

Australian Institute for Maritime Archaeology

NEWSLETTER

Volume 17, Number 2, June 1998

ISSN 0814-1479

Australian Institute for Maritime Archaeology
(Inc)

Editors: Kieran Hosty & Lindsey Shaw
Australian National Maritime Museum
GPO Box 5131
SYDNEY NSW 1042
PH: 02 9552 7777 FAX: 02 9552 2318

Registered by Australia Post, Publication No.
WBH 1635

AIMA Executive Council for 1997-1998

President: David Nutley
Sen Vice President: Bill Jeffery
Vice President: Myra Stanbury
Vice President: Terry Arnott
c/- Heritage Office
Locked Bag 5020
Parramatta NSW 2124
PH: (02) 9849 9574 FAX: (02) 9891 4688

Secretary: Tim Smith
c/- Heritage Office
Locked Bag 5020
Parramatta NSW 2124
PH: (02) 9849 9575 FAX: (02) 9891 4688

Treasurer: Cosmos Coroneos
c/- Heritage Office
Locked Bag 5020
Parramatta NSW 2124
PH: FAX: (02) 9891 4688

Honorary Auditor: Tom van Leeuwen
7 Delamere Avenue
SOUTH PERTH WA 6151
PH: 09 277 1611

Contributors please note the deadline for contributions for the next issue of the Newsletter (17.3) is **21 September 1998**.

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE FOR MARITIME ARCHAEOLOGY INC

18th Annual AIMA Conference 1998
'First Contacts - Maritime Encounters and Arrivals'

Call for Papers

This year the theme for the AIMA conference is the concept of 'first contact'. The organisers seek the widest possible interpretation from participants. One interpretation of 'first contact' could be the initial encounters between Indigenous people and Macassan traders in the north of Australia 300 years ago, or Europeans in the south, a hundred years later.

Another interpretation could be the idea of 'first contact' as seen during World War II with Japanese attacks on Pearl Harbour, Darwin and Broome. Other notions could be the 'first contact' experienced by boat people or immigrants on foreign shores, or the 'images of contact' as seen through rock art, photography and artistic impression.

Due to the location of Darwin in the far north of Australia, the regional focus of this year's conference will tend towards the maritime archaeology, history and culture of Australia's northern coast and our nearest neighbours in south-east Asia. Yet the theme of contact, has relevance to work conducted elsewhere in Australia and the Pacific.

The theme 'first contact' is designed to explore the relationships and the changes that occurred due to maritime contact between cultures. The conference is open to archaeologists, historians anthropologists and others interested in maritime studies.

This is an invitation to present a paper on one of the conference themes which include:

- * IMAGES OF CONTACT: ROCK ART, PHOTOGRAPHY, DRAWINGS & PAINTINGS
- * INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES: SHIPWRECK, TRADE, SLAVERY AND WAR
- * WORLD WAR II: A PLETHORA OF SITES IN THE INDO-PACIFIC - ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES: CONTACT WITH A NEW WORLD
- * SITE VISITORS: CONTACT WITH MANAGEMENT
- * MARITIME INDUSTRIES: FISHERS, PEARLERS, WHALERS AND SEALERS

If you wish to present an innovative or original paper on one of the above themes, please mail or fax details to:

TIM SMITH, A/Associate Dean
School of Fine Arts
Northern Territory University
Phone: (61-8) 89466324 Fax (61-8) 89467266
E-mail: tim.smith@ntu.edu.au

PAUL CLARK, Curator
Maritime Archaeology & History
Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory
Phone: (61-8) 89998283 Fax (61-8) 89998289
E-mail: paul.clark@nt.gov.au

or

SILVANO JUNG
School of South East Asian & Australian Studies Faculty of Arts
Northern Territory University
Darwin NT 0909
Phone: (61-8) 89466774 Fax (61-8) 89466977
E-mail: sjung@banda.ntu.edu.au



NEWS NEWS NEWS



Australian National Maritime Museum:

Maritime Archaeological Survey off the Port of Levuka, Ovalau, Fiji: After many false starts Paul Hundley and Kieran Hosty are off to Fiji in late July 1998 to commence an underwater survey of the Port of Levuka on the island of Ovalau, Fiji.

Favoured by a natural harbour Levuka, at the base of a steep bluff on the south-east coast of

Ovalau, came to the notice of European traders and beachcombers in the early 1820s (the earliest reported vessel wrecked in Fiji was the *Argo* in 1800) .

A number of Europeans including some from Port Jackson and the west coast of North America had taken up permanent residence on the island by the late 1820s, constructing houses, building small vessels, establishing gardens and plantations. They traded with the Fijian people and passing European vessels including whalers, sandalwood carriers, 'blackbirders' and general cargo vessels.

Following an attempt to establish a local Fijian government in 1871, local discontent resulted in a series of riots which led to the burning down of the American Commercial Agents home. A resulting dispute over compensations for the riots led to the self-proclaimed King of Fiji, Cakobau, ceding the islands of Fiji to the British in 1874.

Levuka became the principal European town on the islands and the first capital of Fiji, a position it held until 1881 when due to overcrowding the capital was moved to Suva on the much larger island of Viti Levu. The port however continued to function (it still is the third largest port in Fiji) with Burns Philp and Australian Steam Navigation making the island a regular port of call.

In June 1996 the Australian National Maritime Museum was contacted by Ms Christine Burke, archaeologist at the Fiji Museum in Suva regarding the discovery of a number of submerged archaeological sites off the island of Ovalau.

