

## **Gillian G. Aitkenhead MBE DL HonDEd**

Gill left Dartford College of Education in 1972, with a Certificate in Education and Youth and Community Studies.

She taught in Edinburgh and subsequently ran a Christian Youth Club in Lambeth.

In 1974, a career change of direction meant obtaining a Direct Entry Commission in the WRNS and during her 24 years of Naval Service Gill held posts as diverse as RN Women's Sports Officer, Personnel Selection for the Sea Cadet Corps and General Manager of the Officers' Mess, HM Naval Base Clyde, where she drove a £5m rebuild programme.

In 1999, Gill co-established a recruitment agency where, for 7 years, she guided ex-Naval personnel to obtain positions in the civilian world.

At this time, Gill devoted herself to fundraising in her local community in Helensburgh, raising tens of thousands of pounds for registered charities and voluntary organisations.

In 2000, she was appointed by The Queen as Deputy Lieutenant and then Vice Lord Lieutenant in 2008, responsible for all Royal visits to the county.

Gill was honoured in 2019 by the University of Greenwich, with an Honorary Doctorate of Education, for a distinguished life in public service