



# VERNON HERITAGE CONFERENCE



Friday 23rd September 2016

ASPEX Gallery, Vulcan Building, Gunwharf Quays Portsmouth PO1 3B  
(In aid of Project Vernon and RNRMC)

The conference presents three fascinating insights into HMS VERNON's heritage.

## Programme:

**15:00** Delegates arrive at the ASPEX Gallery, Gunwharf Quays; VIP delegates meet our keynote presenters and receive preferential seating.

**15:20 Commander John G.D. Ouvry DSO RN** by his son David Ouvry.



The Royal Navy's battle to protect British shipping during the Second World War owed a great deal to John Ouvry's bravery in disarming a German magnetic mine out on a muddy beach near Shoeburyness, in Essex, in November 1939.

**16:00 Dr Albert Beaumont Wood OBE DSc** by Mike Underwood, author of "Gunwharf Quays" and a conservation architect during the redevelopment of HMS VERNON site into Gunwharf Quays



Known as "A B Wood", he was a brilliant British physicist who became Chief Scientist at HMS Vernon. He made significant contributions in underwater acoustics - ASDICS/sonar - through two world wars. He gained his OBE at Vernon for investigating enemy mines.

**16:40 Interval**

**17:10 Commander Lionel "Buster" Crabb OBE GM RNVR** by John Bevan, author of "What Really Happened" and Chairman of the Historical Diving Society



Cdr Crabb was a retired Royal Navy frogman and MI6 diver who vanished during a reconnaissance mission around a Soviet cruiser berthed at Portsmouth Dockyard in 1956. What really happened?

**17:50** Cheese and wine reception followed by a raffle and auction of exclusive Project Vernon related merchandise and collectables.

**19:00** Delegates depart.

**Book your tickets** for the Conference on the Project Vernon web site shop:

<http://www.vernon-monument.org>

Standard Delegate price £50, a limited number of VIP tickets at £250 are available on an early bird basis: The VIP package will include a signed copy of Mike Underwood's book "Gunwharf Quays" and Dr John Bevan's book "What Really Happened".

## Gunwharf Quays (ex HMS VERNON) Tours

Free guided tour of the "HMS VERNON" site by Mike Underwood, author of "Gunwharf Quays" at 1100 and 1300 on Friday 23 and 1100 on Saturday 24 September, (numbers limited to 15 each day), please book direct: [mikeandjulie@googlemail.com](mailto:mikeandjulie@googlemail.com)



Project Vernon is the campaign name of the charity committed to designing, constructing and installing a monument in the Gunwharf Quays site previously occupied by HMS Vernon, in Portsmouth: home to a range of specialist warfare organisations over several centuries. Registered by the Charity Commission for England and Wales, (no. 1128677).



The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity, a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (no. 6047294) and is a registered charity (no. 1117794) and Scotland (SC041898). Registered Office: Building 29, HMS Excellent, Whale Island, Portsmouth PO2 8ER

## We are grateful for the support of:

ASPEX Gallery, Gunwharf Quays.



Historical Diving Society, Gosport



Gunwharf Quays, (Land Securities Group).

Society for Underwater Technology.

## Any queries please contact:

Event Manager, Vernon Monument Project: [mike.critchley@vernon-monument.org](mailto:mike.critchley@vernon-monument.org)



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