Further discussions between Kieran Hosty, Ms Burke, Mr John Bennett (Heritage Adviser, Levuka Town Council) and the finders of the shipwrecks indicated that four of the sites probably dated to the islands early colonial period (1820s-1840s).

In May 1997 following discussions with the International Cultural Relations Branch of the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, ANMM received funding to send two maritime archaeologists to Fiji (and Tonga as reported in AIMA Newsletter 16.2).

Paul and Kieran, along with independent photographer Mike Meyer will spend 10 days on the island working alongside the Fiji Museum's archaeologist, Mrs Tarisi Vunidilo, and their conservator Ms Francis Fitzpatrick.

With the main aim of surveying the shipwreck sites, and in consultation with the Fiji Museum, local council, port authority and local land owners, we will also identify the shipwrecks' historical and archaeological significance and prepare a management and conservation plan for the sites.

Kieran Hosty
Australian National Maritime Museum

New South Wales

Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS): New South Wales' first NAS Course will be held over the weekend of the 25 and 26 July 1998 at the Australian National Maritime Museum.

Course lecturers include Cosmos Coroneos, AIMA National Training Officer; David Nutley and Tim Smith from the NSW Heritage Office and John Riley, well-known national and international wreck diver.

For further information on this and other NAS courses please contact either Cosmos Coroneos on Ph (02) 9344 3120,
e-mail: cosmosc@ozemail.com.au
or Mark Staniforth (NAS Senior Tutor) on
Ph: (08) 8201 5195
Fax: (08) 8201 3845
e-mail: Mark.Staniforth@flinders.edu.au

1999 AIMA Conference: Planning is currently underway for the 1999 AIMA Conference which will be held at the Australian National Maritime Museum in September 1999. The Conference, to be hosted by the Heritage Office (NSW) and the Australian National Maritime Museum, has the proposed theme of *Maritime connections across the Pacific Rim; gold rushes by the boat load; the maritime archaeology of international events.*

Further information on the Conference will be circulated as it becomes available.

Queensland

Queensland Museum

Pandora 1998: The most ambitious *Pandora* expedition to date was completed in February/March 1998. At times during the two month expedition there were 47 people at the wrecksite.

With funding provided by The *Pandora* Foundation and major sponsor North Queensland Electricity Board (NORQEB), diving was carried out from the *Pacific Conquest* while the second vessel, the *Undersea Explorer* was used to house 16 additional team members. Employed as the work vessel on the last five *Pandora* Expeditions, the *Pacific Conquest*'s deck was reconfigured prior to the expedition to enable two surface supply (SSBA) teams to dive simultaneously. A quantum leap in some respects, which took a little getting used to, but it worked well and certainly produced the desired results.

The weather was a little unco-operative for part of the expedition with ten days of persistent south westerlies (the 'trade') which is a weather pattern more common for August to November and one the Queensland Museum tries to avoid by coming during the monsoon season! But on the whole there were no major disruptions. Any problems or hiccups were efficiently dealt with by all concerned. My sincerest thanks to all involved.

Peter Gesner (from *Pandora's Post Box*, May 1998)

Expedition Leaders WWW Chronicle:

During the NORQEB *Pandora* Expedition this year it was possible to share the experiences of the team as they unfolded, without leaving home. For the first time in the history of the Queensland Museum a field expedition was "on-line".

During the fieldtrip, Expedition Leader Peter Gesner wrote a daily log that was updated on-line with recent photographs from the field. This gave the world insights into the *Pandora* Expedition as it happened. When the team members excavated a cannon we were there to share the excitement; when they had trouble with a curious octopus on the wrecksite we laughed with them.

We also met other team members through their occasional updates. We experienced the expedition through the eyes of a commercial diver, a conservator, a photographer and a curator from another museum amongst others.

Next year the Queensland Museum hopes to have a 64kbps 'Sat Com B' system. This more powerful satellite system will allow us to directly transfer images to accompany reports from the site.

Karren Tol, Queensland Museum's marketing manager (from Pandora's *Post Box*, May 1998)

Bow...wow: Previous expeditions to the *Pandora* wrecksite have concentrated more or less entirely on the stern of the wreck. This is where the Captain and officers lived and worked. In contrast the bow was where the ordinary seamen slung their hammocks and the ship's galley was located.

The bow excavation concentrated on the area immediately aft of where the galley's Brodie stove now rests proud of the seabed. An overburden of sand was dredged away to expose copper sheathing. This originally covered the lower hull. Outside the line of sheathing lay the massive best bower anchor. Inside the sheathing the dredging exposed intact timbers including frames, knees and planking.

Many of the artifacts recovered from the bow area relate to activity in the galley. These include cooking pots, spirit bottles, and a spoon; also an unusual ceramic jar with a design suggestive of purchase at Tenerife or Rio de Janeiro on the *Pandora*'s passage out to the South Pacific. A Brazilian coin found in close proximity reinforces this suggestion.

The bow also revealed Polynesian artefacts and other local curios collected by the crew including stone adzes, fish lures, carved wooden clubs, coconuts and shell collections. It appears from these finds that, like the *Pandora*'s officers, the ordinary seamen were also engaged in souveniring enterprises. Excavations on the bow will continue during the 1999 and 2000 seasons.

