

Commander Trevor Waddington OBE RN



Born in Colne, Lancashire, the demise of the cotton industry in the 1950s forced the family to relocate to Peterborough where Trevor became a Sea Cadet. Disappointed at failing the 11-plus exam, his parents' ambition for him to be an engineering apprentice was fulfilled when he passed the Admiralty examination for Artificer. Completing his apprenticeship as an Ordnance Artificer in 1961 he was advanced to Chief Control Electrical Artificer in 1970 and commissioned Engineer Sub Lieutenant on the Special Duties List in 1971. After a period with the Vernon underwater weapons trials team he was Deputy Weapon Engineer Officer of HMS Plymouth 1973-4. An enjoyable period in the officers' training section of HMS Collingwood gave Trevor an opportunity to 'tread the boards' with the Collingwood Players in pantomime and in *A Man for All Seasons*, the winning entry in the 1975 RN Drama Festival. Following transfer to the General List he was appointed GWS 30 systems engineer at ASWE 1977-8 overseeing Seadart missile firing trials in HMS Bristol, HMS Sheffield, and ARA Hercules. As a Lieutenant Commander he was Weapon Engineer Officer of HMS Danae 1979-81 for her major refit in Devonport and, whilst accommodated in HMS Drake, chairman of Jago's Club. Following RN Staff Course, Trevor was a 'searider' on the staff of FOST at Portland. Promoted

to Commander in 1984 his final sea appointment was as Weapon Engineer Officer of HMS Glamorgan for her last commission. An uninspiring stint at the MOD(N) Directorate of Engineering Support in Bath was followed by Arabic language training and attachés courses in preparation for appointment as Naval Attaché Saudi Arabia and Yemen. The invasion of Kuwait by Iraq in 1990 and the first Gulf War in 1991 made this a particularly stimulating and enjoyable posting, rewarded by being appointed OBE in 1992. Deciding to 'quit on a high'



Trevor took early retirement in 1993. Having a fascination for horology he determined to make this a second career and in 1994-5 undertook the Antique

Clocks Restoration diploma course at West Dean College. He ran a successful antique clocks business - both restoration and sales - from a Georgian house in Bradford on Avon for 17 years, becoming a Fellow of the British Horological Institute, a Freeman of the City of London, and a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers. In 2012 Diane and Trevor retired to Budleigh Salterton. Trevor joined the Exeter Flotilla and has been Trafalgar Day Service Secretary since 2014 and Webmaster since 2019. He also gained a BA (Hons) degree in history from the Open University in 2013. Trevor has been chairman of Trustees of Fairlynch Museum, Budleigh Salterton, since 2015, his proudest achievement to date being to secure the loan of Millais' painting *The Boyhood of Raleigh* from the Tate for the 'Raleigh 400' exhibition in 2018.



Naval Career

1958-59	HMS Fisgard, Torpoint	Apprentice
1959-61	HMS Caledonia, Rosyth	Apprentice
1961	HMS Wizard, Dartmouth Squadron	Apprentice
1962	HMS Excellent, HMS Vernon, Portsmouth	OA3 Leading Rate
1963-64	HMS Hartland Point (Singapore-based)	OA2 Petty Officer
1964	HMS Royal Arthur, Corsham	OA2 Petty Officer
1965	HMS Excellent, Portsmouth	OA1 Chief Petty Officer
1966	HMS Collingwood, Fareham	CEA1 Chief Petty Officer
1967-68	HMS Leopard (Portsmouth-based)	CEA1 Chief Petty Officer
1969	HMS Collingwood, Fareham	CCEA Chief Petty Officer
1971	RNC Greenwich, RNEC Manadon,	Sub Lieutenant
1972	HMS Vernon, Portsmouth	Sub Lieutenant
1972-74	HMS Plymouth (Devonport-based)	Sub Lieutenant
1975-76	HMS Collingwood, Fareham	Lieutenant
1976	RNC Greenwich (Lieutenants' Course)	Lieutenant
1977-78	ASWE Portsdown	Lieutenant
1979-81	HMS Danae (Devonport-based)	Lieutenant Commander
1982	RNC Greenwich (Staff Course)	Lieutenant Commander
1982-84	FOST, Portland	Lieutenant Commander
1984-86	HMS Glamorgan (Portsmouth-based)	Commander
1986-89	MOD(N) Bath	Commander
1990-93	Naval Attaché Saudi Arabia and Yemen	Commander

Retired 30 Nov 1993