



NEWSLETTER
OF
THE SOCIETY
FOR NAUTICAL
RESEARCH

NO. 72 NOVEMBER 2008

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY AS AN ENCLOSURE TO THE MARINER'S MIRROR (ISSN 0025 3359).

THE SOCIETY FOR NAUTICAL RESEARCH IS A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
(REGISTERED NUMBER 2848095) AND A REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1026357.

WEBSITE: www.snr.org.uk

HON. NEWSLETTER EDITOR: SUZANNE DAVIS
NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM, PARK ROW, GREENWICH, SE10 9NF, UK
E-MAIL: suzannejdavis@yahoo.co.uk

DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY, 2009, ISSUE: DECEMBER 5, 2008

CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

November, 2008

Since becoming Chairman, I have been very much aware that nautical research rests upon two pillars. Firstly, it relies upon the very highest scholarship and writing by interested individuals. It is this output that will take forward our understanding of the nautical dimension of life. Secondly, it rests upon engaging with the widest possible public, as it is only through their interest that nautical research has any longterm future. This public comes to maritime history partly through books, articles, lectures and conferences, but also through museums, historic craft, archaeology and the media. By these means, new enthusiasts are drawn to engage in research and to support events. The Society for Nautical Research (SNR) has always played a part in stimulating public interest, as well as publishing the results of research. It was to try to make our activities more transparent that the SNR Council approved the establishment of a new Historical Craft and Heritage Committee in July. However, nothing links the Society to the wider public and the Royal Navy more than HMS Victory and it is not surprising that headlines about her future funding should have raised concern. The SNR's role in having her preserved and providing funds to support her is well known to members, if less well understood by the public at large. As with any large, expensive asset, it is inevitable that expenditure reviews will from time to time take place and the Society is fully engaged with the other interested parties to ensure that the best longterm funding options for the ship can be secured. Further information on this will be reported as events unfold, but we are reassured, as a starting point, by the MoD statement, (see below), that the ship will remain part of the Royal Navy.

The new Second Sea Lord, Vice Admiral Alan Massey, has taken up his post, as has the new commander of HMS Victory, Lt Cdr Douglas Whild, (see below). The SNR has written to congratulate them and I am sure that we will have as productive a working relationship as we did with their predecessors.

I would also like to take the opportunity of thanking our retiring Councillors Stephen Riley, David Clement, Alex Ritchie and Commander John Bingeman, for the work that they have contributed to the SNR over the last four years and of welcoming our new Councillors, Richard Bateman, Michael Grey, Sir Robin Knox-Johnston and Dr Robert Prescott. As ever, the Society relies on the enthusiasm and commitment of its council to further its ends and it is always a great pleasure to welcome old friends and new to Council meetings.

Our vice presidents are also extremely important in representing the Society and contributing their experience and in this role I am also extremely pleased to welcome our previous chairman, Alan Aberg and Commander Bingeman as new vice presidents.

RICHARD HARDING
CHAIRMAN

THE SOCIETY FOR NAUTICAL RESEARCH

The Society for Nautical Research promotes and publishes research on all matters relating to seafaring, ships and shipbuilding in all periods and in all nations; on the language and customs of the sea; in fact, on any topic of nautical interest.

The SNR:

- publishes the world's pre-eminent English-language nautical journal, [The Mariner's Mirror](#)
- sponsors [conferences, lectures and seminars](#) on maritime historical subjects
- buys [paintings](#) and other works of art for the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich
- funds [projects](#) such as the preservation of Nelson's flagship, HMS Victory

The Society was founded in 1910 and is currently preparing for its centenary in 2010.

HMS *Victory* and Royal Navy/MOD Review



The Society for Nautical Research has been asked to provide its views on the future options for the longterm maintenance of HMS *Victory*, originally the flagship of Admiral Lord Nelson and currently the flagship of the Second Sea Lord and Commander in Chief Naval Home Command.

The SNR provides both significant financial support and technical and historical advice to the ship. It was through the efforts of the newly-formed SNR in 1911 that the ship was saved for the nation.

The Ministry of Defence recently announced a review of the funding options for the ship and noted, ‘HMS *Victory* will remain part of the Royal Navy. We will not be giving her away or decommissioning the ship. It is currently run by the Navy, and retired Navy personnel show the public around the ship.

The consultation is designed to produce a relationship between the RN and any of the options below which secures the necessary funding and the longterm good health of the vessel, without the Royal Navy and the public losing control of the ship.

We are committed to securing her future and want to make sure that she is as well looked after as possible in her old age. That is why we are looking at a range of funding options for the continued support and ongoing maintenance of the ship.

