



From Yards to Hards:¹ Preparing Allied naval forces for the 1944 Normandy Landings

Naval Dockyards Society 28th Annual Conference (in-person)

The D-Day Story, Portsmouth - Partner and Venue:

Clarence Esplanade, Southsea, Portsmouth PO5 3NT

The D-Day Story, Portsmouth Saturday 18 May 2024 10–4.05

Sponsored by the Society for Nautical Research



THE D-DAY STORY
PORTSMOUTH



How were UK and overseas naval establishments occupied in constructing, supplying, and transporting harbours and pipelines?

The Allied assault on German-occupied France on and after D-Day (6 June 1944) was only possible through naval support, from the largest warships and merchant vessels through to the smallest landing craft. Existing dockyards, harbours and shipyards in the UK, the US, Canada and Bermuda played a vital role in building, preparing, maintaining and repairing the Allied fleets. Remains of these coastal installations survive as tangible heritage of this endeavour.

However, the magnitude of the projected naval and land forces required many more temporary bases and facilities, which entailed systematic forward planning. The roles of these establishments included supporting landing craft flotillas, building Mulberry Harbours,² embarking troops and supplies, and supplying fuel via the PLUTO pipeline. Workforces were dedicated to planning, victualling and furnishing all kinds of supplies. Personnel went through an equivalent period of training and preparation. Eight speakers will address these themes.

<https://navaldockyards.org/conferences/> <https://navaldockyards.org/>

<https://thedaystory.com/>

Twitter: @DockyardSociety @TheDDayStory

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1443502952760615>

Image credits: The D-Day Story, Portsmouth/Peter Langdown/Matt Scott-Joynt.

¹ A hard is a firm beach or foreshore where marine structures can be built and launched; it is also a sloping roadway at the water's edge for beaching vessels and landing materials – the D-Day hards were UK beaches which loaded landing craft.

² See J. Humberstone, 'Mulberry Harbours: Operation Neptune's Artificial Ports', *Dockyards* 27:2, December 2022, 30-34.

What talks will be on offer?

PROGRAMME + UPDATES see <https://navaldockyards.org/conferences/>
QUERIES: contact Dr Ann Coats avcoatsndschair@gmail.com

How to get to the Conference

D-Day Museum, Clarence Esplanade, Portsmouth, England PO5 3NT

<https://thedaystory.com/> *There is no museum parking.*

National Rail 08457 484950 <http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/>

Transport for London: 0343 222 1234 <https://www.tfl.gov.uk/>

How much will it cost?

For full members of NDS, SNR, SNR(S): £35 per person

For Portsmouth residents with disabilities and / or Portsmouth leisure card holders: £35 per person

For student members of NDS, SNR, SNR(S): £25 per person

For students who are not members of NDS, SNR, SNR(S): £35 per person

For anyone else not covered above: £40 per person

As a special offer for non-members; purchasing NDS membership for a year with the conference booking. This will cost £20 but the normal price is £35. This will give you the member price plus two journal Transactions and two Dockyards newsletters.

How can I book my place?

Please complete and return one form per delegate to the Treasurer, David Jenkins, 5 Beeby Way, Carlton, Bedfordshire, MK43 7LW, UK to arrive by post or email to ndstreasurer@hotmail.co.uk by the **Booking Deadline of 11 MAY**. Your payment should be made at the same time. *Please bring proof of disability / Portsmouth Leisure Card eligibility with you on the day.*

How can I pay for my place?

By cheque: Send your cheque made out to The Naval Dockyards Society to The Treasurer, David Jenkins, 5 Beeby Way, Carlton, Bedford, MK43 7LW together with the booking form below.

By BACS: Our bank details are:

Name: Naval Dockyards Society

Sort Code: 60-09-16

Account No: 51358719

Payment Reference: Your surname, words CONFERENCE 2024 and A/B/C/D/E

Pay the applicable amount and email the booking form to

ndstreasurer@hotmail.co.uk or post it to The Treasurer, David Jenkins, 5 Beeby Way, Carlton, Bedford, MK43 7LW.

By PayPal: Go your PayPal account and ask to send money.

Enter email: ndstreasurer@hotmail.co.uk and amount.

Send your booking form by email to ndstreasurer@hotmail.co.uk or by post to The Treasurer, David Jenkins, 5 Beeby Way, Carlton, Bedford, MK43 7LW

BOOKING FORM

NDS 2024 in-person D-Day Conference

- I am booking a NDS 2024 Conference place by selecting my choice below.
- I am making a non-refundable payment: BACS/PayPal/cheque to *Naval Dockyards Society* of £.....
- 'Member' or 'Non-member' column (definitions above)

My Payment Reference: Surname, CONFERENCE 2024 and A/B/C/D/E

	Event category	£ Member	£ Non-member
A	In-person Conference & lunch	£35.00	£40.00
E	FT Student with a university email address	£25.00	£35.00
C	Portsmouth residents with disabilities and / or Portsmouth Leisure Card holders		£35
D	Conference + Individual Membership of Naval Dockyards Society for one year		£55
E	Conference plus membership for two people at the same address, the second person should send a separate form with section A selected		£60
F	Conference plus membership for a full-time student. This must come from an academic email address.		£30

Please give the following information which will be deleted from our systems after the conference and will not be passed to any 3rd party.

YOUR NAME

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Address Line 3

Address Line 4

Post / Zip Code

Country if not UK

Telephone Number

Email address

Please confirm/delete as required: **I am/not disabled / have a medical problem of which NDS should be aware (specify):**

State any dietary requirements: