

# Three Captains of HMS Trincomalee



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### **Philip Henry Bridges:**

Born 1785 and baptised in Kent. Having entered the Navy in 1796 he was appointed Lieutenant on 4<sup>th</sup> July 1803 and subsequently served under Captains the Hon. George Elliot, George Sayer, and Samuel Leslie, in the *Hussar*, *Leda*, and *Theban* frigates on the East India Station. He was appointed acting Commander of the *Zebra* sloop on 8<sup>th</sup> December 1815, and was promoted to command the *Challenger*, in November 1816.

In 1818 he Captained the *Trincomalee* bringing her home from Bombay being paid off in April 1819.

In 1827 for two months he was Captain of the *Prince Regent*. Captain Bridges died in Bath on 17<sup>th</sup> October 1848.

### **Richard Laird Warren:**

Born 1806, eldest son of Vice-Admiral Frederick Warren. Having entered the Navy in 1822 he was a Lieutenant in January 1829, being promoted to Commander on 24<sup>th</sup> December 1833 and to the rank of Captain on 9<sup>th</sup> May 1839.

From 1841 to 1843 he was Captain of the *Magicienne*, in the Mediterranean.

On 20<sup>th</sup> July 1847 he was appointed Captain of the *Trincomalee* for the ship's first commission in North America and the West Indies.

From December 1853 to May 1857 he Captained the *Cressy* from its commissioning until paying off at Sheerness, based in the Mediterranean, with a period in 1854 in the Baltic during the Russian war.

In 1858 he was appointed a Rear-Admiral, in 1865 a Vice-Admiral and in 1870 an Admiral, during this period from 1861 to 1864 he was Commander-in-chief, South-east coast of America (Flagship *Forte*), and from 1869 to 1879 Commander-in-Chief, the Nore (Flagship *Pembroke*). He died at Southsea on 29<sup>th</sup> July 1875.

### **Wallace Houstoun:**

Born 1811 he entered the Navy in December 1824, and was appointed Lieutenant in March 1832 subsequently serving in the *Childers*, commanded by Robert Deans; the *Spartiate*, flagship of Michael Seymour in South America; and the *Conway*, commanded by Henry Eden. From 1836 until 1840 he served as Lieutenant in the *Madagascar* in North America and the West Indies, and in 1840-1841 served in three flagships, the *Impregnable*, and the *Caledonia* both under Graham Moore in Plymouth and the *Illustrious*, flagship of Vice-Admiral Charles Adam, North America and West Indies.

On 7<sup>th</sup> May 1842 he became a Commander serving in *Pilot* in North America and the West Indies, and then from March 1843 to June 1844 in *Imaum*, commandeered by Commodore Alexander Renton Sharpe as a receiving ship in Jamaica.

In June 1852 he became captain of the *Trincomalee* for her second commission in the Pacific including being part of the Anglo-French Squadron during the Russian War in 1854.

In 1859 he was captain in the *Orion*, in the Mediterranean. In 1865 he was made a Rear-Admiral, and in 1877 he was a retired Admiral. He died on 17<sup>th</sup> May 1891 at Eaton Square, London.

**QD3: Originally appeared In the "Quarterdeck" magazine  
Ref: 2010 Issue 2 (Summer) pages 2 to 3**