



The Royal Naval Engineers' Benevolent Society, the FISGARD Association and the Old CALEDONIA Artificer Apprentices Association are pleased to announce:

## **A Gala Dinner to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Artificers in The Royal Navy Saturday 19 May 2018 London Guildhall**

**This will be the last great gathering of Artificers and a unique opportunity to celebrate an historic anniversary**

In 1868, Queen Victoria, by Order in Council, authorised the introduction of Artificers into the Royal Navy. Their task was to operate and maintain the increasingly complex machinery and equipment of the ships in the world's most powerful navy. They were to be tradesmen and Chief Petty Officers. And so began a tradition for engineering excellence that made the Artificer the backbone of the Fleet. A tradition that was supported by the finest engineering apprenticeships, a unique esprit de corps, an intense pride in our work and an unshakable belief in our skills and ingenuity.

The Royal Naval Engineers' Benevolent Society (RNEBS), marked the Centenary in 1968 with a dinner onboard HMS President and it was felt that in the 150th year of 2018 we should all celebrate what may be the last significant anniversary.

Such a unique occasion demands a special event in an exceptional venue and so, on Saturday 19 May 2018 it is intended that a celebratory Mess Dinner will be held in the inspiring setting of the Guildhall, London (see <http://www.guildhall.cityoflondon.gov.uk>). There will be a pre-dinner drinks reception in the Old Library and Print Room followed by Dinner in the Great Hall; dress will be Black Tie and the all inclusive working cost is £150.00 per head.

The RNEBS, Fisgard Association (FA), and Old Caledonia Artificer Apprentices Association (OCAAA), are working together on the event and will begin publicising it worldwide through the networks and websites of the three organisations. Expressions of interest will be of great help to the organisers. Please indicate your intention to attend using one of the methods shown.

This will be a once-in-a-lifetime event and it would be entirely appropriate for there to be commemorative invitations and programmes, some tasteful entertainment and, possibly, commemorative mementoes. An excellent way of funding these is through sponsorship so if you are able to access corporate sponsorship or even provide some yourself, please contact us.

This is a longcast broadcast. Much more information will be available as we progress but if you were an Artificer at any time during your Naval career then this is your event.

### **Expressions of**

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or

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### **General Enquiries to:**

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### **Website Links:**

[www.rnebs.co.uk](http://www.rnebs.co.uk)  
[www.thefisgardassociation.org](http://www.thefisgardassociation.org)  
[www.oaaa.org](http://www.oaaa.org)  
[www.linkedin.com/groups/3740644](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/3740644)