

Captain P.W. Love

Past Captain Peter Love died on 7 March, aged 77, after a fight against cancer.

Peter went to sea with BI in 1946 and joined P&O on gaining his 2nd Mates ticket., progressing through the ranks to become Master of the large passenger vessels such as Arcadia, Victoria and Sea Princess.

He was taken off the Island Princess on a stretcher due to ill health in '81 and on recovery became Marine Operations Manager for P&O Cruises in Southampton. He joined the Club in 1982 and was appointed Captain in 1985.

At around that time he became a Trustee of the Apostleship of the Sea and in April 2003 was invested with the title and insignia of a Knight of the Equestrian Order of Saint Gregory the Great in recognition of over 20 years service to the AOS.

He was not just a friend to seafarers but to the homeless as well, being the founder of Yeovil Night Shelter in his Somerset home town. Lord Ashdown, who helped launch the night shelter, was among those to pay tribute, saying "I am very saddened to hear of his death and my condolences go to his family. He was an important part of the town's history and was at the heart of the community."

Peter was a popular and social Cachalot and is well remembered for his party piece, a song about the Elephant's bottom. It is said that he could sing a different verse at every rendition.

Our condolences to his wife of 49 years, Jane, and their three children and four grandchildren. His son, Simon, a first officer with P&O, described Captain Peter Love as: "an inspirational character."