

ROBIN WILLIAM MEADEN

1942-

ROBIN (BOB) was born 3rd September 1942 at "IVYDENE" 40 Lonsdale Avenue Portchester . By 1947 the family had moved to 13 Nelson Road Landport Portsmouth.

At the age of 5 he started his education at Church Street Infant School. Then Church Street Junior School were he captained the football and cricket teams. In 1954 he moved to St Luke's c of e School for Boys in Greatham Street Portsmouth. He left 4 years later, having passed the Dockyard entrance exam.

When he left he was Head Boy and had captained the school cricket team, played in the schools championship winning football team and had represented Portsmouth Schools at both football and cricket. Academically he was second in the "A" class; WILLIAM (BILL) BAILEY was always 1st

From the age of 10 to 15 he, along with his 2 brothers TERRY & CHRIS, belonged to HMS VERNON Cadet Corps, here he was able to win Boxing, Cross Country, Football, Cricket and Field Gun competitions. At the age of 8 his father had enrolled him at the GEORGE STREET BOXING CLUB.

On 12th May 1958 he started work as a Coppersmith Apprentice in the Dockyard Training School at Flathouse Portsmouth, and remained there for 2 years, winning both 1st & 2nd year awards as Coppersmith Apprentice of the year. Moving into the Dockyard, he worked on various ships, different establishments and workplaces, finishing his Apprenticeship in 1963.

In August 1960 BOB met JUNE MARCIA RENOUF. They married 3rd April 1965, and moved into a semi-detached house 24 Ninian

Park Road Copnor Portsmouth, which they had bought the previous September. The house cost £2995, and with the mortgage being £2400, repayments were £13-6-8. Per/month.

In 1963 BOB passed the Dockyard Inspector of Trades Examination and moved to the Apprentice Training School as an Instructor.

15th November 1969 JOANNE was born, followed 7 years later by RICHARD, on the 7th August 1976.

1981 saw BOB return to college and obtain a Further Education Teaching Certificate. Shortly afterwards he took up the post of Part-Time vice Principal at South Portsmouth Adult Education Centre, where he was responsible for 8 centres, 82 classes. He left Adult Education in 1992 when it was reorganised from a County to a Unitary Authority. On the 1st March 1982 with the impending closure of the Naval Base Apprentice Centre, BOB transferred as an Instructional Officer to the School Of Electrical And Mechanical Engineering HMS DAEDALUS LEE ON SOLENT, teaching Naval Artificers to repair and maintain Naval Aircraft. Specifically sheet metal, aircraft pipelines and welding.

He moved to HMS SULTAN in 1995, when HMS DAEDALUS was closed and the school was transferred there.

BOB retired 31st May 2001 aged 58, having worked for MOD (N) for 43 years.

By this time BOB and JUNE had moved to 14 Heritage Gardens
Global Pos 50°50`32.43N 1°08`36.80W
Portchester. (1st April 2000)

BOB also, up to his retirement represented the MOD (N) Instructional Officers on the National Committee of the Union.