

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 earliest 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 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 rundown 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, of important industrial artefacts; and related documents relating thereto.

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

In telling the Dockyard story the Trust maintains close links with the other organizations in Portsmouth Historic Dockyard

For membership please apply to:-

**Mr R. Hazel Membership. Sec PRDHT(SG)**  
**183 Greenfield Crescent**  
**Horndean**  
**Waterlooville. Hants. PO8 9ER**  
**Tel. 02392 591053**  
**Email [r.hazel@sky.com](mailto:r.hazel@sky.com)**

What you will receive as a member:-

Regular newsletters to keep you in touch with the progress of collection and the various activities of the **Support Group**.

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 or documents, photographs or objects of interest relating to Dockyard and other establishments. You do not need to donate anything, copies can be taken and the original returned.

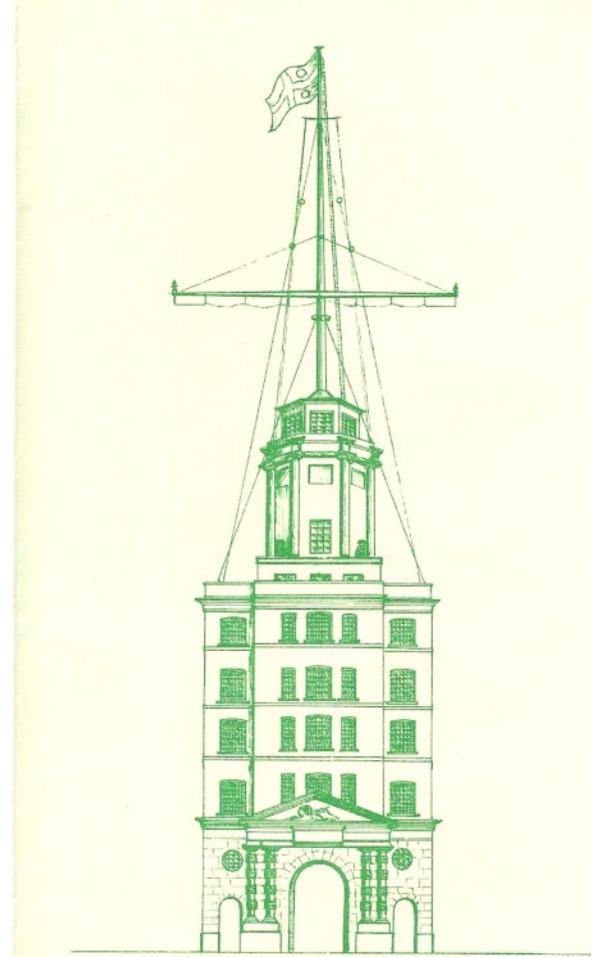
The **Support Group** has regular meetings in the Dockyard Annex to No. 4 Boathouse on every Thursday where you would be invited to help in the cleaning cataloguing or other work in connection with the collection. New members are always welcome to join the Group, although we are local volunteers with an interest or expertise in the history of and skills practised in the old Royal Dockyard at Portsmouth we also need the support of the general public to help promote and preserve the Dockyard Collection and its heritage for the benefit of future generations.

For information about relatives please apply to :-

**Mr M Roberts, PRDHT(SG)**  
**Research Coordinator**  
**28 Leventhorpe Court**  
**Elmhurst Road**  
**Gosport Hants**  
**PO12 1NX**  
**Tel. 023 9250 4151**  
**Email [mickastell36@btinternet.com](mailto:mickastell36@btinternet.com)**

**Visit our website at**

**[www.portsmouthdockyard.org.uk](http://www.portsmouthdockyard.org.uk)**



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

The **Support Group** are in reality the working Group of the Trust, and still fulfil the role of collecting, storing, restoring, researching and recording Dockyard related material, and to a limited extent, exhibiting small new displays from time to time within the framework of the Dockyard Apprentice



Entrance to the Dockyard Apprentice exhibition.



One of the exhibits, at the end of the first aisle we find the **Shipwrights** at work as boat builders. Part "clinker" built boat with various tools & tins of resins and materials etc used.

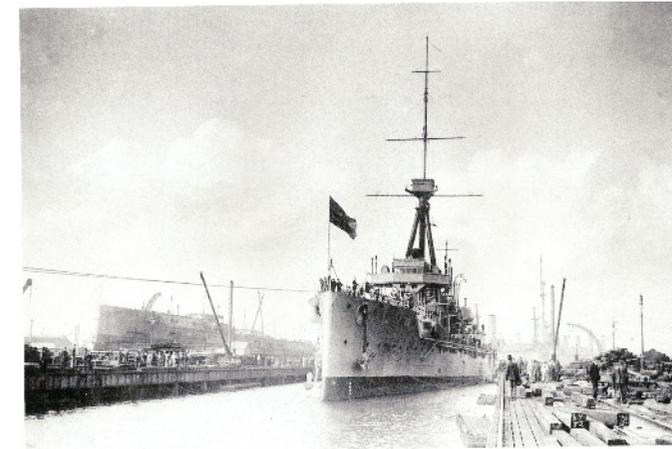


HMS Sirius was laid down on the 9<sup>th</sup> of August 1963 and launched on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1964 by Lady Woods, Sirius was completed in 1966. HMS Sirius was the 7<sup>th</sup> ship to be named Sirius, the penultimate ship to be built in Portsmouth Dockyard she ended her life as a target in the Atlantic in 1998.

*Sponsored by*  
**Portsmouth Naval Base  
 Property Trust**  
 Which is responsible for the  
 restoration, interpretation and future  
 use of the historic buildings in  
 Portsmouth Dockyard



An aerial view of Portsmouth Naval Dockyard circa 1959 /1960 looking North .



This picture shows HMS King George V passing through C Lock in 1914. She was one of the battleships built in the Dockyard between 1895 and 1915, 17 battleships were built in the Dockyard, more than any other shipyard in the world. In 1905 the Dockyard built the battleship HMS Dreadnought setting a record, for speed of building an armoured warship 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.