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HON. NEWSLETTER EDITORS: DR HUGH MURPHY & SUE MCMAHON,
NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM, GREENWICH, LONDON, SE10 9NF
TEL: 020 8312 6486 OR 020 8858 4422 FAX: 020 8312 6632

Deadline for the November 2006 issue: 20 September 2006

CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

August 2006

There have been a number of changes within the Society over the last year. It is sad to record the death in early April 2006 of Alan Pearsall, a long standing member and Vice President of this Society. Alan's knowledge of maritime history, the National Maritime Museum, the Society and the quiet authority with which he was able to speak on these matters will be missed by all who knew him. Two other Vice Presidents, Captain A.B. Sainsbury and Professor Roger Knight have stood down and I would like to thank them on behalf of the Society for their many years of commitment and contribution. Dr Keith Chittenden, who has done so much to promote the interests of the Society as Sailing Master of the VICTORY cutter has stood down this year and a presentation of some VICTORY copper and oak was made to Keith at the AGM as a token of the Society's appreciation.

On a brighter note, it is a pleasure to welcome the new C.O. of HMS VICTORY, Lt-Cdr John Scivier and his First Lieutenant, Lt John Webb. A warm welcome can also be extended to the new Sailing Master of the cutter, Michael Dalton. We can also welcome three new Overseas Corresponding Members who have been approved by

Council. These are Professor Poul Holm from Roskilde University, Dr Tapio Bergholm from the University of Helsinki and Associate Professor Stig Tenold of the Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration. We now have a wide geographical spread of corresponding members who are representative of the professional and academic interest in maritime history. Our Corresponding Members carry out a vital function in keeping us informed of developments in their regions in a subject that really knows no geographical boundaries. I am pleased that we now have a new Newsletter editor. In the interim, Dr Hugh Murphy has carried this additional load expertly and I would like to thank him and all those members of the Society who came forward with the offer of carrying out this function.

The Society's other affairs have been progressing. The list of members' interests is almost complete thanks to the efforts of Ms Jenny Wraight. The website is currently under consideration. Our aim is to develop it as a major tool of communication and recruitment. If you have any thoughts on what it should include I would be glad to hear from you. There will be further news on this in the autumn. As we begin to understand our members' interests better and

we develop the tools to serve those interests, I would also be glad to hear from any members about how we might develop our offerings to add value to membership.

The Society's remit of supporting scholarship continued this quarter with support for the joint North American Society for Oceanic History and Canadian Nautical Research Society conference Charting the Inland Seas, held at Manitowoc, Wisconsin, which was a great success. The fate of our maritime heritage continues to attract attention. The Society has made its response to the consultation on the Maritime Bill. The fate of the CITY OF ADELAIDE, the oldest surviving example of a composite built clipper, currently at the Scottish Maritime Museum, Irvine, is again in the balance. I have made a representation on behalf of the Society that all avenues for preservation should be explored before accepting her demolition. On a more encouraging note, it is good to see that this year; the bicentenary of Brunel's birth, the SS GREAT BRITAIN won the Gulbenkian Prize for Museums and galleries (www.ssgreatbritain.org).

It was also good to see that a conference was held at the University of Wolverhampton on 25th May on the Jutland Wrecks, and dealt not just with the battle but with the current issues of the management of the

wrecks. Progress on the new building for the Mary Rose and the development of the Museum of Liverpool Life are also signs of some healthy investment and interest in maritime heritage.

The AGM was held at Portsmouth on 17th June, followed by an extremely enjoyable dinner on board HMS VICTORY. The officers and counsellors for 2006/7 are listed on the cover of the August 2006 issue of Mariner's Mirror. Lt. Cmdr F. Nowosielski, commanding officer of HMS VICTORY was presented with a plaque of VICTORY oak and copper in appreciation of his work, not just in ensuring VICTORY was in splendid condition for the bicentenary, but for his first-rate collaboration with the Society during his years in command.

Finally, we must congratulate Professor Roger Knight on the award of the Society's Anderson Medal for Naval History. It is the Society's highest commendation for books published in any given year and recognises the very best scholarship. The health of naval history can be measured by the exceptionally strong field in 2005. All those books short-listed are first class works and Professor Knight's *The Pursuit of Victory; The Life and Achievement of Horatio Nelson* is a worthy recipient of the medal.

RICHARD HARDING

NEWSLETTER ON THE SNR WEBSITE

This Newsletter now appears on the Society web site www.snr.org as will future editions of *The Annual Bibliography* and *The SNR List of Members*.

Some members have already opted to view the subsidiary publications on the web site and no longer have hard copies delivered with their *Mariner's Mirror*. Any other members who would like to adopt this arrangement should inform the Membership Secretary, Peter Garvey, by email: peter@garveyp.fsnet.co.uk or by letter to The Lodge, The Drive, Hellingly, Hailsham, East Sussex BN27 4EP. He will adjust the mailing list accordingly.