Warren Delaney, Bow Team Supervisor, (from Pandora's *Post Box*, May 1998)

James Cook University

Field Techniques Course: The University is offering an inaugural course in Maritime Archaeology Field Techniques on Magnetic Island from July 6 - 18. The course incorporates AIMA/NAS Part One training delivered by Mark Staniforth, with more technical training at an undergraduate level provided by JCU lecturers Dr Peter Veth and Nigel Erskine. The course caters for 20 students in residence and includes training in side scan sonar, magnetometer, ROVs, survey and recording techniques.

Pitcairn Project: Plans to send a team of archaeologists to Pitcairn Island to survey both the underwater remains of *Bounty* and the site of the mutineer's village at Adamstown received a boost recently with National Geographic Magazine negotiating to cover costs. The work will take Nigel Erskine and Dr Martin Gibbs to the island for five months, while a larger team, including divers and a conservator will arrive in November and stay on the island for five weeks.

The work forms the basis of a PhD thesis by Nigel Erskine which seeks to trace the movement of the mutineers from their familiar surroundings aboard *Bounty* onto the largely Polynesian cultural landscape of Pitcairn Island. The team will survey Bounty Bay and the wreck remains, while simultaneously looking at the original distribution of land and the resources available to the settlers.

For further information please contact
Nigel Erskine
James Cook University
Tel: (07) 4781 4281
Fax: (027) 4781 4045
Nigel.Erskine@jcu.edu.au

Wreck Management and the Great Barrier Reef: Research is ongoing for postgraduate student Diana Cooper, whose thesis project focuses on cultural resource management and community based involvement for submerged sites on the Great Barrier Reef. Recent public interest in the work has sparked a number of newspaper and radio interviews, the latest being ABC's *Radio National*. Diana has also been contacted privately by several interested members of the public who have asked questions and made suggestions regarding the research. She is pleased with the public's response so far to the project, and hopes it is an indicator of the interest and possible involvement of the public in helping existing management agencies identify, protect and preserve maritime heritage in Queensland.

For further information please contact

Diana Cooper
School of Anthropology and Archaeology
James Cook University
Townsville, Queensland, 4811
Tel: (07) 4781 5153
Fax: (07) 4781 4045
Diana.Cooper@jcu.edu.au

South Australia

Flinders University

Whaling Project: The Archaeology of Whaling in Southern Australia and New Zealand (AWSANZ) project has established a website at <http://adminwww.flinders.edu.au/AWSANZ/AWSANZHome.html>

Support for the AWSANZ project has been obtained from an Australian National Centre of Excellence in Maritime Archaeology grant of \$15,000. Together with University funding and a grant from the Ian Potter Foundation, this is being used for the development and maintenance of both the AWSANZ Website and a GIS database of whaling stations and whaling shipwreck sites in South Australia. The conference proceedings from the 1997 AWSANZ Conference at La Trobe University have been edited by Mark Staniforth and Dr Susan Lawrence and are expected to be published shortly as a joint AIMA/ASHA Special publication.

Mark Staniforth., along with Terry Arnott and Flinders University students Cherrie de Lieuen and Nathan Richards, conducted site survey work at the reported "whaling station" site on Flinders Island of Eyre Peninsula during June.

Course Developments: In second semester 1998 Flinders University will be running the semester long third year topic titled *Maritime Archaeology* (ARCH 3005). Approximately 25 students have enrolled and guest lectures by Kieran Hosty are scheduled during the course. Maritime Archaeology has now been firmly established at Flinders and integrated into the BA (major in Archaeology), BSC (major in Archaeology) and Bachelor of Archaeology degrees. All Archaeology students attend lectures on underwater archaeology and maritime archaeology-related topics at First Year level. They must complete a half topic in Australian Maritime Archaeology at Second Year level (Australian Archaeology B) and they have the option of enrolling in the third year Topic *Maritime Archaeology* (ARCH 3005)

NAS: Mark, together with Bill Jeffery and Terry Arnott of the South Australian State Heritage Branch, ran an AIMA/NAS Part One Training Course (with 13 participants in November 1997). An article appeared in *Dive Log Australia* (January 1998, p40) courtesy of

one of the course participants, Alex Suslin. South Australia also ran a Part Two Training Course with eight participants in May and June 1998. The AIMA/NAS Part One Training Course is scheduled for the weekend of 1/2 August 1998.

For further information on the AIMA/NAS training program anywhere in Australia please contact either
Cos Coroneos -
AIMA National Training Officer,
Ph: (02) 9344 3120
e-mail: cosmosc@ozemail.com.au

or Mark Staniforth -
AIMA/NAS Senior Tutor
Ph: (08) 8201 5195
Fax: (02) 8201 3845
e-mail: Mark.Staniforth@flinders.edu.au

Mark Staniforth
Archaeology
Flinders University

Victoria

Maritime Heritage Victoria

Budget Cutbacks: The government announced a few weeks ago, as part of its current budget strategy, that 500 jobs were to be lost from the public service. Coincidentally, Victoria is to lose its public service as well in the next few weeks as a result of legislation currently before the parliament. Anyway, my job was one of those identified and I feared I was about to join the ranks of the unemployed. Thanks to the considerable efforts of Maggie Baron, former Heritage Victoria Operations Manager and now Director of the Office of the Secretary, this potential personal catastrophe did not eventuate. Instead I obtained a position as FOI Officer located within her branch and have a challenging new area to wrap myself in.

Regardless of the relief that my PS career is not yet over, I am still very sorry to be leaving my role in the heritage area and will greatly miss the direct involvement and the many wonderful people working there. Thank you all for the help and support you have given to me and especially for the friendship and good times as well.

