



# NAS Annual Conference 2009

7th November 2009  
Portland Building, University of Portsmouth

## Abstracts / Biographies

**Christopher Dobbs** – Conference Chair

Christopher Dobbs has been heavily involved with the NAS ever since attending the first meeting of the NAS Steering Committee in 1980. He was an archaeological Supervisor on the Mary Rose during the excavations from 1979 to 1982, where he did a lot of training of divers to work archaeologically underwater. This inspired him and others to create NAS Training and Chris devised the 4-Part scheme that won a Duke of Edinburgh Prize. Chris has a degree in Archaeology (MA Cantab) as well as a PGCE and MBA. 22 of his 31 years of experience as a maritime archaeologist have been with the Mary Rose Trust where he has been involved with all the major phases of diving, excavating, raising, restoring timbers into the hull and running the museum. Chris lectures on Maritime archaeology and Museology at a number of universities in the UK as well as internationally. His main work at present is with the designs and interpretation for the new Mary Rose Museum due to open in 2012, but he still dives on the Mary Rose site. A Former Chairman of NAS, he is currently a Vice-President and is the UK Representative on the ICOMOS International Committee for the Underwater Cultural Heritage.



**Dr Peter Goodwin** – *250th Anniversary of Laying Down the Keel of HMS Victory*

Peter Goodwin is the Keeper & Curator of HMS Victory. Peter has had a keen interest in sailing warships for over 35 years. After serving as a Marine Engineering Artificer in the Royal Navy in both surface ships and Polaris submarines, and attaining a degree in marine engineering focused on nuclear plant operation, repair and quality assurance, he then worked as a design engineer for YARD Ltd. Marine Engineering Consultants. Throughout this period Peter turned to writing and illustrating books for Conway Maritime Press Ltd. and held a post on their Editorial Board. Appointed as the first Keeper and Curator of H.M.S. Victory in 1991, Peter acts as the historical researcher and technical advisor to the Royal Navy for the restoration, interpretation and museum management of the ship. Following this Peter graduated with a Master of Philosophy degree at University of St. Andrews, his dissertation covering the relationship between 18<sup>th</sup> century warship design, industrial technology and material procurement.



**Ulrike Guerin** - *The UNESCO 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage - its importance for underwater archaeology and the avocational diving community*

It is well-known that until very recently most countries did not forbid treasure-hunting on submerged archaeological sites outside of their territorial sea. Many States did even tolerate or encourage the commercial or amateur exploitation of sites located close to their coast or in their inland waters. The tricky loopholes of the international law of the sea did furthermore add to this exposure of submerged archaeological sites to voluntary destruction and damage. For sunken ships and ruins of high archaeological importance the situation became in consequence increasingly gloomy, as they were legally not protected from interventions by whoever found them and with whichever goal. This is fortunately about to change.



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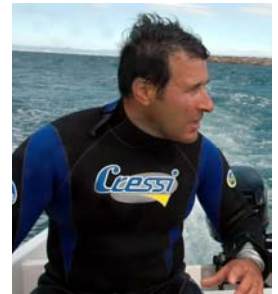
UNESCO's Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (called 'the 2001 Convention' as its text was adopted in the year 2001) entered into force on 2 January 2009. States that ratify this treaty will in future not only protect underwater cultural heritage, wherever they have the power to do so, but the text will also ensure and guide their cooperation. – And it may even do more by setting worldwide applicable and binding standards for any intervention directed at underwater heritage.

There are still a number of misunderstandings circulating about this Convention and the paper will try to clarify the goal and the content of the text, which will also become of a particular importance for the amateur diving community.

**Dr Ufuk Kocobas - *The Byzantine Ships at Yenikapı, İstanbul-TURKEY***

Archaeological salvage excavations in Istanbul-Yenikapı district, begun in 2004 November, conducted under the auspices of Istanbul Archaeology Museums uncovered *Portus Theodosiacus*; the biggest harbour of the Early Byzantine period. As a result of sedimentation gradually carried by the ancient Lykos River through centuries, the harbour lost its function.

