



HMS Daring (Navy Photos/Michael Pocock, click to enlarge)

[return to Contents List](#)

D or DEFENDER-Class Fleet Destroyer ordered from John I Thornycroft at Woolston, Southampton in the 1930 Programme. The ship was laid down on 18th June 1931 and launched on 7th April 1932. She was the 5th RN ship to carry the name, introduced in 1801 and previously used by a destroyer sold in 1912. Build was completed on 25th November 1932 for a contract price of £225,536 excluding the Admiralty supplied equipment such as guns, ammunition and communications equipment. She joined the 1st Destroyer Flotilla in the Mediterranean early the next year. The ship re-commissioned in April 1934 after refit at Sheerness.. In December 1934 she sailed to join the 8th Destroyer Flotilla on the China Station and served there until the outbreak of war. Her captain until arrival at Singapore was the renowned Lord Louis Mountbatten.

Battle Honours

None

Heraldic Data

Badge: On a Field Black, an arm and a hand in a cresset of fire all Proper.

Motto

Splendide audax : 'Finely daring'

Details of War Service

(for more ship information, go to [Naval History Homepage](#) and type name in Site Search)

1939

September	
3rd	Passage to join Fleet at Alexandria with HM Destroyers DUNCAN, DIANA and DAINTY.
26th	Detached on arrival at Aden for patrol and contraband control in Red Sea.
October	Deployed at Aden.
November	Passage to Malta to join Flotilla.
25th	Taken in hand for docking and repair in Malta (Note: The condition of many ships of Flotilla had been found unsatisfactory on arrival in the Mediterranean. HMS DECOY and HMS DUNCAN were also taken in hand after joining the Mediterranean Fleet).
December	Nominated for service in 3rd Destroyer Flotilla Home Fleet.
20th	On completion prepared for passage.

1940

January	Passage to Belfast as escort for rms DUNNOTAR CASTLE from Gibraltar.
---------	--

- 7th Arrived in Clyde and took passage to Portsmouth.
(Note: This was her first arrival in UK since leaving for China in 1930.)
- 10th Under repair at Portsmouth.
- 25th On completion took passage via Irish Sea to join Flotilla in Scapa Flow.

February

- 10th Joined Flotilla at Scapa Flow.
Deployed for escort of convoys to and from Norway.
- 18th During escort of Convoy HN12 from Norway torpedoed by U23 and sank very quickly in position 58.39N 01.10W after being hit in stern and capsizing.
There were only 15 survivors, five of whom were rescued by HM Submarine THISTLE which had witnessed attack. 157 of ship's company were lost.
U29 was commanded by Kretschmer who later was responsible for sinking many ships during Atlantic convoy attacks during 1941.

P o s t W a r N o t e

This name was carried forward in August 1949 when given to a Fleet Destroyer launched at Wallsend by Swan Hunter. She served at home and abroad until scrapped in 1971.

Addendum

CONVOY ESCORT MOVEMENTS of HMS DARING

by Don Kindell

These convoy lists have not been cross-checked with the text above

Date convoy sailed	Joined convoy as escort	Convoy No.	Left convoy	Date convoy arrived
30/01/40	05/02/40	TC 003	07/02/40	07/02/40
16/02/40	16/02/40	HN 012	18/02/40	19/02/40

(Note on Convoys)

back to [Contents List](#)
or [Naval-History.Net](#)

revised 29/7/11

further editing and formatting is required
