

A Year in Depth

ARCHAEOLOGICAL REVIEW

ANNUAL REPORT 2004/2005



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Miss A Hamer (from February 2005)
Mr R Prentig (from February 2005)
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Foreword

2005 has been the year of *SeaBritain* and Trafalgar 200. It has also been a very active year for the Hampshire and Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology. In addition to new and unique discoveries in the Solent, the launch of a dive trail and several publications, the HWTMA has engaged in numerous events and activities to celebrate this very important year in the Nation's maritime history.

Some of the main events at which the Trust has had a presence include the International Festival of the Sea, National Archaeology Week, the Southampton Boat Show and *SeaBritain* events around the region. In the spring we launched our 'Hamble Companion', a booklet designed to introduce the public to the archaeology around the foreshore. We also inaugurated the Alum Bay and Needles diver trails during a ceremony at Yarmouth Castle, and by the beginning of the summer we had released our first education pack which will complement our Sunken History Exhibition. The pack and associated worksheets are helping facilitate a series of open days which are now held on a regular basis at Fort Victoria. In addition to our exhibition we have been developing display panels to disseminate the work of the HWTMA around the region. Venues targeted for displays have included Southsea Castle, the Needles Battery, Hurst Castle and Yarmouth Castle.

Out in the field and underwater, our first major discovery this year was a Stone Age pit dug almost 10,000 years ago, now eroding from a submerged forest in the western Solent. This is a unique find in the UK and the Trust has been working hard to record and rescue what it can before it is lost forever. The search for, and recording of new shipwrecks has been ongoing in the eastern Solent and the Trust's expertise was sought to help excavate and record submerged caves off Gibraltar. On land, the recording of our maritime heritage has continued along the Hamble, Lepe, Chichester Harbour, the River Itchen and Langstone Harbour. All these projects have been conducted by professional archaeologists working closely with volunteers and members of the local community.

The Trust is now in its 14th year and we are striving to relay our understanding of the past to as wide an audience as possible by presenting to local groups, giving papers at internationally recognised conferences and promoting maritime archaeology through the media. Over twenty five presentations have been given and the Trust has been recorded on national and local television, and on radio.

The Trust welcomes its new staff and project officers, Rebecca Causer, Alison Hamer, Julian Jansen van Rensberg, Robert Praetig and David Fishwick, and I take this opportunity to thank them along with existing staff for their contribution to the Trusts success. I would also like to thank Hampshire County Council, the Isle of Wight Council, English Heritage, Southampton City Council, Leader +, the Local Heritage Initiative and the Crown Estate, along with those other authorities, companies, organisations, Trusts and individuals who are listed in this report for their sponsorship and support over the past twelve months.

Finally I would like to thank our outgoing Chairman, David Guy, for his hard work and commitment for the first four years of this new millennium.



MALDWIN DRUMMOND

Chairman

October 2005

HWTMA's Policy Statement

AIM

The Hampshire and Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology will promote interest, research and knowledge of maritime archaeology and heritage in Great Britain with core activities concentrated in the counties of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight and the adjacent South Coast areas.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The Trust will:

- Promote maritime archaeological study in accordance with professional and museum codes of conduct and practice.
- Promote the in situ preservation and management of important archaeological sites in its area of interest.
- Support local, regional and national initiatives for improvements to the legislation regarding the preservation and management of the maritime archaeological heritage.
- Promote public awareness, enjoyment and participation in the maritime archaeological heritage.
- Provide a maritime archaeological service to Hampshire County Council, the Isle of Wight Council, Southampton City Council, Portsmouth City Council and other Local Authorities.
- Ensure that maritime archaeology plays an important role in coastal planning, management and policies in the Solent and Wight areas.
- Carry out maritime archaeological surveys and investigations for incorporation into environmental assessments and similar studies.
- Compile and maintain a database, and base chart, of all known maritime archaeological sites in the Solent and Wight areas and exchange information with local SMR holders and the National Archaeological Record (Maritime Sites).
- Promote archaeological awareness and competence amongst divers.
- Support, and where possible, assist in the publication of the results of maritime archaeological investigations, surveys and research undertaken in the Solent, Wight and adjacent South Coast areas.
- Liaise with other local, regional and national organisations involved in maritime archaeology and related disciplines.

Alum Bay Dive Trail

Dive Trails are a relatively new phenomenon in sport diving and take different forms depending on the site, location and conditions. They all have one thing in common, they are designed to help divers to navigate around a site, guiding them to points of interest and sometimes keeping them away from particularly sensitive areas. At the same time participants are taught something about the site, its history and the local marine life.

The Alum Bay Dive Trail consists of a series of numbered stations on the seabed, placed at points of particular interest on the site. The numbered stations relate to information provided in an underwater booklet which divers carry with them to guide them around the site. The booklet gives information about what to look out for at each station, plus points of historic interest and directions to the next station.



A diver uses an underwater booklet on the Alum Bay dive trail.

As part of the Dive Trail Experience participants will receive a pre-dive talk and presentation from a member of HWTMA staff, which will tell the interesting story of the ship and the events surrounding its loss, plus the archaeological work which has been undertaken on the wreck and what has been learnt. Participants will also visit The Sunken History Exhibition where artefacts and further displays on HMS *Pomone*, other local wrecks and the work of the HWTMA can be viewed.

Alum Bay, the adjacent Needles and the surrounding seas with their submerged rocks, shingle banks, unpredictable weather and dangerous tides, have become the last resting place of many unfortunate

or unwary vessels over the centuries. The area is littered with the remains of such vessels as HMS *Assurance*, *Irex*, *Varvassi*, and *Ernst* - to name but a few. The 38 gun naval frigate HMS *Pomone* was also lost here in 1811, and it is this wreck which is the focus of the Alum Bay Dive Trails. The large hull section which drifted into Alum Bay after *Pomone* was wrecked on The Needles forms the main part of the trail, with the added bonus of a smaller and as yet unidentified wreck lying alongside it incorporated into the trail.

The Alum Bay Dive Trail was launched to the press and public on 20th May 2005, with special guest archaeologist and television celebrity Phil Harding. HWTMA Chairman Maldwin Drummond and Director Garry Momber gave presentations to an invited audience, they introduced the trail, the background work which had gone into it over the past few years and thanked all its supporters, including the main funding providers English Heritage and Leader+. The invited divers then set out from Yarmouth on dive boat *Wight Spirit* whilst non-divers enjoyed a tour of The Sunken History Exhibition before following the divers to Alum Bay on a pleasure boat.

Safely back in Yarmouth the party moved to Yarmouth Castle for a wine reception and the official opening ceremony for the Dive Trail. Phil Harding had the honour of cutting the cake, using a huge diver's knife! Having enjoyed his dive on the site immensely Phil endorsed the trail by saying "I really do encourage people to use this trail and hope that it is the first of many".



The official launch of the Alum Bay dive trail.

