

SCHOOL DAYS TO NAVY DAYS

Arthur Edwards Gaved

This autobiography begins with Arthur Gaved's early years in the Midlands, Clevedon and Cornwall during the 1920s and '30s and includes anecdotes from his time spent at boarding school in Beaminster, Dorset. When he was seventeen, living in Truro with his mother and elder brother, and having begun a career in Lloyds Bank, he enlisted with the Royal Navy. It was 1943 and mid-way through the Second World War. He was drafted on to the destroyer HMS *Venus* and this book details voyages to the Far East, including an eye-witness account of the sinking of the *Hagura*, and the ship's participation in the Russian convoys. Arthur Gaved worked on board in submarine detection – known as Asdics – and his account of Naval life refers with enthusiasm to many fascinating experiences and colourful shipmates. It concludes with his return to Plymouth at the end of the war.

School Days to Navy Days offers a fascinating glimpse of how the innocence of a pre-war childhood gave way to the turbulent and tumultuous days of total warfare, recorded through direct experience by the sensitive pen of a natural writer.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

At the time of writing this book, Arthur Gaved was living out his retirement back in Cornwall. He was married twice and has two daughters. For all his working life he was an employee of a high street bank and spent the last fifteen years as a Manager's Deputy in branches in both Cornwall and Devon. He had been a vegetarian for thirty-five years and a vegan for the last ten years of his life; a lifestyle which reflected his great compassion towards all living creatures. His interests included animal welfare, wildlife, painting Cornish landscapes and portraits of family and friends, collecting pottery, genealogy and garden and alpine plants.

Arthur Gaved died in 2008, aged eighty-three, shortly after completing this book. It is his personal account of living through a memorable period in British history.

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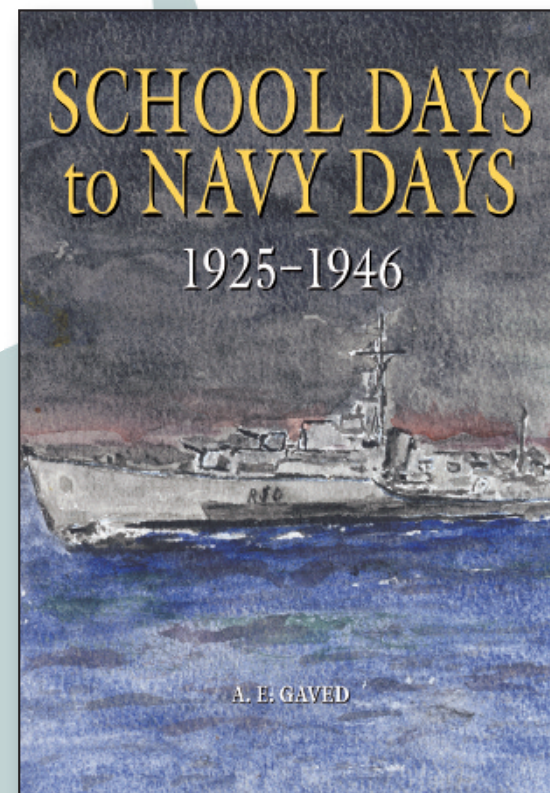
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