This is not my "swansong", however, as I plan to continue to have an involvement in things

maritime from the other side - as a volunteer and hopefully as a member of MAAV. So don't wipe me off your mailing lists just yet!

Territorial Boundaries: I recently sent Bill Jeffery some information on territorial boundaries and have been editing the notes to be incorporated in our NAS course. This made me realise that considerable confusion still exists in the minds of many as to just what is Commonwealth and what is State jurisdiction. It occurred to me that perhaps the root of this lies in the different definitions of 'State waters' applied in Commonwealth terminology and that which is adopted in (at least some of) the State Acts.

The Commonwealth defines 'State waters' as waters of the sea that are within the limits of a State. This fits with the High Court's determination that the territorial boundary of a State ends at the low water mark (of the external coastline).

States, of course, having won (a rare occurrence) their battle with the Commonwealth over rights to royalties for offshore gas and minerals and the statutory acceptance that States may legislate for certain purposes with respect to the waters adjacent to their coast (extraterritoriality), have defined State waters to include State coastal waters (ie the 3 mile limit). In so far as historic shipwrecks legislation is concerned, as you are aware, the States have agreed not to legislate (or not to proclaim existing legislation insofar as it applies) in that area described as State coastal waters.

Ken Gurney

Address Change: The new address is
Maritime Heritage Victoria
Nauru House
Level 22, 80 Collins Street
Melbourne, Victoria 3000

Ph (03) 9655 9752
Fax: (03) 9655 9720

E-mail change: Please note the following e-mail address changes for the troops from Heritage Victoria re change from "@dpd.vic.gov.au" to "@doi.vic.gov.au"

Peter.Harvey@doi.vic.gov.au
Ken.Gurney@doi.vic.gov.au
Ross.Anderson@doi.vic.gov.au



Downie's Australian Coin Auctions had 19 lots of British Sovereigns from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* at their Melbourne March auction. The *Douro* sank in the Bay of Biscay in 1882. Of the 19 lots, three were passed in. Average price for the remaining lots was \$135. All sold below their estimates.

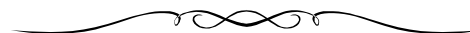
AROUND THE WORLD



Titanic: Fancy a different holiday destination this year? How about 3,775m below the North Atlantic Ocean? WildWings - a British adventure travel firm - are offering people the chance to view the *Titanic* in person. For only \$19,500 you can spend time in a Finnish-built MIR submarine and voyage down to the wrecksite.

WildWings can be contacted at:
International House
Bank Road
Kingswood Bristol BS15 8LX
England
Website: <http://www.wildwings.co.uk>

What about replica furniture from the *Titanic* instead? Classic Leather from North Carolina will be releasing their RMS *Titanic* Artifact Collection this July. Pieces include furnishings from a first-class stateroom, the first-class dining saloon and the smoking room. Still not what you're looking for? Something smaller perhaps? Coins and phonecards? International Numismatics have 'a stunning 16 Card Phonecard Collection' and 'Stunning Somalia *Titanic* Colour Coins' just for you. Simply stunning! For more information:
GPO Box 4413
Sydney NSW 2001



300 YEAR OLD SHIPS' GRAVEYARD FOUND -- *The Daily Telegraph* (13 April) carries an account by Jeremy McDermott, its Latin America Correspondent, of a ship

'graveyard' off Venezuela. Marine explorers claim it is the result of a 17th-century battle between Dutch, French and pirate ships which led to British naval supremacy in the region. American marine explorer, Barry Clifford is quoted as saying "I have seen hundreds of wrecks but this was like a ships graveyard. I couldn't really take it in, cannon were all over the place."

The exploration team believes that the graveyard, past Las Aves Islands off the Venezuelan coast, contains up to 18 French ships, at least three of them pirate vessels. They went down more than 300 years ago after being lured on to a coral reef by Dutch ships protecting the island of Curacao to the west. The site was originally discovered by a Venezuelan explorer, Charles Carias, more than 30 years ago - he then linked up with a group of Americans including Mr. Clifford.

Last month they conducted a four-day search finding what they needed - an indication of the age of the wrecks (artefacts lifted from the seabed from two of the wrecks include pieces of ornate bronze, pottery, buttons and jars). Once the evidence was presented to Kenneth Klinkor a historian who works with Mr. Clifford "the story of the wrecks began to unfold". A follow-up expedition starting in August plans to work along the reef to discover the remains of the other ships

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FINDS U.S.S. YORKTOWN; WWII CARRIER RESTS MORE THAN 3 MILES UNDER PACIFIC

WASHINGTON-The wreck of the World War II aircraft carrier USS *Yorktown* has been located by the National Geographic Midway Expedition, led by Dr. Robert Ballard, who discovered the RMS *Titanic* in 1985.

"We have the bridge in sight," reported *NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC* writer Tom Allen to magazine editor Bill Allen, by satellite phone Tuesday, May 19.

Found lying on the ocean floor at a depth of about 16,650 feet (5,075 meters), or one mile (1.61 kilometres) deeper than the *Titanic*, the lost ship was one of the first modern aircraft carriers built in the United States. It was sunk 56 years ago during the Battle of Midway, a clash that proved to be the turning point for control of the Pacific in the war.

Yorktown survivor Bill Surgi, also on the *National Geographic* Expedition, was the first to positively identify the wreck, recognising the ship's gun emplacements as video images were transmitted by robot camera from the wreck to the mother ship three miles (nearly five kilometres) above.

