



The British Commission for Maritime History

King's Maritime History Seminars, 2024-25



26 September 2024

Supremacy at Sea: Task Force 58 and the Central Pacific Victory
Evan Mawdsley, University of Glasgow

10 October 2024

Excellent Planning and Execution" - The Allied Navies and Victory in Normandy, 1944
Nick Hewitt, National Museum of the Royal Navy

24 October 2024

A History of Ship Launches and their Ceremonies
George Hodgkinson, Independent Researcher

7 November 2024

'The worst journey in the world' – HMS Belfast and the Arctic Convoys
Robert Rumble, Imperial War Museums

21 November 2024

'Searching for Billy Waters: Or, Black Sailors in the Regency Navy'
Mary L. Shannon, University of Roehampton

The Proctor Memorial Lecture

12 December 2024

The Devil's highway: urban anxieties and subaltern cultures in London's sailortown,
c.1850-1900

Brad Beaven, University of Portsmouth

Note: See below for special registration details.

9 January 2025

Nelson's Pathfinders: Hydrography and the Triumph of British Sea Power 1793-1823
Captain Michael Barritt, Royal Navy

23 January 2025

Staying afloat – managing mission creep during the Royal Navy's intervention in the Baltic,
1918-1919

Matthew Heaslip, University of Portsmouth



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6 February 2025

The RNLI at Dunkirk and the Little Ships Myth
Helen Doe, University of Exeter

20 February 2025

'In the name of God', the Journal of the voyage made to the Levant by three warships under the command of John Acton in the years 1750-51
Bruno Cianci, University of Genoa & Rahmi M Koç Museum (Istanbul)

6 March 2025

'Failing to prepare for the unexpected': British defence policy in the late Cold War and the Royal Navy
Edward Hampshire, Naval Historical Branch MOD

24 April 2025

Labour, Legend, and Living History: Clyde 'puffers', 1857-2024
Roy Fenton, Independent Researcher and Trustee of the BCMH

8 May 2025

Title TBC
Rachael Utting, Isles of Scilly Museum

22 May 2025

Reimagining the Bombay Grab: Fighting and trading across the Indian Ocean
Chris Ellmers, Docklands History Group

The King's Maritime History Seminars for 2024-25 may be attended in person or online. As always, attendance is free and open to all. To take part, you must register by visiting the KCL School of Security Studies Events page, here: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/schoolofsecuritystudies/>

***(Note, however, that registration for the Proctor Lecture on the 12th of December 2024 is to be done by the BCMH website, www.maritimehistory.org.uk, or Lloyds Register <https://hec.lrfoundation.org.uk/>)**

Online attendees will receive instructions shortly before the event, by email, about how to join. Otherwise, we will meet in person, as usual, in the Dockrill Room, K6.07, at King's College London. Papers will begin at 17:15 GMT.

The King's Maritime History Seminar is hosted by the 'Laughton Naval Unit' and the 'Sir Michael Howard Centre for the History of War' in the Department of War Studies, King's College London. It is organised by the British Commission for Maritime History (www.maritimehistory.org.uk) in association with the Society for Nautical Research (<https://snr.org.uk/>). For further information contact Dr Alan James, War Studies, KCL, WC2R 2LS (alan.2.james@kcl.ac.uk).