Photo: C Momber

Maritime Archaeology, Marine Aggregates and the National Curriculum

The 'Exploring the Seabed of the Solent & Wight: Maritime Archaeology and Aggregates' project aims to increase awareness of maritime archaeology and the aggregate industry amongst schools and community groups. Rebecca Causer has been employed to facilitate the project. It is taking place thanks to funding allocated by English Heritage. This funding originates from the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund (ALSF) which is a tax paid by aggregate extraction companies, and is accessible to organisations like HWTMA whose discipline can be directly affected by aggregate extraction.

HWTMA will produce education activity packs that teachers will be able to use in schools to teach science, history and geography. The innovative packs will encourage extensive use of artefacts and other primary sources. To maximise the usefulness of the resource we will keep strictly to national curriculum targets and themes. The packs will enable pupils first hand access to resources and information that would normally be difficult to obtain or completely off limits. Ultimately, they will provide an exciting and alternative approach to learning. They will open a window onto the subjects of maritime archaeology and marine aggregate extraction and highlight the importance of their relationship.

The project will also target community groups. Presentation packs will be produced on the same subjects as the teaching packs. The presentations will inform community groups about the important issues and information relating to these topics and show how closely they relate to their own communities within the Solent and Wight areas.



Children investigating marine aggregates.

Photo: Francis Wenban-Smith

Secrets of the Solent Education Pack Launched

Secrets of the Solent is the exciting new education pack written by HWTMA for schools, parents and home educators. It provides a resource for studying history and science, as well as general literacy and numeracy. It is also an excellent accompaniment to trips around the Sunken History Exhibition either prior to, during or after the visit.

The pack is designed to enthuse and engage children with their maritime heritage through a series of worksheets, challenges and research tasks. The pack explores what an archaeologist is and how underwater archaeologists work. A section on shipwrecks looks at why they are important and how they become time capsules for archaeologists. There are worksheets on the use of language aboard ships that look at how language that was once

unique to sailors develops and then infiltrates into every day usage. The section also deals with the survival of different materials underwater, and how and why artefacts are conserved. The Solent area presents a unique opportunity to study how geography and landscapes change with the environment. The region is used as a case study for geographical changes and how people lived during the Mesolithic period.

The pack has been funded by the Local Heritage Initiative. This has made it possible to provide the pack for no charge. It is available from the HWTMA office on request or downloadable via the education pages of our website.

www.hwtma.org.uk/education/resources.htm

Events and Activities at the Sunken History Exhibition

One of the core aims of HWTMA is to promote and facilitate education and lifelong learning through the provision of educational events and activities. The Sunken History Exhibition at Fort Victoria, Isle of Wight has been evolving in the hands of the HWTMA and with support from Leader + to become an educational hub for the community, schools, dive groups and tourists. This year has been especially busy at the Exhibition with a wide programme of events.

Summer Activity Days

Building on the success of the pilot scheme in 2004, children's activity days were held every Wednesday in the summer holidays. The days were designed to engage children with archaeology and maritime heritage; the days appealed to local families and tourists and some activities had over fifty children and parents attending. A diverse range of activities were on offer including learning about the life of Nelson, understanding Maritime flags and secret codes and looking at ancient technology to build mini coracles.

SeaBritain Day

HWTMA contributed to a large *SeaBritain* event at Fort Victoria organised by the Isle of Wight council. Activities included a pirate fancy dress competition and face painting inspired by maritime themes! The Director of HWTMA was on hand to provide talks both on HWTMA and the life of Nelson. HWTMA invited the Historical Diving Society to the event who demonstrated their diving equipment. The event was a fantastic success with over 500 people attending.



Professor Archie O'Logy is brought to life!

South East Marine Week

South East Marine Week is an annual regional event organised by the South East Wildlife Trusts. In a joint initiative the Medina Valley Eco Challenger mobile study van came to Fort Victoria to provide a number of ecological activities. It was fascinating to see the small beasts such as piddock which eat the wood on submerged sites up close under a microscope! HWTMA also ran a popular activity using archaeological casting techniques to make moulds of sea shells which were then used to decorate picture frames.



The Eco Challenger at the Sunken History Exhibition for South East Marine Week.

Figureheads and Professor Archie O'Logy

A workshop was held in June looking at the history of figureheads and to try and make some of our own. Children made their own clay models and also contributed to the new figurehead of HWTMA; Professor Archie O'Logy. It is hoped that the Professor will travel to events and help with outreach, becoming the children's mascot for HWTMA.

Children's Activity Book and Colouring Packs

HWTMA have launched an activity book and colouring pack for use in the Exhibition. The activity book is designed for older children. Professor Archie O'Logy guides them around and makes them interact with the exhibits. The colouring pack is for younger children and provides an introduction to the activities engaged in by HWTMA. These have proved hugely popular with children and parents alike.

National Archaeology Week

National Archaeology Week is an annual event designed to encourage families and young people to visit museums, sites of archaeological and historic interest, to see archaeology in action and take part in activities. The scheme is run by the Council for British Archaeology and supported by English Heritage. The success of previous years was highlighted by its expansion in 2005 from a weekend event to a series of events over a full week.

As part of National Archaeology Week 2005 the Trust helped organise one of the biggest and best events yet at Fort Cumberland, Portsmouth. The event is organised by English Heritage and this year the Trust joined forces with the Nautical Archaeology Society to make it the most maritime focused event to date. The Maritime Archaeologist for a Day challenge gave visitors the chance to experience the challenge of working underwater and try out the techniques used.



The Maritime Archaeologist for a Day Challenge Booklet.

The challenge booklet enabled people to find out about different pieces of diving equipment, try recording a shipwreck site using a planning frame and experience the problems of working in low visibility. A talk was given by the director of the Trust on submerged landscapes to families visiting the event.

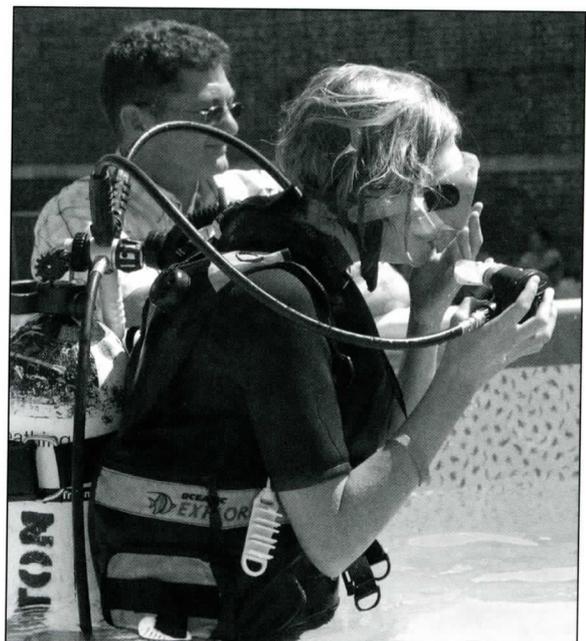
The highlight of the event was free try dives in a giant pool set up especially for the occasion. This was made possible through the Trust, NAS and English Heritage collaborating to provide joint funding to ensure as many visitors as possible could



A child records the 'shipwreck' as part of the National Archaeology Week event at Fort Cumberland.

take part. Triton Scuba were brought in to run the diving. This was a huge success with over 140 people having a free dive during the weekend.