Considerable expenditure will be required over the coming years to maintain her material state, and we will consider options that will secure these funds. These will include: maintaining the current status quo; alternative public ownership by another Government Department or Non Departmental Public Body; a new independent Charitable Organisation, either a company limited by guarantee or a charitable trust; or an existing Charitable Organisation.

In her 243rd year, HMS *Victory* is the oldest commissioned warship in the world and as such has numerous and complex maintenance requirements. The review will seek an arrangement which guarantees this future material support. Contributing to the development of Naval Heritage in Portsmouth, continuing access for the public and maintaining her status as flagship to the Second Sea Lord are all important conditions of all the options under review.’

Change of Command of Second Sea Lords on HMS *Victory*



Picture: Courtesy of the Ministry of Defence

The handover of Second Sea Lord to Admiral Alan Massey from Admiral Sir Adrian Johns took place in July on board HMS *Victory*, the flagship of the Second Sea Lord and Commander in Chief Naval Home Command.

Both admirals arrived by steam ship pinnace, and were greeted by a 26-man guard from HMS *Collingwood*, and the Royal Marines Band Portsmouth.

Admiral Sir Adrian Johns also retires from the Royal Navy after a long and distinguished career.

HMS *Victory* Receives Her 99th Commander

Lieutenant Commander Douglas 'Oscar' Whild has taken over as the 99th Commander of HMS *Victory*, on the departure, after two and a half years, of Lieutenant Commander John Scivier to join Flag Officer Sea Training in Devonport as Senior Air Traffic Controller.

Lieutenant Commander Whild only had to cross Portsmouth Dockyard from Semaphore Tower, where he was previously Portsmouth Naval Base's Ships Facilities Co-ordinator. He started his career in the Navy in 1981 as an ordinary seaman and was promptly christened 'Oscar' after the legendary playwright by his naval comrades. During his training, he found himself in the South Atlantic, taking part in the Falklands War to gain experience for his future role as a radar operator. After being



Picture: Courtesy of the Ministry of Defence

commissioned in 1994, Lieutenant Whild went on to become the First Lieutenant of HMS *Leeds Castle*, before moving to the Semaphore Tower.

The command handover took place in the Great Cabin of HMS *Victory*, the flagship of the Second Sea Lord and Commander in Chief Naval Home Command. The event was attended by the Second Sea Lord, Vice Admiral Alan Massey, and by HMS *Victory*'s ship's company and representatives from the Historical Dockyard.

SNR ANNUAL LECTURE 2008

The Annual Society for Nautical Research Lecture will be given on November 28 by Brian Lavery, winner of the Anderson Medal for 2008, at the Society of Antiquaries at 17.00. All SNR members are welcome.

NAUTICAL ARCHAEOLOGY TRAINING COURSES

The Nautical Archaeology Society offers site recorder training courses in locations round the world. The one-day Data Management course is designed for those involved in maritime archaeological management, fieldwork or data processing. The course offers an introduction to digital data management using Site Recorder 4, the information management and recording system designed for use in maritime, freshwater and intertidal archaeology. The workshop combines presentations with hands-on practical exercises and demonstrates use of the programme in project planning, excavation recording, survey recording, publication, reporting, and archiving, data migration, geophysical data post-processing, and resource evaluation and management.

For further information on the courses, contact the NAS Office, Portsmouth, UK. Email: mary@nauticalarchaeologysociety.org, or Jennifer McKinnon, Adelaide, Australia. Email: Jennifer.McKinnon@flinders.edu.au. www.nasportsmouth.org.uk/news/diary.php?type=course

For information on Site Recorder 4, contact Peter Holt, 3H Consulting Ltd. Email: pete@3HConsulting.com. www.3HConsulting.com

RESEARCH REQUESTS

Alan Villiers – A Life Remembered



Alan Villiers aboard the *Grace Harwar*, the last full-rigger in the Australian trade. Picture: Courtesy of the National Maritime Museum

Rachel Giles, Head of Publishing at the National Maritime Museum in the UK, is producing a biography of Alan Villiers, a past President of the Society for Nautical Research and a noted sailor, author and maritime historian.

Alan was born in Melbourne, Australia, in 1903, and first went to sea at the age of 15 as an apprentice on board the barque, *Rothesay Bay*, one of the few sailing vessels that still operated in the Tasman Sea between Australia and New Zealand. Following an accident at sea, he became a reporter on the *Hobart Mercury* in 1922, and subsequently the author and director of numerous books and films. During WWII, Alan was in command of several landing ships and was awarded the DSC. He married in 1940 and settled in Oxford, England, and was appointed a Trustee of the National Maritime Museum in 1948. He founded the Museum's collection of photographs with Dr Basil Greenhill, Director of the National Maritime Museum, and continued to travel, write and make documentaries for the BBC until his death in 1982.

Rachel Giles would be most grateful if anybody who knew Alan, either as a friend, colleague or in his role in the SNR, would contact her at the National Maritime Museum. Email: Rachel.Giles@nmm.ac.uk

Kenneth Denton Shoesmith – Passenger Steamship Artist

Glyn Evans, a member of the SNR, is producing a biography of Kenneth Denton Shoesmith, whose paintings were used as postcards for the major passenger steamship lines of the 1920/30's.

Kenneth Shoesmith was born in Halifax, Yorkshire, in 1890 and died in London in 1939. A largely self-taught artist, he served a cadetship on HMS *Conway* before becoming a Merchant Navy officer on vessels of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, rising to Chief Officer on SS *Atlantis*.

He then became a commercial artist, producing work for Royal Mail Lines, Cunard, Canadian Pacific and many of the pre-nationalised railway companies. His major commission was from Cunard for the painting of six murals on board RMS *Queen Mary* prior to her maiden voyage on May 27, 1936. The murals have survived in the vessel, which is now the floating museum at Long Beach, California.

In 1974, the contents of the artist's studio were bequeathed by the executors of his widow's will to the Ulster Museum, Belfast. In addition to around 200 watercolour paintings, there is a large collection of graphic material including posters, post cards, leaflets, menu cards, layouts, sketchbooks, preparatory drawings, photographs and a series of albums of his juvenile work.

Glyn Evans is now appealing for any other material or information on Kenneth Shoesmith which may be known to members and readers of the SNR Newsletter, who are asked to contact him at Wimbourne Cottage, Draycott, Moreton in Marsh, Gloucestershire, GL56 9LF, UK. Email: evans19191@btinternet.com

New SNR Members' Area now available on the website

Members of the Society for Nautical Research are reminded they can now visit the password-protected Members' Area on the SNR website at www.snr.org.uk, where they will find:

A Discussion Forum

- where you can post research queries and engage in debate with other members. This is proving very popular and gives access to the wide range of knowledge within the SNR.

Publications

- showing the latest newsletter, bibliography and the forthcoming list of members.

Events and News

- information such as booking details for the annual dinner on board HMS *Victory* and AGM papers.

The Mariner's Mirror Database

- a fully searchable list of the titles of all Articles and Notes from 1911. This is not available elsewhere and provides the capability of searching over 9,660 articles, written by more than 3,000 authors. It is an invaluable key to opening up the wealth of information held in past volumes of the journal. The website also includes the full text of one volume of *The Mariner's Mirror* from 1961.

Registration is simple, just visit the website at www.snr.org.uk, follow the link from the Home Page and then click on Register Now. You will then be asked for your email address and membership number (you will find this on the back of your SNR card). An automatic email will confirm your successful registration with details of your password.

If you have any difficulties in registering please contact webmaster@snr.org.uk

SNR (South) Programme

NOVEMBER 8

Chatham Dockyard after 1945

Ms Emma Haxhaj
and AGM

DECEMBER 13

Members' Research

Meetings take place in the Royal Naval Club, 17 Pembroke Road, Old Portsmouth, Hampshire, PO1 2NT, UK, at 14.00. Contact R E G Harris, Senior VP, Tel: +0044 2392 386032.

Membership at the National Maritime Museum

Membership of the National Maritime Museum, which is believed to be the largest and most comprehensive maritime collection and archive in the world, offers a range of benefits, including privileged free entry to all major special exhibitions, free entry to the Planetarium, invitations to exclusive private views of major NMM exhibitions, free tickets to a programme of supporter events and printed and online magazines, together with discounts in the NMM shop and cafes, free entry to a number of maritime museums in the UK and worldwide, associate membership of the Naval Club in London and a discount on boat trips on the Thames.

New members may join in person at the Museum; by phone by calling the Membership Office on tel: +0044 20 8312 6678; by post, using the form on the NMM website and sending it to the Membership Office, National Maritime Museum, Park Row, Greenwich, London, SE10 9NF, UK. Email membership@nmm.ac.uk www.nmm.ac.uk/support-us/nmm-membership/how-to-join

The Fenland Lighter Project

The Fenland Lighter Project has had a long and fruitful association with the Institut du Monde Anglophone, Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris University III. In that regard, it should be mentioned that Professor Serge Soupel is stepping down at the end of this year. Among the plaudits of his many friends and colleagues, it is only right that the Fenland Lighter Project should add its warmest thanks and all best wishes for a happy retirement.

