

# Institute of Physics – London & South East Branch – Retired Members Section

## Outing to the Historic Naval Dockyard at Chatham

on Thursday 8 Sept 2016

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This visit has been organised by Tom Jacobs.

We shall enjoy a guided tour of the Historic Naval Dockyard at Chatham where there are warships, a submarine, a Victorian ropery, 18C architecture and much else of historical interest to explore.

**Description:** The Royal Navy's historic dockyard at Chatham dates back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century; 125 ships were built there for the Royal Navy between the years 1700 and 1815. Today we can make visits to three warships and a submarine (the latter not for those who suffer from claustrophobia), see fine eighteenth century buildings, view a historic lifeboat collection and an amazing working Victorian Ropery that can make ropes a quarter of a mile long. We will be able to visit a new exhibition which opened in May this year called 'Command of the Oceans' describing 'The Dockyard's Complete and Astonishing Story'.



An excellent Guide Book can be purchased at the Dockyard for £3.00

**Where and when to meet:** Please aim to arrive at the Dockyard at around 10.45. On arrival, please check in at the visitors' entrance. No need to pay, they will have a list of our names, and I will be there to pay for our group at the group rate. Then gather in 'The Mess' restaurant.

At 11.00 a professional guide will take us on a 90 minute walk to describe the Dockyard. After a lunch break, we will visit the Ropery as a group, and will be free to visit other areas of interest to you. Then Ropery tour time will be advised by reception.

### Getting there:

By road: The Sat Nav address of the Dockyard is ME4 4TY. Once on the A2/M2 or M20, follow the brown tourist signs displaying an anchor. There is adequate free parking on the site.

By train. There are trains to Chatham from Victoria and St Pancras:

Currently, the 09.37 from Victoria arrives at Chatham at 10.24, and the 09.55 from St Pancras International arrives at Chatham at 10.34. Tickets bought in advance are cheaper. Buses from the station to the Dockyard stop at Bus Stop B. Taxis are also available.

**Lunch:** We can lunch as a group in 'The Mess' restaurant at 12.45. An alternative for those who may wish to eat separately, or bring sandwiches, is the 'Wagon Stop' canteen.



**Timetable:**

10:45 - 11:00 Assemble in 'The Mess' restaurant.  
11:00 - 12:30 Guided tour of the Dockyard on foot  
12:45 Lunch  
14:30 - 16:30 Visit the Ropery and explore other areas of interest  
16:30 Refreshments and departure

**Size of party:** 16 to 25. With these numbers, REMS enjoys concessionary pricing.

**Cost:** £17.50 to cover entry and the services of the professional guide. Participants pay for their own comestibles and travel. If you are entitled to free entry at the Dockyard, perhaps by virtue of membership of some affiliated organisation, please discuss with Tony Colclough at [tonycolclough@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:tonycolclough@tiscali.co.uk)

**Contacts:** Tom Jacobs can be reached at home on 020 8893 8535, by email at [tjandjaj@aol.com](mailto:tjandjaj@aol.com) and by mobile on 07823358444.

**Late arrivals:** Phone Tom on 07823358444

