



****PHOTO OPPORTUNITY & PRESS CALL****

9.15am on Monday 8 May 2023 at The Royal Yacht Britannia

(meet at Britannia's Visitor Centre on 2nd floor of Ocean Terminal Shopping Centre. Parking on level E)



Following the historic events of the weekend and the Coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla, please join us at The Royal Yacht Britannia on Monday 8 May where over 50 former Royal Yachtsmen, affectionately nicknamed 'Yotties', are returning to their duties on Britannia once again.

At 9.30am, the Yotties will be raising their three metre-wide official ARY (Association of Royal Yachtsmen) flag on Britannia's Bridge Deck. The flag will fly for the duration of their four-day working party. Afterwards, Yotties will be available for interviews.

Working alongside the current Maintenance Team, the Yotties help with the conservation of the 70-year-old Yacht, as well as sharing their first-hand experiences of life on board as Britannia travelled over one million miles around the world.

From helping maintain the Royal Barge and cooking 'Pusser's Grub' in the original Royal Galleys, to sanding deck boards and touching up paint work – the Chefs, Engineers, Seamen and Royal Stewards slip easily back into their former roles.

As well as all the hard work, there will also be time for reviving some of Britannia's traditions, including a morning hymn and the historic daily rum ceremony at 4pm.

Further information:

When The Royal Yacht Britannia was in Royal Service, there could be over 220 Royal Yachtsmen working on board at any one time. Hand-picked to meet the very highest standards, each and every sailor chose this special ship for the honour and privilege of serving Queen Elizabeth II and country.

On 16 April 1953, The Royal Yacht Britannia was launched from John Brown's Shipyard in Clydebank, Glasgow, to start over 44 years of faithful service to Queen Elizabeth II and the Royal Family.

70 years on, Britannia is berthed in Leith, Edinburgh, and welcomes over 300,000 visitors per year who step aboard to explore this iconic ship and the illustrious role she proudly played in British history.

King Charles III, then known as The Prince of Wales, first stepped aboard Britannia when he was six years old in 1954. The Prince of Wales and his sister, The Princess Royal, made the maiden voyage on board the brand-new Royal Yacht to Malta to meet their parents, Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, who were in Tobruk on Royal duties. The next four decades saw Britannia become one of the most famous ships in the world as it visited over 600 ports in 135 countries, travelling over one million nautical miles.

For more information please contact:

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