

## Mt. Stromboli and the Royal Navy



I remember my Brother Michael Ellis RN telling me that he had visited a volcanic island in the Med. to help evacuate people because the volcano was in danger of destroying towns. The Royal navy ship shown is the Destroyer HMS Trafalgar D77 rounding Stromboli, this must have been between November 1959 and May 1961 when Michael served on Trafalgar. Information courtesy of the Royal Naval Museum.

Michael Ellis RN passed away on June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2002 after 32 years in the Royal Navy. He joined at 17 in 1953 the year after the 'Spithead Review' when around 190 ships were 'reviewed' by the new Queen Elizabeth, in the 1977 'review' around 125 were gathered, this year for the golden jubilee I believe 5 were present. Whatever happened to the Royal Navy in 50 years.



This is HMS Duchess, on which my brother served from August 1957 to February 1959. I do not know when it was taken but was probably in the 50s', eventually it was sold to the Australian Navy. Displacement 2,800 tons, Length 366 feet, completed in 1952 with a complement of 278 men.



Michael  
as he was  
around  
1957



Prince Charles talking to Michael about their time together serving on HMS Norfolk 1n 1970 - 1971, whilst at HMS Excellent, I think in 1985.