At the Sunken History Exhibition on the Isle of Wight the Trust provided free child entry on the Sunday of National Archaeology Week. This increased the number of visitors and over 70 children took part in the promotion.



Hampshire and Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology helped facilitate free try dives for visitors to the weekend.

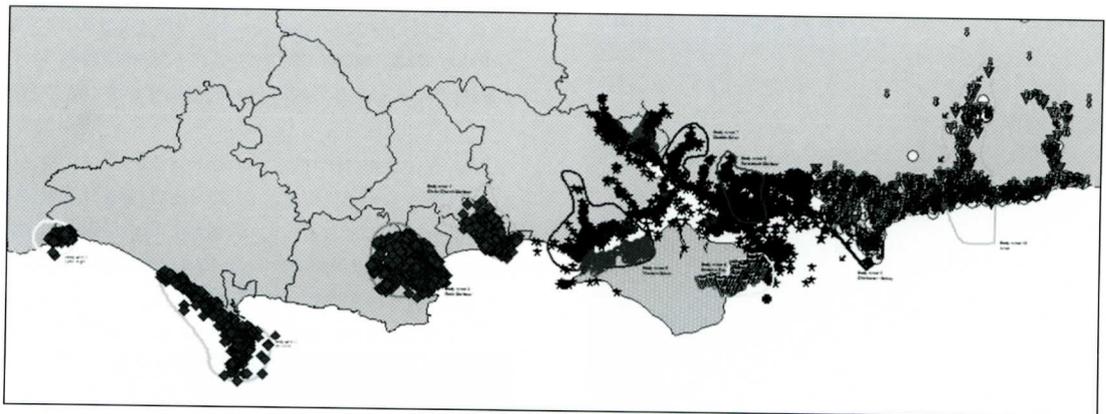
Archaeology and Coastal Change

Archaeology and Coastal Change is a project funded by the Standing Conference on Problems Associated with the Coastline (SCOPAC). It aims to demonstrate the potential of the archaeological and palaeo-environmental resource to help understand the impact of sea level and climate change on our coastline.

To achieve this, locations along the coastline within SCOPAC jurisdiction have been identified as study areas. Within these areas, the local Historic Environment Records have been assessed to identify sites with archaeological or palaeoenvironmental material that can tell us about past changes in the coastline. Stark examples include WWII pill boxes which end up lying at the bottom of a beach in pieces due to an eroding foreshore, coastal buildings that are now flooded each high tide and submerged

landscapes which were once dry land. All these can be direct indicators of a rise in sea level. If these events are dated we can calculate where sea level was at that given point in time. Where we have evidence of an ancient land surface, we can look at the preserved remains to build a picture of the local environment. This in turn can tell us about the climate.

The process we are following will test a set of criteria which will rank the importance of sites in relation to coastal change. The results should contribute to future management strategies by identifying the types of sites which hold information about coastal change. Where this information is analysed, it could be used to inform management policies and ensure best practice.



The ten study zones selected for analysis in the Archaeology and Coastal Change Project.

Unlocking the Secrets within Bouldnor Cliff

With the support of English Heritage we are now beginning the analysis stage of the Bouldnor Cliff project, the submerged landscape in the Solent which has been dated to approximately 6,450 BC. This submerged Mesolithic landscape, the deepest of its type in Britain, has yielded a rich sediment archive of evidence to help unravel unique information about the habitat associated with occupation. Hundreds of humanly worked and burned flints have been discovered on the site and sediment samples collected by divers in pioneering fieldwork have been examined by specialists demonstrating a broad environmental setting for the

site. The palaeoenvironmental evidence has shown it to be a changing environment, where pine became dominated by oak and hazel woodland with alder possibly fringing the rivers and streams.

There are questions as to the topography of the area and further analysis is required to place the Mesolithic landscape of occupation in its contextual setting. Following the discovery of Mesolithic food plant remains during the assessment, further analysis has the potential to reveal more evidence of Mesolithic exploitation to allow a more detailed palaeo-reconstruction. Oak at Bouldnor Cliff

represents the oldest dendrochronological sequence in Britain which has the potential to add to our knowledge of sea level change on a national level.

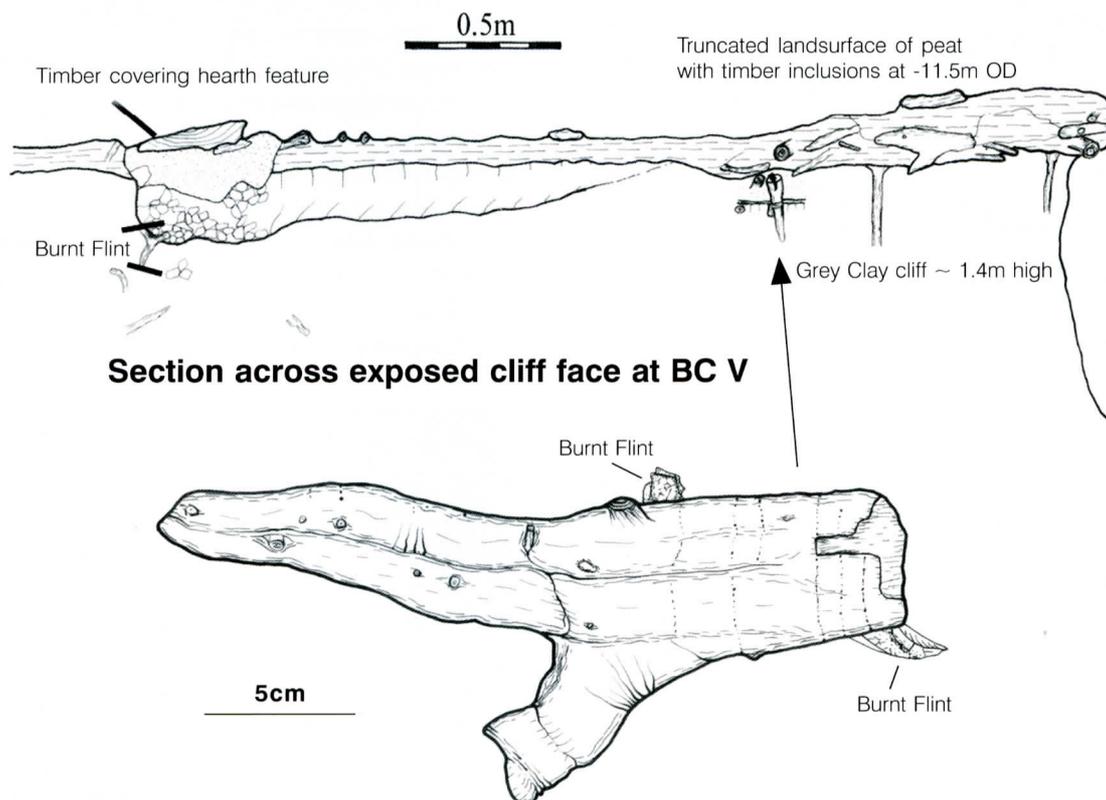
Closer examination of the sediment archive by environmental specialists and through radio carbon dating to assess what impact climate change had on the site will help interpret the potential effects on the Mesolithic communities, and examination of the distribution of flint tools (lithics) may provide evidence of how climate change affected human activity. The production and use of tools on the site will also be examined to determine whether processes can be related to the local subsistence economy and whether it can be used to help characterise the lithic industry in the wider context of the Mesolithic of Southern Britain and NW Europe.

