

CAPTAIN FREDERICK EDWARD GORDON RENSHAWE

Gordon Renshawe was born in Kent in 1920. He went to sea as a deckhand in December 1939 and served throughout the Second Word War. He joined the General Steam Navigation Company in May 1948, obtained his Mate Home Trade Certificate in May 1949, and then served as Second Mate on the GSNC Thames excursion steamer "Golden Eagle".

Gordon continued to serve on the GSNC vessels, obtaining his Master Foreign Going Certificate in May 1957 and promoted permanent master in May 1964. In 1967 he joined the Southern Ferries "Dragon" as relief master, then in 1969 he joined the North Sea Ferries "Norwave" as relief master. Between service on these two vessels he obtained his pilotage exemption licences for London, Isle of Wight, Humber and Europoort Districts. Then in 1971 he was appointed as first senior master of the "Eagle" on the Southampton – Lisbon – Algeciras – Tangier service, and then at the end of 1974 "Panther" on the Southampton – San Sebastian route until that service finished in November 1975. He then transferred to the freight ferry "Dorset" on the Poole – Cherbourg route from 1976 to 1978, when he moved to Dover as master on the "Lion" on the Dover – Boulogne route until he retired in 1980.

In retirement he lived in New Milton, he was an enthusiastic supporter of the Bashley Football Club, and served as President of the General Steam Luncheon Club. He had joined the Southampton Master Mariners' Club in May 1966 and served as Club Captain in 1987. Until very recently he enjoyed frequent coach trips around the UK.

He was a Fellow of the Nautical Institute and a Member of the Royal Institute of Navigation and the Honourable Company of Master Mariners.

He lived alone, having never married, and passed away peacefully in the night of Thursday 3rd November 2011.

B E Peck