute Book, with index and inserted letters.	9 Oct 1930 - 11 Feb 1942
2	Minute Book, mainly empty.	11 Feb 1943 - 11 Jan 1945
3	Minute Book.	28 Dec 1944 - 24 Feb 1960
4	Minute Book extracts re Phaeton Limited. [6 items]	1 Apr 1913 - 19 Dec 1932
3/1 - 5	<u>Records Under Companies Acts</u>	<u>1906 - 1950</u>
1	Register of Members, Liverpool Sea Training School for Boys Ltd.	27 Oct 1906 - 12 Jan 1949
2	Register of Committee, Liverpool Sea Training School for Boys Ltd.	27 Oct 1906 - 12 Jan 1949
3	Register of Members and Shares, Phaeton Ltd.	7 Sept 1913 - 8 Apr 1937
4	Note of Executive Committee Members.	1913 - 1947
5	Annual Return and Summary of Share Capital Debentures. [2 items]	1949 - 1950

**MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

Title of Deposit: *INDEFATIGABLE AND NATIONAL SEA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS*

Item No.	Description	Date(s)
D/IND/1/1 - 4	<b><u>ADMINISTRATION</u></b> (cont)	<b><u>1906 - 1993</u></b>
4/1 - 3	<u>Reports</u>	<u>1939 - 1993</u>
1	Annual Reports: 1947 - 1949, 1956, 1961 missing. [45 items]  Annual Reports 1865 - 1881 in the Bryson Collection (D/B/115N/1) are available on microfiche.  Annual Reports 1901 - 1934 [not complete] are available in the records deposited by the Charity Commissioners (P/CC/IND/1).	31 Mar 1940 - 31 Mar 1990
2	Chairman and Deputy Chairman, Reports to the Executive Committee. [1 file]  [FRAGILE - Handle with Care]	12 Jan 1939 - 20 Oct 1958
3	Copy of Chairman's report from the 1993 Annual Report.	1993

**MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

**Title of Deposit:** *INDEFATIGABLE AND NATIONAL SEA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS*

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
D/IND/2/1 - 4	<b><u>LEGAL</u></b>	<b><u>1901 - 1952</u></b>
1/1 - 4	<u>Memorandum and Articles of Association</u>	<u>1906 - 1952</u>
1	The Liverpool Sea Training School for Boys Ltd.	27 Oct 1906
2	Phaeton Ltd.	9 Sept 1913
3	Articles of Association for Phaeton Ltd. [extract copy]	n.d., c.1913
4	Correspondence to Companies Registration House re Phaeton Ltd. [15 items]	3 Jul 1951 - 30 May 1952
2/1 - 2	<u>Conveyance Deeds</u>	<u>1901 - 1909</u>
1	Draft conveyance of freehold land at Liscard, Cheshire.	6 Feb 1901
2	Conveyance of freehold land at Liscard, Cheshire.	1909
3/1 - 3	<u>Trust Deeds</u>	<u>1909 - 1935</u>
1	Alteration of rules. [3 items]	16 Mar 1909
2	Memoranda re the alteration of rules following trust deed, dated 16 March 1909.	Oct 1935
3	Letter re the alteration of rules following trust deed, dated 16 March 1909.	13 Nov 1935
4/1 - 3	<u>Agreement Deeds</u>	<u>1910 - 1944</u>
1	Deeds of Agreement with the Hertfordshire Navy League and associated correspondence.	21 Jul 1910 - 10 Jul 1942
2	Deed of Agreement for limited company liability status.	1 Oct 1944
3	Deed of Agreement for the amalgamation of Liverpool Sea Training School for Boys Ltd., and Lancashire and National Sea Training Homes for Boys.	7 Dec 1944

**MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

Title of Deposit: **INDEFATIGABLE AND NATIONAL SEA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

Item No.	Description	Date(s)
D/IND/3/1 - 7	<b><u>OPERATIONAL RECORDS</u></b>	<b><u>1865 - 1995</u></b>
	Some of these volumes contain sensitive personal information relating to children and are closed for 100 years in accordance with Section 1 (Principles 1, 2 and 7) of the Data Protection Act 1998.	
1/1 - 6	<b><u>Daily Log Books</u></b>	<b><u>1964 - 1980</u></b>
	These contain the regime of the School and include the numbers onboard.	
1	Daily Log Book.	14 Sept 1964 - 25 Mar 1969
2	Daily Log Book.	13 Sept 1965 - 28 Jul 1967
3	Daily Log Book.	21 Apr 1969 - 5 Dec 1971
4	Daily Log Book, includes list of books in the 'Information Room', 6 October 1972 and list of chairs, 19 October 1972.	5 Jan 1972 - 8 Dec 1976
5	Daily Log Book, includes attendance and ticket lists for leave. [4 items]	6 Jan 1977 - 18 Jul 1980
6	Daily log book, includes attendance and ticket lists for Christmas leave, 1979, and class names.	10 Sept 1980 - 20 Jul 1980
2/1 - 41	<b><u>Register and Entry Books</u></b>	<b><u>1866 - 1995</u></b>
	Indexed volumes containing date of admission, terms of attendance, where from, name, age, birthplace, education, height, weight, religion, conduct on board, name and residence of parents/guardians and relatives, date of leaving and reason why, report of conduct of character on and after leaving.	
1	Register Book.	28 Aug 1865 - 4 Oct 1871
2	Register Book.	4 Oct 1871 - 30 Oct 1877



**MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

Title of Deposit: **INDEFATIGABLE AND NATIONAL SEA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

Item No.	Description	Date(s)
D/IND/3/1 - 7	<b><u>OPERATIONAL RECORDS</u></b> (cont)	<b><u>1865 - 1995</u></b>
2/1 - 41	<u>Register and Entry Books</u> (cont)	<u>1986 - 1995</u>
3	Register Book.	30 Oct 1877 - 13 June 1882
4	Register Book.	13 June 1882 - 2 May 1887
5	Register Book.	8 May 1877 - 27 Jul 1891
6	Register Book.	24 Jul 1891 - 4 Sept 1896
7	Register Book.	4 Sept 1896 - 8 Nov 1900
8	Register Book.	8 Nov 1900 - 10 Mar 1904
9	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2007]	10 Mar 1904 - 19 Apr 1906
10	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2009]	26 Apr 1906 - 16 Dec 1908
11	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2013]	11 Dec 1908 - 25 Jul 1912
12	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2017]	3 Aug 1912 - 7 Mar 1916
13	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2021]	7 Mar 1916 - 15 Sept 1920
14	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2027]	15 Sept 1920 - 6 May 1926
15	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2032]	6 May 1926 - 10 Sept 1931

**MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

Title of Deposit: **INDEFATIGABLE AND NATIONAL SEA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

Item No.	Description	Date(s)
D/IND/3/1 - 7	<b><u>OPERATIONAL RECORDS</u></b> (cont)	<b><u>1865 - 1995</u></b>
2/1 - 41	<u>Register and Entry Books</u> (cont)	<u>1986 - 1995</u>
16	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2037]	10 Sept 1931 - 9 Jan 1936
17	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2039]	16 Jan 1936 - 17 Nov 1938
18	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2041]	17 Nov 1938 - 14 Nov 1940
19	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2043]	14 Nov 1940 - 11 Sept 1942
20	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2046]	11 Sept 1942 - 10 Jan 1945
21	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2047]	10 Jan 1945 - 5 Nov 1946
22	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2049]	5 Nov 1946 - 18 Oct 1948
23	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2051]	18 Oct 1948 - 29 Aug 1950
24	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2053]	20 Sept 1950 - 8 May 1952
25	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2055]	8 May 1952 - 18 Jan 1954
26	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2057]	22 Jan 1954 - 20 Jan 1956
27	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2059]	18 Jan 1956 - 22 Jan 1958
28	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2061]	22 Jan 1958 - 20 Jan 1960

**MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

Title of Deposit: **INDEFATIGABLE AND NATIONAL SEA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

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D/IND/3/1 - 7	<b><u>OPERATIONAL RECORDS</u></b> (cont)	<b><u>1865 - 1995</u></b>
2/1 - 41	<u>Register and Entry Books</u> (cont)	<u>1986 - 1995</u>
29	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2062]	20 Jan 1960 - 13 Sept 1961
30	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2064]	13 Sept 1961 - 8 May 1963
31	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2066]	8 May 1963 - 20 Jan 1965
32	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2068]	20 Jan 1965 - 18 Jan 1967
33	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2070]	18 Jan 1967 - 30 Apr 1969
34	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2072]	30 Apr 1969 - 5 May 1971
35	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2074]	5 May 1971 - 2 May 1973
36	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2076]	21 May 1973 - 23 Apr 1975
37	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2080]	4 Sept 1975 - 5 Feb 1979
38	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2084]	19 Apr 1979 - 12 Sept 1983
39	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2091]	12 Sept 1983 - 7 Sept 1990
40	Register Book. [closed until 1 January 2096]	7 Sept 1990 - 24 Apr 1995
41	Boys Entry Book. Copy available on microfiche, original will not be produced.	31 Dec 1912 - 7 Sept 1953

**MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

Title of Deposit: **INDEFATIGABLE AND NATIONAL SEA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

Item No.	Description	Date(s)
D/IND/3/1 - 7	<b><u>OPERATIONAL RECORDS (cont)</u></b>	<b><u>1865 - 1995</u></b>
3/1 - 6	<u>Discharge Records</u>	<u>1865 - 1986</u>
1	Discharge Book containing date, name, where from, height, weight, rating and when gone. [closed until January 2066]	Apr 1953 - May 1965
2	Discharge Book (copy on microfiche) containing date, name, where from, height, weight, rating and when gone. [closed until January 2066]	18 Apr 1961 - 2 Nov 1986
3	Admission and discharge annual statistics typed on the rear of medical certificates, etc., some containing sensitive information. [1865-1927 closed access, use summary item reference D/IND/3/3/4]	1865 - 1949
4	Summary admission and discharge statistics.	1865 - 1927
5	Letter from T. & J. Harrison, Shipowners, requesting to employ 3 boys including Percy Moran.	16 May 1933
6	Note re W. Bolger, army despatch rider.	17 Sept 1934
4/1	<u>Punishment Book</u>	<u>1951 - 1995</u>
	Contains date, name, offence, by whom reported and punishment.	
1	Punishment Book, Lancashire and National Sea Training Homes, Wallasey. [closed until 1 January 2096]	1951 - 1995
5/1 - 3	<u>Medical Records</u>	<u>1937 - 1980</u>
1	Dental Register. [closed until 1 January 2081]	4 Mar 1937 - 27 Nov 1980
2	Medical Register. [closed until 1 January 2081]	8 Sept 1961 - 28 Nov 1980
3	Hospital Sick List. [closed until 1 January 2071]	15 May 1962 - 14 May 1970

**MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

Title of Deposit: **INDEFATIGABLE AND NATIONAL SEA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

Item No.	Description	Date(s)
D/IND/3/1 - 7	<b><u>OPERATIONAL RECORDS (cont)</u></b>	<b><u>1865 - 1995</u></b>
6/1 - 4	<u>Visitor Records</u>	<u>1865 - 1978</u>
1	Visitor Report Book; records number of boys on board, general appearance of ship and boys, number in sick bay, recommendations and general remarks (includes entry for the 16 May 1952). [fragile]	27 Aug 1865 - 11 May 1930
2	Visitor Report Book; records number of boys on board, general appearance of ship and boys, number in sick bay, recommendations and general remarks.	14 June 1930 - 21 June 1978
3	Visitor Rota.	7 Mar 1935 - Jan 1940
4	Visitor Book recording date, name and address of visitor, nationality and whom visiting.	Nov 1958 - Jul 1965
7/1	<u>Prize Day Programmes</u>	<u>1976 - 1994</u>
1	Prize Day programmes; missing 1977, 1978 and 1981. [16 items]	1976 - 1994

**MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

Title of Deposit: **INDEFATIGABLE AND NATIONAL SEA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

Item No.	Description	Date(s)
D/IND/4/1 - 28	<b><u>PHOTOGRAPHS</u></b>	<b><u>1895 - 1995</u></b>
1	Photographs of the Hood Division Year Groups (see also 4/27). [19 items]	1983 - 1995
2	Photographs of the Raleigh Division Year Groups (see also 4/27). [10 items]	1984 - 1995
3	Photographs of the Cardiff Division Year Groups (see also 4/27). [2 items]	n.d. [1980 - 1995?]
4	Photographs of the Drake Division Year Groups (see also 4/27). [17 items]	1983 - 1995
5	Photographs of the Anglesey Division Year Groups (see also 4/27). [3 items]	n.d. [1980 - 1995?]
6	Photographs of the 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Liverpool Division Year Groups (see also 4/27). [4 items]	n.d. [1980 - 1995?]
7	Photographs of the Rodney Division Year Groups (see also 4/27). [11 items]	1984 - 1995
8	Photographs of miscellaneous Year Groups. [24 items]	n.d. [1971 - 1995?]
9	Photographs of Band Year Groups. [14 items]	1988 - 1995
10	Photographs of Parades and Inspections. [25 items]	n.d. [1947 - 1985?]
11	Photographs of Parades and Inspections. [12 items]	n.d. [1980 - 1995?]
12	Photographs of Parade and Presentation for 1994. [32 items]	1994
13	Photographs of Presentations. [19 items]	n.d. [1930 - 1995?]
14	Photographs of Miscellaneous Groups. [12 items]	n.d. [1950 - 1995?]
15	Photographs of Rugby Teams. [16 items]	n.d. [1988 - 1992?]

**MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

Title of Deposit: **INDEFATIGABLE AND NATIONAL SEA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

Item No.	Description	Date(s)
D/IND/4/1 - 28	<b><u>PHOTOGRAPHS (cont)</u></b>	<b><u>1895 - 1995</u></b>
16	Photographs of Football Teams. [7 items]	n.d. [1989 - 1994?]
17	Photographs of Hockey Teams. [5 items]	n.d. [1989 - 1994?]
18	Photographs of Lessons. [13 items]	n.d. [1970 - 1995?]
19	Photographs of Indoor and Outdoor Activities. [38 items]	n.d. [1950 - 1995?]
20	Photographs of Boating. [22 items]	n.d. [1950 - 1995?]
21	Photographs of Signalling and Flag Raising (see also 4/10). [4 items]	[1955 - 1995?]
22	Photographs of Interior Views. [13 items]	n.d. [1950 - 1995?]
23	Photographs of Exterior Views. [18 items]	n.d. [1941 - 1995?]
24	Photographs of the ship <i>Indefatigable</i> . [5 items]	1895 - 1914
25	Photographs of School Play. [38 items]	n.d. [1990 - 1995?]
26	Photographs of a visit by the Duke of Edinburgh. [16 items]	n.d.
27	Photographs of the Old Boys Association, mainly Year Groups. [25 items]	1981 - 1990
28	Photographs of miscellaneous items, includes a photograph of staff. [13 items]	n.d., 1970

**MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

Title of Deposit: **INDEFATIGABLE AND NATIONAL SEA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

Item No.	Description	Date(s)
D/IND/5/1 - 6	<b><u>PUBLICATIONS</u></b>	<b><u>c.1960 - 1993</u></b>
1	Brochures for the <i>Indefatigable</i> School. [8 items]	c.1960 - 1993
2	Recruitment Poster - <i>Indefatigable</i> Boarding School for Boys, 'A Preparation for Life'.	n.d.
3	Appeal brochure and invitation cards for the <i>Indefatigable's</i> 125 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary.	Nov 1989
4	Card showing the <i>Indefatigable</i> School at Plas Llanfair, Anglesey and school event.	n.d.
5	Reprinted postcard to be sent from the <i>Indefatigable</i> re arrival, food, etc.	n.d.
6	Poem - "The 'L' Ticker" on lifeboats, by D.E.W.	n.d.



**MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

Title of Deposit: **INDEFATIGABLE AND NATIONAL SEA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

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D/IND/6/1 - 6	<b><u>INDEFATIGABLE OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION</u></b>	<b><u>1864 - 2004</u></b>
1	The Indie School Magazine and Old Boys Newsletter. [2 items]  NB <i>Indefatigable</i> Old Boys Association newsletters are held in our Library collections.	1994 - 1995
2	Membership List.	May 1991
3	History research files, files of newspaper cuttings, copy documents, etc. [1 file]	1864 - 1995
4	Photographs and slides of the school, old boys, etc. [28 photographs, 3 negatives, 86 slides]	c.1931 - 2000
5	Guide Book for the National Memorial Arboretum and images from the unveiling of an <i>Indefatigable</i> plaque and bench. [1 volume, ICD, 17 photographs]	Apr 2004
6/1 - 5	<b><u>Old Boys Memoirs</u></b>  Kept as a sample. Many more examples can be found in the Old Boys Association Newsletters.	<b><u>1931 - 2004</u></b>
1	Memoirs of William Gregson, 1880 - 1882.	Aug 1931
2	Memoirs of Hubert Clarke, 1919 - 1921.	c.1971
3	Memoirs of Harry Traynor, 1939 - 1940.	n.d.
4	Memoirs of Derek Evans, 1941 - 1942.	9 Sept 1998
5	Memoirs of James Taylor, 1946.	Mar 2004

**MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

Title of Deposit: **INDEFATIGABLE AND NATIONAL SEA TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

Item No.	Description	Date(s)
D/IND/7/1 - 5	<b><u>MISCELLANEOUS</u></b>	<b><u>1866 - 1989</u></b>
1	Mounted newspaper cutting from the <i>Illustrated London News</i> , with an engraving entitled 'Divine Service on Board the Training-Ship <i>Indefatigable</i> at Liverpool'.	5 May 1866
2	List of boys, possibly showing ages.	c.Aug 1933
3	Apprentice indenture and school reports for Frederick James Dillon.	1951 - 1953
4	Letter from Mark Whitney re use of <i>Indefatigable</i> training during the Falkland's War.	20 June 1982
5	Certificate from the Great Strait Charity Raft Run, Portdinorwig to Menai Bridge.	1989