New Discoveries Under Threat

Late in 2004 an exciting discovery was made by HWTMA divers inspecting the site when they came across a pit within the ancient land surface containing burnt flints. Additional material at the site

included a worked flint embedded in a sapling exposed on the cliff face. The feature was located 2 metres to the west of the hearth and 30cm below the Mesolithic submerged forest. Adjacent to the timbers burnt and worked flint was exposed in the cliff face. The site predates the inundation that formed the landscape. Support from SCOPAC and BAE Systems has enabled HWTMA divers to visit the site on several occasions. Samples have been collected in monolith tins which are being assessed for pollen and environmental evidence, and a branch from the archaeological horizon beneath the Mesolithic forest level has been sent for C14 dating.

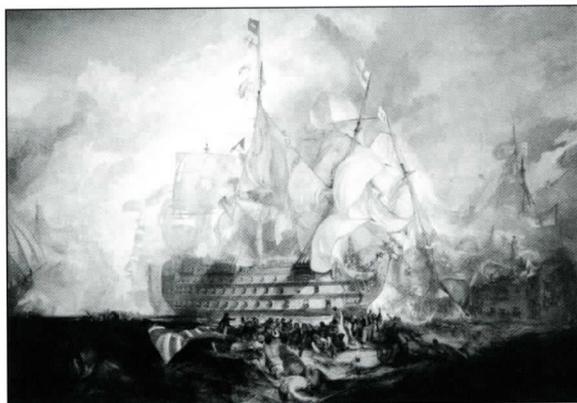
Ongoing inspection by divers during the summer has shown this area to be rapidly eroding. The excavated pit site has been protected with sand bags but this will only be a temporary measure. There is a need for urgent action to recover what remains of this unique discovery before the information contained in this non-renewable resource is lost forever.



The exciting pit feature at Bouldnor Cliff. The site contains burnt flints and it is in urgent need of further investigation. 2 metres to the West a birch sapling was found impaled with a burnt worked flint.

Dive on to 'Victory'

This year we celebrate Britain's historic maritime past marking the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar through the *SeaBritain* celebrations. Ports, harbours and fishing villages around Britain have been holding events, and of course Portsmouth played host to the International Festival of the Sea (IFOS). To mark this occasion the Friends of HWTMA have launched a project entitled 'Dive on to *Victory*' where the aim is to bring together the last two centuries of maritime activity from the victory at Trafalgar to the present day. HMS *Victory*, as one of the most enduring symbols of British maritime and naval tradition, will be the main focus.



An artists impression of HMS *Victory* at the Battle of Trafalgar.

Photo: National Maritime Museum

Portsmouth harbour has played host to warships, merchant vessels, training ships and prison hulks for many centuries and anchorage sites are well known for the plethora of items discarded or lost overboard which can help illustrate the everyday life of mariners. Preliminary dives by HWTMA on HMS *Victory*'s Portsmouth harbour anchorage site proved this, with the exciting discovery of artefacts such as clay pipes, jars, inkwells, plates and an assortment of different shaped bottles, all from varying times over the last 200 years (HMS *Victory* was moored out in the harbour until 1927). The spectacular International Festival of the Sea was the showcase to display these artefacts and to launch the 'Dive on to *Victory*' project.

With the help of 'Friends of the Trust' artefacts brought up from the Gosport mooring site ranging from early 19th Century to the present day, and a video, were displayed in a room next to the magnificent *Victory* sail. This allowed us a prime



Archaeologists from HWTMA onboard the dive boat discussing the project.

position kindly donated to us by the Royal Naval Museum.

The video kindly produced by BAE Systems presented an edited version of the dive around the mooring site and other HWTMA projects, and was shown as a large screen presentation set up in the colonnade outside the *Victory* shop which saw many people (particularly those weary who needed to rest) occupying the chairs set up to view it. The production, along with an exhibition of our activities, was run in the BAE systems marquee where we also displayed the recovered bell and gauges of the admiralty trawler *Michael Clements* which sank off St Catherine's in 1917. *Michael Clements* was the name of the carpenter on the *Victory* at Trafalgar; this class of trawler were named after the *Victory* roll. This was a magnificent centre piece for the BAE Systems area kindly loaned by the dive charter skipper Dave Wendes.



The bell and gauges of the *Michael Clements* on display in the BAE tent at IFOS 2005.



A member of HWTMA staff at the start of the Heritage Trail at IFOS 2005.

Posters and a heritage trail leaflet were also produced by HWTMA. The heritage trail proved popular during the festival. Children were invited to follow the trail around the dockyard answering the questions and returning their forms for the chance to win a family trip to the Isle of Wight donated by Wightlink. Professor Archie O'Logy was on hand to mark the start of the trail. Congratulations to the Baker family from Portsmouth who won the heritage trail prize draw.

A major objective of this project is to get people to come forward with their maritime experiences and those of their families. We would like to get people involved; one lady from London came to see us with a fascinating story of how she is related to John Quillian who served on HMS *Victory* at Trafalgar. She had her whole family tree for us to view.

We are keen to follow up stories from anyone with their own or a family maritime tale to tell, this will eventually form part of a travelling display and education pack. We need volunteers who would like to be involved in collecting this information either

by audio interview, or photographing people/items. Anyone with a maritime story to tell, or who would like to help with the project in other ways such as collecting oral histories, research or poster design can contact the HWTMA office for further information on this 'Friends' led project.

IFOS was a magnificent spring board for this project and it will now continue into 2006, so come and get involved even if you don't have a story to tell, we could put you in touch with someone who does!



A member of the HWTMA staff with some of the artefacts on display at IFOS 2005.

AVAILABLE PUBLICATION

- **The Hamble River: Maritime Archaeological Foreshore Companion**

- Traces of the rich history of the Hamble line the banks of the river, with much still awaiting discovery. This Companion brings to life this heritage using examples of local and regional sites and finds. Available for £5 from HWTMA.





Education and outreach 2004 - 2005 Archaeological Projects



Hamble River Project

The Hamble River continues to provide a huge wealth of maritime archaeological evidence for investigation. Fieldwork on the river to date has concentrated in two principal areas; walkover surveys of the foreshore at low tide to identify sites and finds, and detailed survey of sites of archaeological and/or historical interest. This programme has now been running for almost five years and the results gathered are being used for dissemination and education purposes.