"In 1942 America lost a great warrior; today we've reclaimed her," said Ballard from the National Geographic Midway Expedition. "No one has ever gone after the USS *Yorktown* and the Japanese carriers lost in the Battle of Midway because of the depth where they lie. For that reason it has been especially challenging and gratifying to have found them."

In an epic voyage of discovery, Ballard is directing the *National Geographic* Midway Expedition to explore the final resting place of the USS *Yorktown* and four Japanese aircraft carriers. The underwater explorers are using US Navy deep submergence support ship, the *Laney Chouest*, and a remote operated unmanned advanced tethered vehicle (ATV) in addition to the University of Hawaii's towed search system called MR-1. The mission of the expedition is to locate, map, explore, and photograph the lost ships of Midway.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC magazine will publish an account of the expedition. A television documentary on the expedition is being produced by *National Geographic* EXPLORER for air in early 1999. The expedition is supported in part by a grant from Newport News Shipbuilding, the builder of the *Yorktown*.

For breaking news, stay tuned to *National Geographic's* Web site (www.nationalgeographic.com), and to National Public Radio (check local listings and on the Web at www.npr.org).

Interesting websites:

The *La Belle* Shipwreck Project is at:
<http://www.thc.state.tx.us/belle/index.html>

The Institute of Nautical Archaeology Sadanna Island Shipwreck Project is at:
<http://www.adventurecorps.com/inaegypt.html>

The Department of Anthropology and Academic Diving Program of the Florida State University is at:
<http://www.adp.fsu.edu/uwarch.html>

The State of California vs Deep Sea Research Inc over the wreck of SS *Brother Jonathon* has been heard in the US Supreme Court. Results at:
<http://supct.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/96-1400.ZO.html>

The US National Park Service's Submerged Cultural Resources Unit is at:
<http://www.nps.gov/scru/home.htm>

Robert Ballard and the Mystic Aquarium can be found at:
<http://www.ife.org>



News from the Internet

Divers Recover *Monitor* Propeller: From SUBARCH 7 June 1998: posted by Robert Schwemmer

From The Associated Press HATTERAS, N.C. (AP) - Navy divers have raised the 5,000-pound propeller and drive shaft from the sunken wreck of the Civil War ironclad *Monitor*. The four-blade propeller, about 9 feet in diameter, is by far the largest item recovered from the *Monitor* since its 1,500-pound anchor was salvaged in 1983.

Dina Hill, education coordinator for the *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary, said Saturday the blades appear to be in good condition. The items were recovered 16 miles off Cape Hatteras in 230 feet of water on the edge of the Atlantic's Gulf Stream where the *Monitor* went down.

Researchers are gathering information for a proposed \$US20 million rescue attempt in 1999 or 2000, when divers would shore up the sagging wreck and recover as many artifacts as possible. Scientists brought the prop and drive shaft out of the water late Friday night.

In 1995, divers spent a week trying to cut the shaft and raise the propeller, but were stymied by the underwater current and surface conditions.

The *Monitor* revolutionised naval warfare with its armoured hull and revolving turret guns. On March 9, 1862, the *Monitor* battled the Confederate ironclad Virginia, also known as the *Merrimac*, to a draw in Virginia's Hampton Roads harbour. It was the first battle between

ironclads.

The *Monitor* went down later that year in a gale 16 miles off Cape Hatteras. Sixteen of the 49 crewmen died. The wreckage was discovered in 1973

SHACKLETON'S SHIP FOUND IN ANTARCTIC? From SUBARCH 14 April 1998: More items from OCEANSPEACE (the FREE online marine science and ocean technology newsletter) Issue Number 31 (14 April 1998) <http://www.oceanspace.co.uk>

The *Sunday Times* carries a report by its Science Correspondent Steve Connor on the possible finding of Sir Ernest Shackleton's vessel *Endurance*. Staff at the Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge are hopeful that tree rings in the wooden masts and spars of the wreckage may help to show the vessel's age and radiocarbon dating may also show that it is not from an earlier wreck. The paper reports that the wreckage under analysis came from Malcolm Burley, a naval commander, who led an expedition in 1970 to survey Elephant Island in Antarctica - he gathered some pieces and stored them in his garage where they remained for a quarter of a century before he sent them for analysis.

At the same time he wrote to the captain of HMS *Endurance* - the ship's present-day namesake - explaining what he had done. The letter arrived just before the ship left the Falklands to survey Antarctica earlier this year and on a clear day a helicopter was sent to have a look at the remains. "The wreckage has hardly changed" Captain Tim Barton the ship's commander is quoted as saying. "If you compare the photographs Burley took with ours you can identify the same pieces virtually unchanged apart from being covered by a little more sand." HMS *Endurance* is returning with pieces of wood, nails and an unusual metal fitting which, it is hoped, will help to identify the wreck.