OTHER CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

40TH Exeter Maritime History

Conference: University of Exeter

9-10 SEPTEMBER 2006

Fit for their Purpose? Navies, Ships and Shipping Business in Maritime History

This conference aims to mark 40 years of conferences at Exeter with an examination of efficiency in maritime affairs, both naval and mercantile. The conference, known for its friendly atmosphere, welcomes new as well as established historians, and any subject within the maritime field will be considered where efficiency was an issue.

As probably the longest running maritime history conference, this 40th occasion will include reviews of how maritime history has developed in the last 40 years. Professor Nicholas Rodger will examine naval history and

Dr David Starkey will look at mercantile affairs, while Dr Alston Kennerly will examine how the study of maritime history at Exeter has contributed to the growth of scholarship in this field. Professor Richard Harding will look at the efficiency of Councils of War in the 18th century; Ken Cossons examines merchant networks in the supply of the Royal Navy. Tony Cummings examines the readiness of the Royal Navy to defend Great Britain in 1940, and Dr Eric Grove will look at the submarine threat post 1945.

Bob Forrester examines the General Steam Navigation Company before 1920, David Clement will look at square riggers in the 20th century, and Chris Ware will examine the effect of protective legislation on the British mercantile marine in the 1920s and 1930s. Joan Ryan will discuss the employment of women in the Royal Dockyards in the 19th century.

Programme, further details and booking forms may be obtained from Dr Roger Moriss at the Department of History, University of Exeter, Amory Building, Rennes Drive, Exeter EX4 4RJ. E-mails may be sent to ramoriss@hawkswoodrd.fsnet.co.uk telephone calls to 01242 224270

Cornish Maritime History Conference 2006 'From Seines and Smugglers to Steam'

**National Maritime Museum Cornwall,
Falmouth**

SATURDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2006

Building on the success and popularity of previous years we have yet another wide range of topics from enthusiasts and academic researchers. This year's programme has topics covering most of Cornwall and across many periods, from gig building to smuggling, from packet ships to steam. Adults £25, Students £23, (includes all refreshments, lunch and admission to the Museum and Library)

Contact Tony Pawlyn, 'Trevarno', 6 Kerley Vale,
Chacewater, Truro, TR4 8JN

Or tonypawlyn@btinternet.com

**The Second MAG International
Conference: Managing the Marine
Cultural Heritage: The Significance
Auditorium, Action Stations, Portsmouth
Historic Dockyard**

27-28 SEPTEMBER 2006

In September of 2004 the Maritime Affairs Group (MAG) of the Institute of Field Archaeologists organized and ran a very successful international conference entitled *Managing the Marine Cultural Heritage*. The principle behind the conference was the recognition that recent decades have witnessed an expansion of archaeological activity under water and in the coastal zone, which has raised awareness of the potential and importance of the resource. The Proceedings of this Conference are to be published as a Council for British Archaeology research volume.

Building on the success of the 2004, MAG is organizing a Second Conference on *Managing the Marine Cultural Heritage*, which will debate the topic of *The Significance* in the maritime archaeological world. The Proceedings of the first conference will be launched at his event.

Given the international value of the event, MAG has invited speakers to present their experiences from different countries and backgrounds. Amongst these: Marnix Pieter (VIOE Flanders Marine Institute-Bruxelles), L.N. Santhakumaran (Kerala State, India), Nick Fleming (UK), Willis Stevens (Parks Canada, Canada), Ray Sutcliffe (UK), Ivana Brunenko (Dubrovnik University, Croatia), Ole Varmer (Titanic Team, USA), Mark Stanifirth (Flinders University, Australia), Marek Jasinski (Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway),

Steven Kay and Letizia Ceccarelli (Archeomar Project, Italy).

The Conference Tudor Dinner will be held on 27 September in the spectacular seafront Southsea Castle-where Henry VIII witnessed the sinking of the *Mary Rose*. Guest will be free to visit the Castle overlooking the Solent waters, before and during the conference dinner.

The Conference offers, together with an attractive programme, free entry to most of Portsmouth city museums and the *Mary Rose* Museum, with 10 % discount on publications and merchandise; a Poster Competition, stands and stalls, and a free entry to the Historic Dockyard valid for the week when the conference takes place. Also delegates can benefit from special room rates at the Holiday Inn, Portsmouth.

For more information please visit the Conference website: www.magconference.org or write to: info@magconference.org
Paola Palma, Dave Parham.

**Empire, the sea & global history: Britain's
maritime world, 1763-1833**

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS, 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24,
AND 26 OCTOBER 2006

**A series of eight lectures organised by the
National Maritime Museum and the
Institute of Historical Research, Senate
House, University of London**

While Britain was not the only imperial nation, its extraordinary application and exploitation of maritime power ensured the British engagement with the world was unique in terms of its range, size and intricacy. Yet these relationships were constantly challenged and adapted. The period between the end of the Seven Years War and the abolition of British colonial slavery witnessed a fundamental change in the scale and nature of this interaction. This was not an isolated phenomenon, but rather

part of a transformative series of simultaneous and interlinked global pressures, crises, and revolutions that foreshadowed the birth of the modern world. This turbulent age – characterised by contradictory and competing forces of revolution and reaction, ‘liberty’ and imperialism, war and peace, and enlightenment and enslavement – served to reconfigure the nexus of power within the British Empire and its wider maritime world.