This year's activities have been as busy as ever. We have once again been lucky enough to have the help and support of organisations and volunteers who have contributed enormously to the success of the project.

In the Field

Detailed field survey has concentrated on gaining a drawn record of the two substantial wooden hulks on Satchell Marsh. Many people will be familiar with these hulks as they are visible when sailing the waters or from the footpath on the opposite side of the river. The relatively large amount of wooden structure surviving means the sites are highly suitable for introducing volunteers to ship structure and recording techniques.

An interesting Companion!

The 'Hamble River Maritime Archaeological Foreshore Companion' was launched on National Low Tide Day, 7th May, this year. The Crown Estate



The launch of the Hamble Companion.

has generously funded the production of this guide. The Companion aims to provide anyone visiting the river, or interested in the local environment, with information on the range of archaeological remains that can be viewed.

The fully illustrated, colour, splash-proof booklet takes a chronological approach to the maritime archaeology of the river. Not only does it provide information on known sites it also gives examples of sites found in similar environments around the Solent region. Users of the guide are encouraged to provide feedback if they discover a site or find that may have been recently uncovered. Feedback can be provided either electronically via the website on downloadable forms, or on a paper form via the office.

To date the Companion has been very well received. Copies have been offered to local community groups and organisations free of charge for use by their members. Visitors to the river can also pick up copies of the Companion at a range of outlets. We hope that the Companion will help raise awareness of the maritime heritage of the river.

Global access to Hamble Heritage via the World Wide Web

In addition to having dedicated webpages for receiving feedback on the Hamble Companion we have continued to add to our Hamble River Project web pages. As field results are gathered they are added to the on-line information. This on-line resource has proved popular with over 12,000 people accessing the pages since October 2004. The World Wide Web resources are enabling us to achieve effective dissemination of results across the globe, we can gauge where interest is coming from through our web statistics. So far we have had interest from across Europe, America and Australia.

The Hamble River Project is due to continue over the coming years as there are more stretches of the river to be walked and many more sites that require survey. We look forward to reporting further fieldwork and dissemination initiatives in next year's Annual Report.

Eastern SolMAP

Mid June saw the HWTMA team battling against unseasonably windy weather for the annual dive project in the Eastern Solent. Not to be deterred by the conditions a programme of inspection and survey was undertaken on a variety of sites off the Hampshire coast. As in previous seasons the dive team comprised of a combination of professionals and volunteers working to gather information to enhance the Historic Environment Record.

The diving programme was adapted during the week to make best use of calm weather and slack tides. Once again an impressive set of results were obtained.

Survey of Mystery Wreck

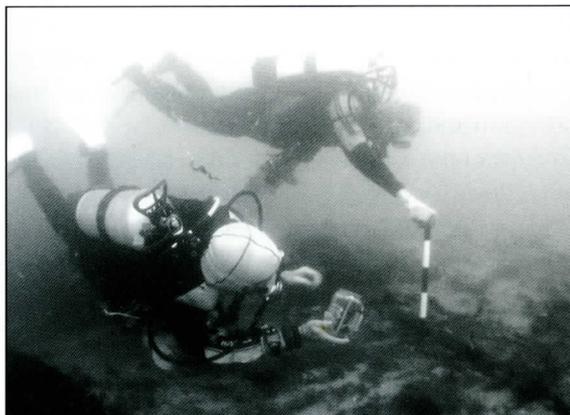
The survey of this exciting new wreck began last year with the western section of the site. This year work continued with survey of the eastern section. Further structure uncovered since last season included wooden hull with a mixture of copper and treenail fastenings. Drawn records were supplemented by photograph and video survey. The identity of the wreck still remains a puzzle, however, with more evidence collected this year we hope that analysis of the results will lead us to identification. Our work this year has enabled an accurate plan of the principle sections of hull structure and various features in between to be completed. We aim to continue work on the site in future years.

HMS *Impregnable*

Diving on the wreck of this 2nd rate ship of the line was particularly poignant this year with the Trafalgar 200 celebrations. HMS *Victory* was kept in commission due to the wrecking of *Impregnable* in 1799. The site was initially surveyed in 2003, since then we have been monitoring the structure and its surrounding environment. Measurements of seabed levels have revealed a build up of shingle at the south-western edge, with much of the rest of the site remaining stable.

Mulberry Harbour

With rough sea conditions out in the Solent a rapid adaptation to the diving programme was formulated and the Mulberry Harbour in Langstone harbour was



HWTMA divers surveying during Eastern SolMAP 2005.

Photo: Dr D McElvogue

dived. The WWII Mulberry unit is a distinctive feature near the harbour entrance, these remains are now beginning to show evidence of degradation as the concrete deteriorates. Divers inspected the sub-tidal sections of the unit and made observations on cracks in the structure, areas where scour was undermining the remains and any marine life on the structure. Additionally there are a number of more modern wrecks lying adjacent to the structure; notes on the condition of these were also made.

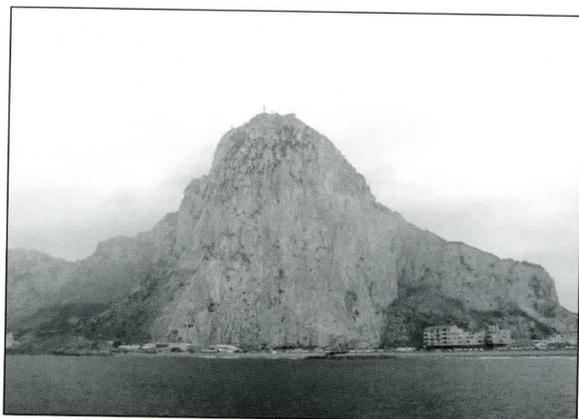
The Search for *Caduceus*

The continuing search for the wreck of *Caduceus*, a 19th century sailing barque, involved deploying a magnetometer to help locate ferrous metal remains. Unfortunately the rough sea conditions meant that the survey was cut short and, once again, we were unable to locate these remains. This wreck remains high on our list of priorities for location and survey, we aim to continue searching for the site in 2006.

The Eastern Solent is proving to be a very exciting and productive area for underwater archaeology. The work of the HWTMA to date has focused on a relatively small number of the potential sites for investigation. We hope to be able to continue this work to enhance our knowledge and understanding of the submerged heritage resource in future seasons.

Archaeological Investigations of Submerged Caves off Gibraltar

In May and June 2005, representatives of the HWTMA were invited to join a Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) funded 3 year programme entitled Environmental Factors in the Chronology of Human Evolution and Dispersal (EFCHED). As Ice Age sea level change is a major factor that affected areas of land exposed above water at any given point in time, it was necessary to look at drowned landscapes that were once dry. The experience of HWTMA staff working on the inundated prehistoric landscapes of the Solent was called on to map, record and interpret the underwater site.



Caves in the Rock of Gibraltar contain evidence of human occupation. There is no reason why caves which are now submerged should not also contain archaeology.

