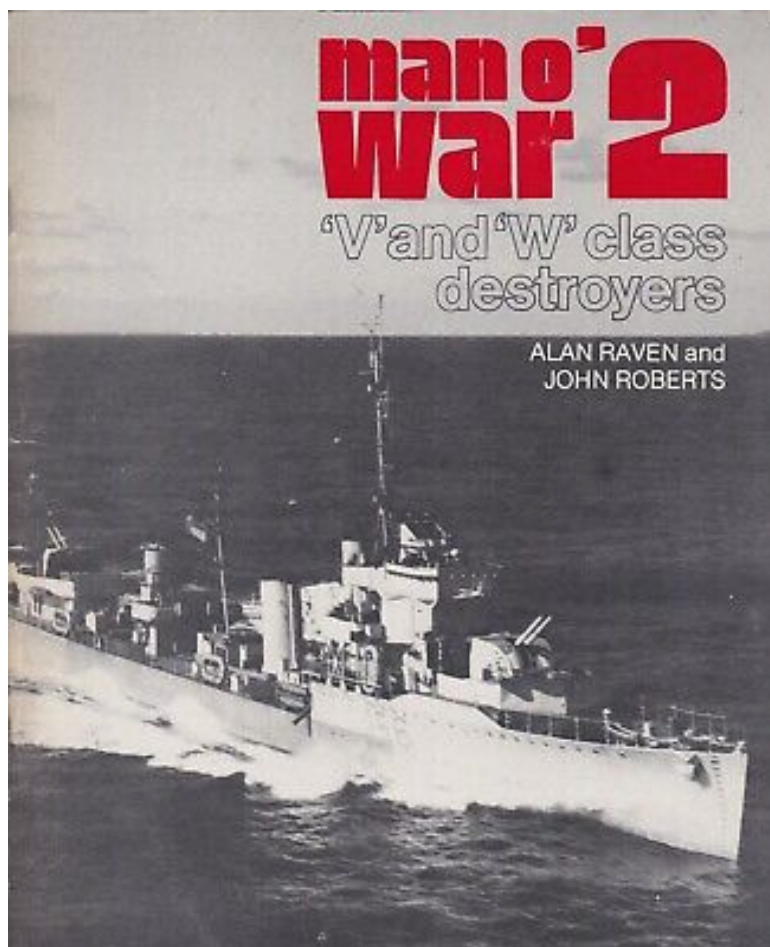


Man O' War 2 'V' and 'W' Class Destroyers

By Alan Raven and John Roberts

A short soft backed book of 57 pages with B&W pictures and illustrations.



This is a detailed précis of these classes of Destroyer detailing the development of the class to help fight in the First World War, then the ongoing modifications in the intervening years prior to 1939, when they provided invaluable support to many convoys.

Anyone researching these Classes, will find huge amounts of information, from the keel laydown to the sea trials results vs specification.

Armaments often raised debates with the old adage 'Bigger is Better' being down played with 4" guns originally, then up-rated to 4.7" and occasionally with a down sizing of one gun to 3" for specific defence .

Detailed information on each ship and how it was used and modified is very prolific along with the life story and demise, often sad, given their heroic exploits in the line of duty.

Reading the accounts, each ship which encountered a 'problem' was modified to overcome, i.e. the E Boat attacked the front of the convoy, the 4'7" guns could not fire rapidly enough, and the 20mm cannon was not heavy enough, so the number 1 gun was replaced with an Army Twin 6 Pounder with a fire rate of 70 rounds per minute was mounted, a quick and effective solution. This book is a great repository of information like this, so essential read for any serious modeller

For a model builder, this is a must read, with prolific photographs and explanations, detailed specifications of the ships, and actual photographs with line drawings showing the detailed camouflage patterns, essential if you are building a model. Even for the non-modeller this is a short and concise history of these ships that will enlighten you to the skills of the designers, the builders and the sailors who honed them to be the most effective ships to win the war.

If you want to borrow this, or any book in the library, please contact me.

librarian@stalbansmes.com

Remember we would welcome members' views on any books they borrow.

Tony Ashgrove. January 2025