These lectures have been organized jointly by the National Maritime Museum’s Centre for Imperial & Maritime Studies and the Institute of Historical Research. They will draw on path-breaking research by leading scholars to explore the significance and complexities of Britain’s maritime world in this key period through a series of thematic discussions, comparing similar and contrasting contemporary movements and events. The resulting analysis will highlight diverse perspectives, place issues and debates into broader contexts, set new research agendas, and demonstrate the essential interconnectedness of empire, the sea and global history.

Programme:

Tuesday 3 October

Professor Felipe Fernández-Armesto,
Tufts University

The British Empire, the sea and global history

Thursday 5 October

Dr Richard Drayton, University of Cambridge
Maritime networks and the making of knowledge

Tuesday 10 October

Professor Catherine Hall, University College
London

Gender and Empire

Thursday 12 October

Professor Philip Morgan, Princeton University
Slavery and freedom: black experiences in Britain’s maritime world, 1763-1833

Tuesday 17 October

Professor Simon Schaffer, University of
Cambridge

Instruments, surveys and maritime empire

Thursday 19 October

Professor Maxine Berg, University of Warwick
Cargoes: the trade in luxuries from Asia to Europe

Tuesday 24 October

Professor Stephen Conway, University College
London

*Empire, Europe, and British naval power, c. 1763-
c. 1833*

Thursday 26 October

Professor Linda Colley, Princeton University
*Empires, nations and identities: the impact of the
maritime*

All lectures will be held at Beveridge Hall, Senate House, University of London, London WC1E 7HU, run from 18.15 to 19.30 and will be followed by a reception.

The nearest underground stations are Tottenham Court Road, Russell Square and Goodge Street.

Admission is by ticket only and advance booking is necessary.

Registration fee: Single lecture - £7.50
Full series - £40.00

Contact details: Mrs Janet Norton, Research Administrator, National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London, SE10 9NF.

Tel: +44 020 8312 6716. Fax: +44 020 8312 6592.

E-mail: jnorton@nmm.ac.uk

This series will be followed in 2008 by a complementary programme of high-profile lectures exploring Britain’s interaction with the world from the 1830s until the turn of the twentieth century. Drawing on the same inclusive, comparative approach, and building upon a similar flowering in research across academic disciplines, they will examine the key trends and themes embodied in the Victorian

age. Potential themes and speakers include David Cannadine on perceptions of imperial rule, John MacKenzie on imperial cultures, and Clare Midgley on empire and gender. This second series would also form the basis of a volume of essays.

International commission for maritime history

KING'S SEMINARS 2006-2007

A small naval war: the Royal Navy and the war in Yugoslavia, 1993-5

THURSDAY 12 OCTOBER, 2006

Marcus Faulkner, King's College, London

Selling coal or selling lives: the Pacific coal trade, 1876-1896

THURSDAY 26 OCTOBER, 2006

Michael Clark, Greenwich Maritime Institute

The politics of execution: the case of Admiral John Byng

THURSDAY 9 NOVEMBER, 2006

Chris Ware, Greenwich Maritime Institute

TBC

THURSDAY 23 NOVEMBER

Proctor Memorial Lecture *

Humankind and the sea: the changing relationship since the late eighteenth century

THURSDAY 7 DECEMBER, 2006

Dr David M. Williams, University of Leicester

From Kaigun to Kaiji: Japan's naval thinking towards the twenty-first century

THURSDAY 18 JANUARY, 2007

Alessio Patelano, King's College, London

Financing the Thames shipbuilding industry: the case of Thames Iron

THURSDAY 1 FEBRUARY, 2007

Professor Janette Rutterford, Open University

HMS Vanguard 1870-1875: a most inconvenient wreck

THURSDAY 15 FEBRUARY, 2007

Chris Thomas

TBC

THURSDAY 1 MARCH, 2007

French Technical Intelligence during the Second Empire: Captain Pigeard, British and American shipbuilding 1856-1869

Alexandre Duplaix, Service Historique de la Defense, Department Marine.

TBC

THURSDAY 3 MAY, 2007

TBC

THURSDAY 17 MAY, 2007.

Meetings take place fortnightly on Thursday evenings at King's College, London, WC2R, 2LS, Main Campus, Strand. Please arrive at 5 to 5-10 pm and follow signs for a 5-15 pm start.

* The Proctor Memorial Lecture will take place at Lloyd's Register, 71 Fenchurch Street, London EC3M 4BS. Admission to this lecture only is solely by ticket, available from The Proctor Lecture, Greenwich Maritime Institute, University of Greenwich, Old Royal Naval College, London SE10 9LS.

The seminar programme is organised by the British Commission ICMH, with the generous assistance of the Society for Nautical Research, the Maritime Information Association and the Department of War Studies King's College, London. For further information contact Professor John Armstrong, Thames Valley University, St Mary's Road, Ealing, London, W5 5RF.