The site chosen for investigation was a series of nine caves in the submerged Vladi's Reef off Gibraltar and the project named Gibramar (Gibraltar Marine Archaeological Research). The project aimed to assess the habitation potential of the caves and the possibility of finding evidence of human activity.

The project divers used mixed gas to extend time on the sea bed and enable divers to visit deeper sites in safety and work more accurately. The diving was carried out using enriched air nitrox mixtures down to 20-30m, and oxygen-nitrogen-helium trimix mixtures down to 60m. These gas mixtures greatly increased the time that the archaeological divers could work on the seabed, and increased their mental alertness, speed of work, and detailed memory. Measurements and samples were obtained, and are being analysed at participating institutions.

Gibramar was run in collaboration with the Gibraltar Museum as part of the wider EFCHED initiative.

The EFCHED project has been initiated by Professor Geoff Bailey (Dept of Archaeology, University of York), Dr Claudio Vita Finzi (Natural History Museum), Dr Geoff King (Institute for Geophysics, Paris) and Dr Nic Flemming (National Oceanography Centre) after obtaining a grant from NERC to study prehistoric crossings of the southern Red Sea and at Gibraltar.

Other senior scientists engaged in the project included Clive Finlayson, Geraldine Finlayson, Darren Farr, Gibraltar Museum, Professor Joaquin Rodriguez Villa, University of Huelva, and Dr Pacho Gilles, both from Spain; Professor Jon Erlandson, University of Oregon, USA; and Dr Abdullah Alsharekh, King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Dr Nic Flemming



Gibramar divers contemplating archaeological survey of deep underwater caves.

AVAILABLE PUBLICATION

- **Warship Hazardous:
Investigating a Protected Wreck**

- The booklet was produced in partnership between the Hampshire & Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology, The Hazardous Project Team and English Heritage. Available for £4 from HWTMA.

Warship *Hazardous*

The HWTMA have continued to work with the *Hazardous* Project group on the site of this protected 17th century Warship.

Warship *Hazardous* began life as *Le Hazardeux* in a French shipyard at Port Louis in 1698. Built for the navy of Louis XIV, *Le Hazardeux* spent several years in service as a 3rd rate ship-of-the-line. While on loan to a privateer the ship ventured too far into the English Channel and was spotted by three British warships. A long fight ensued and the ship was captured after being reduced to a 'perfect wreck' and taken to Portsmouth as a prize. By early 1704 the ship was refitted as a 4th rate ship; only two years later in 1706 it was wrecked on the West Sussex coast.

The remains of *Hazardous* soon slipped beneath the waves and remained undiscovered until 1977. It was while fishing for plaice that two local divers first encountered the remains of a substantial shipwreck in a depth of around eight metres. This was the beginning of a project, which continues today.

The site is in a dynamic location, being relatively close to shore it is affected by strong waves and storm surge. Over the past twenty years the site has continued to erode. The southern area of the ship has been particularly badly affected with large sections of timber hull structure being lost. To the north, the bow of the vessel lies in slightly deeper sediment; this covering has ensured the preservation of a diverse range of artefacts within the hull. The artefact collection from the excavation demonstrates the potential of the ship and its contents. However, year-on-year the intact stratigraphy within the hull and the ships structure is being compromised through loss of covering sediment, this exposes timber and dislodges finds on a regular basis.

Over the past few years there have been a number of new initiatives on the site including the successful operation of a Dive Trail which opens up this otherwise off-limits site to the public, the publication of a booklet and the re-vamp of the wreck display at Earnley Gardens.

To continue this momentum funding has been gained from English Heritage to undertake an archive assessment. The conscientious record keeping by the group has resulted in a large archive of paperwork which documents the years of investigation. This archive forms an important national resource relating to a designated wreck site.



HWTMA staff working on the *Hazardous* archive.

The project work has involved the consolidation, ordering and indexing of material from the last twenty-five years. It has also resulted in the production of a security copy of the archive that will be available to the public at the NMR and the deposition of digital data with the Archaeology Data Service.

With ongoing erosion on site there is an urgent need to carry out systematic investigation before more archaeological information is lost to the sea. The HWTMA is working with the *Hazardous* Project group and English Heritage to undertake a programme of initiatives that will consolidate present knowledge and move towards carrying out further excavation.

Friends of the Trust

The Friends of the HWTMA continues to grow as an organisation, with new members joining us all the time. Throughout 2005 Friends members had the chance to take part in a variety of events.

Sunken History Exhibition Work Party

Longstanding Friends will be familiar with the annual tradition of the Exhibition work party! This is a fundamental fixture of the year due to the damage caused by damp and leaks over the winter. Huge thanks to those who took part, and we'll be calling on all members again next February/March, so keep your diaries clear!

Coracle Building Course

Experts from The Ancient Technology Centre in Cranborne, Dorset ran a course for us at The Sunken History Exhibition in the ancient craft of coracle building. This hands-on course allowed all participants, both young and not so young to take part in the construction of a rather fine example of this single person water craft, which is now on display at the Exhibition for visitors to admire. The day was a great success, enjoyed by all and managing to add a new attraction to the Exhibition.



A younger participant on the coracle building course tries out the coracle.

Son et Lumiere trip on SS Shieldhall

Few people will have managed to miss the spectacle of the International Fleet Review and Son et Lumiere which took place in Portsmouth at the end of June. The HWTMA secured tickets for the evening supper cruise on board classic steamship SS Shieldhall to

view the assembled fleet and fireworks display. This was an incredible once in a lifetime experience which was thoroughly enjoyed by all participants.



The view from SS Shieldhall of the assembled fleet.

Flint Knapping Workshop

Organised by Carisbrooke Castle Museum as part of its ongoing Neolithic Field Project, this was a practical workshop in the ancient art of flint tool making. Despite adverse weather the workshop was a big hit, with Friends member Ian Campbell describing it as "Absolutely brilliant!"

More events and workshops are planned for the winter so keep an eye out on the website and in the Friends Bulletin. Many events are open to Friends members only, so if you're not a member you may be missing out!

Become a Friend of the Trust

Friends members enjoy:

- Free unlimited entry to The Sunken History Exhibition
- Free entry tickets for 6 of your friends or family members
- A bi-monthly Friends Bulletin sent to you at home
- A free copy of our Annual Report
- A free copy of "The Story Beneath the Solent"
- Invitations to workshops and events, many at heavily subsidised prices
- Fieldwork opportunities
- Training opportunities

Second Year of Success for HWTMA and NAS Course

An Introduction course in Foreshore and Underwater Archaeology was held as a collaboration between the HWTMA and the Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS) for the second year, and followed on from the inaugural year's success.

The aim of the course was to give Friends of the Trust an insight into some of the issues concerning maritime archaeology. Practical experience of archaeological techniques in the field were reinforced with the long established NAS Introduction course over a weekend.

