



AT AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH, HELD ON TUESDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2021, IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT THE HONORARY FREEDOM OF THE CITY BE CONFERRED ON

## FALKLAND ISLANDS VETERANS

Portsmouth is the home of the Royal Navy and the harbour that saw many components of the task force depart for the South Atlantic in April 1982. The Argentine invasion of the Falkland Islands and South Georgia in April 1982 was the trigger for the assembly of a large fleet of ships to recover the islands temporarily under the control of Argentine forces.

This was the largest fleet to sail from Portsmouth for more than 25 years and many of the sailors and marines served locally or had their homes in the area.

Sailors, marines, soldiers, airmen, merchantmen, civilians and nurses made up the mix of specialists capable of combat, combat support logistics and medical intervention. Together they formed a formidably talented force to face an effective Argentinian Air Force and ground troops in overwhelming numbers.

At 8000 miles from Portsmouth this task force achieved victory in less than 74 days and by 14 June 1982 the people of the Falkland Islands welcomed their return to proper democratic freedoms and the rule of their choice.

The City of Portsmouth honours all those men and women who served this country in their conflict and in particular, the 255 who gave their lives, and also their grieving families and friends. The City also honours those, who through their experience, were injured in mind or in body.



The City hereby awards honorary Freedom of the City of Portsmouth to all Falkland Islands Veterans.

IN RECOGNITION, THE COUNCIL NOW DECLARES ITS RESPECT AND GRATITUDE TO FORMALLY ADMIT THE FALKLAND ISLANDS VETERANS TO THIS ROLL OF HONORARY FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH.

*Hugh Mason*

LORD MAYOR

*David Williams*

LEADER

*David Williams*

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