Dover Bronze Age Boat Trust: Second Conference

Dover Harbour Board Cruise Terminal 2, Western Docks, Dover, Kent, UK.

Bronze Age Connections-Cultural Contact in Prehistoric Europe

SATURDAY 21 OCTOBER-SUNDAY 22 OCTOBER 2006

Programme for Saturday 21 October

9.30 am Introduction
Dr Frank Panton

Prehistoric Navigation in NW Europe

9.45 am Navigating in Prehistory
Peter Clark

10.25 am *Mid Morning Coffee*

10.45 am Sacrificial economies? On the articulation of trade and ritual in the circulation of bronzes across the North Sea
David Fontijn

11.25 am Crossing the channel
David Perkins

The production and distribution of bronze and other goods

12.05 pm Copper production and distribution
Simon Timberlake

12.45 pm *Lunch*

2.00 pm Ingots, objects and scrap
Peter Northover

2.40 pm The demise of the flint tool industry and the implications for bronze supply
Chris Butler

3.20 pm *Mid afternoon tea/coffee*

3.40 pm Metal supply in northern France
Patrice Blum tbc

4.20 pm Transmanche ceramics; passage of pots, potters or styles?
Alex Gibson

5.00 pm Close

6.00 pm Guided tour of Bronze Age gallery, Dover Museum, highlighting the Ringlemere gold cup and the Dover Bronze Age boat.

7.30 pm Conference dinner (The Refectory, Dover College)

Programme for Sunday 22 October

The politics of power: the economic basis of a ruling elite

9-45 am Ringlemere and the beginning of the Channel Bronze Age
Stuart Needham

10.25 am *Mid morning coffee*

10-45 am A critique of the 'Prestige Goods' model
Joanna Bruck

11.25 am From Picardy to Flanders: Transmanche connections in the Bronze Age
Marc Talon and Jean Bourgeois

12.05 pm Changing types of exchange
Andrew Fitzpatrick

12.45 pm *Lunch*

2.00 pm Maritime contacts in the southern North Sea during the first millennium BC
Barry Cunliffe

The symbolism of travel and voyage in Prehistory

2.40 pm Expert crafting; working with 'hard materials' in antiquity
Mary W. Helms

3.20 pm *Mid afternoon coffee/tea*

3.40 pm Just across the water: exploring the ritual of travel in prehistoric Europe
Robert van de Noort

4.20 pm Onus probandi and the value of experimental reconstruction
Peter Clark

5.00 pm Close

Conference cost: £80 or £50 reduced fee for students upon production of a letter on headed paper confirming that they are registered on a programme leading to an recognised award. Fees include registration packs plus tea and coffee breaks, and light lunch provided daily. Please find registration form at www.dover.gov.uk/museum under Bronze Age Boat Conference 2006. Conference co-ordinator: Denise Ryland, DBABT conference Co-ordinator, c/o Tours of the Realm, Hammond House, Limekiln Street, Dover, Kent CT17 9EE. Tel: 44 (0) 1304 248 304

Institut du Monde Anglophone, Sorbonne Nouvelle (Paris III)

Motion in the Long Eighteenth Century

THURSDAY TO SATURDAY 14-16 DECEMBER 2006

Call for papers

Following the success of its recent "Sea Conferences", the Institut's interdisciplinary theme for this year offers further opportunities for maritime historians, and for those whose work involves bygone transport on river-systems etc. Papers in English are most welcome.

This year's proceedings are dedicated, once again, to the memory of the late Professor Paul-Gabriel Boucé. As a young man he served as an officer of the French navy and, throughout his life, he took a lively interest in maritime affairs.

For further information regarding submission of abstracts, etc, please contact Professor Serge Soupel, Institut du Monde Anglophone, 5 rue de l'Ecole-de-Médecine, 75006 Paris. Email: serge.soupel@wanadoo.fr

New Researchers in Maritime History Conference, National Maritime Museum Cornwall, Discovery Quay, Falmouth, Cornwall.

9-10 MARCH 2007

Call for papers

Proposals are invited for 20-minute presentations. Priority will be given to papers based on archive or other primary source material, and to applicants who do not yet have a substantial record of academic publication. Please send an abstract in the form of a one-page summary and another page giving details of the sources utilised. Plus a brief biographical note and contact details, including e-mail address. Deadline for proposals for papers 10 November 2006. To register an interest in presenting a paper or to ensure you are on the mailing list for this event e-mail h.r.doe@exeter.ac.uk or write to Helen Doe, Centre for Maritime Historical Studies, University of Exeter, Amory Building, Rennes Drive, Exeter, Devon EX4 4RJ.

Northern Navigation Churchill, Manitoba,

1-7 AUGUST 2007

Call For Papers

The Canadian Nautical Research Society will host its annual conference for 2007 in Churchill, Manitoba, on the theme of "Northern navigation." Topics may include exploration, trade, war, ships, individuals, indigenous peoples, and any other topic related to the practice of navigation in high latitudes. To provide comparisons, papers examining similar subjects in the high latitudes of the Antarctic are also invited.

