

Lieutenant Commander David Scott (X) RN

David joined BRNC on 20 Sep 1964 as a General List cadet and did 4 years training under the Murray scheme and then had various appointments mainly at sea, in HMS AGINCOURT, USS SARATOGA, HMS ZULU, HMS VERULAM. During 1971-1972 in HMS FEARLESS, which was based in Devonport I occasionally frequented HMS DRAKE Wardroom. Then in 1974 I joined HMS GALATEA, refitting in Devonport (Ikara conversion) until 1976. After appointments on FO Medway's staff, HMS HARDY, HMS LYNX, HMS ASHANTI and HMS NUBIAN I came ashore to BRNC as Head of Seamanship and then on FO PLYMOUTH's staff. I did 6 months in MV LYCAON in the Falklands before returning to Mount Wise, which did have reciprocal mess numbers with HMS DRAKE. Next I became 2i/c of HMS FEARLESS refitting in Devonport and so DRAKE Wardroom was much used, as well as the DRAKE Model Railway Club. After sea trials I became the Devonport Field Gun Officer and supported this crew until its demise in 1999. Next I was First Lieutenant at HMS CAMBRIDGE and again was able to use DRAKE WR, when I also joined the choir of St Nicholas Church, was elected as a member of the Archdeaconry of the RN and also a member of the tri-service Forces Synodical Council (Diocesan Synod equivalent). My last appointment was as the Executive Support Manager of HMS DRAKE – a post which looked after supervising the WO&SR Mess, manpower, accommodation and latterly funeral's officer. It was during this time that I learnt about the PNROA (Plymouth Naval Reserve Officers Association) and I was invited to join because of my NCS training of reservists.

In 1997 I retired but I did several resettlement courses in Portsmouth and learnt that several WRs had RO membership and so on returning to HMS DRAKE I forwarded a paper the WR Committee proposing that RO membership should be introduced and I became the first RO of DRAKE WR. In 1998 I became an RO, initially wearing uniform and being responsible for maintaining the ISO 9002 Quality Management System. I remained a choir member and also the chairman and treasurer of the DRAKE Model Railway Club, which promoted the RN at several local exhibitions as well as taking part in HMS DRAKE Fair, heritage weekends and Navy Days. In 2005 I became the WR Mess Secretary a post which I did for 9.5 years and was made an honorary life member of the Wardroom for my efforts. In 2006 the PNROA changed its title and became the Plymouth Naval Retired Officers Association and I became the very first Chairman, whereby the association meets every month for an evening meal, followed by coffee and port. I have now assumed responsibility for planning and arranging the social programme and the occasional visits by Association members. I am an Honorary Life member of the HMS ORION Association, who have an annual dinner in the DRAKE WR which I organise and chair; similarly the HMS CONWAY Association and I continue to liaise with the COs of the Type 21 Club who are planning another luncheon. When the present WR Mess Committee decided to change the name of the Pembroke Room to the Falklands Room, which took place on liberation day plus 35, I did persuade the Committee to retain the name "Pembroke Bar" as this had been built in 1985 by money given to HMS DRAKE Wardroom, when Chatham Naval Base and HMS PEMBROKE closed in 1984. I further persuaded the Committee that the Armada prints needed to be rehung in the main block corridor, to preserve some of the heritage of the Wardroom. In 2012 I decided to retired as a civil servant, but maintained my Naval Base pass by becoming a "Church Contractor" and using my consulting skills to assist the Chaplaincy department as well as being the RO Rep on the Wardroom Mess Committee. For the last 22 years I have used my gunnery training to good effect as I put on HM Queen's uniform as the Town Crier of Modbury and am the Royal British Legion Standard Bearer for the Modbury Branch, where I am the Branch Secretary. Hobbies include model railways, tenor in 3 choirs, joining the Exeter Flotilla in 2005 (?) and now produce the name tallies! Married to Bridget with 2 daughters and a son and now with 1 grandson and 3 grand-daughters.