Within the Fenland region itself, current financial stringency has led to Peterborough Central Library's postponement of the Lord Orford theatrical production mentioned in the August number of this *Newsletter* (p5). However, the Central Library's new Local Studies Centre is now in operation under the direction of Mr Richard Hillier and includes the Fenland Lighter Project's reorganised collection of manuscript, printed and photographic material.

More on the Fenland Lighter Project can be found at www.gla.ac.uk/~aj12x/dlp.html

H J K JENKINS

BOOKS BY MEMBERS

Starkey, D J, and Murphy, H, (eds), *Beyond Shipping and Shipbuilding. Britain's Ancillary Maritime Interests in the Twentieth Century*. Maritime Historical Studies Centre, University of Hull, 2007. pp220. £10.

Britain's shipping and shipbuilding industries have generated a substantial canon of literature. Amidst this body of work, scant consideration is afforded to the ancillary maritime interests – the independent and semi-independent manufacturers, agents, brokers and administrators who supplied goods and services essential to the operation and construction of vessels. This new book edited by David Starkey and Hugh Murphy assesses the development and performance of large-scale businesses, such as

ship repair and marine engineering, together with subsidiary activities including the administrative provisions designed to regulate the seafaring labour supply, and less tangible ancillaries such as the artistic legacies bequeathed to future generations by wealthy shipowners and shipbuilders.

Authors included in the study include A. Jarvis on 'British Provincial Engineering Institutions and the Maritime Industries, 1857-1939'; I Buxton, 'The British Ship Repair Industry, 1900-1953'; Lewis Johnman and Hugh Murphy, 'The Development of the British Ship Repair Industry, 1945-1985'; M. Bellam, 'Art and Industry: The Role of Shipbuilding and Shipping in Glasgow's Cultural Revolution'; Alston Kennerley, 'The Shore Management of British Seafarers in the Twentieth Century'; Chris Ware, 'In Search of Subsidy: Shipowners, Government and the British Tramp Shipping Crisis, 1930-1938'; J. Golding, 'Tax is Taxing: The Diversification and Demise of the Shipbroking Firm of Eggar, Forrester'; J. Buckley, 'International Shipping and the Baltic Exchange'.

Orders to the Maritime Historical Studies Centre, Blaydes House, 6 High Street, Hull, HU1 1HA, UK. Email: j.affleck@hull.ac.uk

MARITIME BOOK, PRINT AND EPHEMERA SELLERS

Following the introduction of this new item earlier this year at the request of SNR members, we have had a splendid response, both in the form of thank you's and with suggestions for our readers' favourite maritime book sources. We have now also been asked to include providers of maritime prints and ephemera, and maritime websites.

Please keep up the good work; we are very pleased to include details of suppliers both in the United Kingdom and around the world.

Details of maritime sources should be forwarded to the Editor, Suzanne Davis, at suzannedavis@yahoo.co.uk.

Online book sources

Abebooks.com

For members unsure about using online book services, our member, Alan Platt, writes from Dunfermline in Scotland:

Regarding antiquarian and secondhand books of all kinds, I can recommend www.abebooks.com. This is a Canadian-based service which unites booksellers throughout the world. It was recommended to me five years ago and I have used it regularly ever since without a hitch. Living without a major library at my finger tips, it has had a major impact on my work. It has been rare not to find what I've been looking for, usually at a price which I can afford and sometimes at less than the cost of postage. As a rule, books from within the UK arrive in two or three days. My furthest purchase has been from New Zealand, and there are, of course, vast resources in the USA. The search engine enables key-words to be used. It is cost-effective, as it amounts to a world-wide auction, 24/7, with the sellers making the bids. It would be interesting to know what experience other members may have had with it, and if there are other services like it.

Booksellers

John Lewcock (Maritime Bookseller)

6 Chewells Lane

Haddenham

Ely

Cambridgeshire

CB6 3SS

England

Tel: +0044 1353 741960

Email: lewcock@maritime-bookseller.com

McLaren Books

91 West Clyde Street
Helensburgh
Dunbartonshire
G84 8BB
Scotland
Tel:+0044 1436 676453
www.mclarenbooks.co.uk

Frank Smith Maritime Books

100 Heaton Road
Newcastle-upon-Tyne
NE6 5HL
England
Tel: 0191 224 2602
www.abebooks.com/home/FRANKSMITH

Print and Ephemera Suppliers Military, Aviation and Naval Book Fair

NOVEMBER 16
10.00 to 15.00
The Spa Hotel,
Mount Ephraim
Tunbridge Wells
Kent.
For further information, contact Tim Harper.
Email: wwarbooks@btinternet.com or
tel: +44 (0)1892 538465.
www.worldwarbooks.net