To date, 33 shipwrecks have been uncovered in this former harbour. Istanbul University's Department of Conservation and Restoration team has undertaken the recording and dismantling of twenty-seven shipwrecks, also the conservation-restoration and reconstruction projects of thirty-three shipwrecks in total. The in situ documentation of seventeen wrecks including cargo and warships were completed and then the wrecks were removed between 2006-2009. Yenikapı wrecks present unique information about the ship typology of the Byzantine period, the ship construction technologies and the evolution of this technology.



**Jane Maddocks - *Forton Lake Community Archaeology Project***

Forton Lake is a small creek in Portsmouth Harbour. For three years it has been the focus of a community fieldwork programme, involving professional archaeologists, young children, sixth form students and the local community. A large number of vessels have been recorded and identified, and the work is to be disseminated in a variety of methods designed to appeal to the wide range of people who became involved in the project.



**Rose Drew - *Interpreting the skeletons from the wreck of the Mary Rose: Archer? Gunner? Crew?***

The Mary Rose is a snapshot of Tudor maritime life. With most skeletons, there are many unanswerable questions. Osteologists cannot always differentiate a hardy, muscular female from a thin male, especially if pelvic bones have been damaged. In older adults, estimating age at death is limited to wide ranges based on the deterioration of joints, bones and teeth. Although we can observe which muscle attachments seem to have endured the most activity, we cannot state what habitual labors or "jobs" most people engaged in. But with the individuals from the Mary Rose, many of these answers are supplied. In this paper, I will use several Mary Rose individuals to illustrate the process of ageing the skeleton, determining diseases and injury, and indentifying skeletal markers used to indicate potential activities.



**Alison Mayor** - *The Sleeping Centaur D-Day tanks off Selsey Bill*

For her NAS Part 2 qualification Alison chose an unusual local wreck site to complete her first project. As a result of the survey and detailed historical research, these WW2 armoured fighting vehicles have revealed their many secrets and allowed Alison and her team to solve this D-Day mystery – but as with any good wreck detective story...that just resulted in more questions to be answered.

Alison is a member of Southsea Sub-Aqua Club which has 'adopted' the Tanks and Bulldozers wrecks under the NAS 'Adopt a Wreck' Scheme.



**Dr Andrew Shortland** - *Excavations of the burial grounds of Royal Hospital Haslar, Gosport*

The Centre for Archaeological and Forensic Analysis (CAFA), Cranfield University, has started historical background research supported by a series of excavations on the site of the burial grounds of the Royal Hospital Haslar in Gosport, on the Hampshire coast of southern England. The nature and extent of the Haslar burial grounds is significant as they will fundamentally affect any future plans for the property. Between the opening of the Royal Hospital Haslar in 1753 and 1826 (when a major review of burial practice took place), the whole of the area to the south-west of the hospital building, including 'the Paddock' and areas now covered by buildings and gardens was utilised indiscriminately as an unconsecrated burial ground for those who died in the hospital. Reports dating to the early nineteenth century record that the Paddock was 'thick with buried bodies and scattered tombstones' and that it was common to unearth skeletons a few feet beneath the ground surface. Almost all of the burial markers were removed in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, leaving the extent of the burials a matter of folk history. The burials are mostly thought to be of seamen and marines from the Royal Navy, although it is known from written records that other military and civilian personnel were occasionally buried there. This paper discusses the number and nature of the burials and gives details of some of the pathologies seen on the site.



**Mark Lawrence and Martin Dean** - *Public access to submerged archaeological sites using multibeam survey data*

The majority of the general public are unable to visit submerged archaeological sites and even divers can find it difficult to understand them, particularly in limited underwater visibility. Multibeam sonar technology can now make sites more accessible by providing still or moving imagery, or as interactive 3D models which computer users can explore. Although the methodology cannot replace detailed measured drawings of small areas, multibeam data is very precise and can provide sufficient metrical information for the production of accurate overall site plans that can then be used as a backdrop for continued survey by divers using more traditional underwater survey methods.