Mark Beattie-Edwards, NAS Training Officer, supervised the first day's activities, which were mainly classroom based. Aspects covered included what is maritime archaeology, dating methods,



Volunteers surveying hulk remains on Satchell Marsh.

legislation and survey techniques. There was also a presentation about HWTMA activities and an introduction to the many archaeological treasures that can be found in the area of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

The NAS course continued in an area ominously referred to as the 'Pit' which is based inside one of the casemates at Fort Cumberland. The Pit consists of a mock up site with anchors, boat timbers, cannon balls and fake amphora, amongst others things. This wonderful training tool enabled instruction and training into a range of survey methods, in a comfortable and controlled environment.

The fieldwork was held at Satchell Marsh on the River Hamble which provided a chance to put the newly acquired survey skills into action. Participants spent the morning setting up a survey grid, and planning the T.S. Mercury plinth as way of a refresher.

The final part of the course involved surveying one of the number of hulks in the intertidal zone of Satchell Marsh. The Friends were able to undertake a successful survey of the stern section. The course provided the Friends with a foundation in archaeological survey and knowledge while adding to the Historic Environment record of the Hamble.

Website

The Trust's revamped website is now into its second year and continues to build upon its early success. The site is regularly updated with news, project results and information on our many outreach events. The true potential of the site is also being realised with the addition of video clips and a downloadable version of the Trust's education pack.

Over 30,000 people have visited the site this year. The most popular pages have been the Hamble Project pages which catalogue over 100 sites along the river. The news and events pages are regularly

visited, contributing to the continued success of all our activities.

An increasingly important tool to disseminate the Trust's work has been the in-house development of videos. They have been utilised in presentations, talks and the Sunken History Exhibit but now have a global reach via the website. Currently we are showing five short videos; the Alum Bay Dive Trail, the Hamble River Project, HMS *Impregnable*, the Langstone Logboat Excavation and the unidentified wreck of Horse Tail Sands.

Archaeology Update

In addition to our featured projects in this report the HWTMA continues with an active fieldwork and research programme. Just a few of the projects that we have been working on this year include:

Mystery Masonry on Lepe Beach

In 1938 the remains of a wooden vessel with a cargo of stone was discovered on Lepe beach. At the time of the discovery, the Evening Echo reported, 'Under the planking which seems to be part of a deck was a quantity of stone which had been worked and some pieces of marble in the rough'. Interest in the discovery waned until more recent times when Keith Jarvis rediscovered the wreck, conducted research into its discovery and brought it to the attention of the HWTMA Chairman Maldwin Drummond and geologist Dr Ian West.

Closer inspection of the stone blocks confirmed that they were Purbeck marble that had been cleaned and shaped for transport in preparation for finishing at its destination. The most active episode for extraction of Purbeck marble was the Medieval period, potentially making this a very exciting site.

At the end of September 2004, a team of volunteers and archaeologists from HWTMA accompanied

Keith on a low spring tide to conduct a baseline survey of the remains. This was conducted over a two hour window while the wreck was accessible. Four marble slabs were recorded in close association and a piece of timber lay 8m to the East. The timber appeared to be a strake with a tree nail and there was evidence for a degraded joint. The timber was too far from the blocks to demonstrate a direct link although no other structural elements were evident.

In an attempt to locate ship's structure below the marble blocks, probing was conducted. Unfortunately, the gravels which cover the beach restricted penetration beyond 20cm. The next step was to excavate three small trenches. The average depth of each trench was 50cm. Despite the additional depth, the excavations did not drop beneath the beach gravels. Another problem was flooding, the trenches quickly filled with water as soon as the gravel was moved. By the end of the survey, the exposed artefacts were recorded but excavation was not deep enough to locate any elements of ship's structure, if any were to survive. Further excavation and research will be necessary to take the investigations forward.



Investigations have continued on the site at Lepe during 2004 and 2005.

Ship timbers found in house at Furzey Gardens

During recent renovation work at Furzey Gardens in the New Forest, a number of possible ship timbers have been discovered. Archaeologists from HWTMA were invited down to analyse these timbers, which until recently had formed the floor of a 18th century cottage. Renovation work is being carried out here as part of the Minstead Training Project. This is a project that has been running since 1986 and much of the work has been conducted by young people with learning disabilities.

Brief analysis has shown that these timbers do appear to have come from a vessel, probably once being part of the decking. It is hoped that at a later date it will be possible to conduct further, more in depth analysis and recording with volunteer participation.



Some of the timbers that may once have been decking.

Weston shore

Further historical research using map and chart evidence has been undertaken to assess the

changing nature of the shoreline at Weston. We hope to be able to commission a report on the flint finds from the shore to provide more information for analysis.

Langstone Logboat



HWTMA continue post excavation work on the logboat.

Post excavation work on this fascinating find from Long Island has continued, the production of a reconstruction drawing of the logboat within the harbour environment is underway. The logboat is currently at the Mary Rose Trust where it is being conserved.

Yarmouth Roads

Monitoring work on this important 16th century protected wreck site continues. Additionally we are keen to collect any information relating to the site from past investigations which may be relevant for the site archive.

For more information on any of our projects check out our website!

www.hwtma.org.uk

AVAILABLE PUBLICATION

- **The Story Beneath the Solent**
- A fascinating publication exploring the underwater archaeology of the Solent. Available for £3 from HWTMA.

Spreading the Word

MAG Conference

The HWTMA was pleased to support the Institute of Field Archaeologists Maritime Affairs Group Conference 'Managing the Marine Cultural Heritage' held in Portsmouth Historic Dockyard on 28-29th September 2004. This international conference brought together practitioners from across the globe to exchange ideas and experiences of investigating, managing and presenting submerged archaeology. Our Archaeological Officer, Julie Satchell, co-organised the conference, and the Trust gained further contacts and exposure through the inclusion of our stand at the event.

The Sunken History Exhibition



The Sunken History Exhibition, Fort Victoria.

The Exhibition at Fort Victoria in Yarmouth, Isle of Wight is now fully under the control of the HWTMA with our staff manning the admissions desk full time. This has proved invaluable in engaging with visitors and promoting the work of the Trust, as well as gaining feedback on the Exhibition itself.

Visitor feedback has been excellent this year, particularly from families who enjoy the range of activities and information aimed at all ages, including the pirate play area which has proved extremely popular with the under 5's!

The removal of previous bottleneck areas within the exhibition has also improved the overall visitor experience and allowed improved access for wheelchair users.

HWTMA have taken the operation of the gift shop under their control for the first time this year. This has proven to be very successful, although somewhat of a steep learning curve and we are confident that we will be able to build on the success in coming years.

Annual Lecture 2004

Over 150 people attended the 2004 Annual Public Lecture at the Medina Theatre on the Isle of Wight. The lecture entitled 'Shipwrecks and Lost Landscapes; A Window Beneath the Waves' was a joint presentation by Stephen Riley, 'Director of Cultural Heritage' at the National Maritime Museum and Garry Momber, Director of the HWTMA. The lecture explored how maritime archaeology is being made increasingly accessible to the general public.

