

Cinque Port Town of Rye

Rye Town Council

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NEWS

SPEAKER'S DAY

Mayors from 14 towns and a host of dignitaries descend on the Antient Town of Rye on Saturday 16 September by invitation of the Speaker of Confederation of the Cinque Ports and Mayor of Rye, Cllr Paul Osborne.

The Lord Warden of the Confederation, the Admiral the Lord Boyce, all 14 Confederation Mayors, their Mace Bearers, Town Clerks, the Surrogate to the Admiralty Judge and the Deputy Constable of Dover Castle will process in full ceremonial dress around Rye's cobbled streets before attending a Service at the Church of St Mary the Virgin (1103).

Other dignitaries attending include the Dean of Chichester (who will preach), the High Sheriffs of East Sussex and Kent, and the Chairmen of Rother District Council and East Sussex County Council.

Speaker's Day was instigated in 1992 by former Rye Mayor, John Ciccone, who will join the procession on 16th.

The 14 Confederation Members comprise the five Head Ports – Hastings, Sandwich, Dover, New Romney and Hythe – together with the two Antient Towns of Rye and Winchelsea, and seven Corporate 'Limbs': Deal, Ramsgate, Folkestone, Faversham, Margate, Lydd and Tenterden.

Long before England raised its own Royal Navy, these ports were granted royal privileges for defending the country and King from frequent and vicious attacks.

For further information on the Confederation visit

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Further information:

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