R G Watkins Books and Prints

7 Water Street
Barrington
Somerset
TA19 0JR
England
Tel: + 0044 01460 54188
Currently available are lithographs of Royal Navy
ships in the series, "Royal Navy in a Series of
Illustrations. . .", by W F Mitchell, published at
Portsmouth, Griffin & Co, 1872-1880.
Email: inquiries@rgwatkins.co.uk

MARITIME WEBSITES AND DVD'S

National Maritime Museum

The National Maritime Museum in London is now offering free downloads of a selection of recordings from its Gallery Favourites programme of talks, which take place daily around the museum. Gallery assistants tell stories relating to some of the curious or intriguing objects in the galleries, including John Harrison and the clocks he built to solve the longitude problem; Britain and the Suez Canal crisis; the undress coat Nelson wore at Trafalgar; and Britain and the opium trade in the 18th century.

www.nmm.ac.uk/visit/events/gallery-favourites-online



John Harrison's maritime clock, H4. Pic courtesy of the National Maritime Museum

HMS Victory Virtual Tour For Physically Less Able

People who find it difficult or impossible to tour HMS *Victory* due to physical disabilities can now enjoy a virtual tour via DVD. Visitors to the ship at Portsmouth Historic Dockyard who are physically less able can take the 35-minute tour without going beyond the ship's more easily-accessible lower gun deck, where the DVD will be shown and where a tour is available on the gun deck and crew's quarters.

The DVD includes moving images from all the places on the tour taken by more physically-able visitors and incorporates subtitles for the hard of hearing, together with a signed version. For visitors with a visual impairment, HMS *Victory* can offer a braille script to complement the guided tour, or as a deck plan during free-flow touring. Unlike most museums, HMS *Victory's* artefacts are freely available for handling by those with visual impairment.

www.hms-victory.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=84&Itemid=117

Nautical Archaeology Society

The Nautical Archaeology Society has announced they are now on Facebook. To see their page, go to

www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=5864527737&ref=ts

Naval Wargames Society

The Naval Wargames Society and its members are interested in all forms and scales of maritime wargaming and related maritime history. They offer multiplayer naval wargames round the UK, together with an online forum and quarterly journal, *Battlefleet*.

www.navalwargamessociety.org

Local Maritime Archives online

The Exeter Local Maritime Archives Project (ELMAP) provides a searchable online database of maritime and naval records held in archives across England and Wales. Based in the Centre for Maritime Historical Studies (CMHS) at the University of Exeter, the database is fully searchable and provides full details of each item and its archive location. Initially created by Leverhulme Research Fellow, Dr Todd Gray, the database is maintained by Dr Helen Doe and the postgraduate members of the CMHS.

www.centres.ex.ac.uk/cmhs/ELMAP/index.php

CONFERENCES, MEETINGS AND EXHIBITIONS

Nautical Archaeology Society 2008 Annual Conference

NOVEMBER 7 TO 9

Encouraging Access

Featuring presentations from a range of professional and amateur archaeologists, the Nautical Archaeology Society 2008 Annual Conference will take place from November 7 to 9 in Action Stations, Portsmouth Historic Dockyard. The theme of the conference is the development of ways of encouraging access to our shared heritage, and will incorporate the NAS AGM, together with the the Annual Adopt-A-Wreck Award and an excursion recording anchors (as part of The Big Anchor Project).

For further details, contact the Nautical Archaeology Society.

Email: nas@nauticalarchaeologysociety.org

or tel: + 0044 23 9281 8419.

www.nauticalarchaeologysociety.org

**National Maritime Museum,
Greenwich, London**

NOVEMBER 14

**Turmoil and Tranquillity Conference
NMM Lecture Theatre**

The international one-day conference will complement the National Maritime Museum's exhibition *Turmoil and Tranquillity: The Sea through the Eyes of Dutch and Flemish Masters, 1550-1700*, in the Queen's House next to the Museum. The Museum holds one of Europe's finest collections of Dutch and Flemish marine art from the sixteenth to the end of the seventeenth century. The conference aims to build on the themes raised by the exhibition, and on the expertise of academic and museum based scholars in the field.



