

In 1212 King John ordered a wall to be built around his Dockyard at Portsmouth. This is the earliest record we have of a Dockyard at Portsmouth. Since those early times the Dockyard has grown to engulf nearly 340 acres of Portsea Island and more than treble that size in ancillary departments at Gosport. At its height it employed more than 23,000 men and women and at one time was the principal battleship-building yard of the Royal Navy.

In 1982 the Secretary of State for Defence announced the run-down of Portsmouth Dockyard. Many skills and crafts were to be abandoned and possibly lost. In consequence, the Portsmouth Royal Dockyard Historical Society was formed to preserve something of our naval industrial heritage for the benefit of future generations. Later the Society transferred its assets to the newly created Portsmouth Royal Dockyard Historical Trust and the society members became a Support Group to that Trust.

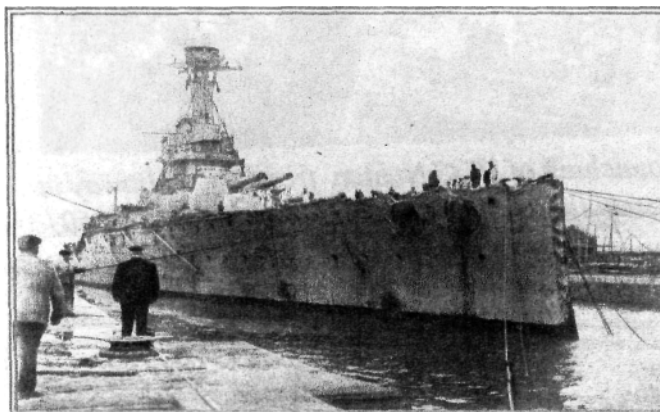
While work on all aspects of the Yard's history is encouraged, the Support Group is especially concerned with the field of industrial archaeology. The emphasis is therefore upon the recording, interpretation, preservation and exhibition, preferably in the Dockyard and ideally in the Block Mills, of important industrial artefacts and related documents relating thereto.

The Trust defines an industrial artefact as a man-made product employed in the manufacturing process. Thus buildings and transport systems and their related equipment fall within the Trust's purview, as do the working lives of the Dockyard work force.

In telling the Dockyard story the Trust maintains close links with the other organisations in Portsmouth's Historic Dockyard.



*The old Royal Dockyard at Portsmouth now
Portsmouth Naval Base*



Between 1895 and 1915, 17 battleships were built in the Dockyard - more than in any other shipyard in the world. In 1905 the Dockyard built the battleship Dreadnought setting a record for speed of building an armoured warship in a year and a day from laying the keel to steaming out of the harbour for trials. HMS Dreadnought gave her name to a legend.

The picture shows HMS King George V passing through C Lock in the Dockyard in 1914. She was one of the battleships built in the Dockyard.

What you receive as a member

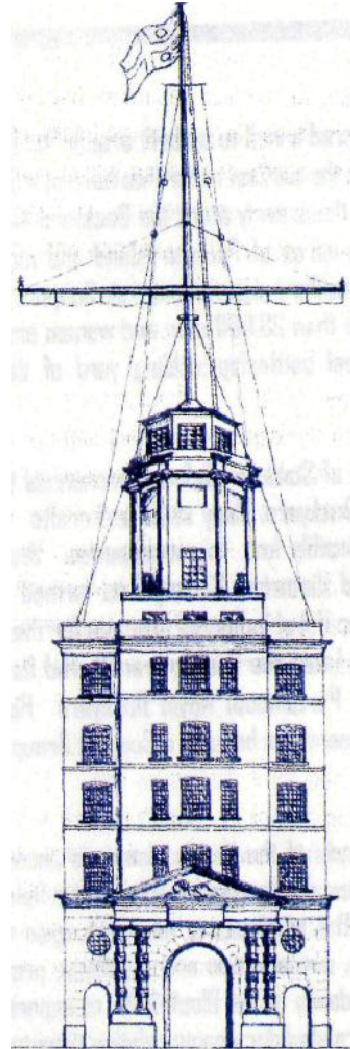
- * Regular newsletters to keep you in touch with the progress of the collection and the various activities of the Support Group.
- * A chance to participate in new publications.
- * Occasional visits to some of the many interesting areas in the Dockyard.

If your forefathers served in the Dockyard help us to tell their story. We would be glad to hear from anyone with letters, books, documents, photographs or objects of interest relating to the Dockyard and surrounding establishments. You do not have to donate anything, copies can be taken and the original returned.

The Support Group has regular meetings in the Dockyard in the annex to No. 4 Boathouse each Thursday. From where you would be invited to help in the cleaning, cataloguing or other work in connection with the collection. New members are always welcomed to the Group but although we are looking for volunteers with an interest or expertise in any of the many crafts and skills practised in the old Royal Dockyard at Portsmouth, we do also need the support of the general public to help protect and preserve the Dockyard Collection and its heritage for the benefit of future generations.

For more information please apply to the Honorary Secretary:

Mr. M. Roberts
55 Southleigh Road
Havant
Hampshire.
Tel: 02392 470584



**Portsmouth Royal
Dockyard Historical
Trust
(Support Group)**



The launching of HMS Nubian from No. 5 slipway at Portsmouth Royal Dockyard, 6th. September 1960.

Sponsored by
**Portsmouth Naval Base
Property Trust**

which is responsible for the restoration,
interpretation and use of the historic buildings
in the Historic Dockyard at Portsmouth

**Portsmouth Royal Dockyard Historical Trust
(Support Group)**

Name.....
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Post Code..... Tel:.....

Full Membership £5. Joint £7.50 Senior Citizens/Junior £3, Senior Life Membership £25

Please indicate membership category required. Cheques should be made payable to:

Portsmouth Royal Dockyard Historical Trust (Support Group)

Please complete and return to the Membership Secretary:

R.W.Russell, 48 Highfield Ave., Waterlooville, Hants. PO7 7PX.

It would be appreciated if you would enclose a stamped addressed envelope for the return of your membership card.