

## Sub-Lieutenant IAN MACKIE

*H.M.S. Bluebell*, Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve

who died age 21 on 17 February 1945

Son of George and Annis Ethel Gertrude Rose Mackie, of Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire.

Remembered with honour on the PORTSMOUTH NAVAL MEMORIAL

The *Register* of 3 and 10 March 1945 recorded this late Naval death under the heading "Local Naval Officer Presumed Killed". Sub-Lt Ian Mackie, RN, was the son of George Mackie of Bredon's Hardwick and was aged 21. Formerly a pupil at The Grammar School, he is included on the plaque found in the Town Hall.<sup>1</sup> He then served on the staff of *Shellmex Oil Co.* and was described as being "bright and promising".<sup>2</sup> He joined the Royal Navy in about 1942.



Sub-Lt. Mackie



*H.M.S. Bluebell* (model)<sup>3</sup>

*HMS Bluebell* was a Flower Class Corvette, which was commissioned in 1940. Lt. Mackie was killed when it was torpedoed and sunk by German submarine *U-711* on the 17th February 1945 off the Kola Inlet (Russia). This *U-Boat* was, in its turn, was bombed and sunk on 4 May 1945 off the Norwegian Coast with the loss of 40 crew.<sup>4</sup>

Lt. Mackie's name was not added to Tewkesbury's War Memorial because his name is officially commemorated in Bredon Church and with the Grammar School Memorial Plaque at the Town Hall.



<sup>1</sup> Patsy Brumage also informs me that his death has been commemorated on a plaque at Bredon Church.

<sup>2</sup> Kathleen Hall remembers him briefly at the Senior Council School; she "admired his looks"!

<sup>3</sup> Model of *HMS Bluebell*, an armed escort vessel smaller than a *Destroyer*

<sup>4</sup> Websites <http://www.uboaat.net/allies/warships/ship/4721.html> & <http://www.uboaat.net/boats/u711.htm>