Annual Lecture 2005

Peter Goodwin Mphil. Ieng. MIMarEST, keeper and Curator of HMS *Victory* at HM Naval Base, Portsmouth, will be this year's guest speaker at the Annual Public Lecture of the Hampshire and Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology.

The subject title for 2005 will be 'The ships of Nelson's Navy' to coincide with the celebrations of Trafalgar 200. Admission is free and there is no need to book. All are welcome to join us at the Lecture Theatre, National Oceanography Centre, Southampton, on Thursday 24th November at 7.30pm, for an informative and enjoyable evening.

If you would like more information or directions to the university please email:

Andrea.bushell@hwtma.org.uk

Maritime Archaeology Limited (MA Ltd)

MA Limited is a non profit making company owned by HWTMA. It began trading in 2004 and has since completed four major projects. It was formed to support HWTMA's objectives and separate commercial activities from charitable work.

www.maritimearchaeology.co.uk

Winter Lecture Programme

HWTMA are pleased to announce, in collaboration with Brading Roman Villa, the launch of a winter lecture series. All lectures will take place at Brading Roman Villa, Isle of Wight and are free to members of the public. They take place on the first Saturday of each month starting at 2pm. If you are interested in coming to any of the lectures please contact Alison to book a place as numbers are limited.

Alison.hamer@hwtma.org.uk

5th November

Delian Backhouse Fry - 'The occupation of the Island of Vectis, and the interaction of its' Iron Age inhabitants with the Roman Empire'.

3rd December

Paola Palma - "*IULIA FELIX*: A happy name of a tragic ending for the Roman Shipwreck from Northern Italy".

7th January

Mei Trow - 'Spartacus'

4th February

Michael Walsh - 'Pudding Pan: A Roman shipwreck and its cargo in context. A 2nd century trading vessel that sank off the north Kent coast'.

4th March

Joy Verrinder - 'Roman gardens and their plants'.

Work Experience

HWTMA continues to provide valuable experience to those who want to take their archaeological interest a step further. Volunteers are an important asset to HWTMA as they support us in achieving our charitable aims. We would like to thank Naomi Christie for her hard work during a placement this summer.

Articles, Reports, Publications and Publicity

- Annual Report
- 2005 Newsletter
- Hamble Companion
- Secrets of the Solent Education Pack
- NAS Newsletter
- Solent News
- Scuba World
- Diver Magazine
- Current Archaeology
- CBA Wessex Newsletter
- Isle of Wight County Press
- BBC South Today
- Hampshire Life Magazine
- Submarine Pre History of the North Sea
- Southampton Daily Echo
- International Journal of Nautical Archaeology
- Times Educational Supplement
- Solent TV

Talks, Lectures and Representation

Over the last year members of the HWTMA have given presentations to over 1,000 people. Talks have been given to the West End Local History Society,

Bembridge Yacht Club, New Forest Probus Club, students at the University of Southampton, Hamble Local History Society, Channel Coastal Conservatory, University of Bournemouth, University of the Third Age, Advisory Committee on Historic Wreck Sites, Berkshire Archaeology Society, Friends of St Barbe Museum, Burseldon Rights of Way Group, Dive Trail Experience and Gibraltar Museum.

Papers given at Conferences and events include IKUWA, Institute of Field Archaeologists Annual Conference, Archaeological Historical Society, MESO 2005 conference, ALSF seminar, CBA National Archaeology Week at Fort Cumberland, SeaBritain event at Fort Victoria, and a Standing Conference for Problems Associated with the Coastline Officers meeting.

The HWTMA are represented at meetings of the Standing Conference on Problems Associated with the Coastline, the Solent Forum, the Institute of Field Archaeology Marine Affairs Group, the Joint Nautical Archaeology Policy Committee, the Executive Committee of the Nautical Archaeology Society, the Solent European Marine Sites Strategic Advisory Group, the Council for British Archaeology Wessex Region Committee, Society of Underwater Technology Diving and Manned Submersibles and Underwater Science Group Committees, the Scientific Diving Supervisory Committee, Poole Harbour Heritage Project, the Hamble Harbour Advisory Committee, the Hamble Estuary Management Plan Implementation Forum and the River Hamble Education Group, the Isle of Wight Heritage Partnership and the Southampton Heritage Federation.

2004 - 2005 Summary of Activities	
Visitors to Sunken History Exhibition	10, 878
Number of people attending summer activity events	1,987
Divers on the Alum Bay Dive Trail	46
Number of exhibitions with HWTMA travelling display	26
Number of website people accessing the website	30,000+
Number of days diving	34

**HWTMA gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the following:
October 2004 - September 2005**

Grants and Donations

Hampshire County Council • Isle of Wight Council • Southampton City Council
West Sussex County Council • English Heritage • Crown Estate
English Nature • Isle of Wight Economic Partnership Leader + Programme
Wightlink Ltd • Herapath Shenton Trust • Betty Silverwood Lamb
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A Goddard • David Guy • British American Tobacco • Daisie Rich Trust • Hilton Cheek Trust
Manifold Trust • Mitchell Powersystems • Ernst and Young • Macfarlanes

Assistance in Kind and Services

Analytical Engineering Ltd	Isle of Wight Council
Mrs D Backhouse-Fry	Dr D Johnston
Mr R Barclay	Mary Rose Trust
Mr J and Mrs J Bingeman	Mr A Mack
Mr N Blake	Dr D McElvogue
Mr P Blake	National Oceanography Centre
Bournemouth University	New Forest District Council
Mr A Bradbury	Mr C Momber
British Ocean Sediment Core Research Facility	Mr N Nayling
Ms L Browning	Mr D Parham
Mr M Cahill	Mr D Pascoe
Miss N Campbell	Mrs R Robbins
Mr I and Mrs V Campbell	Royal Yacht Squadron
Mr S Campbell-Curtis	Mr P Simpson
Channel Coastal Observatory	Dr R Scaife
Mr C Cockburn	Snows Business Forms
Dr K Collins	Mr B Sparks
Mr T Cosgrove	Dr D Tomlin
Mr J Cross	University of Southampton
Dr J Dix	Mrs J Verrinder (Carisbrooke Castle)
Ms S Exelby	Mr D Wendes, Wight Spirit Charters
Hampshire County Council	Mr M Woodward
Hampshire Wildlife Trust	Yarmouth Harbour Master
Hamble Harbour Authority	The 308 SAA
Mr P and Mrs R Hamer	

And a big thank you to all our volunteers whose help and support have enabled us to achieve the project results that have been outlined in this report.

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Hampshire County Council



Local Heritage *initiative*



Supported through the Defra Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund

The Archaeological Review is a summary of the work of the Hampshire and Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology. HWTMA promotes interest, research and knowledge of maritime archaeology and heritage in Great Britain, concentrating its efforts in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

This years main archaeological projects include shipwreck survey in the Eastern Solent, investigating submerged landscapes and collating and developing material for archive.

Education and outreach initiatives encompass the launch of Secrets of the Solent Education Pack, the publication of popular booklets and the development of the Alum Bay Dive Trail.



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