The conference is planned for the period 1-7 August, 2007. Travel arrangements are being made by The Great Canadian Travel Company of Winnipeg. (They are <http://www.greatcanadiantravel.com>) northern travel experts of more than twenty-fives years' experience.) Packages including return air travel from Winnipeg, hotel in Churchill, select conference activities, tours to the eighteenth century Hudson's Bay Company stone trading post Prince of Wales Fort, and a "tundra buggy

tour” will start at approximately C\$1,600 plus taxes. Extra options will include a rail/air travel package, and an air charter (limited space) to visit York Factory.

For more information, or to submit a proposal for a paper or a session, contact either: Dr William Glover williamglover@sympatico.ca or Professor Barry Gough bgough@wlu.ca

Fifth International Congress of Maritime History

Call for Papers

Greenwich Maritime Institute, University of Greenwich, UK.

23-27 JUNE 2008

Proposals are invited for papers to be presented at the Fifth International Congress of Maritime History, sponsored by the International Maritime Economic History Association (IMEHA), and hosted by Greenwich Maritime Institute.

Papers are welcome on a wide range of research areas reflecting the role of the surface of the sea, the undersea domain, the coastal zone and the sea as a cultural resource. Proposals that emphasize the international and trans-national character of maritime history will be given particular consideration.

Interested individuals are invited to submit a short proposal in English indicating the proposed scope of their paper together with a brief *curriculum vitae* by 1 SEPTEMBER 2006 to:

Professor Sarah Palmer, Chief Organiser, Greenwich Maritime Institute, University of Greenwich, Old Naval College, Park Row, Greenwich SE10 9LS, England.
(e-Mail: S.R.Palmer@gre.ac.uk).

Successful applicants will be notified during the first half of 2007. The IMEHA expects that all participants in the Congress will give first rights of refusal on their papers to The International Journal of Maritime History and/or Research in Maritime History.

COURSES

National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

The Open Museum

For further information on the Open Museum lecture and seminar programme or to request a prospectus, telephone 020 8312 6556 or visit the website: www.nmm.ac.uk/openmuseum

LETTER FROM OVERSEAS

From our correspondent in Norway

Nautical research in Norway reflects the country's rich maritime past, from the Viking age to more modern times. The diversity of Norway's maritime history-combined with the relatively small size of the population and, implicitly, researchers and research funds – means that there is a distinct division of labour among Norwegian scholars dealing with maritime history. Research on the older history – up until early modern times – is primarily undertaken at the universities, where the maritime aspect is closely intertwined with historical topics in general. The more recent history – including elements such as exploration, whaling and commercial shipping, where Norwegians were among the pioneers – has largely been covered by museums and smaller scattered groups of individual researchers. Indeed, a formal organisation or meeting place, like the Society for Nautical Research, does not exist. In this respect, today's research environment mimics the decentralised ownership pattern observed in Norwegian shipping up until the late 20th century.

The Oslo-based *Norsk Sjøfartsmuseum* [Norwegian Maritime Museum – www.norsk-sjofartsmuseum.no] and *Bergens Sjøfartsmuseum* [Bergen Maritime Museum – www.bsj.uib.no] both have substantial libraries and archives.

Despite relatively meagre research staffs, the two museums publish interesting yearbooks. In addition, Bergens Sjøfartsmuseum has published the five-volume series *Bergen og sjøfarten* [Bergen and shipping], which – in my opinion – is one of the best scholarly analyses of the development of a shipping community, even in an international perspective. The series – dealing with the period from 1070 to 1973, with an emphasis on the last two centuries – is unfortunately only available in Norwegian. This language barrier also applies to the impressive five-volume series *Handelsflåten i krig* [The merchant marine at war], where the development of Norwegian shipping during World War II has been analysed from a variety of angles.

The focus on publications in Norway has been – and still is – a problem with much of the research on maritime history in Norway. On the positive side, domestic publications serve a purpose in building up a maritime national identity. On the negative side, relatively little is known abroad about a country that from the middle of the 19th century onwards has been one of the leading international maritime nations, at least within commercial shipping. Nevertheless, parallel with the glossy coffee-table presentations and hagiographies, there has been an increasing tendency over the last decade that Norwegian shipping companies publish scholarly company histories in English. Such publications – together with some well-researched regional histories – provide important pieces to the puzzle that is Norway's maritime heritage. However, the lack of a more unified history – like that of Harlaftis on Greek shipping or Kaukiainen on Finnish shipping – means that “the full picture” is still impossible to get a grasp of, even for Norwegians. Indeed, the role of shipping and the sea in Norway's

economic and cultural development – from the vikings, via the sailing ships of the 19th century to today's specialty vessels and oil rigs – is a saga that is waiting to be written.

Associate Professor Stig Tenold

The Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration

BRIEF NOTICES

OUR NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR

For the last fifteen years the National Maritime Museum has provided from within their staff the Editor of this Newsletter. Sadly, other pressures on resources have forced them to say that they cannot continue with the task and we have now found a replacement.

