

VISIT REPORT - MARY ROSE FRIDAY 10 MAY 2013
Michael Minton

On Monday 16th January 2012 members were entertained to a talk on the Portsmouth Historic Dockyard by Robert Bruce OBE who had been its Managing Director since 2005. The Historic Dockyard consists of several separate elements which give a wide variety of interest on the site. These are the Royal Navy Museum, HMS Victory, Action Stations, HMS Warrior, Harbour Tours and the Mary Rose. The new Mary Rose Museum was then in the planning and took over a year to complete. It will be opened to the public on 31st May 2013, enabling the ship and artifacts to be exhibited in the same building. together with many other attractions. Robert arranged for a special preview visit for the club members and guests which took place on the afternoon of the 10th May. This enabled everyone to see the displays with some work still in progress, but with the museum almost to themselves.



perished with all their goods.

MARY ROSE MUSEUM

However there was nowhere to display these properly until now. In the museum the hull is located upright to one side, the spray having been turned off, and opposite there are three galleries lining up with the deck levels so that people can walk along them to see the ship on one side and the guns, armoury, kitchens, living quarters and a host of other activities on the other. At each end there are further galleries with display cabinets showing all the types of daily goods used by those on board together with information panels and visualized displays telling the story of life on a fighting ship.



that time.

OLDEST & NEWEST SHIPS AT PORTSMOUTH

The experience was much appreciated by all those going through this journey into history. There found a wealth of new knowledge and understanding from the highly creative way this story has been organized. The museum is located close to the Victory, the flagship of

Nelson, and is a modern building with a first class shop and small restaurant.

Michael thanked the preview organizer, Michelle Whitman, and gave her feed-back on the comments from the visitors which will be used to upgrade any small points to help improve the customer experience of the museum in future. All in all it was a great visit and opportunity which all commented on very favourably.