COINS SEIZED FROM FAMED TREASURE HUNTER, KEY WEST, Fla. (Reuters) From SUBARCH 26 April 1998: Posted by Brian W. Kenny: Experts examined gold coins seized from the shop of a famed Florida treasure hunter to see if they were counterfeit, a state prosecutor said Thursday. State investigators raided Mel Fisher's Key

West store Wednesday looking for evidence that Fisher was selling forged coins as items from real treasure wrecks. "We seized 25 to 30 gold coins that appeared to be similar to one that we believed was a counterfeit," Monroe County State Attorney Kirk Zuelch said. "The investigation is continuing. There have not been any arrests to this point." Fisher, 75, struck it rich in 1985 when his son, Kane, discovered the wreck of *Nuestra Senora de Atocha*, a Spanish galleon that sank in 1622 about 40 miles west of Key West. Coins and jewellery from that wreck and others are sold at Fisher's store and others throughout the Keys, a 100-mile archipelago off the southern tip of Florida where dozens of Spanish treasure galleons were sunk centuries ago. The suspect coins were not being passed off as items from the *Atocha*, but as coins from another wreck, dubbed C-2044, Zuelch said. The investigation began in January when a consumer complained that a \$5,900 gold coin purchased at Fisher's shop had turned out to be a fake. Zuelch said his office took the coin to three experts who "advised us that this was not an artifact from a Spanish fleet."

On Wednesday, an undercover investigator purchased a similar gold coin at the store. Investigators from Zuelch's office and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement immediately executed a search warrant. Treasure experts say the wreck Fisher claimed the coins came from did not carry gold coins, Zuelch said. Fisher did not return a call to his office Thursday seeking comment. "We're pretty much not worried about anything," said one of his assistants, Star Ehler.

Fisher's son Kane was captain of the ship that discovered the *Atocha* wreck off the uninhabited Marquesas keys west of Key West in 1985. The wreck contained an estimated \$400 million in New World riches including silver and gold bars, gems, gold Chains and fused lumps of silver coins. Another of Fisher's sons, Dirk, drowned 10 years earlier with his wife, Angel, while looking for the *Atocha*. They were trapped when their salvage ship capsized.

Divers find ancient ship in Venice's Grand Canal VENICE, Italy: From SUBARCH posted by Brian W. Kenny (May 16, 1998)

An archaeological team has discovered an ancient ship buried in the mud of Venice's Grand Canal and Italy's government plans to

raise it next month and restore it, news reports said Saturday. Ceramics found nearby indicate it could be a Venetian vessel dating from about the 15th century, the ANSA news agency said. Divers found the ship a year ago but the discovery was kept secret until a Venetian newspaper reported it Saturday. The ship is almost completely buried in mud, with only a few inches of the prow exposed. Experts say it may be a small cargo ship. The government hopes to raise the ship, and put it on exhibit in Venice, which was for centuries one of the world's great trading and naval powers. ANSA said this was the first such find in the Grand Canal, the main "street" of this fabled city of lagoons and canals.

Harris Matrix: From HISTARCH posted by Adrian Praetzelis & Jack McIlroy, Sonoma State University:

This is to call the attention of those interested in the Harris Matrix method to a new beta Windows 95/NT Harris Matrix program. It is intended as an ultimate replacement for the old DOS Harris Matrix program which has been part of the BASP package for many years when the beta test phase is ended.

The program was written at the Max-Planck Institute fur Informatik, Saarbruecken, Germany as part of a practical programming course "Automatic Graph Drawing" held at that institute by a group of four computer scientists who found this an interesting challenge. For details and downloading, please see:

<http://www.mpi-sb.mpg.de/~arche>

Address comments and bug reports to:
Christoph Hundack hundack@mpi-sb.mpg.de

CARIBBEAN BILLION DOLLAR TREASURE HUNT: From SUBARCH, 1 March 1998 posted by Ian Oxley: An item from OCEANSP@CE Newsletter 16(Oceanspace@dial.pipex.com) The world's largest known trove of Spanish treasure, undisturbed for the last five centuries amongst the reefs of Cuba's coastline where they were sunk by hurricanes, privateers and pirates, is set to be uncovered. In an agreement to be announced Monday 2nd March, Fidel Castro's government will allow a Canadian company specialising in seabed salvage to search the

wrecks for gold bullion, silver ingots and coins, emeralds and pearls that could be worth billions of dollars. It will share the proceeds evenly with VISA RESOURCES of Toronto. The company's president is Doug Lewis, a former Canadian justice minister.

Cuba's state-owned Carisub corporation has spent 16 years trying to reach the galleons but has been frustrated by a lack of sophisticated equipment. Castro's gunboats have relentlessly patrolled territorial waters to keep foreign vessels away. Castro abandoned all hopes of retrieving the treasure without the help of western technology. Years of negotiations culminated in an unpublicised meeting in Havana attended by the Vice President and six government ministers. Visa Resources' Vice President of Operations Ed Burt will guide the recovery team which will use sonar electronics to identify anomalies on the ocean floor. Salvage experts will then use remotely-controlled submarines to send colour thermal images to monitors on the surface. Divers or ROVs will retrieve the treasure.

One vessel - *Santissima Trinida* - is believed to carry a cargo of gold and silver alone worth 400 million US dollars. The venture will also provide valuable insights into the ancient civilisations of the Aztecs, Maya's and Incas whose artefacts were seized in huge quantities by the conquistadors and transported to Spain in armadas of up to 100 ships. "This is an architectural time capsule that has yet to be opened up."

Associations

The Australasian Society of Historical Archaeology.