Ms Suzanne Davies BA (Kent) MA (Greenwich Maritime Institute) will take up the position in time for the November 2006 issue.

There were many excellent candidates from the membership who selflessly put themselves forward for the position, and the onerous task of selecting only one candidate was undertaken by the Chairman of the Publications Committee, Rear Admiral David Pulvertaft.

In the interim, please continue to send your contributions snrnewsletter@nmm.ac.uk. Written contributions can be sent to Dr Hugh Murphy, Hon Editor of *The Mariner's Mirror*, Research Administration, East Wing, National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London SE10 9NF.

We extend our grateful thanks to the present co-editor, Sue McMahon for all her help and assistance in compiling the Newsletter in recent months, and to the Director and Staff of the National Maritime Museum for their continued support

HUGH MURPHY

Maritime Information Association

The Maritime Information Association (MIA) is for everyone who deals with information about ships and other maritime matters. It exists to foster a community of those using and providing such information, from researchers, historians, enthusiasts, publishers, through to librarians, archivists and curators. The MIA offers a forum to exchange ideas through face-to-face contacts, through our newsletter, *Maritime Informer*, an annual conference, a website with an online forum, and with occasional visits and social events. Above all, the MIA offers a friendly way for busy people to keep in touch with each other.

You will find further information about the MIA and a membership form on our website at www.maritime-information.net. Details of membership are also available from the Membership Secretary, 3 Harold Road, Southampton SO15 3HN.

The Fenland Lighter Project

Among its international connections, the Project has a longstanding association with the Institut du Monde Anglophone, Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris III. In that regard, I am scheduled to speak at this year's December conference convened by the Institut, with a paper involving the complicated social relationships that accompanied the trading activities of the Fenland lighters in the eighteenth century. Although it was generally conceded that the lighters played a very valuable role in terms of linking North Sea commerce with inland centres such as Bedford and Northampton, there was a marked tendency towards antagonism between local communities and the lightermen – the latter sometimes being denounced as 'piratical'.

It is appropriate that a paper on the old-time Fenland lighters should be included in the December 2006 programme because, once again, such Paris III proceedings will be dedicated

to the memory of the late Professor Paul-Gabriel Boucé. During the 1990s he took part in Project field-trips on the Ouse-Nene Complex that enquired into several trade-routes of bygone times. Indeed, he took a lively interest in various comparisons that could be made between British and French river and coastal trade of the eighteenth century, and he generously presented a range of published material now included in the Project's collection

H.J.K. JENKINS

Centre For Maritime Historical Studies, University of Exeter

The University of Exeter runs full-time and part-time MAs and PhDs in maritime and naval history.

For more information contact Dr Michael Duffy, Amory Building, Rennes Drive, Exeter EX4 4RJ.

Email: M.Duffy@exeter.ac.uk

Website:

www.ex.ac.uk/shipss/school/maritimehist.php

MA in Maritime History, University of Hull

The MA can be taken as a self-contained programme or as preparation for research at MPhil and PhD level. The MA includes specific training in research techniques and methodologies; a dissertation with personal supervision; modules in merchant shipping history, fisheries history, maritime and coastal environmental history, modern naval history, etc. Study options are full-time (1 year) or part-time (2 years). Enquiries about entry in 2005 are welcome. For further information about the MA programme and maritime history in general contact Dr Richard Gorski: Department of History, University of Hull, Hull HU6 7RX. Telephone +44 (0)1482 465183.

Email: r.c.gorski@hull.ac.uk

Website: www.history.hull.ac.uk

John Carter Brown Library Research Fellowships

The John Carter Brown Library will award approximately 30 short and long-term Research Fellowships for the year June 1, 2007 to July 31, 2008.

Short-term fellowships are available for periods of two to four months and carry a stipend of \$1,800 per month. These fellowships are open to foreign nationals as well as US citizens who are engaged in pre and post-doctoral, or independent, research. Graduate students must have passed their preliminary or general examinations at the time of their application and be at the dissertation writing stage.

Long-term fellowships, partially funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) AND THE Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, are typically for five to nine months and carry a stipend of \$4,000 per month. Recipients of long-term fellowships may not be engaged in graduate work and in some cases must be US citizens or have resided in the US for the three years immediately preceding the application deadline.

It should be noted that the Library's holdings are concentrated on the history of the Western Hemisphere during the colonial period (ca. 1492-ca. 1825), emphasizing the European discovery, exploration, settlement, and development of the Americas, the indigenous response to the European conquest, the African contribution to the development of the hemisphere, and all aspects of European relations with the New World, including the impact of the New World on the Old. Research proposed by fellowship applicants must be suited to the holdings of the Library. All fellows are expected to relocate to Providence and to be in continuous residence at the Library for the entire term of the fellowship.

