

**80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Defence of Cowes and East Cowes  
by the Polish Navy Destroyer ORP Błyskawica  
4/5 May 1942  
“Cowes Blitz”**

**30<sup>th</sup> April, 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022:**

**10am – 4pm:** Exhibition on ORP Błyskawica in East Cowes Town Hall  
organised by East Cowes Heritage Centre

**WEDNESDAY - 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**6.30 pm:** Blitz Talk in East Cowes Town Hall, organised by  
East Cowes Heritage centre.

**THURSDAY - 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**8am – 11am:** arrival of ORP Wodnik at Cowes Trinity Buoy.

**2.00pm:** unveiling of a commemorative plaque in Kings Square, East Cowes.

**2.30pm :** Guided Blitz Walk, East Cowes  
(leaving from Kings Square, leading to Kingston Cemetery.)

**4.00pm:** Memorial Service at Kingston Cemetery.

**6.00pm:** Welcome Reception for officers of the Polish Navy at the Royal Yacht  
Squadron, Cowes, hosted by the Lord Lieutenant of the Isle of Wight.  
(*by invitation only*)

**7.30pm:** Piano concert by Eva Maria Doroszkowska at the Royal Yacht Squadron.  
(*tickets available to the public*)

**FRIDAY - 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**7.30pm:** Polish Naval Band concert at East Cowes Town Hall  
[subject to confirmation at a later date.]  
(*tickets available to the public*)

## **SATURDAY - 7<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**All day (10am-6pm):** East Cowes Town Hall: Exhibition on the Blitz, school art, stalls, refreshments.

**All day (10am – 6pm):** Northwood Cemetery, Cowes: Exhibition on the Blitz.

**1pm – 4pm:** East Cowes Kings Square:  
performances by Ryde Ukulele Group, local schools, Karpaty Dancers.  
Music by DJ; Polish shops, Polish cuisine.  
*(free entrance for public)*

**2.30pm:** Cowes Blitz Walk, leaving from Cowes Parade and arriving at  
Northwood Cemetery at 3.30pm.  
*(free participation)*

**4pm:** rededication ceremony for the refurbished communal War Grave,  
Northwood cemetery, Cowes.

**7pm:** 1940's/ballroom dance at East Cowes Town Hall  
*(tickets available to the public)*

**7.30 for 8.00pm:** official dinner hosted and funded by the FORPB Society  
for Polish Navy and Royal Navy officers,  
diplomats from Polish Embassy in London and other VIP's  
*(by invitation only)*

**7.30pm:** Polish Naval Band concert at Cowes Enterprise College,  
[subject to confirmation at a later date.]  
*(tickets available to the public)*

## **SUNDAY – 8<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**12 noon:** short Remembrance ceremony at Francki Place, Cowes.

**1.30pm:** main Anniversary Commemorations at the Bandstand, Cowes Parade.  
*(see separate programme)*

**4pm:** VIP's and public visit ORP Wodnik  
*(free tickets to be distributed before and after the main commemorations  
by members of Friends of ORP Blyskawica Society  
NB: water taxi to be paid separately to service provider)*

## **MONDAY - 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**9.00am – 11.00am:** departure of ORP Wodnik from Cowes.