Speakers will include: Caroline Hampton, Head of Paintings Conservation and Roger Quarm, Curator of Paintings, NMM, *Abraham Storck's Ships on the River Y: the conservation of a 17th century overdoor with a special provenance*; Dr Richard Johns, Curator of Prints and Drawing, NMM, *Strangers to the City: Netherlandish artists in Seventeenth-Century London*; Dr Friso Lammertse, Curator of Old Master paintings, Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen,

Rotterdam, Paper title tbc; Dr Andrew Moore, Keeper of Art & Senior Curator, Norfolk Museums & Archaeology Service, *Inhabiting the North Sea: British, Dutch & Flemish Marine Painting*; Gary Schwartz, founding director of CODART, Description and/or Display: *is there really anything typically Dutch or Flemish in Seascape Painting*; Dr Martina Sitt, Head of Department of Paintings, Hamburger Kunsthalle, Hamburg, Paper title tbc; Dr Joaneath Spicer, The James A. Murnaghan Curator of Renaissance and Baroque Art, The Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, USA, *Evoking the Foreignness of Foreign Shores, Willaerts and De Bry*.

The conference takes place from 9.30 to 17.00 and tickets are £40 full, £20 for students and NMM Members.

For further details and bookings, please contact Janet Norton, Research Administrator, National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London, SE10 9NF, UK.

Tel: +44 0208 312 6716.

Email: research@nmm.ac.uk

TO JANUARY 11, 2009

**Turmoil and Tranquillity - The Sea
through the Eyes of Dutch and Flemish
Masters, 1550-1700**

The Queen's House, Greenwich

Exhibition covering one of Europe's finest collections of Dutch and Flemish marine art from the sixteenth to the end of the seventeenth century.

**NMM Adult Learning and Family
Activities**

Royal Observatory Day: Ruth Belville

JANUARY 31, 2009

The NMM is holding a day of events for blind and partially-sighted people to celebrate the beginning of the International Year of Astronomy.

Visitors will meet Ruth Belville, the woman who brought time to everyone, and hear about the first public clock in the world to show Greenwich Mean Time at the Royal Observatory.

The event will take place at 13.00 and 15.00 and is free of charge.

Evenings with the Stars

DECEMBER, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

The NMM offers a regular programme of talks designed to provide useful background to the museum's exhibitions for both adults and children.

During the coming winter, the museum is offering a series of 'Evenings with the Stars', during which visitors of all ages are invited to star-gaze at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, with exclusive access to the galleries and planetarium shows.

The events will take place in the evenings on December 2, 6, 9 and 6, January 6, 13, 20, 27 and 31, and February 3, 7 and 24. The stars to be studied include Uranus and Albireo, the Orion Nebula and Almach, and Venus and the Moon. Tickets are £15 for adults and £11 for children.

For further details, tel: +44 (0)208 312 8560

or email: bookings@nmm.ac.uk

www.nmm.ac.uk

English Heritage

BT Convention Centre, Kings

Waterfront, Liverpool

NOVEMBER 19 TO 21

On The Waterfront – Culture, Heritage and Regeneration of Port Cities

The conference will outline the role heritage plays in port development, the importance of cultural tourism and how waterfront projects in port cities such as Mumbai and Gdansk have utilized previously-redundant areas to fashion vibrant and diverse places which allow creativity to flourish alongside economic resurgence.

Speakers will include Dr Simon Thurley, Chief Executive, English Heritage, on *Heritage in Regeneration: Inspiration or Irrelevance?*; John Hinchliffe, World Heritage Officer, Liverpool City Council, *How lessons learnt in Liverpool's World Heritage site can be applied to historic port cities around the world*; Professor Lucyna Nyk, University of Technology, Poland, *New waterfront developments of Gdansk*; Dr Alfred Zack-Williams, President, African Studies Association UK, *The legacy of empire and impact on race relations - from gateway to empire to city in torment*; John McCarthy, Reader in Urban Studies, Heriot-Watt University, *Is all tourism beneficial?*; Dr Ray Bondin, Former assistant to ICOMOS, *Conservation of the port of Valetta in Malta*; Abha Bahl and Brinda Gaitonde, architects, *Bombay Heritage Walks and its contribution to the vibrant visitor economy of Mumbai, India*.

Conference fees, £125 to £250

(limited subsidised places available).

For further details, contact Kate Orchard.

Email: onthewaterfront@sam-culture.com

or tel: +0044 1273 882112.

www.english-heritage.org.uk/onthewaterfront

4th Symposium on Shipbuilding and Shipping on the Thames

FEBRUARY 28, 2009

Museum in Docklands, West India Quay, London.

The 4th Symposium on *Shipbuilding and Shipping on the Thames*, will take place on February 28, 2009, in the Lecture Theatre of the Museum in Docklands on the West India Quay in London.