Several fellowships are restricted to

particular areas of research: history of cartography; maritime history; the West Indies and the Caribbean basin as a whole; comparative history of the colonial Americas; family and women's history, the history of printing and bibliography; the Jewish experience in the Americas; early exploration and discovery, Luso-Brazilian studies; and so forth. A few fellowships are available only to scholars who are citizens of countries in Spanish America.

The application deadline for fellowships for 2007-2008 is **January 10, 2007**.

For application forms or more information, write to Director, John Carter Brown Library, Box 1894, Providence, RI 02912.

Tel: 401-863-2725; Fax: 401-863-3477

E-Mail: JCBL_Fellowships@brown.edu Website:

<http://www.JCBL.ORG>

CANADIAN NAUTICAL RESEARCH SOCIETY

Awards presented by the CNRS

The Keith Matthews Best Book Award

A prize of \$1000 awarded for a book by a Canadian author on any topic of maritime history, or by a scholar of any nationality on a topic of Canadian maritime history, published in a calendar year.

The Gerry Panting New Scholar's Award

For a scholar new to the field of maritime history, by which is meant within five years of their last degree: \$1000 to travel to a CNRS annual conference to present a paper. The recipient is expected to offer the paper to *The Northern Mariner/Le marin du nord* for publication.

The Jacques Cartier MA Prize

An award of \$500 for the best masters thesis on a topic of maritime history completed by a student at a Canadian university, or a Canadian at a foreign university.

The Keith Matthews Best Article Award

A prize of \$250 awarded for the best article published in *The Northern Mariner/Le marin du nord* in a calendar year.

All awards are normally announced at the CNRS annual conference, held between May and August. All enquiries about eligibility and application procedure should be directed towards the Chair of the Awards Committee: Professor Serge Durflinger, CNRS Awards Committee Chairman, History Department, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 6N5. Tel. 613-562-5800, ext. 1277
e-mail: sdurflin@uottawa.ca

The E.G.R. Taylor Lecture, 12 October 2006

This will be given by Mr Alan Stimson, MVO. Formerly Head of Navigation and Astronomy at the National Maritime Museum and, until recently, Chief Executive of the Cutty Sark Maritime Trust at Greenwich. His subject will be:

A symphony of Nautical Instruments: the Grinling Gibbons carvings in Admiralty House, Whitehall.

This year's event is under the auspices of the Royal Institute of Navigation. It will take place in the House of the Royal Geographical Society at 6-30pm and will be followed by a candle-lit supper there, bookable with a credit card at least a week in advance by telephoning 0207 591 3084 before 2.30pm. Costing £23 the meal will consist of two courses, with a vegetarian option, and two glasses of wine (or soft drinks).

Doors will open at 5.30pm (entry at the top of Exhibition Road, South Kensington). There will be pay bar where light refreshments can be obtained. The lecture is likely to take place in the Education Centre, rather than the Ondaatje Lecture Theatre. In the chair will be Group Captain David Broughton, MBE, Director of the Royal Institute of Navigation

ANN SHIRLEY

The Plight Of The City Of Adelaide

The *City of Adelaide* is the oldest of the four merchant sailing ships in the UK's National Core Collection of Historic Ships, the only one which carried passengers, one of only two in the world which took emigrants from our shores to the New Worlds and, having been built as a regular trader to Australia, is unique shared heritage. These accolades, however, have not been a passport to longevity, and on four occasions it has taken her protection as an A-listed building to save her from destruction.

Her hull stands on a slipway at Irvine, Ayrshire, in the ownership of the Scottish Maritime Museum. Her survival is again under threat, with her A-listing standing between her and 'controlled deconstruction', a euphemism for demolition in which the little archaeological information which is still hidden will be recorded and a few specimens set aside as mementoes of the Sunderland shipwrights who built her in 1863-4 and the folk who sailed in her.

In Scotland there have only been two applications for permission to demolish a listed building, both for the *City of Adelaide*. The first was beaten off six years ago, on the grounds of her stature as heritage and as there were two possibilities for her survival which had not been explored by the Museum's trustees. Unfortunately these and an initiative by the Duke of Edinburgh to raise funds did not come to fruition, but Mike Edwards, an entrepreneur in the adventure travel industry, heard of her plight and donated £400,000 in return for an option whilst he investigated where she might fit into his plans. After an exhaustive examination he concluded that to restore her afloat would require the replacement of all but a few per cent of the historic fabric at a cost in excess of £10m. This was no surprise to those of us who know the ship, but we feel enormous gratitude to Mr Edwards for his munificence and tenacity. This should have given her a long period of

financial stability, but both demolition applications were submitted because the Museum apparently faced bankruptcy.

