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Headquarters Royal Marines



ROYAL MARINES ROUTINE ORDERS

by

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064* BAND OF HM ROYAL MARINES PORTSMOUTH (ROYAL BAND)

1. The Band of HM Royal Marines Portsmouth has a unique record of service to the Royal Family which formally commenced in 1902 when Edward VII commanded that a section of the Band accompany His Majesty in the new Royal Yacht Victoria and Albert on a cruise in the English Channel. This initial Royal Duty was to lead to the Band's permanent appointment to provide music in the Royal Yacht whenever members of the Royal Family were embarked. Royal duty for the Band has not, however, just been confined to the Royal Yacht. From 1821 the Band has provided music for the Royal Family in various ships and on many Royal tours. Most recently, the Band accompanied the Royal Family to Pakistan and India.
2. At the decommissioning ceremony of the Royal Yacht Britannia, the Queen and Prince Philip expressed a desire that the Portsmouth Band should retain its Royal Duty status by continuing to accompany Her Majesty on Royal Tours and to retain its distinctive uniform, the Divisional Tunic and Royal Yacht shoulder flashes.
3. In April 1998 Her Majesty the Queen agreed that the Portsmouth Band continue to provide Royal Duty in the form of a Royal Band for the Royal Family. A change to the existing Royal Yacht shoulder flash is to be made to read 'Royal Band', this will be worn by the entire Portsmouth Band on all uniforms. The Royal Band is to wear the Divisional Tunic when on Royal Duty.