The symposium, which will be co-chaired by Professors Andrew Lambert, King's College, London, and Professor Sarah Palmer, Greenwich Maritime Institute, London, and will consist of ten papers on maritime aspects of the Thames, both naval and mercantile.

The organizers would appreciate receiving advance bookings (without the booking fee), as places are limited. The fee of £20 includes tea and coffee but not lunch. Organisers are Edward Sargent, Chris Ellmers, Roger Owen and Rif Winfield and further information can be obtained from Rif Winfield, Tanparcau, Llanrhystud, Ceredigion, SY23 5AL, Wales.

Email: sailing.navy@btinternet.com.

**Canadian Nautical Research Society
Victoria, British Columbia, Canada**

AUGUST 12 TO 15, 2009

Pacific Navigation

Call for Papers

The Canadian Nautical Research Society will host its annual conference for 2009 on the theme of *Pacific Navigation* in Victoria, British Columbia, from August 12 to 15.

Topics may include exploration, trade, war, ships, individuals, indigenous peoples, shipwrecks, marine disasters and any other topic related to maritime activity in the Pacific. Papers on such topics in other geographic areas will be considered on their merits. Proposals should be directed to Dr Michael Hadley, 802-630 Montreal Street, Victoria, BC, Canada. Email: mlhadley@telus.net or tel: +001 250 598 4886 or Robin Inglis, 4165 Doncaster Way, Vancouver, BC, Canada. Email: robininglis@hotmail.com or tel: +001 604 816 4852.

A bursary will be available for students presenting a paper in English or French.

Administrative enquiries should be directed to Jan Drent, 1720 Rockland Avenue, Victoria, BC, Canada. Email: jdrent@pacificcoast.net or tel: +001 250 598 1661.

North American Society for Oceanic History, Steamship Historical Society of America and National Maritime Historical Society Ports, Forts and Sports: Maritime Economy, Defense and Recreation through Time and across Space

May 14 to 17, 2009

**California Maritime Academy,
Vallejo, California
Call for Papers**

Proposals are invited for papers and sessions exploring all fields of study related to saltwater or navigable freshwater environments. Suggested areas of research include, but are not restricted to, archaeology and anthropology, arts and sciences, history and museum exhibitions. Proposals that identify the unique characteristics and influence of maritime economy, defense and recreation in the Pacific and other ocean regions are especially encouraged.

The Program Committee welcomes the submission of both individual papers and full sessions, preferring panels with three papers and a chair. Proposals should include a brief abstract of 500 words for each paper, plus a one-page abstract for proposed panels, and a brief biography of 200 words for each participant, including the chairs. Graduate students are strongly encouraged to submit proposals for presentations and scholars interested in chairing sessions are welcome to send a brief biography to the Program Committee Co-chairs, Bill Thiesen, email: thiesen@earthlink.net, Victor Mastone, victor.mastone@state.ma.us or James Allan, jallan@stmarys-ca.edu.

The deadline for submissions is December 1, 2008. For further information, visit NASOH's web site at www.nasoh.org and click on the "Annual Conference" button.

The Historical Diving Society Conference 2008

The annual conference of the Historical Diving Society took place in the Merseyside Maritime Museum, Albert Quay, Liverpool on October 25. Speakers included Christopher Swann on *The Development of Commercial Helium Diving*; Dr Pavel Borovikov, *The History of Diving in Russia*; Sven Erik Jørgensen, *Danish Diving: From Bells to Hansen*; and Don Hale, Crabb. *Was he the real James Bond?*

For further details of the papers, please contact The Historical Diving Society, 25 Gatton Road, Reigate, Surrey, RH2 0HB, UK. Tel: +0044 1737 249961. Email: enquiries@thehds.com

Royal Naval Museum, Portsmouth Exhibitions

Currently showing in the Royal Naval Museum is 'Sea Your History – The Twentieth Century Royal Navy'. The exhibition has the unusual objective of showcasing a website. It provides an overview of the key themes developed in the *Sea Your History – The Twentieth Century Royal Navy* website and draws the visitor's attention to the website itself.

The aim of the website is to give access to many more items relating to the twentieth century history of the Navy from the collections than can be achieved solely through exhibitions. Images and interpretation for some 15,000 items, including photographs, documents, medals and insignia, ships, aircraft, submarines, tools and equipment, and the private mementoes and souvenirs of service people, together with recordings of some fifty individual personal stories, are now available online.

The four online exhibitions cover The Navy's People, Portsmouth Dockyard, Conflict and Change, and the Royal Navy Home and Abroad.

