Captain Ian McNaught CVO MNM FNI



Captain McNaught was born in Sunderland and educated at Monkwearmouth Grammar School. Having spent some time at sea with his father, who was a marine engineer, he decided to join the Merchant Navy and trained at Fleetwood Nautical College in 1971.

On qualifying he joined BP Tanker Company in 1972, and transferred to general cargo ships and LPG tankers operated by Bibby Lines from 1976-1979. There then followed a spell with Hullgates Shipping of Grimsby which saw Ian serving in ships running in and out of Beirut during the civil war and into the Gulf during the Iran/Iraq war.

In 1987 he changed direction and joined the Cunard Line as a Second Officer. Appointments followed in the QE2 and Cunard Princess during Operation Desert Storm (the invasion of Iraq). A number of other appointments in the Cunard Fleet followed with Ian being promoted to Staff Captain, again onboard the QE2, in 1999. Two years later he became Cunard's youngest ever Master, commanding Sea Goddess 1.

Returning to the QE2 he became her permanent Master in 2003, and apart from a short spell away remained with the ship until she paid off in 2008. During that time he was present at the Trafalgar Royal Fleet Review in 2005, hosted HM The Queen on a visit in 2007 to celebrate the ship's 40th anniversary, and also entertained HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, the then Master of Trinity House, on QE2's final call to Southampton in November 2008. He became Master of Queen Victoria in 2009 and then transferred within the Carnival Group, Cunard's current owners, to Seabourn Cruises, coming ashore at the end of July 2011 before joining Trinity House in September for a period of familiarization.

He became a Younger Brother of Trinity House in 2005 and was elected an Elder Brother in 2011. He assumed the duties of the Deputy Master of Trinity House and Executive Chairman of the Lighthouse Board on 22 November 2011.

As well as his role at Trinity House, the General Lighthouse Authority for England, Wales, the Channel Islands and Gibraltar, and the UK's largest endowed maritime charity, Ian also sits

on the Council of IALA, the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities.

He is also a board member of the P&I Club, The Standard Club UK Ltd, and is a council member for the RNLI and trustee at the Marine Society and Sea Cadets.

lan is married to Sue and their son, Steven, is presently serving as a Navigating Officer on board P&O Cruises Britannia.