



The Plaque has now been installed in Portsmouth Cathedral in the South West Ambulatory. This was a proud moment for James Reed to see the stone being laid by Robyn Golden-Hann and her team of sculptors. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to work with Robyn and both we and the Cathedral Fabric Advisory Committee declare this hand carving to be magnificent.

The Book of Remembrance is now printed and with the book binder for completion. We are thankful for all the information that has been submitted in the last few months by you all, we continued adding information / corrections right into February before we had to call a halt and start the printing.

Installing Memorial in Portsmouth Cathedral

The Dedication Service will be held on March 18th at 11am, in Portsmouth Cathedral. This is a Dedication Service to a new memorial rather than a Ceremonial Service to an existing memorial. ie: Remembrance Day etc.

There will be a service in operation before hand so please do not enter the Cathedral till after 10.35. There will be a small official contingent from the Royal Navy in attendance, many HMS and RNA Associations and 12 Standards which will form a Guard of Honour at the Cathedral entrance. The service will be conducted by the the Dean, The Reverend David Brindley after which the Memorial will be dedicated and 2 wreaths laid, one by the Royal Navy and the other by the memorial sponsor James Reed. At this point the dedication will end. If anyone wishes to lay a wreath on the memorial, this can be laid immediately after the service has been concluded. This service is open to all, to support and attend.

The following guidance is issued by the Chapter Clerk, Portsmouth Cathedral:

1. Location. The Cathedral is located towards the western end of the High Street in Old Portsmouth.
2. Parking. Metered parking is available on the High Street and the Grand Parade off the High Street beyond the Cathedral. 2 hour parking is available in St Thomas's Street and Lombard Street with no return within 4 hours. This is strictly enforced even on Sundays. Normal Blue Badge rules apply. There is a coach bay on the High Street adjacent to the Cathedral.
3. Arrival. Please allow sufficient time to find parking and arrive at the entrance to the Cathedral by approximately 10.45 am. The main entrance is the South Doors on the High Street side of the Cathedral.
4. Seating. There is no formal seating plan or reserved seating except for those individuals directly involved in the dedication. Seating will be in the Quire and the two side aisles either side of the Quire and if necessary in St Thomas's Chapel.
5. Branch Standards. On current plans 12 branch standards are expected (HMS Phoebe, RNA Birchington, RNA Ramsgate, RNA Margate, HMS Ganges (5), HMS St Vincent, HMS Hood, RNA Selsey). At this point NO further standards can be accommodated. Standards bearers are

requested to arrive at the Cathedral no later than 10.30 am and report to Leading Hand Kevin Moffat RN, who will brief them on the role in the service. In summary the Standard Bearers will provide a Guard of Honour at the South Doors until shortly before the start of the Service when the Standards will be marched to the South West Ambulatory, which is the location of the RN Boy Seamen Memorial. There, standards will be received by the Dean and placed either side of the memorial for the duration of the service. Standard bearers will then be escorted by a sides man to reserved seating in the Navy Aisle for the service. Following the dedication the standards will be handed back to the stand bearers and then marched out of the Cathedral at the end of the service.

6. Photography. No photographs are permitted during the service, but can be taken after the service has ended.

7. Post Service Reception. After the service light refreshments will be provided in Beckett Hall in Cathedral House, to which all are invited. Cathedral House is directly opposite the Cathedral on the north side of St Thomas's Street.

8. Book of Remembrance. A book of remembrance containing the names and service details of the RN Boy Seamen will be placed on a table on the crossing adjacent to the South Doors, where it will be available after the service for perusal until the conclusion of the reception. Thereafter it will be available to be viewed on request at the Cathedral Welcome Desk.

Cathedral Meet and Greet

The project team of James Reed, daughter Barbara Raine and Frank Raine look forward to meeting you all in The Beckett Hall after the service, so do make yourselves known to us.

Whale Island

There will also be a gathering at HMS Excellent (Whale Island) for members of the HMS Ganges Association, after the service at Portsmouth Cathedral. Numbers are limited to 100 and security clearance must be obtained prior to the event. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Bob Campbell, the Secretary of the Solent Division of the HMS Ganges Association gangesbob@hotmail.co.uk or (023) 8073 4915.

Light refreshments will be available and the bar will be open.

Yours Aye, Bob Campbell

(Secretary Solent Division. HMS Ganges Association)

Thank you to everyone for all for your support.

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The proud Sculptor Robyn Golden-Hann and team