Visitors to the exhibition have the opportunity to explore the website on dedicated computer

workstations and to see alongside them a selection of the real artifacts chosen for online presentation.

www.seayourhistory.org.uk

UNIVERSITY COURSES, GRANTS AND RESOURCES

MA Maritime History, Greenwich Maritime Institute, University of Greenwich

Located in the historic setting of the Old Royal Naval College, the Greenwich Maritime Institute offers a unique environment for the study of maritime history. Taught courses focus on the Merchant Navy and the Royal Navy in the late 18th Century; 20th Century International Maritime History; Sources, Methods and Archives for Maritime Historians; 20th Century International Naval History and Case Studies in Maritime History. Teaching is in small groups led by leading experts in the field. The staff currently include Professor Sarah Palmer, Professor Roger Knight, Dr Roger Morriss, Chris Ware, Patricia Crimmin, and Dr David Hilling.

The programme is available full-time (1 year) or part-time (2 years) and further information can be obtained from the Greenwich Maritime Institute, University of Greenwich, Old Royal Naval College, Park Row, Greenwich, London, SE10 9LS, UK. Email: gmi@gre.ac.uk or tel: +44 0208 331 7688.

www.gre.ac.uk/gmi

PhD in Maritime History, University of Hull

For further information about the PhD programme and maritime history in general, contact Dr Richard Gorski, Department of History, University of Hull, Hull, HU6 7RX, UK.

SNR SUBSIDIARY PUBLICATIONS ON THE WEBSITE

The SNR is looking at new ways of communicating with its members and making the website more interactive.

The SNR Newsletter now appears on the Society website, www.snr.org.uk, 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*.

Other members who would like to adopt this arrangement are asked to 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.

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

or tel. +44 01482 465183.

www.history.hull.ac.uk

MA and PhD at the Centre for Maritime Historical Studies, University of Exeter

The Centre was the first of its kind in a British university. It can call on a wide range of expertise in maritime historical studies within the university and seeks to promote research into economic, social, political, naval and environmental aspects of the British maritime past from the earliest times to the present day.

The MA in Maritime History includes modules on technology, trade, ports, exploration, mariners and fishing. The medieval and early modern module explores European maritime expansion and the creation of commercial empires.

The MA in Naval History has modules on British naval power in the era of sail, 1650 to 1815, and in the era of steam and motor, 1816 to 1945. It examines the contribution of sea power as an instrument of defence and conquest, and the Navy as a part of society.

In each MA, students research and write a dissertation on their chosen topic. These courses can be taken part time over 2 years or fulltime in 1 year.

For more information on MA, MPhil or PhD programmes, contact Dr Maria Fusaro, University of Exeter, Amory Building, Rennes Drive, Exeter, EX4 4RJ. Email: m.fusaro@exeter.ac.uk
www.centres.ex.ac.uk/cmhs/

Canadian Nautical Research Society

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 inquiries about eligibility and application procedure should be directed to Professor Serge Durflinger, CNRS Awards Committee Chairman, History Department, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 6N5, Canada.

Email: sdurflin@uottawa.ca

or tel: +1 613 562 5800, ext.1277.

www2.cnrs.fr/en/39.htm

Maritime Information Association

The Maritime Information Association (MIA) is designed 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 by occasional visits and social events. Above all, the MIA offers a friendly way for busy people to keep in touch with each other. Details of membership from the Membership Secretary, MIA, 3 Harold Road, Southampton, SO15 3HN, UK.

<http://www.maritime-information.net/>

NEW AND REJOINING MEMBERS

- Dr Y Akiyama** – Chiba-Ken, Japan
Dr P Brown – Guilsborough, Northampton
Mr M P Carrier – Eccles, Lancashire
Mr T Chamberlain – West Looe, Cornwall
Mr T Fishlock – Cardiff, Wales
Mr R P Gadd – Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset
Dr W Glover – Kingston, Canada
Mrs V Hamilton – Braintree, Essex
Mr T Inoue – Yokohama, Japan
Mr S Kesley – Haddington, Scotland
Mr D Lawton – Maldon, Essex
Mr P M Lees-Hilton – Casares, Spain
Mr A R Leithead – London
Lt Cdr J Lewcock – RN(Rtd), Haddenham, Cambridgeshire
Dr P Marsden – Hastings, East Sussex
Mr J M Oppermann – Tampa, Florida, USA
Mr H S Rising – Crediton, Devon
Mr M Robson – Exeter, Devon
Mr P Rushton – Uckfield, East Sussex
Mrs J P Stevenson – Down St Mary, Devon
Mrs M Traves – Bridlington, East Yorkshire

DEATHS

- Mr D K Brown** – Bath, Avon
Mr E W B Roustoby – Hull, North Humberside