

## Chapter 10

### Seamen's Chapel

The submarine HMS Tasman was launched on 13 February 1945 but the Admiralty ordered it to be renamed HMS Talent in April 1945. This may have been because another submarine with the name HMS Talent was transferred to the Netherlands Navy in 1944 and renamed Zwaardvisch. This meant that the name Talent was available. The bell from HMS Tasman was, therefore, redundant and was presented to Lincoln Cathedral as a memorial to George Bass. It is inscribed HMS / Tasman / 1945.

George Bass (1771 - 1803), was born at Aswarby, Lincolnshire. He is well known for his belief that a strait separated the mainland from Van Dieman's Land (now Tasmania) and this theory was confirmed when Bass and Matthew Flinders circumnavigated Van Diemen's Land. The passage between Van Diemen's Land and the mainland was named Bass Strait.

The bell, which is hung from a bracket to the left of the altar and has a diameter of 13.50", is an appropriate memorial to George Bass.

It is a very long standing tradition in the Navy for every ship to have a bell. In a submarine the bell is hung in a corridor when the submarine is in port and used only for ceremonial purposes.

**Source:** MOD on-line Archives; Information Royal Naval Submarine Museum.