



THE HONG KONG SQUADRON

HMS WASPERTON

HMS BEACHAMPTON

HMS MONKTON

HMS WOLVERTON

HMS YARNTON



The Ships

The Hong Kong Squadron, based at HMS Tamar, consists of five former "CONISTON CLASS"

minesweepers

HMS WASPERTON, HMS

BEACHAMPTON, HMS

MONKTON, HMS

WOLVERTON, and HMS

YARNTON. They are all named after villages in Great Britain.

The ships, built in the mid-1950s as minesweepers, have since been converted and modernised for service as Patrol craft in Hong Kong. The conversion included the removal of minesweeping equipment and the addition of a second 40mm Bofors gun. The ships are constructed of mahogany with aluminium frames and superstructure.

The Role

The role of the Hong Kong Squadron is to assist in maintaining Hong Kong's stability and the integrity of her territorial waters.

To this end it co-operates closely with the Royal Hong Kong Police and the Immigration, Marine, and Customs & Excise Departments.

It also provides the oceangoing search and rescue capability for Hong Kong as well as participating in local community projects.

While carrying out deep-water deployments necessary for maintaining training standards, the Squadron also performs the traditional role of "showing the flag".

HMS Yarnton

HMS YARNTON was built by William Pickersgill & Son at Sunderland, England, entering on 15th May 1957. During her years in home waters, YARNTON discovered the deepest area of sea around the United Kingdom.

From 1966 to 1971 she was based at HMS Jufair in Bahrain. She arrived in Hong Kong in 1971 and entered the Taikoo Shipyard for conversion to patrol craft.

The ship is named after the village of Yarnton in Oxfordshire, England.



An aerial view of
HMS Wasperton.

HMS Monkton

HMS MONKTON, built by Herd and Mackenzie Ltc at Buckie, Scotland, was launched on 30 November 1955. in reserve from 1957, she entered normal service in 1959.

In January 1972 MONKTON set sail with WASPERTON and WOLVERTON for Hong Kong arriving in April 1972 She is named after the village of Monkton in Ayrshire. Scotland.



HMS Wolverton

HMS WOLVERTON, built at Montrose in Scotland was launched in October 1956, and entered service in March 1958. She arrived in Hong Kong in April 1972. The ship is named after the village of WOLVERTON near Basingstoke in Hampshire.



HMS Wasperton

HMS WASPERTON, built at Whites Shipyard, Southampton, England, was launched by Mrs E H Paul on 28 February 1956, and commissioned at Chatham, England, on 15th April 1958. She arrived in Hong Kong on 28th April 1972, becoming the Senior Ship of the Squadron in April 1976.

The ship is named after the hamlet of Wasperton near Leamington Spa, England.



HMS Beachampton

HMS BEACHAMPTON, one of the oldest of the Coniston Class, was built by the Goole Shipbuilding Company, Humberside, England. She entered service in July 1954. From 1965 to 1971 she was based in the Gulf. She arrived in Hong Kong in 1973.

She is named after the village of Beachampton in Buckinghamshire.