The crises arose from a pragmatic operation, brokered by the Museum, in 1992-3 in which the ship was rescued from immersion in Prince's Dock, Glasgow. Why she was suffering so is beyond the scope of this letter, but the rescue was funded largely by the Irvine Development Corporation and North Ayrshire Council. The only safe haven for her was a disused slipway on ground owned by the Ayrshire Metals Company, now AMP plc, which lies next to the Museum's premises. A lease was agreed in which the first five years were free but would then be followed by a rental of £50,000 per annum. Preparing the ship for restoration afloat and re-launching her was expected to be complete within the five years and the work began well, but the Development Corporation was wound up and local authority budgets tightened to an extent which apparently brought the Museum to its knees. Arrears of rent began to mount up and the first demolition application was made as a *cri de coeur*. Then came Mr Edwards' donation, but even with so much money available it has proved impossible to agree terms with AMP. Again apparently facing bankruptcy the Trustees have submitted their second application, the view being that offering rapid removal of the ship would be important in attempting to break the AMP *impasse*. The argument is that this is the only alternative to the uncertainty of re-launching, which, in the event of a programme over-run, would result in further swingeing penalty demands and the end of the Museum.

It would in any event have been important to object to so drastic a proposal, as the future of so rare a survivor should not lie solely with the affairs of an under-funded Museum. There is, however, a second and even more important factor, as once again the Trustees have apparently

failed to consider every possibility. Their thoughts have been apparently based on restoration afloat at vast cost as the only long-term way forward, but many of Scotland's most evocative listed buildings are preserved unrestored, so why not the *City of Adelaide*? Rather than cut her up to destroy her why not make surgical incisions, sectioning her transversely into suitable lengths and moving her on wheeled transport the short distance to the Museum's premises, where the parts would be realigned? Experienced engineers have assessed the operation as perfectly feasible at a cost well under ten per cent of complete restoration. Tidying the hull for limited public viewing would be the objective, and experience shows that ongoing maintenance costs would then be very low indeed. Such is the thrust of our argument, and potential objectors have been sought from personal address lists and by contacting SNR members who live in Scotland, the North East of England and Australia. Early to respond was Professor Richard Harding, as Chairman of our Council. It is likely that objecting will still be possible when members see this letter and very unlikely indeed that the Planning Committee will have considered the application by then. The importance of the issue, and the need to allow ample time for consultation, is well understood at NAC, as last time a hundred or so powerful objections were received from places as far apart as Alaska and Tasmania. This is an important test case beyond Scotland and, indeed, maritime heritage, and views may, and I hope will, be expressed by writing to: Mr Tom Parish; Development Control (Application 06/00488/LBC); North Ayrshire Council; Cunninghame House; Irvine KA12 8EE.

ALAN PLATT.

2 WESTPARK GATE

SALINE, DUNFERMLINE KY12 9US

ALAN.PLATT@BTINTERNET.COM

NEW MEMBERS

The Society for Nautical Research warmly welcomes the following new members:

Individual Members

Lt Commander P.R.C. Ashley, MA, RN

(rtd) – Clanfield, Hampshire

Mr B.B. Boyd – Godalming

Mr C.G. Clark, OBE, BA, FRSA – Paignton

Mr P. Clowes – Stockport

Mr J. Davy – Chiswick

Mr D. Ford – St Helier

Mr R. Greenaway – Selby

Mr D.F. Hart – Dorking

Mr G.J. Hughes – Midsomer Norton

Mr A.L. King – Beckenham

Mr A. Langstaff – Solihull

Mr R.J. Moore – Loughborough

Mr D. Morgan – London

Dr J. Moyle, MB, BS, MSc, Ceng, MinstMC, FRCA – Astwood

Mr D.H. Olivier – Brantford, Ontario

Mr A.J. Raffray – St Clement, Jersey

Miss L. Rowe – London

Mr J.R. Seagrave – Bristol

Mr P. Sowden – London

Mr J. Slater – Budleigh Salterton

Mr P.F. Skidmore – Lancaster

Mr M.N. Summers – Willetton, Western Australia

Mr J. Tracey – Pinner

Mr G.H. Traves, MBE – Bridlington

Mr P.E. Trew – Cobham

Commander S. Webber, MA, RNR – Wells

Mr D.M. Wells – London

Mr P. Whale – Kilwinning

Mr M.V. Williams – Bishopswood

DEATHS

Captain D.M. Chown, RCNR (life member)

– 34 Lakeshore Boulevard, Kingston, Ontario, K7M 4J6 (date unknown, but several years ago)

Commander E.B. Erskine RN – 16 Braid Farm Road, Edinburgh, EH10 6LF (15 April, 2006).

Mr U. Holmback – Svartmangatan 27, Stockholm, S-111 29, Sweden, (10 March 2006).

Mr E. Keough – 40 Spinney Walk, Barnham, West Sussex, PO22 0HT (April 2006).

Mr A.W.H. Pearsall, MA, ISO – 71 Parkside, Vanburgh Park, London SE3 7QF

Mr J.E. Roberts – Suite 3, 630 Huxley Street, Victoria, BC. (25 December 2005)

Mr G.V. Scammell, MA – 137 Huntington Road, Cambridge, CB3 0DQ (4 February 2006)

Dr F.W. Tebben – 522 Sixth Street SE, Washington, DC (19 November 2005)

Cdr. B.H. Wainwright OBE, RN, (rtd) – Cherryfold, 41 Hill Rise, Chalfont St Peter, Bucks (date unknown)

Eric Wright – Canberra (25 February 2006)