

CAPTAIN GILBERT KINNELL OBE (M1905-07)

He was born on 9 November 1893 and immediately after leaving the College he joined the Royal Navy and served on HMS Worcester.

He then left the Royal Navy in 1911 and spent the rest of his career with the New Zealand Shipping Co, becoming a Master Mariner and a member of the Honorable Company of Master Mariners.

There is no record of what he did during WW1, but during WW2 he was in the Merchant Navy moving cargo all around the world.

On 28 August 1941 he was master of the Otaio (see picture) when it was torpedoed and sunk by U-Boat U-558 about 330 miles west by north of Fastnet Rock. 12 crewmembers and 1 gunner were lost. Gilbert Kinnell, 53 crewmembers and 4 gunners were picked up by the HMS Vanoc and landed at Liverpool. For more details see

<http://uboat.net/allies/merchants/1080.html>

He was awarded the OBE while Master of SS Rangitata.

He died in 1961.