For further information please contact:
The Secretary
Australasian Society of Historical
Archaeology, Box 220
Holme Building
University of Sydney NSW 2006

NAS: For information on the Nautical Archaeology Society, please contact:
The Membership Secretary
206 Moorview Way
Skipton N Yorks BD23 2TN

Grants and funding

George Alexander Foundation & Ian Potter Foundation : Value up to \$100,000. Awarded to Australian organisations for projects in areas including arts, fellowships, travel, grants and research. Closing dates mid April; mid July. Contact Executive Secretary
George Alexander Foundation and Ian Potter Foundation
Level 5, 1 Collins Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000
Ph (03) 9650 3188

Fellowships : Sackler Research Fellowship in the History of Astronomy and Navigational Sciences; Caird Senior Fellowship - 17th century Dutch maritime paintings - medals - 18th century prints; Caird Junior Research Fellowship in (British) Naval and Maritime History and Associated Studies. Details from: National Maritime Museum
Head of Research
Greenwich SE10 9NF England

British Council : Travel Grant Scheme; Academic Link and Interchange Scheme (ALIS); Visitors Scheme; Post Graduate Bursaries; and for a listing of their international courses and seminars contact PO Box 88
Edgecliff NSW 2027
Ph (02) 326 2022
Fax: (02) 327 4868

United States Cultural and Academic Specialist Grants : Awarded to American specialists to spend two to six weeks at an Australian museum or gallery to work on specific projects or work as consultants. Available on a shared cost basis with USIS (United States Information Service) Contact: Noeline R. Milson, USIS
Ph (06) 270 5966
Fax: (06) 273 3051.

Australia Council Grants : The Council provides grant money for many cultural activities. For comprehensive details and application procedures please see the Australian Council for the Arts Grants Handbook. Available from the Australia Council on (02) 9950 9000
Belconnen ACT 2616

Ph (02) 6201 2368

The One Stop Arts Shop: This site provides a single access point to all possible avenues of support available for people in the cultural sector. Access through the website www.artsinfo.com.au or by a free telephone service 1800 241 247.

Australia Council Grants. The Council provides grant money for many cultural activities. For comprehensive details of the Australia Council's grants and application procedures please see the Australian Council for the Arts Grants Handbook 1997. Available from the Australia Council on (02) 9950 9000

The Getty Grant Program of Santa Monica, California has awarded a grant to the University of Canberra to establish a post graduate internship program. It funds graduates from the Conservation of Cultural Materials program to complete a one-year internship at a recognised conservation laboratory in Australia or overseas. Persons eligible are graduates who completed their studies in 1995-96. Approximately AUD \$20,000 for one year. Contact Professor Colin Pearson, Director, NCCHSS, University of Canberra, PO Box 1, Belconnen, ACT, 2616. Ph (02) 6201 2368.

New Books, Publication and Videos



Excavating Ships of War Vol II, International Maritime Series. Edited Mensun Bound, Oxford University MARE. 210 pages, fully illustrated, black and white photographs, line drawings. Second publication based on the two-day conference *The Archaeology of Ships of War*, that was held at Greenwich in 1992. Papers have been expanded to include others solicited by the editor. They focus of specific surveys and excavations, many of which are ongoing. The papers include ones by Myra Stanbury (*The Sirius: Norfolk Island, Australia, 1790*) and Peter Gesner (*The Pandora, Queensland, Australia, 1797*). Release date January 1998. Further information from Anthony Nelson Publishers, PO Box 9, Oswestry, Shropshire, England, SY11 1BY.

British Museum Encyclopaedia of Underwater and Maritime Archaeology.

Edited James P Delgado, 120 colour, 300 black and white illustrations. The first comprehensive reference book on the discovery and recovery of the submerged past. Written by an international team of over 180 expert contributors (including Peter Gesner, Jeremy Green, Graham Henderson, Bill Jeffery, Mike Nash and Mark Staniforth), the *Encyclopaedia* contains over 450 entries, covering all aspects of underwater and maritime archaeology, from prehistory to the modern era and will be an invaluable resource for students, historians, archaeologists, professional and recreational divers.

The Editor who is well know to many AIMA members, is Executive Director of the Vancouver Maritime Museum in Canada.

For further information please contact British Museum Press, 46 Bloomsbury Street, London., England, WC1B 3QQ.

Scientific Diving : A General Code of Practise: Diving Books, the Worlds Largest Publisher of Diving Books has announced the release of the second edition of this popular text.

The *Code of Practise for Scientific Diving* was first published in 1988 as Vol 53 of the series UNESCO Technical Papers in Marine Science. The first edition attracted input from 100 scientific divers in more than 30 countries. The Second Edition has been prepared and edited by the Scientific Committee of the World Underwater Federation (CMAS) for UNESCO. Edited by N.C. Flemming and M.D. Max.

Priced at US\$39.95 the publication is available from Best Publishing Co, P.O. Box 30100, Flagstaff, AZ, USA 86003 - 0100. Credit card orders accepted.

Forthcoming Conferences

1998 AIMA Conference

Hartley Management Group Pty Ltd
PO Box 20
Kent Town SA 5071 Australia
E-mail: ainslee@hartleymgt.com.au

International Council of Museums

Conference. In partnership with ICOM, Museums Australia is to host the next Conference from 10 - 16 October 1998 at the World Congress Centre in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. The theme is Museums and

Cultural Diversity: Ancient Cultures, New Worlds. For further information please contact:

Noelene Galloway
ICOM 98 Limited
GPO Box 666E
Melbourne VIC 3001 Australia
E-mail: nagallow@mov.vic.gov.

