

Rear-Admiral Sir Morgan Charles Morgan-Giles DSO, OBE, GM, DL

Stowaway

Morgan Morgan, as he became affectionately known in the Club, was a famous Royal Naval personality and renowned Member of Parliament for Winchester who went aloft on 4th May 2013 at the age of 98. Many of his views when considered today were decidedly non PC! However Morgan Morgan was never afraid to speak his mind. This forthright approach to life won him many friends. He was, in his own words, ‘a proud and happy Stowaway’, being made so in 1990 and appeared regularly at the Sea Pie Supper where he always entertained those sitting next to him. The 1989 Sea Pie Supper was marred by a severe gale that struck the south of England and over 150 diners did not make it. Morgan Morgan however hacked his way round fallen trees, having set out well prepared with a saw or two. Such determination was typical of the man and a clear indication of how much he enjoyed the occasion. Past Club Captains will always remember being invited to dine on board his elegant motor yacht moored on the Hamble. He immediately put guests at ease and served good fare with accompanying wine and port! Morgan Morgan will be remembered with affection and respect; as some will say “They don’t make them like that any more!”

Captain John Noble

A Memorial Service was held on Monday 24th June at Winchester Cathedral.



Top left: At the Sea Pie Supper in 2001, with Captains Clark and Carr.

Right: Guest of Honour at the D-Day 60th Anniversary Dinner at the RAF Yacht Club, June 2004.

Middle left: The Shipping Festival Service in 2008 fell on his 94th Birthday and the Dean’s Garden resounded to the clink of raised glasses and a chorus of ‘Happy Birthday to you’.



Bottom left: His aforementioned yacht, ‘MELITA’ which he bought from Lord Harvington who was Deputy Speaker at the time.



We have been privileged to previously publish, with his kind permission, several excerpts from ‘The Unforgiving Minute’, Sir Morgan’s private memoirs. Here is a final snippet, regarding the ‘MELITA’:

While Margaret Thatcher was still Prime Minister, Grant Harvington had taken her for a short holiday cruise to the West Country, so as soon as I owned the boat I proudly put up a brass plaque over my bunk saying "MARGARET THATCHER SLEPT HERE".

Later on, during an RYS Rally in Jersey, I was showing a lady visitor round the boat, who did not seem particularly interested, but as soon as she saw the brass plaque she was goggle-eyed and said "Oh! With you?" I replied "Most unfortunately not". At this she blushed scarlet and said "I meant to say, was it during your period of ownership?"

