

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

30th April, 1st May, 2nd May 2022:

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

WEDNESDAY - 4th May 2022

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

THURSDAY - 5th 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 - 6th May 2022

7.30pm: ~~Polish Naval Band concert at East Cowes Town Hall~~

CANCELLED

SATURDAY - 7th 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,~~
CANCELLED

SUNDAY – 8th May 2022

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

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

6pm: ORP Wodnik leaving Cowes Roads

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