

Since 1881

Thursday
August 10
2023

SPALDING Guardian

£1.40

spaldingtoday.co.uk

ILIFFE MEDIA

BROADGATE HOMES
SUMMER PROMOTION WEEK 3
SEE PAGE 25
01406 380532 / 01775 711637
info@broadgate-homes.com
www.broadgate-homes.com



PUSHING THE BOAT OUT

A former Royal Navy serviceman celebrated his 101st birthday in style... aboard a destroyer.

Staff at Spalding's Glenholme Halmer Court organised the surprise trip for Charles Giles, where he was given the VIP treatment.

"It was terrific," said Charles, a D-Day veteran who volunteered for service during the Second World War.

Charles, who was a Navigator's Yeoman on the HMS Bleasdale, enjoyed his trip to Chatham in Kent last week, where he got the chance to board another destroyer, the HMS Cavalier and allow the memories to flood back.

"He was treated like a VIP by the staff, and members of the public were asking to have their photographs taken with him," explained Glenholme's customer relationship manager Ollie Parker.

"He was so determined to see the mess, he was up walking there and back.

"Normally he can't walk more than four or five steps at a time."

Charles, who was born in Sussex and grew up in Tonbridge Wells before eventually moving to the area for family reasons, described his day out as a 'nice feeling'.

Either side of the D-Day landings, the Bleasdale was also part of the Dieppe raid and involved in the Japanese campaign.

Charles' actual birthday - July 30 - was spent with family at Glenholme.

But was does the veteran put down to the secret of a long and happy life?

"Always look forward," he said.
"And the rum helps as well."

Charles Giles celebrated his 101st birthday aboard HMS Cavalier

- Police numbers fall: [Page 2](#)
- Parish clerk loses employment tribunal: [Page 3](#)
- Caretaker recovers after pioneering heart surgery: [Page 7](#)

OPEN 9am - 5pm Monday - Saturday | Sunday 10am - 4pm

Baytree

Nurseries & Garden Centre

High Road, Weston, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE12 6JU, tel: 01406 370242 www.baytree-gardencentre.com

Trusted for all things gardening

Facebook, Instagram, Twitter icons