



Price: £4.99

Publication Date: July 2007

ISBN: ISBN 978 1 84114 664 5(Book)
ISBN 978 1 84114 667 6 (Box)

Format: Hardback, 64 pages,
printed laminated cover,
110x155mm,
profusely illustrated in
full colour throughout

Imprint: Halsgrove

Unit consists of 10 books supplied
in a point of sale display box.

Book barcoded at £4.99.

Box barcoded at £49.90.

THE SPIRIT OF PORTSMOUTH, GOSPORT & SOUTHSEA

Iain McGowan

From at least Roman times, Portsmouth's unique island site has ensured its place in English history. During 2000 years it has grown to become the chief naval base in the country, a city steeped in memories and mementoes of past naval actions and glories, a city where geography and history have carved out a certain spirit and character, a city where almost every corner reveals some aspect of its great heritage.

In the Tudor years Portsmouth was declared a Royal Dockyard and Garrison Town and from then on its future growth and prosperity relied almost entirely on the dockyard developments, a succession of European wars and decisions made in the high reaches of the Foreign Office and Admiralty. Portsmouth's associated fortifications and defences had earned it the title 'of one of the most protected areas in Northern Europe' as long ago as the fifteenth century and some 400 years later in the latter half of the nineteenth century it was often described as 'the most heavily defended place in the world'.

It is these simple facts backed by the long held notion that 'the strength of a country is reflected by the strength of the fleet' that makes Portsmouth such a fascinating place to visit and explore. Many of the well-known attractions are illustrated here, together with other elements still waiting to be discovered. This is an enduring portrait of a remarkable city and home of the Royal Navy.



Iain McGowan FRPS is a professional photographer living in West Sussex and specialising in landscape and environmental photography. Living not far from Portsmouth and with an additional interest in naval matters, he finds the city a particularly fascinating place to visit with its unique mix of an outstandingly rich heritage coupled with a new sense of momentum towards the future.



Halsgrove House, Ryelands Farm Industrial Estate, Bagley Green, Wellington, Somerset TA21 9PZ

Tel: 01823 653777 Fax: 01823 216796

www.halsgrove.com e-mail: sales@halsgrove.com



Above: Part of the 1km-long defensive Roman wall to Portchester Castle with the city approaches in the background.



Left: The Spinnaker Tower is the new national landmark at the entrance to Portsmouth Harbour.

Right: The ancient chapel of St Hubert.

Far right: The refurbished and restored crescent at Alverstoke.



HMS Victory. Referred to as the most famous ship in British Naval History and the oldest commissioned warship in the world, HMS Victory has been berthed at No 2 Dry Dock within the dockyard since 1922 and has for many years been the very symbol of Portsmouth and its naval heritage.



19



The page and opposite: Port Solent is one of the south coast's leading leisure attractions. Featuring the third largest marina in the UK and a considerable number of up-market shops, retail outlets, bars, pubs, restaurants, with a cinema and leisure club, it has a distinctly Mediterranean atmosphere along its boardwalks.

39

Some examples of double page spreads.