1998 Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology Conference will be hosted by the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service with the generous support of the Museum of Sydney from 3 - 5 October 1998 in Sydney, Australia. For further information please contact:

Denis Gojak
NPWS
PO Box 1967
Hurstville NSW 2220 Australia
E-mail: denis.gojak@npws.nsw.gov.au

International Association of Transport Museums has announced its 30th conference is to be held in Adelaide from 4 - 9 October 1998. The theme is The World Turned Upside Down - Coping with Change in Transport and Communications Museums. For further information please contact:

Ainslee Hooper

World Archaeological Congress 4 in Cape Town, South Africa. This congress will take place on the campus of the University of Cape Town from 10 - 14 January 1999. The theme is "Global Archaeology at the Turn of the Millenium". For further information please contact:

Carolyn Ackermann
Conference Co-ordinator
PO Box 44503
Claremont 7735 South Africa
E-mail: carolyn@globalconf.co.za or
wac4@globalconf.co.za
Visit the website for WAC4 on
<http://www.uct.ac.za/depts/age/wac>

Museums Australia National Conference will be held from 5 - 9 May 1999 at Albury/Wodonga NSW Australia. Details in the next Newsletter.

Further Studies and Internships



Graduate Maritime Archaeology and History Certificate Program: The University

of Hawaii is exceptionally well-located, staffed and equipped to conduct education, research, and service for Pacific Ocean maritime archaeology and history of Polynesians and other Pacific Islanders as well as the maritime peoples of Asia--with expertise spanning from coastal wetlands to the technologies required for deep water exploration. This Graduate Certificate is offered as a complement to classified graduate students pursuing advanced degrees or as a stand-alone credential for non-degree students who have completed their baccalaureate degrees. This will be the first program in the field which is based at an academic institution in the Pacific. It has evolved over the past nine years from symposia, workshops, field schools and courses developed by the University of Hawaii Marine Option Program.

Cooperating faculty from throughout the UH system are supplemented by faculty and professionals from agencies and institutions throughout the Pacific and U.S. mainland. The program will be guided by a steering committee, chaired by Dr. William N. Still, Jr., formerly of East Carolina University, now with the University of Hawaii School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST) Some of the topics of particular interest related to Hawaii and the Pacific will include traditional fishponds, Polynesian voyaging, the Spanish galleon trade, explorers (Pacific, Asian and European), whaling, maritime commerce, naval history, lighthouses, fisheries and seafood processing facilities, waterfront preservation, cultural resources management, museums and public education programs. The curriculum consists of three components: traditional coursework, practical experience with field and/or laboratory methods, and an integrating seminar requiring a major paper.

Information and applications are available from

Sherwood Maynard, Director
Marine Option Program
School of Ocean and Earth Science & Technology. University of Hawaii at Manoa.
1000 Pope Road, MSB 229. Honolulu, HI 96822 U.S.A. TEL: (808) 956-8433
FAX: (808) 956-2417
E-MAIL: mop@hawaii.edu

Graduate Diploma of Museum Studies, Masters of Letters (Museum Studies), Museum Studies Unit, University of Sydney, includes Foundation Studies (The Museum, Context, Research, and Information Management,

Communications and Public Programs); Management Studies (Principles of Management, management Practise, marketing and Fundraising); Collection Studies (Collection management, material Culture Study 1 and 2); Access Studies (Visitor Studies, Evaluation and Criticism, museum Education, Exhibition Project Management)

For further information contact Ms Shar Jones, Museum Studies Unit, Sydney University. Ph (02) 351 3800

BA and BA Hons in Cultural Heritage Studies, Graduate Diploma in Applied Heritage Studies (also Maritime Archaeology), MA in Cultural Heritage Studies (by project); Contact The Research Institute of Cultural Heritage, Curtin University, GPO Box U 1987, Perth WA, 6001, Ph (09) 351 3831

Certificate in Cultural Preservation. Six hours per week for 36 weeks. To equip students with skills to provide technical assistance in the cultural preservation industry. Contact Geoff Bell, Course Coordinator (06) 207 3469 of the School of Applied Science (06) 207 4300.

Graduate Diploma (Cultural Heritage Studies) & Bachelor of Arts (Cultural Heritage Studies): Charles Sturt University is offering by distance or on-campus study further education in Cultural Heritage Studies. The Graduate Diploma is for those who have completed a tertiary degree and wish to gain more specific heritage skills. It is offered by distance over two years. Students successfully completing the course may choose to upgrade to an MA. Subjects offered: Cultural Theory, Visions of the Past, Heritage Practise, Museum Technology, Preserving the Public Record, Politics of the Past and Research Methods.

The BA is a three year degree preparing students for careers in ,museum heritage and consultancy work. Students major in heritage studies and anthropology and select additional subjects from photography, park management, Japanese, conservation, curatorship or art history.

Further information from: The Secretary. School of Cultural Heritage, Charles Sturt University, PO Box 780, Albury, NSW 2640.

AIMA Publications

Back issues of the *Bulletin*, Newsletters and Special Publication are available for sale. Publication price lists and order forms may be obtained by contacting The Treasurer. Discount prices may apply for multiple orders.

What is AIMA?

The Australian Institute for Maritime Archaeology (AIMA) is an organisation formed to promote the advancement of maritime archaeology in Australia and to assist in the co-ordination of national and international programs. Join AIMA and find out more about what is happening in the world of maritime archaeology.

Ordinary Member:	A\$40.00
Student Member	A\$30.00
Institutional Member	A\$80.00
Associate Member	A\$20.00

For further information on membership please contact the Treasurer, Cos Coroneos

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL AIMA MEMBERS.

HAVE WE GOT YOUR CORRECT ADDRESS????????

**PLEASE ADVISE IF CHANGES
ARE NEEDED.**