



## Captain David Arthur CARR, RD\*\*, RNR, FNI.

Died: 13.1.2115.

David was a Yorkshireman, born in Leeds on the 11th. February, 1942, and educated at a grammar school in that city. Various childhood visits to the 'bracing' Yorkshire coastline determined him to become a seafarer.

He began his career in 1959 as a cadet at what was then called the School of Navigation at Warsash, near Southampton. This was a one year, concentrated mix of rigid discipline, practical seamanship and classroom navigation training. He then joined the P&O Steam Navigation Company as a cadet in 1960. During the third year of his cadetship he joined the Royal Naval Reserve as a Midshipman.

After obtaining his Second Mate's Certificate, he re-joined P&O as a junior deck officer and, in addition to his professional duties there, he undertook various Naval Officer's courses. He obtained his Master Mariner's Certificate in about 1969 and progressed through the ranks until 1973, when he decided to switch to Cunard Line.

His first appointment was to the cruise ship *Cunard Ambassador* as First Officer but by 1980, when he was enrolled into the Southampton Master Mariners' Club, he was Chief officer of the *Cunard Countess*. His membership application form shows that, by then, at 38 years old, he was already a Lieutenant Commander, RD. in the Reserve as well as a Member of the Nautical Institute.

During 1982-3 he made four troop carrying trips to the Falkland Islands as chief officer of the 'Countess'. In all, he spent eight years in the cruise ships as either chief officer or Staff Captain.

His final ten seagoing years were spent in the *QE2*, where he joined as Chief Officer but soon rose to Staff Captain. In 1995, he received the honour to be appointed RNR ADC to HM The Queen, in the rank of Captain. He served as Acting Master for four months when the Senior Master was seriously ill. Sadly, his own final appointment was as Cunard's Port Operations Manager, Southampton when he became unfit for seagoing duties.

He became Captain of the Club in 2001 and carried out his duties with aplomb in spite of his declining health. David remained irrepressibly cheerful throughout the last decade of his crippling disability.....We salute a good friend and fine shipmate!

Further to the obituary above, by Ian Stirling, David's funeral was held at the Church of St Michael & All Angels, in Cheriton, on 30th January.

An estimated 250 mourners squeezed in to the ancient parish church for a very moving service, which included readings from his daughters, Fiona and Alison. It seemed that nearly as many joined Janet and the family at the Alresford Golf Club afterwards.

The Cachalots was well represented, with at least 25 members attending to pay their respects.