

Meet a Shipmate Able Seaman Mike “Blakey” Blake

Mike joined the Royal Navy as a Junior Seaman on the 17th of October 1966 at HMS Ganges. After initial training he was trained as a Radar Plotter (RP) at HMS Dryad after which he took up a draft for his first position aboard HMS Cleopatra in December of 1967 and served on board her for two and half years, during which time he progressed to the rank of Able Seaman and his duties included boats party and bosons mate. In December 1970 Mike joined HMS Torquay which was in Chatham dry dock for a refit. Shortly after this in January 1971 he joined HMS Palister which was his last ship before leaving the Andrew in November of that same year.

Mike moved to Bridlington to live with his parents for a short while after they had moved from his home City in Hull. He then took up a long career as a service bus driver having briefly been a conductor he progressed through to driving coaches and spent 14 years as a driver for Wallace Arnold based at their depot in Scarborough. Having been made redundant from Wallace Arnold Mike began driving Taxi's and in 1999 set up his own company Blakes Taxi's.

Blakey is slops manager for the branch and is a regular attendee at branch meetings.

